

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 821.—VOL. XVI.]

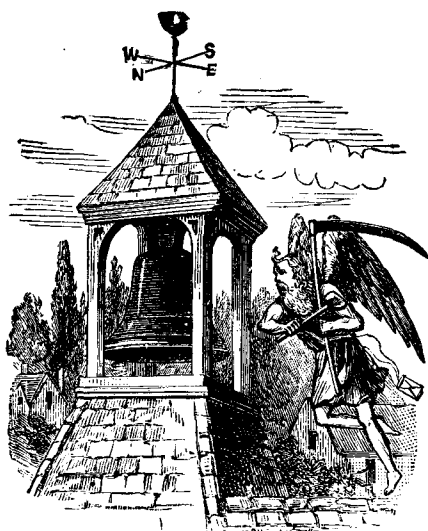
SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 1898.

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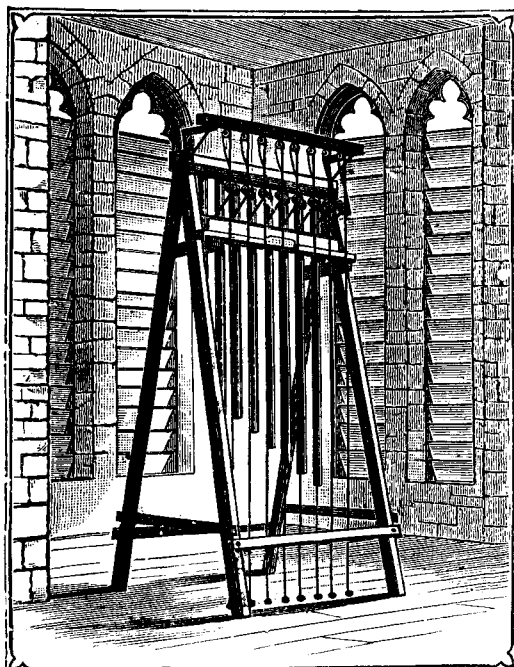
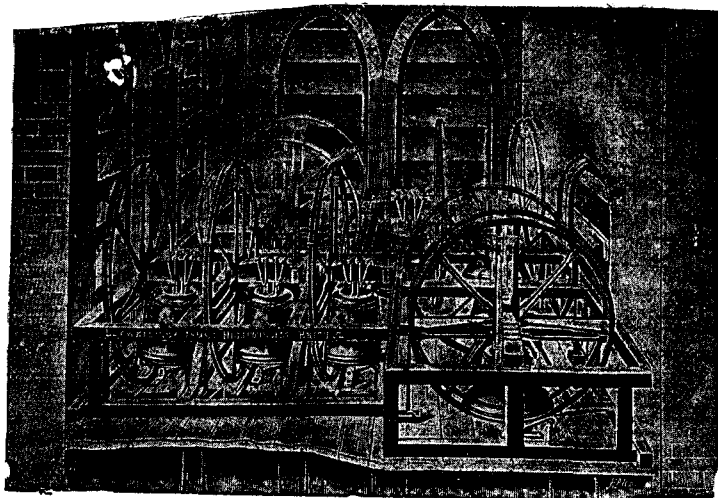
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 821.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 1898.

[Vol. XVI.]

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the above was held on Monday, December 27th, in the St. John's Schoolroom, Queen Street, Cardiff, at 3 o'clock. There was a large muster of members present, in fact it was much larger than any meeting the writer has seen for the past two years. This was a gratifying feature, and one, we hope, which indicates a greater and wider interest in the Diocese in the work of the Association. In the absence of the Rev. Canon Thompson, D.D., vicar of St. John's, Cardiff, the Master of the association, Mr. J. W. Jones, Newport, was elected to the chair. He called upon the Secretary to open the meeting with prayer, after which the minutes of the previous quarterly meeting were read, and several matters in connection with the Association discussed. It was decided that the next quarterly meeting should take place on Easter Monday, at Abergavenny, where there is a ring of eight bells. Four new members were enrolled, one being the son of Mr. Northey, an old and valued ringer in the Diocese, residing at Penarth. A hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. Canon Thompson for the use of the schoolroom, and of the belfry which was opened all day, was carried with acclamation. Mr. H. G. White, in the name of Canon Thompson, remarked that the Association was always welcome to come to the parish of St. John's, and to the unstinted use of the magnificent ring of bells in the tower.

During the day, indeed almost all day, the bells sent forth their sonorous, merry peals over our busy town, crowded for the day, in the main thoroughfares, with holiday-makers and pleasure-seekers, and were heard to great advantage up the North Road, about three-quarters of a mile away.

It may interest some of your readers to learn that the ring of St. John's is a very fine one and consists of ten bells. For a considerable time they were silent except for chiming, in consequence of the dilapidated state of the tower. About nine months ago the tower was placed in the hands of the builder to undergo a thorough restoration. It was a large undertaking and involved an expenditure of £3000. Last Wednesday week services were held to celebrate the completion of the restoration of the church, of which the tower restoration was the last stage of a now completed work. The sum spent on the restoration of the whole church has amounted to £22,000. The day of the completion of this grand work was one of great joy and gladness in the parish. The bells, so long silent, sent forth from the fine old perpendicular tower with its exquisite parapet, which crowns the summit, their musical peals so suggestive of rejoicing and thanksgiving. In last week's *Church Times* a correspondent writing of the tower

remarked: "It may be of interest to add that it stands on credible record that the fine old tower owns its erection to Lady Anne of Warwick, whose first husband was the unhappy Prince stabbed in the tent at Tewkesbury, and whose second, Richard, Duke of Gloucester, was the last of the Plantagenet Kings."

At the public luncheon, which followed the morning opening service, on Wednesday week, the Vicar very kindly invited the members of the choir to the function, but what pleased us more was to find he had not forgotten the ringers. They, too, were invited, and the circumstance goes to show in what a very different light the denizens of the belfry are now regarded in comparison with forty and fifty years ago. Then the bell-ringer was more or less an outsider, whereas now he is looked upon as a church official, upon whom devolves the important duty of summoning the worshippers to God's House. Surely this happy change in the state of things, pertaining to the belfry and ringers, is largely due to the existence of this and kindred associations of change-ringers established throughout our land. G.

DEDICATION OF NEW BELLS AT NETHERTON PARISH CHURCH, NEAR DUDLEY.

On Sunday week, the two new bells given by Mr. Councillor D. Rolinson, in commemoration of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, were dedicated at the morning service. After the second lesson the choir and clergy, accompanied by the churchwardens (Major J. W. Higgs-Walker and Mr. W. Barnsley), and Mr. Rolinson, went in procession to the tower singing Psalm cl., where the Rev. J. J. Slade said the form of dedication. Then the ringers sounded a short peal, and a hymn (written for the occasion by the vicar) was sung as a recessional on the return of the choir and clergy to their stalls. The sermon was preached by the Rev. J. J. Slade (rector of Kingswinford), in which he referred to the gift of six bells by Mrs. Skidmore, which were first rung on New Year's Eve, 1871. The present gift by Mr. Rolinson worthily completed the peal, and it was a coincidence that two occupants of Netherton Hill House, at a distance of twenty-five years, should have furnished the bells for Netherton church. The new bells were cast at Mr. Barwell's foundry, Great Hampton Street, Birmingham, and after the initials A.M.D.G. (Ad majorem Dei gloriam) bear the names of Queen Victoria, Mr. D. Rolinson (donor), and the Rev. S. J. Marriott, the Vicar of Netherton.

On Sunday, the ringers gave several touches in different methods, and the bells were pronounced highly satisfactory.

THE BELL AND THE BOY.

A correspondent from Shropshire sends us the following story taken from *Tit-Bits* about a year ago. He thinks it might interest some of his fellow-readers:—

In a huge and smoky foundry close by the wharves in the town of B—, a gang of workmen were getting ready to cast the largest bell of the St. John's Cathedral chime. Only an hour more, and they would let the glaring, bubbling metal flow from the huge furnace into the mould which was buried deep in the black earth close by. It was just at evening, and in the gathering twilight the lurid blue flames that burst from the top of the tall chimney flashed unearthly gleams upon the neighbouring windows and housetops.

The scene within the foundry was weird and almost awful. The swarthy forms of the workmen, partly lighted by the yellow glare, moved about like Tartarian shades, and the sooty beams and ponderous chains crossing, half black, half golden, under the golden roof, recalled the engines of Cyclops under Mount Etna. The town clock struck six; it was time for supper. All the men threw down their tools and run and put on their outer clothing.

"Be back in half an hour, sharp!" cried the forgemaster. "We shall make the cast at a quarter to seven."

"All right, sir!" cried the men in response.

"I hear some of the town folks are coming down to see the work," said one.

"Yes," said another, "and it'll be something to open their eyes. There was never such a bell cast in the whole country as this one will be."

In a moment more only one workman and the master were left in the foundry. The former was to stay and watch the "blast." He had brought a double allowance of dinner, and he would make a supper of what remained.

"Perhaps we can get the 'Inventor' to stay with you, George," said the master, laughing, as he prepared to go.

"Yes, where is he?" returned the man in the same jesting tone.

"He's been about the works long enough to know when anything goes wrong. Hollo! Hollo! I say! Where's the 'Inventor'?" Come here. Ah, there he is." And in silent answer to the summons a shock-haired fellow, with large grey eyes, and a pale, vacant face, appeared from behind a pile of castings. He had on his back a grey shirt, much soiled with dust, and he wore a pair of trousers far too big, held up by a single button.

"Well, Mopus," quoth the man George, slapping him rather roughly, on the shoulder; "suppose you've got wit enough to yell if anything's the matter?"

The young fellow looked stupidly round, and nodded his head.

"Then sit here and look at that furnace, and don't take your eyes off."

The poor lad smiled, and meekly did as he was ordered, just as an obedient dog would have sat down to watch his owner's coat. A queer fellow was this "Mopus"—stupid enough in ordinary things to need a world of watching, but withal wonderfully fit to watch a furnace. He knew all the working of the foundry by what seemed a sort of brute instinct, though really his strange sagacity in this was a remnant of a once bright mind. If anything happened or went in an unusual way, he would always notice it, and say what ought to be done, though he could not tell, perhaps, why it ought to be done.

Two years before he had been an intelligent, promising lad. He was the son of a designer connected with the foundry company, and had always been allowed free access to the shops, and to mingle with the men and watch their work. But one day a great lifting chain broke, with its load, and an iron fragment struck him on the head, inflicting a serious injury. From this he partially recovered, and only partially, for his reason was impaired. But his natural love for machinery and mechanical experiments remained, and as he regained his bodily strength he spent most of his time making small wheels and shafts, and putting together odd contrivances, which he would exhibit with immense pride and satisfaction.

This peculiar trait in the young fellow gained for him the humorous title of the "Inventor." All the men felt a great kindness for him, even though their manner toward him was occasionally harsh and impatient. Such was the person left to watch the great blast for the casting of the king bell of the chime

of St. John's. Faithfully he kept his place before the furnace, while the man George sat down at a little distance and began to eat his meal. Doubtless the latter intended to keep a general oversight, but he certainly made the "Inventor's" eyes do the most of the looking. Whether he felt a kind of reckless trust in the instinct of his half-witted companion, or indolently concluded that nothing wrong could happen, he was sadly to blame for charging himself so little with the important duty before him. Not a word was said by either watcher, and only the deep roar of the furnace was heard through the vast foundry.

George finished his meal, and sauntered into one of the tool shops to find his pipe. The "Inventor" sat alone before the great blast. The one rational faculty of his feeble mind enabled him to comprehend what it meant, and even something of the magnitude of the enterprise that was ripening inside those burning walls. He knew that the furnace was full of valuable metal, and that close beside him, buried out of sight in the deep sand, was the huge mould, so soon to be filled with the precious cast. He knew and could see that all the channels for the flow of the fiery liquid were ready, and that near the mouth of the furnace stood the long iron rod that was to be used when the moment came to let out the molten stream.

All this his limited thoughts took in by habit. Dimly conscious that something was soon to be done, he sat with his eyes on the furnace, absorbed and intent. Suddenly something startled him. There was a slight noise, and a burning crack appeared at the top of the furnace, then another crack, and a scorching brick fell out and rolled to the ground at his feet. The lad opened his mouth to shriek, but so terrified was he that the sounds stuck in his throat as if he had been in a fit of nightmare. A thin red stream followed the fallen brick, and trickled down the furnace side like running lava. Then came another alarming noise, and a thin gap, half way down the masonry, let out more of the hissing metal.

Where was George? Was the unfaithful fellow still hunting for his pipe? The furnace was bursting, with only a poor half-idiot lad to guard it. What could he do? He did what perhaps a lad in his right mind would not have dared to do. Rushing to the mouth of the furnace, he seized the long iron rod that stood near, and tapped the vent. One desperate thrust with a sharp point up the terrible funnel—a few prying strokes. Stand back now. The confining clay fell away, and the yellow-white flood spouted out with resistless force. It leaped into the clay-lined troughs, and hissed its way, flaming down to the mouth of the bell mould.

The "fool" had done a deed worthy of a general on a field of battle. Was it too late? Every moment new fissures opened in the doomed furnace. Some of the upper stones toppled over. Still the metal poured out into the mould. But the waste was great from these gaping flaws. The pressure was relieved by the rent, but the leaks multiplied continually. It was art running a race with ruin. Poor "Mopus" stood powerless before the coming catastrophe. His knees knocked together and his head swam. A great heap of red-hot bricks and rubbish fell at his feet. He had barely thought to get out of the way and save his life. He heard a wild shout of human voices in the distance, then an awful roar behind him, and he saw and felt himself pursued by surges of seething fire. Sharp, blistering pains pierced his flesh at a hundred points.

The rest was all a horrible, unintelligible dream. It was as if he had suddenly sunk into the earth and had been swallowed up for ever. By seven o'clock comparative quiet reigned again on the scene of the disaster. Ruins lay everywhere. The engines had quenched the flames that had caught the building, and the men, blackened with smoke, stood in silent groups around the remains of the furnace. It had fallen to pieces and nothing was left but heaps of steaming rubbish. Poor "Inventor," who had been found with the tapping-rod in his hands, lying on his face in the sand, frightfully burned, had been carried to his home. Little was said, but the few words spoken uttered, with no mild emphasis, the natural wrath of the master and hands against the man George, whose excuses for himself only exaggerated his offence.

"See what he's done," said they, a few days later, as they stood in the half-burned foundry. "Five thousand pounds gone to waste in a minute. The best job in twenty years spoiled! The rascal, to go hunting for his pipe and leave that stuttering

idiot to watch! Is that all he can say for himself? Out upon such carelessness! Why, the boy didn't even know enough to bawl out when he must have seen the furnace tumbling to pieces!"

The master, who had more at stake than the men, of course felt the loss more keenly than they. He almost wept with mingled grief and rage. Suddenly something peculiar caught his eye among the debris, and he cried in a startled voice:—

"Hallo! What's this? What's this?"

He snatched up a fragment of one of the troughs which had led from the mould. There were traces of the stream of bronze that had run in it. Then the possible meaning of the iron found in the injured boy's hand flashed upon him.

"Bring me a shovel, quick!" he shouted.

A spade was put into his hands, and he began nervously to heave away the hot mass that lay piled over the bell mould. It was a herculean task, but he worked like a giant, and three or four of his men took heart and helped him. Brickbats, ore, slag, and ashes flew in every direction. Presently the master's spade penetrated the sand, and touched something hard. He stooped down, then he leaped up like one half-frantic, and plying his spade with redoubled energy, tore away the remaining sand, disclosing what looked like a great metallic ring.

"Men," he cried out, lifting his flushed face, "the bell is cast."

"Who did this?" asked every excited voice, as soon as the cheering died away.

"Come with me, two or three of you!" cried the master.

"I think I know who did it. It's a miracle."

They hurried away to the home of the half-witted boy. The attendant met them with his finger on his lips.

"The poor boy is in a brain fever," said he.

"Does he say anything in his delirium?" whispered the master.

"Oh, yes, he raves all the time about the big bell mould. 'I hope it will fill—I hope it will fill,' he says."

The men exchanged glances. It was indeed true. The idiot had cast the great bell of St. John's. Just then the physician came out.

"Perhaps he will recover his reason by this shock," he said. "Such things have happened."

"Do you think so? Pray heaven he may!" solemnly ejaculated the master and his men, and turned away, deeply moved.

Two months later the great bell hung from a huge derrick in the lathe room of the factory, and beneath it stood a heavy truck upon which it was about to be lowered. A silence fell upon the group of workmen as the pale face and feeble form of "Inventor" appeared, borne in on a small reclining chair. He had recovered his reason, and was fast getting back his strength. His large grey eyes instantly fastened themselves on the bell, that splendid masterpiece, whose making meant so much to him. They had told him the whole story of the casting, and the disaster in the foundry, but it all sounded like a wild romance to him.

"I remember nothing that happened," he said, shaking his head, with a smile. "It's all new to me; all new and strange—so strange!"

"Yes," said the master, devoutly; "it was God's hand."

Every eye turned upon the invalid. Some of the men felt almost afraid, it was so much like a resurrection to have him there among them, the boy they had known so long underwitted, now a young man, keen and intelligent, as if changed into another being.

"I should like to strike the bell once."

Two men lifted him up and put a small hammer in his hand. He struck one gentle blow. A deep, sweet, mournful tone, solemn as the sound of distant waterfalls, rolled from the great bell, and echoed through the foundry. Tears filled the eyes of the rough men as they heard it.

Then the great bell was lowered, and as the truck was rolled away with its melodious burden, the boy was lifted and carried after it, and both went out into the sunny day together, the rough men standing in the doorways waving their hands. The "Inventor" afterwards well proved his claim to the title so lightly given him in his unfortunate boyhood. His name is now read on many a bell whose matchless richness of tone his genius and skill in metals alone created.

ALRESFORD, HANTS.

"Can you make one for Treble Bob at Alresford, on December 22nd, to re-open the bells? Rector will entertain at dinner and pay expenses." Thus ran a post-card from friend Whiting of Fareham, and as it seemed a request distinctly out of the usual run of applications at this season of the year, a reply in the affirmative was soon despatched.

The date having duly arrived Alresford Station was reached, and the way to the Church enquired for: "Down there and you will see the tower." This sounded strange, but was soon literally explained, for there was only the tower standing—the church having been pulled down and only advanced 6 or 8 feet in the rebuilding. Shortly after, the rest of the band having arrived, a move was made to the isolated tower, and, after a trial bourse, the peal was duly started, and settling down to the tower-man's time successfully brought to a completion. The Rector (Rev. A. A. Headley) was one of the first to congratulate the band, and suggested a wash and brush-up at The Swan, in readiness for dinner. To the surprise and gratification of the visitors they found themselves the guests at a public dinner at which over fifty gentlemen were present. The dinner was a most substantial one, and served in the style for which The Swan is so justly famed.

After the customary loyal toasts had been honoured in the usual hearty manner, the rector spoke on the events of the day, and said that having been curate at Fareham some twelve or fourteen years ago when they had increased their bells, he became acquainted with Mr. Whiting and the other Fareham ringers, and naturally turned to them when it was decided to have a public re-opening of the Alresford bells. Pointing to two large old-fashioned peal-tablets which had been carefully brought from the tower before the work of restoration began, the rev. gentleman remarked that one peal was dated 1824 and the other 1837, and it was felt that it would be very appropriate to finish up their Jubilee rejoicings with another peal, which he was very pleased indeed had been accomplished.

In responding for the visitors, Mr. H. White laid great stress on the work of the Winchester Diocesan Guild, and urged the Alresford men to become members when qualified, and as his remarks were received with much applause, it is hoped that a strong branch of the Guild will be found in Alresford ere long.

As the trains left very early at Alresford station, the rector had provided a pair-horse covered brake for the nine-mile drive to Winchester, which was reached in good time, and the visitors had the additional pleasure of meeting Mr. W. H. George and others of the Cathedral band. The band take this opportunity of recording their thanks to the rector and bell committee for their hearty Hampshire welcome, and one and all of the band expressed their confident opinion that it was the record opening with which they had ever had anything to do. The band comprised representatives from Fareham, Basingstoke, Guildford, Wickham, and Mr. Lawrence, of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, that firm having made a most satisfactory job, each bell being quarter-turned, and all new fittings supplied. J. J. J.

In Memoriam.

FREDERICK STILL.

In the well-cared for "God's Acre" of St. Mary the Virgin, Speldhurst, on Thursday, December 23rd, with every mark of respect and affection, the mortal remains of the above ringer, in his seventy-fifth year, was laid to rest after a short illness. He was a firm friend, a loyal churchman, and a thorough ringer; to him the Speldhurst belfry, where he rang steadily and conscientiously for forty-nine years, is much indebted; his place in his parish will never be filled; he was a steadfast friend to his rector, who will ever remember him with gratitude. He was a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and his brother-members have written numerous letters to regret his loss. But God called him, and he now lies in his narrow home, within sight and sound of the beautiful bells he loved so well, and rang so skillfully.

"Father in Thy tender keeping
Leave we now Thy servant sleeping."

R. M. L.

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 1897 AND PUBLISHED IN THIS PAPER. TABULATED ACCORDING TO VALUE IN POINTS.

Position to date.	VALUE IN POINTS PER PEAL.....										Treble Bob.				Grandsire.				Minor Methods.				Duffield.				Plain Methods.				Surprise Methods.				Stedman.				Total value in points.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																						
	Jan. to Septem.	Maximus.	Royal.	Major.	Treble Bob	Minor methods.	Cinquies.	Major.	Trips.	Minor mthd.	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29		30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390	391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400	401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410	411	412	413	414	415	416	417	418	419	420	421	422	423	424	425	426	427	428	429	430	431	432	433	434	435	436	437	438	439	440	441	442	443	444	445	446	447	448	449	450	451	452	453	454	455	456	457	458	459	460	461	462	463	464	465	466	467	468	469	470	471	472	473	474	475	476	477	478	479	480	481	482	483	484	485	486	487	488	489	490	491	492	493	494	495	496	497	498	499	500	501	502	503	504	505	506	507	508	509	510	511	512	513	514	515	516	517	518	519	520	521	522	523	524	525	526	527	528	529	530	531	532	533	534	535	536	537	538	539	540	541	542	543	544	545	546	547	548	549	550	551	552	553	554	555	556	557	558	559	560	561	562	563	564	565	566	567	568	569	570	571	572	573	574	575	576	577	578	579	580	581	582	583	584	585	586	587	588	589	590	591	592	593	594	595	596	597	598	599	600	601	602	603	604	605	606	607	608	609	610	611	612	613	614	615	616	617	618	619	620	621	622	623	624	625	626	627	628	629	630	631	632	633	634	635	636	637	638	639	640	641	642	643	644	645	646	647	648	649	650	651	652	653	654	655	656	657	658	659	660	661	662	663	664	665	666	667	668	669	670	671	672	673	674	675	676	677	678	679	680	681	682	683	684	685	686	687	688	689	690	691	692	693	694	695	696	697	698	699	700	701	702	703	704	705	706	707	708	709	710	711	712	713	714	715	716	717	718	719	720	721	722	723	724	725	726	727	728	729	730	731	732	733	734	735	736	737	738	739	740	741	742	743	744	745	746	747	748	749	750	751	752	753	754	755	756	757	758	759	760	761	762	763	764	765	766	767	768	769	770	771	772	773	774	775	776	777	778	779	780	781	782	783	784	785	786	787	788	789	790	791	792	793	794	795	796	797	798	799	800	801	802	803	804	805	806	807	808	809	810	811	812	813	814	815	816	817	818	819	820	821	822	823	824	825	826	827	828	829	830	831	832	833	834	835	836	837	838	839	840	841	842	843	844	845	846	847	848	849	850	851	852	853	854	855	856	857	858	859	860	861	862	863	864	865	866	867	868	869	870	871	872	873	874	875	876	877	878	879	880	881	882	883	884	885	886	887	888	889	890	891	892	893	894	895	896	897	898	899	900	901	902	903	904	905	906	907	908	909	910	911	912	913	914	915	916	917	918	919	920	921	922	923	924	925	926	927	928	929	930	931	932	933	934	935	936	937	938	939	940	941	942	943	944	945	946	947	948	949	950	951	952	953	954	955	956	957	958	959	960	961	962	963	964	965	966	967	968	969	970	971	972	973	974	975	976	977	978	979	980	981	982	983	984	985	986	987	988	989	990	991	992	993	994	995	996	997	998	999	1000	1001	1002	1003	1004	1005	1006	1007	1008	1009	1010	1011	1012	1013	1014	1015	1016	1017	1018	1019	1020	1021	1022	1023	1024	1025	1026	1027	1028	1029	1030	1031	1032	1033	1034	1035	1036	1037	1038	1039	1040	1041	1042	1043	1044	1045	1046	1047	1048	1049	1050	1051	1052	1053	1054	1055	1056	1057	1058	1059	1060	1061	1062	1063	1064	1065	1066	1067	1068	1069	1070	1071	1072	1073	1074	1075	1076	1077	1078	1079	1080	1081	1082	1083	1084	1085	1086	1087	1088	1089	1090	1091	1092	1093	1094	1095	1096	1097	1098	1099	1100	1101	1102	1103	1104	1105	1106	1107	1108	1109	1110	1111	1112	1113	1114	1115	1116	1117	1118	1119	1120	1121	1122	1123	1124	1125	1126	1127	1128	1129	1130	1131	1132	1133	1134	1135	1136	1137	1138	1139	1140	1141	1142	1143	1144	1145	1146	1147	1148	1149	1150	1151	1152	1153	1154	1155	1156	1157	1158	1159	1160	1161	1162	1163	1164	1165	1166	1167	1168	1169	1170	1171	1172	1173	1174	1175	1176	1177	1178	1179	1180	1181	1182	1183	1184	1185	1186	1187	1188	1189	1190	1191	1192	1193	1194	1195	1196	1197	1198	1199	1200	1201	1202	1203	1204	1205	1206	1207	1208	1209	1210	1211	1212	1213	1214	1215	1216	1217	1218	1219	1220	1221	1222	1223	1224	1225	1226	1227	1228	1229	1230	1231	1232	1233	1234	1235	1236	1237	1238	1239	1240	1241	1242	1243	1244	1245	1246	1247	1248	1249	1250	1251	1252	1253	1254	1255	1256	1257	1258	1259	1260	1261	1262	1263	1264	1265	1266	1267	1268	1269	1270	1271	1272	1273	1274	1275	1276	1277	1278	1279	1280	1281	1282	1283	1284	1285	1286	1287	1288	1289	1290	1291	1292	1293	1294	1295	1296	1297	1298	1299	1300	1301	1302	1303	1304	1305	1306	1307	1308	1309	1310	1311	1312	1313	1314	1315	1316	1317	1318	1319	1320	1321	1322	1323	1324	1325	1326	1327	1328	1329	1330	1331	1332	1333	1334	1335	1336	1337	1338	1339	1340	1341	1342	1343	1344	1345	1346	1347

The 35 peals by Independent Societies were rung as follows: In Yorkshire, 6; Lancashire, 5; Worcestershire, 4; Kent, 3; Cheshire, 2; Gloucestershire, 2; Middlesex, 2; Staffordshire, 2; Australia, 1; Cambridgeshire, 1; Hertford, 1; Norfolk, 1; North Wales, 1; Shropshire, 1; Somerset, 1; Sussex, 1; and Warwickshire, 1.

1895—	January	74
	February	82
	March	59
	April	78
	May	52
	June	42
	July	25
	August	33
	September	44

1896—	January	68
	February	79
	March	57
	April	75
	May	66
	June	33
	July	25
	August	41
	September	53

489

497

604

Increase on the corresponding nine months of 1896—107.

8, *Hanover Crescent Brighton.*

GEO. F. ATTREE.

AN AUSTRALIAN LETTER.

DEAR SIR,—I am sending you an account of a social entertainment held conjointly by the St. Patrick's Cathedral Society and the Victorian Association. Both of these organizations are greatly indebted to Mr. and Mrs. O'Meara for the use of their premises for meetings, handbell practices, etc. In recognition of the many favours shown to them, the above-named societies held a social evening on September 24th, 1897, when the president, on behalf of the St. Patrick's Cathedral Society, presented Mrs. O'Meara with a handsome electro-plated tea-pot, suitably inscribed; and on behalf of the Victorian Association presented Mr. O'Meara with a silver-mounted pipe.

After Mr. O'Meara had suitably replied on behalf of himself and Mrs. O'Meara, the president then presented Mr. J. H. Coppock, who was retiring from the Secretaryship after eight years' faithful service, with a very handsome marble clock, suitably inscribed on behalf of St. Patrick's Cathedral Society. Mr. Coppock feelingly responded.

Harmony was then contributed by the members, and a very enjoyable evening was brought to a close by the hearty singing of "Auld lang syne."

PORTSEA (Hants).—On November 15th, at St. Mary's church, 336 of Plain Bob. Rev. H. T. W. Eyre (Great Tot-
ham, Essex), 1; J. Harper, 2; E. Reynolds, 3; J. Symons, 4; E. Newman, 5; J. T. Matthews, 6; J. Gould, 7; A. Pye (conductor), 8. And 336 of Grandsire. Rev. H. T. W. Eyre, 1; J. Gould, 2; J. Harper, 3; J. Symons (conductor), 4; E. Reynolds, 5; J. T. Matthews, 6; E. Newman, 7; J. Webb, 8.

NORRON (Derbyshire).—On Wednesday, November 24th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. J. Atkin, 1; J. Goucher, 2; T. G. Sarel, 3; W. J. Thyng, 4; A. Slater, 5; A. Knights (conductor), 6; J. Allen, 7; W. Biggin, 8. Rung after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal of Bob Major. Also 336 of Canterbury Major. Tenor 16 cwt. All the above belong to the Yorkshire and Old East Derbyshire Associations.

Compositions.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES.

By E. HIMS, *Oxford.*

508r.

2 3 1 4 5 6					
2 1 4 6 5 3	1	4	10	12	13 17 19
6 5 1 4 3 5	18				
3 4 6 1 5 5	19				
3 1 4 6 5 5					

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18 18s

The last seventeen courses repeated produce 2 4 3 1 6 5. Then 3s 5 8 10 11 bring up rounds.

A DATE TOUCH OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By A. SYKES, *Huddersfield.*

1898.

ODD CHANGES.

2 1 3 4 6 5 8 7

2 3 1 4 5 6 7 8

3 2 1 5 4 7 6 8

ODD CHANGES—continued.

3 2 5 1 7 4 8 6

2 3 1 5 4 7 6 8

2 1 3 4 5 6 7 8

1 2 3 4 6 5 8 7

2 1 4 3 5 6 7 8

1 2 4 3 6 5 8 7

1 4 2 6 3 8 5 7

M B W H

6 2 5 3 4 - 2 2

6 5 3 2 4 - 1 2

2 3 5 6 4 - 1 2

3 2 4 6 5 - 1 2

3 4 6 2 5 - 1 2

2 3 4 5 6 - 2 2

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By ARTHUR CRAVEN, *Lincoln.*

5344.

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

2 6 3 5 4 2 - 1

4 2 5 6 3 - 2 2

2 6 4 3 5 - 2

3 4 6 2 5 - 2

4 2 3 5 6 - 2

6 4 5 2 3 - 2

4 3 5 2 6 - 2

2 4 3 6 5 - 2

2 3 6 4 5 - 2

6 4 2 3 5 - 2

4 5 2 3 6 - 2

5 6 2 3 4 - 2

5 2 3 6 4 - 2

5 3 6 2 4 - 2

3 2 6 5 4 - 2

5 3 2 4 6 - 2

2 3 4 5 6 - 2

Has the 4th, 5th and 6th the extent in 6ths place, each of them being five course-ends in that position, and the 2nd never there.

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. 13d.

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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24, Basinghall Street, Leeds

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"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, BART., M.A. Gratis on application to SIR ARTHUR HEYWOOD, BART., DUFFIELD BANK, near Derby

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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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T.B. has devoted a great deal of attention to the fixing of Clock Hammers used for striking the hours and quarters on Church Bells. These are some times placed in awkward and dangerous positions, even by Church Clock Makers.

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

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CHURCH BELL HANGERS AND TUNERS, MASHAM, BEDALE, YORKSHIRE.

Rings of Bells to any number hung on the most approved principles. New Bells Supplied. Old Bells Recast or Retuned. Messrs. MALLABY AND SONS are experienced in all matters appertaining to Church Bells, and with confidence solicit the patronage of the Clergy, Churchwardens and Ringers generally.

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" 3 "	1s. 8d.

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 1898.

WE shall not be singular in expressing the wish that all our ringing-brethren, and those who are not ringers, may have a "HAPPY NEW YEAR!" Our contemporaries follow the same time-honoured custom, with a sincerity equal to our own. The compliment is a graceful one when it is a verbal courtesy, but we cannot help thinking that the new year's good wishes from an Editor to his readers have a character peculiar their own. We are not afraid to say that our new year's greeting to our brethren all over the world is one of affection and esteem. May our friends—and enemies too if we have any—in and through this year of grace One Thousand Eight Hundred and Ninety-Eight, have an unbroken period of happiness, and enjoy the many bounties of a loving and merciful Providence. A year of solid blessing.

During 1897 the Exercise, it may be said, has been at its best. A mere truism, perhaps, because happily we find the practice of ringing becoming more fully admired. The peal of Surprise at Drayton, and that of Treble Ten

at St. Paul's Cathedral by twelve men only, are occurrences worthy of reiteration; while the addition of another ring of twelve to the list is a cause for gratification. The Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty was fortunately the means of much bell-restoration and addition; and ringers of the future from this alone will have cause for pleasant reflection when alluding to the auspicious festivity. The general improvement in ringing throughout the country is shown by the frequent ringing of peals in the more complex methods, and a more spirited determination than formerly to investigate the intricacies of the Art. We have cause for thankfulness in these one or two particulars. Let us strive to perfection so far as it is attainable, not only in ringing, but in our conduct and demeanour. Our well-known almost-regular contributor gives upon another page some seasonable hints for this period.

CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION. THE NEW YEAR.

The Hon. Secretary of the Central Northamptonshire Association wishes all members thereof a very Happy New Year, with prosperity in their various occupations and success in their efforts, to advance in the art of change-ringing. He takes this opportunity to thank them for the kind help given him during the past year both in adding to the peal record and by attending often at inconvenience and expense) the different Quarterly Meetings, where much has been done to spread Belfry Reform, and increase the number of Churches in union with the Association.

Will all in the New Year endeavour to make their ringing and chiming of good quality, not allowing the pleasure of peal-ringing to cause neglect and disregard for the regular routine work of their respective Belfries, and also see that the bells be used in such a temperate and considerate manner as to prevent annoyance to parishioners. With the view of promoting harmony and good feeling, let all try to carry out the injunction: "As ye would that men should do to you do ye also to them likewise."

The Metropolis.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 27, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN, DEPTFORD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

JOSEPH LAW Treble.	WILLIAM J. JEFFRIES .. 5.
JOHN ROSE 2.	WALTER INGHAM 6.
ALBERT PHEASANT 3.	WILLIAM BEDWELL 7.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE 4.	GEORGE H. DAYNES .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM BEDWELL.

The Provinces.

ILFRACOMBE.—THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Tuesday, December 21, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

JOSEPH GERMAN Treble.	RICHARD DADDS 5.
ALFRED DADDS 2.	GEORGE BOWEN 6.
FREDERICK J. REED 3.	WILLIAM J. VICKERY .. 7.
JOHN T. THOMAS 4.	WILLIAM H. SLOCOMBE .. Tenor.

Conducted by ALFRED DADDS.

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

CARSHALTON, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 27, 1897, in Two Hours and Thirty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 12 cwt.

CHARLES BANCE Treble.	ALFRED CLAYTON 5.
ARTHUR B. CARPENTER .. 2.	JOSEPH FAYERS 6.
ERNEST WALKER* 3.	WILLIAM BURKIN 7.
GEORGE WELLING 4.	WILLIAM GRAY Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM BURKIN.

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

EDENBRIDGE, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 22, 1897, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOSEPH EDWARDS Treble.	JAMES WALLIS 5.
JAMES HEASMAN 2.	RICHARD JENNER 6.
FREDERICK J. HARRINGTON 3.	JACK PRESTON 7.
JOHN STEDDY 4.	JOHN MALYAN Tenor.

Conducted by JACK PRESTON.

F. J. Harrington, for whom this peal was arranged, is seventeen years old, and hails from Hever, where there is a ring of five. It is his first attempt for a peal, his longest length previous being 504.

ALRESFORD, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, December 22, 1897, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 17 cwt.

FREDK. HILL Treble.	GEORGE GRAFHAM 5.
ERNEST J. HEATHORN .. 2.	JOHN J. JONES 6.
SIDNEY LAWRENCE 3.	JOHN W. WHITING 7.
GEORGE CHAPPELL 4.	HENRY WHITE Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS and Conducted by H. WHITE.

An account of the events connected with this peal will be found on another page.

FRAMSDEN, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 23, 1897, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

GEORGE WIGHTMAN Treble.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. 5.
WILLIAM WIGHTMAN 2.	GEORGE PERRY 6.
STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. 3.	*WILLIAM E. H. BULLOCK 7.
GEORGE THURLOW 4.	HENRY W. BALDREY .. Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS and

Conducted by GEORGE WIGHTMAN.

*First peal in the method.

LITTLE MUNDEN, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(THE LITTLE MUNDEN SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, December 25, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Canterbury Pleasure, College Single, and Grandsire; and two each of Oxford Bob and Plain Bob, all called differently. Tenor 13½ cwt.

GEORGE CARTER Treble.	ALBERT PHILLIPS 4.
ALBERT LAWRENCE 2.	ALBERT SMITH 5.
JAMES HEADY 3.	WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE.

This is the first peal by all in five methods, also on the bells, and the first 720 of Canterbury Pleasure by all.

RUSPER, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 23, 1897, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

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

THOMAS WORSFOLD* .. Treble.	THOMAS FAIRS 5.
JOHN AKEHURST 2.	HENRY BURSTOW 6.
EDWARD HOLLOWAY* 3.	EDWIN JORDAN 7.
CHARLIE TAYLOR* 4.	*JAMES WORSFOLD Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS and Conducted by E. JORDAN.

*First peal of Major. Reference to this peal will be found on another page.

LEDBURY, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, December 24, 1897, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. Treble.	THOMAS WILLIAMS 5.
JOHN S. PRITCHETT 2.	CHARLES LAYTON 6.
FREDERICK SMITH 3.	JAMES E. GROVES 7.
HARRY W. ALLEN 4.	HENRY KING Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Rung on the occasion of the re-dedication of the bells, and it is the first peal ever rang on them.

FRAMLINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 25, 1897, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5104 CHANGES.

Tenor 19 cwt.

WILLIAM OSTLER .. Treble.	*HORACE HOWLETT 5.
HORACE BEDINGFIELD .. 2.	DAVID WIGHTMAN 6.
JOHN SELF 3.	SAMUEL GARNHAM 7.
ALBERT READ 4.	WILLIAM FLORY Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by HORACE HOWLETT.

*First peal as conductor and first attempt Rang on the 23rd birthday of the conductor, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns. Also on the 23rd birthday of the eldest daughter of Mr. J. Self. Messrs. Bedingfield and Wightman hail from Brandeston.

DUNSTER, SOMERSETSHIRE.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(THE DUNSTER GUILD.)

On Monday, December 26, 1897, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. 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 TUDBALL Tenor.

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNEY.

STEDHAM.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(MIDHURST BRANCH.)

On Monday, December 27, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of New London Pleasure, Oxford and Kent, and two each of Duke of York and Woodbine, called differently.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

CLEMENT BEST .. Treble.	ARTHUR B. BENNETT .. 4.
THOMAS STROUD 2.	FRANK TRUSSLER 5.
THOMAS E. ELLIS 3.	JAMES LEE Tenor.

Conducted by A. B. BENNETT.

This is the first peal on the bells, which have been augmented to six by a new treble as a Jubilee commemoration. The ringers wish to thank the rector for the use of the bells.

FRAMLINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 27, 1897, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 19 cwt.

WILLIAM OSTLER .. Treble.	HORACE HOWLETT 5.
REV. J. H. PILKINGTON .. 2.	ALBERT READ 6.
JOHN SELF 3.	*SAMUEL GARNHAM 7.
EDWARD TODD 4.	EDWARD SHERWOOD Tenor.

Composed by H. HUBBARD and

Conducted by the REV. J. H. PILKINGTON.

Messrs. Todd and Sherwood hail from Wickham Market. *First peal of Treble Bob.

STAPLEHURST, KENT.—KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 27, 1897, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 21½ cwt.

THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE .. Treble.	WALTER HOBBS 5.
EDWARD R. J. DUNK .. 2.	RICHARD JENNER 6.
JOHN STEDDY 3.	JACK PRESTON 7.
WILLIAM STEAD 4.	WILLIAM SPICE Tenor.

Conducted by JACK PRESTON.

Spice hails from Charing, and it is his first peal; Hobbs from Willesborough; Stead from Tonbridge; Groombridge from Sevenoaks; the rest from Edenbridge. The above was rung after meeting one short for Treble Bob.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 27, 1897, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HARRY PRICE* .. Treble.	JOHN SMITH 5.
JOHN W. SMITH 2.	WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT .. 6.
WILLIAM TALBOT 3.	SAMUEL SPITTLE 7.
RICHARD ROUND† 4.	JAMES PRESTIDGE Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT.

*First peal. †First peal in the method. This is the first peal in the method on the bells.

BIRMINGHAM.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Monday, December 27, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. CHAD (R.C.),

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

THOMAS MILLER .. Treble.	GEORGE ROBINSON 5.
HUGH JOHN BALCOMBE .. 2.	HERBERT KNIGHT 6.
RICHARD C. BALCOMBE .. 3.	JOHN JAGGAR 7.
WILLIAM J. SMITH 4.	WILLIAM A. HANCOX Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN JAGGAR.

This peal was arranged specially for the brothers Balcombe, who hail from Prestbury, Gloucestershire, and it is their first peal. Smith and Robinson hail from Burton-on-Trent; Knight and Jaggar from Wolverhampton; Miller and Hancox belong to Birmingham.

CLIFFORD, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, December 27, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

WILLIAM DAVIES* .. Treble.	CHARLES DAVIS 5.
FREDERICK SMITH 2.	CHARLES SADLER 6.
JOHN G. WALL 3.	JAMES E. GROVES 7.
WALLACE CLARK* 4.	*RICHARD CHAMBERLIN .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

*First peal. First peal on the bells. The ringers were entertained to dinner by the vicar, the Rev. T. W. Trumper.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 27, 1897, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

FREDERICK CLAYTON .. Treble.	WILLIAM G. CRICKMER .. 5.
JAMES GEORGE 2.	DAVID COLLINS 6.
WILLIAM GRIMES 3.	EDGAR COLLINS 7.
WILLIAM FLORY 4.	WILLIAM H. BARBER .. Tenor.

Composed by the late W. SOTTANSTALL and
Conducted by WILLIAM H. BARBER.

This composition, which is in one part, contains the 5th and 6th their extent each way in 5-6, and the 2nd nine courses at home.

BUSHEY, HERTS.—THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(THE BUSHEY SOCIETY.)

On Monday, December 27, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.
Tenor 13 cwt.

W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. Treble.	WILLIAM G. WHITEHEAD .. 5.
GEORGE N. PRICE† 2.	WILLIAM E. OAKLEY .. 6.
CHARLES GEORGE* 3.	WILLIAM I. OAKLEY .. 7.
WALTER NORRIS* 4.	ERNEST E. HUNTLEY .. Tenor.

Composed by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM and
Conducted by GEORGE N. PRICE.

*First peal of Major. †First peal of Major as conductor.

BISHOPS STORTFORD, HERTS.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 27, 1897, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.
Tenor 20 cwt.

JOHN PENNING* Treble.	WALTER PRIOR 5.
ALFRED TUCKER 2.	†WALTER WM. TUCKER .. 6.
NATHAN J. PITSTOW* .. 3.	HENRY J. TUCKER 7.
GEORGE DENT* 4.	THOMAS NEWMAN Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY JOHNSON and
Conducted by HENRY JAMES TUCKER.

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

HAWLEY, HANTS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, December 27, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 16½ cwt.

BARZILLAI HAWKINS .. Treble.	HENRY TUCKER 5.
FRANK BENNETT 2.	JOHN TUCKER 6.
FRANK TUBB 3.	FRANK HOPGOOD 7.
ALFRED E. REEVES 4.	JOHN W. WHITING .. Tenor.

Conducted by FRANK HOPGOOD.

This is the quickest peal on the bells.

WOKINGHAM, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, December 27, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.
Tenor 18 cwt.

ALFRED E. REEVES .. Treble.	BARZILLAI HAWKINS .. 5.
JOHN TUCKER 2.	HENRY TUCKER 6.
FRANK TUBB 3.	JOHN W. WHITING .. 7.
FRANK BENNETT 4.	FRANK HOPGOOD .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

The above two peals were rung in an attempt to ring three peals in one day in three different counties, but unfortunately the attempt at York Town, Surrey, for Treble Bob Major was lost in the last course after ringing 2 hrs. 50 mins. Bennett hails from Brighton; Whiting from Fareham; Hawkins from Hawley; the rest from Reading.

FRAMSDEN, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 27, 1897, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

DAVID G. WIGHTMAN .. Treble.	HENRY W. BALDREY .. 5.
WILLIAM WIGHTMAN .. 2.	GEORGE WIGHTMAN .. 6.
ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. 3.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. 7.
GEORGE THURLOW 4.	EDGAR WIGHTMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM HARRISON and
Conducted by DAVID G. WIGHTMAN.

This peal has the 4th, 5th, and 6th their extent in 6ths place. For calling see Snowdon, Part II., page 42. This peal was rang after meeting one short for Double Norwich.

STEYNING.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 27, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

GEORGE WILLIAMS .. Treble.	GEORGE PAYNE 5.
WILLIAM J. ALLISS .. 2.	*ARTHUR GATLAND .. 6.
HENRY STRINGER 3.	GEORGE GATLAND .. 7.
JOHN SMART 4.	ARTHUR HODGES .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

*First peal of Stedman. Rang as a birthday compliment to G. Gatland, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns. Messrs. Alliss, Stringer, Payne, and Hodges hail from Henfield; the conductor from Brighton; the rest are of the local band.

CRAWLEY.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 27, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5088 CHANGES. Tenor 13½ cwt. in F.

ROBERT JORDAN .. Treble.	FREDERICK W. CRIPPS .. 5.
JOHN RICE 2.	EDWIN JORDAN 6.
SIDNEY WADE 3.	JAMES PARKER 7.
WILLIAM WARD 4.	FREDERICK W. RICE .. Tenor.

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH and
Conducted by JAMES PARKER.

HENFIELD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 28, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 15½ cwt.

LAZARUS PAYNE .. Treble.	ALFRED W. GROVES .. 5.
HENRY STRINGER 2.	WILLIAM JOHN ALLISS .. 6.
GEORGE GATLAND 3.	GEORGE PAYNE 7.
CHARLES TYLER 4.	ALBERT HEASMAN .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE PAYNE.

First peal as conductor. It was intended to start for Double Norwich, but meeting one short, the above was rung instead. A. Heasman kindly stepping into the breach and ringing the tenor. Gatland hails from Steyning; the rest belong to the local band.

HIGHAM FERRERS, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 29, 1897, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5184 CHANGES.

GEORGE BROWN* .. Treble.	JOHN B. MARTIN .. 5.
WALTER PERKINS† .. 2.	ALFRED H. MARTIN .. 6.
WILLIAM PETTET 3.	CHARLES W. BRICE .. 7.
WILLIAM GARRATT 4.	CHARLES W. CLARKE .. Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS and Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

*First peal in the method. †First peal with a bob bell. This peal has the 6th her extent wrong and right. It was arranged to go for Superlative, but meeting a man short the above was rang instead.

Miscellaneous.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DEBENHAM (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, November 3rd, at the parish church, 1056 Bob Major with the bells muffled as a token of respect to the late Duchess of Teck. G. Rumsey, 1; S. Collins, 2; W. Rumsey, 3; J. Rumsey, 4; W. Groom, 5; A. Grimes, 6; G. Rowe, 7; W. Grimes (conductor), 8. Longest length in the method by G. Rumsey; and longest touch with a bob bell by S. Collins. On Thursday, October 11th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. Rumsey, 1; S. Collins, 2; W. Groom, 3; J. Rumsey, 4; A. Grimes (first in the method as conductor), 5; W. Grimes, 6. On Sunday, October 11th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. S. Collins, 1; W. Groom, 2; J. Rumsey, 3; W. Grimes, 4; A. Grimes, 5; W. Rumsey (conductor), 6. For evening service several touches of Oxford Treble Bob Major. And after service 704 Oxford Treble Bob Major. W. Grimes (conductor), 1; A. Grimes, 2; W. Rumsey, 3; W. Ruffles, 4; J. Rumsey, 5; G. Rowe, 6; W. Bullock (longest length in the method), 7; W. Baldry, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. Baldry hails from Brandeston; Bullock from Framsen.

PULHAM (Norfolk).—On Wednesday, November 24th, for practice, 1056 Oxford Treble Bob Major. J. Tann (conductor), 1; R. Whiting, 2; J. Broughton, 3; F. Roope (longest length), 4; F. Surridge, 5; C. Baker, 6; C. Tann, 7; F. Borrett, 8.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(SUDBURY BRANCH.)

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Saturday, November 6th, for practice, 720 Bob Major (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Symonds (conductor), 1; F. Symonds, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; J. Fayers (first 720 on tower bells), 4; C. Levett, 5; W. Hollocks, 6. On Sunday afternoon, November 14th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-two singles). A. Symonds (conductor), 1; F. Symonds, 2; W. Hollocks, 3; C. Levett, 4; A. Hollocks, 5; J. Levett, 6.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NORTON FITZWAREN (Somerset).—On November 10th, for practice, 720 Violet Treble Bob. F. Bellamy, 1; H. Creed, 2; I. Creed (conductor), 3; H. Chaplin, 4; T. Creed, 5; J. Cridland, 6. First in the method by H. Chaplin. On November 14th, for evening service, 720 New London Pleasure. F. Bellamy, 1; F. Saunders, 2; I. Creed (conductor), 3; H. Creed, 4; T. Creed, 5; J. Cridland, 6. First in the method by all, on the bells, and by the Association. On November 21st, for evening service, 720 New London Pleasure. F. Bellamy, 1; F. Saunders, 2; I. Creed (conductor), 3; H. Chaplin, 4; T. Creed, 5; J. Cridland, 6. First in the method by H. Chaplin.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

WICKHAM (Hants).—On Monday, November 22nd, on the occasion of the new burial ground being consecrated by the Bishop of Southampton, 720 Grandsire Minor. W. Singleton, 1; W. Cooper, 2; G. Grafham, 3; W. F. Churcher, 4; G. E. Chappell (conductor), 5; J. W. Whiting, 6. Also 720 Bob Minor. G. Carpenter, 1; W. Cooper, 2; J. W. Whiting, 3; W. F. Churcher, 4; G. E. Chappell (conductor), 5; G. Grafham, 6. And 720 Oxford Single. W. F. Churcher, 1; W. Cooper, 2; G. Grafham, 3; G. E. Chappell, 4; S. Cummins, 5; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, November 24th, 360 Grandsire Doubles. S. Boswell, 1; W. Singleton, 2; W. T. Langford 3; W. F. Churcher, 4; G. E. Chappell, 5; G. Carpenter, 6.

FAREHAM (Hants).—On November 25th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Harris, 1; E. Newman, 2; G. E. Chappell, 3; Sergt. A. Pye, 4; G. Grafham, 5; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 6.

THE MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

(NORTH AND EAST DISTRICT.)

HENDON (Middlesex).—On Sunday, November 7th, 240 Grandsire Doubles. C. H. Martin, 1; F. Jones, 2; E. Tubbs, 3; H. J. Martin, 4; E. Pratchett, 5; ———, 6. On handbells 168 Grandsire Triples and a course of Bob Major. F. Jones, 1-2; J. Martin, 3-4; C. H. Martin, 5-6; E. Pratchett, 7-8. Also a course each of Kent Treble Bob Minor, College Single, Oxford Bob, and Canterbury Pleasure. H. J. Martin, 1-2; C. H. Martin, 3-4; E. Pratchett, 5-6. On Wednesday, November 17th, 720 Plain Bob. F. Turvey, 1; F. Pratt, 2; F. Carroway, 3; J. Barrett, 4; C. H. Martin (conductor), 5; C. Crampton, 6. On Wednesday, November 24th, 360 College Single. F. Turvey, 1; W. Tubbs, 2; C. H. Martin, 3; F. Carroway, 4; E. E. Pratchett, 5; C. Crampton, 6. And 120 Stedman Doubles. E. E. Pratchett, 1; C. H. Martin, 2; F. Pratt, 3; F. Carroway, 4; C. Crampton, 5; F. Turvey, 6. On handbells retained in hand, 720

Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. Carroway, 1-2; C. H. Martin (conductor), 3-4; E. E. Pratchett, 5-6.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CHESTER-LE-STREET (Durham).—On Monday, November 22nd, 720 Woodbine. J. Crawford, 1; J. Huntley, 2; W. Brown, 3; G. Ward, 4; A. Meyers, 5; W. Sheraton (conductor), 6. This touch was rung as H.R.H. the Prince of Wales passed through the town.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

MELKSHAM.—On Saturday, November 27th, two 504s of Grandsire Triples. The first—F. McCaffrey, 1; W. McCaffrey, 2; W. Hollier, 3; C. H. Hampton, 4; C. R. Hampton, 5; J. Willshire, 6; S. Hillier (conductor), 7; R. Phillips, 8. The second—A. W. Brown (first 504), 1; W. Hollier, 2; A. Draper, 3; C. D. Heginbotham, 4; W. H. Johnson, 5; J. Rebbeck, 6; S. Hillier (conductor), 7; R. Phillips, 8.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

LLANDAFF.—On Monday, November 8th, for practice at the Cathedral, 336 Grandsire Triples. J. Aldridge, 1; J. Harris, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; C. Lloyd (conductor), 4; J. Clutterbuck, 5; R. Balcombe, 6; W. Biss, 7; R. Brothwell, 8. Also 447 Grandsire Triples. J. Pitcher, 1; J. Harris, 2; R. Balcombe, 3; J. Aldridge, 4; J. Clutterbuck, 5; C. Lloyd, 6; W. Biss (conductor), 7; R. Brothwell, 8. On Monday, November 15th, 462 Grandsire Triples. J. Cooke, 1; C. Lloyd, 2; R. Balcombe, 3; J. Harris, 4; J. Clutterbuck, 5; J. Aldridge, 6; W. Combes (conductor), 7; J. Thomas, 8. Also 224 Bob Major. R. Hopkins, 1; J. Harris, 2; R. Balcombe, 3; J. Cooke, 4; J. Aldridge, 5; C. Lloyd, 6; J. Clutterbuck, 7; W. Combes (conductor), 8. On Monday, November 22nd, 419 Grandsire Triples. C. Lloyd, 1; J. Aldridge, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; J. Harris, 4; O. W. Layng, 5; W. Biss, 6; J. Clutterbuck (conductor), 7; R. Brothwell, 8. Also 980 Grandsire Triples, composed by N. J. Pitstow. R. Hopkins, 1; J. Clutterbuck, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; J. Harris, 4; O. W. Layng, 5; J. Aldridge, 6; W. Biss (conductor), 7; R. Brothwell, 8.

CARDIFF.—On Thursday, November 18th at the parish church, the bells were rung for the first time after having been put in good going order by Taylor and Co., of Loughborough. The following touches were rung: 630 Grandsire Triples. W. Lloyd, 1; R. C. Balcombe, 2; J. Harris, 3; C. Lloyd (conductor), 4; W. B. Biss, 5; A. Rowley, 6; J. Clutterbuck, 7; J. H. Aldridge, 8. Also 216 Grandsire Caters. W. Lloyd, 1; J. H. Shepherd, 2; R. C. Balcombe, 3; C. Lloyd (conductor), 4; J. Harris, 5; A. Rowley, 6; W. B. Biss, 7; J. H. Aldridge, 8; J. Clutterbuck, 9; H. G. White, 10. Also 324 Grandsire Caters. W. Lloyd, 1; C. Lloyd, 2; R. C. Balcombe, 3; J. Harris, 4; J. H. Shepherd, 5; A. Rowley, 6; W. B. Biss, 7; J. Clutterbuck, 8; J. H. Aldridge, 9; B. Tilley, 10. J. H. Shepherd hails from Swindon. On Sunday morning, for Divine Service, 324 Grandsire Caters. W. Lloyd, 1; J. H. Aldridge, 2; C. Lloyd (conductor), 3; J. Harris, 4; R. C. Balcombe, 5; W. B. Biss, 6; A. Rowley, 7; J. Clutterbuck, 8; W. Combes (conductor), 9; H. G. White, 10. For evening service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. W. Lloyd, 1; J. Harris, 2; W. B. Biss, 3; R. C. Balcombe, 4; C. Lloyd (conductor), 5; A. Rowley, 6; W. Combes, 7; B. Tilley, 8. On Tuesday, November 23rd, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. W. Lloyd, 1; J. Harris, 2; W. Biss, 3; R. C. Balcombe, 4; C. Lloyd (conductor), 5; A. Rowley, 6; J. Clutterbuck, 7; H. G. White, 8. On Thursday, November 25th, for practice, 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Lloyd, 1; C. Lloyd, 2; O. W. Layng, 3; W. B. Biss, 4; A. Rowley, 5; J. H. Aldridge, 6; W. Combes (conductor), 7; H. G. White, 8. Also 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Lloyd, 1; J. Harris, 2; W. B. Biss (conductor), 3; O. W. Layng, 4; C. Lloyd, 5; A. Rowley, 6; W. Combes, 7; H. G. White, 8. And 336 Bob Major. W. Lloyd, 1; J. Harris, 2; W. B. Biss, 3; O. W. Layng, 4; C. Lloyd (conductor), 5; A. Rowley, 6; J. H. Aldridge, 7; W. Combes, 8.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

PORTSEA (Hants).—On Thursday, November 4th, for combined practice of representatives of Gosport, Fareham, and Portsea, 640 Treble Bob. J. Harris, 1; H. Westbrook, 2; E. Reynolds, 3; J. Symons, 4; A. Pye, 5; E. Newman, 6; G. Grafham, 7; J. Whiting (conductor), 8. And 420 Stedman. J. Harper, 1; G. Grafham, 2; C. Groves, 3; J. Harris, 4; E. Reynolds, 5; E. Newman, 6; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 7; J. Matthews, 8. On Monday, November 15th, 252 Stedman. J. Harper, 1; J. Gould, 2; E. Reynolds, 3; J. Symons, 4; A. Pye, 5; J. Matthews, 6; E. Newman (conductor), 7; J. Webb, 8. On Sunday evening, November 21st, for Divine Service, 924 Stedman in 37 mins. J. Harper, 1; J. Harris, 2; C. Groves, 3; J. Symons, 4; E. Newman, 5; J. Whiting, 6; A. Pye (conductor), 7; J. Matthews, 8. On Sunday morning, November 28th, for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire. P. Hannam, 1; F. Newman (conductor), 2; C. Groves, 3; J. Harris, 4; J. Matthews, 5; J. Harper, 6; J. Gould, 7; H. Ingram, 8.

CURRENT TOPICS.

A splendid portrait of WILLIAM BURKIN. Honestly worth, as things go, twelve times the sum we pay for our weekly copy of this paper. The "Ringers' Gallery," as our esteemed friend "FREE LANCE" has named it, must be assuming largish proportions. Those who have the entire series of portraits and pictures complete, possess a treasure; and those who haven't, why, they haven't. But perhaps they would like their wishes known, and they may—I say "may," mind—get them realised.

There is a deal being said about the last new method—"Arundel Surprise." Those who know what they are talking about look upon it with favour, and their criticisms—or should I say *critiques*?—are simply commendatory notices. There is a lovely *naivete* about this sentence written by the Rev. H. EARLE BULWER with regard to the discovery of the method: "whether from design or accident." Perhaps I shall drop, "by accident" of course, upon a new method myself, one of these days.

In the account of the reopening of Scawton Church, Yorkshire, we read of a very noteworthy occurrence. At the re-opening services the Rector announced that about £80 was still required, and that a gentleman at Harrogate, styling himself "A Bradford merchant," had sent him a cheque that morning telling him to fill it in payable to the fund, if the offertory was £10 he was to double it, but if under he was to half it. He hoped they would give liberally. This was an excellent idea, but the congregation did not come up to the mark exactly, the offertory being £7 12s. 7d. Perhaps some of them were, like many of my readers, sad to say, "apathetic." Ah! what an awful disease is that known to the medical faculty as *apatheticus indifferencia*. This kind of language I learnt in my younger days when a junior assistant to a surgeon. I say "junior" advisedly, because my duties were to deliver medicines, and preside over the bottle-washing, pill-rolling and camphor-water departments.

WE had a tale last week. Not a new story altogether, as our old friend the writer was good enough to say. It was an adaptation. Very good. No one need grumble at that, for it was worked in for our amusement very well. And though I have in common with old boys like myself read the original (which had nothing to do with ringing) yet the rising, and many among the already-risen generations, must have been diverted. We ask our friend the writer to give us another "adaptation" as early as he can.

So that brave old warrior, MATTHEW ALFRED WOOD, is to have a testimonial, as a mark of esteem and in appreciation of the good work he has done towards the advancement of change-ringing during the past fifty years. Right! As a rule, I am averse to these affairs. But if ever a testimonial was deserved by any ringer, Matt. Wood should be the recipient. A most talented ringer, a clever and safe bob-caller, was Matthew Wood. As a conductor—I mean this word in its proper sense, viz.: putting stragglers right before they had got too far wrong—he was not to be surpassed. For many years he was a sort of central figure among London ringers, and he became a pivot, excuse the phrase, for many country ringers, who upon arriving in the Metropolis, went straight to

Matt. for assistance in carrying out their ringing programme while their visit lasted.

It was at the residence of MATTHEW WOOD, I am told, that the establishment of this paper was first suggested. But this topic may be dealt with more fully some day. I hope the Exercise at large will feel a pleasure in subscribing to this fund, and let the veteran have the satisfaction of feeling that his long connection with it has been amply recognised.

More prizes! This time a valuable article of domestic use and ornamentation. An English Eight-day clock to be given away to ringers. The first coupon will appear in next week's number. I hear this valuable clock is to be made specially for the purpose by one of the advertisers in our paper. You know my opinion of these prizes, so I shan't repeat it. But ringers ought to show their sense of these things by not only reading the paper, but helping its progress by buying a copy weekly.

How is the following, from the *Church Times* of December 23rd?

"By the middle of June, the work of reparation had advanced sufficiently far, to allow of the bells—ten in number—being rung on Jubilee day, and they have been pealed without intermission since"!!! Long-peal ringers, look to your laurels!

The peal-record of Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, of Lewes, given in the last number, is one which that gentleman can look upon with complacency. He is only 19 years of age, but has rung 50 peals! Performances in which figure Superlative, Cambridge, and London. I think this very noteworthy indeed. Mr. Goldsmith is an example of the most unflinching perseverance. Now my young friends all over the world, here is a pattern for you. Determine to excel. You must not suppose for one moment that this grand record was obtained easily, and without great application. By no means. Mr. Goldsmith was one who strived to do his best under *all* circumstances. If you are ringing rounds only, or call-changes may be, ring well; do your best always. Then you will find by-and-by that it is difficult for you to ring badly. The lessons of perseverance will make you efficient. I must compliment Mr. Goldsmith upon such an excellent record.

When you peruse these lines, dear readers, the majority of you at any rate, the new year will have dawned. I am not going to make a preachment to you about this. But we all like to scatter compliments to our friends at such times. And to one and all of you I sincerely wish a Happy and Prosperous New Year. May you enjoy to the full the blessings of health, competence, prosperity and contentment. May you never have a change-course, a rope-brake, or any other calamity while attempting a peal. May your "annual outing" when it takes place be enjoyed more than any previous one; may the company you belong to go onward, happy in every way, and increase in number more and more; and may you enlarge during the year 1898 by every exertion in your power, the circulation of your own paper, "THE BELL NEWS." Bear in mind, also, that as members of the Exercise you strive to preserve your character as Christians and gentlemen.

PLAIN SPEAKER.

Notices.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is One Penny per line (five words may be reckoned to a line). Repetitions at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The next monthly ringing meeting of the above society will be held at Pudsey (8 bells), to-day, Saturday, January 1st. A peal of Bob Major will be attempted at 2.30; business meeting at 7 p.m. at The Park hotel. Hand-bells provided. R. BINNS, *Hon. Sec.*
18, Irwin Street, Hogg's Field, Holbeck.

Ely Diocesan Association.—A meeting will be held at Soham, on Tuesday, January 4th, 1898. The bells of Soham (10) and Fordham (6) will be available all day.
R. M. CROFT, *Hon. Sec.*
The Berristead, Wilburton, Ely.

The Sussex County Association.—On Thursday, January 6th, 1898, immediately after the dedication of the New Portion of the Parish Church of Brighton, at 3.30 p.m., the memorial in the belfry, to the late Dr. Durnford, Bishop of Chichester and first President of the above Association, will be unveiled by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese. The bells will be rung from 2 o'clock till 3.30, also after the service and during the evening. All members invited to attend. GEORGE ATTREE, *Hon. Sec. Brighton Parish Church Branch.*

The Bedfordshire Association.—A Quarterly Meeting will be held at Sandy, on Saturday, January 8th, 1898.
W. W. C. BAKER, *Hon. Sec.*

Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—A Meeting will be held on January 8th, at Christ Church, Bacup. Bells ready at 3.30. Business Meeting, 6.30.
J. H. BANKS, *Branch Sec.*
Helmshore.

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next Monthly Meeting of the above will be held at Tunstall, on Saturday, January 8th. Members intending being present, are requested to send word to Mr. W. H. Harratt, 46, Church Street, Tunstall.
Rev. W. D. BRAGINTON, } *Hon. Secs.*
W. TWIGG, }

Old East Derbyshire Association.—The Quarterly Meeting will be held at Beighton, on Saturday, January 8th. Committee meeting at 4.30, to revise rules, etc. Members kindly attend. Six bells. E. JAMES, *Hon. Sec.*
Park View, Meersbrook Bank Road, Sheffield.

The Lancashire Association—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, Aughton, on Saturday, January 8th, 1898. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m.
HENRY COLEY, *Branch Sec.*
3, Rumford Place, Liverpool.

The Heavy Woollen District Association, Yorkshire.—The Annual Meeting of the above will be held at The Little Saddle Inn, Dewsbury, on Saturday, January 9th, at 4 p.m. Business: Election of officers, auditors' report, alteration of rules and other important business. Subscriptions for this year are now due. All members are earnestly requested to attend.
GEORGE H. SIMON, *Hon. Sec.*
19 Albert Street, Batley Carr.

Winchester Diocesan Guild.—A Quarterly Meeting will be held on Monday, January 10th,

at Shere (Gomshall Station, S.E.R.). Bells (eight) available during afternoon. Meeting at 4 o. Tea for those informing me not later than 7th inst.

CHARLES E. MATTHEWS, *Hon. Sec.*

The Middlesex County Association.—North and East District.—The next quarterly meeting of the above district will be held at St. Stephen's, Hampstead, on Saturday, January 15th, by the kind permission of the Rev. J. Kirkman. The tower will be open for ringing from 5 p.m., and the attendance of members and their friends is cordially invited.
ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*

18, Ravenscroft Park Road, Barnet.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.—The Quarterly Meeting in connection with this Society will be held on Saturday, January 15th, 1898, at the Parish Church, Smethwick. Bells available for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Tea will be provided at 1s. per head, for those sending in the number, on or before the 11th inst., to
S. REEVES, *Hon. Sec.*

10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next Meeting will be held at Rochdale Parish Church, on Saturday, January 15th. Bells ready at 4 p.m., and Meeting 6 p.m. Will ringers in the Rochdale Branch endeavour to get to Meetings, so that we can make them a better success. All ringers invited.
E. B. SHAW, *Branch Sec.*

14, Thomas Street, Lees.

Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next Monthly Meeting will be held at the Cathedral, Manchester, on Saturday January 15th, 1898. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Business Meeting, 7 p.m. Annual Reports now ready. WALTER BROWN, *Branch Sec.*
54, Wenlock Street, Hulme, Manchester.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—Anniversary Meeting, Bristol, Saturday, January 15th, 1898.—Short Service at the Cathedral, 2.30 p.m. Address by the Lord Bishop of Bristol. Dinner at 3.15 p.m. at St. Stephen's Restaurant, Baldwin Street, at 2s. 6d. per head; towards which, 1s. 6d. will be allowed to each Member who sends Shilling Postal Order to Rev. H. A. Cockey, Oldland Vicarage, Bristol, on or before Wednesday, January 12th. Business Meeting immediately after dinner.

Notice.—St. John's, Deansgate, Manchester.—The Practice Night at this tower is changed to Wednesday evenings, at 8 p.m.
W. B.

The St. James's Society.—In consequence of the repairs now in progress at St. Clement Danes, the meetings at that steeple are suspended for the present. Notice will be given of their resumption. R. A. DANIELL, *Hon. Sec.*
20, Bucklersbury, E.C.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—At a meeting held at the new head-quarters, The Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on September 21st, it was resolved that a testimonial be presented to Mr. Matthew A. Wood, of Bethnal Green, as a mark of esteem and in appreciation of the good work he has done towards the advancement of change-ringing during the past fifty years. Subscriptions towards this object will be gladly received by any of the following committee:—Messrs. F. S. Bayley, Burkin, Butler, Cockerill, W. Davies (Liverpool), Dorrington, T. Hattersley (Sheffield), Horrex, Hughes, T. Mash, Newton,

Prime, Pettit, F. W. J. Rees (Nayland, Colchester), Smith, Springall, Waghorn, jun., and Winney. Saturday, April 2nd, 1898, is the suggested date for the presentation to be made, and intending subscribers are earnestly requested to send in their subscriptions at least a week before that time.

NOTE TO PEAL.

This is the first peal on the bells, which have been augmented to eight as a Jubilee Memorial. Messrs. Akehurst, Holloway, Taylor, Fairs, and Jordan hail from Capel; Burstow from Horsham; the others belong to the local band, who would be pleased to welcome any other band to have a peal on their bells. Permission would be readily granted by applying to the vicar.

Would Mr. F. J. Pitts, late of Kennington (London), kindly communicate with the Secretary of the All Saints' Fulham Society.

Notice to Advertisers.—Advertisements of articles wanted, to sell, or exchange, are charged at the prepaid rate of one penny for four words. Advertisements of situations wanted, or vacant (for ringers only), are inserted free. The figures of compositions are inserted free, unless proof is required.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

WANTED a Situation as Under-Gardener, or as Groom and Gardener. Four years in last situation as Groom and Gardener. Change-ringer on six; member of the Ely Diocesan Association. Age 21; single, with good character. Address, W., care of Editor.

TIMEKEEPER seeks permanent situation. Excellent change-ringer in Standard methods. Member of the Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire Associations. Excellent references. Apply X. Y. Z., office of this paper.

GAS and Hot Water Fitter wants job. Good change-ringer from twelve-bell tower. Member of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. Apply to H.P., care of Editor.

SITUATION WANTED as plumber; general hand; change-ringer; member of Herts Association.—Apply, J. Shepherd, Church Road, Hatfield, Herts.

ADVERTISER (well-educated) who has been in business for himself, seeks employment in grocery or provision business, or as book-keeper. Ten years' good experience in high-class family and ready-money trade, and capable of taking charge of set of books. Can manage a bell and is anxious to learn change-ringing. Address, C. H. A., 6, Sandfield Terrace, Guildford, Surrey.

COMPOSITOR seeks situation. Change-ringer. G. Gerrard, 30, Bradford Street, Handbridge, Chester

WANTED.—Situation as caretaker or any place of trust. Eight years last place; unapproachable references from influential gentlemen. Change-ringer on eight; member of Norwich Diocesan Association. Age 28. Address, J. G. M., care of Editor.

Situations Vacant.

HANDY Man wanted in Painter's Shop. Permanency to suitable man. Standard Methods, ten bells.—W. Le Keux, Grove Lodge, Stoke, Guildford.

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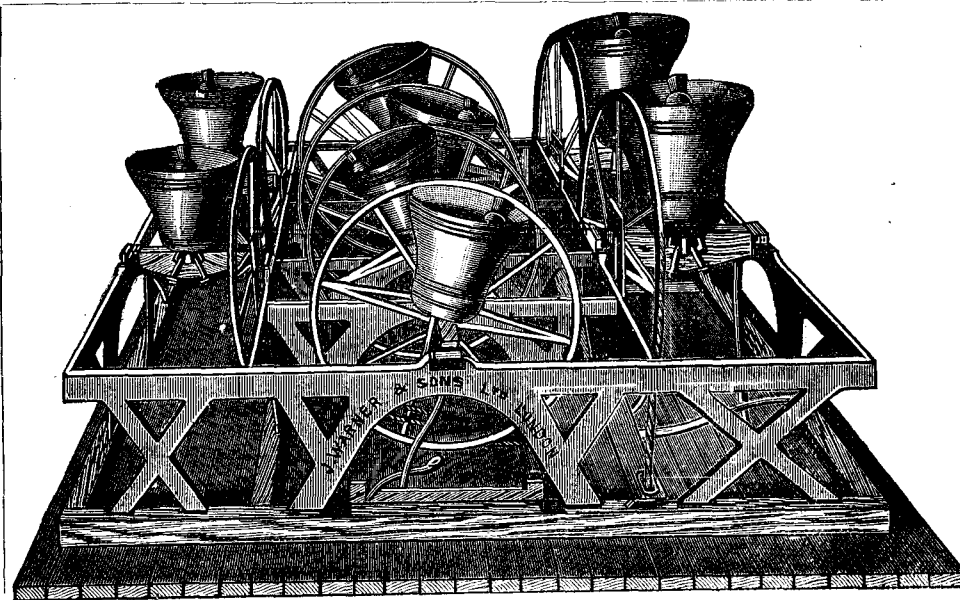
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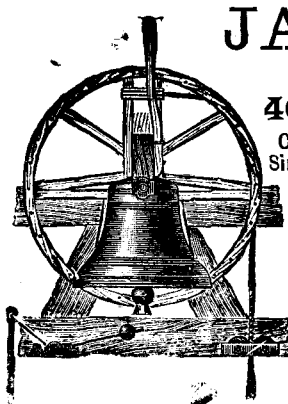
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And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 822.—VOL. XVI.]

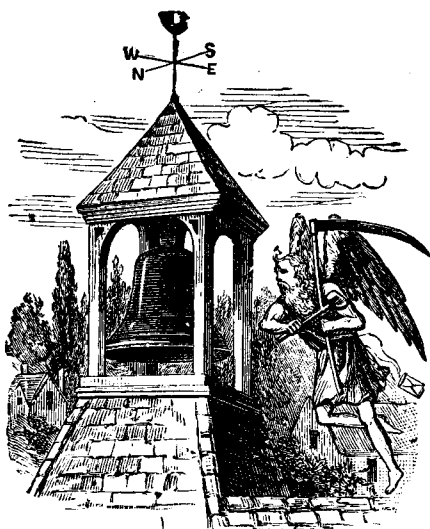
SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 1898.

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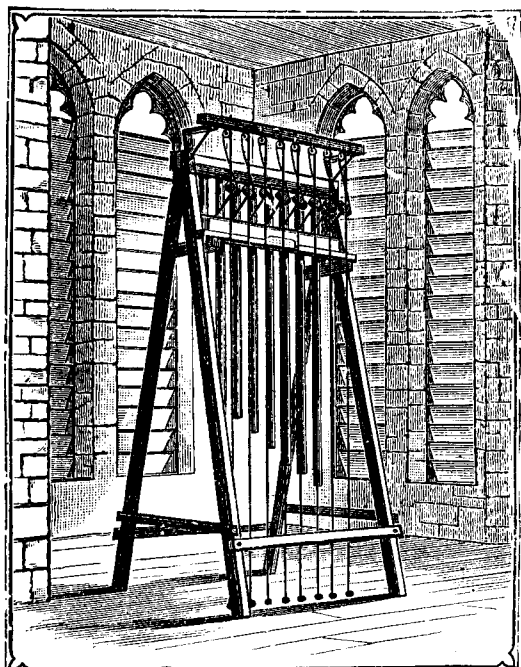
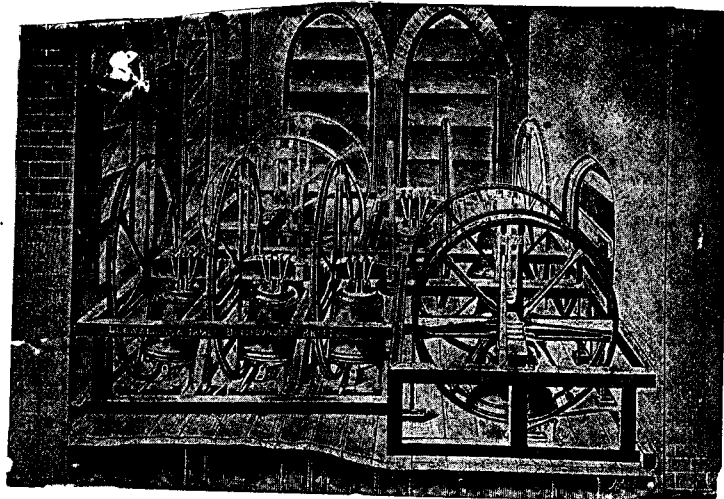
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 822.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 1898.

[Vol. XVI.]

CHURCH RESTORATION AT CARDIFF.

Services at St. John's Church, Cardiff, have been held to celebrate the completion of the restoration of the tower. At 7.30 a.m., a choral Communion service was held. At 11.30 o'clock there was a short morning service, attended by a fairly large congregation. The following clergy had places in the processional and recessional:—The Revs. Daniel Lewis, R.D. (rector of Caerphilly), R. J. Ives (St. German's), A. H. Henderson (Canton), T. Davies (chaplain to Her Majesty's Prison), D. J. Jones (chaplain to the Cardiff Union), J. T. Wordsworth (chaplain to the Seamen's Institute), A. G. Russell (St. Stephen's), G. Thomas (Welsh church), R. S. Plant, D. H. Griffiths, G. H. Nicholson, and T. Reynolds. The Rev. L. Lewis intoned the service, the Rev. David Davies (Bridgend) read the first lesson, and the Rev. F. J. Beck read the second lesson. The choir was assisted by the choir of St. James's, Mr. G. H. Cole officiating at the organ, and Messrs. Johnson and Pring acting as trumpeters in the hymns. Parry's "Te Deum" in D was sung. The offertory was on behalf of the tower restoration fund.

Canon Thompson (vicar), instead of a sermon, gave an address on the work that had been carried out in connection with the church during the time that he had been vicar. He did not propose to offer them an ordinary sermon, but to make a statement about what had been done in the church. When he came to the vicarage he found that the old church had long been an eyesore to many of the more devout churchpeople. Many of those present would, probably, remember the old chancel, so dark that even in the daytime they were obliged to have the gas lighted so that the officiating priest might be able to read the service. Then, there were the old rickety galleries all around the body of the church, which, with the state of the stairs, weighed very heavily upon them, as they would have been a great danger if a panic had occurred. He had not been there long before he resolved that the church should soon be in a far different state. There were four epochs in the history of the restoration. The first occurred in 1879, when a good lady offered to give a proper pavement for the chancel and also a new altar table. That cost about £300, which was a great thing in those days. They might remember that the late bishop of the diocese had held him up in the House of Convocation as a person who had carried out work in the church without obtaining a faculty. His reason for not applying for a faculty was that there was so much suspicion shown when a new vicar showed a desire to remove old things, and put the church into a state of decency. However, he applied for a faculty when the work was done, and obtained it. Then came the division of the parish, and he was left with a freer hand to carry out larger measures. In 1884 he determined to deal with the whole of the east end of the building. This work was carried out, and they would remember that Lord Bute built a vestry for them, in return for certain concessions. They found that there was a great deal to do in the chancel, and little by little

they carried it out. Then came the idea of holding the Church Congress in Cardiff. At first the objection was that there was no suitable church in which to hold the services, but they again set to work—the north and south aisles were added, and the body of the church restored. In 1894 a friend put a blank cheque into his hand telling him to get the best organ possible for the church. When they were talking over the price of the instrument he (Canon Thompson) mentioned £2000 as the probable cost, but it was found that the real charge was £2080. The donor made no difficulty about it, but defrayed the whole of that sum, and the result was that they had an instrument that Willis acknowledged to be his masterpiece. As to the tower, they had always determined to have that restored. If some of the parishioners had known as much as he did about the condition of the old tower, they would have been very greatly alarmed, and he felt extremely thankful at the fact that they were able to commence the restoration before any of the masonry of the old tower had fallen from its place. The cost of the tower restoration was about £3000, and they wanted only about £200, and he hoped that at Christmas he should be able to announce, as he had done on several previous occasions, that they were free from debt. Altogether, during the time he had been vicar they had spent between £21,000 and £22,000 upon the church. The corporation were now building a new boundary wall, which would soon be finished. They now had a church that all the people of the town might look upon with regard. He always felt that the old parish church of a town was omni-denominational. He was not undenominational himself, but he was glad, indeed, to find that people of all denominations in the town found themselves within the old parish church. They now had a sanctuary where 1,500 people could be accommodated, which was large enough for a most impressive ceremony. Those were the merits that they were celebrating that day. It would be centuries before they would require scaffolding around the walls of St. John's Church, and he felt great pleasure in the fact that, now his time in Cardiff could not last much longer, he was leaving behind such a building.

The luncheon took place at the Lesser-hall of The Park hotel. Canon Thompson presided, and in giving the toast "The Subscribers to the Restoration Fund," to which he added, "Long life to them, and an opportunity to do more in the future than they had done in the past"—(laughter)—said he was afraid that the churchwardens had made him very little more than a money-getting hack. But he had met with uniform kindness. He could count upon the fingers of his hands the number of instances in which he had met with refusals when asking for anything on behalf of the church. When he first came to the parish he made up his mind that if he could he would get whatever money was wanted by voluntary effort—(applause)—instead of by lotteries, dances, fortune-telling, café chantants, etc., all of which were very good things in their way; but he was devoutly thankful that in connection with neither of their churches in the parish they had not

raised a single penny by such means. But he did not say a word against bazaars, for they were going to have one in February on behalf of the Police-court Mission.

Mr. S. A. Brain, in responding, said that they had a grand monument in the town now that the old church was restored, and he was glad to find that all grades in the town, Nonconformists, as well as Churchmen, had done their share in helping on the work. He was glad, also, to find that such good taste had been displayed in the manner in which the renovation of the church had been carried out. For that they had to thank Canon Thompson, whose name would be handed down to further generations with affection, regard, and respect for the great work that he had done at St. John's. The subscribers simply had to put their hands into their pockets and give over their subscriptions, and Canon Thompson did the rest.

Canon Thompson said that another £200 would make the building committee perfectly happy. If they got that sum they would be able to restore the old churchyard cross. That would be a fitting commemoration of the completion of the restoration of the old church. He had to propose the health of "The Church Building Committee."

Dr. Vachell in responding, said that they had the best possible building committee, for, although they had several names down, the vicar had really done the work. Canon Thompson had proved himself a most able person when it was necessary to raise money, and he suggested, amid laughter, that, if necessary, he would raise the money necessary for the new Town Hall.

The Chairman, in proposing "The Architect," stated that when the Marquess of Bute heard that Mr. Fowler had been entrusted with the work, he expressed the utmost pleasure. Alderman David Jones, who was not a churchman, had been so pleased with the manner in which the restoration was carried out that he doubled his subscription, and both Lord Bute and Lord Windsor had shown the liveliest satisfaction at the faithfulness observed in maintaining the character of the old tower.

Mr. Fowler, replying, read an extract from an old register showing that the four gateways at the base of the tower was in accordance with the plan upon which the church was originally built. When he was entrusted with the commission he visited three or four churches erected under the original architect of St. John's, in order that the restored tower might maintain the old one's characteristics. The two men who put up the scaffolding were the most able that he had ever met with. They used $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles of poles, $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles of rope, one mile of planks, 1,016 wedges, and the whole structure was erected without making a hole in the walls of the tower. During the time that the work had been in progress there had not been a single accident.

Mr. T. H. Stephens gave "The Contractor," which was heartily received, and Mr. Shepton suitably responded.

A large congregation assembled in the building for the evening service, which was fully choral. Prout's service and the "Hallelujah Chorus" were sung. The Rev. D. H. Griffiths read the first lesson, the Rev. T. Reynolds read the second lesson, and the Rev. L. Lewis intoned the service.

The Dean of St. David's preached the sermon. Taking his text from Isaiah lxvi., 1 and 2, he said they had just completed the renovation of that venerable house of God, which was still as dear to him as it could be to any of those present. The dear old walls of the church remained,

and those rich-toned bells in yonder tower, now so well restored by their bounty now and henceforth to remain as the chief glory of their great and prosperous town. What besides? That which was better than all the old creeds, all the better for being old; the old Bible, the truths which gave strength and comfort to the generations of the past now lying in yonder graveyard; and the incomparable old liturgy, now far more worthily rendered than in days gone by, he most thankfully acknowledged.

In A.D. 1473—over four centuries ago—the foundation of this fine tower was laid, and it was mainly due to the munificence of Lady Anne, daughter of the Earl of Warwick, that it was erected. It was designed by one Hart, an architect, who also designed the fine towers of Wrexham and St. Stephen's, Bristol. The embattled parapet with its graceful pinnacles is a landmark of ancient Cardiff, of which the inhabitants at the present time should feel justly proud. The south-west angle turret was struck by lightning in 1860, and was re-built by Mr. Stephens, father of the present contractor. The windows are full of rich and well-thought-out tracery work and ornament. Before the restoration the tower was in a very bad condition, the top portion being dangerous. The work of restoration included the taking down of about half of the embattled parapets and re-building; also taking down of about 25 ft. from the top of the north-west and south-west buttresses, which had broken away from the walls entirely. Birds had built their nests between the buttress and the tower angle, and the joints and mortar had perished to a depth of a foot or more from the surface. While these buttresses were being re-built the lofty angle pinnacles were held up by chains from the opposite angles. The windows were all restored where found perished, and the whole of the tower, from top to bottom, was pointed down, the walling made good, a new lead flat laid, and copper stays fixed in place of iron.

AN INTERESTING EVENT.

An event, of great interest to the ringers of Balcombe parish church, Sussex, took place on the morning of Christmas Day. This was nothing less than the marriage of Mr. John Wedge, of Goring, Oxfordshire, with Miss Kate Gasson, eldest daughter of Mr. John Gasson, the respected captain of the Balcombe company of ringers. In honour of so auspicious an occasion, the members of the company were invited to their captain's house to partake of refreshments, which they did with great pleasure. The usual compliments upon such an occasion were expressed, accompanied by the most sincere wishes for the happiness of the married pair.

C. H.

NOTES TO PEALS.

THE PEAL AT PAINSWICK.—It was intended to ring Treble Bob Royal, but on arrival a note was awaiting Mr. Austin from the churchwardens objecting to the tenor being turned in, consequently the band had to get the assistance of Messrs. Hale and Scrivens, and ring a peal of Cinques, which is the first peal of Cinques with the present trebles; also the first peal of Cinques on the bells since the record peal of Stedman Cinques in 1858.

THE PEAL AT WELLINGBOROUGH.—This is the first peal on the bells. The ringers of the treble and tenor are the senior members of the company, having joined it over thirty years ago. It was the desire of the Wellingborough ringers to ring the first peal on their bells some time during the Diamond Jubilee Year, and although several previous attempts have failed, yet the peal was accomplished on Tuesday, and well and truly rung.

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.

CHRISTMAS AT CIRENCESTER, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

On Boxing-day, an interesting ceremony took place in the belfry of the parish church, viz.: the unveiling of two boards—one in commemoration of the ringing of the twelve bells at the Diamond Jubilee celebration, by members of the local bands, which is surmounted by a crown and the letters "V.R." and has the royal arms at the top, and a phoenix (the arms of the town) at the bottom; the other being a record of a peal of Plain Bob Maximus, rung by members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association on June 7th, and also of a peal of Treble Bob Maximus, rung on September 9th. About thirty members assembled in the belfry, including some from Gloucester, Cheltenham, &c., to whom the Ven. Archdeacon Hayward (the Vicar) on behalf of himself and churchwardens, gave a very hearty reception. After an introductory prayer, at a signal from the Archdeacon, the boards were unveiled, and a short special service followed. In referring to the board on which is recorded the ringing for the Jubilee celebrations, the Archdeacon said his best thanks were due to those members of the Cirencester companies who undertook the ringing on that occasion, more especially as they all belonged to the town, and it gave him great pleasure to see their services recorded by placing that board in the belfry.

Mr. F. E. Ward (Cheltenham), on behalf of those present, thanked the Archdeacon for the kind words of welcome he had extended to them, and said they might look upon him (the Archdeacon) as the father of bellringers in this diocese, as he was always willing to assist them in every possible manner. He did not know any one who had done more in the interest of ringers, as witness the splendid peal in that tower, which had been recently rehung.

The Archdeacon, in acknowledging the vote of thanks, wished success to those who were about to start for a peal, and the proceedings terminated.

Members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association then rung a peal of Grandsire Cinques, the record of which will be found in its proper place.

The boards were very well executed by Mr. Tom Gardner, of Cirencester, and gave every satisfaction.

On Holy Innocents Day was held the annual dinner of the parish church and Holy Trinity companies of ringers. This event took place at The Fleece hotel. The party numbered over thirty, the Archdeacon presiding, the vice-chair being filled by Mr. Boulton, one of the churchwardens. "Go" was called at 7.15, and after the good things had had ample justice done them, the Archdeacon gave the toast of "The Queen," and in alluding to the Jubilee festivities, referred to the unveiling on the previous day of the peal-tablet in the parish church belfry, recording the Jubilee peal. He hoped that in Cirencester there would always be found men willing and able to ring the twelve bells whenever occasion arose.

The toast was loyally honoured, and the next given from the chair was that of "The Churchwardens," coupled with the name of Mr. Boulton, which was heartily drunk, Mr. Boulton suitably responding. "Prosperity to the Ringers" was proposed by the Archdeacon, and coupled with the names of the leaders, secretaries, and treasurers of both the parish church and Holy Trinity church bands, all of whom responded, viz.,—leaders—Messrs. H. C. Bond, and S. Moore; secretaries—Messrs. C. E. Bartlett, and J. E. Waters; treasurers—Revs. R. C. S. Jones, and G. L. Amphlett. The Archdeacon had to leave early to fulfil another engagement, but not before his health had been enthusiastically drunk, on the proposition of Mr. H. T. Gardiner.

The Archdeacon acknowledged the toast in a humorous speech, and the remainder of the evening was spent under the presidency of the Rev. E. H. Townsend.

Mr. Boulton proposed "Our friends, the curates," coupled with the health of Mr. Townsend, which was well received.

The concluding toast was the health of the sextons, Messrs. F. Jefferies and J. Lewis. During the evening tunes and changes on the handbells were given, and songs by the Revs. E. H. Townsend and R. C. S. Jones, and Messrs. J. E. Waters, T. Curtis, A. C. Harmer, T. Gardner, H. C. Bond, and J. Lewis, a very enjoyable evening being brought to a conclusion by the whole company singing the National Anthem and "Auld Lang Syne."

KING'S NORTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

The Annual Meeting of the King's Norton Guild was held in the Old Schoolroom, King's Norton, on Monday, January 3rd, 1898. The chair was taken by the retiring Master of the Guild, Mr. W. S. Pritchett, and there were also present the Rev. E. W. Barnard (Vicar of the parish), Mr. H. Bloomer (churchwarden), and Messrs. W. H. Barber, J. Betterton, F. Clayton, G. Cooper, W. Palmer, Alfred Pritchett, F. Sumner, and H. Withers.

Mr. H. Withers was elected a Fellow of the Guild, and Mr. W. S. Pritchett was re-elected Master; Mr. W. H. Sumner and W. H. Barber were elected senior and junior warden respectively.

The Master congratulated the members on the peals achieved during the past year, which comprised one of Grandsire Triples on handbells, and peals in the tower of Bob Major, Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob, and Double Norwich.

After the business of the meeting an adjournment was made to The Bull's Head inn, where supper was provided. The company were here reinforced by the Rev. Rowland Haseler, the Rev. S. P. Townend, and other visitors. The usual loyal and other appropriate toasts were given, interspersed with songs and touches on the handbells, a most enjoyable evening being spent.

The following quaint item, written by a local resident some fifty years ago, to celebrate the replacement of a cracked bell, completed the programme:—

KING'S NORTON NEW BELL WAKE.

King's Norton raised, at last my friends,
A new bell in the steeple,
The ringers tried to make amends,
By rousing all the people.
One morn d'ye know before cock did crow,
They stoutly set a ringing,
Just for to make a new bell Wake
They set them all a swinging.

CHORUS.

They rung so well and made each bell tell,
So true their parts did take,
So e'en at night, oh! what a sight,
Was Norton New Bell wake.

Such a ringing never was known before,
They fairly shook the spire,
They kept up one continued roar,
With slams, round, charge and fire.
The guns did shoot and the folks did hoot,
To know what was the matter,
They all ran out with such a rout,
And round about did scatter.

(CHORUS.)

The Biddle he led, and Old Sam he med
The second bell loud sing,
While Jim, the third, and Dicky Bird
He caused the fourth to swing,
There was Dipple ho, and Deacon Ben
They chimed the 6th so merry,
While Mason seventh, and tenor bell.
Was rung in by old Jerry.

(CHORUS.)

*Oh then, they drank at such a rate,
They nearly spent their store,
They'd tuppence got among the lot,
And they could not raise no more.
The warden came just at the time,
They'd rung so mighty well,
Oh what a shout, when he turned out
Two shillings for each bell.

(CHORUS.)

Oh all that night, Oh what a sight
Was seen on Norton Green,
There was such a squall at Osborn's stall,
They'd fired the magazine.
'Twere crack and fizz, and smoke and whiz,
Their heads b gon to ache,
And the powder stunk, and they all got drunk,
At Norton New Bell Wake.

(CHORUS.)

*It will be noted that this historical event took place prior to the Early Closing Act.

ILLUMINATED PEAL RECORDS, in six colours, suitable for framing, price 1 3s. 6d. each. Real work of art; pen and ink alone used. Jubilee peals a speciality. Numerous unsolicited testimonials as to excellence of workmanship from ringers in all parts. Association and private peal-books posted up on moderate terms; satisfaction guaranteed.—FREDERICK W. THORNTON, Greenwich, S.E.

HAWLEY, HANTS.

Early in November last, after the completion of a peal of Bob Major at the church of the Holy Trinity, Mr. Maurice Steer, the sexton, suggested an attempt for a peal on December 21st, that being the sixtieth anniversary of the dedication of the church. All who have had the pleasure of ringing at Hawley will readily imagine that those of the band who could promise did so at once, it being left to Mr. Hopgood (of Reading) to obtain others to fill the vacant places. Being so near to Christmas made it awkward for some to reach Hawley in sufficient time to accomplish a peal before the special service, which was timed for 7.30 p.m. However a band was made up, thanks to Mr. W. Newell (of Reading) who very kindly filled a gap at the eleventh hour, and a start was made for Stedman Triples about 3.0 p.m., the ringers standing in the following order: J. Ballard, B. Hawkins, J. Tucker, A. E. Reeves, H. White, W. Newell, F. Hopgood (conductor), M. Steer. All went well for about an hour and three quarters, when near the end of the thirteenth part the attempt unfortunately came to grief. A move was then made to the house of Mr. Steer, where a capital meat tea had been thoughtfully provided, and which is any case appreciated by a band after an attempt for a peal, but the more so when it happens to be in a small place where it is difficult and sometime impossible to obtain food except at the village "pub." Tea over, the belfry was again visited, and a 504 of Stedman Triples conducted by Mr. Hopgood rung for evening service.

To the Vicar, who keenly appreciates good ringing, and who is ever ready to grant the use of the bells, and if need be his hospitality also; and to Mr. and Mrs. Steer, the thanks of the band are hereby tendered, and the ringers trust that when next their services are required in connection with any special item in the church's programme they may have the satisfaction of hearing "that's all" at the end of a well-struck peal.

ST. MARY'S, BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.

During Christmastide the ringers at this church have kept ringing up fairly well, but through illness in the village not so much as they would like to have done. On Thursday night, December 30th, an attempt was made for the 720, but it came to grief when only a very few changes had to be rung. At midnight on Christmas eve several 6-scores of Grandsire were rung, in which A. G. Crane took part; and a few rounds on the eight to encourage L. Meagor and B. Scott, who are learners. On Christmas day ringing was kept up for all the services, as well as on the following Sunday, when other learners took part.

On Thursday evening, December 30th, the ringers sat down to a good supper which the Vicar (Rev. W. Bennett) had provided for them at the house of Val Sear, Yew Tree Cottage. Those present at this repast were Val Sear, R. Soar, H. Sear, Fred Sear, W. Sear, A. G. Crane, J. Atkins, F. James, A. Crane, L. Meagor, F. Carter, B. Scott, and E. Marks. Through illness A. N. Atkins was unable to be present; the late parish clerk's widow and daughter, with several other friends, received invitations. Supper being over several games were played, and the handbells were kept moving under the leadership of Harry Sear (son of Val Sear), who is one of the company at St. Mary Abbots, Kensington. Several attempts at Grandsire Triples were made, and altogether a very enjoyable evening was spent.

On Friday night the old year was rung out and the new year was rung in by 360 and 480 of Grandsire Doubles. Val Sear (conductor), A. G. Crane, R. Sear, E. Marks, F. James, A. N. Atkins. The ringers wish to thank one and all for their Christmas gifts; and the Vicar also for his excellent supper.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GAINSBOROUGH (Lincolnshire).—On Saturday, November 20th, seven members of the St. Peter-at-Arches society, Lincoln, with Mr. Butler, of Gainsborough, met at the parish church and attempted a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, 5248 changes, the composition of Mr. G. Lindoff, of Dublin, which unfortunately came to grief after ringing 2 hrs. 52 mins., owing to a change-course. F. Butler, 1; R. Clarke, 2; G. Flintham, 3; G. Bemrose, 4; G. Chester, 5; J. Watson, 6; A. Craven (conductor), 7; C. Clifton, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. Better luck next time.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The annual supper of the Cathedral ringers was held on December 31st, at The Black Lion inn, Llandaff, thirteen sitting down to a capital spread. The chair was occupied by the Rev. Canon Skrimshire, the Rev. Minor Canon Price taking the vice-chair.

After full justice had been done to the good things, and the loyal toast duly honoured, Canon Skrimshire said it gave him the greatest pleasure to propose the toast of "The Llandaff Diocesan Association of Change-Ringers," and to couple with it "The Health of the Cathedral Ringers and their captain, Mr. J. Clutterbuck." He spoke of the kindly feeling that had always existed between himself and the ringers, and of the respect that they had won of everyone in the Cathedral. He thanked them for the very useful work they had done, and hoped that the coming year would prove as good in every way and as happy as the last.

Other toasts followed, including that of "The Bishop and Clergy," given by Mr. J. Thomas, who also spoke of the loss sustained by all by the death of Dean Vaughan.

Songs were given by Rev. Canons Skrimshire and Price, and Messrs. Clutterbuck, Brothwell, J. Thomas, and C. Lloyd, a very pleasant evening coming to a close all too soon.

The tower was then visited and the bells rung for the mid-night "watch service."

Correspondence.

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

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

ARUNDEL SURPRISE MAJOR.

SIR,—Will you allow me to trespass on your space again to offer my best thanks to the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer for his favourable comments on the above method. Mr. Bulwer was quite right in thinking that the result in Arundel Surprise was not due to design, I had no idea in composing the method of applying the Treble-bob hunt to Double Norwich Court Bob Major, and it was not until after I had got out a diagram of the plain course (which I did immediately I had got the first lead) that I noticed the similarity to Double Norwich. It was "Gloucester Surprise Major" which we had been practising at St. Peter's that started me on for Arundel Surprise; I thought if I could get continuous dodging in front without seconds place being made, the method would be so much the better, and finding this could be done by having a five-pull dodge, whole pull, and a five-pull dodge, I determined to try and arrange a method on this plan, and at the same time to make it if possible a double method by applying the same work in 7-8. The result was Arundel Surprise, and I leave your readers to judge if the method (which is certainly new) can be called original. Mr. Gabriel Lindoff published several peals of Double Norwich Court Bob Major in "THE BELL NEWS" on March 20th last, containing 6624 changes, the extent in that method (with common bobs only.) If I am right in thinking that the same calling can be used in Arundel Surprise this would give us 13,248 changes, which would, I believe, be the greatest number of changes yet produced in any Treble Bob method, tenors together.

GEORGE BAKER.

90, Church Road, Hove.

SIR,—In reading the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer's account of Arundel Surprise I was struck with the similarity of a method which was rang by the St. Michael's juniors, Gloucester, about the end of 1894, and looking through my papers I find it is exactly the same as one composed by the Rev. E. B. James, and named "Norfolk Surprise," owing to its likeness to Double Norwich Major. I have in my possession a lead of the method wrote at the time; I think each member of the band had a lead also, Mr. James remarking to me that any peal of Double Norwich would go for it. We rang several courses of it and I believe some touches was attempted, as any of the Gloucester ringers can testify, amongst them Mr. Roberts, who is now in Stourbridge, and who took part in it; in fact Norfolk Surprise was a password amongst the ringers for some time. Once when practising it Mr. A. Estcourt was passing the tower, could not make out what we were ringing, afterwards asked the question what it was, saying we had better stick to some of the old methods. I may say at this time, Mr. James had a craze on him for new methods, and literally stocked the juniors with them till they refused to ring any more until the arrival of Gloucester Surprise.

JOHN AUSTIN.

Notices.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is One Penny per line (five words may be reckoned to a line). Receptions at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

The Bedfordshire Association.—A Quarterly Meeting will be held at Sandy, to-day, Saturday, January 8th, 1898.

W. W. C. BAKER, *Hon. Sec.*

Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—A Meeting will be held to-day, Saturday, January 8th, at Christ Church, Bacup. Bells ready at 3.30. Business Meeting, 6.30. *Helmshore.* J. H. BANKS, *Branch Sec.*

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next Monthly Meeting of the above will be held at Tunstall, to-day, Saturday, January 8th.

Rev. W. D. BRAGINTON, } *Hon. Secs.*
W. TWIGG, }

Old East Derbyshire Association.—The Quarterly Meeting will be held at Beighton, to-day, Saturday, Jan. 8th. Committee meeting at 4.30, to revise rules, etc. Members kindly attend. Six bells. E. JAMES, *Hon. Sec.* *Park View, Meersbrook Bank Road, Sheffield.*

The Lancashire Association—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, Aughton, to-day, Saturday, Jan. 8th, 1898. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m. HENRY COLEY, *Branch Sec.* *3, Rumford Place, Liverpool.*

The Heavy Woollen District Association, Yorkshire.—The Annual Meeting of the above will be held at The Little Saddle Inn, Dewsbury, to-day, Saturday, January 8th, at 4 p.m. Business: Election of officers, auditors' report, alteration of rules and other important business. Subscriptions for this year are now due. All members are earnestly requested to attend. GEORGE H. SIMON, *Hon. Sec.* *19 Albert Street, Batley Carr.*

Winchester Diocesan Guild.—A Quarterly Meeting will be held on Monday, January 10th, at Shere (Gomshall Station, S.E.R.). Bells (eight) available during afternoon. Meeting at 4 o. CHARLES E. MATTHEWS, *Hon. Sec.*

The Middlesex County Association.—North and East District.—The next quarterly meeting of the above district will be held at St. Stephen's, Hampstead, on Saturday, January 15th, by the kind permission of the Rev. J. Kirkman. The tower will be open for ringing from 5 p.m., and the attendance of members and their friends is cordially invited. ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.* *18 Ravenscroft Park Road, Barnet.*

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.—The Quarterly Meeting in connection with this Society will be held on Saturday, January 15th, 1898, at the Parish Church, Smethwick. Bells available for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Tea will be provided at 1s. per head, for those sending in the number, on or before the 11th inst., to S. REEVES, *Hon. Sec.* *10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.*

The Lancashire Association—Rochdale Branch.—The next Meeting will be held at Rochdale Parish Church, on Saturday, January 15th. Bells ready at 4 p.m., and Meeting 6 p.m. Will ringers in the Rochdale Branch endeavour to get to Meetings, so that we can make them a better success. All ringers invited. E. B. SHAW, *Branch Sec.* *14, Thomas Street, Lees.*

Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next Monthly Meeting will be

held at the Cathedral, Manchester, on Saturday January 15th, 1898. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Business Meeting, 7 p.m. Annual Reports now ready. WALTER BROWN, *Branch Sec.* *54, Wentlock Street, Hulme, Manchester.*

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—Anniversary Meeting, Bristol, Saturday, January 15th, 1898.—Short Service at the Cathedral, 2.30 p.m. Address by the Lord Bishop of Bristol. Dinner at 3.15 p.m. at St. Stephen's Restaurant, Baldwin Street, at 2s. 6d. per head; towards which 1s. 6d. will be allowed to each Member who sends Shilling Postal Order to Rev. H. A. Cockey, Oldland Vicarage, Bristol, on or before Wednesday, January 12th. Business Meeting immediately after dinner.

The Kent County Association.—Lewisham District.—The Quarterly Meeting will be held at Bromley, on Saturday, January 15th. Tower open 3 p.m. Committee Meeting 6 p.m. W. J. JEFFRIES, *Hon. Sec.*

Yorkshire Association.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Birstall, on Saturday next, January 15th. Service in the Parish Church at 4 o'clock, with sermon by the Rev. W. Romaine Hervey, M.A., vicar of Birstall. Tea in the schoolroom at 5 o'clock. Business Meeting after in the same place. The local Hon. Sec. is Mr. John Clayton, Kirkgate, Birstall, to whom communications respecting the day's arrangements should be sent. The Heavy Woollen District Association has kindly altered the date of its Annual Meeting to leave members free for the above event. BEN. T. COPLEY.

All Saints' Society, Fulham.—The Annual General Meeting will take place on Saturday, January 22nd, 1898. The tower will be opened to members and ringing friends at 4 p.m. Tea in Church-room at 6 p.m., at 9d. each. Business Meeting afterwards. Members wishing to be present at the tea should signify the same to the Secretary not later than Thursday, January 20th, 1898. J. GREEN, *Hon. Sec.*

Midland Counties Association.—Preliminary Notice. The third Quarterly Meeting of the year will be held at Loughborough, on Saturday, January 22nd. Full particulars in next week's issue. J. O. LANCASHIRE, *Hon. Sec.* *22, St. Peter's Road, Leicester.*

North Notts. Association.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Worksop, on Saturday, January 22nd. Tea in the Abbey Church Infant Schools, at 5 p.m. Members intending to be present at tea are requested to notify the Secretary not later than Monday, January 17th. B. DARLEY, *Hon. Sec.* *Harthill, Sheffield.*

Surrey Association.—The Annual Meeting of members will be held at Croydon, on Monday, 24th January, 1898. Tea at the school adjoining St. John's Church, at 6 p.m. Representatives must acquaint the Secretary as to the number of their members likely to attend the tea. Particulars as to ringing later, CHARLES DEAN, JUNR., *Hon. Sec.* *Royston, Court Road, Sutton, Surrey.*

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The next Committee and Quarterly Meeting of this Association will take place at Stourbridge, on Saturday, January 29th, 1898. Full particulars next week. JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.* *36, Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.*

Essex Association.—A District Meeting of the above will be held at West Ham, on Saturday, January 29th. The towers of West Ham (10); of St. John's, Leytonstone (6), and Holy Trinity, Barking Road (6), will be open for ringing. Tea will take place at 5 p.m. to

be followed by business meeting. Members intending to be present must notify the same and the station from which they proceed not later than the previous Tuesday. All peals for insertion in the report for last year must be sent in at once. HENRY T. W. EYRE.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—At a meeting held at the new head-quarters, The Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on September 21st, it was resolved that a testimonial be presented to Mr. Matthew A. Wood, of Bethnal Green, as a mark of esteem and in appreciation of the good work he has done towards the advancement of change-ringing during the past fifty years. Subscriptions towards this object will be gladly received by any of the following committee:—Messrs. F. S. Bayley, Burkin, Butler, Cockerill, W. Davies (Liverpool), Dorrington, T. Hattersley (Sheffield), Horrex, Hughes, T. Mash, Newton, Prime, Pettit, F. W. J. Rees (Nayland, Colchester), Smith, Springall, Waghorn, jun., and Winney. Saturday, April 2nd, 1898, is the suggested date for the presentation to be made, and intending subscribers are earnestly requested to send in their subscriptions at least a week before that time.

Notice to Advertisers.—Advertisements of articles wanted, to sell, or exchange, are charged at the prepaid rate of one penny for four words. Advertisements of situations wanted, or vacant (for ringers only), are inserted free. The figures of compositions are inserted free, unless proof is required.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

WANTED a Situation as Under-Gardener, or as Groom and Gardener. Four years in last situation as Groom and Gardener. Change-ringer on six; member of the Ely Diocesan Association. Age 21; single, with good character. Address, W., care of Editor.

TIMEKEEPER seeks permanent situation. Excellent change-ringer in Standard methods. Member of the Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire Associations. Excellent references. Apply X. Y. Z., office of this paper.

GAS and Hot Water Fitter wants job. Good change-ringer from twelve-bell tower. Member of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. Apply to H.P., care of Editor.

SITUATION WANTED as plumber; general hand; S change-ringer; member of Herts Association.—Apply, J. Shepherd, Church Road, Hatfield, Herts.

ADVERTISER (well-educated) who has been in business for himself, seeks employment in grocery or provision business, or as book-keeper. Ten years' good experience in high-class family and ready-money trade, and capable of taking charge of set of books. Can manage a bell and is anxious to learn change-ringing. Address, C. H. A., 6, Sandfield Terrace, Guildford, Surrey.

COMPOSITOR seeks situation. Change-ringer. G Gerrard, 30, Bradford Street, Handbridge, Chester.

WANTED.—Situation as caretaker or any place of trust. Eight years last place; unrepachable references from influential gentlemen. Change-ringer on eight; member of Norwich Diocesan Association. Age 28. Address, J. G. M., care of Editor.

Situations Vacant.

HANDY Man wanted in Painter's Shop. Permanency to suitable man. Standard Methods, ten bells.—W. Le Keux, Grove Lodge, Stoke, Guildford.

IMPROVER wanted in a jobbing office. Case and Machine. Standard methods, ten bells. John J. Jones, Steam Printer, Guildford.

BOOT TRADE.—Wanted Good Repairer for Hand Sewn, etc. W. Page, 84, High Street, Worcester.

PLUMBER AND GASFITTER WANTED.—Permanency to a suitable man. Apply, Wm. Pearson, Pontefract, Yorks.

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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).

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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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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 portions 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 recast. The Demy 8vo. Edition is limited to 500 copies, and is now offered at 20s. nett; or Bound in Half-morocco, Roxburgh style, 25s. 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	6s. 6d.
" 6 "	3s. 3d.
" 3 "	1s. 8d.

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 1898.

VERY recently several leading members of the Sussex County Association have been engaged in the performance of some very notable peals; notable even if each one was a mere solitary instance; but when taken collectively, as they appeared among the peal records, the achievement was of a character worthy of honorable mention. In eight evenings' attempts, all at different churches, they scored no less than five Surprise peals, viz., London, Cambridge, Superlative, New Cumberland, and Gloucester. The company did not complete the programme laid down, but we think in the above list there is sufficient to satisfy any amount of yearning after fame. Perhaps they felt dissatisfied that they had not rung more, in some other complex methods. They actually did attempt another Surprise method discovered by Mr. WASHBROOK, named "Oxford," but failed to get a peal after two hours and twenty minutes. This failure evidently rankled in their breasts, and as this week's record contains a peal of Oxford

Surprise by the same band, very likely they feel a consolation therein for their previous disappointment.

Such feats as those we are alluding to earn for those concerned in them a very high reputation indeed as ringers. The counties of Sussex and Hampshire are certainly to the fore just now with regard to clever and accomplished men—composers, ringers, and bob-callers. As everybody knows the former is the only county which has produced a lady who has rung a peal double-handed; and the last-named is the only county which has produced ladies to ring peals in the tower. The Sussex Association and the Winchester Guild can with reason be complimented on the *personnel* of their members.

THE NEXT "BELL NEWS" GIFT.—This week the first prize coupon appears. The gift will we hope be a welcome one—an excellent eight-day clock of purely English manufacture. The day for returning the coupons will be the last Saturday in March next. Further particulars will appear in due course.

The Metropolis.

THE MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION AND THE ALLHALLOWS (TOTTENHAM) SOCIETY.

On Friday, December 31, 1897, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALLHALLOWS, TOTTENHAM,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES:

HUBBARD'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 20 cwt.

JAMES ELLIS* Treble.	WALTER DICKINSON 5.
JOSEPH WAGHORN 2.	JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. .. 6.
HENRY A. BARNETT 3.	CHARLES A. BUTTON 7.
HENRY N. DOUGHTY* .. 4.	WILLIAM MARTIN Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES A. BUTTON.

The above was rung with the bells half-muffled for Divine Service on New Year's Eve. *First peal of Bob Triples. †First peal as conductor.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 1, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, WALTHAMSTOW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES.

Tenor 19 cwt.

WILLIAM J. COAKHAM .. Treble.	ROBERT J. MAYNARD .. 6.
FREDERICK RUMENS 2.	GEORGE B. LUCAS 7.
GEORGE GRIMWADE 3.	FREDERICK A. NUNN .. 8.
CHARLES HOPKINS 4.	WILLIAM H. FREEMAN .. 9.
WILLIAM B. MANNING .. 5.	WILLIAM CROCKFORD .. Tenor.

Composed by H. COOPER and Conducted by WM. B. MANNING.

THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Saturday, January 1, 1898, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE, CHELSEA.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES:

Tenor 23 cwt. in Eb.

WILLIAM H. WEBBER* .. Treble.	HENRY S. ELLIS 6.
HENRY LANGDON, SEN. .. 2.	GEORGE R. FARDON 7.
WILLIAM E. MOSS* 3.	THOMAS E. BARBER 8.
WILLIAM S. LANGDON* .. 4.	JOHN N. OXBORROW 9.
HENRY R. NEWTON 5.	GEORGE T. CHESTERMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by the late JOHN COX and

Conducted by GEORGE R. FARDON.

*First peal. †First peal of Caters. ‡First peal as conductor and rung at the first attempt.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 4, 1898, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHGATE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES:

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 25 cwt.

JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. .. Treble.	*HERBERT W. NEWBY .. 5.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, SEN. .. 2.	JOHN R. SHARMAN 6.
SIDNEY WADE* 3.	JAMES PARKER 7.
ISAAC J. ATTWATER 4.	*ARTHUR MILLER Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES PARKER.

*First peal of Stedman.

The Provinces.

MANSFIELD, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 18, 1897, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES:

TAYLOR'S. Tenor 15 cwt.

E. ROBINSON Treble.	J SPRAY 5.
W. GOSLING, SEN. 2.	W. GOSLING, JUN. 6.
G. HARDSTAFF 3.	F. MAY 7.
H. ALLSOPP 4.	A. MUNKS Tenor.

Conducted by W. GOSLING, JUN.

First peal by all except E. Robinson and W. Gosling, sen. The bells were rung in commemoration of the Diamond Jubilee. The last peal that was rung on the bells was on Easter Monday, 1862, W. Gosling, sen. being the only one living that took part in it. E. Robinson hails from Nottingham.

BENGWORTH, WORCESTERSHIRE.

On Friday, December 24, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES:

Being 720 of Oxford Bob, and two each of Plain Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, and Grandsire.

GEORGE WILLIAMS* .. Treble.	HUBERT SALISBURY 4.
ALBERT H. SHARP* 2.	FREDERICK JOHNSON 5.
LIONEL LONGNEY 3.	FRANK COOK Tenor.

Conducted by LIONEL LONGNEY.

*First peal in four methods; also on the bells.

CIRENCESTER.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIORS, GLOUCESTER.

On Monday, December 27, 1897, in Three Hours and Thirty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES, 5015 CHANGES.

Tenor 29 cwt. in D.

REV. E. BANKES JAMES .. Treble.	HENRY C. BOND 7.
JOHN AUSTIN 2.	ROBERT A. BARRETT 8.
FRANCIS E. WARD 3.	WILLIAM J. SEVIER 9.
ERNEST BISHOP 4.	HENRY ROBERTS 10.
WILLIAM T. PEGLER 5.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER 11.
FRED. G. MAY 6.	HERBERT J. MIDWINTER .. Tenor.

Composed by W. WILLSON and Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

The above was rung after the unveiling of the peal-board recording the peals of Plain Bob and Treble Bob Maximus rung on these bells.

PAINSWICK, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIORS, GLOUCESTER.

On Tuesday, December 28, 1897, in Three Hours and Thirty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES, 5104 CHANGES.

Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

HUBERT SCRIVENS .. Treble.	ROBERT A. BARRETT .. 7.
JOHN AUSTIN 2.	WILLIAM HALE 8.
REV. E. BANKES JAMES .. 3.	ERNEST BISHOP 9.
WALTER T. BENNETT .. 4.	ERNEST E. DAVIS 10.
FRANCIS E. HART 5.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER 11.
FRED. G. MAY 6.	WILLIAM J. SEVIER Tenor.

Composed by H. HUBBARD and Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

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

RYDE, ISLE OF WIGHT.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, December 28, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS' FIVE-PART (No. 2.) Tenor 26½ cwt.

SAM. V. SALISBURY Treble.	FRANK LL. EDWARDS .. 5.
PERCY LONG 2.	HENRY JENNINGS 6.
GEORGE HENRY COOMBS .. 3.	EDWARD HATCHER 7.
JAMES G. NORRIS 4.	EDWARD G. BRETT Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY JENNINGS.

HALE MAGNA, LINCOLNSHIRE.

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 28, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES,

Being a 720 of Grandsire and six of Plain Bob, each called differently.

FREDERICK WARRINGTON..Treble.	JOHN T. HOLMES 4.
EDWARD HOULDEN 2.	WILLIAM DICKINSON.. .. 5.
FRED HILTON 3.	CHARLES R. LILLEY.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by R. LILLEY.

First peal on the bells. First by all of Minor except the conductor, who belongs to the St. Paul's Company, Bedford.

WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 28, 1897, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 30 cwt. in D.

G. TURNELL* Treble.	F. WOOD 5.
T. R. HENSHER.. .. 2.	C. W. CLARKE 6.
W. WOOD 3.	*W. H. ETTÉ 7.
F. UNDERWOOD* 4.	*T. CRADDOCK Tenor.

Conducted by C. W. CLARKE.

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

HORSHAM, SUSSEX.—SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 29, 1897, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 24 cwt.

WALTER CHARMAN Treble.	HENRY BURSTOW 5.
RICHARD DALE 2.	WILLIAM SHORT 6.
JACOB BROWNE 3.	JOHN COOK 7.
GEORGE PENFOLD 4.	JOHN RICE Tenor.

Conducted by WALTER CHARMAN.

First peal by George Penfold, who hails from Pevensey; Charman, Short and Cook are from Warnham; the rest are local.

HEENE, WORTHING, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 29, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

JOHN H. PAICE* Treble.	HENRY MEETENS 5.
HARRY EVANS 2.	*BENJAMIN BASSETT 6.
ALFRED LAWRENCE 3.	EDMUND LINDUP 7.
WILLIAM HILLMAN 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

*First peal of Major. Mr. Lawrence, for whom the peal was arranged, hails from Swindon, Wilts; the conductor from Brighton; the rest are of the local band. This peal was rung on the 88th birthday of the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone.

CARDIFF, SOUTH WALES.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 30, 1897, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

S. BIDDLESTONE'S TWELVE-PART, No. 1. Tenor 27 cwt.

WILLIAM LLOYD* Treble.	CHARLES LLOYD.. .. 5.
JOHN HARRIS 2.	JOHN W. JONES 6.
WILLIAM B. BISS 3.	WILLIAM COOMBS 7.
ROBERT J. DAWÉ 4.	BENJAMIN TILLEY Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES LLOYD.

*First peal. Also first peal by the association on the bells. This peal was arranged for R. J. Dawe, of Lewes, Sussex, who was elected a member of the association before starting for the peal. J. W. Jones hails from Newport, Mon.; all the rest are local men.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 30, 1897, in Two Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,

AT THE HOUSE OF MR. H. BURRELL, ESSEX BUILDINGS,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

GEORGE R. PYE 1-2.	WILLIAM PYE 5-6.
ERNEST PYE 3-4.	STAFF-SERGT. PYE 7-8.

Composed by the late WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL and

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

Umpire—J. Dale, who had a copy of the peal and marked off every lead-end as rung. For calling see "Snowdon," part 2, page 47, reverse variation.

LIVERPOOL.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(LIVERPOOL, DIOCESAN BRANCH.)

On Thursday, December 30, 1897, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DAVIES'S VARIATION.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

RICHARD S. MANN Treble.	THOMAS HAMMOND 5.
JOHN ASPINWALL 2.	WILLIAM JAMES.. .. 6.
GEORGE WOODHALL* .. 3.	JAMES MARTIN 7.
GEORGE FISHER.. .. 4.	†PETER ASHTON Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM JAMES.

*First peal in the method. †First peal. The composition is a reverse variation on Thurstan's 20-part peal by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, and was published in "The Bell News," 27th February, 1886.

WORSLEY.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 30, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S No. 10.

Tenor 21 cwt.

HEBER DERBYSHIRE.. .. Treble.	JOSEPH GREEN 5.
FREDERIC DERBYSHIRE .. 2.	THOMAS DERBYSHIRE .. 6.
PERCY DERBYSHIRE 3.	JAMES HENRY RIDYARD .. 7.
JOSEPH RIDYARD 4.	WILLIAM GREEN Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES HENRY RIDYARD.

This peal was published in "The Bell News" of March 14th, 1896. First peal in the method by Messrs. P. Derbyshire, J. Green, and W. Green. *First peal in the method as conductor.

GORING, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, December 31, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

ALFRED SPOKES.. .. Treble.	JOHN PARSONS 4.
CHARLES TIDBURY 2.	JOHN BOWER 5.
WALTER ALDRIDGE 3.	GEORGE WILSON Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILSON.

Rung as a wedding peal to Mr. John Wedge, who was married at Balcombe Sussex, to Miss Gasson, of Balcombe.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, December 31, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF OXFORD SURPRISE MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES. Tenor 10½ cwt.

GEORGE WILLIAMS Treble.	KEITH HART 5.
GEORGE SMART 2.	HARRY WESTON 6.
FRANK BENNETT 3.	JAMES N. FROSSELL 7.
GEORGE A. KING 4.	GEORGE F. ATTREE Tenor.

Composed by G. WILLIAMS and Conducted by GEORGE F. ATTREE.

The above is the first peal rung in Mr. J. W. Washbrook's new method.

WISSETT, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(HALESWORTH DISTRICT.)

On Friday, December 31, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 6-scores each of the following;

Morning Star, Plain Bob, Canterbury, April Day, Grandsire, and Old Doubles. Tenor 12 cwt.

SAMUEL KERRISON Treble.	CHARLES KERRISON 3.
FREDERICK LAMBERT 2.	ARTHUR TOOK 4.
ALBERT LEE Tenor.	

Conducted by F. LAMBERT.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION AND ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.

On Friday, December 31, 1897, in Three Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5040 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 32 cwt.

STEPHEN COOK Treble.	ROBERT H. BRUNDLE 7.
FREDERICK J. TILLET 2.	ALBERT E. DURRANT 8.
JAMES MOTTS 3.	WILLIAM MOTTS 9.
WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE 4.	WILLIAM WOOD 10.
ROBERT HAWES 5.	WILLIAM H. BARBER 11.
CHARLES H. GILLINGHAM 6.	EDGAR PEMBERTON Tenor.

Composed by H. HUBBARD and Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

W. H. Barber hails from Birmingham.

EDENBRIDGE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, December 31, 1897, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOSEPH EDWARDS Treble.	JAMES WALLIS 5.
JAMES HEASMAN 2.	THOMAS WALLIS 6.
RICHARD JENNER 3.	JACK PRESTON 7.
JOHN STEDDY 4.	*PETER SMITH Tenor.

Conducted by JACK PRESTON.

This is the first peal of Stedman on these bells (which were augmented to eight in July last), by a local band. "Go" for Stedman was called at 10.34 p.m. on New Year's Eve, and at 1.38 a.m. a well-struck peal came into rounds. *First peal.

ECKINGTON, DERBYSHIRE.

OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AND YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Saturday, January 1, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 17 cwt.

ARTHUR KNIGHTS Treble.	ARTHUR SLATER 5.
JOSEPH ATKIN 2.	WILLIAM LAMBERT 6.
EDWIN JAMES 3.	JOHN ALLEN 7.
THOMAS WHITWORTH 4.	WILLIAM BIGGIN Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

This is the first peal on the bells since they were augmented to eight.

NEW SHOREHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 1, 1898, in Two Hours Forty-two and ½ Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

CHARLES SMART Treble.	GEORGE GATLAND 5.
FRANK BENNETT 2.	JOSEPH WAGHORN, SEN. 6.
ALFRED LAWRENCE 3.	GEORGE WILLIAMS 7.
JOHN SMART 4.	GEORGE SMART Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

The above band wish through the medium of this paper to thank the Vicar for granting permission for this peal, which was arranged for Messrs. Lawrence and Waghorn, who hail from Swindon and Tottenham respectively; Messrs. Gatland and Smart (2) from Steyning; the rest from St. Peter's, Brighton.

RUSPER, SUSSEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, January 1, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THOMAS WORSFOLD Treble.	THOMAS FAIRS 5.
JOHN AKRHURST 2.	ALBERT ELLIS 6.
EDWARD HOLLOWAY 3.	JAMES WORSFOLD 7.
CHARLIE TAYLOR 4.	FREDERICK WICKENS Tenor.

Composed by the late JOHN BARKER and

Conducted by FREDERICK WICKENS.

Messrs. Akehurst, Holloway, Taylor and Fairs hail from Capel, Surrey; Ellis and Wickens from Charlwood, Surrey; the Messrs. Worsfold belong to the local band.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.

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

On Saturday, January 1, 1898, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 30 cwt.

THOMAS J. SALTER Treble.	RICHARD E. GROVE 5.
ERNEST C. HUNT 2.	ALBERT E. PARSONS 6.
JOHN O. BENNETT 3.	THOMAS WAKEMAN 7.
GEORGE SALTER 4.	WILLIAM H. SMITH Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS and Conducted by RICHARD E. GROVE.

BLACKBURN.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BLACKBURN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 1, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 18 cwt.

JOHN BENTLEY* Treble.	JOHN ROWE WERRING 5.
DAVID HEYS 2.	RICHARD ASHWORTH 6.
JOHN WM. STIRK 3.	*ROBERT PARKINSON 7.
CHARLES SHARPLES* 4.	TOM REDMAN Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN and Conducted by TOM REDMAN.

*First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells Messrs. Bentley, Sharpley, and Parkinson hail from Oswaldtwistle; the rest from Holy Trinity, Burnley.

WITTON, NORTHWICH, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 1, 1898, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 6048 CHANGES.

Tenor 16½ cwt. in F sharp.

GEORGE JOHNSON Treble.	RICHARD CHANTLER 5.
WILLIAM SUTTON 2.	ALFRED JOHNSON 6.
SEPTIMUS JOHNSON 3.	JOSEPH BELL 7.
SAMUEL FORSTER 4.	WILLIAM FORSTER Tenor.

Composed by A. J. TROLLOPE and Conducted by WILLIAM FORSTER.

The figures of this peal appeared in "The Bell News" of October 24th, 1896. This is the first peal by the Witton ringers, and it is the longest on the bells. It is also the longest length by the Chester Guild.

OXHEY, HERTS.—THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, January 2, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-three and $\frac{1}{2}$ Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

FREDK. J. GLENNERSTER Treble.	WALTER NORRIS 5.
CHARLES GEORGE 2.	*HERBERT MARTIN 6.
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 3.	ERNEST E. HUNTLEY .. 7.
GEORGE N. PRICE 4.	JAMES ALEXANDER Tenor.

Conducted by HERBERT MARTIN.

*First peal as conductor.

SUNDERLAND, DURHAM.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 3, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, BISHOPWEARMOUTH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
VICARS'S. Tenor 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

ROBERT MAWSON PICK* .. Treble.	THOMAS HUDSON, JUN. .. 5.
THOMAS HUDSON, SEN. .. 2.	*WM. T. ROBSON 6.
ROBERT W. LOVIE* 3.	JOHN FIELD 7.
ROBT. CHALLIS HUDSON.. 4.	*RICHARD W. LANGTON .. Tenor.

Conducted by WM. T. ROBSON.

*First peal in the method. This is W. Robson's first attempt at calling a peal.

WITNEY, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, January 3, 1898, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

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

JOHN FISHER* Treble.	JOHN MATTHEWS 5.
WILLIAM BENNETT 2.	JOHN MONK 6.
FRED. WEBB† 3.	HARRY JUDGE 7.
WILLIAM THORPE 4.	THOMAS HILL Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM BENNETT.

First peal as conductor. *First peal. †First peal with a bob bell. J. Monk belongs to the local band; the rest hail from Kidlington.

PEAL CORRECTION.—The number of changes of the peal rung at Higham Ferrers on Wednesday, December 29th, was 5056, not 5184 and the ringer of the 4th was James Garratt not William Garratt.

Date Touches.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BLACKBURN BRANCH.

BURNLEY (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, December 14th, at the church of the Holy Trinity, a date touch of Oxford Treble Bob Major 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 7 mins. T. Knowles, 1; D. Campbell, 2; J. R. Werring (composer), 3; R. Hartley, 4; N. Townsend, 5; D. Heys, 6; R. Ashworth, 7, T. Redman (conductor), 8.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

STAFFORD.—On Saturday, December 18th, at St. Mary's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 7 mins. E. Machin (longest length), 1; R. Pickering (conductor), 2; W. Mountford, 3; R. Grant, 4; T. Machin, 5; W. Bennett, 6; A. Moreton, 7; T. Guest, 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to R. Grant who attained his twenty-second birthday. Composed by E. Cook, of Cardiff.

Miscellaneous.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

HAUGHTON (Cheshire).—On November 6th, at St. Anne's church, 720 Oxford in 27 mins. J. Fernley, 1; S. Fernley (conductor), 2; G. Warburton, 3; S. Rutter, 4; A. Fernley, 5; W. Wilde (Hyde), 6. Tenor 15 cwt. Also a touch of Plain Bob.

HAZEL GROVE (Cheshire).—On November 7th, far evening service at the parish church, 720 Kent in 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ mins. S. Fernley (conductor), 1; J. Fernley (first 720 away from the treble), 2; S. Rutter, 3; J. Dean, 4; A. Fernley, 5; J. Shallcross, 6. On November 11th, for practice, touches of Violet and New London Treble Bob. On November 21st, for morning service, 720 Kent in 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ mins. G. Warburton,

1; J. Dean, 2; J. Fernley, 3; S. Rutter (conductor), 4; S. Fernley, 5; A. Fernley, 6. On November 21st, for evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob in 24 mins. J. Fernley, 1; S. Fernley (conductor), 2; G. Warburton, 3; J. Dean, 4; S. Rutter, 5; A. Fernley, 6. On November 26th, for practice, 360 Violet Treble Bob. On November 29th, for practice, an attempt for a 720 of Violet came to grief after ringing over 500 changes. J. Fernley, 1; J. Dean, 2; G. Warburton, 3; S. Fernley (conductor), 4; S. Rutter, 5; A. Fernley, 6.

DISLEY (Cheshire).—On November 27th, at the parish church, 720 Oxford in 24 mins. J. Fernley, 1; S. Fernley (conductor), 2; G. Warburton, 3; J. Dean, 4; S. Rutter, 5; A. Fernley, 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob in 24 mins. J. Dean, 1; S. Rutter, 2; G. Warburton, 3; J. Fernley, 4; S. Fernley, 5; A. Fernley, 6. Also 720 Plain Bob in 25 mins. J. Johnson (conductor), 1; T. Johnson, 2; G. Warburton, 3; S. Fernley, 4; T. Atkinson, 5; O. Fernley, 6. Messrs. Johnson (2), and T. Atkinson belong to the local company, and it is worthy of note that Mr. T. Johnson is over seventy-four years of age, and it is five years since he took part in a touch.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

OSWALDTWISTLE.—On Tuesday, November 2nd, 720 Merchants' Return. W. Britcliffe, 1; T. Holden, 2; J. Bentley, 3; I. Whalley, 4; C. Sharples, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6. First in the method on tower bells by all the band, and first on the bells. On Sunday, November 7th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. I. Whalley, 1; R. Parkinson (conductor), 2; J. Bentley, 3; T. Holden, 4; C. Sharples, 5; W. Britcliffe, 6. On Tuesday, November 9th, 720 Merchants' Return. R. Parkinson (conductor), 1; T. Holden, 2; J. Bentley, 3; I. Whalley, 4; C. Sharples, 5; W. Britcliffe, 6. Also 720 Oxford, standing as before. On Sunday, November 14th, 720 Merchants' Return. R. Parkinson (conductor), 1; T. Holden, 2; J. Bentley, 3; I. Whalley, 4; C. Sharples, 5; W. Britcliffe, 6. Also 720 Oxford Single. R. Parkinson (conductor), 1; T. Holden, 2; J. Bentley, 3; C. Sharples, 4; I. Whalley, 5; W. Britcliffe, 6. On Tuesday, November 16th, 720 College Single. W. Britcliffe, 1; T. Holden (first in the method), 2; J. Bentley, 3; I. Whalley, 4; C. Sharples, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6. On Sunday, November 21st, 720 Merchants' Return. R. Parkinson (conductor), 1; T. Holden, 2; J. Bentley, 3; I. Whalley, 4; C. Sharples, 5; W. Britcliffe, 6. Also 720 Kent. I. Whalley, 4; 1; T. Holden, 2; J. Bentley, 3; C. Sharples, 4; R. Parkinson (conductor), 5; W. Britcliffe, 6. On Saturday, November 27th, an attempt was made for a peal in seven methods but was lost after ringing the following 720s; Merchants' Return, Kent, Oxford, College Single and Oxford Single. R. Parkinson (conductor), 1; T. Holden, 2; J. Bentley, 3; I. Whalley, 4; C. Sharples, 5; W. Britcliffe, 6. On Tuesday, November 30th, 720 College Single. C. Sharples, 1; T. Holden, 2; J. Bentley, 3; I. Whalley, 4; R. Parkinson (conductor), 5; W. Britcliffe, 6. On Sunday, November 28th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. C. Sharples (conductor), 1; W. Britcliffe, 2; J. Bentley, 3; T. Holden, 4; I. Whalley, 5; R. Parkinson, 6. Also 720 Plain Bob. C. Sharples (conductor), 1; I. Whalley, 2; J. Bentley, 3; T. Holden, 4; R. Parkinson, 5; W. Britcliffe, 6. Tenor 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

CHURCH (Lancashire).—On Monday, November 27th, at the parish church, 720 Merchants' Return. H. Hayes, 1; T. Holden, 2; J. Bentley, 3; C. Sharples, 4; I. Whalley, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6. This is the first in the method on the bells. H. Hayes belongs to the local band; the rest hail from Oswaldtwistle. Tenor 15 cwt.

ACCINGTON (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, October 5th, at the parish church, 720 Violet. A. Scholes (conductor), 1; R. Scholes, 2; T. Newall, 3; C. Sharples, 4; I. Whalley, 5; R. Parkinson, 6. First 720 in the method on tower bells by Messrs. Sharples, Whalley, and Parkinson. On Tuesday, October 19th, 720 College Exercise. A. Scholes (conductor), 1; R. Scholes, 2; J. Hindle, 3; I. Whalley, 4; R. Parkinson, 5; C. Sharples, 6. First in the method by Messrs. Whalley, Parkinson, and Sharples, who hail from Oswaldtwistle; the rest belong to the local band. Tenor 10 cwt.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LITTLE MUNDEN (Herts).—On Thursday, November 4th, 720 Oxford Bob Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Phillips, 2; A. Lawrence, 3; G. Carter, 4; J. Heady, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. Also three courses of Double Stedman. F. Harvey (first in the method), 4. And 120 Stedman Doubles. Also a course of Kent Treble Bob Minor. A. Lawrence, 1; R. Phillips, 2; J. Heady, 3; F. Harvey, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. H. Lawrence, 6. On Sunday morning, November 7th, for Divine Service, three courses of Double Stedman Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. For afternoon service 720 College Single was lost after ringing 500 changes owing to a rope breaking, standing as above. On Monday, November 8th, 720 College Single. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith,

5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. And three courses of Double Stedman Minor standing as above. On Tuesday, November 16th, 720 Bob Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. On Thursday, November 18th, 720 Oxford Bob and 720 Grandsire Minor standing as before. On Monday, November 22nd, two courses of Kent Treble Bob. A. Lawrence, 1; G. Carter, 2; the rest as before. And a course of Double Stedman Minor. G. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; the rest as before. Also two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 1; A. Wright, 6; the rest as before. On Monday, November 29th, 120 Kent Treble Bob. A. Lawrence, 1; G. Carter, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

BARKING (Essex).—On Sunday, December 19th, for evening service at St. Margaret's, 1232 Double Norwich Court Bob Major, in 45 mins. T. Faulkner, 1; E. Lucas, 2; W. H. Dallimore, 3; R. Fenn, 4; C. Fenn, 5; A. W. Brighton (conductor), 6; E. Andrews, 7; A. Hardy, 8.

LONDON.—On Thursday, December 30th, at St. George's Southwark, 700 Grandsire Triples. W. Cobbett, 1; W. Truss, 2; W. H. Smith, 3; H. Green, 4; T. H. Taffender (conductor), 5; T. Clements, 6; W. Humberstone, 7; W. Butler, 8. On Sunday, January 22nd, for evening service at St. Magnus, London Bridge, 504 Stedman Triples. T. H. Taffender (conductor), 1; W. T. Cockerill, 2; A. W. Brighton, 3; E. Carter, 4; J. Waghorn, jun., 5; F. W. Thornton, 6; H. Flanders, 7; W. Truss, 8. Also 288 Kent Treble Bob Major. T. H. Taffender, 1; W. T. Cockerill, 2; A. W. Brighton, 3; E. Carter, 4; W. Truss, 5; J. Waghorn, jun. (conductor), 6; H. Flanders, 7; F. W. Thornton, 8. On Sunday, January 2nd, after Divine Service in the evening at St. Olave's, Hart Street, City, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. T. H. Taffender, 1; W. T. Cockerill, 2; J. Waghorn, 3; H. Flanders, 4; F. W. Thornton, 5; A. W. Brighton (conductor), 6. Also 720 Bob Minor. W. T. Cockerill, 1; J. Waghorn, 2; W. Truss, 3; T. H. Taffender, 4; F. W. Thornton, 5; A. W. Brighton (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, December 5th, for Divine Service at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. A. Hughes, 1; M. A. Wood, 2; A. W. Barkus (conductor), 3; J. Bonney, 4; W. Cooter, 5; E. Hall, 6; W. S. Wise, 7; A. Reed, 8. On Sunday, December 19th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. C. Kennedy, 1; W. Cooter, 2; J. Bonney, 3; A. W. Barkus, 4; A. Hughes, 5; M. A. Wood, 6; W. S. Wise (conductor), 7; A. Reed, 8. Both composed by M. A. Wood.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

READING (Berks).—On Sunday, November 28th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Laurence, 504 Grandsire Triples. H. Osborne, 1; J. Tucker (conductor), 2; A. Headey, 3; G. Foxell, 4; A. Watmore, 5; F. Tubb, 6; A. Osborne, 7; R. Sawyer, 8. On Sunday, December 5th, for Divine Service, 546 Grandsire Triples. W. Newell, 1; A. E. Reeves, jun., 2; F. Tubb, 3; H. Tucker, 4; G. Foxell (conductor), 5; A. Osborne, 6; J. Tucker, 7; R. Sawyer, 8. In the evening 1263 Stedman Caters. F. Hoppood (conductor), 1; G. Foxell, 2; J. E. Hern, 3; A. E. Reeves, jun., 4; F. Tubb, 5; A. Osborne, 6; A. Watmore, 7; J. Tucker, 8; W. Newell, 9; W. Robbins (Henley-on-Thames), 10.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TAUNTON (Somerset).—Recently, at St. Mary's church, 336 Grandsire Triples. A. Iles, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; A. Evans, 3; J. Hunt, 4; W. Thomas, 5; T. Radford, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; J. Fowler, 8. And 280 Grandsire Triples. W. Thomas, 1; G. Yandell, 2; J. Fowler, 3; J. Maddock, 4; T. Radford, 5; F. Millard, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; F. Collins, 8. Also 305 Grandsire Caters. J. Hunt, 1; H. Poole, 2; S. Wyatt, 3; F. Millard, 4; W. Thomas, 5; T. Radford, 6; J. Maddock, 7; G. Yandell, 8; J. Burge (conductor), 9; J. Fowler, 10. On November 3rd, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Garland, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; J. Hunt, 3; W. Thomas, 4; H. Poole, 5; J. Fowler, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; E. Wyatt, 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the Duchess of Teck. And 518 Grandsire Triples. J. Garland, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; J. Hunt, 3; W. Thomas, 4; A. Evans, 5; T. Radford, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; E. Wyatt, 8. Also 306 Grandsire Caters. J. Garland, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; F. Millard, 3; A. Evans, 4; J. Hunt, 5; J. Burge, 6; W. Thomas, 7; G. Yandell, 8; J. Maddock (conductor), 9; J. Fowler, 10. On November 21st, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Garland, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; T. Radford, 3; W. Thomas, 4; J. Fowler, 5; G. Yandell, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; E. Wyatt, 8. This was rung for morning service on the occasion of the Bishop preaching. And 559 Grandsire Triples. E. Wyatt, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; J. Fowler, 3; J. Burge, 4; W. Thomas, 5; T. Radford (conductor), 6; A. Evans, 7; F. Collins, 8. On November 27th, 714 Grandsire Triples. A. Iles, 1; J. Hunt, 2; T. Radford, 3; W. Thomas, 4; J. Fowler, 5; H. Poole, 6; J. Burge (conductor),

7; F. Collins, 8. Longest touch by A. Iles and F. Collins. On November 28th 720 Grandsire Minor. A. Iles, 1; J. Burge, 2; H. Moggridge, 3; J. Fowler, 4; J. Garland, 5; W. Thomas (conductor), 6. And 238 Grandsire Triples. A. Iles, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; J. Garland, 3; J. Hunt, 4; W. Thomas, 5; E. Wyatt, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; F. Collins, 8.

THE SALOP GUILD.

SHREWSBURY.—On Thursday, November 25th, at St. Chad's church, 600 Grandsire Triples. G. Tipton, 1; W. Espley, 2; G. Taylor, 3; H. Jones, 4; F. Taylor, 5; A. Fullick, 6; G. Byolin (conductor), 7; G. Scarratt, 8. Rung on the back eight with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to Mr. H. A. Hall, of Wolverhampton. Deceased was a ringer at St. Peter's, Wolverhampton. He was also a member of the above Guild, and was well-known by most of the Shrewsbury ringers, and great sympathy is felt at his death. On Friday, November 19th, in St. Alkmund's belfry, on handbells retained in hand, 377 Grandsire Triples. H. Jones, 1-2; G. Taylor, 3-4; G. Byolin (conductor), 5-6; A. Fullick, 7-8. On Sunday evening, November 28th, for Divine Service at St. Chad's church, short touches of Grandsire Triples. G. Scarratt, 1; W. Espley, 2; G. Tipton, 3; F. Taylor, 4; G. Taylor, 5; H. Jones (conductor), 6; A. Fullick, 7; J. Adams, 8.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

WOMBOURN (Staffordshire).—On Wednesday evening, December 15th, for practice, a touch of Bob Triples, 1596 changes, in 1 hr. E. Guest, 1; W. Rogers, 2; P. Sadler, 3; W. Sadler, 4; W. Smith, 5; H. Sadler, 6; R. Cartwright (conductor), 7; W. Bourne, 8. On Saturday, December 18th, an attempt was made for a peal of Bob Triples, which unfortunately came to grief after ringing 2 hrs. and 20 mins. E. Guest, 1; W. Rogers, 2; P. Sadler, 3; W. Sadler, 4; J. Bate, 5; H. Sadler, 6; R. Cartwright (conductor), 7; W. Bourne, 8. On Sunday morning, December 19th, after Divine Service, a touch of Bob Triples, 476 changes. W. Rogers, 1; R. Cartwright (conductor), 2; P. Sadler, 3; W. Sadler, 4; J. Bate, 5; H. Sadler, 6; A. Little, 7; H. Tonkinson, 8. On Sunday evening, December 19th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples, in 43 mins. W. Rogers, 1; H. Sadler, 2; J. Bate, 3; P. Sadler, 4; W. Smith, 5; A. Little, 6; R. Cartwright (conductor), 7; E. Guest, 8. On Monday, December 20th, 2520 Bob Triples, in 1 hr. 23 mins. E. Guest, 1; W. Rogers, 2; P. Sadler, 3; J. Bate, 4; A. Little, 5; H. Sadler, 6; R. Cartwright (conductor), 7; W. Bourne, 8. All the above touches were rung with the bells muffled, as a token of respect to the late Rev. W. J. Heale, Vicar of Wombourne.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Wednesday, November 17th, 768 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Price, 1; T. Bettison, 2; J. Morton, 3; W. Daffin, 4; W. Worthington, 5; S. Robinson, 6; J. Harris (conductor), 7; C. Severn, 8. Longest length on eight bells by J. Morton and S. Robinson. W. Worthington, J. Harris and W. Daffin hail from Staveley; T. Bettison and C. Severn from Killamarsh; the rest belong to the local company. Rung on the occasion of the opening of the new Church Institute at Eckington. On Sunday evening, November 21st, for Divine Service, 240 Kent Treble Bob. F. Hancock, 1; M. Price, 2; J. Morton, 3; S. Robinson, 4; G. Norman (conductor), 5; G. Marsden, 6. On Wednesday, November 24th, 720 College Pleasure, in 27 mins. F. Hancock, 1; W. Price, 2; J. Morton, 3; S. Robinson, 4; G. Norman (conductor), 5; G. Marsden, 6. Rung on the front six. First 720 in the method by J. Morton and S. Robinson. On Wednesday, December 1st, 720 College Pleasure, in 27 mins. F. Hancock, 1; W. Price, 2; J. Morton, 3; S. Robinson, 4; G. Norman (conductor), 5; G. Marsden, 6. On Sunday evening, December 5th, for Divine Service, 240 Violet. F. Hancock, 1; W. Price, 2; J. Morton, 3; S. Robinson, 4; G. Norman (conductor), 5; G. Marsden, 8.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

CHEAM (Surrey).—On a recent Tuesday for practice at St. Dunstan's church, 720 Bob Minor in 25 mins. G. Pederick, 1; C. Gommo, 2; C. Spence, 3; J. Reynolds, 4; H. Bryant, 5; F. Northfield (first 720 as conductor), 6. Another 720 in 26 mins. W. Watts, 1; C. Gommo, 2; C. Spence, 3; Fred. Northfield, 4; Francis Northfield, 5; W. Canning (first as conductor), 6.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

WINCHESTER.—On Wednesday, December 1st, for practice at the Cathedral, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from Hollis' six-part peal. C. Russell, 1; W. Lebbon (conductor), 2; R. Hasted, 3; C. J. Choquet, 4; E. G. Lampard, 5; W. H. George, 6; J. Harris, 7; W. Loveland, 8. First quarter-peal by Messrs. Russell and Lampard.

THE MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

UXBRIDGE.—On Monday, December 6th, at St. Andrew's church, 504 and 168 Grandsire Triples. J. Peddle, 1; W. Gosden, 2; S.

Smith, 3; A. T. D. Dampier, 4; H. Gosden, 5; A. Finch, 6; Rev. H. G. Bird, 7; W. Foster, 8. Conducted by Arthur Finch and the Rev. H. G. Bird respectively, being their first touches as conductors.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WICKHAM SKEITH (Suffolk).—On Sunday, November 21st, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. H. Collings, 1; J. Rose, 2; D. Mays, 3; T. Davy, 4; F. Potter, 5; G. Cattermole, 6. On Wednesday, November 24th, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. D. Mays, 1; G. Kemp, 2; T. Davy, 3; J. Rose, 4; F. Potter, 5; G. Cattermole, 6. On Sunday, November 28th, 720 Double Court Minor. J. Rose, 1; T. Davy, 2; F. Cullum, 3; F. Potter, 4; G. Kemp, 5; G. Cattermole, 6. All conducted by G. Cattermole. First 720 of Double Court by all.

DISS (Norfolk).—On Monday, November 29th, an attempt was made for Thurstan's peal of Stedman Triples, but ringing 4000 changes in 2 hrs. 55 mins. it came to grief. W. Pye (conductor), 1; W. Wiskins, 2; F. Borrett, 3; W. Salter, 4; W. Chenery, 5; E. Hayward, 6; J. Souter, 7; W. Ireland, 8.

PULHAM (Norfolk).—On Friday, December 3rd, an attempt for a peal of Superlative Surprise came to grief after ringing 4100 changes in 2 hrs. 28 mins. H. Mathews, 1; J. Betts, 2; R. Whiting, 3; F. Borrett, 4; E. Poppy, 5; J. Tann, 6; F. Smith, 7; W. Pye (conductor), 8.

SAXMUNDHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday evening, December 5th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. Watling, 2; W. Drew, 2; G. Moy, 3; G. Thompson, 4; W. Estaugh, 5; W. Pye (conductor), 6. W. Pye hails from Chadwell Heath, Essex.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Saturday, November 27th, at St. Peter's church, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. J. Maxey, 1; C. West, 2; S. Lowe, 3; A. Robinson, 4; H. King, 5; S. Constant (conductor), 6. Messrs. Maxey, West, and King belong to the Biddenham company, the remainder to St. Peter's. On Tuesday evening, November 30th, 720 Double Oxford. F. Parrott, 1; F. Lowe, 2; S. Lowe, 3; A. Robinson, 4; H. Toll, 5; S. Constant (conductor), 6.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

LONDON.—On Sunday, December 5th, at the church of St. John the Evangelist, Waterloo Road, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins. H. Barton, 1; T. Langdon, 2; W. H. Passmore, 3; H. Passmore, 4; A. Davis, 5; G. Symonds, 6; F. G. Perrin (conductor), 7; J. Golding, 8. First quarter-peal of Stedman by H. Passmore.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SWINDON (Wilts).—On Sunday evening, November 28th, for Divine Service, 1264 Bob Major in 46 mins. T. Lawrence, 1; G. S. Brown, 2; A. Lawrence, 3; J. Shepherd, 4; C. Gardiner, 5; H. Slack, 6; O. W. Layng, 7; T. Ricketts (conductor), 8.

BRISTOL.—On Tuesday, November 2nd, at St. Stephen's church, the bells were rung muffled for practice, and the whole pull and stand was rung after practice. On Wednesday, November 3rd, 840 Double Norwich Court Major. E. Duckham, 1; W. Knight, 2; C. Horton, 3; H. Pring, 4; C. Tomkins, 5; F. Elles, 6; W. Hinton (conductor), 7; W. Cave, 8. Rung as a last tribute of respect to the late Duchess of Teck. On Tuesday, November 9th, three courses of Grandsire Triples. Rev. H. E. Tilney Bassett (first touch of Triples), 1; C. Horton, W. Knight, C. Millard, H. Pring, F. Elles, W. Cave, W. Colston. On Saturday, November 13th (Colston Day), an attempt was made for a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, which unfortunately came to grief after ringing 2 hrs. 50 mins. C. Horton, 1; W. Knight, 2; S. Fernley, 3; C. Gordon, 4; C. Tomkins, 5; F. Elles, 6; F. Price, 7; W. Cave (conductor), 8. Longest length by S. Fernley who hails from Hazel Grove, Cheshire. On Sunday, November 21st, for Divine Service, 504 Stedman Triples. W. Pickard, 1; W. Knight, 2; C. Horton, 3; F. Elles, 4; C. Tomkins, 5; W. Cave (conductor), 6; F. Price, 7; W. Colston, 8. On Sunday morning, December 5th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Brook's), in 38 mins. C. Horton, 1; W. Knight, 2; F. Elles, 3; J. York, 4; C. Gordon, 5; C. E. Boufflower, 6; W. Cave (conductor), 7; H. Pring, 8. For evening service 1008 in the same method in 35 mins. C. H. Horton, 1; W. Knight, 2; F. Elles, 3; W. Pickard, 4; C. Tomkins, 5; W. Cave (conductor), 6; F. Price, 7; W. Colston, 8.

BAKEWELL (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, December 11th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. J. Frost, 1; J. Fearn, 2; W. Smith, 3; T. Clarke, 4; H. Turner, 5; W. Wallace, 6; A. W. Wallace (conductor), 7; R. Smith, 8. First quarter-peal by the ringers of the treble and third.

BOLNEY (Sussex).—The following touches of Grandsire Triples have been brought round at the parish church, the performers belonging to the local band except where otherwise stated. On Sunday, November 27th, for Divine Service, a 672 in 25 mins. J. King, 1; W. Walder, 2; J. Newman, 3; H. Tomsett, 4; A. Tomsett, 5; H. Chapman, 6; G. Walder, jun. (conductor), 7; J. Osborne, sen., 8. Longest touch by the brothers Tomsett who hail from Lindfield. On Wednesday, November 24th, for practice, a quarter-peal in 47 mins. J. King, 1; W. Walder, 2; G. W. Walder (longest length), 3; J. Osborne, jun., 4; J. Newman, 5; H. Chapman, 6; G. Walder, jun. (conductor), 7; J. Osborne, sen., 8. And a 504 with G. Walder, sen. in place of G. W. Walder. On Sunday, November 28th, a quarter-peal in 46 mins., with J. Newman, 4; H. Evans (Goring), 5; the rest as in the quarter-peal above.

CHEPSTOW (Monmouthshire).—On Sunday evening, November 28th, for Divine Service, 360 of Doubles, with 4-6-8 covering, and one each of Grandsire, Plain Bob, and Canterbury Pleasure. E. Williams, 1; H. Morgan, 2; J. Prickett, 3; F. Bye, 4; S. Hopton, 5; E. Load, 6; J. Morley (conductor), 7; A. Phipps, 8. First 6-score by Messrs. Load and Phipps.

EARLSHEATON (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, December 5th, for Divine Service at St. Peter's church, 1600 Kent Treble Bob Major in 58 mins. S. Rigg, 1; A. Goodall, 2; M. Garforth, 3; T. Hall, 4; W. Byram, 5; J. Chappell, 6; W. Dixon, 7; J. Idle (conductor), 8. Tenor 14½ cwt. Rung on the fiftieth birthday of M. Garforth, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

FARNWORTH (Lancashire).—On November 13th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob (nine bobs). J. Wilson, 1; W. Oxley, 2; A. Oxley, 3; E. Edwardson, 4; W. Brammer, 5; F. W. Stout (conductor), 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob (nine bobs). J. Wilson, 1; W. Oxley, 2; A. Oxley, 3; E. Edwardson, 4; W. Brammer, 5; F. W. Stout (conductor), 6.

RUSPER (Sussex).—On Sunday, November 28th, at the parish church an attempt was made to ring a peal of Treble Bob Major, but it came to grief after ringing half an hour. As there was not time to start again for the peal a 960 was rung in 57 mins. T. Worsfold, 1; J. Akehurst, 2; E. Holloway, 3; F. Martin, 4; C. Taylor, 5; T. Fairs, 6; E. Jordan (conductor), 7; J. Worsfold, 8. Rung as a farewell touch to Mr. F. Martin, who is leaving Rusper for Tring in Hert's, his brother-strings wishing him every success in his new home. Messrs. Akehurst, Holloway, Taylor, Fairs and Jordan hail from Capel, Surrey, the rest belong to the local band.

RUSHDEN (Northants).—On Monday, December 13th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. A. Stewart, 1; G. Heath, 2; H. Clayton, 3; W. Lowe, 4; W. Hall (conductor), 5; L. Chapman, 6. First in the method by all except the conductor. S. Stewart hails from Northampton.

STANFORD-ON-SOAR (Notts).—On Sunday, November 28th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (forty-two singles), in 25 mins. A. Trigg, 1; H. White, 2; W. Pervin, 3; J. Yates, 4; E. Reader, 5; G. Doughty, 6. Composed by Jno. F. Penning and conducted by H. White, and was rung on the back six.

SOUTHGATE (Middlesex).—On Thursday, November 18th, at Christ Church, 504 Stedman Triples. S. Wade, 1; J. Miller, 2; *W. Pickworth, 3; A. Miller, 4; J. Waghorn, jun. (conductor), 5; I. J. Attwater, 6; H. W. Newby, 7; C. Bale, 8. And 384 Bob Major. *A. Glasscock, 1; S. Wade, 2 *W. Pickworth, 3; J. Miller, 4; H. W. Newby, 5; I. J. Attwater, 6; A. Miller, 7; J. Waghorn, jun. (conductor), 8. *First touch in the method. On December 2nd, two courses each of Double Norwich and Duffield Major. J. Waghorn, jun., 1; A. Darlington, 2; S. Wade, 3; G. Harvey, 4; J. Attwater, 5; F. C. Newman, 6; H. W. Newby, 7; A. Miller, 8. On Sunday evening, December 5th, 720 Bob Minor (thirty-two bobs and two singles), with 6-8 covering. J. Hitch, 1; I. J. Attwater, 2; W. Rickworth, 3; H. W. Newby, 4; S. Wade (first 720 as conductor), 5; C. Bale, 6; A. Miller, 7; H. Balaam, 8.

WARRINGTON (Lancashire).—On November 1st, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob (nine bobs). F. W. Stout, 1; H. Moston, 2; W. Oxley, 3; G. Lewis, 4; W. Brammer (conductor), 5; C. R. Greenall, 6. The ringers of 2, 4 and 6 hail from Grappenhall. On November 8th, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles). J. Wilson, 1; W. Oxley, 2; A. Oxley, 3; E. Edwardson, 4; W. Brammer, 5; F. W. Stout (conductor), 6. On November 14th, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles). J. Wilson, 1; W. Oxley, 2; A. Oxley, 3; W. Brammer, 4; E. Edwardson (conductor), 5; F. W. Stout, 6. On November 27th, 720 Kent Treble Bob (nine bobs). J. Wilson, 1; W. Oxley, 2; A. Oxley (conductor), 3; E. Edwardson, 4; W. Brammer, 5; F. W. Stout, 6. Rung with the bells muffled as a token of respect to the late Countess of Lathom.

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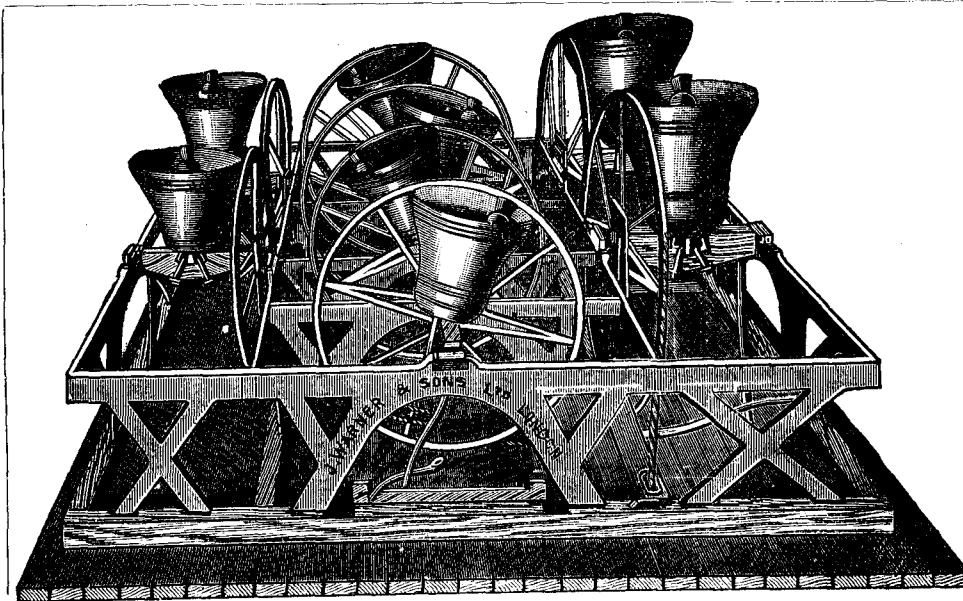
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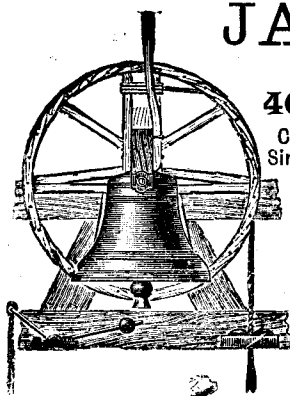
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No. 823.—VOL. XVI.]

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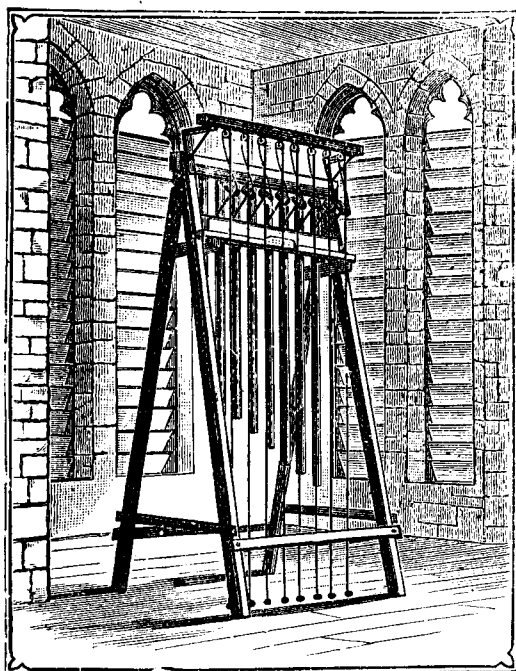
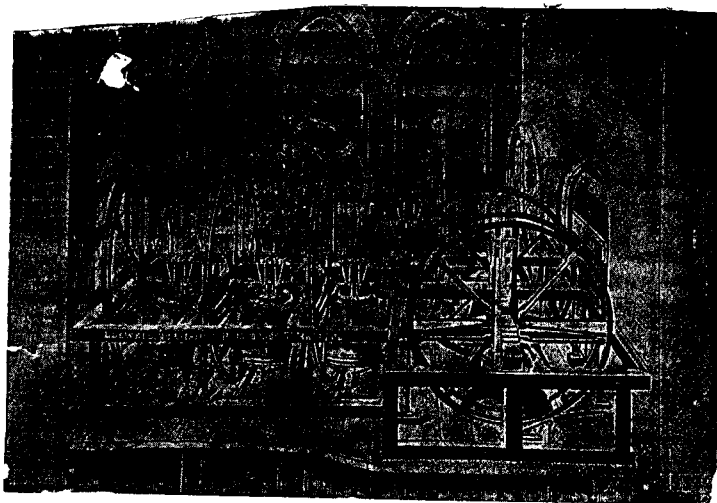
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 823.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 1898.

[Vol. XVI.]

RE-OPENING OF BELLS AT WOODBURY, EXETER.

The re-dedication of the peal of six bells in the tower of the parish church of St. Swithin, Woodbury, after restoration, took place at a special service held last week. For many months the bells, owing to their unringable condition, had been silent, and it was decided by the parishioners that the restoration of them should be undertaken in commemoration of the Diamond Jubilee. A committee, comprising the Vicar (the Rev. J. L. Fulford), the Churchwardens (Messrs. T. E. Lear and W. Hallett), Lieutenant-General Sir Charles Pearson, Messrs. H. Glanvill and H. Ware, was appointed to superintend the carrying out of the project. The parishioners rendered cordial support, and they and the committee are to be congratulated on the completion of the undertaking. The work done comprises the rehangings of the bells, with new fittings throughout, in a fresh oak cage, with pits for two additional trebles so as to complete the octave; the provision of new beams and floors and chiming apparatus, and renovation of the belfry. The Hon. Mark Rolle, who is Lord of the Manor, kindly gave the whole of the timber required. The expense of the work has been about £95, and it has been carried out by Mr. Harry Stokes, a native of Woodbury, and who is well-known throughout the country as a bellhanger, in a most satisfactory manner. The bells go splendidly. The whole of the expense has been met, and efforts will be made to increase the peal to eight, at an estimated cost of £80. The peal, as it stands, is among the very best rings of six in the county. The tenor is 25 cwt. in E flat.

The proceedings commenced at 9 a.m. with Matins. At 4 p.m. a public tea was held in the schoolroom, and was attended by the largest company ever present at such an event in the parish, the building being packed. The room had been tastefully decorated with flowers, plants, and evergreens by Mr. Cox, gardener to Lieutenant-General Sir Charles Pearson. Those presiding or assisting at the tables were Mesdames Lear, F. Lear, F. Sellers, Pyne, H. Pyne, Abbott, Rew, Stokes, Stamp, W. Stamp, W. B. Fulford, and Hallett; the Misses Pearson, Giles, Fulford (2), Ware, Norman, Glanvill (6), Hillman, Stamp (2), M. Lear, Burridge, Cupp (2), Down (3), Pyne, and Taverder; Messrs. Dew, Hearn, W. B. Fulford, Abbott, Jarman, Havill, W. Daley, and Cox. The tea was given by several of the ladies above mentioned, and the profits are to be devoted to the new bells fund. During the tea the venerable Vicar, who is 84 years of age, and has held the living for 51 years, expressed his sincere thanks to the Committee and Mr. Stokes and all who had assisted in carrying the movement to a successful issue, and specially mentioned Sir Charles Pearson and Mr. Lear.

At intervals the bells were rung by members of the St. Sidwell's (Exeter) Society of change-ringers, which supplied the opening band, namely, Messrs. F. and E. Shepherd, J. Moss, C. Carter, W. Drake, A. Mudge, J. Martin, and W. Acreman. Their performances included a 360 of Grandsire Minor and several 6-scores of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, the striking being excellent. The bells were also rung in scientific changes by members of the St. George's Cyst and Withycombe Societies, the work of the former being most creditable for a country band. All expressed delight with the ease and steadiness with which the bells went.

The Dedication Service began at half-past six, and was attended by a full congregation in the finely restored parish church. The clergymen taking part were the Bishop of Crediton, the Vicar, the Revs. W. David (Exeter), H. P. Alford (Rural Dean, Woodbury Salterton), and Maitland Kelly, President of the Guild of Devonshire ringers (Ottery St. Mary). The dedicatory portion of the service was conducted by the Bishop in the base of the tower, and at the close of it a few rounds were rung on the bells by the following Woodbury ringers: Messrs. W. Pavey, W. Ash, W. Tolman, J. Down, W.

Martin, and J. Morrish. The other portion of the service, Evensong for the Feast of Epiphany, and conducted in the chancel, and, like the dedicatory portion, was fully choral. Mr. H. Stokes, jun., presided at the organ. The sermon was preached by the Bishop of Crediton, who chose for his text the words, "Draw nigh unto God," the inscription on the tenor bell, which was cast in 1629 by Pennington. His lordship dwelt on the use of bells as instruments for calling people to worship, on the gradual development of the number of bells from Mediaeval ages to the present time, on the sacredness of the ringers' office, and on the importance of ringers recognising this, and of always doing their best.

The takings at the tea amounted to about £5; the collection at church, which was also in aid of the new bell fund, to £3 rs. The proceedings throughout were very harmonious, and passed off pleasantly.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

The usual monthly ringing meeting of this society was held at Pudsey on Saturday, January 1st. The peal of Bob Major which was announced was postponed owing to several being unable to attend in time. However some Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor were rung by the first arrivals. There was only a moderate attendance at the business meeting, which was held at The Park hotel. Mr. C. D. Smith was voted to the chair. The following towers were represented: Armley, Calverley, Headingley (St. Michael's), Holbeck (R.C.), Liversedge, and the local company. The minutes of the previous meeting was passed as read, which was proposed by Mr. H. Williams, and seconded by Mr. W. Bateman. Three new members were elected. The Secretary then read several letters relative to correspondence with various societies, including an appeal to the society for funds toward bell augmentation. The meeting, with such a small representation, wisely postponed the matter for further consideration at the next meeting to be held at Burley. A most hearty vote of thanks to the vicar, wardens, and local ringers for the use of the bells, etc., was proposed by Mr. J. Thackray, seconded by Mr. H. Williams, and carried.

The usual compliment was accorded to the chairman; also to the worthy host and hostess for their seasonable hospitality, all the members present wishing them a happy New Year. Two good sets of handbells were used during the evening; one the property of Mr. Kerry, and the other the property of the chairman, both fine specimens of the founder's art; the latter gentleman's peal, some eighty years old, came from the village of East Witton, and has been recently renovated up by Messrs. Shaw and Son. Courses of Grandsire Major and Triples, Bob Major, and Oxford Treble Bob Minor were rung; his portfolio of pictures of noted ringers were also much admired. The Thackley drum, fife, and concertina band, attired in mummery costume, was in possession, and all agreed that their absence would have been good company.

An adjournment was then made to the tower, and touches of Kent Treble Bob Major and Oxford Bob Minor were rung, after which the bells were lowered in peal. The ringing-chamber at this church is another example of the good work done by the local company in belfry reform, and its present appearance is a striking contrast to what it was in years gone by, and it is sincerely hoped the tenor of this peal may have its sluggish "go" remedied, and then Pudsey bells will again hold the reputation of being one of the finest ringing peals of eight in the north of England.

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Illustrated. Price 12s., Postage 6d. Should be in the hands of all Bell lovers.—W. H. EATON, Publisher, Leek, Staffs.

MARRIAGE OF MR. ARTHUR W. HOLDEN, OF SADDLEWORTH.

The marriage of Mr. Arthur W. Holden, only son of Mr. John Holden, of the firm of Messrs. Wild and Holden, auctioneers, Mossley, Saddleworth and Oldham, to Hannah, daughter of Mr. John Shaw, of Shaw, near Oldham, took place on Wednesday afternoon week, at St. James's church, East Crompton. Mr. J. T. Sykes, of Greenfield, acted in the capacity of best man, and the bridesmaids were Miss E. Shaw (sister of the bride), Miss Holden (sister of the bridegroom), and Miss Illingworth. Each carried a bouquet of flowers, the gift of the bridegroom. The Rev. S. T. Williamson, vicar, performed the ceremony, assisted by the curate, the Rev. J. Wilkinson. The bells were rung, and Mr. A. Hudson, organist, played the "Wedding March." After the ceremony they were joined by a large number of guests, at the Oddfellows' Hall, Shaw, where a substantial repast awaited them, and the evening was spent in a very pleasant and agreeable manner, dancing and singing being the order of the evening. The newly-married pair will reside at Glazebury, near Manchester. They have been the recipients of the following presents: Mr. John Shaw, cheque; Mrs. Shaw, household linen; Misses Shaw and Illingworth, base rocker; Mr. and Mrs. John Holden, Brinsmead piano and tea service; Miss Holden, toilet set and lace curtains; Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Wood, carpet; Mrs. Illingworth, brass ashguard and bar; Mrs. R. H. Whitaker, clock; Mrs. Brierley, silver jam dish and spoon; Mr. and Mrs. Butler, set of vases; Mrs. Platt, set of jugs and spoons; Mr. and Mrs. Radcliffe, 5 o'clock tea table; Mr. and Mrs. Brooks, ball brushes; Mr. and Mrs. Partington, oil lamp and kettle; Miss Howarth, mangle; Mrs. John Howarth, alarm clock; Mr. and Mrs. Bowling, china dish; Miss Cooper and Family, silk lamp shade; Mr. and Mrs. S. Partington, gold oak teapot, etc.; Misses Lees and E. Lowe, music stand; Mrs. Howarth, lamp; Mr. and Mrs. Royds, biscuit barrel; Mr. and Mrs. Binns, lace curtains; Mr. T. Partington and Miss Schofield, trinket set; Mr. and Mrs. T. Whittaker, silk table centres; Mr. and Mrs. Watts, ornaments; Mr. and Mrs. Cockcroft, skin rug; Mr. and Mrs. S. Fielding, breakfast service; Mr. John F. Sykes, case of cutlery; Mr. and Mrs. T. Wild, eiderdown quilt; Mr. and Mrs. Donkersley, diaper table cloths; Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Knott, counterpane; Miss Holden, brushes; Mr. and Mrs. James Radcliffe, towels; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Radcliffe, cruet; Rev. J. Wilkinson, fan; Rev. G. Feather (Glazebury), marble timepiece; Mr. and Mrs. John Milne, case of cutlery; Messrs. H. and W. Holden, breakfast cruet; Mr. J. W. and Miss B. Holden, silver salts; Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Holden, table cloth; Dr. and Mrs. Main, tray; Young Men's Class (Glazebury), cruet; Mr. and Mrs. Whitehead, toilet set; Mr. T. Whitworth, album; Mr. and Mrs. James Shaw, china; Mr. and Mrs. T. Taylor, sideboard cover; Mrs. and Miss Howarth, copper kettle; Mr. and Mrs. Rhodes, trinket set; Mrs. Hilton, linen; Mr. R. Hilton and Miss Farrow, copper kettle; Messrs. Irgle, Wild, and Hague, flower stand; Mr. and Mrs. J. Walker, cruet; Mr. and Mrs. H. Lord, breakfast service; Mr. and Mrs. B. Byrom, cake stands; Mr. and Mrs. Stead, biscuit barrel; Mr. and Mrs. Whitham, glasses; Mr. and Mrs. J. Partington, flower glasses; Mr. and Mrs. J. Russell, ornaments; Mrs. Butler, Japanese tray; Mr. Worth, engraving; Mr. Hewitson, views; Mr. and Mrs. Silcock, inkstand; Mr. and Miss Thorpe, plush bracket; Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Thorpe, cheese dish; Miss Rowbotham, antimacassar; Miss Hirst, handkerchiefs; Mr. Asquith and Miss Holden, rug and antimacassar; Messrs. Stott and Kershaw, silver butter cooler; Mr. and Mrs. Nelson, silver teapot and cheese dish; Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Holden, covers; Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Kershaw, piano stool; Mr. Myles, newspaper rack; Mrs. Halls-worth, plant.

The East Crompton ringers rang before and after the marriage ceremony, after the repast, and whilst the newly-married couple were departing *en route* to Morecambe for a few days. The following guests adjourned to the ringing-chamber of St. James, East Crompton, all relatives of the newly-married ringer, and rang Queen's changes (Whittingtons), not being able to do more on account of a person being taken suddenly ill near the church. The following was the company; after the name the relation each was to Mr. A. W. Holden. James Thorpe (uncle), 1; Joseph Radcliffe (cousin), 2; Herbert Holden

(cousin), 3; James B. Holden (uncle), 4; John Holden (father), 5; James Radcliffe (cousin), 6. The ringers of St. George's, Mossley, also rung Whittingtons, and three courses of Kent Treble Bob Major in honour of the event.

MATLOCK BRIDGE, DERBYSHIRE.

A correspondent visiting this place, sends the following:—

"With your permission, allow me to relate a little experience I met with during a recent brief sojourn at Matlock Bridge, Derbyshire. On Sunday morning, the 2nd instant, hearing the six bells in the tower of Matlock old church ringing for service, I promised myself a visit for the evening, and duly arrived at the church at 5.30, finding that except the verger I was the earliest arrival. After a look into the interior, and noting the additions now in progress of building, I found my way to the belfry, and introduced myself to the assembling ringers, one of whom very courteously enquired: 'Are you a ringer, sir; and where from?' Answering in the affirmative, he expressed regret that they could not invite me to take a rope, but it was a rule made by the churchwardens (one of which might drop in at any moment) *not to allow strangers to ring.*

"I, perforce, sat down and listened whilst 'call-changes' and round-ringing was performed, expecting every moment to see the churchwarden come in and 'invite' me outside.

"I mentally compared this reception to visits to other towers, notably, Brighton, Beverley, Blackpool, Leicester, Southport and York, where I was invited to stand in. I don't wish to cast blame upon the ringers, but on those responsible for the insertion of such a rule, which prompts the enquiry: Is it a common one in Derbyshire? I found that one of the churchwardens is, like myself, something of a ringer.

"I noted, with regret, the fact of such an intelligent company of young fellows confining themselves to 'call-changes,' and would most respectfully urge them on to aspire to the higher art of change-ringing.

"I was particularly pleased to find a pew allotted for ringers, and that all attended service. T. M."

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ROSSENDALE BRANCH.—A meeting of this branch was held at Christ Church, Bacup, on Saturday, January 8th. The local band had the bells going when the first visitors arrived. The bells are a ring of six, and several 240s in various methods were brought round. By tea time twenty ringers were in the tower, and the visitors were entertained to tea. Mr. J. Shephard presided at the business meeting, which he opened with a nicely-worded address. The previous minutes being passed, Ramsbottom was chosen for the next meeting. A short discussion followed on systematic peal-ringing, and it was finally resolved that any member wanting a peal in a given method, should write to the Secretary, who would arrange a peal when sufficient applications had been made. The usual votes of thanks having been passed, ringing was again indulged in until a late hour. Touches of Plain Bob, Kent, Oxford, Woodbine, Duke of York, and London Surprise were brought round.

WOODCRAFT, TIDENHAM, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

OPENING OF A NEW PEAL OF HANDBELLS.—On Thursday evening, October 28th last (at the residence of Mr. G. Hobson), Messrs. Morley, Prickett, Hopton, and Thompson, of Chapstow, were kindly invited to take part in the opening of a splendid new peal of handbells, cast by Taylors. Some courses of Grand-sire Triples were rung by J. Prickett, 1-2; R. Thompson, 3-4; J. Morley, 5-6; S. Hopton, 7-8; followed by a 6-score of Grand-sire Doubles. J. Prickett, G. Hobson, R. Thompson, A. Jones, J. Morley (conductor).

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.

ST. ALFEGE, GREENWICH.

A brief but withal interesting ceremony took place at this church on Christmas-Day, viz.: the unveiling of a tablet recording a peal of Treble Bob. After ringing for morning service, the ringers descended to the church, being met by the Vicar, churchwardens, and others. The Vicar congratulated them upon their achievement under very trying conditions, and expressed his gratification on meeting them on that great Christian festival to commemorate an event unique in the history of the nation. He spoke at some length upon the duties of ringers, social and religious, as citizens and Church servants, and after dedicating the memorial to God and the Church, asked Mr. H. Hoskins to uncover it on his behalf, which was accordingly done. The tablet, which is of fine Sicilian marble, is a beautiful specimen of the mason's art from the establishment of Mr. T. Maynard, of Walthamstow. It is surmounted by a prettily-carved bell, and is inscribed with the usual record of the peal, followed by the names of the Vicar and churchwardens.

It is noteworthy that although the Ancient Society of College Youths numbers some 4000 members, this was the only peal recorded as having been rung under the auspices of that Society on Jubilee-day.

PORTSEA, HANTS.

On Friday, December 31st, the Portsea parish church company had their annual meeting at the vicarage, Messrs. Harper, Ingram, Grooves, Gould, Symons, Hannam, Matthews, Newman, Reynolds, Harris, and Webb being present. Dinner was served at 8.15 p.m., the Vicar (Rev. A. R. Warburton) being present. After dinner the meeting was held, when the band indulged in a smoke. Mr. Harper was elected foreman and delegate to represent the Portsea society on the Winchester Diocesan Guild; Mr. Webb was elected Hon. Secretary; the committee were re-elected; the Misses Newman being elected as probationers.

After the meeting the ringers adjourned to the tower, where a muffled touch was rung to represent the old year. After 12.0 at midnight the buffs were taken off the clappers, and the new year welcomed in in an appropriate manner.

There was a full congregation at the service, many of the worshippers having to stand throughout. The Rev. C. G. Lang preached the sermon.

HALESWORTH, SUFFOLK.

A watch-night service was held at the parish church on New Year's eve, at which there was a fair attendance. Mr. R. Price presided at the organ, and in addition to the choir, the band of the F company 1st V.B.S.R. also assisted in the musical portion of the service, which was very hearty. The prayers were read by the Rev. A. Scott Thompson, and a most appropriate new year's address was given by the Rector (Rev. A. R. Upcher). After the service, a touch was rung on the bells by F. Lambert, A. Lee, E. Easter, R. Tracey, R. Howard, J. Howard, A. Took, and W. Lee. The Rector then kindly invited the ringers and the band to the rectory for supper, which was heartily enjoyed by all, the company separating at 2 p.m., after wishing Mr. and Mrs. Upcher a very happy new year.

LUNDY ISLAND, DEVON.

The bells of the new church of St. Helen at Lundy Island were heard for the first time on New Year's Eve, when the old year was tolled out and the new year rung in under the direction of John Buffery, who is superintending the erection, for the firm of Messrs. Carr, the founders. The bells are a maiden peal of eight, tenor 14 cwt.

CHEPSTOW (Monmouthshire).—On Christmas Day, for Divine Service in the evening, 720 Bob Minor with 6-8 covering. H. Morgan, 1; W. Freestone, 2; J. Prickett (conductor), 3; R. Thompson, 4; S. Hopton, 5; F. Bye, 6; J. Morley, 7; A. Phipps (first 720), 8. On Sunday evening, December 26th, for Divine Service, 252 Bob Triples. M. Close, 1; H. Morgan, 2; J. Prickett, 3; W. Freestone, 4; R. Thompson (conductor), 5; G. Watkins, 6; J. Morley, 7; F. Bye, 8. G. Watkins hails from Barry.

Obituary.

CHARLES CLEMENTS.

It is with deep regret we have to record the death on Christmas morning of the above-named ringer, in his seventy-eighth year. He had been a ringer at Aylsham, Norfolk, for upwards of sixty years. At the age of twelve he rang a 720. Mr. Clements kept no account of all his peals, but the following are the principal ones, besides several other peals of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Major. His first peal was 5440 Oxford Treble Bob Major at Aylsham in January 1838, and in July 1844 10,080 in the same method at Marsham, this being at the time one of the longest peals in this method in the county. In October 1845, 6440 Oxford Treble Bob Major at Marsham; in February 1851, 5152 Double Norwich Court Bob Major at Marsham; in May 1852, 5200 Bob Royal at Aylsham. Deceased was a safe ringer, and a first-rate striker. He was a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and the Norwich Diocesan Association since its formation. Deceased was postmaster of Aylsham for thirty-two years. He was carried to his last resting-place by four postmen, several of the ringers following. Muffled touches were rung in the evening by the local company as a last token of respect.

NOTES TO PEALS.

THE PEAL AT NEWHEY.—Although the church of St. Thomas, Newhey, has been in existence for twenty-one years, this is the first peal rung on the bells by a local band. It was decided early in the year 1897, that a peal should be attempted to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee, and one also to celebrate the twenty-first anniversary of the church on December 21st. The ringers commenced on Jubilee morning at 4.15. All went well until 2800 changes had been reached, when the treble rope broke, which brought the peal to an end. The peal to celebrate the twenty-first anniversary of the church was began at seven o'clock on the night of December 23rd, but this also came to grief near the mid-way single. The ringers however were not to be discouraged, and another attempt was made on Saturday last, when their efforts were crowned with success, as a true and well-struck peal was successfully brought into rounds. A word of praise is due to Mr. Eli Fielding, who rang and conducted his first peal. All the ringers are connected with the church where the peal was rung.

THE PEAL AT GRAVESEND.—The bells of St. George's, Gravesend, have lately earned an unenviable reputation for "go" (*vide* "THE BELL NEWS" of October 23rd, 1897). Upon arrival, the band were received by Mr. Fred. Hayes, of Milton, and several other ringers, who upon learning that the method proposed was Treble Bob, gave them the cheering intelligence that "it will prove a hard job for you," "a big handful," "we'll give you half-an-hour," "so-and-so will soon have enough," etc. etc. However, nothing daunted, the apparently impossible task was essayed (after a substantial meat tea), and in 3 hrs. 15 mins. a peal of Treble Bob, well struck, was an accomplished fact. After a loud demonstration outside, about twenty-five or more ringers from neighbouring places entered the ringing chamber, and heartily congratulated the band upon what they were pleased to term an excellent achievement. The band desire through "THE BELL NEWS" to sincerely thank the Rev. John H. Haslam, Rector, for his very kind permit; they are also grateful to the large number of brethren present for the very hearty reception accorded them, and regret that time did not allow a social hour in their company after the peal. This is however, but a briefly deferred pleasure. W. Weatherstone hails from Rotherhithe; W. Haigh from Gillingham; T. Taylor, from St. Mary's, Lewisham, and the remainder from St. Alfege, Greenwich.

THE PEAL AT WORTLEY.—This is the first peal by Messrs. George and John Parkin, to whom great credit is due, as they began ringing the method only three months ago. First peal as conductor by John Dronfield, to whom praise is due, as he only began to conduct three months ago, and performed his task well to the satisfaction of all. This is also the first peal ever rung at Wortley by an entirely local company, who were congratulated by the villagers showing their hospitality to them. First peal with a bob bell by W. Dronfield. After the peal an enjoyable evening was spent at The Wortley Arms hotel.

THE PEAL AT STEYNING.—This peal was rung on the anniversary of the opening of the bells, January 8th, 1890. It is also the conductor's fiftieth peal, made up as follows: Stedman Caters, 1; Stedman Triples, 25, conducted 3; Grandsire Triples, 6, conducted 3; Kent Treble Bob Major, 10, conducted 2; Double Norwich, 5; Canterbury Pleasure, 1; Plain Bob Major, 1; on six bells in four methods, 1; total, 50; conducted 8. Messrs. Williams, Bennett, and Hart hail from St. Peter's, Brighton; Goldsmith from Lewes; the rest belong to the local band.

New Year's Festivities.

ANNUAL SUPPER AT DISLEY, CHESTER.—On New Year's Eve, the society of ringers of this parish, in company with a few friends, met in the tower and rang a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Johnson (conductor), T. Johnson, A. D. Stone, G. Hibbert, T. Atkinson, H. Curtis. Attention then being called to the inner man, the party proceeded to The Ram's Head hotel, where a supper was prepared in capital style by the landlord, and to which every one did ample justice. A vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens was then heartily given. The party then returned to the tower, where at midnight a 720 of Bob Minor was rung, the ringers standing as before. This concluded a very enjoyable evening. It is about twenty years since a 720 was rung at this church on New Year's Eve. G. Hibbert belongs to Furness Vale; Stone to New Mills.

HOLY TRINITY SOCIETY, GOSPORT.—The annual supper of the ringers and choir of this church was given by the Vicar (Rev. W. Lee, M.A.) at The India Arms hotel, Gosport, on Tuesday, January 4th, the company including the Rev. R. Egremont, Col. Longmore, J.P., Mr. S. Smith, D.C., and Messrs. Gould and E. Reynolds of Portsea. A seven-part peal was struck in fine style, the veteran, Mr. J. Hewett, nearly collapsing at the seventh part, when nuts tried to change course with cheese, but the difficulty was surmounted, and "stand" for "The Health of the Vicar" was soon called. The Vicar, in responding, regretted the falling off in the ringing on account of so many having left the town. He knew energy was not being spared to bring forward several young men by the local band, but thought outside assistance scarce, while there were several towers within a small radius. He had had no applications for peal-ringing lately from ringers outside the company, but should he receive them, peal-ringers must assist the locals with practice. He hoped the choir would endeavour to equal the organ, which had lately been repaired. The organ is the same instrument on which Handel composed his oratorio in *Saul*.—Speeches over, harmony brought a pleasant evening to a close.

THE BURFORD (OXON) SOCIETY.—Following the custom for so many years established the ringers had their annual supper on New Year's Eve at The Lamb inn, which was kept up right royally, and was a very enthusiastic gathering. The Vicar (who is president of the society) occupied the chair, and Mr. Brown (the leader of the ringers) vice, supported by the Rev. F. M. Crapper, the Rev. H. W. Vaughan; Messrs. T. H. Cheate, J. P. Lane, Piggott, Holland, H. Wyatt, Adamson, Monk, Lomas, Arthurs, Bays, Packet, and Preston; Mr. Wood and Mr. George Nunney (churchwardens), and Mr. W. Smith (sidesman). The comforts of the party were studied in a manner most commendable to the proprietor, Mr. J. Wyatt. After the loyal toasts had been cordially received, the Chairman gave the toast of the evening, "The Health of Mr. Brown and the Ringers," and spoke very highly of their work in the belfry during the past year. Mr. Brown said that he was very proud to be leader of the church ringers. As they had lost four of the change-ringers during the past year, he would very much like to see more new members join, who were likely to remain in Burford. He proposed "The Health of the President," who had taken the chair at that festive gathering for the past sixteen years. The toast was received with musical honours.—The Chairman during the evening presented Mr. Walter Large (one of the leading members of the company) on the occasion of his recent marriage, with a gentleman's toilet and dressing outfit, as a mark of esteem and appreciation of his services. Mr. Large, who was taken by surprise, thanked Mr. Brown and the ringers for the gift, and said he was never so happy as when he was in the belfry. Other toasts followed, and during the evening some capital songs were sung, a happy evening terminating by all joining in singing "Auld lang syne" and the National Anthem. The advent of the new year was welcomed by a merry peal on the church bells.

THE HINGHAM SOCIETY, NORFOLK.—On Thursday evening, January 1st, the ringers of St. Andrew's, Hingham, held their annual supper at The Angel hotel. A bountiful spread was provided by the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Eagling, to which he ringers and friends, to the number of seventeen, did ample

justice. After the cloth was removed, the company settled themselves down for a musical evening, which consisted of songs and touches on the handbells. The Chair was taken by the Rev. D. Hamer. During the evening on the motion of the Chairman, the ringers agreed to form themselves into a local company, each one to pay twopence per week, for the purpose of having a ringing tour during the summer. The following officers were elected: President, Rev. A. C. W. Upcher; Secretary, Mr. W. Muffett; Treasurer, Rev. D. Hamer; Conductor, Mr. W. Eagling. Eleven members joined, and paid their first subscription. A very pleasant evening closed with votes of thanks to the chairman and the host and hostess, to which each one suitably responded.—During the year the members of the company have thoroughly cleaned the ringing-chamber in the tower of St. Andrew's church. Mr. W. Muffett (one of the ringers) gratuitously provided the coloring for the walls, and the churchwardens kindly provided matting for the floor. Four new members have joined the company this year, and we are also very pleased to welcome back amongst us one of the old band, Mr. Laskey. Two new pealboards have been put in the tower during the year, one peal being rung by the St. Peter Mancroft company, the other by the Hingham (4) and Dereham (4) ringers.

ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, LEWISHAM.—According to annual custom, the ringers of this church assembled at the vicarage on New Year's Eve, at the invitation of the Vicar (Rev. Samuel Bickersteth, M.A.), and were entertained to a substantial supper, to which excellent justice was done. At its conclusion a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for his hospitality, to which the rev. gentleman suitably responded. An adjournment was then made to the tower, where prior to the watch-night service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 44 mins. by: C. H. Walker, C. Bedwell, J. Turner, H. Warnett (composer and conductor), T. Chandler, T. Taylor, H. Barrett, and W. Keates. To welcome the new year, 280 in the same method.

THE CHEAM SOCIETY, SURREY.—On Thursday evening, December 30th, the ringers of this society were entertained by Mr. Canning, one of their members, to supper, followed by a musical evening, which was much appreciated. A good programme was got through—Miss Canning ably presiding at the piano—including solos, duets, and glees ably rendered by Miss Northfield (soprano), F. Canning (alto), W. Canning (tenor), and C. Spence (bass). Among the best songs were "Killarney," "Spangles," "Old Lock," "Life Boat," "Life's a battle," "First in the field," "The Diver." Duets—"What are the wild waves saying,"—Miss Northfield and F. Canning; "Larboard Watch,"—Miss Northfield and Mr. Canning. Glees—"Carnivale," "Let the hills resound with song," "Hail smiling morn," "Stars of the summer night." A most interesting recitation was given by Mr. Canning, viz., the Ghost scene from the play of Hamlet, F. Canning as Hamlet in costume. As is usual the time went much too fast, the party breaking up after thoroughly enjoying themselves in the early hours of the morning, after giving their host musical honours.

THE LUDLOW GUILD.—The members of this Guild (as usual) were entertained to supper on New Year's Eve by R. Marsden, Esq., of Ludlow Castle. Besides the local ringers there were present the Rector (Rev. Edward Harrington Clayton), Messrs. Wooley and Lowe (churchwardens), Dr. Cranstoun, and Mr. J. E. Groves (Guild Instructor). A programme was afterwards gone through, the principal artistes being Miss and Miss Edwards of Llandrindod Wells; Mr. A. Chester, Mrs. Marston, and Miss Atherton. A course of Grandsire Triples was rung on the handbells; and the "Blue Bells of Scotland" by Messrs. Chester and Groves. Altogether a most enjoyable evening was spent, after which the old year was rung (muffled) and the new year rung in.

FINCHLEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday, November 21st, 720 Bob Minor. F. Sparkes, 1; W. Webb, 2; J. Cornell, 3; W. Pickworth, 4; S. Wade, 5; A. Jacob (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, December 5th, at St. Mary Magdalene, Holloway Road, 720 Kent Treble Bob, with the tenor covering. A. Jacob (conductor), 1; W. Burrows, 2; W. Pickworth, 4; S. Wade, 5; W. Ward, 6; H. Stubbs, 7; H. Childs, 8.

Notices.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is One Penny per line (five words may be reckoned to a line). Repetitions at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

The Middlesex County Association.—North and East District.—The next quarterly meeting of the above district will be held at St. Stephen's, Hampstead, to-day, Saturday, January 15th, by the kind permission of the Rev. J. Kirkman. The tower will be open for ringing from 5 p.m., and the attendance of members and their friends is cordially invited.

ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*

18, Ravenscroft Park Road, Barnet.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.—The Quarterly Meeting in connection with this Society will be held to-day, Saturday, January 15th, 1898, at the Parish Church, Smethwick. Bells available for ringing during the afternoon and evening.

S. REEVES, *Hon. Sec.*

10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next Meeting will be held at Rochdale Parish Church to-day, Saturday, January 15th. Bells ready at 4 p.m., and Meeting 6 p.m. Will ringers in the Rochdale Branch endeavour to get to Meetings, so that we can make them a better success. All ringers invited.

E. B. SHAW, *Branch Sec.*

14, Thomas Street, Lees.

Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next Monthly Meeting will be held at the Cathedral, Manchester, to-day, Saturday, January 15th, 1898. Bells ready at 4 p.m., business meeting 7 p.m. Annual Reports now ready.

WALTER BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

54, Wenlock Street, Hulme, Manchester.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—Anniversary Meeting, Bristol, to-day, Saturday, Jan. 15th, 1898.—Short Service at the Cathedral, 2.30 p.m. Address by the Lord Bishop of Bristol. Dinner at 3.15 p.m. at St. Stephen's Restaurant, Baldwin Street, at 2s. 6d. per head. Business Meeting immediately after dinner.

The Kent County Association.—Lewisham District.—The Quarterly Meeting will be held at Bromley, to-day, Saturday, January 15th. Tower open 3 p.m. Committee Meeting 6 p.m.

W. J. JEFFRIES, *Hon. Sec.*

Yorkshire Association.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Birstall, to-day, Saturday, January 15th. Service in the Parish Church at 4 o'clock, with sermon by the Rev. W. Romaine Hervey, M.A., vicar of Birstall. Tea in the schoolroom at 5 o'clock. Business Meeting after in the same place. The local Hon. Sec. is Mr. John Clayton, Kirkgate, Birstall, to whom communications respecting the day's arrangements should be sent. The Heavy Woollen District Association has kindly altered the date of its Annual Meeting to leave members free for the above event.

BEN. T. COPLEY.

The St. Michael's Juniors, Gloucester.—Notice.—The members of this Society intend holding their annual dinner on Tuesday, January 18th, at the Albion Hotel, Southgate Street Gloucester, at 7 p.m. Any friends wishing to be present may do so by sending word not later than Monday mid-day to Mr. John Austin, Bentham Villa, Conduit Street, Gloucester.

The Bow Society.—The Annual Dinner of this Society will take place on Thursday, January 20th, at The Blue Anchor, High Street, Bow. Dinner on the table at 7.30 sharp.

All Saints' Society, Fulham.—The Annual General Meeting will take place on Saturday, January 22nd, 1898. The tower will be opened to members and ringing friends at 4 p.m. Tea in Church-room at 6 p.m., at 9d. each. Business Meeting afterwards. Members wishing to be present at the tea should signify the same to the Secretary not later than Thursday, January 20th, 1898.

J. GREEN, *Hon. Sec.*

North Notts Association.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Worksop, on Saturday, January 22nd. Tea in the Abbey Church Infant Schools, at 5 p.m. Members intending to be present at tea are requested to notify the Secretary not later than Monday, January 19th.

B. DARLEY, *Hon. Sec.*

Harthill, Sheffield.

Midland Counties Association.—The third Quarterly Meeting of the year will be held at Loughborough, on Saturday, January 22nd. The peal of 10 at the parish church and peal of 8 at Stanford open for ringing from 2 p.m. Committee meeting at 4.30; Tea at 5, followed by general meeting, both in the schoolroom. Members who intend being present at tea are particularly requested to notify me not later than Thursday, the 20th inst. Parties of 8 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.

Surrey Association.—The Annual Meeting of members will be held at Croydon, on Monday, 24th January, 1898. Tea at the school adjoining St. John's Church, at 6 p.m. Representatives must acquaint the Secretary not later than Saturday the 22nd as to the number of their members likely to attend the tea. Ringing at St. Peter's (South Croydon) and St. John's (parish church) from 3 p.m. by kind permission of the Vicars.

CHARLES DEAN, JUN., *Hon. Sec.*

Royston, Court Road, Sutton, Surrey.

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The next Committee and Quarterly Meeting of this Association will take place at Stourbridge, on Saturday, January 29th, 1898. A short service will be held in St. Thomas's church at 5 o'clock. Business meeting at six o'clock, at which the Rev. H. Sherrard, M.A., Vicar, will preside. The tower will be opened and the bells placed at the disposal of members. Tea will be provided for all members sending their names to me not later than Tuesday, January 25th, 1898. N.B.—All Subscriptions are due at this meeting. The Secretary would be pleased to receive a correct list of names from each Society in union.

JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

36, Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.

The St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—The usual quarterly meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 25th, at The Tamworth Arms, Moor Street, Birmingham. Chair to be taken at 8.30 p.m. As there is important business for consideration, the attendance of every member is earnestly requested. Particular attention is directed to clause 4 of rule vi.

W. H. GODDEN, *Hon. Sec.*

61, Roland Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

The St. Margaret's Society, Westminster.—The Annual Meeting for the election of officers for ensuing year will be held on Thursday evening, January 27th. Meeting time 8 p.m.

A. HARDY.

Essex Association.—A District Meeting of the above will be held at West Ham, on Saturday, January 29th. The towers of West Ham (10); of St. John's, Leytonstone (6), and Holy Trinity, Barking Road (6), will be open for ringing. Tea will take place at 5 p.m., to be followed by business meeting. Members

intending to be present must notify the same and the station from which they proceed not later than the previous Tuesday. All peals for insertion in the report for last year must be sent in at once.

HENRY T. W. EYRE.

The Kent County Association, Tonbridge District.—The Annual Meeting of this district will be held at Westerham, on Saturday, January 29th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Committee Meeting at 4.30. Tea at 5.30, followed by the General Meeting. Half travelling expenses up to but not exceeding 2s. per member will be paid, and subscriptions received at the committee meeting. Members intending to be present at the tea are requested to notify to the district secretary not later than Tuesday, January 25th. Members are requested to note that all subscriptions are now due, and must be paid before any allowance can be made.

W. LATTER, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association, Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Church Kirk, on Saturday, January 29th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30.

T. REDMAN, *Branch Sec.*

The Ashton-under-Lyne Society.—The next meeting of the above society will be held at Holy Trinity, Stalybridge, on Saturday, January 29th. Bells ready at 4 p.m.; meeting at 7 p.m.

S. BOOTH, *Hon. Sec.*

57 Alexandra road, Ashton-under-Lyne.

Oxford Diocesan Guild.—Reading Branch.—The Annual Meeting will take place on Monday, January 31st. Meat tea at British Workman, Abbey Street, at 7 p.m. Tickets 1s. 6d. each (half-price to members).

A. W. PIKE, *Hon. Sec.*

The Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Chard, on Saturday, February 5th. Members who intend being present must kindly inform the hon. sec. by the 29th inst., so that the necessary arrangements may be made. Full particulars on the 29th inst.

HENRY W. TOMKINS, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.*

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—At a meeting held at the new head-quarters, The Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on September 21st, it was resolved that a testimonial be presented to Mr. Matthew A. Wood, of Bethnal Green, as a mark of esteem and in appreciation of the good work he has done towards the advancement of change-ringing during the past fifty years. Subscriptions towards this object will be gladly received by any of the following committee:—Messrs. F. S. Bayley, Burkin, Butler, Cockerill, W. Davies (Liverpool), Dorrington, T. Hattersley (Sheffield), Horrex, Hughes, T. Mash, Newton, Prime, Pettit, F. W. J. Rees (Nayland, Colchester), Smith, Springall, Waghorn, jun., and Winney. Saturday, April 2nd, 1898, is the suggested date for the presentation to be made, and intending subscribers are earnestly requested to send in their subscriptions at least a week before that time.

PROPOSED LONG PEAL ATTEMPT.

Twelve members of the Ancient Society of College Youths propose attempting a long peal of Stedman Cinques at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on January 15th, at 2 p.m.

Will Mr. F. J. Pitts, late of Kennington, London, kindly communicate with the secretary of the All Saints' Society, Fulham.—J. Green, Sec. of the All Saints Society, Fulham Palace.

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)

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THE REV. DR. RAVEN'S WORK.

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

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 1898.

WE have this week only space in this column to sincerely thank so many of our kind friends who have written specially to give us their good wishes for the new year. New Year cards have been sent in a greater number than formerly, among which we recognise the contribution of a very old friend who has tendered us the same compliment for a number of years.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

The next meeting will be held at Bristol on Tuesday in Whitsun-week, 31st May, 1898.

Notices of motion, etc., must reach the Hon. Secretary not later than Tuesday, the 3rd of May. They must be in writing, and signed by two representatives.

Hon. Secretaries of societies are reminded that subscriptions to the Council are now due and should be remitted to the Hon. Secretary without delay, at the rate of 2s. 6d. for each elected representative. The Hon. Secretary would also be greatly obliged for information as to any change in representatives, or their addresses, that has taken place in the last year.

H. EARLE BULWER,
Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn.

Hon. Sec.

The Metropolis.**THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.***On Saturday, January 8, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,*

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

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

Tenor 30 cwt. in D.

JAMES SCHOLLES* Treble.	SAMUEL JOYCE 5.
HENRY SPRINGALL 2.	SAMUEL HAYES 6.
THOMAS FAULKNER 3.	ALBERT HARDY 7.
EBENEZER ANDREWS 4.	WILLIAM COCKERILL .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN H. BARRETT, of Stepney, and
Conducted by HENRY SPRINGALL.

*First peal in the method, also the first on the bells. This composition, now rung for the first time, contains all the combinations of 4, 5 and 6 in 5-6.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.*On Saturday, January 8, 1898, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,*

AT CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHGATE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HALEY'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 25 cwt.

JOSEPH WAGHORN, SEN. .. Treble.	JAMES PARKER 5.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. .. 2.	*ARTHUR MILLER 6.
SIDNEY WADE 3.	JOHN R. SHARMAN 7.
HERBERT W. NEWBY .. 4.	†JOHN MILLER Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN.

*First peal of Stedman with a bob bell. †First peal of Stedman. First peal of Stedman by J. Waghorn, jun. as conductor.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.*On Saturday, January 8, 1898, in Three Hours,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN, WATERLOO ROAD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES:

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

HARRY R. PASMORE* .. Treble.	THOMAS LANGDON 5.
WILLIAM S. LANGDON* .. 2.	ARTHUR R. DAVIS 6.
HARRY BARTON 3.	†VICTOR W. WEST 7.
WILLIAM H. PASMORE* .. 4.	*WILLIAM H. WEBBER .. Tenor.

Conducted by VICTOR W. WEST.

*First peal in the method. †First peal as conductor. Rung on the twenty-first birthday of W. H. Webber, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE ST. STEPHEN'S SOCIETY, WESTMINSTER.*On Saturday, January 8, 1898, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 24 cwt.

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

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH and
Conducted by JOHN N. OXBORROW.

*First peal in the method.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.*On Saturday, January 8, 1898, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, WALTHAMSTOW,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES.

Tenor 19½ cwt. in E.

FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. Treble.	ERNEST PYE 5.
ALBERT DEARDS* 2.	EDGAR WIGHTMAN 6.
GEORGE R. PYE 3.	JOHN DALE 7.
GEORGE B. LUCAS 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by EDGAR WIGHTMAN and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

*First peal in the method.

ILLUMINATED PEAL RECORDS, in six colours, suitable for framing, price 3s. 6d. each. Real work of art; pen and ink alone used. Jubilee peals a speciality. Numerous unsolicited testimonials as to excellence of workmanship from ringers in all parts. Association and private peal-books posted up on moderate terms; satisfaction guaranteed.—FREDERICK W. THORNTON, Greenwich, S.E.

The Provinces.**SOUTHWOLD, SUFFOLK.****THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Monday, December 27, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

ALFRED WARD Treble.	WILLIAM DREW 5.
CHARLES WARD 2.	THOMAS KING 6.
WILLIAM WARD 3.	JAMES MOTTS 7.
ROBERT H. BRUNDLE .. 4.	HENRY SMITH Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

Brundle and Motts hail from Ipswich; the brothers Ward and Smith from Ufford, Suffolk. Drew from Kelsale; King belongs to Southwold. It was arranged for Double Norwich, but owing to meeting short the above was rung with the assistance of Mr. King.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.—SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(WARNHAM BRANCH.)

On Thursday, January 6, 1898, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

GEORGE WOODMAN .. Treble.	WILLIAM STANFORD .. 5.
ARTHUR CHARMAN .. 2.	WALTER CHARMAN .. 6.
WILLIAM HOOKER .. 3.	JOHN COOK 7.
THOMAS ANDREWS .. 4.	ALFRED COX Tenor.

Conducted by WALTER CHARMAN.

This is the first peal on the bells since they were recast and rehung by Mears and Stainbank as a Jubilee memorial, and was rung at the first attempt. It is also W. Stanford's first attempt with a bob bell.

BLACKBURN, LANCs.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BLACKBURN AND PRESTON BRANCHES.)

On Monday, January 3, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

VICARS' SIX-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt.

G. GOODWIN Treble.	J. MATHER 5.
J. SMITH, SEN. 2.	J. BROWN 6.
T. CALDERBANK 3.	J. WALKER 7.
T. STRICKLAND 4.	M. ADAMS Tenor.

Conducted by J. BROWN.

Mather and Strickland hail from Preston; Calderbank from Hoghton; the rest belong to the local company.

GLOUCESTER.**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIORS, GLOUCESTER.***On Thursday, January 6, 1898, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt. 48 lbs.

ERNEST E. DAVIS .. Treble.	JOHN AUSTIN 5.
FRED G. MAY 2.	FRANCIS E. WARD .. 6.
REV. E. BANKES JAMES .. 3.	WILLIAM T. PEGLER .. 7.
FRANCIS E. HART 4.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

This peal is the late Henry Johnson's variation of Middleton's.

BUSHEY, HERTS.—THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. (THE BUSHEY SOCIETY.)*On Thursday, January 6, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 13 cwt.

ERNEST E. HUNTLEY .. Treble.	WILLIAM I. OAKLEY .. 5.
WILLIAM G. WHITEHEAD .. 2.	WILLIAM J. S. THORN .. 6.
GEORGE N. PRICE 3.	FREDERICK EDWARDS .. 7.
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 4.	THOMAS HUSSEY Tenor.

Conducted by ERNEST E. HUNTLEY.

This peal was rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Rector of Bushey, the Rev. T. H. Kynaston, who was buried the same day.

GRAVESEND, KENT.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 8, 1898, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 19½ cwt.

ISAAC GEORGE SHADE Treble.	WILLIAM HAIGH 5.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE .. 2.	THOMAS TAYLOR 6.
JOHN JAMES LAMB 3.	HARRY FLANDERS 7.
WILLIAM FOREMAN 4.	FREDERICK W. THORNTON Tenor.

Composed by the late W. HARRISON and
Conducted by FREDERICK WILLIAM THORNTON.

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

REIGATE, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, January 6, 1898, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

PELHAM E. J. KNIGHT ..Treble.	GEORGE HUGGETT 5.
FRANCIS T. HOAD, SEN. .. 2.	EDGAR KENWARD 6.
GEORGE THOMPSON 3.	WILLIAM ARGENT 7.
GEORGE F. HOAD 4.	FRANCIS T. HOAD Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN and
Conducted by FRANCIS T. HOAD, SEN.

This is the longest length in any method on the bells.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 8, 1898, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qrs. 24 lbs.

CHARLES SMARTTreble.	JOHN SMART 5.
GEORGE WILLIAMS 2.	GEORGE GATLAND 6.
JAMES MATTHEWS* 3.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH .. 7.
FRANK BENNETT 4.	KEITH HART Tenor.

Composed by W. HARRISON and Conducted by CHARLES SMART.

*First peal of Major with a bob bell. Reference to this peal will be found on another page.

ARMLEY, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE LEEDS AND
DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Saturday, January 8, 1898, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Tulip, College Trebles, City Delight, Arnold's
Victory, Duke of York, Violet and Oxford. Tenor 16 cwt.

JOSEPH THACKRAYTreble.	J. W. T. HOLGATE 4.
HARRY GAYTHORPE 2.	JOHN THACKRAY 5.
BERTIE COWLING* 3.	JOSEPH HECKINGBOTTOM ..Tenor.

Conducted by BERTIE COWLING.

*First 5040 as conductor. Messrs. Gaythorpe and Holgate hail from Bramley; the rest are of the local company.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, January 8, 1898, in Two Hours and Thirty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT's TEN-PART. Tenor 12 cwt. 25 lbs.

WILLIAM ROCK SMALL ..Treble.	HARRY MILLS 5.
ADAM HICKMAN HILL .. 2.	THOMAS HORTON 6.
FREDERICK BYWATER .. 3.	WILLIAM JAMES 7.
GEORGE JAMES 4.	REUBEN HALL Tenor.

Conducted by ADAM HICKMAN HILL.

H. Mills hails from Smethwick; Horton and Hall from West Bromwich. This is the quickest peal rung on the bells.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

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

On Saturday, January 8, 1898, in Three Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5056 CHANGES. Tenor 32 cwt.

STEPHEN COOKTreble.	FREDERIC TILLET 5.
ALBERT DURRANT 2.	WILLIAM WOODS 6.
WILLIAM MOTTS 3.	JAMES MOTTS 7.
WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE .. 4.	ROBERT H. BRUNDLE ..Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF and Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

This is the first peal in the method by all the band, also the first peal of Major in the method ever rung in the county. It was rung on the back eight. All the above are Suffolk men.

WORTLEY, NEAR SHEFFIELD, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 8, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES.
Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

GEORGE PARKINTreble.	JOHN PARKIN 5.
THOMAS MCKEGG 2.	WILLIAM DROMFIELD .. 6.
EDWARD ROBBINS 3.	THOMAS ROBBINS 7.
ARTHUR SAXBY 4.	JOHN DROMFIELD Tenor.

Composed by W. HARRISON and Conducted by JOHN DROMFIELD.

This peal was taken from Snowdon's Rope-Sight. Further reference to this peal will be found on another page.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(WARNHAM BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 8, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF COURT BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S SIX-PART (NO. II.) Tenor 14½ cwt.

WILLIAM STANFORD ..Treble.	WALTER CHARMAN 5.
ARTHUR CHARMAN 2.	JOHN COOK 6.
THOMAS ANDREWS 3.	HENRY CHANDLER 7.
GEORGE WOODMAN 4.	ALFRED COX Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY CHANDLER.

NEWHEY, LANCASHIRE

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 8, 1898, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT's TEN-PART. Tenor 10½ cwt.

JAMES W. PILKINGTON ..Treble.	ELI FIELDING 5.
RICHARD THOMPSON 2.	JOHN C. BENNETT 6.
WILLIAM BROOKS 3.	ALBERT HAMBLER 7.
GEORGE WOOD 4.	WILLIAM FIELDING Tenor.

Conducted by ELI FIELDING.

First peal by all the band, with the exception of Wm. Fielding. Further reference to this peal will be found on another page.

BILLINGSHURST, SUSSEX.

On Sunday, January 9, 1898, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT's TEN-PART.

PETER WOODTreble.	JOHN NEWMAN 5.
WALTER WADEY 2.	ALBERT FEIST 6.
WILLIAM CHANTLER 3.	HENRY H. CHANDLER .. 7.
MAURICE IRELAND 4.	JAMES BALCHIN Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY H. CHANDLER.

This is the first peal on the bells since they have been augmented to eight by two trebles being added by Mears and Stainbank. First peal on eight bells by Messrs. Wood, W. Chantler, Ireland, and Newman. Great credit is due to W. Chantler for the way he rang his bell, he being seventy-six years of age. Rung at the second attempt, the previous being 4000 changes rung on Sunday, January and.

BEDFORD.—THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 11, 1898, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 28 cwt. 3 qrs. 6 lbs.

HARRY TOLL Treble.	FRANK HULL 6.
CHARLES CHASTY 2.	HERBERT SHARP 7.
EDGAR TINGEY 3.	ISAAC HILLS 8.
WILLIAM J. BARKER 4.	HARRY TYSOE 9.
CHARLES R. LILLEY 5.	CHARLES WM. CLARKE .. Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS and Conducted by CHAS. W. CLARKE.

First peal of Royal by H. Toll. This is the first peal of Bob Royal by all, on the bells, and by the Association, and was rang at the first attempt. This peal has the her extant right, and is now rung for the first time.

Miscellaneous.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ANGMERING (Sussex).—On Saturday, October 16th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. T. Linfield, 1; H. Finch, 2; A. Child, 3; T. Parsons, 4; F. Finch, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. The bells were rung half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late J. N. Tompkins. On Saturday, November 20th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. H. Finch, 1; H. Evans (Goring), 2; C. Hills, 3; T. Parsons, 4; F. Finch, 5; T. Linfield (conductor), 6.

HASTINGS.—On Wednesday, November 24th, for practice at Christ Church, Blacklands, 448 Grandsire Triples. H. Hobbs (Bexhill), 1; N. Cruttenden (Bexhill), 2; F. Piper, 3; S. Saker, 4; G. W. Baldwin (conductor, Birmingham), 5; G. Marchant (Bexhill), 6; B. Hobbs (Bexhill), 7; J. Livermore, 8. Also 504 Grandsire Triples. B. Hobbs, 1; L. Saker, 2; F. Lock, 3; G. Marchant, 4; C. Hill (St. Leonard's), 5; T. Ades (conductor, Bexhill), 6; G. W. Baldwin, 7; W. H. Swain, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HARTLIP (Kent).—On Wednesday, November 24th, at St. Michael's church, 720 Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles), in 23½ mins. A. Vaughan, 1; F. Ockwell, 2; E. Dunster, 3; W. T. Hyland (conductor, 4; J. Champion, 5; W. J. Walker, 6. Also 360 Canterbury Pleasure. A. Vaughan, 1; F. Ockwell, 2; W. T. Hyland, 3; W. J. Walker, 4; J. Champion, 5; E. Dunster (conductor), 6. Messrs. Vaughan, Ockwell, Dunster and Champion hail from Rainham; Hyland and Walker from Upchurch.

FOLKESTONE (Kent).—On Tuesday, November 9th, on the occasion of the election of Colonel Penfold as Mayor, 772 Grandsire Triples. G. Millen, 1; S. Baker, 2; J. Fisher, 3; H. Croucher, 4; A. Petts, 5; G. Holdom, 6; S. Binfield (conductor), 7; J. Upton, 8. On Tuesday, November 16th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. G. Millen, 1; A. Manning, 2; A. Petts, 3; H. Croucher, 4; F. Marriott, 5; S. Baker (conductor), 6; S. Binfield, 7; J. Upton, 8.

PENGE (Surrey).—On Thursday, November 11th, for practice, several touches of Treble Bob were rung, H. Edwards, W. Battson, and G. Wickens, of the local band, taking part. Also 720 Kent. H. Reader (Hayes), 1; G. Durling (Bromley), 2; T. Richards (Penge), 3; W. Smith (Norwood), 4; J. Town (Beckenham), 5; J. Hack (Hayes, conductor), 6.

HAYES (Kent).—On Sunday, November 7th, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), taken from the Lancashire Association's Minor methods, 2nd the observation. F. Keech, 1; H. Reader, 2; A. Killick, 3; H. Brown, 4; G. Harwood, 5; J. Hack (conductor), 6. For evening service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor (twenty-six singles). A. Lanaway, 1; H. Brown, 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; J. Town, 5; H. Reader (conductor), 6. On December 5th, for evening service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (thirty singles and three bobs). F. Keech, 1; H. Brown, 2; W. Bedwell, 3; G. Harwood, 4; J. Hack (composer and conductor), 5; H. Reader, 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. H. Reader, 1; H. Brown, 2; A. Killick (first in the method), 3; G. Harwood, 4; W. Bedwell, 5; J. Hack (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, December 19th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor (thirty singles and three bobs.) A. Lanaway, 1; H. Brown, 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; J. Hack (composer), 5; H. Reader (conductor), 6. J. Town hails from Beckenham; Bedwell from Lewisham. On Christmas Day, for communion service, 720 Bob Minor (thirty-two bobs and two singles), composed by B. Annable. F. Keech, 1; H. Brown, 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Reader, 5; J. Hack (conductor), 6.

BROMLEY (Kent).—On Sunday evening, November 21st, for Divine Service, 630 Oxford Bob Triples. G. Simpson, 1; F. Sanders, 2; T. Harford, 3; T. Richards, 4; R. Humphrey, 5; E. Dunn, 6; G. Dur-

ling (conductor), 7; W. James, 8. On Sunday morning, November 28th, for Divine Service, 630 Oxford Bob Triples. J. Town, 1; F. Sanders, 2; E. Dunn, 3; R. Humphrey, 4; T. Harford, 5; J. Simpson, 6; G. Durling (conductor), 7; W. James, 8. On Tuesday, November 3rd, for practice, 504 Stedman Triples. E. Dunn, 1; T. Harford, 2; W. Ingham, 3; T. Richards, 4; J. Hack, 5; T. Emery, 7; G. Durling (conductor), 7; W. James, 8. Also a plain course of Kent Treble Bob Major. E. Dunn, 1; W. Ingham, 2; J. Hack, 3; T. Richards, 4; J. Town, 5; F. Sanders, 6; G. Durling, 7; T. Harford, 8. Also three leads in the same method with J. Emery, 6; the rest as before.

CHISLEHURST (Kent).—On Monday, November 29th, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor with 6-8 covering. J. Miles, 1; T. Durling, 2; A. Durling (first 720 with a bob bell), 3; R. Hims, 4; G. French, 5; A. Durling, 6; G. Durling (conductor), 7; G. Head, 8.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

CHESTERFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday evening, December 12th, for Divine Service, 1260 Grandsire Caters in 48 mins. G. Farr, 1; A. Knights (conductor), 2; J. Bell, 3; D. Farthing, 4; G. Toplis, 5; S. Price, 6; G. Davies, 7; J. Hunt, 8; W. Thyng, 9; G. Mee, 10. On Wednesday, December 8th, 3000 Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 50 mins. D. Farthing, 1; J. Bell, 2; W. Thyng, 3; S. Price, 4; G. Davies, 5; J. Hunt, 6; A. Knight (conductor), 7; G. Farr, 8. Tenor 24½ cwt.

STANFORD-ON-SOAR (Notts).—On Sunday, November 28th, 720 Bob Minor (forty-two singles), in 25 mins. A. Triggs, 1; H. Whittle, 2; W. Pervin, 3; J. Yates, 4; E. Reader, 5; G. Doughty, 6. On Friday December 17th, on handbells, 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Doughty, 1; A. Trigg (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; W. Pervin, 3; J. Yates, 4; E. Reader, 5; H. Whittle, 6. On Wednesday, December 29th, 360 Bob Minor. J. Willson, 1; A. Trigg, 2; W. Pervin, 3; J. Yates, 4; G. Doughty, 5; H. Whittle, 6. *Longest length of Minor on tower bells. All these were conducted by H. Whittle.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

LAMBETH.—On Sunday afternoon, December 12th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins., taken from Holt's Original. J. Golding, 1; H. Passmore, 2; W. Moss, 3; W. Webber, 4; W. Langdon, 5; T. Langdon (conductor), 6; W. Passmore, 7; W. Stoneman, 8. *First quarter-peal with the treble.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH CROYDON (Surrey).—On Monday, December 14th, at St. Peter's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. T. Hayward, 1; A. Collins, 2; W. Gammon, 3; H. Lover, 4; W. Bulpitt (conductor), 5; C. Kitching, 6; F. Hermon, 7; B. Blake, 8. The above was rung to celebrate the seventy-second birthday of B. Blake, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns. *First quarter-peal as conductor.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

OFFENHAM, NEAR EVESHAM (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, afternoon, December 5th, several members of the St. Peter's Society, Bengeworth, visited this place and rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, in 43 mins., consisting of ten 6-scores, each called differently, and sixty odd changes. G. Williams, 1; F. Cook, 2; G. Street, 3; F. Styles, 4; F. Johnson (conductor), 5; C. Hopkins, 6. This is the first change-ringing on the bells since they have been augmented from 5 to 6 by Messrs. Taylor.

THE LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN GUILD.

AUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Thursday, November 23rd, at Christ Church, 432 Stedman Triples. J. Marsh, 1; C. Sharples, 2; J. Eastham, 3; J. Park, 4; J. Taylor, 5; W. Bentham, 6; T. Jenkinson (conductor), 7; P. Fairhurst, 8. On Saturday, November 25th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 48 mins. J. Marsh, 1; W. Bentham, 1; J. Eastham, 3; C. Sharples (conductor), 4; W. Fairclough, 5; E. Caunce, 6; J. Park, 7; T. Jenkinson, 8. On Sunday morning, November 26th, for Divine Service, 504 Stedman Triples. T. Jenkinson (conductor), 1; J. Marsh, 2; J. Eastham, 3; C. Sharples, 4; W. Fairclough, 5; E. Caunce, 6; J. Park, 7; W. Bentham, 8. All the above were rung with the bells muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Countess of Lathom. On Thursday, December 2nd, 432 Stedman Triples. W. Bentham, 1; J. Marsh, 2; J. Eastham, 3; C. Sharples, 4; J. Gardner, 5; T. Jenkinson, 6; E. Caunce (conductor), 7; P. Fairhurst, 8. Also 504 Stedman Triples. W. Bentham, 1; J. Marsh, 2; J. Eastham, 3; C. Sharples, 4; W. Fairclough, 5; P. Fairhurst, 6; E. Caunce (conductor), 7; J. Gardner, 8.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

WINCHESTER.—On Wednesday, November 24th, for practice at the Cathedral, 420 Stedman Triples. W. Lebbon, 1; G. Smith, 2; R.

Hasted, 3; W. J. Sevier, 4; W. C. Lampard, 5; J. Harris, 6; W. H. George (conductor), 7; W. H. Loveland, 8. On Sunday, December 5th, for afternoon service 324 Stedman Caters. W. Lebbon, 1; W. J. Sevier, 2; C. J. Choquet, 3; G. Smith, 4; A. E. Tomlins (Gosport), 5; R. Hasted, 6; W. C. Lampard, 7; J. Harris, 8; W. H. George (conductor), 9; W. H. Loveland, 10. Tenor 32 cwt.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BACUP (Lancashire).—On Monday, November 1st, for practice, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). Z. Lord, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. H. Barnes, 3; G. H. White, 4; J. H. Smith, 5; J. Brierley (conductor), 6. On Friday evening, November 5th, for practice, 720 London Surprise. L. Holt, 1; Z. Lord, 2; J. S. Lomas, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; E. J. Cockroft, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday, November 7th, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 City Delight. L. Holt, 1; J. Smith, 2; Z. Lord, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Monday, November 8th, for practice, 720 Oxford Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. S. Lomas (conductor), 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. H. Barnes, 3; G. H. White, 4; J. H. Smith, 5; Z. Lord, 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. Z. Lord, 1; J. Smith, 2; J. S. Lomas, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; W. Ashworth, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Friday evening, November 12th, for practice, 720 Oxford Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. S. Lomas (conductor), 1; D. Briggs, 2; L. Holt, 3; G. H. White, 4; Z. Lord, 5; J. Smith, 6. First 720 in the method by L. Holt. Also 720 York Surprise. L. Holt, 1; J. Smith, 2; Z. Lord, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, November 14th, 720 College Treble. L. Holt, 1; J. Smith, 2; E. J. Cockroft, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Friday, November 18th, for practice, 720 Durham Surprise. L. Holt, 1; J. Lord, 2; G. Shottin, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, November 20th, for service, 720 College Pleasure. A. L. Hardman, 1; G. Shottin, 2; E. J. Cockroft, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. Rung with the bells deeply-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mr. Edward Hoyle, of Moorlands, Bacup. In the evening, for service, 720 Cambridge Surprise. L. Holt, 1; Z. Lord, 2; G. Shottin, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Monday, November 22nd, for practice, 720 Coventry Surprise. A. L. Hardman, 1; J. Smith, 2; Z. Lord, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Friday evening, November 26th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. S. Lomas (conductor), 1; D. Briggs, 2; L. Holt, 3; G. H. White, 4; J. H. Barnes, 5; Z. Lord, 6. On Sunday morning, November 28th, for Divine Service, 720 Duke of York. Z. Lord, 1; J. Smith, 2; J. H. Barnes, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. Brierley, 6. For evening service 720 Worcester 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. On Monday evening, November 29th, 720 London Surprise. A. L. Hardman, 1; J. Smith, 2; E. J. Cockroft, 3; Z. Lord, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TAUNTON (Somerset).—On Sunday, October 31st, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, 6-8 covering. W. Gillard, 1; J. Maddock (conductor), 2; A. Doble, 3; F. Millard, 4; J. Hunt (first 720), 5; H. J. Poole, 6; G. H. Yendall, 7; H. Pearce, 8. On Saturday, November 20th, 504 Grandsire Triples. H. J. Poole, 1; W. Gillard, 2; A. Doble, 3; H. Pearce, 4; E. E. Burgess, 5; W. Chapman (conductor), 6; G. H. Yendall, 7; F. Millard, 8. On November 21st, 336 Grandsire Triples. E. Maddock (first of Triples), 1; W. Gillard, 2; A. Doble, 3; J. Maddock (conductor), 4; H. Pearce, 5; E. E. Burgess, 6; W. Thorn, 7; E. Harris, 8. On November 28th, 336 Bob Major. W. Gillard, 1; F. Millard, 2; T. W. Radford, 3; A. Doble, 4; W. Thorn, 5; E. E. Burgess, 6; H. J. Poole (conductor), 7; G. H. Yendall, 8. On December 12th 504 Grandsire Triples. F. Millard, 1; W. Gillard, 2; W. Thorn, 3; H. J. Poole (conductor), 4; H. Pearce, 5; E. E. Burgess, 6; T. Doble, 7; E. Maddock, 8. On December 25th, 336 Bob Major. W. Gillard, 1; F. Millard, 2; A. Doble, 3; H. J. Poole (conductor), 4; W. Thorn, 5; E. E. Burgess, 6; T. Doble, 7; G. H. Yendall, 8. Also 336 Grandsire Triples. J. Burge, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; W. Gillard, 3; G. H. Yendall, 4; A. Walker, 5; E. E. Burgess, 6; H. J. Poole (conductor), 7; E. Harris, 8. A. Walker hails from Birmingham. And 168 in the same method. J. Maddock, 1; H. J. Poole, 2; W. Gillard, 3; G. H. Yendall (conductor), 4; F. Millard, 5; E. E. Burgess, 6; W. Thorn, 7; E. Harris, 8.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CRADLEY (Herefordshire).—On Saturday, November 27th, a 720 of

Bob Minor in 25 mins. F. Smith, 1; J. Hopkinson, 2; C. Watkins, 3; J. E. Groves (conductor), 4; A. Layton, 5; H. Pritchard, 6. Sunday, November 28th, 720 of Canterbury Pleasure Minor in 25 mins. J. Hopkinson, 1; E. S. King, 2; J. E. Groves, 3; H. Pritchard, 4; C. Watkins, 5; F. Smith (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

MATHON (Worcestershire).—Sunday, November 28th, 720 of Kent Treble Bob in 24 mins. A. Layton, 1; J. Thomas, 2; C. Layton, 3; J. E. Groves, 4; F. Smith, 5; C. Watkins, 6. Rang with the bells half-muffled, being the fourteenth anniversary of the death of Mrs. Douglas, wife of the late Rector. Tenor 8 cwt.

EASTNOR (Herefordshire).—Sunday, December 5th, 720 of Kent Treble Bob in 24 mins. J. E. Groves, 1; T. Williams (first 720), 2; F. Smith, 3; H. Pritchard, 4; W. Greenleaf, 5; C. Layton (conductor), 6. And 720 of Plain Bob. J. E. Groves (conductor), 1; C. Layton, 2; F. Smith, 3; H. Pritchard, 4; T. Williams, 5; W. Greenleaf, 6. The ringers were kindly entertained to tea by Mr. Williams, after which a 720 of Kent Treble Bob was rung in 24 mins. W. Greenleaf, 1; T. Williams, 2; F. Smith, 3; H. Pritchard, 4; C. Layton, 5; J. E. Groves (conductor), 6. And several 720s of Stedman. Tenor 9 cwt.

HEREFORD.—At the Cathedral, on December 8th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 54 mins. R. Chamberlin, 1; W. Davies, 2; J. E. Groves (conductor), 3; J. J. Jones, 4; C. H. Douthen, 5; T. Lewis, 6; H. King, 7; R. Powell, 8. This is the largest touch rang by local men. Tenor 40 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Sunday morning, November 28th, for Divine service at the Parish Church, 720 Bob Minor. N. Smith (first 720), 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; G. Melbourne, 4; S. Sargent, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6. For afternoon service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. G. Melbourne, 1; the rest as before. On Tuesday, November 30th, 720 Bob Minor. N. Smith, 1; W. Moore, 2; F. Warren, 3; G. Melbourne, 4; S. Sargent, 5; F. Radley (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 5th, early in the morning, the bells were rung on the occasion of the church being opened after being under a restoration. For morning services, the Bishop of Colchester being the preacher, 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Melbourne, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; F. Warren, 4; S. Sargent, 5; W. Grimwade (conductor), 6. For afternoon service, 720 Double Court Bob. G. Melbourne, 1; H. Collins, 2; H. Pitcher (first 720 in the method), 3; W. Burst, 4; W. Grimwade, 5; C. Howard (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 12th, for morning service, 720 New London Pleasure. G. Melbourne, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; F. Warren, 4; S. Sargent, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6. For after service 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. W. Grimwade (conductor), 6; the rest standing as before. Messrs. Howard, Collins, and Pitcher hail from Braintree; W. Burst from Greenstead Green.

STANSTED (Essex).—On Sunday, November 21st, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, for morning service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. H. Little, 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; G. Jordan, 5; T. J. Watts (conductor), 6. Also for afternoon service, 720 Double Oxford Bob (18 singles 3 bobs), composed by H. J. Tucker, of Bishops Stortford. H. Little, 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. J. Watts, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, November 24th, for practice, 720 Imperial Treble Bob reversed. J. Cavill (first 720 in the method), 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. J. Watts, 5; W. Watts (first 720 in the method as conductor), 6. Also 720 Evening Star. H. Little, 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 the first 720 in the method on the bells. On Sunday, November 28th, for afternoon service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Cavill, 1; H. Little, 2; I. Hammond, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. J. Watts, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, December 1st, for practice, 720 Stansted New Bob. G. Jordan, 1; I. Hammond, 2; T. J. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. Also 720 Burton Pleasure. J. Cavill, 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; G. Jordan, 5; J. Luckey (first 720 in the method as conductor), 6. On Sunday, 5th, for morning service, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. H. Little, 1; W. Watts, 2; I. Hammond, 3; G. Gray, 4; G. Jordan, 5; T. J. Watts (conductor), 6. (This makes Mr. Watts' 1500th 720). Also for afternoon service, 720 Plain Bob Minor (21 bobs 6 singlets). J. Cavill, 1; H. Little, 2; T. J. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Hammond, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

GREAT BADDOW (Essex).—On Tuesday, November 23rd, for practice, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. A. Edwards (conductor), 1; A. Tarbun, 2; C. Waskett, 3; J. Tarbun, 4; H. Harper, 5; A. Richell, 6; A. Whight, 7; F. Newman, 8. Also a plain course of the same method, with H. Allen ringing the 2nd.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, November 28th, for Divine Service, in the evening, 840 Stedman Triples. W. J. Piper, 1; A. Edwards (conductor), 2; J. Tarbun, 3; A. Shuttleworth, 4; C. H. Howard, 5; A. Tarbun, 6; A. Whight, 7; C. Porter, 8. C. H. Howard hails from Braintree.

GALLEYWOOD (Essex).—On Saturday, December 11th, for practice 1694 of Grandsire Triples taken from Holt's Original. J. Bloomfield, 1; W. J. Piper, 2; A. Tarbun, 3; J. Tarbun, 4; C. Waskett, 5; H. Brazier, 6; A. Whight, 7; A. Edwards (conductor), 8.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Wednesday, December 1st., for practice at St. Michael's church, 720 Bob Minor. F. Slade, 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Collins, 3; W. Farrow, 4; H. Cook, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. C. H. Howard (conductor), 1; H. Collins, 2; H. Pitcher, 3; F. Slade, 4; *E. Wachter, 5; *W. Webb, 6. *First 720 in the method at first attempt. On Sunday, December 5th, for Divine Service in the morning, six 6-scores Grandsire Doubles (each called differently. A. C. Pitcher, 1; C. H. Howard (conductor), 2; H. Pitcher, 3; E. Wachter, 4; W. Hammond, 5; C. Handley, 6. For evening service, 720 Bob Minor. H. Collins, 1; P. Holmes, 2; C. H. Howard (conductor), 3; H. Pitcher, 4; H. Coote, 5; W. Webb, 6. On Monday, December 6th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. N. Smith, 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Collins, 3; W. Farrow, 4; H. Coote, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob (twelve bobs, all 5-6 back stroke). W. G. Melbourne, 1; H. Collins, 2; H. Pitcher, 3; C. H. Howard (conductor), 4; E. Wachter, 5; W. Webb, 6. On Wednesday, December 8th, 720 Kent Treble Bob (nine bobs). W. Hammond (first 720 Treble Bob) 1; C. H. Howard (conductor), 2; H. Collins, 3; H. Pitcher, 4; E. Wachter, 5; W. Webb, 6. On Sunday, December 12th, for morning service 720 Bob Minor. W. Hammond, 1; W. Farrow, 2; C. H. Howard (conductor), 3; H. Pitcher, 4; W. Webb, 5; E. Wachter, 6. For evening service, 720 Bob Minor. W. Farrow, 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Collins, 3; W. Hammond, 4; H. Coote, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. For practice, Monday December 13th, 720 Bob Minor. *A. C. Pitcher, 1; W. Farrow, 2; H. Pitcher, 3; W. Hammond, 4; H. Coote, 5; F. Slade (conductor), 6. *First 720 and rang upon his seventeenth birthday. Messrs. N. Smith and Melbourne hail from Bocking.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

GRAPPENHALL (Cheshire).—On October 3rd, 720 Bocking. C. R. Greenall, 1; R. G. Lewis, 2; T. Burrows, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6. Also 720 College Exercise. H. Moston, 1; C. R. Greenall, 6; rest as before. Oct. 5th, 720 Oxford Single. C. R. Greenall, 1; H. Moston, 2; T. Burrows, 3; F. Spence (conductor), 4; S. Horsfall, 5; J. Booth, 6. October 19th, 720 London Treble. H. Moston, 1; R. G. Lewis, 2; T. Burrows, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6. October 24th, 720 New London Pleasure. J. Mainwaring, 1; S. Horsfall, 2; H. Moston, 3; R. G. Lewis, 4; C. R. Greenall, 5; F. Spence (conductor), 6. October 27th, 720 College Exercise. H. Moston, 1; R. G. Lewis, 2; C. R. Greenall, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6. October 31st, 720 Killmarsh. J. Mainwaring, 1; R. G. Lewis, 2; T. Burrows, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6. Also 720 City Delight. H. Moston, 2; S. Horsfall, 3; R. G. Lewis, 4; rest as before. November 3rd, 720 London Surprise. J. Mainwaring, 1; H. Moston (first in the method) 2; T. Burrows, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. Spence, 5; C. R. Lewis (conductor), 6. November 7th, 720 Braintree. H. Moston, 1; R. G. Lewis, 2; T. Burrows, 3; F. Spence, 4; S. Horsfall, 5; C. R. Greenall (conductor), 6. November 14th, 720 Merchant's Return. J. Mainwaring, 1; R. G. Lewis, 2; T. Burrows (500th 720) 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6. November 17th, 720 Kent. J. E. Ashcroft, 1; F. Spence (conductor), 2; R. G. Lewis, 3; T. Burrows, 4; S. Horsfall, 5; J. Booth, 6. November 23rd, 720 College Single. J. Mainwaring, 1; H. Moston, 2; S. Horsfall, 3; F. Spence, 4; R. G. Lewis (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6. November 28th, 720 Imperial. J. Mainwaring, 1; H. Moston, 2; T. Burrows, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. Spence, 5; R. G. Lewis (conductor), 6. November 29th, 720 Coronation Exercise. J. Mainwaring, 1; S. Horsfall, 2; H. Moston, 3; R. G. Lewis, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Tuesday, November 23rd, at St. Matthew's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. H. D. Dall, 1; J. W. Dawson, 2; G. Dix, 3; J. E. Keen, 4; S. O. Ferry, 5; E. E. Ferry (conductor), 6. On Thursday, November 25th, for Confirmation service, 720 of Bob Minor in 32 mins. J. M. Dawson, 1; W. Story, 3; A. Lamb, 4; H. B. Salkeld, 5; R. O. Hall, 6; E. E. Ferry (conductor), 7; S. O. Ferry (covering), 8. On Sunday, November 28th, for evening service, 720 of Bob Minor. J. E. Hughes, 1; H. B. Salkeld, 2; A. Lamb (conductor), 3; J. W. Dawson, 4; S. O. Ferry, 5; E. E. Ferry, 6. On Tuesday, November 30th, for practice, 120

Stedman Doubles. R. Richards, 1; H. D. Dall (conductor), 2; A. F. Hillier, 3; J. E. Keen, 4; E. E. Ferry, 5; J. W. Dawson, 6. Also 120 of Stedman Doubles. R. O. Hall, 1; H. D. Dall (conductor), 2; R. Richards, 3; J. E. Keen, 4; E. E. Ferry, 5; J. W. Dawson, 6. And 120 in the same method. J. W. Dawson, 1; R. Richards, 2; H. D. Dall (conductor), 3; E. E. Ferry, 4; J. E. Keen, 5; J. E. Hughes, 6. First attempt at Stedman by Messrs. Hall and Dawson.

