

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 926.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 1900.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

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Sydney Town Hall,	Church).
N.S.W.	Windermere Church.
Hammersmith Parish Ch.	Eiffel Tower, Paris.
Gateshead Clock Tower.	Dunsfold Parish Church.
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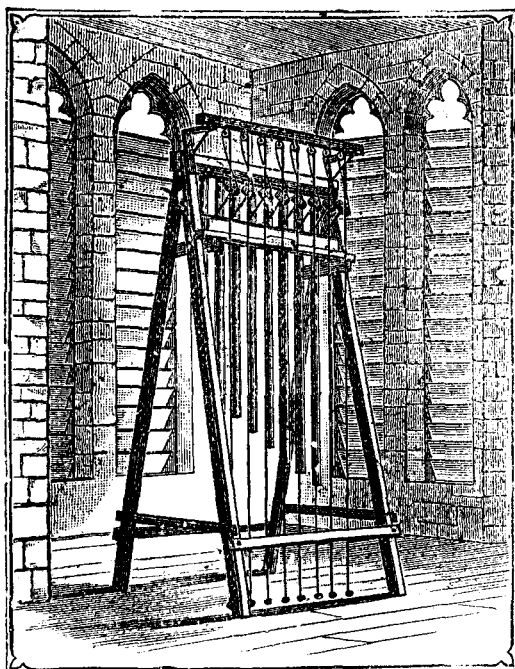
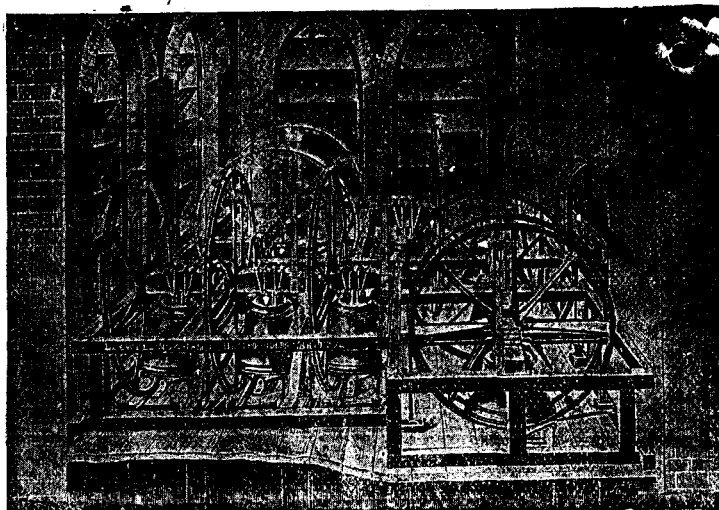
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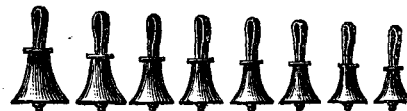
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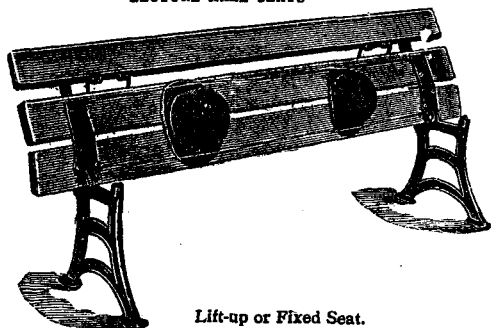
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 926.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 1900.

[Vol. XVIII.]

FELTHAM, MIDDLESEX.

On the 27th December a new ring of eight bells, tenor 12cwt., was dedicated at Feltham Church. The bells were the generous gift of the late Mr. Serjeant Spinks (the last of the Serjeants-at-law) who also partly defrayed the cost of the handsome tower and spire in which the bells hang.

Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of the Whitechapel foundry, were entrusted with the order for the casting and erecting of the bells some four months ago, and it was by special desire of the Donor that everything was in readiness for the ring to be dedicated and heard for the first time on the above date, that being the 83rd anniversary of his birth.

A short special service was conducted in the belfry at 2.30 p.m. by the Vicar, the Rev. J. F. Jemmett, after which the bells were opened with a touch of Grandsire Triples. During the afternoon ringers had assembled from various parts, and touches in different methods were rung until late in the evening. The bells form a very musical ring in the key of F sharp and they "go" remarkably well. It was much to be regretted that the sad death of the Donor had to be recorded the same evening. He had been in ill health for some time and passed quietly away at his residence, Brenley House, near Faversham.

A correspondent adds the following:—"The profoundest sorrow was caused among all classes in Feltham and the district, on Thursday, by the sad news that their generous benefactor, Mr. Serjeant Spinks, had passed away on the previous evening. The circumstances surrounding the event were specially melancholy. The splendid peal of bells which had just been placed in the fine new tower of St. Catherine's Church, were rung for the first time on Wednesday in honour of Mr. Serjeant Spinks, to whose munificence the parish is chiefly indebted for these handsome additions to the church. This day was chosen because it was the anniversary of the worthy Serjeant's birth, and also the anniversary of his marriage. It proved, alas, also the death day of this generous friend of Feltham, and the music of the chimes, it may be said formed a fitting accompaniment to the passing of his magnanimous spirit."

SAXLINGHAM THORPE-WITH-SAXLINGHAM- NETHERGATE, NORFOLK.

The bells of the parish church were used again for the first time on December 28th last, after having been re-hung and in part re-cast. The work of re-casting the treble, fourth, and tenor bells has been effected by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, Whitechapel, London, while a firm of bellringers carried out the work of hanging and tuning the bells. The bells, which are six in number, now hang in a massive wrought iron frame, resting on entirely new oak timbers which have been built into the masonry of the tower. The ropes are led by means of wooden troughs to the ringing-chamber, which is upon the ground floor. Many ringers belonging to the Norwich Diocesan Association were present from Norwich, Yarmouth, Diss, and other places, and provided some excellent performances

upon the bells during the day. There was a special service of dedication in the afternoon at three o'clock, during which a short touch was rung. The Very Rev. the Dean of Norwich preached an able and appropriate sermon from Exodus xxvii. 33 and 34. Another service was held in the evening at which the *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis* were sung to J. H. Maunders setting in C, and an eloquent sermon was preached by the Rev. R. T. Whitmarsh, Rector of Ashby, from Amos iv. 12. The collections were on behalf of the New School Building Fund.

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

The bells of St. Michael's church, Brierley Hill, were re-opened on Saturday, the 23rd December, when several touches were rung by the Brierley Hill band and several other members of the Worcestershire Association, including Grandsire, Plain Bob, Treble Bob, etc. On Christmas Day a 720 of Bob Minor was rung in 24 mins. by A. Whatmore, 1; W. Potter, 2; A. E. Whatmore, 3; F. Plant, 4; J. Whatmore, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. On Tuesday the 26th, a touch of Bob Triples 504 changes, was rung by W. Hartshorne, 1; W. Potter, 2; A. Whatmore, 3; A. E. Whatmore, 4; J. Whatmore, 5; F. Plant, 6; J. Smith (conductor), 7; H. Hunstone, 8. These bells, which have been re-cast and re-hung in an iron frame by Messrs. Taylor and Co., are a splendid improvement. The beautiful tone and "go" of the bells are everything that could be possibly desired, and the greatest praise is due to Messrs. Taylor for the excellent workmanship.

ST. MARY'S, MELTON MOWBRAY.

On Saturday, December 2nd, an interesting little ceremony was performed in the belfry of the Parish Church by the Vicar, consisting of the unveiling of a "peal-board" commemorative of the first peal on the bells by any Melton ringers. The inscription upon the tablet is as follows: "Midland Counties Association of Change Ringers, Melton Society. Rung on August 12th, 1899, 5,040 Plain Bob Triples in 3 hours 12 minutes, the ringers standing as follows: C. Dalby, Melton, treble; E. J. Gale, Melton, 2; Josiah Morris, Leicester, 3; E. Smith, Leicester, 4; John Wildman, Croxton Kerrial, 5; R. H. Bartram, Melton, 6; W. Wilson, Leicester, 7; Walter James, Melton, tenor. Composed by H. Johnson; conducted by William Wilson. Rev. R. Blakeney, M.A., Vicar, F. Wright, W. Willcox, Churchwardens." In addition to the Vicar and ringers, Mr. Willcox, Mr. Wilson, of Leicester, and others were present. Mr. Bartram, captain of the Melton band, having alluded to the occasion which brought them together, the Vicar, before unveiling the board, spoke a few words contrasting the condition of the bells and belfry at the present time with that when he came to Melton, and he heartily congratulated the ringers upon the great improvement they had made in their art, and expressed the pleasure it gave him to come and perform the duty he had to do that afternoon. Afterwards, several touches of Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, and Oxford Treble Bob changes were rung.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR to every one of my readers, without any "extenuating circumstances," whether in connection with the French Jorrockses, or the Dutch Boers, or any other probable disturbing element. "A Happy New Year" to you, brethren all! May you meet with more happiness, more prosperity, more comfort, more peace, and more health, during the year 1900 than you have met with during the lifetime of any of its predecessors. May you during the coming year grow in wisdom, in charity, and in brotherly love towards each other. May you ring more peals. May you have less unsuccessful attempts for them than ever you have had during similar periods. May you meet with less disappointments, or any of those trying circumstances which are so apt to disturb one's tranquility. May your shadows never become less. May you all see the propriety of increasing your support, individually and collectively, to your own organ, which has for the past twenty years advanced your interests, and consulted your tastes, wishes, inclinations, ideas, desires, etcetera, etcetera, videlicet, and so forth.

After writing the above I find it necessary to draw breath. If I had kept on without doing so, the mind would have given way. Whenever the wind sets in a "B.N." quarter, nothing will hold me. In such case "stand!" is always the remedy. This excellent word has been efficacious in a many ways, but it has not been used to the extent its merits deserve. What a deal of trouble would have been prevented had its use been oftener resorted to. Let us look at it for a while. Are any of you, my dear readers, cognisant of a moment when in prudence you ought to have shouted out "stand"! The volumes of this paper tell of many an instance where a conductor's peace of mind would not have been broken had one or more of his band possessed the courage—shall I say honesty?—to boldly use the word. Just now there are disquieting rumours concerning some recent performances. One of these in particular on its being rung was received—figuratively, of course—with a tremendous flourish of trumpets. If it is brought to book the disclosures will be painful. Ah! that the conductor, or the other men in the band who knew, had called "stand" in this case.

The lately-published chapters of Mr. Daniell contains some very plain language indeed. We ought to hear very little more about the antique problem of "drunken ringers." There seems to have been a time when every one drank more or less, very often more than was good for them, but the evil was not the exclusive property of ringers, but all classes of people, even clergymen indeed so indulged. Then why bring the poor ringer up to be pilloried? It arises like this sometimes. A non-ringing clergyman is asked to preach at an Association meeting. He knows nothing of ringing himself, but he is safe in the "bell-history" part, and is also sure that through the action of our Guilds a great improvement has taken place in the manners and conduct of ringers, and that they no longer carry on their orgies in the belfry.

Do these revd. gentlemen ever ask themselves whose fault it was that the so-called "orgies" went on? Of course they don't. We can talk of the clergyman's orgies in the past, if we like; but we forbear. I think it was

Mr. Trollope who gave us the account of a cleric in these dark ages who had some queer ideas of his office. And I take the liberty of giving below another account from a book written by a clergyman:—

It was this gentleman's ordinary custom, living as he did at some distance from his cure, to drive over on a Sunday at any hour which might happen to be most convenient, and having put up his horse and gig, to enter the public-house parlour and there sit down to discuss the state of the markets over a glass of toddy and a pipe with the landlord, who was parish clerk as well, together with any neighbours who might drop in. Meanwhile a lad was despatched to ring the bell, and by the time the congregation had assembled the rector and his company were usually ready to repair to the church, where after a fashion divine service was performed. But one blunder Mr. — unfortunately committed—he outlived his age. Old friends died off, new parishioners intruded, a stricter discipline was on all sides growing up; and one day before the cheering glass was emptied, or the fragrant screw half consumed, the bell suddenly and unexpectedly stopped! What could it mean? Off started clerk and clergyman, indignant at the interruption, to ascertain its cause, and discovered to their consternation a stranger in the reading desk. It was the Rural Dean!

What the result was to the Rector and his clerk, history is silent. We read further:—

It is recorded of the same individual that even during divine service it was not unfrequent for him to mingle secular matters with divine, in a manner no less ludicrous than indecorous—leaning, for example, over his churchwarden's pew as he passed from the reading-desk to the pulpit, and observing, as the result of long and recently-concluded deliberation, "Well, Smithers, I'll have that pig!"

You see how we can retaliate if we chose to do so, but we don't, you know.

I take the following from a daily paper:—

"Old Navarino," who was rescued from extreme poverty some years ago through the agency of this paper, has just died in the infirmary of St. George's Union, and was buried on December 28th, in a private grave. William Doran, as the veteran was called, was supposed to be almost the only survivor of the battle of Navarino. When his case was made public he was allowed a pension by some Greek merchants, whose generosity has now saved the old hero from a pauper's grave.

Why I insert this is because some of you may be led to think that the individual mentioned is a well-known ringer of a place called West Ham, in Essex, whose name is the same—"William Doran." They are two different persons, very different. Our friend of West Ham is, I am happy to hear, vigorous and hearty, and his peculiar characteristics are as prominent as ever. He appears to have distinguished himself greatly when the Brighton gentlemen rang the peal of London at St. Stephen's, Coleman Street, some time last year. "Old Billy" was then in capital form. He took care to let them all know that he belonged to the "Hanshoont Sociaty of Coomberlands," and made much of the Brighton gentlemen, perhaps more than they looked for. Ah, well, "Old Billy Doran" is a good and safe old ringer. It may well be said that "take him all in all, we shall never look upon his like again." But we haven't lost him yet, fortunately.

There's many a ringer who rejoices in the cognomen of "Billy," you know. There is our old friend Billy Sevier the astrologer, who foretells things and occurrences which don't come off exactly as predicted. Last

year he foretold the death of Lord Salisbury. He will doubtless be able to make a point of this prophecy, because Lady Salisbury has died. We were to have the Duke of York upon the throne, the Prince of Wales intending to decline the position. This astrology business is rubbish, and everyone knows it.

Mentioning the late hostess of Hatfield brings to mind a joke perpetrated at Hatfield House on one occasion by a nobleman. On the occasion in question *tableaux vivants* were among the chief amusements, and "Ivanhoe" was selected. All the parts were filled up except that of "Isaac of York." The then Marchioness of Salisbury begged this nobleman "to make the set complete by doing the Jew." His reply was: "Anything in my power your ladyship may command, but though no man in England has tried oftener, I could never do a Jew in my life."

This same nobleman was once invited to dine where the dinner was a very meagre and indifferent one. While some of the guests flattered their host on the taste and magnificence he had shown in decorating the dining room, "For my part," said his lordship, "I had rather have seen less gilding and more carving."

You will observe that I have a different heading to these paragraphs this week. It has been suggested that it should be so, as my remarks are frequently connected with topics not always "current." I yield graciously to the representations made. It is often asked, "What's in a name?" We may as well say "What's in a headline?" I owe this explanation to you; you will not be concerned whatever is at the head, so that you see my *name* at the tail.

I have had my attention directed to a pretty little article called "A Ringers' Badge." This is got up in a very neat manner, those in sterling silver making a quiet ornament, while the enamelled ones are attractive. It is a pity that the bell on this badge is not of the orthodox shape, perhaps the Church Agency, who have brought it into notice, will produce a better model in this respect.

I have gone somewhat beyond my tether this week; my "Notes and Comments" being you will say, unduly long. During the year I hope to get more acquainted with you all, if you will not think I am intruding. We shall have some splendid chances for interchanges of opinions, and confabulations, affording a mutual gratification.

PLAIN SPEAKER.

BRINSCOMBE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

A large clock has just been erected in the parish church. It strikes the hours and chimes the Westminster quarters and shows time on two large dials. John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby, have carried out the work to the designs of Lord Grimthorpe.

We are asked to say that the widow of the late Henry Langdon, desires through this paper to thank his friends for their kind sympathy and help in her time of need.

BELL-FOUNDING OPERATIONS.

Carried out in 1899 by Messrs. John Taylor and Co.

Two new chimes of ten bells, viz., Whitehouse (R.C.) church, Belfast, tenor 34 cwt., and Iowa State College, America, tenor 32 cwt., and two new rings of ten, viz., Loughborough parish church, tenor 30½ cwt., and Holy Trinity church, Hull, tenor 26 cwt.

Four new rings of eight, viz., Arklow, County Wicklow, tenor 23 cwt., Bangor, County Down, tenor 21 cwt., Brierley Hill, Staffordshire, tenor 14½ cwt., and the Loughborough Bell Foundry tower, tenor 6½ cwt. And two new chimes of eight, viz., Mitford, Northumberland, tenor 18 cwt., and Castlerae, County Roscommon, tenor 4½ cwt.

One new chime of seven bells at Deganevy, County Carnarvon, tenor 13 cwt.

Five new rings of six, viz., Buckland Brewer, Devon., tenor 13 cwt., Baglan, County Glamorgan, tenor 13 cwt., Great Addington, Northants., tenor 10 cwt., Ash Priors, Somerset, tenor 9½ cwt., and Shareshill, Staffordshire, tenor 9 cwt., and one new chime of six at Christ Church, Wimbledon, tenor 13 cwt.

Augmentations and Restorations.

The ring of ten at Manchester Town Hall rehung with iron headstocks.

The rings of eight at Bridgwater, Som., and Birch-in-Rusholme, Manchester, tuned and re-hung. And two trebles added to complete the octave at Alfreton, Derbyshire; East Tytherley, Hants.; and Twyford, Hants.

A new treble added to make six at St. Ignatius', Sunderland, and at Ampthill, Beds., and the following augmented or restored, viz.:—the rings of six of Old Warden, Beds.; Tibshelf, Derbyshire; Hasketon, Suffolk; Burbage, Derbyshire; and Houghton Regis, Beds.; and the rings of five of Winterton and Messingham, Lincs.; Great Dalby, Leicestershire; Long Buckley, Northants.; Wood Ditton, Cambs.; Huntingfield, Suffolk, and Cottessmore, Rutland.

Also many chimes and rings of less than five and single bells, one of the most notable of the latter being a bell of 26 cwts. sent to King William's Town, South Africa, as the tenor of a future ring of eight.

We have work in progress for 1900, as follows, viz.:—

A bell of 5½ tons for Beverley Minster.

A new ring of ten, tenor to be 34 cwt. for St. Mary's, Beverley.

Four new rings of eight, viz.: Eccleston Church, Eaton Hall, Cheshire, tenor 27 cwt. (now in course of being fixed in the tower), the gift of the late Duke of Westminster; Cardington, Beds., tenor 20½ cwt. Hallow, Worcestershire, tenor 20 cwt., and Samlesbury, Lancashire, tenor 20 cwt., and a new ring of five for Wykeham, Yorkshire, tenor 9 cwt.

Also the restoration of the rings of eight of Waltham Abbey, Essex, and Margate, Kent. Of the ring of six of Walton, Liverpool, to add a treble, to make six at Strustridge, Som., and Stanton-by-Dale, Metts. And to restore the ring of five of Oakley, Beds., Ashby de la Launte, Lincs., St. Peter's, Derby, and Belchamp St. Paul's, Essex. Also to re-hang the quaint old bell of the Grocers' Hall, London.

Situations Vacant.

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A BRIEF CONSIDERATION OF A FEW POINTS CONNECTED WITH THE HISTORY OF RINGING.

By R. A. DANIELL.

(Continued from page 382.)

Oxford and Cambridge I have mentioned because information about them has come more readily to my hand, but so far as one gets indications of what was going on at other places, the same inference as to the respectability of the members of the Exercise as a body is yielded. I need only allude to two places before passing to the metropolis—Norwich and Hertford. Norwich was a fine old school of ringing, the capacity of which is proved among other things by their being the first to ring Stedman Cinques. One of their members, Christopher Lindsay, was about to bring out a book on ringing had not Blakemore got access to his materials and meanly copied them, which with the assistance of Jones and Reeves he worked up into the *Clavis*. Moreover, as well from the correspondence about Holt's peals as from the fact of his having the figures of Garthor's Grandsire Triples, Dr. Mason seems to have had relations with this talented company. The Hertford College Youths did not exhibit the talents of the Norwich men, but they were a practical ringing society comprising some distinguished people, and substantial residents of Hertford and St. Albans. Their annual dinner was attended by persons of distinction in the county, the Marquis of Salisbury of the day having once or more taken the chair on the occasion, and up to the last of these festivals, held in the year 1809, venison was sent from Hatfield to grace the Society's board. Though we may not find at all change-ringing centres the distinguished ability of Norwich or the magnificence of Hertford, yet I am convinced investigation will show a good record as to the members of the Exercise wherever the Exercise was established. Let us now briefly consider the state of things in the metropolis.

The first metropolitan body of ringers we need notice is the Ancient Society of College Youths established in 1637. Shipway says they obtained their name from meeting at a church on College Hill. Their name must have had an origin, and this tradition explains it. On the face of things the tradition appears one which may well be accepted, especially as there has been no ring of bells on College Hill since the fire of London to suggest the invention of the tradition in modern days. But Osborn and Mr. Ellacombe reject the tradition as impossible, because before the fire of London the thoroughfare now known as College Hill was known as Royal Street. With every respect to these eminent authorities, their criticism appears to me to be misconceived. It is not, as it seems to me, of the essence of the tradition that the street should have been called College Hill in 1637; the essence is that the Society met at a church on what is now known as College Hill. The Church of St. Michael in Royal Street had been made Collegiate by the munificence of Sir Richard Whittington for a Master, four fellows, masters of arts, clerks, conducts, chorists, etc., and an almshouse for thirteen poor men. The College was dissolved in the reign of Edward VI., with many other such foundations, under the powers of a statute obtained by that pack of scoundrels who formed the privy council of the boy king, and who during the few short years of his reign appropriated to themselves and their friends estates calculated to have been worth five millions of our present day money.

The Church therefore ceased to be collegiate and became once more simply parochial. But in those days it did not follow that altering the condition or official title of a place altered the name by which it was usually known. The dissolved religious houses perpetuated their names in many instances where nothing whatever of their sacred character remained and when they had become mere lay residences, as for instance, Woburn Abbey, to this day the name of the Bedfordshire seat of the Duke of Bedford. Up and down the country are many churches retaining monastic names which have long ceased to be true. Take Malvern as an example. There you will find a magnificent church, interesting in many respects, especially, perhaps, for the large quantity of medieval coloured glass which still remains in its windows. It is—or was when I was familiar with it—called the Priory Church. But it is not a priory church. It was once, but for more than three centuries it has been simply parochial. But when it became so and the

religious house whose church it had been was dissolved, people went on calling it what they had been used to call it before, and so it has been called ever since. Every reader will be able to supply himself with instances of his own knowledge of this kind of thing, and I will only add that one case of misnomer which is the classical instance of its kind. We call the Great Church at Westminster, Westminster Abbey or The Abbey. No one thinks of calling it anything else. Yet it is not an Abbey, nor has it been since the year 1540, and ever since the early years of Queen Elizabeth's reign its proper title has been the Collegiate Church of St. Peter, Westminster; but outside official documents no one ever dreams of so calling it, and its old, though incorrect name will last as long as the Anglo-Saxon race.

When, then, Whittington's College was dissolved in the reign of Edward VI., the name of the College may well have clung to the Church and such other buildings as remained, including the almshouse which was not suppressed. At the time the College Youths began to ring, the College had been dissolved less than a century: Stow who had known it and recorded its constitution had been dead scarcely more than thirty years; persons ringing in the steeple of St. Michael's Church were ringing in the steeple of what had been the Collegiate Church, and when we bear in mind that the traditions of the College were strong enough to give the name of College Hill after the fire of London to the former Royal Street—a fact of which the statement in Hatton's description of London, published in 1708, leaves no doubt—it is clear that they must *a fortiori* have been strong enough to give a title to a body of men who more than thirty years earlier had frequented what had been the College buildings. As, therefore, the College Youths must have got their name from some source, as the tradition preserved by Shipway accounts for it, as the criticisms of Osborn and Mr. Ellacombe seem to me to altogether fail, and as I do not know of any other objection, there seems to me no reason why the tradition should not be true. Therefore though we have no positive evidence that the College Youths did meet at the church of the old college, nor even, so far as I know, whether there was a ring of bells there before the Fire of London, I think under all the circumstances we may take it that they did meet there unless and until some good reason to the contrary is shown.

(To be continued.)

HITCHIN, HERTS.

On Wednesday, Mr. William Allen, builder, the respected head of a family which ranks amongst the oldest in the town, celebrated his fiftieth birthday. It is interesting to learn that Mr. Allen has been officially connected with St. Mary's Church for upwards of forty years—or even longer if we go back to the time when, at the age of seven, he joined the choir—and that he was the first to introduce Change-ringing into Hitchin. Mr. Allen frequently rings with the College Youths, of which society he is a member, at St. Paul's Cathedral and other churches in London. We are sure his friends will heartily wish him "many happy returns of the day."

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ST. JOHN'S HILLINGDON.—During the month of December the following touches have been rung:—360 Grandsire Minor; four 168s, two 378s; 224, 420, and 560 Grandsire Triples. Also two courses each of Oxford Bob and Court Bob Triples by the following ringers:—C. Bellamy, G. Bellamy, F. Weedon, W. Honor, W. Odell, J. J. Pratt, H. S. Reeves, H. Chandler, R. Becker, H. Ayers, Rev. R. C. M. Harvey, and E. Griffin. Conducted by J. J. Pratt, H. S. Reeves, and H. Chandler. Tenor 22 cwt.

PEAL RECTIFICATION.—The Coddendam peal on December 26th, inefficiently reported last week, should have read "5088 Changes."

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD PEAL-BOOK.—A RECORD of Five Hundred and Twenty Peals rung by this Guild. Paper covers, 6d.; cloth do., 9d.—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.

Sheffield and District Society.—The next meeting will be held at All Saints, Sheffield, to-day, Saturday, January 6th, 1900.

R. HARRISON, *Hon. Sec.*

Leeds and District Amalgamated Society—The monthly ringing meeting of the above Society will be held at Armley (six bells), to-day, Saturday, January 6th. Meeting house The White Horse. Business meeting at 6.30. Handbells provided. All ringers are cordially invited.

HY. GAYTHORPE, *Hon. Sec.*

1, Elm Avenue, Bramley.

The Old East Derbyshire Association.—The Quarterly Meeting will be held at All Saints' church, Sheffield, to-day, Saturday, January 6th, together with the Sheffield and District meeting.

E. JAMES, *Hon. Sec.*

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next monthly meeting of this Association will be held at Bucknall to-day, Saturday, January 6th.

W. TWIGG, *Hon. Sec.*

The Ancient Society of College Youths. A business meeting will be held at The Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, on Tuesday, January 9th, after ringing at St. Paul's Cathedral, from 7.45 to 9.15 p.m. The sum of 1s. 8d. (see Rule vii) from members desirous of paying the same is now due.

WILLIAM T. COCKERILL, *Hon. Sec.*

37, Tradescant Road, South Lambeth, S.W.

The Bedfordshire Association.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Turvey on Saturday, January 13th.

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

Ridgmont Vicarage, Aspley Guise, R.S.O.

The Heavy Woollen District Association.—The Yearly Meeting of the above will be held on Saturday, January 13th, 1900, at The Little Saddle inn, Dewsbury. Meeting to commence at 5 o'clock. Business: Sec. and Treasurer's report, election of officers, ballot for 6 and 8-bell contest. All subscriptions are due at this meeting.

WALTER IDLE, *Hon. Sec.*

47, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch. The next meeting of the above branch will be held at St. Luke's, Heywood, on Saturday, January 13th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Business meeting at 6.30.

Jos. JACQUES, *Branch Sec.*

The North Notts. Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Workson on Saturday, January 13th. Tea at 5 p.m., one shilling per head. Members intending to take tea are requested to inform Mr. T. Thorpe, Abbey Street, Workson, not later than Monday, January 8th.

B. DARLEY, *Hon. Sec.*

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Bristol on Saturday, January 20th. Service at St. Mary Redcliff at 3 o'clock, with address by the Vicar. Meat tea at Canynge Rooms, Redcliff Street; 6d. each to those sending notice to the Hon. Sec. before January 17th.

C. E. D. BOUTFLOWER, *Hon. Sec.*

The Yorkshire Association.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Earlsheaton, near

Dewsbury, on Saturday, January 20th. Service at 4 p.m., with sermon by the Rev. R. S. Davies, M.A., Vicar. Tea at 5 p.m., and business meeting immediately after. The local hon. sec. is Mr. Arthur Goodall, Commercial Street, Earlsheaton, to whom communications respecting the days arrangements should be addressed.

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

Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—A monthly meeting of the above will be held at Manchester Cathedral on Saturday, January 20th, when it is intended to unveil a new peal-board on that occasion. Bells ready at 4.30 p.m. Business meeting at 6.0 p.m.

W. BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

Sussex County Association.—Eastern Division.—The next meeting of the above will be held at St. Mary's, Eastbourne, on Saturday, January 20th. Bells available 3 to 5.30, and 7 till 9 p.m. Special service at 5.30. The Rev. Canon Goodwin has specially invited the members as his guests to tea provided he is informed at least four clear days beforehand the number that will attend. Local Secretaries will therefore greatly oblige by posting to the undersigned not later than the 15th inst., the number of their band that will be present.

Temporary address: S. SAKER, *Hon. Sec.*

1, Park Villas, Eastern Division.
New Malden, Surrey.

The Middlesex County Association.—North and East District.—It is hoped that arrangements will be completed to enable the members of this Association to hold their next meeting at either St. John's church, Hackney, or at St. Matthew's church, Upper Clapton, on Saturday, the 20th inst. A more complete announcement will be made next week, but members are requested, so far as possible, to keep the date open.

ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*

18, Ravenscroft Park Road, Barnet.

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Selly Oak, near Birmingham, on Saturday, January 27th. Service in the church at 5.30, to be followed by business meeting in the schoolroom. The Vicar has kindly consented to preside. The tower will be open for ringing. All subscriptions are due at this meeting.

JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

The Essex Association.—The meeting at Romford is postponed from Saturday, the 13th, until Saturday, February 17th.

HENRY T. W. EYRE, *Asst. Sec.*

NOTE TO PEAL.

MR. R. J. DAWES'S 100 PEALS.—London Surprise Major, 11; Cambridge Surprise Major, 1; Superlative Surprise Major, 10; Westminster Surprise Major, 3; Gloucester Surprise Major, 1; Oxford Surprise Major, 1; Norfolk Surprise Major, 2; New Cumberland Surprise Major, 3; Double Norwich Major, 7; Kent Treble Bob Major, 9; Royal, 2; Oxford Treble Bob Major, 1; Stedman Caters, 2; Triples, 16; Grandshire Triples, 16, conducted 1; Caters, 2; Bob Major, 12, conducted 1; Triples, 1, conducted 1; total, 100.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—W. H. Barber has removed to The Firs, 27, Fellows Road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham.

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WANTED by a young man a position of trust in a Shoe Factory or Leather Warehouse. Clicker by trade. Twelve years experience. Ready to begin January next. Can ring London, Superlative, Stedman, Double Norwich, etc.—H. R. H., care of Editor.

WANTED immediately a situation as Under Gardener or small single-handed place. Age 21. Can ring Double Norwich and Stedman. Willing to teach young band.—A. B., care of Editor.

A Very Respectable Married Man requires a position of trust. First-class change-ringer, instructor, and Conductor. Most exemplary testimonials. W. H. B. 14, Henrietta Street, Waterford.

WANTED by a respectable young man a situation to look after a small Fruit Plantation. Well up in Pruning and Grafting. Change-ringer. Good reference. Apply, E., care of W. Dixon, Vale Cottage, Northbourne, Deal, Kent.

WANTED.—Situation as all-round jobbing compositor. Stone, Platen Machines, etc. Society, age 23. Change-ringer in Standard Methods.—Apply X., care of Editor.

WANTED by a respectable young man, 26, a situation as Maltster, or on building work good climber, good Change-ringer on any number of bells; can ring Standard Methods, also Double Norwich; member of four leading societies.—Apply B care of Editor.

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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 Wednesday 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 6, 1900.

At last we read of a peal of Cinques being achieved in the old City of Bristol. The bells in the fine church of St. Mary Redcliff, have been a ring of twelve for some years, but until now a peal has not been obtained upon them. No doubt there have been difficulties in the way, and it is therefore creditable to the ringing company for having at last surmounted them. If our recollection serves us right, the circle is not one of the very best for twelve bells; and it is a matter of regret that the tenor is not answerable to being rung single-handed. Perhaps the large-hearted citizens of old Bristol, who take a proper pride in the noble church of St. Mary, will take means to have this rectified, and every bell in the tower put in proper order. Then we shall hear of something else beyond Cinques, for the men are there who will advance if they can have fair play.

The Metropolis.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
On Tuesday, December 26, 1899, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, EDMONTON,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5184 CHANGES. Tenor 18 cwt.

WILLIAM BENNETT* Treble.	WILLIAM WARD 5.
JOHN RICE 2.	ALBERT PITTAM 6.
GEORGE PAICE 3.	JAMES PARKER 7.
SIDNEY WADE 4.	FREDERICK W. RICE .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES PARKER.

*First peal in the method. First in the method on the bells. The band, through the medium of this paper wish to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells, and also the local band for giving up their usual ringing-day for the attempt.

The Provinces.

THORNDON, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 2, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720s of Plain Bob and two 720s each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

FREDERICK POTTER Treble.	JOHN D. BUCKINGHAM .. 4.
GEORGE CATTERMOLLE .. 2.	WILLIAM C. RUMSEY .. 5.
JAMES G. RUMSEY 3.	ALFRED W. GRIMES .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM RUMSEY.]

PUDSEY, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 23, 1899, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

EZRA KEIGHLEY Treble.	WILLIAM STAINTHORPE .. 5.
CHARLES PRATT 2.	JOHN CLAYTON 6.
P. CORDINGLEY 3.	HENRY ODDY 7.
TOM LATIMER 4.	FRANK BIRKS Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN, and Conducted by CHARLES PRATT.

First peal rung since Pudsey was made a borough.

LEICESTER.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION

On Tuesday, December 26, 1899, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

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

GEORGE CLEAL Treble.	JOSIAH MORRIS 5.
THOMAS W. CHAPMAN .. 2.	HARRY ARGYLE 6.
W. H. FUSSELL 3.	*WILLIAM MILLER 7.
EDWARD E. SMITH* .. 4.	WILLIAM WILLSON .. Tenor.

Composed by J. NOONAN, and Conducted by WILLIAM WILLSON.

*First peal in the method.

HALE MAGNA, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTH LINCOLN BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, December 26, 1899, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Duke of York, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Grandsire Minor, College Single, and two 720s of Bob Minor, each called differently.

W. H. WOOD (age 16) .. Treble.	T. HUMBERSTONE 4.
R. MASTERS 2.	J. W. WOOD 5.
C. WARD 3.	T. T. TAYLOR Tenor.

Conducted by T. T. TAYLOR.

First peal by the local company. First peal by ringers of first five bells. First peal as conductor.

ASHFORD, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 26, 1899, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 24 cwt.

ROBERT EDWARDS Treble.	RICHARD JENNER 5.
CHARLES T. TURNER* .. 2.	†WILLIAM SPICE 6.
ALFRED HINDS 3.	JACK PRESTON 7.
JOHN W. STEDDY 4.	WILLIAM HADLOW .. Tenor.

Conducted by JACK PRESTON.

This is the first peal of Stedman on the bells. *First peal of Stedman Triples †First peal of Stedman.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK.

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

On Tuesday, December 6, 1899, in Three Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5120 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 31 cwt. in D.

ALBERT E. DURRANT .. Treble.	WILLIAM ROUGHTON .. 6.
CHARLES H. GILLINGHAM 2.	WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE 7.
FREDERICK WATLING .. 3.	ERNEST PYE 8.
ISAAC G. SHADE 4.	JAMES MOTTS 9.
GEORGE R. PYE 5.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by ALBERT E. DURRANT, and
Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

This is the first peal on the bells since they were rehung.

WICKHAM SKEITH, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 26, 1899, 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 Single and College Single, and three 720s of Plain Bob.

DAVID MAYS Treble.	*HARRY CATTERMOLLE .. 4.
THOMAS DAVY 2.	FRANK CULLUM 5.
FREDERICK POTTER .. 3.	GEORGE CATTERMOLLE .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE CATTERMOLLE.

*First peal with a bob bell.

WEST GRINSTEAD, SUSSEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, December 26, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of London Scholars' Pleasure, New London Pleasure, College Pleasure, Woodbine, Oxford Treble Bob, College Exercise and Kent Treble Bob.

JAMES WORSFOLD .. Treble.	FREDERICK R. TULLETT .. 4.
CHARLES TAYLOR 2.	FREDERICK WICKENS .. 5.
JOHN AKEHURST 3.	ALBERT ELLIS Tenor.

Conducted by ALBERT ELLIS.

This is supposed to be the first peal of Treble Bob on the bells. The band wish to thank the Rector for granting the use of the bells on this occasion, and also the local ringers for having all ready.

ROMSEY, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, December 26, 1899, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND ETHELFLEDA,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 25 cwt. 0 qrs. 8 lbs. in D.

JOHN W. WHITING .. Treble.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 5.
EDWARD C. MERRITT .. 2.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. 6.
FRANK BENNETT 3.	GEORGE WILLIAMS 7.
THOMAS BLACKBOURN .. 4.	WILLIAM G. FOWLER .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

First peal of Stedman on the bells. This is G. Williams' 100th peal of Stedman Triples.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

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

On Wednesday, December 27, 1899, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5088 CHANGES. Tenor 15 cwt.

ALFRED BOWELL Treble.	GEORGE R. PYE 5.
WILLIAM MOTTS 2.	ERNEST PYE 6.
ALBERT E. DURRANT .. 3.	JAMES MOTTS 7.
WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE.. 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.
First peal in the method on the bells.

BRAMFIELD, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(HALESWORTH DISTRICT.)

On Thursday, December 28, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of St. Simons, Canterbury, Morning Star, April
Day, Old Doubles, Plain Bob and Grandsire. Tenor 12 cwt.

FRED. LAMBERT Treble.	JOSEPH WALKER 3.
EDWARD CHATTEN 2.	EDWARD THAIN 4.
	JOHN PUNCHARD .. Tenor.

Conducted by FRED. LAMBERT.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 28, 1899, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES.

Tenor 20½ cwt.

JAMES RUMBLE Treble.	CHARLES DEAN 6.
EDGAR BENNETT 2.	JAMES WIGNELL 7.
ALFRED TRAPPITT 3.	CHARLES BANCE 8.
DR. A. B. CARPENTER .. 4.	CHARLES GORDON 9.
ALFRED ARNOLD 5.	ALFRED BOXALL Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by EDGAR BENNETT.

GLOUCESTER.

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

On Thursday, December 28, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5094 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt.

GEORGE CONDICK, JUN.* .. Treble.	*GEORGE CONDICK, SEN. .. 6.
RICHARD A. JUDD* 2.	*THOMAS NEWMAN 7.
FRANCIS E. HART 3.	JOHN AUSTIN 8.
JESSE GILLET* 4.	WILLIAM T. PEGLER .. 9.
ERNEST E. DAVIS 5.	ROBERT A. BARRETT .. Tenor.

Composed by A. KNIGHTS, and Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

This peal has the 5th and 6th behind the 9th alternately three courses each. *First
peal of Grandsire Caters. The above was rang muffled as a mark of respect to J.
S. Ireland, who was interred that day.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.

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

On Saturday, December 30, 1899, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5055 CHANGES.

JOHN SMITH Treble.	WILLIAM H. SMITH 5.
NOAH DAVIS 2.	THOMAS J. SALTER 6.
ADOLPHUS ROBERTS 3.	JOHN CRANE 7.
ALBERT E. PARSONS 4.	RICHARD E. GROVE Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by RICHARD E. GROVE.

BRISTOL.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 30, 1899, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5152 CHANGES. Tenor 18 cwt.

FRANK GOODING Treble.	CHARLES TOMKINS 5.
GILBERT PEARCE 2.	HENRY PRING 6.
RAYMOND J. WILKINS .. 3.	FREDERICK G. MAY 7.
HERBERT TUCKER 4.	GEORGE T. DALTRY Tenor.

Composed by HERBERT TUCKER, and Conducted by G. T. DALTRY.

Rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. W. A. Cave, which took place on the 26th
ult.

HEENE, WORTHING, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 30, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

FRANK BENNETT Treble.	GEORGE NORRIS 5.
JOHN PAICE 2.	REUBEN STANDING 6.
ALFRED W. GROVES 3.	GEORGE WILLIAMS 7.
EDMUND LINDUP 4.	ALFRED TULETT Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION, AND
THE ST. THOMAS' GUILD, DUDLEY.

On Saturday, December 30, 1899, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

JOSEPH FAULKNER Treble.	JOHN GOODMAN 5.
WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT .. 2.	JOHN W. SMITH 6.
HARRY PRICE 3.	ARTHUR SPITTLE 7.
SAMUEL SPITTLE 4.	JOHN SMITH Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and

Conducted by W. MICKLEWRIGHT.

This composition which is now rung for the first time, has the extent of the 6th
in all positions with that bell five times at home. Rung with the bells half-muffled
on the twenty-seventh anniversary of the death of Mrs. Blanche Skidmore.

KIDDLINGTON, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD,

On Saturday, December 30, 1899, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 26 cwt.

FRANK WEBB Treble.	JOHN MATTHEWS 5.
HARRY G. JUDGE 2.	FREDERICK WEBB 6.
WILLIAM BENNETT 3.	JAMES FRANKLIN 7.
WILLIAM THORPE 4.	WILLIAM FRANKLIN .. Tenor.

Conducted by H. G. JUDGE.

ROTHWELL, NEAR LEEDS, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION, AND THE LEEDS AND
DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Saturday, December 30, 1899, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION.

GEORGE W. STEEL Treble.	WALTER CHAPMAN 5.
ALFRED CHAPMAN 2.	WILLIAM ABBISHAW 6.
JOSEPH C. ABBISHAW .. 3.	STEPHEN STACEY 7.
JOSEPH HAIGH 4.	JOHN M. CHADWICK Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and Conducted by JOHN M. CHADWICK.

This peal has the 6th her extent each way in 5-6, and four times wrong and six
times right. Rung as a birthday compliment to S. Stacey and J. C. Abbishaw.

GUISELEY, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 30, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OSWALD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

FREDERICK HIRD* Treble.	CHARLES E. WAITE* .. 5.
BENJAMIN BARRET* 2.	JOSEPH YEADON 6.
FREDERICK W. DIXON .. 3.	THOMAS M. THOMPSON .. 7.
JOHN JACKSON 4.	JOSEPH WAITE Tenor.

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE, and Conducted by FREDK. W. DIXON.

*First peal. This peal was rung to commemorate J. Yeadon's 50th and J. Waite's 25th birthday.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 30, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qrs.

THOMAS PRICE Treble.	JOSEPH SHARP 5.
FREDERICK W. HARDING .. 2.	ROBERT J. DAWE 6.
GEORGE H. HOWSE 3.	BENJAMIN HOBBS 7.
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH .. 4.	ALFRED J. TURNER .. Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and
Conducted by JOHN S. GOLDSMITH.

This was R. J. Dawe's 100th peal; a list on another page.

HECKINGTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTH LINCOLN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 30, 1899, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 19 cwt. in E.

EDWARD HOLDEN Treble.	*HENRY H. STAFFURTH .. 5.
FREDERICK HILTON 2.	ALFRED O. BARBER 6.
WILLIAM DICKINSON .. 3.	CHARLES R. LILLEY 7.
THOMAS B. WOODS† .. 4.	*WILLIAM HOLDEN Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

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

RUGBY, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, December 31, 1899, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

ARTHUR COLEMAN* Treble.	†HARRY SEAR 5.
RICHARD WATSON 2.	JAMES GEORGE 6.
ALBERT DUBBER 3.	†ALBERT BRAMALL 7.
CHARLES GEORGE† .. 4.	JOHN WILLIAM SHOTTON .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and Conducted by JAMES GEORGE.

*First peal. †Elected members prior to starting for the peal. This peal, which came round at 11.41 p.m., was rung muffled for the dying year, and also for our gallant soldiers who have given their lives for the Queen and Empire in South Africa.

NEW MILL, YORKSHIRE

THE HEAVY WOOLLEN DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, December 31, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Duke of York, Woodbine, Kent, New London, Merchants' Return, Violet and Oxford. Tenor 12½ cwt.

GEORGE GILL Treble.	*HERBERT HAIGH 4.
JOHN TINKER 2.	HARRY HAIGH 5.
HERBERT BILTCLIFFE .. 3.	H. W. BARROW Tenor.

Conducted by H. BILTCLIFFE.

*First peal. Second peal by the others

BRISTOL.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, December 31, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY REDCLIFFE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES.

HERBERT TUCKER Treble.	FREDERICK ELLES 7.
WILLIAM CAVE 2.	JAMES HINTON 8.
WILLIAM KNIGHT 3.	CHARLES TOMKINS 9.
HARRY PRING 4.	HENRY PORCH 10.
GILBERT PEARCE 5.	GEORGE T. DALTRY 11.
CHARLES GORDON 6.	PERCY CARNE Tenor.
	FRANK GOODING Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, Sen., and
Conducted by HENRY PORCH.

First peal of Cinques by all. First peal of Cinques on the bells, and the first peal of Stedman Cinques by the Association. This peal commenced on New Year's Eve at 9.3 p.m., and concluded at 12.31 a.m. January 1st, 1900.

HEENE, WORTHING, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, December 31, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

VICARS'S,

ALFRED TULETT Treble.	REUBEN STANDING 5.
JOHN PAICE 2.	EDMUND LINDUP 6.
ARTHUR ARNELL† .. 3.	ALFRED W. GROVES .. 7.
GEORGE NORRIS 4.	FREDERICK LINDUP .. Tenor.

Conducted by E. LINDUP.

†First peal with a bob bell.

BATH, SOMERSET.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, December 31, 1899, in Three Hours Twenty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, BATHWICK,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt. 7 lbs.

WILLIAM F. FLOWER* .. Tenor.	JAMES FUSSELL 5.
CHARLES GOODENOUGH .. 2.	CHARLES W. BELL 6.
ALFRED RICHARDSON* .. 3.	JOHN D. MATTHEWS .. 7.
CHARLES DENSLEY* .. 4.	*RICHARD WHATLEY .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN D. MATTHEWS.

*First peal. First peal on the bells. Rung with the bells half-muffled, the peal coming round exactly at 12 midnight.

DARLINGTON, DURHAM.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION,

(THE ST. JOHN'S GUILD.)

On Sunday, December 31, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF HOLLIS'S FIVE-PART.

THOMAS SCOLICK* Treble.	*THOMAS CLARK 5.
THOMAS CRAWFORD .. 2.	*G. F. WILLIAMS 6.
WILLIAM PATTON† .. 3.	WILLIAM HENRY PORTER .. 7.
JAMES BAXTER 4.	GEORGE TAIT Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM HENRY PORTER.

This is the first peal in the method on the bells and was rung as a farewell to the Nineteenth Century. *First peal. †First peal in the method.

NORTH SHIELDS, DURHAM.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 1, 1900, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

ANDREW TULLY Treble.	EDWARD HERN 5.
JOSEPH GOFTON 2.	JOEL HERN 6.
GEORGE R. HOLMES .. 3.	JOSEPH E. KEEN 7.
THOMAS A. TEASDALE .. 4.	THOMAS GOFTON Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and
Conducted by THOMAS TEASDALE.

First peal of Major by the ringers of the 2nd and 5th. First peal as conductor. This peal has the combinations of 4-5-6 in 5-6, and is a 5280 shortened.

Miscellaneous.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GRASSENDALE (Lancashire).—On November 12th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Turner, 1; R. H. Green, 2; C. Newton, 3; T. Morris, 4; J. T. Lowe, 5; J. Allen, 6. On November 19th, another 720 in the same method conducted by R. H. Green. On November 27th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, conducted by J. Allen. On December 3rd, 720 Plain Bob, conducted by J. Allen.

BACUP (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, November 5th, for Divine Service at Christ Church, 720 London Scholars' Pleasure. L. Holt, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. Smith, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. H. Smith, 5; J. S. Lomas (conductor), 6. For afternoon service 720 Woodbine standing as in the morning. And for evening service 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles), standing as before, with the exception of D. Briggs, 1; G. Shotton, 2; W. Smith, 4. On Sunday morning, November 12th, for Divine Service, 720 Westminster Treble Bob. L. Holt, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. Smith, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Thursday, November 16th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. L. Holt, 1; H. L. Cockroft, 2; J. S. Lomas, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. Brierley, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Friday, November 17th, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob, standing as above. On Sunday morning, November 19th, for Divine Service, 720 Morning Exercise. J. S. Lomas, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. Smith, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. H. Smith, 5; J. H. Barnes, 6. For evening service 720 Plain Bob. D. Briggs, 1; H. L. Cockroft, 2; W. Smith, 3; the rest as before. On Monday, November 20th, for practice, 720 Duke of York. L. Holt, 1; H. L. Cockroft, 2; J. H. Barnes, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. Brierley, 5; J. S. Lomas (conductor), 6. On Sunday, November 26th, for Divine Service, 720 Bocking Treble Bob. L. Holt, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. S. Lomas, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. Brierley, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Kent. W. Smith, 1; H. L. Cockroft, 2; J. Rollosen, 3; G. Shotton, 4; J. Brierley, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

DEPTFORD (Kent).—On Sunday evening, December 3rd, for Divine Service at St. John's church, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples. W. Bedwell (conductor), 1; T. G. Deal, 2; A. C. Bedwell, 3; E. H. Nixon, 4; J. Davis, 5; J. Law, 6; G. H. Daynes, 7; H. Young, 8.

LITTLEBOURNE (Kent).—On November 30th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. E. E. Foreman, 1; G. M. Sayer, 2; C. F. Turner (conductor), 3; Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, 4; W. Spice, 5; H. G. Fairbrass, 6. First on the bells and first 720 as conductor. And 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 30 mins. C. F. Turner, 1; G. M. Sayer, 2; E. E. Foreman, 3; Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, 4; H. G. Fairbrass, 5; W. Spice (conductor), 6.

BOBBING (Kent).—On Saturday, December 16th, for practice, 720 Superlative Minor. E. J. Hyland, 1; J. E. Grensted, 2; W. T. Hyland, 3; J. Dixon, 4; A. J. Day, 5; W. H. B. Wilkins (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method on the bells, also by all the band with the exception of J. Dixon. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. A. J. Day, 1; E. J. Hyland, 2; W. T. Hyland, 3; J. E. Grensted, 4; T. Jull, 5; W. H. B. Wilkins (conductor), 6.

BOBBING (Kent).—On Saturday, November 11th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, in 25 mins. E. J. Hyland, 1; J. Grensted, 2; W. Hyland, 3; A. Day, 4; W. Walker, 5; W. H. B. Wilkins (conductor), 6. A 720 Canterbury Pleasure, in 24 mins. W. Hyland, 1; E. J. Hyland, 2; W. Walker, 3; A. Day, 4; T. Jull, 5; W. H. B. Wilkins (conductor), 6. On Saturday, December 9th, 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 24 mins. E. J. Hyland, 1; J. Grensted, 2; A. Day, 3; W. Hyland, 4; T. Jull, 5; W. H. B. Wilkins (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Bob, in 23 mins. A. Day, 1; E. J. Hyland, 2; T. Jull, 3; J. Grensted, 4; W. H. B. Wilkins, 5; W. Hyland (conductor), 6. And 720 Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. J. Grensted, 1; E. J. Hyland, 2; W. H. B. Wilkins (conductor), 3; T. Jull, 4; W. Hyland, 5; A. Day, 6. The ringers wish through the medium of this paper to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells on these and other occasions.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

LEISTON (Suffolk).—On Saturday, December for practice, eight members of the St. Margaret's Society rang 704 Kent Treble Bob Major. A. J. Button, 1; W. Taylor, 2; A. J. Lincoln (conductor), 3; C. Bailey, 4; E. Bailey, 5; C. Samson, 6; J. M. Button, 7; H. J. Button, 8.

SPROUGHTON (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, November 28th, 720 Superlative Surprise Minor in 25 mins. H. Mee, 1; G. Mee, 2; F. Rolfe, 3; E. Rivers, 4; A. Rivers, 5; C. Mee (conductor), 6. First in the method on the bells. On handbells 504 Grandsire Triples, a course of Stedman Triples, and a course of Kent Treble Bob Major. H.

Mee, 1; E. Rivers, 2; C. Mee, 3-4; A. Rivers, 5; F. Rolfe, 6; F. Mee, 7-8. On Monday, December 4th, 720 each of Superlative Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Double Court Bob, Double Bob. — Southgate, 1; G. Mee, 2; E. Rolfe, 3; E. Rivers, 4; A. Rivers, 5; C. Mee (conductor), 6.

IPSWICH (Suffolk).—On Sunday morning, December 10th, for Divine Service, 269 Grandsire Caters. W. Tillett, 1; W. L. Catchpole (conductor), 2; W. Roughton, 3; —, 4; G. R. Pye, 5; J. H. Cheesman, 6; W. Pye, 7; E. Pye, 8; J. Motts, 9; A. Gillingham, 10. For evening service 324 Stedman Caters. T. Cook, 1; C. H. Gillingham, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; G. R. Pye, 4; W. Pye, 5; W. L. Catchpole (conductor), 6; J. H. Cheesman, 7; W. Woods, 8; E. Pye, 9; W. Tillett, 10. Also a course of Cambridge Surprise Major. W. Tillett, 1; W. L. Catchpole, 2; W. Motts, 3; J. H. Cheesman, 4; G. R. Pye, 5; E. Pye, 6; J. Motts, 7; W. Pye, 8. At the church of St. Margaret 448 Superlative Surprise Major, standing as before.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

DAGENHAM (Essex).—On Saturday, December 2nd, 720 Bob Minor. W. Keeble, 1; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 2; J. Moules, 3; L. W. Copsey, 4; J. Dale, 5; G. Hayden, 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. L. W. Copsey, 1; A. J. Perkins, 2; J. Dale, 3; J. Moules, 4; W. Keeble (conductor), 6; G. Hayden, 6. Also 720 with nine bobs and six singles. F. Withers, 1; G. Pearl, 2; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 3; I. Dear, 4; W. Doran, 5; W. Keeble, 6.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

CARSHALTON (Surrey).—On Thursday, November 8th, for Divine Service at All Saints' church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, containing the twenty-four 6-7s, in 40 mins. W. Bromley, 1; A. Boxall, 2; C. Bance, 3; A. Clayton, 4; J. F. Wignell, 5; E. Hollands, 6; F. Holder (conductor), 7; A. H. Bundle, 8. Rung on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the first peal by the St. Mary's Society, Beddington, which was rung in this tower.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

AMPTHILL (Beds).—On Saturday, November 25th, the Woburn company paid a visit to St. Andrew's church by invitation of the Rev. J. G. Nichol, to have a pull on the bells which had the day before been augmented to six by the addition of a new treble, the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Fielder, of Ampthill, and the work of Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough. The visitors were kindly entertained to tea by the Rector afterwards. The following touches were rung: 720 Boq Minor. H. Checkley, 1; M. Matthews, 2; E. Herbert, 3. Cyril Herbert, 4; M. Lane, 5; W. Chibnall (conductor), 6. 720 Kent Treble Bob. H. Checkley, 1; M. Matthews, 2; E. Herbert, 3; Cyril Herbert, 4; W. Chibnall, 5; M. Lane (conductor), 6. Another 720 in the same method. W. Checkley, 1; M. Matthews, 2; M. Lane, 3; Cyril Herbert, 4; E. Herbert, 5; W. Chibnall (conductor), 6. 360 Bob Minor. W. Chibnall, 1; M. Matthews, 2; E. Herbert, 3; Cyril Herbert, 4; F. Sharp (Ampthill), 5; M. Lane (conductor), 6. Tenor about 13 cwt.

THE ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY, FULHAM.

FULHAM.—On Tuesday evening, December 19th, for practice at All Saints church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins. J. Hinton, 1; J. Buckingham (first quarter-peal and first attempt), 2; H. Barton, 3; J. Herbert (first quarter-peal and first attempt), 4; W. Charge, 5; R. Charge, 6; J. W. Driver (conductor), 7; S. How, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EAST BERKS. AND SOUTH BUCKS. BRANCH).

HORTON.—On Saturday, December 16th, on the occasion of the monthly meeting, 720 Oxford Bob Minor. P. W. Wilkins (first 720), 1; A. E. Wicks, 2; G. Alder, 3; G. H. Guttridge, 4; J. W. Wilkins, 5; C. Clark (conductor), 6. And 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. W. Wilkins, 1; G. H. Guttridge, 2; J. J. Parker (conductor), 3; Rev. H. C. Bell, 4; G. Basden, 5; J. Durrant, 6.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

ALTON (Hants).—On Thursday, December 7th, for practice at St. Lawrence's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46½ mins. A. Hardiman, 1; A. Mussall, 2; A. W. Evans, 3; F. Healey, 4; R. Applegath, 5; A. Davis, 6; W. J. Brambley (conductor), 7; F. Noakes, 8.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

BUNBURY (Cheshire).—On Saturday, December 16th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples, in 46 mins. J. Simons, 1; J.

Hunt, 2; R. Langford, 3; P. Vernon, 4; H. Woodward, 5; W. F. Hartshorne, 6; R. T. Holding (conductor), 7; S. Mossford, 8. First On Sunday evening, December 17th, for Divine Service at Christ Church, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples, in 46½ mins. J. Kettle, 1; R. Langford, 2; R. T. Holding, jun., 3; G. Crawley, 4; W. F. Hartshorne, 5; J. Dentith, 6; R. T. Holding (conductor), 7; R. Wright, 8. It being the 21st birthday of Mr. R. Wright, the ringers wished him many happy returns.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

GREAT HALE (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, November 7th, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. J. R. Green, 1; R. Masters, 2; C. Ward, 3; T. Humberstone, 4; T. B. Wood, 5; T. T. Taylor (conductor), 6. On Thursday, November 9th, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. H. Wood, 1; T. T. Taylor, 2; T. Humberstone, 3; R. Masters, 4; J. R. Green, 5; T. B. Wood (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, November 12th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 28 mins. W. H. Wood, 1; R. Masters, 2; C. Ward, 3; T. T. Taylor, 4; J. R. Green, 5; T. B. Wood (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, November 15th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. H. Wood, 1; T. B. Wood, 2; T. Humberstone, 3; E. Houlden, 4; J. R. Green, 5; T. T. Taylor (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, November 19th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. R. Green, 1; R. Masters, 2; C. Ward, 3; T. Humberstone, 4; T. B. Wood, 5; T. T. Taylor (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, November 19th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. C. Ward, 1; R. Masters, 2; T. Humberstone, 3; T. B. Woods, 4; J. R. Green, 5; T. T. Taylor (conductor), 6.

BOURNE (Lincolnshire).—On November 30th, for practice at the abbey church, 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). J. T. Ball, 1; A. Holmes, 2; T. Allen, 3; W. L. Wadsley, 4; J. T. Wooley (conductor), 5; R. Sharp, 6. On Sunday evening, December 3rd, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). H. Hollice, 1; C. Fowler, 6; the rest as before.

EDMONTON.—On Sunday, December 3rd, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans) in 42½ mins. P. Darlington, 1; J. Waghorn, sen., 2; W. Bennett, 3; R. Goodchild, 4; G. Barker, 5; J. Parker, 6; W. Ward (conductor), 7; W. Darlington, 8.

FELSHAM (Suffolk).—On November 26th, 720 Double Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). C. Adams, 1; J. Horrev, 2; E. Kinsey, 3; H. Gladwell, 4; H. Horrex, 5; W. Kinsey (conductor), 6. On Friday, December 1st, 720 College Single, standing as before. These are the first 720s in the methods by all the band, and the first in the methods on the bells.

GREAT ADDINGTON (Northants).—On Saturday, November 4th, 720 Bob Minor. A. Hudson, 1; R. Loveday, 2; J. Hudson, 3; L. Chapman, 4; W. Shaw, 5; J. Nickerson (conductor), 6. Also another 720 in the same method. A. Hudson, 1; L. Chapman, 2; J. Hudson, 3; J. Nickerson, 4; W. Shaw, 5; R. Loveday (conductor), 6.

LONDON.—On Sunday morning, November 26th, after Divine Service at the church of St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, 252 Grandsire Triples. W. H. Smith, 1; H. Green, 2; T. H. Taffender, 3; W. S. Langdon, 4; G. E. Symonds, 5; F. Clements, 6; W. Humberstone, 7; G. Cobbett, 8. Also 504 Stedman Triples. H. Langdon, 1; T. H. Taffender, 2; H. Pasmore, 3; J. W. Golding, 4; G. E. Symonds, 5; W. S. Langdon, 6; W. H. Pasmore, 7; G. Woodage, 8. For the Dedication Service in the evening a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. Composed by J. P. Bradley. E. Clements, 1; H. Springall, 2; F. E. Dawe, 3; T. H. Taffender, 4; W. Truss, 5; F. Clements, 6; W. Humberstone, 7; W. Cobbett, 8. After service 112 Grandsire Triples. E. Clements, 1; C. Deer, 2; W. H. Smith, 3; H. Green, 4; T. H. Taffender, 5; F. Clements, 6; W. Humberstone, 7; W. Butler, 8. Also 336. E. Clements, 1; H. Langdon, 2; J. R. Haworth, 3; F. Perrin, 4; W. S. Langdon, 5; G. E. Symonds, 6; T. H. Taffender, 7; H. Green, 8. And 406. T. H. Taffender, 1; C. Deer, 2; H. Langdon, 3; F. Perrin, 4; T. Gwynn, 5; G. E. Symonds, 6; W. S. Langdon, 7; G. Woodage, 8. All the above touches were conducted by T. H. Taffender.

LEATHERHEAD (Surrey).—On Sunday, November 19th, 1259 Grandsire Caters. C. Otway, 1; E. Hull, 2; T. Newnham, 3; H. Newnham, jun., 4; H. Newnham, sen., 5; W. Crockford, 6; W. Marks (conductor), 7; T. Ades, 8; A. Dean, 9; W. Cropley, 10. On Tuesday, December 5th, in honour of the wedding of Miss Evelyn Beatrice Nokes, of the Red House, Leatherhead, which was being celebrated at St. Peter's Eaton Square, 593, 503 and 377 Caters, the following taking part: C. Otway, W. Messam, W. Otway, E. Hull, H. Wood, H. Newnham, T. Newnham, W. Marks, A. Dean, T. Ades, H. Cropley. All the above conducted by W. Marks. In the evening 572 Grandsire Caters, conducted by A. Dean. On Sunday, December 10th, for evening service, 1259 Grandsire Caters. C. Otway, 1; E.

Hull, 2; T. Newnham, 3; H. Wood, 4; H. Newnham, 5; T. Ades, 6; W. Marks, 7; J. Hoyle, 8; A. Dean (conductor), 9; W. Cropley, 10. Composed by C. Charge.

MORTON (Lincolnshire).—On November 20th, for practice at St. John's church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). C. Stokes, 1; J. Alford, 2; G. Mitchelson, 3; A. Holmes, 4; W. L. Wadsley (conductor), 5; C. Fowler, 6.

OXHEY (Herts).—On Sunday morning, December 3rd, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 43 mins. C. George, 1; H. Eden, 2; G. N. Price, 3; J. B. Bates, 4; W. Norris, 5; Walter Norris, 6; H. Martin (conductor), 7; I. Alevander, 8. On handbells 420 Stedman Triples. C. George, 1-2; G. N. Price (cobductor), 3-4; H. Martin, 5-6; J. B. Bates, 7-8.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Saturday, October 14th, 720 College Pleasure. A. Symonds, 1; H. Gladwell, 2; T. Levitt, 3; J. Fayers, 4; H. Horrex, 5; W. Kinsey (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method on the bells, and by all the band. On Saturday, October 22nd, 720 Violet. E. Newman, 1; H. Poulson, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; J. Fayers, 4; T. Levitt, 5; W. Hollocks (conductor), 6. On Sunday afternoon, November 12th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. A. Symonds (conductor), 1; E. Newman, 2; J. Fayers, 3; A. Hollocks, 4; H. Poulson, 5; W. Hollocks, 6. On Sunday afternoon, November 26th, for Divine Service, 720 Woodbine. A. Symonds, 1; H. Gladwell, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; H. Horrex, 4; W. Kinsey, 5; W. Hollocks (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, November 29th, 720 Bob Minor. E. Newman, 1; H. Poulson, 2; C. Levitt, 3; J. Fayers, 4; H. Poulson, 5; W. Hollocks, 6.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Sunday evening, November 26th, for Divine Service, 518 and 504 Grandsire Triples. S. James, 1; E. Vyes, 2; G. Pye (conductor), 3; W. Pye, 4; H. Dawkins, 5; G. Watson, 6; E. Pye, 7; H. Vyes, 8. After service 1260 in the same method in 46 mins. A. Perkins, 1; H. Laxton, 2; L. W. Copsey, 3; W. Pye, 4; H. Dawkins (first quarter-peal with a bob bell), 5; G. Pye, 6; E. Pye (conductor), 7; D. Crow, 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Lady Salisbury.

RUGBY (Warwickshire).—On Monday, November 27th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. A. Coleman, 1; R. Watson, 2; F. Betts, 3; C. J. B. Cooke, 4; A. Gillings, 5; A. Dubber, 6; J. George (composer and conductor), 7; W. Shotton, 8. Rung in honour of the birthday of Mr. J. George, Ringing Master of the St. Andrew's Guild. On Sunday, December 31st, for evening service, 476 Grandsire Triples. A. Coleman, 1; R. Watson, 2; A. Dubber, 3; C. George (Bushey), 4; H. Sear (Bletchley), 5; J. George (conductor), 6; A. Bramall, 7; J. W. Shotton, 8. Also 279 Grandsire Triples. A. Coleman, 1; A. J. Gillings, 2; A. Dubber, 3; C. George, 4; H. Sear, 5; A. Bramall, 6; J. George (conductor), 7; J. W. Shotton, 8. Also 294 Grandsire Triples. A. Coleman, 1; A. J. Gillings, 2; A. Dubber, 3; C. George (conductor), 4; H. Sear, 5; J. George, 6; A. Bramall, 7; J. W. Shotton, 8. The above date being New Year's Eve the bells were rung [muffled]. On Monday, January 1st, the new year was welcomed in with the bells open with 279 Grandsire Triples. A. Coleman, 1; R. Watson, 2; H. Sear, 3; C. George, 4; A. Bramall, 5; J. W. Shotton, 6; J. George (conductor), 7; A. Dubber, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

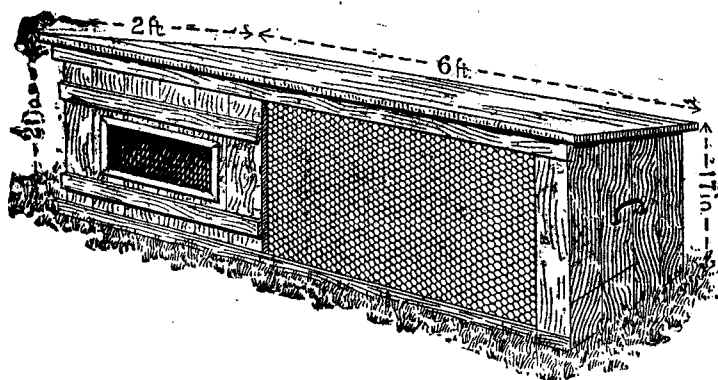
RANMORE (Surrey).—On Saturday, December 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. H. Druce, 1; J. White, 2; H. Corbett, 3; J. Hoyle, 4; J. Wyatt, 5; T. Ades, 6; A. Dean (conductor), 7; W. Cropley, 8. Also 504, conducted by T. Ades.

SPELDHURST (Kent).—On Friday, December 1st, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 41 mins. F. Still, 1; J. Maynard, 2; J. Baker, 3; G. Turley (conductor), 4; R. Pelling, 5; A. T. Godley, 6; G. Izzard, 7; G. Fuggle, 8. Rung in honour of the Princess of Wales' birthday.

THRAPSTON (Northants).—On Saturday, October 14th, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples, in 46 mins. W. Shaw, 1; F. Wilford, 2; J. Nickerson, 3; L. Chapman, 4; R. Loveday, 5; J. Guest, 6; G. Jeffs (conductor), 7; J. Carter, 8. First quarter-peal of Bob Triples by F. Wilford. On Saturday, November 18th, 360 London Single was rung on the back seven, the tenor covering. D. Redhead, 1; G. Hewitt, 2; J. Hudson, 3; J. Nickerson, 4; L. Chapman, 5; R. Loveday (conductor), 6; W. Yates, 7. Also 360 Oxford Bob. G. Hewitt, 1; J. Hudson, 2; D. Redhead, 3; L. Chapman, 4; J. Nickerson, 5; R. Loveday (conductor), 6; W. Yates, 7. On Saturday, December 2nd, 720 Oxford Bob, on the back six. W. Shaw, 1; G. Hewitt, 2; R. Loveday, 3; J. Hudson, 4; W. Yates, 5; J. Nickerson (conductor), 6.

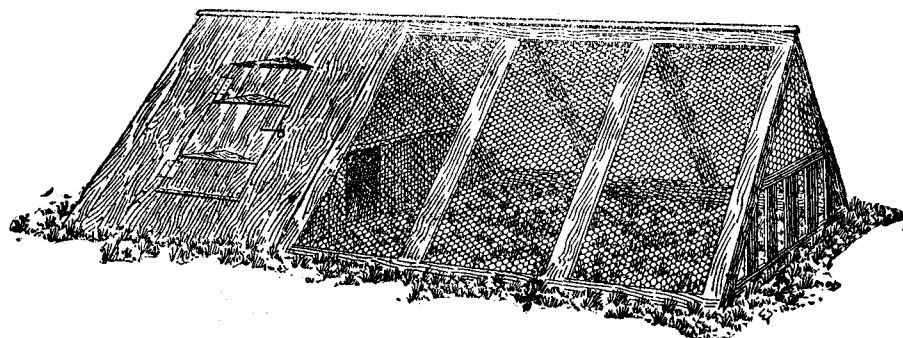
TITCHMARSH (Northants).—On Saturday, December 9th, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples, in 48 mins. W. Shaw, 1; J. Nickerson, 2; F. Jeffs, 3; G. Wilford, 4; J. Hudson, 5; R. Loveday, 6; G. Jeffs (conductor), 7; W. Bates, 8.

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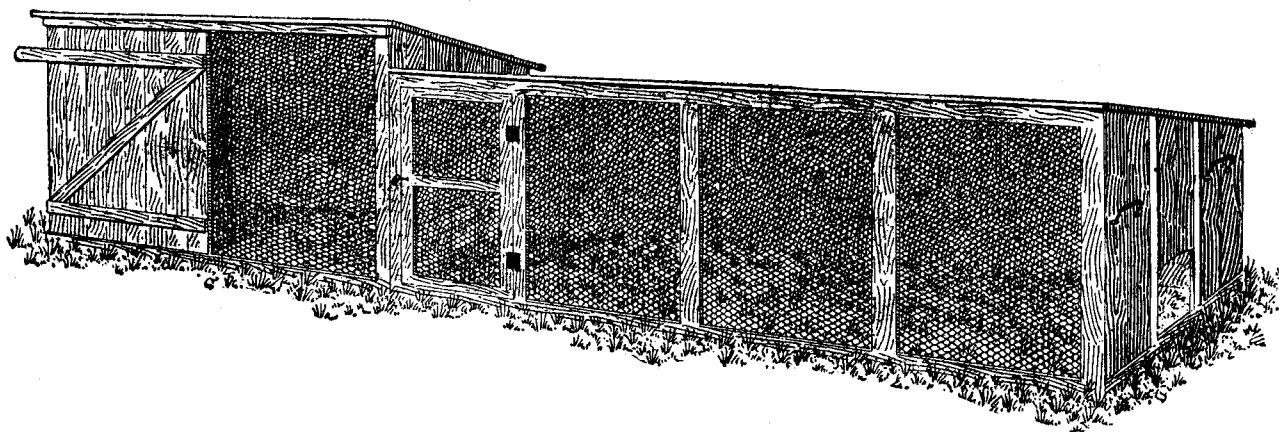
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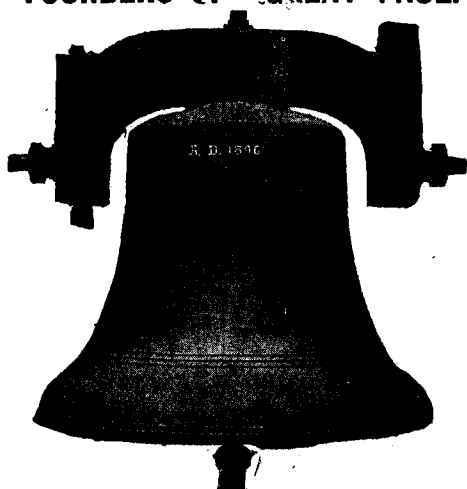
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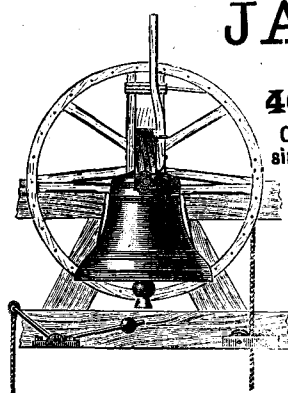
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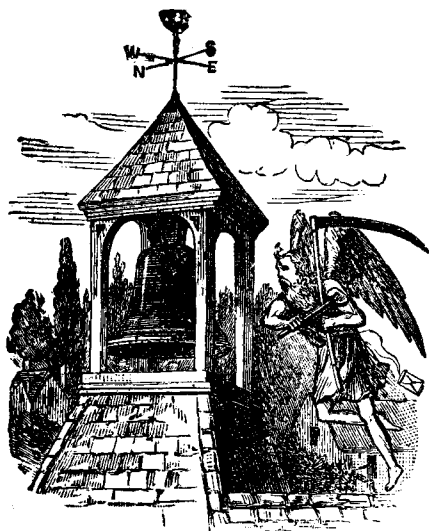
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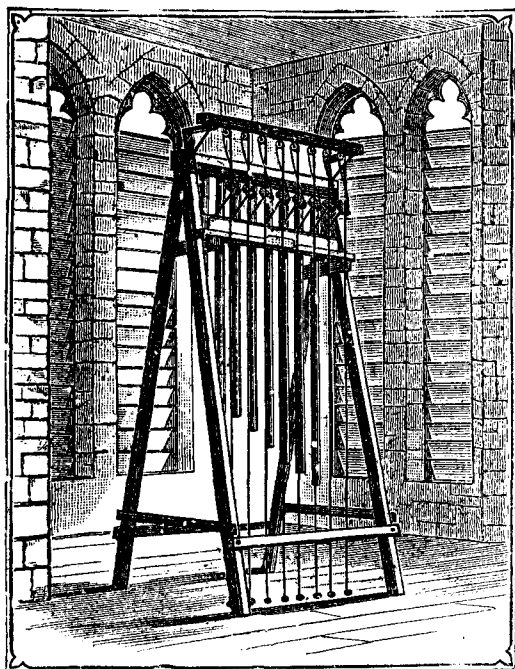
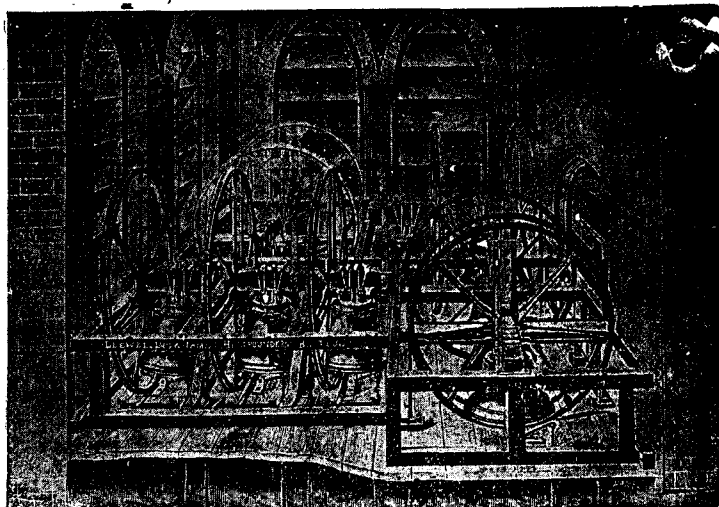
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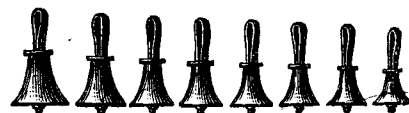
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 927.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1900.

[VOL. XVIII.]

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

The Honorary Secretary of the Central Council begs to remind Association officials that the election of Representatives should be made before the next meeting of the Council, which will take place in London on Whit-Tuesday, June 5th. According to the Rules and constitution of the Council, Representatives are to hold office for *three* years after election, or until the termination of the current triennial period. *Annual* elections, or re-elections, are therefore unnecessary, except in the case of a vacancy occurring in the representation. Tuesday, the 8th of May, will be the last day on which notices of motion can be received.

Hon. Secretaries of Societies are respectfully reminded that the contributions for the year 1900 became due on the first of January, and should be remitted at the rate of 2s. 6d. for each elected representative, to the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer of the Council without delay, together with the names and addresses of Representatives elected.

*Stanhoe Rectory,
King's Lynn.*

H. EARLE BULWER,
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

The monthly ringing meeting of this society was held at Armley on Saturday, January 6th, when owing to the bad state of the weather, rain coming down in torrents all the evening, there was only a small attendance. The following towers were represented: Bramley, Burley, Calverley, Headingley St. Michael's, and the local company.

The business meeting was held at The White Horse hotel, Mr. J. Whitaker in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. After several small items of business had been gone through, the usual votes of thanks to the Vicar and wardens for the use of the bells, and the local company for their kind arrangements, were proposed by Mr. C. Pratt, and seconded by Mr. H. Gaythorpe, and carried unanimously. Mr. John Thackray briefly responded, which brought to a close a very pleasant meeting, though its number was small.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held at Penmark on Tuesday, December 26th, when a goodly number of members put in an appearance. The use of the bells was very kindly granted by the Vicar. A special service was held in the church at 2.30, and the meeting in the schoolroom at 3.0, after which the members were very kindly entertained at tea by the Vicar and Mrs. Morgan. A very successful and enjoyable day was spent.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

NUNEATON DISTRICT.

The Annual Meeting of this District for the election of officers took place at Nuneaton on Saturday, June 6th. Members were present from Rugby, Stoney Stanton, Hinckley, Barwell, Earl Shilton, and the local company. By the kindness of the Vicar (Rev. Dr. Deed) the bells of the parish church were placed at the disposal of the members from 3.0 to 6.30., for which they desire to tender their thanks through the medium of this paper.

Touches in the following methods were rung during the afternoon: Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major; also a course of Duffield Major, believed to be the first on the bells. A touch of Double Norwich was attempted, but was unsuccessful.

A business meeting was afterwards held at The Heart-in-Hand hotel, when the following branch officers were unanimously elected for this year: vice-President, Mr. A. R. Aldham; Committee, Mr. W. Wills and Mr. H. Briggs; Secretary, Mr. J. H. Swinfield. The place appointed for the next meeting was Stoney Stanton, proposed by Mr. Briggs and seconded by Mr. T. W. Chapman, the date being Saturday, March 3rd, when all ringers and friends will be heartily welcomed.

During the evening several tunes were played on the handbells by the Briggs family, which performance was much appreciated. A splendidly-struck touch of Oxford Treble Bob Major was also rung by A. R. Aldham (conductor), 1-2; T. W. Chapman, 3-4; H. Argyle, 5-6; J. F. Clarke, 7-8. A very pleasant meeting was brought to a close by eight o'clock, all present having thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

THE WORCESTER CATHEDRAL GUILD.

The Annual General Meeting in connection with this Guild was held on Friday, January 5th, the Rev. J. K. Floyer, Warden, presiding. Owing to the prevalence of illness among the members, there were not many present.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and the balance-sheet was duly passed. The election of officers for the year took place, Mr. G. Hinton being elected Master; Mr. A. Hadley deputy-Master; Mr. W. H. Johnson being re-elected Secretary. Mr. B. S. Hill was re-elected a delegate to attend the Association meetings, while Messrs. A. Hill and G. Checketts were elected to act with the rev. Warden and other officers on the Committee.

The Warden thanked the retiring officers for the excellent manner in which they had fulfilled their duties during the past year, and he trusted that the Guild would long retain the good feeling among the members which existed at present. A vote of thanks to the chairman brought the meeting to a close.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD PEAL-BOOK.—A RECORD of Five Hundred and Twenty Peals rung by this Guild. Paper covers, 6d.; cloth do., 9d.—Blackwell, Reading; or the Hon. Sec. of the Guild—the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, Dunsden Vicarage, Reading, Berks.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

A record of thirty peals in the last number! Quite enough for one week, don't you think. I see that our friends at Bristol have had a pat on the back for the peal of Stedman Cinques they got just as the New Year was born. A very good opening for the New Year (I was almost writing "century"), very good indeed. I have just been reading the record over again, and taking stock of the names of the performers. To more than one-half of them I shall take the liberty of putting the following dogmatical questions. They can send their categorical answers to me, post paid.

Here are the interrogatories: 1. As you know Redcliffe tenor is not in good ringing order, and thoroughly believing in the adage that "Britons never shall be slaves," will you exert yourself to the utmost to have her re-hung? 2. Will you support a measure having for its object the canvassing the city for subscriptions sufficient for the holy purpose? 3. Will you do your utmost to make it a success, giving your time night and day as a collector as far as possible. 4. Will you determine not to cease the work of canvassing for subscriptions until a sufficient sum is obtained? If you answer all these in the affirmative and mean it, the work will be done. I must say I don't like to see two men at the tenor.

When I wrote last week and made pointed allusions to the word "Stand!" I did not expect to have enquiries made as to the particular peal I was referring to. I cannot satisfy the inquisitiveness of my correspondents, fair or otherwise. At any rate, not yet. If what I hear be true, the conductor of this particular peal ought to confess, then explain, and finally make an abject apology. If he makes no sign, then those in the band who know all about it, should confess, explain, and apologise also. If no one tries to clear the matter up in this way, why then I shall, I am afraid, have to let the cat out of the bag.

The commotion in the latter case will be immense. If the accusations against this performance are true in every particular, somebody ought not to touch a church bell-rope again. I hope those in the know will do something to ease the position, if possible. 'Twould be a relief to hear that it was all an hoax.

As I write the news arrives that Lords Roberts and Kitchener have arrived in South Africa. We must not expect to hear just yet of any action by these distinguished men. What can be done they will do, no doubt. The country is getting to feel some irritation on account of the apparent failure of the intelligence department of the Government. Is it unpatriotic to say they have been caught napping?

The following incident is amusing, though it is to be regretted that the vagabond was not caught and soundly ducked. "All Saints' Church, Newport, Monmouth, which was recently erected by Mr. E. H. Watts, was burglariously entered last week. The would-be robber climbed up the spouting on to the roof of the vestry, and then cut an aperture in the chancel window, through which he must have squeezed himself. The panes were ordinary diamond-shaped glass. By cutting two panels of the door the thief entered the clergy vestry, and every

drawer and cupboard was ransacked. Fortunately the silver Communion service, also presented to the church by Mr. Watts, was placed in an iron safe, near which was found a key similar to that which unlocked it. The collecting-boxes in the church were ruthlessly torn from the walls and the locks forced, but the contents had been removed after the last service according to custom. So the net result of the sacrilegious robber's haul was 3d."

Three very good items last week on the front page. New bells, at Feltham, Middlesex, at Brierley Hill, Worcestershire, and at a place in Norfolk with a long name. The Feltham dedication was peculiarly mournful, the donor of the bells having died the day before. The other item on the same page was the "opening" of a peal-board. The inscription on this board I think had one little defect. Everyone knows that Mr. Willson, of Leicester, spells his name with two "l's,"—though one "l" is generally considered enough for any man. Therein the slight error on this peal-board.

Perhaps you will be good enough to notice carefully for a few weeks what appears on this page. I have a grand idea in my head which it is hoped may when matured be of great benefit to the community. It is not a raffle or anything *bizarre*. Don't think so for a moment. I shall let you into the secret at the first possible moment; perhaps next week. PLAIN SPEAKER.

A YEAR'S RECORD.

Forty-two 720s in fourteen Minor methods, accomplished by twenty-five ringers, under the direction of seven conductors. Such is the record of the ringing done at Leytonstone, Essex, during 1899. But to go into a little more detail. The past year is the second of the present society's existence, which at its commencement had great difficulty in ringing Doubles, but by constant practice this has been altered, and the fourteen methods rang last year was made up of four Plain, four Treble Bob, and six Surprise, as follows: nine each of Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob, five Cambridge Surprise, four Worcester Surprise, three each of Oxford Treble Bob, and Coventry Surprise, two Double Court, and one each of Duke of York Woodbine, College Single, Double Oxford, Superlative, London, and Chichester Surprise. The 25 ringers—including visitors—have rang as follows: W. Miller, 37; J. Moule and J. Mardell, 30; G. Hayden and T. H. Beams, 29; W. Keeble, 18; W. Doran, 17; E. Wightman, 14; F. Withers, 9; J. Philpot and H. Gowers, 8; A. J. Perkins, 4; J. Rann, 3; G. Beech, E. Tugwood, C. T. Hopkins, and H. Bottrell, 2; W. Chinery, H. Torble, G. P. Burr, E. Carter, W. Clark, G. Dawson, E. T. Wigg and J. T. Barker, 1. The conducting was shared by W. Miller, 17; T. H. Beams, 10; E. Wightman, 8; W. Keeble, 4; J. Moule, J. Mardell, and A. J. Perkins, one each. This is indeed a record of which to feel proud, and more so as every member of the company has made progress, especially those who have been the most regular in their attendance. Of course the usual disappointment of members leaving just as they were getting on, has been experienced, but others have joined, and every member seems to have done his best to make the society a success, with the result above chronicled. "*Labor omnia vincit.*"

ROMFORD, ESSEX.

On Tuesday, January 2nd, by the kind invitation of the Rev. — Allen, the curates, churchwardens, and ringers were entertained to a sumptuous repast. After dinner a short address was given by Mr. E. E. Windmill on the war, proposing the health of two brother-ringers who have volunteered for active service, wishing them God-speed and a hasty return. Messrs. Perkins and Vyse thanked them for the kind way in which the toast had been received. Mr. Roughton proposed the health of the Vicar and family, to which the Vicar responded. The Rev. — Feist proposed "The Army," after which Sergeant Mumford gave a touching address on his past services, which was heartily appreciated. Mr. R. Vyse proposed the health of the churchwardens, to which Messrs. Windmill and Hammond responded. Mr. L. Copsey proposed the health of "The Curates," to which the Rev. — Godfrey responded. The Vicar wished the ringers every success in their Art, and coupled the name of Mr. Watson, the conductor, with the toast. Mr. G. Hammond sang "Boys of the old brigade." Mr. E. Windmill recited "The Lawyer and Farmer." The Vicar sang "The Powder Monkey," and Mr. L. Copsey "Tom Bowling," after which Messrs. Roughton, Vyse, Watson, Dawkins, and Copsey gave a selection on the handbells, and a few games brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.

WITHYCOMBE RALEIGH, DEVON.

On Boxing Day the members of this branch of the Devonshire Guild paid a visit to Heavitree, where they were met by three of the Exeter ringers. After raising the bells a 504 of Grandsire Triples was rung by G. Stocker, J. A. Snow, J. Lockyer, R. Manley, F. J. Pike, H. Burch, A. H. Snow, and H. Boucher. After which a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 53 mins. J. Moss, J. A. Snow, J. Lockyer, R. Manley, F. J. Pike, A. H. Snow, H. Burch, and G. Stocker. Also a touch of Triples by G. Stocker, R. Manley, J. A. Snow, H. Burch, F. J. Pike, F. Davey, A. H. Snow, and H. Boucher. The whole was conducted by H. Burch, it being his first quarter-peal as conductor; also the first quarter-peal by F. J. Pike, and first quarter-peal by the Withycombe band away from their own tower.

THE ST. NICHOLAS, GUILD, GUILDFORD.

The annual meeting of the above Guild was held in the belfry on Thursday, December 21st, when the following officers were elected: Mr. F. Blondell (conductor); Mr. S. Radford (steeple-keeper); Mr. J. Hunt (secretary). The latter is an office which Mr. Jones has ably filled for several years, but owing to pressure of business could not undertake it another year, to the regret of all the ringers, as he had always taken so much interest in the band. During the past year he has had the ropes put into a better circle at his own expense, which was no small item, and has also bound a volume of "THE BELL NEWS, and has promised to bind another this year.

P.S.—All correspondence in connection with the above Guild must be addressed to Mr. J. Hunt, 19, Dapdune Road, Guildford.

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WANTED, A GOOD JOINER.—Preference given to one accustomed to making bell-wheels.—Apply, M. & S. 34, Whitechapel Road, London E.

Correspondence.

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

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

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

SIR,—The Committee appointed to ascertain the present condition of peals of eight and upwards throughout the country have sent out forty-six circulars to Secretaries of Associations with forms to be filled in with the name and address of the representative ringer of each tower in their respective districts. Although these have been out some six months, eight are yet unreturned. Of circulars to representative ringers, according to the addresses given by the Secretaries, 651 have been sent out, of which 214, after the lapse of three months, are still unreturned. Very many of the addresses given by the Secretaries were so far insufficient that the circulars to representative ringers have been returned in considerable numbers. May I appeal both to the Secretaries of Associations and to the representative ringers who have received circulars, to forward to me at the earliest opportunity, if they have not already done so, these forms duly and carefully filled in. A work which may make for the welfare of the Exercise in no small degree deserves at least the contribution of a few hours' labour from each of those who have been placed in a position of responsibility as regards Church Bells. A publication which is incomplete can serve no useful purpose, and the Committee will not advocate it unless they can make it thorough.

A. P. HEYWOOD.

AN ERROR.

SIR,—My attention has been called to an error in the peal of 5060 Stedman Caters rung at St. Mary's, Walthamstow. I deeply regret the error, and apologise to all concerned.

J. P. BRADLEY.

ATTITUDES WHILST RINGING.

SIR,—I shall be glad if some of your readers will inform me whether there are any hard and fast rules relative to the heading of my correspondence, for I have carefully noticed the methods suggested by Mr. W. Snowdon and others, whilst in opposition to these I have noticed ringers of acknowledged standing who deviate from the instructions given, viz., allowing a slight inclination from the hips and not bending the knees at all. Perhaps some of your readers will inform me which of these methods is usually followed, and the advantages gained thereby.

ONE INTERESTED.

WHORLTON-IN-CLEVELAND (Yorkshire).—On Wednesday, October 11th, the ringers and amateurs of Stokesley parish church paid a visit to this place, a pretty village at the foot of the Cleveland Hills. There is a nice church and a sweet ring of six bells by Warner, tenor about 9½ cwt. Unfortunately as yet there is not a local band of change-ringers there, otherwise one or two improvements would no doubt be speedily effected. A 720 of Bob Minor was rung in 25 mins. J. W. Whittle, 1; W. Bennison, 2; A. C. Bowes, 3; H. H. Bowes, 4; Rev. W. P. Wright, 5; W. Lane, 6. Also some touches, in which the treble was rung by J. P. Clarkson, J. Clark and R. Dobson in turn. Also 120 Bob Doubles. J. Clark, 1; W. Bennison, 2; H. H. Bowes, 3; J. W. Whittle, 4; Rev. W. P. Wright, 5. The members enjoyed their little visit, and an excellent tea was provided at The Black Horse. It is a pity that such visits as these do not stimulate the local men to try and get into the art of change-ringing.

PEAL CORRECTIONS.—The peal of Treble Bob Royal rung at Bury St. Edmund's, and published last week should read December 26th, instead of the 6th, and the time of the peal was 3 hrs. 42 mins., not 3 hrs. 43 mins.—Mr. James Parker writes: "The peal rung at West Grinstead on Boxing Day by the College Youths was not the first peal of Treble Bob on the bells. The first peal of Minor rang there was in seven Treble Bob methods, in July, 1893, conducted by F. W. Rice."

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.

A BRIEF CONSIDERATION OF A FEW POINTS CONNECTED WITH THE HISTORY OF RINGING.

By R. A. DANIELL.

(Continued from page 388.)

It is not my intention to touch on the history of the London Societies except very briefly and merely for showing what manner of persons we may suppose their members to have been. Among the original members of the College Youths in 1637 are to be found the names of Lord Brereton, Master in that year, and Sir Cliff Clifton. Of the list of names of this Company, Osborn says, "The names consist of a portion of the Clergy and noblemen of the day both in town and country, together with the names of many gentlemen of the highest respectability connected with the City of London, as for instance, in the year 1684 Sir Henry Tulse, knight and alderman was elected Lord Mayor of London, and in the same year he was elected Master of the Company." I have referred before to the fact that the College Youths and London Scholars presented by subscription the two trebles to St. Bride's, Fleet Street, and also to the inference we may draw as to the status of ringing from the *School of Recreation*, in which the College Youths are mentioned. Stedman, too, joined the Company, and dedicated to it his ringing books. According to Osborn they were an eminently respectable society.

After the death of Benjamin Annable in the year 1756, the society became divided, and part of its members formed a separate society under the name of the "Junior College Youths." These were a very talented body of ringers and contained also some persons of considerable substance. These two societies continued until the year 1788, when the original society was dissolved, most of its members going over to the Junior Society, and a few, including the Master, Mr. Irons, to the Cumberlandians. The Junior Society, thenceforward assumed the old name, and carried on ringing with great spirit and dignity. Osborn says that this society purchased the silver bell still belonging to the College Youths, and that its original use was as the head of the staff of their beadle who, robed in a black silk gown and gold-laced hat, preceded the members of the Company when they went in procession to Church on their feast day, on which occasion a guinea was paid to the officiating clergyman, who no doubt delivered a sermon in accordance with the practice at the festivals of societies and corporate bodies at that period. One wonders what the preachers on these occasions preached about. If any copy of any such sermon should anywhere survive it would be interesting to examine it, though probably when we had done so we should find it so deadly dull as to wonder how on earth the College Youths of those days could have thought it worth paying anything for. Osborn says that Mr. Eversfield, of Gravesend, told him that once, many years previously, he had dined with the College Youths at their feast, and that on that occasion the dinner tickets cost fifteen shillings each, and more than two hundred persons sat down to table.

Shipway writing in 1813 says that for some years then past the practice of ringing had been much on the decline, and Osborn says that this society after the turn of the century began to wane. As its members grew old there was an insufficient supply of younger men of the same position to maintain the dignity of the society, and from 1829 to 1836 no peal was rung. Osborn has left a list of what he calls gentleman ringers of the College Youths who were dead by 1830, or thereabouts, whose names are as follows:—Edward Bartell, John Povey, John Lyford, William Lyford, John Inville, Daniel Jenkins, Joseph Holdsworth, Charles Barber, Winstanley Richardson, Joseph Monk, Israel Johnson, William Wilson, Samuel Muggeridge, Samuel Lawrence, Philip Pilgrim, Peter Ashley, James Bulgin, and William Paris.

A second society of Junior College Youths was founded about 1820, whose members gradually joined the old society until by about 1849 they had all come in.

It is unnecessary to speak of the many distinguished members of this society in modern times, but I feel especially bound to remember one, the late Rev. Henry Thomas Ellacombe, to whose unwearied industry in collecting every information in his

power bearing on bells and ringing every one who ever makes any investigations into ringing history must acknowledge his indebtedness.

The next metropolitan society of which we hear is "The London Scholars." Their records have unfortunately perished, and all that we positively know about them is that in 1717 they rang a peal of Grandsire Caters at St. Bride's, and in 1727 and 1729 peals of Grandsire Cinques at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, and St. Michael's, Cornhill; also that we are told of their participation with the College Youths in the expense of the two trebles at St. Bride's, and further that in the year 1702 two of their members published a book on ringing entitled *Campanalogia Improved*, which they dedicated to the society, and which went through several editions prior to the publication of the *Clavis*. In the epistle dedicatory it is said, "'tis your unanimity, sobriety and ingenuity (together with the strict observance and performance of the civil orders and constitutions whereby our Society is incorporated) which has been the cause of its being rendered meritorious and deserving of fame," and the whole of this preface is interesting as tending to show the respectability of the society, which what we know of their doings as above-mentioned goes to confirm. Beyond this we only have the tradition that the London Scholars rang at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, on the occasion of the Duke of Cumberland entering London on his triumphant return in 1746 after suppressing the Jacobite rising of the previous year. Shoreditch would be the first metropolitan church he would pass, and it is said that from this circumstance the London Scholars reconstituted their society under the name of the Cumberland Youths. That the present society took its name from the Duke is unquestionable, several prints of him being in the society's record books, and a gold enamelled medal bearing his equestrian effigy having been presented to the society in its early days, which is still worn by the Master on official occasions. There seems no reason why the tradition connecting the present society with the London Scholars should not be true. It is possible enough in itself and one does not see why it should have been invented. Osborn does not throw any doubt on it, and, as he joined the Cumberlandians within eighty years of their establishment, he would have known older members whose memories would extend back a long way and who in their turn would have known original members of the Cumberland Youths.

The name books of the Cumberland Youths at present in existence commence in 1747. The earliest of these is interesting because it was the practice, Osborn says, from the foundation of the society down to his day for every member to write his name or mark in it on his election, so that it makes an autograph book, which, Osborn says, is unique among the records of Ringing Societies. If Osborn is correct, as he ought to be, the fact that these men in the last century with very few exceptions could write their names shows at least that the old members were not without education; and indeed they appear to have always been a highly respectable body of men. From the inscription on the silver medal belonging to the Company (from which the enamelled medal is suspended) it appears that "W. Manley, Esquire, of Rochester, in Kent," was Master of the Company in 1772, and in those days the word "Esquire" was not so loosely and indiscriminately applied as it is now. If in the way of magnificence the Cumberlandians in the latter part of the last century did not compete with their contemporary College Youths, they were at least a more stable society and did not tend to collapse in the earlier portion of this from the difficulty of recruiting suitable members. It is worthy of note that in the last century persons of Huguenot descent were members of the London Ringing Societies. Mr. M. A. Wood, himself of Huguenot descent, kindly informed me that many Huguenot names, sometimes more or less disguised, are to be found in ringing records. Malachi Channon, who rang the 9th in this Company's 12,000 at Shoreditch, is an instance. The Cumberland Youths seem to have had a larger share of these members than other companies, probably because their headquarters for so many years were at Shoreditch in the neighbourhood of the Huguenot Colony, and perhaps because George Gross was a weaver. At any rate the fact that persons of the characteristics that have so honourably distinguished the Huguenot settlers and their descendants were members of the London Ringing Societies in the last century

furnishes strong evidence of the respectability of the London members of the Exercise at large at that period. I may add that the substantial position of the Cumberland Youths of the time is shown by their having in the year 1807 presented two trebles to the steeple of St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, to make a ring of twelve there.

I must not pass from the Cumberland Youths of the past without special mention of Edward John Osborn. He was apparently born in the year 1798, and in 1824 he became a member of the Cumberland Youths. He is described on admission as of The Gun inn, Shoreditch, and Hertford. I do not know whether this points to Hertford as his place of origin, or whether a letter to him from Squire Procter which is among his papers in the British Museum shews relations arising from locality. For many years he acted as Secretary to the society. Mr. J. W. Snowdon says that he was a confidential clerk to a solicitor. I do not know on what evidence this is said, but what Osborn has left renders it very probable. His beautiful ornamental handwriting in various styles remains in more than one London peal-book, and for many years he was collecting information, which he chronicled with wonderful neatness. He was indefatigable in hunting for ringing records, and his recovery and preservation of the peal-books of the Union and Eastern Scholars and the two societies of London Youths have proved most valuable in elucidating peal history, and he had begun and largely written a history of the London Ringing Societies. He was but fifty-four years of age when his death took place from chronic bronchitis on December 14th, 1852, at Sydney Street, Chelsea, where he had resided for some years. His widow, Mrs. Emma Osborn, presented his collections to the British Museum, a public-spirited action for which we are greatly indebted to her.*

The extinct London Ringing Societies of which anything material is known, are, firstly, the Union Scholars, founded in 1713. They were governed by a set of rules of which I shall have something to say later. Those who wish information about this society's ringing distinction should consult the historical parts of Mr. J. W. Snowdon's books on Treble Bob and Grandsire. The Union Scholars became extinct about 1757. Then there were also the Eastern Scholars, established in 1733, who lasted about thirty years, and two societies of London Youths (not to be confused with the London Scholars) between 1753 and 1801, and the Junior Cumberland Youths, or Young Cumberlands, as they were generally called, established in 1784, who after a fitful existence rang their last peal in 1824. None of these latter appear to have had any code of rules, and only their peal records, and in some cases lists of members, have come down to us.

(To be continued.)

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Boxing-Day, December 26th, six members of the Ickleton branch had an outing to Heyden, Chishall, and Elmdon, and rang several 6-scores of April Day, Grandsire, and Old Doubles at each place. At Heyden and Chishall there are rings of five bells; at Elmdon there is a nice ring of six, tenor about 11 cwt. in G. The ringers wish through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS" to thank the Vicars for the use of the bells, and other friends for their kindness.

* Osborn has the following scrap which he cites from a manuscript ciphering book dated 1766. Though it has nothing to do with ringing it furnishes an amusing instance of the surprises in store for people who have not had occasion to consider those results of continued multiplication which are so familiar to change-ringers. "Seven gentlemen that were travelling met together by chance at a certain inn on the road, where they were so well pleased with their host and each others company that in a frolic they offered the host £30 to stay at his house, so long as they together with him could sit down to dinner every day in a different position. The host thinking that they could not sit in many different ways because there were but a few of them and that himself would make no very considerable alteration (being but one), imagined that he should make a good bargain, and readily (for the sake of business and good company) entered into an agreement with them and so made himself the eighth person. Now I demand to know how long they staid at the said inn, and how many different positions they sat in. Answer—They staid 110 years and 142 days, and sat in 40,320 different positions."

Obituary.

CHARLES WARD, OF MELTON.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of the above-named ringer, which took place on December 28th, 1899, at the comparatively early age of forty-six. The deceased was interred in Ufford churchyard on Wednesday, January 3rd, 1900, near the church tower, eight members of the St. Mary-le-Tower and Ufford Societies acting as pall-bearers, as it was the deceased's last request. He was followed to the grave by a large circle of friends by whom he was greatly respected, as his name was a household word for many miles round. Muffled touches were rung upon the bells of St. Mary's church, Ufford, by the St. Mary-le-Tower and Ufford societies, and others, viz., F. Day of Eye, C. Mee of Sproughton, R. D. Hayward, etc. He had rung something like twenty-four peals at various towers in the county of Suffolk. The first peal that he rang was at St. Mary's, Helmingham, on Thursday, February 21st, 1884, being a peal of Bob Major, in which he rang the tenor. Ten peals at St. Mary's, Woodbridge, including a 7000; two at St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich; five at St. Mary's, Ufford, including a 10,176 of Oxford Treble Bob Major; two at St. Margaret's, Leiston; one at St. Mary's, Debenham; one at SS. Peter and Paul, Eye; one at St. Mary's, Coddensham; one at St. Mary's, Southwold; and his last peal was at the church of St. Nicholas, Harwich. To show their appreciation of their late brother-ringer, eight members of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society assembled and rang a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, which was deceased's favourite method, the report of which will be found in another column.

GEORGE PELL.

The subdued sounds of the muffled peal issuing from the ancient belfry of Streatham (Surrey) parish church on Friday evening, December 22nd, carried with them the oft-repeated message that yet another had been added to the many who have gone before. The above-named ringer, whose death we have to record with deep regret, was a man respected by all who knew him. For the past thirty years he was never absent from ringing the early morning Christmas peal and the New Year's welcome, the regular Sunday ringing seldom being done without him during the same period. The gap caused by his death will be hard to fill. In the quiet stillness of the churchyard, broken only at intervals by the solemn tones of the funeral bell, his body was carried beneath the tower where he had so often loved to ring, into the church by six of his brother-ringers. The Rev. W. H. Tasker kindly read the service here, and afterwards accompanied the mourners to Norwood Cemetery to commit the body of our late brother to the ground. On the following Sunday for Matins and also for Evensong, with the bells deeply muffled, short touches were rung by F. G. Thurgood, H. Pates, J. Waldock, W. Shepherd, Dr. J. F. Steedman, and R. B. Blanchard, as a last token of respect to the memory of their late brother. The deceased had taken part in nearly fifty peals, comprising Grandsire Triples, Grandsire Caters, Stedman Triples, Stedman Caters, and Kent Treble Bob Major. A muffled peal at Immanuel Church on the 8th instant, unfortunately collapsed after ringing 2 hrs. 10 mins.

FREDERICK BAKER.

The Bungay company regret the death of the above-named ringer, which sad event occurred in St. Mary's ringing-room on Saturday evening, December 30th. He had complained of feeling unwell in walking to the tower, but took the 5th to ring in a touch of Bob Minor, and when in the second lead he set the bell and said "I'm done for." Medical aid was soon on the spot, but he expired in about ten minutes. He was buried in Ditchingham churchyard on Wednesday, being carried to his last resting-place by four of the ringers. He was a good ringer, having taken part in a peal of Grandsire Triples on December 26th, 1898, in which he rang the tenor. The ringers met at St. Mary's church on Thursday evening, and rang 1008 Grandsire Triples with the bells muffled as a last mark of respect to one whom they all loved and respected.

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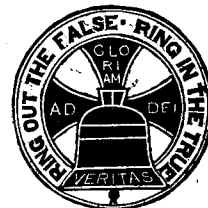
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Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication arriving later than the first Postal delivery on Wednesday 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 13, 1900.

ON another page will be found the usual preliminary notice of the next meeting of the Central Council. This gives full particulars of the *modus operandi* for the benefit of all those concerned. The Honorary Secretary will have his labours lightened if Secretaries will be prompt in responding to his invitation.

In a letter which we print on the previous page, the results up to date of the Central Council's attempts to gather intelligence for a proposed publication is shewn. The figures speak for themselves. No comment is necessary. But these statistics not only disappoint, but humiliate. The appeal made by the President of the Council will, it is hoped, cause those concerned to have some thought of the work which is being done for the furtherance of bell-ringing and for the betterment of bell-ringers throughout the country.

The Metropolis.**THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, January 6, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,*

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

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 30 cwt. 1 qr. 15 lbs.

WILLIAM TRUSS Treble.	ERNEST PYE 5.
BERTRAM PREWETT 2.	WILLIAM PYE 6.
ISAAC G. SHADE 3.	HARRY FLANDERS 7.
CALEB FENN 4.	ARTHUR T. KING, ESQ. .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.*On Tuesday, January 9, 1900, in Two Hours and Thirty-eight Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL, WOOD GREEN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, College Single, Oxford Bob, Grandsire, Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

ALFRED R. GLASSCOCK .. Treble.	FREDERICK C. FORDHAM .. 4.
JOHN ARMSTRONG 2.	JOHN E. MILLER 5.
ERNEST W. MARSHALL .. 3.	SIDNEY WADE Tenor.

Conducted by SIDNEY WADE.

First peal in seven methods by all.

The Provinces.**ROYDON, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.***On Tuesday, December 19, 1899, in Two Hours and Thirty-six Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Plain Bob, Canterbury, Antelope, St. Dunstan's, and 2160 of Grandsire. Tenor 9 cwt.

J. SEWELL* Treble.	†ISAAC CAVILL 4.
W. MARRABLE* 2.	*W. LITTLECHILD 5.
A. PEARMAN* 3.	*A. KING Tenor.

Conducted by ISAAC CAVILL.

*First peal. †First peal of Doubles. This is the first peal of Doubles on the bells and the first peal by the local band.

READING, BERKS.**THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.***On Wednesday, December 27, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

REUBEN SAWYER* .. Treble.	AMBROSE OSBORNE 5.
FRANK HOPGOOD 2.	CHARLES CHAPMAN 6.
GEORGE L. BODDINGTON .. 3.	ALFRED E. REEVES 7.
ALFRED WATMORE 4.	ARTHUR W. HIGGS Tenor.

Composed by F. HOPGOOD, and Conducted by ARTHUR W. HIGGS.

*First peal of Major.

EDENBRIDGE, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.*On Tuesday, January 2, 1900, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt.

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

Conducted by JOHN STEDDY.

*First peal of Stedman as conductor, and first attempt.

NORTON FITZWARREN, SOMERSET.**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Wednesday, January 3, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of City Delight, London Scholars' Pleasure, College Exercise, College Pleasure, Woodbine, Duke of York and New London Pleasure. Tenor 16 cwt.

FRANK WYATT Treble.	HENRY CHAPLIN 4.
HENRY J. CREED 2.	TOM W. CREED 5.
ISAAC CREED 3.	JOHN CRIDLAND Tenor.

Conducted by ISAAC CREED.

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. THOMAS'S GUILD, DUDLEY.***On Wednesday, January 3, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOSEPH SMITH Treble.	SAMUEL J. HUGHES 5.
HARRY PRICE 2.	SAMUEL SPITTLE 6.
WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT .. 3.	JOHN SMITH 7.
WILLIAM FRYER 4.	ADOLPHUS ROBERTS Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and Conducted by WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT.

This is the first peal on the bells since they have been recast and rehung. Jos. Smith and W. Fryer were elected members of the St. Thomas's Guild previous to starting.

LONGDON, WORCESTERSHIRE.*On Friday, January 5, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being ten 6-scores of Grandsire with plain leads, and thirty-two with extremes, all called differently. Tenor 12 cwt.

CHARLES PRICE Treble.	WILLIAM BICK 4.
RICHARD PENDRY 2.	WILLIAM E. PENDRY 5.
HERBERT JAMES 3.	ARTHUR JAMES Tenor.

Conducted by R. PENDRY.

First peal by all except C. Price, and his first as conductor. This is supposed to be the first peal on the bells.

HEREFORD.**THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.***On Friday, January 5, 1900, in Three Hours and Thirty-three Minutes,*

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THE REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' FIVE-PART, No. 3.

Tenor upwards of 40 cwt.

RICHARD CHAMBERLIN .. Treble.	ALFRED CHESTER 5.
ARTHUR J. WILLIAMS 2.	THOMAS LEWIS 6.
WILLIAM DAVIES 3.	JAMES E. GROVES 7.
JOHN CLARK 4.	RICHARD POWELL Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

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

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, January 6, 1900, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 19 cwt. in F.

JAMES LEIGHTON† .. Treble.	JOSEPH PATTISON 5.
JOSEPH A. GOFTON 2.	JOHN J. LEIGHTON 6.
WILLIAM C. BENNETT* .. 3.	THOMAS T. GOFTON 7.
WILLIAM STORY 4.	ERNEST E. FERRY Tenor.

Composed by PAUL CASHMORE, and Conducted by THOMAS T. GOFTON.

*First 5000. †First peal of Major.

EATHERHEAD, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.*On Saturday, January 6, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S FIVE-PART.

ARTHUR C. OTWAY Treble.	WILLIAM MARKS 5.
THOMAS ADES 2.	ARTHUR DEAN 6.
HENRY WOOD 3.	EDWARD HULL 7.
JOHN HOYLE 4.	WILLIAM CROPLEY Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS ADES.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.*On Saturday, January 6, 1900, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES.

Tenor 20½ cwt.

JAMES RUMBLE Treble.	CHARLES BANCE 6.
EDGAR BENNETT 2.	ARTHUR J. PLOWMAN 7.
CHARLES R. LILLEY 3.	WILLIAM BURKIN 8.
DR. A. B. CARPENTER 4.	JOSEPH FAYERS 9.
WILLIAM BULPITT 5.	ALFRED TRAPPITT Tenor.

Conducted by EDGAR BENNETT.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. C. Gordon, the oldest member of the Beddington company. It was intended to start for Royal, but owing to the indisposition of Mr. Gordon the above had to be substituted.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.**THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH.***On Saturday, January 6, 1900, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,*

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

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

Tenor 32 cwt.

JAMES MOTTS Treble.	WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE 5.
WILLIAM MOTTS 2.	WILLIAM WOOD 6.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER 3.	ROBERT H. BRUNDLE 7.
WILLIAM ROUGHTON 4.	FREDERICK J. TILLET Tenor.

Composed by the late BENJAMIN SMITH, of Redenhall, and
Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

The bells were muffled for our dear departed brother-ringer Charles Ward, of Melton.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.**THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, January 6, 1900, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

JOHN BASDEN Treble.	GEORGE STRUTT 5.
FREDERICK GODDARD 2.	JOHN HOWES 6.
ALBERT STRUTT* 3.	GEORGE A. RANSOM 7.
THOMAS BEADLE 4.	ALBERT SHEARD Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN HOWES.

*First peal with a bob bell. Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Henry Hough, he having been a member of the Isleworth company for the past sixteen years, also a member of the Middlesex Association since its organisation.

DRAYTON, BERKS.**THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.***On Saturday, January 6, 1900, in Two Hours and Thirty-nine Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lbs.**

AMBROSE OSBORNE Treble.	CHARLES GILES 5.
ALBERT E. REEVES 2.	WILLIAM NEWELL 6.
G. L. BODDINGTON 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 7.
FRANK HOPGOOD 4.	REUBEN SAWYER Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON

Rung on the conductor's 68th birthday. This is C. Giles's 100th peal.

CHESTER.—THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(WIRRAL BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 6, 1900, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt. in E flat.

JAMES SWAINSON* Treble.	WILLIAM MOULTON 5.
EDWIN BREEZE 2.	JOHN TOMLINSON 6.
WILLIAM H. SCONCE 3.	HENRY DEW 7.
JAMES DILLON 4.	*FRED WOOD Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY DEW.

*First peal. First peal of Stedman by all except the 4th man. First peal of Stedman by the Wirral branch, and first peal of Stedman in Chester by the Guild.

ALDENHAM, HERTS.**THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.***On Monday, January 8, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES,

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

ERNEST BROWN Treble.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM 5.
HUBERT EDEN 2.	ERNEST HOLLOWAY 6.
CHARLES E. BROWN 3.	ERNEST E. HUNTLEY 7.
WILLIAM JAY 4.	WILLIAM HEWITT Tenor.

Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

Rung as a farewell peal to E. Brown, of H.M.S. Boscawen.

BRISTOL.**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. STEPHEN'S GUILD, BRISTOL.***On Monday, January 8, 1900, in Three Hours Nine and-a-half Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN-THE-MARTYR,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5000 CHANGES.

Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

WILLIAM CAVE Treble.	FRED G. MAY 6.
FREDERICK W. ELLES 2.	CHARLES H. TOMKINS 7.
HENRY PRING 3.	ALFRED P. GODDARD 8.
WILLIAM KNIGHT 4.	FRANCIS PRICE 9.
RAYMOND J. WILKINS 5.	JOHN BURFORD Tenor.

Composed by CORNELIUS CHARGE, and Conducted by FRED. G. MAY.

Rung as a birthday compliment to W. A. Cave and the conductor, the ringers wishing them many happy returns.

Handbell Peals.**THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON, AND THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.***On Sunday, January 7, 1900, in Two Hours and Thirty-four Minutes,*

AT 40, CATHERINE STREET, BUCKINGHAM GATE, S.W.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 1-2.	GEORGE E. SYMONDS .. 5-6.
HARRY BARTON* 3-4.	*THOMAS TAFFENDER .. 7-8.

Conducted by GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

*First peal on handbells. Umpire—Herbert Langdon.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.*On Monday, January 8, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,*

AT THE HOUSE OF MR. PASMORE, SOUTHWARK STREET, S.E.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES.

HARRY R. PASMORE .. 1-2.	WILLIAM H. PASMORE .. 5-6.
GEORGE E. SYMONDS .. 3-4.	JOHN W. GOLDING .. 7-8.
THOMAS TAFFENDER .. 9-10.	

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and
Conducted by GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

Umpire—C. T. B. Brice; Witness—J. Walters. First peal on ten handbells by all the band.

Miscellaneous.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

LLANDAFF.—On Monday, November 13th, for practice, 518 Grandsire Triples. C. Price, 1; W. Northey, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; J. Harris, 4; W. Coombes (conductor), 5; J. Clutterbuck, 6; A. Rowley, 7; B. Tilley, 8. Also 504 in the same method. F. Pitcher, 1; W. Northey, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; A. Rowley, 4; W. B. Biss, 5; J. Clutterbuck (conductor), 6; J. Aldridge, 7; C. Price, 8. On Sunday, November 26th, for morning service, 419 Grandsire Triples. C. Price, 1; J. Harris, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; F. Pitcher, 4; J. Aldridge, 5; J. Clutterbuck, 6; W. Coombes (conductor), 7; A. Rowley, 8. On December 4th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor, tenor covering. C. Price, 2; W. Northey, 3; W. B. Biss (conductor), 4; J. Harris, 5; J. Aldridge, 6; W. Coombes, 7; B. Tilley, 8. On Monday, December 18th, for practice, 518 Grandsire Triples. W. Northey, 1; W. Coombes (conductor), 2; J. Pitcher, 3; F. Pitcher, 4; J. Harris, 5; A. Rowley, 6; W. B. Biss, 7; J. Aldridge, 8.

CARDIFF.—On Thursday, November 16th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. W. Northey, 1; A. Rowley, 2; W. B. Biss (conductor), 3; J. Harris, 4; W. Coombes, 5; J. Clutterbuck, 6; J. Aldridge, 7; B. Tilley, 8. Also 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Aldridge, 1; W. Northey, 2; W. B. Biss (conductor), 3; A. Rowley, 4; J. Harris, 5; J. Clutterbuck, 6; W. Coombes, 7; B. Tilley, 8. On November 30th, for practice, 461 Grandsire Triples. F. Pitcher, 1; W. Northey, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; W. B. Biss, 4; J. Harris, 5; J. Clutterbuck, 6; W. Coombes (conductor), 7; B. Tilley, 8. Also 324 Grandsire Caters. W. Northey, 1; W. B. Biss, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; F. Pitcher (first touch of Caters), 4; R. C. Balcombe, 5; J. Aldridge, 6; J. Harris, 7; J. Clutterbuck, 8; W. Coombes (conductor), 9; B. Tilley, 10. On Sunday, December 10th, for evening service, 349 Grandsire Triples. W. Northey, 1; R. C. Balcombe, 2; W. B. Biss, 3; A. Rowley, 4; C. Wingfield, 5; J. Clutterbuck, 6; W. Coombes (conductor), 7; B. Tilley, 8.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

EVESHAM.—On Monday, December 11th, at St. Peter's church, 720 Grandsire Minor. G. Lampitt, 1; G. Sheets, 2; G. Cook, 3; F. Styles, 4; G. Williams, 5; W. Malins (first 720 as conductor), 6.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MITCHELDEAN (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, December 17th, after evening service at the church of St. Michael and All Angels, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. D. Powell, 1; W. T. Bennett, 2; J. Powell, 3; N. F. Searanke, 4; W. J. Silley, 5; A. R. Chew, 6; H. Gardner (conductor), 7; T. Baldwin, 8.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

ROMSEY (Hants).—On Saturday, December 16th, at the Abbey church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins. F. Paskins, 1; J. Elcombe, 2; J. Chalk, 3; G. Newman, 4; W. T. Tucker, 5; W. J. Sevier, 6; W. H. George (conductor), 7; J. Walker, 8. Also 252 Bob Triples. W. T. Tucker, 1; F. Paskins, 2; J. Chalk, 3; G. Newman, 4; J. Walker, 5; F. Russen, 6; J. Elcombe (conductor), 7; A. Medlog, 8. And 504 Grandsire Triples. B. Paskins, 1; J. Elcombe (conductor), 2; W. J. Sevier, 3; W. T. Tucker, 4; J. Walker, 5; G. Newman, 6; W. H. George, 7; R. White, 8.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CHESTER.—On Christmas Day, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, with the bells deeply-muffled for the late Duke of Westminster, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. J. Sconce, 1; C. Sconce, 2; J. Swainson, 3; W. Sconce, 4; H. Dew (conductor), 5; J. Tomlinson, 6; W. Moulton, 7; G. Pritchard, 8. Longest length on the bells since they have been put in ringing order by Mears and Stainbank.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LITTLE MUNDEN (Herts).—On Tuesday, November, 7th, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Smith, 1; C. Gale, 2; A. Lawrence, 3; A. Phillips, 4; G. Carter (conductor), 5; H. Carter, 6. On Sunday, November 26th, for Divine Service in the morning, 360 Bob Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Wright, 2; A. Lawrence, 3; W. H. Lawrence, 4; G. Carter, 5; A. Phillips (conductor), 6. For afternoon service, 720 Bob Minor. A. Phillips, 1; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 2; the rest as before. On Tuesday, November 28th, 360 Bob Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Wright, 2; G. Smith, 3; G. Carter, 4; A. Phillips (conductor), 5; A. Lawrence, 6. Also three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. Carter, 1; C. Gale, 2; A. Lawrence (conductor), 3; G. Smith, 4; G. Carter, 5; A. Wright, 6. On Sunday, December 10th, 360 College Single. H. Carter, 1; A. Phillips, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Lawrence, 4; G. Carter, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. On

Sunday, December 24th, 360 College, 180 Oxford Bob, and 180 Canterbury Pleasure, standing as before. On Tuesday, December 26th, an attempt was made for a peal, but after ringing 720 each of Grandsire, College Single, Canterbury and Oxford Bob, a change-course brought it to grief. H. Carter, 1; G. Carter, 2; A. Lawrence, 3; G. Barker, 4; A. Phillips, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WOODFORD.—On November 20th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. J. Shuttle, 1; J. Moule, 2; J. Kimberly, 3; W. Miller, 4; J. Mardell, 5; T. H. Beams (conductor), 6. On December 3rd, for morning service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. E. C. Fox, Esq., 1; H. Gowers, 2; J. Kimberly, 3; T. H. Beams, 4; E. Wightman (conductor), 5; J. Mardell, 6. For evening service 720 Bob Minor. E. Tugwood, 1; J. Mardell, 2; J. Kimberly, 3; G. Carter, 4; W. Clark, 5; E. Wightman (conductor), 6. After service 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Moule, 1; E. Wightman (conductor), 2; W. Keeble, 3; G. Carter, 4; W. Clark, 5; J. Mardell, 6. On Sunday, December 17th, after evening service, 720 York Surprise. J. Kimberly, 1; E. Wightman (conductor), 2; W. Keeble, 3; J. Mardell, 4; J. Moule, 5; T. H. Beams, 6. First in the method by all and on the bells.

LOUGHTON (Essex).—On November 21st, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Rann, 1; E. Bacon, 2; G. Carter, 3; W. Keeble (conductor), 4; W. Doran, 5; J. Moule, 6. On December 12th, 720 Double Court. E. Bacon, 1; W. Keeble, 2; W. Doran, 3; J. Moule, 4; W. Clark, 5; E. Wightman (conductor), 6. On December 19th, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich. W. Keeble (conductor), 1; W. Doran, 2; E. Bacon, 3; J. Moule, 4; J. Rann, 5; J. Mardell, 6; W. Clark, 7; E. Wightman, 8. First quarter-peal as conductor, and first quarter-peal in the method by J. Moule.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

EAST RETFORD.—On Wednesday, December 13th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins. F. W. Abbott, 1; A. T. Winter, 2; F. Bramley, 3; E. Collingburn, 4; G. W. D. Metcalfe, 5; H. Warburton (conductor), 6; G. R. Winter, 7; T. Spurr, 8. On Thursday, December 14th, a quarter-peal in the same method, in 48 mins. G. Clarke, 1; F. Bramley, 2; F. W. Abbott, 3; G. W. D. Metcalfe, 4; F. H. Denman, 5; H. Warburton (conductor), 6; G. Swannack, 7; G. R. Winter, 8. On Saturday, December 16th, 1280 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 49 mins. A. T. Winter, 1; E. Collingburn, 2; T. H. Denman, 3; G. Swannack, 4; H. Haigh, 5; H. Warburton, 6; G. R. Winter (composer), 7; J. B. Joyes (conductor), 8. First quarter-peal in the method by ringers of 1, 2, 3 and 6. On Monday, December 18th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. A. T. Winter, 1; G. Swannack, 2; G. Clarke, 3; G. W. D. Metcalfe, 4; G. R. Winter (conductor), 5; H. Warburton, 6. First 720 in the method by G. W. D. Metcalfe. On Sunday, December 24th, 1312 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 49 mins. A. T. Winter, 1; G. R. Winter, 2; R. Miles, 3; G. Swannack, 4; T. Spurr, 5; H. Warburton, 6; H. Haigh (conductor), 7; J. B. Joyes, 8. First quarter-peal in the method by Messrs. Miles and Spurr.

EARLS COLNE (Essex).—On Tuesday evening, for practice at St. Andrew's church, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. H. Newman, 1; D. C. Claydon, 2; J. Fluey, 3; W. Rogers, 4; W. Scillitoe, 5; E. Ridgwell (conductor), 6.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Friday, December 22nd, at the parish church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, in 27 mins. F. Hancock, 1; W. Rhodes, 2; J. Morton, 3; G. Marsden (conductor), 4; W. Collier, 5; S. Robinson, jun., 6. Rung in honour of the conductor's 71st birthday, and the jubilee wedding of S. Robinson, sen.

GROBY (Leicestershire).—On Sunday evening, December 10th, 720 Bob Minor. H. S. Murby, 1; J. Wain, 2; G. H. Geary, 3; J. Spencer, 4; C. Toone, 5; A. Palmer (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by the ringers of 1, 3, 4.

LIVERPOOL.—On Wednesday, December 20th, at the Cathedral, for practice, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. G. Woodhall, 1; J. Martin, 2; W. James, 3; E. Breeze, 4; J. Dillon, 5; G. Fisher, 6; W. Davies (composer and conductor), 7; T. Hammond, jun., 8.

MARDEN (Kent).—On Sunday, December 10th, at the church of St. Michael and All Angels, before afternoon service, 720 Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Austin, 1; P. Hodgkin, 2; H. Brown, 3; G. Haddaway, 4; F. Sharp, 5; F. Hodgkin, 6. Before evening service, another 720 in the same method, in 27 mins. J. Austin, 1; P. Hodgkin, 2; H. Brown, 3; D. Hodgkin, 4; F. Sharp, 5; F. Hodgkin, 6. Both conducted by F. Sharp.

PETERSFIELD (Hants).—On Monday, December 11th, at St. Peter's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins. W. Butler, 1; Rev. C. Edwards, 2; A. Butler, 3; W. Wilkinson, 4; G. Barnea, 5; T. Cole, 6; J. Arthur (conductor), 7; W. Downs, 8.

THE LATE MR. JAMES HEWETT.

The following was issued by the Winchester Guild in aid of "The Hewett Fund." It is thought, that the interesting particulars will not be unacceptable:—

"Mr. JAMES HEWETT was born on December 4th, 1817, in Spitalfields. He began his ringing career at the age of 11, and often rang the 44 cwt. tenor of the well-tuned and fine-toned peal of twelve which then hung in the tower of his parish church. At the age of 14 he began to learn the art of change-ringing in the belfry of St. George's, Southwark. Amongst his companions in that belfry at that time were W. Williams, a member of the society called 'The Young Cumberland Youths,' and John Cox, who became afterwards the steeple-keeper at St. Bride's, Fleet Street; with their help he accomplished his first touch of Grandsire Triples. At the age of 15, in 1833, he rang his first peal of Grandsire Triples at Holy Trinity, Southwark, but after this he gave up ringing and turned his attention to business, and the study of medicine and music for two or three years. In the years 1836 and 1837, in company with John Cox and Edward Howe, Mr. Hewett used frequently to ring three leads of Oxford Treble Bob Maximus on the handbells, John Cox taking 1, 2, 3, 4, J. Hewett, 5, 6, 7, 8, and E. Howe, 9, 10, 11, 12. Returning to change-ringing at Clerkenwell, he formed the acquaintance of Henry Barwash, W. Shipway, and others, frequently after their practice walking home with Shipway to his house in Baltic Street, St. Luke's, and learning on the way many of the mysteries of good ringing, composition, and changes in and out of course.

"His first peal for the Royal Cumberland Youths was rung at Putney in the Treble Bob method on May 20th, 1839, and between that date and 1871 he rang fourteen more peals with that society, viz.: one of Grandsire Cinques; one of Double Norwich Major; one of Stedman Triples; two of Stedman Caters; one of Stedman Cinques; two of Oxford Treble Bob Major; one of Oxford Treble Bob Royal; one of Kent Treble Bob Major; one of Kent Treble Bob Royal; three of Kent Treble Bob Maximus.

"He rang a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major in 1842 at St. Clement's, and another of Kent Treble Bob Maximus in 1871 at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields with the St. James's Society.

"In the year 1850 Mr. P. T. Barnum, the celebrated organiser of Shows, applied to Messrs. Mears and Staintank to supply him with a party of handbell ringers to go on a tour in the United States. The Whitechapel firm referred him to the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, who selected five men, viz.: H. Haley, sen., E. Sawyer, W. Lobb, H. Kent, and J. Hewett. Their engagement was for twelve months. They began their performances at New York, where they gained great popularity and success. After a time they went on to Philadelphia. Whilst they were there four of them with three English residents rang a peal on the church bells, an American being engaged to manipulate the tenor. Their career of success at Philadelphia was prematurely cut short by the arrival of Jenny Lind, who visited the town at that time, and bewitched, as was her wont, all the lovers of music in the place. So the handbell ringers were obliged to move on and visited in succession most of the principal towns in the United States. At the conclusion of their engagement they returned to England, and James Hewett was employed in his original trade of upholsterer by the firm of Messrs. Nightingale, in Wardour Street, Soho. Here he remained working for some time till, in November, 1855, he was invited to join a party of handbell ringers, who were engaged to perform at a Concert Hall in Berlin. This engagement was only for a month, and the band consisted of seven performers: E. Sawyer and his three sons, J. Hewett, J. Rogers, and E. Collingwood. At the conclusion of their performance they were returning to England and had reached Hamburg when they fell in with a circus company in which the world-renowned Miss Ella, the most wonderful equestrian performer of the age, was included. They were persuaded to join them and gave their first exhibition of handbell music at Prague, the ex-Emperor of Austria, and several members of the Austrian Imperial family being amongst the audience. Whilst associated with this circus they visited many places in Germany, Austria, and Italy. At Turin they had the honour of performing before Victor Emanuel, who was at that time King of Sardinia. Altogether they were three years away from England and came

back in December 1858. Although J. Hewett's holiday had been extended from six weeks to three years he found that Messrs. Nightingale and Co., his old employers, were willing to welcome him back, and he remained working with them for a year, till at the end of 1859, we find him starting off on a new handbell ringing tour with the Aztecs Show. His colleagues in this new venture were J. Cox, E. Collingwood, J. Rogers, and Bulter. They went with the Aztecs Show through Wales and Ireland, and afterwards visited various places in England. In the year 1860 they were engaged to perform for three months at St. Petersburg and Moscow. On his return to England J. Hewett again took up his quarters at the firm of Messrs. Nightingale, in Wardour Street, where he remained working, till, in June 1861, four of the band which had been to St. Petersburg and Moscow, viz.: John Cox, John Rogers, Frederick Collingwood and J. Hewett stated to fulfil an engagement at Copenhagen and Christiana. There they allied themselves with Herr Bills, a German ventriloquist, to go on a tour through Germany. Landing at Wiemar they gave a performance at the theatre, afterwards going on to Stralsund and several other towns in that part of Germany. After performing at the Christmas entertainments at Lubeck and Hamburg, Frederick Collingwood returned to England and the three that were left in Hamburg went to Berlin to join two Germans whose acquaintance they had made on their former tour in Italy. In Berlin they remained for a few weeks' practice and then started on a tour of their own management, performing, among other places, at Tilsit. They then turned towards Russia and performed at Memel, Meatau and Riga, where the winter had commenced. They then went to Wilna, but, in consequence of political disturbances, nothing could be done and the band was broken up. The two Germans went to Berlin. J. Cox, J. Rogers, Herr Hazey (their agent) and J. Hewett travelled in an uncovered sleigh 30 miles to Tilsit, with the thermometer 31 degrees below zero. The nose of one of the party was frozen and one of the ears of another. At Tilsit they expected to get employment on a railway which was to be begun in two or three months on the break up of the frost. J. Cox not having any inclination for railway work went from Tilsit back to London. J. Hewett gave instructions on the violin to the chief engineer of the railway, Humphry Davy, a descendant of the great Sir Humphry Davy. He also gave lessons to the natives to improve their broken English, after waiting three weeks for permission from the police. Hewett was then engaged in the chief engineer's office to assist a German in translating the Act of Parliament, or Concession (as it is there called), for building the railway. After a time he was promoted to the office of store-keeper, when upwards of 6,000 wheelbarrows came under his inspection, during and after their manufacture, before they were paid for. Hewett was afterwards promoted to the office of Inspector of Works, which he held for about 18 months, and was then transferred to another railway which had been begun between Koenigsburg and Preusche Eylau; there he became store-keeper to a railway truck factory on another line from Koenigsburg to Pillau. After passing a severe winter there he came home from Koenigsburg to London in April, 1866, and resumed his upholstery work at Mr. Rood's shop in Compton Street, Soho, where he remained working for three years. In September, 1871, he entered into an agreement with Mr. John Hoare, of Gosport, in a bed and bedding manufactory, where he worked till after Mr. Hoare's death, the subsequent break up of the establishment at the manufactory threw Mr. Hewett out of work. As he was now well advanced in years, and had been injured by an accident to one of his fingers he was incapable of undertaking a permanent engagement in any other firm.

"In the year 1879 the Winchester Diocesan Guild of Ringers was founded, and from its earliest years has been much indebted to the ripe judgment and ability in ringing matters of James Hewett, who for the last twelve years has been a member of the permanent committee of the Guild. Many of the bands in the south of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight owe their present proficiency to his kindly advice and instruction in their first struggles with the difficulties of change-ringing. He has himself taken part in fourteen peals of Grandsire Triples, one of Bob Triples, one of Union Triples, one of Stedman Triples, one of Kent Treble Bob Major, and one of Plain Bob Major, rung by members of the Guild."

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 Bedfordshire Association.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Turvey to-day, Saturday, January 13th.

W. W. C. BAKER, *Hon. Sec.*
Ridgmont Vicarage, Aspley Guise, R.S.O.

The Heavy Woollen District Association.—The Yearly Meeting of the above will be held to-day, Saturday, January 13th, at The Little Saddle inn, Dewsbury. Meeting to commence at 5 o'clock. Business Sec. and Treasurer's report, election of officers, ballot for 6 and 8-bell contest. All subscriptions are due at this meeting.

WALTER IDLE, *Hon. Sec.*
47, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at St. Luke's, Heywood, to-day, Saturday, January 13th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Business meeting at 6.30.

Jos. JACQUES, *Branch Sec.*

The North Notts. Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Work-sop to-day, Saturday, January 13th. Tea at 5 p.m., one shilling per head.

B. DARLEY, *Hon. Sec.*

Ely Diocesan Association.—Sudbury District.—A meeting will be held at Sudbury on Monday, January 15th. Meat tea at 3.30. The District Secretary takes this opportunity of bidding farewell to members on his leaving the district.

W. M. K. WARREN, *Dis. Sec.*

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Bristol on Saturday, January 20th. Service at St. Mary Redcliff at 3 o'clock, with address by the Vicar. Meat tea at Canynge Rooms, Redcliff Street; 6d. each to those sending notice to the Hon. Sec. before January 17th.

C. E. D. BOUTFLOWER, *Hon. Sec.*

The Yorkshire Association.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Earlsheaton, near Dewsbury, on Saturday, January 20th. Service at 4 p.m., with sermon by the Rev. R. S. Davies, M.A., Vicar. Tea at 5 p.m., and business meeting immediately after. The local hon. sec. is Mr. Arthur Goodall, Commercial Street, Earlsheaton, to whom communications respecting the days arrangements should be addressed. Arrangements have been made to attempt an officers' peal, commencing at 10 a.m.

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

Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—A monthly meeting of the above will be held at Manchester Cathedral on Saturday, January 20th, when it is intended to unveil a new peal-board on that occasion. Bells ready at 4.30 p.m. Business meeting at 6.0 p.m.

W. BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

Sussex County Association.—Eastern Division.—The next meeting of the above will be held at St. Mary's, Eastbourne, on Saturday, January 20th. Bells available 3 to 5.30, and 7 till 9 p.m. Special service at 5.30. The Rev. Canon Goodwin has specially invited the members as his guests to tea provided he is informed at least four clear days

beforehand the number that will attend. Local Secretaries will therefore greatly oblige by posting to the undersigned not later than the 15th inst., the number of their band that will be present.

Temporary address: S. SAKER, *Hon. Sec.*
1, Park Villas, Eastern Division.
New Malden, Surrey.

The Middlesex County Association.—North and East District.—A meeting of members of this Association will be held on Saturday, January 20th, at St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. J. Cullin. The bells will be raised about 5 o'clock, and members and their friends are cordially invited to attend. The proposed meeting at St. John's, Hackney, is unavoidably postponed.

ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*
18, Ravenscroft Park Road, Barnet.

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Selly Oak, near Birmingham, on Saturday, January 27th. Service in the church at 5 p.m., to be followed by business meeting in the schoolroom. The Vicar has kindly consented to preside. The tower will be open for ringing. All subscriptions are due at this meeting.

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

The Essex Association.—The meeting at Romford is postponed from Saturday, the 13th, until Saturday, February 17th.

HENRY T. W. EYRE, *Asst. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Haslingden on Saturday, January 20th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Business at 6.30. W. CASS, *Branch Sec.*
83, Chesham Road, Bury.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.—The quarterly meeting in connection with this Society will be held on Saturday, January 20th, at the parish church, Rugeley. Bells available during the afternoon. Service in church at 5 p.m. Committee Meeting at 5.30. Tea at 6 o'clock at one shilling per head, number to be sent in not later than Tuesday, January 16th to

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

The St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—The usual quarterly meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 23rd, at The Tamworth Arms, Moor Street, Birmingham. Chair to be taken at 8.30 p.m. The attendance of every member is earnestly requested for the consideration of important business. Particular attention is directed to clause 4 of Rule VI.

W. H. GODDEN, *Hon. Sec.*
61, Roland Road, Handsworth.

The Kent County Association.—Tonbridge District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held at Tonbridge on Saturday, January 27th. Further particulars will be announced next week.

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

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—East Berks. and South Bucks. Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Farnham Royal on Saturday, January 27th. The bells will be available after mid-day. Service will be held at 4.45, and tea (9d. a head, free to members), and business meeting at 5.45. All members of the Guild and their friends will be welcome. Omnibus leaves Slough for

Farnham at 2.35 and 5.35, and also at 3.35 if necessary. All who intend to be present should send their names to Mr. J. J. Parker, The Post Office, Farnham Royal.

H. C. BELL, *Branch Secretary.*

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The monthly ringing meeting of the above society will be held at Pudsey (eight bells), on Saturday, January 27th. Meeting-house, The Commercial hotel. Business meeting at 6.30. Handbells provided. All ringers are cordially invited.

HV. GAYTHORPE, *Hon. Sec.*
1, Elm Avenue, Bramley.

The Kent County Association.—Lewisham District.—The usual quarterly meeting will be held at St. John's, Deptford, on Saturday, January 27th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Committee Meeting at 6.

P. E. BEX, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*

The Waterloo Society.—The annual meeting of this society will take place at St. John's, Waterloo Road, on Wednesday, January 31st. Ringing at 8.15 p.m. Business meeting at 9.45. It is hoped that as many members as possible will put in an appearance.

GEO. E. SYMONDS, *Hon. Sec.*
4, Dockley Road, S.E.

NOTE TO PEAL.

THE PEAL AT HEREFORD.—This is the first peal rang in Hereford by resident members of the Hereford Guild, and the first peal of Triples on the bells. It was rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Hon. Lady Emily Foley, of Stoke Edith Park, who died on the 1st inst., and was buried on the date of the peal, aged ninety-four years. The success of the peal was due to Mr. A. Williams for the trouble he went to in securing a band at so short a notice.

CLOCKS,

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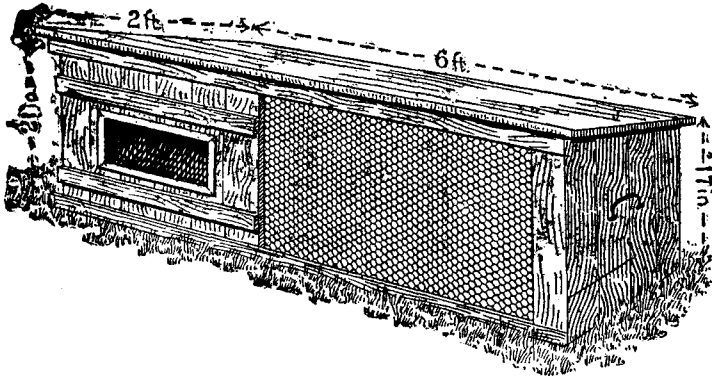
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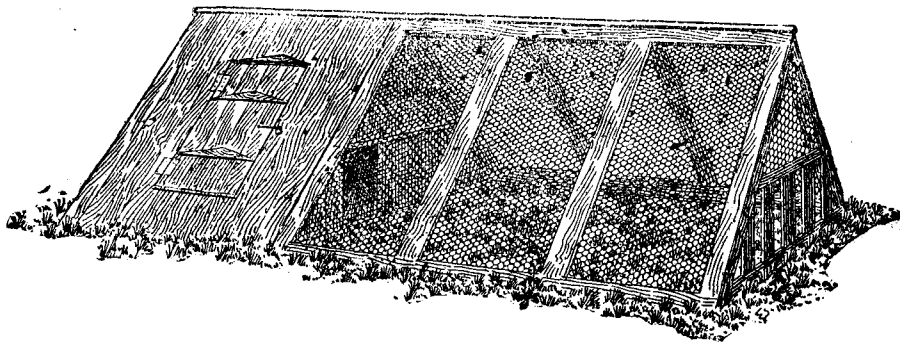
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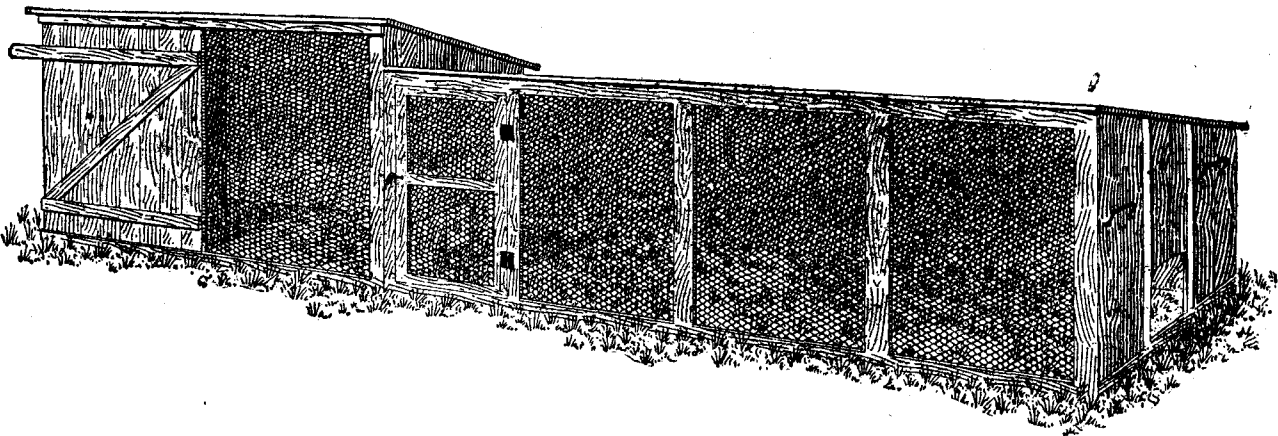
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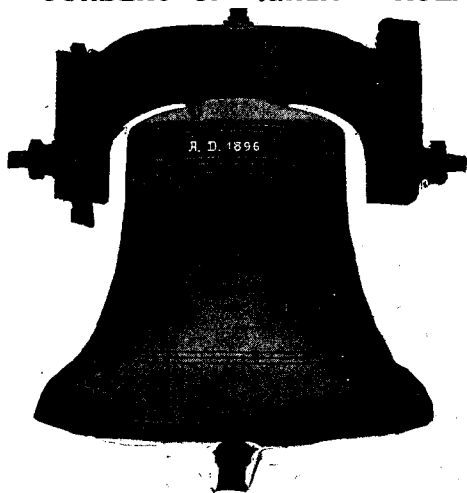
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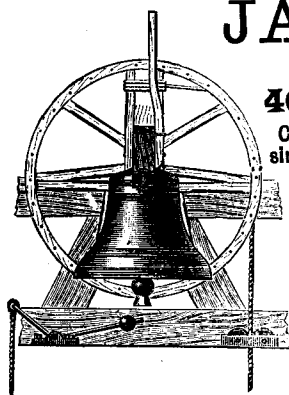
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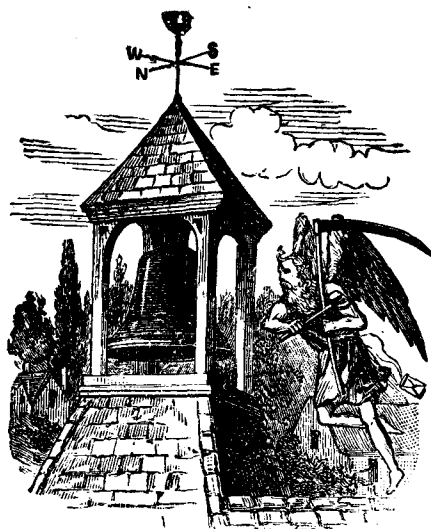
A Weekly Journal of the Ringing Exercise ; and Compendium of Information for the Clergy and Churchwardens.