BILSTON (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, November 27th, 1260 Grandsire Triples. J. Harper, 1; S. Pitt, 2; E. Unitt, 3; T. Lows, 4; W. Smith, 5; J. Adams, 6; J. Brown (composer and conductor), 7; W. Eyre, 8. On Sunday, November 28th, 360 Grandsire Doubles. H. Harper (first touch), 1; S. Pitt, 2; J. Harper, 3; J. Adams, 4; J. Brown (conductor), 5; W. Eyre, 6. Pitt and Adams belong to Willenhall; Unitt, Lowe, and Smith to Darlaston; the remainder to Bilston. Rung with the bells half-muffled on the second anniversary of the death of R. Harper, for fifty years verger and a ringer at St. Leonard's.

BRIGHTON (Sussex).—On Sunday, December 5th, for evening service at St. Nicholas' church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. John Fox, 1; Herbert Rann, 2; Thomas Price, 3; Edwin Randall, 4; Richard Stredwick, 5; Frederick M. Bacon, 6; John Jay, jun., 7; Richard Fentiman, 8.

CHARLTON KINGS (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, November 30th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 48 mins. W. Townsend, 1; F. W. Townsend, 2; G. Hamlett, 3; W. Brinkworth, 4; C. Spreag, 5; W. Dyer (conductor), 6; W. James, 7; W. Bush, 8. This is the first quarter-peal of Stedman by the local band.

CHELSEA.—On Sunday evening, October 31st, for Divine Service at St. Luke's church, 1367 Grandsire Caters in 58 mins. W. Webber, 1; W. Langdon, 2; W. Moss, 3; T. Langdon, 4; G. R. Fardon (conductor), 5; W. F. Meads, 6; W. J. Barber, 7; E. Frazer, 8; T. E. Barber, 9; G. Chesterman, 10.

DARLASTON (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday, December 9th, 1260 change Grandsire Triples (from the *Clavis*) in 45 mins. J. Mark, 1; G. Morgan, 2; W. Smith, 3; T. Lowe, 4; J. Foster, 5; E. Unitt, 6; J. A. Brown (conductor), 7; W. Tyre, 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the memory of the F. E. Eyre, of Walsall. Messrs. Brown and Eyre belong to Bilston.

EALING (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, October 27th, being the usual practice night, the ringers on hearing of the death of the Duchess of Teck muffled the bells and rang touches of Stedman, Oxford Bob, and Grandsire Triples. On Sunday, October 31st, for morning service, 630 Grandsire Triples. —, 1; J. Basden, 2; E. Harris, 3; C. Wichlow, 4; E. J. Walsom, 5; A. H. Taber, 6; A. Fryer, 7; J. Sykes, 8. For evening service 909 from Holt's Original. W. Naylor, 1; E. J. Walsom, 2; J. Basden (conductor), 3; C. Hindes, 4; E. Harris, 5; H. Browning, 6; A. H. Taber, 7; W. Ward, 8.

HARWICH (Essex).—On Thursday, November 26th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 28 mins. G. Knock, 1; A. Redwood, 2; J. Brewster, sen., 3; A. Brewster, 4; C. Ramplin (conductor), 5; A. Morris, 6. On Sunday morning, December 5th, for Divine Service, 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Knock, 1; A. Redwood, 2; S. E. Romans, 3; A. Brewster, 4; C. Ramplin (conductor), 5; A. Morris, 6. For evening service 336 Grandsire Triples. C. Ellis, 1; A. Redwood, 2; T. Aldis, 3; S. E. Romans, 4; G. Knock, 5; C. Ramplin (conductor), 6; A. Morris, 7; W. Tannifer, 8. Also 168 Grandsire Triples. C. Ellis, 1; A. Redwood, 2; J. Brewster, 3; S. E. Romans, 4; A. Brewster, 5; C. Ramplin (conductor), 6; A. Morris, 7; G. Knock, 8. S. E. Romans hails from Gravesend.

HECKINGTON (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, December 28th, at St. Andrew's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 53 mins. T. Taylor (first quarter-peal), 1; F. Hillon, 2; S. C. Skinner, 3; F. Warrington, 4; C. R. Lilley, 5; J. T. Holmes, 6; E. Houlden (conductor), 7; H. Nash (first quarter-peal), 8.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.—On Tuesday, November 30th, at All Saints' church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. J. Chantler, 1; J. Wright, 2; E. Stacey, 3; W. Tilles, 4; G. Naish, 5; G. Strutt, 6; J. Howes (conductor), 7; J. Strutt, 8. Tenor 33 cwt. Composed by H. Franks, of London.

LLANGOLLEN (North Wales).—On September 22nd, for practice, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was attempted, but was lost after ringing 1210. T. Williams, 1; H. Jones, 2; J. Davies, 3; J. W. Bailey, 4; A. Morton, 5; T. Davies, 6; J. W. Davies (conductor), 7; J. W. Roberts, 8. Longest length by all. On September 30th, 1056 Stedman, with T. James, probationer, 3. On December 13th, a quarter-peal of Stedman, with J. Rogers, 2; H. Jones, 3; J. Davies, 5; the

rest as above. This was J. Rogers' longest length. The above band commenced practising Stedman as far back as 1889, and their progress has been quite disheartening, as when they were getting to know the method one or two of them had to leave through being out of their time, and having to seek work elsewhere. This is one of the greatest drawbacks to country bands, but they have stuck to it and hope before long to score a peal.

NEWPORT (Monmouthshire).—On Tuesday, October 5th, at the church of St. Woolos, 168 Stedman Triples. J. Jones, 1; J. Batler, 2; H. Millard, 3; F. Atwell, 4; F. Green, 5; R. Thompson (Chepstow), 6; J. Trowbridge, 7; J. Russell, 8. On Sunday, October 10th, 168 Grandsire Triples. T. Green, 1; J. Jones, 2; H. Millard, 3; F. Atwell, 4; J. Cox, 5; J. Clutterbuck (Cardiff), 6; J. Trowbridge, 7; J. Russell, 8. On Sunday, October 24th, 360 Bob Minor. J. Russell, 1; J. Jones, 2; F. Atwell, 3; J. Butler, 4; J. Cox, 5; J. Trowbridge, 6. On Monday, November 1, 240 Bob Minor. T. Butler, 1; J. Jones, 2; H. Millard, 3; J. Butler, 4; F. Atwell, 5; J. Trowbridge, 6. On Tuesday, November 2nd, 168 Stedman Triples. J. Jones, 1; J. Butler, 2; H. Millard, 3; F. Atwell, 4; F. Green, 5; W. Pickard (Bristol), 6; J. Trowbridge, 7; J. Russell, 8. Also a course and 336 Bob Major. J. Russell, 1; W. Pickard, 2; H. Millard, 3; J. Jones, 4; F. Green, 5; J. Butler, 6; F. Atwell, 7; J. Trowbridge, 8. On Tuesday, November 9th, 112 and 140 Grandsire Triples. J. Jones, 1; T. Butler, 2; H. Millard, 3; J. Butler, 4; J. Cox, 5; F. Atwell, 6; J. Trowbridge, 7; T. Longville, 8. On Sunday, November 21st, two 168s Grandsire Triples. T. Butler, 1; J. Butler, 2; H. Millard, 3; F. Atwell, 4; J. Russell, 5; J. Cox, 6; J. Trowbridge, 7; T. Longville, 8. On Tuesday, November 23rd, 504 Stedman Triples. J. Jones, 1; J. Butler, 2; J. Shepherd (Swindon), 3; F. Atwell, 4; F. Green, 5; R. Thompson, 6; J. Trowbridge, 7; J. Russell, 8. On Sunday, December 5th, 168 Grandsire Triples. T. Butler, 1; R. Le Vesconte (Caerleon), 2; J. Jones, 3; F. Atwell, 4; J. Russell, 5; F. Green, 6; J. Trowbridge, 7; J. Cox, 8.

NORTHAMPTON.—Recently at St. Giles' church, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Caters, but after ringing 2500 changes in 1 hr. 41 mins., the tenor man gave up, and the conductor called "stand." H. Key, 1; A. Moore, 2; A. Arnold, 3; S. Hall, 4; J. Mackney, 5; W. Farey, 6; A. Haxley, 7; W. Roberts, 8; A. Stewart (conductor), 9; J. Freeman, 10. Rung on the twenty-seventh birthday of the conductor, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns. Longest length by all on ten bells.

RODMERSHAM (Kent).—On Saturday, November 13th, 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, November 18th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. C. Millway, 1; E. Allen, 2; J. Grensted, 3; J. Dixon, M.A. (conductor), 4; H. Wilkins, 5; S. Beach, 6. Rung on the twenty-first birthday of H. Wood. On Wednesday, November 24th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. G. Coast, 1; E. Allen, 2; J. Grensted, 3; C. Millway (conductor), 4; H. Wilkins, 5; S. Beach, 6. On Sunday, November 21st, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (eighteen bobs and two singles). E. Seage, 1; S. Beach, 2; J. Grensted, 3; J. Dixon, M.A., 4; E. Allen, 5; C. Millway (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 5th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. H. Coast, 1; G. Coast, 2; C. Millway, 3; J. Dixon, M.A. (conductor), 4; E. Allen, 5; J. Grensted, 6. On Thursday, December 9th, 720 Oxford Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). G. Coast, 1; H. Coast, 2; J. Grensted, 3; J. Dixon, M.A. (conductor), 4; C. Millway, 5; E. Allen, 6. *First 720 in the method with a bob bell. On Sunday, December 19th, with the bells muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late vicar, 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Coast, 1; E. Allen, 2; J. Grensted, 3; J. Dixon, M.A., 4; C. Millway (conductor), 5; S. Beach, 6.

RUSHDEN (Northants).—On Thursday, November 25th, at the parish church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Bailey, 1; G. Heath, 2; C. Green, 3; L. Chapman, 4; W. Hall (conductor), 5; W. Lowe, 6. And 720 Bob Minor. J. Bailey, 1; J. Baker, 2; L. Chapman, 3; G. Heath, 4; W. Lowe, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. Also 720 College Single. J. Bailey, 1; G. Heath, 2; C. Green, 3; W. Lowe, 4; W. Hall (conductor), 4; L. Chapman, 6. And 360 Oxford Bob. J. Bailey, 1; J. Baker, 2; W. Hall (conductor), 3; W. Lowe, 4; G. Heath, 5; L. Chapman, 6. The above was rung on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. John Mason to Miss Emily Claridge.

SPELDHURST (Kent).—Recently at the parish church a quarter-peal of Bob Major, 1264 changes, in 46 mins. A. Godley, 1; J. Baker, 2; G. Turley, 3; R. Pelling, 4; F. Still, 5; F. Still, jun., 6; J. Maynard, 7; A. Edwards (conductor), 8.

WILLESBOROUGH (Kent).—On Sunday, November 28th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. E. Dixon, 1; J. Steddy, 2; R. Pain, 3; A. Gower, 3; W. Hobbs (conductor), 5; T. Tabrett, 6. On Monday, December 6th, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles). J. Roberts, 1; W. Hobbs, 2; W. Hills, 3; W. Spice (conductor), 4; H. Goodman, 5; E. J. Dixon, 6. Also 120

Grandsire Doubles. J. Roberts, 1; W. Hobbs, 2; H. Goodwin, 3; W. Spice (conductor), 4; E. J. Dixon, 5; A. Hills, 6. And 120 Bob Doubles. E. Leeds, 1; W. Hobbs, 2; W. Hills, 3; W. Spice, 4; H. Goodwin (conductor), 5; A. Hills, 6. J. Steddy hails from Edenbridge; Pain and Gower from Mersham; Tabrett from Ashford; Spice and Goodwin from Charing; the rest belong to the local band.

WOBURN (Beds).—On Monday, November 22nd, 480 Bob Major. W. Janes, 1; E. Herbert, 2; M. Matthews, 3; Charles Herbert, 4; S. Avis, 5; H. Harris, 6; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 7; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 8. And 464 Bob Major. W. Janes, 1; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 2; M. Matthews, 3; E. Herbert, 4; S. Avis, 5; H. Harris, 6; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 7; M. Lane, 8. Also 640 Kent Treble Bob Major. M. Matthews, 1; E. Herbert, 2; Charles Herbert, 3; M. Lane, 4; S. Avis, 5; D. Harris, 6; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 7; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 8. On Friday, November 26th, at 20, Bedford Street, on handbells, a silent 720 Bob Minor in 16½ mins. E. Herbert, 1-2; Cyril Herbert, 3-4; D. Harris, 5-6. On Monday, November 29th, 464 Bob Major. W. Janes, 1; Charles Herbert, 2; M. Matthews, 3; E. Herbert, 4; S. Avis, 5; D. Harris, 6; Cyril Herbert, 7; M. Lane (conductor), 8.

Correspondence.

While allowing the utmost freedom for the expression of opinion, it must never be considered that we are in any way bound to statements made by correspondents.
To the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD."

ARUNDEL SURPRISE MAJOR.

SIR,—Mr. Austin's letter proves that the Rev. E. B. James has a prior claim as author of the above method, and this leaves me no option but to take a back seat in favour of the original author. I am a little surprised that Mr. James and the St. Michael's juniors, Gloucester, should have dropped a method containing the qualities of the above, but perhaps a reason for same was the small scope in the way of composition not being enough to satisfy the ambition of Mr. E. B. James, I can hardly think that the adverse opinion of one man had all to do with it. In conclusion, I should like to say that (whether as "Arundel" or "Norfolk Surprise") the above method in my opinion is worthy of consideration by the Ringing Exercise.

GEORGE BAKER.

SIR,—Mr. Austin's letter, re the above, has caused me to search (through my MSS. and I find that I have two papers, one a Plain Course in diagram form) and the other a general description of the method. On comparison with Arundel, I find they correspond change for change. Mr. Austin's assertion that we rang several courses and touches is quite correct. In fact just at that time we were ringing several new methods composed by Mr. James. Mr. Austin omitted to say that the method we were ringing was originally named Norwich Surprise, Mr. James explaining that it was Double Norwich, with the treble in the Treble Bob hunt. The name was eventually altered to Norfolk Surprise, so that it should have a distinctive name. I think your readers must agree with me that "Norfolk" was a very appropriate one. Messrs. Austin's and Baker's letters appearing side by side, places the matter in a nutshell, Mr. Baker candidly admitting that he got his ideas from Gloucester Surprise. Mr. Austin clearly showing that Norfolk Surprise was the foundation of Gloucester Surprise. We are told every now and then that new methods are not wanted, plenty of good old ones, and so forth. That may be true as regards the sentiment of the rank and file of the large body of ringers. I think a large majority of our most advanced ringers, welcome all new methods that possess merit and originality. It must be a distinct gain to the Exercise generally. It must be admitted that new methods are not practised much, but that is no argument why they should not be practised in the future. It is a matter for regret that our composers do not at once place their productions before us. It would be a move on the right side if the Central Council could lay down a rule, governing this question of rival authorship.

Stourbridge.

A. ROBERTS.

DOUBTS.

SIR,—In "THE BELL NEWS" of January 8th, 1898, I find a peal of Bob Major rung by the band of Witton, Northwich, Cheshire. As the conductor claims this to be the longest peal yet rung by the Chester Guild, I as a ringer cannot let this pass unnoticed, as there is a very grave doubt as to it being correct; as after an hour's ringing there was a very nasty jumble, the bells firing for ten or eleven blows. Being in close proximity with several others to the church for the space of one hour and half, listened very eagerly for the finish, but instead of rounds there came up 12345687, then going for two more treble leads jumbles into rounds. The position of the front six bells was a repetition of changes with the tenors wrong way about. A little explanation would oblige

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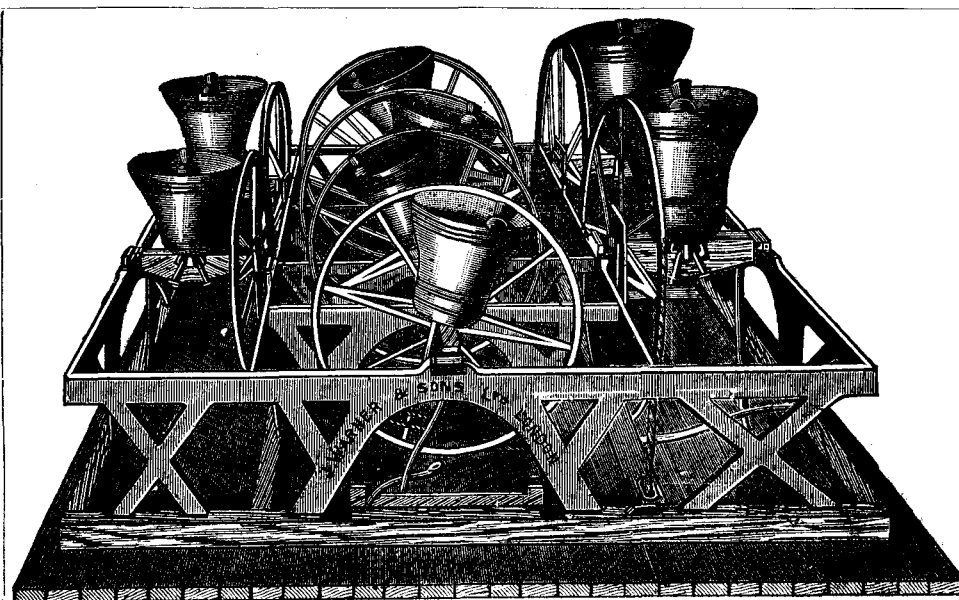
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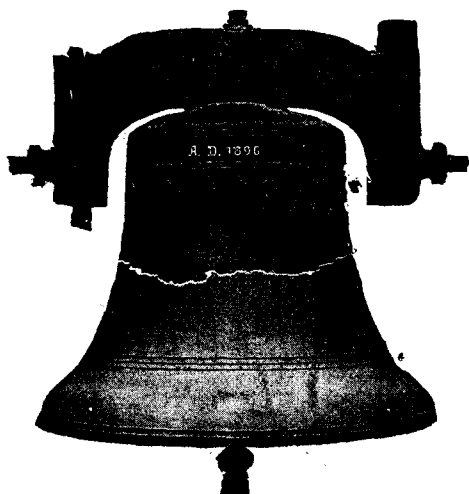
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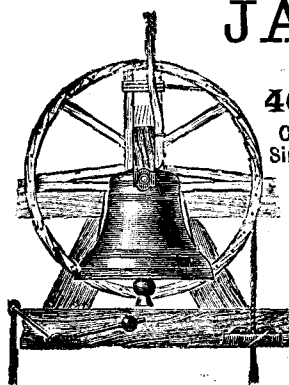
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No. 824.—VOL. XVI.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22, 1898.

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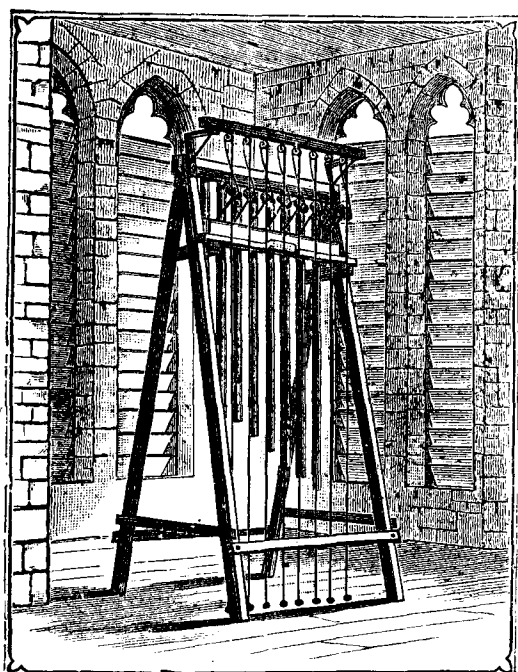
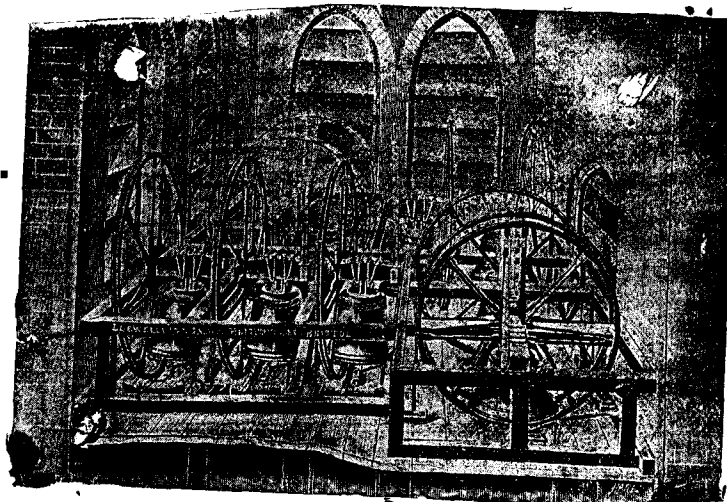
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 824.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22, 1898.

[Vol. XVI.]

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

FOR the third time in its history, the Yorkshire Association held its General Meeting at Birstall on Saturday last. The first meeting held there on the 30th October, 1875, was also the first meeting of the Association itself, and it was on that day the Association became a definite institution, and set out on its path of good. Eleven years after—on the 2nd October, 1886, it met again at Birstall, but he who had presided over it during the first ten years was then sleeping his last earthly sleep under the shadow of the venerable parish church of Ilkley. Again, after another eleven years have expired, the members again gathered together in the quiet old town, which stands unique in its connection with the Association. Early in the afternoon, members began to arrive from various parts of the county, and the fine ring of eight in the parish church tower begun to tell of the presence of ringers. The ringing was continued without intermission until four o'clock, when special choral service was held in the church, at the close of which, the Rev. W. Romaine Hervey, M.A., Vicar of Birstall, preached the annual sermon, taking for his text 1 Cor. ix. 27: "Lest by any means, after that I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway." He said: The Yorkshire Association of Change-Ringers, established in 1875, forms part of a great Church movement. The state of the Church in England fifty years ago was deplorable in the extreme. Its altars, with their faded covering; its fonts, dirty through disuse; told their tale of the neglect of Sacraments and sacramental teaching. The churches themselves—closed from one week to another—filled with galleries and high-cushioned pews, genteel and appropriated, grouped round the pulpit, presented the aspect of lecture hall rather than that of the House of God. The ideal of the Church as a Divine institution, and of the Bishops as the successors of the Apostles, was well-nigh lost. It was at this time that God raised men—like Nehemiah of old—who viewed with sorrow and dismay the walls of the beloved church which had been broken down, and the gates thereof, which had been consumed with the fire of unbelief. This movement—as all know—had its beginnings at Oxford, and had for its object Restoration—not to the errors and corruptions of the Church of Rome, but to the Catholic doctrines of the ancient Fathers, as had been taught by English divines of the seventeenth century. This movement has been called (from its origin) the Oxford Movement, and it is to this so-called movement that we owe the spirit, the activity, and the progress of the present day. The Association of which you all are members—consciously or unconsciously—owes its origin to that Oxford Movement. This Association, to which you all belong, is indeed something to be proud of, inasmuch as it may justly be described as forming a part of that great movement. The universal corruption and decay which was manifest throughout had reached the belfries of the parish churches. They were unwashed from year to year, and were covered with dust and cobwebs. The ringers themselves, which was hardly to be wondered at, in no way regarded those belfries as part of the House of God, but as a kind of club-room, in which drinking, smoking, talking, jesting, even swearing, were admissible. The art of ringing in like manner naturally became degraded, inasmuch as it had ceased to be regarded as a branch of Church work. To improve matters then, this Yorkshire Association of Change-Ringers was formed in 1875, fired by the spirit of the Oxford movement, which was rekindling the old Church life in all directions. The aim of the Association at its formation was three-fold. First came the reform of abuses. Belfries were cleaned and made more fitting as a portion of the House of God. Drinking, smoking, and swearing were prohibited. Conduct on the part of ringers themselves, which previously had passed unchecked, became to be regarded as unseemly, and not

to be tolerated. Thus a sense of self-respect was engendered, and ringers generally became imbued with a sense and an appreciation of their true position. Secondly the Association set itself to promote the fast-decaying Art of change-ringing, and we may well believe that the men who started this Association were inspired by the highest motives. Their aim was to promote the Art of change-ringing, not merely from artistic or scientific motives, but because they regarded ringing itself as a branch of Church work. The same spirit which was introducing itself in the church below: the best of every kind of Art; the best of music; the best of sculpture; the best of coloring, painting, or embroidery; the best simply because it was to be used for the service of God and His sanctuary—that same spirit inspired them. Ringing was to be carried on to the fullest development of the art or science, simply because it was for the service of God. Then the third aim of the Association is to set forth change-ringing as a definite branch of Church work. The Association considered, and rightly considered, the ringers as Church-workers in the highest sense. They were the ministers of the congregation in the belfry, just as much as the choir, who were the ministers of the congregation in the chancel. Their office was in every sense a high and holy one, for the glory of God, and for the benefit of their fellow-men. It was their privilege to ring out the praises of God upon their bells at Christmas, Easter, and Ascension; to praise Him for the Incarnation, the Resurrection, and the Ascension of their Saviour. On Whitsun-Day to praise Him for the gift of the Holy Spirit; and on the Feast of Trinity to praise alike the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. It was their privilege to announce to men week by week the advent of the Lord's own day. It was their privilege to send summons far and wide, across crowded streets and ripening fields, and bid young and old, rich and poor, to come into God's presence with the sacrifice of praise, of thanksgiving, and of prayer. Coming back to the words of my text, you as ringers are the ministers who proclaim the outward voice of the Church. You send out the sound of our bells through the highways and byways of the land; you proclaim the Festivals; you announce the Lord's day, and bid the people come; you tell alike the seasons of grief, of mourning, and of joy and thanksgiving. The sweet sounds of the bells as you ring them tell of the varying seasons of the Church, of the Nativity of the babe in Bethlehem, of the penitential Lententide fast, of the Crucifixion, of the rising from the dead on the glad Easter morn, of the gift of the Holy Spirit at Whitsuntide. Throughout the whole cycle of the Church's year you proclaim the Church's voice to the people, far and wide, where the preacher's voice cannot reach, and bid them join in the service of prayer, of praise, and of thanksgiving. Then you, who thus preach to others, take very earnest heed to yourselves, lest by any means, having yourselves thus preached to others, you yourself should be a castaway.

Service over, an adjournment was made to the National Schools, where a most excellent tea was served by the ladies of the congregation to about 250 guests.

The business meeting followed immediately after, when the chair was occupied by Mr. William Snowden, President, who was supported by the Rev. W. Romaine Hervey, M.A., Vicar, the Rev. F. Sheldermine, curate, and several of the officers.

After briefly opening the meeting with a reference to the cordial welcome extended to the Association for the third time by the churchpeople of Birstall, the President read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were unanimously adopted. He then declared the following officers re-elected: there being no opposition: Mr. W. H. Howard, vice-President; Mr. Thomas Hattersley, Steward; Mr. Stainthorpe, Hon. Treasurer; and Messrs. W. Barraclough, W. Abbishaw, W. Pearson, and H. Raistrick, Committeemen. A letter was read from Mr. H. Walsham How, acknowledging vote of condolence on the death

of the late Bishop of Wakefield. The annual report, then presented, stated that the Association now numbered 940 members—a nett increase of 37, and expressed a hope that the Association would, before the end of the current year, gain its 1000 members, and score its thousandth peal. During the year fifty-seven peals have been rung. The balance-sheet shewed receipts £39 2s. 3d., out of which £10 had been added to capital account.

Mr. W. Elliott proposed, and Mr. Fred. Schofield seconded, the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. B. T. Copley, Hon. Secretary, then read a communication signed by the Vicar, Churchwardens, and Ringers of Wortley, near Sheffield, inviting the Association to hold its next general meeting at that place, and on their behalf, he moved that the invitation be accepted. This was seconded by Mr. T. Hattersley, and carried unanimously.

The President moved a cordial vote of thanks to the Vicar of Birstall for his sermon, and the use of the bells and schools; and to the organist and choir for their assistance at Divine Service. This was seconded by Mr. W. H. Howard, and carried amid loud cheers; to which the Rev. W. R. Hervey responded.

Mr. B. T. Copley moved, and Mr. Lawson seconded, a vote of thanks to the Birstall branch for their generous arrangements, and to the ladies for presiding at tea, which was also carried with loud cheers, and acknowledged by Mr. W. Stainthorpe.

A vote of thanks to the president concluded the meeting; after which the belfry of the parish church was again occupied, and ringing continued till a late hour.

RESTORATION OF LEDBURY (HEREFORDSHIRE) CHURCH BELLS.

On Christmas Eve the grand peal of bells in the tower of Ledbury parish church rang out in merry peal after a silence of nearly two years. The enforced silence of the bells was brought about by the defective state of the framework of the bells. Besides it was thought advisable to quarter-turn the bells, so that the clappers will in future strike the bells in a different place, lest they should be cracked. The rough framework has been restored and strengthened, the clappers renewed, the wheels repaired, and the whole has been fitted with up-to-date machinery, so that ringing in the future will be a pleasure instead of a labour as in the past. Punctually at 12.30 on Christmas Eve the bells pealed forth, being manipulated by a band of trained ringers, who successfully rang a peal of Grandsire Triples of 5,040 changes in 3 hours and 17 mins.

A dedication service was held in the parish church, at 4 o'clock. There were present the following clergy: the Rector (Rev. Prebendary C. E. Maddison Green), Rev. A. G. Shipley, Rev. G. M. Custance, Rev. F. S. Stooke-Vaughan, the Rev. H. B. Walton. The special form of service was used, the psalms being "O praise God in His Holiness" and "I was glad when they said unto me." The hymns were specially suitable to the occasion. The Rector and the Rev. A. G. Shipley said the prayers, and the Rev. H. B. Walton intoned a portion of the service.

The Rev. G. M. Custance (Rector of Colwall), was the preacher, his remarks being chiefly addressed to the ringers. The rev. gentleman, who chose as his text "He was a faithful man, and feared God above many" (Nehemiah vii., 2), said that the Rector had asked him to say a few words upon that most auspicious occasion, when their bells had been restored and had been ringing a merry peal. He felt that he could not begin his few remarks without congratulating the people of Ledbury on the way in which the whole thing had been arranged. He referred to the wonderful liberality which had made it possible to collect the money necessary for the work; and also the excellent way in which (he was told) the bells and their gearing had been restored. As a brother ringer from another tower (Colwall) in the neighbourhood, he rejoiced with those who took such a deep interest in the Ledbury bells that such a beautiful peal would again be able to send forth their joyous tones from their ancient resting place. He rejoiced also that the Ledbury ringers were going to join, like the different towers in the Diocese, the Diocesan Guild of bellringers. To his dear brothers in campanology (the new Ledbury ringers) to whom he

had been asked to say a few words, he thought nothing he could say would be more appropriate than the words of his text. "He was a faithful man and feared God above many." The bells had now been restored, and they were going to be the ringers. The gearing had been put in proper order, the bells were ready, and were in as good striking order as it was possible to make them. Therefore everything possible had been done, and it remained now for them to do their best. First of all they were to become thoroughly acquainted with the art of which they were now practising, in which they were already beginning to improve, and in which some of them were already proficient. The work they had undertaken was by no means easy, tower work never was, although many thought it was. Many a ringer had preserved and tried to be a good ringer, but had been doomed to disappointment. Some could not take to ringing, however clever and accomplished they might be with other things. Therefore the present ringers might meet with many difficulties and disappointments, but there was one great point he wished to bring before them, and that was, if they wished the bells to go well they must be sure to go well themselves. They should bear goodwill towards each other, for nothing prevented good ringing so much as quarrels amongst the ringers. No one knew better than he did that unless they were most careful there would be little jealousies, little difficulties, little differences of opinion, which would show themselves and would probably prove very great hindrances to a successful and efficient band of ringers, and would very soon spoil a good set of ringers. He would earnestly ask them to endeavour to perfect themselves in the art of campanology, so as to be an example to all the surrounding towers. Don't let them forget that the great secret lay in their being on good terms with each other. He knew what he was talking about, having had twenty years of tower work. He would ask them to remember that they were as much church officers as the organist and the choristers who put on their cassock and surplice. He hoped they would not be ringers just for the love of the ringing only, but hoped they would dedicate their services to the glory of God. In fact, by joining the band of ringers they had dedicated themselves to God's service. Thank God the day had gone past when a bellringer was looked upon as being anything but a respectable member of society. The ringers now, he believed, would do that which was reverent. He prayed that they would be faithful stewards of the belfry and the bells of Ledbury, which were now placed in their charge, and that they would be regular attendants at church and the Holy Communion. Except the ringer loved the Lord he spoilt his best efforts in campanology and all the scientific elements of bellringing. In conclusion, the rev. gentleman drew a lesson from change-ringing, observing that when the great conductor of the peal of life called them they should be ready to join the rounds of eternity.

The work of restoration has been most successfully carried out by Mr. Greenleaf, Hereford. The cost, which is about £400, of this part of the church restoration has been defrayed by Mr. John H. Wood, Mr. Miles A. Wood (Ledbury), Colonel Wood, and Major Wood. This most useful and highly appreciated work has been selected by them as a memorial to their late uncle, Mr. E. J. Webb, who was for so many years a benefactor to Ledbury.

BURGESS HILL, SUSSEX.

The new chimes at the parish church were rung on a recent Friday evening after a recent dedication service conducted by the Vicar (Rev. J. Le Naire Shallis). A public meeting was subsequently held in the Council chamber, Mr. A. P. Scrase presiding. Three new bells have been added to the old ones to make a ring of eight; the new bells being the 4th, 6th, and tenor, from the Loughborough foundry. The Chairman, having given a lengthy financial statement, said that about £30 more were required to meet all expenses, and he hoped that now their friends at Burgess Hill had heard the bells were so musical and of such a quality of tone, they would subscribe liberally, and then the committee would soon be out of debt.

WANTED—Peal of Eight Handbells; must be in good condition also cheap. Address, C. Puplett, Haward Road, Rye Park Hoddesdon.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

Members from Basingstoke, Fareham, Portsea, Dorking, Chiddingfold, Capel, Hursley, Woolston, Hawley, Shalford, and Guildford, attended a quarterly meeting of this Society at Shere, Surrey, on Monday, January 10th. Five members belonging to the local company were present, besides the rector (the Rev. F. C. Hill), and the assistant-curate (the Rev. E. G. Norris). The bells were raised soon after 10 p.m., and kept going in various methods till 4.15, when a move was made for The White Horse. The Rev. C. E. Matthews presided in the unavoidable absence of the Master, the Rev. R. C. M. Harvey. The minutes of the last quarterly meeting were read and passed on the proposition of Mr. H. White, seconded by Mr. J. Harper. The Rev. Canon Grant, rector of Holy Trinity, Guildford, the Rev. C. B. Walters, vicar of Shalford, and Mr. F. F. Hammond of Wickham, were elected hon. members; Mr. S. Laurence was elected a compounding member, and thirteen others were duly elected performing members.

The Hon. Secretary drew the attention of the meeting to the wonderful activity which had prevailed during the past year in the matter of the restoration of bells. The Jubilee had aroused people responsible for the condition of these valuable properties of the church. In the diocese of Winchester a good deal had been done, and much remained to be done. He had lately received a letter from the rector of Whitchurch, informing him of work there, which would be commenced in May. It was not however always possible to hear of such work being contemplated, and therefore he hoped that the District Secretaries would kindly inform him of any proposed restorations in the diocese. He thought that the Guild would further the objects for which it was founded, if it could be allowed to take its proper position on the occasions of the re-openings of rings of bells. At Alresford lately they had rendered good service, and been warmly welcomed by the local authorities. They had no desire to intrude where they were not wanted, but they were ready at all times to extend their field of work and affiliate new towers.

Mr. E. E. Dodd (Dorking), asked whether the Guild would be inclined to contribute from the General Fund towards the erection of a peal-board at Dorking. A peal of Oxford Bob Triples was rung on May 14th, 1894, at Dorking, and it was the first peal in that method accomplished by the Guild. He had no wish to beg, or to bring forward any proposition on the subject. Whether the Guild assisted or not, they meant to have their peal-board.

Mr. J. W. Whiting (Fareham) said the Guild could not assist in such a matter: there would be no end to such applications if they were at once allowed. They had rang more valuable peals, for example, a peal of Treble Bob Royal, and no permanent records had been erected.

Mr. E. J. Heathorn (Woolston), suggested that those who had taken part in the peal should defray the cost of erecting a memorial of it.

The Hon. Secretary said that since he had held office, no such grants had been made, and there was nothing in the rules to warrant such a course. He suggested that the vicar and churchwardens of the parish should be applied to for assistance.

The subject was then dropped.

On the proposition of Mr. J. Jones, seconded by Mr. J. W. Whiting, Alresford was chosen *nem. con.* as the place of the next quarterly meeting, and the date was fixed for Easter Monday, April 11th, on the proposition of Mr. J. Harper, seconded by Mr. H. Fellowes.

A vote of thanks to the Rev. F. C. Hill for his kindness in welcoming the Guild to Shere, was moved by Mr. J. Jones, and carried by acclamation.

The Rev. F. C. Hill in returning thanks, said he was very glad to see them at Shere. He had seen what an immense stimulus the Guild could afford to ringing and belfry reform; he had had practical experience of its work in his parish, and he wished it every possible success.

Mr. Askew, of The White Horse, provided an excellent tea, to which twenty-two members sat down, and ample justice was done to the good things he liberally served.

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THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting of this Association (North and East District) was held at St. Stephen's, Hampstead, on Saturday, January 15th. During the course of the meeting there were no less than sixty members present at one time or another, representatives coming from Edmonton, Tottenham, Barnet, Finchley, Edgware, and Hendon, accompanied by many of the unattached members, among whom we noticed Mr. James Parker, of Hornsey, and Mr. Frederick Dench, of Fulham, formerly members of the celebrated Crawley band. Mr. James George, as usual, very kindly journeyed all the way from Rugby, and several members of the South and West District were present from Ealing, Heston, and Isleworth.

Ringling commenced at five o'clock with a touch of Grandsire Triples, and as members began to arrive in considerable force, the whole of the ten bells were set going to the tune of Stedman and Grandsire Caters, Kent Treble Bob Royal, with occasional intervals for touches of Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, and Superlative Surprise Major.

The business meeting was held about seven o'clock, chiefly for the election of members, and was presided over by the Master of the District, Mr. C. H. Martin, of Hendon. Eight new members having been elected, the Hon. Secretary explained the arrangements he was about to make for occasional meetings outside the usual quarterly meetings, for the benefit of six-bell ringers. It was arranged that the first of these should be held at Finchley in February or March, a date of which due notice would be given. The Hon. Secretary congratulated the members on the continued popularity of the Association as shown by the many additions made of late to the rolls of its members, and by the energy and ability of those members who in the course of the first fortnight of the new year had rung two peals of Stedman Triples and one of Superlative Surprise Major; one very satisfactory feature in these peals being the encouragement given to younger members to score their first peal in the method. He thought that this should be the keynote of every Association, that the more experienced members should be constantly helping and encouraging others to attain greater proficiency.

Outside London there are only two ten-bell towers in the county, viz., Fulham and Hampstead, and the opportunity afforded at this meeting to many of those taking part, perhaps for the first time, in ringing Grandsire and Stedman Caters, proved the mainspring of a very cordial vote of thanks, which the Hon. Secretary was asked to convey to the vicar, the Rev. J. Kirkman, for his kindness in allowing the use of the bells.

THE HEAVY WOOLLEN DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of the above took place at the house of Mr. C. Cockcroft, Little Saddle Inn, Dewsbury. Members were present from Huddersfield, Lindley, Ossett, Armitage Bridge, Mirfield, Earlsheaton, Batley Carr, Batley, Liversedge, Dewsbury, and other places. The chair was taken by the President (Mr. Sydney Goodall) supported by the vice-President (Mr. Jno. Blackburn of Batley Carr). After the minutes of the previous meeting had been passed the secretary read a report as to how the Association stood, which showed a total of 221 ringing members which represented twenty-six towers; twenty-eight hon. members; and a total balance in hand of £17 3s. 1d. The following were elected officers for this year: S. Goodall (Liversedge) President; Jno. Blackburn (Batley Carr) vice-President; Jno. Garforth (Dewsbury) Hon Treasurer; Geo. H. Simon (Batley Carr) Hon. Secretary; Jno. Hy. Dixon and Walter Stubley, Auditors. The ballot was taken for the next six and eight-bell competitions, which proved to be Kirkheaton and Halifax, of which further notice will be given. In future the monthly meetings will be held every second Saturday in the month instead of the third Saturday, the next being at Kirkburton.

After other business was transacted the meeting closed. A vote of condolence was passed to the families of the late Arthur Briggs and Benjamin Woodhead.

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New Year's Festivities.

SCUNTHORPE, LINCOLNSHIRE.—A dinner for the Scunthorpe Parish Church Choir—men and boys—and for the bell-ringers, was held in the Club-room of the Blue Bell Hotel. The Vicar and the Revs. W. E. Varah and T. H. Chatterton were present, along with the churchwardens and some of the sidesmen. The host put a first-class dinner on the table. The Vicar took the chair, and the Rev. W. E. Varah the vice-chair, the Rev. T. H. Chatterton looking after the boys. The Chairman gave the local toasts, and in speaking of the Prince of Wales, referred to the noble work done this year for the London Hospitals. The Jubilee glee, "Here's life and health to England's Queen," was then sung. Mr. John Page gave Mr. W. H. Jude's rollicking song, "The Skipper," and for an encore "The Pilot." Mr. A. N. Johnson proposed the "Bishop and Clergy," and thought the Scunthorpe clergy were a credit to the Church. The Vicar responded, and said he was pleased to see present representatives of the choir which was formed at the old iron church, and also their first bellringers. He urged the boys to stick to the church, and the better churchmen they were the more would they gain the respect of outsiders. He thanked all church workers for the help he had received during his vicariate, and concluded with St. Paul's advice to Timothy, to "Take heed to thyself." Messrs. Dickinson, Walker, Dudley, and Loug gave a quartette, "When evening's twilight." The Rev. W. E. Varah proposed "The Choir" in congratulatory terms, and said their choir was second to none in the deanery. He would like to see every member of the choir regular communicants. Mr. Dudley, the choir-master, responded. The choir sang a part song, "Anchored." Mr. John Long proposed "The Bell-ringers." Mr. C. Bird (the Captain) responded, and spoke of the difficulties that had to be surmounted before a man could be turned a proficient ringer. He hoped eventually, however, that they would become as much a credit to the church as the choir was.

THE HORLEY SOCIETY, SUSSEX.—This branch of the Sussex County Association had their Annual Supper on New Year's Eve, which was held at The Six Bells inn, Horley. The Vicar (Rev. H. T. Lewis) presided, and there were also present Messrs. T. Matthews, Organist (vice-Chairman) W. Edwards (Foreman of the Ringers), A. Songhurst (Hon. Secretary), T. Sparks, G. Apps, G. Staplehurst, F. Voice, J. Kenward, S. Kenward, E. Taylor, S. Lanaway, T. Post, and A. Apps, and a few friends. Full justice having been done to an excellent spread provided by Mrs. Chart, the loyal toasts were duly honoured, after which the Vicar proposed "The Health of the Parish Church Bellringers," and referred in complimentary terms to the marked improvement there was in the conduct of the bellringers of the various parish churches. He thought bellringers should make it a rule to attend on Sunday at least one service, and by practice carry out what they endeavoured to enforce upon others. He (the Vicar) felt greatly indebted for the energy the bellringers had bestowed upon their work, which was greatly appreciated by the parishioners. He had great pleasure in coupling with the toast the names of Mr. W. Edwards and Mr. A. Songhurst, who both expressed the need of additional workers. After which the handbells were brought into use and several tunes were played by Messrs. A. Songhurst, S. Kenward, G. Staplehurst, J. Kenward, F. Voice. Some good songs were sung, which brought the evening to a close. A start was then made for the belfry to ring the Old year out, and the New one in, with a touch of Grandsire Triples.

THE PULBOROUGH SOCIETY, SUSSEX.—The annual supper, kindly given by the Rector (the Hon. and Rev. G. W. Bourke), to the Pulborough bellringers, was held on December 31st, at The Five Bells. Being the last day of the Jubilee year, and three new bells having been placed in the tower "In memory of the 60th year of the happy reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria," the Rector kindly extended the invitation to all the members of the choir (including the boys), the churchwardens and overseers, and a few friends. The room was prettily decorated, and the supper (supplied by Mr. F. Allen) everything that could be wished for, and his guests' comfort in every way was well looked after by the Rector with his kind and usual liberality. In pro-

posing the toast of the evening, which was "The Queen," the Rector re-called to their memory all the wonderful events of that wonderful Jubilee year; how people from every part of the whole world had assembled in love and gratitude to do honour to their beloved Queen. The toast was drunk with hearty enthusiasm. Mr. F. Prescott Decie gave "The Bishop and Clergy," and the Rev. A. Dry suitably responded. "The Bellringers" was given by the Rector, who said he was happy to think their numbers were now increased, and he was pleased to welcome amongst their honourable band Mr. L. N. Corden, Mr. E. Seller, Mr. F. Greenfield, and Mr. Evans. Three new bells had been added, and the whole of the old wooden frame and floor, which was in a very decayed and unsafe condition, had been replaced by a new cast steel and iron frame. This work had been admirably executed by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough. Their new bells were beautifully-toned ones, and harmonized well with the old five. Mr. Hugh Herrington responded, and in thanking the Rector said that the labour now required to ring the peal was very light compared to the old; in fact, at first the bells completely run away with them. Not only were the bells re-hung, but new floors had been put in, the roof pointed, new leads; in fact, the tower had been renovated from top to bottom. "The Churchwardens" was given by the Rev. A. Dry, who said that the clergy all over the country were beginning to recognise the importance of securing the help of the laity in all church work, and people hardly knew the great responsibilities that were vested in the office of churchwarden; in fact, there were many churchwardens who hardly realised it themselves. They had two excellent representatives in Mr. E. G. King and Mr. Corden, and the latter was always at hand when there was anything to do, and ready and willing to do it. He had added bellringing to his many other varied duties. He wished them both health and happiness, and hoped they might be spared long to the parish.—Mr. E. G. King, in returning thanks, said that he had a very large business to attend to and was also much engaged in county business, and he could but also thank Mr. Corden for doing most of the work.—Mr. Corden, in responding, said that he did not intend to say anything, but could not but thank Mr. Dry and them all for so cordially receiving the toast. Mr. Dry said that few churchwardens realised their responsibilities. He had not done so till the last few months, and he must say, if they were always to be of such a pleasant nature, he would always welcome them—he referred to the three new bells and re-hanging the peal.—The Rector said that they must excuse him availing himself of the privilege of being chairman, but he could not let the opportunity pass of adding his testimony to the valuable services rendered by Mr. Corden to the parish. When there was anything to be done he came to the front, and he must thank him especially for his services in connection with their bells. It was entirely owing to Mr. Corden's efforts that they were able now to pay half the amount of Messrs. Taylor's bill, which it was agreed should be paid on completion of the work. The other half they had two years to raise it in. He hoped they should do it in one year. Some capital songs were given during the evening by Rev. H. Standidge, Rev. A. Dry, E. Holden, E. Seller, T. Leney, and the choir boys, and several of the bellringers gave some selections on the handbells. It was a delightful evening.

RINGMER, SUSSEX.—On New Year's Eve the Vicar of Ringmer (Rev. F. B. Gribbell) in accordance with his usual custom entertained the adult ringers and adult members of the choir to a substantial repast at the vicarage. The Vicar presided, and the company, which included the curate (Rev. W. A. Errington) and three members of the Southover (Lewes) company, numbered about twenty. The wants of the guests were attended to by Mrs. and Miss Gribbell and Captain Wright. After the repast the Vicar extended a hearty welcome to his guests, and expressed the pleasure it gave him to meet his fellow churchworkers. Speaking of the ringers, he referred to the gratifying presentation of a silver-mounted ebony walking stick which had recently been made to the squire of the village (Mr. W. L. Christie), who was the donor of the tower and bells. He hoped that the kindly relations which had always existed between the squire and themselves would not only continue in their and in Mr. Christie's time, but when others took their places, and Mr.

Christie had been succeeded by another generation. Referring to the choir, he said it was pleasant to see them working together so harmoniously, and he was glad they had such a man as the Rev. W. A. Errington at their head—a man who, the more they knew, the more they valued. He thanked the choir and ringers for what they had done, and for the efficient way in which they had carried out their work. He hoped the good feeling which existed in the parish would continue, and that at any time, should he called upon to resign his work, he could do so with feelings of great pleasure, knowing that he had left behind such a strong body of loyal churchmen, who loved their church, and were ready to render to that church what help they could. He again welcomed them in his own name and that of his family, being especially pleased to see among them some friends from Lewes. They were always welcome, and it was pleasing to find ringers of adjoining parishes always so ready and willing to help one another. He wished the company a bright and happy new year, and in conclusion remarked that they could not look back on the events of the past year without thanking God for giving them such a Queen and Government, and it was the prayer of everyone in Britain, and in Greater Britain as well, that the Queen might long be spared to reign over them. The Rev. W. A. Errington, in reply, referred in terms of eulogy to the work done by the choir and bell-ringers, in both of whom he took the greatest interest. He said they had as good a peal of bells as could be wished for, and they also had a good set of ringers, but there was one drawback, viz., the short draught. He had already spoken to the Vicar with regard to bringing the ropes down on to the ground floor, which would be an immense advantage. Where they rung now the ceiling was so low that it was dangerous to beginners, and there was also too much noise. He was also of opinion that the bells could be rung so much better if the draught were longer. The Vicar had consented to the ropes being brought down, and he had now only to get the consent of Mr. Christie. He did not see that that gentleman could offer the least objection, as the ropes would be too far away from the window to be an eyesore. In conclusion, Mr. Errington spoke of the great improvement effected in the choir during the past year. The company then adjourned to the drawing-room, where singing and handbell-ringing was indulged in.

THE WELLINGBOROUGH SOCIETY.—On Tuesday evening, the Rev. R. W. Wynter invited the senior ringers of the parish church to supper, to celebrate their successful accomplishment of the peal of Grandsire Triples, on December 28th. The Vicar presided. The churchwardens, Messrs. Willan Jackson and J. T. Lewis, and the Rev. W. C. Cotes, Messrs. J. T. Smith and E. J. Dennes (sidesmen), Mr. Beeby (parish clerk), and Mr. C. W. Clarke, of Bedford, the conductor of the peal, were also present. The evening was very pleasantly spent, and, the Vicar's kindness most thoroughly appreciated.

NOTES TO PEALS.

THE PEAL AT CHIPPING BARNET.—This is the first peal in the method on the bells; also first peal in the method by C. H. Martin. The composition contains the 4th and 6th their extent in 5-6, and is in two equal parts. The band, through the medium of this paper, wish to thank the vicar for the use of the bells; also A. T. King, Esq., for his kind hospitality after the peal.

THE PEAL AT SHERBURN.—The visiting ringers were met at the station by two of the local ringers, who took them to the house of Mr. George Thornton, the local secretary, where there was a splendid tea waiting for them. After tea was over the ringers ascended the tower, and having raised the bells in peal and found all right, the peal was started for at four o'clock and brought into rounds at three minutes past seven. The ringers were afterwards provided with a splendid supper at the house of Mr. Thornton, and after supper the Dewsbury ringers with the local company went to the house of one of the churchwardens, where the remainder of the evening was spent until 9.15, when the Dewsbury visitors had to prepare for home, having spent a very pleasant afternoon. The Dewsbury men wish to thank the vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells; also the local company for the splendid manner in which they entertained them. This peal of bells has had two trebles added to them by Messrs. Warner, to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, and were re-opened by the Dewsbury company on November 1st. The bells are now a splendid peal of eight, and are in good going order.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

The members of the Sonning Deanery Branch of the Guild met at Wokingham, on Saturday, January 8th. By kind permission of the Rector of St. Paul's, a short service was held in his church at 5 p.m., and an instructive practical address given by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Master of the Guild. At the tea and meeting which followed, at 6 p.m., seventy-six honorary and ringing members were present, also the Revs. F. E. Robinson and F. G. Coleridge. Proceeding to business after tea, the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis in the chair, the Secretary and Treasurer presented his report and balance sheet, which was unanimously approved and adopted, the latter showing a balance in hand of £7 18s. 8d. The following officers were then elected for the ensuing year:—Chairman, Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis; Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Rev. E. Broome; leaders of belfries, Messrs. M. Attwell, G. Wolford, G. Nash, H. W. White, H. Watts, G. Ford, A. Guy, S. Paice and T. Houlton. The meeting was subsequently addressed by the Chairman and also by the Master of the Guild, both of whom spoke very encouragingly of the increasing success and advancing numbers of the Diocesan Guild. The usual votes of thanks were heartily accorded, at the conclusion of the meeting, to the Master, the Chairman, the Rector of St. Paul's, and also to the ladies who had so kindly volunteered to arrange and superintend the tea. Before the company separated, they were treated to a most pleasing selection upon handbells, given by some of the Caversham ringers, who had also attempted a peal at St. Paul's church during the afternoon.

RINGER'S WEDDING AT LEWES, SUSSEX.

A very pretty wedding was celebrated at St. John the Baptist church, Lewes, on Boxing Day, the contracting parties being Mr. Robert James Dawe, a member of the local band of ringers, and Miss Mary Jane Edwards. Both the bride and bridegroom have been long resident in the parish and consequently great interest was centred in the event. The bride, who was given away by her father was becomingly attired and was attended by six bridesmaids, two being children of tender years, nieces of the bride. The bridegroom was accompanied by Mr. Richard Hoather, as best man, and as the wedding party entered the church, the hymn "Lead us, heavenly father, lead us" was sung by the choir. The remainder of the service was semi-choral, the ceremony being conducted by Rev. W. E. Richardson. As the happy couple entered the vestry the bells rang out merrily, and after they had left the church, touches of Grandsire and Bob Major were rung by G. Pettitt, G. King, R. Hart, J. N. Frossell, W. Pelling, A. J. Turner, J. S. Goldsmith, J. F. Steadman, R. W. Hoather, and H. Rann. In the evening a peal was attempted, which unfortunately came to grief after thirty-six mins. good ringing, the band being as follows: H. Rann, W. Pelling, G. King, A. J. Turner, J. N. Frossell, J. S. Goldsmith (conductor), R. Hart, J. F. Steadman. During the evening, Mr. and Mrs. Dawe left for London, *en route* for Cardiff, where the honeymoon was spent. On their return, on January 1st, the members of the local band of ringers, together with a few friends were entertained at the house of the bride's father. After an excellent supper and previous to the departure of some of the company to Brighton, Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, proposed "Long life, health and happiness to the bride and bridegroom," and thanked Mr. and Mrs. Dawe for their kind hospitality. Mr. Dawe, in acknowledging the toast, thanked the members of the Southover branch for the handsome lamp which they had presented to him. During the evening, songs and handbell selections were given and the company separated at midnight, having spent a most enjoyable time.

WANTED a large peal of handbells. Forty-nine bells. Chromatic scale; G25 to G04; or a larger peal with duplicates. Must be in thorough good condition, and sweet tone. State lowest possible terms, with maker's name, and all particulars to WILMER ROGERS, 8, Yerk Street, Wrexham.

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

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Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication 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 22, 1898.

OUR number for February 5th will be an enlarged one, so that all arrears of touch reports and other matters may be cleared up. The next portrait we shall publish will be that of Mr. JOHN AUSTIN, of Gloucester.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

The next meeting will be held at Bristol on Tuesday in Whitsun-week, 31st May, 1898.

Notices of motion, etc., must reach the Hon. Secretary not later than Tuesday, the 3rd of May. They must be in writing, and signed by two representatives.

Hon. Secretaries of societies are reminded that subscriptions to the Council are now due and should be remitted to the Hon. Secretary without delay, at the rate of 2s. 6d. for each elected representative. The Hon. Secretary would also be greatly obliged for information as to any change in representatives, or their addresses, that has taken place in the last year.

H. EARLE BULWER, Hon. Sec.

Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn.

The Metropolis.

THE ST. MARGARET'S WESTMINSTER SOCIETY, AND
THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Saturday, January 15, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES,

Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

HAROLD N. DAVIS Treble.	FREDERICK G. PERRIN .. 6.
ARTHUR HARDY 2.	GEORGE R. FARDON .. 7.
HARRY BARTON 3.	*WILLIAM H. PASMORE .. 8.
GEORGE W. MULLEY* .. 4.	VICTOR W. WEST .. 9.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 5.	*JOHN W. GOLDING .. Tenor.

Composed by H. N. DAVIS and Conducted by HARRY BARTON.

Taken from "THE BELL NEWS," 6th July, 1895, and now rung for the first time.
*First peal on ten bells.

The Provinces.

SHERBURN, YORKS.

On Saturday, December 4, 1897, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION Tenor 18½ cwt.

WALTER IDLE Treble.	ISAAC IDLE 5.
JOSEPH GARFORTH 2.	GEORGE H. HARDY .. 6.
WILLIAM AINLEY 3.	GARFORTH TAYLOR .. 7.
CHARLES SENIOR 4.	JOSEPH RUDDLESDEN .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE H. HARDY.

Reference to this peal will be found on another page. Previous report lost in post.

ADDINGHAM, YORKS.

On Saturday, December 11, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of College Pleasure, Kent, New London Pleasure,
Duke of York, Woodbine, Violet, and Oxford. Tenor 10 cwt.

WILLIAM MOSLEY Treble.	CHRISTOPHER BROWN .. 4.
SETH TILLOTSON 2.	CLARENCE HOLMES .. 5.
JOHN BODDY 3.	JOHN HILL Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN BODDY.

HAWKEDON, SUFFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 8, 1898, in Three Hours and Eight minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being twenty-one 6-Scores of Bob and twenty-one 6-Scores of
Grandsire alternately.

ARTHUR TAYLOR Treble.	ABRAHAM CRICK 3.
WILLIAM CLARKE 2.	WALTER TAYLER .. 4.
GEORGE MIDDLEDITCH .. Tenor.	

Conducted by GEORGE MIDDLEDITCH.

This is the first 5040 ever rung on these bells, and was rung by all residents of the
village, and the first anniversary of the opening of the bells, as in January, 1897, not
a change-ringer was in the village.

CHIPPING BARNET, HERTS.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, January 13, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,

5056 CHANGES. Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

SIDNEY WADE Treble.	ALFRD W. BRIGHTON .. 5.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. .. 2.	JOHN R. SHARMAN .. 6.
CHARLES H. MARTIN* .. 3.	JAMES PARKER 7.
WILLIAM WARD 4.	FREDERICK DENCH .. Tenor.

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH and

Conducted by JAMES PARKER.

Reference to this peal will be found on another page.

STEYNING.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, January 13, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' ONE-PART.

Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qrs. 24 lbs.

JOHN SMART Treble.	WILLIAM J. ALLISS .. 5.
GEORGE GATLAND 2.	ARTHUR GATLAND .. 6.
CHARLES SMART 3.	CHARLES TYLER .. 7.
GEORGE PAYNE 4.	THOMAS SEARLE .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES TYLER.

This peal was rung in the afternoon, previous to the annual supper in the evening,
finishing at 5:21 p.m.

ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD AND THE MIDLAND COUNTIES
ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, January 14, 1898, in Two Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. J. RENNIE, 55, STRETTON ROAD, ASTON,

ON HANDBELLS RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR 5024 CHANGES:

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

BERNARD WITCHELL .. 1-2.	WILLIAM H. BARBER .. 5-6.
FREDERICK CLAYTON .. 3-4.	WILLIAM SHARD .. 7-8.

Composed by H. DAINS and Conducted by WM. H. BARBER.

Referee, Thos. Wakeman. It was intended to have rung Stedman Caters, but the
referee failing to turn up the above was rung instead, and is the first on handbells
by both societies and by all the band and was rung without any previous practice.

CHIPPING, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, January 14, 1898, in One Hour and Forty-four Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR F. TIMBRELL,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720s each called differently.

FREDERICK TIMBRELL .. 1-2.	EDWIN TIMBRELL .. 3-4.
WILLIAM T. H. TIMBRELL 5-6.	

Composed by J. F. PENNING and Conducted by W. T. H. TIMBRELL.

The above 720s are from Snowdon's Rope-Sight. A referee was not available, but
several persons heard the peal throughout.

FAREHAM, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 15, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt

GEORGE GRANT† Treble.	GEORGE E. CHAPPELL .. 5.
JOSIAH HARRIS 2.	SERGT. ALFRED PYE .. 6.
GEORGE W. GRAHAM .. 3.	JOHN W. WHITING .. 7.
FREDERICK HILL 4.	*FREDERICK J. SMITH .. Tenor.

Conducted by J. W. WHITING.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. G. E. Chappell and his mother, the band
wishing them many happy returns. †First peal away from tenor. *First peal.
Messrs. Harris and Pye hail from Portsea; Chappell from Wickham, the others
belong to the local band.

COGGESHALL, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 15, 1898, in Three Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER AD-VINCULA,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6336 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 22 cwt in F.

RICHARD POTTER Treble.	JOHN SADLER 5.
WILLIAM KEEBLE 2.	CHARLES NORFOLK .. 6.
WILLIAM DYER 3.	ERNEST W. BECKWITH .. 7.
WILLIAM ELLIOTT 4.	DAVID ELLIOTT .. Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS and Conducted by DAVID ELLIOTT.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor

ASPLEY GUISE, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 15, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, College Exercise, London Scholars' Pleasure, College Pleasure, Violet, Woodbine, and Oxford, Tenor 10 cwt. in F.

MARK LANE Treble.	CHARLES CHASTY 4.
WILLIAM J. BARKER.. .. 2.	CHARLES WM. CLARK .. 5.
CHARLES R. LILLEY.. .. 3.	FRANK HULL Tenor.

Conducted by CHAS. W. CLARKE.

First peal of Treble Bob Minor by M. Lane, who belongs to the local band, the remainder belong to St. Paul's company, Bedford. This is the first peal of Treble Bob Minor on the bells. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Rector, the Rev. J. C. Maltby, for the use of the Bells.

TILEHURST, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 15, 1898, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 20 cwt.

CHARLES GILES.. .. Treble	ALFRED WATMORE 5.
HARRY GOODGER 2.	FRANK HOPGOOD 6.
ALFRED E. REEVES 3.	WILLIAM NEWELL 7.
CHARLES CHAPMAN 4.	RICHARD HAINES Tenor.

Conducted by FRANK HOPGOOD.

RADWINTER, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 15, 1898, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES. Tenor 17 cwt.

FREDERICK SHEDD Treble.	ALFRED PITSTOW 5.
ARTHUR JAMES 2.	JOHN F. PENNING 6.
WALTER PRIOR 3.	FREDERICK PITSTOW.. .. 7.
ERNEST PITSTOW 4.	NATHAN J. PITSTOW.. .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by NATHAN J. PITSTOW.

WICKHAM SKEITH, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 17, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

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

Conducted by G. CATTERMOLLE.

First peal with a bob bell by J. Rose.

PENDLETON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 17, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 14 cwt.

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

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY and Conducted by HY. CHAPMAN.

This peal has the 4th and 6th the extent in 6ths place, with the 2nd and 3rd never there at a course-end. It was rung as a welcome visit to Mr. Woodhouse (late of Cambridge University), who hails from Sedberg, Westmoreland; the rest are of the local band.

WIDFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 17, 1898, 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.

CHARLES PORTER Treble.	WILLIAM J. PIPER 5.
ALFRED TARBUN.. .. 2.	ALFRED WHIGHT 6.
WILLIAM NEWMAN 3.	GEORGE PIPER 7.
ARTHUR EDWARDS 4.	RICHARD DINES.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by ARTHUR EDWARDS.

SOUTHOVER, LEWES, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 17, 1898, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN, THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR,

5088 CHANGES Tenor 17 cwt. 3 qrs 27 lbs.

ALFRED J. TURNER Treble.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH.. .. 5.
KEITH HART 2.	GEORGE A. KING 6.
EDWARD C. MERRITT .. 3.	JAMES N. FROSSELL.. .. 7.
FRANK BENNETT 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS and Conducted by GEO. WILLIAMS.

Rung as a Birthday peal to J. S. Goldsmith, who attained his twentieth year on January 13th, but owing to a service the peal could not be attempted on that date. Further reference to this will appear next week.

BRISTOL.

On Tuesday, January 18, 1898, in Three Hours and Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS (CITY),

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HALEY'S VARIATION. Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

GILBERT PEARCE Treble.	HARRY PRING 5.
ALFRED PEARCE 2.	WILLIAM PADDOCK 6.
CHARLES H. HORTON .. 3.	HARRY PORCH 7.
WALTER W. PORCH* .. 4.	GEORGE STALLARD Tenor.

Conducted by HARRY PORCH.

*First peal in the method.

OXFORD.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, January 18, 1898, in Three Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5040 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 31 cwt 1 qr. 23 lbs.

WILLIAM FINCH Treble.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
FREDERICK EXON 2.	CHARLES EXON 8.
CHARLES HOUNSLOW .. 3.	FRANK HOPGOOD 9.
SAMUEL HOUNSLOW 4.	THOMAS PAYNE 10.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 5.	WILLIAM SMITH.. .. 11.
JOHNSON E. HERN 6.	ALFRED THOMAS Tenor.

Composed by J. REEVES and

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

This is the first twelve bell peal by the Guild in the diocese of Oxford, and was rung with the bells half-muffled, in memory of "Lewis Carroll," an author and fellow of Christ Church.

BUCKNALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 18, 1898, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Being 720 each of Wells, Ely, Coventry, Chichester, Durham, York and Lichfield.

JOSEPH PRESTON Treble.	JOHN E. WHEELDON .. 4.
WILLIAM WHEELDON .. 2.	GEORGE HOBBS 5.
CHARLES PRESTON 3.	WILLIAM TWIGG Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM TWIGG.

This is J. Preston's first peal.

CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, January 19, 1898, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. P. DAVIES' TEN-PART No. 1. Tenor 24½ cwt.

DAVID FARTHING Treble.	GEORGE DAVIES 5.
ARTHUR KNIGHTS 2.	JAMES HUNT 6.
GEORGE TOPLIS 3.	WILLIAM J. THYNG 7.
SAMUEL PRICE 4.	GEORGE MEE Tenor.

Conducted by ALFRED KNIGHTS.

This peal was rung after meeting one short for Caters.

ALDENHAM, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, January 19, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 15 cwt.

FREDK. J. GLENNERSTER Treble.	WILLIAM HEWITT 5.
WALTER NORRIS 2.	HERBERT MARTIN 6.
CHARLES GEORGE 3.	ERNEST E. HUNTLEY 7.
GEORGE N. PRICE 4.	JAMES SCOTT Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE N. PRICE.

Date Touches.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BLACKBURN BRANCH.

BURNLEY (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, December 21st, at Holy Trinity church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 8 mins. J. Bentley, 1; F. Towns, 2; R. Hartley, 3; R. Parkinson, 4; I. Whalley, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. Composed by J. R. Werring. Messrs. Bentley, Parkinson, and Whalley hail from Oswaldtwistle.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

FEERING (Essex).—On Tuesday, December 14th, at All Saints Church, a date touch of Bob Minor, 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 8 mins. C. Willsher, 1; H. T. Pye, 2; G. Hum, 3; C. Rogers, 4; W. E. Hunwick, 5; D. Elliott (conductor), 6. Rang as a birthday compliment to C. Willsher. Tenor 18 cwt.

THORNHAM MAGNA (Suffolk).—On Christmas Day morning at St. Mary's church, a date touch, 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 8 mins. in the following methods: Morning Star, The Dream, Bob Doubles, Grandsire Doubles, London Doubles, and April Day. E. Youngs, 1; C. Nunn, 2; W. Symonds, 3; E. Buckingham, 4; A. Symonds (conductor), 6. First date touch by a local company.

PADIHAM (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, December 28th, at St. Leonard's church, a date touch of Treble Bob Minor, being 457 Kent, and 720 each of Oxford and Duke of York. T. Duxbury (conductor), 1; C. Parkinson, 2; J. Wagner, 3; E. Pollard, 4; F. Pollard, 5; R. Hargreaves, 6.

Miscellaneous.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

WALWORTH (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, December 12th, for Divine Service at St. Peter's church, Thurstan's quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 42 mins. H. Barton (conductor), 1; W. H. Pasmore, 2; F. Perrin, 3; H. Pasmore, 4; W. Truss, 5; A. Davis, 6; T. Langdon, 7; J. Golding, 8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

FEERING (Essex).—On Friday, December 10th, at the Parish Church, All Saints', being the third anniversary of the opening of the augmentation to six bells, the following was rang: 720 Bob Minor. C. Willsher, 1; H. Evers, 2; W. Keeble, 3; C. Rogers, 4; G. Hum, 5; J. Newman (conductor), 6. Also 720 in the same method. G. King, 1; H. Evers, G. Hum, 3; C. Rogers, 4; W. E. Hunwick, 5; J. Newman (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. W. Keeble,

1; H. T. Page, 2; G. Hum, 3; C. Rogers, 4; W. E. Hunwick, 5; J. Newman (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 12th, for Divine Service, 360 Oxford Treble Bob (9 bobs). G. Hum, 1; W. Keeble, 2; J. Sadler, 3; D. Elliott (conductor), 4; W. E. Hunwick, 5; E. W. Beckwith, 6. Also 360 Bob Minor. C. Willsher, 1; W. Keeble, 2; G. Hum, 3; W. Hayward, 4; D. Elliott (conductor), 5; E. W. Beckwith, 6.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, December 12th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, 1260 changes (Thurstan's) in 45 mins. W. Pye, 1; B. Keeble, 2; E. Pye, 3; G. R. Pye, 4; J. Dale, 5; W. Watson, 6; A. Pye (conductor), 7; H. Dawkins, 8. And after service, 784 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. G. Roughton, 1; E. Pye, 2; G. R. Pye, 3; W. Pye (conductor), 4; A. Pye, 5; A. J. Perkins, 6; W. Watson, 7; J. Dale, 8.

CHADWELL HEATH (Essex).—Handbell Ringing.—On Saturday, December 11th, on handbells retained in hand, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, 1260 changes (Thurstan's), in 35 mins. W. Pye (conductor), 1-2; G. R. Pye, 3-4; E. Pye, 5-6; A. Pye, 7-8. Also 576 Kent Treble Bob Major, standing as before. On Friday, December 17th, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1280 changes, in 26 mins. G. R. Pye, 1-2; E. Pye, 3-4; W. Pye (conductor), 5-6; A. Pye, 7-8. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. A. Pye, 1-2; W. Pye (conductor), 3-4; G. R. Pye, 5-6.

WEST HAM (Essex).—On Sunday, December 19th, for evening service, 593 Grandsire Caters. C. Dempsey, 1; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 2; G. F. Pearl, 3; A. Pye, 4; H. Bottrill, 2; G. R. Pye, 6; W. H. Doran, 7; E. Pye, 8; W. Pye, 9; G. Hayden, 10.

THE ALL HALLOWS (TOTTENHAM) SOCIETY.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, December 12th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. F. Clements, 1; H. Ellis, 2; A. Martin, 3; H. A. Barnett, 4; H. Doughty, 5; J. Waghorn (conductor), 6; J. Waghorn, jun., 7; W. Martin, 8. *First quarter-peal away from the treble.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—WIRRAL BRANCH.

WOODCHURCH (Cheshire).—On Monday, December 13th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). C. Taylor, 1; W. Duckers, 2; G. Taylor, 3; W. Williams, 4; G. Newton (conductor), 5; W. Bennett, 6. First 720 in any method by G. Taylor.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PAINSWICK (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, December 7th, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 35 mins. G. Browning, 1; H. Scrivens, 2; H. Grosvenor, 3; W. Hale (conductor), 4; S. Baker, 5; Dr. Walker, 6; W. Bateman, 7; A. Hanks, 8. This was rung on the back eight, and is the longest length by the above band.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On November 30th, at St. Mary's Church, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor. E. Tingey, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; C. R. Lilley, 3; W. Barker, 4; C. Chasty (conductor), 5; F. H. Hull, 6. Also 720 in the same method. C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1; C. R. Lilley, 2; W. Hall, 3; E. Tingey, 4; C. Chasty, 5; W. J. Barker, 6. On December 7th, 720 College Pleasure. E. Tingey, 1; I. Hills, 2; C. R. Lilley, 3; W. J. Barker, 4; C. Chasty, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Handbell-ringing.—On October 29th, at 50 Cauldwell street, 720 Merchants' Return. W. Gazeley, 1; C. Chasty, 2; E. Tingey, 3; W. J. Barker, 4; F. Hull, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all. On November 5th, 720 Woodbine. W. Gazeley, 1; W. J. Barker, 2; E. Tingey, 3; C. Chasty, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5-6. On November 12th 720 Violet. W. Gazeley, 1; W. J. Barker, 2; C. R. Lilley, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4-5; C. Chasty (conductor), 6.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

DORKING (Surrey).—On Monday, November 29th, at St. Martin's church, 288 Kent Treble Bob Major. P. Knight, 1; F. Hoad, sen., (conductor), 2; G. Thompson, 3; G. Huggett, 4; G. Hoad, 5; F. Hoad, jun., 6; W. Argent, 7; J. Willshire, 8. And two touches of Grandsire with some of the local band standing in. Also 336 Stedman Triples. F. Hoad, jun., 1; F. Hoad, sen. (conductor), 2; J. White, 3; J. Willshire, 4; G. Hoad, 5; W. Argent, 6; R. Arnold, 7; J. Lynch, 8. And 576 Kent Treble Major. G. Huggett, 1; F. Hoad, sen. (conductor), 2; G. Thompson, 3; J. Ansell, 3; J. Willshire, 5; R. Arnold, 6; G. Hoad, 7; F. Hoad, jun., 8. Also a course of Double Norwich. P. Knight, 1; F. Hoad, sen., 2; G. Thompson, 5; G. Huggett, 4; G. Hoad, 5; J. Willshire, 6; W. Argent, 7; F. Hoad, jun., 8. And 336 Oxford Bob Triples. G. —, 1; F. Hoad, sen.

(conductor), 2; G. Thompson, 3; E. Dodd, 3; F. Hoad, jun., 5; J. White, 6; G. Huggett, 7; J. Lynch, 8. The ringers wish to thank Mr. Dodd for his kindness and for the use of the bells.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NORTON FITZWARRREN (Somersetshire).—On Tuesday, November 30th, for practice, 720 Duke of York in 27 mins. F. Bellamy, 1; F. Saunders, 2; I. Creed (conductor), 3; H. Creed, 4; T. Creed, 5; J. Cridland, 6. First by all, and on the bells, and by the Association. On Tuesday, December 7th, for practice, 720 Duke of York. H. Creed, 1; F. Saunders, 2; I. Creed (conductor), 3; H. Chaplin, 4; T. Creed, 5; J. Cridland, 6.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BRIGHTON (Sussex).—On Sunday morning, December 5th, for Divine Service, 448 Oxford Surprise Major. E. Merritt, 1; J. Goldsmith, 2; F. Bennett, 3; G. King, 4; G. Williams, 5; K. Hart, 6; J. Frossell, 7; G. F. Attree (conductor), 8. For afternoon service 1120 Oxford Surprise Major in 42 mins. standing as before. Previous to evening service on the same day, 576 London Surprise Major. R. Cherryman, 1; J. S. Goldsmith, 2; F. Bennett, 3; G. F. Attree, 4; G. King, 5; G. Baker, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; K. Hart, 8. Also 448 Oxford Surprise Major. G. Williams, 1; J. S. Goldsmith, 2; F. Bennett, 3; G. King, 4; K. Hart, 5; G. Baker, 6; J. Frossell, 7; G. F. Attree (conductor), 8.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(SUDBURY ARCHIDIACONAL BRANCH.)

HITCHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday morning December 12th, for Divine Service at All Saints church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob (nine bobs) in 28 mins. J. Snell, 1; H. Sewell, 2; T. Levett, 3; C. Grimwood, 4; F. Cook, 5; W. Stiff (conductor), 6. On Monday, December 13th, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob (nine bobs), standing as before, with T. Levett (conductor).

BRISTOL.—On Monday, November 1st, at St. James's Church, 840 of Stedman Triples. W. Porch, 1; C. H. Horton, 2; F. Porch, 3; F. Jewel, 4; H. Porch (conductor), 5; W. Paddock, 6; W. A. Cave, 7; J. Viney, 8. On Wednesday 3rd, at St. Mary Redcliffe, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) in one hour. A. Pearce, 1; C. H. Horton, 2; H. Pring, 3; P. Came, 4; F. Gooding, 5; W. Emery, 6; H. Porch (conductor), 7; J. Richmond, 8. The bells were muffled as a mark of respect to H. late R. H. the Duchess of Teck. On Sunday 7th, after evening service at St. Mary Redcliffe, on the occasion of the visit of the Bishop of Bristol, 720 of Stedman Cinques. W. J. Hinton (conductor), 1; G. Pearce, 2; W. Knight, 3; A. Pearce, 4; F. Ellis, 5; C. H. Horton, 6; C. H. Gordon, 7; H. Pring, 8; C. H. Tomkins, 9; W. A. Cave, 10; H. Porch, 11; P. Came, 12. On Colston Eve, at midnight, at St. Mary Redcliffe, 756 of Stedman Triples (with the bells muffled). C. H. Horton, 1; H. Pring, 2; G. Pearce, 3; F. Gooding, 4; W. J. Hinton, 5; H. Porch (conductor), 6; G. Dalton, 7; P. Came, 8. On Thursday, December 2nd, at All Saints' for practice, 854 of Stedman Triples. G. Pearce, A. Pearce, 2; C. H. Horton, 3; H. Pring, 4; H. Porch (conductor), 5; F. Gooding, 6; G. Daltry, 7; J. Richmond, 8. Also 504 in the same method with S. Saker, 4; H. Pring, 5; H. Porch, 6; W. J. Hinton, 7; F. Gooding, 8; the rest as before. Mr. Saker hails from Hastings.

EMBERTON (Bucks).—On Tuesday evening, November 30th, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. S. Sharp, 1; F. Hopper (Olney), 2; W. Mynard, 3; J. Lett, 4; W. Freeman (conductor), 5. Also two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. S. Sharp, 1; J. Lett, 2; W. Mynard, 3; J. Lovell, 4; W. Freeman, 5. Also three 6-scores of Plain Bob. J. Lett, 1; F. Hopper, 2; S. Sharp, 3; W. Freeman, 4; J. Lovell (conductor), 5.

OLNEY (Bucks).—On Friday evening, December 10th, 720 Bob Minor. W. Wright, 1; F. Hopper (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; W. Jones, 3; W. Freeman, 4; R. Raban (conductor), 5; R. Perkins, 6. Also 360 of Bob Minor. F. Hopper, 1; W. Wright (conductor), 2; W. Jones, 3; T. Wright, 4; R. Raban, 5; W. Freeman, 6.

STEYNING (Sussex).—On Tuesday, November 2nd, for practice with the bells half muffled for the late Duchess of Teck, 1,008 of Double Norwich Bob Major. A. Gatland, 1; L. Payne (Henfield), 2; J. Smart, 3; W. J. Alliss (Henfield), 4; G. Payne (Henfield), 5; G. Gatland, 6; C. Smart, 7; C. Tyler (conductor, Henfield), 8. On Saturday, November 6th, for practice, 768 Oxford Treble Bob Major. J. Matthews, 1; C. Smart, 2; J. Smart, 3; G. King (St. Peter's, Brighton), 4; G. Gatland, 5; J. Goldsmith (Lewes), 6; H. Weston (St. Peter's, Brighton), 7; G. Williams (conductor), 8. This is the longest length in the method on the bells. Also 416 Double Norwich. J. Matthews, 1; J. Smart, 2; G. Gatland, 3; C. Smart, 4; G. King, 5; J. Goldsmith, 6; H. Weston, 7; G. Williams (conductor), 8. On

Sunday, November 7th, a 504 of Court Bob Triples. E. Brackley (first in the method) 1; G. Gatland, 2; A. Gatland, 3; E. Rapley, 4; J. Smart, 5; C. Smart (conductor), 6; G. Smart, 7; E. Turrell, 8. Also 504 of Grandsire Triples. E. Bristow, 1; J. Smart, 2; H. Green, 3; W. Woolgar (conductor), 4; G. Gatland, 5; E. Rapley, 6; G. Smart (conductor), 7; E. Turrell, 8. On Sunday, November 21st, 504 of Stedman Triples. C. Smart (conductor), 1; W. Hilman (Heene), 2; J. Smart, 3; H. Meetens (Heene), 4; J. Matthews, 5; G. Gatland, 6; W. Woolgar, 7; A. Gatland, 8. Also 504 Grandsire Triples. E. Bristow, 1; J. Smart, 2; H. Green, 3; A. Gatland, 4; E. Rapley, 5; C. Smart (conductor), 6; G. Gatland, 7; G. Lloyd, 8. On Sunday, December 5th, 504 of Grandsire Triples. E. Bristow, 1; E. Rapley, 2; H. Green, 3; C. Smart (conductor), 4; G. Smart, 5; J. Smart, 6; G. Gatland, 7; A. Gatland, 8. This is the conductor's 500th 504 as follows: Stedman Triples 293, conducted 139; Grandsire Triples 195, conducted 113; Court Bob Triples 12, conducted 11; Total rung 500; conducted 263. Also 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. G. Gatland, 1; A. Gatland, 2; J. Matthews, 3; E. Rapley, 4; J. Smart, 5; G. Payne (Henfield), 6; C. Smart (conductor), 7; G. Smart, 8.

THORNHAM MAGNA (Suffolk).—On Sunday evening, December 26th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 480 changes in the following methods: Morning Star, April Day, Grandsire Doubles, and Bob Doubles. After service 600 changes in the following methods: Morning Star, April Day, The Dream, Bob Doubles, and Grandsire Doubles. W. Rose (longest length), 1; E. Youngs, 2; E. Buckingham, 3; A. Symonds, 4; E. Symonds (conductor), 5. G. Symonds hails from London. Great credit is due to W. Rose, who is only thirteen years of age.

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 AT NORTHWICH.

SIR,—I noticed in your last issue of "THE BELL NEWS" the letter from a "Very Eager Listener" in reference to a peal of Bob Major rang at Witton, Northwich, Cheshire. It seems to me that this "very eager listener" has a lot to say with reference to this peal. In the first place what he calls a very great jumble; the bells firing for ten or eleven blows. The firing of the bells I strongly deny, but admit there was a slight trip which generally occurs in peal-ringing. I, as a conductor, can testify that the bells came out of this nasty jumble (as this "very eager listener" calls it), in their proper order. This "very eager listener" says he was in close proximity to the church listening for the finish very eagerly for the space of an hour and a half. I must say that the best ringing was done during the latter part, and as to the latter portion of his letter there was never a more scandalous libel on a body of ringers. This "eager listener" says he is a ringer; if he is a ringer he is not a gentleman, or he would have signed his article with his proper name to this ridiculous letter. So this closes all further correspondence from me respecting this peal.

WILLIAM FORSTER.

MATLOCK CUSTOMS.

SIR,—In reading "T. M.'s" report re his visit to Matlock Bridge, he asks is it a common one in Derbyshire. I say No. Having myself visited a great number of towers in Derbyshire I have never met with treatment like our friend "T. M." received at Matlock. I say "friend," because it must be taken for granted. Go where you will among ringers, who are not bigoted ringers, you have only to say "I am a ringer," when the hand of friendship will be held out to you. And I am not far wrong when I say the majority of ringers when they see a stranger come into their ringing-chamber will say "Are you a ringer?" If it's Yes, "What can you ring?" "So-and-so," "Then take off your coat," and there needs no asking who is to stand out. Are we not all brothers in one cause? I say Yes. Can we suppose that the Matlock men are thus led by one churchwarden that they must say to a brother-string "You can't ring here, Mr. So-and-so is our boss." I have seen in the local papers two cases this last two few weeks about ringers being on strike, one in Yorkshire and one in Cambridgeshire. I think it is time our Matlock friends were on strike against such like bigoted rules as their churchwardens adopt. Perhaps if the bells once left call-changes for some new method, they would never be able to run the same way again. Take my advice, if that's your rule at Matlock, break it at once; this is not a time to stand still, but advance in the true and lasting Art of change-ringing, and don't be afraid if a friend pops in. If he should know more than you, that's your time to learn; it don't matter how high up the ladder you have got, there is room to splice another on the top. E. J.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of members of the above association in the two Archdeacons of Ely and the Isle was held on Tuesday, January 4th, at the village of Soham, where there is a fine peal of ten bells in fairly good condition, though in consequence of local apathy they are seldom heard to advantage. Some twenty-five members turned up from Ely, Newmarket, Wilburton, Downham Market, Denver, Littleport, Cottenham and Ramsey (Hunts). Unfortunately most of the members arrived late so that comparatively little ringing could be done, just a few touches of Major, and some 720's. A meat tea was served at The White Hart inn, near the church, during which the Rev. J. C. Rust (Vicar of Soham), offered a few words of welcome to the visitors, regretting he was obliged to leave before the commencement of the business proceedings, and hoping they would carry away the recollection of a pleasant day at Soham.

The chair was taken by the Rev. Walter W. Crump (Haddenham), General Secretary of the Association (Mr. R. M. Croft, the local secretary, being also present), who briefly reported the progressive work accomplished in different parts of the Diocese during the last few months: Having alluded to the great loss caused by the removal of Mr. Arthur Markwell (Wilburton), an indefatigable member of the Association during the last seven years, the chairman explained that one of the chief reasons of that meeting being there was if possible to resuscitate the old spirit which years ago made Soham the home of some first-class ten-bell ringing. He therefore hoped that some at least of the local men would by joining the Association shew their consent and interest in such co-operation as many capable and enthusiastic ringers in the Association would give towards such an object.

A short discussion then arose on a suggestion by Mr. A. Savidge (Cottenham), that if members attending from considerable distances could be assisted in their railway fares from the general funds it might be conducive to larger attendances, the present custom of the Association being to make a grant towards the cost of dinner (or tea as the case may be). The subject is to be brought up again at the Annual General Meeting, which will be held at Bury St. Edmunds, on Easter Monday. The usual votes of thanks for the use of the bells, both at Soham and Fordham, closed the proceedings. Later in the evening several members made up a company for a touch on the bells at St. Mary's, Ely.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

The St. Nicholas branch of the Winchester Diocesan Guild held their annual meeting on Tuesday, January 11th. The principal business consisted in revising the rules, and it was decided to inflict fines for late and non-attendance at practice in future, the large majority being very keen on making progress in the higher methods during the present year. The officers were then elected, comprising the Rector as President, and the assistant clergy as vice-presidents. Mr. F. Blondell was elected conductor, Mr. J. Hunt, steeple-keeper, and Mr. J. J. Jones, Secretary and Treasurer.

On Wednesday evening, by invitation of the Rector (the Rev. W. S. Sanders, R.D.), the band attended at the rectory for the purpose of holding their annual supper, and although several were unable to be present the company numbered nearly twenty. After full justice had been done to the Rector's hospitality the handbells were produced and Grandsire Triples and Caters rung. This, with a reading from Tennyson, and a number of songs made the evening pass all too quickly, and the company separated with mutual good wishes for the New Year.

COLATON RALEIGH, DEVON.

Recently two new bells have been added to the three which formerly hung in the church tower of Colaton Raleigh. One of the old bells (the third bell) has been recast. The Vicar (the

Rev. F. Bullock), presented one of the new bells, on which there is the inscription: "Gloria in excelsis Deo." The other new bell was given by the parishioners and their friends. Upon it is inscribed "Ring out the false, ring in the true," from Tennyson's "In Memoriam." The parishioners also defrayed the cost of the bell that has been recast. They are indebted to residents of Salterton for giving a series of tableaux vivants last week on behalf of the bell fund. The whole cost of the bells is about £80, the greater part of which has been obtained. The necessary work was done by Mr. H. Stokes, of Woodbury. It is hoped to place a sixth bell in the tower at no distant date. Several improvements have of late been effected in this handsome little church, which is dedicated to St. John the Baptist. Among these is the addition of a very convenient vestry. For these improvements much credit is due to the Vicar, the Churchwardens (Mrs. Davies, of Kittishayes, and Mr. J. Sellek), and to the many friends who have rendered assistance. The dedication was performed by the Vicar, on Monday, in the presence of a crowded congregation. The other clergy who took part in the service were the Revs. Maitland Kelly (Vicar of Ottery and President of the Devon Guild of Ringers), F. Molyneux (Vicar of Harpford), and J. Phillips (Chaplain of the Exeter Training College). Processional and recessional hymns were sung, and also the appropriate hymn, "Hark! on high the swelling music." The village choir was strengthened by voluntary vocalists. After the Vicar had read the prayers of consecration the ringers rang a short peal on the bells. The Rev. Maitland Kelly then gave an address, after which cheerful peals were rung during the day by bands of ringers from Harpford and Clyst St. George. The bells are of sweet tone, and the new ones harmonise well with the old. Colation is to be congratulated on having such an excellent peal.

KENDAL, WESTMORELAND.

On Tuesday, January 4th, the ringers of Kendal commemorated the silver wedding of Mr. J. Braithwaite (one of their members) and Mrs. Braithwaite, by ringing a touch of 1898 Grandsire Caters, in 1 hr. 23 mins. This is the longest recorded touch of Caters by a local company since 1819, and was rung by R. Dennison, W. Graham, J. Baxter, W. Tyson, R. Everson, J. Haslam, W. Atkinson, B. Walker (composer and conductor), J. Braithwaite, and J. Salmon.

Mr. Braithwaite, who received many hearty congratulations from his brother-ringers, has been connected with the Kendal belfry for 35 years, his first peal—Grandsire Minor—being rung in 1867. His first peal of Triples was rung in 1869, and since then he has taken part in many others. He is known as a very safe ringer and conductor, and as an instructor leaves nothing to be desired, his patience and perseverance being unbounded, whilst he is esteemed and respected by all.

WHISTON, NORTHANTS.

On Saturday, January 8th, a party of ringers from Doddington and Wilby (all being members of the Central Northamptonshire Association), visited Whiston, and rang nine 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles (all called differently), on the ancient ring of bells in the church of St. Mary the Virgin. H. Fowler (Whiston), 1; C. Fairey (Wilby), 2; C. Chapman (Doddington, conductor), 3; T. Fowler (Wilby), 4; D. Chapman (Doddington), 5. They were gratified by the beautiful tone and excellent going of the bells, and desire to thank the rector for permission to use them. Whiston bells were rehung a short time ago in iron frames in modern style; the rector, the Hon. and Rev. L. C. R. Irby bore one-third of the cost, and Lord Boston, the patron of the living, the remainder. The weights of the bells as they now hang are as follows:—Treble—4 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lbs.; Second—5 cwt. 3 qrs. 9 lbs.; Third—8 cwt. 2 qrs. 14 lbs.; Fourth—10 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lbs.; Tenor—15 cwt. 0 qrs. 4 lbs. The diameter of the tenor is 42½ inches. It is one of those rich-toned bells turned out from the old Leicestershire foundry of the Watts family about the middle of the seventeenth century, being one year older than the heavy tenor bell at Wellingborough. The latter was cast by the same founder in 1639, and Whiston tenor in 1638.

Notices.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is One Penny per line (five words may be reckoned to a line). Repetitions at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

All Saints' Society, Fulham.—The Annual General Meeting will take place to-day, Sat. January 22nd, 1898. The tower will be opened to members and ringing friends at 4 p.m. Tea in Church-room at 6 p.m., at 6d. each. Business Meeting afterwards. Members wishing to be present at the tea should signify the same to the Secretary not later than Thursday, January 20th, 1898. J. GREEN, *Hon. Sec.*

North Notts. Association.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Worksop, to-day, Saturday, January 22. Tea in the Abbey Church Infant Schools, at 5 p.m. Members January 17th. B. DARLEY, *Hon. Sec.*
Harthill, Sheffield.

Midland Counties Association.—The third Quarterly Meeting of the year will be held at Loughborough, to-day, Saturday, January 22. The peal of 10 at the parish church and peal of 8 at Stanford open for ringing from 2 p.m. Committee meeting at 4.30; Tea at 5, followed by general meeting, both in the schoolroom. J. O. LANCASHIRE, *Hon. Sec.*
22, St. Peter's Road, Leicester.

Surrey Association.—The Annual Meeting of members will be held at Croydon, on Monday, 24th January, 1898. Tea at the school adjoining St. John's Church, at 6 p.m. Representatives must acquaint the Secretary not later than Saturday the 22nd as to the number of their members likely to attend the tea. Ringing at St. Peter's (South Croydon) and St. John's (parish church) from 3 p.m. by kind permission of the Vicars. CHARLES DEAN, JUN., *Hon. Sec.*
Royston, Court Road, Sutton, Surrey.

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The next Committee and Quarterly Meeting of this Association will take place at Stourbridge, on Saturday, January 20th, 1898. A short service will be held in St. Thomas's church at 5 o'clock. Business meeting at six o'clock, at which the Rev. H. Sherrard, M.A., Vicar, will preside. The tower will be opened and the bells placed at the disposal of members. Tea will be provided for all members sending their names to me not later than Tuesday, January 25th, 1898. N.B.—All Subscriptions are due at this meeting. The Secretary would be pleased to receive a correct list of names from each Society in union. JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*
36, Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.

The St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—The usual quarterly meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 25th, at The Tamworth Arms, Moor Street, Birmingham. Chait to be taken at 8.30 p.m. As there is important business for consideration, the attendance of every member is earnestly requested. Particular attention is directed to clause 4 of rule vi. W. H. GODDEN, *Hon. Sec.*
61, Roland Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

The St. Margaret's Society, Westminster.—The Annual Meeting for the election of officers for ensuing year will be held on Thursday evening, January 27th. Meeting time 8 p.m. A. HARDY.

Essex Association.—A District Meeting of the above will be held at West Ham, on Saturday, January 29th. The towers of West

Ham (10); of St. John's, Leytonstone (6), and Holy Trinity, Barking Road (6), will be open for ringing. Tea will take place at 5 p.m., to be followed by business meeting. Members intending to be present must notify the same and the station from which they proceed not later than the previous Tuesday. All peals for insertion in the report for last year must be sent in at once. HENRY T. W. EYRE.

The Kent County Association, Tonbridge District.—The Annual Meeting of this district will be held at Westerham, on Saturday, January 29th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Committee Meeting at 4.30. Tea at 5.30, followed by the General Meeting. Half travelling expenses up to but not exceeding 2s. per member will be paid, and subscriptions received at the committee meeting. Members intending to be present at the tea are requested to notify to the district secretary not later than Tuesday, January 25th. Members are requested to note that all subscriptions are now due, and must be paid before any allowance can be made. W. LATTER, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association, Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Church Kirk, on Saturday, January 29th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30. T. REDMAN, *Branch Sec.*

The Ashton-under-Lyne Society.—The next meeting of the above society will be held at Holy Trinity, Stalybridge, on Saturday, January 29th. Bells ready at 4 p.m.; meeting at 7 p.m. S. BOOTH, *Hon. Sec.*
57 Alexandra road, Ashton-under-Lyne.

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The next Monthly Ringing Meeting of this society will be held at Burley church (six bells), on Saturday, January 29th. Ringing from 2.30 to 5 o'clock, and from 5.30 to 9 p.m. Business Meeting at 7, at the Burley hotel, Burley road. Trams from City Square direct every few minutes. R. BINNS, *Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Bolton Branch.—The next Monthly Meeting of the above branch will be held on Saturday, January 29th, at The Saviour's Church, Bolton. Bells ready at 5 p.m. Business at 7 p.m. Hy. Moss, *Branch Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—A meeting will be held on January 29th, at Ramsbottom. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Tea at 5.30 (provided for those sending names to J. Wolstenholme, 33 Crow Lane, Ramsbottom). Business meeting to follow tea. J. H. BANKS.

Oxford Diocesan Guild—Reading Branch.—The Annual Meeting will take place on Monday, January 31st. Meat tea at British Workman, Abbey Street, at 7 p.m. Tickets 1s. 6d. each (half-price to members). A. W. PIKE, *Hon. Sec.*

The Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Chard, on Saturday, February 5th. Members who intend being present must kindly inform the hon. sec. by the 29th inst., so that the necessary arrangements may be made. Full particulars on the 29th inst. HENRY W. TOMKINS, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.*

Sussex County Association.—Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Shoreham, on Saturday, June 29th. J. W. G. LODER-COTTER, *Hon. Sec.*
Yapton.

The Middlesex County Association.—South and West District.—The next Meeting will be held at St. Leonard's, Heston, and

St. Mary's, Norwood Green. Ringing to commence at 5 o'clock, on Saturday, February 12th. C. EDWARDS, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*

The Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—A Meeting will be held at Gainford, on Saturday, February 19th. A meat tea will be provided at the Mechanics' Institute, at 4.30. Members 1s., non-members 1s. 6d. each. The Committee will meet at the same place at 4 o'clock. The bells of the parish Church will be available for ringing during the day. Week-end tickets for Gainford, at a single fare for the double journey, are granted from N.E.R.S., twenty miles or more distant. Members intending to be present, please notify the same on or before Tuesday, February 16th, to THOMAS HUDSON, *Hon. Sec.*

N.B.—Subscriptions for the year 1897-8 are now due.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—At a meeting held at the new head-quarters, The Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on September 21st, it was resolved that a testimonial be presented to Mr. Matthew A. Wood, of Bethnal Green, as a mark of esteem and in appreciation of the good work he has done towards the advancement of change-ringing during the past fifty years. Subscriptions towards this object will be gladly received by any of the following committee:—Messrs. F. S. Bayley, Burkin, Butler, Cockerill, W. Davies (Liverpool), Dorrington, T. Hattersley (Sheffield), Horrex, Hughes, T. Mash, Newton, Prime, Pettit, F. W. J. Rees (Nayland, Colchester), Smith, Springall, Waghorn, jun., and Winney. Saturday, April 2nd, 1898, is the suggested date for the presentation to be made, and intending subscribers are earnestly requested to send in their subscriptions at least a week before that time.

Notice to Advertisers.—Advertisements of articles wanted, to sell, or exchange, are charged at the prepaid rate of one penny for four words. Advertisements of situations wanted, or vacant (for ringers only), are inserted free. The figures of compositions are inserted free, unless proof is required.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

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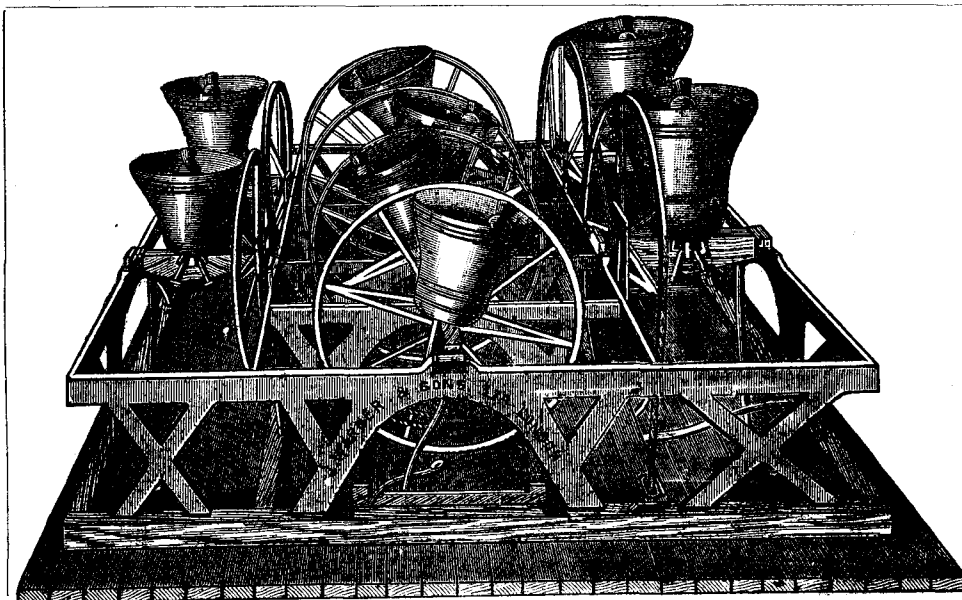
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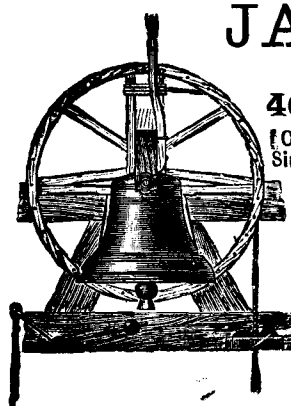
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No. 825.—VOL. XVI.]

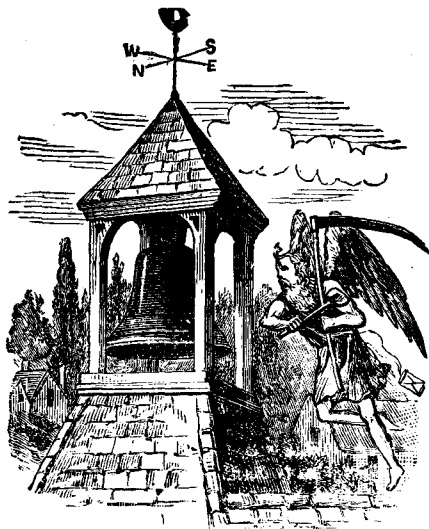
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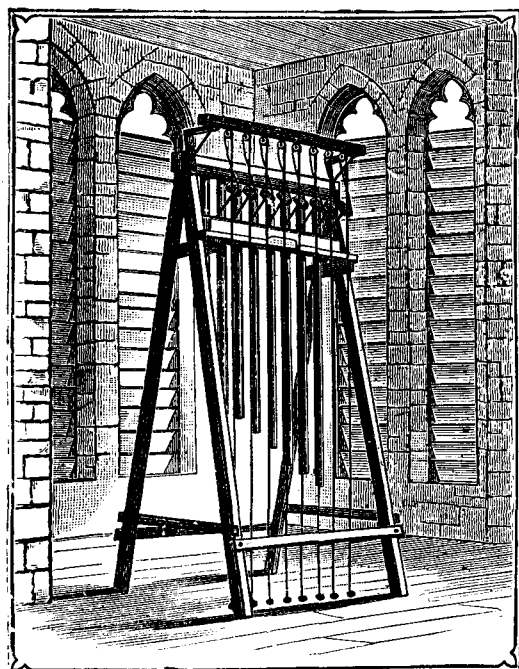
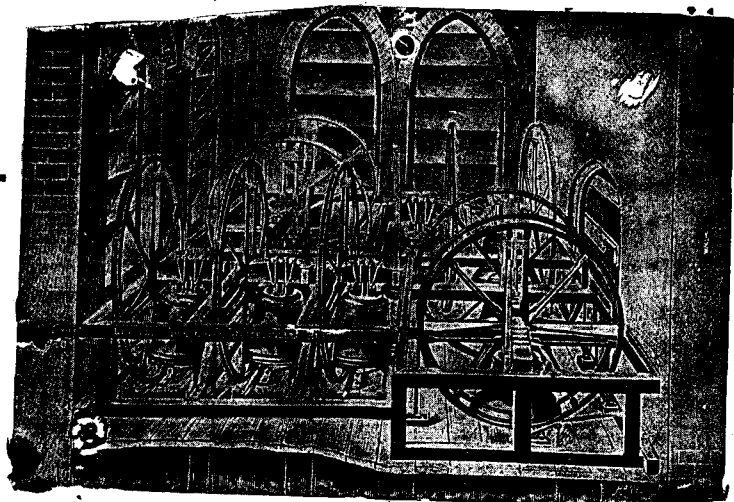
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 825.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 29, 1898.

[Vol. XVI.]

DEDICATION OF BELLS AT HEAVITREE, DEVON.

Christmas Eve witnessed the dedication of a peal of eight bells at the church of St. Michael and All Angels', Heavitree, by the Right. Rev., the Bishop of Crediton (Canon Trefusis). The bells are the parishioners' Diamond Jubilee gift, the tenor being given by Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Sanders, of Stoke Hill; the 7th bell by the Misses E. and A. Holmes; and the 6th by Mr. N. G. Baker, which left the Committee with five bells to provide. This, it is pleasing to record, has been successfully accomplished.

There was a very large congregation on Friday evening. The service commenced with the processional hymn "All people that on earth do dwell," and a few short prayers followed. During the singing of "Oh! King of Kings" the Bishop of Crediton and the clergy and choir, together with the churchwardens and sidesmen, the members of the bell committee, and the ringers, proceeded to the tower. Among those who formed the group were, besides the Bishop, the Vicar, the Rev. T. J. Ponting, the Rev. G. E. C. Rodwell, the Rev. W. R. Spencer, Messrs. Arthur Burch and J. Sampson (churchwardens), Colonel Vaughan (chairman of committee), Colonel Blake, Colonel Landon, Messrs. E. A. Sanders, J.P., R. N. G. Baker, Randall Johnson, Courtney Edmonds, A. Brooking (Hon. Secretary of committee), Nethercott, Finimore, Parsons, Isaacs, Rice, Scoble, Woodcock, and others. In handing over the bells to the charge of the Vicar, Colonel Vaughan, on behalf of the committee, said: We, the members of the Heavitree Jubilee Bell Committee, representing the donors of this peal of bells, desire to hand them over into the charge of the Vicar and churchwardens of the parish for the glory of God and the use of this church. On behalf of the churchwardens, Mr. Arthur Burch and All Angels', Heavitree, hereby request you, as Bishop, to dedicate these bells. The Bishop then replied: By virtue of my office, I desire to solemnly set apart and dedicate these bells to the glory of God and the use of this church, separate from all profane and unhallowed uses. Several prayers having been pronounced, the Bishop, addressing the Vicar and churchwardens, said: Receive these bells as a sacred trust committed unto you as Vicar and churchwardens of this church and parish, and take heed that they be ever and only used in God's service and for His glory. The ringers then rang one short peal, after which the Bishop, clergy, and choir, and others returned to their places, singing the hymn "Lifted safe within the steeple."

In his address the Bishop of Crediton remarked that it was a happy coincidence that their bells had been dedicated at that season of the year. The first peal was not only a peal of dedication, but also heralded in the advent of our new-born King, so that their first note was one of praise. This they all felt when those beautiful bells gave out their consecutive musical scale, and told them that they were hung in that noble tower for no other object than for the praise and glory of Christ, the Head of the Church. And though the note was one of praise, yet they could not that night forget that this joyful sound came out of a time of heaviness, and they were conscious of a feeling of inward sympathy with the past as well as with the present. This feeling came over them when they remembered that he who was the prime mover in the erection of those new bells was no longer with them in body, though in spirit he was present in their midst. His last thoughts, as they well knew, were engaged in said: We, the churchwardens of this church of Saint Michael the arrangements for the completion of the bells in their tower. It was wonderful how much bell music was in accord with the temper of our lives, and how sometimes they would ring out their blessing upon the married pair, and at other times they would sob forth their last farewell to the departing soul. But never did they put them into such sympathy with Divine things as when they rung out solely for the praise and glory of Christ.

To dwell upon the past would, perhaps, lead them to melancholy, but to look forward into the future would inspire them with energy and a desire to live holier and better. The bells reminded them of the word "Jubilee." They were, as he understood, to commemorate the eventful year of the glorious and beneficent reign of our most noble and gracious Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria. But the word "Jubilee" had even a higher meaning. The first sermon that our Lord preached was on the subject of Jubilee. It was a proclamation of the acceptable year of the Lord, and that acceptable year was that of Jubilee, which had a threefold meaning—liberty, restoration, and rest. There was not time, however, for him to help them to follow out the meaning of these words. They would now have an addition to their church workers, and that addition would be the bell ringers. Let them take heed that they be men whose hearts and lives were given to Christ, for consecrated bells needed consecrated hands and hearts to ring out the holy music. God bless the bells; God bless the ringers; God bless those that heard them at this Christmas time, and might they lift up their hearts to Him in holy fellowship and sweet accord with the Saviour.

"Hark, hark my soul, angelic songs are swelling."

was then sung, and during the hymn a collection was made, and will be applied in meeting necessary expenses in connexion with the bells, including an adverse balance on the Bell Fund. The peal was tested after the service by selected ringers from the guilds of St. Sidwell's, St. David's, and St. Edmund's. Exeter, who had volunteered their services. In 50 mins. a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung for Divine Service in the evening by E. Searle, J. Lock, F. Shepherd, W. Richardson, T. Mudge, J. Moss, F. Davey (conductor), E. Sargent. On Sunday evening, January 2nd, for Divine Service, the fifth part of Hollis' five-part peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by E. Searle, F. Coombes, C. Carter, F. Shepherd (conductor), J. Moss, W. Richardson, F. Davey, and J. Martin. The bells are a fine ring in E flat, cast and hung by Messrs. Taylor in an iron H frame. The "go" of them is everything that a ringer could wish or desire.

On Wednesday, January 5th, the ringers were kindly invited to a supper by the Bell Committee at the parish rooms, Heavitree, and a splendid spread was served, to which ample justice was done. The loyal and usual toasts were given and duly honoured, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

ASSOCIATION OF THE DIOCESES OF GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL.

The anniversary meeting of the Association of change-ringers, which under its new name extends its sphere of operations over the old area, was held on Saturday, in Bristol. At 2.30 in the afternoon the members attended a short service held in the Lady Chapel of the Cathedral, when an impressive address was given by the Bishop of Bristol. The Bishop said they were there that day to consecrate a year's work to the Lord, and were hopeful and prayerful of entering upon the beginning of yet another year. They occupied that which was a very prominent part in all that related to the worship of Almighty God. From most ancient times the part which they fulfilled had had to be fulfilled.

Ever since men began to assemble themselves together it had been necessary to give them in some kind of way some warning that an assembly was to be held, and the presence of those who were there was invited, requested, and commanded. Speaking of the ringers, he said a church was built and a high tower or spire was placed upon it, and for miles and miles around as the eye rested upon it men felt that was the Church of God. And far further even than the eye could reach, but which was so

covered by objects that the eye could not see, the peals which they rang reached the ear. Whenever they so reached they declared there was the House of God, and people were reminded, all who cared to be reminded, that it was the time for worship. They could cover a whole city with their sound as nothing else could do. They tolled off tidings of great joy and of great sorrow. In the middle ages there was a feeling that the bell was, as it were, a living thing, and the different peals of bells were regarded as the voices of important persons. If they associated some holy ones with the various bells, not in any superstitious way, and imagined there spoke the bell from Mary, from Peter, and from John, and so on in that way, the voice sound of those various great persons could be regarded as going forth to all the land. To the most careless, the man or the woman bent upon some open wickedness, the profligate, the scoffer of religion, a time had been before now, when all of a sudden, perhaps at a time when the spirit was a little depressed, perhaps at a time when the person was beginning to repent, or a time when things were not going well there struck upon the ear the sound of the church bell, which rang out that harmony that was just beginning to dwell in his mind, and it might lead to a conviction that there were higher and better things than the things of this earth. How much poetry was associated with the sound of the bell stealing across the water? He warned them as ringers not to look upon their work as a mere business. In the name of God he charged them to hear the summons they rang. His message to them that day was that they should ring with the soul as well as with the body. They should make it not merely a successful way, a beautiful way, a harmonious way of calling others to worship, but also a way of calling themselves to worship.

After the service the members adjourned to St. Stephen's restaurant, where a capital dinner was provided, the meal being followed by the annual business meeting. Mr. C. E. D. Boutflower occupied the chair, and amongst others present were the Revs. H. A. Cockey, F. Paul, H. R. Harvey, R. L. Murchison, H. L. James, E. Bankes James, Mrs. Boutflower, the Misses Phelps, all members of the Association, and Messrs. F. E. Ward, W. J. Pickard, F. K. Howell, and representatives from Swindon, Cheltenham, Gloucester, Churchdown, Thornbury, and various towers in Bristol.

Mr. F. E. Ward, the treasurer, read the statement of accounts, which showed a balance in hand of £34 4s. 3d. They were duly adopted.

The Rev. H. A. Cockey, acting for the Secretary, the Rev. C. H. Joberns, in his absence through illness, read the 20th annual report. Referring to the division of the Diocese, it stated that the fact that "Union is strength" could not be less true in a campanological sense than in any other. It might seem wise to split into two parts when the two infant associations could run alone. On looking at the relative strength of the two Dioceses from a ringer's point of view, it would be at once seen how very weak the Bristol Diocese was. For instance, of the 230 ringing members appearing in the last report, only 55 hailed from the Bristol Diocese. These 55 represented 18 towers with six bells or more, while Gloucester would have 175 members representing 34 towers with not less than six bells each. The past year was rendered notable by the appearance of a Surprise Method, by the Rev. E. Bankes James (a past master), and very properly called Gloucester Surprise. Three peals in the method had already been scored by the Association. As regarded the peals rung during the year there was an increase in numbers and scientific value. The bellhanger did not appear to have been so busy in their district as in many others, but two former rings of six have been increased to eight, namely, at Henbury, near Bristol, and at Northleach, near Cheltenham. In Ellacombe's book, *The Bells of Gloucestershire*, it stated that in 1877 166 towers having peals of five bells were recorded in the county alone. As mentioned before their members now only comprised ringers from 52 of those towers, which was less than one-third. This surely showed that there was plenty of work for the united association to do during the coming year. The report mentioned that as regarded conductors, Mr. J. Austin, of Gloucester, was again far ahead of all his rivals. Bristol had unearthed a new conductor in Mr. W. A. Cave, who had conducted his first peal, one of Treble Bob Royal.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said

they had rung more peals during the year than in the previous year, and the scientific value of the peals rung was higher than in the year before. Of the 234 members of the Association only 52 had rung peals. Mr. Pickard seconded the motion, and the report was adopted.

The election of officers was then proceeded with, and resulted as under: The Bishop of Bristol was elected Joint President of the Association with the Bishop of Gloucester. The vice-presidents were all re-elected. The Rev. E. Bankes James, of Churchtown, near Gloucester, was unanimously elected Master of the Association for the ensuing year in the place of Mr. C. E. D. Boutflower, resigned, who was chosen to fill the post of Hon. Secretary, vacant through the resignation of the Rev. C. H. Joberns, who was compelled through leaving the diocese and ill-health, to give up the office. Mr. F. E. Ward was re-elected Hon. Treasurer. Hearty votes of thanks were accorded to the Bishop for his address; to the Rev. C. H. Joberns for the manner in which he had discharged his duty as Hon. Secretary during the past four years; and to the ladies for their presence, and the hope was expressed that their numbers would be doubled next year. It was mentioned that the representatives on the Central Council were the same as before, namely, the Master (the Rev. E. Bankes James), the Rev. H. A. Cockey, and Mr. G. H. Phillott.

Ringling was then indulged in at St. Mary Redcliffe, Christ Church, and St. Stephen's, when touches of Kent Treble Bob Major and Royal, and Stedman, and Grandsire Caters were rung.

THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A successful meeting of this Association was held on Saturday 8th January, at The Sun inn, Brownlow Street, Grantham, and was well attended by representatives from Stamford, Grantham, Hough, Market Deeping, Peterborough, and Croxton.

At the business meeting the Rev. H. Law James presided. The minutes of the last meeting were read over, confirmed, and signed. At the last meeting a committee was formed to revise the rules of the Association (which had grown rather rusty and out of date), and present them at this meeting for discussion. The chairman therefore asked for them to be brought forward, when they were read over and carefully examined, and after a few slight alterations were adopted, and it was resolved that the same should come into force from that day and that copies should be printed at once. The chairman then explained that according to the revised rules, which had come into force that day, this must be regarded as the annual meeting, and in consequence thereof the various officers for the year were elected as follows:—*Patrons*, The Lord Bishop of Lincoln; *President*, the Rev. W. W. Layng, Rippingale; *Vice Presidents*, the very Rev. W. W. Howard, Dean of Stamford; Rev. Canon Hemmans, Holbeach; Rev. H. Law James; Lieut.-Col. Parker, Grantham; and Rev. E. M. Clements, Barkston; *Master*, Rev. H. Law James; *Treasurer*, R. Wyche, Esq., Stamford; *Secretary*, Mr. E. Gale, St. Martin's, Stamford; *Committee for Stamford*, Mr. R. S. Cox; Grantham, Mr. W. Cawton; Hough, J. Hoyes; Crowland, W. Ambrose; Morton, W. Wadsley; Peterborough, R. Squires; Wytham, T. Allam; Market Deeping, J. Thorpe, jun.

It was resolved that the accounts be made up to the 31st December last, and printed and presented at the next meeting. The next meeting will be held at Rippingale, on Saturday, the 23rd April. In addition to the five bells there the Secretary to also write for permission for the members to use the bells at Morton, which is close to John Atkinson of Barkstone was elected a probationer.

The Secretary was then asked to write to Mrs. Clark of Glington, and express their great sympathy with her in the recent loss of her husband, who was an old ringer, and well-known member of the Association. The Rev. H. Law James was congratulated on his appointment as Vicar of Surfleet. Various touches were performed on the bells, and in the evening about 500 of Grandsire Caters, by the following:—E. Popple, R. S. Cox, Rev. H. Law James (conductor), R. Wyche, R. Squires, W. Cawton, F. Dennison, C. Harper, W. Mowbray. Tenor 37½ cwt.

SEND TO POLLARDS, Lim., St. Andrew's Factory, Bradford, for DRESS PATTERNS.

THE NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

A very pleasant quarterly meeting of this Association was held at Worksop on Saturday, January 22nd. The early arrivals commenced ringing in the tower of the beautiful old Priory church, the ringing chamber of which has everything admirably arranged for the comfort and convenience of the ringers, about 2.30 p.m., but soon had to stand owing to two funerals, which claimed the hour from 3 to 4 o'clock. Ringing was resumed soon after 4.0 p.m., but up to that hour nothing had been successfully brought round.

At 5.0 p.m. tea was taken in the school adjoining the church, the Rev. H. T. Slodden (Vicar of Worksop) presiding, supported by the Rev. H. de Lisle, the Rev. B. Darley, and 32 other members of the Association. A capital repast had been provided by Mr. Schofield, and when full justice had been done to it, the quarterly business meeting was held in the same room, the Vicar taking the chair. Amongst other business the Hon. Secretary moved a vote of sympathy and condolence with the widow and family of the late Mr. G. Barrowcliffe, whose death had taken place since the previous quarterly meeting, at which he was present. Mr. Barrowcliffe had been an active member of the Association since its foundation in 1886, and had also represented Worksop on the Committee. His loss will be keenly felt by many of his old associates, and regretted by all.

After the meeting ringing was continued until 8.0 p.m., and three 720s of Treble Bob Minor were well struck and brought round without a hitch. The next meeting will be the annual general meeting at Retford, the date of which will be arranged by the committee.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 8th, the above society held its quarterly meeting at Beighton, members being present from Staveley, Wingfield, Eckington, Killamarsh, Treeton, Shireoaks, and Norton, together with the local company. The meeting was called for 4.30, but on account of the Secretary having missed his train, it would be quite 6 o'clock when Mr. Lambert took the chair, some members having left previously. The minutes having been confirmed, the Secretary gave a short account of the doings of the Association during the past year. Thirteen peals had been rung at seven different towers. The number of members had increased by 20, making now upwards of 100 on the books; with a balance of £2 on the right side. It was resolved that the annual meeting and dinner be held at Wingfield on Easter Monday, when each member will receive the annual report providing their subscriptions are not in arrear. Members wishing to have their full address in the report must send to the Secretary without delay.

Other small matters on the agenda having been dealt with, a vote of thanks was passed for the use of the bells and school-room, and the usual vote to the chair concluded the meeting.

All present seemed bent on having a full afternoon's ringing; and upwards of 5000 changes must have been rung by mixed bands, in fact the belfry was soon besieged by ringers wishing to get off by the 8.0 train. I had no time for a ring myself, which I believe is the first instance during my eight years' service as Secretary that I have missed having a pull, and out of that period I have had the pleasure of attending every meeting with one exception.

E. J.

DEDICATION OF A NEW BELL AT HARTON, BUCKS.

The old five bells at Harton which have not been rung for many years, have recently been rehung in an entire new iron frame, and a treble to make six. The work has been successfully carried out by Messrs. Warner and Sons, of the Crescent Foundry, Cripplegate, and the Dedication Service took place on Wednesday, December 22nd, after which 720 Oxford Bob was rung. J. J. Parker (conductor), 1; G. Basden, 2; J. Elderfield, 3; R. Flaxman, 4; A. Crook, 5; C. Clarke, 6. The party then set down to a substantial repast, kindly provided by A. Tyler, Esq., of Birkin Manor. After thanking the Squire for his kind hospitality, the band returned to the tower and rang a 720 of Court Bob, conducted by C. Clarke; also several 6-scores of Doubles.

THE RECENT PEAL AT SOUTHOVER, LEWES.

On Thursday, January 13th, a very happy gathering took place at The King's Head, Southover, Lewes, the occasion being the twentieth birthday of Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, the Secretary of the local band of ringers. Among those present were Messrs. A. J. Turner, W. Pelling, J. Steadman, and S. W. Shoesmith of Southover; G. Williams, J. Jay, sen., K. Hart, E. C. Merritt, F. Bennett, G. King and J. N. Frossell, of St. Peter's, Brighton; Mr. R. Bonner, and others. The proceedings commenced with a substantial supper, kindly provided by Mr. Goldsmith's mother. Mr. Jay occupied the chair, and at the conclusion of the meal Mr. E. C. Merritt, submitted "The Health of Mr. Goldsmith," and referred in terms of eulogy to that gentleman's ringing career, and to the work he had done in Lewes in the interest of ringing. The toast was musically honoured, and Mr. Goldsmith suitably replied. Later in the evening the chairman proposed "The Health of Mrs. Goldsmith," in fitting terms, to which that lady responded.

Mr. W. H. Paris, organist at Southover Church, had promised to be present, but owing to a service at church, he was unable to attend until late in the evening, the time of his absence being filled up with a tune on the handbells, by Messrs. Goldsmith and Turner, a course of Grandsire Caters by Messrs. King, Bennett, Williams, Hart and Goldsmith; and a touch of Grandsire Triples by the four last named. The accompanist then arrived, bringing with him Mr. P. R. Meux, one of the members of the choir, who delighted the company with his bass songs, especially with his rendering of "In Cellar Cool," for which he was enthusiastically encored. He also, with Mr. W. H. Paris, sang the duet "Excelsior." Songs were also given by the Chairman and Messrs. Turner and Hart. The evening was most enjoyable and the time for parting came all too soon. It had been decided to start for a peal early in the evening, but owing to the service above mentioned, it was found impossible, a touch of Double Norwich having to suffice, this being rung by W. Pelling, A. J. Turner, G. King, F. Bennett, E. C. Merritt, R. Hart, G. Williams, J. S. Goldsmith (conductor). On Monday the 17th, however, the band were able to meet for a peal of London Surprise, and this was successfully accomplished, the record having been published in proper course.

NOTES TO PEALS.

THE PEAL AT PUTNEY.—It was in September last that this band determined to attempt London Surprise. At first it was found a hard nut to crack, but by regular meeting for practice and sticking to it, the object has been accomplished at the third attempt. It was the idea to ring a first peal in the method by all, but on Monday afternoon one found he would be unable to attend. A telegram was at once despatched for the treble man, who, on turning up, told us he had come for two men. In this case there was nothing to do but telegraph for Mr. Dench, whom all the rest thank most heartily for so promptly putting in an appearance. This is the first peal in the method on the bells. The composition has the 6th nine times at home and six times wrong, also the 5th the extent at home. Messrs. Buck and Willshire are the others of the original band.

THE PEAL AT EARLSHEATON.—Rung in honour of the birthday of Arthur Goodall, secretary, and Joe Garforth, steeplekeeper. The ringers and several friends, with the Vicar, the Rev. R. S. Davies, were entertained to a substantial supper at their headquarters, The Spangled Bull. The assembly wished Messrs. Goodall and Garforth many happy returns of the day. Illingworth hails from Liversedge; Stephenson from Ossett; the rest belong to the local company.

THE PEAL AT LEWISHAM.—This peal was arranged and rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Chandler, upon the twenty-second anniversary of their marriage. After the peal the ringers and several friends were entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Chandler to an excellent repast at their residence, and a very pleasant evening was spent in harmony, &c. Messrs. Flanders and Thornton are of S. Alfege, Greenwich. This was F. W. Thornton's 75th peal, made up as follows:—Grandsire Triples 41, conducted 14; Grandsire Caters 2, Oxford Bob Triples 2; Darlaston Bob Triples 1; Canterbury Plea-Major 1, Bob Major 2, Bob Royal 1, Stedman Triples 7, Stedman Caters 3, Stedman Cinques 1, Kent Treble Bob Major 13, conducted Kent Treble Bob Royal 1, total 75; conducted 16,

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

FYLDE DISTRICT BRANCH.—A quarterly meeting of the above was held at Blackpool on Saturday week. The bells of St. John's church were placed at the disposal of the members from 3 p.m., through the kindness of the Vicar (Rev. N. S. Jeffery). Shortly after this hour the bells were raised, and a touch of Bob Minor rung, conducted by J. Fell; then touches of Grandsire Triples, conducted respectively by Messrs. Redman (Kirkham) and Atkinson (Lytham); Grandsire Minor by Tomlinson (Lytham) and R. Cookson (Kirkham). The ringing here stopped, as the chief constable of Blackburn was lying seriously ill, and at his request no more ringing took place, much to the disappointment of the members. However it being time for tea and meeting in St. John's schools, the members wended their way thither, the meeting being presided over by the genial Vicar.

The branch Secretary (Mr. J. Fell) read apologies from the Rev. John Barker (Kirkham), and Messrs. J. C. Needham and G. R. Bellamy (both of Lytham) for non-attendance, each expressing the hope that the members might spend a pleasant evening. The business of the evening did not occupy much time. Poulton-le-Fylde was chosen as the next meeting-place in April, provided the bells were in anything like ringing order; failing this, St. Anne's-on-the-Sea. A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Cookson (Kirkham) to the Vicar for the use of the bells and schoolroom, also for presiding. This was briefly seconded by Mr. Townsend, of St. Anne's-on-the-Sea.

An adjournment was made to another part of the school where an excellent tea was provided by the Rev. N. S. Jeffery, which was heartily enjoyed by all present. The Ringing-Master (Mr. Clitheroe) proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for providing such a splendid repast, and to those ladies who had so kindly presided at the tables.

Mr. Jeffery thanked the company for the kind manner in which the ladies had been mentioned. He hoped that at some future time he might be spared to again welcome the branch and provide another tea.

The meeting then terminated; some of the visitors making their way to the theatre, others their way home; all having thoroughly enjoyed the day's proceedings.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LEWISHAM DISTRICT.—A quarterly meeting of this district was held at Bromley on Saturday, January 15, and was fairly well attended. The tower was open from 3.0 to 8.30 p.m., touches of Grandsire, Stedman, Plain and Treble Bob being indulged in. A well-struck quarter-peal of Stedman Triples concluded the ringing, the company standing thus: W. Weatherstone, W. Ingham, T. Harford, T. P. Richards, J. Hack, F. J. Jeffries, H. Harman (conductor). W. James.

A committee meeting was held during the evening in the parish room, when all the St. Margaret's, Lee, ringers, and four of the Crayford band, were elected members of the Association. It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Erith on Saturday, April 30th. A vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and parish room closed the business.

ST. PETER'S, THE PARISH CHURCH OF BRIGHTON.

An interesting, although a somewhat unusual event happened in the belfry of this church on Thursday, January 6th, namely, the unveiling of a memorial to the late Dr. Durnford, Bishop of Chichester, and first president of the Sussex County Association of Change-ringers. The memorial consists of a very fine engraved portrait bearing the late bishop's signature, surrounded by a massive mount of brass, bearing the inscription in illuminated letters—"In memory of The Right Reverend Richard Durnford, D.D., Bishop of Chichester, the first President of the Sussex County Association of Change-ringers—Elected 1885—Died 1895." The whole being fitted in a wainscot oak frame.

The Sussex County Association was founded at a meeting held in this belfry in January, 1885, and Dr. Durnford was duly elected as the first president, and continued to hold the office until his death.

Immediately after the dedication of a new chapel built at the end of the south aisle of the church, a portion of the choir, the clergy connected with the church and the Bishop of the diocese

(who is now the second President) proceeded to the belfry, where a number of the ringers were assembled, and a short form of prayer was read by the Bishop, who then unveiled the memorial. The Vicar of Brighton thanked his Lordship on behalf of the ringers. In reply the Bishop expressed his pleasure in meeting the ringers in such a well-ordered belfry.

The following table gives the fifty-five peals rung in the tower since the bells were hung in June, 1882, all of which are recorded on tablets in the belfry.

	DATE.	METHOD.	CHANGES.	CONDUCTOR.
1882.	Dec. 2	Grandsire Triples	5040.	J. Jay
		First peal on the bells.		
1886.	March 20	Grandsire Triples	5040.	G. F. Attree.
		Rung with bells half-muffled in memory of the third Earl of Chichester.		
1887.	March 12	Grandsire Triples	5040.	G. F. Attree.
	June 21	Grandsire Triples	5040.	H. Weston.
		Rung in honour of the Jubilee of Queen Victoria.		
	Oct. 20	Kent Treble Bob Major	5280.	G. F. Attree.
		First peal of Major on the bells.		
	Dec. 24	Stedman Triples	5040.	J. Searle.
		First peal of Stedman rung in Sussex.		
1888.	March 21	Grandsire Triples	5040.	H. Weston.
	June 6	Grandsire Triples	5040.	J. Jay
	Dec. 8	Grandsire Triples	5040.	G. F. Attree
	Dec. 24	Stedman Triples	5040.	J. Searle
1889.	Feb. 9	Stedman Triples	5040.	J. Searle
	March 28	Grandsire Triples	5040.	G. Thwaites
	Oct. 28	Stedman Triples	5040.	G. Williams
	Dec. 31	Stedman Triples	5040.	G. F. Attree
1890.	Feb. 18	Double Norwich Court	5040.	G. F. Attree.
		First peal of Double Norwich Court rung in Sussex.		
	July 17	Superlative Surprise M.	5088.	G. F. Attree.
		First peal of Superlative rung in Sussex.		
	Oct. 30	Double Norwich Court	5152.	H. Weston.
	Nov. 29	Double Norwich Court	5040.	G. Williams.
	Dec. 31	Double Norwich Court	5088.	J. Reilly
1891.	Jan. 22	Cambridge Surprise	5152.	G. F. Attree.
		First peal of Cambridge rung in Sussex.		
	May 11	Double Norwich Court	5024.	J. W. Washbrook.
	Nov. 9	Grandsire Triples	5040.	H. Weston
	Dec. 19	Superlative Surprise	5056.	G. Williams
1892.	June 16	Stedman Triples	5040.	H. Weston
	July 14	Stedman Triples	5040.	H. Weston
	Nov. 22	London Surprise	5088.	G. F. Attree.
		First peal of London rung in Sussex.		
	Dec. 31	Stedman Triples	5040.	G. F. Attree
1893.	Jan. 19	Grandsire Triples	5040.	K. Hart
	Feb. 7	Stedman Triples	5040.	G. Williams
		Rung with bells half-muffled in memory of Sir W. Barttelot.		
	April 3	Double Norwich Court	5024.	F. G. Newman.
	April 11	Superlative Surprise	5088.	H. Weston
	May 1	Superlative Surprise	5088.	G. Williams
	June 29	Stedman Triples	5040.	H. Weston
	Aug. 19	Grandsire Triples	5040.	K. Hart
	Sept. 16	Kent Treble Bob	5088.	G. Williams
	Oct. 5	Double Norwich Court	5040.	H. Weston
	Nov. 14	Cambridge Surprise	5056.	H. Weston
	Nov. 28	Cambridge Surprise	5600.	G. Williams.
1894.	June 12	London Surprise Major	5024.	G. Williams
	Aug. 20	Stedman Triples	5040.	K. Hart
	Nov. 19	London Surprise Major	5024.	G. Williams
	Dec. 20	Champion Surprise	5376.	G. F. Attree
		The first peal in the method ever rung.		
1895.	Jan. 14	Champion Surprise	5056.	G. F. Attree
	May 20	College Exercise Major	5152.	G. F. Attree
		First peal in the method rung in Sussex.		
	July 6	Double Norwich Court	5024.	G. Williams
	Aug. 22	Stedman Triples	5040.	G. Williams.
	Nov. 26	New Cumb. Surprise	5024.	G. Williams.
		First peal in the method on the bells.		
1896.	July 28	Superlative Surprise	5088.	G. Williams.
	Sep. 19	Superlative Surprise	5088.	G. Williams.
	Oct. 9	Superlative Surprise	5056.	G. Williams.
	Oct. 16	Bob Major	5088.	G. Williams.
		Rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of Dr. Benson, Archbishop of Canterbury.		
1897.	May 10	Superlative Surprise	5056.	G. Williams.
	June 22	Double Norwich Court	5088.	G. Williams
		Rung in honour of the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria.		
	July 26	London Surprise Major	5088.	G. Williams
	Dec. 31	Oxford Surprise Major	5376.	G. F. Attree
		The first peal in the method ever rung.		

Notices.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is One Penny per line (five words may be reckoned to a line). Repetitions at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The next Committee and Quarterly Meeting of this Association will take place at Stourbridge, to-day, Saturday, January 29th, 1898. A short service will be held in St. Thomas's church at 5 o'clock. Business meeting at six o'clock, at which the Rev. H. Sherrard, M.A., Vicar, will preside. The tower will be opened and the bells placed at the disposal of members. N.B.—All Subscriptions are due at this meeting. The Secretary would be pleased to receive a correct list of names from each Society in union. JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*
36, Simm's Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.

Essex Association.—A District Meeting of the above will be held at West Ham, to-day, Saturday, January 29. The towers of West Ham (10); of St. John's, Leytonstone (6), and Holy Trinity, Barking Road (6), will be open for ringing. Tea will take place at 5 p.m., to be followed by business meeting.
HENRY T. W. EYRE.

The Kent County Association, Tonbridge District.—The Annual Meeting of this district will be held at Westerham, to-day, Sat., January 29th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Committee Meeting at 4.30. Tea at 5.30, followed by the General Meeting. Half travelling expenses up to but not exceeding 2s. per member will be paid, and subscriptions received at the committee meeting. Members are requested to note that all subscriptions are now due, and must be paid before any allowance can be made.
W. LATTER, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association, Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Church Kirk, to-day, Saturday, January 29th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30.
T. REDMAN, *Branch Sec.*

The Ashton-under-Lyne Society.—The next meeting of the above society will be held at Holy Trinity, Stalybridge, to-day, Saturday, January 29th. Bells ready at 4 p.m.; meeting at 7 p.m.
S. BOOTH, *Hon. Sec.*
57 Alexandra road, Ashton-under-Lyne.

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The next Monthly Ringing Meeting of this society will be held at Burley church (six bells), to-day, Saturday, January 29. Ringing from 2.30 to 5 o'clock, and from 5.30 to 9 p.m. Business Meeting at 7, at the Burley hotel, Burley road. Trams from City Square direct every few minutes. R. BINNS, *Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Bolton Branch.—The next Monthly Meeting of the above branch will be held to-day, Saturday, January 29, at The Saviour's Church, Bolton. Bells ready at 5 p.m. Business at 7 p.m.
HY. MOSS, *Branch Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—A meeting will be held to-day, January 29th, at Ramsbottom. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Tea at 5.30 (provided for those sending names to J. Wolstenholme, 33 Crow Lane, Ramsbottom). Business meeting to follow tea.
J. H. BANKS.

Sussex County Association.—Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Shoreham, to-day, Saturday, January 29th.
J. W. G. LODER-COTHER, *Hon. Sec.*
Yapton.

The Sussex County Association.—Western Division.—Next meeting at Shoreham, to-day (Saturday), January 29th. Tower open 2.30.; Evensong, 5.30. Tea and meeting in school at 6 p.m.
J. W. G. LODER-COTHER, *Hon. Sec.*

Oxford Diocesan Guild.—Reading Branch.—The Annual Meeting will take place on Monday, January 31st. Meat tea at British Workman, Abbey Street, at 7 p.m. Tickets 1s. 6d. each (half-price to members).
A. W. PIKE, *Hon. Sec.*

The Sussex County Association.—Central Division.—Next quarterly meeting at East Grinstead, on Saturday, February 5th. Tower open from 3 p.m. Tea at 5.30.
GEO. WILLIAMS, *Hon. Sec.*

The Kent County Association.—Ashford District.—A District Meeting will be held at Willesborough, on Saturday, February 1898. No allowances.
C. WILFRED BLAXLAND, *Dist. Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's Church, Walton, near Liverpool, on Saturday, February 5th. Bells ready at 6 p.m. Meeting in tower at 7 p.m.
HENRY COLEY, *Branch Sec.*

The Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Chard, on Saturday, February 5th. Towers open, Chard (eight bells), and Crewkerne (eight bells). Short service in parish church, Chard, at 4 p.m., with an address by the Rev. Preb. Robinson. Tea and business meeting at Temperance Hotel, after service.
HY. W. TOMKINS, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.*

The Ely Diocesan Association.—Sudbury Branch.—A meeting of members will be held at Monks Eleigh, on Saturday, February 5th. The reopening of the bells (after rehanging), will take place on this occasion. Service at 3 p.m. Tea after service. Members intending to be present kindly intimate the same to me on or before Wednesday, February 2nd.
C. SILLITOE, *Hon. Sec.*

The Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Newcastle, on Saturday, February 5th.
REV. W. D. BRAGINTON, } *Hon. Secs.*
W. TWIGG, }

The Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—The next meeting of this Guild will be held at Christ Church, Bootle, on Saturday, February 5th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Service 4.45 p.m. Hot-pot supper 5.30 p.m. Business meeting 6 p.m.
REV. W. T. BULPIT, } *Hon. Secs.*
W. BENTHAM, }

The Norwich Diocesan Association.—A Quarterly Meeting will be held at Hingham, on Tuesday, February 8th, 1898. Railway station, Kimberley, where a conveyance will meet the down and up trains at 11.8 and 11.10 a.m., free of charge. Dinner at 1.30. Hon. Members 2s. 3d.; Company Members, 1s. 3d. Notice to the Hon. Sec. not later than Wednesday, February 2nd, with numbers and station of departure.
H. EARLE BULWER, *Hon. Sec.*

Society for the Archdeaconry of Salop.—The next Monthly Meeting will be held at Wellington, on Saturday, February 12th. Ringing at 3 p.m. Business Meeting 4.45 p.m.
J. MACKAY, *Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next Monthly Meeting will be held at Brookfield Church, Hyde Road, Gorton, on Saturday, February 12th. Bells ready at 4.0 p.m. Business meeting at 7.0 p.m.
WALTER BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

The Middlesex County Association.—South and West District.—The next Meeting will be held at St. Leonard's, Heston, and St. Mary's, Norwood Green. Ringing to commence at 5 o'clock, on Saturday, February 12th.
C. EDWARDS, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*

The Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—A Meeting will be held at Gainford, on Saturday, February 19th. A meat tea will be provided at the Mechanics' Institute, at 4.30. Members 1s., non-members 1s. 6d. each. The Committee will meet at the same place at 4 o'clock. The bells of the parish Church will be available for ringing during the day. Week-end tickets for Gainford, at a single fare for the double journey, are granted from N.E.R.S., twenty miles or more distant. Members intending to be present, please notify the same on or before Tuesday, February 16th, to
THOMAS HUDSON, *Hon. Sec.*

N.B.—Subscriptions for the year 1897-8 are now due.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

TIMEKEEPER seeks permanent situation. Excellent change-ringer in standard methods. Member of the Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire Associations. Excellent references. Apply X. Y. Z., office of this paper.

GAS and Hot Water Fitter wants job. Good change-ringer from twelve-bell tower. Member of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. Apply to H.P., care of Editor.

SITUATION WANTED as plumber; general hand; change-ringer; member of Herts Association.—Apply, J. Shepherd, Church Road, Hatfield, Herts.

COMPOSITOR seeks situation. Change-ringer. G. Gerrard, 30, Bradford Street, Handbridge, Chester

WANTED.—Situation as caretaker or any place of trust. Eight years last place; unapproachable references from influential gentlemen. Change-ringer on eight; member of Norwich Diocesan Association. Age 28. Address, J. G. M., care of Editor.

SITUATION WANTED as Turner and Fitter, age 23. Used to small marine engines and millwrighting. Change-ringer.—Apply to J. Valentine, Mill Road, Stony Stratford, Bucks.

TO MASTER PRINTERS.—Wanted a situation as compositor or all-round jobbing hand; nearly eight years present situation; age 22. Can ring standard methods (8 bells).—Apply, A. E. Barrow, 127 Avenue Road, Gosport, Hants.

SITUATION WANTED as gardener. single-handed or where help is given; life experience both inside and out. Four years and half good character. Age 26, married. Good change-ringer on eight.—Address, W. Smith, 24, Anerley Grove, Upper Norwood.

Situations Vacant.

BOOT TRADE.—Wanted Good Repairer for Hand Sewn, etc. W. Page, 84, High Street, Worcester.

MACHINE-MINDER WANTED.—Used to good book and cut-work. Must have served seven years. Permanency to suitable man, able to ring standard methods on ten bells preferred.—Billing & Sons, Guildford.

SPLENDID OPENING for good watchmaker and S clockmaker immediately. Ringer; churchman. Apply by letter, Rectory, Tarporley.

EMPLOYMENT OFFERED to strong, active man with good character. Wages 18s. a week. For full particulars apply, G., care of Editor.

WANTED TWO BRICKLAYERS.—Reed, Waterloo Tower, Quex Park, Birchington.

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. 1 1/2d.

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,
24, Basinghall Street, Leeds

SIR ARTHUR 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, BART, M.A. Gratis on application to SIR ARTHUR HEYWOOD, BART, DUFFIELD BANK, near Derby

THE REV. DR. RAVEN'S WORK.

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 recast. 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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Rings of Bells to any number hung on the most approved principles. New Bells Supplied. Old Bells Recast or Retuned. Messrs. MALLABY AND SONS are experienced in all matters appertaining to Church Bells, and with confidence solicit the patronage of the Clergy, Churchwardens and Ringers generally.

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

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

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication 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 29, 1898.

SOME weeks ago, as our readers will remember, we issued with this paper a photograph of the parish church of Mottram, Cheshire. In the descriptive account which accompanied this, reference was made to a 16,000 of Treble Bob Major rung there, and it was said that in this great performance there was "a flaw." We regret very much that this peal was questioned in such a manner, and we do not hesitate to apologise to all those gentlemen concerned or interested therein. The writer of the article had in his remembrance at the time a previous performance; and we are asked to add to ours his sincere regret at the error he committed. We hope these admissions will justify the truth of the Mottram peal in the minds of every member of the Exercise, and that those gentlemen who have felt some honest indignation in this matter will accept the apologies offered for such an error. The quality of the Mottram performance will certainly not be lessened after these explanations.

LONG PEAL ATTEMPT.—All being well, five members of the St. Martin's Guild will attempt a long peal of Stedman Caters on Handbells, at 55, Stretton Road, Aston, on February 5th. Meeting time, 4 o'clock sharp.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

The next meeting will be held at Bristol on Tuesday in Whitsun-week, 31st May, 1898.

Notices of motion, etc., must reach the Hon. Secretary not later than Tuesday, the 3rd of May. They must be in writing, and signed by two representatives.

Hon. Secretaries of societies are reminded that subscriptions to the Council are now due and should be remitted to the Hon. Secretary without delay, at the rate of 2s. 6d. for each elected representative. The Hon. Secretary would also be greatly obliged for information as to any change in representatives, or their addresses, that has taken place in the last year.

H. EARLE BULWER,
Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn.

Hon. Sec.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, January 22, 1898, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW, BETHNAL GREEN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL—Tenor 14½ cwt.

MATTHEW A. WOOD Treble.	ARTHUR HUGHES 5.
WILLIAM D. SMITH 2.	SAMUEL JOYCE 6.
ARTHUR W. BARKUS 3.	JOSEPH WEST 7.
THOMAS HATTERSLEY 4.	ALBERT COLES Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS HATTERSLEY, of Sheffield.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 22, 1898, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, LEWISHAM,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 22½ cwt.

CHARLES HENRY WALKER Treble.	THOMAS CHANDLER 5.
FREDERICK W. THORNTON .. 2.	HARRY FLANDERS 6.
JOHN TURNER 3.	HARRY WARNETT 7.
THOMAS TAYLOR 4.	HARRY BARRETT Tenor.

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

*First peal of Major. A note to this peal will be found on another page.

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

On Monday, January 24, 1898, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, PUTNEY,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES. Tenor 16 cwt.

GEORGE LANGFORD Treble.	FREDERICK DENCH 5.
ARTHUR G. ELLIS 2.	SAMUEL E. ANDREWS .. 6.
HENRY R. NEWTON 3.	CHARLES T. P. BRICE .. 7.
HENRY S. ELLIS 4.	JOHN N. OXBORROW Tenor.

Composed by F. DENCH and Conducted by JOHN N. OXBORROW.
A note to this peal will be found on another page.

The Provinces.

EARLSHEATON, YORKSHIRE.

THE HEAVY WOOLLEN DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 15, 1898, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST PETER,

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

LUKE ILLINGWORTH Treble.	WALTER BYRAM 5.
ARTHUR GOODALL 2.	JOE CHAPPEL 6.
JAS. A. IDLE 3.	WILLOUGHBY DIXON .. 7.
TOLSON HALL 4.	D. STEPHENSON Tenor.

Composed by the late WM. GOODALL, of Liversedge, and
Conducted by LUKE ILLINGWORTH.

Reference to this peal will be found on another page.

TONBRIDGE, KENT.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, January 15, 1898, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 23 cwt.

JOHN CHIVERS Treble.	STEPHEN PERKINS 5.
EDWARD MANKELOW 2.	THOMAS CARD 6.
JOSEPH SMITH 3.	GEORGE A. CARD 7.
ALFRED LAURENCE 4.	WILLIAM H. CARD Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM H. CARD.

Rung as a birthday compliment to W. H. Card, his brother-strings wishing him many happy returns. This is the conductor's first attempt at calling a peal of Triples.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, January 21, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720s of Kent, two of Oxford, and one each of Plain Bob, Grandsire and Canterbury Pleasure.

GEORGE BUTLER Treble.	GEORGE MORRAD 4.
RICHARD SMITH 2.	FREDERICK HAYES 5.
RICHARD MUNN 3.	LEWIS SILVER Tenor.

Conducted by LEWIS SILVER.

First peal by Silver, Morrad, Smith and Butler. Rung as a birthday compliment to L. Silver, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

BEXHILL, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, January 21, 1898, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qrs.

HARRY HOBBS* Treble.	*GEORGE MARCHANT 5.
THOMAS J. ADES† 2.	THOMAS HUNNISSETT .. 6.
HENRY CRUTTENDEN 3.	BENJAMIN HOBBS 7.
NEWTON CRUTTENDEN .. 4.	WILLIAM BARNES Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS J. ADES.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor. B. Hobbs hails from All Saints, Eastbourne; the rest are local men.

BURNHAM, BUCKS. — THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 22, 1898, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 16 cwt.

ERNEST CARTER Treble.	*GEORGE MARTIN 5.
ALFRED DAY 2.	REUBEN FLAXMAN 6.
GEORGE BLOOMFIELD 3.	GEORGE ALLDER 7.
JOSEPH J. PARKER 4.	†JOHN BRANT Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by J. J. PARKER.

†First peal. *First peal in the method. Rung as a birthday compliment to G. Bloomfield, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

CHELTENHAM, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION
AND THE ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIORS, GLOUCESTER.

On Friday, January 21, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL,
5040 CHANGES. Tenor 22 cwt. 2 qrs. 16 lbs.

ERNEST E. DAVIS Treble.	WILLIAM T. PEGLER 6.
JOHN AUSTIN 2.	FRED G. MAY 7.
REV. E. BANKES JAMES .. 3.	HENRY ROBERTS 8.
FRANCIS E. HART 4.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER 9.
FRANCIS E. WARD 5.	REV. H. LAW JAMES Tenor.

Composed by the REV. E. BANKES JAMES and
Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

This is the first peal ever rung in the method, and rang at the second attempt, being unsuccessful the previous evening after ringing two hours and a quarter at Streud.

FRIEZLAND, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, January 22, 1898, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of the following:

Duke of York, Yorkshire Delight, Kent, Merchants' Return,
New London, Oxford, and Violet. Tenor 15 cwt.

JOSEPH W. SHAW Treble.	JOSEPH WOOD 4.
G. H. WOOD* 2.	JAMES DICKEN 5.
OWEN WOOD 3.	JOHN D. SHAW Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH W. SHAW.

*First peal.

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 22, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

JAMES BATTING Treble.	FREDERICK G. HEALEY .. 5.
THOMAS S. GOODCHILD .. 2.	RICHARD BUCKLAND .. 6.
JOHN WEST 3.	JAMES W. WILKINS .. 7.
WILLIAM WHEATLEY .. 4.	JAMES W. BAGLEY Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WILKINS.

First peal by Messrs. Buckland, Bagley, Batting, and Goodchild, and rung at the first attempt. The first three-named are local men. Messrs. West, Healey, and Wheatley hail from Woburn; Goodchild from Bray; the conductor from Maidenhead.

BROMSGROVE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 22, 1898, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5004 CHANGES.

Tenor 19 cwt.

HUBERT SALISBURY* .. Treble.	GEORGE HAYWARD 6.
WILLIAM C. JONES 2.	*ALBERT JACKSON 7.
LIONEL LONGNEY 3.	ALFRED MOORE 8.
JOHN MASON 4.	GEORGE BOURNE 9.
OLIVER JAMES 5.	JAMES PARRY Tenor.

Composed by G. HAYWARD and Conducted by LIONEL LONGNEY.

*First peal of Caters. H. Salisbury hails from Comberton; W. C. Jones from Worcester; L. Longney from Croome; the rest are local ringers.

DRIGHLINGTON, YORKS.-THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 22, 1898, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES:

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 16 cwt.

JEREMY THORNTON .. Treble.	JOHN THACKRAY 5.
SIDNEY C. CLARK 2.	HERBERT KERSHAW .. 6.
ABSOLOM WILKINSON .. 3.	JAMES W. EMMETT .. 7.
EDWIN WHEATER 4.	FRED W. HARGREAVES .. Tenor.

Composed by W. SOTTANSTALL and Conducted by EDWIN WHEATER.

Messrs. Clark and Wheeler hail from Bradford; Wilkinson, Kershaw and Emmett from Low Moor; Thackray from Armley; Hargreaves from Tong; Thornton belongs to the local company.

HAWLEY, HANTS.-THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 22, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS'.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

BARZILLAI HAWKINS .. Treble.	JOHN W. WHITING 5.
REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. 2.	WILLIAM NEWELL 6.
JOHN I. JONES 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
HENRY WHITE 4.	MAURICE STEER Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

HIGHAM FERRERS, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 22, 1898, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,

5088 CHANGES. Tenor 22 cwt. 3 qrs. 17 lbs.

JAMES GARRATT Treble.	ANDERSON YORK TYLER .. 5.
WILLIAM VERNON NEWMAN* 2.	†THOMAS ROBERT HENSHER 6.
JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN .. 3.	ALFRED HENRY MARTIN .. 7.
WILLIAM PETTITT 4.	†JOHN BLACKWELL MARTIN Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW and

Conducted by JOHN BLACKWELL MARTIN.

*First peal in the method with a bob bell. †First peal in the method. ‡First peal in the method as conductor.

TAUNTON, SOMERSETSHIRE.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 22, 1898, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt.

JOSEPH MADDOCK Treble.	*JAMES GRABHAM 5.
FRANK MILLARD 2.	EDGAR E. BURGESS 6.
HENRY PEARCE 3.	HENRY J. POOLE 7.
REV. H. C. COURTNEY* .. 4.	GEORGE H. YENDALL .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH MADDOCK.

This peal was taken from Shipway's "Campanologia." *First peal of Major.

PULBOROUGH, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 22, 1898, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,

5088 CHANGES. Tenor 14 cwt.

GEORGE PAICE Treble.	EDWIN JORDAN 5.
JOHN RICE 2.	ROBERT JORDAN 6.
FREDERICK W. CRIPPS .. 3.	JAMES PARKER 7.
JOHN R. SHARMAN 4.	FREDERICK W. RICE .. Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW and Conducted by JAMES PARKER.

This is the first peal on the bells. Further reference to this peal will appear next week.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, January 23, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,

5024 CHANGES. Tenor 13½ cwt. in F.

FREDERICK W. CRIPPS .. Treble.	GEORGE PAICE 5.
ROBERT JORDAN 2.	EDWIN JORDAN 6.
JOHN RICE 3.	JAMES PARKER 7.
JOHN R. SHARMAN* 4.	FREDK. W. RICE Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS and Conducted by JAMES PARKER.

*First peal in the method.

EDENBRIDGE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, January 23, 1898, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOSEPH EDWARDS .. Treble.	JAMES WALLIS 5.
WILLIAM STEED 2.	THOMAS WALLIS 6.
JOHN STEDDY 3.	JACK PRESTON 7.
JAMES HEASMAN 4.	JOHN MALYAN Tenor.

Conducted by JACK PRESTON.

Steed hails from Tonbridge; the rest belong to the local band. It was intended to have rung Major, but one of the band being indisposed this was impossible; but Mr. Malyan kindly offering to ring the tenor, the above was rung instead.

BRIGHTON.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 24, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5088 CHANGES. Tenor 10½ cwt.

JAMES N. FROSSELL Treble.	FRANK BENNETT 5.
KEITH HART 2.	GEORGE WILLIAMS 6.
GEORGE F. ATTREE 3.	GEORGE A. KING 7.
ARTHUR A. FULLER 4.	GEORGE SMART Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW and Conducted by GEORGE SMART.

The above peal was rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the memory of Mr. Wm. Robinson, who was buried on that day. He was a member of the St. Peter's Brighton Society, and had held the post of verger of the parish church of Brighton for upwards of twenty-five years.

HARBORNE. STAFFORDSHIRE.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 24, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 10½ cwt.

JAMES BETTERTON* Treble.	THOMAS WAKEMAN 5.
WILLIAM S. PRITCHETT 2.	WILLIAM SHORT 6.
FRED. SUMNER 3.	WILLIAM PALMER 7.
FREDERICK CLAYTON 4.	WILLIAM H. BARBER Tenor.

Conducted by W. S. PRITCHETT.

*First peal of Treble Bob. The ringers wish to thank the vicar, the Rev. J. Price, for the use of the bells; Mr. Grosvenor, the tower-keeper, and the local band who kindly gave up their practice for the visitors.

DEFECTIVE REPORT.—A report of a peal of Bob Major conducted by John Dronfield, without the name of the town or village wherein it was rung, has come to hand.

Date Touches.

BEVERLEY (Yorks).—On Thursday, January 13th, at St. Mary's church, a date touch of 1898 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 10 mins. E. Whiting, 1; H. Blythe, 2; H. Smelt, 3; F. Osgerby, 4; H. Ushaw, 5; G. Marshall, 6; C. Jackson, 7; R. Rogers, 8. Messrs. Jackson and Marshall hail from Hull.

EARLSHEATON (Yorks).—On Sunday, January 2nd, at St. Peter's church, a date touch of 1898 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 12 mins. S. Rigg, 1; A. Goodall, 2; M. Garforth, 3; T. Hall, 4; W. Byram, 5; J. Chappel, 6; W. Dixon, 7; J. A. Idle, 8. Composed and conducted by T. Hall, and it is his first attempt at composition.

Miscellaneous.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

HAZEL GROVE (Cheshire).—On Monday, December 6th, for practice, 720 Violet Treble Bob in 25 mins. J. Fernley, 1; J. Dean, 2; G. Warburton, 3; S. Fernley (conductor), 4; S. Rutter, 5; A. Fernley, 6. First 720 of Violet on the bells by the band, and first in the method by the Stockport and Bowden branch of the above guild. On Sunday morning, December 12th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob in 25 mins. G. Warburton, 1; S. Fernley (conductor), 2; S. Rutter, 3; J. Dean, 4; A. Fernley, 5; J. Shallcross, 6. For evening service 720 Kent Treble Bob in 25 mins. S. Rutter, 1; G. Warburton, 2; S. Fernley (conductor), 3; J. Fernley, 4; A. Fernley, 5; J. Shallcross, 6. On Friday, December 17th, for practice, 720 Violet Treble Bob in 25½ mins. J. Fernley, 1; J. Dean, 2; G. Warburton, 3; S. Fernley (conductor), 4; S. Rutter, 5; A. Fernley, 6. On Sunday evening, December 19th, for Divine Service, 720 Plain Bob in 24½ mins. J. Dean, 1; S. Fernley (conductor), 2; G. Warburton, 3; S. Rutter, 4; A. Fernley, 5; J. Shallcross, 6. On Sunday evening, December 26th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob in 25 mins. S. Fernley (conductor), 1; J. Fernley, 2; G. Warburton, 3; S. Rutter, 4; A. Fernley, 5; J. Shallcross, 6. On Monday, December 27th, for practice, 720 New London Pleasure in 25½ mins. J. Fernley, 1; J. Dean, 2; G. Warburton, 3; S. Fernley (conductor), 4; S. Rutter, 5; A. Fernley, 6. First 720 in the method on the bells by the band, and first in the method by the Stockport and Bowden branch of the above guild. Also 720 New London in 25 mins. J. Fernley, 1; J. Dean, 2; G. Warburton, 3; S. Fernley (conductor), 4; S. Rutter, 5; A. Fernley, 6.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

SHERE (Surrey).—On Monday, January 10th, before the Quarterly Meeting, 518 Grandsire Triples. M. Steer, 1; Alice White, 2; T. Attwell, 3; E. Heathorn, 4; J. J. Jones, 5; H. White, 6; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 7; Rev. C. E. Matthews, 8. And 240 Kent Treble Bob. Alice White, 1; E. Heathorn, 2; J. Akehurst, 3; J. J. Jones, 4; H. White, 5; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 6. And 168 Stedman Triples. T. Attwell, 1; J. Harper, 2; Alice White, 3; J. J. Jones, 4; E. Heathorn, 5; H. White (conductor), 6; J. W. Whiting, 7; Rev. C. E. Matthews, 8. Also several 6-scores of Doubles by the Shalford band. Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qrs. 2 lbs. in E.

RYDE (Isle of Wight).—On Tuesday, November 30th, for practice, 434 Grandsire Triples. S. Salisbury, 1; P. Long, 2; H. Coombes, 3; J. Norris, 4; —. Billingham, 5; E. Hatcher, 6; H. Jennings (conductor), 7; E. Brett, 8. On Tuesday, December 14th, 447 Grandsire Triples. S. Salisbury, 1; P. Long, 2; H. Coombes, 3; J. Norris, 4; —. Billingham, 5; E. Hatcher, 6; H. Jennings (conductor), 7; E. Brett, 8. Also 504 in the same method, standing as above. The first two touches contain the extent of the titmums and the third contains nine 6-7s. Applegarth hails from Alton; Billingham from Loughborough. On Sunday morning, December 18th, for Divine Service, 308 Grandsire Triples. S. Salisbury, 1; P. Long, 2; H. Coombes, 3; J. Norris, 4; C. Stainer, 5; E. Hatcher, 6; H. Jennings (conductor), 7; E. Brett, 8. This touch contains six 6-7s.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HIGHAM FERRERS (Northants).—On Sunday evening, November 7th, for Divine Service, 860 Kent Treble Bob Major. G. Warner, 1; J. Mawby, 2; W. Newman, 3; A. Perkins, 4; G. Brown, 5; J. Martin, 6; A. Martin, 7; A. Tyler (conductor), 8. Also 518 Grandsire Triples. A. Everitt, 1; A. Martin, 2; G. Warner, 3; G. Brown, 4; A. Perkins, 5; W. Parker, 6; A. Tyler (conductor), 7; J. Jeffs, 8. On Tuesday, November 9th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. A. Everitt, 1; W. Newman, 2; A. Tyler, 3; W. Parker, 4; G. Brown, 5; A. Martin, 6; J. Martin (conductor), 7; G. Warner, 8. On Sunday evening, November 14th, for Divine Service, 464 Bob Major. J. Mawby, 1; A. Everitt, 2; W. Newman, 3; G. Warner, 4; A. Martin, 5; G. Brown, 6; W. Parker, 7; A. Tyler (conductor), 8. Also 336 Grandsire Triples. J. Mawby, 1; W. Newman, 2; J. Martin, 3; G. Warner, 4; A. Tyler (conductor), 5; G. Brown, 6; A. Martin, 7; A. Everitt, 8. On Tuesday, November 16th, 672 Kent Treble Bob Major. G. Warner, 1; J. Mawby, 2; J. Martin, 3; W. Newman, 4; G. Brown, 5; A. Martin, 6; W. Parker, 7; A. Tyler (conductor), 8.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

BLOXWICH (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, November 27th, 720 Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. A. Painter, 1; J. Birch, 2; E. Washbrook, 3; F. Edwards, 4; J. Adams, 5; T. Elton (conductor), 6. On Sunday, November 28th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 40 mins. A. Painter, 1; E. Washbrook, 2; J. Barton (conductor), 3; J. Birch, 4; W. Barton, 5; J. Adams, 6; J. Elton, 7; F. Edwards, 8. Composed by J. Barrett, of Stepney.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Saturday, December 4th, at St. Olave's, Hart Street, E.C., 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Barry, 1; J. Bradley, 2; R. Poulson, 3; T. Taffender, 4; W. Truss, 5; W. Grimwood (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, December 5th, for Divine Service at All Hallows, Barking, Great Tower Street, E.C., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 48 mins., taken from Holt's Original. *D. Haslam, 1; F. Clements, 2; W. Berry, 3; T. Taffender (conductor), 4; F. C. Newman, 5; W. Truss, 6; H. Flanders, 7; *J. Joyce, 8. *First quarter-peal. On Monday, December 20th, at St. Paul's church; Shadwell, 1344 Superlative Surprise Major in 50 mins. E. Hall, 1; T. Faulkner, 2; C. Fenn, 3; R. Fenn, 4; E. Andrews, 5; H. Springall (conductor), 6; S. Hayes, 7; A. Hardy, 8. Longest touch in the method by all.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

READING (Berks).—On Sunday, December 19th, at St. Laurence's church, 672 Bob Royal. A. E. Headey, 1; A. E. Reeves, jun., 2; F. Tubbs, 3; H. Tucker, 4; C. Giles, 5; J. E. Hern, 6; W. P. Routh, 7; J. Tucker, 8; A. Osborne, 9; F. Hopgood (conductor), 10. Tenor 24 cwt.

MORTIMER (Berks).—On Sunday, December 4th, for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples. H. Cox, 1; W. Jerrom, 2; W. Chalk, 3; T. Neville, 4; A. Pye, 5; F. Eatwell, 6; K. Mason (conductor), 7; W. Scott, 8. Another 504. H. Cox, 1; W. Chalk, 2; W. Ballard, 3; T. Neville, 4; W. Jerrom, 5; F. Eatwell, 6; K. Mason (conductor),

7; A. Davis, 8. W. Chalk hails from Malden, Essex. Also 910. H. Austin, 1; W. Jerrom, 2; W. Ballard, 3; T. Neville, 4; A. Pye, 5; F. Eatwell, 6; K. Mason (conductor), 7; H. Cox, 8.

YORK TOWN (Surrey).—On Monday, December 27th, at the church of St. Michael, an attempt for a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was lost in the last course after ringing 2 hrs. 57 mins. F. Bennett, 1; A. E. Reeves, 2; F. Tubbs, 3; B. Hawkins, 4; H. Tucker, 5; J. Tucker, 6; J. Whiting, 7; F. Hopgood (conductor), 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent).—On Sunday, December 19th, for evening service at St. Peter's church, 1120 Double Norwich Court Bob Major, in 41 mins. J. Muggridge, 1; G. Head, 2; G. Smithers, 3; W. Pollard, 4; W. A. Tyler, 5; W. Latter, 6; H. Card, 7; S. Perkins, 8. This is the longest length in the method by all the band except W. A. Tyler, who hails from Loughborough. On Thursday, December 23rd, for practice at St. Peter's church, 336 Grandsire Triples. J. Pankhurst, 1; A. Welsh, 2; G. Head (conductor), 3; W. Pollard, 4; S. Perkins, 5; H. Ford, 6; G. Smithers, 7; B. Page, 8. And 168 in the same method. G. Head, 1; J. Pankhurst (first touch with a bob bell), 2; S. Perkins, 3; W. Pollard, 4; A. Welsh, 5; H. Ford, 6; W. Latter (conductor), 7; G. Smithers, 8. And 504 Stedman Triples. G. Head, 1; G. Smithers, 2; A. Welsh, 3; W. Pollard, 4; H. Ford, 5; W. Latter, 6; S. Perkins (conductor), 7; J. Pankhurst, 8. J. Pankhurst hails from Brightling, Sussex.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LITTLE MUNDEN (Herts).—On Sunday, December 5th, for afternoon service, 120 Stedman Doubles. W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; L. Collins, 6. For evening service, 108 Grandsire Minor. A. Wright, 1; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6; the others as before. On Monday, for Divine Service, 180 Bob Minor. On Sunday, for morning service, 360 Oxford Bob. A. Wright, 1; A. Phillips, 2; A. Lawrence, 3; J. Heady, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. For evening service, 120 Kent Treble Bob. A. Lawrence, 1; G. Carter, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. H. Lawrence, 6. On Thursday, 360 Canterbury Pleasure. A. Wright, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. This is the first in the method by all, also on the bells. On Sunday, December 19th, 180 Bob Minor. A. Wright, 1; A. Phillips, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Lawrence, 4; G. Carter, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. For afternoon service, 360 College Single, 180 Oxford Bob, and 108 Grandsire Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 26th, for afternoon service, 720 College Single. H. Carter, 1; G. Carter, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. Also for evening service at Walton, Herts, 720 Bob Minor. Tenor 15½ cwt. On Monday, December 27th, the above band visited Arton, Herts, and rang 120 Grandsire, 120 Stedman Doubles, 720 Oxford Bob. J. Heady, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; G. Carter, 3; A. Smith, 4; A. Phillips, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. Tenor 11 cwt. Also at Ardley, Herts, 360 Bob Minor and 216 Grandsire Minor. Tenor 9 cwt.

THE WORCESTER CATHEDRAL GUILD.

WORCESTER.—On Christmas Day, before the morning service, 539 of Grandsire Caters. B. S. Hill, 1; W. Cotton, 2; A. Hill, 3; W. Powell, 4; W. Bright, 5; G. Hinton, 6; L. Longney (conductor), 7; G. Checketts, 8; W. Johnson, 9; T. Malin, 10. Also on New Year's Eve with the bells muffled, 503 of Grandsire Caters. A. Hill, 1; W. Powell, 3; C. W. Jones, 4; the rest as before. When the New Year came in, the muffles were removed, and three short courses of Caters rung. Tenor 50 cwt.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ARMLEY (Yorks).—At Christ Church, for practice, on Thursday evening, December 9th, 720 Bob Minor. F. Blacketh (Bramley), 1; B. Cowling, 2; J. Summersall (Pateley Bridge, conductor), 3; Joe Thackray, 4; Jno. Thackray, 5; J. Heckingbottom, 6. Also 60 College Single and 120 Oxford Treble Bob standing as above. Also on handbells, 360 Oxford. Joe Thackray (conductor), 1; J. Summersall, 2; F. Blacketh, 3; J. Heckington, 4; Jno. Thackray, 5; B. Cowling, 6. The only previous touch of Treble Bob by J. Summersall was on the treble in January last.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NORWICH.—On Wednesday, December 1st, 1897, at the church of St. Peter Mancroft, 704 Grandsire Cinques in 30 mins. C. E. Borrett (conductor), 1; A. G. Barnes, 2; W. Bales, 3; J. A. Trollope, 4; P. Sadler, 5; F. J. Howchin, 6; G. Howchin, 7; E. Francis, 8; F. H. Knights, 9; F. Knights, 10; G. Smith, 11; S. Smith, 12. The above

was rung on the anniversary of the birthday of Kathleen, fourth daughter of J. H. Holmes, Esq., of this city, a lady dearly loved by all who know her.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TAUNTON (Somerset).—On December 9th, at Kingston parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. E. Wyatt, 1; J. Fowler, 2; S. Wyatt, 3; J. Garland, 4; W. Thomas, 5; J. Burge (conductor), 6. At St. Mary's church, on December 31st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins. A. J. Iles, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; A. Walker, 3; W. Thomas, 4; J. Garland, 5; J. Fowler, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; F. Collins, 8. First quarter-peal by Iles, Garland and Collins. Also 377 Grandsire Triples. H. Mogridge, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; J. Fowler, 3; W. Thomas, 4; J. Garland, 5; T. Radford, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; F. Collins, 8. And 504 Grandsire Triples. H. Mogridge, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; W. Thomas, 3; T. Radford, 4; J. Garland, 5; E. Wyatt, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; F. Collins, 8. First 504 by J. Garland and E. Wyatt. And 318 Grandsire Triples. A. J. Iles, 1; A. Walker, 2; J. Fowler, 3; T. Radford, 4; J. Joyce, 5; J. Garland, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; E. Wyatt, 8. And 306 Grandsire Triples. A. J. Iles, 1; H. Mogridge, 2; J. Joyce, 3; J. Garland, 4; S. Wyatt, 5; J. Burge (conductor), 6; T. Radford, 7; J. Fowler, 8. Also 308 Grandsire Triples. A. J. Iles, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; W. Thomas, 3; T. Radford, 4; J. Fowler, 5; J. Garland, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; F. Collins, 8. And 518 Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled. E. Wyatt, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; A. Doble, 3; J. Fowler, 4; J. Garland, 5; W. Thomas, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; F. Collins, 8. And 720 Grandsire Minor. F. Collins, 1; J. Burge, 2; S. Wyatt, 3; J. Fowler, 4; J. Garland, 5; W. Thomas (conductor), 6.

CLAPTON (Somersetshire).—On Thursday, December 9th, at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. G. Tippetts, 1; R. Cottle, 2; A. Gale, 3; T. Doble, 4; J. Nisbett, 5; W. Gillingham (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 on the bells. T. Doble hails from Taunton; the rest from Portishead.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WALTHAMSTOW (Essex).—On Friday evening, December 31st, for midnight service at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes), in 52 mins. W. J. Coakham, 1; F. Rumens, 2; W. B. Manning, 3; C. Hopkins, 4; R. J. Maynard, 5; F. A. Nunn, 6; F. G. Newman, 7; W. Pinsent, 8; A. G. Freeman, 9; W. Crockford, 10. Composed by G. Chard and conducted by A. G. Freeman.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

CHESTERFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday evening, December 19th, for Divine Service, 1280 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 49 mins. *G. Toplis, 1; *G. M. Farr, 2; J. H. Bell, 3; S. Price, 4; *G. Davies, 5; J. Hunt, 6; *W. J. Thyng, 7; A. Knights (conductor), 8. *First quarter-peal of Treble Bob. This is the first quarter-peal of Treble Bob rung by a Chesterfield band. Tenor 24½ cwt. On Monday, December 27th, an attempt was made to ring a peal of 7038 Grandsire Caters, but after ringing 5382 changes in 3 hrs. 27 mins., a change course occurred. D. Farthing, 1; S. Price, 2; J. H. Bell, 3; T. Whitworth (Treeton), 4; G. Toplis, 5; G. Davies, 6; A. Knights (conductor), 7; J. W. Thompson (Derby), 8; A. E. Thompson (Derby), 9; G. Mee, 10. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Farthing, who was 51 years of age on the 25th.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ECKINGTON.—On Saturday, December 11th, at the parish church, 600 College Pleasure. F. Hancock, 1; T. Bettison (conductor), 2; J. Morton, 3; W. Lambert, 4; W. Allwood, 5; H. Turton, 6. Tenor 17 cwt. On Sunday evening, December 12th, for Divine Service, 240 each of Violet and Duke of York. F. Hancock, 1; W. Price, 2; J. Morton, 3; S. Robinson, 4; G. Marsden, 5; G. Norman (conductor), 6. On December 11th, 720 Tulip. T. Bettison (conductor), 1; W. Allwood (first in the method), 2; T. Whitworth, 3; C. Severn, 4; H. Turton, 5; W. Lambert, 6.

TREETON (Yorks).—On Sunday, December 5th, for evening service, 720 Cambridge Surprise. A. Woofenden, 1; J. H. Brothwell, 2; W. Allwood (first in the method), 3; T. Sadler, 4; W. J. Nicholson, 5; W. Lambert (conductor), 6. And 240 Primrose, standing as before. On Sunday, December 19th, for morning service, 720 Ebor. A. Woofenden, 1; T. Whitworth, 2; W. Allwood (first in the method), 3; T. Sadler, 4; W. J. Nicholson, 5; W. Lambert (conductor), 6. For evening service, 720 Cambridge and 120 Tulip. A. Woofenden, 1; S. Walker, 2; W. Allwood, 3; T. Sadler, 4; T. Whitworth, 5; W. Lambert (conductor), 6. Bettison, Severn and Turton hail from Killamarsh, and rest from Treeton. On Sunday, December 26th, for evening service, 720 Violet and 120 Cambridge Surprise. A. Woofenden, 1; J. H. Brothwell, 2; T. Whitworth, 3; S. Walker, 4; W. J. Nicholson, 5; W. Lambert (conductor), 6.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRISTOL.—On Tuesday, December 14th, for practice at the church of St. Stephen, 720 Stedman Caters. W. J. Hinton, 1; C. Millard, 2; C. Horton, 3; W. Knight, 4; H. Howell, 5; A. Bawn, 6; W. A. Cave, 7; W. Pickard, 8; E. P. O'Meara, 9; W. Colston, 10. Also a touch of Treble Bob Royal. On Sunday, December 19th, 979 Stedman Caters in 35 mins. W. Cave (conductor), 1; C. Gordon, 2; C. Horton, 3; R. Wilkins, 4; F. Elles, 5; A. Bawn, 6; C. Tomkins, 7; W. Pickard, 8; W. J. Hinton, 9; W. Colston, 10. On Sunday, December 26th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 43 mins. C. Millard, 1; W. Knight, 2; F. Elles, 3; W. Pickard (first quarter-peal of Stedman), 4; F. Perrin, 5; C. E. Boutflower, 6; W. A. Cave (conductor), 7; W. Colston, 8. On Sunday, December 26th, 504 Stedman Triples. W. J. Hinton, 1; C. Horton, 2; H. Pring, 3; F. Perrin, 4; C. Tomkins, 5; F. Elles, 6; F. Price, 7; J. Sully (Stogumber) 8. On Saturday, January 15th, after the Annual Meeting of the Association, at Christ Church, 860 Kent Treble Bob Royal. Rev. E. B. James, 1; F. May, 2; C. Gordon, 3; W. Knight, 4; C. Horton, 5; C. Tomkins, 6; W. Cave, 7; W. Pickard, 8; F. Price, 9; Rev. H. L. James, 10. On Sunday morning, January 16th, for Divine Service at St. Stephen's, 1008 Stedman Triples in 30 mins. W. J. Hinton, 1; W. Knight, 2; J. Poole, 3; C. Horton, 4; F. Howell, 5; F. Elles, 6; W. Cave (conductor), 7; W. Colston, 8. In the evening several touches of Stedman Caters. Messrs. Poole and Howell hail from Thornbury.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PENARTH.—On Sunday, November 7th, for morning service, 720 College Single. W. T. Northey, 1; W. B. Biss, 2; R. C. Balcombe, 3; F. Bartlett, 4; D. Thomas (conductor), 5; T. Northey, 6. First in the method by W. T. Northey and R. C. Balcombe. For evening service 720 Plain Bob (sixteen bobs and two singles). W. T. Northey, 1; W. B. Biss (conductor), 2; D. Thomas, 3; F. Bartlett, 4; J. Vinnicombe, 5; T. Northey, 6. On Tuesday, November 9th, for practice, 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. T. Northey, 1; W. B. Biss (conductor), 2; R. C. Balcombe, 3; F. Bartlett, 4; O. W. Layng (Swindon), 5; J. Vinnicombe, 6. On Sunday, November 14th for evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob (nine bobs). J. Jones, 1; F. Bartlett, 2; D. Thomas, 3; J. Vinnicombe, 4; T. Northey, 5; J. Cox (conductor, Newport), 6. On Tuesday, November 30th, for practice, 720 Kent (nine bobs). J. Jones, 1; F. Bartlett, 2; D. Thomas, 3; W. B. Biss, 4; T. Northey, 5; J. Vinnicombe, 6.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ANGMERING (Sussex).—On Saturday, October 16th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. T. Linfield, 1; H. Finch, 2; A. Child, 3; T. Parsons, 4; F. Finch, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. The bells were rung half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late J. N. Tompkins. On Saturday, November 20th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. H. Finch, 1; H. Evans (Goring), 2; C. Hills, 3; T. Parsons, 4; F. Finch, 5; T. Linfield (conductor), 6. On Friday, December 24th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. E. Phillips, 1; C. Hills, 2; H. Finch, 3; T. Parsons, 4; F. Finch, 5; T. Linfield (conductor), 6. On Saturday, December 25th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. E. Phillips, 1; H. Finch, 2; A. Child, 3; C. Hills, 4; T. Parsons, 5; T. Linfield (conductor), 6.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

WOLLASTON.—On Tuesday, November 30th, at St. James's church, 720 Double Court Bob. W. Stinton, 1; J. H. Parsons, 2; H. Dakin, 3; G. H. Pagett, 4; W. Fryer, 5; A. Roberts (conductor), 6. First in the method by all except the conductor, and first on the bells. On Tuesday, January 18th, 720 Grandsire Minor. A. Roberts, 1; J. H. Parsons, 2; F. Brace, 3; W. A. Skelding (first in the method), 4; W. Fryer, 5; G. H. Pagett (conductor), 6.

STOURBRIDGE.—On Sunday, December 19th, at St. Thomas's church for morning service, 720 Bob Minor. G. Underwood, 1; L. Pritchard, 2; G. H. Pagett, 3; W. A. Skelding, 4; W. A. Pugh, 5; A. Roberts (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 16th, 360 in the same method. J. Pagett, 6; W. Buttery, cover; the rest as before.

BADSEY (Worcestershire).—On New Year's Day, the Rev. F. E. Robinson visited the above village to inspect the bells, which have been rehung. The following ringers met him and rang a 720 of Bob Minor, being the first on the bells. A. N. Sharp, 1; H. Salisbury, 2; G. Checketts, 3; L. Longuey, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; F. Cook (conductor), 6. Some Canterbury Pleasure and Oxford Bob was also rung.

CLIFTON (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, December 26th, at the church of SS. Philip and James, 720 Bob Minor in 26 mins. H.

Horner, 1; A. Horner, 2; G. Horner, 3; L. Woodcock, 4; T. Hodgson, 5; A. Haigh (conductor), 6. First 720 in any method by Messrs. A. and G. Horner, and L. Woodcock.

FULHAM.—On Sunday evening, December 19th, for Divine Service at All Saints church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, 1259 changes, in 48 mins. A. Ough, 1; J. Nicholls, 2; W. Meaton, 3; H. Owen, 4; J. Aldridge, 5; C. Charge (composer and conductor), 6; R. Charge, 7; W. Elson, 8; E. Adams, 9; T. Driver, 10.

GODMANCHESTER.—On Monday, December 6th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples (taken from Hubbard's ten-part peal). F. V. H. Sinkins, 1; J. Briars, 2; J. Smart, 3; H. Saunders, 4; J. Toller, 5; J. Perkins, 6; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 7; F. Fear, 8. Tenor 21 cwt.

HEMINGFORD ABBOTS (Hunts).—On Monday, November 22nd, at St. Margaret's church, a meeting of ringers from Grey and Huntingdon took place, the foreman of the local band ringing the treble to some 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, the visitors ringing two 720s of Minor, as follows; 720 Plain Bob, in 27 mins. W. H. Fussell, 1; J. Briars, 2; H. Saunders, 3; J. Smart, 4; J. Toller (conductor), 5; J. Perkins, 6. And 720 Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. W. H. Fussell (conductor), 1; F. V. H. Sinkins, 2; J. Briars, 3; J. Toller, 4; F. Fear, 5; J. Perkins, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt. On Sunday, December 19th, 720 Kent. H. Sanders, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 3; J. Toller, 4; C. Chasty, 5; C. Lilley, 6. Also 720 Grandsire Minor. J. Hughes, 1; C. Chasty, 2; G. Irons, 3; J. Toller, 4; C. Lilley (conductor), 5; J. Perkins, 6.

HEMINGFORD GREY (Hunts).—On Monday, November 29th, a meeting was held here and a 720 of Grandsire Minor rang in 25 mins. J. Briars, 1; F. H. Sinkins, 2; J. Smart, 3; W. H. Fussell, 4; J. Toller (conductor), 5; J. Perkins, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. Some Bob Minor was rang with the Rev. P. E. Curtois, Vicar, ringing the treble; H. Copley, Esq. (St. Ives), 3; J. M. Fears and others. On Sunday, December 19th, 720 Oxford Bob. G. Irons, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; J. Briars, 3; C. Chasty, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; C. Lilley, 6. Also 720 Bob Minor. C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1; G. Irons, 2; J. Briars, 3; F. Fear, 4; C. Lilley, 5; J. Perkins, 6.

HUNTINGDON.—On Tuesday, November 30th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 420 Grandsire Minor. J. Hall, 1; W. Seamer, 2; W. H. Fussell, 3; C. Murphy, 4; J. Smart, 5; F. V. H. Sinkins, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. Some 6-scores, with A. Clarke, 5; G. Marshall, 6. All the above are local men. On Tuesday, December 7th, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. J. Hall, 1; W. Seamer (first 720 of Minor), 2; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 3; C. Murphy, 4; J. Smart, 5; G. Hines (Hartford), 6. Rung on the back six. On Sunday, December 19th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins. J. Hall (first quarter-peal away from the tenor), 1; F. Sinkins, 2; G. Irons (first quarter-peal), 3; W. H. Fussell, 4; C. Chasty, 5; C. Murphy (first quarter-peal with a bob bell), 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; C. Lilley, 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

HORNCastle (Lincolnshire).—On Monday, December 27th, at St. Mary's church, six members of the local company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles) in 26 mins. R. Farr, 1; J. T. Walsh (conductor), 2; W. Taylor, 3; G. M. Morton, 4; G. Belton, 5; A. Howes, 6. First 720 of Grandsire Minor on the bells; also first 720 by Messrs. Farr and Belton, and first 720 with a bob bell by G. M. Morton. It is worthy of note that all the above ringers with the exception of R. Farr, are composers, and in the employ of Mr. W. K. Morton, printer, of Horncastle, and it is nearly half-a-century since a 720 was rung on these bells by an entire local company.

KIDDERMINSTER (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, November 9th, 672 New Cambridge Major. J. Pagett, 1; N. Davis, 2; G. Salter, 3; W. H. Smith (conductor), 4; T. J. Salter, 5; J. O. Bennett, 6; J. Crane, 7; E. C. Hunt, 8. On Sunday, November 14th, on the occasion of the Mayor attending Divine Service at the parish church, touches of Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob Major, Grandsire Major and Superlative Surprise Major, conducted by J. Pagett. On Sunday, November 21st, 504 Stedman Triples. G. Salter, 1; J. O. Bennett, 2; T. J. Salter, 3; N. Davis (first touch as conductor), 4; W. H. Smith, 5; J. Pagett, 6; J. Crane, 7; E. C. Hunt, 8. On Sunday, November 28th, 448 Cambridge Surprise. G. Salter, 1; J. O. Bennett, 2; N. Davis, 3; T. J. Salter (conductor), 4; J. Crane, 5; J. Pagett, 6; W. H. Smith, 7; E. C. Hunt, 8. On Sunday, December 5th, at quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. W. H. Smith, 1; J. O. Bennett, 2; T. J. Salter, 3; N. Davis, 4; J. Reynolds, 5; E. C. Hunt, 6; J. Crane (conductor), 7; J. Pagett, 8. 336 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. J. Pagett, 1; T. Griffiths, 2; G. Salter, 3; N. Davis, 4; E. C. Hunt, 5; T. J. Salter, 6; J. Crane, 7; W. H. Smith (conductor), 8. On Sunday, December 12th, 448 Superlative Surprise. T. J. Salter (conductor), 1; J. O. Bennett, 2; G. Salter, 3; N. Davis, 4; T. Wakeman, 5; J. Crane, 6; E. C. Hunt, 7; W. H. Smith, 8. On Sunday, December 19th, 554 Stedman Triples. J. Pagett, 1; E. C. Hunt, 2; N. Davis,

3; J. O. Bennett, 4; W. H. Smith, 5; T. J. Salter (conductor), 6; J. Crane, 7; S. Crump, 8. Tenor 30 cwt.

MILVERTON (Somerset).—On Monday, December 20th, at St. Michael's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. T. Langdon, 1; W. Andrews, 2; R. Scott (conductor), 3; F. Norman, 4; J. Richards, 5; A. J. Andrews, 6; W. Chapman, 7; C. Pulsford, 8. First quarter-peal by Messrs. Langdon and Norman.

NORTHAMPTON.—On Sunday evening, November 21st, for Divine Service at All Saints' church, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Knightall, 1; H. Blundell (conductor), 2; H. Rainbow, 3; A. Moore, 4; A. Arnold, 5; C. Emery, 6; W. Farey, 7; W. Roberts, 8. On Tuesday, November 23rd, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Knightall, 1; H. Blundell (conductor), 2; S. Hall, 3; A. Stewart, 4; A. Moore, 5; C. Emery, 6; W. Farey, 7; C. Fennell, 8. On Wednesday, November 24th, after the Confirmation Service, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Knightall, 1; A. Moore, 2; H. Rainbow, 3; H. Blundell (conductor), 4; A. Arnold, 5; C. Emery, 6; W. Farey, 7; C. Fennell, 8. On Sunday, November 28th, 447 Grandsire Triples. W. Knightall, 1; W. Farey, 2; H. Rainbow, 3; A. Arnold, 4; J. Mackay, 5; A. Moore, 6; H. Blundell, 7; C. Fennell, 8. On Tuesday, November 30th, 360 Bob Minor. W. Knightall, 1; H. Rainbow, 2; A. Arnold, 3; A. Moore, 4; W. Farey, 5; H. Blundell (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 5th, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Knightall, 1; A. Moore, 2; H. Rainbow, 3; H. Blundell (conductor), 4; A. Arnold, 5; C. Emery, 6; W. Farey, 7; J. Palmer, 8. On Tuesday, December 7th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins. W. Knightall, 1; A. Moore, 2; H. Rainbow, 3; W. Farey, 4; A. Arnold, 5; C. Emery, 6; H. Blundell (conductor), 7; C. Fennell, 8. On Sunday, January 2nd, 434 Grandsire Triples. W. Knightall, 1; A. Moore, 2; H. Rainbow, 3; W. Farey, 4; W. Roberts, 5; C. Emery, 6; H. Blundell (conductor), 7; C. Fennell, 8.

PETERBOROUGH.—On Monday, December 13th, at St. Mary's church, 144 Bob Minor (four bobs and two singles). G. Baker, 1; J. Gale, 2; E. Baker (conductor), 3; J. Tirrell, 4; C. Chasty, 5; G. Martin, 6. Also a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. G. Martin, 1; R. Squires, 2; E. Baker (conductor), 3; J. Gale, 4; C. Chasty, 5; J. Tirrell, 6. Another 6-score in the same method. G. Martin, 1; R. Squires, 2; J. Gale (conductor), 3; E. Baker, 4; C. Chasty, 5; J. Tirrell, 6. First touch of Minor by J. Gale; also first 120 as conductor, and hails from Melton Mowbray.

PENDLEBURY (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, December 14th, at Christ Church, 720 Grandsire Minor. J. Booth, 1; W. Pyle, 2; T. Lingard, 3; A. Wallwork, 4; J. Briscoe, 5; T. Rushton, 6. This 720 was taken from "Shipway."

PENGE (Surrey).—Recently, at the church of St. John the Baptist, 720 Bob Minor. G. Conn, 1; G. Wickens, 2; J. P. Richards (conductor), 3; H. Edwards, 4; J. Town, 5; W. J. Battson, 6. On December 16th, 360 Kent Treble Bob. G. Conn, 1; G. Wickens, 2; H. Edwards, 3; J. P. Richards, 4; W. J. Battson, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6. On Christmas Eve 720 Bob Minor. G. Conn, 1; J. P. Richards, 2; H. Edwards, 3; J. Town, 4; W. J. Battson, 5; G. Wickens (conductor), 6. On Boxing Day 720 Bob Minor. G. Conn, 1; A. Laurence, 2; H. Edwards, 3; G. Wickens, 4; W. J. Battson, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6. Also 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor. A. Laurence, 1; E. Edwards, 2; H. Edwards, 3; W. J. Battson, 4; W. Smith, 5; G. Wickens (conductor), 6. On New Year's Eve 720 Bob Minor, with the bells muffled. G. Conn, 1; J. P. Richards, 2; H. Edwards, 3; J. Town, 4; W. J. Battson, 5; G. Wickens (conductor), 6. On New Year's Day, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor. G. Conn, 1; J. P. Richards, 2; H. Edwards, 3; J. Town, 4; W. J. Battson, 5; G. Wickens (conductor), 6. On Sunday afternoon, January 2nd, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. G. Conn, 1; E. Edwards, 2; J. P. Richards, 3; H. Edwards, 4; J. Town, 5; W. J. Battson (conductor), 6. A. Lawrence hails from Swindon, and is a member of the Gloucester and Bristol Association.

RUGBY (Warwickshire).—On Sunday evening, January 16th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Andrew, 504 Grandsire Triples. G. Doody, 1; A. Flowers, 2; J. W. Chandler, 3; A. Dubber, 4; J. Holmes, 5; C. J. B. Cooke, 6; J. George (conductor), 7; S. Manning, 8. Also on Monday, January 17th, for practice, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. and 37 mins. G. Doody, 1; R. Watson, 2; A. Dubber, 3; J. W. Chandler, 4; J. George, 5; A. Flowers, 6; T. Holmes, 7; J. W. Shotton, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. in D. Composed by John Carter, Birmingham, and conducted by James George. This was rung by the local band at the first attempt.

WHITWICK (Leicestershire).—On Saturday, December 11th, 468 Stedman Triples. R. Lane, 1; J. Allen, 2; S. West, 3; A. Whitmore, 4; H. Partridge, 5; J. Moulton, 6; L. Partridge, 7; J. Rawson, 8. On Saturday, December 18th, 868 Stedman Triples. J. Moulton, 1; J. Allen, 2; S. West, 3; A. Whitmore, 4; H. Partridge, 5; B. West, 6; R. Lane (conductor), 7; L. Partridge, 8.

Correspondence.

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

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

THE NORTHWICH PEAL.

SIR,—In reply to the letter of Mr. Forster, of Witton, Northwich, regarding the peal of Bob Major rung at that place, we asked Mr. Forster for an explanation why that change came up 12345687, but instead of giving the explanation asked for he replies with insolence, as your readers will see in last Saturday's issue. We are pleased to find that all the Witton ringers are not such strangers to the truth as Mr. Forster. We were distinctly told by two members who stood in the peal that they fired at least ten or eleven times. We asked them why that change came up 12345687; they said it was not so, it was a single, and it came up 12346587. If that was so why did it not come rounds next blow instead of the conductor calling a bob to try and get it into rounds? If the conductor had known anything whatever about what he was trying to call he would have known that it finished with a single, and needs no bob to get it into rounds. We admit the striking was good, but no matter how good the striking was a peal conducted and jumbled into rounds in such a manner as was the one conducted by Mr. Forster is as false as fire is hot. As regards Mr. Forster stating that "Eager Listener" was no gentleman, I consider he is both a ringer and a gentleman, and as to throwing any libel on the Witton band he is making it worse by publishing what he knows to be untrue. If he will look at the letter he is referring to he will find that he was asked a fair question, and until that question is answered and proved to our satisfaction, we condemn the peal such as he knows it to be, false as false can be.

JOSEPH ASHMOLE.

PARSONS' LAW.

SIR,—T. M.'s letter in the issue of the 15th inst. brings to my mind the following: Twice I visited a village not many miles from Wakefield, the church there possessing a good peal of eight bells, and although change-ringing was very limited I stood in on each occasion at the local men's request. On a third visit I found instead of ringers a chiming apparatus. The youth in charge of it could give me no reason (or would not) as to why the ringers were absent. While he went on with his chiming I read some rules which were written in large hand writing, signed by the Vicar and pasted on the clock case. There was a host of them, but here are one or two as near these words as I remember: "The door of the belfry to be locked, after all the ringers assemble. No one to be admitted without the Vicar's consent. No one to be allowed to ring without his permission." On each occasion I was there without permission, evidently against the local powers' wish, and only on the last occasion was the door locked. The Vicar there is "something of a ringer." Such rules as these are only formed to be continually broken. The Vicar was not there to grant me permission if I had needed it.

H.

A PEAL OF OXFORD SURPRISE MAJOR,

5376.

By G. WILLIAMS, Brighton.

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

M	W	H
-	-	-
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-	-	-
-	-	-
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-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-

By F. BENNETT, Brighton.

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

M	W	H
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-	-	-
-	-	-

Each twice repeated.

Mr. Williams's peal was rung at St. Peter's, Brighton, December 31st, 1897. Conducted by Geo. F. Attree.

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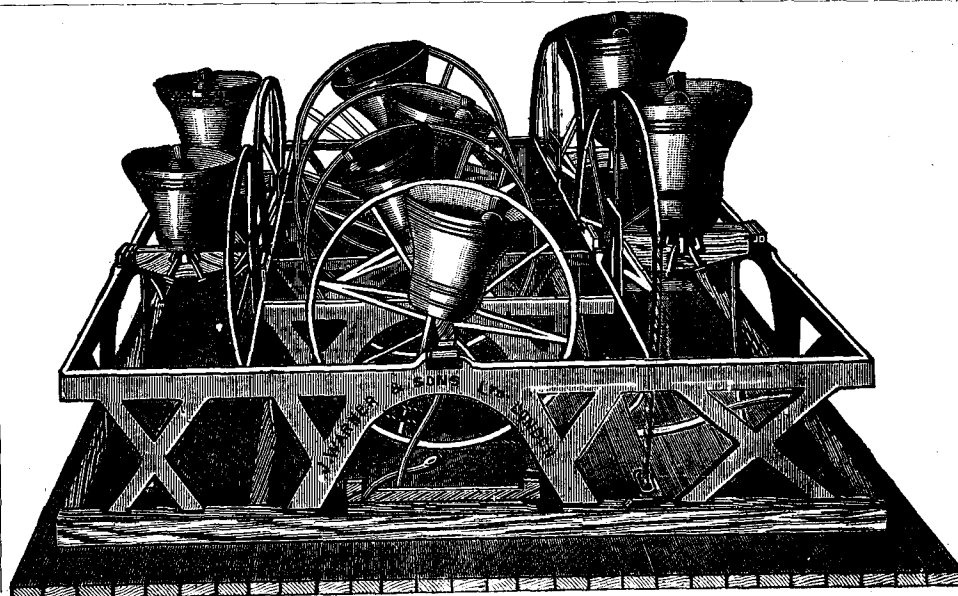
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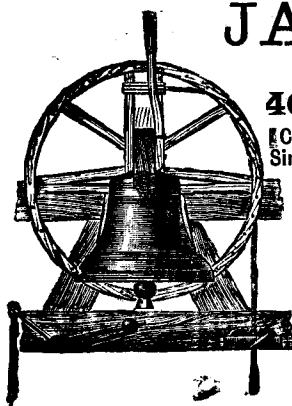
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THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 826. — VOL. XVI.]

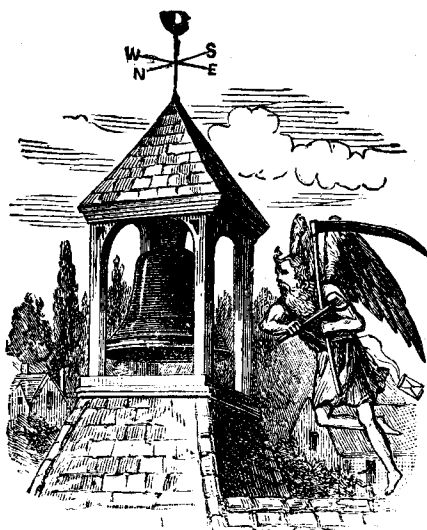
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1898.

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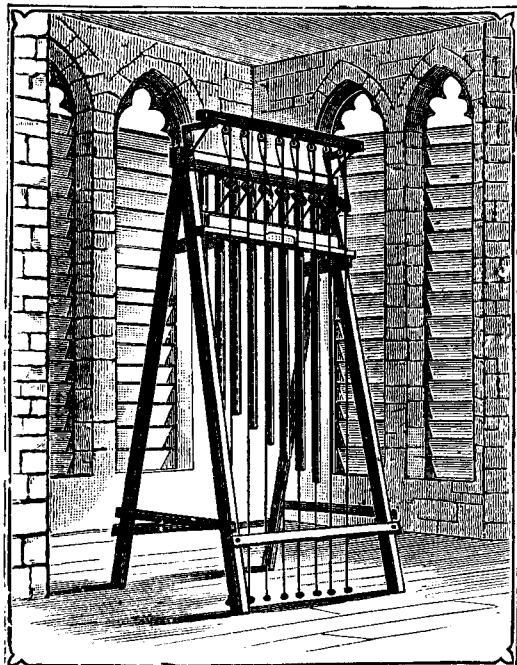
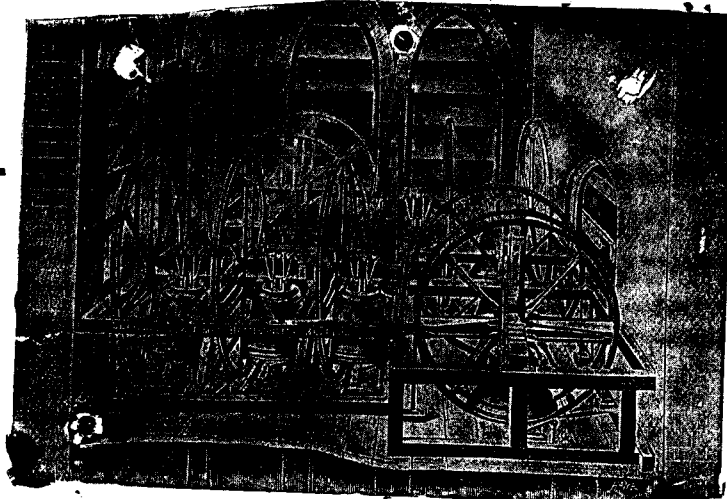
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Home Sweet Home, March of the Men of Harlech, Rule
Britannia, Sailing, St. Patrick's Day, Sleight Song, The
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Clouds roll by, Whistling Farmer Boy.

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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 826.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1898.

[Vol. XVI.]

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 22nd, a quarterly meeting was held at Loughborough, when some eighty-four members and friends attended from Derby, Buxton, Nottingham, Long Eaton, Leicester, Whitwick, Sheepshed, etc. The bells of the parish church were swinging merrily all the afternoon to the tune of the various Standard methods. Some, who liked a pretty country walk, took the opportunity of visiting Stanford to have a pull on the newly-erected peal of eight, from the Loughborough foundry. The church here was much admired, and with reason, — Ratcliff, Esq., of the well-known firm of Messrs. Bass, Ratcliff, and Gretton, having spared no expense to make it well-nigh perfect.

The Committee Meeting having been held, members sat down to a capital meat tea, which had been provided free by the Messrs. Taylor with their customary generosity.

To commence the business of the meeting, the President (Sir Arthur P. Heywood, Bart.) took the chair, supported by the Rev. T. Pitts, Rector of All Saints.

The Honorary Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, which were signed, also the names of one new honorary, two new life, and twenty-six new ringing members, who were duly admitted.

In addressing the meeting, the President thanked the members very sincerely for their vote of condolence, a vote that he was pleased to have recorded. With regard to the record of the past quarter, nine peals had been rung, viz.:—two peals of Stedman Triples and one of Grandsire at Burton; one peal of Grandsire Caters at Loughborough; one peal each of Bob Major at Chesterfield and Beeston; one peal each of Grandsire Triples at Leicester, Mansfield and Stanford. The speaker then went on to point out to the younger bands their duty as regards keeping up the prestige of the Association. It was useless, he said, to expect the senior bands, who had pretty well achieved everything worth doing, to keep up their peal record as in earlier days, but the Association looked to the younger bands. To become safe peal ringers, when practising they should not be too ready to set their bell at the slightest hitch, but let each be determined to keep his own place, and if they could help a fellow-ringer at any point, let them do so. In conclusion he urged the younger bands to attempt advanced methods, as there was nothing more conducive to keeping bands together.

Messrs. Hickman and Griffin were elected auditors, the former on the proposition of Mr. Buttery, seconded by Mr. Marlow, the latter on the proposition of Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Aldham.

Mr. S. Cooper proposed a vote of thanks to the Messrs. Taylor for their generosity in providing the tea, which was seconded by Mr. Holroyd, and carried with applause.

Mr. Griffin proposed a vote of thanks to the clergy for the use of the bells, which was seconded by Mr. Lancashire, and carried unanimously.

The Rector of All Saints, in responding, said it always gave him great pleasure to welcome the Association to

Loughborough, and trusted to meet the members there on many future occasions.

A vote of thanks to the President for presiding was proposed by Mr. Archer, and seconded by Mr. White. This concluded the business of the meeting. Members then adjourned to the tower to attempt a few more touches on the peal of ten, until train time ruthlessly scattered them once more.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

A Committee Meeting was held at Messrs. Jakeman and Carver's, Hereford, on Wednesday, the 26th January, when Archdeacon Bather kindly took the chair. There was also present: Messrs. J. G. Buchanan (Master), W. Hebb (Hon. Treasurer), J. Cartwright (Foy), Thos. Williams (Eastnor), John Jones (St. Peter's), John Davies (All Saints), and Rev. A. C. Lee (Hon. Sec.)

After letters of apology read for non-attendance, the Hon. Secretary's accounts, as produced at the meeting, were accepted and passed. These shewed a balance in favour of the Guild of £18 14s. 9d., against that of £18 18s. 2d. in the previous year.

A vote of thanks was duly proposed and tendered to the Hon. Secretary for his services.

It was also resolved that in future a single banking account be kept by the Secretary, and that the accounts be audited by the Hon. Treasurer before the Annual Committee Meeting.

By the kind permission of the Rector, the Annual Festival will be held at Ludlow on Wednesday, July 20th. The election of the officers of the Guild and Committee will take place this year at the Festival, according to the rule sanctioned at the Ross Festival.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

The next meeting will be held at Bristol on Tuesday in Whitsun-week, 31st May, 1898.

Notices of motion, etc., must reach the Hon. Secretary not later than Tuesday, the 3rd of May. They must be in writing, and signed by two representatives.

Hon. Secretaries of societies are reminded that subscriptions to the Council are now due and should be remitted to the Hon. Secretary without delay, at the rate of 2s. 6d. for each elected representative. The Hon. Secretary would also be greatly obliged for information as to any change in representatives, or their addresses, that has taken place in the last year.

H. EARLE BULWER,
Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn.

Hon. Sec.

KIDLINGTON (Oxon).—On Saturday, December 11th, at the parish church, Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples was attempted, but after ringing 4000 changes a change-course occurred. J. Fisher, 1; W. Bennett (conductor), 2; F. Webb, 3; W. Thorp, 4; J. Matthews, 5; J. Franklin, 6; H. Judge, 7; T. Hill, 8. Tenor 26 cwt. The above are all local men.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of the members of this Association was held at the Schoolroom in connection with St. John's Parish Church, Croydon, on Monday, 24th January, 1898. There was an attendance of sixty-seven, including the Rev. T. G. Hill, Curate of St. John's, who, in the unavoidable absence of the Vicar, presided, and Mr. J. S. Smith, churchwarden of St. Peter's, Croydon. By kind permission of the Vicar and Rector respectively, the bells at St. John's and St. Peter's were available from three o'clock in the afternoon. At six o'clock, ringing gave place to tea, which was accorded the ringers' usual attention. The business portion of the meeting was opened by the formal installation of the Rev. T. G. Hill in the chair. The minutes of the previous quarterly meeting were read and confirmed, and the Secretary reported that since the last meeting, peals had been rung as follows:—

23rd November, 1897, Stedman Triples, Mitcham.
29th November, 1897, Grandsire Triples, Carshalton.
27th December, 1897, Stedman Triples, Carshalton.
6th January, 1898, Kent Treble Bob Major, Reigate.
22nd January, 1898, Double Norwich Major, Beddington.

It was resolved that the same be recorded in the peal book.

The Secretary reported that a meeting of the Committee was held at Croydon on Saturday, the 8th January, when the question as to the elaborate entering of the peals was discussed, the result being that the Committee recommended that the peals which had not been recorded and those rung in future be entered up in the peal-book in ordinary round hand by the Secretary. They also prepared the report on the Society's work during 1896 and 1897, which showed that twenty-three peals had been rung during the former year, and twelve within the latter, making a total for the Association up to 31st December, 1897, of 264. The report further stated:—"The Committee feel that a comparison of the two years' peal ringing is very unsatisfactory, and trust that the year 1898 will be more prolific both in number and methods."

"Three honorary, three life, and forty-one performing members were elected during the two years, the totals at the end of 1897 being 19, 22, and 205 respectively."

The Secretary having read the Committee's report and accounts, it was resolved that the recommendation as to entering peals, and that the report and accounts be adopted. It was reported that the reports were printed at the office of "THE BELL NEWS," and a supply sent to each representative.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Betchworth on Easter Monday.

The Committee was re-elected as before, the Rev. A. S. W. Young, Vicar of Kingston-on-Thames, was re-appointed Treasurer, Mr. Charles Dean, of Sutton, Hon. Secretary, and Messrs. Greenwood and Pell (Streatham), Auditors.

The following new members were re-elected:—Messrs. Louis Attwater (Streatham), Arthur Chas. Otway, Thomas Newnham (Leatherhead), and William Edward Pitman, Mus. Bac., Oxon, F.R.C.O. (unattached).

Dr. A. B. Carpenter and the Secretary were appointed delegates to the next meeting of the Central Council.

A vote of thanks to the Rev. T. G. Hill for presiding, and to the Secretary, brought the business to a conclusion, and a further spell of ringing wound up a successful evening.

MERROW, SURREY.

On Monday, January 31st, a meeting was held in the parish room to organize a band of ringers for the parish church. The Rev. L. R. Flood (Rector), presided, and there were others in attendance who were enrolled as members of the band, the following officers being elected for the ensuing year: A. J. Boniface (Captain), M. Brown (sub-Captain), the Rev. L. R. Flood (Treasurer), and W. H. Trumell (Secretary). The Rector said he hoped that all members would attend the handbell practice so that when the church bells are ready they will make a good beginning, and soon be competent enough to join the Winchester Diocesan Guild.

POLLARDS, Limited, Bradford, Costume Skirts at 4s. 6d.
are Wonderful Value,

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

A meeting was held at Smethwick on Saturday, January 15th, at which about forty members were present. The bells are a new peal, hung last year in the tower in honour of the Queen's Jubilee, but they leave something to be desired from a ringer's point of view, and there is plenty of scope for improvement in several ways. The members of the society were most kindly received by the Vicar, the Rev. George Astbury, who did all in his power to give them a hearty welcome; whilst to Mrs. Astbury and to some of the members of her family the ringers' thanks are due for providing and serving a capital tea, to which hearty justice was done by those present. The Vicar kindly presided and was supported by the churchwardens, Mr. John Newey and Major Thompson, and all three gentlemen, together with Mr. Walter Harley, were elected hon. members of the society. In addition twelve ringing members were elected. Hearty votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar and Mrs. Astbury and to the churchwardens for their kindness.

The meeting at Smethwick will long be a pleasant memory to those who were present. The next meeting will, if possible, be held at Willenhall on April 23rd.

THE EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

FRIESTON BRANCH.—On December 30th the Rev. S. Staffurth invited the Frieston and Butterwick ringers to supper, and as usual a very enjoyable evening was spent. On January 11th, 1898, on the occasion of the marriage of Miss Kate Bringeman, daughter of the late Mr. T. Bringeman, to Mr. A. Cooper of Nottingham, a 720 of Doubles was rung at the parish church in the following methods: April Day, St. Dunstan's, Plain Bob, Lincolnshire Singles, Hudibras, Grandsire. A. Sharp, 1; A. O. Barber, 2; E. Rollinson, 3; E. Clayton, 4; John Sharp (conductor), 5; and several 6-scores of St. Simon's, Antelope, Chase, London Doubles, and Sunshine, in which J. Sharp, W. Coppen and W. Saunby took part. The following evening the ringers, tenants, and labourers were invited to supper, and after supper pipes, tobacco, ale, &c., were provided *ad lib.*; and song and sentiment without intermission till 12 o'clock, when the National anthem was sung, and cheers for the bride and bridegroom and all the family was vociferously given.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ROSSENDALE BRANCH.—A well-attended meeting of this branch was held at Ramsbottom on Saturday, January 29th. Ringing commenced about 4 o'clock, and was continued by various bands until 5.30, a few touches of Grandsire and a 288 of Kent Major being brought round. An adjournment was made to the school-room where an excellent tea had been provided; the Vicar, the Rev. J. J. Lewis, defraying the cost. The business meeting followed, the Vicar kindly presiding. The minutes of the previous meeting having been adopted the Vicar warmly welcomed the visitors to Ramsbottom. In the course of his remarks he said, though personally an ignoramus in bellringing, he thought they could meet together on common ground as Church-workers. He was always pleased to see men take an interest in the Church, and expressed the hope that they as ringers would be worthy examples to their fellows. The future welfare of the Church depended almost entirely on the interest that men took in her. Concluding, he said, he would always be glad to welcome the Association when they thought fit to come to Ramsbottom.

The next meeting will be held at Newchurch.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting of the above was held at West Ham, on Saturday, January 29th, the towers of West Ham, Leytonstone and Holy Trinity, Barking Road, being open for ringing. Tea was provided at the Church Hall. The chair was taken by the Rev. H. Eyre, Assistant Secretary, and he was supported by the Vicar, the Rev. R. A. Pelly, and the Curate, the Rev. W. Merrow. Forty-nine sat down to tea, ringers were present from the following places: West Ham, Barking, Barking Road, Woodford, Loughton, Boreham, Coggeshall, Broomfield, Leytonstone, Romford, Little Heath, Great Bentley, Tottenham, Stepney, and Wanstead. Several new members were elected.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CREWE BRANCH.—The Annual Meeting of the above branch was held at Crewe on Saturday, January 15th, when ringing commenced at half-past two. Several touches of Grandsire and Bob Triples were rung by various bands of ringers. At half-past four the business meeting was held, presided over by the Rev. G. J. Howson. The minutes of the last meeting were read, also the statement of account for the last year, and were confirmed and signed. Next came the election of officers for the ensuing year, when the Rev. G. J. Howson was unanimously re-elected President of the branch, and R. Langford also re-elected Secretary and Treasurer, and Mr. Holding and Dentith Auditors. Mr. Holding was also re-elected Branch Instructor. Mr. T. Johnson, of Sandbach, with the Secretary, were elected representatives on General Committee. Four new members were made, and it was decided to hold the meetings for the ensuing year every two months instead of monthly, as in the past year. After the meeting, forty members present, representing the following towers, Market Drayton, Lawton, Sandbach, Tarporley, Acton, Wrenbury, Alsager, Crewe and Kids-grove, sat down to a beautiful tea, kindly provided by the Rev. G. J. Howson, and was thoroughly enjoyed by all present. Tea being over, a hearty vote of thanks was proposed by J. Stringer, Esq., of Sandbach, to the Rev. G. J. Howson, for the hearty manner in which he had received them at Crewe that day, which was carried unanimously; and the rev. gentleman replied in a few suitable words. At half-past six a short service was held in Christ Church, and the ringers listened to a beautiful address delivered by the President on bell ringers and their duties. After service, ringing was again the order of the evening, and was kept up until half-past eight, when the bells were lowered and the members went their various ways home, all having spent another pleasant afternoon's outing at Crewe.

MACCLESFIELD BRANCH.—The Annual Meeting of this branch was held at Macclesfield, on Saturday, January 22nd, there being twenty-three members present from the various towers in the branch. The bells of the parish church were set in motion during the afternoon. At five o'clock an excellent tea was partaken of in the school, after which the meeting was held, the President (Rev. S. A. Boyd), in the chair, he giving the ringers a hearty welcome and hoping they would be able to ring a peal before long. The President was re-elected, and G. Norbery was re-elected Sec. and Treasurer.

The rest of the evening was spent with the tower and hand-bells, several courses being rung on the latter by J. Gratrix (Prestwich), W. Ingham, J. M. Davenport (Sutton), W. Walmsley, W. Steel, F. Stonely, W. Matthews (Macclesfield).

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

At a meeting of the members of the Taunton and Wellington Deanery Branch of the above Association held in St. James' belfry on Saturday, January 15th, the following appointments were made: Chairman—Rev. J. V. Buckland; Secretary and Treasurer—Mr. J. Maddock; Committee—Mr. H. Poole (St. James', Taunton); Mr. J. Burge (St. Mary Magdalene, Taunton); Mr. W. Chapman (Milverton); Mr. H. J. Creed (Norton Fitzwarren); Mr. T. Cooksley (Wellington); Mr. H. Mogridge (St. George's, Wilton). General Committee—Mr. J. Maddock.

It was moved by Mr. Chapman, and seconded by Mr. J. Maddock, that the next meeting of the branch should be held at Wiveliscombe, at which all members should make an effort to be present. The bells were kept going in Grandsire Triples and Bob Major until 9 o'clock.

HALLIWELL (Lancashire).—On Thursday evening, December 30th, for practice at St. Peter's Church, 1008 Grandsire Triples in 34 mins. W. Thornley (conductor), 1; J. Fleetwood, 2; H. Sidey, 3; S. Ashworth, 4; J. Makinson, 5; W. Pennington, 6; R. Seddon, 7; R. Barlow, 8. Longest length by J. Fleetwood.

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 CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On New Year's Eve, the ringers of St. Thomas's Parish Church, Hazel Grove, partook of the hospitality of the Vicar, the Rev. G. N. Wilmer, M.A. A very pleasant evening was spent, and the company also included the wardens. The Vicar, in response to a vote of thanks, said that it was a great pleasure for himself and his wife to meet the ringers or any other officials of the church. Although not a ringer himself, he knew that the band were very enthusiastic in the exercise, and he wished them every success. Mr. S. Fernley replied on behalf of the ringers, and he strongly urged upon the Vicar and Wardens the necessity of improving the condition of the bells, which are without doubt urgently in need of attention. It was understood that before Easter something should be done. The record for the year ending December 31st, shews a great improvement and is as follows: 85 peals of 720 each have been rung in five methods as follows: Kent Treble Bob 37, Plain Bob 26, Oxford Treble Bob 18, Violet Treble Bob 2, New London Pleasure 2. The following have taken part in the peals: A. Fernley, 82; S. Fernley, 82; G. D. Warburton, 80; S. Rutter, 79; J. Dean, 65; J. Shallcross, 58; J. Fernley, 43. Conductors: S. Fernley 65; S. Rutter, 13; J. Shallcross, 4. It is to be hoped that the band, who only commenced to learn change-ringing in July, 1896, will score their first peal in seven methods during 1898, but before this is possible, the bells will have to be put in better running order than they are at present.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HECKINGTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.—On Boxing Day six members of the St. Andrew's society, with J. Taylor, from Hale Magna, A. O. Barber, from Frieston, and C. R. Lilley, of the St. Paul's society, Bedford, paid a visit to Sutterton, Lincolnshire. An attempt was made for a peal of Union Triples, but "stand" had to be called owing to the bells changing course. Afterwards 336 Grandsire Triples was rung by C. R. Lilley, A. O. Barber, F. Hilton, E. Houlden, W. Dickinson (conductor), F. Warrington, J. T. Holmes, and J. Taylor. After this it was intended to go for the peal again, but word came from the vicarage to ask us to cease ringing, as there was illness, and they could not do with any more ringing. The company then adjourned to The Berridge Arms for refreshments, and then started for Gosherton, a village about four miles away, where there is a peal of six. A start was made for a peal of Minor, but after ringing the first 720 of Grandsire Minor, "stand" had to be called, owing to the tenor going so bad. The bells were then lowered, and through the kindness of the vicar, the Rev. E. T. Hudson, the ringers were invited to the vicarage to have tea, which was very agreeable to all. We wish to thank through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS" the vicars of those parishes and the steeple-keepers for the use of the bells, and for having everything in readiness. J. T. H.

BARTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

On a recent Tuesday five of the Chesterton Youths visited this place for the purpose of having a pull on the parish church bells, which have recently been rehung with the addition of another tenor. Two 6-scores of Grandsire and two 6-scores of Stedman were rung by H. Mansfield, T. Brown, E. Andrews, jun., E. Andrews, sen., and W. Eusden. Also two 6-scores of New Doubles, and one of Plain Bob by E. Andrews, sen., F. Brown, H. Mansfield, E. Andrews, jun., and W. Eusden (conductor). The "go" of the bells are all that can be desired, and more ringing would have been done, only the time was limited. The ringers wish to thank the vicar for the use of the bells, and hope to have the pleasure of going to see him again very soon.

TONBRIDGE (Kent).—On Christmas morning, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 43 mins. J. Chivers, 1; W. J. Wolfe, 2; J. Smith, 3; A. Lawrence, 4; B. Wadmore, 5; F. Card, 6; W. Steed (conductor), 7; G. Rabbitt, 8. Longest length with a bob bell.

WRITE TO POLLARDS, Limited, Bradford, for the Illustrated Sketch Book of Costumes.

RINGERS' DINNER IN GLOUCESTER.

THE MAYOR AS A CHANGE-RINGER.

On Tuesday the St. Michael's Juniors Society of Ringers held their annual dinner at The Albion Hotel, Southgate Street, Gloucester, where Hostess Ingram provided a capital repast. Mr. J. Ward (churchwarden) presided in the absence of the Rector (Canon James). Dinner over, an adjournment was made to another room, where the company, who with friends numbered nearly 30, had the pleasure of finding the president of the Society (Canon James) and the Mayor of Gloucester (Alderman Estcourt), the latter of whom has been a noted ringer in his day. The remainder of the evening was spent by changes on the handbells and songs, interspersed by a few toasts, and a humorous speech by Mr. F. E. Ward (Cheltenham), who during the course of his remarks hinted that the Juniors were the best band of ringers in the country. They were handicapped by not having more than eight bells to ring on, and although the Cathedral, being the Mother Church, seemed the most fitting place for a ring of ten, he thought St. Michael's tower would be the most suitable. As he had before him three of the most prominent men who would be most interested in the matter, viz., the Rector, one of the churchwardens, and the Mayor, he thought now would be the best time to bring the matter forward. He concluded by saying he was sure if the bells were placed in St. Michael's Tower the body of ringers connected with that church would add to their already great name as ringers.

The Rev. E. Banks James, in a few well-chosen words, proposed The Health of the Mayor, saying it was a great honour to them for him to come among them that night, and he hoped he would come among them again on some future occasion.

The toast was drunk with musical honours, and the Mayor, who was loudly cheered on rising to respond, said it gave him great pleasure to be with them, not in his official capacity as Mayor, but as one who understood what change-ringing was. He was glad to see the Juniors were keeping up the good name Gloucestershire had for change-ringing, and hoped they would continue to do so. He knew they were many disappointments ringers had to put up with in the way of losing peals, after ringing over half-way or perhaps into the last course; but that was good for them in one sense, as it gave them greater interest in what they were trying to do. He said change-ringing was very different from music, for if a band of musicians were playing, and one went wrong, he could easily be put right; but in the case of a band of ringers, if one went wrong, the whole lot collapsed at once. The Mayor then took part in a well-struck course of Grandsire Caters on the handbells, himself taking a pair. The ringers stood as follows:—J. Austin, 1-2; Rev. E. B. James, 3-4; the Mayor, 5-6; Rev. H. L. James, 7-8; F. E. Hart, 9-10; and the way his Worship handled the bells showed he had lost very little of the skill he formerly possessed. The chairman having been thanked for presiding the remainder of the evening was devoted to conviviality. Songs were sung by Messrs. Franklin, Gillett, Hayward, Jackson, and Pegler, Messrs. Franklin and Jackson being encored. The Rev. E. B. James gave a recitation which was much appreciated. "Auld lang syne" and a verse of "God save the Queen" brought to a close the most enjoyable social evening ever held by the St. Michael's Juniors.

ST. JOHN'S SOCIETY, RANMOOR, SHEFFIELD.

On Wednesday evening, December 1st., the ringers of this society, with a few friends, were through the kindness of Mr. W. Goodwin, one of their members, entertained to supper, and full justice was done to the good things provided. At 7.30, having got into rounds, "go" was called to Jugged-Hare Delight, all going well to the course-end, then a start was made for a new method called Chicken Surprise, which came round in fine style. After dessert, the cloth being removed, a most enjoyable evening was spent, smoking and talking of old times with songs, tunes and touches on the handbells, etc. The toast of the evening, the "Host and Hostess" being proposed by Mr. F. Allen, and seconded by Mr. R. Collier, was drunk with musical honours and the rendering of "Auld lang syne" on the handbells brought a most enjoyable evening all too soon to a close, for which is wished many happy returns.

NEW MILL PARISH CHURCH, HUDDERSFIELD.

A band of new ringers has recently been formed in this parish. The members are all young men belonging to the Vicar's Bible class. They have been trained since September 29th, by Mr. J. Haigh, a Sunday-school teacher; none of them had had any previous experience, and the teacher had never rung a 6-score on church bells. On Advent Sunday they were able to ring a decent peal to call the worshippers to church.

By the kindness of a few friends in the congregation, who readily subscribed for the purpose, the ringers and their teacher were invited by Mr. F. Turner (lay reader and schoolmaster), to a supper at the schoolroom. The Vicar, with appropriate remarks, presented Mr. Haigh with a gratuity on behalf of the Churchwardens; after he had responded a few words were said by Mr. Turner, to whom a vote of thanks was passed.

The ringers then adjourned to the tower, and rung a 6-score and an 18-score of Bob Minor very creditably, the latter being their first attempt with the clappers loose. The ringers were: G. Gill, J. Tinker, H. Biltcliffe, A. Gill, H. Haigh, H. W. Barrow. The rest of the evening was spent in an enjoyable manner, ringing being given in the schoolroom.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 8th, a very successful quarterly meeting was held at Sandy, which I am pleased to say was the best attended quarterly meeting we have had. Members shewed up in full force to the number of eighteen, and the following towers were well represented: Biddenham, Bromham St. Peter's, Bedford, St. Mary's, and St. Paul's. One new member was proposed by Mr. C. W. Clarke, and seconded by I. Hills. The following well-struck 720s were rung: 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. W. G. Barker (conductor), C. R. Lilley, A. Robinson, C. W. Clarke, W. J. Davison, S. Constant. 720 Double Court. W. Gazley, S. G. Cullip, W. Hall, H. Toll, C. Chasty, F. Hull (conductor). 720 Oxford Treble Bob. C. W. Clarke (conductor), C. R. Lilley, S. Constant, H. King, W. Barker, A. Robinson. 720 Oxford Bob. H. Toll, I. Hills, W. Hall, F. Hull, W. Barker, S. G. Davidson (conductor). Also a course of Cambridge Surprise Minor. W. Gazley, C. W. Clarke, W. Hall, C. R. Lilley, W. Barker, F. Hull. 120 Bob Doubles and several of Grandsire in which the local ringers took part.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PRESTON, SUFFOLK.—On Boxing-Day, the St. Mary's company held the annual anniversary of the rehanging of the bells. A capital spread in good old English style was served up by host and hostess Thurston, late of Lawshall Harrow. The chair and vice-chair were taken by H. Symonds and Jno. Levitt, the expenses as usual were defrayed by the churchwardens, Mr. J. E. Wright and Mr. W. Bantock. Four 720s was well rung during the day, one each of Kent, Plain, Oxford and New London. First: F. Symonds, C. Levitt, H. Poulson, J. Moore, T. Levitt, W. Hollocks. Second: F. Symonds, H. Poulson, A. Hollocks, J. Fayers, T. Levitt, W. Hollocks. Third: F. Symonds, C. Levitt, A. Hollocks, J. Moore, T. Levitt, W. Hollocks. Fourth: A. Symonds, C. Levitt, A. Hollocks, J. Moore, T. Levitt, W. Hollocks (conductor). Symonds and Moore from Lavenham, T. Levitt from Hitcham, H. Poulson from London: the others belong to Preston.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(CHEW DEANERY BRANCH.)

PORTISHEAD, SOMERSET.—A branch meeting of the above Association was held at Portishead on Saturday, January 22nd, for practice. Touches of Grandsire were rung, including a 504, being the first 504 on the bells. H. Chard, J. Youd, L. Moore, C. H. Horton (conductor), J. Harvey, J. Winsor, W. Gillingham, and G. Hacker. These bells have been lately augmented to eight by the efforts of the local ringers. The trebles were cast by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough.

SEND TO POLLARDS, Lim., St. Andrew's Factory, Bradford, for DRESS PATTERNS.

THE BOW SOCIETY, LONDON, E.

On Thursday, January 20th, this society held their annual dinner at The Blue Anchor, High Street, Bow, when host and hostess Drake provided in abundant manner for some thirty diners. After the tables were cleared, the company were treated to a good musical programme in which the following gentlemen assisted: Messrs. Sutton, Faulkner, Turner, Dallimore, Springall, Fenn, Hardy, and Hall, Mr. Ernest Richards, R.C.M. being at the piano. Many toasts were proposed, drunk, and responded to, Mr. Hayes responding on behalf of "The Press" in an excellent manner. During the evening, the Master (Mr. T. Faulkner), said he was proud to think of the work achieved by the Society during the past year, and he hoped that every member of the Bow Society would do his best to maintain the position and high standard the society was now in. They had been successful in obtaining many new methods in peal, and he promised them still further endeavours with their help.

A vote of thanks to the host and hostess, proposed by Mr. Sutton, and the singing of "Auld lang syne" brought a very enjoyable evening to a close.

STREATLEY, OXON.

On November 18th, the Vicar of Streatley, the Rev. J. R. Izat, invited the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Master of the Oxford Guild, to visit the village, and also invited the Goring ringers to meet him at the church of St. Mary's, and after a short service at 6 p.m., the bells were rang by the local band. Then five of the Goring ringers, with the Rev. F. E. Robinson at the 3rd bell, started for a 720 Kent Treble Bob, but as was expected, that bell refused to go far before casting her rope, and another attempt coming to the same end. The Master at once said a bellhanger was required to see to it, and on Messrs. Webb and Bennett visiting it was found that the wheels were in a very bad state, and they were favoured with the order to put them right, and being near Christmas at the time they repaired the 3rd, and left the other until Christmas was over. Thursday, January 27th, they completed the rest, with the result that the Goring ringers secured the first peal ever rung on the bells. The Goring ringers return their sincere thanks to the Rev. J. R. Izat, for granting them the use of the bells. Rung as a compliment to the Rev. J. B. Izat, for the great interest he has taken in trying to further the art of change-ringing, and who has always granted the use of the bells, and was the first to congratulate the band on the completion of the peal.

PULBOROUGH, SUSSEX.

These bells have recently been rehung in a new iron frame, with three new bells added to complete the octave, in commemoration of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee, and were dedicated by the Bishop of Chichester on Monday, December 20th, when they were rang in rounds by the local band. It was intended that a peal should be rung on that date, but owing to the short time between the services, it had to be postponed until January 22nd, when a peal of Superlative Surprise Major was rang by the Crawley branch, as recorded in last week's issue. After the peal the band were entertained by the rector, the Hon. and Rev. G. W. Bourke, at Ye Old Five Bells, but time being limited, it was not long before all had to depart for home, all having thoroughly enjoyed their first outing to Pulborough, and hope it may not be the last. The band wish through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS" to thank the rector for his kindness; also Mr. H. Herrington for having everything in readiness. The "go" of these bells is excellent, and great credit is due to the well-known firm of Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, who carried out the work so successfully.

J. P.

KIMBOLTON (Huntingdonshire). — On December 28th, at St. Andrew's church, 360 Grandsire Doubles. H. Partridge, 1; G. Partridge, 2; A. Partridge, 3; W. Lowe, 4; R. Bass, 5. Conducted by H. Partridge. A 6-score of Antelope, two 6-score of Grandsire Doubles, and one 6-score of Plain Bob Doubles. H. Partridge, 1; G. Partridge, 2; A. Partridge, 3; R. Bass, 4; W. Lowe (conductor), 5. Tenor 19½ cwt. in F. H. Partridge hails from Whitwick, Leicestershire; the rest from Riseley, Bedfordshire.

A TRIP TO EAST ANGLIA.

On Friday, December 24th, Messrs. Barber and Clayton embarked on the 7.50 a.m. train from Birmingham, bound Eastward Ho! Passing through several places of interest, we arrived at our railway destination at 6.40 p.m., just in time to hear the bells of Framlingham pealing forth for evening service. We quickly wended our way to the tower, and afterwards adjourned to the meeting house, where we rang several touches on the handbells with the local men. Here we were met by Mr. and Mrs. and Miss L. Clayton, who had a wagonette in readiness to convey us to our headquarters, viz., Worlingworth, which was safely reached about 10 o'clock. After refreshing the inner man, we retired to bed, which was much needed. Christmas day we had the pleasure of meeting Messrs. David and Edgar Collins, the latter being home on a visit from Bagshot, Surrey, who promised to have Boxing-day with us peal-ringing. After dinner we walked to Debenham, a distance of 7½ miles, and saw the ever welcome tower-keeper, Mr. W. Grimes, who told us we could ring all the week if we wished, but we arranged for two peals on the Boxing day, and one on the Wednesday. Sunday we had the pleasure of ringing for afternoon service at Worlingworth, on the beautiful peal of six, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. S. Collins, 1; A. W. Grimes, 2; E. Collins, 3; W. Groom, 4; W. H. Barber (conductor), 5; F. Clayton, 6. Also 720 Oxford Bob. A. W. Grimes, 1; H. J. Creasey, 2; W. H. Barber, 3; W. Burgess, 4; C. Revell, 5; D. Collins (conductor), 6. And 360 Plain Bob. S. Collins, 1; W. Groom, 2; A. W. Grimes, 3; W. Flory, 4; F. Clayton, 5; E. Collins (conductor), 6. Messrs. S. Collins, Grimes, and Groom hail from Debenham; Flory from Framlingham. At night Mr. J. George of Rugby appeared on the scene, who had seen Mr. F. Day of Eye, and got permission to attempt a 7000 there, in the afternoon of Boxing-day. At 9.30 on Boxing-day "Go: Kent Treble Bob" was called at Debenham, and at the end of three hours and five minutes "this is all" was heard from our conductor, and the finish of a splendid peal, three of the long peal band taking part. We then adjourned to The White Lion, where we partook of dinner; after which we were quickly en route for Eye (the tenor man passing the remark that we were not to leave the tower till we had rang the 7000) which was reached about 4.30. At 5 sharp "Go" was called for Kent, but after ringing about two hours the tenor-man was taken ill, and asked the conductor to call the bells round at 5000, which was done, making 5024, but the composer (Mr. A. Knights) found it to be false. W. H. Barber (conductor), 1; W. Rumsey, 2; A. W. Grimes, 3; W. G. Crickmer, 4; W. Flory, 5; F. Day, 6; F. Clayton, 7; J. George, tenor. Here there was a separation, Barber going back to Worlingworth, George to London, and Clayton staying at Diss, where he attempted a peal of Kent Treble Bob on handbells, which was unfortunately lost, the band being W. Ireland, 1-2; F. Clayton, 3-4; J. Souter (conductor), 5-6; C. Archer, 7-8. Afterwards three courses of Stedman Caters, Mr. J. Smith of Kingston-on-Thames, ringing 9-10. Wednesday saw W. H. Barber at Debenham for a peal of Oxford Treble Bob, which unfortunately came to grief after ringing two hours and fifty-five minutes. S. Collins, 1; W. Groom, 2; W. H. Barber, 3; A. W. Grimes, 4; J. Rumsey, 5; W. Crickmer (conductor), 6; W. Rumsey, 7; W. Grimes, 8. Great credit is due to Mr. W. Grimes, for the way in which he has got this young band on, as their ages range from 14 and 17, and they ring and strike their bells most excellently. On Friday morning I wished my Worlingworth friends good-bye, as I had to proceed on to Ipswich (and so should F. Clayton, but unfortunately missed the train from Diss) for a peal of Treble Bob Maximus, which was brought home in fine style. I afterwards adjourned to the meeting-house, which was my head-quarters for the night, courses of Double Norwich and Stedman being rung on the handbells with the Ipswich men. New Year's morning found the Brums together again, and who had the pleasure of ringing a course of Oxford Treble Twelve together, and afterwards heard a splendid touch of Double Norwich Royal by the local men. We afterwards wished our Ipswich friends good-bye, and started on our return journey by the 4 o'clock p.m. train out of Ipswich, Birmingham being reached 2.30 a.m. Sunday morning. We wish through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS" to tender our best thanks to all our friends (whose names are too numerous to mention) who helped to make our visit a successful one.

W. H. B.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

EAST BERKS AND SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.

The annual festival of the above society was held at The Beaconsfield on Saturday. The meeting was attended by the chairman (Rev. A. H. Drummond), the secretary (Rev. R. P. Newhouse), the treasurer (Mr. A. H. Cocks), the Master and Secretary of the Guild (Revs. F. E. Robinson and R. H. Hart-Davis) and six clerical and seventy lay members. Some good ringing, including a peal at Wooburn, was performed during the afternoon and evening, and the gathering was one of the most numerous and successful of those held by the branch. Even-song was at 5 p.m., at which a useful and appropriate sermon was preached by Rev. G. A. Cooke, Rector of the parish. After tea at 6 p.m. the usual business was transacted, at which the balance-sheet was adopted and the officers unanimously re-elected. The secretary gave a favourable report of the proceedings of the branch during the past year. The numbers had considerably increased, and much progress had been made in the exercise, including seven peals in various towers. The monthly meetings for six bell-towers had proved a great success, and it was now proposed to hold these meetings for six and eight bell-towers alternately. The list of honorary and ringing members showed a considerable increase, and the balance-sheet showed a substantial balance after payments for an increased amount of instruction in several towers. The chairman expressed his satisfaction with the work and position of the branch. He urged them to maintain the high reputation which they had earned as church-workers and officers in their respective parishes, and to go forward in their labours towards perfection in their art, mentioning that the honour of the church and its services lay largely in their hands. He hoped that the forthcoming Guild festival at Boyn-hill would be worthy of the Guild and his own ringers and parish. The meeting was also addressed by the Master and Secretary of the Guild in laudatory terms, and a vote of thanks to the Rector of Beaconsfield for the use of his church and his sermon concluded the proceedings.