No. 928. — VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 1900.

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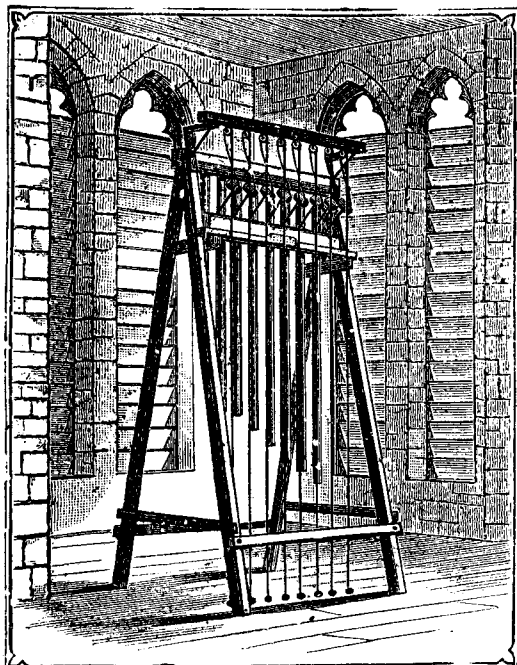
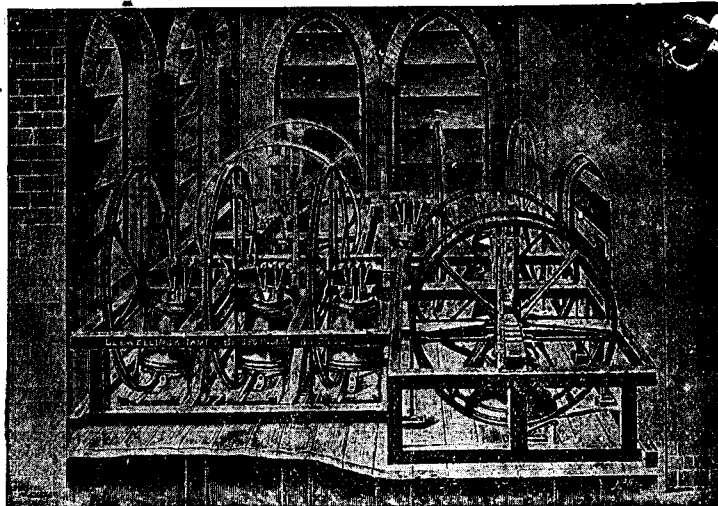
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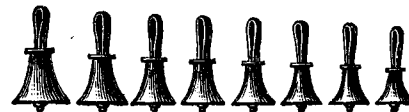
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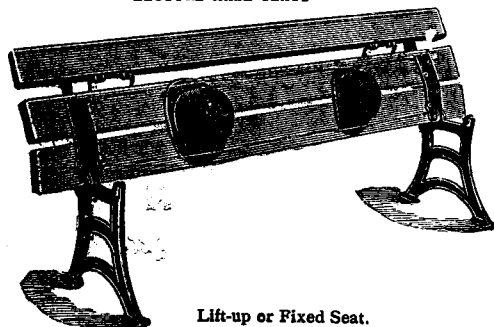
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 928.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 1900.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE KING'S NORTON (WORCESTERSHIRE) GUILD.

The Annual Meeting of this Guild for the election of officers and other business was held at the Old School room, King's Norton, on Wednesday, the 10th of January, the retiring Master, Mr. W. S. Pritchett, in the chair.

There were also present the Rev. C. W. Barnard, M.A., (Vicar of King's Norton), the Rev. E. C. Lane (assistant-curate), Mr. H. Bloomer (churchwarden), Dr. Wareing, Messrs. J. S. Pritchett, M.A., Theodore Pritchett, William Short, W. H. Sumner, W. H. Barber, A. E. Pegler, W. Palmer, J. Betterton, J. Withers, and other members.

On the motion of the Vicar, Mr. W. S. Pritchett was re-elected Master of the Guild for the ensuing year, and Messrs. W. H. Sumner and Theodore Pritchett were respectfully re-elected senior and junior wardens.

The company afterwards adjourned to The Bull's Head inn, where they sat down to a substantial supper.

The toast of "The Queen" having been given by the Master, the Vicar proposed "Success to the King's Norton Guild," coupling with it the name of Mr. W. S. Pritchett. In the course of his remarks, the Vicar congratulated the Guild on the success they had already achieved in the science of change-ringing, and expressed the great satisfaction it afforded him to be present on the occasion, and the pride he, as Vicar of the parish, always took in the excellent ringing rendered by the Guild, both on Sunday mornings and on all important occasions.

The toast was drunk with enthusiasm, and the Master, in reply, thanked those present for their cordial good wishes. He reminded them that while there were eight degrees in the ladder of change-ringing, the King's Norton Guild had during the six years of its existence surmounted seven of them. The Guild had now recorded twenty-three peals, including two Surprise peals, both of which were rung in the past year, viz.: Superlative and Cambridge Surprise. The blue ribbon of ringing circles, viz.: London Surprise, has yet to be achieved, but he was satisfied that if the Guild pulled together in the future as they had done in the past, they would arrive at the metropolis in a short space of time.

The toast of "The Vicar and assistant-clergy" was given by Mr. J. S. Pritchett, and responded to by Mr. Barnard and Mr. Lane, the rest of the evening being devoted to a touch of Grandsire Caters on handbells and tune-ringing.

The company was reinforced at supper by the Revs. Roland Haseler and W. H. Pattinson, and Messrs. G. D. Welding and John Carter; a hearty welcome being given to the latter, who unexpectedly arrived. A most enjoyable evening was spent.

THE LORD BISHOP OF ROCHESTER AT BEDDINGTON.

On Monday, January 8th, the Lord Bishop of Rochester visited Beddington for the purpose of consecrating the new cemetery, which has been acquired by the local

authority for Beddington and Wallington. The local ringers at St. Mary's rang a touch of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 1008 changes, with which the Bishop was apparently much pleased, as on leaving the vestry of the church his lordship left a letter for the ringers in which he conveyed his thanks to them for their welcome to him, and expressed his regret that he was unable to mount the steps for the purpose of giving himself an opportunity to thank them personally.

His lordship is President of the Surrey Association, of which the Beddington ringers are members.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

The Annual Meeting of the Sonning Deanery branch of this Guild took place at Wokingham on Saturday, January 13th. Between forty and fifty members assembled at St. Paul's church at 5.30 p.m., where a short service was held, the Rev. H. Barter, Vicar of Sonning, giving a stirring practical address on the words of St. Paul from 1 Cor. xii. 15.

An adjournment was then made to St. Paul's parish room, where seventy ringers, with eight clergy, among whom was the Master of the Guild, sat down to tea.

The Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis took the chair at the business meeting, when the Secretary, having read the minutes of the last general meeting, presented his report and statement of account, the latter showing a favourable balance of £9 15s. 4d.

The Master (Rev. F. E. Robinson) congratulated the members upon their numbers, the state of their finances, and the successful completion of two peals, rung by members of the branch at Sandhurst, the first which had been rung by them for some years past. He also welcomed the advent of the Rev. H. Barter to Sonning, hoping that he would be able to give a fresh stimulus to the ringers in the deanery.

The Chairman also added a few words of congratulation, and spoke hopefully of the condition of the parent society, stating that two new branches had joined it during the year, and eighty peals had been successfully accomplished.

The officers for the year were then elected, and the meeting terminated with the usual votes of thanks.

WALKDEN, MANCHESTER.

The Bridgwater trustees are about to have a large clock erected over their offices at Walkden, near Manchester. It will have four 7-feet dials, which will be illuminated by electricity and strike the hours. The clock will be generally to the designs of Lord Grimthorpe, and is being made by John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby. The same firm made a similar clock for the Linotype Company a short time since.

EARLS COLNE (Essex).—On Tuesday evening, for practice at St Andrew's church, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. H. Newman, 1; D. C. Claydon, 2; J. Fluety, 3; W. Rogers, 4; W. Scillitoe, 5; E. Ridgwell, (conductor), 6.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Twenty peals recorded last week—just ten less than the week previous. A goodly list, not exhausting one in its perusal, and showing that the Art is in progress. My commentary on the peal of Cinques at Bristol has evoked a rejoinder, which I here give:—

ST. MARY REDCLIFFE.—Dear Sir,—With regard to "Plain Speaker's" questions in this week's "BELL NEWS" to the ringers of the peal of Stedman Cinques at the above church, I, as one of the band beg to answer "No" to each and all of them; the reason of my answer being so, is because the tenor of the peal is in good going order, and no one who has rung her can say otherwise. The reason the peal was not a single-handed one must, I think, be set down to the recent illhealth of the steeple-keeper (Mr. P. W. H. Came, not "Carne," as printed in the record) who recently had an attack of influenza, and also underwent an operation about a month previous to the peal being rung. Mr. Came rung the tenor single-handed to within twelve courses of the end, when Mr. F. Gooding took the rope and rung her to the finish, the former meanwhile leaving the tower to return when the peal was round, bearing refreshments in the shape of a cake and decanter of water, which was much appreciated by all. I may say that Mr. Came did not appear in the least fatigued, and said he could have rung her to the finish, but in view of his recent illness thought it advisable not to do so.—Yours truly,

WILLIAM A. CAVE.

Now I fully agree that it shows a deal of pluck on the part of Mr. Came to tackle Redcliffe tenor under the circumstances above related. All the four honours I grant him. But the fact remains that the peal was rung with two men at the tenor; and this would not unreasonably lead to the supposition—on reading the record—that the tenor did not go well enough for one pair of hands through a peal. My correspondent's explanation is of course satisfactory so far. But with all respect to the Bristol gentlemen, and any who may be concerned, I say that it is not often that a ringer is allowed by his companions to undertake such a job as this only one month after undergoing "an operation," and I know many who would have wished to postpone the attempt till a longer period had elapsed. In fact ringers generally would have demurred to the company of one who was in delicate health for such a job. It is pleasing to read that the company enjoyed the cake and decanter of water after the performance.

I have a letter from another Bristol correspondent upon the same subject, who signs himself "J. B." He does not take the trouble to send his name or address. This is most uncourteous, and it would serve him right to entirely disregard his communication. However here it is:—

In reference to the peal of Stedman Cinques, 5007 changes, rung on Sunday, December 31st, 1899, at St. Mary Redcliffe, there was stated in your issue of January 6th, 1900, "No doubt there have been difficulties in the way." I cannot see where the difficulties are, as the band can practice at least once a month, also the whole of the bells were re-hung about ten years ago by Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough. Three years after the re-hanging a peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040 changes, was rung in three hours and thirty-nine minutes; the tenor was rung single-handed by Francis Price, of 42, Harford Street, Cathay, Bristol, his weight being 8 st. 8 lbs., weight of tenor bell 50 cwt. He states no bell could possibly go better. The weight of the man who gave out on New Year's morning ringing singlehanded would be about from 12 to 13 st. The above Francis Price is quite willing to ring the tenor again single-handed, Trebles or Cinques, if allowed to do so.

No more need be said on this subject; though this letter is a capital advertisement for the "above Francis Price."

Yet another correspondent: this time Mr. Gale of Melton Mowbray:—

May I thank P. S. for kindly criticising the report on the opening of the Melton Mowbray peal board. Being somewhat responsible for the wording of the board, I at once knew my mistake when reading his remarks. Mr. Willson does spell his name with two l's, and it will no doubt be comforting to "his reverence" to know that the name is correctly spelt on the board, but owing to an oversight of mine, that gentleman to whom he refers has not been allotted his proper apportionate of l's in the report. It is explained, in a few words; instead of writing the report myself I sent a cutting out of one of the local papers, which are so murderous on ringing matters. Now Mr. Plain Speaker (this is the first time I have had the pleasure of addressing you, as my experience in these matters is still very young) I hope that my explanation will be satisfactory, and I will promise to be more precise in the future, and about the l's you joke about, I trust that neither yourself, nor my friend Mr. Willson, nor myself, nor any members of the Exercise will ever be fixed to realise that one "l" is sufficient for any man. Wishing you a happy new year, I am, yours sincerely,

E. J. GALE.

I can't get over the feeling that my friend Gale has dealt with this subject in an irreverent manner.

The allusions I made last week to "that particular peal" has brought the following note to the Editor: "You might inform Plain Speaker that the cat is out of the bag as regards the peal in question, in the region of Birmingham having been talked about this three months." I hope one or more of those concerned will make some sign before I pen next week's comments, else—

Respecting this question I have since writing the last paragraph had one or two strong hints that my recent allusions refer to something different to what is intended. Therefore, though these "strong hints" are from persons whose standing in the Exercise is not of very great value I think it necessary to clear up any doubt. The following sentence, which I have placed between inverted commas, is part of the actual information received. "The first peal of Treble Ten in Ireland has yet to be rung." Now it is for those concerned to prove that this quotation is not in accordance with fact.

The war in South Africa at the time I am writing seems to be rather quiet. Before these lines are read some battle may have been fought, resulting in awful loss of life. The letters from some of the soldiers are amusing, and show that our poor fellows are, Tapley-like, jolly under all circumstances, adverse or otherwise. I suppose some of you have read the military novels of Charles Lever. If not get that one called "Charles O'Malley" without delay. It is nothing but continuous rollicking fun throughout, with of course the inevitable love episodes. Charles O'Malley's manservant is as good as Sam Weller in point of originality. The author was not a bad poet, and puts curious rhymes into the mouths of some of his characters. Thus:—

We talked of pipe-clay, regulation caps,
Long twenty-fours, short culverins and mortars,
Condemned the Horse Guards for a set of raps,
And cursed our fate at being in such quarters.
Some smoked, some slept, and some were heard to snore,
Some wished themselves five fathoms 'neath the Solway,
And some there prayed—who never prayed before—
That they might get the route for Cork or Galway,

PLAIN SPEAKER.

THE LATE MR. THOMAS COLLINS.

The following interesting notice of the late Mr. Collins, of Tewkesbury, the celebrated church builder and restorer, appears in this week's *Guardian* :—

On Saturday, the Feast of the Epiphany, the ancient borough of Tewkesbury was the scene of a very remarkable funeral. Every house and shop bore the sign of mourning; the abbey bell was tolling; the vast abbey itself was full to overflowing; and when the procession was finally formed and moving on its way to the cemetery it was little short of a quarter of a mile long. A very marked personality had been removed by death. Thomas Collins, the builder, the restorer of the abbey, a Wesleyan, and a man who in his youth had been a working mason; always simple, humble, homely in manner, but rich in a great brain, a warm heart, and a large and generous mind. He made his way by sheer force of intelligence and moral goodness; and though he prepared to show, by his manner and dress, that he remained in the station in which he had been brought up, yet he was possessed of wide information, and a correct taste, and earnest love of beauty, which raised his life to a level of much refinement.

Born in 1818, he worked as a young man at the mason's trade, and was oftentimes employed in building churches near Tewkesbury, including that of St. Nicholas, Kemerton, re-built by Archdeacon Thorpe in the years 1847-51, under the architect, Richard Carpenter. The first order that brought him into public note was one from the authorities of the Crystal Palace to furnish castings of the beautiful tomb ascribed to Abbot Wakeman (though undoubtedly prior to Wakeman's time), which stands in front of St. Edmund's Chapel, at the east end of Tewkesbury Abbey. This being successfully done, he received an order for castings of some of the most admired figures and bosses in the ceiling of the abbey. This was in 1853, and thenceforth his business grew apace. The chief of his works was the restoration of Tewkesbury Abbey, begun in conjunction with Canon Davies, vicar, and carried on under Canon Robeson, now Archdeacon of Bristol, who returned to Tewkesbury to assist in the funeral of his old friend and colleague. The work was nearly carried to completion under the late vicar, the Rev. H. A. Sheringham. To quote from the *Tewkesbury Register* :—

"Thomas Collins loved the abbey church, grieved to see it so fast going to decay, and anxiously desired to do his share in preserving and re-beautifying the fabric, and so handing it down to those who have to follow as a heritage worthy of their continued and anxious care. Happily, he has been spared long enough to see his fond desire nearly met. The greatness of heart by which he assisted towards the work can only be known to those who laboured with him."

Many parts of this important work were freely done by him as specific gifts, and so were various tasks of restoration of the beautiful old houses with which Tewkesbury abounds. His own house, exquisitely restored, is one of the best specimens of black-and-white half-timbered work. Scarcely a church or a mansion in the neighbourhood but Thomas Collins was called on to restore or build it.

The keynote of his life was absolute honesty. Nothing hurt him so much as any failure in this respect in matters with which he was connected :—

"His word was his bond. On one occasion, when he had simply stated in a conversation the sum he proposed to charge for repairing a school, the present writer was commissioned by the clergyman, then abroad, to ask Mr.

Collins to put the estimate in writing. 'Certainly, if you wish it,' he replied, 'but it is quite unnecessary: I told Mr.—— I would do it for so much, and of course my charge would not exceed that sum, even if it would cost me more.'"

Though a conscientious Methodist to the end, Thomas Collins loved the Church, and on several occasions came forward with large advances of money to save some cherished piece of ancient architecture. He received such honours as his fellow townsmen could give him with gratitude and a sense of deep responsibility; as a Justice of the Peace and five times Mayor of Tewkesbury, he fulfilled his duties well; and he has left behind him the name of a man absolutely upright, beloved and honoured by all who knew him.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE DISTRICT.)

The first of the monthly meetings of this district was held at Stinchcombe. Wotton-under-Edge, Dursley, Nibley, Stinchcombe, and Frocester towers were represented. A capital practice was the result. Stedman, Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles, Bob Minor, and Kent Treble Bob Minor were all attempted.

The visitors and locals were afterwards entertained to a capital tea by the Vicar, Rev. R. C. Lynch Blossie, who was most enthusiastic in his efforts to promote the success of the meeting.

A very cordial vote of thanks was proposed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and for his great kindness in so thoughtfully preparing such a substantial welcome.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, HALESOWEN, WORCESTERSHIRE.

On Sunday, January 14th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by the local band, being conducted by J. Brettell, who has volunteered for active service in South Africa. Mr. Brettell is a member of the local company of Volunteers (F company 1st Volunteer Battalion Worcestershire Regiment) and started on the following morning with three other members of the company to join the Worcestershire Company of Volunteers for active service in South Africa. Time 48 mins., tenor 28 cwt. A. Cockin, 1; W. Colly, 2; J. Brettell, 3; H. Lea, 4; H. Williams, 5; G. Cockin, 6; W. Motteram, 7; N. Hackett, 8.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.

On Thursday, January 11th, the members of the local company held their annual dinner at The Norfolk Arms, where a good company, including the Rev. A. Pridgeon, Vicar (in the chair), Mr. Cherryman, Mr. Jocelyn, and Mr. Tucker, sat down to a capital spread, provided by Hostess Bateman. After dinner the usual toast list having been gone through, the rest of the evening was spent in harmony; those contributing songs were Messrs. Tucker, Jocelyn, Cherryman, T. Searle, J. Matthews, A. Woolgar, A. Searle, G. Searle, A. Allfrey, E. Turrell, G. Gatland, C. Smart, and J. Smart, and at 11 p.m. the singing of "Auld lang syne," and the National Anthem, brought to a close one of the pleasantest evenings possible.

A BRIEF CONSIDERATION OF A FEW POINTS CONNECTED WITH THE HISTORY OF RINGING.

By R. A. DANIELL.

(Continued from page 400.)

In my notice last week of the College Youths I said they rang no peal from 1829 to 1836. It has since occurred to me that I may as well explain this statement, because anyone who looks at Mr. Banister's or any other list of College Youths' peals will find some recorded within this period. The explanation is that after the members of the Junior Society had got merged in the older one, as I related, the peal-book of the latter was stolen, and when recovered was in a mutilated state. Accordingly the peals were re-written (the earlier of them by Osborn), and the peals rung by the Junior Society, established in 1820, were inserted among the rest.

At this point I turn to an examination of a manuscript in the Guildhall Library, London, reference number 254; entitled "Remarks on a Rambling Club of Ringers and their performances, giving an account of all their meetings from first to last." It is written by William Laughton who was elected to the College Youths in 1724, and was Steward of that Society in 1731. He rang in the second recorded peal by the Society and in all subsequent ones (except six) down to the 17th May 1735, one of which he called. He was therefore evidently a first-rate ringer. In Annable's Note Book in the British Museum, to which Mr. J. W. Snowdon refers in his book on Grandsire, is some pricking headed "Laughton's Pleasure." His name is in one place at least in the College Youths' records spelled "Lawton," which gives us the correct pronunciation. Mr. Ellacombe refers to this manuscript, but gives a wrong date to it, and does not tell us about its contents. It does not add to our scientific knowledge, but a perusal of it furnishes some interesting pictures of the social habits of some ringers of the time, belonging to the College Youths, Eastern Scholars, and Union Scholars. I find this from finding members' names in the lists or peal records of these Societies, but I cannot find Societies for all the members of the Club. Some may very likely have been London Scholars, of which Society no records have survived. At all events the Club consisted of members of various London Ringing Societies of the day. It was established "to ring at all peals of 3, 4, 5 and 6 bells within the City of London and bills of mortality which we should find ringable, and to ring at a different place every time of meeting, if we should think proper; likewise to ring a peal sometimes upon eight bells, or take a walk into the country and divert ourselves with a peal if our fancies should lead that way."

Laughton wrote both in prose and verse. As to the latter it cannot be said that either in rhyme or scansion he has much claim to be considered a poet. However, as the Library Committee of the Corporation kindly gave me leave to copy as much of the manuscript as I wished, I shall let Laughton speak for himself, adding such comments as may occur to me. Laughton lived in Leather Lane, Holborn, where there still remain houses which he must have seen, and in one of which he may perhaps have dwelt. In the following extracts I have not thought it necessary to adhere to Laughton's spelling.

He writes twenty-eight lines on Ringing in General, commencing—

"As ringing is a branch of Music,
Let none despise those men that use it."

Then he deals with fault finders, and proceeds—

"But let such poor unthinking Souls
Carouse themselves o'er flowing bowls,
Which will surely pay them home at length,
Whilst ringers retain their health and strength."

* * * * *

Though I cannot say, but now and then
Ringers tippie as much as other men,
But their exercise throws off those dregs
Which would bring others off their legs,

That use no exercise at all,
But sit in a house and drink and call,
As many thousands there are in town."

After some more prefatory matter he gives us in verse an introduction to his accounts of the doings of the Club, from which it appears that it was a social as well as a ringing institution.

"Each night we'd mirth as well as ringing,
Tales told by some, by others singing,
And noble living, by the by."

One object of the Club was to cultivate pleasant relations among its members.

"We had no swearing nor no grining
At any time when we were ringing,
For there's nothing that can be more rude
Or on good nature more intrude,
For whoever rings as well as he can
Ought ne'er to be blamed by any man."

He then proceeds to tell us about what was done at the meetings of the Club, and each meeting he records both in verse and prose. The first meeting took place on Thursday, the 29th, November, 1733 at St. Benet Fink, a church now pulled down, which formerly stood behind the Royal Exchange, where the statue of George Peabody now sits. Here they rang 720 of Bob Minor. They then went to Will Coster's, The Bell tavern in Angel Alley, Little Moorfields, a site now included in that of the Moorgate Station of the Metropolitan Railway. Will Coster was a member of the Club, and a somewhat distinguished one. He joined the Union Scholars in 1714, and was Steward in 1716 and Master the following year, and with that Society he rang the tenor at St. Dunstan's-in-the-East in the first recorded peal of Treble Bob Major on the 27th of December, 1718. In 1731 he joined the College Youths, with whom he also rang some peals, and was one of the three who rang the tenor at St. Michael's, Cornhill, in the same year in a peal of 7018 Grandsire Cinques. At Coster's, Laughton stood a supper of whiteings.

On the 10th January, 1733-4, they rang at St. Peter's, Broad Street, "two Grandsires and one old Doubles." The church has been rebuilt since then: the former tower having apparently five bells. They afterwards went to Coster's, where he gave them a sea pie for supper.

"And some of us ne'er thought of parting
Till three in the morning, that's for certain,
But we were busy ringing of bells
Which caused us to forget ourselves.
Peals of Triples and College Double,
Oxford and Court gave us no trouble,
And add to these Cambridge Surprise."

Laughton explains in a note that the bells here mentioned are handbells, and this is the earliest notice I have yet found of change-ringing on handbells, except the touches by the College Youths in the previous year at Calais, and on the passage.

On February 14th, 1733-4, they rang some six-scores at Shoreditch. The old Church was then much dilapidated and inadequate, and was soon after rebuilt as we now see it. Before ringing they looked round the Church.

"But first of all we view'd the Church,
'Tis old and ruined very much,
Tho' when 'twas built does not appear,
But we guess about five hundred years.
There is an ancient tomb stands in it
Which is worth their seeing that ne'er has seen it.
'Tis Allyblaster much defac'd,
And the Lord knows who lies in the case,
For some sacrilegious son of a —
Has stole the brass of that and several more."

From Weever and other sources we are able to identify this sacrilegious person. He was Meredith Hanmer, Vicar of the parish in the latter part of the 16th century. He is stated to have converted the brass from several ancient monuments into coin

for his own use. We are also told that he was esteemed an exact disputant, a good preacher, Grecian, and excellent for ecclesiastical and civil histories, while the then Recorder of London, who had had Hammer before him as a witness in a trial, said he was a man who did not regard an oath. Thief, Coiner, Scholar, Preacher, Perjurer! a strange combination of qualities for a Parish Priest.

On the following Sunday they met at St. Mary's, Newington, and rang some Oxford Treble Bob Minor.

"At Newington Butts we met on a Sunday,
But what signifies when so long as 'twas one day,
We were not tied to any particular day,
But might ring when we pleased if it fell in our way."

These lines and those on some other occasions show us examples of Sunday ringing of the nature I have already described.

(To be continued.)

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."

*** We have taken the liberty of inserting this letter again, as the matter it deals with is of great importance.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

SIR,—The Committee appointed to ascertain the present condition of peals of eight and upwards throughout the country have sent out forty-six circulars to Secretaries of Associations with forms to be filled in with the name and address of the representative ringer of each tower in their respective districts. Although these have been out some six months, eight are yet unreturned. Of circulars to representative ringers, according to the addresses given by the Secretaries, 651 have been sent out, of which 214, after the lapse of three months, are still unreturned. Very many of the addresses given by the Secretaries were so far insufficient that the circulars to representative ringers have been returned in considerable numbers. May I appeal both to the Secretaries of Associations and to the representative ringers who have received circulars, to forward to me at the earliest opportunity, if they have not already done so, these forms duly and carefully filled in. A work which may make for the welfare of the Exercise in no small degree deserves at least the contribution of a few hours' labour from each of those who have been placed in a position of responsibility as regards Church Bells. A publication which is incomplete can serve no useful purpose, and the Committee will not advocate it unless they can make it thorough. A. P. HEYWOOD.

EDWARD READER'S FIFTY PEALS.

(Vide PEAL RUNG AT STOCKPORT.)

					Con- Rung. ducted.	
Grandsire Caters	...	...	...	...	5	—
Grandsire Triples	...	...	...	...	8	5
Stedman Caters	...	...	...	...	8	—
Stedman Triples	...	...	...	...	6	—
Kent Treble Bob Major	...	...	...	...	3	—
Kent Treble Bob Royal	...	...	...	...	2	—
Forward Royal	...	...	...	...	2	—
Bob Major	...	...	...	...	6	3
Double Norwich C. B. Major	5	1
Superlative Surprise Major...	1	—
Peals on six bells	4	3
Total	50	12

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Obituary.

BENJAMIN DAWSON.

We regret to record the death, which took place on the 12th of December last, at the age of thirty-three, of Mr. B. Dawson. The deceased had been connected with the parish church, Kendal, for about twenty-four years, first as choir-boy, and then as a member of the auxiliary choir and belfry as well, his connection with the latter up to the time of his death being of some sixteen years' duration. Mr. Dawson, who was a safe ringer and conductor, went from Kendal to Liverpool about four years ago, and almost immediately associated himself with the ringers at St. John the Baptist, Tue Brook, where he ultimately became a regular ringer. He was, however, compelled through ill-health to return to Kendal a few weeks before his decease, which was deeply regretted by his ringing friends at both places, as also by many of his fellow-townsmen, by whom he was greatly respected. The Kendal bells were rung full muffled during the interment on Sunday afternoon, 17th December, and half muffled after service in the evening. The Tue Brook bells were also rung muffled during the day, and the ringers sent a beautiful wreath. Deceased leaves a wife and four children to mourn his loss. B. W.

SAMUEL JAMES.

It is with regret that we have this week to record the death of Mr. Samuel James of Romford. The deceased, who was a native of Suffolk, came early in life to Romford, where he learnt the trade of a blacksmith and farrier with his uncle, the late Mr. Elijah Underwood. His uncle was one of the old school of ringers at St. Edward's, and it was not long before the nephew also found his way to the belfry, his connection therewith at the time of his death extending over thirty years. When the science was introduced into the Romford tower, Mr. James first attempted the tenor, ringing the same to a birthday peal for Bros. Keeble on Easter Monday, 1888. He afterwards took to the treble, and became a capital striker, one that any conductor could rely upon in any peal in which there was a plain hunt. He was generally at his post when wanted and was in the belfry on New Year's Day. He was attacked with bronchitis the day following, and early on Sunday, January 7th, passed "to that bourne from whence no traveller returns." In or out of the tower he was an honest and genial companion, one whose friendship was worthy of acceptance, and did not hesitate to set the example to the younger members of the company after ringing for the early Eucharist on Christmas or Easter Sunday morning of turning his footsteps into the church, and there taking part in a service to which he had assisted to call others. Upon his uncle's death he managed the business for the widow, upon whose death, the business having to be sold, Mr. James commenced on his own account. Thirty years at his uncle's forge had made him well known as a thorough competent workman, and consequently he found many supporters, who, as the time went on, gradually increased. He was laid to rest amidst many tokens of sympathy and respect on Thursday. Having been a prominent worker in the Odd Fellows M. U., a number of members attended, and the beautiful service of the Order was read, at the grave side by the Rev. F. B. Feist, curate at St. Edwards, a provincial member of the Order. The ringers attended, and after the funeral rang the whole full muffled peal. K.

EMBERTON (Bucks).—On Sunday evening, December 24th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Bob Minor. J. Lett, 1; F. Hopper, 2; T. Wright, 3; J. Lovell, 4; W. Freeman (conductor), 5; H. Lett, 6. Also 360 College Single. J. Lett, 1; F. Hopper, 2; H. Lett, 3; W. Mynard, 4; J. Lovell, 5; W. Freeman (conductor), 6. On Christmas Day, 720 Bob Minor. J. Robinson, 1; J. Lett, 2; W. Freeman (conductor), 3; W. Mynard, 4; T. Sharpe, 5; H. Lett, 6.

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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 Wednesday 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 20, 1900.

THE ringers of Kendal have raised the ire of one of the local papers by ringing a muffled peal as a tribute of respect to the memory of one of their deceased brethren. The observations published in the journal referred to are evidently the work of a writer whose field of operations is that of the "Notes and Comments" order. Great license is generally allowed these gentlemen—our own journal is a case in point—and generally no responsibility for what they write is ever brought home to them unless they indulge too freely. They are the free lances of journalism, prepared to furnish "copy" upon any conceivable subject under the sun, whether great or small.

One of these gentlemen has, as stated above, fell foul of the ringers of Kendal parish church for taking what he calls "a long spell of muffled ringing." In the usual style of his order he asserts that "many grave and ex-

travagant conjectures were started to account for the ringing—that a disaster had happened to our troops in Africa; that the Queen was dead; that the Bishop of the diocese had passed away suddenly; and so forth." The writer spoils the effect of these phrases by adding that "the doleful demonstration was *only* in honour of a bell-ringer." And then follows a ridiculous tirade which shows his complete ignorance. This is usual, as we know. We advise the local *flaneur* of the paper in question to adhere to subjects which he understands. No doubt Kendal is rich in local topics: electric light, baths, and sewage problems are quite sufficient to keep him going without troubling himself with subjects he does not understand.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

The Honorary Secretary of the Central Council begs to remind Association officials that the election of Representatives should be made before the next meeting of the Council, which will take place in London on Whit-Tuesday, June 5th. According to the Rules and constitution of the Council, Representatives are to hold office for *three* years after election, or until the termination of the current triennial period. *Annual* elections, or re-elections, are therefore unnecessary, except in the case of a vacancy occurring in the representation. Tuesday, the 8th of May, will be the last day on which notices of motion can be received.

Hon. Secretaries of Societies are respectfully reminded that the contributions for the year 1900 became due on the first of January, and should be remitted at the rate of 2s. 6d. for each elected representative, to the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer of the Council without delay, together with the names and addresses of Representatives elected.

Stanhoe Rectory,
King's Lynn.

H. EARLE BULWER,
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

The Metropolis.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, January 11, 1900, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHGATE.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

HARRY MILLER* Treble.	†ERNEST W. MARSHALL .. 5.
ALFRED R. GLASSCOCK .. 2.	JOHN E. MILLER 6.
WILLIAM TEGG† 3.	WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE .. 7.
JOHN ARMSTRONG 4.	SIDNEY WADE Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR T. KING, and Conducted by SIDNEY WADE.

*First peal. †First peal with a bob bell. ‡First peal of Major. This is the quickest peal of Major on the bells.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION,

On Monday, January 15, 1900, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, WOOLWICH,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES.

WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE Treble.	ERNEST PYE 5.
WILLIAM PYE 2.	JOHN H. CHEESMAN .. 6.
ISAAC G. SHADE 3.	HARRY FLANDERS .. 7.
JOHN R. SHARMAN 4.	CHARLES WILKINS .. Tenor.

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE, and Conducted by J. H. CHEESMAN.

This composition was published in "THE BELL NEWS" for March 4th, 1899.

The Provinces.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.

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

On Wednesday, January 10, 1900, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

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

JOHN SMITH Treble.	RICHARD E. GROVE .. 5.
NOAH DAVIS 2.	JOHN CRANE 6.
THOMAS J. SALTER .. 3.	ERNEST E. HUNT .. 7.
THOMAS R. BENNETT .. 4.	WILLIAM H. SMITH .. Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and
Conducted by WILLIAM H. SMITH.

Rung on the birthday of E. C. Hunt.

ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, January 13, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES.

ALBERT WALKER* .. Treble.	*PHILIP W. DAVIES .. 6.
WILLIAM G. ELLIS* .. 2.	FREDERICK CLAYTON .. 7.
WILLIAM H. BARBER .. 3.	WILLIAM SHORT .. 8.
HENRY MIDDLETON* .. 4.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER .. 9.
THOMAS REYNOLDS .. 5.	JOHN BARBER .. Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM H. BARBER, and Conducted by WILLIAM SHORT

*First peal of Bob Royal. This composition, now rung for the first time, has the 6th at home the last twenty-four courses.

TONG, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 13, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Oxford Delight, City Delight, Arnold's Victory, College Pleasure, Duke of York, Violet, and Oxford.

Tenor 12 cwt.

E. J. SALLAWAY .. Treble.	PRATT CORDINGLEY .. 4.
TOM LATIMER 2.	GEORGE BOLLAND .. 5.
R. P. FARROW 3.	HENRY ODDY .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE BOLLAND.

BRIGHTON.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 13, 1900, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION.

GEORGE WILLIAMS .. Treble.	*LIONEL E. SEARS .. 6.
FRANK BENNETT 2.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH .. 7.
EDWARD C. MERRITT .. 3.	GEORGE A. KING .. 8.
WILLIAM PALMER 4.	JAMES N. FROSSELL .. 9.
ROBERT J. DAWE 5.	KEITH HART .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, and Conducted by KEITH HART.

Rung as a birthday peal to J. S. Goldsmith, the band wishing him the usual compliments.

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.—CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. (STOCKPORT AND BOWDEN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 13, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE, HEAVILEY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES.

Tenor 30 cwt.

G. D. WARBURTON .. Treble.	†F. T. SPENCE 6.
J. BOOTH 2.	J. HANKINSON 7.
T. JACKSON 3.	†E. READER 8.
H. MEAKIN 4.	J. W. BAYLEY 9.
L. MEAKIN* 5.	T. MARSHALL .. Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and Conducted by J. W. BAYLEY.

*First peal. †First peal of Caters. ‡Fiftieth peal. This peal has the 6th its extent wrong in the Tittums and inverted home positions, and is now rung for the first time. Further reference to this peal will be found on another page.

READING, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, January 16, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 24 cwt.

ALFRED E. REEVES Treble.	ERNEST BRUCE 6.
FRANK HOPGOOD 2.	*REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
JOHNSON E. HERN 3.	WILLIAM NEWELL 8.
ALBERT E. REEVES† .. 4.	†ARTHUR W. HIGGS 9.
FRANK TUBB 5.	AMBROSE OSBOYNE Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by FRANK HOPGOOD.

*First peal of Bob Royal. †First peal on ten bells.

Date Touches.

GREAT DALBY (Leicestershire).—On Tuesday, November 21st, at St. Swithun's church, a date touch of Doubles, in 1 hr. 5 mins., being 480 Canterbury, 480 Plain Bob, and 930 Grandsire Doubles. *A. V. Potter, 1; C. Dalby, 2; E. J. Gale, 3; W. James, 4; R. H. Bartram (conductor), 5. *Longest length.

Miscellaneous.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

GREAT BADDOW (Essex).—On Tuesday, December 26th, at St. Mary's church, an attempt for a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples failed after 882 changes had been rung. Afterwards 503 in the same method. A. Dines, 1; W. Newman, 2; J. Tarbun, 3; C. H. Howard (conductor), 4; G. Piper, 5; H. Richell, 6; A. Richell, 7; F. Newman, 8.

BRAINTREE.—On Wednesday, December 13th, at St. Michael's church, for practice, 576 Oxford Treble Bob Major. H. Coote, 1; A. Shufflebotham, 2; C. H. Howard (conductor), 3; F. Slade, 4; H. Pilcher, 5; E. Chaplin, 6; W. Grimwade, 7; W. Webb, 8. Also 720 Bob Minor. F. Webb, 1; C. H. Howard (conductor), 2; A. Shufflebotham, 3; E. Chaplin, 4; W. Grimwade, 5; F. Slade, 6. On Sunday, December 31st, for morning service, 640 Kent Treble Bob. H. Coote, 1; W. Farrow, 2; C. H. Howard (conductor), 3; H. E. Hammond, 4; H. Pilcher, 5; P. Holmes, 6; W. Hammond, 7; F. Slade, 8. For evening service, 864 in the same method. H. Coote, 1; W. Farrow, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; E. Chaplin, 4; C. H. Howard (conductor), 5; P. Holmes, 6; A. Shufflebotham, 7; F. Slade, 8. At 11.30 p.m., with bells half-muffled, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major, and to greet the new year 768 in the same method, with bells open. H. Coote, 1; W. Farrow, 2; C. H. Howard (conductor), 3; H. E. Hammond, 4; H. Pilcher, 5; P. Holmes, 6; W. Hammond, 7; F. Slade, 8. On Wednesday, January 10th, on handbells, 168 Grandsire Triples. F. Webb, 1; P. Holmes, 2; A. Shufflebotham, 3; F. Slade, 4; C. H. Howard (conductor), 5-6; F. Slade, 7-8. On Thursday, January 11th, an attempt for a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major failed after ringing 2 hrs. 18 mins. H. Coote, 1; W. Farrow, 2; C. H. Howard (conductor), 3; A. Shufflebotham, 4; H. E. Hammond, 5; P. Holmes, 6; F. Slade, 7; W. Webb, 8. On Sunday morning, January 4th, for Divine Service 704 Kent Treble Bob. C. H. Howard (conductor), 1; W. Farrow, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; A. Shufflebotham, 4; H. Pilcher, 5; P. Holmes, 6; W. Hammond, 7; F. Slade, 8.

RAYNE (Essex).—On Tuesday, January 9th, at All Saints church, two 6-scores of Bob Doubles. F. Webb, 1; *G. Williams, 2; C. H. Howard (conductor), 3; A. Shufflebotham, 4; P. Holmes, 5. And another 6-score. †E. Gentry, 1; G. Williams, 2; C. H. Howard (conductor), 3; A. Shufflebotham, 4; P. Holmes, 5. *First 6-score with a bob bell. †First 6-score and first attempt. Williams and Gentry are members of the local band.

LEYTONSTONE (Essex).—On December 10th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. F. Withers, 1; T. H. Beams, 2; W. Doran, 3; W. Miller (conductor), 4; J. Moule, 5; G. Hayden, 6. On December 14th, 720 Cambridge Surprise. G. Hayden, 1; J. Moule, 2; W. Doran, 3; W. Keeble (conductor), 4; W. Miller, 5; T. H. Beams, 6. On December 21st, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Philpot, 1; T. H. Beams, 2; W. Miller, 3; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 4; J. Mardell, 5; G. Hayden, 6. On December 21st, 720 Cambridge Surprise. G. Hayden, 1; A. J. Perkins, 2; W. Doran, 3; W. Miller, 4; J. Mardell, 5; T. H. Beams (con-

ductor), 6. On December 28th, 720 Double Court Bob. J. Philpot, 1; T. H. Beams (conductor), 2; W. Doran, 3; W. Miller, 4; W. Keeble, 5; G. Hayden, 6. On December 31st, 720 Bob Minor. J. Philpot, 1; T. H. Beams, 2; H. Bottrell, 3; F. Withers, 4; W. Keeble (conductor), 5; W. Miller, 6.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DARLINGTON (Durham).—On November 30th, at St. John's church. 864 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. H. Porter, E. Todd, W. Patton, T. Clark, W. D. Lister, G. Park, G. F. Williams, J. Baxter (conductor). Also 504 Grandsire Triples. G. W. Park, T. Crawford, T. Clark, F. Naisbitt, G. Park, J. Baxter, W. H. Porter (conductor), G. F. Williams. On December 7th, 700 Grandsire Triples. G. Tait, T. Crawford, W. Patton, F. Naisbitt, J. Baxter (conductor), T. Clark, G. F. Williams, W. H. Porter. And 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Baxter, J. Crawford, W. Patton, W. D. Lister, T. Clark, G. W. Park, G. F. Williams, W. H. Porter (conductor). On Sunday morning, December 10th, for Divine Service, 798 Grandsire Triples. F. Naisbitt, T. Clark, W. Patton, G. F. Williams, W. H. Porter, J. Baxter (conductor), W. D. Lister, J. Bolton. For evensong 768 Kent Treble Bob Major. T. Scollick, T. Crawford, W. Patton, J. Baxter, T. Clark, W. D. Lister, G. F. Williams, W. H. Porter (conductor). On December 14th, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. F. Naisbitt, T. Crawford, W. Patton, T. Clark, W. D. Lister, J. Baxter, G. F. Williams, W. H. Porter (conductor). On Sunday evening, December 17th, for Divine Service, 630 Grandsire Triples. F. Naisbitt, W. Patton, T. Crawford, J. Baxter (conductor), T. Clark, W. D. Lister, G. F. Williams, J. W. Moscrop. On December 21st, 504 Grandsire Triples. G. Tait, T. Crawford, W. Patton, F. Naisbitt, T. Clark, W. H. Porter, J. Baxter (conductor), G. F. Williams. And 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. T. Scollick, T. Crawford, W. Patton, G. F. Williams, T. Clark, J. Baxter, W. D. Lister, W. H. Porter (conductor). On Christmas Day for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. *T. Scollick, J. Baxter, W. Patton, *T. Naisbitt, T. Clark, W. H. Porter (conductor), G. F. Williams, *G. Tait. *First quarter-peal. On Sunday, December 31st, 672 Grandsire Triples. F. Naisbitt, T. Crawford, W. Patton, J. Baxter (conductor), W. D. Lister, G. F. Williams, W. H. Porter, T. Scollick. For evening service 840 Grandsire Triples. T. Scollick, T. Crawford, W. Patton, J. Baxter, T. Clark, G. F. Williams, W. H. Porter (conductor), G. Tait.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TETBURY (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, December 26th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. H. Plumb, 1; F. E. Webb, 2; A. Burcombe, 3; H. Jones, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; H. Howell, 6; J. J. Poole (conductor), 7; J. Parker, 8.

LONG NEWNTON (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, December 26th, 720 Bob Minor. F. E. Webb, 1; H. Howell, 2; H. Jones, 3; W. H. Fussell, 4; A. Burcombe, 5; J. J. Poole (conductor), 6. And 120 each of Stedman and Grandsire Doubles.

CLIFTON.—On December 31st, at the parish church, at midnight, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. C. Horton, 1; W. S. Gist, 2; W. Thomas, 3; S. Thomas, 4; A. Harvey, 5; J. Burford, 6; J. Wilkins (conductor), 7; R. Clark, 8.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ALDRINGTON (Sussex).—On December 26th, at the parish church, 720 Woodbine. C. Best, 1; T. Stroud, 2; T. Ellis, 3; A. B. Bennett (conductor), 4; F. Trussler, 5; J. Lee, 6.

SHOREHAM.—Recently, at the parish church, 720 Duke of York. G. Boswell, 1; T. Stroud, 2; T. E. Ellis, 3; A. B. Bennett (conductor), 4; F. Trussler, 5; J. Lee, 6; C. Best, 7.

MIDHURST.—On Sunday, December 31st, at the parish church, 720 Oxford. G. Boswell, 1; C. Best, 2; T. Stroud, 3; C. Tribe, 4; A. B. Bennett, 5; J. Lee, 6.

ANGMERING (Sussex).—On Thursday, June 1st, 720 Kent Treble Bob. T. Hammond, 1; W. Hillman, 2; C. Hills, 3; T. Parsons, 4; F. Finch, 5; T. Linfield (conductor), 6. On Sunday, September 7th, 720 Plain Bob. T. Hammond, 1; C. Hills, 2; F. Finch, 3; T. Parsons, 4; C. Blackman, 5; T. Linfield (conductor), 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Hillman, 1; J. Hills, 2; C. Hills, 3; T. Parsons, 4; F. Finch, 5; T. Linfield (conductor), 6. On Thursday, December 7th, 720 Plain Bob. E. Parsons, 1; T. Hammond, 2; T. Parsons, 3; C. Clear, 4; F. Finch, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. On Thursday, December 14th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. F. Finch, 1; H. Evans, 2; C. Hills, 3; E. Lindup, 4; T. Parsons, 5; C. Clear (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Bob. H. Evans, 1; F. Finch, 2; E. Lindup, 3; C. Clear, 4; ———, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6.

BATTLE (Sussex).—On Tuesday, December 19th, for practice, the last 700 of Holt's Original. J. Sinden, 1; W. Franks (conductor), 2;

F. Mathis, 3; W. Eastland, 4; C. F. Hyland, 5; C. R. Carter, 6; W. J. J. Thomas, 7; W. H. Eldridge, 8.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

REIGATE (Surrey).—On Monday, December 11th, 324 Stedman Caters. F. T. Hoad, sen. (conductor), 1; F. Linter, 2; P. Knight, 3; G. F. Head, 4; W. Argent, 5; G. Thompson, 6; F. T. Hoad, jun., 7; E. Kenward, 8; H. Reeves, 9; W. Stanford, 10. On Wednesday, December 13th, 701 Grandsire Caters. J. Beams, 1; G. F. Hoad, 2; F. T. Hoad, jun., 3; F. T. Hoad, sen. (conductor), 4; F. Linter, 5; W. Argent, 6; E. Kenward, 7; T. Sparks, 8; H. Reeves, 9; A. Moseley, 10. And 594 Grandsire Caters. J. Beams, 1; F. T. Hoad, sen., 2; F. Linter, 3; G. Hoad, 4; W. Argent, 5; E. Kenward, 6; F. T. Hoad, jun., 7; T. Sparks, 8; H. Reeves (conductor), 9; A. Moseley, 10. And 350 Grandsire Triples. F. Linter, 1; F. T. Hoad, sen., 2; W. Argent, 3; J. Beams, 4; F. T. Hoad, jun., 5; E. Kenward, 6; H. Reeves (conductor), 7; T. Sparks, 8; G. F. Hoad, 9; A. Moseley 10.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

STOCKPORT (Cheshire).—On Sunday morning, January 14th, at St. George's, Heaviley, on the occasion of a special service at which the local volunteers attended, and for which a collection was made on behalf of the war fund which realised £80, 420 Stedman Triples was rung on the back eight. T. Jackson, 1; J. Booth, 2; H. Meakin, 3; J. Mottershead, 4; J. W. Bayley, 5; E. Reader (conductor), 6; T. Marshall, 7; T. Gordon, 8. After service 423 Stedman Triples. C. Darwen, 1; J. Booth, 2; J. Barlow, 3; T. Marshall, 4; J. W. Bayley, 5; E. Reader, 6; W. Gordon (conductor), 7; T. Gordon, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

FOLKESTONE (Kent).—On Tuesday, December 26th, 2520 Grandsire Triples. S. Barker, 1; S. Binfield (conductor), 2; J. Fisher, 3; A. Manning, 4; A. Petts, 5; F. Finn, 6; S. Gower, 7; T. Seeley, 8.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BESTHORPE (Norfolk).—On Christmas Day for morning service, 720 of Doubles, comprising Grandsire, Plain Bob, and Canterbury. G. Stanley, 1; F. Stanley, 2; A. Howes, 3; J. G. Miles, 4; J. Stanley (conductor), 5. A peal of handbells having been purchased from Messrs. Shaz by J. Bertram for the use of this company, Messrs. Miles and Howes were asked to give them a trial, when two courses of Bob Minor and a course of Bob Major was rung. J. G. Miles, 1-2; G. Stanley, 3; W. Perfect, 4; J. Bertram, 5; J. Stanley, 6; A. Howes, 7-8. They are thirteen in number, in the key of C, and are very sweet-toned, reflecting credit on the makers.

ATTLEBOROUGH (Norfolk).—On December 23rd, at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor. R. Ettridge, 1; A. Howes, 2; J. Warren, 3; J. G. Miles (conductor), 4; S. Daniells, 5; J. Lawrence, 6. A ringing floor has been made to this tower, which is an improvement. This is the first 720 since. On Christmas morning, at 6.30, the bells were fired and a 360 rung, conducted by J. Lawrence. G. Balls, 1; R. Davey, 2; the rest as before. On December 26th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. R. Davey, 1; A. Howes, 2; R. Ettridge, 3; J. E. Miles, 4; S. Daniels, 5; J. Lawrence (conductor), 6.

CAWSTON (Norfolk).—On Wednesday, December 27th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. J. Moy, 1; G. Neale, 2; J. B. Pilch, 3; W. J. Rought, 4; G. Moy (conductor), 5; A. J. Neale, 6. The Rector (Rev. T. H. Marsh), kindly entertained the ringers at the rectory, where some Bob Major and Grandsire Triples were rung on the handbells.

AYLSHAM (Norfolk).—On Sunday evening, December 24th, for Divine Service at St. Michael's church, 720 Bob Major. G. Neale, 1; J. B. Pilch, 2; J. Moy, 3; J. M. Roberts, 4; W. J. Rought, 5; A. Rought, 6; G. Moy, 7; A. J. Neale, 8. On Christmas morning on handbells, 720 Bob Major. A. Rought, 1-2; A. J. Neale, 3-4; G. Moy (conductor), 5-6; W. J. Rought, 7-8. Also courses of Bob Royal and Grandsire Caters, with J. Moy, 7-8.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

HAWLEY (Hants).—On Saturday, December 30th, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal of Double Norwich, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, taken from Thursdays'. A. E. Reeves, 1; H. White, 2; J. Hunt, 3; F. Blondell, 4; S. Radford, 5; H. Tucker, 6; C. Giles (conductor), 7; M. Steer, 8. Rang as a birthday compliment to the Rev. J. T. P. Wyatt.

CHIDDINGFOLD (Surrey).—On Sunday, December 17th, for Divine Service, 168, Grandsire Triples. G. Luff, 1; A. Ashdown, 2; W. Brockhurst, 3; T. Burdock, 4; A. E. Bartlett, 5; J. Gearing, 6; T. Attwell (conductor), 7; H. Rewmant, 8. Also for practice, on Wed-

nesday, December 20th, 168 Grandsire Triples. G. Luff, 1; T. Attwell (conductor), 2; W. Brockhurst, 3; J. Bartlett, 4; A. E. Bartlett, 5; J. Gearing, 6; T. Burdock, 7; W. Ayling, 8. Also 720 Bob Minor. G. Luff, 1; W. Brockhurst, 2; A. E. Bartlett, 3; J. Bartlett, 4; T. Burdock, 5; T. Attwell (conductor), 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

READING (Berks).—On Christmas Eve (midnight), at the church of St. Laurence, 1260 Grandsire Triples on the back eight in 48 mins. E. Batten (longest length in the method), 1; A. E. Reeves, 2; C. Stone, 3; H. Tucker, 4; F. Hopgood (conductor), 5; W. Newell, 6; A. Osborne, 7; J. Tucker, 8. On Sunday, December 31st (midnight), 560 Bob Major. F. Hopgood, 1; V. Rowe, 2; J. E. Hern, 3; A. Watmore, 4; E. Bruce, 5; A. Osburne, 6; W. Horne, 7; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CALDICOT (Monmouthshire).—On Tuesday, January 9th, for practice, 120 Grandsire Doubles. W. Baynham, 1; W. Margetts, 2; C. King, 3; G. King, 4; A. Lewis (conductor), 5; O. Jones, 6. First 120 by all, who only joined the Association in September last when the quarterly meeting was held here. First 120 on the bells by a local band. On Saturday, January 13th, several 120s, with J. W. Jones at the tenor.

THE ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY, FULHAM.

FULHAM.—At midnight on Sunday, December 31st, to welcome the new year, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, 1259 changes, in 50 mins. J. Crombie, 1; J. W. Driver, 2; R. Charge, 3; J. Herbert (first quarter-peal of Caters, 4; W. Charge, 5; H. Adams, 6; C. Charge, 7; W. T. Elson (composer and conductor), 8; W. T. Maston, 9; J. Buckingham (first quarter-peal of Caters), 10.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

FULHAM (Middlesex).—On Saturday, December 30th, at All Saints church, after an unsuccessful attempt for the late Henry Johnson's peal of 5016 Stenman Caters, a quarter-peal of 1280, taken therefrom. H. N. Davis, 1; H. Langdon, 2; F. G. Perrin, 3; A. Hardy, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; H. Barton (conductor), 6; C. Charge, 7; J. W. Driver, 8; R. Charge, 9; S. How, 10.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, December 31st, at the church of the Holy Trinity, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original, in 47 mins., the bells being half-muffled. F. Haydon, 1; B. Chorley, 2; W. W. Thorne, 3; G. Foster, 4; A. Pulling, 5; R. Wood, 6; C. Willshire (conductor), 7; G. Gunner, 8.

NEW SHOREHAM (Sussex).—On Wednesday evening, January 10th, for practice at St. Mary's church, the local ringers, assisted by the Aldington band, rung their first 720 of Bob Minor, with 6-8 covering, in 28 mins. B. Challen, 1; A. Cherryman, 2; W. Henson, 3; F. Tindall, 4; J. Boyd, 5; T. Burtenshaw, 6; F. Steele (conductor), 7; W. Brown, 8.

NORTHAMPTON.—On Wednesday, December 27th, at St. Edmund's church, 720 Bob Minor. J. Robinson, 1; J. White, 2; T. Wright, 3; E. Harris, 4; F. Hopper, 5; W. Freeman (conductor), 6. Another 720 of Bob Minor. J. Smithers, 1; F. Hopper (conductor), 2; W. Freeman, 3; E. Harris, 4; T. Wright, 5; J. White, 6.

OAKHAM (Rutlandshire).—On Friday, December 22nd, for practice, 720 Grandsire Doubles. G. Towell, 1; G. Welch, 2; W. Herbert, 3; F. Towell, 4; T. G. Briggs, 5; F. Needham, 6. Tenor 21 cwt.

OLNEY (Bucks).—On Christmas Day for Divine Service, 720 Plain Bob. W. Wright, 1; T. Wright, 2; F. Hopper, 3; W. Jones, 4; R. Raban (conductor), 5; S. Smith, 6.

PETERSFIELD (Hants).—On Monday, December 11th, at St. Peter's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins. W. Butler, 1; Rev. C. Edwards, 2; A. Butler, 3; W. Wilkinson, 4; G. Barnes, 5; T. Cole, 6; J. Arthur (conductor), 7; W. Downs, 8.

THORNABY-ON-TEES (Yorks).—On Sunday, December 24th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor with 6-8 covering. N. Job, 1; T. Beckwith, 2; J. H. Pinkney, 3; T. Kelley, 4; E. Usher, 5; N. Kidd, 6; *W. C. Hardy (conductor), 7; J. Williams, 8. *First 720 as conductor.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Sunday evening, December 31st, 720 Bob Minor. J. Dines, 1; W. Wellington, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; A. Tarbun, 4; W. J. Piper, 5; G. W. Piper (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 by 1 and 2, and the first as conductor.

Compositions.**GRANDSIRE CATERS.**By ARTHUR KNIGHTS, *Chesterfield.*

5003.

23456789

23456978*

35426 8th in 3

52436 8th in 3

45236 9th in 3

53246 8th in 3

25346 9th in 3

62543879†

24563 9th in 3

52463 8th in 3

45263 8th in 3

24563978 1-3-4s

52463 9th in 3

45263 9th in 3

54263879 1-3-4

25463 8th in 3

42563 8th in 3

54263978 1-3-4s

25463 9th in 3

42563 9th in 3

52364 8-9

35264 9th in 3

23564 9th in 3

52364879 1-3-4s

35264 8th in 3

23564 8th in 3

32564978 1-3-4

53264 9th in 3

25364 9th in 3

32564879 1-3-4s

53264 8th in 3

25364 8th in 3

*7th in and out at 3 with a double.
†9th in and out at 2.

The last twenty-four courses repeated, calling a 9-8 in the first course produces 34265879. Round the lead previous to the last course-end. Has the 6th her extent wroug in the tittums and inverted home positions. First rung at St. George's, Heaviley, Stockport, on January 13th, 1900, conducted by J. W. Bayley.

BOB ROYAL.By F. BENNETT, *Brighton.*

5040.

23456 W M H

45236 - -

24536 - -

53246 - -

25346 - -

32546 - -

54326 - -

35426 - -

Continued—

W M H

43526 - -

52436 - -

42653 S -

62354 - -

43256 - -

24356 - -

32456 - -

Repeated.

DOUBLE NORWICH MAJOR.By WILLIAM WILLSON, *Leicester.*

5056.

23456 I 6

34265*

46235 - -

63245 - -

42365 - -

26345 - -

43625 - -

32645 - -

24635 - -

36425 - -

64325 - -

23465 - -

* 1 2 3 4 5 8
S - - - - -

Three times repeated; single for bob at 1 in seventh course of 2nd and 4th parts.

This is believed to be the first four-part peal ever produced in the method with 5-6 only in 6th place.

SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR.By G. LINDOFF, *Dublin.*

6144.

23456 B M W H

64352 - -

36452 - -

43652 - -

43526 - -

65324 - -

36524 - -

53624 - -

32546 - -

54326 - -

35426 - -

Twice repeated.

Contains thirty course-ends.

By missing two blocks of 3H, it is reduced to 5248.

TREBLE BOB ROYAL.By G. LINDOFF, *Dublin.*

5040.

23456 M W H

52364 2 2 2

32654 2 I

Continued—

M W H

56234 2 2

24365 I I 2

23645 I 2

63425 2 I

35426 I 2

24536 I 2

25346 I 2

23456 I 2

5000.

23456 M W H

52364 2 2 2

53624 I 2

56234 I 2

24365 I I 2

34625 2 I

43526 2 2

25346 2 2

34256 I I

52436 2 2

23456 2

5000.

23456 M W H

52364 2 2 2

53624 I 2

56234 I 2

24365 I I 2

23645 I 2

63425 2 I

35426 2 I

24536 2 2

25346 I 2

23456 I 2

A QUARTER-PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.By C. CHARGE, *Fulham.*

1259.

23456

62354978*

32465 s at 1 and 8-9

43265 9th in 3

24365 9th in 3

54362 8-9s

34265 8-9

23465 9th in 3

42365 9th in 3

52364 8-9s

35264 9th in 3

25463 8-9

42563 9th in 3

Round as usual.

*7th in and out at three with a single. This quaaeter-peal has the 6th eleven courses behind the 9th.

COMplete Set of 44 HANDBELLS, practically new, in F27, chromatic scale, By John Warner and Sons. Also sundry Music. Will sell for £12.—W. H. ROWZ, Upminster, Essex.

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 and Bristol Diocesan Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Bristol to-day, Saturday, January 20. Service at St. Mary Redcliff at 3 o'clock, with address by the Vicar.

C. E. D. BOUTFLOWER, *Hon. Sec.*

The Yorkshire Association.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Earlsheaton, near Dewsbury, to-day, Saturday, January 20. Service at 4 p.m., with sermon by the Rev. R. S. Davies, M.A., Vicar. Tea at 5 p.m., and business meeting immediately after. The local hon. sec. is Mr. Arthur Goodall, Commercial Street, Earlsheaton, to whom communications respecting the day's arrangements should be addressed. Arrangements have been made to attempt an officers' peal, commencing at 10 a.m.

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

14, Hillside Terrace, Bradford.

Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—A monthly meeting of the above will be held at Manchester Cathedral to-day, Saturday, January 20th, when it is intended to unveil a new peal-board on that occasion. Bells ready at 4.30 p.m. Business meeting at 6.0 p.m.

W. BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

Sussex County Association.—Eastern Division.—The next meeting of the above will be held at St. Mary's, Eastbourne, to-day, Saturday, January 20th. Bells available 3 to 5.30 and 7 till 9 p.m. Special service at 5.30.

Temporary address: S. SAKER, *Hon. Sec.*

1, Park Villas, Eastern Division.
New Malden, Surrey.

The Middlesex County Association.—North and East District.—A meeting of members of this Association will be held to-day, Saturday, January 20, at St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. J. Cullin. The bells will be raised about 5 o'clock, and members and their friends are cordially invited to attend.

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 20th, at the parish church, Rugeley. Bells available during the afternoon. Service in church at 5 p.m. Committee Meeting at 5.30. Tea at 6 o'clock at one shilling per head, number to be sent in not later than Tuesday, January 16th to

S. REEVES, *Hon. Sec.*

10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

The St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—The usual quarterly meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 23rd, at The Tamworth Arms, Moor Street, Birmingham. Chair to be taken at 8.30 p.m. The attendance of every member is earnestly requested for the consideration of important business. Particular attention is directed to clause 4 of Rule VI.

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

61, Roland Road, Handsworth.

St. Margaret's Society, Westminster.—The Annual Meeting and election of officers will be held on Thursday, January 25th. Ringing at 8 p.m. Members are requested to attend.

C. J. IRISH, *Hon. Sec.*

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Selly Oak, near Birmingham, on Saturday, January 27th. Service in the church at 5 p.m., to be followed by business meeting in the schoolroom. The Vicar has kindly consented to preside. The tower will be open for ringing. All subscriptions are due at this meeting.

JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

36, Simms Lane, Netherton, Dudley.

The Kent County Association.—Tonbridge District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held at Tonbridge on Saturday, January 27th. Tower open at 3 o'clock. Committee meeting at 4. Tea at 5 o'clock in the church room. Half travelling expenses will be paid to members attending. All members intending to be present at tea are requested to inform District Secretary not later than Wednesday, January 24th.

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

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—East Berks. and South Bucks. Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Farnham Royal on Saturday, January 27th. The bells will be available after mid-day. Service will be held at 4.45, and tea (9d. a head, free to members), and business meeting at 5.45. All members of the Guild and their friends will be welcome. Omnibus leaves Slough for Farnham at 2.35 and 5.35, and also at 3.35 if necessary. All who intend to be present should send their names to Mr. J. J. Parker, The Post Office, Farnham Royal.

H. C. BELL, *Branch Secretary.*

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The monthly ringing meeting of the above society will be held at Pudsey (eight bells), on Saturday, January 27th. Meeting-house, The Commercial hotel. Business meeting at 6.30. Handbells provided. All ringers are cordially invited.

HY. GAYTHORPE, *Hon. Sec.*

1, Elm Avenue, Bramley.

The Kent County Association.—Lewis-ham District.—The usual quarterly meeting will be held at St. John's, Deptford, on Saturday, January 27th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Committee Meeting at 6.

P. E. BEX, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*

The All Saints Society, Fulham.—The Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday, January 27th. The tower will be open to members and friends at 4 p.m. Tea in church room at 6 p.m. Ringers intending to be present should signify the same not later than Thursday, January 25th, to

J. W. DRIVER.

387, New Kings Road, Fulham, S.W.

The Waterloo Society.—The annual meeting of this society will take place at St. John's, Waterloo Road, on Wednesday, January 31st. Ringing at 8.15 p.m. Business meeting at 9.45. It is hoped that as many members as possible will put in an appearance.

GEO. E. SYMONDS, *Hon. Sec.*

4, Dockley Road, S.E.

The Surrey Association.—The Annual Meeting will be held at the Church House, St. Peter's, South Croydon, on Monday, January 29th, and will be preceded at 6 o'clock by tea at the Church House. The tea will be provided only for those whose representatives advise Mr. Henry Brooker, of 3, Upland Road, South Croydon, before Friday the 26th. The bells at St. Peter's (8) will be available

for ringing from 3.30 p.m. by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. J. White.

CHAS. DEAN, JUN., *Hon. Sec.*

5, Manor Parade, Sutton, Surrey.

Middlesex County Association.—South and West District.—The next monthly meeting of the above will be held by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. C. M. Harvey, at the church of St. John the Baptist, Hillingdon, on Saturday, February 3rd. Ringing to commence about 5 p.m., members and friends are cordially invited.

C. EDWARDS, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*

Sussex County Association.—Central Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Horley, on Saturday, February 3rd. Tower open from 3 p.m. Tea at 6 p.m. Members intending being present will oblige by letting me know by January 29th.

G. WILLIAMS, *Hon. Sec.*

2, Grove Street, Brighton.

Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association.—Meeting at Whitby (8 bells, tenor 18 cwt.) Saturday, February 3rd. Tea 9d. each at Mr. Botham's, Skinner Street, West Cliff, at 5 p.m. Members are requested to inform the Secretary before January 31st, if intending to be present. Robin Hood's Bay bells (8, tenor 10 cwt.) also kindly lent. The towers will be open all day. REV. W. P. WRIGHT.

Stokesley, R. S. O.

Hon. Sec.

The Sheffield and District Society.—The next meeting will be held at Doncaster parish church, on February 3rd. Tower open 4 p.m. Meeting house, The Market inn.

R. HARRISON, *Hon. Sec.*

The Midland Counties Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Birmingham, on Saturday, February 3rd.

W. E. WHITE, *Hon. Sec.*

Cotgrave, near Nottingham.

The Norwich Diocesan Association.—A Quarterly Meeting will be held at East Harling, on Tuesday, February 6th. Dinner will be served at The Swan at 1.30, at 2s. 3d. for Hon. Members and friends, and 1s. 3d. for company members. Besides the bells of the parish church, the following rings will be open to the use of members during the day: Quidenham, 6; Garboldisham, 6. Notice of intention to be present must be sent to the Hon. Sec. without fail, before Wednesday, January 31st.

H. EARLE BULWER, *Hon. Sec.*

Stanhoe Rectory, Kings Lynn.

The Waterloo Society, London.—The 32nd Anniversary Dinner of the above Society will be held at The York Hotel, Waterloo Road, S.E., on Saturday, February 17th, at 6 p.m. sharp. Tickets, 3s. 6d. each, may be had from Messrs. Barton, Webber, Fussell, Perrin, Hardy and

G. E. SYMONDS, *Hon. Sec.*

4, Dockley Road, S.E.

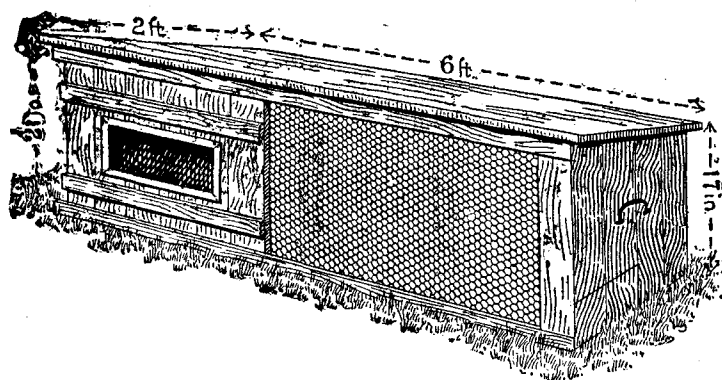
Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—If those gentlemen who are "Life Members" of the above will kindly send address to Secretary (C. L. Routledge, Tyndale House, Wylam-on-Tyne) the annual report will be forwarded to them.

The Midland Counties Association.—Preparation of Annual Report.—Members whose addresses are incorrect in last annual report, or who have changed their addresses since election are requested to notify me without delay. Notice of alteration of practice nights and names of correspondents should also if necessary be sent at once; also obituary notices.

W. E. WHITE, *Hon. Sec.*

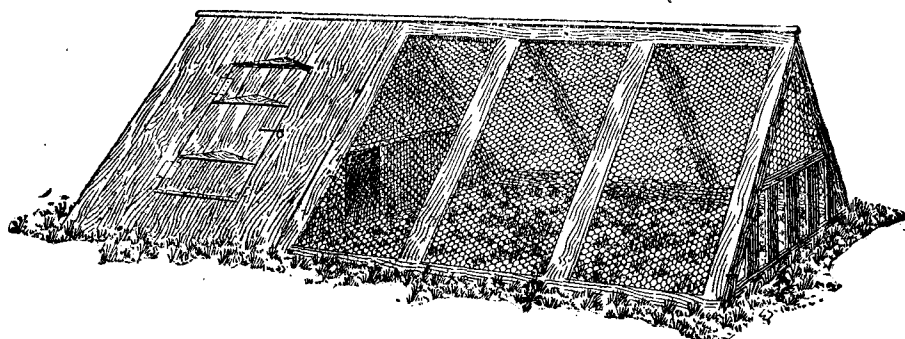
Cotgrave, near Nottingham.

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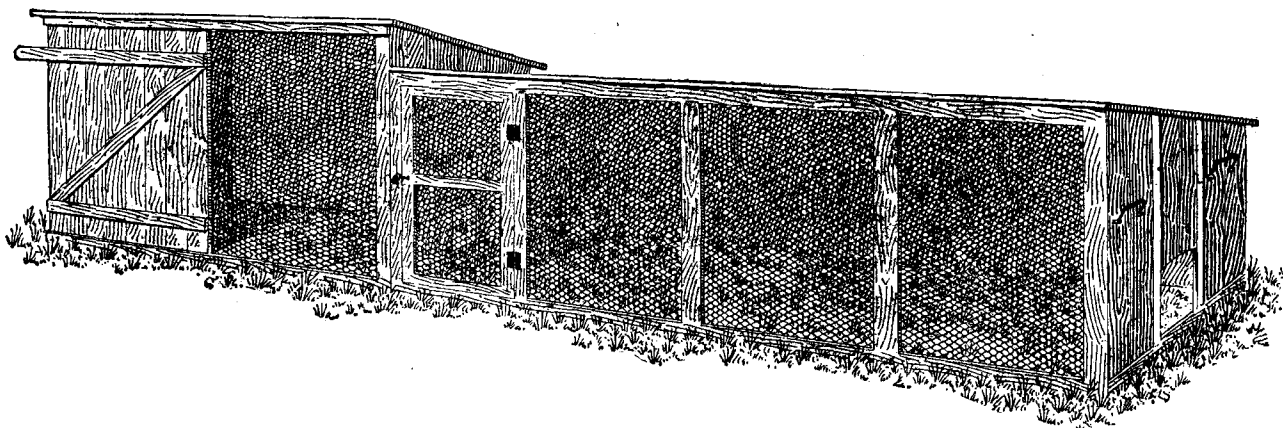
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TENOR 25 cwt. WEIGHT OF PEAL 5 tons cwt. 1 qr. 16 lbs ½

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In Commemoration of Her Majesty's Jubilee, 1897.

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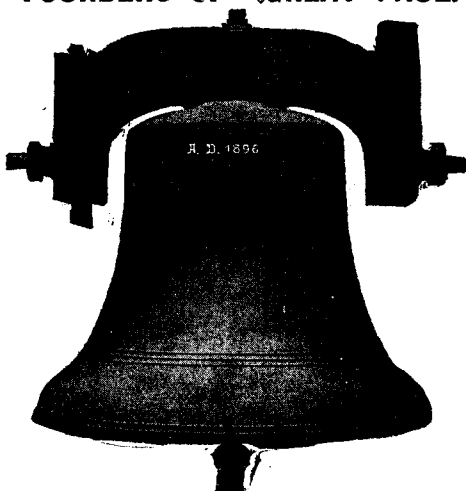
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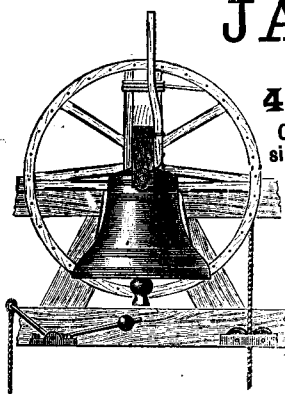
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No. 286. "Men of Harlech," Welsh Melody 1 6
No. 287. "Orange and Blue," Scotch Air 1 6
No. 319. "Hark the bonny Christ Church Bells," varied 1 6

The above are for 6 ringers with 13 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.A.

The next are for 6 ringers with 12 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.

- No. 320. "The Mountaineer's Waltz," on Swiss Melodies 1 6
No. 321. "The Rose of Allandale" March 1 6
No. 322. "The Pilgrim of Love" Galop 1 6

The next are for 6 ringers, with medium peal, i.e. 3 octaves, C22 to Cr, chromatic.

- No. 217. "Belfry Chimes and Nursery Rhymes" 3 0
No. 720. "Her Majesty's Waltz" 3 0

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

No. 929.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 1900.

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Bradford Town Hall.	Burnley Holy Trinity Ch.
Law Courts, London.	Crawley Parish Church.
St. James' Palace, London.	Corbridge-on-Tyne, do.
Sherborne Abbey.	Pontypool (Trevethin
Sydney Town Hall,	Church).
N.S.W.	Windermere Church.
Hammersmith Parish Ch.	Eiffel Tower, Paris.
Gateshead Clock Tower.	Dunsfold Parish Church.
Duke of Albany Memorial,	Aylesford do.
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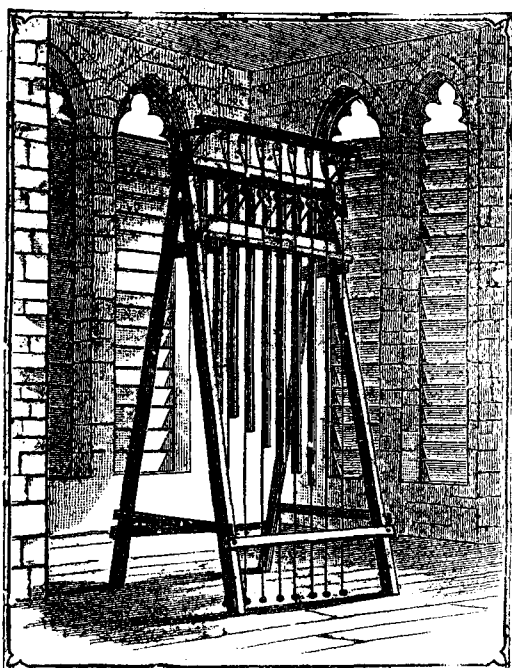
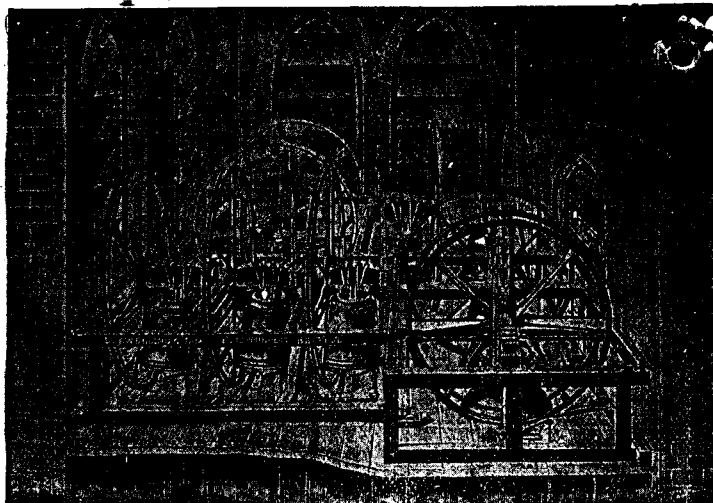
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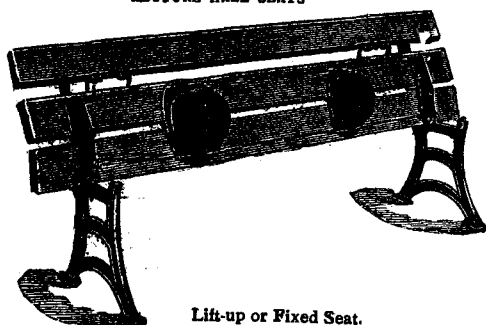
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No. 929.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 1900.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

"Years roll on and seasons return." Thus I mused last Saturday when journeying Dewsbury-wards to join once again with the members of the Yorkshire Association at its Annual Meeting. Twenty-three times had this society held its annual gathering, and twelvemonths hence will find it celebrating its Silver Jubilee. That quarter of a century will have an unique story to tell in connection with belfry matters, and prominent in that story will be the part which the county of broad acres has taken in it. As I thus mused, the train pulled up in Dewsbury station, and (to use an expression which has become militarily common of late) I detrained, went down the sloping pathway, and found myself in a busy street. Before going far, however, I deemed it advisable to make enquiries as to the proper direction to take to reach Earlsheaton most quickly. My informant, a sturdy, well-built yeoman, with broad and withal pleasant countenance, instructed me "reyt forrad, an' streyt up." So I went "forrad" a little way, and then commenced to mount "streyt up." And it was a "streyt up," and no mistake about it. There are no half-measures about Yorkshiremen, not even in the matter of their hillsides. Before I had gone far on my upward journey my mind reverted back to a somewhat similar experience a while ago, when I went "reyt up" from Deepcar to Bolsterstone, a rise of over a thousand feet, only in the former instance I had the pleasure of sitting in a comfortable vehicle, and watching the powerful quadrupeds toiling in front of me. Anyhow, I got to my journey's end at last, even if I did begin to realise that scaling mountains was not so easy as I had found it years ago. All was silent when I reached the church, and only "the flag that's braved a thousand years," which fluttered in the breeze from the spire, told that there was anything out of the common going on. A thick haze hung like a pall over the broad Spen valley, or doubtless the view from the churchyard would have been very extensive.

In a while the bells were being raised, and shortly I had the pleasure of listening to as sweet a ring as one could wish to hear. About eleven o'clock the actual ringing of the day began with an attempt for a peal by eight of the officers. Of course the method was the county's favorite Kent Treble Bob, and it was a treat to hear the music as course-end after course-end rolled up like clockwork. This went on for a little over two hours, when the attempt collapsed through the illness of one of the company, who had struggled on in the vain hope of getting right again. It was a pity for such a creditable bit of ringing to fail in its object, but illness is no respecter of persons, much less of peals.

At the schoolroom I found ladies busily engaged in laying the tables for tea, and the officers of the Association distributing reports. About three o'clock I wended my way back to church to hear the Dewsbury band ring the service touch, which was another treat. There can be no mistake about Yorkshiremen's Treble Bob ringing; and this forty minutes' touch was something to be remem-

bered. I was sorry when it came round, and along with the others went into church for service. This, led by a choir properly habited in cassock and surplice, and accompanied on the organ by Mr. A. J. Blackburn, was hearty, especially in the singing of the famous "Old Hundredth." The annual sermon was preached at the close of the service by the Rev. R. S. Davies, M.A., Vicar of Earlsheaton, who took for his theme the injunction to the Corinthians: "Whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." On this text he based a most impressive discourse, one which could not fail to have effect on his hearers.

Service over, we retraced our steps to the schoolroom, where all was in readiness for the serving of tea, from the ladies and their steaming tea-urns to the guests with their sharpened appetites. This function was both well arranged and most satisfactorily disposed of. The business meeting followed, when Mr. William Snowdon, President, occupied the chair, supported by the Rev. R. S. Davies, the Rev. A. Parham, Messrs. W. Sharrock and M. Scott (churchwardens), Messrs. W. H. Howard (York) and George Bolland (Tong), vice-Presidents; Messrs. T. Hattersley (Sheffield) and J. H. Hardcastle (Bradford), Stewards; Mr. W. Stainthorpe (Birstall), Hon. Treasurer; Mr. B. T. Copley (Bolton), Hon. Secretary; Messrs. W. Gill (Bingley), W. Barraclough (Halifax), W. Abbishaw (Rothwell), T. Lockwood (Leeds), and W. Pearson (Pontefract), Committeemen; and Messrs. John Lawson and Joe Hardcastle, Auditors. After a brief reference to the cordial welcome which the Association had received that day, the President referred to the auditors' report, which was altogether satisfactory, our summary of which will appear shortly.

Mr. J. Lawson moved, and Mr. Joe Hardcastle seconded, the adoption of the committee's report and treasurer's balance-sheet, which was approved.

The President then announced the unanimous re-election of the following officers: W. Snowdon, President; W. H. Howard, vice-President; T. Hattersley, Steward; C. H. Hattersley, T. Lockwood, W. Gill, and F. P. Powell, Committeemen; also the re-appointment of Leeds as head quarters.

Next came the question of representation on the Central Council. A motion in favour of the full complement—four—was met by amendment in favour of two only, but the latter was defeated by a considerable majority.

Mr. T. Hattersley moved, and Mr. W. Howard seconded, the following delegates: Messrs. W. Snowdon, C. H. Hattersley, G. Bolland, and W. Stainthorpe, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. D. Brearley (Bolsterstone) moved, and Mr. A. Haigh (York) seconded, a vote of thanks to the officers and auditors, which also received unanimous approval.

The President then read an invitation signed by the Vicar, churchwardens, and ringers of Wortley (Sheffield) inviting the Association to hold its May meeting at that place. This was accepted on the motion of Mr. W. Stainthorpe, seconded by Mr. T. Hattersley; the latter of whom gave notice of the intentions of the Sheffield

branches to invite the Association to hold its Silver Jubilee in that city, an announcement which was received with applause.

Mr. W. Snowdon moved, and Mr. W. H. Howard seconded, a vote of thanks to the Vicar for his address in church, and the use of the bells and school; also to the churchwardens, organist, and choir, which was carried amid loud cheers.

The Rev. R. S. Davies (whose rising to respond was the signal for renewed cheering) while assuring the members of their hearty welcome on this their first official visit to Earlsheaton, expressed the hope that they might have the pleasure of again welcoming the Association. They were very proud of the bells, and looked for even greater interest being taken in them by the parishioners as a result of this visit. He complimented the officers on the excellency of the report, and expressed his particular pleasure in meeting the veteran Mr. Howard. On May 20th, 1903, he remarked, there would come the golden jubilee of their bells, and concluded a most happily phrased address by recounting how favourably placed they were in the way of church workers.

Mr. W. Sharrock, churchwarden, also replied in a vigorous speech, in which he dealt with the duties, responsibilities and privileges of the laity, urging upon those engaged in any branch of church work to maintain their position in their daily life.

The Rev. H. Matthew Cox, B.A., and Frederick Webster, Esq., of Christ Church, Upper Armley, and the Rev. R. S. Davies, M.A., Vicar of Earlsheaton, were elected honorary members.

Mr. W. Abbshaw moved, and Mr. W. Stainthorpe seconded, a vote of thanks to the Earlsheaton branch for their generous arrangements, and to the ladies for their assistance, which was cordially adopted and acknowledged by Mr. Arthur Goodall.

Mr. W. Reyner (Sandal), then moved, Mr. W. H. Howard seconded, and Mr. W. Stainthorpe supported the following resolution: "That this meeting of the Yorkshire Association of Change-Ringers views with the utmost satisfaction the inquiry instituted by the Lord Bishop of Wakefield as to the position of ringers in his diocese. Any measure the Lord Bishop can advance tending to draw the ringers into closer union with the Church-workers, or develop and encourage the art of change-ringing, will receive the support of this Association." This was carried unanimously.

The Rev. R. S. Davies, on behalf of the ladies, acknowledged the vote of thanks, and moved a similar compliment to the chairman, which was seconded by Mr. B. T. Copley, and heartily adopted, and this concluded the business. For the remainder of the evening the rings both at Earlsheaton and Dewsbury were kept fully employed by the visitors, which brought to a close another annual meeting, which had been both successful and enjoyable.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

In spite of the very unfavourable aspect of the weather on Monday, January 15th, a well-attended and successful meeting of the Sudbury district of this Association was held at Sudbury. The three peals of eight bells of which the town boasts were all brought into use; some particular good touches being brought off; 504 Grandsire Triples, 120 Grandsire Doubles, 900 Bob Major, and touches of Kent Treble Bob Major being among them.

A very pleasant gathering took place in the club room

of The Green Dragon for the meat tea and the usual business. The Rector of SS. Gregory and Peter very kindly presided at this part of the meeting; and it was generally agreed afterwards that a great deal of the pleasure of this gathering was due to the able manner in which the Rev. B. S. Fryer performed his duties of the chair. Members who had assembled from far and near, such as Bury St. Edmunds, Fornham, All Saints, Glemsford, Monks Eleigh, Felsham, Lavenham, and others were all with one accord agreed that they had spent a very pleasant day. The business of electing new members, and fixing the place of the next district meeting having been performed, a vote of thanks was passed and duly registered to the district secretary (the Rev. W. M. K. Warren), who was resigning his post on leaving the Diocese, to take up work at St. Mary's, Bridgewater, for the services rendered to the association; on a vote of thanks being accorded to the clergy for the use of their bells, and to Rev. B. S. Fryer for so kindly presiding, the worthy Rector heartily welcomed the ringers as officers of the Church and most devoted sons of the Church, declaring that it would be a strange matter if they were not welcomed. He took this opportunity of hoping that there would be a peal of ten bells at St. Peter's by the time of the Association's next meeting at Sudbury.

After some handbell ringing and some more touches on those merry bells of St. Peter's, members began to disperse towards their respective homes, carrying away with them a pleasant recollection of Sudbury.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

In spite of the warring of the elements, which might reasonably have kept many a ringing enthusiast at home, a well attended meeting of the members of the North and East district of the above Association was held on Saturday the 20th instant, at St. Matthew's Church, Upper Clapton. There were representatives from Barnet, Edmonton, Gospel Oak, Hornsey, Hampstead, Tottenham, Walthamstow, and even from far off Isleworth, with no small contingent of the unattached members, among whom are noticed some of the best known exponents of our glorious art. Ringing commenced at 5.30 and continued with little intermission till 9, the only interruption being the holding of a business meeting for the election of members, at which the Honorary Secretary deplored the excision from the records of the Association of the peal of Stedman Caters rung at St. Mary's, Walthamstow on the 19th March, 1899, which had since been found to be false. He stated that he had written to Mr. Attree, in order that the matter of the points awarded for this peal might be adjusted in his analysis of the peals rung during 1899. This would cause the Association to take a slightly lower place than would otherwise have been the case; but the position would still be satisfactory, and it would probably be found that they would take the ninth place as against the eighteenth place in 1898. He also paid a well-deserved compliment to Mr. J. Parker for his active work at Edmonton, and to Mr. Sidney Wade, of Southgate, who since the annual meeting in September, had successfully conducted no less than twelve peals for the Association.

A cordial vote of thanks to the Rev. J. Cullin for the use of the bells, and to Mr. W. W. Wrigley, jun., for his courtesy in contributing to the welcome of the visitors brought a very enjoyable meeting to a close.

THE NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting of this Society was held at Worksop on Saturday, January 13th. This is a convenient winter centre, and generally draws a good muster, but this year the influenza demon has paid the North Notts. district an early and disastrous visit, to which must be attributed the absence of many familiar faces. Amongst others the Vicar of Worksop, one of the founders of the Association, and for long its Honorary Secretary, was held a prisoner by the prevailing sickness, and was unable to preside over the meeting much to the regret of the members. The following towers were represented: Anston, Harthill, East Retford, Markham, Shireoaks and Worksop. Ringing commenced at the Priory Church tower at 2.30 in the afternoon, and continued with two interruptions, once for a funeral and next for tea, until 8 p.m.

The tea and business meeting were held in the Priory schoolroom by kind permission of the Vicar, whose place was taken by the Rev. W. R. Hewson, senior assistant curate, who gave the members a very cordial reception. One new performing member, Mr. J. Unwin of Harthill, was added to the roll, and a resolution of condolence with the Vicar, coupled with a wish for his speedy recovery, was unanimously passed.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. W. R. Hewson for presiding, and the Vicar and Churchwardens for the use of the bells concluded the business. The members present were glad of the opportunity to bid farewell and God-speed to brother W. Marshall of the Worksop Company, who leaves England with the Sherwood Rangers' troop of the Imperial Yeomanry at the end of this month to try a touch with the Boers. His brethren of the North Notts. Association hope very earnestly that when the touch has been successfully brought round, and Conductor Roberts says "that's all" Mr. Marshall may return safe and sound to join in a peal of thanksgiving for the restoration of peace. A report of the performances during the day will be found in the usual place on another page.

ST. MARY'S GUILD, TAUNTON.

The annual meeting of this Guild was held on Saturday, January 6th. Among those present were the President (Prebendary Askwith), the steward (Rev. J. V. Buckland, Rev. E. F. Powning, and Mr. H. J. Van Tromp (churchwarden). The steward read the balance-sheet, which showed a balance on the right side. The Rev. J. V. Buckland having desired to resign the office of steward, Mr. H. Van Tromp was elected to fill the office. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Rev. J. V. Buckland for his past services. Mr. J. Burge was re-elected conductor, and Mr. Fowler steeple-keeper.

Mr. H. J. Van Tromp (senior churchwarden), congratulated the ringers on the progress they had made during the past year.

The business of the meeting being finished, the President presented Mr. S. Wyatt with a silver-plated teapot, subscribed for by members of the Guild on the occasion of the Guild on the occasion of his marriage with Miss Bosley.

Mr. S. Wyatt responded, thanking the members of the Guild and promising to do all he could for the welfare of the Guild in the future.

All communications respecting the Guild should be addressed to the Steward, Mr. H. Van Tromp, jun., 59, East Street, Taunton.

ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL GUILD, EDINBURGH.

The annual general meeting of this Guild was held in the choir school on Monday, 8th January, the president occupying the chair. The following members were elected office-bearers for the year: Mr. Ellis (conductor), Mr. Price (secretary and treasurer), and Messrs. Heathcote, Honeyman, and Whitson were appointed to act as the committee. It was suggested that a fixed charge should be made for ringing at weddings and funerals, and a suitable rate was thought to be 10s. 6d. for each bell—not less than six to be rung. The next subject to be discussed was that of punctuality. It was resolved that the ringing should begin at 10.30 and 6.30 on Sundays, if there were five or more ringers present, and if fewer than five, the bells would not be rung at that service. It was hoped that such measures would insure greater punctuality among the members. The existing rules of the society were then revised. Mr. Ellis proposed several alterations, and the matter was placed in the hands of the committee, in order that new rules might be drawn up and submitted to the Dean for approval. It was thought desirable that a paragraph to the following effect should be inserted in the cathedral monthly paper:—"The committee are anxious to receive the names of suitable persons who will volunteer for work in the belfry. A practice for those who desire to learn bell-ringing is held every Monday at 7.30 p.m. It is hoped that those who enrol themselves as probationers will undertake to give the time and attention necessary to attain proficiency in ringing, and that they will bear in mind that the cathedral ringers receive no remuneration for their services. The names of those willing to join may be sent to any of the clergy or to the secretary of the Guild."

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

The Quarterly Meeting in connection with this society was held on Saturday, January 20th, 1900, at the parish church, Rugeley, the following places being represented: Lichfield, Cannock, Wolverhampton, Handsworth, West Bromwich, and Tipton. The bells were kept going during the afternoon and some touches in the four standard methods were brought round. The Vicar (Prebendary Moncrief) gave an address in church at 5 p.m. Afterwards a committee meeting was held, when several new members were elected, and it was decided to hold the next meeting at Harborne on Saturday, April 28th, if possible. An adjournment was then made to the parish room, where an excellent tea was in readiness, and everyone being in good form, ample justice was done to the good things provided. A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for his address and for presiding at the meeting, also for his kindness in arranging for the tea and for the use of the bells, etc. A move was then made to the railway station for the return journey.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Wednesday, December 13th, on handbells, 504 Stedman Triples. W. Pye, 1-2; G. R. Pye, 3-4; E. Pye, 5-6; H. F. Dawkins, 7-8. Also 504 in the same method, with L. Copsey, 7-8. At St. Edward's church, on Sunday, December 24th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original, in 45 mins. S. James, 1; E. Vyse, 2; A. Scarff, 3; G. R. Pye (conductor), 4; H. F. Dawkins, 5; E. Pye, 6; W. Watson, 7; A. Perkins, 8. On Sunday, December 31st, after evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. S. James, 1; W. T. Laxton, 2; G. Roughton, 3; L. W. C. Copsey, 4; H. F. Dawkins, 5; W. Pye (conductor), 6; E. Pye, 7; R. Vyse

A BRIEF CONSIDERATION OF A FEW POINTS CONNECTED WITH THE HISTORY OF RINGING.

By R. A. DANIELL.

(Continued from page 413.)

The Ramblers' next meeting was at St. Bartholomew's, Smithfield. There were then five bells as there are now. Laughton's lines on this occasion are not more poetical than usual, but they are interesting as showing in a small compass the interest he took in things and places with which he was brought in contact. Therefore I will set them out in full with his own footnotes.

"Now for Bartholomew's the Great,
At the Baker and Basket there we met,
From whence we went to the Bell and Horse,
For their drink was so bad we ne'er drunk worse.
We rang upon those little bells
Four different peals to divert ourselves.
Grandsire, Old Doubles, Simonds and New,
And faith we struck them very true.
Eleven hundred and two, 'twas in that year
This Church was founded by Rahere,
And Bartholomew's the Less, likewise,
But in this Church his body lies,
Beneath a tomb well made for strength,
His effigie on it lies at length
Carved in the habit of those times,
Which I'll describe in these two lines,
A long robe it was as it appears,
And his hair cut short close to the ears,
But by the way I'm apt to guess
They carved him in his prior's dress,*
For prior he was, though he had been
A famed musician to the king,
But when Religion him inspired,
This was the life he then desired.
On his tomb is writ one line in Latin,†
And at the bottom I'll put that in."

They met the next week at St. James', Clerkenwell—the predecessor of the present edifice—where there were five bells. There is nothing to note on this occasion except that some of the lines referring to it show that the proceedings of the Club did not escape some rather narrow criticism.

By the Snarling Critics it is sung
Five fools at Batses' last week rung

Because there's peals of twelve in town
Shall five or six bells ne'er be rung?
I think 'tis a very stupid thing
Of men that take delight to ring,
To rail at all variety.

They rang Court Bob and Plain Bob at Islington old church on the 7th March 1773-4, after which they sat down seventeen to supper at the Mitre near the Church.

On Thursday the 21st March 1773-4 they went to Westminster Abbey to ring. They "met at the Chequer, near the Church," probably the Exchequer Coffee House which stood at the north west corner of Westminster Hall. On this occasion Laughton is inspired to write no less than 115 lines, but I shall only cite such of them as present some special interest.

"The famous Abbey that's the place,
The West-end of which they're about to case
And raise the towers above the roof
If they can raise up money enough.
It's strange for such a space of years

* After Rahere had founded this Church and priory, he became the first prior of it himself, and so continued till he died. He had been musician to King Henry the First, and was a famous man for wit and mirth.

† Hic jacit Raberus primus Canonicus et primus Prior hujus Ecclesiae.

In English thus:—

"Here lies Rahere the first Canon and first prior of this Church."

They should stand unfinished as now appears,
For above five hundred years ago
They were founded, as I've read in Stow."

The western towers were finished in 1739. Prior to this the bells hung in the same tower as now, but in the first stage where the louvres under the present clock and ringing-chamber are. They were rung from the ground, where the service bells are still chimed.

The monuments and the illustrious dead naturally call forth many lines which I pass by till we come to these:

"There's one lies there of my own trade,
Who made as good work as e'er was made.
The famous Tompion, that was he,
As ingenious a man as e'er can be
For clock or watch work certainly,
He made such improvements in the art
No one e'er did so great a part."

These lines are very interesting because from them we learn what Laughton was by trade, and because they explain how his manuscript comes to present the appearance it does. When it is borne in mind that it is written on pages 6½ inches long by 3½ inches broad, and that as many as thirty lines of his verse frequently appear on one page, written, not with any attempt at ornamental writing, but with the most perspicuous neatness, we may recognise the hand trained to the scrupulous exactness of minute detail required by its owner's every day work.

He then goes out into the cloisters and notices the graves of four of the Abbots who formerly ruled the house, and then he says:

"What a while these four old souls have laid
At rest within the silent grave,
For 'tis ten to one if e'er their dust
Has been moved since they were buried first."

If any one made such a reflection now-a-days, we should be much inclined to treat it as a mere platitude. Why should we think about their dust not being moved? But Laughton lived in a different age. He was probably familiar with many traditions of desecrations of graves by the Parliamentary troopers in the days of the Civil war. He could hardly fail to have known men who remembered the disinterment from their graves in that very Abbey of Cromwell, Ireton, and Bradshaw after the Restoration, and the hideous mockery of hanging these corpses at Tyburn. It is more likely than not that he had heard from eye witnesses stories of the horrors that inevitably accompanied the burial of the dead in the year of the Great Plague of 1665, and he must have known of the wholesale interference with the ashes of the dead that necessarily accompanied the rebuilding of the Churches consumed in the Great Fire of London. And moreover as he walked about the central parts of London, he daily saw the churchyards, small and insignificant themselves but serving a congested population, dug up to receive the bodies of the dead, when the ground was so full that room could only be made by more or less disturbance of the remains of others already committed to the earth. It was natural enough that the idea of dead bodies remaining undisturbed should strike him as unusual, whereas it would not so strike us. The difference between the practice of Laughton's day and our own in decent care for the remains of the dead must, if we think of it, come vividly before us, and will help us to understand how different must the general ideas of reverence for sacred places of necessity have been to the men of Laughton's day from what they are to those of our own.

Then he proceeds—

"Not far from these lies honest Jeummy
Newcomb by name, and pray forgive me
If I tell you he rung fourteen eighteen scores
At Giles-in-the-Fields with me and four more
Which by none had e'er been done before,
And this I may be bold to say,
That they have not been equalled to this day.
Two places i' th' Abbey to him was given
Which brought him in a charming living
But there's no certainty under heaven
For just as he'd got into good bread
Death called upon and struck him dead."

I do not call to mind that I have come across an earlier reference to a 5040 on six. Perhaps in the above lines Laughton means to claim that it was the first accomplished anywhere. Newcomb's burial in the dark cloisters is noticed in Chester's Westminster Abbey Registers. A note of Laughton's tells us what he was.

"He was one of those that showed the tombs and had one of the places belonging to the steeple keeping besides." He died on the 2nd February 1733-4 of a lingering distemper which had held him sixteen weeks, and was buried on the 5th. I find that he was admitted a member of the Society of Union Scholars in the year 1729.

Laughton then speaks of the bells, which he considered a mixed lot, as indeed they are now, though some have had to be recast since Laughton's time, and then he concludes with this—

"But when the tower is raised higher
They'll be recast and purged by fire,
And more bells added to make them ten,
And till that I'll never ring there again,
But before I leave it I here will show
What we rung, if any should want to know,
'Twas what was often rung before,
College and Plain Bob, 'twas no more,
But had the fifth rope held it out
We'd completed Treble Bob without all doubt."

I suppose that notwithstanding a scheme for a ring of ten the then Dean and Chapter could not make up their minds to spend enough money to provide their new tower with a ring worthy of it. At all events, as we know, they didn't, and their successors to this day appear to have been as indifferent as themselves.

On Thursday, March 28th, 1734, the Club went to Hackney. "We marched to Hackney o'er the fields" sings Laughton, a feat impossible now. The then extent of the town is referred to by Sir Walter Besant in his book on London (page 339). "On the north side Moorfields still remained an open space; beyond lay Hoxton Fields, White Conduit Fields, Lambs Conduit Fields, and Marylebone Fields. The suburb of Bloomsbury was beginning. A crowded suburb had sprung up north of the Strand. Westminster was a great City by itself. Southwark now a borough with half a million people, as great as Liverpool, occupied then a little strip of marshy land not half a mile broad at its widest. East and West to Lambeth on the one side and Redriff on the other was a narrow strip of riverside dotted with houses and hamlets." The whole of the chapter from which these words are taken is an interesting illustration of the London of Laughton's day.

(To be continued.)

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."

HAVERING TOWER, ESSEX.

SIR,—It will be remembered by some of the members of the Essex Association that at a District Meeting held at Coggeshall on Easter Monday, 1898, I called attention to the closing of Havering tower to members of the Association. Application has just been made for permission to have the tower open to the Association upon the occasion of the District Meeting here on the 17th of next month, with the result that the ringers themselves point blank refuse to permit the tower to be opened to the Association. As these enlightened gentlemen possess the capability of simply ringing the bells in rounds, and producing about half a dozen call-changes, it will probably not be very difficult to judge the reason of their opposition, although any one who knows anything about the control of a tower and the bells, is aware that they have as much *locus standi* in the matter as the man in the moon. As it is my intention to move an important resolution upon the matter, I trust that as many members as possible will be present at the forthcoming district meeting here on the 17th.

B. KEEBLE.

DECISIVE.

SIR,—Regarding the remarks passed by "Plain Speaker," I consider the time has come when the enclosed letter should be made public. It refers to the opening peal at St. Patrick's Cathedral.

G. LINDOFF.

[Copy.]

"155, Waterloo Street, Burton-on-Trent.

"October 23rd, 1899.

"Dear Mr. Lindoff,—There was nothing unusual in the calling of the opening course of the peal you mention, calls being made at each position of M W H, and I have never made any secret of the fact that at the finish the bells were called into the plain course by two bobs at M.

"Of course the most casual investigation would have proved at once that such a peal of necessity be false, but so entirely unsuspecting was I of anything being wrong with the peal, that it was not until I received your letter that I gave a moment's thought to the possibility of the calling being false. However I have now seen Mr. J. W. Taylor and others of the Loughborough band, and we are agreed that we have no right to claim the performance as a peal, and we accordingly withdraw it.

"I am writing by this post to the conductor telling him what we know, and I hope he will decide to publicly withdraw the peal himself in the columns of "BELL NEWS." I have not had an opportunity of seeing Mr. Willson, but as far as Mr. Taylor and myself are concerned, you are at liberty to make any use you like of this letter, in fact if the peal is not withdrawn publicly by the conductor, we would wish you, as the best amends we can make to the Exercise for our share in this unfortunate business, to send a copy of this to "BELL NEWS" and ask the Editor to publish it.

"Wishing you an early success in your attempt for Grand-sire Caters,—Yours faithfully,

(sd) W. WAKLEY."

A QUERY,

SIR,—In reading "THE BELL NEWS," dated January 6th, I noticed a peal of Stedman Cinques which was rung at Bristol on New Year's Eve, and the time it was stated to have been finished in was 3 hours and 28 minutes. Now I am a member of a company of Ringers who have in their time done a great deal of twelve-bell ringing, and I have always been given to understand that a peal of Cinques could not be rung in 3½ hours, in fact, that to ring a peal of Stedman Cinques in 3 hours 28 minutes was an impossibility, especially with a tenor weighing 50 cwt., so of course I thought I would ask if the ringers made a mistake as to the time, but then that could not be as it is stated so plainly under the peal. Now I would like to know if my information is correct, and if a true and complete peal of Stedman Cinques with a tenor of that weight can be rung in the time. If so, I'll cave in, but for my own part I cannot swallow it. I hope to hear something further on this subject. Thanking you in anticipation.

W. R.

A STRIKING COINCIDENCE.

SIR,—A rather striking coincidence, no mention of which I have yet seen published, occurred in connection with the death of the late Jas. Hewitt of Gosport, whose memoir was published in your paper a fortnight since. On the Saturday after his decease, his fellow-ringers at Gosport were ringing half-muffled to his memory, when the 2nd rope broke, and on the next evening, the Sunday, the St. Mary, Portsea band, attempted a quarter-peal half-muffled, when the 2nd rope again broke within five minutes of home. Whenever I have had the pleasure of ringing with Mr. Hewitt I think I may say that he invariably rang the 2nd bell, and I believe it had been his custom for some years to do so, and I think the fact of that very rope parting on consecutive evenings, at two different churches, sufficiently strange to warrant my troubling you. HAMPSHIRE RINGER.

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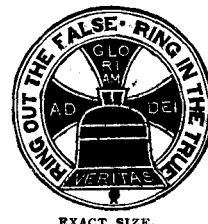
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Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication arriving later than the first Postal delivery on Wednesday 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, JANUARY 27, 1900.

A prominent member of the Essex Association—Mr. B. KEEBLE—sends a letter this week to promulgate what will be held by most people to be a great irregularity, at the least. There is a little place in Essex called "Havering," or to speak by the card, "Havering-atte-Bower." There has not been a ring at the church till very recently, and the local company have not yet arrived at a position sufficiently to be regarded as "ringers" in the true sense of the word. These men strenuously refuse, we are told, to open their tower to members of the County Association. No reason for such conduct is assigned, but it can very easily be understood.

We hope these men are amenable to the fact that the bells and tower are not their own private property. The church and all its belongings and adjuncts are vested in the incumbent for his lifetime, and he only has the power of hermetically sealing the portals of the belfry. The office of Vicar is generally filled by a gentleman, and the Vicar of Havering is no less. We are confident that an appeal to him in this matter will result in removing the anomaly complained of.

The Metropolis.**THE ESSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.***On Thursday, January 18, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, LEYTONSTONE.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Chichester, Worcester, Coventry and Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob.

Tenor 14 cwt.

GEO. HAYDEN† Treble.	WM. KEEBLE 4.
JNO. MARDELL 2.	*WM. MILLER 5.
JNO. MOULE 3.	T. H. BEAMS Tenor.

Conducted by WM. MILLER.

First peal of Treble Bob Minor by all except W. Keeble and on the bells. *First peal as conductor. †First peal away from a covering bell.

The Provinces.**POOLSTOCK, WIGAN, LANCASHIRE.***On Tuesday, January 16, 1900, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 25 cwt. 2 qrs. 21 lbs.

JAMES C. ECKERSLEY* .. Treble.	SAMUEL MARSDEN 6.
ALFRED GARSIDE 2.	JOHN F. ECKERSLEY 7.
GEORGE BROWN 3.	GEORGE RHODES Tenor.
THOMAS WORTHINGTON .. 4.	HARRY EAGLES 5.
JOHN JONES 5.	HARRY RIDGE 6.

Conducted by J. C. ECKERSLEY.

This is the first peal on the bells. First peal by all. *First peal as conductor.

SPELDHURST, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.*On Wednesday, January 17, 1900, in Three Hours and One Minute,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt.

STEPHEN J. PERKINS, JUN.* Treble.	*ROBERT P. STAPLEY 5.
STEPHEN PERKINS, SEN. .. 2.	JOSEPH SMITH 6.
JAMES MUGGRIDGE 3.	FREDERICK J. HARRINGTON .. 7.
WILLIAM LATTER 4.	GEORGE SMITHERS Tenor.

Conducted by S. PERKINS, SEN.

*First peal. The above ringers all belong to the St. Peter's band, Tunbridge Wells.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.**SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.***On Thursday, January 18, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

HERBERT KNIGHT Treble.	ROBERT PICKERING 5.
WILLIAM H. GODDEN 2.	WILLIAM R. SMALL 6.
THOMAS HORTON 3.	SAMUEL REEVES 7.
JOHN JAGGAR 4.	ERNEST BROWN Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

FRAMSDEN, SUFFOLK.**THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Friday, January 19, 1900, in Three Hours,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. Treble.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN 5.
WILLIAM WIGHTMAN 2.	†JOHN CREASY 6.
EDGAR HICKS† 3.	GEORGE WIGHTMAN 7.
GEORGE THURLOW† 4.	†WILLIAM SAWYER Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WIGHTMAN.

†First peal in the method. This is also the first peal in the method ever rang upon the bells.

SONNING, BERKS.**THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.***On Saturday, January 20, 1900, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 21 cwt.

G. F. BODDINGTON Treble.	WILLIAM NEWELL 5.
ALBERT E. REEVES 2.	FRANK HOPGOOD 6.
F. SWEETZER 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 7.
A. W. PIKE 4.	REUBEN SAWYER Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

First peal of Stedman on the bells. Rung to celebrate the induction of the Rev. H. Barter, M.A., to the vicarage of Sonning.

HEXHAM, NORTHUMBERLAND.**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, January 20, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,*

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE OXFORD MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 21 cwt.

JAMES LEIGHTON Treble.	THOMAS T. GOFTON 5.
ROBERT S. STORY 2.	WILLIAM STORY 6.
WILLIAM C. BENNETT 3.	JOHN J. LEIGHTON 7.
JOSEPH A. GOFTON 4.	JOSEPH PATTISON Treble.

Composed and Conducted by THOMAS T. GOFTON.

This is the first peal of Double Oxford by all the above, first by the Association, and was rung at the first attempt.

ARUNDEL, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.*On Saturday, January 20, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S ONE-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt. in E.

GEORGE F. WELLER .. Treble.	ERNEST H. HOLDEN 5.
HAROLD D. SEARLE 2.	GEORGE H. LEE 6.
FREDERICK LUXFORD 3.	JOHN NETLEY 7.
PERCY H. DOICK 4.	ALFRED MILLS Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE H. LEE.

AMPTHILL, BEDS.**THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

(THE BEDFORD COMPANY.)

On Saturday, January 20, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Double Court, Oxford Bob, and Plain Bob.

Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs. 6 lbs.

HARRY TOLL Treble.	JAMES A. SMITH 4.
FRANK WEBB 2.	CHARLES CHASTY 5.
CHARLES WM. CLARKE .. 3.	WILLIAM J. BARKER Tenor.

Conducted by C. W. CLARKE.

First 5040 on the bells.

DARTFORD, KENT.**THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, January 20, 1900, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES

SIR A. P. HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'. Tenor 20 cwt.

ERNEST PYE Treble.	WILLIAM PYE 5.
HENRY HARVEY 2.	HARRY FLANDERS 6.
ISAAC G. SHADE 3.	JOHN H. CHEESMAN 7.
JOHN R. SHARMAN 4.	FREDERICK J. FRENCH Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE

ASSTEAD, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 20, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF HOLT'S TEN-PART.

DAVID ANSCOMB Treble.	ARTHUR DEAN 5.
WILLIAM COOK 2.	JOHN WYATT 6.
HENRY CORBETT 3.	EDWARD HULL 7.
JOHN HOYLE 4.	WILLIAM FARREL Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN WYATT.

Rung on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. B. L. Hue Williams, eldest son of F. Hue Williams, churchwarden of Ashted, to Miss Tritton Godson, of London, the wedding taking place at St. George's Hanover Square.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Saturday, January 20, 1900, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5006 CHANGES.

Tenor 21 cwt.

HARRY BARTON Treble.	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 6.
HERBERT LANGDON* .. 2.	HAROLD N. DAVIS .. 7.
ARTHUR HARDY 3.	REUBEN CHARGE 8.
CHARLES E. MALIM .. 4.	GEORGE E. SYMONDS .. 9.
FREDERICK G. PERRIN .. 5.	†WILLIAM CHARGE Tenor.

Composed by the late GEORGE NEWSON, and

Conducted by HARRY BARTON.

†First peal in the method. *First peal.

THORNHAM MAGNA, SUFFOLK,

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 22, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of London, St. Simon's, Canterbury, Morning Star, April Day, Grandsire, and Plain Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

HARRY CATTERMOLLE .. Treble.	HARRY SYMONDS 3.
EDWARD YOUNGS 2.	EDWARD BUCKINGHAM .. 4.

JOHN D. BUCKINGHAM, Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN BUCKINGHAM.

Rang as a birthday compliment to E. W. Youngs who attained his 35th year; also the first that started the local company of ringers in 1897.

MORETON-IN-THE-MARSH, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

On Tuesday, January 23, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 12 cwt.

S. F. HUNSTON, ESQ. .. Treble.	A. WHITE 5.
R. ROBERTS 2.	J. BUTLER 6.
W. SMITH 3.	W. LARGE 7.
R. LYDIATT 4.	A. GRIMES Tenor.

Composed by G. LINDOFF, and Conducted by W. LARGE.

First peal on the bells since 1861. First peal by all except the conductor.

SAWBRIDGEWORTH, HERTS.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 23, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES. Tenor 25 cwt.

NEHEMIAH TARLING .. Treble.	ERNEST PYE 5.
WALTER PRIOR 2.	†WILLIAM WATTS 6.
HENRY J. TUCKER 3.	†ISAAC CAVILL 7.
GEORGE DENT 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

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

Date Touches.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

COGGESHALL (Essex).—On Monday, January 22nd, at the church of St. Peter-ad-Vincula, a date touch of Minor, 1900 changes, being 720 each of New London and Oxford Treble Bob, 360 Double Court, and 100 Kent Treble Bob. R. Petler, 1; W. Dyer, 2; J. Sadler, 3; C. Norfolk, 4; E. W. Beckwith, 5; D. Elliott (conductor), 6.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

DRIFHLINGTON (Yorkshire).—On Sunday evening, January 21st, for service, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1900 changes, in 1 hour and 12 mins. J. Thornton, 1; T. H. Hepworth, 2; H. Chapman, 3; D. Newton, 4; G. H. Wilson, 5; A. Muffett, 6; E. Wheeler, (composer and conductor), 7; L. Snowden, 8.

LAWTON (Cheshire).—On Sunday, December 31st, for evening service, a date touch, 1899 changes, in 1 hr. 5 mins., being 1179 Plain Bob, and 720 Grandsire Minor. J. Hancock, 1; J. Wildblood, 2; J. Massey, 3; J. James, 4; G. Baddeley, 5; W. Rigby (conductor), 6.

LINDLEY, HUDDERSFIELD.—On Sunday evening, January 7th, at the parish church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major. A. Sykes, 1; G. W. Schofield, 2; T. Rhodes, 3; A. Crosland, 4; J. Turner, 5; F. Schofield, 6; C. Craven, 7; J. Royston, 8. Composed by A. Sykes, and Conducted by J. Royston.

Miscellaneous.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CANTERBURY (Kent).—On November 5th, at the church of St. Alphege, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. J. Fox, 1; M. Pierce (conductor), 2; G. Jenkins, 3; F. Brett, 4; A. Saxby, 5; P. Pierce, 6.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

OTTERY ST. MARY (Devon).—On Christmas Day for evening service, 534 Stedman Triples. Rev. M. Kelly (conductor), 1; W. Godfrey, 2; S. H. Godfrey, 3; H. Channon, 4; J. Godfrey, 5; J. E. Baker, 6; A. E. Pike, 7; J. Lovering, 8. On Thursday, January 11th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, being the first on the bells and by all the band except the Rev. M. Kelly. H. Channon, 1; W. Godfrey, 2; Rev. M. Kelly, 3; J. E. Baker, 4; J. H. Godfrey, 5; A. E. Pike (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, January 16th, at the vicarage on handbells, a plain course of Double Norwich. A. E. Fisher, 1; Miss D. Kelly, 2; Miss A. M. Kelly, 3; Miss M. C. Kelly, 4; *W. Godfrey, 5; J. E. Baker, 6; A. E. Pike, 7; Rev. M. Kelly, 8. *First in the method.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, December 14th, at St. Paul's church, 420 Stedman Triples. W. J. Barker, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; W. Hall, 3; B. Jealous, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6; C. Chasty, 7; J. Sear, 8. On Sunday, December 17th, 216 Stedman Triples. F. Webb, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; W. Hall, 3; B. Jealous, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6; C. Chasty, 7; J. Sear, 8. On Sunday, December 24th, 216 Stedman Triples. F. Webb, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; W. Hall, 3; J. Church, 4; E. Tingey, 5; I. Hills, 6; W. J. Baker (conductor), 7; J. Sear, 8. Also 336 Grandsire Triples. F. Smith, 1; J. Sear, 2; W. Hall, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; E. Tingey, 5; I. Hills, 6; C. Chasty (conductor), 7; D. Thompson, 8. On Christmas Day 252 Stedman Triples. F. Webb, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; W. Hall, 3; W. Gazeley, 4; I. Hills, 5; G. Valentine, 6; C. Chasty, 7; J. Sear, 8. On Wednesday, December 27th, 540 Grandsire Caters. J. Sear, 1; F. Webb, 2; J. Church, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; W. Hall, 5; E. Tingey, 6; W. J. Barker, 7; I. Hills, 8; C. Chasty (conductor), 9; W. Ellis, 10. On Sunday, December 31st, 252 Stedman Triples. F. Webb, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; J. Church, 3; B. Jealous, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; I. Hills, 6; C. Chasty, 7; J. Sear, 8. Also two courses of Grandsire Caters. R. Glass, 1; F. Webb, 2; J. Church, 3; E. Tingey, 4; W. Gazeley, 5; B. Jealous, 6; C. W. Clarke, 7; I. Hills, 8; C. Chasty, 9; J. Sear, 10.

AMPTHILL (Beds).—On Saturday, December 16th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1; F. Sharp, 2; C. Chasty, 3; H. Toll, 4; A. Robinson, 5; W. J. Barker, 6. Also 720 Double Court. F. Sharp, 1; C. Chasty, 2; W. J. Barker, 3; A. Robinson, 4; H. Toll, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. The above 720s were rung after meeting one short for a peal, one of the intended band not being able to attend through illness.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

PORTSEA (Hants).—On Sunday evening, December 24th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. J. Harris, 1; J. Harper, 2; C. Groves, 3; J. J. Symons (conductor), 4; A. D. Stone, 5; J. T. Matthews, 6; E. C. Newman, 7; H. C. Ingram, 8. On Christmas morning, 504 Stedman Triples. C. Groves, 1; J. J. Symons, 2; J. Harris, 3; J. Harper, 4; A. D. Stone, 5; J. T. Matthews, 6; E. C. Newman (conductor), 7; H. C. Ingram, 8. On Sunday evening, December 31st, for Divine Service, 504 Stedman Triples. J. Harper, 1; P. M. Hannam, 2; E. C. Newman, 3; J. J. Symons, 4; A. D. Stone, 5; J. T. Matthews, 6; J. Gould (conductor), 7; H. Ingham, 8.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HELMESHORE (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, December 19th, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major, and 224 Double Norwich. On Sunday, December 24th, 504 Grandsire Triples, and 464 Bob Major. On Tuesday, December 26th, 240 London Surprise Minor, and 602 Double Norwich. On Sunday, December 31st, 288 Kent Treble Bob, 336 Grandsire, and 1008 Stedman Triples. The following ringers took part: T. P. Brandwood, J. H. Entwistle, H. Steff, J. Banks, J. Foster, W. Haslam, R. Wallwork, T. Wallwork, and J. H. Banks.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BATTLE (Sussex).—At the parish church, with the bells half-muffled, on New Year's Eve, 448 Grandsire Triples. J. Sinden, 1; J. Mathis, 2; F. Mathis, 3; C. R. Carter, 4; W. H. Eldridge, 5; W. J. Thomas (conductor), 6; C. J. Hyland, 7; A. Saunders, 8. And at ten minutes to 12 a 500 Grandsire Triples, open was started to ring the old year out and new year in. J. Sinden, 1; J. Mathis, 2; F. Mathis, 3; C. J. Hyland, 4; W. H. Eldridge, 5; C. R. Carter, 6; W. J. Thomas (conductor), 7; A. Saunders, 8.

THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BOURNE (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday, December 24th, at the abbey church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). G. H. Hollis, 1; G. Hollis, 2; A. Holmes, 3; A. Allen, 4; J. T. Woolley (conductor), 5; R. Sharp, 6. Another 720 (nine bobs and six singles). J. T. Ball, 1; W. Wolfe, 2; A. Allen, 3; F. Hollis, 4; J. T. Woolley (conductor), 5; R. Sharp, 6. Also a 360. J. T. Ball, 1; W. Wolfe, 2; A. Allen, 3; G. Hollis, 4; J. T. Woolley (conductor), 5; R. Sharp, 6.

MORTON (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, December 26th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). C. Stokes, 1; G. Hollis (conductor), 2; G. Mitchelson, 3; A. Holmes, 4; A. Allen, 5; W. Wadsley, 6. And another 720 in the same method. C. Stokes, 1; G. Hollis (conductor), 2; G. Mitchelson, 3; A. Holmes, 4; W. Wadsley, 5; G. H. Hollis, 6.

EDENHAM (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday evening, December 24th, for Divine Service, 720 Grandsire Doubles, being six 6-scores each called differently. G. Sentance, 1; G. Furness, 2; J. Alford, 3; A. Holmes, 4; W. Jones (conductor), 5. On Christmas morning for service, 480 Bob Doubles standing as before. On Sunday evening, December 31st, for Divine Service, 480 Bob Doubles. G. Chamberlain, 1; the rest as before. After service six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles standing as before, conducted by J. Alford. And with the bells half-muffled to ring out the old year, 336 Grandsire Doubles. G. Chamberlain, 1; J. Alford, 2; A. Holmes, 3; G. Furness, 4; W. Jones (conductor), 5. And to usher in the new year, 360 Grandsire Doubles. G. Sentance, 1; A. Holmes, 2; G. Furness, 3; W. Jones, 4; J. Alford (conductor), 5.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

DEVIZES (Wilts).—On Friday, December 29th, at St. Mary's church, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. C. R. Hampton, 1; S. Hillier, 2; W. Hollier (conductor), 3; T. Raddon, 4; A. Draper, 5; W. Sutton, 6.

THE NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

WORKSOP (Notts).—On Saturday, January 13th, at the quarterly meeting, 720 Killamarsh Treble Bob. E. Russon, 1; D. Russon, 2; J. Fitzjohn, 3; H. Stenton, 4; S. Smith, 5; C. Fowler (conductor), 6. 720 Kent. W. Platts, 1; C. Fowler (conductor), 2; J. Fitzjohn, 3; G. R. Winter, 4; C. Crawford, 5; H. Stenton, 6. 720 Oxford. J. Bilham, 1; R. Smith, 2; J. Guest, 3; T. Smith, 4; G. R. Winter, 5; S. Smith (conductor), 6. And 360 Kent. H. Hall, 1; G. R. Winter, 2; R. Smith, 3; J. Guest, 4; S. Smith (conductor), 5; T. Smith, 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

COLCHESTER (Essex).—On Tuesday, January 2nd, at St. Peter's

church, 720 Bob Minoa. F. Manning, 1; R. Stannard (conductor), 2; F. Bumpstead, 3; A. Burch, 4; W. Schofield, 5; G. Burch, 6. First 720 by Messrs. Manning and A. Burch.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SPROUTON (Suffolk).—On Monday evening, January 8th, for practice on banbells, 672 changes of New Cambridge Surprise Major. A. Woolward, 1; G. W. Mee, 2; F. Rolfe, 3; H. J. Mee, 4; E. Rivers, 5; A. Rivers, 6; C. Mee (conductor), 7; F. Mee, 8. This is the longest touch in the method by all. Also a course of Double Norwich Court Major, standing as above.

ARELEY KINGS (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, October 1st, 720 Kent Treble Bob (fifteen bobs). E. Mapp, 1; W. Martin, 2; C. Beaman, 3; T. Elcox, 4; J. Reynolds, 5; T. Griffiths (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, October 11th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. E. Mapp, 1; W. Martin, 2; T. Griffiths, 3; T. Elcox, 4; C. Beaman, 5; J. Reynolds (conductor), 6. On Sunday, October 29th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. E. Mapp, 1; J. Reynolds, 2; T. Elcox, 3; T. Griffiths, 4; C. Beaman, 5; W. Martin (conductor), 6. And two 720s of Kent Treble Bob, conducted by C. Beaman. On Sunday, November 5th, 720 Oxford Bob. W. Bowen, 1; H. Argyle, 2; T. Elcox, 3; J. Reynolds, 4; E. Griffiths, 5; T. W. Chapman (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, November 15th, a 1440, being 720 each of Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. W. Bowen, 1; E. Mapp, 2; T. Elcox (conductor), 3; J. Reynolds, 4; T. Griffiths, 5; J. Earp, 6. On Wednesday, November 22nd, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. W. Bowen, 1; T. Griffiths, 2; E. Mapp, 3; T. Elcox, 4; J. Reynolds, 5; J. Earp (conductor), 6. On Sunday, November 26th, 720 Plain Bob. T. Griffiths, 1; E. Mapp, 2; T. Elcox, 3; W. Bowen, 4; J. Earp, 5; J. Reynolds, 6. Also 720 Grandsire Minor. On Tuesday, November 28th, 720 College Single. W. Bowen, 1; E. Mapp, 2; T. Elcox, 3; J. Reynolds, 4; J. Earp, 5; T. Griffiths (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 10th, 720 Plain Bob. W. Bowen, 1; E. Mapp, 2; T. Griffiths, 3; J. Reynolds, 4; T. Elcox, 5; J. Pagett (conductor), 6.

BLETCHLEY (Bucks).—On Sunday, December 24th, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles on the back six. F. Sear, 1; A. Crane, 2; L. Meager, 3; A. Crane, 4; R. Sear, 5; H. Seer, 6; F. Hedges (conductor), 7; J. Atkins, 8. On January 4th, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. Sear, 1; G. Gardner, 2; A. Crane, 3; L. Meager, 4; H. Sear, 5; A. Crane, 6; F. Hedges (conductor), 7; V. Sear, 8.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, December 26th, at St. Mary's church, 384 Superlative Surprise Major. C. H. Gillingham, 1; I. G. Shade, 2; G. R. Pye, 3; F. J. Tillet, 4; W. Roughton, 5; E. Pye, 6; J. Motts (conductor), 7; W. Pye, 8. Also touch of Stedman Triples, in which W. L. Catchpole and A. Hammond took part.

COTGRAVE (Notts).—On Sunday evening, January 21st, a quarter-peal of Doubles was rung, being 480 of Plain Bob and 780 of Grandsire, in 53 mins. with the bells half muffled, as a mark of respect for the late Earl Manvers, who was buried the previous day. G. Simpson, 1; W. E. White, (conductor), 2; P. Dabell, 3; W. White, T. Squires, 5.

DEVIZES (Wilts).—On Friday, December 29th, at St. John's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. F. Merritt, 1; W. Hollier, 2; T. Raddon, 3; A. Draper, 4; C. R. Hampton, 5; C. H. Hampton, 6; S. Hillier (conductor), 7; R. Phillips, 8. Rung with the bells muffled as a token of respect to the late Rector of Devizes.

DORKING (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, January 7th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. E. E. Dodd, 1; H. F. Songhurst, 2; H. Boxall (conductor), 3; W. J. Songhurst, 4; H. Druce, 5; G. Huggett, 6; J. White, 7; W. Lynch, 8.

LAWTON (Cheshire).—On November 16th, for practice, 720 Double Oxford Bob. J. Hancock, 1; J. Wildblood, 2; J. Massey, 3; J. James, 4; G. Baddeley, 5; W. Rigby (conductor), 6.

NORTHAMPTON.—On Tuesday, November 28th, at the church of All Saints, 800 Bob Major. T. Harris, 1; G. A. Hensman, 2; H. Rainbow, 3; W. Farey, 4; A. Arnold, 5; A. Moore, 6; A. P. Hensman, 7; E. H. Blundell (conductor), 8. On Sunday, December 3rd, 504 Grandsire Triples. H. Blundell, 1; W. Knightall, 2; A. Moore, 3; A. Arnold, 4; W. Roberts, 5; H. Rainbow, 6; A. P. Hensman (conductor), 6; C. Fennell, 8. On Sunday, December 10th, 1216 Bob Major in 48 mins. G. A. Hensman, 1; H. Rainbow, 2; T. Harris, 3; W. Farey, 4; A. Arnold, 5; A. Moore, 6; A. P. Hensman, 7; H. Blundell (conductor), 8. On Sunday, December 31st, 630 Darlaston Bob Triples. G. A. Hensman, 1; W. Knightall, 2; H. Rainbow, 3; H. Blundell, 4; A. P. Hensman, 5; A. Moore, 6; W. Farey (conductor), 7; C. Fennell, 8.

ST. MARY ABBOTS GUILD, KENSINGTON.

The annual meeting of the above Guild took place on Monday, January 22nd, at St. Mary Abbots Club. Mr. R. A. Daniell was in the chair, and he was supported by the Vicar, the Rev. Canon Pennefather, the Rev. — Johnson, Messrs. A. E. Bradley, G. Brush, H. Cotton, S. Davie, F. Edwards, G. R. Fardon, W. Fox, W. E. Garrard, S. H. Godfrey, W. E. Golby, A. Harding, A. Harris, J. Judd, W. Judd, D. Lucking, H. G. Miles, C. Phipps, A. Selby, and H. Wilson.

After supper the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were honoured. In proposing "Prosperity to the Church of England," the chairman coupled with it the Vicar of St. Mary Abbots, and said that ringing had always been in connection with the Church of England, and that where there was a ring of bells they considered it their duty to ring them as best they could for the Sunday services. Although they did not see the London clergy much in the belfries, he was glad to say that the country clergymen often visited them, and he would mention the name of the Vicar of Ottery St. Mary, the Rev. Maitland Kelly, President of the Devonshire Guild, who always visited them when in London, and they were all pleased to see him. The Vicar of St. Mary Abbots had always shewn them great consideration, and by his attendance shewed the interest he took in the Guild.

The Rev. Canon Pennefather in reply said that the Vicar of a parish with a peal of bells deserved an amazing amount of sympathy. He was, generally speaking, wrongly abused by a certain section of parishioners for allowing the bells to be rung at all, and on the other hand he was conscious that the ringers thought the bells might be rung a little more frequent. However, he thought the parishioners were beginning to feel that if the bells were to be rung at all there must be practices. Owing to the multiplicity of his duties he could not take up ringing himself, but he hoped Mr. Johnson would represent him, and would, he hoped, shortly be turned into an excellent bellringer (hear, hear). He heartily congratulated the ringers on the work of the past year. They were in every sense church-workers, and if not seen, they were heard, and they certainly did their best to remind people of God's house in the parish, and of the services which were going on therein, and he thought no bell-ringer could put a higher ideal of his work before him than to remember that he was doing really the work of God in the church by attending to the belfry, and that that work was just as much work for God as any of the other branches of church work, which, perhaps, came more prominently the notice of others; and, owing to the amount of training required, he considered them amongst the most valuable of church-workers that were to be found.

The Vicar then proposed "The Health of the Guild," coupling with it the name of Mr. R. A. Daniell, who has done so much for its welfare, together with those of Mr. W. E. Garrard and Mr. Fox. These were received with acclamation.

Mr. Garrard stated that the Guild had made very satisfactory progress during the year, and he hoped it would continue to do so. They mustered twenty-one members. During the year they had rung eleven quarter-peals, having accomplished what had never previously been done at St. Mary, Abbots by a local band. They rang their first peal of the society on November 7th, which was a creditable performance. He hoped further progress would be made during the coming year.

Mr. R. A. Daniell explained that there was a balance in hand at the end of the year of £13 8s. 8d.

All the officers were re-elected.

Various minor details were arranged and a long discussion took place on the subject of Sunday ringing.

Business having terminated, Mr. W. E. Garrard successfully piloted his handbell band through some most beautifully-struck Grandsire Triples and Caters. Songs were also sung by Rev. J. Johnson, Messrs. R. A. Daniell, S. H. Godfrey, D. Lucking, W. E. Golby, H. Wilson, H. G. Miles, and others, and a very pleasant time was spent.

ST. CUTHBERTS, PATELEY BRIDGE, YORKS.

On Sunday evening, January 21st, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor in 28 mins. W. Buck, 1; R. Knibbs, 2; S. Bastnett, 3; G. H. Mason, 4; J. Mumford, 5; Jos. Summersall (conductor), 6. The ringers of Pateley Bridge think it might be of interest to friends who have visited their tower, and who have experienced the bad "go" of the tenor, to know that it has been rehung in new gudgeons and bearings, whilst the rope-way has been altered. It is only seven years since the peal was put in, and the tenor has never gone well. The work has been carried by J. F. Mallaby and Co., Barnby Don, Doncaster, in a manner which is worthy of all praise, the cost of which has been met by the ringers and a few of their friends.

NEWARK, NOTTS.

On January 1st, the ringers were entertained at supper at The Saracen's Head hotel, by the master, Mr. C. H. Newbald. The Vicar was present, and a pleasant evening was spent. Subjoined is a copy of the Menu:—

NEWARK PARISH CHURCH SOCIETY OF RINGERS.
1st January, 1900,

Go off in rounds of
FISH.

So soon as the striking is considered satisfactory, drop into
Doubles (we hope not into Grandsire nor old hen) of

BOILED TURKEY AND ROAST GOOSE,

with vegetables Dodging up and down behind:

This Course should be repeated and will then bring up Rounds
of

PLUM PUDDING

Dreams will next be stimulated by some Treble Bob by the
MINCE PIES

as vacancies occur on the plates, after which there will be a
short Touch or taste of Superlative

COLD SWEETS.

A Plain Course will follow in a Simple Method of

CHEESE AND BUTTER

to be succeeded by "a few nice Thirds," tittums or crack 'ems,
to wit,

DESSERT AND COFFEE.

the whole to conclude with the Firing of Tobacco and
eloquence.

CALL CHANGES should be done at intervals on Ginger Beer,
Lemonade, Claret Cup, Beer, Sherry and Whiskey.

Call for whichever you like best.

THAT'S ALL

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

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Selly Oak, near Birmingham, to-day, Saturday, January 27th. Service in the church at 5 p.m., to be followed by business meeting in the schoolroom. The Vicar has kindly consented to preside. The tower will be open for ringing. All subscriptions are due at this meeting.

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

The Kent County Association.—Tonbridge District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held at Tonbridge to-day, Saturday, January 27th. Tower open at 3 o'clock. Committee meeting at 4. Tea at 5 o'clock in the church room. Half travelling expenses will be paid to members attending.

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

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—East Berks. and South Bucks. Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Farnham Royal to-day, Saturday, January 27. The bells will be available after mid-day. Service will be held at 4.45, and tea (9d. a head, free to members), and business meeting at 5.45. All members of the Guild and their friends will be welcome. Omnibus leaves Slough for Farnham at 2.35 and 5.35, and also at 3.35 if necessary. H. C. BELL, *Branch Secretary*.

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The monthly ringing meeting of the above society will be held at Pudsey (eight bells), to-day, Saturday, January 27. Meeting-house, The Commercial hotel. Business meeting at 6.30. Handbells provided. All ringers are cordially invited.

HY. GAYTHORPE, *Hon. Sec.*
1, Elm Avenue, Bramley.

The Kent County Association.—Lewisham District.—The usual quarterly meeting will be held at St. John's, Deptford, to-day, Saturday, January 27th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Committee meeting at 6. Members are reminded that all subscriptions are now due.

P. E. BEX, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*
Barnehurst, Bexley Heath.

The All Saints' Society, Fulham.—The Annual General Meeting will be held to-day, Saturday, January 27th. The tower will be open to members and friends at 4 p.m. Tea in church room at 6 p.m.

J. W. DRIVER.
387, New Kings Road, Fulham, S.W.

The Surrey Association.—The Annual Meeting will be held at the Church House, St. Peter's, South Croydon, on Monday, January 29th, and will be preceded at 6 o'clock by tea at the Church House. The bells at St. Peter's (8) will be available for ringing from 3.30 p.m. by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. J. White.

CHAS. DEAN, JUN., *Hon. Sec.*
5, Manor Parade, Sutton, Surrey.

The Waterloo Society.—The annual meeting of this society will take place at St. John's, Waterloo Road, on Wednesday, January 31st. Ringing at 8.15 p.m. Business

meeting at 9.45. It is hoped that as many members as possible will put in an appearance.

GEO. E. SYMONDS, *Hon. Sec.*
4, Dockley Road, S.E.

Middlesex County Association.—South and West District.—The next monthly meeting of the above will be held by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. C. M. Harvey, at the church of St. John the Baptist, Hillingdon, on Saturday, February 3rd. Ringing to commence about 5 p.m., members and friends are cordially invited.

C. EDWARDS, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*

Sussex County Association.—Central Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Horley, on Saturday, February 3rd. Tower open from 3 p.m. Tea at 6 p.m. Members intending being present will oblige by letting me know by January 29th.

G. WILLIAMS,
2, Grove Street, Brighton. *Hon. Sec.*

Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association.—Meeting at Whitby (8 bells, tenor 18 cwt.) Saturday, February 3rd. Tea 9d. each at Mr. Botham's, Skinner Street, West Cliff, at 5 p.m. Members are requested to inform the Secretary before January 31st, if intending to be present. Robin Hood's Bay bells (8, tenor 10 cwt.) also kindly lent. The towers will be open all day. REV. W. P. WRIGHT, *Hon. Sec.*
Stokesley, R.S.O.

The Sheffield and District Society.—The next meeting will be held at Doncaster parish church, on February 3rd. Tower open 4 p.m. Meeting house, The Market inn.

R. HARRISON, *Hon. Sec.*

The Midland Counties Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Birmingham, on Saturday, February 3rd. St. Martin's (twelve bells), St. Philip's (ten bells), and St. Chad's (eight bells), will be open for ringing from 2.0 p.m. Committee meeting at 4.0 p.m. Tea (1s. 6d. each) at 4.30 p.m., followed by a general meeting in St. Martin's schools, Dean Street. All who intend to be present at tea are requested to inform Mr. W. H. Godden, 61, Roland Road, Handsworth, Birmingham, not later than Wednesday, January 31st. Midland excursion leaves Leicester at 3.0 p.m. for Birmingham, calling at Hinckley and Nuneaton, returning from Birmingham at 11.30 p.m.

W. E. WHITE, *Hon. Sec.*
Cotgrave, near Nottingham.

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Kidsgrove, on Saturday next, February 3rd. Members intending to be present are requested to give notice to Mr. J. Mason, 8, Cooper Street, Kidsgrove.

W. TWIGG, *Hon. Sec.*

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—Bristol Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Corsham on Saturday, February 3rd. Short sermon at 5 p.m. Business meeting afterwards.

C. H. GORDON, *Branch Sec.*

The Norwich Diocesan Association.—A Quarterly Meeting will be held at East Harling, on Tuesday, February 6th. Dinner will be served at The Swan at 1.30, at 2s. 3d. for Hon. Members and friends, and 1s. 3d. for company members. Besides the bells of the parish church, the following rings will be open to the use of members during the day: Quidenham, 6; Garboldisham, 6. Notice of intention to be present must be sent to the Hon. Sec. without fail, before Wednesday, January 31st. H. EARLE BULWER, *Hon. Sec.*
Stanhoe Rectory, Kings Lynn.

Kent County Association.—Canterbury District.—The next meeting of the above (for ringing only), will be held at Herne Hill, on Saturday, February 10th, Bells ready at 3 o'clock.

E. E. FOREMAN, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*

The Waterloo Society, London.—The 32nd Anniversary Dinner of the above Society will be held at The York Hotel, Waterloo Road, S.E., on Saturday, February 17th, at 6 p.m. sharp. Tickets, 3s. 6d. each, may be had from Messrs. Barton, Webber, Fussell, Perrin, Hardy and G. E. SYMONDS, 4, Dockley Road, S.E. *Hon. Sec.*

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—If those gentlemen who are "Life Members" of the above will kindly send address to Secretary (C. L. Routledge, Tyne-dale House, Wylam-on-Tyne) the annual report will be forwarded to them.

The Midland Counties Association.—Preparation of Annual Report.—Members whose addresses are incorrect in last annual report, or who have changed their addresses since election are requested to notify me without delay. Notice of alteration of practice nights and names of correspondents should also if necessary be sent at once; also obituary notices.

W. E. WHITE, *Hon. Sec.*
Cotgrave, near Nottingham.

NOTE TO PEAL.

THE PEAL AT READING.—This peal, which was recorded in our last issue, was rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. David Higgs, father of A. W. Higgs, whose birthday happened to fall on that date. He is one of the oldest ringers in Berkshire, and resides at Burghfield, where he is a ringer and sexton at the parish church. The ringers wish him health and happiness. It is also a curious thing that though the Rev. F. E. Robinson has rung over 600 peals this should have been the first of Bob Royal he has attempted.