THE ST. MARGARET'S SOCIETY, WESTMINSTER.

At the annual meeting held on Thursday, January 20th, the following members were elected as officers for the ensuing year; *Master*—F. G. Perrin; *Senior Steward*—W. H. Pasmore; *Junior Steward*—J. W. Golding; *Treasurer*—C. W. Ward; *Secretary*—A. R. Davis. The meetings of the above society are now held weekly instead of fortnightly as heretofore. Meeting time 8 p.m.

CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL.

(Copy of Tablet in the Belfry of All Saints' Church, Wakefield.)

"CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL.—On Saturday, October 26th, 1822, nine of the ringers of this church, with Joseph Tebbs, of Leeds, succeeded in completing a peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal, comprising 5400 changes, in 3 hours and 35 minutes. The first peal ever attempted in the above difficult method by any set of men in the kingdom, which will be a standing laurel for the society for ages to come. The above peal was composed and conducted by Mr. W. Woodhead. The band were as follows: First—Mark Blackburn; Second—J. Sugden; Third—J. Tebbs; Fourth—G. Pickering; Fifth—J. Hall; Sixth—James Gill; Seventh—Joseph Gill; Eighth—T. Netherwood; Ninth—W. Woodhead; Tenth—R. Collet. Weight of tenor, 32 cwt." SAMUEL SLATER.

Glensford, February 1st, 1898.

OXHEY (Herts).—On Wednesday, December 29th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original. F. Glennerster, 1; W. H. L. Buckingham, 2; C. George, 3; G. N. Price, 4; W. Norris, 5; F. Edwards, 6; H. Martin (conductor), 7; J. Alexander, 8. On handbells, 518 Grandsire Triples. C. George, 1-2; H. Martin, 3-4; G. N. Price (conductor), 5-6; W. Norris 7-8. On January 1st, after ringing out the old year, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, composed by J. Barrett, of Stepney. F. Glennerster, 1; J. B. Bates (first quarter-peal), 2; H. Martin, 3; A. Lance, 4; C. George, 5; W. Norris, 6; G. N. Price (conductor), 7; J. Alexander, 8.

YORK TOWN, SURREY.

On Wednesday, January 19th, the church workers, including the ringers, had their annual supper in the Mission Hall, when about eighty sat down to the well-spread tables. The chair was taken by the vicar (Rev. C. P. Berryman), who was supported by the Rev. F. M. Middleton (late vicar), and the Rev. J. Townend (chaplain R.M. College). The usual loyal toasts were given, "The Queen" and "The Clergy and Curates of the Parish Church" receiving musical honours. Perhaps the most important was "The Bell-Ringers," when the Rev. F. M. Middleton in proposing, said that the annual meeting of the Winchester Guild was to be held there in July, and he hoped that all of the laity would come and give them a hearty welcome to their parish for the first time. He in his usual kindness invited the ringers to Old Alresford. He said that their bells wanted rehanging, which he hoped would be done before they went, and he thought they would find them a very good ring of six. It will be remembered that it was this rev. gentleman who built the tower and also St. George's church before he left the parish. After the tables were cleared, the fragrant weed was placed at the disposal of the company. During the evening some capital songs were given by Messrs. Perry, Hodgson, Pearce, Benn, Pryor, Tolley, and Sanger, and the handbells were occasionally brought in. At 11.30 a very pleasant evening was brought to a close, every one delighted with the evening's arrangements. The ringers wish through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS" to thank the vicar and churchwardens (Messrs. Webb and Fairey), for the delightful supper. C. P.

BRANDESTON, SUFFOLK.

On Monday evening, January 17th, the above ringers with a few friends were invited to the vicarage to partake of their second annual dinner. Arriving there about 7.30 we were soon going to the tunes of Knife and Fork Surprise, Teething Exercise, Dithery Dothery Delight, etc., all being brought round without a trip. After the removal of the cloth, pipes and tobacco, and the little brown jug, were brought round. During the evening touches on the handbells were rung, recitations and numerous songs were rendered by Messrs. Tarrant, Bradlaugh, Bedingfield, Meadows, Wright, and Swales, who also presided at the piano. A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar, which was well received in the old English style, to which the rev. gentleman readily responded. At 1.30 the singing of "Auld lang syne," the "National Anthem," and three ringing cheers for the Rev. O. C. Wright and Mr. Swales brought an evening to a close not easily to be forgotten by the Brandeston ringers.

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."

UNITED DIOCESES OF GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL.

SIR,—In this week's "BELL NEWS" report of the recent meeting of this Association, there is no mention of the following notice which was there given: "That at the next Annual Meeting a resolution would be moved to provide a separate Diocesan Association for Bristol."

G. T. DALTRY.

INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR,—I took part in a peal at Shifnal, Salop, in July last. In a note to this peal it was stated that the first peal of Stedman Triples rung out of London was performed there. Mr. Lionel Longney replied saying the first peal of Stedman Triples was rung at Longney, and gave the date and names of those who took part. I always understood from old Shrewsbury ringers that it was rung at Shifnal years previous to the date he mentions, and that Thurstans was in the band. I should be glad if Mr. Bradney would publish the particulars of this peal if he has them, and oblige.

The Eagles, Welshpool.

T. J. BRATTON.

POLLARDS, Limited, Bradford, LADIES' COSTUMES at 10s. 6d., are Wonderful Value.

THAT UNLUCKY "13."

A TALE OF A SILENT PEAL.

Some people avow that the Number 13 is decidedly unlucky, they know, or say they know, that there is always something uncanny about the figure, and will quote instances where certain fatalities have occurred on this date. Personally, I think it all depends on circumstances. For instance, it is said that it is ominous for 13 people to sit down to dinner, but here I think a context is necessary. If 13 sit down to what is only sufficient for 12, then I think it is very unlucky, particularly for the 13th; and as I consider myself a connoisseur of a good dinner, I think I know what I am talking about. True, the long peal of Bob Major at Duffield was rung on February 13th. True again, the first silent peal at Leicester was rung ten years later on the same date (February 13th), and on the exact date the following year we rang a peal of Grandsire Major, but here something did occur. One of the band, one who from appearances was hale and hearty, and apparently possessed of a long lease of life, dropped his rope, and fell, just as the welcome "that's all" was called. It was his last peal, and we carried him to his grave a few months after.

* * *

When we fixed in for the second peal of "silent Stedman," we looked up "Haywood's No. 6," and as most bob-callers in the method know, the majority of the peal is rung out-of-course, thus bringing most of the well-known changes, such as queens, tittums, etc., up at handstroke. We started for the peal a fortnight before Christmas, at the first attempt we got thirty-nine courses (3 by 13), and decided to go again for it the following week.

The umpires then were the same, except Mr. G. Burrows, who took Mr. J. Buttery's place when the peal was got, and I may say here that although Mr. Buttery was unable to come for the start, he arrived in time to hear the last 1000 rung.

"Go" was called by umpire Marlow (known as "the Insect" albeit he stands 7 feet by 3), and all went well until we reached the queens in the 13th course! and—we laid our bells down.

The following week we tried for it twice, and shall I be believed when I say that on the 13th course we broke the first time; and on the 13th six of the 13th course we came a cropper the second essay!

Then Sam Cotton suggests—"Let's try Bill's new bells next time." The bells mentioned are a merry little peal in F by Taylor. So a few nights later the same party might have been seen tapping away course after course. We reached the 13th course, the thought of it, for one moment, caused a "clink"—but no, we got safely over it. A faint smile pervaded the features of one or two, and on we went. Perhaps the umpire's opinion of the ringing that night may be more readily accepted than by one of the band. They said "it was like clockwork." We rang on, part after part went by, we hoped, never to be retraced. Up came the second single at the forty-fifth course, clean as possible, and into the final quarter-peal (Thurstans'). Now, thought we, we have got the demon peal-smasher where the hair is long, but we reckoned without him, for when in the last 500 changes, the Insect called "stand!"

Yes, two bells had "shifted," and done it very cleverly too. Well, we met the next night, and—stopped at the 13th course!

* * *

George Cleal said it was uncanny, but says he, "Can we meet on Wednesday night? All acquiesced, and at 8.30 p.m., in the parlour of 19, Church Street, "Go" was called, and we went. Starting somewhat slow, I thought it best to try and make the pace, and after a few courses we settled down to a regular beat. Past the queens in the 13th course, past the single without a trip, and into the last quarter-peal once again. Once, twice, thrice the 6th came home, and I thought—"Well, if we lose it now, I don't start again." Glancing across at the front three men, Sam was sitting quiet; George was pale and resolute;

J. O.—always keen on Stedman—was sending 5-6 along as though it was simply a touch; not a sign of excitement, simply the pit-a-pat of the bells as they danced along towards the desired goal.

Charley Fowler afterwards said it reminded him of his 11,000 peal of London.

Nearer and nearer we crept, and into the last course. Over my shoulder I could hear the referee breathing hard as the last bobs were made—5 6. Down quick went the 7th—we wanted two more sixes; were we going to lose it after all? No! for amid the applause of the umpires and listeners outside, the bells ran merrily home, and the spell was broken. W.W.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE ST. MARGARET'S SOCIETY, LEISTON, SUFFOLK.

The Anniversary of this society was held at The White Horse hotel, on Saturday evening, January 15th. when all the members assembled and did full justice to a bountiful spread, placed upon the table in host Johnson's usual good style.

Upon the removal of the cloth Mr. A. J. Lincoln was unanimously voted to the chair, who gave the usual loyal and patriotic toasts in due form. "The Health of the Rector" was next given, with many thanks to the rev. gentleman for his kindness in granting the use of the bells when applied for. Following this came the toast of the evening—"Success to the St. Margaret's Society," coupled with the name of the respected Master—Mr. John Button.

Mr. Button suitably responded, reviewing the past history of the society, and urging upon the younger members the importance of regular attendance at practices, and of persevering towards efficiency in striking.

The Chairman next gave "Success to the Norwich Diocesan Association," which was responded to by the District Secretary—Mr. H. J. Button—who announced his intention of holding the next district meeting at an early date. "The Conductors" was next given by Mr. J. Button, and responded to by the Chairman and Mr. G. Wilson. The Chairman then gave "The Health of Mr. W. Taylor," thanking him for the assistance he had always been willing to accord to the company; which was suitably responded to. "Our Visiting Brethren" was responded to by Mr. G. Thompson, of the Kelsale society.

The Chairman next gave "Our talented and valued friend—Mr. G. Lindoff." Mr. Taylor, who was called upon to respond, said that the regret he felt at Mr. Lindoff's absence he was sure was shared by all: he had however in writing recently to Mr. Lindoff informed him of the date of the anniversary, and although unavoidably absent he was—he felt sure—with them in the spirit.

"The Health of Mr. Blakemore" was next given, with many thanks to him for so kindly presiding at the pianoforte; and he suitably responded. Various other complimentary toasts followed: Mr. J. Staulkey; Mr. J. Flegg; Mr. T. D. Bell; Mr. H. Baldry, etc., all of whom suitably responded. The meeting was enlivened with numerous songs by various members of the company, interspersed with touches on the handbells. The singing of "Auld lang syne" and the National Anthem brought to a close a thoroughly successful and enjoyable meeting.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ROCHDALE BRANCH.—A meeting of the above branch was held at Rochdale parish church, on Saturday, January 15th. Mr. G. Hoyle presided over the meeting, and this being over the usual vote of thanks to the Archdeacon and Wardens for the use of bells was passed. There were several touches of Triples, Kent Treble Bob Major, also Plain Bob Minor successfully brought round. There were ringers present from Heywood, Hamer, Shaw, Mossley, Oldham, Leesfield and Rochdale. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Middleton, providing permission be obtained, in March.

WANTED a large peal of handbells. Forty-nine bells. Chromatic scale; G25 to G04; or a larger peal with duplicates. Must be in thorough good condition, and sweet tone. State lowest possible terms, with maker's name, and all particulars to WILMER ROGERS, 8, Yerk Street, Wrexham.

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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 5, 1898.

THAT society of ringers known to the readers of this paper as "THE ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIORS," of the fair city of Gloucester, have long sustained a good character for energy and perseverance. Their latest exploit is a Peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal, a performance not brought off without the possession of such qualifications. Though, according to a copy from a tablet which we give elsewhere, this may not be the first peal of Royal in the method ever rung, yet the prestige attached to the Gloucester peal is in no way abated. The extension of such a method as Cambridge Surprise to ten bells may not be a uniform process in the hands of everybody; and therefore it is open to doubt whether the peal recorded as having been rung at Wakefield is on all-fours, so far as regards internal arrangement, with the peal at Gloucester. Whether it is or not makes no material difference.

We have been accustomed of late to wonderments of one sort or another, and this peal of Cambridge Royal is the latest. It is again an instance of the great talents of

the composer, the Rev. E. BANKES JAMES, whom, it would be imagined from this and other recent occurrences, has got every possible method that can be obtained locked up in his brain. From what is known it seems that this gentleman not only "rings the changes"—as the words are popularly used—upon bells, but upon methods also. His researches and discoveries in this direction are certainly unique.

"The St. Michael's Juniors"—by the way, when will they become seniors?—are, if envy was an ingredient of a ringer's nature, to be envied the possession of their skilled conductor, Mr. AUSTIN. Mr. JAMES brings forward a new method, a course or two of it is rung, and if it is to the company's liking, a peal is produced, and handed over to the conductor with not a moment's delay. The very next evening, perhaps, it is attempted, the conductor appearing quite *nonchalant* what bell he rings, and the peal is got either at the first or second attempt. And so these Gloucester Juniors go on, with their composer and conductor, varying the monotony of their procedure by watching our columns to see if there is anything new, and which they have not heard of, possibly. The "Juniors" have really brought back to the county of Gloucester the fame it formerly enjoyed among ringers. We hope soon to hear that the suggestion of our friend Mr. F. E. WARD, with regard to a ring of ten bells, has been realised. Such a desideratum is not very difficult of accomplishment.

WE have received one or two complaints recently of the late appearance of copies of this paper. This matter has been enquired into, and remedied. We hope to hear of no further disappointment of this sort. We should like to again press upon our friends the following conditions. With the exception of peal records, it is necessary that we should receive all reports not later than Wednesday morning. This paper has to be printed on Thursday, and it is of great importance that everything intended for circulation should come to hand early. We hope it is not too much to ask peal-ringers to send the records of same as early as possible after ringing them. In this number peal-records appear which could have been published a week ago, had they been sent to us in time. We would also beg of our friends not to be so profuse in adding to peal-records notes supposed to be explanatory. These notes must be curtailed of much that really is unnecessary; "rubbish," some of it has been termed. Our style of peal-record was intended to be a kind of fac-simile of a peal tablet, upon which it would be foolish to place many of the items now employed in recording a peal.

With regard to the clock gift, we think there is very little explanation required. Whoever sends the greatest number of coupons up by the date mentioned, secures the gift. Each coupon must bear the name and address of the sender, who must also be willing to satisfy us that the coupons sent have been extracted from copies of this paper purchased by him. To beg or even buy coupons from other people is unfair to competitors as it is to us. By these gifts we naturally look for an increase in circulation, and those, therefore, who want to secure the prize must be fair.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, January 29, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SEPULCHRE, SNOW HILL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5009 CHANGES.

Tenor 31 cwt.

JAMES PETTITTreble.	SAMUEL E. JOYCE 6.
WILLIAM B. MANNING* .. 2.	GEORGE J. SMITH 7.
MATTHEW A. WOOD.. .. 3.	WILLIAM D. SMITH 8.
ALBERT COLES* 4.	WALTER PRIME 9.
HENRY SPRINGALL 5.	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL ..Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW and Conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

*First peal of Stedman Caters.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 29, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHGATE,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 25 cwt.

ROBERT JORDAN.. .. .Treble.	EDWIN JORDAN 5.
JOHN RICE 2.	FREDERICK DENCH 6.
GEORGE PAICE 3.	JAMES PARKER 7.
WILLIAM WARD.. .. 4.	FREDERICK W. RICE ..Tenor.

Composed by F. DENCH and Conducted by JAMES PARKER.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, has the 6th her extent at home.

The Provinces.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Thursday, January 20, 1898, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 26 cwt.

WILLIAM C. WAKLEY ..Treble.	EDWARD I. STONE 5.
HARRY WAKLEY 2.	ARTHUR WAKLEY 6.
GEORGE ROBINSON 3.	WILLIAM WAKLEY 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN.. .. 4.	JAMES DURRANTTenor.

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

Rung in honour of the marriage of the Earl of Uxbridge, only son of the Marquis of Anglesey, with Miss Chetwynd, daughter of Sir G. Chetwynd.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, January 22, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 12 cwt. 25 lbs.

JAMES HALLTreble.	WILLIAM ROCK SMALL .. 5.
FREDERICK BYWATER .. 2.	GEORGE JAMES 6.
THOMAS HORTON 3.	ADAM HICKMAN HILL .. 7.
WILLIAM JAMES.. .. 4.	REUBEN HALLTenor.

Composed by J. BARKER and Conducted by A. H. HILL.

This peal has the 6th twenty-two courses each way.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 22, 1898, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5104 CHANGES.

Tenor 20½ cwt. in E flat.

ALFRED TRAPPISTTreble.	ARTHUR J. PLOWMAN .. 5.
ARTHUR B. CARPENTER .. 2.	JOSEPH FAYERS 6.
HENRY BROOKER 3.	CHARLES BANCE 7.
CHARLES DEAN 4.	FRANK HOLDERTenor.

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

This is a five-part peal of 6000 changes, cut down by the omission of eight courses from the first part.

TODMORDEN, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(ROSSENDALE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 22, 1898, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Cox's Six-Part. Tenor 23 cwt.

FRED. HOWORTH Treble.	JOHN SHEPHERD 5.
JNO. A. BROWN 2.	WILFRED LAW 6.
A. W. WHITWORTH 3.	WILLIAM ASHWORTH 7.
J. T. STANDRING 4.	JOSEPH JACKSON Tenor.

Conducted by J. SHEPHERD.

This is the first peal on the bells, which were put in for the Diamond Jubilee in 1897. For particulars see another column.

WORTLEY, NEAR SHEFFIELD, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 22, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

GEORGE PARKIN Treble.	JOHN PARKIN 5.
THOS. MCKEGG 2.	WILLIAM DRONFIELD 6.
EDWARD ROBBINS 3.	THOS. ROBBINS 7.
HARRY BOWER* 4.	JOHN DRONFIELD Tenor.

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD and Conducted by JOHN DRONFIELD.

*Belongs to the St. Peter's Society, Sheffield, and it is his first peal in the method. The rest belong to the local company.

SPELDHURST, KENT.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Wednesday, January 26, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

JAMES MAYNARD Treble.	WILLIAM H. CARD 5.
JAMES BAKER 2.	GEORGE A. CARD 6.
STEPHEN PERKINS 3.	THOMAS CARD 7.
GEORGE TURLEY 4.	ALBERT E. EDWARDS Tenor.

Composed by CHARLES H. MARTIN and
Conducted by ALBERT E. EDWARDS.

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

LYTHAM, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(FYLDE BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, January 26, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 Canterbury Pleasure, 720 Oxford Single, two 720s of Plain Bob, two 720s of Grandsire Minor and 720 College Single.

Tenor 10½ cwt. in G.

GEORGE MARIES Treble.	WILLIAM GILLET 4.
JOHN PENDLEBURY 2.	JAMES MOORE 5.
EDWARD FORSHAW 3.	WILLIAM TOMLINSON Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE MARIES.

First peal by all. This is the first peal by members of the Fylde branch, also the first peal on the bells, and first peal of Minor ever rung in Lytham.

LEICESTER.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, January 26, 1898, in Two Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. WILLIAM WILLSON, CHURCH STREET,
ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A SILENT PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES,
5040 CHANGES; Heywood's No. 6.

SAMUEL COTTON 1-2.	JOHN O. LANCASHIRE 5-6.
GEORGE CLEAL 3-4.	WILLIAM WILLSON 7-8.

This peal was strictly non-conducted, no word being spoken or sign given of the calling or any intimation whatever. It is only the third silent peal of Stedman on handbells ever rung. Umpires—John Marlow, Charles Fowler and George Burrows. Further reference to this peal will be found on another page.

CHIPPING.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(PRESTON BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, January 26, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of the following;

Duke of York, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob, College Single, and Grandsire. Tenor 9 cwt.

RICHARD KENYON Treble.	WILLIAM T. H. TIMBRELL 4.
F. TIMBRELL 2.	EDWIN TIMBRELL 5.
JOHN T. KENYON 3.	THOMAS SEED Tenor.

Conducted by W. T. H. TIMBRELL.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, January 27, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT's TEN-PART.

Tenor 13½ cwt. in F.

STANLEY ELLIS* Treble.	GEORGE PAICE 5.
JOHN RICE† 2.	FREDERICK WICKENS 6.
FREDERICK W. RICE 3.	ROBERT JORDAN 7.
ALBERT ELLIS 4.	FREDERICK MERRITT Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN RICE.

*First peal of Triples. †First peal of Triples as conductor. This is Robert Jordan's tooth peal.

BEDFORD.—THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, January 27, 1898 (no time mentioned),

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of Cambridge Surprise, College Exercise, London Scholars' Pleasure, College Pleasure, Violet, Woodbine and Oxford Treble Bob.

EDGAR H. TINGEY Treble.	WILLIAM J. BARKER 4.
CHARLES WM. CLARKE 2.	CHARLES CHASTY 5.
CHARLES R. LILLEY 3.	*FRANK HULL Tenor.

Conducted by FRANK HULL.

*First peal as conductor.

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD, AND THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, STOCKPORT.

On Thursday, January 27, 1898, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION.

Tenor 24 cwt.

WILLIAM GORDON Treble.	*SAMUEL MITCHELL 5.
JOSEPH BARLOW 2.	*J. ALLAN GORDON 6.
WILLIAM GORDON, JUN.† 3	*ALLAN S. GORDON 7.
THOMAS SALE 4.	*ALFRED BIRCH Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM GORDON, JUN.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor. A note to this peal will be found on another page.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, January 27, 1898, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION.

Tenor 14 cwt.

JAMES N. FROSSELL Treble.	GEORGE WILLIAMS 5.
FRANK BENNETT 2.	WILLIAM ALLFREY 6.
JOHN JAY, SEN. 3.	PHILIP J. ALLFREY 7.
HENRY STATHAM* 4.	*FREDERICK HILL Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

*First peal of Stedman. Messrs. Allfrey (2), Hill, and Statham belong to the local band; the rest to St. Peter's. This was also the birthday of Mr. Bennett, who received the usual congratulations after the peal.

BEENHAM, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.*On Thursday, January 27, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Woodbine, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, College Single, Oxford Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, and Plain Bob.

Tenor 9 cwt. 2 qrs. 28 lbs.

HARRY RICHARDSON* .. Treble.	JOSEPH HATTO 4.
WILLIAM LUCAS 2.	FREDERICK RICHARDSON .. 5.
ROBERT GEORGE 3.	WILLIAM HORNE Tenor.

Conducted by F. RICHARDSON.

*First peal. This peal was rung by the local band.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.*On Thursday, January 27, 1898, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

SAMUEL JAMES† Treble.	ERNEST PYE 5.
WILLIAM H. DORAN 2.	WESLEY WATSON 6.
EDGAR WIGHTMAN 3.	GEORGE R. PYE 7.
WILLIAM PYE 4.	*JOHN DALE Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by JOHN DALE.

†First peal of Major. *First peal as conductor and first attempt. This composition has the 4th, 5th, and 6th each fifteen courses in 6ths place, the 2nd and 3rd never there.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.**THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.***On Friday, January 28, 1898, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5037 CHANGES.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

GEORGE GATLAND Treble.	JOHN JAY, SEN. 6.
FRANK BENNETT 2.	WILLIAM ALLFREY 7.
HERBERT RANN 3.	WILLIAM PALMER 8.
JOHN SMART 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS 9.
EDWARD C. MERRITT .. 5.	RICHARD FENTIMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY and

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

Reference to this peal will be found elsewhere.

STANSTED, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.*On Friday, January 28, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Superlative Surprise, College Exercise, London Scholars' Pleasure, Woodbine Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and Oxford Treble Bob.

Tenor 13 cwt.

HERBERT LITTLE Treble.	ISAAC CAVILL 4.
ISAAC HAMMOND 2.	GEORGE JORDAN 5.
THOMAS J. WATTS 3.	WILLIAM WATTS Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WATTS.

This is H. Little's first 5040, and great credit is due to him for the way he rung the treble. Rang on the 23rd birthday of George Jordan, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns. I. Cavill hails from Roydon, Essex.

BUSHEY, HERTS.—THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(THE BUSHEY SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, January 29, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 13 cwt.

WILLIAM G. WHITEHEAD Treble.	WILLIAM I. OAKLEY 5.
ERNEST E. HUNTLEY 2.	WILLIAM J. S. THORN .. 6.
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 3.	FREDERICK EDWARDS 7.
FRANK A. SMITH 4.	THOMAS HUSSEY Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK EDWARDS.

STISTED, ESSEX.*On Saturday, January 29, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of the following:

New London Pleasure, Woodbine, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Double Court, Canterbury, and Plain Bob.

Tenor 10 cwt.

ALFRED CHAPLIN Treble.	WALTER BURST 4.
ARTHUR SAUNDERS 2.	ERNEST RIDGWELL 5.
GEORGE ARNOLD 3.	ELISHA RADLEY Tenor.

Conducted by ELISHA RADLEY.

This is the first 5040 in seven different methods on the bells and by the band. Messrs. Burst, Arnold, and Saunders hail from Greensted Green; Ridgwell from Colne; the rest belong to the local company.

WOOBURN, BUCKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.*On Saturday, January 29, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 18 cwt.

J. C. TRUSS Treble.	JOHN EVANS 5.
H. STRATFORD 2.	RALPH BIGGS 6.
FRANK BIGGS 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
F. BOREHAM 4.	F. G. HEALEY Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

Rung on the occasion of the annual festival of the East Berks and South Bucks Branch.

LIGHTCLIFFE, YORKSHIRE.**THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, January 29, 1898, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 20 cwt.

F. BRADLEY Treble.	J. RUSHWORTH 5.
W. REEDS 2.	T. GELDER 6.
J. LAWSON 3.	W. SHERWOOD 7.
E. BARBER 4.	E. WILLIAMSON Tenor.

Composed by the late JAMES PLATT, of Saddleworth, and

Conducted by JOHN LAWSON.

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

PRESTON, SUFFOLK.**THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

(SUDBURY BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 29, 1898, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720s each called differently,

Tenor 11½ cwt.

FREDERICK G. SYMONDS .. Treble.	CHARLES LEVITT 4.
THOMAS LEVITT 2.	HARRY C. SEWELL 5.
ALFRED HOLLOCKS 3.	ARTHUR SYMONDS Tenor.

Conducted by ARTHUR SYMONDS.

This is the first 5040 on the bells; by Messrs. Levitt (2), and Sewell; also the first on six bells by Symonds (2), and Hollocks. Symonds (2) hail from Lavenham; T. Levitt and Sewell from Hitcham; Hollocks and C. Levitt from Preston. Rung as a birthday compliment to A. Symonds, which day was Sunday, January 23rd.

STREATLEY, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.*On Saturday, January 29, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

ALFRED SPOKES Treble.	JOHN BOWER 4.
CHARLES TIDBURY 2.	JOHN ALEXANDER 5.
JOHN WEDGE 3.	GEORGE WILSON Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILSON.

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

REDENHALL, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 29, 1898, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 24 cwt.

EDWARD SMITHTreble.	HENRY R. NEWTON 5.
JAMES BETTS2.	CHARLES T. P. BRICE 6.
ROBERT WHITING 3.	FREDERICK SMITH 7.
FREDERICK R. BORRETT .. 4.	JOHN N. OXBORROWTenor.

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH and
Conducted by JOHN N. OXBORROW.

Messrs. Newton, Brice, and Oxborrow, who hail from London, desire to thank the other members for meeting them, and also the Ven. Archdeacon Perowne for so kindly granting the use of the bells.

NEWCHURCH.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(ROSSENDALE BRANCH.)

On Friday, January 29, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAYLOR'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

JAMES TAYLORTreble.	JOHN H. HAYDOCK 5.
SAMUEL LORD2.	WALTER TAYLOR 6.
HARRY WALLS3.	JAMES B. TAYLOR 7.
ORMEROD EASTWOOD* .. 4.	JOHN W. ORMERODTenor.

Conducted by WALTER TAYLOR.

*First peal. J. B. Taylor hails from Waterfoot; Haydock from Ramsbottom; the rest are of the local company.

TANFIELD, DURHAM,

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 29, 1898, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 13 cwt.

F. LOWETreble.	CLARKE WAUGH 5.
WALTER HUNT*2.	WM. BREWIS 6.
WM. R. BREWIS* 3.	FREDK. J. HARRISON .. 7.
J. W. DAWSON4.	†JOHN A. NICHOLSONTenor.

Composed by J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE and
Conducted by FREDK. J. HARRISON.

†First peal. *First peal with a bob bell. Hunt and Waugh hail from North Shields; Harrison from Jarrow; Dawson from Newcastle; the rest are local men.

BAKEWELL, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 29, 1898, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 17 cwt.

JAMES FROST*Treble.	WALTER WALLACE 5.
SAMUEL MASKREY2.	*ALFRED WALLACE 6.
WILLIAM SMITH* 3.	CHARLES DRAPER 7.
JAMES FEARN4.	*ROBERT SMITHTenor.

Conducted by WALTER WALLACE.

This is the first peal on the bells. *First peal. Messrs. Maskrey and Draper hail from Derby; the rest are local men.

CHIPPING BARNET, HERTS.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 31, 1898, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

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

Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs. 13 lbs.

GEORGE GODFREY*Treble.	*JAMES STEVENS 5.
JOHN SUMPTER2.	CHARLES H. MARTIN 6.
FRANK A. MILNE, ESQ. .. 3.	ALFRED H. BELTON 7.
WILLIAM J. DELL4.	ARTHUR T. KING, ESQ. ..Tenor.

Conducted by C. H. MARTIN.

*First peal. Rung as a farewell peal to J. Stevens, his brother-strings wishing him success in his new undertaking. They also wish to thank Mr. Godfrey, through the medium of this paper, for kindly taking a rope at the last moment.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 31, 1898, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

ALFRED W. GRIMESTreble.	WILLIAM GROOM 5.
WILLIAM GRIMES2.	GEORGE ROWE, JUN. 6.
JAMES G. RUMSEY 3.	WILLIAM E. H. BULLOCK .. 7.
GEORGE THURLOW 4.	WILLIAM RUMSEYTenor.

Composed by G. LINDOFF and Conducted by ALFRED W. GRIMES.

*First peal as conductor and first attempt. Rung as a compliment to the conductor on his seventeenth birthday, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns. The calling of this peal will be found in the Association's report for 1889-90, page 65.

FINEDON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 31, 1898, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 22½ cwt.

JAMES HOUGHTON, SEN. ..Treble.	*PHILIP J. MANNING 5.
THOMAS ABBOT*2.	JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. .. 6.
WILLIAM V. NEWMAN 3.	†WALTER PERKINS 7.
JOHN T. TOMPKINS* 4.	†EPHRAIM WESTTenor.

Composed by H. HUBBARD and Conducted by WALTER PERKINS.

This is the first peal in the method by all the band, and was rung to celebrate the paying off the debt of the two new trebles recently added. *First peal on eight bells. †First peal. *First peal as conductor. Messrs. Houghton and Newman hail from Irthlingborough; West from Wellingborough; the rest belong to Finedon.

OXHEY, HERTS.—THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 1, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

LATES'S ONE-PART,

Tenor 9½ cwt.

GEORGE N. PRICETreble.	ERNEST E. HUNTLEY 5.
CHARLES GEORGE*2.	*WILLIAM J. S. THORN 6.
FRANK A. SMITH* 3.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM 7.
HERBERT MARTIN* 4.	JAMES ALEXANDERTenor.

Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

*First peal in the method.

Date Touches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

DRIGHLINGTON (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, January 9th, at St Paul's church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1898 changes, in 1 hr. 9 mins. J. Thornton, 1; T. Hepworth, 2; H. Clapham, 3; E. Wheeler (conductor), 4; D. Newton, 5; A. Muffitt, 6; F. Barker, 7; R. Thornton, 8. Composed by A. Sykes, of Huddersfield.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BLACKBURN BRANCH.

BURNLEY (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, January 4th, at Holy Trinity church, a date touch of Oxford Treble Bob Major, 1898 changes, in 1 hr. 7 mins. T. Knowles, 1; D. Campbell, 2; D. Heys, 3; R. Hartley, 4; N. Townend, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. Composed by A. Sykes, of Huddersfield.

KENDAL.—On Monday, December 27th, at the parish church, a date touch of 1897 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 12 mins. W. Tyson, 1; W. Graham, 2; R. Everson, 3; J. Baxter, 4; W. Atkinson (conductor), 5; B. Walker, 6; B. Dawson (Tue Brook, Liverpool), 7; J. Salmon, 8.

LOW MOOR (Yorks).—On Sunday, January 9th, at Holy Trinity church, for evening service, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1898 changes, in 1 hr. 8 mins. W. Bailey, 1; H. Simpson, 2; A. Wilkinson, 3; T. Simpson, 4; J. Pratt, 5; H. Kershaw, 6; J. W. Emmett, 7; C. Dracup, 8. Composed by A. Sykes, of Huddersfield.

and conducted by T. Simpson. The above was rung in honour of C. Dracup's birthday, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

Miscellaneous.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LITTLE MUNDEN (Herts).—On Friday, December 31st, on the occasion of ringing in the new year, 720 Grandsire Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; G. Carter, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. Also 360 Bob Minor. On Sunday, January 2nd, two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. G. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 5; G. Phillips, 6. For afternoon service, 720 Bob Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 9th, for morning service, 360 Grandsire Minor. A. Wright, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; G. Carter, 4; A. Phillips, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. And for afternoon service, 180 Oxford Bob. On Monday, January 10th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. A. Wright (first 720), 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; G. Carter, 4; A. Phillips, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, January 12th, 720 Oxford Bob, standing as above. On Monday, January 17th, 720 Grandsire Minor. A. Wright, 1; A. Phillips, 2; A. Lawrence, 3; G. Carter, 4; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 5; J. Heady, 6. On Saturday, January 22nd, an attempt was made for 720 Kent Treble Bob, but was lost after ringing about 500, being the longest length by all. A. Lawrence, 1; G. Carter, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. Also 720 College Single was lost 72 changes from home. And 240 Grandsire Doubles. A. Lawrence, 1; A. Wright (first 240 with a bob bell), 2; A. Phillips, 3; W. H. Lawrence, 4; G. Carter (conductor), 5; H. Carter, 6. On Sunday, January 22nd, for morning service, 216 Grandsire Minor. A. Wright, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; G. Carter, 4; A. Phillips, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. For afternoon service 360 Bob Minor. H. Carter, 1; the rest as before.

THE NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

EAST RETFORD (Notts).—On Sunday evening, November 28th, for Divine Service, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. F. Bramley, 1; G. Clayton, 2; G. W. D. Metcalfe, 3; H. Haigh (conductor), 4; T. Spurr, 5; H. Warburton, 6; G. R. Winter, 7; J. B. Joynes, 8. On Thursday, December 2nd, for practice, 480 in the same method. F. W. Abbott, 1; H. Haigh (conductor), 2; G. W. D. Metcalfe, 3; T. H. Denman, 4; T. Spurr, 5; H. Warburton, 6; G. R. Winter, 7; J. B. Joynes, 8. For Divine Service on Sunday, December 19th, 576 in the same method. F. W. Abbott, 1; E. Collingburn, 2; G. W. D. Metcalfe, 3; T. H. Denman, 4; H. Haigh (conductor), 5; H. Warburton, 6; T. Spurr, 7; J. B. Joynes, 8. These touches are the longest rung in the method by all except Messrs. Haigh and Joynes. On December 14th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 49 mins. A. Winter, 1; E. Collingburn, 2; F. W. Abbott, 3; R. Miles, 4; T. H. Denman, 5; H. Warburton (conductor), 6; G. R. Winter, 7; T. Spurr, 8. On December 22nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 51 mins. A. Winter, 1; E. Collingburn, 2; F. Bramley, 3; R. Miles, 4; G. W. D. Metcalfe, 5; G. R. Winter, 6; J. B. Joynes, 7; H. Warburton, 8. On Christmas morning, for early service, 630 in the same method. T. Barlow, 1; E. Collingburn, 2; F. W. Abbott, 3; G. R. Winter, 4; T. Spurr, 5; H. Warburton (conductor), 6; J. B. Joynes, 7; G. W. D. Metcalfe, 8.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NORWICH.—On Sunday, December 1st, at St. Peter Mancroft, 660 Grandsire Cinques, in 35 mins. H. W. Stanley, 1; W. Bales, 2; E. Ward, 3; G. Sadler, 4; C. E. Borrett (conductor), 5; A. G. Warnes, 6; G. Howchin, 7; E. Francis, 8; F. H. Knights, 9; F. Knights, 10; G. Smith, 11; S. Smith, 12. The above was rung as a birthday compliment to Miss Grace E. Martin, a lady much respected and beloved in the city. Tenor 43 cwt.

WICKHAM SKETH (Suffolk).—On Saturday, December 25th, after Divine Service, 720 Double Court Minor. D. Mays, 1; T. Davy, 2; F. Cullum, 3; F. Potter, 4; G. Kemp, 5; G. Cattermole, 6. On Tuesday, December 28th, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. D. Mays, 1; G. Kemp, 2; F. Cullum, 3; F. Potter, 4; T. Davy, 5; G. Cattermole, 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. D. Mays, 1; T. Davy, 2; F. Potter, 3; F. Cullum, 4; G. Kemp, 5; G. Cattermole, 6. All conducted by G. Cattermole.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

TIMBERLAND (Lincolnshire).—On December 20th, 720 Oxford

Treble Bob Minor. H. King, 1; C. F. West, 2; F. Cobb, 3; A. West, 4; W. Elkington, 5; G. Elkington, 6. First 720 of Treble Bob by W. Elkington and H. King, and first 720 with a bob bell by F. Cobb. On Thursday, December 23rd, for practice, two 160s of Bob Minor, each called differently. C. F. West, 1; H. King, 2; F. Cobb, 3; F. Curtis, 4; W. Elkington, 5; G. Elkington, 6. On December 25th, three 720s of Bob Minor, the one in the morning, A. Sharpe, 1; the rest as before; the 720 in the afternoon, A. West, 4; the 720 in the evening with F. Curtis at the treble, the others as above. On December 26th, 720 Bob Minor. A. Sharpe, 1; H. King, 2; F. Cobb, 3; A. West, 4; W. Elkington, 5; G. Elkington, 6. On January 6th, 1898, 720 Bob Minor, standing as above, conducted by G. Elkington.

HALE MAGNA (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday, December 26th, for evening service, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. T. B. Woods, jun., 1; R. Masters, 2; C. Ward, 3; T. Humberstone, 4; T. T. Taylor, 5; J. N. Green (conductor), 6. First 720 and longest length by local band, who wish, through the medium of this paper, to thank the Heckington ringers for their kind assistance and instruction in teaching the art.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Monday, December 27th, at All Saints' church, a half-peal of Bob Major, 2592 changes, in 1 hr. 40 mins. E. Ambrose (Melford), 1; H. Thompson (Cavendish), 2; W. Griggs (Sudbury, All Saints), 3; C. Honeybell (Glemsford), 4; W. Howell (Sudbury, All Saints), 5; A. Symonds (Lavenham), 6; C. Sillitoe (Sudbury, All Saints), 7; S. Slater (Glemsford), 8. Composed by J. A. Trollope and conducted by C. Sillitoe.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WORTLEY (Yorks).—On Monday, December 20th, on handbelle, at the residence of Mr. T. McKegg, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles, non-conducted). T. McKegg, 1-2; J. Dronfield, 3-4; T. Rabbits, 5-6. On Sunday, January 2nd, at the house of David Brearley, Woodbine Villas, Deepcar, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles, non-conducted) in 18½ mins. T. McKegg, 1-2; J. Dronfield, 3-4; D. Brearley, 5-6.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

BACUP (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, December 5th, for Divine Service, 720 Woodbine. Z. Lord, 1; W. Smith, 2; G. Shottin, 3; J. Barnes (conductor), 4; J. Lomas, 5; J. Brierley, 6. On Friday, December 10th, for practice, 720 Carlisle Surprise. L. Holt, 1; J. Smith, 2; G. Shottin, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; Z. Lord, 5; J. Barnes (conductor), 6. First in the method by all. On Sunday morning, December 12th, for Divine Service, 720 Superlative Surprise. J. Smith, 1; J. Lomas, 2; E. Cockroft, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; Z. Lord, 5; J. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Monday, December 13th, for practice, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (eighteen bobs and two singles). G. Shottin, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. Barnes (conductor), 3; G. White, 4; J. H. Smith, 5; J. Brierley, 6. On Sunday evening, December 19th, 720 York Surprise. L. Holt, 1; J. Smith, 2; G. Shottin, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. Lomas, 5; Z. Lord (conductor), 6. On Friday, December 24th, 720 City Delight. L. Holt, 1; J. Smith, 2; G. Shottin, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. Lomas, 5; J. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, December 26th, for Divine Service, 720 Arnold's Victory. Z. Lord, 1; J. Smith, 2; G. Shottin, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. Lomas, 5; J. Barnes (conductor), 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

KILNDOWN (Sussex).—Recently at Christ Church, 720 Plain Bob in 25 mins. G. Hodge, 1; E. Lambert, 2; W. Lambert, 3; F. Butchers, 4; J. Beach, 5; F. Lambert (conductor), 6.

HORSMONDEN (Kent).—On Thursday, December 9th, 720 Violet Treble Bob. G. Hodge, 1; F. Lambert, 2; E. Lambert, 3; W. Lambert, 4; F. Butchers, 5; J. Beach (conductor), 6. On Saturday, December 25th, 720 Double Bob. G. Hodge, 1; E. Lambert, 2; F. Butchers, 3; W. Lambert, 4; F. Lambert (conductor), 5; J. Beach, 6. On Sunday, December 26th, 720 Plain Bob. T. Lambert, 1; E. C. Lambert, 2; E. Lambert, 3; T. Lambert, jun., 4; W. Lambert, 5; F. Lambert (conductor), 6. Also 720 Double Stedman. W. Lambert, 1; E. Lambert, 2; E. C. Lambert, 3; F. Lambert, 4; F. Butchers, 5; J. Beach (conductor), 6.

HAYES (Kent).—On Thursday, December 30th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. H. Reader, 1; H. Brown, 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; J. Hack, 5; W. Weatherstone (conductor), 6. Also 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor. G. Harwood, 1; H. Brown, 2; W. Weatherstone, 3; H. Reader, 4; A. Killick, 5; J. Hack (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 2nd, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-six bobs and two singles). A. Lanaway, 1; G. Harwood, 2; A. Killick, 3; J. Hack (conductor), 4; E. Stone, 5; H. Reader, 6. Composed by J.

F. Penning. For evening service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (three bobs and thirty singles). F. Keech, 1; G. Harwood, 2; J. Hack, 3; J. Town, 4; H. Reader (conductor), 5; E. Stone, 6.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—On Tuesday, November 9th, on the occasion of the opening of a peal-board denoting the performance of a peal of Stedman Triples, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, on the back six. E. H. Nixon, 1; W. Weatherstone, 2; W. Bedwell, 3; J. Hack, 4; G. Grove, 5; A. Neale (conductor), 6.

LEWISHAM (Kent).—On Sunday morning, November 28th, for service, 720 Bob Minor, in 28 mins., with 6.8 covering. C. Walker, 1; C. Bedwell, 2; T. Taylor, 3; H. Barrett, 4; T. Chandler, 5; W. Keates, 6; H. Warnett (conductor), 7; T. Clews (longest touch), 8. On New Year's Eve, for midnight service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. C. Walker, 1; C. Bedwell, 2; J. Turner, 3; H. Warnett (composer and conductor), 4; T. Chandler, 5; T. Taylor, 6; H. Barrett, 7; W. Keates, 8. On January 1st, 280 Grandsire Triples. C. Walker, 1; C. Bedwell, 2; J. Turner, 3; H. Warnett (conductor), 4; H. Barrett, 5; T. Taylor, 6; T. Chandler, 7; F. T. Kettle, 8.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MIDDLESBROUGH (Yorks).—Recently at St. Hilda's church the following touches were rung as a farewell compliment to Mr. F. P. Howcroft, who left here the next day for Hastings, having accepted a situation under Mr. Saker of that place, and a well-known member of the Sussex County Association. At the close of the ringing Mr. Howcroft was the recipient of a handsome silver-mounted walking stick with his initials engraved thereon, presented to him on behalf of his colleagues by the leader of the band, and who wished him every success in his new sphere. 1008 Double Norwich. R. Alcock, 1; J. Carter, 2; W. Rudd, 3; C. Hull, 4; R. Fenwick, 5; F. Howcroft, 6; J. Blakiston (conductor), 7; W. Newton, 8. And 420 Stedman Triples. W. Titchener, 1; F. Howcroft, 2; C. Hall, 3; R. Fenwick, 4; A. McFarlane, 5; T. Metcalfe, 6; J. H. Blakiston, 7; J. Passman, 8. On handbells a course of Grandsire Caters. F. Howcroft, 1-2; C. Hall, 3-4; T. Metcalfe, 5-6; J. Passman, 7-8; W. Newton, 9-10.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CARDIFF.—On Wednesday morning, December 15th, for Divine Service, to celebrate the completion of the restoration of the tower, a touch of Grandsire Triples was rung by the following members. H. G. White, 1; W. Lloyd, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; J. Harris, 4; W. Biss (conductor), 5; J. H. Aldridge, 6; A. Rowley, 7; R. H. Brothwell, 8. For morning service 632 Grandsire Triples. W. Lloyd, 1; J. H. Aldridge, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; J. Harris, 4; W. Biss (conductor), 5; A. Rowley, 6; W. Coombes, 7; R. Brothwell, 8. For evening service 216 Grandsire Caters. C. Lloyd, 1; W. Lloyd, 2; R. Balcombe, 3; J. Harris, 4; W. Biss, 5; O. W. Layng, 6; A. Rowley, 7; J. Clutterbuck, 8; W. Coombes, 9; H. White, 10. Also 324 Grandsire Caters. W. Lloyd, 1; J. Jones, 2; J. Harris, 3; W. Biss, 4; C. Lloyd (unconductor), 5; J. Aldridge, 6; A. Rowley, 7; J. Clutterbuck, 8; W. Coombes, 9; B. Tilley, 10. On Sunday, December 26th, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Aldridge, 1; W. Lloyd, 2; J. Harris, 3; W. Biss, 4; A. Rowley, 5; W. Coombes (conductor), 6; J. Clutterbuck, 7; H. G. White, 8. On Monday, December 27th, 504 Grandsire Triples. H. White, 1; J. Jones, 2; J. Harris, 3; W. Biss, 4; A. Rowley (conductor), 5; W. Coombes, 6; J. Clutterbuck, 7; B. Tilley, 8. On Sunday evening, January 2nd, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. W. Lloyd, 1; J. Harris, 2; R. Balcombe, 3; A. Rowley, 4; C. Winfield, 5; W. Coombes (conductor), 6; J. Clutterbuck, 7; H. White, 8. O. W. Layng hails from Swindon; Jones from Newport. First touch as conductor by A. Rowley.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BEACONSFIELD (BUCKS).—On Wednesday, December 22nd, 1897, for practice, the local band rang the following touches of Grandsire Triples: 336, 350, 168, and 112. These were rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to two deceased ringers belonging to the company. One Mr. George Tapping (a son of the respected sexton of the parish), and who was also a chorister, was laid to rest on December 27th, the funeral service being fully choral, and well attended by choir and ringers alike to show their deepest feelings of regret at the loss of their very able and beloved comrade, at the early age of twenty-six years from among them. The above ringing was conducted by Mr. James W. Wilkins, of Maidenhead, their Instructor, who takes this opportunity of stating that the greatest credit is due to this very promising young band, as with the exception of G. Buckland it was the first attempt at Triples by the remainder, shewing the interest and effect taken to ensure proficiency.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

LUDLOW.—On Wednesday, January 5th, on handbells, a 210, 224, 350 and 504. E. H. Wood, 1; J. Palmer, 2; J. E. Groves (conductor),

3-4; R. Marston, 5; W. R. Nash, 6; A. Chester, 7-8. Also 336. E. H. Wood, 1; J. Palmer, 2; R. Marston (conductor), 3; W. R. Nash, 4; J. E. Groves, 5-6; A. Chester, 7-8. On Thursday, at the parish church, 798 of Grandsire Triples. T. J. Bannister, 1; W. R. Nash, 2; W. Bainham, 3; J. E. Groves (conductor), 4; R. Marston, 5; C. Jaine, 6; A. Chester, 7; W. Nash, 8. Also 336. T. J. Bannister, 1; W. R. Nash, 2; W. Bainham, 3; A. Chester, 4; R. Marston (conductor), 5; C. Jaine, 6; J. E. Groves, 7; W. Nash, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. Ringers of 1st, 2nd and 6th belong to Leominster.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

STANSTED (Essex).—On New Year's Eve, December 31st, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, 720 London Surprise in 26 mins. J. Cavill, 1; I. Hammond, 2; T. J. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. Also 720 Wells Surprise. H. Little (first 720 in the method), 1; G. Jordan (first 720 in the method with a bob bell), 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; I. Hammond, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. And to ring the Old Year out and the New Year in 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Cavill, 1; H. Little, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. J. Watts (conductor), 5; G. Jordan, 6. Tenor 13 cwt. This company's summary for the year 1897 consists of 178 complete 720s, viz.: 15 Oxford Treble Bob, 14 Superlative Surprise, 13 each of Cambridge Surprise and Plain Bob Minor, 8 York Surprise, 7 London Surprise, 6 each of Woodbine Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and Double Oxford Bob, 5 each of Worcester Surprise, Chichester Surprise, and College Single, 4 each of Durham Surprise and Double Court Bob, 3 each of Wells Surprise, Violet Treble Bob, New London Pleasure, London Scholars' Pleasure, Double Bob Minor, and Oxford Bob, 2 each of Huddersfield Surprise, Duke of York, Sandal Exercise, and Canterbury Pleasure, 1 each of Dewsbury Surprise, Ely Surprise, Coventry Surprise, Bristol Surprise, Ringers' Surprise, Rochester Surprise, Lincoln Surprise, Lichfield Surprise, Carlisle Surprise, Arnold's Victory, Duke of Wellington, College Exercise, City Delight, College Pleasure, Imperial Treble Bob, London Treble Bob, Morning Exercise, Oxford Delight, Bocking Treble Bob, Westminster Treble Bob, Morning Star, Victoria Treble Bob, Killamarsh Treble Bob, Braintree Treble Bob, Ringers' Pleasure, Primrose Treble Bob, Tulip Treble Bob, Burton Treble Bob, Evening Star, Morning Pleasure, Imperial Treble Bob reversed, Stansted Court Bob, College Double Bob, Grandsire Minor, Jubilee Court Bob, Stansted Double Bob, Stansted Delight, Double Canterbury Pleasure, Stansted New Bob, Burton Pleasure, and Christmas Eve. Of the foregoing, 96 were conducted by W. Watts, 46 by J. Luckey, 31 by T. J. Watts, 3 by H. J. Tucker of Bishop Stortford, and 2 by I. Cavill, of Roydon, Essex. Total number rang by members of the band: W. Watts rang 168, G. Gray, 163, T. J. Watts, 161, I. Hammond, 159, J. Luckey, 151, H. Little, 91, G. Jordan, 82, J. Cavill, 58. It will be seen that the above 178 720s have been rang in 65 different methods. Total number of changes successfully brought round during the year, 146,107. This band has attended 104 services on Sundays, 37 practices, and 14 special times, making a total number of 155 times this band has met for ringing during the year.

HAVERING.—On Monday, December 27th, at the church of St. John the Evangelist, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (15 bobs). W. Watson, 1; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 2; E. Pye, 3; G. R. Pye, 4; J. Dale, 5; W. Pye, 6. Also 720 Bob Minor. F. Carter, 1; Rev. H. T. W. Eyre, 2; T. Hammond, 3; A. Pye, 4; G. R. Pye (conductor), 5; E. Pye, 6. And 720 Double Court Bob Minor. S. James, 1; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 2; G. R. Pye, 3; A. Pye, 4; W. Watson, 5; J. Dale, 6. Also 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor. A. Pye, 1; A. J. Perkins, 2; G. R. Pye, 3; E. Pye, 4; J. Dale, 5; W. Pye (conductor), 6. The above was rung after the Dedication Service, which was performed by the Bishop of Colchester. The bells are a new peal cast by Warners and were given by the following parishioners in commemoration of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee. Mrs. Pemberton Barnes, 1st; Mrs. Matthews, 2nd; Mr. G. Hope, 3th; the 4th, 5th, and 6th by Mrs. McIntosh. The bells are a musical ring of six. Tenor 16½ cwt. in E flat. The ringers with Mr. Dunn and other employees of Messrs. Warner and Son, were afterwards entertained to dinner by Mrs. McIntosh.

CHADWELL HEATH.—On Friday, December 24th, on handbells retained in hand, 1440 Kent Treble Bob Major in 40 mins. G. R. Pye, 1-2; E. Pye, 3-4; W. Pye (conductor), 5-6; A. Pye, 7-8.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BATTLE (Sussex).—At the Parish Church, for evening service (on the visit of the Rev. Foster Pegg), on November 14th, 1897, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. W. Eastland, 1; N. Cruttenden, 2; H. Cruttenden, 3; T. J. Ades (conductor), 4; W. Franks, 5; C. R. Carter, 6; C. J. Hyland, 7; W. Eldridge, 8. N. Cruttenden, H. Cruttenden, and T. J. Ades hails from Bexhill. For practice on November 16th, 532 Grandsire Triples. J. Sinden, 1; S. Saker (con

ductor), 2; C. J. Hyland, 3; F. Mathis, 4; J. Livermore, 5; W. Franks, 6; W. Thomas, 7; W. H. Eldridge, 8. For 1st celebration at 7 a.m. on Christmas (ringing commenced at 6 a.m., and the St. George's Ensign was raised), morning, 350 Grandsire Triples. W. H. Eldridge, 1; J. Mathis, 2; F. Mathis, 3; W. Franks, 4; C. J. Hyland, 5; W. Thomas, 6; H. Elliott, 7; J. Sinden, 8. For 11 a.m. service, 304 Grandsire Triples. W. H. Eldridge, 1; C. J. Hyland, 2; F. Mathis, 3; W. Thomas, 4; W. Franks (conductor), 5; C. R. Carter, 6; H. Elliott, 7; J. Sinden, 8. For practice on January 4th, 1898, a 720 of Grandsire Minor on the back six, in 26 mins. W. H. Eldridge, 2; F. Mathis, 3; C. J. Hyland, 4; J. Livermore, 5; W. Thomas, 6; W. Franks (conductor), J. Sinden, 8.

BALCOMBE (Sussex).—On Christmas Day, 720 Plain Bob. G. Backshall, 1; E. Streeter, jun. 2; F. Streeter, 3; T. Streeter, 4; C. Holman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Also 360 Kent Treble Bob. E. Streeter, jun. 1; A. Gasson, 2; F. Streeter, 3; T. Streeter, 4; C. Holman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 26th, 720 Violet Treble Bob. F. Streeter, 1; A. Gasson, 2; C. Holman, 3; J. Gasson, 4; J. Wedge, 5; E. Streeter, sen. (conductor), 6. Also 240 Oxford Treble Bob, standing as before. Also 720 Plain Bob. W. Holford, 1; A. Gasson, 2; F. Streeter, 3; T. Streeter, 4; C. Holman, 5; E. Streeter, sen. (conductor), 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. F. Streeter, 1; A. Gasson, 2; J. Gasson (conductor), 3; T. Streeter, 4; E. Streeter, sen. 5; C. Holman, 6. On Monday, December 27th, 720 Woodbine. F. Streeter, 1; J. Wedge, 2; A. Gasson, 3; J. Gasson, 4; C. Holman, 5; E. Streeter, sen. (conductor), 6. Also 720 College Exercise. F. Streeter, 1; C. Holman, 2; E. Streeter, sen., 3; T. Streeter, 4; J. Wedge, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6.

THE EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ALFRETON.—On December 13th, 720 Plain Bob Minor. — Pipes, 1; B. Fletcher, 2; J. Brook, 3; F. Hoey, 4; J. Hutchinson, 5; H. George (conductor), 6. On Monday, December 27th, a 720 Plain Bob Minor in 27 mins. W. Burnham, 1; B. Fletcher, 2; J. Brook, 3; F. Hoey, 4; J. Pagett (conductor), 5; H. George, 6. Also 720 Plain Bob Minor. J. Pagett (conductor), 1; B. Fletcher, 2; J. Brook, 3; F. Hoey, 4; J. Hutchinson, 5; H. George, 6. Also 120 Grandsire Minor as above, conducted by J. Pagett. This is the 5th 720 of Minor on the bells since their augmentation to a peal of six by the additional treble by Messrs. Carr, of Smethwick. Also on handbells, two 120s each of Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles. B. Fletcher, 1-2; J. Pagett (conductor), 3-4; F. Hoey, 5-6. Also a Plain course of Grandsire Triples. B. Fletcher, 1-2; J. Pagett, 3-4; H. George, 5-6; F. Hoey, 7-8. J. Pagett hails from Kidderminster, G. Fletcher and Hoey from Ripley, the rest local. P.S.—"THE BELL NEWS" was introduced by Mr. H. George, Ripley, upon which one of the local ringers promised to take it in. I should like to see every member of the Alfreton band take this step.—J.P.

RIPLEY.—On Sunday, for evening service, December 26th, 120 Plain Bob Doubles. B. Day, 1; H. George, 2; B. Fletcher, 3; F. Hoey, 4; J. Pagett (conductor), 5. Tenor about 19 cwt. Also four 120s Plain Bob Doubles and one 120 Grandsire Doubles, standing as above, each called differently, and conducted by J. Pagett. Also 120 Manchester Doubles. B. Day, 1; J. Pagett, 2; W. Brown (conductor), 3; B. Fletcher, 4; F. Hoey, 5. Also on handbells at Mr. George's residence, two plain courses of Grandsire Triples. F. Hoey, 1-2; B. Fletcher, 3-4; J. Pagett, 5-6; H. George, 7-8. J. Pagett hails from Kidderminster; W. Brown from Crick; the rest are of the local band.

BRANDESTON (Suffolk).—On Sunday, December 26th, for afternoon service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. P. Bedingfield, 1; W. Wightman, 2; T. Bradlaugh, 3; H. Bedingfield, 4; E. Wightman (conductor), 5; S. Wightman, 6.

CLIFTON, BRISTOL.—On December 29th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (muffled in 47 mins. W. Gist, 1; R. J. Wilkins, 2; R. Clark, 3; T. W. Radford (conductor), 4; A. Harvey, 5; J. Jones, 6; C. Thomas, 7; W. Holder, 8. First quarter-peal by 1, 5 and 8; first with a bob bell by 3rd, and first-quarter muffled on the bells. On New Year's Eve, 6-score of Stedman Doubles. R. Clark, 1; R. J. Wilkins, 2; A. Harvey, 3; J. Jones, 4; T. W. Radford, 5; J. Luke, 6. First in the method by 1, 3 and 4. Also 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Gist, 1; T. W. Radford, 2; R. Clark, 3; R. J. Wilkins (conductor), 4; A. Harvey, 5; J. Jones, 6; C. Thomas, 7; J. Luke, 8. At St. Peter's Church (city), for practice, 559 of Grandsire Triples, December 30th, 1897. J. Viney, 1; J. Jones, 2; C. Thomas, 3; T. W. Radford (conductor), 4; J. Richmond, 5; C. H. Horton, 6; F. Gooding, 7; T. Donaldson, 8. T. W. Radford hails from Taunton.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS (Lancashire).—On October 10th, for morning service, 720 Plain Bob Minor (thirty-four bobs and ten singles), in 23 mins. T. Watson (conductor), 1; W. H. Dennison, 2; T. Suart, 3;

R. Satterthwaite, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. For evening service, 720 Plain Bob Minor (forty-two singles), in 23 mins. T. Watson (conductor), 1; W. H. Dennison, 2; T. Suart, 3; R. Satterthwaite, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. R. Satterthwaite hails from Ambleside. On October 31st, for evening service, 720 Plain Bob Minor (twenty-six singles), in 24 mins. J. S. Turner, 1; J. Huddleston, 2; W. H. Dennison, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. Townson, 5; J. Burrows (conductor), 6. On November 7th, 720 Plain Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs). J. Huddleston, 1; J. S. Turner, 2; W. H. Dennison, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. R. Jackson (conductor), 5; J. Burrows, 6. Also 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). T. Watson (conductor), 1; J. S. Turner, 2; W. H. Dennison, 3; T. Suart, 4; J. Huddleston, 5; J. Burrows, 6. On December 12th for evening service, 720 Plain Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs), in 24 mins. J. Huddleston, 1; T. Townson, 2; W. H. Dennison, 3; T. Suart, 4; W. Corlett, 5; J. Burrows (conductor), 6. On Christmas Day 720 Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and six singles), in 25 mins. T. Watson (conductor), 1; J. Huddleston, 2; W. H. Dennison, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. On January 6th, with the bells deeply muffled as a last mark of respect to the Vicar, the Rev. J. M. Morgan, R.D., 720 Plain Bob Minor (forty-two singles), in 26 mins. T. Watson (conductor), 1; J. Huddleston, 2; W. H. Dennison, 3; T. Townson, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. Also 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and six singles), in 26 mins. J. S. Turner, 1; T. Watson (conductor), 2; J. Huddleston, 3; T. Townson, 4; T. Suart, 5; J. Burrows, 6. On June 8th, 720 Plain Bob Minor (thirty-four bobs and ten singles), in 26 mins. T. Watson (conductor), 1; J. Huddleston, 2; W. H. Dennison, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6.

KIDDERMINSTER (Worcestershire).—On Wednesday, December 22nd, on the occasion of the Jubilee Anniversary of the re-opening of the church after being closed nearly twelve months for interior restoration, and also the Dedication of the Bishop Claughton Memorial (consisting of a set of stained-glass windows), 448 London Surprise Major. J. Pagett, 1; J. Bennett, 2; G. Salter, 3; N. Davis, 4; T. Salter (conductor), 5; J. Crane, 6; E. C. Hunt, 7; W. H. Smith, 8. Also 800 Superlative Surprise Major. E. Hunt, 1; J. Bennett, 2; G. Salter, 3; N. Davis, 4; W. H. Smith, 5; T. J. Salter (conductor), 6; J. Crane, 7; J. Pagett, 8. On Christmas Eve, midnight, 448 Superlative Surprise. T. J. Salter (conductor), 1; J. Bennett, 2; G. Salter, 3; N. Davis, 4; T. Wakeman, 5; J. Crane, 6; E. C. Hunt, 7; W. H. Smith, 8. On Christmas morning, for service, 448 Superlative. G. Salter, 1; J. Bennett, 2; N. Davis, 3; W. H. Smith, 4; T. Salter (conductor), 5; J. Crane, 6; T. Wakeman, 7; E. C. Hunt, 8. On Sunday morning, December 26th, 448 Superlative. N. Davis, 1; J. Bennett, 2; W. H. Smith, 3; G. Salter, 4; T. Salter (conductor), 5; T. Wakeman, 6; F. C. Hunt, 7; J. Crane, 8. Also 504 Stedman Triples. G. Salter (conductor), 1; E. C. Hunt, 2; W. H. Smith, 3; N. Davis, 4; T. Wakeman, 5; T. Salter, 6; J. Crane, 7; S. Crump, 8. On New Year's Eve, midnight, 420 Stedman Triples. T. Salter, 1; J. Bennett, 2; N. Davis, 3; G. Salter (conductor), 4; W. H. Smith, 5; J. Pagett, 6; J. Crane, 7; E. C. Hunt, 8. Tenor 30 cwt.

STISTED (Essex).—On Tuesday, December 7th, for practice, 720 of Kent Treble Bob. C. Duncombe, 1; H. Saunders, 2; E. Chaplin, 3; E. Chaplin, 4; E. Radley (conductor), 5; A. Chaplin, 6. 360 Oxford Treble Bob. C. Duncombe, 1; H. Saunders, 2; E. Chaplin, 3; E. Radley, 4; E. Chaplin, 5; A. Chaplin (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, December 14th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor, 360 of Canterbury Pleasure. C. Duncombe, 1; H. Saunders, 2; E. Radley, 3; E. Chaplin, 4; E. Chaplin, 5; A. Chaplin (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, December 21st, for practice, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. C. Duncombe, 1; H. Saunders, 2; E. Chaplin, 3; E. Chaplin, 4; A. Chaplin, 5; E. Radley (conductor), 6. Also 720 Canterbury Pleasure. C. Duncombe, 1; H. Saunders, 2; E. Chaplin, 3; E. Radley (conductor), 4; A. Chaplin, 5; E. Chaplin, 6. On December 31st, the occasion being to ring the old year out and the new year in, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. C. Duncombe, 1; H. Saunders, 2; E. Chaplin, 3; E. Chaplin, 4; E. Radley, 5; A. Chaplin (conductor), 6.

WOODFORD (Essex).—Recently, at St. Mary's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 26 mins. E. C. Fox, 1; K. C. Fox, 2; H. Gowers, 3; J. Kimberly, 4; J. Mardell, 5; E. Wightman (conductor), 6. First in the method by a local band. On Sunday, June 2nd, for morning service, 720 Oxford, in 26 mins. J. Mardell, 1; K. C. Fox, 2; H. Gowers, 3; J. Kimberly, 4; E. Wightman, 5; T. H. Beams (conductor), 6. For evening service, 360 Bob Minor. E. C. Fox, 1; K. C. Fox, 2; J. Mardell, 3; J. Kimberly, 4; H. Gowers, 5; E. Wightman (conductor), 6. Also 504 Kent Treble Bob. H. Gower, 1; K. C. Fox, 2; J. Kann, 3; J. Kimberly, 4; J. Mardell, 5; E. Wightman (conductor), 6. After service 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. K. C. Fox, 2; H. Gowers, 2; J. Mardell, 3; J. Kimberly, 4; E. Wightman, 5; T. H. Beams (conductor), 6.

Notices.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is One Penny per line (five words may be reckoned to a line). Repetitions at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

The Sussex County Association.—Central Division.—Next quarterly meeting at East Grinstead, to-day, Saturday, Feb. 5th. Tower open from 3 p.m. Tea at 5.30.
GEO. WILLIAMS, *Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's Church, Walton, near Liverpool, to-day, Saturday, Feb. 5th. Bells ready at 6 p.m. Meeting in tower at 7 p.m.
HENRY COLEY, *Branch Sec.*

The Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Chard, to-day, Saturday, February 5th. Towers open, Chard (eight bells), and Crewkerne (eight bells). Short service in parish church, Chard, at 4 p.m., with an address by the Rev. Preb. Robinson. Tea and business meeting at Temperance Hotel, after service.
HY. W. TOMKINS, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.*

The Ely Diocesan Association.—Sudbury Branch.—A meeting of members will be held at Monks Eleigh, to-day, Saturday, February 5th. The reopening of the bells (after rehanging), will take place on this occasion. Service at 3 p.m. Tea after service. C. SILLITO, *Hon. Sec.*

The Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—The next meeting of this Guild will be held at Christ Church, Bootle, to-day, Saturday, Feb. 5th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Service 4.45 p.m. Hot-pot supper 5.30 p.m. Business meeting 6 p.m.
REV. W. T. BULPIT, *Hon. Sec.*
W. BENTHAM,

The St. James' Society.—Meetings at St. Clement Danes will be resumed on Monday evening next, the 7th February, 1898.
R. A. DANIELL, *Hon. Sec.*

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—The next meeting will be held at St. Paul's Cathedral, on Tuesday, February 8th, at 8 p.m. Members who wish to pay 1s. 8d. in lieu of booking fees, are requested to do so without delay.
W. T. COCKERILL, *Hon. Sec.*
37, Tradescant Road, South Lambeth, S.W.

The Norwich Diocesan Association.—A Quarterly Meeting will be held at Hingham, on Tuesday, February 8th, 1898. Railway station, Kimberley, where a conveyance will meet the down and up trains at 11.8 and 11.10 a.m., free of charge. Dinner at 1.30. Hon. Members 2s. 3d.; Company Members, 1s. 3d.
H. EARLE BULWER, *Hon. Sec.*

Society for the Archdeaconry of Salop.—The next Monthly Meeting will be held at Wellington, on Saturday, February 12th. Ringing at 3 p.m. Business Meeting 4.45 p.m.
J. MACKAY, *Hon. Sec.*

The Kent County Association.—Maidstone District.—The Annual Meeting of this district will be held at Maidstone on Saturday, February 19th. As the district secretaryship is vacant, members are requested to pay their subscriptions to me. Tea and half-railway fare, up to but not exceeding two shillings, will be allowed to those only whose subscriptions are paid. FRED. J. O. HELMORE, *Hon. Sec.*

The Middlesex County Association.—(North and East District).—A meeting of six-

bell ringers of this Association will be held at St. Mary's, Church End, Finchley, on Saturday, the 19th February, by kind permission of the Rector, the Rev. W. E. Batty. Ringers and friends of the Association are cordially invited to attend. The tower will be open for ringing at 5 p.m. ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*
18, Ravenscroft Park Road, Barnet.

The Midland Counties Association.—Notice.—All members who have changed their address since the issue of the last annual report, are requested to notify me, or their local secretaries without delay.
JOHN O. LANCASHIRE, *Hon. Sec.*
22, St. Peter's Road, Leicester.

The Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next Monthly Meeting will be held at Brookfield Church, Hyde Road, Gorton, on Saturday, February 12th. Bells ready at 4.0 p.m. Business meeting at 7.0 p.m.
WALTER BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

The Middlesex County Association.—South and West District.—The next Meeting will be held at St. Leonard's, Heston, and St. Mary's, Norwood Green. Ringing to commence at 5 o'clock, on Saturday, February 12th.
C. EDWARDS, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*

The Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—A Meeting will be held at Gainford, on Saturday, February 19th. A meat tea will be provided at the Mechanics' Institute, at 4.30. Members 1s., non-members 1s. 6d. each. The Committee will meet at the same place at 4 o'clock. The bells of the parish Church will be available for ringing during the day. Week-end tickets for Gainford, at a single fare for the double journey, are granted from N.E.R.S., twenty miles or more distant. Members intending to be present, please notify the same on or before Tuesday, February 16th, to THOMAS HUDSON, *Hon. Sec.*

N.B.—Subscriptions for the year 1897-8 are now due.

NOTE TO PEALS.

THE PEAL AT ST. MARY'S, STOCKPORT.—This peal was rung to celebrate the sixtieth birthday of Mr. William Gordon, steeple-keeper, who first saw the light January 27th, 1838; also to give four young ringers opportunity of scoring first peals, and the conductor a chance to officiate as such for the first time; lastly, as a test to determine the capabilities of the new bell fittings, and the general go of the bells, which are now pronounced to be excellent in every way, and all that can be desired. As a proof, the tenor was rung throughout and lowered in peal by a slim youth eighteen years of age, who experienced little or no trouble over the job. It will, perhaps, not be generally known that the bells at this church were, six months ago, a ring of eight, by J. Rudhall, of Gloucester, with the fittings and frame in almost the worst condition possible, and the tenor broken. Now they rank as a most handy and musical ring of ten. The work has been done by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough.

THE PEAL AT LIGHTCLIFFE.—The ringers afterwards adjourned to The White Horse inn, and held their annual dinner, accompanied by several friends, including the Vicar, Rev. J. R. Hill, V. R. Woodcock, Esq., churchwarden, J. G. Crossley, late churchwarden, Wm. Snowden, Esq., President of the Association, and several other influential gentlemen. After dinner, Mr. J. Lawson was voted to the chair, and a very pleasant evening was spent in a most enjoyable manner, including

songs and toasts, with musical honours. Several letters were received expressing good wishes and inability to be present. A vote of thanks to the Chairman and the singing of the National Anthem brought the proceedings to a close.

THE PEAL AT ST. NICHOLAS, BRIGHTON.—This is the first peal of Stedman Caters by Messrs. Richard Fentiman and John Smart. Messrs. Gatland and Smart hail from Steyning, for whom this peal was arranged. This was W. Palmer's 50th peal; also 50th by H. Rann, and the 100th by G. Gatland, made up as follows: 5040s of Minor 30; Grandsire Triples, 6; Bob Major 3; Treble Bob Major 17; Stedman Triples 32; Stedman Caters 2; Double Norwich 9; Superlative Surprise Major 1.

MR. F. J. PITTS.

Will Mr. F. J. Pitts, late of Kennington, London, kindly return to the Secretary of All Saints' Society, the volume of "THE BELL NEWS," the property of the All Saints' Society, Fulham.

ADDRESS WANTED.—Mr. F. Hollingworth, of Blanche Croft, Melbourne, would be glad of the address of Mr. J. Hollis.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

TIMEKEEPER seeks permanent situation. Excellent change-ringer in Standard methods. Member of the Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire Associations. Excellent references. Apply X. Y. Z., office of this paper.

GAS and Hot Water Fitter wants job. Good change-ringer from twelve-bell tower. Member of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. Apply to H.P., care of Editor.

SITUATION WANTED as plumber; general hand; change-ringer; member of Herts Association.—Apply, J. Shepherd, Church Road, Hatfield, Herts.

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TO MASTER PRINTERS.—Wanted a situation as compositor or all-round jobbing hand; nearly eight years present situation; age 22. Can ring standard methods (8 bells).—Apply, A. E. Barrow, 127 Avenue Road, Gosport, Hants.

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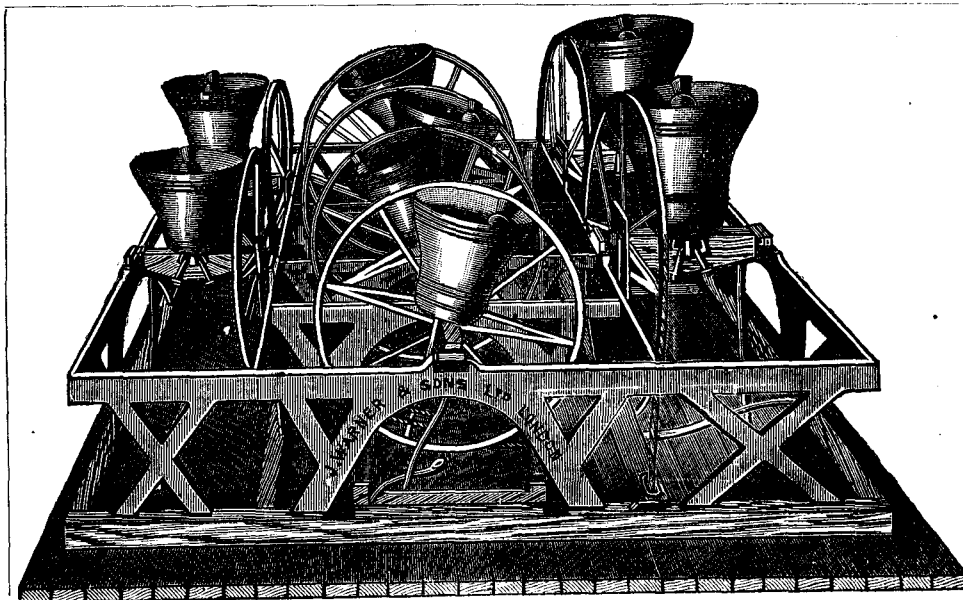
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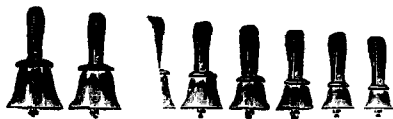
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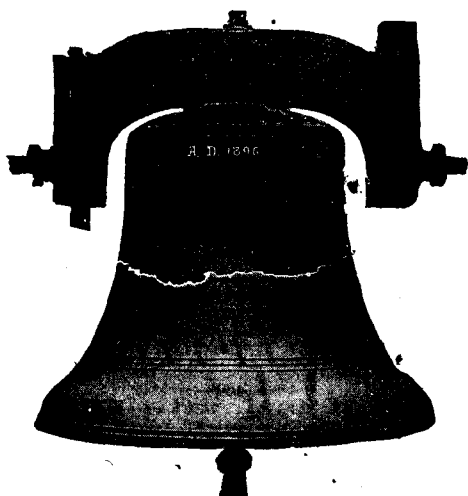
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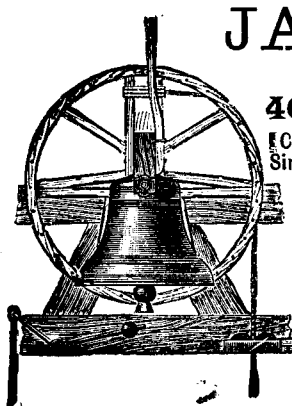
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No. 827. — VOL. XVI.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1898.

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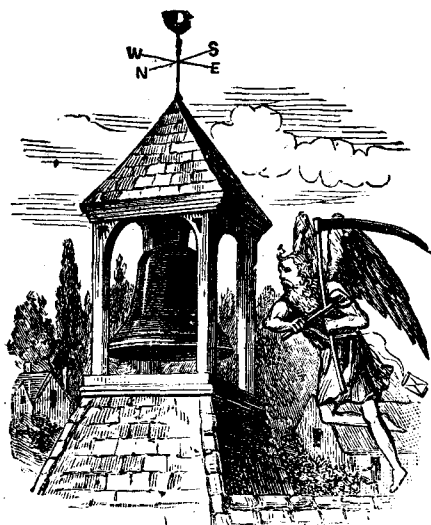
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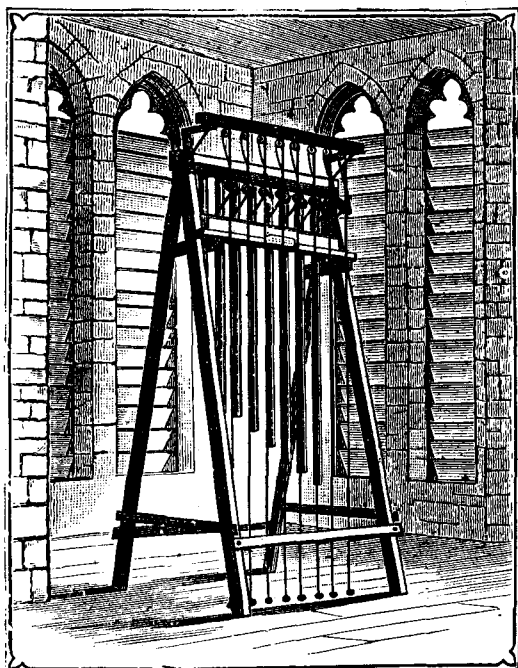
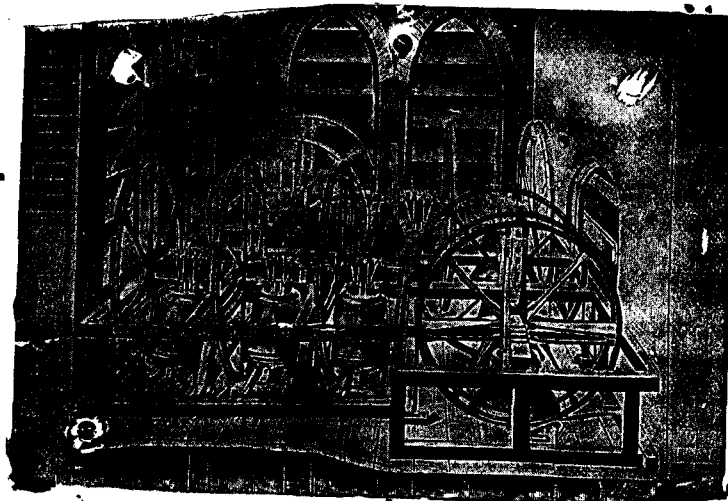
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 827.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1898.

[Vol. XVI.]

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

READING BRANCH.

"The best Annual Meeting ever held in Reading" was the cry of all, when 11 p.m. came round on Monday, January 31st. Let us step back a bit, however, and begin at the right end. The place of meeting was The British Workman, and around the table at 7 p.m., there mustered a goodly crowd of fifty-seven ringers. At the top there sat our energetic Secretary (Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis), supported by the Rev. E. H. Jones (Caversham), W. Newell and A. W. Pike (Branch Secretary). Representatives were also present from St. Giles's, St. Lawrence's and St. Mary's (Reading), St. Mary's and St. John's (Mortimer) Tilehurst, Mapledurham and Shinfeld.

At the business meeting the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis was voted to the chair, and at one gave "The Queen," which was loyally received.

Mr. A. W. Pike was called upon to read the minutes of the last meeting, also his annual report and balance-sheet.

A few items taken from the report might be interesting, as shewing the condition of the branch: first, the numbers have increased from 105 to 113 during the past year. Eight towers are in union, being one more than in 1896. Then twenty-one peals have been rung against fourteen last year. The peal list includes: Stedman Caters, Kent Treble Bob Royal, Stedman Triples, London, Surperlative and Cambridge Surprise, Double Norwich and Grandsire. The report concludes with the pleasing statement that all the members are change-ringers. The balance-sheet was also considered satisfactory, showing a sum of £4 10s. 7d. in hand.

The following officers were then unanimously re-elected: Chairman—J. M. Routh, Esq.; Hon. Sec. and Treasurer—A. W. Pike; to serve on the General Committee: Messrs. C. Giles and the Secretary.

To Mr. Johnson E. Hern fell the task of proposing the toast of "The Oxford Diocesan Guild," which he did in a very neat speech.

In response, the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis said he was sorry the Master himself was not present to reply, but they must remember he was getting on in years, and not so well able to stand the strain of attending all these meetings, which meant in many cases, late hours. The speaker told them a story of the Master, how some little time back he had attended a meeting not very far from his own parish. During the evening a very thick fog came on, so thick in fact, that on his way home he got lost, and fell into several ditches. Knowing the mill-stream was close, and fearing to fall into the same, he at last walked no farther, but remained where he was until the dawn of day revealed the road to him. All this long time he had been within the sound of his own church bells striking the hours.

Mr. Hart-Davis was glad that the first peal on the twelve bells at Oxford had been accomplished by the Guild. A gain had been made with the towers in union to the Oxford Diocesan Guild; and he might say

that everything was well with the Guild from every point of view. It gave him pleasure to see the members turning up so well at these meetings. The authorities had now recognized that the ringers were indeed church officers and their position was secured.

The Rev. E. H. Jones next gave "The Father," wishing that he had been instructed by that gentleman in the mysteries of ringing. This toast was given with musical honours.

Mr. Newell was glad to see his children rallying round him, it put him in mind of old times. He regretted the Caversham men had found it necessary to stay away; there was some misunderstanding with them as to the most suitable night to hold this meeting. He thought every member should support the branch and act in a manly manner. He regretted the clergy had not attended the meeting in larger numbers. He would also like to see the tower of St. Mary's put into a proper condition, with a good band of change-ringers established there. At present the belfry was in a bad state for want of a little whitewash and attention. He thanked them for drinking his health so heartily.

At this point the Chairman had to leave, so a vote of thanks was passed for his duties at the meeting, the company singing "For he's a jolly good fellow."

In reply, the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis said Mr. Newell must go and tickle the clergy; then perhaps they would come to the meeting.

During the evening a capital programme of vocal and instrumental music was gone through. Messrs. A. E. Reeves, W. Newell, F. Sweetzer, Burley, Bloomfield and Bonney sang some capital songs; Messrs. Bonney and Bloomfield had to respond several times to encores for their splendid duets on concertina and banjo. Mr. Newell gave a reading entitled, "The Black Bag and the Mystery," whilst a course of Grandsire Caters was rung upon the handbells. The company sang "God save the Queen" at 11 p.m.

A.W.P.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

The next meeting will be held at Bristol on Tuesday in Whitsun-week, 31st May, 1898.

Notices of motion, etc., must reach the Hon. Secretary not later than Tuesday, the 3rd of May. They must be in writing, and signed by two representatives.

Hon. Secretaries of societies are reminded that subscriptions to the Council are now due and should be remitted to the Hon. Secretary without delay, at the rate of 2s. 6d. for each elected representative. The Hon. Secretary would also be greatly obliged for information as to any change in representatives, or their addresses, that has taken place in the last year.

H. EARLE BULWER,
Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn.

Hon. Sec.

WANTED a large peal of handbells. Forty-nine bells. Chromatic scale; G25 to G64; or a larger peal with duplicates. Must be in thorough good condition, and sweet tone. State lowest possible terms, with maker's name, and all particulars to WILMER ROGERS, 8, York Street, Wrexham.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly and Committee Meeting of the above was held at Stourbridge on Saturday, January 29th. Members were present from Areley Kings, Bromsgrove, Clent, Cradley, Dudley, Halesowen, Kidderminster, Netherton, Old Hill, Oldswinford, Oldbury, Stourbridge, Smethwick, Tipton, Wollaston, Worcester, etc. They first attended service at St. Thomas' church, when a short address was delivered by the Rev. H. B. Ward, curate, who took for his text—"In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses, holiness unto the Lord," Zechariah xiv., v. 20. He exhorted his hearers to take to heart the words "Whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God."

An adjournment was made to the Envile Street schools, where an excellent tea was provided through the energy of Mr. G. H. Pagett, captain of the local band, and to which ample justice was done.

Subsequently the business meeting was held, at which the Rev. H. Sherrard, vicar, presided. The chairman said before proceeding with the business on the agenda, he would like to say how very pleased he was to see such a number of bell-ringers present. He was told that it was one of the largest meetings that had ever been held, and it was very gratifying to him that it was so. He trusted their visit to Stourbridge had been an enjoyable one, and hoped it would not be the last time they would pay a visit there.

The annual report and balance-sheet was then adopted on the motion of Mr. A. E. Parsons, seconded by Mr. H. Mason.

Mr. Parsons moved, and Mr. W. H. Smith seconded, that the next annual meeting be held at Dudley. Mr. B. Hill moved, and Mr. W. R. Small seconded, that the next annual meeting be held at Worcester. The chairman said he agreed with those who proposed Worcester. He thought that Worcester should be the centre for bell-ringing and all other matters.

Mr. Parsons said they had had a lot of trouble and disappointment at the Worcester meetings. They had been there several times, and could not get a satisfactory number of bells for the members to ring on, and he thought it was time to move. On being put to the vote, nine voted for Worcester, and twelve for Dudley, the date being fixed for Easter Monday.

Mr. Spittle said coming from Dudley he had avoided having anything to say on the subject, as he had for years proposed and supported Worcester as the proper place for the annual meeting. Although the Dean and Chapter were kind to them in letting them have the use of the Chapter House, and also the use of the Cathedral bells after evensong, yet they seemed to get served worse each time, for after having permission to ring, they could not do so from some cause or other, and he thought it was time a change was effected. He should do all within his power to make the meeting a success, and with the help of the neighbouring churches he thought he could promise them a sufficient number of bells to ring on.

The Hon. Secretary called the attention of the local secretaries to various rules, which were much neglected by them, and made his duties more arduous than what they ought to be, and urged upon them the necessity of assisting him as much as they possibly could, and so relieve him of unnecessary work.

The certificate of membership was then produced which gave great satisfaction, Mr. Spittle stating that as the Committee had gone to some trouble in getting it designed and printed, he trusted that all members would take care. Votes of thanks to the rev. chairman for presiding, for the use of the school-room, tower and bells, to the Rev. H. B. Ward for his address, to Mr. G. H. Pagett for the tea, also to the ladies for their presence and assistance at the tables, concluded the meeting. Touches of Stedman, Grandsire, and Bob Triples, Double Norwich, Surperlative Surprise, and Bob Major were rung on the tower bells.

MERIDEN, WARWICKSHIRE.—A local paper is responsible for the following:—"The bells at Meriden Church date from Richard II.'s reign. They have lately been re-hung, and on Wednesday evening, at the invitation of the Meriden Guild, the Coleshill ringers gave several rounds of Grandsire Triples. The visitors were afterwards entertained at supper by the Meriden Guild."

BATTLE, SUSSEX.

On Tuesday evening, 11th January, the annual dinner of the Battle branch of the Sussex County Association of change-ringers was held at The King's Head, when the Dean (the very Rev. E. R. Currie, D.D.) presided over a goodly gathering. Among those present were Messrs. J. G. Holt and F. Cobb (churchwardens), S. Saker, C. Lock, and J. Livermore (Christ Church, Blacklands), F. A. Kennett (Christ Church, St. Leonards), W. Franks, W. Thomas, F. Mathis (secretary), J. Mathis, W. H. Eldridge, C. Carter, C. J. Hyland, A. Smith, King Paine, J. Soan, etc. Due justice having been done to the very excellent repast provided by Host Hooker,

The chairman submitted the toast of "The Queen," which was duly honoured. Mr. F. Mathis then proposed "The Chairman, our own Dean," the toast being accorded musical honours. The chairman, in responding, thanked the ringers for their services, and hoped that in future they would be able to follow a similar course. He was glad to see such a goodly gathering.

Mr. Cobb submitted "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese," and the Dean, whose name was received with musical honours, returned thanks. He traced the history of the Church from the earliest times, and said that bell-ringers ought to know that their art carried them back a long way in the history of our churches. Many of them rang in belfries which had stood for hundreds of years, and many of the bells they used had lasted as long. They were simply taking up a great song which had been sung by their forefathers for many years, and God grant that it might continue for many years throughout the land, and that the old church should be associated with the joys and with the sorrows of the people. Of recent years, as they knew, the Church had risen a great deal more to her responsibilities than she had in former years, and they were striving, however imperfectly, to make her the Church of the people. Church ringing was carried out in a more decently and orderly manner than it used to be many years ago. Men were realising that in thus ringing they were serving God, and he was sure that the Bishops and clergy of the Church would be foremost in helping them and giving them their countenance. The Dean then proposed "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces," coupling the names of Sergeant-Instructor King and Colour-Sergeant Mathis, both of whom responded in appropriate terms.

Mr. W. Franks, in proposing "The health of the Dean and Churchwardens," expressed his pleasure, as conductor of the ringers, at the presence of those gentlemen, and said the churchwardens had done much for them. Mr. Holt, in the course of his response, said the Battle ringers deserved encouragement and support. They had a splendid peal of bells and a very fine body of ringers. Mr. Cobb also briefly responded.

Mr. Baker then proposed "The Battle Society of Change-ringers," and said his visits to Battle to ring with them, had been most enjoyable. They had been of great assistance to the Sussex Association, and he thought they stood first in most of the bands in bringing men through their first peal—a most difficult matter to accomplish. He was sorry they were short of members, and he knew it was not easy to keep together good ringers in a town for any length of time. It required a great deal of patience and perseverance on the part of the leader to keep to his work and not get disheartened by members leaving when he had just got them along to a certain point. The Battle Society had done a wonderful work for the association in bringing on young bands, and he had formed the idea that, with the assistance of the Battle men and those of a tower or two in Hastings, they would finally be able to get those few towers to the same proficiency as those at Brighton. He was pleased to find from their master, Mr. Attree, that the Sussex Association was at the top of the tree as regarded points. That was taking in all the associations in England, and they were of considerable number, and some of them had many more members than the Sussex Association. He felt they had in Mr. Franks as leader the right man in the right place, for he was possessed both of patience and perseverance, and the name of that gentleman was coupled with the toast. Mr. Franks suitably replied. Other toasts followed.

WRITE TO POLLARDS, Limited, Bradford; for the Illustrated Sketch Book of Costumes,

SOCIAL GATHERING AT WELLINGBOROUGH.

PRESENTATION TO MR. E. J. DENNES.

At the annual meeting of the parish church society of ringers held in January, a desire was expressed that as soon as convenient a tea should be held, at which all those connected with the belfry be present, together with their wives, children, and friends. A committee, consisting of Messrs. T. Craddock, W. H. Ette, and W. Wood, was formed so to make all the necessary arrangements. The gathering took place at the Priory on Thursday evening, Mr. and Mrs. Baxter providing an admirable tea, to which nearly fifty sat down. At the conclusion of the tea, Mr. E. J. Dennes, on behalf of the ringers, thanked the ladies who had honoured them by their presence on that occasion, and spoke of the genuine pleasure it gave all members of the belfry, old and young, to meet those who at all times sympathised with and assisted in their work.

Mr. T. Craddock, the senior ringer, seconded the vote of thanks, which was warmly received.

Mr. W. H. Ette then rose and said that he was deputed by the ringers to ask M. Dennes to accept of a very handsome gold pin as a gift from the ringers, chimers, and probationers. They were very grateful for the interest he had always taken in the ringers, the bells, and all appertaining to the church tower since he had held the office of belfry sidesman during the past seventeen years, a practical interest which had conducted very much to the successful and satisfactory carrying out of their various duties.

Mr. Dennes, who was evidently taken by surprise, warmly thanked the ringers, chimers, and probationers for their beautiful present, and trusted they would all get on in the future as in the past, not content with what they had done, but moving onward and striving at all times to do credit to the town and church of Wellingborough.

The tables were then cleared, and the senior ringers went through their Christmas programme of handbell music, and gave a short touch of Grandsire Triples. This was followed by songs from Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Hensher, Miss Adams, Mr. Craddock, and Mr. Bayes, and recitations by Mr. T. Beeby and Miss E. Weston, together with some tunes and Grandsire Doubles by the junior ringers. Ten o'clock, and the singing of the National Anthem, brought a thoroughly pleasant and enjoyable meeting to a close.

THE HEAVY WOOLLEN DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The first of a series of social meetings of the ringers of this district and other friends was held on Saturday last at Armitage Bridge, when ringers attended from the following places, viz.: Friezland, Batley Barr, Almondbury, Kirkburton, Kirkheaton, Lindley, etc. Some very good ringing was done on the bells of the pretty little church at Armitage Bridge by the various bands. Afterwards a capital dinner was partaken of at the house of Mr. W. Chappell, Butcher's Arms, Berry Brow, which was served in his usual excellent style. After the tables were cleared a very social evening was spent, song, toast and sentiment being the order. A resolution was passed that meetings of a similar nature should be held annually at the various churches, and the usual votes of thanks brought a most enjoyable meeting to a close, every one going away saying that it was one of the most pleasant evenings they had spent for a long time.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ROTHERHITHE.—On Monday, January 3rd, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. T. G. Deal, 1; E. H. Nixon, 2; A. Pheasant, 3; W. J. Jeffries, 4; W. Weatherstone (conductor), 5; J. Law, 6; W. Bedwell, 7; G. H. Daynes, 8. Rang on the occasion of the wedding of Miss Edith Russell, of Rotherhithe, to Mr. Arthur C. Bedwell, until recently a member of the St. Mary's, Lewisham, ringers. An adjournment was then made to the residence of the bride's father, and after partaking of the refreshments which are so necessary on these occasions, Mr. W. Weatherstone proposed the healths of the bride and bridegroom, which was drank in the good old English style. The bridegroom, on behalf of the bride and himself, thanked his brother-strings for the honor they had done him in specially coming to Rotherhithe to ring on this occasion.

ANOTHER INTERESTING EVENT.

On Monday last, at the Church of St. Mary, Lewisham, was solemnised the marriage of Miss Annie Laura Bedwell (eldest daughter of Mr. Charles Bedwell, one of the local ringers), with Mr. George Ernest Godfrey of Stowmarket, Suffolk. A large number of friends were present to witness the ceremony, which was performed by the Vicar, the Rev. Samuel Bickersteth, M.A., and at its conclusion, a good touch of Grandsire Triples was rung upon the bells. Again during the evening, several touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, were brought round. The following took part in the ringing:—Messrs. H. Warnett (conductor), H. Barrett, T. Chandler, T. Taylor, C. H. Walker, F. T. Kettle, J. Turner, and T. Clew of Lewisham; Messrs. F. W. Thornton, H. Flinders, W. Foreman, sen., W. Foreman, jun., and J. J. Lamb of Greenwich; J. Crowder, Lee; T. P. Richards, Penge; and C. Withecomb, Bermondsey. The ringers afterwards adjourned to the residence of the bride's brother, Mr. Arthur C. Bedwell, where health and happiness to the bride and bridegroom was drank with much heartiness.

THE ST. ANDREW'S ASSOCIATION, RUGBY.

The annual meeting of the members of this Association was held at the Campbell Coffee Tavern on Monday evening. Mr. W. Brooke, in the absence of the Rector, who is president of the Association, took the chair, and about twenty members and candidates for membership were present. The first business was to elect eleven new members, bringing up the roll of the Association to thirty.

The chairman then proposed that Mr. George be re-elected ringing master for the year, and remarked that Mr. George had served them very well; they had got on in the Art of change-ringing very satisfactorily, and they could not do better than appoint Mr. George again.

Mr. T. Holmes seconded, and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. F. Stannard was re-appointed hon. secretary and treasurer, and Messrs. Holmes and Watson were the new members of the committee appointed.

Correspondence.

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

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

"INFORMATION WANTED."

SIR,—I notice in your paper of Saturday last a letter from Mr. T. J. Bratton of Welshpool, referring to some previous correspondence between myself and Mr. Lionel Longney. Now when I replied to Mr. Longney's letter some months ago, it must be understood that I was quite a new hand at bellringing, and I may say that at that time I had no knowledge of the many different methods there are in the art of change-ringing. Since that time however, I have been carefully and diligently studying the art, and have now learnt that there are such methods as Grandsire Triples, Bob Triples, Stedman Triples, &c., &c. And I now see that the "information wanted" by your correspondent is with regard to the first peal of Stedman Triples rung out of London. As I have that "information" now in my possession I have pleasure in giving it herewith for the benefit or pleasure of those requiring it. The first peal of Stedman Triples (5040 changes) ever rung out of London was rung at Shifnal, June 5th, 1819, it was composed by Mr. Henry Cooper of Birmingham, and called by him sitting in the "steeple;" the ringers were as follows; James Jarvis, Treble; Thomas Chapman, 2; Thomas Worrall, 3; Thomas Thurstans, 4; William Hassall, 5; Alexander Sanders, 6; Samuel Lawrence, 7; Joseph Patchett, Tenor. The time occupied was 3 hrs. 2 mins. Is there any more "information wanted?"

JOHN BRADNEY.

THANKS.

SIR,—Allow me to express my thanks to Mr. Slater for pointing out the peal of Cambridge Royal rang at Wakefield. I had some idea there had been a peal of Surprise Royal rang, but was under the impression it was Superlative Royal, I should like to ask if there has ever been any other peals of Surprise Royal or Maximus rang, and where? If any one can give me any information on the above, I shall be very much obliged.

JOHN AUSTIN.

POLLARDS, Limited, Bradford, Children's Liberty Frocks from 1s. 9d. each.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WESTERN DIVISION.—During the past two years great things have been done in the town of Shoreham, in Sussex, in the matter of restoration. The tower, at considerable expense, has been repaired, and the peal of five bells hanging therein has been augmented to a magnificent ring of eight. With the new bells, of course, came a new band of ringers, and with the object of encouraging the art among this young band and to demonstrate to them the advantage of being affiliated to the County Association, that body paid its first official visit to the church on Saturday, January 29th, the occasion being the quarterly meeting of the Western Division.

In the afternoon touches of Grandsire Triples and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung and at half-past the members attended Evensong.

Subsequently a substantial meat tea was partaken of in the schoolroom, to which about forty sat down. The Vicar (Rev. C. M. A. Tower), presided, and among those present were Rev. H. P. D. Pinhey (curate), Mr. G. F. Attree (Master of the Association), Rev. J. W. G. Loder-Cothor (Hon. Sec. of the Association), Mr. F. B. Tompkins (Treasurer), Mr. G. Williams (Hon. Sec. Central Division), Mr. S. Saker (Hon. Sec. Eastern Division), Mr. J. Ellman Brown, and representatives from the following towers: Aldrington, Angmering, Blacklands (Hastings), Brighton (St. Nicholas and St. Peter's), Chichester, Goring, Heene, Lewes, Midhurst, Shoreham, and Steyning.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted.

Members from the following towers were then elected: Blacklands, St. Nicholas, Brighton, Goring, and Steyning. Mr. H. Reeves of Redhill was elected an independent member of the Association, and on the motion of the Secretary, seconded by the Master, Rev. C. M. A. Tower was elected an honorary member.

The Vicar thanked those present for his election, and proposed the whole of the Shoreham ringers as members of the Association.

Mr. J. Ellman Brown, in seconding, said they had such a beautiful church and beautiful bells, that they ought to belong to the Association, and to give them a start he would be pleased to pay the first year's subscription for them as active members. They would have to stick to it, and not falter, and he believed if they kept up a good and regular attendance, they would come up to the general high standard of the ringers of Sussex.

The resolution was carried by acclamation.

The Master said with that announcement one of the great objects of that meeting had been attained, viz., to establish a branch of the Association at Shoreham. Every branch they could establish—and they hoped soon to have one at every tower where there were bells and ringers—materially strengthened the Association, and helped on the work of the Church. He then proposed Mr. J. Ellman Brown as a Life Member.

The Hon. Secretary, in seconding the nomination, said the ringers would find in Mr. Brown a thorough helping friend.

The resolution was carried amid applause, and in thanking those present for his election, Mr. Brown said he should do everything he possibly could to promote the interests of bell-ringing in Shoreham.

It was announced that an invitation had been given by the Midhurst branch to the Association to hold a special "all day" meeting at that place on August Bank Holiday. The visitors would be hospitably entertained, and drives to Petworth, an eight-bell tower in the neighbourhood, would be arranged.

The Master having referred to the recent unveiling of a memorial at St. Peter's church, Brighton, to the late President of the Association, the Rev. Dr. Durnford, proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. C. M. A. Tower, for his kindness in granting the use of the bells, and for presiding at the meeting.

Mr. S. Saker seconded, and the motion was carried.

The Vicar, in replying, warmly welcomed the Association to Shoreham, and remarked that that visit would be most helpful to them in the not easy task of getting together a band of good ringers. He referred to the success which had attended Mr. Dearing's efforts as instructor to the local band, and said those who knew the difficulties of ringing would congratulate him on the progress which the Shoreham ringers had made. He had that afternoon asked their Secretary what was the use of the

Association. When he entered the Church for the service that evening and saw that body of ringers there, he had a splendid answer to his question. In conclusion he again thanked them for their visit, and hoped to see them at Shoreham on some future occasion.

The members then returned to the tower, where touches in the following methods were rung: Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Double Norwich, Kent Treble Bob, Superlative, and Oxford Surprise Major.

BRADFORD, YORKSHIRE.

On Thursday evening, February 3rd inst., the following ringers, Messrs. George Bolland, Henry Oddy and Fred Hargreaves of Tong, with the brothers John and Joseph Thackray of Armley, were invited to the residence of Mr. C. Denton Smith, corn factor, formerly of York and Northallerton.

Mr. Smith is an hon. member of the Yorks. Association of change-ringers, and of the Leeds and District society, and is well-known to the members who attend the various gatherings of these societies. This meeting was held to celebrate the marriage of Mr. Smith, which had taken place earlier in the day at Holy Trinity Church, Bradford, and as this Church does not possess a peal of bells, a weddidd touch (on ten) was rung during the evening on some handbells belonging to the bridegroom.

Before the bells were brought into play, Mr. Bolland, in his usual hearty and felicitous manner, proposed "The Health and Happiness of the Bride and Bridegroom," and incidentally remarked that had he known the hour of the ceremony it would have given him pleasure to support Mr. Smith during the trying ordeal.

Mr. Maude seconded Mr. Bolland's proposition, remarking by the way that Mr. Smith evinced more "pluck" in marrying twice than some of the visitors present did in trying their "first" venture.

Mr. Smith, on behalf of his wife and self, acknowledged the good wishes of the ringers, and having accidentally learned that the previous day was Mr. Bolland's birthday, took the opportunity to wish him "many happy returns."

After this the real business of the evening began, and several courses of Grandsire Royal, Grandsire Major, Triples and Oxford Bob Minor, interspersed with several tunes, followed each other in quick succession.

Other friends of Mr. Smith, members of the choir of Holy Trinity Church, greatly added to the enjoyment of the evening's programme by rendering several songs and glees, and the time all too quickly passed away, some of the company have to make a stampede to catch the train home, and scarcely allowing a further opportunity to reiterate their united thanks to the bride and bridegroom, for their invitation and attention to the wants of their guests.

THE ST. ALBANS CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this society took place on Monday evening at the rectory, the Ven. Archdeacon Lawrance in the chair. There were also present the Revs. P. Deedes, G. H. P. Glossop, and E. S. Phillips, the latter being elected a ringing member of the society. The report of the hon. treasurer was received and adopted. The balance-sheet, which showed a balance in favour of the Society, was likewise received. Mr. H. L. Waddington was re-elected hon. secretary, and Mr. Battle hon. treasurer for the ensuing year. The rector re-appointed Mr. Battle, conductor; and Messrs. Hammond, Hallett, and Randall were elected to serve on the Committee, with the hon. secretary and conductor (ex-officio). Several matters of importance were discussed, and the meeting terminated with the usual votes of thanks.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

At the Annual Meeting of the above society on January 26th, 1898, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Master H. Barton; Secretary—V. W. West (re-elected); Stewards—W. H. Passmore (senr.), G. Symonds (junr.); Treasurer—C. E. Malin (re-elected).

Compositions.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE
SURPRISE MAJOR.By N. J. PITSTOW, *Saffron Walden.*

5056.

23456	B	M	W	H
52436	-			
43526	-	-		
24536	-			
53246	-	-		
45236	-			
25634	-			
25346	-		-	
32546	-		-	
54326	-	-	-	
35426	-	-	-	
64523	-	-	-	
56423	-	-	-	
24365	-	-		
62345	-			
34625	-	-		
23645	-			
64235	-	-		
26435	-		-	
42635	-		-	
36524	-	-		
45623	-	-		
65324	-			
23456	-	-		

If the calling of the first 13 courses is repeated a peal of 5632 is produced, and this length can be reduced to 5184 by adding a bob in the 8th course at the middle, when two courses are eliminated.

PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By ARTHUR KNIGHTS, *Chesterfield.*

6304.

23456	M	B	W	H
36452	I			2
36524	-			I
63425	-	I		2
64235		I		2
62345		I		2
43265	I	-		2
34562	-	I		2
42563	I			2
23564	I			2
25634	I	-	2	2
53624	I	-		
25346	-		2	
42356		I		
26354	I			2
52643	-			2
45236	-			2
34256		I		

Repeat the last four courses.

This peal has the 5th and 6th their

extent in 5-6, with both bells six times at home; also the 4th her extent in 6ths place. By adding a bob at H in the 17th course the bells are brought round at 5184. The 5184 was first rung at Eckington, Derbyshire, on January 1st, 1898, conducted by the author.

PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By G. LINDOFF, *Dublin.*

10,176.

23456	M	4ths	IN	OUT	5ths	W	H
63542	2			-			I
34562						2	
53246		-	-				
36245	I						2
237546		-				2	
476253		-	-		I		I
567243	2			-		I	
463725		4ths out and 4ths					2
45362					I		
34256		-	-				

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

By G. R. NEWTON, *Oxton, Cheshire.*

5040.

23456	W	M	H
64235	-	-	-
23645	-	-	-
65234	-	-	S
26534			-
52634			-
46523	-	-	-
54623			-
65423			-
42563	S		-
54263			-
32546	-	-	-
54326	-	-	-
35426			-

Repeat the last eight courses four times

PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By ARTHUR CRAVEN, *Lincoln.*

5280.

23456	M	B	W	H
35264		-		
53462		-	I	2
52364	2		I	
25463		-	I	2
62534		-		2
36245		-		2
32465			I	2
46325	I	-	2	I
65324	2	-	I	2
54326	I			2
53246			I	2

Continued—

	M	B	W	H
34625	2	-		
26435	I	-		2
32654		-		2
34256	2			I
52436			2	2
23456	I	-		

Contains the 6th the extent in 5ths, and the 4th, 5th, and 6th the extent in 6ths, all and each at five course-ends, which qualities are obtained in the minimum number of courses. This is supposed to be the least number of changes in which these qualities can be obtained.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

By F. E. W. MEADOWS, *Otley, Suffolk.*

23456

	W	B	H
23645	-	2	-
62345			-
36245			-
24365	-		-
32465			-
63254	-	I	-
26354			-
35264	-		-
23564			-
56234	-		-
25634			-
25346		I	-
32546			-
53246			-
24536	-		-
52436			-
43526	-		-
54326			-
35426			-
42356	-		-
34256			-
32456			S

Repeated.

This peal has the 6th twenty-two times at home, and the 2nd or 3rd never in 6ths place at a course-end.

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL.

By JOHN D. MATTHEWS, *Bath.*

5040.

23456	W	M	H
64235	-	-	-
26435			-
42635			-
34625	-		
62345	-		
36245			-
24365	-		-

Three times repeated; single half-way and end.

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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 recast. The Demy 8vo. Edition is limited to 500 copies, and is now offered at 20s. nett; or Bound in Half-morocco, Roxburgh style, 2 s. 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 12, 1898.

At a quarterly meeting of the Worcestershire and Districts Association held at Stourbridge, on the 29th of January last, some unpleasant disclosures came to light with reference to the bells, and bell-ringing concerns, in the diocesan city. We think that as a rule the members of this Association greatly prefer to hold their Annual Meeting in Worcester each year; the rev. chairman of this very meeting saying that he thought Worcester should be the centre for bell-ringing and all other matters. If this was mere sentiment alone it would be commendable, regardless of the fact that the city of Worcester possesses more bells than any other town in the county. When, however, the proposal was made that the Annual Meeting should be held, as usual, in the metropolis of the diocese, it was defeated. The report will be found elsewhere.

The city of Worcester has, it is well-known, a ring of twelve, with a tenor of about 50 cwt., at the Cathedral; also the best ring of ten in the county; a very good one of eight, and four rings of six are also to be found. How strange then appear the strictures made at this meeting

by Mr. A. H. PARSONS, that when the Association visited the faithful city "they could not get a satisfactory number of bells for the members to ring on!" To this the Master of the Association—a gentleman who is very careful in his statements—added: "although the Dean and Chapter were kind to them in letting them have the use of the Chapter House, and the use of the Cathedral bells after evensong, yet they seemed to get served worse each time, for, after having permission to ring they could not do so from some cause or other!" For a Cathedral city, and one of a most wide-awake and go-a-head character, these complaints are very sad to read of.

Is there any remedy for such an untoward state of things? We are told there is hardly one peal of bells in the City in a safe condition for ringing. If this is so, a great responsibility rests somewhere. We should be highly gratified if we had the power to say anything which would lead the several clergy, wardens and parishioners of Worcester to interest themselves in the bells of their parish churches. With all due respect we would impress upon them the great and solemn fact that these bells were erected by their pious predecessors ages ago, under the firm conviction and belief that they would be cherished and taken care of by every succeeding generation of parishioners. The thought never entered the heads of those old pious churchmen that the bells placed in the tower by them under circumstances of great solemnity would ever become neglected, and their fittings suffered to decay. We would impress upon the parishioners concerned the fact that their bells are a very costly portion of the Church's furniture; that in a Church's inventory a ring of bells is a colossal item, and worthy of the greatest care, preservation, and anxiety. To the citizens of Worcester, to the large-hearted men of the "faithful city," we appeal, to save their church bells from ruin, and themselves the degradation of refraining to prevent such a calamity.

We may be allowed to particularize a little. The number of rings of bells the city contains has already been noted. One ring of six—that of the church of St. John—we are pleased to hear has had already the attention of the skilled restorer. The ring of eight at St. Helen's—the mother church of the city—is unringable, as we understand the word. So unhappily is the ring of ten at the church of All Saints. The case of the last-mentioned bells is the most deplorable of all. Deplorable first, by reason of their being regarded for very many years as the premier ring of the county; deplorable from the fact that the prestige which in years gone by hung to them and those who were privileged to ring them is now lost, as it were; deplorable from the fact that All Saints is the largest of the old city churches, the most commanding in appearance, the noblest tower of them all, and therefore the most appropriate to contain bells; deplorable from their state for many other reasons. Who among the parishioners, or the merchant princes of the faithful city will take the initial steps toward the restoration of this interesting and historical ring of bells? Will the former

allow their bells to proceed, and with rapid strides, to decay? Will not one or more of the last-named step in at once to prevent such a great disaster? However surprising such a statement may appear we have no hesitation in saying that the ring of ten bells of the church of All Saints, Worcester, is with the tower containing them, one of the principal features of the faithful city.

It has been our privilege on various occasions to advocate bell-restoration whenever and wherever considered necessary. This part of our operations alone is complete and sufficient warrant for the existence of "THE BELL NEWS." Never with greater earnestness and solicitude has such advocacy been evoked than in the present instance; and many of our readers will understand that. We hope that some bell-restoration may be attempted without delay in the old city; and to this may be added the wish that our brethren there may not let this appeal escape their remembrance.

MAYOR'S DINNER AT TEWKESBURY.

By the hospitality of the Mayor (Alderman Baker), guests to the number of about 100, including the officials of the Abbey, the bellringers, and the Corporation officials, were entertained at dinner at The Hop-Pole Royal Hotel, on Monday evening last. The Mayor was supported at the head of the table by Councillors Collins and T. W. Moore, Mr. Frederick Moore, the Revs. Vernon Holt and Edgar Neale, Mr. C. H. S. Moore, Messrs. Bayliss, Clarke, Horton, A. and P. Baker, Darbyshire, Hosgood, Barlow, Baillie, Willis, Tysoe, Turner, Wallace, Firkins, Osborne, etc. After other complimentary toasts, "The Health of the Bellringers" was proposed by Councillor Collins, who met with an enthusiastic reception. In the course of a speech, listened to with much interest, he said that it was three-score years and one since he, as a stripling, assisted in re-hanging the present peal of bells. The town had voluntarily paid for their re-casting, and they were then properly hung in the chamber and position they now occupy. He believed that a 10th bell was desired when the time came and funds were forthcoming. He trusted this would not be long delayed, and had no doubt if the idea were kept before the people the day would come when their desire would be gratified. In conclusion, he paid a high tribute to the qualities of the Mayor, who studied well the health and interest of the town to make it what it should be socially and morally.

Mr. Wathen, whose name was coupled with the toast, responded.

Between the toasts the company was entertained by the singing of some good songs and recitations, and the ringers, under the leadership of Mr. Wathen, rang several courses upon the handbells, a performance which is, unfortunately, a novelty at Tewkesbury gatherings.

A very enjoyable meeting dispersed after singing "Auld lang syne."

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Thursday, February 3, 1898, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET, BARKING.

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

Tenor 22 cwt. in Eb.

YORK GREEN Treble.	ROWLAND FENN 5.
HENRY SPRINGALL 2.	EBENEZER ANDREWS 6.
CALEB FENN 3.	ALBERT C. HARDY 7.
THOMAS FAULKNER* 4.	SAMUEL HAYES Tenor.

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW and
Conducted by THOMAS FAULKNER.

*First peal in the method as conductor. The figures of the peal will be found in Central Council Appendix 1895, page 75.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 5, 1898, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, COLEMAN STREET,

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

JAMES SCHOLLES Treble.	EBENEZER ANDREWS .. 5.
SAMUEL JOYCE 2.	HENRY SPRINGALL .. 6.
SAMUEL HAYES 3.	ARTHUR BARKUS .. 7.
EDWARD WALLAGE 4.	EMANUEL HALL Tenor.

Composed by JAMES LOCKWOOD and Conducted by HENRY SPRINGALL.

First peal of Major on the bells.

THE ALL SAINTS SOCIETY, FULHAM.

On Saturday, February 5, 1898, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, FULHAM,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES.
Tenor 21 cwt.

ANDREW S. OUGH Treble.	† WILLIAM T. ELSON 6.
ERNEST A. ARTHURTON* .. 2.	† REUBEN CHARGE 7.
JAMES W. DRIVER 3.	JAMES NICHOLLS 8.
JOHN G. GREEN 4.	EDWARD H. ADAMS 9.
SYDNEY SAKER 5.	† MACE E. SMITH Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM T. ELSON.

*First peal on ten bells. †First peal as conductor. †First peal. This peal has the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th each ten courses in consecutive order behind the 9th, and is now rung for the first time.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 5, 1898, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET, BARKING,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 22 cwt.

ALBERT D. MASON Treble.	CALEB FENN 5.
WILLIAM S. LANGDON* .. 2.	ROWLAND FENN 6.
WILLIAM H. WEBBER .. 3.	† GEORGE E. SYMONDS .. 7.
WILLIAM H. PASMORE .. 4.	THOMAS FAULKNER Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

*First peal in the method. †First peal as conductor. All the above are bachelors.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Saturday, February 5, 1898, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, WATERLOO ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt.

JAMES E. DAVIS Treble.	HARRY BARTON 5.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 2.	ARTHUR R. DAVIS 6.
FREDRICK G. PERRIN .. 3.	HAROLD N. DAVIS 7.
CHARLES E. MALIM 4.	VICTOR W. WEST Tenor.

Composed by HAROLD N. DAVIS and Conducted by HARRY BARTON.

Rang as a birthday compliment to V. W. West.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, February 8, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL HALLOWS BARKING, CITY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5040 CHANGES. Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIAM TRUSS Treble.	THOMAS H. TAFFENDER .. 5.
THOMAS FAULKNER 2.	EBENEZER ANDREWS .. 6.
CALEB FENN 3.	JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. .. 7.
ROWLAND FENN 4.	ALFRED W. BRIGHTON .. Tenor.

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK and
Conducted by ALFRED W. BRIGHTON.

This is the first peal in the method rung on the bells, and the first in the method ever rung in the city of London. This was rung a day previous to the conductor's birthday, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

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.

The Provinces.

HORLEY, SURREY.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 1, 1898, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
CARTER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qrs.

PELHAM E. J. KNIGHT .. Treble.	WILLIAM EDWARDS 5.
GEORGE STAPLEHURST .. 2.	ALBERT SONGHURST .. 6.
HENRY REEVES 3.	STEPHEN KENWARD 7.
JOSEPH KENWARD 4.	*THOMAS POST Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY REEVES.

*First peal. Messrs. Knight and Reeves hail from Reigate; the rest are local men.

ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

On Wednesday, February 2, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. J. RENNIE, STRETTON ROAD, ASTON,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5188 CHANGES.

FREDERICK CLAYTON .. 1-2.	WILLIAM H. BARBER .. 5-6.
BERNARD WITCHELL .. 3-4.	WILLIAM SHORT 7-8.
THOMAS WAKEMAN 9-10.	

Composed by J. P. BRADLEY, of West Ham, and
Conducted by WILLIAM H. BARBER.

Referee—Mr. Albert Walker. This composition is now rung for the first time, the figures of which will appear in due course.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD,

On Wednesday, February 2, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 9½ cwt.

THOMAS SHORT Treble.	JOHN BROWN 5.
H. HOLIFIELD 2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 6.
W. ADKINS 3.	G. HOLLOWAY 7.
E. ALDWORTH 4.	H. HYDE Tenor.

Conducted by the Rev. F. E. ROBINSON.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Thursday, February 3, 1898, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 26 cwt.

WILLIAM WAKLEY Treble.	EDWARD I. STONE 5.
JAMES DURRANT 2.	ARTHUR WAKLEY 6.
HARRY WAKLEY 3.	JOSEPH GRIFFIN 7.
ALBERT E. THOMPSON .. 4.	GEORGE ROBINSON Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(SUDBURY ARCHIDIACONAL BRANCH)

On Thursday, February 3, 1898, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

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

THOMAS CADGE Treble.	FREDERICK CONNELL .. 5.
HENRY DUCE 2.	SAMUEL FORD 6.
ERNEST AMBROSE 3.	CHAS. G. BIXBY 7.
AMOR AMBROSE 4.	H. STEWART RICHOLD .. Tenor.

Conducted by C. G. BIXBY.

This is the first peal in the method by all the band, and is the first peal of Grand-sire on the bells. Rung in honour of the marriage of R. H. Topham, Esq. (brother of the Rev. G. St. John Topham, Rector), to Miss Tidswell, of London. All the band are local men.

KIDLINGTON, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, February 3, 1898, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 26 cwt.

JAMES FRANKLIN Treble.	JOHN MATTHEWS 5.
WILLIAM BENNETT 2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 6.
FRED WEBB 3.	HARRY JUDGE 7.
WILLIAM THORPE 4.	THOMAS HILL Tenor.

Conducted by W. BENNETT.

COLWALL, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, February 4, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES THE GREAT,

A PEAL OF DARLSTON BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 11 cwt.

JAMES E. GROVES Treble.	JAMES THOMAS 5.
STEPHEN HOPE 2.	HARRY W. ALLEN 6.
WALTER EVANS 3.	JAMES FIELD 7.
CHARLES LAYTON 4.	WILLIAM SMART Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

First peal in the method by all except the conductor, and first in the method in the county.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 5, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 13 cwt.

GEORGE W. CARTMEL .. Treble.	CHALLIS F. WINNEY .. 5.
WILLIAM G. WHITEHEAD* 2.	ERNEST E. HUNTLEY .. 6.
GEORGE N. PRICE 3.	FREDERICK EDWARDS .. 7.
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 4.	FRANK A. SMITH Tenor.

Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

*First peal of Stedman Triples.

HOGHTON, LANCASHIRE.—LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. (PRESTON AND BLACKBURN BRANCHES.)

On Saturday, February 5, 1898, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

HENRY HAYES Treble.	WM. T. H. TIMBRELL .. 5.
JAMES MATHER 2.	RICHARD ASHWORTH .. 6.
JOHN WM. STIRK 3.	EDWIN TIMBRELL 7.
ROBERT PARKINSON .. 4.	TOM REDMAN Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN and Conducted by TOM REDMAN.

Has the 6th eighteen times wrong and her extent right. H. Hayes hails from Church Kirk, J. Mather from Higher Walton, R. Parkinson from Oswaldtwistle, the Brothers Timbrell from Chipping, and the rest from Burnley.

LEICESTER.—THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 5, 1898, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

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

Tenor 24 cwt.

EDGAR H. TINGEY .. Treble.	WILLIAM WILLSON .. 5.
WILLIAM J. BARKER .. 2.	ISAAC HILLS 6.
CHARLES CHASTY 3.	FRANK HULL 7.
CHARLES R. LILLEY .. 4.	CHARLES W. CLARKE .. Tenor.

Composed by the Rev. H. EARLE BULWER and

Conducted by C. W. CLARKE.

This peal is the first in the method on the bells, and contains the 4th twenty-two times and the 6th her full extent right. W. Willson belongs to Leicester, the rest to St. Paul's, Bedford, and desire through the medium of this paper to thank the vicar of St. Mark's, the Rev. Lewis Donaldson, for the use of the bells.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 5, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt.

ARTHUR G. JAMES* .. Treble.	RALPH BIGGS 5.
FRANK K. BIGGS 2.	FRANK BOREHAM 6.
H. STRATFORD 3.	JOHN EVANS 7.
FRED. G. BIGGS 4.	JOS. EVANS Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN EVANS.

*First peal and first attempt.

NORTON, DERBYSHIRE.

OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AND YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Saturday, February 5, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

JOSEPH ATKIN Treble.	ARTHUR SLATER 5.
WILLIAM LAMBERT 2.	ARTHUR KNIGHTS 6.
THOMAS WHITWORTH .. 3.	JOHN HARRIS 7.
ARTHUR WORTHINGTON .. 4.	WILLIAM BIGGIN Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

This peal is taken from a 6976, in six parts, containing the 5th and 6th their extent in 5-6, with both bells six times each way, also all the 8-6-7s and 8-5s.

OLD HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 5, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES.

Tenor 23½ cwt.

WILLIAM BIRD Treble.	THOMAS J. SALTER .. 5.
GEORGE SALTER 2.	ADOLPHUS ROBERTS .. 6.
HARRY MASON 3.	ALBERT E. PARSONS .. 7.
WILLIAM H. SMITH .. 4.	RICHARD E. GROVE .. Tenor.

Composed by JAMES W. WASHBROOK and

Conducted by RICHARD E. GROVE.

At the fifth part-end the ringers of the 7th and tenor changed places.

MORTIMER, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 5, 1898, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 11½ cwt.

WILLIAM HORNE Treble.	ALFRED E. REEVES .. 5.
ALICE WHITE 2.	WILLIAM NEWELL .. 6.
CHARLES GILES 3.	HENRY WHITE 7.
FRED RICHARDSON .. 4.	JOHN TUCKER Tenor.

Composed by FRANK HOPGOOD and Conducted by CHARLES GILES.

The above band met for Grandsire Triples, but on arrival it was decided to attempt Bob Major, and an excellent peal was the result. This is the first peal of Bob Major on the bells, first in the method by Miss White with a bob bell, first peal on eight by Messrs. Horne and Richardson, and the conductor's 50th peal.

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 5, 1898, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIAM WIGHTMAN .. Treble.	ALBERT E. READ .. 5.
STEPHEN W. MARTIN .. 2.	GEORGE PERRY 6.
STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. 3.	GEORGE WIGHTMAN .. 7.
GEORGE THURLOW 4.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by JAMES LOCKWOOD and

Conducted by GEORGE WIGHTMAN.

For calling see Snowdon; Part 2, page 44.

ERITH, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 5, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty-one Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5472 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 18 cwt.

WILLIAM BEDWELL Treble.	JOHN HACK 5.
WILLIAM G. GROVE 2.	WILLIAM J. JEFFRIES .. 6.
WILLIAM J. ALDRIDGE .. 3.	ARTHUR J. NEALE 7.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE 4.	CHARLES WILKINS Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF and
Conducted by WILLIAM BEDWELL.

BRIDGNORTH, SHROPSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 5, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF DARLASTON BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt.

JOHN OVERTON Treble.	JAMES E. GROVES 5.
WILLIAM H. HALL* 2.	HERBERT KNIGHT 6.
HERBERT HAMMOND 3.	AARON GRIFFITHS 7.
GEORGE BURROWS 4.	HORACE W. OVERTON .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

*First peal in the method.

CHISLEHURST, KENT.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, February 7, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 17½ cwt.

GEORGE FRENCH† Treble.	†FREDERICK J. FRENCH .. 5.
THOMAS DURLING 2.	†WILLIAM J. JEFFRIES .. 6.
RICHARD HIMS* 3.	GEORGE DURLING 7.
ISAAC EMERY 4.	†WALTER INGHAM Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE DURLING.

*First peal. †First peal in the method. ‡First peal in the method with a bob bell.
R. Hims was elected a member of the society before starting for the peal.

FINEDON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 7, 1898, in Three Hours and Four Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 22½ cwt.

WILLIAM V. NEWMAN .. Treble.	THOMAS R. HENSHER .. 5.
JAMES GARRATT* 2.	ALFRED H. MARTIN .. 6.
WILLIAM PETTITT 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. 4.	JOHN T. TOMPKINS .. Tenor.

Conducted by the Rev. F. E. ROBINSON.

*First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells. In a previous attempt the same band with J. Martin in T. Hensher's place rang the peal, but the conductor would not allow it to be recorded, owing to the slow work getting a bit mixed.

HEENE, WORTHING, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 7, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5040 CHANGES. Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 15 lbs.

HENRY MEETENS* Treble.	CHARLES SMART 5.
WILLIAM HILLMAN 2.	GEORGE GATLAND 6.
ROBERT J. DAWES† 3.	HARRY WESTON 7.
FRANK BENNETT 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Composed by HARVEY REEVES and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

*First peal of Double Norwich. †First peal in the method with a bob bell. This peal was arranged as a 20th birthday compliment to Miss Ethel Mary Reeves, only daughter of the composer. It was also the birthday of Mr. C. Smart, who received the usual congratulations on the completion of the peal.

Miscellaneous.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(NORTH AND EAST DISTRICT.)

FINCHLEY (Middlesex).—On Thursday, January 9th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Oxford Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. Mulley, 1; W. H. Tubb, 2; E. H. Tubb, 3; W. Webb, 4; F. Carroway, 5; F. L. Sparks (conductor), 6. Also 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs). W. Mulley, 1; W. Webb, 2; W. H. Tubb, 3; F. L. Sparks, 4; E. H. Tubb, 5; F. Carroway (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, December 12th, for Divine Service, 360 College Single Minor. W. Mulley, 1; F. L. Sparks, 2; E. H. Tubb, 3; W. Webb, 4; J. Cornell, 5; F. Carroway, 6. On Friday, December 24th, 720 Oxford Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles). W. Mulley, 1; W. H. Tubb, 2; E. H. Tubb, 3; W. Webb, 4; J. Cornell, 5; F. Carroway (conductor), 6. Also 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs). W. Russell, 1; W. H. Tubb, 2; E. H. Tubb, 3; F. Carroway, 4; G. J. Miles, 5; F. L. Sparks (conductor), 6. And 360 Plain Bob. W. Mulley, 1; W. Webb, 2; J. Cornell, 3; E. H. Tubb, 4; G. J. Miles, 5; F. Carroway, 6. On Friday, December 31st, 360 Oxford Bob Minor. W. Mulley, 1; W. H. Tubb, 2; E. H. Tubb, 3; W. Webb, 4; J. Cornell, 5; F. L. Sparks (conductor), 6. Also 720 Plain Bob. J. Cornell, 1; W. H. Tubb, 2; W. Webb, 3; F. L. Sparks, 4; G. J. Miles, 5; F. Carroway (conductor), 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BLACKBURN BRANCH.

OSWALDTWISTLE (Lancashire).—On Sunday morning, December 5th, for Divine Service, 720 Merchants' Return. T. Holden, 1; I. Whalley, 2; J. Bentley, 3; C. Sharples, 4; R. Parkinson (conductor), 5; W. Britcliffe, 6. For evening service 720 Oxford Single in 23½ mins. J. Bentley, 1; I. Whalley, 2; C. Sharples, 3; T. Holden, 4; R. Parkinson (conductor), 5; W. Britcliffe, 6. On Sunday evening, December 12th, for Divine Service, 720 College Single. J. Britcliffe, 1; C. Sharples, 2; J. Bentley, 3; W. Britcliffe, 4; I. Whalley, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, December 14th, 720 Woodbine. I. Whalley, 1; T. Holden, 2; J. Bentley, 3; W. Britcliffe, 4; C. Sharples, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6. First in the method by Messrs. Holden and Britcliffe, and first on the bells. On Sunday, December 19th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. I. Whalley, 1; T. Holden, 2; J. Bentley, 3; W. Britcliffe, 4; C. Sharples, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6. Handbell Ringing.—On Monday, December 13th, 720 Plain Bob. T. Holden (first 720 double-handed), 1-2; C. Sharples, 3-4; R. Parkinson (conductor), 5-6. On Sunday, December 26th, 720 Plain Bob in 12 mins., being the quickest yet rung by the band. I. Whalley, 1-2; C. Sharples, 3-4; R. Parkinson (conductor), 5-6. On Tuesday, December 28th, 518 Grandsire Triples. C. Sharples, 1-2; I. Whalley, 3-4; R. Parkinson, 5-6; J. Bentley, 7-8. Longest touch in the method by all the band.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WORSLEY (Lancashire).—On Thursday, November 25th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. H. Derbyshire, 1; F. Derbyshire, 2; *P. Derbyshire, 3; J. Ridyard, 4; *J. Green, 5; T. Derbyshire, 6; J. H. Ridyard (conductor), 7; *W. Green, 8. *Longest length in the method.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Tuesday, December 14th, at St. Peter's church, 720 Double Oxford. F. Parrott, 1; S. Lowe, 2; F. Lowe, 3; A. Robinson, 4; H. Toll, 5; S. Constant (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, December 19th, 720 Woodbine. A. Robinson, 1; S. Lowe, 2; H. Sharp, 3; W. Shimmans, 4; H. Toll, 5; S. Constant (conductor), 6. On Christmas Day for 7 a.m. celebration, 720 Oxford Bob. F. Parrott, 1; F. Lowe, 2; H. Toll, 3; S. Constant (conductor), 4; W. Barker, 5; A. Robinson, 6. On Sunday, December 26th, for Matins, 720 Bob Minor. F. Parrott, 1; F. Lowe, 2; S. Constant (conductor), 3; S. Lowe, 4; H. Toll, 5; A. Robinson, 6. On New Year's Eve 720 Bob Minor. F. Parrott, 1; F. Lowe, 2; A. Robinson, 3; S. Lowe, 4; H. Toll, 5; S. Constant (conductor), 6.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

LAVENHAM (Suffolk).—Handbell Ringing.—On Tuesday, December 28th, at the residence of A. Symonds, 720 Bob Minor (forty-two singles). Composed by H. Blake, of Fornham St. Martin, Suffolk. A. Symonds (conductor), 1-2; T. King, 3-4; F. G. Symonds, 5-6. This 720 is supposed now to be rung for the first time.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

KELVEDON (Essex).—At the church of St. Mary, on Christmas

Day, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 5th the observation. C. Mills, 1; W. Keeble (conductor), 2; H. Elliott, 3; J. Frost, 4; H. Evers, 5; W. Elliott, 6. On Sunday, December 26th, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor. G. King, 1; C. Mills, 2; H. Elliott, 3; J. Frost, 4; W. Keeble, 5; W. Elliott (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, December 29th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. W. Beckwith, 1; C. Mills, 2; G. King, 3; H. Evers, 4; W. Keeble, 5; W. Elliott (conductor), 6. A 720 in the same method (eighteen bobs and two singles). E. Gazzard, 1; W. Keeble, 4; W. Elliott, 5; H. Evers (conductor), 6. And another 720. W. Brinkley, 1; W. Keeble (conductor), 4; H. Evers, 5; the rest as before. Several touches were rung on New Year's Eve, and another touch to ring the new year in. On Sunday, January 2nd, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor. C. Mills, 1; H. Evers, 2; J. Elliott, 3; W. Keeble, 4; D. Elliott, 5; W. Elliott (conductor), 6. After service 720 Kent Treble Bob (twelve bobs). C. Mills, 1; H. Elliott, 2; W. Keeble (conductor), 3; D. Elliott, 4; H. Evers, 5; W. Elliott, 6. Tenor 21 cwt.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM (Surrey).—On Sunday morning, December 5th, for Divine Service at St. Andrew's church, the last 700 of Holt's Original. H. Garfath, jun., 1; H. Honner, 2; J. Hawkes, 3; A. Le Clercq, 4; H. Garfath (conductor), 5; C. Fry, 6; E. Clapshaw, 7; H. Herrington, 8. For evening service 672 Grandsire Triples. H. Garfath, jun., 1; A. Smith, 2; A. Le Clercq, 3; H. Garfath (conductor), 4; J. Hawkes, 5; C. Fry, 6; E. Clapshaw, 7; H. Herrington, 8. On Sunday evening, December 12th, for Divine Service, 630 Grandsire Triples. A. Le Clercq, 1; A. Smith, 2; F. A. Barnett, 3; H. Garfath (conductor), 4; J. Hawkes, 5; C. Fry, 6; E. Clapshaw, 7; G. Gould (2nd Devon Regiment), 8. On Wednesday, December 15th, for the induction of the new rector (the Rev. Thory Gage Gardiner), a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins. A. E. Smith, 1; F. A. Barnett, 2; H. Garfath (composer and conductor), 3; A. Le Clercq, 4; J. Hawkes, 5; C. Fry, 6; E. Clapshaw, 7; H. Herrington, 8. On Sunday evening, December 19th, for Divine Service, 630 Grandsire Triples. H. Garfath, jun., 1; A. E. Smith (longest touch with a bob bell), 2; A. Le Clercq, 3; J. Hawkes, 4; H. Garfath, 5; C. Fry, 6; E. Clapshaw, 7; H. Herrington, 8. On Sunday evening, December 26th, for Divine Service, 714 Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original. H. Garfath, jun., 1; A. Smith, 2; H. Garfath (conductor), 3; C. Fry, 4; J. Hawkes, 5; A. Le Clercq, 6; E. Clapshaw, 7; H. Herrington, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LYMINGE (Kent).—On Sunday, December 5th, for Divine Service in the evening, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). L. Greenstreet, 1; J. Andrews, 2; E. Cheeseman, 3; J. Whittall, 4; A. Tanton (conductor), 5; A. Castle, 6. After service, four 120s of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. On Saturday, by the same band, 720 Bob Minor (forty-two singles), conducted by A. Castle. On Christmas Eve, 720 Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs). J. Prebble, 1; A. Castle, 2; A. Beer, 3; A. Tanton, 4; W. Fordred, 5; J. Andrews (conductor), 6. And 360 in the same method. T. Beer, 3. Conducted by A. Tanton.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

LEISTON (Suffolk).—On Thursday, December 30th, at St. Margaret's church, an attempt was made for A. Craven's peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, 5024 changes, which unfortunately came to grief after ringing two hours in consequence of the fracture of the clapper of the 3rd. W. Drew (conductor), 1; W. Taylor, 2; C. Samson, 3; G. Wilson, 4; G. Thompson, 5; T. D. Bell, 6; J. Button, 7; A. J. Lincoln, 8. Tenor 20½ cwt. in E. Messrs. Drew and Thompson hail from Kelsale; the rest belong to the local company.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

STAFFORD.—On Christmas Eve, 395 Grandsire Caters. W. Mountford, 1; W. Bennett, 2; H. Mountford, 3; R. Grant, 4; R. Pickering (conductor), 5; A. Moreton, 6; T. Machin, 7; T. Perry, 8. T. Guest, 9; Thompson, 10. On the occasion of ringing out the old year a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. T. Guest, 1; W. Bennett, 2; W. Mountford, 3; T. Machin, 4; R. Pickering (conductor), 5; R. Grant, 6; T. Perry, 7; T. Thompson, 8. Also to ring in the new year, 504 Grandsire Triples. E. Machin, 1; T. Perry (conductor), 2; R. Pickering, 3; T. Machin, 4; A. Moreton, 5; R. Grant, 6; W. Bennett, 7; T. Thompson, 8.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

GAWSWORTH (Cheshire).—On Saturday, December 18th, for practice, 720 Association Exercise, composed and conducted by W. Henshall. On Monday, December 20th, for practice, 720 in the same

method, conducted by A. Lomas, jun. F. Massey, 1; A. Lomas, jun. 2; J. Hammond, 3; W. Henshall, 4; C. Postles, 5; E. Johnson, 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

ALDERMASTON.—On Friday, December 31st, 720 College Single in 23 mins. W. Frankum, 1; W. Buckland, 2; R. Frankum, 3; *G. Nash, 4; W. Nash, 5; A. Frankum (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, January 3rd, for Divine Service, 720 College Single in 24 mins. W. Frankum, 1; *D. Tull, 2; W. Nash, 3; R. Frankum, 4; W. Buckland, 5; A. Frankum (conductor), 6. After service 720 College Single in 25 mins. W. Frankum, 1; A. Frankum, 2; W. Buckland, 3; R. Frankum, 4; *W. Tillen, 5; A. Frankum (conductor), 6. *First in the method.

BOXFORD (Suffolk).—On December 12th, 120 Grandsire Doubles, on handbells. W. Haken, 1; J. Griggs, 2; W. Sterry, 3; H. Elmer, 4; A. Underwood, 5. Conducted by W. Haken. First 120 by all except the 2nd man.

CHESTERTON (Cambs).—On December 26th, three 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. H. Mansfield, 1; F. Brown, 2; E. Andrews, jun., 3; E. Andrews, sen., 4; W. Eusden, 5. And a 6-score of New Doubles. E. Andrews, sen., 1; F. Brown, 2; H. Mansfield, 3; E. Andrews, 4; W. Eusden (conductor), 5.

CAMBRIDGE.—At Great St. Mary's the old year was rung out with 720 Bob Minor, composed by J. F. Penning, of Saffron Walden. E. Andrews, 1; J. Jackson, 2; G. Taylor, 3; J. Taylor, 4; I. Rockett, 5; W. Eusden (first 720 of Minor as conductor), 6.

HAMPTON (Middlesex).—On Sunday, December 26th, at the parish church, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Strutt (conductor), 1; J. Howes, 2; E. Stacey, 3; G. Strutt, 4; G. Naish, 5; J. Baldwin, 6; W. Battle, 7; J. Chandler, 8. The above company hails from Kingston-on-Thames, with the exception of W. Battle, who hails from St. Albans, Herts., and for whom this touch was arranged.

HUNTINGDON.—On Tuesday, December 14th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Grandsire Minor in 28 mins. J. Hall, 1; J. Smart, 2; G. Irons (Harford), 3; C. Murphy, 4; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 5; F. V. H. Sinkins, 8.

KETTERING (Northants).—Recently at the parish church 1008 Bob Major. G. Toseland, 1; G. Lewis, 2; W. Roughton, 3; A. Robinson, 4; C. Newman, 5; E. Underwood, 6; J. Julian, 7; W. R. Hensher (conductor), 8. Also 1056 Bob Major. E. Chapman, 1; W. Roughton, 2; A. Robinson, 3; J. Julian, 4; C. Newman, 5; E. Underwood, 6; T. R. Hensher, 7; W. R. Hensher (conductor), 8. On handbells five courses of Double Norwich. E. Chapman, 1; W. Roughton, 2; G. Lewis, 3; A. Robinson, 4; C. Newman, 5; E. Underwood, 6; J. Julian, 7; W. R. Hensher, 8.

LOUGHTON (Essex).—On Tuesday, December 21st, at the church of St. John the Baptist, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Brook's) in 46 mins. W. Pye, 1; G. Perry, 2; G. Carter, 3; E. A. Bacon, 4; J. Rann, 5; E. Wightman (conductor), 6; W. Clarke, 7; J. Trapp, 8.

NORTHAMPTON.—Recently, at St. Giles's church, 557 Grandsire Caters. T. Harres, 1; A. Moore, 2; H. Rainbow, 3; S. Hall, 4; A. Arnold, 5; J. Mackay, 6; W. Farey, 7; E. Haxley, 8; A. Stewart, 9; — Palmer, 10. Also a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins. T. Harres, 1; H. Key, 2; A. Arnold, 3; W. Farey, 4; A. Stewart (conductor), 5; J. Mackay, 6; E. Haxley, 7; J. Freeman, 8. Composed by the Editor.

ROCHDALE (Lancashire).—At All Saints church, Hamer, on Sunday, October 17th, for Divine Service, 700 College Single (six bobs and fourteen singles), in 24 mins. J. Lingard, 1; R. E. Hoyle, 2; J. Crossley (conductor), 3; R. Whittles, 4; E. Schofield, 5; A. Crossley, 6. On Monday evening, October 18th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. W. Turner, 1; J. Lingard, 2; G. Bowers, 3; R. E. Sladen, 4; R. Whittles (conductor), 5; J. S. Marshall, 6. On Monday evening, October 25th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. W. Turner, 1; J. Lingard, 2; G. Bowers, 3; J. Crossley, 4; R. Whittles (conductor), 5; J. S. Marshall, 6.

WELLINGBOROUGH (Northants).—Handbell Ringing.—Recently a 720 of Grandsire Doubles by a band of probationers connected with the parish church. A. Jackson, 1; T. M. Ette, 2; O. W. Bayes, 3; W. H. Ette, jun., 4; F. J. Tompkins (conductor), 5.

POLLARDS, Limited, Bradford, Costume Skirts at 4s. 6d. are Wonderful Value.

Notices.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is One Penny per line (five words may be reckoned to a line). Repetitions at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Salop.—The next Monthly Meeting will be held at Wellington, to-day, Saturday, February 12th. Ringing at 3 p.m. Business Meeting 4.45 p.m.
J. MACRAY, *Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association—Manchester Branch.—The next Monthly Meeting will be held at Brookfield Church, Hyde Road, Gorton, to-day, Saturday, February 12. Bells ready at 4.0 p.m. Business meeting at 7.0 p.m.
WALTER BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

The Middlesex County Association.—South and West District.—The next Meeting will be held at St. Leonard's, Heston, and St. Mary's, Norwood Green. Ringing to commence at 5.0'clock, to-day, Saturday, February 12th.
C. EDWARDS, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*

The Kent County Association.—Maidstone District.—The Annual Meeting of this district will be held at Maidstone on Saturday, February 19th. As the district secretaryship is vacant, members are requested to pay their subscriptions to me. Usual allowances to those only whose subscriptions are paid. All Saints' tower open from 3 p.m. Permission to ring also at St. Michael's and East Farleigh has been applied for. Tea at The Coffee Palace, Gabriel Hill, at 5 p.m. Business Meeting after. Members wishing to attend the tea must send their names to me not later than Wednesday, February 16th.
FRED. J. O. HELMORE, *Hon. Sec.*

The Middlesex County Association.—(North and East District).—A meeting of six-bell ringers of this Association will be held at St. Mary's, Church End, Finchley, on Saturday, the 19th February, by kind permission of the Rector, the Rev. W. E. Batty. Ringers and friends of the Association are cordially invited to attend. The tower will be open for ringing at 5 p.m. ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*
18, Ravenscroft Park Road, Barnet.

The Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—A Meeting will be held at Gainford, on Saturday, February 19th. A meat tea will be provided at the Mechanics' Institute, at 4.30. Members 1s., non-members 1s. 6d. each. The Committee will meet at the same place at 4 o'clock. The bells of the parish Church will be available for ringing during the day. Week-end tickets for Gainford, at a single fare for the double journey, are granted from N.E.R.S., twenty miles or more distant. Members intending to be present, please notify the same on or before Tuesday, February 16th, to THOMAS HUDSON, *Hon. Sec.*

N.B.—Subscriptions for the year 1897-8 are now due.

Chester Diocesan Guild—Wirral Branch. The next monthly meeting and tea will be held at Lower Bebington on Saturday, February 19th, at 6 o'clock. Leaders are requested to let the Hon. Sec. know how many will attend from each tower. H.V. WOOLCOTT, *Hon. Sec.*
Grange Mount, West Kirby.

Sussex County Association.—Eastern Division.—The next Quarterly Meeting will

be held at Christ Church, Eastbourne, on Saturday, February 19th. Bells available from 2.30 to 9 o'clock. Tea at Ye Rising Sun at 5.30. The tower of St. Mary's will also be available for ringing, by arrangement at the meeting.
S. SAKER, *Hon. Sec.*
101, Braybrooke Road, Hastings.

The Hertfordshire Association.—The next district meeting will be held at Hertford on Saturday, February 19th. The tower of St. Andrew's church will be open for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Tea at the Coffee Tavern at 5.30; business meeting following. Members and visitors purposing to attend, please send notice by Wednesday next to E. P. DEBENHAM, *Hon. Sec.*
St. Albans.

Central Northamptonshire Association. Quarterly Meeting at Finedon on Saturday afternoon, February 19th. Usual arrangements.
E. J. DENNES, *Hon. Sec.*
Wellingtonborough.

Midland Counties Association.—Nottingham District.—The annual meeting will be held in St. Peter's belfry on Saturday, February 19th, at 6 p.m. Ringing afterwards.
W. E. WHITE, *Hon. Sec.*

Midland Counties Association.—Nuneaton Branch.—The annual meeting of this branch for the election of officers will take place at Nuneaton on Saturday, February 19th.
HARRY ARGYLE, *Local Sec.*
Glebe Road, Nuneaton.

West Ham, Essex.—Notice.—In future the practice will be on Monday, commencing on February 14th, and every alternate Monday at 8 o'clock p.m., in consequence of the Confirmation Classes held on Tuesdays in the church.

The Midland Counties Association.—Notice.—All members who have changed their address since the issue of the last annual report, are requested to notify me, or their local secretaries without delay.

JOHN O. LANCASHIRE, *Hon. Sec.*
22, St. Peter's Road, Leicester.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—At a meeting held at the new head-quarters, The Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on September 21st, it was resolved that a testimonial be presented to Mr. Matthew A. Wood, of Bethnal Green, as a mark of esteem and in appreciation of the good work he has done towards the advancement of change-ringing during the past fifty years. Subscriptions towards this object will be gladly received by any of the following committee:—Messrs. F. S. Bayley, Burkin, Butler, Cockerill, W. Davies (Liverpool), Dorrington, T. Hattersley (Sheffield), Horrex, Hughes, T. Mash, Newton, Prime, Pettit, F. W. J. Rees (Nayland, Colchester), Smith, Springall, Waghorn, jun., and Winney. Saturday, April 2nd, 1898, is the suggested date for the presentation to be made, and intending subscribers are earnestly requested to send in their subscriptions at least a week before that time.

MR. F. J. PITTS.

Will Mr. F. J. Pitts, late of Kennington, London, kindly return to the Secretary of All Saints' Society, the volume of "THE BELL NEWS," the property of the All Saints' Society, Fulham.

PEAL CORRECTION.—The peal of Grandsire Triples rung at Chesterfield on January 19th was conducted by Arthur, not Alfred, Knights,

Compositions.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL.

By REV. E. BANKES JAMES, Gloucester.

5040.

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

This peal was rung for the first time at St. Mary's, Cheltenham, by the St. Michael's Juniors of Gloucester, conducted by John Austin.

Notice to Advertisers.—Advertisements of articles wanted, to sell, or exchange, are charged at the prepaid rate of one penny for four words. Advertisements of situations wanted, or vacant (for ringers only), are inserted free. The figures of compositions are inserted free, unless proof is required.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

TIMEKEEPER seeks permanent situation. Excellent change-ringer in standard methods. Member of the Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire Associations. Excellent references. Apply X. Y. Z., office of this paper.

GAS and Hot Water Fitter wants job. Good change-ringer from twelve-bell tower. Member of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. Apply to H.P., care of Editor.

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COMPOSITOR seeks situation. Change-ringer. G. Gerrard, 30, Bradford Street, Handbridge, Chester.

WANTED.—Situation as caretaker or any place of trust. Eight years last place; unapproachable references from influential gentlemen. Change-ringer on eight; member of Norwich Diocesan Association. Age 28. Address, J. G. M., care of Editor.

SITUATION WANTED as Turner or Fitter, age 23. Used to small marine engines and millwrighting. Change-ringer.—Apply to J. Valentine, Mill Road, Stony Stratford, Bucks.

TO MASTER PRINTERS.—Wanted a situation as compositor or all-round jobbing hand; nearly eight years present situation; age 22. Can ring standard methods (8 bells).—Apply, A. E. Barrow, 127 Avenue Road, Gosport, Hants.

SITUATION WANTED as gardener, single-handed or where help is given; life experience both inside and out. Four years and half good character. Age 26, married. Good change-ringer on eight.—Address, W. Smith, 24, Anerley Grove, Upper Norwood.

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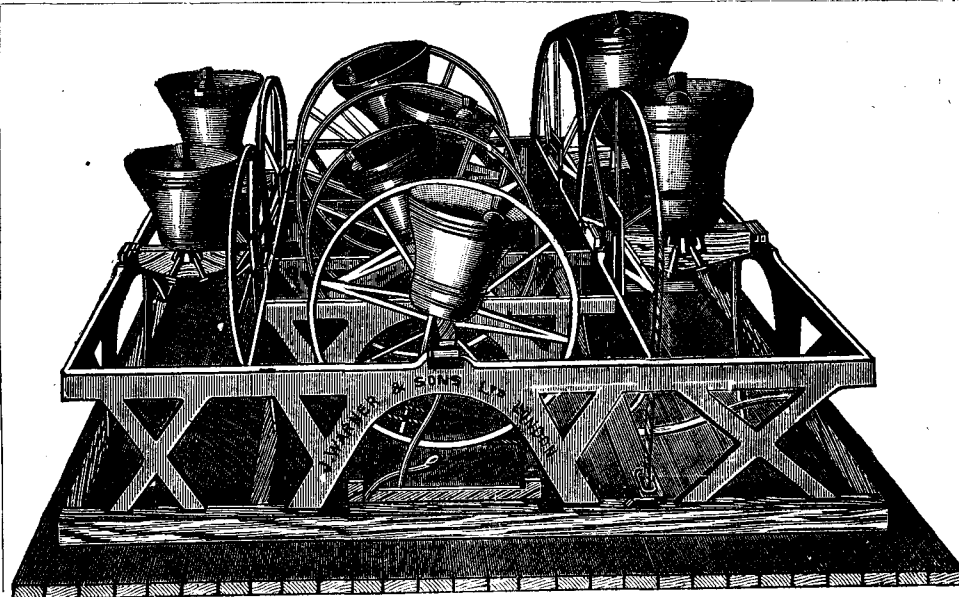
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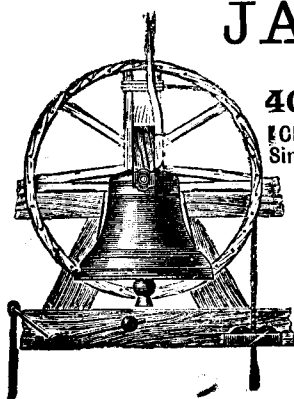
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THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 828.—VOL. XVI.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1898.

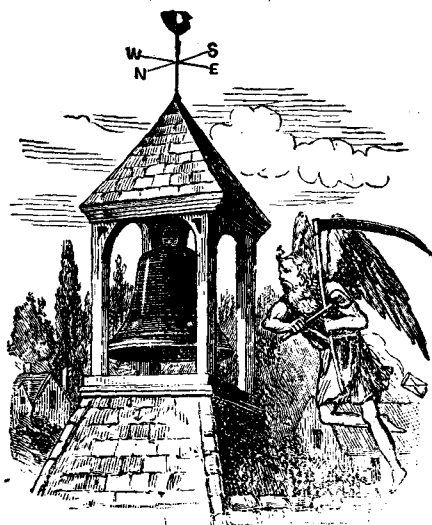
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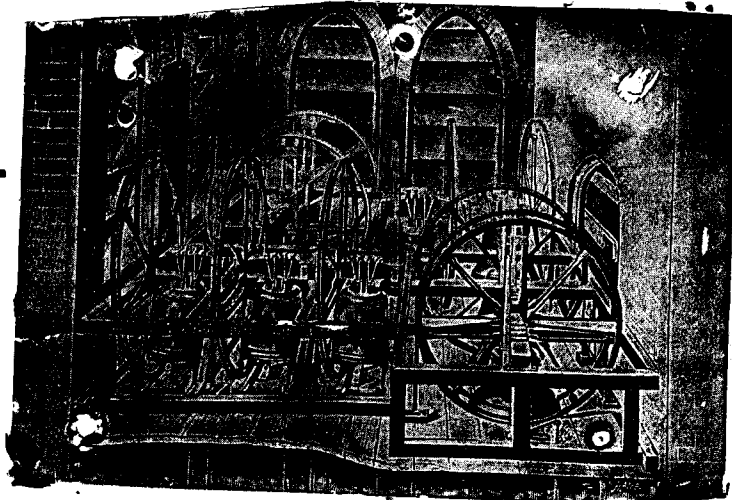
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Home Sweet Home, March of the Men of Harlech, Rule
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 828.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1898.

[Vol. XVI.]

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held at Hingham on Tuesday, February 8th. The attendance of members was scanty, only some twenty-five being present. The following towers were chiefly represented: Norwich (St. Peter's), Great Yarmouth, East Dereham, Aylsham, and Hingham. Some fair ringing was got through during the day, the bells going well. The appearance of the spacious ringing-chamber has been much improved by some slight additions to its furniture. Dinner was served by Mr. Edward Eagling (himself a member of the Hingham company) at The Angel inn, at 1.30, the chair being taken by the Rev. A. C. W. Upcher, Vicar of Hingham, the Rev. D. Hamer, Curate of Hingham, and a ringer, being also present, with one of the churchwardens.

The Vicar gave a cordial welcome to the Association, and expressed his high appreciation of the work done by Mr. Hamer in the belfry and among the ringers. He added that he had just been calling on two American gentlemen who were staying in Hingham, and who were residents of Hingham, Massachusetts, in the United States. He had explained to them the reason for the ringing of the bells, and on their surmise that the bells were rung by one man, with the aid of a machine of the pianoforte description! he had recommended them to go up into the belfry and see for themselves. This the gentlemen afterwards did, and were much impressed by the *modus operandi*, so different to what they had expected.

The Honorary Secretary, being called upon by the Chairman, said he was anxious to get on to the purely business part of the meeting, as his train left early, and there was but little time to spare. He congratulated the members upon the present position of the Society in all respects. There were signs of an escape from the period of comparative stagnation of the previous two years. Their numbers, performances, and finances all alike shewed marks of improvement, as an earnest of which he was about to propose some fifty new names for admission to their ranks. He wished on behalf of them all to express their hearty thanks to the clergy and churchwardens of Hingham for the welcome the Association had received, and for their presence among them on that occasion. He also mentioned the restoration of the bells at St. Nicholas, Great Yarmouth, just taken in hand, and the intended addition of two trebles to make the third ring of twelve within the limits of the diocese, and congratulated the Yarmouth company on the realisation of their long-cherished hopes.

Two life, one resident honorary, twenty-three performing members, and twenty-nine probationers, were proposed for admission and elected.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

TONBRIDGE DISTRICT.—The Annual Meeting of this district was held at Westerham, on Saturday, January 29th, and was attended by members from Chiddingstone, Chislehurst, Edenbridge, Hever, Penshurst, Seal Chart, Sundridge, Sevenoaks, Staplehurst, Tunbridge Wells, and the local members. Ringing commenced about 3 p.m., and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major, were rung by mixed bands during the afternoon and evening. The committee meeting was held at The Fountain coffee tavern at 4.30, when seven new members and probationers were elected, and towers selected for the meetings for the year. At 5.30 an adjournment was made to the Public Hall, where a splendid meat was provided by the kindness of Mrs. Griffiths and the Misses Warde of Squerryes Lodge, to which 53 sat down. The Rev. H. C. Bartlett (vicar), presided. Grace before and after

meat having been said by the vicar, the general meeting was held. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The district secretary read his annual report, in which he said the district had fully maintained its position. One band (Sundridge, six bells) had joined, and they had retained all their old bands; there had been an increase of twelve practising and one hon. member. Two meetings (in addition to the annual one at Edenbridge) had been held, viz., at Tonbridge in May, and Speldhurst in October, and were fairly well attended, at the latter place they were kindly entertained to tea at the Rectory. Fifteen peals had been rung in the district by association members viz., Grandsire Triples, 1; Stedman Triples, 7; Kent Treble Bob Major, 4; seven 720s of Minor 3. Mr. W. Latter of Tunbridge Wells was unanimously re-elected district secretary, and briefly thanked them for the honour of electing him for the fourth time to that office. He regretted that he had been unable to personally visit every tower in union, at least once every year, but he hoped they would take the will for the deed. He thanked them all, especially the secretaries of bands, for their kind assistance in arranging meetings, etc. Mr. T. Groombridge of Sevenoaks, was unanimously re-elected representative on the central committee, and returned thanks, remarking that the meetings being held at Canterbury and Rochester made it rather awkward for him to attend, but he would do his best for the district. It was decided to hold the May meeting at Penshurst, the October meeting at Sevenoaks, and the annual one in January at Tunbridge Wells. The district secretary announced, amidst applause, that Col. Warde had become a life member, and the Revs. H. C. Bartlett, C. A. Stubbs, and W. A. Williamson, had become hon. members. Mr. J. Eastman, sen., of Hever, in a few well-chosen remarks proposed, and Mr. T. Groombridge seconded, a hearty vote of thanks to the ladies for so kindly entertaining them. This was acknowledged on their behalf by the chairman who said this was only another instance of the interest taken by them in anything connected with the church. When he wanted the tenor bell re-cast and the other bells re-hung, these ladies most kindly came forward and defrayed the cost. He was sure they were very pleased to meet the clergy at their meetings, and he was sure that in so doing it led to a good feeling and closer friendship between them. Mr. H. G. Pope seconded, and it was carried with musical honours, all the members upstanding and giving three cheers. The aged vicar, who was visibly affected at the hearty reception, returned thanks, saying it gave him the greatest pleasure to meet them. They were all servants of the Church, and there should be a good feeling between them. He had a good band of ringers who were always ready to meet his wishes, and he always tried to meet theirs. He was very proud of them and of his bells, if he were a younger man he certainly should take up change-ringing. He wished the members every success. A vote of thanks to Mr. G. B. Selby and the rest of the Westerham ringers for making the arrangements, to which Mr. G. B. Selby suitably replied, saying he was glad that an opportunity had been given of removing an impression that an old rule (repealed several years ago) had given rise to, that no visitors were allowed to ring there. He could assure them that they were always welcome to Westerham. This concluded the meeting.

THE VICTORIAN ASSOCIATION, AUSTRALIA.

MELBOURNE.—On July 4th last, at St. Patrick's, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, composed and conducted by J. L. Murray, in 47 mins. On August 1st, at St. Patrick's tower, 840 Stedman Triples, conducted by J. C. Nolan. On August 14th, at St. Paul's, 1008 Grandsire Triples (from Troyte), conducted by J. L. Murray. On August 15th, at St. Paul's, 720 Grandsire Minor, conducted by A. Bames. On September 18th, at St. Paul's, for practice, 2282 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 35 mins., conducted by A. Bames.

THE BELLS OF RAUNDS CHURCH, NORTHANTS.

It will be remembered that a movement was set on foot last year for the restoration of the bells of St. Peter's Church, Raunds, which had become dangerous to ring in consequence of the unsafe state of the bell frame. Messrs. Taylor were called in to make an inspection and send in an estimate of the cost of what was necessary to be done, Mr. J. King Smith generously promising that if the parish could raise the amount required according to Messrs. Taylor's estimate, he would give two smaller bells to complete the octave. Messrs. Taylor's estimate for the new bell frame, re-casting tenor bell, tuning and re-hanging the six bells was £380. A congregational meeting was held, and the Church Council and others were formed into a Bell Restoration Committee. Collectors were appointed, and the town canvassed, with the result that about £80 was obtained, which has since been increased to £107. A special meeting of the committee was held, when a communication was submitted by Mr. J. King Smith from Messrs. Taylor stating, in reply to Mr. King Smith, that they should be pleased to do all they could to help the committee in the restoration of the bells.

A largely attended and representative congregational meeting was held in the Upper National Schoolroom on Monday evening, January 31st. Amongst the Church Council present were Messrs. J. King Smith, J. Shelmerdine, W. Hills, T. Wingell, J. Pulpher, E. J. Whitney, J. W. Black, W. Denton, etc. In the absence of the Vicar, Mr. J. Smith King presided. Mr. J. Shelmerdine said he trusted the meeting would accept the recommendations of the Council, and authorise them to proceed with the work, and as to the payment, he knew they were such a large-hearted people that Messrs. Taylor's bill would soon be met. On the motion of Mr. W. Gilbert, seconded by Mr. H. Stubbs, the recommendations of the Council were adopted, and they were requested to proceed to get the bells restored, if possible, before Easter. The Chairman said, in conclusion, he presumed, then, that they gave the power to the Council to give the order for the work to be done, to which a unanimous "Yes" was returned. A vote of thanks having been accorded to the chairman, the meeting closed.

It is to be hoped that the inhabitants of Raunds generally will back up the action of the Council and respond liberally to the request for subscriptions. They can rest assured that when the work is done and the bells are re-opened, restored and improved, and (thanks to Mr. King Smith's kind gift) increased in number, the Raunds ringers are well able to get the best of music from them, and will have plenty of men well qualified to handle the two additional ropes.

WOBURN, BEDS.

On Friday evening, January 28th, a specially-convened meeting of the Woburn company was held at 20, Bedford Street. One of the members, Mr. Douglas Harris, being about to be married, this was the occasion for the presentation to him of an eight-day striking clock in oak case. On assembling, the members present rung a course of Bob Royal, after which, Mr. Charles Herbert, on behalf of the company, in a few well-chosen words, expressed the good feeling of the company towards Mr. Harris, and on wishing him—

A long life with health attended
One in which all joy is blended.

handed over the clock to him. A grateful response from the recipient followed, and after supplementary remarks from Mr. Matthews, the pleasing function closed. The clock was purchased of Mr. W. Janes, a member of the company, the subscribers being the Rev. W. W. C. Baker, Messrs. M. Matthews, Avis, Marshall, Chas. Cyril and Ernest Herbert, Mark Lane, and W. Janes.

WANTED a large peal of handbells. Forty-nine bells. Chromatic scale; G25 to G04; or a larger peal with duplicates. Must be in thorough good condition, and sweet tone. State lowest possible terms, with maker's name, and all particulars to WILMER ROGERS, 8, York Street, Wrexham.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting in connection with this Association was held at Chard on Saturday, February 5th. About thirty members were present from Taunton, Norton-sub-Hambdon, Bristol, Minehead, and Old Cleeve. A short service was held in the parish church at 4 p.m., with a brief but admirable address by the vicar (the Rev. Preb. Robinson). After service, a move was made to the Temperance Hotel for tea. The master (the Rev. H. C. Courtney, Minehead), presided, and was supported by the Rev. Preb. Robinson, Mr. C. E. D. Boutflower (Bristol), Mr. F. N. Quantock-Shulldham (Norton-sub-Hambdon), Mr. A. J. H. Iles (Taunton), and Mr. H. W. Tomkins (hon. secretary and treasurer). Thirty-eight new members were elected, and it having been decided that the next meeting should be the annual one, which is due to be held at Wells this year, it was left in the hands of the hon. secretary to arrange the meeting if possible in the early part of May. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. Preb. Robinson for his address and the use of the bells, and the vicar, in reply, expressed the pleasure he felt in having a visit from the Association, and said he hoped that they would come again. After tea, a move was made to the church tower, where the bells were kept going until about nine p.m. in touches of Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, and Kent Treble Bob Major. The bells are a rich toned ring of eight and go well, with a tenor locally estimated at from 26 to 28 cwt., but which is given in Ellacombe's "Church Bells of Somerset" as measuring 4 feet in diameter from lip to lip, which would give the weight of the bell at a little over a ton. Although half-pull ringing is not yet practised at Chard, it is hoped that with a few lessons from an instructor it may be before long, and it is satisfactory to observe that the Chard ringers are willing and even anxious to master it.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CENTRAL DIVISION.—The Quarterly Meeting of this division of the above Association was held at East Grinstead on Saturday, February 5th, when representatives were present from Brighton (St. Peter's and St. Nicholas), Crawley, East Grinstead, Horley (Surrey), Lewes and Lindfield. During the afternoon touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major were rung on the beautiful bells of the Parish Church, a peal of 25 cwt., and one of the best in the county. Tea was partaken of at the Crown hotel, some 16 members sitting down to an excellent repast. At the conclusion of the tea the business meeting was proceeded with, Mr. J. Rice presiding. The Hon. Secretary (Mr. G. Williams) read a letter from the Vicar (Rev. D. G. Blakiston) regretting the inability of himself and his wardens to attend. The other proceedings were of a formal character, and at the conclusion a vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells and to Mr. A. Huggett for making the arrangements. The company then returned to the tower where touches of Grandsire Triples and Kent Treble Bob and Double Norwich were rung.

THE LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 5th, a meeting of this Guild was held at Christ Church, Bootle, and was attended by members from Aughton, Crosby, Crossens, Ormskirk, Sefton, Southport, Tue Brook, Upholland, Wigan, etc., beside the local company. During the course of the afternoon several touches of Grandsire, Bob Minor, and Kent Treble Bob Minor were rung, after which a shortened service was held. The vicar (Rev. Wynne Williams) presided at the organ, and special hymns were sung. The prayers were read by Rev. W. T. Bulpit (Crossens), and the Rev. R. W. S. Kennedy (Sefton). The sermon was preached by the Rev. F. Gough, M.A., vicar of St. Cuthbert's, Everton, from the text, "Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it." The address was brief but powerful, and replete with exhortations that told well with the congregation.

An adjournment was then made to the schoolroom, where the ringers and friends, about eighty, sat down to an excellent hot-pot supper, and very ample justice was done to the good things provided. The business meeting over which the Rev. W. T. Bulpit presided, was of a routine character, several

honorary and performing members being elected. Afterwards an enjoyable entertainment was gone through, presided over by Mr. W. Hope, churchwarden of Sefton, with a capital programme, the artists being Misses Hartnell and Musker, Messrs. Russell, McLean, Barton, Rev. R. Kennedy and Master Musker, and amongst the audience were the Revs. Wynne Williams, W. T. Bulpitt, F. Gough, R. W. Kennedy; Messrs. J. Martin, R. Musker, A. E. Smith, J. F. Buchanan, Alex. Smith, J. Hartnell, Dr. Moir, E. Irvine, etc.; and amongst the ladies, Mrs. Wynne Williams, Hartnell, Hope, Buchanan, Barton, Misses Musker, Ramsay, Atherton, Treeweek, etc. The usual vote of thanks brought a very pleasant meeting to a close.

HORLEY, YORKSHIRE.

HORBURY HAND-BELL RINGERS.—On Wednesday, February 2nd, the sixth Annual Concert promoted by the Handbell Ringers was given in the Cooperative Hall, Horbury, before a good company, including the *élite* of the village. An excellent programme had been announced, and it certainly proved to be all that could be desired—a splendid treat. The artistes were as follows: soprano, Madam Goodall, Leeds, who was encored for each song that she sung; contralto, Miss Edna Thornton, Bradford, who fairly delighted the audience, and was encored each time she appeared; baritone, Mr. Eaton Batty, who gave great satisfaction; and buffo vocalist, Mr. Josef Cantor, who caused much amusement and was re-called many times. Mr. B. Whitworth, A.R.C.O., very ably accompanied. The Handbell Ringers, most efficiently conducted by Mr. J. Woffenden, gave various selections in an able and pleasing manner; and a quartette, arranged for bells and piano, was very effectively rendered by Messrs. Hunt, Carr, Woffenden and Giggle (bells), and Mrs. J. J. Wilson (piano). From a musical standpoint we may say that the concert was the best which has been given in Horbury this year. Messrs W. H. Giggle and George Hunt, the worthy secretaries, were responsible for the very satisfactory arrangements, and are to be congratulated on the success which crowned their efforts.—*Local Paper.*

New Year's Festivities.

THE WOBURN SOCIETY.—On Wednesday evening, January 12th, Mr. Charles Herbert, the pioneer of change-ringing in this district, entertained the Woburn company to supper at 20, Bedford Street. A capital spread was placed on the table, and was followed by a most enjoyable evening's festivity, the harmony being contributed to by Miss E. Pacey. Messrs. Cyril and Ernest Herbert, A. Morrison, R. Marshall, Avis, M. Lane (Aspley Guise), James, M. Matthews, and H. Morrison. At the close, thanks were enthusiastically accorded to the host and Mrs. Herbert.

THE BEDDINGTON (SURREY) SOCIETY.—The annual dinner of the Beddington ringers was held at The Fox and Hounds, Carshalton, on Saturday week. Besides the members there were also present a goodly number of friends from Croydon, Sutton, and Carshalton. Dr. Carpenter occupied the chair, and Mr. C. Bruce the vice. After the good things provided by host Hawkins had been very effectively disposed of, the chairman gave "The Queen." Later on in giving the toast of the evening, "Our Noble Selves," he said it always gave him inexpressible pleasure to come in contact with campanological students, no matter whether it were in their belfries, or on similar occasions over which he had that evening the honour to preside. He hoped it would not be the last time by a great many they would meet together, as it was always a source of real enjoyment to him, and, he thought, to those gathered round him. Mr. C. Bance, in proposing the health of the chairman, said that the Beddington ringers were fortunate in possessing such an ideal conductor as Dr. Carpenter. Under his command things always went smoothly and the members of the band seemed to take a pride and a pleasure in their work. He also thought the time devoted to their interests by Dr. Carpenter was always a period of pleasure to him. The toast having been enthusiastically drunk with

musical honours, the chairman responded in a few well-chosen remarks, at the end of which he said he very much regretted that he would have to take his leave. Mr. Bance then took the chair, and in proposing the health of "The Visitors," said he wished, on behalf of his colleagues, to thank those gentlemen from Croydon, Sutton, and Carshalton for their attendance there that evening. He was sure the Beddington men appreciated the endeavours of the visitors to make their dinner a success by turning up in such strong force. Messrs. Bulpitt (South Croydon) and H. Bryant (Sutton) responded. A good programme of music was gone through, amongst those contributing being Messrs. Bulpitt, J. Clarke, W. Smart, W. Wood, L. A. Backhurst, W. Humphreys, B. Blake, C. Bance, W. Bromley, J. Ferridge, H. Malpass, W. Gammon, J. Archer, W. Mills and Kitching. The songs of the latter were much appreciated, as were also the "funniosities" of Mr. Clark. Mr. Lias was at the piano.

THE ST. MICHAEL'S SOCIETY, MACCLESFIELD.—On Friday evening, January 28th, the ringers of the Old Church (St. Michael's) met at the vicarage, in response to an invitation to supper from their respected vicar, the Rev. S. A. Boyd, M.A., B.C.L. The party was augmented by Mr. F. C. Goodchild, whose employment does not allow him to come amongst us regular, but who never fails when it is convenient; and the apparitor of the church with his assistant. We were warmly received on our arrival by the Vicar, and all partook of an excellent repast, presided over by the rev. gentleman, and the way he carved was very much appreciated by us, as was also the beer, and other good things provided. This pleasant part of the proceedings over, we gathered round the fire, and songs, conversation, tunes on the handbells, Wills' gold flake, etc., all brought round the hour of midnight, when W. Walmsley, the conductor, on behalf of his brother ringers, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for his generous hospitality (which we enjoy every other year), which was seconded by Mr. McKinnell (the senior member) and carried unanimously. The Vicar, in responding, said how pleased he was to have such an agreeable and worthy band of ringers, and spoke well of the progress they had made during his presence amongst them. Auld lang syne on the handbells brought to a close the most pleasant evening we have ever had. On the following day, eight of us met in the tower to celebrate our senior member's 50th birthday, Mr. McKinnell (who is better known as Kinny), by ringing a touch of Grandsire Triples, containing 600 changes, being one for every month he had lived. W. W.

THE WORCESTER CATHEDRAL GUILD.—The annual supper in connection with the above Guild took place on Monday last, at Mr. Crump's Restaurant, High Street, when about eighteen members and friends sat down, these including the Warden—Rev. W. G. Melville—Mr. Brown, and other old and enthusiastic ringers of the faithful city. After full justice had been won to the good things provided, the tables were cleared and the rest of the evening was spent in a most convivial manner, songs being rendered by Messrs. B. S. Hill, G. Hinton, W. Cotton, W. Powell, Lebbon, G. Checketts, W. H. Johnson, and Mr. Brown, not forgetting the umbrella. Courses of Grandsire Caters were rung on the handbells and several tunes were played. The toasts included that of "The Queen and Royal Family," "THE BELL News," and "Success to the Cathedral Guild." The Warden in proposing the last toast referred to the present excellent demeanour of ringers as compared with past days, and said he was of opinion that ringers' associations had done much to bring about belfry reform, thereby recognising the tower as none other than the house of God. He was pleased to see some new faces as members of the Guild, including those of Mr. C. Jones and Mr. W. Lebbon, and he trusted they would be able to remain, and thereby further the interest of ringing in the faithful city. A hearty vote of thanks to the Warden for taking the chair, to the Rev. Canon Cattley for his annual gift to the guild supper, and to the host and hostess for providing such a good spread, brought a most pleasant gathering to a close.

POLLARDS, Limited, Bradford, Children's Liberty Frocks
from 1s. 9d. each.

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING THE YEAR 1897 AND PUBLISHED IN THIS PAPER.
TABULATED ACCORDING TO VALUE IN POINTS.

Position to date.	VALUE IN POINTS PER PEAL.....	Treble Bob.		Grandsire.		Minor Methods.							Plain Methods.					Surprise Methods.					Stedman.			Total value in points.	Position in 1895.	Position in 1896.																	
		No. of peals.	Maximus.	Royal.	Major.	7 Treble Bob Minor methods.	Cinques.	Caters.	Major.	Triples.	1 Minor mthd.	2	3	4	5	6	7	9	Dbl. Norwich C. B. Major.	Duffield Major.	Maximus.	Royal.	Major.	Triples.	Doubles.				London.	Cambridge.	New Cambridge.	New Cumbld.	Oxford.	Superlative.	Gloucester	In 15 Surprise Minor methods.	8	"	"	7	"	Cinques.	Caters.	Triples.	
		16	14	12	15	11	9	8	7	3	4	5	6	7	9	16	16	12	10	8	7	2	50	40	40	30	30	25	25	40	30	25	28	24	24										
1	Sussex County Association	77	—	1	6	—	—	1	—	18	—	—	—	—	2	—	6	—	—	10	1	—	3	2	—	1	1	6	1	—	—	—	1	2	14	1305	1	2							
2	Ancient Society of College Youths ..	58	—	3	13	—	—	2	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	1	3	—	—	6	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	7	1088	7	5							
3	Oxford Diocesan Guild	52	—	1	2	—	—	3	—	11	1	—	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	2	3	—	4	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	14	913	2	1						
4	Lancashire Association	61	—	3	13	1	—	3	—	20	3	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	644	8	10						
5	Norwich Diocesan Association.....	58	2	4	24	—	—	2	—	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	—	13	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	643	3	4				
6	Worcester and Districts Assn.....	37	—	1	3	—	—	3	—	6	1	—	—	1	—	2	5	1	—	3	1	—	1	2	1	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	609	19	12					
7	Kent County Association	46	—	2	13	—	—	—	—	7	1	—	—	2	—	1	2	—	—	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	606	5	7					
8	Midland Counties' Association.....	50	—	3	—	—	—	4	1	16	3	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	2	8	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	553	6	3					
9	Yorkshire Association.....	42	1	—	25	9	—	1	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	515	4	6					
10	Central Northampton. Association ..	31	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	454	23	18						
11	Essex Association.....	38	—	—	14	1	—	1	—	6	1	—	—	1	—	4	2	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	438	16	16					
12	Gloucester and Bristol Association...	28	1	1	3	—	2	1	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	5	1	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	398	10	13						
13	St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham	19	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	7	372	14	21							
14	Winchester Diocesan Guild.....	30	—	—	6	1	—	1	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	357	12	9					
15	Bedfordshire Association	29	—	1	2	7	—	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	8	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	340	15	17					
16	Old East Derbyshire Association ..	14	—	—	6	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	252	18	28						
17	Royal Cumberland Youths	19	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	234	11	11						
18	Durham & Newcastle Diocesan Assn.	17	—	—	3	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	233	9	8						
19	Hertford Association	25	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	15	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	195	29	25					
20	Surrey Association	12	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	184	13	14						
21	Society for Archdeaconry of Staff....	19	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	177	22	15					
22	Bath and Wells Diocesan Assn.....	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	177	25	20						
23	Devonshire Guild.....	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	159	21	36					
24	Chester Diocesan Guild.....	14	—	—	—	6	—	2	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	149	27	19					
25	Middlesex Association	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	128	30	32					
26	Hereford Diocesan Guild	18	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	12	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	126	36	27					
27	North Lincolnshire Association	7	—	—	3	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	72	24	23					
28	Waterloo Society, London	5	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	57	17	33					
29	Stoke Archidiaconal Association	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	20	24						
30	Ely and Districts Association	5	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	46	37	22					
31	South Lincolnshire Association.....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	34	34					
32	Liverpool Diocesan Guild.....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	38	30					
33	Llandaff Diocesan Association	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	33	38					
34	St. James's Society, London.....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	—	40					
35	Eastern Counties Guild.....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	39					
36	East Lincolnshire Association	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	41	35					
	Independent Societies.....	48	—	—	11	3	1	2	—	16	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	5	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	491	—	—					
	Totals	905	4	22	164	33	3	44	1	206	14	3	4	10	6	20	60	1	1	7	86	25	5	8	12	1	1	1	37	4	1	1	4	4	21	91	12037	—	—						

The peals of Triples, Major, Royal, and Maximus in plain methods comprise: Bob Triples, 9; Bob Major, 82; Bob Royal, 7; Bob Maximus, 1; Canterbury Pleasure Triples, 2; Canterbury Pleasure Major, 4; Oxford Bob Triples, 8; Union Triples, 3; Darlaston Bob Triples, 3. The peals of Doubles, * 4, 5, 6, and 7 methods; † 11 methods.

The 48 peals by Independent Societies were rung as follows; In Yorkshire, 9; Lancashire, 8; Worcestershire, 6; Gloucestershire, 4; Kent, 3; Staffordshire, 3; Cambridgeshire, 2; Cheshire, 2; Middlesex, 2; Somerset, 2; Australia, 1; Hertfordshire, 1; Norfolk, 1; North Wales, 1; Shropshire, 1; Sussex, 1; Warwickshire, 1.

The greatest number of changes in one peal, 8128. Peals containing over 7000 changes, 2; over 6000, 5; under 6000, 897. The only record established during the year was by the Brighton St. Peter's branch of the Sussex County Association, ringing five peals in five different Surprise methods in eight evenings.

The 206 peals of Grandsire Triples are made up as follows; Holt's ten-part, 60; Holt's Original, 38; Holt's six-part, 4; Taylor's Bob-and-Single, 20; Parker's twelve-part, 16; Carter's twelve-part, 15; Vicars' six-part, 8; Rev. C. D. P. Davies five-part, 7; Hollis' five-part, 6; other peals, 32. The 91 peals of Stedman Triples are made up as follows; Thurstans' Original, 60; Thurstans' one-part, 3; Thurstans' five-part, 1; Brook's Variation, 13; A. P. Heywood's Variation, 5; other peals, 9. The 223 Treble Bob peals; In the Kent Variation, 164; Oxford Variation, 26; In seven Treble Bob Minor methods, 33.

The time occupied in ringing the 905 peals was 2759 hrs., or 114 $\frac{22}{3}$ days and nights, the average time for each peal being 3 hrs. 2 $\frac{1}{3}$ $\frac{1}{3}$. Conductors of four peals and upwards: G. Williams, 37; C. W. Clarke, 30; J. Austin, 21; J. E. Groves, 21; W. Bedwell, 17; W. H. Barber, 16; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 14; W. Pye, 13; J. W. Washbrook, 13; K. Hart, 11; F. Hopgood, 10; G. Wightman, 10; H. Chapman, T. Faulkner, T. Groombridge, J. Motts, T. Redman, H. Springett, 8; F. Bennett, F. J. Harrison, J. Houghton, jun., T. Newman, J. Preston, B. Wittchell, G. F. Woodhouse, 7; T. Card, F. W. Dixon, R. E. Grove, E. E. Huntley, W. Jakeman, H. R. Newton, J. N. Oxborrow, G. N. Price, S. Reeves, I. G. Shade, A. Y. Tyler, S. Wood, C. F. Winney, 6; F. S. Bayley, T. Bettison, C. T. P. Brice, D. Elliott, W. E. Garrard, Rev. H. L. James, A. Knights, J. Maddock, J. Parker, R. Ridyard, J. Shepherd, W. Short, F. T. Spence, J. W. Taylor, jun., H. J. Tucker, A. E. Wreaks, 5; J. H. Blakiston, G. Bolland, C. E. Borrett, W. H. L. Buckingham, G. A. Card, J. Carter, J. M. Chadwick, H. N. Davis, J. S. Goldsmith, W. A. Hancox, W. H. Inglesant, J. Jagger, F. Lambert, C. Layton, W. Micklewright, A. E. Parsons, R. Parkinson, E. Reader, J. Tann, H. White, C. Willshire, D. G. Wightman, W. Willson, 4. In addition to these there were 24 who conducted 3 peals; 49 who conducted 2; and 173 who conducted 1 peal; also 1 silent peal in 7 Surprise Minor methods; and 1 peal on 6 bells, in which 5 of the ringers conducted a part; making a total of 334 persons who acted as conductors during the year.

Number of peals on Church bells, 865; on handbells, 40. They were rung as follows; January, 70; February, 100; March, 80; April, 63; May, 66; June, 90; July, 31; August, 41; September, 63; October, 101; November, 91; December, 109.

Increase during the twelve months on 1896—114. The 905 peals is the greatest number rang in one year.

The following table shows the relative position of the above first nine Associations for the years 1886 to 1897.

	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897
1 Sussex County Association.....	9th	1st	2nd	1st	3rd	1st	4th	1st	4th	1st	2nd	1st
2 Oxford Diocesan Guild.....	2nd	4th	4th	3rd	4th	4th	6th	3rd	5th	2nd	1st	3rd
3 Ancient Society of College Youths.....	3rd	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	3rd	7th	10th	7th	5th	2nd	2nd
4 Midland Counties Association.....	1st	5th	3rd	4th	5th	6th	2nd	6th	2nd	6th	3rd	8th
5 Yorkshire Association.....	5th	3rd	8th	7th	9th	5th	3rd	2nd	3rd	4th	6th	9th
6 Norwich Diocesan Association.....	6th	8th	7th	6th	8th	9th	5th	1st	3rd	4th	5th	5th
7 Kent County Association.....	10th	13th	15th	13th	2nd	2nd	1st	7th	6th	5th	7th	7th
8 Lancashire Association.....	4th	6th	6th	9th	7th	10th	12th	11th	8th	8th	10th	4th
9 Worcester and Districts Association.....	28th	17th	14th	8th	19th	20th	10th	8th	16th	19th	12th	6th

The following table shows the number of peals rung annually since the publication of "THE BELL NEWS."

1881 from January to December	156	1887 from January to December	646	1892 from January to December	802
1882 " " " "	244	1888 " " " "	759	1893 " " " "	705
1883 " " " "	330	1889 " " " "	797	1894 " " " "	859
1884 " " " "	419	1890 " " " "	699	1895 " " " "	766
1885 " " " "	500	1891 " " " "	878	1896 " " " "	791
1886 " " " "	556			1897 " " " "	905

8, Hanover Crescent, Brighton.

GEO. F. ATTREE.

N.B.—In reckoning totals of points, peals of over 7000 and under 10,000 changes, are treated as two peals. The points per peal as given above, are the same as presented to the Central Council at the last annual meeting (see "THE BELL NEWS" of June 19th, 1897.)

Correspondence.

INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR,—I am much obliged to Mr. Bradney for the particulars of the peal of Stedman Triples rung at Shifnal in June 5th, 1819, and I hope he will have it recorded in the belfry there. The record of this, with others, must have been destroyed when the old ringing-chamber was demolished; at which time change-ringing in Shifnal was at a very low ebb. I have the figures of this peal in my possession, composed by Henry Cooper, of Birmingham, and proved by Thomas Thurstans, which I should be pleased to publish if it would interest anybody. It contains a multiplicity of bobs and singles, these occurring at nearly every place where the 7th is not affected, and is, I should imagine, a very ingenious composition for this period in the history of the method. I should like to know if the figures of any peal

of Stedman Triples which was rung previous (and there are not many), are in existence. Mr. Bradney finishes his letter by saying "is there any more information wanted?" Yes, viz.: On November 5th, 1797, a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at Shifnal in 3 hrs. 7 mins. (no record of which appears in the belfry), composed by T. Clemson, and conducted by S. Lawrence. In a note to this peal it says—"This is the first true peal of Grandsire Triples composed outside John Holt's peals." If any one can favor me with this composition, I shall feel obliged. T. J. BRATTON.

UNCOUTHNESS.

SIR,—I have read in "THE BELL NEWS" of January 15th, "T. M.'s" experience whilst at Matlock Bridge, Derbyshire. I am sorry to say that is not the only place where such rules exist, as you will see by a letter which I give in full. I was invited by several of the ringers to lend them a helping hand. I did so for several weeks, until I received the following from one of the members:

"Birchington, Nov. 23rd, 1897. Dear Sir,—To save you the inconvenience of coming to the church tower this evening, Mr. Sayer, the sexton, has the order from Mr. Matthews, churchwarden, not to allow any one to practice there, only members for Sunday services, and very special occasions. Yours—D. Golder."

Birchington Bay.

GEO. WILLSHIRE.

HANDBELL MUSIC.—Mr. William Gordon begs to direct the attention of musical handbell ringers to his advertisement on the back page of this journal, wherein are shewn a few new pieces which are well worth the attention of those who require good music arranged in an easy and effective manner. He also thanks those ringers who have hitherto favoured him with their patronage.

SEND TO POLLARDS, Lim., St. Andrew's Factory, Bradford, for DRESS PATTERNS.

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. (270 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. 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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SIR ARTHUR 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, BART., M.A. Gratis on application to SIR ARTHUR HEYWOOD, BART., DUFFIELD BANK, near Derby

THE REV. DR. RAVEN'S WORK.

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

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

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1898.

IN another part of this paper will be found Mr. ATTREE'S Analysis of peals for the year 1897. This compilation is vastly increasing in interest, and its periodical additions make it a most important and valuable record of ringing progress or otherwise. The Exercise owe a debt of gratitude to the author for the trouble he takes in publishing this annual schedule, and it is hoped and believed that Mr. ATTREE looks upon this work as a labour of love, and that no obstacle will ever appear to hinder him in its preparation.

There are one or two points to which the attention of our readers may be directed in this analysis: first—the year 1897 was a year for a record number of peals; 904 peals having been obtained against the next highest, 1891, when the total was 878; and it shows an increase also of 113 on the year 1896. Second—the quality of peals; a falling off in the number of peals of Grandsire from 225 to 206; an increase of Stedman from 97 to 116; and in 1897 seventy Surprise peals were rung by fifteen associations (fourteen each being rung by the Sussex Association and

the College Youths) as against forty-six Surprise peals by thirteen associations in 1896.

The Sussex Association still keeps its premier position, both with regard to peals and number of points. As more than one of the leading provincial associations seem to be making rapid strides toward's gaining this enviable position, we may expect to see in the next year's schedule some alteration. But something else than skill in ringing is required to bring about the change. Organisation, not of associations or guilds, but of skilled companies, is the only thing to "do the trick." A band of Surprise ringers, however clever, is sure to fail in an attempt to obtain the highest number of peals, unless they are united and cohesive.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

The next meeting will be held at Bristol on Tuesday in Whitsun-week, 31st May, 1898.

Notices of motion, etc., must reach the Hon. Secretary not later than Tuesday, the 3rd of May. They must be in writing, and signed by two representatives.

Hon. Secretaries of societies are reminded that subscriptions to the Council are now due and should be remitted to the Hon. Secretary without delay, at the rate of 2s. 6d. for each elected representative. The Hon. Secretary would also be greatly obliged for information as to any change in representatives, or their addresses, that has taken place in the last year.

H. EARLE BULWER,
Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn.

Hon. Sec.

THE EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 5th, a Quarterly Meeting was held at Old Bolingbroke. It was not very well attended, Boston, Butterwick, Frieston, Friskney, East Keal, and Spilsby being represented. The bells are a pretty ring of six, tenor 14 cwt.; the front five is a Jubilee gift of a lady in the neighbourhood, and are from the Loughborough foundry, the "go" of them being all that can be desired. The first to arrive was four from Frieston and Butterwick. As soon as they got well warmed from their fourteen mile ride, host Green, who is a brother-string, accompanied them to the church, and the back five were raised in peal, and a 6-score each of Grandsire Doubles and Plain Bob were rung. E. Cheetham, from West Keal, then put in an appearance, and a 720 Bob Minor was rung by E. Rollinson, E. Cheetham, E. Clayton, J. Green, A. O. Barber (conductor), and J. Sharp. Then another well-struck 720 with the Rev. J. P. Cheales, 4; J. Haw (conductor), 6; the rest as before. An adjournment was then made to a first-class dinner at host Green's, presided over by the respected acting President, the Rev. J. P. Cheales, who had come twelve or thirteen miles on cross country on his bicycle; but the vicar of Bolingbroke could not make it convenient to come a few yards after dinner. The usual business was transacted, Coningsby being chosen for the next place of meeting. At 4.30 a short service was held in the church, at which all attended: then a few more Doubles to give some of the local ringers an insight into change-ringing, and lowering the bells in peal brought a pleasant day to a close. The ringers wish through "THE BELL NEWS" to thank the vicar for the use of the bells; and the Rev. J. P. Cheales for coming so far to preside over the meeting; and also to Mr. J. Green, who did his best to make them comfortable and pleasant.

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.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 12, 1898, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
At the Church of St. Matthew, Bethnal Green,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES. Tenor 14 cwt.

MATTHEW A. WOOD Treble.	ISAAC G. SHADE 5.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. .. 2.	HARRY HOSKINS 6.
ALFRED W. BRIGHTON .. 3.	WILLIAM E. GARRARD .. 7.
GEORGE PESTELL BURTON .. 4.	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL .. Tenor.

Composed by JAMES W. WASHBROOK and
Conducted by WILLIAM T. COCKERILL.

First peal in the method by all except the ringers of the 3rd, 4th and 5th, also the first peal in the method on the bells.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 15, 1898, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

At Christ Church, Southgate,

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

STEPHEN ANSELL* Treble.	HERBERT W. NEWBY .. 5.
SIDNEY WADE† 2.	ISAAC J. ATTWATER .. 6.
WILLIAM PICKWORTH* .. 3.	ARTHUR MILLER 7.
JOHN MILLER 4.	CHARLES BAILE Tenor.

Conducted by ISAAC ATTWATER.

*First peal. †First peal in the method. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the late Rev. C. A. Wilson, Vicar of Southgate, and patron of the above Association.

The Provinces.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, February 4, 1898, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

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

GEORGE SMITHERS Treble.	HERBERT FORD 5.
GEORGE HEAD† 2.	*FREDERICK J. HARRINGTON 6.
ANDREW WELSH 3.	WILLIAM LATTER 7.
WILLIAM PORTER 4.	STEPHEN PERKINS Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE HEAD.

†First peal as conductor and first attempt. *First peal in the method.

SPELDHURST, KENT.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 5, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary the Virgin,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JAMES BAKER Treble.	GEORGE TURLEY 5.
JAMES MAYNARD 2.	THOMAS CARD 6.
STEPHEN PERKINS 3.	WILLIAM H. CARD 7.
RICHARD PELLING 4.	GEORGE A. CARD Tenor.

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH and

Conducted by WILLIAM H. CARD.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Messrs. Perkins and G. A. Card, their brother ringers wishing them many happy returns. It was the conductor's 50th peal.

BRIDGNORTH, SHROPSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, February 9, 1898, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Leonard,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE. Tenor 20 cwt.

THOMAS OVERTON Treble.	HERBERT HAMMOND .. 5.
JAMES E. GROVES 2.	*JOHN E. OVERTON 6.
JOHN OVERTON 3.	HORACE W. OVERTON .. 7.
WILLIAM RICHARDS 4.	HARRY JONES Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN E. OVERTON.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to Mrs. A. Oldham, wife of the rector, who was buried on this date. This is the first muffled peal rung in Bridgnorth. *First peal as conductor.

SEAL, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.*On Wednesday, February 9, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 of Grandsire and two each Plain Bob and Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

HERBERT J. FORD* Treble.	*JOHN W. STEDDY 4.
GEORGE B. SELBY 2.	ARTHUR C. WEST 5.
HENRY J. SELBY 3.	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE .. Tenor.

Conducted by THOS. GROOMBRIDGE.

*First peal of Minor. It is also the first peal on the bells.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.*On Thursday, February 10, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

WILLIAM H. DORAN .. Treble.	JOHN DALE 5.
JAMES TARBUN† 2.	†ERNEST PYE 6.
WILLIAM PYE 3.	WESLEY WATSON 7.
GEORGE R. PYE 4.	*HENRY F. DAWKINS .. Tenor.

Conducted by ERNEST PYE.

*First peal. †First peal in the method. ‡First peal as conductor and first attempt.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.**THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, February 12, 1898, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

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

WILLIAM RUMSEY .. Treble.	JAMES G. RUMSEY 5.
WILLIAM FLORY 2.	WALTER LAST 6.
WILLIAM G. CRICKMER .. 3.	HORACE HOWLETT 7.
ALFRED W. GRIMES 4.	WILLIAM GRIMES .. Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN and Conducted by W. G. CRICKMER.

This is a one-part peal with the 4th, 5th and 6th exclusively in 6ths place, and the 2nd and 3rd never there. It was taken from "THE BELL NEWS" of August 28th, 1897. First peal of Treble Bob by the 5th and 6th men.

NEWCHURCH, LANCASHIRE.**THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

(BLACKBURN AND ROSSENDALE BRANCHES.)

On Saturday, February 12, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

JAMES TAYLOR .. Treble.	REV. C. A. CLEMENTS .. 5.
S. LORD 2.	W. TAYLOR 6.
G. LORD 3.	J. B. TAYLOR 7.
O. EASTWOOD 4.	JOE HEALD Tenor.

Conducted by W. TAYLOR.

Heald was proposed a member before starting. G. Lord hails from Accrington; Heald from Haslingden; Rev. C. A. Clements from Ramsbottom; J. B. Taylor from Waterfoot; the rest belong to Newchurch.

DEANE, LANCASHIRE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 12, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

HUBBARD'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

JAMES HALLIWELL .. Treble.	HENRY MOSS 5.
ROBERT DUCKWORTH .. 2.	THOMAS PEERS 6.
JOSEPH POTTER* 3.	ALBERT E. WREAKS .. 7.
ROBERT FIDDIES 4.	†TITUS BARLOW Tenor.

Conducted by TITUS BARLOW.

*First peal in the method. †First peal as conductor. Messrs. Halliwell, Duckworth, Peers and Barlow belong to Deane; Wreaks, Fiddies and Moss to Bolton; Potter to Walkden.

WOMBOURN, STAFFORDSHIRE.**THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.***On Saturday, February 12, 1898, in Three Hours,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BENEDICT,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 10 cwt. 12 lbs.

EDWARD GUEST* .. Treble.	JAMES BATE 5.
WILLIAM ROGERS* 2.	HORACE SADLER 6.
PERCY SADLER 3.	ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT .. 7.
WALTER SADLER* 4.	*WILLIAM BOURNE .. Tenor.

Conducted by ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT.

*First peal.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, KIDDERMINSTER.***On Saturday, February 12, 1898, in Three Hours and Thirty-four Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5600 CHANGES.

Tenor 30 cwt.

GEORGE SALTER .. Treble.	THOMAS J. SALTER
ERNEST C. HUNT 2.	ALBERT E. PARSONS .. 6.
RICHARD E. GROVE .. 3.	JOHN CRANE 7.
ADOLPHUS ROBERTS .. 4.	WILLIAM H. SMITH .. Tenor.

Composed by CHARLES MIDDLETON and

Conducted by RICHARD E. GROVE.

TILEHURST, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(READING BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 12, 1898, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

ALFRED E. REEVES .. Treble.	ALFRED WATMORE 5.
CHARLES GILES 2.	AMBROSE OSBORNE 6.
JOHN TUCKER 3.	WILLIAM NEWELL 7.
HENRY TUCKER 4.	FRANK HOPGOOD .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS and Conducted by FRANK HOPGOOD.

*First peal in the method on the bells.

WOBURN, BEDS.—THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.*On Saturday, February 12, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 13 cwt.

MORTIMER MATTHEWS .. Treble.	SYDNEY AYIS 5.
CHARLES HERBERT 2.	ERNEST HERBERT 6.
DOUGLAS HARRIS 3.	REV. W. W. C. BAKER .. 7.
CYRIL HERBERT 4.	MARK LANE Tenor.

Composed by H. W. WILDE and

Conducted by the Rev. W. W. C. BAKER.

All the band are local men.

LEDBURY, HEREFORDSHIRE.**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIORS, GLOUCESTER.***On Saturday, February 12, 1898, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

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

Tenor 25 cwt.

JESSE GILLETT .. Treble.	FRANCIS E. WARD 5.
JOHN AUSTIN 2.	WALTER T. BENNETT .. 6.
REV. E. BANKES JAMES .. 3.	ERNEST E. DAVIS 7.
FRED. G. MAY 4.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER .. Tenor.

Composed by SIR ARTHUR P. HEYWOOD, Bart., and

Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

*This peal has the 4th, 5th and 6th in 5-6, and is believed to be the first peal of Double Norwich rung in Herefordshire; It is also the fiftieth peal by A. E. Pegler. A list will be found elsewhere.

WORTLEY, SHEFFIELD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 12, 1898, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5036 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

GEORGE PARKIN Treble.	JOHN PARKIN 5.
THOMAS MCKEGG 2.	WILLIAM DRONFIELD .. 6.
EDWARD ROBBINS 3.	THOMAS ROBBINS 7.
JOHN DRONFIELD 4.	DAVID BREARLEY Tenor.

Composed by F. E. W. MEADOWS and Conducted by DAVID BREARLEY.

This peal has the 6th twenty-two times at home, and the 2nd and 3rd never in 6ths place at a course-end, and is now rung for the first time.

KEIGHLEY, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 12, 1898, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

E. GREENWOOD Treble.	T. BANCROFT 5.
T. B. KENDALL 2.	E. WHEATER 6.
M. W. LUND 3.	J. WOTTON 7.
C. PRATT 4.	W. BOLTON Tenor.

Conducted by J. WOTTON.

Messrs. Greenwood, Bancroft, and Lund are members of the local band.

BADSEY, NEAR EVESHAM, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, BENGWORTH.)

On Saturday, February 12, 1898, in Two Hours and Thirty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being a 720 of Oxford Bob, and three each of Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob. Tenor 20 cwt.

GEORGE WILLIAMS Treble.	*WILLIAM ARKELL 4.
ALBERT H. SHARP 2.	FREDERICK JOHNSON .. 5.
GORDON CHECKETTS 3.	FRANK COOK Tenor.

Conducted by FRANK COOK.

*First peal. First peal on the bells, which have been recently rehung by Taylor and Co. in a new iron frame.

COGGESHALL, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 12, 1898, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER-AD-VINCULA,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION, Tenor 22 cwt. in F.

RICHARD POTTER Treble.	JOHN SADLER 5.
DAVID ELLIOTT 2.	CHARLES NORFOLK 6.
WILLIAM KEEBLE 3.	ERNEST W. BECKWITH .. 7.
WILLIAM ELLIOTT 4.	*WILLIAM SCHOFIELD .. Tenor.

Composed by T. LOCKWOOD and Conducted by D. ELLIOTT.

*First peal.

ERITH, KENT.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Sunday, February 13, 1898, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION Tenor 18 cwt.

FREDK. W. THORNTON .. Treble.	WILLIAM TRUSS 5.
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER .. 2.	EBENEZER ANDREWS .. 6.
FRANK C. NEWMAN* .. 3.	HARRY FLANDERS 7.
WALTER S. WISE 4.	ALFRED W. BRIGHTON .. Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS and Conducted by ALFRED W. BRIGHTON.

*First peal. This peal has the 4th, 5th, and 6th their extent in 6ths place, and the 2nd never there at a course-end.

RUISLIP, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, February 13, 1898, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

CHALLIS F. WINNEY .. Treble.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 5.
CHARLES GEORGE 2.	GEORGE R. FARDON 6.
WILLIAM E. MOSS* 3.	JAMES GEORGE 7.
GEORGE N. PRICE 4.	WILLIAM H. WEBBER .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNEY.

*First peal in the method. It is the first peal in the method on the bells. The band wish to take this opportunity to thank the Rev. T. M. Everett for the use of the bells.

HASLINGDEN, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(ROSSENDALE BRANCH.)

On Monday, February 14, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 18 cwt.

J. H. BARNES Treble.	H. WAITE 5.
W. CLARKSON 2.	J. B. TAYLOR 6.
G. BARNES 3.	R. TOMLINSON 7.
E. TAYLOR 4.	C. HEYS Tenor.

Conducted by J. B. TAYLOR.

This is the first peal on the bells by the Association, also since the year 1841, and the first by all except the conductor, who hails from Waterfoot.

SOUTHOVER, LEWES, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 14, 1898, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 17 cwt, 3 qrs. 27 lbs.

JOHN S. GOLDSMITH† .. Treble.	FRANK BENNETT 5.
ROBERT J. DAWE 2.	ALFRED J. TURNER 6.
GEORGE A. KING 3.	JAMES N. FROSSELL .. 7.
WILLIAM PELLING* 4.	KEITH HART Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS DAY and Conducted by JOHN S. GOLDSMITH.

†First peal of Treble Bob as conductor. *First peal of Treble Bob with a bob bell.

BLACKBURN, LANCs.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BLACKBURN AND PRESTON BRANCHES.)

On Monday, February 14, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

JOHN CARTER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt.

JOHN HENRY GARTSIDE* .. Treble.	JAMES MATHER 5.
ISAAC WHALLEY 2.	JAMES SCHOLEY 6.
JOHN BROWN 3.	JOHN WALKER 7.
THOMAS STRICKLAND .. 4.	MATTHEW ADAMS Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN BROWN.

*First peal.

READING, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD,

(READING BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, February 15, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES.

Tenor 24 cwt.

FRANK TUBB Treble.	HENRY TUCKER 6.
ALFRED E. REEVES 2.	AMBROSE OSBORNE .. 7.
JOHNSON E. HERN 3.	JOHN TUCKER 8.
JAMES POTTER 4.	WILLIAM NEWELL 9.
CHARLES GILES 5.	FRANK HOPGOOD Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by FRANK HOPGOOD.

First peal of ob Royal by all except Messrs. Potter and Newell.

Date Touches.

NORTHFLEET (Kent).—On December 27th, a date touch of 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 15 mins. F. Draper, 1; H. Lingham, 2; R. Smith, 3; H. Simmons, 4; W. Ware, 5; G. Silver (conductor), 6.

Miscellaneous.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

GRAPPENHALL (Cheshire).—On December 11th, 720 Bocking (twenty-one bobs). J. Mainwaring, 1; H. Moston, 2; T. Burrows, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; R. G. Lewis, 5; F. Spence (conductor), 6. Also 720 Kent. G. Astbury, 1; H. W. Kirton, 2; W. Brammer, 3; H. Moston, 4; R. G. Lewis (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6. This tower has been stopped from ringing for five weeks, owing to illness near the church. During the year this band have rung 163 720s. J. E. Ashcroft rung in 9, C. R. Greenall 59, J. W. Booth 98, J. Mainwaring 88, H. T. Moston 116, T. Burrows 123, R. G. Lewis 147, S. Horsfall 148, F. T. Spence 161. Of these T. Burrows has conducted 1, T. Ashmole 1, A. Oxley 1, W. Brammer 1, C. R. Greenall 10, R. G. Lewis 27, F. T. Spence 122.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BLACKBURN BRANCH.

BURNLEY (Lancashire).—On Sunday morning, November 28th, for Divine Service, 576 Kent. T. Knowles, 1; F. Towns, 2; R. Hartley, 3; J. Brown (Blackburn), 4; D. Heys, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Calderbank (Hoghton), 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. For evening service 1152 in the same method. T. Knowles, 1; F. Towns, 2; R. Hartley, 3; D. Campbell, 4; J. Brown, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Calderbank, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. On Sunday morning, December 5th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent. T. Knowles, 1; D. Campbell, 2; R. Hartley, 3; R. Ashworth, 4; N. Townend, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Oxford. R. Hartley, 1; F. Towns, 2; D. Campbell, 3; R. Ashworth, 4; J. R. Werring, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, December 12th, for Divine Service, 576 Oxford. N. Townend, 1; F. Towns, 2; D. Heys, 3; R. Hartley, 4; J. R. Werring, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. For evening service 1152 in the same method. J. R. Werring, 1; F. Towns, 2; D. Campbell, 3; R. Hartley, 4; D. Heys, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. On Sunday morning, December 19th, for Divine Service, 704 Oxford. T. Knowles, 1; D. Campbell, 2; J. R. Werring, 3; R. Hartley, 4; N. Townend, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. For evening service 768 in the same method. T. Knowles, 1; D. Campbell, 2; J. W. Stirk, 3; R. Hartley, 4; N. Townend, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; D. Heys, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. On December 25th, 360 Kent. T. Knowles, 1; D. Campbell, 2; R. Hartley, 3; R. Ashworth, 4; T. Mouncey, 5; N. Townend (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 26th, 720 Kent. D. Campbell, 1; R. Hartley, 2; N. Townend, 3; R. Ashworth, 4; T. Mouncey, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6. Also 704 Kent Major. D. Campbell, 1; F. Towns, 2; J. R. Werring, 3; R. Hartley, 4; R. Ashworth, 5; D. Heys, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8.

THE LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN GUILD.

AUGHTON (Lancashire).—On December 25th, at Christ Church, for morning service, 504 Stedman Triples. J. Eastham, 1; T. Jenkinson, 2; J. Marsh, 3; E. Caunce, 4; W. Fairclough, 5; J. R. Park, 6; W. Bentham (conductor), 7; H. J. Morley, 8. On New Year's morning, 420 Stedman Triples. J. Marsh, 1; T. Jenkinson, 2; J. Eastham (conductor), 3; J. Taylor, 4; W. Fairclough, 5; J. R. Park, 6; W. Bentham, 7; H. J. Morley, 8. On Thursday, January 13th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 45 mins. W. Bentham, 1; T. Jenkinson, 2; J. Marsh, 3; C. Sharples, 4; W. Fairclough, 5; P. Fairhurst, 6; J. R. Park (conductor), 7; H. J. Morley, 8.

CROSSSENS (near Southport).—On Friday, January 7th, at St. John's church, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. T. Hunter (conductor), 1; T. Hosker, jun., 2; D. Chew, 3; R. Wareing, 4; R. Brookfield, 5; J. Brookfield, 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, December 19th, for Divine Service at St. Michael's church, 720 Bob Minor. W. Farrow, 1; W. Webb, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Hammond, 4; H. Coote, 5; E. Wachter (conductor), 6. On Christmas Day, for Early Celebration, 720 Bob Minor. C. H. Howard (conductor), 1; W. Farrow, 2; H. Collins, 3; E. Wachter, 4; H. Coote, 5; F. Slade, 6. On New Year's Eve, with the bells half-muffled, as a tribute of respect to the dying, and to greet the New Year, 360 Bob Minor with the bells open. On Sun-

day morning, January 2nd, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. A. C. Pilcher, 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Hammond, 4; E. Wachter, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Bob Minor. W. Hammond, 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; F. Slade, 4; H. Coote, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 9th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. W. Hammond, 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Farrow, 4; C. H. Howard (conductor), 5; F. Slade, 6. On Monday, January 10th, 720 Double Court Bob. W. Webb, 1; H. Collins, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Grimwade, 4; C. H. Howard (conductor), 5; F. Slade, 6. On Sunday morning, January 16th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob (fifteen bobs). W. Hammond, 1; W. Webb, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; C. H. Howard (conductor), 4; E. Wachter, 5; F. Slade, 6. For evening service 720 Double Court Bob. W. Hammond, 1; H. Pilcher, 2; Ernest Chaplin, 3; Edward Chaplin, 4; C. H. Howard (conductor), 5; F. Slade, 6. On Monday, January 17th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. W. Farrow, 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Hammond, 4; C. H. Howard (conductor), 5; E. Wachter, 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob (nine bobs). W. Hammond, 1; H. Pilcher, 2; C. H. Howard (conductor), 3; F. Slade, 4; E. Wachter, 5; W. Webb, 6. *First 720 in the method. Messrs. Chaplin (2) hail from Stisted; Grimwade from Bocking.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Sunday afternoon, January 3rd, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 720 New London Pleasure. G. Melbourne, 1; H. Collins, 2; F. Warren, 3; H. Pilcher, 4; W. Grimwade, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, January 11th, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. G. Melbourne, 1; H. Collins, 2; F. Warren, 3; H. Pilcher, 4; S. Sargent, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. For morning service on Sunday, January 16th, 720 Bob Minor. N. Smith, 1; W. Moore, 2; F. Warren, 3; W. Grimwade, 4; S. Sargent, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6. For afternoon service 720 Double Court Bob. G. Melbourne, 1; H. Collins, 2; W. Moore, 3; H. Pilcher, 4; W. Grimwade, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. Messrs. Collins, Pilcher, and Howard hail from Braintree.

GREAT TOTHAM (Essex).—On December 5th, five 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles and three 6-scores of Bob Doubles. W. Trowles, 1; I. Hammond (conductor), 2; Rev. H. T. W. Eyre, 3; S. Rushen, 4; C. Ballard, 5; H. Brown, 6. On December 6th, for practice, two 6-scores of Grandsire. H. Brown, 1; J. Seager (first with a bob bell), 2; Rev. H. T. W. Eyre, 3; S. Rushen, 4; I. Hammond (conductor), 5; B. Warren, 6. On Christmas Day, 360 Grandsire Doubles. J. Seager, 1; Rev. H. T. W. Eyre, 2; I. Hammond (conductor), 3; S. Rushen, 4; C. Ballard, 5; H. Brown, 6. Also 360 Bob Doubles, with W. Trowles, 2; the rest as before. Also 240 Plain Bob. J. Seager, 1; W. Trowles, 2; Rev. H. T. W. Eyre, 3; S. Rushen, 4; C. Ballard, 5; I. Hammond (conductor), 6. Also 420 Grandsire Doubles. W. Trowles, 1; I. Hammond (conductor), 2; Rev. H. T. W. Eyre, 3; S. Rushen, 4; C. Ballard, 5; H. Brown, 6. For the close of the old year, 120 Grandsire and 120 Bob Doubles. J. Seager, 1; Rev. H. T. W. Eyre, 2; W. Trowles, 3; S. Rushen, 4; I. Hammond (conductor), 5; H. Brown, 6. The new year was rung in with 360 Bob and 360 Grandsire Doubles, standing as before.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Sunday, December 5th, at St. Paul's church, 419 Stedman Caters. H. Sharp, 1; C. Chasty, 2; C. R. Lilley, 3; E. Tingey, 4; W. Hall, 5; F. Hall, 6; I. Hills, 7; W. J. Barker, 8; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 9; F. Ball, 10. Also a course of Treble Bob Royal with H. Tysoe, 9. On Friday, December 24th, 336 Bob Major. W. Gazeley, 1; W. Hall, 2; S. J. Cullip, 3; I. Hills, 4; W. J. Barker, 5; H. Toll, 6; C. Chasty, 7; F. Hull (conductor), 8. Also 270 Grandsire Caters. W. Gazeley, 1; W. J. Barker, 2; S. J. Cullip, 3; F. Hull, 4; W. Hall, 5; F. Keech, 6; I. Hills, 7; C. Chasty, 8; H. Tysoe, 9; H. Toll, 10. On Sunday, December 26th, 364 Double Norwich. W. Gazeley, 1; W. Hall, 2; S. J. Cullip, 3; F. Hull, 4; W. J. Barker, 5; I. Hills, 6; H. Tysoe, 7; H. Sharp (conductor), 8. On Thursday, December 30th, 305 Grandsire Caters. W. Gazeley, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; H. Toll, 3; E. Tingey, 4; W. Hall, 5; F. Hull, 6; I. Hills, 7; W. J. Barker (conductor), 8; H. Tysoe, 9; R. Glass, 10. On Friday, December 24th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. W. J. Barker, 1; F. Hull, 2; W. Hall, 3; I. Hills, 4; C. Chasty, 5; H. Toll (first 720 as conductor), 6. On Thursday, December 20th, 720 Bob Minor. W. Gazeley, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; W. Hall, 3; W. J. Barker, 4; H. Tysoe, 5; F. Hull (conductor), 6.

THE ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETY, DUBLIN.

DUBLIN.—On Wednesday, December 29th, for practice at St. Patrick's Cathedral, two 168s of Grandsire Triples. H. Goulding, 1; H. Green, 2; Robt. Green, 3; R. Green, 4; C. Murray, 5; G. Lindoff, 6; R. R. Cherry (conductor), 7; T. Rudd, 8. On Friday, January 7th, 336 in the same method. T. Cunningham, 1; G. Lindoff (conductor), 2-3; R. Green, 4; C. Murray, 5; H. Green, 6;

Robt. Green, 7; W. A. Coady, 8. These touches on handbells represent the longest lengths by this Society up to the present. Numerous 120s have also been rung for service on the front five, the back bells covering, Grandsire Triples being represented by plain courses.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BRENNHAM (Berks).—On Monday, December 27th, an attempt for a peal of Minor came to grief at the commencement of the last 720 after ringing 2 hrs. 25 mins. H. Richardson, 1; W. Lucas, 2; R. George, 3; J. Hatto, 4; F. Richardson (conductor), 5; W. Horne, 6.

THEALE (Berks).—On Sunday evening, December 16th, after Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. H. Richardson, 1; J. Abery, 2; R. George, 3; W. Clark, 4; F. Richardson, 3; W. Horne (conductor), 6. This was the first 720 on the bells since they were rehung by Messrs. Webb and Bennett, of Kidlington.

BROOMFIELD (Essex).—On Sunday evening, December 12th, for Divine Service, 720 Plain Bob (twenty-six singles). G. Clark, 1; C. Parsons, 2; G. Parsons, 3; E. Runter, 4; E. Wright, 5; A. Bradley (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, December 19th, 360 Oxford Treble Bob. E. Runter, 1; C. Parsons, 2; G. Parsons, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; A. Bradley, 5; E. Wright (conductor), 6. On Thursday, December 23rd, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob. T. Crozier, 1; C. Parsons, 2; E. Runter, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; A. Bradley (conductor), 5; E. Wright, 6. On Christmas Day, 720 Plain Bob. G. Clark, 1; C. Parsons, 2; G. Parsons, 3; E. Runter, 4; A. Bradley, 5; E. Wright (conductor), 6. On December 26th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. A. Bradley, 1; C. Parsons, 2; G. Parsons, 3; E. Runter, 4; T. Crozier, 5; E. Wright (conductor), 6. On Friday evening, December 31st, 360 Oxford Treble Bob. A. Bradley, 1; C. Parsons, 2; G. Parsons, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; E. Runter, 5; E. Wright (conductor), 6. At midnight on December 31st, 360 Oxford Treble Bob. T. Crozier, 1; E. Runter, 2; G. Parsons, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; A. Bradley (conductor), 5; E. Wright, 6. And 720 Plain Bob. G. Clark, 1; C. Parsons, 2; G. Parsons, 3; E. Runter, 4; A. Bradley (conductor), 5; E. Wright, 6.

CHIPPING (Lancashire).—On New Year's Eve 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 standing as before. Also 720 College Single. F. Timbrell, 1; J. Seed, 2; E. Timbrell, 3; J. Kenyon, 4; T. Seed, 5; W. Timbrell, 6. On Sunday, January 2nd, 720 Kent (fifteen bobs). R. Kenyon, 1; F. Timbrell, 2; J. Kenyon, 3; W. Timbrell, 4; E. Timbrell, 5; T. Seed, 6. On Wednesday, January 5th, 720 Grandsire standing as above. **Handbell Ringing.**—On Sunday, January 2nd, three 720s Plain Bob. F. Timbrell, 1-2; E. Timbrell, 3-4; W. Timbrell, 5-6. On Tuesday, January 4th, an attempt was made for a peal of Bob Triples, which unfortunately came to grief after ringing 3200 changes. F. Timbrell, 1-2; E. Timbrell, 3-4; W. Timbrell, 5-6; J. Seed, 7-8. All the above were conducted by W. Timbrell.

FINEDON (Northants).—On Saturday, December 25th, 336 Bob Triples. W. Perkins (conductor), 1; F. Abbot, 2; J. Pettit, 3; W. B. Meadows, 4; P. J. Manning, 5; J. F. Tompkins, 6; C. Baker, 7; W. Norton, 8. And 118 in the same method. W. Norton, 1; W. Perkins, 8; the rest as before. Conducted by J. T. Tompkins. And 252 in the same method. C. Baker, 1; T. Abbot, 2; J. Pettit, 3; J. T. Tompkins, 4; P. J. Manning, 5; W. B. Meadows, 6; W. Perkins (conductor), 7; J. Leath, 8. And 252 in the same method. G. Line, 1; T. Abbot, 2; J. Pettit, 3; J. T. Tompkins, 4; P. J. Manning, 5; W. Perkins (conductor), 6; C. Baker, 7; J. Leath, 8. Messrs. Pettit, Line, Meadows and Norton hail from Burton Latimer. On Saturday, January 1st, 180 Bob Minor. J. Pettit, 1; J. T. Tompkins, 2; T. Abbot, 3; P. J. Manning, 4; C. Baker, 5; W. Perkins (conductor), 6. And 720 in the same method. T. Abbot, 1; J. T. Tompkins, 2; W. Gilbert (conductor), 3; H. Stubbs, 4; J. Houghton, 5; W. Perkins, 6. Stubbs and Gilbert hail from Raunds; Houghton from Irthlingborough.

NORTHFLEET (Kent).—Recently, at the parish church, for practice, 720 Plain Bob was rung, in 26 mins. F. Draper, 1; H. Lingham, 2; R. Smith, 3; H. Summers, 4; W. Ware, 5; L. Silver, 6. First 720 as conductor by W. Ware.

STEVNING (Sussex).—On December 12th, 504 Grandsire Triples. C. Bristow, 1; A. Gatland, 2; H. Green, 3; C. Smart (conductor), 4; E. Rapley, 5; J. Smart, 6; G. Gatland, 7; G. Lloyd, 8. On December 19th, 168 Stedman Triples. H. Green, 1; C. Smart, 2; A. Gatland, 3; J. Matthews, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; J. Smart, 6; G. Gatland, 7; E. Turrell, 8. On December 19th, 504 Grandsire Triples. C. Smart, 1; A. Gatland, 2; E. Turrell, 3; E. Rapley, 4; J. Smart, 5; W. Woolgar, 6; G. Gatland, 7; E. Bristow, 8. On December 23rd, 504 Grandsire Triples. C. Smart, 1; G. Gatland, 2; E. Bristow, 3; H.

Green, 4; J. Smart, 5; W. Woolgar, 6; A. Gatland, 7; G. Lloyd, 8. On December 25th, 504 Grandsire Triples. C. Smart, 1; J. Mathews, 2; G. Smart, 3; E. Rapley, 4; J. Smart, 5; G. Gatland, 6; W. Woolgar, 7; E. Turrell, 8. On December 26th, 360 Bob Minor. H. Green, 1; A. Gatland, 2; J. Smart, 3; G. Smart, 4; G. Gatland, 5; W. Woolgar, 6. On December 30th, 504 Court Bob Triples. E. Bristow, 1; W. Woolgar, 2; A. Gatland, 3; H. Green, 4; J. Smart, 5; G. Gatland, 6; C. Smart, 7; E. Turrell, 8. Also 504 Grandsire Triples. A. Gatland, 1; C. Smart, 2; E. Bristow, 3; G. Gatland, 4; J. Mathews, 5; J. Smart, 6; W. Woolgar, 7; E. Turrell, 8.

STONY STRATFORD (Bucks).—On Monday, December 20th, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. O. Morris (first 720), 1; R. W. Valentine, 2; G. Cowley, 3; E. Yates, 4; G. Valentine, 5; S. Wolfe (conductor), 6. On Monday, December 27th, 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). O. Morris, 1; R. W. Valentine, 2; E. Yates, 3; W. Tucker (first 720), 4; W. Yates, 5; G. Valentine (conductor), 6.

SPRINGFIELD (Essex).—On November 16th, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. M. Rolfe, 1; E. Runter, 2; W. Harris, 2; W. Hawkes, 4; A. Bradley (conductor), 5; E. Wright, 6. The ringers of the 2nd, 3rd, 5th and tenor hail from Broomfield. On Sunday, January 2nd, on the occasion of the new rector (Rev. F. Paynter) conducting his first service, 720 Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. Ward, 1; D. Dawson, 2; W. Hawkes, 3; E. Runter, 4; M. Rolfe (conductor), 5; H. Sharpington, 6.

BELL-FOUNDING OPERATIONS.

The following is a list of the most important work carried out by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., Loughborough, during the Jubilee Year of 1897:—

A new ring of ten bells in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, also a half-tone; weight of tenor, 45½ cwt. A new chime of eleven bells in Kendal Town Hall; weight of tenor, 44½ cwt. A new ring of ten (except the ninth bell) in St. Paul's church, Bedford; weight of tenor, 28½ cwt.

Five new rings of eight, viz.: Heavitree, near Exeter, tenor 25½ cwt.; Todmorden (with three extra half-tones), tenor 23½ cwt.; Sedburgh, tenor 15½ cwt.; Thrapston, 14 cwt.; Reddish, near Stockport, 12 cwt. Three new rings of six; Devynock, tenor 14½ cwt.; Hartford (Cheshire), tenor 12 cwt.; Macfest (Cheshire), tenor 11½ cwt.

A new ring of six except the tenor at Bolingbroke, Lincolnshire, tenor 12½ cwt. A new ring of six except the 5th bell at Adwick-le-Street, tenor 10½ cwt. A new ring of five in Ross Carbery Cathedral, tenor 12½ cwt. A new ring of five except the tenor at Castle Hedingham, tenor 11½ cwt. A new ring of five, except the tenor, at Chale, Isle of Wight, tenor 8½ cwt. Four quarter-bells with hour bell of 11 cwt. in Manchester Methodist College.

The augmentation and restorations of old peals comprise: Three rings of ten, viz., Stockport parish church, St. Mary's, Nottingham, and Newark-on-Trent.

A new treble and tenor have been added to complete the octave at Middlewich and at Leyland.

Three trebles to complete the peal at Curry Rivel and at Pulborough. And at the following churches two trebles have been added to complete the octave, viz., Stow-on-the-Wold, Blacklands, near Hastings, Finedon, Ruddington, Staveley, Wirksworth, Tickhill, Burnham (Bucks), Stanford-on-Soar, and Portishead.

The following rings of six have been restored, augmented etc.; St. Michael's church (St. Albans), Trysull, Fulbeck, Arksey, St. Stephen's (Saltash), Langport, Langham (Essex), Middleton-on-the-Wolds, Offenham, Holt (near Wrexham), Bagborough, Hemingford Abbots, Barrowby, Wickham (Hunts), and Wilton (Somersetshire).

Also the following rings of five; Pleasley, Upper Slaughter, Legbourne, Keysoe, Capel St. Mary, Ibstock, Knowstone, Cheveley, Crich, and Cople; besides many chimes of less number than five, and numerous single bells.

WORK IN PROGRESS FOR THIS YEAR—1898.

A new ring for Arklow, in Ireland; a new chime of eight for Maralia, in Ireland; the ring of eight at Cardington to be all recast; two new rings of six, viz., for East Tytherley and Bolsover; a new ring of five for St. Ignatius, Sunderland; and the old ring of five of Amptill to be all recast; the ring of ten at St. Nicholas, Bristol, being rehung, the three trebles being recast; at Raunds the tenor to be recast, and two trebles added to complete the octave. The rings and chimes of six to be restored, viz., Carfax Tower, Oxford; Sefton, Thurstaston, and Ketton; also the rings of five of Glen, Barnack, and St. Peter's, Derby.

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Notices.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is One Penny per line (five words may be reckoned to a line). Repetitions at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

The Kent County Association.—Maidstone District.—The Annual Meeting of this district will be held at Maidstone to-day, Saturday, February 19. As the district secretaryship is vacant, members are requested to pay their subscriptions to me. Usual allowances to those only whose subscriptions are paid. All Saints' tower open from 3 p.m. Permission to ring also at St. Michael's and East Farleigh has been applied for. Tea at The Coffee Palace, Gabriel Hill, at 5 p.m. Business Meeting after.

FRED. J. O. HELMORE, *Hon. Sec.*

The Middlesex County Association.—(North and East District).—A meeting of six-bell ringers of this Association will be held at St. Mary's, Church End, Finchley, to-day, Saturday, 19th February, by kind permission of the Rector, the Rev. W. E. Batty. Ringers and friends of the Association are cordially invited to attend. The tower will be open for ringing at 5 p.m. ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*
18, Ravenscroft Park Road, Barnet.

The Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—A Meeting will be held at Gainford, to-day, Saturday, February 19th. A meat tea will be provided at the Mechanics' Institute, at 4.30. Members 1s., non-members 1s. 6d. each. The Committee will meet at the same place at 4 o'clock. The bells of the parish Church will be available for ringing during the day. Week-end tickets for Gainford, at a single fare for the double journey, are granted from N.E.R.S., twenty miles or more distant. THOMAS HUDSON, *Hon. Sec.*

N.B.—Subscriptions for the year 1897-8 are now due.

Chester Diocesan Guild.—Wirral Branch. The next monthly meeting and tea will be held at Lower Bebington to-day, Saturday, February 19th, at 6 o'clock. H.V. WOOLCOTT, *Hon. Sec.*
Grange Mount, West Kirby.

Sussex County Association.—Eastern Division.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Christ Church, Eastbourne, to-day, Saturday, February 19th. Bells available from 2.30 to 9 o'clock. Tea at Ye Rising Sun at 5.30. The tower of St. Mary's will also be available for ringing, by arrangement at the meeting. S. SAKER, *Hon. Sec.*
101, Braybrooke Road, Hastings.

The Hertfordshire Association.—The next district meeting will be held at Hertford to-day, Saturday, Feb. 19th. The tower of St. Andrew's church will be open for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Tea at the Coffee Tavern at 5.30; business meeting following. E. P. DEBENHAM, *Hon. Sec.*
St. Albans

Central Northamptonshire Association. Quarterly Meeting at Finedon this Saturday afternoon, February 19th. Usual arrangements. E. J. DENNES, *Hon. Sec.*
Wellingborough.

Midland Counties Association.—Nottingham District.—The annual meeting will be held in St. Peter's belfry to-day, Saturday, February 19th, at 6 p.m. Ringing afterwards. W. E. WHITE, *Hon. Sec.*

Midland Counties Association.—Nun-

eaton Branch.—The annual meeting of this branch for the election of officers will take place at Nuneaton to-day, Saturday, Feb. 19th.

HARRY ARGYLE, *Local Sec.*

Glebe Road, Nuneaton.

The St. James' Society, London.—The meetings at St. Clement's are now held as usual. Next meeting on Monday, February 21st.

R. A. DANIELL, *Hon. Sec.*

Midland Counties Association.—Derby Branch.—The annual meeting for the election of officers will be held in St. Alkmund's belfry on Friday, February 25th, at 8 p.m.

T. ANTHONY, *Local Sec.*

39, Kensington Street, Derby.

The Lancashire Association.—Bolton Branch.—The next monthly meeting of the above branch will be held on Saturday, February 26th, at St. George's church, Bolton. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Business at 7 p.m.

HY. MOSS, *Branch Sec.*

Leeds and District Amalgamated Society. The next monthly ringing meeting of this society will be held on Saturday, February 26th, at St. Michael's, Headingley (8 bells). Ringing from 3 to 5, and 5.30 to 9 p.m. Meeting-house—The Skyrack hotel, opposite the church. Business meeting at 6.30. Trams every few minutes from City Square; also buses from Briggate direct to church. Members please note that contributions for the current year are now due. Nominations will be received for auditors and the various officers for the ensuing year. Handbells provided. A good attendance of members is particularly requested.

R. BINNS, *Hon. Sec.*

The Waterloo Society, London.—The 30th Anniversary Dinner of this Society will take place on Saturday, March 5th next, at The York hotel, Waterloo Road. Tickets to be obtained of the following—H. Barton, W. H. Passmore, G. Symonds, F. G. Perrin, H. N. Davis, W. Webber, and of the Secretary.

VICTOR W. WEST.

71, Langton Road, Brixton, S.W.

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at All Saints' church, Wigan, on Saturday, March 5th. Bells ready at 5 p.m. Meeting in vestry at 7 p.m.

HENRY COLEY, *Branch Sec.*

The St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—The Anniversary Johnson Commemoration will be held as usual on Saturday, March 5th. Ringing at St. Martin's from 3 to 5.0 p.m. Dinner will be served at The Woodman, Easy Row, at 6.0 p.m., when J. S. Pritchett, Esq., M.A., B.C.L., will preside. Dinner tickets, free to full subscribing members, and to other members and friends 2s. 6d. each, may be obtained by application not later than Tuesday, March 1st, to the undersigned.

W. H. GODDEN, *Hon. Sec.*

61, Roland Road, Handsworth.

The Lancashire Association.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Holy Trinity, Blackburn, on March 12th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m.

T. REDMAN, *Branch Sec.*

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—At a meeting held at the new head-quarters, The Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on September 21st, it was resolved that a testimonial be presented to Mr. Matthew A. Wood, of Bethnal Green, as a mark of esteem and in appreciation of the good work he has done towards the advancement of change-ringing

during the past fifty years. Subscriptions towards this object will be gladly received by any of the following committee:—Messrs. F. S. Bayley, Burkin, Butler, Cockerill, W. Davies (Liverpool), Dorrington, T. Hattersley (Sheffield), Horrex, Hughes, T. Mash, Newton, Prime, Pettit, F. W. J. Rees (Nayland, Colchester), Smith, Springall, Waghorn, jun., and Winney. Saturday, April 2nd, 1898, is the suggested date for the presentation to be made, and intending subscribers are earnestly requested to send in their subscriptions at least a week before that time.

NOTES TO PEALS.

THE PEAL AT LEDBURY.—This was Mr. A. E. Pegler's fiftieth peal, made up as follows: London Surprise Major, 1; Cambridge Surprise Major, 1; Cambridge Surprise Royal, 1; Gloucester Surprise Major, 3; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 8; Kent Treble Bob Major, 3; Kent Treble Bob Royal, 2; Kent Treble Bob Maximus, 1; Bob Triples, 1; Bob Major, 3; Bob Royal, 1; Bob Maximus, 1; Stedman Triples, 5; Stedman Caters, 1; Grandsire Triples, 5; Grandsire Caters, 1; Grandsire Cinques, 2; Canterbury Pleasure Major, 1; In Minor methods, 6; Doubles, 3; total—50.

MR. F. J. PITTS.

Will Mr. F. J. Pitts, late of Kennington, London, kindly return to the Secretary of All Saints' Society, the volume of "THE BELL NEWS," the property of the All Saints' Society, Fulham.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.—The address of Mr. G. H. Simon, Hon. Secretary of the Heavy Woollen District Association, is Triticine, Limited, Knottingley. The address of Mr. James George is now 55, Bath Street, Rugby. Friends kindly note. The address of Mr. Gabriel Lindoff is 10, St. Joseph's Road, Dublin.

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SITUATION WANTED as plumber; general hand; change-ringer; member of Herts Association. Apply, J. Shepherd, Church Road, Hatfield, Herts.

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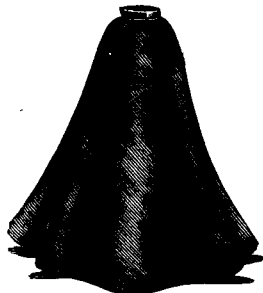
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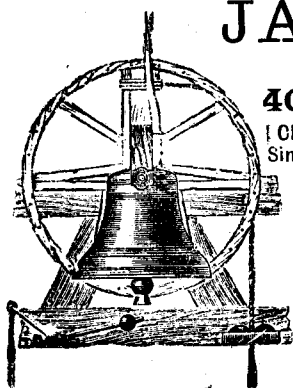
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THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 829.—VOL. XVI.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1898.

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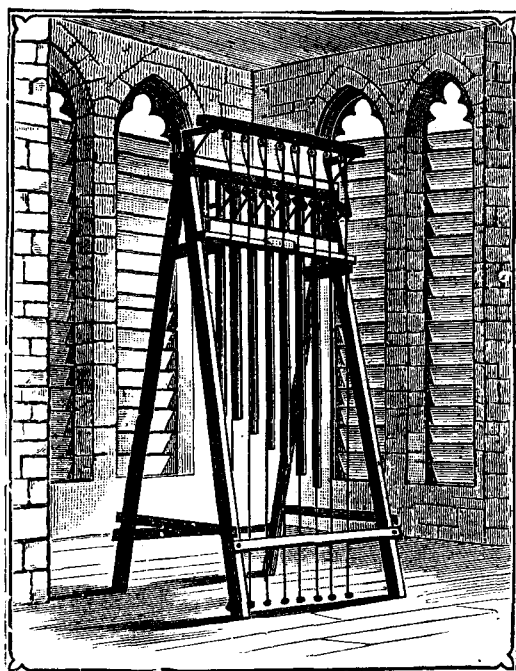
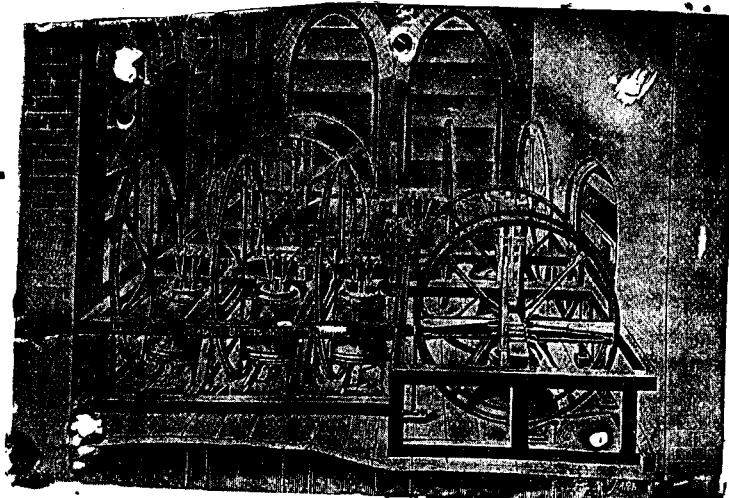
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Clouds roll by, Whistling Farmer Boy.