CLOCKS,

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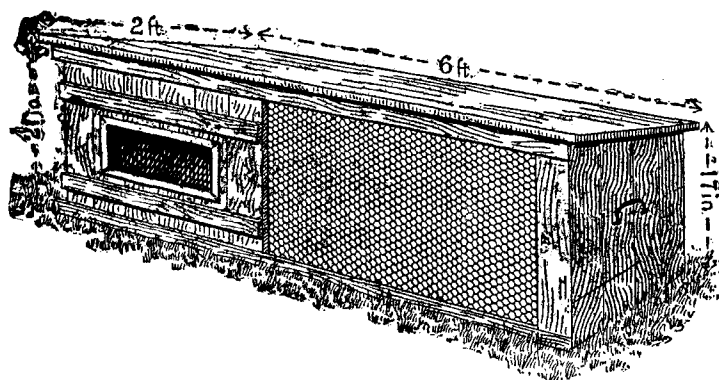
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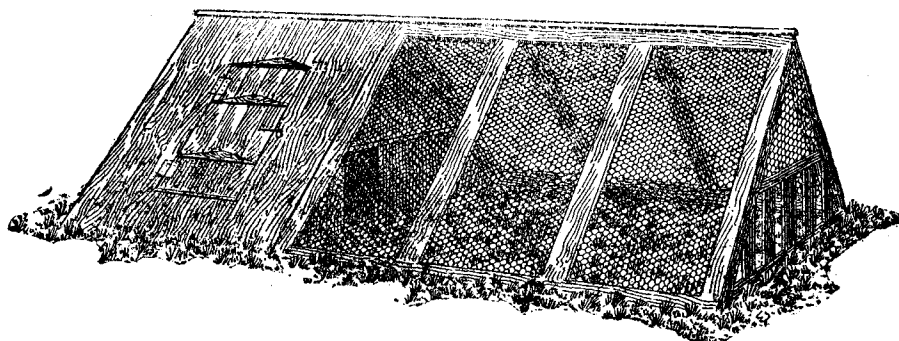
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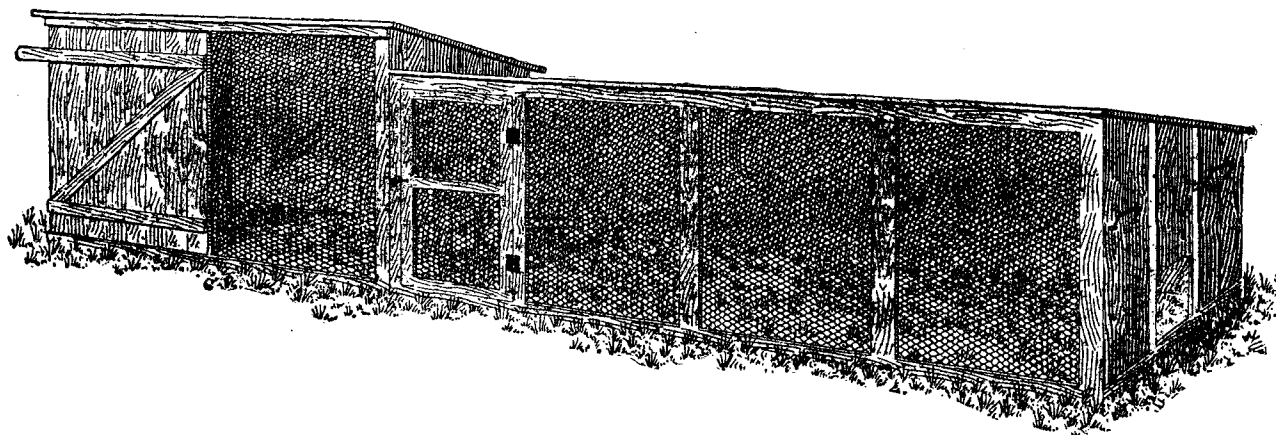
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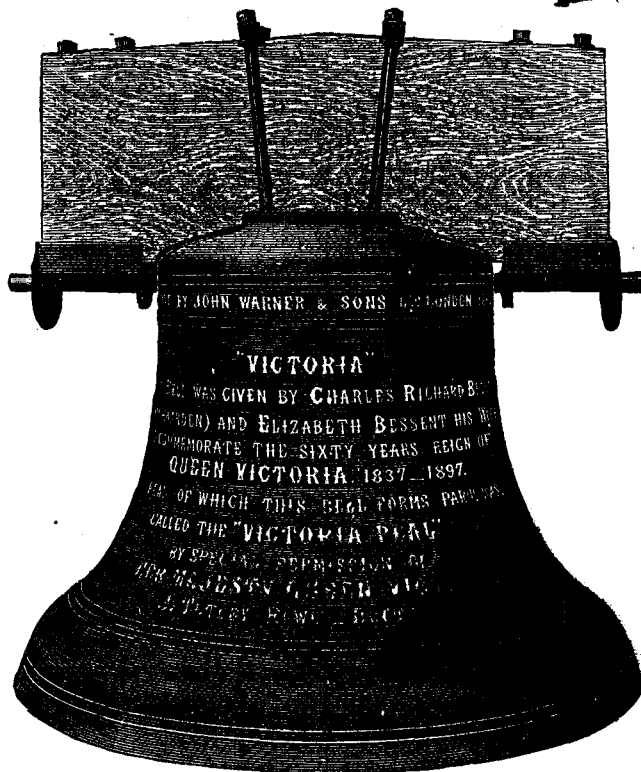
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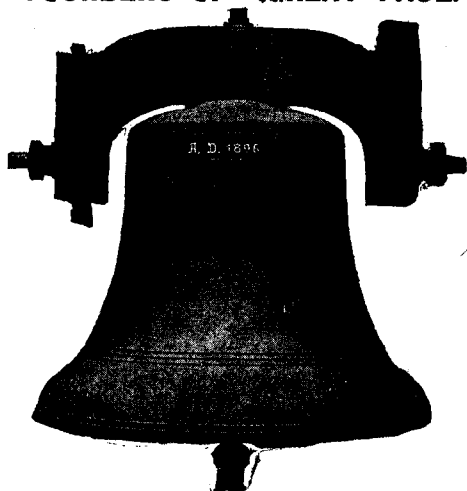
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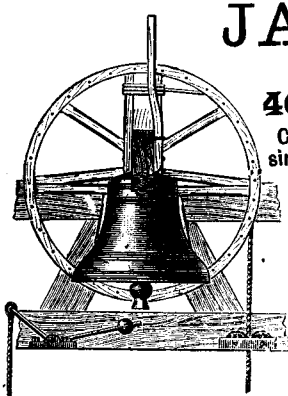
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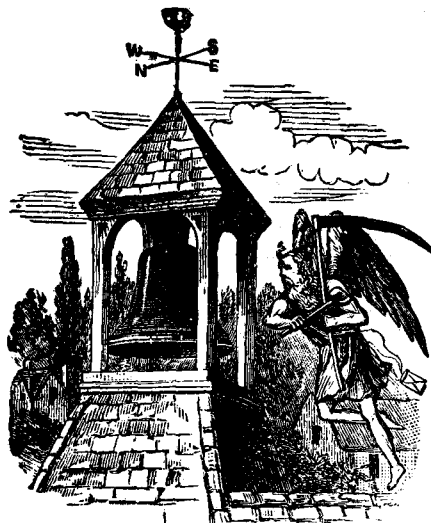
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No. 930.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1900.

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N.S.W.	Windermere Church.
Hammersmith Parish Ch.	Eiffel Tower, Paris.
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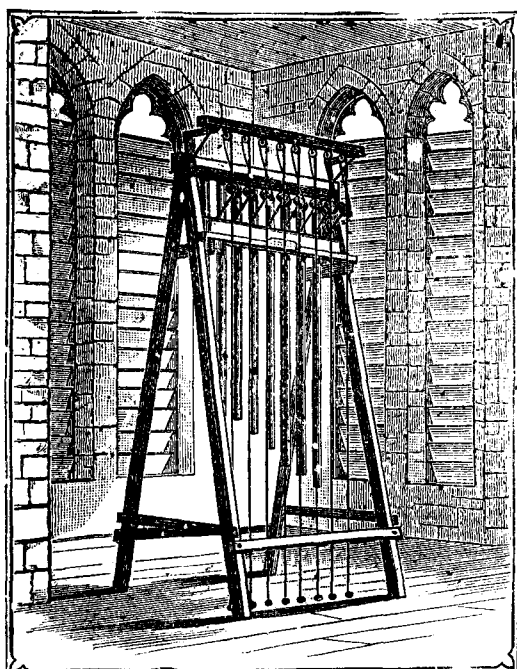
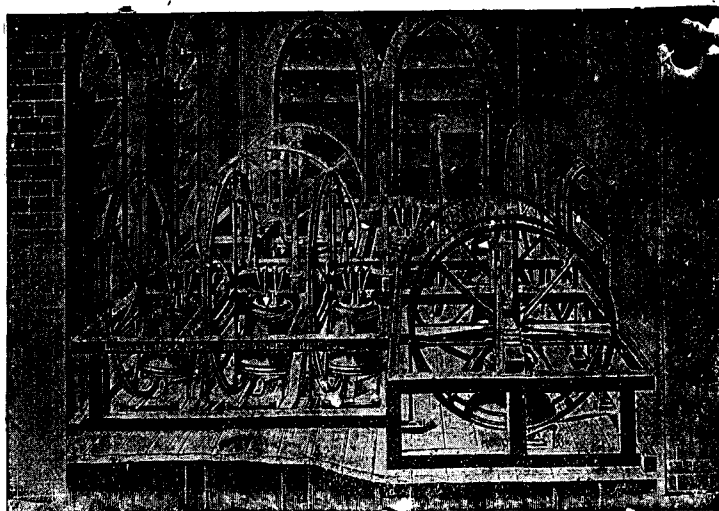
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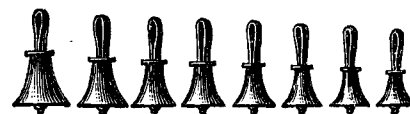
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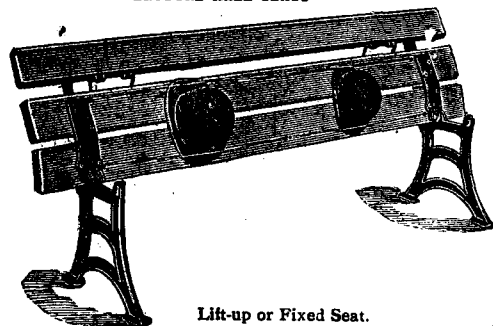
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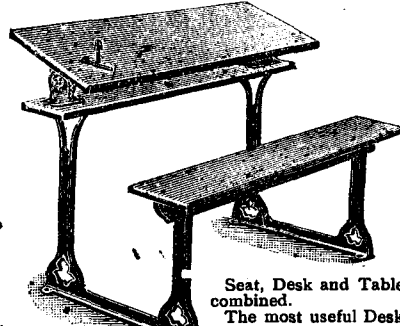
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 930.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1900.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of this Association was held in Bristol on Saturday, the 20th ult., commencing with Divine Service in the Lady Chapel of St. Mary Redcliffe at 3 p.m., when prayers were read by the Rev. R. H. Harvey, and a specially suitable address was given by the Vicar—the Rev. W. J. F. Robberds—from the text: 2 Tim. ii. 15: "A workman that needeth not to be ashamed." After service ringing was indulged in on the splendid ring of twelve in this historic edifice.

The business meeting was held at 6 p.m. in the parish room, over which the Rev. R. H. Harvey presided. There was a fairly good attendance of ringers from St. Mary Redcliffe, St. Stephen's, St. Nicholas, St. Matthew's Christ Church, All Saints, St. John's, St. Michael's, St. Paul's (Chippenham), Swindon, Bishopstone, Highworth, Cirencester, Thornbury, Bitton, Cheltenham, and Gloucester. Several new members were elected, and belfry and district elections were confirmed.

During the year just closed the Association entered, as it were, upon a new phase of its existence. At a special meeting held at Cirencester on the 15th April last, it was unanimously decided to adopt the recommendation of the committee appointed at the annual meeting at Gloucester in January to consider and report on the proposition of Mr. Boynam (of Bristol) to form branches of the Association in three centres, with a chairman and hon. secretary for each. The committee thus appointed recommended that such branches be formed in the centres of Bristol, Gloucester, and Cirencester, and be governed by certain rules applicable thereto.

These three branches therefore came into existence from that date, and have since then been doing the useful work formerly done by the Association as a whole. As far as can be seen at present the results of the change thus brought about have been very satisfactory, both numerically and financially. Suffice it to say that 127 new members have been elected, as compared to twenty-seven in 1898.

Following are short reports of the work done by each branch, for which the Committee are indebted to the secretaries of the several districts. To take them alphabetically:—

BRISTOL BRANCH.—This branch was inaugurated by a meeting at Bristol on May 13th, at which the Rev. H. A. Cockey was appointed chairman, and Mr. C. H. Gordon hon. secretary of the branch. Since then seven meetings have been held, at Almondsbury, Henbury, Bitton, Dursley, Chippenham, Stapleton, and Wotton-under-Edge, and twenty-nine new members have been elected.

CIRENCESTER BRANCH.—This branch commenced its career with a meeting at Cirencester on May 27th, which was well attended, and at which the Rev. J. S. Sinclair, the Vicar, was elected to fill the post of chairman, and the Rev. Charles Gott, Vicar of Tatton, that of hon. secretary. Three meetings have subsequently been held at Northleach, Cold St. Aldwyn, and Tetbury, and twenty-nine new members have been brought into the Association.

GLOUCESTER BRANCH.—This branch was started with a meeting held at Gloucester on July 5th, at which the Ven. Archdeacon Hayward kindly consented, at the request of the meeting, to accept the post of chairman, and Mr. J. Austin that of hon. secretary. Two meetings have been held, at Tewkesbury and Mitcheldean, and twenty-eight new members have been enrolled.

The progress of the Association scientifically looked rather dark till the middle of December, when, as will be seen by the peal report, the Bristol branch came in with a rush, and scoring two peals of Stedman Triples, one of Stedman Cinques, and one of Double Norwich Major, considerably improved matters. The final result works out as follows: Number of peals rung 34, as against 37 last year; but there is a great difference in the point value of the same, as last year we made a record, but this year, with only three peals less, we are just 200 points behind, which shows that the scientific quality has fallen off. Against this falling off we have to record the fact that, instead of the more experienced ringers taking part in nearly all the peals, as has been the case in years past, no fewer than ninety-eight members have taken part in the peals rung, and a great many of that number have been young members scoring their first peal. We have at last the pleasure of recording a peal of Stedman Cinques rung by members of the Association, and those who took part must be heartily congratulated on the achievement.

The officers of the Association elected for the current year are: Mr. F. May, re-elected as Master; the Rev. H. E. Tilney Bassett and Mr. C. E. D. Boutflower as Honorary Secretaries; and Mr. F. E. Ward re-elected as Hon. Treasurer, who reported a balance in hand of considerably over £30. The representatives on the Central Council are the Rev. H. A. Cockey, the Rev. E. Banks James, and Mr. F. May.

A very cordial vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Mr. Boutflower for his past services. A vote of thanks to the Vicar and Churchwardens of Redcliffe, and of other towers for the use of bells, and to the chairman for presiding, brought the meeting to a close, and an adjournment was made to several city churches for ringing.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(EASTERN DIVISION.)

A most successful meeting of the above was held at St. Mary's, Eastbourne, on Saturday, January 20th, in spite of the inclement weather. Notifications were received by the Secretary from the Rev. W. J. Loder-Cotter (Yapton), the Rev. R. S. Woodward, M.A. (All Saints, Eastbourne), and Mr. G. F. Attree, of their inability to attend, and some fifteen other members, who had signified their intention to be present were no doubt prevented by the bad weather.

Ringing commenced at St. Mary's soon after 3 o'clock, and continued until 9 p.m., except during the interval for the special service, tea, and business meeting. Touches of Grandsire, Stedman, Plain and Treble Bob were brought round, including a 504 of Stedman Triples and a

course of Treble Bob Major at All Saints in the evening. Service was held at 5.30, at which the Rev. Canon Goodwyn gave a very interesting address upon the architecture of our old churches, and several curiosities to be found in the churches visited; and after the service kindly showed the members some of the various items referred to in his address.

A very substantial meat tea, provided by Canon Goodwyn, was served in the schoolroom, over which he presided, supported by the Rev. A. J. Pitkin and Mr. Churchwarden Feltham.

The usual business meeting followed the tea, after which the Secretary proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. Canon Goodwyn for inviting the members as his guests to tea, for the interesting address he had given, and for the use of the bells. During the course of his remarks he referred to the immense encouragement it gave the officers and members of ringing associations to have the presence of the clergy and churchwardens at their gatherings. He also said he was pleased to hear that the Rev. A. J. Pitkin had commenced to learn the art of bellringing, and that he hoped soon to see the St. Mary's company again affiliated with the Association.

The Rev. Canon Goodwyn, in responding, expressed great pleasure at being afforded the opportunity of welcoming the Association to St. Mary's, and more particularly so on this occasion, as it happened to be his birthday. Referring to the bells of his church, he said they were very interesting, although not very ancient. According to an old register in existence they were cast in 1670, and the expenses in connection therewith were to be found in the register. The bells were recast early in the eighteenth century, and were rehung a few years ago by Messrs. Warner and Sons. They are a handy ring of eight; tenor 15½ cwt.

The meeting then terminated, those present wishing Canon Goodwyn many happy returns of the day, after which they dispersed for further ringing.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EAST BERKS. AND SOUTH BUCKS. BRANCH.)

The Annual Meeting of this branch was held at Farnham Royal on Saturday, January 27th. Ringers from the various towers round began to arrive about 3 o'clock, and from then until 4.45 the bells were kept going in various methods. At 4.45 evensong was said in the parish church by the Vicar, Rev. H. C. Wilder, the sermon being preached by the Rev. C. A. Raymond, Vicar of Bray. After service between fifty and sixty members sat down to tea in the schoolroom, among those present being the Master of the Guild (Rev. F. E. Robinson), the Secretary (Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis), the Revs. R. F. Rumsey and R. P. Newhouse.

The business meeting was held after tea. In the absence, through illness, of the chairman, the Rev. A. H. Drummond, the Rev. H. C. Wilder presided.

After the minutes of this last meeting had been read, the branch secretary, the Rev. H. C. Bell, made a report on the work done during the year. The membership had increased from 290 to 315. Meetings had been held at different towers every month, and good work had been done, thanks to the energy of a few members who attended these meetings regularly, though it was a matter for regret that more did not avail themselves of these opportunities of practice, and give assistance to young bands of ringers who were learning the Art. One new tower had joined

this branch, and there was an immediate prospect of one or two more coming in.

Fourteen peals had been rung during the year: Grand-sire Triples, 3; Bob Minor, 1; Bob Major, 2; Oxford Bob Triples, 3; Double Norwich, 1; Stedman Triples, 3; London Surprise, 1.

The Branch Secretary, Mr. A. H. Cocks, presented the balance-sheet, which shewed an increased balance in hand, and this was unanimously adopted.

The next business was the election of officers: the Rev. A. H. Drummond, Chairman; Rev. H. C. Bell, Secretary; and Mr. W. Cocks, Treasurer, were unanimously re-elected. Messrs. R. Smith, J. C. Truss, and J. J. Parker were elected to represent the branch on the Guild Committee.

The Master of the Guild addressed the meeting. He congratulated the branch on their satisfactory position, and urged them to keep up their record in the coming year. He would like to see more peals rung, and especially Surprise peals, and he hoped that attempts would be made to get Surprise bands together for practice. The Guild had broken their record this year, and had rung eighty-four peals, and he intended to try and do as well in this coming year. He abstained from ringing in Lent for conscience sake, but he meant to begin again on Easter Monday, and ring as many peals as possible.

The Guild Secretary having addressed the meeting, a vote of thanks was passed to the Rev. H. C. Wilder for presiding, and for allowing the meeting to be held at Farnham; to the organist and choir for their assistance; to the Rev. C. A. Raymond for his sermon; and to Mr. Parker for making arrangements for the meeting and tea.

The chairman in replying said that they all regretted the absence of their President, but he had had a letter from him stating that this was the first annual meeting he had missed for twenty years. They hoped that next year Mr. Drummond would be with them again.

This concluded the business, and the members adjourned to the tower where a few more touches brought a most successful meeting to a finish.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(LEWISHAM DISTRICT.)

The winter quarterly meeting was held at St. John's, Deptford, on Saturday last, and in spite of the small attendance, a very pleasant afternoon and evening were spent. Members of the local band, and from Lewisham, Woolwich, Crayford, etc., put in an appearance, and ringing was continued until 8 p.m., touches of Stedman, Treble Bob, Oxford Bob Triples, Plain Bob, Double Norwich, and Grandsire being brought round.

A committee meeting was held in the church room, by kind permission of the Vicar, Rev. R. W. Atkinson, who presided, and in reply to a vote of thanks for the use of the St. John's bells, he said that the matter of the re-hanging of the bells had been brought to his notice, and that he should take the first opportunity of having it done.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Woolwich on Saturday, April 28th, and it was suggested that Dartford would be a suitable place to hold the July meeting.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD PEAL-BOOK.—A RECORD of Five Hundred and Twenty Peals rung by this Guild. Paper covers, 6d.; cloth do., 9d.—Blackwell, Reading; or the Hon. Sec. of the Guild—the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, Dunsden Vicarage, Reading, Berks.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(MACCLESFIELD BRANCH.)

The Annual Meeting of this branch was held at Prestbury on Saturday, January 20th, twenty-seven members being present from the various towers in the branch. Several touches were rung on the tower bells during the afternoon. At five o'clock an excellent knife and fork tea was partaken of, and ample justice was done to the good things provided. After tea the business meeting was held, the President (Rev. S. A. Boyd), being in the chair. In his opening remarks he said how pleased he was to see so many ringers present, and the great pleasure he had in presiding at these meetings. Referring to the restoration of Macclesfield parish church, he said that they would soon have the bells going again, that everything was making capital progress, and that Macclesfield would soon have a church to be proud of. The Rev. S. A. Boyd was re-elected President, and Mr. J. Norbury Secretary and Treasurer. A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar and ringers of Prestbury for the use of the bells, and for their kind hospitality. The rest of the evening was spent in ringing on the tower and handbells, and songs. The next meeting will be held at Congleton in April.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(MANCHESTER BRANCH.)

The monthly meeting was held at the Manchester Cathedral on Saturday, January 20th, when upwards of fifty members attended, representing various parts of the county. The meeting was very interesting because of the unveiling of a new peal-board, recording a peal of Stedman Caters, 5079 changes, rang on December 15th, 1897, and a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal, 5040 changes, rang on May 16th, 1898, being the first of Caters and Royal in the methods ever rang by members of the Association.

The president (the Rev. H. J. Elsee), after a brief speech, commenting upon the two peals recorded thereon, said he had much pleasure in unveiling the board, and did so amid the plaudits of the assembly. After the board had been closely scrutinised by the members present and order restored, the president took upon himself the duty of presenting the peal-board to the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral; on behalf of the members whose names were inscribed thereon. The Rev. H. A. Hudson, being present as representing the Dean, in a few kindly remarks said he had very much pleasure in accepting the board on behalf of the Dean and Chapter, and thanked the ringers for their presentation. After having kindly performed that official duty, he (the Rev. H. A. Hudson), took upon himself the task of giving a brief, but pithy lecture on bells, ancient and modern, which was both instructive and amusing, there being exhibited in black and white (not the magazine of that name), but diagrams, drawings, etc., of bells and inscriptions of the lecturer's own collections. At the business meeting, it was decided to hold the next meeting at St. Thomas' Church, Pendleton, on Saturday, February 24th, 1900, for the purpose of unveiling another peal-board, recording a peal of Cambridge Surprise Major, the first rang by members of the association. Two new performing members were added to the roll.

Hearty votes of thanks were accorded to the Dean and churchwardens for the use of the bells, to the president for so kindly conducting the business, and likewise to the

Rev. H. A. Hudson for his very instructive lecture on bell-lore.

Business over, ringing was again resumed and the bells kept going until about 9.30 p.m., in various methods. The members then made their departure for different destinations, doubtless well satisfied with their attendance at the meeting.

HEAVY WOOLLEN DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of the above Association was held on Saturday, January 13th, at Dewsbury, when the following companies were represented: New Mill, Armitage Bridge, Lindley, Mirfield, Liversedge, Batley Carr, Dewsbury, Earlsheaton, and Ossett. The report presented by the secretary showed that the year had been a very heavy one, owing chiefly to the society having to supply a new cup for the one that was won by the Dewsbury company outright, but the society was considered to be in a very good condition, seeing that they had about £3 in hand at the end of the year. All the officers were re-elected. It was decided to alter the six-bell contest from Whit-Monday to the first Saturday in August. The ballot took place for the eight-bell contest, when Liversedge was the tower drawn. The contest to take place as usual on Easter Monday.

THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

The monthly ringing meeting of the above society was held at Pudsey on Saturday, January 27th, when the following towers were represented: Armley, Bramley, Bradford, Calverley, Headingley (St. Michael's), Tong, Wakefield, and local company. Several touches were rung during the day of Treble Bob, Bob Major, Bob Minor, etc., etc., At the business meeting, Mr. Holgate in the chair, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed on the motion of Mr. M. Broadbent, seconded by Mr. Pratt (Cordingley). The election of a representative for the Central Council was the next business, and on the motion of Mr. P. Cordingley, seconded by Mr. G. Bolland, Mr. J. W. T. Holgate was elected unanimously. It was stated that the next meeting at Headingley St. Michael's, on Saturday, February 24th, would be the nomination meeting. After several other small items of business had been gone through, the usual vote of thanks to the Vicar and wardens for the use of the bells and the local company for their kind arrangements, was moved by Mr. J. Thackray, seconded by Mr. C. Pratt, and responded to by Mr. T. Latimer. Several touches were rung on the handbells during the evening, thus bringing to a close a well-attended and pleasant 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 PEAL OF CINQUES AT BRISTOL.

SIR,—In answer to the query as to whether the peal of Stedman Cinques rung at St. Mary's Redcliffe, Bristol, was rung in 3 hours and 28 minutes, or whether a mistake has been made in the time, if W. R. will be good enough to sign his full name with address, I shall be most pleased to answer his questions; as I had the pleasure of listening to the ringing, and have also the composition in my possession, and can vouch to its being a true peal.

FRED G. MAY.

A BRIEF CONSIDERATION OF A FEW POINTS CONNECTED WITH THE HISTORY OF RINGING.

By R. A. DANIELL.

(Continued from page 425.)

Although we can no longer walk over fields to Hackney, it happens that we can still go over the same ground over which Laughton and his friends went after leaving Shoreditch, for I think there can be little doubt they would walk that way. If any one looks on the present day map of London he will see a communication that goes very straight from Shoreditch to Hackney. You start from the East of Shoreditch church and go by Virginia Road. Where Virginia Road and Columbia Road joins is "The Birdcage." From the Birdcage to the Hackney Road the way along what is now called Columbia Road was so late as the end of the last century a footway over fields and indeed it still is a footway where it comes out into the Hackney Road by the side of the Nag's Head. Crossing the Hackney Road, Goldsmith's Row continues to mark the old footpath till you come to the Broadway, where the parishes of Shoreditch and Hackney join, so that the way is probably an old church path. From the Broadway the way becomes a footpath crossing a portion of London Fields, and after passing through what is now Tower Street, it becomes a footpath again and so continues till it comes to The Grove, after passing which it comes out into Mare Street just short of the old church tower where Laughton and his friends rang. Coster was one of the party on this occasion, and Laughton no doubt called on his way from Leather Lane in Angel Alley to pick up Coster, and they would go together across Moorfields to Shoreditch church, and thence over the fields by the route I have indicated. The bells—a ring of six—were not in very good going order, but Laughton admired the place, and I quote his lines by way of shewing how Hackney struck him more than a hundred and sixty years ago.

"Oh, was there but eight charming bells
We'd often go to divert ourselves,
For I think no steeple near the town
Stands encompassed with such delightful ground.
There's orchards, gardens and cornfields
And meadows which charming prospects yield,
And near the Church such pasture ground,
No better in England can be found.
At the back side of Old Ward's canell
How sweetly a fine peal there would tell,
Or on the downs or by the brook
Where various sorts of fish are took,
As perch, or gudgeon, carp or eel,
Oh! there I'd fish and hear a peal."

The next time they met they had piths and brains for supper at Coster's and Laughton devotes ten lines to describing the excellence of this food.

On Sunday, April 7th, 1734, they walked to Camberwell, intending to ring, but the treble being out of order they went to Lambeth where they rang 1008 Bob Major.

Their next exploit was on the following Easter Tuesday.

"On Easter Tuesday morn at nine,
We met according to design,
To take a walk and ring a peal
And then come back to eat lamb and veal."

So they started to Camberwell, where amongst them they hung the treble, and then endeavoured to ring, when it was found the tenor was in too bad order for use. So they walked on to Bermondsey where they rang 5040 Bob Major, after which they went to The George tavern in Houndsditch, kept by Edward Davis, who was what Laughton calls an "odd" member of the club, by which I take him to mean a member who was not a ringer. Here they ate and enjoyed the lamb and veal and "drank a dram and smoked a pipe."

On May 9th, 1734, eight members rang 5040 Bob Major at St. Andrew's, Holborn, being the first Major peal that had been rung there single handed and the second that had been performed there at all.

On the 6th of June following they went by boat to Rotherhithe where they rang some Plain and Treble Bob. They supped

seventeen at The Waterman's Arms, Milk Alley, Wapping, on beans and bacon and leg of mutton.

"After supper ended every man
According to custom drank a dram,
Then told a tale or sung a song,
And merrily passed the time along."

On Sunday, July 7th, 1734, they went to Walthamstow to ring. Laughton says the bells were so out of tune that he thinks he never heard the like. But they walked all the way by footpaths, and thoroughly enjoyed the walk, which led them at some parts "through rye much higher than our heads." Laughton finishes up with a description of the place which Mr. Editor may recognise as accurate, but I do not know the neighbourhood well enough to say whether it is still at all applicable.

"A few fields from the Church there lies
A rural seat which I should prize,
Like an old castle it takes the eye,
Not built too low nor yet too high.
Of brick and stone the fabric's built
And each corner has a turret gilt,
On one side charming shady trees,
In the garden a noble range of bees,
An ancient orchard walled around
Where various sorts of fruit are found.

* * * * *

On the south a hill, high on the top,
Covered with oats, a noble crop,
On the north a shady lane appears
Which leads to the forest among the deers,
Where opening glades so pleased my eye,
Oh! there I'd live and there I'd die."

On Sunday, August 11th, 1734, a party of them, eighteen in number, went down to Mitcham—most of them on foot—to spend the day and ring. They dined in the garden at The Stag's Head on beef, bacon and cabbage, and a leg of mutton and french beans. After dinner each man had half-a-quarter of brandy.

"Some smoked their pipes, while others rung
A course of Caters nicely done,"

so that someone must have taken handbells with him.

"And in the steeple we rang out
Seven hundred Cambridge without doubt."

Laughton describes the place at length, singing among other things the appropriateness of fencing a privy with roses and woodbines. The party had further drinks and broke up in the evening, when most of the company returned to town. Two of them had their own horses, but others, including Laughton, walked. Two more got a lift:

"Hopsey and Simonds got a cast
In a gentleman's coach that homeward past.
How grand they looked! If ye had but seen
In a gilded coach lined with green,
Fine silken cushions to sit upon
And thus in State they bowled along."

On the way home Laughton's party called for refreshment at The Five Bells at Streatham, and at another house, The White Horse, before reaching town.

On Sunday, August 25th, 1734, some Grandsire Triples were rung at Christ Church, Spitalfields.

"At Christ Church, Spitalfields, the next,
Amongst the Frenchmen, I protest,
And many of them did appear
All round the Church that came to hear."

This notice is interesting in connection with what I have already said about the Huguenots.

On October 10th, 1734, Laughton and two others rang fourteen dozen of sixes at the church of The Trinity in the Minories. The performance is an evidence of their keenness in ringing under all circumstances.

"That is the hardest peal to raise
That e'er I met with in my days.
The tenor is so very light,
Two hundred one quarter is the weight."

The ropes were small—our hands they cut,
No sallies in them e'er was put,
So with some chalk we made a mark
Or else we'd all been in the dark,
But that shewed us whereabouts to catch,
And stop in due time at full stretch,
But for all that we'd much ado
To keep the ropes from slipping through."

After all this, it is gratifying to know that they had a good supper of roast beef, horse radish and buttered turnips.

The Church here mentioned has recently been closed, if not demolished. Though an insignificant building it was not without interest, particularly on account of its containing a head, severed from its body and become tanned by having been placed in sawdust. It is believed to be the head of the Duke of Suffolk, the father of Lady Jane Grey, beheaded on Tower Hill in 1554. When I last saw it, it still retained some hair of a reddish tinge, and many of the teeth were in their place. On the neck, above the place of severance, was a cut, shewing that the headsman had made a bad shot before completing his work. The burial registers were beautifully kept, and a perusal of them brought vividly before one the terrible havoc wrought by the plague in 1665.

On Sunday, October 13th, 1734, the club rang 5040 Bob Major at Camberwell, the bells having been got into order. They refreshed themselves at The Crown, on the green, which was kept by one of the churchwardens.

On Sunday, October 27th, 1734, eleven of them walked to Tottenham. Six of them went to the steeple to ring seven hundred of Cambridge Surprise. Meanwhile,

"Five others went to a boozing ken,
Where thirteen quarters of Geneve
Was fairly drunk if you'll believe me,
For when we'd done we every man
Went in likewise to drink a dram,
And eat a piece of gingerbread
And hear what had been done and said."

The word "booze" and its derivatives, which Laughton not unfrequently uses, seem to many modern ears mere slang, but the word is an old one which was quite respectable in its day. On their way home at night, two of the members stayed at The Bird in Hand at the lower end of Stamford Hill, where they remained the next day to enjoy the charms of female society. The rest supped at The Castle between Newington and Kingsland. Here they met a merry Quaker, and supped on a fillet of veal. The talk of the company "ran much on religion."

"Some was for this and some for that
And others for I know not what,
But the golden rule we all stuck to,
As you'd be done by, so do you,"

a result which the disputations of more learned and exact theologians have not always exhibited.

While these speculations were in progress, the landlord brought in a wren's egg which he had taken from a nest in a hedge in his garden, where there were four more eggs. This set the company off upon a discussion as to how it was that a wren was laying eggs in October, and several theories were propounded to account for it. At this point, the Quaker was moved to challenge the company to toss for gin,

"And 'mongst us all was won and lost
Several quarters to his cost."

The consumption of this refreshment ended in the break-up of the party and the break-down of the Quaker.

"The kitchen bench he snored upon
While we to London marched along."

Laughton called at The George in Houndsditch to consume a pint of something hot, and then went home to bed.

(To be continued.)

WILLESDEN (Middlesex).—On Tuesday, January 9th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob. *A. Hill, 1; *F. Side, 2; W. Steggatt, 3; A. Tennant, 4; H. Kilby, 5; A. Pittam (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method.

PORTSEA PARISH CHURCH COMPANY.

The eighth annual meeting and dinner was held in the parish institute on January 16th, the following members being present: The President (Rev. C. G. Lang, Vicar), in the chair, Messrs. J. Harper (foreman), F. S. Bagley, C. Groves, P. M. Hannam, H. C. Ingram, J. F. Matthews, E. C. Newman, W. J. Pickard, J. J. Symons, and A. C. Collins, also Mr. J. W. Whiting from Fareham (Secretary of the Portsmouth District of the Winchester Diocesan Guild). The business of the meeting was as usual. The minutes and balance-sheet was considered and found satisfactory, and the ringing for the year was considered fairly good. All the officers were re-elected, and it was decided to hold quarterly committee meetings for the ensuing year. Mr. F. S. Bagley made a few remarks about the ringing, and said the band was without a doubt a good Stedman Triples band, and it would take a lot of practice before they would be as good in other methods, yet they were improving on them fairly well. It was proposed by Mr. J. J. Symons, and seconded by Mr. C. Groves, that a hearty vote of thanks be given to Mr. J. Harper and Mr. H. C. Ingram for their kindness in carrying out the work so well; also to the Vicar for presiding. This was carried unanimously and concluded the meeting. The members then adjourned to another room in which they all enjoyed a good dinner in company with the combined mission choirs, and after dinner they returned for a good sing-song, which was sustained by many members of the choirs and ringers. One song entitled, "The Motor Car," sung by the Rev. F. M. Wallington, curate-in-charge of St. Mary's Mission Hall, Fratton Road, will not be forgotten by many for some time. There were plenty of good tobacco and cigars and some nice coffee provided, and the members had no wish to pass a more enjoyable evening.

COLWALL, HEREFORDSHIRE.

On New Year's Eve the ringers as usual attended the last Evensong of the Old Year, and afterwards repaired to the belfry and rang with the bells half-muffled until ten o'clock. Then to the Rectory to supper, which is an annual custom, through the kindness of the respected Rector and President. Twelve ringers sat down with the Rector, Mrs. Custance, and family. Supper over, the Rector said how pleased he was to meet his brother-ringers at his table once more, and also how pleased he was that the first peal of Bob Major by the Guild was rung in Colwall tower, which showed that the Guild was progressing, and as long as the Colwall ringers maintained that brotherly feeling towards each other that they had done, they would still make greater progress in the future, and master some of the more difficult methods.

Mr. W. S. Evans, secretary and treasurer, read out the balance-sheet, which showed a balance in hand of over £6. The office being vacant at the end of each year he was elected for the ensuing twelve months, and a vote of thanks was accorded him for his past services.

Mr. H. W. Allen, on behalf of the ringers, in a few appropriate words proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector and Mrs. Custance for so kindly entertaining them, for it was an evening he and all the ringers looked forward to with the greatest of pleasure. This was seconded by Mr. G. Jones, and carried most enthusiastically. The ringers, after a pipe of the fragrant weed, wended their way to the belfry, the tenor tolled out the dying year, and at the stroke of 12 o'clock the bells rang out unmuffled Grandsire Triples, and intervals of firing till 1.30, then were lowered in peal. The ringers as usual went and sang some carols on the Rectory Terrace, and then dispersed, wishing each other a Happy New Year.

ST. MARY'S COMPANY, HARROGATE.

The second annual dinner was held at the Montpelier Hotel, on January 18th, 1900, the chair being filled by the Pannal Parish Councillor, Mr. W. Binns; vice-chair by Mr. Councillor Scholes. Previous to dinner the Chairman asked all to join in singing the National Anthem. The toast of "The Queen," "Our Soldiers and Sailors," "The St. Mary's bell-ringers," proposed by Mr. H. O. Shutt, responded to by Mr. Brown, who made reference to old ringers and subscribers. The rest of the evening was spent in joviality. The "Absent-minded Beggar" was the means of adding 8s. 10d. to the local War Fund.

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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 Wednesday 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 3, 1900.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting of the above was held at Selly Oak on Saturday, January 28th, and was fairly well attended by members from Birmingham, Dudley, Hales-owen, Kidderminster, King's Norton, Netherton, Old Hill, Tipton, Wollaston, Worcester, etc. Evensong was said in the church at five o'clock by the Rev. E. J. Bartleet, Vicar, who also presided over the business meeting in the schoolroom. Letters of apology were read from the Revs. Canon Cattley, Melville, and Newton, W. D. Lowndes, W. C. Gibbs, G. S. Munn, A. Marshall, H. B. S. Fowler, S. Phillips, H. Kingsford, T. J. Cartwright, W. Pearce, Esq., etc.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Upwards of twenty members were elected, including the Rev. H. Drake (Tettenhall), ten members of the Leigh company, and seven of the Suckley company.

The annual report and balance-sheet were read by the secretary, and adopted with a slight addition to the report calling the attention of local secretaries to rule xi., which if more carefully observed would remove the reproach conveyed in the report in reference to subscriptions not being paid as they ought to be,

The names of three different places were proposed for holding the Annual Meeting on Easter Monday, viz., Dudley, Bromsgrove, and Worcester. On the votes being taken, Dudley was selected.

Messrs. R. E. Grove (Kidderminster), and Jno. Smith (Netherton), were elected representatives on the Central Council.

On the motion of Mr. Jno. Smith, seconded by Mr. R. E. Grove, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the rev. chairman for the service in the church, for presiding over the meeting, and for the use of the schoolroom, tower, and bells.

During the afternoon touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob, and Double Norwich Court Bob Major, were rung on the tower bells.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, January 27, 1900, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SEPULCHRE, SNOW HILL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5001 CHANGES.

Tenor 32 cwt.

CHALLIS F. WINNEY Treble.	JOHN W. GOLDING 6.
ARTHUR G. ELLIS 2.	JOHN M. HAYES 7.
HARRY R. PASMORE 3.	JOHN N. OXBURROW 8.
WILLIAM H. PASMORE 4.	EDWARD P. O'MEARA 9.
HENRY S. ELLIS 5.	HENRY R. NEWTON Tenor.

Composed by J. BRADLEY, and Conducted by HENRY R. NEWTON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 27, 1900, in Two Hours Fifty-eight and ½ Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL HALLOWS, TOTTENHAM,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' ONE-PART.

Tenor 18 cwt.

HENRY BARNETT Treble.	*RICHARD GOODCHILD 5.
WILLIAM BENNETT 2.	WILLIAM WARD 6.
GEORGE B. LUCAS* 3.	LEWIS J. DARLINGTON 7.
JAMES PARKER 4.	ARTHUR T. KING Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES PARKER.

*First peal in the method. This is the first time Thurstans' one-part has been rung by the above Association.

The Provinces.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Thursday, January 11, 1900, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 26 cwt.

EDWARD I. STONE Treble.	LEONARD BULLOCK 5.
HARRY WAKLEY 2.	ARTHUR WAKLEY 6.
JOHN BENSTEAD 3.	JOSEPH GRIFFIN 7.
—, ATTENBOROUGH 4.	GEORGE ROBINSON Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

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BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 20, 1900, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL.

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 26 cwt.

JOHN BENSTEAD Treble.	EDWARD I. STONE 5.
GEORGE ROBINSON 2.	HARRY WAKLEY 6.
CHARLES H. FOWLER 3.	JOSEPH GRIFFIN 7.
WILLIAM WILLSON 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, January 25, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S No. 10.

Tenor 21 cwt. 14 lbs.

JOSEPH RIDYARD Treble.	FRANCIS HYDE 5.
FREDERIC DERBYSHIRE 2.	THOMAS DERBYSHIRE 6.
PERCY H. DERBYSHIRE 3.	JAMES H. RIDYARD 7.
RICHARD RIDYARD 4.	RICHARD NEWTON Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES H. RIDYARD.

GLOUCESTER.

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

On Thursday, January 25, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

GEORGE CONDICK, JUN. .. Treble.	WILLIAM T. PEGLER 6.
RICHARD A. JUDD 2.	GEORGE CONDICK, SEN. 7.
FRANCIS E. WARD 3.	HENRY MITCHELL 8.
JESSE GILLET 4.	ROBERT A. BARRETT 9.
THOMAS NEWMAN 5.	ERNEST E. DAVIS Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and

Conducted by WILLIAM T. PEGLER.

First peal as conductor on ten bells. First peal of Bob Royal on the bells and in the city of Gloucester.

ASSTEAD, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 27, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. CARTER'S EIGHT-PART.

DAVID ANSCOMB Treble.	JOHN HOYLE 5.
WILLIAM COOK 2.	CHARLES R. LILLEY 6.
HARRY G. BEAMS 3.	ARTHUR DEAN 7.
CHARLES E. READ 4.	WILLIAM FARREL Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

STANSTED, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 27, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Bristol, London, Wells, York, Durham, Worcester, and Chichester. Tenor 13 cwt.

GEORGE JORDAN Treble.	JOHN LUCKEY 4.
ISAAC HAMMOND 2.	THOMAS J. WATTS 5.
GEORGE GRAY 3.	WILLIAM WATTS Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WATTS.

Rung as a birthday peal to G. Jordan, who attained his twenty-fifth birthday the day following.

NORTON FITZWARREN, SOMERSET.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 27, 1900, in Four Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 7200 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of City Delight, London Scholars' Pleasure, College Exercise, College Pleasure, Woodbine, Duke of York, New London Violet, Oxford and Kent. Tenor 16 cwt.

FRANK WAYTT Treble.	HENRY CHAPLIN 4.
HENRY J. CREED 2.	TOM W. CREED 5.
ISAAC CREED 3.	JOHN CRIDLAND Tenor.

Conducted by ISAAC CREED.

This is the longest length by all the band, on the bells, and by the Association.

GRAPPENHALL, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 27, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES.

JAS. MAINWARING Treble.	SAML. HORSFALL 5.
HY. T. MOSTON 2.	*JNO. W. EVANS 6.
JOS. HUGHES 3.	ROBT. GEO. LEWIS 7.
GEO. R. NEWTON 4.	FREDK. T. SPENCE Tenor.

Composed by WM. HARRISON, and
Conducted by FREDK. T. SPENCE.

*First peal. First peal in the method by all except the ringers of the 7th and tenor. It was also rung as a birthday peal to R. G. Lewis, the band wishing him many happy returns.

CHATHAM, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 27, 1900, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES. Tenor 25 cwt.

WILLIAM HAIGH Treble.	HARRY FLANDERS 5.
EDGAR WIGHTMAN 2.	ERNEST PYE 6.
CHARLES WILKINS 3.	ALFRED PALMER 7.
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by EDGAR WIGHTMAN, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.
First peal on the bells.

HURSTPIERPOINT, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 27, 1900, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 13 cwt. 2 lbs.

KEITH HART Treble.	FRANK BENNETT 5.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, SEN. .. 2.	GEORGE NORRIS 6.
ARTHUR A. FULLER 3.	GEORGE WILLIAMS 7.
EDMUND LINDUP 4.	JAMES N. FROSSELL Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

This peal was arranged as a birthday compliment to Mr. Waghorn, who received the usual congratulations upon its completion.

STAVELEY, DERBYSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 27, 1900, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES.

Tenor 19 cwt.

WILLIAM C. NUTTALL* .. Treble.	THOMAS WHITWORTH .. 5.
ARTHUR KNIGHTS 2.	JOHN DRONFIELD 6.
WILLIAM LAMBERT 3.	ARTHUR CRAVEN 7.
THOMAS MCKEGG 4.	ARTHUR WORTHINGTON .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by ARTHUR CRAVEN.

*First peal.

NORTHAMPTON.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 27, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. in D Sharp.

HARRY L. KEY Treble.	ALFRED ARNOLD 6.
TOM HARRIS 2.	*HARRY BLUNDELL 7.
HERBERT RAINBOW 3.	WILLIAM FAREY 8.
FREDERICK WILFORD† .. 4.	ARTHUR O. STEWART .. 9.
ARTHUR MOORE 5.	EDGAR H. HAXLEY Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM T. ELSON, and
Conducted by ARTHUR O. STEWART.

*First peal. †First peal away from tenor. This peal has the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th, each ten courses in consecutive order behind the 9th.

ROTHWELL, NEAR LEEDS, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 29, 1900, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt.

HUGH H. ABBISHAW .. Treble.	GEORGE W. STEEL 5.
ALFRED CHAPMAN 2.	WILLIAM ABBISHAW 6.
JOSEPH C. ABBISHAW .. 3.	JOHN M. CHADWICK 7.
THOMAS NICKOLS 4.	WALTER CHAPMAN Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and Conducted by J. M. CHADWICK.

This peal has the 5th and 6th the extent each way in 5-6. Rung on the occasion of the sixty-third anniversary of the opening of the bells.

BRISTOL.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 27, 1900, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5019 CHANGES.

Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

FRED. G. MAY Treble.	RICHARD CLARK 6.
FREDERICK W. ELLES .. 2.	CHARLES H. TOMKINS .. 7.
JOHN THOMAS (aged 16) .. 3.	CHARLES H. GORDON .. 8.
WILLIAM KNIGHT 4.	GEORGE T. DALTRY 9.
RAYMOND J. WILKINS .. 5.	HENRY PRING Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and Conducted by FRED. G. MAY.

The above was rung muffled as a mark of respect to Mr. W. A. Cave, whose father died during the week.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM, AND THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, January 27, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, HANDSWORTH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

SAMUEL REEVES Treble.	GEORFFREY A. MARTINEAU 5.
WILLIAM ELLIS 2.	WILLIAM H. GODDEN .. 6.
THOMAS HORTON 3.	THOMAS REYNOLDS 7.
ALFRED SMITH 4.	WILLIAM VERRY Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

This peal has a bob at start, single at 4 in the first course, a single at 2 in the 31st course, and comes round with a bob.

ARUNDEL, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 29, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

MORRIS'S SIX-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt. in E.

CHARLES ROGERS* Treble.	*HAROLD D. SEARLE 5.
GEORGE BALCHIN 2.	*GEORGE H. LEE 6.
FREDERICK LUXFORD .. 3.	CHARLES BLACKMAN 7.
JOHN NETLEY* 4.	*ALFRED MILLS Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE H. LEE.

*First peal in the method.

STOW-ON-THE-WOLD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE. THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, January 31, 1900, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5740 CHANGES; A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor about 30 cwt.

FREDK. WHITE Treble.	ALFRED THOMAS 5.
G. H. PHILLOTT 2.	REV. C. W. O. JENKYN .. 6.
REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
RICHARD WHITE 4.	FREDERICK WEBB Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

This is the first peal of Stedman on this grand ring of bells.

Handbell Peals.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Wednesday, January 31, 1900, in Two Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,
AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. W. H. PASMORE, SOUTHWARK STREET,
SOUTHWARK,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

JOHN W. GOLDING .. 1-2.	WILLIAM H. PASMORE .. 5 6.
HARRY R. PASMORE .. 3-4.	THOMAS H. TAFFENDER* 7-8.

Composed by J. D. MATTHEWS, and Conducted by H. R. PASMORE.

*First peal of Bob Major. Umpire—Charles T. P. Brice.

Date Touches.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(STOCKPORT AND BOWDON BRANCH.)

STOCKPORT (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, January 23rd, at St. Mary's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1900 changes, in 1 hr. 9 mins. C. Darwin, 1; A. Gordon, 2; W. Gordon (conductor), 3; J. Barlow, 4; J. A. Gordon, 5; W. Gordon, jun., 6; J. S. Wilde (composer), 7; A. Birch, 8. Contains the twenty-four 6-7s, and all positions of 2-3-4, with 5-6-7 at home; also the Queens and Tittums.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WICKHAM SKEITH (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, January 2nd, at the parish church, a date touch of Minor, 1900 changes, being 720 College Single, 720 Plain Bob, and 460 Oxford Single. H. Collings, 1; D. Mays, 2; T. Davy, 3; H. Cattermole, 4; F. Potter, 5; G. Cattermole, (conductor), 6.

MIRFIELD (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, January 28th, at St. Mary's church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Royal, 1900 changes, in 1 hr. 22 mins. G. Thornton, 1; H. Robinson, 2; T. Crawshaw, 3; H. Peacock, 4; R. Ellis, 5; H. Hinchliffe, 6; D. Clarkson, 7; C. Peacock, 8; F. Robinson (composer and conductor), 9; B. Robinson, 10. Tenor 30 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

WINCHESTER.—On Wednesday, January 3rd, for practice at the Cathedral, 360 and 270 Grandsire Caters. F. Smith, 1; J. W. Elkins, 2; W. Andrews, 3; W. J. Sevier, 4; C. Russell, 5; W. T. Tucker, 6; E. C. Lampard, 7; W. C. Lampard, 8; W. H. George (conductor), 9; W. H. Loveland, 10. Also 504 Grandsire Triples, on the back eight. W. H. Loveland, 1; E. C. Lampard, 2; E. Andrews, 3; W. T. Tucker, 4; W. J. Sevier, 5; W. H. George, 6; W. Andrews (conductor), 7; C. Russell, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On November 12th, 720 Violet Treble Bob. A. Broom, 1; G. Hayes, 2; F. J. Ring, 3; M. Digby, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. On November 20th, 720 Bob Minor. R. Brett, 1; *E. Howard, 2; E. Collier, 3; F. J. Ring, 4; W. Martin

(conductor), 5; M. Digby, 6. *First 720. On December 7th, 720 London Surprise. W. Lane, 1; G. Hayes, 2; F. J. Ring, 3; M. Digby, 4; W. Martin (conductor), 5; W. Harper, 6. On December 10th, 720 Superlative Surprise. W. Lane, 1; G. Hayes, 2; F. J. Ring, 3; M. Digby, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. On December 25th, 720 Bob Minor. A. Broom, 1; H. Milhams, 2; G. Hayes, 3; F. J. Ring, 4; W. Martin, 5; M. Digby (conductor), 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

MISTLEY (Essex).—On January 3rd, at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor, in 26 mins., with the bells half-muffled, in memory of the late Col. Marshall, who gave the 5th bell in commemoration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. B. Osborne, 1; B. Bridges, 2; W. Honeywood, 3; W. Harvey, 4; T. Steward, 5; A. Fuller (conductor), 6.

GREAT TRY.—On Tuesday, January 16th, for practice at the parish church, 864 Oxford Treble Bob Major. D. Elliott, 1; W. Saunders, 2; W. Dyer, 3; E. Beckwith, 4; J. Sadler, 5; A. Galby, 6; W. Ladhams, 7; E. Ladhams, 8. And 336 Bob Minor. H. Thudom, 1; W. Saunders, 2; J. Sadler, 3; W. Ladhams, 4; W. Galby, 5; A. Galby, 6; E. Beckwith, 7; D. Elliott (conductor), 8.

HARWICH (Essex).—On Sunday, January 14th, for evening service, 1008 Bob Major, in 34 mins. W. Durrant, 1; J. Redwood, 2; C. Ellis, 3; G. Knock, 4; J. Brewster, 5; G. Thompson, 6; G. Moss, 7; A. Morris (conductor), 8.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PENMARK (Glamorganshire).—On Tuesday, December 26th, the following touches were rung on the occasion of the Quarterly Meeting. 720 Bob Minor. D. Thomas (conductor), 1; J. W. Jones, 2; W. B. Biss, 3; W. Coombes, 4; J. Clutterbuck, 5; G. Watkins, 6. A 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. W. Northey, 1; W. Biss, 2; J. Pritchard, 3; F. Pritchard, 4; J. W. Jones, 5; G. Watkins, 6. A 6-score of Bob Doubles. F. Pritchard, 1; F. Bartlett, 2; J. Pritchard, 3; W. Biss, 4; T. Northey, 5; B. Tilley, 6. 720 Treble Bob Minor. W. Northey, 1; D. Bartlett, 2; W. B. Biss, 3; D. Thomas (conductor), 4; J. W. Jones, 5; T. Northey, 6. 720 Bob Minor. J. Pritchard, 1; W. Northey, 2; W. B. Biss (conductor), 3; J. W. Jones, 4; J. Harris, 5; A. Rowley, 6. A 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. F. Pritchard, 1; W. B. Biss, 2; J. Pritchard, 3; J. W. Jones, 4; J. Harris, 5; Rev. E. Morgan, 6. Another 6-score. T. Willcox (first 6-score), 1; W. B. Biss, 2; J. Pritchard, 3; F. Pritchard, 4; J. Harris, 5; T. Northey, 6.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—NORTHERN BRANCH.

GAINSBOROUGH.—On Wednesday, December 27th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins. T. Pattison, 1; Rev. G. H. Ridout, 2; W. D. Tinker, 3; J. C. Tinker, 4; J. T. Ladd, 5; R. Dawson, 6; F. S. W. Butler (conductor), 7; E. Credland, 8. On Sunday, December 31st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins. T. Pattison, 1; Rev. G. H. Ridout, 2; W. D. Tinker, 3; J. C. Tinker, 4; J. T. Ladd, 5; E. Credland, 6; F. S. W. Butler (conductor), 7; R. Dawson, 8. Since the ringing of the above the Rev. G. H. Ridout has to the regret (but at the same time with all good wishes) of the Gainsborough company left this Diocese to fulfil his new duties as Vice-Principal at Dorchester College, Oxon. The second quarter-peal was rung with the bells half-muffled for the midnight service on New Years Eve. On Monday, December 25th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins. T. Pattison, 1; E. Credland, 2; W. Pattison, 3; J. C. Tinker, 4; W. D. Tinker, 5; J. T. Ladd (conductor), 6; F. S. W. Butler, 7; R. S. Lakin, 8.

THE EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

NORTH WINGFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, January 6th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. J. Milner, 1; H. Tarlton, 2; J. Butler (conductor), 3; F. Wagstaff, 4; J. Flint, 5; J. Tarlton, 6. Also 720 Bob Minor. H. Tarlton, 1; T. Clough, 2; W. Butler, 3; F. Wagstaff, 4; J. Flint, 5; J. Tarlton (conductor), 6. And 720 College Single. F. Wagstaff, 1; J. Tarlton, 2; J. T. Butler, 3; T. Clough, 4; J. Flint, 6; W. Butler (conductor), 6.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HADLEY (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, November 29th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. S. Roberts, 1; W. J. Dell, 2; E. Marshall, 3; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 4; T. Marshall, 5; G. Godfrey, 6. On Wednesday, December 6th, 720 Bob Minor. S. Roberts, 1; W. J. Dell, 2; E. T. Griffin, 3; E. J. Webb, 4; T. Marshall, 5; E. Marshall (first as conductor), 6. On Wednesday, December 13th, 720 Bob Minor. S. Roberts, 1; J. Sumpter, 2; T. Marshall, 3; G. Godfrey, 4; W. J. Dell (conductor), 5; E. W. Marshall, 6. On Wednes-

day, December 20th, 720 Plain Bob. S. Roberts, 1; W. J. Dell (conductor), 2; E. T. Griffin, 3; G. Godfrey, 4; T. Marshall, 5; E. Marshall, 6.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

KIDSGROVE (Staffordshire).—On Wednesday, November 15th, 720 Violet Treble Bob. J. Mason, 1; G. Buckley, 2; A. Archer, 3; F. Dean, 4; H. Dean, 5; G. Siddons (conductor), 6. On Saturday, November 18th, 720 Duke of York, conducted by G. Siddons, standing as above. On Sunday, November 26th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. F. Johnson, 1; G. Buckley, 2; A. Archer, 3; F. Dean, (conductor), 4; J. Mason, 5; H. Dean, 6. For evening service 720 Oxford Treble Bob, standing as before, conducted by H. Dean. On Sunday, December 3rd, for Divine Service, 720 Kent, standing as before, conducted by H. Dean. On Monday, November 27th, 720 Violet. J. Mason, 1; G. Buckley, 2; A. Archer, 3; F. Dean, 4; H. Dean, 5; G. Siddons (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, November 28th 720 Duke of York, conducted by A. Archer. On Sunday, December 3rd, for evening service, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob, conducted by G. Buckley. On Sunday, December 24th, for evening service, 720 College Pleasure, conducted by G. Siddons. On Sunday, December 31st, for evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. F. Johnson, 1; G. Buckley, 2; H. Dean, 3; J. Mason, 4; F. Dean, 5; G. Siddons (conductor), 6. After service, 720 Oxford. F. Johnson, 1; G. Buckley, 2; A. Archer, 3; F. Dean, 4; H. Dean, 5; G. Siddons (conductor), 6. On Sunday, November 19th, for Divine Service, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. F. Johnson, 1; the rest as above.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CIRENCESTER (Gloucestershire).—On Christmas Eve 504 Grand-sire Triples. C. Eden, 1; F. J. Lewis, 2; F. Gardner, 3; F. W. Bond, 4; C. Bartlett, 5; H. C. Bond (conductor), 6; T. Gardner, 7; F. Protherough, 8. On Christmas Day on the back eight, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. *C. Eden, 1; F. J. Lewis, 2; F. Gardner, 3; F. W. Bond, 4; C. Bartlett, 5; H. C. Bond (conductor), 6; T. Gardner, 7; *F. Protherough, 8. *First quarter-peal of Triples. On Boxing Day 503 Grandsire Caters. C. Eden, 1; F. J. Lewis, 2; F. W. Bond, 3; A. E. Edwards, 4; F. Gardner, 5; F. G. May (conductor), 6; C. Bartlett, 7; H. C. Bond, 8; T. Gardner, 9; F. Protherough, 10. On Monday, January 8th, 504 Stedman Triples. F. W. Bond, 1; A. C. Harmer, 2; F. J. Lewis, 3; A. E. Edwards, 4; C. Bartlett, 5; F. Gardner, 6; H. C. Bond (conductor), 7; F. Protherough, 8. Also a plain course of Stedman Triples with F. Lewis on the treble. On Sunday, October 1st, at Holy Trinity, Watermoor, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles. *F. Lewis, 1; T. T. Curtis, 2; F. J. Lewis, 3; A. C. Harmer, 4; S. Moore (conductor), 5; *F. Protherough, 6. *First quarter-peal. On Boxing Day three 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. F. Lewis, 1; F. W. Bond, 2; R. A. Judd, 3; F. J. Lewis, 4; H. C. Bond (conductor), 5; F. Protherough, 6. On Wednesday, December 13th, on handbells, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Clark, 1; F. Lewis, 2; H. Lewis, 3; F. J. Lewis (conductor), 4; F. Protherough, 5-6. On Wednesday, January 10th, four 6-scores. C. Eden, 1; F. Lewis, 2; J. Jefferies, 3; F. Protherough, 4; F. J. Lewis (conductor), 5-6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BLACKBURN BRANCH.

BURNLEY.—On Sunday, November 12th, 576 Oxford. T. Burrows, 1; D. Campbell, 2; W. Walton, 3; R. Hartley, 4; J. W. Stirk, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6; N. Townend, 7; R. Ashworth, 8. On Sunday, November 19th, 720 Kent. D. Campbell, 1; W. Walton, 2; T. Burrows, 3; R. Ashworth, 4; T. Mouncey, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6. Also 768 Kent. T. Burrows, 1; D. Campbell, 2; T. Redman (conductor), 3; W. Walton, 4; N. Townend, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; R. Hartley, 8. On Saturday, November 25th, 720 Oxford. J. Bentley, 1; R. Scholes, 2; R. Parkinson, 3; J. Duxbury, 4; C. Sharples, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6. On Sunday, November 26th, 720 Kent. W. Walton, 1; R. Hartley, 2; T. Burrows, 3; R. Ashworth, 4; T. Mouncey, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 17th, 576 Kent. T. Burrows, 1; D. Campbell, 2; W. Walton, 3; R. Hartley, 4; N. Townend, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman, 8. On Sunday, December 24th, 576 Oxford. T. Burrows, 1; N. Townend, 2; W. Walton, 3; D. Campbell, 4; R. Hartley, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. On Christmas morning, 288 Kent. D. Campbell, 1; F. Towns, 2; W. Walton, 3; R. Hartley, 4; N. Townend, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. On December 31st, 720 Oxford. D. Campbell, 1; R. Hartley (conductor), 2; N. Townend, 3; R. Ashworth, 4; T. Mouncey, 5; T. Redman, 6. Also 720 Kent. R. Hartley (conductor), 1; D. Campbell, 2; T. Burrows, 3; R. Ashworth, 4; N. Townend, 5; T. Mouncey, 6. On January 7th, 576 Kent. T. Burrows, 1; N. Townend, 2; W. Walton, 3; D. Campbell 4; R. Hartley, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman

(conductor), 8. Also 576 Oxford. T. Burrows, 1; D. Campbell, 2; J. W. Stirk, 3; R. Hartley, 4; N. Townend, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8.

CANNOCK (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, January 4th, 720 Grand-sire Minor. T. Benson, 1; G. Benson (conductor), 2; J. Benson, 3; H. Lyons, 4; W. Till, 5; J. Martin, 6. And 720 Grandsire Doubles. C. Shaw, 1; G. Benson (conductor), 2; J. Benson, 3; H. Lyons, 4; W. Till, 5; P. C. Newell, 6.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Friday, December 15th, for practice. 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Akehurst, 1; A. Wales, 2; E. Jordan, 3; F. Tullett, 4; C. Taylor, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. On Friday, December 22nd, 720 Superlative Surprise. A. Wales, 1; J. Akehurst, 2; E. Jordan, 3; F. Tullett, 4; C. Taylor, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. On Christmas morning, before the eight o'clock service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. A. Wales, 1; J. Akehurst, 2; R. Jordan, 3; F. Tullett, 4; E. Holloway, 5; E. Jordan (conductor), 6. And 720 Kent Treble Bob. A. Wales, 1; J. Akehurst, 2; R. Jordan, 3; E. Jordan, 4; E. Holloway, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And before the eleven o'clock service 360 Oxford Bob. T. Weller, 1; R. Jordan, 2; E. Jordan, 3; F. Tullett, 4; C. Taylor, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 31st, 120 Oxford Treble Bob, and the New Year was ushered in with a 720 of Kent. A. Wales, 1; J. Akehurst, 2; E. Jordan, 3; F. Tullett, 4; C. Taylor, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6.

FINEDON (Northants).—On Tuesday, October 31st, for practice, 252 Bob Triples. J. Wain, 1; J. Richwood, 2; J. T. Tompkins, 3; P. J. Manning, 4; G. Lines, 5; A. Smeathers, 6; W. Perkins (conductor), 7; T. Abbott, 8. Also 504 Bob Triples. W. Warner, 1; T. Abbott, 2; J. T. Tompkins, 3; G. Lines, 4; P. T. Manning, 5; A. Smeathers, 6; W. Perkins (conductor), 7; J. Richwood, 8. On Sunday, November 5th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples, in 47 mins. W. Warner, 1; T. Abbott, 2; J. T. Tompkins, 3; G. Lines, 4; P. J. Manning, 5; A. Smeathers, 6; W. Perkins (conductor), 7; J. Packwood, 8. On Sunday, November 12th, for Divine Service, 420 Bob Triples. J. Wain, 1; W. Warren, 2; J. T. Tompkins, 3; T. Abbott, 4; P. J. Manning, 5; A. Smeathers, 6; W. Perkins (conductor), 7; J. Packwood, 8. On Tuesday, November 14th, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Warner, 1; W. Perkins (conductor), 2; T. Abbott, 3; W. H. Ette, jun., 4; P. J. Manning, 5; A. Smeathers, 6; J. T. Tompkins, 7; J. Packwood, 8. On November 21st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins. J. Packwood, 1; T. Abbott, 2; W. H. Ette, 3; J. T. Tompkins, 4; G. Lines, 5; A. Smeathers, 6; W. Perkins (conductor), 7; P. J. Manning, 8. On Tuesday, November 28th, 720 Bob Minor. W. Warner, 1; T. Abbott, 2; P. J. Manning, 3; A. Smeathers, 4; J. T. Tompkins, 5; W. Perkins (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 10th, for evening service, 477 Grandsire Triples. J. Wain, 1; T. Abbott, 2; J. Houghton, jun., 3; G. Lines, 4; P. J. Manning, 5; A. Smeathers, 6; W. Perkins (conductor), 7; J. Packwood, 8.

GREENWICH.—On Sunday, January 7th, for evening service, 1168 Stedman Caters, in 47 mins. W. Pye (conductor), 1; H. Hoskins, 2; G. R. Pye, 3; J. J. Lamb, 4; F. W. Thornton, 5; E. Pye, 6; I. G. Shade, 7; W. Berry, 8; H. Flanders, 9; C. Bird, 10.

HORLEY (Surrey).—On Thursday, January 25th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 minutes. H. F. Ewins, 1; G. Staplehurst, 2; J. Beams (composer and conductor), 3; A. Songhurst, 4; W. Edwards, 5; E. Dewey, 6; S. Kenward, 7; T. Post, 8.

HENFIELD (Sussex).—On January 1st, at 12.10 a.m., 504 Stedman Triples. C. Tyler, 1; G. Payne, 2; S. Burt, 3; A. E. Lish, 4; L. Payne (conductor), 5; H. Markwell, 6; A. Heasman, 7; W. Markwell, 8. On Tuesday, January 2nd, for practice, 504 Stedman Triples. H. Markwell, 1; L. Payne, 2; S. Burt, 3; A. E. Lish, 4; C. Tyler, 5; G. Payne (conductor), 6; A. Heasman, 7; W. Markwell, 8.

OAKHAM (Rutlandshire).—On Friday, January 26th, an attempt was made to ring a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, but came to grief after ringing 980 changes in 42 mins. owing to a mis-call. G. H. Towell, 1; G. Welch, 2; W. Herbert, 3; F. Towell, 4; T. G. Briggs, (conductor), 5; W. Hetterley, 6.

STAINES (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, January 7th, before and after Divine Service with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Vicar, the Rev. J. H. Armstrong, 504 Grandsire Triples. G. Doy, 1; A. Wicks, 2; W. E. Butler, 3; H. Shanks, 4; J. Durrant, 5; T. C. Couch, 6; F. Richardson (conductor), 7; G. Harrison, 8. After service another 504 with T. Sadler, 3; W. E. Butler, 8; the rest as before.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Sunday, January 28th, at St. Michael's church for Divine Service, seven 720s of Grandsire Doubles each called differently in 33 mins. W. Seamer, 1; A. Titmuss, 2; C. Giddings, 3; J. Payne, 4; R. H. Weatherly (conductor), 5; W. Freeman, 6.

ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY, OAKHAM.

The annual supper of this company took place on Wednesday evening, January 24th, when there were present—the Vicar (the Rev. F. Baggallay), the Rev. Wilkinson, curate, and the churchwardens. Messrs. B. A. Adam gave the health of the foreman, Mr. F. Needham, conductor, Mr. F. Towell, and the hon. sec., Mr. G. Welch, and made a few remarks upon the progress of the ringing, which had greatly improved during the past year. The honorary secretary replied, remarking that every member had put his whole heart into ringing, and if they continued to do so, they would soon be able to ring a peal of 5040, which seemed to be their ideal. It was suggested that an Association of change-ringers should be formed, if possible, for the county of Rutland, during this year, and a meeting will shortly be arranged to form a committee, etc. All the villages in the county will be asked to join. During the evening, the ringers rang several touches of Grandsire Doubles and Grandsire Triples on the handbells, standing as follows:—In the Doubles: G. Towell, 1; G. Welch, 2; W. Herbert, 3; F. G. Briggs, 4; F. Towell (conductor), 5; F. Needham, 6. In Triples: Hetterley, 1; G. Towell, 2; T. G. Briggs, 3; G. Welch, 4; W. Herbert, 5; W. Higgs, 6; F. Towell, 7; F. Needham, 8.

BARNWOOD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

On Tuesday evening, January 2nd, the local ringers with a few friends were kindly invited by the Vicar to attend at the vicarage to partake of their annual supper, but before going they met at the tower and rang 720 Grandsire Doubles, and afterwards marched to the vicarage, where a good substantial supper was awaiting them, consisting of the well-known old English fare, viz., roast beef and plum pudding, mince pies, etc., with old John Barleycorn and apple juice. "Go" being called, and grace having been said, every man done justice to the spread, and the peal was got through without a hitch. "Stand" being called, grace being again said, and the cloth removed, the Vicar quickly stepped into the room, bringing a dish of the old favorite weed, and several illustrated books and Christmas numbers. He then gave the company a few good words of advice and his good wishes, and hoped they would all enjoy themselves. He invited them into the front hall to play the handbells, where several tunes and changes were rung, which were much admired by all the guests. The Vicar thanked the ringers, and made some pleasant remarks respecting the addition of two more bells to make the octave. He said he intended having them before long. The company thanked him, and then retired, spending the rest of the evening in songs, recitations, and handbell ringing till twelve o'clock; then Auld lang syne and the National Anthem was sung.

A RECORD FOR FOUR MONTHS AT STANSTED, ESSEX.

The Stansted Company's summary for the last four months of the year 1899 consists of ninety-six complete 720s, viz.: eleven each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, ten each of Woodbine Treble Bob and Plain Bob, seven College Single, five Cambridge Surprise, four each of London Surprise, Superlative Surprise, London Scholars' Pleasure, and Oxford Delight, three each of Violet Treble Bob and Oxford Bob, two each of Duke of York, New London Pleasure, and Stansted Court Bob, one each of York Surprise, Worcester Surprise, Durham Surprise, Chichester Surprise, Huddersfield Surprise, Bristol Surprise, Wells Surprise, Bocking Treble Bob, College Exercise, Victoria Treble Bob, Double Oxford Bob, Double Court Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, and Double Bob Minor. Of the foregoing, seventy-one were conducted by W. Watts, eleven by T. J. Watts, six by J. Luckey, three by G. Jordan, and four by Isaac Cavill of Roydon, Essex; and one was rung non-conducted. Total number rang by each member of the band: W. Watts rang 92, G. Gray 74, T. Jordan 63, G. Jordan 61, T. J. Watts 56, J. Luckey 54, J. Hammond 51, J. Cavill 45, H. Little 41. It will be seen that the above ninety-six 720s have been rang in twenty-nine different methods. Total number of changes successfully brought round the four months, 81,032.

LIGHTCLIFFE, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday last, the 27th inst., the ringers of St. Matthew's parish church had their annual dinner at The White Horse inn. Arrangements had been made for a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major on the bells of the parish church as a preliminary, but owing to the non-appearance of one of the band, this fell through, but with the assistance of members of the band at the adjacent Congregational church, touches were rung during the afternoon. The dinner was served in most excellent fashion by the worthy hostess, Mr. Womersley, to over thirty guests. After dinner, the chair was taken by Mr. John Lawson, who was supported by the Rev. J. R. Hill, M.A., Vicar, Mr. C. V. Woodcock, and Mr. — Scott, churchwardens, Dr. Marsden, Mr. Crossley, Mr. Bernal E. Howe (St. James', Bolton), and others. The Chairman commenced the evening's proceedings by proposing the loyal toasts, which was enthusiastically honoured. Mr. Moore submitted the health of the Vicar and churchwardens, which was greeted with musical honours, and duly acknowledged. Mr. Woodcock followed by proposing a like compliment to the ringers of St. Matthew's, to which Mr. Lawson replied, at the same time reading a letter of apology from Mr. William Snowdon, president of the Yorkshire Association. The Chairman then proposed "The Army, Navy and Reserve Forces," which was heartily adopted, and replied to by Mr. Churchwarden Woodcock (an old Volunteer officer), Dr. Marsden, and Mr. Crossley. Mr. Fisher then sang Kipling's War Song, at the conclusion of which a collection was made realising £1. Amongst the contributors to the harmony of the evening were the worthy Vicar, Messrs. Baines, Haigh, Pearson, Crossley, and Hague, with songs; Mr. Moore and the Chairman gave recitals; Messrs. Haigh and Robertshaw, and duets on the piano and banjo; and Mr. Haigh a banjo solo. Before separating cordial votes of thanks were accorded to the Vicar, churchwardens, hostess, and entertainers, which brought to a close a most successful, and in every way enjoyable gathering.

Obituary.

THOMAS GROVE.

It is with regret that we have to record the death of the above-named bell-hanger and ringer on Tuesday, January 16th, 1900, at the age of thirty-five years, after a short illness at Berkeley, Gloucestershire. Deceased had been in the employ of Mr. T. Blackbourn, of Salisbury, for about eight years, and was engaged at Berkeley re-hanging the peal with the addition of two trebles to complete the octave. The funeral took place at Berkeley, on Friday, the 19th January, and the tenor bell was tolled for the first time after being rehung by the deceased. The body was met at the church gates by the Rev. A. B. Macfarlane, who conducted the service both in church and at the grave-side. The mourners were Mrs. Grove (widow), Mr. J. E. Groves (brother), Mrs. Tryhorn (mother-in-law), Messrs. T. Blackbourn (deceased's employer), H. Bush, E. Sims (fellow-workmen), F. Beecham, T. Blackmore, and F. H. Howell. The bearers were four local ringers, viz., Messrs. Thompson, Cope, Townsend, and Haynes. The handbells were placed on the coffin (which attracted the sympathy of many as the cortege wended its way through the streets from the church to the cemetery), and were rung at the grave-side by Messrs. F. K. Howell, J. W. Thompson, E. Sims, H. Bush, and T. Blackbourn. The deceased commenced to ring about twenty years ago, in the old abbey church, Shrewsbury, and rung his first peal (Grandsire Triples), at Upton St. Leonards, Gloucestershire, on November 29th, 1890, since which time he has rung upwards of sixty peals in the Standard Methods. Much sympathy is felt in Berkeley for his young widow, they having been married three weeks prior to the day of his death.

LINDLEY, HUDDERSFIELD.—On Sunday evening, January 7th, at the parish church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major. A. Sykes, 1; G. W. Schofield, 2; T. Rhodes, 3; A. Crosland, 4; J. Turner, 5; F. Schofield, 6; C. Craven, 7; J. Royston, 8. Composed by A. Sykes, and Conducted by J. Royston.

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.

Middlesex County Association.—South and West District.—The next monthly meeting of the above will be held by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. C. M. Harvey, at the church of St. John the Baptist, Hillingdon, to-day, Saturday, February 3. Ringing to commence about 5 p.m., members and friends are cordially invited.

C. EDWARDS, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*

Sussex County Association.—Central Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Horley, to-day, Saturday, Feb. 3rd. Tower open from 3 p.m. Tea at 6 p.m.

G. WILLIAMS, *Hon. Sec.*
2, Grove Street, Brighton.

Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association.—Meeting at Whitby (8 bells, tenor 18 cwt.) to-day, Saturday, Feb. 3. Tea 9d. each at Mr. Botham's, Skinner Street, West Cliff, at 5 p.m. Robin Hood's Bay bells (8, tenor 10 cwt.) also kindly lent. The towers will be open all day. REV. W. P. WRIGHT.

Stokesley, R S.O. *Hon. Sec.*

The Sheffield and District Society.—The next meeting will be held at Doncaster parish church, to-day, Saturday, February 3rd. Tower open 4 p.m. Meeting house, The Market inn. R. HARRISON, *Hon. Sec.*

The Midland Counties Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Birmingham, to-day, Saturday, Feb. 3. St. Martin's (twelve bells), St. Philip's (ten bells), and St. Chad's (eight bells), will be open for ringing from 2.0 p.m. Committee meeting at 4.0 p.m. Tea (1s. 6d. each) at 4.30 p.m., followed by a general meeting in St. Martin's schools, Dean Street. Midland excursion leaves Leicester at 3.0 p.m. for Birmingham, calling at Hinckley and Nuneaton, returning from Birmingham at 11.30 p.m.

W. E. WHITE, *Hon. Sec.*
Colgrave, near Nottingham.

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Kidsgrove, to-day, Saturday February 3rd.

W. TWIGG, *Hon. Sec.*

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—Bristol Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Corsham to-day, Saturday, February 3rd. Short sermon at 5 p.m. Business meeting afterwards.

C. H. GORDON, *Branch Sec.*

The Norwich Diocesan Association.—A Quarterly Meeting will be held at East Harling, on Tuesday, February 6th. Dinner will be served at The Swan at 1.30, at 2s. 3d. for Hon. Members and friends, and 1s. 3d. for company members. Besides the bells of the parish church, the following rings will be open to the use of members during the day: Quidenham, 6; Garboldisham, 6.

H. EARLE BULWER, *Hon. Sec.*
Stanhoe Rectory, Kings Lynn.

Kent County Association.—Canterbury District.—The next meeting of the above (for ringing only), will be held at Hernhill, on Saturday, February 10th, Bells ready at 3 o'clock. E. E. FOREMAN, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*

The Waterloo Society, London.—The

32nd Anniversary Dinner of the above Society will be held at The York Hotel, Waterloo Road, S.E., on Saturday, February 17th, at 6 p.m. sharp. Tickets, 3s. 6d. each, may be had from Messrs. Barton, Webber, Fussell, Perrin, Hardy and G. E. SYMONDS, 4, Dockley Road, S.E. *Hon. Sec.*

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—If those gentlemen who are "Life Members" of the above will kindly send address to Secretary (C. L. Routledge, Tyndale House, Wylam-on-Tyne) the annual report will be forwarded to them.

The Heavy Woollen District Association.—A Committee Meeting of the above will be held at The Red Lion inn, Ossett, on Saturday, February 10th, to choose the length of the touch for the eight-bell contest, also the judges for the same. Meeting at 5 o'clock. The usual monthly meeting at 5.30. Subscriptions are now due. All members who intend competing at the contest must pay their subscriptions on or before the 1st of March. WALTER IDLE, *Secretary*, 47, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury.

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch.—Monthly meeting at St. Nicholas church, Liverpool, on Saturday, February 10th. Tower open at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m. The Secretary begs to remind members that their subscriptions are now due, and should be paid as early as possible.

G. WOODHALL, *Branch Sec.*
66, Anmerley Street, Liverpool.

The Old East Derbyshire Association.—A special meeting will be held at Eckington, on Saturday, February 10th. Important business matters to transact. Members please attend. Meeting at The White Hart inn at 5 o'clock prompt to arrange annual report, etc. E. JAMES, *Hon. Sec.*

The Essex Association.—A district meeting of the above will be held at Romford on Saturday, February 17th. A brake will leave the parish church at 2 p.m. for Dagenham and Little Heath. Tea and business meeting will be held at The Woolpack inn at 5 p.m. Ringers intending to be present must notify to me before the previous Tuesday.

HENRY T. W. EYRE, *Asst. Sec.*
Great Totham Vicarage, Witham.

The Midland Counties Association.—Preparation of Annual Report.—Members whose addresses are incorrect in last annual report, or who have changed their addresses since election are requested to notify me without delay. Notice of alteration of practice nights and names of correspondents should also if necessary be sent at once; also obituary notices. W. E. WHITE, *Hon. Sec.*
Colgrave, near Nottingham.

RINGERS' SOCIAL AT HALLIWELL, LANCASHIRE.

The ringers of St. Peter's held a social in the schoolroom in aid of the Bell Fund, on Saturday, January 27th. Shaw's band playing for dancing and Messrs. Warburton, Ulyett and Miss Warburton rendering songs in fine style, Mr. Hopkins taking the part of comic. Mr. A. Catterall acted the part of accompanist in very creditable style, and a very pleasant evening was brought to a close at 10.30 by the singing of the National Anthem. During the evening a collection was made in the room in aid of the local war fund, the sum of £1 5s. 0d. being taken in response.

Compositions.

BOB ROYAL.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

5040.

23456	W	M	H
64235	-	-	-
54236	-	-	S
32546	-	-	S
43526	-	-	-
24536	-	-	-
53246	-	-	-
45326	-	-	-

Three times repeated. Single for bob at H in the sixth course of the second and fourth parts. Has the 6th twenty-four times right.

5040.

23456	W	M	H
64235	-	-	S
36425	-	-	-
42365	-	-	-
34265	-	-	-
23465	-	-	-

54236	-	-	-
23546	-	-	-
52346	-	-	-
34526	-	-	-
53426	-	-	-
45326	-	-	-
32456	-	-	-
43256	-	-	-
24356	-	-	-

Repeated. Has the 6th six times wrong and eighteen times right.

Mr. John Carter writes to say that the peal of Bob Royal published by Mr. F. Bennett in our issue of January 20th, was called by him at St. Philip's, Birmingham, on February 22nd, 1896; see "THE BELL NEWS" and M.C.A. reports.

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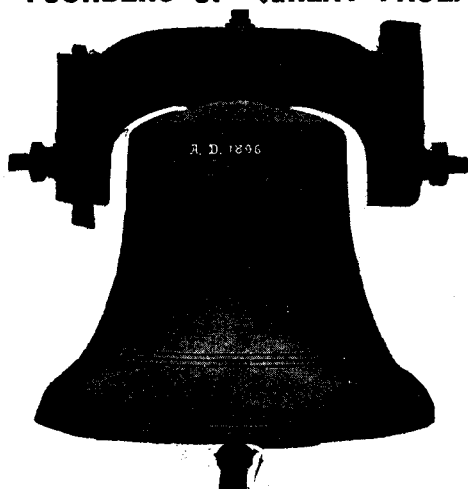
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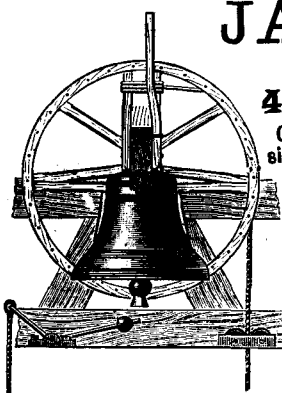
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No. 319.	"Hark the bonny Christ Church Bells," varied	"	1 6
The above are for 6 ringers with 13 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.A.			
The next are for 6 ringers with 12 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.			
No. 320.	"The Mountaineer's Waltz," on Swiss Melodies	"	1 6
No. 321.	"The Rose of Allandale" March	"	1 6
No. 322.	"The Pilgrim of Love" Galop	"	1 6
The next are for 6 ringers, with medium peal, i.e. 3 octaves, C22 to C1, chromatic.			
No. 217.	"Belfry Chimes and Nursery Rhymes"	"	3 0
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THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record :

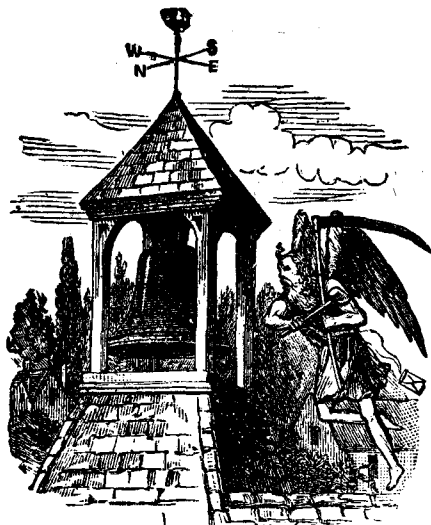
A Weekly Journal of the Ringing Exercise; and Compendium of Information for the Clergy and Churchwardens.

No. 931.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1900.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

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St. James' Palace, London.	Pontypool (Trevethin Church).
Sherborne Abbey.	Windermere Church.
Sydney Town Hall, N.S.W.	Eiffel Tower, Paris.
Hammersmith Parish Ch.	Dunsfold Parish Church.
Gateshead Clock Tower.	Aylesford do.
Duke of Albany Memorial, Cannes.	St. Mark's Church, St. Helen's.
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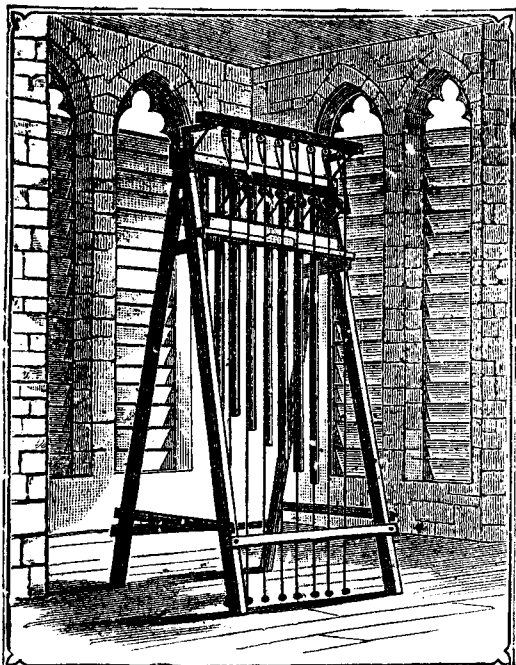
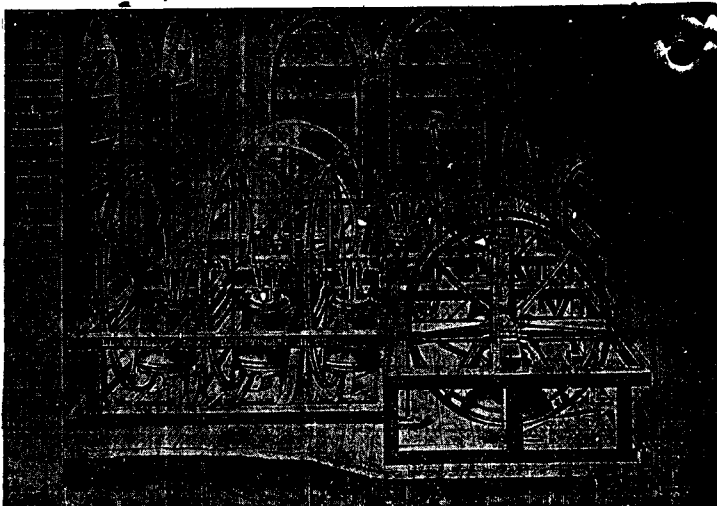
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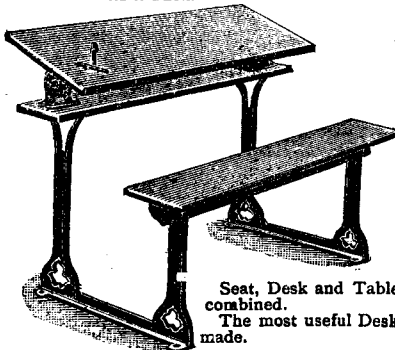
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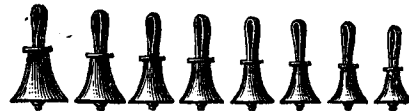
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 931.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1900.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of this Association was held at Croydon on Monday, January 29th. The bells of St. Peter, South Croydon, a ring of eight, tenor 27 cwt., were opened soon after 3 o'clock, and were rung to Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob Major until 6 o'clock, when the members who came from St. Peter's and St. John's (Croydon), Beddington, Benhilton (Sutton), Betchworth, Carshalton, Cheam, Ewell, Epsom, Guildford, Leatherhead, Mitcham, and Streatham sat down to a meat tea at the Church House, which adjoins the churchyard. The tea, which was admirably served by Mrs. Butt, gave way to the business meeting, at which the Rev. John White, the Rector, presided. The Rector cordially welcomed the members of the Association, and hoped they would come again in due course. He was pleased that the local company had succeeded in ringing two peals during the past year, although they were only able to have the use of the bells for peal-ringing on rare occasions, in consequence of the complaints which reached him and the local press from near residents.

The minutes of the previous quarterly meeting having been read and duly confirmed, it was proposed by the Hon. Secretary, seconded by Mr. C. H. Kitching (South Croydon), that the accounts and committee's report as printed be adopted. The report states that the year commenced with a balance in hand of £28 15s., 10d., and that the receipts had exceeded the payments by £2 3s. 4d., making the balance on deposit at the post office and in hand on the 31st December £30 19s. 2d. During the year twenty-six Association peals had been rung, bringing up the total rung since the foundation of the Association in 1880 to three hundred and ten. During the year three honorary, two life, and thirty-six performing members were elected, the respective totals at the end of the year being thirty-four, twenty-six, and two hundred and forty-seven. The report, which was printed at the office of this paper, included details of the peals rung during the year, lists of members, a summary of peals rung for the Association by past and present members, and an analysis of the peals rung to the end of 1899. The adoption of the report was agreed to with the exception that the question as to dividing the Association's area into districts was ordered to be dropped.

Referring to the report of the Committee, which stated that the Association had lost an old member and one of its auditors in the death of Mr. George Pell, it was proposed by the Hon. Secretary, seconded by Mr. Charles Bance (Beddington), and resolved unanimously, that a vote of condolence be passed to the family of Mr. Pell.

The Hon. Secretary proposed, Mr. Henry Brooker (South Croydon) seconded, and it was resolved, that the committee as appearing in the printed report be the committee for the ensuing year. The Rev. A. S. W. Young was reappointed Hon. Treasurer on the proposition of Mr. Harry Kenten (Epsom), seconded by Mr. Joseph

Fayers (Mitcham); and Mr. Charles Dean was re-elected Hon. Secretary on a motion proposed by Mr. C. Kitching, seconded by Mr. C. Bance.

Messrs. William Canning (Cheam) and Henry Brooker were appointed auditors, and a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Samuel Greenwood, who retired from the post of auditor in consequence of ill-health. Mr. Greenwood having replied, it was resolved that Dr. A. B. Carpenter and the Hon. Secretary be appointed delegates to the Central Council for the ensuing three years.

The Hon. Secretary reported that since the last meeting the following peals had been published in "THE BELL NEWS" as rung by members of the Association:—

- 29th Oct., 1899, Treble Bob Major at Rusper.
- 9th Nov., " Grandsire Triples at Ashtead.
- 18th Nov., " Grandsire Triples at Bletchingley.
- 19th Nov., " Treble Bob Major at Horley.
- 16th Dec., " Double Norwich Conrt Bob Major at Carshalton.
- 26th Dec., " Grandsire Triples at Dorking.
- 28th Dec., " Grandsire Caters at Beddington.
- 6th Jan., 1900, Grandsire Caters at Beddington.
- 6th Jan., " Grandsire Triples at Leatherhead.
- 20th Jan., " Grandsire Triples at Ashtead.
- 27th Jan., " Oxford Bob Triples at Ashtead.

It was resolved that the same be recorded as peals by the Association.

The next business was to fix the place of the next meeting, which would be on Easter Monday. Leatherhead, Sutton, Kingston, and Ranmore Common were proposed, and the first-named was chosen. The following new members were elected: the Rev. John H. White (the Rector's son and curate at St. Peter's), hon. member; Messrs. W. J. Freakes (Guildford), W. H. Poplett (Ewell), W. J. Chambers and C. R. Lilley (unattached), B. Wadmore and A. Winterton (life); and the election was ratified of Messrs. A. Arnold (life) J. Akehurst (Capel), H. F. Songhurst and W. J. Songhurst (Dorking), W. Tiller (South Croydon), W. Cropley and H. Wood (Leatherhead), J. Worsfold, G. Paice, and J. H. Blythman (unattached).

Mr. Lover (South Croydon) proposed, Mr. Joseph Fayers seconded a vote of thanks to the Rector for presiding, and for the use of the bells; and a vote of thanks proposed by Mr. Percy Sylvester (one of the St. Peter's churchwardens) to the Hon. Secretary concluded the business.

Besides the members present there were also Mr. John Sims Smith (churchwarden, and the Rev. J. H. White (curate), the total attendance being fifty-two. After the meeting the ringing members rang on the church bells touches of Treble Bob and Double Norwich, and a course of Superlative Surprise Major, the ringers taking part in the latter being A. Trappitt, E. Walker, H. Brooker, C. Dean, C. R. Lilley, J. Fayers, E. W. Bray, C. Bance.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD PEAL-BOOK.—A RECORD of Five Hundred and Twenty Peals rung by this Guild. Paper covers, 6d.; cloth do., 9d.—Blackwell, Reading; or the Hon. Sec. of the Guild—the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, Danston Vicarage, Reading, Berks.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(READING BRANCH.)

The annual meeting of this branch was held at Reading on Monday, January 29th. Soon after 6 p.m. the bells of St. Laurence were set in motion, and continued in short touches till 7 p.m., when a short service was held, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. R. P. Newhouse, who extended to the members present a hearty welcome. Tea had been arranged for 7.30, and at hour fifty-six members sat down to an excellent repast at the Abbey Cafe Restaurant. The Master (the Rev. F. E. Robinson) was present, and with him the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, W. P. Routh, Esq., Rev. R. F. Hankins, and representatives from most of the towers in union.

At the business meeting the chair was taken by the Rev. F. E. Robinson (in the unavoidable absence of the branch chairman), and having to leave early asked to have the toast list first. They were the usual three: "The Queen," "Oxford Diocesan Guild," and "The Father." "The Queen" was enthusiastically honoured; ringers being amongst the most loyal subjects.

In proposing the toast of The "Oxford Diocesan Guild," the Master thanked the members of the Reading branch for the support they had accorded him during the past year. By their help much good work had been done for the Guild. He was sorry to say they had lost their talented instructor, J. W. Washbrook, and the Caversham men having seceded from the Guild had somewhat reduced the number of Surprise ringers. However, he trusted the Reading men would stick at the higher methods, and if wanted he himself would come to Reading to practice with them.

The Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis said he was glad to say the finances of the Guild were in an excellent state, but for some reason the numbers fell a little short of 1898. The number of peals however created a record, being 84.

The third and last toast was "The Father," and the good old annual was well received. Mr. Robinson said there was no need for him to say as to who was meant by "the father"; he might just look for one moment over in the corner to see the father was there. Everyone knew the good work he had done amongst ringers.

Mr. Newell said he hoped to see his children gathered together at many such pleasant evenings.

The Master made a few remarks as to whether the peals he rang with Reading branch men counted as branch peals, and to test the feeling of those present, Mr. F. Hopgood proposed that such peals rung with the Master in the past should not count for the branch. No one seconded, but all present were unanimous that such peals should be included.

Mr. A. W. Pike here put in the balance-sheet, which showed a balance of £3 16s. od., and the same was passed on the proposition of Mr. Newell, seconded by Mr. Hern.

The officers of the branch were all re-elected, viz.: Chairman—J. M. Routh, Esq.; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer—A. W. Pike; Representatives on General Committee—C. Giles, C. Chapman, and A. W. Pike.

The Rev. F. E. Robinson having to go, he was accorded a hearty vote of thanks, and the chair was taken by the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis.

The report of the Reading Branch showed that ninety-six change-ringers, three probationers, and seven towers in union; eighteen peals had been rung, including eight

of Stedman Triples, one of Stedman Caters, and three of Treble Bob.

A very hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar of St. Laurence for kindly giving a service: also to the organist and choir. The company regretted the absence from the meeting of the Rev. R. P. Newhouse, but it was unavoidable, the rev. gentleman having been "commandeered" by Justice Bruce and the Sheriff of Berks. to dine with them that evening.

From now till eleven o'clock the time was pleasantly spent in song, under the chairmanship of W. P. Routh, Esq., those contributing to an excellent programme being Messrs. W. Newell, H. Goodger, A. E. Reeves, F. Sweetzer, W. Williams, R. Chapman, H. Burley, and A. Cullum; a short touch of Grandsire Triples also being rung in hand. The meeting wound up with a verse of the National Anthem, thus bringing the evening to a successful termination.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

A Committee of the above was held on Wednesday, January 31st, at 4, High Town, Hereford. There were present the Very Rev. the Dean, the Revs. H. C. Sturges, G. W. Turner, and A. C. Lee (Hon. Secretary and Treasurer), Messrs. R. Marston (Ludlow), John Jones (Hereford), J. Cartwright (Foy), Thos. Williams (Eastnor), T. Smith (Cradley), and W. S. Evans (Colwall). Mr. R. Marston took the chair. After letters of apology for non-attendance read from Archdeacon Stanhope, the Master (F. G. Buchanan), and others, the accounts were presented, shewing a balance of £17 7s. 4d., and passed with acclamation. Matters for the Report were considered; rules for the ringing of Doubles and Triples are to be added.

Subject to the consent of the Rector and churchwardens, it was decided to hold the Annual Festival at Church Stretton on Thursday, June 21st.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Hon. Secretary for his services to the Guild.

In the afternoon some touches were well rung on the Cathedral bells.

DEDICATION OF NEW BELLS AT SHARES-HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Saturday, January 27th, the little village of Shares-hill was enlivened by the sound of a new ring of bells just cast and placed in the tower by Messrs. Taylor. The bells are a very nice little ring of six, and of very fine tone, tenor about 9 cwt. There was a service in the afternoon, the Bishop of Lichfield preaching the sermon, his lordship dedicating the bells and several other articles, the gifts of the Vicar and parishioners.

The bells are the gift of Mr. A. L. Vernon, D.L. For service a 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung by J. Birch, W. Barton, F. Edwards, A. Turley, J. C. Adams (conductor), and J. Elton; this being the first 720 on them.

After service the afternoon was spent by the ringers ringing another 720 of Grandsire Minor and several 6-scores of Doubles, and touches of Grandsire Minor by the same band, Mr. A. Painter ringing the treble.

The whole of the ringing company belong to All Saints, Bloxwich, and are members of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford. They were very pleased with the tone and the "go" of the bells, which were everything that could be desired.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(CENTRAL DIVISION.)

Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather on Saturday last, February 3rd, a good muster turned up at the quarterly meeting at Horley, Surrey. (By the way, Horley is just over the Sussex boundary, but the local band there has always well supported the Sussex Association, hence the meeting). Representatives were present from Brighton (St. Peter's), Hurstpierpoint, Lindfield, Balcombe, Cramley and Horsley, the company also included Mr. I. G. Shade (Greenwich), Mr. H. P. Harman (Bromley), and Mr. G. Davey (Red Hill).

The bells were raised at 3 p.m., and kept going in various touches till tea time, which was held at 6 p.m. at The Six Bells inn (an old hostelry built in the fifteenth century), twenty-three sitting down, presided over by the Rev. H. T. Lewis, Vicar of Horley.

The business meeting which followed proved of rather more than usual interest. The minutes of the last meeting were read by the Hon. Secretary (Mr. G. Williams), and confirmed. Only one new member was forthcoming for election, viz., an additional member to the Bolney band. A suggestion was then made by the Hon. Secretary, that a resolution should be passed at this meeting for consideration at the next committee meeting and thence to the annual, that provided funds permit, a privilege should be granted to members attending these district meetings, as from experience he was sure this would prove an inducement to get a much larger attendance, as for some time past these meetings had not proved a success. Mr. E. C. Merritt (St. Peter's, Brighton) also spoke very strongly in favour of the suggestion; he (Mr. Merritt), had attended a large number of these meetings and quite endorsed what the Hon. Secretary had said.

It was then proposed by Mr. F. W. Rice and seconded by Mr. G. Paice, "That provided funds permit, this Association allow members attending district meetings a moiety of the railway fare." This was carried unanimously.

Mr. Merritt then in some well-chosen remarks, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar (Rev. H. T. Lewis), for granting the use of the bells, for presiding at the tea and meeting, also for his very generous donation towards defraying the expenses of the tea. This was seconded by Mr. Gasson and carried with acclamation.

The Vicar in responding thanked all present for the very hearty way in which he had been received. He was very pleased to have the honour of presiding at this meeting, he thought they were fortunate in getting the Association "over the border." He heartily welcomed them to Horley, and hoped they would come again. He was pleased to say they had a capital band of ringers at Horley, and although he did not meet them on practice nights, he could hear them from outside. He also spoke of their punctuality on Sundays, remarking that there always seemed a kind of Freemasonry amongst church bell ringers.

The meeting terminated with a course of Grandsire Triples on the handbells. The tower was again visited and various touches rung till 8.30 p.m.

A social hour was then spent with the Horley men who gave several selections on the handbells, and a couple of songs by Mr. W. Dart (Hurstpierpoint), "Our Johnnie," and "The Red, White and Blue." Before parting a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. A. Songhurst, the captain of the Horley band, for the excellent arrange-

ments made, this having proved the most successful meeting held during the last twelve months in the Central Division.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Taunton branch was held in St. James's tower on Saturday, the 27th of January, 1900. Members put in an appearance from St. James's, St. Mary's Milverton, Wiveliscombe and Wilton. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. It was moved by Mr. J. Burge that they should try to improve the Taunton branch in ringing altogether more than they had done in the past. Also that they should elect a chairman at the meeting instead of having a yearly chairman. It was proposed and seconded that Mr. J. Maddock be re-elected secretary and treasurer. It was proposed by Mr. E. E. Burgess, and seconded by Mr. J. Burge that the next meeting be held at Curry Rivel. The following touches of Grandsire Triples were brought round, 518 1260, also 378. This brought the meeting to a close.

THE YORK MINSTER SOCIETY.

On Saturday, February 3rd, the anniversary of this company was celebrated by a most sumptuous dinner which was put on the table by host Breed of The Lowther hotel, Queen's Street, to which, as is usual, justice was done by spoiling the look of the dishes provided in such a profuse style. Afterwards the chair was occupied by Mr. J. W. Cundall, the President, under whose rule the different toasts was proposed, viz., "The Queen and Royal Family," "The Archbishop, Dean, and other members of the Church," "The Donors to the Feast," "The City Member," "The Yorkshire Association," responded to by one of the Vice-Presidents, and "The Press," not omitting "THE BELL NEWS," and others. Harmony was contributed by Mr. Hodgson, Mr. Homer, and Mr. Haigh. Several courses on the handbells, including three leads of Treble Bob Major, was rung by Messrs. Earnshaw, Breed, T. Haigh, and Morrell. Harmony and good feeling was kept up till the usual hour, when the toast of next merry meeting was proposed, and then the parting.

RANMOOR, SHEFFIELD, YORKS.

On Wednesday evening, January 24th, the local company had their annual supper at The Ranmoor inn, a most excellent repast being served by Mr. and Mrs. Walker, which to judge by the remarks of some and silence of others, was in every way appreciated. After the cloth was removed, Mr. F. Allen was voted to the chair. He proposed the usual loyal toast, which was honoured as it should be, and the ball was kept rolling with tunes on the handbells and songs in great variety by Messrs. Walker, Noble, Evinson, Haynes, Sawyer, and Thomas, which were varied by a few more toasts, and a hearty vote of thanks to the host and hostess and the chairman. The singing of Auld lang syne brought to a close a very enjoyable evening.

MIRFIELD (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, January 28th, at St. Mary's church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Royal, 1900 changes, in 1 hr. 22 mins. G. Thornton, 1; H. Robinson, 2; T. Crawshaw, 3; H. Peacock, 4; R. Ellis, 5; H. Hinchliffe, 6; D. Clarkson, 7; C. Peacock, 8; F. Robinson (composer and conductor), 9; B. Robinson, 10. Tenor 30 cwt.

A BRIEF CONSIDERATION OF A FEW POINTS CONNECTED WITH THE HISTORY OF RINGING.

By R. A. DANIELL.

(Continued from page 437.)

In the chapter to which I have already referred, Sir Walter Besant gives an account of a Sunday holiday far more wonderful than that with which I concluded last week. In connection with Laughton's time, the whole chapter should be read, but perhaps the London Sunday of the period forms as remarkable a contrast as anything to what we are accustomed to now. To begin with, religious observance was practically confined to the bearing of sermons of what was called "sound doctrine" to which the reading of the liturgy had become a mere prelude. One consequence arising partly from this singular view of Divine Worship was that what we now know as the Parochial System had got into abeyance. The thing was practically congregationalism for Sunday meetings. The idea of common religious interests between different classes was almost lost, and little attempt was made to deal with increasing population. The church accommodation outside the City was altogether inadequate, and what we now call parochial organisation was impossible. Whether people went out for the day on Sunday or stopped at home, they had no need to usurp the description of bona fide travellers. Licensed houses and entertainment gardens were open all day long, and were resorted to by crowds of people. Laughton and his friends cannot be said to have made a bad use of their day. If Laughton had gone to his parish church, St. Andrew's, Holborn, he would probably have found the accommodation monopolised by the wealthy residents of Hatton Garden (then well inhabited), and other more well-to-do parishioners. He would not find himself wanted or missed, and as he had probably never had enough instruction in the liturgy to appreciate it, he was in my opinion much better employed in walking to Tottenham than in listening to the "sound doctrine" of his Georgian rector; and when one realises how many people then did—and naturally did under the conditions of their period—spend their Sunday in roving about among places of entertainment, one also realises that the members of the club who went out for health exercise and a definite object of a scientific nature, and when refreshing themselves could and did discuss topics of rational interest, were surely at least making a much better use of the day than many of their equals and betters, who frittered it away at Vauxhall Gardens or Bagnigge Wells, or tumbled all day long in taverns in town.

On November 21st, 1734, they rang seventeen dozen and a half of sixes at St. Bartholomew-the-Less, after which they went to The Cock and Crown in Little Britain, a noted house for birds and bird fanciers. Laughton writes some lines about the birds he heard talked of by frequenters of the house—carrier pigeons among others. He ends—

"For from the eagle to the wren
There I heard discours'd of by some men.
I would write more upon the matter
But in the art of birds I do but smatter,
For indeed I want the proper words
That's used by them that fancy birds."

On December 22nd, 1734, they rang 720 Morning Exercise on the back bells at Christ Church, Spitalfields. They met at The George in Houndsditch, where "Mr. Greenwood and Mr. Davis gave us for supper two legs of mutton, roasted and stuffed with pickled herrings, which was as fine eating as ever was ate. The stuffing was composed of pickled herrings, sweet marjoram, pennyroyal, thyme, parsley, onions, beef suet, crumbs of bread, grated nutmeg and whites of eggs, the herrings minced small and mixed with the other ingredients. Three herrings is enough for a leg of 12 pounds, and four for one of 15 or 16. Ours weighed 12 pounds each, so there was six large herrings used to them both. They were stuffed without cutting of holes in the meat, as they do in a buttock of beef or a fillet of veal, for the stuffing of these was crammed down by the knuckles where there is a cavity to be found in the middle of the leg near the bone, though not quite at it. The stuffing of

these went down quite to the bottom of the legs, and so up to the knuckles, that when they were stuffed they looked half as big again as they did before. As they roasted the herrings dissolved among the other ingredients, and left not the least taste of fish behind, but gave the stuffing the finest flavour that can be imagined, nor was there the least taste of fish in the dripping, for we had several sops made in it to taste. The goodness of this dish few will believe without they eat on't."

If any ringers should venture upon this dish at a festival or meeting, I hope they will write Mr. Editor and tell us how they liked it.

The fiftieth and last meeting of the Club took place at Will Coster's on March 8th, 1735, where Laughton stood a supper of a shoulder of veal roasted, and two plum puddings. They met to talk over what they had accomplished.

"Our pleasant walks the summer past
And whate'er we'd done from first to last,
Which seemed to yield us much delight
For merrily we spent the night.
A song sometimes came in betwixt
And was agreeably intermixed,
For songs well sung and tales well told
Are to conversation the life and soul,
And store of mirth will seldom fail
Where there is good cheer and merry tale.
To friends and foes I wish the like
Whene'er they meet by day or night."

Laughton appends certain tables and figures, from which we learn that in this volume he wrote 1684 lines "without the prose." Also that in their fifty meetings the Club rang 53,228 changes. The methods rung were Grandsire, Old Doubles, New Doubles, St. Simon's Doubles and Cambridge Delight on five bells; College Single, Plain Bob, Court Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Morning Exercise and Cambridge Surprise on six bells; Grandsire Triples on seven bells; and Bob Major and Union Bob on eight bells. The use of this latter term for Treble Bob Major is explained by Mr. Snowdon. Laughton also uses the word "cramp," which is now, I think, regarded as meaningless; but of course the word must have originally been applied to other than plain methods above six bells for some reason. I cannot find in dictionaries anything which helps to the meaning of such a word in such a connection, and if any of your readers can throw any light on the history of this word, I shall be much interested.

Among one or two other minor things in the book is an account of a sail down the Thames to Sheppey. In some verses addressed to Gilbert and Greenwood (two members of the club) explaining his inability to keep an appointment with them because of going on this expedition, Laughton says—

"If the Sterling Castle we can find
Captain Geary will use us kind;
We hope to find him in our rounds
Either at the Nore or in the Downs."

This I take to indicate Francis Geary, afterwards Admiral Sir Francis Geary, who rang in the College Youths Bob Maximus peal at St. Bride's in 1726. Laughton must have known him, as they both rang in it. Laughton, however, does not appear to have met with him on this occasion, nor shall I extract anything from his account of this expedition except the quaint phrase that he caught some "scuttlefish that spews a natural ink."

The great interest of this manuscript of Laughton's arises from the fact that it is a record made, of his own fancy, of the proceedings of himself and his friends. It has no object to teach people anything, it was not written with a view to publication, nor is it anything but a transparently natural account written by a good-humoured man. The extracts I have given are good samples of the whole—indeed I have selected those which appeared to me most interesting as conveying most information as to the habits and people concerned. There are two or three passages of indelicate suggestion, but only two or three, and the writing is much more free than one would have expected from the coarseness so prevalent at the time. On one or two occasions, perhaps, Laughton, or some one else, shews himself rather self-assertive in dealings with outsiders, but the

impression left on one's mind on closing the volume is that of a good-humoured set of men, fond of healthy exercise and honest mirth, self-respecting and intelligent, probably good average specimens of the younger and middle-aged members of the London Exercise. They were the same fellows as ourselves in essence; different only in respect of the habits of their day. They drank considerable quantities at times, but they do not seem to have got incapacitated by what they took, unless indeed in one or two cases the word "tired" applied to an individual carries a suggestion with it. One feels one would like to have joined them in a ramble, or to have been one of the party at Davis's or Coster's, and that there was about them plenty of that nature which brings us all into sympathy.

It may be complained of these ringers that they were secular. They certainly were; but did they in this practically differ to any extent from their contemporaries? Take their Bishops, for example. Laughton and ringers generally regarded bells as things set up at the public expense to be used for pleasure. The Bishops as a class regarded Sees as State institutions to be used for profit. They took them—sometimes after intriguing for them—on the terms that their real business was to attend regularly in the House of Lords and vote steadily in support of the party of the Minister who appointed them; after this their next duty was to use their patronage to the utmost for the benefit of their relatives and friends, and then, these two important things attended to, they were at liberty to attend to their dioceses if and so far as their private convenience permitted. Excellent men! Let us be more charitable to them than the clergy so often are to the old ringers, and insist that if they are to be judged at all they must be judged by the standard of the age which produced them. They were extremely respectable and often men of ability, and they no more doubted about the propriety of their views and the virtue of their conduct than Major Pendennis did about his. The immortal Butler was not yet on the bench, and of course an assertion as to a class is not meant to admit of no exception. Still, it seems to me that the difference in view between these Bishops, as a class, and the clergy of our day is at least as great as that between our clergy and the old ringers. It would be interesting if the clerical members of the Exercise would tell us whether in the matter of Church principles of any kind they find any practical difference between William Laughton and the *Ramblers' Club* on the one hand, and, say, Archbishop Potter and Bishop Hoadly on the other? and if so in what respect?

So I now leave Laughton for the present, and turn to a brief consideration of the subject of the non-consumption of drink in London change-ringing towers, to which I have already alluded.

(To be continued.)

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

In the early history of this Society one of the favourite places of resort of its members was the pretty village of Beddington with its pleasantly situated church and fine peal of bells—many years however having elapsed since a visit was paid there it occurred to one or two of the present day members whether arrangements could not be made for another visit to this quaint little spot.

Permission for a peal was readily granted through the good offices of Mr. Bance the steeple-keeper, who at the same time intimated to the Waterloo men that the Beddington Company were holding their annual supper on the evening in question, and would be pleased if the visitors could conveniently spend a social hour with them, after their energies in the ringing direction had been exhausted.

Such a welcome and courteous invitation as this could not but be taken advantage of, and a representative band was easily found willing to undertake the journey to Beddington. Saturday 20th January, was the day appointed, and the party in two sections duly arrived at Waddon station at 5 o'clock. Those of the party who were travelling in strange country happily had the advantage of the company of our good friend and treasurer Mr. Malim, who associated as he has been with Beddington and the neighbourhood for so many years, kindly acted as a guide to the excursionists during the evening. The tower was very soon

reached, and everything being in readiness, the bells were raised and set going to Stedman Caters, the late George Newson's well-known 5006 being the composition chosen. The "go" was all that could be desired and good striking was maintained until the welcome "that's all" was called. Upon descending the band were congratulated upon their feat by many listeners including the veteran Edgar Bennett.

Needless to say the object in view of the party, after mind and muscle had been so well exercised, was to avail oneself of the invitation extended by Mr. Bance. Accordingly The Plough inn was soon reached where the Waterloo men, who were received with cheer, found themselves surrounded by mirth and conviviality.

Curiously enough at this particular part of the programme the health of the visitors was given by the chairman, who congratulated the Waterloo Society upon their performance, which he understood had been successfully accomplished, but which he had had no opportunity of hearing.

Mr. Malim responded, and the visitors not to be outdone by their hosts in harmony, by way of further reply rang a course of Grandsire Caters upon a fine peal of handbells, by Messrs Shaw of Bradford, which had been brought down by Mr. W. H. Fussell, and which were admired by the Company: H. Langdon, 1-2; W. H. Fussell, 3-4; G. S. Symonds, 5-6; R. Charge, 7-8; H. Barton, 9-10.

The time for departure arrived only too quickly, but leave was not taken until the Beddington men had been warmly invited to a similar function proposed to be held by the Waterloo Society on the 17th of February, which invitation was greeted with much cheering. London was again safely reached, and in spite of the inclemency of the weather and the lateness of the hour, the men appeared none the worse—in fact, the present generation of Waterloo heroes seemed to regard these outings as part of their peal-ringing programme, and certainly the opportunity of scoring a peal in such a clean and comfortable tower as Beddington, with its pleasant surroundings, should not be made light of, contrasting strangely as it did with the condition of the ringing chambers of some of our principal churches in the heart of the Metropolis.

The thanks of the Waterloo Society are hereby tendered to the Rector of Beddington and to all those concerned who helped to make their outing a success.

THE BEDDINGTON (SURREY) SOCIETY.

The annual supper of this society was held at The Plough, Beddington, on Saturday, January 3rd. The company included ringers and friends from Carshalton, Croydon, and Sutton, and in the regretted but unavoidable absence of the Rector, the Rev. H. A. Hodgson, the chair was occupied by Mr. Charles Bance, the vice-chairman's duties falling to Mr. C. H. Kitching, of South Croydon. Mr. Sanders' fare having received full attention, the cloth was removed, and the evening devoted to harmony. The toast of "The Queen" was received with musical honours. A course of Grandsire Triples was rung on the handbells by A. Trappitt, 1-2; F. Holden, 3-4; C. R. Lilley, 5-6; and J. Fayers, 7-8. Mr. Bert Handley, who ably accompanied the songs, gave a selection on the pianoforte. The toast of "The Army, Navy and Reserve Forces" having been honoured, a long programme of songs was got through. The toast of the "Beddington Company" was proposed by the chairman, as was also that of "the Visitors," the latter being responded to by Messrs. Malim (London), Holder (Carshalton), Kitching (South Croydon), and Dean (Sutton). The chairman in proposing the health of the Rector, said he had heard only at the last moment that that gentleman would be unable to be present, and he felt sure, therefore, that something very unforeseen and unavoidable had occurred to cause his absence. The toast was drunk with musical honours. The members of the Waterloo Society, who during the early part of the evening rang a peal, afterwards joined the company at The Plough for a short time, as will be found above.

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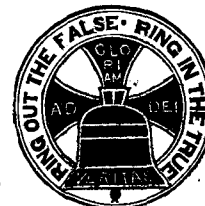
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The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1900.

THE adjuncts of winter, we are told, have so much affected the health of certain districts that it has been found necessary to postpone ringing meetings for a time in the respective neighbourhoods. We need not gather from this that any great number of members of the Exercise are rendered unfit for ringing by reason of illness, but that many inhabitants within the hearing of bells are incapacitated through the rigour of the season. The severe weather just now needs a great amount of personal care indeed, if we would successfully withstand the dreaded influenza and all its accompaniments. This subtle monster has played havoc with more than one of our staff during the past fortnight; at present we are without the co-operation of a valued and popular contributor. The practice of ringing thus requires our friends to be careful; many belfries are treacherous places, and chronic colds, leading to other complications, have before now been correctly attributed to disregard of warm apparel while staying in them.

The Metropolis.**THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, January 27, 1900, in Two Hours Fifty-eight and ½ Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL HALLOWS, TOTTENHAM,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' ONE-PART. Tenor 18 cwt.

HENRY BARNETT Treble.	GEORGE B. LUCAS* 5.
RICHARD GOODCHILD* 2.	LEWIS J. DARLINGTON 6.
WILLIAM BENNETT 3.	JAMES PARKER 7.
WILLIAM WARD 4.	ARTHUR T. KING Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES PARKER.

*First peal in the method. This is the first time Thurstans' one-part has been rung by the above Association. [This is a corrected report from last week.]

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE ST. STEPHEN'S SOCIETY, WESTMINSTER.*On Saturday, February 3, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 24 cwt.

JOHN N. OXBORROW Treble.	HENRY S. ELLIS 5.
HENRY R. NEWTON 2.	JOHN M. HAYES 6.
JOHN W. GOLDING 3.	WILLIAM H. PASMORE 7.
ARTHUR G. ELLIS 4.	CHARLES T. P. BRICE Tenor.

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW, and
Conducted by CHARLES T. P. BRICE.**THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, February 3, 1900, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, EDMONTO

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES.

Tenor 17½ cwt.

RICHARD GOODCHILD* .. Treble.	WILLIAM WARD 5.
JOHN R. SHARMAN 2.	*LEWIS J. DARLINGTON .. 6.
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 3.	JAMES PARKER 7.
CHARLES WILKINS 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by J. PARKER.

*First peal in the method.

The Provinces.**THURLASTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.****THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.**

(NUNEATON DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, January 27, 1900, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being eight 6-scores of St. Simons, fourteen of Plain and twenty of Grandsire. Tenor 17½ cwt. in F.

J. WRIGHT Treble.	W. A. NEEDHAM 3.
J. H. SWINFELD 2.	C. BELTON 4.

A. R. ALDHAM Tenor.

Conducted by A. R. ALDHAM.

This is the first peal on this grand ring, and was arranged to oblige J. Wright, who is one of the local band, and has recently joined the Association, it being his first peal.

SANDHURST, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(SONNING BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, January 30, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720s each called differently.

J. PITTS Treble.	J. BRINN 4.
H. WATTS 2.	C. SMART 5.
A. WOODERSON 3.	A. E. COUSINS Tenor.

Conducted by A. E. COUSINS.

First peal by the local band

NORTON FITZWARREN, SOMERSET.**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Wednesday, January 31, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of City Delight, London Scholars' Pleasure, College Exercise, College Pleasure, Woodbine, Duke of York, and Violet. Tenor 16 cwt.

JOHN SLOMAN* Treble.	HENRY CHAPLIN 4.
HENRY J. CREED 2.	TOM W. CREED 5.
ISAAC CREED 3.	JOHN CRIDLAND Tenor.

Conducted by ISAAC CREED.

*First peal.

MITCHAM, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.*On Wednesday, January 31, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes*

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION.

ROBERT SEWELL Treble.	JOSEPH FAYERS 5.
JAMES D. DREWITT 2.	ALBERT CALVER 6.
JOSEPH A. LAMBERT 3.	WILLIAM S. SMITH 7.
CHARLES R. LILLEY 4.	LEWIN C. FERRIGE Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM S. SMITH.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, KIDDERMINSTER.***On Wednesday, January 31, 1900, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF SHIPWAY MAJOR, 5002 CHANGES.

ERNEST C. HUNT Treble.	THOMAS WAKEMAN 5.
NOAH DAVIS 2.	THOMAS R. BENNETT 6.
THOMAS J. SALTER 3.	JOHN CRANE 7.
WILLIAM H. SMITH 4.	RICHARD E. GROVE Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by R. E. GROVE.

The above is the first peal rung in the method.

PORTISHEAD, SOMERSETSHIRE.**THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Thursday, February 1, 1900, in Three Hours,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

T. WYATT Treble.	G. TIPPITT 5.
E. KNIGHT 2.	J. NISBITT 6.
L. MOORE 3.	W. GILLINGHAM 7.
A. GALE 4.	C. URCH Tenor.

Conducted by W. GILLINGHAM.

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

BRISTOL.**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, February 3, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS'. Tenor 18 cwt. in E.

JOHN THOMAS Treble.	RICHARD CLARK 5.
FRED G. MAY 2.	WILLIAM A. CAVE 6.
HENRY PRING 3.	GEORGE T. DALTRY 7.
WILLIAM KNIGHT 4.	WILLIAM BEVAN Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE THOMAS DALTRY.

MAIDENHEAD, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.*On Saturday, February 3, 1900, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, BOYNE HILL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 17½ cwt.

G. L. BODDINGTON Treble.	CHARLES CHAPMAN 5.
FRANK BISSLEY 2.	WILLIAM NEWELL 6.
JOHN C. TRUSS 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
REV. HAROLD C. BELL .. 4.	REUBEN SAWYER Tenor.

Conducted by the Rev. F. E. ROBINSON.

BORDEN, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.*On Saturday, February 3, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 23 cwt.

WILLIAM EASTER Treble.	CHARLES R. MILLWAY .. 5.
WILLIAM HAIGH 2.	ALFRED WM. DARLINGTON 6.
WILLIAM SPICE 3.	SIDNEY WADE 7.
ERNEST MEXTER 4.	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE .. Tenor.

Composed by A. KNIGHTS, and Conducted by THOS. GROOMBRIDGE.

This is the first peal of Major on the bells for nearly a century, and was rung as a birthday compliment to C. R. Millway, the band wishing him many happy returns.

PRESTBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

(CHELTENHAM AND DISTRICT GUILD.)

On Saturday, February 3, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE. Tenor 14½ cwt.

W. T. PATES Treble.	W. DYER 5.
F. WADE 2.	*F. COURT 6.
G. H. PHILLOTT 3.	T. PENDRY 7.
C. POCKETTS 4.	J. BALLINGER Tenor.

Conducted by T. PENDRY.

*First peal.

SUNDERLAND.**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, February 3, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,*

AT BISHOPWEARMOUTH PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 11½ cwt.

ROBERT C. HUDSON .. Treble.	†JOHN NAISBY 5.
JOSEPH W. PARKER* .. 2.	ROBERT W. LOVIE 6.
JOHN J. LEIGHTON† .. 3.	WILLIAM T. ROBSON .. 7.
THOMAS RICHARDSON* .. 4.	†ROBERT L. PATTERSON .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM T. ROBSON.

*First peal. †First peal in the method.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.**THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, February 3, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5312 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt. in E flat.

JOHN CREASEY Treble.	WILLIAM E. BULLOCK .. 5.
GEORGE PERRY 2.	JAMES G. RUMSEY 6.
WILLIAM GRIMES 3.	WILLIAM C. RUMSEY .. 7.
GEORGE THURLOW 4.	ALFRED W. GRIMES Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, of Chesterfield, and
Conducted by WILLIAM C. RUMSEY.

The above peal is a two-part composition with the 4th, 5th, and 6th their extent in 6ths place, and is now rung for the first time. Rung as a compliment to A. Grimes on the occasion of his nineteenth birthday, which occurred a few days previous, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.—LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.*On Saturday, February 3, 1900, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF THE SAVIOUR,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 20½ cwt.

THOMAS PEERS Treble.	TITUS BARLOW 5.
JOSEPH LOWE 2.	JOSEPH POTTER 6.
A. EDWARD WREAKS .. 3.	JOHN POTTER 7.
ALFRED POTTER 4.	WILLIAM BARLOW Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN POTTER.

READING, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.*On Tuesday, February 6, 1900, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

CHARLES GILES Treble.	ALFRED E. REEVES 5.
G. L. BODDINGTON 2.	FRANK HOPGOOD 6.
ALFRED W. REEVES 3.	HENRY TUCKER 7.
FREDERICK SWEETZER .. 4.	ALBERT E. REEVES Tenor.

Composed by J. BUCKLEY, and Conducted by ALBERT E. REEVES.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

DUNSTER, SOMERSET.**THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

(THE DUNSTER GUILD.)

On Tuesday, February 6, 1900, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 21 cwt.

JAMES HOLE Treble.	THOMAS A. ELLIOTT .. 5.
GEORGE STACEY 2.	JAMES R. JONES 6.
ALBERT HOLE 3.	JAMES GRABHAM 7.
ALBERT J. CHILCOTT .. 4.	JOHN PAYNE Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES GRABHAM.

This is the conductor's 50th peal.

Handbell Peals.**ROMFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.***On Wednesday, January 31, 1900, in Two Hours and Nineteen Minutes,*

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. H. BURRELL, LONDON ROAD,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SIR A. P. HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'.

GEORGE R. PYE 1-2.	ERNEST PYE 5-6.
WILLIAM PYE 3-4.	*LEONARD W. COPSEY .. 7-8.

Conducted by GEORGE R. PYE.

Umpires—W. Watson and H. F. Dawkins. *First peal on handbells.

Date Touches.

CHESTERFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday evening, January 14th, for Divine Service, a date touch of 1900 Grandsire Caters, in 1 hr. 12 mins. W. Nuttall, 1; A. Craven, 2; W. J. Thyng, 3; D. Farthing, 4; G. Davies, 5; S. Price, 6; W. Worthington, 7; J. Hunt, 8; A. Knights (conductor), 9; G. Mee, 10. Composed by J. W. Bayley, of Stockport.

Miscellaneous.**THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

STRYNING (Sussex).—On Saturday, January 20th, 2512 Bob Major. W. Palmer, jun., 1; L. E. Sears, 2; G. Gatland, 3; F. W. Steele, 4; F. R. Dearing, 5; G. A. Steele (first attempt at Major), 6; W. Palmer, 7; K. Hart (conductor), 8.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

STAINES (Middlesex).—On Thursday, January 7th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 336 Grandsire Triples. S. Greenwood, 1; A. Wicks, 2; W. E. Butler, 3; T. Sadler (conductor), 4; J. Durrant, 5; T. C. Couch, 6; P. Richardson, 7; G. Harrison, 8.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—LIVERPOOL BRANCH.

GRASSENDALE.—On Sunday, December 3rd, for evening service at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor. J. Turner, 1; R. Green, 2; F. C. Newton, 3; T. Morris, 4; J. T. Lowe, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 10th, for evening service, 720 Grandsire Minor. R. Green, 1; J. Turner (first 720 in the method), 2; F. C. Newton, 3; T. Morris, 4; J. T. Lowe (conductor), 5; J. Allen, 6. On Sunday, December 24th, for evening service, 720 Grandsire Minor, composed by R. Johnson, Farnworth, and published in "THE BELL NEWS" of December 16th, 1899. J. Turner, 1; R. Green, 2; F. C. Newton, 3; T. Morris, 4; J. T. Lowe (conductor), 5; J. Allen, 6. On Christmas morning, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Turner (conductor), 1; R. Green, 2; F. C. Newton, 3; T. Morris, 4; J. T. Lowe, 5; J. Allen, 6. On Sunday evening, January 14th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. J. Turner (conductor), 1; R. Green, 2; F. C. Newton, 3; T. Morris, 4; J. T. Lowe, 5; J. Allen, 6. On Sunday evening, January 21st, for Divine Service, 720 Grandsire Minor standing as before, conducted by R. Green. On Sunday evening, January 28th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Turner, 1; R. Green, 2; F. C. Newton (conductor), 3; T. Morris, 4; J. T. Lowe, 5; J. Allen, 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

MISTLEY (Essex).—On January 14th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 25 mins. E. Hills, 1; B. Bridges, 2; J. Souther, 3; W. Honeywood, 4; W. Last, 5; A. Fuller (conductor), 6.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

HECKINGTON (Lincolnshire).—On October 23rd, 840 Union Triples. T. Woods, 1; J. T. Holmes, 2; J. Hilton, 3; E. Houlden, 4; J. Clark, 5; H. P. Nash, 6; W. Dickinson (conductor), 7; W. Houlden, 8. On November 5th, 630 Oxford Bob Triples. F. Hilton, 1; J. T. Holmes, 2; J. Clark, 3; E. Houlden, 4; F. Warrington, 5; H. P. Nash, 6; W. Dickinson (conductor), 7; W. Houlden, 8. On Friday, December 15th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. F. Warrington, 3; E. Houlden, 4; T. Woods, 5; J. T. Holmes, 6; H. P. Nash, 7; W. Dickinson (conductor), 8. On November 27th, 720 Grandsire Minor. W. Houlden, 3; E. Houlden, 4; J. T. Holmes, 5; T. Woods, 6; H. P. Nash, 7; W. Dickinson (conductor), 8. On Friday, December 1st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. *W. Houlden, 1; J. Clark, 2; J. T. Holmes, 3; E. Houlden, 4; H. P. Nash, 5; T. Woods, 6; W. Dickinson (conductor), 7; B. Woods, 8. *First quarter-peal. On Friday, December 22nd, 720 Bob Minor. W. Houlden, 3; E. Houlden, 4; F. Warrington, 5; T. Woods, 6; W. Dickinson (conductor), 7; J. T. Holmes, 8.

GREAT HALE (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday evening, December 10th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. H. Wood, 1; C. Ward, 2; T. Humberstone, 3; R. Masters, 4; T. B. Wood, 5; T. T. Taylor (conductor), 6. On Sunday afternoon, December 24th, 720 Duke of York in 24 mins. J. W. Wood, 1; R. Masters, 2; C. Ward, 3; T. Humberstone, 4; T. B. Wood, 5; T. T. Taylor (conductor), 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CHARING (Kent).—On Saturday, December 30th, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). P. Edwards, 1; E. Dixon, 2; W. Hills, 3; J. Willis, 4; T. Tabrett, 5; W. Spice (conductor), 6.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

LONDON.—On Sunday evening, January 14th, at St. John's church, Waterloo Road, for Divine Service, the last 742 of Holt's Original. E. Oxenham, 1; H. Langdon, 2; F. G. Perrin, 3; A. Hardy, 4; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 5; H. Barton, 6; G. E. Symonds, 7; H. Walker, 8. Afterwards at 40, Catherine Street, Buckingham Gate, S.W., on handbells, an attempt was made for a peal of Bob Major, but after ringing 4240 changes "stand" was called owing to a change-course. W. H. Fussell, 1-2; G. E. Symonds, 3-4; R. Charge, 5-6; H. Barton (conductor), 7-8. Umpire—A. Hardy.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BACUP.—On Sunday, December 3rd, for morning service, 720 Burton Treble Bob. L. Holt, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. S. Lomas, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. H. Barnes, 6. For afternoon service,

720 Duke of York, standing as before, except H. L. Cockroft, 3. For evening service, 720 Woodbine. H. L. Cockroft, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. S. Lomas, 3; W. Smith, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. S. Lomas (conductor), 6. Also 720 Superlative Surprise. J. S. Lomas, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. H. Smith, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 10th, for morning service, 720 London Treble Bob. L. Holt, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. H. Smith, 3; J. S. Lomas, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, December 17th, 720 Arnold's Victory. J. S. Lomas, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. H. Smith, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. H. Barnes, 6. On Sunday morning, December 24th, 720 Woodbine. D. Briggs, 1; H. L. Cockroft, 2; J. S. Lomas, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On December 25th, for morning service, 720 Duke of York, standing as above. On Sunday morning, December 31st, 720 Imperial. L. Holt, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. S. Lomas, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Ebor, standing as before, except W. Smith, 1.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS

LONDON.—On Sunday, January 21st, for Divine Service in the evening at St. Mary Abbott's, Kensington, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters, in 56 mins., composed by J. P. Bradley. W. E. Judd, 1; T. H. Taffender (conductor), 2; A. V. Selby, 3; W. E. Garrard, 4; S. H. Godfrey, 5; H. G. Miles, 6; A. E. Bradley, 7; W. Fox, 8; A. F. Harris, 9; J. Judd, 10. On Sunday, December 17th, for evening service at St. George the Martyr, Southwark, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans) in 44 mins. J. Pettit, 1; T. H. Taffender (conductor), 2; W. S. Wise, 3; W. Pickworth, 4; C. F. Winney, 5; H. Springall, 6; W. T. Cockerill, 7; G. Woodage, 8.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

LONDON.—On Monday, November 27th, at St. Clement Danes, Strand, the usual whole pull and stand was rung, as a last token of respect to the late Henry Langdon. F. F. Winney (conductor), 1; J. Mansfield, 2; W. Weatherstone, 3; H. R. Newton, 4; E. J. Comb, 5; H. R. Pasmore, 6; A. W. Brighton, 7; T. H. Taffender, 8; E. P. O'Meara, 9; W. T. Cockerill, 10. Afterwards touches of Grandsire and Stedman Caters were rung, in which Messrs. Golding, Hinton, S. Saker, Symonds, Truss and Lamb took part.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

TIMBERLAND (Lincolnshire).—On Monday, October 16th, for practice, 720 Violet Treble Bob in 28 mins. A. Sharpe, 1; H. King, 2; F. Cobb, 3; A. Ferry, 4; W. Elkington, 5; G. Elkington, 6. On Thursday, November 30th, being the Dedication Festival, 720 Oxford. A. Sharpe, 1; F. Curtis, 2; F. Cobb, 3; A. West, 4; W. Elkington, 5; G. Elkington, 6. On Thursday, December 7th, 720 Duke of York. A. Sharpe, 1; F. Curtis, 2; F. Cobb, 3; H. King, 4; W. Elkington, 5; G. Elkington, 6. On Friday, December 15th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. W. Elkington, 1; A. West, 2; F. Cobb, 3; A. Sharpe, 4; F. Curtis, 5; G. Elkington, 6. On Sunday, December 17th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. F. Curtis, 1; H. King, 2; F. Cobb, 3; A. West, 4; W. Elkington, 5; G. Elkington, 6. On Monday, December 18th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. H. King, 1; A. West, 2; F. Cobb, 3; A. Sharpe, 4; W. Elkington, 5; G. Elkington, 6. On Sunday, December 24th, 720 Oxford. W. Elkington, 1; A. West, 2; F. Cobb, 3; A. Sharpe, 4; F. Curtis, 5; G. Elkington, 6. On Christmas Day 720 Oxford. H. King, 1; F. Curtis, 2; F. Cobb, 3; A. Sharpe, 4; A. West, 5; G. Elkington, 6. On Thursday, January 11th, 720 Woodbine. F. Curtis, 1; H. King, 2; F. Cobb, 3; A. West, 4; W. Elkington, 5; G. Elkington, 6. All conducted by G. Elkington. First 720 of Woodbine by all and on the bells.

GOSPEL OAK (Middlesex).—On Sunday morning, December 31st, for Divine Service at St. Martin's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. N. Alderman, 1; G. Hollis, 2; E. Bonfield, 3; E. Young, 4; W. Nudds, 5; G. Smith (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 7th, 360 Bob Minor. C. Pryor, 1; G. Hollis, 2; E. Bonfield, 3; J. Nixon, 4; N. Alderman (conductor), 5; R. Bevan, 6. And another 360 in the same method. H. Ellis, 1; G. Hollis, 2; E. Bonfield, 3; N. Alderman, 4; W. Nudds, 5; R. Bevan, 6. On Sunday morning, January 14th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. E. Bonfield, 1; G. Hollis, 2; E. Young, 3; N. Alderman, 4; J. Nixon, 5; G. Smith (conductor), 6. For evening service 360 Bob Minor. H. Ellis, 1; C. Pryor, 2; E. Bonfield, 3; G. Hollis, 4; J. Nixon (conductor), 5; W. Nudds, 6. Also 240 Kent Treble Bob. N. Alderman, 1; G. Hollis, 2; E. Bonfield, 3; —, Chandler, 4; E. Young, 5; W. Nudds, 6.

THE ST. ANDREW'S ASSOCIATION, RUGBY.

The annual meeting of the members of this association was held at the coffee tavern on Monday evening, January 22nd, after the usual practice. The Rev. A. V. Baillie, Rector, as president of the association, took the chair, and was supported by Mr. W. Brooke, churchwarden. The finances and membership were reported to be in a satisfactory position. Mr. James George was unanimously re-elected ringing master, and Mr. A. Coleman was appointed honorary secretary, in the place of Mr. S. Stannard resigned.

Mr. George, after returning thanks for his re-election, gave a brief review of the year's work. They were steadily progressing, and might congratulate themselves upon the fact that, apart from quarter peals and touches, two peals had been rung on the bells within the year.

Amongst other business it was decided to institute a peal-book, and to have certificates of membership, with rules and lists of officers; but the Rector suggested that as the names of the churchwardens appeared thereon, and there would inevitably be a change at Easter, the issuing of the certificates should be deferred till then.

Mr. C. J. B. Cooke proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector and the churchwardens for the way in which they endeavoured, as far as possible, to promote the interests of the association.

The Rector, in the course of a genial reply, said that, having such a fine peal of bells, it was only reasonable that they should be rung, and by having due regard to the feelings of those who lived in the immediate vicinity, and ringing the bells on suitable and proper occasions and in a reasonable manner, they hoped to avoid giving annoyance and remove in time all objections.

Mr. Brooke also replied, and was pleased to say that during the past year they had scarcely had a complaint, and he had no doubt if they continued to ring as they had done during the past year they would not give much cause for complaint. It was the desire of the Rector and churchwardens to encourage the association in every possible way, consistent with the reasonable desires of the people who lived in the neighbourhood of the church. He added that all the thanks were not due to the Rector and churchwardens, and he had, on their behalf, to thank Messrs. Cooke, Coleman, and George for their handsome present of ringing-mats for the belfry.

THE ST. NICOLAS GUILD, GUILDFORD.

At the invitation of the Rev. W. S. Sanders, R.D., the above Guild held their annual supper at the Rectory, January 18th, where an excellent repast was served up in splendid style, to which full justice was done. Supper over, the rev. gentleman proposed the health of the ringers, saying there was nothing he loved to hear better than his bells rung for service on Sundays, but unfortunately illness has been so prevalent near the church that the bells had not been rung for three months, but he hoped to be able to inform the ringers that they would be able to start again on the coming Sunday. Mr. Jones replied on behalf of the ringers in suitable terms. Then Mr. Blondell gave one of his favourite songs, which he sung in capital form. Touches of Triples and a plain course of Caters on the handbells brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

On the following Saturday evening an interesting ceremony took place, when the Rector met the ringers in the tower, and unveiled four peal-boards recording four peals

that had been rung by the guild, viz.: two peals of Grand-sire Caters, and one each of Plain Bob and Treble Bob Major. The rev. gentleman in the course of a few remarks said it was a very great pleasure to meet the ringers on such an occasion, and congratulated them on their successes. He expressed the hope they would have soon have an opportunity of attempting further peals, and that success would attend their efforts. Mr. Jones thanked the Rector in suitable terms. Touches of Stedman Triples and Bob Major having been rung, and to close the meeting the Rector asked the ringers to accept a contribution towards the cost of the boards, then the company separated.

HALCOT, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

A special service for the dedication of the new clock and two bells was held in Halcot parish church, Northamptonshire, on Friday afternoon. The Rector (the Rev. John Gooch) said the following prayer:—

"To the glory of God and for the benefit of the parish we dedicate this new clock and two bells in memory of Harriet Andrew Watts-Manning, who departed this life on Lady Day, 1899, at Harpole, in this county, and was interred in this churchyard on the 29th day of March. The offering of her sister, Frances Mary Montgomery, February 2nd, 1900."

The sermon was preached by Canon Birch, R.D. (Overstone), and subsequently a tea was provided for the villagers, the Rector inviting the whole of the population.

ST. THOMAS'S (EXETER) JUNIOR SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the above society was held at the Conservative room, on Monday, January 29th. The Rev. D. W. Mathie, M.A., took the chair. There was a full attendance of members, and among the visitors was Mr. Ferris Shepherd, representing the Devon Guild. The Secretary's report showed a great advance in the science of ringing in the past year, as the band had become associated with the Devon Guild, and are now doing their best to become qualified as performing members. The Treasurer reported that the funds showed a substantial balance to the good. At the conclusion of the meeting an excellent dinner was partaken of. We append a copy of the menu, which was neatly and appropriately got up:—

MENU.—Ready? Go!—Joints (Plain Course). Roast Mutton in the Hunt with Roast Beef. Vegetables making Thrds.—Poultry (Touch of Court Bob). Roast Chicken striking Roast Pork; next Sallie.—Sweets (Lower them steadily!). Mince Pies (Singles). Apple Tarts (Devonshire Surprise). Plum Pudding (Set at hand stroke), Dodging with Blanc Mange. Jellies. Cheese and Celery Hunting up behind.—That's all!

It is stated that the Rev. J. D. Davies, Rector of Cheritoncum-Llanmadock, Gower, near Swansea, has made and carved with his own hands a reading-desk, lecture, pulpit, choir-stalls, rails, and Communion-table for his church. He has presented many specimens of his work to neighbouring parishes, and has been for some months engaged in carrying out a promise to execute all the inside carving required in another Welsh church.

The congregation of St. Augustine's Church, Bournemouth, which was built and endowed by the late Canon Twells, have resolved to place a permanent memorial to him in the church. It will take the form of a stained-glass window.

RINGERS' SUPPER AND SOCIAL.

On Saturday, February 3rd, ringers from Loughton, Woodford, and Leytonstone, assembled at the latter place for a convivial evening. Previous to sitting down to supper a good 720 of Kent and another of London was rung, in addition to shorter touches. Adjourning to The Two Brewers, a capital spread was set by host and hostess Wallace. Needless to say ample justice was done to it, course after course being accomplished in fine style. This important part being safely negotiated, all adjourned to another room, where toast, song, and hand-bell ringing caused the hours to fly all too quickly, midnight being upon them before the end came.

The company was ably presided over by Mr. W. Miller, Master of the Leytonstone ringers. Following the loyal toast of "Queen, Church, and State," Mr. Carter, in an interesting speech, proposed "The Navy, Army, and Reserve Forces," adding interesting extracts from a letter received from his brother in Natal. In a rousing speech Mr. F. Withers replied, and, as a Volunteer, spoke of the value that body had at last proved itself to be. "The Three Towers" was proposed by Mr. W. Doran, who prefaced an able speech by a most feeling allusion to the sad death, at the early age of thirty-nine, of Mr. H. Randall. Taking each tower in turn, and being in a reminiscient state of mind, he gave all the rare treat of his experience in the district during the past twenty years. This was replied to by Messrs. Kimberley, Miller, and Rann, the latter speaking of the obstacles placed in the way of change-ringing at Loughton by a body of ringers, "rounds and queens" seeming the highest branches of the ringers' art. "The Ringing Press," proposed by Mr. Keeble and responded to by Mr. Bacon; "The Host and Hostess," and "The Chairman," finished the toast list, which was most judiciously interspersed by tunes on handbells by the Woodford ringers (Messrs. Kimberly, Green, Mardell, and Morse), a touch of Grandsire Triples by Messrs. Keeble, Bacon, Whitman, and Rann, another of Caters by Messrs. Miller, Wightman, Bacon, Doran, and Clark, and songs by Messrs. Carter, Kimberley, Bacon, Wightman, Moule, Rann, Dawson, Withers, and Beams.

The Leytonstone company availed themselves of this opportunity to present to Mr. Dawson, one of their number, a dwarf standard lamp, on the occasion of his forthcoming marriage. All voted the evening, the first of its kind, a complete success.

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."

REPLY TO MR. F. MAY.

SIR,—I notice in your last issue that Mr. F. G. May has a few words to say with regard to my query about the peal of Stedman Cinques at Bristol. He says he had the pleasure of listening to the ringing, and had also the composition of the peal (?) in his possession, and can vouch to its being a true peal. Now I don't at all doubt but what he has, but if he did not listen to all of it and tick off the part-ends as they came up, how can he vouch to it being a true peal. Now I am a member of a society who have rung more peals and in more methods on twelve bells than any company, which Mr. May knows (no doubt) is correct, and their performances have not as yet been excelled. Well, the members of this society do not believe that the peal was rung, in fact, that to ring a peal of Stedman Cinques, tenor 52 cwt., in 3 hrs. 28 mins. is a physical impossibility. I am now quoting the average length of their peals on twelve bells, which is $22\frac{1}{4}$ changes a minute, in all of which the tenor has weighed almost a ton less than Redcliffe tenor, and they ring fast too. Your readers will just notice the comparison of the average times. Stedman Cinques, twenty-four changes a minute, and the last peal rang on those bells, namely Grandsire Triples, occupied the time 3 hrs. 39 mins., and averages 23 changes a minute. Now for a little question. Can Stedman Cinques be rang in less time than Grandsire Triples? I say with many others, certainly not. Well then how do you account for this? If any company were to state that they rang a

peal of Stedman Cinques at St. Paul's under 4 hrs., would Mr. May or any twelve-bell ringers believe them? No. Do your readers think the company can ring a quarter-peal of Stedman Cinques in 52 mins.? It cannot be done. Again he says if I publish my name and address, he will be pleased to answer my questions. Now I think it is time some of these things were shewn up, as we are hearing such tales now about conductors that a good many people would like to say something about peals that are published, and don't like to because they are quiet sort of people, and don't like their names bandied about in a paper. For my own part I do not want a cheap advertisement from this discussion, so I will now beg leave to sign myself

W. R.

Obituary.