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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 829.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1898.

[Vol. XVI.]

THE OXFORD SOCIETY.

The annual dinner of this society was held on Thursday evening, at The Bell inn, Cornmarket-street, the Rev. F. E. Robinson (Master of the Diocesan Guild), presiding. Among those present were Messrs. W. J. Smith (master), J. Washbrook, C. Hounslow, P. A. Hind (hon. sec.), A. Hawes, F. Payne, C. Tolley, C. Hester, F. Fox, A. Fox, W. Jeffery, A. Strange, F. Castle, F. Exon, E. Exon, J. Mogridge, S. Hounslow, H. Cox, W. Finch, J. Howes, E. Hims. At the conclusion of the dinner, which was satisfactorily served,

The Chairman proposed the loyal toasts, remarking that they as ringers indirectly derived benefit from the Queen's reign.

After an interval,

The Chairman proposed "Prosperity to the Oxford Society of Change-Ringers," remarking that he believed it to be a very ancient society, and one that had done a great deal of good work. He had but little doubt that in former years the augmented college peals from eight to ten, or possibly to eight, was partly owing to their exertions. Of course, when one of the three colleges had ten bells, the other two were likely to follow in their wake. He did not know exactly which was the first to put up ten bells, but one could easily see what time the bells were augmented to ten, namely, at the beginning of the century, and he had no doubt it was in consequence of the representations of the Oxford society, and good work was done at the colleges if that was so. He was happy to say at present they were continuing that good work, because they knew what had recently been done at the Cathedral, that was to say, the peal of ten had been augmented to twelve. He had heard a great many peals of twelve, and always excepting St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, he thought the Cathedral peal was comparable to any other. He had been asked in the course of his remarks to stir up the Oxford ringers, and he hoped they had resolved to make good use of the peal of twelve. They had been turning over the matter in their mind for many years, and there seemed to be insuperable difficulties in their way, when the lucky thought came into his head twelve months ago that they would make a dash for it in the jubilee year. He was happy to say he had been so well supported by the Guild as to bring that to a successful issue. It now remained to be seen whether or not they would make a proper use of the bells. They had made a fairly good beginning, and he thought it was a wise move on the part of the conductor, Mr. Washbrook, to attempt a peal of Treble Bob Maximus instead of Stedman Cinques. He was anxious they should lose no time in getting a peal of Stedman Cinques. The Guild would feel they had wasted their money if they did not turn the bells to good account. He hoped shortly to publish a full statement of the subscribers, and they would be surprised that so many of their brethren all through the Diocese, many of them who had never been to Oxford, were willing to give their money to carry out this good work. Ringing in Oxford at present was suffering from the want of a light and handy peal of eight, because at present the peal at St. Peter-in-the-East was practically useless, and he intended to turn his attention to this matter. This was really urgent, because he felt if they missed their regular Sunday practice they ran the risk of tumbling to pieces. He had a sort of half-promise that something would be given from the Guild, and he hoped some of them might be able to devise methods by which a little money could be raised for the purpose. For himself, he would give as much as he could.

The Master (Mr. Smith), in acknowledging the toast, said he felt they ought to support Mr. Robinson more than they did, and meet him in far stronger numbers. He had done much for them, and from his remarks that night he was evidently prepared to do more.

Mr. Washbrook submitted "Prosperity to the Oxford Diocesan Guild," of which they were all members. They were missing a great deal by not having a branch in Oxford, and all that was wanted was someone capable of taking up the secretaryship. They owed a great deal to their excellent Master, the Rev. F. E. Robinson. He had done more for them than they had done for themselves. They had now a peal of twelve, owing to his and the Guild's goodness, and he thought it would be a pity if they did not make the best use of it. He coupled with the toast the name of the Rev. F. E. Robinson, the Master of the Guild.

The Rev. F. E. Robinson, in reply, said the Guild was in a flourishing condition, both as to numbers and as to finances, and notwithstanding its liberality in making a grant of £10 to the Cathedral bells, they had a substantial balance in hand. He was happy to say he had that day pulled off his 521st peal, and he hoped to live and ring a great many more peals. But, after all, a great score of peals was not the primary object of the Guild. It was to improve everything in connection with the bells, the ringers, and the ringing, and more especially the tone, spirit and motive with which they carried on all their work.

Mr. P. A. Hind proposed "The Health of the Chairman," and said he did not think any words of his could be strong enough to express his value, which was simply inestimable. With regard to the St. Peter-in-the-East bells, unfortunately there would be no support in the parish, and therefore it rested with themselves to do all they could outside. Many difficulties had been swept away in the past by their being unanimous, and he believed if they held together in the future they would be able to successfully accomplish what they all desired.

The Chairman returned thanks, and said it had been a great pleasure to him to be associated with the Oxford Society for a great number of years. He rang his first peal forty years ago, and their old friend, Mr. C. Hounslow, must have rung his earlier than that. He did not think during those forty years an unpleasant or unkind word had ever passed between them. Anything that brought men together on that kind of footing and produced mutual respect for one another, must be an excellent thing, and he might speak in the same way of many others in that room. He could not sit down without paying a meed of respect to their able conductor, Mr. Washbrook. It was fortunate for them and for him that that great genius sprang up amongst them, and the amount of responsibility and anxiety he had relieved him of by being able to conduct in such an able manner was entirely beyond words to express. He hoped Mr. Washbrook's mental energies and also his physical strength would be continued and preserved to them for many years, and in conclusion, he proposed his health.

Mr. Washbrook responded, and said as long as his health and strength remained he would always be at their service.

This concluded the toast-list. The pleasure of the evening was enlivened by several excellent songs and performances on the handbells.

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.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

On Friday evening, February 18th, the clergy, ringers, and a few friends were entertained by D. Robinson, Esq., at The Five Ways inn, in honour of the opening of two new trebles to the peal of six of which he (Mr. Robinson) was the munificent donor. Among those invited were Messrs. W. H. Godden (Birmingham), W. R. Small (Tipton), S. Spittle, W. Micklewright, J. Goodman (Dudley), G. H. Newnes (Netherton), H. Mason and A. E. Parsons (Old Hill). It is needless to relate how the substantial meal, admirably catered by host and hostess Danks, was enjoyed. The cloth removed, the vicar, the Rev. S. J. Marriott, was voted to the chair, and his curate, Rev. J. B. Brinkworth, the vice-chair, supported by Messrs. Robinson, Newnes and Spittle.

The Chairman, in proposing a toast to The Queen, referred to some of the principal events of the late year, notably the progress of commercial enterprises. Also that of the good old Church, and ultimately of the loyal gift of his chief supporter to their own church. The toast was loyally drunk.

Mr. S. Spittle proposed "The Bishop and the Clergy of the Diocese," to which the Rev. J. B. Brinkworth responded. That gentlemen's discourse disclosed the fact of it being his own birthday, who also remarked how little he expected to spend the later portion of the day in the company of such a body of churchmen. This drew from the proposer an appropriate song "Many Happy returns of the day."

Mr. H. Mason then gave "The St. Andrew's Society," touching upon the intimacy he had enjoyed for the past 10 years, and the help he himself had received from their society in the early portion of his ringing career. Messrs. J. Townsend and J. Smith suitably responded. Mr. Robinson proposed "The Visitors," coupling with it Messrs. W. R. Small, W. H. Godden and A. E. Parsons. Mr. Small responded very characteristically, not forgetting his usual "gentle reminders." Mr. Godden, as the representative of James Barwell, bell-founder, said that whatever work was entrusted to them by anybody was executed to the best of their ability, but it was exceptionally gratifying and stimulating to hear expressed, both from those in authority and also the ringers themselves, the satisfaction given in their case. Mr. Parsons added a few suitable words.

The toasts were intermixed with songs by Messrs. Newnes, Spittle, Small and Micklewright, and the Chairman amused his hearers of his early but short experience as a ringer, whilst Mr. Spittle occasionally dropped a few of his witticisms, the company chiefly admiring his exposition of "The fooling of Bridget." Mr. W. H. Smith also gave a good example of his elocution in reciting "The beautiful tones of the bells." The usual vote of thanks to host and hostess was unanimously carried, and 11 o'clock brought parting time and the completion of another "red letter evening" with the St. Andrew's Society.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(NORTH AND EAST DISTRICT.)

The first meeting arranged by the Hon. Secretary for the benefit of six-bell ringers in this district, was held on Saturday the 19th February, at St. Mary's Church, Finchley. More than thirty members attended during the evening, representatives arriving from Edgware, Hendon, Barnet, Hadley, Southgate, Hornsey, Highgate, and Walthamstow; and many were the touches brought round in Bob and Stedman Doubles, College Single, Canterbury, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Minor. The long draught of the ropes in this tower, coupled with the obstacle of an intrusive staircase, caused a little embarrassment to some of the visitors, rather amusing than otherwise; but it was only a first experience. When once the little difficulties were understood, they were easily overcome; and all spent a very enjoyable evening.

At the business meeting, feeling references were made to the less sustained by the association in the death of the Rev. Cyril F. Wilson, Vicar of Southgate; an active patron and friend of ringers. It is well-known that the beautiful bells of Christ Church have long been an object of many a ringer's pilgrimage to Southgate, which has become a veritable "Mecca" to the ringing world. Those who have had the pleasure of attending meetings of this Association at Southgate, at which Mr. Wilson

almost invariably presided when his health permitted, could not fail to be impressed by his genial and kindly sympathy with all that affected a ringer's welfare and a ringer's art. That the death of so kind a patron was no ordinary loss to the Association, was evident from the sympathetic allusions which preceded a formal resolution, which the Hon. Secretary undertook to convey to Mrs. Wilson as a token of the respectful sympathy of the members.

It was arranged to hold the next meeting of six-bell ringers early in May at Stanmore, subject to the necessary permission being obtained.

A cordial vote of thanks to the Rev. W. E. Batty for the use of the bells, brought to a close a most successful and enjoyable evening.

A County meeting of the above association was held on Saturday, February 12th, at the towers of St. Leonard's Heston and St. Mary's Norwood Green, Mr. King, Hon. Sec., and Mr. Martin Master of the N. and E. Division, were present, as were also Mr. C. Edwards, Hon. Sec., and Mr. J. Basden, Master of the S. and W. division, besides representatives from Ealing, Isleworth, Staines, Hillingdon and the local bands. The bells were kept going to some fine touches of Treble Bob, Grandsire, Canterbury, Oxford Bob, College Single and Bob Minor, and several 6-scores of Stedman and Grandsire Doubles. The visitors were very pleased with the go and tone of the bells in both towers, and wish to express their thanks to the Vicar of Heston and the Rector of Norwood for the use of the towers and to the local bands for their kind assistance and co-operation. The Hon. Secretaries of both divisions wish to call the attention of all those members not present at the meeting, and who have not paid their annual subscriptions, that they are only waiting for overdue subscriptions before proceeding to make up the yearly accounts. Will the captains of the various towers kindly note this?

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of the Maidstone District was held at Maidstone on Saturday, February 19th, when about sixty members attended from Maidstone, Aylesford, Bearsted, Boxley, West Malling, Harrietsham, Staplehurst, Gillingham, Rochester, Upchurch, Bobbing, Sevenoaks, and Tunbridge Wells. The towers of All Saints (10), St. Michael's (6), and East Farleigh (6), were open for ringing. The tea was held at Winterbotham's Temperance hotel, Gabriel's Hill, under the presidency of the vicar of Maidstone, the Rev. Canon Joy. At the Committee Meeting held after tea nine new members were elected. Mr. A. Palmer was re-elected representative of the district on the Central Committee, and hearty votes of thanks were accorded to the Rev. A. L. Brine, curate of Bearsted, for his past services as District Secretary. The appointment of a successor was for the time postponed, no suitable candidate for the office having presented himself. It was decided to hold a meeting at Hollingbourne in April, and another in October, the place to be arranged in April; and the next annual meeting at Lenham, if the bells have been rehung by that time, or, if not, at Leeds.

F. J. O. HELMORE.

The members of the Ashford district held a meeting at Willesborough, on February 5th, at the parish church, when the following towers were represented: Ashford, Mersham, Brabourne, Charing and Willesborough, and some well-struck touches of Treble Bob Minor, Grandsire Minor, and Plain Bob Minor were brought round. Also 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, the following ringers taking part. E. J. Dixon (Willesborough), G. Fenn (Brabourne), W. Spice (Charing), G. Pain (Mersham), W. Hobbs (conductor, Willesborough), T. Tabrett (Ashford). This is the first of 720 of Oxford Treble Bob on the bells, which are in a very bad state and sadly require rehanging. The ringers require, through the medium of this paper, to thank the Rector and churchwardens for the use of the bells.

WRITE TO POLLARDS, Limited, Bradford, for the Illustrated Sketch Book of Costumes.

New Year's Festivities.

FARNHAM, SURREY.—The annual dinner of the bellringers took place on Tuesday, February 8th, at The Railway hotel, this year the dinner being kindly given to the ringers by the new Rector, Rev. — Gardiner. There was also present the Churchwardens, and after doing ample justice to the dinner, the rest of the evening was spent in toasts, songs, and recitations. The chair was taken by the Rector, and Mr. Churchwarden Kempson was in the vice-chair. The toasts of the evening were "The Queen and Royal Family," "Bishop and Clergy," "The Bellringers and Visitors." The harmony of the evening was contributed by the following: Rev. Topham, Rev. Finch Smith, Messrs. Elliott, Harrison, Fry, Garfath, Headley, A. Le Clerg, Schofield. At the close the Rector was enthusiastically thanked for his kindness.

THE THORNBURY SOCIETY (Gloucestershire).—Through the generosity of one of their instructors (Mr. F. R. Howell), the members of the Thornbury Amateur Society were entertained at a meat tea at his residence, on Saturday evening. The chair was taken by the Vicar, the Rev. A. N. Scott, whilst the curate, the Rev. M. Wadesmith, who is a practical member of the society, occupied the vice-chair. After tea a very enjoyable evening was spent with songs and handbell ringing, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Howell for his kind hospitality, and the able assistance rendered by him to the members in their study of the method of change-ringing.

THE STEYNING (SUSSEX) SOCIETY.—The eighth annual dinner of this society was held at The Norfolk Arms on the 13th inst., a capital repast being got up by the hostess, Mrs. Bateman. The vicar, the Rev. A. Pridgeon, was in the chair, supported by Mr. F. J. Cherryman, and Messrs. F. Morris and W. Palmer, of Brighton. The repast having been cleared, and the toast of "The Queen" having been duly honoured, the chairman gave "The Steyning Ringers," coupling with it the name of Mr. G. Gatland, the captain, who responded. For "The Visitors" Mr. F. Morris responded, and then the evening was spent in harmony, the proceedings closing with the National Anthem.

THE THORNHAM MAGNA (SUFFOLK) SOCIETY.—On Wednesday, January 19th, the ringers were entertained by E. Youngs, one of their members. A bountiful spread was provided, to which the ringers and friends to the number of thirteen did ample justice. After the cloth was removed, the company settled themselves down for a musical evening, which consisted of songs and touches on the handbells. The chair was taken by the churchwarden, Mr. Rose, who said he was very pleased to be with the ringers, and hoped that this supper would be an annual affair, and the ringers would stick together and always try to ring for every service on Sunday. He wished to thank Mr. and Mrs. Youngs for their trouble in providing such a good supper. Mr. Youngs thanked Mr. Rose for the kind words which he had spoken. It gave him much pleasure to meet the company. Two years ago they could not raise a bell, but now he was pleased to say that they could ring seven different methods on five bells, also 360 of Plain Bob Minor, and they longed to get a 720 of Bob Minor. As usual, the time went much too fast, the party breaking up after thoroughly enjoying themselves in the early hours of the morning, after giving their host musical honours. This company has just joined the Norwich Diocesan Association.

THE ST. STEPHEN'S WESTMINSTER GUILD.—The Twelfth Annual Dinner of this Guild was held on Saturday, February 12th, at Storey's Gate Tavern, Westminster. The Vicar (Rev. W. H. G. Twining) occupied the chair, and twenty-three members and friends did justice to all the good things set before them. The cloth being removed, the chairman proceeded with the toast list which included "The Queen and Royal Family"; "The Church," proposed by Mr. J. Mitchell; "The President," by Mr. H. R. Newton; and then the toast of the evening, "The St. Stephen's Ringers' Guild." In proposing this, the chairman said, it gave him great pleasure to be at such a gathering, and he felt proud of having such a band of ringers at St. Stephen's. The Secretary had stated that for the year 1897 sixteen peals had been accomplished, viz.: six of Superlative Surprise, six of Cambridge Surprise, two of Treble Bob Royal, and one each of

Double Norwich and Stedman Caters, against seven for the previous year. This he (the chairman) considered a very worthy record, and he trusted that the members would stick together and the excellent start made this year maintained, so that at the next Annual Dinner a still better record could be shown. "The Health of the Visitors" was proposed by Mr. N. J. Pitstow, who also highly complimented the Guild on scoring another peal of Superlative and one of London Surprise in the New Year. Songs were rendered between the toasts by Messrs. H. R. Newton, J. Pryer, G. Muller, C. T. P. Brice and the pianist, Mr. J. Willis. "The Health of the Master (Mr. H. R. Newton), and Secretary" (Mr. J. N. Oxborrow), who were acting as Stewards for the dinner, was drunk with musical honours, as was also that of Mr. Lamb, the Steeplekeeper, whose 69th birthday happened to fall on that date. The Vicar now withdrew, having to rise early on Sunday, but the others kept the ball merrily rolling with songs till 11.30 p.m., and then with joined hands "Auld Lang Syne" was sung, and the party dispersed with the resolution that a quarter peal of London should be attempted next morning with Mr. Pitstow. This was accomplished and will appear in its proper place in the columns of this paper.

THE LEATHERHEAD (SURREY) SOCIETY.—On Tuesday, February 13th, the ringers were entertained to their Annual Supper, given as usual by the Vicar, the Rev. Canon Utterton, and A. T. Miller, Esq. After a few touches on the bells they proceeded to the Schools, when a plentiful supply of good things awaited them, to which full justice was done. The Vicar in giving the toast, "The Leatherhead Ringers," expressed his regret that he was not able to congratulate them on ringing a Jubilee peal, but he admired their spirit in making so many attempts, in spite of repeated failure from causes beyond their control. He was glad once again to meet his own ringers, and those who were present from neighbouring parishes, and regretted the absence of many old friends, and concluded by expressing the pleasure it was to give permission for peal ringing whenever asked to do so. Mr. Marks, on behalf of the ringers, suitably responded, and in proposing the health of the Vicar, remarked that they had not given up the attempts for the peal previously mentioned, and that it would not be for the want of trying were they not successful. With various games and courses on the handbells, the remainder of the evening was pleasantly passed.

NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION AT HARTHILL.

On Saturday last the Rev. B. Darley entertained the committee members of the above association at Harthill. Arriving at Kineton Park station at 5.20, a conveyance awaited to take them from Kineton Park to Harthill.

The first item on the programme was to visit the ringing chamber, where a 360 of Kent Treble Bob was rung by J. White, J. Holmes, Rev. B. Darley, D. Russon, S. Smith (conductor), and C. Crawford. After which the ringers adjourned to The Beehive inn, where hostess Storey had provided a good meat tea, to which full justice was done, the ringers' appetites being well sharpened by the keen frosty air. After tea, arrangements were made for the annual meeting, which will be held some Saturday after Easter, at Retford, particulars of which will be advertised in the local papers. At the close of the meeting, Mr. Haigh proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. B. Darley for his kindness in entertaining the ringers to such an excellent repast, also for the use of the bells and the conveyance which he had placed at the disposal of the ringers. He believed all the members present endorsed these sentiments, and he hoped they would all meet again at Harthill on another occasion of this kind, and for some years to come. Mr. S. Smith seconded, and Rev. B. Darley briefly responded, assuring all present that if it was the desire of the ringers to re-elect him at the annual meeting, he should be pleased to entertain them on some future occasion.

The ringers again visited the tower, and the following rung a 360 changes each of Oxford Treble Bob and Woodbine, in 27½ mins.: J. White, D. Russon, H. Haigh, T. Smith, S. Smith (conductor), and C. Crawford. The bells were afterwards lowered in peal, and the ringers conveyed to Kineton Park station to catch the 9.49 train home, all being well satisfied with the afternoon's outing.

DEATH OF MR. JOEL REDFORD.

It is our painful duty to record that early on the morning of Sunday, the 13th of February last, Mr. Joel Redford, Honorary General Secretary of the Lancashire Association, succumbed to a short but severe attack of rheumatic fever, and as the news of his death spread through the county, a deep gloom was cast over the members when they realized the great loss the Association had sustained.

Elected a member in 1880, a year after its re-constitution, he from the first took an active interest in its work, and in the following year was elected Honorary General Secretary in succession to Mr. Chatterton, a post which he has held since, without intermission, until the day of his death; devoting the whole of his energies to the promotion and success of the Association, and ever bearing in mind the objects for which it had been formed.

Genial and kind-hearted, ever ready with a friendly hand, his presence was always welcome at any gathering of ringers. Straightforward and business-like in all his dealings, and possessed of good organising abilities, the Association rapidly grew and flourished under his care and guidance, advancing from a membership of 101, and a balance of £3 2s. 10d. in 1881, until the figures at the last Annual Meeting were—members 926, and balance in hand £94 16s. 10d., figures that are a lasting tribute to his work. Nor should the fact be overlooked that to him is due the excellent scheme of dividing the county into branches, a scheme which has proved of inestimable benefit to the work of the Association. As a mark of the high regard in which his services to the Association were held, a valuable marble timepiece, together with an illuminated address, was presented to him by the members at the Annual meeting held in Blackburn, in 1892.

As a ringer he was ever ready for a pull; a good striker, and safe in changes; constant and regular in his attendance on Sundays and at practice; and the ringers of Holy Trinity church, Bolton, will sadly miss his presence amongst them, he having been associated with them for over twenty years.

His interment, which took place on Wednesday, February 16th, in St. James's Churchyard, Breightmet, was, despite the short notice, well-attended by members of the Association, the following being the names of the members and the towers represented, viz.: Officials, Rev. H. J. Elsee, president; Mr. J. Eachus, vice-president; Mr. A. E. Wreaks, ringing secretary; Mr. H. W. Jackson, treasurer; Mr. J. Wilson, assistant secretary, and Messrs. H. Chapman, R. Ridyard and Z. Lord, members of committee. Members: Messrs. R. Ravenscroft and E. Hewitt (Manchester Cathedral), Mr. W. Brown (branch secretary of Manchester district), Mr. J. F. Wood (St. Philips, Hulme), Mr. J. Millett (Heywood), Messrs. J. Matkin, and J. Lomax (St. George's, Bolton), Mr. J. Calderbank (The Saviour's, Bolton), Mr. R. Hill (Southport), Mr. W. Marsden (Wigan), Mr. E. Cash (Swinton), Mr. J. Gratrix (Prestwich), Mr. J. Smith, sen. (Blackburn), Mr. William Cass (Bury), Mr. F. Bradshaw (Whitefield).

The officiating clergy were, the Rev. H. J. Elsee, Vicar of St. George's, Bolton; the Rev. T. Taylor-Evans, vicar of Holy Trinity, Bolton, and the Rev. A. Stephens, Vicar of Breightmet. His fellow-ringers of Holy Trinity, Bolton, performed the sad duty of bearers of deceased's remains to their last earthly resting place.

In the evening, several touches were rung on the muffled bells of Holy Trinity and St. George's, by the members in attendance. Muffled peals were also rung as a mark of respect at the Parish Church, Bolton; on Thursday, February 17th, at St. George's, Bolton; on Friday, February 18th, and at the Cathedral, Manchester, on Saturday, February 20th.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting in connection with this association was held at Chard on Saturday, February 5th. About thirty members were present from Taunton, Norton-sub-Hambdon, Bristol, Minehead, and Old Cleeve. A short service was held in the parish church at 4 p.m., with a brief but admirable address by the vicar (the Rev. Preb. Robinson). After service, a move was made to the Temperance Hotel for tea. The Master (the Rev.

H. C. Courtney, Minehead), presided, and was supported by the Rev. Preb. Robinson, Mr. C. E. D. Boutflower (Bristol), Mr. F. N. Quantock-Shulldham (Norton-sub-Hambdon), Mr. A. J. H. Iles, (Taunton), and Mr. H. W. Tomkins (hon. secretary and treasurer). Thirty-eight new members were elected, and it having been decided that the next meeting should be the annual one, which is due to be held at Wells this year, it was left in the hands of the hon. secretary to arrange the meeting if possible in the early part of May. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. Preb. Robinson for his address and the use of the bells, and the vicar, in reply, expressed the pleasure he felt in having a visit from the association, and said he hoped that they would come again. After tea a move was made to the church tower, where the bells were kept going until about nine p.m. in touches of Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, and Kent Treble Bob Major. The bells are a rich toned ring of eight and go well, with a tenor locally estimated at from 26 to 28 cwt., but which is given in Ellacombe's "Church Bells of Somerset" as measuring 4 feet in diameter from lip to lip, which would give the weight of the bell at a little over a ton. Although half-pull ringing is not yet practised at Chard, it is hoped that with a few lessons from an instructor it may be before long, and it is satisfactory to observe that the Chard ringers are willing and even anxious to master it.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX BELL RINGERS.

The Quarterly Meeting of the above was held at St. James', Leyland, on Saturday, February 12th, when the following towers were represented: Blackrod, Chorley, St. Andrew's Leyland, St. James' Leyland, Standish, Preston parish, St. Mark's, Preston, Penwortham, and Higher Walton. During the afternoon touches of London Single Bob and Plain Bob were rung. At 5.30 the members adjourned to the schoolroom, where the business meeting was held, the president, Mr. James Banister, presiding, supported by the vice-president, Mr. J. H. Gartside. It was resolved that the Annual Meeting be held at St. James', Leyland, on Whit-Saturday.

A unanimous vote of thanks to the Vicar and Churchwardens for the use of the bells and schoolroom, and to the ringers for the kind way in which they welcomed the visitors, brought the meeting to a close. JAMES HIGSON, Sec.

THE HEAVY WOOLLEN DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The last Monthly Meeting of the above took place at Kirkburton, on Saturday, February 12th, members being present from Almondbury, Batley Carr, Dewsbury, Holmfirth, Huddersfield, Lindley, Fossett; Mr. J. Blackburn, vice-president, presiding. It was agreed that the entries for the eight bell contest to be held on Easter Monday, at Halifax, should close the week before. Each company competing to send the names of their company to the secretary. After other items connected with the coming contest had been passed, Mr. Walter Idle, Dewsbury, presented to the association a handsome gift in the shape of a box for the eight-bell cup, to be competed for on Easter Monday with the cup. The best thanks of the meeting was given for his generosity.

Obituary.

JOSEPH PAUL HEALEY.

It is with deep regret we have to record the death on Tuesday, February 15th, of the above-named ringer in his seventy-second year. He was until a few years back a member of the Wakefield Cathedral (then parish church) company, but owing to rheumatism has not been able to do any ringing of late. He was well-known and respected throughout Yorkshire as one of the old school. He was always known as a good all round ringer, and had taken part in a good many peals, although he has kept no record, amongst them being Grandsire Caters, Stedman Caters, Treble Bob Royal, Treble Bob Major (including a 8000 rung at Liversedge when in his seventeenth year) and also a 10,000 at Low Moor. The Wakefield company and a few friends followed him to his grave, four of whom carried him. A course of Grandsire Triples and Major were rung on the handbells at the graveside, and in the evening on the tower bells (deeply muffled) a 1008 of Grandsire Triples was rung as a last token of respect by the local company. T. M.

Notices.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is One Penny per line (five words may be reckoned to a line). Repetitions at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

The Lancashire Association.—Bolton Branch.—The next monthly meeting of the above branch will be held to-day, Saturday, February 26th, at St. George's church, Bolton. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Business at 7 p.m.

H. V. MOSS, *Branch Sec.*

Leeds and District Amalgamated Society. The next monthly ringing meeting of this society will be held on Saturday, February 26th, at St. Michael's, Headingley (8 bells). Ringing from 3 to 5, and 5.30 to 9 p.m. Meeting-house—The Skyrack hotel, opposite the church. Business meeting at 6.30. Trams every few minutes from City Square; also buses from Briggate direct to church. Members please note that contributions for the current year are now due. Nominations will be received for auditors and the various officers for the ensuing year. Handbells provided. A good attendance of members is particularly requested.

R. BINNS, *Hon. Sec.*

The Waterloo Society, London.—The 30th Anniversary Dinner of this Society will take place on Saturday, March 5th next, at The York hotel, Waterloo Road. Tickets to be obtained of the following—H. Barton, W. H. Passmore, G. Symonds, F. G. Perrin, H. N. Davis, W. Webber, and of the Secretary, VICTOR W. WEST.

71, Langton Road, Brixton, S.W.

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at All Saints' church, Wigan, on Saturday, March 5th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting in vestry at 7 p.m.

HENRY COLEY, *Branch Sec.*

The St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—The Anniversary Johnson Commemoration will be held as usual on Saturday, March 5th. Ringing at St. Martin's from 3 to 5.0 p.m. Dinner will be served at The Woodman, Easy Row, at 6.0 p.m., when J. S. Pritchett, Esq., M.A., B.C.L., will preside. Dinner tickets, free to full subscribing members, and to other members and friends 2s. 6d. each, may be obtained by application not later than Tuesday, March 1st, to the undersigned,

W. H. GODDEN, *Hon. Sec.*

61, Roland Road, Handsworth.

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next monthly meeting of the above will be held at Bucknall on Saturday, March 5th. Members who intend being present must send word to Mr. W. Twigg, Secretary, 97, High Street, Bucknall, not later than Wednesday, March 2nd. A peal-board which has been placed in the tower to commemorate the ringing of the silent peal of Surprise Minor will be unveiled on that day.

REV. W. D. BRAGINTON, } *Hon. Secs.*
W. TWIGG, }

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the parish church, Middleton, on Saturday, March 12th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m. All ringers invited. E. B. SHAW, *Branch Sec.*

14, Thomas Street, Leesfield, Lees.

The Lancashire Association.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will

be held at Holy Trinity, Blackburn, on March 12th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m.

T. REDMAN, *Branch Sec.*

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—At a meeting held at the new head-quarters, The Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on September 21st, it was resolved that a testimonial be presented to Mr. Matthew A. Wood, of Bethnal Green, as a mark of esteem and in appreciation of the good work he has done towards the advancement of change-ringing during the past fifty years. Subscriptions towards this object will be gladly received by any of the following committee:—Messrs. F. S. Bayley, Burkin, Butler, Cockerill, W. Davies (Liverpool), Dorrington, T. Hattersley (Sheffield), Horrex, Hughes, T. Mash, Newton, Prime, Pettit, F. W. J. Rees (Nayland, Colchester), Smith, Springall, Waghorn, jun., and Winney. Saturday, April 2nd, 1898, is the suggested date for the presentation to be made, and intending subscribers are earnestly requested to send in their subscriptions at least a week before that time.

NOTES TO PEALS.

THE PEAL AT KENDAL.—This is the first peal of Caters recorded on the Kendal bells since February 22nd, 1819, the number of changes rung on that occasion being 5147, in 3 hrs. 29 mins. The peal recorded this week was therefore rung on the 79th anniversary, and was the first attempt by all the band, who have been practising Caters for about nine months. An interesting fact in connection with the two peals is that two of the present ringers (Dennison and Tyson) are great grandsons of ringers bearing the same name who took part in the peal in 1819.

THE PEAL AT HAGLEY.—This is Mr. T. J. Salter's 100th peal rung under the Worcester-shire Association, and he is the first member to attain that honour. The composition may be found on page 110 of the 1895 appendix.

THE PEAL AT DARTFORD.—This peal was arranged specially for Mr. R. Cullum, and great credit is due to him for the way in which he rang, his first touch of Triples being a quarter-peal with the treble on New Year's morn, and a quarter-peal with the 2nd the following Sunday. It is also Mr. F. Cullum's first peal since his return from Australia at Christmas.

THE PEAL AT BRISTOL.—This peal was rung on the occasion of the annual dinner of the St. Stephen's Guild, which took place this evening, and of which an account appears in another part of this paper. First peal of Grandsire Caters by ringers of the 4th, 6th 7th and 8th. Messrs. Goodenough, Matthews and Bell hail from Bath. Messrs. Wilkins and Matthews were proposed members of the association previous to starting.

MR. F. J. PITTS.

Will Mr. F. J. Pitts, late of Kennington, London, kindly return to the Secretary of All Saints' Society, the volume of "THE BELL NEWS," the property of the All Saints' Society, Fulham.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.—The address of Mr. G. H. Simon, Hon. Secretary of the Heavy Woollen District Association, is Triticine, Limited, Knottingley. The address of Mr. James George is now 55, Bath Street, Rugby. Friends kindly note. The address of Mr. Gabriel Lindoff is 10, St. Joseph's Road, Dublin.

Compositions.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

By F. BENNETT, *Brighton.*

5424.

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

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

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

Twice repeated.

Reducible to 5088 by calling bob for single, home in first course, and omitting the three courses braced in any one part.

A PEAL OF NEW CUMBERLAND SURPRISE.

By F. BENNETT, *Brighton.*

5184.

2	3	4	5	6	B	W	H
6	2	5	3	4	-	2	2
6	5	3	2	4		1	2
2	3	5	6	4		2	2

Twice Repeated.

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SITUATION WANTED as plumber; general hand; change-ringer; member of Herts Association.—Apply, J. Shepherd, Church Road, Hatfield, Herts.

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TO MASTER PRINTERS.—Wanted a situation as compositor or all-round jobbing hand; nearly eight years present situation; age 22. Can ring standard methods (8 bells).—Apply, A. E. Barrow, 127 Avenue Road, Gosport, Hants.

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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 26, 1898.

SOME incidents have occurred lately which would appear to demonstrate that there is not that chivalrous behaviour to belfry visitors which is necessary among the Exercise. We have had some peculiar disclosures among recent correspondence, which shows that the free-masonry, as it may be termed, which is believed to be such a prominent characteristic of change-ringers, does not obtain upon every occasion. A "lock-out" we must regard as a very strange proceeding; and when ringers themselves are the cause it cannot be too strongly condemned. We should highly commend the attitude of any ringer who formally objected to ring, if, from some ridiculous punctilio, any ringer whose conduct was known to be correct was debarred a tower, or prevented from ringing after access to the ringing-chamber was obtained. It seems that we are still troubled now and then by those persons who have long borne the *soubriquet* of "Jacks-in-office." It is necessary that the influence and authority of these people should be curtailed. They ought to be taught that the

head official of the belfry is the leader or Master of the company of ringers, and we hope all ringers will do their best at every opportunity to impress this important fact upon their clergy.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

The next meeting will be held at Bristol on Tuesday in Whitsun-week, 31st May, 1898.

Notices of motion, etc., must reach the Hon. Secretary not later than Tuesday, the 3rd of May. They must be in writing, and signed by two representatives.

Hon. Secretaries of societies are reminded that subscriptions to the Council are now due and should be remitted to the Hon. Secretary without delay, at the rate of 2s. 6d. for each elected representative. The Hon. Secretary would also be greatly obliged for information as to any change in representatives, or their addresses, that has taken place in the last year.

H. EARLE BULWER,
Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn.

Hon. Sec.

ROLVENDEN, KENT.

On Wednesday evening, February 9th, a visit was paid to the above church by the following ringers: Rev. P. E. P. Berry, L. Vidler, Esq., and J. Durrant, from Rye; Messrs. C. Tribe and G. Cramp, from Tenterden; and G. Johnson, from Appledore. These all journeyed thither on their bikes, and were met at the church by Mr. E. and T. Burden, of the local band. The visit was arranged to give the Rye contingent a helping hand in change-ringing, and so far, to use their own words, was both pleasant and instructive, and advanced them several notches in the Art. We learnt with satisfaction that the ceiling to deaden the sound in the Rye belfry will soon be an accomplished fact, and then we hope to hear of something good in the way of change-ringing locally; and to hear those two magic words "that's all" ourselves in the near future.

The Metropolis.

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

On Monday, February 21, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES, BERMONDSEY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5080 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt.

GEORGE LANGFORD Treble.	JOHN N. OXBORROW 6.
WILLIAM D. SMITH 2.	SAMUEL E. ANDREWS 7.
ARTHUR G. ELLIS 3.	FREDERICK DENCH 8.
HENRY S. ELLIS 4.	CHARLES T. P. BRICE 9.
WILLIAM H. PASSMORE* .. 5.	HENRY R. NEWTON Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW and Conducted by HENRY N. NEWTON.
Rung as a birthday compliment to J. Porter, Esq., the late churchwarden. *First peal in the method.

The Provinces.

DARTFORD, KENT.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 12, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 18½ cwt.

FREDERICK J. FRENCH .. Treble.	JOHN BLACKMAN 5.
RICHARD CULLUM* 2.	JAMES SAXBY 6.
GEORGE CULLUM 3.	HERBERT J. CASTLE .. 7.
FREDERICK J. CULLUM .. 4.	*ARTHUR T. PERRY Tenor.

Conducted by H. J. CASTLE.

*First peal. F. J. Cullum was elected a member of the above society previous to starting.

SMETHWICK, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, February 12, 1898, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 11 cwt.

THOMAS HORTON Treble.	WILLIAM R. SMALL 5.
HARRY MILLS 2.	JAMES HALL 6.
SAMUEL REEVES 3.	JAMES GEORGE 7.
REUBEN HALL 4.	WILLIAM PAINTER Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

This is the first peal on the bells. The ringers take this opportunity to thank the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and also the Vicar for his kind hospitality afterwards.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 12, 1898, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY PLEASURE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES. Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qrs. 11 lbs.

JOHN COOK Treble.	FRANK KNIGHT 5.
JOHN AKEHURST 2.	EDWIN JORDAN 6.
THOMAS ANDREWS 3.	HENRY BURSTOW 7.
WALTER CHARMAN 4.	HENRY H. CHANDLER .. Tenor.

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

This peal is now rung for the first time, and contains the 5th twenty-four times and the 6th the extent in 6ths place. First peal in the method by Messrs. Akehurst and Jordan, who bail from Capel; and first peal of Major on the bells since they have been recast.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 15, 1898, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 28 cwt.

H. WHITTLE Treble.	T. START 5.
A. W. MATTHEWS 2.	W. A. MASTERS 6.
W. H. INGLESANT 3.	R. F. LANE 7.
J. HUTCHBY 4.	G. DOUGHTY Tenor.

Conducted by R. F. LANE.

BRISTOL.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 15, 1898, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN THE MARTYR,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5093 CHANGES. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

W. JAMES HINTON .. Treble.	CHARLES GOODENOUGH .. 6.
WILLIAM A. CAVE 2.	JOHN D. MATTHEWS .. 7.
CHARLES H. HORTON .. 3.	CHARLES BELL 8.
WILLIAM KNIGHT 4.	FRANCIS PRICE 9.
RAYMOND J. WILKINS .. 5.	WILLIAM COLSTON Tenor.

Composed by J. CARTER and Conducted by W. J. HINTON.

FRAMLINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 16, 1898, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 19 cwt.

GEORGE WIGHTMAN .. Treble.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. 5.
STEPHEN W. MARTIN .. 2.	*ALBERT E. READ 6.
WILLIAM WIGHTMAN .. 3.	*SAMUEL GARNHAM 7.
JOHN C. SELF* 4.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN COX and Conducted by GEORGE WIGHTMAN.

*First peal of Kent. For calling see Association Report for 1895, page 70.

RAMSBOTTOM.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. (ROSSENDALE BRANCH.)

On Thursday, February 17, 1898, in Two Hours and Thirty-four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; J. SHEPHERD'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 9½ cwt.

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

Conducted by WALTER TAYLOR.

Rung as a farewell peal to the Rev. C. A. Clements, who is shortly leaving Ramsbottom for Southport, with the best wishes of his brother-ringers.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, February 17, 1898, in Three Hours and Thirty-three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES. Tenor 23 cwt.

FREDERICK WOOD* Treble.	SEPTIMUS RADFORD 6.
ALBERT E. BARROW† 2.	WILLIAM W. THORNE 7.
CHARLES EADES 3.	FRANK BLONDELL 8.
JAMES HUNT* 4.	CHARLES WILLSHIRE 9.
JOHN J. JONES 5.	ERNEST C. BONIFACE .. Tenor.

Composed by J. REEVES and Conducted by CHARLES WILLSHIRE.

*First peal away from tenor. †First peal of Caters. ‡First peal of Caters as conductor. The above are all local men.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 17, 1898, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES. Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lbs.

JOHN MAWBY Treble.	WILLIAM PETTITT 5.
JAMES GARRATT 2.	WILLIAM V. NEWMAN .. 6.
WALTER PERKINS 3.	JAMES HOUGHTON, SEN. .. 7.
THOMAS R. HENSHER .. 4.	JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. .. Tenor.

Composed by G. LINDOFF and Conducted by JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN.

Rung as a birthday compliment to James Houghton, jun. This peal has the combination of 4, 5, and 6 in 6ths place, the 2nd and 3rd never there at a course-end.

BOLTON.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Thursday, February 17, 1898, in Two Hours Forty-seven-and-½ Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART. Tenor 15½ cwt.

PETER INCE Treble.	GEORGE PINCOTT 5.
JOHN DAVIES 2.	*JOHN MAKIN 6.
JOSEPH PENNINGTON .. 3.	HENRY MOSS 7.
PETER NUTTALL 4.	JOHN MOULDING Tenor.

Conducted by PETER INCE.

*First peal with a bob bell in the method. The above peal was rung with the bells deeply muffled as a token of respect to the late secretary of the Lancashire Association, Mr. Joel Redford, who died February 13, and was interred at St. James's, Brighton, on February 16th.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Thursday, February 17, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

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

HARRY WAKLEY Treble.	EDWARD I. STONE 5.
JAMES DURRANT 2.	ARTHUR WAKLEY 6.
GEORGE ROBINSON 3.	JOSEPH GRIFFIN 7.
ALBERT E. THOMPSON .. 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor.

Composed by SIR ARTHUR PERCIVAL HEYWOOD and
Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. (BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Friday, February 18, 1898, in Three Hours Four and-a-half Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; THURSTANS' FIVE-PART. Tenor 18 cwt. 3 qrs. 21 lbs.

JOSEPH PENNINGTON .. Treble.	JOHN MAKINSON 5.
WALTER RUSHTON 2.	GEORGE MOSS 6.
WILLIAM TEBAY 3.	HENRY MOSS 7.
WILLIAM THORNLEY .. 4.	JOHN MAKIN Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY MOSS.

Rung with the bells deeply-muffled as a token of respect to the late Secretary, Mr. Joel Redford.

HAGLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

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

On Saturday, February 19, 1898, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES. Tenor 9 cwt.

ALBERT E. PARSONS .. Treble.	FREDERICK CLAYTON .. 5.
ADOLPHUS ROBERTS .. 2.	THOMAS J. SALTER .. 6.
WILLIAM H. SMITH .. 3.	WILLIAM SHORT 7.
WILLIAM H. BARBER .. 4.	JOHN BARBER Tenor.

Composed by YORK GREEN and Conducted by ALBERT E. PARSONS.

Reference to this peal will be found on another page.

GREAT TEY, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 19, 1898, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARNABAS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES; IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

RICHARD POTTER Treble.	JOHN SADLER 5.
WILLIAM KEEBLE 2.	CHARLES NORFOLK .. 6.
WILLIAM DYER 3.	ERNEST W. BECKWITH .. 7.
WILLIAM ELLIOTT 4.	DAVID ELLIOTT Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS and Conducted by D. ELLIOTT.

This is the first peal since the bells have been rehung by Mears and Stainbank.

SWINDON, WILTS.

GLUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 19, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, — CHANGES.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

T. LAWRENCE Treble.	C. GARDINER 5.
G. C. ILES 2.	T. RICKETTS 6.
A. LAWRENCE 3.	O. W. LAYNG 7.
T. ROBINSON 4.	J. H. SHEPHERD Tenor.

Conducted by T. RICKETTS.

This peal has the 6th alternately wrong and right. It was rung on the occasion of the conductor's birthday, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns. All the above are employed in the Great Western Railway Works.

MANCHESTER.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BOLTON, MANCHESTER, AND ROCHDALE BRANCHES.)

On Saturday, February 19, 1898, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES.

Tenor 25 cwt.

JAMES GRATRICK Treble.	ALFRED CROSS 6.
HENRY MOSS 2.	JOHN EACHUS 7.
JOHN MILLETT 3.	A. EDWARD WREAKS .. 8.
EDMUND HEWITT 4.	RICHARD RIDYARD .. 9.
WALTER BROWN 5.	HARRY CHAPMAN Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY JOHNSON and
Conducted by A. EDWARD WREAKS.

This peal was rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the late Mr. Joel Redford, secretary of the above Association. In the above band eight towers are represented, viz., Manchester Cathedral, St. John's Deansgate, Manchester, St. Thomas', Pendleton, St. Luke's Heywood, St. Mary's, Eccles, The Saviour's and St. George's, Bolton, and Prestwich parish church.

OLDBURY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 19, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

ALFRED S. LEE* Treble.	REUBEN HALL 5.
SAMUEL REEVES 2.	THOMAS HORTON 6.
JAMES HALL 3.	*JOHN W. PARISH 7.
WILLIAM R. SMALL 4.	*FREDERICK HARRIS Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

*First peal.

HUSBORNE CRAWLEY, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 19, 1898, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Violet, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, College Single, and Plain Bob.

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

MARK LANE Treble.	CHARLES R. LILLEY 4.
CHARLES WM. CLARKE 2.	HERBERT FRANK HULL 5.
WILLIAM J. BARKER 3.	HERBERT SHARPE Tenor.

Conducted by C. W. CLARKE.

This is the first peal on the bells. The ringers wish to thank the Rev.—Bickmore for the use of the bells.

STAINES, MIDDLESEX.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(READING BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 19, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

CHARLES GILES Treble.	ALFRED WATMORE 5.
JOHN TUCKER 2.	WILLIAM NEWELL 6.
HENRY TUCKER 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 7.
FRANK HOPGOOD 4.	REUBEN SAWYER Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON,

First peal of Stedman on the bells.

ECKINGTON, DERBYSHIRE.—OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AND YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Saturday, February 19, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5248 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 17 cwt.

ARTHUR KNIGHTS Treble.	WILLIAM LAMBERT 5.
THOMAS BETTISON* 2.	†SOLOMON ROBINSON 6.
JAMES EMSN* 3.	*WILLIAM H. TURTON 7.
GEORGE BURNHAM* 4.	*CHARLES SEVERN Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by CHARLES SEVERN.

*First peal of Major. †First peal and first attempt.

LYTHAM, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(FYLDE DISTRICT BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 19, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qrs. 4 lbs.

R. COOKSON* Treble.	WILLIAM ATKINSON 5.
JOHN FISHER 2.	GEORGE MILLER 6.
HENRY GREGSON 3.	ROBERT ATKINSON 7.
RICHARD REDMAN 4.	JOHN MILLER Tenor.

Composed by J. CROSS and Conducted by WILLIAM ATKINSON.

This is the first peal of Triples by this branch. *First peal in any method. Messrs. Cookson and Redman hail from Kirkham.

NEW SHOREHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 19, 1898, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,

5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 15 cwt.

ARTHUR GATLAND Treble.	GEORGE SMART 5.
CHARLES SMART 2.	GEORGE GATLAND 6.
FRANK BENNETT 3.	HARRY WESTON 7.
JOHN SMART 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Composed by SIR ARTHUR P. HEYWOOD and

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

This was the first peal in the method on the bells.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 19, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES.

Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

BENJAMIN SUGDEN Treble.	WILLIAM HICKLING 5.
WILLIAM CLARKE 2.	JOHN NEWBOLD 6.
JOHN WM. THOMPSON 3.	JOHN FLOWER 7.
THOMAS DRAPER 4.	ALBERT E. THOMPSON Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF and

Conducted by ALBERT E. THOMPSON.

MITCHAM, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 19, 1898, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 16 cwt.

ROBERT SEWELL Treble.	ALFRED CLAYTON 5.
WILLIAM S. SMITH 2.	ALBERT CALVER 6.
ARTHUR J. FLOWMAN 3.	GEORGE WELLING 7.
LOUIS ATTWATER 4.	JOSEPH FAYERS Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY HALEY and

Conducted by JOSEPH FAYERS.

First peal in the method by the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th men.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 19, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

RHYS HAWES* Treble.	RALPH BIGGS 5.
H. STRATFORD 2.	F. BOREHAM 6.
FRED. G. BIGGS 3.	JOHN EVANS 7.
FRANK K. BIGGS 4.	JOSEPH EVANS Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN EVANS.

*First attempt in the method.

PRESTBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIORS, GLOUCESTER.

On Saturday, February 19, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,

5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

ALFRED T. BRUNSDON Treble.	JOHN AUSTIN 5.
FRED. G. MAY 2.	ERNEST E. DAVIS 6.
WILLIAM T. PEGLER 3.	REV. E. BANKES JAMES 7.
FRANCIS E. WARD 4.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER Tenor.

Composed by CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY and

Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

This peal has the 4th and 6th their extent in 6ths place and the 2nd never there.

WOLVERHAMPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, February 19, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Holt's TEN-PART. Tenor 23 cwt. in E flat.

THOMAS E. GRIFFITHS* .. Treble.	ROBERT PICKERING 5.
WILLIAM G. HALL 2.	AARON GRIFFITHS 6.
HERBERT KNIGHT 3.	JOHN JAGGAR 7.
HENRY DAWKES.. .. 4.	GEORGE BURROWS Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN JAGGAR.

*First peal in the method.

THORNDON, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 19, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720s each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

WILLIAM RUMSEY Treble.	JAMES RUMSEY 4.
WILLIAM GROOM 2.	FREDERICK ALDERTON .. 5.
ALFRED GRIMES 3.	GEORGE CATTERMOLLE .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM RUMSEY.

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

WELSHPOOL.—THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 19, 1898, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. E. GROVES'S VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

ALFRED GRICE Treble.	WILLIAM JONES.. .. 5.
THOMAS J. BRATTON 2.	JAMES E. GROVES 6.
GEORGE J. TAYLOR 3.	WILLIAM MADDOX 7.
HERBERT JONES.. .. 4.	JOSEPH BADGER Tenor.

Conducted by W. MADDOX.

First peal as conductor; also first peal by tenor-man.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, February 20, 1898, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY PLEASURE MAJOR,
5184 CHANGES. Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qrs. 11 lbs.

WALTER CHARMAN Treble.	JAMES GARMAN 5.
ARTHUR CHARMAN* 2.	*JOHN S. GOLDSMITH.. .. 6.
THOMAS ANDREWS 3.	JOHN COOK 7.
WILLIAM PELLING 4.	HENRY H. CHANDLER .. Tenor.

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

*First peal in the method.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX,

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, February 20, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF COURT BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

ALFRED COX Treble.	WALTER PELLING 5.
THOMAS ANDREWS 2.	HENRY H. CHANDLER .. 6.
GEORGE WOODMAN 3.	*JOHN S. GOLDSMITH.. .. 7.
ARTHUR CHARMAN 4.	JAMES GARMAN Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY H. CHANDLER.

*First peal in the method.

WANTED a large peal of handbells. Forty-nine bells. Chromatic scale; G25 to G04; or a larger peal with duplicates. Must be in thorough good condition, and sweet tone. State lowest possible terms, with maker's name, and all particulars to WILMER ROGERS, 8, York Street, Wrexham.

CAVERSHAM, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, CAVERSHAM.)

On Monday, February 21, 1898, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5152 CHANGES.

H. SIMMONDS Treble.	R. T. HIBBERT 5.
E. J. MENDAY 2.	G. ESSEX 6.
J. HANDS 3.	H. SMITH 7.
E. W. MENDAY.. .. 4.	T. NEWMAN.. .. Tenor.

Composed by A. W. PIKE and Conducted by T. NEWMAN.

This peal was attempted on Tuesday, February 15th, as a birthday compliment to R. T. Hibbert, but after 2 hrs. and 55 mins. faultless ringing, the fifth rope broke exactly one course from home.

REIGATE, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 21, 1898, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

FRANCIS T. HOAD, SEN.. Treble.	GEORGE F. HOAD 5.
GEORGE THOMPSON 2.	WILLIAM ARGENT 6.
HENRY REEVES 3.	FRANCIS T. HOAD, JUN. .. 7.
RALPH ARNOLD 4.	JOHN STEADMAN Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS T. HOAD, SEN.

WORTLEY, SHEFFIELD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 22, 1898, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

THOMAS MCKEGG Treble.	JOHN PARKIN 5.
JOHN DRONFIELD 2.	WILLIAM DRONFIELD .. 6.
EDWARD ROBBINS 3.	THOMAS ROBBINS 7.
ARTHUR SAXBY 4.	DAVID BREARLEY Tenor.

Composed by FRANK HOPGOOD and Conducted by DAVID BREARLEY.

This peal, in six equal parts, has the 2nd and 3rd never in 6th place at a course end.

BRISTOL.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 22, 1898, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN THE MARTYR,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5093 CHANGES.

Tenor 21 cwt.

W. JAMES HINTON Treble.	*CHARLES GOODENOUGH .. 6.
WILLIAM A. CAVE 2.	*JOHN D. MATTHEWS.. .. 7.
CHARLES H. HORTON 3.	*CHARLES BELL 8.
WILLIAM KNIGHT† 4.	FRANCIS PRICE 9.
RAYMOND J. WILKINS .. 5.	WILLIAM COLSTON Tenor.

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

Has the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right, and the 5th thirteen times right.
*First peal of Caters. †First peal in the method.

ECCLES.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(MANCHESTER BRANCH.)

On Monday, February 21, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 13½ cwt.

THOMAS GRATTON Treble.	JOSEPH GREEN 5.
PHILIP JACKSON* 2.	*ERNEST JACKSON 6.
JAMES BARRATT.. .. 3.	RICHARD RIDYARD 7.
JOHN JACKSON* 4.	*AMOS TRIPPIER Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD RIDYARD.

*First peal. Rung with the bells muffed as a last tribute of respect to our late secretary, Mr. Joel Redford, deeply regretted by all the band.

POLLARDS, Limited, Bradford, Children's Liberty Frocks from 1s. 9d. each.

KENDAL, WESTMORLAND.

On Tuesday, February 22, 1898, in Three Hours and Thirty-one Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5220 CHANGES.

Tenor 25½ cwt.

R. DENNISON* Treble.	*T. HASLAM 6.
W. GRABHAM 2.	W. ATKINSON 7.
JACOB BAXTER 3.	BROWN WALKER 8.
W. TYSON 4.	J. BRAITHWAITE 9.
R. EVERSON 5.	J. SALMON Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by BROWN WALKER.

First peal in the method by all. First peal as conductor. *First peal in any method.

KING'S NORTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.
WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(KING'S NORTON GUILD.)

On Tuesday, February 22, 1898, in Two Hours and Eleven Minutes.

AT THE OLD STREET SCHOOL ROOM,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

FREDERICK CLAYTON .. 1-2.	*WILLIAM T. PRITCHETT .. 5-6.
WILLIAM H. BARBER .. 3-4.	*WILLIAM PALMER .. 7-8.

Composed by F. CLAYTON and Conducted by W. H. BARBER.

Referee, Mr. Fred Sumner. *First peal of Major on handbells, also by the Guild.

Miscellaneous.

THE NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

EAST RETFORD (Notts).—On Sunday evening, December 26th, for Divine Service, 503 Grandsire Caters. A. Winter, 1; H. Haigh (conductor), 2; T. H. Denman, 3; E. Collingburn, 4; F. W. Abbott, 5; R. Mills, 6; T. Spurr, 7; H. Warburton, 8; J. B. Joyner, 9; G. R. Winter, 10.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WOBURN (Beds).—On Monday, December 6th, 688 and 224 Bob Major. W. Janes, 1; Chas. Herbert, 2; M. Matthews, 3; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 4; S. Avis, 5; M. Lane, 6; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 7; E. Herbert, 8. And 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Janes, 1; Chas. Herbert, 2; M. Matthews, 3; Cyril Herbert, 4; S. Avis, 5; E. Herbert, 6; Rev. W. W. C. Baker (conductor), 7; M. Lane, 8. On Monday, December 13th, 224 Bob Major. W. Janes, 1; Chas. Herbert, 2; M. Matthews, 3; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 4; S. Avis, 5; D. Harris, 6; E. Herbert, 7; M. Lane, 8. And 288 Kent Treble Bob Major. M. Matthews, 1; Chas. Herbert, 2; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 3; E. Herbert, 4; S. Avis, 5; D. Harris, 6; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 7; M. Lane, 8. Also 504 Grandsire Triples. M. Lane, 1; Chas. Herbert, 2; M. Matthews, 3; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 4; S. Avis, 5; E. Herbert, 6; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 7; R. Marshall, 8. And 224 Bob Major. W. Janes, 1; M. Lane, 2; Chas. Herbert, 3; Cyril Herbert, 4; S. Avis, 5; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 6; E. Herbert, 7; D. Harris, 8.

BEDFORD.—On Sunday evening, January 9th, for Divine Service at St. Peter's church, 720 Double Court Bob Minor. F. Perrott, 1; F. Lowe, 2; S. Lowe, 3; S. Constant (conductor), 4; H. Toll, 5; A. Robinson, 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

OLDSWINFORD (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, November 7th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob and 720 Kent Treble Bob. A. Roberts, W. Newman, A. Heathcock, W. Whitehouse, F. Brace, and J. Orford. First touch of Oxford by all except A. Roberts. On Saturday, November 20th, 720 Plain Bob with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mrs. Doley. H. Skelding, F. Brace, W. Newman, W. Whitehouse, T. Heathcock, and J. Orford. On Sunday, November 21st, 720 Kent Treble Bob. T. Pugh, W. Newman, F. Brace, A. Roberts, J. Paget, and J. Orford. On Wednesday, December 15th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. A. Roberts, W. Newman, T. Heathcock, W. Whitehouse, F. Brace, and G. H. Pagett. On Wednesday, December 22nd, 720 Double Oxford Bob. A. Roberts, W. Newman, T. Heathcock, W. Whitehouse, F. Brace, and A. E. Parsons. First in the method by all except Messrs. Roberts and Parsons.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NORWICH.—On Friday, December 31st, at the meeting-house, on handbells, 672 Bob Major. A. G. Warnes, 1-2; C. E. Borrett, 3-4; G. Smith, 5-6; E. Francis (conductor), 7-8. Also other shorter touches with G. Howchin, 1-2; F. J. Howchin, 3-4; the rest as before. The above was rung before ringing out the old and in the new year.

FRAMLINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday, January 16th, at St. Michael's church, 1152 Oxford Treble Bob Major. W. Ostler, 1; W. Flory, 2; J. Self, 3; J. O. Nevill, 4; H. Howlett, 5; W. Last, 6; S. Garnham, 7; A. Read (conductor), 8.

MONK SOHAM (Suffolk).—Recently, at the house of Mr. Abbott, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1264 changes), on a new peal of handbells. H. Howlett, 1-2; W. G. Crickmer (conductor), 3-4; W. Flory, 5-6; W. Last, 7-8. This was the longest length on the bells.

EARL SOHAM (Suffolk).—On handbells, at the house of Mr. Crickmer, 640 and 1312 of Oxford Treble Bob Major. H. Howlett, 1-2; G. Crickmer (conductor), 3-4; W. Flory, 5-6; W. Last, 7-8. Messrs. Howlett, Flory and Last hail from Framlingham; Crickmer from Earl Soham.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CANTERBURY.—On Tuesday, January 25th, for practice at St. Stephen's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 45 mins. W. Andrews (longest length), 1; M. W. Pierce, 2; A. Andrews, 3; P. Paine (longest length), 4; Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, 5; C. Luery, 6; H. G. Fairbrass, 7; R. Goodbourn, 8.

SEAL (Kent).—On Wednesday, January 12th, at St. Peter's church, 720 Grandsire Minor (being the first 720 on the bells). R. Stone, 1; W. Steed, 2; G. B. Selby, 3; H. J. Selby, 4; D. Wright, 5; T. Groombridge (conductor), 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. R. Stone, 1; G. B. Selby, 2; H. J. Selby, 3; D. Wright, 4; W. Steed, 5; T. Groombridge (conductor), 6. Also 720 Plain Bob. R. Stone, 1; G. B. Selby, 2; D. Wright, 3; W. Steed, 4; T. Groombridge (conductor), 5; H. J. Selby, 6. And 120 Stedman Doubles. H. J. Selby, 1; G. B. Selby, 2; W. Steed, 3; D. Wright, 4; T. Groombridge, 5; R. Stone, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

UHCURCH (Kent).—On Saturday, January 15th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles). W. Hawes, 1; G. Dennis, 2; W. T. Hyland (conductor), 3; W. J. Walker, 4; J. Champion (Rainham), 5; H. Shipp, 6. On Tuesday, January 18th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. Hawes, 1; H. Shipp, 2; W. J. Walker, 3; W. T. Hyland, 4; G. Dennis, 5; W. Seamer (conductor), 6. Also 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). W. Hawes, 1; W. J. Walker, 2; W. T. Hyland, 3; H. Shipp, 4; G. Dennis, 5; W. Seamer (conductor), 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—FYLDE BRANCH.

FYLDE (Lancashire).—On Friday, November 12th, 720 College Single (eighteen bobs and fourteen singles). Composed by C. E. Wilson. G. Maries, 1; E. Forshaw, 2; C. Pendlebury, 3; W. Gillett, 4; J. Moore, 5; W. Tomlinson, 6. On Sunday, November 14th, 720 Oxford Single (eighteen bobs and fourteen singles). Composed by W. Wilcox. J. Pendlebury, 2; E. Forshaw, 3; the rest as above. On Friday, November 19th, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles). E. Forshaw, 2; C. Pendlebury, 3; the rest as before. On Sunday, November 21st, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-six bobs and twenty-four singles). Composed by C. E. Wilson. J. Pendlebury, 2; C. Pendlebury, 3; the rest as above. On Friday, November 26th, 720 Plain Bob (forty-two singles). Composed by N. J. Pitts. G. Maries, 1; W. Gillett, 2; E. Forshaw, 3; J. Moore, 4; E. Tipping, 5; W. Tomlinson, 6. On Friday, December 10th, 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). E. Forshaw, 1; G. Maries, 2; C. Pendlebury, 3; W. Gillett, 4; J. Moore, 5; W. Tomlinson (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 12th, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles). J. Pendlebury, 2; the rest as before. On Friday, December 17th, 720 Oxford Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). G. Maries, 1; E. Forshaw, 2; the rest as above. On Sunday, December 19th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (twenty-two bobs and fourteen singles). Composed by H. W. Wilde. G. Maries, 1; J. Pendlebury, 2; E. Forshaw, 3; W. Gillett, 4; J. Moore, 5; W. Tomlinson, 6.

THE SALOP GUILD.

SHREWSBURY.—On Friday, December 17th, for practice at the church of St. Alkmund, 420 Grandsire Triples. W. Stockdale, 1; W. Espley, 2; W. Dolman, 3; W. Owen, 4; H. Jones, 5; G. Byolin (conductor), 7; F. Taylor, 8. On Sunday evening, December 26th,

for Divine Service, 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Stockdale, 1; W. Owen, 2; G. Taylor, 3; H. Jones, 4; A. Espley, 5; F. Taylor, 6; G. Byolin (conductor), 7; W. Espley, 8. Also a 420. W. Stockdale, 1; W. Espley, 2; W. Owen, 3; H. Jones, 4; A. Espley, 5; G. Taylor, 6; G. Byolin (conductor), 7; W. Dolman, 8. On Friday, January 7th, for practice, 337 Grandsire Triples. J. Lewis, 1; W. Stockdale, 2; W. Owen, 3; G. Taylor, 4; A. Espley, 5; A. Fullick, 6; G. Byolin (conductor), 7; J. Burrows, 8. Also a 420. W. Dolman, 1; W. Owen, 2; G. Taylor, 3; F. Taylor, 4; A. Espley, 5; A. Fullick, 6; G. Byolin (conductor), 7; J. Burrows, 8. Also 210 Darlaston Bob Triples, with G. Scarratt, 1; the rest as above. On Friday, January 14th, owing to the death of Mrs. Julia Bainbrigge Wightman, wife of the Rev. Charles Edward Leopold Wightman, late vicar of St. Alkmund for over fifty-two years, the following touches of Grandsire Triples was rung with the bells half-muffled. A 336. W. Stockdale, 1; W. Owen, 2; G. Taylor, 3; H. Jones, 4; A. Fullick, 5; G. Byolin (conductor), 6; Rev. J. Mackay, 7; W. Dolman, 8. Also 420. W. Stockdale, 1; W. Dolman, 2; W. Owen, 3; H. Jones, 4; F. Taylor, 5; G. Taylor, 6; G. Byolin (conductor), 7; A. Fullick, 8. On Tuesday, January 18th, after the funeral of Mrs. Wightman, 730 Grandsire Triples. G. Tipton, 1; W. Stockdale, 2; W. Owen, 3; T. Burd, 4; H. Jones, 5; A. Fullick, 6; G. Byolin (conductor), 7; G. Taylor, 8. Also 420. G. Tipton, 1; W. Stockdale, 2; H. Jones, 3; T. Burd, 4; G. Taylor, 5; A. Fullick, 6; G. Byolin (conductor), 7; J. Burrows, 8.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROCHDALE BRANCH.

HEYWOOD (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, January 25th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 42½ mins. G. Walmsley, 1; A. Chadwick, 2; H. Walmsley, 3; J. Lattersfield, 4; J. Partington, 5; A. Newman, 6; J. Millett (conductor), 7; J. Chadwick, 8.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(SUDBURY BRANCH.)

MONKS ELEIGH (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, January 19th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. J. Sewell, 1; C. Parker, 2; T. Levett, 3; H. C. Sewell, 4; A. Keeble (conductor), 5; W. Green, 6. Messrs. Sewell (2) and Levett hail from Hitcham; the remainder belong to the local band.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, January 23rd, before Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 47 mins. F. Blondell, 1; J. Hunt, 2; W. W. Thorne, 3; J. J. Jones, 4; S. Radford, 5; C. Willshire (conductor), 6; E. C. Boniface, 7; F. Wood, 8. Tenor 23 cwt.

BASINGSTOKE (Hants).—On Sunday, January 9th, for morning service, 480 Stedman Triples. Alice White, 1; C. Holdaway, 2; H. Lawes, 3; C. F. Hansford, 4; E. J. Heathorn, 5; J. Ballard, 6; H. White, 7; A. Knight, 8. For afternoon service 504 Stedman Triples. F. Wilson, 1; Alice White, 2; C. Holdaway, 3; C. F. Hansford, 4; E. J. Heathorn, 5; T. Curtis, 6; H. White, 7; A. Knight, 8. For evening service 503 Grandsire Triples. R. E. Sutton, 1; Alice White, 2; T. Curtis, 3; C. F. Hansford, 4; E. J. Heathorn, 5; J. E. Ballard, 6; H. White, 7; J. R. Higgins, 8. E. J. Heathorn hails from Woolston, Southampton. On Sunday, January 16th, for evening service, 504 Stedman Triples. Alice White, 1; H. Lawes, 2; T. Curtis, 3; C. F. Hansford, 4; C. Holdaway, 5; F. Wilson, 6; H. White, 7; A. Knight, 8.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TETTENHALL (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, January 9th, after Divine Service at St. Michael and All Angels, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. H. Balcombe (first 720 in the method), 1; H. Knights, 2; B. Dalton, 3; A. Griffiths, 4; J. Jaggard, 5; G. Burrows (first 720 in the method as conductor), 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

READING (Berks).—On Sunday, January 9th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Lawrence, 503 Grandsire Caters. R. Sawyer, 1; C. Giles, 2; H. Tucker, 3; F. Tubb, 4; F. Hopgood, 5; A. Watmore, 6; W. Goseltine, 7; G. Foxell (first 500 of Caters as conductor), 8; A. Osborne, 9; A. E. Reeves, jun., 10. On Wednesday, January 12th, for practice, 509 Stedman Caters. F. Hopgood (conductor), 1; A. E. Reeves, jun., 2; J. E. Hern, 3; H. Tucker, 4; F. Tubb, 5; C. Giles, 6; W. P. Routh, Esq., 7; A. Osborne, 8; W. Newell, 9; R. Sawyer, 10. Tenor 24 cwt.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, January 4th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), with the bells deeply-muffled as a last mark of respect to the Rev. G. O. Brownrigg, late Rector of St. Mary's,

Harrogate, Yorkshire, who has been lately residing with his son the Rector of Preston. H. Symonds, 1; F. Symonds, 2; A. Symonds (conductor), 3; C. Levitt, 4; A. Hollocks, 5; W. Hollocks, 6.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HIGHAM FERRERS (Northamptonshire).—On Tuesday, January 18th, 672 London Surprise Major. A. H. Martin, 1; W. V. Newman, 2; J. Garratt, 3; T. R. Hensher, 4; A. Tyler, 5; W. Pettitt, 6; J. Houghton, jun., 7; J. B. Martin (conductor), 8. This is the first touch of London Surprise by all, and the first ever rung in the county. And 1056 Superlative Surprise Major. G. Brown, 1; W. V. Newman, 2; J. Houghton, jun., 3; W. Pettitt, 4; J. Garratt, 5; T. R. Hensher, 6; A. H. Martin, 7; J. B. Martin (conductor), 8.

ARMLEY (Yorks).—On Christmas Day for morning service at Christ Church, 720 Duke of York. J. Heckingbottom, 1; Joe Thackray, 2; B. Cowling, 3; Jno. Thackray (conductor), 4; M. Broadbent, 5; J. Guy, 6. On Sunday morning, December 26th, for Divine Service, 240 each of Armley Pleasure, City Delight, and Oxford. J. Heckingbottom, 1; Joe Thackray, 2; B. Cowling, 3; Jno. Thackray, 4; M. Broadbent (conductor), 5; J. Guy, 6. For evening service 240 Duke of York, 96 each of Violet and Woodbine, 240 Oxford, and 72 Kent. J. Heckingbottom (conductor), 1; Joe Thackray, 2; R. Walker (Pontefract), 3; Jno. Thackray, 4; M. Broadbent, 5; J. Guy, 6. On Sunday morning, January 2nd, for Divine Service, 240 London Scholars, 360 Duke of York, and 72 each of Oxford and Kent. J. Hey, 1; J. Heckingbottom, 2; Joe Thackray, 3; Jno. Thackray, 4; M. Broadbent (conductor), 5; J. Guy, 6. For evening service 240 Tulip. Joe Thackray, 1; J. Heckingbottom, 2; B. Cowling (conductor), 3; Jno. Thackray, 4; M. Broadbent, 5; J. Guy, 6. And 360 Armley Pleasure. J. Guy, 1; Joe Thackray, 2; J. Heckingbottom, 3; the rest as before.

BRANDESTON (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, December 21st, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. A. Meadows, 1; T. Bradlaugh, 2; H. Baldry, 3; P. Bedingfield, 4; H. Bedingfield, 5; H. W. Baldry (conductor), 6. First in the method by Messrs. Bradlaugh and P. Bedingfield. On Sunday, December 26th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. P. Bedingfield, 1; W. Wightman, 2; T. Bradlaugh, 3; H. Bedingfield, 4; E. Wightman (conductor), 5; S. Wightman, jun., 6. On Friday, December 31st, 720 Bob Minor. W. Bedingfield, 1; H. Bedingfield, 2; T. Bradlaugh, 3; P. Bedingfield, 4; A. Meadows, 5; H. W. Baldry (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 9th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. W. Bedingfield, 1; H. Meadows, 2; T. Bradlaugh, 3; H. Bedingfield, 4; P. Bedingfield, 5; H. W. Baldry (conductor), 6. E. Wightman hails from Woodford, Essex.

BRIGHTON.—On Sunday morning, November 28th, at St. Paul's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. H. Stalham, 1; H. Hill, 2; H. Griffiths, 3; R. Wood, 4; G. Hill, 5; F. Hill, 6; P. Allfrey, 7; W. Allfrey (conductor), 8. In the evening 822 Grandsire Triples. H. Stalham, 1; H. Hill, 2; H. Griffiths, 3; R. Wood, 4; F. Hill, 5; W. Allfrey (conductor), 6; P. Allfrey, 7; G. Hill, 8. On Friday, January 21st, 504 Grandsire Triples with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mrs. Murray, a member of the congregation. J. Freeman, 1; H. Hill, 2; F. Hill, 3; R. Wood, 4; W. Palmer, 5; H. Stalham (conductor), 6; P. Allfrey, 7; G. Hill, 8. On Sunday morning, January 23rd, 536 Grandsire Triples. J. Freeman, 1; H. Stalham (conductor), 2; H. Griffiths, 3; R. Wood, 4; F. Hill, 5; W. Allfrey, 6; P. Allfrey, 7; G. Hill, 8. In the evening a 536. H. Hill, 5; F. Hills, 8; the rest as before. On Sunday evening, January 30th, 1050 Grandsire Triples in 35 mins. A. Allfrey, 1; H. Stalham (conductor), 2; F. Hill, 3; *R. Wood, 4; H. Hill, 5; W. Allfrey, 6; P. Allfrey, 7; G. Hill, 8. *Longest length with a bob bell.

LANGHAM (Rutlandshire).—On Monday, January 10th, 360 Grandsire Doubles, each 6-score called differently. J. Sewell, 1; J. Gale, 2; C. Williamson, 3; F. Sewell, 4; H. Bartram (conductor), 5; T. Clarke, 6. Another 300. J. Gale, 1; J. Sewell, 2; H. Bartram (conductor), 3; F. Sewell, 4; R. W. Baker, 5; T. Clarke, 6. And several more 6-scores with H. Edgson, 1; J. Gale, 3; H. Bartram, 5. These are the longest lengths by all except the conductor and Gale, who hail from Melton Mowbray. It may be stated that this band only commenced to learn change-ringing in November last, and the above is the result after seven lessons which have been given by H. Bartram.

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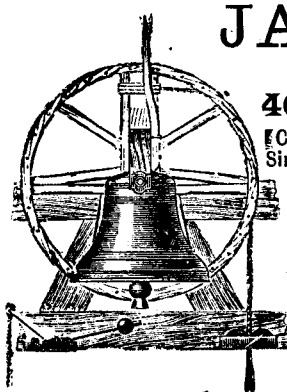
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THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 830.—VOL. XVI.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 1898.

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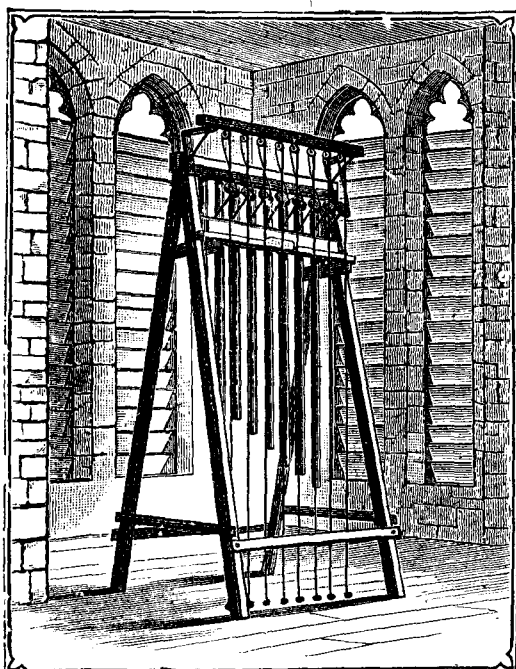
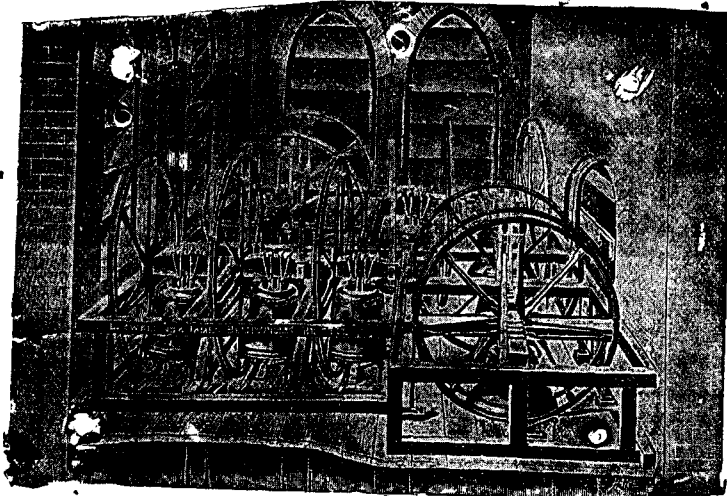
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Clouds roll by, Whistling Farmer Boy.

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7, WOOD STREET, LONDON, E.C.

The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 830.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 1898.

[Vol. XVI.]

SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE ROYAL.

BY SAMUEL SLATER.

I see by "THE BELL NEWS" that Mr. John Austin was under the impression that the Surprise peal at Wakefield was Superlative. He is right in thinking so, as a peal in that variation has been rung there; in fact there were two, the first one being false, as the following particulars, taken from the local papers of the day, will shew:—

On Monday morning, January 16th, 1825, the society of ringers at the old church, Wakefield, rung on their harmonious peal of ten bells a true and complete peal of Superlative Surprise Royal, being the first in this very intricate method on ten bells ever attempted by any company in England. The peal consisted of 5400 changes, and was formally brought round in three hours and twenty-eight minutes. W. Fawcett, *Treble*; J. Sugden, 2; Mark Blackburn, 3; George Pickering, 4; J. Hall, 5; James Gill, 6; Joseph Gill, 7; Thomas Netherwood, 8; William Woodhead (who conducted the peal), 9; Robert Callett, *Tenor*.

Shortly after this the composition was discovered to be false, and the following notice appeared in the local paper. James Hewitt, I may mention, was the conductor of a rival society at an eight-bell church in the same town.

The great peal of Superlative Surprise Royal that was rung on the ten bells at Wakefield in January last is proved to be false in its interior parts, by James Hewitt, of Wakefield, which leaves this great and hazardous peal yet unaccomplished, and open for any band of men that may have spirit and enterprise to attain its summits.

Happily this discovery does not seem to have disheartened the ringers, as the following notice from the same paper will shew:—

It perhaps may be recollected by some of our readers that a paragraph appeared in our paper in January, 1825, stating that a peal of Superlative Surprise Royal was rung by the society of ringers of All Saints' church, Wakefield, and said never to have been rung by any society of ringers before. This proved false, which was owing to an error in judgment of the author of the peal. The same society being determined to ring a true peal in the above method, on Monday morning last, March 27th, 1826, completed a peal of 5400 true changes, in three hours and twenty-six minutes, which was rung in good style, and the Society feel proud to think that the first performance of such an arduous task was still reserved for them. The method of calling the above peal is one wrong; one at home; one in the middle and two at home, four times repeated.

Appended is a copy of a circular issued by the Society. It is headed by a small woodcut of Wakefield church, and also contains a treble lead of the method and the course and part-ends of the peal:—

On Monday, March 27th, 1826, the company of All Saints' ringers, Wakefield, ascended the tower of the parish church, and had the honour of ringing in a masterly style a true and complete peal of Superlative Surprise Royal, consisting of 5400 changes, in three hours and twenty-six minutes, by ten men only (tenor weighing 31 cwt.). The great superiority of this peal

over any other is its being the only true peal ever rung in the kingdom in so intricate a method, and will be a standing laurel for the Society for ages to come. The peal was composed by Mr. Joseph Tebbs, of Leeds, and was by him presented to the Society, and rung by them at the first attempt. The peal was nobly conducted by Mr. Wm. Woodhead, and rung by the following persons: William Fawcett, *Treble*; Joseph Sugden, 2; Mark Blackburn, 3; George Pickering, 4; John Hall, 5; James Gill, 6; Joseph Gill, 7; Thomas Netherwood, 8; William Woodhead, 9; Robert Callett, *Tenor*.

This is all the information respecting Surprise peals of Royal that I know of. If any more have been rung I have never heard of them.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The February Meeting of this Association was held on Saturday, February 19th, at the picturesque village of Gainford, on the banks of the Tees. Members were present from the following places: Darlington, Newcastle, Sunderland, Richmond, Staindrop, South Bank, Jarrow, and Stockton. The Honorary Secretary, with his son, and other members from Darlington and Richmond, were the first to arrive. They at once proceeded to the church, and a 720 of Kent Treble Bob was rung. By this time others were ready for a pull.

At 4.30 an excellent meat tea was partaken of by thirty-four members, in the Mechanics' Institute, the Rev. A. W. Headlam, Vicar of Gainford, being present.

The meeting after tea was presided over by R. S. Story, Esq., President of the Association. In response to a vote of thanks, the Vicar welcomed the members to Gainford, and hoped to be able to do so again on some future occasion. He was glad to learn that the belfry had been somewhat improved, making it more comfortable for the ringers.

Mr. C. L. Routledge reported that the sum of £7 10s. had been subscribed to the Lees Memorial Fund, and asked that others who intended to subscribe should do so at once, so that the tablet may be put in position during the month of March.

Mr. G. J. Clarkson said that some of the ringing members of the Association had contributed very liberally to the Stockton bell fund.

A course of Grandsire Caters was rung on the handbells, after which the election of new members took place. These included the Rev. H. O. Hall, of Benwell, as hon. member; Mr. R. E. Chichester, of Sunderland, as hon. and performing member; nine ringers of the Benwell company; and two of Christ Church, Jarrow. Mr. Anderson Tyler, of Loughborough, was also elected a life member.

On the proposition of Mr. Routledge, seconded by Mr. Alcock, it was resolved that the expenses of a representative to the next meeting of the Central Council be provided from the funds of the Association.

Ringings on the tower bells and handbells occupied the rest of the evening till train time arrived; several members remarking, on parting, that this was one of the pleasantest meetings which had been held.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

DEVIZES (Wilts).—On Sunday evening, January 16th, for Divine Service at St. John's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. C. H. Hampton, 1; W. H. Johnson, 2; W. Hollier, 3; C. D. Heginbotham, 4; C. R. Hampton, 5; A. Draper, 6; S. Hillier (conductor), 7; R. Phillips, 8.

MORECAMBE, LANCASHIRE.

The Parish Church at this popular and growing sea-coast town has quite recently been enriched by a peal of six bells, tenor about 9 cwt., cast by Carr, of Smethwick, Birmingham. No formal opening ceremony took place when the hanging of the peal was completed.

On Saturday, the 26th February, several members of the Tong (Yorks.) company, with Messrs. Hollings and Keighley, of Calverley, took advantage of an half-day excursion train from Bradford to go over and try the peal. Their old friend and veteran ringer, Mr. John Cordingley, had secured the necessary permission from the Rector and ringers, and he met the party at the station at 3.40 to pilot them to the church. On arrival it was found open in the care of the vergeress, but some delay took place in finding the person holding the key of the tower, and it was nearly 5 o'clock ere the bells were raised in peal.

After adjustment of the ropes to their liking, only short touches of Oxford and Violet were rung, to give an opportunity to all, in the short time at their disposal, to take part. A touch of 240 of Violet was rung by J. R. Cordingley, 1; E. Keighley, 2; E. Oddy, 3; E. Wheeler, 4; G. Bolland, 5; J. Haley, 6; and a similar length of Oxford by G. Bolland, 1; W. Lawrence, 5; the rest as before.

The ringers—several of whom are veterans in the art—regret they could not sustain their reputation on this peal of bells, as they require careful handling to keep them up. The ringing chamber is a compartment of 8 ft. 4 in. square, and being close under the bells, could be improved by being "under-drawn," as at present the noise is too great and annoying.

There is at present a young band struggling to master the mysteries of change-ringing, under the tutorship of a ringer from Lancaster.

After lowering the bells, the ringers adjourned to the residence of Mr. Cordingley for tea, and only had time for a short touch on the handbells, before beating a hasty retreat to the station to catch the 7 p.m. homeward train. The journey *en route* was enlivened by several touches by Messrs. Bolland, Wheeler, Keighley, and Hollings. This visit would have been deferred until the railway service allowed a little more time between arrival and departure, but was now made to suit the convenience of Mr. Cordingley, who desired it to take place prior to his removal from Morecambe to the village of Tong.

The visitors were pleased to meet and renew their acquaintance with Mr. Wm. Lawrence, who accompanied them to the belfry and took part in the ringing. He is a resident of Morecambe, and they can assure any ringer, desirous of spending a holiday there, he will find a pleasant friend, and receive due attention if he "puts up" at his abode, 48, Westminster Road (West End).

The thanks of all are due to the Rector—The Rev. C. V. Gorton, for the use of the bells and to the few local ringers for meeting them.

AN ECKINGTON BELLRINGER'S RECORD.

On Saturday, January 1st, Mr. George Marsden, of the Eckington bellringers, rung at Alfreton, which is the fiftieth place at which he has rung a peal of 720 changes. He has been a ringer at the Eckington Parish Church for over forty-five years, and is held in high esteem by his brother-ringers. He has also rung in several 5000s. The following are the churches at which he has rang a 720 of Minor: Eckington, Staveley, Killamarsh, Beighton, Norton, Dronfield, Bolsover, Long Eaton, Glossop, St. Werburgh's (Derby), Horbury, Sandal, Darton, Cawthorn, Darfield, Wath, Sprotbro, Wentworth, Rawmarsh, Armitage Bridge, Bradfield, Penistone, Anstone, Harthill, St. Peter's (Sheffield), All Saints' (Sheffield), Clay Cross, North Wingfield, Matlock, Bakewell, Chesterfield, Edensor, Belper, Stanton, Bolsterstone, Shireoaks, Workop, Blythe, Bulwell, Everton, St. Peter's (Nottingham), St. Mary's (Nottingham), Perltorpe, Edwinstowe, Treeton, Ordsall, Hathersage, Ashover, Rotherham, Alfreton.

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.

THE WORCESTER CATHEDRAL GUILD.

The Annual General Meeting of the above Guild was held in the Guild room on Monday last, the Warden (Rev. W. G. Melville) occupying the chair, and a fair number of members being present. The minutes of the last meeting, also the balance-sheet for the past year, was put before the members and read by the secretary, and passed by the members. Four new members were elected. The Warden then proposed a vote of thanks to the members who had held the respective offices as Master, Deputy-Master, Secretary, and the Committee during the last year, and said it gave him great pleasure to congratulate them and the members generally for the way the ringing had been done, and also the very orderly manner in which all ringing had been carried out. He was sorry to hear that the Deputy-Master was about to leave Worcester for America, and he could only say that he was sure the best wishes of the members for his future success would go with him. It was a loss to the Guild, as they all knew Mr. W. Cotton as a ringer, and like his brother at Leicester he always took a great interest in ringing matters.

Mr. C. Jones was elected Master of the Guild for the next twelve months; Mr. G. Checketts Deputy Master; Mr. W. H. Johnson being re-elected as Secretary; and the following members on the Committee: Mr. W. Bright and Mr. W. Powell, to act with the Master, Deputy-Master, Secretary; Mr. B. S. Hill (delegate to the Association), and the Warden.

Mr. G. Hinton, the retiring Master, thanked the members for their support to him during his term of office, and hoped they would continue it to their new Master.

Mr. W. Cotton expressed his thanks to the members for the courtesy shewn him during the last twelve months, and said he was sorry he was going to leave them, but hoped to still remain a member of the Guild, and if ever he should return to England he should be most pleased to come and have a ring with his old friends in the "Faithful City." His time being so short he then took the opportunity of shaking hands and wishing them good-bye, the members according to him their best wishes for his prosperity in his future life.

The Warden referred to the article published in "THE BELL NEWS," referring to the bells and towers in the "Faithful City." He was pleased to see it had been copied into the local papers, where he hoped it would be seen by some of the generous gentlemen in whose power it lay to put both the towers and bells in a proper state of repair, and thereby save the beautiful sound of the bells being lost to the memory of the public generally.

A vote of thanks to the Warden for presiding over the meeting brought it to a close.

WHITBY, YORKSHIRE.

ST. MARY'S NEW BELLS.—Mr. J. H. Blakiston, of Middlesbrough, a vice-president of the Durham and Newcastle Association, went over to Whitby last week and met the rector and churchwardens of Whitby and other interested parties. He kindly undertook to bring over a competent band of ringers to inaugurate the new bells when ready, and advised that a local bell-ringing society should be formed, and that an expert be engaged for a time to give the requisite instruction. He also made other valuable practical suggestions, and further promised to give his own personal superintendence. A number of persons have signified their readiness to join such a society, and others are invited to join at once. It is hoped that at least two full bands may be formed, and it is proposed that suitable preliminary exercises with handbells be begun without delay. Mr. Edward Corner, 1, Baxtergate, has consented to act as hon. secretary, *pro tem.*, of the proposed Society. Names of persons wishing to join should be sent to him, or to the Rector and Churchwardens.

WALTHAMSTOW (Essex).—On Saturday, January 29th, at St. Saviour's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, taken from Thurstans' peal. A. W. Brighton (conductor), 1; G. B. Lucas, 2; J. Basden, 3; G. R. Fardon, 4; W. Truss, 5; E. Andrews, 6; C. F. Winney, 7; F. Butler, 8.

CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

By kind permission of Rev. G. W. Paul and general desire of the members, a Quarterly Meeting took place at Finedon on Saturday. Judging from an ancient inscription on the north wall of the ringing-room, giving the names of six ringers, concluding with that of the sexton, and the date 1636, Finedon possessed a ring of six bells at that date. These old bells were re-cast in the year 1825, the tenor being again re-cast twenty-three years ago. The recent addition of two beautiful trebles, and the re-tuning of the tenor, makes this old peal a good and musical octave, ranging from a treble weighing 7 cwt. 13 lbs. to a tenor of 22 cwt. 3 qrs. 1 lb.

The Rev. F. E. Robinson, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Ringers, who has lately been on a visit to the Vicar of Finedon, formed a very high opinion of these bells.

The custom of ringing a "Restoration Peal" is still kept up here, the bells being rung half-muffled on the 29th of May.

At the tea at the Star Hall at five o'clock there were present: Rev. G. W. Paul (Vicar of Finedon), the Rev. G. B. Ashwin, the Rev. E. C. Channer, of Ravensthorpe, and Mr. Robinson (Churchwarden). The visitors found the bells and all connected with the belfry in excellent order, and made good use of them during the afternoon and evening, ringers from Irthlingborough, Wellingborough, Rushden, Desborough, Kettering, Higham Ferrers, Earls Barton, Latimer, and Finedon taking part in mixed bands. The Finedon handbells, too, were a source of enjoyment later in the evening. Over 50 ringers took part in the proceedings. General regret was expressed at the departure from the district of the Rev. B. R. Wilson, Rector of Kettering, who has been a hearty supporter of the society, and all were very sorry to hear of the serious illness of Mr. F. Gilbert of Raunds, one of the oldest ringing members. Meetings of the Association have been held at Finedon previously in 1885, 1890, and 1895.

Mr. A. Cross, of Salford, was elected an "out of county" member, and W. B. Meadows, of Burton Latimer, was added to the list of ringing members.

Mr. E. J. Dennes, Hon. Sec., in proposing a vote of thanks to the vicar and churchwardens, mentioned also how much indebted they were to the Rev. G. W. Paul for inviting the Rev. F. E. Robinson to come into their district, and so kindly entertaining him whilst there. Their Association was honoured by the presence of such a distinguished clerical ringer amongst them.

The Vicar, in response, expressed the pleasure it gave him and the churchwardens to welcome them to Finedon once more, and stated how much obliged they were for the practical help and assistance given by Mr. Dennes and the members of the Association in the matter of their new bells.

The Secretary mentioned that he had received a communication from the vicar and ringers of Stoke Albany respecting becoming members.

Despite the large number of members thronging the ringing-room, some good touches in various methods were brought round, and (thanks to the kindly feeling and thoughtfulness for others prevailing), the touches were not made too long, thus allowing all an opportunity for a turn at the ropes.

The inhabitants of Finedon are to be congratulated not only on the improvements to their bells and spire, but also on the expeditious manner in which the necessary expenditure (£500) has been met, and the debt cleared off.

THE CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.

The Chichester Cathedral Society held their annual dinner at The Eagle hotel on a recent Tuesday evening. The chair was taken by the Rev. Prebendary Codrington, D.D., and the vice-chair by Mr. R. Walter (leader of the ringers). The company numbered upwards of eighty. After ample justice had been done to the capital dinner provided by Host Childs, the chairman gave the loyal toast, which was accorded musical honours, the solo of "God Save the Queen" being sung by Mr. T. A. Butland.

The Chairman gave what he declared was the toast of the evening, "The Chichester Cathedral Bellringers." He spoke of the advantage of living in a place with such a peal of bells as

they had in the Campanile, this being the only peal in the city, there was therefore no rivalry. The bells of Chichester were the common voice both of joy and sorrow in the city, and it united the whole of them together. A person living where there were no bells felt very much that something was wanted. Bells were rung in the remote parts of the civilized world. The toast was heartily received, and

Mr. R. Walter, in reply, said it gave the ringers great pleasure to see so many present, that being a record company. He felt it a great honour to be the leader of such a band of ringers. They had been established eight years, and had never had a complaint from the Dean and Chapter. He never felt happier than when he was in the belfry tower, and he had spent some of the happiest hours of his life in the Chichester belfry. He spoke of the great help of Mr. Tompkins and Mr. Butland, who were the life and soul of the Chichester Bellringers.

The Ven. Archdeacon Mount gave "The Sussex County Association of Change-ringers," coupled with the name of Mr. F. B. Tompkins. The ven. gentleman, said the Sussex Association was doing over the whole of the Diocese what their own Change-ringers were doing at Chichester. He read the report of the Association, in which it was stated that they held their own last year, and were going in for quality instead of quantity. Their district meeting was well attended, but the railway company did not offer any concessions or deduction of fares to bellringers, and this he thought was a most scandalous and shabby thing.

Mr. Tompkins, in replying, said it gave him great pleasure to inform them that they were still the premier Association in England, heading the list with 16 peals, and 241 more points than any other Association.

Other toasts followed and the proceedings were brought to a close about midnight.

PUDDLETON, DORSETSHIRE.

We are pleased to state that the bells of this parish have been restored, a new treble added, the tenor recast, and the whole rehung in a new iron frame, making a peal of six. The work has been carried out by Mr. T. Blackburn, of Salisbury, with great credit. The new treble was given by parishioners and friends in memory of Mrs. Freeman, wife of the Rev. Freeman; the rest was guaranteed by W. E. Brymer, Esq., M.P. They were dedicated on Sunday, February 20th, the Rev. W. Everingham giving an appropriate address at the service. The Dorchester St. Peter's ringers rung two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, an account of which will appear in this paper. The ringers were entertained at tea at the vicarage by the Rev. F. E. Freeman, Mr. T. Blackburn, Secretary of the Salisbury Guild, being present. The bells are of splendid tone and "go."

RODMERSHAM, KENT.

On Wednesday, the 23rd February, the ringers of Rodmersham added one more to the very many pleasant evenings they have spent at Mr. Churchwarden Dixon's hospitable board. They assembled in the tower at 7 p.m., and had two hours' ringing. Mr. W. Hollands (an old treble man) was successful, after many attempts on this and former occasions, in ringing 720 of Plain Bob on a bob bell. At 9 p.m. the company adjourned to Mr. Dixon's house, which is in close proximity to those bells which he so dearly loves to hear (when they are struck properly), and for which he has sacrificed so much time and trouble. Heaps of good things were provided (as usual) to which full justice was done (also as usual). Mr. J. Grensted proposed the host's health, and it seemed to me, Mr. Editor, that he knew his speech by heart, he having proposed it so often and frequently of late. Mr. Dixon in reply assured them that he would stick to them if they would to him, and also said that it gave him much pleasure to do all that he could for the ringers and the society. The company broke up at about 11.30.

REMOVAL—Mr. W. Greenleaf, Church Bell Hanger, of Hereford, has removed from Victoria Street to 92, Widemarsh Street, in that city.

POLLARDS, Limited, Bradford, LADIES' COSTUMES at 10s. 6d., are Wonderful Value.

THE ST. MARGARET'S SOCIETY, BARKING, ESSEX.

On Thursday, February 10th, the Annual Dinner of the Church Council, officers, choirs, and ringers in connection with St. Margaret's and St. Paul's churches was held at The Red Lion hotel. The Rev. P. M. Wathen, Vicar, occupied the chair, and Mr. E. A. Davies the vice-chair. Among those present were the Revs. S. Kirshbaum, W. H. W. Cariss, A. E. Cracknell, and J. A. Telford; Messrs. W. H. Knowles and J. A. Weller, Churchwardens; Messrs. Berry, Barnett, Jackson, Lawes, Wardell, Knott, and Dover, sidesmen. The ringers in attendance were Messrs. T. Faulkner, A. Whight, E. Lucas, A. Hardy, Rowland Fenn, C. Fenn, E. Fenn, G. Faulkner, A. Carter, sen., A. Carter, jun., Samuel Hayes, A. D. Mason, J. Hopkins, and A. L. Hume; Mr. A. W. Hume (organist) and many members of the choir. After the usual loyal toasts,

Mr. Marriott proposed "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese." He observed that they in Barking had every reason to be satisfied with the clergy. They had in their Vicar a most devoted parochial clergyman. He was surrounded and assisted by an able and energetic band of fellow-workers, who discharged their duties with great ability.

The Chairman in response said that one of the reproaches of the laity was that the clergy were not always business men. In many cases they deserved it; but in the Bishop of St. Albans they had a thorough business man. The Bishop of Colchester often visited Barking, and they had a most affectionate regard for him. As to the assistant-clergy of the parish he had nothing to say except that they were of age and could answer for themselves. The Rev. J. A. Telford responded in a most amusing speech.

The Rev. W. H. W. Cariss, in proposing "The Church Officers" said that there seemed to be a harmony existing between the officers which was very pleasing, and which made it very agreeable for the clergy to work with them. Mr. Churchwarden Knowles acknowledged the toast on behalf of St. Margaret's and Mr. D. T. Jackson on behalf of the officers of St. Paul's.

The Rev. S. Kirshbaum proposed "The Church Council." One of the most important matters to which the attention of the Council must be directed in the near future was the complete restoration of St. Margaret's abbey church, and the remedying of the present disgraceful state of the churchyard. Mr. H. Berry and Mr. Gastang (Secretary to the Council) responded.

The Chairman then proposed "The Health of the Ringers." The belfry of St. Margaret's was a pattern to all belfries in the world! splendid discipline was maintained therein, without which no band of ringers, choir, or anything else could be maintained for any length of time. He felt grateful to the members of the St. Margaret's society for the way in which they conducted their belfry, and he must say that much of this was due to Mr. Davies, the vice-chairman. They had an old friend with them that evening who they regretted would no longer enter the belfry except as a visitor—he referred to Mr. W. Whight, who had been taken by the exigencies of business to fresh fields and pastures new, and they felt that they could not let him depart without giving him some small token of their gratitude for what he had done for the society. Having referred to the work Mr. Whight had done in instructing new ringers, the Chairman said he did not know of any society which had so many young and capable ringers as St. Margaret's, thanks to Mr. Whight's unceasing attention. He (the Vicar) on behalf of the ringers, presented Mr. Whight with a meerschau pipe and case, tobacco jar, and silver match-box. The case of the pipe bore the following inscription: "A. Whight: from the St. Margaret's society of change-ringers, Barking, 1898;" the match box also bore his monogram.

Mr. Whight, who was loudly cheered, and who spoke with great emotion, said that when he came into the room he little thought what he was going to have, but they seemed to know their "father's" wants. He was rather fond of tobacco, and he did not think they could have given him anything better. He was very sorry indeed to leave Barking, but glad to think he should leave behind him such an efficient band of young ringers and of which he hoped to hear great things in the future.

Mr. T. Faulkner (Master of the St. Margaret's company) in responding to the toast said that during the year they had gone

on steadily improving: they had rung every Sunday morning and evening without a break, also the year before, and he thought that meant a great sacrifice. There had been seven peals rung in Barking during the past year, five on the bells in the tower and two on handbells; they had rung over 100,000 changes during the year. St. Margaret's Abbey church had a very efficient and devoted company of ringers, and he must say that the revival of change-ringing in Barking was greatly due to their friend and brother-ringer the vice-Chairman.

The vice-Chairman said he was very pleased to see Mr. A. Whight present, and that they had been able to give him some small testimony of the gratitude they felt for what he had done in connection with ringing since he had been in Barking. He hoped that in his new sphere he might be the means of bringing about a better state of affairs in the belfry at Chelmsford and in some of the neighbouring towers than existed at the present time. Mr. Davies then proposed "The Choirs and Organist."

Mr. A. W. Hume (organist) and Mr. W. Middleditch (oldest chorister of St. Margaret's) responded. Other complimentary toasts followed.

During the evening the following members of the St. Margaret's society rang a plain course of Grandsire Caters on handbells: A. Hardy, 1-2; R. Fenn, 3-4; T. Faulkner, 5-6; C. Fenn, 7-8; A. Whight, 9-10. Altogether the proceedings were of a most enjoyable character.

ODD FELLOWS AT ORMSKIRK, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, February 12th, at the parish church, Ormskirk, on the occasion of the Lancashire and adjacent districts Conference of the Manchester Unity of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, four courses of Kent Treble Bob Major. R. Hill, 1; James Rimmer, 2; John Holden, 3; H. Heywood, 4; J. Rimmer, 5; Lewis Tyldesley, 6; D. E. Rimmer, 7; J. W. Rimmer, 8. Tenor about 26 cwt. Conducted by John Holden, of Saddleworth; the rest all belong to the Christ Church company of Southport. After the ringing a social hour was spent at The Plough inn, with several of the local ringers, and courses of Triples, Major, and Caters were rung on handbells. On the Sunday following, for morning and evening service at Christ Church, Southport, the same company rang two courses of Kent Treble Bob Major for each service.

GEDDINGTON (NORTHANTS).

BIRTHDAY COMPLIMENT.—On Saturday night the Parish Church ringers rang a series of merry peals in honour of their conductor's (Mr. Wm. Cooper) birthday. Mr. Cooper has attained the age of 70 years, and still enjoys his ringing, having had the pleasure of taking part in ringing for about 40 years, the greater part of which time he has been the conductor. He has never missed a Christmas and New Year's Eve to take part in ringing out the merry peals. On this occasion he first called his comrades into one of his old favourite peals (St. Dunstan's Doubles), then London Doubles, and several other peals of a similar nature before the old veteran wished to make a halt. After a pause of a few minutes his wish was to finish up with the tune of "Shepherd's Hay," which was well rendered, this bringing a very enjoyable evening to a close, all wishing the veteran many happy returns, hoping he might be spared to ring many more peals. The ringers were as follows: Samuel Kilborn, treble; John Patrick, second; William Cooper (conductor), third; D. Winson, fourth; and Wm. Moore, tenor.

THE BIRMINGHAM ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

LONG PEAL ATTEMPT.—On Wednesday, February 23rd, an attempt was made (as announced) for a long peal of Stedman Caters on handbells, which came to an untimely end after ringing 8256 changes in 4 hrs. 25 mins. F. Clayton, 1-2; B. Witchell (conductor), 3-4; W. H. Barber, 5-6; W. Short, 7-8; T. Wakeman, 9-10. Referee: Mr. A. Walker.

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Notices.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is One Penny per line (five words may be reckoned to a line). Repetitions at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

The Waterloo Society, London.—The 30th Anniversary Dinner of this Society will take place to-day, Saturday, March 5th, at The York hotel, Waterloo Road. Tickets to be obtained of the following—H. Barton, W. H. Passmore, G. Symonds, F. G. Perrin, H. N. Davis, W. Webber, and of the Secretary, Victor W. West.
71, Langton Road, Brixton, S.W.

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at All Saints' church, Wigan, to-day, Sat., March 5th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting in vestry at 7 p.m.
HENRY COLEY, Branch Sec.

The St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—The Anniversary Johnson Commemoration will be held to-day, Saturday, March 5th. Ringing at St. Martin's from 3 to 5.0 p.m. Dinner will be served at The Woodman, Easy Row, at 6.0 p.m., when J. S. Pritchett, Esq., M.A., B.C.L., will preside.
W. H. GODDEN, Hon. Sec.
61, Roland Road, Handsworth.

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next monthly meeting of the above will be held at Bucknall to-day, Saturday, March 5th. A peal-board which has been placed in the tower to commemorate the ringing of the silent peal of Surprise Minor will be unveiled on that day.
REV. W. D. BRAGINTON, } Hon. Secs.
W. TWIGG, }

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the parish church, Middleton, on Saturday, March 12th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m. All ringers invited. E. B. SHAW, Branch Sec.
14, Thomas Street, Leesfield, Lees.

The Lancashire Association.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Holy Trinity, Blackburn, on March 12th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m.
T. REDMAN, Branch Sec.

The Middlesex County Association.—South and West Districts.—The next meeting will be held at the Church of All Saints, Isleworth, on Saturday, March 12. Ringing to commence at 5 p.m. C. EDWARDS, Lampton, near Hounslow. Hon. Dis. Sec.

The Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at St. Philip's church, Hulme, on Saturday, March 12th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Business meeting at 7.30.
WALTER BROWN, Branch Sec.
54, Wenlock Street, Hulme, Manchester.

The Sussex County Association.—Western Division.—The next meeting will be held at Angmering, on Saturday, March 12th. Belfry open at 2.30. Tea and business meeting at 5 p.m. Hon. Secs. are requested to send numbers who intend to be present not later than March 10th.
REV. J. W. G. LODER COTHER, Yapton Vicarage, Arundel.

The Heavy Woollen District Association, Yorkshire.—The next monthly meeting of the

above will be held at Earlsheaton, on Saturday, March 12th, at 5.30 p.m. Meeting-house, The Spangled Bull. All companies competing in the eight-bell contest at Halifax, on Easter-Monday, should send names and entrance fee to me not later than April 2nd.
Geo. H. SIMON, Hon. Sec.
"Triticine, Limited," Knottingley.

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—A meeting will be held on Saturday, March 19th, at Newchurch. Bells ready at 3.30 p.m. Business meeting at 6.30.
J. H. BANKS, Branch Sec.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—At a meeting held at the new head-quarters, The Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on September 21st, it was resolved that a testimonial be presented to Mr. Matthew A. Wood, of Bethnal Green, as a mark of esteem and in appreciation of the good work he has done towards the advancement of change-ringing during the past fifty years. Subscriptions towards this object will be gladly received by any of the following committee:—Messrs. F. S. Bayley, Burkin, Butler, Cockerill, W. Davies (Liverpool), Dorrington, T. Hattersley (Sheffield), Horrex, Hughes, T. Mash, Newton, Prime, Pettit, F. W. J. Rees (Nayland, Colchester), Smith, Springall, Waghorn, jun., and Winney. Saturday, April 2nd, 1898, is the suggested date for the presentation to be made, and intending subscribers are earnestly requested to send in their subscriptions at least a week before that time.

NOTE TO PEAL.

THE PEAL AT NUNEATON.—This was Thomas Holmes's (late of Burton) 160th peal, but his first of Bob Major; also the first in the method by J. W. Chandler and W. T. Lightfoot, and first with a hob' bell by A. Flowers. J. George and all the above hail from Rugby, and L. Longney from Croome, Worcester, and they thank Messrs. T. W. Chapman and H. Argyle for so kindly arranging the peal.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CHANGE OF SECRETARY.—The committee have appointed Mr. A. E. WREAKS to fulfil the duties of their late secretary, Mr. Joel Redford (deceased). All communications are, therefore, to be sent to him at 41, Gibbon Street, Bolton.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Ernest Allen, late of Borden, has removed to 2, Manchester Villas, Crescent road, Birchington.

Compositions.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By FREDERICK DENCH, College Youths.

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Repeated; has the 6th eighteen times wrong and right, with the 2nd never in 5-6 at a course-end. Reduced to 5024 by calling the s in the second course of either part.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

WANTED.—Situation as jeweller's porter or any other light employment; used to winding and most clock repairs; can ring standard methods; married, aged 30. Address, E.C., care of Editor.

WANTED by young man aged 23, situation as turner. Can ring standard methods on eight and ten bells. Address, H.W., care of Editor.

SITUATION required as baker, 5½ years in last situation, can mould, etc. Situation where smalls can be learnt preferred. Have rung a trifle in the Grandsire method, and wish to get into other methods, quick learner. Age 20; good references. Apply, J. Henley, Bartlett's Buildings, Rye, Sussex.

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TIMEKEEPER seeks permanent situation. Excellent change-ringer in Standard methods. Member of the Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire Associations. Excellent references. Apply X.Y.Z., office of this paper.

GAS and Hot Water Fitter wants job. Good change-ringer from twelve-bell tower. Member of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. Apply to H.P., care of Editor.

SITUATION WANTED as plumber; general band; change-ringer; member of Herts Association.—Apply, J. Shepherd, Church Road, Hatfield, Herts.

SITUATION WANTED as gardener, single-handed or where help is given; life experience both inside and out. Four years and half good character. Age 26, married. Good change-ringer on eight.—Address, W. Smith, 24, Anerley Grove, Upper Norwood.

TO MASTER PRINTERS.—Wanted a situation as compositor or all-round jobbing hand; nearly eight years present situation; age 22. Can ring standard methods (8 bells).—Apply, A. E. Barrow, 127 Avenue Road, Gosport, Hants.

SITUATION WANTED as Turner and Fitter, age 23. Used to small marine engines and millwrighting. Change-ringer.—Apply to J. Valentine, Mill Road, Stony Stratford, Bucks.

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WANTED a strong active man, wages 18s. to 22s. per week. Change-ringer. Good testimonial from last employer. Apply at once, to P. W. Davies, 6 Penrallt Road, Bangor, S. Wales.

COMPETENT INSTRUCTOR wanted for parish church, Whitby (8 bells), must be good man, and able to teach standard methods; will endeavour to find suitable employment. State occupation, with reference, to J. H. Blakiston, 21, Jedburgh Street, Middlesbrough.

MACHINE-MINDER WANTED.—Used to good book and cut-work. Must have served seven years. Permanency to suitable man, able to ring standard methods on ten bells preferred.—Billing & Sons, Guildford.

SPLendid OPENING for good watchmaker and clockmaker immediately. Ringer; churchman. Apply by letter, Rectory, Tarporey.

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THE REV. DR. RAVEN'S WORK.

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 5, 1898.

THE season of Lent evidently affects peal-ringing, though not to such an extent perhaps as formerly. Last week we had 39 peals, and some of these appeared to have been achieved with the Lenten season in prospect. We have heard of several unsuccessful attempts to score a peal previous to Ash-Wednesday, and this shows that in many quarters a desire is in force that during the season of Lent, ringing for mere amusement, or we might more correctly say "ringing for our own glorification," it is better to avoid.

We have no warrant to formulate any law in such a matter; if we attempted to do so in all likelihood it would be of no use. The clergy are the best judges of the question, and if they see no objection, it would be the height of folly and conceit to suggest one. Personally we think a little rest during the few days from peal-ringing is a good thing: and as ringers have always to consider the taste, convenience, and alas! opposition of parishioners, such a brief abstinence cannot do any harm, but must

have a tendency to good. Whenever ringing becomes less in Lent than at any other time, it may be depended upon that ringers who abstain do not lose anything in the esteem of the parishioners, especially of those who are located near the tower. The idea and suggestion will we think be worthy of consideration in many places.

Our friends will bear in mind that the number for the 26th instant will contain the last coupon for our next gift, viz.: an English-made eight-day timepiece, from the manufactory of Messrs. Potts and Sons, of Leeds. Coupons must reach us not later than the Wednesday following.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

The next meeting will be held at Bristol on Tuesday in Whitsun-week, 31st May, 1898.

Notices of motion, etc., must reach the Hon. Secretary not later than Tuesday, the 3rd of May. They must be in writing, and signed by two representatives.

Hon. Secretaries of societies are reminded that subscriptions to the Council are now due and should be remitted to the Hon. Secretary without delay, at the rate of 2s. 6d. for each elected representative. The Hon. Secretary would also be greatly obliged for information as to any change in representatives, or their addresses, that has taken place in the last year. H. EARLE BULWER,
Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn. Hon. Sec.

The Metropolis.

THE EDMONTON SOCIETY, MIDDLESEX.

On Saturday, February 12, 1898, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, EDMONTON,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; PARKINSON'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 17½ cwt.

W. G. DARLINGTON* Treble.	L. J. DARLINGTON 5.
R. GOODCHILD 2.	C. BUTTON 6.
W. BENNETT 3.	A. W. DARLINGTON 7.
P. J. DARLINGTON 4.	S. T. DARLINGTON Tenor.

Conducted by A. W. DARLINGTON.

*First peal in the method.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 28, 1898, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, BOW, E.,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES. Tenor 14 cwt.

YORK GREEN Treble.	EBENEZER ANDREWS 5.
THOMAS FAULKNER 2.	SAMUEL HAYES 6.
CALEB FENN 3.	HENRY SPRINGALL 7.
ROWLAND FENN 4.	ALBERT HARDY Tenor.

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW and
Conducted by HENRY SPRINGALL.

First peal in the method by all the band, and first in the method on the bells. The above are all members of the Bow society.

VIOLIN FOR SALE, in good condition, Bow and case complete. Valued by professor of Music at 30s. X, Marshland House, Terrington, Norfolk.

The Provinces.

CHIPPING BARNET, HERTS.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 31, 1898, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs. 13 lbs.

GEORGE GODFREY* Treble.	*JAMES STEVENS 5.
JOHN SUMPTER 2.	CHARLES H. MARTIN 6.
FRANK A. MILNE, ESQ. 3.	ALFRED H. BELTON 7.
WILLIAM J. DELL 4.	ARTHUR T. KING, ESQ. .. Tenor.

Conducted by C. H. MARTIN.

*First peal. Rung as a farewell peal to J. Stevens, his brother-strings wishing him success in his new undertaking. They also wish to thank Mr. Godfrey, through the medium of this paper, for kindly taking a rope at the last moment.

WILBY, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 12, 1898, in Two Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Being 2520 Grandsire Doubles, and 2520 Antelope.

Tenor 9 cwt.

ALFRED FAIREY Treble.	CHARLES CHAPMAN 3.
CHARLES FAIREY 2.	THOMAS FOWLER 4.
WILLIAM SMITH Tenor.	

Conducted by C. CHAPMAN.

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

APPLETON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(THE APPLETON SOCIETY)

On Tuesday, February 22, 1898, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES.

H. WOODWARDS Treble.	H. WALTERS 5.
S. WHITE 2.	F. WHITE 6.
F. BARRETT 3.	G. HOLIFIELD 7.
H. TUBB 4.	R. WHITE Tenor.

Composed by the late H. JOHNSON and
Conducted by G. HOLIFIELD.

NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 24, 1898, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

JOHN W. CHANDLER .. Treble.	WILLIAM T. LIGHTFOOT .. 5.
THOMAS W. CHAPMAN .. 2.	HARRY ARGYLE 6.
LIONEL LONGNEY 3.	JAMES GEORGE 7.
ALFRED FLOWERS 4.	THOMAS HOLMES Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by LIONEL LONGNEY.
A note to this peal will be found elsewhere.

LEICESTER.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 26, 1898, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 24 cwt.

JAMES WILSON Treble.	WILLIAM H. INGLESANT .. 5.
LIONEL LONGNEY 2.	JOSIAH MORRIS 6.
JOHN O. LANCASHIRE .. 3.	WILLIAM T. MILLER 7.
WILLIAM WILLSON 4.	*CHARLES H. FOWLER .. Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM WILLSON and
Conducted by CHARLES H. FOWLER.

This peal contains the 4th, 5th, and 6th only in 6ths place at a course-end. *First peal as conductor. L. Longney hails from Croome, Worcestershire; Inglesant from Loughborough. The ringers desire through the medium of this paper to thank the Rev. L. Donaldson, M.A., vicar, for the use of the bells.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 26, 1898, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qrs. 24 lbs.

GEORGE GATLAND Treble.	ROBERT J. DAWE 5.
JAMES N. FROSSELL 2.	CHARLES SMART 6.
FRANK BENNETT 3.	GEORGE WILLIAMS 7.
JOHN SMART 4.	GEORGE SMART Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS and Conducted by GEORGE SMART.

First peal by all in this variation with the exception of G. Williams.

SPELDHURST, KENT.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 26, 1898, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JAMES BAKER Treble.	GEORGE A. CARD 5.
STEPHEN PERKINS 2.	JAMES MAYNARD 6.
RICHARD PELLING 3.	THOMAS CARD 7.
WILLIAM H. CARD 4.	GEORGE TURLEY Tenor.

Composed by J. S. WILDE and Conducted by GEORGE TURLEY.

Rang as a birthday compliment to the conductor, his brother-strings wishing him many happy returns.

HOUGHTON CONQUEST, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 26, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of College Exercise, Violet, Oxford, and Kent Treble Bob, Woodbine Treble Bob, Double Oxford, and Double Court. Tenor 16 cwt.

EDGAR H. G. TINGEY .. Treble.	CHARLES CHASTY 4.
WILLIAM J. BARKER 2.	WILLIAM DAVISON 5.
CHARLES WM. CLARKE .. 3.	HERBERT SHARPE Tenor.

Conducted by H. SHARPE.

The ringers wish to thank the Rev. — Macklin for the use of the bells, and also for entertaining them at the vicarage.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 26, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THOMAS H. TAFFENDER .. Treble.	WILLIAM TRUSS 5.
JOHN C. TRUSS 2.	JOHN EVANS 6.
ALFRED E. NYE 3.	ALFRED W. BRIGHTON .. 7.
RALPH H. BIGGS 4.	CHARLES GREEN Tenor.

Conducted by ALFRED W. BRIGHTON.

The band through the medium of this paper thank the vicar for the use of the bells, also for his kind hospitality after the peal. Messrs. Taffender, W. Truss, and Brighton hail from London.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 26, 1898, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIAM GRIMES Treble.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. 5.
WILLIAM WIGHTMAN 2.	†ALFRED W. GRIMES .. 6.
ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. 3.	WILLIAM RUMSEY 7.
STEPHEN W. MARTIN 4.	GEORGE WIGHTMAN Tenor.

Composed by the REV. H. EARLE BULWER and

Conducted by GEORGE WIGHTMAN.

For calling see the Association Report for 1891-2, page 36. †First peal of Kent.

STANSTEAD, SUFFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(SUDBURY ARCHIDIACONAL BRANCH.)

On Monday, February 28, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, two of Kent Treble Bob, and four of Plain Bob, each called differently.

ROBERT GOWERS Treble.	ALBERT CLARKE 4.
ARTHUR PAPWORTH 2.	GEORGE SMITH 5.
CHARLES BIXBY† 3.	*ROBERT BRETT Tenor.

Conducted by R. BRETT.

†First peal of Minor. *First peal as conductor. C. Bixby hails from Melford, Suffolk.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, March 1, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5040 CHANGES. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

FRANK K. BIGGS Treble.	JOHN EVANS 5.
FRED. G. BIGGS 2.	RALPH H. BIGGS 6.
F. BOREHAM 3.	*GEORGE MARTIN 7.
H. STRATFORD 4.	JOHN C. TRUSS Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF and

Conducted by JOHN C. TRUSS.

*First peal of Major.

Date Touches.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—WIRRAL BRANCH.

OXTON (Cheshire).—On Wednesday, January 5th, at St. Saviour's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 15 mins. C. Owens, 1; H. Brocklebank, 2; J. Owens, 3; W. Hughes, 4; J. Grant, 5; J. Evans, 6; G. Newton, 7; W. Grimmant, 8. Composed and conducted by G. R. Newton.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHGATE (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, January 23rd, for Divine Service at Christ Church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1898 changes, in 1 hr. 8 mins. S. Ansell, 1; S. Wade, 2; W. Pickworth, 3; J. Miller, 4; H. W. Newby, 5; I. J. Attwater (composer and conductor), 6; A. Miller, 7; C. Bale, 8. Tenor 25 cwt.

MIRFIELD (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, January 2nd, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Royal, 1898 changes, in 1 hr. 17 mins. H. Peacock, 1; T. Crawshaw, 2; F. Robinson, 3; G. Thornton, 4; R. Ellis, 5; A. Holmes (conductor), 6; D. Clarkson, 7; C. Peacock, 8; B. Robinson, 9; S. Peacock, 10. Composed by W. Holmes, of Newcastle-on-Tyne. Tenor 30 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

BOURNEMOUTH (Hants).—On Thursday, January 13th, for practice, 2520 Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 34 mins. G. Colbourne, 1; T. Green, 2; G. Preston (conductor), 3; J. Bennett, 4; G. Plummer, 5; J. Bristow, 6; C. Goodenough, 7; T. Belbin, 8. Rang as a birthday compliment to J. Bennett, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, January 2nd, for Divine Service at the church of St. Nicholas, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 48 mins. F. Blondell, 1; J. Hunt, 2; W. W. Thorne, 3; J. J. Jones, 4; S. Radford, 5; C. Willshire (conductor), 6; E. C. Boniface, 7; W. Heath, 8. On Tuesday, January 4th, the following members of the St. Nicholas society paid a visit to St. Mary's church, and rang touches of Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob Minor, and two 6-scores of Grandsire and one of Stedman Doubles:—C. Willshire, J. Hunt, J. J. Jones, S. Radford, F. Blondell, and E. E. Boniface.

WINCHESTER.—On Sunday afternoon, January 9th, for Divine Service at the Cathedral, 518 Grandsire Triples with 6-8 and tenor

covering. E. G. Lampard, 1; J. W. Elkins, 2; W. Andrews, 3; R. Hasted (conductor), 4; W. C. Lampard, 5; C. Russell, 6; W. Lebbon, 7; W. S. Lampard, 8; J. Harris, 9; D. Froome, 10.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

BRIXTON (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, January 16th, for Divine Service at St. John's church, 1264 Bob Major. V. W. West, 1; H. R. Pasmore, 2; H. Barton (conductor), 3; G. E. Symonds, 4; A. R. Davis, 5; F. G. Perrin, 6; W. H. Pasmore, 7; G. W. Wild, 8.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BATH.—On Sunday evening, January 16th, at St. Saviour's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins. W. Alexander, 1; G. Temple, 2; J. Fussell, 3; C. Goodenough, 4; J. D. Matthews, 5; C. W. Bell (conductor), 6; J. Taylor, 7; J. Sage, 8. The above was rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. Denys Drew, a sidesman at the above church, who was interred at Locksbrook cemetery that day. It is the first quarter-peal by W. Alexander, and the first with a bob bell by J. Taylor.

BATHEASTON.—On Sunday, January 16th, at the church of St. John the Baptist, ten 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles called differently in 47 mins. C. Bath, 1; T. Davis, 2; T. Pile, 3; T. Smith, 4; C. W. Bell (conductor), 5; J. Taylor, 6. First 6-score by Messrs. Bath and Pile.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

DAVENHAM (Cheshire).—On Saturday, January 1st, at St. Wilfrid's church, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-six bobs and twenty-four singles), Composed by H. G. Rowe. A. Booth, 1; T. Bush, 2; J. Wakefield, 3; T. Wilkinson, 4; H. Yarwood (first as conductor), 5; J. Ashmole, 6. For practice 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles). W. Hine, 1; T. Bush, 2; A. Booth, 3; T. Wilkinson, 4; H. Yarwood, 5; J. Ashmole (conductor), 6.

NESTON (Cheshire).—On Thursday, January 6th, for practice, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25½ mins. E. Molyneux, 1; J. Edwards, 3; J. Meador, 4; W. Williams, 5; W. Wilcox (conductor), 6; W. Briscoe, 7; C. Grundy, 8. First 720 of Cambridge by all except the conductor.

GAWSWORTH (Cheshire).—On Sunday, January 16th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, 720 Association Exercise (nine bobs), conducted by W. Henshall. F. Massey, 1; A. Lomas, jun., 2; J. Hammond, 3; W. Henshall, 4; C. Postles, 5; E. Johnson, 6. On Sunday, January 23rd, for afternoon service, 720 Bob Minor, conducted by W. Henshall. J. Williams, 1; W. Ingham, 2; J. Gratrix, 3; M. Davenport, 4; A. Lomas, jun., 5; W. Henshall, 6.

SUTTON (Cheshire).—For evening service on Sunday, January 23rd, an attempt was made for a 720 of Bob Minor, but it came to grief in the second part. J. Williams, 1; W. Ingham, 2; M. Davenport, 3; J. Gratrix, 4; A. Lomas, jun., 5; E. Johnson (conductor), 6. On Saturday, December 18th, for practice, 720 Association Exercise. F. Massey, 1; A. Lomas, 2; J. Hammond, 3; W. Henshall (conductor), 4; C. Postles, 5; E. Johnson, 6. On Monday, December 27th, 720 in the same method (nine bobs), standing as above, conducted by A. Lomas, jun.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BURFORD (Oxon).—On Sunday, January 2nd, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. H. Humphries, 1; H. Bond, 2; J. Collet, 3; C. Packer, 4; T. E. Glanville, 5; W. Shirley, 6; W. Large (conductor), 7; G. Parker, 8. On Wednesday, January 5th, 503 Grandsire Triples. E. T. Druce, 1; H. Bond, 2; W. Large (conductor), 3; J. Collet, 4; T. E. Glanville, 5; C. Packer, 6; W. Shirley, 7; G. Parker, 8. On Friday, January 7th, 672 Grandsire Triples. E. T. Druce, 1; H. Humphries, 2; H. Bond, 3; J. Collet, 4; W. Large (conductor), 5; C. Packer, 6; W. Shirley, 7; G. Parker, 8. On Sunday, January 9th, for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples. E. T. Druce, 1; H. Bond, 2; J. Collet, 3; C. Packer, 4; T. E. Glanville, 5; W. Large (conductor), 6; W. Shirley, 7; G. Parker, 8. Also three courses of Major. E. T. Druce, 1; H. Humphries, 2; J. Collet, 3; H. Bond, 4; T. E. Glanville, 5; C. Packer, 6; W. Shirley, 7; W. Large (conductor), 8.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks).—On Sunday evening, January 23rd, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 44 mins. G. Martin, 1; H. Neighbour, 2; F. Bissley, 3; W. Brown, 4; J. Eldridge, 5; J. W. Wilkins (composer), 6; F. Dentry (first as conductor), 7; H. Gilding, 8.

FULMER (Bucks).—On Saturday, January 1st, 720 Grandsire Doubles. A. Jordan, 1; T. Toombs, 2; J. Bateman, 3; E. Harding, 4; C. Clarke (conductor), 5; C. Jeffrey, 6. Also 360 in the same method. W. Clark, 1; T. Toombs (conductor), 2; G. H. Gutteridge, 3; E. Harding, 4; W. Bateman, 5; E. Elderfield, 6.

READING (Berks).—On Wednesday, January 26th, for practice at St. Laurence's church, 544 Double Norwich. J. Tucker, 1; E. Tubb, 2; C. Giles, 3; J. E. Hern, 4; H. Tucker, 5; A. Osborne, 6; A. W. Pike, 7; F. Hopgood (conductor), 8. Also 880 Kent Treble Bob Royal. F. Hopgood (conductor), 1; J. Potter, 2; J. E. Hern, 3; F. Tubb, 4; C. Giles, 5; H. Tucker, 6; A. Osborne, 7; J. Tucker, 8; W. Newell, 9; A. W. Pike, 10. Tenor 24 cwt. A. W. Pike hails from Caversham, Oxon.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Sunday evening, January 2nd, for Divine Service at St. Andrew's church, 168 and 433 Grandsire Triples. H. Withers, 1; W. Talbot, 2; J. W. Smith, 3; R. Round, 4; J. Smith, 5; W. H. Barber (conductor), 6; F. Clayton, 7; J. Townsend, 8. Messrs. Withers, Barber, and Clayton hail from King's Norton.

KIDDERMINSTER (Worcestershire).—Handbell Ringing.—On Thursday, January 20th, at the residence of Mr. J. Pagett, 720 Grandsire Minor. N. Davies, 1-2; J. Pagett (conductor), 3-4; T. J. Salter, 5-6.

OLDSWINFORD (Worcestershire).—On Wednesday, January 5th, 720 Kent Treble Bob (fifteen bobs). G. H. Pagett, 1; W. Newman, 2; J. Pagett (conductor), 3; W. Whitehouse, 4; F. Brace, 5; A. Roberts, 6.

STOURBRIDGE (Worcestershire).—On Sunday morning, January 23rd, for Divine Service at St. Thomas' church, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples. G. Underwood, 1; L. Pritchard, 2; A. Roberts, 3; F. Brace, 4; J. Orford, 5; A. J. Skelding, 6; J. Pagett (conductor), 7; W. A. Pugh, 8. First quarter-peal in any method by Messrs. Underwood, Pritchard, Brace, Orford, and Skelding. Also a course of Bob Major with G. H. Pagett standing in place of L. Pritchard. J. Pagett hails from Kidderminster.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—LIVERPOOL BRANCH.

LIVERPOOL.—On Thursday, January 13th, at the cathedral church of St. Peter, an attempt was made for Sir A. P. Heywood's ten-part peal of Stedman Triples, but after ringing 4536 changes in 2 hrs. 45 mins., a change-course occurred which brought it to grief. J. Aspinwall, 1; G. Fisher, 2; G. Woodhall, 3; J. Dillon, 4; W. Davies, 5; J. Martin, 6; T. Hammond (conductor), 7; P. Ashton, 8. This is the longest length of Stedman Triples on the bells, and was rung on the front eight. It is also the longest length in the method by J. Dillon, who hails from Bromborough, Cheshire.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, December 21st, at the parish church, by the local band and a few friends, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs) in 27 mins. J. Gillett, A. Pegler, G. Smith (first 720 in the method), W. Pegler, H. Mitchell (conductor), and A. A. Waite. This is the first 720 rung since the rehanging of the fifth bell by Messrs. Barwell, of Birmingham, who put in two new gudgeons, and now the bell goes all that can be desired. Also 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles) in 26 mins. A. A. Waite (conductor), J. Gillett, H. Mitchell, A. Pegler, C. Browett, W. Pegler. On Friday evening, December 31st, before Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 26 mins. H. Mitchell, A. Waite (conductor), G. Smith, G. Miles, C. Browett, R. A. Barrett. The ringers remained in church to take part in the service, and afterwards the bells were rung for a few minutes, and then they wended their way to the vicarage to partake of the old English fare, consisting of roast beef and plum pudding, and some brown ale, etc. After the cloth was removed, the rest of the evening was spent in songs and handbell ringing up till 11.30, and then they went back to the tower to ring the old year out and the new one in. On Sunday evening, January 23rd, prior to Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob (nine bobs) in 27 mins. A. A. Waite (conductor), H. Mitchell, G. Smith, G. Miles, C. Browett (first 720 in the method), R. A. Barrett. On Tuesday, January 25th, 720 Kent Treble Bob (nine bobs) in 27 mins. G. Miles, H. Mitchell, G. Smith, E. E. Davies, C. Browett, A. A. Waite (conductor). Also several 6-scores of Stedman, Grandsire, St. Dunstan's, and Bob Doubles were rung during various practices.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BROOMFIELD (Essex).—On Sunday, January 9th, 504 Oxford Treble Bob. E. Runter, 1; C. Parsons, 2; G. Parsons, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; A. Bradley (conductor), 5; E. Wright, 6. On Wednesday, January 12th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. T. Crozier, 1; C. Parsons, 2; G. Parsons, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; A. Bradley, 5; E. Wright (conductor), 6.

ROMFORD (Essex).—Handbell Ringing.—On Wednesday, January 5th, 2604 Stedman Triples taken from Thurstans' four-part in 1 hr. 12 mins. G. R. Pye, 1-2; W. Pye, 3-4; E. Pye, 5-6; W. Watson, 7-8.

Rung strictly non-conducted, no bobs being called or any intimation of them given whatever. On Sunday evening, January 23rd, for Divine Service at St. Edward's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans') in 44 mins. A. J. Perkins, 1; W. H. Doran, 2; G. R. Pye, 3; W. Pye, 4; W. Watson, 5; E. Pye (conductor), 6; E. Wightman, 7; H. Dawkins, 8.

WEST HAM (Essex).—On Saturday, January 22nd, 1472 Grandsire Caters in 1 hr. 2 mins. C. Dempsey, 1; A. Deards, 2; G. R. Pye, 3; E. Wightman, 4; E. Lucas, 5; W. H. Dallimore, 6; W. H. Doran, 7; W. Pye (conductor), 8; H. Scarlett, 9; G. Haydon, 10.

SPRINGFIELD (Essex).—On Sunday evening, January 9th, 720 Bob Minor. F. Ward, 1; D. Dawson, 2; W. Hawkes, 3; W. Sharpington, 4; M. Rolfe (conductor), 5; H. Sharpington, 6. On Sunday, January 16th, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-six singles). F. Ward, 1; D. Dawson, 2; E. Runter, 3; W. Sharpington, 4; A. Bradley (conductor), 5; H. Sharpington, 6. On Sunday, January 23rd, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Savill, 1; M. Rolfe, 2; W. Harris, 3; E. Runter, 4; A. Bradley (conductor), 5; H. Sharpington, 6. Also a course of Oxford Treble Bob. Bradley, Hunter and Harris hail from Broomfield.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HEENE (Sussex).—On Sunday, January 16th, 896 Grandsire Triples, taken from Taylor's bob-and-single. A. Arnell, 1; W. Hillman, 2; T. Greenyer, 3; G. Norris, 4; J. Paice, 5; B. Bassett (conductor), 6; E. Lindup, 7; F. Lindup, 8. Longest length with a bob bell by A. Arnell, T. Greenyer and F. Lindup.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BEACKBURN BRANCH.

CHURCH (Lancashire).—On Monday, January 10th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. F. Rigby, 1; J. Bentley, 2; C. Sharples, 3; H. Hayes, 4; R. Parkinson (conductor), 5; T. Horrocks, 6. On Saturday, January 15th, two 720s of Bob Minor. G. Lord, 1; J. Haworth, 2; J. Bentley, 3; H. Hayes, 4; T. Redman, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 16th, 720 College Single. G. Lord, 1; T. Holden, 2; J. Bentley, 3; H. Hayes, 4; C. Sharples, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 23rd, an attempt was made for a peal of Bob Minor, but came to grief owing to a change-course in the last half of the sixth 720. G. Lord, 1; J. Bentley, 2; C. Sharples, 3; H. Hayes, 4; T. Redman, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt. Messrs. Parkinson, Sharples, Bentley, and Holden hail from Oswaldtwistle; Redman from Burnley; the rest belong to Church.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

BEESTON (Notts).—On Sunday, January 23rd, for evening service, 1280 Bob Major. J. Paling, 1; A. Lowe, 2; R. Clifford, 3; W. Clifford, sen., 4; F. Price, 5; W. Clifford, jun., 6; G. Oldham, 7; J. Hutchby (conductor), 8.

LEICESTER.—On Thursday, January 6th, at St. Margaret's church, 1151 Grandsire Caters in inverted home and tittum position. J. Jarvis, 1; J. Morris, 2; F. Cooke, 3; G. Burrows, 4; W. Cooper, 5; J. Buttery, 6; W. Willson (conductor), 7; E. E. Smith, 8; J. F. Marlow (composer), 9; C. Biddles, 10. On Friday, January 14th, at St. Mark's church, 1024 Bob Major. A. Royce, 1; A. Ballard, 2; J. Wilson, 3; F. Cooke, 4; W. Willson, 5; J. Morris, 6; W. Miller, 7; C. H. Fowler (conductor), 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

NORTH WINGFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Thursday, January 20th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (four bobs and eighteen singles). J. Milner (first 720), 1; W. Butler (conductor), 2; T. Allibone, 3; J. T. Butler, 4; W. Hopkinson, 5; J. Tarlton, 6. Tenor 18½ cwt. Rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. E. T. Attrill, son of the churchwarden, Mr. N. Attrill.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BANHAM (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, January 18th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor. J. Woods, 1; J. Barham, 2; R. Patrick, 3; W. Nudds, 4; A. Mann, 5; J. Tite (first 720 as conductor), 6.

THE WORCESTER CATHEDRAL GUILD.

WORCESTER.—On Sunday morning, January 23rd, before Divine Service at the Cathedral, 503 Grandsire Caters. B. S. Hill, 1; A. Hill, 2; W. Powell, 3; W. C. Jones, 4; L. Longney (conductor), 5; G. Hinton, 6; G. Checketts, 7; *W. Lebbon, 8; W. H. Johnson, 9; T. Malin, 10. *Late of Winchester.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

GAINFORD.—On Saturday, January 15th, 720 Grandsire Minor, in

28 mins. R. Moncaster, 1; T. Hudson, 2; G. W. Pask, 3; G. Park, 4; D. Shipp, 5; C. Walker, 6. And 120 Stedman Doubles. R. Moncaster, 1; T. Hudson, 2; G. W. Pask, 3; G. Park, 4; D. Shipp, 5; C. Walker, 6. Also 216 Bob Minor, the ringers standing as in the Grandsire Minor and Stedman Doubles. T. Hudson hails from Bishopwearmouth; R. Moncaster from St. John's; G. Park from St. Cuthbert's; G. W. Pask from Holy Trinity, Darlington; D. Shipp and C. Walker from Staindrop.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

GREENWICH.—On Sunday, January 17th, at the church of St. Alfege, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans'), in 46 mins. I. G. Shade, 1; J. J. Lamb, 2; W. Berry, 3; W. Foreman, 4; H. Flanders, 5; F. S. Bayley, 6; H. Hoskins (first quarter-peal as conductor), 7; F. W. Thornton, 8.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—NORTHWICH BRANCH.

KNUTSFORD (Cheshire).—On Saturday, January 22nd, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. S. Johnson (conductor), 1; S. Forster, 2; G. Johnson, 3; A. Johnson, 4; J. Bell, 5; W. Forster, 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Sutton, 1; S. Johnson, 2; G. Johnson, 3; A. Johnson, 4; J. Bell, 5; W. Forster (conductor), 6. And 720 Bob Minor. S. Johnson (conductor), 1; W. Sutton, 2; R. Chantler, 3; S. Forster, 4; J. Bell, 5; A. Johnson, 6.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ROTHWELL (near Leeds).—On Saturday, January 29th, being the 61st anniversary of the opening of the bells, an attempt was made to ring 8448 changes of Oxford Treble Bob, but it came to grief after ringing 7500 changes, in 4 hrs. 30 mins. T. Nickols, 1; A. Chapman, 2; J. C. Abbishaw, 3; G. W. Steel, 4; W. Chapman, 5; W. Abbishaw, 6; S. Stacey, 7; J. M. Chadwick (conductor), 8.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

STAFFORD.—On Monday, January 24th, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, 1259 changes. Composed by C. Charge, of London. T. Machin, 1; W. Mountford, 2; H. Mountford, 3; R. Grant, 4; T. Guest, 5; A. Moreton, 6; Thos. Machin, 7; W. Bennett, 8; T. Perry (conductor), 9; T. Thompson, 10. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. A. Moreton on his attaining his majority, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AND YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

KILLMARSH (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, January 2nd, for morning service, 720 Coventry Surprise. For evening service, 720 London Surprise and 360 Lincoln. F. Hall, 1; T. Bettison (conductor), 2; J. Emsen, 3; G. Burnham, 4; W. H. Turton, 5; C. Severn, 6. On Sunday, January 9th, for morning service, 720 Lichfield, and for evening service 720 York Surprise. W. H. Turton, 4; G. Burnham, 5; the rest as above. On Sunday, January 16th, 720 Ely for morning service, and for evening service 720 Durham. 1, 2, 3 as above; G. Burnham, 4; W. H. Turton, 5; C. Severn, 6. The ringers of 5 and 6 changed places for Durham. On Sunday, January 23rd, for morning service, 720 Lincoln. F. Hall, 1; T. Bettison, 2; J. Emsen, 3; G. Burnham, 4; W. H. Turton, 5; C. Severn, 6. For evening service 720 Bristol. F. Hall, 1; C. Severn, 2; J. Emsen, 3; G. Burnham, 4; T. Bettison, 5; W. H. Turton, 6. And 120 Oxford. C. Severn, 1; F. Hall, 2; the rest as above. On Sunday, January 30th, for morning service, 720 Worcester Surprise. F. Hall, 1; T. Bettison, 2; J. Emsen, 3; G. Burnham, 4; W. Turton, 5; C. Severn, 6. For evening service, 720 Worcester Surprise. F. Hall, 1; T. Bettison, 2; J. Emsen, 3; G. Burnham, 4; W. H. Turton, 5; C. Severn, 6. For evening service 720 Rochester Surprise. C. Severn, 5; H. Turton, 6.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, January 22nd, an attempt was made for a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major. All went well till nearly half-way when a change-course occurred. W. Allwood (Treeton), 1; T. Bettison, 2; S. Walker, 3; G. Burnham, 4; J. Emsen, 5; W. Lambert (Treeton), 6; W. H. Turton, 7; C. Severn (composer and conductor), 8.

BLETCHLEY (Bucks).—On Sunday afternoon, January 30th, at St. Mary's church, 360 Grandsire Doubles, on the back six, 1-2 leading. F. Sear, 1; A. N. Atkins, 2; V. Sear, 3; A. G. Crane, 4; R. Sear, 5; E. Marks, 6; F. James, 7; W. Crane, 8. For evening service, two 360s of Grandsire Doubles, on the back six, 1-2 leading. F. Sear, 1; L. Meager, 2; V. Sear, 3; A. G. Crane, 4; A. N. Atkins, 5; E. Marks, 6; F. James, 7; W. Crane, 8. W. Crane hails from Bangor, North Wales.

BADSEY (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, January 1st, 720 Bob

Minor in 28 mins. A. H. Sharp, 1; H. Salisbury, 2; G. Checketts, 3; L. Longney, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; F. Cook (conductor), 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

BARKING (Essex).—On Sunday evening, January 16th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 1260 Stedman Triples in 45 mins. T. Faulkner, 1; A. Deards, 2; R. Fenn, 3; C. Fenn, 4; E. Andrews, 5; S. Hayes, 6; A. Hardy (conductor), 7; H. Boar, 8. After service 1280 Oxford Treble Bob in 50 mins., with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to Alfred Sagers, a late member of the Barking company. A. Deards, 1; E. Lucas, 2; S. Hayes, 3; C. Fenn, 4; R. Fenn, 5; T. Faulkner (conductor), 6; E. Andrews, 7; A. Hardy, 8.

BLACKHILL (Durham).—On Saturday, January 1st, at the church of Our Lady Immaculate, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. J. Moore, 1; J. McPhillips, 2; P. Walls, 3; J. Dobson, 4; J. Walls, 5; A. Nichols (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by all. Tenor 22 cwt. A movement is on foot for the addition of two new bells to this peal.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Monday, January 10th, at the parish church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. S. Slater (conductor), 1; G. Rice, 2; B. Pettitt, 3; H. Purkins, 4; E. E. Purkins, 5; P. Newman, 6.

CALDICOTT (near Chepstow, Mon).—On Saturday, January 22nd, at St. Mary's church, 240 Plain Bob Doubles on the back six. C. King, 1; A. Lewis, 2; H. Addis, 3; T. Smite, 4; J. Morley (conductor), 5; W. Baynham, 6. Tenor about 17 cwt. In F. J. Morley hails from Chepstow, and the object of his visit to Caldicott was to get the local company to join in forming a local society of ringers.

CHEPSTOW (Mon).—On Sunday, January 16th, for Divine Service in the evening at St. Mary's church, 120 Stedman Doubles, 7-6-8 covering. J. Prickett, 1; H. Morgan, 2; W. Freestone, 3; S. Hop-ton, 4; J. Morley (conductor), 5; B. Tamplin, 6; F. Bye, 7; W. Pritchard, 8.

FULHAM (Middlesex).—On Sunday morning, January 30th, at All Saints church, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, 1259 changes, in 49 mins. A. Ough, 1; J. Green, 2; G. Meaton, 3; J. Aldridge, 4; E. Arthurton, 5; W. Elson (composer and conductor), 6; J. Nicholls, 7; C. Charge, 8; E. H. Adams, 9; J. Crombie, 10.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, January 11th, at the parish church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. C. Adams, 1; C. Honeybell, 2; B. Pettitt, 3; G. Rice, 4; E. E. Purkins, 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Double Court. S. Slater (conductor), 1; C. Adams, 2; F. Wells, 3; G. Rice, 4; C. Honeybell, 5; Z. Slater, 6. Messrs. Pettitt, Rice, and Purkins hail from Cavendish. Rung as a farewell to G. Rice who is leaving the neighbourhood, and is about to reside at Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey.

HANDSWORTH (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, January 2nd, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins. A. Smith, 1; W. G. Ellis, 2; W. Verry, 3; B. Starkey, 4; R. Faux, 5; T. Westwood (conductor), 6; T. Verry, 7; R. Speakman, 8. Composed by G. W. Baldwin.

KINGSWOOD (Surrey).—On Sunday, January 2nd, for Divine Service at St. Andrew's church, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. G. Osborne, 1; J. Killick (conductor), 2; A. Whittington, 3; T. Beck, 4; C. Butcher, 5; A. Law, 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

LONDON.—On Tuesday, January 11th, at St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, 701 Grandsire Caters. H. Sear, 1; W. E. Judd, 2; W. A. Daniell, 3; A. E. Bradley, 4; E. G. Bowtell, 5; A. Harriss, 6; H. Powell, 7; W. Fox, 8; W. E. Garrard, 9; J. Judd, 10. Longest length by the local band. On Wednesday, January 19th, the last 742 of Holt's Original. H. Sear, 1; G. Brush, 2; H. Powell, 3; A. Harriss, 4; W. E. Judd (longest length as conductor), 5; A. E. Bradley, 6; W. E. Garrard, 7; J. Judd, 8. Recently, at St. Mary Matfelon, Whitechapel, 756 Stedman Triples. M. A. Wood, 1; W. Truss, 2; J. Scholes, 3; A. W. Brighton (conductor), 4; E. Wallage, 5; E. Hall, 6; S. E. Joyce, 7; G. Barrell, 8. On Saturday, January 15th, at the church of St. Olave Hart Street, City, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. A. W. Brighton (conductor), 1; A. J. Perkins, 2; C. Fenn, 3; R. Fenn, 4; T. Faulkner, 5; A. Hardy, 6.

MELTON (Leicestershire).—On Saturday, January 8th, at St. Mary's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. *C. Dalby, 1; A. Swann, 2; W. Moore, 3; *W. James, 4; *E. J. Gale, 5; *H. Bartram, 6; W. Willson, 7; *W. Spiby, 8. *First in the method. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles. W. Spiby, 1; *J. Barnes, 2; *J. E. Goodacre, 3; W. Willson, 4; H. Bartram, 5; W. James, 6. *First 120.

SOUTHGATE (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, January 2nd, after Divine Service at Christ Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 47 mins. *A. Glasscock, 1; S. Wade, 2; *W. Pickworth, 3; J. Miller, 4; H. W. Newby, 5; I. J. Attwatter (composer and conductor), 6; A. Miller, 7; *H. Balaam, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. *First quarter-peal.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Sunday evening, January 2nd, for Divine Service at the Cathedral, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 48 mins. H. L. Waddington, 1; E. Whish, 2; H. J. Samuel, 3; S. F. Barnes, 4; R. E. Hammond, 5; A. Hallett, 6; W. Battle (conductor), 7; G. W. Steabben, 8.

STOKE-ON-TRENT (Staffordshire).—On Sunday evening, January 23rd, for Divine Service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 41 mins. A. Brindley, 1; T. Allen, 2; T. Austin, 3; T. Mountford, 4; A. Clewes, 5; S. Churton (conductor), 6; H. Page, 7; T. Rose, 8.

WHITWICK (Leicestershire).—On Saturday, January 1st, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. Rawson, 1; J. T. Allen, 2; S. W. West, 3; A. Whitmore, 4; B. West, 5; R. F. Lane (conductor), 6. First 720 by all except the conductor, and was rung at the first attempt. On Sunday, January 2nd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins. J. Rawson, 1; J. T. Allen, 2; S. W. West, 3; A. Whitmore, 4; H. Partridge, 5; B. West, 6; J. A. Moulton (conductor), 7; F. Beam, 8.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—On Sunday, January 2nd, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. H. Harman, 1; A. Phillips, 2; W. Watchorn, 3; W. J. Aldridge, 4; H. G. Hill (conductor), 5; G. Carter, 6; R. G. Carter, 7; A. R. Sandford, 8. First quarter-peal as conductor, also G. Carter's first quarter-peal in the method. On Tuesday, January 4th, with the bells half-muffled (the day of Interment of the late Sir Spencer Maryon Marston Wilson) a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. H. Harman, 1; A. Phillips, 2; W. Watchorn, 3; H. G. Hill, 4; J. E. Beaver, 5; G. Carter, 6; W. J. Aldridge (conductor), 7; A. R. Sandford, 8.

Correspondence.

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

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

"INFORMATION WANTED."

SIR,—Whilst I am quite willing to give any "information" I can, your correspondents must not always expect replies to their requests from me in the following week's issue of your paper to that in which those requests are made, because sometimes I do not get the paper till Monday, and you require to have your news so early in the week for the following Saturday's issue. In reply to Mr. Bratton's last letter, I am sorry to say I cannot supply the detailed particulars of the composition he asks for, but I would suggest that he should apply to Mr. John Day, of Birmingham, or to the representatives of the late Henry Johnson, also of Birmingham, both of whom, I believe, were well acquainted with our old celebrated change-ringer, Sam Lawrence, and also with Mr. Clemson, they may possibly have some information on the subject in their possession. The only particulars I can give of the first "completed peal out of Mr. Holt's system" which was rung at Shifnal on November 5th, 1797, in 3 hrs. 7 mins., is that the ringers on that occasion were as follows: R. Downing, treble; John Debney, 2; Andrew Peake, 3; Thomas Clemson, 4; John Cooper, 5; Thomas Sandford, 6; Sam Lawrence, 7; John Nock, 8. I must say I am rather surprised that knowing (as he seems to do) this peal was the first of its kind ever rung, Mr. Bratton did not, together with some of his numerous enthusiastic change-ringers, on the 5th of November last, apply for permission to ring a peal on our old bells to commemorate the centenary of the then unique event he has been pleased to call our attention to.

Stone House, Shifnal.

JOHN BRADNEY.

AN APOLOGY.

SIR,—I would ask to be allowed to apologise on behalf of the Midhurst belfry to the unknown gentleman who visited Midhurst on Sunday, February 27th, and was prevented from coming into the belfry. We understand that he asked of the vergers the way to the belfry, and the vergers told him that as we had just started ringing he could not go in. We were all very sorry to hear about this afterwards, as we have always been pleased to welcome visitors, and shall hope to continue to do so.

A. B. BENNETT.

A SUGGESTION.

SIR,—I see in your issue of February 19th, that Messrs. Taylor have with commendable wisdom given us a list of their chief works during 1897. May I beg to suggest that all the firms whose names appear weekly in "THE BELL NEWS" should send a list of their work during the Jubilee year, 1897. It would not only be a good record in time to come, but would shew how bells and their surroundings have gradually come to be appreciated by the general public, be they ringers or not. Hoping my suggestion may have the desired effect.

W. T. BAXTER.

Compositions.

WESTMINSTER SURPRISE
MAJOR.

A NEW METHOD.

By FREDERICK DENCH, *College Youths.*

The method that I am now presenting is on the lengthening lead plan, and from its musical point of view I hope, eventually, will win the appreciation of the Exercise. It was remarked in this paper a few weeks ago that new methods were welcomed by our most advanced ringers that contain merit and originality. I say the same; but at the same time there are people who look on anything new, as regards methods, with contempt, especially when it comes from young blood.

I will now give the proof-scale of Westminster Surprise. 3 2 5 4 6 and 4 6 2 5 3 become false course-ends in 5-6 in the fifth and sixth leads of the plain course. In courses where bobs before are used the following two must be used: 2 4 3 6 5 and 5 3 6 2 4; but 3 2 5 4 6 and 4 6 2 5 3 may be dispensed with. So by this all peals of Treble Bob Major will go true to Westminster. Next come the qualities. Although this method is on the lengthening lead principle it does not contain 2nds place, or the bells leading the wrong way: all the leads and places are made hand and backstroke, which adds greatly to the improvement of the music. Another great advantage is that the tenors are well together throughout as in Superlative and Cambridge. With the above-mentioned qualities I think it is well worthy the name of "Surprise." Some may say the bells are not in coursing order enough in the front, but an examination will show there are not many changes less than in Superlative; and in Cambridge they are never in that position in front. Others might say the false course-ends are detrimental, but the loss of music through these is trifling, as in this way peals can be obtained with all the musical changes in fourteen and fifteen courses, and by this number of courses the heavy bells will not have a great deal of front work to do, which sometimes is not an easy job. In conclusion I give a lead, also the method of making the bob, and leave it, with all its faults and failings, in the hands of the Exercise to judge for themselves its merits.

A PLAIN COURSE.

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

BOB.

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

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

PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH
COURT BOB ROYAL.By W. H. BARBER, *Selly Oak.*

23456 1 3 8
45362 - - -
36524 - - -
65324 - - -
32546 - - -
25346 - - -
53246 - - -
24536 - - -
45236 - - -
52436 - - -
43526 - - -
35426 - - -
24356 - s
43256 - - -
32456 - - -

Repeated. Contains all the 4-6s, 5-6s, and the 6th twenty-two times at home.

PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By WILLIAM ELSON, *London.*

5003.

23456*
†43652 8 9
64352 9th in three
34256 8 9
24653 8 9
62453 9th in three
46253 9th in three
26354 8 9
32654 9th in three
63254 9th in three
46352 9th in three s
36254 8 9
23654 9th in three
63452 8 9
43256 8 9
24356 9th in three
32456 9th in three
42653 8 9
64253 9th in three
26453 9th in three

65423 8th in three
45326 8 9
52346 8th in three
35246 9th in three
23546 9th in three
34526 8th in three
42536 8th in three
54236 9th in three
25436 9th in three
45632 8 9
64532 9th in three
43562 8th in three

* 7th in and out at 3 with a double.
Repeat calling of first part from † produces:

42563

Has the 5th and 6th each twenty courses behind the 9th.

PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH
COURT BOB MAJOR.By ARTHUR CRAVEN, *Lincoln.*

5120.

23456 1 4 5 6
65324 - - -
35426 - - -
24536 - - -
43526 - - -
25346 - - -
54326 - - -
42356 - - -
53246 - - -
23645 - - -
46325 - - -
63425 - - -
32465 - - -

Three times repeated, substituting single for bob at 1 in the last course of the second and fourth parts,

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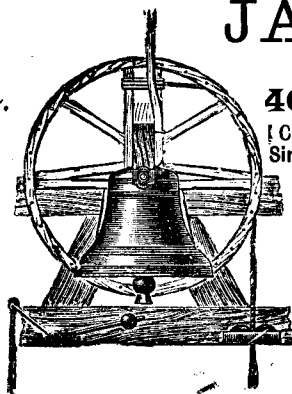
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| N.B.—The above three pieces are suitable for six ringers, with twelve bells, thus: C D E F G A B C D E F G. | | |
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THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 831.—VOL. XVI.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 1898.

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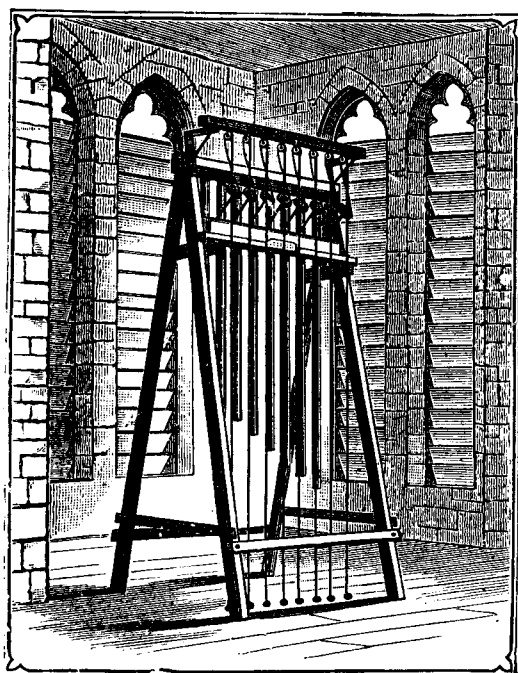
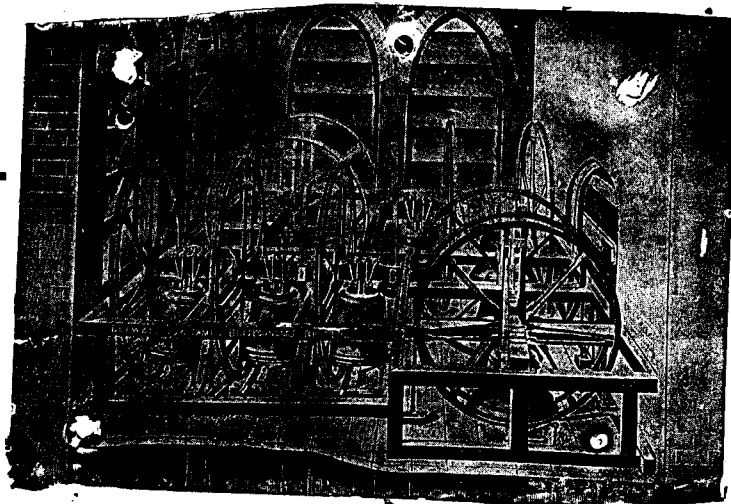
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 831.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 1898.

[Vol. XVI.]

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD OF BIRMINGHAM.

THE HENRY JOHNSON ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION DINNER.

WERE any illustration needed of the increasing popularity of the science of change-ringing, and the desire of its votaries for social inter-communication, it might readily be found in the steady growth of attendance in this series of gatherings. On Saturday last between eighty and ninety of the better known members of the Exercise in and around Birmingham met at the invitation of the St. Martin's Guild to do honour to the memory of the late HENRY JOHNSON.

In the absence of the Rector of St. Martin's—the Rev. A. J. Robinson—who had signified his intention of being present, but was unavoidably absent owing to other pressing business, grace was said by Mr. Churchwarden Jones, and the various items of a liberal menu were diligently disposed of.

At the various tables were to be noticed representative ringers from Wolverhampton, Tipton, Old Hill, Walsall, West Bromwich, Warwick, Coventry, Rugby, Kenilworth, Solihull, etc., while Birmingham itself was represented by such well-known conductors and members of the St. Martin's Guild as Messrs. J. Perks, H. Bastable, J. Carter, B. Witchell, W. Kent, W. Short, W. H. Barber, etc.

Dinner terminating, as all good things must, the Chairman—J. S. PRITCHETT, Esq., M.A., B.C.L., rose, and prefacing his remarks by the wish that some prominent ringer more qualified than himself had been obtained to preside at that meeting, then proposed the usual ringers' toast of "Queen, Church, and State." Referring to our beloved Sovereign he said that in the past Diamond Jubilee year nearly everything possible had been said and recounted of her many excellences and virtues. Passing on to the Church he mentioned that the present Government were pledged to introduce a Bill dealing with Church Reform, and although we were not in a position to know what such measure would embrace, it was extremely probable that it would effectually deal with one crying scandal, viz.: that of the open sale of next presentations. He caused much amusement—especially as there were two churchwardens present—by suggesting as desirable clauses: "that every churchwarden should be compelled to wind up his annual accounts with a surplus," instead of the very general deficiency; and "that every churchwarden should be compelled, under penalties, to attend every social gathering of the ringers." He concluded his advocacy of the toast by calling upon Mr. Mathison to sing the National Anthem, and requesting the company collectively to repeat each verse. It is hardly necessary to say how enthusiastically this was carried out.

As usual at these gatherings, Mrs. Painter presided at the pianoforte, and during the short interval which now ensued, enlivened the proceedings with a "grand march."

The CHAIRMAN then rose to propose the toast of the evening: "The Memory of the late HENRY JOHNSON." Referring to the excellence of Mr. Johnson's compositions in symmetry, ingenuity, and musical properties—characteristics which had already commended themselves to the Exercise in the past, and which in the future, when the ms. remains came to be published, would still further commend themselves—he expressed the astonishment which every one must naturally feel when it was considered what rapid strides had been made by such composers, who in their time did not possess the facilities now so readily accessible to the ringers of the present day. This sort of thing however was not peculiar to change-ringing, for was not the astronomer of to-day equally astounded at the accuracy of the knowledge of the motions of the heavenly bodies possessed by the ancient Arabians? while mathematicians were equally lost

in wonder at the deductions of Sir Isaac Newton from the meagre data at his command. But there was another side to the late HENRY JOHNSON's character which they might well consider—his own personal qualities of unvarying kindness, honour, and integrity. The science of to-day is never tired of insisting on the law of the indestructibility of matter, and that being so, it logically followed that the influence of such a character would always last. He called upon the company to drink with him this toast in solemn silence.

After a short interval the Secretary of the St. Martin's Guild—Mr W. H. GODDEN—gave the toast of "Continued Prosperity and Success to the St. Martin's Guild." He referred to the reputation acquired by the Guild's predecessors—the "Saint Martin's Youths," founded in 1755, and the more modern "Holt Society," of Aston, the latter of which their good friend Mr. Kent was so intimately connected, and instanced the honourable reputation which those two societies had acquired for the merit and accuracy of their performances, and claimed that the Guild was worthily upholding that reputation at the present time. Addressing his younger friends of the St. Martin's Guild, he reminded them that a great deal of the responsibility for the future success was with themselves. He was pleased to know that they had such young members, who were not satisfied with taking their part in the ringing, but were also taking an interest in the internal working of the business of the Guild. He appealed to them to spare no effort to make their attendances on all ringing occasions as regular as possible, to study the comfort of and give all kindly consideration to the older members, and to lose no opportunity of again imparting to others the instruction and information given to themselves in the past. If such conduct prevailed the future success of the St. Martin's Guild would be ensured for generations. He took the liberty of coupling with that toast the name of their respected Presiding Ringing Master, Mr. John Day, whom they might consider a connecting link between the past and present race of ringers. They would not forget the service Mr. Day had rendered to the Exercise generally by the recollections of old ringers which he had so recently published in "THE BELL NEWS." Not only for such services was Mr. Day admired by his fellow-members, but also for the strict integrity and uprightness of his personal character. The toast was heartily received, and

Mr. DAY responded. He said that it was fifty years ago last December since he rang his first peal, while not later than the previous Tuesday he took a rope in Stedman Cinques. He was pleased to congratulate some of his fellow-members there present on their recent successes in peal-ringing in hand, but while doing so begged them for the sake of the Guild generally to forego as far as possible such ringing whenever it interfered with the ordinary practices. He was always glad when his health and strength permitted him to join them, and trusted that might be so until the time came when he should be called away from this earthly scene.

In proposing the toast of "Kindred Ringing Societies," Mr. W. S. PRITCHETT remarked that it so happened in the arena of politics, of business, and sometimes even after the battlefield, that opponents met to pass away a convivial hour in each other's company. In such a way they were met that evening, only that the various ringing societies of which he saw representatives there that evening, could hardly be called opponents in the sense of the examples he had referred to. Ringing societies had one common object in view, to which there was no "finis," i.e. the advancement and encouragement of scientific change-ringing, and of those who pursued the exercise. Among such societies however, there could be a friendly rivalry, which he ventured to say was the backbone and mainstay of the science. There were

giants in the old days as well as in the present, and whether they looked upon the achievements of the College Youths, the oldest of them all; upon those of the Yorkshire Association, a very large and powerful organization which had almost made the method of Treble Bob its own; on the stirring doings of the Sussex Association; on those of the St. Michael's Juniors at Gloucester; on the wondrous successes of the band at Burton-on-Trent, so intimately connected with the Midland Counties Association; or, coming nearer home, the Worcestershire Association, whose record had been so greatly assisted by the doings of the Kidderminster band, and those of the King's Norton band (to which he himself belonged); all were working together with this common object, and stimulated by this friendly rivalry. In concluding his remarks he coupled with the toast the names of Mr. J. CARTER, as connected with the Midland Counties Association, Mr. JOHN SMITH with the Worcestershire Association, and Mr. SAMUEL REEVES with the Association for the Archdeaconry of Stafford. This toast was well received, and the various gentlemen whose names had been coupled with it having suitably responded,

The CHAIRMAN called upon Mr. FRED SMITH to propose the next toast, that of "The Visitors." This was done in very neat style, the speaker expressing the pleasure it gave him to see so much interest taken by the Exercise in the welfare of St. Martin's Guild, and that last but not least, the duty that existed in perpetuating the memory of the late HENRY JOHNSON, who had so endeared himself to them all, not only by his work as a composer, but by his own personal qualities. With this toast he coupled the names of W. Butler, Esq., who for many years past had taken a very warm interest in the St. Martin's Guild, and T. Neasom, Esq., of Redditch, who had been mainly instrumental in increasing the ring of bells in that town from six to eight, and who was ever ready to welcome a band of ringers whenever they visited that town.

Mr. BUTLER in responding spoke of the warm feeling that existed between the members of the St. Martin's Guild and himself, of the enjoyment he always felt in listening to the bells of St. Martin's. The sound of a ring of bells, even from his youthful days, had more charm for him than any other music.

In the remarks that Mr. NEASOM made, he was careful to correct the impression that he was at present a churchwarden, and caused great amusement by explaining that he assumed he was not old enough, since this year his father had been elected Warden in place of himself, while he felt bound to say that his father made a very excellent one. He had invited the Chairman to bring a band to Redditch from King's Norton to attempt a peal, and after that visit he should be glad to see a band of the St. Martin's Guild, while he could assure either band a very hearty welcome.

Mr. RUSSAM then proposed "Success to the Ringing Papers—Church Bells and 'BELL NEWS,'" explaining that he was hardly so well acquainted with the former as he should like to be, considering the office he was then fulfilling. With "BELL NEWS," however, he claimed to be almost as familiar as the boys in the street were with the evening papers. He had always looked forward to its appearance, and could not help thinking of the meetings that had been brought together, and the friendships that had been cemented by its means. He caused some amusement by relating an experience he once had at a temperance meeting, and dropping into the spiritualistic line, imagined the shadow of Messrs. Johnson, Lates, and perhaps Holt and Shipway, looking down upon and commending the efforts of the band who had recently attempted a peal of 8888 of Stedman Caters upon the handbells, and had been so unfortunate as to detect a change-course after ringing 8256 changes.

The last toast, that of "The Chairman," was given by Mr. JOHN DAY, who expressed his satisfaction that they had been able to secure so good a one. He had known the Chairman for very many years, and was almost afraid to think how many ago it was since he made one of a band to visit him at his college in Oxford. He had the most vivid recollection, however, that their host almost rang them to death, walked them to death, and then entertained them at his rooms most royally. He also had a very lively recollection of an enormous silver tankard and its contents, which their old friend, the Rev. F. E. Robinson, designated "good stuff," but which was, nevertheless, the cause

of a broken nose for one of the company. This toast was rapturously applauded with the most hearty musical honours.

The CHAIRMAN, in responding, gave the full history of the occurrence to which Mr. Day had alluded, and in concluding his remarks stated the pleasure it would give him, should a band from St. Martin's ever attempt their skill on the recently augmented ring of twelve at Christ Church, Oxford, to again entertain them at Baliol College, on the books of which his name was still retained.

The remainder of the evening was devoted to social harmony. An excellent touch of Stedman Caters, in hand, was given by—F. Clayton, 1-2; B. Witchell, 3-4; W. H. Barber (conductor), 5-6; W. Short, 7-8; T. Wakeman, 9-10. Mrs. Painter continued to preside at the piano, and excellent songs were given by Messrs. H. Mathison, H. Manton, W. Shenton and W. Evans. Closing time came all too soon, and it seemed generally felt that this, the seventh gathering of its kind, had been as great a success as could well be.

ST. LUKE'S SOCIETY, CHELSEA.

The season of dinners is now in full swing, and amongst the most successful of this form of entertainment which has taken place in Chelsea during the present winter must be numbered the complimentary dinner which was given on Wednesday evening, at The Wellesley Arms, Sydney Street, by Mr. Churchwarden Picken. The success of the evening was greatly enhanced by the fact that Mr. J. J. Wheeler, J.P., occupied the chair. The company present included the Rev. W. Small, Messrs. W. F. Picken, Craney, Reach, W. E. Picken, Moncrieff, Humphreys, Ward, Watson, Hask, Olsen, Hopcroft, T. E. Barber, C. Fardon, H. R. Newton, J. Oxborrow, H. S. Ellis, G. Chesterman, W. Barber, W. E. Walker, Langdon, sen., T. Langdon, jun., W. Webber, W. Langdon, F. Groombridge, N. Dean, etc.

The organisation of the dinner and programme was undertaken by Mr. T. E. Barber, the secretary of the St. Luke's Society. An excellent dinner was served. The appearance of the room was very greatly enhanced by a number of palms and hothouse plants, and the centre of the dining table was adorned with a handsome yellow-shaded lamp, and a centre-piece of yellow and pink silk, fringed with greenery. The cloth was also beautified with the delicate, pale yellow blooms of the daffodil. Full justice having been done by all present to the dinner, the Chairman proposed the usual loyal toast, which was honoured in the usual manner.

Mr. Craney proposed the toast of "The Rector and Clergy of St. Luke's." He expressed his regret that the Rector was not present, and said that that gentleman was very good in the pulpit, but he was still better at a dinner. He was a very genial gentleman, and the speaker was very sorry that he was not present.

The Chairman said that it would fall to his lot to have the pleasing duties, in the intervals between the singing and the smoking, to propose during the evening one toast or another, but the toast which he had now risen to propose would, he knew be received with enthusiasm. It was that of "The Bellringers of St. Luke's Church," coupled with the name of Mr. Barber. In their parish they had a very efficient band of ringers. It had fallen to his, and the other Churchwarden's lot to so to speak, alleviate the sufferings of the bellringers as far as they were able. He was sure that they had had plenty of good music, and he hoped that they had also more comfort in the belfry-room. He lived between the churches of St. John's, West Chelsea, and St. Luke's, and when he heard the bells of the latter church he appreciated the difference between the new-fashioned tubes of Holy Trinity and St. John's and the stately bells of St. Luke's.

Mr. Barber responded. He said that he hoped the gentlemen present would excuse his making a speech, as he was not very good at it, but he felt he ought to express the very great pleasure which it gave him to respond to the toast proposed by their worthy Chairman. He felt sure that they would never forget the kindness of Mr. Picken in giving them such a very excellent dinner. He had been a bellringer now for twenty years. He felt sure that all present were very pleased to see Mr. Wheeler in the chair, and they hoped to see him again on future occasions in the same capacity. The bellringers of Chelsea had progressed very favourably of late, but there was still plenty of room for im-

provement. But they had changed very much, both in the class of men and in their ringing, compared with when the speaker first came to Chelsea. At first he used to be glad to sneak in at the back door, so as not to be seen with them, but he did not do so now. He hoped that before Mr. Picken was out of office they would have the pleasure of recording another peal.

The Chairman said that he had a small amount of opportunity for speaking in his position of Chairman of the Chelsea Vestry, but on an occasion like the present it was his duty to speak. It was his very pleasing duty to propose the health of Mr. Picken. He only wished that he had had the initiative idea of getting together such an excellent gathering as the present one, which, he thought should be encouraged. He owed a great debt of gratitude to Mr. Picken personally, and he felt that they all did. Mr. Picken had been a success at the board, and he hoped that that gentleman would be a success in all he did.

Mr. Picken replied, saying that he was a great lover of church bells, and perhaps that was why he had taken the departure of inviting the ringers there that night. The post of people's warden in Chelsea was a very short-lived one, for one no sooner got used to the position than the time came to leave. He felt that his part in the work of arranging the dinner had been very small, as Mr. Barber had been doing most of the work. He thanked all present very much for the cordial way in which they had drank his health, and he hoped that if he were spared they would meet at similar gatherings in the future. He then proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman in very eulogistic terms, referring to that gentleman's excellent work on the Vestry and the Kensington bench of magistrates, and the toast was received with loud and enthusiastic applause.

Mr. Wheeler in replying, said he had great affection for Chelsea, and whatever he had to do would do with all his might, whether as chairman of the vestry, or churchwarden. Of course he must have failed very often, but one could not help that. It had given him great pleasure to be present that night.

Song and sentiment followed in rapid succession, and the proceedings terminated at a somewhat late hour with great success.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

BRANCH FOR THE DEANERIES OF BOWDEN, STOCKPORT, AND MOTTRAM.

A meeting of this branch of the Diocesan Guild was held at St. George's, Hyde, on Saturday, March 5th. Shortened evening song was said in the church at 4.30, followed by an address by the vicar, the Rev. W. D. Bridges. Over thirty attended the service. Tea was served in the schools at 5.30, at which fifty-three sat down. The following belfries were represented: Hyde, Stockport parish church, St. George's, Stockport, Mottram, Marple, Norbury, Cheadle, and Wilmslow. It was arranged that the next meeting should take place on May 21st at Rostherne. The meeting instructed the secretary to send to "THE BELL NEWS" notices of all future meetings, as well as an account of the meetings afterwards, hoping that the Editor will courteously allow these a place in his journal.

The ringers afterwards repaired to the belfry, and some good ringing was done.

ALDEBURGH-ON-SEA, SUFFOLK.

On Tuesday, February 22nd, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, the marriage of Mr. William Evelyn Long, the young squire of Hurts Hall, Saxmundham, and Miss Muriel Harriet Vernon Wentworth, daughter of Mr. T. R. Vernon Wentworth, of Wentworth Castle, Barnsley, Yorkshire, and the Lord of the Manor of Aldeburgh, was solemnised. The streets and the Station Road was splendidly decorated with flags and arches, and as they left the church the bells were fired, and a 720 of Minor (six singles and nine bobs) was rung. C. Smith, H. Girling, F. Cooper, A. Wilson, G. Churchyard, and E. Cooper. And another 720 (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. Taylor, C. Smith; the rest as before. Also another 720 (twenty-six singles). C. Smith, F. Cooper, W. Taylor; the rest as before. And another 720 (twenty-two singles), all standing as before. W. Taylor hails from Leiston.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

On Sunday, the 6th instant, the bells of the parish church (St. Helen) were rung half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mrs. Robert Davenport, who, after but a brief illness, died on Wednesday, the 2nd inst., and was interred at Stockport on Saturday, the 5th inst. For morning service a 504 of Grandsire Triples was rung, and for evening service a quarter-peal in the same method in 49 mins. by G. Hatton, junr., 1; E. Hatton, senr., 2; H. Haddon, 3; A. Hitchcock, 4; J. Curtis, 5; E. W. Beadsmore, 6; J. H. Dunmore (conductor), 7; H. Smith, 8. At the morning service, Mr. Charles Horn, R.A.M. the (organist), played Sullivan's "Crossing the Bar," and for the dismissal voluntary at the evening service, Beethoven's "Funeral March."

In 1896 a new clock, with altered chimes, was placed in the church tower, but the name of the generous donor remained a mystery for some little time; eventually there was placed on the clock a brass plate which bears the following inscription: "The cost of this clock was defrayed by Mrs. Robert Davenport, February 29th, 1896." Mr. Davenport is a member of the Midland Counties Association, and an honorary ringing member of the local society, and though for some time past illness has prevented his taking an active part in ringing, he still takes a warm interest in the welfare of the society, the members of which deeply sympathize with him in his sad loss.

THE ST. MARY'S WHITECHAPEL SOCIETY.

The annual supper of this St. Mary's Whitechapel Society, took place at The Union Flag, Whitechapel, on February 19th. Previously a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung on the bells of St. Mary's by S. E. Joyce, 1; J. Scholes, 2; W. Truss, 3; F. C. Newman, 4; S. Parmenter, 5; E. Wallage, 6; A. W. Barkus (conductor), 7; G. Barrall, 8. Afterwards the company adjourned to the above house, where thirty-eight sat down, which number included the St. Botolph's Society of Bishopsgate, and the Society of St. George-in-the-East. After full justice had been done to the good things provided, the tables were cleared, and the rest of the evening spent in a convivial manner, songs being rendered by Messrs. T. Gardener, E. Costin, S. Joyce, T. Dawson, E. Wallage, Mr. Hudson, the piano accompaniment being by E. Richards, R.A.M. The loyal toasts were duly honoured, also the toasts of "The Visitors," which was responded to. During the evening Mr. W. Williamson was presented with a handsome pair of carvers by the members of the St. Botolph's Society, in recognition of his services as Secretary of the Society for upwards of twenty years. Mr. Williamson in a few well-chosen words thanked the members for their kindness. A vote of thanks was passed to the host for the way in which he catered for the party, Mr. Hurley, the host, responding. The evening was then brought to a close by singing "Auld lang syne."

CLARE, SUFFOLK.

On Saturday, March 5th, five members of the Glemsford company visited Clare for the purpose of trying the newly-restored handbells belonging to the church. They were met at the station by Mr. D. Gridley, who invited them to have a touch upon his own handbells, and a capital course of Bob Major was rung, being the first rung in the town for at least twenty-five years. A 6-score of Bob Doubles was also rung by A. Gridley (age 10) 1; Z. Slater, 2; F. Wells, 3; R. Gowers, 4; Dan Gridley, 5; being the first 120 by the ringer of the treble. A move was then made to the vicarage, where they were met by Messrs. C. Horne and W. Atkinson, of Poslingford. The Vicar (the Rev. J. R. M. Vatcher) having placed the handbells at their disposal, some capital touches of Bob Minor and Major were rung, also a touch of Treble Bob Royal by Zac. Slater, 1-2; C. Honeybell, 3; Dan Gridley, 4; C. Adams, 5; F. Wells, 6; S. Slater, 7-8; R. Gowers, 9-10. After a friendly chat, in which the Vicar informed them that he hoped to have the restoration of the tower and re-hanging of the fine old peal of eight (tenor 28 cwt. in D) put in hand very shortly, the party wended their way to the railway station, feeling that the time was not far distant when the Ely Diocesan Association would have another tower, with a company of promising youths to add to its number. We might add that the bells, 12 in number, were supplied by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

THE STOCKTON-ON-TEES SOCIETY.

SUMMARY FOR 1897.

During the past year 59 peals of Minor were rung on the bells of Stockton parish church, viz.: 18 of York Surprise, 10 each of Durham Surprise and Oxford Treble Bob, 11 of Kent, 6 of Woodbine, 3 of Evening Exercise, and one of Worcester Surprise. Of these 30 were conducted by T. Stephenson, 28 by G. J. Clarkson, and 1 by J. H. Blakiston of Middlesbrough.

THE JUBILEE MEMORIAL BELLS.

The Stockton ringers were much gratified recently to receive a donation of £1 6s. from the ringers of St. John's, Darlington. It may be mentioned that the formal appeal to other companies of ringers has been or will be made for donations towards this scheme, but only to people connected by residence or otherwise with Stockton.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

EASTERN DIVISION.

A Quarterly Meeting was held at Christ Church, Eastbourne, on Saturday, February 19th, 1898, when the following towers were represented, viz.:—St. Nicholas, Pevensey; Christ Church, St. Leonards; Christ Church, Blacklands; St. Clement's, Hastings; St. Peter's, Brighton; St. Nicholas, Brighton; St. Mary's, Hailsham; All Saints', Eastbourne; and Christ Church, Eastbourne. Ringing commenced soon after 3 o'clock, but there was not a muster for Triples until after 4 o'clock. A most excellent tea was provided for twenty at Ye Rising Sun, and a vote of thanks was accorded to Host Shoosmith for the manner in which it was served. The inner man having been satisfied, Mr. Howse was voted to the chair for the purpose of the business meeting, and the minutes of the previous meeting were duly read and confirmed.

A letter from the Vicar was then read regretting his inability to be present, owing to another pressing engagement, and wishing the Association success. Mr. Howse nominated Harry Kempshall as a member, and upon his name being put to the meeting, he was duly elected. A vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells was proposed by Mr. Merritt, seconded by Mr. Howse, and unanimously carried.

There being insufficient members present to make up a band to visit St. Mary's Church, Old Tower, and leave sufficient for ringing at Christ Church, the whole of the members returned to Christ Church, and kept the bells merrily going until closing time. During the afternoon and evening very good practice was had in Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Bob Minor and Major, and Grandsire Triples, and the touches brought round included 210, 336, and 447 Grandsire Triples, and 336 Bob Major in which a member scored his longest touch of Grandsire Triples, and G. Penfold his first touch of Major.

RADLEY, BERKS.

On Tuesday evening, February 22nd, at the kind invitation of Mr. J. Walker, Churchwarden, six of the Kidlington ringers, with Mr. Washbrook, of Oxford, visited this village and rang on the bells several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and a 720 of Grandsire Minor. F. Webb, 1; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 2; W. Bennett, 3; W. Thorpe, 4; H. Judge, 5; J. Franklin, 6. After the ringing they adjourned with the local ringers to Mr. Walker's house, where a substantial supper was provided, consisting of roast turkey, etc. (the turkey being a very fine one weighing 26 lbs.) to which ample justice was done. After the cloth was removed, the evening was spent in harmony, "The Health of Mr. Walker" being drunk. In responding, Mr. Walker said he always was very fond of hearing the bells, and he trusted that their own ringers would take up with change-ringing like they had heard that night, and not be content with ringing call-changes. Of course they could not do much with five bells, but now that they had a new treble added, they could do a good deal more, and they would get plenty willing to teach them, being close to Oxford. The Kidlington ringers wish through the medium of this paper to thank Mr. Walker for so kindly entertaining them.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUDBURY BRANCH.—A district Meeting of the above was held at Monks Eleigh, on Saturday, February 5th. Members attended from Sudbury (All Saints'), Lavenham, Hitcham, Bildeston, Hadleigh, Great Bentley, Preston and Monks Eleigh. The dedication of the bells, after being satisfactorily rehung, took place on this occasion, the service being held at 3 p.m., the Rector, Rev. A. J. C. Connell, officiating. Special prayers were used and also a special lesson, the Nunc Dimittis was chanted, and hymns 215 and 223 A. & M. were well rendered by the choir, Mr. Nudds (organist) presiding at the organ. After the service a touch of Oxford Treble Bob was rung by H. Sewell, 1; F. Symonds, 2; A. Keeble, 3; J. Taylor, 4; W. J. Nevard, 5; C. Sillitoe, 6. The tea and business meeting was held at The Bull inn at 4.30., the Rector presiding, supported by the District Secretary (Mr. C. Sillitoe), Mr. W. J. Nevard, A. Symonds, H. Sewell, etc. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Three new members were elected, S. Howell (Sudbury, All Saints), and R. Smith (Hitcham), performing members, and S. E. Slater (Glemsford) probationer. A vote of thanks concluded the business, after which a 720 of Oxford was rung by F. Symonds, 1; C. Sillitoe, 2; A. Keeble, 3; J. Taylor, 4; W. Stiff, 5; W. J. Nevard (conductor), 6. Touches of Kent and Bob Minor were also rung during the day. The entire cost of re-hanging has been defrayed by Mrs. Connell, mother of the Rector, as a Jubilee gift to the church and parish.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

Another year has flown past, and several members and friends of the above society found themselves celebrating its 30th anniversary, in the form of a grand dinner, at The York Hotel, Waterloo Road, on Saturday, March 5th, 1898. The dinner was served up in most sumptuous form, and after ample justice had been done to same, the evening was given to harmony. Songs were contributed by Messrs. J. E. Davis, Arthur Davis, Albert A. Davis, H. Davis, F. Davis, West, Webber, Symonds, and W. Truss. During the evening several selections on the handbells were given, the musical handbell ringing by Messrs. J. Davis, F. Davis, and Wild, being a great feature. It was a great pleasure to see so many of our distant though sincere members mingling together, prominent among whom were Mr. Turl, sen., Mr. G. Turl, Mr. E. Turl, and Mr. Berkshire, of Hampstead. Also several of our friends from Bucks: Messrs. Evans, Truss, etc., who were unavoidably absent from dinner. The usual toasts were given during the evening, "The Royal Family," "The Society," "Clergy and Churchwardens," etc. Mr. M. V. Moore presided at the piano with unflinching vigour, and one of the most enjoyable evenings in the annals of the society was brought to a close with "Auld lang syne."

On Monday, February 7th, several selected members of this society were kindly entertained by the Vicar and Churchwardens of St. John the Divine, Brixton, to a grand supper. After doing ample justice to the good things provided, the rest of the evening was given to harmony, songs being given by Messrs. J. Davis, H. Davis, F. Davis, A. Davis, Webber, West, and Fisher. After the usual toasts a most enjoyable evening was wound up with "Auld lang syne." Many thanks are due to Mr. Mark V. Moore for so kindly presiding at the piano during the evening.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, January 29th, for practice, 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Malins, 1; G. Tomlin, 2; L. Hollingworth, 3; A. Lee, 4; W. Earle (conductor), 5; G. C. Tunncliffe, 6; F. Hollingworth, 7; G. Dunn, 8. Also 360 in the same method. W. Malins, 1; G. Tomlin, 2; A. Lee, 3; L. Hollingworth, 4; W. Earle, 5; G. C. Tunncliffe, 6; F. Hollingworth (conductor), 7; G. Dunn, 8. Also a course of Grandsire Triples, on handbells. G. Dunn, 1; W. Malins, 2; W. Earle, 3-4; F. Hollingworth, 5-6; G. Tomlin, 7-8. On Sunday, January 30th, for morning service, 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Malins, 1; G. Tomlin, 2; L. Hollingworth, 3; A. Lee, 4; W. Earle (conductor), 5; F. Hollingworth, 6; J. Warren, 7; G. Dunn, 8.

POLLARDS, Limited, Bradford, Costume Skirts at 4s. 6d. are Wonderful Value.

Notices.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is One Penny per line (five words may be reckoned to a line). Repetitions at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the parish church, Middleton, to-day, Sat., March 12th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m. All ringers invited. E. B. SHAW, *Branch Sec.*
14, Thomas Street, Leesfield, Lees.

The Lancashire Association.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Holy Trinity, Blackburn, to-day, March 12th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. T. REDMAN, *Branch Sec.*

The Middlesex County Association.—South and West Districts.—The next meeting will be held at the Church of All Saints, Isleworth, to-day, Saturday, March 12. Ringing to commence at 5 p.m. C. EDWARDS, *Lampton, near Hounslow. Hon. Dis. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at St. Philip's church, Hulme, to-day, Saturday, March 12th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Business meeting at 7.30.

WALTER BROWN, *Branch Sec.*
54, Wenlock Street, Hulme, Manchester.

The Sussex County Association.—Western Division.—The next meeting will be held at Angmering, to-day, Saturday, March 12th. Belfry open at 2.30. Tea and business meeting at 5 p.m.

REV. J. W. G. LODER COTTER.
Yapton Vicarage, Arundel.

The Heavy Woollen District Association, Yorkshire.—The next monthly meeting of the above will be held at Earlsheaton, to-day, Saturday, March 12th, at 5.30 p.m. Meeting-house, The Spangled Bull. All companies competing in the eight-bell contest at Halifax, on Easter-Monday, should send names and entrance fee to me not later than April 2nd.

GEO. H. SIMON, *Hon. Sec.*
"Triticine, Limited," Knottingley.

The Birmingham Amalgamated Society.—On Monday next the practice for ringing will commence at St. Philip's church, Birmingham; time, 7.30 to 9 p.m. Sunday service ringing, 10 to 10.45 a.m. and 6 to 6.30 p.m. JOHN CARTER.

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—A meeting will be held on Saturday, March 19th, at Newchurch. Bells ready at 3.30 p.m. Business meeting at 6.30. Helmshore. J. H. BANKS, *Branch Sec.*

The Chester Guild.—Wirral Branch.—The next monthly meeting and tea will be held in the Schoolroom, Heswall, on Saturday, March 19th, at 6 p.m. Leaders of belfries are requested to let the Hon. Sec. know how many will attend. HENRY WOOLCOTT, *Hon. Sec.*
Grange Mount, West Kirby.

The Essex Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held on Easter-Monday, at Coggeshall. The following towers will be open, Coggeshall, Earl's Colne, Great Tey, Feering, Inworth and Kelvedon. A brake will start from Kelvedon church at 2 p.m. for Feering; from Feering at 3.45 for Coggeshall. Tea and business meeting will be held at The

Chapel inn, at 5.30 p.m. A conveyance will be provided for members to reach Kelvedon in time for the evening trains. Members intending to be present must notify the same to me not later than the previous Tuesday.

HENRY T. W. EYRE, *Ass. Sec.*
Gt. Totham Vicarage, Witham.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—At a meeting held at the new head-quarters, The Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on September 21st, it was resolved that a testimonial be presented to Mr. Matthew A. Wood, of Bethnal Green, as a mark of esteem and in appreciation of the good work he has done towards the advancement of change-ringing during the past fifty years. Subscriptions towards this object will be gladly received by any of the following committee:—Messrs. F. S. Bayley, Burkin, Butler, Cockerill, W. Davies (Liverpool), Dorrington, T. Hattersley (Sheffield), Horrex, Hughes, T. Mash, Newton, Prime, Pettit, F. W. J. Rees (Nayland, Colchester), Smith, Springall, Waghorn, jun., and Winney. Saturday, April 2nd, 1898, is the suggested date for the presentation to be made, and intending subscribers are earnestly requested to send in their subscriptions at least a week before that time.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. T. MATKIN.—Address the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, Stanhoe Rectory, Norfolk.

W. HINE (Davenham).—The publication of your letter would involve us in an action for libel.

Compositions.

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL.

By E. FRANCIS, *Norwich.*

5040.

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

Three times repeated, single half-way and end. Rung on handbells on April 13th, 1894, conducted by its composer.

A PEAL OF BOB MAXIMUS.

By E. FRANCIS, *Norwich.*

5016.

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

Continued—

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

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By C. SEVERN, *Killamarsh.*

5248.

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

Repeated.

A CORRECTION.—Mr. Dench writes:—"The peal of Double Norwich published by me in your last issue should have been 5120 changes, not 5248, and the reduction to 5024 by moving s is wrong."

Ringers Wanting Situations.

WANTED.—Situation as jeweller's porter or any other light employment; used to winding and most clock repairs; can ring standard methods; married, aged 30. Address, E. C., care of Editor.

WANTED by young man aged 23, situation as turner. Can ring standard methods on eight and ten bells. Address, H. W., care of Editor.

SITUATION required as baker, 5½ years in last situation, can mould, etc. Situation where smalls can be learnt preferred. Have rung a trifle in the Grandsire method, and wish to get into other methods, quick learner. Age 20; good references. Apply, J. Henley, Bartlett's Buildings, Rye, Sussex.

SITUATION WANTED.—Bellhanger, locksmith and hot water fitter. Improver, age 19, four years' experience. Good change-ringer on eight. Apply, E. S. Hodges, North Square, Dorchester, Dorset.

TIMEKEEPER seeks permanent situation. Excellent change-ringer in Standard methods. Member of the Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire Associations. Excellent references. Apply X. Y. Z., office of this paper.

GAS and Hot Water Fitter wants job. Good change-ringer from twelve-bell tower. Member of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. Apply to H.P., care of Editor.

SITUATION WANTED as plumber; general hand; change-ringer; member of Herts Association.—Apply, J. Shepherd, Church Road, Hatfield, Herts.

SITUATION WANTED as gardener, single-handed or where help is given; life experience both inside and out. Four years and half good character. Age 26, married. Good change-ringer on eight.—Address, W. Smith, 24, Anerley Grove, Upper Norwood.

SITUATION WANTED as Turner and Fitter, age 23. Used to small marine engines and millwrighting. Change-ringer.—Apply to J. Valentine, Mill Road, Stony Stratford, Bucks.

Situations Vacant.

WANTED a strong active man, wages 18s. to 22s. per week. Change-ringer. Good testimonial from last employer. Apply at once, to P. W. Davies, 6 Penrallt Road, Bangor, S. Wales.

COMPETENT INSTRUCTOR wanted for parish church, Whitby (8 bells), must be good man, and able to teach standard methods; will endeavour to find suitable employment. State occupation, with reference, to J. H. Blakiston, 21, Jedburgh Street, Middlesbrough.

MACHINE-MINDER WANTED.—Used to good book and cut-work. Must have served seven years. Permanency to suitable man, able to ring standard methods on ten bells preferred.—Billing & Sons, Guildford

SPLENDID OPENING for good watchmaker and clockmaker immediately. Ringer; churchman. Apply by letter, Rector, Tarporley.

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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).

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. (256 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)

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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 8vd. 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 12, 1898.

THAT fine old member of the Ringing Exercise, Mr. JOHN DAY (of Birmingham), gave some very good counsel to those clever young men of the St. Martin's Guild, who have lately come to the front as double-handed ringers. While congratulating them upon their recent successes in this particular feature, he advised them not to disregard the necessity which existed for their regular attendance at the stated practices of the Guild. Such advice, it may be said, is very much in order. We are among the last to speak lightly of double-handed ringing; the skill required for it is the greatest of all, and we give every credit to a band who has been skilful enough to master this complex part of the science. There will be found very few to disagree with the assertion that first and foremost of all we are Church Bell Ringers. The pursuit of handbell ringing is really only a means to an end; we claim our position in the Church by reason of our position in the tower. The practice of handbells alone would give us no *locus standi* as Church officials.

Our work among church bells only gives us this position, and therefore it is absolutely necessary not to lightly

esteem the periods appointed for our practical connection with them. Under all circumstances, tower practice should be jealously maintained. By punctual attendance in the belfry the well-being of the organisation is secured, but irregular and spasmodic visitation inevitably leads to that confusion which is the certain harbinger of dissolution.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

The next meeting will be held at Bristol on Tuesday in Whitsun-week, 31st May, 1898.

Notices of motion, etc., must reach the Hon. Secretary not later than Tuesday, the 3rd of May. They must be in writing, and signed by two representatives.

Hon. Secretaries of societies are reminded that subscriptions to the Council are now due and should be remitted to the Hon. Secretary without delay, at the rate of 2s. 6d. for each elected representative. The Hon. Secretary would also be greatly obliged for information as to any change in representatives, or their addresses, that has taken place in the last year.

H. EARLE BULWER,
Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn. Hon. Sec.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 5, 1898, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, SHADWELL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 17 cwt.

SAMUEL HAYES Treble.	ROWLAND FENN 5.
JAMES SCHOLES* 2.	WALTER S. WISE 6.
EBENEZER ANDREWS 3.	HENRY SPRINGALL 7.
EDWIN WALLAGE 4.	EMANUEL HALL Tenor.

Composed by THOMAS DAY and Conducted by HENRY SPRINGALL.

*First peal in the method away from the treble.

The Provinces.

STAPLEHURST, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 26, 1898, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 21½ cwt.

EDWARD DUNK Treble.	THOMAS WALLIS 5.
WILLIAM LATTER 2.	WILLIAM STEED 6.
JOHN STEDDY 3.	*THOMAS TABBRET 7.
GEORGE HEAD 4.	JACK PRESTON Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF and Conducted by JACK PRESTON.

*First peal of Major. This is the first peal of Major on the bells, and the ringers wish, through the medium of this paper, to thank the Rector, the Rev. J. S. ff. Chamberlain, for the use of the bells, and Mr. Henry Pope for making arrangements.

TREETON, YORKS.—THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AND THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Saturday, February 26, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of College Pleasure, College Exercise, London Scholars' Pleasure, Arnold's Victory, City Delight, Violet, and Duke of York. Tenor 11½ cwt.

WM. LAMBERT Treble.	*SAM THOMAS 4.
WALTER ALLWOOD 2.	W. J. NICHOLSON 5.
SAM WALKER 3.	THOS. WHITWORTH Tenor.

Conducted by T. WHITWORTH.

*First peal of Minor.

HILLINGDON WEST, NEAR UXBRIDGE.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, March 5, 1898, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

JOHN PEDDLE† Treble.	*HENRY GOSDEN 5.
WILLIAM H. GOSDEN* 2.	REV. H. G. BIRD 6.
SIDNEY SMITH† 3.	ARTHUR FINCH 7.
JOSEPH J. PARKER 4.	*WILLIAM FOSTER Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH J. PARKER.

*First peal. †First peal away from the tenor. †First peal away from the treble. W. H. Gosden is 16 years of age. This peal was rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of deep sympathy at the death of Sir W. H. Stephenson, K.C.B., who for many years has been churchwarden of this parish.

WITHYCOMBE RALEIGH, EXMOUTH, DEVON.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, March 5, 1898, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 17 cwt. in E.

EDMUND SARGENT† Treble.	THOMAS MUDGE 5.
EDWIN SHEPHERD 2.	WILLIAM RICHARDSON 6.
WILLIAM DRAKE 3.	JAMES MOSS 7.
FERRIS SHEPHERD 4.	*WILLIAM AKERMAN Tenor.

Conducted by FERRIS SHEPHERD.

*First peal. †First peal on treble, having previously rung tenor. Rung as a compliment to the treble ringer, who was married at Exeter Cathedral on the previous Sunday.

DEANE, BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 5, 1898, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt.

ROBERT DUCKWORTH .. Treble.	TITUS BARLOW 5.
ALFRED POTTER* 2.	W. T. H. TIMBRELL 6.
JOHN POTTER 3.	†JOHN W. BAYLEY 7.
JOSEPH POTTER 4.	A. EDWARD WREAKS Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL and Conducted by A. EDWARD WREAKS.

*First peal on eight bells. †First peal in the method. Rung with the bells half-muffled, in memory of the late Sir B. A. Dobson, Mayor of Bolton.

CHORLEY, LANCs.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 5, 1898, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

GEORGE L. GOODWIN* .. Treble.	RICHARD ASHWORTH 5.
JAS. SMITH, SEN. 2.	JOHN BROWN 6.
HENRY HAYES 3.	EDWIN TIMBRELL 7.
JAS. MATHER 4.	TOM REDMAN Tenor.

Composed by DANIEL PRENTICE and Conducted by TOM REDMAN.

This composition has the 5th and 6th their extent at home. *First peal of Treble Bob. Also first in the method on the bells.

LONGNEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIORS, GLOUCESTER.

On Saturday, March 5, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

CHARLES COX Treble.	WILLIAM T. PEGLER 5.
JOHN AUSTIN 2.	ERNEST E. DAVIS 6.
JESSE GILLET 3.	HENRY LOVELL 7.
HARRY FORD 4.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER Tenor.

Composed by H. W. WILDE and Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

ST. HELENS, LANCASHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 5, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Tenor 10 cwt.

JAS. MAINWARING Treble.	SAMUEL HORSFALL 4.
HY. THOS. MOSTON 2.	FREDK. THOS. SPENCE .. 5.
ROBERT GEORGE LEWIS .. 3.	JOHN W. BOOTH Tenor.

Conducted by FREDK. THOS. SPENCE.

This is the first peal on the bells.

TONG, YORKSHIRE.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 5, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of City Delight, Arnold's Victory, College Pleasure, New London Pleasure, Duke of York, Violet and Oxford.

Tenor 12 cwt.

HENRY ODDY Treble.	WILLIAM BOLLAND 4.
SAM ODDY 2.	GEORGE BOLLAND 5.
EDWARD ODDY 3.	FREDK. W. HARGREAVE .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM BOLLAND.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor on his 50th birthday, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

RADWINTER, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 5, 1898, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES. Tenor 17 cwt.

FREDERICK SHEDD Treble.	JOHN F. PENNING 5.
FREDERICK J. PITSTOW .. 2.	ALFRED PITSTOW 6.
WILLIAM DALLIMORE .. 3.	NATHAN J. PITSTOW .. 7.
ERNEST PITSTOW 4.	FREDERICK PITSTOW .. Tenor.

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW and
Conducted by FREDERICK PITSTOW.

CHILDSWYCKHAM, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, BENGWORTH.

On Saturday, March 5, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 of Grandsire and two each of Oxford Bob, Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob.

Tenor 14 cwt.

GEORGE WILLIAMS Treble.	*WILLIAM ARKELL 4.
FREDK. JOHNSON 2.	GORDON CHECKETTS 5.
HUBERT SALISBURY 3.	FRANK COOK Tenor.

Conducted by FRANK COOK.

*First peal in four methods. First peal on the bells.

SHEPSHED, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 5, 1898, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

FREDERICK TYLER Treble.	WILLIAM H. INGLESANT .. 5.
WILLIAM PLATT§ 2.	THOMAS START 6.
HARRY WHITTLE† 3.	WILLIAM A. MASTERS .. 7.
WILLIAM JOHNSON 4.	*SAMUEL BRIERS Tenor.

Conducted by HARRY WHITTLE.

*First peal. †First peal with a bob bell. ‡First peal of Triples as conductor.

WELLINGTON, SALOP.—THE SALOP GUILD.

On Saturday, March 5, 1898, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

JOHN ROWLEY Treble.	RICHARD ROWLEY 5.
JOHN EVASON 2.	ELISHA CHILDS 6.
RICHARD NICHOLLS 3.	TIMOTHY RICHARD 7.
JOHN JAGGAR 4.	GEORGE MOORE Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN JAGGAR.

First peal in the method by all except the conductor.

KEMPSTON, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 7, 1898, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being a 720 each of the following:

College Pleasure, London Scholars' Pleasure, College Exercise, Violet, Woodbine, Oxford, and Kent. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

WALTER CHAS. HUNT .. Treble.	CHARLES CHASTY 4.
CHARLES R. LILLEY 2.	CHARLES WM. CLARKE .. 5.
WILLIAM J. BARKER 3.	FRANK HULL Tenor.

Conducted by C. W. CLARKE.

This peal was arranged for Mr. W. C. Hunt, of North Shields, it being his first peal on six bells. The ringers wish to take this opportunity to thank the rector, the Rev. J. Rosser, for the use of the bells.

PEAL CORRECTIONS.—The peal rung at Wilby on February 12th, and published last week, was one of Doubles, not of Minor.—The peal rung at Edmonton on February 12th, should have been classed under the Middlesex Association; the sender also stated that it was Parkinson's twelve-part instead of Parker's twelve-part peal.

Date Touches.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Thursday, February 17th, at St. Paul's church, with the bells muffled, a date touch, 1898 changes, being 98 Grandsire Minor, 360 Double Court, 360 Oxford Treble Bob, 360 Kent Treble Bob, 360 College Single, and 360 Bob Minor. J. Brooks, 1; S. Oakes, 2; J. Denner, 3; Joseph Potter, 4; John Potter, (conductor), 5; A. Potter, 6. Tenor 18½ cwt. Rung as a mark of respect to the late Mr. Joel Redford, who was secretary to the above Association.

SAWRIDGEWORTH (Herts).—On Tuesday, January 25th, a date touch of 1898 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 15 mins. H. Saban, 1; N. W. Tarling, 2; T. Saban, 3; A. Brown, 4; C. Matthews, 5; W. Tarling, 6; H. Saban, 7; W. Dedman, 8. Conducted by T. Saban.

Miscellaneous.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

BENHILTON (Surrey).—On Saturday, January 15th, an attempt was made for Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but it came to grief a few leads from home owing to a mis-call. G. Heather, 1; C. Bance, 2; E. Walker, 3; C. Dean (conductor), 4; F. Holder, 5; H. Bryant, 6; L. Ferrige, 7; W. Wood, 8. Longest length by Messrs. Heather, Bryant, and Ferrige. First attempt as conductor. Messrs. Bance and Holder hail from Beddington; the rest are of the local band.

THE ALL HALLOWS SOCIETY, TOTTENHAM.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, January 23rd, for Divine Service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 43 mins. A. W. Darlington, 1; H. Ellis, 2; J. Waghorn, sen., 3; P. J. Darlington, 4; J. Waghorn (conductor), 5; H. N. Doughty, 6; C. A. Button, 7; W. Martin, 8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WEST HAM (Essex).—On Saturday, January 29th, at Holy Trinity church, Barking Road, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 24 mins. C. Fenn, 1; W. J. Nevard, 2; W. Pickworth, 3; R. Grimwood, 4; A. Bradley (conductor), 5; E. Wright, 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 22 mins. D. Elliott, 1; H. Gowers, 2; W. Miller, 3; E. Runter, 4; J. Mardell, 5; E. W. Beckwith (conductor), 6. And 720 Oxford Treble Bob in 23 mins. H. Scarlett (conductor), 1; W. Miller, 2; W. Pickworth, 3; J. Mardell, 4; A. Bradley, 5; E. Wright, 6. Also 720 Plain Bob Minor in 24 mins. C. Fenn, 1; W. Pickworth, 2; R. Fenn, 3; W. H. Dallimore, 4; F. C. Newman, 5; T. H. Beams (conductor), 6. And 120 Grandsire Doubles. G. Faulkner, 1; J. Bradley, 2; R. Fenn, 3; T. H. Beams, 4; W. H. Dallimore (conductor), 5; F. Withers, 6.

LEYTONSTONE (Essex).—Recently at St. John's church 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 23 mins. T. H. Beams, 1; T. Miller, 2; J. Mardell, 3; E. Runter, 4; A. Bradley, 5; E. Wright (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CHARING (Kent).—Recently, 240 Grandsire Minor. T. Edwards, 1; J. Willis, 2; W. Good, 3; H. Ward, 4; H. Goodwin, 5; W. Spice (conductor), 6. The new year was rang in with Grandsire Doubles. W. Edmed, 1; E. Archer, 2; W. Good, 3; H. Ward, 4; W. Spice (conductor), 5; P. Edwards, 6. Later in the day an attempt was made for 5040 Plain Bob, but it came to grief at the end of the second 720. J. Willis, 1; W. Hobbs, 2; W. Hills, 3; H. Goodwin, 4; E. Dixon (conductor), 5; W. Spice, 6. Hobbs and Hills hail from Willesborough. On Sunday, January 2nd, ten 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, called differently. W. Edmed, 1; J. Willis, 2; W. Good, 3; E. Archer, 4; W. Spice (conductor), 5; J. Clifford, 6. On January 20th, on handbells, a course of Stedman Doubles. W. Edmed, 1; H. Goodwin, 2; W. Good, 3; H. Ward, 4; W. Spice, 5; J. Willis, 6. On January 25th, another course. H. Goodwin, 1; J. Willis, 2; W. Good, 3; H. Ward, 4; W. Spice, 5; W. Hadlow (Latham), 6. This is the first in the method on the bells, and the longest length by all except W. Spice. Also several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and short touches of Minor, W. Hadlow ringing a bob bell.

HOLLINGBOURNE (Kent).—On Saturday, January 8th, at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. A. E. Gasson, 1; A. Tawney, 2; W. Mannering, 3; E. Day, 4; G. Pawley, 5; T. Mannering (conductor), 6. And another 720. T. Mannering, 1; W. Mannering, 2; E. Day, 3; G. Pawley, 4; A. Tawney, 5; A. Palmer (conductor), 6. First 720s on the bells since they were rehung, but the "go" of them is not very satisfactory. E. Day belongs to Rodmersham; the rest to Maidstone.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—On Sunday, January 30th, for evening service, 1120 Double Norwich Court Bob Major, in 43 mins. J. Muggridge, 1; A. Welsh, 2; G. Smithers, 3; H. Card, 4; W. Latter, 5; G. Head, 6; H. Porter, 7; S. Perkins (conductor), 8. This touch was rung by the local band.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

LECKHAMPTREAD (Bucks).—On Thursday, January 27th, for practice, 480 Grandsire Doubles. B. Carter, 1; H. Warner, 2; W. Carter, 3; F. Whitehead, 4; R. Nichols (conductor), 5. On Sunday, January 30th, for Divine Service in the morning, 480 Grandsire Doubles; for Divine Service in the evening another 480 in the same method, standing as before. On Monday, January 31st, 720 Grandsire Doubles, in 27 mins., called differently. B. Carter, 1; H. Warner, 2; E. Read, 3; F. Whitehead, 4; R. Nichols (conductor), 5. This is the first 720 on the bells, which have been recently rehung and two new trebles added to make a ring of five by T. Blackburn, of Salisbury. H. Carter, W. Emerson, W. Hurst, A. Hurst and W. Jolley also took part in the ringing.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

BASINGSTOKE (Hants).—On Wednesday, January 26th, for practice, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. Alice White, 1; C. Holdaway, 2; H. Lawes, 3; C. F. Hansford, 4; F. Wilson, 5; T. Curtis, 6; J. Ballard, 7; H. White (conductor), 8. First touch in the method by the local band. Also 336 Stedman Triples. T. Curtis, 1; Alice White, 2; C. Holdaway, 3; C. F. Hansford, 4; F. Wilson, 5; J. Ballard, 6; H. White, 7; A. Martin, 8. On Saturday, January 30th, an attempt for a peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans) came to grief in the first course of the tenth part after ringing 1 hr. 22 mins. On Sunday afternoon, for Divine Service, 420 Stedman Triples. E. Sutton, 1; Alice White, 2; H. Lawes, 3; C. Holdaway, 4; C. F. Hansford, 5; J. Ballard, 6; H. White, 7; A. Martin, 8.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BACUP (Lancashire).—On Saturday, January 1st, 720 College Treble. A. L. Hardman, 1; Z. Lord, 2; G. Shottin, 3; E. J. Cockcroft, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, January 2nd, for Divine Service, 720 College Exercise. Z. Lord, 1; Jas. Smith, 2; G. Shottin, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. For Divine Service in the afternoon, 720 College Pleasure. Z. Lord, 1; J. Smith, 2; E. J. Cockcroft, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Killamarsh. Z. Lord, 1; J. Smith, 2; G. Shottin, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening January 9th, for Divine Service, 720 Ebor. L. Holt, 1; E. J. Cockcroft, 2; G. Shottin, 3; Z. Lord, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Monday, January 14th, for practice, 720 Durham Surprise. L. Holt, 1; J. Smith, 2; Z. Lord, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, January 16th, for Divine Service, 720 College Single (sixteen bobs and two singles). A. L. Hardman, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 3; G. H. White, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; Z. Lord, 6. On Sunday morning, January 16th, for Divine Service, 720 College Exercise. L. Holt, 1; J. Smith, 2; Z. Lord, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Monday, January 17th, for practice, 720 Coventry Surprise. J. H. Smith, 1; J. Smith, 2; E. J. Cockcroft, 3; Z. Lord, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Monday, January 24th, for practice, 720 Worcester Surprise. A. L. Hardman, 1; J. Smith, 2; E. J. Cockcroft, 3; J. W. Smith, 4; Z. Lord, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, January 30th, for Divine Service, 720 Cambridge Surprise. A. L. Hardman, 1; J. Smith, 2; E. J. Cockcroft, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; Z. Lord, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Monday, February 14th, at St. Paul's church, a 720 of Bob Minor with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mr. John Williamson who was a ringer for fourteen years, a Sunday School teacher, and an ardent church-worker. J. Brooks (conductor), 1; S. Oakes, 2; J. Jenner, 3; A. Potter, 4; J. Potter, 5; W. Jenner, 6.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(STOCKPORT AND BOWDEN BRANCH.)

STOCKPORT.—On Monday, January 3rd, at St. George's, Heaviley, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, 1259 changes. Composed by C. Charge, of London. T. Barber, 1; J. Booth, 2; T. Jackson, 3; J. W. Bayley, 4; H. Machin, 5; J. Pearson, 6; J. Hankinson, 7; T. Marshall, 8; A. Sidebottom, 9; E. Williamson, 10. Rung on the occasion of the farewell of the conductor, who has since left Stockport for Rochdale, the ringers wishing him every success in his new sphere of life. On Sunday, January 9th, 503 Grandsire Caters. C. Barber, 1; J. Booth, 2; T. Jackson, 3; J. Pearson, 4; H. Meakin, 5; J. Mottershead, 6; J. Hankinson, 7; T. Marshall, 8; J. W. Bayley (conductor), 9; E. Williamson, 10. On Sunday, January 16th, 593 Grandsire Caters. C. Barber, 1; J. Booth, 2; T. Jackson, 3; J. Hankinson, 4; H. Meakin, 5; J. Mottershead, 6; J. Pearson, 7; T. Marshall, 8; J. W. Bayley (conductor), 9; E. Williamson, 10. On Sunday morning, January 23rd, for Divine Service, 575 Grandsire Caters. C. Barber, 1; J. Booth, 2; T. Jackson, 3; J. Hankinson, 4; H. Meakin, 5; J. Mottershead, 6; J. Pearson, 7; T. Marshall, 8; J. W. Bayley, 9; E. Williamson, 10. On Sunday, January 30th, 485 Grandsire Caters. T. Barber, 1; J. Booth, 2; T. Jackson, 3; L. Meakin, 4; H. Meakin, 5; J. Pearson, 6; J. Hankinson, 7; T. Marshall (conductor), 8; J. W. Bayley, 9; J. Scofield, 10. On Monday, January 31st, for practice, another quarter-peal in the same method. Composed by C. Charge, of London. C. Barber, 1; J. Booth, 2; T. Marshall, 3; J. Pearson, 4; H. Meakin, 5; J. Mottershead, 6; J. Hankinson, 7; J. Fernhead, 8; J. W. Bayley (conductor), 9; E. Williamson, 10. *First quarter-peal. †Longest touch as conductor. J. Fernhead hails from Gorton.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

WOLLASTON.—On Tuesday, January 25th, at St. James's church, for practice, 720 Double Oxford Bob, being the first in the method on the bells and by all except the 2nd and 6th ringers. J. H. Parsons, 1; F. Brace, 2; H. Dakin, 3; G. H. Pagett, 4; W. Fryer, 5; A. Roberts (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, February 15th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. H. Parsons, 1; W. Fryer, 2; F. Brace, 3; A. J. Skelding (first in the method), 4; A. Roberts, 5; G. H. Pagett (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, March 7th, 720 Double Oxford Bob. A. Roberts (conductor), 1; J. H. Parsons (first on a bob bell), 2; H. Dakin, 3; F. Brace, 4; W. Fryer, 5; G. H. Pagett, 6.

STOURBRIDGE.—On Sunday, February 13th, for morning service at St. Thomas's church, in 55 mins., 1440 Bob Major. G. Underwood, 1; L. Pritchard, 2; W. Newhall, 3; T. Heathcock, 4; G. H. Pagett,

5; A. J. Skelding, 6; W. A. Pugh, 7; A. Roberts (conductor), 8. On Thursday, February 24th, for practice, 560 Bob Major. G. Underwood, 1; L. Pritchard, 2; A. J. Spelding, 3; W. Fryer, 4; F. Brace, 5; T. Heathcote, 6; G. H. Pagett (conductor), 7; W. A. Pugh, 8. On Thursday, March 3rd, 464 in the above method.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

HAZEL GROVE.—On January 2nd, for morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, in 25 mins. J. Fernley, 1; S. Rutter (conductor), 2; D. Warburton, 3; J. Dean, 4; S. Fernley, 5; A. Fernley, 6. On January 2nd, for evening service, 720 New London Treble Bob, in 25 mins. J. Fernley, 1; J. Dean, 2; J. S. Wilde, 3; S. Fernley (conductor), 4; S. Rutter, 5; A. Fernley, 6. On January 3rd, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 24 mins. J. Dean, 1; J. Fernley, 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; S. Fernley (conductor), 4; S. Rutter, 5; A. Fernley, 6. On January 9th, for morning service, 720 Plain Bob, in 24 mins. J. Dean, 1; J. Fernley, 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; S. Rutter, 4; S. Fernley (conductor), 5; J. Shallcross, 6. For evening service 720 Violet Treble Bob, in 25 mins. J. Fernley, 1; J. Dean, 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; S. Fernley (conductor), 4; S. Rutter, 5; A. Fernley, 6. On January 16th, for morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, in 25 mins. J. Fernley, 1; J. Dean, 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; S. Fernley, 4; S. Rutter (conductor), 5; A. Fernley, 6. For evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 25 mins. G. D. Warburton, 1; S. Rutter, 2; A. Fernley, 3; J. Dean, 4; S. Fernley, 5; J. Shallcross (conductor), 6. On January 23rd, for morning service, 720 New London Treble Bob, in 25 mins. J. Fernley, 1; J. Dean, 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; S. Fernley (conductor), 4; S. Rutter, 5; A. Fernley, 6. For evening service 720 Plain Bob, in 24 mins. J. Dean, 1; S. Fernley (100th 720, conductor), 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; J. Fernley, 4; A. Fernley, 5; J. Shallcross, 6. On January 30th, for morning service, 720 Violet Treble Bob, in 25 mins. J. Fernley, 1; J. Dean, 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; S. Fernley (conductor), 4; S. Rutter, 5; A. Fernley, 6. On January 31st, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. J. Dean, 1; J. Fernley, 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; S. Fernley (conductor), 4; S. Rutter, 5; A. Fernley (100th 720), 6. First 720 of Grandsire by all the band.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GAINSBOROUGH (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, January 25th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 50 mins. T. Pattison, 1; Rev. G. H. Ridout, 2; W. Pattison, 3; E. Credland, 4; W. D. Sinker, 5; H. Sorr (first quarter-peal), 6; F. S. W. Butler (conductor), 7; J. Fisher, 8.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WELLS.—At the church of St. Cuthbert, on January 14th, 559 Grandsire Triples. H. Fry, 1; W. A. Mills, 2; J. W. Heale, 3; E. G. Lush, 4; J. F. Holloway, 5; W. Farley, 6; T. W. Radford (conductor), 7; H. G. H. Farley, 8. On January 28th, 518 Grandsire Triples and 224. G. W. Radford, 1; the rest as before. This is the longest touch by G. W. Radford and W. Farley.

WESTBURY (Somerset).—January 20th, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. A. Mills, W. Farley, E. G. Lush, J. W. Heale, T. W. Radford and H. G. H. Farley.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DEBBENHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday morning, January 9th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. Groom, 1; S. Collins, 2; W. Grimes, 3; J. Rumsey, 4; W. Rumsey, 5; A. Grimes, 6. First 720 as conductor by W. Groom. On Thursday, January 13th, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. J. Creasey (first 720 in the method), 1; S. Collins, 2; W. Rumsey, 3; J. Rumsey, 4; A. W. Grimes, 5; W. Grimes (conductor), 6. Also a course of Oxford Treble Bob Major. J. Creasey (first course in the method), 1; S. Collins, 2; W. Groom, 3; W. Rumsey, 4; A. W. Grimes, 5; J. Rumsey, 6; W. Bullock, 7; W. Grimes, 8. On Thursday, January 20th, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. S. Collins, 1; J. Rumsey, 2; W. Rumsey, 3; A. W. Grimes, 4; W. Grimes (conductor), 5; G. Rowe, sen. (first 720 in the method), 6. On Saturday, February 5th, an attempt was made for a peal of Bob Major, which came to grief after ringing 1 hr. 35 mins. J. Creasey, 1; W. Groom, 2; S. Collins, 3; W. Rumsey (conductor), 4; J. Rumsey, 5; A. W. Grimes, 6; W. Bullock, 7; W. Grimes, 8. This peal was attempted as a compliment to S. Collins on his fifteenth birthday, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns. It was also his longest length with a bob bell. On Monday, February 7th, for practice, 720 Double Court Bob Minor. S. Collins, 1; W. Groom, 2; A. W. Grimes, 3; J. Rumsey, 4; W. Grimes (conductor), 5; W. Rumsey, 6. First 720 in the method by all the band. For practice 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. Rumsey (conductor), 1; J. Rumsey, 2; W.

Groom, 3; A. W. Grimes, 4; G. Rowe, jun. (first 720 in the method), 5; W. Grimes, 6. Also 576 Oxford Treble Bob Major. S. Collins, 1; J. Rumsey, 2; A. W. Grimes, 3; W. Groom, 4; G. Rowe, jun. 5; G. Rowe, sen. (longest length in the method), 6; W. Rumsey, 7; W. Grimes, 8.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

WALWORTH (Surrey).—On Sunday morning, January 29th, at St. Peter's church, 960 Kent Treble Bob Major in 33 mins. F. G. Perrin, 1; *W. H. Webber, 2; A. R. Davis, 3; G. E. Symonds, 4; H. Barton, 5; J. Davis, 6; *W. S. Langdon, 7; H. N. Davis (conductor), 8. *Longest length in the method.

LAMBETH (Surrey).—On Sunday afternoon, January 23rd, at St. Mary's church, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original, in 48 mins. J. W. Golding, 1; H. R. Pasmore, 2; W. Moss, 3; H. Langdon, sen., 4; W. H. Webber, 5; W. S. Langdon, 6; *W. H. Pasmore (conductor), 7; W. Stoneman, 8. *First quarter-peal as conductor.

LONDON.—On Sunday, January 23rd, for Divine Service at St. Margaret's, Westminster, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, 1259 changes, in 50 mins. H. Barton, 1; M. H. Webber, 2; W. S. Langdon, 3; †H. R. Pasmore, 4; F. G. Perrin, 5; A. R. Davis, 6; *G. E. Symonds (conductor), 7; W. H. Pasmore, 8; H. N. Davis, 9; J. W. Golding, 10. Composed by C. Charge. †First quarter-peal on ten bells as conductor. *First quarter-peal on ten bells.

BRISTOL.—On Monday, January 24th, for practice at the parish church, Clifton, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Luke, 1; W. Gist, 2; R. Clark, 3; R. Wilkins (conductor), 4; A. Harvey, 5; J. Jones, 6; C. Thomas, 7; W. Holder, 8. First with a bob bell by W. Gist. On Tuesday, January 25th, on the occasion of the funeral of the Rev. — Day, 336 Grandsire Triples. J. Luke, 1; W. Gist, 2; R. Clark, 3; R. Wilkins (conductor), 4; A. Harvey, 5; J. Jones, 6; C. Thomas, 7; W. Holder, 8.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES (Surrey).—On Tuesday, January 11th, at All Saints' church, 1008 Grandsire Triples. A. Strutt, 1; J. Strutt (conductor), 2; G. Strutt, 3; W. Tiller, 4; G. Naish, 5; J. Baldwin, 6; J. Howes, 7; J. Chandler, 8. On Tuesday, January 18th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 47 mins. A. Strutt (longest length), 1; J. Wright, 2; E. Stacey, 3; J. Baldwin, 4; G. Naish, 5; G. Strutt, 6; J. Howes (composer and conductor), 7; J. Strutt, 8.

MAIDSTONE (Kent).—On Sunday evening, January 30th, for Divine Service at All Saints' church, 504 Stedman Triples. H. Alford, 1; T. Mannering, 2; A. H. Woolley, 3; W. Mannering, 4; G. Pawley, 5; A. W. Tawney, 6; A. Palmer (conductor), 7; J. Bonny, 8. H. Alford hails from Hackney, Middlesex.

SAWBRIDGEWORTH (Herts).—On January 1st, to ring in the new year, 504 Grandsire Triples. N. W. Tarling, 1; A. Brown, 2; T. Saban (conductor), 3; H. Saban, jun., 4; H. Saban, sen., 5; W. Tarling, 6; W. J. Pleasance, 7; C. Matthews, 8. On January 2nd, for evening service, 504 Stedman Triples. N. W. Tarling (conductor), 1; A. Brown, 2; T. Saban, 3; C. Matthews, 4; H. Saban, sen., 5; W. Tarling, 6; W. J. Pleasance, 7; — Webb, 8. On Monday, January 3rd, for practice, 336 Stedman, standing as before, except W. Dedman, who rang the tenor. Also 352 Bob Major. H. Saban, sen., 1; A. Brown, 2; R. Tabor, 3; T. Saban, 4; C. French, 5; T. Ellis, 6; W. Tarling, 7; H. Perrin (conductor), 8. On Tuesday, January 18th, 1260 Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins. H. Saban, 1; N. W. Tarling, 2; T. Saban, 3; A. Brown, 4; C. Matthews, 5; W. Tarling, 6; H. Saban, 7; W. Dedman, 8. Composed by H. J. Tucker and conducted by T. Saban. First quarter-peal by H. Saban. On Sunday, January 23rd, for Divine Service in the morning, 336 Stedman Triples. N. W. Tarling (conductor), 1; A. Brown, 2; T. Saban, 3; — Saxby, 4; H. Saban, 5; W. Tarling, 6; W. J. Pleasance, 7; T. Morris, 8. For evening service, 504 Stedman Triples. C. Matthews, 4; — Saxby, 5; H. Saban, 8; the rest as before. On Sunday, January 30th, for evening service, 588 Stedman Triples. N. W. Tarling (conductor), 1; A. Brown, 2; T. Salmon, 3; C. Matthews, 4; H. Saban, 5; W. Tarling, 6; W. J. Pleasance, 7; W. Dedman, 8.

WALTHAM (Leicestershire).—On Saturday, January 8th, at the church of St. Mary Magdalene, 120 Bob Doubles. T. Musson, 1; W. Clark, 2; W. Willson (conductor), 3; R. Marriott, 4; G. Squires, 5; R. Mount, 6. First in the method by all except the conductor, who is instructor, and rung after three lessons.

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.

Compositions.**PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.**By WILLIAM ELSON, *London.*

5021.

23456*	
35426	8th in three
43526	9th in three
53624	8 9
65324	9th in three
36524	9th in three
56423	8 9
45623	9th in three
64523	9th in three
54326	8 9
34625	8 9

This calling three times repeated, with single at 8 in three of third part, produces:—

62354

25364	8th in three
32564	9th in three
52463	8 9
45263	9th in three
34562	9th in three s
53462	9th in three
43265	8 9
24365	9th in three
32465	9th in three
42563	8 9

*7th in and out at 3 with a double.

Has the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th each ten courses in consecutive order behind the 9th.

First rung at All Saints, Fulham, on February 5th, 1898, conducted by its composer.

PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.By JOHN HOWES, *Kingston-on-Thames.*

7008.

23456	I	4	5	6
34256				
52436				
24536				
45236				
32546				
53624				
35426				
54326				
45623				
52643				
23645				

Five times repeated; calling a single for the first bob at 1 in the third and sixth parts. Contains the 4th, 5th and 6th each eighteen times in 6ths place, the 2nd never being there at a course-end.

PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.By ARTHUR CRAVEN, *Lincoln.*

5120.

23456	I	4	5	6
65324	-	-		
54326	-	-	-	
42356	-			
53246	-		-	
23645	-		-	
36245			-	
42635	-			
26435			-	
34625	-			
46325			-	
63425			-	
32465	-			

Three times repeated, substituting single for bob at 1 in the last course of the second and fourth parts.

PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.By GABRIEL LINDOFF, *Dublin.*

5152.

23456	M	B	W	H
52364	2		2	2
64235	2	-		2
62345			I	2
24536	2	-		
24365			I	
46325			2	
65324	2	-	I	2
52436	I		2	
34625	2	-	2	
43526	2			2
53246	I	-		I
45236	I	-	2	
56234	2	-	I	2
63425	2	-		
32654				
23456			I	2

Contains the 4th, 5th, and 6th exclusively in 6ths place at a course-end, the 5th and 6th being eleven times each in that position.

A 720 OF BOB MINOR.By E. FRANCIS, *Norwich.*

23456

42356
42563
54263
25463
34256
34562
s35462
24356

Repeated.

PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.By EDGAR WIGHTMAN, *Woodford.*

6336.

23456	I	4	5	6
54326	-			
43526				
35426				
24536	-			
45236				
52436				
34256	-			
23645				
36245				
62345				
43265	-			
32465				
24365				
45362	-	-	-	
53462				
34562				
53246				
32546				
25346				
32654				
26354				
63254				
52364	-			
23564				
25364				S
54362	-	-	-	
43562				
35462				
43256				
32456				

Repeated.

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

PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.By G. LINDOFF, *Dublin.*

5152.

23456	M	B	W	H
52364	2		2	2
64235	2	-		2
62345			I	2
24536	2	-		
24365			I	
46325			2	
65324	2	-	I	2
52436	I		2	
34625	2	-	2	
43526	2			2
53246	I	-		I
45236	I	-	2	
56234	2	-	I	2
63425	2	-		
32654				
23456			I	2

This peal contains the 4th, 5th, and 6th exclusively in 6ths place at a course-end, the 5th and 6th being eleven times each in that position.

THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BEDFORD.

In celebration of Mr. Hurst's 98th birthday, the bellringers of St. Paul's rang a touch of 1176 Grandsire Caters, on a recent Thursday evening, representing a change for every month of the veteran's life. The following took part: H. Toll, C. Chasty, S. J. Cullip, C. R. Lilley, C. W. Clarke (conductor), F. Keech, W. J. Barker, F. Hull, H. Tysoe and J. Spencer. Later in the evening, in the presence of a large gathering in the belfry, the Secretary of the Bedfordshire Association (the Rev. W. W. C. Baker) unveiled a tablet presented by Mr. Bull to commemorate the peal rung early on the Jubilee morning. Above the Royal arms was written "Beds. Association. St. Paul's company," while below were the words "Floreat in æternum scientia campanologiæ." Following came the inscription: "On June 22, 1897, was rung in this tower a peal of Grandsire Caters, 5021 changes, commencing at 3.20 a.m. and finishing at 7 a.m., in honour of the completion of the 60th year of the reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria. Tenor 28 cwt. 3 qrs. 6 lbs." And

then came the names of the band: S. J. Cullip, 1; C. Chasty, 2; W. J. Barker, 3; Harry Tysoe, 4; F. Smith, 5; F. Keech, 6; I. Hills, 7; H. Sharpe, 8; C. W. Clarke, 9; F. Hull, 10. Both Mr. Baker and Mr. E. Ransom said a few words, and Mr. Bull was thanked for his generosity. In responding he said that though he was gone too far to ring now, he had been anxious that the first ten-bell peal to be completed in the country on the Jubilee morning, should be permanently before all who in many distant years to come should come up into the belfry. He feelingly alluded to the late Mr. Elger, who did to much towards getting the ring extended to ten bells, and thanked them on Mr. Hurst's behalf for the compliment they had paid him that evening.

The tablet, which is a worthy addition to the belfry, gave great satisfaction to the ringers and to the visitors, as it will doubtless to all who see it.

WRITE TO POLLARDS, Limited, Bradford, for the Illustrated Sketch Book of Costumes.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED

CHIEF OFFICE: HOLBORN BARS, LONDON.

Summary of the Report presented at the Forty-ninth Annual Meeting held on 3rd March, 1898.

ORDINARY BRANCH.—The number of Policies issued during the year was 65,893 assuring the sum of £6,698,755, and producing a New Annual Premium Income of £365,996.

The Premiums received during the year were £2,774,264, being an increase of £231,002 over the year 1896.

The claims of the year amounted to £707,643. The number of deaths was 5,038, and 656 Endowment Assurances matured.

The number of Policies in force at the end of the year was 497,327.

INDUSTRIAL BRANCH.—The Premiums received during the year were £4,793,591, being an increase of £214,798.

The claims of the year amounted to £1,823,338. The number of Deaths was 192,359, and 1,876 Endowment Assurances matured.

The number of Free Policies granted during the year to those Policy holders of five years' standing, who desired to discontinue their payments, was 60,848, the number in force being 549,889. The number of Free Policies which became Claims during the year was 10,716.

The total number of Policies in force at the end of the year was 12,546,132: their average duration exceeds eight and a-quarter years.

The Assets of the Company, in both branches, as shown in the Balance Sheet, are £30,438,337, being an increase of £3,379,226 over those of 1896. A supplement showing in detail the various investments is published with this report.

Having regard to the growth of the Company, and also with a view to afford relief to the Managers and Secretary, the Directors have made certain re-arrangements and alterations in the Chief Office Staff. Messrs. DEWEY, HUGHES, and FISHER will in future be Joint General Managers, and certain duties of administration have been entrusted to a number of senior officials, whose long and intimate acquaintance with the management has qualified them for promotion. The Directors believe that the traditions of management which have produced such successful results in the past will thus be continued in the future.

General Balance Sheet of the Prudential Assurance Company, Limited, on the 31st December, 1897.

LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Shareholders' capital	1,000,000	0	0	British Government Securities (£3,000,000 Consols)	2,982,232	16	11
Ordinary Branch funds	15,134,804	10	3	Indian and Colonial Government Securities ..	2,814,523	18	3
Industrial Branch funds	13,568,033	14	10	Railway and other Debentures and Debenture Stocks	2,159,273	7	5
Reserve Fund	605,000	0	0	Loans on County Council, Municipal and other rates	5,992,665	1	10
Claims under life policies admitted	135,499	4	7	Freehold ground rents and Scotch feu duties ..	2,628,268	9	6
				Freehold and leasehold property	1,882,662	5	6
				Mortgages	3,155,015	1	3
				Railway, gas, and water stocks	4,963,189	13	5
				Suez Canal shares	168,489	5	8
				Telegraph and other shares	26,025	11	7
				Metropolitan Consolidated stock and City of London bonds	363,420	13	6
				Bank of England stock	200,559	18	6
				Foreign Government securities	692,757	9	2
				Reversions and Life Interests	473,705	9	5
				Loans on the Company's Policies	578,520	8	3
				Rent Charges	153,077	17	4
				Outstanding premiums	402,094	18	1
				Cash in hands of Superintendents & Agents' balances	49,911	6	5
				Outstanding interest and rents	231,677	18	7
				Cash—on deposit, on current accounts, and in hand ..	520,265	19	1
	£30,438,337	9	8		£30,438,337	9	8

THOS. C. DEWEY,
WILLIAM HUGHES,
FREDERICK FISHER,

Joint General Managers.

W. J. LANCASTER, Secretary.

EDGAR HONE, Chairman.

HENRY HARBEN,
ROBERT BARNES, } Directors.

We have examined the Cash transactions, Receipts and Payments, affecting the accounts of the Assets and Investments for the year ended December 31st, 1897, and we find the same in good order and properly vouched. We have also examined the Deeds and Securities, Certificates, etc., representing the Assets and Investments set out in the above account, and we certify that they were in possession and safe custody as on December 31st, 1897.

15th February, 1898.

DELOITTE, DEVER, GRIFFITHS & CO.

CLOCKS,

striking the quarter, half-hour or hour, made specially for

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THE RINGING-CHAMBER,
THE OFFICE, OR
THE HOUSE.

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TENOR 25 cwt. WEIGHT OF PEAL 5 tons. 4 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lbs.

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In Commemoration of Her Majesty's Jubilee, 1897.

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Zinch, Stogumber, Somerset.

Rings of Bells to any number hung on the most approved
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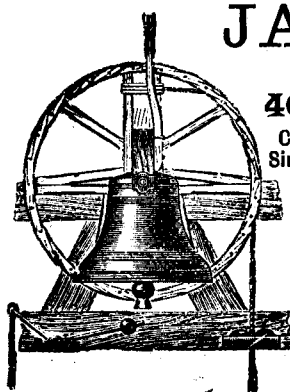
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| No. 320. | "The Mountaineers' Waltz," in the Swiss style | price 1 6 |
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| No. 322. | "The Pilgrim of Love" Galop, on Bishop's favourite song | 1 6 |
| N.B.—The above three pieces are suitable for six ringers, with twelve bells, thus: C D E F G A B C D E F G. | | |
| No. 217. | Belfry Chimes and Nursery Rhymes for six ringers with three octaves in the chromatic scale C 22 to C 1 | 3 0 |
| No. 300. | Duet for two ringers "Farewell, but whenever" and "My lodging is on the cold ground" | 0 6 |

WILLIAM GORDON, 71, Lower Hillgate, Stockport.

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 832.—VOL. XVI.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 1898.