ARTHUR W. MATTHEWS.

We regret to have to relate the decease of a brother-ringer, Arthur W. Matthews (of Loughborough), who died on January 23rd, 1900, aged thirty-nine years. The deceased had been a member of the All Saints' society for about twelve years; also a member of the Midland Counties' Association, to which he contributed a good number of peals. He was buried in the cemetery, and four ringers formed a bearer party. After the interment the handbells were struck round over his grave. A beautiful wreath was placed upon the grave by the ringers of the All Saints' society as a mark of great respect and esteem. On Friday, January 26th, the usual whole pull and stand was rung with the bells half-muffled; and on Saturday, January 27th, a peal of Grandsire Triples with the bells half-muffled, after ringing 1 hr. 30 mins. came to grief owing to the tenor-man getting the rope round his arm. The list of peals rung by the deceased were: Minor, 3; Grandsire Triples, 12; Stedman Triples, 5; Bob Major, 4; Treble Bob Major, 1; Double Norwich Major, 7; Superlative Major, 2; Grandsire Caters, 8; Stedman Caters, 9; Bob Royal, 1; Forward Royal, 1; Treble Bob Royal, 1; total—60.

HARRY RANDALL.

We much regret to hear of the death of this well-known ringer, which took place on Wednesday, January 31st, at the age of thirty-nine; the cause of death being phthisis. He was a member of the Cumberlands and of the Essex Association. For some years he was was steeple-keeper at All Saints, West Ham, giving up this post on account of business calling him elsewhere. He was an excellent ringer—a fair conductor, and his knowledge of composition was far from despicable. In his death the ringers of East London mourn a genial companion.

MELTON MOWBRAY (Leicestershire).—On Christmas Day, two 518s of Grandsire Triples, being two parts of Holt's ten-part. W. Spiby, 1; J. Barnes, 2; E. J. Gale, 3; W. James, 4; C. Dalby, 5; A. V. Potter, 6; R. H. Bartram (conductor), 7; R. Young, 8. On New Year's Eve, 720 Grandsire Minor. J. E. Goodacre, 1; J. Barnes, 2; C. Dalby, 3; E. J. Gale, 4; A. V. Potter, 5; T. Gillett, 6; R. H. Bartram (conductor), 7; R. Young, 8. On January 23rd, 168 Grandsire Triples. W. Spiby, 1; J. Barnes, 2; J. E. Goodacre, 3; E. J. Gale (conductor), 4; W. James, 5; A. V. Potter, 6; C. Dalby, 7; R. Young, 8. On Monday, January 29th, 518 Grandsire Triples. W. Spiby, 1; E. J. Gale, 2; J. Barnes, 3; W. James, 4; C. Dalby, 5; A. V. Potter, 6; R. H. Bartram (conductor), 7; W. Starbuck, 8.

PETERSFIELD (Hants).—On Monday, December 18th, for practice, 518 Grandsire Triples. W. H. Butler, 1; Rev. C. Edwards, 2; A. Butler, 3; J. Arthur (conductor), 4; W. Butler, 5; T. Cole, 6; G. Barnes, 7; W. Wilkinson, 8. Also 672 in the same method. W. Butler, 1; Rev. C. Edwards, 2; A. Butler, 3; W. Wilkinson, 4; G. Barnes, 5; T. Cole, 6; J. Arthur (conductor), 7; W. Downs, 8. On Sunday, January 28th, after evening service, 350 in the same method. W. H. Butler, 1; Rev. C. Edwards, 2; W. Butler, 3; T. Cole, 4; J. Arthur, 5; W. Wilkinson (conductor), 6; G. Barnes, 7; W. Downs, 8. And 420 in the same method. F. Wilkins, 1; Rev. C. Edwards, 2; W. Wilkinson, 3; T. Cole, 4; W. Butler, 5; G. Barnes, 6; J. Arthur (conductor), 7; W. Downs, 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

Kent County Association.—Canterbury District.—The next meeting of the above (for ringing only), will be held at Hernhill, to-day, Saturday, February 10th, Bells ready at 3 o'clock. E. E. FOREMAN, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*

The Heavy Woollen District Association.—A Committee Meeting of the above will be held at The Red Lion inn, Ossett, to-day, Saturday, Feb. 10th, to choose the length of the touch for the eight-bell contest, also the judges for the same. Meeting at 5 o'clock. The usual monthly meeting at 5.30. Subscriptions are now due. All members who intend competing at the contest must pay their subscriptions on or before the 1st of March. WALTER IDLE, *Secretary.*
47, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury.

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch.—Monthly meeting at St. Nicholas' church, Liverpool, to-day, Saturday, February 10th. Tower open at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m. The Secretary begs to remind members that their subscriptions are now due, and should be paid as early as possible. G. WOODHALL, *Branch Sec.*
66, Annerley Street, Liverpool.

The Old East Derbyshire Association.—A special meeting will be held at Eckington, to-day, Saturday, February 10th. Important business matters to transact. Members please attend. Meeting at The White Hart inn at 5 o'clock prompt to arrange annual report, etc. E. JAMES, *Hon. Sec.*

The Waterloo Society, London.—The 32nd Anniversary Dinner of the above Society will be held at The York Hotel, Waterloo Road, S.E., on Saturday, February 17th, at 6 p.m. sharp. Tickets, 3s. 6d. each, may be had from Messrs. Barton, Webber, Fussell, Perrin, Hardy and G. E. SYMONDS, *Hon. Sec.*
4, Dockley Road, S.E.
P.S.—Ringing at St. John's, Waterloo Road, from 3.30 till 6 o'clock.

The Essex Association.—A district meeting of the above will be held at Romford on Saturday, February 17th. A brake will leave the parish church at 2 p.m. for Dagenham and Little Heath. Tea and business meeting will be held at The Woolpack inn at 5 p.m. Ringers intending to be present must notify to me before the previous Tuesday. HENRY T. W. EYRE, *Asst. Sec.*
Great Totham Vicarage, Witham.

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at St. Mary's, Rawtenstall, on Saturday, February 17th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. W. CASS, *Branch Sec.*
83, Chesham Road, Bury.

The Winchester Diocesan Guild.—A Quarterly Meeting will be held at Hawley (eight bells), near Blackwater Station, S.E.R. on Saturday, February 17th. Tea will be provided for members. CHARLES E. MATTHEWS, *Hon. Sec.*
Bursledon Vicarage, Southampton.

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch. The next monthly

meeting will be held at Bray, on Saturday, February 17th, beginning at 3 o'clock. Tea will be provided. H. C. BELL, *Branch Sec.*

The Midland Counties Association.—Derby District.—The Annual Meeting for election of officers will be held in All Saints' belfry, Derby, on Monday, February 19th. Ringing from 7.30 to 8.30 p.m. Meeting to follow. T. ANTHONY, *Local Hon. Sec.*

Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Bridgwater on Saturday, February 24th. Fuller particulars next week. HY. TOMKINS, *Hon. Sec. and Treas.*
The Cottage, Old Cleeve, Washford.

Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next monthly ringing meeting will be held at St. Thomas's church, Pendleton, on Saturday, February 24th. Bells ready at 3.30 p.m. Unveiling of the new peal-board at 5 o'clock. Tea will be provided for all members sending in their names or numbers to Mr. John Smith, 25, Hope Street, Pendleton, Manchester, not later than Thursday the 22nd inst. Tea at 5.30 p.m. in the Broughton Road Schoolroom. Business meeting immediately after tea. Members not having paid their subscriptions are reminded that they are now due. W. BROWN, *Branch Sec.*
54, Wenlock Street, Hulme, Manchester.

St. Thomas's Guild, Dudley.—The annual meeting will be held at Dudley on Saturday, February 24th. Ringing to commence at 3 p.m. Service in St. Thomas' church at 5, tea and business meeting to follow. All members intending to be present at tea must send their names to me not later than Monday, February 19th. W. MICKLEWRIGHT, *Hon. Sec.*
39, Vauxhall Street, Dudley.

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—A General Meeting will be held at Heighington, on Saturday, February 24th. Ringing at St. Michael's, six bells, tenor 16 cwt. Meat tea at Bay Horse at 5 p.m., 1s. to members, 1s. 6d. to non-members. Committee meeting same place 4 p.m. Will intending visitors kindly send names before February 20th to Hon. Secretary? C. L. ROUTLEDGE.
Tynedale House, Wylam-on-Tyne.

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The monthly meeting of the above society will be held at St. Michael's church, Headingley (eight bells), on Saturday, February 24th. Meeting-house—The Skyrack hotel. Business meeting at 6.30. Handbells provided. All nominations for officers (as per rule 7) will be due at this meeting. HY. GAYTHORPE, *Hon. Sec.*
1, Elm Avenue, Bramley.

The Archdeaconry of Salop Guild.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Shifnal, on Saturday, February 24th. Ringing at 4 o'clock. Business meeting at 5 o'clock. Train leaves Shrewsbury at 2.50 p.m. J. MACKAY, *Hon. Sec.*
Holy Trinity Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—Johnson Commemoration Dinner—Preliminary Notice.—This will be held as usual on Saturday, March 3rd next, and full particulars will be given in next week's issue. W. H. GODDEN, *Hon. Sec.*
61, Roland Road, Handsworth.

The Midland Counties Association.—Preparation of Annual Report.—Members whose addresses are incorrect in last annual report, or who have changed their addresses since election are requested to notify me without delay. Notice of alteration of practice nights and names of correspondents should also if necessary be sent at once; also obituary notices. W. E. WHITE, *Hon. Sec.*
Colgrave, near Nottingham.

The Middlesex County Association.—North and East District.—Owing to the sickness now so widely prevalent, it has not been possible to secure a suitable place of meeting for the monthly meeting proposed to be held in February. There will therefore be no further meeting of the members of this district till March, or possibly April. ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*
18, Ravenscroft Park Road, Barnet.

Compositions.

BOB ROYAL.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

5040.

23456	W	M	H
64235	-	-	-
26435	-	-	-
43265	-	-	-
25364	s	-	-
32564	-	-	-
45326	-	-	-
34526	-	-	-
53426	-	-	-
42536	-	-	-
54236	-	-	-
25436	-	-	-
43256	-	-	-
24356	-	-	-
32456	-	-	-

Repeated; the 6th six times wrong and eighteen times right.

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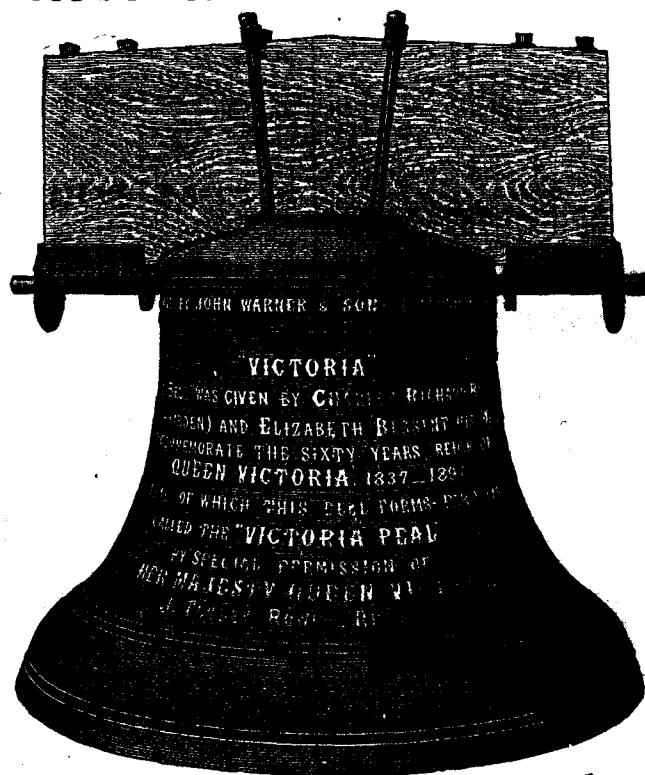
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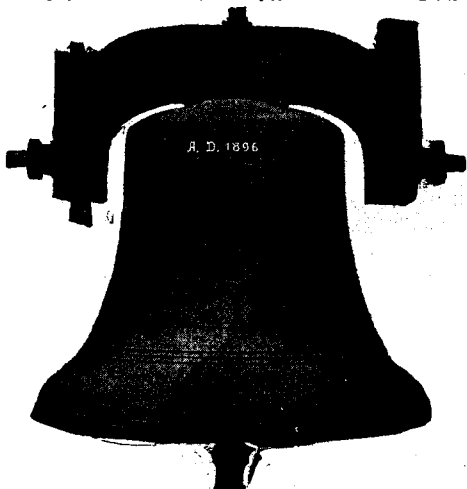
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BECKETT, Bart., Q.C., Times, Nov. 20, 1878.

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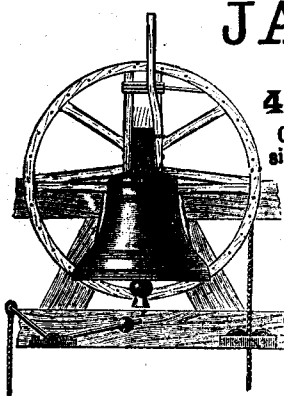
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No. 286.	"Men of Harlech," Welsh Melody		1 6
No. 287.	"Orange and Blue," Scotch Air		1 6
No. 319.	"Hark the bonny Christ Church Bells," varied		1 6
The above are for 6 ringers with 13 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.A.			
The next are for 6 ringers with 12 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.			
No. 320.	"The Mountaineer's Waltz," on Swiss Melodies		1 6
No. 321.	"The Rose of Allandale" March		1 6
No. 322.	"The Pilgrim of Love" Galop		1 6
The next are for 6 ringers, with medium peal, i.e. 3 octaves, C22 to C1, chromatic.			
No. 217.	"Belfry Chimes and Nursery Rhymes"		3 0
No. 720.	"Her Majesty's Waltz"		3 0

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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. 932.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1900.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

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CLOCKS AT		BELLS AT	
Exeter Cathedral.		Craig-y-Nos Castle	
Llandaff do.		Eddystone Lighthouse.	
Wells do.		Birmingham Municipal	
Sligo do.		Buildings.	
Manchester Town Hall.		Hove Town Hall.	
Bradford Town Hall.		Burnley Holy Trinity Ch.	
Law Courts, London.		Crawley Parish Church.	
St. James' Palace, London.		Corbridge-on-Tyne, do.	
Sherborne Abbey.		Pontypool (Trevethin	
Sydney Town Hall,		Church).	
N.S.W.		Windermere Church.	
Hammersmith Parish Ch.		Eiffel Tower, Paris.	
Gateshead Clock Tower.		Dunsfold Parish Church.	
Duke of Albany Memorial,		Aylesford do.	
Cannes.		St. Mark's Church, St.	
Eiffel Tower, Paris.		Helen's.	
Shanghai Custom		Royal Normal College,	
House.		Norwood.	
Hymer's College, Hull.		Tetbury Parish Church.	

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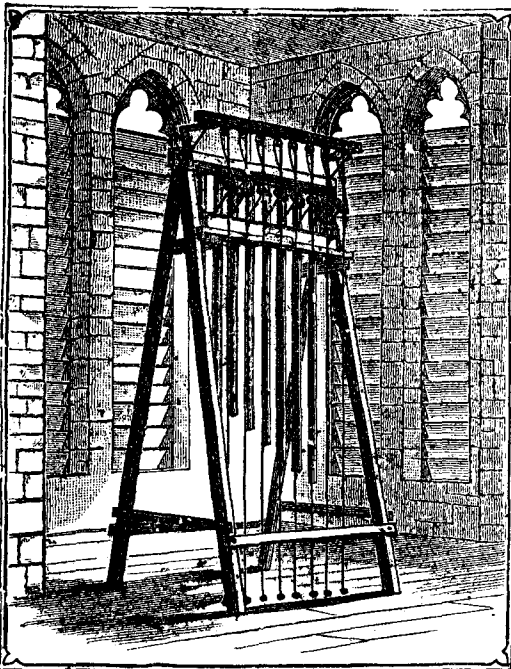
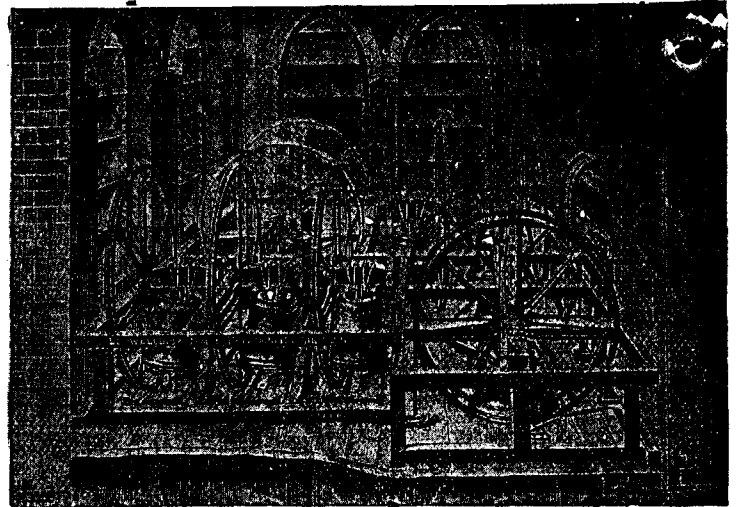
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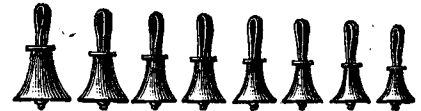
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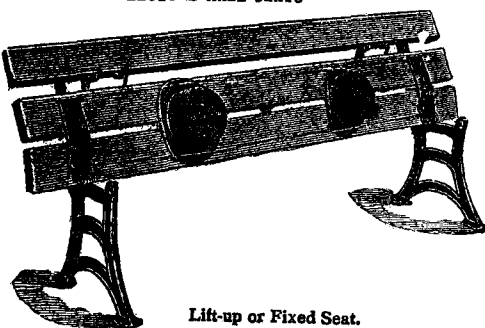
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No. 932.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1900.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of this Association was held at East Harling on Tuesday, February 6th. There was but a poor attendance of members from Norwich, Quidenham, Attleborough, Pulham Market, and East Harling, the prevalence of influenza no doubt interfering to prevent others coming who might otherwise have been expected. The six-bell towers of East Harling, Garboldisham, and Quidenham were open to members during the day, and each received a share of attention from the visitors.

At 1.30 p.m. dinner was served at The Swan inn, the Rev. B. H. Grigson, Rector of East Harling, being in the chair, supported by the Rev. C. L. Kennaway, Rector of Garboldisham and Secretary for East Harling district; Edward Mornement, Esq., churchwarden; and the Hon. Secretary.

The Chairman gave the usual loyal toasts, and that of "The Association," with an expression of hearty welcome on behalf of himself and the churchwardens, and a hope that though this was the first, it would not be the last meeting of the Association in East Harling. The Hon. Secretary replied, offering the thanks of the Association to Mr. Grigson and Mr. Mornement for the welcome accorded, and for their presence on that occasion. He also desired to thank Mr. Kennaway for giving the use of his bells, for his presence at the dinner, and for the assistance he had for some years afforded as Secretary for the East Harling district.

The Association was progressing he was glad to say, for though their numbers did not increase as they ought, yet there were signs that several new towers might become affiliated before long; and their financial position was stronger than it had been for many years, so much so that the time had come when they could quite well, and without any inconvenience, commence the formation of a reserve fund, the interest of which could be devoted annually to the furtherance of objects connected with ringing and the welfare of ringers, which hitherto they had been unable to help. Amongst other things there was one which he had much at heart, and which in his opinion the Association would be amply justified in undertaking with the approval of the whole Exercise, viz.: the restoration of the historic peal-records in the tower of St. Peter Mancroft. It was a work which ought to be done, as the preservation of these old records was a matter of great importance to the history of the Art of change-ringing. They would be invited to pass a resolution that day authorising the investment of a portion of their available balance in the names of Trustees whom they would also nominate.

The Rev. C. L. Kennaway expressed his thanks for the way in which the Hon. Secretary had spoken of his humble efforts in the service of the Association. His experience was that nearly all the work was done by the Hon. Secretary himself, and that the district secretary had only to do the little that was left. With regard to the investment of a part of their balance he considered it to be most desirable, and would move—"That £50 of the balance be invested as a reserve fund in some stock to be selected

by the Trustees." Mr. C. E. Borrett (Norwich) seconded. The motion was carried.

Mr. C. E. Borrett moved, and Mr. Philip Sadler seconded, and it was carried—"That the Revs. C. L. Kennaway, A. G. Blyth, and H. Earle Bulwer be requested to act as Trustees."

Two honorary, four non-resident life, and ten performing members, with two probationers, were then elected, and the members separated to proceed to the various towers for more ringing. The weather, though cold, being delightfully fine, contributed to the enjoyment of a successful meeting.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

The third quarterly meeting of the year was held at Birmingham on Saturday, February 3rd, and considering the inclement weather there was a fairly good muster. The towers of St. Chad's, St. Philip's, and St. Martin's were open for ringing from 2.0 p.m. until 9.0 p.m. excepting during the holding of the tea and meeting, which took place in St. Martin's schools, kindly lent by the Rector for the occasion.

After an excellent tea the President, Sir Arthur P. Heywood, Bart., took the chair, supported by the Rector of St. Martin's and the Rev. H. Drake, and about forty members. The minutes of the previous meeting having been passed and signed, and several new members elected, the Chairman read a list of the peals rung during the past quarter, eleven in number. He considered that a fair record, and thought they were much indebted to the Burton men, who had rung five of them. He felt sure they all appreciated the support given to the Association by the Burton company.

Mr. J. W. Taylor proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector of St. Martin's for his attendance at the tea and meeting, and to the other clergy and churchwardens for the use of the bells. Mr. Wakley having seconded, it was carried unanimously. The Rector briefly responded. He was very pleased indeed to welcome the members of the Association to Birmingham.

Mr. A. Wakley and Mr. J. Griffin were elected auditors.

Mr. W. Wakley proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to the Birmingham ringers, specially mentioning Mr. W. H. Godden, who had been put to no small amount of trouble in arranging this meeting. Mr. J. George seconded, and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. A. Wakley proposed a vote of thanks to Sir A. P. Heywood for his presence, and the Rev. H. Drake seconded. In replying, Sir Arthur Heywood said it always gave him great pleasure to do all he could for the Association and for ringing generally. But for that meeting he would have gone to Southampton to bid good-bye to his son, who was sailing that day for South Africa with his regiment.

The meeting being over the church bells were again set going in various methods until 9 o'clock, when an adjournment was made to the meeting-house, to indulge in the feast of reason and the flow of soul. Mr. Samuel Reeves made an excellent chairman at the social board.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(TONBRIDGE DISTRICT.)

The Annual Meeting of this district was held at Tonbridge on Saturday, January 27th, and was attended by members from Chiddingstone, Charing, Edenbridge, Headcorn, Ospringe, Penshurst, Seal Chart, Sevenoaks, Tunbridge Wells, Tenterden, Westerham, and the local ringers. Ringing commenced about 3.30, and was kept up with great spirit in various methods by mixed bands during the afternoon and evening. The committee meeting was held at four o'clock, when several new members were elected. At five o'clock over fifty members sat down to an excellent meat tea in the Church Room. The Vicar of Tonbridge (Rev. C. G. Baskerville), presided, supported right and left by Miss Macalpine-Leny and her sister, Mrs. Mackinnon, and B. Wadmore, Esq., of Tonbridge. Grace before and after meat having been said by the Vicar, the business meeting followed. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The district secretary read his annual report, in which he said he regretted that there had been a slight falling off in the number of both honorary and practising members, and he appealed to the members to do their best to get some new honorary members. There had not been so many peals rung in the district by members as in the previous year, but a good many in some of the higher methods had been rung in towers outside the district in which members of this district had taken part. Three district meetings had been held during the year, and had been fairly well attended. Mr. W. Latter (Tunbridge Wells), and Mr. T. Groombridge (Sevenoaks), were re-elected respectively to the offices of district secretary and representative on the Central Committee, with the thanks of the members for their past services. Both briefly returned thanks for their re-election.

It was decided that the meetings during the year should be held at Speldhurst in May, Sundridge and Brasted in September, and the annual meeting at Staplehurst in January 1901.

Miss Leny here asked permission to say a few words. She said it would give herself and Mrs. Mackinnon and the Rector the greatest pleasure to welcome the members to Speldhurst, and the belfry, the rectory, and the garden would be placed at their disposal to enjoy themselves, and that they would feel themselves honoured by a visit of the members of the Association.

Mrs. Mackinnon heartily re-echoed her sister's words, and said that she was very sorry her husband the Rector of Speldhurst was unable to be present that evening, but he had been ordered for a sea voyage for his health, and she hoped he would be back quite restored to health to welcome the members on their visit to Speldhurst.

The ladies words were greeted with applause. Hearty votes of thanks were accorded to Miss Leny, Mrs. Mackinnon, and the Rev. — Sumner for attending the meeting, and to the Vicar for the use of the bells and room, and for presiding.

The Rev. — Sumner briefly returned thanks for himself and the ladies.

The Vicar, in replying, said it had given him the greatest pleasure to be present that evening, and he was sure that if any member came to reside at Tonbridge they would always be welcomed by the ringers. He concluded by speaking a few earnest words to the members on their duties as workers of the church.

A vote of thanks to Mr. G. H. Stonestreet, of Tonbridge, for making the necessary arrangements for the meeting concluded, the business.

Afterwards in the belfry in the presence of a good number of members, an interesting ceremony took place, consisting of a presentation to Mr. J. Smith, formerly a member of the Tonbridge branch, but who had recently removed to Tunbridge Wells. Mr. G. H. Stonestreet, in making the presentation, said that it had been intended to ask the Vicar to make the presentation at the meeting, but the recipient unfortunately missed his train, and did not arrive until the meeting was over. The Tonbridge ringers desired to show in a practical manner their appreciation of one who had always been a good member, who had stuck to them through thick and thin, and who had always been ready to help them over any difficulty, and while regretting the loss to Tonbridge, he congratulated Tunbridge Wells on the addition to their ranks; he therefore on behalf of his brother-ringers and himself asked Mr. Smith to accept a slight token of their esteem in the shape of a handsome silver-mounted ebony walking stick, together with their good wishes for the future.

Mr. J. Smith, who was taken completely by surprise, briefly expressed his thanks for the handsome gift, saying it would always remind him of the many happy hours they had spent together, and as he was not very far away he hoped to often have the pleasure of meeting them and having a pull together.

A writer in *The Guardian* says that on Wednesday, January 31st, there passed away, after a few minutes of pain, one whose memory will long live in the hearts of many friends. Born on March 3rd, 1848, at Knowl Hill Vicarage, near Henley, Herbert Court Sturges, M.A., spent a singularly blameless youth at Bradfield and University College, Oxford. He had from an early age resolved to take holy orders, and in 1871 he went to Wells Theological College, intending, while there, to take honours in the Oxford School of Theology. Bad health, however, prevented this hope from being realised, and it was not till 1873, after travelling abroad in search of health, that he was able to present himself for his degree. In the following year he was ordained as curate of the parish church, Leeds, under Dr. Gott, and there for three years he laboured earnestly in pastoral work and, latterly, as Precentor. Then, again, ill-health compelled him to take a lighter sphere, and he became Vicar of Erle-Stoke, near Devizes, for some months. In 1878 he accepted work with his father, the Vicar of Wargrave—himself a truly admirable specimen of what a parish priest should be. From Wargrave Bishop Mackarness called Herbert Sturges, after three years, to take charge of the parish of Filkins, near Lechlade, where he was very happy as Vicar for six years. In 1889 he removed to Bodenham, near Hereford, and died Vicar of that place. There he did much by his earnest and humble-minded character to influence the people, showing in his simple, unaffected life an excellent example of a country parson. He was a man who won and maintained many friendships, and in every place where his lot had been cast there will be those who will long lament the loss of his genial sympathy and transparent purity of heart. To him Seneca's description of his own brother might well be applied—"Quem nemo nou parum amat etiam qui amare plus non potest." The deceased gentleman was connected with ringing, and had been a member of the Oxford Guild.

OPENING OF NEW BELLS AT WOODFORD, WILTSHIRE.

The Bishop of Salisbury held special services recently at All Saints' Church, Woodford, for the purpose of consecrating an addition to the churchyard and dedicating the tower and bells. In spite of miserably wet weather a considerable number of people attended. The Bishop was met at the church gate by the Vicar (Rev. J. H. Twining), accompanied by the Rev. C. S. Ruddell, Vicar of Durrington, and Rural Dean; Rev. L. Selby, Vicar of Durnford; and the Rev. A. S. Carr, Vicar of Stratford-sub-Castle, who acted as Bishop's Chaplain, together with the choir and congregation. The Vicar presented and read the petition for consecration and dedication, and upon the Bishop signifying his assent to the same, a procession to the church was formed, led by the choir singing a special psalm. Upon reaching the tower Mr. E. Beauchamp, sidesman, who represented Mr. E. Pickford, the Vicar's warden (absent through illness), handed to the Bishop the keys of the tower and the belfry. After the special service authorised by the Bishop to be used in the diocese had been said, the bells rang out a short peal, and the service for consecration was proceeded with, the Vicar reading the prayers and the Rural Dean the lessons. The Bishop, having consecrated the new ground, returned to the church, and having signed the sentence of consecration, gave an address suitable to the occasion. After the address a collection amounting to £11 5s., was made on behalf of the funds.

The bells dedicated consist of a ring of six. Originally there were but three bells in the tower, two of which were so badly cracked as to be useless for ringing. It was therefore decided, at a parish meeting held in 1897, to endeavour to raise sufficient funds to re-cast the old bells, and with additional metal place in the tower in their stead a ring of six, in commemoration of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee. This has now been happily accomplished, and is recorded on the tenor bell. The new bells vary in weight from about 12½ cwt. to 4½ cwt., and are of a particularly beautiful tone; and Mr. T. Blackburn, of Salisbury, to whom the work was entrusted, is to be very heartily congratulated upon having brought it to such an excellent finish. The cost of recasting and rehangings the bells was £231 7s. 9d.

The rebuilding of the south and east sides of the tower was admirably carried out by Mr. E. Beauchamp, of Middle Woodford, at a cost of £120. Mr. C. E. Ponting, of Marlborough, was the architect and surveyor. The additional ground for the churchyard was given from the vicarage site by the Vicar, with the Bishop's consent, and by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and is about half an acre in extent.

THE ST. JOHN'S SOCIETY, HANLEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

An interesting ceremony took place in the belfry of St. John's Church at the end of the morning service, on Sunday, December 10th. Mrs. Knowles expressed a desire to give badges to the members of the belfry, and, accordingly, the Rector obtained suitable ones, and Miss Adams accompanied Mrs. Knowles and the Rector up to the belfry, together with Mr. Barlow, Messrs. sidesmen Acres, Millington, and Billingsley, in the absence of Mr. Churchwarden Daniel. The Rector formally admitted Mr. William Casey a new member, and after a few preliminary remarks, Miss Adams was asked to make the

presentation in the name of Mrs. Knowles, which she did by fastening the badges on the coats of the bellringers. Messrs. Barlow, Billingsley, Acres, and Millington made a few remarks, all tending to one point, their extreme pleasure at being present on that occasion, and their still greater pleasure at the fact that Hanley Old Church possessed such a body of bellringers, men who not only summoned people to worship, but came themselves.

Messrs. Landon (leader of the belfry) and Underwood proposed and seconded a vote of thanks to Mrs. Knowles for the gift, and to Miss Adams for making the presentation. They also said they desired to do their utmost for the best interests of the church, as members of the belfry.

The badges are silver mounted, bearing the inscription: "Ring out the False, Ring in the True," and also the words: "Ad Gloriam Dei," and underneath, the word: "Veritas."

Mrs. Knowles entertained the bellringers at supper in the schools, on Tuesday evening, January 30th. Mr. churchwarden Birchall and Messrs. sidesmen Millington and Holdcroft, with Mr. J. Coxon, joined the party. The verger and organ-blower were also among the guests of the evening. After supper a most enjoyable time was spent, and just before the close.

The Vicar said how thankful he was that the Hanley Old Church had such a splendid body of men as members of the belfry, and that it was a continual source of joy to him to know that not only were they becoming more and more efficient in bell-ringing, but also they had so readily fallen in with the spirit and position of church-workers. He wished to thank Mr. Holdcroft for his valuable help to the ringers.

Messrs. Birchall and Mullinger in a few remarks said how gratified the congregation were to see the recognised position of the ringers as church-workers, and they were equally pleased to see how well they were progressing.

Mr. Holdcroft responded for himself and belfry, and said he was sure before long they would have the best ringers in the district. Mr. A. Latham also spoke.

A hearty vote of thanks was proposed and seconded by Messrs. Landon and S. Derbyshire to Mrs. Knowles, which was carried unanimously. The Rector responded, then all dispersed to their homes with very pleasant recollections of a most enjoyable evening.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, January 31st, eight members of the above Association belonging to the Folkestone and Hythe bands, paid a visit to St. Mary's Church, Dover, where, in company with Mr. E. Potter of the Dover band, a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples was rung. The ringers were: W. Seeley, 1; W. Bourne, 2; A. R. Manning, 3; C. Potter, 4; S. Binfield, 5; F. Finn, 6; S. Gower (conductor), 7; J. Upton, 8. This is the first quarter-peal on the bells for sixty years.

The go of the bells is very unsatisfactory, and the noise so great that when a call is made it has to be passed from the conductor round.

NEEDWOOD, STAFFORDSHIRE.

A large clock with two dials and chiming the Westminster quarters, has just been erected in the church tower. It has all the latest improvements, and generally to the designs of Lord Grimthorpe. The work has been carried out by John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby, who are also making a similar clock for Cardington Church, near Bedford.

A BRIEF CONSIDERATION OF A FEW POINTS CONNECTED WITH THE HISTORY OF RINGING.

By R. A. DANIELL.

(Continued from page 449.)

In "THE BELL NEWS" of December 23rd last, I referred to drinking in steeples. I then said that I was convinced that this had never been the practice of the London Companies. It is not of any practical importance whether it was or not, because if it was, there is no ground for reproaching people for acting in accordance with the habits of their time, as to which I have already spoken at length. So I am not going to make laborious efforts in the unsatisfactory endeavour to prove a negative, but merely to indicate how I have arrived at my opinion on the subject.

To begin with, the question arises—Is there any evidence that the London Companies ever did drink in their steeples? and the answer to that, so far as I know, is in the negative.

Now to work backwards: no senior member of the London Exercise, of whom I have inquired, ever knew or heard of such a practice. Osborn never mentions it, a fact which, from the nature of his collections and writing, seems wholly irreconcilable with its existence. Shipway says nothing directly about it, but incidentally he makes a remark which is all the more valuable because it is indirect. He is dealing with an absurd suggestion that ringing was productive of habitual drunkenness, and says that if a man be addicted to drink he will obtain it, let his amusements be what they may.

"But," he says, "far from producing a practice so ruinous and detestable, ringing can afford no entertainment to individuals of this character; it is generally performed in a place where liquor cannot be readily procured, and the intellects of the performer must be perfectly unclouded to enable him to practise with any degree of credit." These words are obviously inconsistent with any practice of having drink in the steeple, and as Shipway became connected with London ringing in the year 1785, we have, as it seems to me, continuous and overlapping evidence on this point, going back beyond a century.

Let us now see what we can find farther back still.

The Union Scholars, founded in 1713, had a code of rules, but nothing is therein contained on this head. I give two of their rules as showing that they aimed at keeping their society respectable.

"Ordered—That, as gaming is considered a growing evil, and tends manifestly to the prejudice not only of this but all other societies, Resolved therefore, whosoever shall be found guilty thereof shall forfeit for the first offence one shilling, and if afterwards the person so found guilty commits the same fault, he shall be expelled the society."

"Ordered—That, since no society, whether for gain or pleasure, can well last without having due regard to the Divine Being, whereby 'tis presumed things may be better regulated for the reputation of this fraternity, it is resolved that if any member at any meeting of ringing or other assembly shall curse, swear, or vainly utter the Name of God, whether 'tis owing to his ebriety or any other unseemly quality, for every such fault he shall pay two-pence, and if by too frequent a practice of the same, he shall be deemed a corrupter and expelled the society."

The London Scholars apparently had some rules, but what they were we do not know. The Eastern Scholars, London Youths, both societies of Junior College Youths, and the Junior Cumberlands had no rules. The only old rules of the College Youths that I know of, are contained in a print in Osborn, and stated to be revised in 1735. They make no reference to drink in the steeple.

I take the following from the original rules, dated 1747, of the Cumberland Youths.

"That if any member of this society shall swear, curse, abuse or challenge any of his brothers to ring in the society, or shall be disguised by liquor, he shall forfeit one penny."

"That if any member shall presume to smoke tobacco in the steeple when the society is ringing or going to ring, he shall forfeit threepence."

"That if any member shall go out of the steeple to drink before the society hath done ringing, without it be with a friend, he shall forfeit twopence."

A steeple is as convenient a place as any other to swear in, and if a man has had too much to drink previously to entering one, he is a nuisance; also a smoker generally has in his pockets the materials for a smoke. But a man does not carry drink with him in the same way. Hence the rules naturally forbid that which might readily occur, but do not notice that which was not likely to occur. For that drink was not to be found in the steeple seems to me a necessary inference from the last of the rules I have quoted. It must, I think, have been because there was no drink there that there was a tendency for men to slip out to have some, and thus not be present when wanted for the next touch, and therefore this slipping out was forbidden as a rule, the exception allowed being in the case of a member having a friend with him.

But rules as to drink in the steeples are rendered superfluous by a reference to Laughton. This is one of the respects in which his manuscript illustrates the habits of ringers of his time. Throughout the book he mentions eating and drinking with the utmost frankness. If his club had drunk in steeples it is inconceivable that he should never have mentioned it. But he never did, and we learn beyond doubt what their actual practice was. When they arranged to go anywhere to ring they appointed a tavern for meeting, and when they were met enough they went to the steeple to ring, and afterwards returned from the steeple to the tavern. They drank before and after ringing, but there is not a hint of any liquor ever being taken in the steeple. And when we remember that the Ramblers were composed of members of the London Ringing Societies of the time, the absence of rules against drinking in steeples is made plain to us by this illustration that none were wanted to provide against a practice which did not exist.

We have, then, no evidence that drink ever was consumed in London change-ringing steeples. There is no reason to suppose that it was, and everything that we can gather on the subject concurs to show that it was not. Therefore though I cannot, of course, prove a negative, I have not the slightest doubt that the London members of the Exercise did not drink within the limits of consecrated buildings, as the clergy and other classes appear to have done. What a strange instance is it of the force of prejudice and ignorance that clergy should still be found within the metropolitan district who, regardless of the general changes in manners and overlooking the practice of their own predecessors, coolly assume that London change-ringers who seem never to have participated in it, are to this day likely to indulge in it if they could have their own way.

There is nothing further within my knowledge which occurs to me as needful to add to enable us to form our judgment of the old ringers as a class.

How then shall we answer the question at the head of the last section of my subject? What view are we justified on knowledge and common sense in taking of the characteristics of change-ringers of the past as a body in contradistinction to the flap-doodle of such writers as Mr. Tyack? I have endeavoured to set out the facts about the old ringers, their times, and the habits and manners of their contemporaries. So far as I have been able to collect and understand them they show nothing more to the disadvantage of ringers in their degree, than similar facts show to the disadvantage of Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, the Lords of the Council and all the Nobility and Commons of the Realm, in their respective degrees. And when any churchman picks out the old ringers as persons worse than others, I can only attribute his doing so either to profound ignorance of what he is talking about or to a contemptible state of self-righteousness. I assert that history shows us that the old ringers were always as a body respectable men, quite as good as ourselves, of whom we may well be proud as of those whose brains have conceived and hands executed those methods and performances which alone have made the science and art of change-ringing a living fact for our age. Against this what is brought? Nothing; not a scrap of anything which by the utmost indulgence can be called evidence. And though round-ringers have naturally left less history behind them, and did not need the ability necessary to change-ringers, yet they are not shown on any reliable ground to have been inferior in respectability of life to their fellow-parishioners of the same class. Do persons who write or preach in a manner defamatory of the old ringers exercise any care to ensure their speaking the

truth? Not the least. If they did and made any attempt to understand the matter, they would give themselves pause.

It is no more to the point for a man to say that he knows of a place or places where to his knowledge the ringers used to be, or still are, a very bad lot, than to say that he knows of a place or places where to his knowledge the benefice was, or is, under sequestration on account of the misconduct of the parson. When we come to speak of classes of men, we must be careful to distinguish between exceptions and rules, otherwise our generalisations will probably be false; and in order to ascertain what are the rules and what the exceptions, we must be prepared to take a little trouble to investigate facts sufficiently to enable us to form our judgment from proper materials. This I have endeavoured to do to the best of my ability and opportunities,—imperfectly I know—but still, I think, sufficiently to enable us to say that in the light of what we so far know, the old ringers as a class come well out of the inquiry.

And now that I have arrived at the end of my subject, the question arises—Was it worth while to have begun upon it? This is a question for my readers who will answer it as they deem best. We are never the worse for learning anything about past times, and although members of the Exercise cannot have needed anything to show the absurdity of Mr. Tyack's statements, it may be that I have been able to bring the other side before them in a more handy form than it is elsewhere, so far as I know, to be readily found. But the use of historical inquiry is not merely to get information about days and habits that are gone; its higher use is to direct us to truths which underlie the history of the past, and which should clear our minds for the realisation of the present and the future. Now with again going into such debateable matter as the origin of ringing a bell at all, a subject on which I am sorry Mr. Drake has not continued his comments, I assert that historical investigation shows us change-ringing as a pursuit secular in its origin and in its history. Is there any truth underlying this which is instructive to us not merely as to the past, but also as to the present and future? To me it appears that there is. It seems to me that this secular origin and history point us to the true relations between on the one hand, the nature of change-ringing in itself and the conditions essential to its existence, and, on the other hand, its ultimate destination as an offering of praise to the Almighty in connection with Divine worship, and the consideration of this subject next week will conclude my present articles.

(To be continued.)

Correspondence.

THE BRISTOL PEAL.

SIR,—With reference to the peal at St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol, I am surprised at the tone of W. R.'s letter in this week's issue of "THE BELL NEWS," and think that if he was aware of all the circumstances he would not have penned what is evidently meant to disqualify the peal, which is to say the least of it, is unjust, as W.R. was not a listener; and on the other hand we have the unbiased opinion of a qualified ringer who not only heard the peal throughout but also had the figures. Now Sir, I will start by correcting W.R. In the first place Redcliffe tenor is not 52 cwt. but 48 cwt., and consequently there is nothing like the difference stated between it and Ipswich tenor. Has W.R. every rang at Bristol or with Bristol men? I hold no brief for them, neither have I had any communication whatever about this peal, but knowing as I do that their ringing is very fast and also accurate, I am bound in justice to the band all of whom are known to me (as well as their abilities) to say I believe the peal was a good one, and true and complete. Why does W.R. doubt the peals that have been rang at St. Stephen's, Stedman Caters in less than 3 hrs. with a 21 cwt. tenor? I think that if any question was to be raised it should have been raised by one of W.R.'s company who had rang with the men in point, and who know how they ring. I have not the pleasure of knowing Mr. May, but putting that gentleman's testimony on one side for the moment, I should have thought the names of James Hinton, Henry Porch, and George Daltry, ringers and conductors of renowned capability, who would scorn to permit their names to appear appended to a performance which was not a true peal, would have been sufficient guarantee of its

genuineness. What would W.R. say if I had questioned the two great performances of his company some time since? I am inclined to think had they been quick peals, W.R. would not have liked it to see such a letter as his denouncing them. Why not utilize superfluous energy in beating Mr. Pye's Double Norwich, W.R.? This in my opinion and also that of the majority of ringers which I have come in contact with, has yet to be done. I hope we shall see some letters from some of the band, but as a non-listener like W.R., I think my testimony must be that it was a peal, and I will sign myself,
EDWARD P. O'MEARA.

SIR,—W. R.'s reply to Mr. May *re* peal of Stedman Cinques at Bristol contains many assertions that he should have supported by proof. Mr. May asked him for his name and address, and promised to give him the information he asked in his first letter. Why did not W.R. give it and save any further letter-writing. He says "I don't doubt Mr. May heard the peal and has the composition, but how can Mr. May vouch to its being a true peal if he did not listen to it all, and tick off the part-ends." How does W.R. know Mr. May did not hear it all? Mr. May did not say he had not heard it all. Who told W.R. there were any part ends to tick off, and if there were how does he know Mr. May did not tick them off? W.R. evidently is one who jumps at conclusions. He says he is a member of a society that have rung peals on twelve bells, and his society does not believe the peal was rung. His bare word is not sufficient and he should confirm what he says by publishing the name of the society. He compares the times his society took to ring their peals with the time of the Bristol peal. As their peals were not rung at St. Mary Redcliffe, the comparison is no use as an argument. W.R. says his society "rings fast," but that is no reason the Bristol men could not ring faster. He asks a "little question," gives his own answer, and tells us that all twelve-bell ringers would refuse to believe a peal was rung at St. Paul's under 4 hrs. This is an amazing assertion for one to make who commenced by asking what time it would take to ring a peal of Cinques with a tenor 52 cwt. How W. R. got to know the exact minimum of time ringers allow for a peal at St. Paul's passes comprehension, but probably he possesses some occult power that tells him the time it takes to ring peals, and his query was only veiled sarcasm. He says "it is time some of these things were shewn up." Show them up and his name and address along with them and he will have the credit of such action. W.R. proceeds to inform us that a good many people would like to say something about peals that are published, but don't like to. He seems to be well informed about other people's opinions and beliefs, he may know what the Bristol people think of him. To conclude, if W.R. can prove by publishing their names and addresses, that twelve men of his society are so foolish as to believe as he does, and he will come to Bristol, the ringers here will undertake to ring a quarter-peal of Cinques, clean and clear, in his hearing, in 52 mins. on St. Mary Redcliffe bells.

GEORGE THOMAS DALTRY.

THE BOGUS PEAL OF TREBLE TEN AT DUBLIN CATHEDRAL.

SIR,—In your issue of January 27th, a letter appeared concerning the above peal-proving it beyond all doubt to be false. With the exception of two, the band have given up all claim, these two being Messrs. Washbrook and Willson, one the conductor and the other the publisher of the peal. Myself like many others have been waiting for the past two weeks for an explanation from these men, and as I think they have had plenty of time to reply, it is time someone else had something to say on the subject, especially as Mr. Willson made his name so prominent some time ago as a correspondent. The Exercise are now I should think convinced as to what sort of person he is. They will now understand why he stood up so in Mr. Washbrook's defence some time ago. It will be remembered some months back Mr. Willson accused me of trying to purge the Exercise. The boot however proves to be on the other foot, for while he was accusing me of purgery which he failed to prove, he knew well that the Dublin peal was false. Oh, Mr. Willson! how do you like your own medicine; how bitter it must be. Like the rest of the great Q.C.'s he is unable to defend himself and at present no one seems inclined to take it up for him. It is to be hoped that ere long either himself or Mr. Washbrook will muster up courage enough to reply, as at present things are far from satisfactory on their behalf.
W. PYE.

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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 Wednesday 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 17, 1900.

At the meeting of the Norwich Diocesan Association, reported on another page, a very interesting and practical suggestion was made by the rev. Honorary Secretary. This was no less than devoting a portion of its funds, upon trust, for the purpose of restoring ancient historical tablets recording peals of excellence or of great antiquarian interest. Those on the walls of the belfry of St. Peter Mancroft are the first to be so treated by the great Eastern Association, and we cannot help congratulating the members upon the alacrity and readiness which they exhibited in responding to the Rev. H. EARLE BULWER's proposals. That such restorations will be effected in a durable and proper manner need not be doubted for one moment.

We have on several occasions called attention to the necessity there exists for measures of this sort. Many of those readers whose acquaintance with the Exercise covers four or five decades, know full well that many an interesting and historical tablet has gone to the bad, and in some cases disappeared altogether. A few years ago, the condition of those unique tablets in the steeple of

St. Leonard, Shoreditch, were almost in a state of total obliteration; the one recording the 12,000 of Treble Ten was missing altogether for a time, and at last discovered in a coal-hole! This tablet was of copper, and therefore it may have excited the cupidity of some one or other. We have heard that the Cumberlands had this tablet restored, if so, honour be to them for the act.

It is to be hoped that the example of the Norwich men may be extensively followed without delay. There is a great deal of this kind of work required in various parts of the country.

The Metropolis.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 8, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHGATE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

HARRY MILLER.. .. Treble.	ERNEST W. MARSHALL .. 5.
ALFRED R. GLASSCOCK .. 2.	JOHN E. MILLER 6.
WILLIAM TEGG 3.	ARTHUR MILLER 7.
JOHN ARMSTRONG 4.	SIDNEY WADE Tenor.

Composed by CORNELIUS CHARGE, and Conducted by SIDNEY WADE.

Rung as a birthday compliment to J. Miller, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns. This composition, which contains the full combinations of 4-5-6 without the 2nd in 5-6 or 3 in 6, is now rung for the first time.

THE ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY, FULHAM.

On Saturday, February 10, 1900, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, FULHAM,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5093 CHANGES.

Tenor 21 cwt.

JAMES W. DRIVER Treble.	WILLIAM PICKWORTH .. 6.
JOHN HINTON* 2.	WILLIAM T. ELSON 7.
REUBEN CHARGE 3.	CORNELIUS CHARGE 8.
JOSEPH HERBERT† 4.	LANCE-CPL. J. R. MACKMAN 9.
WILLIAM CHARGE‡ 5.	ROBERT BURGESS Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM T. ELSON.

*First peal of Caters. †First peal. ‡First peal away from the tenor. This peal has the 5th and 6th their extent behind the 9th in alternate blocks of three courses each, and is now rung for the first time. This is J. W. Driver's rooth peal.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 10, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW, HOLBORN,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 28 cwt.

ALFRED W. BRIGHTON .. Treble.	HARRY FLANDERS 5.
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 2.	JOHN H. CHEESMAN 6.
CHARLES WILKINS 3.	JOHN R. SHARMAN 7.
CALEB FENN 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by G. LINDOFF, and Conducted by ALFRED W. BRIGHTON.

A reference to this peal will be found elsewhere.

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

On Saturday, February 10, 1900, in Three Hours and Forty-four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL, CORNHILL,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 41 cwt.

JOHN N. OXBORROW .. Treble.	JOHN W. GOLDING 5.
HARRY R. PASMORE 2.	JOHN M. HAYES 6.
WILLIAM H. PASMORE .. 3.	CHARLES T. P. BRICE .. 7.
HENRY S. ELLIS 4.	HENRY R. NEWTON Tenor.

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by HENRY R. NEWTON.

Rung to commemorate the sixtieth anniversary of the marriage of Queen Victoria; also as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 10, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, WILLESDEN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720s of Kent Treble Bob, two of Oxford Treble Bob, and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

F. SIDE* Treble.	W. BURROWS 4.
G. HOLLIS* 2.	A. TENNANT 5.
T. LANGDON* 3.	†A. PITAM Tenor.

Conducted by A. PITAM.

F. Side was made a member of the above Society before starting for the peal
*First peal. †First peal as conductor.

The Provinces.

SMETHWICK, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Wednesday, February 7, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,
AT THE OLD CHURCH,

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

WILLIAM R. SMALL .. Treble.	JOHN C. ADAMS 5.
WILLIAM ELLIS 2.	HARRY MILLS 6.
THOMAS HORTON 3.	SAMUEL REEVES 7.
THOMAS J. ELTON 4.	ERNEST BROWN Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

This peal has a single in each of the last two courses, and was rung at the first attempt.

KING'S NORTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

On Wednesday, February 7, 1900, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

WILLIAM PALMER .. Treble.	WILLIAM S. PRITCHETT .. 5.
JOHN WITHERS* 2.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER 6.
JOHN S. PRITCHETT .. 3.	WILLIAM H. BARBER .. 7.
THEODORE PRITCHETT .. 4.	WILLIAM SHORT Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, and Conducted by WILLIAM SHORT.

*First peal of Cambridge with a bob bell. First peal in the method by the Guild.

GREAT BENTLEY, ESSEX.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 8, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

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

Tenor 8 cwt.

DAVID ELLIOT Treble.	WILLIAM MOTTS 5.
WILLIAM J. NEVARD* .. 2.	CHARLES SILLITON 6.
WILLIAM PYE 3.	ERNEST W. BECKWITH .. 7.
JAMES MOTTS 4.	*WILBY HAZELL Tenor.

Composed by the REV. H. EARLE BULWER, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

*First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells. Rung to celebrate the birthday of Mr. W. J. Nevard, his brother-strings wishing him many happy returns. The company were entertained at dinner by Mr. Nevard after the peal, to whom they wish to tender their best thanks.

NESTON, CHESHIRE.—THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. (WIRRAL BRANCH.)

On Thursday, February 8, 1900, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE.

JOHN TILLEY† .. Treble.	†WM. WILLIAMS 5.
WM. BRISCOE 2.	JAS. DILLON 6.
JOHN MEALOR 3.	*CHARLES GRUNDY 7.
EDWIN BREEZE 4.	*CHARLES GRIMES Tenor.

Conducted by JAS. DILLON.

*First peal. †First peal away from the treble. ‡First peal away from the tenor. Rung to celebrate the birthday of Canon Turner, President of the branch, and Vicar of Neston.

RAYNE, ESSEX.

On Thursday, February 8, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 168 plain courses of Grandsire. Tenor 7 cwt.

G. WILLIAMS Treble.	E. GENTRY 3.
E. RICHARDSON 2.	E. EASTER 4.
F. NEWMAN Tenor.	

OLD WINDSOR, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 10, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 11 cwt.

ALFRED E. REEVES Treble.	FRANK HOPGOOD 5.
CHARLES GILES 2.	WILLIAM NEWELL 6.
JOSEPH J. PARKER 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 7.
REV. H. C. BELL 4.	REUBEN SAWYER Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

SONNING, BERKS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

(ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, CAVERSHAM.)

On Saturday, February 10, 1900, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR;

5088 CHANGES. Tenor 22 cwt. in E flat.

H. SIMMONDS Treble.	E. W. MENDAY 5.
E. J. MENDAY 2.	H. W. SMITH 6.
J. HANDS 3.	T. NEWMAN 7.
G. ESSEX 4.	R. T. HIBBERT Tenor.

Composed by J. CARTER, and Conducted by R. T. HIBBERT.

First peal in the method on the bells.

DAGENHAM, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 10, 1900, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being a 720 each of Cambridge, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Double Court, and Plain Bob.

Tenor 13 cwt. in F.

GEORGE HAYDEN Treble.	WILLIAM KEEBLE 4.
WILLIAM MILLER 2.	JOHN MOULE 5.
ACLAND J. PERKINS 3.	JOHN DALE Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE.

This is the first peal on the bells.

BRADFORD-ON-AVON, WILTSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 10, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. E. B. JAMES'S TEN-PART. Tenor 32 cwt.

CHARLES J. GARDINER .. Treble.	SIDNEY HILLIER 5.
OWEN W. LAYNG 2.	THOMAS RICKETTS 6.
ALFRED LAWRENCE 3.	JAMES S. SHEPPERD 7.
THOMAS BLACKBOURN .. 4.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS RICKETTS.

This is the first that has been rung on the bells by one set of men, and reflects credit upon W. Gifford who rang the tenor; also the rest of the band who took part in the peal.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD PEAL-BOOK.—A RECORD of Five Hundred and Twenty Peals rung by this Guild. Paper covers, 6d.; cloth do., 9d.—Blackwell, Reading; or the Hon. Sec. of the Guild—the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, Dunsden Vicarage, Reading, Berks.

WALTHAM, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE FRAMLAND AND MELTON MOWBRAY SOCIETIES

On Saturday, February 10, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being eight 6-scores of Canterbury, four of Plain Bob, and thirty of Grandsire. Tenor 12 cwt.

ALBERT VICTOR POTTER* Treble.	WALTER JAMES 4.
CHARLES DALBY 2.	†R. HENRY BARTRAM 5.
ERNEST J. GALE 3.	*THOMAS H. GILLET .. Tenor.

Conducted by R. H. BARTRAM.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor. First peal by the Framland Society.

ISLIP, NORTHANTS.

On Saturday, February 10, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720s each called differently.

Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qrs. 9 lbs. in G.

WILLIAM SHAW* Treble.	JAMES HUDSON 4.
DANIEL REDHEAD 2.	JAMES NICKERSON 5.
LEWIS CHAPMAN 3.	REGINALD LOVEDAY .. Tenor.

Conducted by REGINALD LOVEDAY.

*First peal. First peal of Minor by all.

ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.—THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

On Saturday, February 10, 1900, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES.

Tenor 24 cwt.

FRED G. MAY Treble.	JOHN BARBER 6.
WILLIAM SHORT 2.	HENRY MIDDLETON 7.
ALBERT WALKER 3.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER 8.
CHARLES DICKENS 4.	THOMAS MILLER 9.
WILLIAM H. BARBER .. 5.	WILLIAM PAINTER .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and Conducted by FRED G. MAY.

This peal was arranged for F. G. May, who hails from Bristol.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 10, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 19 cwt.

ROBERT S. STORY Treble.	JOHN J. LEIGHTON 5.
JAMES LEIGHTON† 2.	THOMAS T. GOFTON 6.
WILLIAM C. BENNETT† .. 3.	WILLIAM STORY 7.
FRED. SHERATON* 4.	JOSEPH PATTISON .. Tenor.

Composed by the late WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL, and

Conducted by THOMAS T. GOFTON.

*First peal of Major. †First peal of Oxford. ‡First peal away from the treble.

CRAYFORD, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 12, 1900, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN SAXBY* Treble.	CHARLES WILKINS 5.
GEORGE CONYARD 2.	*WILLIAM BOND 6.
EDWIN BARNETT, JUN.* .. 3.	†WALTER J. SMITH 7.
EDWARD AUDSLEY* 4.	EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by EDWIN BARNETT, SEN.

*First peal of Major. †First peal in the method

Date Touches.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

FELSHAM (Suffolk).—On January 29th, at the parish church, a date touch of Bob Minor, 1900 changes, in the following methods, in 1 hr. 8 mins.: 460 Plain Bob, 720 each of Double Court and College Single. C. Adams, 1; J. Horrex, 2; H. Kinsey, 3; H. Gladwell, 4; H. Horrex, 5; W. Kinsey (conductor), 6.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, January 25th, at St. Paul's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original. *J. Sear, 1; S. Cullip, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; *B. Jealous, 4; C. Chasty, 5; I. Hills, 6; F. Webb, 7; D. Thompson, 8. *Longest length in the method.

Miscellaneous.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

EASTBOURNE (Sussex).—On Saturday, January 20th, on the occasion of a district meeting being held at the Old Town, Eastbourne, 504 Stedman Triples was rung at the church of All Saints. R. J. Dawe, 1; G. Penfold, 2; S. Saker, 3; G. Williams (conductor), 4; E. C. Merritt, 5; J. Sharp, 6; B. Hobbs, 7; T. Price, 8. Also a course of Treble Bob Major in which G. Howes took part. Tenor 18 cwt.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHGATE (Middlesex).—On Saturday, December 22nd, at Christ Church, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples. W. Tegg, 1; F. C. Fordham, 2; A. R. Glasscock, 3; J. Armstrong, 4; E. Marshall, 5; J. Miller, 6; S. Wade (conductor), 7; C. Bale, 8. On December 25th, another quarter-peal in the same method. J. Miller, 5; A. Miller, 6; H. Balaam, 8; the rest as before.

WOOD GREEN (Middlesex).—On November 12th, at St. Michael's church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. A. R. Glasscock, 1; J. Armstrong, 2; E. Marshall, 3; F. C. Fordham, 4; W. H. Lawrence, 5; S. Wade (conductor), 6. On January 2nd, 720 College Single. A. R. Glasscock, 1; J. Armstrong, 2; E. Marshall, 3; W. H. Lawrence, 4; J. Miller, 5; S. Wade (conductor), 6. On January 14th, 720 Double Oxford. A. Glasscock, 1; J. Armstrong, 2; E. Marshall, 3; F. C. Fordham, 4; J. Miller, 5; S. Wade (conductor), 6. And 720 Bob Minor. A. Glasscock, 1; F. W. Ford, 2; E. Marshall, 3; J. Armstrong, 4; F. C. Fordham, 5; S. Wade (conductor), 6.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

SOUTHGATE (Middlesex).—On January 14th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. H. Miller, 1; A. R. Glasscock, 2; F. C. Fordham, 3; J. Miller, 4; J. Armstrong, 5; S. Wade (conductor), 6; A. Miller, 7; H. Childs (first quarter-peal), 8.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

PENN (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, January 20th, meeting one short for a peal, 720 Bob Minor was rung. F. Jones, 1; B. Dalton, 2; H. Sadler, 3; G. Burrows, 4; J. Purser, 5; R. Pickering (conductor), 6. And a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. I. Purser, 1; B. Dalton (conductor), 2; R. Pickering, 3; H. Sadler, 4; G. Burrows, 5; E. J. Graham, 6.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

BLOXWICH (Staffordshire).—On Friday, November 24th, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor, on the back seven. E. J. Stafford, 1; J. Birch, 2; A. Painter, 3; A. Turley, 4; F. Edwards, 5; J. C. Adams (conductor), 6; J. Elton, 7. On Sunday, November 26th, for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Birch, 1; W. Barton, 2; F. Edwards, 3; A. Painter, 4; J. C. Adams (conductor), 5; A. Turley, 6; J. Elton, 7; R. W. Frost, 8. For evening service, 546 Grandsire Triples. J. C. Adams (conductor), 1; W. Barton, 2; J. Birch, 3; A. Painter, 4; F. Edwards, 5; A. Turley, 6; J. Elton, 7; R. W. Frost, 8. On Sunday, December 3rd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 42 mins. E. J. Stafford (first quarter-peal), 1; A. Painter, 2; J. Birch, 3; A. Turley, 4; F. Edwards, 5; J. C. Adams, 6; J. Elton, 7; R. W. Frost, 8. Composed by John S. Goldsmith, and conducted by J. C. Adams. On Christmas Eve, 527 Grandsire Major. A. Painter, 1; T. J. Elton (conductor), 2; J. Birch, 3; W. Barton, 4; F. Edwards, 5; A. Turley, 6; J. Elton, 7; J. C. Adams, 8. On Sunday, December 31st, 672 Grandsire Triples. F. Edwards, 1; W. Barton, 2; J. Birch, 3; A. Painter, 4; A. Turley, 5; J. C. Adams (conductor), 6; J. Elton, 7; R. W. Frost, 8. On Friday, December 29th, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. A. Painter,

1; J. Birch, 2; W. Barton, 3; A. Turley, 4; J. C. Adams (conductor), 5; J. Elton, 6. On Saturday, January 20th, an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples came to grief after ringing 2835 changes, in 1 hr. 30 mins. A. Painter, 1; W. Barton, 2; J. Birch, 3; A. Turley, 4; F. Edwards, 5; J. C. Adams (conductor), 6; J. Elton, 7; R. W. Frost, 8. The band were afterwards entertained at supper by Mr. A. Turley.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ROCHESTER (Kent).—On Saturday, January 20th, at St. Margaret's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 45 mins. J. Tullett, 1; W. Hobbs, 2; W. Easter, 3; W. Hollier, 4; R. Staines, 5; W. Tassell, 6; C. Millway (conductor), 7; J. Kidd, 8.

SITTINGBOURNE (Kent).—On Sunday, January 21st, at St. Michael's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins. G. Honeysett, 1; T. W. Jarrett, 2; W. Golding, 3; H. E. Simpson, 4; C. R. Millway (conductor), 5; E. J. Bottle, 6; W. Tassell, 7; F. Belsey, 8. First quarter-peal by Messrs. Golding and Belsey.

FAVERSHAM (Kent).—On Saturday, January 20th, at the church of St. Marie of Charity, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 43 mins. H. Wallis, 1; E. Bridges, 2; H. Foster, 3; A. Biggs, sen., 4; A. Biggs, jun., 5; F. Hunt, 6; E. E. Foreman (conductor), 7; G. Wood, 8. Also 672 in the same method standing as before.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Wednesday, January 17th, on handbells, retained in hand, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 35 mins. G. R. Pye (conductor), 1-2; W. Pye, 3-4; E. Pye, 5-6; H. F. Dawkins, 7-8. At St. Edward's church, on Sunday, January 28th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. L. W. Copsey, 1; E. Vyse, 2; G. Roughton, 3; W. Pye, 4; G. R. Pye, 5; W. Watson, 6; E. Pye (conductor), 7; H. P. Vyse, 8.

LEYTONSTONE (Essex).—On January 14th, 720 Bob Minor. J. Philpot, 1; J. Moule, 2; H. Bottrell, 3; F. Withers, 5; W. Miller (conductor), 5; G. Hayden, 6. On January 28th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. F. C. Newman, 1; W. Miller, 2; W. Doran, 3; W. Keeble (conductor), 4; G. Hayden, 6; J. Moule, 6. On January 31st, 720 York Surprise. W. Doran, 1; J. Moule, 2; J. Mardell, 3; W. Keeble, 4; W. Miller, 5; T. H. Beams (conductor), 6.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BUSHEY (Herts).—On Wednesday, January 4th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. W. H. L. Buckingham, 1; J. Steddy, 2; W. G. Whitehead, 3; E. Holloway, 4; W. I. Oakley, 5; W. E. Oakley, 6; E. E. Huntley (conductor), 7; J. J. Allen, 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the clerk and sexton (Mr. J. Dack), who died suddenly on Monday.

KINGS LANGLEY (Herts).—On Saturday, January 27th, at All Saints church, 720 College Single. W. H. L. Buckingham, 1; B. Prewett, 2; B. Martin, 3; E. Holloway, 4; E. E. Huntley, 5; G. N. Price (conductor), 6.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, January 25th, at St. Paul's church, 504 Stedman Triples. F. Webb, 1; S. Cullip, 2; E. Tingey, 3; B. Jealous, 4; C. Chasty, 5; I. Hills, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; W. Ellis, 8. On Sunday, January 28th, 216 Stedman Triples. S. Cullip, 1; J. Church, 2; W. Hall, 3; B. Jealous, 4; C. Chasty, 5; I. Hills, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; J. Sear, 8. Also a course of Grandsire Caters. F. Webb, 1; W. Barker, 2; S. Cullip, 3; J. Church, 4; W. Hall, 5; B. Jealous, 6; C. Chasty, 7; I. Hills, 8; C. W. Clarke, 9; J. Sear, 10. Also 408 Stedman Triples. S. Cullip, 1; W. Barker, 2; W. Hall, 3; B. Jealous, 4; F. Webb, 5; I. Hills, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; J. Sear, 8. And 168 Grandsire Triples. S. Cullip, 1; J. Sear, 2; W. Hall, 3; I. Hills, 4; B. Jealous, 5; W. Barker, 6; F. Webb (conductor), 7; C. W. Clarke, 8. On Thursday, February 1st, two courses of Grandsire Caters. C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1; S. Cullip, 2; E. Tingey, 3; W. Hall, 4; —. Sheppard, 5; B. Jealous, 6; C. Chasty, 7; I. Hills, 8; F. Webb, 9; J. Sear, 10. On Sunday, February 4th, 216 Stedman Triples. F. Webb, 1; S. Cullip, 2; W. Hall, 3; B. Jealous, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6; C. Chasty, 7; J. Sear, 8. Also a course of Grandsire Caters. W. Barker, 1; F. Webb, 2; S. Cullip, 3; J. Church, 4; W. Hall, 5; B. Jealous, 6; C. W. Clarke, 7; I. Hills, 8; C. Chasty, 9; J. Sear, 10. And 223 Grandsire Triples. J. Sear, 1; S. Cullip, 2; W. Hall, 3; F. Keech, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6; F. Webb, 7; D. Thompson, 8. Also two courses of Grandsire Caters. J. Sear, 1; F. Webb, 2; E. Tingey, 3; S. Cullip, 4; W. Hall, 5; F. Keech, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; I. Hills, 8; W. Barker, 9; D. Thompson, 10. And 252 Stedman Triples. F. Webb, 1; E. Tingey, 2; W. Hall, 3; W. Barker, 4; I. Hills, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6; W. Valentine, 7; D. Thompson, 8.

CROYDON BELLRINGERS AT DINNER.

The annual dinner of the Ancient Society of Croydon Bellringers was held on Tuesday evening at The Rose and Crown, Church Street.

In the absence of Sir Frederick Edridge, the chair was occupied by Mr. Howard Houlder (churchwarden), who was supported by the Rev. T. G. Hill, Mr. Pates, and others.

In proposing the toast of "The Queen," the chairman referred to the deep shadow which was now cast over the country, and observed that everyone would extend their sympathy to the Queen, whose aversion to war was so well known.

The toast of "The Vicar and Churchwardens" was proposed by Mr. Pates, who, in a brief speech, pointed out that it was a matter for regret that Canon Pereira and Sir Frederick Edridge were unable to be amongst them in consequence of prior engagements. If all bellringers had two such churchwardens as they had at the parish church, they would have very little to complain of. He regretted they did not see quite so much of the Vicar as they would have liked, but still they had one in the person of the Rev. T. G. Hill, who took a deep interest in the doings of the bellringers.

The Rev. T. G. Hill responded on behalf of the Vicar and assistant clergy, and pointed out that even clergymen were shy, and were no different to other people in that respect. He had noticed that workmen when introduced to each other were at a loss for words, and so it was with the clergy, and he had no doubt that if they only made themselves more at home with the clergy, the clergy would naturally feel more at home with the men. The bellringers' society was a most necessary body, and all that could be done for their welfare would be.

On behalf of the churchwardens Mr. Howard Houlder responded.

The toast of "The Ancient Society of Croydon Bellringers" was proposed by the Chairman, who was sure that everyone in Croydon admired the magnificent peal of bells which hung in the parish church, and he was quite positive that it would be a matter for great regret if any possible circumstance should cause those bells to hang dumb in the belfry. They were all under a deep debt of gratitude to those who rang the bells. He believed change-ringing was peculiar to England; although beautiful chimes were to be heard on the continent, there was that boldness about English bell-ringing which was in a measure so characteristic of its people. The war which at the present time was waging would tend to wake up in them that spirit of boldness. Mr. Pates had mentioned that he should like to have seen more of the Vicar, and, as one who was so closely associated with Canon Pereira, he could assure them that he had extraordinary calls upon his time. He (the speaker) would not like it to be supposed for one moment that the Vicar had not the same interest in the bellringers of the parish church as he had in all men in the parish. Possibly, if the bellringers were more regular in their attendance at the services, the Vicar would evince more interest in them.

Mr. Pates said the duty of response had devolved upon him in consequence of the absence of Mr. States who was unfortunately suffering from influenza and bronchitis. With regard to the past year, he could not say it had been a successful one, as they had not been able to ring a peal. The addition of two bells would prove an attraction to bellringers for miles around, and would be of great service. On behalf of those present he was desirous of returning thanks for the manner in which the toast had been proposed and received.

"The Visitors" was proposed by Mr. Hill, and responded to by Mr. Bance.

Mr. Pates proposed "The Chairman and Vice-Chairman."

Mr. J. W. Ellis, the host, supported, and observed the Chairman was one of the oldest and most esteemed friends of the bellringers. Mr. Hills, too, was an old friend to them. He had been in Croydon for about the same period as the latter gentleman, and he regretted that the company was from various causes not so numerous as it had been. Some time since there was something wrong with the tenor, but he believed it had since been put in proper order. Now, he understood, the bellringers were in need of two more bells, and he should be pleased to subscribe five guineas to any fund which they might organise for that purpose. The Chairman and the Rev. T. G. Hill had shown their appreciation of the services rendered by

bellringers in their attendance, and their hearty co-operation with them in making their annual dinner a success. He coupled with the toast the names of Mr. Howard Holder and the Rev. T. G. Hill.

Mr. Houlder expressed appreciation of all that had been said and the kind manner in which it had been received. The desire of the bellringers for two additional bells ought not to be frustrated, but he thought the time hardly opportune for starting a fund.

The Rev. A. Reeve then addressed a few remarks to the meeting, and expressed the hope that he should have the pleasure of again meeting the bellringers at dinner.

In most eulogistic terms the toast of the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Ellis, was proposed by the Chairman, who observed that much of the success of the evening was dependent upon them. Mr. Ellis briefly replied.

During the evening Messrs. Hills, Pope, Bance, Holder, Felton, Webb, Bray, and the Rev. A. Reeve contributed songs, whilst Mr. Easton presided at the piano.

THORNHAM MAGNA, SUFFOLK.

On Wednesday evening, February 7th, the annual supper was kindly given by the Rector, the Rev. Colin Cambell, to the bellringers of the parish, to which ample justice was done, everyone thoroughly enjoying themselves. After supper other amusements were indulged in, the handbells were brought into use and touches of Grandsire and St. Simon's Plain Bob Minor were rung, then a selection of music on the piano by the Rector, and also some good songs were sung by H. Symonds. After the repast the Rector extended a hearty welcome to his bellringers, and expressed the pleasure it gave him to meet his fellow church-workers, and he trusted that they would ever keep the highest principles before them, which alone would keep them together. He thanked the ringers for what they had done, and for the efficient way in which they had carried out their work; he hoped the good feelings which existed in the belfry would continue. Mr. E. Youngs thanked the Rector on behalf of the company for his kindness in providing such good things for them and trusted that one and all might be spared to meet many more times. The evening was very pleasantly spent, and the Rector's kindness most thoroughly appreciated.

WEST HAM, ESSEX.

On Friday the 9th instant, a half muffled peal was rung as a tribute of respect to the late Mr. H. Randall, who for sixteen years was steeplekeeper of West Ham, and was respected by all who knew him. The usual whole pull and stand was rung by the following members of the West Ham company:—C. Dempsey, 1; J. T. Bradley (conductor), 2; G. Pearl, 3; G. Waits, 4; R. Searl, 5; G. Potter, 6; W. Doran, 7; A. Torble, 8; F. Searl, 9; G. Hayden, 10. Also a touch of Grandsire Triples with the assistance of Messrs. Keeble and Mole.

Peals rung by the late Mr. H. Randall:—Grandsire Triples, 4; Grandsire Caters, 8; Stedman Triples, 2; Stedman Caters, 5; Stedman Cinques, 5; Bob Major, 1; Kent Treble Bob Major, 12; Kent Treble Bob Royal, 4; Kent Treble Bob Maximus, 3; Double Norwich, 1. Total 45.

On Friday, February 9th, the bells of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields were rung half-muffled, the usual whole pull and stand, followed by a touch of Grandsire Cinques, as a mark of respect to the late Harry Randall, who for many years was a prominent member of the Royal Cumberland Society. Mr. G. Flavell of Kingsthorpe took part in the above.

NORTHAMPTON.—Recently at St. Giles' church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, 1259 changes. W. Farey, 1; T. Harris, 2; H. Sear, 3; F. Wilford, 4; H. Rainbow, 5; A. Arnold, 6; A. Moore, 7; W. Roberts, 8; A. Stewart (conductor), 9; H. Blundell, 10. Composed by C. Charge. Also 540 Bob Royal. J. Nickerson, 1; T. Harris, 2; A. Stewart (conductor), 3; R. Loveday, 4; L. Chapman, 5; J. Hudson, 6; F. Wilford, 7; W. Farey, 8; A. Moore, 9; E. Haxley, 10. And 672 Grandsire Triples. W. Harris, 1; T. Harris, 2; H. Key, 3; F. Wilford, 4; E. Haxley, 5; W. Roberts, 6; A. Stewart (conductor), 7; J. Freeman, 8.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

THE WIRKSWORTH SOCIETY.

The third annual dinner of the above society was held at The Hope and Anchor inn on Friday evening, February 2nd.

About twenty members and friends accepted the invitation of their esteemed Vicar (Rev. W. H. Arkwright), and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

On the removal of the cloth the Vicar took the chair, and proposed the health of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, which was heartily received, the company singing the National Anthem.

Mr. Gandy then gave "The Bishops and Clergy," and expressed the regret which all would feel at the severance of Mr. Meyer's connection with Wirksworth; at the same time wishing him every success in his new sphere of labour, he having accepted the living of Clophill, Bedfordshire. The Rev. H. R. Meyer felicitously responded.

Dr. Broster very ably proposed the Army, Navy, and Reserve forces, referring to the war in South Africa and paying a warm tribute to those local men who were fighting for their Queen and country in that distant quarter of the globe.

Captain Symonds and Lieutenant Arkwright replied.

The toast of the churchwardens and sidesmen was in the hands of the Vicar, and again brought Dr. Broster and Mr. Gandy to their feet. Mr. A. de M. Severne then proposed the ringers in a humorous speech, acknowledging the progress made by the band in the art of change-ringing during the past year, and was thanked for his encouraging words by Messrs. Gell and Fox. The next toast, given by Mr. Preston, was "The Clergy who are practical Ringers," coupled with the names of the Rev. R. Stowell, of the Wirksworth band, and the Rev. A. T. Beeston, of New Mills; and elicited from those gentlemen a suitable reply.

Mr. M. Gandy in a few well chosen words asked the company to drink the health of the Vicar, and a successful gathering was brought to a close by Mr. Arkwright's brief reply.

The toasts were interspersed with songs by Messrs. Gandy and Bowmer, and touches on the handbells by the ringers.

THE SOCIETY OF FRAMLAND RINGERS.

This peal rung at Waltham, recorded in its proper place, is the first one ever achieved by the above society, which has been in existence close upon a quarter-of-a-century. That the proper meaning shall be conveyed this society consists of the church bellringers in the Framland or Eastern division of Leicestershire. Towers affiliated are Melton Mowbray 10 bells, Waltham 6, Hardy 5, Eaton 6, Buckminster 6, Croxton Kerrial 6, Wymondham 6, Bottesford 6, Barkstone 4, and Long Clawson 5. The society has for its President His Grace the Duke of Rutland, K.G.; Patron, The Bishop of Peterborough; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Rev. F. E. Nugee, Croxton Kerrial, Grantham. Honorary members included The Right Hon. the Earl of Dysart, Mr. W. Willson of Leicester (hon. member and instructor), and eighteen other important personages, and it has also about eighty-four performing members. The society was formed for that most important feature, belfry reform, together with the cultivation of the Art of change-ringing. The Rev. A. M. Rendall was formerly a Hon. Secretary and Treasurer until his removal to St. Margaret's, Leicester, when the Rev. C. H. Lacon, of Branstone, came into office who, through his energy and untiring perseverance worked the tone and the finances of the society up so much that a balance was in hand that afforded provision for an instructor in the Art, each company receiving three lessons in change-ringing. This was a thing unheard of in most of the towers of the district at that time. Mr. Wm. Willson was accordingly engaged to carry out this work, but unfortunately ere the latter gentlemen had completed his duties, Mr. Lacon was removed to a living near to Cambridge, and this gentleman upon his removal was the recipient of a beautiful dinner gong, made in the shape of a church bell with inscription round its waist, presented to him by members of the society as a token of the esteem and respect in which he was held. The gong was the work of Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough, and was got up most beautifully. Through his removal

the office next fell to the lot of the present Hon. Secretary, the Rev. F. E. Nugee of Croxton Kerrial, who proves also to be a most indefatigable secretary. The society has therefore done good work for 25 years, and it is the earnest wish of the writer that with such a good company of brother-strings, still further good feeling may exist and an advance may be made in the right direction in the future, and that we may be crowned with success. This peal is one of small importance, but it is the first, and should be considered a stepping stone to even greater success, by our brethren.

The society has up to last year held only yearly meetings in May, but last year half-yearly meetings were commenced to be held in November. G.

Obituary.

WILLIAM NOWELL.

I regret to have to record the death of the above named who was for many years a ringer at the Isleworth parish church. He commenced to ring at the age of twelve years, and had rung several peals in the Grandsire method, notably at Richmond, Kingston, and Isleworth, where there are two tablets recording the same; one was conducted by the late John Cox, in which the name of Mr. George Cole appears, who was a brother of the late Mrs. Nowell. The other tablet records the last peal he rung, on November 8th, 1879, for the Waterloo Society, conducted by H. Hopkins. Deceased was a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, the Waterloo, and the old West Middlesex. His son has his certificate of membership of the College Youths, a copy of which may be interesting to some of the older members, it states that:—

"Mr. William Nowell was elected a member on January 17th, 1854. Mr. Charles Balle, Master; Mr. Samuel Austin, Hon. Sec.; Mr. Robert Jameson and James Clarke, Stewards. No. 2,300."

The remains of the deceased were interred in the family grave in Isleworth churchyard, on Wednesday, February 7th, being carried to the grave by four of the Isleworth ringers. There were also several ringers at the graveside and the bells were rung muffled. In the evening, for the service, and on Thursday evening, February 8th, eight members of the Middlesex Association attempted a muffled peal of Oxford Bob Triples, which unfortunately collapsed after one hour. The band were E. V. Beadle, J. Basden (conductor), H. Chandler, F. Goddard, T. Beadle, C. Edwards, G. A. Ransom, and A. Sheard. B.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Sunday, December 16th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 42 mins. W. Clark, J. Parker, J. J. Parker, J. Eldersfield, G. Guttridge, G. Basden, C. Clarke. This was a seven-bell performance. On December 19th, 720 Grandsire Minor, in which the Rev. H. C. Wilder rang the treble, conducted by G. Basden. On Wednesday, January 24th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Court Bob Triples, in 45 mins. J. Bovington, 1; G. Guttridge, 2; J. J. Parker (composer and conductor), 3; W. Clark, 4; J. Elderfield, 5; G. Basden, 6; C. Clarke, 7; W. Bovington, 8.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

LONDON.—On Sunday evening, January 14th, at St. John's church, Waterloo Road, for Divine Service, the last 742 of Holt's Original. E. Oxenham, 1; H. Langdon, 2; F. G. Perrin, 3; A. Hardy, 4; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 5; H. Barton, 6; G. E. Symonds, 7; H. Walker, 8. Afterwards at 40, Catherine Street, Buckingham Gate, S.W., on handbells, an attempt was made for a peal of Bob Major, but after ringing 4240 changes "stand" was called owing to a change-course. W. H. Fussell, 1-2; G. E. Symonds, 3-4; R. Charge, 5-6; H. Barton (conductor), 7-8. Umpire—A. Hardy.

IPSWICH.—On Saturday, January 6th, an attempt for a peal of Double Norwich came to grief after ringing 3 hrs. 6 mins. A. Gillingham, 1; A. Durrant, 2; C. Gillingham, 3; W. Motts, 4; W. Nevard, 5; W. Roughton (conductor), 6; J. Motts, 7; ———, 8. Longest length by A. Gillingham.

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 Waterloo Society, London.—The 32nd Anniversary Dinner of the above Society will be held at The York Hotel, Waterloo Road, S.E., to-day, Saturday, February 17, at 6 p.m. sharp. Tickets, 3s. 6d. each, may be had from Messrs. Barton, Webber, Fussell, Perrin, Hardy and G. E. SYMONDS, 4, Dockley Road, S.E. Hon. Sec. P.S.—Ringling at St. John's, Waterloo Road, from 3.30 till 6 o'clock.

The Essex Association.—A district meeting of the above will be held at Romford to-day, Saturday, February 17. A brake will leave the parish church at 2 p.m. for Dagenham and Little Heath. Tea and business meeting will be held at The Woolpack inn at 5 p.m. HENRY T. W. EYRE, Asst. Sec. Great Totham Vicarage, Witham.

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at St. Mary's, Rawtenstall, to-day, Saturday, February 17th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. W. CASS, Branch Sec. 83, Chesham Road, Bury.

The Winchester Diocesan Guild.—A Quarterly Meeting will be held at Hawley (eight bells), near Blackwater Station, S.E.R. to-day, Saturday, February 17th. Tea will be provided for members. CHARLES E. MATTHEWS, Hon. Sec. Bursledon Vicarage, Southampton.

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch. The next monthly meeting will be held at Bray, to-day, Saturday, February 17, beginning at 3 o'clock. Tea will be provided. H. C. BELL, Branch Sec.

The Midland Counties Association.—Derby District.—The Annual Meeting for election of officers will be held in All Saints' belfry, Derby, on Monday, February 19th. Ringing from 7.30 to 8.30 p.m. Meeting to follow. T. ANTHONY, Local Hon. Sec.

Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Bridgwater on Saturday, February 24th. Short service at 4 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. H. V. TOMKINS, Hon. Sec. and Treas. The Cottage, Old Cleeve, Washford.

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—A General Meeting will be held at Heighington, on Saturday, February 24th. Ringing at St. Michael's, six bells, tenor 16 cwt. Meat tea at Bay Horse at 5 p.m., 1s. to members, 1s. 6d. to non-members. Committee meeting same place 4 p.m. Will intending visitors kindly send names before February 20th to Hon. Secretary? Both Heighington (Bishop Auckland and Darlington line) and Aycliffe (main line) stations, are convenient for intending visitors. C. L. ROUTLEDGE.

Tynedale House, Wylam-on-Tyne.

The Kent County Association.—Maidstone District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held at Wrotham on Saturday, February 24th. Tower open at 3 o'clock.

Tea will be provided at 5.30. Half railway fares not exceeding 2s. will be paid. All subscriptions are now due, and may be paid at or before the meeting. Members intending to be present must notify me not later than Tuesday, February 20th.

A. PALMER, Hon. Dis. Sec. 7, Knightrider Street, Maidstone.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting of this branch will be held at Middleton parish church on Saturday, February 24th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Business meeting at 6.30. Important business. All ringers welcome. JAS. JACQUES, Branch Sec. 48, Church Street, Middleton.

Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next monthly ringing meeting will be held at St. Thomas's church, Pendleton, on Saturday, February 24th. Bells ready at 3.30 p.m. Unveiling of the new peal-board at 5.0 p.m. Tea will be provided for all members sending in their names or numbers to Mr. John Smith, 25, Hope Street, Pendleton, Manchester, not later than Thursday the 22nd inst. Tea at 5.30 p.m. in the Broughton Road Schoolroom. Business meeting immediately after tea. Members not having paid their subscriptions are reminded that they are now due. W. BROWN, Branch Sec. 54, Wenlock Street, Hulme, Manchester.

St. Thomas's Guild, Dudley.—The annual meeting will be held at Dudley on Saturday, February 24th. Ringing to commence at 3 p.m. Service in St. Thomas' church at 5, tea and business meeting to follow. All members intending to be present at tea must send their names to me not later than Monday, February 19th. W. MICKLEWRIGHT, Hon. Sec. 39, Vauxhall Street, Dudley.

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The monthly meeting of the above society will be held at St. Michael's church, Headingley (eight bells), on Saturday, February 24th. Meeting-house—The Skyrack hotel. Business meeting at 6.30. Handbells provided. All nominations for officers (as per rule 7) will be due at this meeting. H. V. GAYTHORPE, Hon. Sec. 1, Elm Avenue, Bramley.

The Archdeaconry of Salop Guild.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Shifnal, on Saturday, February 24th. Ringing at 4 o'clock. Business meeting at 5 o'clock. Train leaves Shrewsbury at 2.50 p.m. J. MACKAY, Hon. Sec. Holy Trinity Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

The Midland Counties Association.—Nottingham District.—The annual meeting for the election of officers for the ensuing year will be held in St. Peter's belfry on Saturday, February 24th, at 6 p.m. Ringing afterwards. JOHN HICKMAN, Dis. Sec.

St. Martin's Guild.—The Anniversary Johnson Commemoration will be held as usual on Saturday, March 3rd. Ringing at St. Martin's from 3 to 5 p.m. Dinner will be served at "Ye Old Royal," Temple Row, at 6 p.m. Dinner tickets free to full subscribing members, and to other members and friends 2s. 6d. each; may be obtained by application not later than Wednesday, February 28th, to W. H. GODDEN, Hon. Sec. 61, Roland Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

The Midland Counties Association.—Preparation of Annual Report. — Members

whose addresses are incorrect in last annual report, or who have changed their addresses since election are requested to notify me without delay. Notice of alteration of practice nights and names of correspondents should also if necessary be sent at once; also obituary notices. W. E. WHITE, Hon. Sec. Cotgrave, near Nottingham.

The Middlesex County Association.—North and East District.—Owing to the sickness now so widely prevalent, it has not been possible to secure a suitable place of meeting for the monthly meeting proposed to be held in February. There will therefore be no further meeting of the members of this district till March, or possibly April.

ARTHUR T. KING, Hon. Sec. 18, Ravenscroft Park Road, Barnet

NOTES TO PEALS.

THE PEAL AT ST. ANDREW'S, HOLBORN.—This peal of Superlative Surprise Major is the first in the method on this fine ring of bells, and is believed to be the first peal in any method on the bells for upwards of twenty years. It was rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor, and at the third attempt. The first attempt after excellent ringing was lost within five minutes of its completion, entirely through the illness of one of the band. The second attempt fell through owing to a change-course after three hours' ringing. At the close of the peal the ringers were most hospitably entertained by the rector, the Rev. Dacre Craven, and Mrs. Craven, who congratulated them on their well-deserved success.

MR. J. W. DRIVER'S 100 PEALS.—Grand-sire Triples, 24, conducted 6; Caters, 26; conducted 10; Stedman Triples, 9; Caters, 21, conducted 3; Bob Major, 3, conducted 2; Royal, 2, conducted 1; Kent Treble Bob Major, 1, conducted 1; Koyal, 9, conducted 1; Oxford Treble Bob Royal, 2; Superlative Surprise Major, 1; Westminster Surprise Major, 2; total—100; conducted 24.

Situation Wanted.

PERMANENT Appointment required as Surveyor or Manager of Works (on Estate or otherwise). Good Accountant, Draughtsman, Timber and Land Surveyor, Drainage, Sanitary Work, preparation of Plans, Specifications, Quantities. Well educated. Photo if desired. Know Standard Methods. "STEDMAN," Hatchgate, Cold Ash, Newbury, Berks.

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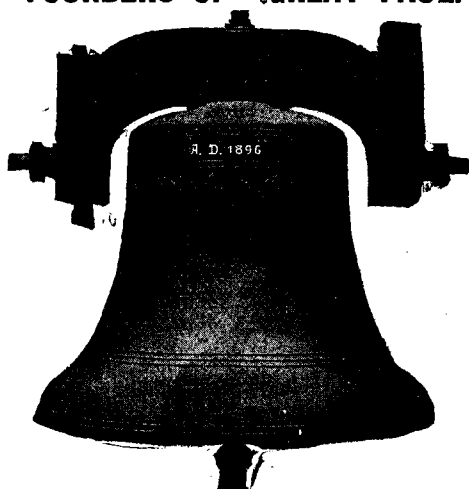
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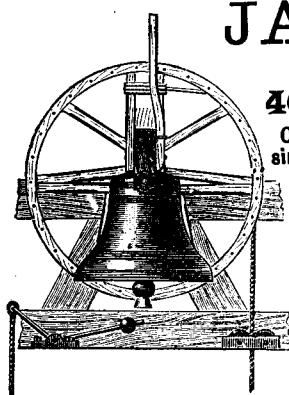
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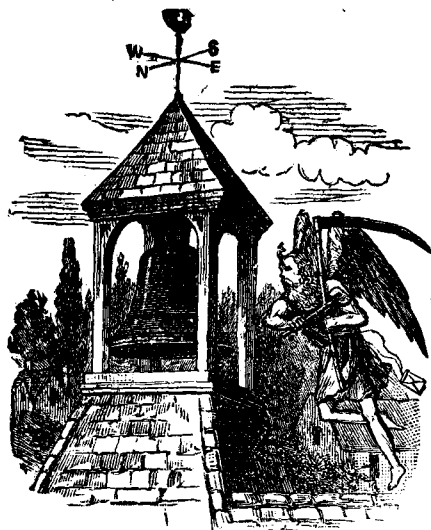
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No. 933.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1900.

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Sydney Town Hall, N.S.W.	Eiffel Tower, Paris.
Hammersmith Parish Ch.	Dunsfold Parish Church.
Gateshead Clock Tower.	Aylesford do.
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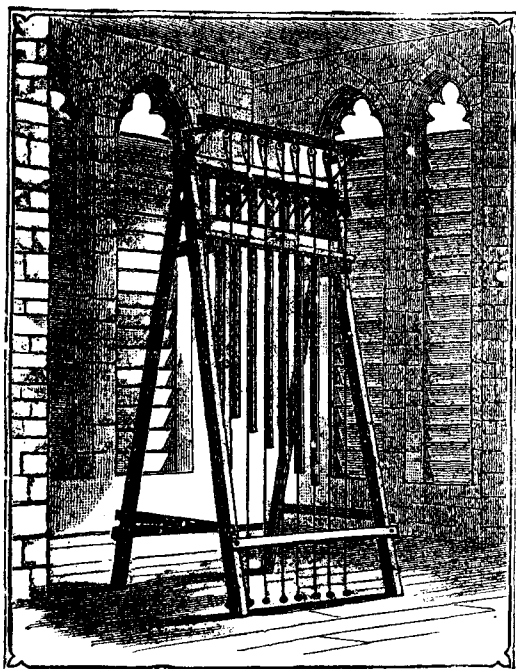
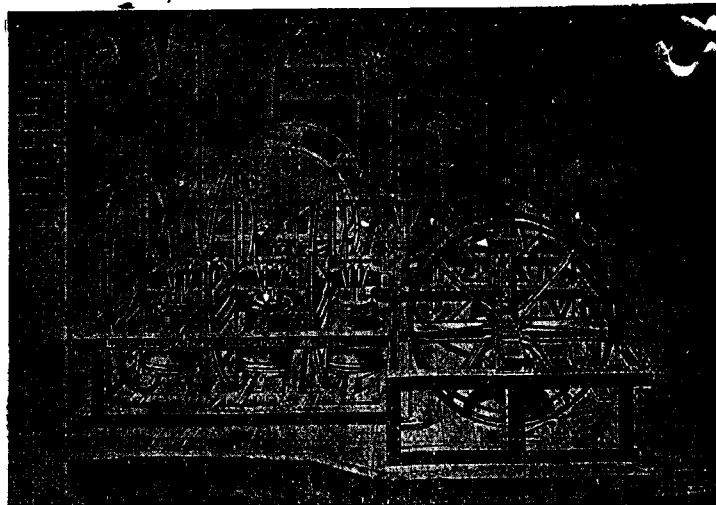
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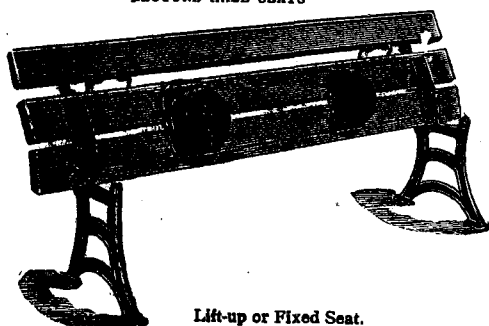
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No. 933.]

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1900.

[Vol. XVIII.]

REOPENING OF THE BELLS OF BERKELEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

The bells of Berkeley church, Gloucestershire, have after a long silence owing to being sadly out of repair, been reopened, on Saturday last, February 17th. A public luncheon was first held at The Berkeley Arms hotel, at which about fifty or sixty sat down; after which the Dedication Service took place, the bells being dedicated by Bishop Marsden, assistant-bishop, from Bristol.

A few rounds were rung during service by the local ringers, and at the conclusion of service a peal of Stedman Triples was successfully brought round, the record of which will be found in its proper place.

The original peal of six has been very much out of tune, and together with the frame in an unuseable state up to last year, when the task of restoration was taken in hand by the Vicar and Churchwardens, assisted by a committee. The advice of Mr. G. H. Phillott, of Cheltenham, was obtained, and from his specifications the work has been exceedingly well carried out by Mr. T. Blackburn, bellfounder, of Salisbury. The old six have been put into proper tune, and two new trebles added, cast by Mr. Blackburn forming a peal of eight. The whole peal is now a particularly pleasing one, and the new trebles are most satisfactory in every way, reflecting much credit on their founder.

A new iron frame has been fixed, and the go of the bells is all that can be desired. The Berkeley people may be congratulated on now having a most tuneful ring of eight bells in good going order.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A district meeting of the Essex Association was held at Romford on Saturday, when ringers were present from Barking, Bishop Stortford, Coggeshall, Kelvedon, Leytonstone, Mistley, Prittlewell, Stanstead, West Ham, Ware, etc. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain, Kent Treble, Double Norwich, and Superlative Minor were rung, as was also a touch of Cambridge Minor. During the afternoon a brake-load paid a visit to Dagenham, where several short touches were rung upon this handy ring of six. From here the party proceeded to Little Heath, and a few 120s were rung upon this light ring of five. The interior of this little church, which is well worth a visit, was greatly admired. Thirty-five sat down to tea at The Woolpack, the company including the Rev. F. B. Feist, who represented the Vicar, who is away from home, and the Rev. W. R. Drinkwater, of Brentwood. Twenty new members were elected. On the proposition of Mr. B. Keeble, seconded by Mr. W. Pye, a vote of condolence was passed with the family of the late Mr. S. James. Mr. Beams (of Leytonstone), gave notice of a motion from the annual meeting to divide the county into three districts. In referring to the question Mr. Beams expressed an opinion that it was desirable at such a meeting to ventilate the matter, so that it could be better taken in hand at the annual meeting. He would point out that the area of the county was so large that

ringers from one end had no opportunity, or at any rate not much, of attending a meeting held at the other end of the county, in fact some from the extreme end found a difficulty in attending the annual meeting owing to the distance they had to travel to and fro. The matter had already been discussed between some of the companies with which he was connected, and it was thought desirable that the county should be divided into three or four districts, each with its own secretary. By arrangement each district could hold a meeting once a quarter, and so bring into existence the holding of a meeting of the Association almost, if not every month of the year. Having outlined how the districts could be formed so as to possess facilities for travelling, Mr. Beams pointed out that the Association would be enabled to considerably strengthen itself if the proposal when brought forward was adopted. The Rev. W. T. Eyre, hon. assistant secretary, thought that there were many things to be considered before the proposal was adopted. To hold a meeting each month would be a heavy call upon the funds of the Association, besides which there might be some difficulty in securing good secretaries for districts. Mr. W. Doran (West Ham), gave the proposal a general support, and pointed out that the expense of a tea might be dispensed with. The idea if adopted would move the Association on and spread it where it now appeared to be required. Mr. Keeble said so long back as the appointment of Mr. Papillon as the hon. secretary he brought the matter forward, and should, at the proper time, be prepared to give the idea his hearty support. Mr. Davies (Barking), thought the matter required careful consideration, and was not prepared at present to express an opinion. A letter was read, signed by one of the churchwardens of the Parish Church, Havering, stating that the ringers there did not belong to the Association, and strongly objected to the members of the Association having the use of the bells on February 17th. Mr. Keeble said it was not necessary to comment upon such a communication. A new Vicar had been appointed, and he should therefore propose that a deputation of three be appointed to ask for an interview, with a view of securing the opening of the tower to the Association. Mr. Nevard (Bentley), seconded, and the same having been adopted the Hon. Secretary, Messrs. E. Pye and B. Keeble were appointed. The meeting closed with thanks to the Vicars of Romford and Dagenham, and to the priest in charge at Little Heath for the use of the bells.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 10th, a special meeting was held at Eckington, when it was arranged that the annual meeting and dinner should be held at Staveley on Easter Monday. It was also decided that the society have a report and the peals of 1898-99 printed, each member clear on the books to receive a copy free, the secretary having full power to arrange for printing, etc. Members who have not yet paid their subscriptions will greatly assist the secretary if they will give this little matter their

early attention. I find we have a falling off this year to the number of twenty-five. Should this state of things continue for a few years we should soon have to ring a muffled peal for the O. E. D., which, for my part, I should be sorry, after doing good work for ten years, to see the thing once more put on the shelf. It is not very pleasant work for me to remind ringers of their duty through "THE BELL NEWS," but if they had all attended the meeting it would have saved me time, as I there read a list, giving each tower's list of paid-up members for 1898-99. I only wish members would make an effort to attend. During the ten years I have acted as your hon. secretary we have held fifty-three meetings; fifty-one out of them I have been pleased to attend, many a time denying myself the comfort of sitting at home by a good fire, and tramping to and from the station in snow storms, etc., to say nothing about expense. All this I count as nothing if only I could see ringers of the O. E. D. rally round their standard. Don't let us be content with what we have done; there is a great deal yet left undone. With your presence and assistance we may yet gather up the fragments that remain, and your humble servant will try his best that nothing be lost.

E. J.

PEVENSEY, SUSSEX.

On Thursday evening, January 25th, under somewhat depressing circumstances, the ringers of the above band, standing as follows:—T. Field, 1; G. Penfold, 2; J. Bray, jun., 3; E. Beal, 4; E. Brant (conductor), 5; S. Marchant, 6; rang 12½ 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in forty-five minutes. This is the longest touch by treble and tenor men. This quarter-peal was arranged as a farewell to Mr. E. Brant, who would be leaving the parish in a few days, much to the regret of his numerous ringing friends. It is not too much to say that but for Mr. Brant there would have been no half-pull changes rung in Pevensy or the adjoining parish of Westham. In season and out he has advocated scientific ringing, sometimes in opposition to those in authority, who should have known better than to offer discouragement, but in spite of all Mr. Brant persisted in his efforts, and gradually got an efficient band together. It was the unanimous wish of the band that Mr. Brant should take away with him a tangible proof of the esteem in which he was held, so the hat was passed round, and there was no need to insist on "Pay, pay, pay," once asked was sufficient, and with the proceeds a nice pair of field glasses was purchased, and on Sunday, February 4th, during a pause in the ringing for service the whole of the band adjourned to the vestry to make the presentation. In the unavoidable absence of the Vicar, the local schoolmaster, who can make "parts of speech" fast enough, but is known in the band as a very silent member, was asked to make the presentation as time was short. In a few words he assured Mr. Brant that it gave him and his brother ringers very much pleasure to be able to offer him some memento of his work among them; at the same time they were all exceedingly sorry that he was leaving the parish, not only because he had helped them on in ringing, but because he had by his tact and unflinching good temper kept the band from those disagreements and quarrels which so often marred the harmony of voluntary guilds. They all hoped Mr. Brant would still think of them, and also that now he was going to Hastings where he could ring on eight bells he would not think their six bells such "small beer" as never to come over and have a

ring with them. Mr. Brant who was considerably affected, replied and said it was a satisfaction to him that during the time he had been captain the band had kept so well together, and had made his official position in the band a pleasant office to hold. He should never forget the kindness he had experienced in Pevensy, and hoped that if any of the band visited Hastings they would not fail to call on him and he would give each and all a hearty welcome. The party then rang the bells down in peal for the service.

PUDSEY, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday evening, February 17th, an impromptu gathering of a few ringing brethren took place to welcome Mr. F. W. Hargreave, who took advantage of an excursion train from Cleethorpes to Bradford to pay a brief visit to his former comrades and friends.

A movement was quickly made to the tower of the parish church (St. Lawrence) of this new borough, but the state of the belfry floor and ropes caused a look of surprise on many faces, and brought forth the query—"Has there been a flood?" It was caused by the recent snow being driven through the louvre windows.

Disregarding these unfavourable conditions however, the bells were quickly raised, and two courses of Kent Treble Bob Major were rung by W. Hollings, C. Pratt, T. Latimer, W. Bolland, A. T. Strangward, S. Wheatley, J. Smith, and F. W. Hargreave; followed by other short touches in which two recent recruits to the local band—Messrs. J. Baxandall and Wm. Birks—along with the latter's father and P. Cordingley, took part.

Owing to the conditions an earlier adjournment was made to The Commercial Hotel, where other friends were met with, and the handbells were quickly brought into play, varied with a "Surprise" course of knife-and-fork exercise, provided at short notice by the host to the order of a friend.

Before separating, Mr. G. Bolland briefly voiced the sentiments of the gathering in welcoming Mr. Hargreave once more amongst them. Having heard from him that in Grimsby there were two good peals, suggested—alluding to a proposed outing of the Tong company—that they might go and try them, and at the same time renew acquaintance with some of the ringers there, who were met with at Lincoln in April last.

Amongst the company present were Messrs. J. A. Ross (Shipley), C. Pratt, W. Hollings, S. Wheatley (Calverley), G. Bolland, W. Bolland, E. Oddy (Tong), Latimer, P. Cordingley, Maude, Birks, Smith, Strangward (late of Pontefract), and Farrer of Pudsey, with Mr. Hargreave of Cleethorpes.

THE ST. STEPHEN'S GUILD, BRISTOL.

The annual dinner of this society was held at Stuckey's Restaurant, Wine Street, on Tuesday, February 13th, when owing to the unpropitious state of the weather many of those who had promised to attend were unable to be present. However those who did brave the elements were delighted with the evening's programme. The company included many ringers and friends from Bath and other ringing societies of the city. The Rector (Rev. S. J. Houghton), presided, being supported on his right and left respectively by Mr. C. E. D. Boutflower, and the Rev. —. Hood (curate of St. Stephen's), with other prominent members of the Guild. A capital spread had been provided by host Stuckey, which was done full

justice to. Dinner over, the chairman read letters of apology from several regretting their inability to be present owing to previous engagements, which included one from the churchwardens, the Master of the Ancient Society of St. Stephen's Ringers (a society quite apart from St. Stephen's Guild), the Rev. H. E. Tilney Bassett, Mr. F. E. Ward (Cheltenham), and others. A good toast list had been prepared, the first item being a pianoforte selection by Mr. F. Plueknett, who ably presided at the piano during the remainder of the evening.

The chairman in a neat but appropriate speech made special allusion to the war in South Africa, and gave the toast of "The Queen," which was responded to by the whole company rising and singing "God save the Queen." The next item on the list was the song—"Come back to Erin," capably rendered by Mr. R. J. Wilkins, after which a well-struck course of Grandsire Cinques was rung on handbells by G. T. Daltry, 1-2; R. J. Wilkins, 3-4; W. J. Hinton, 5-6; F. Price, 7-8; F. W. Elles, 9-10; C. H. Gordon, 11-12.

Mr. C. E. D. Boutflower proposed "The Bishop and Clergy," to which the Rev. —. Hood, in the absence of the Rev. H. C. Courtney, very kindly responded to. Other toasts were "The Rector and Churchwardens," proposed by Mr. F. G. May, the Rector responding in a speech nicely adapted to all present, and offering his band of ringers every facility when possible for them to use the bells, which was received with loud cheers.

The toast of the evening—"The St. Stephen's Guild"—was entrusted to Mr. G. T. Daltry, who without attempting to flatter, said he was glad to be able to say that had not the St. Stephen's Guild been started, change-ringing in Bristol would not have reached the standard it has to-day. He was also pleased that such an amicable feeling existed between the ringers in all parts of the city.

Mr. Knight (Secretary), in reply gave an account of the year's work, and the progress made by the members, and said although the number of peals rung by the Guild were very few, proficiency could be claimed by the majority of its members. He also expressed a wish that he hoped to be able to report more favourably on the number and quantity of peals rung during the present year, a remark that met with approval.

A selection on the handbells by Messrs. Elles, Daltry, and Hinton, was much appreciated, after which "Our Conductors" was proposed by Mr. C. E. D. Boutflower, and suitably replied to by Messrs. Hinton and Cave.

The last toast was that of "The Visitors," proposed by Mr. Geo. Staddon, the names of Messrs. Mat. Hall, J. Mathews, and P. Came, being coupled with it, each of whom were surprised they should be classed as visitors, being always in touch with most of those present.

During the evening songs were sung by the following: Mr. Mat. Hall, he giving a fine rendering of "An old fashioned Cottage," and "Irishmen must be there," each of which was warmly encored, he very kindly obliging with a parody on "Coming thro' the rye," and "Margarita." Mr. C. Millard gave "Sweet smiling Bells," Mr. F. W. Elles "The Old Brigade," Mr. Richardson "Songs of the Sea," Mr. J. York "Fighting for the dear old Country," Mr. G. Daltry "London Town," and Mr. Jack George, who was undoubtedly the "man of the hour," his rendering of the "Pigs in the Garden," "The German Band," and "Italians," kept the company in roars of laughter and last, though not least, the veteran ringer of the party, Mr. Geo. Staddon, gave two selections in his usual style.

During the evening the Chairman announced that he

was asked to perform what was a very pleasing duty to him, that was to make a presentation to one of the members of St. Stephen's Guild who had recently taken unto himself a wife, and that who they all knew was their valued and esteemed comrade Mr. W. A. Cave. The present took the form of a brass lamp, and was suitably inscribed as follows: "Presented to Mr. W. A. Cave, on his marriage, December 26th, 1899, by the members of St. Stephen's Guild." The Chairman asked him to accept the small but useful present from his brother ringers as a token of their respect for him. Mr. Cave in a few well chosen words expressed his thanks to all who had so kindly subscribed towards so useful a present, which they may be assured he should always greatly value among the many presents he had received on his marriage.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar for presiding and the singing of "Auld lang syne" brought to a close a very successful and pleasant evening's entertainment.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Wednesday, February 14th, some twenty-five members and friends assembled at the schoolroom adjoining St. John the Divine, Vassall Road, Brixton, to partake of a very substantial supper at the kind invitation of the clergy and churchwardens. After supper the chairman, the Rev. —. Deedes, proposed "The Waterloo Society." Mr. H. Barton responded, and proposed "The Clergy and Churchwardens." Mr. Wild responded. Songs were sung during the evening by Messrs. Davis (2), West, Baron, sen., and Webber; also a well-struck course of Grandsire Caters by G. Wild, 1-2; H. Barton, 3-4; W. H. Fussell, 5-6; R. Charge, 7-8; H. Davis, 9-10. Also "The Blue Bells of Scotland" by Messrs. Wild, Fussell and A. Davis. Mr. Barton presided at the piano. During the evening the company were greatly amused by a gramophone, the property of Mr. G. Wild. A very enjoyable evening terminated at 11.30 with Auld lang syne.

EAST LONDON RINGERS.

On Saturday evening, February 10th, the ringers of St. Mary, Whitechapel, accompanied by the St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, and St. George's-in-the-East societies, held their annual supper at The Union Flag, Whitechapel. Previous to sitting down, seven members of the above, assisted by H. Springall, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 48 mins. W. Williamson, 1; E. Wallage (conductor), 2; H. Springall, 3; W. Truss, 4; S. Parmenter, 5; E. J. Webb, 6; J. Scholes, 7; G. Barrall, 8. Afterwards the company adjourned to dinner, ample justice being done to the good things provided. Mr. H. Joyce presided, and proposed "The Queen," which was received with musical honours. Mr. Gregory then proposed "The health of the Ringers," coupling with it the name of Mr. Williamson, who responded. "The health of the Visitors" was responded to by Mr. H. Springall. The remainder of the time was spent in harmony and handbell ringing, the song of the Fulham long peal closing a very happy evening.

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A BRIEF CONSIDERATION OF A FEW POINTS CONNECTED WITH THE HISTORY OF RINGING.

By R. A. DANIELL.

(Continued from page 461.)

No one can deny that in the present day change-ringing as carried on, presents both a secular and a sacred side. The Central Council undoubtedly regards the devotion of change-ringing in connection with Divine worship as its highest object; the Council also appoints a Peal Value Committee, the result of which is that Mr. Attree, a devoted churchman, who, if I may judge from what he said about Sunday ringing at the last Council meeting, is a strong advocate for ringing for Church services, is instrumental in producing a periodical list in which Ringing Societies are classed on their peal performances, like Cricketing Counties or Football Teams. In other words, the Central Council recognises that there is a secular side to change-ringing. Rightly so. What then are the relations between the secular and the sacred? Perhaps I may first give an illustration of what in my judgment they are not.

In "THE BELL NEWS" of November 18th last is an account of the College Youths' anniversary in the preceding week, in which one speaker is represented to have said that the Art should not degenerate into a mere pastime, but ringers' foremost aim should be to ring for the services of the Church. Whether these exact words were used I do not remember, and they may be a condensation of the reporter which fails to convey the speaker's precise meaning. But the sentiment, as reported, whoever is responsible for it, is one which in substance not unfrequently makes its appearance in the columns of "BELL NEWS," and which we hear from time to time; but for most of us, whether we read it or hear it, we feel there is something unreal about it. Is that our fault, or is it the fault of the sentiment? I think it is the latter. The sentiment seems to me to invert cause and effect. It is as though we should say that Music, because its highest object is in devotion to religious uses, should not degenerate into a mere pastime. I propose to notice briefly what appear to me the similarities and differences between music and change-ringing in connection with Church services. But first let us remind ourselves of a few commonplaces connected with the working of the human mind.

Why do change-ringers learn and practice the science and art of change-ringing? Because they like it. That is the answer. But ought that to be the answer? I think so; indeed I do not think there can be any other. I hardly suppose anyone learns and practises change-ringing unless he does like it. Why should he? Men ring, in short, because they derive pleasure from doing so. If it be said that pleasure is an unworthy motive, let us consider what other motive is applicable. Human beings are not naturally inclined to do what they do not like. Let us then glance at the motives which stimulate human action and see how they fit in with change-ringing. There is the stimulus of compulsion, of fear, of overmastering authority. This we know in connection with the earlier stages of education, but it has no influence with men learning or practising change-ringing. Then there is the great and noble stimulus of human love, but change-ringing does not rank among the things to which it is applied. Then there is what may be called the worldly stimulus, embracing such things as the desire of honour and glory among people at large and improved position in the world, of money, or of power, but men can hardly take up change-ringing from such motives as these. Then there is the stimulus of duty. Of course you must learn the habit of duty before duty becomes a stimulus. But if you do, then duty, according to the Church Catechism, is due to God and our neighbour. It cannot be said that to learn and practise change-ringing forms part of the things we must do in order to comply with the latter; nor even to comply with the former. For though the former includes the duty of love towards God, the form of shewing this must be left to individual choice, subject to the general principles laid down. To say that change-ringing is part of men's duty towards God, is to say that it is the duty of every Christian to go in for it. This last proposition is obviously absurd. But then we cannot pick and choose. If it is not the duty of every man it is not the duty of any man, for

there is no authority which can point out to us what particular few Englishmen (to refer to no others) are called by duty to become change-ringers.

There remains the stimulus of pleasure. Of course I do not mean to assert that any one or more of the stimuli I have already noticed, *cannot* under any circumstances induce a man to learn change-ringing, but that as a matter of fact unless in a very few exceptional cases they *do not*. In other words the natural stimulus to learn change-ringing is pleasure. It is true that pleasure is often mixed up with some other stimuli, especially with duty. But it is also true that pleasure may act as an original stimulus and lead up to duty. This is what seems to me to be the case with change-ringing.

Some persons despise or affect to despise pleasure as a motive to action. But after all it is the great inducement to willing human endeavour. To me it seems both ungrateful and presumptuous not to give the fullest recognition to this fact when the Almighty has mercifully given it a prominent place in the constitution of the human mind. I suppose this want of recognition arises in the main from a confusion of pleasure as ordained by God and pleasure as perverted by the devil. The human race, for instance, has to be reproduced, and the human body to be nourished by eating and drinking. The processes necessary for these purposes are mercifully made pleasant. Indeed if they were not the human race could not go on existing. But there is given to us a higher pleasure than these—the pleasure of self-control, and if the pleasures necessary to the existence of the human race become perverted and sources of misery or crime, it is because we do not grasp the relation of these pleasures and do not realise that self-control is the greater pleasure, and hence we come to indulge in these other pleasures without reference to the limits within which they are wholesome and right. Of the important position of pleasure in purely intellectual development no one can doubt, and I submit it has a special place in the spiritual life. On this point I desire to speak with the deepest humility and reverence. But surely if we have ever been privileged to know anyone pervaded with the spirit of Christianity in a manner that renders him or her not a blatant professor, but an influencing power, however gentle or unobtrusive, our observation must have shown us that human being gifted with a pleasure of a wonderful nature, a pleasure which stimulates to the highest ends, and in which, so to speak, duty itself seems to get merged; a pleasure from which we have to stand apart as being unable to rise to it or even understand it, but which we nevertheless know to be an existing fact which the world can neither give nor take away.

If then pleasure occupies so important a position in the arrangement of the human mind as framed by its Maker, and if pleasure is the natural stimulus to learn and practise change-ringing, let us frankly and thankfully recognise that fact. As we aim at *truth* in composition and performance, let us also aim at it in combining the sacred and secular side of change-ringing. It is no use to attempt any other policy. Say what we will, the natural and right foundation of change-ringing is still secular and so it will continue to be unless and until He who framed the constitution of the human mind shall see fit to alter it. Let us now see how change-ringing and church music agree and differ in respect of their stimuli and application, and in proceeding to consider this I must apologise to the Exercise for having just written what may seem like a kind of lay sermon. I am well aware that no member of the Exercise can be more unfit than I am to preach to others, and I have no desire to attempt anything of the sort, but I have not been able to state my view as to the propriety of pleasure as a stimulus to change-ringing without referring to its higher aspects.

The church music with which to compare change-ringing is that elaborate sort which is generally known as "Cathedral music," from its having grown up in Cathedral and other endowed choirs, and which was seldom performed in other churches till within the last half century. Anyone with an average ear and average intelligence can with very little trouble learn to take his part in chants and hymn tunes, and a good performance of change-ringing makes far more demand on both mind and body than singing of the ordinary parish choir type of music. Not that I wish to undervalue this singing or compare it with change-ringing for any purpose other than my present, but still if we are to compare the stimuli that lead to

our having the highest art in both church music and change-ringing, it is with Cathedral music that we must deal.

Those who wish to trace the origin of church music must turn to works of musical history or reference. I shall only attempt to deal with it so far as is necessary to compare it with change-ringing. The first point that strikes one is that the origin of both is secular. The music of the Western Church is derived from the Greek music which was pre-Christian, and after the Reformation the music of the English Church became gradually affected by traditional secular rhythm and accent. But for practical purposes let us take the Restoration of the monarchy in the year 1660 as our starting point. Stedman's earliest book on change-ringing was published only a few years later, and thenceforward till our own day the growth of change-ringing was secular. Nor since then are secular influences unmarked in their effect upon church music. The compositions of Purcell, Blow and others towards the end of the seventeenth century were a new departure in sacred music and owed their existence to foreign secular influence, and ever since then the adaptation of secular forms to church music has been continuous, until in our own day the two are quite indistinguishable in style. Who, for instance, is going to show us where the difference in style comes in between Sir Arthur Sullivan's sacred and secular compositions? And where shall a generation that enjoys the performance of Tours' evening service in F draw lines to exclude musical forms as unsuited to sacred purposes? It cannot be said that the secular has been led by the sacred; the contrary is the fact. It is the growth of music as a science and an art that has first affected secular music and afterwards sacred music. So that although I have treated this point in the briefest way, I hope I make my meaning clear that Church music as we have it to-day, is the outcome of secular origin and influence.

So much for origin and growth. How does it come about that Cathedral music has been and still is practised? What are the stimuli which have caused and do still cause its cultivation and performance?

Now before a man is fit to take part in Cathedral music he must somehow get a considerable musical education, and this education may be stimulated in him when a boy by the compulsory stimulus to which I have referred. Also, then or later, what I have called the wordly stimulus may apply in the case of learning and practising music, and under many circumstances owing to the nature of music and its adaptability to all ages and both sexes at home and elsewhere, the stimulus of human love may apply, and no one will deny to music the stimulus of pleasure. Neither will anyone deny that the stimulus of love or duty towards God may apply, any more than he will deny that it seldom does and that it may be said generally that one or more of the other stimuli is or are the motive agent or agents. So that both in change-ringing and Cathedral music there are two stages. First the stage of preparation to be fit to take part in it, which needs a stimulus which, speaking generally, is of a secular character—though owing to the limitations of the science and art of change-ringing there is not available so wide a choice of stimuli as in the case of music—and afterwards the stage of fitness.

But when a man has become fit to take his part in the performance of Cathedral music, it is not the Cathedral music itself that comes next as an influence. In order that he may keep up to the necessary level something else is required, and this is either money or pleasure or both. The case of money is the case of a man taking up singing as a profession. The case of pleasure is the case of the amateur. He may be able to sing in Cathedral music very well, but as he has not the stimulus of money to look forward to he keeps himself up to the level by secular music. If we consider the qualities required to make a man a good Cathedral music singer, and also that in the case of the amateur the opportunity of using these qualities would only come on Sundays as a rule, then if we can conceive the case of such an amateur being put under a regulation that what he had to do with his musical capacity was to sing on Sundays, and that as a sort of encouragement he might once a week or so, but not too often, indulge for a short time in secular music, the result would be that his ardour for Sunday singing would die down because his intellectual musical desires would be starved.

Sacred music then is fed by secular, partly by hearing

it, partly by practising it, or in other ways being affected by it. But the secular side of music is not practised in churches, whereas both the secular and sacred side of change-ringing of necessity are. It is owing to this latter fact, as it seems to me, that we have a tendency to get confused by mixing the accidental with the essential. Change-ringing has to be practised from its initial stages in church steeples, because the bells are there. But bells being in church steeples instead of in secular buildings is a mere accident of human arrangements, whereas the intellectual laws governing the acquisition and practice of arts and sciences are essential, being laws of God; and just as Cathedral music requires to rest on secular music, so change-ringing for Sunday services requires to rest upon change-ringing of a secular character. The author of the *School of Recreation* was therefore right in drawing his distinction between bells and ringing. Change-ringing is by Divine appointment—that is to say by the constitution of the human mind—a science, an art, a recreation, a pastime, call it what you will, of a secular nature, just as music is; capable, indeed, like music of being devoted as its highest object to Divine worship, but depending for its existence upon the secular intellectual stimuli, or one or more of them, which the Almighty has seen fit to make essential to the cultivation of all arts and sciences.

I plead then for the recognition of the fact that secular change-ringing must always be the foundation of change-ringing for Divine worship, and that we abandon at once and for ever, as something in the nature of cant, the doctrine that change-ringing should not degenerate into a mere pastime, but ringers' foremost aim should be to ring for the services of the Church. Everything is either of God or not of God, and that which is not of God is of the devil. You cannot make an appropriate offering to God of that which is of the devil, and therefore if, as is now agreed, change-ringing is an appropriate offering to God, it must be of God, in the same way as all other arts and sciences are. What solid objection, then, can be raised against cultivating this science and art, whether in church steeples or elsewhere, in accordance with the laws of the human mind, which are as much the laws of God as the Ten Commandments?

But when you have acquired an art or science, a duty arises to apply it in some way. Whatever question may arise as to the proper mode of application of other arts and sciences, there can, it seems to me, be no question as to the proper application of change-ringing. For as its secular part, which is its essential part, is necessarily carried on within the limits of consecrated buildings, and as it is suitable for use in connection with Divine worship, the duty seems plainly to be laid on change-ringers of recognising that the ultimate and highest use of change-ringing is connected with the services of the Church. I do not say that every ringer holds this. It took the clergy more than two centuries to discover it, and ringers must therefore be allowed a little grace. But this view of duty—and I might add privilege—in connection with change-ringing seems one which on the ground of its reasonableness few, if any, will be unable to accept.

The view I have stated of the essential secularity of the Exercise seems to me also to be the foundation on which its national character must in the future depend. As towns grow the tendency is for old churches to be left bereft of resident parishioners. Where such churches have bells it is next to impossible to get Sunday ringing, and sometimes there is a tendency on the part of their clergy to say that as they cannot get Sunday ringing they do not see why people should want to come in the week for practice or peals. The argument is rather pettifogging, to be sure; but unless the secular foundation is realised it is difficult to answer. If the essential secularity of change-ringing is recognised, then the answer is that by ringing about in these places ringers are using the proper and essential means to keep alive an art which though in particular cases it might be impossible to apply it to Sunday ringing is yet one which is available and utilised by the Church at large as an adjunct of praise to Divine worship.

In short, historical investigation seems to me to lead to a recognition of the truth that as our predecessors were, so are we, so that we must still be secular as they were; but not solely secular as they were, because we accept the modern teaching that it is our duty and privilege to devote our secularity, as its highest object, to sacred uses.

(Concluded.)

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1900.

It has been suggested to us from more than one quarter the propriety of printing and issuing in a compact form a list of names of the Clergy who are church bell ringers. It may be objected that there is no practical utility in the idea. Perhaps not; but we favour it nevertheless. If we can be assisted by the clergy themselves in the compilation of such a list, the task will be undertaken. When completed it will be issued with a number of this paper, free, and by this means all of our readers will be in possession of a document which many of them will feel a satisfaction in producing for the perusal of those who may be credulous about the character of ringing. We ask our clerical friends to help us with their names and addresses as soon as convenient. We shall gladly listen to any hints which may be suggested with regard to the addition of any other particulars which we have not referred to. Officers of Guilds and Associations should at least be noticed.

The Metropolis.**THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, February 17, 1900, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW, UPPER CLAPTON,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES.

Tenor 14 cwt.

RICHARD GOODCHILD .. Treble.	JOHN R. SHARMAN 5.
WILLIAM BENNETT* 2.	WILLIAM WARD 6.
ISAAC G. SHADE 3.	JAMES PARKER 7.
ALFRED W. DARLINGTON* 4.	SIDNEY WADE Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and Conducted by J. PARKER.

*First peal in the method. The band wish to thank the Vicar for kindly granting them the use of the bells. Rung in honour of the relief of Kimberley.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.*On Tuesday, February 20, 1900, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,*

AT CHRIST CHURCH, BLACKFRIARS,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES.

WILLIAM BENNETT Treble.	ISAAC G. SHADE 5.
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 2.	WILLIAM PYE 6.
WILLIAM WARD 3.	JAMES PARKER 7.
JOHN W. STEDDY 4.	JOHN R. SHARMAN Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES PARKER.

The Provinces.**BRIGHTON.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.***On Thursday, February 8, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 10½ cwt.

HERBERT P. HARMAN .. Treble.	GEORGE A. KING 5.
JAMES N. FROSSELL 2.	JOHN JAY, JUN. 6.
ALBERT D. STONE 3.	KEITH HART 7.
EDWARD C. MERRITT .. 4.	WILLIAM PALMER Tenor.

Conducted by HERBERT P. HARMAN.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.**THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.***On Monday, February 12, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS'. Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lbs.

WILLIAM PETTITT Treble.	WILLIAM V. NEWMAN .. 5.
WILLIAM R. HENSHER .. 2.	*JOHN J. MAWBY 6.
JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. .. 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
WILLIAM J. GILBERT .. 4.	HENRY STUBBS Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

*First peal of Stedman.

FINEDON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.**THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.***On Tuesday, February 13, 1900, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS'. Tenor 23 cwt.

WALTER PERKINS* Treble.	JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. .. 5.
WILLIAM R. HENSHER .. 2.	WILLIAM V. NEWMAN .. 6.
WILLIAM V. NEWMAN .. 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
JAMES GARRATT 4.	HENRY STUBBS Tenor.

Conducted by REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

*First peal of Stedman.

READING, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(READING BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, February 14, 1900, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 28 cwt.

WILLIAM E. BATTEN* .. Treble.	CHARLES GILES 5.
HENRY TUCKER 2.	AMBROSE OSBORNE 6.
VALENTINE ROWE 3.	ALFRED E. REEVES 7.
ERNEST BRUCE 4.	REUBEN SAWYER Tenor.

Conducted by ALFRED E. REEVES.

*First peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to V. Rowe, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

CAVERSHAM, OXON.**THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.**

(ST. PETER'S SOCIETY.)

On Wednesday, February 14, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES.

H. SIMMONDS Treble.	J. HANDS 5.
G. E. HARBOUR 2.	G. ESSEX 6.
E. W. MENDAY 3.	H. W. SMITH 7.
R. T. HIBBERT 4.	T. NEWMAN Tenor.

Composed by G. LINDOFF, and Conducted by T. NEWMAN.

Rung as a birthday peal to R. T. Hibbert, whose birthday came on 15th inst.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.**THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.***On Thursday, February 15, 1900, in Three Hours and Thirty-eight Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES; Tenor 26 cwt.

WILLIAM C. WAKLEY .. Treble.	EDWARD I. STONE 5.
GEORGE ROBINSON 2.	HARRY WAKLEY 6.
JOHN BENSTEAD 3.	JOSEPH GRIFFIN 7.
JOHN HOLMAN 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

Mr. Holman hails from Sheffield, and this is his first peal in the method.

KIDLINGTON, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.*On Friday, February 16, 1900, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 26 cwt.

FRANK WEBB* Treble.	*JAMES FRANKLIN 5.
HARRY G. JUDGE 2.	*FREDERICK WEBB 6.
WILLIAM BENNETT 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
HARRY WALTERS* 4.	WILLIAM FRANKLIN Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

*First peal of Stedman.

MITCHAM, SURREY.**THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE ST. STEPHEN'S SOCIETY, WESTMINSTER.***On Saturday, February 17, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES. Tenor 16 cwt.

HENRY R. NEWTON .. Treble.	ARTHUR G. ELLIS 5.
CHARLES T. P. BRICE .. 2.	HENRY S. ELLIS 6.
WILLIAM H. PASMORE .. 3.	JOHN W. GOLDING 7.
HARRY R. PASMORE .. 4.	JOHN N. OXBORROW Tenor.

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK, and

Conducted by JOHN N. OXBORROW.

First peal in a Surprise method on the bells. Rung as a birthday compliment to S. E. Andrews who was unable to take part in it.

ABINGDON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 17, 1900, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 20 cwt.

FREDERICK WHITE Treble.	WILLIAM NEWELL 5.
ALFRED E. REEVES 2.	WILLIAM BENNETT 6.
GEORGE HOLIFELD 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 7.
FRANK HOPGOOD 4.	RICHARD WHITE Tenor.

Conducted by the Rev. F. E. ROBINSON.

Rung on the occasion of the annual meeting of the Abingdon Branch of the Guild.

MAIDSTONE, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 17, 1900, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 31 cwt.

GEORGE PAWLEY Treble.	WALTER J. SMITH 6.
WALTER MANNERING 2.	EDWIN BARNETT 7.
ARTHUR C. WEST 3.	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE 8.
WILLIAM HAIGH 4.	THOMAS MANNERING 9.
ALFRED W. TAWNEY 5.	ALFRED PALMER Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY HALEY, and

Conducted by ALFRED PALMER.

This is the first peal on the bells since they were rehung by Warner and Sons, and the first in the method since 1784. First peal on ten bells by Nos. 4 and 6, and first of Royal by Nos. 1, 2, 5 and 9.

HAWLEY, HANTS.—THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 17, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16½ cwt.

MAURICE STEER Treble.	SEPTIMUS RADFORD 5.
JOHN W. WHITING 2.	JAMES HUNT 6.
WILLIAM W. THORNE 3.	FRANK BLONDELL 7.
ERNEST ALLEN 4.	HENRY WHITE Tenor.

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

This is M. Steer's thirtieth peal. Rung previous to the quarterly meeting held there on that day.

LOUGHTON, ESSEX.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS, AND
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

(THE LOUGHTON SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, February 17, 1900, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5088 CHANGES. Tenor 20 cwt.

JOHN MOULE Treble.	JAMES RANN 5.
WILLIAM KEABLE 2.	GEORGE CARTER 6.
EDWARD A. BACON 3.	WALTER CLARK 7.
JOHN MARDBELL 4.	EDGAR WIGHTMAN Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by EDGAR WIGHTMAN.

First peal of Double Norwich by all except the 2nd and tenor ringers, and first on the bells. Rung to commemorate the relief of Kimberley. This composition has the 6th twelve times wrong and right, the 4th eleven, and the 5th twelve times in 6ths place without singles, and is now rung for the first time.

BERKELEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 17, 1900, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS'. Tenor 24 cwt. 16 lbs.

A. W. HUMPHRIS Treble.	F. MUSTY 5.
F. E. WARD 2.	W. DYER 6.
A. K. HOWELL 3.	REV. H. A. COCKEY 7.
W. BRINKWORTH 4.	G. H. PHILLOTT Tenor.

Conducted by W. DYER.

Rung on the occasion of the re-opening of the bells, and their augmentation from six to eight.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES, SURREY.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 17, 1900, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES
J. J. PARKER'S TEN-PART (No. 3.) Tenor 33 cwt. in D.

ALBERT STRUTT* Treble.	GEORGE A. RANSOM 5.
JOHN BASDEN 2.	FREDERICK GODDARD 6.
GEORGE STRUTT* 3.	JOHN HOWES 7.
ALLEN H. TABER 4.	THOMAS BEADLE Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN BASDEN.

*First peal in the method; also first in the method on the bells. Rung as a birthday compliment to Messrs. Basden and Goddard, their brother-ringers wishing them many happy returns. It was intended to ring Caters, but meeting short the above was rung instead.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 17, 1900, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 25 cwt.

ROBERT J. DAWE Treble.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 5.
WILLIAM PALMER 2.	ALFRED J. TURNER 6.
THOMAS PRICE 3.	KEITH HART 7.
EDWARD C. MERRITT 4.	BENJAMIN HOBBS Tenor.

Conducted by KEITH HART.

This is the first peal of Stedman on the bells. It was also the conductor's 250th peal. The ringers, through the medium of this paper wish to thank the Vicar, the Rev. H. U. Whelpton, for the use of the bells, and Mr. W. Tiehurst for having everything in readiness.

OXHEY, HERTS.

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

On Saturday, February 17, 1900, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 9½ cwt.

CHALLIS F. WINNEY Treble.	HERBERT MARTIN 5.
CHARLES GEORGE 2.	NATHAN J. PITSTOW 6.
GEORGE N. PRICE 3.	ERNEST E. HUNTLEY 7.
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM 4.	FRANK A. SMITH Tenor.

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNEY.

ERITH, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, February 18, 1900, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5056 CHANGES. Tenor 18 cwt.

HARRY FLANDERS Treble.	JOHN H. CHEESMAN 5.
JOHN W. STEDDY 2.	WILLIAM PYE 6.
GEORGE R. PYE 3.	CHARLES WILKINS 7.
ISAAC G. SHADE 4.	EDGAR WIGHTMAN Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by GEORGE R. PYE.

SHIPTON-UNDER-WYCHWOOD, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, February 19, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

RISBY COOMBS* Treble.	SAMUEL COOMBS 5.
RICHARD HARTLEY 2.	ALBERT TURNER 6.
GEORGE BARTLETT 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 7.
WALTER LONGSHAW 4.	ALFRED MILES Tenor.

Conducted by the Rev. F. E. ROBINSON.

Rung to celebrate the induction of the Rev. William Collingwood Carter to the vicarage of Shipton.

SPELDHURST, KENT.

On Monday, February 19, 1900, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

FREDERICK STILL† Treble.	RICHARD PELLING 5.
ARTHUR T. GODLEY* 2.	GEORGE TURLEY 6.
JAMES MAYNARD 3.	†HENRY SEAL 7.
JAMES BAKER 4.	GEORGE IZZARD Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE TURLEY.

*First peal away from the treble. †First peal.

ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 19, 1900, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THE REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' FIVE-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt.

A. NOVIS Treble.	H. HARVEY 5.
C. HILL 2.	F. KENNETT 6.
T. WATERHOUSE 3.	G. WATSON 7.
F. MEDHURST 4.	H. DENMAN Tenor.

Conducted by G. WATSON.

This is the first peal rung entirely by members of the local guild. Rung to celebrate the relief of Kimberley by General French.

WITNEY, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, February 20, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE.

Tenor about 15 cwt.

FREDERICK POUNDS Treble.	FRANCIS P. POWELL 5.
HARRY BROOKS 2.	JOHN MONK 6.
GEORGE ROOM 3.	REV. CYRIL W. O. JENKYN 7.
THOMAS BULL 4.	JESSE BROOKS Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN MONK.

This peal was attempted on the previous Saturday evening in honour of the Bishop's visit to hold a Confirmation, but a change-course occurring a few minutes from the end spoilt what would otherwise have been a good peal.

Date Touches.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(STOCKPORT AND BOWDON BRANCH.)

DISLEY (Cheshire).—On Saturday, February 10th, a date touch of 1900 changes, in four methods—100 Plain Bob, 360 College Single, 720 Oxford and 720 Kent, in 1 hr. 4 mins. S. Rutter, 1; A. Barnes, 2; W. Wild, 3; Rev. A. T. Beeston, 4; S. Fernley, 5; G. D. Warburton, 6. Composed and conducted by S. Fernley.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NORWICH.—On Thursday, February 1st, at the church of St. Peter-per-Mountergate, a date touch of Doubles, being five 120s of St. Simons, Bob Doubles, and five 120s and 100 changes of Grandsire, in 65 mins. G. Harvey, 1; H. J. Borrett, 2; A. G. Warner (conductor), 3; H. W. Stanley, 4; G. Mears, 5. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Rev. A. Davies.

THE HEAVY WOOLLEN DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

NEW MILL (Yorks.).—On Sunday, February 4th, for evening service, at Christ church, a date touch in 1 hr. 6 mins., consisting of 460 Oxford, 720 Duke of York, and 720 Violet. G. Gill, 1; J. Tinker, 2; H. Biltcliffe, 3; Herbert Haigh, 4; H. Haigh, 5; H. W. Barrow, 6. Composed by J. Haigh, and conducted by G. Gill.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, February 18th, for Divine Service in the morning, at the church of St. Michael the Archangel, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major in 1 hr. 6 mins. H. Coote, 1;

W. Farrow, 2; C. H. Howard (conductor), 3; A. Shufflebotham, 4; H. Pilcher, 5; H. E. Hammond, 6; W. Hammond, 7; E. F. Slade, 8. Tenor 12 cwt. 32 lbs. Composed by A. Sykes, of Huddersfield.

Miscellaneous.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

STANSTED (Essex).—On Wednesday, January 17th, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, for practice, 720 Forward Minor (eighty-four bobs two singles) in 25 mins. Composed by H. W. Wilde, of Sandiacre. J. Luckey, 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; T. J. Watts, 4; G. Jordan, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by all the band, and first 720 in the method on the bells. Also 720 Oxford Bob. G. Jordan, 1; H. Little, 2; T. J. Watts, 3; W. Watts, 4; T. Jordan, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. And 120 Stedman Doubles. T. J. Watts, 1; W. Watts (conductor) 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; G. Jordan, 5; H. Little, 6. On Wednesday, January 24th, for practice, 720 Lichfield Surprise. T. Jordan, 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; J. Luckey, 4; T. J. Watts, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. This is W. Watts' 1750th 720. Also 720 London Scholars Pleasure. J. Luckey, 1; H. Little (first 720 in the method with a bob bell), 2; I. Hammond, 3; W. Watts, 4; T. Jordan, 5; T. J. Watts (conductor), 6. And on Wednesday, January 31st, for practice, 720 Royal Delight (nine bobs). G. Jordan, 1; J. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. J. Watts, 5; W. Watts (conductor) 6. This is the first 720 in the method by all the band and first 720 in the method on the bells. Also 720 Cambridge Surprise, W. Watts (conductor), 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. Jordan (first 720 in the method with a bob bell), 5; G. Jordan, 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday evening, February 4th, for Divine Service, at the church of St. Michael, 720 Bob Major. F. Webb (first touch of Major), 1; W. Farrow, 2; C. H. Howard (conductor), 3; A. Shufflebotham, 4; H. E. Hammond, 5; P. Holmes, 6; W. Grinwade, 7; W. Webb, 8. On Thursday, February 8th, 720 Bob Minor. C. H. Howard (conductor), 1; F. Webb (first with bob bell), 2; W. Farrow, 3; P. Holmes, 4; H. Coote, 5; A. Shufflebotham, 6. On Saturday, February 17th, 1152 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Hammond, 1; W. Farrow, 2; A. Shufflebotham, 3; W. Grinwade, 4; H. E. Hammond, 5; P. Holmes, 6; W. Webb, 7; E. F. Slade (conductor), 8. And for evening service, Sunday, February 18th, 352 Bob Major. F. Webb, 1; W. Farrow, 2; A. Shufflebotham, 3; C. H. Howard (conductor), 4; H. E. Hammond, 5; P. Holmes, 6; H. Coote, 7; W. Webb, 8.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TAUNTON (Somersetshire).—On November 7th, 504 Grandsire Triples. S. Wyatt, 1; L. Wilson, 2; C. Summers, 3; J. Fowler, 4; *C. Macey, 5; J. Burge (conductor), 6; W. Eveleigh, 7; E. Wyatt, 8. *First 500 of Triples with a bob bell. On November 12th, 503 Grandsire Caters. C. Macey, 1; J. Routley, 2; C. Summers, 3; F. Sadd, 4; J. Garland, 5; J. Burge (conductor), 6; S. Wyatt, 7; W. Eveleigh, 8; E. Wyatt, 9; E. Poole, 10. On November 21st, 714 Grandsire Triples. S. Wyatt, 1; F. Sadd, 2; C. Summers, 3; T. Radford, 4; C. Macey, 5; W. Eveleigh, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; J. Fowler, 8. Also 518 Grandsire Triples. C. Macey, 1; C. Summers, 2; W. Eveleigh, 3; F. Sadd, 4; S. Wyatt, 5; J. Burge (conductor), 6; T. Radford, 7; J. Fowler, 8. On December 25th, 1260 Grandsire Triples. C. Summers, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; T. Radford, 3; J. Fowler, 4; *A. Iles, 5; J. Burge (conductor), 6; E. Wyatt, 7; E. Poole, 8. *First quarter-peal of Triples with a bob bell. On December 31st, 701 Grandsire Caters. C. Macey, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; C. Summers, 3; F. Sadd, 4; J. Fowler, 5; J. Burge (conductor), 6; J. Garland, 7; W. Eveleigh, 8; E. Wyatt, 9; E. Poole, 10.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BRIGHTON.—On Monday, January 29th, at St. Peter's belfry, 504 Stedman Triples. K. Hart, 1-2; H. P. Harman, 3-4; G. Williams (conductor), 5-6; G. A. King, 7-8. And a course of Stedman Caters. F. Bennett, 1-2; H. P. Harman, 3-4; G. Williams, 5-6; K. Hart, 7-8; G. A. King, 9-10. On Friday, February 2nd, at the residence of G. Williams, 504 Stedman Triples. K. Hart, 1-2; H. P. Harman, 3-4; G. Williams (conductor), 5-6; Mrs. G. Williams, 7-8. Also two courses of Grandsire Caters, V. Scardifield ringing 9-10.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

EAST BERKS. AND SOUTH BUCKS. BRANCH.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks.).—On Sunday, February 4th, for evening service, at a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples in 43 mins. *A. Walker,

1; F. Dentry, 2; Rev. H. C. Bell, 3; F. Bissley, 4; W. Walker, 5; *G. Martin (conductor), 6; †J. Eldridge, 7; *S. Jordan, 8. *First quarter-peal in the method. †First quarter peal in the method, away from this treble.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CHEPSTOW (Monmouthshire).—On Sunday, February 4th, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Bob Minor, 6-8 covering. W. Andrews, 1; J. Smith, 2; J. Prickett (conductor), 3; G. Hobson (first in the method), 4; W. Freestone, 5; F. Bye, 6; J. Morley, 7; B. Tamplin, 8. And for evening service 360 Bob Minor, 7-8 covering. W. Andrews, 1; G. Hobson, 2; J. Prickett, 3; J. Smith, 4; W. Freestone, 5; J. Morley (conductor), 6; F. Bye, 7; B. Taplin, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

WITNEY (Oxon).—On Thursday, January 25th, 1008 Grandsire Triples. F. Pounds, 1; H. Brooks, 2; G. Room, 3; T. Bull, 4; F. P. Powell, 5; Rev. C. Jenkyn, 6; J. Monk (conductor), 7; J. Brooks, 8.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

CARSHALTON (Surrey).—On Monday, February 5th, at the parish church, an attempt was made for Kent Treble Bob Major, which came to grief after ringing 1584 changes. C. Bance, 1; H. S. Butler, 2; E. Walker, 3; A. Trappitt, 4; R. S. Blanchard, 5; L. Furrledge, 6; W. C. Hunt, 7; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 8. Also at Ashted church, on Wednesday, February 7th, a peal of Bob Major was attempted, after ringing 1 hr. and 40 mins., it came to grief position. E. A. Read, 1; J. Wyatt, 2; J. Hoyle, 3; A. Dean, 4; T. Miles, 5; H. Kenten, 6; W. C. Hunt, 7; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 8. Afterwards three courses of Stedman Triples was rung. J. Hoyle, 1; C. R. Lilley, 2; H. Kenten, 3; W. C. Hunt, 4; T. Miles, 5; A. Dean, 6; J. Wyatt (conductor), 7; E. C. Read, 8. W. C. Hunt hails from South Shields, who begs to thank Mr. A. Dean (Leatherhead), Mr. J. Wyatt (Ashted), and other members of the Association in making arrangements in so short a notice.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(STOCKPORT AND BOWDON BRANCH.)