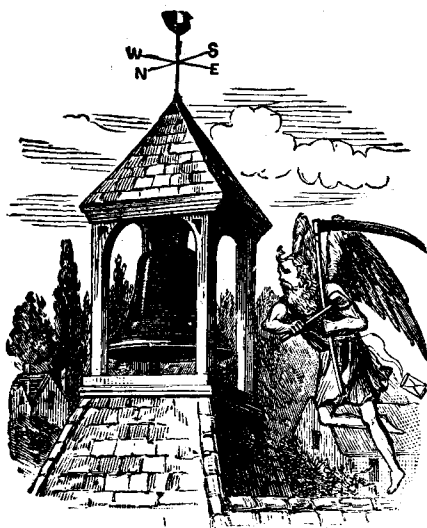
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London.	Crawley Parish Church
Sherborne Abbey.	Corbridge-on-Tyne, do.
Sydney Town Hall,	Pontypool (Trevelthin
N.S.W.	Church.)
Hammersmith Parish	Windermere Church.
Church.	Eiffel Tower, Paris.
Gateshead Clock Twr.	Dunstold Parish Ch.
Duke of Albany Memo-	Aylesford do.
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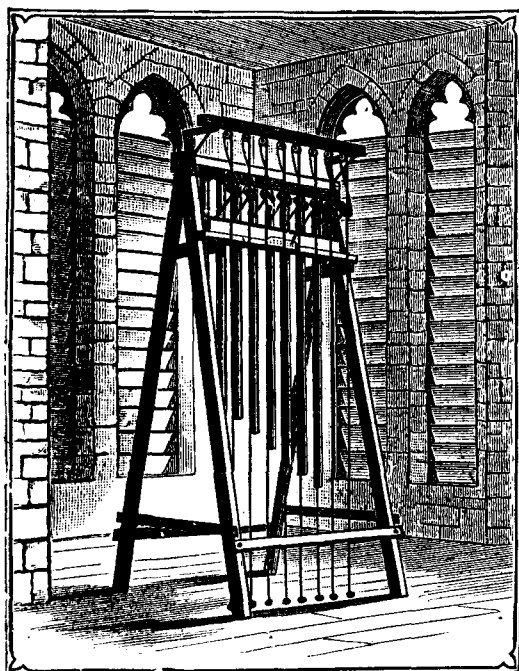
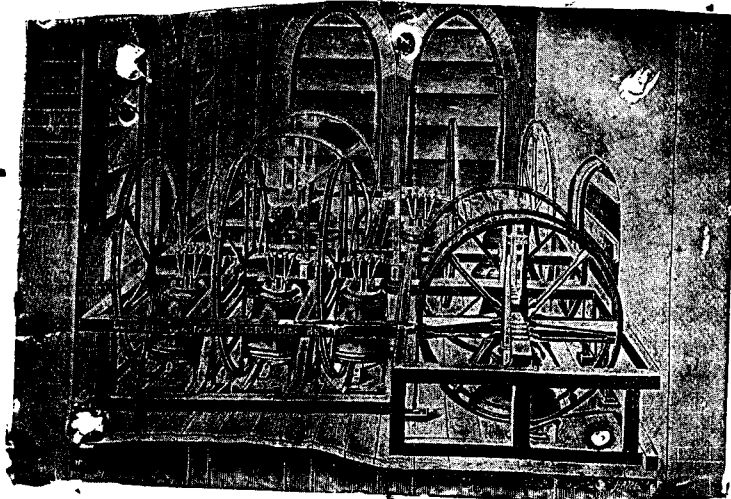
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42 POPULAR AIRS, for Handbell Ringers, by W.
HALEY, Price 1s. Auld Lang Syne, Hark! 'tis the Bells,
Home Sweet Home, March of the Men of Harlech, Rule
Britannia, Sailing, St. Patrick's Day, Sleighing Song, The
Bellringer's Glee, The Star-Spangled Banner, Wait till the
Clouds roll by, Whistling Farmer Boy.

Cold Wintry Weather

Deals roughly with us if we are not properly protected from its ravages.

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supply protection at the lowest possible prices, and invite your careful attention to the following Extra-ordinary Cheap lines.

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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 832.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 1898.

[Vol. XVI.]

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—ANNUAL REPORT.

The Seventeenth Annual Report of this Guild has just been published. It is of the usual bulky character, comprising no less than sixty-two pages of closely-printed matter. The cash in hand is £35 18s. 5d., a very good balance indeed after the many items of expenditure. On this feature—the important one of finance—the Hon. Secretary says:—

The financial position is all that can be wished. Mr. Preston's audit, for which we thank him once more, reveals a balance of £35 18s. 5d., after the disbursement of £10 to the Cathedral improvement, and £5 to that at Kidlington, a final payment of £5 3s. 6d. on account of the printing of the peal-book, and an expenditure of £7 15s. 10d. on instruction. The peal-book will now become a small, and we may hope increasingly large, source of income.

The number of members of the Guild has increased, notwithstanding that four bands have gone out of union. Several new companies have however joined. On this the Hon. Secretary says:—

The Guild has again maintained its progressive character during the past year. The increase of more than 100 members in 1896 arose out of the formation of the Deddington branch. But a new branch is not to be expected every year, and an addition of 30 to the membership is entirely satisfactory. In the last published returns in the official Year-Book of the Church of England, the number of bellringers in the diocese is given as 2393. Only one other diocese, Exeter, with 2414 ringers, exceeds these figures. Satisfactory as is our Guild membership of 1106 ringers, it is not half the whole body of ringers in the diocese. There is therefore, much work to be overtaken. The number of towers in union has gone up from 100 in 1896 to 103. This has been brought about by the loss of Amersham, Cuddington, Mollington, and Winslow, and by the accession of Bradfield, Freeland, Fulmer, Hook Norton, Leckamstead, St. John's, Mortimer, and Stoke Poges.

The Master reports as follows:—

The most notable event in the year is the augmentation of the Cathedral bells from ten to twelve, and the recasting of the old 6th bell. The three new bells are a great success, reflecting much credit on the Whitechapel foundry. The new bells, the gift of the Guild, were dedicated to the service of God by the Lord Bishop of Oxford on Tuesday, December 14th, 1897.

Good work has been done, and progress made by the Caversham band, and laudable activity has prevailed among the Reading men. The Goring ringers have also scored two peals during the year.

The Guild has scored 52 peals during the year: the Master (the Rev. F. E. Robinson) and Mr. F. Hopgood heading the list with ten each.

THE STOCKTON-ON-TEES JUBILEE MEMORIAL BELLS.

It may be mentioned that no formal appeal to other companies of ringers has been or will be made for donations towards this scheme, but only to people connected by residence or otherwise with Stockton.

POLLARDS, Limited, Bradford, LADIES' COSTUMES at 10s. 6d., are Wonderful Value.

STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

UNVEILING OF A PEAL BOARD AT BUCKNALL.

The Monthly Meeting of the above Association was held at Bucknall, on Saturday, March 12th, and was attended by the Rev. G. T. Birch (Rector), the Rev. H. E. Beech (Rector of Kingsley), Mr. W. Twigg (hon. secretary), and about forty members; the following towers being represented: Stoke, Longton, Hanley, Wolstanton, Tunstall, Kids Grove, Norton, Brownedge, Leek, Cheddleton, and Bucknall. Ringing commenced about 4 o'clock, and was kept up by mixed bands of ringers until 5.30, when a new peal-board, which has been placed in the ringing-chamber by the ringers, was unveiled by the Rev. H. E. Beech. The rev. gentleman in a few remarks said it was a great pleasure to him to come to Bucknall for the purpose of unveiling that board, and he thought the ringers of Bucknall deserved great praise for the way in which they had persevered, as it must have taken a great deal of practice to ring such a peal as that. He also spoke a few words of the work of the Association, and the good it had done amongst the ringers. The board, which is of English oak, contains the following inscription in gilt letters:—“St. Mary Society of Change-ringers, Bucknall. On Tuesday, April 6th, 1897, in two hours and fifty-six minutes, a peal of 5040 changes was rung in the seven following Surprise Minor methods, viz.:—London, Chester, York, Cambridge, Superlative, Bristol, and Worcester. Performers—George Clarkson, 1; William Wheeldon, 2; John E. Wheeldon, 3; Charles Preston, 4; Daniel Preston, 5; William Twigg, 6. A silent peal. This is the first peal of Surprise Minor ever rung in England. It was rung without any intimation being given whatever as to where the bobs should be made. Rev. G. T. Birch, Rector; John Fenton, William T. Gynes, Churchwardens; George Hobbs, Tower-keeper.” The members then adjourned to Bucknall Cottage (the residence of Mr. H. E. Clarkson), to partake of a substantial tea, which had been provided by the Bucknall ringers. After tea the Rector of Bucknall proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. H. E. Beech for so kindly coming from Kingsley to unveil the board. This was seconded by W. Twigg, and heartily carried. Mr. Beech, in responding, said he thought he was honoured in being asked to unveil such a board, and he hoped the other ringers would try to emulate the Bucknall ringers. He congratulated the ringers of Bucknall on the high position they had attained in ringing. Mr. J. Mason proposed a vote of thanks to the Bucknall ringers for the excellent tea which they had provided. This was seconded by Mr. T. Miller, and heartily carried, as was also a vote of thanks to the ladies who had so kindly waited on them. The ringers then made for the tower, where ringing was kept up until between eight and nine o'clock.

FESTIVITY AT WALTHAM ABBEY, ESSEX.

On Thursday evening, the 3rd inst., Mr. Austen Marshall entertained the local ringers to supper at his house in Highbridge Street. Twelve of them were present. The Host himself presided, and the vice-chair was taken by his son, Master Thomas Marshall (a local ringer). The table was loaded with an abundant supply of good things, and the comfort of everyone present was studied to a detailed nicety. Mrs. Marshall and other members of the family waited upon the company to expedite matters, and their efforts were decidedly a success. All present were helped to what they preferred most satisfactorily.

Supper over, Mr. Marshall said: I think the best thing will be to have some singing, after which Mrs. Marshall and the other members of my family would like to hear the handbells.

At this point Mr. W. A. Alps rose and said: Before doing so, Sir, will you first allow me to say a few words, so that I may not have to interrupt the harmony of the evening later on. Our

Master, Mr. Thos. Pallett, is absent through illness, and our Secretary, Mr. Frank Carter, through pressure of business, as are also two other local ringers. But they would, I know, have far rather been here in response to your kind invitation had not circumstances ruled otherwise. Anyone who noticed the good things provided must know that that in itself means a lot of work for someone, whoever it may be, whether it be Mrs. Marshall or her daughters. All I have to say is this: you are very kind, and we are very grateful. Speaking as I do in the presence of so many ladies and gentlemen, including Mr. and Mrs. Marshall, I feel it to be a privilege and a pleasure to propose "Health and continued happiness to Mr. and Mrs. Austen Marshall." In doing so I only re-echo the many good wishes expressed by the ringers among others twenty-five years ago.

The toasts having been musically and enthusiastically honoured, Mr. Austen Marshall said: On behalf of Mrs. Marshall and myself, you will please accept our thanks for the kind way in which the toasts has been proposed and received by all. My object in inviting you here to supper to-night is in recognition of your kind consideration on February 19th of our wedding-day, which this year is a silver wedding. And I do so because you have always been so kind to my son Tom, who is vice-chairman to-night, and who I know is very anxious to become a change-ringer. I am glad to know that such a good understanding prevails, and now I think it is time I sung my song. Our only wish is that you should all enjoy yourselves.

Master Thomas Marshall then proposed "Success to the Waltham Abbey Society of Change-ringers," which was duly honoured.

Mr. W. A. Alps, in reply, on behalf of the ringers, said he was glad to know and inform the company that change-ringing was still flourishing at Waltham Abbey, and hoped it would continue to do so. In thanking them on behalf of the local ringers, he might say if Master Thomas was anxious to become a full-blown change-ringer, he must make up his mind for many disappointments, for that was the lot of all men. He remembered some years ago reading the late Mr. John Carr's history of himself as a change-ringer, where it was related that a party of ringers from Waltham Abbey went to St. Albans to start a peal. Owing to someone being ill, they could not ring, and so these lines appeared in that book:—

Disappointments attend all classes of men:
The Pealmist as well as the singer,
The Bishop, the Doctor, the Dean, and the Prector,
And sometimes reaches the ringer.

Now, that being so with celebrities, all young ringers must say to themselves, "If we don't at first succeed, try, try, try again." Stick to that, and they would all become change-ringers.

During the evening the following musical items were rendered to the universal delight of the assembled company:—Pianoforte selections from "The Geisha," Miss Marshall; song, "We are all getting older every day," Mr. A. Marshall; handbells, "Course of Grandsire Caters," Messrs. Alps, Peace, Tarling, Thurgood, and Colverd; songs, "Beauty's eyes," "The Flight of ages," and "Adieu, Marie," were sung by Mr. C. Chapman. Miss Eastwood contributed the well-known songs, "I want yer, ma honey," and "The Tin Gee-gee." Mr. Neville A. Damian sang "The Burglar's Serenade" and "Dinah"; and Mr. J. A. Marshall amused the company with the humorous songs, "If it wasn't for the 'ouses in between," "Can't change it," "Brighton," and "The dandy-coloured coon." A pianoforte duet of a descriptive character, entitled, "A Bicycle ride," was ably performed by the Misses A. and L. Marshall, which was followed by a few well-known airs on the handbells, manipulated by Messrs. Peace, Thurgood, Dymock, Colverd, and Alps. The ringer visitors contributed the following songs:—Mr. Alps—"A starry night for a ramble"; Mr. Colverd—"Poor old Joe" and "Good old Jeff"; Mr. A. Tarling—"Anti-fat" and "Nothing"; Mr. G. Cole—"The miner's dream"; Mr. C. Hearmon—"The soldiers of the Queen"; and Mr. Walter C. Dymock—"Robinson Crusoe," "Bib-e-dy Bob," and "Peter Piper."

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 VICTORIAN ASSOCIATION, MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA.

The members of this Association held their quarterly meeting on January 8th, 1898, when among other business, a report of the previous quarter's ringing was read. At St. Paul's Cathedral on October 23rd, 1897, an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples failed after ringing 3766 changes in 2 hrs. 32 mins. owing to a mis-call; A. Barnes (conductor). At St. Patrick's Cathedral on November 7th, 1897, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins.; A. Barnes (conductor). On November 27th, 1897, at St. Paul's Cathedral, an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples suddenly collapsed after ringing 3178 changes in 2 hrs. 9 mins.; A. Barnes (conductor). On December 5th, 1897, at St. Patrick's Cathedral, for evening service, 980 Grandsire Triples; A. Barnes (conductor). At the conclusion of the ordinary business Mr. Shenton read a very interesting paper on "Ringing in the Early Days of this Colony," which was much appreciated by the members present. After the usual vote of thanks had been accorded Mr. Shenton, and he had suitably responded, the meeting terminated. On January 1st, 1898, the Association held a day's ringing at St. Paul's Cathedral in conjunction with the St. Paul's society. After ringing rounds, etc. with some of the old ringers, a start was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples. All went well for 41 mins., when the 5th rope slipped wheel, and brought the attempt to an abrupt termination. After refreshments had been partaken of, another start was made, but again I have to record a failure, for after ringing 4172 changes in 2 hrs. 34 mins., the sixth man gave up exhausted, which was not to be wondered at, seeing that the prevailing temperature for the week previous had been 107 in the shade. Regret was expressed at having failed so near the finish, but more than one of the ringers was heard to express the opinion that he could not have lasted much longer, but hoped that we may be successful at our next attempt. We are experiencing very hot weather here this summer, consequently the ringing suffers, and although we have not yet been successful in ringing a peal, still, what has been done has been very creditable.

S. J. HALLISSY, *Hon. Secretary.*

PRESENTATION TO MR. JOHN AUSTIN, OF GLOUCESTER.

Very recently an interesting ceremony took place at the St. Michael's Church tower, Gloucester, in the presentation of a testimonial to Mr. John Austin, in recognition of his services as a change-ringer and conductor to the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association and the St. Michael's Juniors, Gloucester. The testimonial took the form of a beautiful marble clock, suitably inscribed. The presentation was made by the Master of the Association (the Rev. E. Bankes James), who said they all remembered well when in the year 1890, Mr. Austin came to live in Gloucester, and announced his arrival by conducting Holt's Original, and also rang his first peal for the Juniors, one of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, on Christmas morning in that year. Since then he had been a great help to the Association and the Juniors, and had helped to put the Juniors where they now were, viz. one of the leading ringing societies in the kingdom.

Mr. Austin, in reply, said he was more than pleased to know his services were appreciated, and nothing did him more good than to know that the St. Michael's Juniors were second to none as ringers, and it did not matter what method was brought out, he was sure they could soon ring it.

An adjournment was then made to The Albion Hotel, where a pleasant hour's harmony was indulged in, songs being rendered by several members.

TONG, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, March 12th, an entertainment was given in the village schoolroom, the object being to raise funds to purchase a new peal of 17 handbells—and suitable box—in the key of E flat, size 20, cast by Shaw, Son & Co., of Bradford, which had been offered to the ringers on advantageous terms by their friend M—.

On opening the proceedings, Mr. G. Bolland briefly referred to the object of the gathering, hoping that all might spend a

pleasant evening together, and promising to entertain the Company to the best of their ability.

The programme was commenced with a course of Oxford Minor, being rung by G. Bolland and the brothers John and Joseph Thackray, of Armley, who very kindly came to aid their brethren in the art. This was followed at intervals by a course of Grandsire Major, two courses of Grandsire Royal, and several tunes, Messrs. H. Oddy and Fred. Hargreave taking the additional bells required.

Vocal music was rendered by some friends from Bradford, Mr. W. Hindle and Mr. Vickerman singing a duet, and the former also gave the song, "Queen of the Earth," Mr. Fred. senior (a nephew of Mr. Bolland), adding a comic song. A character sketch given by the brothers Vickerman and Mr. Hindle, and a reading by Mr. Stevenson in the Yorkshire dialect, "Trying to live on 6d. a day," proved very amusing.

Lovers of the terpsichorean art were not forgotten, and this lent variety and added zest to the evening's amusement for the ladies, who turned up in great force. Refreshments were served at 9 p.m., the wives of the ringers being responsible for this department, and they catered well for their numerous guests.

Mr. Tempest Barraclough, grandson of a former well-known village schoolmaster, presided at the piano, the thanks of the ringers being due to him and the other performers for their kind assistance in helping to make the evening's entertainment such a decided success.

FARNHAM ROYAL (BUCKS.) BELL FUND.

A fund has been started for the addition of two trebles to make a peal of eight, and to recast the present treble and 5th. A long additional list of subscriptions appear in the current number of the "Parish Magazine," the total amount now standing at about £115. The object being within a measurable distance of accomplishment, so near in fact, that the order has been given to Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, the noted Whitechapel firm of bell founders, and it is hoped that the work will be completed in the course of a few weeks. A great many ringers round about here have given their hearty support to the scheme, for which the Farnham Royal bell ringers wish to express their heartiest gratitude; at the same time it is hoped that additional names will swell the list of subscriptions.

THE HEAVY WOOLLEN DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION, YORKSHIRE.

The monthly meeting of the above was held at The Spangled Bull, Earlsheaton, on Saturday last, March 12th, members assembling together from Kirkheaton, Halifax, Ossett, Batley Carr, Dewsbury, Earlsheaton, and other places. In the absence of the presidents and vice-presidents, Mr. David Stephenson occupied the chair. The secretary read the minutes, which were passed. It was unanimously agreed to hold a Committee Meeting at Halifax on April 2nd, at 5.30 p.m. After the meeting closed, the fine peal of tower bells was set going; these and the handbells being rung, bringing the evening to a close.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH AND WEST DISTRICT.—A meeting of the above was held on Saturday, March 12th, at the church of All Saints, Isleworth. Representatives were present from Burnham, Hillingdon, Heston, and Ealing; also the President, the Rev. G. H. Bird; Mr. King and several members of the north and east district. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Oxford Bob Triples. Bob Major and Kent Treble Bob were rung from 5 o'clock until 9 o'clock.

It was proposed to hold the next meeting early in May at Harmondsworth. Four new members were elected.

WANTED a large peal of handbells. Forty-nine bells. Chromatic scale; G25 to G64; or a larger peal with duplicates. Must be in thorough good condition, and sweet tone. State lowest possible terms, with maker's name, and all particulars to WILMER ROGERS, 8, Yerk Street, Wrexham.

CURRENT TOPICS.

The season is slowly approaching when I hope to have the indulgence of communing again with my ringing-brethren. At any rate I hope so; because for a long time past I have veritably felt like a fish out of water. The quidnuncs say that man is an egregious animal. So he is. You all know what that means. I can't say it is sufficiently clear to my mind, but probably my punctuation—no, pronunciation, is not as it should be. Man is an egregious—ah! I've got it—a "gregarious" animal. "Not quite so much of the animal, please," my friend A. says. Well, we will say "individual." The meaning is that he likes the company of his fellows (whether they are odd or even), fond of society, and so forth. And so it is with your humble servant. I like to be in the company of my brother-strings, amazingly fond of society, if it is only in the spirit. Therefore, I am pleased once again to be with them by means of this column. I hope such sentiments are reciprocated.

I have very little to say this week, and shall only break the ice, as we observe. Next week a big hole will be made, I hope. Looking around—performing a series of stock-taking, I see that some fortunate wight will capture an eight-day clock, all for nothing, in a week or two. I hope the fortunate animal, i.e. individual, who secures this prize, will lose no time in sending me a letter of thanks, because the presenting of such a useful article of domestic economy was the outcome of my own individual, personal, suggestion.

They say, i.e., the quidnuncs, that we are on the eve of war. Perhaps we are. We have been "on the eve," as it is called, of a great many things, but they haven't always come off. It is astonishing to see the climbs down some of the papers go through. One day we read the Russians are going to invade Australia; that the French will seize some equivalent territory in the Niger (whatever that may mean); that the Japanese are determined to become Chinese; and that the German Emperor inclines to the wisdom (or otherwise) of Confucius. All this is contradicted the next day, but other *canards* help to fill up the columns. Then they attack the foreign secretary, who, however, generally manages to make these wiseacres look small when he condescends to take them down a notch. And so they go on, Tory, Radical, Conservative, Liberal, and the "ole biling" of them. I am strongly of opinion that these newspaper people should take the "B.N." for their pattern, especially the profound writings of "P.S."

That was a very obliging gentleman who the other day gave information all about the peal of Stedman Triples at Shifnal. What *naivete* he exhibited in the question "Is there any more information wanted?" We don't often come across such obliging people, really. There are a great many things we require information upon, which has defied the wit and ingenuity of man for many years. The hour is come, and the man. Whoever wants to be enlightened upon any abstruse subject, now is the time. Just by way of introduction I may be permitted to ask a question of the gentleman. Would he kindly tell me the distance from London Bridge to the first of next January?

There is a set being made against the inordinate foot-notes to peals, I see. I wonder this did not come before. Many of these references are simply ridiculous. Some of the Associations object to them in the peal-books, altogether. The record cannot be too simple.

PLAIN SPEAKER.

PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

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

5024.				
23456	M	B	W	H
36452	I			2
23564		-	2	2
34562	I			2
42563	I			2
43265	2			I
62345			2	2
24365			2	
62453		-		2
34256	2	-	I	I
32546	I	-	2	2
45236	I	-		2
26354	2	-	2	2
65243		-		
54632		-		
53426		-		2
23456			I	

5056.				
23456	M	B	W	H
36452	I			2
34562			I	2
42563	I			2
43265	2			I
62345			2	2
52643		-	I	
45236		-		2
26354	2	-	2	2
23564			I	2
36524	I	-		
24365		-	2	
62453		-		2
34256	2	-	I	I
32546	I	-	2	2
35426			I	2
23456			I	

The above peals have the 6th her extent wrong and right, and the 5th her extent right respectively at five course-ends.

5024.				
23456	M	B	W	H
36452	I			2
36524		-		I
63425		-	I	2
64235			I	2
24365			2	I
62453	2		2	2
26354	2			2
23564			I	2
25634	I	-	2	2
53624	I	-		
32546		-		
24536	I	-		
35426	I	-		2
45236			2	I
25346			2	I
23456			I	2

PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By BROWN WALKER, *Kendal.*

5220.				
34256789	6			
97385642	2			
54932768	4			
26598473	4			
96245387	7			
58927634	4			
46532789	2			
52364				
34625				
65243				
s 32456				
46523				
53264				
24635				
65342				
s 23456				

In ten parts. Single mid-way and end.

First rung at Kendal, 22nd February, 1898.

PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By EDWIN TIMBRELL, *Chipping, Lancs.*

5056.				
23456	M	B	W	H
32654		-	I	2
53246		-		2
63425	2	-		I
36524		-	I	2
35264			I	2
62534	I	-		2
36245		-		2
64523	2	-		
26435		-		2
24365	I	-	2	2
46325	I	-		
54263		-	2	2
24653			2	I
52436		-		2
54326	I	-	2	2
23456	I	-		2

This peal contains the 4th, 5th, and 6th their extent in 6ths, and the 2nd never in that position.

A TOUCH OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES.

By H. LOVER, *South Croydon.*

1344.				
234567				
s 352467	5			
453267	5			
674253	I			
746532	2			
467325	2			
s 524367	I			

Contains eighteen 6 7s, twelve 7 4s, twelve 4 6s, all the right way. Bob for single midway and end.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR.

By G. LINDOFF, *Dublin.*

5088.				
23456	B	M	W	H
45236		-	-	
24536			-	
52436			-	
63425	-	-	-	
63254	-		-	
56234		-		
26435	-			
26354	-		-	
32654			-	
65324			-	
36524			-	
53624			-	
25634		-		
25346	-		-	
32546			-	
53246			-	
42635		-	-	
62534	-			
43526	-	-	-	
54326			-	
35426			-	
42356		-	-	
34256			-	
23456			-	

Contains the 4th and 6th their extent in 6ths, the 2nd and 3rd never there. This is the first 5088 produced with these qualities.

720 PLAIN BOB MINOR.

By H. BLAKE, *Fornham St. Martin, Suffolk.*

23456				
35264				
s 53642				
s 35426				
s 53264				
36542				
s 63425				
s 36254				
65342				
s 56423				
62534				
s 26345				
s 62453				
25634				
s 52346				
24563				
s 42635				
s 24356				
s 42563				
s 24635				
s 42356				

Twice repeated. The above has forty-two singles.

Compositions.

PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By ARTHUR CRAVEN, *Lincoln.*

5024.

23456	M	B	W	H
32654	2			2
25346		-		
42536		-		2
24365			I	2
23645			I	2
26435	I	-	2	2
34625	I	-		2
42356		-		
64523		-		2
43526	I			2
45236			I	2
56234	I			2
52364			I	2
53624	I	-	2	2
53246		-		I
23456			2	I

Contains the 4th, 5th and 6th their extent in 6ths place, without the 2nd in that position, the 6th being at home at six course-ends.

5088.

23456	M	B	W	H
32654	2			2
56234	I	-		2
52364			I	2
53624	I	-	2	2
25346		-		2
42563		-		2
26435		-		
34625	I	-		2
42356		-		
64523		-	2	2
43526	I			2
24365		-		2
23645			I	2
64235	I	-	2	I
45236	2	-	I	2
23456	I	-	2	I

Contains the 4th, 5th and 6th their extent in 6ths place, 5th and 6th at five course-ends, and the 2nd never in that position.

5024.

23456	M	B	W	H
32654	2			2
56324			2	2
52364			I	2
53624	I	-	2	2
25346		-		2
42563	2		2	2
24365		-	I	2
23645			I	2
26435	I	-	2	2

Continued—

	M	B	W	H
34625	I	-		2
42356		-		
64523		-	2	2
43526	I			2
45236			I	2
23456	I	-	2	I

Contains the same qualities as the preceding peal, with the 6th five course-ends home.

5120.

23456	M	B	W	H
26354	2			I
42563		-	2	2
24365		-	I	2
23645			I	2
26435	I	-	2	2
34625	I	-		2
42356		-		
64523		-	2	2
43526	I			2
45236			I	2
56234	I			2
52364			I	2
53624	I	-	2	2
32654	I	-		
53246		-		2
23456			2	I

Contains the extent of 4th, 5th, and 6th in 6ths place, 4th and 6th at five course-ends, and the 2nd never there.

5248.

23456	M	B	W	H
32654	2			2
25346		-		
42563		-		2
26435		-		
34625	I	-		2
42356		-		
64523		-	2	2
43526	I			2
24365		-		2
23645			I	2
64235	I	-	2	I
45236	2	-	I	2
56234	I			2
52364			I	2
53624	I	-	2	2
53246		-		I
23456			2	I

Contains the same qualities as in the preceding peals, with the 5th at five course-ends, and the 6th at six.

A QUARTER-PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES.

By GEORGE ASTBURY, *Flixton.*

231456	S	H	L
246351	-	-	-
631542	-	-	-
342516	-	-	-

Four times repeated.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

5043.

231456 4 5 16

*514362			
2463		-	
3264		-	
314652	-	-	
2456		-	
213654	-	-	
4356		-	
412653	-	-	
3256		-	
316542	-	-	
612435	-	-	
215463	-	S	
3564		-	
312465	-	-	
5264		-	
4562		-	
413265	-	-	
5362		-	
2563		-	
214365	-	-	

5364		S	
4563		-	
412365	-	-	
5263		-	
3562		-	
314265	-	-	
5462		-	
2564		-	
213465	-	-	

5463		S	
3564		-	
312465	-	-	
5264		-	
4562		-	
413265	-	-	
5362		-	
2563		-	
214365	-	-	
123456		-	

*Bobs at 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 11. †Bobs at 2, 8, 9, 15, 16s. Has the 6th twenty-one times behind the 9th, eighteen times behind the 8th, and the 5th six times behind the 9th, with all the 6-5s.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:—The new address of Mr. Henry S. Thomas is 34, Altenburg Gardens, Clapham Common, S.W.

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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 19, 1898.

THIS week, if we are to believe the record printed in another column, the Yorkshire Association scores its longest peal. The statement, in most cases, would engender an idea that something extraordinary had been achieved, which would put into the shade some of those record performances with which every ringer is familiar. But our brethren of the great Northern county do not affect these lengthy feats as a rule. History, or perhaps we ought to say tradition, has not, if we recollect aright, dealt very kindly with attempted long lengths in Yorkshire.

The gaining of a peal, no matter of what length, or in what method, must always be held to be a creditable affair, and, therefore, the 10,000 of Bob Major rang last Saturday at Sheffield, must be regarded as an example of endurance. But it is, in a measure, surprising that if a greater length was not thought of, some more complex method was not favoured. The conductor of this peal is a ringer of no mean ability, and we should not have expected that he would select for a record performance such a method as Bob Major. The Yorkshiremen have

always been looked upon as adepts in Treble Bob; there are many of its complex variations peculiarly appropriate for their practice, which have scarcely been tapped. College Exercise, Imperial, and other interesting variations which, up to the present, have received but scant patronage, only want the attention of the ringer. A record peal in any of these methods would be more worthy of the fame of the Association than a long peal of Plain Bob.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

The next meeting will be held at Bristol on Tuesday in Whitsun-week, 31st May, 1898.

Notices of motion, etc., must reach the Hon. Secretary not later than Tuesday, the 3rd of May. They must be in writing, and signed by two representatives.

Hon. Secretaries of societies are reminded that subscriptions to the Council are now due and should be remitted to the Hon. Secretary without delay, at the rate of 2s. 6d. for each elected representative. The Hon. Secretary would also be greatly obliged for information as to any change in representatives, or their addresses, that has taken place in the last year.

H. EARLE BULWER,
Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn.

Hon. Sec.

The Metropolis.

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

On Saturday, March 12, 1898, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-AT-HACKNEY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE 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 the late HENRY JOHNSON and
Conducted by C. T. P. BRICE.

This is the first peal in the method on the bells, and the first by the Norwich Diocesan Association. Rang as birthday compliments to Mr. A. G. Ellis; and the daughter of Mr. W. D. Smith.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Saturday, March 12, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5010 CHANGES.

Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

HARRY BARTON Treble.	FREDERICK G. PERRIN 6.
GEORGE W. WILD 2.	ARTHUR R. DAVIS 7.
SIDNEY WADE* 3.	WALTER C. HASTED 8.
WILLIAM H. WEBBER* 4.	HAROLD N. DAVIS 9.
GEORGE E. SYMONDS* 5.	*JOHN W. GOLDING Tenor.

Composed by FREDK. J. PITTS and Conducted by HENRY BARTON.

*First peal of Stedman Caters.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, March 15, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

WILLIAM TRUSS Treble.	THOMAS FAULKNER 5.
GEORGE FESTELL BURTON 2.	FREDERICK A. NUNN 6.
CALEB FENN 3.	EBENEZER ANDREWS 7.
ROWLAND FENN 4.	ALERD W. BRIGHTON Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW and Conducted by ALFRED W. BRIGHTON.

Reference to this peal will be found on another page.

SOUTHGATE, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 15, 1898, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

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

JOHN MILLER Treble.	HERBERT W. NEWBY 5.
ISAAC J. ATTWATER 2.	ARTHUR MILLER 6.
SIDNEY WADE 3.	JAMES PARKER 7.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. 4.	JOHN R. SHARMAN Tenor.

Composed by CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY and
Conducted by JAMES PARKER.

First peal of Major by the ringers of the 2nd, 5th and 6th.

The Provinces.

BRASTED, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Wednesday, March 9, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being a 720 of Grandsire, and two each of Plain Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

HERBERT J. FORD Treble.	HENRY J. SELBY 4.
GEORGE B. SELBY 2.	GEORGE STEER 5.
JOHN W. STEDDY 3.	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE.

This is the first peal on the bells.

BACUP, LANCs.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(ROSSENDALE BRANCH.)

On Thursday, March 10, 1898, in Two Hours and Thirty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' BOB-AND-SINGLE. Tenor 10 cwt.

FRED. HOWORTH Treble.	J. B. TAYLOR 5.
J. A. BROWN 2.	J. SHEPHERD 6.
J. F. STANDRING 3.	W. ASHWORTH 7.
SAM. KAY 4.	WILFRED LAW Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN SHEPHERD.

NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 10, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt.

HARRY ARGYLE Treble.	JOHN CHANDLER 5.
THOMAS W. CHAPMAN 2.	JAMES F. CLARKE 6.
WALTER STONE 3.	JAMES GEORGE 7.
GLADSTONE WINTER 4.	FREDERICK ADAMS Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS W. CHAPMAN.

This peal was attempted on Monday evening with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to Harry Horwood, but came to grief after ringing 2 hrs. 30 mins.

KELSALE, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 12, 1898, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION.

WILLIAM FLORY Treble.	GEORGE HARDY 5.
WILLIAM G. CRICKMER 2.	HORACE HOWLETT 6.
GEORGE WILSON 3.	EDWARD SHERWOOD 7.
GEORGE THOMPSON 4.	*HENRY FOLKARD Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF and Conducted by W. G. CRICKMER.

*First peal of Treble Bob.

STAVELEY, DERBYSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Saturday, March 12, 1898, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5344 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 19 cwt.

HERBERT MADIN Treble.	JAMES HUNT 5.
JOHN WORTHINGTON.. .. 2.	ARTHUR KNIGHTS 6.
STEPHEN DOUGHTY 3.	JOHN HARRIS 7.
WILLIAM DAFFIN 4.	ARTHUR WORTHINGTON .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

This composition, which is now rung for the first time, contains the 6th her extent in all positions, and the 5th her extent in 6ths place. It is the first peal on the bells since the trebles were recast by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough.

WOLVERHAMPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, March 12, 1898, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES.
Tenor 23 cwt.

ISAAC PURSER Treble.	HENRY DAWKES.. .. 6.
ROBERT PICKERING 2.	GEORGE BURROWS 7.
WILLIAM G. HALL 3.	AARON GRIFFITHS 8.
HERBERT KNIGHT 4.	JAMES E. GROVES 9.
JOHN JAGGAR 5.	ERNEST GRAHAM Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

First peal by tenor man. First peal by treble man away from tenor. A note to this peal will be found on another page

WIDFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 12, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

ALFRED WHIGHT Treble.	ROWLAND FENN.. .. 5.
THOMAS FAULKNER 2.	ARTHUR EDWARDS 6.
EDWARD LUCAS 3.	EBENEZER ANDREWS 7.
CALEB FENN 4.	ALBERT C. HARDY Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN and Conducted by THOS. FAULKNER.

The band wish through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS" to thank the rector, the Rev. H. T. Wilson, for permission to ring; also Mr. A. Tarbut (steepkeeper), for having everything in readiness.

WORTLEY, SHEFFIELD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 12, 1898, in Six Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 10464 CHANGES.
Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

WILLIAM DRONFIELD .. Treble.	JOHN PARKIN 5.
THOMAS MCKEGG 2.	JOHN DRONFIELD 6.
EDWARD ROBBINS 3.	THOMAS ROBBINS 7.
ARTHUR SAXBY 4.	DAVID BREARLEY Tenor.

Composed by W. GARRARD and Conducted by DAVID BREARLEY.

This is the longest length by the Yorkshire Association.

ROLVENDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, March 13, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

FREDERICK G. BURDEN*.. Treble.	WILLIAM STEED 5.
FREDERICK WHIBLEY 2.	ROBERT EDWARDS 6.
ALFRED HINDS 3.	GEORGE NEVE 7.
JOHN STEDDY 4.	WALTER CLIFF Tenor.

Conducted by ROBERT EDWARDS.

*First peal.

BARWELL, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 13, 1898, in Three Hours and Thirty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of College Single, Canterbury, Pleasure, Grandsire, two of Oxford Bob, and Plain Bob. Tenor 16 cwt.

GEORGE WHITE* Treble.	CHARLES H. BELTON .. 4.
JOHN H. SWINFELD.. .. 2.	WILLIAM A. NEEDHAM .. 5.
HARRY BRIGGS 3.	ARTHUR C. ALDHAM.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by ARTHUR ROBERT ALDHAM.

*First peal. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Mr. Harry Horwood, of Nuneaton, for many years a member of the above Association.

CAVERSHAM, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, CAVERSHAM.

On Monday, March 14, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

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

H. SIMMONDS Treble.	G. ESSEX 5.
W. J. WILKINS*.. .. 2.	R. T. HIBBERT 6.
E. W. MENDAY.. .. 3.	H. SMITH 7.
E. J. MENDAY 4.	T. NEWMAN.. .. Tenor.

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK and Conducted by T. NEWMAN.

*First attempt in the method.

BRIGHTON.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 14, 1898, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF NORFOLK SURPRISE MAJOR,
5120 CHANGES. Tenor 10½ cwt.

ROBERT J. DAWE Treble.	GEORGE A. KING 5.
GEORGE F. ATTREE 2.	FRANK BENNETT 6.
GEORGE SMART 3.	JAMES N. FROSSELL .. 7.
GEORGE WILLIAMS 4.	*GEORGE BAKER Tenor.

Composed by FRANK BENNETT and Conducted by GEORGE BAKER.

Reference to this peal will be found on another page. *First peal as conductor.

BRISTOL.—THE ST. MARY REDCLIFFE SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, March 15, 1898, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5184 CHANGES. Tenor 18 cwt.

FRANCIS GOODING* .. Treble.	*HENRY PRING 5.
ALFRED PEARCE* 2.	*WALTER PORCH 6.
GILBERT PEARCE* 3.	*GEORGE T. DALTRY .. 7.
HERBERT TUCKER 4.	*HENRY PORCH Tenor.

(No Conductor mentioned.)

*First peal in the method; first in the method by the Society; first peal in the method in Bristol by a local band, and was rung at the second attempt. The bells were muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Rev. C. D. Strong, for many years Vicar of this church.

ECCLES, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 15, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 13½ cwt.

WILLIAM LOWE* Treble.	JOSEPH GREEN 5.
PERCY DERBYSHIRE 2.	*FRANK HYDE 6.
ALFRED SCRAGG* 3.	RICHARD RIDYARD 7.
JOHN JACKSON 4.	*HENRY LOWE Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD RIDYARD.

*First peal.

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BACUP, LANCASHIRE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 15, 1898, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of College Treble, Merchant's Delight, Violet, Duke of York, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob.

LEVI HOLT	Treble.	J. H. SMITH	4.
JAS. SMITH	2.	J. S. LOMAS	5.
G. SHOTTIN	3.	ZEB. LORD	Tenor.

Conducted by ZEB. LORD.

OXHEY, HERTS.—THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, March 16, 1898, in Two Hours and Thirty-six Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY OF ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

CHARLES GEORGE	1-2.	GEORGE N. PRICE	5-6.
HERBERT MARTIN	3-4.	WALTER NORRIS	7-8.

Conducted by GEORGE N. PRICE.

Umpire—Mr. W. H. L. Buckingham. Further reference to this peal will be found elsewhere.

Date Touches.**THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

DRIFHLINGTON (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, February 13th, a date touch of Oxford Treble Bob Major in 1 hr. 11 mins. S. Clark, 1; H. Oddy, 2; H. Clapham, 3; D. Newton, 4; L. Snowden, 5; G. Bolland, 6; E. Wheeler (conductor), 7; F. Hargreaves, 8. Messrs. Clark and Wheeler hail from Bradford; Oddy, Bolland, and Hargreaves from Tong; the rest belong to the local company.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—FYLDLE BRANCH.

LYTHAM (Lancashire).—On Friday, February 11th, at St. Peter's church, a date touch of Minor in 1 hr. 10 mins., being 98 Oxford Single, 360 Plain Bob, 720 Grandsire Minor, and 720 College Single. G. Maries (conductor), 1; J. Pendlebury, 2; C. Pendlebury, 3; E. Forshaw, 4; J. Moore, 5; W. Tomlinson, 6. This is the longest touch and first date touch by C. Pendlebury.

DARLASTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, February 13th, a date touch of 1898 Grandsire Triples, taken from Taylor's peal, in 1 hr. 6 mins. J. Mark, 1; G. Morgan, 2; T. Lowe, 3; E. Unitt, 4; J. Foster, 5; J. A. Brown (conductor), 6; O. W. Smith, 7; W. Eyre, 8.

Miscellaneous.**THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.**

LONDON.—On Sunday evening, March 13th, at Christ Church, Spitalfields, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. C. Kennedy, 1; J. Pettit (conductor), 2; A. Coles, 3; E. Hall, 4; A. Hughes, 5; S. Parmenter, 6; W. Wise, 7; G. Barrall, 8. Tenor 33 cwt. On Monday, February 14th, at St. George's, Southwark, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original in 49 mins. *G. Woodage, 1; S. E. Joyce, 2; W. Berry, 3; A. W. Brighton, 4; W. Truss, 5; T. H. Taffender (conductor), 6; J. Waghorn, jun., 7; †E. Clements, 8. *First quarter-peal with the treble. †First quarter-peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to G. Woodage.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MIDDLESBROUGH (Yorks).—On January 28th, at the parish church, 840 Stedman Triples. R. Fenwick, 1; W. J. Titchener, 2; T. Metcalfe, 3; C. Hall, 4; A. McFarlane, 5; J. H. Jones, 6; J. H. Blakiston, 7; W. Newton, 8. On January 31st, 672 Superlative Surprise Major. W. Newton, 1; J. H. Jones, 2; C. Hall, 3; R. Fenwick, 4; T. Metcalfe, 5; J. Passman, 6; J. H. Blakiston (conductor), 7; A. McFarlane, 8. Also 672 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. J. H. Jones, 1; C. Hall, 2; T. Metcalfe, 3; W. Newton, 4; A. McFarlane, 5; J. H. Blakiston, 6; R. Fenwick, 7; W. Passman (conductor), 8.

CHESTER-LE-STREET (Durham).—On February 4th, at

the church of SS. Mary and Cuthbert, 720 Oxford Treble Bob in 40 mins. F. Sheraton, 1; J. Anderson, 2; W. Brown, 3; G. A. Ward, 4; A. Meyers, 5; W. Sheraton (conductor), 6. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. D. Francis, schoolmaster and sidesman.

THE STAFFORD AND WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

OLDBURY (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, January 25th, an attempt was made to ring the Editor's quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, but it came to grief after ringing 672 changes. S. Bowcutt, 1; W. James, 2; J. Lloyd, 3; G. James, 4; T. Lowe, 5; F. Bywater, 6; J. A. Brown (conductor), 7; R. Hall, 8. Messrs. Bowcutt, James, and Bywater belong to Tipton; Lowe to Darlaston; Brown to Bilston.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—WIRRAL BRANCH.

NESTON (Cheshire).—On Thursday, January 6th, for practice, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), with the tenor covering. E. Molyneux, 1; J. Edwards, 3; J. Meador, 4; W. Williams, 5; W. Wilcox (conductor), 6; W. Briscoe, 7; C. Grundy, 8. First 720 in the method by all except the conductor. On Thursday, January 13th, 720 Canterbury (eighteen singles and three bobs). On Thursday, February 10th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), with 6-8 covering. E. Molyneux, 1; J. Edwards, 2; J. Meador, 3; W. Williams, 4; W. Wilcox (conductor), 5; C. Grundy, 6; W. Briscoe, 7; H. Grundy, 8. First 720 of Treble Bob by all except the conductor.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Wednesday, February 9th, two members from Macclesfield, Gawsorth and Sutton met for practice and rung 720 Bob Minor. A. Mottershead, 1; W. H. Ingham (conductor), 2; W. Steele, 3; A. Lomas, 4; J. M. Davenport, 5; E. Johnson, 6. Also a course of Grandsire Major, on handbells. E. Johnson, 1-2; W. H. Ingham, 3-4; J. M. Davenport, 5-6; W. Steele, 7-8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WILLESBOROUGH (Kent).—On January 10th, 720 Bob Minor (thirty singles). J. Roberts, 1; W. Hobbs, 2; W. Hills, 3; C. Young, 4; E. J. Dixon (conductor), 5; T. Tabrett, 6. On January 16th, 720 Grandsire Minor. R. Pain, 1; W. Hobbs, 2; W. Hills, 3; W. Spice, 4; E. J. Dixon, 5; T. Tabrett (conductor), 6. On January 17th, 720 Grandsire Minor. F. Leeds, 1; W. Hills, 2; W. Hobbs, 3; H. Goodwin, 4; E. J. Dixon, 5; T. Tabrett (conductor), 6. On January 24th, 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. Hills, 1; H. Goodwin, 2; E. J. Dixon, 3; W. Spice, 4; W. Hobbs (conductor), 5; T. Tabrett, 6. This is E. J. Dixon's longest length with a bob bell in the method. Also 216 Bob Minor. J. Roberts, 1; W. Hobbs, 2; H. Goodwin, 3; W. Spice, 4; A. Hills, 5; T. Tabrett (conductor), 6. On February 2nd, 720 Bob Minor. W. Hobbs, 1; F. Leeds, 2; R. Pain, 3; C. Young, 4; W. Spice, 5; T. Tabrett (conductor), 6.

MERSHAM (Kent).—On Saturday evening, January 29th, for practice, 336 Bob Major. W. Paine, 1; G. Finn, 2; S. Paine, 3; A. Gower, 4; W. Hills, 5; F. Paine, 6; G. Paine, 7; E. S. Ruck (conductor), 8. Also 288 Kent Treble Bob. R. Paine, 1; E. S. Ruck, 2; S. Paine, 3; G. Finn, 4; A. Gower, 5; G. Paine, 6; W. Hobbs, 7; T. Tabrett, 8. And 576 in the same method. R. Paine, 1; G. Finn, 2; S. Paine, 3; E. Spice, 4; A. Gower, 5; G. Paine, 6; W. Hobbs (conductor), 7; T. Tabrett, 8.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

DARLINGTON.—On Sunday afternoon, January 30th, five ringers from Pontefract visited St. Luke's church, and rang 720 Oxford Treble Bob; also 120 each of Kent, Woodbine, and Violet. J. Heckingbottom (Armley, conductor), 1; W. Brook, 2; G. Wilcock, 3; T. Pease, 4; A. Strangeward, 5; W. W. Heckingbottom, 6. First 720 in the method on the bells.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

READING (Berks).—On Sunday, January 2nd, 504 Stedman Triples. G. Boddington, 1; H. Coffee, 2; A. W. Reeves, 3; A. Evans, 4; J. M. Routh, Esq., 5; A. W. Higgs, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; H. Smart, 8. On Sunday, January 9th, 546 Grandsire Triples. C. Holmes (first touch of Triples), 1; H. Coffee, 2; G. Boddington, 3; A. Evans, 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; F. Sweetzer, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; H. Dibley, 8. On January 11th, for practice 560 Bob Major. H. Dibley, 1; *H. Coffee, 2; *G. Boddington, 3; A. Evans, 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; F. Sweetzer, 6; *A. W. Higgs, 7; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 8. *First touch of Major with a bob bell. On Sunday, January 16th, 447 Grandsire Triples. G. Boddington, 1; H. Coffee, 2; A. W. Higgs, 3; A. W. Reeves, 4; J. M. Routh, Esq., 5; A. H. Evans, 6; F. Sweetzer (conductor), 7; H. Smart, 8. On

January 18th, 504 Grandsire Triples. — Mayo, 1; H. Coffee, 2; A. W. Reeves, 3; A. H. Evans, 4; G. L. Boddington, 5; F. Sweetzer (conductor), 6; A. W. Higgs, 7; H. Dibley, 8. On Sunday, January 23rd, 504 Grandsire Triples. — Mayo, 1; H. Coffee, 2; A. W. Reeves, 3; A. H. Evans, 4; G. L. Boddington, 5; F. Sweetzer (conductor), 6; A. W. Higgs, 7; H. Smart, 8. On Sunday, January 30th, 336 Grandsire Triples. G. L. Boddington, 1; H. Coffee, 2; — Mayo, 3; A. W. Reeves, 4; A. W. Higgs, 5; H. Dibley, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; H. Smart, 8. And 336 Grandsire Triples. H. Dibley, 1; G. L. Boddington, 2; — Mayo, 3; A. W. Higgs, 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; F. Sweetzer, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; H. Smart, 8. *First touch of Triples with a bob bell. C. Holmes bails from Wargrave. On Sunday, February 6th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. A. J. Mayo, 1; H. Coffee, 2; G. L. Boddington, 3; F. Sweetzer, 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; A. W. Higgs, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; H. Dibley, 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor. On Monday, February 14th, at St. Mary's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. H. Tucker, 1; J. Tucker (conductor), 2; C. Giles, 3; J. E. Hern, 4; F. Hopgood, 5; A. Osborne, 6; R. Swain, 7; R. Sawyer, 8. Also a course of Double Norwich Court Bob Major. A. Watmore, 1; J. Tucker, 2; A. Cullum, 3; J. E. Hern, 4; C. Giles, 5; A. Osborne, 6; H. Tucker, 7; F. Hopgood, 8. Also 232 Stedman Triples. C. Giles (conductor), 1; A. Cullum, 2; J. E. Hern, 3; A. Watmore, 4; C. Stone, 5; A. Osborn, 6; H. Tucker, 7; E. Bruce, 8. Also 416 Double Norwich Court Major. C. Stone, 1; J. Tucker, 2; A. Cullum, 3; F. Tubb, 4; C. Giles, 5; A. Osborne, 6; H. Tucker, 7; F. Hopgood (conductor), 8. Tenor 28 cwt. Rung with the bells half muffled, as a last token of respect to Mr. D. Orchard, who was interred in Reading cemetery, on Saturday, February 12th, 1898, aged 85 years. He had been a ringer at the above church for about 35 years; having to retire of late owing to sight and hearing failing him.

BEACONSFIELD (Bucks).—On Saturday, January 29th, 504 Stedman Triples. R. Flaxman (Slough), 1; J. C. Truss (Marlow), 2; A. E. Nye (Marlow), 3; H. Neighbour (Boyne Hill), 4; J. Eldridge (Boyne Hill), 5; J. W. Wilkins (Boyne Hill, conductor), 6; G. Martin (Boyne Hill), 7; A. W. Truss (Marlow), 8. Also several touches of Grandsire Triples in which members from Lawrence Waltham, Farnham Royal, Bray, Marlow, Boyne Hill, Beaconsfield, and other bellfries took part. Also courses of Bob Major in which members from Hughenden took part.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Sunday, January 16th, at St. Paul's church, 305 Grandsire Caters. W. Gazeley, 1; C. R. Lilley, 2; E. Tingey, 3; W. Hall, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; F. Keech, 6; J. Hills, 7; W. Barker, 8; H. Tysoe, 9; F. Hull, 10. Also a course of Bob Royal. On January 18th, 419 Stedman Caters. W. Barber, 1; C. Chasty, 2; E. Tingey, 3; C. R. Lilley, 4; W. Hall, 5; F. Hull, 6; J. Hills, 7; H. Tysoe, 8; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 9; H. Toll, 10. Also 224 Kent Treble Bob Major, and 224 Superlative Surprise Major. On January 13th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Woodbine. W. Gazeley, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; W. Hall, 3; C. R. Lilley, 4; H. Tysoe, 5; W. Barker (conductor), 6. A 720 Violet. W. Gazeley, 1; C. Chasty, 2; C. R. Lilley, 3; W. Barker, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; H. Toll, 6. 720 College Pleasure. C. Tingey, 1; C. Clarke, 2; W. Barker, 3; C. Lilley, 4; H. Tysoe, 5; F. Hull (conductor), 6. On January 20th, 720 Violet. W. Barber, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; H. Toll, 3; C. R. Lilley, 4; C. Chasty, 5; F. Hull, 6. On January 23rd, 305 Grandsire Caters. W. Gazeley, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; C. Chasty, 3; F. Hull, 4; W. Hall, 5; W. Davison (Biddenham, first touch), 6; W. Barker, 7; F. Smith, 8; H. Tysoe, 9; R. Glass, 10. Also 377 Grandsire Caters, with E. Tingey and F. Keech standing in. On January 29th, 264 Double Norwich. W. Gazeley, 1; S. Cullip, 2; W. Hall, 3; C. Lilley, 4; W. Barker, 6; H. Tysoe, 7; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 8. 419 Stedman Caters. W. Barker, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; C. R. Lilley, 3; W. Hall, 4; F. Keech, 5; E. Tingey, 6; J. Hills, 7; F. Hull, 8; H. Tysoe, 9; H. Sharpe, 10. Also 305 Grandsire Caters and 180 Treble Bob Royal. January 25th, for evening service, a quarter-peal Grandsire Caters. H. Toll, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; E. Tingey, 3; W. Barker, 4; S. Cullip, 5; F. Keech, 6; C. R. Lilley, 7; J. Hills, 8; C. Chasty (conductor), 9; H. Tysoe, 10. This quarter-peal was composed by J. George (Rugby) and contains the 6th eleventh times behind the 9th.

KEMPSTON (Beds).—On January 22nd, at All Saints church, 720 Cambridge Surprise. E. Tingey, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; C. R. Lilley, 3; W. Barker, 4; C. Chasty, 5; F. Hull (conductor), 6. 720 College Exercise. E. Tingey, 1; C. Chasty, 2; C. Lilley, 3; W. Barker, 4; F. Hull, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

WHITWICK (Leicester).—On Sunday, February 6th, for evening

service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins. J. Rawson, 1; S. W. West, 2; J. A. Moulton, 3; A. Whitmore, 4; H. Partridge, 5; L. Partridge, 6; B. West (conductor), 7; F. Boam, 8.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—NORTHWICH BRANCH.

HARTFORD.—On Saturday, February 5th, at St. John's church, two 720s of Plain Bob. First 720—S. Johnson (conductor), 1; S. Forster, 1; G. Johnson, 3; A. Johnson, 4; J. Bell, 5; W. Forster, 6. Second 720—S. Johnson (conductor), 1; W. Sutton, 2; G. Johnson, 3; S. Forster, 4; R. Chantler, 5; A. Johnson, 6.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

RINGMER (Sussex).—On Thursday evening, February 1st, for practice at the parish church, two touches of Grandsire Triples, conducted by A. J. Turner and C. Painter. Also 560 Bob Major. A. Rooke, 1; J. S. Goldsmith (conductor), 2; T. Miller, 3; H. Jones, 4; W. Pelling, 5; F. Barnes, 6; A. J. Turner, 7; C. Painter, 8. Also 224 in the same method. G. Taylor, 1; C. Painter, 2; J. S. Goldsmith, 8; the rest as before.

MIDHURST (Sussex).—On Tuesday, February 1st, 720 London Scholars' Pleasure. C. Best, 1; T. Stroud, 2; T. E. Ellis, 3; A. B. Bennett (conductor), 4; F. Trussler, 5; J. Lee, 6. First by all the band.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

OXHEY (Herts).—On Sunday, February 6th, on handbells, retained in hand, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original. C. George, 1-2; H. Martin, 3-4; G. N. Price (conductor), 5-6; W. Norris, 7-8.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

BERMONDSEY.—On Monday, February 14th, at St. James' church, 658 Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original. M. Spink, 1; H. Pasmore, 2; J. Golding, 3; W. Webber, 4; F. Perrin, 5; G. Symonds (conductor), 6; W. Pasmore, 7; M. Spinks, 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to J. Porter, Esq., chairman.

GLoucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

CHELTEMHAM (Gloucestershire).—On February 28th, being the 45th birthday of W. T. Fates, Master of the Cheltenham Society, the following members of the above Association rang a well-struck touch of Stedman Triples, at St. Mary's church, in 48 mins. W. T. Pates, 1; F. Wade, 2; H. Hodges, 3; W. Brinkworth, 4; F. Musty, 5; W. Dyer, 6; G. H. Phillott, 7; R. Trigg, 8. Tenor 23 cwt. Conducted by W. Dyer.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TAUNTON (Somersetshire).—On February 15th, at St. Mary's, in honour of the marriage of Col. Welby, M.P. for Taunton, to Miss D. Copland-Griffiths, at St. Margaret's, Westminster, a 514 Grandsire Triples. A. J. Iles, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; W. J. Thomas, 3; J. Fowler, 4; J. Garland, 5; E. Wyatt, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; F. Sadd. Recently at the same church, 518 Grandsire Triples. A. J. Iles, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; A. Doble, 3; T. Radford, 4; J. Fowler, 5; E. Wyatt, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; F. Collins, 8. And 308 Grandsire Triples. F. Collins, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; W. J. Thomas, 3; J. Fowler, 4; J. Garland, 5; E. Wyatt, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; F. Sadd, 8. 560 Grandsire Triples. A. J. Iles, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; J. Fowler, 3; W. J. Thomas, 4; J. Garland, 5; H. Poole, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; F. Sadd, 8. And 305 Grandsire Caters. J. Garland, 1; H. Poole, 2; F. Millard, 3; S. Wyatt, 4; A. Doble, 5; J. Fowler, 6; E. Burgess, 7; W. J. Thomas, 8; J. Burge (conductor), 9; F. Collins, 10. 377 Grandsire Triples. S. Wyatt, 1; W. J. Thomas, 2; A. Doble, 3; F. Millard, 4; J. Fowler, 5; E. Wyatt, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; G. Yandell, 8. And 518 Grandsire Triples. F. Collins, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; J. Maddock, 3; J. Garland, 4; J. Fowler, 5; W. J. Thomas, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; F. Sadd, 8. 514 Grandsire Triples. H. Megridge, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; J. Fowler, 3; G. Yandell, 4; W. J. Thomas, 5; J. Garland, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; F. Collins, 8. 308 Grandsire Triples. F. Collins, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; W. J. Thomas, 3; J. Garland, 4; J. Fowler, 5; E. Wyatt, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; H. Bosley, 8.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRIDGEND.—On Sunday, January 2nd, at the church of St. Illytyd's, 720 Plain Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles). J. South, 1; R. Evans, 2; J. Evans, 3; D. J. Hurford, 4; R. Bunstone, 5; J. Cox (conductor), 6. On Monday, January 3rd, 720 Plain Bob. W. Hummel, 1; W. Hardwick, 2; J. Cox, 3; J. South, 4; R. Bunstone, 5; R. Evans (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 9th, 720 Plain Bob

W. Hummel, 1; R. Evans, 2; D. J. Hurford, 3; R. Bunstone, 4; J. South, 5; J. Cox (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 23rd, 720 Plain Bob. W. Hummel, 1; R. Evans, 2; W. Hardwick, 3; J. South, 4; R. Bunstone, 5; J. Cox (conductor), 6. And 720 in the same method. W. Hummel, 1; R. Bunstone, 2; D. J. Hurford, 3; J. South, 4; J. Cox, 5; R. Evans (conductor), 6. On Monday, January 24th, 720 Grandsire Minor. W. Hardwick, 1; R. Evans, 2; D. J. Hurford, 3; J. South, 4; R. Bunstone, 5; J. Cox (first in the method on the bells), 6. On Sunday, January 30th, 720 Plain Bob. W. Hummel, 1; R. Evans, 2; J. Cox, 3; J. South, 4; R. Bunstone, 5; D. J. Hurford (conductor), 6.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

HALESWORTH (Suffolk).—On Sunday, January 30th, for evening service, 504 Bob Triples. S. Kerrison, 1; W. Peirce, 2; F. Lambert (conductor), 3; A. Took, 4; E. Easter, 5; J. Howard, 6; C. Kerrison, 7; W. Lee, 8. Also 120 Siedman Doubles. A. Took, 1; W. Peirce, 2; A. Lee, 3; F. Lambert (conductor), 4; C. Kerrison, 5; J. Howard, 6. On Thursday, February 10th, 350 Grandsire Triples. S. Kerrison, 1; W. Peirce, 2; F. Lambert (conductor), 3; A. Lee, 4; C. Kerrison, 5; G. Towell, 6; A. Took, 7; W. Lee, 8. Also 252 Bob Triples. R. Tracey, 8; the rest as before. On Sunday, February 13th, for evening service, 448 Bob Major. S. Kerrison, 1; W. Peirce, 2; F. Lambert (conductor), 3; A. Lee, 4; C. Kerrison, 5; G. Towell, 6; J. Howard, 7; A. Took, 8. *Hand-bell ringing*.—On Monday, February 14th, 504 Bob Triples. A. Lee, 1-2; A. Took, 3-4; F. Lambert (conductor), 5-6; R. Tracey, 7-8.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ALFRETON (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, January 1st, at the parish church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob in 27½ mins. Tenor 17 cwt. F. Hancock, 1; W. Price, 2; J. Morton, 3; S. Robinson, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; H. Turton, 6. This is the first 720 of Treble Bob ever rang on the bells. Also 720 Duke of York and 360 Violet. F. Hancock, 1; G. Norman, 2; J. Morton, 3; S. Robinson, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; H. Turton, 6. H. Turton hails from Killamarsh; the rest from Eckington.

BRIGHTON (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, January 8th, at the parish church, 720 Duke of York. Tenor 10½ cwt. W. Allwood, 1; H. Orgeaves (conductor), 2; J. Morton, 3; S. Robinson, 4; H. Hall, 5; H. Turton, 6. And a 720 Violet. G. Norman, 1; W. Allwood, 2; J. Morton, 3; S. Robinson, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; H. Turton, 6. And a 720 Duke of York. F. Hancock, 1; J. H. Brothwell, 2; J. Morton, 3; G. Norman, 4; H. Turton, 5; T. Whitworth (conductor), 6.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday evening, February 6th, for divine service, 720 College Pleasure in 27½ mins. F. Hancock, 1; W. Price, 2; J. Morton, 3; S. Robinson, 4; G. Marden, 5; G. Norman (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

ARELEY KINGS (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, January 2nd, 720 Oxford Bob. E. Mapp, 1; W. Martin, 2; J. Reynolds, 3; T. Eleox, 4; T. Griffiths, 5; C. Beaman (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, January 19th, 720 Bob Minor. E. Mapp, 1; W. Martin (conductor), 2; P. Elcox, 3; T. Griffiths, 4; J. Reynolds, 5; C. Beaman, 6. First 720 as conductor. On Sunday, January, 30th, 720 Oxford Bob. E. Mapp, 1; P. Elcox, 2; P. Griffiths, 3; W. Martin, 4; J. Reynolds, 5; C. Beaman (conductor), 6.

BURTON LATIMER (Northants).—On Saturday evening, February 12th, for practice, 360 Grandsire Doubles. W. H. Henson, 1; M. Morton, 2; J. Pettit, 3; J. T. Tompkins, 4; G. Lines (conductor), 5. And 120 Bob Doubles. G. Lines, 1; M. Morton, 2; J. Pettit, 3; W. H. Henson, 4; J. T. Tompkins (conductor), 5. Also 120 Grandsire and Bob Doubles. W. H. Henson, 1; M. Morton, 2; G. Lines, 3; J. Pettit, 4; J. T. Tompkins (conductor), 5. Also several courses of Doubles, in which C. Fox, E. Hodson and A. Smithers took part.

CAMBRIDGE.—On Monday, February 13th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at Great St. Mary's church, in 47 mins. F. Brown, 1; J. Rockett, 2; J. Taylor, 3; W. Kempton, 4; G. Taylor, 5; M. Staffurth, 6; W. Eusden, 7; W. Mansfield, 8. Conducted by W. Eusden, and it was his first quarter-peal.

DARTFORD (Kent).—On Saturday, January 1st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. R. Cullum, 1; H. Castle, 2; F. French, 3; C. Chasty (Bedford), 4; E. Everson, 5; J. Saxby (conductor), 6; G. Cullum, 7; A. Perry, 8.

FARNWORTH (Lancashire).—On Sunday, February 6th, at the parish church, for evening service, a 360 Grandsire Minor in 12 mins. A. Wilkinson, 1; W. Patten, 2; J. Wilde, 3; J. Witter, 4; J. T. Lowe, 5; R. Johnson (composer and conductor), 6.

GAINSBOROUGH (Lincolnshire).—On February 7th, at 9, Lea Road,

on handbells, retained in hand, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Button (first 720), 1; J. Fisher, 2; F. S. W. Butler, 3-4; Rev. G. H. Ridout (first 720 as conductor), 5-6.

SLEAFORD (Lincolnshire).—On Monday, February 14th, at the church of St. Denys, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 48 mins. W. Townsend, 1; R. Stringer, 2; N. E. Snow (conductor), 3; T. H. Holdich, 4; F. Bedford, 5; E. Rowbottom, 6; C. Harwood, 7; C. W. Jackson, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

STISTED (Essex).—On Sunday morning, January 2nd, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. C. Duncombe, 1; H. Saunders, 2; A. Chaplin, 3; E. Chaplin, 4; Ernest Chaplin, 5; E. Radley (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, January 4th, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob. C. Duncombe, 1; H. Saunders, 2; E. Radley, 3; E. Chaplin, 4; Ernest Chaplin, 5; A. Chaplin (conductor), 6. And 720 Oxford Treble Bob. C. Duncombe, 1; H. Saunders, 2; E. Radley (conductor), 3; Edgar Chaplin, 4; Ernest Chaplin, 5; A. Chaplin, 6. On Tuesday, January 11th, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob. H. Saunders, 1; E. Radley, 2; Ernest Chaplin, 3; Edgar Chaplin, 4; F. Slade, 5; A. Chaplin (conductor), 6. F. Slade hails from Braintree. And 360 Double Court. H. Saunders, 1; A. Chaplin, 2; Ernest Chaplin, 3; Edgar Chaplin, 4; E. Radley (conductor), 5; F. Slade, 6. On Sunday afternoon, January 16th, for Divine Service, 360 Double Court. E. Prince, 1; A. Chaplin, 2; Ernest Chaplin, 3; Edgar Chaplin, 4; E. Radley (conductor), 5; F. Slade, 6. E. Prince hails from Braintree. On Tuesday, January 18th, for practice, 720 Double Court. C. Duncombe, 1; A. Chaplin, 2; Ernest Chaplin, 3; Edgar Chaplin, 4; E. Radley (conductor), 5; F. Slade, 6. And 720 Oxford Treble Bob. C. Duncombe, 1; E. Radley, 2; F. Slade, 3; Edgar Chaplin, 4; Ernest Chaplin, 5; A. Chaplin, 6.

TERRINGTON (Norfolk).—On Thursday, February 10th, at St. Clement's church, a 720 Bob Minor in 26 mins. A. Ingraham, 1; R. Howling, 2; J. N. Wright, 3; G. Green, 4; F. Eastoe, 5; A. Markwell (conductor), 6. First 720 by A. Ingraham, and first 720 on the bells for upwards of two years, and rung at the second attempt. A. Markwell hails from Wilburton, Cambs., the rest belong to the local band.

WARRINGTON (Lancashire).—On January 1st, 720 Oxford Single Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles), conducted by A. Oxley. J. Wilson, 1; W. Oxley, 2; A. Oxley, 3; E. Edwardson, 4; W. Brammer, 5; F. W. Stout, 6. On Sunday, January 2nd, for evening service, 720 College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles), conducted by W. Brammer, standing as before. On January 23rd, for evening service, 720 Oxford Single Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. Brammer, 1; J. Wilson, 2; A. Oxley, 3; W. Oxley, 4; E. Edwardson, 5; F. W. Stout, 6. On January 30th, for morning service, 720 Grandsire (thirty-four bobs and two singles), conducted by F. W. Stout. J. Wilson, 1; W. Oxley, 2; A. Oxley, 3; E. Edwardson, 4; W. Brammer, 5; F. W. Stout, 6. For evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob (nine bobs), conducted by A. Oxley. J. Wilson, 1; W. Oxley, 2; A. Oxley, 3; E. Edwardson, 4; W. Brammer, 5; F. W. Stout, 6.

Obituary.

HARRY HORWOOD.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of the above-named ringer, which took place at his residence, King Edward's Road, Nuneaton, on Thursday, March 3rd, at the age of 48. He had been ailing for some time, but did not leave his employment (which he followed as signaller on the L.N. and W. railway) until some eight or ten weeks previous to his death, during which time he perceived a growth in his throat, which proved to be cancer. He only kept his bed a fortnight, and was a great sufferer. He was borne home to his last resting-place on Monday 7th inst., by six of his fellow-workmen, followed by upward of 30 railway servants, and most of the Nuneaton ringers and friends. He had rung about 40 peals in the four standard methods and was rightly named the father of change-ringing in Nuneaton. He joined the Midland Counties Association in 1884 and did a great deal in the interests of the Association. He will be greatly missed by all ringers in the district, and more so by the Nuneaton Society, as he was a regular attendant for Sunday ringing and practice. On Thursday, the 10th inst., the Nuneaton Society rung a muffled peal as a last token of respect, the record of which will be found in its proper place. It was deceased's wish that Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples should be rung muffled, as it was the first peal he took part in.

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.

Notices.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is One Penny per line (five words may be reckoned to a line). Repetitions at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

The Chester Guild.—Wirral Branch.—The next monthly meeting and tea will be held in the Schoolroom, Heswall, to-day, Saturday, March 19th, at 6 p.m. Leaders of belfries are requested to let the Hon. Sec. know how many will attend. **HENRY WOOLCOTT, Hon. Sec.**
Grange Mount, West Kirby.

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—A meeting will be held to-day, Saturday, March 19th, at Newchurch. Bells ready at 3.30 p.m. Business meeting at 6.30. **Helmshore.** **J. H. BANKS, Branch Sec.**

The Midland Counties Association.—Nottingham District.—A meeting will be held at Long Eaton, to-day, Saturday, March 19th. Bells open from 4 to 9.

W. E. WHITE, Hon. Dist. Sec.

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The yearly meeting of this society will be held at head-quarters, Leeds (parish church), 12 bells, on Saturday, March 26th. Ringing from 3 to 4 and 5 till 10 p.m. Business meeting at the Nags Head Hotel, opposite the church, at 4.30. Business—balance sheet, the society's proposed trip, and grant for bell restoration, etc. Members are particularly requested to attend. **R. BINNS, Hon. Sec.**
18, Irwin Street, Hogg's Field, Holbeck.

The Kent County Association.—Rochester District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Peter and St. Paul, Swanscombe, on Saturday, 2nd April. Towers open at 4 p.m. Business meeting at 6 p.m.

A. OSBORNE, Hon. Dist. Sec.

The Worcestershire & District Association.—The annual meeting of this association will be held at Dudley, on Easter Monday, April 11th, 1898. Full particulars next week.

JNO. SMITH, Hon. Sec.

36, Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.

The Essex Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held on Easter-Monday, at Coggeshall. The following towers will be open, Coggeshall, Earl's Colne, Great Tey, Feering, Inworth and Kelvedon. A brake will start from Kelvedon church at 2 p.m. for Feering; from Feering at 3.45 for Coggeshall. Tea and business meeting will be held at The Chapel inn, at 5.30 p.m. A conveyance will be provided for members to reach Kelvedon in time for the evening trains. Members intending to be present must notify the same to me not later than the previous Tuesday.

HENRY T. W. EYRE, Ass. Sec.

Gt. Totham Vicarage, Witham.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—At a meeting held at the new head-quarters, The Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on September 21st, it was resolved that a testimonial be presented to Mr. Matthew A. Wood, of Bethnal Green, as a mark of esteem and in appreciation of the good work he has done towards the advancement of change-ringing during the past fifty years. Subscriptions towards this object will be gladly received by any of the following committee:—Messrs. F. S. Bayley, Burkin, Butler, Cockerill, W. Davies (Liverpool), Dorrington, T. Hattersley (Sheffield), Horrex, Hughes, T. Mash, Newton, Prime, Pettit, F. W. J. Rees (Nayland, Colchester), Smith, Springall, Waghorn, jun., and Winney. Saturday, April 2nd, 1898, is the

suggested date for the presentation to be made, and intending subscribers are earnestly requested to send in their subscriptions at least a week before that time.

NOTES TO PEALS.

THE PEAL AT OXHEY, HERTS.—This is the first handbell peal ever rung in Hertfordshire outside of the city of St. Albans. It is also the first peal on handbells by all the band, and was rung at the third attempt. The band wish to tender their thanks to Mr. Buckingham for acting as umpire on each occasion.

THE PEAL OF NORFOLK SURPRISE MAJOR AT BRIGHTON.—This peal was rung at the first attempt. A lead of the method was published in "THE BELL NEWS," December 11th, 1897, under the name of "Arundel Surprise," but it was proved that the Rev. E. B. James had a prior claim as author of the method. The composition of the peal will be found in "THE BELL NEWS," January 9th, 1897, being the first two parts of a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, by Frank Bennett, of Brighton. The peal was rung with the bells half myffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of the Rev. R. F. Tompkins, the first Hon. Treasurer of the Sussex Association, which position he held from the formation of the association, January, 1885 to May, 1894, when ill health compelled him to resign. The funeral took place on the above date at Tortington, of which parish he had been Vicar for about 43 years. This is the first peal rung in the above method.

THE PEAL AT WOLVERHAMPTON.—This peal, the record of which will be found in its proper place, was rang previous to the unveiling of a peal tablet, also as a birthday peal for the conductor. It was Mr. A. Griffiths' 50th peal, made up as follows:—Bob Triples, 1; Bob Major, 4; Darlaston Bob Triples, 3; Oxford Bob Triples, 1; Grandsire Triples, 13, Major, 3; Caters, 22; Cinques, 1; Stedman Triples, 1, Caters, 1. The peal tablet was unveiled by the Rector of Wolverhampton, the Rev. A. Penny, M.A. after evensong; the rev. gentleman expressed the pleasure it gave him to do so. A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. J. E. Groves to the Rector, and in seconding which Mr. W. B. Small gave an interesting description of the past and present ringers and their habits. The Rector in returning thanks for such an interesting speech, said it gave him pleasure to think he had such an accomplished band of ringers, and would do everything that he could for them. Touches of Grandsire Caters and Stedman Triples were afterwards rung. The tablet which is black and gold, records three peals, one of Bob Major rang in December, 1896, being the first peal of Bob Major rang by the local band; one of Grandsire Caters (7019), rang on March 20th, 1897, being the first peal of Caters by the local band since 1845; and one of Oxford Bob Triples, rang to celebrate the Queen's birthday last year, which was also the first peal in the method in the county.

THE PEAL AT ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE.—This is the first peal in the method on the bells, and first peal in the method by G. P. Burton and F. A. Nunn, and was rung on the birthday of R. Fenn, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day. The band, through the medium of this paper, wish to thank the Rector and Churchwardens for the use of the bells; also the Vicar of All Hallows Barking, Tower Hill, City, for so kindly granting them the use of his ropes; also Mr. J. Joyce, his steeple-keeper, for his trouble. The figures of this peal will be found in the Central Council Appendix, 1895, on page 75.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

LOUGHTON (Essex).—On Tuesday, February 8th, for practice, 350 Grandsire Triples. J. Ran, 1; W. Doran, 2; J. Mardell, 3; J. Moule, 4; E. Bacon (conductor), 5; E. Wightman, 6; W. Clarke, 7; G. Carter, 8. And three courses of Stedman Triples. W. Doran, 1; G. Parry, 2; E. Bacon (conductor), 3; J. Mardell, 4; J. Ran, 5; W. Pye, 6; E. Wightman, 7; W. Clarke, 8.

WOODFORD (Essex).—On Monday, January 17th, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. Green (first 720), 1; H. Gowers, 2; J. Kimberley, 3; J. Moule, 4; J. Mardell, 5; E. Wightman (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 6th, after evening service, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 26 mins. J. Moule, 1; H. Gowers, 2; E. Wightman (conductor), 3; J. Kimberley, 4; J. Mardell, 5; T. H. Beams, 6.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Wednesday, Feb. 9th, for practice, 768 Kent Treble Bob Major, and for morning service, Sunday, Feb. 13th, 576 in the same method. W. E. Emery, 1; G. H. Sorrell, 2; E. W. Davis, 3; A. Head, 4; T. Lincoln, 5; R. Wood, 6; F. G. Radley, 7; W. Lincoln, 8.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

AJAX.—You will find the poem in the "Life of Theodore Hook."

ENQUIRER.—The tomb is in Spilsby church.

G.R.—Mr. John Day is his nephew, and he is no relation to Mr. Day of Eye.

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WANTED.—Situation as jeweller's porter or any other light employment; used to winding and most clock repairs; can ring standard methods; married, aged 30. Address, E. C., care of Editor.

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SITUATION required as baker, 5½ years in last situation, can mould, etc. Situation where smalls can be learnt preferred. Have rung a trifle in the Grandsire method, and wish to get into other methods, quick learner. Age 20; good references. Apply, J. Henley, Bartlett's Buildings, Rye, Sussex.

SITUATION WANTED.—Bellhanger, locksmith and hot water fitter. Improver, age 19, four years' experience. Good change-ringer on eight. Apply, E. S. Hodges, North Square, Dorchester, Dorset.

TIMEKEEPER seeks permanent situation. Excellent change-ringer in Standard methods. Member of the Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire Associations. Excellent references. Apply X. Y. Z., office of this paper.

GAS and Hot Water Fitter wants job. Good change-ringer from twelve-bell tower. Member of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. Apply to H.P., care of Editor.

SITUATION WANTED as plumber; general hand; change-ringer; member of Herts Association.—Apply, J. Shepherd, Church Road, Hatfield, Herts.

SITUATION WANTED as gardener. single-handed or where help is given; life experience both inside and out. Four years and half good character. Age 26, married. Good change-ringer on eight.—Address, W. Smith, 24, Anerley Grove, Upper Norwood.

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COMPETENT INSTRUCTOR wanted for parish church. Whiby (8 bells), must be good man, and able to teach standard methods; will endeavour to find suitable employment. State occupation, with reference, to J. H. Blakiston, 21, Jedburgh Street, Middlesbrough.

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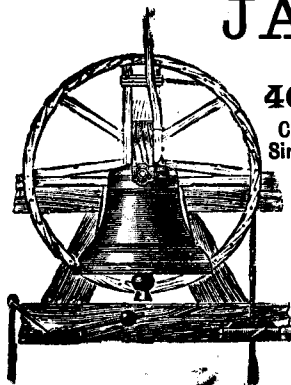
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No. 833.—VOL. XVI.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 1898.

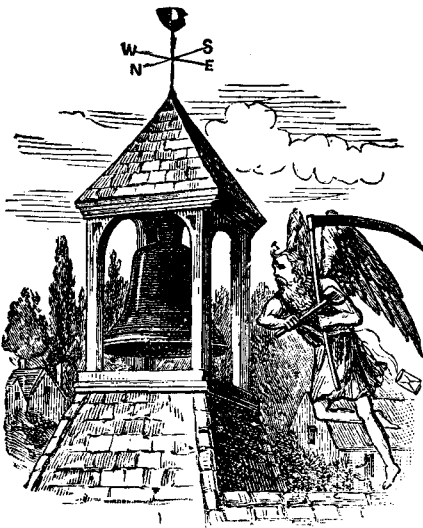
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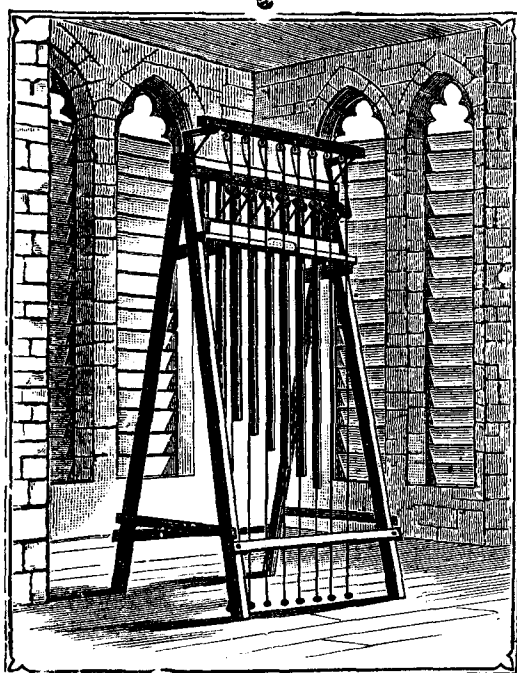
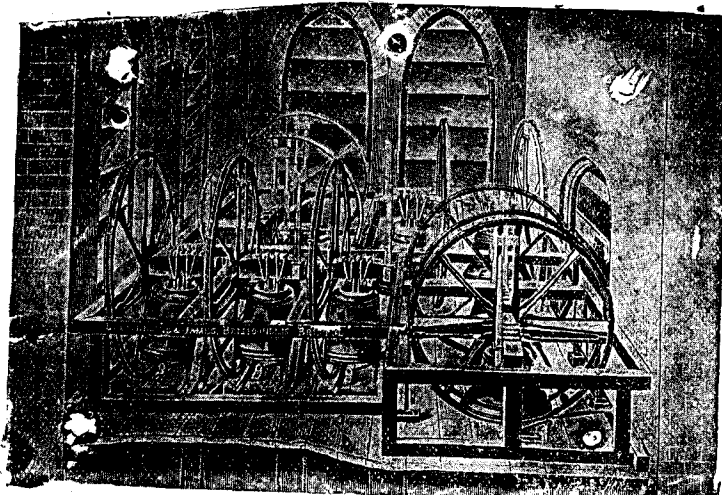
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No. 833.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 1898.

[Vol. XVI.]

THE LATE MR. SAMUEL THURSTON, OF NORWICH.

[SECOND PAPER.]

By SAMUEL SLATER, *Glemsford, Suffolk.*

SINCE the memoir of Mr. Samuel Thurston appeared in this paper (last September), I have received from Macclesfield and Norwich some additional particulars which I am asked to place before my fellow-readers, together with a few corrections of my previous paper. First I omitted to state that Samuel Thurston was the son of a Mr. Francis Thurston; secondly, respecting the inscription from the memorial tablet in St. Peter's tower, instead of "intimate peals," it should read "intricate peals extant." Mr. W. Walmsley (of Macclesfield) informs me that Thurston's daughter is dead, and that he has interviewed her husband, a Mr. Finlow (not "Finlay," as I previously gave it). Most of the following particulars has been obtained from this gentleman.

Mr. Walmsley says: Mr. Finlow is a very kind, nice, genial, and obliging old gentleman. We both have spent much time and trouble to find out other descendants of Thurston, to see if we could obtain any of his books or MSS., but without avail. Thurston had at least seven children, three of whom were sons, one of them following his father's trade (that of a mason); another was a wherryman, and had about twelve boats on the river Yare, between Norwich and Yarmouth; the youngest was captain of "The Chancellor," a trading vessel belonging to New York; he was last heard of many years ago on the coast of Spain. Thurston was of a very kind and generous disposition, always willing to help anyone, or to give them what he could, especially if they were ringers, or connected in any way with ringing. He spent a great deal of time and money in going about visiting towers, practising with the ringers, and encouraging them to ring the advanced methods. As he could conduct and ring at either end, he became very popular, and was always a welcome visitor. His presence and advice were eagerly sought for, and if anything was the matter with ringers or bells, Thurston was sent for. He was a very pleasant and ingenious man; had five or six workmen under him when he was head mason of Norwich Cathedral; a great favorite of the bishops of the diocese. It has been said that he was superintending the repairs of the flying buttresses round Norwich Cathedral when he died suddenly. As before mentioned, he was very generous, and kept an excellent table, and therefore it was found that at his death his wife and younger members of the family then at home were left unprovided for, consequently they became scattered. One of the elder daughters went to Congleton, the youngest daughter joining her there afterwards. Later on they went to Macclesfield to learn silk weaving. The latter eventually married Mr. John Finlow, and died on the 13th of May, 1890, her husband still living.

Mr. Finlow is very fond of reiterating the items of intelligence he received from his late wife concerning her father and the Norwich Scholars of his day. From this source we know that Mrs. Finlow left several daughters but only one son. The latter is now carrying on an extensive business in Macclesfield as engineer and millwright, in which callings he is an expert. He is engaged at the present time making silk machinery for people in various parts of the county. His name is Robert Thurston Finlow.

Mr. John Finlow informs us that the silver-gilt jewel, or silver bell, as his wife used to call it, was given by Thurston's widow to one of the Norwich ringers, who must afterwards have left that city, and consequently it has never been traced. The painting which was presented to Thurston in 1822 is a beautiful piece of work, about 15 inches by 10, and is mounted on stout

cardboard. Though simple, or rather plain-looking, it must have cost a tidy figure at the time, and although it has gone brown with age, the features are very clear and much like a photograph. The inscription given before was not quite correct, but the following is an exact copy of the words. The MS. in his hand should read: "The Art of Ringing made Easy;" and the inscription at the foot is as follows: "This portrait of Mr. Samuel Thurston was presented to him Dec. 8th, 1822, by a few young men belonging to the Society of St. Peter's Mancroft Ringers, for his many eminent and useful Services as a Teacher and Master of the Ancient Science of Ringing." All the above is written in a splendid hand, and with capital letters as above. After reading in "THE BELL NEWS" the account of Thurston, and the following paragraph from the *Norwich Mercury*: "On Saturday, August 3rd, 1822, St. Peter's ringers presented Mr. Samuel Thurston with an inscription neatly fitted up as a testimony of their esteem for the able and ingenious manner in which he rung and conducted a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. This great performance was undertaken and completed by four of St. Peter's ringers, under the immediate direction of Samuel Thurston, in the usual double-handed method of handbell ringing, and totally out of the lapping system." I concluded that the presentation of the portrait took place on the 3rd of August, and that the above really meant the portrait.

It is true he had a lot of young men whom he called "young stags," who came to practice at his house once a week. When these "young stags" were at practice on the church bells, he would go into his bed-chamber to hear them; being a little deaf he used a ear-horn or ear-trumpet. He could thus follow the ringing, and easily detect a mis-call or change-course. If a "trip" occurred he would say to his wife—"They have missed it; there: that's Big Bob" or some other defaulting ringer, and at the same time dot down on paper what had occurred, and reprimand such defaulter when he next saw him. It is true that Thurston died suddenly, having been to a supper the night previous, retiring to bed as usual. Early the next morning Mrs. Thurston was awakened by the condition of her husband. She found him with a gurgling noise in his throat, and before she could obtain a light he was dead. Mrs. Finlow was at home then, and did not leave Norwich till 1844, three years after her father's death. The greatest respect was shown in Norwich at his burial: shutters were closed, blinds were drawn, and at nearly every church in Norwich the bells were tolled just before the interment. It appears that Mrs. Thurston gave away to various ringers all her husband's possessions which were connected with his ringing career, and Mr. Finlow well remembers his wife and her sister saying that "Old Greenwood" had something of their father's property, which they thought was the painting. Mrs. Finlow went from Macclesfield to Norwich three times in search of it, and on the third visit she learned that an old ringer who lived four miles out of Norwich had it in his possession. On going to see this old ringer he was pleased to give it to her, for he had had it placed in a broker's shop window not for sale, but to see if an owner could be found among some of Thurston's descendants. Thus it got back into the family, and Mrs. Finlow returned to Macclesfield with the painting of her father, which she cherished so much.

The following oral traditions of Thurston are also told by Mr. Finlow. Somewhere about the time of the battle of Waterloo Thurston was pressed into the militia, and one day while practising firing in the barrack square, in his excitement he fired away his ramrod. This little incident was often brought forward, and when in facetious humor some of the ringers would call to him—"Sam, who fired away the ramrod?" Another incident, known as "the Fakenham ghost," was often a topic among the ringers and other friends of Thurston. The adven-

ture occurred to him one night when on his way to Fakenham on some ringing exploit. He was trudging alone on the night in question along a country road, swinging his arms to and fro, being very dark, when a greyhound came noiselessly alongside him and bobbed its cold nose into Thurston's warm hand. This startled him considerably, and he commenced to run, but he had not proceeded many yards before he fell over a donkey lying across the road.

Samuel Thurston was a genius in many ways. He was very clever with clocks, for he had them all over his house, and people brought their clocks to him for repair. He put some sort of contrivance into one of his own clocks which when fully wound up would keep repeating the words: "Don't fret;" until the special mechanism had run down. This clock was given to one of his daughters; Mr. Finlow informs us that he has heard it sound the above-mentioned words very clear and life-like. Respecting his visit to London Mrs. Finlow used to say that her father was sent for to go to London to do something to the famous Bow bells. Mr. Walmsley thereupon wrote to the Rev. the Rector of St. Mary-le-Bow, asking him if he could find anything in the church accounts about Thurston, giving the time as about 1828 or 1830. That gentleman in replying said that he had looked through the minute books and found that at a vestry meeting held September 3rd, 1826, the architect presented a report to the effect that the bells required to be newly hung, and that the cost would be about £750. He added: "I cannot find that any action was taken upon this report before 1833." So if it was true that he was sent for it would not be to do any work; at any rate there is no account of his doing any, but still it is probable that he might be sent for by some one to give advice, or by a firm who were about giving a tender for the work; or it may be to put in a tender himself: thus his name would not appear on the vestry minutes.

Thurston thought of settling down in London, and sent for his wife and children from Norwich. Mrs. Finlow remembered being in London quite well. They all resided in Bow parish for about twelve months, but Thurston took a dislike to the metropolis, and returned to his native city, of which he was a free-man, and a much-respected citizen.

Copies of Samuel Thurston's photograph (cabinet size) can be obtained of Mr. W. Walmsley, 88, High Street, Macclesfield, for one shilling each.

THE ATTLEBOROUGH SOCIETY, NORFOLK.

On Thursday evening, February 10th, the members of this company met at the rectory in response to an invitation to supper from their respected rector, the Rev. E. Maxwell Webb. The party was augmented by the Rev. F. Mourilyan, curate. The members were warmly received on their arrival by the rector, and all partook of an excellent repast presided over by the rev. gentleman, and the way he, with the help of the Rev. F. Mourilyan, carved, was very much appreciated by all. This pleasant part of the proceedings over, the rest of the evening was spent in harmony, pipes and tobacco being handed round. Songs, tunes on the handbells, conversation, etc., brought round the hour of midnight, when Mr. J. G. Miles, the conductor, on behalf of his brother-ringers, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the rector for his generous hospitality, which was seconded by Mr. E. Ettridge, and carried unanimously. The rector in responding, said that during the short time he had been amongst them, how pleased he was to find such an agreeable and pleasant band of ringers, and hoped to meet them on further occasions to spend an enjoyable evening as he had done that night. The health of the Rev. F. Mourilyan having been proposed, "Auld lang syne" was played on the handbells; also 360 Canterbury Pleasure. J. G. Miles (conductor), J. Warren, R. Ettridge, S. Daniels, and J. Lawrence. And 360 Bob Minor. G. Balls, J. G. Miles, W. Phillips, E. Ettridge, S. Daniels, J. Lawrence. Longest length by Messrs. Balls and Phillips.

STOCKTON (Norfolk).—On Sunday afternoon, February 6th, for Divine Service, 480 Grandsire Doubles. W. Browne, 1; S. Fairhead, 2; F. Hembling, 3; W. Felgate (conductor), 4; E. Lincoln, 5. And after service 240 Plain and 360 Grandsire Doubles, standing as before. Tenor 9 cwt. in A.

PUDDLETOWN, DORSET.

RE-DEDICATION OF THE BELLS.—A special service for the re-dedication of the old bells, and dedication of a new bell given in memory of the late Mrs. Freeman, took place in the parish church on Sunday afternoon. The event has been looked forward to with much interest in the parish, and the church was well filled on the occasion. The choir was assisted by that of St. John's, Athelhampton, and the musical portions of the service were well and heartily sung, Miss Freeman being the organist. An eloquent and interesting sermon was preached by the Rev. Everingham, diocesan special missionary, and a striking portion of the service was a short peal by the ringers before singing the hymn "Hark on high the joyful music." The St. Peter's Guild of Ringers, Dorchester, rang several peals at the conclusion of the service and again after the service, and their skilful ringing showed the beautiful tone of the bells and the exceedingly ably way in which the work of re-casting and re-hanging had been carried out by Mr. Blackburn, of Salisbury. The total cost of the work exceeds £300, of which £150 has been generously guaranteed by Colonel Brymer, M.P., and nearly the whole of the remainder has been subscribed by the parishioners and friends who sympathised with the work. The ringers were entertained to tea at the Vicarage by the Rev. F. E. Freeman. The church clock has also been thoroughly cleaned and renovated by Mr. Braybrooke, of Dorchester, and the completion of the whole work will form an important landmark in the history of the church.

JUMBLE SALE.—A jumble sale and sale of new and fancy goods was held in the schoolroom on Friday in aid of the fund for restoring the church bells. There was a large attendance of purchasers in spite of the inclement weather. The sale was under the management of the Misses Freeman, who found a good number of willing helpers. The refreshment stall was exceedingly pretty, and was under the care of Mrs. R. D. Thornton, Miss Thornton, Mrs. Oldfield, and Mrs. Johnson. Miss Inglis had charge of the fancy stall and Mrs. Shaw of the stall for the sale of needlework. Among the other stallholders were Mrs. Atkins, Mrs. Gover, Mrs. Hewlett, Mrs. Painter, and Misses Gape, Legg, Chilcott, Rowland, Lucas, Arnold, Daw, Powell, Cousins, Short, and Matthews. Mr. Gover kindly lent his weighing machine, which proved a great success, and Miss Elma Inglis did well with a bran pie. Mr. Atkins gave general assistance. The sale realised over £26.

DEATH OF MR. W. HARDY.—It is with regret we announce the death of Mr. W. Hardy, builder, of Puddletown. He had been ailing for a long time, and passed away peacefully on Saturday. Mr. Hardy had been the parish clerk for a great number of years, and had endeared himself to a large circle of friends by his un-failing cheerfulness of manner and his willingness to assist in any good work. He had looked forward with the keenest interest to the completion of the restoration of the church bells, and a peculiar interest attaches to the circumstance that he should have passed away so shortly before the crowning act was put to the work he had so much at heart.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Committee was held at Brighton in a room kindly prepared by the Master of the Association—Mr. Geo. F. Attree—when fourteen out of a possible twenty were present.

Arrangements were made for the Annual Meeting to be held at Brighton on Easter Monday, when it was hoped that the Bishop of the diocese would give the address, and the Mayor of Brighton preside at the luncheon. Amongst other business it was decided to bring pressure upon the railway company to grant to the members similar facilities as were enjoyed by golf and fishing clubs, and to the end it was suggested that each Association should urge its various railway companies, and that "THE BELL NEWS" should raise its useful and important power to this end.

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.

PUBLIC TOPICS.

Though the number of peals rung each week show very little sign of diminution, there is nevertheless a marked quietness in ringing matters. The waking-up will come after Easter. But the announcements of meetings for Easter Monday are not so numerous as formerly. What is the reason for this. Is the weather too cold? Have we got afraid of the fag-end of winter? Easter Monday, we are told on good authority, is the day *par excellence* for ringers' holiday meetings. Do not allow Easter to drop out of its position in our program.

"Seated in Broomfield church the other Sunday evening, a friend of mine was startled to hear some one, at intervals, shouting at the top of his voice 'Bob?' Such a strange incident in a church with all the worshippers present struck him as a queer proceeding, and he fully expected to see the churchwardens preparing to eject the offender. To mystify matters, the congregation seemed to take no heed of the affair. On leaving the edifice my friend found that the shouting had reference to change-ringing, but for the life of him he could not see where the necessity for such screeching came in, not to speak of the irreverence of the proceeding."

This attempt to make an amusing *par.* appeared in last week's issue of the *Essex County Chronicle*, under the heading of "After Dinner Talk," by Tatler. The *Church Review* has recently had to put the Editor of this old-established and respected Essex journal right upon a Church matter. Therefore I cannot help thinking that the insertion of the above was due to the need of a little more intelligence upon the science of change-ringing. Had Mr. Tatler been indulging in an extra "cham" after dinner, and his mind become in consequence the reverse of clear? I would advise our friends at Broomfield to try and conduct their ringing on Sundays without annoying friends (?) or the Essex pressmen who attend the church.

There has been a man killed at Johannesburg—I think that is the name of the place—shot dead. That is very bad, and such lawless actions must of course be punished. Assassins of this sort are the most contemptible of wretches, and cannot be sat upon too heavily or too much. To murder a fellow-man in cold blood, as it is called, is dastardly above all. The name of the man who was killed is said to be "Joel."

Mr. Joel was a money merchant—a clever man, no doubt. He understood very well I suppose the tricks of the trade, hence his success in amassing bullion. But there has been a great halo thrown over him, in consequence of his violent death I suppose. To read what some newspapers say about him he must have been a great public benefactor, and his death is a national calamity. Yet I never knew that he had founded an hospital or a public library, or performed any other philanthropic action. "Money makes the mare to go."

A very nice little party at Waltham Abbey the other evening, the occasion being the silver wedding celebration of a prominent inhabitant. Some very pretty speeches were made, and the festivity passed off as merry as a marriage bell. Mr. Alps recited some poetry commencing "Disappointments attend all classes of men:" and the ending of which went to show that ringers were never free from the common lot. Did Mr. Alps

have a thought to the disappointment—the great disappointment—of the non-restoration of the Abbey bells. There was to be something big done with them. A lot of talk, a deal of smoke, and there it stopped. Let us fill the jug.

So Joseph Parker of Farnham Royal is going to have his bells increased to eight. Well he has been hammering away at this job for some years, and it has come at last. They say everything comes to those who wait. We can compliment our friend J. J. P. upon the fact. Have a good opening ceremony, Joseph, invite the ringers from all the neighbouring towers and villages, and don't forget to send a special for yours truly.

The hand of death has been amongst us again. The other week Joel Redford was taken from us, somewhat suddenly. Again, poor Harry Horwood, of Nuneaton. Both these were active workers, and they did their devoirs without making noise or stir. *Requiescat in pace.*

PLAIN SPEAKER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

A meeting of this branch was held on Saturday, March 19th, at the Church of St. Nicholas, Newchurch. Members presented themselves from Bacup, Rawtenstall, Harlingden, Helmshore, and Ramsbottom. The ringing was to a great extent confined to Triples as the tenor is rather difficult to handle in Major methods, though Kent and Bob Major were more or less successfully tried. However several fairly good touches of Grandsire were brought round.

The Rector, the Rev. J. W. Bennett, presided over the business meeting. In the course of his opening remarks he expressed his appreciation of the services that ringers rendered, especially those of his own parish. Haslingden was chosen as the place for next meeting, and J. Heald was made a member of the Association. A vote of condolence was passed to the widow and children of the late Mr. Joel Redford, and the Secretary was asked to express the sympathy of the branch with them in their bereavement.

The best wishes of the meeting were given to the Rev. C. A. Clements, who is shortly leaving the district. The usual courtesy to the chair and local ringers concluded the meeting.

It may just be mentioned that the new chancel to this Church is being rapidly proceeded with, though ringers as a rule are accustomed to centre their affection at the other end. J. H. B.

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, MACCLESFIELD.

As this church is to be closed early in next May, the society of ringers connected therewith would be pleased to welcome any of their ringing friends, or any brother-strings on Sundays at 10.0 a.m. and 6.0 p.m., or any other time by arrangement with the undersigned. The church, which dates back from 1278, is to be almost rebuilt at a cost of £20,000, the architect being Sir Arthur Blomfield, A.R.A. The tower is not to be taken down, but we do not know how soon the ringing may cease, probably as above in May.

88, High Street, Macclesfield.

W. WALMSLEY,
Conductor of the Society.

WANTED a large peal of handbells. Forty-nine bells. Chromatic scale; G25 to G04; or a larger peal with duplicates. Must be in thorough good condition, and sweet tone. State lowest possible terms, with maker's name, and all particulars to WILMER ROGERS, 8, Yerk Street, Wrexham.

UNVEILING A PEAL-BOARD AT TONBRIDGE.

INTERESTING CEREMONY.

On Tuesday evening, March 15th, a numerous company assembled in the vestry of the Parish Church, to witness the unveiling of a peal-board recording the successful performance of two peals by the local society, in commemoration of the long reign of Her Majesty the Queen, which forms an unique record, inasmuch as the same men were in each peal. Mr. G. D. Warner, the senior Churchwarden, who had kindly consented to perform the ceremony, said he had been asked to say a few words on the subject of bell-ringing. They knew that bells took part in the services of years ago, as they read that on the epoch of the High Priest of Israel, 4000 years ago, there used to be placed golden bells. From that day to the present bells in some form had been used through the Mosaic dispensation as well as in the Christian service, or as an adjunct to the service. The speaker then proceeded, for the benefit of the uninitiated, to explain the number of changes which could be rung on various number of bells, showing how the recognised peal of 5,000 changes required skill, energy, and perseverance in its accomplishment. But when, coming to the number possible on 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 bells, we find the feat beyond human endurance. In handing the board over to the ringers, he expressed the pleasure it gave him, and he trusted that in the future there might be other boards recording similar feats, and that as time went on Tonbridge might be renowned for its bell-ringing. He then unveiled the board.

Mr. Stonestreet (the Master), in accepting the board, said that it was difficult for the outside public to understand bell-ringing, but it was a good exercise, and afforded a means for young men to employ their time in a much better way than they often did.

Mr. B. Wadmore mentioned the formation and progress of the Society, dating from the year 1886, specially referring to the early interest taken in it by Major C. E. Warner, the first Master. He also thanked those friends at Tunbridge Wells, Speldhurst, and Southborough, who had contributed largely to the success the Society was enjoying.

The Vicar, in thanking Mr. Warner for his valuable exposition on bell-ringing, said he ventured to hope that some evening he would give them a lecture on campanology. Such a lecture would be both popular and welcome, as there was a good deal of historical association connected with the bells of the country, our own included. Having thanked the ringers for their untiring work in connection with the Church, that part of the evening was closed by the Vicar pronouncing the benediction.

Not the least encouraging part of the evening was the large muster of visitors from Tunbridge Wells, etc., and ringing was indulged in both before and after the ceremony, some good touches being rung.

The board is a handsome one, surmounted by the Royal Arms and the name of the Society, and inscribed as follows:—

"Royal Cumberland Youths' Society of Change-ringers. On September 23rd, 1896, the following members of the above society rang upon these bells, Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples (5040 changes) in 3 hours and 10 minutes, to commemorate H.M. Queen Victoria having reigned longer than any previous Sovereign on the British throne. Also on June 22nd (Diamond Jubilee Day) 1897, the same peal in 3 hours and 5 minutes, commencing at 4 a.m., in honour of her Majesty completing the 60th year of her reign, September 23rd, 1896. J. Chivers, treble; A. Laurence, 2; G. H. Stonestreet, 3; B. Wadmore, 4; W. Steed, 5; G. A. Card, 6; T. Card, 7; J. Smith, tenor; conducted by T. Card. June 22nd, 1897. J. Chivers, treble; A. Laurence, 2; G. A. Card, 3; B. Wadmore, 4; W. Steed, 5; G. H. Stonestreet, 6; T. Card, 7; J. Smith, tenor; conducted by G. A. Card. C. G. Baskerville, M.A., Vicar. Geo. D. Warner, and T. E. Millidge, Churchwardens."

THE BELLS OF COOMBE BISSETT, WILTS.

JUMBLE SALE AND SALE OF WORK.—A very modest but successful sale of work was held on Monday last, at the Annexe, kindly lent by Mr. W. Flower, in aid of the new treble bell fund to complete a peal of six in the parish church. Generous contributions of clothing were received by Mrs. Corbin, Mrs. Main, and Mrs. Wiltshire from many friends in Coombe and the neighbourhood. The stallholders were as follows:—Fancy Stall, Mrs. Corbin, Miss J. Gatrell; New Work, Miss Flower, Mrs.

Coombs, Mrs. F. Main; Toy Stall, Miss Beckwith, Miss Williams; Jumble Stall, Miss Farris, Miss Gatrell, Miss A. Gatrell, Mrs. Wiltshire, Mr. F. Main, Mr. J. Farris, Captain Wiltshire. Tea Stall, Miss A. Flower, Mrs. F. Sidford. A washing competition arranged by Mr. F. Main was an attractive feature. No less than twelve competitors entered for the valuable prizes offered by Messrs. Lever Bros., of "Sunlight Soap" fame. The first prize, consisting of a set of twelve plated tea spoons and sugar tongs in case, was awarded to Mrs. Long, of Coombe Bissett, the second and third prizes going to Miss Gamblin and Mrs. Smith, of Homington, respectively, the judges being Mrs. Coombs, Miss Dibben, Mrs. E. Main, Mrs. F. Sidford, and Mrs. G. Sidford. The proceeds of the sale amounted to £15.1s. 6½d.; this, with £5 from Mr. D. G. Corbin, of Homington House, £1 from Canon Kingsbury, £2 4s. collected by Miss C. Beckwith, W. Button, Miss Flower, Miss Williams, together with smaller amounts received, has enabled the Churchwardens to pay for the bell and its fittings. Two gentlemen have very kindly come forward with an offer of £20 should an additional two bells be required for a peal of eight. Mr. Walter Flower, one of the Churchwardens, has kindly intimated his intention of entertaining the ringers at supper on the occasion of first using the new bell. The work of hanging, etc., has been entrusted to Mr. T. Blackburn, who not long since rehung and augmented with a new treble the old ring of four. The weight of the new bell is 4 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. It was cast by Mr. J. Barwell, of Birmingham, and for purity of tone and excellence of finish leaves nothing to be desired. The inscription is:—

"We praise Thee, O God."

RICHARD MILNER, Vicar.
WALTER FLOWER
DENNETT GEORGE CORBIN | Churchwardens.
Easter, 1898.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WESTERN DIVISION.—A very successful monthly meeting was held at Angmering on Saturday, March 12th, seven towers being represented. Some enjoyable touches were brought round. At 5 p.m., the Rev. J. B. Orme presided, and gave an interesting account on the success of the Association in the diocese. Special reference was made to the death of the Rev. R. F. Tompkins, who for many years had acted as Treasurer of the Association, and had ever been intimate with the ringers and ringing. A vote of condolence to his family was passed, and muffled peals were suggested where practicable. A cordial vote of thanks to the chairman was tendered before adjourning to the tower for further ringing.

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."

SIR,—I see in your last week's issue of "THE BELL NEWS," you appear rather surprised at me choosing Bob Major for a record peal at Wortley. Now, Mr. Editor, it is an old saying and a true one: "You must cut your coat according to your cloth," and I think a word or two of explanation will not be out of place. You must bear in mind that the band in question is a young one, two of them only rang their first peal in January this year, and it was also the first peal by an entirely local band, so under the circumstances you could hardly expect a peal of College Exercise. For instance, I believe the idea of a long peal arose through one or two of the band chaffing each other about their ability to stand a long length; the original intention was to have only their own band, but one of them being unable to ring at the eleventh hour, I was asked to stand in and also to call the peal. We met on the 26th of February, and all went well for five and a half hours, but then came to grief. It speaks well for the pluck and determination of the band that arrangements were then made to meet again in a fortnight, which we did, and our efforts were crowned with success. I may add that the Vicar of Wortley, the Rev. Mr. Brayshaw, and one of the Churchwardens, Mr. C. J. E. Broughton, were waiting at the door, and heartily congratulated us on our success. The Vicar generously offered to defray the cost of a handsome peal board recording the peal, and also the first peal by the local band. The band are now practising Treble Bob and hope soon to score a peal in the method. Hoping you will find space in your next issue for this explanation.

DAVID BREARLEY.

Woodbine Villas, Deepcar, Sheffield.

Compositions.**PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.***By WILLIAM WALMSLEY, Macclesfield.*

5076.

23456

62354 9th in three s
 25364 8th in three
 32564 9th in three
 26534 8th in three
 42635 9th in three s
 64235 9th in three s
 43265 8th in three
 36245 8th in three
 23645 9th in three

Five times repeated, with bob for second single in third and sixth parts produces—

2 3 4 5 6 9 7 8

Brought round by calling the 8th in with a bob, and the 7th in and out with singles. Contains all the combinations of 4, 5, 6 in 5-6, and the 2nd never in 5-6, nor is it before the 7th or after the 9th.

The first course of the peal is produced by calling the 7th in with a bob and out at 3 with a single.

PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

13,440.

By WILLIAM WALMSLEY, Macclesfield.

23456 I 4

63524 s —
 42365 — —
 56243 — —
 34652 — —
 25436 — —
 65234 — —
 45632 — —
 23546 — —
 64325 — —
 52463 — —
 36254 — —
 46352 — —
 25643 — —
 34526 — —
 62435 — —
 53264 — —
 43562 — —
 23465 — —
 56324 — —
 42653 — —
 35246 — —
 64532 — —
 24635 — —
 53426 — —
 62354 — —
 45263 — —

Continued—

I 4
 36542 — —
 26345 — —
 54623 — —
 32456 — —

Three times repeated, with s for last bob in 2nd and 4th parts. This peal contains the 120 course-ends, and is produced with calls only at 1 and 4, and is the first in the method on this plan.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.*By F. CLAYTON, Selly Oak.*

5040.

23456 I 4 6
 53624 — — —
 26354 — — —
 23654 — s —
 36254 — — —
 62354 — — —
 63254 — s —
 32654 — — —
 56234 — — —
 62534 — — —
 35264 — — —
 52364 — — —
 53264 — s —
 32564 — — —
 25364 — — —
 23564 — s —

4th, 5th and 6th only in 6ths place at a course-end.

PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.*By JOHN HOWES, Kingston-on-Thames.*

5040.

23456 I 4 6
 65324 — — —
 42563 — — —
 32465 — — —
 56234 — — —
 63254 — — —
 52364 — — —
 26354 — — —
 45623 — — —
 35426 — — —
 52436 — — —
 34256 — — —
 54632 — — —
 24536 — — —
 43526 — — —
 23645 — — —

Twice repeated. Contains the extent of 4, 5, and 6 in 6ths at the course-ends without the use of singles.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR.*By G. LINDOFF, Dublin.*

5088.

23456 B M W H

45236 — — —
 24536 — — —
 32546 — — —
 43526 — — —
 52436 — — —
 63425 — — —
 63254 — — —
 56234 — — —
 26435 — — —
 26354 — — —
 32654 — — —
 65324 — — —
 36524 — — —
 53624 — — —
 25634 — — —
 53246 — — —
 42635 — — —
 62534 — — —
 35426 — — —
 42356 — — —
 54326 — — —
 25346 — — —
 34256 — — —
 23456 — — —

Contains the 4th and 6th their extent in 6ths, without 2nd or 3rd in 6ths.

PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.*By EDWIN TIMBRELL, Chipping, Lancs.*

5088.

23456 M B W H

54326 — — 2 2
 42356 I — — —
 32546 I — — —
 24653 2 — — —
 52436 — — — 2
 36245 2 — — 2
 54263 2 — 2 I
 53462 — I I
 35264 — I 2
 45362 — I
 25463 — I
 56234 — — —
 24365 2 — 2 2
 63425 I — — 2
 25634 — 2
 53246 — — —
 23456 I — — 2

Has the 6th its extent each way in 5-6 at six course-ends.]

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. 1 1/2d.

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,
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SIR ARTHUR 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, BART., M.A. Gratis on application to SIR ARTHUR HEYWOOD, BART., DUFFIELD BANK, near Derby

THE REV. DR. RAVEN'S WORK.

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

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 1898.

THE several attempts that have been made to obtain for ringers the privilege of cheap railway travelling have not been rewarded with success. We understand that the railway companies are willing to give such facilities to those people who follow such intellectual pursuits as golf, football, and the like. Why should the poor, ignorant bell-ringer be debarred such a privilege? Why, indeed? It is true that a respectable, quiet, and well-ordered body of change-ringers, when visiting a strange tower to practise an Art which puts every other known recreative pursuit into the shade, so far as mental faculties are concerned, do not advertise themselves to public gaze by violent and noisy behaviour. The science of change-ringing is followed by persons of refinement, who deport themselves generally not as escaped inmates of a lunatic asylum. There are no wagers laid upon the ultimate result of a peal; and the institution known as "odds" is quite foreign to Bell-Ringing. Is it necessary before ringers can obtain the privilege of cheap fares, that they should make their presence felt publicly in the manner to which we have just made allusion? It would really appear so.

The time has arrived when stronger action must be taken to obtain the privilege of cheap railway travelling for ringers. If the several officials still refuse to grant the requests which are made to them for this purpose, the chairmen or directors of the various companies should be appealed to on the matter. And this with the least possible delay. The season is approaching when the railway will be greatly utilised by ringers, and it is a manifest injustice to debar them from those benefits which are readily given to others no more deserving.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

The next meeting will be held at Bristol on Tuesday in Whitsun-week, 31st May, 1898.

Notices of motion, etc., must reach the Hon. Secretary not later than Tuesday, the 3rd of May. They must be in writing, and signed by two representatives.

Hon. Secretaries of societies are reminded that subscriptions to the Council are now due and should be remitted to the Hon. Secretary without delay, at the rate of 2s. 6d. for each elected representative. The Hon. Secretary would also be greatly obliged for information as to any change in representatives, or their addresses, that has taken place in the last year. H. EARLE BULWER,

Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn.

Hon. Sec.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION,

On Saturday, March 19, 1898, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, POPLAR, E.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART. Tenor 25 cwt.

FREDK. ALBERT STOWARD .. Treble.	FRANK CHAS. NEWMAN .. 5.
JOHN JAMES LAMB 2.	WILLIAM JOHN. JEFFRIES .. 6.
THOMAS TAYLOR 3.	FREDERICK W. THORNTON .. 7.
WILLIAM FOREMAN 4.	HARRY FLANDERS Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK WILLIAM THORNTON.

Reference to this peal will be found on another page.

The Provinces.

BROMSGROVE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

On Saturday, January 22, 1898, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5004 CHANGES;

HUBERT SALISBURY* .. Treble.	GEORGE HAYWARD 6.
WILLIAM C. JONES 2.	*ALBERT JACKSON 7.
LIONEL LONGNEY 3.	ALFRED MOORE 8.
JOHN MASON 4.	GEORGE BOURNE 9.
OLIVER JAMES 5.	JAMES PARRY Tenor.

Composed by G. HAYWARD and Conducted by LIONEL LONGNEY.

*First peal of Caters.

BIDDENHAM.—THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 5, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, Double Oxford, College Single, and Plain Bob. Tenor 14 cwt.

JOHN MAXEY* Treble.	CHARLES WM. CLARKE .. 4.
CHARLES WEST 2.	HARRY KING 5.
HARRY TYSOE 3.	WILLIAM J. DAVISON .. Tenor.

Conducted by W. J. DAVISON.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(ARUNDEL BRANCH).

On Monday, March 14, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

GEORGE WELLER, JUN.* .. Treble.	HARRY LEE 5.
GEORGE BALCHIN 2.	FREDERICK LUXFORD .. 6.
HAROLD SEARLE† 3.	CHARLES BLACKMAN .. 7.
JOHN NETTY† 4.	*GEORGE WELLER, SEN. .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE BALCHIN.

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

This was rung with the bells muffled to the memory of our most kind and sincere friend the Rev. R. F. Tompkins, who for many years was a ringer with the band, and who was buried on the above afternoon.

BEDFORD.—THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 15, 1898, in Two Hours and Thirty-seven Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. HILLS, MARLBOROUGH ROAD,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

WILLIAM J. BARKER .. 1-2.	EDGAR H. G. TINGEY .. 4.
W. GAZELEY* 3.	CHARLES WM. CLARKE .. 5-6.
HERBERT FRANK HULL 7-8.	

Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

*First peal. First peal on handbells by all except the conductor. Referee—Mr H. Tysoe. Witnesses—Mrs. E. S. Hull and Mr. R. G. Glass,

RUSPER, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 15, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SHIPWAY'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

THOMAS WORSFOLD* .. Treble.	*THOMAS FAIRS 5.
JOHN AKEHURST 2.	HENRY BURSTOW 6.
CHARLIE TAYLOR* 3.	FREDERICK WICKENS .. 7.
ALFRED D. MILLS 4.	*JAMES WORSFOLD Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK WICKENS.

*First peal of Triples, and the first peal of Triples on the bells. Rung as a birthday compliment to Frederick Wickens.

NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 15, 1898, in Two Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. H. ARGYLE, GLEBE ROAD,

ON HANDBELLS RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, College Single, Oxford Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, Grandsire, and Plain Bob.

WALTER STONE 1-2.	HARRY ARGYLE 3-4.
THOMAS W. CHAPMAN 5-6.	

Conducted by THOMAS W. CHAPMAN.

Umpire—F. Adams. First peal in seven methods on handbells by the association.

HEENE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, March 16, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 10½ cwt. 15 lbs.

WILLIAM HILLMAN Treble.	BENJAMIN BASSETT 5.
THOMAS GREENYER* 2.	CHARLES HILLS 6.
HARRY EVANS 3.	EDMUND E. LINDUP 7.
GEORGE NORRIS 4.	†FREDERICK LINDUP Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM HILLMAN.

*First peal with a bob bell. †First peal. This peal was rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of deep respect to the Rev. R. F. Tompkins, of Tortington, near Arundel.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, March 16, 1898, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt.

JOHN CREASY Treble.	ALFRED W. GRIMES 5.
WILLIAM GROOM 2.	JAMES G. RUMSEY 6.
SEDLAY COLLINS 3.	WILLIAM E. BULLOCK 7.
GEORGE THURLOW 4.	WILLIAM C. RUMSEY .. Tenor.

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE and Conducted by W. C. RUMSEY.

Reference to this peal will be found elsewhere.

EARL SOHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 17, 1898, in Two Hours Twenty-four and $\frac{1}{2}$ Minutes,

AT THE HOUSE OF W. J. CRICKMER,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

HORACE C. HOWLETT .. 1-2.	WILLIAM FLORY 5-6.
WILLIAM G. CRICKMER .. 3-4.	JOHN J. O'NEILL 7-8.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS and Conducted by W. G. CRICKMER.

This peal has the full combination of 4, 5, 6 in 5-6, and is now rung for the first time. This is the first peal rung in the conductor's native village. First peal on handbells by Flory and Howlett. First peal by O'Neill. Umpire, J. A. Read

BACUP.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 17, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6080 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 10 cwt.

FRED. HOWORTH Treble.	WM. ASHWORTH 5.
JOHN A. BROWN 2.	REV. C. A. CLEMENTS .. 6.
ARTHUR W. WHITWORTH .. 3.	JOHN SHEPHERD 7.
JAMES T. STANDRING 4.	WILFRED LAW Tenor.

Composed by W. HARRISON and Conducted by JOHN SHEPHERD.

First 6000 by all except the conductor. Rung in honour of the birthday of the assistant-conductor who has been seriously ill for some months, and as a farewell peal to the Rev. C. A. Clements, B.A., who has been preferred to Southport, and will leave the district at Easter.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, March 18, 1898, in Three Hours and Thirty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES.

Tenor 28 cwt.

A. MATTHEWS Treble.	W. INGLESANT 6.
T. W. COLBURN 2.	J. HUTCHBY 7.
H. WHITTLE 3.	W. MASTERS 8.
J. GRUNDY 4.	R. F. LANE 9.
T. START 5.	G. DOUGHTY Tenor.

Composed by W. ELSON and Conducted by R. F. LANE.

THURLEIGH, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 19, 1898, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of College Exercise, Violet, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, and Double Court.

Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

WILLIAM GAZELEY* .. Treble.	WILLIAM J. BARKER .. 4.
HARRY OLL 2.	HARRY TYSOE 5.
CHARLES R. LILLEY .. 3.	CHARLES WM. CLARKE .. Tenor.

Conducted by C. W. CLARKE.

*First peal on tower bells; aged 17 years.

ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 19, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5151 CHANGES,

Tenor 24 cwt.

NOAH DAVIS* Treble	THOMAS J. SALTER 6.
WILLIAM H. BARBER .. 2.	*ALBERT WALKER 7.
WILLIAM SHORT 3.	*JOHN BARBER 8.
WILLIAM H. SMITH* .. 4.	THOMAS WAKEMAN 9.
ADOLPHUS ROBERTS .. 5.	*HENRY WITHERS Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS and Conducted by W. H. BARBER.

*First peal of Stedman Caters. This composition has the 6th twenty-four courses behind the 9th in the titums and twenty-four courses behind the 8th in the inverted home position

ST. ANNE'S-ON-THE-SEA, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 19, 1898, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

RENNIE HARTLEY Treble.	WILLIAM T. H. TIMBRELL .. 5.
JAMES MATHER 2.	EDWIN TIMBRELL 6.
FREDERICK TOWNS 3.	THOMAS MOUNCEY 7.
DAVID HEYS 4.	TOM REDMAN Tenor.

Composed by EDWIN TIMBRELL and Conducted by TOM REDMAN.

This peal contains the 6th her extent home and all the 8-6s. First peal in the method on the bells.

ERITH, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 19, 1898, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES. Tenor 18 cwt.

GEORGE CONYARD* .. Treble.	I. GEORGE SHADE 5.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. .. 2.	JOHN R. SHARMAN 6.
SIDNEY WADE 3.	JAMES PARKER 7.
CHARLES WILKINS 4.	*EDWIN BARNETT Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF and Conducted by J. PARKER.

*First peal in the method, also first on the bells. The composition appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" the same day, and is now rung for the first time.

FRAMLINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 19, 1898, in Two Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,

AT THE MEETING-HOUSE,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

HORACE C. HOWLETT .. 1-2.	WILLIAM FLORY 5-6.
WILLIAM G. CRICKMER .. 3-4.	JOHN J. O'NEILL 7-8.

Composed and Conducted by W. FLORY.

Umpire—Jesse A. Read. This is supposed to be the first peal rung on handbells in Framlingham, and was rung at the second attempt. It is now rung for the first time.

WESTHOUGHTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 19, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

WILLIAM DENNER Treble.	JOSEPH BROOKES 5.
SAMUEL OAKES 2.	ALFRED POTTER 6.
JOHN DENNER 3.	JOSEPH POTTER 7.
JOHN POTTER 4.	TITUS BARLOW Tenor.

Composed by GEORGE LONGDEN and Conducted by JOSEPH POTTER.

First peal by Messrs. Denner (2), Oakes, and Brookes; and first peal in the method by John and Alfred Potter. *First peal as conductor.

OXHEY, HERTS.—THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION
AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 19, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes.

At the Church of St. Matthew.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, College Single, Canterbury Pleasure, Plain Bob, and Grandsire.
Tenor 9½ cwt.

W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. Treble.	*HERBERT MARTIN .. 4.
CHARLES GEORGE* .. 2.	*FREDERICK EDWARDS .. 5.
GEORGE N. PRICE* .. 3.	ERNEST E. HUNTLEY .. Tenor.

Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

*First 5040 on six bells. Also first 5040 in seven methods by the association on tower bells.

STANFORD-ON-SOAR, NOTTINGHAM.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(LOUGHBOROUGH DISTRICT).

On Saturday, March 19, 1898, in Three Hours and Two Minutes.

At the Church of St. John the Baptist.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 17 cwt.

WILLIAM PERVIN .. Treble.	HARRY WHITTLE .. 5.
WILLIAM H. INGLESANT .. 2.	JAMES HUTCHBY .. 6.
THOMAS START .. 3.	WILLIAM A. MASTERS .. 7.
WILLIAM JOHNSON .. 4.	EDWARD READER .. Tenor.

Composed by C. W. CLARKE and Conducted by EDWARD READER.

PANGBOURNE, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, March 20, 1898, in Two Hours and Thirty-three Minutes.

At the Parish Church.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES.

WILLIAM PARSONS .. Treble.	GEORGE ASHLEY .. 4.
ARTHUR WEBB .. 2.	ALBERT E. REEVES .. 5.
JOHN NICHOLLS .. 3.	EDWARD NICHOLLS .. Tenor.

Conducted by ALBERT E. REEVES.

SKIPTON.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, March 20, 1898, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes.

At the Parish Church.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5248 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 18½ cwt.

J. NEAL .. Treble.	S. DOUGHTY .. 5.
W. BAILEY .. 2.	H. HORNER .. 6.
E. B. METCALFE .. 3.	W. BILLOWS .. 7.
F. METCALFE .. 4.	W. D. HILLARY .. Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS and Conducted by W. BILLOWS.

*This peal contains the 5th and 6th the extent each way in 5-6, with the 6th five times at home. Rung for evening service with the bells deeply muffled to the memory of the late Geo. Kendall, Esq., C.C., many times churchwarden at the above church.

ALDENHAM, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, March 23, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes.

At the Church of St. John the Baptist.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

CHARLES GEORGE .. Treble.	GEORGE N. PRICE .. 5.
HERBERT MARTIN .. 2.	FREDERICK EDWARDS .. 6.
FRANK A. SMITH .. 3.	*ERNEST E. HUNTLEY .. 7.
W. H. BUCKINGHAM .. 4.	WILLIAM HEWITT .. Tenor.

Conducted by ERNEST E. HUNTLEY.

*First peal of Stedman as conductor.

PEAL CORRECTION.—The peal rung at All Saints, Bristol, on March 15th, was composed by Henry Hubbard and conducted by Henry Porch.

Miscellaneous.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WIVELISCOMBE (Somersetshire).—On Sunday, February 13th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins. T. Langdon, 1; W. Andrews, 2; R. Scott, 3; F. Norman, 4; I. Richards, 5; A. Andrews, 6; W. Chapman (conductor), 7; C. Pulsford, 8. All the above hail from Milverton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

BACUP (Lancashire).—On Sunday morning, February 20th, for Divine Service at Christ Church, 720 Superlative. L. Holt, 1; Z. Lord, 2; E. J. Cockroft, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Imperial. L. Holt, 1; Z. Lord, 2; C. Shottin, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Monday, February 21st, for practice, 720 Woodbine. Z. Lord, 1; J. Smith, 2; E. J. Cockroft, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a token of respect for Mr. Pilling. On Sunday morning, February 27th, for Divine Service, 720 Duke of York. J. H. Barnes, 1; J. Smith, 2; G. Shottin, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; Z. Lord (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Violet. W. Ormerod, 1; J. Smith, 2; G. Shottin, 3; J. H. Smith, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SEAL CHART (Kent).—Recently at St. Lawrence's church 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 26 mins. J. Kettel, 1; T. Exeter, 2; R. J. Saxby, 3; —. Dunk, 4; M. Exeter, 5; D. J. Goldsmith (conductor), 6. First 720 of Minor by T. and M. Exeter.

RODMERSHAM (Kent).—On Friday, December 31st, 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). E. Sedge, 1; H. Coast, 2; G. Coast, 3; J. Dixon (conductor), 4; J. Grensted, 5; S. Beach, 6. On Sunday, January 2nd, 720 Oxford Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). E. Sedge, 1; G. Coast, 2; J. Grensted, 3; J. Dixon (conductor), 4; G. Millway, 5; S. Beach, 6. On Sunday, January 16th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. G. Coast, 1; E. Allen, 2; J. Grensted, 3; J. Dixon (conductor), 4; C. Millway, 5; S. Beach, 6. On Sunday, February 6th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. H. Coast, 1; G. Coast, 2; J. Grensted, 3; J. Dixon (conductor), 4; C. Millway, 5; S. Beach, 6. On Thursday, February 10th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (eighteen bobs and two singles). E. Sedge, 1; G. Coast, 2; C. Millway (conductor), 3; J. Grensted, 4; J. Dixon, 5; E. Allen, 6. On Sunday, February 20th, 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). E. Sedge, 1; H. Coast, 2; G. Coast, 3; J. Dixon (conductor), 4; J. Grensted, 5; S. Beach, 6. On Wednesday, February 23rd, 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). E. Sedge, 1; *W. Hollands, 2; G. Coast, 3; J. Dixon (conductor), 4; J. Grensted, 5; C. Millway, 6. *First 720 away from the treble. On Sunday, February 27th, 720 Oxford Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. Hollands, 1; H. Coast, 2; *G. Coast, 3; J. Dixon (conductor), 4; J. Grensted, 5; C. Millway, 6. *First 720 with a bob bell and first attempt.

UPCHURCH (Kent).—On Sunday, January 23rd, at St. Mary's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob (nine bobs). A. Trowell (bobbing), 1; H. Shipp, 2; W. T. Hyland (conductor), 3; W. H. B. Wilkins (Bobbing), 4; G. Dennis, 5; W. J. Walker, 6. Also 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-six bobs and twenty-four singles). W. Hawes, 1; W. J. Walker, 2; W. T. Hyland, 3; A. Trowell, 4; G. Dennis, 5; W. H. B. Wilkins (conductor), 6. On Saturday, January 29th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Day, 1; W. H. B. Wilkins, 2; W. T. Hyland, 3; W. J. Walker, 4; W. Seamer (conductor), 5; H. Shipp, 6.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

TIMBERLAND.—On Sunday, January 23rd, 720 Minor. A. Sharpe, 1; H. King, 2; F. Cobb, 3; A. West, 4; W. Elkington, 5; G. Elkington, 6. On Sunday, January 30th, another 720 standing as above, conducted by G. Elkington. On Sunday, February 13th, a 720 in 28 mins. H. King, 1; A. Sharpe, 2; W. Elkington, 3; F. Curtis, 4; C. F. West, 5; A. West, 6. First 720 with a bob bell by A. Sharpe. On Monday, February 21st, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. A. Sharpe, 1; H. King, 2; F. Cobb, 3; A. West, 4; W. Elkington, 5; G. Elkington (conductor), 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

MATCHING (Essex).—On Tuesday, January 18th, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, two 720s of Bob Minor. G. Dent, 1; H. Perrin, jun., 2; R. Tabor, 3; C. French, 4; T. Ellis, 5; H. Perrin, sen. (conductor), 6. Also two 6-scores of Doubles with A. Bass covering. These are the first 720s on the bells, a treble being added by Mears

and Stainbank during 1897 to commemorate the sixtieth year of Queen Victoria's reign. After ringing the vicar generously provided refreshments.

HARLOW (Essex).—On Tuesday, February 22nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: E. Parish, 1; H. Perrin, jun., 2; R. Tabor, 3; G. Dent (conductor), 4; C. French, 5; T. Ellis, 6; H. Perrin, 7; A. Bass, 8. Tenor 21½ cwt. in E.

BOOKING (Essex).—On Sunday, January 23rd, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Melbourne, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; F. Warren, 4; W. Grimwade, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 30th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. G. Melbourne, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; F. Warren, 4; S. Sargent, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6. On February 8th, 720 College Exercise. H. Butcher, 1; H. Collins (first attempt in the method), 2; W. Moore, 3; F. Warren, 4; F. Radley, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. On February 13th, for morning service, 720 College Single. N. Smith, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; S. Hayes, 4; S. Sargent, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6. For afternoon service, 240 Cambridge Surprise. S. Sargent, 1; H. Collins (first attempt), 2; S. Hayes, 3; F. Warren, 4; W. Grimwade, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. On March 1st, 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Farrow, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Webb, 3; W. Hammond, 4; S. Sargent, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. Messrs. Collins, Webb, Farrow, Hammond and Howard hail from Braintree.

BROOMFIELD (Essex).—On Monday, January 24th, 720 New London Pleasure. T. Crozier, 1; C. Parsons, 2; E. Runter, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; A. Bradley (conductor), 5; E. Wright, 6. On Sunday, January 30th, 720 New London Pleasure. T. Crozier, 1; C. Parsons, 2; J. Tunbridge, 3; E. Runter, 4; A. Bradley, 5; E. Wright (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 13th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. T. Crozier, 1; C. Parsons, 2; G. Parsons, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; E. Runter, 5; E. Wright (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, February 22nd, 720 Violet Treble Bob. T. Crozier, 1; C. Parsons, 2; E. Runter, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; A. Bradley, 5; E. Wright (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 27th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. T. Crozier, 1; C. Parsons, 2; G. Parsons, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; E. Runter, 5; E. Wright (conductor), 6. On Monday, February 28th, 720 Kent Treble Bob (fifteen bobs). A. Edwards, 1; E. Runter, 2; A. Bradley, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; A. Whight, 5; E. Wright, 6. And 720 New London Pleasure. A. Whight, 1; C. Parsons, 2; A. Edwards, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; A. Bradley, 5; E. Wright (conductor), 6.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Friday, March 4th, for practice on handbells, 1224 Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original. W. Rowland, 1-2; A. Edwards (conductor), 3-4; G. Green, 5-6; A. Whight, 7-8. Also 504 in the same method.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

FINCHLEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday, January 9th, at the parish church, 720 Plain Bob Minor (twenty-six singles). W. Russell, 1; W. Webb, 2; E. H. Tubb, 3; F. Carroway, 4; J. Cornell, 5; F. L. Sparks (conductor), 6. On Thursday, February 17th, 360 Plain Bob. W. H. Tubb, 1; F. L. Sparks, 2; J. Cornell, 3; W. Webb, 4; F. Carroway, 5; G. Miles (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 20th, for morning service, 360 Oxford Bob. W. Mulley, 1; W. H. Tubb, 2; E. H. Tubb, 3; W. Webb, 4; J. Cornell, 5; F. L. Sparks (conductor), 6. For evening service 360 College Single. W. Russell, 1; W. H. Tubb, 2; W. Webb, 3; F. Carroway, 4; E. H. Tubb, 5; F. L. Sparks (conductor), 6. After service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. W. Russell, 1; E. H. Tubb, 2; F. L. Sparks, 3; W. Webb, 4; G. J. Miles, 5; F. Carroway (conductor), 6.

HENDON (Middlesex).—On Christmas Eve at the parish church, 720 Plain Bob. F. Turvey, 1; C. H. Martin (conductor), 2; H. J. Martin, 3; J. Barrett, 4; E. Pratchett, 5; C. Crampton, 6. On Sunday evening, January 2nd, after Divine Service, 720 Plain Bob (nine bobs and six singles). E. Bonfield, 1; C. H. Martin (conductor), 2; F. Pratt, 3; J. Barrett, 4; R. Bevan, 5; C. Crampton, 6. On Wednesday, January 5th, 720 Plain Bob (twenty-six singles). F. Turvey, 1; C. Crampton, 2; C. H. Martin (conductor), 3; J. Barrett, 4; F. Pratt, 5; E. Pratchett, 6. On Wednesday, January 12th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. Turvey, 1; C. H. Martin (conductor), 2; F. Pratt, 3; I. J. Attwater, 4; E. Pratchett, 5; C. Crampton, 6. Also 240 Grandsire Doubles, H. W. Watson ringing the tenor. On handbells 360 Plain Bob. I. J. Attwater, 1-2; C. H. Martin, 3-4; E. Pratchett, 5-6. On Wednesday, January 26th, 360 Kent Treble Bob. E. Tubb, 1; F. Pratt, 2; I. J. Attwater, 3; G. J. Miles, 4; C. H. Martin, 5; C. Crampton, 6. On Sunday, February 6th, 360 Plain Bob. F. Turvey, 1; E. Tubb, 2; F. Pratt, 3; J. Barrett, 4; C. H. Martin, 5; C. Crampton, 6. Also 360 Grandsire Doubles, conducted by F. Pratt. Tenor 16½ cwt.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BATTLE (Sussex).—On Sunday evening, January 30th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. W. H. Eldridge, 1; W. Franks (composer and conductor), 2; J. Mathis, 3; W. Eastland, 4; W. Thomas, 5; C. Carter, 6; A. Saxby, 7; J. Sindén, 8. A. Saxby hails from Canterbury. On Tuesday, February 1st, for practice, several courses of Stedman Triples. S. Saker, 1; W. Thomas, 2; D. P. Howcroft, 3; J. Livermore, 4; J. Curtis, 5; A. Saxby, 6; W. Franks, 7; W. H. Eldridge, 8. On Tuesday, February 8th, two courses of Bob Major. W. H. Eldridge, 1; A. E. Quaife, 2; F. Mathis, 3; D. P. Howcroft, 4; S. Saker, 5; F. A. Kennatt, 6; C. J. Hyland, 7; W. Franks, 8. On Sunday evening, February 13th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins. C. Carter, 1; W. Franks (conductor), 2; A. E. Quaife (first quarter-peal), 3; D. P. Howcroft (first quarter-peal of Grandsire), 4; J. Livermore, 5; J. Mathis, 6; W. Thomas, 7; J. Sindén, 8. Composed by H. Franks, of London. Messrs. Howcroft, and Quaife hail from Blacklands, Hastings. On Tuesday, February 15th, 720 Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. W. H. Eldridge, 2; F. Mathis, 3; C. J. Hyland, 4; W. Thomas, 5; C. Carter, 6; W. Franks (conductor), 7; J. Sindén, 8. On Tuesday, February 22nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. W. H. Eldridge, 1; W. Franks (conductor), 2; F. Lock, 3; F. Mathis, 4; J. Livermore, 5; C. Carter, 6; C. J. Hyland, 7; J. Sindén, 8.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

GRAPPENHALL (Cheshire).—On Sunday, January 9th, 720 New London Pleasure. J. Mainwaring, 1; R. G. Lewis, 2; H. T. Moston, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. T. Spence (700th 720), 5; J. W. Booth, 6. On Sunday, January 16th, 720 Woodbine. T. Burrows, 3; the rest as before. Also 720 College Pleasure. J. Mainwaring, 1; H. T. Moston, 2; T. Burrows, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; R. G. Lewis, 5; F. Spence (conductor), 6. On Saturday, January 22nd, 720 Kent. R. G. Lewis, 1; T. Burrows, 2; H. Moston, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; J. W. Booth, 6. On Sunday, January 23rd, 720 Violet. J. Mainwaring, 1; R. G. Lewis, 2; T. Burrows, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6. Also 720 Oxford. S. Horsfall, 2; H. Moston, 4; R. G. Lewis, 5; F. Spence (conductor), 6; the rest as before. On Tuesday, January 25th, 720 London Treble Bob. H. Moston, 3; R. G. Lewis, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; J. W. Booth, 6. On Sunday, January 30th, 720 Plain Bob and 720 Canterbury Pleasure. J. S. Ashcroft, 1; H. Moston, 2; R. G. Lewis, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; J. W. Booth, 6. On Tuesday, February 1st, 720 Double Oxford. J. Mainwaring, 1; H. Moston, 2; R. G. Lewis, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; J. W. Booth, 6. On Thursday, February 3rd, 720 Arnold's Victory. First in the method by all the band, and rung at the first attempt, standing as before. On Sunday, February 6th, 720 Killammarsh. J. Mainwaring, 1; R. G. Lewis, 2; H. Moston, 3; F. Spence (conductor), 4; S. Horsfall, 5; J. Booth, 6. On Tuesday, February 8th, 720 College Treble, being the first in the method by all the band. Also 720 Duke of York. J. Mainwaring, 1; S. Horsfall, 2; H. Moston, 3; F. Spence (conductor), 4; R. G. Lewis, 5; J. Booth, 6. On Friday, February 11th, 720 Plain Bob. S. Spence (first 720), 1; H. Moston, 2; S. Horsfall, 3; J. E. Ashcroft, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6. On Tuesday, February 15th, 720 Braintree. H. T. Moston, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; R. G. Lewis (conductor), 6; the rest as before. On Saturday, February 19th, in an attempt for a 5040, 720 each of Bocking, College Exercise, and City Delight. J. Mainwaring, 1; H. Moston, 2; F. Spence (conductor), 3; S. Horsfall, 4; R. G. Lewis, 5; J. Booth, 6. On Sunday, February 20th, 720 Imperial. T. Burrows, 3; F. Spence (conductor), 5; R. G. Lewis, 6; the rest as before. On Thursday, February 24th, 720 Stedman Slow Course, being the first in the method by all the band. J. Mainwaring, 1; H. Moston, 2; S. Horsfall, 3; R. G. Lewis, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6. On Sunday, February 27th, 620 London Scholars' Pleasure. R. G. Lewis, 2; T. Burrows, 2; S. Horsfall, 4; the rest as before.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CARDIFF.—On Sunday evening, January 23rd, for Divine Service at the church of St. John the Baptist, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, 1259 changes, in 55 mins. W. Lloyd, 1; W. Coombes, 2; W. Biss, 3; J. Harris, 4; H. V. Wilkins, 5; A. Rowley, 6; C. Lloyd (conductor), 7; J. Clutterbuck, 8; J. H. Aldridge, 9; H. G. White, 10. This is the first quarter-peal by the Association, and first by all except H. V. Wilkins. On Sunday evening, February 6th, for Divine Service, 216 Grandsire Caters. W. Lloyd, 1; C. Lloyd, 2; W. Biss, 3; J. Harris, 4; H. V. Wilkins, 5; R. C. Balcombe, 6; J. H. Aldridge, 7; J. Clutterbuck, 8; W. Coombes (conductor), 9; H. G.

White, 10. On Thursday, February 10th, for practice, 461 Grandsire Triples. W. Lloyd, 1; C. Lloyd, 2; J. Harris, 3; O. W. Layng, 4; A. Rowley, 5; J. Clutterbuck, 6; W. Coombes (conductor), 7; J. H. Aldridge, 8. Also 324 Grandsire Caters. W. Lloyd, 1; C. Lloyd, (conductor), 2; J. Harris, 3; W. Coombes, 4; C. Winfield, 5; O. W. Layng, 6; A. Rowley, 7; J. Clutterbuck, 8; J. H. Shepherd, 9; B. Tilley, 10. On Sunday evening, February 13th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. W. Lloyd, 1; C. Lloyd, 2; J. H. Aldridge, 3; J. Harris, 4; A. Rowley, 5; J. Clutterbuck, 6; W. Coombes (conductor), 7; B. Tilley, 8. Messrs. Layng and Shepherd hail from Swindon. Tenor 27 cwt.

LLANDAFF.—On Monday, January 3rd, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins. R. Hopkins, 1; O. W. Layng, 2; J. Clutterbuck, 3; C. Lloyd, 4; J. Harris, 5; J. H. Aldridge, 6; W. Coombes (composer and conductor), 7; B. Tilley, 8. The above touch contains Queens, Tittums, and Whittingtons. On Monday, January 10th, for practice, 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Pitcher, 1; O. W. Layng, 2; W. Biss (conductor), 3; J. Harris, 4; A. Rowley, 5; J. Clutterbuck, 6. Also 720 in the same method. J. Pitcher, 1; O. W. Layng, 2; J. Harris, 3; W. Biss (conductor), 4; J. Clutterbuck, 5; A. Rowley, 6. This makes W. Biss' 350th 720. Tenor 23 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

THEALE (Berks).—On Saturday, January 22nd, at Holy Trinity church, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob in 25 mins. J. Parsons, 1; J. Bower, 2; J. Wedge, 3; C. Giles, 4; F. Richardson (conductor), 5; W. Horne, 6. Also 720 Grandsire Minor. W. Horne, 1; J. Bower, 2; C. Giles, 3; J. Parsons, 4; J. Wedge, 5; F. Richardson (conductor), 6. Messrs. Bower, Wedge, and Parsons hail from Goring; Giles from Reading; Horne and Richardson from Beenharn. On Monday, February 7th, for practice, 720 Oxford Bob in 25 mins. H. Stevens, 1; F. Clark, 2; J. Abery, 3; T. Herridge, 4; W. Clark, 5; W. Horne (conductor), 6. First in the method by Messrs. Stevens, Clark, Herridge, and Clark. On Thursday, February 17th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. H. Stevens, F. Clark, T. Herridge, J. Abery, W. Clark, W. Horne (conductor). First in the method by all except the conductor. Tenor 14 cwt.

THE SALOP GUILD.

SHREWSBURY.—On Monday, January 31st, at the church of St. Alkmund's, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Stockdale, 1; G. Taylor, 2; T. Burd, 3; W. Owen, 4; H. Jones, 5; C. F. Vickers, 6; G. Byolin (conductor), 7; W. Dolman, 8. Also at the church of St. Chad, 630 Grandsire Triples. T. Burd, 1; W. Stockdale, 2; H. Jones, 3; G. Taylor, 4; G. Byolin (conductor), 5; C. F. Vickers, 6; F. Taylor, 7; A. Fullick, 8. Rung on the back eight; Tenor 43 cwt. On Sunday, February 6th, for evening service at the church of St. Alkmund, 336 Grandsire Triples. G. Lloyd, 1; W. Stockdale, 2; G. Taylor, 3; H. Jones, 4; F. Taylor, 5; A. Fullick, 6; G. Byolin (conductor), 7; J. Burrows, 8. On Sunday, February 13th, for morning service at the church of St. Chad, 336 Grandsire Caters. G. Tipton, 1; G. Scarratt, 2; H. Jones, 3; G. Taylor, 4; G. Byolin, 5; T. Burd, 6; F. Taylor, 7; A. Fullick, 8; J. E. Groves (conductor), 9; J. Wall, 10. Also 420 Grandsire Triples. E. Jones, 1; T. Burd, 2; G. Byolin, 3; F. Taylor, 4; G. Taylor, 5; A. Fullick, 6; J. E. Groves (conductor), 7; J. Wall, 8. Rung on the back eight.

WELLINGTON (Salop).—On Saturday, February 12th, at a meeting of the above Guild, the following touches were rung at the parish church:—350 Darlaston Bob Triples. W. Stockdale, 1; G. Byolin, 2; H. Jones, 3; G. Taylor, 4; T. Pritchard, 5; A. Fullick, 6; J. E. Groves (conductor), 7; Badger, 8. Also 420 Darlaston Bob Triples. E. Jones, 1; G. Taylor, 2; J. E. Groves, 3; H. Jones, 4; T. Pritchard, 5; A. Fullick, 6; G. Byolin (conductor), 7; J. Wynn, 8. Also 330 Grandsire Triples. E. Jones, 1; W. Stockdale, 2; W. Cwen, 3; J. Chester, 4; R. Rowley, 5; G. Taylor, 6; G. Byolin (conductor), 7; G. Moor, 8. Also 336 Grandsire Triples. E. Cooper, 1; W. Stockdale, 2; G. Taylor, 3; J. Perch, 4; J. Evason, 5; T. Pritchard, 6; J. E. Groves (conductor), 7; A. Fullick, 8. Also 440 Grandsire Major. T. Burd, 1; W. Stockdale, 2; G. Taylor, 3; H. Jones, 4; T. Pritchard, 5; A. Fullick, 6; G. Byolin, 7; J. E. Groves (conductor), 8.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LITTLE MONDEN (Herts).—On Tuesday, January 25th, 720 Kent Treble Minor. A. Lawrence, 1; G. Carter, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 by all the band in the method. On Friday, January 28th, for practice, 120 Kent Treble Bob, 60 Double Stedman, 144 College Single, 180 Oxford Bob, 120 Stedman Doubles, 180 Canterbury Pleasure, 108 Grandsire, and 144 Bob Minor. G. Carter, 1; A. Law-

rence, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 31st, 360 Bob Minor. A. Wright, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; G. Carter, 3; W. H. Lawrence, 4; J. Heady, 5; A. Phillips (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, February 8th, 108 Grandsire Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Wright, 2; J. Heady, 3; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 4; J. Heady, 5; A. Phillips, 6. On Friday, February 11th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, February 13th, for Divine Service, and also as a farewell to J. Heady, who is leaving the village for Wooton, Gloucestershire, 720 College Single, standing as above.

BRIGHTON (Sussex).—On Tuesday, February 8th, at the church of St. Nicholas, 252 Stedman Triples. H. Rann, 1; R. Stedwick, 2; R. Hoather, 3; T. Price, 4; J. Fox, 5; F. M. Bacon, 6; W. Palmer (conductor), 7; W. Davey, 8. On Saturday, February 12th, an attempt was made for Parker's five-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 4032 changes in 2 hrs. and 25 mins., "stand" was called owing to a change-course. E. Howard, 1; H. Rann (conductor), 2; R. Stedwick, 3; T. Price, 4; E. Randall, 5; E. Merritt, 6; W. Palmer, 7; R. Fentiman, 8.

BROMSGROVE (Worcestershire).—On Sunday morning, February 6th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. F. Allcock (first quarter-peal), 1; G. Hayward, 2; O. James, 3; T. Allbutt, 4; G. Ward, 5; G. Bourne, 6; J. Mason (conductor), 7; J. Eades, 8.

DISLEY (Cheshire).—On Saturday, February 5th, 720 New London Pleasure, 720 Violet, and 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 1 hr. 20 mins. J. Bradbury, 1; J. Brocklehurst, 2; T. Whitehead (conductor), 3; J. Wheatcroft, 4; A. Rangeley, 5; T. Brocklehurst, 6. These bells have been rehung, and are in excellent order.

HALESOWEN (Worcestershire).—On Monday, February 7th, at the parish church, 504 Stedman Triples. H. Lea, 1; G. N. Cockin, 2; W. Coley, 3; *W. Motteram, 4; E. White, 5; J. Brettell, 6; G. B. Raybould (first touch in the method as conductor), 7; M. Hackett, 8. *First touch in the method. First in the method by the local band for eight years.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—On Sunday, February 13th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 43 mins. J. D. Drewitt, 1; R. Sewell, 2; J. A. Lambert, 3; G. Welling (conductor), 4; E. Lambert, 5; A. Calver, 6; W. S. Smith, 7; J. Currell, 8. The above was the first quarter of Thurstan's peal, and was rung on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Samuel Wisbey to Miss Elizabeth Harvey which took place on that day.

NORTON (Derbyshire).—On Tuesday, February 8th, for practice, 688 Bob Major. J. Goacher, 1; J. Biggin, 2; J. Atkin, 3; T. Sarel, 4; A. Slater, 5; G. Butcher, 6; J. Allen, 7; W. Biggin (conductor), 8. Also 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Biggin, 6; G. Butcher, 8; the rest as before. On Sunday, February 13th, 608 Bob Major. G. Oates, 1; J. Biggin, 2; J. Goacher, 3; J. Atkin, 4; A. Slater, 5; G. Butcher, 6; T. Sarel, 7; W. Biggin (conductor), 8. And 1260 Grandsire Triples. G. Oates, 1; J. Goacher, 2; E. James, 3; J. Atkin, 4; A. Slater, 5; W. Biggin (conductor), 6; T. Sarel, 7; G. Butcher, 8. First quarter-peal by Messrs. Oates, James, and Butcher. On Tuesday, February 15th, 720 Bob Minor. J. Linley (first 720), 1; J. Biggin, 2; E. James, 3; T. Sarel, 4; A. Slater, 5; W. Biggin, 6. All the above are members of the Norton company.

OFFENHAM, NEAR EVESHAM (Worcestershire).—On Sunday February 13th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, being ten 6-scores and sixty odd changes in 45 mins. E. Tolley, 1; F. Cook, 2; F. Johnson (conductor), 3; W. Arkell, 4; W. Keen, 5; G. Lampitt, 6. Also several 6-scores of St. Dunstan's Doubles with W. and J. Addis taking part.

PETERBOROUGH.—On Thursday, February 3rd, at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and four singles) in 26 mins. A. Willerton, 1; R. Creasey, 2; E. Baker, 3; J. Tirrell, 4; C. Chasty, 5; W. T. Johnson (conductor), 6. Tenor 8½ cwt. On Monday, February 14th, at St. John's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (thirty bobs) in 47½ mins. R. Creasey, 1; E. Baker, 2; W. T. Johnson (conductor), 3; A. Johnson, 4; F. Creasey, jun., 5; T. Measures, 6; R. Squires, 7; J. Palmer and R. Rowell, 8. Tenor 28½ cwt. Messrs. Creasey (2) hail from Spalding.

PQDDLETOWN (Dorsetshire).—On Sunday afternoon, February 20th, on the occasion of the dedication of the restored ring of six, a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. E. S. Hodges, 1; C. B. Hurst, 2; T. Blackburn (conductor), 3; J. C. Hull, 4; G. T. White, 5; J. E. Benger, 6. In the evening another six-score. S. G. Hodges, 1; the rest as before.

Notices.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is One Penny per line (five words may be reckoned to a line). Repetitions at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The yearly meeting of this society will be held at head-quarters, Leeds (parish church), 12 bells, to-day, Saturday, March 26. Ringing from 3 to 4 and 5 till 10 p.m. Business meeting at the Nags Head Hotel, opposite the church, at 4.30. Business—balance sheet, the society's proposed trip, and grant for bell restoration, etc. Members are particularly requested to attend. R. BINNS, *Hon. Sec.*
18, Irwin Street, Hogg's Field, Holbeck.

The Kent County Association.—Rochester District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Peter and St. Paul, Swanscombe, on Saturday, 2nd April. Towers open at 4 p.m. Business meeting at 6 p.m.
A. OSBORNE, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Kidsgrove on Saturday, April 2nd. Members intending to be present are requested to inform Mr. J. Mason, 8, Cooper Street, Kidsgrove.

REV. W. D. BRAGINGTON, } *Hon. Secs.*
W. TWIGG, }

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—The presentation of a purse of gold and an album containing an address and a list of the subscribers' names, will be made to Mr. Matthew A. Wood, at the society's meeting house, The Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on Saturday, April 2nd, at 7 p.m., when a good attendance of subscribers and their friends is earnestly desired.

W. T. COCKERILL, *Hon. Sec.*

The Essex Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held on Easter-Monday, at Coggeshall. The following towers will be open, Coggeshall, Earl's Colne, Great Tey, Feering, Inworth and Kelvedon. A brake will start from Kelvedon church at 2 p.m. for Feering; from Feering at 3.45 for Coggeshall. Tea and business meeting will be held at The Chapel inn, at 5.30 p.m. A conveyance will be provided for members to reach Kelvedon in time for the evening trains. Members intending to be present must notify the same to me not later than the previous Tuesday.

HENRY T. W. EYRE, *Ass. Sec.*

Gt. Totham Vicarage, Witham.

Midland Counties Association.—Preliminary Notice.—The annual meeting will be held at Burton-on-Trent on Easter-Monday. Full particulars next week.

J. O. LANCASHIRE, *Hon. Sec.*

The East Derbyshire Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Clay Cross, on Easter-Monday, April 11th. Bells open from 9 a.m. Service in church at 4.30 p.m. Tea in Parochial school at 5 p.m.; 6d. each. Members and others who intend coming to tea are requested to send their names to the secretary on or before Monday, April 4th.

T. ALLIBONE, *Secretary.*

The Hertfordshire Association.—Annual Meeting at St. Albans on Easter Monday.
E. P. DEBENHAM, *Hon. Sec.*

The Surrey Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held on Easter-Monday, April 11th, at The Dolphin, Betchworth, Surrey, after the tea, which will commence at

6 p.m. Ringing at the parish church (8 bells) and also at Buckland (6 bells) from 2.30 p.m. Ringers intending to be present at the tea must inform their representative not later than Friday, April 8th, who will acquaint Mr. Judd, of Betchworth, the number of his company likely to attend.
CHAS. DEAN, JUN., *Hon. Sec.*

The Worcestershire & District Association.—The annual meeting of this association will be held at Dudley, on Easter Monday, April 11th, 1898. There will be a special service in St. Thomas's parish church at 4 o'clock. Tea in King Street Infant Schoolroom at 5 o'clock, to be followed by the business meeting, at which the Rev. A. Gray Maitland, Vicar, will preside. It is earnestly requested that the Secretaries of each Society in the Association will send number of members intending to be present at tea not later than Wednesday, April 6th, so that proper provision may be made. The bells of St. Thomas's Dudley (10), will be open to members for ringing touches all day from 11 o'clock. Those of St. Andrew's Netherton (8), All Saints Sedgley (8), St. Martin's Tipton (8), Oldbury parish church (8), and St. Mary's Cradley (8) will be available from 11 till 3 o'clock, not later for peal-ringing. Any band wishing to start for a peal will please communicate with the Secretary, stating which of the above churches will be most convenient. Members of companies desirous of standing in a peal must send their names and the method they wish to ring at once to the Secretary, so that arrangements may be made to form bands and provide conductors. Precedence will be given to the methods which are most desired. Members will be advised at which church to attend. All peals must be finished by 3 o'clock, the time asked for the use of the bells. It is particularly requested that all will make an effort to attend the service at 4 o'clock. All outstanding contributions should be paid at this meeting. The annual report will be ready for this meeting.

JNO. SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

36, Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.

Llandaff Diocesan Association.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at the Girls' National schoolroom, Castle Street, Abergavenny, at 3 p.m. There will be a short service in the parish church at 2.30. The bells will be available for ringing all day. Members are urgently requested to pay in their subscriptions at this meeting.

REV. D. H. GRIFFITHS, } *Hon. Secs.*
H. G. WHITE, }

The Royal Cumberland Society.—In consequence of Divine Service being held at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields during Lent, there will be no practice night until Friday, April 22nd.

A. JACOB, *Hon. Sec.*

FALSE PEAL.—The peal of Bob Major published in "THE BELL NEWS" of September 4th, 1897, by G. Newton, is false, the last bob w in the fifth part bringing up the second and third lead of the plain course.

NOTES TO PEALS.

THE PEAL AT DEBENHAM.—First peal on a bob bell by the ringer of the 3rd. First peal of Major as conductor. The calling of this peal will be found in the Association Report for 1894, page 54. Rung to commemorate the 10,080 of Bob Major rang at Debenham, on March 16th, 1767, in six hours and one minute.

THE PEAL AT POPLAR.—F. C. Newman's first peal in the method, and first attempt.

Rung as a compliment to W. Foreman on the twenty-seventh anniversary of his marriage, also as a birthday compliment to F. A. Stoward, on the completion of his 39th year. Rung after meeting one short for Treble Bob. The rope of the 7th stranded badly six courses from home, but fortunately lasted out the peal.

THE FIRST PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR.

Mr. Thos. Hudson, of Sunderland, writes under date of March 20th as follows:—"Referring to the report of the monthly meeting of the Stoke-on-Trent Archidiaconal Association as given in 'THE BELL NEWS' of March 19th, I find that a peal-board has been erected to commemorate a 5040 of Minor rung at Bucknall last year.

"While great credit is due to the St. Mary's Society for such a performance, it is incorrect to state that 'This is the first peal of Surprise Minor ever rung in England.'

"On Wednesday, November 9th, 1887, six members of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association rang at the parish church, Stockton-on-Tees, a 5040 in seven Surprise Minor methods, being a 720 each of Cambridge, London, Wells, York, Durham, Worcester and Chichester, conducted by Thomas Stephenson."

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. J. SEVIER.—If you will send paper we will see what can be done.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

WANTED.—Situation as jeweller's porter or any other light employment; used to winding and most clock repairs; can ring standard methods; married, aged 30. Address, E. C., care of Editor.

WANTED by young man aged 23, situation as turner. Can ring standard methods on eight and ten bells. Address, H. W., care of Editor.

SITUATION required as baker, 54 years in last situation, can mould, etc. Situation where smalls can be learnt preferred. Have rung a trifle in the Grandsire method, and wish to get into other methods, quick learner. Age 20; good references. Apply, J. Henley, Bartlett's Buildings, Rye, Sussex.

SITUATION WANTED.—Bellhanger, locksmith and hot water fitter. Improver, age 19, four years experience. Good change-ringer on eight. Apply, E. S. Hodges, North Square, Dorchester, Dorset.

TIMEKEEPER seeks permanent situation. Excellent change-ringer in Standard methods. Member of the Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire Associations. Excellent references. Apply X. Y. Z., office of this paper.

GAS and Hot Water Fitter wants job. Good change-ringer from twelve-bell tower. Member of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. Apply to H.P., care of Editor.

SITUATION WANTED as plumber; general hand; change-ringer; member of Herts Association.—Apply, J. Shepherd, Church Road, Hatfield, Herts.

SITUATION WANTED as gardener, single-handed or where help is given; life experience both inside and out. Four years and half good character. Age 26, married. Good change-ringer on eight.—Address, W. Smith, 24, Anerley Grove, Upper Norwood.

Situations Vacant.

COMPETENT INSTRUCTOR wanted for parish church. Whitby (8 bells), must be good man, and able to teach standard methods; will endeavour to find suitable employment. State occupation, with reference, to J. H. Blakiston, 21, Jedburgh Street, Middlesbrough.

MACHINE-MINDER WANTED.—Used to good book and cut-work. Must have served seven years. Permanency to suitable man, able to ring standard methods on ten bells preferred.—Billing & Sons, Guildford.

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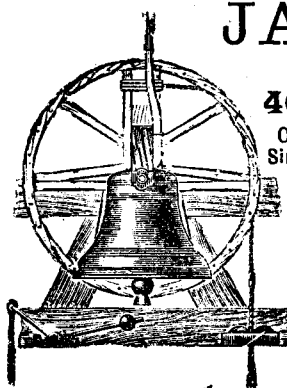
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THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 834.—VOL. XVI.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 1898.

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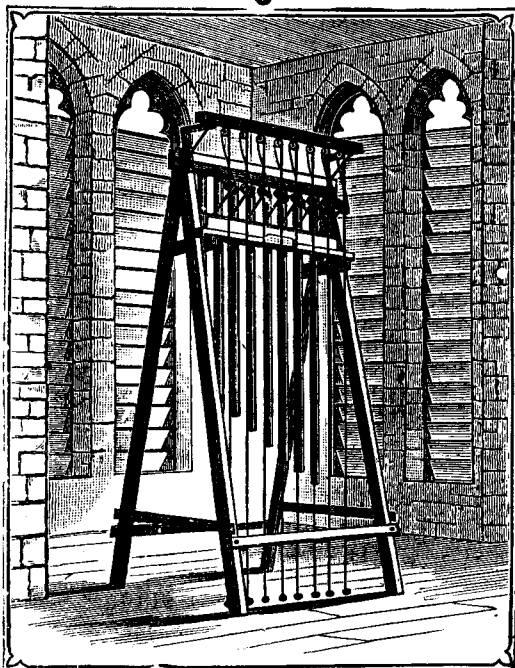
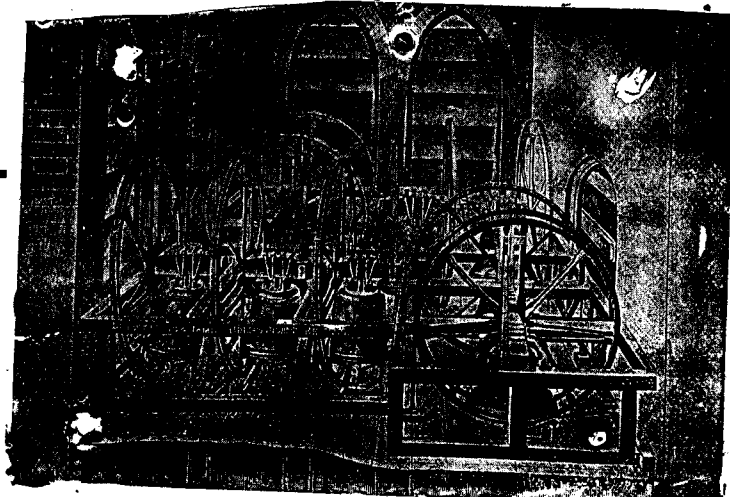
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 834.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 1898.

[Vol. XVI.]

DEATH OF MR. JAMES BARWELL, BELL FOUNDER, OF BIRMINGHAM.

A self-made Birmingham man of the old school has passed away in the person of Mr. James Barwell, the founder of the firm of Church Bell makers and brass casters that bears his name. Mr. Barwell, who was in his eighty-first year, and had long ceased to take an active part in business, died on Tuesday morning last at his house in Ampton Road. In him Birmingham has lost a good citizen, commerce a shrewd and indefatigable worker, and philanthropy an open-handed giver and energetic supporter. Born and educated in Birmingham, Mr. Barwell spent by far the greatest part of his life within its confines. He began the serious business of life at an early age, depending entirely for success on his tact and faculty for hard work. For some years he was a traveller in the employ of the now defunct firm of Jennings and Bettridge, japanners, of Constitution Hill, and on the collapse of that house he laid out the money he had saved in the purchase of a small business at 39 and 40, Great Hampton Street. The vendor, a man named Fiddian, was a maker of brass candlesticks, and other articles in the same metal. Mr. Barwell went to work with a will, and if, as Dr. Johnson says, genius shews an indomitable capacity for hard work, then he assuredly possessed it. The man of to-day who labours his ten or twelve hours can form no idea of the intense devotion with which young James Barwell gave himself up to his life pursuit. He added to the business of his predecessor the craft of bell making. In those days there was a great demand for cow bells for the Australian market. Fences were unknown in the great Colonial farms at that early period, so the cattle were made to tell their whereabouts by means of a bell which they wore round the neck. Mr. Barwell set himself to meet this demand, and his business steadily developed, and the founding of church bells followed the humbler form of enterprise. Married some time in the forties to Sarah Ann, daughter of John Palmer, pen manufacturer, of Birmingham, he became the father of twelve children, ten of whom, five sons and five daughters, are still living. A staunch believer in the virtues of industry, Mr. Barwell did not spoil his children, and Edward and Arthur H. Barwell, who succeed to the Great Hampton Street business, were early indoctrinated into his Spartan belief. A second venture calling forth Mr. Barwell's energies was the chandelier business which he established in Clement Street some twenty years ago, and which is now carried on by his sons F. H. Barwell and Hubert Barwell. It is the pride of the workpeople at Great Hampton Street to be the first body of artisans in Birmingham to contribute a penny a week per head to the funds of the General Hospital. Men are still employed in the business who have paid their weekly penny with unbroken continuity for 45 years. Mr. Barwell encouraged this custom. Indeed in a purely private capacity he was a strong supporter of that institution, and the Children's Hospital also numbers him as one of its earliest practical upholders. A strong Churchman and

Conservative, he was ever ready to assist when either Church or party needed his help. He attended the church of St. Barnabas for many years from its opening; the Church Pastoral Aid Society found in him an earnest adherent, and the Church Missionary Society and Church Extension Society never appealed for his practical interest in vain. Though somewhat of a martinet in discipline, Mr. Barwell was kindhearted and generous, and those who deserved well of him never had reason to complain of want of recognition.

RUMBURGH CHURCH, SUFFOLK.

FOUR miles from Halesworth, six miles from Bungay, and ten miles from Beccles, in the wilds of Suffolk, lies Rumburgh (Rome borough), which in Roman days was an outpost to guard the road which ran from the port of Dunwich to Norwich. The Domesday Book says that the Priory of Rumburgh had twelve monks, and this little priory was one of the five which Cardinal Wolsey dissolved in order to divert their revenues to establish his foundation at his native town of Ipswich. Since that day the priory church has been the parish church. It contains a pretty ring of five bells, with a tenor of 10 cwt., bearing the following inscriptions:—

Treble.—Old bell cast in the year 1624. W. I. B. Recast 1894 by John Warner and Sons. J. O. Green, churchwarden.
2nd.—R.S. I.T. churchwardens. Anno Domini 1624. W.I.B.
3rd.—Thomas Gardiner, Sudbury. Fecit 1728.
4th.—Anno Domini 1624. W. I. B.
Tenor.—The Rev. Lombe Althills, Perp. Curate. John Briant, Hertford. Fecit. 1823. C. Reynolds.

The tower is a large square structure, with three single lights, but apparently was never completed, only being as high as the roof of the church. The local tradition is that the builders could never raise the tower above the level of the roof, as what they built up during the day, evil spirits dismantled during the night.

Rumburgh church has recently been re-opened by the Bishop of Norwich, after a thorough restoration. It has been roofed in lead, the stone tracery has been replaced in the four windows of the chancel, the walls raised to their original height, the floors all relaid with solid wood blocks, and the windows glazed with tinted cathedral glass. The old solid oak seats have been repaired and matched, so that the seating is now on a uniform plan. The very beautiful fourteenth century screen, which sets off the fine proportions of the interior, has been shown to be reached by a fine rood-loft staircase, which is contained in the thickness of the north wall.

The remains of the Priory have been converted into a farmhouse, in the garden of which a stone coffin was found a few years ago, which is now preserved in the church. The old moat still surrounds the church and priory, and with the overhanging trees of the churchyard form, in the summer time, a delightful picture of old world scenery.

**POLLARDS, Limited, Bradford, Costume Skirts at 4s. 6d.
are Wonderful Value.**

CHIMING BELLS.

The following, taken from an American magazine, has been sent to us by a correspondent in the United States, hoping it may interest his ringing-brethren in the old country:—

HARK! How the music of the bells ring out upon the mellow midnight air! How the notes vibrate and revibrate from spire to spire! They throb along the brightest streets and pulsate into the darkest nooks of the darkest city alleys. They swell and echo back and forth above the quiet fields and silent gliding streams of the country. "Christ is born!" "Peace on earth, good will to men!" The tuneful tidings are carried to prince and pauper, to millionaire and mendicant. Thousands of hearts are rejuvenated by the music. Across ocean and land, over mountain peaks and peaceful valleys, past scenes of toil, strife and contentment, the imagination wends its way to distant Bethlehem, with its ever-to-be-remembered manger, and there creates anew the mind picture of the Saviour's nativity. Christmas morning. Yes! And Christmas chimes have rung it in almost around the world.

But not alone are bells devoted to welcoming the anniversary of the birth of the Prince of Peace. They play an important part in many of the commoner as well as the more serious incidents of existence, and few other inanimate objects have so closely woven themselves into the life of men, or become so intimately associated with their most joyous and saddest moments. Bell notes mingle with the gayety of the marriage ceremony and with the sound of mourning at the grave. They summon the workman to his toil, and announce the end of each day's labor. Children, too, leave their mirth and play when the school bell rings, and still in many a New as well as Old World village "the curfew tolls the knell of parting day." The Sabbath also would scarcely be recognized as such did not the voices of the church bells mingle in the air.

In literature bells have a peculiarly interesting place. "Shandon Bells," Moore's "Evening Bells" and Poe's beautiful poem "The Bells" are familiar echoes from the realm of poetry. Prose writers as well have devoted volume after volume to descriptive theme and narrative composition on subjects connected with them. The press also has become interested in bells, and in this country there is printed and published at least one newspaper devoted exclusively to their interests.

From a purely mechanical point of view bells are an interesting product of human handicraft. When they were invented, and by whom, it is believed that no one claims to know. It is probable, however, that in some distant time, when men lived in a primitive way, preparing their food in big pots swung above open camp fires, some one discovered the sonorous qualities possessed by hemispherical vessels, and that this led to the casting of the first bells, which retained much of the shape of the old cooking utensils. This form, however, long since gave place to the conical shape that is now generally employed.

The earliest bells were made of iron, and those of inferior quality that are manufactured at the present time are still cast from the same material. The best bells, however, are now composed of bell metal. This is made up of pure Lake Superior copper and the finest East Indian tin, combined in proportions that vary with all of the individual makers, each one of whom guards as the most precious of secrets the formula that governs the quantities of the various substances that are used in his furnaces.

It has long been thought that the addition of gold and silver to the metal improves the tone of the bell cast from it. It has never been satisfactorily proven whether or not this belief has a foundation in fact. There is certainly, though, a rumor or tradition connected with nearly all of the world's famous bells to the effect that they are composed to a greater or less extent of the precious materials, and in some cases there is a possibility that the rumor may be true. Especially is this the case as regards the Czar Kolokol, the Great Bell of Moscow, but only an analysis of the metal of which it is made will ever determine the truth or falsity of the many stories connected with it.

When a particularly fine chime is being cast interesting parties generally gather at the foundry, and following an old custom, throw pieces of precious metal—sometimes fragments of old

jewelry and family heirlooms—into the melting pots. A retired bell manufacturer was recently asked if these improved the tone of the bells.

"I cannot say as to the bells," he replied, "although I am quite certain that they improve the size of the founders' bank accounts. The gold and silver that are dropped into the crucibles sink to the bottom of them, and are recovered by the foremen, much to the profit of their employers."

There are many interesting stories connected with the casting of nearly all of the celebrated big bells of the world.

The largest bell now hanging anywhere on earth is in a Buddhist monastery near Canton in China. It is made of solid bronze, and was cast in the year 1400. It is 18 feet high by 45 feet in circumference, and is sufficiently extensive in size to furnish a dwelling place for a small family beneath its spacious dome. Its whole exterior and interior are covered with 8,400 embossed characters that tell a single story that is one of the Chinese classics. This monstrous old monarch of the bell world gives forth a wonderfully sweet sound when it is struck, and it is said that its splendid tone is due to the fact that the lives of eight men were sacrificed in its casting.

Another famous Chinese bell, that is only a little smaller than the one located near Canton, hangs in a big tower at Peking. When it was decided that this bell should be made, the Emperor ordered Kuan-yu, a celebrated mandarin, to cast it. Many times the founder heated his crucibles and poured their contents into the molds. Just as many times the castings proved imperfect, and at last the Emperor became exasperated and sent forth the decree that if there was but one more failure the head of unlucky Kuan-yu should pay the penalty of it. Ko-ai, the mandarin's beautiful daughter, immediately visited an astrologer to discover, if possible, if there was any way of protecting her parent from the dire disaster that threatened to overtake him.

"The blood of a maiden must be mixed with the metal to insure a perfect casting," advised the learned seer after he had consulted his books and the stars.

The next time that the furnaces were lighted Ko-ai secured permission from her father to be present at the foundry. Amid a dead silence the taps were drawn, and the molten stream began to pour into the mould.

"For my father!" cried the fair Ko-ai, and then she threw herself into the seething mass of white-hot metal. One of the workmen bravely attempted to rescue her, but only succeeded in getting hold of her shoes. The casting proved perfect, but Kuan-yu was taken to his home a raving madman.

At the present time whenever this bell is struck it gives forth a solemn, sonorous boom, followed by a low wailing sound, like the cry of a woman in deep distress, and the people who hear it say, "There's Ko-ai calling for her shoe."

Nowadays no alchemic mixture of human blood is thought necessary to produce bells of as fine tone as any that have ever been made. The methods used by the various manufacturers in their foundries are all practically alike, differing only in particulars of minute importance. A porous iron mould is usually employed. This is composed of two parts, an inner and an outer one. The parts are covered with moist, plastic clay. What are known as "sweepboards" are then affixed to central pivots and revolved around them, thus shaping the clay to the exterior and interior form of a bell in much the same way that a potter with his wheel makes a plate. The two parts of the mould are then placed together, and the interstice between them filled with molten metal. When this has cooled a perfect bell is the result.

The tone of a bell depends entirely upon its weight. A light one gives through a shrill, high note, while a heavier one produces a deeper, lower sound. When a bell of 500 pounds is struck its pitch is very near C of the diatonic scale, while that of one of 1,000 pounds is close to A flat.

(To be continued.)

WANTED a large peal of handbells. Forty-nine bells. Chromatic scale; G25 to G04; or a larger peal with duplicates. Must be in thorough good condition, and sweet tone. State lowest possible terms, with maker's name, and all particulars to WILMER ROGERS, 8, Yerk Street, Wrexham.

CURRENT TOPICS.

We had last week another very interesting paper dealing with the late Samuel Thurston. The additional particulars given bring to my mind some old customs which used to exist. We read that Thurston was some time about the battle of Waterloo "pressed" for the militia. I suppose it would be more correct to say "drawn" than "pressed." The latter word I should say referred to the operations of naval men who earned the name of "pressgangs" by forcibly abducting or "impressing" any one they could lay hold of to serve in the Navy. There was of course in these days a somewhat mild form of conscription—ballots were held in parishes for the purpose of embodying the Militia, and whoever drew the fatal number had to serve or provide a substitute.

It was while serving in the military that our friend Thurston perpetrated that act which afterwards provided such a good joke at his own expense. He left the ramrod of his musket in the barrel, and fired it off! There's something of the sort to be found in that not strictly veracious book—"Baron Munchausen." The baron rides out shooting one day when he sees a flock of wild fowl on the wing. He purposely does Thurston's trick—fires the ramrod at the birds, and impales the whole flock.

The following reaches the office from Mr. Holmes, of New-castle:—

"WARNING TO RINGERS.—There is a ringer, as he calls himself, at the present time visiting different belfries up and down Northumberland and Durham, pretending to be looking for employment as a watchmaker. This person travels under the name of "Prichard," of St. Nicholas, Liverpool, but we believe him to be no such person, and we hope that we may hear from the above-named tower as to whether it is "Prichard" or not. However this "Prichard" is going about to different belfries and telling a most pitiful tale of distress, and that he can ring anything up to Stedman Cinques, but is so weak and troubled that he prefers to ring the tenor behind. He rang the Cathedral tenor here, $37\frac{1}{2}$ cwt., to a 260 Stedman Caters, but of course he had seen some of our ringers and got substantial relief, which perhaps accounted for his weakness in this case. This said "Prichard" is a fraud, and it is our belief cannot ring the treble in plain Doubles, and if any ringer may be called upon by "Prichard," be careful that they are not "pilchard" by him, and on no account trust him with anything, as he is a mystery. We think it only right to warn ringers through the medium of this paper against men of this description travelling about imposing upon ringers in every town they visit. It is not employment that this man wants, as there were two or three vacancies here for watchmakers, and he told us that he had obtained a situation, which turned out to be false, as he had never visited the place he mentioned."

Everything seems rosy—plenty of bell-restoration still going on—nothing at all the matter but the confounded obstinacy of the railway companies. An idea has struck me that it would not be a bad thing to promote a Bill in Parliament to compel them to give free tickets to ringers on all occasions. I don't exactly know what is meant by promoting a Bill, but the idea is a good one, don't you think?

PLAIN SPEAKER.

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 VICTORIA TOWER.

According to Timbs, the Royal, or Victoria Tower at Westminster, is the largest and highest square tower in the world, being seventy-five feet square, three hundred and thirty-six feet high to the top of the pinnacle, and over four hundred to the top of the flagstaff. The tower was originally intended to be a grand repository for the State papers and the various records of the nation, and for this purpose was fireproof and divided into eleven storeys. With the exception of the basement and the first floor, each storey contained sixteen fireproof rooms. The foundation was of solid concrete, nine feet six inches deep, with solid brickwork over that. All the floors communicated by a well staircase of iron ten feet in diameter, winding up in apparently endless spirals to an aperture in the roof. When the sliding door was opened, a person standing on the ground, under the centre of the tower, could see the sky through a telescope, from the bottom to the top. This building was commenced April 2, 1842, and grew at the rate of twenty-three feet per year; the weight was estimated at 50,000 tons. The walls were twelve feet thick up to the base of the first tier of windows, and beyond six feet. The storied windows were forty-four feet high, by thirty-two feet wide, and five feet deep. The figures in the niches were nearly ten feet high. The supporters of the coat-of-arms of our kings were as large as horses. The roof, though made as light as deemed safe, weighed over four hundred tons. The pierced parapet, which from the street looked scarce sufficient to prevent any one falling over, was actually sixteen feet high. The lions and crowns on its battlement top were six feet high. The portal was large enough to allow the Royal State coach to be driven to the foot of the staircase within the tower. Immediately above the entrance on the exterior was a row of niches; the centre one, higher than the rest, contains a statue of the Queen, while the late Duke and Duchess of Kent occupy two others.

Correspondence.

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

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

INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR,—Some months ago I championed the cause of the Leighton Buzzard ringers. Will Mr. Nicholls kindly let me know whether he has been successful in obtaining the desired assistance? X. Y. Z.

SIR,—When the bells of our church are rung, the sound is thrown down to such an extent as to be a serious annoyance to the immediate neighbourhood. The tower has a flat roof, and four large louvre windows, while the bells are hung about the level of the middle of the windows. Can any reader suggest a remedy? F. D. B.

A RECTIFICATION.

SIR,—I should be very pleased if you would kindly correct the report of the unveiling of the peal-board at Bucknall, which was given in your issue of March 19th, as I see from a letter in this week's "BELL NEWS" from Mr. T. Hudson, of Sunderland, the omission of the word silent has given rise to a misunderstanding. The report should have read "this is the first *silent* peal of Surprise Minor ever rung in England," and not the first peal of Surprise Minor. I noticed the omission, but as the words a silent peal occurred a few lines above, I did not think it needed correcting. I may say that we have rung several peals of Surprise Minor previous to this one, and we also know that there has been many peals rung in Surprise methods by others long before we had our bells at Bucknall: so that we should never think of claiming it as the first in those methods. But I think we are right in claiming it as the first silent peal of Surprise Minor.

W. TWIGG.

SOUTHGATE (Middlesex).—On Monday, January 24th, at Christ Church, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal of Stedman Triples, 504 in the same method. J. Waghorn, jun. (conductor), 1; G. Kite, 2; S. Wade, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Miller, 5; I. J. Attwater, 6; C. Millway, 7; J. Sharman, 8. And 224 each of Double Norwich and Superlative Surprise Major. C. Millway, 1; I. J. Attwater, 2; S. Wade, 3; H. W. Newby, 4; J. Waghorn, jun., 5; A. Miller, 6; J. Parker (conductor), 7; J. Sharman, 8. C. Millway and G. Kite belong to Borden, Kent.

A PROPHET AMONG RINGERS.

We take the following from *The Southern Daily Mail*. Mr. W. G. Sevier is known to many of our readers, and they will doubtless be amused by reading of his latest pursuit:—

It is a well-known fact that a prophet gets but little honour in his own country. Were it otherwise, Mr. William Sevier, of Eastleigh, would be one of the most profoundly honoured men in Hampshire. By occupation Mr. Sevier is a striker in a smith's shop at the London and South-Western Railway Company's Works; by inclination he is a prophet, and quite a remarkable one too. Ferguson spent nights lying on his back in the fields, and working out problems with the aid of a string of beads, and other men have studied hard to attain a knowledge of astronomy; but to Mr. Sevier the science came intuitively.

HOW HE DOES IT.

"How do I foretell things?" said he in conversation with a "Mail" representative. "Why, by studying the Heavens. I know the stars so well that I can follow their movements without seeing them. On an average I only sleep about an hour and a half at night; the remainder of the time I spend in following the movements of the principal stars, and it is from their conjunctions that I make my predictions."

Mr. Sevier has been an astrologer from boyhood. It was a gift, he explained, which came to him naturally, and he took to prophesying "just as a duck takes to water." He has now been some twenty years at the business, and during that time has made some remarkable astronomical discoveries.

"You remember," said he, "the discovery of spots upon certain stars which exercised the minds of scientists last year. Well, those spots were only moons without faces. And the new planets that have been discovered during the last thousand years are only portions of old planets that have been broken up."

BETTER THAN "OLD MOORE."

Mr. Sevier does not copy the methods of Old Moore, Zadkiel, and the other almanac prophets; but works on a system of his own that gives better results. Only once since he began prophesying has Mr. Sevier forecasted wrongly. That was last year, when he prophesied that the Queen would die, but she did not; the Duchess of Teck died instead.

"I predicted the smallpox epidemic at Gloucester two years before it happened," said Mr. Sevier. "Twelve months ago last January I predicted the engineers' strike, and foretold how it would end. But if the men had paid me a small fee for advising them I could have told them when to go on strike with a certainty of winning. I should like to explain that the late Colonel Dyer, whose death I foretold, did not prevent the men from getting the eight hours' day. I also predicted the floods of last year and the wrecks of the *Aden* and the *Drummond Castle*. These were caused by the planets which ruled the ships getting behind the moon, thus throwing the vessels out of their course. The captains were not to blame. I predicted the loss of the *Victoria*, and foretold the great fire in London, almost to the day on which it happened. I also foretold the illness of Lord Salisbury. All this I can prove by letters written before the events I predicted took place."

"Supposing Lord Salisbury had retained my services," explained he, "I could have prevented that accident at Hatfield, by warning him to keep away from the gate."

THIS YEAR'S DISMAL FORECAST.

For the present year Mr. Sevier's forecast of events is not of a cheering nature. Although the Queen did not die last year he predicts that the present one will witness that dread event. Also that the world will be a record one for the deaths of great men.

"I call it the great harvest of life; sweeping them down," was how Mr. Sevier put it.

Amongst the doomed are Lord Salisbury, who will pass away probably about June, and Mr. Gladstone. There will also be many deaths in the Royal family. "When they begin to go it will be like shaking the boughs of a fruit tree, they will fall off so rapidly."

Portsmouth Conservatives had better be ready with their

candidate, for about next November, Mr. Sevier predicts, we shall have a General Election, at which the Liberals will be victorious. He also predicts war between America and Spain, in which the former will be victorious by the aid of England. Mr. Sevier further claims to know what caused the Maine disaster; but he is a cautious prophet and declines to make the cause public, as he does not want to do anything that will interfere with our trade or bring about international complications. For the same reason he refuses to divulge Cabinet secrets, although he is able to divine them.

WAR COMING.

As yet Mr. Sevier has not consulted the planets with regard to West Africa; but the Chinese question, he predicts, will cause a war in which England, Germany, and Japan will take the field against France and Russia. There will be a dreadful carnage, but in the end France and Russia will be utterly smashed, and England will get all she wants in China. There has as yet been no battle in the Soudan, he asserts, but one will very shortly be fought there. (We most of us know this.) In this the British forces will succeed in crushing the Dervishes and will get to Khartoum—nothing can keep them away. Having predicted the New Cross railway accident, Mr. Sevier foresees that several others will this year happen, mostly in the vicinity of London. Also that we shall have devastating storms, accompanied with naval disasters, during the summer. The "Mail" man endeavoured to ascertain which of Her Majesty's ships were destined to go to Davy Jones's locker, but Mr. Sevier declined to particularise them, as he did not wish to alarm the officers and crew. The one speck of brightness in the gloomy horoscope which Mr. Sevier has cast for 1898 relates to our trade, which is to flourish. Instead of Germany ousting us from foreign markets, we shall oust Germany.

HOW TO MAKE IT PAY.

The problem that is now exercising Mr. Sevier's mind is how to make prophecy pay. He is a native of Gloucester, and of French descent. Next to astrology, campanology occupies the greatest share of his attention. As a bellringer he claims to be known throughout the world. He is a member of the Winchester Cathedral Society, and has several times conducted peals at St. Mary's, Portsea. Moreover he has visited nearly all the churches and Cathedrals in England twice over on bellringing tours. His ambition is to earn enough money by prophesying to increase to eight the peals of bells in two churches the livings of which were once in the gift of his family. They are to be known as "the prophet's bells," as the money earned by prophecy bought them.

The "Mail" man suggested that such valuable gifts as those possessed by Mr. Sevier were rather thrown away on foretelling wars, deaths, and disasters, but might be more profitably employed in "spotting" winners or in guessing the "Mail" football competition. Mr. Sevier has, however, never applied his talents in this direction, but he promises to predict the result of one of the coming big races for the benefit of the "Mail" readers. Uno, Rover, and Captain Coe had therefore better look to their laurels ere Mr. Sevier dims their brightness.

PROSPERITY FOR PORTSMOUTH.

Portsmouth people will doubtless be gratified to know that Mr. Sevier predicts a most prosperous future for the town. "Portsmouth will become a very much more important place than it is," said he, "but there are a number of spies in it—Russian, I think—who should be watched carefully. I often visit Portsmouth, and I predict that it will not suffer during the coming war. The enemy will be unable to get at it; but their spies might poison the water, or something like that. Southsea will also become a very great place, a very great place indeed."

PETERBOROUGH.—At St. John's church, on Monday, February 21st, a 1008 of Grandsire Triples was rung by the following, in 33 mins. R. Creasey, 1; E. F. Read (conductor), 2; E. Baker, 3; A. Johnson, 4; E. Draper, 5; T. Measures, 6; W. T. Johnson, 7; R. Squires, 8. Mr. Creasey is from Spalding, and Mr. E. Draper from Stowmarket. Tenor 28½ cwt.

POLLARDS, Limited, Bradford, LADIES' COSTUMES at 10s. 6d., are Wonderful Value.

Compositions.**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.**By J. P. BRADLEY, *West Ham, E.*

5188.

Start with a slow six.

123456 5 16

513264*

315462 - -

312564 - -

314265 - -

413562 - -

412365 - -

415263 - -

514362 - -

512463 - -

215364 - -

214563 - -

213465 - -

213564 s -

312465 - -

315264 - -

314562 - -

413265 - -

415362 - -

412563 - -

214365 - -

215463 - -

512364 - -

514263 - -

513462 - -

162354†

261453 - -

263154 - -

264351 - -

462153 - -

463251 - -

461352 - -

164253 - -

163452 - -

361254 - -

364152 - -

362451 - -

362154 s -

263451 - -

261354 - -

264153 - -

462351 - -

461253 - -

463152 - -

364251 - -

361452 - -

163254 - -

164352 - -

162453 - -

*Produced by bobs at 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11.

† 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, 14. Round at 3, 5, 8.

Rung in hand by the St. Martin's Guild, conducted by W. H. Barber.

PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.By F. J. HARRISON, *Newcastle.*

5104.

23456 1 4 5 6

342

423

432

324

243

32645

263

236

362

623

632

42365 -

234

243

432

324

342

45263 - - -

524

542

425

254

245

52346

235

253

532

325

352

52436 s

245

254

542

425

452

23654 s

362

326

263

632

623

53264 s

325

253

235

352

23456

First rung at Robin Hood's Bay, Oct. 3, 1897, conducted by the author.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — The next branch meeting of the Blackburn branch of this Association will be held at New Lane, Oswaldtwistle, on April 16th.

TOM REDMAN, *Branch Sec.***PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.**By W. H. BARBER, *Selly Oak.*

5120.

23456 M B W H

52364 2 - 2 2

24365 1 - 2

45362 1 - 2

54263 2 - 2

62453 - 2 2

23456 1 - 2

43526 4s & in 2 1

45236 1 2

25346 2 1

23465 1 2

First rung at Aston by the St. Martin's Guild November 6th 1897, conducted by its composer.

DATE TOUCH OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.By J. HEASMAN, *Edenbridge.*

1898.

234567

324657

342567

435276

453267

542376

524367

254367

253476

2135476

s 352746 5

523746 4

235746 4

s 532746 4

325746 4

463572 2

254763 1

s 572346 5

465237 2

724365 1

657432 2

246357 1

462357 4

734562 1

s 357246 5

Twice repeated.

A 720 OF BOB MINOR.By E. FRANCIS, *Norwich.*

B 23564

B 52364

B 35264

B 42356

B 42563

S 45263

B 32456

B 43256

Repeated.

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. 13d.

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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"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, BART., M.A. Gratis on application to SIR ARTHUR HEYWOOD, BART., DUFFIELD BANK, near Derby

THE REV. DR. RAVEN'S WORK.

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 1898.

THE Easter meetings have not fallen off this year by any means, as the condition of our notice page amply bears witness. We may not be able to refer to the subject in our next, so we would here beg to remind some of our friends of the advisability of putting in a good attendance at those Church Services which are specially arranged for them.

The inducements to attend an Association meeting appear to increase as time goes on; those anxious for a successful gathering do their best to provide some especially entertaining feature. No less than sixty members of the Midland Counties Association will be allowed to view—under pleasing conditions—the vast brewing establishment of Bass and Co., an inspection highly interesting, even to those who are followers of Father Matthew, if there are any such among the Exercise. The Essex Association provides conveyances for the special convenience of its members; and no doubt other bodies have some pleasant surprise in store for their members which the officials are too modest to announce publicly.

There has been no decided abstinence from peal-ringing during the Lenten season. It is, however, held by many of our friends, who are entitled to speak upon such a subject, that during the coming week it would be well if

this part of our practice showed a little abatement. The Easter essays for peals would really not suffer, and the Easter-morning touch would be more enjoyable, we think. We merely throw out the hint.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

The next meeting will be held at Bristol on Tuesday in Whitsun-week, 31st May, 1898.

Notices of motion, etc., must reach the Hon. Secretary not later than Tuesday, the 3rd of May. They must be in writing, and signed by two representatives.

Hon. Secretaries of the following societies are respectfully reminded that the contributions of their societies have not (up to this date, March 28th) been received: Bedfordshire Association, Chester Guild, Devonshire Guild, Gloucester and Bristol Association, Lancashire Association, Liverpool Guild, North Lincolnshire Association, St. James's Society, Royal Cumberland Society, Leeds and District Society, Archdeaconry of Stafford Society, Sussex Association, Salisbury Guild, Yorkshire Association.

Information of any change in representatives, or their addresses, will be thankfully received with the respective contributions.

Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn.

H. EARLE BULWER,
Hon. Sec.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, March 28, 1898, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, BOW, E.,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES. Tenor 14 cwt.

SAMUEL JOYCE* Treble.	THOMAS FAULKNER 5.
YORK GREEN† 2.	EBENEZER ANDREWS 6.
CALEB FENN 3.	HENRY SPRINGALL 7.
ROWLAND FENN 4.	SAMUEL HAYES Tenor.

Composed by YORK GREEN and Conducted by HENRY SPRINGALL.

*First peal in the method. †First peal in the method away from the treble. Rung on the 59th birthday of Mr. Samuel Hayes; his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

The Provinces.

CROYDON, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 22, 1898, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 32 cwt.

EDWARD MATHEWS Treble.	JOSEPH TALBOT 5.
JAMES RUMBLE 2.	WILLIAM STATES 6.
THOMAS TALBOT* 3.	GEORGE BURT 7.
FREDERICK PATES 4.	THOMAS VERRALL Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM STATES.

*First peal, and was selected a member of the Association before starting.

YORK TOWN, SURREY.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, March 23, 1898, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 16 cwt.

ALBERT E. HEADEY Treble.	FRANK TUBB 5.
ALFRED E. REEVES 2.	WILLIAM HORN 6.
BARZILLAI HAWKINS 3.	WILLIAM NEWELL 7.
AMBROSE OSBORNE 4.	FRANK HOPGOOD Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by FRANK HOPGOOD.

ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

On Wednesday, March 23, 1898, in Five Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. J. RENNIE, STRETTON ROAD, ASTON,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 8888 CHANGES.

ROBERT J. HUNT 1-2.	W. H. BARBER 5-6.
BERNARD WITCHELL 3-4.	WILLIAM SHORT 7-8.
THOMAS WAKEMAN 9-10.	

Composed by the late HENRY JOHNSON and
Conducted by BERNARD WITCHELL.

Reference to this peal will be found on another page.

PENSHURST, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 24, 1898, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; REV. C. D. P. DAVIES'S No. 2. Tenor 17½ cwt.

FREDERICK BUTCHER .. Treble.	JOHN STEDDY 5.
FREDERICK WHIBLEY 2.	ALBERT LONGLEY 6.
GEORGE SMITHERS 3.	STEPHEN PERKINS 7.
EDWARD BRIDGER 4.	ROBERT KING Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK WHIBLEY.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor, the band wishing him many happy returns.

OXHEY, HERTS.—THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 24, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY OF ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES.

CHARLES GEORGE 1-2.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 5-6.
GEORGE N. PRICE 3-4.	HERBERT MARTIN 7-8.
WALTER NORRIS 9-10.	

Composed by the late JOHN COX and
Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

Umpire—William Norris. First peal of Caters by all except the conductor.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 24, 1898, in Three Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5104 CHANGES. Tenor 37 cwt. 3 qrs. 16 lbs.

CHARLES L. ROUTLEDGE .. Treble.	HUGH S. DALL 5.
ROBERT S. STORY 2.	*ROBERT RICHARDS 6.
WILLIAM NEWTON 3.	WILLIAM HOLMES 7.
ALFRED F. HILLIER 4.	FREDK. J. HARRISON .. Tenor.

Composed by F. J. HARRISON and Conducted by C. L. ROUTLEDGE.

These are the heaviest peal of bells rung through a peal of Double Norwich Major, and rung as a birthday compliment to F. J. Harrison and R. Richards. *First peal in the method.

RUMBURGH, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, March 25, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES; Being Twelve Six-scores each of Plain Bob and Old Doubles, Ten Six-scores of April Day, and Eight Six-scores of Grandsire. Tenor 10 cwt.

ROBERT TRACY* Treble.	FREDERICK C. LAMBERT .. 3.
T. LINTON WILSON 2.	SAMUEL BIRD 4.
ALBERT LEE Tenor.	

Conducted by F. C. LAMBERT.

*First peal.

NORTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AND YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Saturday, March 26, 1898, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5344 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

JOSEPH ATKIN Treble.	ARTHUR KNIGHTS 5.
JOHN MULLIGAN 2.	THOMAS G. SAREL 6.
HENRY BOWER 3.	SAM. THOMAS 7.
ROBERT HARRISON 4.	WILLIAM BIGGIN Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

The peal attempted was a 6496, but was reduced to the above number at the request of one of the band. Rang as a birthday compliment to J. Atkin.

LINDFIELD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 26, 1898, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 21 cwt. 2 qrs. 19 lbs.

ERNEST TOMSETT* Treble.	GEORGE WILLIAMS 5.
ALFRED TOMSETT* 2.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 6.
FRANK BENNETT 3.	KEITH HART 7.
HERBERT TOMSETT* 4.	*WILLIAM SIMMONDS Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

*First peal and first attempt.

DRIFHLINGTON, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 26, 1898, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

JEREMY THORNTON Treble.	JOSEPH BROADLEY 5.
ESSIE RUSHWORTH 2.	FRANCIS BARKER 6.
JOHN LAWSON 3.	EDWIN WHEATER 7.
SIDNEY CLARK 4.	EDGAR WILLIAMSON Tenor.

Composed by W. GOODALL and Conducted by EDWIN WHEATER.

This was J. Broadley's 50th peal.

WOODFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 26, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Woodbine Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Double Court, College Single, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, and Bob Minor. Tenor 13 cwt.

JOHN MOULE Treble.	JOHN MARDELL 4.
WILLIAM MILLER 2.	EDGAR WIGHTMAN 5.
HENRY GOWERS 3.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Conducted by EDGAR WIGHTMAN.

KILLAMARSH, DERBYSHIRE.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AND THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Saturday, March 26, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Carlisle, London, Wells, York, Ely, Rochester, and Coventry. Tenor 11 cwt.

FREDERICK HALL† Treble.	GEORGE BURNHAM 4.
THOMAS BETTISON 2.	WM. HENRY TURTON 5.
JAMES EMMEN 3.	CHARLES SEVERN Tenor.

Conducted by T. BETTISON.

*First peal.

GRAPPENHALL, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 26, 1898, in Four Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 7200 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Imperial, Arnold's Victory, London, Braintree, Bocking, College Exercise, London Scholars' Pleasure, College Pleasure, City Delight and Killamarsh. Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qrs.

JAMES MAINWARING Treble.	SAMUEL HORSFALL 4.
HARRY T. MOSTON 2.	FREDK. T. SPENCE 5.
THOS BURROWS 3.	ROBT. GEO. LEWIS Tenor.

Conducted by ROBT. GEO. LEWIS.

Rung to celebrate the birthday of Chas. Reg. Greenall, and is the longest length by the Guild.

WINSHILL, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 26, 1898, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being four 720s of Plain Bob and three 720s of Grandsire, each called differently. Tenor 18½ cwt. in C.

CHARLIE BROWN* Treble.	GEORGE WRIGHT 4.
WALTER SHEPHERD 2.	FRANK SHEPHERD 5.
WILLIAM WYLDE 3.	CHARLIE GOLDER Tenor.

Conducted by C. GOLDER.

*First peal. First peal in two methods by all. First peal as conductor. Rung at the first attempt.

BACUP.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 26, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR,

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

FRED. HOWORTH Treble.	WM. ASHWORTH 5.
J. T. STANDRING 2.	JOHN HARRISON 6.
A. W. WHITWORTH 3.	JOHN SHEPHERD 7.
E. SCHOFIELD* 4.	WILFRED LAW Tenor.

Composed by J. REEVES and Conducted by J. SHEPHERD.

*First peal of Treble Bob.

OSWALDTWISTLE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, March 27, 1898, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720s, each called differently.

CHARLES SHARPLES Treble.	THOMAS HOLDEN 4.
JOHN BENTLEY 2.	HENRY HAYES 5.
JOHN JAMES HAWORTH* 3.	ROBERT PARKINSON Tenor.

Conducted by R. PARKINSON.

*First peal. First peal of Minor by H. Hayes who hails from Church Kirk. Rung on the occasion of the induction of the Rev. F. G. Harris, late senior curate of the parish church, Lytham, as vicar of the parish.

CAVERSHAM, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, March 28, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5088 CHANGES. Tenor 13½ cwt.

HARRY SIMMONDS Treble.	ERNEST W. MENDAY 5.
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER* 2.	GEORGE ESSEX 6.
JOHN C. TRUSS 3.	RICHARD T. HIBBERT 7.
EDWIN J. MENDAY 4.	THOMAS NEWMAN Tenor.

Composed by G. LINDOFF and Conducted by T. NEWMAN.

First peal in the method. This is the first peal on this plan with 4-6 their extent in 6th place, and was taken from "THE BELL NEWS" of March 19th.

HAVANT, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, March 28, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 18 cwt.

C. MOCKFORD* Treble.	*T. PULLEN 5.
J. HARPER 2.	J. W. WHITING 6.
G. GRAHAM 3.	†G. INSTRALL 7.
REV. W. H. GORDON* .. 4.	*W. KILL Tenor.

Conducted by G. INSTRALL.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor.

MIDDLESBROUGH, YORKSHIRE.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 28, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HILDA,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5204 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN H. JONES Treble.	WILLIAM RUDD 5.
RICHARD FENWICK 2.	JOHN W. PASSMAN 6.
ALEXANDER McFARLANE .. 3.	JOHN H. BLAKISTON 7.
CHARLES HALL 4.	THOMAS METCALFE Tenor.

Composed by J. B. LATES and Conducted by J. H. BLAKISTON.

OXHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 28, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 9½ cwt.

FREDK. J. GLENNISTER .. Treble.	WILLIAM NORRIS 5.
JOHN B. BATES* 2.	GEORGE N. PRICE 6.
HERBERT MARTIN 3.	CHARLES GEORGE 7.
BERTRAM PREWETT* 4.	JAMES ALEXANDER Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE N. PRICE.

*First peal.

BENGWORTH, EVESHAM, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 28, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being Forty-two 6-scores of Grandsire and St. Dunstan's, each called differently. Tenor 10½ cwt.

EDWARD TOLLEY* Treble.	*FREDK. STYLES 4.
GEORGE STREETS* 2.	FREDK. JOHNSON 5.
FRANK COOK 3.	*GEORGE LAMPTITT Tenor.

Conducted by FREDK. JOHNSON.

*First peal in any method. First peal as conductor.

ROYDON, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 29, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Violet Treble Bob, College Exercise, London Scholars' Pleasure, Oxford Treble Bob Oxford Delight, Woodbine Treble Bob, and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 9 cwt.

GEORGE JORDAN Treble.	JOHN LUCKEY 4.
GEORGE DENT 2.	ISAAC CAVILL 5.
THOMAS J. WATTS 3.	WILLIAM WATTS Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WATTS.

Reference to this peal will be found elsewhere.

Date Touches.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

KELVEDON (Essex).—On Sunday, January 9th, for evening service, a date touch of 1898 Bob Minor, in 1 hr. 18 mins. E. Gazzard (longest length), 1; C. Mills, 2; H. Elliott, 3; W. Keeble (conductor), 4; H. Evers, 5; W. Elliott, 6. Tenor 21 cwt.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LYTHAM.—At St. John's church, on Tuesday, February 22, a date touch of Minor, comprising 98 changes of Oxford Single, 720 Grandsire, 720 College Single, and 369 Plain Bob. This was rung to celebrate the marriage of Mr. Robert Ashworth, of Lytham (one of the Lancashire Association members) to Miss Mary Parker, of East Markham, Notts., which took place at the latter town. After this, 336 of Plain Bob. The date touch was rung by: W. Bamber, 1; R. Seddon, 2; John Tipping, 3; R. Cookson, 4; C. H. Kerr, 5; Edward Tipping (conductor), 6. Time 1 hr. 6 mins. The ringers of the 336 being: R. Cookson, 1; C. H. Kerr, 2; John Tipping, 3; E. Tipping, 4; R. Seddon, 5; J. Fell (conductor), 6.

Miscellaneous.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

KELVEDON (Essex).—On Wednesday, January 12th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. W. Beckwith, 1; C. Mills, 2; G. King, 3; S. Rushen, 4; W. Keeble, 5; H. Evers (conductor), 6. S. Rushen belongs to Great Totham. On Wednesday, January 26th, 720 New London Pleasure. C. Mills, 1; H. Elliott, 2; D. Elliott, 3; W. Keeble, 4; H. Evers, 5; W. Elliott (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, February 2nd, 720 Cambridge Surprise. C. Mills, 1; W. Elliott, 2; H. Evers, 3; W. Keeble (conductor), 4; D. Elliott, 5; E. W. Beckwith, 6. On Sunday, February 13th, 720 Cambridge Surprise. H. Elliott, 1; W. Keeble, 2; H. Evers, 3; W. Elliott, 4; D. Elliott (conductor), 5; E. W. Beckwith, 6. On Wednesday, February 16th, 720 Bob Minor. W. Beckwith, 1; C. Mills, 2; G. King, 3; W. Keeble (conductor), 4; W. Hunwick, 5; H. Evers, 6. This makes the conductor's 250th 720. On Sunday, February 13th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. C. Mills, 1; D. Elliott, 2; W. Schofield, 3; W. Keeble (conductor), 4; H. Evers, 5; W. Elliott, 6. Tenor 21 cwt. Schofield belongs to Colchester.

STANSTED (Essex).—On Wednesday, January 5th, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, for practice, 720 Bristol Surprise (5th the observation). J. Cavill, 1; I. Hammond, 2; T. J. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. Also 720 Rochester Surprise. H. Little, 1; G. Jordan, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; T. J. Watts, 5; J. Luckey (first in the method as conductor), 6. And 720 Lincoln Surprise. G. Jordan, 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. J. Watts, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. Also 720 Huddersfield Surprise. T. J. Watts, 1; G. Jordan, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; I. Hammond, 5; J. Luckey, 6. And 720 Coventry Surprise. G. Jordan, 1; J. Luckey, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; I. Hammond, 5; T. J. Watts (first 720 as conductor in the method), 6. On Wednesday, January 19th, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Cavill, 1; H. Little (first 720 in the method with a bob bell), 2; G. Gray, 3; T. J. Watts, 4; G. Jordan, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, February 13th, for evening service, 1120 Superlative Surprise Major. After service a quarter-peal (1280 changes) in the same method, in 47 mins. W. Watson, 1; A. J. Perkins, 2; G. R. Pye, 3; E. Wightman, 4; W. H. Doran, 5; E. Pye, 6; J. Dale, 7; W. Pye (conductor), 8.

LEYTONSTONE.—On Sunday, February 20th, after evening service, 456 Woodbine. J. Mowle, 1; W. Miller, 2; H. Gowers, 3; J. Kimberley, 4; J. Mardell, 5; T. H. Baum (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, standing as before.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—FYLDE BRANCH.

LYTHAM (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, January 9th, for Divine Service at St. John's church, 720 Grandsire Minor. A. E. Wilson, 1; R. Cookson, 2; J. Tipping, 3; J. Fell, 4; R. Seddon, 5; E. Tipping (conductor), 6. On Monday, January 10th, 720 College Single Minor. R. Seddon, 1; J. Fell, 2; J. Tipping, 3; A. E. Wilson, 4; C. H. Kerr, 5; E. Tipping (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, February 2nd, 720 Oxford Single. R. Seddon, 1; J. Fell, 2; J. Tipping, 3; J. Moore, 4; C. H. Kerr, 5; E. Tipping (conductor), 6. First in the method by all except J. Moore. On Sunday evening, February

13th, 720 Grandsire Minor. W. Bamber, 1; R. Seddon, 2; J. Tipping, 3; R. Cookson, 4; C. H. Kerr, 5; E. Tipping (conductor), 6. On Saturday, February 19th, 720 Grandsire Minor. R. Cookson, 1; R. Seddon, 2; J. Tipping, 3; J. Moore, 4; C. H. Kerr, 5; E. Tipping (conductor), 6.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

LONDON.—On Sunday, February 27th, at St. John's church, Waterloo Road, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 42 mins., taken from Holt's Original. T. Langdon, 1; J. W. Golding, 2; H. Barton, 3; A. R. Davis, 4; G. E. Symonds (conductor), 5; F. G. Perrin, 6; V. W. West, 7; F. Gentry, 8.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BUSHEY (Herts).—On Sunday, January 23rd, for Divine Service, 288 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 1; F. Smith, 2; W. E. Oakley, 3; W. G. Whitehead, 4; W. I. Oakley, 5; W. Thorn, 6; F. Edwards, 7; E. E. Huntley, 8. On Thursday, January 27th, for practice, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 1; F. Smith, 2; W. G. Whitehead, 3; W. E. Oakley, 4; W. I. Oakley, 5; W. Thorn, 6; F. Edwards, 7; E. E. Huntley, 8. On Sunday evening, February 6th, for Divine Service, 960 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 1; F. Smith, 2; G. W. Cartmel (St. Albans), 3; W. G. Whitehead, 4; F. Edwards, 5; W. Thorn, 6; C. F. Winney (London), 7; E. E. Huntley, 8. On Thursday, February 10th, for practice, 504 Stedman Triples. W. H. L. Buckingham, 1; F. Edwards, 2; F. Smith, 3; C. George, 4; H. Martin, 5; W. Thorn, 6; E. E. Huntley, (conductor), 7; T. Hussey, 8. On Saturday, February 12th, for practice, 380 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 1; F. Smith, 2; C. George, 3; W. G. Whitehead, 4; W. I. Oakley, 5; W. Thorn, 6; W. E. Oakley, 7; E. E. Huntley, 8. Also 504 Stedman Triples. W. H. L. Buckingham, 1; F. Edwards, 2; C. George, 3; F. Smith, 4; W. G. Whitehead, 5; W. E. Oakley, 6; E. E. Huntley (conductor), 7; T. Hussey, 8. On Sunday, February 13th, for Divine Service, 464 Bob Major. E. E. Huntley (conductor), 1; A. J. Pate, 2; F. Smith, 3; F. Edwards, 4; W. G. Whitehead, 5; W. I. Oakley, 6; W. E. Oakley, 7; W. H. L. Buckingham, 8. On Sunday morning, February 20th, for Divine Service, 504 Stedman Triples. W. E. Oakley, 1; F. Smith, 2; F. Edwards, 3; W. G. Whitehead, 4; W. I. Oakley, 5; W. Thorn, 6; E. E. Huntley (conductor), 7; J. J. Allen, 8. For evening service, 700 Grandsire Triples. W. G. Whitehead (conductor), 1; F. Smith, 2; W. E. Oakley, 3; E. E. Huntley, 4; W. I. Oakley, 5; W. Thorn, 6; F. Edwards, 7; T. Hussey, 8. On Sunday morning, February 27th, for Divine Service, 576 Bob Major. F. Edwards, 1; A. J. Pate, 2; F. Smith, 3; E. E. Huntley (conductor), 4; W. G. Whitehead, 5; W. I. Oakley, 6; W. E. Oakley, 7; W. H. L. Buckingham, 8. For evening service a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 42 mins. W. E. Oakley, 1; F. Smith, 2; F. Edwards, 3; W. G. Whitehead, 4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5; W. Thorn, 6; E. E. Huntley (conductor), 7; W. I. Oakley, 8. On Sunday morning, March 6th, for Divine Service, 464 Bob Major. E. E. Huntley (conductor), 1; A. J. Pate, 2; F. Edwards, 3; W. G. Whitehead, 4; W. I. Oakley, 5; W. Thorn, 6; W. E. Oakley, 7; W. H. L. Buckingham, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

READING (Berks).—On February 1st, for practice, 560 Bob Major. H. Dibley, 1; F. Sweetzer, 2; G. L. Boddington, 3; A. Evans, 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; J. Hands (Caversham), 6; A. W. Higgs, 7; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 8. On February 6th, for Divine Service, 360 Bob Minor. H. Dibley, 1; H. Coffee, 2; G. L. Boddington, 3; A. W. Reeves, 4; F. Sweetzer, 5; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 6. On February 27th, for Divine Service, 336 Grandsire Triples. A. J. Mayo, 1; R. Mayo (Wantage), 2; G. L. Boddington, 3; A. Evans, 4; A. W. Higgs, 5; H. Dibley, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; C. House, 8. And 336 Bob Major. H. Dibley, 1; H. Coffee, 2; G. L. Boddington, 3; A. Evans, 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; F. Sweetzer, 6; A. W. Higgs, 7; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 8. On Monday, March 14, for practice at St. Mary's church, 544 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. A. W. Higgs (first 500 in method), 1; H. Tucker, 2; J. Tucker, 3; J. E. Hern, 4; C. Giles, 5; A. Osborne, 6; A. Watmore, 7; F. Hopwood (conductor), 8. Also 688 in the same method. A. Watmore, 1; H. Tucker, 2; C. Giles, 3; F. Tubbs, 4; J. E. Hern, 5; J. Tucker, 6; A. Osborne, 7; F. Hopgood (conductor), 8. Tenor 28 cwt. Also at St. Laurence's church, for practice, on Tuesday, March 15, 544 Double Norwich. A. E. Headey (first 500 in method), 1; J. Tucker, 2; J. E. Hern, 3; H. Tucker, 4; C. Giles, 5; A. Osborne, 6; A. Watmore, 7; F. Hopgood (conductor), 8. Tenor 24 cwt. Also 504 Grandsire Triples on handbells. J. Tucker (conductor), 1-2; C. Giles, 3-4; F. Hopgood, 5-6; H. Tucker, 7-8. Also on Sunday, March 20, for Divine Service at St. Laurence's church, 344 Bob Major. E. Bruce, 1;

A. E. Reeves, 2; A. E. Headey, 3; F. Tubbs, 4; F. Hopwood (conductor), 5; C. Giles, 6; W. Newell, 7; A. Osborne, 8. Also 611 Grandsire Caters. R. Sawyer, 1; F. Hopgood (conductor), 2; E. Bruce, 3; A. Watmore, 4; C. Giles, 5; F. Tubbs, 6; W. P. Routh, Esq., 7; G. Foxell, 8; A. Osborne, 9; J. Tucker, 10. Tenor 24 cwt. On Monday, March 21, for Confirmation Service at St. Mary's church 504 Grandsire Triples. R. Sawyer, 1; R. Swain, 2; E. Bruce, 3; F. Hopgood, 4; C. Giles, 5; A. Osborne, 6; A. Watmore, 7; J. Tucker (conductor), 8. Tenor 28 cwt.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

EASTBOURNE.—On February 19, at Christ church, 336 Grandsire Triples. J. Newman, 1; A. Miles, 2; W. Hills, 3; S. Saker, 4; — Hollands, 5; G. Penfold, 6; S. Merritt, 7; J. Osborne, 8. Also 447 Grandsire Triples. J. Newman, 1; E. Merritt, 2; — Hollands, 3; F. Harding, 4; G. Penfold, 5; H. Fayers (longest touch), 6; S. Saker (conductor), 7; B. Hobbs, 8. And 336 Bob Major. A. Miles (first touch of Major), 1; E. Merritt, 2; F. Harding, 3; — Hollands, 4; G. Penfold (first touch of Major), 5; G. Howse, 6; B. Hobbs, 7; S. Saker (conductor), 8.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Saturday, February 12th, at All Saints' church, 1152 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 52 mins. H. Griggs, 1; W. Bacon, 2; W. Griggs, 3; G. Valentine (longest touch in the method), 4; W. Howell, 5; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 6; O. Garwood, 7; S. Slater, 8. On Sunday, February 13th, 464 Bob Major. After service 464 Bob Major. After service 560 in the same method. S. Howell, 1; W. Howell, 2; W. Bacon, 3; W. Griggs, 4; H. Brackett, 5; G. Valentine, 6; H. Griggs, 7; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 8. On Saturday, February 19th, at All Saints' church, 1152 Bob Major, in 51 mins. W. Howell, jun., 1; W. Howell, sen., 2; W. Bacon, 3; W. Griggs, 4; H. Brackett, 5; G. Valentine, 6; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 7; H. Griggs, 8. On Saturday, February 26th, an attempt for a peal 5184 Kent Treble Bob came to grief after ringing 3232 changes, in 2 hrs. 5 mins. E. Ambrose, 1; W. Griggs, 2; A. Symonds, 3; W. Howell, sen., 4; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 5; G. Valentine, 6; S. Slater, 7; O. Garwood, 8. Tenor 28 cwt.

LAVERNHAM (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, February 22nd, this tower was visited by members of the above Association on the occasion of the Annual Fair, ringers being present from Sudbury (All Saints), Melford, Monks Eleigh, Preston, Hitcham, and Bury St. Edmunds. In the morning 672 Bob Major was rung. W. Bobby, 1; F. Symonds, 2; A. Keeble, 3; H. Duce, 4; H. Smith, 5; S. Ford, 6; A. Symonds, 7; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 8. In the afternoon 768 Kent Treble Bob. W. Howell, sen., 1; C. Bixby, 2; W. Griggs, 3; S. Ford, 4; W. Bacon, 5; G. Valentine, 6; A. Symonds, 7; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 8. And 504 Grandsire Triples. A. Symonds, 1; W. Griggs, 2; W. Bacon, 3; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 4; C. Bixby, 5; A. Osborne, 6; W. Howell, 7; G. Valentine, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. in D flat. On Monday, February 14, on handbells, at the residence of A. Symonds, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen singles and three bobs). F. Symonds, 1-2; J. Moore, 3-4; A. Symonds (conductor), 5-6. Rung to celebrate the twenty-first birthday of J. Fayers, which occurred on the 13th. His brother ringers wishing him many happy returns.

GREAT WALDINGFIELD (Suffolk).—On Saturday, March 5th, at the parish church of St. Laurence, 720 Bob Minor. F. Symonds, 1; A. Symonds (conductor), 2; R. Theobald, 3; W. Howell, 4; G. Valentine, 5; H. Diggins, 6. And 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Howell, 1; W. Griggs, 2; F. Symonds, 3; G. Valentine, 4; A. Symonds, 5; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt. Messrs. Sillitoe, Griggs, Howell, and Valentine are of the All Saints company, Sudbury; Messrs. Symonds (2) hail from Lavenham; the rest are of the local company.

BRISTOL.—On Thursday, February 24th, at All Saints' church, 1616 of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, in 1 hr. 4 mins. F. Gooding, 1; A. Pearce, 2; C. H. Horton, 3; G. Pearce, 4; G. Daltry, 5; W. Porch, 6; T. Radford, 7; H. Porch (conductor), 8. On Monday, February 28th, at St. Peter's church, 588 Grandsire Triples. W. Emery, 1; G. Pearce, 2; J. Richmond, 3; H. Pring, 4; H. Porch (conductor), 5; C. H. Horton, 6; F. Gooding, 7; J. Palser, 8. For practice 672 in the same method. J. Palser, 1; G. Pearce, 2; H. Pring, 3; H. Porch, 4; A. Pearce, 5; C. H. Horton, 6; P. Carne, 7; J. Viney, 8.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday, January 9th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. Dixon, 1; G. Griffin, 2; W. Pickworth, 3; S. Wade, 4; J. Waghorn, jun. (conductor), 5; A. Jacob, 6.

HOLLOWAY.—On Wednesday, January 16th, at St. Mary Magdalene 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. A. Jacob (conductor), 1; W. Burrows, 2; S. Wade, 3; T. Titchener, 4; G. Smith, 5; H. Stubbs, 6.

Notices.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is One Penny per line (five words may be reckoned to a line). Repetitions at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

The Kent County Association.—Rochester District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Peter and St. Paul, Swanscombe, to-day, Saturday, 2nd April. Towers open at 4 p.m. Business meeting at 6 p.m.

A. OSBORNE, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Kidsgrove to-day, Saturday, April 2nd.

REV. W. D. BRAGINGTON, } *Hon. Secs.*
W. TWIGG,

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—The presentation of a purse of gold and an album containing an address and a list of the subscribers' names, will be made to Mr. Matthew A. Wood, at the society's meeting house, The Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., to-day, Saturday, April 2nd, at 7 p.m., when a good attendance of subscribers and their friends is earnestly desired. The tower of St. Clement Danes, Strand, will be open for ringing from 5 to 6.30 p.m. W. T. COCKERILL, *Hon. Sec.*

The Heavy Woollen District Association, Yorkshire.—The next monthly meeting of the above will be held at The Woolpack inn, Almondbury, on Saturday, April 9th, at 5.30 p.m. GEO. H. SIMON, *Hon. Sec.*

The Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—The dedication of the new ring of five bells at St. Ignatius church, Sunderland, will take place on Easter Day at 10.30 a.m. The bells will be rung at the dedication service, and also for the services at 3 and 6 o'clock. THOMAS HUDSON, *Association Secretary.*

The Essex Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held on Easter-Monday, at Coggeshall. The following towers will be open, Coggeshall, Earl's Colne, Great Tey, Feering, Inworth and Kelvedon. A brake will start from Kelvedon church at 2 p.m. for Feering; from Feering at 3.45 for Coggeshall. Tea and business meeting will be held at The Chapel inn, at 5.30 p.m. A conveyance will be provided for members to reach Kelvedon in time for the evening trains. Members intending to be present must notify the same to me not later than the previous Tuesday.

HENRY T. W. EYRE, *Ass. Sec.*

Gt. Totham Vicarage, Witham.

Midland Counties Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Burton-on-Trent on Easter-Monday, April 11th, 1898. The bells of St. Paul's and St. Modwen's open for ringing from 11 a.m. By kind permission of Lord Burton a party of sixty members will be taken over Messrs. Bass and Co's. breweries, using the special train as in 1894. Members intending to join in this trip are requested to assemble at St. Paul's Institute not later than 11.30 a.m. Committee meeting in classroom of St. Paul's Institute at 3.30 p.m. Tea (1s. per head) followed by general meeting in large hall of the Institute at 4 p.m. Members and friends who intend being present at tea are particularly requested to send their names to Mr. W. Wakley, 155, Waterloo Street Burton-on-Trent, not later than Wednesday, April 6th. Parties of eight or more can obtain fare-and-a-quarter tickets by giving three days' notice at any railway station.

J. O. LANCASHIRE, *Hon. Sec.*

The East Derbyshire Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Clay Cross, on Easter-Monday, April 11th. Bells open from 9 a.m. Service in church at 4.30 p.m. Tea in Parochial school at 5 p.m.; 6d. each. Members and others who intend coming to tea are requested to send their names to the secretary on or before Monday, April 4th.

T. ALLIBONE, *Secretary.*

The Surrey Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held on Easter-Monday, April 11th, at The Dolphin, Betchworth, Surrey, after the tea, which will commence at 6 p.m. Ringing at the parish church (8 bells) and also at Buckland (6 bells) from 2.30 p.m. Ringers intending to be present at the tea must inform their representative not later than Friday, April 8th, who will acquaint Mr. Judd, of Betchworth, the number of his company likely to attend.

CHAS. DEAN, JUN., *Hon. Sec.*

The Worcestershire & District Association.—The annual meeting of this association will be held at Dudley, on Easter Monday, April 11th, 1898. There will be a special service in St. Thomas's parish church at 4 o'clock. Tea in King Street Infant Schoolroom at 5 o'clock, to be followed by the business meeting, at which the Rev. A. Gray Maitland, Vicar, will preside. It is earnestly requested that the Secretaries of each Society in the Association will send number of members intending to be present at tea not later than Wednesday, April 6th, so that proper provision may be made. The bells of St. Thomas's Dudley (10), will be open to members for ringing touches all day from 11 o'clock. Those of St. Andrew's Netherton (8), All Saints Sedgley (8), St. Martin's Tipton (8), Oldbury parish church (8), and St. Mary's Cradley (8) will be available from 11 till 3 o'clock, not later for peal-ringing. Any band wishing to start for a peal will please communicate with the Secretary, stating which of the above churches will be most convenient. Members of companies desirous of standing in a peal must send their names and the method they wish to ring at once to the Secretary, so that arrangements may be made to form bands and provide conductors. Precedence will be given to the methods which are most desired. Members will be advised at which church to attend. All peals must be finished by 3 o'clock, the time asked for the use of the bells. It is particularly requested that all will make an effort to attend the service at 4 o'clock. All outstanding contributions should be paid at this meeting. The annual report will be ready for this meeting.

JNO. SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

36, Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.

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, the Rev. J. W. E. Conybeare, Vicar of Barrington. Tea at All Hallows Lane School, at 4 p.m., to be followed by business meeting. As a scheme for the affiliation of the Association to the Ely Diocesan Association will be submitted to the meeting, it is earnestly hoped that all members will make a point of attending.

W. W. C. BAKER, *Hon. Sec.*

The Hertfordshire Association.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Albans on Easter Monday, when the tower of St. Peter's church will be open at 2 p.m., and the Cathedral tower later in the afternoon. Evensong at the Cathedral at 5 o'clock, with an address to ringers. Tea at 5.45 at the town hall; business meeting for election of officers and general business to follow. Cheap tickets

to St. Albans from stations on the Great Northern line, and excursion tickets from London by certain trains on the Midland and Great Northern. Members and visitors intending to be present will please send their names not later than Wednesday, April 6th, to E. P. DEBENHAM, *Hon. Sec.*

The Norwich Diocesan Association.—Saxmundham District. A district meeting will be held at Leiston, on Easter-Monday, April 11th. St. Margaret's tower will be open for ringing from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Business meeting in the schools at 4.30 p.m. All members and friends are cordially invited.

H. J. BUTTON, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*

The Winchester Diocesan Guild.—A Quarterly Meeting will be held at Alresford on Easter Monday, April 11th. Bells (8) available during the day; also Alton (8). Meeting at 3.30 at the Board School. Business: Date of annual festival, accounts, etc. Tea at 4.30 for those informing me before April 7th. CHAS. E. MATTHEWS, *Hon. Sec.*

Old East Derbyshire Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Wingfield on Easter Monday, April 11th. Further particulars in next issue. E. JAMES, *Hon. Sec.*

Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Flixton on Saturday, April 16th. Bells ready at 4.0 p.m. Business meeting in school-room at 7.0 p.m. WALTER BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Luke's, Heywood, on Saturday, April 16th. Bells ready at 4.30 p.m., all ringers invited. E. B. SHAW, *Branch Sec.*

St. James's Society, London.—There will be no meeting on Monday next. The next meeting will be on Monday, the 18th April, at St. Clement Danes.

R. A. DANIELL, *Hon. Sec.*

South Lincolnshire Association.—Quarterly Meeting at Rippingale on Saturday, April 23rd. Short service and address at 11.45 by the Rev. W. W. Layng, Diner at The Bull inn at one o'clock. Members intending to be present must send in their names to me on or before Saturday, April 16th.

E. GALE, *Sec.*

The Middlesex County Association.—North and East District.—A meeting of the members of the above District will be held on Saturday, April 23rd, at St. Margaret's, Westminster, by kind permission of the Rev. Canon Eyton. The bells will be raised at 4 p.m. All members and friends of the Association are cordially invited.

ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*

The Rochester and District Guild.—The first meeting of the Guild was held at St. Margaret's, Rochester, on Saturday, March 26, when members from Rochester, Gillingham and Feindsbury rung touches of Stedman, Grandsire and Plain Bob. It was decided that the next monthly meeting should be held on the last Saturday in April, at Gillingham, at 6.30. A. RINE, *Hon. Sec.*

Llandaff Diocesan Association.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at the Girls' National schoolroom, Castle Street, Abergavenny, at 3 p.m. There will be a short service in the parish church at 2.30. The bells

will be available for ringing all day. Members are urgently requested to pay in their subscriptions at this meeting.

REV. D. H. GRIFFITHS, } *Hon. Secs.*
H. G. WHITE, }

The Royal Cumberland Society.—In consequence of Divine Service being held at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields during Lent, there will be no practice night until Friday, April 22nd.

A. JACOB, *Hon. Sec.*

NOTES TO PEALS.

THE PEAL AT ASTON.—This is the longest peal of Caters in any method yet rung upon handbells, also the conductor's rooth peal (Referee—Mr. Albert Walker, who ticked off every call and course-end as they were rung.) On tower bells—Grandsire Triples, 3, conducted 1; Grandsire Caters, 3; Grandsire Cinques, 2; Stedman Triples, 18, conducted 10; Stedman Caters, 19, conducted 9; Stedman Cinques, 14, conducted 4; Bob Major, 3, conducted 1; Bob Royal, 1; Treble Bob Major, 2; Treble Bob Royal, 6; Treble Bob Maximus, 2; Duffield Royal, 1; Duffield Maximus, 1; Double Norwich Major, 5, conducted 2; in four methods, 1. On handbells: Grandsire Triples, 4, conducted 2; Grandsire Caters, 3; Stedman Triples, 3, conducted 3; Stedman Caters, 7, conducted 4; Stedman Cinques, 1; Treble Bob Major, 1; total, 100; conducted 36.

THE PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR AT ROYDON.—This was G. Dent's first peal on six bells, and rang at the first attempt, and is his first 720 in each of the methods except Oxford and Kent. This is the first peal in seven Treble Bob methods ever rung on the bells. The ringers wish to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells.

ADDRESSES WANTED.—Will the following gentlemen kindly send their address to Mr. A. W. Pike, Hemdean Road, Caversham, Oxon, so that he can send the annual report of the Oxford Guild: Rev. P. R. Egerton, Messrs. A. W. Barkus, London, A. G. Sandeman, London, B. Fokett, London, H. Druce, F. W. Eccles, Bristol, H. P. Harman, Bromley, F. Wilson, Basingstoke.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.—The address of Mr. W. H. Fussell is 7, Osborne Street, Slough, Bucks.—The new address of Mr. F. Dench is 79, Replingham Road, Southfields, London, S.W.

Compositions.

THREE PEALS OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR.

6912.

By FREDERICK DENCH, *College Youth.*

23456	M	IN	4THS	W	H
473526	-	-	-	-	-
62345	-	-	-	-	-
36245	-	-	-	-	-
276435	-	-	-	-	-
36524	-	-	-	-	-
42563	-	-	-	-	-
35264	-	-	-	-	-
63254	-	-	-	-	-
45236	-	-	-	-	-
34256	-	-	-	-	-

Twice repeated.

23456	M	in 4ths	B	W	H
54632	-	-	-	-	-
36245	-	-	-	-	-
276435	-	-	-	-	-
52354	-	-	-	-	-
35264	-	-	-	-	-
56342	-	-	-	-	-
64523	-	-	-	-	-
42635	-	-	-	-	-
45236	-	-	-	-	-
34256	-	-	-	-	-

Twice repeated.

23456	M	in 4ths	B	W	H
54632	-	-	-	-	-
26435	-	-	-	-	-
476325	-	-	-	-	-
26543	-	-	-	-	-
64583	-	-	-	-	-
42635	-	-	-	-	-
45236	-	-	-	-	-
34256	-	-	-	-	-

Twice repeated.

These peals are the first published with the tenors parted at the course-end.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By ARTHUR KNIGHTS, *Chesterfield.*

23456	M	B	5THS	W	H
63542	IN	-	2	-	2
46325	-	-	-	-	2
24365	I	-	-	2	-
45362	2	-	-	I	2

Twice repeated; omitting the in and two 5ths produces—

35264	M	B	W	H
32654	-	-	I	2
53246	-	-	-	2
34256	I	-	-	-

Twice repeated, adding a bob before in the first course.

This peal, in six parts, has the 5th and 6th their extent in 5-6, with both bells six times each way, also all the 8-6-7s and 8-5s. By adding 1H in the third course the seventh course-end is brought up, and the peal is reduced to 5248. By adding 1W in the 17th course the bells are brought round at 5344. The 5344 was rung at Norton, Sheffield, on March 26th, 1898, conducted by the author. Another variation may be had by using the following six courses as the second half; the number will then be 5632, which can be reduced to 5088 by adding 1H in the 4th course.

23456	M	B	W	H
32654	-	-	I	2
42356	-	-	I	-
24653	-	-	I	2
34256	-	-	I	-
43652	-	-	I	2
23456	-	-	I	-

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5184.

By EDWIN TIMBRELL, *Chipping.*

23456	M	B	W	H
24536	I	-	2	2
42526	I	-	-	-
32465	-	-	-	-

Continued—	M	B	W	H
32654	-	-	-	I
25346	-	-	-	-
35426	I	-	-	I
53624	-	-	I	2
53246	-	-	-	I
64235	2	-	2	I
24365	-	2	I	-
46253	-	-	-	-
34562	-	2	2	-
25463	I	-	-	I
52364	-	I	2	-
42563	-	-	I	-
26435	-	-	-	-
34625	I	-	-	2
23456	-	-	-	2

Has the 6th its extent each way in 5-6 at six course-ends.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By JOHN WRIGHT, *Kingston.*

5040.

97285634	2
68947325	I
53624789	2
36524789	6
97382465	2
48957632	I
26435789	2
64235789	6
42635789	6

Nine times repeated, single midway and end.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THOMAS.—They are plain lead singles.

X. Y. Z.—He rang the 7th in the peal.

TYRO.—Such an essay would be laughed at.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

WANTED.—Situation as jeweller's porter or any other light employment; used to winding and most clock repairs; can ring standard methods; married, aged 30. Address, E. C., care of Editor.

WANTED by young man aged 23, situation as turner. Can ring standard methods on eight and ten bells. Address, H. W., care of Editor.

SITUATION required as baker, 5½ years in last situation, can mould, etc. Situation where smalls can be learnt preferred. Have rung a trifle in the Grandsire method, and wish to get into other methods, quick learner. Age 20; good references. Apply, J. Henley, Bartlett's Buildings, Rye, Sussex.

SITUATION WANTED.—Bellhanger, locksmith and hot water fitter. Improver, age 19, four years' experience. Good change-ringer on eight. Apply, E. S. Hodges, North Square, Dorchester, Dorset.

TIMEKEEPER seeks permanent situation. Excellent change-ringer in Standard methods. Member of the Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire Associations. Excellent references. Apply X. Y. Z., office of this paper.

GLAS and Hot Water Fitter wants job. Good change-ringer from twelve-bell tower. Member of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. Apply to H.P., care of Editor.

SITUATION WANTED as gardener, single-handed or where help is given; life experience both inside and out. Four years and half good character. Age 26, married. Good change-ringer on eight.—Address, W. Smith, 24, Anerley Grove, Upper Norwood.

Situations Vacant.

MACHINE-MINDER WANTED.—Used to good book and cut-work. Must have served seven years. Permanency to suitable man, able to ring standard methods on ten bells preferred.—Billing & Sons, Guildford

SPLENDID OPENING for good watchmaker and clockmaker immediately. Ringer; churchman. Apply by letter, Rector, Tarporley.

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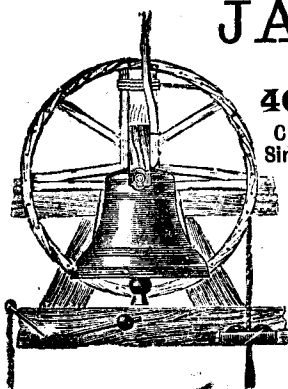
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A Weekly Journal of the Ringing Exercise; and Compendium of Information for the Clergy and Churchwardens.

No. 835.—VOL. XVI.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 1898.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

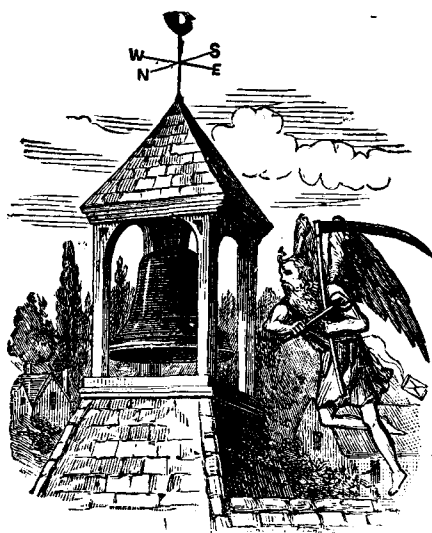
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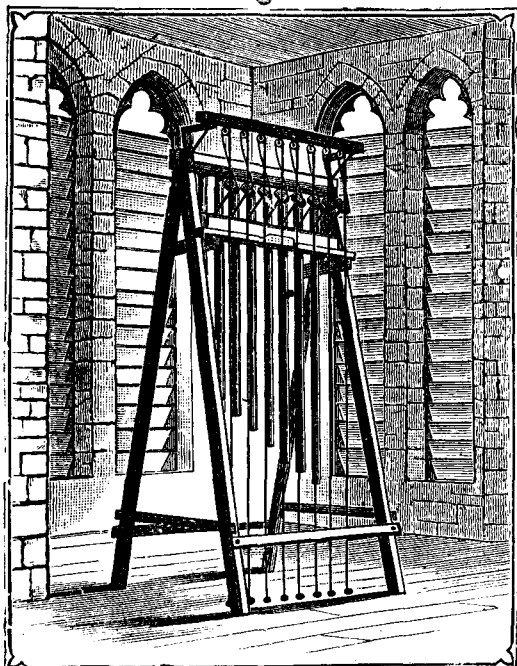
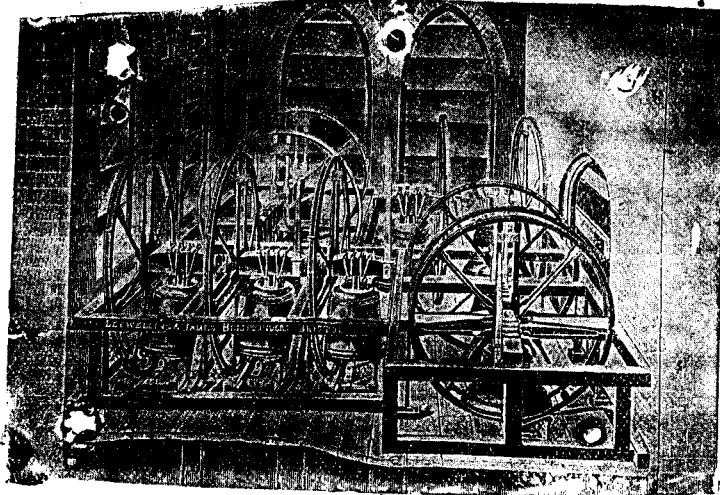
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Home Sweet Home, March of the Men of Harlech, Rule
Britannia, Sailing, St. Patrick's Day, Sleighing Song, The
Bellringer's Glee, The Star-Spangled Banner, Wait till the
Clouds roll by, Whistling Farmer Boy.

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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 835.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 1898.

[Vol. XVI.]

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday evening last, April 2nd, 1898, at the headquarters of this Society, the presentation to that old veteran and esteemed ringer Matthew A. Wood took place before a goodly assembly of brother-strings, there being also present Miss Rosa MacAlpine Leny, whose lively interest in this Society is a well-known and appreciated fact.

The Master, Mr. Walter Prime, having given the reasons for the meeting that evening called upon Mr. E. A. Davies, of Barking, Essex, to make the presentation, which consisted of an album, inscribed in the outer cover:—"A testimonial presented to Matthew A. Wood, by his brother ringers, 1898." And on the inner cover—"On Saturday, April 2nd, 1898, the following ringers presented Mr. Matthew A. Wood with this album, and a purse containing £25, as a small token of the regard and esteem in which he is held by them, and in appreciation of the good work he has done for the past 52 years, toward the promotion of the high standard of change-ringing, which he has continuously maintained." Here follows the names of those who subscribed.

Mr. Davies, in making the presentation, remarked upon the pleasure it gave him in being present for that express purpose, referring in eulogistic terms to the grand performances accomplished by the veteran recipient, and expressed a hope that for some years to come Mr. Wood would still be found among those ready and willing to further the best interests of the exercise.

Mr. Wood, in response, spoke in feeling terms of the occasion and the pleasant memories it afforded, thanking one and all for their kindness, and hoped ringing would continue to flourish, remarking as a rejoinder, "be careful always to have good striking!"

Some very kind words were expressed by Messrs. J. R. Haworth, W. A. Alps, and C. F. Winney, also, by letter, by A. T. King, Esq., the Secretary to the Middlesex County Association, the following being an extract:—"I find that I cannot as I had hoped, be present at the presentation about to be made to Mr. Matthew Wood. None the less do I wish health and happiness to the grand old ringer we are about to honour. His popularity is due as much to his personal geniality as to his proficiency in ringing. We want more of such men—they are noble landmarks in the history of the Exercise—and it is to be hoped that the tribute of esteem collected for him will be measured not by its amount, but by the good wishes of all his brethren in the art—for he may rest assured that—were our worth, as is our conscience, firm, he would find better dealing."

Mr. Davies proposed a vote of thanks to the Committee. In response Mr. W. T. Cockerill thanked Mr. Davies and the company present, remarking that the idea just consummated originated with Mr. W. D. Smith last September, in that room, the occasion being the anniversary of the birth of Mr. Wood.

Mr. W. D. Smith rose to thank Mr. Davies for the trouble he had taken in coming so long a distance to perform a task of no little importance. This he was pleased to say, had been carried out to the satisfaction of all present, also it was very encouraging to have among them on an especial meeting of this description, one who took such a deep interest in the well being of the Society and its members—Miss Leny. It was very gratifying and encouraging to know that a lady of society could come and mingle with them—as Ringers—and still feel that no rule of deportment had been outraged. In a quiet aside Miss Leny informed the speaker that in a conversation with the Archdeacon of London, she had remarked that during the whole time she had met the ringers, not one word had reached her ears, nor had anything happened but what she could repeat.

During the evening touches of Stedman Caters were rung

upon the handbells by Messrs. C. F. Winney, A. W. Barkus, W. A. Alps, M. A. Wood, and Wise. The vocal performers were represented by Messrs. M. A. Wood, W. D. Smith, E. A. Davies, Albert Coles, W. Prime, F. Horrex, T. Mash, S. Blackmore, and W. Chamberlain.

A meeting was arranged, prior to the above proceedings, at St. Clement Danes, Strand, and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Double Norwich Major were rung. The trebles having a nasty knack of hitting the frame nothing could be done on the tew.

The presentation album, which was handsomely compiled, was written and supplied by the Society's writer, Mr. Chas. Scarborough.

It transpired during the evening that Mr. W. H. Fussell had kindly promised to inscribe on the fly-leaf of the album any fane or steeple Mr. Wood may decide upon.

The meeting terminated with the singing of Auld lang syne,

CHIMING BELLS.

(Continued from Page 590.)

The following, taken from an American magazine, has been sent to us by a correspondent in the United States, hoping it may interest his ringing-brethren in the old country:—

In casting chimes, it is customary to manufacture bells as near the weight specified for the desired tones as is possible. When taken from the moulds, however, they are generally three to five per cent. heavier than it is designed they should be. Chipping and grinding are therefore resorted to as a means of reducing the size and securing the wished-for tone. The abrasion of the surface of a bell, however, injures its musical qualities, and in making an especially fine chime great care is exercised to have the bells come from the molds of exactly the weight to give the note which it is intended they should render.

It is generally supposed that this country has no bells possessed of interesting histories. True, the United States has nothing to compare with the eight-hundred-year-old bell furnished by the Bishop of Carthage for exhibition at the World's Fair, or to rival in size "Old Carolus" that hangs in the tower of Antwerp Cathedral and requires sixteen strong-armed men to ring it. Nevertheless the dawn of next Christmas morning will be heralded throughout Uncle Sam's dominions by the ringing of several bells about which stories can be told that are percutient and odd.

There is a bell at Washington, D.C., whose history dates back to the very beginning of modern civilization on this continent. It is a trifling affair as regards size, its dimensions being only 8 x 6½ inches, yet its notes have sounded to call the great discoverer Columbus to prayer and sacred worship. It was brought from Spain in December, 1493, and set up in a church at San Domingo. It was the special gift of King Ferdinand, and bears the initial of his name, "F," in old Gothic character, upon its surface. When La Vega, the new City of the Plains, was founded, church and bell were both bodily removed to it. There its notes smote upon the air to summon the hardy Spaniards to mass, and served, how frequently none can tell, to recall to the minds of the venturesome explorers memories of their sunny homeland located far across the sea.

In 1564 a terrible disaster overtook La Vega. The new City of the Plains was destroyed by an earthquake, and the little bell that had faithfully performed its work for nearly three-quarters of a century in the New World disappeared amid the ruins. About twenty-five years ago, however, a shepherd, while search-

ing amongst the branches of a fig tree that stood upon the site of the ancient church, discovered the historic bell, and it was afterward forwarded to Washington. The fig tree, as if to preserve it from oblivion, had lifted the bell from amid the crumbling mass of masonry and stone, and it is now known as the "Bell of the Fig Tree."

Away up in the dark North End of Boston, in the centre of the city's most dismal district of poverty and crime, stands the Old North Church—the church from whose belfry gleamed the signal lanterns that started Paul Revere upon his famous midnight ride to arouse the sleeping farmers of Lexington and Concord.

The tower of this ancient edifice rises 175 feet from the ground, and to ascend its interior is by no means an easy task. Yet it must be undertaken and accomplished by every interested lover of bells, for when the climb is ended the toil is repaid by a sight of what, in the words of the inscription, is "the first ring of bells cast for ye British Empire in North America. Anno. 1744."

It is a tiresome trip up many a crooked stairway and steeply inclined ladder. The neck is constantly craned to escape contact with stray beams, and the faculties are busily employed to keep the head from bumping against protruding posts. In the midst of the dust and cobwebs comes a suggestive remembrance of Dicken's description of Toby Veck's belfry, where that famous sexton was accustomed to seek companionship and consolation in dire trouble and despair. "Far up the dim and winding stair went weeping Toby Veck, up, up, higher up, and smote upon those spirit bells that hung in shadow there."

The bells of the Old North Church that were silent witness of the placing of the lanterns for whose light Paul Revere watched so earnestly are eight in number, and they bear inscriptions; that on the tenor being—"Abel Rudhall of Gloucester cast us all in England. Anno 1744."

These bells are among the few in a America that are arranged for ringing in the old-fashioned English way as a peal. The difference between a chime and peal is not generally appreciated. Many people use the terms interchangeably, as though they were alike in meaning. A chime, however, is manipulated by a single person, while a peal requires the services of one man for each rope, and who for the time being represents a bell, and is called by the name of the note that it renders. In a chime the clapper is moved, not the bell; but in a peal the bell is turned completely upside down, thus throwing the resonant music far out into the air.

"I was born near Christ Church, in Salem Street," writes Samuel Francis Smith, the author of the words of the national anthem "America," "and I well remember how the chime of bells from December 1st till Christmas, and afterward till New Year's Day, used to ring every evening. The object seemed to be simply to produce sound by striking all of the seven or eight bells at once several times between eight and nine or ten o'clock. On Christmas Day the Old North Church, profusely ornamented with evergreens, gathered a crowded congregation, and the clanging bells sounded for some time before the service, and also at its close. People who depended on their Thanksgiving turkey usually doted on their Christmas goose. Presents were not, as a general thing, exchanged, and the day found but slight celebration. On December 31st the clangour of the bells continued till midnight, after which three or four sweet Psalm tunes were played, ringing the old year out and the new year in, as in the parish churches in the mother country."

The last time that the melodious peal at the Old North Church was rung was in 1824, when Lafayette was welcomed to Boston. Since then the big bells have been silent because of the lack of men sufficiently skilled to properly ring them—for pealing is now almost a lost art in the United States. It seems probable, however, that on Christmas Day of the present year notes from the old peal will once more vibrate through the atmosphere above the Puritan city.

Next to the oldest chime in the United States now hangs in Philadelphia. It is located in the belfry tower of Christ Church, at the corner of Second and Church Street, and for nearly a century and a half, with only a brief interruption at the time of the Revolutionary War, the bells have been used to welcome the birth of every Christmas Day.

In the olden time it was customary for the people of the city

to gather on Second Street, opposite the church, on Christmas Eve, and listen to the music of the bells. The throng was always a holiday assembly of motley character. Beggars in rags rubbed elbows against rich people dressed in purple and fine linen, and children of seven stood beside grandparents of seventy. Just before midnight the bellringers always arrived, and following a custom that has been in vogue ever since the chime was erected, passed through an iron gateway and along the tomb-lined path which leads to a side door, where they entered, and then climbed a narrow stairway to the tower above.

Just at midnight the bells always rang out a joyous Christmas song, and the people were accustomed to greet it with a loud "Hurrah!" Then a deep silence would fall upon the throng as they listened to the sweet-voiced choiristers chiming through the night.

The history of Christ Church chime is briefly told in an inscription on a tablet attached to the door that leads to the bell tower: "Purchased in London in 1754 for £560; the whole weight is nine thousand pounds, the largest weighs two thousand and forty pounds and has this inscription upon it, 'Christ Church, Philadelphia, recast at the Whitechapel Foundry by Thomas Mears, 1835.' On each side of the other bells is the simple inscription, 'Thomas Lester and Thomas Pack. Fecit 1754.' Brought to this country on the ship *Myrtilla*, Captain Budden, without charge of freight. They were invariably rung when his vessel was in port. The man who put them up came over in the same vessel, having assisted in making them in London. He refused compensation for his work, merely requesting that at his death the bells should be muffled and rung without charge. This was done, not only at his death, but at that of his wife also."

There are many facts of interest connected with the Christ Church bells besides those mentioned in the inscription. In 1774 they rang for the last time on the birthday of the King of England, and July 4th, 1776, together with the old bell in Liberty Hall, Philadelphia, they patriotically proclaimed "liberty throughout the land unto all the inhabitants thereof."

The bells gave a merry peal on July 7th, 1775, when the celebrated fighting Quaker battalion entered the portals of the venerable church to listen to the remarks of the Rev. Mr. Duche on the duties of the hour. In 1778 they likewise gave a happy welcome to a large body of Masonic brethren—among whom was George Washington—that gathered to celebrate the Feast of St. John.

During the Revolutionary War, when the British army was moving towards Philadelphia, the bells were all removed from their hangings and hidden by the commissary of military stores at Bethlehem, Pa. Here they were safely preserved until the English soldiers evacuated the Quaker City, when the chime was restored to its accustomed place.

On many a solemn as well as festive occasion the bells have rung since then. When all that was mortal of Peyton Randolph lay cold in death within the walls of the church, the chime pealed forth a solemn dirge, and hundreds of other times in later days the bells have tolled when prominent American citizens have died. "I now pronounce you man and wife," repeated by the rector, has also been the signal for the bells to join in joyous wedding music when unnumbered happy couples and their friends have started to leave the historic church.

From eleven to twelve o'clock every New Year's Eve, the chime rings a muffled farewell requiem to the dying year, and from midnight until one o'clock it peals forth a joyful welcome to the newborn twelve months. This custom has been observed ever since the bells were first erected.

Mr. David Head, an Englishman, has been the bell ringer at Christ Church for nineteen years, and at the present time it is considered quite fashionable for the ladies of Philadelphia to endeavour to learn the art of chime manipulation under his tutelage.

Among the largest and most complete chimes in the United States, is the one hanging in the tower of Holy Trinity Church, Philadelphia. Most chimes are made up of but from eight to a dozen bells. The one at Holy Trinity, however, is composed of no less than twenty-five of the bronze-throated musical implements. These are hung upon horizontal bars located one above the other, the first holding seven, the next five, the next seven, and the next three; while three others, two large and one small

one, swing from an independent frame situated higher up in the belfry. These bells range from 16 inches to 4 feet in diameter, and are cared for and rung by Mr. Charles Rahill.

Another interesting Philadelphia chime hangs in the belfry of St. Mark's Church. It was erected in 1876, and rung for the first time in June of that year. It is apparent, however, that the sweet notes coming from these bells have not always been welcome sounds to the ears of some of the surrounding populace. A glance at court records shows that on February 24th, 1877, Mr. George Harrison and others secured a special injunction prohibiting the use of the chime at any other times than when the three divine services were held on the Sabbath. Friends of the bells, however, decidedly objected to the mandatory terms of this injunction, which had been granted to men who apparently had "no music in their souls." An appeal was therefore made to the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, and a decree was issued that granted permission to have the bells rung for a short time on all legal holidays, prominent church festivals, and when a wedding was being celebrated, or a funeral observed within the sacred edifice. This court decision has since been found sufficiently comprehensive and elastic to permit of the chime being used at practically all times when the church officials have found it convenient or desirable, and the people have reasonably expected, to have it sounded.

The sweetest-toned chime that will be used anywhere in the United States to welcome next Christmas Day hangs in the spire of the Cathedral of the Incarnation, at Garden City, Long Island, and is known as the Centennial Chime. The edifice where it is located, although not of large size, is conceded to be the perfection of all that is best in church architecture and appointment. It was built by Mr. A. T. Stewart, and is at once his mausoleum and a monument to his generosity.

The chime was originally cast for and was exhibited at the Centennial Exposition, where it hung in the main tower at the north-east angle of Machinery Hall. During the exhibition it was frequently played in concert with Gilmore's famous band, and its magnificent notes echoing and re-echoing along the shores of the Schuylkill caused many a lover of chime music to pause enraptured by the effect.

On the opening day of the Centennial the bells were first rung at sunrise. Then at nine o'clock, when representatives of all the earth had gathered, and President Grant had formally declared the exhibition open, the bells were the first to proclaim the tidings, joyfully ringing out the news to the world in clear and resonant tones.

The bells are thirteen in number, each one of them representing one of the original States of the Union. They weigh from 300 to 4000 pounds, the total weight being over 21,000 pounds. They represent a complete musical octave and one third with a flat seven and a sharp four, and possess remarkable clearness and richness of tone and great penetrating power and volume.

The bells are hung in heavy oak frames, with the largest of them in the centre, so arranged that it can be rung separately as a church bell if it is so desired.

This chime is played upon in much the same way that a gigantic organ might be, by means of two rows of levers and a row of pedals. These are connected to the bell hammers by steel wires, and the manipulation of the whole chime is remarkably easy.

Another very sweet-voiced chime hangs in the tower of the Church of the Redeemer, at Astoria, N.Y. It is made up of ten superbly toned bells, and was presented to the parish by Mr. Cornelius B. Trafford.

One of the finest chimes in the West hangs in the belfry of Trinity Cathedral, at Omaha, Neb. It is made up of ten excellently tuned bells, and is certainly worthy of at least a few words of brief commendatory mention.

In conclusion it may be said that at the present time a revival of interest in chime music is sweeping over the United States. Many new sets of bells are being erected, and old sets that have been disused for many years are being returned into service. The movement is certainly one to be commended, and it should be earnestly hoped that in the not distant future sweet-voiced chimes, with all their tender memories, will be as common to the towns and villages of this country, and eventually to its literature, as they now are to those of Merrie England.

CURRENT TOPICS.

Well we have got among the Prophets. Fancy Bill Sevier an astrologer. Who would have thought it? It won't do William; you have made a wrong beginning. To get people to believe in you, you must go on another tack. Establish a laboratory, set together a whole host of glass vessels of peculiar size and construction, wear a long robe covered with cabalistic characters, a beard down to your waist; let your talk be of alembics and such like, then you may be able to gull some people into the belief that you are a prophet, a seer, a soothsayer, or anything you like to call yourself.

But not here, William. I don't, and no change-ringer ever will believe in divination of your sort. It's too old; you are grossly behind your age very muchly. Give up such tomfoolery, William, and don't tempt people to call you by hard and unsympathetic names! Bah. Very little profit you'll get out of such rubbish, but much ridicule. Astrology, demonology, witchcraft and the like have been looked at by better men than Bill Sevier, and they had discarded it as rubbish.

I am no politician; if I were I should not be allowed to talk politics here. But no Englishman with the least spark of charity can remain unmoved when reading in the public prints about that splendid nineteenth-century Englishman, Mr. Gladstone. We need not refer to his political career at all. Let us look upon him as a grand old Churchman—a man of piety. No less a man than the late Dr. Pusey—another grand old man by the way—regarded Mr. Gladstone with feelings akin to veneration. A grand Englishman is W. E. G.

I have had a rap on the knuckles through my reference to Waltham Abbey last week. I am told that such reference ought not to have been made. Well, why was it not obliterated? one naturally asks. The fact is the boss of the show is recuperating somewhere about mount Snowden or the Alps, or somewhere else. Therefore my imagination was allowed to run freely—to gallop infact uncontrolled. What a beano. I fail as yet, mind you to see where's the harm. We shall know later on.

"Would you oblige me, gentlemen: I particularly want to call a touch of Caters?" So some one said the other day, and we started for the said touch. Three-quarters of an hour elapsed—the bells were mixed up any how, and one or two trifling "shifts" had occurred among the small bells which our "bob-caller" had not observed. We kept on; another half-hour passed, and the back bells were still "away." In sheer disgust I "stood." Then Mr. Bob-caller: "What did yon stop for? we was just coming into the music."

This sort of caller is a nuisance, and ought to be put down. We have now plenty of men able in this way and ninnies ought not to be encouraged.
PLAIN SPEAKER.

POLLARDS, Limited, Bradford, Children's Liberty Frocks
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POLLARDS, Limited, Bradford, Costume Skirts at 4s. 6d.
are Wonderful Value.

Compositions.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB
MAJOR.By EDWIN TIMBRELL, *Chipping.*

5024.

23456	M	B	W	H
35264		-		
25634	I	-		I
53246	2		2	
36245	2	-	I	2
43265	I	-	2	
62534	2	-	2	
24536	2	-	I	2
32546	I	-	2	
63425	2		I	2
65324	-	I	I	
54326	I			2
26435	2	-		2
32465	I	-	2	
32654	2		2	I
23456	2			2

4, 5, 6 exclusively in 6ths place at a course-end. The calling may be started at the 9th, 14th, or 15th course, and contain the same qualities.

5056.

23456	M	B	W	H
32654		-	I	2
53246		-		2
52436			I	2
54326	I	-	2	2
42356	I	-		
54263		-		2
24653			2	I
53462	2	-		
35264		-	I	2
62534	I	-		2
26435		-	I	2
24365	I	-	2	2
63425	I	-		2
36524		-	I	2
23645		-		2
23456		-		I

4, 5, and 6 their extent right, and the 6th its extent wrong.

THREE PEALS OF SUPERLA-
TIVE SURPRISE MAJOR.By ARTHUR CRAVEN, *Lincoln.*

5056.

23456	M	W	H
52436	-		
35426	-		
42356	-	-	

Continued—

	M	W	H
54326	-		
62345	-	-	
36245		-	
23645		-	
64235	-	-	
26435		-	
42635		-	
63425	-	-	
24536	-	-	
32546	-	-	
43526	-	-	
65324	-		-
36524		-	-
53624		-	-
46325	-		-
34625		-	-
34256		B	-
53246	-		-
45236	-		-
23456	-	-	-

2nd and 3rd never in 6ths place.
First rung at Irthlingborough on June 12th, 1897, conducted by Hy. Chapman.

5184.

23456	M	W	H
23564		B	-
52364		-	
35264		-	
26354	-	-	
32654		-	
65324	-	-	
36524		-	
53624		-	
46325	-	-	
34625		-	
63425		-	
54326	-	-	
35426		-	
43526	-	-	
62534	-	-	-
45236	-	-	
24536		-	
52436		-	
64235	-	-	
26435		-	
42635		-	
42356	B	-	
34256		-	
23456		-	

Contains the 5th eleven times in 5-6, the 6th the extent, and the 2nd and 3rd never in 6ths place.

5152.

23456	M	W	H
64352	-	-	
36452		-	
43652		-	
26354	-	-	
32654		-	

Continued—

	M	W	H
46253	-	-	
24653		-	
62453		-	
54326	-	-	
32546	-	-	
43526	-	-	
24536	-	-	
53246	-	-	
45236	-	-	
34256	-	-	
25346	-	-	
42356	-	-	
53624	-	-	
25634	-	-	
63254	-	-	
52436	-	-	
35426	-	-	
23456	-	-	

Contains the 5th and 6th their extent home the right way.

QUARTER-PEAL OF GRAND-
SIRE TRIPLES.By WILLIAM WALMSLEY *Macclesfield.*

1260.

234567	I	2	3	4
354267		-	-	
452367	S		S	
253467	S		S	
534267	S		-	
462375	S	-		
6234	S		-	
2346	S		-	
4362	S		S	
3642				-
6423	S		-	
4236	S		-	
3264	S		S	
2634				-
6342	S		-	
3426	S		-	
4263	S		-	
2643				-
6432	S		-	
4326	S		-	
2364	S		S	
3624				-
6243	S		-	
2436	S		-	
3462	S		S	
4632				-
6324	S		-	
3246	S		-	
246375	S		-	

Round next lead.

The above quarter-peal contains the twenty-four 7-5s all the right way; also ten 6-7s, six 5-6-7s, and four each of 4-6s, 6-4s, 4-7s, 7-4s; Queens and Whittingtons.

PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR

By ARTHUR KNIGHTS, *Chesterfield.*

6976.

23456 M B 5ths W H

56342 IN - -

64523 - -

26435 - - 2

32465 - - 2

25463 2 - I 2

Twice repeated; omitting the IN and two 5ths produces—

35264 M B W H

32654 - I 2

53246 - - 2

34256 I -

Twice repeated; adding a bob before in the first course. By calling the 2nd course of the first three parts, IN and 5ths, the peal is increased to 7072. By adding IN at the 4th part-end, the peal is reduced to 5280, and by adding 1W in the 2nd course of the 4th part, the peal is reduced to 5056. The 5056 was first rung at Norton, Sheffield, on February 5th, conducted by the author. If the following six courses are substituted for the second half, the 6976 is reduced to 6112, and by adding 2H in the 2nd course, the 6112 is reduced to 5024.

M B W H

32654 - I 2

42356 - I

24653 - I 2

34256 - I

43652 - I 2

23456 - I

This peal is on the same plan, and contains the same qualities as the 6496 on page 600.

6240.

23456 M B 5ths W H

36452 2 - I 2

34562 - I 2

24365 - I

65432 IN - 2

53624 - -

25346 - - 2

42356 I - 2

Twice repeated.

7200.

23456 M B 5ths W H

56342 IN - 2

63542 IN I

46325 - - 2

24365 I - 2

45362 2 - I 2

43652 - I 2

54326 - - 2

42356 I -

Twice repeated.

PEALS OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By G. LINDOFF, *Dublin.*

5088.

23456 I 4 5 6

35426 - -

62534 - -

35264 - -

25463 - -

54263 - -

64352 - -

43652 - -

64235 - -

32465 - -

26435 - -

63425 - -

24365 - -

46325 - -

62345 - -

43265 - -

23564 - -

5088.

23456 I 4 5 6

43652 - -

56342 - -

46253 - -

62453 - -

46325 - -

62345 - -

43265 - -

32465 - -

24365 - -

63425 - -

34625 - -

26435 - -

64235 - -

42635 - -

36245 - -

23564 - -

Twice repeated.

5088.

23456 I 4 5 6

35426 - -

24536 - -

43526 - -

25346 - -

35642 - -

56342 - -

46253 - -

62453 - -

46325 - -

62345 - -

43265 - -

32465 - -

64235 - -

42635 - -

36245 - -

23564 - -

Twice repeated.

5088.

23456 I 4 5 6

54326 - -

42356 - -

25346 - -

43526 - -

32546 - -

24536 - -

35426 - -

52436 - -

34256 - -

24653 - -

46253 - -

64352 - -

43652 - -

64235 - -

43265 - -

23564 - -

Twice repeated.

5088.

23456 I 4 5 6

42635 - -

45623 - -

26543 - -

65243 - -

56342 - -

35264 - -

56234 - -

32654 - -

25634 - -

36524 - -

65324 - -

53624 - -

26354 - -

63254 - -

52364 - -

23564 - -

Twice repeated.

5088.

23456 I 4 5 6

42635 - -

45623 - -

26543 - -

65243 - -

56342 - -

35264 - -

56234 - -

63254 - -

52364 - -

26354 - -

53624 - -

32654 - -

25634 - -

36524 - -

65324 - -

23564 - -

Twice repeated.

All contain the 4th, 5th, and 6th their in-course-extent in 6th.

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).

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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. (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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THE CHURCH BELLS OF SUFFOLK.—By JOHN JAMES RAVEN, D.D., of Emmanuel College, Cambridge; Vicar of Pressingfield-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 9, 1898.

BEFORE this number reaches the hands of some of our readers the glorious Easter morn will have dawned, and that slight relaxation from ringing-practice which has been the order in many places, will be thus removed. Many of our organisations appear at the Easter season to make a fresh start; to renew their youth, so to speak; or inaugurate a new departure, or improvement in management. The Easter Monday meetings, it is pleasing to notice, show no sign of falling off. There is a similarity between church bell ringers and church people at the Eastertide. A general awakening from the recent ferial season is felt by both. And certainly the sound of the Church bells, skilfully handled in scientific changes, adds greatly to the pleasure of such awakening. We all rejoice and feel refreshed when the Lenten season being over, we can take part in the Easter service; listen with admiration to the Easter Anthem, or join in the Eastertide hymn beginning—"JESUS CHRIST is risen to day" to CAREY's glorious old tune. But is it always sufficiently felt that the Church bells lend themselves materially to the festive occasion of Easter-day? We are afraid not. Then there is the necessity for creating greater interest

in the work of the bells at Easter. To do this let us regard the season as one of peculiar importance, as important as that of Christmas, even. We may still continue to look upon Easter as the ringers' festival period of the year; one at which we can show our joy and thankfulness for the great event which the day solemnizes, equally with Churchmen of every degree.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

The next meeting will be held at Bristol on Tuesday in Whitsun-week, 31st May, 1898.

Notices of motion, etc., must reach the Hon. Secretary not later than Tuesday, the 3rd of May. They must be in writing, and signed by two representatives.

Hon. Secretaries of the following societies are respectfully reminded that the contributions of their societies have not (up to this date, March 28th) been received: Bedfordshire Association, Chester Guild, Devonshire Guild, Gloucester and Bristol Association, Lancashire Association, Liverpool Guild, North Lincolnshire Association, St. James's Society, Royal Cumberland Society, Archdeaconry of Stafford Society, Sussex Association, Salisbury Guild.

Information of any change in representatives, or their addresses, will be thankfully received with the respective contributions.

Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn.

H. EARLE BULWER,
Hon. Sec.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, April 2, 1898, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MATFELON, WHITECHAPEL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 20 cwt.

SAMUEL JOYCE Treble.	EDWARD WALLAGE 5.
JAMES SCHOLES 2.	HENRY SPRINGALL 6.
EBENEZER ANDREWS .. 3.	EMANUEL HALL 7.
SAMUEL HAYES 4.	GEORGE BARRELL Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY SPRINGALL.

This peal was rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. and Mr. J. Scholes, their birthdays falling on April 2nd and 3rd respectively, the band wishing them many happy returns.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Saturday, April 2, 1898, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN, WATERLOO ROAD,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

HARRY BARTON Treble.	ARTHUR R. DAVIS 5.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE .. 2.	GEORGE E. SYMONDS 6.
FREDERICK G. PERRIN† .. 3.	VICTOR W. WEST 7.
THOMAS LANGDON* 4.	JAMES E. DAVIS Tenor.

Composed by A. CRAVEN and Conducted by HARRY BARTON.

*First peal in the method. †Fiftieth peal.

WANTED a large peal of handbells. Forty-nine bells. Chromatic scale; G25 to G04; or a larger peal with duplicates. Must be in thorough good condition, and sweet tone. State lowest possible terms, with maker's name, and all particulars to WILMER ROGERS, 8, York Street, Wrexham.

The Provinces.

WOKINGHAM, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 2, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 17 cwt. 27 lbs.

ERNEST BRUCE Treble.	WILLIAM T. HORNE 5.
CHARLES GILES 2.	AMBROSE OSBORNE 6.
FRANK HOPGOOD 3.	ARTHUR W. HIGGS 7.
ALFRED E. REEVES 4.	JOHN TUCKER Tenor.

Composed by G. WILLIAMS, of Brighton, and
Conducted by CHARLES GILES.

SMETHWICK, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, April 2, 1898, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

ALFRED SMITH Treble.	THOMAS VERRY 5.
HARRY MILLS 2.	JAMES HALL 6.
WILLIAM VERRY 3.	TOM GIBBS 7.
SAMUEL REEVES 4.	ERNEST BROWN Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

This is Mr Brown's first peal.

STAVELEY, DERBYSHIRE.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AND THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Saturday, April 2, 1898, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 19 cwt.

HERBERT MADIN Treble.	SAMUEL SMEDLEY 5.
WILLIAM PRICE 2.	THOMAS WHITWORTH 6.
JOHN WORTHINGTON 3.	JOHN HARRIS 7.
WILLIAM DAFIN 4.	ARTHUR WORTHINGTON Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS and Conducted by J. HARRIS.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, April 2, 1898, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5001 CHANGES.

Tenor 20½ cwt.

HENRY BROOKER Treble.	ALFRED CLAYTON 6.
GEORGE WELLING 2.	CHARLES DEAN 7.
CHARLES BANCE 3.	JOSEPH FAYERS 8.
ARTHUR B. CARPENTER .. 4.	WILLIAM BURKIN 9.
WILLIAM S. SMITH 5.	ALFRED BOXALL Tenor.

Composed by J. P. BRADLEY and Conducted by W. BURKIN.

BEVERLEY, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 2, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,

AT THE MINSTER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 30 cwt.

J. W. CUNDALL Treble.	T. HAIGH 5.
G. WORTH 2.	A. HAIGH 6.
F. T. EARNSHAW 3.	W. MORRELL 7.
J. THOMPSON 4.	G. BREED Tenor.

Conducted by G. BREED.

This is supposed to be the first peal in the method on the 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.

MACCLESFIELD.—THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, March 29, 1898, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAYLOR'S BOB AND SINGLE. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

JOSEPH HANKINSON* Treble.	W. W. STEEL 5.
FRANK STONELEY 2.	WILFRED MATTHEWS 6.
WILLIAM WALMSLEY 3.	*PARMENAS LONG 7.
J. M. DAVENPORT 4.	JOSEPH NORBURY Tenor.

Conducted by WILFRED MATTHEWS.

*First peal.

HAWLEY, HANTS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, March 30, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

MAURICE STEER Treble.	*A. E. COUSINS 5.
GEORGE HAWKINS 2.	WILLIAM HORNE 6.
FRANK TUBB 3.	WILLIAM NEWELL 7.
BARZILLAI HAWKINS 4.	FRANK HOPGOOD Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by FRANK HOPGOOD.

*First peal.

PRITTLEWELL, ESSEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 31, 1898, in Three Hours and Ten 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 J. REEVES and Conducted by WILLIAM H. JUDD.

Rung as a birthday compliment to W. Dowsett, the band wishing him many happy returns.

HOUGHTON CONQUEST, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 2, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

WILLIAM GAZELEY* Treble.	CHARLES CHASTY 4.
EDGAR H. G. TINGEY† 2.	CHARLES WM. CLARKE 5.
WILLIAM J. BARKER 3.	ISAAC HILLS Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES WM. CLARKE.

*First peal of Treble Bob. †First peal of Treble Bob with a bob bell. The ringers wish to thank the Rev. —. Macklin for the use of the bells.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 2, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF DARLASTON BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

HARRY PRICE Treble.	JOHN SMITH 5.
JOHN W. SMITH 2.	SAMUEL SPITTLE 6.
WILLIAM TALBOT 3.	WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT 7.
ARTHUR SPITTLE 4.	*JOSEPH FAULKNER Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by WM. MICKLEWRIGHT.

*First peal. First peal in the method by all except the conductor, and was rung at the first attempt as a compliment to the Rev. S. J. Marriott, Vicar, he having just entered upon the twenty-first year of his incumbency of this parish.

OXHEY, HERTS.—THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, April 3, 1898, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY OF ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

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

CHARLES GEORGE 1-2.	GEORGE N. PRICE 5-6.
HERBERT MARTIN 3-4.	WALTER NORRIS 7-8.

Conducted by GEORGE N. PRICE.

Umpire—John B. Bates.

CHILDSWYCKHAM, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION
AND THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, BENGWORTH,

On Sunday, April 3, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being Forty-two 6-scores of Grandsire and St. Dunstan's, each
called differently. Tenor 14 cwt.

EDWARD TOLLEY Treble.	*JAMES ADDIS 4.
FRANK COOK 2.	*WILLIAM KEEN 5.
CHARLES KNIGHT* 3.	GEORGE LAMPITT Tenor.

Conducted by FRANK COOK.

*First peal.

BACUP.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 4, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION.

FRED. HOWORTH Treble.	JOHN SHEPHERD 5.
A. W. WHITWORTH 2.	JOHN A. BROWN 6.
J. T. STANDRING 3.	JOSEPH JACKSON 7.
WM. ASHWORTH 4.	WILFRED LAW Tenor.

Composed by SAM WOOD and Conducted by J. SHEPHERD.

PEAL CORRECTION.—The peal of Treble Bob rung at Middlesbro', and recorded in our last issue, should read 5024 changes, not 5204 as stated.

Date Touches.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

BENGWORTH, EVESHAM.—On Monday, February 28th, in 1 hr. 6 mins., a date touch of 1898 changes of Grandsire and St. Dunstan's Doubles. G. Williams, 1; *G. Streets, 2; F. Cook, 3; *F. Styles, 4; F. Johnson (conductor), 5; *G. Lampitt, 6. *Longest length.

Miscellaneous.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BARKING (Essex).—On Sunday morning, February 27th, for Divine Service at St. Margaret's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (taken from Holt's Original), in 46 mins. G. W. Faulkner (first quarter-peal), 1; C. Fenn, 2; A. E. Hardy, 3; A. Carter, jun. (first quarter-peal with a bob bell), 4; R. Fenn, 5; E. Andrews, 6; T. Faulkner (conductor), 7; E. A. Davies, Esq., 8.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, February 16th, for Divine Service in the morning at St. Michael's church, 720 Bob Minor. P. Holmes, 1; W. Farrow, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Hammond, 4; H. Coote, 5; E. Wachter (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Farrow, 1; H. Collins, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Hammond, 4; W. Webb, 5; F. Slade (conductor), 6. On February 13th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. N. Smith, 1; W. Moore, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Grimwade, 4; H. Collins, 5; F. Slade (conductor), 8. For evening service on Sunday, March 6th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. W. Hammond, 1; W. Webb, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; C. H. Howard (conductor), 4; E. Wachter, 5; F. Slade, 6. For practice on Monday,

March 7th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. W. Hammond, 1; E. Wachter 2; C. H. Howard, 3; W. Farrow, 4; H. Pilcher, 5; W. Webb (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob and 240 Kent Treble Bob. G. Melbourne, 1; W. Webb, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; C. H. Howard (conductor), 4; E. Wachter, 5; F. Slade, 6. And 720 Bob Minor. W. Hammond, 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; G. Melbourne, 4; C. H. Howard (conductor), 5; F. Slade, 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BRAY (Berks).—For practice on February 22nd, three courses of Bob Minor. H. Lawrence, 1; G. Stevens, 2; G. Martin, 3; T. Goodchild, 4; G. Bloomfield, 5; J. W. Wilkins, 6. Also two 120s of Bob Doubles, with T. Goodchild, sen. at the 2nd. Also two 120s of Stedman Doubles and two 120s of Grandsire, T. Leaver ringing the 3rd. T. Goodchild, jun. conducted the Grandsire, and J. W. Wilkins the Stedman and Plain Bob.

MAIDENHEAD.—On Sunday, February 20th, at the Church of All Saint's, Boyne Hill, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 45 mins. J. Eldridge, 1; F. Dentry, 2; F. Bissley, 3; W. Brown, 4; H. Neighbour, 5; W. Walker, 6; G. Martin (conductor), 7; A. Harding, 8. And on Thursday, February 24, 504 Stedman Triples. G. Martin (conductor), 1; W. Walker, 2; H. Neighbour, 3; W. Brown, 4; F. Bissley, 5; J. Eldridge, 6; F. Dentry, 7; G. Alder, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BoxLEY (Kent).—On Saturday, February 26th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles). W. Hawes, 1; F. Ockwell, 2; W. T. Hyland (conductor), 3; E. Dunster, 4; J. Chaption, 5; W. J. Walker, 6.

DEAL (Kent).—On Sunday, February 20th, for Divine Service in the morning at St. Leonard's church, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles), in 23 mins. S. Mockett, 1; H. Denne, 2; A. Denne, 3; G. Denne (conductor), 4; H. Castles, 5; E. Newman, 6. On Sunday morning, February 27th, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 min. J. Axon (first 720), 1; A. Denne, 2; S. Mockett, 3; G. Denne (conductor), 4; H. Denne, 5; H. Castle, 6. Tenor 9½ cwt. in G.

DEPTFORD (Kent).—On Sunday, February 20th, for Divine Service in the evening, at St. John's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. W. Bedwell (conductor), 1; T. G. Deal, 2; A. Pheasant, 3; G. Turner, 4; A. Peill, 5; W. J. Jeffries, 6; G. H. Daynes, 7; J. Law, 8. On Sunday, February 27th, 630 Oxford Bob Triples. L. V. Cook, 1; J. Rose, 2; A. Pheasant, 3; W. J. Jeffries, 4; T. G. Deal, 5; W. Bedwell (conductor), 6; G. H. Daynes, 7; W. Dawe, 8. And 336 Grandsire Triples. L. V. Cook, 1; A. Pheasant, 2; W. Dawe, 3; W. Bedwell (conductor), 3; W. Bedwell (conductor), 4; W. J. Jeffries, 5; T. G. Deal, 6; G. H. Daynes, 7; H. Young, 8.

SWANSCOMBE.—On February 20th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. H. Milhams, 1; W. Lane, 2; G. Hayes, 3; M. Digby, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. Also 720 Bob Minor. W. Lane, 1; H. Milhams, 2; G. Hayes, 3; W. Harper, 4; J. Broom, 5; W. Martin (conductor), 6. On February 27th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. H. Milhams, 1; W. Lane, 2; G. Hayes (conductor), 3; W. Harper, 4; J. Broom, 5; W. Martin, 6. On March 6th, 720 Cambridge Surprise. W. Lane, 1; J. Broom, 2; G. Hayes, 3; M. Digby, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

OSWALDTWISTLE.—On Sunday, February 6th, 720 Oxford Treble (fifteen bobs). W. Britcliffe, 1; S. Holden, 2; C. Sharples, 3; J. Bentley, 4; I. Whalley, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, February 8th, 720 Duke of York. W. Britcliffe, 1; T. Holden, 2; I. Whalley, 3; J. Bentley, 4; C. Sharples, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6. First in the method by Britcliffe and Holden, also first on the bells. On Sunday, February 13th, 720 Oxford Single. J. Britcliffe, 1; J. Bentley, 2; I. Whalley, 3; T. Holden, 4; R. Parkinson, 5; C. Sharples (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 20th, 720 Kent (fifteen bobs). T. Holden, 1; W. Britcliffe, 2; I. Whalley, 3; J. Bentley, 4; C. Sharples, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6. Also 720 Canterbury Pleasure. T. Holden, 1; W. Britcliffe, 2; I. Whalley, 3; J. Bentley, 4; C. Sharples, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, February 22nd, 720 College Single. Rufus Sharples (first 720), 1; J. Bentley, 2; I. Whalley, 3; T. Holden, 4; C. Sharples, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

HAZEL GROVE.—On Sunday, February 6th, at St. Thomas's church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, in 25 mins. J. Fernley, 1; S. Fernley (conductor), 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; J. Dean, 4; S. Rutter, 5; A. Fernley, 6. On February 6th, for evening service, 720 Kent Treble

Bob, in 24½ mins. J. Dean, 1; S. Fernley (conductor), 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; J. Fernley, 4; S. Rutter, 5; A. Fernley, 6. On February 13th, for morning service, 720 Violet Treble Bob, in 25 mins. J. Fernley, 1; J. Dean, 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; S. Fernley (conductor), 4; S. Rutter, 5; A. Fernley, 6. For evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 25 mins. J. Dean, 1; S. Rutter (conductor), 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; J. Fernley, 4; A. Fernley, 5; J. Shallcross, 6. On February 14th, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. J. Dean, 1; J. Fernley, 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; S. Rutter, 4; A. Fernley, 5; S. Fernley (conductor), 6. On February 20th, for morning service, 720 Plain Bob, in 24 mins. J. Fernley, 1; S. Fernley (conductor), 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; J. Dean, 4; S. Rutter, 5; A. Fernley, 6. On February 26th, for practice, 720 New London Treble Bob in 25 mins. J. Fernley, 1; J. Dean, 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; S. Fernley (conductor), 4; S. Rutter, 5; A. Fernley, 6. On February 27th, for morning service, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 24 mins. J. Dean, 1; J. Fernley, 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; A. Fernley, 4; S. Rutter, 5; S. Fernley, 6. For evening service 720 Oxford Treble Bob, in 25 mins. J. Fernley, 1; J. Dean, 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; S. Fernley, 4; S. Rutter (conductor), 5; A. Fernley, 6. On February 28th, for practice, 360 College Single, in 12½ mins. J. Fernley 1; J. Dean, 3; G. D. Warburton, 3; S. Fernley (conductor), 4; S. Rutter, 5; A. Fernley, 6.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—On Monday evening, February 21st, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. C. Clark, 1; J. Crawford, 2; W. Brown, 3; G. A. Ward, 4; Jas. Andrews, 5; A. Myers (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 by C. Clark. On Monday Evening, February 28th, for practice, 720 Superlative Surprise. J. Crawford, 1; J. Anderson, 2; W. Brown, 3; G. A. Ward, 4; A. Meyers, 5; W. Sheraton (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by all.

* THE WORCESTER AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

STOURBRIDGE.—On Sunday morning, February 6th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Plain Bob Major, 1264 changes. G. H. Underwood, 1; L. Pritchard, 2; J. Orford, 3; F. Brace, 4; W. A. Pugh, 5; J. A. Skelding, 6; J. Pagett (conductor), 7; A. Roberts, 8. Tenor 19 cwt. J. Pagett hails from Kidderminster.

BADSEY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, March 6th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, in 42 mins. E. Tolley, 1; W. Arkell, 2; F. Cook (conductor), 3; G. Checketts, 4; W. Keen, 5; G. Bell, 6.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

DEVIZES (Wilts).—On Saturday, February 19th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs). T. Raddon, 1; C. R. Hampton, 2; W. H. Johnson, 3; W. Hollier, 4; C. H. Hampton, 5; S. Hillier (conductor), 6. First 720 on the bells. They have just been rehung in an iron frame by Messrs. Warner, and they are now a very handy ring of six, with plenty of room for two more, which it is to be hoped may soon be added.

CHADDESLEY CORBETT (Worcestershire).—At the parish church on Sunday evening, February 27th, 504 Grandsire Triples. F. Alcock, 1; E. Gilbert, 2; J. Chance, 3; E. Rudd, 4; A. Jackson, 5; J. Perrins, 6; J. Broad (conductor), 7; T. Roberts, 8. On Sunday, March 6th, for morning service, 630 in the same method. F. Broad, 1; A. Jackson, 2; J. Reynolds, 3; J. Chance, 4; W. Hemming, 5; E. Gilbert, 6; J. Broad (conductor), 7; T. Roberts, 8. For evening service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. F. Broad, 1; J. Chance, 2; J. Perrins, 3; H. Martin, 4; A. Jackson, 5; J. Bate, 6; J. Broad (conductor), 7; E. Gilbert, 8.

CLENT (Worcestershire).—Recently, at the parish church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. W. Short, 1; W. Boughton, 2; C. Boughton, 3; J. Bates, 4; J. Barber, 5; W. H. Barber (conductor), 6. Also 720 Kent. W. Shillock, 1; W. Boughton, 2; C. Boughton, 3; J. Bates, 4; W. Short (conductor), 5; J. Barber, 6. Also 720 Liversedge Place Minor. W. Huxley, 1; J. Barber, 2; W. Shillock, 3; J. Barber, 4; W. Short, 5; W. H. Barber (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Christmas Eve. F. Clayton, 1; C. Boughton, 2; W. Shillock, 3; J. Barber, 4; W. Short, 5; W. H. Barber (conductor), 6.

DARLSTON (Staffordshire).—On February 20th, the Editor's quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, was rung in 46 mins. J. Mark, 1; G. Morgan, 2; T. Lowe, 3; W. Smith, 4; J. Foster, 5; E. Unitt, 6; J. A. Brown (conductor), 7; W. Eyre, 8.

KING'S NORTON (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, February 6th, for morning service, 608 Superlative Surprise Major. W. Palmer, 1; W. S. Pritchett, 2; C. Hounslow, 3; T. Pritchett, 4; J. S. Pritchett, 5; W. H. Barber (conductor), 6; T. Wakeman, 7; F. Clayton, 8. Also 304 Double Norwich. A. Walker, 1; W. S. Pritchett, 2; C. Hounslow, 3; T. Wakeman, 4; J. S. Pritchett, 5; F. Clayton, 6; W. Palmer,

7; W. H. Barber (conductor), 8. Recently, 1216 Oxford Treble Bob Major. J. Betterton, 1; W. H. Barber (conductor), 2; F. Sumner, 3; T. Pritchett, 4; J. S. Pritchett, 5; W. S. Pritchett, 6; W. Palmer, 7; F. Clayton, 8. Also 800 Superlative. F. Sumner, 1; W. S. Pritchett, 2; W. Short, 3; T. Pritchett, 4; J. S. Pritchett, 5; F. Clayton, 6; W. Palmer, 7; W. H. Barber (conductor), 8. Handbell ringing: 602 Stedman Caters. W. S. Pritchett, 1-2; F. Clayton, 3-4; W. H. Barber (conductor), 5-6; J. S. Pritchett, 7-8; W. Palmer, 9-10. Also Thurstan's 1/2 peal of Stedman Triples. F. Clayton (conductor), 1-2; W. H. Barber, 3-4; W. S. Pritchett, 5-6; W. Palmer, 7-8. Also 37 courses in an attempt for Thurstan's peal. F. Clayton, 1-2; W. H. Barber (conductor), 3-4; W. S. Pritchett, 5-6; W. Palmer, 7-8. C. Hounslow hails from Oxford.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Sunday afternoon, March 6th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (fourteen singles and six bobs). A. Symonds (conductor), 1; C. Levitt, 2; T. Levitt, 3; J. Fayers, 4; A. Keeble, 5; H. Diggins, 6. After service 720 Bob Minor (twenty-six singles). A. Symonds (conductor), 1; T. Levitt, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; J. Fayers, 4; A. Keeble, 5; H. Diggins, 6. Symonds hails from Lavenham; T. Levitt from Hitcham; Keeble from Monks Eleigh; Diggins from Great Waldingfield.

STISTED (Essex).—On Tuesday, February 1st, at All Saint's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob. C. Duncombe, 1; H. Saunders, 2; E. Chaplin, 3; E. Radley, 4; F. Slade, 5; A. Chaplin (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 6th, for afternoon service, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. A. Chaplin, 1; A. Saunders, 2; W. Burst, 3; Edgar Chaplin (first 720 in the method), 4; Ernest Chaplin (first 720 in the method), 5; E. Ridgewell (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, February 8th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. C. Duncombe, 1; H. Saunders, 2; E. Radley (conductor), 3; A. Chaplin, 4; Ernest Chaplin, 5; Edgar Chaplin, 6. On Tuesday, February 15th, 720 Bob Minor. C. Duncombe, 1; E. Radley, 2; H. Saunders, 3; Edgar Chaplin, 4; A. Chaplin (conductor), 5; Ernest Chaplin, 6. On Sunday, February 20th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. C. Duncombe, 1; H. Saunders, 2; Ernest Chaplin, 3; Edgar Chaplin, 4; A. Chaplin, 5; E. Radley (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, February 22nd, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. C. Duncombe, 1; A. Chaplin (first attempt in the method), 2; C. H. Howard, 3; Edgar Chaplin, 4; Ernest Chaplin, 5; F. Slade (first attempt in the method) (conductor), 6. Also 912 changes in the following variations: New London Pleasure, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, Canterbury Pleasure, and Bob Minor. A. Chaplin, 1; H. Collins, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; C. H. Howard (conductor), 4; E. Radley, 5; F. Slade, 6.

THEALE (Berks).—On Monday, February 28th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Minor, 1260 changes, being 180 Canterbury Pleasure, 360 Oxford Bob, and 720 Plain Bob, in 43 mins. H. Stevens, 1; F. Clark, 2; S. Herridge, 3; J. Avery, 4; W. Clark, 5; W. Horne (conductor), 6.

WARRINGTON.—On February 6th, at St. Paul's church for evening service, 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. Brammer (conductor), 1; J. Wilson, 2; W. Oxley, 3; E. Edwardson, 4; A. Oxley, 5; F. W. Stont, 6. On February 13th, for morning service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (eighteen bobs and two singles), J. Wilson, 1; W. Oxley, 2; A. Oxley, 3; E. Edwardson (conductor), 4; W. Brammer, 5; F. W. Stont, 6. On February 20th, for morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob (nine bobs). Conductor, F. W. Stont; ringers as before. On February 27th, for evening service, 720 Grandsire (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). Conductor, Albert Oxley; ringers as before.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—On February 27th, for morning service at the church of St. Mary Magdalene, 504 Grandsire Triples. H. Harman, 1; H. Hill, 2; W. Watchorn, 3; E. Wells (conductor), 4; A. Phillips, 5; J. E. Bearman, 6; W. Aldridge, 7; G. Carter, 8. Also a touch of Stedman Triples. W. Aldridge, 1; H. Hill, 2; W. Watchorn, 3; E. Wells, 4; J. E. Bevan, 5; A. Phillips, 6; R. Carter (conductor), 7; R. Sandiford, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ROCHESTER DISTRICT.—The Quarterly Meeting of this district was held at Swanscombe, on Saturday, April 2nd, when members attended from Gillingham, Rochester, Milton, Northfleet, and Swanscombe. Two members of the Rainham band were elected members of the association. A 720 of Kent Treble Bob was rung by the following members: G. Marshall, 1; F. J. King, 2; G. Hayes (conductor), 3; M. Digby, 4; W. Haigh, 5; A.

Osborne, 6. Some short touches were rung in the following methods: London, Cambridge, and Superlative Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, and Plain Bob. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Rainham, in June.

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 IMPOSTOR.

SIR,—To Mr. "Plain Speaker" and also Mr. Holmes, I tender my thanks for bringing under public notice the fraud that has been perpetrated on our brother-string in the north of England. Of course my immediate friends in Liverpool and other places throughout the country would detect this man at once, but not so those to whom I am not personally known. As a caution to all, I may say I am not a member of the watch-making or any other skilled trade; also I never was a member of St. Nicholas Society in Liverpool, my company being St. Luke's. In regard to ringing powers my double seems to beat me hollow in physical strength, as I never did (or was able even) to ring a bell of 37 cwt.; my other powers I think the Exercise knows fully well. I would not trouble you, only I believe I am the only ringer of my name who was connected with my native city.

JOHN R. PRITCHARD.

6, Ward Street, Eccles New Road, Salford, Manchester.

P.S.—Will all friends please note present address.

SIR,—With reference to the "Warning to Ringers" in your last issue, from Mr. Holmes of Newcastle, I am glad to inform that gentleman that there has never been anyone named Pritchard connected with the St. Nicholas company of ringers in Liverpool. And the only person of the name known here is Mr. J. R. Pritchard, whose name is being made use of by the party referred to, under false pretences.

WM. DAVIES.

ANSWER TO F. D. B.

SIR,—In "THE BELL NEWS" of April 2nd I notice F. D. B. wants advice with regard to the sound of the bells being too noisy, and causing annoyance to the public, etc. I would advise him to brick up the lower half of the window, and instead of having large louvres to replace them by putting in small ones close together, or two or three inches apart (if made of wood, and well painted, they will last a life time), he will then find the sound of the bells very soft and sweet, instead of a clanging noise. It is always a mistake to have too large an opening filled with long slate slabs. Or he may try inside shutters, not less than an inch in thickness, these often answer the purpose, but the former is a safe cure. Let F. D. B. visit some country towers where the opening is small and filled with louvres as above, and he will at once notice the effect.

W. NEWELL.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HIGHER WALTON (Lancashire).—On February 15th a date touch of Minor, 1898 changes, in 1 hr. 14 mins., being 98 of Plain Bob and 360 each of Oxford Treble Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, London New Bob, College Single and Oxford Bob. G. Thornley (conductor), 1; J. Horwood, 2; H. Hunt, 3; J. Eccles, 4; J. Mather, 5; F. Horwood, 6.

PENGE (Surrey).—At the church of St. John the Evangelist on Sunday, February 27th, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-eight bobs and eighteen singles). W. Smith (conductor), 1; H. Edwards, 2; T. P. Richards, 3; J. Bathon, 4; J. Town, 5; G. Wickens, 6.

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.

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Notices.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is One Penny per line (five words may be reckoned to a line). Repetitions at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

The Heavy Woollen District Association, Yorkshire.—The next monthly meeting of the above will be held at The Woolpack inn, Almondbury, to-day, Saturday, April 9th, at 5.30 p.m.
GEO. H. SIMON, *Hon. Sec.*

The Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—The dedication of the new ring of five bells at St. Ignatius church, Sunderland, will take place on Easter Day at 10.30 a.m. The bells will be rung at the dedication service, and also for the services at 3 and 6 o'clock.
THOMAS HUDSON,
Association Secretary.

The Essex Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held on Easter-Monday, at Coggeshall. The following towers will be open, Coggeshall, Earl's Colne, Great Tey, Feering, Inworth and Kelvedon. A brake will start from Kelvedon church at 2 p.m. for Feering; from Feering at 3.45 for Coggeshall. Tea and business meeting will be held at The Chapel inn, at 5.30 p.m. A conveyance will be provided for members to reach Kelvedon in time for the evening trains. Members intending to be present must notify the same to
HENRY T. W. EYRE, *Ass. Sec.*
Gt. Totham Vicarage, Witham.

Midland Counties Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Burton-on-Trent on Easter-Monday, April 11th, 1898. The bells of St. Paul's and St. Modwen's open for ringing from 11 a.m. By kind permission of Lord Burton a party of sixty members will be taken over Messrs. Bass and Co's. breweries, using the special train as in 1894. Members intending to join in this trip are requested to assemble at St. Paul's Institute not later than 11.30 a.m. Committee meeting in classroom of St. Paul's Institute at 3.30 p.m. Tea (1s. per head) followed by general meeting in large hall of the Institute at 4 p.m. Members and friends who intend being present at tea are particularly requested to send their names to Mr. W. Wakley, 155, Waterloo Street, Burton-on-Trent. Parties of eight or more can obtain fare-and-a-quarter tickets by giving three days' notice at any railway station.
J. O. LANCASHIRE, *Hon. Sec.*

The East Derbyshire Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Clay Cross, on Easter-Monday, April 11th. Bells open from 9 a.m. Service in church at 4.30 p.m. Tea in Parochial school at 5 p.m.; 6d. each. Members and others who intend coming to tea are requested to send their names to the secretary.
T. ALLIBONE, *Secretary.*

The Surrey Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held on Easter-Monday, April 11th, at The Dolphin, Betchworth, Surrey, after the tea, which will commence at 6 p.m. Ringing at the parish church (8 bells) and also at Buckland (6 bells) from 2.30 p.m. Ringers intending to be present at the tea must inform their representative, who will acquaint Mr. Judd, of Betchworth, the number of his company likely to attend.
CHAS. DEAN, JUN., *Hon. Sec.*

The Worcestershire & District Association.—The annual meeting of this association will be held at Dudley, on Easter Monday, April 11th, 1898. There will be a special service in St. Thomas's parish church at 4 o'clock.

Tea in King Street Infant Schoolroom at 5 o'clock, to be followed by the business meeting, at which the Rev. A. Gray Maitland, Vicar, will preside. It is earnestly requested that the Secretaries of each Society in the Association will send number of members intending to be present at tea so that proper provision may be made. The bells of St. Thomas's Dudley (10), will be open to members for ringing touches all day from 11 o'clock. Those of St. Andrew's Netherton (8), All Saints Sedgley (8), St. Martin's Tipton (8), Oldbury parish church (8), and St. Mary's Cradley (8) will be available from 11 till 3 o'clock, not later for peal-ringing. Any band wishing to start for a peal will please communicate with the Secretary, stating which of the above churches will be most convenient. Members of companies desirous of standing in a peal must send their names and the method they wish to ring at once to the Secretary, so that arrangements may be made to form bands and provide conductors. Precedence will be given to the methods which are most desired. Members will be advised at which church to attend. All peals must be finished by 3 o'clock, the time asked for the use of the bells. It is particularly requested that all will make an effort to attend the service at 4 o'clock. All outstanding contributions should be paid at this meeting. The annual report will be ready for this meeting.
JNO. SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*
36, Simms Lane, Netherton, near Dudley.

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, the Rev. J. W. E. Conybeare, Vicar of Barrington. Tea at All Hallows Lane School, at 4 p.m., to be followed by business meeting. As a scheme for the affiliation of the Association to the Ely Diocesan Association will be submitted to the meeting, it is earnestly hoped that all members will make a point of attending.
W. W. C. BAKER, *Hon. Sec.*

The Hertfordshire Association.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Albans on Easter Monday, when the tower of St. Peter's church will be open at 2 p.m., and the Cathedral tower later in the afternoon. Evening song at the Cathedral at 5 o'clock, with an address to ringers. Tea at 5.45 at the town hall; business meeting for election of officers and general business to follow. Cheap tickets to St. Albans from stations on the Great Northern line, and excursion tickets from London by certain trains on the Midland and Great Northern. Members and visitors intending to be present will please send their names to
E. P. DEBENHAM, *Hon. Sec.*

The Norwich Diocesan Association.—Saxmundham District. A district meeting will be held at Leiston, on Easter-Monday, April 11th. St. Margaret's tower will be open for ringing from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Business meeting in the schools at 4.30 p.m. All members and friends are cordially invited.
H. J. BURTON, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*

The Winchester Diocesan Guild.—A Quarterly Meeting will be held at Alresford on Easter Monday, April 11th. Bells (8) available during the day; also Alton (8). Meeting at 3.30 at the Board School. Business: Date of annual festival, accounts, etc. Tea at 4.30 for those informing me before April 7th.
CHAS. E. MATTHEWS, *Hon. Sec.*

Old East Derbyshire Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Wingfield, five minutes walk from Clay Cross station, on

Easter Monday, April 11th. Service will be held at 2.30. Tea at 5 o'clock, meeting directly after. Subscriptions are due and should be paid at this meeting. The Secretary hopes to be able to deliver to each member their annual report. Members are earnestly requested to make an effort to attend service. Peal of six bells in good ringing order.
E. JAMES, *Hon. Sec.*

The Ely Diocesan Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Bury St. Edmunds, on Easter-Monday. Dinner at The Golden Fleece, Churchgate Street, at 2 o'clock prompt. The business this year will be specially important, including a proposal to affiliate the Bedfordshire Association. Members are therefore urged to be present.
Rev. W. W. CRUMP, *Hon. Sec.*

The Heavy Woollen District Association, Yorks.—The annual eight-bell contest will take place at Halifax parish church on Easter Monday, when the Association's silver cup and other handsome prizes, the gift of the local company, will be competed for. As only two companies have yet entered, we shall be pleased to see more members competing. Draw at 10 a.m.
GEO. H. SIMON, *Hon. Sec.*

The Sussex County Association.—The annual general meeting will be held at Brighton on Easter-Monday. Agenda—1. Election of president and vice-presidents. 2. Election of master, hon. secretaries, treasurer and auditors. 3. Election of new honorary and active members. 4. Adoption of the report and balance sheet. 5. Notices of motions—*a.* That the Central Council be requested to urge upon the railway companies the claim of ringers for the same facilities as are now granted to golf and fishing clubs; proposed by Mr. A. B. Bennett. *b.* That a memorial to this effect be presented to the directors of the L. B. and S. C. and S. E. Railway Companies; proposed by Mr. F. B. Tompkins. *c.* That the annual meeting be held at various Centres, not always at Brighton; proposed by Mr. E. Brant. *d.* That on application, a conductor for a peal may be provided as the funds of the association will permit; proposed by Mr. E. Brant. *e.* To consider what additional benefits can be conferred by the association; proposed by Mr. F. B. Tompkins. *f.* That two members of the committee from each division retire annually; proposed by Mr. George Howse. 6. To alter any rules to agree to the foregoing resolutions. 7. General business. Programme of the day—9.30 a.m., Towers of St. Peter and St. Nicholas open for ringing. 12 noon, Special service at St. Peter's; preacher, the Rev. Prebendary Hannah, Vicar of Brighton. 1 p.m. Luncheon at Royal Pavilion; members' ticket, 1s. 6d.; chairman, the Mayor of Brighton. 2 p.m., Business meeting. 9 p.m., Towers closed.
J. W. G. LODER-COTTER, *Hon. Sec.*

Llandaff Diocesan Association.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at the Girls' National schoolroom, Castle Street, Abergavenny, at 3 p.m., on Easter Monday. Service in the parish church at 2.30. The bells will be available for ringing all day. Members are urgently requested to pay in their subscriptions at this meeting.
REV. D. H. GRIFFITHS, } *Hon. Secs.*
H. G. WHITE,

Leeds and District Amalgamated Society. Members, ringers, and friends of the above society are cordially invited to join their first annual trip to Harrogate and Knaresborough on Easter Tuesday, April 12th. An excursion leaves Leeds New Station, N.E.R. at 2.20 p.m., calling at Holbeck, Headingley, and

Horsforth. Fares 1s. 6d. return. The peals of eight bells at both places will be at disposal by kind permission of the respective vicars and local ringers. Handbells will be provided. Headquarters—The Montpelier Vaults, Harrogate. R. BINNS, *Hon. Sec.*

Lancashire Association. — Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Flixton on Saturday, April 16th. Bells ready at 4.0 p.m. Business meeting in school-room at 7.0 p.m. WALTER BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

The Lancashire Association. — Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Luke's, Heywood, on Saturday, April 16th. Bells ready at 4.30 p.m., all ringers invited. E. B. SHAW, *Branch Sec.*

St. James's Society, London.—There will be no meeting on Monday next. The next meeting will be on Monday, the 18th April, at St. Clement Danes. R. A. DANIELL, *Hon. Sec.*

South Lincolnshire Association.—Quarterly Meeting at Rippingale on Saturday, April 23rd. Short service and address at 11.45 by the Rev. W. W. Layng. Dinner at The Bull inn at one o'clock. Members intending to be present must send in their names to me on or before Saturday, April 16th. E. GALE, *Sec.*

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.—The quarterly meeting of this Society will be held on Saturday, April 23rd, at the parish church, Willenhall. Short service at 5 o'clock. Tea will be provided at 1s. per head for all those sending in their names not later than Wednesday, the 20th inst., to S. REEVES, *Hon. Sec.*

The Middlesex County Association. — North and East District.—A meeting of the members of the above District will be held on Saturday, April 23rd, at St. Margaret's, Westminster, by kind permission of the Rev. Canon Eyton. The bells will be raised at 4 p.m. All members and friends of the Association are cordially invited. ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*

The Rochester and District Guild.—The first meeting of the Guild was held at St. Margaret's, Rochester, on Saturday, March 26, when members from Rochester, Gillingham and Feindsbury rung touches of Stedman, Grandsire and Plain Bob. It was decided that the next monthly meeting should be held on the last Saturday in April, at Gillingham, at 6.30. A. RING, *Hon. Sec.*

The Royal Cumberland Society.—In consequence of Divine Service being held at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields during Lent, there will be no practice night until Friday, April 22nd. A. JACOB, *Hon. Sec.*

Gloucester & Bristol Diocesan Association.—A special meeting of the above to consider a proposed alteration in the Rules, and a proposition dealing with the constitution of the Association will be held at Swindon on Saturday, the 30th inst. Service at 4.15, with an address by the Vicar. Full particulars later. C. E. D. BOUTFLOWER, *Hon. Sec.*

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.—Mr. William Willson has removed from 19, Church Street, to 112, Berner's Street, Leicester.—Mr. Charles Fowler (late of Oxford), has removed to 4, Keythorpe Street, Leicester.

NOTICE OF LONG PEAL.

All being well on Easter Monday, eight members of the Central Northamptonshire Association will attempt a 9000 of Superlative Surprise Major at Irthlingborough. Start at 10.30 a.m.

Compositions.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

By WILLIAM FLORY, Framlingham, Suffolk

	5056.				
23456	W	B	M	H	
42635	-	-			
34625	-				
23645	-				
62534	-				
36524	-				
23564	I				
52436	2	I			
35426	-				
36245	-	2	-		
24365	-				
32465	-				

Three times repeated. Singles midway and end.

First rung on handbells at Framlingham, Suffolk, March 19, 1898. Conducted by its composer.

TWO PEALS OF BOB MAJOR.

By FRANK HOPGOOD, Reading.

	5184.				
23456	W	5th	4th	M	H
56423	-	-	-	-	
34562	-	-	-	-	
25346	-	-	-	-	
32546	-	-	-	-	
53246	-	-	-	-	
62345	-	-	-	-	
36245	-	-	-	-	
23645	-	-	-	-	

Five times repeated, single midway and end.

	5040				
23456	W	M	H		
43625	S	-			
56324	-	-			
32564	-	-			
53264	-	-			
25364	-	-			
36254	-	-			
23654	-	-			
62354	-	-			
36425	-	-			
42365	-	-			
34265	-	-			
23465	-	-			

The last eleven courses three times repeated, calling the first courses of the other parts thus:

	W	M	H
2nd	-	-	-
3rd	S	-	-
4th	-	-	-

These two peals contain the full combination of 4, 5 and 6 in 5-6.

A QUARTER-PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By I. J. ATTWATER, London.

	1260.
234567	
672453	2
346572	1
673425	3
546273	1
675432	3
426375	1
674253	3
326574	1

Five times repeated. Contains the fourteen 4-6s, 6-7s. and 7-4s in the least possible number of changes.

PONTEFRAC (Yorks).—On February 22nd, at All Saints church, for practice, 720 Kent, 720 Oxford and 120 Violet. B. Watkinson, 1; W. P. Brook, 2; G. Wilcock, 3; T. Pease, 4; A. Strangeward (conductor), 5; W. Heckingbottom, 6.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

WANTED.—Situation as jeweller's porter or any other light employment; used to winding and most clock repairs; can ring standard methods; married, aged 30. Address, E. C., care of Editor.

WANTED by young man aged 23, situation as turner. Can ring standard methods on eight and ten bells. Address, H. W., care of Editor.

SITUATION required as baker, 5½ years in last situation, can mould, etc. Situation where smalls can be learnt preferred. Have rung a trifle in the Grandsire method, and wish to get into other methods, quick learner. Age 20; good references. Apply, J. Henley, Bartlett's Buildings, Rye, Sussex.

SITUATION WANTED.—Bellhanger, locksmith and hot water fitter. Improver, age 19, four years' experience. Good change-ringer on eight. Apply, E. S. Hodges, North Square, Dorchester, Dorset.

TIMEKEEPER seeks permanent situation. Excellent change-ringer in Standard methods. Member of the Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire Associations. Excellent references. Apply X. Y. Z., office of this paper.

GAS and Hot Water Fitter wants job. Good change-ringer from twelve-bell tower. Member of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. Apply to H.P., care of Editor.

SITUATION WANTED as gardener. single-handed or where help is given; life experience both inside and out. Four years and half good character. Age 26, married. Good change-ringer on eight.—Address, W. Smith, 24, Anerley Grove, Upper Norwood.

Situations Vacant.

MACHINE-MINDER WANTED.—Used to good book and cut-work. Must have served seven years. Permanency to suitable man, able to ring standard methods on ten bells preferred.—Billing & Sons, Guildford

SPLENDID OPENING for good watchmaker and clockmaker immediately. Ringer; churchman. Apply by letter, Rector, Tarporley.

Marriage.

On the 5th inst., at the Royal Parish Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, AMY FLORENCE, third daughter of John Rogers, senior ringer of that church, to GORDON DE LACY LARNER, Esq. At the conclusion of the ceremony, the bells of St. Martin's (through the kindness of Mr. John W. Mansfield, steeplekeeper, and an old friend of the Rogers family), greeted the happy pair.

CLOCKS,

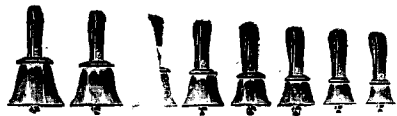
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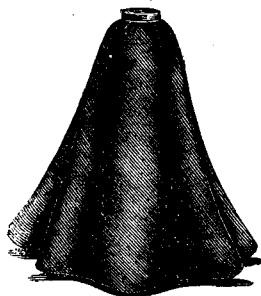
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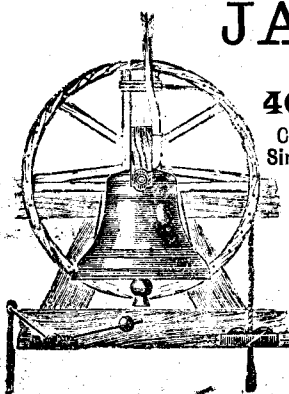
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N.B.—The above three pieces are suitable for six ringers, with twelve bells, thus: C D E F G A B C D E F G.

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No. 836.—VOL. XVI.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 1898.

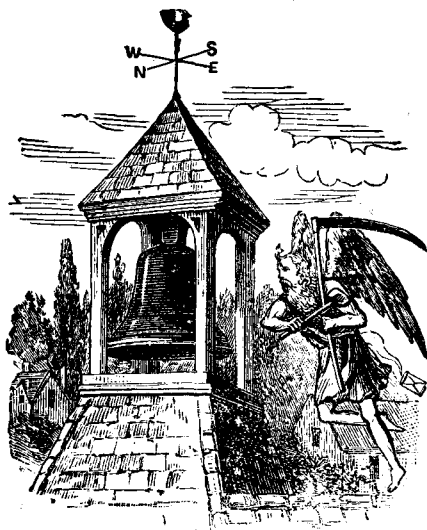
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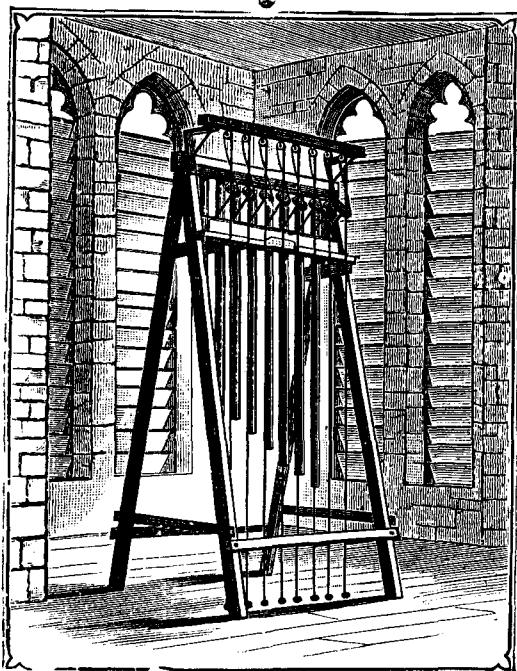
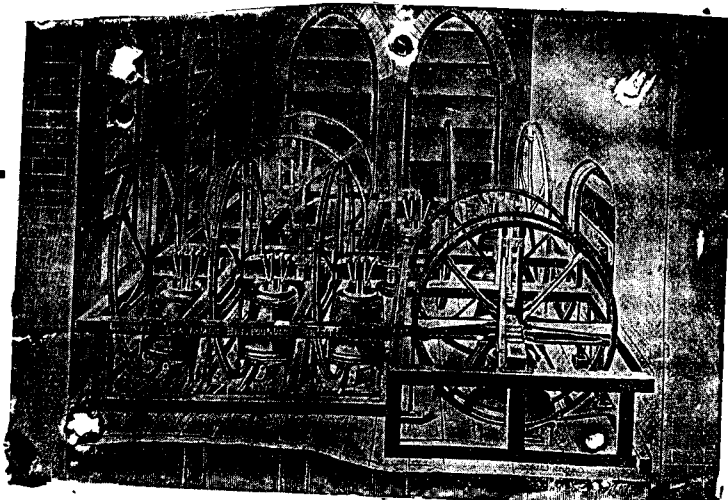
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Home Sweet Home, March of the Men of Harlech, Rule
Britannia, Sailing, St. Patrick's Day, Sleighing Song, The
Bellringer's Glee, The Star-Spangled Banner, Wait till the
Clouds roll by, Whistling Farmer Boy.

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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 836.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 1898.

[Vol. XVI.]

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held at Betchworth on Easter Monday. The peal at Betchworth (tenor 12½ cwt. in E sharp), and the ring of six at Buckland, a village about one mile distant, were opened at 2.30, and answered to various methods, including Double Norwich, and an attempt at Superlative on the octave, until six o'clock, when the usual tea became the attraction. This took place at The Dolphin, close to Betchworth Church, and was admirably catered for by host Bridger. The serious business of the meeting was commenced by the appointment of the Rev. C. E. Sanders, M.A., vicar of Betchworth, to the chair. In thanking the meeting for placing him in that position, the chairman said he was glad to welcome the Association to Betchworth, and hoped it would not be long before the members met there again. He could not ring, but he took great interest in and loved to hear the bells rung. The local band had made great progress in their change-ringing, and he trusted before long they would be able to report their first peal in "BELL NEWS." He also referred to the objects the Association had in view, which met with his entire approval, and he trusted that ringers when they called the worshippers to church, would not themselves neglect to go.

The Secretary read the minutes of the last quarterly meeting which were duly confirmed.

It was reported that since the last meeting the following peals had been rung by the Association:—February 19th, 1898—Kent Treble Bob, Mitcham; February 21st, Stedman Triples, Reigate; March 22nd, Grandsire Triples, St. John's, Croydon; April 2nd, Stedman Caters, Beddington; April 11th, Kent Treble Bob, Mitcham. It was resolved that they be entered in the peal book.

Kingston, Ewell, and Epsom were nominated for the next place of meeting, but on being put to the vote, Ewell and Epsom received the largest support. It was decided to hold the next meeting in July on a Saturday, to be arranged by the Secretary.

The Rev. H. H. Pereira, M.A., vicar of St. John's, Croydon; Rev. C. E. Sanders, M.A., and Bernard F. Harris, Esq., churchwarden of Betchworth, were elected honorary members. Mr. Harris, whose family it may be mentioned kindly gave the two bells to complete the octave sometime since, thanked the meeting for electing him, which he considered an honour.

Messrs. F. W. and John Rice were elected life members; and the following were elected performing members:—F. Balcombe (Bletchingley), T. Talbot (St. John's, Croydon); J. Hoyle (Ashted); J. Collins (Leatherhead); C. Pederick (Cheam); W. Humphrey, G. Edwards, J. Wallis, J. Palmer, and H. R. Thorpe (Buckland); W. Jones and W. Fuller (Betchworth).

A vote of thanks to the chairman and secretary concluded the business. There was an attendance of fifty, including representatives from Ashted, Beddington,

Betchworth, Buckland, Cheam, Croydon, Epsom, Ewell, Leatherhead, Nutfield, Mitcham, Reigate, Redhill and Sutton.

The members, several of whom had enjoyed long country walks in getting to Betchworth, returned to the churches after the meeting, and took part in further ringing, and left to take trains for their various destinations, having thoroughly enjoyed the day's outing.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of this Association was held at North Wingfield on Monday, April 11th. On account of so many meetings taking place on Easter Monday, it was not expected that a large number would be present, and only twelve sent in their names for dinner; so it was decided that a dinner could not be provided for so small a number in a country place unless at a loss.

The morning broke out bright, with every prospect of a fine day, and such was the prospect when I arrived at Heeley Station at 12.20, the platform being crowded with men, women, and children from end to end. In vain I tried to get a ticket, but had to give it up. In comes a special for Buxton and Matlock; what a rush? quite 300 wanted seats, but not one to be had. The train was packed; all had to wait until a relief train was sent. During this time I only saw one ringer, when in comes the slow for Chesterfield. No room as usual, but not to be denied, we found standing room, packed like sheep in a pen. Arriving at Chesterfield the heavy clouds had broke, and down came the rain in torrents, and such was the state for the rest of the day. Arriving at Wingfield we managed to muster eleven for service which was held at 2.30. The rector, the Rev. J. C. Boden, gave a short address, reminding those present what their duty were as church officers, and expressed his opinion that every ringer should be communicants, and after they had rang others to church, not to stay away themselves, and thought that in every church the ringers should have a pew set apart for them, so as when coming in late they would be sure of a seat, and even when at practice to make themselves more proficient in the Art of change-ringing, and not to forget to pray God to help them to become good churchmen.

After service the bells were raised, and a 720 of Violet and a touch of Oxford was rung. The Rev. J. E. Ormesher paid a visit to the tower, and by the conversation it was the first time; may it not be the last.

The meeting was held at The Blue Bell inn, eighteen members by this time having turned up. The Rev. J. E. Ormesher was voted to the chair. The minutes having been confirmed, the following officers were elected: President—Mr. W. Hopkinson; Vice-Presidents—Messrs. A. Knights, J. Allen, T. Bettison, W. Price, H. Madin, and W. Lambert; Hon. Treasurer—Mr. G. Marsden; Hon. Secretary—Mr. E. James and a committee of thirteen.

The next quarterly meeting will be held at Dronfield.

Messrs. Linley, Hall, Mulligan, Bower, Doughty, Hunt, Rhodes, and S. Robinson, sen., were elected members.

Mr. J. Millner, a young beginner in the Art of change-ringing, whose ability has yet to be seen, but judging from what I heard, he will not be left behind. This gentleman, who until the last quarterly meeting was a perfect stranger to myself, and I believe all the other members, rose at a late stage of the meeting to champion the cause of a few young ringers who visited our last meeting, and went away disappointed as regards ringing. From enquiry I learnt that after two failures for a touch, some of the members suggested that something else should be tried, which was too difficult a method for the young hands to take part in, Mr. Millner thinking that the Cup contest had made certain bands bent on good striking, and not paying due attention to young hands. Now for my part I always take care that if young hands are in the tower, they are asked to stand in for a touch, but at the same time good striking must also be encouraged, and when companies bring a full band, they expect to ring together, but should not occupy too much time, thus giving all a chance. In the near future we hope to arrange practice meetings at various towers. In the meantime I should suggest that Mr. Millner and his friends practice College Pleasure, and take their part in the Cup contest, when I have no doubt they will be better able to appreciate good striking.

The usual votes of thanks concluded the meeting, when all present sat down to tea at the rectory. After tea a vote of thanks was accorded the rector for entertaining the members.

The Rev. J. C. Boden in replying, said it gave him great pleasure to meet the members, and was sorry that the weather had caused the attendance to be so small.

A few more touches on the bells, and just a touch at The Blue Bell, for we needed to wet the inner man before making a start for home, the rain still coming down, and when I landed under cover, I thought what good it would but do.

E. J.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting of the above Association was held on Easter Monday at Abergavenny, which is a country town located in the midst of the most picturesque scenery in South Wales, or rather in Monmouthshire. In addition to the charming castle ruins it possesses a church of huge dimensions, in the tower of which is a peal of eight bells. The building of late years has been restored. It is nearly 200 feet long, and the side chapel contains a number of tombs with life-size effigies of the high-born personages of local renown in days long passed, buried within the church. In the 16th century the church was one of the most ornate and beautifully decorated to be found in the land, but during the spoliation of the reign of Henry VIII., and subsequently under the Cromwellian era, it was plundered of its wealth, and ruthlessly marred and mutilated almost beyond redemption. Efforts are being made to restore it to something of its pristine beauty and glory. A large sum of money has already been expended on the restoration, but many more thousands will have to be spent before it can boast of anything of its former internal grandeur and rich decorations. On Monday at 2.30, the ringers met in the Lewis Chapel for evening-song, which was said by the vicar, the Rev. W. G. Whitfield, M.A. After service they repaired to the National Schoolroom, where the vicar kindly presided

over the meeting. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the chairman in cordial terms welcomed the Association into his parish. He regretted to say they had no band of ringers at Christ Church, but hoped that in the near future a band would be formed and affiliated to the Association. Personally he would do all in his power to bring about the affiliation, and should the Association at any future time pay Abergavenny another visit he hoped not only to welcome but also to entertain the members in a more hospitable manner.

It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Merthyr at the end of June or the beginning of July. Twenty-one members paid in their subscriptions for the current year, and three new members were enrolled, viz., Messrs. James Pippin and George Jones, Newport, and Mr. Edward Stennar, Cardiff.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar for his kind expressions of welcome, for the use of the church, the bells and the schoolroom brought the proceedings to a close. Unfortunately the day turned out exceedingly wet and stormy. This did not greatly interfere with the pleasure of the ringers, who spent most of the day in the tower, but with the thousands of holiday makers from the hills it was different. To derive pleasure or enjoyment under such climatic conditions was out of the question, and we felt sorry for the crowds which thronged the streets that one of their few holidays in the year proved so inclement and unpropitious.

During the day touches of Grandsire Triples and other methods were rung.

FEMALE BELLRINGERS.

In the early part of this century the widow of the sexton, at Spalding, continuing his duties, used to ring the six o'clock morning bell. She was also a washerwoman. Being engaged in the latter occupation at a clergyman's house with other women, she left the tub to ring the bell. One of her companions putting a white sheet around her, followed her, and in the dark stood on the bench in the south porch, and on the old woman coming out of the church, and while she was locking the door, set up a dreadful moan, thinking to frighten the old lady, but she quickly drew the huge key from the lock, and rushed at the figure with the exclamation, "Be ye live or dead here's a go at yer," and nearly slew the would-be ghost.

The bell at St. Mark's Lincoln, formerly hung at the church of St. Benedict in the same city, to which church it is traditionally believed to have been given by the Barber-Surgeons. When at St. Benedict's it used to be known by the name of "Old Kate," and was rung at six a.m. and seven p.m. all the year round. Old men say that (giving over work at seven in the evening) they used to listen for the welcome tones of "Old Kate." It was rung for many years by John Middlebrook, the parish clerk, who lived in a little lean-to tenement attached to the north side of the tower. On his death in December, 1804, his wife succeeded him as parish clerk (her name was Mary Middlebrook; she was buried, as the parish register shows, on the 7th of November, 1822, being aged 72 years); and the story goes that the old lady consulted her convenience and her duty at once by bringing the bell-rope through the belfry door to her bedside, and pulled "Old Kate" whilst she lay in bed. Afterwaras old men, then boys, used to sleep in the widow's tenement (she being past work), and they did the same, pulling the bell between them.

BELLS IN EARLY TIMES.

When bell-founding became a regular trade, some founders were itinerant, passing from place to place, whilst the greater portion had settled works in large towns, among other places at London, Norwich, Bury St. Edmunds, Salisbury, Gloucester, Colchester, Norwich, and Nottingham.

When roads were bad and locomotion difficult, bells were frequently cast within the precincts of religious houses, and in churchyards, the clergy or monks standing round and reciting prayers and chanting psalms. Southey, in his "Doctor," says:—"The brethren stood round the furnace, ranged in processional order, sang the 150th Psalm, and then after certain prayers, blessed the molten metal, and called upon the Lord to infuse into it His grace, and overshadow it with His power for the honour of the saint to whom the bell was to be dedicated, and whose name it was to bear.

An instance of this occurred at St. Albans in the early part of the fourteenth century when the great bell called "Amphibalus" being broken was recast in the hall of the sacristy.

During excavations in the churchyard of Scaford, Leicestershire, some years ago, indications of the former existence of a furnace for the casting of the church bells there were discovered, and a mass of bell-metal was found, which had clearly been in a state of fusion on the spot; and a similar discovery was made about four years ago in the churchyard of Empingham, Rutland. "Great Tom," of Lincoln, was cast in the Minster yard in 1610; and the great bell of Canterbury was cast in the Cathedral yard in 1762. At Huddenhall, in the Isle of Ely, bells were cast within the walls of the church. Until quite recently bell-founders occasionally acted in the same way.

An extraordinary feature in the career of bells, to use the words of Mr. W. Smith, F.S.A., S., which has existed during the last ten centuries, is their undergoing the whole exterior process of baptism before being used. This ceremony included naming, anointing, sprinkling, robing and every other initiatory accompaniment which marks the admission of men and women into the Gospel Covenant. The bells were invested with peculiar sanctity, the fused metal of which they were composed being duly consecrated by the priest, the ceremony of baptism accorded to them, and sponsors of rank and opulence being found for them. Of course, the Roman Catholics by whom this ceremony is performed, say that the bells are not baptized for the remission of sins, but that they may receive power to act as preservatives against thunder and lightning, hail and wind and storms of every kind, and that they may drive away evil spirits. This superstitious observance is not countenanced by the Protestant community, but a homelier rite is observed in England. Church bells are seldom hung without some sort of celebration, which in country places is generally more jovial than religious in its character, but in the minsters and cathedrals of our country the ceremony is more serious. In November, 1879, twelve costly bells were placed in the tower of St. Paul's Cathedral, London, and were dedicated to their sacred service with prayer and thanksgiving. A sermon was preached on the occasion, in which the preacher said that "every kind of musical instrument was made to bear its part with man, and all things that had breath, in the worship of the Creator. The service of the bells would be to invite the faithful to come up and join in the Divine worship of the Giver of all things." There were few sounds more hopeful than those of bells saying in musical accents, "Come and listen, pause and pray." After the sermon, bishops, deans, archdeacons, and canons mounted to the ringing chamber where the dedication ceremony took place. The choir sang the psalms, the Bishop of London offered several special prayers, a hymn was sung and the religious portion of the ceremony closed with the bestowal of the blessing. Whether this blessing of the bells may not almost come under the head of superstition, we can scarcely say, but the explanation given, is, that the prayers only asked that the bells in their use, be blessed to the spiritual well-being of God's servants.

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ST. MARTIN'S CHIMES.

[The following verses were written by a blind person who was formerly a patient in the Ophthalmic Hospital.]

The mighty city's ceaseless roar,
Not even on Sundays still,
Rolled past the Church's open door,
Rolled surging down the hill.
A stone's throw from the Church there lies
Within a darkened room
A silent form with blindfold eyes
That cannot meet the gloom.
In weary, slow monotony
The lonely hours creep round;
The din uprises ceaselessly,
There is no other sound.
But hark,—above the din, a voice
Of tuneful clangour swells!
Ye hurrying wheels, oh! hush your noise,
And let me hear the bells.
Above the din they chime, they float,
One, two, three, four, five, six.
They change, they pause: that last full note
The pleased ear seems to fix.
A new surprise: as if in dreams
Sweet music fills the place—
"As pants the hart for cooling streams
When heated in the chase."
As note by note fills clear and calm
Its well-remembered part,
The verses of the fine old Psalm
Bring music to the heart.
Now the chimings pause, and range
To and fro in echoing change.
"Rock of Ages, cleft for me—"
O the sweet old melody!
Let the dear, familiar strain
Echo through the room again
Hush, street, hush the deafening din,
Let the well-loved cadence in.
"God is love"—that anthem olden
Floateth downward from the height,
Sure the very bells are golden,
Telling out to seraphs bright
Their glad story,
"God is love and God is light."
Now the happy chimes subside,
Silent hours pass slow along:
But again at eventide,
Lo, they waken into song.
O bells that sweetly ring!
Child-voices seem to sing
Praise to our heavenly King,
Praise, praise for aye.
"Shall we gather at the river?"
While falls the half-forgotten strain,
Blind eyes behold the shining river,
Lost friends seem near me once again.
O chiming bells, 'tis not in vain
To homes of sorrow or of pain.
Your echoes bear their message sweet.
So many a speech that seems unheard,
And many a seeming-slighted word,
And many a loving labour lost,
That seems to cold oblivion tossed,
In unknown soil has taken root,
And brings forth unsuspected fruit.
No honest labour is in vain,
Or fails of due reward;
Brave toilers, to your task again;
The end, leave with your Lord.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A district meeting of the above Association was held at Coggeshall on Easter Monday. Eighty-seven members were present from the twenty-four following parishes: Boreham, Bocking, Braintree, Broomfield, Barking, Coggeshall, Earls Colne, Feering, Great Bentley, Great Tey, Great Totham, Goldhanger, Greenstead Green, Halstead, Harwich, Ipswich, Kelvedon, Maldon, Romford, Stisted, Springfield, Thorington, and Witham, including the Rev. H. T. W. Eyre, Assistant Hon. Secretary, and the Rev. C. Littlehales (Goldhanger). The following towers were open for ringing: Coggeshall and Great Tey (eight bells), Kelvedon, Feering, and Earls Colne (six bells). Touches were rung in the following methods: Double Norwich, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Grandsire, Bob Major, and various methods of Minor. Tea was held at The Chapel hotel at 5.30 p.m. The business meeting followed, the assistant-secretary presiding. Mr. J. S. Surridge (churchwarden of Coggeshall), was also present, the vicar being unavoidably absent. Messrs. B. Keeble (Romford), and C. H. Howard (Braintree), were re-elected auditors for the ensuing year. The Rev. J. B. Andrewes, vicar of Matching, and the Rev. E. P. Gepp, vicar of High Easter, and Mr. J. Surridge, honorary members; and several ringing members were elected.

Upon the motion of Mr. Keeble, seconded by Mr. C. F. Howard, the hon. assistant-secretary was requested to write to the vicar of Havering expressing a wish that he would open the tower to members of the Association, no one at present except their own band, which only aspire to call-changes, being allowed to ring or enter the tower.

A vote of thanks to the several vicars for placing the bells at the disposal of the association for the day, and to Mr. J. Surridge for attending the tea and meeting, brought to a close a most successful Easter district meeting, which appears to be more popular each year, and bids fair to rival the annual Whitsun meeting.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION,

SAXMUNDHAM DISTRICT.—A quarterly meeting was held at Leiston on Easter Monday, when members assembled from Aldeburgh, Leiston, Saxmundham, Kelsale, Rendham, Benhall, Ufford, Southwold, and Colchester, in addition to a good attendance of the local band. The bells of St. Margaret's church were kindly placed at the disposal of the members, and were kept going at frequent intervals from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., when various touches of Bob Major, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major, and Double Norwich were successfully brought round. The business meeting was held at the schoolroom at 4.30, Mr. W. Taylor being unanimously voted to the chair. The hon. secretary, Mr. J. Button, read the minutes of the last meeting, which were duly confirmed and signed, and the usual items of business disposed of. On the motion of Mr. R. Wells, seconded by Mr. J. Button, it was decided to hold the next meeting at Aldeburgh on July 2nd. A vote of thanks was passed to the rector for the use of the bells and schoolroom, on the proposition of Mr. C. Samson, seconded by Mr. C. Smith; and to the Hon. Secretary for his services, which closed the proceedings of the meeting, when the tower was again visited, and ringing resumed.

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DEDICATION OF JUBILEE BELLS AT MISTLEY, ESSEX.

The Bishop of St. Albans dedicated a new ring of six bells at the above church on March 25th. The bells are a very musical ring in the key of F sharp, the tenor weighing 12 cwt. 7 lbs. Several 720s were rung by members of the Essex Association. The bells bear appropriate inscriptions, that on the 6th being "The gift of Canon Charles Frederick Norman, Rector"; on the 5th "The gift of Lieut-Colonel Edward Morrell, churchwarden"; on the 4th "This peal of bells was erected to the Honour and Glory of God, and in remembrance of the sixtieth year of the reign of Queen Victoria from A.D. 1837 to A.D. 1897, by the parishioners of Mistley. C. F. Norman, Rector, J. F. Marshall and E. K. Norman, churchwardens." The three small bells only bear the founder's names.

CORNFORD GHURCH, DERBYSHIRE.

This church, beautifully situated on the banks of the River Derwent in one of the most interesting parts of Derbyshire, has, during the past year, received a much-needed restoration. The church was founded about 100 years ago by Sir Richard Arkwright, whose remains rest beneath it. The architecture of the original church was in no sense interesting, but its ivy-clad walls in so charming a position made, during many years, the centre of a bright and pleasant picture. The alterations have been confined to the interior, and consist of a new chancel arch, etc. The plaster walls of the chancel and nave have been carefully and artistically treated by Mr. Alfred C. Hemming of London. Six pictures from the early life of Christ have been placed on the north and south walls of the chancel, and the figure grouping and colouring of these is effective and harmonious. Chancel windows have been erected as memorials to the late Mr. F. Arkwright, Mr. J. C. Arkwright, and Mrs. Galton. A peal of tubular bells by Messrs. Harrington have been supplied by an anonymous donor. There remains a little more decorative work to be done in the church during the present year, and when this is completed, a church long regarded by external position and picturesqueness as singularly beautiful, will be almost equally beautiful and interesting within. The church was re-opened by the Bishop of Southwell on Easter Eve, in the presence of a large congregation. The expenditure incurred, about £1,000, has been almost met by generous hearts.

TRURO CATHEDRAL.

Before quitting office as High Sheriff of Devon, Mr. Robert Harvey, D.L., of Palace Gate and Dundridge, Totnes, has placed two memorial windows in the north aisle of Truro Cathedral, in a portion of which, the chancel of St. Mary's parish church, he sang in the choir, and of which for nearly a quarter of a century his aged father was churchwarden. The subjects are St. Alban, the patron saint of England, before the Roman Court, and St. Cyprian's martyrdom, while in the upper lights are the figures of St. Alban, St. Pancras, St. Perpetua, St. Laurence, St. Catherine, and St. Cyprian, whilst the inscription states that the windows are erected in memory of his mother, Emma Harvey, who died at Truro, January 5th, 1892, aged seventy-one. Mr. Harvey has also added a thanksgiving window, an illuminated clock and chimes, and restored the churchyard cross in his own parish of Harberton in commemoration of the Jubilee and in memory of his eldest son.

Compositions.

PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH
COURT BOB MAJOR.By JOHN H. BARRETT, *Stepney, London.*5040.
23456 I 4 6

34256	-	-	-
52436	-	-	-
25634	-	-	-
56234	-	-	-
32654	-	-	-
26354	-	-	-
23654	s	-	-
36254	-	-	-
62354	-	-	-
63254	s	-	-
52364	-	-	-
53264	s	-	-
32564	-	-	-
25364	-	-	-
23564	s	-	-

Twice repeated.

Contains all the combinations of 4, 5, 6, in 5-6 without the 2nd in fifths, and the 2nd and 3rd in sixths place at course-ends. Rung at St. George's-in-the-East, London, January 8th, 1898, by the College Youths Society, conducted by H. Springall.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

By F. E. W. MEADOWS, *Otley.*

5184.
23456 W B M H

45236	-	-	-
24536	-	-	-
52436	-	-	-
35264	-	I	-
23564	-	-	-
52364	-	-	-
43526	-	-	-
54326	-	-	-
35426	-	-	-
42356	-	-	-
34256	-	-	-
56234	3	-	-
25346	I	-	-
32546	-	-	-
53246	-	-	-
53624	2	-	-
46325	-	-	-
32465	-	-	-
43265	-	-	-
26435	-	-	-
42635	-	-	-
64235	-	-	-
32456	-	I	-

Repeated.

Has the 6th its extent at home, and the 2nd or 3rd never in 6ths place at the course-ends.

THREE PEALS OF OXFORD
SURPRISE MAJOR.By F. BENNETT, *Brighton.*

5152.
23456 M W H

46253	-	-	-
62453	-	-	-
24653	-	-	-
62534	-	-	-
25634	-	-	-
56234	-	-	-
65324	-	-	-
53624	-	-	-
36524	-	-	-
63254	-	-	-
23654	-	-	-
26354	-	-	-
53246	-	-	-
34256	-	-	-
25346	-	-	-
52436	-	-	-
24536	-	-	-
45236	-	-	-
54326	-	-	-
43526	-	-	-
34256	-	-	-
42356	-	-	-
23456	-	-	-

5152.
23456 M W H

34256	-	-	-
26354	-	-	-
62534	-	-	-
25634	-	-	-
56234	-	-	-
65324	-	-	-
53624	-	-	-
36524	-	-	-
63254	-	-	-
32654	-	-	-
64352	-	-	-
43652	-	-	-
36452	-	-	-
42356	-	-	-
24536	-	-	-
45236	-	-	-
54326	-	-	-
43526	-	-	-
35426	-	-	-
25346	-	-	-
52436	-	-	-
32546	-	-	-
23456	-	-	-

5376.
23456 M W H

34256	-	-	-
43526	-	-	-
35426	-	-	-
46325	-	-	-
63425	-	-	-

Continued— M W H

64523	-	-	-
65324	-	-	-
34625	-	-	-
63254	-	-	-
53624	-	-	-
23564	-	-	-
32654	-	-	-

Repeated.

PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By SAM THOMAS, *Sheffield.*

5024.
23456 M B W H

32654	-	I	2
56234	I	-	2
24365	2	-	2
63425	I	-	2
45236	I	I	2
32546	-	2	2
56423	I	I	2
65324	2	-	2
23564	-	2	2
42635	2	I	2
54326	-	2	2
36245	2	-	2
65243	2	-	2
23456	I	I	2

Contains the 4th, 5th and 6th their extent in sixths, without the 2nd in that position at a course-end.

PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH
COURT BOB MAJOR.By G. R. NEWTON, *Oxton Cheshire.*

5088.
23456 I 4 5 6

53624	-	-	-
32654	-	-	-
25634	-	-	-
36524	-	-	-
62534	-	-	-
23564	-	-	-
63425	-	-	-
34625	-	-	-
42635	-	-	-
36245	-	-	-
62345	-	-	-
43265	-	-	-
45236	-	-	-
32546	-	-	-
24536	-	-	-
43526	-	-	-
25346	-	-	-
54326	-	-	-
42356	-	-	-
53246	-	-	-
34256	-	-	-
52436	-	-	-
32456	s	-	-

Repeated.

This peal has 4, 5 and 6 only in 6ths place at a course-end.

JASPER W. SNOWDON'S WORKS.

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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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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 16, 1898.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

The next meeting will be held at Bristol on Tuesday in Whitsun-week, 31st May, 1898.

Notices of motion, etc., must reach the Hon. Secretary not later than Tuesday, the 3rd of May. They must be in writing, and signed by two representatives.

Hon. Secretaries of the following societies are respectfully reminded that the contributions of their societies have not (up to this date, April 13th) been received: Bedfordshire Association, Chester Guild, Devonshire Guild, Gloucester and Bristol Association, Lancashire Association, Liverpool Guild, St. James's Society, Royal Cumberland Society, Archdeaconry of Stafford Society, Salisbury Guild.

Information of any change in representatives, or their addresses, will be thankfully received with the respective contributions.

H. EARLE BULWER,
Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn.

Hon. Sec.

WANTED a large peal of handbells. Forty-nine bells. Chromatic scale; G25 to G64; or a larger peal with duplicates. Must be in thorough good condition, and sweet tone. State lowest possible terms, with maker's name, and all particulars to WILMER ROGERS, 8, Yerk Street, Wrexham.

DEATH OF A FAMOUS CHURCH BUILDER.

Alderman John Thompson, the well-known church builder and restorer of cathedrals, died on Tuesday morning at Peterborough, after a long illness. He had during his lifetime been engaged on the restoration of every cathedral in England. He built the Royal College of Music and Church House, and was engaged in the restoration of Peterborough and Salisbury cathedrals. He was the most prominent citizen of Peterborough, and had been Mayor four times.

The Metropolis.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 11, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, WOOLWICH,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 13 cwt.

JOSEPH LAW	Treble	JOHN HACK	5.
WILLIAM BEDWELL	2.	GEORGE H. DAYNES	6.
THOMAS G. DEAL	3.	ARTHUR J. NEALE	7.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE	4.	JOSEPH TOWN	Tenor.

Composed by J. J. PARKER and Conducted by WILLIAM BEDWELL.
First peal in the method on the bells.

The Provinces.

MACCLESFIELD.—THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, March 29, 1898, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE.

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

JOSEPH HANKINSON*	Treble.	WILLIAM W. STEEL	5.
FRANK STONELEY	2.	WILFRED MATTHEWS	6.
WILLIAM WALMSLEY	3.	*PARMENAS LONG	7.
JOHN M. DAVENPORT	4.	JOSEPH NOBURY	Tenor.

Conducted by WILFRED MATTHEWS.

*First peal.

LIVERPOOL.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, April 5, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

ON HANDBELLS RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES.

JOHN ASPINWALL	1-2.	THOMAS HAMMOND	5-6.
RICHARD S. MANN	3-4.	WILLIAM JAMES	7-8.
JAMES MARTIN	9-10.		

Composed by the late JOHN HERON, JUN., and
Conducted by WILLIAM JAMES.

Umpire, James Dillon, of Bromborough, who had a copy of the peal before him, and marked off every course-end as rung. The above was rung to take the place of the one published in our issue of November 27th last, the composition of which, unfortunately, proved to be false.

ARMLEY, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Friday, April 8, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. WINDSOR, FAR FOLD TERRACE,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S TWELVE-PART.

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

Conducted by HARRY WILLIAMS.

This peal was arranged for Mr. Craven, of Lincoln, who was spending a few days in his native town.

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, April 10, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt. in Eb.

WILLIAM GORDON	Treble.	J. A. GORDON	6.
ALFRED GORDON	2.	SAMUEL MITCHELL	7.
WILLIAM GORDON, JUN.	3.	J. W. BAYLEY	8.
THOMAS SALE	4.	A. S. GORDON	9.
JOSEPH BARLOW	5.	ALFRED BIRCH	Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS and Conducted by WM. GORDON, SEN.

First peal of Caters by all except the ringers of the 4th and 8th, and first peal of Caters on the bells, which have lately been augmented to ten and re-hung by Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough.

SHOREHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 11, 1898, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

LIONEL SEIRS*	Treble.	†RICHARD STREDWICK	5.
HERBERT RANN	2.	WILLIAM PALMER	6.
FREDERICK DEARING†	3.	EDWARD C. MERRITT	7.
THOMAS PRICE	4.	*FREDERICK STREELE	Tenor.

Conducted by HERBERT RANN.

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

OLDHAM.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, April 10, 1898, in Three Hours and Thirty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES.

Tenor 32 cwt. 2 qrs. 16 lbs.

J. BUTTERWORTH	Treble.	S. STOTT	6.
S. ELSON	2.	F. COCKS	7.
J. PRIESTLEY	3.	J. DAVIES	8.
F. CROSLAND	4.	J. SIDDALL	9.
A. B. SHAW	5.	J. WOOD	Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM BOOTH, of Sheffield, and
Conducted by S. STOTT.

First peal of Caters as conductor. First peal of Caters by all except Messrs. Stott and Crossland.

MITCHAM, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 11, 1898, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 16 cwt.

ROBERT SEWELL	Treble.	ALFRED CLAYTON	5.
WILLIAM S. SMITH	2.	ALBERT CALVER	6.
JOSEPH A. LAMBERT	3.	ERNEST LAMBERT	7.
GEORGE WELLING	4.	JOSEPH FAYERS	Tenor.

Composed by J. ROSTRUM and Conducted by J. FAYERS.

First peal in the method by the ringers of the 3rd and 7th.

APPLETON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, April 11, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty-one Minutes

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES.

HARRY WALTERS	Treble.	HENRY TUBB	6.
NOBLE SPINDLOW*	2.	FRANK TUBB	7.
EDMUND HOLIFIELD	3.	GEORGE HOLIFIELD	8.
FRANK BARRETT	4.	†JOHN MONK	9.
FREDERICK WHITE	5.	STEDMAN WHITE	Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE HOLIFIELD.

*First peal. †First peal on ten bells.

BURNHAM, BUCKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, April 11, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION.

Tenor 16 cwt.

GEORGE MARTIN Treble.	*JESSE ELDRIDGE 5.
JOSEPH J. PARKER† 2.	*CHARLES EDWARDS 6.
FRANK BISSLEY 3.	†JOHN BASDEN 7.
ALLEN H. TABER 4.	GEORGE ALLDER Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN BASDEN.

*First peal. †First in the method, and first in the method on the bells.

UPPER BEEDING, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 11, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTAN'S FOUR-PART.

Tenor 8 cwt. 4 lbs.

GEORGE WILLIAMS Treble.	FRANK BENNETT 5.
CHARLES SMART 2.	ARTHUR GATLAND 6.
JOHN SMART 3.	GEORGE SMART 7.
CHARLES GEORGE 4.	THOMAS SEARLE Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

First peal on the bells since their augmentation from six to eight.

RANMOOR, SHEFFIELD, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 11, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 15 cwt.

CHARLES R. SAWYER .. Treble.	FRANK GREEN 5.
WILLIAM GOODWIN 2.	WILFRID COLLIER 6.
WALTER ALLWOOD* 3.	WILLIAM PLANT 7.
THOMAS SAWYER 4.	SAM THOMAS Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by SAM THOMAS.

First peal in the method on the bells, also first peal in the method by all except the conductor. Rung to celebrate the coming of age of W. Collier. *Hails from Treeton. Rung at the first attempt.

WAKEFIELD, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 11, 1898, in Three Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

THOMAS MARS* Treble.	*†JNO. E. HARTLEY 6.
JAMES MOORHOUSE* 2.	JNO. T. HOLLIS 7.
JOS. E. KEEN 3.	THOS. H. ORMOND 8.
E. ANDREWS 4.	*JNO. W. MOORHOUSE 9.
ALBERT SCOTT* 5.	*FRED. W. HARGREAVES .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by J. W. MOORHOUSE.

*First peal of Caters. †First peal.

ATTLEBOROUGH, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 11, 1898, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of Canterbury Pleasure and Bob Minor.

Tenor 16 cwt.

JOHN SHARP Treble.	EDWARD ETTRIDGE 4.
J. GAYMER MILES 2.	STEPHEN DANIELS 5.
ROBERT ETTRIDGE 3.	JESSE LAWRENCE Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN GAYMER MILES.

First peal on six bells by Messrs. Sharp and R. Ettridge.

BRIDGEND, GLAMORGAN.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 11, 1898, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ILLTYD,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720s of Grandsire Minor, and four 720s of Plain Bob, each called differently.

W. HARDWICK Treble.	R. BUNSTONE 4.
J. EVANS 2.	D. J. HURFORD 5.
R. EVANS 3.	J. COX Tenor.

Conducted by J. Cox.

First 5040 on the bells, and first by all except the conductor. First peal as conductor.

LYTHAM.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 11, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qrs. 4 lbs.

JOHN FISHER Treble.	*G. MILLER 5.
C. H. LEWIS* 2.	W. ATKINSON 6.
HENRY GREGSON 3.	JOHN MILLER 7.
JOHN PRESTON† 4.	WILLIAM MILLER Tenor.

Conducted by W. ATKINSON.

*First peal of Stedman. †First peal in any method. First as conductor in this method.

EWERBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 11, 1898, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt.

THOMAS T. TAYLOR .. Treble.	WILLIAM DICKINSON .. 5.
JOHN H. CLARK 2.	JOHN T. HOLMES 6.
JOHN HILTON 3.	CHARLES R. LILLEY .. 7.
FRED. HILTON 4.	HERBERT P. NASH Tenor.

Conducted by W. DICKINSON.

First peal in the method in the county, and by all the band. First peal with a bob bell by T. Taylor, also first peal by T. Taylor and H. Nash.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 11, 1898, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF DARLASTON BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

HARRY PRICE Treble.	JOHN SMITH 5.
GEORGE PAGETT* 2.	*JOHN GOODMAN 6.
JOHN W. SMITH 3.	WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT .. 7.
SAMUEL J. HUGHES* .. 4.	*JOHN GODFREY Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by WM. MICKLEWRIGHT.

*First peal. †First peal in the method.

THEALE, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, April 11, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of College Single, and two 720s each of Canterbury Pleasure, Plain Bob, and Oxford Bob.

Tenor 14 cwt.

ARTHUR W. HIGGS .. Treble.	*JAMES ABERY 4.
FREDERICK CLARK* .. 2.	WILLIAM CLARK 5.
THOMAS HERRIDGE .. 3.	WILLIAM HORNE Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM HORNE.

*First peal, also the first peal on the bells.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

[On Monday, April 11, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5056 CHANGES. Tenor 12 cwt. 25 lbs.

THOMAS WAKEMAN.. .. Treble.	THOMAS J. SALTER 5.
ALBERT E. PARSONS.. .. 2.	JAMES PAGETT 6.
NOAH DAVIS 3.	WILLIAM H. SMITH 7.
ADOLPHUS ROBERTS 4.	RICHARD E. GROVE Tenor.

Composed by C. MIDDLETON and Conducted by R. E. GROVE.
This is the first peal in the method on the bells.

SPELDHURST, KENT.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 11, 1898, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN STEDDY Treble.	JAMES WALLIS 5.
JOSEPH EDWARDS 2.	THOMAS WALLIS 6.
WILLIAM LATTER 3.	JACK PRESTON 7.
WALTER HOBBS.. .. 4.	JOHN MALYAN Tenor.

Conducted by JACK PRESTON.

The band wish to thank the rector, the Rev. D. McKinnon for the use of the bells

KIDLINGTON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, April 11, 1898, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAYLOR'S SIX-PART.

JOHN FISHER Treble.	WILLIAM BENNETT 5.
JOHN MATTHEWS 2.	JAMES FRANKLIN 6.
FRED. WEBB 3.	HARRY G. JUDGE 7.
WILLIAM THORPE 4.	WILLIAM FRANKLIN Tenor.

Conducted by H. JUDGE.

First peal on the bells by the local band

FRAMLINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 11, 1898, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 19 cwt.

WILLIAM OSTLER Treble.	ALBERT E. READ 5.
REV. J. HOLME PILKINGTON 2.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. 6.
JOHN C. SELF 3.	GEORGE WIGHTMAN 7.
WILLIAM WIGHTMAN 4.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN Tenor.

Composed by the late H. W. HALEY and
Conducted by G. WIGHTMAN.

For calling see "Snowdon's" Part II., page 18. Rang as a birthday compliment
to A. S. Wightman, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 11, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Superlative Surprise, Double Court, College
Single, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Grandsire Minor and
Bob Minor. Tenor 13½ cwt.

WILLIAM DENNER Treble.	JOSEPH POTTER 4.
SAMUEL OAKES 2.	JOHN POTTER 5.
JOHN DENNER 3.	ALFRED POTTER Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN POTTER.

This is the first peal in the method by all; also the first on the bells.

BURNLEY.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 11, 1898, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Being one 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, one of Bob Minor, three
of Oxford, and two of Kent. Tenor 11½ cwt.

JAMES SMITH, SEN. Treble.	CHARLES SHARPLES 4.
EDWIN TIMBRELL 2.	W. T. H. TIMBRELL 5.
JAMES MATHER 3.	TOM REDMAN Tenor.

Conducted by TOM REDMAN.

CALVERLEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 11, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,

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

WALTER CORDINGLEY .. Treble.	PETER GRIMSHAW 5.
FRANKLIN GRIMSHAW .. 2.	ARTHUR WHEATER 6.
CHARLES PRATT 3.	FRED PAGE 7.
WALTER POPPLEWELL .. 4.	SAMUEL WHEATLEY Tenor.

Composed by WM. GOODALL and Conducted by CHARLES PRATT.

First peal by all the band except the conductor. First peal as conductor.

EPSOM, SURREY.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, April 11, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qrs.

HARRY SEAR* Treble.	*ARCHIBALD F. HARRIS 5.
WILLIAM E. GARRARD 2.	REUBEN CHARGE 6.
WILLIAM E. JUDD 3.	WILLIAM FOX 7.
ARTHUR E. BRADLEY 4.	JOHN JUDD Tenor.

Conducted by W. E. GARRARD.

All the above hail from Kensington, and it is the first peal rung by the St. Mary
Abbots Guild. *First Peal.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, April 12, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

GEORGE H. COCKIN Treble.	*JOSEPH BRETTE 5.
JOHN H. SMITH 2.	WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT 6.
ARTHUR SPITTLE 3.	JOHN SMITH 7.
ADOLPHUS ROBERTS 4.	*JOHN GODFREY Tenor.

Composed by THOMAS DAY and Conducted by W. MICKLEWRIGHT.

*First peal in the method

Date Touches.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HIGHER WALTON (Lancashire).—On February 15th, at All Saints
church, a date touch of Minor, 1898 changes, in 1 hr. 14 mins., being
98 of Plain Bob and 360 each of Oxford Treble Bob, Canterbury
Pleasure, London New Bob, College Single, and Oxford Bob. G.
Thornley (conductor), 1; J. Horwood, 2; H. Hunt, 3; J. Eccles, 4;
J. Mather, 5; F. Horwood, 6.

Miscellaneous.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BOLTON.—On Friday, February 18th, at The Saviour's church, a
quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 52 mins. J. Banks, 1; W.
Grundy, 2; R. Fiddies, 3; J. Heathcote, 4; E. Hewitt, 5; J. Calder.

bank, 6; A. E. Wreaks (conductor), 7; W. Hulme, 8. Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a last token of respect to the late Mr. Joel Redford, Secretary of the above Association.

LIVERPOOL.—On February 16th, at the Cathedral, several touches of Oxford Treble Bob and 504 of Grandsire Caters. J. Aspinwall, 1; R. S. Mann, 2; E. Breeze, 3; J. Dillon, 4; G. Woodhall, 5; G. Fisher, 6; W. Davies, 7; H. Coley, 8; T. Hammond, 9; J. Martin, 10. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the late J. Redford, of Bolton.

NEWCHURCH (Lancashire).—On Wednesday, February 16th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 39 mins., with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Secretary, Mr. J. Redford. J. Taylor, 1; L. Taylor, 2; J. Ashworth, 3; O. Eastwood, 4; W. Taylor (conductor), 5; H. Walls, 6; J. B. Taylor, 7; J. W. Ormerod, 8.

BURNLEY (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, February 1st, at Holy Trinity church, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. D. Campbell, 1; F. Towns, 2; R. Hartley, 3; R. Ashworth, 4; D. Heys, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 6th, for morning service, 576 Oxford Treble Bob. T. Knowles, 1; F. Towns, 2; D. Campbell, 3; R. Hartley, 4; N. Townend, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; D. Heys, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. For evening service 704 in the same method. N. Townend, 1; F. Towns, 2; D. Campbell, 3; R. Hartley, 4; D. Heys, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman, 8. On Sunday, February 13th, for morning service, 576 in the same method. T. Knowles, 1; F. Towns, 2; D. Campbell, 3; R. Hartley, 4; N. Townend, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; D. Heys, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. For evening service 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. T. Knowles, 1; R. Hartley, 2; N. Townend, 3; R. Ashworth, 4; T. Mouncey, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, February 15th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. T. Mouncey, 1; F. Towns, 2; R. Hartley, 3; R. Ashworth, 4; N. Townend, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 20th, for morning service, 576 Kent Treble Bob. T. Knowles, 1; F. Towns, 2; T. Redman, 3; D. Campbell, 4; N. Townend, 5; R. Hartley, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; R. Ashworth (conductor), 8. For evening service 704 Kent Treble Bob. T. Knowles, 1; N. Townend, 2; D. Campbell, 3; T. Redman (conductor), 4; D. Heys, 5; R. Hartley, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; R. Ashworth, 8. On Sunday, February 27th, for morning service, 576 Kent Treble Bob. T. Knowles, 1; D. Campbell, 2; T. Redman (conductor), 3; R. Hartley, 4; D. Heys, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; F. Towns, 8. For evening service, 768 Kent Treble Bob. T. Knowles, 1; D. Campbell, 2; D. Heys, 3; R. Hartley, 4; N. Townend, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6; T. Mouncey, 7; R. Ashworth, 8. On Tuesday, March 1st, 720 Kent Treble Bob. T. Redman (conductor), 1; T. Knowles, 2; R. Hartley, 3; R. Ashworth, 4; F. Towns, 5; T. Mouncey, 6. On Sunday morning, March 6th, 720 Oxford. T. Knowles, 1; D. Campbell, 2; R. Hartley, 3; N. Townend, 4; R. Ashworth, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6. For evening service 704 Oxford. T. Knowles, 1; R. Hartley, 2; D. Campbell, 3; D. Heys, 4; N. Townend, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

BISHOP CANNINGS (Wilts).—On February 2nd, at the parish church, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, called differently. S. Hillier (conductor), 1; F. M. Caffrey, 2; W. Hollier, 3; C. D. Heigintbottom, 4; A. Draper, 5; R. Phillips, 6. This was arranged for F. McCaffrey.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

HEREFORD.—On Wednesday, February 16th, at the Cathedral, 504 Grandsire Triples. R. Chamberlain, 1; W. Davies, 2; W. Greenleaf, 3; I. Jones, 4; C. H. Dutton, 5; T. Lewis (conductor), 6; H. Ring, 7; R. Powell, 8. Tenor 42 cwt.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Sunday, February 20th, for Divine Service in the morning at St. Stephen's Westminster, a quarter-peal of London Surprise Major, 1280 changes, in 50 mins. H. R. Newton, 1; A. G. Ellis, 2; C. T. P. Brice, 3; H. S. Ellis, 4; F. Buck, 5; S. E. Andrews, 6; N. J. Pitstow, 7; J. N. Oxborrow (conductor), 8.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TAUNTON (Somerset).—Recently, at St. James's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from the "Clavis." R. Clark, 1; J. Maddock, 2; G. H. Yendall, 3; F. Millard, 4; T. W. Radford, 5; J. Jones, 6; H. J. Poole (conductor), 7; E. Harris, 8. First by Clarke and Jones, and first on the bells. Also 336 Bob Major. J. Maddock (conductor), 1; W. Gillard, 2; A. Doble, 3; F. Millard, 4; H. Pearce, 5; H. J. Poole, 6; E. E. Burgess, 7; G. H. Yendall, 8. Also 672 in the same method. F. Millard, 1; A. Evans, 2; J. Maddock, 3; A. Doble, 4; W. Thorn, 5; E. E. Burgess, 6; H. J. Poole

(conductor), 7; G. H. Yendall, 8. And 504 Grandsire Triples. G. H. Yendall (conductor), 1; W. Gillard, 2; F. Millard, 3; A. Doble, 4; H. Pearce, 5; H. J. Poole, 6; W. Thorn, 7; E. E. Burgess, 8. And 336 Bob Major. J. Maddock, 1; F. Millard, 2; H. Pearce, 3; A. Doble, 4; W. Gillard, 5; E. E. Burgett (conductor), 6; H. J. Poole, 7; W. Thorn (first touch as conductor), 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BOBBING (Kent).—On February 22nd, for practice at St. Bartholomew's church, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 26 mins. J. Jeffrey, 1; A. J. C. Waters, 2; A. Day, 3; H. S. Goord, 4; W. H. B. Wilkins (conductor), 5; A. Trowell, 6. This is the first 720 on the bells by the local band.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—On a recent Sunday evening, at St. Nicolas church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins. R. Roffey, 1; C. Willshire, 2; J. J. Jones, 3; J. Heathorn, 4; S. Radford (conductor), 5; J. Hunt, 6; E. E. Boniface, 7; F. Blondell, 8. Composed by J. Heathorn, an old and respected member of the band, for whom it was arranged to celebrate his 73rd birthday. It was intended to attempt a peal, but owing to illness the above was substituted.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

WORCESTER.—On Sunday, February 20th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. B. S. Hill, 1; A. Hill (longest length), 2; W. Bright, 3; C. W. Jones, 4; G. Checketts, 5; W. Lebbon, 6; W. Page, 7; T. Malim, 8. Composed by W. Walmsley, and conducted by W. Page.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

GAINFORD (County Durham).—On Saturday, February 19th, at the parish church, on the occasion of the general meeting of the Association, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. A. H. Shelton, 1; T. Hudson, sen., 2; J. Baxter, 3; T. Hudson, jun., 4; G. J. Lungley, 5; R. Borrows (conductor), 6. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles. R. Borrows, 1; R. Moncaster, 2; G. J. Lungley, 3; G. Park, 4; J. Baxter, 5; J. Bolton, 6. And 720 Grandsire Minor. J. Bolton, 1; J. Baxter (conductor), 2; W. E. Johnson, 3; G. Park, 4; R. Borrows, 5; C. Walker, 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. F. Teasdale, 1; W. Patton, 2; C. L. Routledge, 3; T. Hudson, sen., 4; G. J. Lungley, 5; F. J. Harrison (conductor), 6. The following were also rung on handbells: A course of Grandsire Caters. F. J. Harrison, 1-2; G. J. Clarkson, 3-4; G. W. Park, 5-6; C. L. Routledge, 7-8; W. Newton, 9-10. And 168 Stedman Triples. W. Porter, 1-2; T. Lungley, 3-4; C. L. Routledge, 5-6; F. J. Harrison, 7-8. A course of Stedman Caters. W. Porter, 1-2; T. Lungley, 3-4; C. L. Routledge, 5-6; G. J. Lungley, 7; R. Alcock, 8; F. J. Harrison, 9-10. And a course of Grandsire Cinques. T. Lungley, 1-2; W. Porter, 3-4; T. Stephenson, 5-6; G. J. Clarkson, 7-8; C. L. Routledge, 9-10; W. Newton, 11-12.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WALTHAMSTOW (Essex).—On Sunday, February 20th, at St. Saviour's church, on the occasion of a confirmation by the Lord Bishop of Colchester, 360 Plain Bob Minor. W. H. Joyce, 1; E. D. Lillywhite, 2; F. C. Perrin, 3; R. Elliott, 4; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 5; F. Butler, 6. After service 840 Plain Bob Triples. A. Abrahams, 1; F. C. Perrin, 2; F. Butler, 3; E. D. Lillywhite, 4; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 5; R. Elliott, 6; H. Street, 7; W. H. Joyce, 8. On Monday, February 21st, a peal of Plain Bob Triples was attempted, but owing to a misunderstanding with the Vicar about the time "stand" was called after ringing 61 mins. A. Abrahams, 1; H. Street, 2; E. D. Lillywhite, 3; W. Abrahams, 4; F. C. Perrin, 5; R. Elliott, 6; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 7; W. H. Joyce, 8. For practice 336 Plain Bob Major. W. H. Joyce, 1; H. Street, 2; F. Butler, 3; R. Elliott, 4; E. D. Lillywhite, 5; W. Abrahams, 6; F. C. Perrin, 7; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 8. And 224 in the same method. A. Abrahams, 1; H. Street, 2; F. Butler, 3; E. D. Lillywhite, 4; R. Elliott, 5; W. Abrahams, 6; G. B. Lucas, 7; F. C. Perrin, 8.

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.

POLLARDS, Limited, Bradford, LADIES' COSTUMES at 10s. 6d., are Wonderful Value.

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 IMPOSTOR.

SIR,—Many thanks for your warning to ringers in "BELL NEWS" of April 2nd. I believe we at Bidston, Cheshire, have had a visit from this so-called Prichard this evening (April 10th) for service. Asked could he ring, he said that he had been a ringer about ten years ago, and done none since. He belonged to the Birmingham and District Guild; left Scotland a couple of weeks since, and was seeking work (any sort). He also wished to know of a Charlie Price (from Chester), somewhere in Cheshire, but I did not satisfy him. Mr. Holmes says he did not think him able to ring the treble in Doubles. We tried him with the treble in Bob Minor, three attempts, and then our treble man had to take his place and ring a 720 within the half-hour. Mr. J. R. Pritchard, late of St. Peter's, Liverpool, is well-known to us here, and this person who gave no name was not him.

WILLIAM WILCOX.

P.S.—We at Bidston have only started to-day to ring again, after two years' of silence, except last Jubilee time.

NAME OF METHOD WANTED.

SIR,—With your permission I should like to ask the Rev. E. B. James through this column, the name of the method published by him in the "BELL NEWS" on December 11th, 1897. This method (besides having a clean proof scale and lengthening lead as mentioned by Mr. James) is a Double Treble Bob method without any contiguous places, and is I believe the first Treble Bob method published, containing the last mentioned quality combined with a clean proof scale, the lengthening lead being also a new acquisition. There are six false leads against each lead of the plain course, but none of these can be had without parting the tenors, and the total number of false leads against the whole plain course is 28 only, this being accounted for by the fact that two false leads out of each six, are also false, against the lead following. Musically the method would not be very successful, but judging from the diagram of the plain course, the method would be more musical, and the actual ringing far more difficult than London Surprise, and for this reason will no doubt be welcomed by the advanced ringing Societies as something fresh to learn, and to strive to obtain the first peal.

GEORGE BAKER.

A REQUEST.

SIR,—Please let me ask gentlemen who have not yet favoured me with their compositions on Double Norwich Court Bob Major, to send them without delay. I already have received a big list of peals, but there are some names absent, and which I should like to include.

H. DAINS.

147, Barnsbury Road, N.

PRIORITY OF CLAIM.

SIR,—In "BELL NEWS" for April 9th, there appears a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples by I. J. Attwater, London. This was composed by me in 1889, and rung on the back eight at St. Dunstan's, Stepney, on June 4th, 1890, conducted by H. Springall.

JOHN H. BARRETT.

Stepney.

REPLY TO "X. Y. Z."

SIR,—Replying to my interested friend, I wish to state that during the last seven weeks we have been receiving instruction on method ringing, one lesson weekly, and have been able to ring the 120 changes on handbells for the past fortnight. No thanks however are due to the Bedfordshire Association, who I consider do not care to take the trouble of giving instructions. But their Association cannot hope to increase under such principles. I dare say you will remember one gentleman who put a letter in "THE BELL NEWS" stating he could not come on our practice night. A poor excuse; we would have arranged any other time, only to get the chance of learning the method. Then we had another kind offer to walk six miles for an hour's practice. But at last friends came forward, real true friends,

as such you may call a man when he comes forward after his day's toil and travels a distance of forty miles to give us instructions for an hour and a half, then returns by the half-past nine train to town. We have two such—Mr. Smith and Mr. Alderman. They are worthy of praise; both are perfect ringers and excellent teachers, and feel sure they will have the reward they desire of seeing us get on. Feeling very grateful to my friend "X. Y. Z.," I will put in my full address, and should be pleased to write personally to me, I shall be pleased to receive a letter, and give him further particulars of our progress.

27, South Street, Leighton Buzzard.

J. NICHOLLS.

LYTHAM, LANCASHIRE.

The gift of a new altar table has been made to the parish church of Lytham, by Miss Heywood, daughter of the late Sir Richard Heywood, Bart., in memory of her sister. The gift was dedicated on Saturday afternoon by the Rev. Canon Hawkins, vicar.

SHOTTON, CHESHIRE.

Mr. Gladstone has promised £1,000 towards the cost of erecting a new church at the above place. The parishioners will mainly subscribe the balance, and the Rev. Stephen Gladstone, writing, to commend them for the spirit they are showing in the matter, says: "I need not say that Mr. Gladstone, on his bed or couch of suffering, and of never-ceasing discomfort, will hear of your coming forward in this church-building with real delight."

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BISHOPWEARMOUTH.—On Sunday, March 27th, at the Parish Church for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 41 mins. Thomas Hudson, sen., 1; Thomas Hudson, jun., 2; R. E. Chichester, 3; Robert C. Hudson, 4; W. A. Tyler, of Loughborough (conductor), 5; J. Field, 6; W. T. Robson, 7; R. W. Langton, 8.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

EDMONTON.—On Sunday, March 17th, at All Saints' church, for 11 a.m. service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. S. Darlington, 1; P. Darlington, 2; G. Pightling, 3; R. Goodchild, 4; W. Bennett, 5; A. Darlington, 6; L. J. Darlington (conductor), 7; W. Darlington, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

OSPRINGE.—On Tuesday evening, March 29th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, composed by H. N. Davis, Camberwell. W. Saddleton (Borden), 1; H. Burling (Ospringe), 2; H. Goodwin (Charing), 3; W. J. Willis (Ospringe, first quarter-peal in any method), 4; C. Millway (Borden, conductor), 5; E. E. Bridges (Ospringe), 6; W. Spice (Charing), 7; J. Austin (Ospringe, first quarter-peal in any method), 8.

The Bishop of Southwell on Saturday reopened St. Mary's Church, Cromford. The edifice was erected by Sir Richard Arkwright at the latter end of last century. The chief work done has been a widening of the chancel arch, and general decoration of the chancel and church.

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.

WRITE TO POLLARDS, Limited, Bradford, for the Illustrated Sketch Book of Costumes.

Notices.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is One Penny per line (five words may be reckoned to a line). Repetitions at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

Lancashire Association. — Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Flixton to-day Saturday, April 16. Bells ready at 4.0 p.m. Business meeting in school-room at 7.0 p.m.
WALTER BROWN,
Branch Sec.

The Lancashire Association. — Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Luke's, Heywood, to-day, Saturday, April 16th. Bells ready at 4.30 p.m., all ringers invited.
E. B. SHAW, Branch Sec.

St James's Society, London.—There will be no meeting on Monday next. The next meeting will be on Monday, the 18th April, at St. Clement Danes.
R. A. DANIELL, Hon. Sec.

South Lincolnshire Association.—Quarterly Meeting at Rippingale on Saturday, April 23rd. Short service and address at 11.45 by the Rev. W. W. Layng. Dinner at 'The Bull inn' at one o'clock. Members intending to be present must send in their names to me on or before Saturday, April 16th.
E. GALE, Sec.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.—The quarterly meeting of this Society will be held on Saturday, April 23rd, at the parish church, Willenhall. Short service at 5 o'clock. Tea will be provided at 1s. per head for all those sending in their names not later than Wednesday, the 20th inst., to
S. REEVES, Hon. Sec.

The Middlesex County Association. — North and East District.—A meeting of the members of the above District will be held on Saturday, April 23rd, at St. Margaret's, Westminster, by kind permission of the Rev. Canon Eytton. The bells will be raised at 4 p.m. All members and friends of the Association are cordially invited.
ARTHUR T. KING, Hon. Sec.

Chester Diocesan Guild. — Macclesfield Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Gawsorth, on Saturday, April 23rd. Bells ready at 3 p.m.
JOSEPH NORBURY, Sec.

The Royal Cumberland Society.—In consequence of Divine Service being held at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields during Lent, there will be no practice night until Friday, April 22nd.
A. JACOB, Hon. Sec.

The Lancashire Association. — Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held on April 23rd at Haslingden. Bells ready at 3.30. Business meeting at 6.30 p.m.
J. H. BANKS, Branch Sec.

Gloucester & Bristol Diocesan Association.—A special meeting of the above will be held at Swindon on Saturday, April 30th. Service in the parish church at 4.15, with an address by the Vicar. Meat tea at The King's arms at 5.30, followed by business meeting. Tea half-price to members sending notice to the local secretary, Mr. T. Recketts, 14, Carr Street before the 26th instant. The following important resolutions will be submitted: 1.—That it is desirable that the union of the two dioceses of Gloucester and Bristol in one change-ringing Association be dissolved, and that a separate Association be formed for each

Diocese, and that a committee be appointed to inquire into and report to a special meeting of the Association as to the terms financial and otherwise on which this can be done. 2.—To alter rule 12 by inserting after the word *annually*—"provided that when a performing member leaves the diocese his previous subscriptions shall be considered as part payment of the life composition and if such subscription amount to 5s. such life composition shall be deemed already paid." The attendance of all members is earnestly requested.
C. E. D. BOUTFLOWER, Hon. Sec.

The North Lincolnshire Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Lincoln on April 30th. Further particulars will appear next week.
GEO. CHESTER, Hon. Sec.

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—The spring meeting will be held at Kidlington on Saturday, April 30th. Service 4.30 p.m. Business meeting and tea after service. Members intending to be present must notify the same to me not later than April 28th.
A. C. R. FREEBORN, Hon. Sec.

Kidlington Vicarage, Oxford.

The Lancashire Association.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at the parish church (St. Mary's) Oldham, on Saturday, April 30th. Further particulars by circular. Intending subscribers to the Joel Redford memorial fund please forward their subscriptions to A. E. Wreaks, 41, Gibbon Street Bolton, on or before the above date.
A. E. WREAKS, J. WILSON, Hon. Secs.

North Notts. Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Retford, on Saturday, April 23rd. Divine Service in the parish church at 3.30, business meeting in the parish room after service. Tea in the Oddfellows' Club Room, Market Place, 5 p.m., members free, visitors 1s. each. Members of kindred Associations will be made welcome.
B. DARLEY, Hon. Sec.

The Kent County Association. — Maidstone District.—The next meeting of this District will be held at Hollingbourne, on Saturday, April 30th. Tower open from 4 p.m.
F. J. O. HELMORE, Hon. Sec.

The Ashton-under-Lyne Society.—The annual meeting of the above society will be held at the parish church, Ashton, on Saturday, April 30th. Bells ready at 4, meeting at 7.
S. BOOTH, Hon. Sec.

The Kent County Association. — Lewisham District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at the church of St. John the Baptist, Erith, on Saturday, April 30th. Tower open 3 p.m. Committee meeting 6 p.m.
W. J. JEFFRIES, Hon. Dist. Sec.

The Kent County Association. — Canterbury District.—The annual meeting of this District will be held at Faversham, on Monday, May 2nd. Particulars will be given next week.
F. J. O. HELMORE, Hon. Sec.

The Rochester and District Guild.—A meeting of this Guild will be held at Gillingham on Saturday, May 28.
A. RING, Hon. Sec.

Birth.

On the 12th inst., at 38, Cholmeley Road, Reading, the wife of ALBERT E. REEVES of a daughter,

Compositions.**PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.**

By JOHN HOWES, Kingston.

7008.

23456	1	4	5	6
63254	-			
64235	-	-		
42635	-			
26435	-			
34625	-			
46325	-			
63425	-			
32465	-			
42563	-	-		
62345	-	-	-	
23645	-			

Five times repeated, substituting a single for the first bob at 6 in the third and sixth parts. Contains the 4th, 5th and 6th each twenty times in 6ths place, the 2nd never being in that position at a course-end.

THE FRANCIS LEES' MEMORIAL FUND.

Will intending subscribers kindly note that the list will be closed on Saturday, April 3rd, and communicate with Mr. W. Holmes, 112, Helmesley Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne, before that date.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

WANTED.—Situation as jeweller's porter or any other light employment; used to winding and most clock repairs; can ring standard methods; married, aged 30. Address, E. C., care of Editor.

WANTED by young man aged 23, situation as turner. Can ring standard methods on eight and ten bells. Address, H. W., care of Editor.

SITUATION required as baker, 34 years in last situation, can mould, etc. Situation where smalls can be learnt preferred. Have rung a trifle in the Grandstre method, and wish to get into other methods, quick learner. Age 20; good references. Apply, J. Henley, Bartlett's Buildings, Rye, Sussex.

SITUATION WANTED.—Bellhanger, locksmith and hot water fitter. Improver, age 19, four years' experience. Good change-ringer on eight. Apply, E. S. Hodges, North Square, Dorchester, Dorset.

TIMEKEEPER seeks permanent situation. Excellent change-ringer in Standard methods. Member of the Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire Associations. Excellent references. Apply X. Y. Z., office of this paper.

GAS and Hot Water Fitter wants job. Good change-ringer from twelve-bell tower. Member of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. Apply to H.P., care of Editor.

SITUATION WANTED as gardener. single-handed or where help is given; life experience both inside and out. Four years and half good character. Age 26, married. Good change-ringer on eight.—Address, W. Smith, 24, Anerley Grove, Upper Norwood.

Situations Vacant.

MACHINE-MINDER WANTED.—Used to good book and cut-work. Must have served seven years. Permanency to suitable man, able to ring standard methods on ten bells preferred.—Billing & Sons, Guildford

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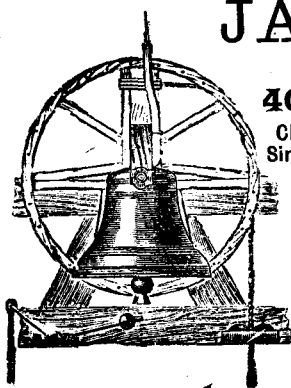
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THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 837.—VOL. XVI.]

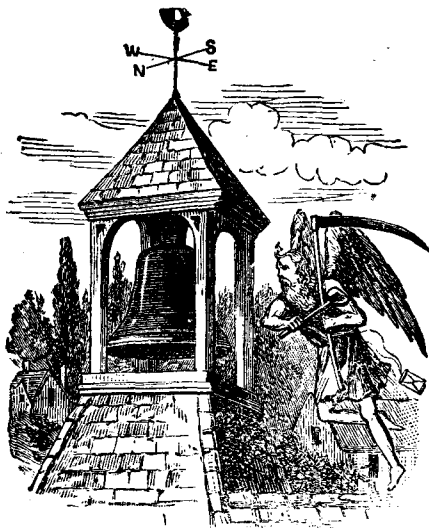
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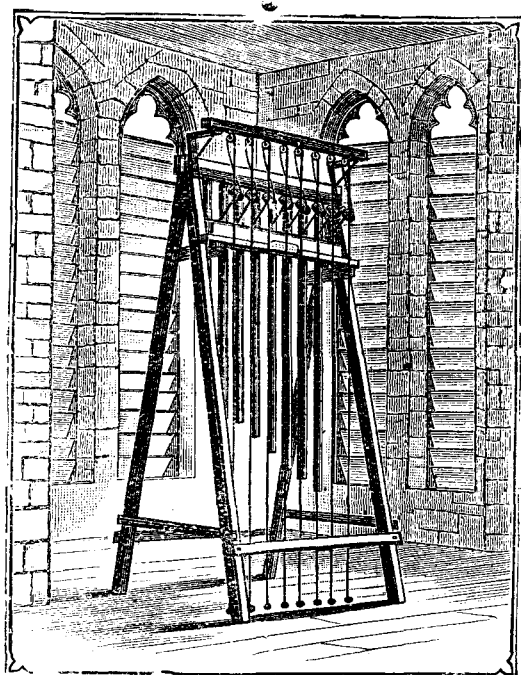
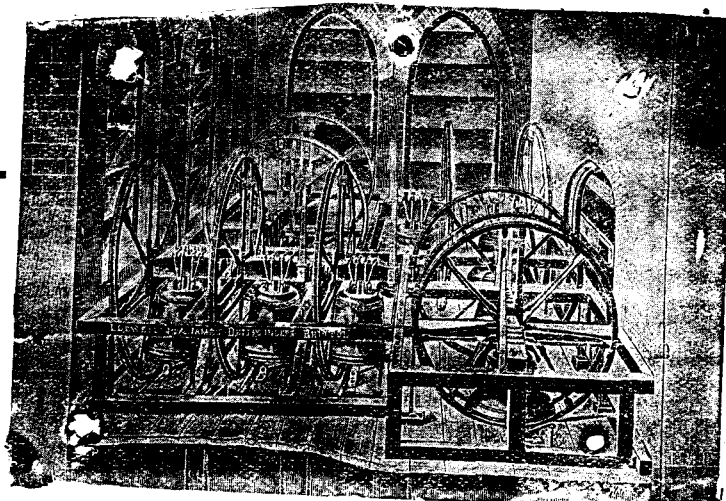
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 837.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 1898.

[Vol. XVI.]

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

This meeting was held at Brighton on Easter Monday. Nearly one hundred members attended from all parts of the county, the towers of St. Nicholas (10) and St. Peter's (8) being open for ringing during the day. Numerous touches were rung during the morning, and at noon a special service was held in the recently-dedicated side chapel of St. Peter's church.

The service was of a bright and hearty character, and an address appropriate to the occasion was delivered by the Rev. Prebendary J. J. Hannah, Vicar of Brighton, from the altar steps. The rev. gentleman first pointed out the lessons of the great festival of Easter, remarking that the Church was nothing if it was not missionary. Almost the last words of the Saviour, whose resurrection they were then celebrating, were an order to His disciples to go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature. From that time to the present the Church had been carrying out that command in various ways. There were many who went out to distant lands to preach the Gospel, while many others carried on the mission work at home. It was not sufficient for those who were concerned in that work to shut themselves up within the four walls of the church, but they had to go out into the highways and byways and compel the godless to go to church. There were many ways in which that could be done. The clergy constantly visited the homes of the people in every street and back lane of the parish. There was a whole body of people who helped the clergy, and he ventured to think that if his hearers would look at their work in the proper light, they would feel that they belonged to that great army who were carrying the message of the Church into the outside world. He wanted them to feel that they had a duty to do to that outside world by calling the people to church, just as much as the clergy had their duty to perform by visiting the people in their homes to try and persuade them to come to God's house. The bells were the voices of the Church calling the outside world to its services, and it was with that idea that bells were first put into the churches. No doubt they looked upon bellringing as a healthy form of exercise. Peal-ringing had now been brought to a fine art, but he wanted them to remember the one great central idea, that by ringing the bells they were helping in their own way to further the Kingdom of God on earth, helping the Church to make known far and near that Jesus Christ had risen from the dead, and had become the first-fruits of them that slept.

The members then adjourned to the Royal Pavilion, where luncheon was served in the north drawing room by Messrs. Booth, whose catering, as on previous occasions, gave entire satisfaction. The Mayor of Brighton (Sir John G. Blaker) presided, and was supported by Mr. G. F. Attree (Master of the Association), the Rev. J. W. G. Loder Cothor (Hon. Secretary), Mr. F. B. Tompkins (Hon. Treasurer), Rev. J. J. Hannah, Rev. C. W. Bond, Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Rev. J. Puttick, and Mr. J. Ellman Brown. Among those also present were Mr. S. Saker (Hon. Secretary Eastern Division), Mr. G. Williams (Hon. Secretary Central Division), and in addition to a number of independent members, representatives from the following towers: Aldrington, Angmering, Blacklands, Brighton (St. Nicholas and St. Peter's), Chichester, Crawley, Eastbourne (Christ Church), Goring, Hastings (St. Clement's), Heene, Horley, Lindfield, Lewes, Midhurst, Pevensy, St. Leonards (Christ Church), Steyning, Shoreham, and West Tarring.

At the conclusion of the repast the Mayor proposed the ringers' toast of "The Church and Queen," and spoke of the close association which had existed for so many years between the monarchy and the Church.

The Master said there was one duty which he thought ought

to be performed, and that was to thank the Mayor of Brighton for so kindly, on that third successive occasion, coming to pre-side over them at their annual luncheon. With that vote he would also like to couple their thanks to the Vicar for so kindly telling some of them—not all of them, because some did not go to the service—their duty as ringers. He would also like to thank the Vicars and Rectors of other churches in the county for their kindnesses during the past year, for many of them, in addition to granting the use of their bells, had also provided them with very substantial meals.

Sir John Blaker in reply made a very genial and witty after-dinner speech, which was much enjoyed, and called forth frequent "peals" of laughter and "rounds" of applause. He expressed the pleasure it gave him to meet them—the change-ringers of Sussex, and a body of Churchmen of whom they were all proud. He noticed, he said, that one item of their agenda was to consider the advisability of holding their annual meeting at various centres, not always at Brighton. He did not want to influence the voting in any way, but he strongly advised them to vote against it (laughter). They always provided fine weather for them when they came to Brighton, and he suggested that it was too serious a question to be determined off-hand, and it would be to their advantage to take four or five years in which to consider it. In conclusion he said he was pleased to welcome them there that day, and thanked Mr. Attree for his cordial invitation to join them.

The Vicar of Brighton made a most amusing speech in response. He said he was disposed to recommend them most strongly to take their meeting away from Brighton, for the simple reason that he knew very well that they would soon come back again to stay for good. Referring to ringing, he said it was a great pleasure to see how in every church throughout the country the whole status of the matter had been raised during the last few years. It had been his great endeavour to try and bring the Parish Church of Brighton up to the level of what a parish church in a great town should be. He had succeeded to a certain extent inasmuch as they had built the new chapel, but still much remained to be done. Although some might remark on the inadequacy of the interior, yet they could at all events point to their ringing-chamber as one of the best in England. The ringers were an exemplary band, and the ringing was a credit to the parish. He was happy to say that he had not received a complaint of the ringing for many years.

The business was then proceeded with, and after the Hon. Secretary had read the minutes of the last annual meeting,

The Master gave his usual *resumé* of the doings of the Association during the past year. He said the year 1897 had been one of successes in some points and of disappointments in others. With regard to peals there had been 77 rung by the Association, against 59 the previous year, and 47 the year before. In analysing the peals the disappointing part came in, for there were not so many branches ringing peals now as there were five or six years ago. There must be a reason for that, and if it was that those who used to ring peals were getting tired of it themselves, then he hoped they would bring on younger bands. With regard to the challenge-bell, if they had got tired of trying for it because they thought they had no chance of taking it away from St. Peter's, he ventured to say, speaking for the band, that they would willingly withdraw from the competition for a year or two. It would probably do good, and they had had the bell now in the belfry for six or seven years. As to the methods rung, there had in some towers, he thought, been an improvement, but there were many towers which had shown signs of going back, and it was one of those incomprehensible things to him how a band once getting away from Grandsire should go back to it again. It was either neglect of practice or want of interest

which brought about that state, or for lack of bringing on young hands. In an association like theirs they could not afford to let even one band go back. They must not let their county, which had stood at the head of all the associations of England some eight years out of the last twelve, go back, and thus lose their reputation. With regard to the finances, he thought they were in a satisfactory condition. Although they had only a balance of £11 this year as against £25 last, they had the difference in the value of certificates of which they had bought the copyright. The district meetings were also a source of congratulation, as most of them had been well attended. There had been good practice, and the results were highly satisfactory. Although they had lost some three or four towers during the year they had gained others, notably, Shoreham, which was a great addition. In conclusion, Mr. Attree said, a letter had been received from the president (the Lord Bishop of Chichester), in which he stated that he was exceedingly sorry he could not be present at the meeting, and expressing his willingness to again accept the office.

The Bishop of Chichester was then re-elected President, on the motion of the Mayor, seconded by Mr. J. Ellman Brown.

On the proposition of Mr. F. B. Tompkins, seconded by Rev. C. W. Bond, the whole of the vice-presidents were re-elected.

The Secretary, in proposing the re-election of Mr. G. F. Attree as Master of the Association, said that that gentleman not only did a great deal for the Sussex Association, but for ringing in general throughout the country. Rev. C. D. Davies seconded, and it was unanimously carried.

Mr. Attree, in acknowledging his election, said he thought the post ought to be limited to a certain number of years, but all the while they elected him he would do his best for the Association.

Rev. Prebendary Hannah, in proposing the re-election of the Hon. Secretaries, Hon. Treasurer, and Auditors, said, of those gentlemen he knew very little, but he would like to allude to what their esteemed Master, Mr. Attree, had done. He said the difficulties which laid before him years ago would have stopped any less enthusiastic man than Mr. Attree. He had had to create the whole concern so far as St. Peter's was concerned, and they had done themselves an honour by re-electing him.

Rev. J. Puttick seconded, and bore testimony to the untiring and loyal services which the Rev. J. W. G. Loder Cother had rendered to the association.

Mr. Saker said, owing to his increasing business, which took him away from home a great deal, he wished to resign the office of Secretary of the Eastern Division.

The Master said they could not spare Mr. Saker, and hoped when his business prevented him from attending the meetings he would be able to find a substitute.

Mr. Saker said if someone would volunteer to act when he was absent he would be pleased to continue in office.

Mr. Lock, of Hastings, volunteered, and his offer was accepted with thanks.

Twelve new members were elected, and the Rev. C. D. P. Davies gave notice that at the next annual meeting he would move a resolution to the effect that "a band after having won the challenge bell three years in succession should not be eligible to compete for at least one year."

The Master moved the adoption of the report and balance-sheet. The balance-sheet showed that the receipts amounted to £35 3s. 3d., and that there was a balance in hand at the beginning of 1897 of £25 7s. 11d., and that there were certificates value £11 7s. 6d. in stock. The expenditure amounted to £48 12s. 1d., and there remained a balance in hand of £11 19s. 1d. The motion was unanimously carried.

Mr. A. B. Bennett moved: "That the Central Council be requested to urge upon the Railway Companies the claim of ringers for the same facilities as are now granted to Golf and Fishing Clubs." In support of the motion he urged that it was a matter which affected both the pockets of the Association and of the individual members, and would also have a beneficial effect on the number of peals rung. Mr. Blake seconded.

The Master, who is a member of the Central Council Committee on Railway Fares, speaking on the subject, said the main difficulty was not in getting the Brighton line to grant the concessions, but with the Clearing House in London, and until

they could show that Department the absolute necessity of complying with the request, they would not get the rates reduced. The Committee were still in existence, and strong pressure was to be brought upon the Clearing House after the next Central Council meeting. It was proposed that every Association should approach the Companies in their own district, backed up at the same time by a strong report from the Central Council. If they would not move then, but he felt almost certain that they would, then they would, he was afraid, have to go without cheap rates for ever. The resolution was put and carried.

A formal resolution proposed by Mr. F. F. B. Tompkins, and seconded by Mr. S. Saker, that a memorial to carry into effect the statements of the Master, should be made to the London, Brighton and South Coast, and the South Eastern Railway Companies, was then carried.

Mr. E. Brant then proposed: "That the annual meeting of the Association should be held at various centres, not always at Brighton." In support of his motion he put forward two very strong points. The first was that he believed there was no other Association which held its annual meetings at the same place year after year, and the second was that if they visited other towns it would stir up there the interest in the Association.

Mr. G. Howse seconded, and remarked that owing to the annual meeting always being held at Brighton was the chief reason for the withdrawal from the Association of one branch at Eastbourne.

Mr. F. B. Tompkins opposed the motion. He said Mr. Brant had not mentioned any centre where the meetings could be held. In his opinion there was only one centre in Sussex and that was Brighton.

The Master said there were favourable points on both sides of the argument. It was necessary that they should hold the meeting where everybody could get to it, and it was also very important that they should get among the members.

The Secretary although agreeing with the resolution thought that the Association should only go to those towers which were branches of the Association.

The Master thought it would be best if Mr. Brant would hold his motion over until the next annual meeting, to give the members more time to consider it.

Mr. Brant eventually agreed to do this. He then moved "That on application, a conductor for a peal may be provided as the funds of the Association permit." The Master seconded and it was at once carried.

The next resolution "to consider what additional benefits could be conferred by the Association" was put down to Mr. F. B. Tompkins. That gentleman said the question had been brought up at the Committee meeting, but he was surprised that it had been put down as a resolution in his name. One additional benefit had already been conferred, but he had nothing else to suggest. He urged upon them before such things could be undertaken that the subscriptions of bands must be paid up.

Mr. G. Howse then proposed that two members of the Committee retire annually. He said his reason for doing so was that they wanted a little new blood on that body. Mr. Blake seconded.

Mr. Penfold proposed as an amendment that the whole of the Committee should retire annually. Mr. Goldsmith seconded.

The Master said if the resolution was passed that day it would have no effect on the present Committee, whose term of office expired next year. Therefore if the resolution was held over until the next meeting it would be in time to come into operation when the new Committee were elected. It was agreed to let the matter stand over and the meeting terminated with vote of thanks to the officers for their services during the past year, proposed by Mr. A. B. Bennett.

The members then returned to the towers where touches in various methods were rung, the belfries being closed at nine o'clock after a very successful day.

WANTED a large peal of handbells. Forty-nine bells. Chromatic scale; G25 to G04; or a larger peal with duplicates. Must be in thorough good condition, and sweet tone. State lowest possible terms, with maker's name, and all particulars to WILMER ROGERS, 8, York Street, Wrexham.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—LEWISHAM DISTRICT.

For some time past it has been thought by many of the leading ringers of this district, that a better feeling would exist, and more unity prevail, could members of the various towers meet at the festive board. The suggestion emanated in the first instance from Greenwich, and was warmly taken up by the ringers of St. Mary's, Lewisham, and others of St. John's, Deptford, with the result that on Saturday, April 2nd, some five-and-twenty well-known Kentish ringers assembled at The Globe Inn, Royal Hill, Greenwich, to do justice to the excellent menu provided by the respected hostess, Mrs. Chapman. Doubtless this number would have been largely increased, but for the fact that a wild, not to say ridiculous, rumour had been circulated by some friend (?) to the effect that the gathering was "unofficial," and therefore should be taboed. Upon the cloth being removed, the loyal toasts were duly honoured, after which Miss Christabel Airy (who although not a change-ringer, is an adept at manipulating a bell-rope) opened the musical portion of the programme with the favorite ballad "On the Banks of Allan Water." Other songs were excellently rendered by the chairman (Mr. W. J. Jeffries), Messrs. Priest, H. Hoskins, W. Foreman, C. H. Walker, and F. W. Thornton, the last-named also officiating at the pianoforte. Change-ringing and selections upon the handbells were also indulged in by Messrs. Warnett, Hoskins, Jeffries, and Thornton. Prior to the close, Mr. Thornton rose and proposed "Success to the Lewisham District of the Association," coupling with that toast the name of the Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. J. Jeffries. He said it was well-known to those present that for a considerable time past the Lewisham District had been in a condition almost bordering upon disorganisation, mainly brought about by misconstruction of general questions of interest to the whole Exercise, into petty personal grievances. He felt that the time had arrived when this continual bickering and ill-feeling should cease, and the district resume its old-time tranquility and progressive policy. He opposed Mr. Jeffries' election to the post of Hon. District Secretary last year, because he was led to believe that he would be a figure in the hands of others who would pull the strings. He was most happy that evening to admit his error; Mr. Jeffries had proved himself to be a straightforward conscientious man, who would work solely in the interests of the whole district, and not individual members. As such he merited their hearty support and confidence, without which it was impossible for him to deal satisfactorily with the affairs of the district. The toast was drank with musical honours.

Mr. Jeffries in response said he thanked most sincerely Mr. Thornton and all present for their kindly expressions of goodwill. He took office in very troublesome times, and under disheartening conditions. There had been almost a complete absence of unity between the various bands of the district, caused, as had been pointed out, by different complexions being put upon what were really general matters of proposed reforms. However, it was a gratifying feature that in some places a kindlier feeling had sprung up, but there was yet much more to be done to promote unity and good fellowship all round. Capital had been made of the fact that the gathering that evening was not "officially" called. Personally he cordially welcomed the suggestion of a dinner and social evening, and directly gave his hearty support and assistance to his Greenwich and Lewisham colleagues to carry the affair through successfully, believing that the movement would bear good fruit, and enable them to achieve the objects they had in view, viz., unity and progress. In thanking them for their most pleasing reception, he hoped that the gathering would be made an annual one, and would heartily support any resolution which might be arrived at to place an "official" complexion upon future arrangements of the kind, and so enable absent friends to participate in the enjoyment of what had been a very happy and successful venture.

Representatives were present from Erith, Lee, Rotherhithe, Greenwich, Lewisham, and St. John's, Deptford.

GRETTON (Northants).—On Saturday, March 5th, 240 Grandsire Doubles. J. Smith, 1; G. Richmond, 2; E. J. Gale (conductor), 3; G. Teeboon, 4; F. Richmond, 5. The conductor, who was formerly a member of this band, hails from Melton Mowbray.

A RINGER'S WEDDING.

On Saturday, April 9th, was solemnised at St. Mary's church, Lewisham, the marriage of Miss Edith Ellen Richardson with Mr. Charles Henry Walker, a much respected member of the local band. A large sprinkling of friends witnessed the ceremony, which was performed by the Vicar, the Rev. Samuel Bickersteth, M.A., and at its conclusion the bells were "fired," the Queen's, Tittums, and Whittington changes were struck, the whole concluding with a well-rung touch of Grandsire Triples, in which the following took part, viz.: Messrs. O. Bedwell, H. Barrett, T. Chandler, F. Kettle, H. Warnett (conductor), all of Lewisham, and Messrs W. Foreman, J. J. Lamb and F. W. Thonton, of St. Alfege, Greenwich.

Later in the day the band (augmented by others from St. John's Deptford and elsewhere) were entertained in excellent manner at the residence of the bride's parents. Needless to say, the healths of the newly-wedded pair were enthusiastically honoured, and a happy evening devoted to harmony and selections upon the handbells by Messrs. Jeffries, Hoskins and Thornton.

On Tuesday, the 12th instant, there was a fairly large and representative gathering at the headquarters of the Lewisham ringers, to do honour to their newly-married colleague, Mr. C. H. Walker. Mr. Frederick W. Thornton, of Greenwich, presided, by request, and in the course of the evening proposed, in felicitous terms, "Health, long life and happiness to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Walker," concluding by asking Mr. H. Warnett, on behalf of the local band, to present Mr. Walker with a tribute of their esteem in the form of a handsome timepiece. Mr. Walker thanked his Lewisham colleagues very sincerely for their beautiful gift, which would always be prized by his bride and self, not alone for its intrinsic value, but for the kindly feeling which had prompted it. He was very grateful also to them for the interest they had taken in his efforts to master change-ringing, and owed the chairman and other Greenwich friends a debt of gratitude for their always ready assistance.

The evening was afterwards pleasantly spent in harmony and handbell-ringing, some excellent songs being rendered by Messrs. W. J. Jeffries, C. Withecomb, T. Chandler, H. Langridge, H. Hoskins, F. Pearl, W. Foreman and F. W. Thornton.

KILDWICK.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION,

On Easter Monday, April 11th, the Kildwick company took advantage of an excursion train to Morecambe to have a ring on the new bells of the parish church, which have only been put in a short time. They were cast by Messrs. Carr, of Birmingham, in the Jubilee year, tenor 9 cwt. They broke their journey at Lancaster, where a 720 of Violet was rung on the light ring of six at St. Thomas' church, tenor 9 cwt. After dinner they took tram forward to Morecambe, a distance of about four miles, where a 720 of Violet was rung, and 360 Duke of York. Thanks are due to the local companies, and also to the rectors for the use of the bells.

AGED BELLRINGER'S RECORD.

For seventy-six years Charles Cardwell, who was born April 9th, 1798, and who died March 15th, 1898, had daily rung the cathedral bell for matins and evensong at Wells. During this time he had tolled the parting knell of three of our kings, of five bishops of the diocese, and of six deans of the cathedral church. At his death, though his eyes were dimmed, his natural forces were so fairly sustained that, but for the death, at 70, of the daughter who nursed him, he would in all human probability, have outlived his rooth birthday on Easter Eve.

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THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

Early on the morn of Easter Monday, which in the Midlands at any rate opened auspiciously, members from Derby, Duffield, Nottingham, Sheffield, Leicester, Ashby, Nuneaton, Barwell, and other places, assembled at Burton-on-Trent. St. Paul's belfry, where so many noted peals have been rung, peals which for many years placed the M.C.A. in the forefront among the associations of the country, was crowded throughout the day, and many admired the orderly belfry, the numerous and expensive peal-boards, and commented on the easy go of the bells. The bells of St. Modwen were also at the disposal of visitors.

The great feature of the day's outing was the inspection of Messrs. Bass and Co.'s celebrated premises. A party of nearly 100 were taken by train round the various breweries, and had the opportunity, guided by an able conductor, of inspecting the various processes to which the malt and hops are subjected ere the beverage for which the firm is world-famed, is perfected. Refreshments of cheese and biscuits, washed down by some of the firm's finest India Pale, were partaken of *en route*, and thoroughly enjoyed.

A capital meat tea was provided in the large hall of St. Paul's Church Institute at 4.0 p.m., to which full justice was done. After tea the meeting was held, the President, Sir Arthur Percival Heywood, Bart., in the chair, supported by the Rev. F. H. Beaven (Vicar of St. Paul's), the Rev. Alfred Lowe (Vicar of Rangemore), and about 100 members and friends. To commence the business of the meeting the Hon. Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, which were confirmed; also the names of five new honorary members, two life, and twelve new ringing members, who were all duly admitted.

The President, in addressing the meeting, said that members would find the record of the past year criticised in the annual report. The only very noteworthy points were the three peals of Stedman Caters on handbells by the Birmingham Friendly Society, and the large number of different bands, viz.: 17, who had achieved peals. Up to the present time 16 peals had been rung this year, viz.: three at Burton and Nuneaton, two at Loughborough and Leicester, one each at Bakewell, Barwell, Duffield, Shepshed, Stanford, and Winhill, which was a fair start. If no other feature of notoriety was accomplished this year, the silent peal of Stedman Triples in hand, at Leicester, was sufficient to lift the year's record from obscurity. The President commented rather severely on the carelessness of many conductors, and advised companies not to divide the conducting among too many, but to give a good conductor a chance of becoming more capable. He went on to express his sincere regret at the death of Mr. Hamar A. Bass, and his sympathy with a family who had done so much for the Association; also he greatly regretted that so many capable members and old friends of his had been carried to their last resting-place during the past year, and hoped that they would find young men capable of taking their place.

Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun. proposed a vote of thanks to the clergy for the use of the bells, which was seconded by Mr. Wakley, and carried with applause.

The Rev. F. H. Beaven, Vicar of St. Paul's, said he was most pleased to welcome such a large body of church workers to Burton. His own ringers were simply invaluable, when he first knew them he valued them, but now he valued them ten thousand times more. You do all of you, he said, perform a work which should tend to the advancement of the Church and the extension of God's kingdom.

The Rev. Alfred Lowe, Vicar of Rangemore, also responded.

The General Officers were re-elected on the proposition of Mr. S. Cooper, seconded by Mr. J. Griffin; and the Treasurer's accounts adopted on the proposition of Mr. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Hickman.

A vote of thanks to the Auditors, Messrs. Griffin and Hickman, was passed, on the proposition of the Hon. Secretary, seconded by Mr. Dunmore.

Derby was carried as the place for the next annual meeting, on the proposition of Mr. Griffin, seconded by Mr. Hickman; and Beeston as the rendezvous for the next quarterly meeting, on the motion of the Hon. Secretary, seconded by Mr. Smith.

A vote of thanks to the directors of Messrs. Bass and Co. for

their kindness in granting the Association the privilege of an inspection of the various breweries, and for their hospitality, was carried with great applause, on the motion of Mr. Jaggar, seconded by Mr. Aldham.

A vote of thanks to the President concluded the business of the meeting. Members then dispersed to while away the few remaining hours till time, with ruthless hand, scattered them once more in all directions.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

QUARTERLY MEETING AT ALRESFORD, HANTS.

On Easter Monday the above Society met under favourable circumstances, and were cordially welcomed by the Rev. A. A. Headley, Rector of New Alresford. The bells (8) were set going early in the day, and various touches of Treble Bob Major, Stedman and Grandsire Triples were brought round. At 3.30 the Master, the Rev. R. C. M. Harvey, presided over the business meeting, which was held in the board school, some twenty-five members being present, including the veteran Mr. J. Hewett, Rev. F. Whyley (Vicar of Alton), Rev. H. Wheat (Titchfield), the Rector of New Alresford, and the Hon. Secretary, the Rev. C. E. Matthews. The minutes of the last quarterly meeting were read and passed on the proposition of Mr. W. H. George, seconded by Mr. J. W. Whiting. The election of new members then followed; C. E. Radclyffe, Esq., of Little Park, Wickham, life member, and twenty performing members being added to the list. These latter belong to the following bands: Portsea, Capel, Oakley, York Town, Farnham, Hawley and Christchurch.

The Hon. Secretary then mentioned a difference which had occurred between the ringers of a certain band affiliated to the Guild and their Vicar. He desired to test the feeling of the meeting on the point, as two or three other similar cases had occurred in recent years, and he did not wish to feel that he was solely responsible for their settlement. It was a difficult matter always, and he had written to advise the ringers to settle their differences as loyally as they could. With one exception they had all returned to their duties. So far as he was aware, the only manner in which conduct of this sort could be dealt with was by placing the names of such ringers upon the unattached list, thereby detaching them from their own tower. He had framed a motion which he would read: but he would leave it entirely in the hands of the meeting to say whether it would be advisable to add it as a new rule or not. The motion was "That the committee have full power to summarily deal with members or band in cases reported from incumbents."

Mr. J. J. Jones (Guildford) said that the rules already provided for such cases, when the emergency arose.

Mr. W. H. George (Winchester) thought it would be undesirable to have any hard and fast rule on such points.

Mr. E. J. Heathorn (Woolston) said that often these mistakes occurred from misunderstandings on both sides.

Messrs. White (Basingstoke), LeClercq (Farnham), and Whiting (Fareham) also spoke on the subject.

The Master thought it would not do to have a fixed rule on such a subject, but if the Vicar and ringers could not settle their differences, then the committee might be called in to arbitrate if desired to do so.

The Rev. F. Whyley (Alton) said he knew from a long experience that difficulties would arise from time to time. He thought that the Guild should not use any arbitrary power, but rather hear both sides. He knew that parsons made mistakes, and ringers also made mistakes, but he did not think the Guild would do any good by interfering. If a band was to be upset by one or two members, it was far better in the interests of all that such should retire. He always had the greatest respect for ringers as a body.

The Hon. Secretary then replied, and thanked the meeting for their expression of opinion, and the matter then dropped.

A letter was read from the Rev. C. P. Berryman, Vicar of York Town, suggesting Monday, July 4th, as a convenient date for the annual meeting. On the motion of Mr. M. Steer (Hawley), seconded by Mr. G. E. Chappell (Wickam), the above date was fixed *nem. con.* A small committee, consisting of the Master, Messrs. White, Whiting, Harper, Steer, with Mr. T. Fairley

(churchwarden of York Town), and the Hon. Sec. was appointed to draw up the programme of arrangements for the annual festival.

Mr. H. White was appointed to audit the accounts of the Guild, on the motion of Mr. Whiting, seconded by Mr. J. Harper. A vote of thanks to the Rev. A. A. Headley for his kindness in welcoming the Guild to Alresford, to which he cordially replied, terminated the business of the meeting. Subsequently twenty-eight members sat down to an excellent tea, catered for by Mrs. Crook.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

In accordance with their annual custom, the members of the Bedfordshire Association visited Bedford on Easter Monday, their annual gathering being always held on that day. During the morning various touches were rung on St. Paul's bells, and at three o'clock there was the usual special service in St. Paul's Church, an able sermon being preached by the Rev. J. W. E. Conybeare, vicar of Barrington, near Cambridge, who based his discourse on the words "Praise him upon the loud cymbals; praise him upon the high sounding cymbals" (Psalm cl. 5), and gave the ringers some practical advice, pointing out what to his mind were the bounden moral duties of the sounders of the loud cymbals. After this service the company adjourned to All Hallows Mission Room, where a meat tea was provided and was followed by the general annual meeting for the transaction of business. The Rev. Lambert Woodward (Vicar of St. Paul's and one of the Vice-presidents of the Association) was in the chair, supported by the Rev. P. E. Curtois (secretary of the Hunts. Archidiaconal Association), Rev. J. W. E. Conybeare, Rev. Canon Haddock, and Rev. W. W. Carew Baker (Secretary of the Bedfordshire Association), Mr. T. Bull, and Mr. Edwin Ransom. Letters regretting their inability to attend were received from the Mayor (Mr. George Wells), and the Archdeacon of Bedford, while Mr. George Hurst also had sent word through Mr. Bull that it would have afforded him pleasure to have been among the company had he been able, and he sent his good wishes for prosperity, accompanied by a subscription.

The annual report was read by Mr. Baker and subsequently adopted. The Financial Statement showed a balance of £34 13s. 3½d. Last year's money in hand was £341 9s. 5½d., and to this had been added £4 7s. in subscriptions since the last annual meeting. The year's expenses only ran to just over £3 13s. The present balance will be still further augmented by interest on a bank deposit, so that the association's finances are in a sound condition.

The Secretary proceeded to lay before the meeting the proposed scheme of affiliation with the Ely Diocesan Association. He said he thought the matter resolved itself into two primary questions. First the company ought to be asked whether they approved of the general principle of the project, and then, if it were seen that they did, every clause of the Committee's scheme ought to be separately discussed. The ringers would perhaps recollect that a year ago the Rev. W. W. Cramp (Hon. Secretary of the Ely Diocesan Association) met them in conference and expounded the bearings of the whole thing. The company at that time expressed no definite opinion, but appointed a special committee to consider the proposals, and draft a scheme which might be submitted to this annual meeting. For his own part he hoped the Association would now see their way to adopt the affiliation, though he did not pin himself to every clause of the report. He ventured to assert that it would thoroughly preserve their independence, and yet at the same time unite them to other archdeaconries in a manner that would be bound to prove, in the long run, advantageous. It surely seemed peculiar that they should be so long standing alone, when the three other archdeaconries in the Ely diocese were banded together as one. The company would remember that at the very outset it had been contended by leading heads that the Diocesan association should be initiated, and then the idea consummated by a uniting of the four archdeaconries. He proposed that the main principle of the scheme should be approved. Mr. I. Hills seconded.

The Rev. P. E. Curtois sincerely hoped that the motion would be carried; if it were he had something to say as to the working of the scheme.

Mr. F. Chasty opposed the affiliation. He said that the Bed-

fordshire Association had survived many difficulties since their beginning 16 years ago, and could still exist isolated, as it were, very well. He could foresee many expenses which the scheme would annually incur, but no benefits in return. The annual gatherings would only be held on alternate years, and this would mean another serious alteration. In fact he had heard members at all the centres speak against the idea and imply that if it were carried they should at once resign their membership. They looked upon it as an encumbrance, and would infinitely rather stand alone.

Mr. Bull spoke in favor of the scheme. He said it seemed to have been launched in a brotherly spirit, and he agreed that Bedford with their heavy purse and their remarkable talent might be willing to assist Ely all they could (a voice: "Charity begins at home, sir; we want help ourselves.").

Mr. Harry King (Biddenham) concurred with most of the views of the Secretary.

Mr. Herbert (Woburn) asked whether, in the event of affiliation, the peals that were rung by this Association would be kept strictly separate in the annual international analysis. If they were not, he said, Bedford would be at a grave disadvantage. Last year, for instance, Bedford rung twenty-five peals and Ely only five.

Mr. Chasty: If we affiliate and assume another name we ought to stick up to it. We had better by half keep as we are.

The Secretary, replying to the discussion, said that he was often disheartened to see that however much bellringing prospered it did not appear to materially improve the performers' churchmanship. Many of the remarks that had been made would almost lead one to infer that some of the elements that pervaded such sports as football had begun to find their way even to the art of bellringing. The scheme was launched because it was so much felt by some that Bedford's relationship to the Bishopric of Ely was as great as that of the other archdeaconries: the promoters wanted to increase the diocesan spirit.

The motion was put and lost by a large majority, and the scheme was therefore declared to be rejected.

The officers were all re-elected. Mr. Baker wanted to resign the Secretaryship by reason of a great pressure of work in his new parish, Ridgmount. All the company, however, pressed him to retain the post, and he agreed to on the understanding that Mr. I. Hills, the assistant secretary, should in future largely participate in the duties Mr. Baker had performed without aid in the past.

THE EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the above was held at Clay Cross on Easter Monday, April 11th, members being present from Ashover, Heath, Horsley, Clay Cross, North Wingfield, Tibshelf, South Normanton, and Wingerworth. The bells were raised soon after 9 a.m., when a 720 of Bob Minor was tapped off in good style by a mixed band. Service was held in the church at 4.30 p.m., at which the vicar, the Rev. H. S. Oldham, gave a very appropriate address to the members present. Tea was served in the parochial school at 5 p.m., at which thirty-five sat down. The business meeting was held after tea. The secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, which were duly confirmed; also the balance-sheet, which was considered very satisfactory, showing a balance in hand of £8 9s. 1d. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President—Rev. E. A. Morgan; Treasurer—Rev. C. J. Boden; Secretary—Mr. T. Allibone.

The chairman (Rev. E. A. Morgan), moved a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring officers, which was unanimously adopted. Quarterly meetings for the year were arranged as follows: June—Tibshelf; September—Wingerworth; December—North Wingfield. Votes of thanks to the chairman and to the vicar of Clay Cross, brought the meeting to a close. The bells were kept merrily going till 8.30 p.m., one and all having enjoyed themselves.

ALREWAS (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, February 20th, 720 Grand-sire Minor in 27 mins. F. Barton, 1; T. Meredith (conductor), 2; F. Sedgwick, 3; G. Griffiths, 4; E. Allsopp, 5; C. Draper, 6. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the memory of the late Bishop Selwyn.

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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 NINETEEN 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 portions 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 23, 1898.

AN attempt was made on Easter Monday, at the meeting of the Bedfordshire Association in the county town, to amalgamate that body with the Ely Diocesan Association. We regret to read that such an effort did not meet with success. The majority of the members present had apparently made up their minds with regard to the question long before. It is possible there may be some reasonable cause against such an amalgamation only known to those directly concerned; but the majority of ringers who pride themselves upon their connection with the Church, and their position as Church officers, will be slow to divine such cause. The only reason which has any ground of objection to the affiliation, certainly has not the flavour of unselfishness. To those outside the county of Bedford or the Diocese of Ely the opposition to such a scheme will appear strange and unnatural.

It is well thought by many that the Diocese, where practicable, should mark the confines of the Ringing Guild or Association, in preference to that of the county. Various causes prevent uniformity in this respect, but the arrangement seems more in accordance with the fitness of

things. We should, all things being equal, prefer the dignity of a Diocesan Association to anything else. What loss the present Bedfordshire Association can sustain by this affiliation scheme is not easy to see. Peals rung under diocesan auspices would sound equally as dignified as under the title of a county, more so in fact. We have never yet heard of dissatisfaction expressed by ringers because their organization was diocesan instead of territorial.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

The next meeting will be held at Bristol on Tuesday in Whit-sun-week, 31st May, 1898.

Notices of motion, etc., must reach the Hon. Secretary not later than Tuesday, the 3rd of May. They must be in writing, and signed by two representatives.

Hon. Secretaries of the following societies are respectfully reminded that the contributions of their societies have not (up to this date, April 19th) been received: Devonshire Guild, Gloucester and Bristol Association, Liverpool Guild, St. James's Society, Royal Cumberland Society, Archdeaconry of Stafford Society, Salisbury Guild.

Information of any change in representatives, or their addresses, will be thankfully received with the respective contributions.

H. EARLE BULWER, Hon. Sec.

Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn.

The Metropolis.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 16, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty-four 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 WARNETT 5.
THOMAS TAYLOR 2.	HARRY HOSKINS.. .. 6.
JOHN JAMES LAMB 3.	HARRY FLANDERS 7.
WILLIAM FOREMAN 4.	FREDK. W. THORNTON .. Tenor.

Composed by J. REEVES and Conducted by F. W. THORNTON.

Rung in honour of the election as churchwardens of Messrs. Richard Stephens Jackson, L.C.C., and Harry Bolton Sewell.

The Provinces.

OXFORD.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, April 11, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty-eight Minutes,

AT NEW COLLEGE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5021 CHANGES; Tenor 21 cwt.

W. FINCH Treble.	F. A. CASTLE 6.
A. FOX 2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
S. HOUNSLOW 3.	W. J. SMITH 8.
W. JEFFREY 4.	J. W. WASHBROOK 9.
C. HOUNSLOW 5.	A. STRANGE Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by J. W. WASHBROOK.

OTLEY, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Monday, April 11, 1898, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

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

CHARLES RALPH .. Treble.	WILLIAM D. CLOUGH .. 5.
FRED MASTON 2.	JOHN NELSON 6.
LISTER CAWOOD 3.	JAMES HORNER 7.
ARTHUR SNOWBALL .. 4.	WILLIAM WADDINGTON .. Tenor.

Composed by LISTER CAWOOD and Conducted by JOHN NELSON.

Rung with the bells muffled in memory of the late Canon Trower.

SHREWSBURY.—THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, April 12, 1898, in Three Hours and Thirty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES.

Tenor 43 cwt.

THOMAS J. BRATTON .. Treble.	JOHN OVERTON 6.
GEORGE J. TAYLOR* .. 2.	*ALBERT LITTLE 7.
HERBERT JONES 3.	GEORGE BURROWS 8.
JAMES E. GROVES 4.	CHARLES H. WATTS .. 9.
JOHN E. OVERTON 5.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by J. E. GROVES.

*First peal of Caters. Rung as a centenary peal for the opening of these bells.

POSTINGFORD, SUFFOLK.

On Tuesday, April 12, 1898, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being Forty-two Six-scores of Grandsire. Tenor 12 cwt.

ALBERT HICKS* .. Treble.	*CHARLES HICKS 3.
WILLIAM ATKINSON .. 2.	CHARLES HOWE 4.
ALFRED RICHARDSON* .. Tenor.	

Conducted by W. ATKINSON.

*First peal.

THORNHAM MAGNA, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, April 13, 1898, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of St. Simon's, Plain Bob, The Dream, Morning Star, April Day, St. Dunstan's, and Grandsire. Tenor 12 cwt.

EDWARD YOUNGS .. Treble.	GEORGE MOSS 3.
JOHN BUCKINGHAM .. 2.	EDWARD BUCKINGHAM .. 4.
ALEXANDER SYMONDS .. Tenor.	

Conducted by A. SYMONDS.

First peal known to be rung on the bells, also first peal by the company. Rung at the third attempt.

FREISTON.—THE EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, April 14, 1898, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5280 CHANGES;

Being a 6-score each of St. Simon's, Tulip, Primrose, April Day, Hudibras, Plain Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, Chase, St. Dunstan's, Lincolnshire Singles, London Doubles, and Grandsire.

Tenor 20 cwt.

A. A. BARBER* .. Treble.	H. STAFFURTH 3.
A. O. BARBER 2.	C. R. LILLEY 4.
JOHN SHARP Tenor.	

Conducted by JOHN SHARP.

*First peal.

NOTTINGHAM.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, April 14, 1898, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART.

WILLIAM FLINDERS .. Treble.	GEORGE MIDDLETON .. 5.
SAMUEL WILKINS 2.	GEORGE H. JOHNSON .. 6.
HARRY R. COBBIN* .. 3.	EBENEZER WOODING .. 7.
JOHN HICKMAN 4.	EDWARD HUGHES .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE HENRY JOHNSON.

*First peal. First peal on the bells since being re-hung. Rang on Mr. Hickman's birthday, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

CAVERSHAM, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 16, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION.

Tenor 13½ cwt. in F#.

THOMAS NEWMAN Treble.	HARRY W. SMITH 5.
JOSEPH HANDS 2.	JAMES W. WILKINS 6.
ERNEST W. MENDAY 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 7.
GEORGE ESSEX 4.	HARRY SIMMONDS Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

CLIFTON, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(STANFORD-ON-SOAR BRANCH).

On Saturday, April 16, 1898, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being Seven 720s, each called differently.

Tenor 17 cwt.

ANTHONY TRIGG Treble.	JOHN YATES 4.
WILLIAM PERVIN 2.	GEORGE DOUGHTY 5.
HARRY WHITTLE 3.	EDWARD READER Tenor.

Conducted by E. READER.

This is the first peal on the bells.

TAUNTON, SOMERSETSHIRE.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 16, 1898, in Three Hours and Half-a-minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, — CHANGES.

HENRY J. POOLE Treble.	FRANK MILLARD 5.
SIDNEY WYATT* 2.	JOSEPH MADDOCK 6.
HENRY PEARCE 3.	*WILLIAM THORN 7.
ALEXANDER EVANS* 4.	GEORGE H. YENDALL Tenor.

Composed by W. SHIPWAY and Conducted by H. J. POOLE.

*First peal of Major. First peal of Major as conductor.

CHADDESLEY CORBETT, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 16, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S COMPOSITION.

JOHN CHANCE* Treble.	T. GRIFFITHS 5.
E. PLAYDON* 2.	*JAMES BROAD 6.
NOAH DAVIS 3.	W. H. SMITH 7.
E. GILBERT* 4.	*THOMAS ROBERTS Tenor.

Conducted by W. H. SMITH.

*First peal of Stedman.

GRUNDISBUGH, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, April 17, 1898, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION.

Tenor 11 cwt.

GEORGE WIGHTMAN Treble.	*HORACE A. WRIGHT 5.
GEORGE PERRY 2.	†S. C. R. FLAXMAN 6.
HORACE BEDINGFIELD 3.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN 7.
WILLIAM WIGHTMAN 4.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. Tenor.

Composed by J. PLATT and Conducted by GEORGE WIGHTMAN.

For calling see "Snowdon" part II., page 15. †First peal. *First peal on eight bells.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 18, 1898, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 19 cwt.

HUGH D. DALL Treble.	ALFRED F. HILLIER 5.
C. CLEVELAND ELLIS* 2.	ROBERT E. CHICHESTER 6.
ROBERT S. STORY 3.	ROBERT RICHARDS 7.
CHARLES L. ROUTLEDGE 4.	ERNEST E. FERRY Tenor.

Conducted by ROBERT RICHARDS.

*First peal.

ECCLES.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, April 19, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

WALTER BROWN Treble.	HARRY CHAPMAN 5.
FRANK CARTER* 2.	FREDERICK DERBYSHIRE 6.
GEORGE E. TURNER 3.	RICHARD RIDYARD 7.
ALFRED CROSS 4.	AMOS TRIPPIER Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD RIDYARD.

*First peal in the method; hails from Waltham Abbey.

PEAL CORRECTION.—The peal of Treble Bob rung at Calverley on April 11th, comprised 5088 changes.

Date Touches.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THORNHAM MAGNA (Suffolk).—On Saturday, February 19th, at St. Mary's church, a date touch, 1898 changes, in 1 hr. 12 mins. in the following methods; St. Simon's Doubles, April Day, Bob Doubles, Morning Star, The Dream, London Doubles, St. Dunstan's Doubles, and Grandsire Doubles. E. Youngs, 1; W. H. Symonds, 2; G. Moss, 3; J. Buckingham, 4; A. W. Symonds (conductor), 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BACUP (Lancashire).—On Monday, March 7th, for practice at Christ Church, a date touch, 1898 changes, in the following methods: 360 each of College Single, Merchant's Delight, Duke of York, Violet, Woodbine, and 98 changes of Oxford Treble Bob. A. L. Hardman, 1; J. Smith, 2; E. J. Cockroft, 3; J. H. Barnes, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; Z. Lord (conductor), 6.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AND YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

STAVELEY (Derbyshire).—On Sunday evening, March 6th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major in 1 hr. 12 mins. H. Madin, 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Doughty (Skipton), 3; W. Daffin, 4; S. Smedley, 5; W. Worthington, 6; J. Harris (conductor), 7; A. Worthington, 8. Composed by A. Sykes, of Huddersfield. Tenor 19 cwt.

ATTLEBOROUGH (Norfolk).—Recently at St. Mary's church, a date touch, 1898 changes, in 1 hr. 15 mins. F. Nudds, 1; J. G. Miles (conductor), 2; R. Ettridge, 3; E. Ettridge, 4; S. Daniels, 5; J. Lawrence, 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

KENNINGTON.—On Friday, February 25th, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob. E. Dixon, 1; W. Hobbs, 2; H. Goodwin, 3; W. Spice, 4; T. Tabrett, 5; J. Steddy (conductor), 6. A 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. E. Dixon, 1; H. Goodwin, 2; J. Steddy (conductor), 3; W. Spice, 4; W. Hobbs, 5; T. Tabrett, 6. First 720 of Oxford on the bells, and the two 720s are the first conducted by John Steddy. And

120 Stedman Doubles. H. Goodwin, 1; J. Willis (first 120 of Stedman), 2; J. Steddy, 3; W. Hobbs, 4; W. Spice, 5; J. Hover, 6.

RAINHAM (Kent).—On Friday, March 11th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor in 30 mins. J. Clout, 1; H. Lampkin, 2; E. Dunster, 3; F. Ockwell, 4; J. H. Champion, 5; W. J. Walker, 6.

HARTLIP (Kent).—On Saturday, March 12th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor in 25 mins. J. Clout, 1; E. Dunster, 2; H. Lampkin, 3; W. T. Hyland (conductor), 4; J. H. Champion, 5; W. J. Walker, 6. And 144 Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs). J. Clout, 1; W. T. Hyland, 2; H. Lampkin, 3; A. Champion, 4; E. Clout, 5; E. Dunster (conductor), 6.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

WINSHILL.—On Sunday, February 6th, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). W. Shepherd, 1; *C. Brown, 2; F. Shepherd, 3; W. Wylde, 4; J. Woodward, 5; C. Golder (conductor), 6. *First 720 with a bob bell. On Sunday, February 13th, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). *R. Blower, 1; W. Shepherd, 2; G. Wright, 3; W. Wylde, 4; F. Shepherd, 5; C. Golder (conductor), 6. *First 720. On Sunday, February 27th, 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). R. Blower, 1; W. Shepherd, 2; W. Wylde, 3; G. Wright, 5; J. Woodward (conductor), 5; E. Shepherd, 6. Also 720 Grandsire Minor with C. Golder (conductor) in place of J. Woodward; the rest as before. And 360 Grandsire Minor, conducted by G. Wright.

DERBY.—On Wednesday, March 9th, at St. Andrew's church, a quarter-peal of Bob Major, 1344 changes, in 52 mins. E. Willis, 1; W. Wallis, 2; J. W. Thompson, 3; J. Dent, 4; J. Davis, 5; C. Draper, 6; C. Hart, 7; A. E. Thompson (conductor), 8. Rung in honour of the marriage of Mr. Muggeridge with Miss Towle.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

HINGHAM (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, February 8th, at the parish church, on the occasion of the Association's quarterly meeting, 640 Kent Treble Bob Major. C. Rudd, 1; G. Howchin, 2; R. Christian, 3; D. Hayward, 4; F. G. Burleigh, 5; C. E. Borrett (conductor), 6; F. Day, 7; P. Sadler, 8. Tenor 18 cwt.

NORWICH.—On Thursday, February 10th, at St. Peter Mancroft, 1000 Kent Treble Bob Royal, in 46 mins. E. Ward, 1; W. Bales, 2; P. Sadler, 3; J. A. Trollope, 4; G. Howchin, 5; E. Francis, 6; A. G. Warnes, 7; C. E. Borrett (conductor), 8; G. Smith, 9; F. J. Howchin, 10. Tenor 43 cwt.

BUNGAY (Suffolk).—On Monday, March 7th, at St. Mary's church, 756 Grandsire Triples. W. Brown, 1; W. Felgate, 2; F. Hembling, 3; G. Alexander, 4; E. Lincoln, 5; C. Woods, 6; R. Baker (conductor), 7. On handbells a course of Grandsire Caters. C. Woods, 1-2; E. Lincoln, 3-4; W. Felgate, 5-6; G. Alexander, 7-8; R. Baker, 9-10.

HALESWORTH (Suffolk).—On Sunday evening, March 6th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 1008 Bob Triples. T. Wilson, 1; W. Pierce, 2; F. Lambert (conductor), 3; A. Took, 4; A. Lee, 5; E. Lincoln, 6; J. Howard, 7; W. Lee, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Saturday evening, April 9th, the Fulmer ringers visited Farnham Royal to have a ring upon the old six bells before the work of augmentation commenced, when several 120s of Grandsire Doubles were rung by W. Clarke, T. Toombs (conductor), W. Bateman, J. Guttridge (conductor), J. Elderfield, E. Elderfield. On Easter Sunday morning, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Bob, conducted by J. Elderfield. And a 504 Kent Treble Bob, conducted by J. J. Parker. For evening service 720 Kent Treble Bob. C. Clarke, J. Parker, J. Elderfield, J. J. Parker (conductor), R. Flaxman, A. Crook. And 720 Court Bob. J. Bovington, 1; R. Flaxman, 2; J. Elderfield, 3; J. J. Parker, 4; C. Clarke (conductor), 5; A. Crook, 6.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRISTOL.—On Tuesday, March 8th, 504 Stedman Triples. R. Clark (first 504), 1; W. Knight, 2; W. A. Cave, 3; W. B. Pickard, 4; F. Elles, 5; C. Gordon, 6; T. Radford, 7; W. Colston, 8. On Tuesday, March 15th, 600 Stedman Triples. W. A. Cave, C. Millard, C. H. Horton, W. Knight, F. Elles, W. Pickard, T. Radford, C. H. Gordon. On Monday, March 14th, muffled touches were rung on the occasion of the funeral of the late Mr. George Muller, 704 Kent Treble Bob Major. C. H. Horton, 1; W. Knight, 2; H. Howell, 3; F. Howell, 4; T. Radford, 5; W. A. Cave, 6; F. Price, 7; W. J. Hinton, 8. The whole pull and stand was rung as a mark of deep respect to

the deceased. An attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Triples, which unfortunately came to grief.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BARKING (Essex).—On Sunday morning, March 6th, for Divine Service at St. Margaret's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. *E. Fenn, 1; A. Hardy, 2; A. Carter, 3; R. Fenn, 4; C. Fenn, 5; T. Faulkner (conductor), 6; E. Andrews, 7; E. Lucas, 8. Composed by H. E. Parker. *First quarter-peal.

GREAT TEY (Essex).—On Sunday afternoon, March 13th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Barnabas, 800 Bob Major. H. Pye, 1; A. Fenner, 2; W. Ladhams, 3; G. Galley, 4; E. W. Beckwith, 5; J. Sadler, 6; D. Elliott, 7; J. Newman, 8. After service 576 Oxford Treble Bob Major. D. Elliott, 1; H. Pye, 2; W. Ladhams, 3; G. Galley, 4; J. Sadler, 5; W. Galley, 6; E. Ladhams, 7; J. Newman, 8. Conducted by D. Elliott.

HARWICH.—On Sunday, March 13th, at St. Nicholas church, 504 Grandsire Triples. C. Ellis, 1; A. Redwood, 2; T. Aldis, 3; J. Brewster, 4; G. Knock, 5; C. Ramplin (conductor), 6; A. Morris, 7; F. Borrett, 8. On Tuesday, March 15th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. C. Ellis, 1; A. Redwood, 2; G. Knock, 3; F. Watling (conductor), 4; C. Ramplin, 5; A. Morris, 6.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

LONDON.—On Sunday morning, March 13th, for Divine Service at St. John's Waterloo Road, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 41 mins. E. J. Turl (longest length), 1; J. W. Golding, 2; F. G. Perrin, 3; W. H. Webber, 4; T. Langdon, 5; G. E. Symonds (conductor), 6; W. S. Langdon, 7; F. Gentry, 8. On Sunday, March 6th, for Divine Service in the morning at St. Peter's Walworth, 1008 Bob Major in 37 mins. J. W. Golding, 1; W. H. Webber, 2; H. N. Davis, 3; F. G. Perrin, 4; G. E. Symonds (longest length in the method as conductor), 5; H. Barton, 6; W. S. Langdon, 7; V. W. West, 8. Longest length in the method by the ringers of the treble, 2nd and 7th.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CREWE (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, March 15th, for practice at the parish church, the first half of a 720 of Bob Minor on the middle six with the tenor covering. J. Kettle, 2; R. T. Holding, 3; J. Jones, 4; R. Langford, 5; J. Dentith, 6; R. T. Holding (conductor), 7; J. German, 8. Longest length by Messrs. Kettle, Holding, jun., Jones, Dentith, and German. Also several 120s of Bob Doubles with 7-8 covering. J. Kettle, 2; R. T. Holding, jun., 3; R. Langford, 4; J. Dentith, 5; R. T. Holding, 6; G. Crawley, 7; A. Crawley, 8.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Sunday evening, March 6th, for Divine Service, a course each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob. T. Cadge, 1; H. Duce, 2; E. Ambrose, 3; A. Ambrose, 4; F. Connell, 5; P. Bixby, 6; C. G. Bixby, 7; S. Ford, 8. This is the first occasion in which the Melford company have rung five different methods one after the other.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HEADINGLEY (Yorks).—On Tuesday evening, March 8th, for practice, 1428 Stedman Triples, taken from the last half of Brooks's peal. J. Whitaker, 1; A. Naylor, 2; T. Flint, 3; G. Morris, 4; B. Shaw, 5; H. Williams (conductor), 6; W. Wood, 7; H. Lindsey, 8. Longest touch in any method by Morris and Lindsay.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

WOMBOURN (Staffordshire).—On Monday evening, March 7th, an attempt was made for a peal of Darlaston Bob Triples, but it came to grief after ringing 2 hrs. 5 mins. W. Rogers, 1; J. Bate, 2; P. Sadler, 3; W. Sadler, 4; W. Smith, 5; H. Sadler, 6; R. Cartwright (conductor), 7; H. Tonkinson, 8. Rang with the bells muffed as a token of respect to the late Mrs. Marsh, widow of the late Rev. John Bradley-Marsh, of Lloyd House.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

ASHTAD (Surrey).—On Thursday, March 3rd, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. J. Hoyle (first quarter-peal), 1; J. Wyatt, 2; T. Newnham (first quarter-peal with a bob bell), 3; J. Crawford, 4; H. Corbett, 5; W. Cook, 6; A. Dean (first as conductor), 7; W. Farrell, 8.

EPSOM (Surrey).—On Sunday, April 17th, at St. Martin's church, for Divine Service (meeting one short for Triples), in 27 mins. A. E. Bassett, 1; H. Kenten, 3; G. Pederick, 4; J. Easton, 5; W. Sanders, 6; T. Miles (conductor), 7; T. Everett, 8. Rung with the bells half

muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mr. J. J. Caney, for many years churchwarden of this parish.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HECKINGTON (Lincolnshire).—On Monday, April 14th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Union Triples in 50 mins. J. Taylor, 1; E. Houlden, 2; J. Hilton, 3; W. Dickinson (composer and conductor), 4; F. Hilton, 5; J. H. Clark, 6; J. T. Holmes, 7; H. Nash, 8. First quarter-peal in the method by Messrs. Taylor, Hilton, and Nash. T. Taylor hails from Hale Magna.

ALDENHAM (Herts).—On Wednesday, March 2nd, an attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Triples, which came to grief after ringing 1 hr. 30 mins. W. E. Oakley, 1; H. Martin, 2; C. George, 3; W. H. L. Buckingham, 4; G. N. Price, 5; W. Thorn, 6; E. E. Huntley, (conductor), 7; W. Hewitt, 8.

ALDEBURGH (Suffolk).—On Thursday, February 10th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-six singles) in 27 mins. C. Smith (conductor), 1; F. Cooper, 2; E. Wigg, 3; A. Wilson, 4; C. Bailey, 5; E. Cooper, 6. On Sunday morning, February 20th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 26 mins. C. Smith (conductor), 1; C. Bailey, 2; E. Wigg, 3; E. Bailey, 4; G. Churchyard, 5; E. Cooper, 6. Messrs. Wigg, Bailey (2) hail from Leiston.

ATTLEBOROUGH (Norfolk).—On Thursday, February 17th, 720 Bob Minor. J. Lawrence, 1; R. Ettridge, 2; S. Daniels, 3; J. Warren, 4; J. E. Miles (conductor), 5; E. Ettridge, 6. Another 720. F. Nudds (first 720 with a bob bell), 3. On handbells, 720 Bob Major. J. E. Miles (conductor), 1-2; J. Warren, 3; R. Ettridge, 4; S. Daniels, 5; E. Ettridge, 6; J. Lawrence, 7-8.

BARWELL (Leicestershire).—On Tuesday, March 8th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Oxford Bob, in 39 mins. W. Powers, 1; J. H. Swinfield, 2; G. White, 3; C. H. Belton, 4; W. A. Needham, 5; A. R. Aldham (conductor), 6. Also 240 Grandsire Doubles. W. White, 1; W. A. Needham, 2; G. White (conductor), 3; A. R. Aldham, 4; C. H. Belton, 5; J. Needham, 6. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the late Henry Horwood, sen., of Nuneaton, for many years a member of the Midland Counties Association.

BAKEWELL (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, March 5th, at All Saints' church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 49 mins. E. Elliott, 1; T. Clarke, 2; C. Draper, 3; S. Maskrey, 4; H. Turner, 5; J. Fearn, 6; W. Wallace, 7; R. Smith, 8. Conducted by W. Wallace.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Friday, March 11th, at St. John's Deritend, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from Carter's twelve-part, in 49 mins. F. James, 1; H. Middleton, 2; W. S. Ellis, 3; A. Walker, 4; H. West, 5; J. Jennings (conductor), 6; T. Collinson, 7; E. Hancock, 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to the tower-keeper, F. James, on his seventieth birthday, the band wishing him many happy returns. Middleton hails from Evesham; West from Swansea.

CHESTERFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday evening, February 20th, for Divine Service, 1277 Grandsire Caters in 49 mins. A. Savage, 1; S. Price, 2; J. H. Bell, 3; D. Farthing, 4; G. M. Farr, 5; A. Knights (conductor), 6; G. Davies, 7; J. Hunt, 8; W. J. Thyng, 9; G. Mee, 10. Rung as a farewell touch to W. J. Thyng, who has since left the district, much to the regret of the band, by whom he was highly respected.

DARFIELD (Yorks).—On Saturday, March 12th, for practice at the parish church, a 6-score each of the following: London Scholars' Pleasure, Royston Delight, Queen Bess, College Pleasure, City Delight, College Exercise, and Arnold's Victory. S. Woodcock, 1; R. J. Ricketts, 2; W. Woodcock, jun. (conductor), 3; W. Woodcock, 4; T. Johnson, 5; W. Morris, 6. And a 6-score each of Woodcock's Delight, Nelson's Victory, London Victory, and Morning Star. A. Crossman, 1; the rest as before.

EASTON (Suffolk).—On Sunday, February 13th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 240 of Bob Minor, and 120 Double Court. E. Hicks, 1; W. Wightman, 2; H. Bedingfield, 3; P. Bedingfield, 4; G. Wightman (conductor), 5; S. Wightman, 6.

EXETER (Devon).—On a recent Sunday for service, the following members of the St. Sidwell's Society rang a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. F. Shepherd, 1; C. Carter, 2; W. Drake, 3; A. W. Searle, 4; T. Mudge, 5; J. Moss, 6; E. Shepherd (conductor), 7; J. Martin, 8. On Tuesday, 504 in the same method. E. Shepherd (conductor), 1; C. Carter, 2; W. Drake, 3; A. W. Searle, 4; T. Mudge, 5; F. Shepherd, 6; J. Moss, 7; J. Martin, 8.

FINEDON (Northants).—On Saturday, February 19th, in connection with the quarterly meeting of the Central Northamptonshire Association, the Irthlingborough company with T. R. Hensher rang a course each of London Surprise Major, Superlative Surprise Major and

Double Norwich Court Bob Major. Being limited to time these courses were rung straight off. J. Mawby, 1; W. V. Newman, 2; J. Garratt, 3; J. R. Hensher, 4; J. Houghton, jun., 5; W. Pettitt, 6; J. B. Martin, 7; A. Y. Tyler, 8.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD.—On Monday, March 14th, at the house of Mr. J. Nicholls, for practice, on handbells, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. G. Smith, 1; B. Nash, 2; A. Radford, 3; J. Nicholls, 4; G. Bonfield, 5; F. Nash, 6. Also two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. G. Smith, 1; A. Radford, 2; F. Nash, 3; J. Nicholls, 4; G. Bonfield, 5; Mrs. Nicholls, 6. And another 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. G. Smith, 1; B. Nash, 2; A. Radford, 3; W. Seabrooke, 4; A. Walker, 5; J. Nicholls, 6. All conducted by G. Smith. G. Smith hails from London, the rest belong to the local band. Great credit is due to the above, having only commenced practice some six weeks ago.

KIDDERMINSTER.—On Sunday morning, March 6th, for Divine Service, 416 Double Norwich Court Bob Major and 336 Plain Bob Major. W. Smith, 1; N. Davis, 2; J. Bennett, 3; G. Salter, 4; G. Griffiths, 5; A. Roberts, 6; J. Crane, 7; J. Pagett, 8. Tenor 30 cwt. J. A. Skelding rung the 4th in the Bob Major.

SEDBERGH (Yorks).—On Wednesday, March 9th, on handbells, 720 Bob Minor. W. Pennington, 1; R. Atkinson, 2; G. F. Woodhouse (conductor), 3; F. S. J. Pile, 4; T. Sisson, 5; J. Eden, 6. First 720 by all except Messrs. Pile and Woodhouse.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—On Sunday, March 6th, for evening service, 630 Oxford Bob Triples. A. Phillips, 1; J. Beavan, 2; W. Watchorn, 3; E. Wells, 4; H. Hill, 5; R. Carter (conductor), 6; W. Aldridge, 7; A. Sandiford, 8. On Sunday, March 13th, for evening service, 420 Stedman Triples. H. Hill, 1; H. Harvey, 2; W. Watchorn, 3; E. Wells, 4; R. Carter, 5; A. Phillips, 6; W. Aldridge (conductor), 7; G. Carter, 8.

WOODFORD (Essex).—On March 7th, 600 Plain Bob. J. Shuttle, 1; K. C. Fox, 2; J. Mardell, 3; J. Kimberley, 4; H. Gowers, 5; E. Wightman (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Kent Treble Bob and 456 of Woodbine. J. Moule, 1; K. C. Fox, 2; H. Gowers, 3; J. Kimberley, 4; J. Mardell, 5; T. H. Beams (conductor), 6.

WATH (Yorks).—On Saturday, March 6th, the Darfield company visited this place and rang 2520 changes in the following methods: twelve 6-score each of Arnold's Victory, Violet, New London Pleasure, Duke of York, City Delight, Queen Bess, Royston Delight, London Scholars' Pleasure and College Pleasure, 6-score each of Oxford Woodcock's Delight and College Exercise. J. Aaron, 1; R. Ricketts, 2; W. Woodcock, jun., 3; W. Woodcock, 4; T. Johnson, 5; W. Morris, 6. Conducted by W. Woodcock, jun.

In Memoriam.

GEORGE FITCH, OF WRITTLE, ESSEX.

Many of the older generation of Essex ringers will regret to hear of the death of Mr. George Fitch, for more than thirty years sexton, and for nearer fifty years a ringer, at the parish church of Writtle. Since his resignation of his office as sexton some few years back he had seldom been seen in the tower; nor, indeed, had he had much heart for ringing after the death of his youngest son, in whose progress as a ringer he had taken the keenest interest. But he was always pleased to hear of the progress being made with ringing in the parish; and the accomplishment of a peal (rarer than that of late years) gave him almost as much satisfaction as to the ringers themselves. Though he represented an older generation and older ways, and took no active part in the revival of change-ringing in the parish, he never opposed necessary reforms, nor put difficulties in the way of younger men. He stood loyally by me in the promotion of change-ringing and in belfry reform; and though he did not become one of our company of change-ringers, I have always felt that our early difficulties might have been much greater than they were, if he had set his face against us. Many a pleasant talk over ringing matters have I had with him in his little cobbler's workshop; and I always held him in high respect. I saw him shortly before my departure from England in December last, much broken in health but not apparently so near his end; and it was with great regret that on my return I learnt that he had passed away a few days before. On the day of his funeral, the local company assembled in full strength and rang two touches of 500 with the bells half-muffled in respect to his memory; and I am glad to pay this slight additional tribute of respect to a departed friend.

T. L. PAPILLON, Vicar of Writtle.

POLLARDS, Limited, Bradford, Children's Liberty Frocks from 1s. 9d. each.

CURRENT TOPICS.

I suppose the Easter holidays are now over, and that all those unhappy people who, like your humble servant, are obliged to earn their bread and cheese before they can eat it, have resumed their multiple occupations. Concerning the position of myself and others on the ringers' organ, I think it is time the literary heads set their brains again to work, and commenced these interesting lucubrations which so instruct, amuse, interest, and in some cases amaze the readers. They begin again, therefore. I should like to tell you one or two features of my Easter holiday. Though I have often invited (in covert language) some of my ringing brethren to send me a warm request to spend a few days with them, I am sorry to say that such invitations have never been responded to. This shews what heartlessness and inhospitality environs us, even, as a stock phrase goes, "at the latter end of the nineteenth century." Would the latter-end of some other century, or its middle, or its commencement, have been different?

Where do you think I went to? To the seaside? O dear no. I object to follow a parrot-cry of any sort, or display the characteristics of an ape. To hear people say they are going to the seaside, or the continent, or The Lakes, or to the Isle of Wight, disgusts me. Not that I object in the abstract to these delightful places, but generally when people talk like this they are trying to be fashionable, ape-ing their betters (or their worsers) so to speak. If the upper ten were to make Petticoat Lane or Ratcliff Highway fashionable, many others would follow in their wake. No; I went not to the seaside, but to a spot in the heart of Old England, where green lanes and such-like scenes were very strongly in evidence. I pitched my tent (metaphorically of course) at a superb hotel of most homely characteristics, rejoicing in the sign of "Ye Old Crow." At the back of this famous hostelry is a retired but spacious orchard, bounded on one side by an ambling trout-stream; and here I sat and hesitated, rusticated, meditated, and cogitated. Upon what subjects? you may ask. Ah! they are too profound to put upon paper; much too profound, vast, and deep. I had better try a new paragraph.

The proprietor of this establishment, a most worthy man, (having like the majority of his townsmen a most decided Anglo-Saxon *patois*), was a great exponent of Shakspeare, well up in many quotations of the great bard which are not hackneyed by frequent use. Though I know very little of the poet's works (very little of anything in fact), the classical attainments of this gentleman, so far as Shakspeare is concerned, surprised me. I advised him to take in the "B.N." and become a ringer without delay, promising him in the remote future the office of Shakesperian critic upon this influential journal. He said he would think over the matter. I am very happy to say that while in this neighbourhood I became closely acquainted with a popular gentleman who is a qualified surgeon, or physician, or whatever it may be called, for the lower animals. In his agreeable company and seated alongside him on his pleasant vehicle, I journeyed many miles, and in one instance was asked to assist in the transfixing of an heifer whose hoof it was necessary to probe for some foreign intrusion. My proverbial bravery forsook me on the occasion, but copious draughts of the famed local drink, yclept cider, soon restored my assurance, and I felt then that nothing was beyond me. What a wonderful thing that cider is, to be sure.

My constant habituation (is that a correct word?) with this

renowned veterinary surgeon led the natives to wonder what the acquaintanceship meant. "Did I think of becoming a pupil?" said one. "Rather too old in the tooth," rejoined another. Knowing that my molars are of the latest manufacture, I resented this observation with bitterness. But all things come to an end, and so did my holiday, unfortunately. I was greatly pressed to have a ride on horseback before I returned. A noble, splendid animal, of most docile nature, was paraded before me, but my modesty prevented me essaying such an ordeal. Fancy "Plain Speaker" on the back of an horse! I think, however, had there been some of that beautiful cider in the way, whatever repugnance I felt, would have been overcome. How I long for a return to this lovely neighbourhood.

On entering the office last Wednesday morning I had a letter placed in my hands to deal with, which omitting formal parts, is as follows:—

"SIR,—He would be bold who would adversely criticise the comments of an editor, and your readers will agree that he must be equally so who would venture to cross swords with 'Plain Speaker.' His pseudonym is aptly chosen, and his comments from time to time are read by the Exercise with much interest, but I am constrained to say he was too severe upon the aspiring conductor, whoever he may be, first in setting his bell, and then in dubbing him a 'ninny.' 'Plain Speaker' would have shown better form in allowing the visitor to run his course—apparently he would sooner or later have come to grief, and that in itself would have been sufficiently mortifying, and would have proved to him and the rest of the band his inefficiency as a 'conductor.' Alas! how many profess to conduct touches and peals, but do nothing of the kind; it is this kind of conductor who ought to be 'put down,' and who as a rule monopolise the calling, fearing others will get to know as much and perhaps more than themselves. Mr. 'P.S.' should not be so impetuous another time, but remember, although it may not be to his liking to ring under such circumstances, he too was a novice once—his friend was honest enough to ask as a favour to 'call' only—probably it was his first attempt, and he may have travelled some distance for the purpose, being afraid as many are, to ask such a favor of the society to which he belongs. It is evident from the fact that he could ring and call Caters that he is worthy of encouragement.—X.Y.Z."

With the greatest deference to the last three letters of the alphabet, there is no "call" for any further remark.

I was going to say something about that personage known as "The Claimant," but the page is nearly full. So we will postpone it until next week, if you please. My holiday, or the effect of it, has not yet entirely disappeared, but I hope to be in good form next week.

PLAIN SPEAKER.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, April 13th, the bells of St. Laurence's tower, Reading, rang out merry peals to do honour to the marriage of Mr. W. H. Newell, eldest son of Mr. W. Newell, of Reading, to Miss Fanny, eldest daughter of the late Mr. J. T. Stransom, Market Place, of the same town. Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Newell will sail in May for Peru, in South America, to take up missionary work among the American Indians. The ringers in connection with the above tower first rang a 500 of Stedman Caters, and after a rest started for a peal of Grandsire Caters, which came to an abrupt termination after ringing 2 hrs. 10 mins., owing to a change-course. The members who took part in the ringing were Messrs. Hopgood (conductor), Giles, Hern, Foxell, Headey, Watmore, J. Tucker, H. Tucker, Sawyer, Osborne and Reeves.

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.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is One Penny per line (five words may be reckoned to a line). Repetitions at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

South Lincolnshire Association.—Quarterly Meeting at Rippingale, to-day, Saturday, April 23rd. Short service and address at 11.45 by the Rev. W. W. Layng. Dinner at The Bull inn at one o'clock.

E. GALE, Sec.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.—The quarterly meeting of this Society will be held to-day, Saturday, April 23rd, at the parish church, Willenhall. Short service at 5 o'clock.

S. REEVES, Hon. Sec.

The Middlesex County Association.—North and East District.—A meeting of the members of the above District will be held to-day, Sat., April 23rd, at St. Margaret's, Westminster, by kind permission of the Rev. Canon Eyton. The bells will be raised at 4 p.m. All members and friends of the Association are cordially invited.

ARTHUR T. KING, Hon. Sec.

Chester Diocesan Guild.—Macclesfield Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Gawsworth, to-day, Saturday, April 23rd. Bells ready at 3 p.m.

JOSEPH NORBURY, Sec.

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held to-day, April 23rd, at Haslingden. Bells ready at 3.30. Business meeting at 6.30 p.m.

J. H. BANKS, Branch Sec.

Gloucester & Bristol Diocesan Association.—A special meeting of the above will be held at Swindon on Saturday, April 30th. Service in the parish church at 4.15, with an address by the Vicar. Meat tea at The King's Arms at 5.30, followed by business meeting. Tea half-price to members sending notice to the local secretary, Mr. T. Recketts, 14, Carr Street, before the 26th instant. The following important resolutions will be submitted: 1.—That it is desirable that the union of the two dioceses of Gloucester and Bristol in one change-ringing Association be dissolved, and that a separate Association be formed for each Diocese, and that a committee be appointed to inquire into and report to a special meeting of the Association as to the terms financial and otherwise on which this can be done. 2.—To alter rule 12 by inserting after the word *annually*—"provided that when a performing member leaves the diocese his previous subscriptions shall be considered as part payment of the life composition and if such subscription amount to 5s. such life composition shall be deemed already paid." The attendance of all members is earnestly requested.

C. E. D. BOUTFLOWER, Hon. Sec.

The North Lincolnshire Association.—The annual general meeting will be held at Lincoln on April 30. Tea in the Co-operative Hall, Silver Street, at 4.45. Free to members who have paid their subscriptions; 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 27th. GEO. CHESTER, Hon. Sec.

142, Portland Street, Lincoln.

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—The spring meeting will be held at Kidlington on Saturday, April 30th. Service 4.30 p.m. Business meeting and tea after service. Members in-

tending to be present must notify the same to me not later than April 28th.

A. C. R. FREEBORN, Hon. Sec.

Kidlington Vicarage, Oxford.

The Lancashire Association.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at the parish church (St. Mary's) Oldham, on Saturday, April 30th. Further particulars by circular. Intending subscribers to the Joel Redford memorial fund please forward their subscriptions to A. E. Wreaks, 47, Gibbon Street, Bolton, on or before the above date. Tea will be provided in the parish church school, Burnley Street, at 4.30 p.m., to be followed by the business meeting.

A. E. WREAKS, } Hon. Secs.
J. WILSON, }

North Notts. Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Retford, on Saturday, April 23rd. Divine Service in the parish church at 3.30, business meeting in the parish room after service. Tea in the Oddfellows' Club Room, Market Place, 5 p.m., members free, visitors 1s. each. Members of kindred Associations will be made welcome.

B. DARLEY, Hon. Sec.

The Kent County Association.—Maidstone District.—The next meeting of this District will be held at Hollingbourne, on Saturday, April 30th. Tower open from 4 p.m.

F. J. O. HELMORE, Hon. Sec.

The Ashton-under-Lyne Society.—The annual meeting of the above society will be held at the parish church, Ashton, on Saturday, April 30th. Bells ready at 4, meeting at 7.

S. BOOTH, Hon. Sec.

The Kent County Association—Lewisham District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at the church of St. John the Baptist, Erith, on Saturday, April 30th. Tower open 3 p.m. Committee meeting 6 p.m.

W. J. JEFFRIES, Hon. Dist. Sec.

The Heavy Woollen District Association.—A committee meeting will be held at The Wakefield Arms, Dewsbury, on Saturday, April 30th, at 5.30 p.m. Subscriptions for this year are now due. GEO. H. SIMON, Hon. Sec.

The Kent County Association—Canterbury District.—The annual meeting of this District will be held at Faversham, on Monday, May 2nd. Tower open from 3 p.m. Ospringe tower also open. Tea at The Royal William, St. Mary's Road, 5.30 p.m. Business meeting after. Tea and half-railway fare up to two shillings allowed to those sending in their names to me not later than Thursday, April 28th.

F. J. O. HELMORE, Hon. Sec.

The Rochester and District Guild.—A meeting of this Guild will be held at Gillingham on Saturday, May 28.

A. RING, Hon. Sec.

West Ham, Essex.—Notice.—The practice will be continued on next Tuesday, April 26th, at 8 p.m. instead of Monday.

W. DORAN.

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The next monthly ringing meeting of this society will be held on Saturday, April 30th, at Calverley (8 bells). Ringing from 3 p.m. Meeting-house—The Thornhill Arms. Any ringers or other friends are cordially invited.

R. BINNS, Hon. Sec.

St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—The usual quarterly meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 3rd at the Tamworth Arms, Moor Street, Birmingham. Chair to be taken at 8.30 p.m.

W. H. GODDEN, Hon. Sec.

The Middlesex County Association.—South and West District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Harmondsworth on Saturday, May 14th. Ringing to commence at 5 p.m. C. EDWARDS, Hon. Dis. Sec.

THE FRANCIS LEES' MEMORIAL FUND.

Will intending subscribers kindly note that the list will be closed on Saturday, April 30th, and communicate with Mr. W. Holmes, 112, Helmesley Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne, before that date.

Review.

MR. W. E. MANNING, the well-known and popular author of the Poems for Recitation which have for some years past been one of the most attractive features in that interesting weekly journal, *Spare Moments*, has, we see by the Easter Number, struck a new and, we may say, rich vein. In the number referred to appears the libretto of an oratorio on the subject of our First Parents, and appropriately named "The Fall." Among the four or five hundred poems which Mr. Manning has contributed to *Spare Moments*, we doubt if there can be found one to approach in any way this latest effort. It is true poetry, rhythmic to a degree, and very finished in style. Some of the solos, duets, and choruses possess excellent swing, and extremely musical measure; while the obviously recitative portions will lend themselves admirably, we should think, to declamatory rendering. The sequence of the story is unbroken and well told. Composers should find in "The Fall" a gem worthy of good setting.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"O. P."—These disturbances were in consequence of an increase in price of admission to all parts of the building.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

WANTED.—Situation as jeweller's porter or any other light employment; used to winding and most clock repairs; can ring standard methods; married, aged 30. Address, E. C., care of Editor.

SITUATION required as baker, 5½ years in last situation, can mould, etc. Situation where smalls can be learnt preferred. Have rung a trifle in the Grandfire method, and wish to get into other methods, quick learner. Age 20; good references. Apply, J. Henley, Bartlett's Buildings, Rye, Sussex.

SITUATION WANTED.—Bellhanger, locksmith and hot water fitter. Improver, age 19, four years' experience. Good change-ringer on eight. Apply, E. S. Hodges, North Square, Dorchester, Dorset.

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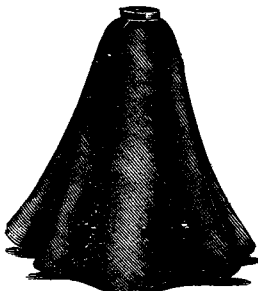
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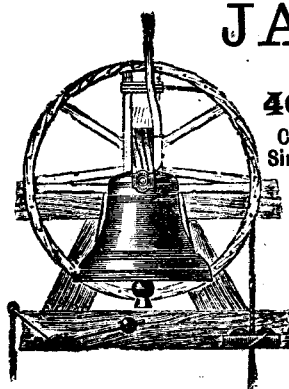
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And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 838.—VOL. XVI.]

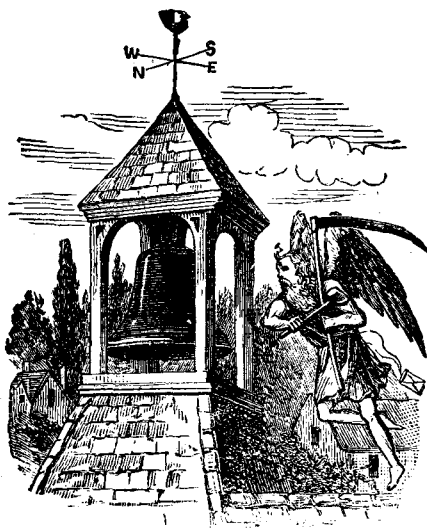
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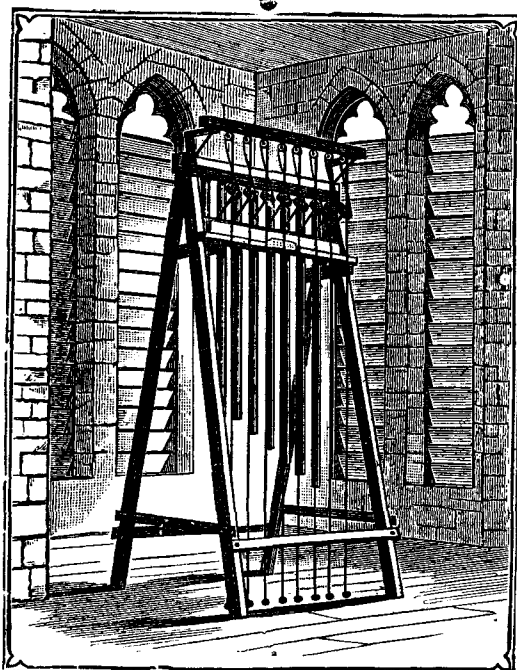
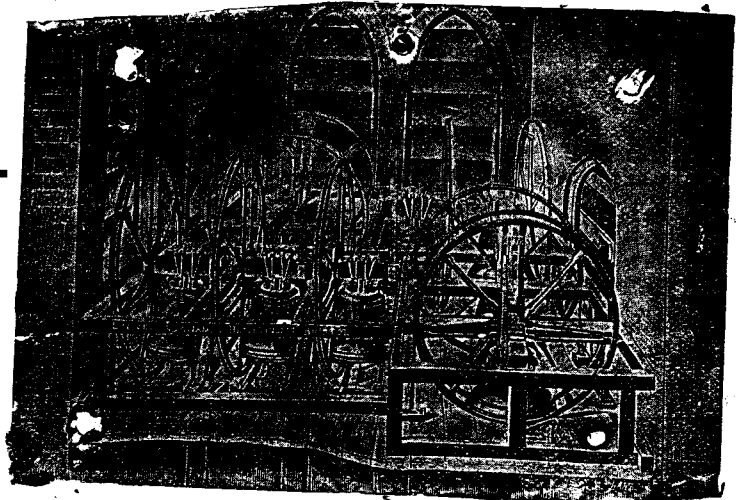
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 838.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 1898.

[Vol. XVI.]

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of this Association was held on Easter Monday at the Town Hall, St. Albans. There was a capital gathering of ringers from all parts of the county, of which a great number attended Divine Service in the afternoon at the Abbey, where an address was given by the Ven. Archdeacon Lawrance.

After the service, the members assembled at the town hall, between 60 and 70 sitting down to a splendid tea. The Rev. Canon Wigram (President of the Association) occupied the chair, and was supported by the Revs. E. S. Phillips and R. A. Squires, and Messrs. Toulmin, Silvester, E. P. Debenham (Hon. Secretary), Waddington, Lewis, G. W. Cartmel, etc., while representatives were also present from Redbourne, Hatfield, Aldenham, Little Munden, Hitchin, Baldock, Hemel Hempstead, Berkhamstead, Bushey, Oxhey, London, Graveley, etc.

After tea the business meeting was held. The President said he felt it a great honour to follow in the footsteps of their valued friend, the late Squire Proctor. He had done a great deal to keep together the change-ringers. Personally, he had rung a good deal with some of the best ringers of the day, but during the past year he had been so much abroad and so much occupied with other business that he had hardly touched a rope for twelve months. But he only hoped that now he was settled in St. Albans, within reach of so many towers, that he would be able to get back into his proper place and enjoy once more the pleasures of change-ringing. It was with great pleasure that they noticed the Rector of one of the St. Albans parishes present at their meeting.

The Hon. Secretary then read the minutes of the last meeting, after which a number of new members were admitted. The report of Mr. Debenham showed a good financial position; also a very respectable increase in the number and quality of peals rung during the year. There was a balance at the bank of £9 10s. 1d., and there was also £6 5s. 8d. in hand.

Mr. F. W. Silvester, in moving the reception and adoption of the report and balance-sheet, said he hoped endeavours would be made to induce a few more honorary members to join the Association.

Mr. H. J. Toulmin cordially seconded, and congratulated the Association on its position, for owing to the jubilee, generally speaking, societies were in debt, at least that was his personal experience.

The President said that what had struck him most was the healthy sign of the number of conductors. It was a sure sign of decay if the number of conductors fell off. One of those gentlemen had commenced his career with Holt's Original. A man who could conduct this surely had a bright future before him as a conductor. Another point he had noticed was the great number of peals which had been rung on six bells.

Mr. E. P. Debenham then rose to propose the re-election of the Rev. Canon Wigram as President of the Association for the ensuing year.

Mr. Toulmin seconded, and it was carried with acclamation.

Mr. Huntley (Bushey) proposed the re-election of Mr. E. P. Debenham as Hon. Secretary.

Mr. H. G. Rowe (Redbourn) seconded, and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. Debenham thanked the members for kindly re-electing him to the post, and humorously remarked that in that capacity he had served an apprenticeship of ten years. He was greatly indebted to Messrs. Cartmel and Lewis for their help as assistant Secretaries. Those two gentlemen were unanimously re-elected, and Mr. E. E. Huntley was re-elected auditor. A very interesting meeting was then brought to a conclusion.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of this Association was held at Dudley on Easter Monday, when members were present from Areley Kings, Birmingham, Bromsgrove, Dudley, Hagley, Kidderminster, Netherton, Old Hill, Oldswinford, Pershore, Stourbridge, Tipton, Worcester, Wollaston, West Bromwich, etc. A special service was held in the parish church, prayers being said by the Vicar (Rev. A. Gray Maitland), the Rev. W. C. Gibbs (Rector of Hagley) reading the lessons. The Vicar of Dudley gave an address, choosing as his text the words: "Cause a bell to be tolled" (from the Prayer-book). After referring at length to the origin, history, and usages of bells, with a glance at some well-known examples, the rev. gentleman thus concluded: "Bellringers are regarded to-day as important and honoured churchworkers, and, generally speaking, they are faithful worshippers and communicants. Men are not encouraged now to become bellringers on the ground that it is a pretty art and a healthy exercise, but rather on the high ground that they can in this way serve God and His Church, and thus, alongside the clergy and other lay-helpers, they are labourers together with God. This great Worcestershire and Districts Association has distinguished by the number of its successful peals, by its unity and harmony and strength in the great brotherhood of bell-ringers. May it ever set the highest example of personal character and conduct, and the highest example of loyalty and devotion as servants of the risen Lord and Saviour in His one Holy Catholic Church."

At five o'clock tea was provided in the King Street school. The Vicar presided, supported by the Rev. S. J. Marriott (Vicar of Netherton), Rev. J. Drinkwater, Rev. W. C. Gibbs, Rev. E. G. J. Moore, and Mr. G. G. Brown (churchwarden). Mesdames A. Gray Maitland, W. H. Thompson, J. Smith and Jones kindly officiated at the tables.

The business meeting followed, the Vicar of Dudley in the chair. Letters of apology were read from the Revs. Canons Knox-Little and Newton, H. Kingsford (Stoulton), and A. B. Timbrell (Oldswinford). The retiring officers were elected, and Pershore was chosen for the next quarterly meeting. New members were admitted from Brierley Hill, Birmingham, Netherton, Stoke Prior, Worcester, and Smethwick. A letter was read by the Hon. Secretary from the Rev. A. B. Timbrell, resigning the office of clerical Hon. Secretary through ill-health. The Chairman proposed that the resignation be accepted, and that the Hon. Secretary be instructed to write a letter expressing the regret felt by the Association for the cause which compelled him to take such a step. It was proposed that the Rev. W. C. Gibbs be elected clerical Hon. Secretary.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar for presiding, and for the use of the schoolroom, tower, and bells; to the ladies for their assistance; and also the clergy who placed their bells at the disposal of the Association for peal-ringing.

During the day touches of Stedman, Treble Bob, Plain Bob, and Grandsire were rung on the bells of St. Thomas's parish church, Dudley.

MATHON, HEREFORDSHIRE.

The bells of this church have just been rebung and quarter-turned by Mr. Greenleaf, of Hereford. They were rung for the first time since on Easter Sunday morning. The work has given entire satisfaction. The village of Mathon has now one of the prettiest rings of six in the county in excellent condition; with a tenor of 8 cwt.

POLLARDS, Limited, Bradford, LADIES' COSTUMES at 10s. 6d., are Wonderful Value.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A well attended meeting of the North and East district was held at St. Margaret's, Westminster, on Saturday, April 23rd (St. George's day). The attendance was not exclusively confined to members of this district, there being, in addition to a large number of ringers living in or near London, representatives from Barnet, Edmonton, Finchley, Gospel Oak, Hadley, Hendon, Southgate, Tottenham and Walthamstow, as well as from the South and East district—Ealing, Heston, Hillingdon, Isleworth and Staines. Messrs. George and Coleman also came from Rugby for the express purpose of attending this meeting.

Shortly after four o'clock the bells were raised, and touches of Grandsire Caters and Treble Bob Royal were rung in a manner which for excellence left little to be desired. It is not often, perhaps, that the best ringing can be looked for in the chance meeting of mixed bands, but this was an exception to the rule, and the excellence of the ringing was doubtless to be accounted for by the prominence in their profession of most of the ringers assembled.

It was arranged to hold the business meeting at half-past six. This was presided over by Mr. C. H. Martin, of Hendon, the popular Master of the district, and being of a formal character, occupied but a very short time. At its conclusion the ringing was recommenced and continued till nine o'clock, closing with an exceptionally well-struck touch of Stedman Caters, conducted by Mr. C. F. Winney.

The Hon. Secretary directed attention to the loss the Association had recently experienced in the death of two of its most distinguished patrons, the Earl of Strafford and Lord Hillingdon, from both of whom he had received expressions of kindly encouragement. Such vacancies were always difficult to fill; but Canon Eyton, the Rector of St. Margaret's, so well known for the exceptionally hearty interest taken by him in ringers and ringing, had consented to join the Association, an announcement which met with a very hearty reception.

The privilege of using these beautiful bells was thoroughly appreciated by all; and the Hon. Secretary desires, on behalf of the Association, to thank Canon Eyton and all concerned in ensuring the success of the meeting, and especially Mr. T. G. Perrin, the Master of the St. Margaret's Society, and his colleagues, for their hearty welcome.

MERROW, NEAR GUILDFORD, SURREY.

DEDICATION OF JUBILEE BELLS.

A service of dedication of a new peal of six bells was held on Easter Monday in Merrow church. A short service was held at 3 o'clock, when the Archdeacon of Surrey gave an address. The peal had been subscribed for by the parish in commemoration of the Queen's sixty years' reign. The cost of the bells, which were cast by Mears and Stainbank, of Whitechapel, was about £400, a further sum of £200 being required for strengthening the tower. The weights of the new bells are as follows: *Tenor*—13 cwt. 1 qr.; *Fifth*—10 cwt. 1 qr.; *Fourth*—8 cwt. 2 qrs.; *Third*—7 cwt. 3 qrs.; *Second*—6 cwt. 2 qrs.; *Treble*—5 cwt. 3 qrs. The inscription on the tenor is "To the glory of God this peal of bells was given by the parishioners to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria." On one side appears the royal crown with "Victoria A.D. 1837," and on the other "R.I. 1897. For God, and Church, and Queen. Luke Robert Flood, Rector; Arthur Humphrey Bowles and Oswald Bradshaw, Churchwardens." The fifth bell bears the inscription: "Te Deum Laudamus," and was presented by Francis Baring-Gould. The fourth bell is a reproduction of a 15th century bell, which was recast with the old inscription—"Johannes est ejus homin," and the founder's marks faithfully reproduced.

After the service the opening peal was rung by Messrs. Roe, H. Brown, A. Hook, G. Hook, and G. Whitehorne, from Bramley, and M. Brown of Merrow; A. J. Boniface taking part in a later touch.

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 DARLINGTON AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

The members of this society visited Richmond and Catterick in Yorkshire, on Tuesday, April 12th. The journey, about thirty miles out and home, was undertaken in a pair-horse brake, and the drive through some of the finest scenery in the North Riding was greatly enjoyed by all.

Richmond was reached about eleven o'clock, where we were met by Mr. Briscoe, who informed us the bells would be at our disposal as soon as the morning service was over. A walk round the ruins of the old castle, and a view of the Norman keep, said to be one of the finest in England, served to pass away the time.

The service over, the bells were soon going to the tune of Treble Bob, Plain Bob, and Grandsire Minor. The Vicar, who takes a great interest in his bells, here put in an appearance, and a course of Grandsire was rang upon the handbells by four of our members.

An adjournment was then made to The Turf hotel for dinner. Needless to say full justice was done to the excellent repast.

Three o'clock saw us on our way to Catterick, accompanied by several of the Richmond ringers. Here, where we met by Mr. Proome, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Plain Bob Major were the order of the day. Nothing much however was accomplished owing to the bad "go" of the tenors.

Tea was partaken of at The Angel, and the way in which the ham (home-cured) and eggs, potted meat, etc., disappeared, was wonderful. After tea a start was made for Darlington, which was reached at ten o'clock. The members of this society wish through this medium to express their thanks and appreciation to the respective vicars for allowing the use of their bells; and also to Messrs. Briscoe and Proome for having everything in readiness. W. P.

PRESENTATION AT DUFFIELD.

On Tuesday, April 19th, at the weekly practice of the Duffield society, Mr. W. Hickling, the Master of the society, was presented with a meerschaum pipe and tin of tobacco, as a token of respect by his brother-ringers.

Mr. G. Dawson, as senior ringer, in making the presentation on their behalf, said Mr. Hickling had been Master of the Duffield society for seven years, and a ringer thirty years. He thought the society would have a hard task to find a better Master and ringer.

In acknowledging the presentation, Mr. Hickling thanked them all heartily for the same, hoping they would all stick together and do even better in the future than they had done in the past. It gave him the greatest pleasure to do all he could for the society, and as long as he lived he should take the same interest in the ringing as he had done hitherto.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ROSSENDALE BRANCH.—A meeting of this branch took place on Saturday, April 23rd, at Haslingden. The bells are a ring of eight, with a tenor 18 cwt., and it was noticeable that they run somewhat better than they have done for many meetings past. The bells raised, a start was made for Grandsire, and as more members arrived, a touch of Kent Treble Bob was successful. The honour of chairman for the business meeting was voted to Mr. J. Barnes, of the local band, who, after welcoming the visitors, said he was very proud that after many failures their own band had at last accomplished a peal, a feat which had been recorded on the peal-board in the tower. It was resolved to have the next meeting at St. Saviour's, Bacup. The usual votes of thanks were passed.

CHURCHWARDEN FOR SIXTY-THREE YEARS.—Canon Brown presided at the annual vestry meeting at Barnard Castle, when a somewhat pathetic incident occurred. The Vicar, referring to the election of churchwardens, said, "I shall not be here very long now, and I should like Mr. Bailey to see me out as my own churchwarden." Mr. J. J. Bailey, the octogenarian schoolmaster, said he would do his very best, although there were urgent calls upon his time, and especially during the winter months. He added; "I have been sixty-three years churchwarden under but two vicars in this parish, and I am very sorry to have to break the record now."

CURRENT TOPICS.

That remarkable man who a few years ago was the cynosure of so many people has recently died. I fully recollect the trials in both of the Courts in connection with him. No one I should imagine, at least no one of a thinking mind, who followed the case, had the least doubt that the Claimant was not the article he represented himself to be—in fact his name was palpably and truly, "Orton." This however by the way. The present Mr. Justice Hawkins was the leading counsel against Orton in the second trial, and there were at times some amusing episodes. One witness—a perfumer—spoke to the ingredients of the hair wash he constantly supplied Orton with; and of this preparation he had brought a bottle with him to the Court, and asked Mr. Hawkins, Q.C. (as he was then) to be kind enough to accept it. On another occasion a witness would persist in addressing Mr. Hawkins as "My Lord." At length Mr. Hawkins in his peremptory manner said to him—"You must not call me 'My Lord.'" Not the least abashed the witness immediately said—"Well; my learned friend, then." Such things as these enlivened the proceedings.

There is another case in which Mr. Hawkins figured many years ago, which may not be uninteresting to you. There used to be in London a grand old ringer—George Stockham by name. He rang in several long peals—the peal of Grandsire Caters at Fulham, the long peal of Stedman Cinques at St. Michael's, Cornhill, and others of note. For many years he was steeple-keeper at St. Clement Danes, and Treasurer of the St. James's Society in its palmy days. I am told he was highly-respected by every one, young and old, and was a most worthy member of the Exercise.

He was a manufacturer of handbells. Also he would take a contract, if he could get it, for church bells. He had the order placed in his hands to add two trebles to a peal of eight (making them ten, of course) for a church at some town in Kent. This order was executed, and I believe the bells are there still. One of the grand old-fashioned "openings," by the College Youths took place, and everything seemed to be all gay until Stockham sent in his bill. Then there was a hitch, as there sometimes is under similar circumstances.

Stockham wanted his money, and eventually brought an action to recover it. The defendant, or defendants, had as counsel Mr. Hawkins. Stockham got the verdict, but I am told he did not get his money. The following colloquy is said to have passed at the trial, told by Stockham himself.

Mr. Hawkins: You are a bell-ringer I believe, Mr. Stockham?
Stockham: I am.

Mr. Hawkins: You are a member of a bellringers' society known as the Ancient Society of College Youths?

Stockham: I am.

Mr. Hawkins: That society was established, was it not, in the year 1637?

Stockham: It was.

Mr. Hawkins: And you have been a member of that body from its commencement?

Stockham: I have!

And George Stockham in relating how he was caught napping, added: "That's where the villain had me." There are ringers now alive who are acquainted with all this.

What a deal of anecdote there is about past worthies if we knew where to drop upon it all. There has of late been several

publications brought out concerning Charles Dickens, but there is one little anecdote the writers know not of, which I will tell you. My authority is the Editor of this journal, who was at the time what is known as a "Corrector of the Press" in a large London establishment. The London Society of Correctors of the Press had arranged a large and important Meeting at the Salisbury Hotel in Fleet Street, at which meeting Charles Dickens presided. In the course of the evening a resolution was proposed by a gentleman named Harper, who made an excellent speech. When he had finished Dickens rose and said—"Gentlemen: this resolution will be seconded by Mr.—not Mrs.—Harris." You don't want be told where the joke comes in, I hope; if you do, send to me privately, enclosing six-and-eightpence.

Quite a commotion among the Bedfordians really! Well; why should they have their name taken away from them? Some one in authority has declared that there is nothing in a name; and if we were to call a rose a dandelion its fragrance would not vanish. But these old sayings are all Mother Hubbard now; we live in a different time altogether. Then I suppose the Bedfordshire Association, as a corporate body, have funded property, consols, gas and water shares, leaseholds; and such like. I really commend them in retaining all these things, and objecting to affiliation of any sort which would take them away. Of course the idea has gained ground that the reason they oppose the Ely proposals is that their peals would help to swell the number of the Diocesan Guild, and lessen their own. This would be the height of selfishness, and I cannot believe it for one moment.