NEW MILLS (Derbyshire).—On November 13th, for practice, 360 Plain Bob, being the first 720 on the bells and in the method by an entirely local band.

NORBURY (Cheshire).—On December 9th, at St. Thomas's church, 720 Plain Bob. On December 11th, another 720 in the same method, in 27 mins. On December 17th, for evening service, an attempt for another 720 failed at the last change, owing to the conductor omitting to call the last single. On December 19th, for practice, six 6-scores of Kent Treble Bob. On January 2nd, 360 Kent and six 6-scores of Oxford. On January 15th, for practice, 720 Plain Bob and 360 Kent.

BURBAGE.—On January 20th, at Christ Church, two 720s of Plain Bob and 360 Kent. On February 9th, for practice, 720 Kent, being the first 720 in the method on the bells by an entirely local band. The following have taken part in the above: J. H. Jackson, S. Rutter, F. Holt, W. Marshall, T. Ramsey, W. Lowery, A. Barnes, and Rev. A. T. Beeston. Conductors—Rev. A. T. Beeston and S. Rutter. It is just fourteen months since this band begun ringing.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BARNET (Herts).—On December 31st, 518 Grandsire Triples. J. Wittey, 1; W. F. Doulton, 2; A. J. Chidwick, 3; J. Sumpter (conductor), 4; F. A. Milne, 5; A. E. Dolton, 6; A. H. Belton, 7; E. Dolton, 8. And 168 with W. J. Baldwin, 1. Also a touch, conducted by F. A. Milne. On January 28th, for evening service, 420 Grandsire Triples. W. J. Baldwin, 1; J. Wittey, 2; A. J. Chidwick, 3; E. T. Griffin, 4; J. Sumpter, 5; F. A. Milne (conductor), 6; A. H. Belton, 7; W. F. Dolton, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On January 8th, 720 Bob Minor. W. Jones, 1; G. Hayes, 2; F. J. Ring, 3; F. Hayes, 4; H. Simmons, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. On January 21st, 720 Cambridge Surprise. A. Broom, 1; W. Lane, 2; F. J. Ring, 3; M. Digby, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. Also 720 Violet Treble Bob. W. Lane, 1; G. Hayes, 2; F. J. Ring, 3; M. Digby, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. On February 4th, 720 London Surprise. W. Lane, 1; G. Hayes, 2; F. J. Ring, 3; M. Digby, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. Also 720 Cambridge Surprise. H. Milham, 1; W. Lane, 2; F. J. Ring, 3; M. Digby, 4; W. Martin (conductor), 5; G. Hayes, 6. On February 5th, 720 Bob Minor. A.

Thompson, 1; G. Hayes, 2; H. Simmons, 3; F. Hayes, 4; W. Ware, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

THE WORCESTER CATHEDRAL GUILD.

WORCESTER.—On February 1st, at St. Helen's tower, on handbells, 504 Grandsire Triples. G. Hinton, 1-2; W. Powell, 3-4; W. Page (conductor), 5-6; G. Checketts, 7-8. On February 7th, at the Cathedral, in honour of the judges' visit, 1259 Grandsire Caters. B. S. Hill, 1; W. Bright, 2; A. Hill, 3; G. Hinton, 4; L. Longney, 5; A. Hadley, 6; W. H. Johnson, 7; G. Checketts, 8; W. Page (conductor), 9; T. Malin, 10. On Monday, February 12th, for practice, 449 Grandsire Caters. B. S. Hill, 1; W. Bright, 2; W. Page (conductor), 3; A. Hill, 4; W. Powell, 5; A. Hadley, 6; G. Checketts, 7; W. Watkins, 8; W. H. Johnson, 9; T. Malin, 10. This is W. Watkins' longest touch of Grandsire Caters.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WHITBY (Yorks).—On Saturday, February 3rd, at the church of St. Mary, 720 Bob Minor. J. P. Clarkson, 1; W. J. Titchener, 2; N. Kidd, 3; Rev. W. P. Wright, 4; J. H. Blakiston, 5; T. Metcalfe, 6. And 448 Bob Major. J. Wrightson, 1; W. J. Titchener, 2; G. F. Alexander (conductor), 3; Rev. W. P. Wright, 4; N. Kidd, 5; J. W. Passman, 6; J. H. Blakiston, 7; T. Metcalfe, 8. Also 672 Kent Treble Bob Major. N. Kidd, 1; W. J. Titchener, 2; R. Alcock, 3; Rev. W. P. Wright, 4; G. F. Alexander, 5; J. W. Passman, 6; J. H. Blakiston (conductor), 7; T. Metcalfe, 8. Also 720 Bob Minor, with 6-8 covering. J. H. Blakiston, 1; G. F. Alexander, 2; A. Barrett, 3; T. Metcalfe, 4; N. Kidd, 5; W. Wright, 6; J. W. Passman (conductor), 7; E. Langhorn, 8.

MIDDLESBROUGH (Yorks).—On Friday, February 9th, 608 Bob Major. J. H. Jones, 1; W. J. Titchener, 2; T. Metcalfe, 3; A. Barrett, 4; F. P. Howcroft, 5; N. Kidd, 6; J. H. Blakiston, 7; W. Wright, 8. On Sunday, February 11th, 576 Superlative Surprise Major, W. J. Titchener, 1; J. H. Jones, 2; J. Carter, 3; C. Hall, 4; T. Metcalfe, 5; F. P. Howcroft, 6; J. H. Blakiston, 7; A. McFarlane, 8.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

EDENHAM (Lincolnshire).—On Wednesday, January 31st, at St. Michael's church, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. G. Sentance, 1; G. H. Furness, 2; A. Holmes, 3; J. Alford, 4; W. G. Jones (conductor), 5. Also another 720. G. Chamberlain, 1; G. Sentance (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; A. Holmes, 3; J. Alford, 4; W. G. Jones (conductor), 5. Also another 720. G. H. Furness, 3; J. Alford, 4; A. Holmes (conductor), 5; the rest as before. And another 720. G. Sentance, 1; A. Holmes, 2; J. Alford, 3; G. H. Furness, 4; W. G. Jones, 5. Also a 360. G. Chamberlain, 1; G. Sentance, 2; G. H. Furness, 3; W. G. Jones, 4; A. Holmes (conductor), 5. Rung on the occasion of the marriage of Miss L. H. Sharman to Mr. J. W. Green, which took place that day.

FINEDON (Northants).—On Tuesday, January 30th, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples. J. Main (first quarter-peal and first attempt), 1; W. Warner (first with a bob bell and first attempt), 2; A. Leonard, 3; T. Abbott, 4; P. J. Manning, 5; A. Smeathers, 6; *J. T. Tompkins (conductor), 7; J. Packwood, 8. *First quarter-peal as conductor.

FULHAM (Middlesex).—On Sunday morning, February 11th, at All Saints church, 720 Bob Minor. J. Herbert (first 720), 1; R. Charge, 2; W. Charge (first on tower bells), 3; W. T. Elson (first 720), 4; C. Charge, 5; J. W. Driver (conductor), 6. On handbells, a course of Grandsire Caters. W. Charge, 1-2; R. Charge, 3-4; J. W. Driver, 5-6; C. Charge, 7-8; J. Herbert, 9-10. And 352 Bob Major. W. Charge, 1-2; R. Charge, 3-4; J. W. Driver, 5-6; C. Charge (conductor), 7-8.

NORTHAMPTON.—On Saturday, February 3rd, at the church of St. Sepulchre, a peal of Grandsire Triples. A. O. Stewart, 1; F. Hedges, 2; A. Arnold, 3; A. Moore, 4; H. Sear (conductor), 5; F. Wilford, 6; W. Farey, 7; H. Rainbow, 8. Composed by J. George, of Rugby.

WEDNESBURY (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, January 25th, at St. Paul's church, 1260 Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. A. Cooper, 1; O. Brown, 2; C. Tyler, 3; G. Newbould, 4; H. Finsley, 5; J. Malpas (conductor), 6; E. J. Tyler, 7; T. Cooper, 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Miss Monica E. Tuthill, and Mrs. Francis, daughter and mother-in-law of the vicar, the Rev. G. Tuthill, respectively. On Thursday, February 8th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. A. Cooper, 1; O. Brown, 2; C. Tyler, 3; E. W. Turner, 4; H. Finsley, 5; E. J. Tyler, 6; J. Malpass (conductor), 7; T. Cooper, 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Rev. J. Jones, first curate of the parish.

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 BRISTOL PEAL.

SIR,—I send the following continuation of my letter of last week, not so much as a criticism of W.R.'s letters, as for the information of ringers who may never have had opportunities of ringing on the higher numbers of bells, and also to remove any misunderstanding the letters of W.R. may have made on the minds of those acquiring the Art of change-ringing. I do not propose to imitate the audacity of W.R., who coolly appoints himself the judge of what is possible on twelve bells and the mouth-piece of twelve-bell ringers, but I will only state what I know from observation and experience. As W.R. is so certain of what constitutes a physical impossibility he ought to know what is physically possible. Will he oblige by publishing a list of times peals must take in their performance to be true? All ringers will then have a handy proof scale to apply to the peal records every week, and will be able to see at a glance the truth or otherwise of all published peals. If not a novice at bell-ringing, W.R. must have often heard of, without understanding what, 6, 8, 10 or 12 bell-time means. My experience is that peals of Triples, Caters, and Cinques on the same ring of bells, can be rung in practically the same time per peal, varied only by option of the ringers. The swing of the tenor behind is not necessarily affected by the number of bells rung in front of it, and the number of bells rung only demands that the intervals between each bell shall be lengthened or shortened according to the number rung. Taking as a standard a beat the ringers could comfortably ring a peal in, these intervals could be so altered as to make a peal of Triples longer than Cinques or *vice versa*, and by a desire for exaggeration a considerable difference in time could be made. Any band of ringers can prove this in their own tower. It will thus be seen how fallacious an argument against the validity of a peal is, that rests on the time taken to ring it. No experienced ringer of sense would argue so, and W.R. has placed himself in a position for ridicule by adopting this test of the truth of a peal, and he has the unenviable distinction of being the first man to do so. To ringers generally I hope W.R.'s ignorance as shewn by his letter will be ample excuse for my writing on such an elementary principle of our Art. W.R. has scoffed at our peal by terming it a physical impossibility, and he has insulted the intelligence of your readers by expecting them to take his bold assertions for argument. He should have informed himself of the times of previous peals rung at Redcliffe, and he would have found out that four peals are recorded there, all within 20 minutes of the time of our peal, one being within 5 minutes. I copied the following particulars from boards in the belfry: "5219 Caters, 3 hrs. 37 mins.; 5003 Caters, 3 hrs. 47 mins.; 5040 Triples, 3 hrs. 39 mins.; 5040 Triples, 3 hrs. 33 mins." It will be seen that the 5219 of Caters was rung at the rate of twenty-four changes per minute, exactly the rate of our peal of Cinques. In his presumed ignorance of these records, he has not hesitated to accuse us of fraud and dishonesty, and refuses to accept the evidence of the Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, who heard the peal and timed the changes rung per minute. There is plenty corroboration waiting, but W.R. does not deserve any further notice, the peal is a fact and his "I don't believe it" does not affect its existence. He has violated the recognised rule that all accusations such as his should be accompanied by the name of the sender, and has not the courage to sign his name. The ringers of the peal invite and wish all members of the Exercise to express their opinion and await with confidence their verdict.

G. T. DALTRY.

SIR,—I see that I have two correspondents to deal with re the peal at Redcliffe, so I will commence with the very inconsistent letter from Mr. O'Meara. At the beginning of his epistle he says "I was at the least unjust in writing to 'B.N.' about a peal that I was not a listener to," and then at the end of his letter he gives it out to the world that in his opinion, Mr. Pye's peal of Double Norwich has not been beaten, which means to say in plain language that J. W. Washbrook's peal was not a true one. Mr. O'Meara is surprised at me querying a peal I did not hear,

and then goes on to do just the same that he is so surprised at me doing. This is indeed very curious, but I expect that is only his way of doing. Then he says "the tenor is only 48 cwt. not 52 cwt. as stated," but Mr. Daltry does not deny the weight of it. Again he says "I should have thought the names of J. Hinton, H. Porch, and G. Daltry, ringers and conductors of renowned capability, whose names appear in the peal would have been sufficient guarantee of its genuineness." Ringers of ability is nothing to do with this matter as we have at present a sorry sight of a man of renowned capability trying to pass over very questionable performances. Mr. O'Meara himself doubts one of them, so his argument about capable ringers putting their names to performances as a guarantee of men being true falls to the ground. If his talk about questioning the two great performances of our company is a kind of a stage whisper, let him speak louder! The next paragraph in his letter rather amuses me, and from what I know of Mr. O'Meara he is just the man who should utilize his superfluous energy in beating long peals of Double Norwich! as I am not built that way. I am sure the Redcliffe ringers are delighted to see Mr. O'Meara taking up the sponge on their behalf, seeing that he like myself was not a listener. He certainly gives his testimony like a man, I should allow others to do the same. But I will now pass on to Mr. Daltry's letter, and if he will read my letter again he will see the reason why I did not publish my name and address. Then he goes on to talk a lot of rot about part-ends. Perhaps there wasn't a course-end in it. Mr. May did not say he heard all the ringing, if I read his letter rightly. A man who listens to a peal would not know if five courses were dropped out unless he was listening as a critic. Let Mr. O'Meara look through the peal-book of the College Youths, and he will see that there has not been a peal of Stedman Cinques rung with tenor 50 cwt. (this weight is quoted from B.N.) been rang anywhere near the time, viz., 3 hrs. 28 mins., which makes this peal a record. Now I maintain that all record peals should be beyond suspicion, and amply substantiated as to time. Weight of tenor 52-48? Mr. Daltry then has a bit of sarcasm as to what I said about people wanting to say something about peals and didn't hardly like to, but if he will only look at Mr. O'Meara's letter concerning a peal of Double Norwich, he will see that what I said was correct, and that Mr. O'Meara is using this discussion as a catspaw to run down other peals, which shews that he had not the courage of his convictions. As a conclusion I will say that when I go to Bristol I shall be delighted to hear a quarter-peal of Stedman Cinques on Redcliffe bells in 52 mins.

W.R.

INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR,—I came across a book of Thomas Lewis, of Brixton, the other day, in which the author claims to have cast the peal of eight bells at St. Andrew's Church, Well Street, London, on strictly scientific and acoustic principles. Can you kindly inform me if this founder still carries on business, and whether St. Andrew's bells are of exceptionally good tone. The tenor is quoted as 21 cwt. I do not remember having seen a peal recorded on these bells.

I should also like some particulars about a certain Thomas Janaway, of Chelsea, who cast the old peal of eight bells, at St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, in 1772.

I send you herewith the original inscriptions on St. Mary Abbots bells:—

1. Prosperity to Kensington. Thomas Janaway, 1772.
2. When from the earth our notes resound
The bells and valleys echo round. Thomas Janaway, 1772.
- 3-4. Musica est mentis medicina
Intactum siles, percutite, dulce cano. Thomas Janaway, 1772.
5. Let Aaron's bells continually be rung
The word still preacht and hallelujah sung. Thomas Janaway, 1772.
6. The ringers Art our graceful notes prolong
Apollo listens and approves the song. Thomas Janaway, 1772.
7. Ye rulers that are put in trust to judge of 'rong and right
Be all your judgments true and just regarding no man's night.
Thomas Janaway, 1772.

8. Be it known to great and small
Thomas Janaway cast us all.

Cast July, 1772, by subscription.

Rev. James Waller, D.D., Vicar.

John Stokes and Wm. Simpson, churchwardens.

John Lessington, Esq., gave twenty pounds.

W. T. BAXTER.

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.

Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Bridgwater to-day, Saturday, February 24th. Short service at 4 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m.

HV. TOMKINS, *Hon. Sec. and Treas.*
The Cottage, Old Cleeve, Washford.

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—A General Meeting will be held at Heighington, to-day, Saturday, February 24th. Ringing at St. Michael's, six bells, tenor 16 cwt. Meat tea at Bay Horse at 5 p.m., 1s. to members, 1s. 6d. to non-members. Committee meeting same place 4 p.m.

C. L. ROUTLEDGE.
Tyndale House, Wylam-on-Tyne.

The Kent County Association.—Maidstone District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held at Wrotham to-day, Saturday, Feb. 24th. Tower open at 3 o'clock. Tea will be provided at 5.30. Half railway fares not exceeding 2s. will be paid. All subscriptions are now due, and may be paid at or before the meeting.

A. PALMER, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*
7, Knightbridge Street, Maidstone.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting of this branch will be held at Middleton parish church to-day, Saturday, Feb. 24th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Business meeting at 6.30. Important business. All ringers welcome.

JAS. JACQUES, *Branch Sec.*
48, Church Street, Middleton.

Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next monthly ringing meeting will be held at St. Thomas's church, Pendleton, to-day, Saturday, Feb. 24th. Bells ready at 3.30 p.m. Unveiling of the new peal-board at 5.0 p.m. Tea at 5.30 p.m. in the Broughton Road Schoolroom. Business meeting immediately after tea. Members not having paid their subscriptions are reminded that they are now due.

W. BROWN, *Branch Sec.*
54, Wenlock Street, Hulme, Manchester.

St. Thomas's Guild, Dudley.—The annual meeting will be held at Dudley to-day, Saturday, Feb. 24th. Ringing to commence at 3 p.m. Service in St. Thomas's church at 5, tea and business meeting to follow.

W. MICKLEWRIGHT, *Hon. Sec.*
39, Vauxhall Street, Dudley.

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The monthly meeting of the above society will be held at St. Michael's church, Headingley (eight bells), to-day, Saturday, February 24th. Meeting-house—The Skyrack hotel. Business meeting at 6.30. Handbells provided. All nominations for officers (as per rule 7) will be due at this meeting.

HV. GAYTHORPE, *Hon. Sec.*
1, Elm Avenue, Bramley.

The Archdeaconry of Salop Guild.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Shifnal, to-day, Saturday, Feb. 24th. Ringing at 4 o'clock. Business meeting at 5 o'clock. Train leaves Shrewsbury at 2.50 p.m.

J. MACKAY, *Hon. Sec.*
Holy Trinity Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

The Midland Counties Association.—Nottingham District.—The annual meeting for

the election of officers for the ensuing year, will be held in St. Peter's belfry to-day, Saturday, Feb. 24th, at 6 p.m. Ringing afterwards.

JOHN HICKMAN, *Dis. Sec.*

The Chester Diocesan Guild.—BOWDEN STOCKPORT AND MOTTRAM BRANCH.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Norbury to-day, Saturday, February 24th. Divine Service at 4.30.

H. LEIGH MALLORY, *Hon. Sec.*

St. Martin's Guild.—The Anniversary Johnson Commemoration will be held as usual on Saturday, March 3rd. Ringing at St. Martin's from 3 to 5 p.m. Dinner will be served at "Ye Old Royal," Temple Row, at 6 p.m. Dinner tickets free to full subscribing members, and to other members and friends 2s. 6d. each; may be obtained by application not later than Wednesday, February 28th, to

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

61, Roland Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

The chair will be taken by Mr. S. Spittle, Master of the Worcester and Adjoining Districts Association.

The Middlesex County Association.—South and West District.—The next meeting of the above will be held by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. B. O. Sharp, at St. Leonard's church, Heston, on Saturday, March 3rd. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Tea will be provided at 6 o'clock. All members and friends are cordially invited.

T. EDWARDS, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*

The Sheffield and District Society.—The next monthly meeting of this society will be held at Ranmoor on Saturday, March 3rd. Bells ready at 4 p.m.

R. HARRISON, *Hon. Sec.*

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Fenton, on Saturday March 3rd. Members intending to be present are requested to give notice to Mr. J. Rayson, 15, Nelson Street, Fenton.

W. TWIGG, *Hon. Sec.*

The Kent County Association.—ROCHESTER DISTRICT.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Mary's church, Chatham, on Saturday, March 3rd. Tower open at 3.30 p.m. Committee Meeting at 6.30.

A. OSBORNE, *Dis. Sec.*

65, Clive Road, Rochester.

Halifax and District Association.—The next meeting of this Association will be held at Sowerby, on Saturday, March 10th. Bells ready from dinner time. Business meeting in schoolroom 6 p.m.

WRIGHT INGHAM, *Sec.*

The Heavy Woollen District Association.—The next monthly meeting of this society will be held at Kirkburton on Saturday, March 10th. Meeting at 5.30 at The George hotel. There was a little uncertainty whether the usual eight-bell contest could be held owing to outside interference, but the obstacle has been removed, and the contest will be held as usual. All members who intend competing must pay their subscriptions on or before March 1st.

W. IDLE, *Sec.*

47, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury.

The Midland Counties Association.—Preparation of Annual Report.—Members whose addresses are incorrect in last annual report, or who have changed their addresses since election are requested to notify me without delay. Notice of alteration of practice nights and names of correspondents should also if necessary be sent at once; also obituary notices.

W. E. WHITE, *Hon. Sec.*

Cotgrave, near Nottingham.

The Middlesex County Association.—North and East District.—Owing to the sickness now so widely prevalent, it has not been possible to secure a suitable place of meeting for the monthly meeting proposed to be held in February. There will therefore be no further meeting of the members of this district till March, or possibly April.

ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*
18, Ravenscroft Park Road, Barnet

Compositions.

BOB ROYAL.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

5040.

23456	W	M	H
64352	-	-	-
35462	S	-	-
43562	-	-	-
54362	-	-	-
23546	-	-	-
52346	-	-	-
35246	-	-	-

Five times repeated.

This peal has the 6th twelve times wrong and right.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

JOHN STEDDY.—We are unable to accommodate you. Apply direct to the publisher.

GRANDSIRE.—Make enquiry of the officials when you next go there. You may mention you have corresponded with us on the subject.

R. H. CHICHESTER.—We are sorry, but powerless to intervene.

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PERMANENT Appointment required as Surveyor or Manager of Works (on Estate or otherwise). Good Accountant, Draughtsman, Timber and Land Surveyor, Drainage, Sanitary Work, preparation of Plans, Specifications, Quantities. Well educated. Photo if desired. Know Standard Methods. "STEDMAN," Hatchgate, Cold Ash, Newbury, Berks.

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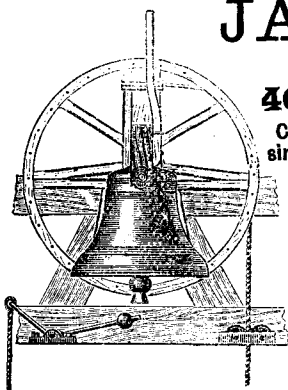
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The above are for 6 ringers with 13 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.A.			
The next are for 6 ringers with 12 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.			
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No. 934.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 1900.

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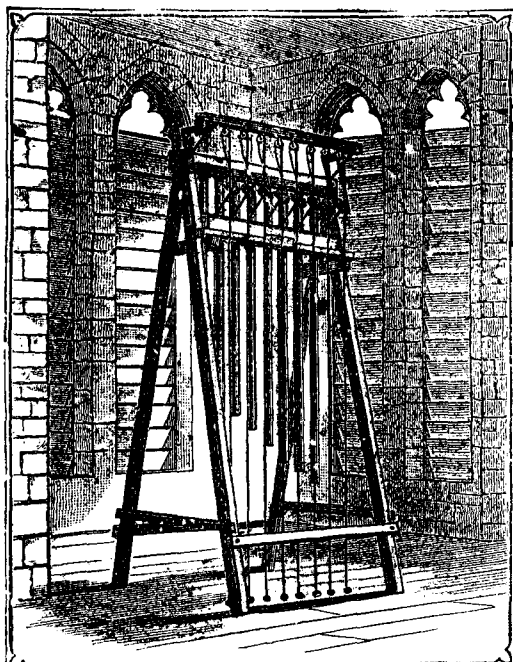
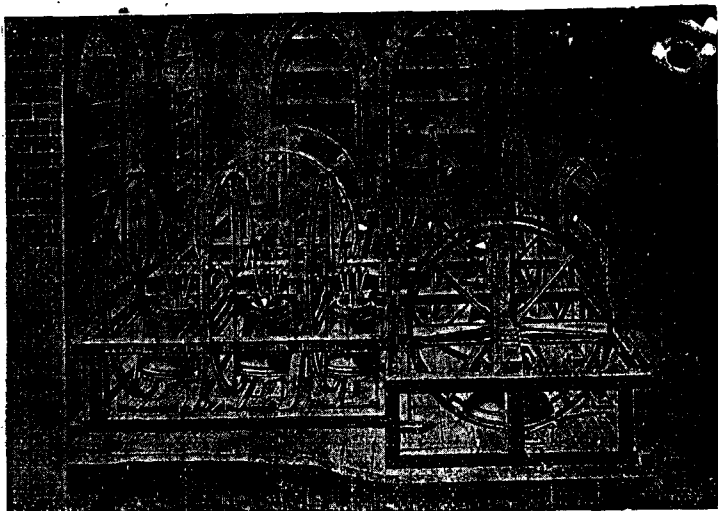
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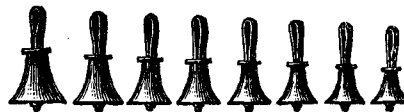
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 934.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 1900.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of this Association was held at Heighington (near Darlington) on Saturday last. Ringing did not commence until three o'clock at the parish church owing to a funeral taking place at 2.30 p.m. A 720 of Kent was rung, after a futile attempt at Double Court, and a 720 in the last-named method after tea completed the score for the day. After the committee meeting a meat tea was provided at The Bay Horse inn, eighteen good appetites doing justice to the excellent fare. The President, R. S. Story, Esq., was in the chair, supported by the Rev. C. Dyson, Vicar of Heighington; Mr. Lungley (of Darlington) in the vice-chair.

The President proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells during the day, and for his presence among them at tea. He hoped the local ringers would soon become efficient in change-ringing, with the help of the Darlington members, who had offered to give instruction. The vote was carried with acclamation.

The Rev. C. Dyson, in responding, welcomed the Association to the village, and trusted that before the next visit, which he hoped would be at no distant date, his own ringers would be able to handle the bells as scientifically as they had been that day.

At the election of new members which followed the Rev. R. R. Momgin, Vicar of Benwell, was made an honorary member, and Mr. J. J. Leighton (of Sunderland) was elected an honorary and performing member. The whole of the Wylam ringers were re-elected, eight in number, this tower having once more come under the influence of the Association.

Mr. J. Lungley proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman and to the Hon. Secretary for their duties, and for bringing about so pleasant a gathering. Messrs. Story and Routledge responded; the latter expressing a regret, which was general, that one of the oldest and best-esteemed members, who lived close at hand, had not been able to be present through illness—that was Mr. D. Shipp, of Staindrop.

A course of Caters on handbells, and another hour's ringing on the tower bells completed the programme for the day, all having to be over by 7.15 to catch trains. The three towers at Darlington were represented at the meeting, also Bishop Auckland, Whitley, Wylam, and the local ringers.

THE CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A general meeting of this Association was held at Whitby on Saturday, February 3rd. Numerically it was smaller than the last one owing to the bad weather, and the amount of sickness at present so prevalent. To the latter cause we must attribute the absence of our energetic and respected President, Mr. G. J. Clarkson, whose presence gives so much prestige to such gatherings, and who

is a tower of strength to a company of ringers. We had, however, the support of both of our vice-Presidents—Messrs. J. H. Blakiston and J. Wrightson.

The ringers who gathered together from various towers in Cleveland, including Middlesbrough, Thornaby, Thirsk, Stokesley, Whitby, etc., availed themselves of the advantages at their disposal, and both enjoyed themselves and did some useful work.

Whitby possesses an excellent ring of eight bells, which was increased from six to eight two and a half years ago by an honoured townsman and churchwarden presenting two trebles as a jubilee memorial. This gentleman is a most active octogenarian, Mr. Stevenson Grame, who thinks nothing of climbing the 199 steps up to the old church several times a day, and to our knowledge did so twice during our visit in order to see the ringers.

Whitby however has one great drawback, or fault, in spite of which nevertheless we love it still—it is that it is very badly served with trains, and this no doubt prevented many members from attempting a half-day visit.

The bells however were kept going merrily until the last train, unfortunately not a late one, called the visitors away. Tea was indulged in at 5 o'clock, and the Rector, the Rev. Canon Austen, honoured us with his company, and added greatly to our pleasure.

Mr. J. Wrightson proposed the toast of "The Queen and Royal Family," which was of course duly honoured. Mr. H. Blakiston proposed "The Bishops and Clergy," to which Canon Austen responded. The Rector proposed "Health to the Cleveland Association," to which the Secretary replied. The Rev. W. P. Wright proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector for kindly allowing the Association the use of the belfry on the occasion, to which he kindly replied that he was glad to welcome the ringers at any time.

Some new members were also elected. This concluded the business of what was to those present a very enjoyable visit.

The next meeting will be the annual one, at Middlesbrough, on Whit-Monday.

W.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CANTERBURY DISTRICT.

A very successful meeting of the above was held at Hernhill on Saturday, February 10th, when members attended from Birchington, Boughton, Canterbury, Charing, Deal, Elham, and Ospringe, with the local company. Ringing commenced at 4 o'clock, with the bells muffled out of respect to the family of Sir Edwyn S. Dawes, whose fourth daughter's husband was buried on that day, a service being previously held in the church at the same time as the burial was taking place. At 5.30 all present adjourned for tea, after which three probationers and two members were admitted to the Association. The muffles were then taken off, and ringing in various methods kept up till 9 o'clock, thus ending a pleasant meeting, which was only marred by a snow-storm which all had to go through to get home.

NEWTOWN, MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

The ring of six bells at the Parish Church, Newtown, has just been rehung and tuned, and on Saturday, February 24th, the Welshpool branch of the Hereford Diocesan Guild held their half-yearly meeting at that place, when 120s of Grandsire Doubles were rung, probably the first on the bells, by the Rev. N. Davies, J. E. Groves (conductor), W. Greenleaf, A. Grice, C. H. Watts, and G. Williams; also rounds and call-changes by the local ringers. One and all expressed their great satisfaction with the go of the bells. We are pleased to note that the Newtown ringers have joined the Hereford Diocesan Guild, and have received their first lesson in change-ringing from Mr. J. E. Groves, the Guild instructor.

The bells are a light but exceedingly musical ring, cast in 1659, and recast 1727, by the Rudhalls, of Gloucester. Tenor about 7 cwt.

The work of rehanging and tuning has been carried out to the entire satisfaction of all concerned by Mr. W. Greenleaf, of Hereford.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

The quarterly meeting of the above was held at Leyland Parish Church on Saturday, February 10th. The following towers were represented: Blackrod, Chorley, Leyland and Preston. During the afternoon touches of Grandsire Triples were rung. At 5.30 the members adjourned to The Roebuck hotel, where they partook of a substantial repast, after which the business meeting was held. The minutes of last meeting being read and confirmed, and other business gone through, it was unanimously agreed that the annual meeting be held at Standish on Whit-Saturday. Votes of thanks to the Vicar and Wardens for the use of the bells, and to the local company for their kindness in providing for the members, brought the meeting to a close.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCHE (Leicestershire).—At each Service on Sunday, February 25th, the bells of the church of St. Helen were rung half-muffled as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Edward Ison, Esq., who was laid to rest on Monday, 19th February. At the evening service a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung in 51 minutes. Herbert Hatton, junr. 1; E. W. Beadmoore, 2; George Hatton, jun. 3; A. Hitchcock, 4; Joseph Curtis, 5; George Hatton, sen., 6; J. H. Dunmore (conductor), 7; George Thornley, 8. The late Mr. Ison was one of the churchwardens, and by his death, at the age of 61, the town has lost a good friend. Amongst other gifts, he and his wife gave to the town in the year 1897, a sum of £1000 for the purpose of erecting a Cottage Hospital to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee. Deceased was an honorary member of the Midland Counties Association, and a good supporter of the local ringers' society.

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 LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

The monthly ringing meeting was held at St. Michael's, Headingley, on Saturday, February 24th, when ringers were present from: Bradford, Bramley, Headingley (St. Chad's), Pudsey, Tong, Rothwell and the local company. The business meeting was held at The Skyrack hotel, the president, Mr. J. W. T. Holgate, in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, proposed by Mr. W. Abbishaw and seconded by Mr. T. Latimer. The nomination of officers was then proceeded with, all the old officers being again nominated, and no other names being forthcoming, will be re-elected at the annual meeting, which will be held at Leeds on Saturday, March 31st. Mr. T. Maude and Mr. T. Latimer were elected as auditors.

An adjournment was then made to the tower, but the bells were only just nicely set going when a note came from the Vicar, asking the company to stop ringing at once, as there was some one dangerously ill in the vicinity of the church. Much to their regret they returned back to the meeting-house and transacted several small items of business. Mr. W. Abbishaw moved, and Mr. T. Maude seconded, that the best thanks of the meeting be given to the Vicar and Wardens for the use of the bells, and the local company for their kind arrangements, which was carried unanimously; thus bringing another pleasant meeting to a close.

EAST RETFORD RINGERS' ANNUAL SUPPER.

The sixth annual supper of the above Society was held at Howard's Temperance Hotel, on Saturday, February 24th, when sixteen sat down to a bountiful repast, generously given by T. H. Denman, Esq., an honorary member of the Society, who occupied the chair, Mr. J. B. Joynes (captain), taking the vice-chair. After full justice had been done to the good things provided, the chairman gave the toast of "The Queen," which was heartily responded to. Two members of the Society, Messrs. F. Bramley and R. Miles, being about to leave the town, the chairman, on behalf of the ringers, in a very neat and feeling speech, presented each of them with a pair of briar pipes in case, expressing to them both the deep regret of their fellow ringers at their departure. The two recipients briefly replied. The toast of the captain was given by Mr. H. Haigh, being received with musical honors, and responded to by Mr. J. B. Joynes; and that of the vice-captain by Mr. F. W. Abbott, responded to by Mr. H. Warburton. The toast of the donor of the feast was given by Mr. J. B. Joynes, and received with musical honors. Mr. Denman briefly responded. A enjoyable evening was spent by all, the proceedings being enlivened by songs, recitations, selections on the gramophone (which were much admired by all the ringers) and tunes on the hand-bells. The company broke up about 11.30, all agreeing that they had spent one of the most enjoyable evenings of their lives. Earlier in the day seven of the members journeyed to Worksop, where with the assistance of the Rev. F. H. de Lisle, curate of Whitwell, they intended starting for a peal of Grandsire Triples but owing to a funeral taking place in the middle of the afternoon, could not have the bells for so long a time, and had to be satisfied with ringing a quarter-peal each of Kent Treble Bob Major and Grandsire Triples.

G.R.W.

BELLRINGERS' DINNER AT HEREFORD.

The annual dinner in connection with the Cathedral Society of Church Bellringers, was held at The Victoria hotel, Eign Street, Hereford, on Wednesday evening, January 31st. Mr. W. Greenleaf presided, and there were also present Messrs. J. E. Groves, J. Tristram, jun., T. Stanley, R. Powell, W. Davies, C. Watts, T. Hobby, J. Matthews, R. Treherne, and A. J. Williams.

After the usual loyal toasts had been duly honoured,

Mr. Hobby proposed "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese." He said it did not require many words from him when alluding to the inestimable qualities of the Bishop and the Dean, the Canons, and the various clergy throughout the diocese. They were blessed in the city of Hereford with very good clergymen, and all good objects had their practical sympathy and support. He only wished that their Bishop and clergy and people connected with the Cathedral would take a little more interest in the bellringers. This had been somewhat lacking in the past, and it was needless for him to say that if a little more interest was displayed, it would not only be of great advantage to the ringers, but it would also be a great encouragement to them to do even more in the future than they had done in the past. Ringing was an ancient Art, and was deserving of all support. They had got a hard-working Dean, and he was sure that he, along with the other ministers, had only to know that they required assistance and it would soon be forthcoming. They expected the bellringers to go to church regularly every Sunday for the bells were supposed to call the people to church. It was a big tie, and yet they were never taken into consideration. If people saw what the bellringers did throughout the twelve months they would soon be of opinion that they were entitled to every consideration.

Mr. Davies next submitted the toast of "The Hereford Diocesan Guild," which was responded to by Mr. Groves.

The Chairman said that ringing was an Art not beneath the study of anyone, and there were plenty of young men of good intellect and education in that city who would have to study a lot before they came accomplished in change-ringing. It was no mean undertaking, but those who participated in it derived a great amount of pleasure.

Other toasts followed, and a most convivial evening was spent, songs, recitations, handbell selections, etc., being given.

MERROW, SURREY.

On Wednesday, February 21st, on the occasion of the wedding of a local ringer, Mr. Frank Gould, to Miss C. E. Swayne, some members of the Holy Trinity band, Guildford, paid a visit, and with some of the local band rang six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 23 minutes. G. Nicholls, 1; R. Wood, 2; W. H. Tunnell, 3; H. Hutton, 4; A. Pullen (conductor), 5; A. J. Boniface, 6; and another in 25 minutes by M. Swayne, 1; A. J. Boniface, 2; R. Wood, 3; G. Foster, 4; A. Pullen (conductor), 5; A. Chuter, 6. The local ringers afterwards went to the residence of Mr. Gould, sen., who is also a local ringer, and partook of a hearty supper kindly provided for them, and spent the remainder of the evening in harmony, all wishing the bride and bridegroom many years of health and happiness.

FATAL ACCIDENT TO THE RECTOR OF BROUGHTON.

The village of Broughton was on Friday thrown into a state of great excitement by the report that the popular Rector (the Rev. W. Macmanus), had succumbed to injuries sustained by the kick of a horse. Unfortunately the report turned out to be only too well founded. The rev. gentleman went into his stables on Wednesday morning, and was suddenly kicked in the stomach by a young horse he had just received from a brother in Ireland. No one else was near at the time, and it was not known that Mr. Macmanus had sustained what proved to be a fatal accident until he entered the house in great pain and walked up to his bedroom. Medical assistance was immediately telegraphed for, and in a short time Dr. L. W. Dryland arrived. There were no external injuries, although fears were entertained that the rev. gentleman had been severely injured internally. But on Wednesday evening the rev. gentleman appeared to be fairly comfortable, and expressed the opinion that he thought he should be all right again in a few days. But subsequently internal hemorrhage supervened, and though Drs. J. W. and L. W. Dryland were in constant attendance, and everything was done that possibly could be, death occurred about three o'clock on Friday morning.

The news of the Rector's demise came as a great shock to the inhabitants. A large number had not even heard of the accident, and those who had understood that nothing serious was apprehended. Consequently, on the sad information being conveyed that the Rector had succumbed to his injuries, the surprise felt was only equalled by the extreme regret expressed on every hand. The rev. gentleman, it can truly be said, was beloved by all the parishioners, without any distinction of sect or party. During the five years he had been at Broughton, Mr. Macmanus had endeared himself to all, and had gained not only the esteem but the affection of both Church-people and Nonconformists. He was a man of remarkably broad sympathies, and it would have been impossible for anyone to have had the true interests of the village more at heart. He possessed an exceedingly kind disposition, and the poor and needy of the village recognise—as they best can—what a loss they have sustained. Not only in Broughton, but in the surrounding villages and in Kettering, was the Rev. W. Macmanus well-known, and much genuine grief was felt on the sad report being circulated. He was frequently in Kettering, and took an active interest in the Kettering and District General Hospital, being a Member of the Management Committee.

The late Rector of Broughton joined the Central Northamptonshire Association of Church Bell Ringers last year as an hon. member, and induced his ringers to become ringing members. He will be much missed both in his own village and throughout the district.

MR. JAMES GEORGE.—Friends of this gentleman will be sorry to hear that he is at present an inmate of the St. John's Hospital, Droitwich, where he is taking a course of saline baths for the cure of rheumatism. He will be glad to receive letters from any of his ringing friends, all of whom will wish him a speedy recovery.

DISLEY (Cheshire).—On Saturday, February 10th, a date touch of 1900 changes, in four methods—100 Plain Bob, 360 College Single, 720 Oxford and 720 Kent, in 1 hr. 4 mins. S. Rutter, 1; A. Barnes, 2; W. Wild, 3; Rev. A. T. Beeston, 4; S. Fernley, 5; G. D. Warburton, 6. Composed and conducted by S. Fernley.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

About a month ago I dealt on this very page with two subjects. I am going to refer to them again. One you will recollect was the peal at St. Mary Redcliffe. This only requires a passing allusion. I think the conduct of the correspondent "W. R." who impugns the performance, is highly reprehensible in endeavouring to conceal his identity. I am not the only one on the staff of this paper who is of this opinion. It is hoped that the time is not far distant when anonymous letters will be dis-established, or disendowed, or abolished from these pages.

The other subject, as you will also remember, was a certain performance (it was formerly called "a peal") of Treble Ten at Dublin. The following quotation among my notes in the number for January 20th last, appeared: "The first peal of Treble Ten in Ireland has yet to be rung." In the following number came the awful disclosure. This consisted of a letter to Mr. Lindoff from Mr. William Wakley, under date October 23rd, 1899, which practically gave away the whole affair. So far as Mr. Wakley's communication went it was *o.k.* But did it go far enough? Or perhaps I should ask was not the acknowledgment of the nature and worthlessness of the performance rather tardily done?

This Treble Ten was rung two or three years ago I think, and was duly recorded, and announced in several publications as "the first peal of Treble Bob Royal ever rung in Ireland." Mr. Wakley says in his letter of 23rd October last that he "never made any secret of the fact that at the finish the bells were called into the plain course by two bobs at the middle." But it may be asked why did he not publicly announce this at the time? Why did not the composer and conductor "let the cat out of the bag" before the company had descended the belfry steps? The conductor must have been aware of these two bobs, and their effect upon the peal. Yet the record was allowed to go forth—to be trumpeted abroad, in fact, as a genuine peal! To whom was it left to throw daylight upon the imposture? Why a total outsider—your humble servant who pens these lines.

Irishmen have made no stir about this. If the members of the Exercise in Ireland had been numerous we should not have been surprised to have heard Mr. Redmond calling the attention of the Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland to the fact that there was another Hibernian grievance. Ah! it's a bad affair. We'll close the book, and think no more of it.

Yet just one word. Let no one be so unwise as to attempt to use the fact of this Dublin performance as a foundation or stepping-stone for attacks upon the Kidlington peal. That I hope will not be allowed. The error perpetrated at Dublin forms no ground of argument or further accusation of the sort. The letter published a fortnight ago can be diverted into an easy means for raising another controversy upon a matter which is or should be entirely done with, so far as letters in a public print is concerned.

Our paper has of late been full of accounts of ringers' festivities, suppers and the like. Thinking, it may be supposed, of the old saying that "variety is charming,"

the caterers of some of these affairs have perpetrated a novelty in the production of the printed bill of fare. We read in these compilations of such things as "rounds of fish," "cheese and celery in the hunt," "plum pudding at hand-stroke," and so on. Such additional items as "cooked peals," and "roasted bob-caller," may be added by any enterprising individual who yearns to distinguish himself in this way.

One or two of the English counties have often been animadverted upon for the reason that change-ringing was little practised within their borders. If I recollect aright one of these was the county of Rutland. I was pleased therefore to read in the number for February 3rd of the All Saints' Company of Oakham (county town). These ringers recently had their annual supper, the Vicar in the chair, the churchwardens also being present. The proceedings were of the most encouraging description. It was suggested that a ringing Association for the whole county should be formed during this year. If, as the report says, every member of this Society has put his heart into ringing, we may hope to hear that the proposed county Association has before long become an accomplished fact. Let me urge on Mr. Welch, the hon. sec. of the above-named society, to take immediate action in the matter.

There is a little place somewhere down in Gloucestershire by name "Barnwood." The local company here was recently invited by the worthy Vicar to the annual supper which he provides for them at the Vicarage. The account of this affair tells that the usual old English fare was accompanied with plenty of old John Barleycorn and apple-juice. It makes one's mouth water to read of "apple-juice!" Ah! the writer means that enchanting cordial known as "cider," a most luscious beverage, putting every other drink completely into the shade. There is a humorous song in its praise, of which the following is the refrain:—

A little more cider, too,
And a little more cider, too;
A little more cider, for Miss Dinah—
A little more cider too.

With such accompaniment as this, champagne, whiskey (foreign or domestic), and every other kind of laryngeal lubrication (I'm afraid I am getting tautological) must play second fiddle, as the sayin' is.

But when I commenced to refer to Barnwood I had no idea in being drawn into a reference on the delightfully enchanting and infatuating qualities of such a generous liquor as "cider." Shouldn't mind, though, having a "swig" of the real fruity stuff, and that at the present moment—a foaming jug of which, mark you, will cause your apartment to smell like an orchard. Ah! how lovely no one knows but those who have experienced it. But I would caution you that like a good many other genuine articles the real thing is unprocurable in London.

No; my principal object in referring to Barnwood was to direct attention to the Vicar's remarks at the close of the feast. The rev. gentleman told the company that he intended before long to have two more bells to complete the octave. What a good, brave Vicar, to be sure. On hearing of this determination, the ringers must at once have struck up "Rule, Britannia" and "God save the

Queen." After this it is to be hoped they prayed, in the secrecy of their chambers, that long life and happiness may be vouchsafed to their Vicar.

While speaking of new bells it strikes me that the words "to complete the octave" are becoming more frequent than ever. A six-bell ringer never lived yet who did not yearn for a "completion" of this sort. What delight is experienced therefore at such determinations as that of the Vicar of Barnwood every six-bell ringer knows. An admirable affair of this description has just been done at a place in the same county of Gloucester, called "Berkeley." The word has an historical flavour. The belfry reformation here was done, we read, under the advice, and administration, I suppose, of Mr. Phillott, one of the very few ecclesiastical architects who is an accomplished change-ringer—perhaps the only one. The old six bells have been rehung with everything new, and the octave has been "completed." One notable fact of this is that the work has been done to the satisfaction of all concerned by the proprietor of the new bell foundry, Mr. Thomas Blackburn, of Salisbury.

There was also an interesting account the other week of an augmentation at a place called Woodford, in Wiltshire. Here it appears there had hitherto been three bells only. But these have vanished; they were old, cracked, and devoid of tune and tone. A new ring of six has replaced them, in fresh modern fittings of up-to-date character. This work has also been carried out at the Salisbury new bell-foundry. It would seem there is some real good in having a bell-foundry in Wiltshire. Such an establishment draws local attention, and in some cases the very fact of a bell foundry being in a neighbourhood leads those in authority to think about their bells, and enquire into their condition. When interest is thus created, the work soon commences. There is a deal of recasting, rehanging and the like, wanted in the southern counties.

It is proposed to publish a list of clerical ringers. Well, be it so. There is more hanging to this than some of my readers imagine. Upon making enquiry at the office I hear that the immense number of *four* of the clergy have intimated their approval of the idea and have sent their names and addresses. I repeat—the magnificent number of *four*. Very good. I expect this list won't be compiled. It is not the apathy of the lay ringer this time. O dear no. These four gentlemen who have responded to the invitation given, commend the scheme much. Well, we know everything must be dinned into ringers' ears about a dozen times before they comprehend it. It always will be so. I never thought till now though that this would apply to clerical gentlemen.

There is an eating-house in the east-end of London where one of the viands set out in the windows for the delectation of customers is called "Kruger" (the "g" is pronounced soft). Demands upon the purveyor behind the counter are often heard by passers by. This week another appetising condiment has been named "Cronje," and if the enterprise of the proprietary is carefully watched, very likely other kinds of food will be honored with South African-cum-Dutch appellations.

PLAIN SPEAKER.

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Correspondence.

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

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

THE BRISTOL PEAL.

SIR,—I wish to refer to a few remarks in W.R.'s last letter. He describes what I said about part-ends as rot, but as he in his previous letter placed importance on ticking off the part-ends of a peal of Cinques as they came up, the rot originated in his own brain. W. R. says record peals should be beyond suspicion. There was never a peal rung that was beyond suspicion if persons like W. R. choosed to be suspicious. I presume a peal would be beyond suspicion if W. R. was in it. He maintains peals should be amply substantiated as to time. We had the church clock to go by, a ringer sat in the tower with a watch in his hand, the ringers of the peal had their watches, and ringers outside had watches timing us. Is not that sufficient? W. R. said in his first letter there could be no mistake in the time. I would remind W. R. that we are waiting for him to prove that he speaks for the Ipswich company, and for him to prove our peal was a physical impossibility. If he fails to prove these assertions, he stands convicted as a calumniator who is deficient in intellect and experience.

G. T. DALTRY.

SIR,—Your correspondent appears to me to be very opinionative *re* his challenge of the Bristol peal of Stedman Cinques. He fights shy of his original remarks, and goes for those who dare doubt his authority upon the matter, without bringing anything else forward to back up his remarks. Is he the tool of some older ringers who do not like to see others doing a bit, wishing to retain all the credit to themselves? If so, that is rather Rough (t) on W. R. If he has read "THE BELL NEWS" long enough, he must have seen a peal of Caters rung at Worcester Cathedral upon a (undisputably) 50 cwt. peal in 3 hrs. 12 mins. He must be very much biased to doubt a peal when he was probably over 100 miles away from the place at the time; also to doubt a lot of ringers that were outside, three of them competent conductors, one of them having the composition in his possession, and all agree the bells were running twenty-four changes per minute. I may state for W. R.'s information that the bells of St. Mary Redcliff will run much easier at that pace than they would slower. I rang the 11th in Stedman Caters in 3 hrs. 33 mins., on May 18th, 1891, conducted by F. G. Newman. Mr. R. French also took part in the same (that was after 3½ hrs. unsuccessful attempt, same afternoon). They can easily testify to the way the bells run. I would not take any notice of a letter written by a correspondent who seems to be ashamed to publish his name, but for the fact that he calls a good peal to pieces, without anything to support his statement, and some ringers would probably think he was right if the matter was let go at that.

W. J. HINTON.

Obituary.

HENRY STRINGER.

(Died at Ecclesfield, February 23rd, 1900, aged 74.)

EDMUND HEMINGFIELD.

(Died at Ecclesfield, October 27th, 1899, aged 75.)

The above were both members of the Ecclesfield society for the long period of fifty-seven years. They both commenced to ring at one time in the year 1842. Mr. Hemingfield was bedridden for nearly a year before he died, but Mr. Stringer attended regularly up to a fortnight before his death. They were the last survivors of a company whose names are on a tablet in the belfry recording a 5024 of Kent Treble Bob Major, rung on April 21st, 1850. Muffled peals were rung after each funeral, and ringers attended from Sheffield, Rotherham, Dronfield, and Bradfield. By their deaths the Ecclesfield company lose two good ringers, which it will be difficult to replace.

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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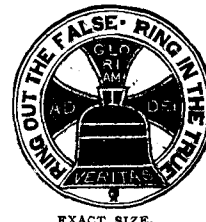
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Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication arriving later than the first Postal delivery on Wednesday 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 3, 1900.

"ENGLAND yet." We step aside this week from the consideration of questions peculiarly our own to take part in the public admiration for British generals who have successfully maintained the honour of our country in South Africa. Not only the officers, but every soldier of every grade. "England yet." All these men have proved themselves good and true representatives of that British valour and heroism which has made the word "Englishman" a symbol for bravery and prowess. Had our soldiers failed in doing what was required, it may safely be asserted that the soldiers of no other country could have done it. A ribald portion of the foreign press may continue to show its hatred of this country to what extent they like. We can say to them all—"England yet" is able to take care of herself, and successfully repel by force any attempts against her dominion. Englishmen are able to castigate those who with unbridled and venomous tongues assail her. "England yet!" Who lifts the dust now—Messrs. Cassagnac, Rochefort and Co? Not the representatives of "the flag that's braved a thousand years the battle and the breeze."

The Metropolis.**THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**

On Thursday, February 22, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, LEYTONSTONE,
A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of London, York, Durham, Chichester, Worcester,
Coventry, and Cambridge. Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLIAM DORAN Treble.	JOHN MARDELL 4.
WILLIAM KEEBLE 2.	JOHN MOULE 5.
WILLIAM MILLER 3.	T. H. BEAMS Tenor.

Conducted by T. H. BEAMS.

First peal of Surprise Minor by the band, and on the bells, and was rung at the first attempt. It is also supposed to be the first peal of Surprise Minor rung within the metropolitan area.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, February 23, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, HAMPSTEAD,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5006 CHANGES,
Tenor 27 cwt. in D.

JOHN H. CHEESMAN .. Treble.	*WILLIAM WARD 6.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE .. 2.	CHARLES H. MARTIN .. 7.
BERTRAM PREWETT 3.	*JAMES PARKER 8.
WILLIAM PYE 4.	ERNEST PYE 9.
JOHN R. SHARMAN 5.	ARTHUR T. KING, ESQ. .. Tenor.

Composed by the late GEORGE NEWSON, and
Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

*First peal on ten bells. Rung on the occasion of the birthday of the Rector, the Rev. J. Kirkman.

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

On Saturday, February 24, 1900, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET, WESTMINSTER,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5000 CHANGES,
Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

FREDERICK G. PERRIN .. Treble.	HARRY BARTON 6.
HERBERT LANGDON 2.	CHARLES R. LILLEY .. 7.
ARTHUR HARDY 3.	REUBEN CHARGE 8.
WILLIAM H. WEBBER .. 4.	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 9.
WILLIAM R. CROCKFORD .. 5.	WILLIAM CHARGE Tenor.

Composed by the late GEORGE NEWSON, and
Conducted by HARRY BARTON.

Reference to this peal will be found on another page.

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

On Saturday, February 24, 1900, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, WESTMINSTER,
A PEAL OF ST. STEPHEN'S SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES. Tenor 24 cwt.

JOHN N. OXBORROW .. Treble.	HENRY S. ELLIS 5.
ARTHUR G. ELLIS 2.	WILLIAM H. PASMORE .. 6.
CHARLES T. P. BRICE .. 3.	JOHN W. GOLDING 7.
HARRY R. PASMORE 4.	HENRY R. NEWTON Tenor.

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH, and
Conducted by HENRY R. NEWTON.

This, the first peal ever rung in the method, was to commemorate the 59th birthday of John M. Hayes. This was H. S. Ellis's 100th peal.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 24, 1900, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALLHALLOWS BARKING, CITY,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 19½ cwt.

ISAAC G. SHADE Treble.	WILLIAM PYE 5.
JOHN R. SHARMAN 2.	HARRY FLANDERS 6.
BERTRAM PREWETT 3.	ERNEST PYE 7.
WILLIAM PICKWORTH† .. 4.	ARTHUR T. KING Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

†First peal of Stedman Triples.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 26, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, MORTLAKE,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

ALLEN H. TABER Treble.	CHARLES EDWARDS 5.
WILLIAM FOSTER 2.	JOHN BASDEN 6.
JOHN HOWES* 3.	*HENRY BROWNING 7.
FREDERICK GODDARD .. 4.	THOMAS BEADLE Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN BASDEN.

*First peal of Stedman. Rung as a birthday compliment to A. H. Taber, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, February 27, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANNE, HIGHGATE,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

W. YOUNG* Treble.	T. TITCHENER 5.
J. HANNINGTON 2.	*W. BURROWS 6.
B. FOSKETT 3.	H. STUBBS 7.
R. BEVAN 4.	C. MARTIN Tenor.

Composed by the late J. Cox, and Conducted by J. HANNINGTON.

This peal was rung to celebrate the great victory won by Lord Roberts, who compelled Cronje to capitulate with four thousand men on Majuba Day.

*First peal in the method.

The Provinces.**LEICESTER.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**

On Monday, February 19, 1900, in Three Hours and One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER, BELGRAVE,
A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.
Tenor 14½ cwt.

ALFRED BALLARD* .. Treble.	WILLIAM MILLER 5.
JOSIAH MORRIS 2.	EDWARD E. SMITH 6.
ARTHUR J. BALLARD .. 3.	WILLIAM WILLSON 7.
WILLIAM CORNISH 4.	WILLIAM BENNETT Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WILLSON.

*First peal.

ALDENHAM, HERTS.**THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

(THE BUSHEY SOCIETY.)

On Wednesday, February 21, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 15 cwt.

JOSEPH J. ALLEN* .. Treble.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 5.
BERTRAM PREWETT 2.	*WILLIAM E. OAKLEY .. 6.
FRANK A. SMITH 3.	*ERNEST HOLLOWAY .. 7.
WILLIAM G. WHITEHEAD .. 4.	ERNEST E. HUNTLEY .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM

*First peal of Double Norwich.

BEBINGTON, CHESHIRE.—CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(WIRRAL BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, February 21, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, College and Oxford Single, Canterbury, Plain Bob and Grandsire.

W. BRISCOE Treble.	J. CLIFFE 4.
J. WOODS 2.	J. DILLON 5.
J. MEALOR 3.	E. BREEZE Tenor.

Conducted by E. BREEZE.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor

LEATHERHEAD, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 21, 1900, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES.

JOHN HOYLE Treble.	*THOMAS MILES 6.
CHARLES R. LILLEY .. 2.	WILLIAM MARKS 7.
THOMAS NEWNHAM .. 3.	EDWARD HULL 8.
JOHN WYATT 4.	ARTHUR DEAN 9.
CHARLES DEAN 5.	*JOHN H. CROPLEY Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM MARKS.

*First peal of Caters. Rung as a birthday compliment to J. H. Cropley.

SELLING, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 22, 1900, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 11 cwt.

WALTER ANDREWS† .. Treble.	CHARLES F. TURNER .. 5.
GEORGE M. SAYER .. 2.	JOHN STEDDY 6.
PERCY PAINE* .. 3.	REV. F. J. O. HELMORE .. 7.
HENRY G. FAIRBRASS .. 4.	*FREDERICK DAVISON .. Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. J. O. HELMORE.

*First peal. †First peal in the method. This is the first peal on the bells since two trebles were added last October.

BIRMINGHAM.—THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

On Wednesday, February 21, 1900, in Two Hours Fifty-one and ½ Minutes,

AT ST. CHAD'S (R.C.) CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

WILLIAM H. BARBER .. Treble.	THOMAS REYNOLDS .. 5.
ALBERT WALKER .. 2.	HENRY MIDDLETON .. 6.
WILLIAM SHORT .. 3.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER .. 7.
WILLIAM H. GODDEN .. 4.	WILLIAM PAINTER .. Tenor.

Composed by the REV. H. EARLE BULWER, and

Conducted by WILLIAM H. BARBER.

This composition, an irregular peal, with the two singles in the first course, is now rung for the first time, and appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" of September 28th, 1889, No. 7.

WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.—LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Thursday, February 22, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF DUFFIELD MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

ALFRED POTTER Treble.	JOHN POTTER 5.
SAMUEL OAKES 2.	TITUS BARLOW 6.
THOMAS PEERS 3.	HENRY MOSS 7.
JOHN DENNER 4.	JOSEPH POTTER Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by JOSEPH POTTER.

First peal in the method by all, first in the county, and by the Association.

BISHOPS STORTFORD, HERTS.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 22, 1900, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt.

THOMAS NEWMAN Treble.	WILLIAM T. PRIOR .. 5.
HENRY J. TUCKER .. 2.	WALTER PRIOR .. 6.
THOMAS J. WATTS* .. 3.	*WALTER TARLING .. 7.
WILLIAM WATTS* .. 4.	*THOMAS JORDAN .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by HENRY JAMES TUCKER.

*First peal in the method

WOTTEN BASSETT, WILTSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 24, 1900, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES.

Tenor 18 cwt.

LOUIS A. WILSON .. Treble.	CHARLES J. GARDINER .. 5.
ALFRED LAWRENCE .. 2.	THOMAS RICKETTS .. 6.
THOMAS ROBINSON .. 3.	JAMES H. SHEPHERD .. 7.
OWEN W. LAYNG .. 4.	ERNEST BISHOP .. Tenor.

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE, and Conducted by THOMAS RICKETTS.

First peal of Major on the bells.

PULBOROUGH, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 24, 1900, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CLEAL'S ONE-PART.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

GEORGE F. WELLER .. Treble.	GEORGE H. LEE .. 5.
HAROLD D. SEARLE .. 2.	ERNEST H. HOLDEN .. 6.
STEPHEN STONE* .. 3.	HUGH W. HERRINGTON .. 7.
PERCY H. DOICK .. 4.	JOHN NETLEY .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE H. LEE.

*First peal.

TENTERDEN, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 26, 1900, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MILDRED,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 30 cwt. in D flat.

EDGAR BURDEN .. Treble.	CHARLES TRIBE .. 5.
ROBERT EDWARDS .. 2.	BENJAMIN BASSETT .. 6.
FREDERICK G. BURDEN .. 3.	GEORGE NEVE .. 7.
ALFRED HINDS .. 4.	GEORGE JOHNSON .. Tenor.

Conducted by ROBERT EDWARDS.

HEENE, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 26, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

HARRY EVANS* .. Treble.	REUBEN STANDING .. 5.
JOHN PAICE .. 2.	GEORGE NORRIS .. 6.
CHARLES HILLS* .. 3.	†EDMUND LINDUP .. 7.
ALFRED W. GROVES .. 4.	FREDERICK LINDUP .. Tenor.

Conducted by E. LINDUP.

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

BIRMINGHAM.—THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

On Monday, February 26, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT ST. CHAD'S (R.C.) CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE.

Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

CHARLES MACKENZIE* .. Treble.	WILLIAM SHORT .. 5.
THOMAS MILLER .. 2.	JOSEPH PORTER .. 6.
WILLIAM ELLIS .. 3.	ALBERT HACKLEY .. 7.
THOMAS J. ELTON .. 4.	JOSEPH JOHNSON .. Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS MILLER.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Miss Brown, the oldest member of the congregation. *First peal away from the tenor.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD PEAL-BOOK.—A RECORD of Five Hundred and Twenty Peals rung by this Guild. Paper covers, 6d.; cloth do., 9d.—Blackwell, Reading; or the Hon. Sec. of the Guild—the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, Dunsden Vicarage, Reading Berks.

WITNEY, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tuesday, February 27, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

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

RICHARD WHITE Treble.	WILLIAM NEWELL 5.
VINCENT R. HITCHMAN* .. 2.	REV. C. W. O. JENKYN .. 6.
FREDERICK WHITE 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
WILLIAM BENNETT 4.	JOHN MONK Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

*First peal of Stedman. This is the Rev. F. E. Robinson's 150th peal of Stedman Triples as conductor.

BIRMINGHAM.—THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

On Tuesday, February 27, 1900, in Three Hours and Thirty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES.
Tenor 36 cwt in C.**

WILLIAM SHORT Treble.	SAMUEL REEVES 7.
ALBERT WALKER 2.	*THOMAS J. ELTON 8.
CHARLES DICK BNS 3.	WILLIAM H. BARBER 9.
THOMAS MILLER 4.	*HENRY MIDDLETON 10.
THOMAS REYNOLDS 5.	JOHN BARBER 11.
PHILIP W. DAVIES* .. 6.	*ARTHUR E. PEGLER Tenor.

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY, and Conducted by WILLIAM SHORT.

*First peal of Stedman Cinques.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE ELY AND NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATIONS,

(SUDBURY BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, February 27, 1900, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

**A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR;
5024 CHANGES. Tenor 24 cwt.**

JAMES MOTTS Treble.	*ARTHUR SYMONDS 5.
WILLIAM MOTTS 2.	ERNEST BECKWITH 6.
WILLIAM J. NEVARD 3.	*WILLIAM HOWELL 7.
CHARLES SILLITOE 4.	DAVID ELLIOTT Tenor.

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

†First peal in the method with a bob bell. *First peal in the method. The calling will be found in Snowden's Double Norwich, page 32, second peal. First peal in the method by the Ely Association.

Handbell Peals.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, February 25, 1900, in Two Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE HOUSE OF MR. W. WATSON, ST. ANDREW'S ROAD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SIR A. P. HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'.

WILLIAM PYE 1-2.	ERNEST PYE 5-6.
GEORGE R. PYE 3-4.	*HENRY F. DAWKINS .. 7-8.

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

Umpires—W. Watson and L. W. Copsey. *First peal on handbells.

Date Touches.

MIRFIELD (Yorks).—On Sunday, February 18th, at St. Mary's church, a date of Kent Treble Bob Major in 1 hr. 30 mins. G. Thornton, 1; H. Robinson, 2; T. Crawshaw, 3; H. Peacock, 4; R. Ellis, 5; C. Peacock, 6; F. Robinson (composer and conductor), 7; B. Robinson, 8. Tenor 30 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

HEAVITREE (Exeter).—On February 1st, for practice, 504 Grand-sire Triples. T. W. Shepherd, 1; T. Laver, 2; J. Ford, 3; F. Shepherd, 4; F. Davey, 5; J. Landover, 6; W. Mogridge, 7; F. Murphy, 8. On a recent Sunday, for Divine Service, another 504. W. Shepherd, 1; F. Davey, 2; F. Shepherd, 3; W. Burrough, 4; W. Miflin, 5; J.

Sandover, 6; W. Mogridge, 7; F. Murphy, 8. This is the first 504 by all except Messrs. Davey and F. Shepherd. On Sunday, February 18th, for Divine Service, 1008 Grandsire Triples. W. Shepherd, 1; T. Laver, 2; J. Ford, 3; F. Shepherd, 4; F. Davey, 5; J. Sandover, (conductor), 6; W. Mogridge, 7; W. Nethercott, 8. Tenor 26 cwt. This is the longest length by all except the ringers of 4th and 5th.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday, February 4th, for morning service, on the front six at St. Philip's church, 720 Bob Minor. C. Sparkes, 1; J. Neal, 2; J. T. Perry, 3; J. Carter, 4; T. Squieres, 5; W. E. White (first 720 as conductor), 6.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, January 21st, for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples. A. Spencer, 1; W. R. Hexter (conductor), 2; J. Harrison, 3; J. Bailey, 4; C. P. Smith, 5; F. C. Wicks, 6; J. E. Hexter, 7; B. Lawrence, 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 47 mins. A. Spencer, 1; C. P. Smith, 2; J. Harrison, 3; W. R. Hexter, 4; J. E. Hexter, 5; W. Hexter, 6; J. Bailey (conductor), 7; B. Lawrence, 8. The above touches were rung with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the memory of Miss Nona Dolphin, aged 21 years, daughter of the late Canon Dolphin, Vicar of Long Eaton, who was interred at Leamington on the previous Saturday. On Sunday, February 4th, for morning service, 420 Stedman Triples. A. Spencer, 1; C. P. Smith, 2; J. Harrison, 3; W. Hexter, 4; J. E. Hexter, 5; W. R. Hexter, 6; J. Bailey (conductor), 7; E. Wicks, 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 47 mins. A. Spencer, 1; C. P. Smith, 2; J. Harrison, 3; J. Bailey, 4; W. Hexter, 5; W. R. Hexter, 6; J. E. Hexter (conductor), 7; B. Lawrence, 8. The above touches were rung with the bells half-muffled, on the first anniversary of the death of the late Canon Dolphin, Vicar of Long Eaton.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SPOUGHTON (Suffolk).—On Sunday, January 7th, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor. A. Woollard, 1; E. Rivers, 2; C. Mee, 3; H. J. Mee, 4; F. Rolfe, 5; A. Rivers (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 4th, for evening service, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor. A. Woollard, 1; A. Rivers, 2; E. Rivers, 3; H. J. Mee, 4; F. Rolfe, 5; C. Mee (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 11th, 720 Superlative Surprise Minor. F. Mee, 1; G. Mee, 2; H. J. Mee, 3; E. Rivers, 4; F. Rolfe, 5; C. Mee (conductor), 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, February 4th, for evening service, 504 and 252 Stedman Triples. H. Flanders, 1; W. Watson, 2; G. R. Pye (conductor), 3; W. Pye, 4; H. F. Dawkins, 5; L. W. Copsey, 6; E. Pye, 7; J. Sorrell, 8. After evening service, a quarter-peal in the same method, in 44 mins. A. Perkins, 8; the rest as before. On Wednesday, February 7th, on handbells, a quarter-peal in the same method, taken from Thurstans' one-part, in 35 mins. W. Pye (conductor), 1-2; G. R. Pye, 3-4; E. Pye, 5-6; H. F. Dawkins, 7-8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EAST BERKS. AND SOUTH BUCKS. BRANCH.)

KIMBLE (Bucks).—On Wednesday, January 31st, for practice, a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. F. Darvill, G. Darvill, A. Darvill, E. Dorey, F. Eldridge. On handbells another 6-score. O. Darvill, W. W. Durling, and A. Darvill. The above was accomplished in three lessons under Mr. J. W. Wilkins, their instructor, who hails from Maidenhead, Berks.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GAYTHORPE (Lincolnshire).—On December 26th, an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples came to grief through the 3rd bell casting rope, after ringing 2000 changes. J. Hoyer, 1; E. Holden, 2; J. T. Holmes, 3; T. B. Woods, 4; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 5; H. P. Nash, 6; W. Dickinson, 7; W. Holden, 8.

HOUGH-ON-THE-HILL (Lincolnshire).—On December 26th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. T. Holmes, 1; E. Holden, 2; T. B. Woods, 3; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 4; H. P. Nash, 5; W. Dickinson, 6.

SUTTERTON (Lincolnshire).—On December 27th, an attempt for a peal of Bob Major came to grief twelve courses from home, owing to the treble clapper coming out. F. Hilton, 1; J. T. Holmes, 2; W. Dickinson, 3; T. B. Woods, 4; Rev. H. Law James, 5; A. O. Barber, 6; H. P. Nash, 7; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 8. Longest length of Major on the bells.

BENNINGTON (Lincolnshire).—On December 29th, at the parish church, 720 Plain Bob Minor. J. Sharpe, 1; E. Clayton, 2; J. Sharp, 3; H. Staffurth, 4; C. R. Lilley, 5; A. O. Barber (conductor), 6.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

STREATHAM (Surrey).—On January 22nd, 720 Grandsire Minor with 6-8 covering. W. Shepherd, 1; W. Barrington, 2; J. Waldock, 3; C. R. Lilley, 4; H. Daniels, 5; F. Wellington, 6; R. Blanchard (conductor), 7; S. Daniels, 8. On January 30th, at St. Leonard's church, 720 Oxford Bob Minor. F. Thorogood, 1; W. Barrington, 2; H. Pates, 3; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 4; Dr. J. F. Steadman, 5; R. B. Blanchard, 6.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TAUNTON (Somerset).—Recently, 504 Stedman Triples. J. Maddock, 1; G. H. Yendall, 2; H. J. Poole, 3; F. Millard, 4; W. Gillard, 5; A. Doble, 6; A. Evans (conductor), 7; E. E. Burgess, 8. Also 840 Grandsire Triples. H. Hayward, 1; J. Maddock, 2; A. Doble, 3; F. Millard, 4; A. Evans, 5; H. J. Poole (conductor), 6; S. Wyatt, 7; W. Cording, 8. On January 14th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 45 mins. H. J. Poole, 1; T. Doble, 2; H. Pearce, 3; A. Doble, 4; W. H. Gillard, 5; E. E. Burgess, 6; A. Evans (conductor), 7; W. Pearce, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

UPCHURCH (Kent).—On Thursday, January 18th, 720 College Single. E. Hollands, 1; W. T. Hyland (conductor), 2; E. J. Hyland, 3; H. Shipp, 4; G. Dennis, 5; W. J. Walker, 6. On Sunday, January 21st, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. T. Wraight, 1; E. J. Hyland, 2; G. Dennis, 3; W. T. Hyland, 4; W. J. Walker, 5; H. Shipp (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 28th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. E. J. Hyland, 1; A. J. Day, 2; W. T. Hyland (conductor), 3; H. Shipp, 4; G. Dennis, 5; W. J. Walker, 6. On Saturday, February 3rd, 720 Superlative Surprise Minor. E. J. Hyland, 1; J. G. Grensted, 2; W. T. Hyland, 3; A. J. Day, 4; W. J. Walker, 5; W. H. B. Wilkins (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. W. T. Hyland, 1; A. J. Day, 2; J. G. Grensted, 3; W. J. Walker, 4; T. Jull (first 720 in the method), 5; W. H. B. Wilkins (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, February 6th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Kitchingham, 1; E. J. Hyland, 2; W. T. Hyland, 3; W. J. Walker, 4; G. Dennis, 5; H. Lampkin (conductor), 6. On Thursday, February 8th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Kitchingham, 1; E. J. Hyland, 2; W. T. Hyland, 3; W. Miles, 4; G. Dennis, 5; W. J. Walker (conductor), 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BACUP (Lancashire).—On January 1st, 720 Cambridge Surprise. J. S. Lomas, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. H. Smith, 3; E. J. Cockcroft, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, January 7th, for Divine Service, 720 Killamarsh. L. Holt, 1; J. S. Lomas, 2; D. Briggs, 3; E. J. Cockcroft, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. For afternoon service 720 City Delight, standing as before. On Friday, January 12th, 720 Merchants' Delight. D. Briggs, 1; H. L. Cockcroft, 2; J. H. Barnes, 3; E. J. Cockcroft, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. S. Lomas (conductor), 6. First 720 by H. L. Cockcroft. On Sunday morning, January 14th, 720 College Exercise. L. Holt, 1; J. S. Lomas, 2; J. H. Smith, 3; E. J. Cockcroft, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 College Pleasure, standing as before. On Friday, January 19th, 720 Coventry Surprise. J. S. Lomas, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. H. Smith, 3; E. J. Cockcroft, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, January 21st, 720 London Surprise. L. Holt, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. S. Lomas, 3; E. J. Cockcroft, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Oxford Treble Bob. D. Briggs, 1; H. J. Cockcroft, 2; J. H. Smith, 3; J. S. Lomas (conductor), 4; W. Smith, 5; J. Brierly, 6. On Sunday evening, January 28th, 720 York Surprise. W. Smith, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. H. Smith, 3; J. S. Lomas, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD

GREAT HALE (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, January 30th, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. H. Wood, 1; T. B. Wood, 2; T. Humberstone, 3; C. Ward, 4; J. R. Green, 5; W. Dickinson (conductor), 6.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HORLEY (Surrey).—On Sunday, February 18th, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, which was unfortunately lost after ringing 4844 changes, in 2 hrs. 56 mins. F. Voice, 1; J. Beams (conductor), 2; G. Staplehurst, 3; E. Dewey, 4; W. Edwards, 5; A. Songhurst, 6; S. Kenward, 7; T. Post, 8.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ISLEWORTH (Middlesex).—On Sunday, February 4th, at All Saints' church, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 43 mins. *A. Strutt,

1; J. Basden, 2; J. Howes (conductor), 3; *G. Strutt, 4; H. C. Chandler, 5; T. Beadle, 6; J. Aldridge, 7; *G. Wood, 8. *First quarter-peal in the method.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TETTENHALL (Staffordshire).—On January 24th, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. E. Worboys, 1; B. Dalton, jun., 2; W. Butler, 3; J. Rowe, 4; G. Burrows (conductor), 5; E. Genna, 6. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Sidney Hodges on attaining his twenty-first birthday.

COLCHESTER (Essex).—On Thursday, February 8th, on handbells, 720 Bob Minor. W. Giddings, 1; W. Schofield, 2; J. Kittle, 3-4; G. Rashbrook (conductor), 5-6.

CHELSEA.—On Sunday, February 11th, for evening service at St. Luke's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original. G. T. Chesterman, 1; W. J. Barber, 2; E. Cassell, 3; W. Moss, 4; W. Dean, 5; T. E. Barber, 6; J. O. Baker, 7; J. Thorpe, 8.

EDMONTON (Middlesex).—On Sunday morning, February 11th, for Divine Service at All Saints' church, 336 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. R. Goodchild, 1; P. J. Darlington, 2; H. Lawson, 3; A. W. Darlington, 4; W. Bennett, 5; L. J. Darlington, 6; W. Ward, 7; J. Parker (conductor), 8. Also 252 Stedman Triples. W. G. Darlington, 1; P. J. Darlington, 2; H. Lawson, 3; R. Goodchild, 4; A. W. Darlington, 5; W. Bennett, 6; J. Parker (conductor), 7; W. Anderson, 8.

GREAT YARMOUTH (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, February 6th, for practice, 1008 Bob Major, in 40 mins. H. Wright, 1; J. Godfrey, 2; W. Blyth, 3; R. Christian, 4; W. Secrett, 5; G. Read, 6; D. Hayward (conductor), 7; J. Matthews, 8.

GREAT WOLFORD (Warwickshire).—On Sunday, January 28th, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. C. Gillet, 1; R. Lydiatt, 2; A. White, 3; J. Butler, 4; W. Smith, 5; W. Large (conductor), 6. First 720 on the bells for over 30 years.

MORETON-IN-THE-MARSH (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, January 28th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins. S. F. Hunston, Esq., 1; W. Smith, 2; C. Gillett, 3; R. Lydiatt, 4; A. White, 5; J. Butler, 6; W. Large (conductor), 7; A. Grimes, 8. On February 17th, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 30 mins. C. Gillett, 1; R. Lydiatt, 2; A. White, 3; J. Butler, 4; W. Smith, 5; W. Large (conductor), 6.

PEASENHALL (Suffolk).—On Saturday, February 3rd, at St. Michael's church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. W. Nichols (conductor), 1; W. Bacon, 2; A. Friend, 3; E. Mills, 4; E. Rowe, 5; H. Last, 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. F. Rodwell, 1; W. Bacon, 2; H. Last, 3; E. Mills, 4; E. Rowe, 5; W. Nichols (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, February 4th, 720 Bob Minor. F. Rodwell, 1; W. Bacon, 2; H. Last, 3; E. Mills, 4; E. Rowe, 5; W. Nichols (conductor), 6. On Saturday, February 17th, 16th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 720 Bob Minor, and 720 Kent Treble Bob. H. Last, 1; W. Bacon, 2; A. Friend, 3; E. Mills, 4; E. Rowe, 5; W. Nichols (conductor), 6.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On January 6th, 720 Woodbine. On January 10th, 720 Bob Minor, and 720 Kent. On January 13th, 720 New London. On January 17th, 720 Oxford; and on handbells another 720. On January 20th, 720 Duke of York. On January 23rd, 720 Violet, and 720 Woodbine. Rung to celebrate the birthdays of H. Poulson and A. Symonds. On January 27th, 720 Oxford. On January 31st, 720 Kent. The following took part in the above: E. Newman, C. Levitt, A. Hollocks, H. Poulson, J. Fayers, H. D. Poulson, W. Hollocks, A. Symonds, and G. Levitt.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On February 3rd, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. J. Dines, 1; A. White, 2; W. Wellington, 3; A. Shuttleworth, 4; W. Lilley, 5; G. W. Piper, 6; A. Tarbun (conductor), 7; R. Dines, 8. This is the first quarter-peal by W. Wellington.

WILLESDEN (Middlesex).—On Tuesday, January 30th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Jezzett, 1; F. Side, 2; G. Hollis, 3; A. Tennant, 4; W. Burrows, 5; A. Pittam (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 4th, for Divine Service, 720 Plain Bob. T. Rickwood, 1; A. Hill, 2; A. Tennant, 3; F. Side, 4; H. Kilby, 5; A. Pittam (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 11th, for Divine Service, 720 Plain Bob. T. Rickwood, 1; A. Hill, 2; F. Side, 3; A. Pittam (conductor), 4; H. Kilby, 5; A. Tennant, 6.

BOOT TRADE, good opening for beginner; chiefly repairing; at Farnham Royal. Good peal of eight bells.—Apply, J. J. PARKER, Farnham Royal.

CARMAN WANTED.—Good Wages. Change-ringer. Permanency to steady man. Good peal of eight bells. J. J. PRATT, Contractor, Hillingdon, Uxbridge.

Compositions.

A NEW METHOD. — SADDLE-
WORTH MAJOR.By J. J. BRIERLEY, *Saddleworth.*

12345678

21354687	78645312
12536478	87463521
21563487	78436512
12654378	87345621
21645387	78354612
12463578	87536421
21436587	78563412
24163857	75836142

42136875	57863124
24318657	75681342
42381675	57618324
24836157	75163842
42863175	57136824
24681357	75318642
42618375	57381624
46281735	53718264

64218753	35781246
46127835	53872164
64172853	35827146
46718235	53281764
64781253	35281746
46872135	53127864
64827153	35172846
68472513	31527486

86427531	13572468
68245713	31754286
86254731	13745268
68527413	31472586
86572431	13427568
68754213	31245786
86745231	13254768
87654321	12345678

Lead-end	24163857
Bob	24163578
Single	24163587

5120.

123456 IN B OUT

452316	-	-	-
342516	-	-	-
532416	-	-	-

423516	-	-	-
543216	-	-	-
253416	-	-	-

435216	-	-	-
245316	-	-	-

314526	-	-	-
534126	-	-	-
154326	-	-	-

345126	-	-	-
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Continued—

135426	IN	B	OUT
415326	-	-	-
351426	-	-	-
431526	-	-	-
523146	-	-	-
153246	-	-	-
213546	-	-	-
531246	-	-	-
251346	-	-	-
321546	-	-	-
512346	-	-	-
352146	-	-	-
145236	-	-	-
215436	-	-	-
425136	-	-	-

152436	-	-	-
412536	-	-	-
542136	-	-	-

124536	-	-	-
514236	-	-	-

231456	-	-	-
421356	-	-	-
341256	-	-	-
214356	-	-	-
324156	-	-	-
134256	-	-	-
243156	-	-	-
143256	-	-	S

Repeated.

SCALE OF COURSE-ENDS.

	IN	B	OUT	5ths
452316	-	-	-	-
532416	-	-	-	-
325416	-	-	-	-
435216	-	-	-	-
432156	-	-	-	-
312456	-	-	-	-
413256	-	-	-	-
462513	-	-	-	-
462351	-	-	-	-
362154	-	-	-	-
463152	-	-	-	-
365214	-	-	-	-
465312	-	-	-	-
163452	-	-	-	-

TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By FRED ROBINSON, *Mirfield.*

5120.

23456 M B W H

43526	-	2	I
52436	-	I	I
23645	I	2	-
32546	2	4ths & in 2	-
45236	2	2	-

Repeated.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

By JAMES GEORGE, *Rugby.*

5376.

23456 W M H

63425	S	S	-
24635	-	-	S

63245	-	-	-
26345	-	-	-
23645	-	-	S
62345	-	-	-
36245	-	-	-
32645	-	-	S

Five times repeated, with bob instead of single at M in 3rd and 5th parts.

By calling a bob instead of single in the 5th course of any one part this peal will be reduced to 5040.

BOB MAXIMUS.

By H. TUCKER, *Bristol.*

5026.

23456 W M H

4235	-	-	-
3542	-	-	-
4352	-	-	-
5432	-	-	-
3254	-	-	-
5324	-	-	-
2453	-	-	-
5243	-	-	-
4523	-	-	-
3245	-	-	S

4532	-	-	-
3452	-	-	-
5342	-	-	-
4253	-	-	-
5423	-	-	-
2543	-	-	-
4325	-	-	-
2435	-	-	-
2345	-	-	S

DOUBLE NORWICH.

By J. H. BANKS, *Helmshore.*

5184.

23456 I 5 6

54326	-	-	-
42356	-	-	-
25346	-	-	-
43526	-	-	-
32546	-	-	-
45236	-	-	-
53246	-	-	-
23645	-	-	-

Five times repeated, with single for bob at six in the fourth course of the third and sixth parts.

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

St. Martin's Guild.—The Anniversary Johnson Commemoration will be held as usual to-day, Saturday, March 3. Ringing at St. Martin's from 3 to 5 p.m. Dinner will be served at "Ye Old Royal," Temple Row, at 6 p.m. W. H. GODDEN, *Hon. Sec.*

61, Roland Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.
The chair will be taken by Mr. S. Spittle, Master of the Worcester and Adjoining Districts Association.

The Middlesex County Association.—South and West District.—The next meeting of the above will be held by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. B. O. Sharp, at St. Leonard's church, Heston, to-day, Saturday, March 3rd. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Tea will be provided at 6 o'clock. All members and friends are cordially invited.

T. EDWARDS, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*

The Sheffield and District Society.—The next monthly meeting of this society will be held at Ranmoor to-day, Saturday, March 3rd. Bells ready at 4 p.m.

R. HARRISON, *Hon. Sec.*

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Fenton, to-day, Saturday March 3rd.

W. TWIGG, *Hon. Sec.*

The Kent County Association—ROCHESTER DISTRICT.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Mary's church, Chatham, to-day, Saturday, March 3rd. Tower open at 3.30 p.m. Committee Meeting at 6.30.

A. OSBORNE, *Dis. Sec.*

65, Clive Road, Rochester.

Halifax and District Association.—The next meeting of this Association will be held at Sowerby, on Saturday, March 10th. Bells ready from dinner time. Business meeting in schoolroom 6 p.m. WRIGHT INGHAM, *Sec.*

The Heavy Woollen District Association.—The next monthly meeting of this society will be held at Kirkburton on Saturday, March 10th. Meeting at 5.30 at The George hotel. There was a little uncertainty whether the usual eight-bell contest could be held owing to outside interference, but the obstacle has been removed, and the contest will be held as usual. All members who intend competing must pay their subscriptions on or before March 1st. W. IDLE, *Sec.*

47, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury.

Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting of this Branch will be held at St. Saviour's, Bacup, on Saturday, March 10th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6.30. W. CASS, *Branch Sec.*

83, Chesham Road, Bury.

The Midland Counties Association.—Preparation of Annual Report.—Members whose addresses are incorrect in last annual report, or who have changed their addresses since election are requested to notify me without delay. Notice of alteration of practice nights and names of correspondents should also if necessary be sent at once; also obituary notices. W. E. WHITE, *Hon. Sec.*

Cotgrave, near Nottingham.

The Middlesex County Association.—North and East District.—Owing to the

sickness now so widely prevalent, it has not been possible to secure a suitable place of meeting for the monthly meeting proposed to be held in February. There will therefore be no further meeting of the members of this district till March, or possibly April.

ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*
18, Ravenscroft Park Road, Barnet.

NOTES TO PEALS.

THE PEAL AT ST. MARGARET'S, WESTMINSTER.—This peal was arranged for Mr. C. R. Lilley; it is also his first peal of Stedman Caters, also that of W. R. Crockford. It was the conductor's fiftieth peal, and was rang on the anniversary of his first. The peals consist of Grandsire Triples, 6 (1 non-conducted), conducted 1; Major, 1; Caters, 7, conducted 2; Bob Major, 6, conducted 3; Bob Royal, 4; Stedman Triples, 3; Caters, 8, conducted 5; Treble Bob Major, 9, conducted, 2; Royal, 5; Double Norwich Major, 1. This list does not include one false peal of Stedman Caters (conducted).

MR. H. S. ELLIS' 100 PEALS.—Grandsire Triples, 14; Caters, 5; Stedman Triples, 17; Caters, 3; Bob Major, 2; Duffield Major, 1; Kent Treble Bob Major, 9; Royal, 9; Oxford Treble Bob Major, 3; Royal, 2; Double Norwich Major, 6; Westminster Surprise, 1; St. Stephen's Surprise, 1; Superlative Surprise, 12; Cambridge Surprise, 8; London Surprise, 7.

Compositions.

ST. STEPHEN'S SURPRISE MAJOR.

By F. DENCH, *College Youth.*

12345678
21436587
12435678
21346587
23145678
32416587
32145678
23416587
24361857
42638175
24631857
42368175
43286715
34827651
43826715
34287651
43278561
34725816
43728561
34275816
32457186
23541768
32547186
23451768
24315678
42136587
42315678
24136587
21435678
12346587
21345678
12436587
14263857

ADDRESS WANTED.—Mr. A. Fowler, of 101, George's Road, Holloway, wishes for the address of E. N. Aldridge, late of 25, Brahmes Road, West Green Road, London, as he wishes to communicate with him at once.

ST. MARY'S, RAWTENSTALL.

On Tuesday, February 27th, a quarter-peal was rung in 44 mins. G. H. Ashworth, 1; G. E. Rollerson, 2; J. Rollerson, 3; T. Rollerson, 4; G. H. Hargreaves, 5; J. H. Nuttall, 6; J. Smith, 7; Josh. Ramsbottom, 8. The above was rung as a farewell touch to the treble ringer, who leaves England for New York on Saturday, March 3rd. Mr. John Smith, on behalf of his brother-ringers presented him with a pipe and well-filled tobacco pouch, and wished him every success in his new situation.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BRIGHTON (Sussex).—On Friday, February 16th, at the residence of Mr. G. Williams, an attempt was made for Thurstan's peal of Stedman Triples, on handbells, retained in hand, which came to grief at the end of the eleventh part, owing to the clapper of the tenor becoming unscrewed. K. Hart, 1-2; H. P. Harman, 3-4; G. Williams (conductor), 5-6; G. A. King, 7-8.

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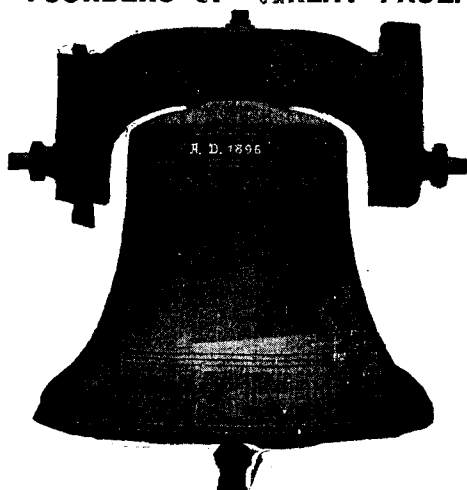
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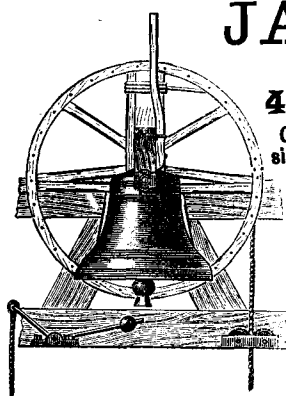
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A Weekly Journal of the Ringing Exercise ; and Compendium of Information for the Clergy and Churchwardens.

No. 935.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1900.

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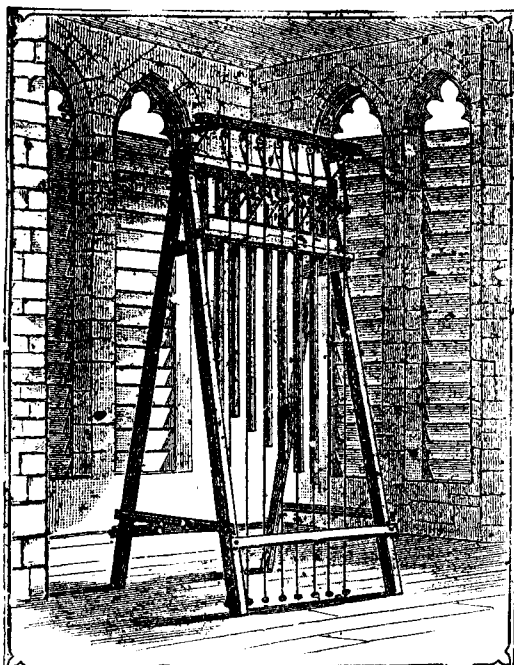
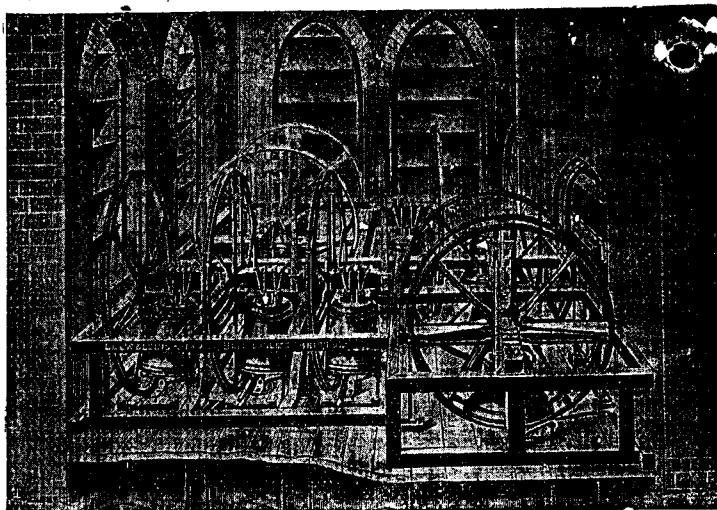
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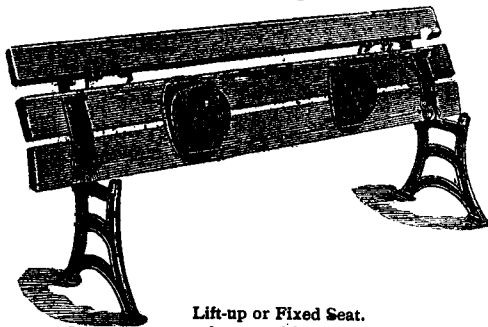
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 935.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1900.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD OF BIRMINGHAM.

THE HENRY JOHNSON COMMEMORATION DINNER.

Saturday last was a busy day for the City of Birmingham, but despite the counter-attractions of the struggle between the two giant football teams at Villa Park, and a race meeting at Shirley, the belfry at St. Martin's attracted relays of ringers during the whole afternoon.

As the hour of dinner—6 p.m.—drew near, the gathering became still larger, and the space at the cosy Temple Dining Room of "Ye Old Royal" was taxed to its limits by a company of about eighty.

Not only was the immediate neighbourhood well represented, but ringers from such distant counties as Yorkshire and Berkshire were also in attendance.

The President of the Central Council—Sir Arthur Percival Heywood—last year gave a provisional promise to preside at this gathering, but was unfortunately prevented by many additional calls upon his time. (We are pleased to state that he has renewed the promise for next year's commemoration). This function however was most gracefully undertaken by the popular Master of the Worcestershire and Districts Association—Mr. S. Spittle—supported by the Vice-Presidents—J. S. Pritchett, Esq., M.A., B.L., and W. S. Pritchett, Esq.—with the other members of the St. Martin's Executive. We were also glad to notice that the authorities of St. Martin's were represented by the Rev. J. D. McCready, M.A., and Mr. Churchwarden Jones.

The dinner, which was excellent alike for quality and manner of serving, seemed to place every one on fairly good terms with himself, and after a short interval the toast list was commenced.

In the toast of "Queen, Church, and State," the Chairman was particularly happy. He reminded the company of the splendid enthusiasm evoked among every class in the Empire by the celebration of the Diamond Jubilee three years ago, and how little one could then have foretold of the sadness which would come to our Empress Queen's declining years through this horrid but—so far as we were concerned—just war in South Africa. Every one too knew and felt the sympathy she always expressed with the sufferings and trials of her subjects.

Passing on to the Church, he stated that we were constantly being reminded by our dissenting friends of the discontent caused by the conflict of opinion within it, but argued that we were bound to believe that every shade of opinion was working to the same end, and such being the case, it was necessary to extend some amount of charity towards the differing views.

As regards the State, he said, it was not long time ago when we were reminded that we were the most bitterly hated of all the nations, and had not a single ally. Well, that undesirable position was by no means a new one in our annals, but we existed to day, and were determined to come out of our present troubles with honour. Even in our gloomiest time, now happily passed, we had one thing on which we could congratulate ourselves, one thing to serve as the cloud's silver lining, and that was the splendid loyalty and devotion of all our Colonies. It had been urged against the present Government that it

had made mistakes, but such an indictment reminded him that the people who never made mistakes never did any real work.

At the close of a highly interesting and telling speech, he coupled with his toast, as representatives of the Church and State, the names of the Rev. J. D. McCready and Churchwarden Jones. The toast was honoured with a verse of "God save the Queen," given as a solo by Mr. H. Manton, the whole audience enthusiastically repeating as a chorus.

The Rev. J. D. McCready expressed regret at the absence of the rector—the Rev. Canon Robinson, and referring to the chairman's remarks on the Church, advised his hearers to judge between the various sects and parties in the Church by the men they produced, and the results obtained.

Mr. Jones also referred to the regrettable absence of the rector. He reiterated his own desire at all times for plenty of ringing, and commenting on that at St. Martin's recently in honour of the relief of Ladysmith and surrender of Cronje, expressed his hope that it might not be long before they were called upon to commemorate the surrender of Pretoria, when he hoped that the ringers would take the initiative and not wait for instructions.

In giving the toast of "The late Henry Johnson," the Chairman referred to the slight knowledge he had of Mr. Johnson, but mentioned the fact that such knowledge included a visit to him at his own home, and from his own experience he found that one could always best judge of a man's character in the surroundings of his own home and family. On this particular occasion he had the pleasure of examining the St. Martin's Youths' old peal-book, with an interesting running commentary by Mr. Johnson. As instancing Mr. Johnson's facility and accuracy in composition he referred to a conversation between the late Messrs. Johnson and Micklewright, and himself as to the possibility of a composition in Caters with certain qualities, and quoted from a letter received from Mr. Johnson a few days later with which were enclosed two peals on this plan, together with very definite remarks as to its possibilities. This toast in accordance with usage was drank in solemn silence.

After the ever popular "Soldiers of the Queen," excellently rendered by Mr. Manton, Mr. J. S. Pritchett proposed "Continued Success to the St. Martin's Guild." He mentioned the fact that it was now some forty years ago since their Presiding Ringing-Master, Mr. Day, and others started a movement to renovate the St. Martin's Society of that day, and pointed to the present meeting as a gratifying result of that effort. Reverting to a similar commemoration meeting of same years back, he then promised that his own band—the King's Norton—should turn their attention to the Surprise methods, and he was now able to announce that not only had they done so, but that they had been able to score for the St. Martin's Guild its first peals of Superlative and Cambridge Surprise while in the immediate future they hoped to excuse the climax of all, "London Surprise."

With this toast he was pleased to couple the healths of the two veterans, John Day and John Perks,

After a very amusing song by Mr. Florry, Mr. Day

responded. Alluding to the satisfaction a man always felt on seeing his work appreciated, he followed the proposer of the toast by a short history of the bells from that period. He particularly mentioned the bequest of a croft of land by one Billingsley for the provision of bell ropes at St. Martin's, which bequest was recorded on a tablet formerly in the tower, but not now in evidence. He was gratified at finding the quality of the ringing at St. Martin's still retained, and hoped that it would ever be so.

Mr. Perks also appropriately thanked the meeting for the way in which his health had been responded to.

Following this, Mr. Churchwarden Jones gave an interesting description of the bequest mentioned by Mr. Day, exactly locating the position of the croft, and detailing its revenue and future prospects on the expiration of its lease in eighteen years.

After an amusing song by Mr. Shenton, the Secretary, Mr. W. H. Godden, proposed "Success to Kindred Ringing Societies." Prefacing his remarks by the statement that Birmingham ringers situated on the confines of three counties—Warwick, Worcester, and Stafford—and within such short distances of others, were generally members of several other Societies, the necessity for which might be doubted were it not that each justified its existence by its health and vigour. He was pleased to couple with his toast the healths of such old friends then present in the room as Messrs. T. Hattersley (Yorkshire Association), S. Reeves (Secretary for the Archdeaconry of Stafford), T. Salter (Worcestershire and Kidderminster Societies), and A. Thomas (Oxford Diocesan Guild).

A course of Stedman Cinques in hand was then rung by W. H. Barber, 1-2; F. Clayton, 3-4; T. Miller, 5-6; W. Kent, 7-8; B. Witchell, 9-10; W. Short, 11-12.

Messrs. Hattersley, Reeves, Salter, and Thomas then responded, the latter referring to his former connection with the St. Martin's Society, and regretting the fact that present circumstances confined him to a district where only six-bell towers existed.

Mr. W. S. Pritchett proposed the health of the Secretary—Mr. Godden—giving his opinion that much of the success of the Guild and such gatherings as the present was due to his efforts and organisation. After a song by Mr. Manton, the Secretary responded, thanking the company for the way in which they had received the toast, and expressing his thanks to each individual officer and member for the assistance they invariably rendered him.

After a capital song by the Chairman, "Success to the Ringing Papers—"BELL NEWS" and *Church Bells*, was proposed by Mr. S. Reeves, and suitably received by the company.

The health of "The Chairman" was given by Mr. T. Russam, who eulogised the manner in which he had performed his duties, and called for a hearty recognition with musical honours.

Throughout the evening other songs were given by the Chairman, Messrs. Manton, H. Knight, Shenton, and Mr. Florry, while Mrs. Painter again laid the Guild under obligation by presiding at the piano throughout.

At the termination of the proceedings Mr. Manton sang "The Absent Minded Beggar," and the Chairman calling for "Pay, pay, pay," the meeting canvassed by Mr. Mulligan (Yorkshire Association), and an unauthorised casual, contributed the sum of £1 4s. 3d. to the Birmingham *Daily Mail* Fund. (Such amount has been duly acknowledged in its columns). The close came all too soon, and every attendant seemed to regret that so pleasant an evening should pass so rapidly

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting of this association was held at Bridgwater on Saturday, February 24th. There was a very good attendance, ringers hailing from Taunton, Wiveliscombe, Norton Fitzwarren, Bridgwater, Huntspill, Stogumber, Old Cleeve, Bristol, etc. The bells of the parish church are a fine ring of eight, recently rehung by Messrs. Taylor, and needless to say their "go" is everything that one could wish.

A short service was held in the parish church at 4 p.m., the Vicar officiating, and a short address was given by the curate, the Rev. W. M. K. Warren. After service the usual business meeting was held in the belfry, when several new members were elected. It was decided to leave the date and arrangements for the next meeting (the annual at Bath) in the hands of the hon. secretary. The usual votes of thanks were passed and the members afterwards sat down to a capital meat tea.

The bells were kept continually in motion in various methods during the evening. It is pleasing to hear that there is some prospect of the Bridgwater ringers becoming change-ringers and members of the association.

The annual meeting of the Bath district of this association was held in the Abbey tower on Monday evening, January 8th, Prebendary W. S. Shaw, the chairman of the district, presiding. A good muster of members was present from nearly all the towns in the deanery. Mr. J. Fussell, the local hon. secretary, presented a very favourable report dealing with the different subjects of bells and ringing, complimenting the ringers on the advance made during the past year. The chairman, in his remarks, was pleased something had been done to St. Michael's bells, and hoped the parishioners of St. Saviour's would have their bells put in order so that they might soon be rung again. The chairman was re-elected, and the Rev. C. C. Parker was elected vice-chairman. The local secretary was also re-elected with thanks for past services. A list of meetings was arranged for the ensuing year on Tuesdays instead of Mondays, and it was decided to hold an annual dinner on similar lines to that of last year, a small committee being elected to make the arrangements. A hearty vote of thanks to the chairman brought the meeting to a close.

The members of the Bath district of the above association held their annual dinner, January 29th, at The Alliance dining rooms, Westgate Street. The chair was occupied by the Rev. C. C. Parker, in the absence of the Rev. W. Stokes Shaw, who was sorry he could not attend, and later in the evening by the Rev. H. E. Tilney-Bassett. There was a large and representative attendance, which included members from the following towers: The Abbey, St. James's, St. Saviour's, St. Andrew's, St. Mary's (Bathwick), St. Mark's, Twerton, and several friends from St. Stephen's (Bristol). The dinner provided was quicker eaten than prepared, and the loyal toasts having been given, Mr. Fussell proposed "Success to the Association." The Rev. T. Bassett gave "the Visitors," which was replied to by Mr. J. Hinton, who said he should like to see his Bath friends compete with the Bristol ringers in the other standard methods of change-ringing. Songs during the evening were contributed by Messrs. Richardson, Rice, May, Goodenough, Bell, A. Hill, Blackwell, Eves, Wake, and Presscott. Mr. Hinton's performance with his handbells was an enjoyable feature of the evening's programme, and a tremendous outburst of applause rewarded his efforts.

JOY-BELLS (AND OTHERWISE).

All over the country, so the daily papers have told us the news of success in Africa has been the cause of much rejoicing. A cutting from a paper sent to us from Loughborough says that on receipt of the news, there was an outburst of enthusiasm. As if by magic flags appeared not only on public buildings and factories, but almost every shop in the business part of the town displayed bunting. At the parish church of All Saints, and also at Taylor's bell foundry, merry peals were rung on the bells; the music at the latter place being particularly admired, Messrs. Taylor having recently hung a splendid set in their new tower. Everywhere friends were shaking hands. The school children were granted a half-day's holiday, and at Church Gate, the principal board school of Loughborough, Mr. J. T. Judges, head master, assembled the children at mid-day and addressed them in the playground. The youngsters made the street ring again with lusty cheers for General Buller. At Shepshed a similar state of things prevailed. The bells were rung at the church, flags were hoisted at the Conservative Club, Messrs. Harriman's factory, and other places, and the school children were granted holiday.

Amid all this we have only one discordant note. The *Bath Herald* says that at the church of Kington St. Michael, near Chippenham, the bellringers have incurred the Vicar's keen displeasure. On receipt of the news of the relief of Ladysmith the leader of the ringers lost no time in hunting up his men, and having assembled in the tower, they sent forth a merry peal. A few minutes had not elapsed, however, before the Vicar (the Rev. Dr. Adrian) put in an appearance and demanded who started the ringing without permission. The leader stated that he was responsible, and at the same time intimated the reason why they were ringing. The Vicar thereupon ordered them to leave the tower, and said he would not allow it. The men consequently left. Great excitement has been caused in the village, as the ringers state they have never been called on by the Vicar on previous occasions to consult him as to when they shall ring the bells. The names of the ringers are as follows: W. Dyer (captain), M. Sealey, F. Sealey, E. Sheppard, S. Doidge, W. Dyer, H. Martin, and J. White. The men were not to be baulked of showing their enthusiasm, however, and subsequently paraded the village playing handbells. The Vicar has also written a letter to the press in reply to a letter expressing surprise that no collection was made at Kington St. Michael Church, on January 7th, for the relief of the war sufferers, in which he says it did not please him to desecrate God's House for the purpose mentioned, notwithstanding the "commands of the Queen and the request of the Bishop." This cursed war, he says, has been forced upon us by a set of gold-grabbers and place-hunters, backed by our ignorant public, without any justification whatever. Therefore let those who call the tune pay the piper. He was not bound by the acts or example of other clergy."

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THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHWICH BRANCH).

The members of the above branch held their annual meeting at Middlewich on Saturday, the 24th February. Ringing on the fine peal of bells was indulged in during the afternoon by the kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. F. Minton. At 6.30 p.m. the ringers partook of tea in the infant's school. Tea concluded, a business meeting was held presided over by Mr. G. H. Mann. Letters of apology for non-attendance were read from Rev. W. H. Binney, Canon Holme, and H. H. Cook, Esq. The minutes of the last meeting and the balance sheet were passed unanimously. The whole of the officers were re-elected. A vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and the infant's school concluded the business. Ringing on the handbells was indulged in until nearly 9 p.m., when the visitors had to leave to catch their train.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(MAIDSTONE DISTRICT.)

The annual meeting of this district was held at Wrotham, on Saturday, February 24th, when forty members attended from Maidstone, Malling, Boxley, Sevenoaks, Bearsted, Rochester, Gillingham, Ospringe, Tottenham, etc. Tea was provided at The George and Dragon, the Rev. L. C. Goodwin presiding.

At the business meeting after tea eleven new members were elected, including the band at Wrotham. It was decided to hold the next annual meeting at Leeds in February 1907, and two other meetings at Linton and Bearsted in April and October. The district secretary and representative were re-elected. A vote of thanks was passed to the Rev. L. C. Goodwin for the use of the bells and for presiding.

Touches in various methods were rung during the afternoon and evening, but it is to be hoped that before another meeting is held here, the cracked bells will be re-cast and other necessary repairs will have been carried out.

BENEFACTIONS OF THE LATE MR. SERJEANT SPINKS.

The late Serjeant Spinks, of Brenley House, near Faversham, who left property valued at £113,721, bequeathed among other legacies £500 to the Association for the Augmentation of Poor Benefices; £100 to the Kent Diocesan Church Building Fund; £300 upon trust to apply the income in keeping in repair the carillon at Chertsey Parish Church; £150 for the purchase of bells for the church at Lavington; and instructed his executors to enter into a contract for the purchase of a peal of bells for Feltham (Middlesex), parish church, the cost to be between £200 and £600. The tenor bell is to bear an inscription that it is the gift of Serjeant Spinks in memory of his father and mother.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GAYTHORPE (Lincolnshire).—On December 26th, an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples came to grief through the 3rd bell casting rope, after ringing 2000 changes. J. Hoyes, 1; E. Holden, 2; J. T. Holmes, 3; T. B. Woods, 4; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 5; H. P. Nash, 6; W. Dickinson, 7; W. Holden, 8.

HOUGH-ON-THE-HILL (Lincolnshire).—On December 26th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. T. Holmes, 1; E. Holden, 2; T. B. Woods, 3; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 4; H. P. Nash, 5; W. Dickinson, 6.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The main topic of the hour is the condition of affairs in South Africa. The surrender of a Boer chief, with nearly 4000 of his followers; the relief of Ladysmith; and the continued forward movement of our forces under Lord Roberts, fill the public mind with satisfaction, and contentment also from the feeling that our soldiers have not deteriorated one jot or tittle. As the leader-writer said last week—"England yet!" In these two words there is a great deal contained. The respectable journalists of oreign growth have echoed them most remarkably. These intelligent gentlemen do not hesitate to point out forcibly what a calamity it would be for humanity did England not hold her present position among the nations of the earth. They imagine, for the sake of illustration, a semi-barbarous power like Russia becoming "Queen of the universe," and then they prognosticate the actual effects of such a calamity. The ringers should make a kind of watchword of the phrase—"England yet!" Can we not call some new method—a method, by the way, which should be perfect in every respect—by the name of "Old England?" Now Mr. Baker, or the brothers James, or Mr. Dench, now's your time.

The writer who penned last week's comment very often gives me a paragraph for this page. He tells me of a discussion he had with a friend at the time when our commanders were being checked. He prophesied that the government would have to send out Lord Roberts to put matters straight; while the friend thought Sir Evelyn Wood was the man. It is somewhat remarkable that in one of the paragraphs handed to me, he stated that Lord Roberts had lost an arm in service, but so far as I have seen, none of the now numerous public prints have ever mentioned it. He maintains the belief still! It would be very remarkable thing if the "B.N." was the only paper who had mentioned such a loss. That is of course, if true. Do any of my readers know?

The gallant veteran is a Napier-like officer. When his biography comes to be written, it will be found that between him and that wonderful soldier, Sir Charles Napier, there is much in common. I am not certain whether he was not one of Napier's lieutenants, for Napier speaks very highly of one of his officers named "Roberts" during the campaign in Scinde. This would be worth substantiating. If any of you have not read of Napier and the Scinde war, do so at once. The whole thing reads like a romance, and gives another of the many instances in which British officers of the correct stamp have added lustre to the glory of their country's arms.

Now I must turn to other matters. Mr. William Wakley, of Burton-on-Trent, has sent the following letter to the Editor, which has been handed to me:—

SIR,—“Plain Speaker” asks why I did not publicly announce at the time that this peal finished with 2M, and in reply I beg to refer him to that paragraph in my letter to Mr. Lindoff in which I say that “so entirely unsuspecting was I of anything being wrong with the peal that it was not until I received your letter that I gave a moment's thought to the possibility of the calling being false.” The statement here made is the absolute truth, and I do not know why I should have been called on by your anonymous contributor to repeat it, nor why I should have been expected to publish “calling” of which I had no suspicion whatever. I am perfectly satisfied that if the significance of these two calls had been realised by the ringers (I am not

speaking for the conductor), the performance would have been quashed at once, and the next day, and if necessary the next again, would have been spent in trying to get a true peal, for not only were the bells at our disposal, but we had the time to spare also, and our rail and boat tickets were available for quite a long time. “Plain Speaker's” claim that to him belongs the credit of bringing this matter to light, is somewhat amusing, seeing that as long ago as October I had given Mr. Lindoff permission to publish my letter, stipulating only that the conductor should first have an opportunity of himself withdrawing the peal, and that I personally on November 25th last, in conversation with Mr. Pates, Mr. S. Reeves, Mr. John Carter, Mr. W. H. Barber, and others, gave to the Birmingham district the information which reached “P.S.” many weeks later, and which he produced with such a flourish of trumpets on January 20th.—WM. WAKLEY.

There is no reply wanted to this letter. If Mr. Wakley supposes for one moment that the least doubt is entertained of the truth of his statement, I hope he will at once disabuse his mind of such a supposition. I hope also no one will think me acting discourteously to my old friend. I thought, and think now, that he or any one else in a peal the very moment they had heard of its falsity would avow it publicly, without waiting more than a week for the admission to that effect by the conductor. My friend says something about “flourish of trumpets.” I heard not the “trumpets” nor saw the flourish. If I had not hammered away at the affair, perhaps the untruth of the peal would not be public property even now. But I claim or desire no credit for performing a duty which others ought to have done months before. *Requiescat in pace.*

PLAIN SPEAKER.

Obituary.

JAMES SMITH FLOWER.

We regret to record the death of the above-named ringer of Twerton-on-Avon, Bath, which occurred on Friday, February 16th, under somewhat sad circumstances. He was a mason by trade, and worked for the Great Western Railway for over thirty years. On the above date he had occasion to cross the line at Bath Station when he was caught in the back by the 9 a.m. up train, severing one foot, fearfully crushing the other and leg; the back of the head was also crushed, causing instantaneous death. He had been a ringer for very many years, and was always in his place when required. He was a member of the Twerton-on-Avon, and of the Bath Abbey company of ringers, and had rung between fifteen and twenty peals, his last peal being a 5056 Bob Major in November 1898, in which he rung the 4th. He also rang the treble in an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Caters at the Abbey in November 1899, which came to grief after ringing over 4000 changes. He was also a member of the Parish Council, and had been a member of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association since its formation, and greatly assisted in the formation of the Association. The funeral took place on Wednesday, February 21st, at the Twerton-on-Avon Cemetery. The bells of the parish church and Bath Abbey were tolled during the service. About thirty of his comrades followed the cortege, and a large number representing the different Associations to which he belonged, viz:—Rev. C. C. Parker (vice-chairman), J. Fussell (local secretary), representing the Bath and Wells Association, Messrs. Temple and Wotton (Twerton-on-Avon), J. N. Wake and C. Goodenough (The Abbey), J. Hinton and F. May (Gloucester and Bristol Association). Six of his comrades bore the coffin which was of polished oak with brass fittings. The inscription was “James Smith Flower, aged 59.” The Rev. Prebendary W. Stokes Shaw, Vicar, and chairman of the Bath district society, officiated. A beautiful everlasting wreath under a glass shade was sent as a tribute of respect from the Bath district of the Bath and Wells Association, and a similar one from his comrades of the Great Western Railway.

THE ST. THOMAS'S GUILD, DUDLEY.

The annual meeting of this Guild was held on Saturday. The bells commenced ringing at four o'clock, and at five o'clock a short service was conducted in the church and an interesting address given by the president of the Guild (Rev. A. Gray Maitland). After service the members adjourned to the Barn schoolroom, where a substantial tea was provided by Mrs. Maitland, who presided at the table, assisted by Mrs. W. H. Thompson, Mrs. T. Rhodes, Miss Benbow, and Miss Sissons. After tea a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mrs. Maitland for her kind hospitality, and the ladies who assisted her. The business meeting followed, the Vicar in the chair. The whole of the officers were re-elected, including the Rev. A. Gray Maitland (president), and the Rev. S. J. Marriot (vice-president.) Ten new members were added to the roll. The secretary's report showed that the work of the Guild was satisfactory. The meetings had been well attended, the clergy at each place of meeting being present to take an interest in the proceedings, and to extend their hospitality. Financially the balance was on the right side. A number of attempts for peals had failed, but nine were satisfactorily accomplished during the year. Votes of thanks were given the officers for their services during the past year, and to the Vicar for presiding. A move was made to the belfry where touches of Grandsire, Plain Bob and Stedman were rung. About forty members were present, representing Netherton, Tipton, Old Hill, Coseley, Halesowen, Lichfield, Solihull and Dudley.

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."

BARNSBURY COURT BOB MAJOR.

SIR,—I am reminded that I have not yet replied to Mr. John Carter's query under the above heading, viz.—"Are we to accept the above method as an old or a new one?" see "BELL NEWS" for December 9th, 1899. I am vexed to have so long delayed, but my reply shall be as follows, and I hope Mr. Carter and your readers generally will forgive my apparent indifference to this question. When publishing Barnsbury I thought I was introducing quite an innovation into the Court Bob system, the novelty being the positions in which places are made, viz., all upon one side of the lead perpendicular as it were, and although these places are made both before and after meeting the treble, it is in my opinion quite different from the position of places made in Double Court, which are at opposite corners of the lead, or as it were diagonally. Mr. A. Craven in "THE BELL NEWS" of December 16th, 1899, says "if this method is not a double one, then it must be single Norwich." The wonder is what these gentlemen will make of it. I wish however to point out that places in single Norwich and also the reverse Norwich are not made in adjoining positions as in Barnsbury, but in 6ths, 4ths, 3rds and 5ths, or as it is when in position, the bells apart. But, Sir, perhaps it will be best, and indeed I for one shall be quite contented to leave this matter in the hands of the members of the Central Council as to whether I have pointed out another to the several numbers of the Court Bob system. Perhaps Messrs. Carter, Cartwright, and Craven will kindly bring forward this matter, as at the present moment I really cannot say if I shall be present at the next Council Meeting. I really don't know if the author of Canonbury is willing to agree to this proposition, as I have not asked him the question, neither did I get his permission for publishing it, and so perhaps Mr. George Baker, of Hove, Brighton, would like to speak for himself on this matter. In conclusion I give another variation. It contains all Barnsbury Court Bob changes, obtained by means of 7th and 2nd places, and exactly in the same manner as Oxford

Bob Minor comes from Double Court Minor, no more or less, see page 3 *Standard Methods*. By the way while upon the subject it seems to me that this Double Court Bob Minor is more like Double Norwich Major than any other of the Court Major methods. Let readers compare these for themselves.

HIGHBURY BOB MAJOR.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7
2 4 1 3 5 6 7 8
4 2 3 1 6 5 8 7
2 4 3 6 1 8 5 7
4 2 6 3 8 1 7 5
4 6 2 8 3 7 1 5
6 4 8 2 7 3 5 1
4 6 2 8 3 7 5 1
6 4 8 2 7 3 1 5
6 8 4 7 2 1 3 5
8 6 7 4 1 2 5 3
6 8 7 1 4 5 2 3
8 6 1 7 5 4 3 2
8 1 6 7 4 5 2 3
1 8 7 6 5 4 3 2

Plain 1 8 6 7 4 5 2 3 Lead

Bob 1 7 8 6 4 5 2 3 Lead

Single 1 8 7 6 4 5 2 3 Lead

The calls now are before, wrong, middle, and home.

H. DAINS.

ST. STEPHEN'S SURPRISE.

SIR,—I am sorry to inform Mr. Dench that the method he published in last week's "BELL NEWS" is not a new one. I got it myself four years ago; both Mr. Lindoff and Mr. Knights can testify to the truth of this statement. The latter gentleman also received the same method from Mr. C. Severn as his composition some two years ago. The name I gave the method was Yorkshire Treble Bob, as it most certainly does not merit the name of Surprise, and Mr. Dench must forgive me for saying that he must have very little respect for the Surprise methods proper to attempt to include such a method with them, as it is only Woodbine Treble Bob Major with the slow work put into 3-4. I have also another method on the same plan, all single dodging and Kent Treble Bob places, which has been rung at Burnley two or three years ago. As both methods were got at the same time, Mr. Dench will see that my claim is fair. I have also to call your attention to the 5184 of Double Norwich published in your last issue as the composition of J. H. Banks. This peal I published three years ago along with eight others on the same plan. Mr. Banks will find it very difficult to get others.

ARTHUR CRAVEN.

THE DUBLIN PEAL.

SIR,—A short time ago Mr. Willson informed us that Mr. Washbrook was capable of composing peals as he was ringing. Many of us have given him credit of doing this for years, but it is Mr. Wakley and Mr. Pye we have to thank for informing us what properties these peals contain. Now it appears over the above peal Mr. Washbrook has decided to remain silent after his contradictory statements in his last attempt at putting wrongs right. It's just as one might expect; the only surprise is that he should try his mixture with such a band of ringers, some of whom being conductors of great ability, and that he is not man enough to disclaim the peal. I should advise him to keep these kind of peals for his old friends, and then he will be able to tack a bit on or off, turn the ends into the middle, or introduce a few courses of another variation, or anything in the shape of a peal. Now Sir, you allowed one gentleman to give his and others' opinion on Mr. Pye's peal having yet to be beaten, perhaps you will allow me to give mine and others opinion that the record peal of London Surprise has yet to be rung, which may account to some extent for one gentleman being anxious to wash Mr. Washbrook at the other conductors' expense, and for another gentleman's sence

T. NEWMAN.

Caversham.

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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 Wednesday 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 10, 1900.

NEARLY all this week's ringing records, both peals and touches, have been rung to celebrate the relief of Ladysmith, and the escape of our countrymen and countrywomen from the further horrors of a siege which was unbearable even unto death. The intrepid general conducting the relieving army; the brave and long-suffering commander who maintained his defence for so long; the men who fought so grandly for the honour of the flag; all will have the plaudits and rewards which a generous country can give.

The perusal of the records in this number affords a very good indication that patriotism is far from being an unknown quantity among the members of the Exercise. There may be several different opinions among ringers as to the origin of the war: there may be those who think with some men of note that it ought never to have been

entered upon, in fact that statemanship should have been able to prevent it. But while our armies are engaged in actual warfare, is there one church bell-ringer in existence who wishes, because from his point of view the war is wrong, that the "soldiers of the Queen" may not in the conflict gain any and every advantage over their opponents? We think not, most decidedly.

The footnotes to the peals this week are not, we venture to say, to be looked upon as a matter of course, and regarded as the mere pursuance of custom. These peals have been rung from a feeling of patriotism, from a desire not only that the success of our armies shall be heralded and voiced by the Church's loudest cymbals, but that in connection therewith the brave deeds shall be recorded in legible and durable characters for the benefit of future generations of ringers. We, as the representative of the ringing Exercise all over the world, congratulate the noble victors and patriots who have shown very plainly that Britain is yet the first power in the world. "England yet!"

It will please our readers to know that we shall take all necessary steps to ensure that copies of this number shall reach the hands of those generals whose names are at the present moment so prominently before us. We are under the impression that the records will be read by them with no small degree of wonder and interest. Some of our ringing friends have relatives or friends on one or other of the scenes of action. We suggest that they should let their kindred see what the church bell ringers at home think of their bravery, pluck, and resolution.

To the proposal we made a fortnight ago to publish a list of clergymen who are ringers, several flattering commendations have been received. Various suggestions have been submitted, therefore it will be as well to define what is at present intended. The name of every parson who can ring a bell in rounds is permissible, also of those who are able to ring a half-pull method upon handbells. Those who have rung peals will have the number of such, and the methods, added. We shall refer to the matter again next week; in the meantime we hope to receive many more names and addresses. We must not trust to memory in an affair of this kind.

The Metropolis.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1900, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH, LEWISHAM.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 22½ cwt.

EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. .. Treble.	WILLIAM BOND 5.
WALTER J. SMITH 2.	THOMAS TAYLOR 6.
EDWIN BARNETT, JUN. .. 3.	HARRY WARNETT 7.
PERCY E. BEX* 4.	JOHN H. CHEESMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by A. KNIGHTS and Conducted by EDWIN BARNETT, SEN.

*First peal of Major. This peal was rung to commemorate the relief of Ladysmith.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, EDMONTON,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 17 cwt.

PERCY J. DARLINGTON .. Treble.	ISAAC G. SHADE 5.
RICHARD GOODCHILD 2.	LEWIS J. DARLINGTON .. 6.
ALFRED W. DARLINGTON .. 3.	*JOHN R. SHARMAN 7.
JAMES PARKER 4.	WILLIAM BENNETT .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN R. SHARMAN.

*First peal in the method as conductor; and was rung in honour of the relief of Ladysmith.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 3, 1900, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MATFELON, WHITECHAPEL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 20 cwt.

JAMES SCHOLLES Treble.	THOMAS H. TAPPENDER .. 5.
EDWARD WALLAGE 2.	HENRY SPRINGALL 6.
ARTHUR BARKUS 3.	JOHN W. GOLDING 7.
HARRY R. PASMORE 4.	EMANUEL HALL Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY SPRINGALL.

This peal was rung by request of the Rev. J. A. Faithfull, M.A., Rector, to celebrate the relief of Ladysmith. Firing of the bells followed.

The Provinces.

WITNEY, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

On Thursday, March 1, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE.

FREDERICK POUNDS Treble.	FRANCIS P. POWELL 5.
HARRY BROOKS 2.	JOHN MONK 6.
GEORGE ROOM 3.	REV. CYRIL W. O. JENKYN .. 7.
THOMAS BULL 4.	JESSE BROOKS Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN MONK.

Rung to commemorate the relief of Ladysmith.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.—SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 1, 1900, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES. Tenor 10½ cwt.

GEORGE SMART Treble.	FRANK BENNETT 5.
KEITH HART 2.	GEORGE A. KING 6.
ARTHUR A. FULLER 3.	JAMES N. FROSSELL 7.
ROBERT J. DAWE 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

Rung in honour of the relief of Ladysmith.

SPROUGHTON, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 1, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Superlative Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Double Court Bob, Double Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

DAVID SOUTHGATE Treble.	EDGAR RIVERS 4.
GEORGE W. MEE 2.	ALFRED G. RIVERS 5.
FRANK ROLFE 3.	CHARLES MEE Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES MEE.

Rung in honour of the relief of Ladysmith.

NORTON FITZWARRREN, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 1, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being Forty-two 6-scores. Tenor 16 cwt.

JOHN SLOMAN Treble.	HENRY CHAPLIN 4.
FRANK WYATT 2.	ISAAC CREED 5.
HENRY J. CREED 3.	PETER B. WILLIS Tenor.

Conducted by ISAAC CREED.

First peal by the tenor-man, who was proposed a member of the above Association before starting. Rung to celebrate the relief of Ladysmith.

DERBY.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(DERBY BRANCH.)

On Thursday, March 1, 1900, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

GEORGE WARD* Treble.	EDMUND WILLIS 5.
CHARLES DRAPER 2.	ALBERT E. THOMPSON 6.
CHARLES E. HART 3.	SAMUEL MASKREY 7.
JAMES W. DENT 4.	GEORGE WHEELDON Tenor.

Conducted by A. E. THOMPSON.

*First peal. Rung in honour of the relief of Ladysmith.

BOLTON.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Friday, March 2, 1900, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE SAVIOUR,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
REEVES'S TEN-PART. Tenor 20½ cwt.

WILLIAM GRUNDY Treble.	A. EDWARD WREAKS 5.
THOMAS PEERS 2.	JAMES CALDERBANK 6.
JOHN MOSCROP 3.	TITUS BARLOW 7.
ROBERT FIDDIES 4.	EDMUND HEWITT Tenor.

Conducted by A. EDWARD WREAKS.

This peal was rung in commemoration of the relief of Ladysmith by Sir Redvers Buller.

SEDBERGH, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, March 2, 1900, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.
Tenor 16 cwt.

JOHN W. HARRISON* .. Treble	JOHN E. SENOGLES 5.
JOHN J. EADEN 2.	WILLIAM PENNINGTON 6.
EDWARD PENNINGTON .. 3.	F. SEYMOUR J. PILE 7.
ROBERT IBBOTSON 4.	GEORGE F. WOODHOUSE .. Tenor.

Composed by F. MEADOWS, and
Conducted by GEORGE F. WOODHOUSE.

†First peal. This peal was rung to commemorate the relief of Ladysmith by Sir Redvers Buller.

BATTLE, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1900, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs.

JEHU SINDEN* Treble.	CHARLES HYLAND 5.
WALTER FRANKS 2.	CHARLES R. CARTER 6.
ALBERT EDWARD BARROW .. 3.	WILLIAM J. THOMAS 7.
FREDERICK LOCK 4.	WILLIAM H. ELDRIDGE .. Tenor.

Conducted by WALTER FRANKS.

*First peal away from the tenor. Rung in honour of the relief of Ladysmith.

KELSEALE, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1900, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND PETER.

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

FREDERICK MEE Treble.	EDGAR RIVERS 5.
FRANK ROLFE 2.	WILLIAM DREW 6.
HARRY JAMES MEE 3.	ALFRED G. RIVERS 7.
GEORGE THOMPSON 4.	GEORGE HARDY Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK MEE.

This peal is taken from the Clavis. Messrs. Thompson, Drew and Hardy hail from Kelsale, the rest are members of the Sproughton company. This peal was rung in honour of the relief of Ladysmith.

DEANE, BOLTON.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BOLTON AND MANCHESTER BRANCHES.)

On Saturday, March 3, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DUFFIELD MAJOR, 5000 CHANGES.
Tenor 14 cwt.

THOMAS PEERS Treble.	TITUS BARLOW 5.
HENRY MOSS 2.	A. EDWARD WREAKS 6.
JOSEPH POTTER 3.	RICHARD RIDYARD 7.
ALFRED POTTER 4.	JOHN POTTER Tenor.

Composed by SIR A. HEYWOOD, and Conducted by JOHN POTTER.

This peal was rung in commemoration of the relief of Ladysmith, South Africa. The composition will be found in Sir A. P. Heywood's 'Duffield,' page 55.

GREAT ADDINGTON, NORTHANTS.

On Saturday, March 3, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven 720's, each called differently. Tenor 12 cwt.

ARTHUR HUDSON* Treble.	DANIEL REDHEAD 4.
JAMES NICKERSON 2.	*FREDERICK TINEY 5.
JAMES HUDSON 3.	REGINALD LOVEDAY Tenor.

Conducted by REGINALD LOVEDAY.

*First peal. *First peal on the bells.

HALLIWELL, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 3, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE. Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 25 lbs.

W. THORNLEY Treble.	P. NUTTALL 5.
J. E. FLEETWOOD 2.	*R. BARLOW 6.
G. PINCOTT 3.	W. PENNINGTON 7.
R. HOLDEN 4.	†P. HARGREAVES Tenor.

Conducted by W. THORNLEY.

*First peal away from the tenor. †First peal. This peal was rung in honour of the relief of Ladysmith and was much appreciated by the inhabitants.

APPLETON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD,

On Monday, March 5, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

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

CHARLES HOUNSLOW .. Treble.	G. H. PHILLOTT, ESQ. .. 5.
F. W. WADE 2.	REV. C. W. O. JENKYN .. 6.
FREDERICK WHITE 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
FRANK TUBB 4.	JOHN MONK Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

Rung to celebrate the eighty second anniversary of the Appleton Society of change-ringers.

ROLVENDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 5, 1900, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

VICARS'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

EDGAR BURDEN Treble.	ROBERT EDWARDS 5.
ALFRED HINDS 2.	BENJAMIN BASSETT 6.
FREDERICK G. BURDEN .. 3.	GEORGE NEVE 7.
CHARLES TRIBE 4.	HARRY HOLDSTOCK Tenor.

Conducted by B. BASSETT.

This was to have been rung on the relief of Ladysmith, only meeting short was rung on this date.

CAVERSHAM, OXON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

(THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY.)

On Monday, March 5, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR,

5056 CHANGES;

JOHNSON'S VARIATION OF MIDDLETON'S PEAL.

H. W. SMITH Treble.	J. HANDS 5.
G. E. HARBOUR 2.	G. ESSEX 6.
E. W. MENDAY 3.	R. T. HIBBERT 7.
E. J. MENDAY 4.	T. NEWMAN Tenor.

Conducted by T. NEWMAN.

ALDENHAM, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 6, 1900, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS'S FOUR-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt.

BERTAM PREWETT* Treble.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 5.
HUBERT EDEN 2.	WILLIAM HEWITT 6.
WILLIAM G. WHITEHEAD .. 3.	†ERNEST HOLLOWAY 7.
ERNEST E. HUNTLEY .. 4.	FRANCIS A. SMITH Tenor.

Conducted by BERTRAM PREWETT.

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

DARLINGTON, DURHAM.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(THE ST. JOHN'S GUILD.)

On Tuesday, March 6, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

FREDERICK C. NAISBITT* Treble.	THOMAS CRAWFORD 5.
JAMES BAXTER† 2.	WILLIAM H. PORTER 6.
WILLIAM PATTON 3.	THOMAS CLARK 7.
WILLIAM D. LISTER† .. 4.	G. F. WILLIAMS Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES BAXTER.

*First peal. †First peal in the method as conductor. ‡First peal in the method Rang as a thanksgiving for the recent victories of our troops in South Africa.

Date Touches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

PONTEFRAC (Yorks).—On Monday, February 19th, for practice, a date touch of Stedman Triples in 1 hr. 9 mins. T. Watkinson, 1; G. Spurr, 2; A. Walker, 3; S. Brook, 4; W. Pearson (conductor), 5; J. Jackson, 6; C. Watts, 7; F. Moody, 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

BEBINGTON (Cheshire).—On Monday, February 26th, for practice, a date touch in 59½ mins., being 100 Grandsire, 720 Plain Bob, 360 Canterbury, 360 Oxford Single, and 360 College Single. J. Millington, 1; E. Breeze, 2; G. Breeze, 3; J. Cliffe, 4; J. Dillon, 5; H. E. Hough (conductor), 6.

Miscellaneous.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

DERBY.—Recently, in the belfry of St. Andrew's church, on hand-bells, retained in hand, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original. W. Wallace, 1-2; H. P. Harman (conductor), 3-4; A. H. Ward, 5-6; C. Draper, 7-8. This was rung after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CRAYFORD (Kent).—On Sunday evening, February 11th, for Divine Service, 504 Stedman Triples. E. Audsley, 1; G. Conyard, 2; E. Barnett, jun., 3; *J. Saxby, 4; P. E. Bex, 5; W. Bond, 6; E. Barnett, sen., 7; †H. Audsley, 8. *First touch in the method. †Longest touch.

DEPTFORD (Kent).—On Thursday, March 1st, on the occasion of the relief of Ladysmith, several touches were rung. The bells were fired, concluding with 518 Grandsire Triples. W. Jeffries, 1; J. Rose, 2; T. Deal, 3; J. Law, 4; G. H. Daynes, 5; E. H. Nixon, 6; W. J. Jeffries (conductor), 7; H. Young, 8. On Sunday, March 4th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 41 mins. W. Bedwell (conductor), 1; E. H. Nixon, 2; T. G. Deal, 3; A. C. Bedwell, 4; J. Davis, 5; W. J. Jeffries, 6; G. H. Daynes, 7; J. Law, 8.

CRAYFORD (Kent).—On Thursday, March 1st, a peal of Treble Bob Major was attempted to commemorate the relief of Ladysmith, but was unfortunately lost after ringing 1 hr. 50 mins. E. Audsley, 1; G. Conyard, 2; E. Barnett, jun. 3; J. H. Cheesman, 4; E. Barnett, sen. 5; E. Wightman, 6; W. J. Smith, 7; C. Wilkins (conductor), 8.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

WHITWICK (Leicestershire).—On Thursday, March 1st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. W. Fern, 1; S. W. West, 2; J. Rawson, 3; A. Whitmore, 4; H. Partridge, 5; B. West, 6; J. A. Mould (conductor), 7; F. Boame, 8. The bells were afterwards fired and brought down in peal. Rung in honour of the relief of Ladysmith and Kimberley.—"God save the Queen."

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday evening, February 25th, for Divine Service at St. Michael's church, 800 Bob Major. C. H. Howard (conductor), 1; W. Farrow, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; W. Moore, 4; A. Shuffebotham, 5; P. Holmes, 6; W. Grimwade, 7; E. F. Slade, 8. On Thursday, March 1st, to celebrate the relief of Ladysmith, a peal of Treble Bob Major was attempted, which ended after ringing 2 hrs. 5 mins., owing to the 5th rope breaking. H. Coote, 1; W. Farrow, 2; C. H. Howard (conductor), 3; A. Shuffebotham, 4; H. E. Hammond, 5; E. F. Slade, 6; W. Hammond, 7; W. Webb, 8. On Sunday morning, March 4th, 784 Bob Major. H. Coote, 1; W. Farrow, 2; G. W. Piper, 3; C. H. Howard (conductor), 4; H. Pilcher, 5; P. Holmes, 6; W. Hammond, 7; E. F. Slade, 8. For evening service, 1008 Kent Treble Bob Major. H. Coote, 1; W. Farrow, 2; *G. W. Piper, 3; A. Shuffebotham, 4; C. H. Howard (conductor), 5; P. Holmes, 6; H. E. Hammond, 7; W. Webb, 8. *First attempt at Treble Bob.

STISTED (Essex).—On Sunday afternoon, March 4th, for Divine Service at All Saints' church, 720 Bob Minor. F. Webb, 1; E. Radley, 2; E. Chaplin, 3; E. Chaplin, 4; J. Fluty, 5; G. W. Piper (conductor), 6.

BISHOPS STORTFORD (Herts).—On Thursday, March 1st, at St. Michael's church, in commemoration of the relief of Ladysmith, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples. W. Rickett, 1; A. Tucker, 2; T. Newman, 3; W. Watts, 4; W. Prior, 5; W. W. Tucker, 6; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 7; J. Sampford, 8. Also 630 in the same method. H. J. Tucker, 4; W. Watts, 7; the rest as before. Another quarter-peal in the same method (Johnson's). W. Rickett, 1; A. Tucker, 2; T. Newman, 3; W. Prior, 4; W. T. Prior, 5; W. W. Tucker, 6; W. Watts (conductor), 7; H. J. Tucker, 8.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CRAWLEY (Sussex).—On Thursday, March 1st, at the church of St. John the Baptist, 504 Grandsire Triples. T. Lee, 1; J. Newnham, 2; G. Attfield, 3; J. Rice, 4; G. Paice, 5; A. D. Mills, 6; R. Jordan, 7; F. Merritt, 8. Longest touch in any method by T. Lee. Also 504 in the same method, with G. Ward, 1; the rest as before, conducted by J. Rice. The above touches were rung in honour of the relief of Ladysmith.

BATTLE (Sussex).—On Tuesday, February 20th, at the parish church, 720 Oxford Bob. W. H. Eldridge, 1; W. J. Thomas, 2; F.

Mathis, 3; C. J. Hyland, 4; J. Livermore, 5; C. R. Carter, 6; W. Franks (conductor), 7; A. Saunders, 8. On receipt of the news of relief of Ladysmith, the Union Jack was hoisted on the parish church, and the bells were fired 120 times, being the number of days which the siege had lasted, finishing with a well-struck touch of Grandsire Triples. In the evening a peal was rung, an account of which appears in its proper place.

ST. LEONARD'S-ON-SEA.—On March 1st, to celebrate the relief of Ladysmith, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at Christ Church, in 46 mins. J. Stone, 1; F. Lock, 2; T. Waterhouse, 3; F. Medhurst, 4; J. Livermore, 5; G. Watson (composer and conductor), 6; F. Kennett, 7; H. Denman, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

LITTLE KIMBLE (Bucks).—On Thursday, March 1st, to laud the good news from the front, the local company rang Grandsire Doubles and 180 Bob Minor. F. Darvill, F. Eldridge, A. Darvill, G. Darvill, Albert Darvill, E. Davey. Conducted by J. W. Wilkins. This was the first attempt at Minor by the band.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWPORT (Monmouthshire).—On Thursday, March 1st, at St. Woolo's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. T. Butler, 1; F. Green, 2; H. Millard, 3; J. W. Jones, 4; H. Russell, 5; J. Butler, 6; F. Atwell (conductor), 7; G. Pippin, 8. Rung on receipt of the news of the relief of Ladysmith.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EAST BERKS. AND SOUTH BUCKS. BRANCH.)

HIGH WYCOMBE (Bucks).—On Thursday, March 1st, to commemorate the relief of Ladysmith, the local company, assisted by J. W. Wilkins rang 720 Grandsire Doubles, 4-6-8 covering. During the day other 6-scores were rung. J. W. Wilkins (conductor), Page, Hayes, Aitchin, Atkins, Neighbour, Wootton, Dart, Coles and Wheeler.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

EWELL (Surrey).—On February 27th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. H. Sycamore, 1; H. Pedrick, 2; H. Beams, 3; E. Grove, 4; H. Kenton, 5; H. Greenhill, 6; C. Read, 7; G. Price, 8. Conducted by C. Read. First quarter-peal by 1, 4 and tenor. Rang in honour of Lord Roberts's great victory over General Cronje on that day. Also on March 1st, 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Worsfold, 1; J. Beams, 2; H. Sycamore, 3; H. Federick, 4; E. Groves, 5; H. Greenhill (conductor), 6; H. Beams, 7; G. Price, 8. A 672 in the same method. W. Worsfold, 1; G. Scowen, 2; H. Federick, 3; G. Peuderick, 4; H. Beams, 5; H. Greenhill, 6; C. Read (conductor), 7; W. Poplett, 8. Rung in honour of the relief of Ladysmith. Also on Sunday, March 4th, for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples. G. Price, 1; J. Beams, 2; H. Sycamore, 3; H. Federick, 4; H. Beams, 5; H. Greenhill, 6; C. Read, 7; W. Poplett, 8.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ICKLETON (Cams).—On Thursday, March 1st, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Doubles, being seven 6-scores of Grandsire. and four 6-scores of Old Doubles, each called differently in 50 mins. A. Page, 1; E. Webb, 2; P. Webb (conductor), 3; A. Lilley, 4; J. Webb, 5; F. Crick, 6. Rung to commemorate the relief of Ladysmith.

ALDINGTON (Kent).—On Sunday, January 21st, after morning service at St. Martin's church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). C. Slingsby, 1; W. Sharwood, 2; P. Hodgkin, 3; F. Wanstall, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; F. Hodgkin, 6. Another 720 in the same method (nine bobs and six singles), in 28 mins. C. Slingsby, 1; W. Sharwood, 2; T. Post, 3; G. Hooker, 4; P. Hodgkin, 5; F. Hodgkin, 6. And another 720 in the same method (fourteen singles and four bobs), in 29 mins., both conducted by P. Hodgkin.

EARL'S BARTON (Northants).—On Tuesday, December 26th, at the parish church, a 720 of Oxford Bob (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). F. Jones, 1; C. Swann, 2; J. Hudson, 3; J. Nickerson, 4; L. Chapman, 5; R. Loveday (conductor), 6.

GREAT YARMOUTH (Norfolk).—On March 1st, for the relief of Ladysmith, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 55 mins. W. Lee, 1; R. Christian, 2; W. Blyth, 3; D. Hayward (conductor), 4; W. Secrett, 5; A. Webber, 6; J. Matthews, 7; F. Pestell, 8. Afterwards, with the assistance of the probationers, rounds and call-changes were rung on the twelve.

HANDSWORTH.—On Thursday, March 1st, on the occasion of the relief of Ladysmith, 720 Grandsire Minor. F. Banks, 1; A. Smith,

2; R. Faux, 3; T. Westwood (conductor), 4; T. Verry, 5; W. Verry, 6. On Sunday evening, March 4th, for Divine Service, 1008 Grandsire Triples. R. Faux, 1; W. Verry, 2; J. Sanders, 3; B. Starkey, 4; T. Verry, 5; T. Westwood (conductor), 6; A. Smith, 7; — Jones, 8. Composed by the late Henry Johnson.

HEADCORN (Kent).—On Saturday, February 3rd, 720 Bob Minor, in 28 mins. C. Slingsby, 1; W. Sharwood, 2; G. Hooker, 3; H. Brown, 4; D. Hodgkin, 5; P. Hodgkin, 6. Also another 720 in the same method (eighteen bobs and two singles), standing as before. And 720 in the same method (fifteen bobs and six singles), in 29 mins. C. Slingsby, 1; W. Sharwood, 2; G. Hooker, 3; D. Hodgkin, 4; P. Hodgkin, 5; F. Hodgkin, 6. And another 720 in the same method (fourteen singles and four bobs), all conducted by P. Hodgkin.

RANMOOR, SHEFFIELD (Yorks).—On Tuesday, February 27th, previous to the annual social tea, to celebrate the victory of Paardeberg, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. C. Haynes, 1; W. Goodwin, 2; F. Allen, 3; J. Evinson, 4; S. Thomas (conductor), 5; T. Sawyer, 6; W. S. Plant, 7; H. Allen, 8. First quarter-peal by the ringers of the treble and tenor.