Just another word upon this. I carefully read the account of the Bedford meeting, and I could not help thinking it was something of a Bridgnorth election affair, *i.e.* all on one side. There appeared to be too much of the follow-my-leader business about it; and it seemed doubtful if many of those present had really considered the matter at all. Now fellow-ringers of Beds., never again act, or appear to act, like sheep. Think out for yourselves this and all other problems which may come before you. And don't do anything to create a remark that you are on such an awfully low level as footballists. Mr. Baker was not far out you know, if he was severe. There is a fear also lest we may get too exclusive—a stand-offish behaviour, you know. We should not look down upon others whose lot is not so fortunate as ours in the obtaining of peals or anything else. Don't let us vaunt ourselves because we can ring something else beside Grandsire.

PLAIN SPEAKER.

ANCIENT CHURCH BELLS.

At a meeting of the Dumfries Antiquarian Society Mr. James Barbour, architect, read a paper on the church bells of Holywood and Kirkmahoe and the church and municipal bells of Lochmaben. With reference to the Holywood bells, which belong to the old monastery of that name, and are now in the Parish Church tower, the earliest mention of them is contained, he said, in Sir John Sinclair's Statistic Account (1789), where it is said—"The present church has two fine bells, taken out of the old building, one of which, by an inscription and date on it, appears to have been consecrated by the abbot, John Wrich, in the year 1154." That reading had been accepted for over a hundred years, but it had long been felt to be unsatisfactory, since the oldest dated bell known to exist in England was marked 1296. He had himself taken a rubbing of the inscription, which he translated as follows:—"I, Welch, abbot of Holywood, caused me to be made in the year our Lord (one thousand) five hundred and five."

WRITE TO POLLARDS, Limited, Bradford, for the Illustrated Sketch Book of Costumes.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting was held this year at Bury St. Edmunds on Easter Monday, April 11th. The fine ring of ten in the famous old Norman tower, with that of eight at St. Mary's church, were kindly placed at the disposal of members, and during the day some good touches of Major and Royal were rung. Others who were present visited the minor belfries of Fornham and Horringer, villages in the neighbourhood. The actual business meeting, which was preceded by a substantial dinner, was held at The Golden Fleece inn, in Churchgate Street, attended by some seventy members representing nearly all parts of the diocese, including such well-known ringing centres as Cambridge, Lavenham, Long Melford, Ely, Sudbury, etc. In the unavoidable absence of the Archdeacon of Sudbury, the chair was taken by the Ven. Archdeacon Emery (senior vice-President), who in felicitous terms congratulated the members on the continued success of the Association, and hoped that before long a closer bond of sympathy might be universal between ringers on the one hand, and their clergy and churchwardens on the other. Other clergy present included the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey (Trin. Coll. Cambs.), Rev. K. H. Smith (Ely), Rev. E. J. Teesdale (late Hon. Sec.), and the Rev. W. W. Crump (Haddenham), the popular general Secretary for the diocese. Mr. G. J. Clarkson (of Stockton-on-Tees), a former secretary of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association, was also a welcome visitor.

In the annual report and balance-sheet, presented by the Hon. Secretary, it was shown that nine ringing meetings had been held during the year by the Association in various parts of the diocese, viz.: two at Cambridge, and one each at Downham Market, Hitcham, Ickleton, Lavenham, Monks Eleigh, Soham, and Sudbury. The number both of honorary and ringing members had slightly increased, and was now over 220. Only six complete peals of 5000 had been accomplished. Unfortunately the statement of accounts showed that though not in debt yet the year's expenses had slightly exceeded the income, but arrangements were being made by which it was hoped that this may be remedied during the present year. On the motion of Mr. W. Taylor (Newmarket) the report was adopted.

The election of officers was then proceeded with, the Hon. Treasurer (Rev. K. H. Smith) and the Hon. Secretary (Rev. W. W. Crump), being unanimously re-elected. Mr. C. G. Bixby (Long Melford) succeeds Mr. Slater (Glemsford) as auditor, while the following gentlemen were appointed secretaries for each of the separate archidiaconal districts into which the Association is divided: Rev. E. J. Teesdale (Nordelph) for the Isle of Ely; Rev. P. E. Curtois (Hemingford Grey) for the Archdeaconry of Huntingdon; Mr. R. M. Croft (Wilburton) for the Archdeaconry of Ely; and the Rev. W. M. K. Warren (Bury St. Edmunds) for the Archdeaconry of Sudbury.

It was then decided to amend two of the rules, so that in future all annual subscriptions should become due on the first of January, and the life-membership fee for distinguished ringers living outside the diocese should be reduced from five shillings to half-a-crown.

An important resolution was then brought forward by the Hon. Secretary affecting the Archdeaconry of Bedford, a district in which the Diocesan Association had hitherto taken no action owing to the presence there of an already existing county Association. It has been for some time felt that some arrangement for mutual co-operation was desirable, and at the annual meeting of the Bedfordshire Association in 1897 the matter was brought forward and favourably received by those then present. Since that time a detailed scheme has been drawn up by the two secretaries providing for the retention of its old name and privileges by the Bedfordshire Association, with the exclusive management of its own funds, election of its own officers, etc., and the scheme, after being submitted to the committees of both Associations, was approved. Copies were sent to all members, and it was decided to submit the proposal for decision at the annual meetings of both bodies held simultaneously at Bedford and Bury St. Edmunds, for which purpose the Rev. P. E. Curtois had kindly attended the meeting at Bedford as a deputation from the Diocesan Association. It was therefore moved that the scheme be provisionally adopted, and, in accordance with its terms, that the Bedfordshire Association be re-

garded as the affiliated representative of the Diocesan Association in its Archdeaconry, which is co-extensive with the county. The motion was seconded by Mr. S. Slater (Glemsford) who said every effort had been made by the committee to make the scheme, which was essentially one of compromise, as fair and amicable as possible to all concerned, while the Archdeacon of Ely also cordially supported it on behalf of the ecclesiastical authorities to whom it had courteously been submitted. The resolution was then put to the meeting, and carried unanimously.

As is now well known, unfortunately the simultaneous Bedford meeting peremptorily rejected the proposal, though explained and supported by the Hon. Secretary of the Bedfordshire Association (Rev. W. W. C. Baker), Mr. Isaac Hills, and others. It is still hoped that something may be done to prevent any bitterness or rivalry between the two Associations, who have one common object in view.

The meeting at Bury concluded with the customary votes of thanks to the rev. chairman for kindly presiding, and to the local clergy for the use of their bells.

OPENING OF "THE VICTORIA PEAL" OF BELLS AT ST. MARY'S, CHATHAM.

Easter Sunday (writes a correspondent) was quite a red-letter day at the ancient parish church of Chatham, being the day appointed for the opening of the new bells in the Victoria tower of the church. These bells are called "The Victoria Peal" by special permission of Her Majesty the Queen, and were erected in honour of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee. H.R.H. Princess Christian was present at the dedication service of the tower and bells, on the 2nd of February last, which was conducted by the Lord Bishop of Rochester. Since then the townspeople have been anxiously waiting to hear the new bells peal forth, as they are quite an innovation in Chatham, the town hitherto having four churches, with one bell in each.

There was a special service in the afternoon for the opening, at which there was a very fair congregation, which included the Mayor and some of the town councillors, Mr. Churchwarden Bessent, Mr. and Mrs. Viney and Miss Withecombe (donors of the bells), tradesmen, etc. The service was a shortened form of Evensong, with special psalms and hymns, followed by a very interesting address on the uses of bells from the earliest period, which was very attentively listened to. The service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. J. Tetley Rowe.

After service a well-struck 168 and 504 of Grandsire Triples were rung by the following members of the Kent County Association: C. Waterman, 1; W. Haigh (conductor), 2; A. Osborne, 3; A. Ring, 4; J. Tullett, 5; W. Easter, 6; W. Baker, 7; W. Hunt, 8. Then the ringers adjourned to the vestry, where through the kindness of the Rector and Churchwardens tea had been provided, which was very much appreciated. After tea several touches were rung before the regular evening service.

On Monday, April 11th, an attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Triples by a select band of the Kent County Association, but it had to be abandoned after 50 mins. excellent ringing, owing to the elasticity of the ropes.

The bells are a fine musical peal, tenor 25 cwt. in E flat, cast by Warners, and reflect great credit on that firm. The people of Chatham and neighbourhood are highly delighted with their deep rich tone.

In the evening, those who had taken part in the ringing on Sunday and Monday, with a few friends, were entertained to a hot supper in the schoolroom, the Rector and Churchwardens being present. The evening was spent in toast and song, and tunes and changes on the handbells. A vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector and Churchwardens for their generous hospitality, which was replied to by them, and that brought to a close the very pleasant opening ceremony of "The Victoria Peal" at St. Mary's Chatham.

HALIFAX (Yorks).—On Sunday, March 27th, for evening service, a date touch of 1898 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung at All Souls' church, in 1 hr. 15 mins. H. Reynolds, 1; A. Stead, 2; G. H. Copping, 3; J. S. Ambler, 4; C. E. Carrington, 5; C. E. Stewart, 6; S. W. Stewart, 7; F. Salmons (conductor), 8.

LEINTWARDINE, HEREFORDSHIRE.

The bells of this parish church were re-dedicated on Wednesday, April 15th, after several years' silence. A special service was held, at which the Dean of Hereford preached. The ringing on the occasion was performed by members of the Hereford Diocesan Guild, under the leadership of J. E. Groves, Guild instructor. Previous to the service several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, also a 720 of Grandsire Minor; and immediately before service a 6-score of Doubles was conducted by Mr. Gough, of Liverpool. Another 720 was rung after service, and several 6-scores in which Mr. Roberts of Clun took part.

The restoration has been carried out as a jubilee memorial. The bells have been rehung in a new English oak frame, of massive proportions, with new wheels and fittings, and have all been quarter-turned. They are a first-class ring of six, cast by Rudhall. The whole work of restoration has been satisfactorily done by Mr. W. Greenleaf, bellhanger, of Hereford.

The ringers present on the occasion in addition to those already mentioned, were Messrs. J. G. Buchanan, G. J. Taylor, H. Jones, and G. Byolin.

DEDICATION OF A NEW JUBILEE CLOCK AND CHIMES AT GARSTON, NEAR LIVERPOOL.

Garston is situated on the right bank of the Mersey, five-and-a-half miles distant from Liverpool. In the parish church, erected a little over twenty years ago, there is a very fine peal of eight bells, of which Mr. S. Gough, whose memoir and portrait recently appeared in this paper, has from the opening been the superintendent. Owing to many and varied reasons the church tower had never been completed, but during the jubilee year Mr. Gough, determining to awake the parishioners to a sense of their duty, made an offer to the church council that if they would complete the tower he would bear the cost of a clock that would not only be an ornament to the tower but would supply a long-felt want in this populous district. The council gladly accepted the challenge, and by means of private subscriptions and a sale of work, the requisite funds were soon forthcoming. The tower has been raised about twelve feet, with battlements and four turrets, and a flag pole and weather vane are to be added. The total cost is about £300. The clock has been fixed immediately below the belfry. It has three faces each 5 ft. in diameter. The dials are of beautiful opal, with black finger marks, and are the gift of Mrs. Gough, Mrs. Henry Willcock (daughter) and Mr. Gough. The clock is constructed horizontally, so that all the works are easily accessible, and it has a wood and glass case, while the weights, which descend to the basement of the tower, are enclosed in a pitchpine case. All the woodwork has been done by Mr. Rawlinson. The clock possesses all the latest improvements, and it has been supplied by the well-known firm of Messrs. J. Smith and Sons, Derby, who erected the clock in St. Paul's cathedral, which is the largest in the world. The erection has been carried out by Mr. W. Haynes, who placed the clock in St. Paul's. The clock will strike the ding-dong quarters on the 3rd and 6th bells, and the hours upon the tenor. The dials will be lighted by gas, which will be turned on and off by an automatic arrangement connected with the clock. We may also add that the pendulum weighs one cwt., and that the weights are borne by steel wire, instead of the old method, hempen cord. The total cost of the clock, which will be borne by Mr. Gough, will be about £150.

The dedication took place on February 21st, and was conducted by the Right Rev. Bishop Royston, D.D. The service commenced at a quarter to six. The prayers and lessons were read by the Vicar, after which the clergy and choir proceeded in processional order to the tower entrance. Here the hymn "We love the place O God," was sung, and the Bishop then said: I do solemnly dedicate this church tower as now completed, and the public clock placed therein as a memorial to the diamond jubilee of our gracious sovereign lady, Queen Victoria, and to the glory of God for the use of the inhabitants of this parish of St. Michael's, Garston. The clock was then started by Mrs. Willcock, by means of a cord, at a few minutes to six, the lady's remarks being: To the glory of God and for the benefit of His Church and people I faithfully and prayerfully start this Diamond Jubilee Clock. The congregation then knelt in silent prayer until the clock struck the hour, after which the Bishop offered a special prayer appropriate to the occasion, and then delivered an address founded on the words "Redeeming the time." The service concluded with the singing of the "Old Hundredth," and the Benediction by the Vicar.

Subsequently a soiree was held in the Jubilee Institute, at which nearly 400 persons were present. After tea an entertainment took place. During the interval a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to their neighbour, well-wisher, and really liberal friend to the Garston church tower and bells—Mr. Gough.

TWO PLEASANT DAYS IN HAMPSHIRE.

We deemed ourselves somewhat fortunate in obtaining leave to attempt a peal on Curdridge bells, and having got permission the opportunity was not allowed to slip, a band being made up to attempt Superlative. Three of the party coming from Sussex were joined at Fratton by Mr. F. S. Bayley, and proceeded to Fareham, where tea was in readiness at the residence of Mr. J. W. Whiting. While partaking of the cup which cheers, our hopes were considerably brightened by being told that on the last occasion that the Winchester Guild held a meeting at Curdridge, the tenors were unringable, but nothing daunted, and armed with a bottle of castor oil, we started off for Botley, the nearest railway to Curdridge Church. At that station two more of the band were found waiting, but the eighth man had not turned up. Tracks were at once made for the tower, and after clearing out the bearings of the larger bells, they were all dosed with the oil. By the time the bells were got up the "shadow" of the eighth man appeared over the hill, and then it wasn't long before we were locked in the tower and ready to start for the peal. The band comprised Messrs. G. Williams and F. Bennett, of Brighton; J. S. Goldsmith, Lewes; F. S. Bayley, Portsmouth; J. W. Whiting, Fareham; I. G. Shade, Greenwich; H. White, Basingstoke; and C. Giles, Reading. The noise in the ringing chamber was terrific, so that it was with difficulty we could hear our conductor, who was suffering from a bad throat, call the bobs. After 3 hours 31 minutes excellent ringing the welcome "this is all" announced that the first peal on Curdridge bells was an accomplished fact. In a hurry we left the tower to accept the hospitality of the Vicar (Rev. G. W. Hills), who had kindly provided refreshments for the inner man, before having to catch the train back to Fareham. Soon after eight o'clock on Sunday morning we were all gathered round the breakfast table at friend Whiting's, and at 10.20 we alighted from the train at Southampton Docks station. "Just time for a touch at Holyrood" says someone, and to Holyrood we went at once. The local band, who were just assembling to ring for service, kindly gave us the use of the bells, and a 448 of Superlative was tapped off in effective style by J. W. Whiting, 1; I. G. Shade, 2; H. White, 3; F. Bennett, 4; C. Giles, 5; J. S. Goldsmith, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; F. S. Bayley, 8. Two traps were then engaged, and half-an-hour's pleasant drive along the side of Southampton water brought us to Netley. After a walk as far as the hospital, dinner was partaken of at The Royal Victoria. The Abbey Church was then visited and at two o'clock "Go, for Superlative" was again called. At five minutes to 5 another 5,088 had been completed, and on coming out of the belfry the ringers were congratulated by a number of the band. Mr. E. J. Heathorn was also waiting outside and informed us that tea was waiting at Southampton. A waggonette took us back to that town, and at Mr. Heathorn's house we found a substantial meat tea prepared. The Sussex men could not get home that night unless they caught the 5.50 from Southampton, so one cup of tea with just a look at the viands had to suffice them as well as the Greenwich men, who were determined to go by the same train. Rushing from the good things provided the four got to the water's edge to find the floating bridge, the only means of crossing to the other side in time for the train had just gone. That was at 5.32 and "the four" were informed that there would be another boat in ten minutes. Five minutes was allowed for the bridge to cross, which left three minutes to get to the station. That was consoling, as they knew it was a good seven minutes' walk. Impatiently they awaited the arrival of the bridge, while the minutes slipped rapidly by. The conversation began to turn on the question as to where was the best place to stay for the night when the bridge arrived. Before it had quite reached the other bank the anxious "four" had jumped ashore, and were rushing pell mell to the station, which was reached in time to fall almost exhausted into the train as it went out of the station. The band wish to thank, through the medium of this paper, the Vicars of Curdridge and Netley for allowing the use of the bells, the steeple-keepers at both churches for their attention, the ringers at Holyrood for giving up the bells on Sunday morning, and Rev. G. W. Hills and Mr. E. J. Heathorn for their kind hospitality.

G.

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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 30, 1898.

We hope that by this time our brethren at the town of Leighton Buzzard have attained such a knowledge of change-ringing as to do without the services of a teacher. It is really a drawback that their geographical or topographical position is so very unfavourable to reach or get away from during reasonable hours, but this difficulty, like others of a much larger growth, ought certainly to have been overcome. We have heard of cases where, under similar circumstances, provision has been made so that the instructor may find quarters for the night, but perhaps this way out of the difficulty did not occur to those immediately concerned.

The Rev. W. W. C. BAKER asks if any means can be suggested by which the opposition to the proposals of the Ely Diocesan Guild can be surmounted. If the members of the Bedfordshire Association are so very anxious to let the ringing world know that the majority of peals rung under the head of the Ely Guild would be rung by them, no doubt our friend Mr. ATTREE, who has a most obliging turn of mind, would be able to concoct some plan to satisfy them. As for ourselves, we promise, when the

desired amalgamation becomes an accomplished fact, to place always under the leading line the words "Arch-deaconry of Bedford" in small capitals, when our Bedfordshire friends desire us so to do.

We are gratified to hear that our comments of last week have been approved of in several quarters; and we conclude our remarks this week by asking our Bedford brethren to re-consider the subject, and act ungrudgingly and generously in the matter.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

The next meeting will be held at Bristol on Tuesday in Whit-sun-week, 31st May, 1898.

Notices of motion, etc., must reach the Hon. Secretary not later than Tuesday, the 3rd of May. They must be in writing, and signed by two representatives.

Hon. Secretaries of the following societies are respectfully reminded that the contributions of their societies have not (up to this date, April 27th) been received: Archdeaconry of Stafford Society, Salisbury Guild.

Information of any change in representatives, or their addresses, will be thankfully received with the respective contributions.

H. EARLE BULWER, Hon. Sec.

Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

(THE BOW SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, April 23, 1898, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, COLEMAN STREET, CITY,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5056 CHANGES. Tenor 14 cwt.

JAMES SCHOLES Treble.	THOMAS FAULKNER 5.
SAMUEL JOYCE 2.	HENRY SPRINGALL 6.
YORK GREEN 3.	SAMUEL HAYES 7.
ROWLAND FENN 4.	ALBERT HARDY Tenor.

Composed by JOHN H. BARRETT, of Stepney, and
Conducted by HENRY SPRINGALL.

First peal in the method on the bells.

The Provinces.

WASHINGBOROUGH, LINCOLNSHIRE.

On Saturday, April 9, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

G. CROFT Treble.	T. CLARK 5.
J. T. WELLS 2.	W. WALKER 6.
J. WALKER 3.	C. WELLS 7.
G. KETTLEBOROUGH 4.	J. HUTTON Tenor.

Conducted by C. WELLS.

First peal on the bells, and the first by all except Messrs. Wells.

WICKHAM SKEITH, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, April 19, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720s of Oxford Treble Bob, and 720 each of Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, College Single, Oxford Single, and Plain Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

DAVID MAYS Treble.	GEORGE KEMP 4.
FRANK CULLUM 2.	THOMAS DAVY 5.
JAMES ROSE 3.	GEORGE CATTERMOLLE .. Tenor.

Conducted by G. CATTERMOLLE.

First peal by F. Cullum. First peal in six methods on the bells.

LINCOLN.—THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, April 20, 1898, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER-AT-ARCHES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

GEORGE FLINTHAM Treble.	GEORGE W. BEMROSE 5.
ARTHUR CRAVEN 2.	JOHN W. WATSON 6.
GEORGE CHESTER 3.	JAMES R. MACKMAN 7.
JOHN W. JACKSON* 4.	CHARLES W. P. CLIFTON Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by ARTHUR CRAVEN.

*First peal.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, April 20, 1898, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5058 CHANGES.

Tenor 28 cwt.

F. BARRETT Treble.	J. H. GRUNDY 6.
W. A. TYLER 2.	A. MATTHEWS 7.
G. E. HARDY 3.	W. A. MASTERS 8.
H. COLBURN 4.	R. F. LANE 9.
E. CARTWRIGHT 5.	T. GRUNDY Tenor.

Composed by R. WILLIAMS, of Liverpool, and
Conducted by R. F. LANE.

Rang to commemorate the wedding of Mr. Charles Harriman, a member of the above Association, and Miss Spencer, both of Loughborough, his brother-ringers wishing them both good luck, prosperity, and happiness.

BACUP.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, April 22, 1898, in Two Hours and Thirty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FIVE-PART.

F. HOWORTH Treble.	J. B. TAYLOR 5.
J. STANDRING 2.	JOHN SHEPHERD 6.
J. A. BROWN 3.	WM. ASHWORTH 7.
O. EASTWOOD 4.	JNO. W. ORMEROD Tenor.

Conducted by JNO. SHEPHERD.

Reference to this peal will be found on another page.

PULHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 23, 1898, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5088 CHANGES. Tenor 15 cwt.

JAMES TANN Treble.	ERNEST POPPY 5.
JAMES BETTS 2.	FREDERICK SMITH 6.
ROBERT WHITING 3.	*JOHN SOUTER 7.
FREDERICK BORRETT 4.	JAMES SOUTER Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF and Conducted by JAMES TANN.

HIGH WYCOMBE.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 23, 1898, in Three Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES.

Tenor 23½ cwt. in Eb.

FREDERICK G. BIGGS* .. Treble.	*FRANK K. BIGGS 6.
JOHN C. TRUSS 2.	†JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. .. 7.
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER .. 3.	†WALTER E. YATES 8.
GEORGE MARTIN 4.	RALPH H. BIGGS 9.
JOHN EVANS 5.	BENJAMIN PAGE Tenor.

Composed by the late JOHN COX and Conducted by JOHN C. TRUSS.

*First peal on ten bells and first attempt. †First peal of Grandsire Caters. The ringers were kindly entertained at the vicarage after the peal by the vicar, the Rev E. D. Shaw.

BLACKPOOL, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 23, 1898, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt.

GEORGE L. GOODWIN Treble.	JOHN BROWN 5.
JAMES SMITH, SEN. 2.	W. T. H. TIMBRELL 6.
JAMES MATHER 3.	EDWIN TIMBRELL 7.
HENRY HAYES 4.	TOM REDMAN Tenor.

Composed by EDWIN TIMBRELL and Conducted by TOM REDMAN.

EARL SOHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 23, 1898, in Two Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE HOUSE OF W. G. CRICKMER,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

HORACE C. HOWLETT .. 1-2.	*WALTER LAST 5-6.
WILLIAM G. CRICKMER .. 3-4.	WILLIAM FLORY 7-8.

Composed by SIR ARTHUR P. HEYWOOD and
Conducted by W. G. CRICKMER.

*First peal on handbells. Umpire—J. A. Read.

GAINSBOROUGH.—NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 23, 1898, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

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

ELLIS CREDLAND* Treble.	JOHN T. LADD 5.
JAMES R. MACKMAN 2.	GEORGE CHESTER 6.
JOHN W. JACKSON 3.	FREDK. S. W. BUTLER .. 7.
JOHN C. TINKER 4.	ROBERT S. LAKIN Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES R. MACKMAN.

*First peal.

NORTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AND YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Saturday, April 23, 1898, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

ARTHUR KNIGHTS Treble.	JOE ATKIN 5.
ARTHUR SLATER 2.	GAD BUTCHER 6.
EDWIN JAMES 3.	DAVID BREARLEY 7.
THOMAS SAREL 4.	WILLIAM BIGGIN Tenor.

Composed by A. KNIGHTS, of Chesterfield, and
Conducted by WILLIAM BIGGIN.

BISHOPSTONE, WILTS.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 23, 1898, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS COMPOSITION. Tenor 20 cwt.

TOM ROBINSON Treble.	JAMES H. SHEPHERD .. 5.
THOMAS RICKETTS 2.	ERNEST BISHOP 6.
ALFRED LAWRENCE 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
HENRY ROBERTS 4.	CHARLES TITCHENER .. Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

Reference to this peal will be found on another page.

WOLVERHAMPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, April 23, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 22½ cwt.

ISAAC PURSER Treble.	HUGH J. BALCOMBE .. 5.
BENJAMIN DALTON 2.	HERBERT KNIGHT 6.
ROBERT PICKERING 3.	JOHN JAGGAR 7.
HENRY DAWKES 4.	FARRINGTON JONES .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN JAGGAR.

Rung in honour of the marriage of Miss E. B. Coales, of Thrapston, Northants, to J. G. Hull, Esq., J.P., of Pilton. Oundle, Northants.

HORSHAM, SUSSEX.—SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 23, 1898, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt. in E.

THOMAS WORSFOLD Treble.	THOMAS FAIRS 5.
JOHN AKEHURST 2.	ALBERT ELLIS 6.
HENRY BURSTOW 3.	JAMES WORSFOLD 7.
CHARLES TAYLOR 4.	FREDERICK WICKENS .. Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM HARRISON and
Conducted by FREDERICK WICKENS.

Reference to this peal will be found on another page.

TAUNTON, SOMERSETSHIRE.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 23, 1898, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLLIS'S FIVE-PART No. 2.

A. HOPKINSON ILES, ESQ.* Treble.	HENRY POOLE 5.
WALTER GILLARD 2.	JOSEPH MADDOCK 6.
SIDNEY WYATT 3.	JAMES BURGE 7.
ARTHUR DOBLE 4.	*FREDERICK COLLINS .. Tenor.

Conducted by J. MADDOCK.

*First peal.

REIGATE, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, April 23, 1898, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

PELHAM E. J. KNIGHT .. Treble.	EDGAR KENWARD 5.
FRANCIS T. HOAD, SEN. .. 2.	GEORGE F. HOAD 6.
WILLIAM BURKIN 3.	WILLIAM ARGENT 7.
GEORGE THOMPSON 4.	FRANCIS T. HOAD, JUN. .. Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN and Conducted by F. T. HOAD, SEN.

CURDRIDGE, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 23, 1898, in Three Hours and Thirty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5088 CHANGES. Tenor 26½ cwt. in D.

JOHN W. WHITING Treble.	CHARLES GILES 5.
ISAAC G. SHADE 2.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH .. 6.
HENRY WHITE 3.	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY .. 7.
FRANK BENNETT 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS and Conducted by G. WILLIAMS.

This was the first peal on this grand ring of eight by Messrs. Taylor and Co., the "go" of which is perfect. They were erected in 1894 in a new tower. This was F. Bennett's 150th peal. This composition, in three equal parts, has the 5th and 6th their extent in 5-6. A note to this elsewhere.

ILKLEY, YORKS.

On Sunday, April 24, 1898, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 18 cwt.

W. STUBBS* Treble.	F. PELL 5.
W. COOK 2.	*W. CRAWSHAW 6.
W. E. WALAND 3.	J. BEANLAND 7.
C. STEPHENSON 4.	*C. HORNER Tenor.

Conducted by J. BEANLAND.

*First peal. Rung to celebrate the golden wedding of Mr. T. Stephenson, he being one of the old ringers at the time the late Jasper W. Snowdon was learning to ring.

NETLEY, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, April 24, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 8½ cwt. in A.

JOHN W. WHITING Treble.	FRANK BENNETT 5.
GEORGE WILLIAMS 2.	ISAAC G. SHADE 6.
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 3.	HENRY WHITE 7.
CHARLES GILES 4.	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY .. Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

First peal of Superlative on the bells. Reference to this peal will be found on another page.

WOODFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, April 24, 1898, in Two Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. H. GOWERS, FULLERS ROAD,

ON HANDBELLS RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

GEORGE R. PYE 1-2.	ERNEST PYE 5-6.
WILLIAM PYE 3-4.	EDGAR WIGHTMAN 7-8.

Conducted by GEORGE R. PYE.

Umpire—J. Mardell, who had a copy of the peal before him and marked off every six-end as rung. Rung as a birthday compliment to E. Wightman, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

DUDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 25, 1898, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FIVE-PART.

Tenor 22 cwt.

WILLIAM R. SMALL .. Treble.	*GEORGE H. COCKIN .. 5.
SAMUEL REEVES 2.	ARTHUR SPITTLE .. 6.
WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT .. 3.	SAMUEL SPITTLE .. 7.
JOHN W. SMITH* 4.	JOHN SMITH Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

*First peal in the method. It is also the first peal of Stedman Triples on the bells.

BANGOR, NORTH WALES.

On Monday, April 25, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DAVID,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

SAMUEL TAYLOR .. Treble.	GEORGE SALTER .. 5.
REV. T. LEWIS JONES .. 2.	PHILIP W. DAVIES .. 6.
JOSEPH GAYTON 3.	MORRIS J. MORRIS .. 7.
JAMES H. MIDWINTER .. 4.	WILLIAM CRANE .. Tenor.

Conducted by MORRIS J. MORRIS.

Reference to this peal will be found on another page.

READING, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, April 26, 1898, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 15 cwt.

H. DIBLEY* Treble.	*A. W. REEVES 5.
H. COFFEE* 2.	F. SWEETZER 6.
G. L. BODDINGTON* .. 3.	C. GILES 7.
A. H. EVANS 4.	†A. E. REEVES Tenor.

Composed by H. J. TUCKER and Conducted by A. E. REEVES.

*First peal of Major. †First peal of Major as conductor. First peal on Major on the bells. Rung on the occasion of the marriage of Miss Maurice, daughter of the churchwarden, and Dr. Guilding, son of the vicar of St. Lawrence, at the above church.

BATTLE, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, April 26, 1898, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 23 cwt.

WILLIAM H. ELDRIDGE† Treble.	FREDERICK LOCK .. 5.
WALTER FRANKS 2.	CHARLES CARTER .. 6.
WILLIAM EASTLAND* .. 3.	WILLIAM THOMAS .. 7.
F. A. KENNETT 4.	†JOHN SINDEN Tenor.

Conducted by WALTER FRANKS.

†First peal away from the tenor. *First peal with a bob bell. †First peal.

PEAL CORRECTION.—The peal of Grandsire Caters rung at Shrewsbury on April 12th, should have read Herbert Jones, 2; George J. Taylor, 3; not George J. Taylor, 2; Herbert Jones, 3.

Date Touches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BOLTON, BRADFORD (Yorks).—On Sunday, April 24th, at St. James's church, for morning service, a date touch of 1898 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 7 mins. W. Joyce, 1; J. Palframan, 2; A. Gill, 3; A. Benson, 4; H. Good, 5; B. T. Copley (conductor), 6; S. Palframan, 7; J. Joyce, 8. First date touch in the method by all except the conductor. Also on the same day, for evening service, another date touch in the same method, in 1 hr. 6 mins. W. Joyce, 1; J. Palframan, 2; A. Gill, 3; A. Benson, 4; H. Good, 5; R. E. Howe, 6; E. Wheeler, (conductor), 7; J. Joyce, 8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

COGGESHALL (Essex).—On Monday, March 21st, at the parish church, a date touch of Oxford Treble Bob Major, 1898 changes, in 1 hr. 11 mins. Composed by A. Sykes. R. Potter, 1; H. Pye, 2; W. Dyer, 3; D. Elliott (conductor), 4; J. Sadler, 5; C. Norfolk, 6; E. W. Beckwith, 7; J. Newman, 8.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WICKHAM SKEITH (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, March 15th, a date touch, 1898 changes, in 1 hr. 5 mins., arranged as follows: 458 Kent Treble Bob, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 720 Double Court Minor. D. Mays, 1; J. Rose, 2; T. Davy, 3; F. Cullum, 4; G. Kemp, 5; D. Cattermole (conductor), 6.

Miscellaneous.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

BEDDINGTON (Surrey).—On Sunday, March 20th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1280 changes, in 49 mins. A. Clayton, 1; E. Bennett (conductor), 2; A. J. Trappitt, 3; C. Dean, 4; A. J. Plowman, 5; C. Bance, 6; F. Holder, 7; C. Gordon, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BRADFIELD.—On Monday, March 7th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. V. Rowe, 1; S. Chapman, 2; H. Richardson, 3; R. George, 4; E. Holloway, 5; F. Richardson (conductor), 5. On Monday, March 14th,

720 Woodbine Treble Bob, standing as above. On Monday, March 21st, 720 Duke of York. V. Rowe, 1; T. Chapman, 2; H. Richardson, 3; E. Holloway, 4; R. George, 5; F. Richardson (conductor), 6.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ANGMERING (Sussex).—On Saturday, January 1st, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. C. H. Phillips, 1; C. Hills, 2; A. Child, 3; T. Parsons, 4; F. Finch, 5; T. Linfield (conductor), 6. On Monday, January 10th, 720 Plain Bob. E. Parsons, 1; C. Hills, 2; R. Linfield (first 720), 3; T. Parsons, 4; H. Finch, 5; T. Linfield (conductor), 6. Also 720 Plain Bob. T. Parsons, 1; T. Hammond (first 720), 2; H. Finch, 3; T. Linfield, 4; F. Finch, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. On Monday, February 28th, 720 Plain Bob. E. Parsons, 1; C. Hills, 2; T. Parsons, 3; E. H. Phillips, 4; H. Evans (Goring), 5; T. Linfield (conductor), 6. On Monday, March 14th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. E. H. Phillips, 1; T. Parsons, 2; H. Finch, 3; C. Hills, 4; F. Finch, 5; T. Linfield (conductor), 6. Also 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. H. Finch, 1; F. Finch, 2; A. Child, 3; T. Parsons, 4; T. Linfield, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. The bells were rung half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Rev. R. F. Tompkins.

ARUNDEL (Sussex).—On Sunday evening, March 27th, for evening service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. G. Weller, 1; J. Netley, 2; H. Searle, 3; J. Beams (conductor), 4; A. H. Lee, 5; G. Balchin, 6; C. Blackman, 7; A. Hammond, 8.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(STOCKPORT AND BOWDEN BRANCH.)

DISLEY (Cheshire).—On Saturday, March 19th, six of the Hazel Grove company visited the parish church, and during the evening the following touches were rung: 360 New London Pleasure, 360 Grandsire, 360 Plain Bob, 360 Kent Treble Bob, 360 Oxford Treble Bob, and 360 College Single. An attempt was also made for 360 Violet Treble Bob, but it was not brought round. Messrs. J. Fernley, J. Dean, G. Warburton, S. Fernley (conductor), S. Rutter, and A. Fernley. The company wish to take this opportunity of thanking the vicar, the Rev. J. Satterthwaite, for the use of the bells.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BOBBING (Kent).—On February 22nd, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). J. Jeffrey, 1; A. J. Waters, 2; A. J. Day, 3; H. S. Good, 4; W. H. Wilkins (conductor), 5; A. Trowell, 6. On Sunday, March 20th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, and 720 Kent Treble Bob in 47 mins. A. Trowell, 1; C. Millway (conductor), 2; J. Grinstead, 3; W. T. Hyland, 4; W. J. Walker, 5; W. H. Wilkins, 6. Messrs. Hyland and Walker hail from Upchurch; Grinstead from Rodmersham; Millway from Borden; the rest are local men.

EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HORSLEY.—On Thursday, March 17th, the local company assisted by Mr. H. George, of Ripley, rang 720 Grandsire Doubles in 27 mins. T. Whilton, 1; W. Smith, 2; H. George, 3; W. Peat, 4; J. Aldread (conductor), 5. Afterwards a 6-score of Manchester Doubles standing as before. Also a 6-score of Doubles, with H. George, 1.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

NAVENBY.—On Saturday, March 19th, 720 Bob Minor. J. Cooke, 1; W. Sparrow, 2; J. R. Sharpe, 3; W. Curtis, 4; J. W. Ash, 5; G. Chester (conductor), 6. This is supposed to be the first touch of Minor ever rung on the bells.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Tuesday, March 1st, at St. Mary's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Farrow, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Webb, 3; W. Hammond, 4; S. Sargent, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, March 15th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. W. Moore, 1; H. Collins, 2; W. Farrow, 3; C. H. Howard, 4; W. Grimwade, 5; F. Slade (conductor), 6. On Sunday, March 20th, 720 Double Court. G. Melbourne, 1; F. Radley, 2; H. Collins, 3; H. Pilcher, 4; W. Grimwade, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, March 22nd, 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Farrow, 1; W. Moore, 2; E. Wachter, 3; F. Warren, 4; W. Grimwade, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 17th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Melbourne, 1; H. Collins, 2; F. Warren, 3; H. Pilcher, 4; S. Sargent, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 19th, 720 Cambridge Surprise. S. Sargent, 1; *H. Collins, 2; W. Moore, 3; W. Grimwade, 4; C. H. Howard (conductor), 5; *C. Bearman, 6. *First 720 in the method.

FERRING (Essex).—On Monday, April 11th, on the occasion of the District Meeting at Coggeshall, 720 Kent Treble Bob. C. Fenn, 1;

E. Runter, 2; H. Collins, 3; R. Fenn, 4; A. Bradley, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6.

RAYNE (Essex).—On Thursday, March 17th, on the occasion of the induction of the new vicar, the Rev. C. Hutchinson, M.A., to the living by the Bishop of Colchester, 1249 Grandsire Doubles. C. H. Howard (conductor), 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Collins, 3; W. Farrow, 4; H. Pilcher, 5.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WICKHAM SKEITH (Suffolk).—On Sunday afternoon, March 6th, for Divine Service, 720 Double Court Minor. J. Rose, 1; T. Davy, 2; F. Cullum, 3; G. Kemp, 4; F. Totter, 5; G. Cattermole (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Plain Bob. H. Davy, 1; T. Davy, 2; D. Mays, 3; F. Cullum (conductor), 4; J. Rose, 5; G. Cattermole, 6. On Thursday, March 10th, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Buckingham, 1; C. Moss, 2; G. Kemp, 3; T. Potter, 4; A. Symonds, 5; G. Cattermole (conductor), 6.

THE WORCESTER CATHEDRAL GUILD.

KEMPSEY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday evening, March 20th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. A. Hill, 1; W. C. Jones, 2; G. Checketts, 3; L. Longney (conductor), 4; W. Page, 5; W. Lebbon, 6. And 720 Canterbury Pleasure. A. Hill, 1; W. Lebbon, 2; W. C. Jones, 3; L. Longney, 4; G. Checketts, 5; W. Page (conductor), 6. Also a 6-score of Stedman Doubles.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

BRIXTON (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, March 13th, at St. John's church, the last 742 of Holt's Original (non-conducted). W. H. Webber, 1; H. Barton, 2; F. G. Perrin, 3; V. W. West, 4; G. E. Symonds, 5; J. Davis, 6; G. Wild, 7; J. W. Golding, 8. Umpire—A. R. Davis.

BERMONDSEY.—On Sunday morning, March 20th, for Divine Service at St. James's church, 1025 Grandsire Caters. G. T. Spink, 1; A. R. Davis, 2; W. H. Webber, 3; J. Davis, 4; W. S. Langdon, 5; T. Langdon, 6; G. E. Symonds (conductor), 7; H. Barton, 8; H. N. Davis, 9; W. Spink, 10.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AND YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

KILLAMARSH (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, March 5th, for practice, 720 each of Chester and Carlisle Surprise. F. Hall, 1; T. Bettison (conductor), 2; J. Emsen, 3; G. Burnham, 4; W. H. Turton, 5; C. Severn, 6. On Sunday morning, March 6th, for Divine Service, 720 Cambridge and 720 London Surprise, standing as above. On Sunday morning, March 13th, for Divine Service, 720 Duke of York. H. Taylor, 1; F. Hall (first in the method with a bob bell), 2; J. Emsen, 3; G. Burnham, 4; W. H. Turton, 5; T. Bettison (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, March 20th, for Divine Service, 720 College Pleasure. H. Taylor, 1; F. Hall (first in the method with a bob bell), 2; J. Emsen, 3; G. Burnham, 4; W. H. Turton, 5; T. Bettison, 6. For evening service 720 Woodbine. W. H. Turton, 4; G. Burnham, 5; the rest as before. On Sunday morning, March 27th, for Divine Service, 720 Chester Surprise. F. Hall, 1; T. Bettison, 2; J. Emsen, 3; G. Burnham, 4; W. H. Turton, 5; C. Severn, 6. For evening service 720 College Treble. H. Taylor, 1; T. Bettison, 2; J. Emsen, 3; W. H. Turton, 4; G. Burnham, 5; C. Severn, 6.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

RICHMOND (Yorks).—On November 28th, 720 Bob Minor. J. T. Frenchum, 1; R. Borrows, 2; A. Shelton, 3; J. T. Rushton, 4; R. Briscoe, 5; W. Phillips (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 23rd, 720 Bob Minor. A. Shelton, 1; R. Borrows, 2; J. T. Frenchum, 3; J. T. Rushton, 4; R. Briscoe, 5; W. Phillips (conductor), 6. On Friday, March 25th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. A. Shelton, 1; W. Phillips, 2; R. Borrows, 3; J. T. Rushton, 4; J. T. Frenchum, 5; G. J. Lungley (conductor), 6. And 240 Bob Minor. J. Peake, 1; J. T. Rushton, 2; A. Shelton, 3; R. Briscoe, 4; R. Borrows (conductor), 5; G. J. Lungley, 6.

BROMHAM (Beds).—On March 3rd, at the house of Miss Poynder, on handbells, 720 Bob Minor. Miss Stone, 1; Miss Heppell, 2; Miss Poynder, 3; Miss Lee, 4; S. Constant (conductor), 5-6. On March 22nd, 120 Grandsire Doubles, on handbells. W. Gower, 1; A. Robinson, 2; C. D. Smith, 3; J. A. Smith, 4; S. Constant (conductor), 5-6. On Sunday evening, March 27th, 720 Bob Minor, on the tower bells. *F. Parrott, 1; A. Robinson, 2; *J. A. Smith, 3; F. Lowe, 4; *C. D. Smith, 5; S. Constant (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method.

BEDFORD.—On Sunday, March 6th, at St. Paul's church, 394 Grand-

sire Caters. W. Gazeley, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; W. Hunt (North Shields), 3; S. Cullip, 4; C. Chasty, 5; C. R. Lilley, 6; W. Barker, 7; F. Hull, 8; H. Tysoe, 9; R. Glass, 10. Also 140 Stedman, and 395 Grandsire Caters. On Sunday, March 13th, 419 Stedman Caters. W. Barker, 1; I. Hills, 2; E. Tingey, 3; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 4; W. Hall, 5; H. Sharpe, 6; C. R. Lilley, 7; F. Hull, 8; H. Tysoe, 9; R. Glass, 10. Also 296 Grandsire Caters. H. King (Biddenham), 6; J. Sear, 10. On Sunday, March 20th, 439 Stedman Caters. C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1; C. Chasty, 2; S. Cullip, 3; E. Tingey, 4; W. Hall, 5; I. Hills, 6; C. Lilley, 7; W. Barker, 8; H. Tysoe, 9; F. Keech, 10. Also 305 Grandsire Caters. On Monday, March 14th, at St. Mary's church on handbells, 720 Bob Minor. R. Glass, 1; W. Gazeley, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; 4; W. Barker, 5-6. And 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Barker, 1-2; C. W. Clarke, 3-4; W. Gazeley, 5; E. Tingey (first 720 as conductor), 6. On Sunday, March 20th, on handbells at 64, Marlborough Road, 720 Bob Minor. Mrs. E. S. Hull (first 720), 1; W. Barker, 2; F. Hull, 3; H. Tysoe, 4; H. Sharpe (conductor), 5-6.

BOLTON, BRADFORD (Yorks).—On Sunday morning, April 17th, for Divine Service at St. James' church, 704 Kent Treble Bob Major. H. Jackson, 1; B. T. Copley, 2; A. Gill, 3; A. Benson, 4; H. Good (conductor), 5; B. E. Howe, 6; W. Joyce, 7; J. Joyce, 8. Followed by 464 Bob Major. First service touch of Major by H. Jackson; and longest length with a bob bell by W. Joyce.

DAVENHAM (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, March 15th, two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. A. Booth, 1; T. Bush, 2; J. Ashmole (conductor), 3; T. Wilkinson, 4; H. Yarwood, 5; W. Hine, 6. First in the method by all and on the bells.

GOSPEL OAK (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, January 9th, for Divine Service at St. Martin's church, 720 Bob Minor. *E. Turl, 1; N. Alderman, 2; E. Bonfield, 3; R. Bevan, 4; E. Young, 5; G. Smith (conductor), 6. *First 720. On Sunday, February 27th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. E. Turl, 1; N. Alderman, 2; E. Bonfield, 3; E. Young, 4; I. Attwater, 5; J. Nixon (conductor), 6.

HARTFORD (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, March 15th, for practice at St. John's church, four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. T. Gregory, 1; J. Wrench, 2; R. Rigby, 3; J. Upton, 4; W. Howard (conductor), 5; R. Ramsden, 6. This is the first six-score by all.

HEENE (Sussex).—On Sunday, March 13th, for Divine Service at St. Botolph's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. T. Greenyer, 1; J. Paice, 2; H. Evans, 3; G. Norriss, 4; W. Hillman, 5; B. Bassett (conductor), 6; E. Lindup, 7; F. Lindup, 8. Also 168 and 42 Grandsire Triples. W. Hillman (conductor), 1; T. Greenyer, 2; J. Paice, 3; H. Evans, 4; G. Norriss, 5; E. Lindup, 6; B. Bassett, 7; A. Arnell, 8.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH (Northants).—On March 6th, on handbells, 1024 Bob Major. A. Perkins, 1-2; W. P. Newman, 3-4; A. Tyler (conductor), 5-6; J. Mawby, 7-8. On March 10th, 1008 Bob Major. A. Perkins, 1-2; W. P. Newman, 3-4; A. Tyler (conductor), 5-6; J. Mawby, 7-8. On March 16th, a quarter-peal of Bob Major. A. Perkins, 1-2; W. P. Newman, 3-4; A. Tyler (conductor), 5-6; J. Mawby, 7-8.

LEYTONSTONE (Essex).—On Wednesday, March 23rd, at the church of St. John the Baptist, for the Confirmation Service, 720 Plain Bob in 28 mins. J. Philpot, 1; W. Miller, 2; H. Gowers, 3; J. Mardell, 4; J. Moule, 5; T. H. Beams (conductor), 6. Also 600 Double Oxford, and 360 Woodbine. J. Moule, 1; W. Miller, 2; H. Gowers, 3; E. Wightman (conductor), 4; J. Mardell, 5; T. H. Beams, 6. After service 720 Oxford Delight in 26 mins. J. Moule, 1; W. Miller, 2; H. Gowers, 3; E. Wightman (conductor), 4; J. Mardell, 5; T. H. Beams, 6. First in the method by all except the conductor, and first on the bells.

LONDON.—On Sunday morning, March 6th, for Divine Service at St. Michael and All Angels, Star Street, W., 504 Grandsire Triples. E. Bonfield, 1; J. Nixon, 2; G. Smith, 3; W. Burrows, 4; W. Pickworth, 5; N. Alderman (conductor), 6; R. Bevan, 7; G. Bonfield, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

PETERBOROUGH.—On Monday, March 14th, for practice at the parish church, half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 33 mins. R. Creasey, 1; E. F. Read (conductor), 2; G. Skeef, 3; E. G. Baker, 4; E. Draper, 5; T. Measures, 6; R. Squires, 7; C. Chasty and R. Powell, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. Longest length on the bells.

READING (Berks).—On Saturday, March 19th, on handbells, 504 Grandsire Triples. F. Tubb (conductor), 1-2; C. Giles, 3-4; F. Hopgood, 5-6; A. Watmore, 7-8.

ROCHDALE (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, January 2nd, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor, in 23 mins. W. Turner, 1; J. Lingard, 2; A. Crossley, 3; R. Whittles (conductor), 4; E. Schofield,

5; J. S. Marshall, 6. On Monday, January 31st, for practice, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. W. Turner, 1; J. Lingard, 2; G. Bowers, 3; R. E. Sladen, 4; R. Whittles (conductor), 5; J. S. Marshall, 6. On Sunday evening, February 6th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor, in 27 mins. W. Turner, 1; R. E. Hoyle, 2; J. Lingard, 3; R. E. Sladen, 4; R. Whittles (conductor), 5; J. S. Marshall, 6. On Monday evening, March 21st, for practice, 720 Bob Minor (forty-two singles), in 27 mins. W. Turner, 1; J. Lingard, 2; J. Crossley (conductor), 3; R. E. Sladen, 4; R. Whittles, 5; R. E. Hoyle, 6.

SHIPLEY (Sussex).—On Sunday morning, March 13th, before Divine Service, 720 Oxford Single Bob. F. Bowell, 1; R. Bowell, 2; W. Pierce, 3; R. Summersell, 4; S. Woolgar, 5; W. Denman (conductor), 6. In the afternoon before Divine Service 720 Bob Minor. R. Bowell, 1; R. Summersell, 2; W. Peirce, 3; S. Woolgar, 4; F. Bowell, 5; W. Denman (conductor), 6. After service 720 Oxford Treble Bob. F. Bowell, 1; R. Bowell, 2; W. Pierce, 3; R. Summersell, 4; S. Woolgar, 5; W. Denman (conductor), 6. On Thursday, March 17th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. F. Bowell, 1; R. Bowell, 2; R. Summersell, 3; S. Woolgar, 4; B. Payne, 5; W. Denman (conductor), 6. S. Paine hails from Worth; the rest belong to the local band.

TONBRIDGE (Kent).—On Sunday morning, March 6th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. W. J. Wolfe, 1; A. Laurence, 2; T. Card, 3; G. H. Stonestreet, 4; J. Smith, 5; G. Card, 6; W. Steed, 7; C. Corke, 8. Conducted by G. H. Stonestreet, being his first quarter-peal as conductor.

WALTHAMSTOW (Essex).—On Sunday evening, March 13th, for Divine Service, 880 Kent Treble Royal. F. Nunn, 1; A. Deards, 2; G. Grimwade, 3; C. Hopkins, 4; E. Pye, 5; W. B. Manning, 6; F. Rumens, 7; E. Wightman, 8; G. R. Pye, 9; W. Pye (conductor), 10. Also 514 Stedman Caters conducted by W. Pye. And 434 Stedman Stedman Caters conducted by W. B. Manning.

WINSHILL (Derbyshire).—On Thursday, March 17th, at St. Mark's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles. D. Bloor, 1; W. W. Wylde (conductor), 2; W. Shepherd, 3; F. Shepherd, 4; G. Wright, 5; C. Brown, 6. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Mr. Woodward, father of one of the local band, who was interred in the above churchyard on that date.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—On Sunday evening, March 20th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Mary Magdalene, 1260 Stedman Triples. W. Bedwell, 1; J. Beavan, 2; W. Watchorn, 3; E. Wells, 4; R. Carter, 5; A. Phillips, 6; W. Aldridge (conductor), 7; R. Sandiford, 8.

Correspondence.

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

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

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—In reply to Mr. Nicholls kindly allow me to say that it is not the fact that this Association does "not care to take the trouble of giving instruction" to the Leighton Buzzard company. I am delighted to hear that they have obtained instructors, who, says Mr. Nicholls, "return by the half-past nine train to town." Exactly so. But instructors from Bedford or Amptill or Woburn must return by the half-past eight train to Bletchley, as there is no later train to Bedford, and this leaves no time for instruction. Their absence, therefore, has been due to want of power, not of will to help. You have already kindly allowed me to state these facts in your columns, and I have written them privately to Leighton. It is therefore somewhat ungenerous of Mr. Nicholls to continue such statements in the face of our explanations. If the results of the present instruction is to establish a good change-ringing company at Leighton, none will rejoice more than the members of the Bedfordshire Association. With regard to the scheme for amalgamation with the Ely Diocesan Association, may I say that though I am much disappointed at the result, I can yet understand the position of those who voted against my resolution. The real difficulty lies, I believe, in the question of the recording of peals, and their place in Mr. Attree's analysis. The Bedfordshire Association last year rang five times as many peals as the other four Archdeacons put together. Our members believe that if we are affiliated all peals must be credited to the Diocesan Association as a whole, and not to any one particular archdeaconry. If you can suggest any means by which this difficulty would be met, I think we may yet bring about some form of alliance. W. W. C. BAKER.

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Notices.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is One Penny per line (five words may be reckoned to a line). Repetitions at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

Gloucester & Bristol Diocesan Association.—A special meeting of the above will be held at Swindon to-day, Saturday April 30. Service in the parish church at 4.15, with an address by the Vicar. Meat tea at The King's Arms at 5.30, followed by business meeting. The following important resolutions will be submitted: 1.—That it is desirable that the union of the two dioceses of Gloucester and Bristol in one change-ringing Association be dissolved, and that a separate Association be formed for each Diocese, and that a committee be appointed to inquire into and report to a special meeting of the Association as to the terms financial and otherwise on which this can be done. 2.—To alter rule 12 by inserting after the word *annually*—"provided that when a performing member leaves the diocese his previous subscriptions shall be considered as part payment of the life composition and if such subscription amount to 5s. such life composition shall be deemed already paid." The attendance of all members is earnestly requested.

C. E. D. BOUTFLOWER, *Hon. Sec.*

The North Lincolnshire Association.—The annual general meeting will be held at Lincoln to-day, Saturday, April 30. Tea in the Co-operative Hall, Silver Street, at 4.45. Free to members who have paid their subscriptions; 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.

GEO. CHESTER, *Hon. Sec.*

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—The spring meeting will be held at Kidlington to-day, Saturday, April 30th. Service at 4.30 p.m. Business meeting and tea after service.

A. C. R. FREEBORN, *Hon. Sec.*

Kidlington Vicarage, Oxford.

The Lancashire Association.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at the parish church (St. Mary's) Oldham, to-day, Saturday, April 30th. Tea will be provided in the parish church school, Burnley Street, at 4.30 to be followed by the business meeting.

A. E. WREAKS, } *Hon. Secs.*
J. WILSON, }

The Kent County Association.—Maidstone District.—The next meeting of this District will be held at Hollingbourne, to-day Saturday, April 30th. Tower open from 4 p.m.

F. J. O. HELMORE, *Hon. Sec.*

The Ashton-under-Lyne Society.—The annual meeting of the above society will be held at the parish church, Ashton, to-day, Saturday, April 30th. Bells ready at 4, meeting at 7.

S. BOOTH, *Hon. Sec.*

The Kent County Association—Lewisham District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at the church of St. John the Baptist, Erith, to-day, Saturday, April 30th. Tower open 3 p.m. Committee meeting 6 p.m.

W. J. JEFFRIES, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*

The Heavy Woollen District Association.—A committee meeting will be held at The Wakefield Arms, Dewsbury, to-day, Saturday, April 30th, at 5.30 p.m. Subscriptions for this year are now due.

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

The Kent County Association—Canterbury District.—The annual meeting of this District will be held at Faversham, on Monday, May

2nd. Tower open from 3 p.m. Ospringe tower also open. Tea at The Royal William, St. Mary's Road, 5.30 p.m. Business meeting after. Tea and half-railway fare up to two shillings allowed to those sending in their names to me not later than Thursday, April 28th.

F. J. O. HELMORE, *Hon. Sec.*

The Rochester and District Guild.—A meeting of this Guild will be held at Gillingham on Saturday, May 28.

A. RING, *Hon. Sec.*

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The next monthly ringing meeting of this society will be held on Saturday, April 30th, at Calverley (8 bells). Ringing from 3 p.m. Meeting-house—The Thornhill Arms. Any ringers or other friends are cordially invited.

R. BINNS, *Hon. Sec.*

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—The next meeting will be held at St. Paul's Cathedral on Tuesday, May 3rd, at 8 p.m. Conductors who have not already paid booking fees for peals they have called, are earnestly requested to do so without further delay.

W. T. COCKERILL, *Hon. Sec.*

St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—The usual quarterly meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 3rd at the Tamworth Arms, Moor Street, Birmingham. Chair to be taken at 8.30 p.m.

W. H. GODDEN, *Hon. Sec.*

Kent County Association.—Ashford District.—A District Meeting will be held at Charing on Saturday afternoon, May 7th. No allowances.

C. W. BLAXLAND, *Dist. Sec.*

Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—The annual meeting of this Guild will be held at Sefton, on Saturday, May 7th. Bells ready at 3 p.m., tea at 5 p.m. Business meeting 6 p.m.

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

Midland Counties Association.—Nuneaton Branch.—The next meeting of this branch will take place at Barwell on Saturday, May 7th.

H. ARGYLE, *Local Sec.*

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next monthly meeting of this Association will be held at Wolstanton on Saturday, May 7th. Members intending to be present are requested to inform Mr. W. Miller, School Board Cottage, Ellison Street, Wolstanton.

REV. W. D. BRAGINTON, } *Hon. Secs.*
W. TWIGG, }

The Norwich Diocesan Association.—A General Meeting will be held at Ufford on Thursday, May 12th. Lunch at The Lion inn at 1.30, hon. members and friends 2s., company members 1s. 3d. Notice to be sent to the Hon. Sec. before Saturday, May 7th. A conveyance will meet the train at Melton Station at 10.49 and 12.37.

H. EARLE BULWER, *Hon. Sec.*

Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn.

Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at the parish church, Swinton, on Saturday, May 14th. Bells ready at 4 p.m., business meeting at 7 p.m.

WALTER BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

Sheffield and District Society.—A meeting of the above will be held on Saturday, May 14th. Tower of St. Marie's (R.C.) Sheffield, open at 5 p.m. Business meeting at The Sportsman inn, Cambridge Street, at 8 p.m. The object of this meeting is to establish practices of the higher methods at the various churches in the district. All visitors will be made welcome.

J. MULLIGAN, *Hon. Sec.*

The Middlesex County Association.—South and West District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Harmondsworth

on Saturday, May 14th. Ringing to commence at 5 p.m. C. EDWARDS, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Nicholas' church, Liverpool, on Saturday, May 14th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting in belfry at 6 p.m. HENRY COLEY, *Branch Sec.*

NOTES TO PEALS.

THE PEAL AT BISHOPSTONE, WILTS.—This peal was arranged at the request of the Vicar, the Rev. Herbert Ault, as an Easter peal, and the ringers were entertained to tea at the vicarage at the conclusion thereof. The tenor-man belongs to Bishopstone, and this was his first peal, as it was the first peal in the method by the ringers of the treble and 2nd. The conductor hails from Drayton; Roberts from Highworth; the rest belong to Swindon. The peal was rung on the occasion of Miss E. Lawrence's birthday.

THE PEAL AT BACUP.—This peal was rung with the bells deeply-muffled as a token of respect to the memory of Jas. Ashworth, who was not only a member of the committee which organised the ring of bells in St. Saviour's in 1887, but was also a member of the first company of local ringers along with the present conductor.

THE PEAL AT BANGOR.—This was the first peal of Stedman Triples in Wales by a local band, and was rung at the third attempt; the first attempt came to grief in 43 mins. owing to a change-course, the second came to an abrupt termination in the last course of the tenth part, owing to the indisposition of one of the band. First peal in the method by the Rev. T. Lewis Jones, Messrs. Gayton, Midwinter, Davies and Crane, and first peal of Stedman as conductor by M. J. Morris.

THE PEAL AT HORSHAM.—This peal has the 6th three course-ends home in each part, and also the extent home. It was first rung by the Yorkshire Association, being the first ever rung with these qualities. Messrs. Akehurst, Taylor and Fairs hail from Capel; T. and J. Worsfold from Rusper; Ellis and Wickens from Charlwood; Burstow belongs to Horsham. The band wish, through the medium of this paper, to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells.

A CORRECTION.—In the peal of Treble Bob Major on page 617 under the name of S. Thomas, the calling of the 12th course should be 2H, not 1H, as printed.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

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JOBBING COMPOSITOR (society) desires change. Able to take charge of platen machines and make himself useful. Change-Ringer. Apply—T. W., care of Editor.

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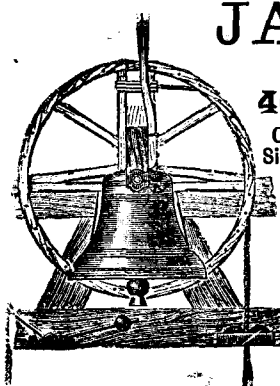
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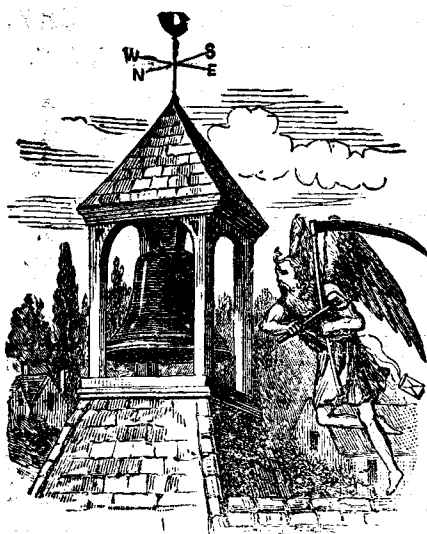
No. 839.—VOL. XVI.]

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 1898.

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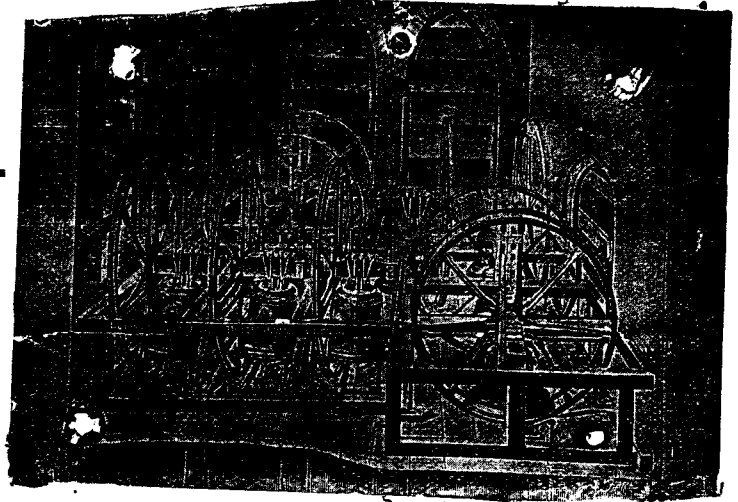
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Britannia, Sailing, St. Patrick's Day, Sleighing Song, The
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 839.]

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 1898.

[Vol. XVI.]

DEDICATION OF BELLS AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS, BRISTOL.

On Sunday, April 24th, the ceremony of re-dedicating the bells of the church of St. Nicholas with St. Leonard, which have been rehung in a new iron frame by Messrs. Taylor, the treble, 2nd, and 3rd having been recast, was conducted by the Lord Bishop of Bristol. The Mayor (Sir Robert Symes), the Mayoress, and several members of the Town Council were present. Before the commencement of the morning service a procession was formed in the chancel, consisting of the Mayor, the Lord Bishop and clergy, the churchwardens, and the choir. As the procession passed down the aisle the hymn, "Lifted safe within the steeple," was sung, and on arriving at the west end of the church the churchwardens, the Mayor, the clergy, and the Bishop proceeded to the belfry, where the churchwardens requested his lordship to dedicate the bells to the glory of God and the use of the church. The Bishop having dedicated the bells, then committed them as a sacred trust to the Vicar (the Rev. F. L. Murchison). A short touch was then rung, and the procession reformed and returned to the church, where the Bishop conducted the remainder of the service and prayers appropriate to the occasion. The usual morning service followed. The psalms, which were specially selected, were the 19th and 24th, and the lessons Numbers x. 1-11, and Rev. iv. The anthem was "May Jesus Christ be praised," from hymn 303, and Longfellow's "Song of the Bell," the music being composed by Mr. W. F. Dyer, organist of St. Nicholas. The sermon was preached by the Lord Bishop of Bristol, who in the course of an interesting discourse on the associations, influence, and teachings of church bells, said that here in the midst of a busy commercial centre they would ring out the lesson of their duty to God and their duty to their neighbours. The bells would ring on many occasions—occasions of joy and gladness, and of sorrow and regret. Church bells had often told of the departure of men of mark from among them, and that morning they heard of the death of one whom he missed. They had that morning had in the belfry the help of a band of skilled ringers, and they would now have to establish one of their own. Their duty was a solemn and sacred one, and he hoped that when forming a guild of bellringers, no one would be allowed to touch a bell who was not a communicant of the church, and that no one would touch a bell of whose character there was the slightest question.

The hymn, "Hark on high the joyful music," followed.

In the afternoon there was a special service for bellringers, at which a sermon was preached by the Very Rev. Francis Pigou, D.D., Dean of Bristol. He said: I imagine you are all bellringers, and that this re-dedication service is more than one of local interest. There are, as you know, ten bells in the steeple, the front ones have been recast, the 4th, 5th, and 6th retuned, and the remaining ones quarter-turned, which with an entirely new frame has cost £600. The history of bells and their use in our churches is one of its own; numerous books have been written relating to them and the science of change-ringing; I recommend all of you to read some of them, and if it is possible, to form a library amongst yourselves. It is difficult to trace the history of bells, but they appear to have retained their earliest shape, which seems to have been taken from Nature's design, viz.: that of the snowdrop, harebell, and many other flowers similarly formed. They have been used for varied purposes; they were once appendages to the dress of the high priest; in Devon and elsewhere they are frequently fastened to sheep and cows, in order that the flock or herd may be called and kept together. In earlier Christian ages they were not much used for religious services, because the people had to hide when worshipping, and to conduct their services in secret. With regard to bellringers, we know they sometimes fret and fume when the vicar of a parish objects to the bells being rung,

but it will be understood that there must be certain stringent rules in connection with every society or club, and I for one should strongly object to bells being rung for horse-racing and such-like secular events. The science of change-ringing—for a science it is—is peculiar to this country, and is one which requires a great deal of patience and perseverance, especially in its elementary stages. It has been said if Mr. Gladstone had taken to change-ringing instead of wood-cutting, he would have been the means of producing a wonderful advance in the science by the ringing world. We sometimes see some curious inscriptions, on one bell in Doncaster I found the following:—

To call the folks to church I chime,
When mirth and pleasure is on wing I ring.
When parts the body from the soul I toll.

As to their music there is nothing to be compared to it, and people are often moved to tears. How sweet the sound on the Christmas morning or Easter Day. I grieve to think there are no bells at our Cathedral—they are gone, I know not where, if I could unearth them I would—as you know when our Lord Bishop was recently enthroned we were obliged to get St. Mary's Redcliffe to herald the event. In concluding I would ask you, when you are ringing others to church, to see that you go as well. We clergy regret to find bellringers very often do not, and that they are still less frequently found at Holy Communion. I know the excuses that are made—the one most generally given is: "We are not in a fit condition after our exertions in the tower;" but I cannot help thinking this difficulty could be got over by ringing down a few minutes earlier. Let me impress upon you ringers that whenever you are in the tower or steeple you remember you are not in a common building, but in a portion of a house dedicated to the worship and glory of God.

All the bells go admirably, and reflect the highest credit upon Messrs. Taylor. The St. Mary Redcliffe company, under the conductorship of Henry Porch, rang the dedicatory peal, and at the conclusion 893 of Grandsire Caters.

THE BELLS OF RAUNDS, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

It will be remembered, perhaps, that last year a movement was set on foot for the restoration of Raunds church bells, and re-hanging them in a new frame in commemoration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The bell-frame having become very much decayed, Mr. Taylor was asked to examine it, and he reported it as beyond repair; the tenor, which was out of tune, should be also recast. The estimated cost of such a restoration was £380. Providing this amount could be raised, Mr. J. King-Smith generously offered to defray the cost of two additional bells to complete the octave. The Church Council considered that the increasing of the number of bells from six to eight, and re-hanging them in a new frame, would be a most suitable way of commemorating the Jubilee, determined to accept Mr. King-Smith's offer, and at once appealed to the parish to raise the amount required. Although not able to get the work in hand last year, the Council thought they were in a position two months ago to go on with it, and put it into the hands of Messrs. Taylor, who completed the work before Easter. Easter Monday was chosen for the re-opening of the six and the dedication of the two new bells. The dedication service at St. Peter's church commenced at 2.25., when the spacious old church was crowded. The old six bells were then rung for 15 mins. At 2.30 the Rev. E. E. Law (Vicar), the Rev. A. E. Oldroyd (Oundle), the Rev. W. C. Porter (formerly curate of Raunds), and the Rev. H. J. Fry (Rushden), with the choir, marched from the chancel to the belfry singing a processional hymn. The Rev. A. E. Oldroyd then said the dedication prayers, and declared the bells so dedicated to be set apart to the service of Almighty God. Seven strokes were then made on each new bell, followed by a round

on the eight bells seven times repeated. After this the clergy and choir marched in procession from the belfry to their places singing the hymn 292 A. & M. Evensong was said by the vicar, beginning with the Lord's Prayer up to the third collect. The first lesson was read by the Rev. H. J. Fry, and the second lesson by the Rev. W. C. Porter. The special Psalm sung was the 47th, and the other hymns were 550 and 215 A. & M. The Rev. A. E. Oldroyd preached an excellent sermon, basing his discourse on Numbers x. 2. He trusted that that day would be a red-letter day not only in the annals of the parish, but in the religious life of their souls. A collection was made for the bells fund at the close of the service.

An excellent tea was provided in the Upper National Schools, to which about 400 sat down. The bells rang out merrily during and after the tea. Ringers were present from Finedon, Tichmarsh, Thrapston, and Rushden, in addition to the Raunds ringers, and Mr. Taylor, of Loughborough. Several touches of Minor, Triples, and Treble Bob Major were rung during the evening by united bands. In the evening there was a public meeting in the new Infant Schoolroom, which was well filled. The vicar (Rev. E. E. Law), presided, supported by the Rev. A. E. Oldroyd, Rev. W. C. Porter, and Messrs. J. King-Smith, W. Hills, J. Pulphe, E. J. Whitney, T. Wingell, and W. Denton. Letters of apology were read from the Bishop of Leicester, the Revs. L. L. Cooper, H. Bryan, J. T. Watson (Woodford), and G. M. Edmonds, and Mr. Dennes (Wellingborough). The vicar remarked that the Rev. H. Bryan with his letter sent a subscription of 25s. with his best wishes. He said they all felt it was something like Easter to hear the bells. But the bells could not have been done if it had not been for Mr. J. King-Smith, and they could not do less than show their gratitude to him for it. He therefore moved a hearty vote of thanks to that gentleman for his generous gift of two new bells.

Mr. W. Hills seconded, and it was carried by acclamation.

Mr. J. King-Smith responded, and said that with regard to the bells, whatever he did he had done with a hearty good will. They had a loyal body of ringers, and he thought they ought to have eight bells. He moved a vote of thanks to the Rev. A. E. Oldroyd for taking the service that day.

Mr. T. Wingell seconded.

The Rev. A. E. Oldroyd replied with an excellent speech, in the course of which he expressed the pleasure it gave him to be amongst them again. The restoration of the bells would form another epoch in the history of the Church work of the parish. One feature of Raunds people which struck everyone was that they had learned the duty of almsgiving.

Mr. Shelmerdine moved a vote of thanks to the visitors.

Mr. E. J. Whitney seconded, and the Rev. W. C. Porter, who received quite an ovation, responded. In the course of a touching speech referring to old memories of Raunds, he said when on his mission work in Africa, he often went back in mind to Raunds, and could fancy he could hear the sweet music of the church bells. But there was, he said, a sweeter music than that—the music of old familiar voices, and a greater pleasure, too, in looking on the old familiar faces. He was pleased to be amongst them again, and concluded with an expression of all good wishes from his brother (Canon Porter) and himself for their success.

Mr. J. King-Smith said at present he could not submit a correct financial statement with reference to the bells' fund.

The meeting soon after then closed. In the evening at eight o'clock a first-class concert, in aid of the bells' fund, was held in the mixed schoolroom, which was crowded.

The proceedings in connection with the bells celebration were continued on Tuesday, when there was a successful soiree held in the new Infants' schoolroom in the evening in aid of the bells fund, the provisions for which were given by the donors of the tea on the previous day. The soiree was under the management of Mr. and Mrs. Shelmerdine, and the music was supplied by Mr. A. Clarke's quadrille band.

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.

ST. IGNATIUS'S CHURCH, SUNDERLAND.

On Easter Day, there were great rejoicings in the Parish Church of St. Ignatius the Martyr, Hendon. In addition to the interest that centres round the Easter festival, the parishioners celebrated the dedication of the new bells and of a window in the north isle. The day opened with celebrations of the Holy Eucharist at seven and eight o'clock, at which 400 members of the church communicated. At a quarter-past ten there were matins and choral communion. This opened with a procession of the choir round the church, during which the Vicar dedicated the new window and the bells. The window has been given by the Noble family, in memory of their daughter Meggie, one of the first Sunday scholars of the parish and a member of the children's choir; it contains a figure of the Venerable Bede, who, more than twelve centuries ago, was a choir boy in the Church of St. Peter, Monkwearmouth. After the dedication of the window the Vicar proceeded to the bellringing-chamber and then dedicated the peal of bells, the choir and congregation joining in the responses from the church below. The bells are a gift of the Haggie family, in memory of their father and mother, the late Mr. and Mrs. David Haggie. They are five in number, the tenor weighing 12 cwt. This new peal is the third in Sunderland, the other two being those of Sunderland Parish Church, eight in number, the tenor bell being 14 cwt., and of Bishopwearmouth, also eight in number, and with a tenor bell of 11½ cwt. The inscriptions on the bells, besides recording the memorial opening, tell how Bishop Lightfoot founded the Church in 1887, how it was dedicated in 1889 in memory of Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch, how the Church is the daughter of the Church of St. Paul, dedicated in 1852, and the granddaughter of the Church of St. Michael and All Angels, consecrated about 900.

The Vicar, the Rev. Edgar Boddington, preached in the morning on the text, "This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad with it," and in the afternoon to the children. The sermon in the evening was preached by the Rev. F. A. E. Leake, senior curate of the parish. At all the services there were very crowded congregations, and the offertory for the curates' fund was over £18. The bells were rung by a special band of ringers, amongst whom were Mr. R. S. Story, president of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association, and Mr. Thomas Hudson, secretary of the Association. The bells have been cast by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, in Leicestershire, and have an exceedingly fine and musical tone. The window is by Messrs. Burlison and Grylls, of London.

THE ST. MARY'S COMPANY, WOOLWICH.

The annual supper, which was unavoidably postponed in February, took place on Tuesday, the 26th April. At 8 o'clock, by the kind invitation of the Rector, the Rev. C. E. Escreet, the ringers assembled at the rectory and were very cordially received. Preliminaries over we were conducted to the dining room, the Rector himself presiding supported by the Master, Mr. W. J. Aldridge. Grace being said—justice was done to the good English fare provided. After thanks had been returned, an adjournment was made to the parish room adjoining the rectory with the intention of spending the remaining time in as pleasant a manner as possible. By a liberal supply of tobacco and cigars we were soon made at home, and indulged in games of draughts, whist, and cribbage, without its attendant evils. Then followed songs until nearly the whole company had been called upon. During the evening Mr. Masters, the hon. secretary, read a paper by the Rev. S. Baring-Gould, M.A., on The Belfry, in which many sad abuses are related in connection with ringers in days gone by, and which no right-minded individual could with any propriety uphold. The paper likewise had its amusing side by various incidents coming under the rev. gentleman's personal observation, whilst the practical part of the paper consisted in impressing upon the clergy to take more interest in the ringers by their presence in the belfry, and if possible becoming themselves ringers. He wound up with these words: "There was much truth in the saying of the old fathers of the Church, that at the fall of man, the powers of man, spiritual, moral, physical,

were thrown, not into ruin, but into discord, and that the work of Christ is the harmonising and bringing into proper relative order that which has been jarred by sin."

The Rector said he was pleased to meet the ringers on this occasion, it was regarded as an annual gathering, but he regretted that one or two who had hitherto been amongst them had fallen out, still he hoped they would study their work, and go in for peal ringing.

Mr. Aldridge was pleased to say that they could number four of their members as conductors, and they would endeavour by perseverance to succeed in getting a peal. And on behalf of the band he wished to express their thanks for the Rector's kindness to them that evening.

Mr. Beaven was of opinion that a vote of thanks was due to Mr. Masters, not only for what he had done in the past, but for what he was now doing in renewing the louvers in the tower, nearly sufficient money it was hoped having been collected by him for that purpose.

In responding Mr. Masters said he appreciated such kindly feeling, and hoped he could now call them brother-ringers at any rate in some sense, and trusted some day to be able to take his part with them. He felt St. Mary's had (without any flattery) a very decent set of ringers, for he was glad to say their behaviour in the tower was free from profanity. In the old days when ringers were left to themselves, of course abuses crept in, but he was confident the more the clergy mixed with the ringers the better they would be, and when their work was done here they might look forward to a glorious eternity. He hoped to be their servant for many years yet, and mentioned that it was contemplated to visit Ramsgate this year for their annual outing. At 11 p.m. hands were joined in singing Auld lang syne, and terminated this happy meeting.

On April 14th the ringers met and rang several touches with bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Mr. T. Banister (one of the ringers of the noted Banister family), whose name appears on several peal-boards in the tower. The last time recorded, when he rang at St. Mary's, Woolwich, was in 1881, when he took part in a muffled peal for the late Mr. W. P. Jackson, of Woolwich.

KIDLINGTON, OXFORDSHIRE.

After the completion of the work of re-hanging, re-casting, and augmentation of the church bells last year, Messrs. Webb and Bennett (the contractors) offered the ringers a supper when they had succeeded in ringing a true peal of Grandsire Triples (5040 changes), to be rung exclusively by Kidlington men. After several unsuccessful attempts, it was accomplished on Easter Monday, the record duly appearing in the proper place. As a sequel to this the supper was provided in the schools on Friday evening, April 29th, to which 20 sat down under the presidency of the Vicar, who, together with the churchwardens and parish clerk, were included in the invitation. Owing to a prior engagement the Vicar's warden was unable to attend.

At the conclusion of the meal, the Chairman gave the loyal toasts. He next gave the toast of "The Donors," and in the course of his remarks averred that the high standard of their work had been acknowledged by the many who had visited the tower for the purpose of inspection.

In reply, Mr. Webb thanked the chairman for his kind observations, and trusted all present would thoroughly enjoy themselves.

Mr. Martin proposed "Success to the Ringers," to which Mr. H. Judge (foreman), suitably responded.

Mr. Webb proposed the toast of "The Vicar," which was received with enthusiasm; in reply the rev. gentleman said that it had given him the greatest pleasure to preside on that occasion.

The remaining toasts included "The Churchwardens"; "Mr. Thos. Franklin" (who kindly cooked the joints and provided bread, etc., free of charge); and "The Ladies" who so kindly volunteered to wait upon the company. During the evening songs were contributed by the Vicar, Messrs. Hill, Thorp, Martin, Webb, Fisher, W. Franklin, Tolley, Shirley, Bennett, Matthews, etc. After singing the National Anthem, the company dispersed, having spent an enjoyable evening.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

The quarterly meeting in connection with this Society was held on Saturday, April 23rd, 1898, at St. Giles' Church, Willenhall, when the following towers were represented: Christ Church and All Saints, West Bromwich, St. Martin's, Tipton, Cathedral, Lichfield, St. Matthew's, Walsall, St. Peter's and St. Luke's, Wolverhampton, St. Leonard's, Bilston, and also Bloxwich and Rushall. Ringing commenced at four o'clock, when a touch of 504 Grandsire Triples was brought round. A short service was held in the church at five o'clock, and a very interesting address was given by the Vicar, the Rev. W. E. Rosedale, after which a committee meeting was held in the Church house, when several new ringing members were elected, and it was decided to hold the annual meeting on June the 25th, at Lichfield. Tea was served by Mr. Lowe, and every one being in good form, full justice was done to the good things provided. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for his address and also for presiding at the committee meeting, and over the tea. The Vicar was also elected a honorary member of the Society. A further visit to the tower being then made, some touches of Stedman Triples, Bob Major, and others were successfully brought round.

BIRTHDAY SUPPER AT HORLEY, SURREY.

On Wednesday, April 27th, the Horley branch of the Sussex County Association, with a few friends from Charlwood (Surrey) by the kind invitation of Mr. Dewey (of St. John's, Red Hill) and Mr. A. Songhurst (of Horley), sat down to a good substantial beefsteak-pudding supper provided by Mrs. M. Chart, at The Six Bells inn, Horley. Mr. F. Wickens, "father" of the company, was voted to the chair. Full justice was done to the excellent provision, and the cloth being cleared, a few complimentary remarks were made on the happy event. The rest of the evening was spent in a convivial manner: tunes on the hand-bells, a course of Grandsire Triples, and songs by Messrs. A. Ellis (Charlwood), A. Songhurst, F. Voice, and P. Spinks (Horley), the latter of whom accompanied on the piano. The proceedings were brought to a close by the National Anthem.

STREATLEY, BERKS.—OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday evening, April 21st, the Goring ringers brought their season ringing to a close so far as weekly practices, as several members find it inconvenient to continue longer, by taking a peal-card, written by Mr. F. W. Thornton, of Greenwich, and framed by Mr. A. Spokes, of the local band. This is placed in the belfry of St. Mary's church, and records the first peal ever rung on the bells, and the first by the Goring ringers away from their own tower. The Vicar kindly came into the belfry, when Mr. J. Parsons presented the card to him and the ringers. The Vicar said he hoped the good feeling which prevailed between the two towers would continue in the future as it had done for a long time past, and he hoped the local band would join the Guild, promising to write about it. Several 360s of Minor were rung; also a 6-score of Doubles.

The "Shway Dagohu," at Rangoon, or the Temple of the Golden Supreme, is the highest gilded pagoda in the world. It is one of the most ancient and venerated shrines which exist. Its proportions and height are magnificent; wide at the base, it shoots up 370 ft. tapering gradually away until crowned by its airy golden Htee, or umbrella shaped roof. This structure is studded profusely with precious stones, and hung round with scores of tiny gold and jewelled bells, which, when swung lightly by the breeze, give out the tenderest and most mystic of melodies. The Htee was the gift of King Mindohu-Min, and it is said to have cost the enormous sum of £50,000. The Great Pagoda is believed by the faithful to have been erected in 588 B.C. The founders of the Great Pagoda brought the eight holy hairs of Buddha to the Theungoothara Hill, the spot where the pagoda now stands. It also possesses in the relic chamber the drinking cup of Kankkathan, the "thengan," or robe, of Gawnagohug, and the "tougway," or staff, of Kathapah. It is, therefore, so holy that pilgrims visit this shrine from far countries,

DEDICATION OF NEW BELLS IN ST. MARY'S PARISH CHURCH, WHITBY.

Easter Monday of the present year will long be remembered in the history of the ancient and uniquely-situated St. Mary's Parish Church of Whitby, inasmuch as on that day the installation of a completed peal of bells was publicly celebrated. This forms part of a scheme, which was suggested to fitly commemorate the Jubilee year, the other part being the placing of a clock in the tower with or without a dial, which would strike the hours and the Cambridge quarters on the bells. When the scheme was first proposed, Canon Austen (Rector) and his churchwardens were informed by the architect to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England, who made a careful examination of the ancient tower, that there would be no risk whatever in carrying out the plan, and that there was ample space for the additional bells. They were further told by the firm of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, whose predecessors cast six of the present bells in 1762, that some repairs to the existing framework and machinery were necessary, and they finally got an estimate of the cost of the whole scheme. One of Whitby's most-respected townsmen very kindly offered to give the new bells, and accordingly an appeal was made to the public for the remaining cost, which was responded to with such uniform spontaneity that sufficient subscriptions were soon promised to justify the promoters to proceed with the work, and it is hoped that at no distant date the proposed chiming clock will also be installed. At the early part of this year a local Amateur Bell-ringers' Association was formed, and instruction in handbell ringing, until the members are sufficiently proficient to ring on the church bells, has been diligently carried on in the Iron Hall, West Cliff, under the supervision of Mr. J. H. Blakiston, a Vice-president of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association. It was originally intended to have a competent band of ringers from the North to give an inaugural peal on the bells, but for various reasons their visit has been postponed until Whitsuntide. The weather was beautifully fine at the time announced for the service, and consequently there was a very large representative congregation, the clergy present being: Rev. Canon Austen, M.A., R.D., Rev. H. F. Fisher, Rev. M. A. Horsfall, Rev. H. G. Metcalfe, and the Rev. A. M. Bolland.

The services commenced with the singing of the hymn, "O God our help in ages past," followed by prayer and the Apostles' Creed.

Canon Austen then read a passage of scripture from the tenth chapter of Numbers, at the conclusion of which he addressed the congregation. The rev. gentleman went at some length into the origin and usages of bells.

At the conclusion, the clergy proceeded to the west end of the church, and, while the congregation remained in their seats, the dedication prayer was offered by the Rev. Canon Austen, after which a brief silence ensued, and then a few notes were struck on the two new bells. The Benediction was then pronounced, and the service concluded with the singing of the hymn, "Come, ye faithful, raise the anthem."

The full peal of bells was then rung by the Fylingdales and Whitby bellringers, and their tone created a very favourable impression.

NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of this Association was held at Retford, on Saturday, April 23rd. Divine Service was held in the East Retford parish church at 3.30 p.m., and was announced by a quarter-peal of Bob Royal, rung on the musical ring of ten bells which this tower so fortunately possesses. The service was conducted by the Rev. Canon Ebsworth, the musical portion being greatly enhanced by the assistance of the choir-boys, Mr. Ward presiding at the organ. The sermon was preached by the Rev. G. R. Scott-Moncrieff, Vicar of Blyth, a vice-President of the Association, who took for his text Psalm cxxii. 1. After speaking of the circumstances which first drew forth this utterance, and of the various ways in which the invitation they contain have since been repeated in other countries and at other times, the preacher went on to show that this is the message of our church bells and of the men who swing them—"We will go into the house of the Lord." The work of ringing church

bells was therefore distinctly a work and service of the Church, and it was one which they should be careful not to degrade. Of course any service of the Church or any Christian duty might easily be degraded, praise, or prayer, or anything else; but this office of ringing perhaps most easily and most frequently of all. For it was a degradation of the ringer's office if after proclaiming to the parish, Sunday after Sunday: "We will go into the house of the Lord" they went away to smoke their pipes and lounge about, and never themselves went into the house of the Lord to take part in the service to which they had summoned others. They must not be like finger-posts on the highway, pointing out the road to others but never advancing along it themselves. They must, in order to fulfil their office thoroughly, not only proclaim, but act upon the proclamation: "We will go into the house of the Lord."

The general meeting for business purposes was held in the parish room adjoining the church immediately after the service, when the Rev. Canon Ebsworth presided, supported by the Rev. Dr. Stott, the Rev. G. R. Scott-Moncrieff, the Rev. H. de Lisle, the Rev. B. Darley (Hon. Sec.), and about 35 members. The balance-sheet for 1897 showed a balance in hand of £4 4s. 3d., and the roll of the society contained 84 performing and 13 honorary members. After other business had been despatched it was resolved that the next quarterly meeting should be held at Harthill on Saturday, July 16th. Votes of thanks to the Rev. Canon Ebsworth, the Rev. G. Scott-Moncrieff, and the Secretary brought the business to a conclusion.

Tea was next on the order for the day, and this was served in the Odd Fellows' club room in the Market Place, where 63 members and friends did full justice to a capital repast provided by Mrs. Wood. After tea many of the members resorted to the towers of East Retford and Ordsall churches, and rang touches in various methods, which are recorded in their proper place.

ASHBY DE LA ZOUCH SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this society was held at the parish church vestry on Thursday, April 7th. The Rev. Canon Denton (Vicar) presided, and there were also present Messrs. C. Cutler and R. Davenport (honorary members), and Messrs. Beadsmoore, Curtis, Dunmore, G. Hatton, H. Hatton, G. Hatton, jun., Smith, Thornley, and Wainwright (ringing members). In the absence of Mr. Herbert Canner (Hon. Secretary and Treasurer) the accounts for the past year were submitted by Mr. Dunmore, and were approved and ordered to be entered on the minutes, as also was a vote of thanks to the retiring officers. Mr. G. Hatton was re-elected captain, Mr. J. Curtis deputy-captain, and Mr. J. H. Dunmore was elected Secretary and Treasurer.

The resignation of Mr. Walter Canner as a ringing member was accepted with much regret, and he was unanimously elected an honorary member. He was also heartily thanked for having recorded on the peal-board a peal of Stedman Triples rung on October 4th, 1873.

Mr. R. Davenport kindly offered to provide a set of 21 handbells for the society if the old set of 12 could be handed over to him. His offer was received with many thanks, and it was decided to lay the same before the churchwardens, with a strong wish that it be accepted.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman for presiding, and in acknowledging same Canon Denton thanked the Society for the good work done on behalf of the church, and referring to Mr. Davenport's kindness on this and many other occasions said he was sure the members would join with him (Canon Denton) in sympathising with Mr. Davenport in his recent bereavement. They earnestly hoped that Mr. Davenport would reconsider his decision to leave Ashby, and so continue a long and happy association.

On Easter Monday Mr. Davenport's offer of the handbells was laid before the vestry, and accepted, and a vote of thanks to him recorded on the vestry minutes.

The vestry voted the sum of £5 to the ringers' society for their services during the year, and it was hoped that this sum would again be accepted in lieu of £10, the amount originally agreed to be paid. Mr. Dunmore, on behalf of the ringing members, informed the vestry that this would again be done.

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING JANUARY OF THE PRESENT YEAR AND PUBLISHED IN THIS PAPER. TABULATED ACCORDING TO VALUE IN POINTS.

Position to date.	No. of peals.	Treble Bob. Grand-sire.										Minor Methods.				Plain Methods.				Surprise Mtds.				Stedman.		Total value in points.
		Maximus.	Major.	7 Treble Bob Minor methods.	Caters.	Triples.	1 Minor mtd.	4	5	6	7	8	9	Dbl. Norwich C.B. Major.	Royal.	Major.	Triples.	Doubles.	London Surprise Major.	Cambridge Surprise Royal.	Cambridge Surprise Major.	Superlative.	In 7 Surprise Minor methods.	Caters.	Triples.	
VALUE IN POINTS PER PEAL.....	16	12	15	9	7	3	6	7	8	9	16	10	8	7	2	2	50	50	40	25	25	24	24			
1 Sussex County Association	14	—	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	1	3	277	
2 Ancient Society of College Youths	7	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	146		
3 Gloucester and Bristol Association	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	90		
4 Oxford Diocesan Guild	8	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	85		
5 Lancashire Association	9	—	1	—	—	4	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	84		
6 Essex Association.....	7	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	83		
7 Middlesex Association	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	80		
8 Norwich Diocesan Association	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	64		
9 Midland Counties' Association.....	4	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	62		
10 Yorkshire Association.....	5	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	55		
11 Worcester and Districts Association	3	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	46		
12 Bedfordshire Association	3	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	40		
13 Kent County Association	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	39		
14 Waterloo Society, London	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	33		
15 Central Northampton Association	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	32		
16 Winchester Diocesan Guild.....	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	31		
17 Hereford County Association.....	4	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	28		
18 Surrey Association	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	28		
19 Stoke Archidiaconal Association	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	25		
20 Royal Cumberland Youths	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15		
21 Society for Archdeaconry of Stafford.....	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15		
22 Chester Diocesan Guild	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15		
23 Durham & Newcastle Diocesan Assn.....	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14		
24 St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12		
25 Old East Derbyshire Association.....	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12		
26 Heavy Woollen Districts Association.....	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12		
27 St. James's Society, London.....	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9		
28 Bath and Wells Diocesan Assn.....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8		
29 Ely and Districts Association.....	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6		
Independent Societies.....	4	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	55		
Totals	105	1	12	5	4	25	2	1	2	1	5	1	9	4	1	2	1	2	1	10	1	2	12	1501		

The peals of Triples, Major and Royal comprise: Bob Triples, 2; Bob Major, 9; Bob Royal, 1; Oxford Bob Triples, 1; Court Bob Triples, 1. The peal of Doubles, * 2 methods.

The 4 peals by Independent Societies were rung in the following counties: Essex, 1; Gloucester, 1; Sussex, 1; Yorkshire, 1.

1896—January, 68. 1897—January, 70. 1898—January, 107. Increase on January, 1897—37.

8, Hanover Crescent, Brighton.

GEO. F. ATTREE.

P.S.—The Middlesex County Association should stand 4th in Analysis with 87 points; a peal of Grandsire Triples by the above, rung on January 31st, was not published in "THE BELL NEWS" till March 5th, after this Analysis had been compiled. A peal of Grandsire Caters by an Independent Society, rung January 22nd, was not published till March 26th. These two items will be put right in the next analysis to save alterations.—G.F.A.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

STOCKPORT (Cheshire)—At St. Mary's parish church, on Tuesday, February 1st, 324 Grandsire Caters. W. Gordon (conductor), 1; A. Gordon, 2; W. Gordon, jun., 3; T. Sale, 4; J. Barlow, 5; J. A. Gordon, 6; S. Mitchell, 7; A. Birch, 8; A. S. Gordon, 9; F. C. Goodchild, 10. A 324 in the same method, with A. Gordon, jun., 8; the rest as before. On Sunday, February 7th, 112 Grandsire Triples. A. Gordon, 1; T. Sale, 2; J. Barlow, 3; J. A. Gordon, 4; W. Gordon, jun. (conductor), 5; A. Birch, 6; S. Mitchell, 7; A. Gordon, jun., 8. Also 252 Stedman Triples. A. Gordon, 1; T. Sale, 2; J. Barlow, 3; J. A. Gordon, 4; W. Gordon, jun., 5; W. Gordon (conductor), 6; S. Mitchell, 7; A. Gordon, jun., 8. Also 522 Grandsire Caters. W. Gordon (conductor), 1; A. Gordon, 2; W. Gordon, jun., 3; T. Sale, 4; J. Barlow, 5; J. A. Gordon, 6; S. Mitchell, 7; A. Gordon, jun., 8; A. S. Gordon, 9; A. Birch, 10. On Tuesday, February 8th, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Gordon (conductor), 1; A. Gordon, 2; T. Sale, 3; R. Bardsley, 4; J. Barlow, 5; W. Gordon, jun., 6; A. S. Gordon, 7; A. Gordon, jun., 8. A plain course of Grandsire Caters. A. Markwell (first attempt), 1; the rest as before. Also 336 Stedman Triples. W. Gordon (conductor), 1; A. Gordon, 2; W. Gordon, jun., 3; T. Sale, 4; J. Barlow, 5; A. S. Gordon, 6; S. Mitchell, 7; A. Birch, 8. On Sunday, February 13th, 490 Grandsire Triples. W. Gordon (conductor), 1; A. Gordon, 2; W. Gordon, jun., 3; T. Sale, 4; J. A. Gordon, 5; A. Gordon, jun., 6; A. S. Gordon, 7; A. Birch, 8. Also 504 Stedman Triples. W. Gordon (conductor), 1; A. Gordon, 2; J. Barlow, 3; T. Sale, 4; S. Mitchell, 5; J. A. Gordon, 6; A. S. Gordon, 7; A. Birch, 8. On Tuesday, February 15th, 540 Grandsire Caters. W. Gordon (conductor), 1; A. Gordon, 2; W. Gordon,

jun., 3; T. Sale, 4; J. Barlow, 5; J. A. Gordon, 6; S. Mitchell, 7; A. Gordon, jun., 8; A. S. Gordon, 9; A. Birch, 10. Also 324 Grandsire Caters. T. Barber, 1; A. Gordon, 2; W. Gordon (conductor), 3; T. Sale, 4; J. Barlow, 5; J. A. Gordon, 6; S. Mitchell, 7; A. Birch, 8; W. Gordon, jun., 9; A. Gordon, jun., 10. On Sunday, February 20, 336 Grandsire Triples. A. Gordon, 1; T. Sale, 2; W. Gordon, jun. (conductor), 3; W. Gordon, sen., 4; S. Mitchell, 5; J. A. Gordon, 6; A. S. Gordon, 7; A. Gordon, 8. On Tuesday, February 22nd, 719 Grandsire Caters. W. Gordon (conductor), 1; A. Gordon, 2; W. Gordon, jun., 3; T. Sale, 4; J. Barlow, 5; J. W. Bayley, 6; S. Mitchell, 7; J. A. Gordon, 8; A. S. Gordon, 9; A. Gordon, jun., 10. On Sunday, March 6th, 503 Grandsire Triples. A. Gordon, 1; T. Sale, 2; J. Barlow, 3; J. A. Gordon, 4; S. Mitchell, 5; W. Gordon, jun., 6; W. Gordon (conductor), 7; A. Birch, 8. Also 342 Grandsire Caters. W. Gordon (conductor), 1; A. Gordon, 2; W. Gordon, jun., 3; T. Sale, 4; J. Barlow, 5; J. A. Gordon, 6; S. Mitchell, 7; A. Gordon, jun., 8; A. S. Gordon, 9; A. Birch, 10. On Sunday, March 13th, 540 Grandsire Caters. W. Gordon (conductor), 1; A. Gordon, 2; W. Gordon, jun., 3; T. Sale, 4; J. Barlow, 5; J. A. Gordon, 6; S. Mitchell, 7; A. Gordon, 8; A. S. Gordon, 9; A. Birch, 10. Also 168 Stedman Triples. A. Gordon, 1; T. Sale, 2; J. Barlow, 3; J. A. Gordon, 4; S. Mitchell, 5; W. Gordon, jun., 6; W. Gordon (conductor), 7; A. Birch, 8. And 503 Grandsire Caters. W. Gordon (conductor), 1; W. Gordon, jun., 2; A. Gordon, 3; T. Sale, 4; J. Barlow, 5; J. A. Gordon, 6; S. Mitchell, 7; A. Birch, 8; A. S. Gordon, 9; A. Gordon, jun., 10. On Sunday, March 20th, another 503 Grandsire Caters. A. Gordon, 2; W. Gordon, jun., 3; A. Gordon, jun., 8; A. Birch, 10; the rest as before.

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 1898.

THIS week several Church dignitaries are reported, in their addresses to ringers, as having alluded to the old and hackneyed accusation of non-attendance at church. It is useless to deny the fact that church-going ringers are not so plentiful as they ought to be, but at the same time it must be admitted that there is much cause for encouragement in this direction, as the evil, or drawback, is continually lessening. It would, we think, be much better, and savour of consistency also, if the clergy were to refrain from so continually harping upon this theme. It has practically become a stock subject, in season and out of season. Sometimes the remarks from the pulpit, when this question is being dealt with, appears to us not to be extraordinarily well-chosen, but open to cavil by those to whom they are addressed. One preacher has observed to the effect that ringers should go themselves the road they are in the habit of calling others to travel. So they should. But the observation seems but a travesty upon the very old saying which is sometimes put into the mouth

of the clergy: "Don't do as I do; but do as I tell you to do."

The Lord Bishop of Bristol is reported to have expressed the hope, at a recent dedication, "that no one would be allowed to touch a bell who was not a communicant." This expression, with all due deference to his lordship, is to be deplored. If attendance at Holy Communion is to become a *sine qua non* for bellringers it will be a fatal regulation in more ways than one. The old-fashioned teaching of our boyhood was that it was essential that intending communicants should "be in charity with all men," and if the Divine elements were received under opposite conditions great would be the sin. Unfortunately—it is of no use blinking the facts—the practice of ringing is too frequently accompanied, here and there, by feelings the reverse of lovable; therefore, to adopt such a regulation would be only to make men pharisees. The Bishop once belonged to a Cathedral body where there was a band of ringers. No regulation of the kind was known there; neither have we heard that Dr. BROWNE ever enquired about the ringers' spiritual welfare.

It is incumbent upon us ringers to try to lessen, or abolish altogether, the opportunities for these periodical lectures upon our behaviour. We must not give the clergy the chance of animadverting upon our conduct. Many of them are still at sea with regard to ringers, and will remain so to the end, probably. But they must not have occasion in the future for these repeated censures. Their removal is practically within our own hands. Private personal exhortation there can be no fault to find with; but these pulpit showings-up are beginning to shake forbearance.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, April 30, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH, SPITALFIELDS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 33 cwt.

JAMES PETTIT Treble.	HENRY SPRINGALL 5.
JAMES SCHOLES 2.	SAMUEL JOYCE 6.
MATTHEW A. WOOD 3.	EMANUEL HALL 7.
EDWARD WALLAGE 4.	WALTER PRIME Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

This is Matthew A. Wood's 350th peal, and it may be interesting to mention that he took part in the first peal of Treble Bob Major on the bells 53 years ago, and at that time was the youngest in the band, upon the present occasion he was the oldest.

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

On Saturday, April 30, 1898, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 24 cwt.

GEORGE W. MULLEY .. Treble.	JOHN N. OXBORROW .. 5.
ARTHUR G. ELLIS 2.	FREDERICK DENCH 6.
HENRY S. ELLIS 3.	CHARLES T. P. BRICE .. 7.
HENRY R. NEWTON 4.	JAMES WILLSHIRE Tenor.

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW and
Conducted by CHARLES T. P. BRICE.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 2, 1898, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHGATE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt.

STEPHEN ANSELL Treble.	JOHN MILLER 5.
ISAAC J. ATTWATER 2.	SIDNEY WADE 6.
WILLIAM PICKWORTH .. 3.	ARTHUR MILLER 7.
HERBERT W. NEWBY .. 4.	JOHN HOWARD Tenor.

Conducted by ISAAC J. ATTWATER.

Rung as a birthday compliment to J. Howard, his brother strings wishing him many happy returns.

The Provinces.

CHIDDINGSTONE.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, April 27, 1898, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' TEN-PART (No. 4.) Tenor 19½ cwt.

FREDERICK BUTCHER .. Treble.	GEORGE EDWARDS 5.
EDWARD BRIDGER 2.	JOHN STEDDY 6.
FREDERICK WHIBLEY .. 3.	JACK PRESTON 7.
ALBERT LONGLEY 4.	ROBERT KING Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE EDWARDS.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor, the band wishing him many happy returns. Preston and Steddy hail from Edenbridge; the rest belong to the local band.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, April 28, 1898, in Two Hours and Seventeen 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' FOUR-PART.

GEORGE R. PYE 1-2.	ERNEST PYE 5-6.
WILLIAM PYE 3-4.	WESLEY WATSON 7-8.

The above was strictly a non conducted peal, and was rung without the bobs or singles being called, or the slightest intimation of them given, or without a word being spoken. Umpires—J. Dale and E. Wightman. The above is the first time this composition has been rung non conducted.

ROTHERHAM, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Friday, April 29, 1898, in Three Hours and Thirty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES.

Tenor 32 cwt.

GEORGE OAKES* Treble.	FRED. COATES 5.
JOHN ENSOR 2.	TOM LEE 6.
ALBERT ENSOR* 3.	J. F. MALLABY 7.
WALTER COATES 4.	*WILLIAM WARBURTON .. Tenor.

Composed by H. J. TUCKER and Conducted by W. COATES.

Reference to this peal will be found on another page. *First peal.

BRIGHTON.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 30, 1898, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES.

WILLIAM PALMER Treble.	GEORGE A. KING 6.
GEORGE SMART 2.	*THOMAS PRICE 7.
FRANK BENNETT 3.	JAMES N. FROSSELL .. 8.
EDWARD C. MERRITT .. 4.	KEITH HART 9.
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH .. 5.	*RICHARD STREDWICK .. Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY JOHNSON and
Conducted by KEITH HART.

*First peal of Stedman Caters. This composition has the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th each eleven courses behind the 9th.

KIDLINGTON, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 30, 1898, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 27 cwt.

F. WHITETreble	A. THOMAS 5.
R. WHITE 2.	H. JUDGE 6.
W. BENNETT 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
G. HOLIFIELD 4.	J. FRANKLINTenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

This is the first peal of Stedman on the bells, and was rung on the occasion of the Quarterly Meeting of the Guild.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 30, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF REAL DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES.

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lbs.

JOHN J. MAWBYTreble	WILLIAM PETTITT 5.
WILLIAM V. NEWMAN .. 2.	JAMES GARRATT 6.
ANDERSON Y. TYLER .. 3.	WALTER PERKINS 7.
JOHN B. MARTIN 4.	JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. ..Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, of Chesterfield, and
Conducted by JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN.

Reference to this peal will be found on another page.

KING'S NORTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

On Saturday, April 30, 1898, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

W. H. SUMNERTreble	RICHARD HACKLEY 5.
W. G. ELLIS 2.	H. MIDDLETON 6.
JOSEPH PORTER 3.	ALBERT HACKLEY 7.
FREDERICK CLAYTON .. 4.	WILLIAM S. PRITCHETT ..Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by W. S. PRITCHETT.

This peal has only the 4th, 5th, and 6th in 6ths place at a course-end. Messrs. Ellis and Porter belong to the St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham; Messrs. Hackley (3) and Middleton to St. Chad's, Birmingham; Sumner, Clayton, and Pritchett to the King's Norton Guild.

GREAT MARLOW, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 30, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

LEWIS E. COLLINSTreble	CHARLES GREEN 5.
JOHN C. TRUSS 2.	ALFRED E. NYE 6.
FRANK O. NICHOLLS .. 3.	WALTER E. YATES 7.
JOSEPH S. HAWKINS* .. 4.	ARTHUR W. TRUSSTenor.

Conducted by WALTER ERNEST YATES.

*First peal and first attempt. †First peal with a bob bell. All the above are members of the local band.

BADSEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, May 1, 1898, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being Forty-Two Six-Scores of Grandsire and St. Dunstan's,
each called differently.

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

WILLIAM ADDIS*Treble	JAMES ADDIS 4.
CHARLES KNIGHT 2.	WILLIAM KEEN 5.
FRANK COOK 3.	GEORGE LAMPITTTenor.

Conducted by FRANK COOK.

*First peal. Rung on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Johnson, one of the local men.

BOLTON.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 2, 1898, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 19 cwt.

JOSEPH PENNINGTON ..Treble	TITUS BARLOW 5.
THOMAS PEERS 2.	HENRY MOSS 6.
ROBERT FIDDIES 3.	JOHN MAKIN 7.
WILLIAM DUCKWORTH .. 4.	GEORGE F. WOODHOUSE ..Tenor.

Composed by J. BARKER and Conducted by GEORGE F. WOODHOUSE.

BATTLE, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, May 3, 1898, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. in E flat.

W. H. ELDRIDGETreble	FRED. P. HOWCROFT 5.
W. FRANKS 2.	CHARLES CARTER 6.
JAMES LIVERMORE 3.	WILLIAM THOMAS 7.
SYDNEY SAKER 4.	JOHN SINDENTenor.

Composed by the late WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL and
Conducted by WALTER FRANKS.

This is the first peal in the method by F. P. Howcroft, also his first peal in the county, and hails from Middlesbrough.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, May 3, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

HARRY PRICE*Treble	ADOLPHUS ROBERTS 5.
ALBERT E. PARSONS 2.	*JOHN W. SMITH 6.
WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT .. 3.	JOHN GOODMAN 7.
SAMUEL J. HUGHES* 4.	JOHN SMITHTenor.

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT.

*First peal of Bob Major, also the first in the method on the bells.

Date Touches.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

GRAPPENHALL (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, April 26th, a date touch, 1898 changes, being 720 each of College Exercise and City Delight, 360 Woodbine, and 98 Violet Treble Bob. J. Mainwaring, 1; H. T. Moston, 2; R. G. Lewis, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. Spence (conductor), 5; J. W. Booth, 6. Rung to celebrate the birthday of H. T. Moston, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day.

Miscellaneous.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

CHELMSFORD (Essex).—On Monday, April 11th, 448 Superlative Surprise Major. W. Rowland, sen., 1; G. R. Pye, 2; A. J. Perkins, 3; E. Wightman, 4; W. H. Doran, 5; E. Pye, 6; J. Dale, 7; W. Pye (conductor), 8.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Monday, April 11th, an attempt was made for a peal of Double Norwich, which came to grief after ringing 3500 changes in 2 hrs. 7 mins., owing to the breaking of the second rope. W. J. Piper, 1; A. Edwards, 2; G. R. Pye, 3; E. Wightman, 4; W. Lincoln, 5; E. Pye, 6; J. Dale, 7; W. Pye (conductor), 8.

BRENTWOOD (Essex).—On Monday, April 11th, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal, 1344 Superlative Surprise Major in 51 mins. W. Watson, 1; G. R. Pye, 2; A. J. Perkins, 3; E. Pye, 4; W. H. Doran, 5; E. Wightman, 6; J. Dale, 7; W. Pye (conductor), 8. The band wish through the medium of this paper to thank the vicar for the use of the bells, and also J. Burgess (steepkeeper) for having everything in readiness. The "go" of the bells is all that can be desired.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Wednesday, March 30th, on handbells retained in hand, 2604 Stedman Triples, being the last half of Thurstans' four part, in 1 hr. 12 mins. G. R. Pye, 1-2; W. Pye, 3-4; E. Pye, 5-6; W. Watson, 7-8. Rung strictly non-conducted, no bobs being called, or any intimation of them given whatever. On Wednesday, April 6th, 1008 and 1280 Double Norwich. And on Wednesday, April 13th, 1344 and 1008 in the same method. G. R. Pye, 1-2; W. Pye (conductor), 3-4; E. Pye, 5-6; J. Dale, 7-8.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Thursday, March 10th, at St. Michael's church, 720 each of New London Pleasure, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. *W. Hammond, 1; *H. Collins, 2; *H. Pilcher, 3; C. H. Howard (conductor), 4; E. Radley, 5; F. Slade, 6. The foregoing was rung in an attempt for a 5040 in seven methods. *Longest length. On Sunday morning, March 13th, 720 Bob Minor. W. Hammond, 1; H. Collins, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Farrow, 4; W. Coote, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 New London Pleasure. W. Hammond, 1; H. Collins, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Grimwade, 4; C. H. Howard, 5; F. Slade (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, March 20th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. G. Melbourne, 1; Ernest Chaplin, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; F. Slade, 4; C. H. Howard (conductor), 5; W. Webb, 6. On Thursday, March 24th, on the occasion of the Bishop of Colchester holding a Confirmation, two 720s of Bob Minor called differently in 48 mins. W. Farrow, 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; H. Collins, 4; H. Coote, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, March 27th, 720 Bob Minor. W. Farrow, 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Hammond, 4; E. Wachter, 5; F. Slade (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Canterbury Pleasure. C. H. Howard (conductor), 1; W. Farrow, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; F. Slade, 4; H. Collins, 5; W. Webb, 6. On Monday, March 28th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. H. Pilcher, 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Collins, 3; W. Farrow, 4; E. Wachter, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, March 30th, 720 Bob Minor (forty-two singles). C. H. Howard (conductor), 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Farrow, 4; H. Collins, 5; F. Slade, 6. On Sunday morning, April 3rd, 360 Double Court. W. Farrow, 1; H. Collins, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; C. H. Howard (conductor), 4; E. Wachter, 5; F. Slade, 6. For evening service 720 Double Court. W. Hammond, 1; H. Collins, 2; Ernest Chaplin, 3; Edgar Chaplin, 4; C. H. Howard (conductor), 5; W. Webb (first in the method), 6. On Monday, April 4th, 720 Bob Minor. H. Pilcher, 1; W. Farrow, 2; C. H. Howard, 3; H. Coote, 4; H. Collins (first 720 in the method as conductor), 5; F. Slade, 6. On Sunday evening, April 10th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. W. Hammond, 1; W. Farrow, 2; H. Collins, 3; W. Grimwade, 4; E. Wachter, 5; F. Slade (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, April 13th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. W. Hammond, 1; H. Collins, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; C. H. Howard, 4; E. Wachter, 5; W. Webb (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, April 17th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. W. Hammond, 1; W. Farrow, 2; H. Collins, 3; Ernest Chaplin, 4; C. H. Howard, 5; F. Slade (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, April 24th, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen singles and three bobs). W. Hammond, 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; C. H. Howard, 4; E. Wachter, 5; W. Webb (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Farrow, 1; E. Wachter, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; C. H. Howard, 4; H. Collins (first in the method as conductor), 5; F. Slade, 6. During the past year from Easter 1897 to Easter 1898, the above society (St. Michael's Guild) has rung ninety-six 720s in seven methods, viz.: Bob Minor, Double Court, Canterbury Pleasure, Oxford, Kent, Woodbine, and New London Pleasure, whereas at Easter 1897 they could scarcely ring Bob Minor, and all except two, eighteen months ago, knew nothing whatever of change-ringing.

STANSTED (Essex).—On Wednesday, February 23rd, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, for practice, 720 Rochester Surprise, 5th the observation. H. Little, 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. J. Watts, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. A 720 Double Oxford Bob. W. Watts, 4; G. Jordan, 5; T. J. Watts (conductor), 6; the rest as before. A 720 College Exercise. H. Little, 1; W. Watts, 2; T. J. Watts, 3; I. Hammond, 4; G. Jordan, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. This makes W. Watts's 1550th 720. On Sunday, April 3rd, for morning service, 720 Superlative Surprise, in 25 mins. H. Little, 1; I. Hammond, 2; T. J. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. On Easter Sunday morning, at 6 o'clock, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Cavill, 1; H. Little, 2; W. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Hammond, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. For morning service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. H. Little, 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; J. Luckey, 4; W. Cavill, 5; T. J. Watts (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, April 13th, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles), composed by the late Henry Johnson, of Birmingham. J. Cavill, 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. J. Watts, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. A 720 Plain Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles), composed by E. Francis of Norwich. W. Watts, 1; T. Jordan, 2; T. J. Watts, 3; I. Hammond, 4; G. Jordan, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. And 720

Canterbury Pleasure. H. Little, 1; G. Jordan, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; I. Hammond, 5; T. J. Watts (conductor), 6. And 120 Stedman Doubles. J. Luckey, 1; I. Hammond, 2; T. J. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; W. Watts (conductor), 5; T. Jordan, 6. W. Cavill hails from Hoddesdon, Herts. Tenor 13 cwt.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

COITY (South Wales).—On Sunday, February 6th, at the parish church, 720 Plain Bob (fourteen bobs and two singles). E. Fowler, 1; J. South, 2; D. J. Hurford, 3; R. Bunstone, 4; J. Cox, 5; R. Evans (conductor), 6. After evening service, 720 Plain Bob. E. Fowler, 1; R. Evans, 2; D. J. Hurford, 3; R. Bunstone, 4; J. South, 5; J. Cox (conductor), 6.

BRIDGEND (South Wales).—On Sunday, February 13th, at St. Illtyd's church, 720 Grandsire Minor. D. J. Hurford, 1; J. Evans (first in the method), 2; R. Evans, 3; R. Bunstone, 4; J. South, 5; J. Cox (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 27th, 720 Plain Bob (thirty-four singles). W. Hummel, 1; J. Evans, 2; D. J. Hurford, 3; J. South, 4; R. Evans, 5; J. Cox (conductor), 6. Composed by A. Symonds. On Sunday, March 13th, 720 Grandsire Minor. D. J. Hurford, 1; J. Evans, 2; W. Hardwick, 3; R. Bunstone, 4; R. Evans, 5; J. Cox (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). R. Evans (conductor), 1; W. Hardwick, 2; J. Evans, 3; D. J. Hurford, 4; R. Bunstone, 5; J. Cox, 6. On Sunday, March 20th, 720 Grandsire Minor. W. Hummel (first in the method), 1; J. South, 2; R. Evans, 3; D. J. Hurford, 4; R. Bunstone, 5; J. Cox (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Grandsire Minor. R. Evans (conductor), 1; J. South, 2; D. J. Hurford, 3; W. Hardwick, 4; R. Bunstone, 5; J. Cox, 6. On Monday, March 21st, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor. J. Cox, 1; J. South, 2; R. Evans (conductor), 3; W. Hardwick, 4; R. Bunstone, 5; D. J. Hurford, 6. And 720 Plain Bob (fourteen bobs and two singles). W. Hummel, 1; R. Evans, 2; D. J. Hurford, 3; W. Hardwick, 4; R. Bunstone, 5; J. Cox (conductor), 6. Composed by E. Francis, of Norwich. On Sunday, March 27th, 720 Plain Bob (forty-two singles). J. South, 1; J. Evans, 2; W. Hardwick, 3; R. Bunstone, 4; R. Evans (conductor), 5; J. Cox, 6. Composed by H. Blake, of Farnham, Suffolk. For evening service 720 Grandsire Minor. J. South, 1; J. Evans, 2; D. J. Hurford, 3; W. Hardwick, 4; R. Evans, 5; J. Cox (conductor), 6.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

WOLLASTON (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, March 15th, 720 Bob Minor with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mr. George Raybould, who formed one of the company when the above bells were opened in 1872. A. J. Skelding, 1; J. H. Parsons, 2; F. Brace, 3; A. Roberts, 4; W. Fryer, 5; G. H. Pagett (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, March 22nd, 720 Oxford Single Bob, standing in the same order. On Tuesday, March 29th, 720 Double Oxford Bob. F. Brace, 1; W. Fryer, 2; H. Dakin, 3; T. Heathcock, 4; G. H. Pagett (conductor), 5; A. Roberts, 6. First in the method as conductor, and completes his 250th 720 rang in sixteen different methods.

STOURBRIDGE (Worcestershire).—On Sunday morning, March 20th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. G. Underwood, 1; L. Pritchard, 2; A. J. Skelton, 3; G. H. Pagett, 4; W. A. Pugh, 5; A. Roberts (conductor), 6. On Thursday, March 24th, for practice, 1334 Bob Major. W. A. Pugh, 1; L. Pritchard, 2; T. Heathcock, 3; T. Brace, 4; A. J. Skelding, 5; W. Whitehouse (longest touch), 6; G. H. Pagett, 7; A. Roberts (conductor), 9. On Sunday morning, March 27th, for Divine Service, 420 Bob Triples with the 2nd omitted. W. Whitehouse, 1; L. Pritchard, 3; T. Heathcock, 4; W. A. Pugh, 5; A. J. Skelding, 6; A. Roberts, 7; G. H. Pagett (conductor), 8.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WOBURN (Beds).—On February 2th, at St. Mary's church, 560 Bob Major. W. Janes, 1; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 2; H. D. Harris, 3; M. Matthews, 4; S. Avis, 5; E. Herbert, 6; Rev. W. Baker, 7; M. Lane, 8. On February 21st, 518 Grandsire Triples. W. Janes, 1; C. Herbert, 2; M. Matthews, 3; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 4; S. Avis, 5; M. Lane, 6; E. Herbert, 7; D. Harris, 8. On February 28th, 464 Bob Major. W. Janes, 1; C. Herbert, 2; S. Avis, 3; M. Matthews, 4; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 5; E. Herbert, 6; D. Harris, 7; M. Lane, 8. On Saturday, March 5th, 2520 Bob Triples in 1 hr. 30 mins. D. Harris, 1; C. Herbert, 2; S. Avis, 3; M. Matthews, 4; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 5; M. Lane, 6; E. Herbert, 7; R. Marshall, 8. On Monday, March 7th, 720 Bob Minor. W. Janes, 1; D. Harris (conductor), 2; S. Avis, 3; M. Matthews, 4; Cyril Herbert, 5; E. Herbert, 6. On Monday, March 14th, 840 Bob Triples. W. Janes, 1; C. Herbert, 2; S. Avis, 3; M. Matthews, 4; Cyril Herbert, 5; D. Harris, 6; E. Herbert, 7; R. Marshall, 8. On Monday, March 21st, 504 Bob Triples. W. Janes, 1; C. Herbert, 2; M. Lane, 3; M. Matthews, 4; S. Avis, 5; Cyril Herbert (conductor),

6; E. Herbert, 7; R. Marshall, 8. Also 560 Bob Major. W. Janes, 1; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 2; C. Herbert, 3; M. Matthews, 4; S. Avis, 5; M. Lane, 6; D. Harris, 7; E. Herbert, 8. On Saturday, March 26th, on handbells, at 20, Bedford Street, Woburn, 1008 Bob Major. C. Herbert, 1-2; E. Herbert, 3-4; Cyril Herbert, 5-6; S. Avis, 7-8.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HEADINGLEY (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, March 25th, for Divine Service at St. Michael's church, 1008 Stedman Triples. A. Stokoe (first touch in the method), 1; J. Whitaker, 2; T. Flint, 3; G. Morris, 4; B. Shaw, 5; H. Williams (conductor), 6; W. Wood, 7; H. Lindsay, 8.

DARRINGTON, NEAR PONTEFRAC (Yorks).—On Easter Sunday afternoon, April 10th, for Divine Service at St. Luke's church, and by kind permission from the rector, 720 Woodbine. J. Heckingbottom (Armley, conductor), 1; W. Brook, 2; G. Wilcock, 3; T. Pease, 4; A. Strangeward, 5; W. Heckingbottom, 6. The last five hail from Pontefract. This is the first 720 in the method on the bells which run very well, the only drawback being a great noise caused by there being only one floor between the ringers and the bells.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BROMLEY (Kent).—On Sunday, February 13th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples. J. Town, 1; F. Saunders, 2; R. Hims, 3; E. Dunn, 4; G. Durling, 5; G. Simpson, 6; T. Harford (conductor), 7; W. James, 8. On Tuesday, March 29th, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples. P. F. Harman, 1; R. Humphrey, 2; E. Dunn, 3; H. P. Harman, 4; J. Hack, 5; F. Sanders, 6; G. Durling (conductor), 7; W. James, 8. This is the first quarter-peal in the method by all the band.

CHARING (Kent).—On February 8th, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). J. Willis, 1; H. Goodwin, 2; W. Goode, 3; E. Archer, 4; H. Ward, 5; W. Spice (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by J. Willis. On February 10th, 156 Grandsire Minor. P. Edwards, 1; J. Willis, 2; H. Ward, 3; W. Hadlow (Lenham), 4; H. Goodwin (conductor), 5; W. Spice, 6. On February 24th, 360 Grandsire Minor. P. Edwards, 1; J. Willis, 2; W. Spice, 3; W. Hadlow (Lenham), 4; H. Goodwin (conductor), 5; H. Ward, 6. On March 31st, 120 Bob Minor. T. Edwards, 1; J. Willis, 2; W. Good, 3; H. Ward, 4; H. Goodwin, 5; W. Spice (conductor), 6. Also 120 Stedman. H. Goodwin, 1; J. Willis, 2; W. Good, 3; H. Ward, 4; W. Spice (conductor), 5; J. Clifford, 6. First 120 of Stedman on the bells.

SITTINGBOURNE (Kent).—On February 9th, at St. Michael's church for practice, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. G. Grensted, 1; E. Allen, 2; W. Spice, 3; J. G. Elliott, 4; W. J. Walker, 5; C. Millway (conductor), 6; R. Staines, 7; H. Balchin, 8. And 210 in the same method. H. Balchin, 1; C. Millway, 2; E. Allen (conductor), 3; J. G. Elliott, 4; W. Spice, 5; R. Staines, 6; W. J. Walker, 7; J. G. Grensted, 8.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

GREENWICH (Kent).—On Sunday evening, March 27th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original, in 43 mins. W. Berry (first quarter-peal as conductor), 1; W. Foreman, 2; J. J. Lamb, 3; H. Hoskins, 4; I. G. Shade, 5; H. Flanders, 6; F. W. Thornton, 7; C. Whitticombe, 8.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

OXHEY (Herts).—On Monday, March 21st, on handbells retained in hand, 1115 Grandsire Caters. C. George, 1-2; G. N. Price, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 5-6; H. Martin, 7-8; W. Norris, 9-10. On Tuesday, March 22nd, 1505 Grandsire Caters by the same band.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HORNCASTLE (Lincolnshire).—Handbell Ringing.—On Wednesday, March 23rd, at Morton's Library, 720 Grandsire Minor. G. M. Morton, 1-2; W. J. Taylor, 3-4; A. Howes (conductor), 5-6. First 720 on handbells by Messrs. Morton and Taylor.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

WARBURTON (Cheshire).—On Saturday, April 23rd, 1152 Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Wilson, 1; H. Moston, 2; T. Burrows, 3; W. Brammer, 4; R. G. Lewis, 5; F. W. Kirton, 6; F. T. Spence (conductor), 7; E. Edwardson, 8. Longest length in the method by Wilson, Moston, Burrows, and Lewis. Also 3 courses of Stedman Triples. F. Spence, 1; H. Moston, 2; T. Burrows, 3; W. Brammer, 4; R. G. Lewis, 5; E. Edwardson, 6; F. W. Kirton, 7; J. Leather, 8. Also several courses of Bob Major. Messrs. Wilson, Brammer, and

Edwardson hail from Warrington; Kirton from Manchester; the remainder from Grappenhall. Tenor 25 cwt. 3 qrs.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—The following is a return of the ringing done during the six months ending Easter Sunday, April 10th: five 720s Kent Treble Bob, five Grandsire, five Oxford Bob, three College Single, three Court Bob, two Canterbury Pleasure, and one Plain Bob. Twelve were conducted by J. J. Parker; four by G. Basden; four by C. Clarke; two by J. Elderfield; and one each by J. Parker, and A. Crook. The following also took part in the ringing: J. Basden, J. Bovington, R. Bovington, G. Alder, R. Flaxman, G. Gutteridge, F. Webb, and E. F. Cole, of London.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Monday evening, February 21st, for practice, 720 Oxford Bob Minor. F. Mitchell, 1; T. Ansell, 2; E. Jordan, 3; C. Taylor, 4; E. Holloway, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, March 6th, for Divine Service, 720 College Pleasure. T. Ansell, 1; E. Jordan, 2; T. M. Stedman, 3; C. Taylor, 4; E. Holloway, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, April 3rd, for Divine Service, 720 College Pleasure. E. Holloway, 1; J. Akehurst, 2; T. M. Stedman, 3; C. Taylor, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. On Easter Sunday, before the 7 o'clock celebration, 720 and 360 Oxford Bob. F. Mitchell, 1; J. Akehurst, 2; T. M. Stedman, 3; C. Taylor, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also before the 11 o'clock service three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. A. Wales, 1; T. M. Stedman, 2; C. Taylor, 3; E. Jordan, 4; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And before evening service two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. A. Wales, 1; E. Jordan, 2; T. M. Stedman (conductor), 3; C. Taylor, 4; E. Holloway, 5; D. Jordan, 6.

THE ALL SAINTS SOCIETY, FULHAM.

FULHAM.—On Sunday evening, April 24th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, 1259 changes, in 52 mins. A. Ough, 1; E. Arthurton, 2; W. T. Elson, 3; W. T. Meaton, 4; H. Adams, 5; J. Aldridge, 6; R. Charge, 7; C. Charge, 8; E. H. Adams, 9; T. Driver, 10. Composed and Conducted by W. T. Elson. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect owing to the death of Mrs. Fisher, wife of the late vicar.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

BLAKENHALL, WOLVERHAMPTON.—On Sunday evening, April 24th, after Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 47 mins. F. Jones, 1; H. Knight, 2; J. Jaggar, 3; T. Griffiths, 4; H. Dawkes, 5; G. Berrows, 6; A. Griffiths, 7; H. G. Dawkes, 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. John Cox, who had been a worker for the church for twenty years, and was superintendent of the Boys' Sunday School for the last five years. On Sunday evening, May 1st, after Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins. F. Jones, 1; G. Burrows, 2; H. Knights, 3; J. E. Groves, 4; A. Griffiths, 5; W. Hall, 6; H. Dawkes, 7; H. T. Smallwood, 8.

THE NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

EAST RETFORD (Notts).—The following is a list of the touches successfully brought round at the annual meeting, April 23, at the above tower: 480 Kent Treble Bob Royal, in 21 mins. R. Miles, 1; E. Collingburn, 2; G. Swannack, 3; H. Haigh (conductor), 4; G. R. Winter, 5; J. Worthington, 6; C. Crawford, 7; H. Warburton, 8; Rev. H. de Lisle, 9; J. B. Joynes, 10. 270 Grandsire Caters, in 12 mins. A. Street, 1; G. Swannack, 2; J. Worthington, 3; H. Haigh, 4; C. Crawford, 5; R. Miles, 6; G. R. Winter, 7; H. Warburton, 8; Rev. H. de Lisle, 9; G. W. D. Metcalfe, 10.

ORDSALL.—On April 23rd, 360 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 13 mins. E. Russon, 1; J. Guest, 2; H. Stenton, 3; D. Russon, 4; W. Newbury (conductor), 5; C. F. Fowler, 6. 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 12½ mins. G. Holmes, 1; J. Swinburne, 2; H. Stenton, 3; G. Brown, 4; W. Newbury (conductor), 5; C. F. Fowler, 6. And 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. F. Hargreaves (conductor), 1; W. Marshall, 2; J. Nuttall, 3; W. Roberts, 4; G. Watkinson, 5; B. Hall, 6.

BRIGHTON (Sussex).—On Sunday, March 13th, at the church of St. Nicholas, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. J. Fox, 1; E. Howard, 2; T. Price, 3; E. Randall, 4; F. M. Bacon, 5; G. Bleach, 6; W. Palmer (conductor), 7; F. W. Steele, 8. On Saturday, March 19th, an attempt for a peal of Stedman Caters came to grief after ringing 3 hrs. 3 mins. W. Palmer, 1; G. Williams (conductor), 2; F. Bennett, 3; E. C. Merritt, 4; J. Goldsmith, 5; H. Weston, 6; T. Price, 7; J. Frossell, 8; K. Hart, 9; J. Jay, jun., 10. On Sunday,

March 27th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 43 mins. L. Sears, 1; G. Bleach, 2; J. Fox, 3; E. C. Merritt, 4; E. Randall, 5; J. Jay, jun., 6; W. Palmer, 7; F. W. Steele, 8. Sears hails from Shoreham; Steele from Aldrington.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS (Lancashire).—On January 30th, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor (twenty bobs and twenty-two singles), in 24 mins. T. Watson (conductor), 1; J. Huddleston, 2; T. Townson, 3; T. Stuart, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. On February 20th, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs), in 24 mins. J. S. Turner, 1; J. Huddleston, 2; T. Townson, 3; W. H. Dennison, 4; T. Stuart, 5; J. Burrows (conductor), 6. On February 27th, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor (thirty-four bobs and ten singles), in 23 mins. T. Watson (conductor), 1; J. Huddleston, 2; T. Townson, 3; T. Stuart, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6.

FULHAM (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, March 27th, 1259 Grandsire Caters in 47 mins. A. S. Ough, 1; W. T. Elson (composer), 2; E. A. Arthurton, 3; C. Charge, 4; J. Nicholls, 5; H. Adams, 6; R. Charge, 7; G. Charge, 8; E. H. Adams (conductor), 9; A. Vine, 10.

HAWLEY (Hants).—On Tuesday, March 15th, for practice, 384 Grandsire Minor. G. Davis, 1; F. Mustow, 2; S. Goddard, 3; G. Hawkins (conductor), 4; M. Steer, 5; B. Hawkins, 6. On Saturday, March 19th, for combined practice, 720 Bob Minor. C. Smart, 1; S. Riddle, 1; A. Cousins, 3; G. Hawkins, 4; M. Steer, 5; B. Hawkins, 6. Also 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Boyles, 1; G. Hawkins, 2; C. Smart, 3; S. Riddle, 4; A. Cousins, 5; M. Steer, 6; B. Hawkins, 7; F. Mustow, 8. And a quarter-peal in the same method. W. Boyles, 1; S. Riddle, 2; C. Smart, 3; G. Hawkins, 4; A. Cousins, 5; M. Steer, 6; B. Hawkins, 7; F. Mustow, 8. Longest length in the method by Messrs. Smart and Cousins. On Sunday morning, March 20th, for Divine Service, 384 Grandsire Minor with 7-8 behind. S. Davis, 1; F. Mustow, 2; S. Goddard, 3; G. Davis, 4; M. Steer, 5; B. Hawkins (conductor), 6; M. Millard, 7; D. Leary, 8.

ILKLEY (Yorks).—On Sunday morning, April 10th, for Divine Service, 994 Bob Triples. W. Stubbs, 1; J. Demby, 2; J. Mumford (Pateley Bridge), 3; C. Septinson, 4; W. Cook, 5; W. Crawshaw, 6; W. E. Waland (conductor), 7; C. Horner, 8.

MONKS ELEIGH (Suffolk).—On Sunday afternoon, April 17th, after Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. M. Keeble, 1; C. Parker, 2; W. Green, 3; J. Fayers, 4; A. Keeble, 5; A. Symonds (conductor), 6. And 720 Kent Treble Bob (twelve bobs). F. Fosker, 1; C. Parker, 2; C. Green, 3; C. Levitt, 4; A. Keeble, 5; A. Symonds (conductor), 6. Symonds hails from Lavenham; Fayers and Levitt from Preston.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Sunday morning, March 27th, for Divine Service at St. Hilda's church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). R. Hopper, sen., 1; J. Scrafton, jun., 2; R. Scrafton, sen., 3; J. Crauford, 4; G. W. Dix (conductor), 5; R. Hopper, jun., 6; J. Hopper, jun., 7; A. Carling, 8. Rung with 6-8 behind.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent). On March 7th, 720 Cambridge Surprise. J. Avis, 1; G. Hayes, 2; R. Munn, 3; F. Hayes, 4; W. Martin (conductor), 5; M. Digby, 6. On March 14th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Hayes (conductor), 1; W. Lane, 2; F. J. Ring, 3; F. Hayes, 4; J. Smith, 5; W. Martin, 6. On March 20th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. H. Milhams, 1; W. Lane, 2; G. Hayes, 3; F. J. Ring, 4; J. Broom, 5; M. Digby (conductor), 6. On March 27th, 720 Cambridge Surprise. W. Lane, 1; J. Broom, 2; G. Hayes, 3; F. J. Ring, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. G. Hayes, 1; W. Lane, 2; F. J. Ring, 3; W. Martin, 4; J. Broom, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. On April 3rd, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. H. Milhams, 1; W. Lane, 2; F. J. Ring, 3; M. Digby, 4; J. Broom, 5; W. Martin (conductor), 6.

THORNHAM MAGNA (Suffolk).—On Sunday evening, April 10th, after Divine Service, 720 changes in the following methods; St. Simon's, The Dream, Plain Bob, April Day, Morning Star, and Grandsire. H. Symonds, 1; G. Moss, 2; E. Buckingham, 3; A. Symonds, 4; G. Symonds (conductor), 5. All the above belong to the Norwich Diocesan Association with the exception of G. Symonds who hails from London. On Monday, April 11th, 720 St. Simon's Doubles, and 360 London Doubles. E. Youngs, 1; J. Buckingham, 2; G. Symonds, 3; E. Buckingham, 4; A. Symonds (conductor), 5.

A CORRECTION.—In the report last week of a touch of 704 Treble Bob Major rung at Bolton, Bradford, Yorks., the following appeared: "First service touch of Major by H. Jackson." It should have read: "by Herbert Sugden."

FOR SALE.—A Peal of Eight Handbells; size of tenor No. 17. For particulars apply to W. R. Hensher, Horsemarket, Kettering.

CURRENT TOPICS.

The Brighton Town Council propose to adopt some new bye-laws by which they seek to suppress every kind of street noise, such as the cries of hawkers, Salvation Army preaching, street musicians, etc. The protests against this are very strong, those of the poorer classes being especially vigorous and numerous, letters appearing daily in the local press. Some residents however seem to support the action of the Council, and the following letter, which I should surmise came from one of the latter class, appeared in the *Sussex Daily News* of April 27 :—

SIR,—I wish while they were at it the Town Council had taken power to cut the ropes (or the throats, if that would be more effectual) of the pack of bell-pulling maniacs who come to St. Peter's and every other church in the town where there is anything in the shape of a clanging bell, and make day and night hideous and quiet home work impossible all the time they are at the end of a rope. Perhaps these enthusiasts will be covered by the clause relating to musical or noisy instruments. It is hopeless to appeal to the Vicar of Brighton. I believe he, a fine, large, healthy, breezy chap, who can put his foot down with a vigour that must make many a platform tremble, is a bit noisy himself and doesn't suffer from "nerves." So I can only look to the Town Council and wish a speedy confirmation of the bye-laws. Bell-pullers and all other disturbers of the peace may then expect a warm time if they come near my house. We want power to call the police to everybody who can't walk through the streets quietly. What is the good of paying rates if we can't put down everybody who annoys us? The police might as well run in noisy hawkers, street musicians, Salvation Army shouters and other disturbers of the peace as loaf about the streets all day ogling nursemaids.—A COMFORTABLE HOUSEHOLDER.

There is a certain amount of irony about the letter, but anybody who knows anything of the small amount of open ringing done at St. Peter's church must know that the writer is a bigger maniac than he wishes to infer the persons are whom he attacks in his letter. Of course ringers treat with contempt such letters as this, and laugh at the writers, but if nothing else it serves to show what idiots some people make of themselves through the agency of the Press.

In a subsequent issue of the same paper appears the following letter in answer to the foregoing :—

SIR,—If "A Comfortable Householder" could make it convenient to attend either at St. Peter's or St. Nicholas church (where I am sure he would be welcomed) on a practice night, and have change-ringing explained to him, he would find it very fascinating, and I don't think he would then suggest cutting "the ropes or the throats of the pack of bell-pulling maniacs," Yours, etc.—A BELL-PULLING MANIAC.

The reply is excellent in its way, but it is rather to be regretted that the writer did not sign his name, so that it might be known who was championing the cause of the Exercise. It is a pity that all the people who take such strong objections to ringing, do not visit the belfries to have the reason for the "disturbance" explained to them before consigning both the ringers and the bells to the lower regions. Then probably it would not be such a difficult matter to get fresh ringers as is now often the case in some districts.

Restorations of all kinds are still going on—rehanging, recasting, augmentating, new peals of bells, and so on, and so forth. Long may such works continue, et cetera. Look at Chatham: Four churches with one bell in each, until lately. Whoever suggested having a bran-new tower and bells there is worthy of the Victoria Cross. That is all I can say this week. Pull the ting-tang!

PLAIN SPEAKER.

Notices.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is One Penny per line (five words may be reckoned to a line). Repetitions at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

Kent County Association.—Ashford District.—A District Meeting will be held at Charing to-day, Saturday, May 7th. No allowances. C. W. BLAXLAND, *Dist. Sec.*

Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—The annual meeting of this Guild will be held at Sefton, to-day, Saturday, May 7. Bells ready at 3 p.m., tea at 5 p.m. Business meeting 6 p.m.

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

Midland Counties Association.—Nuneaton Branch.—The next meeting of this branch will take place at Barwell to-day, Saturday, May 7. H. ARGYLE, *Local Sec.*

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next monthly meeting of this Association will be held at Wolstanton to-day, Saturday, May 7. Members intending to be present are requested to inform Mr. W. Miller, School Board Cottage, Ellison Street, Wolstanton.

REV. W. D. BRAGINTON, } *Hon. Secs.*
W. TWIGG, }

The Little Munden Society, Herts.—The 115th Anniversary will be held at Braughing on May 10th. All ringing friends will be welcome. Tea will be provided at The Bear, at 8d. each, and all friends requiring such will greatly oblige by letting me know by the 9th. Bells ready any time. W. H. LAWRENCE.

The Norwich Diocesan Association.—A General Meeting will be held at Ufford on Thursday, May 12th. Lunch at The Lion inn at 1.30, hon. members and friends 2s., company members 1s. 3d. Notice to be sent to the Hon. Sec. before Saturday, May 7th. A conveyance will meet the train at Melton Station at 10.49 and 12.37. H. EARLE BULWER, *Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn.* *Hon. Sec.*

Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at the parish church, Swinton, on Saturday, May 14th. Bells ready at 4 p.m., business meeting at 7 p.m.

WALTER BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

Sheffield and District Society.—A meeting of the above will be held on Saturday, May 14th. Tower of St. Marie's (R.C.) Sheffield, open at 5 p.m. Business meeting at The Sportsman inn, Cambridge Street, at 8 p.m. The object of this meeting is to establish practices of the higher methods at the various churches in the district. All visitors will be made welcome. J. MULLIGAN, *Hon. Sec.*

The Middlesex County Association.—South and West District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Harmondsworth on Saturday, May 14th. Ringing to commence at 5 p.m. C. EDWARDS, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Nicholas' church, Liverpool, on Saturday, May 14th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting in belfry at 6 p.m. HENRY COLEY, *Branch Sec.*

Heavy Woollen District Association.—Yorkshire.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Shelley on Saturday, May 14th, at 5.30 p.m. All companies competing at Kirkheaton on Whit-Monday, should send their names, with entrances, to me not later

than May 21st. Subscriptions for this year are now due. GEO. H. SIMON.

The Cheshire Guild.—Wirral Branch.—The next monthly meeting and tea will be held at the Schoolroom, Wallasey, on Saturday, May 14th, at 6 p.m. Leaders are requested to let the Hon. Sec. know how many will attend. HENRY WOOLCOTT, *Hon. Sec.*

The Middlesex County Association.—North and East District.—A meeting of six bell ringers will be held at the church of St. John the Evangelist, Great Stanmore, on Saturday, the 14th instant, when all members and friends who can conveniently do so are cordially invited to attend. The bells will be raised about 5 o'clock.

ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*

The Chester Diocesan Guild.—The annual meeting of the committee of the above-named Guild will be held in the Timber Lane Schools, Northwich, on Saturday, May 14th, at 3 p.m. RICHARD GREENALL, *Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Burnley Parish Church on Saturday, May 21st. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting at 6. T. REDMAN, *Branch Sec.*

The Rochester and District Guild.—A meeting of this Guild will be held at Gillingham on Saturday, May 28.

A. RING, *Hon. Sec.*

The Kent County Association.—PRELIMINARY NOTICE.—The annual general meeting will be held at Lewisham on Whit-Monday, May 30th. Further particulars next week. FRED. J. O. HELMORE, *Hon. Sec.*

Compositions.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By WILLIAM T. ELSON, *Fulham.*

5003.

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

6 5 3 2 4 9 7 8 *

3 5 4 2 6 8-9

5 2 4 3 6 8th in three

2 3 4 5 6 8th in three

4 2 3 5 6 9th in three

3 2 6 5 4 8-9

6 3 2 5 4 9th in three

2 6 3 5 4 9th in three

3 6 4 5 2 8-9

4 3 6 5 2 9th in three

6 4 3 5 2 9th in three

3 4 2 5 6 8-9

2 4 6 5 3 8-9

6 2 4 5 3 9th in three

4 6 2 5 3 9th in three

3 4 6 5 2 9th in three s

6 3 4 5 2 9th in three

4 3 2 5 6 8-9

2 4 3 5 6 9th in three

3 2 4 5 6 9th in three

4 2 6 5 3 8-9

6 4 2 5 3 9th in three

2 6 4 5 3 9th in three

4 6 3 5 2 8-9

3 6 2 5 4 8-9

2 3 6 5 4 9th in three

6 2 3 5 4 9th in three

The last twenty-four courses repeated produce 42563. *7th in and out at 2 by singles. This peal has the 5th and 6th each their extent behind the 9th.

A PEAL OF REAL DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By ARTHUR KNIGHTS, *Chesterfield.*

5376.

1 5 - 2 3 4 5 6 - 4 6

- 4 3 6 5 2 - -

- - 5 2 3 6 4 - -

- - 6 4 2 3 5 - -

- - 3 5 4 2 6 - -

- - 4 5 6 2 3 - -

- - 2 3 5 6 4 - -

- - 6 4 3 5 2 - -

- - 3 4 2 5 6 - -

Five times repeated. Single for bob at 6 in the fourth course of the third and sixth parts. *These calls are when the treble is behind.

First rung at Irthlingborough, Northants, on Saturday, April 30th, conducted by James Houghton, jun.

NOTES TO PEALS.

THE PEAL AT IRTHLINGBOROUGH.—This is believed to be the first peal of Real Double Norwich ever rung, and was rung at the first attempt, as a farewell peal to Mr. George Straw, a respected member of the above company, who has left Irthlingborough for Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, the ringers wishing him every success.

THE PEAL AT ROTHERHAM.—This is the first peal after the bells being re-hung and quarter-turned by Messrs. J. F. Mallaby and Co., of Barnby Don, near Doncaster. The ringers take this opportunity of expressing their appreciation of the very excellent way in which this firm has done the work.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

PRINTER.—All-round jobbing hand seeks permanency; married; 27. Has been in business. Machines and press. Member of the Norwich Diocesan Association. Good change-ringer. Address, M. A. F., care of Editor.

WANTED.—Situation as jeweller's porter or any other light employment; used to winding and most clock repairs; can ring standard methods; married, aged 30. Address, E. C., care of Editor.

SITUATION required as baker, 5½ years in last situation, can mould, etc. Situation where smalls can be learnt preferred. Have rung a trifle in the Grandsire method, and wish to get into other methods, quick learner. Age 20; good references. Apply, J. Henley, Bartlett's Buildings, Rye, Sussex.

JOBGING COMPOSITOR (society) desires change. Able to take charge of platen machines and make himself useful. Change-Ringer. Apply—T. W., care of Editor.

SITUATION WANTED.—Bellhanger, locksmith and hot water fitter. Improver, age 19, four years' experience. Good change-ringer on eight. Apply, E. S. Hodges, North Square, Dorchester, Dorset.

TIMEKEEPER seeks permanent situation. Excellent change-ringer in Standard methods. Member of the Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire Associations. Excellent references. Apply X. Y. Z., office of this paper.

GAS and Hot Water Fitter wants job. Good change-ringer from twelve-bell tower. Member of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. Apply to H.P., care of Editor.

Situations Vacant.

MACHINE-MINDER WANTED.—Used to good book and cut-work. Must have served seven years. Permanency to suitable man, able to ring standard methods on ten bells preferred.—Billing & Sons, Guildford

SPLENDID OPENING for good watchmaker and clockmaker immediately. Ringer; churchman. Apply by letter, Rector, Tarporey.

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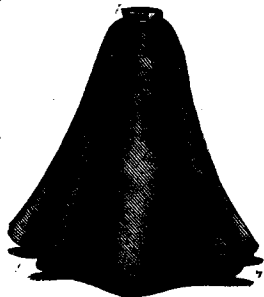
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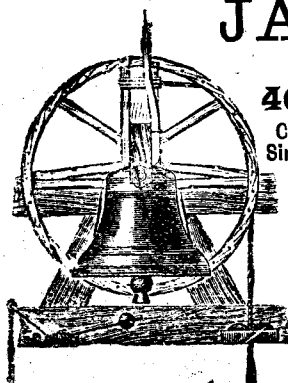
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No. 321. "The Rose of Allandale" March, founded on the well-known air 1 6
No. 322. "The Pilgrim of Love" Galop, on Bishop's favourite song 1 6
N.B.—The above three pieces are suitable for six ringers, with twelve bells, thus: C D E F G A B C D E F G.

No. 217. Belfry Chimes and Nursery Rhymes for six ringers with three octaves in the chromatic scale C 22 to C 1 3 6

No. 300. Duet for two ringers "Farewell, but whenever" and "My lodging is on the cold ground" 2 6

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And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 840.—VOL. XVI.]

SATURDAY, MAY 14, 1898.

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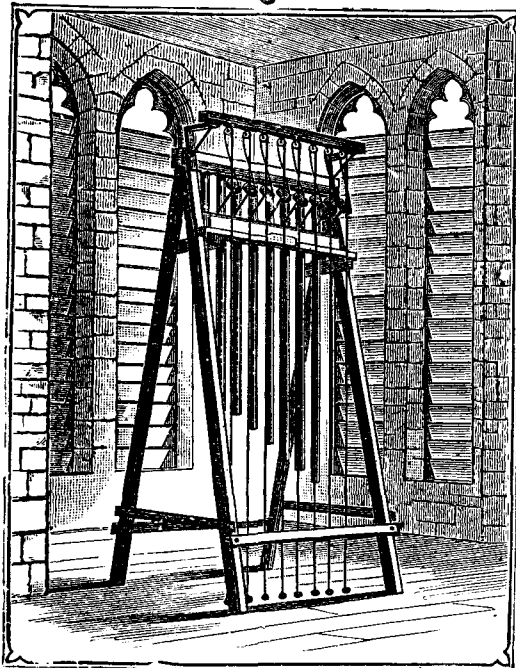
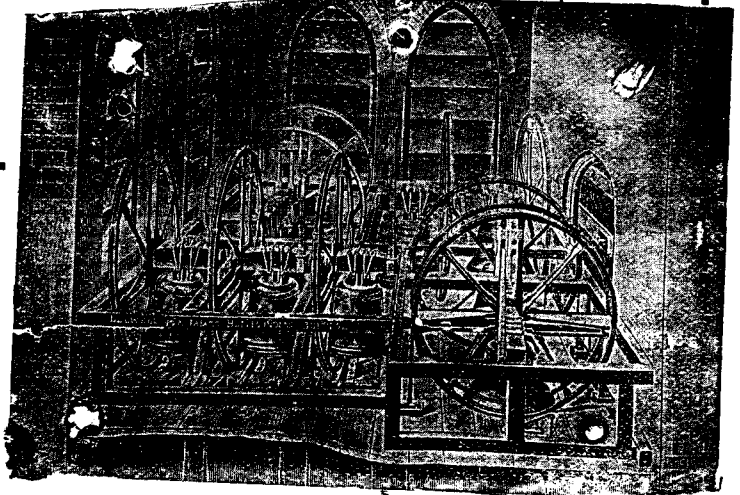
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Home Sweet Home, March of the Men of Harlech, Rule
Britannia, Sailing, St. Patrick's Day, Sleighing Song, The
Bellringer's Glee, The Star-Spangled Banner, Wait till the
Clouds roll by, Whistling Farmer Boy.

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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 840.]

SATURDAY, MAY 14, 1898.

[Vol. XVI.]

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 30th, the members of this Association assembled at Swindon. In the afternoon a service was held in the parish church, an address being delivered by the Vicar, the Rev. N. E. Howe, from Romans x. 18—"Their sound went into all the earth."

After the service the company adjourned to The King's Arms hotel, and partook of tea. Afterwards a business meeting was held, the chair being occupied by the Rev. N. E. Howe, and the vice-chair by Mr. F. E. Ward (Cheltenham). A letter was read from the Rev. E. Bankes James (Churchdown) resigning the position of Master. The letter was received with regret, and Mr. James was asked to reconsider his decision.

In the absence of Mr. G. T. Daltry, of Bristol, Mr. Boutflower moved (*pro forma*)—"That it is desirable that the union of the two dioceses of Gloucester and Bristol in one change-ringing association be dissolved, and that a separate Association be formed for each diocese, and that a committee be appointed to inquire into and report to a special meeting of the Association as to the terms financial and otherwise on which this can be done." Mr. Ward seconded.

The Rev. H. A. Cockey strongly opposed, and quoted figures to show how disadvantageous it would be for Bristol. The motion was lost, not a single member voting for it.

In the absence of Mr. Austin, Mr. Boutflower moved—"That rule xii. be altered by inserting after the word annually 'provided that a performing member leaves the diocese his previous subscriptions shall be considered as part payment of the life composition, and if such subscription amount to 5s. such life composition shall be deemed already paid.'" The proposer said he was heartily in accord with Mr. Austin's motion. It was seconded by Mr. Laing, and carried.

Mr. Boutflower moved—"That the Hon. Secretary be instructed to write to the G.W.R. and M.R. companies pointing out the facilities granted to members of boating, fishing, and other like associations in the way of greatly reduced fares, and asking for similar concessions to be accorded to members of this Association when travelling solely for the purpose of ringing and on the production when booking of the receipt for the current year's subscription." He said that at Bristol a member of a boating or fishing club producing his ticket of membership could travel at a reduced rate. The railway officials did not accede that privilege to ringers, and he considered the refusal highly unjust, and that the Association ought to endeavour to obtain the privilege. The Central Council had appointed a committee some three or four years since to consider the matter, but no good had yet resulted. He did not want to fly in the face of the Central Council, but if those present passed his resolution they would strengthen the hands of the Council when dealing with the railway authorities.

The Rev. H. A. Cockey said he did not think it advisable for the Association to take action at the present time. At the last Council meeting it was suggested that a committee should be appointed to look into the matter, and request the Secretaries of the different associations to get up a petition amongst its own members asking the railway companies to grant a reduction of fares. The matter was still under the consideration of the committee, who were endeavouring to move the railway officials. If Mr. Boutflower would allow the motion to stand over for the present, the committee would be glad of his help when the proper time arrived. The request had been put to different companies and the railway clearing house without any result, except the taking away of privileges in Kent, wrongfully granted according to the clearing house. The committee wanted to get

at some of the managers of the companies, and convince them of the injustice of withholding the privilege before doing anything else.

Mr. Ward said Mr. Cockey had been on the committee for three or four years, and ought to speak with authority. He concurred with the intention of the resolution, but they had to consider whether it would be advisable in view of the fact that the committee had brought the matter to the notice of the clearing to attack two companies in their district. Some years ago he had correspondence with the M.R. and G.W.R. companies, and obtained a promise—a promise which had always held good—to convey a party of eight members at a fare and a quarter. That was a concession which had proved beneficial. He was afraid they would have to be satisfied with that for the present. If they could obtain reduced rates it would be better for the Associations and the railway companies, who would obtain more traffic. Under the circumstance he did not think it would be wise for that Association to go into the matter piecemeal, and it would be well if the resolution was withdrawn for a time. Good, no doubt, would come out of that discussion, for it would stir the Council to greater efforts. If they cut the ground from under the feet of the Council they would perhaps do more harm than good.

Mr. Boutflower said he did not wish to interfere with the work of the Central Council; he simply wanted that Association to deal directly with the two companies in their district. He could not see that they were affected by the clearing house, which only came into action when the lines of two companies were crossed. In that district they did not pass over both the Midland and the Great Western lines. If the Association wrote to those two companies he did not see they were interfering with the work of the Central Council; they would rather help on the work than hinder it.

Mr. Ward said he did not think any company could grant the privilege asked for without the consent of the sanction of the clearing house.

Mr. Boutflower said he would make enquiries, and if Mr. Ward's opinion proved correct it would be useless to forward the resolution to the railway companies. On that understanding the resolution, seconded by Mr. Iles, was carried.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Thornbury towards the end of July. Votes of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the church and bells, and for his address, to the choir and organist, and to Mr. Ricketts, the local secretary of the Association, concluded the proceedings.

During the afternoon and evening touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of this Association was held at Lincoln on Saturday, April 30th. In spite of the unpropitious state of the weather the gathering, compared with previous years as regards numbers, was quite up to the average. Although the usual restrictions in consequence of the so-called nuisance caused by the ringing of the bells were severe, the members had an opportunity during some part of the afternoon and evening of visiting the various towers in the city and indulging in short touches upon the bells.

The members sat down to tea in the Co-operative Hall, and the annual meeting took place immediately afterwards, at which the Dean of Lincoln (Dr. Wickham) presided, supported on the platform by Messrs. F. F. Linley (vice-President), Norman E. Snow (Sleaford), C. W. P. Clifton (Lincoln), the Rev. H. Law James (Surfleet), and the general Secretary.

In consequence of the Rev. H. Law James wishing to leave in

order to catch his train home, the following resolution was moved by him and seconded by Mr. Snow, and carried unanimously: "That it is desirable that an Association of change-ringers be formed for the diocese of Lincoln, to consist of the four existing associations now in the diocese, provided that each of the four branches continue to be governed by its own rules and officers and manage its own finances." Mr. Linley then proposed: "That the Committee be requested to take steps to give the resolution effect." This was seconded by Mr. Clifton, and carried unanimously.

The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and confirmed. The report, which was passed, stated that the past year had been one of steady progress; that the financial position was sound; and that the membership had increased by 24 during the year. The officers were re-elected, and the Rev. J. C. M. Mansel-Pleydell (Branston) was elected a vice-President of the Lincoln district in the place of the late S. F. Hood, Esq., of Nettleham Hall. Mr. A. Craven (of Lincoln) was elected representative on the Central Council. The Ven. Archdeacon Bond and the Rev. Vere J. Willson (Fulbeck) were elected honorary members, together with 27 new ringing members. Grimsby and Gainsborough were proposed for the next half-yearly meeting, and upon a show of hands Gainsborough got the majority. A suggestion from Mr. Newbold that a meeting should be held at Newark on August bank holiday was brought forward.

In supporting a vote of thanks to the Dean for presiding, Mr. Linley referred to the help the Association received from the Cathedral authorities. The Dean, he observed, was perhaps aware that there was a Ringers' Chapel in the Cathedral, and he (Mr. Linley) did hope that the time would come when that might become a sort of home for members of the Association. Nowadays they heard Cathedrals spoken of as national buildings, and people wanted to know why they were not made more use of. He thought that that part of the Cathedral should be used for the purpose for which it appeared to be designed. They knew that there was a Guild of Ringers of the Blessed Virgin of Lincoln, and that there were bells there since the 14th century. They knew that the Ringers' Chapel had much about it which would make it one of the most splendid places one could have as the heart of their Diocesan Association. He hoped that the obstacles in the way might be removed; he took occasion to refer to that subject as the Dean was present.

In responding to the proposition, which was carried, the Dean said that he was glad to think there was a prospect of the different societies in the diocese drawing together into one association. In these days there was a great deal to be said for home rule, and a great deal to be said for unity, and for each association having its own organization and rules. In that union Lincoln was the seat of the See and the capital of the county, and the Cathedral was also the mother church of the diocese, and was the centre for their Association. He was very glad to have heard what had been said about the Ringers' Chapel, and it certainly would not be forgotten. Having referred to the creation of bellringing in the middle ages, the Dean observed that people who had travelled in other countries beyond the limits of Christianity told them that when they came back the first time and heard the jangle of Christian bells it seemed as if they had come home again. Of course when they got into Mahomedan or heathen countries there were no such things as bells. In bellringing all the great depths of human life were sympathised with. They rang joyful peals when they were married and given in marriage, and when subjects of great national rejoicing were happening, and in the same way they mourned with those that mourned. They followed them all through life, and they sympathised with them, and gave them a great deal of pleasure.

THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting of this Association was held at Rippingale on Saturday last. There was a large attendance of members from Stamford, Market Deeping, Peterborough, Wytham-on-the-Hill, Croxton, Morton, Surfleet, Crowland, Edenham, Melton, Falkingham, Swinstead, and Pinchbeck. Service was held at the Church at 11.45, when a special address was delivered by the Rev. J. W. Layng, Vicar of Swinstead. The members gathered together at The Bull inn up to 1.45, where dinner was partaken of

by a company of nearly forty. The business meeting followed, with the President, the Rev. W. W. Layng, in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read over, confirmed, and signed, and the accounts up to the 31st December last were duly passed, and printed copies of the same distributed. The following were elected as honorary members:—The Rev. J. W. Layng, Swinstead; Rev. T. A. Stoodley, Falkingham; Rev. G. B. Vessey, Edenham; S. F. Halliday, Esq., Mayor of Stamford; Rev. C. Oldfield, Jos. Phillips, Esq., H. R. Hunt, Esq., and Hy. Mitchelson, Esq., Stamford; and Rev. G. Steer, Ryhall. Skilled members as follows:—Stephen Laxton, Rippingale; A. Holmes, W. G. Jones, G. H. Furness, and Geo. Chamberlain, Edenham; J. Atkinson, T. Watson, R. Hambleton, R. Bradley, and F. Thraves, Barkston; G. Ladd, Pinchbeck. Skilled life members:—E. J. Gale and T. Cutforth, Melton. The Rev. H. Law James moved: That it is desirable that an Association of Ringers be formed for the Diocese of Lincoln, consisting of the four existing Associations now in the Diocese, provided that each of such four branches continue to be governed by its own rules and officers, and manage its own finances." The resolution was seconded by the Dean of Stamford and carried unanimously. As there is now a band of ringers at Edenham belonging to the Association, it was suggested that one of them should be elected, and placed upon the Committee. Mr. J. Alford was elected for that purpose. It was resolved that the next meeting be held at Wytham-on-the-Hill, on the Saturday nearest the full moon in July next, viz., the 2nd. Votes of thanks were proposed to the Vicar and churchwardens of Rippingale and Morton for the use of the bells, and also to the Rev. J. W. Layng for his excellent address. In responding, the President requested the pleasure of the members to tea in the Schoolroom, which Mrs. Layng was kindly providing. After the tea, which was thoroughly enjoyed, the group were photographed on the vicarage lawn. Various touches were rung during the day.

RUSHDEN, NORTHANTS.—THE BELLS UNSAFE.

The bells in the Church of St. Mary, Rushden, will have to be removed on account of the insecurity of the supports. Quite recently Mr. John Taylor, of Loughborough, paid a visit to the church, and he has reported to the effect that the bell-frame is much too weak to support and carry the bells, the oscillation when ringing being considerable, and must be, in his opinion, liable to do injury to the masonry of the tower. As the frame was so light there could be no other remedy than to purchase a new one—presumably an iron one with steel girders—which would cost £207. Thus the old frame of 1870 lies condemned, so much so that it will never have a peal rung upon it again for fear of the collapse of something, but the bells may be chimed. Upon inquiry we found that this important work cannot be carried out for some considerable time unless (and the qualification is significant) some beneficial lady or gentleman can see their way clear to help Rushden church and its officers by offering to make the ring of bells an octave, i.e. to add two more), and to make arrangements financially to have a new support fixed in. At present the church is embarrassed by the debt upon the new church, and, of course, old debts claim prior attention. Will anyone, it is asked, attempt to emulate Mr. Kingsmith, who helped the Raunds friends out of a similar difficulty? We are certain that there are a large number of townspeople who would be sorry to miss the usual welcome and merry peals from the bells—be they Churchmen or Nonconformists.

MELBOURNE, DERBYSHIRE.

The annual dinner of the members and friends of the St. Michael's society, Melbourne, was held at The Blue Bell inn, on Tuesday, April 12th, amongst those present being Messrs. Maskrey and Draper, of Derby. An excellent repast was served up by host and hostess Burton. The toast—"The St. Michael's Society," was given by Mr. Maskrey, and duly responded to by Messrs. T. Hollingworth, J. Warren, and A. Lee.

Mr. A. Lee then said he had a very pleasant duty to perform. At the wish of the ringing company and friends he had undertaken this duty, which was to ask their worthy vice-President—Mr. Thomas Hollingworth—to accept a barometer and silver

watchguard and pendant, as a small token of their respect and esteem, with the fervent hope that he might live to enjoy the use of them for many years to come. As friends and fellow-ringers they heartily enjoyed his company at all times, and he hoped they would still be able to enjoy his society, both in church and chair, as much in the future as they had done in the past.

Mr. Hollingworth, in responding, expressed his pleasure and surprise at being the recipient of the presents, and thanked the company very much. He derived great pleasure from being amongst them, although he was not able to be with them so often as he would like to be. He should always greatly prize the presents they had given him, and they would very agreeably remind him of the pleasant hours which he had spent in the company of the members of the St. Michael's society.

The remainder of the evening was spent in handbell ringing and songs by various members of the company.

BELLE.

The poet tells us that a young man's fancy,
 Oft turns in spring-time to sweet thoughts of love;
 But now, young men, instead of Kate or Nancy,
 Your thoughts must turn to Belle, a cut above.

Why, Kate or Nancy, without any warning,
 Are just as like as not to lead you on,
 And make you think—"Why really—one fine morning
 A frock coat, gloves and button-hole I'll don—"

And at the church you bet there's one to meet me,
 And if the parson chances to be there,
 We may as well just fix it up so neatly
 That man and wife we'll be, without a care."

Young men, pray pause, and just with me consider
 The beauties of this fascinating Belle;
 She'd never make you feel you'd bid her
 Begone! and never cast her horrid spell

Again around an innocent young man
 Who could not really guess what she was like;
 But if he had—he simply would have ran,
 Or, quicker still, have scorched off on his bike.

No, no, young men, believe me, Belle's the best,
 She never speaks except when it's your order;
 She never interferes with all the rest,
 And never has she said a young man bored her.

You've only got to study her acutely,
 And you will find she's very up to date;
 If you don't touch her, she will lie there mutely,
 But if you "pull her up," she'll rise in state.

Just tell her to go "home," she's sure to do it,
 Or if you say she's "wrong," she'll quite agree;
 Tell her to go and "hunt," you'll never rue it,
 Or give her "second's place," she'll go, you'll see.

And when she's done enough, just make her "stand,"
 And you will find she'll do it on the spot;
 To see such good behaviour, oh! it's grand!
 Young men, with Belle throw in your lot.

Study her well, her beauty will repay you,
 You'll never find one with a better voice;
 And I can only think of one or two
 Who will not say you've made a splendid choice.

And so, young men, just go and make inspection,
 You're sure to find her quietly at home;
 Look at her well, and after due reflection,
 Make up your minds to make that Belle your own!

BY ONE OF BELLE'S ADMIRERS.

WRITE TO POLLARDS, Limited, Bradford, for the Illustrated Sketch Book of Costumes.

CROOK, NORTHUMBERLAND.

A ring of bells has been placed in the tower erected at the Church (R.C.) of Our Lady Immaculate and St. Cuthbert, and were solemnly blessed by the Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle (Dr. Wilkinson). A large congregation was present to witness the ceremony. The Rev. W. H. Brown (Ushaw College) was the deacon; the Rev. J. Broadhead, of the College, was sub-deacon; and the Rev. R. C. Laing, of Croxdale, acted as master of ceremonies. Other clergy present were the Rev. M. Culley, Tow Law; the Rev. A. Hosten, Willington; and the Rev. A. Pippet, Crook. The ceremony occupied about two hours, and was very impressive. The completion of the tower and the erection of the bells has aroused a fresh interest in the memorial of the Diamond Jubilee. The enormity of the work undertaken by the Rev. A. Pippet in this loyal cause can be realised only by personal inspection of the handsome tower raised. The bells are the work of Messrs. Warner and Co., of London, and they are of first-class quality of tone.

Obituary.

JOHN REBBECK.

The ringers of Frome, Somerset, have suffered a great loss by the sudden death of Mr. John Rebbeck, who has been their captain ever since scientific change-ringing has been practised in this town. In every respect deceased was a most enthusiastic ringer, and his leisure was chiefly devoted to the advancement of change-ringing. The manner of his death was characteristic of his life, and was evidence of the energy he always displayed in regard to ringing, which was his chief pleasure. On Wednesday, May 4th, after his day's work and partaking of tea, he commenced to walk to Buckland Dinham, a village three miles distant, to attend a ringing practice. When almost within sight of his destination deceased complained of pains in his chest, and meeting a brewer's dray returning to Frome he got up, and a ringing friend who was accompanying him offered to return with him, but deceased said he should be all right, and wished his friend to proceed to the tower and explain his absence. After deceased alighted in Frome he walked about half-way to his home, when he began to reel and become helpless. With the assistance of a young man he was got home and put on a sofa, where he expired before medical aid arrived. Deceased's age was 54. An inquest was held on Friday, and death was attributed to a deceased heart. The funeral took place on Saturday afternoon, and, in addition to relatives and friends, was attended by the ringers of Frome and Buckland Dinham. Among the floral tributes were two beautiful wreaths. One "In loving memory of their Captain, from his brother-ringers of the Frome parish church," and the other "With much sympathy from the Buckland Dinham Ringers." After the funeral a muffled peal was rung at the parish church, a touch of Triples and several 6-scores of Doubles being well struck. In a pulpit reference on Sunday the Rev. H. E. Polehampton paid a high tribute to his memory. Deceased was born in Wiltshire, and begun ringing when a boy. He came to Frome and joined the local band some twenty years ago, and for the last ten years he has been a capable and energetic captain. He conducted the several quarter-peals of Triples rung by the local band, and was a member of both the Bath and Wells and Salisbury Associations. It was almost entirely due to his efforts that change-ringing was commenced in Frome, and he has been of great assistance to several of the towers in the neighbourhood. His death is a great blow to change-ringing by the Frome party, by whom he will be greatly missed.

THE PALACE STEAMERS.

The new Palace steamers are announced to commence their regular sailings on May 28th. The Royal Sovereign will run daily to Margate and Ramsgate and back, calling at Southend on Tuesdays and Fridays; and the Koh-i-Noor daily to Southend and Margate and back, Tuesdays and Fridays excepted. La Marguerite will not begin her sailings until June 22, when she will run to Southend, Margate, Boulogne, and Ostend, allowing three to four hours at Boulogne and two hours on shore at Ostend. La Belgique starts her sailings on June 25 to Southend, Margate and Ostend, on Mondays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, returning on following days. These magnificent steamers have become highly popular during the past few years, and the trips to the continent are undoubtedly the very best excursions of the summer season.

FOR SALE.—A Peal of Eight Handbells; size of tenor No. 17. For particulars apply to W. R. Hensher, Horsemarket, Kettering.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

Draft scheme of the Committee appointed to prepare a return of the condition of all rings of 12, 10, and 8 bells, and of historic rings of 6, throughout the country, so that a tabulated statement of existing defects may be drawn up and submitted by the Council to Church authorities and the public.

At the last meeting of the Council a Committee was appointed to deal with the above question, and they now present, for the approval of the forthcoming meeting, a scheme of procedure which they believe will work. As it is essential to obtain the co-operation of the officials of the various Ringing Societies, the Committee think it wiser to submit the scheme to the criticisms of their assembled representatives before putting it in action, so that it may go forth in fully authorised form.

The scheme is as follows :—

The Hon. Secretary of each ringing society will be addressed by letter (Form A) thus :—

To Mr.....
Hon. Sec. of the

Dear Sir,

I enclose for your kind consideration a sample form (C) relating to information which the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers are anxious to obtain. This form sets forth fully the purposes of the enquiry. Its desirability has been unanimously resolved on by the Council, and as their mouthpiece, I have to request your earnest co-operation, without which this important attempt to obtain for bells and ringers increased consideration at the hands of Church authorities and the public will largely fail of its purpose.

May I ask you at your early convenience to furnish me, on the stamped reply form B enclosed, with the names of each of the 8, 10 and 12 bell towers in your district, and also separately with those of any neighbouring towers not in union with any ringing Society, and from this cause liable to be overlooked. To each tower should be added the name and full postal address of the representative ringer of that tower, to each of whom the Committee will, on receiving your list, forward a copy of form C, to be filled up by him in conjunction with another responsible ringer, and returned direct to me.

The Council will refund to you such expense in stationery and postage as your valued assistance may entail upon you.

Yours faithfully,

ARTHUR PERCIVAL HEYWOOD (President).

The stamped reply form B, above referred to, is as follows :—

To SIR A. P. HEYWOOD, BART.

Dear Sir,

The list of towers in our district, and of those in our neighbourhood which are unattached, is enclosed, together with the name and address, so far as I can obtain them, of the representative ringer of each. I hope to supply omissions at an early date.

Signed

Address.....

Hon. Sec. of.....

(Here follow ruled spaces for required entries.)

On receiving these returns from the Hon. Secretaries of the various Societies the Committee purpose to forward to each representative ringer form C stamped for return. This form is given below. When the Hon. Secretaries return of names of towers are to hand, the Committee purpose to publish the list in "THE BELL NEWS," with the object of obtaining from the Exercise generally information as to any omissions.

The Committee intend to select themselves, subject to amend-

ment by the Council, the six-bell towers which are to be included under the designation "historic."

Form C (letter and schedule).

To Mr.....

Representative ringer of.....tower.....

Dear Sir,

The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers are preparing as complete a schedule as possible of the condition of all rings of 8, 10, and 12 bells throughout the country, together with a guide to the times at which they are rung, with a view to issuing, under the Council's authority two pamphlets; the one to draw the attention of Church authorities and the public to the need that exists of a more liberal expenditure on the upkeep of bells and ringing-chambers; the other to provide for ringers' use a reliable guide to belfries.

The former would seem to be the only way in which it may be possible to obtain a more reasonable recognition of the claims on the public of bells and ringers; while the latter is a desirable object for the attainment of which the present opportunity seems convenient.

If the Council succeed in their endeavours, which must wholly depend on the hearty co-operation of all concerned, they hope to extend the enquiry to the smaller rings.

Yours faithfully,

ARTHUR PERCIVAL HEYWOOD (President.)

REPORT ON THE CONDITION OF BELLS AND RINGING CHAMBER
of St. Church.....
Situate within the district of the.....

It is most earnestly requested that the replies to the annexed queries be filled in by two ringers having personal knowledge of their tower, and that the statements be accurate and free from exaggeration, since any mis-statement would manifestly be fatal to the purpose of the enquiry.

(Alongside the following queries ample space will, on the form, be provided for the replies.)

QUERIES.

- (1) What is the number of bells in this tower hung to ring?
- (2) Who were they cast by?
- (3) What is the reputed weight of the tenor?
- (4) What is its actual diameter in feet and inches measured across the mouth?
- (5) Is the frame of wood or of iron?
- (6) Do the bells go well enough to be rung (not chimed) comfortably?
- (7) Are any of them ever "clocked" (i.e. chimed by a rope tied to the clapper)?
- (8) State, as far as ascertainable the nature and extent of the work last done in the belfry by a bell-hanger, and his name?
- (9) Give, opposite the appended figures, all available information as to the age and condition of each bell, particularly stating whether the soundbow where the clapper now strikes is badly worn. (Here will follow numbers 1, 2 etc. opposite which the remarks will be placed).
- (10) What recommendation, if any, in regard to repairs has been laid before clergy or churchwardens, or put forth by them?
- (11) Have any steps been taken to carry out such recommendation? If not, is the delay due to want of funds or to indifference?
- (12) State the present condition of ropes and when last renewed.
- (13) Is half-pull change-ringing practised? If so, what methods are rung?
- (14) Are the bells rung (not chimed) for service on Sundays? If so, give the hours and duration of ringing.
- (15) State week, day, and hour of regular practices, if any.
- (16) Any further remarks.

Signature, official position (if any), and address of each of the two ringers vouching for the accuracy of the foregoing report to be appended to form C.

MIDSOMER NORTON, SOMERSET.

The work of rehanging the grand old ring of bells in the historic tower of the church of St. John the Baptist, which has been in progress for some weeks past, has been completed, and the bells have been rededicated by the Ven. the Archdeacon of Wells. The bells have been rehung on the latest improved principles: new wheels, headstocks, etc., new hangings, the cannons cut off before being quarter-turned, old crown staples removed, and new improved clapper-joints fitted. The framework has been strengthened with long $\frac{1}{2}$ in. round bolts through each diagonal brace where possible, the corners have been strengthened with well-bolted plates, and the bottom sills of the frame have been carefully packed to the main beams. The rehanging has been entrusted to Mr. John Sully, of Stogumber, near Taunton, and the thoroughly efficient manner in which it has been executed has commended itself to all who have had an opportunity of examining the work.

The re-dedication service was preceded by a shortened form of evensong. Special psalms were read, and prayers were offered by the Archdeacon of Wells, who preached a sermon from Numbers x. 2-6. After the sermon, a hymn was sung, and a collection was made in aid of the re-hanging fund.

On Easter Monday, in response to an invitation, the Rev. H. Courtney (Master of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association), with a ringing company, paid a visit in order to attempt a peal of Grandsire Triples, which came to an end, however, after about an hour's good ringing. A quarter-peal was then rung. The visitors expressed themselves as highly gratified with the grand historic old bells, and the ease with which they can now be rung. They were afterwards entertained to dinner at The Greyhound hotel, Mr. John Sully, the bellhanger, being among the guests. After dinner, the Vicar (Rev. W. E. Newling) paid him a high compliment for the efficient manner in which he had carried out the work of rehanging the bells. In proposing the toast of "The Bath and Wells Diocesan Association," the Vicar thanked the Rev. H. Courtney for the compliment paid the town by the visit. The rev. Master and Mr. Sully suitably replied. In proposing "Success to the Midsomer Norton Guild," the rev. Chairman said the special thanks of himself and congregation were due to Mr. T. T. Hayward and the committee, through whose instrumentality the good work with the bells had been brought about. He especially emphasised this with regard to Mr. Hayward, through whose earnestness the local guild was instituted. In reply Mr. Hayward asked the members of the guild to give him their hearty co-operation, so that by steady perseverance a scientific system of bellringing may be matured. Handbell ringing by the visitors, and songs, enlivened the proceedings.

GORING, OXFORDSHIRE.

On Easter Monday, the ringers of this place had their annual outing, the places selected being Padworth, Aldermaston, and Beenham, all in Berkshire. Meeting at 8.30 a.m. the party drove to Padworth, and very soon the light ring of six was raised, and touches in various methods rung. Then on to Aldermaston, where refreshment was had. The visitors were joined by some of the local band, and after a hasty look round the church the bells were raised, and several touches brought to a satisfactory conclusion, though the bells, while being ringable, were far from the condition of those at Padworth. Then tracks were made for Beenham, at which place the visitors were met by the brothers J. and F. Richardson, and J. Hatto, and were shown the interior of the church by Mr. J. Richardson, who pointed out its most interesting features. Then to the ringing-chamber, which is a credit to all concerned, the bells in excellent order, with good ropes. Thus the last place of the three visited was the best, and after spending an hour or two there the journey home was commenced, all arriving at their destinations by 10.0. This band has rung at nearly all the six-bell towers within driving distance, and it is hoped, next outing, to visit an eight-bell tower. The party, which comprised Messrs. Jeffrey, Ward, Spokes, Bower, Aldridge, Wedge, Parsons, Alexander, and Wilson, wish to return thanks to those who so kindly met them, and to the Vicars for so kindly granting permission.

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."

HARD AND FAST RULES.

SIR,—In your leading article last week you express a hope that the clergy will not continually "harp upon the theme" of the non-attendance of ringers at the church services, while you deprecate the expressed hope of the Lord Bishop of Bristol "that no one would be allowed to touch a bell who was not a communicant." You describe the latter as a "fatal regulation." But surely you do not expect us to forget that He who is The Way, The Truth, and the Life, teaches us in St. John vi. verse 53, a truth which is just the reverse of your assertion. Then again at our Ordination we are directed "never to cease our labour, care, and diligence, to bring all such as are committed to our charge unto that agreement in the faith and knowledge of God, and to that ripeness and perfectness of age in Christ, that there be no place left among you, either for error in religion, or for viciousness in life." Hard and fast rules on either of these points may be unwise and beyond the province of the clergy to lay down, but plain and often repeated teaching is surely our positive duty. Moreover those who rightly claim to be recognised as Church-Workers should be careful not to make their bell-ringing a mere secular pastime by disconnecting it from attendance at the Church Services.

F. E. ROBINSON, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

TRUSTESHIP OF CHURCH BELLS.

SIR,—I notice in the account of the dedication of the bells at the church of St. Nicholas, Bristol, on Sunday, April 24th, the Bishop, after dedicating the bells is reported as "committing them as a sacred trust to the vicar (Rev. T. L. Murchison)." I was, and am still under the impression, that the bells are amongst the goods of a church, and as such, do not belong to the incumbent, but to the parishioners, and that the churchwardens are a corporation, and the property of the bells is in them (*Phillimore: Eccl. Law, vol. 2, pp. 17-97*). So much for the actual bells; but how is the question of ringing regulated? surely by the incumbent and churchwardens, as laid down by Canon 88 (1603): "The Churchwardens . . . neither the bells to be rung superstitiously upon Holy Days or Eves abrogated by the Book of Common Prayer, nor at any other times, without good cause, to be allowed by the ministers of the place, and by themselves." How then does the trust only affect the incumbent? Perhaps a correspondent will kindly enlighten.

A LEARNER.

P.S.—I suppose in most dioceses at Visitations the question is asked "Have the bells been rung on any occasion without the consent of the vicar and one churchwarden?" which would seem to be adapted from the above quoted canon.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—The Report of the Association reached me this morning, and I hasten to express the great pleasure which I feel in reading there that it is not thought advisable to break up the Association into two, corresponding to the two new Dioceses. I should be extremely sorry to see it so broken up, and think that it would be a thousand pities in every way. As one who was intimately associated with its inauguration, for two years held the office of Master, and even still a member of it, I cannot forbear writing this short letter.

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—Reply to Mr. Baker's letter of April 30th I beg to state whatever private explanation arrived in this town with regard to our learning change-ringing, I am totally ignorant of. The only explanation I have had has been through "THE BELL NEWS." If private explanations were sent to those most closely concerned, they would have been made known. And it would have been my last wish to make the affair public in "THE BELL NEWS." With regard to the last train any Bedford member could return by half-past eight. We would have arranged our practice for half-past six, so then we could have had the same instruction from a Bedford tutor as from our town friends. Thanks to Mr. Baker for his good wishes on behalf of our success, and apologies for seeming ungenerous in making this affair public, but could see no other way to gain help, as I knew no one's private address. I should like to be allowed to thank the gentleman who wishes us such brilliant success as perfection in change-ringing in the course of three months, one lesson weekly, beginning totally ignorant. Wish he would state a similar case. With pleasure would have accommodated any gentleman for the night if his business would permit him staying, and he had been willing to do so. That difficulty would have been a mere trifle and soon overcome, if the gentleman had come forward.

J. NICHOLLS.

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).

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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. 1s. 6d.)

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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"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, BART., M.A. Gratis on application to SIR ARTHUR HEYWOOD, BART., DUFFIELD BANK, near Derby

THE REV. DR. RAVEN'S WORK.

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

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

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MAY 14, 1898.

THE Agenda of the Central Council will be found on the adjoining page, and in addition to this, elsewhere can be read a draft copy of the scheme of the committee which was appointed to prepare a return of the condition of all rings of twelve, ten, and eight bells, and of historic rings of six, throughout the country, in order that a tabulated statement of existing defects may be drawn up and submitted by the Council to church authorities and the public. If this very interesting scheme is carefully perused, no one will fail to realise its great importance. The success of this movement will be most advantageous, not only to ringers, but to all who are interested, from an antiquarian or any other point of view, in Church Bells.

First of all, the scheme hints that it is an important attempt to obtain for bells and ringers increased consideration at the hands of Church authorities and the public. This is something to begin with. Again, we are to have for our own use and information, a reliable directory or

guide to belfries all over the land. These great advantages, coupled with the fact that the purposed enquiry will have a tendency towards a more ample recognition of the claims of the ringer and his art, must recommend itself to all concerned.

The time has not arrived for any effort of response to the invitation which will be given by the President of the Council; but when it has, it is to be hoped that all those concerned will not give way to indifference, but in an energetic and business-like manner respond without delay to complete the necessary entries in the documents sent them for that purpose.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—We have on several occasions requested our correspondents to address all their letters intended for this paper according to the directions given each week. In no case should anything be sent to the publisher otherwise than orders for papers. In future the given directions must be complied with. Communications sent in any other manner will not be recognised.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The Eighth Annual Meeting of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers will be held on Whit-Tuesday, May 31st, 1898, at St. Mary Redcliffe Parish Hall, Bristol (a few minutes' walk from the Railway Station), at 1.30 o'clock, punctually.

The Standing Committee will meet at 11 a.m. in the second-class refreshment room on the up platform of the railway station, where an apartment will be specially reserved. Arrangements will be made to place bells at the disposal of members after the Meeting.

From 9 till 11 p.m. there will be a social gathering of members at St. Stephen's Restaurant, Baldwin Street.

AGENDA.

1. Minutes of the last Meeting.
2. Election of Hon. Members (if desired).
3. To receive the Treasurer's statement.
4. To receive a further Report of the Committee on Railway Fares.
5. To receive an interim Report from the Committee on the Glossary of Technical Terms.
6. To receive any further Report on the progress of the Bibliography.
7. To receive an interim Report from the Peal Collection Committee.
8. To call attention to a defect in the Council's definition of true peals, and, if approved, to rectify the same.
9. To consider, with a view to a decision, the Report of the Peal Values Committee, submitted to the last meeting, and to be re-printed in this paper next week.
10. To consider, with a view to a decision, the Report of the Peal Collection Committee on "Original Composition" and "Variation," submitted to the last meeting, and to be re-printed in this paper next week.
11. The following subjects will be discussed:—
 - a. The draft of procedure proposed by the committee appointed to compile a Report on the condition of church bells, etc., and now printed in this paper.
 - b. The propriety of designating Thurstans' well-known composition in Stedman Triples as his "Four-part," and in like manner, his other compositions as his "Five-part" and "One-part."
 - c. The desirability or otherwise of Sunday peal ringing.
 - d. How far, and under what conditions, any departure from the true and clear ringing of every change is permissible in the performance of a peal.

H. EARLE BULWER, *Hon. Sec.*

The Provinces.

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

On Thursday, April 29, 1898, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

HARRY WAKLEY.. .. Treble.	EDWARD I. STONE 5.
JOHN BENSTEAD 2.	ARTHUR WAKLEY 6.
JAMES DURRANT 3.	JOSEPH GRIFFIN 7.
GEORGE ROBINSON 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW and Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

* Rung with the bells half muffled on the fourteenth anniversary of the death of Mr. M. T. Bass, founder of St. Paul's church and parish.

GLOUCESTER.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIORS, GLOUCESTER.

On Thursday, May 5, 1898, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt. 48 lbs.

FRED. G. MAY Treble.	JOHN AUSTIN 5.
HERBERT P. HARMAN 2.	WALTER T. BENNETT 6.
WILLIAM T. PEGLER 3.	ERNEST E. DAVIS 7.
FRANCIS E. WARD 4.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY JOHNSON and
Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

The above is the centenary peal by the St. Michael's Juniors, and is probably the last peal that will be rung on the eight, as two new trebles are about to be added by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

On Thursday, May 5, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES, Tenor 21 cwt.

JOSEPH RIDYARD Treble.	FREDERICK DERBYSHIRE 5.
JOSEPH IRELAND 2.	THOMAS DERBYSHIRE 6.
PERCY H. DERBYSHIRE 3.	JAMES HENRY RIDYARD 7.
JOHN WELSBY* 4.	JOSEPH GREEN Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by J. H. RIDYARD.

*First peal in the method.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 7, 1898, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HEYWOOD'S VARIATION. Tenor 19 cwt.

ROBERT S. STORY Treble.	ROBERT E. CHICHESTER 5.
WILLIAM STORY 2.	*ERNEST E. FERRY 6.
WILLIAM HOLMES 3.	FREDK. J. HARRISON 7.
CHARLES L. ROUTLEDGE 4.	ROBERT RICHARDS Tenor.

(No conductor mentioned.)

*First peal of Stedman.

PENN, WOLVERHAMPTON.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, May 7, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES. Tenor 11 cwt.

FARRINGTON JONES Treble.	ROBERT PICKERING 5.
BENJAMIN DALTON 2.	GEORGE BURROWS 6.
WILLIAM G. HALL 3.	AARON GRIFFITHS 7.
HERBERT KNIGHT 4.	JAMES E. GROVES Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

First peal of Major on the bells.

WESTERHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 7, 1898, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS' FIVE-PART.

Tenor 23½ cwt.

WILLIAM G. GRANGER* .. Treble.	JAMES STEVENS.. .. 5.
GEORGE STEER 2.	HENRY J. SELBY 6.
DAVID WRIGHT 3.	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE .. 7.
HERBERT J. FORD 4.	ROBERT STONE Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE.

*First peal and first attempt, only having rang the treble in a plain course previously. Messrs. Granger and Stevens were elected members of the Association previous to starting for the peal.

STEYNING, SUSSEX—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 7, 1898, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES.

Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qrs. 24 lbs.

ARTHUR GATLAND Treble.	FRANK BENNETT 5.
JOHN SMART 2.	GEORGE GATLAND 6.
HARRY WESTON 3.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH .. 7.
FRED. P. HOWCROFT .. 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

Rung to commemorate the birthday of the conductor, it being also his 350th peal, and who received the hearty congratulations from the band on its completion.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 7, 1898, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION.

Tenor 20 cwt.

ALFRED W. GRIMES .. Treble.	HORACE C. HOWLETT .. 5.
WILLIAM RUMSEY 2.	EDWARD SHERWOOD .. 6.
WILLIAM GRIMES 3.	WILLIAM G. CRICKMER .. 7.
JAMES G. RUMSEY 4.	WILLIAM FLORY Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN, of Lincoln, and Conducted by W. FLORY.

For calling and qualities see "THE BELL NEWS" of March 19th, 1898, third composition by the composer.

TONBRIDGE, KENT.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, May 7, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 23 cwt.

JOHN CHIVERS Treble.	ALFRED LAURENCE 5.
WILLIAM J. WOLFE* .. 2.	GEORGE A. CARD 6.
GEORGE H. STONESTREET 3.	THOMAS CARD 7.
JOSEPH SMITH 4.	GEORGE RABBITT Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE A. CARD.

*First peal and first attempt.

TIDENHAM, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE CHERSTOW AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 7, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being Twelve Six-scores of Canterbury Pleasure, and Thirty of Grandsire, each called differently. Tenor 11 cwt. in F.

JAMES SMITH Treble.	JAMES MORLEY 4.
GEORGE HOBSON 2.	ROBERT THOMPSON .. 5.
RICHARD HUGHES 3.	GEORGE VICKS Tenor.

Conducted by ROBERT THOMPSON.

This is the first peal by the above Association. First peal on the bells, and first peal of Doubles by all.

WEM, SHROPSHIRE.

On Saturday, May 7, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' FIVE-PART.

Tenor 13 cwt.

RICHARD T. HOLDING .. Treble.	GEORGE WRIGHT 5.
THOMAS J. BRATTON .. 2.	ALBERT LITTLE 6.
RICHARD LANGFORD .. 3.	ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT .. 7.
RICHARD WEATHERBY .. 4.	*JOHN RAVENSCROFT .. Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS J. BRATTON.

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

HERNHILL, NEAR FAVERSHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, May 8, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 10 cwt.

EDWARD E. FOREMAN .. Treble.	ERNEST ALLEN 5.
HARRY GOODWIN* .. 2.	WILLIAM TASSELL 6.
GEORGE WILLSHIRE .. 3.	CHARLES R. MILLWAY .. 7.
WILLIAM SPICE† .. 4.	*ELLIS ARCHER Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES R. MILLWAY.

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

SHEFFIELD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 9, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARIE (R.C.), NORFOLK ROW,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 25 cwt.

H. BOWER Treble.	H. WARD 5.
F. BURGAR* 2.	G. O. DIXON 6.
T. HATTERSLEY .. 3.	W. BURGAR 7.
J. EVINSON 4.	†R. HARRISON Tenor.

Composed by W. HARRISON and Conducted by R. HARRISON.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor. Rung at the third attempt, a rope breaking after ringing over 2000 changes the first time, and a mis-call resulting in the second attempt, being lost after ringing three hours.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION, AND SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Monday, May 9, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN W. SMITH Treble.	WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT 5.
WILLIAM H. GODDEN .. 2.	SAMUEL SPITTLE 6.
WILLIAM R. SMALL .. 3.	SAMUEL REEVES 7.
THOMAS HORTON 4.	JOHN SMITH Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

First peal in the method on the bells. J. W. Smith was elected a member of the Stafford Archdeaconry Society previous to starting for the peal.

DEFECTIVE REPORT.—The report of a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major rung at St. Luke's church, Liverpool, has come to hand without any date.

MR. ATTREE'S ANALYSIS.—The society No. 17 in the analysis for January, published last week, should be "Hertford County Association," not "Hereford." No. 29 should be Ely Diocesan Association.

Date Touches.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(FYLDE DISTRICT BRANCH.)

LYTHAM (Lancashire).—On Thursday, March 31st, at the parish church, a date touch of Stedman Triples in 1 hr. 4 mins. J. Fisher, 1; C. H. Lewis, 2; H. Gregson, 3; *J. Preston, 4; G. Miller, 5; W.

Atkinson (conductor), 6; J. Miller, 7; W. Miller, 8. *Longest touch in any method.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HECKINGTON (Lincolnshire).—On Monday, March 28th, a date touch of Union Triples in 1 hr. 19 mins. T. Taylor, 1; J. T. Holmes, 2; J. H. Clark (conductor), 3; F. Warrington, 4; J. Hilton, 5; E. Houlden, 6; W. Dickinson (composer), 7; H. Wash, 8. Rung in honour of the composer's thirty-third birthday.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BATTLE (Sussex).—On Tuesday, March 29th, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 10 mins. W. H. Eldridge, 1; D. P. Howcroft (longest length in the method), 2; C. J. Hyland, 3; F. Lock, 4; C. Carter, 5; W. Franks (conductor), 6; W. Thomas, 7; J. Sinden, 8.

Miscellaneous.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

STOCKPORT (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, March 22nd, two plain courses of Bob Major. A. Gordon, 1; S. Fernley, 2; J. Barlow, 3; T. Sale, 4; W. Gordon, 5; W. Gordon, jun., 6; A. S. Gordon, 7; P. Brickell, 8. Also 503 Grandsire Caters. W. Gordon (conductor), 1; A. Gordon, 2; W. Gordon, jun., 3; T. Sale, 4; J. Barlow, 5; J. A. Gordon, 6; S. Mitchell, 7; P. Brickell, 8; A. S. Gordon, 9; A. Birch, 10. And 270 Grandsire Caters. W. Gordon (conductor), 1; A. Gordon, 2; S. Fernley, 3; T. Sale, 4; J. Barlow, 5; A. S. Gordon, 6; S. Mitchell, 7; A. Gordon, jun., 8; P. Brickell, 9; J. A. Gordon, 10. Also 252 Stedman Triples. W. Gordon, jun., 1; T. Sale, 2; P. Brickell, 3; J. A. Gordon, 4; S. Mitchell, 5; A. S. Gordon, 6; W. Gordon (conductor), 7; A. Birch, 8. On Thursday, March 24th, 252 Stedman Triples. A. Gordon, 1; T. Sale, 2; J. Barlow, 3; W. Gordon, jun., 4; S. Mitchell, 5; J. W. Bayley, 6; W. Gordon (conductor), 7; J. Pearson, 8. Also 504 Grandsire Caters. T. Barber, 1; T. Marshall, 2; W. Gordon, 3; T. Sale, 4; J. Barlow, 5; W. Gordon, jun., 6; S. Mitchell, 7; J. Hankinson, 8; J. W. Bayley (conductor), 9; J. Pearson, 10. On Sunday morning, March 27th, 305 Grandsire Caters. In the evening 467 Grandsire Caters. W. Gordon (conductor), 1; A. Gordon, 2; W. Gordon, jun., 3; T. Sale, 4; J. Barlow, 5; J. A. Gordon, 6; S. Mitchell, 7; A. Gordon, jun., 8; A. S. Gordon, jun., 9; A. Birch, 10. Tuesday, March 29th, 588 Stedman Triples. A. Gordon, 1; T. Sale, 2; J. Barlow, 3; J. A. Gordon, 4; S. Mitchell, 5; W. Gordon, jun., 6; W. Gordon (conductor), 7; A. S. Gordon, 8. Also 320 Grandsire Major. A. Gordon, 1; T. Sale, 2; J. Barlow, 3; W. Gordon, jun., 4; S. Mitchell, 5; J. A. Gordon, 6; A. S. Gordon, 7; W. Gordon, 8.

GRAPPENHALL (Cheshire).—On Monday, March 1st, 720 York Surprise. J. Mainwaring, 1; H. T. Moston, 2; T. Burrows, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. T. Spence (conductor), 5; R. G. Lewis, 6. On Sunday, March 6th, 720 London Treble Bob. J. Mainwaring, 1; H. T. Moston, 2; T. Burrows, 3; F. T. Spence, 4; S. Horsfall, 5; R. G. Lewis (conductor), 6. On Thursday, March 10th, 720 Superlative Surprise. J. Mainwaring, 1; *H. T. Moston, 2; R. G. Lewis, 3; F. T. Spence (conductor), 4; S. Horsfall, 5; J. W. Booth, 6. *First in the method. On Sunday, March 13th, 720 Braintree Treble Bob. H. Moston, 1; R. G. Lewis, 2; T. Burrows, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. T. Spence (conductor), 5; J. W. Booth, 6. Also 720 Arnold's Victory. J. Mainwaring, 1; R. G. Lewis, 2; T. Burrows (first in the method), 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. T. Spence (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6. On Tuesday, March 15th, 720 Stedman's Slow Course, and 720 Double Court. J. Mainwaring, 1; H. T. Moston, 2; F. T. Spence (conductor), 3; S. Horsfall, 4; R. G. Lewis, 5; J. Booth, 6. On Saturday, March 19th, 720 Violet. H. Moston, 1; S. Horsfall, 2; W. Brammer, 3; F. T. Spence (conductor), 4; E. Edwardson (first in the method), 5; R. G. Lewis, 6. On Sunday, March 20th, 720 College Pleasure. J. Mainwaring, 1; R. G. Lewis, 2; H. Moston, 3; S. Horsfall, 4; F. T. Spence (conductor), 5; J. Booth, 6. On Monday, March 22nd, 720 Plain Bob. S. Spence, 1; the rest as before. On Sunday, March 27th, 720 Violet. H. T. Moston, 1; R. G. Lewis, 2; T. Burrows, 3; F. T. Spence (conductor), 4; S. Horsfall, 5; J. Booth, 6.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Tuesday, March 22nd, at St. Mary's church on handbells, 720 Superlative Surprise. W. Gazeley, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; C. Chasty, 3; W. Barker, 4; H. Tysoe, 5; F. Hull, 6. First 720 in the method by all. On Wednesday, March 30th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. R. Glass (first 720 of Treble Bob), 1; W. Gazeley, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; W. Barker, 4; H. Tysoe, 5; F. Hull, 6. On Thursday, March 31st, 360 Plain Bob. F. Webb, 1; W. Gazeley, 2; C. W.

Clarke (conductor), 3; W. Barker, 4; H. Tysoe, 5; F. Hull, 6. On Monday, April 4th, 720 Woodbine. W. Barker, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; E. Tingey, 5; W. Gazeley, 6. Also at 56, Caudwell Street, 360 College Exercise. W. Gazeley, 1; E. Tingey, 2; W. Barker, 3; C. Chasty, 4; C. W. Gazeley (conductor), 5; 240 Violet. On Sunday, April 3rd, at St. Paul's church, 395 Grandsire Caters. R. Glass (first touch), 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; W. Gazeley, 3; C. Chasty, 4; W. Hall, 5; H. Sharpe, 6; I. Hills, 7; W. Barker, 8; H. Tysoe, 9; F. Keech, 10. Also 140 Stedman Caters and 305 Grandsire Caters. A. Hall, 1; W. Barker, 2; A. Gazeley, 3; E. Tingey, 4; S. Cullip, 5; F. Keech, 6; I. Hills, 7; W. Shimmans, 8; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 9. Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a mark of respect to Mr. M. Cuthbert, late churchwarden of St. Paul's. On Sunday, April 10th, 540 Grandsire Caters. R. Glass, 1; W. Barker, 2; W. Gazeley, 3; E. Tingey, 4; W. Hall, 5; S. Cullip, 6; I. Hills, 7; C. Chasty (conductor), 8; H. Tysoe, 9; J. Sear, 10. On Monday, April 11th, 336 Bob Major. E. Tingey, 1; D. Harris, 2; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 3; M. Lane, 4; I. Hills, 5; E. Herbert, 6; W. Barker, 7; H. Sharpe, 8. Also 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Barker (conductor). And 336 Bob Major, D. Harris (conductor). Also 180 Bob Royal. On Thursday, April 14th, 539 Grandsire Caters. W. Gazeley, 1; C. Chasty, 2; E. Tingey, 3; S. Cullip, 4; W. Hall, 5; F. Keech, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; Rev. W. C. Baker, 8; H. Tysoe, 9; W. Barker, 10. Also 305 Grandsire Caters; C. W. Clarke (conductor). And 360 Treble Bob Royal, 180 Bob Royal, and 224 Double Norwich. W. Gazeley, 1; S. Cullip, 2; W. Hull, 3; C. Chasty, 4; I. Hills, 5; W. Barker, 6; H. Tysoe, 7; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

READING (Berks).—On March, 504 Stedman Triples. G. Boddington, 1; F. Sweetzer, 2; A. W. Reeves, 3; C. Giles, 4; W. P. Routh, 5; W. Higgs, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; H. Dibley, 8. A 336 Bob Major. H. Dibley, 1; H. Coffee, 2; A. W. Reeves, 3; A. Evans, 4; W. P. Routh, 5; C. Giles, 6; W. Higgs, 7; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 8. On March 6th, 504 Stedman Triples. F. Sweetzer, 1; H. Coffee, 2; G. Boddington, 3; A. Evans, 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; W. Higgs, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; H. Smart, 8. A 504 in the same method. G. Boddington, 1; H. Coffee, 2; A. W. Reeves, 3; A. Evans, 4; W. P. Routh, 5; F. Sweetzer, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; H. Smart, 8. On March 13th, 560 Bob Major. H. Dibley, 1; H. Coffee, 2; G. Boddington, 3; A. Evans, 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; F. Sweetzer, 6; W. Higgs, 7; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 8. On March 15th, 504 Stedman Triples. A. J. Mayo, 1; H. Coffee, 2; G. Boddington, 3; F. Sweetzer, 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; A. W. Higgs, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; H. Dibley, 8. On March 20th, 504 in the same method. H. Smart, 8; the rest as before. On March 15th, for a Confirmation, another 504 Stedman Triples. A. H. Evans, 1; H. Coffee, 2; G. L. Boddington, 3; A. W. Reeves, 4; W. P. Routh, 5; A. W. Higgs, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; H. Smart, 8. On March 26th, 560 Bob Major. A. J. Mayo (first touch of Major), 1; H. Coffee, 2; G. Boddington, 3; F. Sweetzer, 4; A. W. Reeves, 5; A. Evans, 6; A. W. Higgs, 7; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 8.

THE BIRMINGHAM FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday, March 13th, at St. Chad's (R.C.) cathedral, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 43 mins. C. H. Watts, 1; J. Porter, 2; W. A. Hancox (conductor), 3; T. Miller, 4; R. Hackley, 5; G. Middleton, 6; A. Hackley, 7; G. Ellis, 8. Composed by the Editor.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BATTLE (Sussex).—On Saturday, March 5th, at St. Mary's church, 504 Stedman Triples. G. Williams, 1; S. Saker, 2; W. Thomas, 3; W. Franks, 4; F. Bennett, 5; D. P. Howcroft, 6; J. S. Goldsmith, 7; C. Carter, 8. Also 464 Bob Major. C. Carter, 1; W. Thomas, 2; D. P. Howcroft, 3; F. Bennett, 4; W. Franks, 5; S. Saker (conductor), 6; J. S. Goldsmith, 7; G. Williams, 8. On Tuesday, March 8th, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), tenor covering. J. Sinden, 2; W. Thomas, 3; C. J. Hyland, 4; C. Carter, 5; W. Franks, 6; F. Lock, 7; W. H. Eldridge, 8. Also 672 Grandsire Triples. W. H. Eldridge, 1; W. Franks, 2; C. J. Hyland, 3; F. A. Kennett, 4; F. Lock, 5; W. Thomas (conductor), 6; C. Carter, 7; J. Sinden, 8.

ST. LEONARD'S-ON-SEA.—On Sunday, March 6th, for Divine Service in the morning at Christ Church, 588 Stedman Triples. S. Saker, 1; D. P. Howcroft, 2; F. Bennett, 3; W. Thomas, 4; W. Franks, 5; J. S. Goldsmith, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; W. H. Eldridge, 8.

HASTINGS.—On Sunday, March 6th, at Christ Church Blacklands, 464 Bob Major. F. Bennett, 1; W. Thomas, 2; D. P. Howcroft, 3; F. Lock, 4; W. Franks, 5; S. Saker (conductor), 6; J. S. Goldsmith, 7; G. Williams (conductor), 8. For evening service a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 47 mins. F. Bennett, 1; S. Saker, 2; W.

Thomas, 3; W. Franks, 4; J. S. Goldsmith, 5; D. P. Howcroft, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; W. H. Eldridge, 8.

THE SALOP GUILD.

SHREWSBURY.—On Friday, March 4th, for practice at St. Alkmund's church, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. W. Stockdale (first 720), 1; T. Burd, 2; H. Jones, 3; G. J. Taylor, 4; F. W. Taylor, 5; G. Byolin (conductor), 6. On Sunday, March 6th, for evening service, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Stockdale, 1; W. Owen, 2; G. J. Taylor, 3; H. Jones, 4; T. W. Taylor, 5; A. Fullick, 6; G. Byolin (conductor), 7; G. Lloyd, 8. On Sunday, March 20th, for evening service, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Stockdale, 1; H. Jones, 2; W. Owen, 3; T. Burd, 4; G. Byolin (conductor), 5; G. J. Taylor, 6; F. W. Taylor, 7; J. C. Burrows, 8. On Easter Sunday, for Divine Service in the morning, 420 Grandsire Triples. W. Owen, 1; W. Stockdale, 2; T. Burd, 3; G. J. Taylor, 4; H. Jones, 5; G. Burrows, 6; G. Byolin (conductor), 7; H. W. Jones, 8. For evening service 350 Grandsire Triples. W. Stockdale, 1; F. W. Taylor, 2; W. Owen, 3; T. Burd (conductor), 4; G. Byolin, 5; G. J. Taylor, 6; G. Burrows, 7; H. Jones, 8. On Tuesday, April 12th, on the occasion of the election of churchwardens, 420 Grandsire Triples. W. Mansell, 1; T. Burd, 2; G. J. Taylor, 3; G. Burrows, 4; T. J. Bratton (conductor), 5; A. H. Espley, 6; G. Byolin, 7; W. B. Dolman, 8. On Sunday evening, April 17th, for Divine Service, 350 Grandsire Triples. W. Mansell, 1; W. Stockdale, 2; W. R. Dolman, 3; G. J. Taylor, 4; F. W. Taylor, 5; H. Jones, 6; G. Byolin (conductor), 7; H. W. Jones, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—On Thursday, March 31st, at St. Peter's church, 560 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. J. Muggridge, 1; G. Head, 2; G. Smithers, 3; W. Pollard, 4; E. Mankelow, 5; S. Perkins, 6; F. Harrington, 7; W. Latter (conductor), 8. And 336 Grandsire Triples. B. Page, 1; G. Head, 2; W. Latter (conductor), 3; F. Harrington, 4; E. Mankelow, 5; S. Perkins, 6; G. Smithers, 7; W. Pollard, 8. On Easter Sunday, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Latter (conductor), 1; W. Pollard, 2; J. Muggridge, 3; E. Mankelow, 4; S. Perkins, 5; H. Ford, 6; A. Welsh, 7; B. Page, 8. And 112 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. J. Muggridge, 1; S. Perkins, 2; A. Welsh, 3; W. Pollard, 4; E. Mankelow, 5; H. Ford, 6; E. Allen, 7; W. Latter, 8.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

BUCKNALL (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, March 6th, for Divine Service in the evening, 720 Oxford Bob. W. Goldstram, 1; G. Clarkson, 2; J. Naylor, 3; J. E. Wheeldon, 4; D. Preston, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. On Sunday, March 13th, 720 College Pleasure. J. Preston, 1; G. Clarkson, 2; E. Johnson, 3; J. E. Wheeldon, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. On Sunday, March 20th, 720 College Exercise. J. Preston, 1; G. Clarkson, 2; D. Preston, 3; C. Preston, 4; W. Wheeldon (conductor), 5; W. Twigg, 6. On Sunday, March 27th, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Violet Treble Bob, the ringers as before; for evening service 720 Duke of York. G. Hobbs, 5; the rest as before. On Tuesday, April 5th, for practice, 240 each of College Exercise, College Pleasure, and Woodbine, also 240 each of Duke of York, Violet, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob. J. Preston, 1; G. Clarkson, 2; D. Preston, 3; C. Preston, 4; W. Wheeldon (conductor), 5; W. Twigg, 6. On Sunday, April 10th, for Holy Communion at 7 o'clock, 720 College Exercise. J. Preston, 1; G. Clarkson, 2; D. Preston, 3; C. Preston, 4; W. Wheeldon (conductor), 5; W. Twigg, 6. For morning service 720 College Pleasure, standing as before. For evening service 720 Violet. G. Hobbs, 5; the rest as before.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

WOOBURN (Bucks).—On Monday, March 21st, for practice at St. Paul's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. J. Howard, 1; J. Garrell, 2; T. H. Taffender (conductor), 3; F. Boreham, 4; J. West, 5; F. Cousens, 6; F. G. Healey, 7; J. Evans, 8.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

SOUTHWARK.—On Thursday, March 31st, at Christ Church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. T. H. Taffender, 1; W. Truss, 2; H. Hoskins, 3; J. Waghorn, jun. (conductor), 4; A. W. Brighton, 5; H. Flanders, 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(FYLDE DISTRICT BRANCH.)

LYTHAM (Lancashire).—On Sunday, March 13th, at St. John's church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and eighteen singles). J. Fell, 1; J. Tipping, 2; R. Seddon, 3; A. E. Wilson, 4; C. H. Kerr, 5; E. Tipping (conductor), 6. On Sunday, March 20th, 720 Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles). Composed by E. Francis, of Nor-

wich. W. Bamber, 1; R. Cookson, 2; R. Seddon, 3; A. E. Wilson, 4; C. H. Kerr (conductor), 5; E. Tipping, 6. In the evening another 720 in the same method (forty-two singles) in 26 mins. W. Bamber, 1; J. Tipping, 2; R. Cookson, 3; R. Seddon, 4; C. H. Kerr, 5; E. Tipping (conductor), 6. On Saturday, March 26th, 720 Plain Bob (thirty-four singles). Composed by E. Symons. W. Bamber, 1; J. Fell, 2; J. Tipping, 3; A. E. Wilson, 4; C. H. Kerr, 5; E. Tipping (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 10th, 720 Plain Bob (fourteen singles and six bobs) in 25 mins. R. Cookson, 1; J. Fell, 2; J. Tipping, 3; A. E. Wilson, 4; C. H. Kerr (conductor), 5; R. White-side, 6.

HELMINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Saturday, March 5th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 1008 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. A. Grimes, 1; W. Wightman, 2; G. Perry, 3; A. Wightman, 4; W. Rumsey, 5; W. Grimes, 6; G. Wightman (conductor), 7; S. Wightman, 8.

HANDSWORTH (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, March 27th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins. T. Westwood (conductor), 1; T. Verry, 2; W. Verry, 3; B. Starkey, 4; A. Smith, 5; R. Faux, 6; W. H. Godden, 7; R. Speakman, 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringers of 1, 3, 5 and 6. Composed by H. Johnson. On Wednesday, March 30th, the Editor's quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins. T. Verry, 1; W. Verry, 2; S. Reeves, 3; B. Starkey, 4; R. Faux, 5; W. H. Godden, 6; T. Westwood (conductor), 7; R. Speakman, 8.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday, March 13th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Dixon, 1; G. Griffin, 2; W. Ward, 3; S. Wade, 4; H. Stubbs, 5; A. Jacob (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. W. Dixon, 1; S. Wade, 2; W. Pickworth, 3; F. C. Newman, 4; H. Stubbs, 5; A. Jacob (conductor), 6. And 240 Stedman Doubles. W. Dixon, 1; F. C. Newman, 2; A. Jacob (conductor), 3; W. Ward, 4; H. Stubbs, 5; H. Childs, 6.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH (Northants).—On Easter Monday, the attempt for 9312 Superlative Surprise came to grief after ringing over 7000 changes, in 4 hrs. 10 mins. W. V. Newman, 1; J. B. Martin, 2; J. Garratt, 3; T. R. Hensher, 4; W. Pettitt, 5; C. W. Clarke, 6; J. Houghton, jun., 7; A. Y. Tyler (conductor), 8.

ISLEWORTH (Middlesex).—On Saturday, April 2nd, at the church of All Saints, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but it came to grief after ringing 4000 changes. E. Beadle, 1; G. Ransom, 2; T. Beadle, 3; J. Basden (conductor), 4; C. Edwards, 5; H. Browning, 6; F. Goddard, 7; R. Hurd, 8. On Sunday, April 3rd, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples. T. Beadle, 1; F. Goddard, 2; J. Basden (conductor), 3; H. Chandler, 4; J. Howes, 5; C. Edwards, 6; G. Ransom, 7; A. Sheard, 8.

LONDON.—On Tuesday, May 3rd, at the church of St. James, Clerkenwell, the usual whole pull and stand was rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the Rev. J. H. Rose, M.A., M.L.S.B., late vicar of Clerkenwell, and Rural Dean of St. Sepulchre. R. Matthews, 1; H. Grimmer, 2; C. W. Messenger, 3; A. Linstead, 4; J. Bissmire, 5; C. Looker, 6; D. W. Haslam, 7; C. Potheary (conductor), 8.

RAYLEIGH (Essex).—On Wednesday, March 23rd, 720 Bob Minor. G. Bradley, 1; A. Jolly, 2; J. Johnson, 3; S. Bingham, 4; N. Bingham, 5; G. Valentine (conductor), 6. On Friday, March 25th, 720 Bob Minor. A. James, 1; A. Jolly, 2; J. Johnson, 3; F. Faulkner, 4; S. Bingham, 5; G. Valentine (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. F. Faulkner, 1; S. Bingham, 2; J. Johnson, 3; G. Valentine, 4; N. Bingham, 5; G. Smith (conductor), 6.

WARRINGTON (Lancashire).—On Sunday morning, March 6th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Single Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. Oxley, 1; J. Wilson, 2; A. Oxley, 3; E. Edwardson, 4; W. Brammer (conductor), 5; F. W. Stout, 6. For evening service 720 Kent Treble Bob (nine bobs). J. Wilson, 1; W. Oxley, 2; A. Oxley, 3; W. Brammer, 4; E. Edwardson (conductor), 5; F. W. Stout, 6. On Sunday evening, March 13th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob (nine bobs). J. Wilson, 1; W. Oxley, 2; A. Oxley, 3; E. Edwardson, 4; W. Brammer, 5; F. W. Stout (conductor), 6. On Friday, March 18th, 720 Kent Treble Bob (nine bobs). J. Wilson, 1; W. Oxley, 2; A. Oxley (conductor), 3; W. Brammer, 4; S. Horsfall, 5; F. W. Stout, 6. Rung on the occasion of the birthday of A. Oxley. S. Horsfall hails from Grappenhall, Cheshire. On Sunday morning, March 20th, for Divine Service, 720 College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Wilson, 1; W. Oxley, 2; A. Oxley (conductor), 3; E. Edwardson, 4; W. Brammer, 5; F. W. Stout, 6. For evening service 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. W. Stout, 1; J. Wilson, 2; W. Oxley, 3; E. Edwardson, 4; A. Oxley, 5; W. Brammer (conductor), 6.

CURRENT TOPICS.

There are several obliging friends who appear to take every opportunity they have of culling extracts from newspapers and sending them on to the Editor accompanied by the expression of a hope that Mr. Plain Speaker will deal with them. These cuttings are not always "approved." Some of them are simply, or I may say egregiously, ridiculous. Last week I received a cutting from a paper called *The Weekly Bulletin*. The space at my disposal is too limited for rubbish such as this extract was. The writer of farrago like this evidently considers himself a smart fellow, but he wouldn't be worth an hour's purchase on the "B.N." Should he think of attacking bell-ringing again, and long to perpetrate another stale joke, or a weak sneer at Biblical history, I would have him go to school first, and learn something else beside manners, for he is certainly not a person well-read. He may put this in his pipe and smoke it.

My friends need not abstain from sending these cuttings for fear of their being rejected, because some of them may refer to matters which is necessary to know. In this very number of our paper I am told there is an obituary notice, and the following extract from the *Bath Herald* has arrived concerning it. I may as well let you have it in full. Here it is:—

THE DANGERS OF BELL-RINGING.—Mr. E. O. Louch, coroner for the district, held an inquest at the Vallis Way Coffee Rooms, Frome, last night, touching the death of John Rebbeck, aged fifty-four, a platelayer on the G.W.R., who died somewhat suddenly on Wednesday night. Frank Rebbeck, son of the deceased, stated that his father was a bell-ringer, and on the evening in question started to walk to Buckland Dinham, where he proposed to take part in some change-ringing. On the road, however, he was taken ill, his breath coming short, and he partly walked and partly rode back to Frome. His son saw a young man supporting him outside his door, and helped to carry him in, after which he went for the doctor, but on his return he found his father was dead. Dr. Dalby stated that death was due to syncope. Deceased was a muscular, well-built man, but his heart was very much enlarged and gorged in blood. The other organs were healthy. He would like to state, as a warning to any whom it may concern, that he did not think that violent exercise, such as bell-ringing, was good for a man over fifty years of age. Bell-ringing was a very violent exercise while it lasted, and was dangerous to those over a certain age. The frequent muscular exertion of bell-ringing had in this case, no doubt, been gradually affecting the heart for a number of years. A verdict of death from syncope, natural causes, was returned.

I have not the least doubt but that Dr. Dalby here mentioned is a clever physician, a very estimable gentleman, and an ornament of the faculty. But in this case, with all due respect to him, he has made an error. First of all bell-ringing is not a violent exercise. It is good exercise for men above fifty years of age. We know better than does Dr. Dalby. Did not the late Mr. Henry Johnson ring a peal of Stedman Cinques, seven hours long, on his seventieth birthday? Of course he did. Look at the men with us now, hundreds upon hundreds, more than fifty years of age who ring. You see the doctor did not understand what ringing is. There is no such thing as "frequent muscular exertion" of the kind Dr. Dalby meant, in bell-ringing. I'll be bound to say that there was more "muscular exertion" in one day of the employment which the deceased followed, than in a week of ringing. What has the doctor to say about the muscular exertion of football? This subject is concluded.

Quite recently there has been an amount of praiseworthy munificence shown by one or two of our ringing brethren. The

first I may mention is that of Mr. Haworth, the "father" of the College Youths. The following cutting may interest you:—

Upon the occasion of his seventy-seventh birthday, a few days ago, Mr. J. R. Haworth, the senior bellringer of St. Paul's Cathedral, paid a visit to the Printers' Almshouses, Wood Green, an institution in which he takes a great interest, and of which he has been for years a generous supporter. Through Mr. W. H. Collingridge, a trustee, Mr. Haworth has just contributed 100 guineas to the endowment fund of the almshouses. Mr. Haworth's sympathy arises from the fact that in his early years he was a compositor. It is worthy of note that Mr. Haworth took part in the ringing of the bells at Westminster Abbey on the occasion of the accession of Her Majesty, and that he has similarly officiated at every anniversary celebration since then.

This is very good; let us hope Mr. Haworth will live long enough to make many similar contributions to deserving objects. If he wants to know a source for the extension of his munificence, I shall be happy to tell him of one.

Then the other week there was a worthy ringer, Mr. Samuel Gough, of Garston, near Liverpool, whose portrait has been published in connection with this paper, giving to his parish church an entire new clock, at a cost of no less than £300. How about this for a ringer and Churchworker? This is very practical. Full particulars of this presentation can be found on page 641 of the present volume. May the shadow of Mr. Gough and others of his stamp never become less.

PLAIN SPEAKER.

BATTLE RINGERS AT ST. LEONARDS.

On Easter Monday, through the kind permission of the Rev. W. H. Cleaver, the Battle company journeyed to St. Leonards to attempt the first peal on the bells of Christ Church. Everything have been got in readiness by the steeplekeeper. Mr. Weller, a start was made, "Go: Grandsire" being called at 1.55. All went swimmingly along for about 400 changes, but at this juncture a rumbling noise fell upon the ears of all the ringers, who thought that a thunderstorm had burst over the church. This was followed by a screeching like that of an owl—not uncommon in the south of England on a still night—which caused every eye to be upturned in order to discern the real cause. A few minutes was spent in this state, the ringers having to bear a clangour far above the sound of the bells, causing them to get slightly mixed, and bringing them eventually to a standstill. It was then discovered that some one was in fair style manipulating the keys of the organ. Unfortunately a ventilator, opening into the church, and immediately facing the organ, was left open, and through the cavity the noise came which upset the peal. Time not permitting another start for the peal, it was resolved to go for a half-peal, but after ringing 1600 changes a bob was slipped, and the bells were called round. The ringers desire to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells, Mr. Watson for assisting, and Mr. Weller for having everything in readiness. After a little refreshment the ringers departed for home, every one arriving at the inevitable conclusion that an organ accompaniment to a peal was a bit off.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.—Mr. F. G. Perrin has removed to 51, Theobald Street, New Kent Road, London, S.E.—Mr. W. H. Barber has removed from Selly Oak, Worcestershire, to 25, Belmont Street, Euston Road, Bangor, North Wales.

SOUTHGATE (Middlesex).—On Thursday, March 17th, at Christ Church, on the back six, 720 Bob Minor (thirty-two bobs and two singles). A. Glasscock, 1; S. Ansell, 2; S. Wade (conductor), 3; J. Miller, 4; A. Miller, 5; H. W. Newby, 6. Tenor 25 cwt.

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.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is One Penny per line (five words may be reckoned to a line). Repetitions at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at the parish church, Swinton, to-day, Saturday, May 14th. Bells ready at 4 p.m., business meeting at 7 p.m.

WALTER BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

Sheffield and District Society.—A meeting of the above will be held to-day, Saturday, May 14th. Tower of St. Marie's (R.C.) Sheffield, open at 5 p.m. Business meeting at The Sportsman inn, Cambridge Street, at 8 p.m. The object of this meeting is to establish practices of the higher methods at the various churches in the district. All visitors will be made welcome.

J. MULLIGAN, *Hon. Sec.*

The Middlesex County Association.—South and West District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Harmondsworth to-day, Saturday, May 14th. Ringing to commence at 5 p.m. C. EDWARDS, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Nicholas' church, Liverpool, to-day, Saturday, May 14th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting in belfry at 6 p.m. HENRY COLLEY, *Branch Sec.*

Heavy Woollen District Association.—Yorkshire.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Shelley to-day, Saturday, May 14th, at 5.30 p.m. All companies competing at Kirkheaton on Whit-Monday, should send their names, with entrances, to me not later than May 21st. Subscriptions for this year are now due.

GEO. H. SIMON.

The Cheshire Guild.—Wirral Branch.—The next monthly meeting and tea will be held at the Schoolroom, Wallasey, to-day, Saturday, May 14th, at 6 p.m. Leaders are requested to let the Hon. Sec. know how many will attend.

HENRY WOOLCOTT, *Hon. Sec.*

The Middlesex County Association.—North and East District.—A meeting of six bell ringers will be held at the church of St. John the Evangelist, Great Stanmore, to-day, Saturday, May 14th, when all members and friends who can conveniently do so are cordially invited to attend. The bells will be raised about 5 o'clock.

ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*

The Chester Diocesan Guild.—The annual meeting of the committee of the above-named Guild will be held in the Timber Lane Schools, Northwich, to-day, Saturday, May 14 at 3 p.m. RICHARD GREENALL, *Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Burnley Parish Church on Saturday, May 21st. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.

T. REDMAN, *Branch Sec.*

The Yorkshire Association.—The next general meeting will be held at Wortley, near Sheffield, on Saturday, May 21st. By kind permission of the Rev. T. L. Brayshaw, M.A., Vicar, the ring of eight at the parish church (tenor 12½ cwt.) will be at disposal from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. The local committee will meet at the Wortley Arms hotel at two o'clock, and the official committee in the Infant School at four o'clock. Tea in the large schoolroom at five o'clock, with business meeting in the same room immediately after. The local hon. sec. is Mr. T. McKegg, Wortley, Sheffield, to whom all communications respecting tea, ringing, etc.

should be sent. Wortley is distant eight miles from Sheffield, and five miles from Penistone.

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

P.S.—There will be no official committee meeting previous to the general meeting at Wortley.

The Rochester and District Guild.—A meeting of this Guild will be held at Gillingham on Saturday, May 28.

A. RING, *Hon. Sec.*

Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Saviour's, Bacup, on Saturday, May 21st. Bells ready at 3.30. Business meeting at 6.30.

J. H. BANKS, *Branch Sec.*

Sussex County Association.—Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at East Hoathly, on Saturday, May 21st. Bells available from 2 to 8.30 p.m. The Rev. H. Harbord has kindly offered to provide a tea for all those who send their names to the undersigned not later than Thursday morning, the 19th instant. The Hon. Sec. is also trying to arrange cycling parties to start from Hailsham and Lewes, and will be glad to receive names at once of all those who will join same. A large muster is expected.

S. SAKER, *Hon. Sec. Eastern Division.*
101, Braybrooke Road, Hastings.

Kent County Association.—Tonbridge District.—A meeting of this District will be held at Penshurst on Saturday, May 21st. Tower open at 4 o'clock. Business meeting in the schoolroom at 6.

W. LATTER, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*

East Derbyshire Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Tibshelf on Saturday, May 28th. Tea in Church Room at 5.0 p.m., meeting after tea.

T. ALLIBONE, *Sec.*

The Salop Guild.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Coalbrookdale, on Saturday, May 28th. Ringing at 3.45. Business meeting at 5 o'clock.

J. MACKAY, *Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's church, Balderstone, Rochdale, on Saturday, May 28th. Bells ready at 4.30. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. All ringing friends invited.

E. B. SHAW, *Branch Sec.*

The Kent County Association.—The annual meeting will be held on Whit-Monday, May 30th, at Lewisham. Service at St. Mary's Lewisham at 11.30 a.m. The address will be given by the Rev. S. Bickersteth, Vicar of Lewisham. Dinner in the parish hall at 12.30. Business meeting for election of officers, etc., after dinner. The Committee will meet in the vestry at 11 a.m. Towers open for ringing: St. Mary's Lewisham (8), St. Alfege Greenwich (10), St. Mary's Woolwich (8), St. Margaret, Lee (8), in afternoon only—St. John's Deptford (8)? Dinner tickets will be sent on application to all members whose subscription for the current year has been paid.

FREDK. J. O. HELMORE, *Hon. Sec.*

The Devonshire Guild.—The annual meeting of this Guild will this year be held at Barnstaple, on Whit-Monday, May 30th. Bells ready at 1 p.m. Business meeting at 5.15 p.m. Service in parish church at 6 p.m. Arrangements have been made for ringing in the neighbouring towers. All ringers will be welcome.

W. E. F. CHAPPLE, *Hon. Sec.*

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—A general meeting will be held at North Shields, on Whit-Monday, May 30th. Further particulars next week.

THOMAS HUDSON, *Hon. Sec.*

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

At the quarterly meeting of the Guild held on the 3rd instant, it was unanimously resolved that a testimonial be presented to Mr. W. H. Godden, as a slight acknowledgment of his invaluable services during the past twelve years as Honorary Secretary to the Guild. Contributions will be thankfully received by the following committee, who have every confidence that their appeal will meet with the hearty approval of every ringer of Mr. Godden's acquaintance. The presentation to take place at the next quarterly meeting.

WILLIAM PAINTER, *Secretary.*

25, Lee Crescent, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

Committee: Henry Bastable, William Kent, Thomas Russam, Bernard Witchell, Thomas Westwood.

MR. GODDEN'S TESTIMONIAL FUND.

The following donations were promised at the meeting held on May 3rd:—

	£	s.	d.
J. S. Pritchett	1	1	0
Wm. Kent	0	15	0
W. S. Pritchett	0	10	6
Wm. Painter	0	10	6
John Day	0	5	0
H. Bastable	0	5	0
T. Russam	0	5	0
B. Witchell	0	5	0
G. A. Martineau	0	5	0
Hy. Avery	0	5	0
C. H. Watts	0	5	0
T. Reynolds	0	2	6
T. Westwood	0	2	6
W. Short	0	2	6
A. Walker	0	2	6
W. Barber	0	2	6
— Middleton	0	2	6
— Whitmore	0	2	6
— Ellis	0	2	6
	£5	12	0

NOTE TO PEAL.

THE PEAL AT WEM, SHROPSHIRE.—This ring has lately been augmented to eight by the addition of two new trebles, in commemoration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. They are a capital splice from the Foundry of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. After the peal the ringers sat down to tea, kindly provided by the Rector. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking him for his kindness in allowing them the use of the bells, also for the splendid tea, to which ample justice was done.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

G. CLEAL.—Send again.

C. R. LILLEY.—Read your paper through carefully this week.

F. G. BURDEN.—Advertisements are always charged for. You can know terms by sending a stamped address envelope.

ONE IN DOUBT.—Residentiary Canons are paid; Honorary Canons are not, as the word implies. Minor Canons are also paid.

J. GEORGE.—Next week.

Situations Vacant.

MACHINE-MINDER WANTED.—Used to good book and cut-work. Must have served seven years. Permanency to suitable man, able to ring standard methods on ten bells preferred.—Billing & Sons, Guildford

SPLENDID OPENING for good watchmaker and clockmaker immediately. Ringer; churchman. Apply by letter, Rector, Tarporley.

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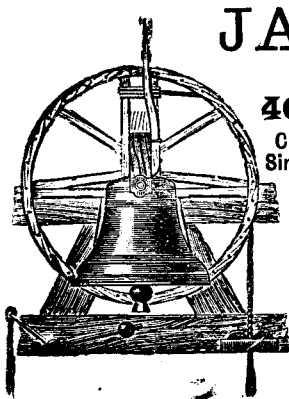
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| No. 322. | "The Pilgrim of Love" Galop, on Bishop's favourite song | 1 6 |
| N.B.—The above three pieces are suitable for six ringers, with twelve bells, thus: C D E F G A B C D E F G. | | |
| No. 217. | Belfry Chimes and Nursery Rhymes for six ringers with three octaves in the chromatic scale C 22 to C 1 | 3 0 |
| No. 300. | Duet for two ringers "Farewell, but whenever" and "My lodging is on the cold ground" | 0 6 |

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THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 841.—VOL. XVI.]

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 1898.

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Eddystone Lighthouse.
Birmingham Municipal Buildings.
Hove Town Hall.
Burnley Holy Trinity Church.
Crawley Parish Church.
Corbridge-on-Tyne, do.
Pontypool (Trevethin Church).
Windermere Church.
Eiffel Tower, Paris.
Dunsfold Parish Ch.
Aylesford do.
St. Mark's Church, St. Helen's.
Royal Normal College, Norwood.
Tetbury Parish Church

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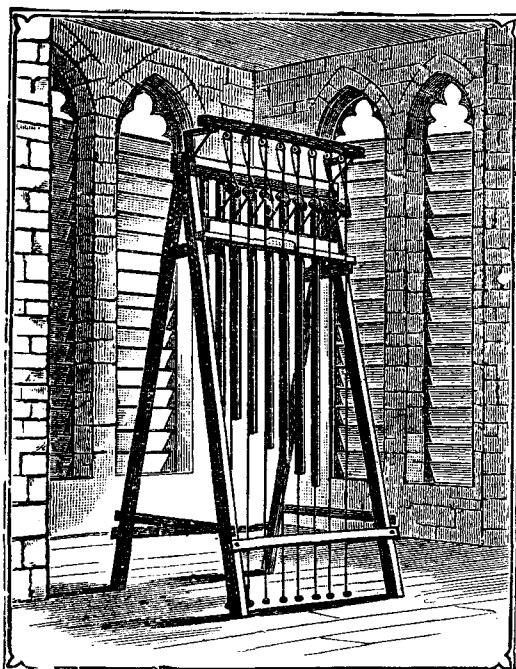
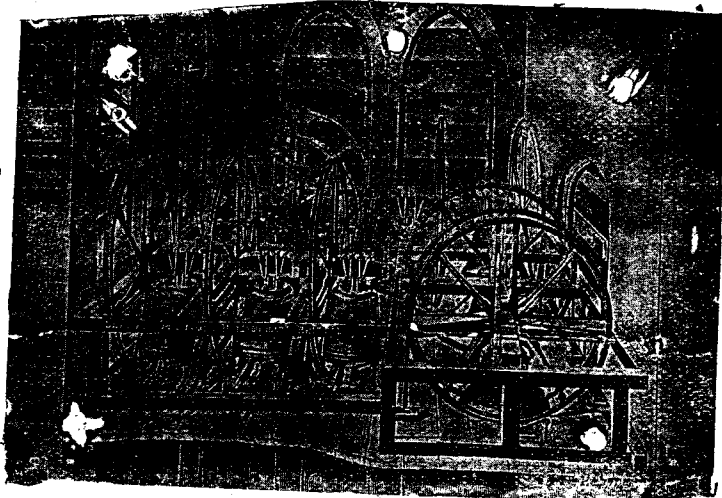
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Home Sweet Home, March of the Men of Harlech, Rule
Britannia, Sailing, St. Patrick's Day, Sleighing Song, The
Bellringer's Glee, The Star-Spangled Banner, Wait till the
Clouds roll by, Whistling Farmer Boy.

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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 841.]

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 1898.

[Vol. XVI.]

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The second general meeting of the year was held at Ufford on Thursday, May 12th, 1898. A cordial welcome was extended to the Association by the Rector, the Rev. H. Williams, who most kindly entertained the members at tea in the afternoon at the Rectory. Some very fair courses and touches were rung during the day by different bands on Ufford bells—a tuneful little ring of eight, augmented from six in 1893—in Double Norwich, Stedman, Treble Bob, etc., and a party visited Woodbridge in the evening. About 35 members and friends attended the meeting, the towers represented being, besides Ufford itself, Halesworth, Ipswich, Woodbridge, Hasketon, Otley, Rumburgh, Southwold, Leiston, Debenham, Kelsale, and Framlingham.

The dinner took place at 1.30 at The White Lion, where Mr. Alfred Ward catered excellently for the company. The genial President of the Association, the Rev. Canon Raven, occupied the chair, and was supported by the Rev. H. Williams (Rector), the Rev. C. A. Sinclair (Hon. Sec. of the district), Dr. Meadows, Rev. W. Barlee, and the Hon. Secretary. The other district Secretaries, present and past, who attended were Mr. J. H. Button (Saxmundham district), Mr. W. Grimes (Debenham), Mr. Fred Lambert (Halesworth), and Messrs. J. Fosdike, W. Taylor, J. Larter, and F. Thompson.

The business meeting after dinner was briefly introduced by the President, who mentioned his recent investigations as to the existence of old English bells in New England.

The Hon. Secretary addressed the members on the progress of the Association, expressing regret that notwithstanding a considerable addition of new members at the last meeting, recruiting for the last two or three years had hardly kept pace with the falling-off in membership from various causes. He considered it ought to be possible to raise the strength of the Association to a thousand. The area covered by the diocese of Norwich was much larger than that of other dioceses, which nevertheless showed a larger total membership in their societies. He hoped that all present would turn their attention to this matter, and endeavour to enlist new members, and get new towers into union. Mentioning the number of rings of six which had of late been augmented to eight, he referred especially to Ufford, and complimented the Messrs. Ward on the energy shown by them in procuring the accomplishment of so excellent a work as had been done at Ufford. The approaching reopening of the bells of St. Nicholas, Great Yarmouth, on the 24th instant, after thorough restoration, and the addition of two trebles, to make the third ring of twelve within the diocese, was announced, and reference made to the excellent work recently accomplished at St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, in bricking-up the sound-windows inside, to the great satisfaction of the neighbouring inhabitants. He believed that this work would have a most important effect for good on the future of change-ringing in that town. In conclusion he would express their acknowledgments and thanks to the Rector for his kindness in welcoming the Association there, for his presence on that occasion, and for joining them as an hon. member.

The meeting then proceeded to admit one hon. member, three non-resident life members, two performing members, and seven probationers.

The weather was fine, and an enjoyable day was spent in this pretty village, and a successful meeting came too early to a close.

GREAT YARMOUTH PARISH CHURCH.

These bells, augmented from ten to twelve, will be reopened on May 24th. Service at 4.30. The sermon will be preached by the Rev. Canon Raven, D.D., President of the Norwich Diocesan Association. On Whit-Monday, the Vicar and Churchwardens propose to open the tower to ringers from a distance.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—FYLDE BRANCH.

A meeting of the above was held at St. Anne's-on-the-Sea on Saturday, May 7th, the bells of the parish church being placed at the disposal of members and friends from 3.0 p.m. Shortly after this hour, as a preliminary, a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles was rung, followed by lengthy touches of Grandsire Triples and Plain Bob Minor.

The business meeting was held in the schoolroom at 6.0 p.m., the Rev. W. G. Terry (Vicar) presiding. The rev. gentleman gave a very interesting address to the members in the course of which he said that he had listened to the bells that afternoon, and was very pleased with the ringing. The next time the branch visited St. Anne's he hoped to give the members a tea.

The Secretary (Mr. J. Fell, of Lytham) read an apology for non-attendance from Mr. G. R. Bellamy (Lytham). Mr. Bellamy said that although he was not able to be present he was not unmindful of the great good the Association was doing, and he hoped the members might spend a pleasant evening. Mr. A. E. Wrecks also was unable to be present, but hoped to be on a future occasion.