RUGBY (Warwickshire).—On Thursday, March 1st, at St. Andrew's church, to commemorate the relief of Ladysmith, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins. A. Coleman, 1; R. Watson, 2; A. Gillings, 3; C. J. B. Cook, 4; A. Dubber (conductor), 5; T. Holmes, 6; H. King, 7; J. W. Shotton, 8. Composed by J. George. On Sunday evening, March 4th, for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples, in 21 mins. A. Coleman, 1; R. Watson, 2; A. Gillings, 3; C. J. B. Cooke, 4; A. Dubber (conductor), 5; J. W. Shotton, 6; T. Holmes, 7; C. Rowbottom, 8.

SPELDHURST (Kent).—On Sunday, January 28th, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 38 mins. F. Still, 1; A. T. Godley, 2; R. Pelling, 3; G. Turbey (conductor), 4; J. Maynard, 5; H. Seal, 6; G. Izzard, 7; J. Humphries, 8.

THORNHAM MAGNA (Suffolk).—On Sunday, February 25th, for children's service at St. Mary's church, 480 changes of Doubles, being 120 each of Stedman's Slow Course, New Doubles, St. Simons, Morning Star. E. Youngs, 1; H. Symonds, 2; W. Rose, 3; E. Buckingham, 4; A. Symonds (conductor), 5. Also 120 each of Canterbury, Evening Star, Grandsire. W. Lummis, 1; E. Youngs, 2; H. Symonds, 3; A. Symonds, 4; E. Buckingham (conductor), 5. On March 1st, the bells were kept going in the afternoon, 120 each of Grandsire, Plain Bob, April Day and the Dream being rung. W. Rose, 1; E. Youngs, 2; C. Nunn, 3; H. Symonds, 4; E. Buckingham (conductor), 5. Rung in commemoration of the relief of Ladysmith. On Sunday, March 4th, for Divine Service, 720 of Doubles, being 120 each of St. Simons, Canterbury, Grandsire, Plain Bob, Morning Star and the Dream. W. Rose, 1; E. Youngs, 2; C. Nunn, 3; J. E. Buckingham, 4; A. Symonds (conductor), 5.

TAUNTON (Somerset).—Recently, 504 Stedman Triples. J. Maddock, 1; G. H. Yendall, 2; H. J. Poole, 3; F. Millard, 4; W. Gillard, 5; A. Doble, 6; A. Evans (conductor), 7; E. E. Burgess, 8. Also 840 Grandsire Triples. H. Hayward, 1; J. Maddock, 2; A. Doble, 3; F. Millard, 4; A. Evans, 5; H. J. Poole (conductor), 6; S. Wyatt, 7; W. Cording, 8. On January 14th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 45 mins. H. J. Poole, 1; T. Doble, 2; H. Pearce, 3; A. Doble, 4; W. H. Gillard, 5; E. E. Burgess, 6; A. Evans (conductor), 7; W. Pearce, 8.

WALTHAMSTOW (Essex).—On Thursday evening, March 1st, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, 1259 changes, in 46 mins. H. Scarlett, 1; F. Rumens, 2; G. Grimwade, 3; R. Maynard, jun. (first quarter-peal), 4; R. Maynard, sen., 5; T. Maynard, 6; C. Hopkins, 7; W. Manning, 8; F. A. Nunn, 9; T. Watson, 10. Composed by Cornelius Charge, and Conducted by F. A. Nunn.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, February 25th, morning service, 720 Bob Minor. J. Dines, 1; W. Wellington, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; A. Tarbun, 4; W. J. Piper, 5; G. W. Piper (conductor), 6. On Friday, March 2nd, 720 Bob Minor. H. Head, 1; A. Shuttleworth, 2; W. Newman, 3; W. Wellington, 4; A. Tarbun, 5; G. W. Piper (conductor), 6. Rang in honour of the relief of Ladysmith. It was intended to ring Triples, but meeting one short the above was rung.

BOOT TRADE, good opening for beginner; chiefly repairing; at Farnham Royal. Good peal of eight bells.—Apply, J. J. PARKER, Farnham Royal.

CARMAN WANTED.—Good Wages. Change-ringer. Permanency to steady man. Good peal of eight bells. J. J. PRATT, Contractor, Hillingdon, Uxbridge.

Compositions.

TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By G. LINDOFF, *Dublin.*

5040.

23456	M	W	H
52364	2	2	2
32654		2	I
56234		2	2
24365	I	I	2
34625		2	I
43526	2		2
25346		2	2
34256		I	I
32436		2	2
23456		2	

5000.

23456	M	W	H
52364	2	2	2
32654		2	I
36524		I	2
32465	2	I	I
34625		I	2
43526	2		2
25346		2	2
34256		I	I
52436		2	2
23456	2		

TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By ARTHUR CRAVEN, *Chesterfield.*

7456.

23456	M	B	W	H
54326	I	—		2
42563		—		
64235		—		2
36452		—		2
62453	2	—	I	2
64523	I	—	2	2
36245		—	2	2
24365	I	—	2	I
45362	2	—	I	2
52364	I			2
53624			I	2
32465	2	—		
63254		I		2
35642		—		
25346		—	I	
25463		—		I
62534		—		2
24536	2	—	I	2
53246	I	—	2	I
56342	2			I
65243		—	I	2
46532		—		2
34625		—		2
23456		—		2

This peal is in twenty-four courses, and is the first obtained in that number.

THE SIXTY COURSE-ENDS.

8288.

23456	M	B	W	H
43526	I	—		—
32465		—		
26435	I	—		
68254		—		
35642		—		
54326		—		
25463		—		2
56234		—		
59342		—		I
64524		—		
64235		—		I
36452		—		2
32654	2			I
25349		—		
62453		—	2	2
45623	I	—	2	I
53624	2	—	I	2
62534	I	—	2	I
24536	2	—	I	2
53246	I	—	2	I
36245	2	—	I	2
24365	I	—	2	I
45362	2	—	I	2
52364	I			2
65243		—		2
46532		—		2
34625		—		2
23456		—		2

8288.

23456	M	B	W	H
54326	I	—		2
42563		—		
26435		—		
63254		—		
35642		—		
25346		—	I	
25463		—		I
56234		—		
56342		—		I
64523		—		
64235		—		I
36452		—		2
62453	2	—	I	2
45623	I	—	2	I
53624	2	—	I	2
32465	2	—		
32654		—		I
62534		—	2	I
24536	2	—	I	2
53246	I	—	2	I
36245	2	—	I	2
24365	I	—	2	I
45362	2	—	I	2
52363	I			2
65243		—		2
46532		—		2
34625		—		2
23456		—		2

By FRED ROBINSON, *Mirfield.*

5088.

23456	M	B	W	H
23564	2		2	I
34562	I			2
52643	I		I	2
23645	2	—	I	2
65432	I		I	2
56234		—	I	2
64235	I			2
36452		—		2
62453	I			2
26354	2			2
53624			2	2
35426	2			2
24536			2	2
25346			I	2
23456			I	2

This peal has the 5th and 6th each their extent at home.

BOB ROYAL.

By C. R. LILLEY.

5040.

23456	W	M	H
64325	S	—	—
36425		—	—
43625		—	—
62435	—	—	—
46235		—	—
24635		—	—
63245	—	—	—
26345		—	—
23645		S	—
56324	S	—	—
35624		—	—
63524		—	—
52634	—	—	—
65234		—	—
26534		—	—
53264	—	—	—
25364		—	—
23564		S	—
45326	S	—	—
34526		—	—
53426		—	—
42536	—	—	—
54239		—	—
25436		—	—
43256	—	—	—
42356		S	—
34256		—	—
23456		—	—

ADDRESS WANTED.—Mr. A. Fowler, of 101, George's Road, Holloway, wishes for the address of E. N. Aldridge, late of 25, Brahmes road, West Green Road, London, as he wishes to communicate with him at once.

Notices.

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

Halifax and District Association.—The next meeting of this Association will be held at Sowerby, to-day, Saturday, March 10th. Bells ready from dinner time. Business meeting in schoolroom 6 p.m.

WRIGHT INGHAM, Sec.

The Heavy Woollen District Association.—The next monthly meeting of this society will be held at Kirkburton to-day, Saturday, March 10. Meeting at 5.30 at The George hotel. There was a little uncertainty whether the usual eight-bell contest could be held owing to outside interference, but the obstacle has been removed, and the contest will be held as usual. All members who intend competing must pay their subscriptions on or before March 1st. W. IDLE, Sec.

47, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury.

Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting of this Branch will be held at St. Saviour's, Bacup, to-day, Saturday, March 10th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6.30. W. CASS, Branch Sec.

83, Chesham Road, Bury.

The Sussex County Association.—Eastern Division.—The next meeting will be held at Seaford, on Saturday, March 24th. Bells available from 4 to 9. Tea provided by the kindness of the Vicar. Members intending to be present will greatly oblige by sending word to the undersigned not later than the 21st inst. Will local Secretaries please forward all subscriptions in arrears at once.

S. SAKER, Hon. Sec. Eastern Division.
Arran, Baldslow Road, Hastings.

The Midland Counties Association.—Preparation of Annual Report.—Members whose addresses are incorrect in last annual report, or who have changed their addresses since election are requested to notify me without delay. Notice of alteration of practice nights and names of correspondents should also if necessary be sent at once; also obituary notices. W. E. WHITE, Hon. Sec.

Cotgrave, near Nottingham.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Saturday, February 17th, the members of this Society held their annual dinner at The York hotel, Waterloo Bridge Road, S.E., when a company of twenty-six sat down to an excellent table, comfortably arranged and suitably appreciated.

The ex-Master, Mr. H. Barton, took the chair at 6 o'clock, Mr. Wm. Baron occupying the vice-chair.

Letters of apology were read expressing regret at being unable to attend from various members of the Society. Mr. H. N. Davis heartily started a well-arranged programme, which was well sustained throughout by the various musical gentlemen present, who kindly gave their services, a programme which was enlarged upon considerably by volunteers and encores. In referring to the Society's past year the Master reported progress. The list totalled thirteen peals, equal to the highest ever performed. Performances—Grandsire Triples, 3; Grandsire Caters, 2; Bob Major, 3; Bob Royal, 1; Treble Bob Major, 1; Treble Bob Royal, 1; Stedman Caters, 2;

(one false). Towers—Walworth, 2; Epsom, 2; Walthamstow, 1; Brixton, 1; Ashted, 1; Camberwell, 1; Westminster, 5. Some notable attempts were made at Fulham for Johnson's short-course composition of Stedman Caters, and at St. Albans Cathedral twice for Bob Major, lasting about 3 hrs. each.

The thanks of the company were due to Mr. G. Wild for providing a gramophone and manipulating the same, as well as accompanying many of the songs upon the piano-forte.

"The Visitors" was responded to by Sergt. C. A. West, of the Surrey Rifles, F Company, while the clever feats of the Cintielli brothers were much appreciated. The handbells used were a good peal belonging to the Society, tenor 18 size in G, by Stockham, 1876. Mr. Symonds' unmusical, but humorous song, created much mirth, particularly that which concluded the programme.

During the afternoon the tower of St. John's was open for ringing, by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. C. Barnbridge Bell, M.A., and touches of Grandsire and Stedman were rung, the latter consisting of one of Mr. Fussell's "Walworth touches."

A long evening passed away only too quickly for those friends thus joining in harmony, and midnight arrived when a thoroughly enjoyable sedate old annual was closed once more.

ST. SEPULCHRE, LONDON.

On Saturday, March 3rd, the bells were muffled and rang as a last token of respect to Mr. James Wheeler, for upwards of twenty years a ringer at this church, and a member of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths. Also in respectful memory of the late J. T. Bedford, Esq., formerly deputy of the Ward, and for many years a prominent and highly-esteemed member of the Vestry. J. Barry (conductor), 1; A. E. Church, 2; A. Reed, 3; J. Lewis, 4; A. Vincent, 5; G. Watkins, 6; F. Ford, 7; R. Matthews, 8; W. Matthews, 9; D. Lovett, 10. Tenor 32 cwt.

ARMLEY, LEEDS, YORKSHIRE.

On Monday evening, February 19th, at Christ Church, previous to the service for the dedication of a new organ, 600 changes of Woodbine were rung. J. Hey, 1; F. Blacketh, 2; R. Thomas, 3; J. Thackray, 4; M. Broadbent (conductor), 5; J. Heckingbottom, 6. The ceremony of dedication took place in the presence of a very large congregation, all the available space being occupied. The instrument, built by Mr. J. J. Binns, of Bramley, near Leeds, is a three-manual organ, fitted throughout with the builder's patent tubular pneumatic action, and the wind is generated by a hydraulic engine placed in the vestry. The specification further shows nine stops in a great organ, eleven in a swell organ, seven in a choir organ, five in pedal organ, with eleven coupling stops and eleven pedals. Fitted in a pitch-pine case of Gothic design, the organ has an attractive appearance. The tone of the new instrument is remarkable for quality rather than power—a feature which would be appreciated in many churches, where more organ than choir is usually heard. The dedication service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. H. M. Cox) and the Rev. G. Atkinson (curate). An exceptionally interesting and well-varied programme, eminently calculated to display the best qualities of the instrument, was gone through by Dr. A. L. Peace (organist of St. George's Hall, Liverpool), which included the March of the Crusa-

ders, from the "Legend of St. Elizabeth," introducing the beautiful melody known as the Crusader's hymn, by Frank Liszt, the pianoforte virtuoso. The total cost of organ is about £1050, of which £900 was subscribed prior to the dedication service. The offertory at the service amounted to £22 14s. 6d.

The bells at this church, six in number, have been hung twenty-eight years, and would do with overhauling, while at the same time adding two new trebles they would make a capital ring of eight, the tenor being 16 cwt. and of good tone. The subject has already been mooted and received with favour in certain quarters, and it is hoped that when the organ fund is cleared up the authorities will see their way to have the augmentation carried out, an item which would bring pleasure to both ringers and people in the neighbourhood.

On Sunday evening, March 4th, 360 Oxford Treble Bob. Jos. Thackray (conductor), 1; W. Walker (longest length away from the treble), 2; J. Whitaker, 3; Jno. Thackray, 4; J. Heckingbottom, 5; J. Guy, 6. Also 120 Violet and 72 Kent. W. Walker, 1; J. Whitaker, 2; Jos. Thackray, 3; the others as before.

Handbells for Sale.

SET of 15 Handbells, tenor 18c, viz., 13 consecutive notes, with semitone 12f and bc sharp. By Mears and Stainbank. No reasonable offer refused. Apply to Mr. T. Hattersley, 79, West Street, Sheffield; or the Rev. F. G. Sandford, Sharrow Vicarage, Sheffield.

FOR SALE, Set of 8 Handbells in key of C. Only used twice. As good as new. Offered for £2. Address—Rector, Rammore, Dorking.

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PERMANENT Appointment required as Surveyor or Manager of Works (on Estate or otherwise). Good Accountant, Draughtsman, Timber and Land Surveyor, Drainage, Sanitary Work, preparation of Plans, Specifications, Quantities. Well educated. Photo if desired. Know Standard Methods. "STEDMAN," Hatchgate, Cold Ash, Newbury, Berks.

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TENOR 25 cwt. 5 WEIGH 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.

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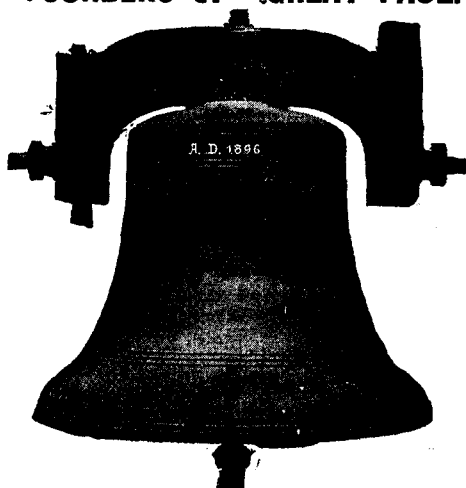
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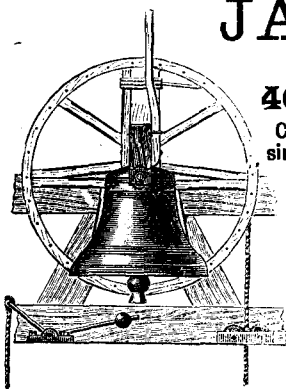
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THE BELL NEWS

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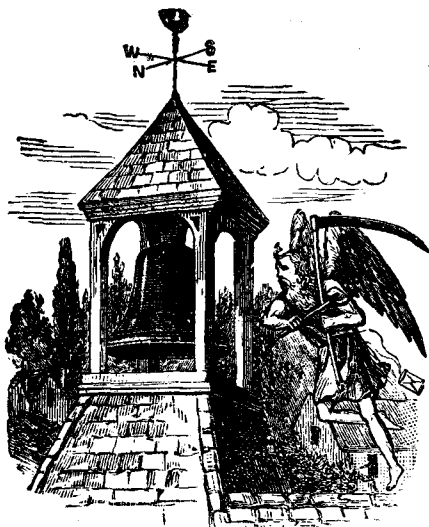
A Weekly Journal of the Ringing Exercise ; and Compendium of Information for the Clergy and Churchwardens.

No. 936.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1900.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

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Exeter Cathedral.	Craig-y-Nos Castle
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Law Courts, London.	Crawley Parish Church.
St. James' Palace, London.	Corbridge-on-Tyne, do.
Sherborne Abbey.	Pontypool (Trevethin
Sydney Town Hall,	Church).
N.S.W.	Windermere Church.
Hammersmith Parish Ch.	Eiffel Tower, Paris.
Gateshead Clock Tower.	Dunsfold Parish Church.
Duke of Albany Memorial,	Aylesford do.
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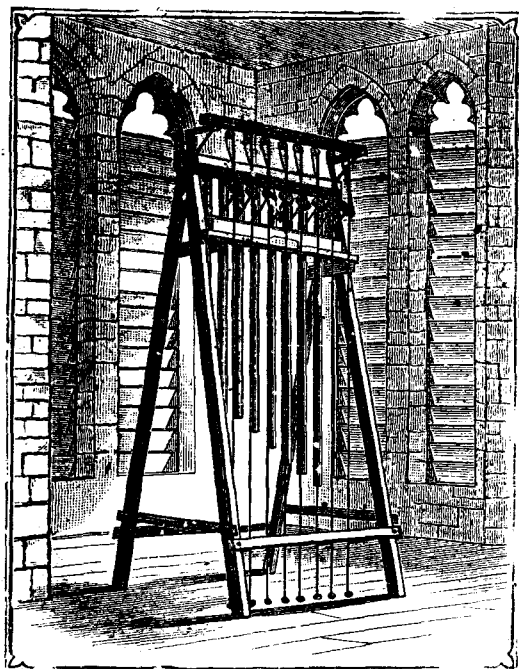
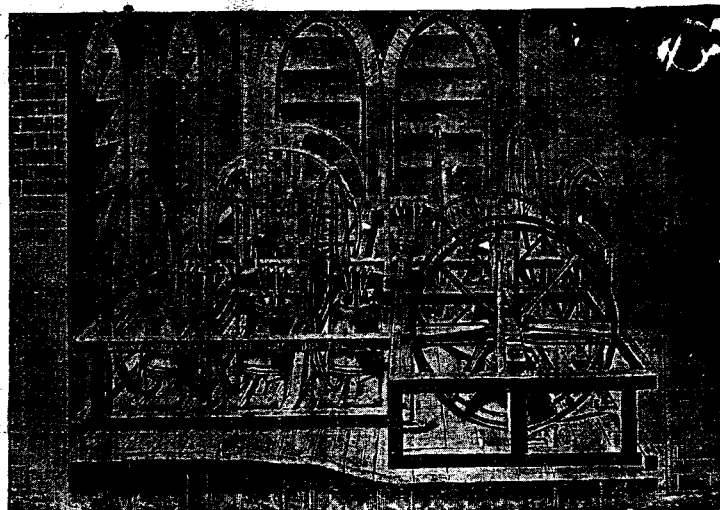
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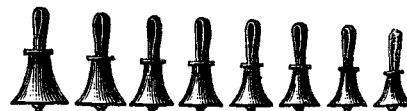
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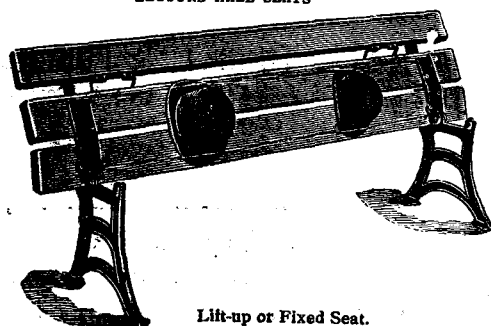
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 936.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1900.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD AT HAWLEY, HANTS.

A Quarterly Meeting of this Guild was held at Hawley, Hants., on the 17th of February. The Vicar, the Rev. J. P. Wyatt, who has interested himself with the work of ringers for many years, placed the bells at the disposal of members, and also his parish room for the meeting. Neither the Master (Rev. R. C. M. Harvey) or the Hon. Secretary (Rev. C. E. Matthews) were able to be present, so the Rev. A. B. Hargrave presided.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and passed. One honorary and three performing members were elected, while two other elections were confirmed.

The question of an assistant-Secretary for Surrey was discussed. Mr. J. J. Jones (Guildford) was of opinion that it would be bad policy to divide the Diocese. He suggested that the appointment of a separate Treasurer would relieve the work of the Hon. Secretary. On this point there was a diversity of opinion.

Mr. Willshire considered that if quarterly meetings for business were held in each district, the Secretary of the respective district could lighten the labours of the General Secretary, and at the same time give a greater facility to members residing at different or opposite ends of the Diocese for meeting together to improve the ringing.

Mr. H. White (Basingstoke) stated that as far as meetings for combined practice were concerned his experience went to show that the attendance was so small that it did not warrant a continuance of the custom.

Mr. Willshire then gave notice that he should move at the next annual meeting—"That quarterly meetings for business be held in each district."

The place of the next quarterly meeting was then discussed. Mr. J. Whiting (Fareham) proposed that it be held in Hants., but this was ruled out of order as being contrary to Rule VII. Chiddingfold was then proposed, seconded, and carried, and the date was fixed for Saturday, April 28th.

Mr. Thorne proposed that longer notices of the meetings be given in "THE BELL NEWS." This was seconded by Mr. Allen, and carried.

Votes of thanks were accorded very heartily to Mrs. and Miss Wyatt for their kindness in providing tea for the members attending the meeting; to the Vicar for the use of the bells; and to the Rev. A. B. Hargrave for presiding.

Members attended from Reading, Fareham, Shalford, Camberley, Basingstoke, Guildford (St. Nicolas and Holy Trinity), Ockham, and Portsea.

[This report was unavoidably delayed owing to pressure of work.]

A CLERICAL RINGING COMPANY.

From a Portsea local paper we take the following:—

"The peal of welcome which the bells of Portsea Parish Church yesterday gave to the good news from Natal was rung by the junior clergy of the parish. It has always been the custom in England to set the church bells going when good tidings came to hand, but it is doubtful whether ever before a peal of victory had been rung by the clergy of a parish. Indeed, there are few parishes in the United Kingdom which possess sufficient clergy to perform such a feat in campanology. The incident is so unique that it deserves permanently recording. On the walls of many church belfries are inscribed the names of ringers who have assisted in historic peals. Do not the names of the reverend campanologists who yesterday swung the bells of Kingston church deserve recording in the same way?"

We should say that in no other parish in the universe could such a thing occur at present. The reverend performers' names should be made known.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(HINCKLEY DISTRICT.)

A meeting of this district was held at Stoney Stanton on Saturday, March 3rd. Members attended from Barwell, Earl Shilton and Thurlaston. Touches of Oxford Bob Minor, Grandsire Triples and Bob Major were rung upon the tower bells. The Rector entered the church during the ringing to give a welcome to the visitors. A business meeting was afterwards held, when Barwell was proposed as the next place of meeting, to be held the first Saturday in May. One honorary and two performing members were elected, which concluded the business, after which touches and tunes on the handbells brought a pleasant evening to a close.

HEVER, KENT.

The first peal ever rung in this parish was rung on Saturday, March 10th, the occasion being the farewell of one of the ringers (H. Harrington), who has joined Her Majesty's navy. It was only a little more than a twelve-month ago that we recorded the addition of a new treble to the old ring of five. The ringers are to be congratulated, as with exception of the conductor, none of them had attempted a peal. The peal of 5040 was made up of seven 720s of Treble Bob, Bob Minor, and Grandsire, the record of which will be found in its proper place.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD PEAL-BOOK.—A RECORD of Five Hundred and Twenty Peals rung by this Guild. Paper covers, 6d.; cloth do., 9d.—Blackwell, Reading; or the Hon. Sec. of the Guild—the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, Dunsden Vicarage, Reading Berks.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The gentlemen of the Guild of St. Martin, Birmingham, are determined to keep green the memory of the late HENRY JOHNSON. The notion of a yearly commemoration festival for the purpose was a very happy one. It is a good thing that the Guild contains among its members the sort of people which warrants the correct keeping of such a festival. The late Mr. Johnson was a man of great mark in the Exercise. In the hearts of most ringers he occupies a place as high as any one. Those who had the pleasure of his acquaintance easily discovered, we may suppose, his worth. It has been said he was always a teacher, *i.e.* his knowledge was at the service of any one; and his profound acquaintance with the principles of composition prevented many young beginners in this branch of the Art from going astray.

It appears there is a place down west, near Chippenham called "Kington St. Michael." The Vicar there, if what we read last week is true, has "nobbled" the bells, temporarily, let us hope. Ringers can always make a tolerably good share of "allowance" for the feelings and inclinations of their clergy, and generally will bow to their dictum without a murmur. In this particular case I venture with all respect to say that the Vicar acted illogically. Very much so, really. He is reported to have said that "this cursed war had been forced upon us by a set of gold-grabbers and place-hunters," &c. Then it may be asked would the worthy Vicar have recommended our soldiers not to fight, to mutiny in fact, because they may have had doubts about the propriety of entering into the conflict. To be consistent with his action on the occasion alluded to, he should answer in the affirmative. Then he would naturally come to the conclusion that the killed and wounded in such a contest only met with their deserts.

He may indignantly repudiate such an idea. But the ringers did not ring the bells to glorify the "land-grabbers and place-hunters." Not a bit of it. They had as great an antipathy to persons who fall under such descriptions as the Vicar himself. They wished to ring the bells as a sign of the parochial joy which prevailed, because a great body of our own people had been delivered from death and danger by the unremitting perseverance and bravery of their comrades-in-arms. And the Vicar not only refused to countenance such a praiseworthy ebullition of feeling, but would not let his parishioners have the satisfaction of hearing their own bells ring. Ah me!

Reference to this brings to mind my suggestions of last week. I hinted, you may recollect, at the propriety of a new method being invented, which should be called "Old England." Mr. George Baker, of Brighton, fell in with the idea directly. He has sent the following letter, which I give in full, and in the truly orthodox manner:—

OLD ENGLAND COURT BOB MAJOR.
A NEW METHOD.

By GEORGE BAKER, *Hove, Brighton.*

Sir,—I am intensely patriotic just now, so will pass over the veiled sarcasm in "Notes and Comments" and thank Mr. Plain Speaker for the suggestion of a patriotic name for the enclosed method. It was to have been Brighton Court Bob Major, but Old England (for ever) will do better. This method

being as nearly perfect as we are likely to find anything, and being almost as simple as Bob Major, perhaps by the time that peace is proclaimed Mr. Plain Speaker and ringers in general will be ready to take part in a peal of the method here given, in honour of our brave soldiers and fellow-countrymen in South Africa.

A LEAD.	SCALE OF COURSE-ENDS.	5088.
12345678	23456 2 3 4 6	23456 2 3 4 6
21436587	63254 - - - -	35264 - - - -
24163857	32654 - - - -	56234 - - - -
42618375	25634 - - - -	23564 - - - -
46281357	62453 - - - -	36524 - - - -
64823175	63425 - - - -	62534 - - - -
68432715	35264 - - - -	53624 - - - -
86347251	26435 - - - -	32654 - - - -
68374521	34256 - - - -	65324 - - - -
86735412	45236 - - - -	52364 - - - -
87653142	24653 - - - -	26354 - - - -
78561324	23645 - - - -	24365 - - - -
75816342	35426 - - - -	25346 - - - -
57183624	43652 - - - -	54326 - - - -
51738264	42635 - - - -	42356 - - - -
15372846	A bob at 6 brings	
13527486	up the course-	
Bobs & singles	end, cutting out	
as in Double	one lead.	
Norwich.		
		32546 - - - -
		24536 - - - -
		53246 - - - -
		34256 - - - -
		45236 - - - -
		32456 - s

Repeated; has the
6th her extent right.

The above method was composed on August 30th, 1899. It is strictly Court Bob, as there are no contiguous places in same, and the changes are alternate quadruple and triple throughout.

We shall all be much obliged to Mr. Baker for this. I hope the method can be readily used for Minor and Royal. Now who will ring the above 5088 of "Old England?" Look alive, some of you adventurous wights; we shall read of it being attempted next week. Let me assure Mr. Baker that I intended no sarcasm, veiled or unveiled, in my remarks the other week. I could not be sarcastic if I tried ever so.

Then I have another letter from Mr. Parsons, of Old Hill, in Staffordshire. Here it is:—

DEAR SIR,—“B.N.” is not the only paper in which the error of Lord Roberts having one arm has appeared. My authority is a clergyman, who is a personal friend of Lord Roberts, says he has two arms. I cannot mention the clergyman's name without his permission, but can obtain this if necessary. He has only one head, and this Cronje and his Boer friends are finding out to be in its right place, and in good working order.—ALBERT E. PARSONS.

Surely my jottings are being more extensively read than ever. I hope to hear from Mr. Parsons again before long. He will evidently prove a great acquisition to my hon. staff.

This very Saturday is the patronal festival of all good Irishmen. It is St. Patrick's day. You have read that all Irishman in the Army are to be allowed to wear the shamrock without fear. It seemed to me a bit of trumpery officialism ever to prevent it. Our brethren of the emerald isle will not I hope let the day go by without attempting a peal on St. Patrick's Cathedral bells. You are aware, most of you, that St. Patrick is actually believed to have performed a miracle in Ireland. This was to banish all

the serpents therefrom. There was a certain Irish regiment who when the great Duke of Wellington was alive, used upon each recurring St. Patrick's day to drink the following toast—"The two greatest Irishmen who ever lived—Lord Wellington and St. Patrick." A friend sends the following doggerel, which he calls "Irish Astronomy."

O'Ryan was a man of might,
When Ireland was a nation;
And poaching was his heart's delight
And constant occupation.
He had an old militia gun,
And sartin sure his aim was,
He gave the keepers many a run
And wouldn't mind the game laws.
St. Patrick once was passing by
O'Ryan's little bouldin'
And as the saint felt weak and dry
He thought he'd enter bould in;
"O'Ryan," says the saint, "avick,
To praitch at Thurles I'm goin',
So let me have a rasher quick,
And a drop of Garryowen."
"No rasher will I cook for you,
While better is to spare, sir,
But here's a jug of mountain dew
And there's a rattlin' hare, sir."
St. Patrick he looked mighty sweet
And said "good luck attend ye;
And when you're in your windin' sheet
'Tis up to heaven I'll send ye."
Says O'Ryan with a beaming face
"Them tidin's is transportin'
But may I ax your saintship if
There's any kind of sportin'!"
The saint he smiled, and then replied,
"Two bears, a bull, a cancer;"
"Be jabers; sport of Royal kind
St. Patrick, I'm your man, sir."
So to conclude my song aright
And satisfy all nayshuns,
You'll see O'Ryan any night
Among the constellations;
And Venus follows in his track
Till Mars grows jealous raaly,
For faith he's got an Irish knack
Of handling the shillelagh.

There is a somewhat ugly letter from Caversham from Thomas Newman. He is certainly raking something up. Why he is in the same category, if what he alludes to has any foundation. If he *knew* there was anything the matter with the London Surprise why has he waited all this time? Steady, Thomas. You have had many years in which to make a charge against this performance! Why have you not done so before now? There will soon be an Act of Parliament inflicting heavy penalties upon all who knowing that a peal is—well, fictitious, keep the secret locked up in their own breast. I am much afraid that some of these objections to peals so long after date arise from not the most charitable spirit.

PLAIN SPEAKER.

KING'S LANGLEY, HERTS.

A large clock with Cambridge chimes has just been erected in the parish church. It has been made generally to the designs of Lord Grimthorpe, by Messrs. John Smith and Sons, of the Midland Steam Clock Works, Derby, who made the clock at St. Paul's Cathedral.

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 DUBLIN PEAL.

SIR,—There is a point or two in connection with the above that some of us here in Brighton have heard, and which we should very much like to see made clear, hence my troubling you with a few lines. No doubt Mr. Lindoff will recollect his shewing us, myself, F. Bennett, and K. Hart (on the journey from Brighton to Uckfield on September 28th last) what he said was the last course-end but one in this said peal, viz., 63254, and the remark made by F. Bennett at once was "Why a bob M brings them in plain course." Now by Mr. Wakley's letters we are told that the bells came home from 2 M. Now this seems the query. Of course it is well known that if 63254 be followed with either one or two bobs at M, the peal must be false, provided no bob was called before the middle in going off, so you will, Sir, I think, see by this that particulars seemed a little bit mixed, therefore I think on this evidence it should be stated who took the course-end (63254) as being the last but one, or the one the bells came home from; also by whom and when the peal was first doubted, and why it was not made known at the time. The question is if 63254 was followed by 2 M, how did the bells get round?

GEORGE WILLIAMS.

2, Grove Street, Brighton.

P.S.—It seems that disputes of this kind cannot be settled by correspondence, therefore I think a fair suggestion would be for the Association (under whose name any such peal is rung) to refer it to the Central Council for their final decision. I am rather inclined to favour Mr. "Plain Speaker's" remarks re this affair coming to light, as it appears to have been talked over amongst ringers in certain parts for some time. I think any one with sufficient evidence to prove such a scandal should have made it public at once. The old saying "silence is golden" surely does not apply here, as all the time Mr. Washbrook remains silent leads one to think this case in point is only too true. Now my old friend Washbrook, let us hear from you on the matter, and if you are in the wrong you can console yourself in what the old book says—"he that humbleth himself shall be exalted."

BARNSBURY AND CANONBURY COURT BOB MAJOR.

SIR,—My friend Mr. H. Dains omitted to say that I sent him Canonbury under the title of Reverse Barnsbury Court Bob Major. The name Canonbury was given to the method by Mr. Dains, and I do not quite see how I can claim authorship, the method being only a reverse variation of Barnsbury. Mr. A. Craven says that Barnsbury and Canonbury are Single Norwich and its Reverse. This statement requires more proof than we have at present. The methods given by Shipway as Single and Reverse Norwich are certainly more closely allied to Double Norwich than either Barnsbury or Canonbury. Shipway obtains his methods by dividing the Double Norwich places in all positions, so that each method contains one half of the places and in the single variation we have Double Norwich work in 7-8, and in the reverse in 1-2. Except for the similarity of the place-making 3-4 in Barnsbury and 5-6 in Canonbury, there is nothing whatever in the last-mentioned methods that can be identified with Double Norwich Court Bob Major; I admit that by splicing the two methods together Double Norwich is obtained, but Shipway's methods only require rivetting, the two halves are ready to hand.

GEORGE BAKER.

SIR,—As Mr. Dains in his letter in your last issue makes mention of my name with regard to my remarks on the above two methods, I think it only just that I should explain the reason for such remarks. Mr. Baker's contention was that both methods are strictly single methods, and I agree with his theory of illustrating it (see "BELL NEWS" for December 9th, 1899), viz., that the places made are single, being legitimately duplicated when the treble is returning to lead. In Barnsbury these places are made in 3-4 only, and in Canonbury in 5-6 only, so therefore to give the work of these or any other single methods it is

necessary to prick out the whole of the treble-lead, but to give the work of a double method only one half the lead is necessary, as follows:—

DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7
 2 4 1 3 5 6 7 8
 4 2 3 1 6 5 8 7
 2 4 3 6 1 5 7 8
 4 2 6 3 5 1 8 7
 2 4 3 6 5 8 1 7
 4 2 6 3 8 5 7 1
 4 6 2 8 3 7 5 1

the other half-lead being exactly reverse. Now I don't know what course Mr. Dains would take to extract the single method from the above figures. My way might be wrong to some people's way of thinking, but I should take the first half of the above eight changes and fill the remaining four changes in with plain hunting as follows, which cuts the 5-6 places out.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7
 2 4 1 3 5 6 7 8
 4 2 3 1 6 5 8 7
 2 4 3 6 1 8 5 7
 4 2 6 3 8 1 7 5
 4 6 2 8 3 7 1 5
 6 4 8 2 7 3 5 1
 6 8 4 7 2 5 3 1

This gives us the first half-lead of Barnsbury Court Bob, Canonbury being the reverse to it. The question I ask Mr. Dains is, how can he claim this as an original method, when it is nothing more or less than Single Norwich? ARTHUR CRAVEN.

1, Vale Terrace, Chesterfield.

DISSATISFACTION.

SIR,—Dissatisfaction has arisen of late at the absence of meetings held in the Western Division of the Sussex County Association by members of the same. Would the Hon. Secretary of the above kindly explain and remedy it. There was for the year 1899 meetings to be held, viz.: in June at Felpham; in September at Pulborough; in December at Steyning; and for 1900—March at Arundel; so that there should have been the same number of meetings as the Eastern and Central Divisions. Now the latter Divisions have energetic Hon. Secretaries, by which they are enabled to hold their meetings regular. We think that it is quite time the above should appoint a working Hon. Secretary instead of a sleeping one, of which much complaint has been made of late. Such a state of things does not tend to advance the art of change-ringing, but on the contrary to lessen the same, and we hope at the Annual General Meeting to be held at Brighton on Easter Monday the members connected with this Division will use their utmost to induce the appointed Secretary to hold the meetings where possible at the time and place, that we may keep on the level as our friends of the Eastern and Central Divisions.

COMPLAINT—WESTERN DIVISION.

BOB ROYAL.

SIR,—I hope Mr. C. R. Lilley will forgive me for pointing out that the peal of Bob Royal in your last issue can hardly with the greatest stretch of imagination be called an original composition. If he will look at it again he will find that the 2nd and 3rd and the 4th and 5th singles respectively counteract each other and ought therefore to be replaced by bobs; when the composition resolves itself into our old friend the extension of the well-known 1008 of Bob Major, with two extra courses tacked on, not very ingeniously, by means of the first and last singles. I have already written at some length in "THE BELL NEWS" on this and similar compositions, and if Mr. Lilley cares to refer back (I forget the exact date), he will there find what I mean more fully explained. J. A. TROLLOPE.

Ealing, W.

THE RECORD PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE.

SIR,—Will Mr. Newman follow up his insinuations by stating

what, in his opinion, was wrong in the 11,328 of London Surprise rung at Drayton on September 17th, 1896.

F. E. ROBINSON, Master Oxford Diocesan Guild.

SADDLEWORTH MAJOR.

SIR,—If Mr. J. J. Brierley will kindly refer to "THE BELL NEWS" of August 10th, 1895, he will find the above method registered there as King's Norton Pleasure, and as such I shall always ring it by when we have the time, but we have been employed in plucking better fruit, and have not had the opportunity to ring King's Norton Pleasure. WILLIAM PALMER.

The Square, King's Norton, Worcestershire.

ST. STEPHEN'S SURPRISE.

SIR,—In reply to Mr. Craven's letter in your last issue as having a prior claim to my method, I must say that I am surprised at him not publishing it, considering he has had it so long, also the qualities it contains. I am sorry the explanation I sent with the figures got mislaid, as it would show its high position in our up-to-date methods, so there is nothing for him to be ashamed of by publishing it, although I have had it some two years myself. I remember several instances of this kind. How are the Exercise to know that things exist if it is impossible to see them. A composition becoming public property is the author's own absolutely, but until then they deserve all consequences that arise, if they lock their work in obscurity when chances against are so great. The only method St. Stephen's Surprise resembles is Yorkshire Treble Bob, published in Sottanstell's work, so Mr. Craven would have been late had he published it as Yorkshire Treble Bob. As regards my respect for Surprise methods being poor, I fail to see the ground for such a statement. I am not aware of any limit between a Treble Bob and a Surprise more than the continuous making of 2nds is recognised as a Treble Bob. I must also inform Mr. Craven that the peals of Double Norwich belong neither to him or Mr. Banks. They were published by J. W. Washbrook in "THE BELL NEWS" of September, 1887. F. DENCH.

WITNEY, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

The annual supper was given to the ringers by the Rector and Mrs. Foxley W. Norris on Wednesday, February 21st, at 8 p.m. Besides the ringers there were present Canon Norris (President of the Witney Society, in the chair), Rev. Cyril W. O. Jenkyn (Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, in the vice-chair), and F. P. Powell, Esq., of the Witney Grammar School. After an excellent supper, to which full justice was done, the Rector proposed the toast of the evening—"The Queen," which was drunk with musical honours. Then in a short speech he congratulated the band warmly on the progress they had made since the last annual meeting, and urged upon them to go on and make still further progress. He looked to them to make the Witney tower rank among the best in the diocese. Passing on to more solemn matters, he reminded them of the duty they all owed God of worshipping in His House, and said he trusted he might live to see all the ringers of their own will become communicants.

Mr. Jenkyn then gave a brief review of the present state of affairs as a society, mentioning the fact that three peals had been rung by them in the last few months, in which he had the pleasure of taking part in company with Mr. Powell. He hoped the day was not far distant when he would be able to listen to a good peal of Grandsire Triples rung by the society without the assistance of himself and Mr. Powell.

The following were then elected as stated ringers for the ensuing year: J. Monk, H. Brooks, T. Bull, G. Room, J. Brooks, E. Baker, F. Pounds, and J. Horne.

Messrs. Monk, H. Brooks, and Bull were elected to serve on the Committee.

The Rev. Cyril W. O. Jenkyn was elected as Secretary, Treasurer, and Steeplekeeper.

The rest of the evening was spent in songs and handbell ringing, and at the close of the evening Mr. Monk, in a well-chosen speech, proposed the health of the Secretary, and on behalf of all expressed most hearty thanks to the Rector and Mrs. Norris for so kindly entertaining them. Proceedings terminated at 11.30 with the singing of the National Anthem.

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.—East-ern Division.—The next meeting will be held at Seaford, on Saturday, March 24th. Bells available from 4 to 9. Tea provided by the kindness of the Vicar. Members intending to be present will greatly oblige by sending word to the undersigned not later than the 21st inst. Will local Secretaries please forward all subscriptions in arrears at once.

S. SAKER, *Hon. Sec. Eastern Division.*
Arran, Baldslow Road, Hastings.

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—East Berks. and South Bucks. Branch. — The next monthly meeting will be held at High Wycombe, on Saturday, March 17th. Ringing to commence at 3 o'clock. Tea will be provided at 8d. per head.

H. C. BELL, *Branch Secretary.*

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting of this Branch will be held at St. Mark's, Glodwick, on Saturday, March 24th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6.30. All ringers welcome.

JAS. JACQUES, *Branch Sec.*
48, Church Street, Middleton.

The Middlesex County Association.—South and West District.—The next meeting of this branch will be held by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. J. T. Jemmet, at the church of St. Catherine, Feltham, on Saturday, March 31st. Ringing to commence at 4.33 p.m. Members and friends are cordially invited.

C. EDWARDS, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*

Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The Annual Meeting of the above Society will be held at Leeds, on Saturday, March 31st. Meeting house The Nag's Head hotel, opposite the church. Ringing from 2 to 4, and 6 till 9. Business meeting at 7 o. Handbells provided. H. Y. GAYTHORPE, *Hon. Sec.*

1, Elm Avenue, Bramley.

Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Brookfield church, Gorton, on Saturday, March 31st. Bells ready at 3.30 p.m. Business meeting at 7 p.m. A good attendance of members is requested.

W. BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The Annual Meeting of this Association will be held at Dudley, on Easter-Monday, April 16th. Full particulars in due course.

JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

The Midland Counties Association.—Preparation of Annual Report. — Members whose addresses are incorrect in last annual report, or who have changed their addresses since election are requested to notify me without delay. Notice of alteration of practice nights and names of correspondents should also if necessary be sent at once; also obituary notices.

W. E. WHITE, *Hon. Sec.*
Cotgrave, near Nottingham.

WEST RETFORD (Notts).—On Thursday, March 1st, at St. Michael's church, to celebrate the relief of Ladysmith, the new company just formed at this church rang several plain courses of Bob Minor, and fired the bells at intervals during the day.

Compositions.

SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR.

By HENRY DAINS.

5248.

23456	M	B	W	H
45236		-	-	
24536		-	-	
52436		-	-	
43526		-	-	
54326		-	-	
63425	-		-	
63254	-		-	
25634	-		-	
53246	-		-	
64235	-		-	
26435	-		-	
26354	-		-	
32654	-		-	

Repeated.

This composition has the 4th, 5th and 6th their extent in 5-6 upon this plan in this number of changes.

5056.

23456	M	B	W	H
23564		-	-	
52364		-	-	
65324		-	-	
32654		-	-	
53624		-	-	
63425	-		-	
63254	-		-	
42356	-		-	
42563	-		-	
56423	-		-	
62534	-		-	
43526	-		-	
54326	-		-	

Repeated.

This composition has the 6th six times, or the extent each way in 5-6, upon the plan, and by a little variation comes from the 5248 above given.

LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR.

By HENRY DAINS.

5760.

23456	M	B	W	H
23564		-	-	
36524	-		-	
62345	-		-	
24653	-		-	
45236	-		-	
45362	-		-	
56423	-		-	
62534	-		-	
23645	-		-	
34256	-		-	

Twice repeated.

This composition has the sixty course-ends and all the 7-8s before. Omit the before of second course, call the home and the 6th course-end is produced, and a peal of 5024 obtained with the least possible number of bobs, tenors together.

5760.

23456	M	B	W	H
35264		-	-	
56342		-	-	
64523		-	-	
64235		-	-	
43265	-		-	
36452	-		-	
65324	-		-	
52643	-		-	
52436	-		-	
23564	-		-	

Twice repeated.

By omitting the before and calling a home in the 5th course the ninth course is produced and the peal reduced to 5024 changes, with the least number of bobs as last mentioned.

THE NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

EAST RETFORD (Notts).—On Thursday, March 1st, at St. Swithun's church, upon receipt of the news of the relief of Ladysmith a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, 1259 changes, taken from Shipway, in 48 mins. T. Spurr, 1; A. T. Winter, 2; E. Collingburn, 3; H. Warburton, 4; T. H. Denman, 5; G. R. Winter, 6; H. Haigh, 7; G. Swannack, 8; J. B. Joynes (conductor), 9; G. W. D. Metcalfe, 10. The bells were also fired several times.

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PREBLE BOB. PART I. out of print and under revision.
Part I. contains instructions for pricking, transposing, proving, composing, conducting peals; an essay on the *In and Out-of-course* of the changes; and 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. 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 (p. 5)

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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 Wednesday 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 17, 1900.

THOUGH we have no agreement whatever or even sympathy with the writer who in this number is making a complaint of the scarcity of meetings of the Association to which he belongs, chiefly because of his anonymity, it must be confessed that a conviction is prevalent that Guild and Association meetings appear to have become less frequent than formerly. If this fear is well-founded, it is really necessary that it should be allayed at once. Unless the various ringing organizations are held up by frequent personal contact, an unfortunate relapse will certainly ensue. Ringers require, as a rule, constant and repeated gatherings among themselves, else they are likely to fall away altogether. Association meetings for practice or otherwise may not always be considered a success, if numbers are the point of consideration. It is difficult from various circumstances for members always to attend. But the absentees on these occasions like to hear of the results

of meetings at which they have not been present; they like to read of the business done, and other interesting particulars.

Therefore it is advisable, we think, in the interests of the Exercise in general, and of ringing organizations in particular, that those concerned in the promotion of ringing assemblies faint not. Disappointments of all kinds must be suffered, but the meetings must be kept up at all costs. These opportunities which are afforded for interchange of ideas must not be imperilled in any way.

Our projected list of ringing clergymen is meeting with great favour, and some interesting details are likely to be developed in connection therewith. Every one tells us that the idea is an excellent one. We have been recommended to ask the various Secretaries to send us a list of those ringing clergy who are connected with them in any way. It is necessary the list should be as perfect as possible, and it is also advisable that its appearance should not be long delayed.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 10, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, SHADWELL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLTS ORIGINAL. Tenor 17 cwt.

HENRY SPRINGALL Treble.	EMANUEL HALL 5.
JAMES SCHOLES 2.	*EDWARD J. WEBB 6.
EDWARD WALLAGE 3.	HENRY TORBLE 7.
WILLIAM TRUSS 4.	CHARLES KENNEDY Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY SPRINGALL.

*First peal away from the tenor. This peal was rung to celebrate the 37th anniversary of the Prince and Princess of Wales's wedding.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 13, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES, BERMONDSEY.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5006 CHANGES.

Tenor 25 cwt.

GEORGE R. PYE Treble.	*WILLIAM BERRY 6.
ISAAC G. SHADE 2.	CHARLES WILKINS 7.
BERTRAM PREWETT 3.	HARRY FLANDERS 8.
JOHN R. SHARMAN 4.	ERNEST PYE 9.
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 5.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by the late GEORGE NEWSON, and
Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

*First peal of Stedman Caters away from the tenor.

The Provinces.

BEDFIELD, NORFOLK,

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 3, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being six 6-scores each of Plain Doubles, Old Doubles, Morning Star, Evening Star, April Day, Canterbury and Grandsire.

Tenor 9 cwt.

WALTER ABBOTT Treble.	WILLIAM ABBOTT 3.
ALFRED ABBOTT* 2.	†WILLIAM BURGESS 4.
	‡EDWARD ABBOTT..Tenor.

Conducted by EDWARD ABBOTT.

*First peal away from the treble. †First peal. ‡First peal as conductor.

ERITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 8, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 18 cwt.

EDGAR WIGHTMAN Treble.	THOMAS TABRETT 5.
GEORGE CONYARD 2.	JOHN GARARD 6.
EDWIN BARNETT 3.	CHARLES WILKINS 7.
WALTER J. SMITH 4.	JOSEPH HOARE Tenor.

Conducted by EDWIN BARNETT.

STANFORD-ON-SOAR, NOTTS.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, March 9, 1900, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR,

Being seven 720s, each called differently.

Tenor 17 cwt.

LOUIS PRICE* Treble.	*JAMES WILSON 4.
FRANK PERVIN 2.	HARRY WHITTLE 5.
WILLIAM PERVIN 3.	GEORGE DOUGHTY Tenor.

Conducted by HARRY WHITTLE.

*First peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to F. Pervin, who is 15 years of age. Rung on the back six.

STAINES, MIDDLESEX.

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

On Saturday, March 10, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES. Tenor 18½ cwt.

WILLIAM H. PASMORE .. Treble.	HENRY S. ELLIS 5.
ARTHUR G. ELLIS 2.	HENRY R. NEWTON 6.
HARRY R. PASMORE 3.	CHARLES T. P. BRICE 7.
JOHN W. GOLDING 4.	JOHN N. OXBORROW Tenor.

Composed by JAMES WASHBROOK, and

Conducted by CHARLES T. P. BRICE.

This, the first Surprise peal on the bells, was rung in commemoration of the 37th anniversary of the wedding of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EAST BUCKS AND SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 10, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

PHILBERT W. WILKINS Treble.	JESSE ELDRIDGE 5.
JAMES T. BATTING 2.	†RICHARD BUCKLAND 6.
THOMAS E. BUCKLAND .. 3.	JAMES W. WILKINS 7.
WALTER F. BAGLEY 4.	JAMES W. BAGLEY Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD BUCKLAND.

†First peal as conductor. First peal by P. W. Wilkins, aged 15. Rang in honour of the Prince of Wales's wedding-day.

TONBRIDGE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 10, 1900, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES. Tenor 23 cwt.

WILLIAM G. GRAINGER*..Treble.	ERNEST PYE 5.
ISAAC G. SHADE 2.	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE .. 6.
WILLIAM LATTER 3.	ALFRED PALMER 7.
HERBERT J. FORD* 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

*First peal of Major. †First peal in the method.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND
THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 10, 1900, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 13 cwt.

JOHN R. SHARMAN Treble.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 5.
FRANK A. SMITH 2.	GEORGE N. PRICH .. 6.
BERTRAM PREWETT 3.	ERNEST E. HUNTLEY .. 7.
WILLIAM G. WHITEHEAD .. 4.	ARTHUR T. KING Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN R. SHARMAN.

This peal was rung to commemorate the anniversary of the marriage of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and the late victories of Lord Roberts in the Orange Free State. This is F. A. Smith's 50th peal.

DRIGHLINGTON, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 10, 1900, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 16 cwt.

JAMES MOORHOUSE Treble.	A. SCOTT 5.
J. W. MOORHOUSE 2.	JOHN THACKRAY 6.
PRATT CORDINGLEY 3.	J. P. EASON 7.
T. LATIMER 4.	FRANK BIRKS Tenor.

Composed by J. BARKER, and Conducted by F. BIRKS.

MONK SOHAM.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 10, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being six 6-scores each of Canterbury, Evening Star, Morning Star, April Day, Grandsire, Gog Magog and Plain Doubles.

Tenor 14 cwt.

WALTER ABBOTT Treble.	WILLIAM ABBOTT 3.
ALFRED ABBOTT 2.	WILLIAM BURGESS 4.
EDWARD ABBOTT Tenor.	

Conducted by EDWARD ABBOTT.

LEATHERHEAD, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 10, 1900, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES.

ARTHUR C. OTWAY* Treble.	WILLIAM R. CROCKFORD .. 6.
CHARLES R. LILLEY 2.	WILLIAM MARKS 7.
WILLIAM OTWAY 3.	ARTHUR DEAN 8.
JOHN HOYLE 4.	EDWARD HULL 9.
JOHN WYATT 5.	WILLIAM CROPLEY Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM MARKS.

*First peal of Caters. Rung to commemorate our great successes in South Africa, also the wedding of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.—THE
LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE-SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, March 10, 1900, in Three Hours and Thirty-one Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES, 5015 CHANGES.

Tenor 27½ cwt. in D.

SAMUEL BOOTH Treble.	HARRY PAGE 7.
JAMES BOOTH 2.	ALFRED CROSS 8.
JOSEPH TURNER 3.	JOHN EACHUS 9.
BENJAMIN THORP 4.	*WILLIAM BOOTH 10.
JAMES WOOD 5.	SAMUEL WOOD 11.
JOHN LEIGH 6.	ALBERT ADAMS Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

*First peal of Cinques.

HEVER, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 10, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF MINOR,

Being two 720s each of Kent Treble Bob and Grandsire, and three 720s of Bob Minor, Tenor 9 cwt.

EDWIN LONGLEY* Treble.	*EDWIN SEAL 4.
ERNEST HARRINGTON* .. 2.	*HARRY HARRINGTON .. 5.
CHARLES EASTMAN* 3.	†FREDERICK J. HARRINGTON Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK J. HARRINGTON.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor. First peal on the bells. A reference to this peal will be found elsewhere.

OLDBURY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Monday, March 12, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

WILLIAM H. GODDEN .. Treble.	THOMAS MILLER 5.
WILLIAM R. SMALL 2.	REUBEN HALL 6.
THOMAS J. ELTON 3.	SAMUEL REEVES 7.
THOMAS HORTON 4.	JAMES HALL Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

Rung to celebrate the relief of Ladysmith.

ECCLES, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 12, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13¾ cwt.

JOHN POTTER Treble.	ALFRED CROSS 5.
JAMES BARRETT 2.	JOSEPH POTTER 6.
PERCY DERBYSHIRE 3.	ALFRED POTTER 7.
FREDERICK DERBYSHIRE .. 4.	RICHARD RIDYARD Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY JOHNSON, and

Conducted by RICHARD RIDYARD.

This peal was rung to celebrate the 60th birthday of Mr. Thomas Yates, late conductor at the above church.

BEBINGTON, CHESHIRE,

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(WIRRAL BRANCH.)

In Two Hours and Thirty-nine Minutes, no date mentioned,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being a 720 each of Canterbury, Plain Bob and Oxford Single, and two each of College Single and Grandsire.

WALTER EDGE Treble.	JAMES A. HOUGH 4.
EDWIN BREEZE 2.	JOSEPH CLIFFE 5.
SAMUEL BREEZE 3.	H. EDWARD HOUGH Tenor.

Conducted by H. E. HOUGH.

Rung to commemorate the recent successes of the British arms in South Africa, First peal by a full local band.

DEFECTIVE PEAL REPORTS.—Among the foregoing records there is one without a date; another without the name of town (called by D. Brearley), is not inserted.

Date Touches.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—LIVERPOOL BRANCH

GRASSEDALE (Lancashire).—On Monday, February 19th, at St. Mary's church, a date touch in the following methods: 460 Violet (six bobs), 720 Kent (fifteen bobs); and 720 Oxford (nine bobs), in 1 hr.

11 mins. J. Turner, 1; R. Green, 2; F. C. Newton, 3; T. Morris, 4; J. T. Lowe, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. This is the first date touch known to have been rung in this tower, and the longest length ever rung on the bells, also the greatest number of changes in the six-bell methods by all the company, it being their first attempt at Violet.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—WIRRAL BRANCH.

OXTON (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, January 2nd, at St. Saviour's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 8 mins. C. Owens, 1; J. L. Grant, 2; R. Birchall, 3; J. Hughes, 4; G. R. Newton (composer), 5; J. W. Evans, 6; W. Hughes (conductor), 7; S. Moston, 8. This is the quickest date touch rung on the bells.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, January 23rd, at the church of St. Lawrence, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles in 1 hr. 3 mins. A. E. Davis, 1; J. Waite, 2; G. Smith, 3; H. Mitchell (conductor), 4; C. Browett, 5; L. Robinson, 6. Rung to celebrate the wedding of Mr. Edgar Hockley-Homan, of London, to Miss Isabelle Mary Hibbard, daughter of T. W. Hibbard, Esq., of this parish.

EARLS COLNE (Essex).—On Tuesday evening, February 9th, at the parish church, for practice, a date touch of 1900 changes in the following methods, in 1 hr. 10 mins.: 720 Woodbine, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 360 Bob Minor, 100 Kent. S. Burst, 1; D. Claydon, 2; F. Ridgewell, 3; W. Rogers, 4; F. Fleuty, 5; E. Ridgewell (conductor), 6. All belong to the local company.

Miscellaneous.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

PENN (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, January 20th, meeting one short for a peal, 720 of Bob Minor was rung. F. Jones, 1; B. Dalton, 2; H. Sadler, 3; G. Burrows, 4; J. Purser, 5; R. Pickering (conductor), 6. And a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. I. Purser, 1; B. Dalton (conductor), 2; R. Pickering, 3; H. Sadler, 4; G. Burrows, 5; E. J. Graham, 6.

THE NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

WORKSOP.—On Saturday, February 24th, the East Retford company rang a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1280 changes, in 47 mins. F. W. Abbott, 1; G. Swannack, 2; G. R. Winter (composer), 3; R. Miles, 4; T. Spurr, 5; H. Warburton, 6; Rev. H. F. de Lisle, 7; J. B. Joynes (conductor), 8. Also a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. G. R. Winter, 1; G. Swannack, 2; F. W. Abbott, 3; R. Miles, 4; T. Spurr, 5; Rev. H. F. de Lisle, 6; J. B. Joynes (conductor), 7; H. Warburton, 8. Composed by Harry Franks, of London.

EAST RETFORD.—On Sunday morning, February 25th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, 1259 changes, taken from Shipway, was rung as a farewell touch to F. Bramley, in 50 mins. A. T. Winter, 1; E. Collingburn, 2; F. Bramley, 3; G. W. D. Metcalfe, 4; F. W. Abbott, 5; R. Miles, 6; T. Spurr, 7; H. Warburton, 8; J. B. Joynes (conductor), 9; G. R. Winter, 10.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Saturday, January 13th, at the church of St. Lawrence, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles in 50 mins. J. Waite, 1; A. A. Waite, 2; G. Smith, 3; H. Mitchell (conductor), 4; C. Browett, 5; L. Robinson, 6. Rung in honour of the Vicar's birthday.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

KINGSWOOD (Surrey).—On Wednesday, February 14th, at St. Andrew's church, 1440 Grandsire Doubles in 50 mins. G. Miles, 1; A. Duffell, 2; G. Lewis, 3; A. Whittington, 4; A. Batchelor, 5; A. Law, 6. Rung on the occasion of the marriage of Miss A. Taunton, daughter of the Rev. —. Taunton, of Kingswood. Longest touch on the bells.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—On January 21st, at the church of St. Nicolas for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples. E. Raddon, 1; G. Reading, 3; J. J. Jones, 4; E. Allen, 5; S. Radford, 6; J. Hunt, 7; F. Blondell (conductor), 8. On February 4th, for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Hunt, 1; E. Raddon, 2; J. J. Jones, 3; G. Reading, 4; C. Willshire, 5; S. Radford (conductor), 6; F. Blondell,

7; E. Heather, 8. For evening service 504 Stedman Triples. E. Raddon, 1; E. Allen, 2; J. J. Jones, 3; J. Hunt, 4; S. Radford, 5; F. Blondell (conductor), 6; C. Willshire (conductor), 7; E. Heather, 8. And 420 Grandsire Triples. S. Radford (conductor), 1; G. Reading, 2; J. J. Jones, 3; J. Hunt, 4; E. Allen, 5; C. Willshire, 6; F. Blondell, 7; E. Heather, 8.

HAWLEY (Hants).—The following touches were brought round at the quarterly meeting held on Saturday, February 17th: 336 Double Norwich. J. Whiting, 1; W. W. Thorne, 2; H. White, 3; C. Giles (conductor), 4; F. Blondell, 6; J. Hunt, 7; A. E. Reeves, 8. And 504 Stedman Triples. C. Willshire, 1; G. Foster, 2; W. Bedwell, 3; J. J. Jones, 4; A. Pulling, 5; A. E. Reeves, 6; C. Giles (conductor), 7; E. Pulling, 8. Also 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. M. Steer, 1; G. Hawkins, 2; G. Foster, 3; W. Bedwell (conductor), 4; J. J. Jones, 5; C. Willshire, 6; J. Hunt, 7; F. Blondell, 8. And 378 Grandsire Triples. G. Foster, 1; G. Hawkins, 2; C. Pearce, 3; H. Hutton, 4; M. Steer, 5; A. Pulling (conductor), 6; E. Pulling, 7; C. Jeffrey, 6.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

STEYNING.—On Sunday, January 21st, for evening service at the parish church, 224 Grandsire Triples. G. Lloyd, 1; E. Bristow, 2; C. Smart (conductor), 3; E. Turrell, 4; J. Matthews, 5; G. Gatland, 6; J. Smart, 7; G. Wood, 8. And 189 Grandsire Doubles, 7-6-8 covering. A. Sturt, 1; E. Bristow, 2; C. Smart (conductor), 3; J. Smart, 4; E. Turrell, 5; G. Phillips, 6; J. Matthews, 7; F. Swayne, 8. On Sunday, February 4th, for evening service, 504 Grandsire Triples. G. Lloyd, 1; C. Smart (conductor), 2; E. Bristow, 3; J. Matthews, 4; E. Rapley, 5; J. Smart, 6; G. Gatland, 7; G. Phillips, 8. On Tuesday, February 6th, for practice, 504 Grandsire Triples. G. Lloyd, 1; E. Bristow, 2; C. Smart (conductor), 4; G. Phillips, 5; G. Gatland, 6; J. Smart, 7; G. Wood, 8. Also 504 in the same method. A. Sturt, 1; E. Bristow, 2; J. Matthews, 3; J. Smart, 4; E. Turrell, 5; E. Rapley (conductor), 6; C. Smart, 7; F. Swayne, 8. And 240 Stedman Doubles, with 7-6-8 covers. G. Gatland, 1; C. Smart (conductor), 2; E. Rapley, 3; J. Smart, 4; J. Matthews, 5; G. Phillips, 6; E. Turrell, 7; F. Swayne, 8. On Sunday, February 11th, for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples. E. Turrell, 1; G. Gatland, 2; C. Smart (conductor), 3; E. Bristow, 4; G. Phillips, 5; E. Rapley, 6; J. Smart, 7; F. Swayne, 8. For evening service, 504 Grandsire Triples. G. Lloyd, 1; E. Bristow, 2; J. Matthews, 3; E. Rapley, 4; J. Smart, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6; G. Gatland, 7; G. Phillips, 8. Also 240 Stedman Doubles, with 7-6-8 covering. J. Matthews, 1; G. Gatland, 2; C. Tyler (conductor), 3; J. Smart, 4; E. Rapley, 5; E. Turrell, 6; G. Lloyd, 7; F. Swayne, 8. And 240 Grandsire Doubles, with 7-6-8 covering. A. Sturt, 1; E. Bristow, 2; C. Tyler (conductor), 3; E. Turrell, 4; J. Smart, 5; G. Phillips, 6; J. Matthews, 7; F. Swayne, 8. On Sunday, February 18th, for morning service, 309 Grandsire Doubles, with 7-6-8 covering. G. Lloyd, 1; E. Bristow, 2; G. Gatland, 3; C. Smart (conductor), 4; E. Turrell, 5; G. Phillips, 6; J. Smart, 7; F. Swayne, 8. Also 299 Grandsire Doubles, with 7-6-8 covering. G. Wood, 1; C. Smart (conductor), 2; E. Bristow, 3; E. Turrell, 4; J. Smart, 5; G. Phillips, 6; G. Lloyd, 7; F. Swayne, 8. For evening service 192 in the same method. A. Sturt, 1; J. Matthews, 2; E. Bristow, 3; J. Smart, 4; E. Turrell (conductor), 5; F. Swayne, 6; G. Phillips, 7; G. Gatland, 8. On Sunday, February 25th, for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples. G. Lloyd, 1; E. Rapley, 2; E. Bristow, 3; C. Smart, 4; A. Gatland, 5; G. Gatland, 6; J. Smart, 7; G. Phillips, 8. And 209 Grandsire Doubles. A. Sturt, 1; J. Smart, 2; C. Smart (conductor), 3; E. Bristow, 4; E. Rapley, 5; F. Smart, 6; A. Gatland, 7; F. Swayne, 8. For evening service, 504 Grandsire Triples. E. Turrell, 1; E. Bristow, 2; J. Matthews, 3; E. Rapley, 4; J. Smart, 5; A. Gatland (conductor), 6; G. Gatland, 7; G. Wood, 8.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—LIVERPOOL BRANCH.

GRASSENDALE (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, February 11th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Turner, 1; R. Green, 2; F. C. Newton, 3; T. Morris, 4; *J. T. Lowe (conductor), 5; J. Allen, 6. *First 720 as conductor.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DARLINGTON (Durham).—On Monday, January 1st, at St. John's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. G. Tait, T. Crawford, W. Patton, J. Baxter (conductor), T. Clark, W. H. Porter, G. F. Williams, and T. Scollick. On Thursday, January 4th, 640 Kent Treble Bob Major. G. Tait, T. Crawford, W. Patton, W. H. Porter, T. Clark, W. D. Lister, G. F. Williams and J. Baxter (conductor). On Sunday, January 7th, for morning service, 688 Bob Major. F. C. Naisbitt, T. Crawford, W. Patton, J. Baxter, W. D. Lister, G. F. Williams, T. Clark, and W. H. Porter (conductor). For evening service 800 Kent Treble Bob Major. G. Tait, T. Crawford, W. Patton, T. Clark, W. H. Porter, W. D. Lister, G. F. Williams, and J. Baxter (conductor).

On Sunday, January 14th, 736 Grandsire Triples. F. C. Naisbitt, J. Baxter, W. Patton, W. D. Lister, T. Crawford, T. Clark, W. H. Porter (conductor), and G. F. Williams. Also 864 Kent Treble Bob Major. C. Tait, T. Crawford, W. Patton, T. Clark, W. D. Lister, W. H. Porter, G. F. Williams, and J. Baxter (conductor). On Thursday, January 18th, for practice, 640 Kent Treble Bob Major. G. Tait, T. Crawford, W. Patton, W. D. Lister, G. F. Williams, W. H. Porter, T. Clark, and J. Baxter (conductor). Also 798 Grandsire Triples. G. Tait, W. Patton, W. D. Lister, F. C. Naisbitt, T. Crawford, W. H. Porter (conductor), T. Clark, and G. F. Williams. On Sunday, January 21st, for morning service, 826 Grandsire Triples. F. C. Naisbitt, J. Baxter, G. F. Williams, W. D. Lister, T. Crawford, W. H. Porter (conductor), T. Clark, and J. Bolton. For evening service 864 Kent Treble Bob Major. G. Tait, T. Crawford, W. Patton, T. Clark, W. D. Lister, W. H. Porter, G. F. Williams, and J. Baxter (conductor). On Sunday evening, February 18th, for Divine Service, 704 Kent Treble Bob Major. T. Scollick, T. Crawford, W. Patton, W. D. Lister, T. Clark, J. Baxter, G. F. Williams, and W. H. Porter (conductor). On Thursday, February 22nd, 640 Kent Treble Bob Major. G. W. Park, T. Crawford, T. Clark, C. Todd, W. D. Lister, W. H. Porter, G. F. Williams, and J. Baxter (conductor). On Sunday morning, 864 Kent Treble Bob Major. G. Tait, T. Crawford, W. Patton, W. D. Lister, G. F. Williams, T. Clark, W. H. Porter, and J. Baxter (conductor). For evening service 864 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Patton, T. Crawford, W. D. Lister, T. Clark, J. Baxter, G. J. Lungley, G. F. Williams, and W. H. Porter (conductor).

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS (Lancashire).—On November 12th, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. W. R. Williams, 1; J. Huddleston, 2; W. H. Dennison, 3; T. Stuart, 4; T. P. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows (conductor), 6. On December 24th, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins., standing as before. On January 21st, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. W. N. Williams, 1; W. H. Dennison, 2; J. Huddleston, 3; T. Stuart, 4; T. P. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows (conductor), 6. On February 4th, for evening service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure, in 26 mins., standing as before. On February 11th, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor, in 26 mins. For practice, 720 Bob Minor, in 27 mins. Also 720 Canterbury Pleasure, in 27 mins. W. N. Williams, 1; W. H. Dennison, 2; T. P. Jackson, 3; T. Stuart, 4; A. F. Hardy, 5; J. Burrows (conductor), 6. On February 18th, for evening service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure, in 25 mins. W. N. Williams, 1; J. Huddleston, 2; W. H. Dennison, 3; T. Stuart, 4; T. P. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows (conductor), 6.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

GREAT HALE (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday evening, February 18th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. H. Wood, 1; R. Masters, 2; C. Ward, 3; T. T. Taylor, 4; T. B. Wood, 5; J. R. Green (conductor), 6.

GAINSBOROUGH (Lincolnshire).—On Thursday, March 1st, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins. T. Pattison, 1; W. D. Tinker, 2; W. Pattison, 3; J. C. Tinker, 4; J. T. Ladd, 5; E. Credland, 6; F. S. W. Butler (conductor), 7; R. Dawson, 8. Rung on receipt of the news of the relief of Ladysmith. Touches were rung at the relief of Kimberley, and the surrender of Cronje, the bells also being fired on each occasion.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Thursday, March 1st, 532 Oxford Bob Triples. F. Parsons, 1; G. Tomlin, 2; L. Hollingworth, 3; A. Lee, 4; W. Earle (conductor), 5; G. C. Tunncliffe, 6; T. Hollingworth, 7; F. Hollingworth, 8. A part of the afternoon was spent in ringing Queens, Tittums, and Whittingtons and firing, assisted by W. Tomlin. After lowering the bells the band adjourned to The Melbourne hotel, where refreshments were served by Mr. R. Upton and Mr. J. Warren. Rung in honour of the relief of Ladysmith.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—On Thursday, March 1st, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor on the back six. E. Phillips, 1; W. E. Pitman, 2; E. Mexter, 3; W. Easter (conductor), 4; W. Bate, 5; W. Haigh, 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

LEYTONSTONE (Essex).—On February 3rd, 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Hayden, 1; J. Mardell, 2; J. Kimberley, 3; E. Wightman, 4; W. Clark, 5; J. Moule (conductor), 6. Also 720 London Surprise. H. Gowers, 1; W. Miller, 2; J. Moule, 3; W. Keeble, 4; J. Mardell, 5; E. Wightman (conductor), 6. The above 700s were rang previous to a ringers' supper on that date. On [February 7th, 720 Superlative

Surprise. W. Doran, 1; W. Miller, 2; J. Mardell, 3; W. Keeble, 4; J. Moule (conductor), 5; T. H. Beams, 6. On February 14th, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. F. Withers, 1; T. H. Beams, 2; J. Mardell, 3; J. Moule, 4; W. Miller (conductor), 5; W. Doran, 6.

BARKING (Essex).—On Sunday, February 18th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major, 1264 changes, in 48 mins. J. Cottis, 1; E. G. Fenn, 2; G. W. Faulkner, 3; A. C. Hardy (composer), 4; A. J. T. Carter, 5; R. Fenn, 6; E. Andrews, 7; C. Fenn (conductor), 8. First quarter-peal in the method by the ringers of 1, 2, 3 and 5. Rung to celebrate the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. R. Fenn.

MISTLEY (Essex).—On February 4th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. B. Osborne, 1; W. Bridges, 2; J. Souther, 3; W. Honeywood, 4; W. Last, 5; A. Fuller (conductor), 6. On February 7th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. J. Souther, 1; W. Bridges, 2; T. Steward, 3; W. Honeywood, 4; W. Last, 5; A. Fuller (conductor), 6. On March 1st, in honour of the relief of Ladysmith, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. B. Osborne, 1; W. Bridges, 2; J. Souther (conductor), 3; W. Honeywood, 4; B. Francis, 5; T. Steward, 6. On March 8th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. B. Osborne, 1; W. Bridges, 2; T. Steward, 3; W. Honeywood, 4; W. Last, 5; A. Fuller (conductor), 6.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TAUNTON.—On January 23rd, 672 Grandsire Triples. C. Macey, 1; J. Routby, 2; W. Eveleigh, 3; J. Fowler, 4; F. Ladd, 5; J. Burge (conductor), 6; E. Wyatt, 7; E. Poole, 8. On February 24th, 504 Grandsire Triples. B. Van Tromp, 1; C. Summers, 2; S. Wyatt, 3; J. Routby, 4; C. Macey, 5; J. Burge (conductor), 6; E. Wyatt, 7; E. Poole, 8. On February 4th, 503 Grandsire Caters. B. Van Tromp, 1; J. Routby, 2; C. Summers, 3; F. Ladd, 4; J. Fowler, 5; J. Burge (conductor), 6; S. Wyatt, 7; W. Eveleigh, 8; E. Wyatt, 9; E. Poole, 10. On February 20th, 701 Grandsire Caters. B. Van Tromp, 1; J. Routby, 2; C. Summers, 3; F. Ladd, 4; J. Maddock, 5; J. Burge (conductor), 6; S. Wyatt, 7; W. Eveleigh, 8; E. Wyatt, 9; J. Fowler, 10. On February 28th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, 1259 changes. B. Van Tromp (first quarter-peal of Caters), 1; J. Routby, 2; C. Summers, 3; F. Ladd, 4; S. Wyatt, 5; J. Burge (conductor), 6; C. Macey (first quarter-peal of Caters with a bob bell), 7; W. Eveleigh, 8; E. Wyatt, 9; J. Fowler, 10. Rung to commemorate Cronje's surrender to Lord Roberts. On March 1st, 1565 Grandsire Caters. E. B. Kite (first touch of Caters), 1; J. Routby, 2; C. Summers, 3; F. Ladd, 4; J. Fowler, 5; J. Burge (conductor), 6; S. Wyatt, 7; W. Eveleigh, 8; E. Wyatt, 9; E. Poole, 10. Rung to commemorate the relief of Ladysmith.

BLETCHLEY (Bucks).—On Sunday, February 25th, at St. Mary's church, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, on the back six, with the bells muffled, as a last token of respect to the late W. Windsor. W. Sear, 1; T. Trasler, 2; A. Crane, 3; R. Meager, 4; A. G. Crane, 5; H. Sear, 6; F. Hedges (conductor), 7; F. Sear, 8. For practice on Tuesday, February 27th, on the back six, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. W. Sear, 1; T. Trasler, 2; A. Crane, 3; R. Meager, 4; A. G. Crane, 5; H. Sear, 6; F. Hedges (conductor), 7; V. Sear, 8.

BURBAGE (Derbyshire).—On February 23rd, on handbells, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. S. Bennett, 1; R. Ashmore, 2; E. Stamper, 3; J. Backhouse, 4; M. Bennett, 5; G. Ashmore (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 25th, for morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. S. Bennett, 1; R. Ashmore, 2; E. Stamper, 3; J. Backhouse, 4; M. Bennett, 5; G. Ashmore (conductor), 6.

COSELEY (Staffordshire).—On Sunday morning, February 11th, for Divine Service at Christ Church, 630 Grandsire Triples. W. Jeavons, 1; E. Goodreds, 2; S. Baker, 3; J. Roberts, 4; H. Mills (conductor), 5; W. Fisher, 6; A. Hill, 7; W. Muller, 8. Also 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Jeavons, 1; E. Goodreds, 2; S. Baker, 3; J. Roberts, 4; H. Mills, 5; W. Fisher, 6; A. Hill (conductor), 7; W. Muller, 8. For evening service 447 Grandsire Triples. B. Gough, 1; W. Fisher, 2; S. Baker, 3; A. Hill, 4; G. Hughes, 5; H. Mills, 6; E. Goodreds (conductor), 7; W. Muller, 8.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS (Lancashire).—On November 19th, for evening service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure, in 25 mins. W. H. Dennison, 1; J. Huddleston, 2; T. P. Jackson, 3; T. Stuart, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows (conductor), 6. On December 14th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor, in 26 mins. T. R. Jackson, 1; W. H. Dennison, 2; C. J. A. Cushing, 3; T. Stuart, 4; T. P. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows (conductor), 6. On January 11th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor, in 27 mins. A. J. Nicholas, 1; J. Huddleston, 2; W. H. Dennison, 3; T. Stuart, 4; T. P. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. On January 14th, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor, in 24 mins. T. P. Jackson, 1; J. Huddleston, 2; W. H. Dennison, 3; T. Stuart, 4; T. R. Jackson (conductor), 5; J. Burrows, 6. On January 28th, for evening service, 720 Canterbury Plea-

sure, in 27 mins. W. N. Williams, 1; W. H. Dennison, 2; T. P. Jackson, 3; J. Huddleston, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows (conductor), 6.

GOSPEL OAK (Middlesex).—On Sunday morning, February 11th, for Divine Service at St. Martin's church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. N. Alderman, 1; E. Young, 2; G. Hollis, 3; J. Nixon, 4; W. Nudds, 5; G. Smith (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Plain Bob. H. Ellis, 1; E. Young, 2; — Brett, 3; N. Alderman, 4; W. Nudds, 5; R. Bevan (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, February 18th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. E. Young, 1; G. Hollis, 2; T. Langdon, 3; R. Bevan, 4; W. Nudds, 5; G. Smith (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Plain Bob. H. Ellis, 1; E. Young, 2; — Brett, 3; N. Alderman, 4; W. Nudds, 5; R. Bevan (conductor), 6.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—Recently at the church of St. Nicolas 252 Stedman Triples. E. Raddon, 1; S. Radford, 2; J. J. Jones, 3; E. Allen, 4; S. Blondell, 5; J. Hunt, 6; C. Willshire (conductor), 7; R. Roffey, 8. On Sunday, February 18th, 224 Double Norwich. E. Raddon, 1; W. Bedwell (conductor), 2; J. J. Jones, 3; E. Allen, 4; S. Radford, 5; C. Willshire, 6; J. Hunt, 7; F. Blondell, 8. And a 560. E. Raddon, 1; W. Bedwell (conductor), 2; E. Allen, 3; C. Willshire, 4; S. Radford, 5; E. C. Boniface, 6; J. Hunt, 7; F. Blondell, 8.

HARLOW (Essex).—On Tuesday, February 27th, at St. Mary's church, 672 Grandsire Triples. F. C. Perrin, 1; W. Hobbs (conductor), 2; R. Tabor, 3; E. J. Webb, 4; C. French, 5; T. Ellis, 6; H. Perrin, sen., 7; E. Parish, 8. Also 447 in the same method. W. Hobbs (conductor), 1; H. Perrin, jun., 2; R. Tabor, 3; E. J. Webb, 4; F. C. Perrin, 5; T. Ellis, 6; H. Perrin, sen., 7; E. Wrixon, 8. And 352 Bob Major. E. Parish, 1; H. Pearin, jun., 2; F. C. Perrin, 3; E. J. Webb, 4; C. French, 5; T. Ellis, 6; W. Hobbs, 7; H. Perrin, sen. (conductor), 8. Rung to celebrate the surrendering of General Cronje and the Boer forces.

HAROLD (Beds).—On Saturday afternoon, February 10th, the Emberton ringers journeyed to this place and rang 720 College Single. T. Wright, 1; J. Lett, 2; H. Lett, 3; W. Mynard, 4; J. Lovell, 5; W. Freeman (conductor), 6. Also 360 Bob Minor. F. G. Crough, 1; J. Lett, 2; W. Freeman (conductor), 3; F. J. Bird (Harrold), 4; T. Wright, 5; H. Lett, 6. Also 360 Oxford Bob. F. Mynard, 1; J. Lett, 2; W. Freeman (conductor), 3; T. Wright, 4; H. Lett, 5; J. Lovell, 6.

LENTON (Kent).—On Sunday, February 11th, at St. Nicholas' church, before the evening service, 720 Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. Austin, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; H. Brown, 3; G. Hadaway, 4; F. Sharp, 5; P. Hodgkin, 6. First 720 on the bells since 1886. And another 720, in 27 mins., both conducted by F. Sharp.

MAIDSTONE (Kent).—On Sunday evening, March 4th, for Divine Service at All Saints church, 223 Grandsire Triples. A. Burridge, 1; C. Hazelden, 2; A. Tawney, 3; Corporal H. Marchant, 4; H. J. Ford, 5; T. Groombridge, 6; A. Palmer (conductor), 7; W. Paskin, 8. Also 305 Grandsire Caters. A. Palmer, 1; T. Groombridge, 2; A. Gasson, 3; W. Mannering, 4; C. Hazelden, 5; Corporal H. Marchant, 6; H. J. Ford, 7; A. Tawney, 8; T. Mannering (conductor), 9; J. Bonny, 10. Tenor 31 cwt. First touch of Caters by Messrs. Hazelden, Marchant, and Ford, and first attempt.

MARDEN (Kent).—On Sunday, January 14th, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor, in 28 mins. P. Hodgkin, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; T. Swan, 3; H. Brown, 4; F. Sharp, 5; F. Hodgkin, 6. On January 20th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor, in 28 mins. J. Austin, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; T. Swan, 3; G. Hadaway, 4; F. Sharp, 5; F. Hodgkin, 6. On Monday, February 5th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor, in 28 mins. J. Austin, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; T. Swan, 3; H. Brown, 4; F. Sharp, 5; F. Hodgkin, 6. On February 12th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor, in 28 mins. J. Austin, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; T. Swan, 3; G. Hadaway, 4; F. Sharp, 5; F. Hodgkin, 6. And 360 in the same method. F. Hodgkin, 1; H. Brown, 4; G. Hadaway, 6; the rest as before. All conducted by F. Sharp.

MELTON MOWBRAY (Leicestershire).—On Monday, February 5th, 1036 Grandsire Triples. J. C. Goodacre, 1; J. Barnes, 2; E. J. Gale, 3; W. James, 4; C. Dalby, 5; A. V. Potter, 6; R. H. Bartram (conductor), 7; W. Spiby, 8. On the following Monday 720 Canterbury Minor. W. Spiby, 1; C. Dalby, 2; J. Barnes, 3; E. J. Gale, 4; W. James, 5; R. H. Bartram (conductor), 6; F. Gillett, 7. On Tuesday, February 20th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. W. Spiby, 1; J. Barnes, 2; C. Dalby, 3; W. James, 4; E. J. Gale, 5; A. V. Potter, 6; R. H. Bartram (conductor), 7; J. E. Goodacre, 8.

WORTH (Sussex).—On Sunday, March 4th, at St. Nicholas' church, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor, 240 Superlative, 240 College Pleasure, 240 College Exercise, 240 Woodbine, and 360 Oxford Treble Bob. Benjamin Paine, 1; R. Jordan, 2; J. Rice, 3; G. Paice, 4; A. D. Mills, 5; F. W. Rice (conductor), 6.

BATTLE, SUSSEX.

The annual supper of the parish church ringers took place on Thursday evening at The Chequers hotel, when, in the unavoidable absence of the Dean (the Rev. Dr. Currie), the chair was taken by the Rev. E. H. Rogers. His supporters included the Rev. A. Jones, and Messrs. C. Martin, J. Holt, Paine, M. Hooker and Barton. The loyal toast was duly honoured, and the Rev. A. Jones submitted the patriotic toast in a capital speech. Hon. Sergeant Mathis responded.

The Chairman, in giving the toast of the evening, that of "The Ringers," spoke of his association with change-ringers at Bristol and Brighton, and said he thought that the melodious tunes of the Battle bells came up to everything he had heard elsewhere, and at the same time were the symbol of the harmony which existed in the belfry. The ringers had an excellent trainer in Mr. Franks. He coupled with the toast the name of Mr. Franks, who, in response to the hearty reception of the toast said the Battle ringers did their best. There was no disputing the fact that they had been a good band in the past, and they hoped to raise a team to the same efficiency, notwithstanding the difficulty experienced in getting recruits. Having thanked the subscribers for their continued support, Mr. Franks proposed "Kindred Societies," mentioning that if any ringing had to be done in the Eastern Division of the Sussex County Association, it had to be done by Battle, Hastings, or St. Leonards.

The toast was responded to by Mr. Lock (Blacklands, Hastings) and Mr. Watson (Christ Church, St. Leonards).

The health of Mr. J. Holt as co-churchwarden with Mr. C. Martin was next honoured, Mr. Mathis remarking, in proposing the toast, that Mr. Holt had long been a great friend of the Battle ringers. The speaker also referred in kindly terms to the coming departure of the Rev. A. Jones from Battle, and expressed a hope that that gentleman would enjoy health in his new sphere of labour.

Other toasts followed. Some capital songs were sung during the evening by Mrs. Murray (Hastings), who presided at the piano, and Messrs. F. Anderson, C. Dennis, W. Franks, E. Kennett (Hastings), F. Mathis, M. Rowe, A. Secker, Slates, E. J. Tayler, and capital selections were ably rendered on the handbells by Messrs. W. Franks and W. Thomas.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

At the parish church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields on Saturday, March 3rd, twelve members of this Society attempted a peal of Grandsire Cinques (one of Mr. J. Rogers' unique compositions), and after 2½ hours ringing "stand" was called by the conductor owing to a change-course. The company afterwards adjourned to their headquarters, The Bedford Head hotel, Maiden Lane, where they were joined by Messrs. H. Dains, J. Rogers, J. Mansfield, and others, and a pleasant hour was spent with the visitors. H. Hopkins, 1; C. Hopkins, 2; H. Barton, 3; F. G. Perrin, 4; H. N. Davis, 5; W. H. Fussell, 6; F. Pitstow (Saffron Walden), 7; A. Jacob, 8; W. Doran, 9; Edgar Wightman, 10; George Williams (conductor, Brighton), 11; H. Scarlett, 12. Tenor 32 cwt.

The thanks of the society are due to the steeplekeeper, Mr. Mansfield for having the tower and bells in readiness and to Messrs. R. Beavan and A. Sturdy for attending in event of meeting short. Mr. Wm. Mead kindly sat in the belfry while the peal progressed in case he was required, but the "go" of the tenor has improved of late.

On Saturday last, another attempt was made for a similar peal, Messrs. Williams and Pitstow not being able to attend, were replaced by Messrs. Hannington and Wilkins, with H. Barton (conductor), treble; and W. Mead, tenor.

This met the usual fate of most recent Cumberland peals, and failed after first 1½ hours good ringing, when the 6th bell became unringable and was down in about six blows.

The cause was afterwards discovered to be a shattered wheel, half of it laying in pieces on the loft floor. Since the decease of the late George Newson, a spell of misfortune seems to have been the society's lot, but it is to be hoped that a brighter period will be forthcoming at no distant date.

Church Items.

The Rev. W. Green, Vicar of Little Clacton, has just completed his jubilee as Vicar. He was eighty years old on February 27th, and was the recipient of a purse of gold which contained 115 guineas and a letter signed by 185 subscribers, testifying to the appreciation they felt of his labours among them. Mr. Green was born at Coddanham Hall, Suffolk, and was educated at Shrewsbury School. Among his companions there were the late Archbishop Thomson, Bishop Fraser, and Bishop Walsham How.

The Rev. H. A. Redpath, rector of St. Dunstan's-in-the-East, writes to the *City Press* announcing his purpose to hold a special service for cyclists every Sunday morning at 9.30. Mr. Redpath invites the assistance of, or suggestions from, any officers of cycling clubs. There will be accommodation for cycles in the porch of the church and elsewhere.

It has been decided to introduce new prebendal stalls at the entrance

to the choir of Southwell Cathedral at an estimated cost of between £900 and £1000, towards which the Bishop has promised £250, and Canon Lewis of Nottingham, £500.

In a lecture delivered on a recent Wednesday at the Chapter House, St. Paul's, Mr. T. Micklethwaite, the new surveyor of Westminster Abbey, stated that the old stonework of the Abbey was fast crumbling to pieces owing to the fumes of the works on the other side of the river. He illustrated the damage done by slides showing the white patches on the exterior and interior of the Abbey, and these patches, he asserted, were the direct result of the fumes causing pieces to fall away.

At St. Bartholomew-the-Great, West Smithfield, the usual lectures on the church which are given every March and October will be delivered this Saturday afternoon, and on the 31st inst., at 2.30 p.m., when every part of this interesting church will be open free for inspection by visitors after the lecture. Of late years these lectures have been well attended.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED

CHIEF OFFICE: HOLBORN BARS, LONDON.

Summary of the Report presented at the Fifty-First Annual Meeting, held on 1st March, 1900.

ORDINARY BRANCH.—The number of Policies issued during the year was 65,470, assuring the sum of £6,355,850, and producing a New Annual Premium Income of £352,003.

The Premiums received during the year were £3,144,464, being an increase of £176,963 over the year 1898.

The claims of the year amounted to £1,225,906. The number of Deaths was 1,400 and 3,963 Endowment Assurances matured.

The number of Policies in force at the end of the year was 570,414.

INDUSTRIAL BRANCH.—The Premiums received during the year were £5,168,958, being an increase of £208,202.

The Claims of the year amounted to £2,059,340. The number of Deaths was 209,807 and 2,239 Endowment Assurances matured.

The number of Free Policies granted during the year to those

Policyholders of five years' standing, who desired to discontinue their payments, was 72,611, the number in force being 663,250. The number of Free Policies which became Claims during the year was 14,533.

The total number of Policies in force at the end of the year was 13,433,785; their average duration exceeds eight and three-quarter years.

The assets of the Company, in both branches, as shown in the Balance Sheet, are £36,832,059, being an increase of £3,232,351 over those of 1898. A supplement, shewing in detail the various investments, is published with this Report.

The Staff Provident Fund, which was founded two years since for the benefit of the outdoor staff, shows a very satisfactory increase for the year, the total amount standing to the credit of the Fund being £73,085.

General Balance Sheet of the Prudential Assurance Company, Limited, on the 31st December, 1899.

LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Shareholders' Capital	1,000,000	0	0	British Government Securities (£3,180,000 Consols)	3,179,333	6	11
Ordinary Branch Funds	19,150,020	17	0	Indian and Colonial Government Securities ..	3,659,943	10	8
Industrial Branch Fund	15,708,695	17	8	Railway and other Debentures and Debenture Stock	2,175,734	12	6
Reserve Fund	800,000	0	0	Loans on County Council, Municipal and other Rates	7,048,287	10	8
Claims under Life Policies admitted	173,342	7	9	Freehold Ground Rents and Scotch Feu Duties ..	3,034,321	9	1
				Freehold and Leasehold Property	2,019,809	11	8
				Mortgages	4,870,960	2	6
				Railway, Gas, and Water Stocks	6,090,274	6	7
				Suez Canal Shares	168,369	5	8
				Telegraph and other Shares	72,532	8	3
				Metropolitan Consolidated Stock & City of London Bonds	355,645	12	6
				Bank of England Stock	200,559	18	6
				Foreign Government Securities	1,046,970	14	2
				Reversions and Life Interests	738,486	14	11
				Loans on the Company's Policies	818,128	3	6
				Rent Charges	143,073	1	8
				Outstanding Premiums	372,987	12	5
				Cash in hands of Superintendents & Agents' balances	46,679	3	4
				Outstanding Interest and Rents	275,591	0	8
				Cash--On deposit, on Current Accounts, and in hand	514,370	16	3
	£36,832,059	2	5		£36,832,059	2	5

THOS. C. DEWEY,
WILLIAM HUGHES,
FREDERICK FISHER,
W. J. LANCASTER, Secretary.

Joint General Managers.

EDGAR HORNE, Chairman.

HENRY HARBEN,
PERCY T. REID, } Directors.

We have examined the Cash transactions, Receipts and Payments, affecting the accounts of the Assets and Investments for the year ended December 31st, 1899, and we find the same in good order and properly vouched. We have also examined the Deeds and Securities, Certificates, &c., 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, 1899.

14th February, 1900.

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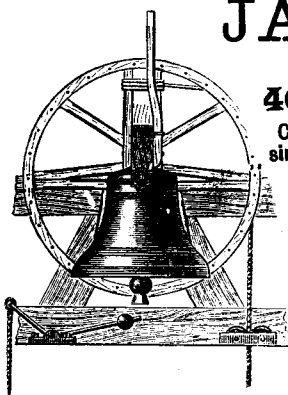
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No. 286.	"Men of Harlech," Welsh Melody	"	1	6
No. 287.	"Orange and Blue," Scotch Air	"	1	6
No. 319.	"Hark the bonny Christ Church Bells," varied	"	1	6
The above are for 6 ringers with 13 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.A.				
The next are for 6 ringers with 12 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.				
No. 320.	"The Mountaineer's Waltz," on Swiss Melodies	"	1	6
No. 321.	"The Rose of Allandale" March	"	1	6
No. 322.	"The Pilgrim of Love" Galop	"	1	6

The next are for 6 ringers, with medium peal, i.e. 3 octaves, C22 to C1, chromatic.

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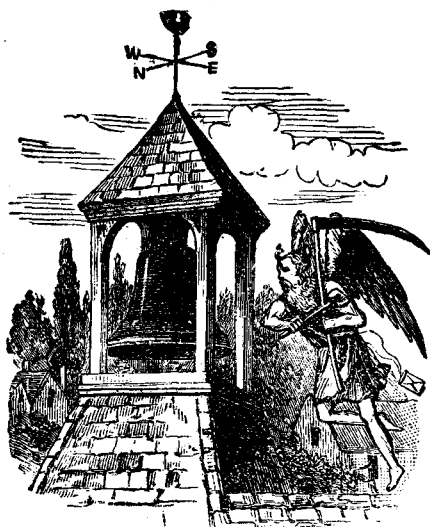
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No. 937.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1900.

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Bradford Town Hall.	Burnley Holy Trinity Ch.
Law Courts, London.	Crawley Parish Church.
St. James' Palace, London.	Corbridge-on-Tyne, do.
Sherborne Abbey.	Pontypool (Trevethin
Sydney Town Hall,	Church).
N.S.W.	Windermere Church.
Hammersmith Parish Ch.	Eiffel Tower, Paris.
Gateshead Clock Tower.	Dunsfold Parish Church.
Duke of Albany Memorial,	Aylesford do.
Cannes.	St. Mark's Church, St.
Eiffel Tower, Paris.	Helen's.
Shanghai Custom	Royal Normal College,
House.	Norwood.
Hymer's College, Hull.	Tetbury Parish Church.

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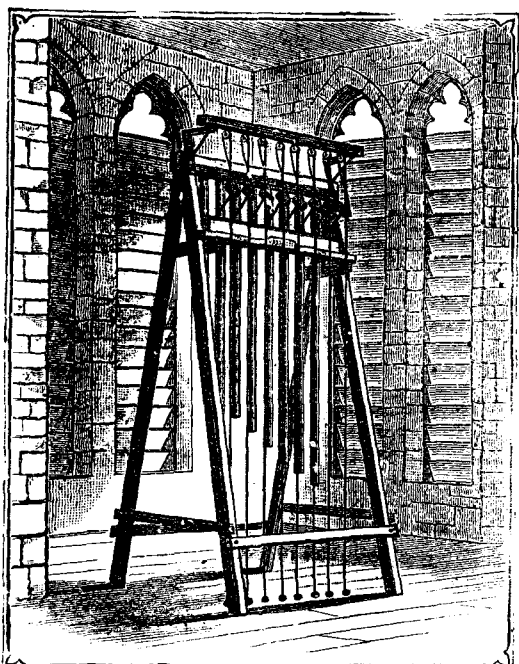
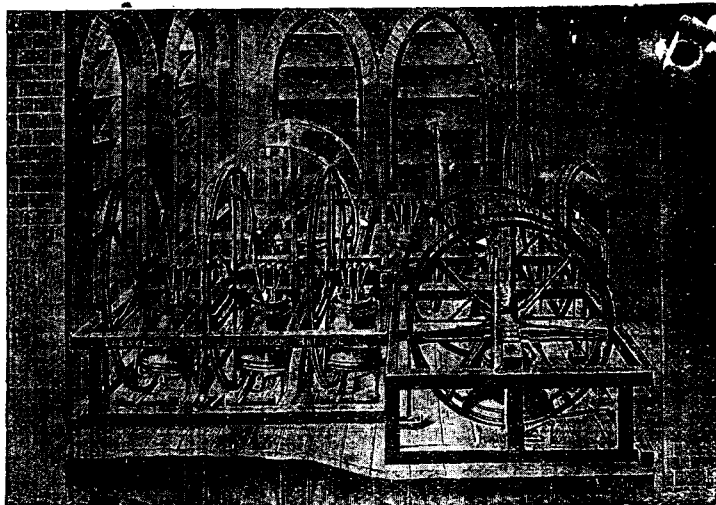
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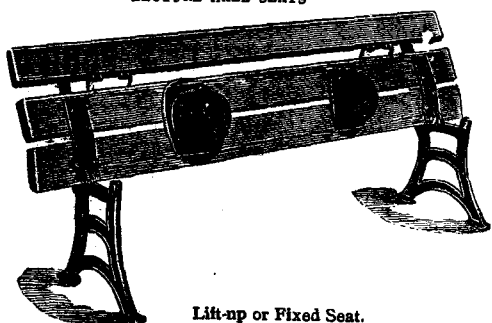
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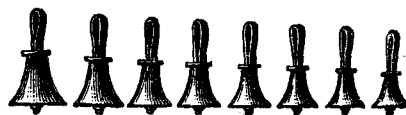
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 937.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1900.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EAST BERKS. AND SOUTH BUCKS. BRANCH.)

On Saturday last, March 17th, the monthly meeting of this branch was held at High Wycombe, when about thirty members attended, representing Bray, Boyne Hill, Beaconsfield, Marlow, Farnham Royal, Little Kimble, Hughenden and Wycombe. Ringing commenced with Grandsire Doubles, in which three of the Kimble ringers assisted, then followed Grandsire and Stedman Triples, in which Messrs. Truss, Wilkins, sen., Rev. H. C. Bell, A. H. Cocks, Esq., Taylor, H. and L. Collins, Page, Parker, Biggs, W. Pickworth (who came from London), Wilkins, jun. and Eldridge, took part.

Tea was taken in the Church Club Rooms, presided over by the branch sec., the Rev. H. C. Bell, who took the voice of the members as to the next place of meeting. Mr. Wilkins proposed, and it was carried, that White Waltham should be the venue. Afterwards, a return was made to the belfry, and two courses of Grandsire Caters were rung, in which J. Eldridge, Martin and Gomm took part. The ringing was conducted by J. W. Wilkins, J. C. Truss and Rev. H. C. Bell, and the meeting ended with thanks due to the Vicar, the Rev. E. D. Shaw, for the use of the bells and the Club Room, and also to Mr. R. Wheeler, the foreman of the local band, for arranging the tea before the ringing ended.

The worthy Vicar practically shewed his interest by taking a rope, and under the direction of a tutor acquired sufficient to say that he would like to become a ringer himself, and this indeed is what the Guild would value very much, and especially it would assist his own ringers to further exertion in the matter of change-ringing.

BISHOPS STORTFORD, HERTS.

On Saturday, March 15th, during the usual practice, a very pleasing ceremony was performed in the tower of St. Michael's, in which Mr. Alfred Tucker, senior member of the Society, presented on behalf of the Society to Mr. J. Tucker, a very handsome 14-day black marble timepiece, striking the hours and half-hours, in recognition of past services, and in commemoration of his rooth peal. A brass plate attached has the following inscription engraved upon it: "Presented to Henry James Tucker, by the Members of the Bishops Stortford St. Michael's Society of Change-Ringers, in appreciation of services rendered, and in commemoration of his rooth peal, December 2nd, 1899."

On receiving the gift, Mr. Tucker said that he thanked every member from the bottom of his heart, and what he had done for the Society he had done with pleasure, and what he wanted them to do, was to work with him as he had worked with them, and also that he (Mr. Tucker) should not feel satisfied until they could ring Stedman as well as other companies. Thanking them again for their kindness, the ropes were taken again, and three plain courses of Stedman were rung.

THE HOLY TRINITY SOCIETY, GUILDFORD.

A specially summoned meeting of this Society was held on Tuesday, 13th instant, to receive the resignation of Mr. B. Chorley, as conductor, and appoint his successor. There were present Messrs. B. Chorley, E. Pulling, A. Pulling, H. Head, R. Wood, G. Foster, H. Hutton, and J. Burgess. Three new members were elected, Messrs. Charles Willshire, William Jelly and Thomas Maynard. Mr. Chorley reminded the members that when he accepted the office of conductor he told them he should resign as soon as they got a better man for the office, and with the election of Mr. Charles Willshire, they had found the right man, and it gave him great pleasure to propose Mr. Willshire as conductor. This was seconded and carried unanimously. Mr. Willshire thanked the members for his election and said he should certainly do his best to improve the band. Afterwards, touches of Grandsire and Stedman were brought round, Messrs. Harman and Hunt, visitors, taking part.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(WIRRAL BRANCH.)

The monthly meeting of the above was held at Wallasey, on Saturday, March 17th. A 720 of Canterbury (twenty-six bobs and ten singles.) J. Johnson (Woodchurch), 1; G. R. Rogers (Bidston), 2; J. Hughes (Oxton), 3; J. Hammond (West Kirby), 4; W. Wilcox (Bidston), 5; W. Bennett (Woodchurch), 6. Then the ringers adjourned to the schools to partake of tea and hold the annual meeting, which was attended by about twenty-four members, and presided over by the Rev. Dr. Cogswell. After passing the usual vote of thanks to Dr. Cogswell, the ringers ascended the tower and attempted Plain Bob, Grandsire, &c., but as the ropes kept slipping off the wheels, only 720 of Kent (nine bobs) was obtained. S. Breeze (Bebington), 1; W. Wilcox, 2; J. Meador (Keston), 3; J. Walters (Wallasey), 4; S. Walters (Bidston), 5; G. R. Rogers, 6. The meeting was represented by seven different towers. Both 720s were conducted by W. Wileox.

WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.

Many in this town will regret to hear of the death of Mr. Weston, of Mill Road, who, since the year 1887 has held the post of keeper of the Parish Church Clock and Chimes. This office he took when the late Mr. Harris (who had it from 1868) was obliged by age and infirmity to resign. Vicar and Churchwardens, past and present, and parishioners generally, can all testify to the faithfulness with which Mr. Weston carried out his duties. All connected with the belfry can speak of the good feeling existing during the past thirteen years between clock-keeper, sexton and ringers. Mr. Weston was fond of his work up in the old church-tower, and only relinquished it a little more than a week ago.

Mr. E. West, watch and clockmaker, who has been one of the parish church ringers since 1887, has been appointed in Mr. Weston's place.

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 DUBLIN PEAL.

SIR,—I should have thought that the withdrawal by Mr. Wakley on behalf of eight members of the band who rang in the Dublin Peal would have been sufficient. Talk till this time next year you cannot make it a true peal. As my name has been brought up, to explain publicly what was merely a matter of private conversation, I will try and explain my connection with the case.

In the first instance, some are under the impression that I took part in the peal. This is not the case. I was in Lincoln at the time. On 12th August last, myself and several of our company were at Arklow, that being the opening day there. On getting into the train coming away, one of the Loughborough ringers who had come to see us off, pulled some papers from his pocket, with these words: "Here, before you go, there is one question I want to ask you," and showing me a course-end, said, "Can Treble Ten be brought round true from that, in one course?"

My answer was, "Certainly not, unless you use one or two bobs home to start with," to which he replied, "When this was used, no bobs were called in that place, but you may hear more about this at some future time." With that the train moved off, which of course ended the conversation. I cannot say that I took much notice of the conversation, as one gets a good many such questions. Of the course-end all the notice I took was of the two bells upon which the whole matter rested, viz., 3rd and 5th being in their own places. Whether it was 63254 or 43652 did not alter the matter, they were practically one and the same so far as the question went, as the following will show:—

A	B	C
234567890	436527890	632547890
426385079	642385079	264385079
	264385079 -	426385079 -

Mr. Williams will excuse me using these figures, but they may help to enlighten others.

The course-end A and the lead following were used at the start.

Either B or C turns up later, from which we are to get the bells round. Now it will be seen that if B turns up, we can only get to A through C. Now it was not till the day mentioned by Mr. Williams, that the conversation at Arklow in any way pointed to the St. Patrick's peal.

While passing through London on September 28th, I was told that a bogus set of figures had been sent to the M. C. A. to represent the calling of this peal. But that Mr. Wakley would not allow them to be published in the report, as they were not the figures of the peal rung.

I also understood that he passed the remark that no bobs had been called in the latter part of the last course.

It was then that the full meaning of the Arklow conversation occurred to me. Mr. Williams will now see that when the peal in question was spoken of, and I mentioned that I considered it a false peal, how I should come to use Fig. C to illustrate its falseness. That being the last natural course-end through which it passed prior to reaching Fig. A again. The first thing that I did to bring the matter forward was to write to that gentleman with whom I had the conversation at Arklow and challenged the peal, as he had rung it. His answer was that I was quite right, and referred me to Mr. Wakley, as he would be likely to remember more about the opening course than himself. This I did, with the result that that gentleman placed the withdrawal in my hands.

The conditions of that withdrawal are well known. I would rather not have had so unpleasant a task, but under the circumstances I did not see that much else could be done.

If Mr. Wakley or myself have erred in the time of making the matter public, we have the satisfaction of knowing that it has been on the right side.

Mr. Williams seems to think that this ought to go further.

I think more notice ought to have been taken of the heading of my first letter. The Central Council cannot perform the miracle of making a true peal out of a false one. It would be far better to let the matter drop.

G. LINDOFF.

SIR,—Mr. Williams's letter in your last issue is extremely interesting, and shows how impossible it is to form a right judgment upon a disputed point without sufficient data to go upon. With regard to his postscript, I venture to suggest that, before even the Central Council could decide in such a matter, it would be necessary to lay before it the full calling of the composition. Why cannot this be done now, through your columns? Every one with the least knowledge of Treble Bob Royal composition could then decide for himself whether the peal was true or false. It is obvious that Mr. Lindoff's recollection of the last course-end but one will not consist with Mr. Wakley's recollection of the calling of the last course. It is, therefore, open to an outsider to imagine that the last course-end but one may really have been 45623, and the bells brought round by 2 M I W. I have been told that the composition was by the late Mr. Henry Johnson, if so, I can hardly imagine there was anything obviously wrong about it. May we hear whether the peal was rung "in the tittum position?"

With regard to Mr. Baker's "Old England Court Bob," should he not have qualified his statement that it is "strictly Court Bob" by adding the words "in its single form?" I have always understood it to be of the essence of Court Bob, in its Double form, that contiguous places should be made in pairs, in reverse order, for which reason all the members of the Glossary Committee, I think, agree with me in dealing "Double London" out of "Court." A good deal, perhaps, hinges on what Mr. Baker means by "contiguous places." Perhaps if one bell makes fourth's while another at the same time makes third's, he would call these contiguous places. I don't. I call them, in such a case, "adjoining places." But if one bell only makes fourth's, and then immediately after makes third's, I call these "contiguous places." There is in "Standard Methods" one called "Yorkshire Court," a single method; but in which "contiguous places," as I call them, occur. Would Mr. Baker rule this method out of "Court?"

H. EARLE BULWER.

ST. STEPHEN'S SURPRISE.

SIR,—Regarding Mr. Dench's reply to my claim of the above method, I must say that, not possessing Sottanstell's work, I was not aware that there was a method there given under the name of Yorkshire Treble Bob. However, let the band that rung the peal find the name for it, so long as it is classed as a Treble Bob method. I am quite aware that there is no fixed definition regarding what should constitute a Surprise method. There ought to be! My opinion is that the placemaking should at least be extended double that of Treble Bob, regarding the position it is allotted to. Whereas the placemaking in this method is all confined to one position, viz. 3-4, which, when taking the whole plain-course proves it to be merely an equivalent to the slow hunt of Treble Bob, its musical advantage being gained by the work being divided amongst a number of bells in the course of the treble lead. In addition to this, it has the advantage of all Treble Bob compositions with the tenors together. Its only failing perhaps being the long dodge at a bob, which many ringers would term monotonous. I must inform Mr. Dench that I was never ashamed of the method. One cannot publish everything, when the columns of your paper have so many to serve. Regarding the 5184 Double Norwich, I was promptly informed by Mr. Clarke, of Bedford, that Mr. Washbrook had published it in 1887. My claim in this instance is therefore useless.

ARTHUR CRAVEN.

OLD ENGLAND COURT BOB MAJOR.

SIR,—In "Notes and Comments" in your last issue, "Plain Speaker" expressed a hope that the method given under the above name could be readily used for Minor and Royal. For some time past I have had the Royal and Maximus of this method, but I have never troubled about the method on six bells until after reading last week's "BELL NEWS."

Then to my dismay I found that the only possible Minor method had already been published by Shipway as Court Bob Minor,

but when Shipway came to Court Bob Major, instead of using the Minor as the foundation of the Major method, he gives us an entirely different method, and one that would not now be considered legitimate.

Under these circumstances I cannot claim to have produced anything new, but I have unintentionally given the correct Major method to Shipway's Court Bob Minor; the latter will be found on page 58 Shipway Reprint.

A lead of Royal and Maximus is given herewith, also a peal for each method. Whether the method retains the name suggested by Mr. "Plain Speaker" might well be decided by the band that rings the first peal.

GEORGE BAKER.

ROYAL.	5040.
1234567890	23456 3 4 5
2143658709	32654 - -
2416385079	65324 - -
4261830597	53624 - -
4628103957	32546 - -
6482019375	54326 - -
6840291357	42356 - -
8604923175	25346 - -
8069432715	34256 - -
0896347251	45236 - -
8069374521	53246 - -
0896735412	24536 - -
0987653142	43526 - -
9078561324	52436 - -
9705816342	32456 s
7950183624	
7591038264	
5719302846	
5173920486	
1537294068	
1352749608	

Repeated.

To compare Minor, Major, Royal and Maximums, note the work of the third bell which is uniform throughout.

MAXIMUS.
1234567890XV

	5016.
2143658709VX	2345 5 6
241638507V9X	
42618305V7X9	
4628103V5X79	4523 - -
648201V3X597	5324 - -
68402V1X3957	3425 - -
8604V2X19375	2534 - -
806V4X291357	5432 - -
08V6X4923175	3254 - -
0V8X69432715	2453 - -
VOX896347251	4352 - -
0V8X69347251	5243 - -
VOX896735412	3245 s
VX0987653142	4532 - -
XV9078561324	5234 - -
X9V705816342	2435 - -
9X7V50183624	3524 - -
97X5V1038264	5423 - -
795X1V302846	4325 - -
7591X3V20486	2543 - -
57193X2V4068	5342 - -
517392X4V608	2345 s
1537294X6V80	
13527496X8V0	

The first ten courses repeated would give 5280.

N.B.—No stretch of the imagination would be sufficient to make this an original peal, and it is doubtful if the peal of Royal has not been obtained in some other method previously.

G. B.

SIR,—This is Single London Court Bob Major, and is nearly as old as its own name.

R. CARTWRIGHT.

SIR,—The method published in your last issue by Mr. Baker is nearly as old as the name he gives it. Single London Court Bob Major is all I can make it.

J. E. GROVES.

BARNSBURY COURT BOB MAJOR.

SIR,—In reply to Mr. Craven's question, if I was to try and extract Single Norwich from the Double, I should give the following as a reply:—

SINGLE NORWICH COURT. NORWICH COURT REVERSE.

12345678	12345678
21436587	21436587
24135678	24163857
42316587	42618375
43261578	24681735
34625187	42867153
36452817	24687513
63548271	42865731
65384721	48256371

My friend Mr. Baker is quite correct, as he it was who first wrote Canonbury, which is, as I said when introducing it, the reverse, and an exact counterpart of Barnsbury.

HENRY DAINS.

SIR,—Mr. A. Craven overlooks the fact that *thirds* and *sixths* places are completed at the fourth change in Double Norwich Court Bob Major, so that any legitimate method containing the four changes mentioned must also have *sixths* place in the last half of the lead, and the method then obtained will be neither Barnsbury, Canonbury, or Single Norwich; in fact, I have the very method that is produced, composed August 28th, 1899, and which I propose to call Brighton Court Bob Major, a lead of which is here given.

GEORGE BAKER.

BRIGHTON COURT BOB MAJOR.

12345678

21436587
24135678
42316587
24361578
42635187
46253817
64528371
46582731
64857213
68475123
86741532
68714523
86175432
81674523
18765432
17856342

Sixths place Bob would make composition similar to Double Norwich. *Fourths* place Bob would add two leads at every middle, wrong and home.

SIR,—I quite admire Mr. Dains's bland simplicity; it almost eclipses that of the heathen Chinese. I cannot see where the introduction of an innovation into the Court Bob System comes in, when the method is published on page 3 of "Standard Methods," and the novelty appears to me something like that of a Schloss wedding, "you may ask your children to it if you have any; either Major, Royal or Maximus, if your family happen to reach that number; then, if it don't, you have to be satisfied with the original state Minor.

There appears to an ordinary observer the same difference between Double Court Bob Minor and Barnsbury Court Bob Major, as there is between Stedman Doubles and Stedman Triples, viz.: the two extra bells, the work being the same with the extra dodging places added.

Canonbury is the same thing with the work removed from 3-4 to 5-6, for convenience' sake or otherwise.

R. CARTWRIGHT.

*. Further correspondence will be found on the notice page.

CARMAN WANTED.—Good Wages. Change-ringer. Permanent agency to steady man. Good peal of eight bells. J. J. PRATT, Contractor, Hillingdon, Uxbridge.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Some of my readers, I know, though they get their "B.N." on a Friday evening, defer the perusal of the number until the Sunday following. Let me tell those friends that next Sunday, the 25th March, is "Lady-Day." No doubt they are all acquainted with that fact. Then it is also called "Mid-Lent" or "Middle-Lent" Sunday; being I suppose about half-way between the first day of Lent and Easter. Again in some parts of England it is termed "Refreshment Sunday," from the reason I apprehend that in years gone by the faithful who kept up the Lenten fast were allowed to strengthen themselves with more liberal food. And it is also known as "Mothering Sunday," the popular legend attending such title being that mistresses were supposed to allow their women-servants an holiday on the day to visit their mothers and relations at home. From this custom we hear of "mothering-cakes," of which the mothers were recipients from the hands of their daughters. A very good old-fashioned custom too.

Not only was the day thus regarded by household servants, but among families it was looked upon as a day for reunion very little inferior to Christmas. I am told of a particular case in which one of the staff of this paper was concerned. On "Mothering-Sunday" paterfamilias had every member of his family around him, children and grandchildren, which made a numerous party.

A great many of us, old and young, look out on Shrove Tuesday for a regalement of those compounds, yclept "pancakes," in total defiance of the penalties which have to be paid to king dyspepsia. The Editor tells me that in the days of his boyhood Ash-Wednesday was in his native city considered the correct pancake-day; and Shrove-Tuesday was known as "grey.pea day." If on Shrove-Tuesday or any other day the faithful citizens fed themselves liberally on such provender as grey peas, they must have enjoyed ostrich-like digesters. At the church of St. Martin's, in the City of Worcester, are six bells. On Shrove-Tuesday, for Divine Service in the morning (and at no other time) I am told that two bells at this church used to be chimed, the 3rd and 5th. If any one asked the reason of two bells being used instead of the usual one, the answer was: "Don't you know what the bells say: 'Grey peas, grey peas.'" Those who have a musical or harmonious bent of mind can rehearse these words to the notes of the 3rd and 5th bells, which would be F and D. "Grey peas! grey peas!" (hand and back stroke.) *Exit "g.p."*

Now I must leave folk-lore, historical, problematical, or otherwise, and come to matters of more serious import. My old friend Newman, of Caversham, sends a characteristic letter to the editor this week in reply to the Rev. F. E. Robinson. As "your humble" is brought in, it is considered best that I should get up the case, and reply. This is what the great Tom of Caversham writes:—

LONDON SURPRISE.

SIR,—In reply to Mr. Robinson my charge is that during the peal they got into a muddle for a considerable time, during which Mr. Payne set his bell and another ringer pulled it off. Please allow me to inform "Plain Speaker" that I have asked no one anything about the peal, so I am not raking at all, and that I knew nothing till after the correspondence of the Kidlington peal was closed, also as soon as I did, I wrote to the Editor of

"THE BELL NEWS," asking him a question on it, with other questions. Getting no answer, I wrote the second time with same result. so he must accuse others with keeping it in their breasts.—T. NEWMAN.

My friend has mixed the two matters up somewhat. The word "off" really ends his reply to Mr. Robinson. In his *critique* of myself he says what he ought to have said to the rev. gentleman. Let us see if we can get clear. What he relates of the peal of London Surprise rung at Drayton is from hearsay only. When Sam Weller appeared as a witness in the trial—Bardell v. Pickwick, the examining counsel suggested to him that his situation with Mr. Pickwick was one in which there was little to do and plenty to get, and the imperturbable Sam answered:—

"Oh! plenty to get; as the soldier said when they ordered him one hundred and fifty lashes."

THE JUDGE: "You must not tell us what the soldier or any other man said; it is not evidence."

Our friend Newman may apply this to himself. He has been listening to "what the soldier said;" and it's not evidence. We must not recognise in the smallest degree what Jack told Harry, who told Bob, who told Tom, and so on. We must have *prima facie* evidence.

Mr. Newman alludes to a letter he wrote to the "B.N." which did not appear. And no wonder. In this letter he makes a statement or two, and with these he mixes up several questions, which if I don't define them as impudent, I say they are not pertinent. These questions should have been asked of the party or parties concerned. Had this letter been published it would have done great harm. My friend Newman must know this: though this journal is freely and liberally opened for correspondence from its readers, the Editor and staff must be allowed a discretion. We (the staff), are not a lot of sticks. We pretty well know what we are about, and in most matters of this kind we fall upon our feet. May the difference of opinion never alter friendship, old friend.

This accusation of the falsity with respect to the Drayton peal is however a most serious affair. I think that such a terrible impeachment must be met with promptitude. Where and who is the individual who first made these assertions? If he is prepared to stand by them let him come to the front at once. We don't want to know "what the soldier said," what is required is that the originator of this wonderful relation of the 6th man setting his bell, and all the part of the other story, or rigmarole, shall come forward in an honorable manner and prove his statements to the very hilt. The Exercise will be of opinion shortly that no peal rung is safe. How did this rumour come about? What has the "6th man" to say about it?

For the first time we read of a "Loca! Clerical ringing company." There has been a peal or peals rung by all clergymen before now, but in the case now before us we read of clergymen of one parish who rang in praise of the success of our army. It would be a courteous thing to learn the names and addresses of these rev. gentlemen. The suggestion that a tablet should be placed in the tower, to mention the fact of eight ringing clericals performing rounds and such like is hardly to be commended; when they can really ring, then's the time. A great future is before them if they persevere in the Art.

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 Sussex County Association.—Eastern Division.—The next meeting will be held at Seaford, to-day, Saturday, March 24. Bells available from 4 to 9. Tea provided by the kindness of the Vicar. Members intending to be present will greatly oblige by sending word to the undersigned not later than the 21st inst. Will local Secretaries please forward all subscriptions in arrears at once.

S. SAKER, *Hon. Sec. Eastern Division.*
Arran, Baldslow Road, Hastings.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting of this Branch will be held at St. Mark's, Glodwick, to-day, Saturday, March 24th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6.30. All ringers welcome.

JAS. JACQUES, *Branch Sec.*
48, Church Street, Middleton.

The Middlesex County Association.—South and West District.—The next meeting of this branch will be held by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. J. T. Jemmet, at the church of St. Catherine, Feltham, on Saturday, March 31st. Ringing to commence at 4.33 p.m. Members and friends are cordially invited.

C. EDWARDS, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*

Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The Annual Meeting of the above Society will be held at Leeds, on Saturday, March 31st. Meeting house The Nag's Head hotel, opposite the church. Ringing from 2 to 4, and 6 till 9. Business meeting at 7.0. Handbells provided. H. Y. GAYTHORPE, *Hon. Sec.*

1, Elm Avenue, Bramley.

Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Brookfield church, Gorton, on Saturday, March 31st. Bells ready at 3.30 p.m. Business meeting at 7 p.m. A good attendance of members is requested.

W. BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

The Kent County Association.—Ashford District.—A District Meeting (without allowances), will be held at Charing on Saturday afternoon, March 31st, at 4 o'clock.

C. WILFRID BLAXLAND, *Dis. Sec.*

Sussex County Association.—Western Division.—Next meeting at Arundel on Saturday, March 31st. Tower open at 2.30; tea, etc., at 5 p.m. Visiting branches to send numbers by March 29th.

J. W. G. LODER COTTER, *Hon. Sec.*
Yapton Vicarage.

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Norton, on Saturday, April 7. Members intending to be present are requested to give notice to Mr. E. Glover, Dog Croft, Smallthorne, not later than Wednesday, April 4th.

W. TWIGG, *Hon. Sec.*

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The Annual Meeting of this Association will be held at Dudley, on Easter-Monday, April 16th. Full particulars in due course.

JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

The Surrey Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Leatherhead, on Easter Monday, April 16th. The local annual

athletic sports will take place in the afternoon, and a torch-light procession in the evening. Further particulars later.

CHAS. DEAN, JUN.

5, Manor Parade, Sutton, Surrey.

The Midland Counties Association.—Election of representatives to Central Council.—The election of the four representatives will take place at the annual meeting on Easter Monday next at Nottingham. Nominations for each delegate, duly signed by two members, must reach me not later than April 2nd next. Voting papers will then be prepared, and the delegates balloted for at the meeting. It must be distinctly understood that only the names of the nominees forwarded to me in accordance with the above notice will appear on the voting papers.

W. E. WHITE, *Hon. Sec.*

Cotgrave, near Nottingham.

St Mary's, Lewisham.—No more practice till after Easter Monday, April 23rd, when all ringing friends will be welcomed.

H. WARNETT.

9, Harvard Road, Lewisham, S.E.

Correspondence.

METHODS WANTED.

SIR,—Can you kindly tell me through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS" where I could get such methods as "Morning Star," "Evening Star," "April Day," "St. Dunstan's," and "The Dream" Doubles. I have both "Banister" and "Standard Methods," but these do not give any of the above.

W. H. DYKE.

The Cottage, Wymondham, Oakham.

ANOTHER LIST.

SIR,—I am glad to see that you are about to publish a list of "ringing clergymen," and I think it would be a good thing if you could also include "ringing schoolmasters." I have in twenty years only met with one of my professional brethren who are change-ringers, but I feel sure there must be a fair number scattered about the country. Such a list would enable us to arrange for Saturday or holiday ringing meetings, for practice or peal-ringing, which would help to promote professional intercourse while helping on the cause which every member of the Exercise should have at heart.

RICHARD BRUNSDON.

Organist, St. Mary-de-Crypt, Gloucester.

[We should be very willing to publish such a list if it would prove useful to only one of our friends. Experience teaches us however, that very little co-operation can be secured in aid of such a movement. The list we have on hand now has not met with the response expected, though all who have written about it say it will be very interesting and useful.—ED.]

ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN HARROGATE.

On Saturday afternoon, March 17th, at the request of the Mayor and Mayoress of Harrogate, and with the kind permission of the Vicar of St. Mary's church, the bells were rung to lend their aid to the public celebrations of the day. The touches rung were as follows: 960 Kent Treble Bob Major. F. Purdy, jun., 1; J. Benson, 2; H. Dickinson, 3; H. Robinson, 4; J. Fozard, 5; F. Purdy, 6; J. Mann, 7; W. Turner (conductor), 8. A 648 Kent Treble Bob Minor. F. Purdy,

1; H. Robinson, 2; H. Dickinson, 3; F. Purdy, 4; J. Mann, 5; W. Turner, 6. A 720 in the same method. J. Benson, 1; F. Purdy, jun., 2; H. Robinson, 3; H. Dickinson, 4; F. Purdy, 5; J. Mann, 6; W. Turner, 7. And another 720 in the same method. F. Purdy, jun., 1; W. Turner, 2; H. Robinson, 3; J. Benson, 4; H. Dickinson, 5; J. Mann, 6; F. Purdy, 7.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

BERMONDSEY.—On Saturday, March 3rd, at St. James' church, after meeting one short for a peal of Stedman Caters through one of the band being ill, 1260 Stedman Triples was rung. T. Faulkner, 1; W. S. Wise, 2; A. V. Selby, 3; A. F. Harris, 4; E. Carter, 5; W. Fox, 6; W. E. Garrard, 7; W. T. Cockerill, 8.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

TRETON (Yorks).—Recently, at the parish church, a date touch of 1900 changes, in the following methods, in 60 mins.: 76 Duke of York, 144 London Scholars, 360 College Exercise, 360 College Pleasure, 360 Arnold's Victory, 360 City Delight, 240 Violet. J. Tinkler, 1; T. Whitworth, 2; J. H. Brothwell, 3; W. Lambert, 4; W. J. Nicholson, 5; W. Allwood, 6.

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SET of 15 Handbells, tenor 18c, viz., 13 consecutive notes, with semitone 12f and bc sharp. By Mears and Stainbank. No reasonable offer refused. Apply to Mr. T. Hattersley, 79, West Street, Sheffield; or the Rev. F. G. Sandford, Sharrow Vicarage, Sheffield.

FOR SALE, Set of 8 Handbells in key of C. Only used twice. As good as new. Offered for £2. Address—Rector, Rammore, Dorking.

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DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR. 1s. 0d.
Contains rules and instructions for pricking and ringing the method; a linear diagram of the plain course; a collection of touches and peals; instructions for proving, and a history of the earlier performances with a list of peals down to 1884 (p. 8)

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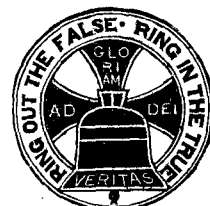
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" 3 "	1s. 8d.

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 Wednesday 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 24, 1900.

If we make a brief allusion to the unfortunate event which occurred at St. Patrick's, Dublin, it is certainly not from the least desire to aggravate the position, or in fact make any reference to the affair but in a kindly manner. Our facile contributor has, it cannot be denied, accelerated the exposure, which was as painful to him as the latest contribution of Mr. LINDOFF (to be found on another page) is to that gentleman. One particular statement in Mr. LINDOFF's letter is a very serious one; we will not repeat it out of regard for the feelings of the party who is principally concerned.

A great, and honest doubt, we fear, is rapidly arising with respect to another performance. one, we are very sorry to say, is far from being generally accepted by the Exercise as genuine. We may hope, if Mr. WILLIAMS' invitation is not accepted, and the various allegations are

allowed to pass without any sign of denial, the ringing world will form its own conclusion in a silent manner, and from kindness decline to add another word. But strong guarantees will be demanded in the future in order that no hocus-pocus arrangement shall be published.

At Ottery St. Mary Ruridecanal Chapter yesterday week, the Rev. F. T. Salmon, Rector of Gittisham, spoke with much appreciation of the Rev. Maitland Kelly's ready help and sympathy during the whole term of his occupancy of the offices of Rural Dean and Vicar of Ottery St. Mary, and expressed the very great regret of the clergy at Mr. Kelly's approaching departure from the deanery, and their deep sense of the loss it would be to them. Mr. Reade heartily endorsed and emphasised these remarks, and spoke of Mr. Kelly as having been quite an ideal Rural Dean. Mr. Salmon then, on behalf of the whole of the present and several past members of the Chapter (twenty-eight in all), handed to Mr. Kelly an illuminated address containing all their names, and begged his acceptance of it, and also of four enlarged and handsomely-framed photographs of the interiors and exteriors of Exeter Cathedral and Ottery church, as a slight token of the regard felt by the clergy for him, of their gratitude for his many years of good and helpful work amongst them, and their regret at losing him from their midst. The rural dean replied in feeling terms, saying how highly he would always value the unlooked for gifts, and thanking the clergy for the cordial way in which they had always received and welcomed him in their parishes.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 17, 1900, in Three Hours and Thirty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTAN, STEPNEY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 32 cwt. in D.

JAMES SCHOLES .. .. .Treble.	HENRY SPRINGALL 6.
WILLIAM TRUSS 2.	JOHN M. HAYES 7.
THOMAS FAULKNER* 3.	EMMANUEL HALL 8.
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER .. 4.	*HENRY TORBLE 9.
SAMUEL HAYES 5.	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL..Tenor.

Composed by HENRY HUBBARD, and Conducted by HENRY SPRINGALL.

*First peal on ten bells. First peal on the bells since being turned and rehung by Mears and Stainbank.

The Provinces.

WORTLEY, NEAR SHEFFIELD, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 10, 1900, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN HOLMAN .. .. .Treble.	GEORGE W. DRONFIELD .. 5.
JOHN DRONFIELD 2.	HARRY BOWER 6.
EDWARD ROBBINS 3.	JOHN PARKIN 7.
THOMAS ROBBINS 4.	DAVID BREARLEY .. ..Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and Conducted by DAVID BREARLEY.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Harry Bower, the company wishing him many happy returns.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 15, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

JOHN SAXBY .. .. .Treble.	WALTER J. SMITH 5.
GEORGE CONYARD 2.	THOMAS TABRETT 6.
EDWARD BARNETT, JUN. .. 3.	CHARLES WILKINS 7.
EDGAR WIGHTMAN 4.	EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. ..Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by EDGAR WIGHTMAN.

This peal has the 4th, 5th and 6th their extent in 6ths place, the 2nd never there, and the 3rd at three plain leads only.

CHIDDINGFOLD, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 17, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

WALTER G. BROCKHURST* Treble	ARTHUR E. BARTLETT .. 5.
JAMES A. BARTLETT 2.	HERBERT P. HARMAN .. 6.
THOMAS ATTWELL 3.	CHARLES WILLSHIRE .. 7.
THOMAS W. BURDOCK .. 4.	ARTHUR ASHDOWN .. ..Tenor.

Conducted by HERBERT P. HARMAN.

The conductor hails from Bromley, and was proposed a member of the Guild previous to starting for the peal. *First peal. †First peal with a bob bell.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, March 17, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

IA PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 12 cwt. 25 lbs.

SAMUEL REEVES .. .. .Treble.	PHILIP W. DAVIES† .. 5.
ARTHUR BOWLER* 2.	WILLIAM SHORT 6.
WILLIAM DEMPSTER* .. 3.	WILLIAM R. SMALL .. 7.
WILLIAM H. GODDEN .. 4.	*FREDERICK J. COPE .. ..Tenor.

Composed by G. LINDOFF, and Conducted by PHILIP W. DAVIES.

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

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, March 17, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE.

PETER INCE .. .. .Treble.	J. E. MARKLAND 5.
PETER NUTTALL 2.	ROBERT BARLOW 6.
ANDREW NUTTALL 3.	WM. PENNINGTON 7.
GEORGE PINCOTT 4.	PERCY HARGREAVES .. ..Tenor.

Conducted by PETER INCE.

MAIDSTONE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 17, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5004 CHANGES;

Tenor 31 cwt. in C.

THOMAS MANNERING .. .Treble.	WALTER J. SMITH 6.
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 2.	WILLIAM HAIGH 7.
WALTER MANNERING .. 3.	JOHN R. SHARMAN 8.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE .. 4.	ALFRED PALMER 9.
ALFRED W. TAWNEY .. 5.	RICHARD GOODBOURN ..Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and

Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN.

First peal of Stedman Caters by the ringers of the 3rd, 5th, 6th, 7th and tenor.

LEICESTER.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 17, 1900, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

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

JAMES WILSON* Treble.	JOSEPH S. NEEDHAM .. 5.
JOSIAH MORRIS 2.	WILLIAM H. INGLESANT.. 6.
JOHN O LANCASHIRE .. 3.	WILLIAM WILLSON .. 7.
ALFRED MILLIS 4.	†CHARLES H. FOWLER .. Tenor.

Composed by W. GARRARD, and Conducted by CHAS. H. FOWLER.

*First peal in the method. †First peal in the method as conductor. Rung to celebrate St. Patrick's day.

HURSTPIERPOINT, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 17, 1900, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 13 cwt. 0 qrs. 2 lbs.

THOMAS GANDER* .. Treble.	EDWARD C. MERRITT .. 5.
KEITH HART 2.	*FREDERICK G. DART .. 6.
WILLIAM PALMER 3.	GEORGE WILLIAMS .. 7.
ARTHUR A. FULLER .. 4.	*DAVID DAVEY Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

*First peal, and members of the local band.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 17, 1900, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5088 CHANGES. Tenor 19 cwt. 2 qrs. 14 lbs.

WILLIAM I. GROOM .. Treble.	WILLIAM J. NEVARD .. 5.
ALBERT E. DURRANT .. 2.	JAMES MOTTS 6.
WILLIAM MOTTS 3.	ALFRED W. GRIMES.. 7.
WILLIAM ROUGHTON .. 4.	WILLIAM GRIMES .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

Rung to commemorate the anniversary of the long peal of Bob Major, 10,080 changes, which was rung on March 16th, 1767.

WEDNESBURY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Monday, March 19, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE. Tenor 18 cwt.

AMOS COOPER Treble.	EDWIN J. TYLER 5.
OLIVER BROWN* 2.	†JOHN MALPASS 6.
CHARLES TYLER 3.	WILLIAM JOHNSON .. 7.
ERNEST W. TURNER* .. 4.	THOMAS COOPER.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN MALPASS.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Wm. Johnson, Instructor to the above band, who wished him many happy returns,

BOLTON, BRADFORD, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 20, 1900, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

B. T. COPLE Treble.	HARRY GOOD 5.
JOHN PALFRAMAN 2.	BERNAL E. HOWE .. 6.
ARTHUR GILL 3.	*W. JOYCE 7.
ARTHUR BENSON 4.	JOHN JOYCE Tenor.

Composed by W. NICHOLL, and Conducted by W. JOYCE.

*First peal as conductor. This was rung in celebration of the silver wedding day of Mr. Copley, Hon. Sec. of the Yorkshire Association, and conductor of the St. James' company over 21 years.

DEFECTIVE PEAL REPORT.—A peal rung at Aldenham, Herts., has come to hand without a date and is not inserted.

Date Touches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BOLTON, BRADFORD (Yorks).—On Thursday, March 15th, at St. James' church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major in 1 hr. 8 mins. H. Sugden, 1; B. T. Copley (composer and conductor), 2; A. Gill, 3; A. Benson, 4; J. Palframan, 5; B. E. Howe, 6; W. Joyce, 7; J. Joyce, 8.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WOBBURN (Beds).—On Monday, February 5th, at St. Mary's church, a date touch, being two 720s of Bob Minor, 420 Bob Minor, and 40 Bob Doubles, in 1 hr. 8 mins. W. Janes, 1; M. Matthews, 2; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 3; S. Avis, 4; E. Herbert, 5; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 6.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

QUIDENHAM (Norfolk).—On February 26th, at St. Andrew's church, a date touch of Bob Minor in 1 hr. 16 mins, being 100, 360, and two 720s. E. G. Kemp, 1; J. Sage, 2; W. Ringer, 3; R. Haylett, 4; W. Killington, 5; J. Woods (conductor), 6.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(STOCKPORT AND BOWDON BRANCH.)

NEW MILLS (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, March 10th, a date touch, being a 460 and two 720s of Plain Bob, each called differently, in 1 hr. 10 mins. W. Lowery, 1; T. Ramsey, 2; F. Holt, 3; Rev. A. T. Beeston, 4; W. Marshall, 5; S. Rutter (composer and conductor), 6. Longest length, and first date touch on the bells.

Miscellaneous.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SPROUTON (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, February 27th, for practice on handbells, 2500 New Cambridge Surprise Major. W. Brown, 1; G. W. Mee, 2; F. Rolfe, 3; H. J. Mee, 4; E. Rivers, 5; A. G. Rivers, 6; C. Mee (conductor), 7; F. Mee, 8. On Thursday, March 1st, at All Saints church, 720 Kent Treble Bob in 26 mins. F. Rolfe, 1; D. Southgate, 2; G. W. Mee, 3; E. Rivers (conductor), 4; A. G. Rivers, 5; C. Mee, 6.

QUIDENHAM (Suffolk).—On February 6th, at St. Andrew's church, 720 Bob Minor. R. Davey, 1; J. Sage, 2; R. Ettridge, 3; R. Haylett, 4; S. Daniels, 5; J. Woods (conductor), 6. Also 720 Double Court Bob Minor. R. Haylett, 1; G. Howchin, 2; F. Howchin, 3; P. Sadler, 4; C. Borrett (conductor), 5; J. Woods, 6. On February 19th, a 720. E. G. Kemp, 1; J. Sage, 2; W. Ringer, 3; J. Woods, 4; W. Killington, 5; R. Haylett (conductor), 6. Also two 360s. E. G. Kemp, 1; J. Sage, 2; R. Haylett, 3; W. Hensley, 4; W. Killington, 5; J. Woods (conductor), 6.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BARNET (Herts).—On Monday, February 26th, for practice, 336 Grandsire Triples. W. J. Baldwin, 1; J. Wittey, 2; A. J. Chidwick, 3; J. Sumpter (conductor), 4; E. T. Griffin, 5; F. A. Milne, Esq., 6; W. F. Dolton, 7; E. Marshall, 8. Also 336 Bob Major. J. Wittey, 1; A. J. Chidwick, 2; E. T. Griffin, 3; J. Sumpter, 4; W. F. Dolton, 5; F. A. Milne (conductor), 6; E. Marshall, 7; A. Belton, 8. On Monday, March 5th 672 Bob Major, conducted by E. Marshall. On Sunday evening, March 11th, for Divine Service, 518 Grandsire Triples. W. J. Baldwin, 1; J. Wittey, 2; A. J. Chidwick, 3; J. Sumpter, 4; W. F. Dolton, 5; F. A. Milne (conductor), 6; A. H. Belton, 7; A. T. King, 8. On Monday, March 12th, 532 Grandsire Triples. A. T. King, 1; A. J. Chidwick, 2; J. Wittey, 3; J. Sumpter, 4; A. E. Dolton, 5; F. A. Milne (conductor), 6; W. F. Dolton, 7; E. Dolton, 8.

THE ALL SAINTS SOCIETY, FULHAM.

FULHAM.—On Sunday, March 4th, for Divine Service at All Saints 1260 Grandsire Caters in 49 mins. R. Charge, 1; J. Hinton, 2; J. Buckingham (first with a bob bell), 3; J. Herbert, 4; J. Aldridge, 5; G. Thrusell (first quarter-peal), 6; W. T. Elson, 7; J. W. Driver (conductor), 8; W. Charge, 9; S. How, 10. Composed by C. Charge. Rung as a birthday compliment to W. Charge.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WOBBURN (Beds).—On Monday, January 1st, 1008 Bob Major. W. Janes, 1; D. Harris, 2; W. Brown, 3; Chas. Herbert, 4; S. Avis, 5;

W. Smith, 6; E. Herbert, 7; M. Lane (conductor), 8. On Monday, February 12th, 252 Stedman Triples. Cyril Herbert (conductor), 1; S. Avis, 2; D. Harris, 3; M. Matthews, 4; M. Lane, 5; E. Herbert, 6; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 7; W. Smith, 8. Also 288 Kent Treble Bob Major. On Thursday, March 1st, in honour of the relief of Ladysmith, 720 Bob Minor. W. Janes, 1; Chas. Herbert, 2; S. Avis, 3; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 4; D. Harris, 5; E. Herbert, 6. And 504 Bob Triples. W. Janes, 1; D. Harris, 2; C. Herbert, 3; M. Matthews, 4; S. Avis, 5; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 6; E. Herbert, R. Marshall, 8. Also 252 Bob Triples.

ST. MARY ABBOTTS GUILD, KENSINGTON.

LONDON.—On Tuesday, February 20th, at the church of St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, an attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Caters, but meeting short, Stedman Triples was attempted instead, but was unfortunately lost after the last bob had been called in 3 hrs. 6 mins. A. V. Selby, 1; H. G. Milles, 2; G. R. Fardon, 3; S. H. Godfrey, 4; A. F. Harris, 5; W. Fox, 6; W. E. Garrard, 7; G. Judd, 8. On the 17th, on the occasion of the funeral of the late T. Ferris Guy, Esq., several times churchwarden and treasurer of the ringers' guild, and an esteemed resident in the parish, the usual whole pull and stand was rung before the service which took place previous to the cortege departing to Brompton Cemetery. W. E. Judd, 1; W. E. Golby, 2; S. Davie, 3; R. A. Daniel, Esq., 4; A. E. Bradley, 5; G. Judd, 6; F. Edwards, 7; A. F. Harris, 8; C. H. Phipps, 9; W. E. Garrard, 10. On Thursday, March 1st, in honour of the relief of Ladysmith, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. F. Edwards, 1; W. E. Judd, 2; W. E. Garrard, 3; H. G. Milles, 4; A. E. Bradley, 5; A. F. Harris (conductor), 6; W. Fox, 7; G. Judd, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CANTERBURY (Kent).—On Sunday evening, March 11th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Alphege, 720 Kent Treble Bob (fifteen bobs), in 24 mins. J. Fox, 1; M. W. Pierce (conductor), 2; G. G. Jenkins, 3; F. T. Brett, 4; A. H. Saxby, 5; P. H. Pierce, 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BACUP (Lancashire).—On Sunday morning, February 4th, at Christ Church, 720 College Treble. L. Holt, 1; H. L. Cockroft, 2; D. Briggs, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. For afternoon service 720 Merchants' Delight, standing as in the morning. For evening service 720 Violet, standing as before. On Friday, February 9th, for practice, 720 Wells Surprise. H. L. Cockroft, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. S. Lomas, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, February 11th, 720 Durham Surprise. L. Holt, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. H. Smith, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. S. Lomas (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, February 18th, 720 Worcester Surprise. J. S. Lomas, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. H. Smith, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Friday, February 23rd, for practice, 720 College Treble. D. Briggs, 1; H. L. Cockroft, 2; J. H. Barnes, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. S. Lomas (conductor), 6. Also 720 Carlisle Surprise. H. L. Cockroft, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. S. Lomas, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, February 25th, 720 Chichester Surprise. L. Holt, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. H. Smith, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. For evening service, 720 Bristol Surprise, standing as before. On Wednesday, February 28th, 720 Lichfield Surprise, standing as before, with the exception of J. S. Lomas, 3.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUNDERLAND.—On Sunday, November 5th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Ignatius the Martyr, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles). J. W. Parker, 1; G. R. Taylor, 2; R. H. Blakey, 3; R. Manning, 4; G. Butler, 5; R. Patterson (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 3rd, 720 College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. Denteth, 1; G. S. Taylor, 2; G. R. Taylor, 3; J. W. Parker, 4; J. Butler, 5; R. Patterson (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all, and first on the bells. On Sunday, January 7th, 720 College Single. J. W. Parker (conductor), 1; R. Manning, 2; G. S. Taylor, 3; R. H. Blakey, 4; J. Butler, 5; R. Patterson, 6. First 720 in the method by Messrs. Manning and Blakey. On Sunday, February 4th, 720 College Single. W. Denteth, 1; J. W. Parker, 2; G. S. Taylor, 3; R. H. Blakey, 4; J. Butler, 5; R. Patterson (conductor), 6. On Thursday, February 22nd, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles). R. Manning, 1; J. W. Parker (conductor), 2; R. Miller, 3; R. Lovie, 4; J. Butler, 5; R. Patterson, 6. First 720 by all except Messrs. Miller and Lovie, and first on the bells. On Sunday, February 25th, for Divine Service, 720 College Single (nine bobs and six singles). W. Denteth, 1;

G. S. Taylor, 2; R. H. Blakey, 3; J. W. Parker (conductor), 4; J. Butler, 5; R. Patterson, 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

STANSTED (Essex).—On Wednesday, February 14th, for practice at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, 720 Carlisle Surprise in 25 mins. J. Cavill, 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. J. Watts, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. Also 720 New London Pleasure. H. Little, 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; W. Watts, 4; T. Jordan (first in the method with a bob bell), 5; T. J. Watts (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, February 18th, for Divine Service, 720 College Exercise in 24 mins. H. Little, 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. Jordan, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. For afternoon service 720 Kent Treble Bob (2nd the observation). W. Watts (conductor), 1; H. Little, 2; G. Gray, 3; J. Luckey, 4; T. Jordan, 5; G. Jordan, 6. This makes W. Watts' 100th 720 of Kent Treble Bob. On Wednesday, February 21st, for practice, 720 Morning Exercise. J. Cavill, 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. Jordan, 5; T. J. Watts (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, February 28th, for practice, 720 Ringers' Surprise in 24 mins. T. Jordan, 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. J. Watts, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. Also 720 College Double Bob. W. Watts, 1; H. Little, 2; G. Gray, 3; J. Luckey, 4; T. Jordan, 5; T. J. Watts (conductor), 6.

BARKING (Essex).—On Sunday morning, March 18th, for Divine Service at St. Margaret's church, and also on the occasion of the birthday of Mr. E. A. Davies, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original in 45 mins. J. Cottis, 1; E. G. Fenn, 2; G. W. Faulkner, 3; C. Fenn, 4; A. Carter, 5; T. Faulkner (conductor), 6; R. Fenn, 7; E. A. Davies, 8. Tenor 22½ cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

YARNTON (Oxon).—On Thursday, March 1st, 960 Grandsire Doubles, and eight 6-scores, each called differently. H. Bales, 1; F. Charlett, 2; T. Charlett, 3; J. Hastings, 4; T. Jones (conductor), 5; G. Hall, 6. Rung in honour of the relief of Ladysmith.

READING (Berks).—On Tuesday, March 13th, for practice at the church of St. Lawrence, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins. A. Mayo, 1; F. Hopgood (conductor), 2; J. E. Hern, 3; E. Bruce, 4; W. P. Routh, Esq., 5; E. Humphries, 6; W. Newell, 7; R. Sawyer, 8. Rung as a farewell touch to Corporal Edgar Humphries from Abingdon, belonging to the Royal Berks. Yeomanry, who was leaving for South Africa on the following Friday. Before leaving the tower the ringers gave him a warm shake of the hand, wishing him luck and a speedy return to Old England.

ISLEWORTH (Middlesex).—On Sunday, March 4th, at All Saints church, the Editor's quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 38 mins. J. Basden (conductor), C. Edwards, 2; E. V. Beadle, 3; T. Beadle, 4; H. Chandler, 5; F. G. Goddard, 6; F. Richardson, 7; G. A. Ransom, 8.

SEVENOAKS (Kent).—On Monday, March 5th, at the church of St. Nicholas, 168 Grandsire Triples. J. Sinden, 1; H. J. Ford, 2; T. Groombridge, 3; H. Jarvis, 4; J. Stevens, 5; C. Hazelden, 6; Corpl. H. Marchant (composer and conductor), 7; W. Paskin, 8. Tenor 21½ cwt. First touch of Triples by Messrs. Sinden and Jarvis; also first touch as conductor, and a farewell to him, having been selected for active service in South Africa, from the 1st Queen's Own Royal West Kent Volunteers.

ST. SIDWELL'S (Exeter).—Recently at the parish church 504 and 518 Grandsire Triples. E. Searle, 1; A. Searle (conductor), 2; W. Drake, 3; W. Richardson, 4; T. Mudge, 5; E. Shepherd, 6; J. Moss, 7; W. Ackerman, 8. On February 16th, 306 Grandsire Caters. E. Searle, 1; F. Coombes, 2; W. Drake, 3; C. Carter, 4; A. W. Searle, 5; W. Richardson, 6; E. Shepherd (conductor), 7; T. Mudge, 8; J. Moss, 9; W. Ackerman, 10. Also two courses of Stedman Triples. T. Mudge, 1; C. Carter, 2; W. Drake, 3; W. Richardson, 4; A. Searle, 5; E. Shepherd (conductor), 6; J. Moss, 7; E. Sargent, 8. On Saturday, March 3rd, 1260 Grandsire Triples. J. Martin, 1; C. Carter, 2; W. Drake, 3; F. Davey, 4; T. Mudge, 5; E. Shepherd (conductor), 6; J. Moss, 7; W. Ackerman, 8.

WOODFORD (Essex).—On Monday, 29th, for practice, 720 London Surprise. J. Kimberly, 1; W. Keeble (conductor), 2; J. Mardell, 3; W. Miller, 4; J. Moule, 5; T. H. Beams, 6. On Sunday evening, February 4th, for Divine Service, 720 Plain Bob. G. Pilgrim, 1; J. Mardell, 2; J. Kimberly, 3; G. Carter, 4; W. Clarke, 5; E. Wightman (conductor), 6. After service 720 Kent Treble Bob. F. Withers, 1; W. Keeble, 2; J. Kimberly, 3; G. Carter, 4; W. Clarke, 5; J. Mardell (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening March 4th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. G. Pilgrim, 1; J. Mardell, 2; J. Rann, 3; J. Kimberly, 4; W. Clarke, 5; T. H. Beams (conductor), 6.

Compositions.

TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By HENRY DAINS, *Royal Cumberland Youths.*

5056.

23456	M	B	W	H
26354	2			I
26543	2		2	I
25463			I	2
56423		2		
56234				I
52364			I	2
53624			I	2
25634	I		2	

Repeated.

I think this is the first peal in two equal parts yet published without 2nd in 6ths place at course-ends, and by the use of the alternate calling to the 4th course the changes are reduced to 5024.

5056.

23456	M	B	W	H
36452	2		I	2
26543	I		2	I
25463			I	2
56423	I			
56234				I
52364			I	2
53624			I	2
25634	I		2	

Repeated.

By using the alternate calling to 4th course of each part the composition will contain 5120 changes.

Mr. Dains writes: "It is pointed out to me by Sir A. P. Heywood that the peal of London Surprise published by me last week, belongs to the late Mr. W. Sottanstell. I therefore relinquish all claim to that composition."

By J. WILSON, *Leicester.*

5088.

23456	B	W	H
35264	I		
56342	I		
64523	I		
42635	I		
24536	I	I	2
43265	I		
43652	I		I

Twice repeated.

By FRED. ROBINSON, *Mirfield.*

5024.

23456	M	B	W	H
36452	I			2
42563	I		I	2
23564	I			2
34562	I			2
63425	2		2	2
35426	I			2
24536			2	2
32465	2		2	2
63254				2
25634			I	I
46532	I			I
35642			2	2
52643	I			2
25346	2			2
23456			I	2

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

By ARTHUR CRAVEN, *Chesterfield.*

7552.

23456	M	B	W	H
35426			2	
52364	2		2	
54263	2			I
46532				
24365	2		I	2
63542	I		I	
32546	I			2
56423	I		I	2
34625	I			I
65243	I		I	2
54632	2		2	
54326				I

Repeated.

Has the 6th her extent in 5-6 at six course-ends each way.

7616.

23456	M	B	W	H
35264	2		2	
34562	2			I
46325				
24653	2		2	2
35642	I		I	I
46532			2	2
32465	2		I	
64523	I		I	
53246	I		I	2
34625	I		2	
34256				I
45236			2	

Has the 6th six course-ends each way in 5-6, being the extent right. All 8-6-7s and 8-6s.

The above two peals are the longest lengths ever obtained in two parts superseding T. Lockwood's 7488 (see Snowdon's *Treble Bob*, page 45).

7168.

23456	M	B	W	H
54326	I			2
42563				
62735				2
36452				2
62453	2		I	2
64523	I		2	2
36245			2	2
32465	I		2	2
63254				
35642				
25346			I	
25463				I
62534				2
24536	2		I	2
53246	I		2	I
56342	2			I
65243			I	2
46532				2
45362			I	2
52364	I			2
53624			I	2
34625	I			2
23456				2

This peal is in twenty-three courses, and is the first obtained in that number.

6560.

23456	M	B	W	H
54326	I			2
25463				2
62534				2
24536	2		I	2
25346	I		2	2
62453			2	2
64523	I		2	2
36245			2	2
32465	I		2	2
64235	I			2
36452				2
63254	2			2
56342				2
65243			I	2
46532				2
45362			I	2
52364	I			2
53624			I	2
34625	I			2
23456				2

This peal is in twenty courses, and is the shortest ever obtained with the qualities.

The *National Church* states that Lord Tredegar has given £60, and the Marquis of Bute £40 towards the restoration of the nave of Llandew church, near Brecon. It is one of the earliest churches in the country, and may claim a seniority over the priory church of St. John's at Brecon.

LONDON SURPRISE.

By FRED. DENCH, *College Youths.*

5024.

23456	M	B	W	H
43652	-			
56234	-	-		
23564		-	-	
52364			-	
35264			-	
25463	-			
45362	-			
56342	-	-		
36245	-			
26543	-			
56423	-	-	-	
45623			-	
64523			-	

The last five courses twice repeated. This is the first 5024 of London Surprise produced with the least number of bobs. By four times repeating the calling of the last 5 courses a peal of 5440 is obtained.

SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE
MAJOR.

(By THE SAME AUTHOR.)

5056.

23436	M	B	W	H
54632	-	-		
54326	-	-	-	
25346		-	-	
35642	-			
35426	-	-	-	
43526		-	-	
52436	-	-	-	
45236		-	-	
25634	-			
53246	-	-	-	
24536		-	-	
32546		-	-	
24365	-			

Repeated. The 5th and 6th their extent in 5-6 each at ten course-ends in 6ths, and is the first two-part peal of 5056 produced with these qualities.

5184.

23456	M	W	H
45236	-	-	
62534	-	-	
43526	-	-	
53624	-	-	
26435	-	-	
63254	B		
25634	-	-	
65432	-	-	
24536	-	-	

Continued—

	M	W	H
53246	-	-	
25346	-	-	
32546	-	-	

Repeated.

This peal has the 6th its full extent at home, and is the first peal (in two equal parts) produced with these qualities.

5248.

23456	M	B	W	H
54632	-	-		
54326	-	-	-	
25346		-	-	
35642	-			
35426	-	-	-	
43526		-	-	
52436	-	-	-	
45236		-	-	
25634	-			
65432	-			
24536	-	-		
32546		-		
24365	-			

Repeated.

5632.

23456	M	W	H
52436	-	-	
43526	-	-	
24536	-	-	
53246	-	-	
45236	-	-	
25634	-	B	-
25346		-	
32546		-	
54326	-	-	
35426	-	-	
64523	-	-	
56423	-	-	
24365	-	-	

Repeated. The 5th and 6th their extent in 5-6 at ten course-ends in 6ths. Reduced to 5184 by calling the 9th course in either part M W H which brings up the eleventh course-end.

BOB MAJOR.

The following peal is the composition of the late Daniel Prentice, of Ipswich, and was rung at Helmingham, in Suffolk, a few years since.

Although only on the simple 5-part plan, its symmetry, and the fact that the bells in 5-6 are shifted every course-end, make it a composition of more than usual interest, and as to the best of my knowledge it has never been published except in the Norwich

Association Report, it seems not amiss to re-publish it in "THE BELL NEWS."
J. A. T.

5040.	5040.
THR ORIGINAL.	A VARIATION.
23456 W M R	23456 W M R
42635 - -	64235 - - -
64523 - -	52643 - - -
56342 - -	36524 - - -
35264 - -	45362 - - -
42356 - - -	34256 - -
34625 - -	62345 - - -
63542 - -	53624 - - -
56234 - -	46532 - - -
42563 - - -	54263 - -

Each four times repeated.

D. PRENTICE.

By JAMES GEORGE, *Rugby.*

5376.

23456	W	M	H
42635	-	-	
36425	-		S
42365	-	-	
34265	-	-	
32465		S	
43265	-	-	
24365	-	-	
23465		S	

Five times repeated, with single instead of bob at M in 2nd, 3rd, 5th and 6th parts.

By calling a bob instead of single in the 5th course of any one part, this peal will be reduced to 5040.

By JOHN D. MATTHEWS, *Bath.*

5152.

23456	W	M	H
64235	-	-	-
26435	-	-	-
43265	-	-	-
24365	-	-	-
32465	-	-	-
46325	-	-	-
34625	-	-	-
62345	-	-	-
53246	-	-	-
25346	-	-	-
32546	-	-	-
54326	-	-	-
35426	-	-	-
43526	-	-	-
52436	-	-	-
45236	-	-	-
62534	-	-	-
56234	-	-	-
23564	-	-	-
52364	-	-	-
35264	-	-	-
26354	-	-	-
23654		S	

Repeated.

DELOITTE, DEVER, GRIFFITHS & Co.

ROPES.

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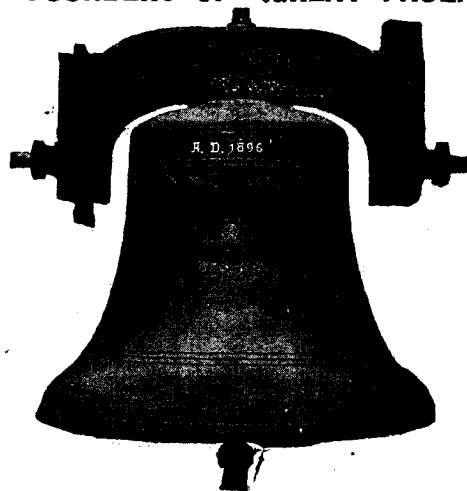
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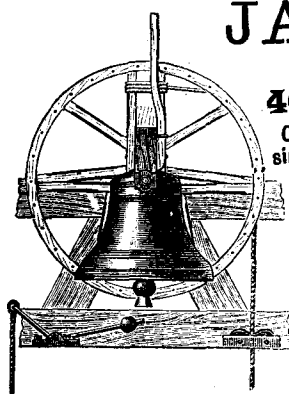
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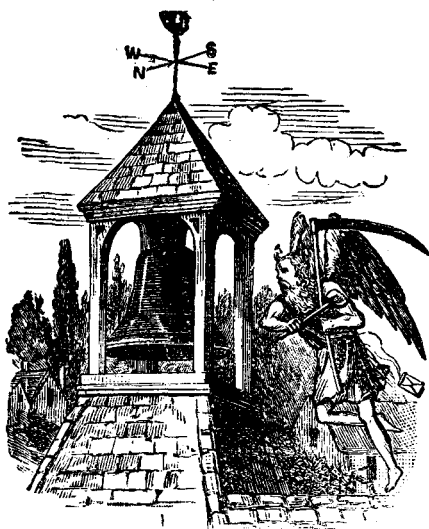
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No. 938. - VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1900.

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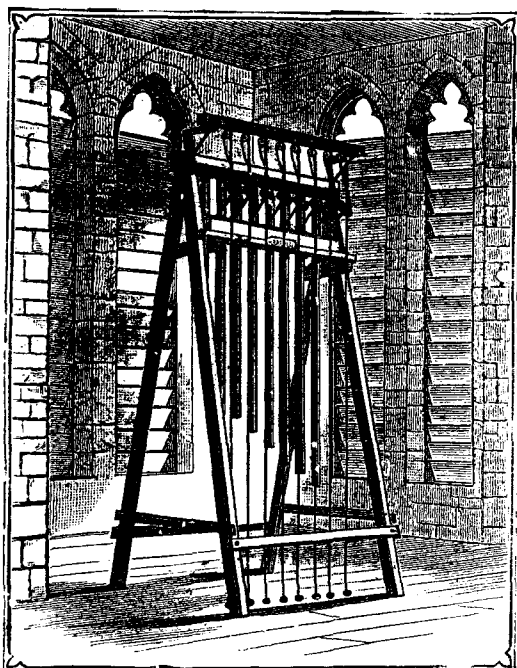
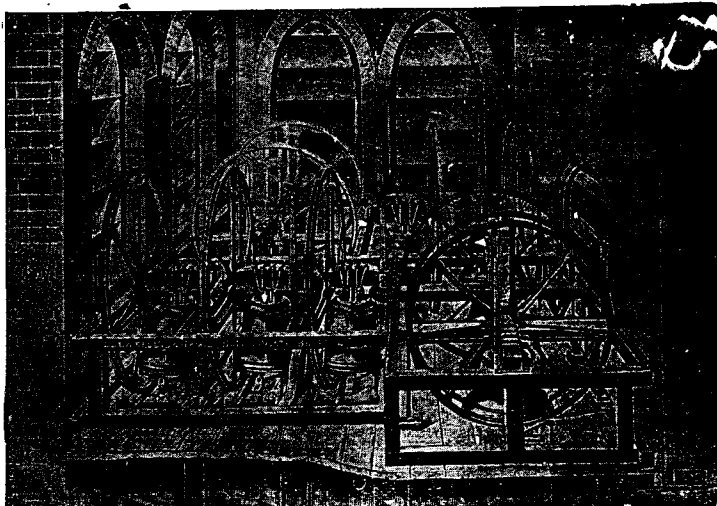
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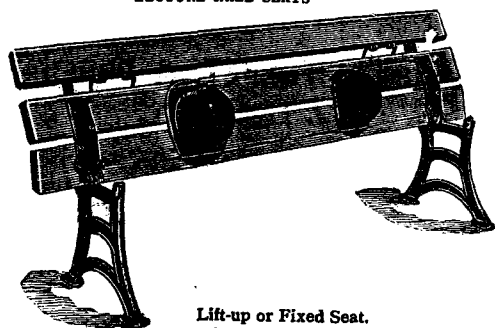
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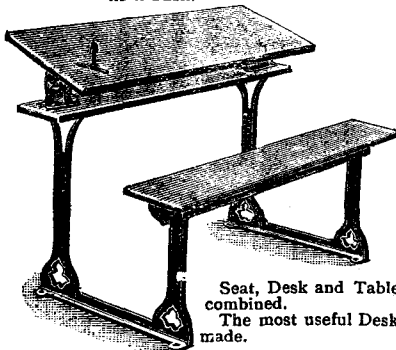
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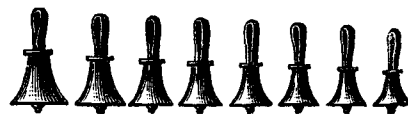
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 938.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1900.

[Vol. XVIII.]

A SHORT MEMOIR OF THE LATE CHARLES PAYNE, OF NORFOLK.

By SAMUEL SLATER, of *Glemsford, Suffolk*.

Then I went to Norwich, where the dons do dwell,
For some of the ringers I knew very well,
There was Hurry he railed against Thurston and Payne,
And swore he never would ring with them again.

Such is part of an old Norfolk doggrel ballad, which was written in the days of these Norfolk ringers. Having given a memoir of the late Samuel Thurston, I now wish to do the same of Charles Payne, Thurston's chief laborer, who like his master was a most enthusiastic ringer, and a man who was held in the greatest respect and esteem by all who knew him. He was born in the village of Blo-Norton, in Norfolk, about the year 1791. The parish church of Blo-Norton has a ring of five bells, and it was here that Charles Payne commenced his ringing life. The local company of this village appear to have been most enthusiastic ringers about the period of Payne's early years, as another verse in the old ballad respecting Blo-Norton and ringers ran thus:—

Then I went to Blo-Norton and there rung on five,
With some as good old ringers as any alive,
They were lovers of ringing as well as strong beer,
And to practise their science they went far and near.

Payne, however, learned to ring Minor at the neighbouring village of Garboldisham, and it was here that he rung his first peal, viz.: 5040 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in the year 1821. This he conducted; and the record shows that four of the band were named "Payne." I have been able to gather from one James Chinery some interesting particulars respecting these Paynes. (Chinery is a native of Blo-Norton, and was residing last year at Redgrave, Suffolk.) He remembers all these Paynes very well, and they were four brothers. The brothers Thomas and John he remembers better than he does Charles and Stephen. Charles left the parish, and ultimately, he thinks, died at Yarmouth. John Payne (upon the same authority) was a jobbing gardener, and Thomas Payne was parish clerk. A man named John Andrews, a hay-trusser, of Blo-Norton, was also a ringer. He and Tom Payne taught this James Chinery and Henry Eavis, Robert Fordham, and John Nolley, of Blo-Norton, to ring, as according to the saying, "they Paynes were getting old, and wished to teach some young men before they died." When he got old, Tom Payne used to assist Andrews in his hay-trussing, but the poor old man fell down dead one day while walking to his work. One of the above-named young men succeeded him as parish clerk.

About the year 1821 Charles Payne left his native village, and went to reside in Norwich. He joined the Norwich Scholars, and became a close companion of his master, Samuel Thurston, taking part in nearly all the latter's best peals, including Double Oxford Major, Double Norwich Court Major, and Superlative and London Surprise. Mr. Payne was one of the company who rung on the Cathedral bells at Norwich the last time they were

rung; he was also one of that company of Norwich ringers that embarked on a long ringing tour, which I think was the very journey during which Thurston and Payne visited Lavenham (Suffolk) on the anniversary of the bells there, about the year 1827. This tour is noted as being the one wherein the financial department of the travellers got hopelessly out of course, and necessitated, in order to procure funds for the return home, the sale of their watches and part of their clothing, by which cause they arrived in the city in a very destitute condition.

The last day of the year 1831 the Norwich Scholars attempted a peal of Stedman Cinques at St. Peter Mancroft, but the bells came round a course too soon, owing to an error on the part of the conductor, when 4884 had been rung. The subject of this memoir rang the 10th in this attempt, which shows that he could ring Stedman although he never rung a peal in the method.

After taking an active part in ringing matters with the Norwich Scholars for several years, shortly after Thurston's death Payne removed to Yarmouth, and there joined the St. Nicholas' company, taking part in three peals rung by that society, viz.: Grandsire Caters, Treble Bob Royal, and Treble Bob Major. Several anecdotes are recorded of him, one is this: On one occasion the members of the company had a very disagreeable meeting, and after getting to high words with each other they appealed to Payne, who had sat very quietly all the time, to decide who was in the wrong. His reply was:—

"You are all wrong, and a lot of fools for kicking-up all that noise."

Payne was asked once how many methods he knew. "Ask me how many I do not know, and then perhaps I can tell you," was his reply. I am informed that there was not a method known but what he could exhibit a diagram of its working.

I possess a list of steeples wherein Payne rung. They number 160, and are nearly all in Norfolk and Suffolk, the majority being sixes and fives, and even going as low as three-bell steeples, of which I find there are eight included in the list. He was a double-handed ringer, capable of ringing a pair of bells in various methods. A peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major was rung in hand by the Norwich Scholars, 5088 changes, on the 24th of August, 1826; in this Payne took part. With three members of the Yarmouth company he rung a long touch of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 1680 changes, which so far as I know is the first instance of this method being rung double-handed. The following is the record of this touch, as taken from the local newspapers of that day:—

YARMOUTH.—(*Handbell Ringing*.)—On Tuesday, February 1st, 1848, a true and complete touch, containing 1680 changes of Double Norwich Court, was rung upon handbells by the under-mentioned persons: Thomas Fox, 1-2; Frederick Watering, 3-4; James Burman, 5-6; Charles Payne, 7-8. Conducted by Charles Payne.

The last time Payne rung was with the Yarmouth company, his eyesight was so bad that he had to be led up to his rope, and after ringing led back to his seat again, but although he could not see he was still an excellent striker,

He died at Yarmouth on the 4th of December, 1866, and lies buried in Yarmouth churchyard. A fine gravestone marks the spot, erected by the Yarmouth society as a last mark of respect and esteem to their departed brother. The following is a copy of the inscription:—

Sacred To The Memory of Chares Payne, the beloved husband of Martha Payne, who departed this life, December 4th, 1866, in the 75th year of his age. He was upwards of 48 years a member of the Norwich and Yarmouth Societies of Change Ringers. He was of unimpeachable Integrity and enjoyed the highest respect and esteem of all who knew him. This Stone was erected by The Yarmouth Society.

The Norwich Scholars shewed their respect to their departed brother-ringer by ringing a muffled peal, as the following paragraph, taken from a local paper of the day, will shew:—

OBITUARY.—On Thursday evening, December 13th, 1866, St. Peter's Mancroft Ringers, rang a muffled peal in commemoration of the death of Mr. Charles Payne, for many years a member of their Society.

I cannot close this brief account of Charles Payne without returning my most sincere thanks to Mr. D. Hayward and Mr. Secrett, both of the Yarmouth company, for their very able assistance and kindness in helping me to compile this account of one who was a good follower of our Art in bygone days. While compiling this memoir I have received a letter from Yarmouth informing me that Mr. Thomas Fox (mentioned therein) is still alive and residing in the United States. This I am pleased to hear, as I have met Mr. Fox on several occasions, therefore personally know him.

THE ST. MARY'S WOOLWICH COMPANY.

During the past month in connection with the War in South Africa the church bells have given expression to the feelings of the people by being rung on the following occasions.

On Sunday, March 4th, at the close of the evening service, simultaneously with the singing of the National Anthem, consequent upon the relief of Ladysmith, and on Thursday, March 15th (by request), in honour of Lord Roberts' entry into Bloemfontein, when a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), was rung in 52 mins. A. R. Sandiford, 1; G. E. Beaver, 2; H. G. Hill (conductor), 3; W. Watchorn, 4; R. G. Carter, 5; A. Phillips, 6; W. J. Aldrige, 7; H. Beckford (first quarter-peal in the method), 8; followed by 504 of Oxford Bob, and other touches.

On Thursday, March 22nd, when Queen Victoria visited the wounded at the Herbert Hospital, the bells rang out merrily on the arrival of Her Majesty at the Royal Arsenal, at 3.35 p.m., and were kept going until 5.45 a.m. The other members who took a part (not mentioned above) were G. Carter, C. Goodbody, E. Medhurst and E. O. Masters.

STISTED (Essex).—On Sunday afternoon, March 4th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor in 20 mins. F. Webb, 1; E. Radley, 2; E. Chapman, 3; E. Chapman, 4; —. Flutey, 5; G. W. Piper (conductor), 6.

WANTED a good Gardener. Must be of good character, regular attendant at church, and a Change-Ringer. House and Garden, and £1 per week offered. Address—RECTOR, Grappenhall Rectory, Warrington.

CHARMAN WANTED.—Good Wages. Change-ringer. Permanency to steady man. Good peal of eight bells. J. J. PRATT, Contractor, Hillingdon, Uxbridge.

THIRSK, YORKS.

The church of St. Mary the Virgin is a large and handsome embattled structure in the Perpendicular style, consisting of chancel, clerestoried nave of six bays, aisles, south porch and an embattled western tower eighty feet in height, containing a clock and eight bells, one of which bears the inscription "Jesus, 1410," in antique capitals, and is supposed to have been brought from Fountains Abbey; the interior has superb open roofs of Irish oak, enriched with carved bosses and cusped ornament at the intersections. At the east end of the north aisle is a screen, open above and panelled below, inclosing one bay, which forms a chapel and retains a piscina. The font retains its original Perpendicular cover, twenty-one feet in height, and adorned with crocketed pinnacles. On the north side of the chancel is a panelled doorway, with square padlock, and on the south side three sedilia and a piscina. The Communion table, of carved oak, is said to have belonged to Ryland Abbey. On either side of it is a trefoiled niche; between the clerestory windows are wall paintings of large figures; the east end of the north aisle, formerly a chantry chapel, is now occupied by a fine organ. The whole exterior is surrounded by pierced battlements, relieved by crocketed pinnacles. Above the porch is a parvise in which a hermit, named Parkinson, resided about the year 1513. The eastern window was painted by Lady Walsingham and her four sisters. The west window is a memorial to the late Frederick Bell, Esq. The east window of the south aisle contains Perpendicular glass, with figures of Our Lord and various saints, besides numerous shields of arms, including the royal coat of the Plantagenets and that of Mowbray. The chancel was restored in 1844, by Thomas, fifth Baron Walsingham, and Sir Robert Frankland Russell, Bart., in memory of Augusta Louisa, daughter of Sir R. F. Russell, and wife of Lord Walsingham, died 1844. The rest of the church was restored in 1877, at a cost of £6400, under the direction of the late G. E. Street, Esq., R.A., and re-opened October 2nd in that year by the Archbishop of York. There are 1000 sittings. The register dates from the year 1536.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRISTOL BRANCH.—This branch held a very successful meeting at Henbury on Saturday, March 24th, when about thirty attended. A short service was held at 5 p.m., conducted by the curate of the parish church. A business meeting was afterwards held in the belfry, presided over by the Rev. H. Courtney. It was resolved to hold the next meeting at St. George's, Bristol. Five new members were elected. A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and also to the curate for the service conducted by him. Several touches of Plain Bob, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, also Plain Bob and Forward Major were rung on the bells.

KNARESBOROUGH (Yorks).—On Tuesday, February 27th, at St. John's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 53 mins. F. Sewell, 1; F. Smith, 2; E. Watson, 3; F. Thompson, 4; J. Watson, 5; F. Luty, 6; W. Swires (conductor), 7; M. Styles, 8. Rung to celebrate the surrender of General Cronje. On Thursday, March 1st, to celebrate the relief of Ladysmith, a quarter-peal in the same method. E. Watson, 1; F. Smith, 2; F. Thompson, 3; B. Pearson, 4; J. Watson, 5; F. Luty, 6; W. Swires (conductor), 7; M. Styles, 8.

A BRIGHTON RINGER'S WEDDING.

On Wednesday, March 21st, the marriage took place of Keith, second son of the late Isaac Hart, of Brighton, and Ada, eldest daughter of the late Henry Baker, of Lewes. The ceremony was performed at the Church of St. Thomas-a-Becket, Cliffe, Lewes, and considerable interest was centred in the happy event, especially in local ringing circles, inasmuch as the bridegroom is a well known member of the St. Peter's Society, Brighton. The Rev. W. C. E. Soughton officiated, and a very large gathering of friends and well-wishers assembled at the church to witness the ceremony. The bride, who was given away by her brother, Mr. William Baker, was charmingly groomed in white cashmere, trimmed with chiffon and myrtle and orange blossoms. She wore, also, a wreath and veil, and carried a bouquet of choice exotics. She was attended, as bridesmaids, by her sisters, the Misses E. and N. Baker, who were becomingly attired in cream corduroy dresses. They wore picture hats and carried shower bouquets of marguerites and daffodils. Mr. Henry Hart attended his brother as best man.

Subsequently about fifty guests partook of breakfast at the West-street Hall, and the health of the newly wedded pair were drunk with enthusiasm. Later in the day the party was joined by a number of Brighton and Lewes ringers, Mr. Hart being quite as popular among the Lewes band as with the members of the St. Peter's Society. On behalf of the ringers, Mr. J. Jay, sen., proposed "Health, happiness and Prosperity to Mr. and Mrs. Hart," and the toast was drunk with musical honours.

The evening was pleasantly spent with song and dance, while tunes and touches were also rung upon handbells—without the latter, no celebration could be called complete, when the happy couple, who have been made the recipients of many handsome and useful presents, left for Brighton. They departed amid a shower of congratulations and good wishes for their future welfare.

ARELEY KINGS, WORCESTERSHIRE.

On Tuesday, January 2nd, the local ringers were entertained at supper by the Rector.

The second annual meeting of this branch of the Worcestershire and Districts Association was held on Saturday, March 10th, all the members being present. Mr. T. Elcox was elected chairman, and he reported to the meeting that thirty 720s had been rung during the past year, but no peals had been rung.

It was proposed that the society should have an outing on Whit-Monday.

Mr. J. Reynolds was elected captain, and Mr. T. Griffiths secretary and delegate to the Association.

Mr. W. Martin proposed a vote of thanks to the officers for the past year, which was seconded by Mr. Mapp, and a vote of thanks to the chairman brought the meeting to a close.

ROYDON (Essex).—At the church of St. Peter, on Friday, February 9th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. J. Sewell, 1; W. Marrable, 2; A. Pearman, 3; J. Crabb, 4; W. Littlechild, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. A 720 in the same method. J. Sewell, 1; W. Marrable, 2; M. Pullett, 3; A. Pearman, 4; J. Crabb, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, March 6th, 720 and 360 Plain Bob Minor. J. Sewell, 1; W. Marrable, 2; J. Crabb, 3; I. Cavill, 4; H. Shuttlewood, 5. Also three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. J. Sewell, 1; W. Marrable, 2; I. Cavill (conductor), 3; J. Crabb, 4; W. Littlechild, 5; F. Cass, 6.

Correspondence.

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

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

WHAT CONSTITUTES A "SURPRISE" METHOD?

SIR,—The controversy between Messrs. Craven and Dench about "St. Stephen's Surprise," and especially Mr. Craven's last contribution to it, gives me an opportunity of discussing the above question with the whole Exercise, as well as with the members of the Committee on Technical Terms. I am the more anxious to do so, because it is evident that something must be done at once to clear the air of the fogs surrounding "Surprise" and "Court" methods; and the intention has long been formed to deal with the matter in the Appendix to the Glossary, which I am now preparing.

Mr. Craven is quite right in saying that no rule at present exists for discriminating between a "Surprise" method and one of ordinary "Treble Bob"—nor, for that matter, between "Court" and "Plain Bob." I may say that the need of some definite rule, with the basis on which it should be framed, are points that have long engaged my attention; and, after careful examination and comparison of all the existing methods, I have come to the conclusion that no mere feature of work, such as a "slow hunt," the amount and incidence of place-making, the extent of dodging, and so forth, will supply a reliable test. I am sure that the criterion we ought, and shall have, to adopt is some definite principle of construction; and existing methods must go up or climb down on the scale of Classification according as they stand the test, or fail under it.

To make this clearer, I may be permitted for a moment to examine the feature-tests which Mr. Craven advocates. We can readily do this by applying them to one or two methods which have been more or less practised within recent years, and, therefore, cannot be conveniently ignored.

A "slow hunt" or "slow work," consists in the lingering of a bell in one or more of the "positions"; place-making, or dodging, or both; for a whole lead, or the greater part of a lead. The "position" in which "slow work" occurs, whether it be 1-2, or 3-4, or 5-6, or 7-8, or one, or more than one, or all of them, is a matter of indifference; it is in any case "slow work"; and the construction of it, however it may be varied, does not make it any the less "slow work" while it lasts. Now if the presence of "slow work" in a method is to deprive it of its claim to the title of "Surprise," we may as well rule out "Superlative" and "Cambridge" at once; and also "Gloucester" and "Westminster." "Superlative" is essentially a "slow work" method. It possesses, certainly, a straight run through, once up and once down; but beyond this a working bell in "Superlative" does "slow work" almost continuously. In "Cambridge" the "slow work" in 1-2 occupies twenty-six changes out of the lead-complement of thirty-two. On the other hand, "Albion Major," which has never, so far as I know, pretended to be other than an ordinary "Treble Bob" method, has no "slow work" at all; and under this test should be promoted into the "Surprise" family.

Mr. Craven's other test is "extended placemaking;" by which I understand him to mean that there should be placemaking in both intermediate positions in Major; that is to say, both in 3-4 and 5-6. This would not be so fatal to existing "Surprise" methods as the other. It would certainly rule out "St. Stephen's;" but, on the other hand again, it would exalt "Albion" to a position of great dignity.

Neither of these tests appear to me to hit the mark. The true test, I am convinced, does not lie in the features of the work, but in a general principle of construction. In a method deserving the title of "Surprise," no section of a working bell's path, comprised between the full lead, and the first whole pull behind (if there be more than one), or, as far as it goes in that direction, should be exactly repeated in the same course in the same direction. There should be something in the nature of a diverse arrangement of work, or an added detail, which should distinguish every passage of the bell from the front to the back, or as far as it goes—and vice versa—from every other passage in the same direction, within the limits of the same course; judged, that is, by the plain course work, and not by the effect of a bob. Every passage will be repeated in the opposite direction; there-

fore, it is only necessary to examine one set of sections, either the upward or the downward ones, to see if any one of them repeats.

Under this test both "Albion" and "St. Stephen's" fail to make good a claim to the "Surprise" title; and so (I am sorry to have to say it) does "London." The test however, is a sound one; and, indeed, the only sound one I can find: and it ought not to be rejected merely because it impugns the claim of a method so singular as "London Surprise." "London" is a *surprising* method truly: but as a member of the "Surprise" family, I am satisfied that it is an intruder: and its whole behaviour is so eccentric, that it should not surprise anyone if, for the future, it were compelled to assume an *alias*.

I must not take up more of your space, Sir, now: otherwise I should have liked to have had a tilt at certain methods of (so called) "Court." For the present, perhaps, I have raised sufficient dust.

H. EARLE BULWER.

OLD ENGLAND COURT BOB MAJOR.

SIR,—My letter in last week's issue is a sufficient reply to the Rev. Bulwer and Messrs. Cartwright and Groves, *re* Old England Court Bob Major, and I think they will find it difficult to prove that the method is anything different to what I claim for it, the proper extension of Court Bob Minor to Major, Royal and Maximus. With regard to adjoining or contiguous places (perhaps consecutive would be better) my dictionary tells me that adjoining means "to be contiguous to" and contiguous means "adjoining," therefore I cannot see anything wrong in the expression used to demonstrate my meaning, and what is more to the point, Mr. Bulwer used the same expression "contiguous places" in the same sense that I do previous to my doing so (see "THE BELL NEWS," December 25th, 1897, page 418), and he is not the only writer besides myself to use the expression in the same sense, so Mr. Bulwer's conversion must be a latter-day affair.

In regard to the method called Yorkshire Court, in the first place it is not a Court method because it contains 2nds place (which is contiguous or adjoining) and secondly it is not what would now be classed as a legitimate method, the places in the first half of the lead are not duplicated in the second half, so I should certainly rule this method out of Court altogether.

GEORGE BAKER.

11,328 LONDON SURPRISE.

SIR,—I declare that on September 17th, 1896, from 4 to 10.10 p.m. there were eight ringers only in Drayton tower—that each ringer rang one bell and one bell only during the whole of that period—that there was no general "muddle" in the ringing at all, that while bells, including the sixth (rung by Mr. Payne), were occasionally held up for an instant, no bell was ever set up, the hesitator in each case being promptly told what to do, and doing it. That in 6 hrs. and 10 mins. 11,328 true changes of London Surprise came round, having been rung and conducted correctly according to the rules of the method. As Mr. Newman has publicly impugned the correctness of this most excellent performance, I hereby call on him, as a man of honour, publicly to admit that he has been mis-informed, and publicly to withdraw his inuendo "that the record peal of London Surprise has yet to be rung."

F. E. ROBINSON,

Master Oxford Diocesan Guild.

CONGRATULATIONS.

SIR,—In "THE BELL NEWS" March 17th, appeared a very interesting account of the proceedings of the local company of ringers at Witney Oxon, and I write this note with a double object in view. The first is, with your kind permission, personally to congratulate the band (most of whom I have had the pleasure of knowing) on their achievement in scoring three peals, which success is well described by the worthy Rector as encouragement for still further progress. The second is, to my mind, one of public interest, and which induced me to pen these lines thereon. We read that the Rev. Cyril W. O. Jenkyn was elected secretary, treasurer and *steplekeeper*. Well, sir, the last of these offices undertaken by the rev. gentleman indicates the thoroughness in which our clergy can officiate, not only by ringing and acting as the secretary and treasurer of a band, but as the *steplekeeper*. Surely this example at Witney is worth

emulating by many of our brethren, the clergy, who we as ringers delight to see in their belfries, and this I venture to think would obviate the neglect oftentimes apparent with beautiful peals of bells, and still further assist the efforts of ringing progress and belfry reform.

J. W. WILKINS.

TREBLE BOB COMPOSITIONS.

SIR,—The peal of 5088 Treble Bob Major by J. Noonan, in Shipway's work, is false. This is the composition I called at St. Mark's, Leicester, on December 26th last, and therefore I withdraw it. I am indebted to Mr. A. Knights, of Chesterfield, for this information. The figures are also found in Oxford Guild Report, No. 559, and the peal has been rung by that Society on several occasions, hence I had no doubt as to its truth.

While on the matter I should like to say that some appreciative work might be done by a committee of Central Council composers in investigating Shipway's standard work. I have pointed a few false peals out myself a year or two ago, but the task is greater than any one man could find time for.

The peal of 5088 Treble Bob Major in last week's "BELL NEWS," under the name of J. Wilson, is a variation of Sottan-stall's and Reeves's. [Several other writers have also made a similar statement.]

WILLIAM WILLSON.

THE DUBLIN PEAL.

SIR,—I quite agree further correspondence on the above is unnecessary after the letter of Mr. Wakley and the silence of Mr. Washbrook. I hope Mr. Lindoff will excuse me making one or two remarks on what I consider the crucial part of my question in my letter of the 17th instant, to shew plainly the justification of making them:—

September 28th, 1899.

Mr. Lindoff gave us 63254 as the last course-end (not a natural course-end), but one in this said peal, saying "I put it down on paper to make sure of no mistake." The remark on seeing it has already been given.

October 23rd, 1899.

Mr. Wakley says, in his letter to Mr. Lindoff, "at the finish the bells were called into the plain course by two bobs at m."

In your issue of Saturday last Mr. Lindoff says of the course-end (shewn him at Arklow by one of the Loughborough ringers on August 12th) "All the notice I took was of the two bells upon which the whole matter rested, viz.: 3rd and 5th being in their own places." This does not seem to clear matters up, as I should have wished, but having stated my reasons for troubling you as plainly as possible on this subject, I will let the matter drop.

GEORGE WILLIAMS.

MR. WASHBROOK AND HIS CRITICS.

SIR,—I must first of all apologise to the Exercise for not answering the letters of our various friends which have of late been taking up your valuable space, but I have been too unwell to attend to the matter till now.

First of all I will take the subject of the Dublin peal. It seems to me that this is cut and dried, the whole thing having been carried through without my being asked for any explanation; others who should certainly not have had a voice in the matter seems to have managed the settlement of affairs. The only correspondence I have had asking me to give an explanation was of a private character from a very influential member of the Exercise. Now, Sir, I think it would have been only fair to me, if what Mr. Lindoff says concerning a few words he had with a member of the band at Arklow is to be thought worth considering, that the same gentleman might have ventured the question in my presence, and spoken plainly, too, seeing that I was also there on that occasion. Why, I ask, should I have had the cold shoulder on such an important subject, and such a favourable opportunity? Even while the subject was a matter of talk in Birmingham and London and other places, I heard nothing of it.

Even Mr. Wakley did not ask for any explanation beyond his objection to the composition, and asking me to withdraw it. Of course it is too long for one to remember any very minute details of the peal. It seems that someone of the company are in possession of the last course-end but one, and swears that the 3rd and 5th were home. If that gentleman was either Mr. Tay-

lor, Mr. Willson, or Mr. Wakley, well, it corks up the bottle at once, for they are men who would be likely to know the effect of such a thing; but I doubt very much indeed if any of the others would lead anyone to believe that their powers of observation were so far reached (judging from the little I remember of their exhibition on that occasion) to allow of their being likely to mind such a thing. Neither of the three gentlemen above-mentioned have to my knowledge given anyone to believe that they were in possession of any course-ends. I will admit that I was very much off my guard at the time of the peal, and was very much worried with family matters. I also remember that I missed a call in Grandsire Caters on the same day, and thereby caused a stoppage of the peal, but this other affair I do not understand. I do think that I should have noticed that 3-5 were home, and that it was no good proceeding, but I did not; and if those gentlemen whom I mentioned say it was, I have nothing to do but to bow to the inevitable, which I may say I have already done in the proper quarter, but it will always remain a mystery to me why this simple thing should have remained so long before it was thought of, and eventually to be worked up by people who were closely concerned in hauling down a man's hard-earned reputation. Now as to the assertions of Mr. T. Newman I can afford to leave them and let them mature. It is only another link to the chain by the party above-mentioned. Get a good heat, Thomas? "Do you want a striker, old boy? if you do, get the man that told you those tales to strike for you and make him see pretty stars." "Good Maun" good on yez; so it is"; "How long did that chap set his bell?" oh! well; yes; it's all right, only I stand by my remarks made concerning the ringing of the peal and published in "THE BELL NEWS" with the record of the performance.

Now Sir, I should like to mention one other thing which I know may perhaps be of interest, it was stated in one letter to you recently, that Mr. Hounslow being so quiet on a previous occasion, could only be accounted for by the peal of London being wrong. Now, Sir, this is a piece of my mind and not hasty either. That gentleman's extraordinary behaviour on that occasion was due to jealousy and nothing else, he waiting for me to ask him to give his opinion and he also thought that he should have been approached beforehand, but I would not ask such a favour, and if anyone is backed by right, it is might you inherit, so it is.

J. W. WASHBROOK.

ST. STEPHEN'S SURPRISE.

SIR.—Mr. Craven's excuse for not publishing the above method is that your columns have many to serve. I am quite aware of this, but he could have sent it to the office of "THE BELL NEWS," which would have secured for him the authorship, and no doubt would be published in its turn. It's been a recognised fact for years, that the one who first publishes a composition is the author, therefore I shall not think of relinquishing my claim to the same. Mr. Craven also gives his opinion of a Surprise method, which I think is very poor according to my own ideas. A Surprise method has always been considered higher than a Treble Bob, because of its intricacy in ringing, not in composing. It's not place-making when regular, that renders a method more intricate, but when broken up by a number of bells, as in St. Stephen's. Two places are made every alternate change, whether it's a Treble Bob or Surprise, and Mr. Attree, who is quite able to judge from his Surprise ringing abilities, has verified the complexity of these places in his valuable analysis of points. So I think myself, if justice is done to the ringing Exercise, it's immaterial what name is applied to a method. I think most of the ringers of the south ring higher methods chiefly for points, to gain for their society a high position in the analysis, otherwise I should never have touched a rope in London Surprise. I have no intention of entering into correspondence on this subject, as it seems useless. Your valuable space could much better be taken up in discussing what should constitute a variation of a method, not a name.

F. DENCH.

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Obituary.

DUNCAN MACDONALD.

We regret to record the death of this old ringer, which took place on Friday, March 16th, in his seventy-eighth year. He was born at Tickhill, near Doncaster, and in very early youth removed to Tong, where he served an apprenticeship with the village carpenter—Wm. Oddy. In the year 1841 when the ring of five bells in Tong church was augmented to six, he commenced learning to ring. His associates were George Carter, Edward Oddy, Edward Webster, Richard and George Oddy (brothers), and under the tuition of Wm. Dumbleton, of Pudsey, they made such progress, that in nine months they rang a 5040 in seven methods, viz., Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Violet, New London Pleasure, Duke of York, Morning Pleasure, and College Treble. (During this period, and for nearly two years, the treble-man—Carter—walked each morning and night to and from his home and work—as a mason at Woodhouse church, a distance of eighteen miles—in order to attend the practices.) Mr. Macdonald remained a member of the band for some years, until his removal to Bradford (where he established the firm of Duncan Macdonald and Sons, Joiners and Builders), but he continued to pay periodical visits to his old comrades until death one by one removed them, and he was left the last of the original company. In 1896 when the idea was mooted to have a collection of the old ringers' portraits formed, he took great interest in the matter, obtained a copy of the picture, and attended the opening ceremony, but his affliction—deafness—prevented him handling a rope on that occasion. The interment took place at Scholemoor cemetery on Monday, March 19th, when Mr. George Bolland attended as representative of the Tong company, who on Sunday rang muffled touches on the bells to his memory.

P.S.—It is recorded that on one occasion whilst paying a visit to Ilkley church with his friends, he attempted to ring the 5th without a stay. The bell went over, talking him to the ceiling and back to the floor with a thud, injuring his shoulder, which necessitated a week's enforced idleness.

REV. T. C. HILLS.

We are also sorry to notice the death of the above rev. gentleman, Vicar of Bolsover, and who at the time of his death was President of the East Derbyshire Association. At the interment which took place on Monday, March 26th, the bells were deeply muffled, and twelve 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles was rung, each called differently. S. Coupe, 1; S. Coupe, 2; J. Flint (conductor), 3; F. Wagstaff, 4; J. Severn, 5; R. Coupe, 6.

DORKING (Surrey).—On Thursday, March 1st, as sign of rejoicing at the relief of Ladysmith, 504 Grandsire Triples. H. Dobinson, 1; W. Boxall, 2; H. F. Songhurst, 3; W. J. Songhurst, 4; E. E. Dodd, 5; H. Boxall (conductor), 6; J. White, 7; W. Lynch, 8. Also 392 Grandsire Triples. J. Presland, 1; H. Dobinson, 2; H. F. Songhurst, 3; W. J. Songhurst, 4; E. E. Dodd, 5; H. Boxall (conductor), 6; J. White, 7; W. Lynch, 8. Also 336 Grandsire Triples. T. J. Songhurst, 1; W. Boxall, 2; H. F. Songhurst, 3; W. J. Songhurst, 4; E. E. Dodd, 5; H. Boxall (conductor), 6; J. White, 7; W. Lynch, 8.

HARPENDEN (Herts).—On Tuesday, March 6th, for practice at the church of St. Nicholas, 480 Bob Doubles, each 6-score called differently. B. Jarman, 1; L. Dunckley, 2; W. H. Newell, 3; H. Dunckley, 4; G. Newton, 5; D. Deller, 6. On Sunday evening, March 11th, for Divine Service, 480 Bob Doubles. H. Burgess, 1; the rest as before. On Tuesday, March 13th, for practice, 960 Bob Doubles, standing as before, with W. Newell (conductor). Longest touch by all except the conductor.

HENFIELD (Sussex).—On Sunday evening, January 28th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 504 Stedman Triples. W. A. J. Ives, 1; L. Payne, 2; S. Burt, 3; A. E. Lish, 4; H. Markwell, 5; G. Payne (conductor), 6; A. Heasman, 7; A. Hodges, 8. On Sunday, February 11th, 504 Stedman Triples. W. A. J. Ives, 1; L. Payne (conductor), 2; S. Burt, 3; A. E. Lish, 4; H. Markwell, 5; G. Payne, 6; A. Heasman, 7; A. Hodges, 8. On Tuesday, February 27th, for practice, 504 Stedman Triples. W. A. J. Ives, 1; L. Payne, 2; S. Burt, 3; A. E. Lish, 4; G. Payne, 5; H. Markwell, 6; C. Tyler (conductor), 7; *P. Brooks, 8.

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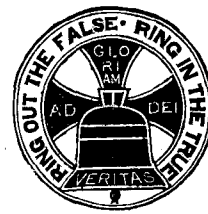
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Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1900.

THE circumstances attendant on the recent correspondence which has appeared, has led several of our most influential private correspondents to consider whether some means cannot be adopted for the settlement of such a question as a doubtful peal in a much better way than by letters to our journal. It is objected that correspondence upon such a subject is not of the kind it ought to be. Too much splenetic feeling or other untoward conduct is said to animate some of the writers, and it is considered by those competent to judge that some other and more rational mode should be brought into play to effect the objects in view. None of our readers doubt the advisability of preventing the record of peals appearing until any doubts which may exist concerning them are solved. But at present the records of doubtful performances are first suffered to appear, followed by a voluminous corres-

pondence not often clear to the average mind. Some persons unfortunately are found who bespatter a performance with doubt and invective, but have not the courage to append their names to their written opinions. Two cases of this sort come under notice this week, relative to a peal rung last Saturday. To pen such effusions as these is worse than useless. We shall not aid any one who condemns a performance under the shelter of anonymity.

To recur to the effort to adopt some approved plan by which the effect desired may be obtained. Let us imagine the performers of a 5000 or more being met on their egress from the tower by several who have heard the ringing, and who from ample data object to its being recorded in this paper until its truth or value has been established by some competent authority.

There may be great difficulties in such a mode of settlement, but not of an insurmountable nature. The authority could be determined by the President of the Council in any mode which approved itself to his mind. He may appoint some one to hold an enquiry, whose report or judgment should be final. Anything would be better than the present manner of condemnation. Those who enter the lists of a wordy war are frequently swayed by *ex parte* opinions, if not by partisanship pure and simple. Some other method can surely be devised for the prompt settlement of such questions, and it would be well if the Council could at their next meeting entertain its consideration.

The Metropolis.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 24, 1900, in Four Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL, CORNHILL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5040 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 41 cwt.

ERNEST PYE Treble.	ARTHUR R. JACOB 7.
HARRY HOSKINS† 2.	†JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. .. 8.
CHARLES T. HOPKINS .. 3.	*HARRY FLANDERS 9.
JOHN H. CHEESMAN .. 4.	†THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE .. 10.
CHARLES WILKINS 5.	†JOHN R. SHARMAN 11.
ISAAC G. SHADE† 6.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by the late JOHN REEVES, and
Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

†First peal of Maximus. *First peal on twelve bells. The above is the first twelve bell peal by the Association.

The Provinces.

ALDENHAM, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. ALBANS CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, March 20, 1900, 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.

A. HALLET Treble.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 5.
J. EARWICKER 2.	W. HEWETT 6.
H. PARKINS 3.	T. WALLER 7.
E. WHITBREAD* 4.	G. WRIGHT Tenor.

Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

*First peal.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 22, 1900, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,

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

WESLEY WATSON Treble.	HARRY F. DAWKINS 5.
WILLIAM J. LAXTON* .. 2.	WILLIAM PYE 6.
WILLIAM H. DORAN 3.	ERNEST PYE 7.
GEORGE R. PYE 4.	LEONARD W. COPSEY .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE R. PYE.

*First peal. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late T. Bird, Esq., J.P. and sidesmen at the above church, who was buried on that day.

WORTLEY, NEAR SHEFFIELD, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 24, 1900, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES. Tenor 12½ cwt.

EDWARD ROBBINS Treble.	THOMAS ROBBINS 5.
CLIFFE DRONFIELD 2.	JOHN PARKIN 6.
THOMAS WHITWORTH .. 3.	GEORGE W. DRONFIELD .. 7.
REGGIE DYSON 4.	DAVID BREARLEY Tenor.

Composed by WALTER S. WISE, of Salisbury, and
Conducted by DAVID BREARLEY.

This peal was arranged for Thos. Whitworth, from Treeton.

LITTLE MUNDEN, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 24, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES; Being 720 each of College Single, Canterbury Pleasure, and Grandsire, and two each of Oxford and Plain Bob, each called differently. Tenor 13½ cwt.

HENRY CARTER Treble.	GEORGE H. BARKER 4.
GEORGE CARTER 2.	ALBERT PHIPPS 5.
ALBERT LAWRENCE 3.	WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE.

G. H. Barker from Ware; the rest belong to the local company.

WICKHAM SKEITH, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 24, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES; Being 720 of Double Bob, and Two 720s each of College Single, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

HENRY COLLINGS* Treble.	HARRY CATTERMOLLE 4.
GEORGE KEMP 2.	FREDERICK POTTER 5.
THOMAS DAVEY 3.	GEORGE CATTERMOLLE .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE CATTERMOLLE.

*First peal.

LEATHERHEAD, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 24, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES. Tenor 20 cwt. in E flat.

JOHN WYATT Treble.	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 6.
HARRY BARTON 2.	WILLIAM PICKWORTH .. 7.
DR. A. B. CARPENTER .. 3.	CHARLES R. LILLEY .. 8.
REUBEN CHARGE 4.	CHARLES BANCE 9.
ARTHUR HARDY 5.	ARTHUR DEAN Tenor.

Composed by W. H. INGLESANT, and
Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

First peal of Royal by Messrs. Wyatt and Dean. First peal of Bob Royal by Messrs. Wyatt, Carpenter, Pickworth, Bance, and Dean, and is also the first peal of Royal on the bells. This is the first peal in the method by the Association, and also in the county of Surrey.

MITCHAM, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 24, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SIR A. P. HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'.

JOSEPH FAYERS Treble.	ALFRED CLAYTON 5.
JAMES D. DREWITT 2.	ALBERT CALVER 6.
JOSEPH A. LAMBERT 3.	WILLIAM S. SMITH 7.
THOMAS GWYNN 4.	LEWIN C. FERRIGE Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM S. SMITH.

FAREHAM, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 24, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOHN W. WHITING Treble.	ALFRED MILLARD 5.
CHARLES GROVES 2.	GEORGE GRAHAM 6.
JOSIAH HARRIS 3.	CHARLES GILES 7.
JOHN SYMONS 4.	ALFRED E. REEVES Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by CHARLES GILES.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. J. W. Whiting, and to celebrate the coming of age of Miss Edith Whiting.

WOODCHURCH, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 24, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, College Single, Oxford Single, Plain Bob, Grandsire and Canterbury Pleasure.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

ROBERT GEORGE LEWIS .. Treble.	*JOSEPH HUGHES 4.
JOHN MEALOR 2.	*GEORGE R. NEWTON† .. 5.
HARRY THOMAS MOSTON .. 3.	FREDERICK T. SPENCE .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE R. NEWTON.

*First peal in seven methods. †First peal as conductor. First peal in seven methods on the bells. Rung to celebrate the birthday of Mr. C. R. Greenall, late of Grappenhall.

ROTHWELL, NEAR LEEDS, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 24, 1900, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt.

JOSEPH HAIGH Treble.	WALTER CHAPMAN 5.
ALFRED CHAPMAN 2.	WILLIAM ABBISHAW 6.
JOSEPH C. ABBISHAW .. 3.	STEPHEN STACEY 7.
GEORGE W. STEEL 4.	JOHN M. CHADWICK Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and

Conducted by JOHN M. CHADWICK.

The 6th her extent each way in 5-6.

FARNWORTH, NEAR BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 24, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt

ALFRED POTTER Treble.	*WILLIAM LEVER 5.
JOHN LEVER 2.	*THOMAS PEERS 6.
JOSEPH POTTER 3.	JOHN POTTER 7.
HENRY MOSS 4.	*THOMAS LEVER Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY MOSS.

The brothers Lever belong to the local company; the brothers Potter from Walkden; Peers from Dean; Moss from Bolton.

CAVERSHAM, OXON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 25, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs. in F sharp.

HARRY SIMMONDS Treble.	ERNEST W. MENDAY .. 5.
GEORGE E. HARBOUR .. 2.	EDWIN J. MENDAY .. 6.
GEORGE BODDINGTON .. 3.	GEORGE ESSEX 7.
JOSEPH HANDS 4.	HARRY W. SMITH Tenor.

Composed by C. H. MARTIN, of Hendon, and

Conducted by ERNEST W. MENDAY.

Rung as a birthday compliment to G. Boddington, who was made a member of the above society before starting, all wishing him many happy returns.

OSWALDTWISTLE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BLACKBURN BRANCH.)

On Sunday, March 25, 1900, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE IMMANUEL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being Three 720s Plain Bob, Two 720s College Single, and Two 720s Oxford Single, each called differently.

SETH COLLISON* Treble.	JOHN BENTLEY 4.
THOMAS HAWORTH* .. 2.	CHARLES SHARPLES .. 5.
RUFUS SHARPLES† .. 3.	JOHN JAMES HAWORTH .. Tenor.

Conducted by C. SHARPLES.

*First peal. †First away from the tenor.

ERITH, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 27, 1900, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES. Tenor 18 cwt.

WALTER J. SMITH Treble.	JOHN H. CHEESMAN .. 5.
GEORGE CONYARD 2.	CHARLES WILKINS .. 7.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE 3.	EDGAR WIGHTMAN .. 7.
ISAAC G. SHADE 4.	HARRY FLANDERS Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by EDGAR WIGHTMAN.

This peal which is now rung for the first time, has the full combinations of the 4th, 5th, and 6th, and the 3rd six times each way in 5-6, and the 2nd never there, and is in six equal parts.

Date Touches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SHIPLEY (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, March 11th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major in 1 hr. 9 mins. E. Keighley, 1; W. Fox, 2; B. Emmott, 3; W. Gill, 4; J. Broadley, 5; T. B. Kendall (conductor), 6; J. A. Ross, 7; G. A. Nettleton, 8. Tenor 13 cwt. 6 lbs.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

NORTHAMPTON.—On Monday, March 12th, at St. Giles's church, a date touch of 1900 Grandsire Caters, in 1 hr. 17 mins. W. Allen (first attempt on ten bells), 1; T. Harris, 2; A. Moore, 3; E. Haxley, 4; W. Farey, 5; F. Wilford, 6; A. Arnold, 7; H. Blundell, 8; A. Stewart (conductor), 9; E. James, 10. Composed by Edgar Bennett.

Miscellaneous.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

WITNEY (Oxon).—Recently, for practice, on handbells, in the Secretary's rooms, three 6-scores of Doubles, in different methods. F. P. Powell, 1; T. Bull, 2; H. Brooks, 3; Rev. C. Jenkyn, 4; J. Monks (conductor), 5.6. Stedman—T. Bull, 1; Rev. C. Jenkyn (conductor), 2; F. Powell, 3; H. Brooks, 4; J. Monk, 5-6. For practice on March 12th, at St. Mary's church, 120 Stedman Doubles. T. Bull, 1; Rev. C. Jenkyn (conductor), 2; F. Powell, 3; H. Brooks, 4; J. Monk, 5; J. Brooks, 6. The first on tower bells by members of the Society.

READING (Berks).—On Sunday, March 11th, for evening service at St. Giles's church, 560 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. H. Dibley, 1; A. E. Reeves, 2; A. W. Reeves, 3; F. Sweetzer, 4; A. E. Evans, 5; A. Osborne, 6; C. Giles, 7; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 8.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LITTLE MUNDEN (Herts).—On Thursday, February 14th, 360 Oxford Bob Minor. A. Wright, 1; G. Carter, 2; G. Smith, 3; W. H. Abbey, 4; A. Phillips (conductor), 5; A. Lawrence, 6. Also 216 Grandsire Minor. C. Gale, 1; G. Smith, 2; G. Carter, 3; W. H. Abbey, 4; A. Phillips, 5; A. Lawrence (conductor), 6. On February 27th, on handbells, three courses of Grandsire Triples. C. Gale, 1-2; W. H. Lawrence, 3-4; A. Phillips, 5-6; A. Lawrence, 7-8. Also three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. A. Phillips, 1-2; W. H. Lawrence, 3-4; A. Lawrence (conductor), 5-6. On Thursday, March 1st, on receiving the news of the relief of Ladysmith, three six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles and 108 Grandsire Minor. J. Smith 1; A. Gale, 2; G. Carter, 3; W. H. Lawrence, 4; A. Phillips, 5; A. Lawrence, 6. On Saturday, March 17th, 720 each of Canterbury Pleasure, Grandsire, and College Single. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; G. H. Barker, 4; A. Phillips, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. On Sunday, March 18th, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Oxford Bob, standing as before, conducted by A. Phillips. For afternoon service, 216 Grandsire Minor. C. Cole, 1; W. H. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; G. Carter, 4; A. Phillips, 5; A. Lawrence (conductor), 6.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRISTOL.—On Thursday, January 25th, at St. Michael's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob in 25 mins. S. Thomas, 1; F. Isaacs, 2; J. Thomas, 3; W. H. Thomas (conductor), 4; J. Burford, 5; A. M. Isaacs, 6. First attempt as conductor. And 360 Grandsire Minor. F. Cullen, 1; W. W. Lea, 2; S. Thomas, 3; A. H. Lea, 4; J. Thomas, 5; W. H. Thomas, 6.

WOOTTON-UNDER-EDGE (Gloucestershire).—On March 1st, in honour of the relief of Ladysmith, 1260 Grandsire Doubles, in 58 mins. with 7-6-8 covering. W. Jones, 1; F. E. Webb, 2; F. Oakhill, 3; J. Parker, 4; S. Jones (conductor), 5; A. Hughes, 6; H. Plumb, 7; T. Grimes, 8. On March 25th, 742 Grandsire Triples. W. Jones, 1; S. Jones, 2; J. Parker, 3; F. Oakhill, 4; F. E. Webb, 5; A. Burcombe, 6; W. H. Fussell (conductor), 7; A. Harding, 8. Also 168, standing as before, conducted by S. Jones.

NIBLEY (Gloucestershire).—On the occasion of the Branch meeting, two 720s of Bob Minor. J. Parker, 1; T. Prout, 2; G. Prout, 3; F. Oakhill, 4; H. Fussell, 5; S. Jones, 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Monday, March 5th, for practice at St. Michael's church, 928 Kent Treble Bob Major. H. Coote, 1; W. Farrow, 2; E. Chaplin, 3; A. Shufflebotham, 4; H. Pilcher, 5; P. Holmes, 6; C. H. Howard (conductor), 7; E. F. Slade, 8. On Sunday evening, March 18th, 640 in the same method. C. H. Howard (conductor), 1; W. Farrow, 2; E. F. Slade, 3; E. Chaplin, 4; W. Grimwade, 5; P. Holmes, 6; E. Radley, 7; W. Webb, 8. For practice on Monday, March 26th, 720 Bob Major. G. Williams (first touch on eight bells), 1; C. H. Howard (conductor), 2; E. F. Slade, 3; A. Shufflebotham, 4; H. Pilcher, 5; P. Holmes, 6; H. Coote, 7; W. Hammond, 8.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

FELSHAM.—On Friday, February 16th, on handbells at the residence of Mr. W. Kinsey, 720 College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). C. Adams, 1; J. Horrex, 2; E. Kinsey, 3; H. Gladwell, 4; W. Kinsey (conductor), 5-6. On Sunday, February 18th, on the tower bells, 720 Double Court. C. Adams, 1; J. Horrex, 2; H. Gladwell, 3; E. Kinsey, 4; H. Horrex, 5; W. Kinsey (conductor), 6. On Friday, February 23rd, 720 Grandsire Minor, standing as before. This is the first in the method by all, and the first on the bells.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

PORTSEA (Hants).—On Sunday evening, February 4th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins. J. Harper, 1; C. Groves, 2; W. J. Pickard, 3; J. J. Symons, 4; J. Harris, 5; A. C. Collins, 6; E. C. Newman, 7; F. S. Bayley (conductor), 8. On Sunday evening, March 4th, 504 Stedman Triples. F. S. Bayley, 1; J. Harper, 2; P. M. Hannam, 3; J. J. Symons, 4; J. Harris, 5; J. T. Matthews, 6; E. C. Newman (conductor), 7; H. C. Ingram, 8.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, February 11th, 336 Grandsire Triples. H. Head, 1; G. Foster, 2; H. Hutton, 3; A. Pulling, 4; G. Gunner, 5; R. Wood (conductor), 6; B. Chorley, 7;

E. Pulling, 8. On March 1st, 336 Grandsire Triples. J. Burgess, 1; G. Foster, 2; G. Reading, 3; H. Hutton, 4; B. Chorley, 5; R. Wood (conductor), 6; W. Groves, 7; T. Maynard, 8. On March 2nd, 210 Grandsire Triples. J. Burgess, 1; A. Pulling (conductor), 2; G. Gunner, 3; R. Wood, 4; G. Foster, 5; B. Chorley, 6; J. Hunt, 7; C. Willshire, 8. Also 336 in the same method. G. Foster, 1; G. Gunner, 2; A. Pulling, 3; J. Hunt, 4; B. Chorley, 5; R. Wood (conductor), 6; W. Groves, 7; C. Willshire, 8. On March 6th, 742, taken from Holt's Original. H. Head, 1; G. Foster (conductor), 2; G. Reading, 3; A. Pulling, 4; B. Chorley, 5; W. Groves, 6; C. Willshire, 7; T. Maynard, 8. Also 574 in the same method. J. Burgess, 1; G. Foster, 2; H. Hutton, 3; A. Pulling, 4; R. Wood, 5; W. Groves, 6; C. Willshire (conductor), 7; B. Chorley, 8. On March 6th, 350 Grandsire Triples. H. Head, 1; G. Foster, 2; G. Reading, 3; H. Hutton, 4; B. Chorley, 5; R. Wood, 6; W. Groves (conductor), 7; A. Pulling, 8. And 336 in the same method. H. Head, 1; C. Willshire (conductor), 2; G. Reading, 3; G. Foster, 4; E. Pulling, 5; R. Wood, 6; A. Pulling, 7; B. Chorley, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

DEPTFORD (Kent).—On Thursday, March 8th, for practice at St. John's church, 336 Double Norwich. A. C. Bedwell, 1; J. Rose, 2; W. Weatherstone, 3; T. G. Deal, 4; J. Hack, 5; J. Davis, 7; W. Bedwell (conductor), 7; W. J. Jeffries, 8. On Sunday evening, March 11th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 42 mins. W. Bedwell, 1; J. Rose, 2; T. G. Deal, 3; E. H. Nixon, 4; J. Gollop, 5; J. Dains (conductor), 6; J. Law, 7; W. J. Jeffries, 8.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Tuesday, March 13th, at the church of St. George-in-the-East, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, taken from Thurstan's one-part, in 51 mins. T. H. Taffender (conductor), 1; W. Truss, 2; H. R. Pasmore, 3; J. Scholes, 4; J. Scholes, 5; H. Torble, 5; W. H. Pasmore, 6; E. Hall, 7; J. Jones, 8. Arranged by J. Waghorn, jun..

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL (Yorks).—On Thursday, March 1st, at the church of The Holy Trinity, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters. F. Merrison, 1; J. Highfield, 2; W. Southwick, 3; R. Chaffer, 4; T. Stockdale, 5; W. T. Verity, 6; D. W. Brown, 7; G. Miller, 8; C. Jackson (composer and conductor), 9; J. W. Dale, 10. Tenor 26 cwt. Rung in honour of the relief of Ladysmith.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

OXHEY (Herts).—On Sunday, March 18th, on handbells in the belfry of St. Martin's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. C. George, 1-2; G. N. Price (conductor), 3-4; B. Martin, 5-6; J. B. Bates, 7-8. First quarter-peal in the method on handbells by all.

ALFRETON (Derbyshire).—On March 11th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. W. Burnham, 1; J. M. Brook (conductor), 2; A. Brookbank, 3; F. Hillyer, 4; R. Hutchinson, 5; G. Pipes, 6. On March 12th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. W. Burnham, 1; J. M. Brook, 2; A. Brookbanks, 3; F. Hillyer, 4; R. Hutchinson, 5; F. Theobald, 6. In the evening, another 720. W. Burnham, 1; A. Brookbanks, 2; F. Hillyer, 3; F. Theobald, 4; R. Hutchinson, 5; G. Pipes (conductor), 6.

ARMLEY (Yorks).—On Sunday morning, March 11th, for Divine Service at Christ Church, 720 Oxford. Jos. Thackray (conductor), 1; *W. Walker, 2; J. Heckingbottom, 3; Jno. Thackray, 4; M. Broadbent, 5; J. Guy, 6. *First 720 away from the treble.

BRETENHAM (Suffolk).—Recently on handbells in the parish room 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Manning, 1; J. Francis, 2; G. Levett, 3; F. Pearl, 4; A. Grimwood, 5; W. Proctor (coconductor), 6. On Tuesday, March 13th, 720 Kent. T. Levett (conductor), 1; J. Francis, 2; G. Levett, 3; F. Pearl, 4; J. Manning, 5; A. Grimwood, 6. Also 720 Double Court. A. Grimwood, 1; J. Francis, 2; J. Manning, 3; F. Pearl, 4; G. Levett, 5; W. Proctor, 6.

BRISTOL.—On Saturday, January 27th, at St. Werburgh's church, 720 Grandsire Minor in 23 mins. W. Bevan, 1; S. Thomas (conductor), 2; A. Stowell, 3; W. Tilley, 4; A. Parrish, 5; W. Stowell, 6. Another 720 Grandsire Minor. W. Bevan, 1; S. Thomas (conductor), 2; W. Tilley, 3; A. Stowell, 4; R. Channings, 5; W. Stowell, 6.

CHESHUNT (Herts).—On Tuesday, 13th, at the parish church, 720 Plain Bob Minor, and two attempts for a 720, which was lost half-way. J. Sewell, 1; W. Marrable, 2; A. Pearman, 3; J. Crabb, 4; G. Dent (conductor), 5; I. Cavill, 6. Also three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. I. Cavill (conductor), 1; W. Marrable, 2; G. Dent, 3; W. Littlechild, 4; H. Shuttlewood, 5; A. King, 6.

Compositions.

SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE.

By G. LINDOFF, *Dublin.*

5632.

23456	B	M	W	H
52436			-	
64235	-		-	
26435			-	
63254	-			
56234		-		
42635	-		-	
62534	-			
35426	-	-		
42356			-	-
54326	.	-		
34625	-			
64523	-			
32546	-	-	-	

Repeated.

5440.

23456	B	M	W	H
54632		-	-	
54326	-			-
35426			-	
43526			-	
65324		-	-	
36524			-	
53624			-	
46325	-	-		
34625		-		
63425		-		
63254	-		-	
26354		-		
32654		-		

Repeated.

5248.

23456	B	M	W	H
54632		-	-	
43526	-			
65324		-	-	
35426		-		
52364	-			
36524		-	-	
53624		-	-	
46325	-		-	
34625		-	-	
63425		-	-	
63254	-		-	
26354		-	-	
32654		-	-	

Repeated.

5056.

23456	B	M	W	H
54632		-	-	
54326	-		-	
25346			-	
35642	-			
35426	-		-	
43526			-	
24536		-		
53246		-	-	
45236		-		
25634	-			
25346	-		-	
32546			-	
24365	-			

Repeated.

5056.

23456	B	M	W	H
54632		-	-	
43526	-		-	
65324		-	-	
35426	-			
52364	-			
36524		-	-	
53624			-	
63425	-			
63254	-		-	
56234		-		
26435	-			
26354	-		-	
32654			-	

Repeated.

BOB MAJOR.

By JOHN D. MATTHEWS, *Bath.*

5152.

23456	W	M	H
64235	-	-	-
26435		-	
43265	-	-	
24365		-	
32465		-	
46325	-	-	
34625		-	
62345	-	-	
36245		-	
23645		-	
56234	-	-	-
25634		-	-
63254	-	-	
42356		-	-
34256		-	
25346	-	-	
32546		-	
53246		-	
24536	-	-	
52436		-	
43526	-	-	
45326			S
32456	-	-	

Repeated.

CANTERBURY PLEASURE TRIPLES.

By WM. WALMSLEY, *Macclesfield.*

5040.

23456	W	M	R
64523	-	-	
32564	-	-	S
35264			S
42635	-	-	
62345	-		
53462	-	-	
24653	-	-	
36524	-	-	
56234	-		
42356	-	-	

Five times repeated. Single half-way and end.

BOB TRIPLES.

(By THE SAME AUTHOR.)

5040.

23456	M	W	R
64235	-	-	-
26543	-	-	
52364	-	-	
34526	-	-	S
53642	-	-	
65234	-	-	
42653	-	-	-
36425	-	-	-
45362	-	-	S
34256	-	-	

Five times repeated. Single half-way and end.

720 BOB MINOR.

By W. BARER, *North Wingfield.*

23456

35264
56342
64523
S 46235
S 64352
45623
S 54236
43562
S 34625
42356

Five times repeated; single mid-way and end.

The 5024 London Surprise published by Mr. Dench in our issue of Saturday last, is the composition of the Rev. H. Law James, and was published in this paper on November 17th, 1894, and rang at St. Peter's, Brighton, by members of the Sussex County Association, on November 19th, 1894, conducted by G. Williams.

The 5152 Bob Major by J. Matthews, published last week, is false.

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.—South and West District.—The next meeting of this branch will be held by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. J. T. Jemmet, at the church of St. Catherine, Feltham, to-day, Saturday, March 31st. Ringing to commence at 4.30 p.m. Members and friends are cordially invited.

C. EDWARDS, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*

Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The Annual Meeting of the above Society will be held at Leeds, to-day, Saturday, March 31st. Meeting house The Nag's Head, opposite the church. Ringing from 2 to 4, and 6 till 9. Business meeting at 7.0. Handbells provided. H. V. GAYTHORPE, *Hon. Sec.*
1, Elm Avenue, Bramley.

Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Brookfield church, Gorton, to-day, Saturday, March 31st. Bells ready at 3.30 p.m. Business meeting at 7 p.m. A good attendance of members is requested.

W. BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

The Kent County Association.—Ashford District.—A District Meeting (without allowances), will be held at Charing to-day, Saturday, March 31st, at 4 o'clock.

C. WILFRID BLAXLAND, *Dis. Sec.*

Sussex County Association.—Western Division.—Next meeting at Arundel to-day, Saturday, March 31st. Tower open at 2.30; tea, etc., at 5 p.m. Visiting branches to send numbers by March 29th.

J. W. G. LODER COTTER, *Hon. Sec.*
Yapton Vicarage.

The Royal Cumberland Society.—On Friday, April 6th, at the society's headquarters, a special meeting will be held to consider the election of representatives on the Central Council. It is earnestly requested that members will make it convenient to attend.

A. JACOB, *Hon. Sec.*
10, St. Ann's Road, Hornsey.

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Norton, on Saturday, April 7. Members intending to be present are requested to give notice to Mr. E. Glover, Dog Croft, Smallthorne, not later than Wednesday, April 4th.

W. TWIGG, *Hon. Sec.*

Sheffield and District Society.—The next meeting of this society will be held at Ecclesfield on Saturday, April 7th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. All ringers welcome.

R. HARRISON, *Sec.*

The Surrey Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Leatherhead parish room, on Easter Monday next. By kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. Canon F. E. Utterton, the bells (10), at the parish church will be available from two o'clock. Tea will commence at six o'clock sharp in the parish room, and the Vicar will preside at the subsequent meeting. Local representatives must inform Mr. William Marks, of 24, Church Walk, Leatherhead, not later than the previous Tuesday, the number of their members likely to be at the tea. Non-members, who will be cordially welcomed, can be

supplied with tea at 1s. 6d. per head by giving notice to Mr. Marks previously. The local sports will be held during the day, and there will be a torchlight procession in the evening.

CHAS. DEAN, JUN., *Hon. Sec.*

72, Lansdowne Road, Croydon.

The Midland Counties Association.—Election of representatives to Central Council.—The election of the four representatives will take place at the annual meeting on Easter Monday next at Nottingham. Nominations for each delegate, duly signed by two members, must reach me not later than April 2nd next. Voting papers will then be prepared, and the delegates balloted for at the meeting. It must be distinctly understood that only the names of the nominees forwarded to me in accordance with the above notice will appear on the voting papers.

W. E. WHITE, *Hon. Sec.*

Cotgrave, near Nottingham.

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The annual meeting of this Association will be held at Dudley on Easter Monday, April 16th. There will be a special service in St. Thomas's church at 4 o'clock, conducted by the Rev. A. Gray Maitland, Vicar of Dudley, who will also preside over the business meeting in King Street schoolroom. A meat tea will be provided in this schoolroom at 5 o'clock. Secretaries and unattached members must send in number of members intending to be present at tea to me not later than Wednesday, April 11th, so that proper provision may be made. The bells of St. Thomas', Dudley (10 bells), will be open to members for ringing touches all day from 11 o'clock. The bells of St. Andrew's, Netherton (8 bells), All Saints, Sedgley (8 bells), St. Michael's, Brierley Hill (8 bells), St. Martin's Tipton (8 bells), Christ Church, Oldbury (8 bells), and Holy Trinity, Old Hill (8 bells), will be available from 11 o'clock till 3 o'clock 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 be present at the service at 4 o'clock. All contributions should be paid at this meeting. The Annual Report, etc., will be ready for distribution at this meeting.

JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

36, Simms Lane, Netherton, Dudley.

The Midland Counties Association.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Nottingham on Easter Monday, April 16th. The bells at St. Mary's (10), St. Peter's (8), and All Saints (8), churches will be open for ringing from 10 a.m. Further particulars in next week's issue. W. E. WHITE, *Hon. Sec.*

Cotgrave, near Nottingham.

The Bedfordshire Association.—Annual Meeting at Bedford on Easter Monday. Further particulars next week.

W. W. C. BAKER, } *Hon. Secs.*
I. HILLS, }

The Essex Association.—A District Meeting will be held at Braintree on Easter Monday, Braintree (8), Bocking (6), Stisted (6), and Rayne (5), will be available for ringing

the whole of the day. Tea at The Horn hotel at 4.30 p.m., business meeting to follow, when the question of dividing the county into districts will be brought forward for discussion. Members wishing to be present should notify the same to me not later than Monday, April 9th.

H. T. W. EYRE.

Great Totham Vicarage Witham

The Old East Derbyshire Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Staveley on Easter Monday, April 16th. A dinner will be provided for members who send their names to the secretary not later than Monday, April 9th. Further particulars will appear in "THE BELL NEWS" of Saturday, April 14th. It is to be hoped that members will make an effort to attend.

E. JAMES, *Hon. Sec.*

18, Meersbrook Bank Road, Sheffield.

The Hertfordshire Association.—Annual Meeting at St. Albans on Easter Monday. Further particulars next week.

E. P. DEBENHAM, *Hon. Sec.*

The Llandaff Diocesan Association.—The Quarterly Meeting will be held on Easter Monday, April 16th, at 2.30 p.m., at the Schoolroom, Caerleon. "To consider proposition that the annual meeting for the future shall be held on Boxing Day," and other customary business. Bells will be available for ringing.

REV. MINOR CANON PRICE, *Hon. Sec.*

J. H. ALDRIDGE, *Ass. Hon. Sec.*

St. Mary's, Lewisham.—No more practice till after Easter Monday, April 23rd, when all ringing friends will be welcomed.

H. WARNETT.

9, Harvard Road, Lewisham, S.E.

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SET of 15 Handbells, tenor 18g, viz., 13 consecutive notes, with semitone 12p and 2c sharp. By Mears and Stainbank. No reasonable offer refused. Apply to Mr. T. Hattersley, 79, West Street, Sheffield; or the Rev. F. G. Sandford, Sharrow Vicarage, Sheffield.

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THE RINGING-CHAMBER,
THE OFFICE, OR
THE HOUSE.

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BEST QUALITY IN EVERY
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TENOR 25 cwt. WEIGHT OF PEAL 5 tons 4 cwt. 16 lbs.

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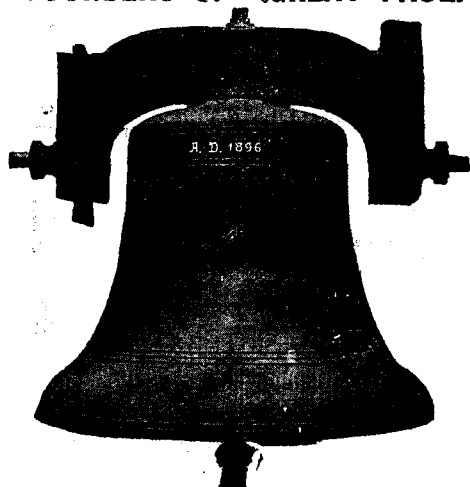
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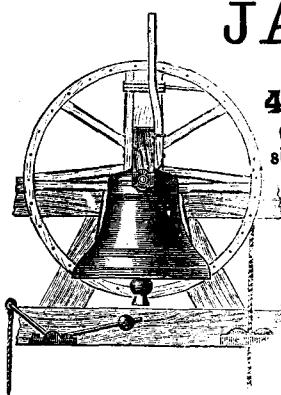
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| No. 232. | Selection, "Scotland Yet," containing "Kelvin Grove," "Comin' thro' the Rye," and "The Braes o' Mar" | price | 1 6 |
| No. 286. | "Men of Harlech," Welsh Melody | " | 1 6 |
| No. 287. | "Orange and Blue," Scotch Air | " | 1 6 |
| No. 319. | "Hark the bonny Christ Church Bells," varied | " | 1 6 |
| The above are for 6 ringers with 13 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.A. | | | |
| The next are for 6 ringers with 12 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G. | | | |
| No. 320. | "The Mountaineer's Waltz," on Swiss Melodies | " | 1 6 |
| No. 321. | "The Rose of Allandale" March | " | 1 6 |
| No. 322. | "The Pilgrim of Love" Galop | " | 1 6 |
| The next are for 6 ringers, with medium peal, i.e. 3 octaves, C22 to C1, chromatic. | | | |
| No. 217. | "Belfry Chimes and Nursery Rhymes" | " | 3 0 |
| No. 720. | "Her Majesty's Waltz" | " | 3 0 |

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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. 939.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 1900.

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Sherborne Abbey.	Pontypool (Trevelin
Sydney Town Hall,	Church).
N.S.W.	Windermere Church.
Hammersmith Parish Ch.	Eiffel Tower, Paris.
Gateshead Clock Tower.	Dunsfold Parish Church.
Duke of Albany Memorial,	Aylesford do.
Cannes.	St. Mark's Church, St.
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SAFETY MATCHES

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Bells cast Singly or in Rings. Church Bells,
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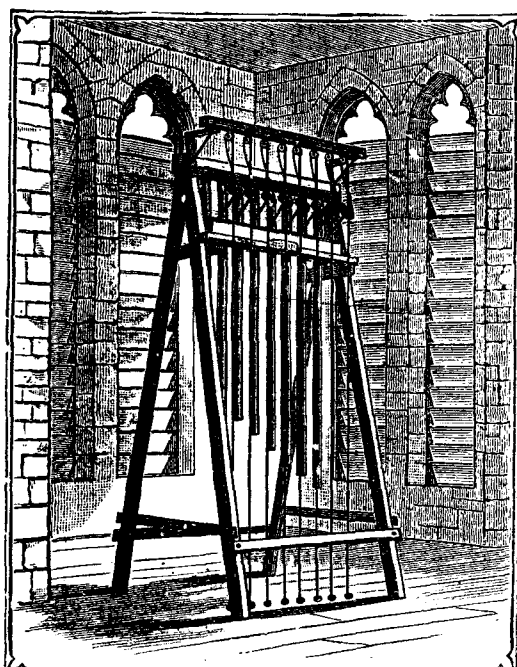
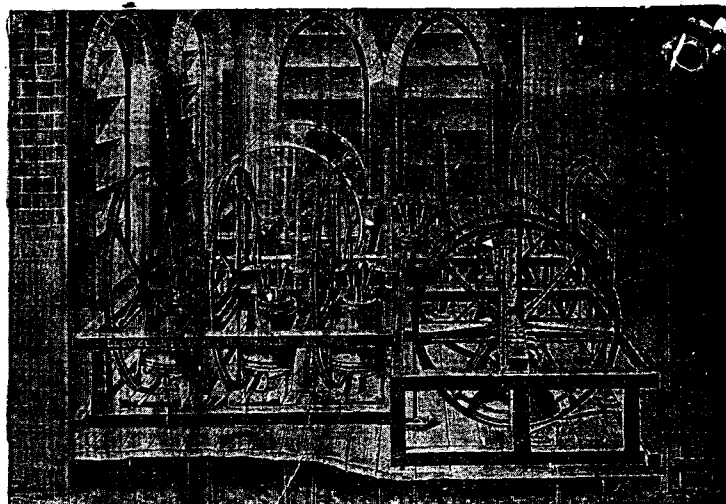
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 939.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 1900.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

The Annual Meeting of this Society was held at Leeds, on Saturday, March 31st, when ringers were present from Armley, Birstal, Bradford, Bramley, Headingley, Holbeck, Rothwell, Pudsey, Tong and the local company, also several members of the Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association. The business meeting was held at The Nag's Head hotel, the President in the chair. After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, the Secretary was called upon to read the balance-sheet, which shewed the Society to be in a sound financial condition, the total worth of its funds being £6 11s. 2½d. The following officers were re-elected: President, Mr. J. W. T. Holgate; Vice-President, Mr. J. Whittaker; Treasurer, Mr. J. Thackray; Secretary, Mr. H. Gaythorpe. It was then arranged to hold the next meeting at Calverley on Saturday, April 21st, instead of the 28th.

The President stated that he was pleased to see so many ringers and friends present, especially the members of the Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association, and hoped that if they were in the district when the Society was holding another meeting, they would again favor them with their company.

Mr. Clarkson, on behalf of the visitors, thanked the members for their kind welcome, and said if any ringing friends were in the Cleveland district on Whit-Monday he would be pleased to see them return the visit, as it was their meeting day.

The usual vote of thanks to the Vicar, wardens and local company brought a pleasant meeting to a close. During the day several touches of Stedman and Grandsire Caters were rung on the tower and handbells.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

EASTERN DIVISION.

A Meeting of the above was held at Seaford, on Saturday, March 24th. The towers represented were St. Peter's and St. Nicholas', Brighton, St. John the Baptist Southover, St. John the Baptist Lindfield, Christ Church Blacklands, and St. Leonard's Seaford. Ringing commenced at 4 o'clock, and concluded about 8. By the kind invitation of the Vicar, the Rev. H. Goodwyn Bonnewell, the members partook of tea, which was comfortably provided in the large room of the new Institute recently erected at the expense of one of the parishioners. The usual short business meeting followed, at which Arthur T. King, Esq., of Barnet, was elected a life ringing member. At the conclusion of the business a vote of thanks to the Vicar was heartily responded to, who, in replying, expressed great pleasure in welcoming the members to Seaford, and hoped that a much larger number would soon pay them another visit.

At the suggestion of the Vicar the chairs were then

drawn round the two large fires, and pipes, cigars and handbells were brought into use, everybody appearing to thoroughly enjoy themselves.

The bells sadly require the attention of the bellhanger.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH AND WEST DISTRICT.

A very successful meeting of the above was held at the church of St. Catherine, Feltham, on Saturday, March 31st, representatives being present from Isleworth, Staines, Ealing, Hillingdon, Farnham Royal, Gospel Oak and Heston. Ringing commenced about 4.30 p.m. At 6 the members adjourned to the schoolroom, where they were entertained to tea, kindly provided by the local company, to which about thirty sat down. After tea a business meeting was held, Mr. F. Goddard presiding, when the local company were elected members of the Association, also Mr. R. Pickering, of Bedfont, who has been training a young band there to ring, and is now desirous of learning method ringing. The tower was again visited and touches of Grandsire Triples, Stedman and Oxford Bob Triples, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Bob Major were rung. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and to the local company for their kind entertainment.

FINEDON, NORTHANTS.

On Sunday, March 25th, being the 80th birthday of the respected Vicar, the Rev. G. W. Paul, the local ringers met at 7 o'clock in the morning and rang 504 Bob Triples, conducted by W. Perkins. And 252 in the same method, conducted by J. T. Tompkins. Mr. E. J. Dennes, Hon. Secretary of the Central Northamptonshire Association, sent a letter to congratulate the rev. gentleman, on behalf of the Association. In the evening touches of Bob Triples Bob Major and Grandsire Triples were rung, Mr. J. Houghton, of Irthlingborough, and G. Lines and W. B. Meadows, of Burton Latimer, taking part. The rev. gentleman was quite taken by surprise, as everything was kept secret from him. He thanked the company very kindly for ringing.

HORBURY, NEAR WAKEFIELD.

The dedication and opening of the new ring of eight bells at St. Peter's church will be on Saturday, April 21st. Service at 4 o'clock. All ringers are cordially invited. Tea will be provided at 1s. each for those sending in their names to me on or before the 19th inst.—W. H. Giggie, Queen Street, Horbury.

SHANKLIN, ISLE OF WIGHT.

A large striking clock with four dials is to be placed in the tower on the parade here. It will have all the latest improvements, and is being erected by John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The ringing atmosphere is murky and depressing. Unmitigated fog pervades everything, and men's hearts are failing them for fear. We seem to be treading on a volcano, which threaten immediate dire consequences. Distrust and doubt prevail, and we await in trembling for what is to appear next. What the Exercise could at one time have staked its very existence upon is now said to be a fraud, for that is what these accusations mean if they mean anything.

Read the following letter from Thomas of Caversham: It is just the old story. Our friend Newman is again telling as what somebody else has said. But he promises to give "his authority" if somebody else does something. Here is his letter:—

SIR,—I quite agree with "Plain Speaker" that where and who started the sixth man business, the other part of the story or rigmorole should come forward. As Mr. Washbrook refuses to take any notice of my assertions, I will pass on and give my reasons why I cannot comply with the request of Mr. Robinson, who just after a certain performance visited Caversham, and in the presence of our Vicar made two statements to us, one concerning this peal, the other the long peal of London which I will refer to presently. He told us that the seventh man was not fit for the peal, in any Washbrook ought not to have had him in it, but that was just like Washbrook, as you (we) knew quite true, Sir. Shortly after this gentleman publicly pronounced the peal as a magnificent one and his explanation of the two statements was that he either had to brand these men as liars, or believe them, and he preferred the latter, and now he wishes me to brand these men as liars and withdraw my innuendoes. Mr. Robinson told us that something went wrong in the London, and while it was on every man in the tower was shouting at the top of his voice at the sixth man, "don't set your bell, don't set your bell." I took very little notice of this till another person stated and repeated it that Payne set his bell and another pulled it off. Now Sir I think we ought to hear what the sixth man has to say on the matter, then if necessary I will give my authority for the statement made, with the name of the ringer said to have pulled it off.—T. NEWMAN.

My old friend, let me tell you that you shine with greater refulgence at the end of your tenor-ropes than you do in print. Everything which you try to say may be true as gospel, but proof, my dear fellow, actual and convincing proof, is what will be required. Never mind "what the soldier or any other man said," it is not evidence. Bear this in mind.

Now just for the sake of argument let us suppose that these reports are true, and that a few of the London Surprise Company did set their bells for some minutes. What, it may be asked, did they do then? Just had a look round, and a talk upon the previous week's "current topics"? or did they resort to the nearest hostelry and regale themselves upon chops and porter. We may charitably suppose the latter. Then they returned to the tower, and re-commenced at the place where they left off. Which is it? Some of them set their bells, the others kept on ringing. Rather an extraordinary story. Let us have the authority Mr. Newman, for this. The Rev. F. E. Robinson states that no one but the ringers was in the tower while the peal was in progress. It is plain that this tale about the bells being set and pulled off again could only have emanated from one of the band. That is what, if I understand aright, Mr. Newman means to imply.

Can it reasonably be supposed that any one member of

this London Surprise band, after such a lapse of time, has come forward and made these statements about the peal? Why did he not do it before? The performance caused some little excitement at the time; at great cost the proprietors of this paper issued gratuitously to its readers a large photograph of the ringers; and a banquet took place in honour of the performance. Why did not this erring member of the band utter boldly his charges before all this fuss was made?

If Mr. Newman is correct in persisting that one of these eight ringers has made the statement attributed to him, what punishment ought to be visited on such a character? Ought he not to be prevented from touching a bellrope again? I think so. But I cannot yet entertain the idea that anyone could allow a performance such as this to become so celebrated, and then, after the lapse of years, "spike" it.

This affair sticks in the gizzard, to employ a homely phrase. But we will wait further developments of the dispute. Mr. W. Pye has sent a long letter this week on the subject, but which cannot appear for more reasons than one. He merely tells us what he has heard the other man said. He cannot know anything about the affair himself; and another thing, correspondence on the subject, so I am instructed, must not be widened.

What a relief it is to get away from this business, and deal with something else. Our old friend Samuel Slater is on the path again, I see. When it is considered what a trouble it is to rake together all these particulars about such old worthies, the seeming paucity of intelligence should not be complained of. Our old friend delights in these researches, and his readers delight in perusing them. I think he promises a memoir of Lindsey, which should be very interesting. But be careful of the doggerel, and sparing, friend Samuel, as some of it is apt to set one's teeth on edge.

FARNHAM, SURREY.

On Monday evening the annual bellringers' gathering was held at the Lion and Lamb, the host (Mr. G. Mann) providing a sumptuous repast. The Rector, the Rev. T. G. Cardiner, occupied the chair, and was supported by Messrs. W. T. Coleman, J.P., E. Kempson, A. H. Stevens (churchwardens), and G. Elliott. The toasts were given with much heartiness. During the evening a presentation was made to Sergeant A. Smith, one of the six local Volunteers who are going out to South Africa to join the battalion of regulars. He was the proud recipient of a silver watch which had been subscribed for by his brother ringers. The Rector, in presenting it, said he hoped Sergeant Smith would take the exact time when he reached Pretoria. Sergeant Smith thanked the ringers for their kindness. The rest of the evening was spent in harmony, songs being given by Messrs. Garrett, Crosby, Garfath, Barnett, Foot, and LeClercq, and also by a friend from Guildford. Mr. Fry gave a recitation, and the proceedings concluded with the singing of the National Anthem.

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.

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 PERFORMANCE AT ST. MICHAEL'S, CORNHILL.

SIR,—In the editorial of last week you made some remarks about anonymous letters concerning a peal. Now I am not an anonymous writer, but I should think that there is some use in anonymity, as no doubt "Plain Speaker" and other "BELL NEWS" critics will agree. Last week you published a "peal" of Treble Bob Maximus at the above church. Allow me to say I am astounded that Mr. W. Pye should put it out as a peal, after his recent correspondence on striking of peals. I emphatically enter my protest against such a miserable fiasco. I having nothing against the conductor, but if such performances as the above are to be considered bona-fide peals, then bad change-ringers had better learn to strike from good "stone" men. I heard the last three hours of the "peal," and without exaggeration there was not one clear twelve-bell change struck until the last course; only in parts of the last course could twelve bells be heard, and as soon as the big bells began to part the clashing of 2-3-4 together began again. This had been the case all through; I am informed that at 5 o'clock (which was previous to my arrival), that the bells practically stood still, and it was thought that they had stopped. Again at 7-35 it was a general smash, and I should think the most disgraceful exhibition ever heard in London, and this was also stated by some of the most prominent twelve-bell ringers who were present. My only object in writing is that such ringing ought not to pollute "THE BELL NEWS" peal column, nor any respectable society or Association peal or report book.

T. H. TAFFENDER.

WHAT IS SINGLE COURT?

SIR,—I admit that Mr. Baker has tripped me up by his reference to my short article on "Arundel (now Norfolk) Surprise" at Christmas, 1897. I used the word "contiguous" then in the sense that I now want to reserve for "adjoining." I probably used then the first expressive word that occurred to me, without being so much impressed, as I am now, by the necessity of employing distinctive epithets for two different things. I decline, however, to be knocked down by Mr. Baker's dictionary, which talks as dictionaries often do, and uses each of two words to explain the meaning of the other. For describing places made in juxta-position by two bells, on the one hand; and successive places made by one bell, on the other; I still think there is a sufficient shade of difference between "adjoining" and "contiguous" to warrant the reservation of the first to the one case, and of the last to the other. But to avoid all possible misapprehension, it would perhaps be better to drop "contiguous" altogether, and substitute "consecutive"; though this does not exactly express the action of the place-making bell in "Double Court" without the qualifying phrase "in reverse order." It exactly expresses the action of the place-making bell in Kent Treble Bob, however, and is perhaps, on the whole, the best word to use; while stick to "adjoining" for the other description of places.

Now, Sir, I maintain that the feature of true "Court" methods is "consecutive" places made in "reverse order," as a part of the regular work of a working bell. This is undoubtedly the feature in the original Double Method, where it occurs in two positions; and it ought to have been retained in the adaptations to the Single form, subsequently made, in one position at least. In many of the so-called Single Court Methods there is no intermediate place-making at all till the working bell gets to quite the end of its path (taking the beginning of it to be "turning the treble from the lead"), and then only a single place, and a return upon the former track. I cannot see that such methods deserve the title of "Court" at all. They are merely re-arrangements of the simple work of Plain Bob. The absence of "adjoining" places is relied on, apparently to constitute a "Court" method. I allow that, at least in the intermediate place-making positions, there ought not to be "adjoining" in "Court"; but is it to be held that every plain hunt arrangement that avoids "adjoining" places is, therefore entitled to be called a "Court" method? I

say, no; for the second's place of Plain Bob, with a whole pull at lead and behind, may be merely shifted to sixth's and third's, or elsewhere, and the single dodges re-disposed.

I have no wish to decry the value of Shipway's work; but I do think that in some of his adaptations (notably in "Court,") he was not only distinctly unhappy, but careless of the spirit of his original model. I will conclude with my idea of what Single Norwich Court should be. It is a rapid sketch, and may possibly be susceptible of improvement when I can give the time to it. I can only hope it is not a reproduction of someone else's work; there is no telling in these days. All I can say is, I don't remember to have seen it; and that it is a closer adaptation of the original than any other that I have seen. It is regular in form; has no "adjoining" places, and preserves the double-dodging behind; near places are made from the front, far places from the back, both by the bell that the treble turns from lead-end behind; the "consecutive" place-making bell does not return on its track; lead-ends and coursing order of the familiar pattern; sixth's place at a bob, a bob at 1 having the effect of a bob at 6 in Double Norwich. However, let your readers judge for themselves,

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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7
2 4 1 3 5 6 7 8
4 2 3 1 6 5 8 7
2 4 3 6 1 5 7 8
4 2 6 3 5 1 8 7
4 6 2 5 3 8 1 7
6 4 5 2 8 3 7 1
4 6 5 8 2 7 3 1
6 4 8 5 7 2 1 3
6 8 4 7 5 1 2 3
8 6 7 4 1 5 3 2
6 8 7 1 4 5 2 3
8 6 1 7 5 4 3 2
8 1 6 7 4 5 2 3
1 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
1 7 8 5 6 3 4 2

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H. EARLE BULWER.

REPLY TO MR. FRANKS, OF BATTLE.

SIR,—I should like to remind Mr. Franks that Christ Church, Eastbourne, is also situated in the eastern division of the county of Sussex, and that two members of the Christ Church Guild alone have added more points in the past year to the Sussex total than the whole of the three societies he mentions put together.

GEORGE H. HOWSE,

Captain Christ Church, Eastbourne.

"OLD ENGLAND."

SIR,—I cannot see how Mr. Baker can claim his method "Old England" as new, since it is to be found in its double form in *Standard Methods*, page 27. The following figures ought to speak for themselves.

LONDON COURT BOB.

DOUBLE.	SINGLE.	REVERSE.
1 3 2 5 4 6 8 7	1 3 2 5 4 7 6 8	1 3 2 5 4 6 8 7
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7	2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7	2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7
2 4 1 6 3 8 5 7	2 4 1 6 3 8 5 7	2 4 1 6 3 8 5 7
4 2 6 1 8 3 7 5	4 2 6 1 8 3 7 5	4 2 6 1 8 3 7 5
2 4 6 8 1 3 5 7	4 6 2 8 1 3 5 7	2 4 6 8 1 7 3 5
4 2 8 6 3 1 7 5	6 4 8 2 3 1 7 5	4 2 8 6 7 1 5 3
4 8 2 3 6 7 1 5	6 8 4 3 2 7 1 5	4 8 2 7 6 5 1 3
8 4 3 2 7 6 5 1	8 6 3 4 7 2 5 1	8 4 7 2 5 6 3 1
4 8 3 7 2 5 6 1	6 8 3 7 4 5 2 1	8 7 4 5 2 3 6 1

Wolverhampton.

JAMES E. GROVES.

ST. STEPHEN'S SURPRISE.

SIR.—Mr. Dench's last letter on this subject is very smart, I am sure. He says he has no intention of relinquishing his claim to the authorship of the above method, and wants no more correspondence on the matter, but, Sir, let me inform Mr. Dench that is not my way of doing business. The true author of anything is the person who first produces it if he can prove it.

This I contend I have done, as I produce two witnesses in the persons in my first letter. Mr. Dench's reply to this letter acknowledged that he did not produce it until two years later than myself. In the face of this if Mr. Dench can stand before the Exercise and claim the authorship, I have done with the subject. But I am confident that any reasonable person would not support him. I claim to be the author of this method until someone can prove they have a prior claim.

ARTHUR CRAVEN.

A DISCLAIMER.

SIR,—I shall be glad if you will kindly notify in your next issue that the peal of Grandsire Triples, published as rung by the St. Martin's Guild on February 26th last, at St. Chad's (R.C.) Cathedral, Birmingham, owing to non-compliance with the rules, cannot be credited to our Guild.

W. SHORT, *Ringling Master.*

Obituary.

W. C. DYMOCK.

The *Waltham Abbey Telegraph* records at great length the death and interment of the above late respected conductor of the Waltham Abbey Town Band, which occurred after a lingering illness on the 20th ult. He may have fairly been described as one of the most popular men in Waltham Abbey, Cheshunt, and Enfield Lock, no greater proof of which can be required than the immense numbers who assembled at the funeral to pay their last tribute of respect. The deceased was what may be called a many-sided man—a musical expert, a bell-ringer, skilled in artistic calligraphy, bandmaster, dramatic artiste, and many other qualifications. He had rung several peals with the Waltham Abbey company, and was a member of the College Youths. The above-named paper says he was a member of the Provident Lodge of Oddfellows, M.U., Waltham Abbey, for nearly twenty-five years, and he was also a member of the Royal Antediluvian Society. Whether he was with the band, or in any other capacity, he always shone forth as a man of many talents, ready to place them at the service of his friends and neighbours, to benefit and amuse all those who came in contact with him. And now that he has been removed from among them, his loss will be keenly felt by all who knew him. Truly it has been said of him, he was "a distinguished musician, a talented conductor, and a most sincere friend." May he rest in peace. Amid many tokens of sympathy and respect, the funeral took place at the Waltham Abbey Cemetery. Just before three o'clock, the time appointed to leave the residence of the deceased in Station Road, members of various Friendly Societies had formed up on each side of the road, and was preceded by the representatives of not less than nine bands, 126 instrumentalists were present (including drummers). The bands represented were: Town Band, Waltham Cross and District Band, Volunteer Band, Gospel Temperance Band, Salvation Army Band, Enfield Foresters Band, Enfield Town Band, North Middlesex Band, and the Church Lads' Brigade. To the solemn strains of the "Dead March" in *Saul*, all that was mortal of our departed friend moved slowly down between bare-headed lines of sorrowing brethren. The polished coffin, which was conveyed in a plate glass car, was covered with beautiful floral wreaths from sorrowing relatives and friends. Immediately behind the car came a mourning coach conveying Mr. W. J. Dymock (son), Mr. A. E. Dymock (step-brother), Mr. A. J. Maxfield (cousin), Mr. E. J. Hanchet (uncle), Mr. G. Bland (brother-in-law), Mr. W. J. Squires (friend) representing Old Friends, central office now at Woolwich. Next came Mr. J. G. Benstead, Mr. H. J. Holmes, and Mr. W. Oliver, representatives of correspondence branch R.S.A.F., and Mr. W. A. Alps (friend). After the chief mourners came the members of the Provident Lodge, followed by a large number of Oddfellows from other Lodges, seven in number, and a large number of brethren from the Ancient Order of Foresters and other kindred societies, Hearts of Oak, United Patriots, Royal Antediluvians, Abbey Ringers, Cheshunt Ringers, St. Stephen's Dramatic Club, Church Lads' Brigade, and others. At the cemetery the Vicar of the parish, the Rev. F. B. Johnston, M.A., and the senior curate, the Rev. J.

H. Stamp, A.K.C., officiated. At the close of the ordinary burial service, Mr. Stamp said: As a member of the Independent Order of Oddfellows, Manchester Unity, I have been requested to read the following address. He then read the usual Oddfellows address most impressively, after which the Town Band played at the graveside the hymn "Lead, Kindly Light." The numerous wreaths, crosses, etc., included one from the Waltham Abbey ringers.

JAMES BARRETT.

We regret to record the death of the above-named ringer, which occurred on Wednesday, February 28th, at his residence, Oliphant Street, Queen's Park. The funeral took place on Wednesday, March 7th, at Kensal Green Cemetery. The deceased had been a ringer for a number of years, and was well-known in London. He was a member of the Cumberland Youths, St. James' Society, Waterloo Society, and the Norwich Diocesan Association, and had rung the following peals, viz.: Grandsire Triples, 21; Caters, 7; Stedman Triples, 4; Caters, 3; Cinques, 2; Bob Major, 1; Treble Bob Major, 24; Royal, 4; Maximus, 3; Double Norwich Major, 3; Cambridge Surprise, 1; total—74. Being a man of great strength he was mostly found at the big end, and if a stiff job was to be done he was generally called upon, and during his ringing career had taken part in some notable performances, viz.: Harrison's 8896 Treble Bob Major, the extent with the tenors together, called at Highgate on April 22nd, 1876, in 5 hrs. 22 mins. He also rang at St. George's, Camberwell, on April 9th, 1877, in the first peal of Double Norwich Major rang in London since 1848, this being also the first peal of Court Bob Major since June 1788. On June 26th, 1888, at St. Anne's, Highgate, he also rang in the first true peal of Cambridge Surprise rang in London. He also took part in a most unique performance which had been attempted many times for years, but always with bad luck until July 25th, 1889, being St. James' Day. Eight members of the St. James' Society rang at St. James' church, a peal of Grandsire Triples, each of the band being named James, this being known as the "Jimmy's" peal. He rang his last peal on February 15th, 1890, being 5050 Stedman Caters, at St. Giles, Camberwell. He did not aspire to conductorship, saying he preferred to leave it to others. The only peal called by him was a 5056 Treble Bob Major at St. Anne's, Highgate, on his birthday, November 6th, 1883. His genial face and kindly words will be sorely missed, especially among his friends of North London, with whom he was always ready to attempt a peal or assist them with friendly counsel and advice. On Saturday, March 17th, an attempt to ring a muffled peal of Treble Bob Major was made at the Chapel-of-Ease, Holloway, but after ringing 2½ hours it unfortunately came to grief. B. Foskett, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; H. Dains, 3; R. Bevan, 4; C. H. Martin, 5; T. Titchener, 6; H. Stubbs, 7; A. Jacob, 8.

HENFIELD (Sussex).—On Sunday evening, March 18th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 840 Stedman Triples. W. A. J. Ives, 1; C. Tyler (conductor), 2; S. Burt, 3; A. E. Lisk, 4; H. Markwell, 5; G. Payne, 6; A. Heasman, 7; W. Markwell, 8.

HORNCHURCH (Essex).—On Saturday, March 17th, on handbells, 720 Bob Minor. W. Halls, 1; A. J. Perkins, 2-3; I. Dear, 4; J. Dale (conductor), 5-6. Also 672 Bob Major. W. Dear, 1; I. Dear, 2; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 3-4; J. Dale, 5-6; W. Nash, 7-8.

LONDON.—On Sunday, February 25th, at St. Michael's church, Paddington, 448 Bob Major. H. Ellis, 1; J. Nixon, 2; W. Burrows, 3; G. Hollis, 4; E. Young, 5; N. Alderman, 6; R. Bevan, 7; G. Smith (conductor), 8. On Sunday evening, March 4th, for Divine Service at St. Matthew's church, Bethnal Green, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins. E. Hall, 1; M. A. Wood, 2; A. W. Barkus (conductor), 3; J. Scholes, 4; W. Keeble (Leytonstone), 5; H. Torble, 6; S. Parmenter, 7; G. Barrell, 8. Composed by J. Bradley, of West Ham, and contains fourteen 7-4s, fourteen 4-6s, and fourteen 6-7s.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD PEAL-BOOK.—A RECORD of Five Hundred and Twenty Peals rung by this Guild. Paper covers, 6d.; cloth do., 9d.—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.

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Norton, to-day, Saturday, April 7.

W. TWIGG, *Hon. Sec.*

Sheffield and District Society.—The next meeting of this society will be held at Ecclesfield to-day, Saturday, April 7th. Bells ready 4 p.m. All ringers welcome.

R. HARRISON, *Sec.*

The Surrey Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Leatherhead parish room, on Easter Monday next. By kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. Canon F. E. Utterton, the bells (10), at the parish church will be available from two o'clock. Tea will commence at six o'clock sharp in the parish room, and the Vicar will preside at the subsequent meeting. Local representatives must inform Mr. William Marks, of 24, Church Walk, Leatherhead, not later than the previous Tuesday, the number of their members likely to be at the tea. Non-members, who will be cordially welcomed, can be supplied with tea at 1s. 6d. per head by giving notice to Mr. Marks previously. The local sports will be held during the day, and there will be a torchlight procession in the evening.

CHAS. DEAN, *JUN., Hon. Sec.*

72, Lansdowne Road, Croydon.

The Midland Counties Association.—Election of representatives to Central Council.—The election of the four representatives will take place at the annual meeting on Easter Monday next at Nottingham. Nominations for each delegate, duly signed by two members, must reach me not later than April 2nd next. Voting papers will then be prepared, and the delegates balloted for at the meeting. It must be distinctly understood that only the names of the nominees forwarded to me in accordance with the above notice will appear on the voting papers.

W. E. WHITE, *Hon. Sec.*

Cotgrave, near Nottingham.

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The annual meeting of this Association will be held at Dudley on Easter Monday, April 16th. There will be a special service in St. Thomas's church at 4 o'clock, conducted by the Rev. A. Gray Maitland, Vicar of Dudley, who will also preside over the business meeting in King Street schoolroom. A meat tea will be provided in this schoolroom at 5 o'clock. Secretaries and unattached members must send in number of members intending to be present at tea to me not later than Wednesday, April 11th, so that proper provision may be made. The bells of St. Thomas', Dudley (10 bells), will be open to members for ringing touches all day from 11 o'clock. The bells of St. Andrew's, Netherton (8 bells), All Saints, Sedgley (8 bells), St. Michael's, Brierley Hill (8 bells), St. Martin's Tipton (8 bells), Christ Church, Oldbury (8 bells), and Holy Trinity, Old Hill (8 bells), will be available from 11 o'clock till 3 o'clock 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 be present at the service at 4 o'clock. All contributions should be paid at this meeting. The Annual Report, etc., will be ready for distribution at this meeting.

JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

36, Simms Lane, Netherton, Dudley.

The Midland Counties Association.—The Annual Meeting, to which all members and friends are cordially invited, will be held at Nottingham on Easter Monday, April 16th. The bells at St. Mary's (10), St. Peter's (8), and All Saints (8), churches will be open for ringing from 10 a.m. Committee Meeting in All Saints' Schools, Raleigh Street, at 3.15 p.m. Tea (1s. 3d. each), followed by general meeting in the Arboretum Refreshment Rooms at 4.0 p.m. All who intend being present at tea are requested to inform Mr. J. Hickman, 147 Bobber's Mill Road, Nottingham, not later than Thursday, April 12th.

W. E. WHITE, *Hon. Sec.*

Cotgrave, near Nottingham.

The Bedfordshire Association.—Annual Meeting at Bedford on Easter Monday. Meeting at 12. Tea at 4 o'clock in 'All Hallows Lane School. Service in St. Paul's church at five o'clock.

W. W. C. BAKER, } *Hon. Secs.*
I. HILLS, }

The Essex Association.—A District Meeting will be held at Braintree on Easter Monday. Braintree (8), Bocking (6), Stisted (6), and Rayne (5), will be available for ringing the whole of the day. Tea at The Horn hotel at 4.30 p.m., business meeting to follow, when the question of dividing the county into districts will be brought forward for discussion. Members wishing to be present should notify the same to me not later than Monday, April 9th.

H. T. W. EYRE.

Great Totham Vicarage, Witham.

The Old East Derbyshire Association. The annual meeting will be held at Staveley on Easter Monday, April 16th. A dinner will be provided for members who send their names to the secretary not later than Monday, April 9th. Further particulars will appear in "THE BELL NEWS" of Saturday, April 14th. It is to be hoped that members will make an effort to attend.

E. JAMES, *Hon. Sec.*

18, Meersbrook Bank Road, Sheffield.

The Hertfordshire Association.—Annual Meeting will be held at St. Albans on Easter Monday, when the towers of the Cathedral and of St. Peter's church will be open for ringing from 2 p.m. Divine Service at the Cathedral at 5, and tea at the Town Hall at 5.45, followed by meeting for the election of officers and of representative on the Central Council, and other important business. Members are particularly requested to attend the meeting, and to communicate with me not later than Wednesday, April 11th, in order that provision may be made for their comfort.

E. P. DEBENHAM, *Hon. Sec.*

St. Albans.

The Ely Diocesan Association.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Bury St. Edmunds on Easter Monday, April 16th. The bells at the Norman Tower and St. Mary's will be available (also Fornham, Horringer and Rougham, for six-bell methods.) Dinner at The Golden Fleece, Churchgate Street, at

two o'clock, to be followed by the usual business meeting. Other ringers will be welcomed.

W. W. CRUMP, *Hon. Sec.*

Haddenham Rectory, Ely.

The Llandaff Diocesan Association.—The Quarterly Meeting will be held on Easter Monday, April 16th, at 2.30 p.m., at the Schoolroom, Caerleon. To consider proposition that the annual meeting for the future shall be held on Boxing Day, and other customary business. Bells will be available for ringing.

REV. MINOR CANON PRICE, *Hon. Sec.*

J. H. ALDRIDGE, *Asst. Hon. Sec.*

The East Derbyshire Association.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Clay Cross on Easter Monday, April 16th. Service in church at 4.30. Tea at 5.30, 6d. each to members. Meeting at 6 p.m. All members requested to attend, important motion being brought forward.

T. ALLIBONE, *Secretary.*

North Wingfield, Chesterfield.

The Sussex County Association.—The Annual Meeting will be held on Easter Monday at Brighton. Towers of St. Peter and St. Nicholas open for ringing at 9.30. Service at St. Peter's at 12. Dinner to be held at 1 p.m. Secretaries are requested to obtain as soon as possible the number who intend being present, and to forward the same to

J. W. G. LODGE-COTHER, *Hon. Sec.*

Yapton Vicarage, Arundel.

Heavy Woollen District Association.—The Monthly Meeting of the above-named Society will be held at Liversedge on Saturday, April 14th. Meeting at 5 o'clock at The Albion inn. Final arrangements for the 8-bell contest to be held at Liversedge on Easter Monday, will be made at this meeting.

47, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury. W. IDLE, *Sec.*

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—A Bohemian Concert will be given at The Ship, Ivy Lane, E.C., at 7 p.m., on Saturday, April 21st. All members and friends of the Society will be heartily welcomed. Meetings for practice will be held at St. Paul's Cathedral on April 17th, at 7.45 p.m., St. Magnus London Bridge on April 26th, and St. Michael's Cornhill, on May 1st, both at 8 p.m. Will Messrs. Charles Macey and Edward B. Kite, of Taunton, kindly send me their addresses, so that their certificate may be forwarded?

WILLIAM T. COCKERILL, *Hon. Sec.*

37, Tradescant Road, South Lambeth, S.W.

Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. James's church, Birch, Rusholme, on Saturday, April 21st. Bells ready at 4.0 p.m. Business meeting at 7.0 p.m.

W. BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

Crayford, Kent.—Kent County Association.—Practice-night has been altered from Monday to Tuesday, at 8 p.m. All ringing friends welcomed.

G. CONYARD.

Church Hill, Crayford.

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SET of 15 Handbells, tenor 18c, viz., 13 consecutive notes, with semitone 12f and 1c sharp. By Mears and Stainbank. No reasonable offer refused. Apply to Mr. T. Hattersley, 79, West Street, Sheffield; or the Rev. F. G. Sandford, Sharrow Vicarage, Sheffield.

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'REBLE BOB. PART I. out of print and under revision.
Part I. contains instructions for pricking, transposing, proving, composing, conducting peals; an essay on the *In and Out-of-course* of the changes; and 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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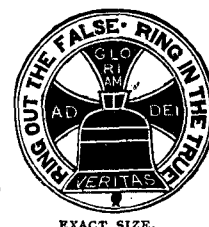
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One copy, 12 months 6s. 6d.
" 6 " 3s. 3d.
" 3 " 1s. 8d.

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 Wednesday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 1900.

THE remarks we ventured to make last week, and the hint conveyed with respect to the future determining of all questions about the unworthiness or otherwise of performances of 5000 and upwards, have been received with no small amount of approval. In view of what is newly arrived under consideration, and the very recent instances of peals brought into unenviable notoriety, it may again be pointed out, and that very forcibly, that the time calls for the employment of some machinery by which the settlement of these peal questions may be effectively carried out in a business-like manner. The thinking part of the Exercise is weary of a procedure which creates so much ill-feeling, and its host of ridiculous adjuncts. A slipshod mass of correspondence, sometimes written by those who ought to be so sensible of their own deficiencies as to cause them to shrink from "rushing into print," is not

the proper instrumentality for attaining the object desired. As was said last week, the Central Council is the body to consider whether some improvement cannot be made. The idea that the record of a peal should be stayed, and its publication postponed until all doubts concerning it were set at rest by the decision of a popular tribunal, is favoured by several correspondents. It should not be forgotten, however, that such an arrangement may be liable to abuse, for doubts once thrown upon a peal, whether genuine doubt or not, unfortunately have a tendency to besmirch its fame, and depreciate its value.

Mr. TAFFENDER, of London, writes this week about a performance at the church of St. Michael-upon-Cornhill a fortnight ago. We need hardly say, perhaps, that others have written on the same subject, but these latter have disregarded the time-honoured and necessary courtesy of giving us some indication that they possess a local habitation and a name. Mr. TAFFENDER's assertions are likely to be met by indignant remonstrance, accompanied by delectable examples of the "you're another" sort of argument. And then the see-saw business will begin, and continue until the lucubrations from both sides are stopped, no practical decision whatever being obtained. Not a very business-like condition of things, certainly. But if it were known that some popular central body would have to adjudicate upon such questions, these unseemly wrangles would be at end. All must hope that the Central Council will see its way to propound a good scheme for the effective and prompt settlement of these differences. We shall unhesitatingly be among those who will cheerfully accept the Council's dictum in such a matter.

The list of ringing clergy, which has been mentioned once or twice, is very slowly progressing. Names come dribbling in at the rate of about two or three per week, but we exercise what patience we have. We ask those gentlemen who have not yet sent their names and addresses to be kind enough to do so at once, as we are anxious to complete the list before Whitsuntide. Secretaries can greatly assist the work in sending us a list of all the ringing clergy in their neighbourhood.

Good Friday occurring next week, we shall go to press one day earlier.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

The Monthly Ringing Meeting will be held at Calverley (eight bells), on Saturday, April 21st. Meeting house, The Thornhill Arms. Bells at liberty from 2.0. Business meeting at 6.0. Handbells provided. All contributions are now due.

HY. GAYTHORPE, Hon. Sec.

1, Elm Avenue, Bramley.

NOTE TO PEAL.

THE PEAL AT WESTMINSTER. — This peal was rung in honour of the birth of a son to the Duke and Duchess of York. Mr. Searle, who hails from Exeter, and was in London on business, was elected a member of the St. Margaret's Society previous to starting, it being his first peal on ten bells, Mr. W. R. Crockford kindly standing out. It is the first peal by F. J. Shepherd, formerly of Exeter, but now residing in London.

The Metropolis.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, March 30, 1900, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALPHEGE, GREENWICH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 25 cwt.

JOHN H. CHEESMAN Treble.	ISAAC G. SHADE 5.
BERTRAM PREWETT 2.	JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN 6.
JOHN J. LAMB 3.	JOHN R. SHARMAN 7.
HARRY HOSKINS 4.	ARTHUR T. KING Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN R. SHARMAN.

The above was rung after meeting for Stedman Caters, owing to one of the band being ill, Mr. Flanders kindly stood out.

THE ST. MARGARET'S SOCIETY, WESTMINSTER.

On Saturday, March 31, 1900, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5059 CHANGES.

Tenor 28 cwt.

FERRIS J. SHEPHERD .. Treble.	CHARLES R. LILLEY 6.
ARTHUR W. SEARLE 2.	WILLIAM CHARGE 7.
HERBERT LANGDON 3.	JOHN HOYLE 8.
ARTHUR HARDY 4.	HARRY BARTON 9.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL 5.	REUBEN CHARGE Tenor.

Composed by JOHN ROGERS, and
Conducted by HARRY BARTON.

A reference to this peal will be found elsewhere.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 2, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES-IN-THE-FIELDS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 18 cwt.

WILLIAM PYE Treble.	ERNEST PYE 5.
JOHN R. SHARMAN 2.	HENRY STUBBS 6.
BERTRAM PREWETT 3.	HARRY FLANDERS 7.
ISAAC G. SHADE 4.	ARTHUR T. KING Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

The Provinces.

LIMPSFIELD, SURREY.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, March 28, 1900, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES

Being one 720 of Grandsire, two each of Plain Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 16 cwt.

ROBERT STONE* Treble.	JARVIS L. HARRIS 4.
GEORGE B. SELBY 2.	DAVID WRIGHT 5.
HENRY J. SELBY 3.	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE.

*First peal in four methods. This is the first 5040 on the bells.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 29, 1900, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN SAXBY Treble.	PERCY E. BEX 5.
JOHN TURNER 2.	FREDERICK M. JACOBS 6.
EDGAR WIGHTMAN 3.	WALTER J. SMITH 7.
GEORGE CONYARD 4.	EDWIN BARNETT Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and
Conducted by EDWIN BARNETT.

The bells were rung half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Archdeacon Smith a former rector of Crayford. The figures of this peal appeared in "THE BELL NEWS," of March 24th, being the first one given.

WIRKSWORTH, DERBYSHIRE
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
(THE WIRKSWORTH SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, March 31, 1900, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HUBBARD'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt. in F.

BENJAMIN GREATOREX .. Treble.	WILLIAM FOX 5.
CHARLES ALSOPP 2.	ARNOLD GELL 6.
REV. ARTHUR T. BEESTON 3.	ALBERT E. THOMPSON .. 7.
FREDERICK JOHNSON 4.	JOHN WARDMAN Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT E. THOMPSON.

First peal on the bells by the Society, and by all the band excepting the conductor.

STAFFORD.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD
On Saturday, March 31, 1900, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5093 CHANGES.
Tenor 19 cwt.

ISAAC PURSER Treble.	GEORGE BURROWS 6.
JAMES E. GROVES 2.	ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT .. 7.
HERBERT KNIGHT 3.	E. SIDNEY HODGES 8.
ALFRED MORETON 4.	ROBERT PICKERING 9.
WILLIAM G. HALL 5.	WILLIAM PAINTER Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and
Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

It was intended to have rung Stedman, but one of the company was too unwell to ring. Mr. Moreton, of the local band, kindly made up the company for the above.

ERITH, KENT.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 31, 1900, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5088 CHANGES. Tenor 18 cwt.

WALTER J. SMITH Treble.	JOHN H. CHEESMAN 5.
EDWIN BARNETT 2.	ALBERT PITAM 6.
JAMES PARKER 3.	CHARLES WILKINS 7.
WILLIAM WARD 4.	EDGAR WIGHTMAN Tenor.

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW, and
Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN.

W. J. Smith was elected a member of the Society before starting for the peal.

WOBURN, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 31, 1900, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt.

CYRIL HERBERT Treble.	*SIDNEY AVIS 5.
DOUGLAS HARRIS* 2.	ISAAC HILLS 6.
ERNEST HERBERT 3.	CHARLES CHASTY 7.
MORTIMER MATTHEWS* .. 4.	*MARK LANE Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, and
Conducted by CYRIL HERBERT.

*First peal of Treble Bob. †First peal of Treble Bob as conductor. Messrs. Hills and Chasty from Bedford.

LONGLEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION,

On Saturday, March 31, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.
Tenor 14½ cwt.

WILLIAM BROWN Treble.	CHARLES LYES 5.
WILLIAM T. PEGLER 2.	GEORGE CONDICK 6.
THOMAS MANSFIELD 3.	HENRY LOVELL 7.
STEPHEN KNIGHT 4.	REUBEN GARDNER Tenor.

Composed by the Rev. E. BANKES JAMES, and
Conducted by WILLIAM T. PEGLER.

WYMONDHAM, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY OF FRAMLAND RINGERS.

On Saturday, March 31, 1900, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being Six 6-scores each of St. Simon and Old Doubles, and Ten 6-scores each of Plain Bob, Canterbury Pleasure and Grandsire.

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

WILLIAM J. BROWN Treble.	HENRY BELLAMY 4.
JOSEPH MURRAY 2.	GEORGE H. HUDDLESTON .. 5.
WILLIAM H. DYKE 3.	JAMES TYSOE Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE H. HUDDLESTON.

This is the first peal on the bells, first peal by all the band, who are local men, and was rung at the first attempt.

SELLY OAK, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE ST. MARTINS' GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, March 31, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5024 CHANGES. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HENRY WITHERS* Treble.	WILLIAM H. BARBER 5.
FREDERICK CLAYTON 2.	HENRY MIDDLETON 6.
PHILIP W. DAVIES* 3.	WILLIAM SHORT 7.
THOMAS REYNOLDS 4.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER Tenor.

Composed by GEORGE HAYWARD, of Bromsgrove, and
Conducted by W. H. BARBER.

*First peal in the method. This peal was arranged in honour of the silver weddings of T. Russam and J. Buffery, respected members of the above Guild. The ringers wish through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS" to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells, also to Mr. Bryant for the preparations. The figures of the peal will be found on another page.

TEYNHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 31, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Superlative, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, Grandsire and Plain Bob.

Tenor 11 cwt.

EDMUND J. HYLAND .. Treble.	ALBERT J. DAY 4.
JOSEPH E. GRENSTED .. 2.	WILLIAM J. WALKER 5.
WILLIAM T. HYLAND .. 3.	WILLIAM H. B. WILKINS. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM H. B. WILKINS.

This is the first peal on the bells, which have lately been rehung, and the go of them is all that can be desired.

HORLEY, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, April 1, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qrs. 16 lbs. in F sharp.

ALBERT ELLIS Treble.	FRANCIS T. HOAD, JUN. .. 5.
FREDERICK W. RICE 2.	GEORGE F. HOAD 6.
ALFRED D. MILLS 3.	HENRY REEVES 7.
GEORGE THOMPSON 4.	CHARLES R. LILLEY Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and
Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

The band wish to thank the Rev. H. T. Lewis for the use of the bells; also Mr. A. Senghurst for making the arrangements.

Date Touches.

WYMONDHAM (Leicestershire).—On Tuesday, March 6th, a date touch of Doubles, consisting of 240 St. Simon's, 240 Old Doubles, 400 Canterbury Pleasure, 480 Plain Bob, and 540 Grandsire, in 1 hr. 10 mins. W. J. Brown, 1; J. Murrey, 2; W. H. Dyke, 3; H. Bellamy, 4; G. H. Huddleston (conductor), 5; G. Hetterley, 6. Longest length by all. Tenor 19½ cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—On Sunday, March 18th, at the residence of Mr. C. Willshire, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. Also a 405. On Saturday, March 24th, an attempt was made for Holt's Original, but after ringing 50 mins. it came to grief, the conductor thinking there was a change-course, but this proved to be incorrect. J. Hunt, 1-2; H. P. Harman (conductor), 3-4; C. Willshire, 5-6; S. Radford, 7-8. On Thursday, March 29th, the last 742 of Holt's Original, with J. J. Jones, 7-8. On Saturday, March 31st, another attempt was made for the peal with S. Radford, 7-8; but after ringing 2058 changes in 1 hr. 15 mins. it came to grief owing to a mis-call. On February 25th, 504 Stedman Triples. E. Raddon, 1; F. Blondell, 2; J. Jones, 3; E. Allen, 4; J. Hunt, 5; S. Radford, 6; C. Willshire (conductor), 7; E. Heather, 8. Also 416 Double Norwich Major. E. Raddon, 1; C. Willshire, 2; J. J. Jones, 3; E. Allen, 4; J. Hunt, 5; S. Radford, 6; W. W. Thorne, 7; F. Blondell (conductor), 8. On Sunday, March 4th, 304 Stedman Triples. E. Raddon, 1; J. J. Jones, 2; J. Hunt, 3; E. Allen, 4; S. Radford, 5; F. Blondell, 6; C. Willshire (conductor), 7; E. Heather, 8. On Sunday, March 11th, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Hunt, 1; E. Raddon, 2; J. J. Jones, 3; G. Reading, 4; E. Allen, 5; S. Radford (conductor), F. Blondell, 7; E. Heather, 8. On Sunday, March 18th, 1008 Bob Major. E. Raddon, 1; G. Reading, 2; J. J. Jones, 3; E. Allen, 4; J. Hunt, 5; S. Radford, 6; W. W. Thorne, 7; F. Blondell (conductor), 8. Also 447 Grandsire Triples. S. Radford, 1; E. Raddon, 2; J. J. Jones, 3; J. Hunt, 4; G. Reading, 5; E. Allen, 6; F. Blondell (conductor), 7; E. Heather, 8. On Wednesday, March 21st, 504 Stedman Triples. E. Raddon, 1; H. P. Harman (conductor), 2; J. J. Jones, 3; S. Radford, 4; J. Hunt, 5; W. W. Thorne, 6; F. Blondell, 7; G. Reading, 8.

TWYFORD (Hants).—On Tuesday, March 6th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. *E. Young, 1; G. Smith (conductor), 2; W. J. Sevier, 3; W. J. Tucker, 4; *T. Spratt, 5; *J. Ashford, 6; W. H. George, 7; G. Brown, 8. Also 504 Grandsire Triples. *F. Ursworth, 1; W. J. Sevier (conductor), 2; G. Smith, 3; *E. Young, 4; W. T. Tucker, 5; J. Ashford, 6; W. H. George, 7; *C. Abraham, 8. *First 504. †First with a bob bell.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—On Sunday morning, March 4th, for Divine Service at St. Andrew's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. A. Work, 1; T. J. Brown, 2; G. W. Peverell, 3; G. Green, 4; J. Pallister, 5; H. Peverell (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by G. Work; and first 720 with a bob bell by G. Peverell. On Tuesday, March 6th, for practice, 1056 Bob Major. G. A. Work, 1; G. W. Peverell, 2; T. J. Brown, 3; J. Pallister, 4; F. Charlton, 5; G. Green, 6; E. Titt, 7; H. Peverell (conductor), 8. On Sunday evening, March 11th, for Divine Service, 1680 Bob Major. G. A. Work, 1; G. W. Peverell, 2; T. J. Brown, 3; J. Pallister, 4; H. C. Mayne, 5; G. Green, 6; F. Charlton, 7; H. Peverell (conductor), 8. This is the longest touch by Messrs. Work, G. Peverell, and Brown.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

REDDISH (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, March 13th, at the church of St. Elizabeth, on the back six, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). R. Minshull, 1; A. Barnes (conductor), 2; J. Idle, 3; H. Smith, 4; T. Smithson, sen., 5; H. Smithson, 6. First 720 by Messrs. Minshull, Smith, and T. Smithson; and first 720 with a bob bell by Messrs. Idle and H. Smithson.

OSWALDTWISTLE (Lancashire).—On Sunday, January 14th, at the parish church, 720 Plain Bob. S. Collison, 1; T. Haworth, 2; R. Sharples, 3; J. Bentley, 4; C. Sharples (conductor), 5; J. J. Haworth, 6. On Sunday, January 21st, 720 College Single. On Monday, 22nd, 720 Oxford Single. A. Walmsley, 1; T. Haworth, 2; R. Sharples, 3; J. Bentley, 4; C. Sharples (conductor), 5; J. J. Haworth, 6. On Sunday, February 4th, 720 College Single. For evening service 720 Oxford Single. C. Sharples (conductor), 1; T. Haworth, 2; S. Collison, 3; R. Sharples, 4; J. Bentley, 5; J. J. Haworth, 6. On Monday, February 5th, 720 Plain Bob. S. Collison, 1; T. Haworth, 2; R. Sharples, 3; J. Bentley, 4; C. Sharples, 5; J. J. Haworth, 6. On Sunday, February 11th, an attempt was made for a 5040 in three methods, which failed at the end of the fourth 720. On Tuesday, February 13th, 720 Oxford Single. On Sunday, February 18th, 720 Oxford Single. A. Walmsley, 1; T. Haworth, 2; S. Collison, 3; J. Bentley, 4; C. Sharples (conductor), 5; J. J. Haworth, 6. On Sunday, February 25th, 720 Plain Bob. For evening service, 720 Oxford Single.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

HARWICH (Essex).—On Sunday, January 14th, for Divine Service

in the evening, 1008 Treble Bob Major, in 34 mins. W. Durrant, 1; A. Redwood, 2; C. Ellis, 3; G. Knock, 4; J. Brewster, 5; G. Thompson, 6; G. Moss, 7; A. Morris (conductor), 8. On Sunday, January 28th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, on the back six, in 24 mins. A. Morris, 1; G. Knock, 2; G. Moss, 3; W. Honeywood, 4; G. Thompson, 5; A. Fuller (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 4th, for Divine Service in the evening, 910 Grandsire Triples. R. Elmer, 1; A. Morris, 2; C. Ellis, 3; G. Knock, 4; G. Moss, 5; G. Thompson, 6; C. Ramplin (conductor), 7; F. Borrett, 8. On Tuesday, March 8th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Bob Major, in 45 mins. W. Durrant, 1; A. Morris, 2; C. Ellis, 3; G. Knock, 4; G. Moss, 5; G. Thompson, 6; C. Ramplin, 7; F. Watling (conductor), 8. On Sunday, March 18th, for evening service, 1008 Grandsire Triples. W. Durrant, 1; A. Morris, 2; C. Ellis, 3; G. Knock, 4; G. Moss, 5; G. Thompson, 6; C. Ramplin (conductor), 7; W. Parmen, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EAST BERKS. AND SOUTH BUCKS. BRANCH.)

HIGH WYCOMBE (Bucks).—On Wednesday, March 14th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins. F. Hayes, 1; J. W. Wilkins, 2; R. Buckland, 3; P. W. Wilkins, 4; B. Page, 5; F. Healey, 6; F. Buckland, 7; G. Twichen, 8. Composed and conducted by J. W. Wilkins. Rung to celebrate the capture of Bloemfontein by our brave countrymen in South Africa, and was the first quarter-peal by Messrs. Hayes, Page, and Twichen, who are local men. A peal was intended, but several failed to turn up.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

BUCKNALL (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, January 7th, for Divine Service, 720 Cambridge Surprise. J. Preston, 1; D. Preston, 2; G. Clarkson, 3; W. Wheeldon, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, January 9th, for practice, 720 Woodbine. D. Preston, 1; G. Clarkson, 2; J. Preston, 3; W. Wheeldon, 4; C. Preston, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, January 14th, for Divine Service, 720 London Surprise. J. Preston, 1; D. Preston, 2; G. Clarkson, 3; the rest as before. For evening service 720 Bob Minor. On Tuesday, January 23rd, for practice, 720 Oxford Bob. D. Preston, 1; G. Clarkson, 2; J. Preston, 3; W. Wheeldon, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, February 6th, for practice, 720 College Single. J. Preston, 1; W. Wheeldon, 2; J. Preston (first in the method with a bob bell), 3; C. Preston, 4; G. Clarkson, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, February 11th, for Divine Service, 720 Ely Surprise. D. Preston, 1; C. Preston, 2; G. Clarkson, 3; W. Wheeldon, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Violet Treble Bob. W. Twigg, 1; D. Preston, 2; C. Preston (conductor), 6; the rest as before. On Tuesday, February 13th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. C. Preston, 1; D. Preston, 2; J. Preston, 3; W. Wheeldon, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, February 18th, for Divine Service, 720 Grandsire Minor. G. Clarkson, 2; D. Preston, 5; the rest as before. For evening service 720 Carlisle Surprise. J. Preston, 1; C. Preston, 2; G. Clarkson, 3; W. Wheeldon, 4; D. Preston (conductor), 5; W. Twigg, 6. On Sunday evening, February 25th, for Divine Service, 720 Durham Surprise. J. Preston, 1; J. E. Wheeldon, 2; C. Preston, 3; W. Wheeldon, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. On Thursday, March 1st, on receipt of the news of the relief of Ladysmith, 720 Chichester Surprise. D. Preston, 2; the rest as before. On Sunday morning, March 11th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. D. Preston, 1; G. Clarkson, 2; J. Preston, 3; C. Preston, 4; W. Twigg (conductor), 5; J. Beardmore, 6. For evening service 720 Court Bob Minor. G. Hobbs, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6; the rest as before. First in the method with a bob bell by J. Preston.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

LEISTON (Suffolk).—On Saturday, February 24th, for practice at St. Margaret's church, 704 Kent Treble Bob Major. A. Button, 1; W. Taylor, 2; G. Wilson (conductor), 3; C. Bailey, 4; E. Bailey, 5; C. Samson, 6; J. Button, 7; G. Thompson, 8. Also 768 Oxford Treble Bob Major. W. Taylor, 1; A. J. Lincoln (conductor), 2; G. Wilson, 3; C. Bailey, 4; E. Bailey, 5; G. Thompson, 6; C. Samson, 7; J. Button, 8. On Sunday morning, March 4th, for Divine Service, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. G. Wilson, 1; H. Button, 2; E. Bailey, 3; C. Bailey, 4; E. Rivers, 5; C. Samson, 6; A. J. Lincoln (conductor), 7; A. Rivers, 8. For evening service 640 Kent Treble Bob Major. E. Rivers, 1; A. J. Lincoln (conductor), 2; G. Wilson, 3; C. Bailey, 4; C. Samson, 5; E. Bailey, 6; J. Button, 7; A. Rivers, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On March 10th, 720 Kent Treble Bob (fifteen bobs). C. Clark, 1; J. J. Parker, 2; J. Elderfield, 3; G. Gutt-

ridge, 4; G. Basden, 5; A. Crook, 6. On March 13th, 672 Grand-sire Major. On Sunday, March 18th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 44 mins. J. Bovington, 1; G. Gutteridge, 2; J. J. Parker, 3; W. Clark, 4; J. Elderfield, 5; G. Basden (conductor), 6; C. Clarke, 7; W. Bovington, 8. On Sunday evening, March 25th, 630 Court Bob Triples.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

STOCKPORT AND BOWDEN BRANCHES.

HAZEL GROVE (Cheshire).—On Wednesday evening, March 7th, for practice, 720 Plain Bob. J. Kellett, 1; J. Dean, 2; G. D. Warburton, 3; Rev. A. T. Beeston, 4; J. Fernley, 5; A. Fernley, 6. Conducted by the Rev. A. T. Beeston, who hails from New Mills. On Sunday evening, March 11th, for Divine Service, 720 College Single. J. Kellett, 1; J. Fernley, 2; J. Dean, 3; A. Fernley, 4; S. Fernley, 5; G. D. Warburton, 6. On Monday evening, March 12th, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Kellett, 1; J. Fernley, 2; J. Dean, 3; A. Fernley, 4; S. Fernley, 5; G. D. Warburton, 6. On Saturday evening, March 17th, for practice, 720 College Single. J. Kellett, 1; J. Dean, 2; J. Fernley, 3; A. Fernley, 4; S. Fernley, 5; G. D. Warburton, 6. On Friday, March 23rd, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Kellett, 1; J. Fernley, 2; J. Dean, 3; A. Fernley, 4; S. Fernley, 5; G. D. Warburton, 6. On Sunday, March 25th, for Divine Service in the evening, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Kellett, 1; J. Fernley, 2; J. Dean, 3; A. Fernley, 4; S. Fernley, 5; G. D. Warburton, 6. On Monday evening, March 26th, for practice, 720 College Single. J. Kellett, 1; J. Fernley, 2; J. Dean, 3; A. Fernley, 4; S. Fernley, 5; G. D. Warburton, 6. In the evening 720 Oxford Treble Bob, standing as before. On Sunday, April 1st, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Kellett, 1; J. Dean, 2; A. Fernley, 3; J. Fernley, 4; S. Fernley, 5; G. D. Warburton, 6. On Saturday, March 31st, an attempt for a peal in four methods was made, but unfortunately came to grief after ringing 2500 changes, in 1 hr. 27 mins. J. Kellett, 1; J. Fernley, 2; J. Dean, 3; A. Fernley, 4; S. Fernley, 5; G. D. Warburton, 6. On Sunday evening, April 1st, for Divine Service, 720 Plain Bob, composed by W. Barber, of North Wingfield. This composition has twenty-six singles, and appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" of March 31st, and is probably rung for the first time. J. Kellett, 1; J. Fernley, 2; J. Dean, 3; A. Fernley, 4; S. Fernley, 5; G. D. Warburton, 6.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HILLINGDON (Middlesex).—On Thursday, March 15th, at St. John's church, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples in 45 mins. C. Bellamy, 1; H. Ayers, 2; W. Odell, 3; J. J. Pratt, 4; H. Chandler, 5; W. Honor, 6; H. S. Reeves, 7; F. Weeden, 8. Composed and conducted by J. J. Pratt. During March the following touches have been rung: 294 and 630 Oxford Bob Triples, and 910 Court Bob Triples, conducted by H. Chandler; six courses of Court Bob Triples, 504 and 210 Oxford Bob Triples, and 108 Grandsire Triples, conducted by J. J. Pratt; 224 and 476 Grandsire Triples, and 360 Grandsire Minor, conducted by H. S. Reeves; 420 and two 294s Oxford Bob Triples. G. Bellamy and A. Becker took part in ringing the above touches.