Mr. F. Challoner (Blackpool) was elected a ringing member. The places of next meeting being Poulton (six bells) and Singleton (six bells), the latter place was chosen for the business meeting.

This being the first meeting after the decease of the late esteemed General Secretary (Mr. Redford), a vote of condolence with Mrs. Redford was passed, the branch Secretary promising that such should be communicated.

Mr. Clitheroe (Blackpool) proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for presiding, and for the use of the bells and schoolroom. Mr. Jno. Fisher (Lytham) briefly seconded.

The Vicar replied, and said he should be pleased to see them again at St. Anne's.

The meeting terminated after a very enjoyable day. The following belfries were represented: St. John's, Blackpool; St. Cuthbert's, St. John's, and St. Peter's, Lytham; together with the local company.

HORTON, BUCKS.

The monthly meeting of the East Berks and South Bucks branch, of the Oxford Diocesan Guild was held at Horton, on Saturday, May 7th, when about thirty ringers were present from Boyne Hill, Burnham, Farnham Royal, Old Windsor, Winkfield, Marlow, etc. Ringing commenced at 4 p.m., on the musical ring of six bells which have recently been re-hung in an entirely new frame, and a new treble added, the work having been carried out by Messrs. Warner and Sons. At 6 p.m. tea was provided in the schoolroom under the very able chairmanship of the Vicar the Rev. A. Fearon, who was supported by the Rev. R. P. Newhouse, branch secretary. After full justice had been done, the ringers adjourned to the belfry, where several well-struck touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Grandsire, Oxford Bob and Treble Bob Minor were rung, under the conductorship of Messrs. J. J. Parker, C. Clark, J. C. Truss, W. E. Yates, and J. W. Wilkins. It was decided to hold the next monthly meeting at Marlow, subject to the approval of the Vicar and Churchwardens. The ringers desire through the medium of this paper, to thank the Rev. A. and Mrs. Fearon for their kindness, and also all those who were instrumental in making the meeting a success.

FOR SALE.—A PEAL OF 110 HANDBELLS, C 29 to C 01 Chromatic Scale. 61 bells, with 37 bells as duplicates, C 22 to C 1 Chromatic Scale, and also a few triplicates; all in good condition. By Mears and Stainbank. For any further particulars, apply, John Millett, Egerton Street, Broadfield, Heywood.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

NORTH AND EAST DISTRICT.—A meeting of six bellringers in the above district was held at Stanmore, on Saturday, the 14th May, when there was a very satisfactory attendance of members from Barnet, Edgware, Gospel Oak, Finchley, Hendon, Hornsey, and other parts of the district. The Stanmore ringers are not at present in union with the Association: but having been for some time initiated into the mysteries of method-ringing, they joined with the visitors in many of the touches rung. The tower is one of the best to be found in this part of the county and contains a pleasant little ring of six bells brought from the old church. Then is plenty of room in it for the completion of the octave—if at any time such a desirable addition should be contemplated. There is also room for some improvement in the belfry in deadening the sound of the bells, which are immediately above it; the calls, in order to be intelligible, having to be made with a shout which might be heard in the adjoining parish. Gradually however, as the ringers settled down to their work, they made light of this inconvenience, and some very satisfactory touches were brought round of Plain Bob, Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, and Plain Bob, Grandsire, and Kent Treble Bob Minor.

All present thoroughly enjoyed themselves and passed at a subsequent meeting a vote of thanks to the Rector and Churchwardens for their kindly welcome.

SOUTH AND WEST DISTRICT.—A very successful meeting of the above was held on Saturday, May 14th, at Harmondsworth, representatives being present from Burnham, Farnham Royal, Ealing, Heston, and Hillingdon, also the Rev. H. G. Bird, President. Several 6-scores of Stedman Doubles were rung, also touches of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, College Single, Canterbury Pleasure, Oxford Bob, Plain Bob, and Grandsire Minor. It was proposed to hold the next meeting at Staines.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

On Thursday evening, May 5th, at The Five Ways inn, the clergy, churchwardens, and ringers of St. Andrew's, gave a complimentary supper to D. Robinson, Esq. the "Good (old?) English Gentleman" of Hill House.

A substantial meal was provided by host and hostess Danks, after which a fair agenda of toasts was placed before the Rev. J. R. Brinkworth, who was voted to the chair, the Vicar (Rev. S. J. Marriott) leaving hurriedly for important school business at Dudley. Mr. Churchwarden Barnsley occupied the vice-chair.

The following agenda was then proceed with: "The Queen," Rev. J. R. Brinkworth (this was loyally and musically received); "Bishops and Clergy of the Diocese," vice-Chairman (Mr. W. Barnsley); "Health of D. Robinson, Esq.," Mr. John Townsend; "The Visitors," Mr. John Smith; "St. Andrew's Society," Mr. Samuel Spittle; "Churchwardens," Mr. John Townsend; "The Chairman," Mr. J. Pearce; "Host and Hostess," Mr. James Prestidge. This business was interspersed by songs and recitations by various members of the company, Mr. J. W. Smith reciting in an admirable way "The Ringer and the Ghost," and Mr. Arthur Spittle displaying his powers of elocution with a cutting from the immortal "Shakespeare."

There is no doubt, whatever, in the fact of Mr. Robinson's gift of two trebles to the peal of six, being the advent of some good work at Netherton. Neither is there the slightest doubt of Messrs. Barwell having made a splice and thoroughly good ring of the first order at St. Andrew's. Everything that is requisite for the comfort and pleasure of ringers is to be found there, and the infusion of young blood into the society is an omen of progress.

Such gatherings as the one related above, have a strong tendency to cultivate the good-feeling between clergy and ringers especially, which is so much desired by the latter, and difficulties of meagre nature are often displaced by bonds of trust and close relationship.

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.

ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH CHURCH, MACCLESFIELD.

As was stated in "THE BELL NEWS" a short time ago, the last Sunday Services in this ancient church were held on the first day of this month, when very appropriate sermons were preached by the Vicar, the Rev. S. A. Boyd, M.A., B.C.L. Touches of Grandsire Caters were rung for each service, and the bells were rung at the close in the evening.

On the following day, the last service was held in the church, when the Lord Bishop of Liverpool (a native of Macclesfield) preached. For the service the ringers rang 360 of Grandsire Caters, and after service 503 of the same. The bells were fired several times, being one for each year the Bishop had lived, he being 82 on the 10th of this month, and who has a fond regard for our dear old bells, which were rung on the occasion of his birth. The following are the ringers who took part in the above: W. Walmsley (conductor), W. McKinnell, W. W. Steel, J. Hankinson, A. Mottershead, F. Stoneley, W. Matthews, W. Gayes, J. Norbury, J. Bradbury, J. Minshall, F. C. Goodchild, and J. M. Davenport. Weight of tenor 20 cwt. in E.

The bells will still be rung for an indefinite period, and the ringers would be pleased by a visit from any of their friends for Service ringing on Sundays. The services are now held in a temporary iron church.

HANDBELL INAUGURATION AT NORWICH.

Within a very short space of time the members of the St. Peter Mancroft Society have been called upon to formally open three new peals of twelve handbells, previous to being handed over to their respective owners. All were cast by Messrs. Shaw and Son, of Bradford, and supplied through their district agent, Mr. Frederick Knights. Needless to say they gave great satisfaction, those for the ringers of Costessey (a peal 21 size in D.), being particularly melodious. These latter had an unusually elaborate opening, an impromptu concert being carried out in the assembly room at The White Hart, Costessey, the bells taking an important share in the programme. Mr. Knights has now supplied no less than 430 of Messrs. Shaw's bells, in complete peals, and also innumerable odd bells, certainly a fine testimonial to the excellence of the founders' work.

MILDENHALL, SUFFOLK.

On Easter Monday the Mildenhall Society paid a visit to Littleport (Cams). The drive of 13 miles through the fen country occupied the best part of two hours, and it was 2 o'clock before a start was effected. Several attempts were made for a touch of Bob Triples, but all were fated to end in disaster, though at one attempt over 1000 were rung by the band standing as follows: H. Turner, jun., 1; T. Soames, 2; H. Turner, sen. (conductor), 3; Rev. H. B. Woolley, 4; Geo. Turner, 5; A. Turner, 6; C. Carpenter, 7; F. Barton, 8. Later a 720 Bob Minor (6-8 behind) was accomplished by H. Turner, jun., T. Soames, H. Turner, sen. (conductor), A. Turner, G. Turner, F. Barton, C. Carpenter, and E. James. Tenor 18½ cwt. E. James belongs to the Littleport company, and it was his first 720, and the longest touch he has covered with the tenor. A good tea was provided at The Marquis of Granby, and before starting some touches on the handbells were indulged in. The party left Littleport at 9.15, reaching home before 11. They wish to thank the Rev. F. E. Rogers (Vicar of Littleport), Mr. James (the clerk), and all others who contributed to the success of the day's outing.

DENNINGTON, NEAR FRAMLINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

On Saturday, April 30th, a pleasant evening was spent in opening a new peal of handbells. The ringers present were H. and W. Baldry (Brandeston), W. G. Crickner, J. A. Read (Earl Soham), E. Sherwood (Wickham Market), H. Houbett, W. Flory, W. Last, J. O'Neill (Framlingham), and the local band. The first opening touch was a course of Bob Royal, then the tower bells were raised, and some 6-scores of Grandsire and Bob Doubles were rang upon the old five, tenor 24 cwt. A move was then made to the meeting house, where handbell ringing was indulged in for the rest of the evening with courses of Bob Major and Royal, Treble Bob Major and Royal, and Grandsire Caters.

CURRENT TOPICS.

There is a very curious proceeding going on just now in that part of London called "Clerkenwell." You have read of the recent unfortunate and sudden death of the Vicar of this parish I have no doubt. Well now let me tell you that another Vicar has to be selected by what may be termed "household suffrage," and therefore the parish of St. James, Clerkenwell, is encompassed with the turmoil of a popular (save the mark) election. Already there are several candidates for the vicariate, and I suppose the hoardings will be covered by huge bills asking the suffrages of the parishioners in pure electioneering style. This is a very shocking (to me) mode of appointing a pastor. In such a case I greatly prefer the doctrine of predestination to that of election. I think I told you a long time ago that the church of St. James, Clerkenwell, had a peal of eight, and that the steeple-keeper there is a great man in dark blue and gold, who can hunt the treble, or localise the tenor.

It was at this church, as some of you may likewise remember, where the London St. James's Society once upon a time celebrated an anniversary? They (the St. James's Society) or a part of them at any rate, thought they would do something to be talked about. So they (being St. James's men) thought they would ring a peal, the performers of which should have been all baptised "James." (I perhaps ought to say "registered" instead of "baptised," as the latter ceremony is hardly known in some cockney circles.) It was determined this peal should be rung at St. James's, Clerkenwell, on St. James's Day, and finally the company were to wind up with a supper of sheep's jameases. I believe all this came off with the exception of the peal, very satisfactorily, and a very enjoyable evening was spent, but our old friend, Mr. Haworth, who was one of the "Jameses" on the occasion I think, could tell you more about it, as well as a lot of other things I know very little of.

These allusions to Clerkenwell bring one or two matters to my recollection, which are somewhat peculiar, as they point to incidents not always found recorded. Some years ago a very eminent preacher—the Rev. Robert Maguire—was Vicar of Clerkenwell, a good and talented man. He was once engaged to preach at a city church called "St. Mary Woolnoth." This church is situate at the corner of Lombard Street, and has recently been undermined, or under-pinned, or under-something, so that a police-station, or a workhouse, or some other building of general utility—I don't know what—could be erected beneath. At this church the above-named rev. gentleman was to preach one Sunday morning. It was announced that the Lord Mayor and Common Council of the city of London would attend this service in all the majesty of their insignia of office.

This announcement caused a large congregation to attend. In the body of the church was the Lord Mayor clad in scarlet robe with gold chain of office; the Council in their purple gowns, while the chief marshal and other officials were finer even and grander than their masters. Morning Prayer being said, the Rev. Robert Maguire ascended the pulpit. You would hardly guess his text on this occasion, though it was to be what is called "a charity sermon." Well it was this, you know where to find it in St. Luke: "There was a certain rich man, clothed in purple and fine linen, who fared sumptuously every day." Not only the purple-gowned folks opened their eyes, but the whole congregation appeared to notice it. In his introductory remarks however, the rev. gentleman took care to point out

that the text was not suggested by the attendance of the Lord Mayor and Corporation.

The above may be depended on as true, though there are many anecdotes of the sort that will not stand any natural test of truthfulness. I recollect reading somewhere a story about Dean Stanley—I read this mind you, though I cannot digest it. The dean it is said went to preach in a strange church where there were more steps to the pulpit than usual, and when he arrived at the top the door would not open. So he climbed over; not a very dignified action. The dean's text is said to have been on this occasion: "He that entereth not by the door, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber."

Now the following is a remarkable case of absence of mind which may be believed in. The gentleman concerned is alive now, and his name can be found in Crockford's Clerical Directory. He was a rather wealthy man, being greatly interested in stocks and shares of various kinds, and he was never too proud to enter into a "deal" when the share market was favourable. He was an Irishman—and therefore a man of wit, somewhat. At the period in question he was Vicar of a small country church. You know that in many churches the clergy give out notices of meetings and such-like from the pulpit. One evening before commencing his sermon this gentleman gave out: "There will be a matin' of the shareholders—I mane the sate-holders—next Wednesday at 7."

I am afraid I have dwelt too long with such reminiscences as these, but I know my readers will excuse me. I had thought to have a say upon the letter of our great friend the Rev. F. E. Robinson, which appeared last week. Everything the Master wrote I believe in, in fact I believe in something he did not write. If it meant anything, the Editor's comment of the previous week signified that "compulsion" in the direction indicated would be fatal. I should like to see all ringers communicants, but if there was a regulation that they must be so, or else they cannot touch a rope, then it would be a great mistake. This is a subject I hold very strong opinions upon. The pressure which is sometimes brought to bear upon young persons to attend this Sacrament, when they do not really understand what they are doing, does not recommend itself to me.

One more paragraph; and alas! it is a sorrowful one. At last the great statesman has succumbed. What a picture, the scene at Hawarden. What Christian patience shown by the illustrious sufferer; what contentment and resignation. Truly a great and good man. May we, when our time arrives, be as contented and happy as he was at the call; may we have such strong and lasting faith in the Rock of Ages as he had.

PLAIN SPEAKER.

RAYLEIGH, ESSEX.

Will any ringer or ringers send his or their spare guineas to assist the Rayleigh band to pay for their new trebles? They have been cast and hung, and an excellent job has been made of them. They are now a very handy eight, tenor about 14 cwt. It is proposed to dedicate them on Thursday, May 26th, when the Ven. Archdeacon Stevens will perform the ceremony. The service will be held under the banner of the Trinity Lodge of Freemasons, No. 1734, at 7 p.m. The tower will be open for ringing in the afternoon. All change-ringers will be heartily welcomed. Further information may be obtained and subscriptions sent to W. H. Judd, Southend-on-Sea. Peal snatchers beware.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The Eighth Annual Meeting of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers will be held on Whit-Tuesday, May 31st, 1898, at St. Mary Redcliffe Parish Hall, Bristol (a few minutes' walk from the Railway Station), at 1.30 o'clock, punctually.

The Standing Committee will meet at 11 a.m. in the second-class refreshment room on the up platform of the railway station, where an apartment will be specially reserved. Arrangements will be made to place bells at the disposal of members after the Meeting.

From 9 till 11 p.m. there will be a social gathering of members at St. Stephen's Restaurant, Baldwin Street.

AGENDA.

1. Minutes of the last Meeting.
2. Election of Hon. Members (if desired).
3. To receive the Treasurer's statement.
4. To receive a further Report of the Committee on Railway Fares.
5. To receive an interim Report from the Committee on the Glossary of Technical Terms.
6. To receive any further Report on the progress of the Bibliography.
7. To receive an interim Report from the Peal Collection Committee.
8. To call attention to a defect in the Council's definition of true peals, and, if approved, to rectify the same.
9. To consider, with a view to a decision, the Report of the Peal Values Committee, submitted to the last meeting, and re-printed below.
10. To consider, with a view to a decision, the Report of the Peal Collection Committee on "Original Composition" and "Variation," submitted to the last meeting, and re-printed below.
11. The following subjects will be discussed:—
 - a. The draft of procedure proposed by the committee appointed to compile a Report on the condition of church bells, etc., and printed in this paper last week.
 - b. The propriety of designating Thurstans' well-known composition in Stedman Triples as his "Four-part," and in like manner, his other compositions as his "Five-part" and "One-part."
 - c. The desirability or otherwise of Sunday peal ringing.
 - d. How far, and under what conditions, any departure from the true and clear ringing of every change is permissible in the performance of a peal.

H. EARLE BULWER, *Hon. Sec.*

There will be ringing at St. Mary Redcliffe (twelve bells) on Whit-Sunday, at 1 p.m., 6 p.m., and 8 p.m. Any further information as to ringing on that day and on the Monday and Tuesday in Whitsun-week, will gladly be given by the Rev. H. A. Cockey, Oldland Vicarage, Bristol.

We are requested to publish the following reports for final consideration before the Annual Meeting:—

REPORT ON PEAL VALUES. PRESENTED BY MR. ATTREE AT THE LAST MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

At the last meeting of the Council, held at Brighton on Easter Tuesday, 1896, it was delegated to me to consider various suggestions made by members present concerning the schedules of values of peals upon a varying number of bells, and in all the practised methods. I have carefully weighed the proposals, and beg to report as follows:—

1. *As to length of compositions rung.*—I would suggest that the schedule should be based upon peals of 5000 changes; that lengths between 7000 and 10,000 changes should score as two peals, 10,000 and under 12,000 as three peals, and so on in the same ratio.

2. *As to the weight of metal.*—I feel convinced that except in a few special cases, the question of whether the tenor weighs 10, 20, or even 30 cwt., adds little or no additional value to a performance. Ringers who are in the habit of ringing heavy bells would find it difficult to strike light ones well, and would obtain

less satisfaction therefrom than by obtaining a peal upon the ring of bells with a heavy tenor.

3. *As to the quality of the Composition rung and the correctness of the striking throughout a performance.*—These questions, I do not think, can be taken into consideration in fixing the schedule of values, but must be left in the first instance to the good sense of the conductor to choose only musical compositions, and otherwise to the honour of the band that only true and complete performances be allowed to be published as peals. I now propose that for peals of 5000 changes the schedule of values be fixed as under:—

SCHEDULE OF POINTS.

All Plain Methods.—Triples 7, Major 8, Caters 9, Royal 10, Cinques 11, Maximus 12 points.

All Double Methods.—Double Norwich, Oxford, Duffield, etc., Major 16, Royal 18, Maximus, 20 points.

In Stedman's Principle.—Triples 24, Caters 24, Cinques 28 points.

Alliance.—Major 10, Royal 12, Maximus 14 points.

Treble Bob Methods.—Major 12, Royal 14, Maximus 16 points.

Surprise Methods.—London 50, Cambridge 40, New Cumberland and Oxford Surprise 30, Superlative 25, Champion, Forward, Birmingham and Loughborough 20 points.

Peals on Six Bells.—In one plain method 3, in two plain methods 4, in three plain methods 5, in four plain methods 6, in five plain methods 7, in six plain methods 8, in seven plain methods 9. In seven double methods 15, in seven Treble Bob methods 15. In seven Surprise methods, 25 points.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY THE CENTRAL COUNCIL TO FORMULATE A DEFINITION OF THE POINTS CONSTITUTING "ORIGINAL AUTHORSHIP," AND OF THOSE DETERMINING "VARIATION." PRESENTED AT THE LAST MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

The Committee, having carefully considered the subject referred to them, beg to report that the conditions controlling composition vary so greatly according to the method treated that it is impossible to devise a comprehensive set of rules, which shall be equally applicable to all methods alike for settling these points (see above), and yet free from the imperfection of being too lax when applied to some methods, and too stringent in the case of others. Each method requires separate consideration and rules determining the limits of originality in composition, applicable to itself; and though it would no doubt be possible to form groups of methods, to each of which one set of rules might be applicable, the result would be both cumbersome and confusing. The Committee, therefore, think that it will be better to limit themselves, in the first instance, to a general statement of the features distinguishing "Originality," which are, more or less, applicable to all methods.

1. The earliest ascertainable true composition on any definite plan in any method, which is not a reproduction, or colourable imitation; of the same composition in another method, is entitled to be termed the "original" composition on that plan.

2. Subsequent compositions on the same plan, which are not demonstrably reversals or transpositions (as hereinafter described) or colourable imitations of a previous composition in the same method, may be considered as "distinct" compositions on the plan, and allowed the distinction of "originality."

3. *Reversals*, in which the calls in one position are exchanged for those in another, including direct inversions of calling: *Transpositions*, by which one bell is substituted for another, as "the observation," or re-arrangements of the same calling: *Artificial alterations*, such as the employment of alternative calls, the multiplication, or subtraction, or shifting of singles, or the redistribution of "shunting calls," by which the general result is not affected, but only the form of the composition—if applied to any previous composition possessed of the distinction of "originality," are to be considered as "Variations."

In the foregoing statement the Committee use the word "plan" in a comprehensive sense, as embracing not only the division of a composition into a given number of parts, but also the assignment of "qualities" with reference to length, the treatment of "fixed," or "observation" bells, or any other distinctive feature in construction.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CHIPPING NORTON DEANERY BRANCH.—The Spring Meeting of the members of this branch was held on Thursday, 28th April, at Hook Norton. Amongst those present were the president of the branch, Rev. H. Barter, the Master of the Guild (the Rev. F. E. Robinson), the Rev. B. W. Barford (Chipping Norton), the Rev. E. W. Russell, Vicar of Hook Norton, and the Rev. W. J. Palmer, of Enstone; and the following towers were represented: Chipping Norton, Enstone, Hook Norton, and Shipton-under-Wychwood; the hon. Secretary of the Deddington Deanery branch was also present. The proceedings commenced at 2 o'clock, and the bells were kept swinging until 4.30, at which hour Evensong was held in the parish church, which was followed by an address from the Master of the Guild. The rev. gentleman reminded those present of the great change which had taken place in the belfry during the forty years he had been a change-ringer, now the ringers were the parson's most valued and trusted helpers, whereas formerly they were his greatest difficulty. At 6 o'clock a capital meat tea was provided in the schoolroom, to which between thirty and forty sat down. Immediately after tea a business meeting was held, and the following new members were elected: Rev. W. J. Palmer, Rev. B. W. Barford, and Mrs. Thomas Harris, hon. members; Mr. C. J. Gillett, a life subscriber; the following as probationary members: Messrs. Watson, Bloxham, Sheffield, and Capes; and Coombes as a qualified member. A vote of thanks to the Master for his presence and address, to the Vicar of Hook Norton for receiving the members, and affording them such an excellent meeting, and to the president, followed by more ringing on the bells, brought to a close one of the most successful meetings it has been the privilege of the writer to attend.

During the evening an informal presentation was made by the Master of the Guild and the secretary of the branch, by the Hook Norton ringers as a memento of the meeting. The presents consisted of china ornaments, illustrated with views of the Hook Norton tower.

ST. LEONARD'S SOCIETY, HYTHE, KENT.

The annual dinner of the above was held on April 13th at The White Hart hotel, Hythe, where a most enjoyable evening was spent by the members and their friends, dinner being served in grand style by the popular host Mr. Jno. Cobay. The Rev. E. Geard, senior curate, presided in the absence (through illness), of the Vicar, and read letters of regret at being unable to attend from the Mayor (H. T. Cobay, Esq., J.P.), Messrs. E. Potter (Dover), A. Castle (Elham), and Armourer-Sergt. H. Hire (Woking).

During the evening the chairman, on behalf of the members, presented Mr. Wm. Fright, the esteemed station-master at Hythe, with a framed portrait of the band as a small token of their regard, he having celebrated his golden wedding on Good Friday last, as well as being a ringer of over sixty years' standing, ringing at the coronation of H.M. the Queen. Mr. Fright, who was warmly welcomed and his health drunk with musical honours, suitably responded. The usual toasts were drank. Songs were sung by Rev. E. Geard, Messrs. Delamore, A. Simms, jun., S. Binfield, E. Manning, C. Booth, S. Gower, and E. Gower. Mr. A. Simms, Mus. Bac., officiated at the piano. In addition to the members there were present Messrs. W. Fright, jun. (late of Bromley), S. Barker and S. Binfield (Folkestone), R. Goodburn (Aldington), H. Manning, W. Rouse, and W. Budgen.

THE ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIORS, GLOUCESTER.

NOTICE.—If any member of the Central Council passing through Gloucester on the Saturday, Sunday, or Monday, 28th, 29th, or 30th, would like to break the journey here they will receive a hearty welcome by the St. Michael's Juniors, who will try and arrange some ringing for them. I have arranged with Mr. W. Hale, of Painswick, for a peal of Stedman Cinques, on Whit-Monday. Anyone wishing to take part, please write to me not later than the 26th, so that I can make the necessary arrangements.

Bentham Villa, Conduit Street, Gloucester.

JOHN AUSTIN.

Obituary.

JOHN HARRIS, OF STAVELEY.

It is with sincere regret that the Staveley society have to record the death of one of their band in the person of John Harris, who died so sudden on Tuesday, May 3rd, while following his employment as foreman pipe inspector at the Staveley works. The news of his sudden death came as a surprise to all ringers round about the district where he was known. By his death he leaves a sorrowing wife and five children to mourn his loss, besides an aged mother. The deceased is the last of a long line of ringers, and could trace back his ancestors who commenced ringing in or about the year 1777. We are sorry that through his death there will be no one to take his place after such an excellent ancestry. But still hoping that one if not both of his sons will take up the Art of change-ringing and thus preserve the family prestige. He was a life member of the Yorkshire Association, also a member of the Old East Derbyshire Association, and had taken part in a number of peals upon six, eight, and ten bells, his peal record being five non-association peals and forty Association. His funeral took place on Saturday, May 7th. Along the route from deceased's residence to the church blinds were drawn and business temporarily suspended. The Rev. J. Kemm conducted the service both at the parish church and at the graveside. At the close of the burial service four members of the Yorkshire Association—Messrs. Knights, Hunt, Dixon, and Hattersley—rang a course of Grandsire Triples in the presence of a large gathering of relatives and sympathising friends. His loss will be deeply felt by his brother-ringers, as he had been a ringer for about thirty years, and was a good all-round man. The deceased was held in the greatest respect, as was shown by the attendance at the funeral, when about fifty ringers attended from the following places: Chesterfield, Dronfield, Eckington, Killamarsh, Rotherham, Sheffield, Treton, and North Wingfield. Many beautiful wreaths were placed upon the coffin, which bore the inscription "John Harris, aged 44." After he had been quietly laid to rest, a few touches were rung on the tower bells, half-muffled, by various bands. After Divine Service on Sunday morning, the Dead March in *Saul* was played by the organist, Mr. H. Smelt. An attempt for a peal was made on Sunday afternoon with the bells half-muffled, which unhappily came to grief after ringing 2 hrs. 25 mins. Not to be denied, another attempt was made on Tuesday night, but proved a failure after ringing 2 hrs. 35 mins. His family and relatives beg leave to tender through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," their sincerest thanks for the kind sympathy shown to them in their sad bereavement.

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."

"NO ADDRESS!" "NOT KNOWN!" "GONE AWAY!"

SIR,—I have always been anxious to furnish non-resident members of the Norwich Diocesan Association with copies of the Annual Report; but my intentions are constantly being frustrated by want of knowledge of the whereabouts of those to whom I wish to send. This year the number of copies returned to me by the Post Office with one or other of the above endorsements has far exceeded the usual total. As this means a useless expense in postage to the Association, I must give notice to non-resident members that unless they furnish me with a correct and sufficient postal address, when such is not likely to be already known to me, I must decline to send them copies of the Report in future. The correct addresses of the following gentlemen are not known to me now, and I should be glad of them; at least, as many of them as are living: Messrs. Alfred Avis, B. E. Battram, Wm. Button, Ed. Chapman, R. E. Chichester, Arthur Craven (report returned from Deepcar), F. E. Dawe (report returned from Fulham, and address wanted as member of Central Council), Richard Dawson, W. H. Fussell, A. H. Gardom, W. E. Garrard, A. B. Goody, H. R. Newton (Garden Street, Westminster, declared "insufficient"), M. C. Potter, J. Smith, R. W. Stannard (report returned), Thos. Titchener, R. T. D. Woodley.

H. EARLE BULWER.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 7th, the members of the Rochester and District Guild of the above Association held their second monthly meeting at Gillingham parish church. Touches of Stedman and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung. It was decided to hold the next meeting at St. Mary's, Chatham, on June 4th, at 6.30.

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. (136 closely printed pages. Part II. (136 closely printed pages) may be had separately, 2s. 14d.

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, 21, Baslinghall Street, Leeds

SIR ARTHUR 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, BART., M.A. Gratis on application to SIR ARTHUR HEYWOOD, BART., DUFFIELD BANK, near Derby

THE REV. DR. RAVEN'S WORK.

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. In 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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THOMAS BLACKBURN is a practical Ringer and having had considerable experience in Church Bell hanging and tuning, with confidence solicits the patronage of the Clergy, Churchwardens and Ringers generally.

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

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

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 1898.

FULL of years and honours—more so than is generally allotted to humanity, however distinguished—one of Britain's greatest heroes has just been called to his rest. It is not our usage to refer in this place to anything outside the subject matter of this paper, but if ever there existed a reason, the void left by the decease of England's great statesman is one. We need not refer, even in the remotest degree, to him as a politician; we are content to regard him as the most prominent British statesman, not only of the century, but of all time. His great personality; his immense powers; his pure life, from youth upwards; his profound scholarship; his piety and churchmanship; his truly national susceptibilities; his regard and work for those who suffered from oppression and tyranny, in any part of the world, make us honestly (but very) proud of the fact that he was one of us—a member of the great Anglo-Saxon race. This is enough, if no more were said.

It would be out of all comparison to measure Mr.

GLADSTONE with any continental statesman. Not for one moment can we imagine such a contrast. His statesmanship was not of the "blood and iron" order: one of chicanery and deception. In honesty, ability, or determination to do what was right, continental statesmen to him were as pigmies to a giant. This is what we are patriotic enough to boast of and glory in. Among the nations of Europe, England's greatest statesman was the best, the purest, the noblest of them all; a greater than them all if they could have been rolled into one.

And now the Grand Old Man has been called to his rest, into that kingdom prepared from the foundation of the world. The mighty central figure and personality of WILLIAM EWART GLADSTONE will be greatly missed. The lines he himself used at the death of his master, the great SIR ROBERT PEEL, may with propriety be repeated here:—

"Now is the stately column broke,
The beacon light is quenched in smoke;
The trumpet's silver voice is still;
The warder silent on the hill."

Able writers, of all shades of politics, will do justice to the memory of England's latest hero—for in truth he was a hero of the first order. To us is remitted the task of showing in our usual characteristic manner, the respect in which Great Britain, and humanity at large, holds his memory.

. We should like to direct attention to two important announcements which will be found in this number. One is from Mr. JOHN AUSTIN of Gloucester; the other relates to the opening of the TWELVE bells at Yarmouth.

The Provinces.

LIVERPOOL.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 9, 1898, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES; IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 16½ cwt.

RICHARD S. MANN Treble.	WILLIAM JAMES 5.
JOHN ASPINWALL 2.	JAMES DILLON 6.
GEORGE WOODALL 3.	THOMAS HAMMOND 7.
GEORGE FISHER 4.	JAMES MARTIN Tenor.

Composed by J. J. BRIERLEY and Conducted by JAMES MARTIN.

First peal of Oxford on the bells, and by all the band, and also the first in Liverpool for upwards of seventy years. Rung as a birthday compliment to George Woodall, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns.

WOLVERHAMPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Wednesday, May 11, 1898, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES. Tenor 23 cwt.

FARRINGTON JONES Treble.	HENRY DAWKES 6.
HERERT KNIGHT 2.	*HUGH J. BALCOMBE 7.
BENJAMIN DALTON 3.	AARON GRIFFITHS 8.
RICHARD C. BALCOMBE* 4.	JAMES E. GROVES 9.
JOHN JAGGAR 5.	GEORGE BURROWS Tenor.

Composed by JAMES GEORGE and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

*First peal of Caters.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, May 11, 1898, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,
AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. H. BURRELL, ESSEX BUILDINGS,
LONDON ROAD,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES.

GEORGE R. PYE 1-2.	ERNEST PYE 5-6.
WILLIAM PYE 3-4.	JOHN DALE 7-8.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

Umpire—W. Watson, who had a copy of the peal and marked off every lead-end as rung. The above is the first peal in the method ever rung in the county on handbells, and the first by all the band. It is worthy of note that the above company have rang both Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Treble Bob and Double Norwich upon handbells, and are the only persons who have ever done so.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, May 12, 1898, in Two Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. W. WATSON, ST. ANDREW'S ROAD,
ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

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

EDGAR WIGHTMAN 1-2.	ERNEST PYE 5-6.
GEORGE R. PYE 3-4.	WILLIAM PYE 7-8.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

Umpire—W. Watson.

BARNET.—THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, May 12, 1898, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs. 13 lbs.

JOHN SUMPTER Treble.	WILLIAM PICKWORTH 5.
ARTHUR J. CHIDWICK* 2.	CHARLES H. MARTIN 6.
F. A. MILNE, ESQ. 3.	SIDNEY WADE 7.
WILLIAM J. DELL 4.	ARTHUR T. KING, ESQ. .. Tenor.

Conducted by C. H. MARTIN.

*First peal.

EPSOM, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, May 12, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

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

JOHN HOYLE* Treble.	WILLIAM MARKS 5.
WILLIAM MESSAM 2.	ARTHUR DEAN 6.
JOHN WYATT 3.	EDWARD HULL 7.
HENRY WOOD 4.	HARRY CORBETT Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM MARKS.

*First peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to W. Messam.

SOLIHULL, WARWICKSHIRE.

(THE SOLIHULL GUILD.)

On Saturday, May 14, 1898, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALPHEGE,

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

HOWARD HAINES* Treble.	WILLIAM KENT 5.
SAMUEL BRAGG* 2.	*JOHN A. BRAGG 6.
WALTER WALL* 3.	WILLIAM A. HANCOX 7.
GEOFFREY A. MARTINEAU 4.	*W. HENRY SMITH Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by WALTER WALL.

*First peal. This is the first peal by the above Guild.

FOR SALE.—A Peal of Eight Handbells; size of tenor No. 17.
For particulars apply to W. R. Hensher, Horsemarket, Kettering.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 14, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE, JESMOND,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5104 CHANGES.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

JOHN W. DAWSON Treble.	*ROBERT E. CHICHESTER.. 5.
WILLIAM HOLMES 2.	ROBERT RICHARDS 6.
ROBERT S. STORY 3.	WILLIAM STORY 7.
CHARLES L. ROUTLEDGE 4.	FREDK. J. HARRISON.. .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by FREDK. J. HARRISON.

*First peal in the method. This is the first peal in the method on the bells.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 14, 1898, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 17 cwt.

WALTER WILTON Treble.	JOHN THOMPSON 5.
SIDNEY DAWSON 2.	ALBERT E. THOMPSON .. 6.
WILLIAM HICKLING 3.	JOHN FLOWER 7.
BENJAMIN SUGDEN 4.	GEORGE DAWSON Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by ALBERT E. THOMPSON.

Rung in honour of the 21st birthday of Sidney Dawson.

BEESTON, NOTTS.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 14, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

JOHN PALING Treble.	FREDERICK S. PRICE .. 5.
GEORGE OLDHAM 2.	*ARTHUR LOWE 6.
REUBEN CLIFFORD 3.	JAMES HUTCHBY 7.
WILLIAM CLIFFORD, JUN. 4.	WILLIAM CLIFFORD, SEN.. Tenor.

Composed by G. R. NEWTON, of Oxton, Cheshire, and Conducted by WILLIAM CLIFFORD, SEN.

*First peal of Bob Major.

WOLVERHAMPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, May 14, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE, BLAKENHALL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 10 cwt.

HENRY DAWKES.. .. Treble.	HERBERT KNIGHT 5.
GEORGE BURROWS 2.	JOHN JAGGAR 6.
BENJAMIN DALTON 3.	*HUGH J. BALCOMBE.. .. 7.
WILLIAM G. HALL 4.	JAMES E. GROVES Tenor.

Composed SIR A. P. HEYWOOD, BART., and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

*First peal of Major.

LINDFIELD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 14, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' TEN-PART No. 3. Tenor 21½ cwt.

WILLIAM SIMMONS* .. Treble.	ALFRED ALLFREY 5.
HENRY STALHAM† 2.	PHILLIP ALLFREY 6.
ALFRED TOMSETT 3.	WILLIAM ALLFREY 7.
HERBERT TOMSETT 4.	†MARTIN WILLIAMS Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY STALHAM.

*First peal away from the tenor. †First peal as conductor, ‡First peal.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 14, 1898, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

J. W. SMITH Treble.	WILLIAM H. SMITH.. .. 5.
ALBERT E. PARSONS 2.	THOMAS J. SALTER 6.
ERNEST C. HUNT 3.	ADOLPHUS ROBERTS 7.
NOAH DAVIS 4.	RICHARD E. GROVE Tenor.

Composed by CHARLES MIDDLETON and Conducted by R. E. GROVE.

WIDFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 14, 1898, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES.

Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

GEORGE PIPER Treble.	WILLIAM LINCOLN 5.
ARTHUR EDWARDS 2.	ERNEST PYE 6.
GEORGE R. PYE 3.	JOHN DALE.. .. 7.
EDGAR WIGHTMAN 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

First peal in the method on the bells. In this peal the 2nd is never in 5-6, and the 3rd never in 6ths place at a course-end.

MANCHESTER—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

On Monday, May 16, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES; IN THE OXFORD VARIATION.

Tenor 25 cwt.

JOHN EACHUS Treble.	SAMUEL GREENHALGH .. 6.
JOHN SMITH 2.	HARRY CHAPMAN 7.
GEORGE E. TURNER.. .. 3.	RICHARD RIDYARD 8.
WALTER BROWN 4.	FRANK HYDE 9.
ALFRED CROSS 5.	SAMUEL WOOD Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, is the first peal of Royal in the Oxford variation by all the band, the first by the Lancashire Association and the Ashton under Lyne society, and the first on the bells. The composition appears elsewhere.

BRIGHTON.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 16, 1898, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

THE FIRST PEAL OF WESTMINSTER SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

GEORGE BAKER Treble.	GEORGE WILLIAMS 5.
ROBERT J. DAWE 2.	FRANK BENNETT 6.
KEITH HART 3.	JAMES N. FROSSELL.. .. 7.
GEORGE SMART 4.	GEORGE F. ATTREE Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS and Conducted by GEORGE F. ATTREE.

The above is the first peal ever rung in this method, and was obtained at the first attempt.

HENFIELD, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, May 17, 1898, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; THURSTANS' ONE-PART.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

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

Conducted by CHARLES TYLER.

PEAL CORRECTIONS.—The peal of Stedman Triples rung at Worsley, Lancashire, on Monday, the 5th inst., should have been accredited to the Lancashire Association.—The peal of Stedman Triples rung at All Saints, Newcastle, and reported in our last issue, was conducted by F. J. Harrison.

Date Touches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SHIPLEY (Yorks).—On Sunday morning, April 10th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major in 1 hr. 9 mins. T. Lilley, 1; F. London, 2; T. B. Kendall (conductor), 3; J. Lilley, 4; W. R. Sandiforth, 5; J. A. Ross, 6; W. E. London, 7; G. A. O. Nettleton, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

PONTEFRAC (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, April 17th, for Divine Service at All Saints' church, a date touch, 1898 changes, in 1 hr. 10 mins. in the following methods: 98 Violet, 600 Oxford, 600 Kent, 600 Woodbine. W. Pease, 1; W. P. Brook, 2; G. Wilcock, 3; T. Pease, 4; A. Strangward (conductor), 5; W. Heckingbottom, 6.

THE YORKSHIRE AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

KILMAMARSH (Derbyshire).—On Friday, April 8th, at the parish church, a date touch of 1898 changes in the following methods: 458 Cambridge Surprise, and 720 each of Tulip and Primrose. H. Taylor, 1; T. Bettison, 2; J. Emsen, 3; G. Burnham, 4; W. H. Turton, 5; C. Severn (composer of 458 and conductor), 6. This touch was rung with the bells half-muffled, at the close of the three hours service.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WOODFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, April 3rd, a date touch of 1898 changes, in 1 hr. 8 mins., being 458 of Woodbine, 720 each of Oxford and Kent. E. Bacon, 1; J. Mardell, 2; H. Gowers, 3; J. Kimberley, 4; F. Hull, 5; T. H. Beams (conductor), 6.

DARLASTON (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, April 28th, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (taken from "Vicars'" peal), 1898 changes, was rung in 1 hr. 8 mins. J. Mark, 1; G. Morgan, 2; T. Lowe, 3; W. Smith, 4; J. Adams, 5; E. Unitt (conductor), 6; J. A. Brown, 7; W. Eyre, 8.

FRAMSDEN (Suffolk).—On Sunday morning, April 10th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, a date touch of Bob Major in 1 hr. 10 mins. J. Creasy, 1; G. Perry, 2; E. Hicks, 3; W. Wightman, 4; S. Wightman, 5; A. Wightman, 6; W. Bullock, 7; G. Wightman (conductor), 8.

KIDDERMINSTER (Worcestershire).—On a recent Sunday morning for Divine Service, a date touch of Stedman Triples, 1898 changes, composed by J. O. Bradley, West Ham. J. T. Salter, 1; J. O. Bennett, 2; A. Walker, 3; W. H. Smith, 4; W. H. Barber (conductor), 5; E. E. Hunt, 6; T. Wakeman, 7; J. Pagett, 8.

Miscellaneous.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

FAVERSHAM (Kent).—On Saturday, April 2nd, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. E. E. Foreman (conductor), 1; G. H. Foster, 2; H. Foster, 3; H. Goodwin, 4; A. Biggs, jun., 5; W. Spice, 5; E. Hunt, 7; H. Wallis, 8. Also 504 in the same method. H. Wallis, 1; G. H. Foster, 2; W. Spice, 3; H. Foster, 4; F. Hunt, 5; H. Goodwin, 6; E. E. Foreman (conductor), 7; G. Wood, 8. Messrs. Goodwin and Spice hail from Charing.

FRINDSBURY (Kent).—On Sunday, April 10th, at All Saints' church, an attempt was made for a date touch of Doubles, but came to grief after ringing 700 changes. After service in the evening a 720 in four different methods was rung in 27 mins., being two 120s Plain Bob, two 120s Canterbury, 120 Stedman's Slow Course, and 120 Grandsire. D. Winsor, 1; C. Winsor, 2; C. Tully, 3; T. Pattenden (conductor), 4; E. Evans, 5.

SITTINGBOURNE (Kent).—On Sunday evening, April 3rd, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. E. J. Bottle, 1; R. Staines, 2; H. Goodwin, 3; W. Spice, 4; C. Millway (conductor), 5; S. Snelling, 6; W. Tassell, 7; H. Balchin, 8. Messrs. Goodwin and Spice hail from Charing, near Ashford.

BORDEN (Kent).—On Sunday morning, April 3rd, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor with the tenor covering. R. Staines, 2; H. Goodwin, 3; W. Spice, 4; C. Millway (conductor), 5; W. J. Walker, 6; W. Tassell, 7; H. Martin, 8. Messrs. Goodwin and Spice hail from Charing, near Ashford.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

FORNHAM ST. MARY (Suffolk).—On Sunday morning, April 10th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. G. Molton, 1; A. H. Osborne (conductor), 2; W. C. Rumsey, 3; H. Simpson, 4; H.

Blake, 5; A. Bridges, 6. Tenor 6½ cwt. On Easter Monday, 720 Bob Minor. W. Sexton, 1; A. Seymour, 2; D. Gridley, 3; F. Buckle, 4; A. Pilgrim, 5; H. Henly (conductor), 6. Rung on the occasion of the annual meeting of the Association at Bury St. Edmunds.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Easter Sunday, for early Celebration, five 6-scores of Bob Doubles. C. Honeybell, 1; D. Gridley (conductor), 2; F. Wells, 3; Z. Slater, 4; S. Slater, 5. For Divine Service in the morning 720 Kent Treble Bob. S. Slater (conductor), 1; C. Honeybell, 2; Z. Slater, 3; F. Wells, 4; D. Gridley, 5; George Maxim, 6.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS (Suffolk).—On Sunday evening, April 10th, at the church of St. James, four courses of Grandsire Caters. A. H. Osborne (conductor), 1; W. C. Rumsey, 2; W. Salisbury, 3; G. Farrants, 4; R. Wilding, 5; H. Simpson, 6; H. Blake, 7; A. Bridges, 8; G. Debenham, 9; R. Moore, 10. Tenor 30 cwt. On Monday, April 11th, at the church of St. James, 324 Grandsire Caters. A. H. Osborne (conductor), 1; W. C. Rumsey, 2; W. Salisbury, 3; J. Taylor, 4; R. Wilding, 5; H. Simpson, 6; H. Blake, 7; J. W. Clarkson, 8; G. Taylor, 9; R. Moore, 10. Also at St. Mary's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. A. H. Osborne (conductor), 1; G. Lilley, 2; J. Taylor, 3; G. Debenham, 4; W. C. Rumsey, 5; W. Clarkson, 6; G. Taylor, 7; R. Moore, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. On handbells a course of Grandsire Triples. H. Blake, 1-2; G. Debenham, 3-4; A. Symonds, 5-6; W. Rumsey, 7-8. And a course of Kent Treble Bob Major. R. Wilding, 1; A. H. Osborne, 2; G. Debenham, 3; H. Blake, 4; A. Symonds, 5-6; W. Rumsey, 7-8. Also a course of Bob Major. A. Keeble, 1-2; R. Keeble, 3-4; W. Rumsey, 5-6; G. Debenham, 7-8.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

KIDSGROVE.—On Saturday, April 2nd, at the monthly meeting of the Association, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. G. Baddeley, 1; W. Rigby, 2; T. Miller, 3; H. Dean, 4; W. H. Harratt, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

ALTON (Hants).—On Easter Sunday, at St. Laurence's church, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. A. Davis, 1; Rev. F. Whyley, 2; A. W. Evans, 3; F. Healey, 4; R. Applegath, 5; A. Burgess, 6; W. Brambley, 7; F. Noakes, 8.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

SUTTON (Surrey).—At All Saints' Benhilton, on Easter-Sunday, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. S. Smithers, 1; T. Webb, 2; W. Wood, 3; F. Trendell, 4; C. Barltrop, 5; C. Dean (conductor), 6; H. Bryant, 7; W. Gray, 8. For evening service, 672 Grandsire Triples. W. Smart, 1; W. Wood, 2; T. Webb, 3; F. Trendell, 4; C. Barltrop, 5; C. Dean (conductor), 6; H. Bryant, 7; S. Smithers, 8.

THE EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CLAY CROSS (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, April 10th, at St. Bartholomew's church, for Divine Service at 6 a.m., 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor (forty bobs and two singles). F. Marshall, 1; T. Millington, 2; W. Goodge, 3; F. Maycock, 4; J. Maycock, 5; J. J. Cook, 6. For morning service 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor (eight bobs and six singles). J. Maycock, 1; F. Marshall, 5; the rest as before. For evening service 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor (nine bobs and six singles). J. J. Cook, 1; F. Marshall, 5; J. Maycock, 6; the rest as above. All the above were conducted by T. Millington.

NORTH WINGFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday morning, April 10th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (twenty bobs and ten singles). H. Tarlton, 1; W. Butler, 2; J. T. Butler, 3; T. Clough, 4; W. Hopkinson, 5; J. P. Tarlton, 6. On Sunday evening, April 17th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (twenty bobs and ten singles). H. Tarlton, 1; W. Butler (conductor), 2; J. P. Tarlton, 3; T. Clough, 4; J. Hutchinson, 5; J. George, 6. Also 260 in the same method. J. George, 5; J. Tarlton, 6; the rest as before. J. Hutchinson hails from Alfreton; J. George from Ripley. Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GRASSENDALE (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, April 9th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor in 25 mins. J. Turner, 1; J. F. D. Alexander, 2; W. Weaver, 3; T. Morris, 4; F. C. Newton, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. Composed by E. Francis, of Norwich.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HASTINGS (Sussex).—On Sunday morning, April 17th, for Divine Service at Christ Church, Blacklands, 464 Bob Major. G. Williams,

1; J. Livermore, 2; F. Bennett, 3; F. Lock, 4; W. Franks, 5; H. P. Howcroft, 6; S. Saker, 7; J. S. Goldsmith, 8. Conducted by F. Bennett. For afternoon service at St. Clement's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. S. Saker, 1; W. Franks, 2; H. P. Howcroft, 3; F. Bennett, 4; F. Lock, 5; J. S. Goldsmith, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; —, Stapley, 8. For evening service at Christ Church, Blacklands, 384 Bob Major. S. Saker, 1; J. Livermore, 2; F. Bennett (conductor), 3; F. Lock, 4; W. Franks, 5; H. P. Howcroft, 6; G. Williams, 7; J. S. Goldsmith, 8. And 384 in the same method and by the same band. Messrs. Williams and Bennett hail from Brighton; Goldsmith from Lewes; Franks from Battle; the rest are local ringers.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

HAZEL GROVE.—On Sunday, March 6th, for evening service, 720 New London, in 25 mins. J. Fernley, 1; J. Dean, 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; S. Fernley (conductor), 4; S. Rutter, 5; A. Fernley, 6. On March 13th, for morning service, 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 25 mins. S. Fernley, 1; J. Fernley, 2; G. D. Warburton (first 720 as conductor), 3; J. Dean, 4; S. Rutter, 5; A. Fernley, 6. On March 14th, for practice, 720 Violet Treble Bob, in 24 mins. J. Fernley, 1; J. Dean, 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; S. Fernley (conductor), 4; S. Rutter, 5; A. Fernley, 6. On March 19th, during a visit to the parish church, Disley, 360 each of New London, Grandsire, Plain Bob, Kent, Oxford and College Single. On March 20th, for morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, in 24 mins. J. Fernley, 1; J. Dean, 2; G. Warburton, 3; S. Fernley (conductor), 4; S. Rutter, 5; A. Fernley, 6. For evening service 720 Grandsire, in 25 mins. J. Dean, 1; J. Fernley, 2; G. Warburton, 3; S. Rutter, 4; A. Fernley, 5; S. Fernley (conductor), 6. On March 24th, for practice, 720 College Single, in 25 mins. J. Fernley, 1; J. Dean, 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; S. Fernley (conductor), 4; S. Rutter, 5; A. Fernley, 6. First 720 of College Single by the band, on the bells, and by any member of the Stockport and Bowden branch of the above Guild. Also 720 Plain Bob, in 24 mins. J. Dean, 1; S. Fernley (conductor), 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; J. Fernley, 4; S. Rutter, 5; A. Fernley, 6. On March 27th, for morning service, 720 College Single, in 24 mins. J. Fernley, 1; J. Dean, 2; G. Warburton, 3; S. Fernley (conductor), 4; S. Rutter, 5; A. Fernley, 6. For evening service 720 Oxford Treble Bob, in 25 mins. J. Fernley, 1; J. Dean, 2; G. Warburton, 3; S. Rutter (conductor), 5; S. Fernley, 6. On March 30th, 720 Grandsire, with the bells muffled, as a token of respect to an old ringer, Mr. Geo. Oldham. A. Fernley, 1; J. Fernley, 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; S. Rutter, 4; J. W. Bailey, 5; S. Fernley (conductor), 6; composed by the late Henry Johnson, of Birmingham. On April 17th, at the parish church, for morning service, John Holt's original composition of 720 Plain Bob, without singles, was rung in 25 mins., this being the first attempt at this particular 720 by the company. J. Fernley, 1; J. Dean, 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; S. Rutter, 4; A. Fernley, 5; S. Fernley (conductor), 6. Contains twenty-one bobs only. On the same day, for evening service, Johnson's bob and single 720 of Grandsire was rung in 25 mins. J. Fernley, 1; J. Dean, 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; S. Rutter, 4; A. Fernley, 5; S. Fernley (conductor), 6. This 720 contains thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HECKINGTON (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday morning, April 17th, for Divine Service at St. Andrew's church, 630 Union Triples. J. T. Holmes, 1; J. H. Clark, 2; J. Hilton, 3; F. Warrington, 4; F. Hilton (longest length as conductor), 5; W. Dickinson, 6; E. Houlden, 7; W. Nash, 8. For evening service 720 Bob Minor. F. Warrington, 1; J. Hilton, 3; J. H. Clark, 4; W. Dickinson, 5; J. T. Holmes (first 720 of Minor as conductor), 6; E. Houlden, 7; W. Wash, 8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROYDON (Essex).—On Sunday evening, April 10th, for Divine Service at St. Peter's church, 480 Old Doubles and six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles in 45 mins. W. Marrable, 1; I. Cavill (conductor), 2; J. Littlechild, 3; A. Pearman, 4; W. Littlechild, 5; H. Shuttlewood, 6. After service four 6-scores of Old Doubles and five 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles in 37 mins. J. Sewell, 1; W. Marrable, 2; I. Cavill (conductor), 3; A. Pearman, 4; W. Littlechild, 5; W. Pearman, 6.

HARLOW (Essex).—On Easter Sunday, for early Celebration, a touch of Grandsire. For Matins 714 Bob Triples. E. Parish, 1; H. Perrin, jun., 2; R. Tabor, 3; F. Perrin, 4; C. French, 5; T. Ellis, 6; H. Perrin, 4; C. French, 5; T. Ellis, 6; H. Perrin, sen. (conductor), 7; A. Bass, 8. For evening service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. E. Parish, 1; H. Perrin, jun., 2; F. Perrin, 3; G. Dent (conductor), 4; C. French, 5; T. Ellis, 6; H. Perrin, sen., 7; A. Bass, 8. On Easter Monday 518 Grandsire Triples. E. Parish, 1; H. Perrin, 2; R. Tabor, 3; T. Saban, 4; C. French, 5; G. Dent

(conductor), 6; H. Perrin, sen., 7; A. Bass, 8. Also 546 conducted by T. Saban, and two 168s, in which J. Crabb rang the 6th to his first touches of Triples. E. Parish, 1; H. Perrin, jun., 2; G. Dent (conductor), 3; G. Barker, 4; C. French, 5; T. Ellis, 6; H. Perrin, 7; A. Bass, 8. Tenor 21½ cwt.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

Ross (Herefordshire).—On Sunday, April 10th, for early service at the parish church, 560 Lovibond Pleasure Major. Mrs. J. Clarke, C. Kings, B. Somers, —, Driver, G. Davies, F. Oliver, G. Capewell, J. Clarke (conductor).

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

BASINGSTOKE (Hants).—On Sunday afternoon, April 17th, for Divine Service at St. Michael's church, 504 Stedman Triples. R. E. Sutton, 1; J. Harris, 2; C. Holdway, 3; T. Curtis, 4; F. Wilson, 5; J. E. Ballard, 6; H. White, 7; G. Martin, 10. For evening service 240 Treble Bob Minor with 7-8 covering. H. Lawe, 1; J. Harris, 2; T. Curtis, 3; C. F. Hansford, 4; J. E. Ballard, 5; H. White, 6; G. Martin, 7; F. Redgate, 8. J. Harris hails from Portsea.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CAERLEON.—On Saturday, May 7th, for practice, 588 Stedman Triples. H. Millard, 1; F. Green, 2; R. le Vescounte, 3; J. W. Jones, 4; E. Davis, 5; F. Attwell, 6; W. Davis (conductor), 7; C. Pippin, 8.

PONTYPOOL.—On Sunday evening, April 3rd, 720 Grandsire Doubles (thirty-four bobs and two singles). E. Trumper, 1; D. Pinney, 2; T. Jenkins, 3; W. Williams, 4; A. Luffman (conductor), 5; S. Rogers, 6. First 720 by all the band. On Sunday morning, April 3rd, 360 Grandsire Doubles. E. Trumper, 1; D. Pinney, 2; S. Rogers, 3; W. Williams, 4; A. Luffman (conductor), 5; W. Webb, 6. For evening service 240 Grandsire Doubles. E. Trumper, 1; D. Pinney, 2; S. Rogers, 3; T. H. Jenkins, 4; A. Luffman, 5; W. Williams, 6.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

WALWORTH (Surrey).—On Sunday, April 3rd, at St. Peter's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 40 mins. H. N. Davis, 1; J. W. Golding, 2; G. E. Symonds (conductor), 3; F. G. Perrin, 4; W. S. Langdon, 5; W. H. Webber, 6; A. R. Davis, 7; F. Gentry, 8. First quarter-peal in the method by J. Golding. On Monday, April 4th, at the residence of W. H. Passmore, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 38 mins. H. R. Passmore, 1-2; W. H. Passmore, 3-4; G. E. Symonds (conductor), 5-6; J. W. Golding, 7-8. Longest length on handbells by all the band.

LAMBETH (Surrey).—On Sunday morning, April 17th, for Divine Service at St. John's church, Waterloo Road, the last 742 of Holt's Original. H. Quaife, 1; G. E. Symonds (conductor), 2; F. G. Perrin, 3; W. Crockford, 4; J. W. Golding, 5; W. S. Langdon, 6; W. H. Webber, 7; F. Gentry, 8.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(SOUTH AND WEST DISTRICT).

ISLEWORTH.—On Saturday, April 2nd, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, Holt's Original, which came to grief after ringing about 4000 changes. E. V. Beadle, 1; G. Ransom, 2; T. Beadle, 3; J. Basden (conductor), 4; C. Edwards, 5; H. Browning, 6; F. Goddard, 7; R. Hurn, 8. On Saturday, April 16th, another attempt was made, the ringers standing as before with the exception of A. Sheard at the tenor, but came to grief after ringing 2 hrs. and 20 mins. through the breaking of a rope. On Sunday, April 3rd, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob. T. Beadle, 1; J. Basden (conductor), 2; J. Walsom, 3; H. Chandler, 4; J. Howes, 5; C. Edwards, 6; G. Ransom, 7; A. Sheard, 8.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

STOURBRIDGE.—At St. Thomas's church on Saturday, April 16th, 504 Bob Triples. H. Skelding, 1; F. Brace, 2; W. Whitehouse, 3; W. A. Pugh, 4; G. H. Pagett (conductor), 5; A. J. Skelding, 6; A. Roberts, 7; G. Underwood, 8. Sunday, April 17th, 464 Bob Major. H. Skelding, 1; T. Heathcock, 2; F. Brace, 3; W. Whitehouse, 4; W. A. Pugh, 5; A. J. Skelding, 6; G. H. Pagett, 7; A. Roberts (conductor), 8. The above touches were rung with the bells half-muffled, also the usual whole pull and stand, as a mark of respect to the late C. W. Collis, Esq., registrar of the county court, who was buried at Hagley on the 16th. The deceased gentleman promoted the movement for the restoration of the above bells in 1890. On Thursday, April 28, 720 Bob Major. W. A. Pugh, 1; L. Pritchard, 2; F. Brace, 3; W. Whitehouse, 4; A. J. Skelding, 5; W. Fryer, 6; G. H. Pagett, 7; A.

Roberts (conductor), 8. On Sunday, May 1st, 1008 Bob Triples. W. Whitehouse, 1; L. Pritchard, 2; T. Heathcock, 3; F. Brace, 4; G. H. Pagett (conductor), 5; A. J. Skelding, 6; A. Roberts, 7; W. A. Pugh, 8. On Thursday, 348 Bob Major, conducted by J. Pagett of Kidderminster.

WOOLLASTON.—At St. James's church, on April 26, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. A. Roberts (conductor), 1; J. H. Parsons, 2; W. Fryer, 3; A. H. Skelding (first in the method), 4; F. Brace, 5; G. H. Pagett, 6. On Tuesday, May 10th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. A. Roberts, 1; J. H. Parsons, 2; H. Dakin, 3; F. Brace, 4; W. Fryer, 5; G. H. Pagett (conductor), 6.

WORDSLEY (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, April 21st, the following members of the above Association paid a visit to Holy Trinity church, and received a cordial welcome from the local band. A 720 Kent Treble Bob was rung in 25 minutes. W. A. Pugh, 1; T. Heathcock, 2; G. H. Pagett, 3; F. Brace, 4; W. Fryer, 5; A. Roberts (conductor), 6. Also 720 Grandsire Minor. W. Fryer, 1; F. Brace, 2; W. Whitehouse, 3; A. J. Skelding, 4; G. H. Pagett (conductor), 5; A. Roberts, 6. Also a course each of Double Oxford and Double Court.

ARDINGLEY (Sussex).—On Wednesday, April 13th, for practice, 360 Grandsire Doubles. C. V. Cole, 1; F. Meads, 2; T. Lovejoy, 3; A. Boniface, 4; I. Lewery, 5.

BILSTON (Staffordshire).—On Easter-Sunday evening, 304 Grandsire Triples (twelve 6-7s). H. Harper (first touch), 1; S. Pitt, 2; T. Lowe, 3; J. Harper, 4; W. Smith, 5; J. Adams, 6; J. A. Brown (conductor), 7; W. Eyre, 8.

BLETCHLEY (Bucks).—On Sunday, April 10th, for early service, for morning service, and for evening service, a plain course of Grandsire Triples. After evening service 430 Grandsire Doubles. The following were the ringers: V. Sear, R. Sear, F. Sear, A. G. Crane, A. N. Atkins, E. Marks, F. James, A. Crane, and L. Meager. On Wednesday, April 13th, for practice, 360 Grandsire Doubles. V. Sear, A. N. Atkins, R. Sear, E. Marks, F. James, and A. G. Crane. Also a few rounds on the tenor to encourage B. Scott, who is learning.

BROME (Suffolk).—On Monday, April 11th, 360 The Dream, St. Dunstan's Doubles, and Grandsire Doubles. E. Buckingham, 1; E. Youngs, 2; J. Buckingham, 3; G. Moss, 4; A. Symonds (conductor), 5. And 360 St. Simon's Doubles. E. Youngs, 1; E. Buckingham, 2; J. Buckingham, 3; A. Symonds, 4; G. Moss (conductor), 5.

CHEPSTOW (Monmouth).—On Monday, April 11th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Plain Bob Minor, 7-8 covering. M. Close, 1; S. Hopton, 2; J. Prickett, 3; W. Freestone, 4; T. Collinson (conductor), 5; J. Morley, 6; C. James, 7; R. Hughes, 8. First 720 by C. James and R. Hughes. On Sunday, March 13th, for evening service, 360 Bob Minor, 7-8 covering. E. Williams, 1; S. Hopton, 2; J. Prickett, 3; H. Morgan, 4; R. Thompson (conductor), 5; J. Morley, 6; F. Bye, 7; E. Lode, 8. On Monday, March 14th, for practice, 120 Stedman Doubles, 7-8 covering. J. Prickett, 1; H. Morgan, 2; W. Freestone, 3; R. Thompson (conductor), 4; J. Morley, 5; B. Tamplin, 6; R. Hughes, 8. On Monday, March 21st, 360 of Doubles, with 7-6-8 covering, being one each of Grandsire, Plain Bob and Canterbury Pleasure. A. Jones, 1; H. Morgan, 2; J. Prickett, 3; R. Thompson, 4; J. Morley, 5; F. Bye, 6; B. Tamplin, 7; A. Phipps, 8.

CROXTON (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, April 12th, in 30 mins., at the church of St. John the Baptist, a 720 of Bob Minor (on the third lesson by Mr. William Willson of Leicester, and the first 720 on the bells). John Morris, 1; William Chartry, 2; George Mackley, 3; William Willson (conductor), 4; Edward Lane, 5; John Wildman, 6.

DARLASTON (Staffordshire).—On Easter-Monday, 503 Grandsire Triples. J. Mark, 1; T. Lowe, 2; W. Smith, 3; J. Adams, 4; J. Foster, 5; E. Unitt, 6; J. A. Brown (composer and conductor), 7; J. Jones, 8. On Sunday, April 24, 503 Grandsire Triples. J. Mark, 1; G. Morgan, 2; T. Lowe, 3; W. Smith, 4; J. Foster, 5; E. Unitt, 6; J. A. Brown (composer and conductor), 7; W. Eyre, 8.

GISLINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday, April 10th, for Divine Service, 360 Bob Minor. D. Mayes, 1; A. W. Symonds, 2; C. Nunn, 3; W. H. Symonds, 4; G. Cattermole (conductor), 5; G. E. Symonds, 6.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES (Surrey).—On Sunday, April 3rd, at All Saints' church, 648 Grandsire Caters. A. Strutt, 1; J. Strutt, sen. (conductor), 2; G. Strutt, 3; J. Wright, 4; E. Stacey, 5; W. Tiller, 6; G. Naish, 7; J. Baldwin, 8; J. Howes, 9; J. Chandler, 10. Tenor 33 cwt. The above are all local men.

LONDON.—On Sunday, April 3rd, for evening service at St. Mary Abbots church, 1259 Grandsire Caters. H. Sear, 1; W. E. Garrard, 2; G. Brush, 3; A. E. Bradley, 4; R. A. Daniell, 5; A. F. Harris, 6; H. Powell, 7; W. E. Judd, 8; W. Fox, 9; C. H. Phipps, 10. On

Sunday, April 10th, for Divine Service in the evening, 1259 Grandsire Caters, composed by C. Charge. H. Sear, 1; W. E. Garrard (conductor), 2; G. Brush, 3; W. Charge, 4; A. E. Bradley, 5; A. F. Harris, 6; H. Powell, 7; W. E. Judd, 8; W. Fox, 9; J. Judd, 10.

NORTHFLEET (Kent).—Recently at the parish church before Divine Service, 720 Plain Bob. H. Fletto, 1; H. Lingham, 2; F. Draper, 3; W. Ware, 4; H. Simmonds, 5; R. Smith (conductor), 6. On Thursday, April 14th, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Avis, 1; H. Lingham, 2; F. Hayes, 3; H. Simmonds, 4; W. Ware, 5; M. Digby (conductor), 6. Messrs. Avis and Hayes hails from Milton; Digby from Swanscombe. This is the first 720 in the method by Messrs. Ware and Simmonds.

OAKLEY (Suffolk).—On Monday, April 11th, 360 St. Simon's Doubles, Plain Bob Doubles, and Grandsire Doubles. E. Youngs, 1; E. Buckingham, 2; C. Nunn, 3; G. Moss, 4; J. Buckingham (conductor), 5.

PETERBOROUGH.—On Friday, April 15th, at the parish church, with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Alderman John Thompson, J.P., 1008 of Grandsire Triples. G. Baker, 1; E. F. Read (conductor), 2; E. G. Baker, jun., 3; R. Creasey, 4; E. Draper, 5; T. Measures, 6; W. T. Johnson, 7; R. Squires, 8.

PULBOROUGH (Sussex).—On Sunday evening, April 17th, for Divine Service at the parish church, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, called differently, with 7-6-8 covering. A. Greenfield, 1; S. Stone, 2; E. Holden, 3; P. Doick, 4; H. W. Herrington (conductor), 5; L. N. Corden, 6; H. Doick, 7; C. S. Child, 8. This is the first 720 ever rung by local men.

RUGBY (Warwickshire).—On Monday, April 11th, at St. Andrew's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins. J. Coales, 1; K. Watson, 2; A. Dubber, 3; A. J. Gillings, 4; T. Holmes, 5; H. Tarver, 6; J. George, 7; H. King, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. in D. Composed and conducted by James George. This composition contains the twenty-four 6-7s all the right way. First quarter-peal by Messrs. Coales, Gillings and Tarver. The above was rung in honour of the marriage of Mr. Thomas Turner, a member of this Society, to Miss Margaret Ellen Ellis, which took place on that day at St. Leonard's, Colchester, the band wishing them every happiness and prosperity. On Wednesday, April 20th, another quarter-peal in the same method, in 46 mins. J. Coales, 1; R. Watson, 2; A. Dubber, 3; A. J. Gillings, 4; J. W. Chandler, 5; A. Flowers, 6; J. George, 7; H. King, 8. This composition, which contains the twenty-four 6-7s, was composed and conducted by James George. Rung in honour of the marriage of Mr. E. H. Warr, a member of this Society, to Miss Banks, which took place on that day at Holy Trinity church, Rugby, the band wishing them every happiness and prosperity.

SNATH (Yorks).—On Sunday, April 10th, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor (forty-two singles). And for evening service another 720 Bob Minor (eighteen singles and twenty-four bobs). R. Pocklington, 1; S. Pickup, 2; E. Pick, 3; J. D. Bullock, 4; R. Holmes, 5; G. Holmes (Ordsall, conductor), 6.

STOKESLEY (Yorkshire).—On Tuesday, April 5th, for practice, a 6-score of Bob Doubles. W. Clarkson, 1; W. Bennison, 3; A. C. Bowes, 3; H. Bowes, 4; Rev. W. P. Wright, 5; W. Lane, 6. All the above are local men, and have only recently begun to learn change-ringing.

THORNHAM MAGNA (Suffolk).—On Sunday morning, April 17th, for Divine Service, 240 New Doubles. H. Symonds, 1; G. Moss, 2; J. Buckingham, 3; E. Buckingham, 4; A. Symonds (conductor), 6.

WATTHAMSTOW (Essex).—On Monday, April 11th, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters in 55 mins. *W. H. Joyce, 1; W. B. Manning, 2; S. E. Romans, 3; *E. D. Lillywhite, 4; F. C. Perrin, 5; T. H. Beams, 6; J. Cullen, 7; W. H. Freeman, 8; F. A. Nunn, 9; R. K. Knight, 10. Conducted by W. B. Manning. *First quarter-peal on ten bells.

WILLENHALL (Staffordshire).—On April 28th, 1008 Grandsire Triples. G. Goodchild, 1; S. Pitt, 2; J. Harper, 3; S. Dace, 4; J. Appleby (conductor), 5; S. Atkins, 6; J. A. Brown, 7; J. Adams, 8.

WIRKSWORTH (Derbyshire).—On Monday, May 9th, to celebrate the twenty-first birthday of Mr. Price Wood, eldest son of J. B. Wood, Esq. and Mrs. Wood, of Henley Hall, Salop, and Wirksworth Hall, Derbyshire, several 120s of Bob Doubles with 7, 6, 8 as covers. Being the first by all. F. Johnson, 1; L. Hanson, 2; H. Ogden, 3; A. Gell, 4; W. Fox (conductor), 5; C. Bartlett, 6; S. Greatorex, 7; F. Turner, 8.

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Notices.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is One Penny per line (five words may be reckoned to a line). Repetitions at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

The Lancashire Association.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Burnley parish church to-day, Saturday, May 21st. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.
T. REDMAN, *Branch Sec.*

The Yorkshire Association.—The next general meeting will be held at Wortley, near Sheffield, to-day, Saturday, May 21st. By kind permission of the Rev. T. L. Brayshaw, M.A., Vicar, the ring of eight at the parish church (tenor 12½ cwt.) will be at disposal from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. The local committee will meet at The Wortley Arms hotel at two o'clock, and the official committee in the Infant School at four o'clock. Tea in the large schoolroom at five o'clock, with business meeting in the same room immediately after. The local hon. sec. is Mr. T. McKegg, Wortley, Sheffield, to whom all communications respecting tea, ringing, etc. should be sent. Wortley is distant eight miles from Sheffield, and five miles from Penistone.
B. T. COPLEY, *Hon. Sec.*

P.S.—There will be no official committee meeting previous to the general meeting at Wortley.

Sussex County Association.—Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at East Hoathly to-day, Saturday, May 21. Bells available from 2 to 8.30 p.m. The Hon. Sec. is also trying to arrange cycling parties to start from Hailsham and Lewes, and will be glad to receive names at once of all those who will join same. A large number is expected.
S. SAKER, *Hon. Sec. Eastern Division.*
101, Braybrooke Road, Hastings.

Kent County Association.—Tonbridge District.—A meeting of this District will be held at Penshurst to-day, Saturday, May 21st. Tower open at 4 o'clock. Business meeting in the schoolroom at 6.
W. LATTER, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*

The Chester Diocesan Guild.—Bowdon, Stockport and Mottram Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Rostherne, to-day, Saturday, May 21, at 5 p.m.
H. LEIGH MALLORY, *Hon. Sec.*

The Salisbury Diocesan Guild.—The annual festival will be held at Sherborne on Monday, 23rd May. Service at the parish church, at 11.30 a.m. The usual meeting for the election of officers, immediately after dinner to follow. A small extra allowance (funds permitting) will be given to those who travel farthest. It is particularly requested that all members who have not yet paid their subscriptions for 1898 (and which were due on 1st January last) will do so as soon as possible.
THOS. BLACKBOURN, *Gen. Sec.*

The Rochester and District Guild.—A meeting of this Guild will be held at Gillingham on Saturday, May 28.
A. RING, *Hon. Sec.*

Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Saviour's, Bacup, on Saturday, May 28th. Bells ready at 3.30. Business meeting at 6.30.
J. H. BANKS, *Branch Sec.*

East Derbyshire Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Tibshelf on Saturday, May 28th. Tea in Church Room at 5.0 p.m., meeting after tea.
T. ALLIBONE, *Sec.*

The Salop Guild.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Coalbrookdale, on Saturday, May 28th. Ringing at 3.45. Business meeting at 5 o'clock.
J. MACKAY, *Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's church, Balderstone, Rochdale, on Saturday, May 28th. Bells ready at 4.30. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. All ringing friends invited.
E. B. SHAW, *Branch Sec.*

The Lancashire Association of Six Bell Ringers.—The annual meeting will be held at St. James's, Leyland, on Saturday, May 28th.
JAMES HIGSON, *Sec.*

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—By special request of the Rothwell branch of the society to the Tong branch, the next monthly ringing meeting will be held at Tong (six bells) on Saturday, May 28th. Ringing from 3 p.m., meeting house The Greyhound inn, when any ringers will be heartily welcome. Handbells provided.
R. BINNS, *Hon. Sec.*

The Kent County Association.—The annual meeting will be held on Whit-Monday, May 30th, at Lewisham. Service at St. Mary's Lewisham at 11.30 a.m. The address will be given by the Rev. S. Bickersteth, Vicar of Lewisham. Dinner in the parish hall at 12.30. Business meeting for election of officers, etc., after dinner. The Committee will meet in the vestry at 11 a.m. Towers open for ringing: St. Mary's Lewisham (8), St. John's Deptford (8), St. Alfege Greenwich (10), St. Mary's Woolwich (8), and in afternoon only St. Margaret's Lee (8). Dinner tickets will be sent on application to all members whose subscription for the current year has been paid.
FREDK. J. O. HELMORE, *Hon. Sec.*

The Devonshire Guild.—The annual meeting of this Guild will this year be held at Barnstaple, on Whit-Monday, May 30th. Bells ready at 1 p.m. Business meeting at 5.15 p.m. Service in parish church at 6 p.m. Arrangements have been made for ringing in the neighbouring towers. All ringers will be welcome.
W. E. P. CHAPPLE, *Hon. Sec.*

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—A meeting will be held at North Shields, on Whit-Monday, May 30. Committee meeting at 12 noon, and dinner at 1 p.m. at The European hotel, Railway Terrace. Members 1s. 6d., non-members 2s. 6d. each. The bells of the following churches will be available: Christ Church, North Shields (except between 11.30 and 12.15), St. Hilda's, South Shields (for two hours), and Whitley. Members intending to dine must notify their intention not later than Friday, May 27th, to
THOMAS HUDSON, *Hon. Sec.*
314, High Street West, Sunderland.

The Central Northamptonshire Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Northampton on Whit-Monday. Usual arrangements. Particulars next week.
E. J. DENNES, *Hon. Sec.*

The Essex Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Chelmsford on Whit-Monday. Divine Service at 11.30, to be followed by business meeting and dinner. A brake will run to neighbouring towers at 3 p.m. Members intending to be present should communicate with me before the previous Tuesday.
HENRY T. W. EYRE.
Gt. Totham Vicarage, Witham.

The Old East Derbyshire Association.—The cup contest will be held at Eckington on Whit-Tuesday; draw at 11.30. Peal of eight

open to visitors after contest. Great Eastern and Midland Railways. E. JAMES, *Hon. Sec.*

The Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Wells on Saturday, June 11th. The Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells has kindly promised to address the members and be present at the dinner. It is hoped that members will muster strongly to meet his lordship. Full particulars on June 4th.

HENRY W. TOMKINS, *Hon. Sec. and Treas.*

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W. Butler	0	10	6
J. George	0	7	6
T. Pritchett	0	5	0
A. Pritchett	0	3	0
S. Reeves	0	3	0
C. Dickens	0	5	0
T. Miller	0	5	0
W. Hunt	0	5	0
C. Fluck	0	5	0
Rev. F. E. Robinson	0	2	6
T. Gibbs	0	2	6
J. Grice	0	2	6
G. H. Phillott	0	2	6
W. Hancock	0	2	6
W. Bryant	0	2	6
F. Clayton	0	2	6
J. E. Groves	0	2	0
J. Porter	0	2	0
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Compositions.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

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

5040.

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

*In and 5ths.

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES.

By W. WALMSLEY, *Macclesfield.*

5040.

2	3	4	5	6	M	W	R
4	5	2	3	6	-	-	
2	4	5	3	6	-	-	
5	2	4	3	6	-	-	
4	6	5	2	3	-	S	-
5	3	6	2	4	-	S	-
6	5	3	2	4	-	-	
3	6	5	2	4	-	-	
5	2	3	6	4	-	-	
3	5	2	6	4	-	-	
2	3	5	6	4	-	-	

The above to be five times repeated, with single half-way and end, or, with single for first call in each part, thus making it purely a six-part peal.

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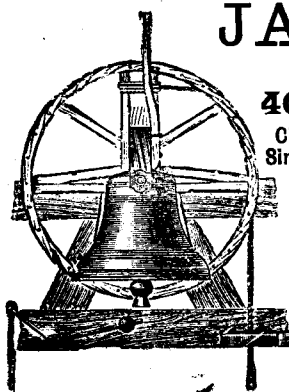
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THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 842.—VOL. XVI.]

SATURDAY, MAY 28, 1898.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

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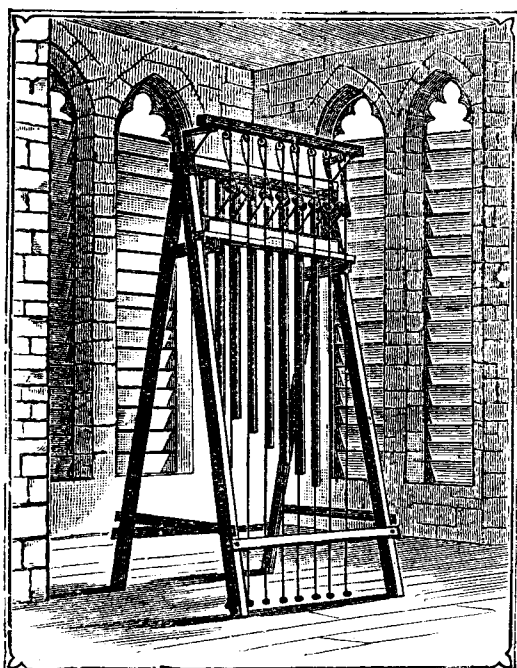
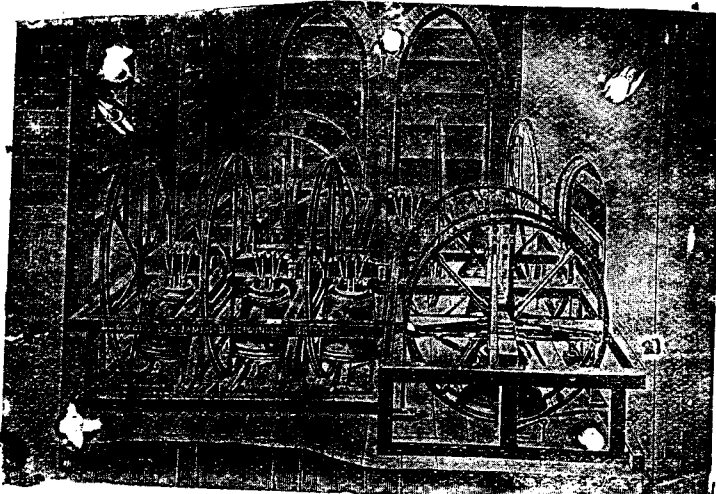
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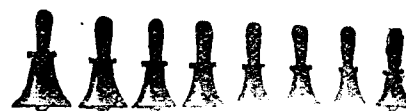
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 842.]

SATURDAY, MAY 28, 1898.

[Vol. XVI.]

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

"First it rained—then it poured;
Then it rained and poured again."

THAT, Mr. Editor, was the condition of the elements when I left home on Saturday morning last, to join the members of the Yorkshire Association at their general meeting. The prospect was certainly not very exhilarating. And as I journeyed on, the rain came in great splashes on the windows of the railway carriage, so that I actually began to repent having set out, in view of the soaking which seemed imminent at the far end. However, I was in for it, and so must make the best of the situation. Huddersfield was reached in due course, and with it the advent of sundry other passengers into the carriage with umbrellas and wearing apparel all bearing testimony to the down-pour. This by no means tended to make one look forward with pleasurable anticipation to the future of the day. I reached the end of my first stage at length, when I alighted at Penistone, where still "the rain it rained." But here, on changing platforms, I was most agreeably surprised on finding a large party from Lightcliffe—about 30 ringers and ladies (I beg pardon, ladies and ringers)—who had come earlier in the morning, and from whom I received a welcome which more than discounted the untoward state of the elements. During the few minutes which elapsed between this and the arrival of our train forward, atmospheric surroundings were forgotten in the cordial handshakes, the many bits of news which had to be told, and the numerous enquiries about absent friends. In less than ten minutes we had arranged for two peals and two fraternal visits between my own modest tower and the stately one of Lightcliffe. What do you think of that for business? Well, our train came (for a marvel) in due time, and we sped along the remaining few miles till Wortley station was reached. The rain had by this time abated somewhat, and degenerated into a tantalising drizzle. The spirits of my company, however, seemed nowise damped, so acting upon instructions from a most obliging railway official, we set off "along three fields, when you will see the church at your right hand, close by." And so it was. On reaching the second field we espied the fine square tower standing out against the sky like a huge guardian in the midst of the peaceful homes and farmsteads around. It was undoubtedly a pretty spot; just such as a painter would love, or a poet get enthusiastic about. We rounded the churchyard on our right, and soon were en-compassed out of reach of the rain in the quaint old-fashioned parlour of The Wortley Arms hotel. Only a very few minutes were spent here by way of breathing-time, for we were told that the church door was open, and so we crossed the road, through the massive lych-gate, past the large trees and flower beds of the well-kept graveyard into the church, where for ages the Earls of Wharnccliffe and the successive generations of Wortley folk have worshipped. The interior of this venerable edifice was quite in keeping with its exterior surroundings. Evidently loving hands keep everything "decently and in order." We walked reverently along the aisles, saw the well-appointed chancel, admired the stained windows, had the presumption to sit in his lordship's seat in the Wharnccliffe chapel, and imagine ourselves on the Sunday morning, when the properly-habited choristers were chanting their Master's praises, just as had been done in "the days of old." After a few moments of solemn but happy reflection, we retraced our steps to the tower at the west end, the lower room of which has been utilised as a choir vestry, and on the wall of which was a nicely-painted peal-board recording the first two peals rung in the tower. Mounting the steps, we reached the belfry, which we found a comfortable and well-appointed apartment, on the walls of which hung mottoes and

several group portraits from "THE BELL NEWS." Without much ado, we raised the bells, which we found to be a most-musical ring, the go of which was excellent. Our old friend Charlie Jackson then put in an appearance—having left his arms (The Manchester Arms I mean) at Hull; and it is needless to say that the greeting was warm on all sides. A band was immediately made up, and I descended the steps to listen outside to a well-struck g60 of Kent which followed. While this was in progress, the arrival of visitors was frequent and numerous. Every train brought its contingent, and no sooner had one band completed its touch than another was ready for the ropes. This continued until five o'clock, when we assembled in the large schoolroom, where a most excellent tea was served, the worthy Vicar, the Rev. T. L. Brashaw, M.A., and Mr. Churchwarden Broughton being amongst the company. During the serving of tea the President of the Association, Mr. William Snowdon, arrived, and received a cordial greeting. For the first time since his acceptance of the office of President, he was a "late scholar." This was due, it appeared, to the exigencies of railway travelling, which included so many changes, or "tinks," all of which, it seemed, had been at contrary purposes, and entailed some four hours' expenditure for a run of about thirty miles, which was almost as exhilarating as the weather itself. However, tea was over at length, and grace sung, after which the business meeting commenced, Mr. Snowdon in the chair, who was supported by the Rev. T. L. Brashaw, M.A., Vicar, Mr. Churchwarden Broughton, Mr. G. Bolland, Tong, vice-President; Mr. T. Hattersley (Sheffield), Steward; Mr. W. Stainthorpe (Birstall), Hon. Treasurer; Mr. B. T. Copley (Bradford), Hon. Secretary; Messrs. C. H. Hattersley (Sheffield), C. Jackson (Hull), Committeemen; and several other prominent members.

The Chairman opened the meeting with a few pertinent remarks, concluding by reading the minutes of the previous meeting, which were adopted. He then moved a cordial vote of thanks to the Vicar, which was seconded by Mr. Thomas Hattersley, and carried amid loud applause.

The Rev. T. L. Brashaw, in replying to the vote, gave a most interesting address, commencing by referring to the antiquity of ringing, alluding jocularly to Ivan the Terrible, whose one redeeming feature was that he was a bellringer. The ringers of the Church, he said, proclaimed its varying seasons. They told the people of times of sorrow as well as of times of rejoicing. Notwithstanding all their faults in times past, one prominent characteristic of them was that they were ever loyal to Church and King. But whatever had been the past, ringers should ever remember that they were ministers of the belfry, and that it was incumbent upon them that their daily lives and conduct, both in and out of the belfry, should be in accordance therewith. They should be thoughtful of the feelings of others, and ever strive that by their lives and conversation they were mindful of the high traditions of their office, and the position which they held in the Church. The Vicar's address was frequently and loudly applauded.

No invitations for the next meeting being forthcoming, the arrangements for the same were left with the Committee in accordance with rule.

Mr. T. Hattersley (Sheffield) proposed, and Mr. J. Rew (Sheffield) seconded, the election of the Rev. C. S. Knight, M.A., Vicar of All Saints, Sheffield, as an honorary member, which was agreed to.

Mr. C. H. Hattersley (Sheffield) moved, and Mr. D. Brearley (Bolsterstone) seconded, a cordial vote of thanks to the Wortley branch for their generous arrangements, and to the ladies who had assisted at tea. This was carried with loud applause, and acknowledged by Mr. T. McKegg, local secretary.

There being no further official business, a vote of thanks to

the Chairman concluded the meeting. A move was then made to the tower, where touches in various methods kept the bells going until nine o'clock.

Thus ended a meeting which in spite of the wretched weather was most enjoyable. Time for return indeed came only too soon, so hurrying back to the station, I readily accepted an invitation from my Lightcliffe friends to travel back with them in a commodious saloon carriage which they had procured, and the whole way to Bailiffe Bridge was made lively with joke and song, interspersed with banjo solos and accompaniments by Mr. Haigh, an able executant on that instrument, who had joined the party for the pleasure of "a day out," and whose performances proved quite an acquisition.

PUDSEY, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday afternoon, May 14th, a gathering, consisting of the ringers of the parish church, and Messrs. John and Joseph Thackray of Armley, Keighley and Hollings of Calverley, George Bolland, John Haley, John Cordingley, Fredk. Hargreaves, and H. Oddy from Tong, assembled in the belfry of this church to witness the unveiling of a group of portraits framed in substantial oak, 52 in. by 42 in., of several deceased, retired, and present members connected with this tower. The Vicar (Rev. G. Dale-Copeland, B.D.) had kindly consented to perform the ceremony. He was accompanied by his daughters (the Misses Copeland) and the churchwardens (Messrs. Charles Webster and James Booth).

The Vicar read a short collect, after which he said:—

Our function this afternoon is very simple, but at the same time a very pleasing and important one, as it links the present with the past. By the means of this picture we are enabled to look upon the features of those who have passed away, and upon those who are still with us. Those who have passed away we trust are in eternal rest, passed away from the ringing of earthly bells, and now engaged in the ringing of heavenly ones. This picture, I am informed, does not embrace all the past members, as some have died leaving no portraits; neither does it comprise all who have been ringers; some have commenced, but not persevered in the acquisition of the art of true scientific change-ringing, others who have come for a short period from adjacent towers are not included (some of these may be found portrayed in a similar picture at Tong church). One portrait is that of John Langstaffe, who has been a ringer here over fifty years, and is still on the list of members. Another is that of his younger brother Simeon, who in bygone years was a most active member, but the infirmities of age now prevents his attendance. Other faces included are those of William Sugden, a noted ringer 50 years ago, and Thomas Roberts, both having left this country for America nearly 20 years ago, and who we hope are still living to-day, and will receive some record of this afternoon's proceedings to remind them of the pleasant hours they had spent there. Included are also the portraits of the late Joseph Glover, Joshua Illingworth, Richard Hanson, John Child, Benj. Bean, and John Ross. I have now great pleasure in unveiling this picture, and I am glad to notice that an excellent photograph of the church occupies the centre of the group. I wish that those who call others to worship would come inside to the service more regularly than they have hitherto done. I am sure they would find it restful within.

Mr. Booth (people's warden) in moving a vote of thanks to the Vicar for his attendance, expressed his pleasure at seeing the picture, which was worthy to look upon, and added to the appearance of the belfry. Mr. Webster (Vicar's warden) seconded.

Mr. George Bolland proposed a vote of thanks to the retired wardens for the interest they had shewn in the ringers and the belfry, remarking that it was now one of the finest and best appointed to be found.

Mr. Webster, in acknowledging, referred to the fact of it being 74 years ago on the 10th instant since the bells were received (from Messrs. Mears) into the tower.

On the motion of Mr. Pratt Cordingley thanks were passed to those who had kindly loaned the photographs of deceased members.

Mr. Maude, on behalf of the ringers, sought the Vicar's per-

mission to record on a board two peals which had been rung, regretting that they had been unable to get them written in time for the day's proceedings.

The Vicar before retiring asked the ringers to give a merry peal. The bells were accordingly raised, and a touch of Bob Major was rung, followed by a short touch of Treble Bob Major by J. Cordingley, E. Keighley, W. Hollings, Jos. Thackray, Jno. Thackray, F. Hargreaves, G. Bolland, J. Haley.

At 6.30 the ringers assembled at The Park hotel, and did ample justice to a capital dinner, after which another visit was made to the tower, and then returning, the remainder of the evening was fully occupied with a fine peal of handbells (Shaw's) belonging to one of the latest recruits—Mr. Pratt Cordingley. Many courses of Oxford, Grandsire Major, Kent Treble Bob Major, and Grandsire Royal were rung, amongst them being a touch of Oxford rung in two sixes by—

1-2.	3-4.	5-6.
John Cordingley.	W. Hollings.	E. Keighley.
G. Bolland.	J. Thackray.	H. Oddy.

An attempt was also made for a course of Bob Maximus, which failed.

Amongst the toasts of the evening Mr. Maude proposed—"Absent friends," referring particularly to those across the water, and promising them if possible to send them a copy of the picture.

Before the meeting broke up Mr. Bolland proposed a vote of thanks to the givers of the dinner, Messrs. Latimer and Cordingley. Mr. Latimer acknowledged, expressing his pleasure in having their assistance; Mr. Stott seconded the vote of thanks to this effect.

This picture has been arranged by Mr. William Spencer, photographic artist, of Pudsey, and is presented to the belfry by Messrs. Latimer, Cordingley, and Maude, for future ringers to know their predecessors.

The list of names whose photos appear is—Joseph Glover, Joshua Illingworth, Richard Hanson, John Ross, Ben Bean, John Child, all deceased: Wm. Sugden, Thos. Roberts, Job A. Ross, Simeon Langstaffe, John Green, all retired; Frank Birks, John Smith, John Langstaffe, Wilson Bateman, Saml. Stott, Richard Farrer, Walter Child, Pratt Cordingley, Thos. Latimer, present band. It is a regrettable fact that no photograph could be obtained of Wm. Dumbleton, who was a noted long peal ringer in his day, having rang the tenor in a 15,168 changes, occupying 8 hrs. 43 mins., at Elland on December 26th, 1831, and a peal of 10,080 at Lowmoor in 6 hrs. He was also an accomplished conductor.

HINGHAM, NORFOLK.

The members of St. Andrew's company, ten in number, had their outing on Wednesday, May 11th. Starting from Hingham at 9 a.m. in a waggonette the following places were visited and short touches rung on the bells: Quidenham, East Harling, Banham, Old and New Buckenham, and Attleborough. All were six-bell towers, and as each member wished to try the bells no long touches were attempted. At some of the towers they were met by members of the local company, who joined in the ringing. After a journey of thirty-six miles home was reached about 8.15, where a supper awaited them at The Cock inn, served up in host Eagling's usual style, to which one and all did ample justice. The Rev. D. Harmer presided. This was the first ringing tour undertaken by the present company, but all expressed a hope it would not be the last. It was decided to continue paying the twopence per week, which the members have been contributing since Christmas, with a view to an autumn tour. The members wish to thank the Rector for so kindly and willingly granting them the use of the bells, and the members of the local companies who met to welcome them.

LONDON.—On Sunday evening, April 10th, at St. Mary's church, Stoke Newington, for Divine Service, four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. Spencer, 1; G. Gains, 2; H. Stubbs (conductor), 3; M. Digby, 4; G. Blaber, 5; H. Blaber, 6. Also several 6-scores with W. C. Waterman ringing the 3rd. M. Digby hails from Swanscombe, Kent.

THE LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN GUILD.

The annual meeting of this Guild was held on Saturday, May 7th, at Sefton. The occasion was a special one, for the bells had been rehung at a cost of £120, and the Guild meeting was also an opening festival. Representatives were present from the following belfries: Aughton, Bootle, Crosby, Crossens, Ormskirk, Sefton, and Tuebrook. The bells were found in splendid going order. After a number of touches had been rung, Divine Service was held, at which an address was given by the Rev. W. T. Bulpit, founded on Colossians iii. 23: "Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord." The rev. gentleman, in an animated, technical, and persuasive address, said that the requirements in a peal of intelligence of brain, quickness of eye, activity of hands, and exercise of the body were illustrations of spiritual doing, and the whole was enforced by the glorious harmonies of the peal, and the antiquity of the fane in which so many generations had worshipped.

The business meeting was held in the vestry, and included the passing of accounts and the adoption of the report. Mr. W. Bentham explained the accounts which balance thus: General fund, £9 18s. 10d.; benevolent fund, £11 10s. 5d. Mr. Bentham then spoke upon the eight-bell methods which he had edited for the report. Mr. R. H. Barton explained the six-bell methods which he had edited, and enforced the pleasure derived from diligent practice. The Rev. T. W. Bulpit moved the adoption of the report and a vote of thanks to the compilers, enlarging upon its usefulness and the skill and thought necessary for its compilation. The Chairman, Mr. John Martin, in putting the vote to the meeting, expressed the pleasure he had in presiding, especially as it was in a church so intimately connected with his life. A very strong expression of sympathy was accorded Mr. John Prescott, ringer and late sexton of Ormskirk parish church, in his severe illness, and a sum of £5 was voted to him out of the benevolent fund. An interesting fact is recorded that Mr. Prescott rang for all the anniversaries of Her Majesty's reign. After new members had been elected, a warm vote of thanks to Mr. Martin was carried with acclamation.

An adjournment was then made, and some 60 members partook of an excellent dinner, to which they were invited by Messrs. W. Hope and W. Peck. The Rector (Rev. G. W. Wall) presided, and Mrs. Hope and Miss Bulpit were also present. At the conclusion, a vote of thanks to their hosts was proposed by the Rev. W. T. Bulpit, seconded by Mr. J. Martin, and carried amid great applause, and duly responded to.

REOPENING AT NUTFIELD, SURREY.

On Saturday, May 14th, the bells of the parish church of Nutfield were dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Rochester. Messrs. Mears and Stainbank were entrusted with the work of recasting the treble (which was cracked), tuning, and rehanging the whole in a new oak frame and fittings. The Whitechapel firm have fully upheld their reputation, the bells going well, and the improvement effected by the retuning is greatly admired by all who hear them. The tenor is 11½ cwt.

The frame is so constructed that two additional bells to complete the octave can be added at any future time without disturbing the others. May such a desirable and necessary consummation soon be attained.

THE ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIORS, GLOUCESTER.

NOTICE.—If any member of the Central Council passing through Gloucester on the Saturday, Sunday, or Monday, 28th, 29th, or 30th, would like to break the journey here they will receive a hearty welcome by the St. Michael's Juniors, who will try and arrange some ringing for them. I have arranged with Mr. W. Hale, of Painswick, for a peal of Stedman Cinques, on Whit-Monday. Anyone wishing to take part, please write to me not later than the 26th, so that I can make the necessary arrangements. JOHN AUSTIN.

Bentham Villa, Conduit Street, Gloucester.

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.

BELLRINGERS AT THRAPSTON, NORTHANTS.

The Higham Ferrers Second Deanery Association of Church Bellringers held their sixteenth annual meeting at Thrapston on a recent Monday. The Association was founded in 1882, and is under the presidency of Mr. S. G. Stopford Sackville. The proceedings commenced at 10 a.m., when the members rang a merry peal at the Parish Church, and the ringing was afterwards continued at the churches of Islip, Tichmarsh, Aldwinckle, and Woodford. At one o'clock a dinner was provided at The King's Arms, a splendid repast being placed on the tables by Host Whitney. This was followed by a meeting, business of the usual routine character being transacted. A service was then held in the Parish Church, the preacher being the Rev. F. G. Hodgson, Rector of Aldwinckle. The clergy also present were the Rev. J. T. Watson, Woodford; Rev. S. Kingsford; Rev. G. M. Edmonds, Stoke Doyle; and Rev. F. M. Stopford, Tichmarsh. A public tea was held in the National Schoolroom at five o'clock, the following being responsible for the arrangements: Mrs. Kingsford, Mrs. J. Pashler, Mrs. Grant, Miss Hillyard, Mr. J. B. Carter, and Mr. G. Sharp. The net proceeds were given to the Church Bells Restoration Fund.

HARROLD, BEDFORDSHIRE.

A public meeting has been held at the National Schoolroom, Harrold, to consider the re-hanging of the bells of St. Peter's Church. Mr. William Manton was voted to the chair, on the motion of the Vicar.—After explaining the object of the meeting, the chairman called on the Vicar to make a financial statement, which showed there was £199 in hand.—Mr. Alston, of the Hall, in sending a letter of apology, promised £5, and Mrs. Pickering sent £2. It was then raised to £200 by a friend in the room. Mr. Thomas Knight's estimate for the works amounted to nearly £250, owing to the tenor bell being cracked. It was resolved to re-hang the six bells and have the tenor bell recast. Others present at the meeting offered about £10. A committee was appointed to superintend the work, consisting of the Vicar, Churchwardens, and Messrs. G. Wells, J. Bird, W. Manton, J. Pickering, C. Lefevre, and F. Crouch. This was a most practical meeting, and it is hoped before long to have the old bells in good going order. A complimentary vote was accorded the chairman, and a very enthusiastic meeting closed.

LANGHAM, ESSEX.

On Saturday, April 23, Messrs. Sillitoe and Howell, of All Saints, Sudbury; Beckwith and Elliott of Coggeshall; Nevard and Bowers of Great Bentley; Howell, jun. of Colchester; C. Clarke of Thorington; and the Rev. H. Eyre of Great Totham, met by appointment at the above place, by the kind invitation of H. Nocton, Esq., of The Hall, for the purpose of an afternoon's ringing on the recently augmented and rehung peal (by Taylors) in the tower of the parish church. Great disappointment was felt at the enforced absence of the squire, who met with an accident the day previous, which necessitated his going to London immediately. The party however was liberally entertained by him at The Hall, a splendid repast awaiting them when they had finished ringing. A 720 of Kent Treble Bob was rung by H. Bowers, W. J. Nevard, D. Elliott, J. W. Howell, E. Beckwith, and C. Sillitoe (conductor).

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

BOWDON, STOCKPORT AND MOTTRAM BRANCH.—A meeting of this Branch of the Diocesan Guild was held at Rostherne on Saturday the 21st inst. The weather was overcast and showery, but the attendance was very good. Sixty members were present at the very hearty service in the church, when the Vicar preached an interesting sermon, and sixty-three sat down to tea. Twelve belfries were represented, and the gathering was hearty, sociable and in every way encouraging and successful. The next meeting is arranged to take place at Northenden on Saturday, July 2nd. H. LEIGH MALLORY, Hon. Branch Sec.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The half-yearly meeting of this Association was held on the 30th ult. at Oldham, when there was a fair attendance of members considering what a day it was, the weather being all against a good meeting, as it was decidedly wet and windy. However, the following places were represented: Oldham, Rochdale, Bolton, Flixton, Bacup, Heywood, Middleton, Pendleton, Waterfoot, and Worsley. The bells of the parish church were set going with Stedman Caters, but which did not come round. An excellent tea was provided at the parish church schools, to which about 45 sat down. Afterwards the business meeting was held, under the chairmanship of the Rev. H. J. Elsee, President of the Association, who first of all alluded to the loss the Association had sustained by the death of the late Secretary, Mr. Joel Redford, and to the memorial which was being got up to his memory.

Mr. Wreaks informed the meeting how much money he had received for this purpose. The Rev. J. Perry-Gore was elected an honorary life member of the Association. The customary votes of thanks to the various authorities for the use of schoolroom, bells, etc., were then carried unanimously.

A short service was then held in the church, the Vicar giving a most excellent address on the ancient uses of bells in various parts of the country. This over, ringing was indulged in, the following methods being rung: Superlative Surprise Major, Kent Treble Bob Royal and Maximus, Grandsire Caters and Cinques, Stedman Caters and Cinques. This concluded the first meeting of the Association has had the pleasure of holding at the town of hills and tall chimneys—Oldham. Permission had also been obtained for the use of Glodwick (8 bells), Moorside (8 bells), Leesfield (8 bells), and East Crompton (6 bells), but owing to the small attendance they were not required.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting of the Lewisham district of this Association was held at the church of St. John the Baptist, Erith, on Saturday, April 30th. There was a fair attendance of members, and touches of Grandsire, Stedman, Treble Bob, and Double Norwich kept the bells going until a late hour.

A business meeting was held in the tower, Mr. C. Wilkins taking the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were duly read and passed, and the election of new members confirmed. St. Margaret's, Lee, was named and carried as the place to hold the next quarterly meeting; St. Alphege Greenwich to be a substitute in the event of being unable to get the former tower open. A vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, etc., concluded the meeting.

Correspondence.

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

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

THE DRAFT SCHEME OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

SIR,—No ringer after reading the draft scheme as published in your last issue, will deny that the Committee are well qualified to grapple with the difficult task before them. With reference to form "C" may I suggest the following queries: If half-pull change-ringing is not practised, why not? How many ringers belonging to your tower have signified their wish to learn? For the furtherance of half-pull change-ringing, it is of course most important that the bells be made "pealable." This the Council grasps, but they do not seem to grasp the fact that after restoration too frequently societies make no further effort, but leave the band of ringers to learn the Art as best they can. With what result? Although I frequently contribute to your columns under a *nom de plume*, I will now sign

National Provincial Bank, Bristol.

[This letter came too late for insertion last week.]

PEAL POINTS.

SIR,—On looking through the agenda paper for the Central Council meeting in Mr. Attree's schedule of points he has omitted giving any points for Cambridge Royal, Double Norwich Caters and Gloucester Surprise, in all of which peals have been rung, and certainly deserve a place in the list.

JOHN AUSTIN.

Obituary.

JOSEPH NORTH, OF LEICESTER.

DIED MAY 14, 1898, AGED 71 YEARS.

The Midland Counties Association loses another member by the decease of the above-named ringer. A native of Syston, a village some four or five miles from Leicester, he was instrumental in helping to increase the bells there to a ring of eight. For some years he kept the well-known ringing house, The Bell inn. He rang in the first peal of Grandsire Triples on the bells, conducted by John W. Taylor, jun., and also rang in a peal at St. Mark's Leicester. He raised a band of change-ringers around him at Syston, but advancing age compelled him to reluctantly yield the art to younger men. Twelve months or more ago he came to live with his son-in-law and died there after a short illness. An amiable and obliging ringer, the only regret was that his bodily strength was not equal to his pluck and perseverance. The funeral took place on Tuesday at Syston, and there the bells were rung half-muffled in honour of him. The Leicester change-ringers also met at St. Saviour's, Leicester, and rang several touches with the bells double-muffled as a last token of respect to one who was a man and a brother to all. May he rest in peace.

W. W.

MUFFLED TOUCHES IN MEMORY OF MR. GLADSTONE.

The following touches have been rung with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to the late RIGHT HON. W. E. GLADSTONE:—

CHESTERFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday evening, May 22nd, for Divine Service, 1280 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 50 mins., with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of Mr. Gladstone. G. Toplis, 1; G. M. Farr, 2; J. H. Bell, 3; S. Price, 4; J. Hunt, 5; J. P. Tarlton, 6; G. Davies, 7; A. Knights (conductor), 8. Tenor 24½ cwt. The foregoing are all members of the Midland Counties Association.

HANDSWORTH (Staffordshire). On Sunday, May 22nd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes in 47 mins. T. Verry, 1; W. Verry, 2; W. H. Godden, 3; B. Starkey, 4; A. Smith, 5; R. Faux, 6; T. Westwood (conductor), 7; R. Speakman, 8. Composed by H. Johnson. Rung with bells muffled as a mark of respect to the late W. E. Gladstone.

LYMINGE (Kent).—On Sunday, May 22nd, 360 of Bob Minor. H. Beale, 1; A. Castle, 2; J. Andrews, 3; J. Whitnall, 4; W. Beal, 5; A. Tanton, 6. After service, another 720 by the same band conducted by A. Tanton. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late W. E. Gladstone.

TARPORLEY (Cheshire). On Sunday, May 22nd, the ringers of St. Helen's parish church paid a touching tribute to the memory of the late Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, when for Divine Service, 504 Bob Triples with the bells half-muffled were rung as follows: Morning, H. Fitton, 1; J. Sheen, 2; H. Wright, 3; J. Hunt, 4; W. Stockton, 5; F. Vernon (conductor), 6; J. Richardson, 7; F. Lewis, 8. Evening, 504 Bob Triples were rung in the order above named with the exception of the tenor, which was rung by C. Elson. The above ringers all belong to the local band, and are all members of the Chester Diocesan Guild.

WELLINGBOROUGH (Northants).—For Divine Service on Sunday evening, May 22nd, by the parish church ringers, with the bells half-muffled in respect to the memory of William Ewart Gladstone, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by W. H. Ette, and a 168 in the same method, conducted by W. Wood. E. J. Dennes, 1; G. Turnell, 2; W. Wood, 3; F. Underwood, 4; F. Wood, 5; E. West, 6; W. H. Ette, 7; T. Craddock, 8.

WILLESDEN (Middlesex).—At St. Mary's church, on the day on which the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone died, the bells were rung muffled, the number of whole-pulls corresponding to the years of his life, followed by the whole pull and stand. Also for Divine Service on Sunday, May 22nd, a 720 of Bob Minor and two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, the bells being still muffled. A. Kirby, H. Kilby, J. Jackman, A. Pittam, R. Kilby, A. Tennant. Conducted by A. Pittam. Mr. Gladstone was a frequent visitor at the above church during his stay at Dollis Hill House, at that time the residence of the Earl of Aberdeen.

FOR SALE.—A PEAL OF 110 HANDBELLS, C 29 to C 01 Chromatic Scale. 61 bells, with 37 bells as duplicates, C 22 to C 1 Chromatic Scale, and also a few triplicates; all in good condition. By Mears and Stainbank. For any further particulars, apply, John Millett, Egerton Street, Broadfield, Heywood.

January	Feb. Mar.	April	Treble Bob.	Grandsire.	Minor Methods.	Plain Methods.	Surprise Mtds.	Stedman.
Total	Maximus.	Royal.	Major.	to T. B. Minor methods.	7 Treble Bob Minor methods.	Caters.	Major.	Triples.
16	14	12	20	15	9	8	7	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48
49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57
58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66
67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75
76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84
85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93
94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102
103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111
112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120
121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129
130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138
139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147
148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156
157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165
166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174
175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183
184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192
193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201
202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210
211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219
220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228
229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237
238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246
247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255
256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264
265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273
274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282
283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291
292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300
301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309
310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318
319	320	321	322	323	324	325	326	327
328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336
337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344	345
346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354
355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363
364	365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372
373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380	381
382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390
391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399
400	401	402	403	404	405	406	4	

The peals of Triples, Major and Royal in plain methods comprise: Bob Triples, 5; Bob Major, 35; Bob Royal, 2; Oxford Bob Triples, 3; Court Bob Triples, 2; Union Triples, 1; Darlaston Bob Triples, 4; Canterbury Pleasure Major, 2. The peals of Doubles: *1 method; †2 methods; ‡4 and 7 methods; †12 methods. The 10 peals by Independent Societies were rung in the following counties: Essex, 1; Gloucester, 1; Lincolnshire, 1; Middlesex, 1; N. Wales, 1; Suffolk, 1; Sussex, 1; Westmoreland, 1; Worcestershire, 1; and Yorkshire, 1.

January, 105; February, 104; March, 82; April, 90. Total, 381. Increase on the corresponding four months of 1897:—68.

8, Hanover Crescent, Brighton. GEO. F. ATTREE.

On Easter Monday the annual contest in connection with this Association took place at Halifax parish church. There was only a poor attendance of members, owing chiefly to the weight of the bells. Ringing commenced at 2 o'clock and finished at 6. The number of changes rung was 1344, and shortly after the judges, Messrs. John Cordingley and Hanson Kitchen gave their decision as follows: Dewsbury 478 faults, first, Association Cup; Liversedge 692 faults, second; Almondbury, 1229 faults, third. Other prizes were given by the Halifax company, consisting of electro-plated cruets first; half-dozen knives and forks second; black ebony walking sticks third. This being the third time in succession the Dewsbury company have won the cup it now becomes their own property.

Having obtained permission to attempt the first 720 on the bells of the parish church, which were dedicated and opened on Easter Monday, an account of which has appeared, W. W. Thorne invited Messrs. Jones, Blondell, Wiltshire, Hunt and E. C. Boniface, of the St. Nicolas band, Guildford, and the Winchester Diocesan Guild, to meet him there on Wednesday, May 4th, at 7.30 sharp. Quick to

time they arrived, but Thorne and his bike got in the Slow, which made him a little late in his arrival. A start was made for a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, which was rung in 25 mins., and so the first 720 on the bells was an accomplished fact. C. Wiltshire, 1; W. W. Thorne, 2; J. Hunt, 3; J. J. Jones, 4; F. Blondell, 5; E. C. Boniface (conductor), 6. Also 720 Plain Bob Minor. C. Wiltshire, 1; J. J. Jones, 2; J. Hunt, 3; E. C. Boniface, 4; F. Blondell, 5; W. W. Thorne, 6. A 720 Grandsire was attempted, but was lost, A. J. Boniface of Merrow at the treble. And 120 Stedman Doubles. C. Wiltshire, 1; J. J. Jones, 2; J. Hunt, 3; W. W. Thorne, 4; F. Blondell, 5; M. Brown, 6. Conducted by W. W. Thorne. This is a very fine peal of six, and a great credit to their founders. The bells are rather noisy in the ringing room, but another floor is going to be put in. After slight refreshments a move was made for home, all being satisfied with their evening's outing. They wish to thank the Rector for granting them permission, and Mr. A. J. Boniface for having everything in readiness.

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.

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

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MAY 28, 1898:

THE Central Council meets next Monday, of which fact our readers have been sufficiently informed. The city wherein the meeting is to be held, is one of great historical interest, and from the amount of bell metal therein, ought to commend itself to the notice of all. Though the old city possesses so many rings of bells, we very much fear that only a few of them can be said to "go" well, as the word is understood. There is one ring of twelve; three of ten; and several of eight. The recent restoration of the ten at the church of St. Nicholas has been carried out just in time for the visit of the Council, and we may expect that most of those members who have a pull in expectation, will essay their skill upon them.

Perhaps we may be permitted to hope that some proposition will be made relative to the loss the nation and humanity at large has sustained by the death of a very great statesman. A notice by the Rev. H. A. COCKEY follows the agenda, and no doubt many will accept this invitation, while Mr. AUSTIN's unique arrangements for having a pull at such an interesting place as Painswick affords an opportunity which should not be disregarded.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The Eighth Annual Meeting of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers will be held on Whit-Tuesday, May 31st, 1898, at St. Mary Redcliffe Parish Hall, Bristol (a few minutes' walk from the Railway Station), at 1.30 o'clock, punctually.

The Standing Committee will meet at 11 a.m. in the second-class refreshment room on the up platform of the railway station, where an apartment will be specially reserved. Arrangements will be made to place bells at the disposal of members after the Meeting.

From 9 till 11 p.m. there will be a social gathering of members at St. Stephen's Restaurant, Baldwin Street.

AGENDA.

1. Minutes of the last Meeting.
2. Election of Hon. Members (if desired).
3. To receive the Treasurer's statement.
4. To receive a further Report of the Committee on Railway Fares.
5. To receive an interim Report from the Committee on the Glossary of Technical Terms.
6. To receive any further Report on the progress of the Bibliography.
7. To receive an interim Report from the Peal Collection Committee.
8. To call attention to a defect in the Council's definition of true peals, and, if approved, to rectify the same.
9. To consider, with a view to a decision, the Report of the Peal Values Committee, submitted to the last meeting, and re-printed in our last number.
10. To consider, with a view to a decision, the Report of the Peal Collection Committee on "Original Composition" and "Variation," submitted to the last meeting, and re-printed in our last number.
11. The following subjects will be discussed:—
 - a. The draft of procedure proposed by the committee appointed to compile a Report on the condition of church bells, etc., already published.
 - b. The propriety of designating Thurstans' well-known composition in Stedman Triples as his "Four-part," and in like manner, his other compositions as his "Five-part" and "One-part."
 - c. The desirability or otherwise of Sunday peal ringing.
 - d. How far, and under what conditions, any departure from the true and clear ringing of every change is permissible in the performance of a peal.

H. EARLE BULWER, *Hon. Sec.*

There will be ringing at St. Mary Redcliffe (twelve bells) on Whit-Sunday, at 1 p.m., 6 p.m., and 8 p.m. Any further information as to ringing on that day and on the Monday and Tuesday in Whitsun-week, will gladly be given by the Rev. H. A. Cockey, Oldland Vicarage, Bristol.

BRAUGHING, HERTS.

The 115th Anniversary of the 12,000 Bob Major was held at the above place on May 10th. Ringers put in an appearance from the following towers: Harlow, Bishop Stortford, Little Munden, Hertford, Roydon, Hunsdon, Sawbridgeworth, and Ware. During the afternoon touches in various methods, were rung, including 576 Kent Treble Bob Major and 504 and 503 Grand-sire Triples, 672 Bob Major and Stedman Triples. Tea was provided at The Brown Bear, by Mrs. Ryder, to which seventeen sat down. After tea a vote of thanks was moved by Mr. W. H. Lawrence, of Little Munden, to the Vicar, Rev. P. G. Ward, for the use of the bells, and seconded by Mr. H. J. Tucker, of Bishop Stortford, and carried unanimously. Ringing was kept up till 8 o'clock, when all dispersed, after having spent a most enjoyable time.

W. H. L.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday, May 12th, at St. Nicholas Cathedral, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Major in 30 mins. E. Lincoln, 1; E. Wallis, 2; H. Dall, 3; A. F. Hillier, 4; *R. Richard, 5; W. Holmes (conductor), 6. Tenor 37½ cwt. *First 720 of Oxford.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, May 16, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 10½ cwt. in G.

HENRY R. NEWTON Treble.	GEORGE R. FARDON 5.
WILLIAM E. MOSS 2.	HENRY S. ELLIS 6.
FRANCIS E. DAWE 3.	JOHN N. OXBORROW 7.
ARTHUR G. ELLIS 4.	CHARLES T. P. BRICE .. Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

Reference to this peal will be found elsewhere.

The Provinces.

BOLTON.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, May 17, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt.

PETER INCE Treble.	JOHN MAKINSON 5.
JOSEPH PENNINGTON 2.	PETER NUTTALL 6.
WILLIAM FARNWORTH 3.	HENRY MOSS 7.
WILLIAM THORNLEY 4.	JOHN MAKIN Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY MOSS.

WORTLEY, NEAR SHEFFIELD, YORKS.

On Wednesday, May 18, 1898, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

GEORGE PARKIN Treble.	JOHN PARKIN 5.
THOMAS MCKEGG 2.	W. DRONFIELD 6.
EDWARD ROBBINS 3.	THOS. ROBBINS 7.
ARTHUR SAXBY 4.	JOHN DRONFIELD Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN, of Lincoln, and

Conducted by JOHN DRONFIELD.

First peal of Kent Treble Bob Major by all the band.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, May 20, 1898, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

HARRY STRATFORD Treble.	RALPH H. BIGGS 5.
FRED. G. BIGGS 2.	*FRANK BOREHAM 6.
JOHN C. TRUSS 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 7.
FRANK K. BIGGS 4.	JOHN EVANS Tenor.

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK and Conducted by JOHN EVANS.

*First peal of London.

ALVECHURCH, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 21, 1898, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

FRED. W. SUMNER Treble.	JOHN S. PRITCHETT 5.
ALFRED PRITCHETT 2.	WILLIAM SHORT 6.
FREDERICK CLAYTON 3.	WILLIAM PALMER 7.
THEODORE PRITCHETT 4.	WILLIAM S. PRITCHETT .. Tenor.

Composed by S. MARSH, of West Bromwich, and
Conducted by WILLIAM S. PRITCHETT.

This peal it is believed is now rung for the first time. Rung with the bells half muffled as a tribute to the memory of the late Right Hon. William Ewart Gladstone. This peal has the 4th, 5th, and 6th their extent in 6ths place, and eighteen times each in 5ths, the 2nd never in 6ths at a course end, the 2nd or 3rd in 2nds at thirteen course ends. Published in August 1887, and is believed to be the first ever published with these qualities.

MORTIMER, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. (READING BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 21, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 11½ cwt.

HENRY AUSTIN* Treble.	WALTER JERROM 5
FRANK HOPGOOD 2.	HENRY TUCKER 6.
JAMES MASON* 3.	ALFRED E. REEVES 7.
THOMAS NEVILLE* 4.	*WILLIAM FORD Tenor.

Conducted by FRANK HOPGOOD.

*First peal.

LOUGHTON, ESSEX—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 21, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

WILLIAM H. DORAN Treble.	JAMES RANN 5.
WILLIAM PYE 2.	GEORGE CARTER 6.
EDWARD A. BACON 3.	EDGAR WIGHTMAN 7.
FREDERICK FREEMAN 4.	WALTER CLARK Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(THE BUSHEY SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, May 21, 1898, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Oxford Bob, College Single, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, Plain Bob, and Grandsire. Tenor 13 cwt.

GEORGE W. CARTMEL .. Treble.	CHARLES R. LILLEY .. 4.
WILLIAM G. WHITEHEAD .. 2.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 5.
CHARLES GEORGE 3.	ERNEST E. HUNTLEY .. Tenor.

Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

First peal on the bells, which have been lately rehung by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough.

BROOKFIELD, GORTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 22, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

WILLIAM SEDDON Treble.	EPHRAIM HORN 5.
JOHN W. TOPPIN 2.	JAMES JONES 6.
EPHRAIM COLLINS* 3.	†JOHN FEARNHEAD 7.
CHARLES H. BLAKELEY .. 4.	*WILLIAM FEARNHEAD .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN FEARNHEAD.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor and first attempt. Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a last mark of respect to the late Right Hon. William Ewart Gladstone.

First peal by a local band for twenty years.

BURGHFIELD, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, May 22, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720s each called differently. Tenor 11½ cwt.

FREDERICK WENMAN* .. Treble.	WILLIAM CLARK 4.
ERNEST BRUCE 2.	FREDERICK RICHARDSON .. 5.
THOMAS HERRIDGE 3.	ARTHUR W. HIGGS Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK RICHARDSON.

*First peal and first attempt.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

On Sunday, May 22, 1898, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 20 cwt.

W. JAKEMAN Treble.	G. H. DONAL 5.
B. THORPE 2.	W. W. WOLSTENCROFT .. 6.
J. DONALD 3.	J. HARRISON 7.
WALTER JAKEMAN 4.	*H. PALMER Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM JAKEMAN.

*First peal. Rung in commemoration of the 79th birthday of Her Majesty the Queen.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 23, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

HUGH D. DALL Treble.	WILLIAM STORY 5.
FREDK. J. HARRISON .. 2.	ERNEST E. FERRY 6.
JOHN W. DAWSON* 3.	ROBERT RICHARDS 7.
CHARLES L. ROUTLEDGE .. 4.	GEORGE DIXON Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES L. ROUTLEDGE.

*First peal of Stedman.

DEANE, BOLTON.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BOLTON AND MANCHESTER BRANCHES.)

On Monday, May 23, 1898, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOSEPH PENNINGTON .. Treble.	ROBERT FIDDIES 5.
THOMAS PEERS 2.	WILLIAM DUCKWORTH .. 6.
JOHN MOSCROP 3.	*EDMUND HEWITT 7.
JOSEPH PORTER 4.	TITUS BARLOW Tenor.

Composed by W. SHIPWAY and Conducted by TITUS BARLOW.

*First peal in the method.

CRAYFORD, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 23, 1898, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,

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

Tenor 12½ cwt.

ARTHUR PEILL Treble.	JOHN H. CHEESMAN 5.
GEORGE CYNARD 2.	ARTHUR NEALE 6.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE* .. 3.	CHARLES WILKINS 7.
JOHN TURNER 4.	EDWIN BARNETT Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by EDWIN BARNETT.

*First peal in the method. Rung with the bells half muffled as a mark of respect to the late Right Hon. William Ewart Gladstone.

SOUTHOVER, LEWES, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, May 24, 1898, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 17 cwt. 3 qrs. 27 lbs.

GEORGE WILLIAMS Treble.	ALFRED J. TURNER 5.
ROBERT J. DAWE 2.	GEORGE A. KING 6.
FRANK BENNETT 3.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 7.
WILLIAM PELLING 4.	KEITH HART Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a mark of respect to the late Right Hon. William Ewart Gladstone.

Date Touches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LOW MOOR (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, May 15th, at the church of The Holy Trinity, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major in 1 hr. 6 mins. S. Clark, 1; H. Raistrick, 2; A. Wilkinson, 3; E. Wheeler (composer and conductor), 4; J. Pratt, 5; H. Kershaw, 6; J. W. Emmett, 7; C. Dracup, 8. Messrs. Clark, Raistrick, and Wheeler hail from Bradford, the rest belong to Low Moor.

PONTEFRAC (Yorks).—On Sunday, April 13th, at the parish church, a date touch of Stedman Triples in 1 hr. 19 mins. J. E. Keen, 1; W. Jackson, 2; W. Pearson, 3; J. Carter, 4; C. Watts, 5; J. Jackson, 6; F. Moody (conductor), 7; F. Hargreaves, 8.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AND YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

TREETON (Yorks).—On Tuesday, April 12th, a date touch in the following methods in 1 hr. 4 mins.: 74 Duke of York, 144 College Treble, 240 College Pleasure, and 720 each of Killamarsh Treble Bob, and London Scholars' Pleasure. A. Woolfenden, 1; W. Allwood, 2; S. Walker, 3; J. H. Brothwell, 4; T. Whitworth, 5; W. Lambert (conductor), 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROYDON (Essex).—On Friday, April 22nd, at St. Peter's church, a date touch of Doubles, in 1 hr. 7 mins., being 240 St. Dunstan's, 240 Antelope, 480 Old Doubles, and 938 Grandsire Doubles. J. Sewell, 1; W. Marrable, 2; I. Cavill (conductor), 3; A. Pearman, 4; W. Littlechild, 5; W. Pearman, 6. Tenor 9 cwt.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BLACKBURN BRANCH.

BURNLEY (Lancashire).—On Thursday, April 28th, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major in 1 hr. 11 mins. N. Townend, 1; F. Towns, 2; D. Campbell, 3; R. Hartley, 4; J. R. Werring (composer), 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. Rung as a farewell touch for J. R. Werring, who is leaving Burnley for Birmingham.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

HAZEL GROVE (Cheshire).—On Thursday, April 28th, at the parish church, a date touch, 1898 changes, in 1 hr. 7 mins. in the following methods; 98 Plain Bob, 240 Violet Treble Bob, 240 New London Pleasure Treble Bob, 240 Oxford Treble Bob, 360 College Single, 360 Grandsire, and 360 Kent Treble Bob. J. Fernley, 1; J. Dean, 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; S. Fernley, 4; S. Rutter, 5; A. Fernley, 6. Tenor 9 cwt. Arranged by S. Rutter and conducted by S. Fernley. Longest touch on the bells by the band, and first in seven methods by any company of the Stockport and Bowden branch of the above Guild.

Miscellaneous.

THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY, MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA.

MELBOURNE (Australia).—On Monday, January 24th, for practice at St. Patrick's tower, 938 Grandsire Triples in 38 mins. B. Thornhill (longest length in the method), 1; E. O'Shea (longest length in the method with a bob bell), 2; A. Bames (conductor), 3; W. Shenton, 4; J. C. Nolan, 5; M. O'Shea, 6; J. L. Murray, 7; J. Sheahan, 8. On Sunday evening, February 6th, for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples in 20 mins. B. Thornhill, 1; E. O'Shea, 2; J. P. Nolan, 3; W. Shenton, 4; J. C. Nolan, 5; J. L. Murray (conductor), 6; A. Bames, 7; J. Sheahan, 8. On Wednesday, February 9th, an attempt was made for a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, but came to grief after ringing 700 changes. S. Hallissy, 1; A. Bames, 2; E. Bryning, 3; J. L. Murray, 4; J. C. Nolan (conductor), 5; M. O'Shea, 6; E. O'Shea, 7; W. Shenton, 8. Also 720 Grandsire Minor. E. O'Shea, 1; W. Shenton, 2; J. C. Nolan, 3; M. O'Shea, 4; A. Bames (conductor), 5; J. L. Murray, 6. On Monday, February 28th, an attempt was made for a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, but came to grief after ringing over 1000 changes owing to a mis-call. A. Bames, 1; S. Hallissy, 2; J. P. Nolan, 3; E. O'Shea, 4; J. C. Nolan (conductor), 5; M. O'Shea, 6; J. L. Murray, 7; J. Sheahan, 8. On Sunday, March 28th, 504 Grandsire Triples. M. O'Shea, 1; E. Bryning, 2; J. P. Nolan, 3; W. Shenton, 4; E. O'Shea, 5; J. L. Murray (conductor), 6; J. C. Nolan, 7; A. Bames, 8. Also 420 Stedman Triples. S. Hallissy, 1; M. O'Shea, 2; J. P. Nolan, 3; E. Bryning, 4; J. L. Murray, 5; J. C. Nolan (conductor), 6; E. O'Shea, 7; A. Bames, 8.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TANFIELD (Durham).—On Sunday morning, April 17th, for Divine

Service, 840 Bob Triples. F. Sheraton, 1; T. Brewis, 2; W. Brewis, 3; H. Fyson, 4; W. Sheraton, 5; F. Lowe, 6; F. J. Harrison, 7; J. Nicholson, 8. After service the ringers attempted a peal of Bob Triples to celebrate the silver wedding of the vicar, the Rev. T. H. Archdall, M.A., and Mrs. Archdall, but after ringing 1 hr. 30 mins. it came to grief. F. Sheraton, 1; H. Fyson, 2; W. Brewis, 3; W. R. Brewis, 4; W. Sheraton, 5; F. Lowe, 6; F. J. Harrison (conductor), 7; J. Nicholson, 8. For evening service 448 Bob Major. W. Sheraton, 1; T. Brewis, 2; W. R. Brewis, 3; H. Tyson, 4; F. Sheraton, 5; W. Brewis, 6; F. Lowe, 7; F. J. Harrison (conductor), 8. Messrs. Sheraton (2) hail from Chester-le-Street; Harrison from Jarrow; the rest are local men.

THE LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN GUILD.

SEFTON (Lancashire).—On Saturday, May 7th, at St. Helen's church, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. B. Hale, 1; G. Vooas, 2; J. Sephton, 3; S. Hopgood, 4; W. Hale, 5; J. Hale (conductor), 6.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

OXHEY (Herts).—On Sunday evening, April 3rd, for Divine Service, 168 Stedman Triples. J. B. Bates, 1; W. Norris, 2; G. N. Price (conductor), 3; B. Prewett, 4; C. George, 5; W. Norris, 6; H. Martin, 7; J. Vernon, 8. On Sunday evening, April 17th, for Divine Service, 336 Bob Major. H. Eden, 1; J. B. Bates, 2; C. George, 3; B. Prewett, 4; W. Norris, 5; H. Martin, 6; W. Norris, 7; G. N. Price (conductor), 8. Also 308 Grandsire Triples. J. Vernon, 1; H. Martin, 2; C. George, 3; W. Jay, 4; W. Norris, 5; G. N. Price (conductor), 6; Walter Norris, 7; A. Lance, 8. On Tuesday, April 19th, for practice, 336 Bob Major. C. George, 1; J. B. Bates, 2; E. E. Huntley, 3; B. Prewett, 4; H. Martin, 5; G. N. Price (conductor), 6; W. Norris, 7; C. R. Lilley, 8. Also 168 Stedman Triples. H. Martin, 1; W. Norris, 2; C. George, 3; B. Prewett, 4; E. E. Huntley, 5; C. R. Lilley, 6; G. N. Price (conductor), 7; J. B. Bates, 8. And 336 Bob Major. Walter Norris, 1; H. Eden, 2; G. N. Price (conductor), 3; B. Prewett, 4; C. George, 5; C. R. Lilley, 6; W. Norris, 7; H. Martin, 8. Also 168 Stedman Triples. H. Eden, 1; C. R. Lilley, 2; Walter Norris, 3; J. B. Bates, 4; C. George, 5; H. Martin, 6; G. N. Price (conductor), 7; W. Norris, 8. *Handbell Ringing*.—On Wednesday, April 13th, 336 Bob Major. C. George, 1-2; H. Martin, 3-4; G. N. Price, 5-6; Walter Norris, 7-8. On Wednesday, April 20th, 1008 Bob Major. C. George, 1-2; H. Martin, 3-4; G. N. Price (conductor), 5-6; Walter Norris, 7-8. Also 294 Grandsire Triples. C. George (conductor), 1-2; H. Martin, 3-4; G. N. Price, 5-6; Walter Norris, 7-8.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

FINCHLEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday morning, March 20th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Oxford Bob. W. Russell, 1; W. H. Tubb, 2; E. H. Tubb, 3; W. Webb, 4; G. J. Miles, 5; F. L. Sparks (conductor), 6. For evening service 360 Kent Treble Bob. E. H. Tubb, 1; W. Webb, 2; J. Cornell, 3; S. Wade, 4; R. Pickworth, 5; F. Carroway (conductor), 6. Messrs. Wade and Pickworth hail from Hornsey. On Thursday, March 24th, 720 College Single. W. Russell, 1; W. H. Tubb, 2; E. H. Tubb, 3; W. Webb, 4; F. Carroway, 5; F. L. Sparks (first 720 in the method as conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, March 27th, for Divine Service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. W. Mulley, 1; W. H. Tubb, 2; J. Cornell, 3; W. Webb, 4; G. J. Miles, 5; F. Carroway (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, April 3rd, for Divine Service, 360 Oxford Bob. W. Russell, 1; W. H. Tubb, 2; E. H. Tubb, 3; W. Webb, 4; G. J. Miles, 5; F. L. Sparks (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Plain Bob (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles). F. Carroway, 6; the rest as before.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HAYES (Kent).—On Sunday, January 2nd, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles). A. Lanaway, 1; G. Harwood, 2; A. Killick, 3; J. Hack (conductor), 4; E. Stone, 5; H. Reader, 6. For evening service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (thirty singles and three bobs). F. Keech, 1; G. Harwood, 2; J. Hack, 3; J. Town, 4; H. Reader (conductor), 5; E. Stone, 6. On Sunday, February 6th, for morning service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (twenty-two singles). F. Keech, 1; H. Brown, 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Reader, 5; J. Hack (conductor), 6. For evening service, 720 Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles). F. Keech, 1; H. Brown, 2; J. Hack, 3; G. Harwood, 4; E. Stone, 5; H. Reader (conductor), 6. On February 14th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). H. Reader, 1; F. Keech, 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; J. Hack, 5; W. Weatherstone (conductor), 6. On February 21st, 720 in the same method (twenty-six singles). F. Keech, 1; G. Harwood, 2; A. Killick, 3; A. Lanaway, 4; H. Reader, 5; J. Hack (conductor), 6. And 720 Canterbury Pleasure (twenty-six singles). H. Reader, 1; H. Brown, 2; A. Killick, 3; J. Town, 4; J. Hack, 5; G.

Harwood (first in the method as conductor). 6. On Sunday, March 6th, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-six bobs and twelve singles). F. Keech, 1; H. Reader (conductor), 2; A. Killick, 3; J. Town, 4; H. Brown, 5; G. Harwood, 6. For evening service another 720 in the same method (twenty-six singles and sixteen bobs), composed by J. F. Penning. A. Lanaway, 1; H. Brown, 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Reader, 5; J. Hack (conductor), 6. On Monday, March 7th, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob (nine bobs). G. Harwood, 1; H. Brown, 2; J. Hack, 3; H. Reader (first with a bob bell), 4; J. Town, 5; G. Durling (first as conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, March 20th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (thirty singles and three bobs). F. Keech, 1; H. Brown, 2; H. Reader (conductor), 3; G. Harwood, 4; A. Killick, 5; J. Hack, 6. On Easter Sunday, 720 Bob Minor (thirty-two bobs and two singles). A. Lanaway, 1; H. Brown, 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Reader, 5; J. Hack (composer and conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Canterbury Pleasure. F. Keech, 1; H. Reader (conductor), 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Brown, 5; J. Hack, 6. On Sunday evening, April 17th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (thirty singles and three bobs). F. Keech, 1; H. Brown, 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Reader, 5; J. Hack (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, April 25th, on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. W. Moon, of Camberwell, and Miss L. Harrod, of Hayes, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Lanaway, 1; H. Brown, 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Reader, 5; J. Hack (conductor), 6. Also 720 Canterbury Pleasure (eighteen singles and six bobs). F. Keech, 1; H. Reader (composer and conductor), 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Brown, 5; J. Hack, 6. On Sunday, May 1st, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor (thirty-two bobs and two singles). A. Lanaway, 1; H. Brown, 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Reader (conductor), 5; J. Hack (composer), 6. For evening service 720 Canterbury Pleasure (twenty-six singles). F. Keech, 1; J. Hack (conductor), 2; H. Reader, 3; H. Brown, 4; A. Killick, 5; G. Harwood, 6.

PENGE (Surrey).—On Thursday, March 3rd, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. H. Reader, 1; G. Durling, 2; W. Smith, 3; G. Wickens, 4; J. Town, 5; J. Hack (conductor), 6. First in the method by all except the conductor. It is his first attempt to call a 720 in the method, and it is believed to be the first 720 of Oxford on the bells.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

OSWALDTWISTLE (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, March 22nd, 720 Plain Bob (forty-two singles). R. Sharples, 1; J. Bentley, 2; J. J. Haworth, 3; T. Holden, 4; C. Sharples, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6. Also 720 College Single standing as before, conducted by R. Parkinson. On Sunday, April 10th, 720 College Single. R. Sharples, 1; J. Bentley, 2; J. J. Haworth, 3; T. Holden, 4; C. Sharples (conductor), 5; R. Parkinson, 6. On Saturday, April 16th, at the meeting of the Blackburn Branch, 720 Plain Bob. E. Eckroyd (Accrington), 1; J. Bentley, 2; J. J. Haworth, 3; C. Sharples, 4; J. Brown (Hoghton), 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 24th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. R. Sharples, 1; J. Bentley, 2; J. J. Haworth, 3; T. Holden, 4; C. Sharples, 5; R. Parkinson (conductor), 6.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MIDHURST (Sussex).—On Tuesday, 29th, 120 Stedman Doubles. C. Best, 1; T. Stroud, 2; T. E. Ellis, 3; A. B. Bennett (conductor), 4; F. Trussler, 5; G. Boswell, 6. On Sunday morning, April 10th, for the 7 a.m. celebration, 720 Kent. W. Marshall (first 720), 1; C. Best, 2; T. E. Ellis, 3; A. B. Bennett (conductor), 4; T. Stroud, 5; F. Trussler, 6. At 11 a.m. 720 Woodbine. C. Best, 1; T. Stroud, 2; T. E. Ellis, 3; A. B. Bennett (conductor), 4; F. Trussler, 5; J. Lee, 6.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CRADLEY (Herefordshire).—On Sunday, March 20th, 360 Bob Minor. E. S. Kings, 1; C. Watkins, 2; E. Smith, 3; H. Pritchard, 4; J. E. Groves, 5; F. Smith (conductor), 6. On Sunday, March 27th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. C. H. Watts, 1; W. Greenleaf, 2; C. Layton, 3; H. Pritchard, 4; F. Smith, 5; J. E. Groves (conductor), 6. Also 360 Oxford Treble Bob. W. Greenleaf, 1; C. H. Watts, 2; C. Layton, 3; C. Watkins, 4; F. Smith, 5; J. E. Groves (conductor), 6. And 120 Stedman and Grandsire Doubles, W. T. Harley ringing the tenor.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TAUNTON (Somersetshire).—On Tuesday, February 22nd, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. A. Hopkinson, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; W. J. Thomas, 3; J. Fowler, 4; J. Garland, 5; E. Wyatt (first quarter-peal with a bob bell), 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; F. Collins, 8. On Sunday, April 10th, 324 Grandsire Caters. E. Wyatt, 1; F. Millard, 2; G. Yendall, 3; S. Wyatt, 4; H. Poole, 5;

J. Fowler, 6; J. Garland, 7; A. Walker, 8; J. Burge (conductor), 9; F. Collins, 10.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

PATtingham (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, March 13th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 41 mins. T. E. Griffiths, 1; B. Dalton, 2; H. Knight, 3; J. E. Groves (conductor), 4; A. Griffiths, 5; W. G. Hall, 6; R. G. Burrows, 7; F. Jones, 8. Rang after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal of Bob Major, which had to be abandoned owing to the bad go of the tenor, although only having been recently rehung.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

CHELMSFORD (Essex).—On Saturday, May 21st, for practice at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters in 32 mins. A. Edwards, 1; G. W. Sorrell, 2; C. Waskett, 3; W. Rowland, 4; A. Tarbun, 5; A. Whight, 6; W. Hawkes, 7; A. Richell, 8; W. Lincoln (conductor), 9; R. C. Burrell, 10. Composed by J. P. Bradley, of West Ham. In the above touch six towers are represented, viz., Chelmsford, Galleywood, Great Baddow, Springfield, Widford, and Writtle.

BROOMFIELD (Essex).—On Sunday, March 27th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. T. Crozier, 1; C. Parsons, 2; G. Parsons, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; E. Runter, 5; E. Wright (conductor), 6. On Thursday, March 31st, 720 Duke of York. T. Crozier, 1; E. Runter, 2; G. Parsons, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; A. Bradley (conductor), 5; E. Wright, 6. First 720 in the method on the bells and by all the band. On Sunday, April 3rd, 720 Bob Minor. G. Clark, 1; C. Parsons, 2; A. Bradley, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; E. Runter (conductor), 5; E. Wright, 6. On Easter Sunday, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. A. Bradley (conductor), 1; C. Parsons, 2; G. Parsons, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; E. Runter, 5; E. Wright, 6.

SPRINGFIELD (Essex).—On Easter Sunday, 720 Bob Minor. W. Hawkes, 1; D. Dawson, 2; W. Harris, 3; W. Sharpington, 4; M. Rolfe (conductor), 5; H. Sharpington, 6. On Sunday, April 17th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. A. Whight, 1; M. Rolfe, 2; E. Runter, 3; E. Wright, 4; A. Bradley (conductor), 5; H. Sharpington, 6. On Tuesday, April 26th, 720 Kent Treble Bob (fifteen bobs). M. Rolfe, 1; E. Runter, 2; W. Hawkes, 3; A. Bradley (conductor), 4; E. Wright, 5; H. Sharpington, 6. On Tuesday, May 3rd, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. M. Rolfe, 1; A. Bradley, 2; E. Wright, 3; W. Hawkes, 4; E. Runter (conductor), 5; H. Sharpington, 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BLACKBURN BRANCH.

BURNLEY (Lancashire).—On Sunday morning, March 13th, for Divine Service at Holy Trinity church, 576 Oxford. D. Heys, 1; F. Towns, 2; R. Hartley, 3; D. Campbell, 4; N. Townend, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. For evening service 704 Kent. T. Knowles, 1; F. Towns, 2; R. Hartley, 3; D. Campbell, 4; D. Heys, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. On Sunday morning, March 27th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent. T. Knowles, 1; R. Hartley, 2; D. Campbell, 3; N. Townend, 4; T. Redman, 5; R. Ashworth (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Bob Minor. T. Mouncey, 1; D. Campbell, 2; R. Hartley, 3; R. Ashworth, 4; N. Townend, 5; T. Redman, 6. On Friday, April 1st, 720 Kent. T. Knowles, 1; R. Hartley, 2; F. Towns, 3; R. Ashworth, 4; T. Mouncey, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 3rd, 720 Kent. T. Knowles, 1; D. Campbell, 2; R. Hartley, 3; R. Ashworth, 4; F. Towns, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6. Also 640 Oxford Major. T. Knowles, 1; F. Towns, 2; D. Campbell, 3; R. Hartley, 4; J. R. Werring, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. On Sunday morning, 720 Oxford. D. Campbell, 1; R. Hartley, 2; N. Townend, 3; R. Ashworth, 4; T. Mouncey, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Oxford. R. Hartley, 1; D. Campbell, 2; N. Townend, 3; R. Ashworth, 4; T. Mouncey, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 24th, 576 Kent. R. Hartley, 1; F. Towns, 2; N. Townend, 3; J. R. Werring, 4; D. Campbell, 5; D. Heys, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. On Sunday May 1st, 640 Kent. T. Knowles, 1; N. Townend, 2; D. Heys, 3; R. Hartley, 4; D. Campbell, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. On Sunday, May 8th, 640 Kent. T. Knowles, 1; F. Towns, 2; D. Campbell, 3; R. Hartley, 4; D. Heys, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CARDIFF. —On Wednesday, March 16th, for the Confirmation Service, 560 Grandsire Triples. W. Lloyd, 1; J. Clutterbuck, 2; C. Lloyd (conductor), 3; J. Harris, 4; C. Winfield, 5; W. B. Biss, 6; A. Rowley, 7; W. Coombes, 8. On Sunday, March 20th, 602 Grandsire Triples. W. Lloyd, 1; J. Harris, 2; C. Lloyd, 3; R. C. Balcombe, 4; C. Winfield, 5; J. Clutterbuck, 6; W. Coombes (conductor), 7; J. H. Aldridge, 8. On Good Friday for morning service,

with the bells muffled, 336 Grandsire Triples. H. G. White, 1; J. Harris, 2; W. Lloyd, 3; W. B. Biss, 4; C. Winfield, 5; J. Clutterbuck, 6; W. Coombes (conductor), 7; B. Tilling, 8. On Thursday, April 14th, for practice, 167 Grandsire Triples. C. Lloyd, 1; W. Lloyd, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; J. Harris, 4; C. Winfield, 5; W. Biss, 6; W. Coombes (conductor), 7; B. Tilling, 8. Also 349 Grandsire Triples. W. Lloyd, 1; C. Lloyd, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; J. Harris, 4; C. Winfield, 5; W. Biss, 6; W. Coombes (conductor), 7; B. Tilling, 8. On Sunday evening, April 17th, 518 Grandsire Triples. W. Lloyd, 1; J. Clutterbuck, 2; J. Harris, 3; R. C. Balcombe, 4; C. Winfield, 5; W. B. Biss, 6; C. Lloyd (conductor), 7; H. G. White, 8. On Thursday, April 28th, 324 Grandsire Caters. W. Lloyd, 1; J. James, 2; R. C. Balcombe, 3; J. Harris, 4; C. Lloyd, 5; W. B. Biss, 6; A. Rowley, 7; W. Davies, 8; W. Coombes (conductor), 9; C. Winfield, 10. Also 305 Grandsire Caters. W. Lloyd, 1; J. Jones, 2; R. C. Balcombe, 3; J. Harris, 4; W. B. Biss, 5; C. Lloyd, 6; A. Rowley, 7; W. Coombes, 8; W. Davis (conductor), 9; B. Tilling, 10.

LLANDAFF.—On Sunday morning, May 1st, for Divine Service at the cathedral, 335 Grandsire Triples. C. Lloyd (conductor), 1; W. Lloyd, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; J. Harris, 4; R. C. Balcombe, 5; J. Clutterbuck, 6; W. Coombes, 7; J. Thomas, 8. On Monday, May 2nd, for practice, 461 Grandsire Triples. W. Lloyd, 1; C. Lloyd, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; W. B. Biss, 4; J. Clutterbuck, 5; W. Davis, 6; W. Coombes (conductor), 7; R. Brothwell, 8. Also 602 Grandsire Triples. C. Lloyd, 1; W. Coombes, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; R. C. Balcombe, 4; W. B. Biss, 5; W. Davis, 6; J. Clutterbuck (conductor), 7; J. H. Aldridge, 8. And 240 Bob Major. W. Lloyd, 1; J. Clutterbuck, 2; R. C. Balcombe, 3; W. B. Biss, 4; C. Lloyd (conductor), 5; W. Coombes, 6; J. H. Aldridge, 7; W. Davies, 8. J. Jones hails from Newport; W. Davies from Liverpool.

ARMLEY (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, April 17th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob in 26 mins. F. G. Kerry, 1; J. Hey, 2; B. Cowling (conductor), 3; J. Thackray, 4; M. Broadbent, 5; John Thackray, 6.

BRISTOL.—On Sunday, March 27th, 1500 changes, in 1 hr. 4 mins., being 720 Plain Bob, and 780 Grandsire Doubles. F. Isaacs, 1; W. H. Lea, 2; W. H. Thomas, 3; S. Thomas, 4; A. Isaacs, 5; P. Lea, 6. Rung with the bells muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Geo. Richards, jun. On Thursday evening, April 21st, touches of Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles. E. Hauberg, 1; W. Lea, 2; F. Isaacs, 3; S. Thomas, 4; A. Isaacs, 5; A. Harrington, 6. Conducted by S. Thomas.

BATTLE (Sussex).—On Easter Tuesday, April 12th, for practice, touches of Grandsire, Bob Major and Stedman were rung, the conductors being F. Lock and C. H. Martin (Hendon), the other ringers taking part being C. Carter, W. Eastland, W. H. Eldridge, W. Franks, F. P. Howcroft, F. Mathis, S. Saker, J. Sinden and W. Thomas. On Tuesday evening, April 19th, for practice, 518 Grandsire Triples, being the first part of Holt's ten-part peal. W. H. Eldridge, 1; W. G. Astland, 2; F. Mathis, 3; C. Hill, 4; C. Hyland, 5; W. Thomas, 6; W. Franks (conductor), 7; J. Sinden, 8. Also 504 in the same method. J. Sinden, 1; C. Hyland, 2; F. Mathis, 3; C. Hills, 4; W. Thomas, 5; C. Carter, 6; W. Franks (conductor), 7; W. Eastland, 8. And two courses of Bob Major, C. Hills, who hails from St. Leonards, taking the 5th. On Sunday, April 24th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins. C. Carter, 1; W. Franks (conductor), 2; J. Mathis, 3; W. Eastland, 4; C. Hyland, 5; G. Carter, 6; W. Thomas, 7; J. Sinden, 8.

BEDFORD.—On Tuesday, April 19th, at St. Peter's church, 720 Bob Minor. F. Pavott, 1; F. Lowe, 2; C. D. Smith, 3; A. Robinson, 4; J. A. Smith, 5; S. Constant (conductor), 7. On Sunday, April 24th, 720 Bob Minor. F. Pavott, 1; F. Lowe, 2; C. D. Smith, 3; A. J. Smith, 4; S. Constant (conductor), 5; A. Robinson, 6. Also 360 Kent Treble Bob. F. Turner, 1; A. J. Smith, 2; F. Lowe, 3; S. Constant, 4; A. Robinson, 5; W. Davidson (conductor), 6. On April 26th, 720 Bob Minor. F. Pavott, 1; C. D. Smith, 2; B. Ogilvie, 3; F. Lowe, 4; J. A. Smith, 5; S. Constant (conductor), 6. On April 27th, for a wedding, 720 Bob Minor. F. Pavott, 1; W. Davidson, 2; A. Robinson, 3; F. Lowe, 4; S. Constant (conductor), 5; W. Shimmans, 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. F. Lowe, 1; A. J. Smith, 2; S. Constant (conductor), 3; W. Davidson, 4; W. Shimmans, 5; S. Constant (conductor), 6. Also on May 1st, 360 Bob Minor. F. Pavott, 1; S. Constant (conductor), 2; W. Darlow (first attempt), 3; F. Lowe, 4; A. Robinson, 5; W. Shimmans, 6.

CHEPSTOW (Monmouthshire).—On Sunday evening, May 1st, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor with 7-8 covering. A. Jones, 1; S. Hopton, 2; J. Prickett (conductor), 3; W. Freestone, 4; R. Thompson, 5; J. Morley, 6; F. Bye, 7; A. Phipps, 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to J. Morley.

FRAMLINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Saturday, March 5th, at the house

of Mr. J. Howlett, on handbells retained in hand, 1080 Bob Royal. H. Howlett, 1-2; W. G. Crickmer (conductor), 3-4; W. Flory, 5-6; W. Last, 7-8; J. O'Neill, 9-10.

GREAT TEY (Essex).—On Sunday afternoon, April 24th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Barnads, 576 Oxford Treble Bob Major. O. Dyer, 1; W. Ladhams, 2; W. Dyer, 3; G. Galley, 4; J. Sadler, 5; J. Newman, 6; D. Elliott (conductor), 7; E. Ladhams, 8. After service 1120 Kent Treble Bob. O. Dyer, 1; W. Ladhams, 2; W. Dyer, 3; G. Galley, 4; J. Sadler, 5; D. Elliott (conductor), 6; E. Ladhams, 7; J. Newman, 8.

SHALFORD (Surrey).—On Tuesday, May 17th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor in 29 mins. J. Smithers, 1; G. Elston, 2; T. Streeter, 3; E. Lueas, 4; E. Worsfold, 5; C. Wiltshire (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method.

WALKLEY (Yorks).—On Friday, April 15th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor in 30 mins. W. Reaney, 1; G. Heward, 2; J. Crackel, 3; A. C. Staniforth, 4; C. H. Lake, 5; G. O. Dixon (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qrs. First 720 by all.

WARRINGTON (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, April 3rd, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob (nine bobs). J. Wilson, 1; W. Oxley, 2; A. Oxley, 3; E. Edwardson (conductor), 4; W. Brammer, 5; F. W. Stout, 6. On Sunday evening, April 17th, for Divine Service, 720 Grandsire (thirty-four bobs and two singles, standing as before, conducted by F. W. Stout. On Sunday morning, April 24th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob (nine bobs), standing as before, conducted by A. Oxley. For evening service 720 Oxford Single Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. W. Stout, 1; J. Wilson, 2; A. Oxley, 3; E. Edwardson, 4; A. Oxley, 5; W. Brammer (conductor), 6. This is W. Brammer's 200th 720. On Saturday, April 30th, for practice, 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). S. Johnson (conductor), 1; W. Oxley, 2; G. Johnson, 3; A. Johnson, 4; J. Bell, 5; E. Edwardson, 6. Messrs. Johnson (3), and Bell hail from Witton, Cheshire.

WESTERHAM (Kent).—On Thursday, February 17th a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. H. J. Selby, 1; G. B. Selby, 2; T. Groombridge, 3; M. Whatley, 4; J. Hack, 5; D. Wright (conductor), 6; J. Heath, 7; R. Stone, 8. On Sunday, February 20th, 504 Stedman. H. J. Selby, 1; G. B. Selby, 2; T. Groombridge (conductor), 3; M. Whatley, 4; J. Hack, 5; D. Wright, 6; G. Steer, 7; R. Stone, 8. For evening service 504 in the same method. H. J. Selby, 1; G. B. Selby, 2; G. Steer, 3; M. Whatley, 4; J. Heath, 5; D. Wright (conductor), 6; R. Stone, 7; T. Groombridge, 8. On Sunday, May 1st, 168 and 280 Grandsire Triples. W. G. Granger, 1; R. Stone, 2; G. B. Selby, 3; S. A. Wright, 4; H. J. Selby, 5; M. Whatley, 6; D. Wright, 7; G. Steer, 8. Longest length by ringers of the treble and 4th. On Sunday, May 8th, 518 Grandsire Triples. D. Wright (conductor), 1; G. B. Selby, 2; H. J. Selby, 3; W. G. Granger (longest length), 4; M. Whatley, 5; J. Heath, 6; R. Stone, 7; G. Steer, 8. For evening service 518 Grandsire Triples. W. G. Granger, 1; G. B. Selby, 2; D. Wight (conductor), 3; S. A. Wright (longest length), 4; M. Whatley, 5; J. Heath, 6; R. Stone, 7; G. Steer, 8.

CAMPANOLOGIA SILENTIA.

On Wednesday, May 18th, a select party gathered around, the board at the residence of Mr. W. Willson, 112, Berners Street, Leicester, to commemorate the silent peals rung by the local branch of the M. C. A. After the supper Mr. S. Cooper was installed in the chair, and the usual loyal toasts were given. The chairman in his opening remarks anticipated the inevitable approaching end of the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, and paid an eloquent tribute to his worth to the nation he had faithfully served for sixty years.

Mr. Buttery sang his great hit, "Give a Man a Chance," Mr. Morris sang "Johnny used to grind." A touch of Stedman, Caters was then rung by the following: J. O. Lancashire, 1-2; G. Cleal, 3-4; S. Cotton, 5-6; W. Willson, 7-8; J. Buttery (conductor), 9-10.

The chairman then rose to propose the health of "The Men of the Silent Peal," and said what pleasure it gave him to be there that evening. In Leicester there had been two silent peals of Stedman rung, a feat unparalleled in the history of change-ringing, and he recalled many exciting little episodes when he was a witness how not a hand was raised to help an erring ringer, nor a glance to hint that anything was amiss, but perfect silence and strict neutral attitude throughout.

Each of the ringers having replied, songs and tunes were again indulged in until the "wee sma' hours" heralded the approach of another day, so the company separated, well pleased with the social intercourse, and although it would probably be time to get up before some got to bed, it was consoling to know that the early bird catches the worms.

Notices.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is One Penny per line (five words may be reckoned to a line). Repetitions at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

The Rochester and District Guild.—A meeting of this Guild will be held at Gillingham to-day, Saturday, May 28.

A. RING, *Hon. Sec.*

Lancashire Association — Rossendale Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Saviour's, Bacup, to-day, Saturday, May 28th. Bells ready at 3.30. Business meeting at 6.30.

J. H. BANKS, *Branch Sec.*

East Derbyshire Association—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Tibshelf to-day, Saturday, May 28th. Tea in Church Room at 5.0 p.m., meeting after tea.

T. ALLIBONE, *Sec.*

The Salop Guild.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Coalbrookdale, to-day, Saturday, May 28th. Ringing at 3.45. Business meeting at 5 o'clock.

J. MACKAY, *Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's church, Balderstone, Rochdale, to-day, Saturday, May 28th. Bells ready at 4.30. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. All ringing friends invited.

E. B. SHAW, *Branch Sec.*

The Lancashire Association of Six Bell Ringers.—The annual meeting will be held at St. James's, Leyland, to-day, Saturday, May 28th.

JAMES HIGSON, *Sec.*

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—By special request of the Rothwell branch of the society to the Tong branch, the next monthly ringing meeting will be held at Tong (six bells) to-day, Saturday, May 28th. Ringing from 3 p.m., meeting house The Greyhound inn, when any ringers will be heartily welcome. Handbells provided.

R. BINNS, *Hon. Sec.*

The Kent County Association.—The annual meeting will be held on Whit-Monday, May 30th, at Lewisham. Service at St. Mary's Lewisham at 11.30 a.m. The address will be given by the Rev. S. Bickersteth, Vicar of Lewisham. Dinner in the parish hall at 12.30. Business meeting for election of officers, etc., after dinner. The Committee will meet in the vestry at 11 a.m. Towers open for ringing: St. Mary's Lewisham (8), St. John's Deptford (8), St. Alfege Greenwich (10), St. Mary's Woolwich (8), and in afternoon only St. Margaret's Lee (8). Dinner tickets will be sent on application to all members whose subscription for the current year has been paid.

FREDK. J. O. HELMORE, *Hon. Sec.*

The Devonshire Guild.—The annual meeting of this Guild will this year be held at Barnstaple, on Whit-Monday, May 30th. Bells ready at 1 p.m. Business meeting at 5.15 p.m. Service in parish church at 6 p.m. Arrangements have been made for ringing in the neighbouring towers. All ringers will be welcome.

W. E. P. CHAPPLE, *Hon. Sec.*

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—A meeting will be held at North Shields, on Whit-Monday, May 30. Committee meeting at 12 noon, and dinner at 1 p.m. at The European hotel, Railway Terrace. Members 1s. 6d., non-members 2s. 6d. each. The bells of the following churches will be available: Christ Church, North Shields (except

between 11.30 and 12.15), St. Hilda's, South Shields (for two hours), and Whitley.

THOMAS HUDSON, *Hon. Sec.*

314, High Street West, Sunderland.

The Essex Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Chelmsford on Whit-Monday. Divine Service at 11.30, to be followed by business meeting and dinner. A brake will run to neighbouring towers at 3 p.m.

HENRY T. W. EYRE.

Gt. Totham Vicarage, Witham.

The Central Northamptonshire Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Northampton on Whit-Monday, May 30th. By special permission the bells of the churches of St. Giles (ten), St. Peter (eight), and St. Edmund (eight), will be at liberty for ringing from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m., and from 4 p.m. to 7.30 p.m., but those of All Saints (eight), in the afternoon and evening only, from 4 to 7.30 p.m. There will be Divine Service at St. Peter's church, with sermon by the Rev. W. St. George Coldwell, Rector of Wilbye, at 1 p.m. The luncheon and business meeting will be held at The Peacock hotel, Market Square, at 2 p.m., which will be the headquarters for the day.

E. J. DENNES, *Hon. Sec.*

The Old East Derbyshire Association.—The annual Cup Contest will be held at Eckington on Whit-Tuesday, May 31st. Draw at 11.30 at The White Hart inn. Contest commences at 12 on the back six. The bells will be open to visitors after 4 o'clock.

E. JAMES, *Hon. Sec.*

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Kingsley, on Saturday, June 4th. Members intending to be present are requested to inform Mr. Isaac Moreton, Kingsley, not later than Wednesday, June 1st.

REV. W. D. BRAGINTON, } *Hon. Secs.*
W. TWIGG,

The Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Wells on Saturday, June 11th. The Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells has kindly promised to address the members and be present at the dinner. It is hoped that members will muster strongly to meet his lordship. Full particulars on June 4th.

HENRY W. TOMKINS, *Hon. Sec and Treas.*

Lancashire Association — Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at St. James's church, Birch-in-Rusholme, on Saturday, June 11th. Bells ready at 4.0 p.m. Business meeting at 7.0 p.m.

W. BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

The Middlesex County Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Staines on Saturday, June 11th. Ringing to commence at 5 o'clock.

C. EDWARDS, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*

PRESENTATION.

The presentation to Mr. Henry S. Thomas, of Battersea, in recognition of his twenty-five years' service as master of the belfry, will take place on Thursday, June 2nd, at Green Lanes Schools at eight o'clock sharp. Subscribers and ringing friends are cordially invited.

COPIES OF "THE BELL NEWS" WANTED.—Mr. W. Willson, of 112, Berners Street, Leicester, wants copies of this paper for January 2nd, May 29th, August 7th, all 1897. He will pay double price if clean.

NOTE TO PEAL.

THE PEAL AT PIMLICO.—This peal was rung to commemorate the golden wedding of Mrs. Dawe's father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Wright, formerly of Bockleton, near Tenbury, Worcestershire, who were married at St. Bride's, Dublin, on May 10th, 1848. The old couple are aged respectively 73 and 69 years, and are still able to get about. It will no doubt be remembered that on the 8th of June last year a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at St. Mary's Mortlake, to commemorate the golden wedding of the conductor's parents, but in this case the old lady was laid to rest in December last at Fulham. It is indeed a very exceptional occurrence for a man and his wife to have such an event on both sides, and within twelve months of each other.

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246375 2	763524 4	756432 2
235476 51	457263 1	567432 4
	254376 5	465273 5
762543 2	352647 5	734526 2
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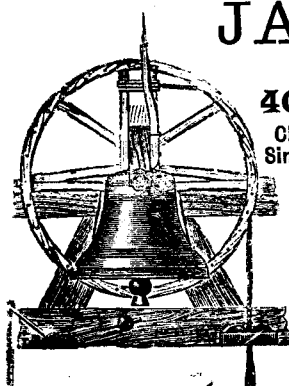
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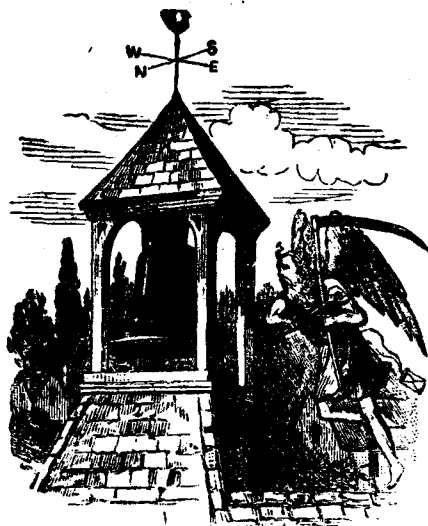
No. 843.—VOL. XVI.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 1898.

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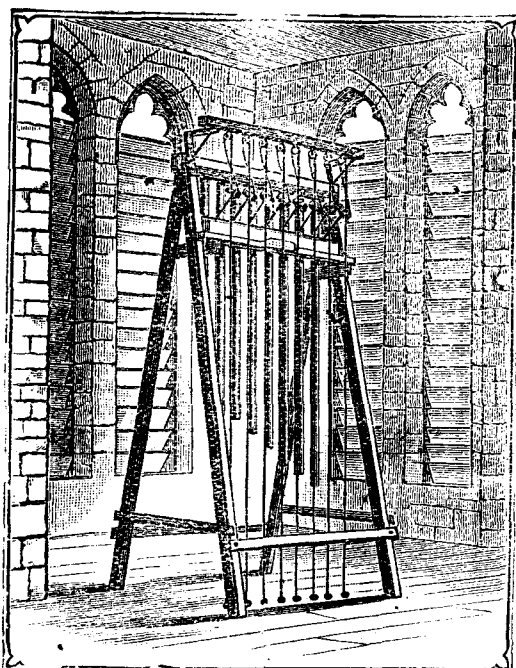
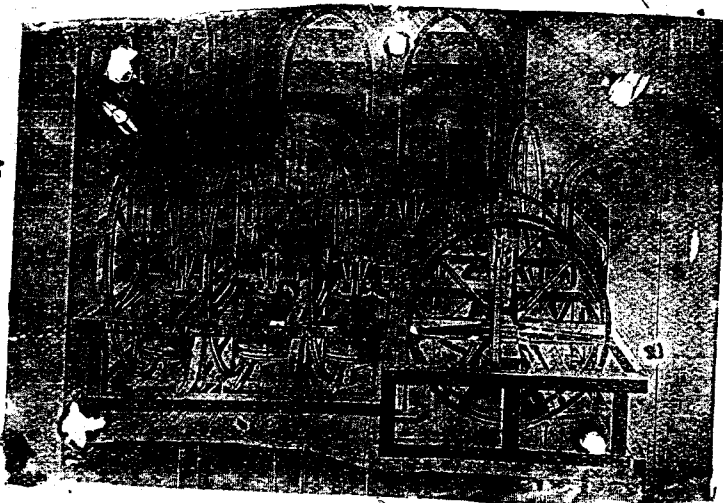
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 843.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 1898.

[Vol. XVI.]

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

ANNUAL FESTIVAL.

The annual festival of the above guild took place on Monday, May 23rd, at Sherborne, when bands of ringers were present from Salisbury—St. Thomas', St. Martin's, and St. Edmund's; Keevil, Warminster, Westbury, Maiden Bradley, Dinton, Downton, Coombe Bissett, Berwick St. John, Dorchester, Maiden Newton, and Bradford Abbas, numbering about 120 members. The day's proceedings commenced with a service in the Abbey, consisting of a shortened form of evensong, the prayers being intoned by the Rev. F. B. Hope. The psalms were chanted, and the lesson, taken from St. John, chapter viii., was read by the Rev. G. B. Wickham (Vicar of Bradford Abbas). Before the sermon, the hymn "All people that on earth do dwell" was very heartily sang. The preacher was the Vicar of Sherborne (Canon Lyon), who took as his text Colossians iii. 17, "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the Name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him." Canon Lyon, before proceeding to deal with the text, expressed the pleasure which it gave all connected with the Church to welcome the members of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild under those ancient walls. The bells of Sherborne Abbey, he said, had been well-known for many years. Some of them were very ancient and some of them comparatively modern. They had all been re-hung only a few years ago, and he trusted that those who visited the belfry had found them in good working order. It was indeed a pleasure to welcome the Guild to Sherborne, and he hoped that the members would carry away very pleasant recollections of their visit to the ancient town. Canon Lyon then went on to speak of the position in the Church which ringers occupied, and the definite part which they took in Church work. He would not suggest that any of those present summoned others to church and did not attend the service themselves. That was not infrequently the case in old times, but he hoped it was almost, if not altogether, a thing of the past, and that when on a Sunday morning they took their places in the towers to summon the worshippers of God together, they realised that their work was a real definite work for Him, and that they did all in the name of the Lord Jesus. After the sermon, the hymn "Thou art gone up on high" was sung during the taking of an offertory, which was in aid of the Guild, and the blessing was pronounced by Canon Lyon.

The annual meeting of the Guild was held immediately after the service, in St. John's Hall. On the motion of Canon Hankey, seconded by Captain Wiltshire, the master of the Guild (the Rev. A. D. Hill) was voted to the chair. The minutes of the last meeting having been confirmed, the election of officers for the ensuing year was immediately proceeded with.

The Master then announced his resignation. He said he was exceedingly sorry to sever his connection with the Guild, but as he was going to leave the diocese he should no longer have that qualification for the position which he had hitherto possessed. He was going so far away that perhaps that would be the last festival of the Guild he should be able to attend, but he hoped not. He wished to express his great pleasure at being there with them that day, as well as his exceedingly great sorrow at having to depart from the Guild, which he had known from its infancy. He believed he was the first Master of the Guild, because he arrived in the diocese just about the time it was started; and now, after fifteen years' connection with it, he was moved to say that it had been a great pleasure and satisfaction to him to see the growth not only of the membership of the Guild, but of its principles, which he was perfectly certain had been, and would go on, spreading and growing in their diocese of Salisbury.

Canon Hankey said he was speaking for all the members when he said that they deeply regretted that the Rev. A. D.

Hill was going to sever his connection with them. Although their Guild had not increased in numbers so much as they had expected, the tone of it had decidedly improved, and judging from the voices he had heard in church that morning, the members might be of great assistance to church services in the choirs as well as in the belfries. He knew that a good many of them already sang in the choirs, and he hoped that more of them would do so. With regard to the election of a new Master he thought it was very necessary that the gentleman who occupied that position should be a change-ringer, and not merely a bell-ringer, because one of the objects of their Guild was to encourage change-ringing. Captain Wiltshire had suggested a name for election to the position, but he was not a change-ringer, and he declined to have his name brought forward. He (Canon Hankey) had a gentleman to propose for election who had been a member of the Guild for a great many years, and who was a scientific change-ringer, Mr. Palairret, of Cattistock Lodge, who at one time had a tower with dumb bells in it for the purpose of practising change-ringing, and took very great interest in it. He (the Canon) therefore had great pleasure in proposing his election as Master of the Guild. Captain Wiltshire, who said that Canon Hankey was the man he had first suggested for the mastership of the Guild, seconded the motion that Mr. Palairret should be elected to that position. He thought that Mr. Palairret was just the sort of man they wanted as their master, and he was very glad to tell them that he had consented to take the office. The motion was carried unanimously amidst applause, and Canon Hankey then said he had been asked to express Mr. Palairret's regret at being unable to attend that day, owing to his magisterial duties.

Mr. T. Blackburn was re-elected as general Secretary, Captain H. Wiltshire as assistant general Secretary, both being heartily thanked for past services; and Mr. J. R. Jerram was appointed as an additional assistant general Secretary. The Rev. C. W. Hony was re-elected as Secretary for Wilts, and Mr. A. Grist, of Bournemouth, was elected as Secretary for Dorset in the place of the Rev. F. H. Fisher, who resigned. The Rev. J. E. G. Bond, Messrs. F. Rigden, J. R. Jerram, S. Macey, J. Judd, and A. Smith were again elected on the special Committee, and the Rev. C. Myers was substituted for the Rev. W. J. Birkbeck.

On the motion of the Rev. A. Kemble, it was decided to ask Mr. G. Harris, of Salisbury, to accept the post of hon. Auditor. Mr. W. Pinckney was again re-elected as hon. Treasurer, and the new Master, Mr. A. Smith, and Mr. T. Blackburn were appointed as representatives on the Central Council.

The general Secretary said he had been asked by Mr. Grist, who was unable to attend, to bring forward the question of admitting ladies to the Guild, both as ringing and honorary members, and mentioned that they had one lady member at Charminster.

The Master said they had no hard and fast rule, and he thought that there was nothing to prevent ladies from belonging to the Guild, either as ringing or honorary members.

Canon Hankey mentioned that at one time their new Master had several ladies ringing in his tower at Cattistock. The suggestion that ladies should be admitted as members was then accepted. Some discussion arose on a motion of which the Rev. J. F. Welsh had given notice, in favour of at least six weeks' notice of the date on which the annual meeting was to be held being given to the members. Eventually it was decided to instruct the secretaries to give notice as early as possible.

The Rev. A. Kemble proposed, and Mr. S. Lawes seconded, that next year's festival should be held at Salisbury in the latter half of May. The proposition was carried unanimously. This concluded the business.

The annual report for the year showed that there were about

310 ringing members belonging to the Guild, fifty-four honorary members, twelve honorary life members, and forty-seven life-ringing members. Since the last report three bands had been awarded the Guild certificate of proficiency as change-ringers, viz., St. John's, Devizes; Bromham and Seend, and the report stated that it was hoped more certificates might be issued during the ensuing year. Although there were no peals to record, several touches in various methods had been rung by the Devizes, Bromham, Seend, Dorchester, and Longbridge Deverill ringers during the year. The following work in re-hanging and augmenting peals had been completed:—Collingbourne Kingston, new frame and fittings, and tenor re-cast; Hampreston, framework re-constructed, and made suitable for six bells, all new fittings; Canford Magna, new treble, completing a peal of six; Puddletown, new frame and fittings, tenor re-cast, and new treble added; Coombe Bissett, new treble added to make a peal of six; St. Mary's Devizes, new frame and fittings; Bratton, new frame and fittings, with two new trebles to complete a peal of six, and old treble re-cast; Bishops Cannings, tenor re-cast and re-hung; Powerstock, peal of five re-hung, with all new fittings, and fourth bell re-cast; Broadwindsor, new frame and fittings and new tenor bell.

The annual dinner, which was held at The Swan hotel, immediately followed the meeting. The Rev. A. D. Hill occupied the chair, and was supported by Canon Lyon, Canon Hankey, the Rev. J. F. Welsh, Rev. G. Wickham, Rev. A. Kemble, Captain H. Wiltshire, Dr. Wilcox, Mr. T. Blackburn, Mr. E. R. Dale, Mr. Parsons, etc. A capital dinner was served, after which the Chairman proposed "The Health of the Queen and the members of the Royal Family," which was received with great enthusiasm, the National Anthem being sung.

The Chairman next briefly proposed "Prosperity to the Guild," coupling with the toast the name of Captain Wiltshire, who, in responding, said that as one of the secretaries he wished to increase the number of members of the Guild—he should be very sorry to leave Sherborne without enrolling the capital band of ringers belonging to the Abbey. In their belfry that morning he had noticed the following:—

May good ringers flourish and bad ringers mend;
May change-ringing last-till the world's at an end.

The band that could put that up in their belfry ought surely to belong to the Diocesan Guild. He could say, as one of those who had had the pleasure of pulling one of the bells at the Abbey that morning, that they went well, and his band from Coombe Bissett enjoyed the time spent in the belfry very much.

The Chairman asked the members to drink the health of Canon Lyon, and expressed the thanks of the Guild to the Vicar of Sherborne for the great pains he had taken in making preparations and arrangements for the festival that day. They owed a great deal of the success of those annual events to the local cordiality with which they were always welcomed. Such a welcome they had received that morning from Canon Lyon, and, as had been said in the address that morning, it was a high honour to meet together and worship in the magnificent church of Sherborne. They were proud of being Churchmen and of being spoken to as church workers as Canon Lyon had spoken to them that morning, and he was sure they all looked upon that service in church, with which they always began their festival, as one of the essential parts of their Guild. They were very grateful to Canon Lyon for his address that morning, and in their name he wished to thank him.

Canon Lyon, in responding, after thanking the Chairman for the kind way in which he had alluded to him, and the members of the Guild for the manner in which they had received the toast, said he felt very much ashamed that they at Sherborne had not yet belonged to the Guild, and he hoped that before long they might be permitted to do so. He trusted the members of the Guild had found everything in order in the belfry and that they would enjoy ringing their bells. It was a heavy peal, the tenor bell being of considerable weight, and the general effect of it was very good. He could remember, when he was a boy at Sherborne, that it used to take twenty-one men to ring the bells, six of whom were employed on the tenor, but the bells had been rehung twice since that time. The last time was at the restoration of the tower, about twelve or thirteen years ago, when the work had been so successfully done that now there

was not the slightest vibration perceptible at the top of the tower. He hoped, therefore, that the restoration had been thoroughly successful and that the old tower would stand many hundred years to come. It had been a real pleasure to see them there that day and to take part in the festival, and he wished their Guild all possible success.

The Rev. J. F. Welsh said it would be a very wrong thing for them to separate without giving the hearty thanks of both present and past members of the Guild to their retiring Master, the Rev. A. D. Hill, for the great efforts he had made during the past fifteen years to render the Guild the success it had been. Upon the cordiality which the Master showed to those belonging to a Guild much of its success depended, and whenever he had been present at the meetings he had been charmed at the way in which the Rev. A. D. Hill had presided over them. He wished to express their hearty thanks to him for what he had done, and to offer him their good wishes for the future, trusting that he would long be spared to do the work in Nottinghamshire to which he was going, and to help the ringers of the diocese in which he was going to live. He asked them to drink, with all enthusiasm, the health of their retiring Master.

The toast was very heartily drank, and the Rev. A. D. Hill suitably responded. He said that, although he ceased to be a member of it, the remembrance of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild would always be very dear to him and foremost in his thoughts.

The meeting then separated. During the afternoon the bands of ringers visited the towers and belfries in the neighbourhood, and the festival, which was favoured by very fine weather, passed off most successfully.

DEDICATION OF BELLS AT HOLCOMBE ROGUS, DEVONSHIRE.

Ascension Day was celebrated at Holcombe Rogus by a ceremony of a most pleasing and interesting character. For years past the project of rehanging the bells and adding an additional one has been mooted. It was not until last year, however, that the idea took a practical form. The vicar of the parish (Rev. T. L. Ward), formerly of St. Matthew's, Exeter, took the matter in hand vigorously, and a debt of gratitude is due to him for the energy with which he has pushed forward the scheme. A subscription list was opened, and a good start was given it by a donation of £20 by Mr. Rayer, of Holcombe Court, who always evinces a kindly interest in all good works appertaining to the parish. The work proposed included the taking down of the existing five bells from their cage, which was old, worn out, and dangerous, and rehanging them, together with all the latest improvements. Mr. Harry Stokes, Woodbury, was entrusted with the work. In addition, it was resolved to add a chiming apparatus. In April last the work was completed. It was proposed by all to be highly satisfactory, and Mr. Stokes may be congratulated on having achieved a thorough workmanlike success. The total cost of the provision of a new bell and the rehanging of the five old ones, etc., has been £159 15s., and there still remains a debt of £14 19s. 10d. It has been resolved that the offertory on the last Sunday in each month shall be devoted to this object, as well as the offertories of Ascension Day. The work has been carried out as a memorial of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The new bell is a treble in the key of C sharp. The weight of the tenor bell, which bears the date 1691, is 18 cwt. Upon the second there is no date, but it is believed that the latter dates back much later than the first bell. The third bell is of comparatively recent date—1825. The year 1626 is inscribed on the fourth bell, while the fifth is dated 1763. The latter bell fell about two years ago during a harvest festival service. Several of these bells have cast into them a number of old English copper coins, but the dates upon them are indistinct. The belfry has been enlarged, and a new wooden ceiling added. A new register dial has been affixed in the belfry as Mr. Vicary's, the organist's, donation to the fund; while Mr. Bowerman's donation was employed in an alteration of the belfry chamber windows, so that the sound might be better emitted. It was hoped that the Dedication Service could have been held earlier, but meanwhile the ringers have persevered and familiarised themselves with the alteration in the peal.

ST. NICHOLAS, GREAT YARMOUTH.

The bells of this church, now augmented from ten to twelve, were reopened on May 24th, in the presence of a large number of people, by the ringers, and on Whit-Monday, in response to the invitation of the Vicar and churchwardens through "THE BELL NEWS," ringers put in an appearance from not less than nine different parishes. Adding to these the number of the local ringers who were present to welcome the visiting ringers, their number was very small indeed as compared with those non-ringing visitors known as the "general public," of which there was a large and varied supply, men, women and children of all ages, who had or thought they had a general invitation to wander about the belfry, up the ladder into the bell-chamber to see the bells, and many of them could be seen at the top of the tower outside viewing the town, attended by a guide owing to the bells being up at the time. It was estimated that there were no less than 200 non-ringing visitors who were located somewhere between the roof and the gate at the bottom of the tower stairs at one and the same time, quite a fourth of which were crowding round and almost on to the ringers as they were about to start for the first touch upon the twelve bells. After the ringers had started ringing a few minutes (Grandsire Cinques), the non-ringing visitors become so animated in their conversation that two or three of those who were taking part in the ringing complained that it was impossible to ring amid such a noise, when one of the ringers called out "keep silence, please." And they did for nearly ten minutes, then they appeared to increase in number and waxed more eloquent, until it was quite impossible to go on. Treble Bob was afterwards attempted, but unfortunately not brought round, but during the day touches of Grandsire Cinques and Caters were rung: G. Howchin, F. Knights, C. Ward, A. G. Warnes, G. Smith, S. Smith and C. E. Borrett (Norwich); W. Motts, and S. Cook (Ipswich); E. Poppy, F. R. Borrett and C. Baker (Pulham); W. A. Alps (Waltham Abbey); H. Swain (London); W. Ward (Ufford); J. Souter and J. Smith (Diss); J. Davy (Hethersett); G. Orford (Gorleston). Local ringers present were Merss. R. D. Tooley, T. Tooley, R. Christian, A. Webber, H. Wright, jun., W. Secrett, J. Matthews and S. Tillett.

The universal opinion of the ringers present was that the work of the firm of Mears and Stainbank had been carried out most satisfactorily, and as to the two new bells they are a good splice, and the go of the twelve is excellent.

HALESWORTH, SUFFOLK.

RINGERS' AND CHIMERS' ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of this Association was held on Monday, May 22nd, at the Coffee Rooms, under the presidency of the Rev. A. Roland Upcher, supported by the Rev. A. Scott Thompson (vice-president), Mr. J. Parry, and Mr. H. Stanford (churchwardens). Through the kindness of many friends, a hot dinner was provided at seven o'clock by Mr. and Mrs. E. Lambert, at which twenty-four were present (including eight members of the newly-formed company at Chediston), after which the usual business was held. The secretary (Mr. F. Lambert), after thanking those who had materially assisted the company during the past, read out a very interesting report of the progress made, stating that the members had rung five peals during the past year at various churches, and that the Halesworth district was well up on the list of membership in the diocese. The Treasurer (Mr. James Howard), read out a statement of accounts, showing a small balance in hand. The reports having been adopted, the members proceeded to elect officers for the ensuing year, when the Secretary and the Treasurer were unanimously re-elected. The President, addressing the company, expressed the pleasure it gave him to meet the bellringers of the parish, and also the ringers from Chediston who had been invited to join them on that occasion, and to hear such an excellent report from the Secretary. He (the chairman) had noticed the regular attendance of the ringers on Sundays, which showed they took a great interest in that part of church work, and he hoped the harmonious feeling existing in the company would continue. He also felt very grateful for the restoration of the Chediston church bells; and on his suggestion a hearty vote of thanks was proposed and seconded by two of the Chediston ringers to

the Misses Tuck for their kindness, which was carried unanimously. The Rev. A. Scott Thompson in his remarks stated those who took an interest in church bell ringing had subscribed very willingly towards the dinner. The churchwardens also made some very encouraging remarks. Handbell ringing, songs, glees, reading, recitation, etc., occupied the remainder of the evening, at the close of which a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the President, Vice-President, and Churchwardens for their attendance; who in response testified to the pleasure they felt in being present at such an interesting and enjoyable meeting, and hoped they would have the opportunity of spending another such evening with the ringers on a future occasion.

MEETING OF BELLRINGERS AT NORTH SHIELDS.

The members of the Durham and Newcastle Association held their Whitsuntide meeting at North Shields on Whit-Monday. There was a good attendance, and the visit was greatly enjoyed. In the forenoon touches of Kent Treble Bob Minor were rung. Subsequently an adjournment was made to The European hotel, where a capital dinner was served under the superintendence of Miss Downie. Mr. C. L. Routledge, a vice-president of the Association, occupied the chair, and he was supported by the Rev. Canon Brutton, Mr. W. Reed, and Mr. T. Hudson (Hon. Secretary).

After the loyal toasts had been honoured, the chairman proposed the health of the Bishops of the dioceses of Durham and Newcastle.

Canon Brutton responded, and said it was twenty-one years since the association was formed, and he was glad to see that it was still in a flourishing condition. The bell-ringers, he thought, showed a good example to other church-workers, and they had adopted a course which was really of great benefit to the whole community.

The following new members were proposed and accepted: Mr. Ellis, Edingburgh; performing members, Mr. A. Daglish, Bishop Auckland; Mr. G. G. Rawson, St. Matthew's, Newcastle; Mr. Patrick Scrafton, South Shields; and Mr. Jos. Charlton, Tanfield.

The Hon. Secretary intimated that he had thirteen names for St. Ignatius, Sunderland, where there was a ring of five, and soon it would be increased to eight. Mr. Hudson afterwards spoke of the work done at the Central Council meeting, and said the question of peal values was arousing a good deal of discussion. The Council were going to issue two books, the first to be for the benefit of church authorities, to bring before them the condition of some of the grand rings of bells in the country, with the view of preserving them and of bringing the ringers more into touch with the authorities than hitherto. The second book would be of advantage to ringers. It would contain a guide to the steeples of England, a list of the rings of eight, ten and twelve, and historical rings of six, and would give the condition of the bells and what ringing is done at each tower. A good deal would depend upon the ringers in making that work successful. Circulars would be sent out to the various secretaries throughout the country, and they would have to see that everything was done as correctly as possible that no exaggerations were made regarding the condition of the bells and methods of ringing. In conclusion he reminded the members that he accepted the hon. secretaryship only for a short while, and that he hoped they would select a successor at the forthcoming annual meeting.

The chairman hoped Mr. Hudson would reconsider his decision.

Mr. F. Harrison (Jarrow), asked how the fund started for the memorial to the late Mr. Francis Lees, of St. John's, Newcastle, was proceeding, and Mr. W. Holmes, treasurer, said they had £7 9s. 6d. in hand, and promised subscriptions would increase that amount to about £9 10s.

On the motion of Mr. Harrison a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicars of Tynemouth, Whitley and South Shields for the use of the bells. A course of Grandsire Caters on the handbells was performed by Messrs. H. Dall, 1-2; C. L. Routledge, 3-4; W. Holmes, 5-6; E. Wallis, 7-8; F. J. Harrison, 9-10. The members afterwards visited the belfries of Whitley church and St. Hilda's, South Shields.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD,

On Easter Monday, six members of the Romsey branch of the above Guild took the opportunity of the holiday and journeyed to the parish church of East Tytherly for the purpose of having a pull on the new peal of six lately cast and hung by Taylor and Sons, of Loughborough. The party were met on their arrival on the church by the vicar, and were conducted to the new tower and belfry, and no time was lost in raising the bells. A few rounds were rung to stretch the new ropes, and "go" being called, the first 240 of Grandsire Doubles on the bells was successfully brought home. B. Paskins, 1; J. Elcombe (conductor), 2; F. Russen, 3; G. Newman, 4; J. Walker, 5; G. Saint, 6. After ringing a few more 120s of Plain Bob and Grandsire, the ringers were kindly invited to the vicarage where a good tea was awaiting them, and to which ample justice was done by all. Tea being over, and a few minutes friendly chat indulged in, a return was made to the belfry, and the bells were soon going again to Grandsire and Bob Doubles, a 360 of Grandsire and 240 Bob Doubles being brought round. The "go" of the bells is all that can be desired, and great credit is due to Messrs. Taylor for the way in which the work has been carried out, both for the "go" of the bells, and for their soft musical tone. We cannot too highly praise the vicar for the way in which he has worked to have such a pretty peal placed in the new-built tower. It has cost a lot of money, which no doubt took some trouble in getting it together in a small country village like Tytherly. We feel proud to say that this is the second peal the rev. gentleman has raised to his great credit. The pretty peal of six at Lockerly new church are due to his energies, which living he left five years ago to take up his duties at Tytherly, which is only two miles from Lockerly, so he has only had a small compass to raise the funds in so short a time. We hope the day will not be far off before we shall have the pleasure of seeing the octave hanging in the tower; so far the pit is left for the seventh bell. The vicar says that he will do his very utmost to have the eight bells. We all wish him every success in the present as in the past.

The ringers wish to thank the vicar for the use of the bells; also for the kind manner in which he entertained them. The bells were then lowered in peal, which brought another pleasant day to a close, every one having enjoyed himself. J. W.

MERTON, DEVON.

The day of the opening and dedication of the church bells after restoration was in every way a great success. It began with a celebration of the Holy Communion at 7.30 a.m. At the dedication service at 3 p.m. there were present, besides the Rector, the following clergy: the Archdeacon of Westminster, the Revs. E. W. Field, F. E. Jones, T. McClelland, F. Willett, H. Bremridge, F. E. Robinson, and the preacher, the Rev. Maitland Kelly, President of the Devonshire Guild. The church was nearly full, and the choir acquitted themselves admirably. The Rector conducted the service, dedicated the bells, and played the organ. During service the Merton ringers rang a short touch. After service there was a public tea in the schoolroom, during which the band who had come from Ilfracombe rang several touches. At 7 p.m. evensong was sung, and the sermon was preached by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, cousin of the Rector. He had previously ascended the tower and examined the work, and pronounced it to be extremely well done by Mr. Harry Stokes, of Woodbury. The restoration of the bells is the Merton Jubilee memorial, as the inscription on the tenor shows.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The Annual Meeting was held at Bristol on Tuesday, May 31st. The meeting was attended by forty-three representatives of the various Associations of the country, and two Honorary Members. It was resolved to ask each Association to obtain signatures to petitions in support of reduced railway fares. Various reports from Committees were received and adopted, and the whole of the items upon the agenda were gone through. A full report will appear.

THE EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

One of the most successful meetings of the above association was held at Tibshelf on Saturday, May 28th. Being quarterly meeting, members were present from the following towers: Clay Cross, North Wingfield, Alfreton, Tibshelf, South Normanston, Ripley, Horsley, and the Rev. F. Brodhurst, from Heath, including the Rev. E. A. Morgan and the Rev. J. S. Parry, of Tibshelf. The visitors were provided with a substantial tea at the Church Room by the vicar (Rev. E. A. Morgan), to which forty-six sat down. After tea Mr. Allibone proposed, and Mr. George seconded, that a subscription be taken amongst the members present to assist the vicar and ringers towards getting an additional bell put in the tower, which was carried unanimously, the result being £1 2s. 6d., for which the vicar returned his very best thanks, it being a surprise to him, as nothing of this was expected by him or his ringers.

On the proposition of Mr. Allibone, a most hearty vote of thanks was given to the vicar for his liberality in providing the tea now, and also last October at Alfreton, which was carried with acclamation and musical honours in good old Derbyshire style. The vicar suitably responded. The tower bells and also handbells were kept merrily going till a late hour, one and all hoping it may not be long before the new bell is in position, thus making a musical ring of six in G.

CLARE, SUFFOLK.

TOWER AND BELLS RESTORATION.—The general committee appointed to carry out this laudable work met at the vicarage on a recent Monday evening to review and consider the report of the sub-committee, who had devoted considerable attention to the matter. The Rev. J. Vatcher (Vicar) occupied the chair, and was supported by the churchwardens.

The Chairman gave a short report of what the sub-committee had done and the result of their conferences with the architect and firm of bell-hangers. They recommended that the architect (Mr. Tettmar Blow) should, under the direction of the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings, carry out the proposed work at his stated amount (£800), which included the rehanging of the bells. About £960 had been collected and promised altogether, so as to provide for any further contingencies, and it was strongly advised that the restoration should now be commenced, which would probably take about six or eight months to complete. After a slight discussion upon minor details, it was proposed by Mr. H. W. Downs, seconded by Mr. J. Bardwell, and carried unanimously, that the committee be empowered to instruct the architect to proceed with the undertaking forthwith. A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the meeting.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ROSSENDALE BRANCH.—A meeting of this branch was held at St. Saviour's church, Bacup, on Thursday, May 28th, but owing to sundry attractions, was not well attended until a late hour. Ringing did not commence until six o'clock, and then only Minor could be attempted. This over, and with fresh arrivals, Triples and Major were successfully brought round. A short business meeting was held in the tower, Mr. Cass, of Bury, presiding. The usual votes of thanks were passed, and it was resolved to hold the next meeting at Bury parish church. Ringing was recommenced, and the above-mentioned attractions being over, a good number of ringers turned up, but as the time was late, the bells were stopped before all had the desired pull. Let us all try to be punctual next time.

SOUTHGATE (Middlesex).—On a recent Sunday, at Christ Church, on the back six, after evening service, 720 Plain Bob (thirty-two bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. W. Tegg (first 720), 1; S. Ansell, 2; J. Miller, 3; W. Pickworth, 4; S. Wade (conductor), 5; A. Miller, 6. Tenor 25 cwt

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 SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

EASTERN DIVISION.

One of the most successful meetings of this division was held at East Hoathly on Saturday, 21st May. The reception given to the visitors was a hearty one, the sumptuous tea provided by the Rector and served in excellent style in a tent upon the lawn, the weather all that could be desired, was most enjoyable, and everything was beyond the expectations of all that attended. East Hoathly being somewhat awkwardly situated for the members to get to, the nearest railway station, at which only a very few trains per day stop, being $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant, arrangements were made for cycling parties to start from three different points in the district, and a trap for the non-cyclists to start from the station considered the most convenient to the majority, with the result that the number attending was very satisfactory indeed. In addition to the above arrangements, the Master of the Association, Mr. G. F. Attree, came by motor car from Brighton, a distance of some 15 miles, bringing with him our most popular Hon. Sec. (Rev. J. W. G. Loder Cother) and a few members of the Brighton contingent, and the result was that twenty-seven sat down to tea, including Rev. P. S. Berry and Mr. Thorpe from Rye, the Rev. G. S. Wilson presiding in the unavoidable absence of the Rector. The towers represented were St. Peter's and St. Nicholas, Brighton; St. Clement's and Blacklands, Hastings; St. Mary, Rye; Christ Church, Eastbourne; St. Mary the Virgin, Ringmer; and East Hoathly was also present and took great pains to secure the enjoyment and comfort of all.

The usual business meeting followed the tea, and after the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, G. H. Head, who has recently come to Eastbourne from Tunbridge Wells, was elected a member of the Association.

The local Hon. Sec. then proposed a vote of thanks to the rectory for the reception accorded the Association, and the excellent repast provided, and referred to the great assistance and encouragement such a welcome afforded the officials and members of the Association. The Master seconded the proposition, and in the course of his usual humorous remarks, suggested the completion of the octave, stating that in his opinion, the music of six bells as compared with eight, resembled the difference between a barrel organ and the band of the Coldstream Guards.

The Rev. G. S. Wilson responded on behalf of the Rectory, expressing great pleasure at being privileged to meet such a band of Churchworkers. In his opinion, no Church was complete without its peal of bells. He was a subscriber to the paper entitled *Church Bells*, and he always admired their motto: "Ring out the false, ring in the true," and he hoped the ringers present would always be actuated by similar principles.

The Rev. J. W. G. Loder Cother followed with a vote of thanks to Captain Clements, for the great interest he took in everything connected with the church and ringers, referring to the great assistance he had been in adding to the completion and adornment of the Church, and in connection with the splendid schools erected near the Church, and also to the great assistance it was to the clergy when they had such a gentleman as Captain Clements for churchwardens.

Captain Clements in a very able speech returned thanks for the many kind things said of him, and expressed the great pleasure it gave him to meet such a happy gathering. He considered such meetings were a great benefit to all concerned and afforded such an excellent opportunity for exchanging views and obtaining valuable hints.

The bells are a fair ring of six, in good going order, and good use was made of them during the afternoon and evening in Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain and Treble Bob Minor, including a 720 of Kent, by Messrs. G. F. Attree, Frossell, Hart, Saker, Head, and Howse.

THE HEAVY WOOLLEN DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

The monthly meeting of the above Association was held at The Star inn, Shelley, Mr. F. Scholefield presiding. It was resolved respecting the annual competition to be held at Kirkheaton on Whit Monday to draw for practice at 9.30 a.m., the actual competition to start at 1 p.m. After smaller items of business had been transacted, the handbells were brought into use, which brought the meeting to a close.

Obituary.

JOHN NELMS.

It becomes our painful duty to chronicle the sudden death of the above once-celebrated London ringer, which took place on Saturday last, the 28th ult., under circumstances of a most solemn character. It will be remembered that on the above day the remains of England's great statesman were laid to rest in the Abbey of Westminster, necessitating of course muffled ringing in the near neighbourhood at least. Though at one time a prominent and leading member of the Cumberland Society, for many years past Mr. Nelms had not attended the practices of that body, nor in fact did he actively meet any other ringing Society. On the day in question he agreeably surprised some of his fellow-members of the above-named Society by appearing in the ringing-chamber of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, and joined them in their work. A popular London newspaper informed its readers the next morning that after ringing for about a quarter of an hour the company were all in the best of spirits, our old friend, John Mansfield—the steeplekeeper—remarking that the appearance of John Nelms in the belfry made it appear like old times again. The writer of these lines enjoys the belief that had he followed his friend Nelms into the belfry Mr. Mansfield's recollections of old times would have been accentuated.

Another touch is started for, which alas! lasted for about two minutes. To the great consternation of his companions John Nelms falls from his box to the floor, nearly knocking down the steeple-keeper in his descent. The awful moment can only be imagined. Assistance was at once rendered by those present, John Mansfield hurrying to Charing Cross hospital for medical aid. The sufferer was conveyed down the stone spiral staircase—no small difficulty—by two of the company, and at once conveyed to the hospital in an ambulance, where however five hours afterwards, in the presence of his son and daughter, he breathed his last.

An abler pen than ours will no doubt do justice to the memory of John Nelms, but we may be allowed to say our little testimony to his character and abilities as a ringer. Perhaps it was in the sixties when he was in his prime. A skilled conductor, an excellent ringer and wary composer was he. At the period with which we are dealing his general appearance and demeanour was what may be termed "smart," but without ostentation. He was a vigorous, acute and brisk ringer; and always felt a pleasure in imparting to others the knowledge he himself possessed. He certainly was next to the late John Cox, the leading bob-caller of the Cumberland Society; an agreeable companion; a most worthy man. We have not forgotten the pleasant half-hours spent with him and the late Mr. J. Miller and others on the way home after meeting at St. Clement's; taking advantage now and then of the friendly light from the lamps of Long Acre to examine and compare our different essays in the art of composition. Other pleasing (to us) reminiscences we could mention, but this is not the place. The elder members of the Cumberlands—Messrs. Rogers, Swain, Baron, Dains, Mansfield, and the rest have lost a talented old colleague in the decease of Mr. John Nelms; and he deserves a favored niche in the history of their Society. The conditions of London interments are often such as to defy the whereabouts of the dead; it is to be hoped, however, that the tomb of John Nelms will be secured both from oblivion and desecration.

We are asked to state that the funeral will take place at Finchley cemetery, St. Pancras ground, this day, Saturday, June 4th, at 4 p.m. The bells of St. Sepulchre, Snow Hill, will be rung after the funeral.

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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. In 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, JUNE 4, 1898.

WE regret that owing to an unfortunate accident to some of our machinery on Thursday evening, just as we were about to print, the publication of this number is late somewhat. Next week we begin a new volume, and commence the account of the proceedings of the Central Council.

With our next number also will appear, a Portrait of Mr. JOHN AUSTIN, of Gloucester, with memoir. With respect to our portraits, which we shall continue as often as possible, we would like to point out to those gentlemen who send their photographs, that it is really necessary they should be of a first-class character, otherwise dissatisfaction is sure to be the result. We shall always do our best to produce portraits worthy of the subject, but this is absolutely dependent upon the excellence of the photographs sent us.

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.

The Metropolis.**THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS AND THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.***On Monday, May 30, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,**AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN, HAVERSTOCK HILL,***A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;***Being seven 720s of Bob Minor, each called differently.**Tenor 12½ cwt.*

HENRY ELLIS	Treble.	RICHARD BEVAN	4.
JAMES NIXON	2.	CHARLES H. MARTIN	5.
ERNEST BONFIELD*	3.	GEORGE SMITH	Tenor.

*Conducted by C. H. MARTIN.**This is the first peal on these bells, which are a very musical ring put in the tower by Warner and Sons in 1865. *First peal.***The Provinces.****BACUP.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(ROSSENDALE BRANCH.)***On Wednesday, April 27, 1898, in Two Hours and ——— Minutes,**AT THE PARISH CHURCH,***A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;***THURSTANS' FIVE-PART.*

F. HOWORTH	Treble.	J. H. BROWN	5.
J. H. HAYDOCK	2.	J. SHEPHERD	6.
A. W. WHITWORTH	3.	W. ASHWORTH	7.
J. T. STANDRING	4.	JOS. JACKSON	Tenor.

*Conducted by J. SHEPHERD.***ROMFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.***On Wednesday, May 25, 1898, in Two Hours and Twenty-six Minutes,**AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. M. BURRELL, LONDON ROAD,**ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,***A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR
5184 CHANGES.**

GEORGE R. PYE	1-2.	ERNEST PYE	5-6.
WILLIAM PYE	3-4.	JOHN DALE	7-8.

*Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF and Conducted by GEORGE R. PYE.**Umpire—W. Watson, who had a copy of the peal and ticked off every lead end as rung.***NORTHALLERTON, YORKSHIRE.****DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Thursday, May 26, 1898, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,**AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,***A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;***HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 17 cwt.*

JAMES BAXTER*	Treble.	WILLIAM H. PORTER	5.
CHARLES L. ROUTLEDGE	2.	ROBERT S. STORY	6.
ROBERT C. HUDSON	3.	FREDK. J. HARRISON	7.
THOMAS HUDSON, SEN.	4.	WILLIAM STORY	Tenor.

*Conducted by F. J. HARRISON.***First peal of Stedman. A reference to this peal will be found elsewhere.***EARL SOHAM, SUFFOLK.****THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Thursday, May 26, 1898, in Two Hours Seventeen and ½ Minutes,**AT THE HOUSE OF W. G. CRICKMER,**ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND.***A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5216 CHANGES.**

HORACE C. HOWLETT	1-2.	WILLIAM FLORY	5-6.
WILLIAM G. CRICKMER	3-4.	JOHN J. O'NEILL	7-8.

*Composed by H. C. HOWLETT and Conducted by W. G. CRICKMER**Umpire—J. A. Read. This peal, in two parts, is now rung for the first time.***BENGWORTH, EVESHAM, WORCESTERSHIRE.****THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION
AND THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, BENGWORTH.***On Saturday, May 28, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,**AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,***A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;***Being forty-two six-scores of Grandsire, Plain Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, and St. Dunstan's.*

WILLIAM ATTWOOD*	Treble.	WILLIAM ARKELL	4.
FREDERICK STYLES†	2.	FREDERICK JOHNSON	5.
FRANK COOK	3.	*CHRISTOPHER HOPKINS	Tenor.

*Conducted by FREDERICK JOHNSON.***First peal. †First in four methods. The above was rung muffled as a mark of respect to the late W. E. Gladstone.***Muffled Peal.****DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.****THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, May 28, 1898, in Three Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,**AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,***A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5088 CHANGES. Tenor 17 cwt.**

THOMAS DRAPER	Treble.	ROBERT S. STORY	5.
GEORGE DAWSON	2.	BENJAMIN SUGDEN	6.
SIR ARTHUR HEYWOOD	3.	JOHN FLOWERS	7.
WILLIAM CLARKE	4.	WILLIAM HICKLING	Tenor.

*Composed and Conducted by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD, BART.**This peal was rung as a tribute of respect to the late Vicar of the parish, who was interred two days previously.***READING, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.***On Saturday, May 28, 1898, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,**AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,***A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;***CARTER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.*

ARTHUR J. MAYO*	Treble.	ALFRED W. REEVES	5.
HENRY COFFEE	2.	ARTHUR H. EVANS	6.
GEORGE L. BODDINGTON	3.	ALBERT E. REEVES	7.
FREDERICK SWEETZER	4.	HENRY DIBLEY	Tenor.

*Conducted by ALBERT E. REEVES.***First peal and first attempt. Rung with the bells half muffled as a token of respect to the late Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone.***TONBRIDGE, KENT.****THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.***On Saturday, May 28, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,**AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,***A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;***HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 23 cwt.*

JOHN CHIVERS	Treble.	ALFRED LAURENCE	5.
WILLIAM J. WOLF	2.	THOMAS CARD	6.
GEORGE H. STONESTREET	3.	WILLIAM STEED	7.
GEORGE A. CARD	4.	GEORGE RABBITT	Tenor.

*Conducted by THOMAS CARD.**Rung with the bells half muffled as a mark of respect to the late Right Hon. William Ewart Gladstone.***LINCOLN.—THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.***(THE ST. PETER-AT-ARCHES SOCIETY).**On Saturday, May 28, 1898, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,**AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER-AT-ARCHES,***A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;***IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.*

ARTHUR CRAVEN	Treble.	GEO. W. BEMROSE	5.
GEO. FLINTHAM	2.	JOHN W. WATSON	6.
JOSEPH B. FENTON	3.	JAMES R. MACKMAN	7.
RICHARD DAWSON	4.	CHARLES W. P. CLIFTON	Tenor.

*Composed and Conducted by ARTHUR CRAVEN.**Rung with the bells half muffled as a token of respect to the late Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone. This peal has the 4th, 5th and 6th their extent in 6ths place, the 6th at five course ends, and the 2nd never there.*

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 28, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720s each of Kent and Plain Bob, and one each of Oxford, Grandsire, and Canterbury Pleasure, each called differently.

HENRY LINGHAM* Treble.	BENJAMIN SPUNNER 4.
GEORGE HAYES 2.	FREDERICK HAYES 5.
RICHARD SMITH 3.	LEWIS SILVER Tenor.

Conducted by LEWIS SILVER.

*First peal. Rung as a tribute of respect to the late Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone.

BEESTON, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 28, 1898, in Three Hours and Thirty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

JOHN PALING Treble.	REUBEN CLIFFORD 5.
FREDERICK S. PRICE 2.	WILLIAM CLIFFORD, SEN... 6.
ARTHUR LOWE 3.	GEORGE OLDHAM 7.
WILLIAM CLIFFORD, JUN. 4.	JAMES HUTCHBY Tenor.

Composed by H. W. WILDE and Conducted by JAMES HUTCHBY.

Rung with the bells half muffled as a mark of respect to the late Right Hon. William Ewart Gladstone.

MELTON MOWBRAY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 28, 1898, in Three Hours and Thirty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES.

Tenor 25 cwt.

JAMES JARVIS Treble.	JOSEPH S. NEEDHAM 6.
JOSIAH MORRIS 2.	JOHN BUTTERTY 7.
JOHN O. LANCASHIRE .. 3.	WILLIAM H. INGLESANT.. 8.
GEORGE BURROWS 4.	JAMES GEORGE 9.
WILLIAM WILLSON 5.	HENRY KING Tenor.

Composed by JAMES GEORGE and Conducted by WILLIAM WILLSON.

Rung with the bells half muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone. First peal of Grandsire Caters on the bells.

GALLEYWOOD, ESSEX—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 28, 1898, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

WILLIAM ROWLAND, JUN.* Treble.	CHARLES WASKETT 5.
ARTHUR EDWARDS 2.	WILLIAM J. PIPER 6.
GEORGE R. PYE 3.	*ALFRED WIGHT.. .. 7.
WILLIAM PYE 4.	ERNEST PYE Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

*First peal of Stedman. First peal of Stedman on the bells.

ROTHWELL, NEAR LEEDS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Saturday, May 28, 1898, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION.

THOMAS NICKOLS Treble.	GEORGE W. STEEL 5.
ALFRED CHAPMAN 2.	WALTER CHAPMAN 6.
JOSEPH C. ABBISHAW .. 3.	STEPHEN STACEY 7.
JOSEPH HAIGH 4.	JOHN M. CHADWICK Tenor.

Composed by YORK GREEN and Conducted by JOHN M. CHADWICK.

Rung with the bells muffled as a tribute to the memory of the late Right Hon. William Ewart Gladstone

RANMOOR, SHEFFIELD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 28, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

SAM THOMAS Treble.	FRANK GREEN 5.
FRANK BURGAR 2.	WILFRED COLLIER 6.
GEORGE O. DIXON 3.	JAMES A. DIXON 7.
THOMAS SAWYER 4.	THOMAS CHOWN Tenor.

Conducted by S. THOMAS.

Rung with the bells half muffled as a tribute to the memory of the late Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone.

BRIGHTON.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 28, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

JOHN JAY, SEN.* Treble.	GEORGE A. KING 6.
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH* .. 2.	WILLIAM PALMER 7.
CHARLES R. LILLEY.. .. 3.	HARRY WESTON 8.
EDWARD C. MERRITT .. 4.	JAMES N. FROSSELL 9.
ROBERT J. DAWE* 5.	KEITH HART Tenor.

Composed by the late JOHN COX and Conducted by KEITH HART.

Rung with the bells fully muffled in memory of the late Right Hon. William Ewart Gladstone. *First peal of Royal.

BORDEN, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, May 29, 1898, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 23 cwt.

CHARLES WILLSHIRE .. Treble.	RICHARD STAINES 5.
WILLIAM J. WALKER* .. 2.	WILLIAM TASSELL 6.
STANLEY HUTSON 3.	CHARLES R. MILLWAY .. 7.
WILLIAM SPICE 4.	HARRY SCATTERGOOD .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES WILLSHIRE

*First peal with a bob bell. Rung with the bells half muffled as a tribute to the memory of the late Right Hon. William Ewart Gladstone.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION AND THE DEBENHAM SOCIETY.

On Monday, May 30, 1898, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION.

Tenor 20 cwt.

SEDLEY COLLINS* Treble.	ALFRED W. GRIMES 5.
WILLIAM J. GROOM 2.	GEORGE ROWE, JUN. ... 6.
JAMES G. RUMSEY 3.	WILLIAM H. E. BULLOCK.. 7.
WILLIAM C. RUMSEY .. 4.	WILLIAM GRIMES Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDORF and Conducted by W. GRIMES.

*First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor. First peal in the method by a local company for upwards of 100 years, and rung at the first attempt. The calling of the peal will be found in the Association report for 1897, page 50.

EYE, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 30, 1898, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 24 cwt.

DAVID G. WIGHTMAN .. Treble.	EDGAR WIGHTMAN 5.
WILLIAM WIGHTMAN .. 2.	GEORGE WIGHTMAN.. .. 6.
JAMES DURRANT 3.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. 7.
STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. 4.	HARRY W. BALDREY Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS and

Conducted by DAVID G. WIGHTMAN.

The ringers wish to thank the vicar for the use of the bells.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, May 30, 1898, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

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

Tenor 12½ cwt.

WILLIAM TRUSS Treble.	FRED. G. BIGGS 5.
T. H. TAFFENDER 2.	SYDNEY T. GOODCHILD .. 6.
GEORGE MARTIN 3.	FRANK BOREHAM 7.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 4.	JOHN EVANS Tenor.

Composed by JAMES W. WASHBROOK and Conducted by JOHN EVANS.

FAREHAM, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, May 30, 1898, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

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

Tenor 14 cwt.

JOSIAH HARRIS* Treble.	GEORGE CHAPPELL 5.
HARRY REYNOLDS* 2.	STAFF-SERGEANT A. PYE .. 6.
FREDERICK HILL 3.	GEORGE GRAHAM 7.
FRANK BENNETT 4.	JOHN W. WHITING Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS and Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

*First peal in the method. This peal is in one part; contains the 4th, 5th and 6th their extent in 6th place without the 2nd ever there at a course end.

EPSOM, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 30, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

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

Tenor 16 cwt. in E.

CHARLES FEDERICK* .. Treble.	JAMES EASTON 5.
THOMAS MILES 2.	WILLIAM CANNING 6.
STEPHEN WILSON 3.	HARRY KENTEN 7.
GEORGE FEDERICK 4.	THOMAS EVERETT Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS MILES.

*First peal and first attempt.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 30, 1898, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5248 CHANGES.

Tenor 24 cwt. in Db.

WILLIAM HOWELL Treble.	ARTHUR H. OSBORNE 5.
HARRY THOMPSON 2.	HARRY HARPER 6.
ARTHUR SYMONDS 3.	*GEORGE VALENTINE 7.
SAMUEL SLATER 4.	CHARLES SILLITOE Tenor.

Composed by EDGAR WIGHTMAN, of Creetingham, and Conducted by CHARLES SILLITOE.

*First peal of Major. This peal, in two parts, has the 4th, 5th and 6th only in 6th place at course ends. The calling will be found in the Norwich Association report for 1897, page 49. It is the longest peal in the method on the bells.

OLD WINDSOR, BERKS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, May 30, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

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

Tenor 11½ cwt.

JOHN W. GOLDING Treble.	GEORGE R. FARDON 5.
GEORGE W. MULLEY 2.	HENRY S. ELLIS 6.
WILLIAM H. VASMORE .. 3.	FREDERICK DENCH 7.
GEORGE E. SYMONDS .. 4.	HENRY K. NEWTON Tenor.

Composed by T. DAY and Conducted by HENRY R. NEWTON.

First peal of Treble Bob Major on the bells.

EPSOM, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 30, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

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

Tenor 12 cwt.

ARTHUR DEAN Treble.	ALFRED CLAYTON 5.
WILLIAM S. SMITH 2.	ALBERT CALVER 6.
JOSEPH A. LAMBERT .. 3.	ERNEST LAMBERT 7.
CHARLES BANCE 4.	JOSEPH FAYERS Tenor.

Composed by F. ROSTRUM and Conducted by J. FAYERS.

WRITTLE, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 30, 1898, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

JAMES TARBUN Treble.	GEORGE R. PYE 5.
GEORGE W. SORRELL .. 2.	ARTHUR EDWARDS 6.
WILLIAM PYE 3.	ERNEST PYE 7.
WILLIAM LINCOLN .. 4.	WILLIAM E. EMERY Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE R. PYE.

First peal in the method on the bells.

LOWER BEEDING, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 30, 1898, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

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

Tenor 10½ cwt.

FREDERICK W. CRIPPS* .. Treble.	ROBERT J. DAWE 5.
JOHN RICE 2.	FRED. W. RICE 6.
JAMES N. FROSSELL .. 3.	ALFRED TURNER 7.
GEORGE PAICE 4.	KEITH HART Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS and Conducted by KEITH HART.

*First peal of Kent Treble Bob. First peal of Kent Treble Bob on the bells.

FRESSINGFIELD, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 30th, 1898, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 17½ cwt.

FRED LAMBERT Treble	EDWARD EASTER 5.
ALBERT RICHES 2.	ERNEST LINCOLN 6.
JAMES ADAMS 3.	CHARLES KERRISON 7.
ARTHUR TOOK 4.	WILLIAM RICHES Tenor.

Composed by H. HUBBARD and Conducted by WILLIAM RICHES.

At the conclusion of the peal the band were entertained to luncheon, thoughtfully provided by the Rev. Dr. Raven, and they desire through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS" to thank him, and also Dr. Smart, for their kindness on this occasion.

CARDIFF.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 30, 1898, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES

Tenor 27 cwt. in D.

WILLIAM LLOYD Treble.	*ALLEN ROWLEY 5.
WILLIAM B. BISS 2.	JOHN CLUTTERBUCK 6.
JOHN HARRIS 3.	WILLIAM COOMBS 7.
CHARLES LLOYD 4.	BENJAMIN TILLEY Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM COOMBS.

*First peal. All the above are members of the St. John's tower. This peal is F. E. Ward's Variation of J. J. Parker's twelve part peal.

RYE, SUSSEX.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 30, 1898, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 19 cwt. 27 lbs.

WILLIAM HILLS Treble.	THOMAS TABRETT 5.
FREDERICK BURDEN 2.	ROBERT EDWARDS 6.
WALTER HOBBS 3.	JOHN STEDDY 7.
ALFRED HINDS 4.	HENRY HOLDSTOCK Tenor.

Conducted by ROBERT EDWARDS.

This is the first peal on the bells.

Date Touches.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

KETTERING (Northants).—On Sunday, April 24th, for Divine Service, a date touch of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 6 mins. W. Roughton, 1; C. Newman, 2; A. Robinson, 3; J. Julian, 4; E. Underwood, 5; T. R. Hensher, 6; W. R. Hensher (conductor), 7; J. Spence, 8. Composed by J. Heasman, of Edenbridge, Kent.

Miscellaneous.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

WINCHESTER.—On Wednesday, April 27th, by members of the Cathedral Guild, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 48 mins. E. G. Lampard, 1; J. W. Elkins, 2; W. J. Sevier, 3; W. Andrews, 4; W. C. Lampard, 5; J. Harris, 6; W. H. George (conductor), 7; W. H. Loveland, 8. Tenor 32 cwt.

THE ELY DIOCESAN GUILD.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Saturday, April 30th, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob (nine bobs). H. Symonds, 1; C. Levitt, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; J. Fayers (first in the method), 4; A. Symonds, 5; W. Hollocks (conductor), 6.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

EAST DEREHAM (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, April 19th, an attempt was made for a peal of Bob Major, but came to grief after ringing 2 hrs. 57 mins. A. Berwick (longest length), 1; S. Back, 2; F. W. Adcock, 3; D. Tye, 4; F. G. Burleigh (conductor), 5; J. Wells, 6; W. Tuttle (Hiingham), 7; S. F. Burleigh, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MIDDLESBROUGH (Yorks).—On April 3rd, at the parish church, 960 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. W. J. Titchener, 1; J. Carter, 2; J. H. Jones, 3; W. Rudd, 4; R. Fenwick, 5; C. Hall, 6; A. McFarlane, 7; T. Metcalfe (conductor), 8. On April 4th, 1024 Superlative Surprise Major. R. Alcock, 1; W. Rudd, 2; R. Fenwick, 3; J. H. Jones, 4; C. Hall, 5; J. W. Passman, 6; J. H. Blakiston (conductor), 7; T. Metcalfe, 8. On May 1st, 448 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. W. J. Titchener, 1; J. Carter, 2; R. Alcock, 3; J. H. Jones, 4; C. Hall, 5; R. Fenwick, 6; J. H. Blakiston, 7; W. Rudd, 8. Also 448 Superlative Surprise Major. R. Alcock, 1; J. Carter, 2; J. H. Jones, 3; R. Fenwick, 4; T. Metcalfe, 5; C. Hall, 6; J. H. Blakiston, 7; A. McFarlane, 8. Also a 1008 of Stedman Triples. J. Carter, 1; R. Alcock, 2; C. Hall, 3; W. Rudd, 4; A. McFarlane, 5; T. Metcalfe, 6; J. H. Blakiston (conductor), 7; J. H. Jones, 8.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

BROMHAM (Wilts).—On Friday, April 15th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles. A. Brown, 1; G. Minty, 2; A. Pouney, 3; T. Jones, 4; J. Bush, 5. Tenor 17½ cwt. This is the longest touch by all, who are local men.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CHATHAM (Kent).—On Saturday, April 23rd, at St. Mary's church, the following touches were rung: 210 and the last 700 from Holt's Original. G. Mcrshall, 1; W. Haigh (conductor), 2; A. Osborne, 3; W. Evans, 4; E. Mexter, 5; A. Ring, 6; W. Easter, 7; W. Hunt,

8. Also 280 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Evans, 1; W. Hunt, 2; A. Ring, 3; J. Kidd, 4; W. Easter, 5; W. Baker, 6; W. Haigh (conductor), 7; T. Tullett, 8. Also 336 and 168 Grandsire Triples with S. Hudson and T. Peachey standing in. Conducted by W. Easter.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CHIPPING BARNET (Herts).—On Sunday afternoon, April 10th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. *J. Withy, 1; *A. J. Chidwick, 2; A. H. Belton, 3; J. Sumpter, 4; F. A. Milne, Esq., 5; A. E. Dolton, 6; F. Blondell (conductor), 7; A. T. King, Esq., 8. *First quarter-peal. On Sunday morning, April 17th, for Divine Service, 630 Grandsire Triples. A. J. Chidwick, 1; G. B. Lucas, 2; J. Sumpter, 3; F. Butler, 4; S. Wade (conductor), 5; W. Pickworth, 6; A. H. Belton, 7; A. T. King, Esq., 8. On Sunday evening, April 24th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. G. Smith, 1; *F. A. Milne, Esq., 2; *W. Pickworth, 3; S. Wade, 4; H. Newby, 5; I. J. Attwater (conductor), 6; A. Miller, 7; E. Dolton, 8. *First quarter-peal in the method.

CHEPSTOW (Monmouthshire).—On Sunday evening, April 17th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor with 7-8 covering. A. Jones, 1; S. Hopton, 2; J. Prickett, 3; W. Freestone, 4; J. Morley, 5; R. Thompson (conductor), 6; F. Bye, 7; T. M. Close, 8. First 720 in any method by A. Jones. Composed by E. Francis, of Norwich. On Wednesday, April 20th, 630 Grandsire Triples. A. Jones (first touch), 1; S. Hopton, 2; J. Prickett, 3; O. W. Layng (Swindon), 4; W. Freestone, 5; R. Thompson (conductor), 6; J. Morley, 7; F. Bye, 8. Also 210 Grandsire Triples. A. Jones, 1; O. W. Layng, 2; S. Hopton, 3; R. Thompson, 4; W. Freestone, 5; J. Prickett (conductor), 6; J. Morley, 7; F. Bye, 8. And 240 Bob Minor with 7-8 covering. R. Hughes (first touch); S. Hopton, 2; W. Freestone, 3; R. Thompson (conductor), 4; J. Prickett, 5; J. Morley, 6; F. Bye, 7; A. Phipps, 8.

HARBY (Leicestershire).—On Saturday, April 30th, at St. Mary's church, two 120s of Grandsire Doubles, two 120s of Canterbury, and two 120s of Plain Bob Doubles in 28 mins. E. Smart, 1; W. White, 2; W. E. White, 3; T. Squires, 4; J. J. Jackson, 5. And 120 Stedman Doubles. W. E. White, 1; W. White, 2; J. J. Jackson, 3; T. Kirkby, 4; T. Squires, 6. First 120 of Stedman by Messrs. Jackson and Kirby. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. W. Starbuck, 1; W. E. White, 2; J. Dickman (first in the method), 3; W. White, 4; J. J. Jackson, 5. Also 120 Bob Doubles. W. E. White, 1; J. J. Jackson, 2; W. Starbuck, 3; T. Kirkby, 4; W. White, 5. First 120 with a bob bell by W. Starbuck. On handbells a plain course of Grandsire Minor. W. E. White, 1-2; J. J. Jackson, 3; T. Kirkby, 4; W. White, 5-6. Also a plain course of Bob Minor. Messrs. Dickman, Starbuck, and Jackson belong to Harby; the rest to Cotgrave, Notts.

PENGE (Surrey).—On Thursday, April 14th, for practice at the church of St. John the Evangelist, 720 Bob Minor. T. P. Richards, 1; E. Edwards, 2; H. Edwards, 3; J. Town, 4; W. T. Battram, 5; G. Wickens (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 17th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. G. Wickens, 1; T. P. Richards, 2; H. Edwards, 3; J. Town, 4; W. T. Battram (conductor), 5; F. C. Perrin (Harlow, Essex), 6. On Sunday, April 24th, for Divine Service, 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. Smith (conductor), 1; T. R. Richard, 2; H. Edwards, 3; W. T. Battram, 4; J. Town, 5; G. Wickens, 6.

MUFFLED TOUCHES IN MEMORY OF MR. GLADSTONE.

The following touches have been rung with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to the late RIGHT HON. W. E. GLADSTONE:—

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On May 28th, the following touches were rung with the bells deeply-muffled in memory of the late Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, at St. Paul's church: 1061 Grandsire Caters, being as many changes as that worthy gentleman had lived months. R. Glass, C. Chasty, W. Gazeley, C. W. Clarke (composer and conductor), E. Tingey, F. Keech, I. Hills, W. Darker, F. Smith, J. Spence. Afterwards the usual whole pull and stand was rung 88 times, and 305 Grandsire Caters. C. W. Clarke (conductor). At St. Mary's church 720 Double Court. R. Glass, W. Barker, J. A. Smith, C. E. Smith, C. Chasty, C. W. Clarke (conductor). And 720 Oxford Treble Bob. R. Glass, C. W. Clarke, W. Gazeley, C. Chasty, S. Cullip, W. Barker.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Monday, May 23rd, eight members of the above attempted a muffled peal of Bob Triples, as a token of respect to the late W. E. Gladstone. After ringing 2 hrs. 47 mins. a change-

course occurred. N. Brand, W. C. Hunt, J. Rossiter, C. Waugh, J. Browell, T. Teasdale (conductor), A. Tully, J. Thompson.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ST. CROSS (Suffolk).—On Saturday, May 28th, 720 of Doubles, being two 6-scores each of Plain Bob, Grandsire and St. Simon, in 26 mins. Rev. W. M. Smith, E. F. Poppy, W. R. Newham, J. Botwright, J. Betts (conductor). Rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of deep respect to the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone.

BUNWELL (Norfolk).—On Saturday, May 28th, at St. Michael's church, 720 Bob Minor with the bells deeply muffled, as a token of respect to the late Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone. A. Sturman, O. Hinchley, J. Hilling, G. Smith, sen., G. Smith, jun., R. Hutson (conductor).

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks).—On Saturday, May 28th, at All Saints' church, Boyne Hill, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 45 mins. T. H. Taffender (conductor), 1; F. Boreham, 2; F. Bissley, 3; F. K. Biggs, 4; J. Evans, 5; W. H. Fussell, 6; W. E. Yates, 7; W. Truss, 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute to the memory of the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BORDEN (Kent).—On Saturday, May 28th, 504 Stedman Triples. S. Hutson, 1; C. Willshire, 2; W. Spice, 3; R. Staines, 4; C. Dutnall, 5; W. Tassell, 6; C. Millway (conductor), 7; W. J. Walker, 8. On Sunday, May 29th, 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Hadlow, 1; W. J. Walker, 2; S. Hutson, 3; R. Staines, 4; C. Dutnall, 5; C. Millway, 6; W. Tassell, 7; C. Willshire (conductor), 8. And 504 Stedman Triples. S. Hutson, 1; C. Willshire, 2; W. Spice, 4; R. Staines, 4; C. Dutnall, 5; W. Tassell, 6; C. Millway (conductor), 7; W. Hadlow, 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone. W. Spice hails from Charing; W. Hadlow from Lenham.

CANTERBURY (Kent).—On Sunday, May 22nd, at the church of St. Alphege, a 720 Oxford Treble Bob, in 29½ mins. J. Fox, M. Pierce (conductor), G. Jenkins, E. Beney, A. Saxby, P. H. Pierce. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

BUCKNALL (Surrey).—On Sunday, May 1st, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 College Exercise. J. Preston, 1; G. Clarkson, 2; D. Preston, 3; C. Preston, 4; W. Wheeldon (conductor), 5; W. Twigg, 6. For evening service 720 College Pleasure. J. Naylor (Norton), 4; the rest as before. On Sunday, May 8th, for morning service, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. For evening service 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. For evening service 720 Violet Treble Bob. On Sunday, May 15th, for morning service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. On Sunday, May 22nd, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. Rung with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

WINSHILL (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, May 28th, at St. Mark's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, in 45 mins. G. Wright, C. Brown, W. Shepherd, W. Wylde (conductor), J. Woodward, J. Parker. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last mark of respect to the late Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone.

THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

PENZANCE.—On Saturday, May 28th, at St. Mary's church, on the occasion of a public service in commemoration of the late Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, half-muffled touches of Grandsire Triples were rung before and after the service, viz., 336 and 504. J. Fregoning, 1; T. Hicks, 2; J. Hodder, 3; J. Symons (conductor), 4; P. Hitchens, 5; H. Williams, 6; C. Boase, 7; T. Kessell, 8.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

FAREHAM (Hants).—On Saturday, May 28th, with the bells deeply muffled as a mark of respect to the late Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, an attempt was made for a peal of Treble Bob Major which came to grief owing to one of the muffles coming off after ringing 2 hrs. 22 mins. J. Harris, J. Symons, F. Hill, F. Bennett (conductor), G. Chappell, Staff-Sergt. A. Pye, G. Grafham, J. W. Whiting.

BRISTOL.—On Saturday, May 28th, at the parish church, Clifton, 1008 Grandsire Triples. J. Burford, S. Thomas, R. Clark, R. J.

Wilkins, A. Harvey, J. Jones, C. Thomas, and W. Holder. Also 504 in the same method with Mr. E. A. Davies ringing the tenor. Conducted by R. J. Wilkins. Mr. E. A. Davies hails from Barking, Essex. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone.

BUNGAY (Suffolk).—On Saturday, May 28th, the flag floated half-mast from the steeple, and the bells were rung muffled at intervals during the day as a last mark of respect to the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone. A 1056 Grandsire Triples was brought round. W. Browne, J. Folkard, T. Hembling, W. Felgate, E. Felgate, E. Lincoln, E. Woods, R. Baker (conductor), and T. Baker. Several other touches were rung half-muffled, followed by the usual whole pull and stand, and the deceased gentleman's age, 88, tolled on the tenor.

COLCHESTER (Essex).—On Sunday, May 8th, 112 and 168 Grandsire Triples, and 704 Kent Treble Bob Major. On May 22nd, 168 of Bob Triples and 364 of Grandsire Triples. For evening service, with the bells half-muffled, 884 of Grandsire Triples, as a mark of respect to the late Mr. W. E. Gladstone. W. Harvey, W. Howell, R. Stanard (conductor), G. Burch, F. Bumpstead, G. Rashbrook, W. Schofield, W. Bureh.

DONCASTER (Yorks).—On Saturday, May 28th, at the parish church, as a last tribute of respect to the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, with the bells half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thur stans) in 50 mins. R. Baylis, C. Scott, G. Halksworth, H. Marwood, H. Brock, C. Armitage (conductor), H. Wilson, S. Holmes.

FINEON (Northants).—As a mark of respect to the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, the bells were muffled and the following touches of Bob Triples were rung: On Saturday, May 28th, 336. J. Packwood, T. Abbott, J. Pettit, P. J. Manning, G. Lines, W. B. Meadows, J. T. Tompkins (conductor), W. Perkins. A 168. A. Smeathers, J. Packwood, A. Lenard, J. T. Tompkins, G. Lines, P. J. Manning, W. Perkins (conductor), T. Abbott.

GREAT DODDINGTON (Northants).—On Saturday, May 28th, the day of the funeral of the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, the bells being muffled, 360 Grandsire Doubles. J. Thornton, W. H. Ette, jun., C. Chapman (conductor), J. Bonham, E. Chapman. Also a 360 called differently.

HANDSWORTH (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, May 26th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins. R. Faux, T. Verry, B. Starkey, W. H. Godden, A. Jones, T. Westwood (conductor), W. Verry, R. Speakman. Composed by the Editor. Rung with the bells muffled on the occasion of the memorial service for the Right Hon. W. Gladstone.

SEDBERGH (Yorks).—On Saturday, March 28th, 720 Bob Minor. W. Fisher, W. Pennington, J. Lenogles (first 720), F. S. J. Pile, R. Atkinson, G. F. Woodhouse (conductor). Tenor 16 cwt. The above was rung with the bells deeply-muffled as a last mark of respect to the late Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone.

LONDON.—On the day of the funeral of the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, the bells of St. Mary's church, Islington, were rung muffled at intervals during the day. In the evening the usual whole pull and stand was rung. W. A. Spicer, A. Read, H. Franks, G. Gaines, F. Linstead, T. Jeffreys, H. May, J. Jeffreys, H. May, J. Barry.

THORNHAM MAGNA (Suffolk).—On Sunday evening, May 22nd, for Divine Service, with the bells half-muffled, 120 each of New Doubles and St. Simon's Doubles. E. Youngs, E. Buckingham, G. Moss, J. Buckingham, A. Symonds (conductor). Rung as a token of respect to the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone.

WALWORTH (Surrey).—On Saturday, May 21st, at St. Peter's church, an attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Triples, which came to grief after ringing 2 hrs. 35 mins. T. Langdon, F. G. Perrin, G. E. Symonds (conductor), H. R. Pasmore, J. W. Golding, A. R. Davis, H. Barton, W. H. Pasmore. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone.

WELLINGBOROUGH (Northants).—On Sunday evening, May 22nd, 504 Grandsire Triples conducted by W. H. Ette; and 168 in the same method conducted by W. Wood. E. J. Dennes, G. Turnell, W. Wood, F. Underwood, F. Wood, E. West, W. H. Ette, T. Craddock. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone.

WOBURN (Beds).—On Saturday, May 28th, 504 Bob Triples with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone. W. Janes, Cyril Herbert (conductor), Charles Herbert, M. Matthews, M. Lane, D. Harris, E. Herbert, and F. Bowler.

FOR SALE.—A PEAL OF 110 HANDBELLS, C 29 to C 01 Chromatic Scale. 61 bells, with 37 bells as duplicates, C 22 to C 1 Chromatic Scale, and also a few triplicates; all in good condition. By Mears and Stainbank. For any further particulars, apply, John Millett, Egerton Street, Broadfield, Heywood.

Notices.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is One Penny per line (five words may be reckoned to a line). Repetitions at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

Stoke Archidiaconal Association—The next meeting of the above will be held at Kingsley, to-day, Saturday, June 4th.

REV. W. D. BRAGINTON, } Hon. Secs.
W. TWIGG, }

Bath and Wells Diocesan Association. Bath District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Keynsham on Monday, June 6th, at 7.30 p.m. Bristol friends invited.

J. FUSSELL, Hon. Local Sec.

The Chester Diocesan Guild.—Wirral Branch.—The next monthly meeting and tea will be held at Rock Ferry on Saturday, June 11th, at 6 p.m. Leaders of towers are requested to let the Hon. Sec. know how many will attend.

HENRY WOOLCOTT, Hon. Sec.

The Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Wells on Saturday, June 11th. Dinner in the Gymnasium, in High Street, at 12.30 p.m. at 2s. each (1s. only to members). Business meeting to follow when the annual report will be presented and the election of officers take place. The Right Rev. the Bishop of Bath and Wells, president of the association, has kindly promised to attend the dinner and business meeting. At 2.15 p.m. the Bishop will give a special address to the members in the Cathedral, after which they will attend the afternoon service there. The Cathedral bells (10) will be available after morning service and again after the afternoon service until 7 p.m.; St. Cuthbert's bells (8) also during the day (except at 11.30, when there is a service in the church), and St. John's, Glastonbury (8).

HENRY W. TOMKINS, Hon. Sec and Treas.

Lancashire Association—Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at St. James's church, Birch-in-Rusholme, on Saturday, June 11th. Bells ready at 4.0 p.m. Business meeting at 7.0 p.m.

W. BROWN, Branch Sec.

The Middlesex County Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Staines on Saturday, June 11th. Ringing to commence at 5 o'clock.

C. EDWARDS, Hon. Dist. Sec.

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The next committee and quarterly meeting of this Association will take place (not at Pershore as arranged on Easter Monday at the Annual Meeting), but by the kind permission of the vicar, the Rev. W. Stanley, at Bengeworth, Evesham, on Saturday, June 18th. A short service will be held in the church at 5.30. Business meeting to follow in the schoolroom. The tower and bells are at the disposal of members.

JOHN SMITH, Hon. Sec.

NOTE TO PEAL.

THE PEAL AT NORTHALLERTON.—Rung by a representative band of the Association. Messrs. Baxter and Porter belong to Darlington; Hudson (2) to Sunderland; W. Story to Hexham; R. S. Story to Whitley; Harrison to Jarro; Routledge to Newcastle. This is the first peal on the bells. Rung at the reopening of the peal after thorough restoration

by Messrs. Warner and Sons, of London, who have recast the treble, 3rd, and 5th, and rehung the whole peal with new fittings. They have made a thorough workmanlike job of it, and the verdict of the band at the finish of the peal was "beautiful." The vicar and churchwardens congratulated the ringers on the excellent ringing, and kindly entertained them to tea at a neighbouring hotel. It is mainly to the efforts of Mr. C. Denton Smith, a native of the place, that these improvements in the tower have been accomplished, and he is to be congratulated on the capital results. The band are grateful to him and the authorities for their kindly hospitality during their all too short visit.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

MR. GODDEN'S TESTIMONIAL FUND.

Amount previously acknowledged	£	s.	d.
W. Snowdon	12	16	0
	4	5	0

Marriage.

PIKE—HOLLOWAY.—On Saturday, May 28, at St. Peter's, Caversham, by the Rev. C. W. H. Kenrick (Vicar), Arthur William Pike (assistant hon. sec. Oxford Diocesan Guild) to Edith Holloway, eldest daughter of E. Holloway, South Street, Reading.

Compositions.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By G. LINDOFF, Dublin.

5376.

2	3	4	5	6	M	B	W	H
2	6	3	5	4	2			I
5	2	3	6	4	1	-	2	
6	4	2	3	5	2	-		2
6	2	3	4	5			I	2
2	4	5	3	6	2	-		
2	4	3	6	5				I
4	6	3	2	5			2	
6	5	3	2	4	2	-	1	2
5	2	4	3	6	1			2
3	4	6	2	5	2	-		2
4	3	5	2	6				2
5	3	2	4	6	1	-		1
4	5	2	3	6	1	-	2	
5	6	2	3	4	2	-	I	2
6	3	4	2	5	2	-		
3	2	6	5	4				
2	3	4	5	6			I	2

Has the 4th, 5th and 6th exclusively in 6ths at a course-end, and is the record length on the plan.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By WILLIAM WILLSON, Leicester.

5024.

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

Continued—

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

Repeated, contains the 6th twelve times wrong and twenty-four times right, with 2-3 never in 6ths.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

By JOHN D. MATTHEWS, Bath.

5376.

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

Five times repeated.

Single half-way and end. By calling two courses W H H in place of the three courses braced in any one, two or three parts, will reduce the peal either to 5264, 5152 or 5040 respectively.

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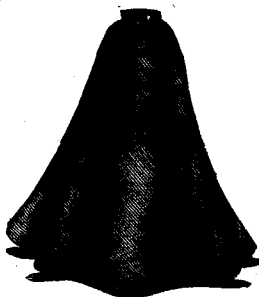
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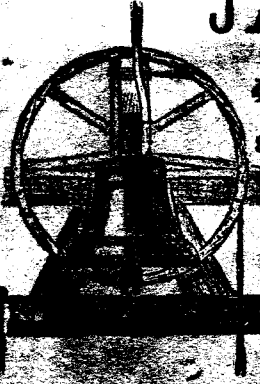
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