BRIGHTON (Sussex).—On Tuesday, March 13th, for practice at the church of St. Nicholas, 504 Stedman Triples. L. E. Sears, 1; W. Palmer, jun., 2; C. A. King, 3; F. M. Bacon, 4; W. Palmer, sen. (conductor), 5; J. Fox, 6; J. Jay, jun., 7; R. Fentiman, 8. Also 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Jay, sen., 1; W. Palmer, jun., 2; F. M. Bacon, 3; W. Palmer, 4; G. A. King, 5; L. E. Sears, 6; J. Jay, jun., 7; K. Hart (conductor), 8.

GOSPEL OAK (Middlesex).—On Sunday morning, February 25th, for Divine Service at St. Martin's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. N. Alderman, 1; E. Young, 2; W. Pickworth, 3; J. Nixon, 4; W. Nudds, 5; R. Bevan (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Canterbury Pleasure. H. Ellis, 1; E. Young, 2; W. Pickworth, 3; N. Alderman, 4; W. Nudds, 5; G. Smith (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, March 4th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Nudds, 1; N. Alderman, 2; G. Hollis, 3; R. Bevan, 4; E. Young, 5; J. Nixon (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, March 11th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. H. Ellis, 1; G. Hollis, 2; J. Nixon, 3; R. Bevan, 4; W. Nudds, 5; G. Smith, 6.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—On Sunday, March 11th, 336 Bob Major. E. Raddon, 1; G. Reading, 2; J. J. Jones, 3; E. Allen, 4; S. Radford, 5; J. Hunt, 6; F. Blondell, 7; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 8. On Sunday, March 25th, 360 Grandsire Caters. E. Raddon, 1; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 2; S. Radford, 3; E. Allen, 4; J. J. Jones, 5; H. P. Harman, 6; F. Blondell, 7; J. Hunt, 8; W. W. Thorne, 9; G. Reading, 10. Also 270 Stedman Caters. H. P. Harman, 1; C. R.

Lilley, 2; S. Radford, 3; H. Barton (conductor), 4; J. J. Jones, 5; E. Allen, 6; W. H. Fussell, 7; J. Hunt, 8; W. W. Thorne, 9; F. Blondell, 10.

HORBURY (Yorks).—On Wednesday, March 14th, on handbells, 720 Bob Minor. J. Woffenden, 1; E. Brooke, 2; J. Smith (first 720), 3; W. H. Giggie, 4; G. Hunt (conductor), 5; G. F. Pickles, 6. On Sunday, March 8th, 360 Bob Minor. E. Carr, 1; G. F. Pickles, 2; J. Smith, 3; W. H. Giggie, 4; G. Hunt (conductor), 6.

HUNSDON (Herts).—On Friday, March 16th, at St. Dunstan's church, 720 Bob Minor on the back six. J. Crabb, 1; W. Marrable, 2; I. Cavill, 3; E. J. Webb, 4; W. Littlechild, 5; A. Pearman (conductor), 6. Another 720 in the same method with the treble before and the tenor covering. J. Cannon, 1; J. Crabb, 2; W. Marrable, 3; A. Pearman, 4; I. Cavill (conductor), 5; W. Littlechild, 6; E. J. Webb, 7; C. Laddley, 8. And another 720 on the back six. A. Pearman, 1; W. Marrable, 2; I. Cavill (conductor), 3; J. Crabb, 4; W. Littlechild, 5; E. J. Webb, 6.

A NEW METHOD.—WOLVERHAMPTON DOUBLE COURT BOB MAJOR.

By J. E. GROVES, *Wolverhampton.*

12345678

21436587

24163857

42618375

46281357

64823175

46283715

64827351

46283751

64827315

68472135

86741253

68714523

86175432

81674523

18765432

18674523

Bobs and singles same as Plain Bob.

Any peal of Bob Major with calls w m h will run true to this.

A bob before will shorten the course to two leads only.

I am not aware that the above method has ever been published before. I have had it by me for several years, and I think the musical qualities of it will commend itself to the Exercise generally.

I call it a "Court" method because I am not aware that any rule has ever been made excluding 2nds or 7ths place from the same. It is also a double method in every sense of the word.

LONG PEAL ATTEMPTS.

On Easter Monday, April 16th, all being well, eight members of the Yorkshire Association will attempt a peal of College Single Major, 13,440 changes, at the church of St. Leonard, Wortley, near Sheffield. Starting-time, 9.0 to 9.30 a.m.

On Easter Monday, all being well, eight members of the Central Northamptonshire Association will attempt a peal of Superlative Surprise Major, 9312 changes, at Irthlingborough.

WANTED a good Gardener. Must be of good character, regular attendant at church, and a Change-Ringer. House and Garden, and £1 per week offered. Address—RECTOR, Grappenhall Rectory, Warrington.

Compositions.

DOUBLE NORWICH.

By G. HAYWARD, Bromsgrove.

5248.

23456 I 4 5 6

26435

64235

42635

36245

62345

43265

32465

23564

35264

62534

25634

56234

32654

26354

63254

34256

42536

25436

54236

32456

24356

43256

52346

23546

Reduced to 5024 by omitting bobs bracketted in one part. This is thought to be the first peal published on the plan. Rung at Selly Oak, conducted by W. H. Barber.

By F. P. HOWCROFT.

5152.

23456 I 4 6

63254

52364

23564

5364

32564

62435

34265

42365

23465

64325

43625

26345

63245

32645

42536

25436

24536

45236

52436

54236

32456

24356

By HERBERT TUCKER, Bristol.

5132.

23456 I 4 5 6

36452 I 4 5

45263 S -

54362 - -

24563 - -

34265 - -

43562 - -

35462 - -

53264 - -

23465 - -

32564 - -

25364 - -

52463 - -

43265 - S -

Repeat 2nd block twice, and the last once, gives—

42365 I 4 5 6

3452 - -

4532 - -

5234 - -

2435 - -

4352 - S

3542 - -

5243 - -

3425 - -

4253 - S

2543 - -

5342 - -

3245 - -

Repeated. Substitute bob at 1 and s at 6. For the bob at 5 in the first course insert a bob at 6 in the last course of the 2nd and 3rd blocks, omit it in the 2nd block.

5376.

23456 I 4 6

34256 - -

42356 - -

53246 S S

32546 - -

45236 - -

62534 S S

25364 S -

23564 S

MR. LINDOFF'S PEALS.—Mr. Dench writes: The first 5056 of Superlative published in our last number by Mr. Lindoff is false. The second is a variation of one published by myself in April 1897.

LONDON SURPRISE.

By F. DENCH, London.

5280.

23456 M B W H

64352 - -

36452 - -

43652 - -

63542 - -

56342 - -

Four times repeated.

SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE.

(By THE SAME AUTHOR.)

5472.

23456 M B W H

35264 - -

26354 - -

53462 - -

36524 - -

23564 - -

65432 - -

43652 - -

64352 - -

34256 - -

Twice repeated; 5th and 6th extent in 5-6.

5184.

23456 M W H

45236 - -

25634 - -

53246 B

42635 - -

63425 - -

52436 - -

43526 - -

53624 - -

46325 - -

36524 - -

56423 - -

24365 - -

Repeated. This is the first peal obtained without the 2nd in 6ths place in this number of changes.

QUARTER-PEAL OF GRAND-SIRE TRIPLES.

By A. N. WOOD, Middleton, Yorks.

23456

26543 In and out at three

64523 Before with a double

45623 Home

65324 Wrong

Five times repeated. Contains six 4-6s, seven 7-4s, and seven 6-7s.

Church Items.

At a meeting of the executive of the Peterborough Cathedral Restoration Committee held recently under the presidency of the Dean, subscriptions, etc., amounting to £135 2s. 3d. were announced as having been received since the last meeting. It was proposed by the Bishop of Leicester, seconded by Canon James, and carried unanimously: "That the architect be requested to proceed with the repairs to the third stage of the north-west flanking tower of the west front in accordance with the estimate of Messrs. Thompson for the sum of £132 17s. 6d." When the work now ordered is finished it is feared that it will be necessary to stop the work at the west front of the Cathedral, as the funds at the disposal of the committee will be exhausted. It is desirable, if possible, to avoid a stoppage, as the work can only be resumed at an increase of cost.

According to a monumental brass recently erected in the parish church of Chapel-en-le-Frith, the sextonship has been retained in one family from 1631. The brass records the death of Joseph Bramwell, who held office since 1893; and goes on to record that the bones of eight predecessors of the same family lie beneath, their terms of office extending from thirty-nine to fifty-two years.

The memorial brass which has been placed in the crypt of St. Paul's to the memory of the late Mr. G. A. Spottiswoode will be dedicated by the Bishop of London next Saturday afternoon, at the conclusion of the "Quiet Day" services for the Lay Helpers' Association, of which Mr. Spottiswoode was the Chairman.

The Bishop of Winchester will be absent from England for the next three weeks. Letters on urgent business may be addressed to the resident chaplain, Farnham Castle.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED

CHIEF OFFICE: HOLBORN BARS, LONDON.

Summary of the Report presented at the Fifty-First Annual Meeting, held on 1st March, 1900.

ORDINARY BRANCH.—The number of Policies issued during the year was 65,470, assuring the sum of £6,355,850, and producing a New Annual Premium Income of £352,003.

The Premiums received during the year were £3,144 464, being an increase of £176,963 over the year 1898.

The claims of the year amounted to £1,225,906. The number of Deaths was 5,899 and 3,963 Endowment Assurances matured.

The number of Policies in force at the end of the year was 570,414.

INDUSTRIAL BRANCH.—The Premiums received during the year were £5,168,958, being an increase of £208,202.

The Claims of the year amounted to £2,059,340. The number of Deaths was 209,807 and 2,239 Endowment Assurances matured.

The number of Free Policies granted during the year to those

Policyholders of five years' standing, who desired to discontinue their payments, was 72,611, the number in force being 663,250. The number of Free Policies which became Claims during the year was 14,533.

The total number of Policies in force at the end of the year was 13,433,785; their average duration exceeds eight and three-quarter years.

The assets of the Company, in both branches, as shown in the Balance Sheet, are £36,832,059, being an increase of £3,232,351 over those of 1898. A supplement, shewing in detail the various investments, is published with this Report.

The Staff Provident Fund, which was founded two years since for the benefit of the outdoor staff, shows a very satisfactory increase for the year, the total amount standing to the credit of the Fund being £73,085.

General Balance Sheet of the Prudential Assurance Company, Limited, on the 31st December, 1899.

LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Shareholders' Capital	1,000,000	0	0	British Government Securities (£3,180,000 Consols)	3,179,333	6	11
Ordinary Branch Funds	19,150,020	17	0	Indian and Colonial Government Securities ..	3,659,943	10	8
Industrial Branch Fund	15,708,695	17	8	Railway and other Debentures and Debenture Stock	2,175,734	12	6
Reserve Fund	800,000	0	0	Loans on County Council, Municipal and other Rates	7,048,287	10	8
Claims under Life Policies admitted	173,342	7	9	Freehold Ground Rents and Scotch Fen Duties ..	3,034,321	9	1
				Freehold and Leasehold Property	2,019,809	11	8
				Mortgages	4,870,960	2	6
				Railway, Gas, and Water Stocks	6,090,274	6	7
				Suez Canal Shares	168,369	5	8
				Telegraph and other Shares	72,532	8	5
				Metropolitan Consolidated Stock & City of London Bonds	355,645	12	6
				Bank of England Stock	200,559	18	6
				Foreign Government Securities	1,046,970	14	2
				Reversions and Life Interests	738,486	14	11
				Loans on the Company's Policies	818,128	3	6
				Rent Charges	143,073	1	8
				Outstanding Premiums	372,987	12	5
				Cash in hands of Superintendents & Agents' balances	46,679	3	4
				Outstanding Interest and Rents	275,591	0	8
				Cash--On deposit, on Current Accounts, and in hand	514,370	16	3
	£36,832,059	2	5		£36,832,059	2	5

THOS. C. DEWEY,
WILLIAM HUGHES,
FREDERICK FISHER, } *Joint General Managers.*
W. J. LANCASTER, *Secretary.*

EDGAR HORNE, *Chairman.*

HENRY HARBEN, } *Directors.*
PERCY T. REID, }

We have examined the Cash transactions, Receipts and Payments, affecting the accounts of the Assets and Investments for the year ended December 31st, 1899, and we find the same in good order and properly vouched. We have also examined the Deeds and Securities, Certificates, &c., 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, 1899.

14th February, 1900.

DELOITTE, DEVER, GRIFFITHS & CO.

ROPES.

BEST QUALITY IN EVERY
RESPECT, AT

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DEPOSITS, repayable on demand
TWO per CENT INTEREST on CURRENT ACCOUNTS
the minimum monthly balances when not drawn below
STOCKS, SHARES, and ANNUITIES purchased and sold.

SAVINGS DEPARTMENT.

For the encouragement of Thrift the Bank receives small sums of
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BIRKBECK BUILDING SOCIETY
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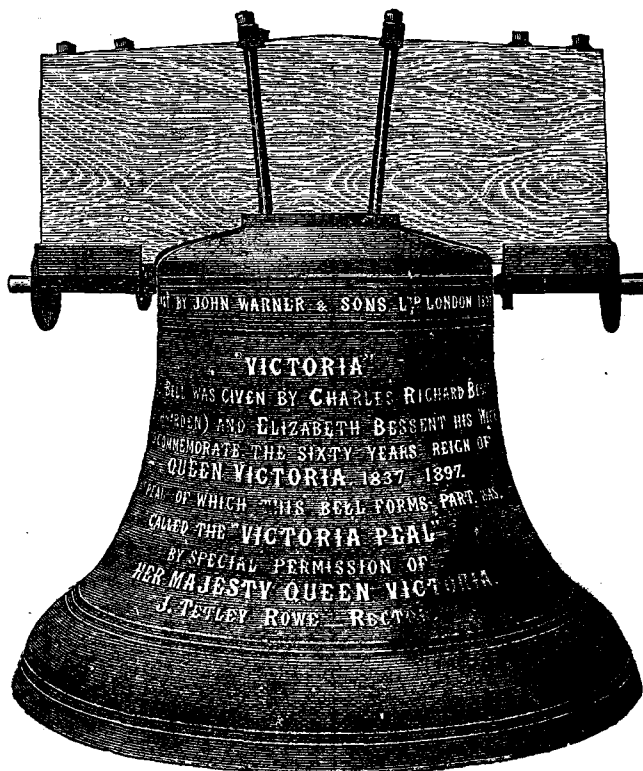
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TENOR 25 cwt. WEIGHT OF PEAL 5 tons 4 cwt. 16 lbs.

Hung in the 'Victoria Tower,'
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H.R.H. PRINCESS CHRISTIAN ATTENDED, at the DEDICATION SERVICE by the
BISHOP OF ROCHESTER, Feb. 2nd, 1898.

In Commemoration of Her Majesty's Jubilee, 1897.

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Church Bell Hanger
Zinch, Stogumber, Somerset.

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principles. Old Bells re-cast. New Bells supplied.

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(Successor to George Stockham)
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51, Bankside, Southwark, London, S.E.
Musical Handbells to any size or key—Chromatic or
Diatonic Scales.

Old Bells repaired or augmented to any size, on the
most reasonable terms.

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CHURCH BELL HANGER
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Bells, and Bells of every description. Bell Ropes of the
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accurately fixed.

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CELEBRATED CHURCH BELL
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Maker to the principal Churches in Norfolk
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ASTLEY'S head spinner has had FORTY YEARS' experience making their
Speciality Bell Ropes.

Send number, weight of tenor, and length to

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Established 1730. **COVENTRY.**

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"This is unquestionably the greatest ringing peal in England, and therefore in the world."—SIR EDMUND BECKETT, Bart., Q.C., Times, Nov. 20, 1878.

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New Tenor Bell. St. Paul's Church, Bedford.

Also founders of the noted peals of bells at the cathedrals of Worcester, Newcastle-on-Tyne, St. Mary's, Edinburgh, St. Patrick's, Dublin, Christ Church, N.Z., and Singapore; the Town Halls of Manchester, Bradford, Rochdale, Halifax, Wakefield, and Kendal, and the Adelaide and Sydney Post Offices in Australia.

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Church Bell Hanger, &c.,
WOODBURY, EXETER.

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CHURCH BELL-ROPE MAKERS,
11, MARKET STREET, OXFORD,
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GOLD MEDAL, EXHIBITION 1851.

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Church Bells for {RINGING
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OLD BELLS RE-CAST. PEALS RE-FITTED AND RE-HUNG.

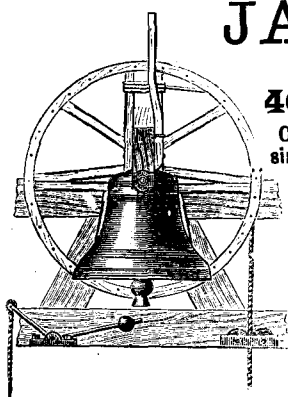
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Half-mile East of "City."



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CHURCH BELLS, with all requisite Fittings and Framework, singly or in Peals. CLOCK and CHIME BELLS to any size and note.

SCHOOL BELLS with ringing arrangements, suitable for any position.

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MUSICAL HANDBELLS tuned in Diatonic and Chromatic Scales in sets of any numbers.

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No. 232.	Selection, "Scotland Yet," containing "Kelvin Grove," "Comin' thro' the Rye," and "The Braes o' Mar"	price	1 6
No. 286.	"Men of Harlech," Welsh Melody	"	1 6
No. 287.	"Orange and Blue," Scotch Air	"	1 6
No. 319.	"Hark the bonny Christ Church Bells," varied	"	1 6
The above are for 6 ringers with 13 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.A.			
The next are for 6 ringers with 12 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.			
No. 320.	"The Mountaineer's Waltz," on Swiss Melodies	"	1 6
No. 321.	"The Rose of Allandale" March	"	1 6
No. 322.	"The Pilgrim of Love" Galop	"	1 6
The next are for 5 ringers, with medium peal, i.e. 3 octaves, C22 to C1, chromatic.			
No. 217.	"Belfry Chimes and Nursery Rhymes"	"	3 0
No. 720.	"Her Majesty's Waltz"	"	3 0

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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. 940.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1900.

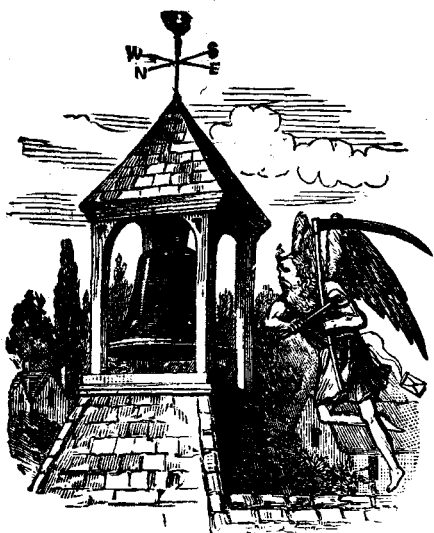
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Llandaff do.

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Buildings.

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Burnley Holy Trinity Ch.

Crawley Parish Church.

Corbridge-on-Tyne, do.

Pontypool (Trevethin

Church).

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Eiffel Tower, Paris.

Dunsfold Parish Church.

Aylesford do.

St. Mark's Church, St.

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Phosphorous,

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Reports and Estimates furnished. The Ellacombe
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CHURCH BELLS, Singly and in Rings.

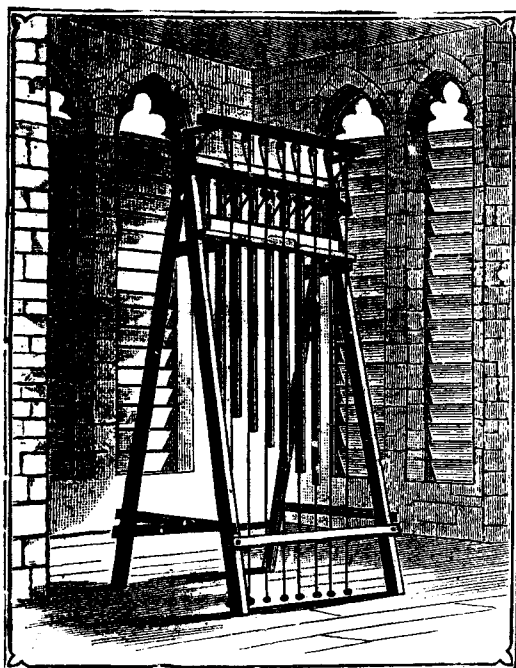
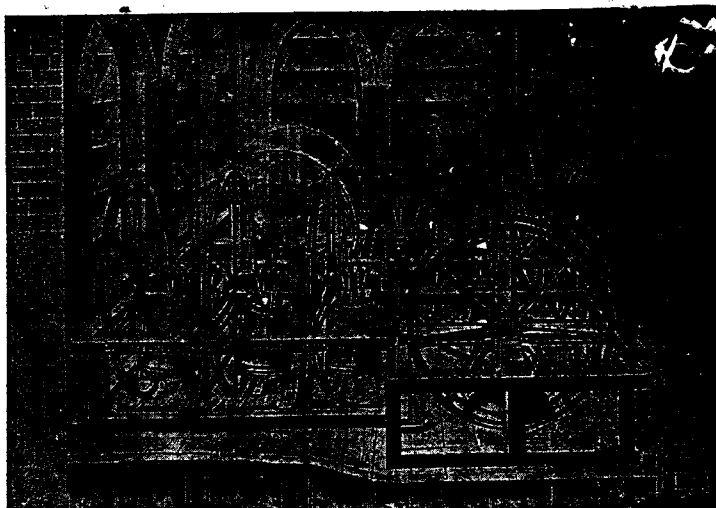
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Clocks, Bells, and Carillons in any size or number.
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PRICE LIST ON APPLICATION.

New Handbell Music.

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"Soldiers of the Queen,"

By Special Arrangement with the Author and Composer, Mr.
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lishers, Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter.

In MSS. for 37 Bells, Chromatic Scale, C22 to C1,
Six Ringers, 5s.

In MSS. for Forty-nine Cells, Bell, Chromatic Scale, G25 to
G 04, Eight Ringers, 5s. 6d.

WM. GORDON, Lower Hillgate, Stockport.

The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 940.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1900.

[Vol. XVIII.]

METHODS.

By the REV. E. BANKES JAMES.

The disputes as to the nature of methods, Single, Double, Reverse and Court, becomes more and more involved without showing any approach to the true solution. I think that the difficulty is increased because ringers are trying to force all methods into three classes, whereas there are really four, which I distinguish as Single, Reverse, Double and Compound.

(i.) A Single method is one in which all the places are made above the treble.

(ii.) A Reverse method is one in which all the places are made below the treble.

(iii.) The work in front in a Reverse method is exactly the same as the work behind in the single variation.

(iv.) A Double method is obtained by making all the places above the treble as in the Single method, and all the places below as in the Reverse method.

(v.) A Compound method is one that has places made above and below the treble, but yet is not a Double method. Furthermore a Compound method will not work into a double variation. Mr. Groves has tried it with Old England, and failed, as I shall presently show. Anyone doubting the existence of these Compound methods may try his hand at producing Double London Surprise.

(vi.) From examination of the Bob method we find that two leads of the Single method produces the same lead-end as one lead of the Double method. By the above rule and test we may reduce any Double method to its Single and Reverse variations. Apply it to Double Norwich and here is the result :—

SINGLE.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7
2 4 1 3 5 6 7 8
4 2 3 1 6 5 8 7
4 3 2 6 1 5 7 8
3 4 6 2 5 1 8 7
3 6 4 5 2 8 1 7
6 3 5 4 8 2 7 1
6 5 3 8 4 7 2 1
5 6 8 3 7 4 1 2
5 8 6 7 3 1 4 2
8 5 7 6 1 3 2 4
8 7 5 1 6 3 4 2
7 8 1 5 3 6 2 4
7 1 8 5 6 3 4 2
1 7 5 8 3 6 2 4
1 5 7 3 8 2 6 4

REVERSE.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7
2 4 1 6 3 8 5 7
4 2 6 1 8 3 7 5
2 4 6 8 1 7 3 5
4 2 8 6 7 1 5 3
2 4 6 8 7 5 1 3
4 2 8 6 5 7 3 3
4 8 2 5 6 3 7 1
8 4 5 2 3 6 1 7
4 8 2 3 5 1 6 7
8 4 5 2 1 3 7 6
4 8 5 1 2 7 3 6
8 4 1 5 7 2 6 3
8 1 4 7 5 6 2 3
1 8 7 4 6 5 3 2
1 7 8 6 4 3 5 2

At first one is rather surprised to find that the reverse variation has not got the bells in coursing order at the lead-ends, but a moment's thought makes you more sur-

prised that you did not anticipate it; for as the bells are in right coursing order in front, and not behind in the single variation, so if we start from 87654321 in the reverse, we shall find that they will keep proper coursing order with the treble behind, while they keep proper coursing order both in front and behind in the double variation only.

Now, to revert to the Double London Court problem brought forward by Mr. Groves last week. He claims that Old England Court is Single London Court, but in the first place, the rule for lead-ends fails, since they are utterly different, and two leads of Old England does not produce the same lead-end as one of Double London. Here is London Court Bob, and it answers the rule in every particular.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7
2 4 1 6 3 8 5 7
4 2 6 1 8 3 7 5
4 6 2 8 1 3 5 7
6 4 8 2 3 1 7 5
6 8 4 3 2 7 1 5
8 6 3 4 7 2 5 1
8 3 6 7 4 5 2 1
3 8 7 6 5 4 1 2
3 7 8 5 6 1 4 2
7 3 5 8 1 6 2 4
7 5 3 1 8 6 4 2
5 7 1 3 6 8 2 4
5 1 7 6 3 2 8 4
1 5 6 7 2 3 4 8
1 6 5 2 7 3 8 4

In passing, I hope Mr. Groves will forgive me for saying that Wolverhampton Double Court Bob is not a Court method, for the rule that he is not aware of was acknowledged in the days when Double Oxford Bob Major was distinguished from its cousin Double Norwich Court in the days of our great-grandfathers; is not a double method, since places are wanting in 3-4 and 5-6, which would make it into Double Oxford Bob; is not a method at all since it lacks symmetry.

One test more for my principles, and I will leave them to the judgment of the Exercise. Superlative Surprise is a double method, find its single variation. Apply the rule and cut out all places below the treble.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7
1 2 4 6 3 5 7 8
2 1 6 4 5 3 8 7
2 6 1 4 3 5 7 8
6 2 4 1 5 3 8 7
2 6 1 4 5 8 3 7

6 2 4 1 8 5 7 3
 6 4 2 8 1 5 3 7
 4 6 8 2 5 1 7 3
 4 8 6 5 2 7 1 3
 8 4 5 6 7 2 3 1
 8 5 4 7 6 3 2 1
 5 8 7 4 3 6 1 2
 5 7 8 3 4 1 6 2
 7 5 3 8 1 4 2 6
 7 3 5 1 8 4 6 2
 3 7 1 5 4 8 2 6
 7 3 5 1 4 2 8 6
 3 7 1 5 2 4 6 8
 3 1 7 5 4 2 8 6
 1 3 5 7 2 4 6 8
 3 1 5 2 7 4 8 6
 1 3 2 5 4 7 6 8
 1 3 5 2 7 4 8 6

The result is undoubtedly the form that Single Superlative must take. We can see at a glance the bit of dodging in front that will present itself behind in the reverse method, and will augment the dodging behind of the single method to the required proportion of the Double variation, while the two leads of the single method produce the same lead-end as one of Superlative.

LONG PEAL ATTEMPTS.

On Easter Monday, April 16th, all being well, eight members of the Yorkshire Association will attempt a peal of College Single Major, 13,440 changes, at the church of St. Leonard, Wortley, near Sheffield. Starting-time, 9.0 to 9.30 a.m.

On Easter Monday, all being well, eight members of the Central Northamptonshire Association will attempt a peal of Superlative Surprise Major, 9312 changes, at Irthlingborough.

HORBURY, NEAR WAKEFIELD.

The dedication and opening of the new ring of eight bells at St. Peter's church will be on Saturday, April 21st. Service at 4 o'clock. All ringers are cordially invited. Tea will be provided at 6d. each for those sending in their names to me on or before the 19th inst.—W. H. GIGGLE, Queen Street, Horbury.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. Albert Walker has removed to 102, Natal Place, Avondale Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

"BELL NEWS" WANTED:—Could anyone oblige with a "Bell News" for November 26th, 1898, and state their own wants, I have many back numbers.—J. J. PARKER, Farnham Royal.

HORBURY (Yorks).—On Wednesday, March 14th, on handbells, 720 Bob Minor. J. Woffenden, 1; E. Brooke, 2; J. Smith (first 720), 3; W. H. Giggle, 4; G. Hunt (conductor), 5; G. F. Pickles, 6. On Sunday, March 8th, 360 Bob Minor. E. Carr, 1; G. F. Pickles, 2; J. Smith, 3; W. H. Giggle, 4; G. Hunt (conductor), 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.

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."

WOLVERHAMPTON DOUBLE COURT.

SIR,—I hope Mr. Groves will forgive me if I point out to him that the method he published in your last number is not a sound one, and is certainly not a "double method in every sense of the term." In any sound even-bell method, double or single, the work of the first half of the lead will be repeated, in inverted form, in the second half. This does not happen in Mr. Groves's method, which is, consequently, unsound in construction. In the block of rows, beginning with the backstroke of the treble's full lead, and ending with the handstroke of the treble's next full lead, the working bells should work against one another *by pairs* in the two halves of the lead, and there will be an odd bell which works against itself; that is to say, in the second half of the lead it inverts its own work of the first half. This odd bell will occupy the same place at the handstroke of any full lead of the treble which it occupied at the previous backstroke of the treble's lead; at the first lead-end from rounds, therefore, it will invariably be found "at home" in the handstroke row. In Mr. Groves's method this "bell at home" at the handstroke lead of the treble is the fifth: but it does not in last half of the lead invert its work of the first half: for it does not dodge in 7-8 down as it ought; but transfers the dodge to 5-6 where it has no business to be. If Mr. Groves will do me the honour to examine the work of the fifth in the Single Norwich Court printed at the end of my last week's letter: or, the work of any bell "at home" at the handstroke of the treble's lead in any legitimate method, he will at once see the difference between his own method and others. It is for the same reason that Grandsire Major is an unsound method, quite apart from other considerations of a more technical character.

The so-called "London Court" is not, in my opinion, "Court" at all, whether in its double or single form, but a mere rearrangement of Plain Bob work. It has not the smallest suspicion or flavour of "Court" about it. How it ever came by the title is a mystery to me.

I am disappointed that no one has answered my letter on "Surprise" methods. It was written to invite discussion, on a matter which must be definitely settled without further delay.
 H. EARLE BULWER.

SIR,—Mr. Groves must have omitted to read the third paragraph of my letter *re* "Old England," in your issue of March 24th, otherwise he would surely not have written again on that subject. And, now, if I tell Mr. Groves that Wolverhampton Court (?) Bob is not a double method, I hope he will not be offended, and if I also say that it is not a legitimate method, and that he will find the reverse variation in Shipway reprint, part 1, page 60, minus 7th and 2nd places, I hope he will forgive me, as I have written in no vindictive spirit.
 GEORGE BAKER.

THE PEAL AT ST. MICHAEL'S, CORNHILL.

SIR,—I was very much surprised to read the letter in last week's "BELL NEWS," casting doubts and imputations upon the above peal. The fact of the matter is, not that we rang the peal, but that the Middlesex County Association secured the tower in an honourable style which has aroused a bitter feeling of jealousy in the minds of a few of the College Youths, notably Taffender. What prompted him to compose that tissue of falsehoods (which it is without a doubt), Sir? He says he never heard twelve bells struck except the last course. All I can say is he must be either very deaf, or else his condition was such as not to be able to judge the difference between good or bad ringing. I would ask him how is it possible to clash 2-3-4 together in Treble Bob Maximus, except when they are either on the lead, etc., or out behind; as these bells were never together in any other position; how, I ask could they clash? If Taffender objects to polluting the Exercise and peal-books (a thing I certainly do), the best proof for his own words is to get the College Youths to blot out of their peal-book the "Stedman Cinques" which he rang in at St. Giles', Cripplegate. After the

completion of the peal at St. Michael's, I personally spoke to about ten ringers. Six of them praised the peal up, all well-known ringers, who I can name if required. Two others said it was rough; I must not mention their names, owing to their condition; another, the best critic the College Youths have, confessed it was a much better peal than the "Stedman Cinques" aforementioned; and lastly Taffender, who said—nothing. Why? because in his heart he could not truthfully, against it.

H. HOSKINS.

SIR,—There is a certain section of the College Youths who are rapidly degenerating to the level of their predecessors of twelve to twenty years ago, who thought, and rather loudly too, that they were the only people capable of ringing twelve bells, and Mr. Taffender's letter is the outcome of a similar feeling. The above peal was a very creditable performance, and deserves much praise from twelve bell ringers who know the difficulties attending such performances with a new set of ropes, and one of the most mixed bands ever got together. But here is the sore point, it was not a College Youths peal. The bad ringing complained of was a conspicuous feature by its entire absence, and I challenge anyone who heard it to say otherwise, and except for one little hitch in the early part of the peal there was nothing approaching bad ringing. It did not perhaps come up to the College Youths ideal of twelve bell ringing, but I am afraid that ideal is a very theoretical quality, and is sadly lacking in some performances. This peal will bear comparison with several of the College Youths peals that I have heard, and was a far better one than that rung at Cripplegate, in which Mr. Taffender and myself took part. In conclusion, I would give a few of the noisy spirits a little advice when they go to listen to a peal by another company. Go with a perfectly open mind, and not with the preconceived idea that "they can't ring it"; and listen to the ringing, not try to drown their vexation at their rivals' prospects of success in sundry libations. They would then be in a position to judge of the quality of the ringing, and would not be obliged to vacantly inquire what methodshic—was it.

J. WAGHORN, JUN.

SIR,—On looking over your last issue I was surprised to see a letter concerning the above peal by Mr. Taffender. His letter contains nothing but a lot of incorrect statements; no proof is needed if anyone will take the trouble to look at the names of the band who took part in it. He says he has nothing against me, if this is true, why did he and his friends try all in their power to stop us from having the use of the bells on this occasion, and as late as two o'clock on the day in question I am told they tried to stop the key; being unable to do this, they mustered in full force to criticise the ringing; and so sure were they that we should not ring a peal, because in their eye the band was not good enough, they went so far as to say they would give us twenty minutes; but when the bells got into changes they did not know what to give us, and despite their prayers and implorations that we might break down we sailed merrily on. The most strange part is that of all the other listeners who were present, none but Mr. Taffender's friends found fault; all the others were of opinion that for a made up company we had rang a very creditable peal. Mr. Taffender was asked by a well-known ringer, who went into an adjoining tavern, if he did not think we were ringing very well, and he said "I cannot form an opinion, as I cannot hear them properly in here." This will account for him not being able to hear twelve bells. He says he was told that at five o'clock the bells stood still, and at 7.35 there was another clashing: there was not a blunder in the peal, and never did course-ends run up more distinct in Treble Twelve than on this occasion. There was nothing more than a dodge or two missed, and I challenge anyone to truthfully dispute what I say. And as for him saying that 2 3 4 were clashing together throughout the peal, I should like Mr. Taffender to inform me how it is possible to keep 2 3 4 together throughout a peal. I think the reputation of the ringers of 2 3 4 is enough to prove that they can strike their bells, and if we cannot strike, I don't think we need come to Mr. Taffender or his friends to tell us, for he must admit that the band that took part in this peal are all his superiors, and if he takes my advice he will let them that loads the rifle pull the

trigger; and I ask him not to convince himself too strongly that he and his friends are the only persons who can ring twelve bells in future, and to remember that it is the easiest thing in the world to be deceived.

W. PYE.

[We have taken the trouble to tone this letter down a little.—Ed.]

WHAT IS SINGLE COURT?

SIR,—The Rev. H. E. Bulwer was the first to give me encouragement in the mode of composition, etc., therefore I am loth to find myself in a controversy with him. At the same time I must say that I consider Mr. Bulwer's last definition *re* place-making is less happy than his previous one. If first place is followed by second's place, or third's place followed by fourth's place (in the same rows), surely these should be "consecutive places," and this was why I suggested "consecutive" as better than "contiguous" or "adjoining" in my last letter. In my opinion "adjacent" would be an apt description of two successive places made by one bell, such as the place-making in Double Norwich. I agree with Mr. Bulwer that Shipway was distinctly unhappy in some of his variations of different methods, but Shipway never called a method "Court" that contained consecutive places, and in this respect I consider him to be perfectly right, and the definition a sound one. The method published by Mr. Bulwer in last week's issue was given in "THE BELL NEWS" of March 24th, 1900, as Brighton Court Bob Major, the date also being given when the method was discovered by myself. If Mr. Bulwer can prove that he has a prior claim, I am quite willing to give way. The following is a variation of Brighton Court Bob Major, obtained on the same date as the last mentioned, and which I propose to call Lewes Court Bob Major to distinguish it from "Brighton." I have the Royal and Maximus of both methods, which I hope to publish some day later on.

GEORGE BAKER.

Lewes Court Bob Major.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7

2 4 1 6 3 5 7 8

4 2 6 1 5 3 8 7

4 6 2 5 1 3 7 8

6 4 5 2 3 1 8 7

4 6 2 5 3 8 1 7

6 4 5 2 8 3 7 1

4 6 5 8 2 7 3 1

6 4 8 5 7 2 1 3

4 6 5 8 7 1 2 3

6 4 8 5 1 7 3 2

6 8 4 1 5 7 2 3

8 6 1 4 7 5 3 2

8 1 6 7 4 5 2 3

1 8 7 6 5 4 3 2

1 7 8 5 6 3 4 2

6ths place bob would make composition similar to Double Norwich. 4ths place bob would add two leads to every m w and h.

THE BELLS OF ST. ANDREW'S, WELLS STREET, LONDON.

SIR,—A few weeks back an enquirer asked if a peal had been rung on the above bells, also as to their quality of tone. Would it be asking too much of you to reprint the account of the peal copied from "THE BELL NEWS" of August 1883. Having heard the bells only whilst ringing in the peal, I cannot give an opinion of the bells themselves, but from what I do remember. so far back, they are a bright peal and n tune.

JOHN F. PENNING.

"THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS, LONDON.—On Monday, August 6th, 1883, in 3 hours and 25 minutes, at St. Andrew's church, Wells Street, a peal of Treble Bob Major, 5088 changes, in the Kent Variation, tenor 20 cwt. John Gobbett, treble; N. J. Pitstow, 2; *H. E. T. Glover, Esq., M.A., 3; E. Chapman, 4; Arthur Jacob, 5; †Wingfield Meadows, 6; J. F. Penning, 7; G. Newson and James Hannington, tenor. Composed by the late William Harrison, and Conducted by George Newson. *First peal. †First peal in the method. This is the first peal ever rung on the bells, which were lately put in the tower, but the fact that it required two to ring the tenor, and the time taken to complete the peal, shows that the bells are badly hung."

THE RECORD PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE.

SIR,—As one who rang in the above peal, I beg to add my quota to the discussion. In the first place I am glad to see "Plain Speaker" put his foot down on outsiders interfering in the affair. I notice that Mr. W. Pye has sent his long letter on the subject, but you have discreetly refused to allow him to grind his axe on this occasion. What business it is of his it would be hard to define, unless he wishes to leave no stone unturned to blacken every performance of Mr. Washbrook's. I think the time is most opportune to show the trail of the serpent over this peal-bursting business. The following are extracts from correspondence between a member of Mr. W. Pye's band and myself. The said member is also a friend of mine, and was at one time a resident in Leicester.

"Romford, Oct. 17th, 1899.—I was with the brothers Pye; they went to Caversham. I think the ringer's name was Reeves, and he told them that one of the band in the long peal of London set his bell, and another (I think Hims), pulled it off."

In reply I quickly answered that I rang in the peal, and this was the first thing I had ever heard about it. Then came the following reply:

"Now as to the peal I wrote you about, it was not the long peal of London."

After Mr. W. Pye went to Caversham, he went round Ipswich and Suffolk, and did not let the grass grow under his feet while spreading the good (?) news. It came back to me from an Ipswich friend. The Rev. F. E. Robinson has stated the whole truth, and I am surprised that Mr. Newman or any Surprise ringer should give credence to any such yarn about "setting a bell" or "all shouting at one man" in a method like London Surprise, where every man has got his work cut out to mind his own business. This recent epidemic of insinuation is somewhat nauseating, and I suggest that "THE BELL NEWS" and the Central Council wind up their business and hand it over to a clique of your correspondents. As this is the season of Lent, I will make a confession: we did set our bells—when the peal was done. CHARLES H. FOWLER, *Ringer of the 3rd.*

SIR,—I strictly deny that I set my bell during the record peal of London Surprise, and that any such expressions were used during the ringing of the peal as those used in Mr. T. Newman's last letter. T. PAYNE.

WHAT IS SINGLE NORWICH?

SIR,—As long ago as the year 1766 a book on change-ringing was published by J. Monk, and in it are the two following Minor methods:

Single Court Bob.	Double Court Bob.
1 2 3 4 5 6	1 2 3 4 5 6
2 1 4 3 6 5	2 1 4 3 6 5
2 4 1 3 5 6	2 4 1 3 5 6
4 2 3 1 6 5	4 2 3 1 6 5
4 3 2 6 1 5	2 4 3 6 1 5
3 4 6 2 5 1	4 2 6 3 5 1
3 6 4 5 2 1	4 6 2 5 3 1
6 3 5 4 1 2	6 4 5 2 1 3
6 5 3 1 4 2	4 6 5 1 2 3
5 6 1 3 2 4	6 4 1 5 3 2
5 1 6 3 4 2	6 1 4 5 2 3
1 5 3 6 2 4	1 6 5 4 3 2
1 3 5 2 6 4	1 5 6 3 4 2

In the single method 4ths place (only) is made twice in the lead; in the double method adjacent places are made when the treble passes through 3-4 up and down. It is well known that Double Norwich Major is produced from Double Court by extending the place-making up 5-6 up and down, in addition to the Double Court places in 3-4. If Double Norwich is produced in this way, how is Single Norwich extracted from the double method? The answer is, by dividing all the adjacent places in Double Norwich in a similar way as Single Court Minor is to Double Court, and then the methods given by Shipway are the only correct methods of Single and Reverse Norwich, GEORGE BAKER.

THE WORK OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

SIR,—The remarks made in your editorial of April 7th, referring to the jurisdiction of the Council in questionable peals, are worthy of consideration, but I doubt very much whether the suggestion is practicable. The Central Council is not (at present) a dictatorial body, and supposing it comprised, or resolved itself into a bench of professional adjudicators, I venture to think it would annul or curtail the independent action of its affiliated associations! Herein lies the obvious suggestion that each Guild or Association should be its own tribunal. Some of the peals which have been held up for exposure lately might have been decided with benefit to all concerned, by those Associations under whose auspices they have been rung, had those gentlemen responsible for unearthing them had the courage of their opinions to lay the same before their Committees. Surely the corporate body ought to decide the *bona fides* of its members! If not, their officialism is valueless. I fail to see how the Central Council can extend or take jurisdiction in matters such as these, but the Committee of each Association can, and with good effect. WILLIAM WILLSON.

ST. STEPHEN'S SURPRISE.

SIR,—Mr. Craven's clever remarks might sound very nice to those who do not look to the rules and regulations of the times. Being too fast is as bad as too slow, and Mr. Craven seems to have fallen into both of these traps in his correspondence on the above method. In his first letter he criticises my idea of a Surprise method as poor, without explanation or any foundation whatever, as I was quite justified in naming it Surprise from now existing rules. His argument of last week, about the one who first produces anything is the author, might have gone down in the days of yore, but in these enlightened times it won't hold water. As I have said before, it's been a recognised fact for years, that the one who first publishes a composition claims the honour of authorship. The great art in composing is knowing what has been obtained, but Mr. Craven's idea of doing business makes it an impossibility. So no doubt the fair-minded man, for the Exercise at large, will support the principles on which I now claim this method. F. DENCH.

REPLY TO MR. HOWES, EASTBOURNE.

SIR,—I should be very sorry if Mr. Howes thought that I was in any way trying to slight the doings of the Christ Church Guild, by remarks made by me at our recent dinner—remarks which might have been made plainer by "local reporter." What I meant was peals rung in the Eastern Division by members of the Eastern Division only. I did not at the time take into consideration peals rung by the aid of other divisions—though I am very pleased to see it. If any remarks by me would rouse up a little enthusiasm in other towers in our Division my main object is attained.

WALTER FRANKS, *Leader of the Battle Society.*

[This correspondence may now end.—Ed.]

AUTHORSHIP.

SIR,—The 5440 of Superlative Surprise, published under Mr. Lindoff's name in your issue for March 31st, belongs to me. I composed it about the year 1886, and it is the first two-part peal in the method, it has been rang and published several years ago. I sent it with others to Mr. Lindoff some twelve or eighteen months ago. I have mislaid his address or should have communicated direct. The composition in original form has the 4th, 5th, and 6th the extent in 5-6, and exclusively in the latter positions at course-ends, the 2nd and 3rd never being there. HY. DAINS.

Alliance House, 47, Richmond Road, N.

FALSE PEAL.

SIR,—Mr. Knights, of Chesterfield, informs me that 5,248 of Double Norwich, by G. Hayward, of Bromsgrove, and conducted by me at Selly Oak, which appeared in last issue is false. I take this opportunity of apologising to the band for the mistake. W. H. BARBER.

27, The Firs, Fallows Road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham.

Compositions.

DOUBLE NORWICH MAJOR.

By EDGAR WIGHTMAN.

5440.					
23456	I	4	5	6	
35426	-				
24536	-				
45236	-				
52436	-				
34256	-				
23645	-				
36245	-				
62345	-				
43265	-				
32465	-				
24365	-				
34562	-				
53246	-				
32546	-				
25346	-				
32654	-				
26354	-				
63254	-				
52364	-				
23564	-				
35264	-				
54263	-				
52463	-				s
24563	-				
52346	-				
23546	-				

Repeated. Has the full combination of 4-5-6; the 2nd and 3rd are never in 5ths or 6ths place, only when the 6th is in one way in that position at a course-end. Reduced to 5216 by omitting the three bobs bracketed in one part. First rung by eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association at St. Michael's, Framlingham, on Saturday, November 25th, 1899, conducted by George Wightman.

5120.					
23456	I	4	5	6	
43652	-				
53246	-				
64352	-				
53462	-				
34562	-				
45362	-				
35264	-				
62534	-				
23564	-				
36524	-				
25634	-				
53624	-				
32654	-				

Continued—					
	I	4	5	6	
56234	-				
63254	-				
52364	-				
26354	-				
45623	-				
65324	-				
35426	-				
52436	-				
34256	-				
45236	-				
32546	-				

Repeated. Has the 4th, 5th, and 6th each twelve times in 6ths place; also the 6th twelve times wrong in two parts without the use of singles. Reduced to 5040 by calling in place of courses bracketed bob at 1 only in one part. First rung at St. Mary's, Framdsen, Suffolk, by eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association, on December 26th, 1899, in 3 hrs., conducted by its composer.

By F. DENCH, London.

5120.					
23456	I	4	5	6	
42635	-				
26435	-				
62534	-				
25634	-				
56234	-				
32654	-				
26354	-				
24365	-				
43265	-				
32465	-				
52364	-				
23654	s				
36254	-				
23465	-				
34265	-				
35246	-				
42536	-				
25436	-				
54236	-				
32456	-				
24356	-				
43256	-				
52346	-				
23546	-				

Repeated. Has the 6th its extent wrong and right, without the 2nd in 5-6 or 3rd in 6ths. Reduced to 5008 by calling the following six courses in lieu of the first seven.

23456					
I	4	5	6		
42635	-				
26435	-				
62534	-				
25634	-				
53624	-				
26354	-				

TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By G. HAWKINS, Hawley, Hants.

5088.				
23456	M	B	W	H
23564	2		2	I
64235	2		I	
52436	I			I
43526			I	I
46325	2			I
65324	2	-	I	2
52364			2	
24365	2	-	I	2
62345			I	
25346	I			2
42356	I	-	2	
26354	I			2
62453	2			2
62534				I
23645	-			
23456	2		2	I

BOB ROYAL.

By W. H. BARBER, Birmingham.

5040.			
23456	W	M	H
64325	s	-	-
36245	-	-	-
56324	-	-	-
32564	-	-	-
45326	-	-	-
34526	-	-	-
53426	-	-	-
42536	-	-	-
54236	-	-	-
23546	-	-	-
52346	-	-	-
35246	-	-	-
24356	-	-	-
32456	-	-	-
43256	-	-	-
25436	-	-	-

Repeat the last twelve courses with single instead of bob at first wrong, and omit bob at middle. Has the 6th her extent at home last twenty-four courses. First rung at Aston, conducted by William Short.

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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 Wednesday 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 14, 1900.

WE are glad to see that some notice has been taken of the suggestions which have been made with respect to decisions on peals which may be brought into question. Mr. WILLSON writes on the subject in this number, and he inclines to the idea that the Association concerned should be the body to settle all such controversies. Anything is better than the existing state of things, and the Exercise will be glad to see the very last of it. It is open to question, however, whether in all cases the decisions of an Association, which would be practically concerned and interested in the affair, would give universal satisfaction. We think the Council would be the proper body to adjudicate in such cases, if it can be done. There need be no fear if it undertook such duties that all concerned would not accept its decisions with alacrity.

The Metropolis.**THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.***On Thursday, April 5, 1900, in Two Hours,**AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, WOOLWICH,***A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5056 CHANGES. Tenor 12½ cwt.**

HARRY FLANDERS Treble.	WILLIAM PYE 5.
ISAAC G. SHADE 2.	GEORGE R. PYE 6.
CHARLES WILKINS 3.	EDGAR WIGHTMAN 7.
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 4.	ERNEST PYE Tenor.

Composed by C. MIDDLETON, and Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN.

Rung on the first anniversary of the record 15,072 Double Norwich, but a tower not being available for the exact date, 3rd April, it was rung on the 5th instead.

The Provinces.**BIRMINGHAM.***On Wednesday, April 4, 1900, in Three Hours,**AT ST. CHAD'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL,***A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;****TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt. in F.**

JOSEPH PORTER Treble.	RICHARD HACKLEY 5.
CHARLES MCKENZIE 2.	JOHN NEAL 6.
WILLIAM ELLIS 3.	THOMAS MILLER 7.
HARRY MIDDLETON 4.	ERNEST MANSELL Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS MILLER.

This is Messrs. McKenzie and Neal's first peal on a working bell; also E. Mansell's first peal, and who was proposed a member of the above Association before starting for the peal.

REIGATE, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.*On Wednesday, April 4, 1900, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,**AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,***A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;****Tenor 20 cwt.**

GEORGE JARROTT* Treble.	WILLIAM ARGENT 6.
FRANCIS T. HOAD, SEN. 2.	GEORGE F. HOAD 7.
GEORGE THOMPSON 3.	FRANCIS T. HOAD, JUN. 8.
JOHN BEAMS 4.	HENRY REEVES 9.
CHARLES R. LILLEY 5.	ARTHUR MOSELEY Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and Conducted by HENRY REEVES.

*First peal.

BRISTOL.**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Thursday, April 5, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,**AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,***A PEAL OF FORWARD MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;****Tenor 18 cwt. in E.**

CHARLES H. HORTON .. Treble.	RAYMOND J. WILKINS .. 5.
FREDERICK G. MAY .. 2.	CHARLES H. GORDON .. 6.
WILLIAM KNIGHT .. 3.	WILLIAM A. CAVE .. 7.
RICHARD CLARK .. 4.	GEORGE T. DALTRY .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and Conducted by GEORGE DALTRY.

First peal in the method by all the band. First peal in the method by the Association. First peal in the method in the West of England. The composition is now rung for the first time and is a 5280 peal reduced.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.**THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, April 7, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,**AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,***A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;****THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qrs. 24 lbs.**

GEORGE WILLIAMS .. Treble.	JOHN SMART 5.
CHARLES SMART 2.	GEORGE GATLAND 6.
JAMES MATTHEWS 3.	EDMUND LINDUP 7.
JOHN PAICE 4.	*GEORGE PHILLIPS .. Tenor.

Conducted by EDMUND LINDUP.

*First peal.

STAINES, MIDDLESEX.**THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, April 7, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,**AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,***A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;****HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 18½ cwt.**

JOHN BASDEN Treble.	FREDERICK GODDARD .. 5.
A. WICKS* 2.	JAMES DURRANT 6.
THOMAS SADLER 3.	FREDERICK RICHARDSON .. 7.
CHARLES EDWARDS 4.	*GEORGE HARRISON .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN BASDEN.

*First peal.

MELTON MOWBRAY, LEICESTERSHIRE.**THE FRAMLAND AND MELTON MOWBRAY SOCIETIES.***On Saturday, April 7, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,**AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,***A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being Two 720s each of Grandsire and Canterbury Pleasure, and Three 720s of Plain Bob.

Tenor 25½ cwt.

JOHN H. BARNES* .. Treble.	†ALBERT VICTOR POTTER .. 5.
CHARLES DALBY 2.	*WILLIAM SPIBY 6.
ERNEST J. GALE 3.	R. HENRY BARTRAM 7.
WALTER JAMES 4.	RICHARD YOUNG Tenor.

Conducted by R. H. BARTRAM.

*First peal. †First with a bob bell. First peal of Minor by the above Societies. A note to this peal will be found elsewhere.

Miscellaneous.**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

CHESTER-LE-STREET (Durham).—On Sunday, March 4th, at the parish church, 720 Woodbine. J. Crawford, 1; J. Anderson, 2; W. Brown, 3; G. A. Ward, 4; F. Sheraton, 5; W. Sheraton (conductor), 6. Rung in honour of the relief of Ladysmith. And for morning service, a 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Crawford, 1; J. Anderson, 2; W. Brown, 3; G. A. Ward, 4; F. Sheraton, 5; A. Meyers (conductor), 6. And for evening service, a 720 College Pleasure. J. Robinson, 1; J. Anderson, 2; W. Brown, 3; F. Sheraton, 4; A. Meyers, 5; W. Sheraton (conductor), 6. On Sunday, March 18th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 Superlative Surprise. G. W. Clarke, 1; J. Anderson, 2; W. Brown, 3; F. Sheraton, 4; A. Meyers, 5; W. Sheraton (conductor), 6. And for evening service, a 720 College Pleasure. C. W. Clarke, 1; J. Robinson, 2; J. Anderson, 3; G. A. Ward, 4; A. Meyers, 5; W. Sheraton (conductor), 6. Tenor 21 cwt.

THE CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKS. ASSOCIATION.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—On Tuesday, April 3rd, 1440 of Kent Treble Bob Royal. G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 1; W. T. Titchener, 2; T. Burdon, 3; N. Kidd, 4; F. P. Howcroft, 5; J. Weller, 6; J. H. Blackiston, 7; W. Newton, 8; T. Metcalfe, 9; T. Stephenson, 10.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Tuesday, March 20th, for practice, at the parish church, a 704 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Emery, 1; T. Lincoln, 2; *W. Wellington, 3; *W. Chalk, 4; A. Head, 5; G. Piper, 6; F. Radley, 7; W. Lincoln (conductor), 8. *First touch in the method. On Sunday, March 25th, for Divine Service in the evening, quarter-peal Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. *H. Head, 1; H. Richell, 2; W. Newman, 3; T. Lincoln, 4; W. Lincoln (conductor), 5; F. Radley, 6; A. Head, 7; W. Emery, 8. *First quarter-peal. Composed by J. Barret, of Stepney, London. On Tuesday, April 3rd, for practice, two 120s of Grandsire Doubles. H. Head, 1; Rev. E. G. Norris, 2; W. Lincoln, 3; T. Lincoln, 4; W. Wellington, 5; F. Radley, 6. And 504 Grandsire Triples. Rev. E. G. Norris, 1; W. Wellington, 2; H. Head, 3; F. Radley, 4; W. Lincoln, 5; A. Head, 6; T. Lincoln, 7; F. Edwards, 8.

KELVEDON (Essex).—On December 25th, 720 Bob Minor. W. Brinkley, 1; H. Elliott, 2; W. Keeble, 3; J. Frost, 4; H. Evers, 5; W. Elliott (conductor), 6. And 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Elliott, 1; the rest as before. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

WEST HAM (Essex).—On February 18th, for evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Pearl, 1; W. Keeble (conductor), 2; W. Doran,

3; J. Moule, 4; H. Torble, 5; G. Hayden, 6. Rung on the back six, and is believed to be the first 720 of Treble Bob on the bells. On Saturday, February 24th, 252 Stedman Triples. J. P. Bradley (conductor), 1; G. Chinerey, 2; W. Miller, 3; W. Keeble, 4; J. Rann, 5; G. Pearl, 6; W. Doran, 7; G. Potter, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

LOUGHTON (Essex).—On Tuesday, February 20th, for practice, 672 Stedman Triples. W. Keeble, 1; W. Doran, 2; E. Bacon (conductor), 3; J. Moule, 4; J. Rann, 5; G. Carter, 6; H. Torble, 7; W. Clark, 8. On February 27th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. E. Bacon, 1; W. Doran, 2; J. Rann, 3; G. Carter, 4; W. Clark, 5; W. Keeble (conductor), 6. Tenor 19½ cwt. in E.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRISTOL.—On Thursday, March 29th, at St. Michael's church, 720 Grandsire Minor. A. H. Lea, 1; F. Isaacs, 2; S. Thomas, 3; J. Thomas, 4; W. H. Thomas (conductor), 5; W. W. Lea, 6. On Thursday, April 5th, 720 Kent Treble Bob in 25 mins. W. Stowell, 1; A. Stowell, 2; J. Thomas, 3; W. H. Thomas, 4; *F. Isaacs (conductor), 5; A. M. Isaacs, 6. *First 720 as conductor. First 720 of Kent by W. Stowell. On Friday, April 6th, at St. Michael's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 49 mins. J. Thomas, 1; S. Thomas (conductor), 2; A. Stowell, 3; W. H. Thomas, 5; F. Isaacs, 5; A. E. Lansdown, 6; W. Stowell, 7; J. Palser, 8. First quarter-peal by Messrs. A. and W. Stowell.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BATTLE (Sussex).—On Tuesday, March 13th, for practice at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples. J. Sinden, 1; J. Livermore, 2; F. Mathis, 3; C. J. Hyland, 4; W. J. Thomas, 5; C. R. Carter, 6; W. Franks (conductor), 7; W. H. Eldridge, 8. Composed by J. Beams.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

ALTON (Hampshire).—On Tuesday, March 27th, for practice at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 42 mins. W. Perry, 1; Miss F. Whyley, 2; Miss W. Whyley, 3; H. A. Mussell, 4; A. Hardiman, 5; A. W. Evans, 6; W. Bramley (conductor), 7; F. Noakes, 8.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

WEST HAM (Essex).—Recently at the residence of Mr. J. Moule on handbells, 168 Grandsire Triples. W. Doran, 1-2; J. Moule, 3-4; W. Keeble, 5-6; J. Rann, 7-8. On Thursday, February 15th, 720 Bob Minor. W. Doran, 1-2; W. Keeble (conductor), 3-4; J. Moule, 5-6. On Tuesday, March 13th, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Doran, 1-2; J. Moule, 3-4; W. Keeble, 5-6; G. Hayden, 7-8.

BENTLEY (Essex).—On Sunday, March 25th, at the parish church, for Divine Service, a 960 of Kent Treble Major. E. Hills, 1; W. J. Nevard, 2; H. E. Bowers, 3; C. Clark, 4; E. Rivers, 5; F. Rolfe, 6; G. Lancaster, 7; G. A. Andrews (conductor), 8.

BEVERLEY (Yorks).—On Saturday, April 7th, at the Minster, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins. W. Gibson, 1; H. Smelt, 2; C. P. Bradley, 3; J. Youney, 4; A. B. Gledhill, 5; H. Blyth, 6; F. Osgerby (conductor), 7; A. N. Wood, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. in D. A. N. Wood resides at Middleton, and this is his first quarter-peal in any method.

BRADFORD (Yorks).—On Sunday, April 1st, for Divine Service, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 48 mins. Jas. Hardcastle (first quarter-peal), 1; G. Titterington, 2; E. Wheeler, 3; Jos. Hardcastle, 4; W. Cundall, 5; W. Bolton (first quarter-peal away from the tenor), 6; J. Wotton (conductor), 7; H. Brame, (first quarter-peal), 8.

CHADDESLEY CORBETT (Worcestershire).—On Sunday afternoon, for Divine Service, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples in 45 minutes. *E. Mapp, 1; H. Martin, 2; E. Gilbert, 3; J. Chance, *J. Johnson, 5; *C. Beamen, 6; J. Broad (conductor), 7; *A. Thomasson, 8. *Longest length in the method. Messrs. Mapp, Johnson and Beaman hail from Areley Kings, Thomasson from Hartlebury, the rest are local men.

THORINGTON (Essex).—Recently at the parish church, a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. W. T. Nevard (conductor), 1; F. Rolfe, 2; G. Lancaster, 3; E. Rivers, 4; G. A. Andrews, 5. F. Rolfe and E. Rivers hail from Sproughton, the rest belong to the Great Bentley company.

Obituary.

GEORGE LEWIS.

The above-named, a ringer comparatively unknown as such beyond the environs of his native city, has recently died at one of the Friar Street almshouses, Worcester, of which he was an inmate, at the ripe age of eighty-five. He belonged to a ringing family, his father, who also lived to a great age, being a ringer, while his brother Thomas, who pre-deceased him, was an exceptionally safe half-pull ringer in his day, though partially blind for a great many years. George Lewis was quite a public character; possessing many characteristics which in the present day would not be regarded with favour. Of an argumentative disposition, he often became at variance with the recognised leaders of the Worcester section of the Exercise, and for many years was proscribed by them. He was very energetic in all schemes by which money could be got for ringing, and there are those who remember with a smile many of his essays of this sort. An old-fashioned Tory, without understanding in the slightest degree anything about politics, he always professed himself a "staunch supporter of Church and State," and his reverent attitude on occasions, to the clergy especially, was of that kind not often seen in the present day. Under happier surroundings George Lewis might have made a very good ringer, and have become a useful member of the local company. The great leveller, death, has seized "old George" at last, and with him the last of a race of old ringers, some of whom in their prime were famous.

On Saturday evening, at St. Helen's church, 377 Grandsire Triples was rung as a mark of respect by J. Hill, 1; B. S. Hill, 2; A. Hill, 3; W. Johnson, 4; W. Powell, 5; W. Page, 6; G. Checketts (conductor), 7; T. Malin, 8.

HENRY ARGENT.

It is with deep regret we have to record the death of Henry Argent, of Boreham, Essex, which occurred on April the 2nd, after a short illness of a few days, aged 67 years, the funeral taking place on Friday the 6th inst., in St. Andrew's churchyard. The deceased ringer had been a member of St. Andrew's company for upwards of fifty years, commencing his ringing career at the age 16. His genial face and kindly words will be greatly missed among the ringing friends of the neighbourhood, as he was so much liked by every one that took a rope with him. Although he had not rung any peals of 5000 changes, he had done some Major ringing years ago, his principal ringing, however, being on six bells. By his decease the Exercise has lost one of their best six bell ringers. He was conductor of the Boreham Company a great number of years, and a member of the Essex Association since its formation. Previous to the funeral his brother ringers rang a short touch of Bob Minor with the bells deeply muffled, afterwards meeting the funeral procession and proceeding in front to the church, and thence to the grave. A short touch of Bob Minor was then rung, and in the evening a 720 was rang by the local band: J. Richell, 1; J. Young, 2; James Young, 3; W. Allen, 4; A. Edwards (conductor), 5; L. Crow, 6; and half muffled a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob: J. Richell, 1; Joe Young, 2; James Young, 3; A. Edwards (conductor), 4; A. Bradley, 5; E. Wright, 6.

Mr. W. J. Sevier, the astrologer of Eastleigh, Hants., sends the following:—

"It may be interesting to many readers of 'THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD,' at home and abroad, to know that the relief of Ladysmith and Kimberley was predicted and published in the daily paper, *The Citizen*, of Gloucester, Tuesday, December 26th, 1899. Mr. Sevier, known as the Fair City Prophet at home and abroad, was interviewed upon the war, special to *The Citizen*, and the prophet has not failed in one movement by the British troops in the Transvaal, therefore the Gloucester press claims to record all the victories of the war in the press of all Europe."

WANTED a good Gardener. Must be of good character, regular attendant at church, and a Change-Ringer. House and Garden, and £1 per week offered. Address—RECTOR, Grappenhall Rectory, Warrington.

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 Surrey Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Leatherhead parish room, on Easter Monday next. By kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. Canon F. E. Utterton, the bells (10), at the parish church will be available from two o'clock. Tea will commence at six o'clock sharp in the parish room, and the Vicar will preside at the subsequent meeting. The local sports will be held during the day, and there will be a torchlight procession in the evening.

CHAS. DEAN, *Hon. Sec.*
72, Lansdowne Road, Croydon.

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The annual meeting of this Association will be held at Dudley on Easter Monday, April 16th. There will be a special service in St. Thomas's church at 4 o'clock, conducted by the Rev. A. Gray Maitland, Vicar of Dudley, who will also preside over the business meeting in King Street schoolroom. A meat tea will be provided in this schoolroom at 5 o'clock. The bells of St. Thomas', Dudley (10 bells), will be open to members for ringing touches all day from 11 o'clock. The bells of St. Andrew's, Netherton (8 bells), All Saints, Sedgley (8 bells), St. Michael's, Brierley Hill (8 bells), St. Martin's Tipton (8 bells), Christ Church, Oldbury (8 bells), and Holy Trinity, Old Hill (8 bells), will be available from 11 o'clock till 3 o'clock 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 be present at the service at 4 o'clock. All contributions should be paid at this meeting. The Annual Report, etc., will be ready for distribution at this meeting.

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

The Midland Counties Association.—The Annual Meeting, to which all members and friends are cordially invited, will be held at Nottingham on Easter Monday, April 16th. The bells at St. Mary's (10), St. Peter's (8), and All Saints (8), churches will be open for ringing from 10 a.m. Committee Meeting in All Saints' Schools, Raleigh Street, at 3.15 p.m. Tea (1s. 3d. each), followed by general meeting in All Saints' Schools at 4.0 p.m.

W. E. WHITE, *Hon. Sec.*
Cotgrave, near Nottingham.

The Bedfordshire Association.—Annual Meeting at Bedford on Easter Monday. Meeting at 12. Tea at 4 o'clock in All Hallows Lane School. Service in St. Paul's church at five o'clock. Towers open for ringing: St. Paul's (10), St. Peter's (6), St. Mary's (6).
W. W. C. BAKER, } *Hon. Secs.*
I. HILLS, }

The Essex Association.—A District Meeting will be held at Braintree on Easter-Mon-

day. Braintree (8), Bocking (6), Stisted (6), and Rayne (5), will be available for ringing the whole of the day. Tea at The Horn hotel at 4.30 p.m., business meeting to follow, when the question of dividing the county into districts will be brought forward for discussion.

H. T. W. EYRE.
Great Totham Vicarage, Witham.

The Old East Derbyshire Association. The annual meeting will be held at Staveley on Easter Monday, April 16th. It is to be hoped that members will make an effort to attend. Peal of eight open for ringing during day. No dinner provided (number sent in too small). Meeting held at Elm Tree inn 2.30 prompt.

E. JAMES, *Hon. Sec.*
18, Meersbrook Bank Road, Sheffield.

The Hertfordshire Association.—Annual Meeting will be held at St. Albans on Easter Monday, when the towers of the Cathedral and of St. Peter's church will be open for ringing from 2 p.m. Divine Service at the Cathedral at 5, and tea at the Town Hall at 5.45, followed by meeting for the election of officers and of representative on the Central Council, and other important business. Members are particularly requested to attend the meeting.

E. P. DEBENHAM, *Hon. Sec.*
St. Albans.

The Ely Diocesan Association.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Bury St. Edmunds on Easter Monday, April 16th. The bells at the Norman Tower and St. Mary's will be available (also Fornham, Horringer and Rougham, for six-bell methods.) Dinner at The Golden Fleece, Churchgate Street, at two o'clock, to be followed by the usual business meeting. Other ringers will be welcomed.

W. W. CRUMP, *Hon. Sec.*
Haddenham Rectory, Ely.

The Llandaff Diocesan Association.—The Quarterly Meeting will be held on Easter Monday, April 16th, at 2.30 p.m., at the Schoolroom, Caerleon. "To consider proposition that the annual meeting for the future shall be held on Boxing Day," and other customary business. Bells will be available for ringing.

REV. MINOR CANON PRICE, *Hon. Sec.*
J. H. ALDRIDGE, *Asst. Hon. Sec.*

The East Derbyshire Association.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Clay Cross on Easter Monday, April 16th. Service in church at 4.30. Tea at 5.30, 6d. each to members. Meeting at 6 p.m. All members requested to attend, important motion being brought forward.

T. ALLIBONE, *Secretary.*
North Wingfield, Chesterfield.

The Sussex County Association.—The Annual Meeting will be held on Easter-Monday at Brighton. Towers of St. Peter and St. Nicholas open for ringing at 9.30. Service at St. Peter's at 12. Dinner to be held at 1 p.m.

J. W. G. LODER-COTTER, *Hon. Sec.*
Yapton Vicarage, Arundel.

Heavy Woollen District Association.—The Monthly Meeting of the above-named Society will be held at Liversedge on Saturday, April 14th. Meeting at 5 o'clock at The Albion inn. Final arrangements for the 8-bell contest to be held at Liversedge on Easter Monday, will be made at this meeting.

47, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury. W. IDLE, *Sec.*

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—A Bohemian Concert will be given at The

Ship, Ivy Lane, E.C., at 7 p.m., on Saturday, April 21st. All members and friends of the Society will be heartily welcomed. Meetings for practice will be held at St. Paul's Cathedral on April 17th, at 7.45 p.m., St. Magnus London Bridge on April 26th, and St. Michael's Cornhill, on May 1st, both at 8 p.m.

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

Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. James's church, Birch, Rusholme, on Saturday, April 21st. Bells ready at 4.0 p.m. Business meeting at 7.0 p.m.

W. BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The monthly ringing meeting will be held at Calverley (eight bells), on Saturday, April 21st. Meeting-house, The Thornhill Arms. Bells at liberty from 2.0. Business meeting at 6.0. Handbells provided. All contributions are now due.

HY. GAYTHORPE, *Hon. Sec.*
1, Elm Avenue, Bramley.

The Middlesex County Association.—North and East District.—A meeting of members of this Association will be held on Saturday, April 28th, at Christ Church, Southgate. The bells will be raised about 4 o'clock, and members and their friends are cordially invited to attend. A further meeting will be held on May 12th, at St. Margaret's, Westminster, notice of which is given in advance for the convenience of members.

ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—Spring Meeting at Haddenham on Saturday, April 28th. Evensong at 5.0. Preacher—Rev. G. B. Rhind. Tea at 5.30 at The White Hart. Brakes meet 3.36 and 4.3 trains at Thame. Please inform Rev. G. B. Rhind, Haddenham Vicarage, Thame.

R. H. HART-DAVIS, *Hon. Sec.*

Kent County Association.—Lewisham District.—The usual Quarterly Meeting will be held at St. Mary's Woolwich, on Saturday April 28th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Committee meeting in the vestry. Will members whose subscriptions are still unpaid forward same to the district secretary without delay, in order that the annual report may be prepared.

PERCY E. BEX, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*
Barnehurst, Bexley Heath.

The Winchester Diocesan Guild.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Chiddingfold (8 bells), on Saturday, April 28th, Wittey, London and South Western Railway, is the nearest station. Tea will be provided for members.

C. E. MATTHEWS, *Hon. Sec.*
Bursledon Vicarage, Southampton.

The Lancashire Association.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Garston, near Liverpool, on Saturday, May 5th. Further particulars by circular.

A. E. WREAKS, } *Hon. Secs.*
J. WILSON, }
J. SHEPHERD, }

Central Northamptonshire Association. Will all members who have not yet paid their subscriptions for 1899 kindly send them at once. One question to be considered at the usual meeting of delegates, to be held at Wellingborough shortly after Easter, will be the election of a member to act as representative of the Association on the Central Council.

E. J. DENNES, *Hon. Sec.*

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING THE YEAR 1899, AND PUBLISHED IN THIS PAPER. TABULATED ACCORDING TO VALUE IN POINTS.

Position to date.			Treble Bob.		Grandsire.		Minor Mths.		Plain Mths.		Surprise.		Stedman.		Total value in points.	Average points per peal.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																								
	Jan. to Sept.	Oct. Nov. Dec.	Total	Maximus.	Royal.	Major.	14 T. B. M. M.	7 T. B. M. M.	Caters.	Major.	Triples.	1 Minor mthd.	2 "	3 "			4 "	5 "	6 "	7 "	8 "	9 "	10 Dbl. Norwich C. B. Major.	11 Dbl. Oxford Bob Major.	12 Duffield Major.	13 Forward Major.	14 Royal.	15 Major.	16 Triples.	17 Doubles.	18 London S. Maj.	19 Cam. S. Royal.	20 " Major	21 Sup. Sur. Major	22 N. Cumberland Surprise Major.	23 Gloucester Surprise Major.	24 Westminster " 7 Surprise Minor methods.	25 Cinques.	26 Caters.	27 Triples																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
VALUE IN PTS. PER PEAL			16	14	12	10	8	6	4	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

The peals of Triples, Major and Royal in Plain methods comprise: Bob Triples, 10; Bob Major, 82; Bob Royal, 6; Oxford Bob Triples, 11; Union Triples, 2; Darlaston Bob Triples, 2; Canterbury Pleasure Triples, 1; Canterbury Pleasure Major, 1; College Single Major, 2. The peals of Doubles: *Two 12; Three 7; One 6; One 5; and three peals of 4 methods; †2 methods; ‡5 methods; a, 1 method; b, 2 methods; c, 4 methods. The 24 peals by Independent Societies were rung in the following counties: Essex, 1; Gloucestershire, 4; Lancashire, 1; Leicestershire, 1; Middlesex, 4; Norfolk, 1; Northamptonshire, 1; Oxfordshire, 1; Staffordshire, 1; Surrey, 2; Sussex, 3; Warwickshire, 1; Worcestershire, 2; and Yorkshire, 1.

The greatest number of changes in one peal was the record peal of Double Norwich

Conductors of four peals and upwards: Rev. F. E. Robinson, 42; W. Pye, G. Williams, 40; C. R. Lilley, 14; S. Wade, 13; W. Short, G. E. Symonds, 12; W. H. Barber, J. S. Goldsmith, J. E. Groves, W. Micklewright, 11; J. Austin, S. Reeves, 10; J. Houghton, jun., 9; J. H. Blakiston, C. F. Winney, 8; A. W. Brighton, W. H. L. Buckingham, C. W. Clarke, E. E. Huntley, J. Motts, J. Potter, 7; J. Cheesman, R. E. Grove, K. Hart, T. Newman, R. Ridyard, H. Springall, J. W. Washbrook, W. H. B. Wilkins, C. Willshire, W. Willson, 6; D. Brearley, G. T. Daltry, C. Giles, A. Knights, G. H. Lee, W. T. Pegler, J. Preston, G. N. Price, A. E. Reeves, J. R. Sharman, G. Wightman, 5; J. Basden, F. Bennett, T. Bettison, C. T. P. Brice, H. Brooker, J. M. Chadwick, W. Coombes, J. Dillon, A. Ellis, T. Fauikner, W. E. Garrard, J. George, J. Griffin, H. P.

The first eighteen Societies (as above) have each rung 12 peals or upwards during the year. The number at bottom of this column is the average value in points of the 913 peals rung during the year.

by the Oxford Diocesan Guild containing 17,024 changes, the previous record being 15,072 rung by the Kent County Association in April. In addition to these one peal (Grandsire Caters) contained over 11,000 changes, a peal of Treble Bob Major over 10,000 changes, and a record peal (on handbells) in the same method contained 8,896 changes, rung by the Ancient Society of College Youths. Over 7,000 changes, 1; over 6,000 changes, 1.

The 196 peals of Grandsire Triples are made up as follows: Holt's ten-part, 63; Holt's Original, 47; Parker's twelve-part, 22; Taylor's Bob-and-Single, 17; Carter's twelve-part, 8; Vicars' six-part, 7; Rev. C. D. P. Davies' ten-part, 4; other peals, 28. The 142 peals of Stedman Triples: Thurstans' four-part, 96; Brook's Variation, 16; Thurstans' one-part, 8; Heywood's Variation, 5; Pitstow's Variation, 5; Thurstans' five-part, 2; other peals, 10. The 146 Treble Bob peals: In the Kent Variation, 126; Oxford Variation, 20. The time occupied in ringing the 913 peals was 2812 hrs. 46 mins. or 117-198 days and nights, the average time for each peal being 3 hrs. 48'47 mins.

1899	1898	1897	1896	1895
1 Oxford Diocesan Guild	2	3	1	2
2 Sussex County Association	1	1	2	1
3 Kent County Association	8	7	7	5
4 Ancient Society of College Youths	4	2	5	7
5 Midland Counties' Association	6	8	3	6
6 Norwich Diocesan Association	9	5	4	3
7 Lancashire Association	5	4	10	8
8 Yorkshire Association	11	9	6	4
9 Middlesex County Association	18	25	-	-

The following table shows the number of peals rung annually since the publication of "THE BELL NEWS."

1881 from Jan. to Dec. 156	1887 from Jan. to Dec. 646	1894 from Jan. to Dec. 859
1882 " " 244	1888 " " 759	1895 " " 766
1883 " " 330	1889 " " 797	1896 " " 797
1884 " " 419	1890 " " 699	1897 " " 905
1885 " " 500	1891 " " 878	1898 " " 1002
1886 " " 556	1892 " " 802	1899 " " 913
	1893 " " 705	

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THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

LAVENHAM (Suffolk).—On Monday, April 2nd, at the parish church, a 720 Bob Major. W. Bobby, 1; C. Fish, 2; H. Gladwell, 3; E. Kinsey, 4; H. Smith, 5; A. Symonds, 6; W. Kinsey (conductor), 7; T. King, 8. First on the ropes by H. Kinsey. And a 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. Bobby, 1; C. Jarvis, 2; H. Gladwell, 3; H. Smith, 4; W. Kinsey, 5; A. Symonds, 6; T. King (conductor), 7; C. Fish, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BEACONSFIELD (Bucks).—On Saturday, March 25th, for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Sherman, 1; James Balting, 2; T. E. Buckland, 3; W. Bagley, 4; A. Bagley, 5; J. Bagley, 6; R. Buckland (conductor), 7; F. Bagley, 8. Also on Sunday, April 1, for Divine Service 504 Grandsire Triples, first part of Reeves variation of Holt's ten-part peal. W. Sherman, 1; T. Buckland, 2; J. Balting, 3; W. Bagley, 4; A. Bagley, 5; W. E. Yates (conductor), 6; R. Buckland, 7; F. Bagley, 8.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

TWYFORD (Hants.).—On Tuesday, March 20th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 504 of Grandsire Triples. F. Unsworth, 1; W. T. Tucker, 2; R. Abraham, 3; E. Young, 4; S. Spratt, 5; J. Ashford, 6; W. H. George (conductor), 7; C. Abraham, 8. *First 504.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HILLINGDON WEST (Middlesex).—On Monday, March 5th, at the church of St. Andrew, 630 Oxford Bob Triples. Rev. H. G. Bird, 1; A. Finch, 2; J. J. Parker (conductor), 3; H. Wait, 4; H. Gosden, 5; W. Gosden, 6; G. H. Gutteridge, 7; W. Foster, 8. Also three plain courses of Stedman Triples, standing in the same order. On Monday, March 26th, a

Harman, B. Hawkins, H. G. Judge, F. Lambert, C. Mee, J. Parker, J. J. Parker, H. Reeves, T. Ricketts, C. Sillitoe, W. S. Smith, A. E. Thompson, A. Y. Tyler, W. Wakley, S. Wood, 4. In addition to these there were 31 who conducted 3 peals; 58 who conducted 2 peals; and 171 who conducted 1 peal. Also 1 silent peal of Stedman Triples, and 1 peal published without a conductor's name, making a total of 333 persons who acted as conductors during the year. Number of peals on handbells, 22; on church bells, 891. They were rung as follows: January, 83; February, 93; March, 63; April, 107; May, 97; June, 58; July, 37; August, 48; September, 63; October, 77; November, 94; December, 93. Total 913. Decrease during the twelve months on 1898: 89. In reckoning totals of points, peals of over 7,000 changes count as 2 peals; over 10,000 changes, 3 peals; over 12,000 changes, 4 peals; over 14,000 changes, 5 peals; over 16,000 changes, 6 peals. The following table gives the first 18 societies and their relative positions for the four years previous 1895 to 1898 inclusive, points being first used in 1895 to determine the premier position.

1899	1898	1897	1896	1895
10 Worcestershire and Districts Association	3	6	12	19
11 Gloucester and Bristol Association	7	12	13	10
12 Essex Association	10	11	16	16
13 Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford	17	21	15	22
14 Central Northamptonshire Association	14	10	18	23
15 Winchester Diocesan Guild	12	14	9	12
16 St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham	20	13	21	14
17 Surrey Association	16	20	14	13
18 Hertford County Association	13	19	25	29

quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples in 46 mins. J. Peddle, 1; Rev. H. G. Bird, 2; G. H. Gutteridge, 3; A. Finch, 4; H. Gosden, 5; W. Gosden, 6; J. J. Parker (conductor), 7; H. Wait, 8. J. J. Parker hails from Farnham Royal; Gutteridge, from Stoke Poges; the rest belong to the local band.

GREAT YARMOUTH (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, March 6th, at the church of St. Nicholas, for practice, 1056 Bob Major on the back eight. H. Wright, 1; J. Godfrey, 2; R. Christian, 3; A. W. Brighton (conductor), 4; W. Secrett, 5; R. Tooley, 6; D. Hayward, 7; J. Matthews, 8. On Sunday evening, March 11th, for Divine Service, the last 700 of Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples. H. Wright, 1; J. Godfrey, 2; W. Blyth, 3; A. W. Brighton (conductor), 4; W. Secrett, 5; D. Hayward, 6; J. Matthews, 7; F. Pestell, 8.

HENFIELD (Sussex).—On Tuesday evening, March 28th, after an attempt for a peal, the following 1260 of Stedman Triples (Haley's variation) in 40 mins. W. A. J. Ives, 1; S. Burt, 2; A. E. Lish, 3; C. Tyler, 4; H. Markwell, 5; L. Payne (conductor), 6; G. Payne, 7; A. Hodges, 8.

PENGE (Surrey).—On January 25th, at the church of St. John the Evangelist, 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Smith, 1; J. Town, 2; H. Edwards, 3; T. P. Richards, 4; W. J. Battson, 5; G. Wilkins (conductor), 6. On February 15th, 720 Bob Minor. W. J. Battson, 1; J. Marshall, 2; H. Edwards, 3; T. P. Richards, 4; E. Pobjee, 5; G. Wickens (conductor), 6. On March 1st, in honour of the relief of Ladysmith, 720 Bob Minor. T. P. Richards, 1; E. Edwards, 2; W. J. Battson, 3; J. Marshall, 4; W. Smith (conductor), 5; G. Wickens, 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Smith, 1; T. P. Richards, 2; H. Edwards, 3; J. Town, 4; W. J. Battson, 5; G. Wickens (conductor), 6. Also 360 Bob Minor. G. Wickens, 1; W. J. Battson (conductor), 2; J. Town, 3; J. Marshall, 4; E. Pobjee, 5; W. Smith, 6.

his bell through this peal in good form, and maintained good striking throughout, and was congratulated upon the completion. Credit is also due to the treble man, who is one of the rising "generations" of ringers in Melton, he only commencing his ringing career a year or two ago. Referring to my note *re* Framland ringers, published last February, I am pleased to see that two peals have since been scored for the Framland band, viz.: this one, and one of Doubles by the Wymondham company, published last week. If you will allow me the space so to do, I should like to heartily congratulate this enterprising company, and especially the conductor, upon their success. We may now look for some good work done by the (until recently) unrecognised Framland Society. Go ahead, George! let's hear of another peal. Minor this time, at first attempt. You'll manage it. E. J. G.

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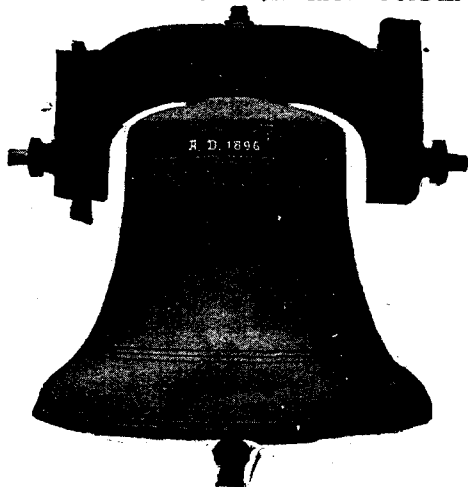
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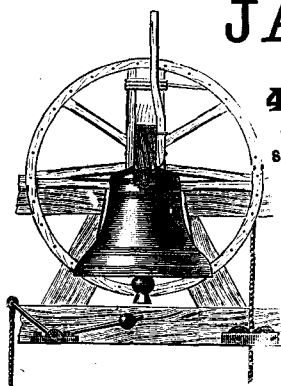
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No. 941. — VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1900.

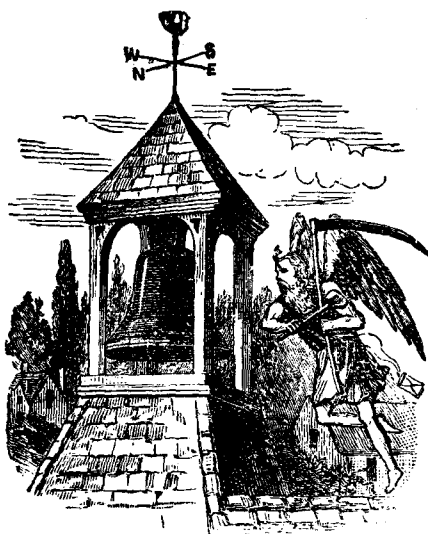
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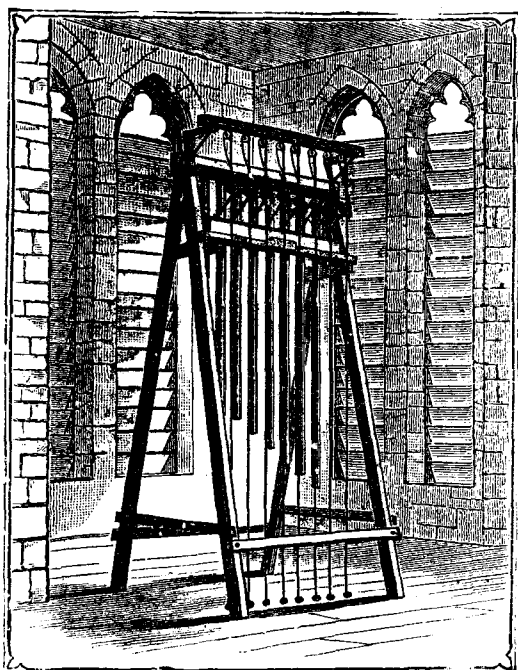
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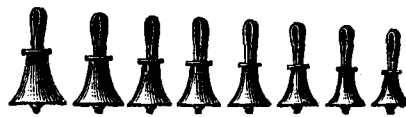
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 941.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1900.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of this Association was held at Bury St. Edmunds on Easter Monday, and was attended by over seventy ringers, hailing from all parts of the diocese, most of the more distant companies simply sending one representative. The well-known ring of ten at the Norman Tower, and the almost equally fine major ring at St. Mary's, had been kindly granted for the use of the members during the day, and several capital touches of Bob Royal, Grandsire and Stedman Caters, Triples, Plain and Treble Bob Major were scored. Other members meanwhile paid visits to Fornham St. Martin and the neighbouring minor rings outside the historic city.

At two o'clock a general adjournment was made to The Golden Fleece inn in Churchgate Street, where a substantial dinner was promptly on the table, to the several courses of which ample justice was done by all. This was followed by the usual business meeting, under the genial presidency of Canon Hodges, Vicar of St. James's, Bury, and an honorary member of the Association. After the minutes and other formal matters had been disposed of, the General Secretary (the Rev. W. W. Crump, of Haddenham) read the annual report for 1899, which shewed that on the whole the condition of the Association is satisfactory, though not quite so flourishing as its ardent supporters could wish. Four meetings had been held during the past year, besides the Annual Meeting, the average attendance at the district meetings being 30, as compared with 25 in 1898. Nine peals had also been obtained during the year, with two date-touches of Stedman Triples at Sudbury. Reference was then made in the Report to the loss sustained in the Sudbury District by the recent resignation of the Rev. W. M. K. Warren, its honorary Secretary, and regret was expressed that no handbell peals had been rung, as in so many parishes just now peals on the tower bells are impossible. Much more attention might often be advantageously given to this form of ringing. The continued apathy amongst Huntingdonshire ringers, and (though to a less extent) in Cambridgeshire also, are also a cause of great disappointment to those who desire to see a simultaneous progress in all parts of the diocese. And having thus exposed the deficiency amongst the ringers, the report concluded with an hope that ere long the clergy and churchwardens generally might take a deeper interest in the valuable items of church property under their care, and in those ringers who use them.

The Treasurer (Rev. K. H. Smith, of Ely) then presented the balance sheet for the year, copies of which had been distributed amongst the members, and made running comments on the items, after which a letter was read from the auditor (Mr. A. Markwell) regretting his inability to be personally present, and expressing his entire satisfaction with the manner in which all the books and accounts had been kept. He would strongly advise the members to re-elect their old Treasurer and Secretary, which advice, when the report and balance sheet had been adopted, the meeting amidst considerable cheers and laughter

immediately proceeded to act upon, Mr. Smith in again accepting office making the one positive stipulation that their indefatigable Secretary should continue as his colleague. The Rev. W. W. Crump briefly replied to the compliment thus paid him, and trusted he should be able to retain the confidence reposed in him, by doing his best for the cause.

The Rev. E. J. Teasdale (Nordelph), Mr. O. G. Howe (Ramsey), and Mr. R. M. Croft (Wilburton), were unanimously re-elected as Secretaries for the Archidiaconal Districts of the Isle of Ely, Huntingdon and Ely, whilst Mr. C. Sillitoe set the hearts of all the Suffolk men at rest by consenting to resume the Secretaryship of the Sudbury Archdeaconry, in place of Mr. Warren. Mr. A. H. Osborne (Bury St. Edmunds) was appointed auditor for the ensuing year, Mr. Farrants (Bury) taking his place on the Committee, and Mr. Sillitoe was elected to represent the Association on the Central Council. Some twenty new members were duly elected and the meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chairman for presiding, and to those of the local clergy who had kindly granted the use of the bells for the occasion.

THE EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of this Association was held at Clay Cross on Easter Monday, April 16th, members being present from Ashover, Brampton, Bolsover, Ault Hucknall, Horsley, Clay Cross, Shirland, North Wingfield and South Normanton. Service was held in church at 4.30 p.m., twenty-five members attending, and a very instructive address given by the Rev. C. J. Boden, Rector of North Wingfield. At 5.30 tea was held in schoolroom, to which thirty-six did good justice.

The business meeting was then held, the Rev. H. S. Oldham being voted to the chair. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed, also balance sheet, which showed a balance in hand of £7 19s. 5d.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Rev. F. Brodhurst, Vicar of Heath; Treasurer, Rev. C. J. Boden, Rector of North Wingfield; Secretary, Mr. T. Allibone, North Wingfield. A hearty vote of thanks were given to the retiring officers for their services during the past year.

A vote of condolence was passed to the wife and relatives of the late Rev. T. C. Hills, President of this Association.

A motion was moved by Mr. J. Flint "That the Annual Meeting be held at each 6-bell tower in turn," but after considerable discussion it was decided by seventeen votes to sixteen that the next Annual Meeting be held at Clay Cross, Tibshelf being the other tower proposed. It was also resolved that each Annual Meeting decide where the next is to be held; this appeared to give general satisfaction. Votes of thanks were given to the Rev. C. J. Boden for his address; also to the Vicar of Clay Cross for use of bells and schoolroom.

The bells were then kept merrily going till nearly 9 p.m., a very enjoyable day being spent by all present.

THE REV. MAITLAND KELLY.

The Rev. Maitland Kelly, having succeeded to the Kelly Estates, has relinquished the living of Ottery St. Mary, which he has held for the past ten years. It was mainly due to the efforts of Mr. Kelly that the Church Institute buildings were erected in the town. He has occupied the position of President of the Institute, and the members felt that they could not allow him to leave without in some way showing their appreciation of his services. Consequently they decided to make him a presentation, and the movement was brought to a head on Wednesday evening, when, on behalf of the members, the Right Hon. Lord Coleridge, Q.C., handed Mr. Kelly a silver instand, accompanied by an illuminated address bearing a suitable inscription and the names of the subscribers, who numbered 126. There was a large attendance to witness the ceremony, which took place in the hall of the Institute.

In making the presentation Lord Coleridge said it was with mingled pleasure and regret that he rose to ask Mr. Kelly's acceptance of these small tokens of their affection and esteem. Mr. Kelly had for many years been Vicar of the parish. To be the Vicar of any parish was to pass through a considerable ordeal of criticism. There must be in any parish many persons who did not agree with the ecclesiastical views of the Vicar. The latter was often the subject of unsparing criticism. But the presents on the platform that evening and the spontaneity which had prompted their presentment bore ample testimony that Mr. Kelly had gone unstained through all or any criticism, and that since he had been Vicar of the parish he had been respected and honoured by all. The parish bore significant tokens of his work. The chapel at Wiggaton was one instance. The hall in which they were gathered was another testimony to Mr. Kelly's masterful will—because it was his creation, and he (Lord Coleridge) thought he ought to have the sole credit for it. There were many who doubted, many who hesitated, and many who dissuaded Mr. Kelly from attempting so large a work in so small a town. His determination won the approbation of generous people, and of one particular generous donor, and there they were that evening members of the Church Institute recognising the noble efforts of which Mr. Kelly was the inspiring author. By the departure of Mr. Kelly they would lose their chief bellringer. It was with great regret that they were losing one who took such a great interest in their church bells. The bells were their friends, and spoke to them through their lives. They were silver bells when they were born, they were golden bells when they were married, brazen bells when they rang an alarm, and they were iron bells when they tolled for their death. Mr. Kelly had increased and enlarged the language of the bells. He had extracted from them by his skill and by his almost fanatical energy a music they never heard before. Mr. Kelly was now leaving the town to take up his new duties. He carried with him not only the good wishes of those assembled there that evening, but of all who knew him, and that was the whole parish. They were glad that the county at any rate was not to lose him, for they knew that among the oldest families of Devon was that of the Kellys, and he (Lord Coleridge) was sure that a more worthy representative of the family than the Rev. Maitland Kelly never lived. They were glad that Mr. Kelly would be able to visit them occasionally, and he (Lord Coleridge) felt sure he was but expressing the feelings of all in the parish when he said that the oftener Mr. Kelly came to visit them the better

they would be pleased, and every time he came among them they could assure him a most warm and hearty welcome.

The Rev. Maitland Kelly, in acknowledging the gifts, said it was impossible for him to adequately thank them for their kind presents, and thank Lord Coleridge and Mr. Dickinson for the kind manner in which they had referred to him. He had to thank them for the way in which they had helped him. No Vicar could have had more loyal workers or more hopeful workers than he had had during the past ten years. Some Vicars had differences and difficulties with their curates. In this respect he had been eminently blessed and helped, for he thought all present would agree with him that from first to last he had had a most loyal and hard-working lot of curates. He wished to thank the teachers of both the Day and Sunday Schools. Many whom he found teaching when he first came to the parish were still doing so, and it was to them that they owed the great success of their schools. How could a Vicar's work be carried on if the schools were not right—if the child did not begin its life in the right way? Therefore when they had such good schools as they had in Ottery, and such good teachers, the Vicar thanked God for it, and did all he could to keep the schools going. That was what he had tried to do. The speaker paid a warm tribute to the members of the choir and to the ringers. With reference to the Church Institute work, to which so much allusion had been made, there, again, to say it was his work was not altogether correct. He did something towards it it was true. When he came into the parish and saw so many young men without a place to go to during the evenings, where they might join in harmless amusement and be brought into contact with one another, he thought there was a crying need for such a building as they now had—and so it was, as Lord Coleridge had said, he made up his mind that if he could possibly by any means whatever obtain a suitable building it should be done. It had been done, but could only have been through the generosity of those who assisted. He expressed his thanks to the committee and officers of the Institute for the way in which they had assisted from time to time. It was with the deepest regret that he was leaving Ottery. He thanked them from the bottom of his heart for their kindness, and expressed the hope that he would be able to again see some of his old parishioners from time to time.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

NEWTOWN, MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

The first practice of this newly organised band (since the bells were rehung by Mr. Greenleaf, of Hereford), took place on Thursday, March 29th. About twelve members attended, and succeeded in ringing a plain course of Grandsire Doubles. The members seem to be very keen on change-ringing, and are of the right material. Sliding shutters have been provided inside the louvres of the tower through the instrumentality of Mr. W. C. H. Jones, the captain of the band, thus preventing any nuisance to the neighbourhood when practising. The local instructor, Mr. T. J. Bratton, of Welshpool, attends every alternate Thursday, and hopes in a short time to make his pupils a very efficient six-bell band.

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.

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."

SINGLE COURT.

SIR,—I have already apologised privately to Mr. Baker for unconsciously reproducing his method in illustration of my ideas as to the correct form of Single Norwich Court. In spite of all that has been, or can be, said, I am still of the same opinion that the old writers blundered in their plan of deducing Single Court from the original Double form. The original Court Bob for six bells was undoubtedly a double method, and was in existence long before 1766; for there is evidence that Court Bob was known as early as 1735; and even the Norwich variation must have been in existence for both eight and ten bells not long after the middle of the same century; for the first peal of Ten-in was rung at Norwich in 1769. The problem, therefore, the old method-builders had before them was to deduce the Single from the Double, and not, as in the simpler plain hunt methods, the Double from the Single. The examples of Double and Single Court Minor which Mr. Baker cites from Monk's book, under the date 1766, only show that as early as that the principle of substituting single for double places had been pursued in the deduction of the Single from the Double method; but it does not follow that that principle was the correct one, or even the best. It is likely enough that Shipway got his ideas of the proper mode of deduction from this very example, and carried it out for Major as well as Minor. If we are in these days blindly to follow the lead of the old method-builders, and to seek for nothing better than they produced, there is, of course, no more to be said. For my part, I am not content to do this. I hold that the plan of deduction pursued in former days must be judged by its results, which are miserable, and wholly inadequate to maintain the dignity of the "Court" title. A single glance at the Single London Court example, for instance, given by Mr. James is sufficient to show that by far the greater part of the work of the method consists in plain hunt work up and down with only just so much interruption by dodges behind as are necessary to secure the required shifting of the bells at the lead-end. In "Court," whether Single or Double, there should be more elaborate detail than this amounts to. When, therefore, I asked the question "What is Single Court?" I did not ask it to elicit information as to the plan of deduction pursued by the old method-builders; I knew that only too well; but to find out whether our present-day professors were not prepared to endorse a better, and, as I believe, a more correct plan. The discussion is purely academic; for, except by six-bell ringers, I do not suppose that Single Court is, or is ever likely to be, practised anywhere.

H. EARLE BULWER.

COURT BOB SYSTEM.

SIR,—I am reading with a good deal of interest the correspondence under the above heading. The Rev. H. E. Bulwer suggests a very good way, by substituting, as I understand him, some of the new methods brought out as new single ones to be tacked upon the older double methods; while at the same time the Rev. E. Bankes James introduces an innovation by the formation of a fourth estate. It is quite correct to say that some of the old single and reverse methods are scarcely worth the name they go by, as they do not even maintain the orthodox lead-ends. But if they are to go, I for one should not approve of them being handed over to the Bob Major system, as this latter is built upon the plan of adjoining places, although in the least possible degree. This is my opinion, and if these two rev. gentlemen will only put their heads together, as the saying is in my county, some good will come of this discussion. My friend Mr. Baker has done and is doing, very excellent work upon the subject, and become the author of some good methods in the system of Court Bob. I cannot however go with Mr. James all the distance when he says that the 2nd lead of a single method gives the 1st of the double; as here one is reminded of that everlasting condition—"so far shalt thou go and no farther," which applies as surely in bell-ringing matters as in any others, and it is here I shall give my view of his remarks and definition of single Superlative and also upon his

Principles.

If, Sir, in order to obtain the single, or reverse of Superlative, we are to eliminate some twenty-five per cent. of the best of its beautiful changes. I deem it best to point out a third way of doing it, and trot out what has been known years ago as

Alliance.

First lead of Plain Course.

12345678

21436587

12463578

21645387

26154837

62518473

26581437

62854173

86427531

68472513

86745231

68472531

86745213

68754231

86572413

85627143

58261734

85216743

58127634

51872364

15783246

51738264

15372846

Plain 15738264 Lead

Bob 13578264 Lead

5040.
23456 M W H

45236 - -

24536 -

52436 -

63425 - - -

46325 -

34625 -

Four times repeated.

WM. SHIPWAY.

I have given this and Shipway's composition by its side, not having one of my own. By omitting 7th place the method will be seen to contain much good Superlative music in its first lead, viz., the queen's change and back queen's, also the back change, and of course rounds, in the shortest number. Mr. James no doubt remembers this method, and has a motive for what he has said upon this subject, but I don't see why Superlative should thus be mutilated. If alteration is really wanted let 7th place be removed and bring up 13527486 as the first lead-end of the plain course, when composition will proceed upon the lines of Bob Major. Another version will come by removal of 2nds place, and in each all the good music is retained.

Surprise.

Under this head Mr. Bulwer has a great question under consideration, which as he justly says, requires settling at once. It is a big order, I think, as although the distance between the simplicity of Treble Bob and the eccentricity of London Surprise is a long one; the thing is where to properly draw the line. If musical qualifications are to be counted out, which I suppose will be the case; and I suppose simplicity of construction and complexity of build also. Where are we to look for guidance? I suppose the zag-jag path, for the treble will be retained. I take it that what is commonly known as Treble Bob gained its title from the fact that every bell has as nearly as possible a dodging hunt, especially the Oxford Variation, quite a distinction from Plain Bob, where each has a plain hunt as nearly as possible. After this we get, as has already been pointed out, Fancies, Delights, Exercises, etc., before the Surprise is reached. I put this, Sir, with all respect, to Mr. Bulwer, as he invites discussion, and no doubt he has a good scheme ready for submission to your readers.

H. DAINS.

P.S.—With all respect to Mr. James, whose writings I always carefully read, my opinion is that what he terms Single and Reverse Superlative belongs to me as Alliance. I have already

five different ways of obtaining similar results. Cut 7ths from above, and the lead-end will be 13527486, as in Superlative exactly! Retain 7ths and cut out 2nds place, and the reverse lead-end obtains. I consider that Superlative as well as London belong to Mr. James's suggested order—"Compound."

THE OXFORD GUILD'S RECORD PEALS.

SIR,—Mr. Newman now having what he asked for, viz., "what the sixth man (in our long peal of London) has to say on the matter," I will say my say. The origin of the myth of a bell being set in that peal is as follows: I remarked to Mr. Newman on one occasion that it was a hardship to conductors when men being in a momentary difficulty set their bells in an instant without giving the conductor a chance of saving the peal, and that we had a man in our 11,000 of London who had a way of doing so, and that when he was once in a difficulty in that peal, I shouted to him not to set his bell, while the conductor told him what to do. This conversation incubating at Caversham, evolved the fiction that a bell was set and pulled off by another man which said fiction is inadequate for its purpose, and refutes itself. As there were only eight men in the tower during that peal, what became of the bell rung by the man who pulled off the 6th in lieu of its own ringer? deponent saith not; therefore Mr. Newman is really "hoist with his own petard." Now, Sir, be it known to all men once more and finally, that our 11,328 of London (Surprise? *pace* Bulwer) was rung as well as any peal of the length ever was or ever will be rung; that the ringers did not get into a muddle for a considerable time (another Caveronian fiction); that the striking was excellent, that the shouting was so ordinary and momentary that Mr. Payne seems to have forgotten it altogether; that the supper was enjoyed, and the photograph of the band taken, not while the bell was set, but some weeks after the peal was rung, and all the bells rung down. Then, poor Mr. Newman, there is that big job at Kidlington still sticking in his throat. Soon after that peal was rung, before I had seen any of the band, Mr. Newman read me a letter from Mr. Pye about it, condemning it in the strongest terms. I rejoined that some of the band had not rung in an ordinary peal of Double Norwich, and that it was not wise to put such men in for a long peal. Soon afterwards, hearing that the idea of sending Mr. P. down to Kidlington emanated from Caversham, and that some of his own performances were of questionable merit, I reconsidered the value of his opinion of the Kidlington peal. Then soon afterwards when I heard the account of the peal given by the ringers of it, who are competent and trustworthy men, and by the Vicar of the parish, who listened to it frequently, I formed the opinion to which I adhere, that it was a "magnificent performance." Now, Sir, let all men understand that we of the Oxford Guild are not going to be robbed of our lawfully-won honours by any of Mr. Newman's methods, viz., manipulating conversation, evolving fictions, sending prejudiced critics to give unsupported evidence, offering to produce a man to say something *if required*, etc. We are sorry if our successes give pain to others, and we do not wish to be for ever parading them before the ringing world, only when our claim to them is disputed, we must and do strongly and emphatically re-assert it. At present then we hold records with 15,041 Stedman Caters, 17,042 Double Norwich, 11,328 London Surprise, and Thurstans' four-part peal of Stedman Triples un-conducted on church bells. This last achievement of ours may be equalled but never surpassed; all the rules for ringing silent peals were observed, and the striking was absolutely perfect, and the others can only be surpassed by longer peals rung as well as ours were rung.

F. E. ROBINSON, *Master Oxford Diocesan Guild.*

SIR,—Mr. Payne denies setting his bell, also the statement of the Rev. F. E. Robinson at Caversham. As I am not responsible for these statements, my only wish is to have them cleared up. Mr. Fowler's friend at Romford truly stated that the brothers Pye visited Caversham, and while there Mr. Reeves said that Hims had told them that in the long peal of London Payne set his bell, and he (Hims) pulled it off. Perhaps Mr. Reeves will inform us why he made this statement, as no one asked him a question concerning any peal. Like Mr. Fowler I received a letter from a friend (a member of the Oxford Guild

and the College Youths) stating that when some of them visited Oxford on Sunday, August 20th, Mr. Hims told them that in the peal Mr. Payne set his bell two whole pulls, and he (Hims) pulled it off. Mr. Fowler is surprised that I should give credence to such yarns. Surely sir, when I asked the Master of the Guild a question I did not expect to get a yarn to be denied by others of the band, and if Mr. Robinson told us the truth at Caversham I am sure that my friend Charles Fowler will forgive me for being of opinion that they could not be ringing London Surprise the same time all shouting to the man not to set his bell.

T. NEWMAN.

[No good result can be attained by prolonging this correspondence, therefore it is at an end.—ED.]

ST. STEPHEN'S SURPRISE.

SIR,—In your issue of March 31st, it is asserted by Mr. F. Dench in answer to Mr. A. Craven, *re* St. Stephen's Surprise, "that he (Mr. Craven) could have sent it (*i.e.* a copy of the method) to THE BELL NEWS, which would have "secured for him the authorship, and no doubt would have been published in its turn, it being a recognised fact for years that the one who first publishes a composition is the author." The italics are my own. In writing, my object is not to take part in the controversy that has called forth these assertions, which, in effect, have been used by many others besides Mr. Dench, but rather an endeavour to ascertain whether the application of this principle can any longer be relied upon as holding the scales perfectly fair between contending parties in all similar cases. You, Sir, may set some doubt at rest by saying whether legible figures of peals or methods sent for publication and duly received at the office of "THE BELL NEWS," or, or are not published in turn as stated.

JAMES S. WILDE.

Bredbury.

[Every care is taken in the direction our old friend alludes to. Some new methods may have been un-acceptable because they were old.—ED.]

AUTHORSHIP.

SIR,—May I point out that the 5132 of Double Norwich by Mr. Herbert Tucker in your issue of April 7th, is an extension of my 5008 on the same plan published in the Christmas number of 1896, or very shortly afterwards.

Bredbury.

JAMES S. WILDE.

"METHODS."

SIR,—We are indebted to the Rev. E. B. James for his article on "methods" contained in your last issue.

To those of us who have been striving to define Single, Reverse, and Double Methods, Mr. James's solution comes not only as a revelation, but also makes the one necessary additional definition, and clears up all debatable points on these matters.

I entirely agree with Mr. James, and tender him my hearty thanks for his excellent article.

That my views on this matter were practically the same, the following quotation from a letter written to the Rev. H. E. Bulwer on the 11th inst., (before there was any possibility of my knowing Mr. James's views), will sufficiently corroborate:

"The lead-end of Shipway's Single Norwich is 15738264. transpose this by the same figures and we get 18674523, which is the lead-end of Double Norwich Court Bob Major. In like manner with any single method (on any number of bells) having Bob Major or Grandsire lead-ends (if it is possible to make a double method of same and still retain the Bob Major or Grandsire leads) we transpose the single method lead-end by the same figures to find what the lead-end of the double method should be."

As far as my memory serves me, the above quotation is given as in my letter to Mr. Bulwer, but unfortunately I did not copy this as I usually do; perhaps Mr. Bulwer will kindly correct errors should there be any.

GEORGE BAKER.

WOLVERHAMPTON DOUBLE COURT BOB.

SIR,—With my method published in your issue of the 7th inst., I seem to have drawn the enemy in full force, which nearly surrounds me. I do not propose to offer a very strong resistance

against such talent. I am sorry that the method should offend the keen eye of the Rev. H. E. Bulwer, but I think the musical qualities will be less offensive to the ear. The strange behaviour of the 5th bell is accounted for by the equal strange behaviour of her opponent, which will be found in 6ths place the previous backstroke lead of the treble, thereby causing double dodging in 1-2 and 3-4 while the treble is behind, and in 5-6 and 7-8 while the treble is in front. Mr. James says it is not a double method because it wants places 3-4 and 5-6, when it would be Double Oxford. He might as well say if his name was not Edward it would be something else. Mr. Baker says it is not a legitimate method, that its reverse variation is Shipway's, minus 2nds and 7ths. I say it is equally as legitimate, and contains superior musical qualities than some of the methods recently published in your paper, and with regard to its reverse variation minus 2nds and 7ths, Mr. Baker might say a cart is a waggon minus two wheels. With these I leave it with the Exercise for what it is worth.

Wolverhampton.

JAMES E. GROVES.

THE ANALYSIS, 1899.

SIR,—On March 31st Mr. Willson published a letter in "THE BELL NEWS" withdrawing a peal of Treble Bob Major (in consequence of false composition) rang in December last by the Midland Counties Association. The letter appearing after the analysis for 1899 had been compiled, causes various alterations in same, besides the one that was fortunately corrected while the analysis was in the press, viz., the reversing of the positions of the Norwich Diocesan Association and Midland Counties Association. In addition to the alteration made, the following corrections are necessary to make the analysis as far as possible correct.

One peal less in the last three months.

One peal less in the grand total (912 instead of 913).

Total of points 13615; average points per peal. 14'928.

Treble Bob peals, 145: Kent Variation, 125.

Time occupied in ringing the 912 peals, 2809 hrs. 31 mins., or 117'063 days and nights, the average time per peal 3 hrs. 48'36 mins.

Mr. Willson's total of peals conducted should be 5 instead of 6.

In December 92 peals were rung, not 93.

Decrease on the total number of peals rung in 1898—90.

In the table giving the relative positions, the Norwich Diocesan Association should come 5th, and the Midland Counties Association 6th.

8, Hanover Crescent, Brighton.
90, Church Road, Hove.

GEO. F. ATTREE.
GEORGE BAKER.

P.S.—The Lancashire Association rang one peal in seven Surprise Minor methods, and this appeared in proof sent to Brighton, but does not appear in "THE BELL NEWS," this being the only error in body of analysis.

THE PERFORMANCE AT CORNHILL.

SIR,—It is quite amusing to see the alacrity of Messrs. Hoskins and Waghorn jun. helping their champion over the stile. The last-named says: "There was one little (?) hitch in the early part of the peal." Pye says: "There was not a blunder in the peal, only a dodge or two missed." Now as it is not my intention to cause a prolonged wordy warfare, I must make this final, but at the same time emphatic. I don't blame any of the band for trying to make the best of it. The fault is the conductor's in not calling "stand." Pye says the names of the band are sufficient. Let anyone look at the stars, daggers, and other hieroglyphics to the names. The peal was rung shocking bad right through, and the plea of jealousy is simply bunkum. Hoskins calls attention to 2 3 4 clashing together, thinking he has got me fixed, but the word "bells" was omitted in my letter. No one would venture to assert that the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th were together, but what Hoskins knows about the figures won't require much energy to forget. Mr. J. Waghorn, sen., who was present, said he thought it was creditable ringing considering the band had had no practice on twelve. I asked him in Bell Yard to try and count twelve bells round, and he could not. I pointed out to him that in every successive change there were numbers of two, three, or four bells clashing together, and at the time he admitted that it was so. The names of those who condemn the peal belong to men who have rung ten times more 12-bell

peals than Pye has ever heard. Mr. Pye's insinuations are more serious. He says that I and my friends did our best to stop him getting the tower. Will he mention names, as I herewith declare his statement false. He was heard on the following Monday to remark that "one of the band was not good enough, I did not ask him in it, Mr. ——— did." If he will name those who jeered him, and tried to stop him having the bells he will confer a favour on

T. H. TAFFENDER.

[It is only fair to say we have felt compelled to eliminate a sentence from this letter. The correspondence is now closed. We may refer to it next week.—ED.]

SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE.

SIR,—I must apologise for sending such a ridiculous set of figures to represent a peal, and send below the composition which was intended. I copied from some old figuring which had laid by, hence the mistake.

5056.

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

Repeated.

Mr. Dench claims the other peal as a variation of his. All that I can say is that I do not admit it as such. He must not forget that when he publishes a peal others may have compositions of similar quality. The publication of one peal of a certain class does not necessarily mean that the composer by so doing patents all peals of that class. Such proceedings would destroy all endeavours at improvement in composition, and would certainly have not allowed Mr. Dench nor myself the opportunity of producing a two-part peal in this method worth ringing.

G. LINDOFF.

We beg to call the attention of our readers to the advertisement of Mr. Gordon on our second page, and would like to assure them that "The Soldiers of the Queen," as arranged by him, has a very good swing, and goes very well. Special permission has been granted to Mr. Gordon to publish it, as will be seen elsewhere, for which he begs to return thanks. That piece among others will be rung by the Lads' Club Ringing Company, on Saturday afternoon, April 28th, at Stockport—which on that day will be *en fete*. There is to be a great demonstration and a procession of cyclists in all styles, parades of horses and conveyances, pageants, comic and historical characters mounted, the municipal authorities, fire brigade, morris dancers, tradesmen working at their crafts, perriot troupes and hand bell ringers in conveyances. There will be collections taken on the line of route for the war and Indian famine funds, when a sum of at least £200 is expected to be raised. The bells of St. Mary's parish church and St. George's will be in full swing from 4 to 8, and ringing friends belonging to the surrounding districts are cordially invited to kindly put in an appearance and have a hand in the good work.

BENTLEY (Essex).—On Sunday, March 25th, at the parish church, for Divine Service, a 960 of Kent Treble Major. E. Hills, 1; W. J. Nevard, 2; H. E. Bowers, 3; C. Clark, 4; E. Rivers, 5; F. Rolfe, 6; G. Lancaster, 7; G. A. Andrews (conductor), 8.

WANTED a good Gardener. Must be of good character, regular attendant at church, and a Change-Ringer. House and Garden, and £1 per week offered. Address—Rector, Grappenhall Rectory, Warrington.

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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. (28 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 Wednesday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 1900.

WITH great pleasure we have perused the report of the proceedings at the Annual Meeting of the Ely Diocesan Association, which will be found on another page. For a long time this Association was trembling on the verge of dissolution, but the manly and persevering manner in which our old and dear friend—the Rev. K. H. SMITH—stuck to his guns, effected at last a happy change in its fortunes, till now it can be considered on the high road, not to permanence only, but prosperity. In the uphill fight for the formation of this Association, we sometimes thought there was reason for the complaint that no progress was being made, or any indication shown that the organization had not entirely collapsed. But all the while the above-named rev. gentleman was evidently pegging away, and we ourselves rejoice at the satisfaction which the present condition of his whilom bantling affords him. The efficient services of the Hon. Secretary—the Rev.

W. W. CRUMP—have conduced to the success in no small degree. Great co-operative efforts were absolutely necessary in such a district as this diocese embraces, and they have been successfully made. We would fain appeal to the large-hearted churchmen of Ely to further the interests of the Association with might and main, so that it may gain strength rapidly. They could hardly have a more praiseworthy object on which to direct their energy and patronage, and their contributions as well.

We again ask Secretaries to favour us with the names and addresses of all clerical ringers within their respective districts. May we beg that this request may be complied with at once. We should be glad of a list of peals rung by the Revs. C. D. P. Davies, H. A. Cockey, W. W. C. Baker, H. J. Elsee, and others. The number of this paper for May 5th will be illustrated.

The Metropolis.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Monday, April 16, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST ANNE, HIGHGATE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 15 cwt.

ARTHUR JACOB Treble.	CHARLES H. MARTIN .. 5.
RICHARD BEVAN 2.	NEWLAND ALDERMAN .. 6.
THOMAS LANGDON* 3.	*FREDERICK RICHARDSON .. 7.
JAMES HANNINGTON 4.	HARRY STUBBS Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by JAMES HANNINGTON.

*First peal of Major. This peal is in two equal parts without the 2nd in 6ths place at a course-end. See "THE BELL NEWS" of March 24, 1900, page 526.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Monday, April 16, 1900, in Three Hours and Forty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, HAMPSTEAD,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 27 cwt.

CHARLES H. MARTIN .. Treble.	ALBERT PITTAM 6.
WILLIAM J. NUDDS 2.	*FREDERICK RICHARDSON .. 7.
JAMES HANNINGTON 3.	*RICHARD BEVAN 8.
THOMAS TITCHENER 4.	*HENRY STUBBS 9.
GEORGE B. LUCAS* 5.	ARTHUR JACOB Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by C. H. MARTIN.

*First peal of Treble Ten; also first peal of Treble Bob as conductor. This composition is now rung for the first time.

The Provinces.

ASHTEAD, SURREY.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, April 7, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

CHARLES T. P. BRICE .. Treble.	JOHN N. OXBORROW 5.
WILLIAM H. PASMORE 2.	JOHN WYATT 6.
HENRY S. ELLIS 3.	JOHN W. GOLDING 7.
HENRY R. NEWTON 4.	WILLIAM CROPLEY Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY R. NEWTON.

[This pe was accidentally omitted last week]

FARNWORTH, NEAR BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, April 14, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOSEPH POTTER Treble.	WILLIAM LEVER 5.
JOHN LEVER 2.	TITUS BARLOW 6.
JOHN MOSCROP 3.	JOHN POTTER 7.
ALFRED POTTER 4.	SAMUEL OAKES Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN POTTER.

Rung as a farewell peal to the Vicar, the Rev. H. S. Butler.

GUISELEY, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 14, 1900, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OSWALD,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

FREDERICK W. HIRD* .. Treble.	*CHARLES E. WAITE 5.
FREDERICK W. DIXON 2.	JOSEPH YEADON 6.
CHARLES PRATT 3.	THOMAS M. THOMPSON .. 7.
WALTER POPPLEWELL .. 4.	JOSEPH WAITE Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN, and

Conducted by THOMAS M. THOMPSON.

*First peal in the method.

COALBROOKDALE, SALOP.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF SALOP.

On Monday, April 16, 1900, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PENNING'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 19 cwt. 2 qrs. 10 lbs.

A. SHUKER* Treble.	R. ROWLEY 5.
R. HOLLINSHEAD* 2.	*J. BRADNEY 6.
T. PRITCHARD 3.	W. LEBBON 7.
J. W. PEACH† 4.	*T. GWILLIAM Tenor.

Conducted by W. LEBBON.

*First peal of Grandsire. †First peal in any method. Shuker, Hollinshead, Bradney, Lebbon and Gwilliam from Shifnal; Pritchard, Peach and Rowley from Wellington.

WITNEY, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, April 15, 1900, in Three Hours and One Minute,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

VICARS' SIX-PART.

FREDERICK POUNDS .. Treble.	FRANCIS P. POWELL 5.
THOMAS BULL 2.	JOHN MONK 6.
GEORGE ROOM 3.	REV. CYRIL W. O. JENKYN .. 7.
HARRY BROOKS 4.	JESSE BROOKS Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN MONK.

Rung for evening service.

BORDEN, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 16, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 22 cwt.

WILLIAM BEDWELL .. Treble.	JOHN HACK 5.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE .. 2.	CHARLES WILLSHIRE 6.
JAMES E. DAVIS 3.	GEORGE H. DAYNES 7.
GEORGE FOSTER 4.	RICHARD STAINES Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES WILLSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD PEAL-BOOK.—A RECORD of Five Hundred and Twenty Peals rung by this Guild. Paper covers, 6d.; cloth do., 9d.—Blackwell, Reading; or the Hon. Sec. of the Guild—the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, Dunsden Vicarage, Reading Berks.

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Monday, April 16, 1900, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5056 CHANGES. Tenor 14½ cwt.

WILLIAM F. HARTSHORNE <i>Treble</i> .	THOMAS J. SALTER 5.
JAMES PAGETT 2.	ALBERT E. PARSONS 6.
WILLIAM H. SMITH 3.	JOHN CRANE 7.
NOAH DAVIS 4.	RICHARD E. GROVE <i>Tenor</i> .

Composed by CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY, and
Conducted by R. E. GROVE.

First peal of Surprise on the bells.

BISHOPS STORTFORD, HERTS.—ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 16, 1900, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIAM T. PRIOR <i>Treble</i> .	GEORGE H. BARKER 5.
GEORGE JORDAN 2.	SAMUEL HAYES 6.
THOMAS J. WATTS 3.	WILLIAM WATTS 7.
WALTER WATTS 4.	HENRY J. TUCKER <i>Tenor</i> .

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW, and
Conducted by HENRY JAMES TUCKER.

This is the first peal in the method on the bells.

KIDLINGTON, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, April 16, 1900, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION.

LEONARD BENNETT <i>Treble</i> .	JOHN MATTHEWS 5.
FREDERICK WEBB 2.	JAMES FRANKLIN 6.
NOBLE SPINDLOW 3.	HARRY G. JUDGE 7.
WILLIAM THORPE 4.	WILLIAM FRANKLIN <i>Tenor</i> .

Conducted by H. G. JUDGE.

BATTLE, SUSSEX.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 16, 1900, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs.

EDGAR BURDEN <i>Treble</i> .	CHARLES TRIBE 5.
WALTER FRANKS 2.	ALFRED HINDS 6.
FREDK. G. BURDEN 3.	WILLIAM J. THOMAS 7.
SYDNEY SAKER 4.	GEORGE JOHNSON <i>Tenor</i> .

Conducted by WALTER FRANKS.

Tribe and Hines hail from Teutenden; E. and F. G. Burden from Rolvenden;
Saker from Hastings; Johnson from Appledore; Thomas and Franks are local men;

FARNHAM ROYAL, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, April 16, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

GEORGE ALLDER* <i>Treble</i> .	HENRY H. CHANDLER 5.
JOSEPH J. PARKER 2.	ALFRED W. BRIGHTON 6.
JOHN J. PRATT 3.	JOHN BASDEN 7.
GEORGE MARTIN 4.	REUBEN FLAXMAN <i>Tenor</i> .

Conducted by JOHN BASDEN.

First peal of Stedman on the bells. *First peal in the method.

PULHAM ST. MARY, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 16, 1900, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5152 CHANGES. Tenor 15 cwt.

HERBERT MATTHEWS† <i>Treble</i> .	CHARLES E. BORRETT 5.
GEORGE R. PYE 2.	ERNEST PYE 6.
JAMES BOUGHTON 3.	FREDERICK R. BORRETT 7.
ROBERT WHITING 4.	WILLIAM PYE <i>Tenor</i> .

Composed by EDWARD FRANCIS, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

†First peal in the method.

REDENHALL, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 16, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5088 CHANGES. Tenor 24 cwt. in E.

CHARLES E. BORRETT <i>Treble</i> .	ERNEST F. POPPY 5.
JAMES BETTS 2.	ERNEST PYE 6.
GEORGE R. PYE 3.	FREDERICK SMITH 7.
FREDERICK R. BORRETT 4.	WILLIAM PYE <i>Tenor</i> .

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

BERKELEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 16, 1900, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 24 cwt.

JAMES PARKER† <i>Treble</i> .	HARRY JONES 6.
FRANK E. WEBB† 2.	FRANK K. HOWELL 6.
FREDERICK OAKHILL† 3.	HARRY W. FUSSELL 7.
HARRY T. HOWELL 4.	SIDNEY JONES <i>Tenor</i> .

Conducted by H. W. FUSSELL.

†First peal. *First peal as conductor.

WALMER, KENT.—THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Monday, April 16, 1900, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 19 cwt.

HARRY BARTON <i>Treble</i> .	FREDERICK G. PERRIN 5.
HENRY WOOD 2.	HAROLD N. DAVIS 6.
HERBERT LANGDON 3.	ARTHUR HARDY 7.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL 4.	HENRY CASTLE <i>Tenor</i> .

Conducted by HARRY BARTON.

*First peal on eight bells. These bells were erected in April, 1893, by Warner and Sons, and this is the first peal upon them.

TETBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

(THE CIRENCESTER PARISH CHURCH SOCIETY.)

On Monday, April 16, 1900, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
DAVIES' FIVE-PART, No. 2. Tenor 16 cwt.

J. C. EDEN* <i>Treble</i> .	C. E. BARTLETT 5.
H. C. BOND† 2.	F. W. BOND 6.
F. J. LEWIS 3.	A. E. EDWARDS 7.
F. PROTHEROUGH* 4.	H. CLUTTERBUCK <i>Tenor</i> .

Conducted by H. C. BOND.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor. First peal by a local company.

SHIPTON-UNDER-WYCHWOOD, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, April 16, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION.

FREDERICK POUNDS Treble.	THOMAS E. GLANVILLE .. 5.
HARRY BROOKS 2.	JOHN MONK 6.
THOMAS BOND 3.	REV. CYRIL W. O. JENKYN .. 7.
FRANCIS P. POWELL 4.	THOMAS BULL Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN MONK.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, April 16, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF S. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

JAMES W. WILKINS Treble.	JOHN EVANS 5.
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER .. 2.	RALPH H. BIGGS 6.
JOHN W. GOLDING 3.	EDWARD P. O'MEARA .. 7.
HARRY R. PASMORE 4.	FRANK K. BIGGS Tenor.

Conducted by HARRY R. PASMORE.

First peal on tower bells as conductor.

BLOCKLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE,

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, April 16, 1900, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt. 27 lbs.

A. G. NEWMAN* Treble.	J. F. BARLOW 5.
F. GRAFTON* 2.	R. LYDIATT 6.
C. J. GILLET* 3.	W. LARGE 7.
W. SMITH 4.	*F. G. CANDY Tenor.

Composed by G. LINDOFF, and Conducted by W. LARGE.

*First peal. This is the first peal on the bells. R. Lydiatt was made a member before starting for the peal.

DERBY.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(THE ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.)

On Monday, April 16, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PENNING'S FIVE-PART.

Tenor 20½ cwt.

GEORGE WARD Treble.	CHARLES DRAPER 5.
ALBERT H. WARD 2.	SAMUEL MASKREY 6.
CHARLES E. HART 3.	ALBERT E. THOMPSON .. 7.
JAMES W. DENT 4.	EDMUND WILLIS Tenor.

Conducted by ALBERT H. WARD.

This is the quickest peal on the bells.

TENTERDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 16, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MILDRED,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 30 cwt.

THOMAS MANNERING .. Treble.	ROBERT EDWARDS 5.
WALTER MANNERING .. 2.	ARTHUR C. WEST 6.
WILLIAM SPICE 3.	ALFRED PALMER 7.
ALFRED W. TAWNEY .. 4.	HENRY HOLDSTOCK Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS MANNERING.

Rung as a birthday compliment to A. Palmer.

RAUNDS, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 16, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

ANNABLE'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 22 cwt 8 lbs.

WILLIAM J. GILBERT .. Treble.	*EDWARD F. SLADE 5.
FRED STUBBS 2.	WALTER GILBERT 6.
FRANK KIRK 3.	FRED GILBERT 7.
HENRY STUBBS 4.	*ALFRED KIRK Tenor.

Conducted by F. GILBERT.

*First peal. This is the quickest peal on the bells. It was intended to ring a peal of Treble Bob, but meeting one short the above was rung. E. F. Slade belongs to Braintree, Essex.

WICKHAM SKEITH, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 16, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

DAVID MAYS Treble.	HARRY CATTERMOLLE .. 4.
GEORGE KEMP 2.	FRANK CULLUM 5.
FREDERICK POTTER .. 3.	GEORGE CATTERMOLLE .. Tenor.

Conducted by G. CATTERMOLLE.

TONBRIDGE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 16, 1900, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 23 cwt.

ROBERT STONE† Treble.	JAMES HEASMAN 5.
SIDNEY A. WRIGHT* .. 2.	JOHN W. STEDDY 6.
HERBERT J. FORD 3.	†FREDK. J. HARRINGTON .. 7.
CHARLES F. TURNER† .. 4.	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE .. Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and Conducted by THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE.

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

ASSTEAD, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 16, 1900, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF HOLT'S TEN-PART.

DAVID ANSCOMB Treble.	WILLIAM COOK 5.
HENRY CORBETT 2.	JOHN HOYLE 6.
WILLIAM CROCKFORD .. 3.	ARTHUR DEAN 7.
JOHN WYATT 4.	WILLIAM FARREL Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN WYATT.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, April 17, 1900, in Five Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 9312 CHANGES.

Tenor 10 cwt, 1 qr. 4 lbs.

WILLIAM V. NEWMAN .. Treble.	WILLIAM PETTITT 5.
JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. .. 2.	JAMES GARRATT 6.
ALPHAUS PERKINS 3.	HARRY CHAPMAN 7.
WILLIAM H. PASMORE .. 4.	ANDERSON Y. TYLER .. Tenor.

Conducted by ANDERSON Y. TYLER.

Owing to wedding services being held in the church on the 16th inst., the peal was postponed to the next day. H. Chapman hails from Manchester; W. H. Pasmore from London; the rest from Irlthlingborough. Longest length by all the band; also by the Association.

NORWICH.—THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.*On Tuesday, April 17, 1900, in Three Hours and Thirty-three Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER MANCROFT,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5006 CHANGES.

Tenor 43 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lbs.

ALBERT G. WARNES* .. Treble.	FREDERICK J. HOWCHIN .. 6.
CHARLES E. BORRETT† .. 2.	ERNEST PYE 7.
PHILIP SADLER* 3.	FREDERICK KNIGHTS .. 8.
GEORGE R. PYE 4.	WILLIAM PYE 9.
GEORGE HOWCHIN† 5.	SAMUEL SMITH Tenor.

Composed by the late G. NEWSON, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

†First peal in the method. *First peal of Stedman Caters. Rung on the occasion of the election of churchwardens. It is upwards of fifty years since a peal of Stedman Caters was rung in Norfolk; the previous one was conducted by the late John Cox. and rang at the above church.

READING, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(READING BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, April 17, 1900, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

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

Tenor 15 cwt.

JOHN TUCKER Treble.	*ARTHUR EVANS 5.
ALFRED E. REEVES* .. 2.	HENRY TUCKER 6.
ALFRED W. REEVES .. 3.	CHARLES GILES 7.
FREDERICK SWEETZER* .. 4.	*ALBERT E. REEVES .. Tenor.

Composed by H. JOHNSON, and Conducted by ALBERT E. REEVES.

This is the first peal in the method ever rung in Reading. *First peal of Double Norwich.

SHIPLEY, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.*On Tuesday, April 17, 1900, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES:

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 15 cwt.

JOSEPH BROADLEY .. Treble.	JOAB A. ROSS 5.
GEORGE A. O. NETTLETON .. 2.	THOMAS B. KENDALL .. 6.
CHARLES PRATT 3.	FRED. PAGE 7.
WALTER POPPLEWELL .. 4.	FREDERICK W. DIXON .. Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS B. KENDALL.

It was intended to ring a silent peal, but meeting one short Mr. Page kindly stood in. Rung on the anniversary of the long peal (10,400 Treble Bob, 1896).

Handbell Peals.**SPROUGHTON, SUFFOLK.****THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

(SPROUGHTON BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, April 10, 1900, in Two Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,

AT THE HOUSE OF MR. H. J. MEE.

A PEAL OF NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

WALTER BROWN .. Treble.	EDGAR RIVERS 5.
GEORGE W. MEE 2.	ALFRED G. RIVERS .. 6.
FRANK ROLFE 3.	CHARLES MEE 7.
HARRY J. MEE 4.	FREDERICK MEE Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by CHARLES MEE.

This is a two-part peal, and is the only two-part 5056 in the method, and is now rung for the first time. This is the first peal of Cambridge ever rung in Norfolk or Suffolk, and is the first in the method by all the band, and is believed to be the first ever rung on handbells.

PEAL CORRECTIONS.—The time occupied in ringing the peal of Cambridge Surprise at Woolwich on Thursday, April 5th, should have been reported as 3 hrs. and not 2 hrs.—The peal rung at Bolton, on Saturday, March 17th, was a Lancashire Association peal.

Miscellaneous.**THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**

GREAT HALE (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday evening, March 25th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. H. Wood, 1; C. Ward, 2; J. R. Green, 3; R. Masters, 4; T. Humberston (conductor), 5; T. B. Wood, 6.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

CAMBERWELL.—On Sunday, March 18th, for Divine Service at St. Giles's church, 936 Grandsire Caters. H. Flowers, 1; A. Hardy, 2; H. Barton (conductor), 3; F. G. Perrin, 4; H. Langdon, 5; W. Charge, 6; W. S. Langdon, 7; R. Charge, 8; C. R. Lilley, 9; G. H. Oxenham, 10.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CHRISTCHURCH (Hants).—On Monday evening, February 26th, 504 Stedman Triples, in 20 mins. E. V. Hinton, 1; T. Best, 2; W. Kerley, 3; G. H. Plummer, 4; G. Vey, 5; S. Best, 6; G. Preston (conductor), 7; W. Saffery, 8. On Thursday evening, in honour of the relief of Ladysmith, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins. H. Bagshot, 1; E. V. Hinton, 2; S. Best, 3; W. Keeley, 4; G. Vey, 5; T. Best, 6; G. Preston (conductor), 7; W. Saffery, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On February 14th, 720 Violet, 720 Superlative, and 720 London Surprise. W. Lane, 1; G. Hayes, 2; F. J. Ring, 3; M. Digby, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. On March 1st, 720 Bob Minor. A. Broom, 1; H. Milhams, 2; W. Lane, 3; M. Digby, 4; W. Martin (conductor), 5; G. Hayes, 6. On March 4th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. R. Brett, 1; E. Brett, 2; F. J. Ring, 3; M. Digby, 4; W. Martin, 5; G. Hayes (conductor), 6. On March 11th, 720 Cambridge Surprise. J. Avis, 1; G. Hayes, 2; L. Silver, 3; M. Digby, 4; W. Harper, 5; F. Hayes (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Avis, 1; W. Lane, 2; L. Silver, 3; M. Digby, 4; W. Harper, 5; G. Hayes (conductor), 6. On March 18th, 720 New London Pleasure. W. Lane, 1; G. Hayes, 2; F. J. Ring, 3; M. Digby, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all the band. On April 1st, 720 Cambridge Surprise. H. Milhams, 1; W. Lane, 2; F. J. Ring, 3; M. Digby, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. Also 720 Cambridge Surprise. A. Broom, 1; the rest as before.

FARNHAM (Surrey).—On Thursday, March 1st, to commemorate the relief of Ladysmith, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. A. E. Smith, 1; A. LeClercq, 2; H. Garfath (conductor), 3; F. A. Barnett, 4; A. White, 5; C. Fry, 6; E. Clapshaw, 7; T. Upshall, 8. In the evening, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal, another quarter, in 43 mins. H. Garfath, jun., 1; A. LeClercq, 2; C. Fry, 3; H. Garfath, sen. (conductor), 4; J. Hawkes, 5; A. White, 6; E. Clapshaw, 7; T. Upshall, 8.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—On Sunday, March 18th, at Holy Trinity church, for Divine Service in the morning, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (taken from Holt's Original), in 46 mins. H. Head, 1; G. Foster (conductor), 2; H. Hutton, 3; C. Willshire, 4; B. Chorley, 5; R. Wood, 6; E. Pulling, 7; T. Maynard, 8. Longest touch by Hutton and Pulling. For evening service 504 in the same method. H. Head, 1; B. Chorley, 2; G. Foster (conductor), 3; W. W. Thorne, 4; C. Willshire, 5; R. Wood, 6; H. Harman, 7; T. Maynard, 8.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH (Northamptonshire).—On Monday, February 5th, for practice, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of London Surprise Major. J. Mawby, 1; J. Houghton, jun., 2; C. Newman, 3; A. Perkins, 4; W. Newman, 5; W. Pettitt, 6; J. Garratt, 7; A. Tyler (conductor), 8. On Sunday, March 25th, for morning service, a 728 of London Surprise Major. J. Mawby, 1; W. Newman, 2; A. Perkins, 3; C. Newman, 4; A. Tyler, 5; W. Pettitt, 6; W. Perkins, 7; J. Houghton, sen. (conductor), 8.

NORTH WINGFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Monday, March 26th, at St. Laurence's church with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Rev. T. C. Hill, Vicar of Bolsover and President of the East Derbyshire Association, 360 Bob Minor. J. Milner, 1; T. Allibone, 2; W. Butler, 3; T. Clough, 4; W. Hopkinson, 5; J. Tarlton (conductor), 6. A well-struck 720 was lost a few strokes from the end. On Sunday, April 1st, the bells were rung half-muffled for both services. In the evening a 720 Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and sixteen singles) was rung. H. Tarlton, 2; J. T. Butler (conductor), 3; the rest as before. Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

PATELEY BRIDGE (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, March 25th, for Divine Service at St. Cuthbert's church, 720 Bob Minor in 27 mins. W. J. Buck, 1; S. Bassett, 2; A. Heigh, 3; G. H. Mason, 4; C. R. Knibbs, 5; J. Mumford (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

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 Ancient Society of College Youths.—A Bohemian Concert will be given at The Ship, Ivy Lane, E.C., at 7 p.m., to-day, Saturday, April 21. All members and friends of the Society will be heartily welcomed. Meetings for practice at St. Magnus, London Bridge on April 26th, and St. Michael's Cornhill, on May 1st, both at 8 p.m.

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

Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. James's church, Birch, Rusholme, to-day, Saturday, April 21st. Bells ready at 4.0 p.m. Business meeting at 7.0 p.m.

W. BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The monthly ringing meeting will be held at Calverley (8 bells), to-day, Saturday, April 21st. Meeting-house, The Thornhill Arms. Bells at liberty from 2.0. Business meeting at 6.0. Handbells provided. All contributions are now due.

HY. GAYTHORPE, *Hon. Sec.*
1, Elm Avenue, Bramley.

The Middlesex County Association.—North and East District.—A meeting of members of this Association will be held on Saturday, April 28th, at Christ Church, Southgate. The bells will be raised about 4 o'clock, and members and their friends are cordially invited to attend. A further meeting will be held on May 12th, at St. Margaret's, Westminster, notice of which is in advance for the convenience of members.

ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—Spring Meeting at Haddenham on Saturday, April 28th. Evensong at 5.0. Preacher—Rev. G. B. Rhind. Tea at 5.30 at The White Hart. Brakes meet 3.36 and 4.3 trains at Thame. Please inform Rev. G. B. Rhind, Haddenham Vicarage, Thame. Thame tower open.

R. H. HART-DAVIS, *Hon. Sec.*

Kent County Association.—Lewisham District. The usual Quarterly Meeting will be held at St. Mary's Woolwich, on Saturday April 28th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Committee meeting in the vestry. Will members whose subscriptions are still unpaid forward same to the district secretary without delay, in order that the annual report may be prepared.

PERCY E. BEX, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*
Barnehurst, Bexley Heath.

The Winchester Diocesan Guild.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Chiddingfold (8 bells), on Saturday, April 28th, Wittey, London and South Western Railway, is the nearest station. Tea will be provided for members.

C. E. MATTHEWS, *Hon. Sec.*
Bursledon Vicarage, Southampton.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting of this branch will be held at St. Mary's, Balderstone, on Saturday, April 28th. Bells ready at 3.30. Business meeting at 6.30. All ringers welcome. J. JACQUES, *Branch Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Liver-

pool Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at St. Mary's church, Walton-on-the-Hill, on Saturday, April 28th. Tower open at 4 o'clock. Meeting at 6.

G. WOODHALL, *Branch Sec.*

Chester Diocesan Guild.—Macclesfield Branch.—The next meeting of this branch will be held at St. Peter's church, Congleton, on Saturday, April 28th. Tea at 5 o'clock.

J. NORBURY, *Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting of this branch will be held at Walkden, on Saturday, March 28th. Bells ready at 3.30. Unveiling of peal-tablet at 5 o'clock. Tea immediately after for all those sending in their names to Mr. Joseph Potter, 34, Sandwich Street, Walkden, not later than Thursday, April 26th. Business Meeting after tea. All ringers invited.

HENRY MOSS, *Branch Sec.*
64, Beverley Road, Bolton.

Middlesex County Association.—South and West District.—The next monthly meeting of the above will be held by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. R. D. Ram, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, Hampton-on-Thames, on Saturday, April 28th. Ringing to commence at 5 p.m. Members and friends are cordially invited.

C. EDWARDS, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—Bristol Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at St. George's, on Saturday, April 28th. Service at 5 p.m. Bells open for ringing from 3 p.m. Tea will be provided at the Tramway Refreshment Rooms, St. George, after the service. Tea 9d. to members giving notice of their intention to be present at the tea to me by Wednesday, the 25th inst., and will be allowed sixpence. Business meeting after tea.

C. H. GORDON, *Branch Sec.*
Hill Street, Kingswood.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

—The quarterly meeting in connection with this Society will be held on Saturday, April 28th, at the parish church, Harborne. The bells will be available for ringing during the afternoon and evening. There will be a short service in the church at 5 o'clock, and tea will be provided at one shilling per head for all those sending in their names before the 21st inst. to

S. REEVES, *Hon. Sec.*
10, Bull Street, Westbromwich.

St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—The usual quarterly meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 1st, at The Tamworth Arms, Moor Street, when all members who can make it convenient are requested to attend. Chair will be taken at 8.30 p.m.

W. H. GODDEN, *Hon. Sec.*
61, Roland Road, Handsworth.

The Lancashire Association.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Garston, near Liverpool, on Saturday, May 5th. Further particulars by circular.

A. E. WREAKS,
J. WILSON,
J. SHEPHERD, } *Hon. Secs.*

The Kent County Association.—Canterbury District.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at St. Peter's, Thanet, on Saturday, May 5th. Full particulars next week.

E. E. FOREMAN, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*

Central Northamptonshire Association. Will all members who have not yet paid their subscriptions for 1899 kindly send them at once. One question to be considered at the

usual meeting of delegates, to be held at Wellingborough shortly after Easter, will be the election of a member to act as representative of the Association on the Central Council.

E. J. DENNES, *Hon. Sec.*

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

WITNEY.—On Palm Sunday, for Divine Service in the evening at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins. F. Pounds, 1; G. Room, 2; H. Brooks, 3; T. Bull, 4; F. P. Powell, 6; Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, 6; J. Monk, 7; J. Brooks, 8. Conducted by J. Monk.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CANTERBURY (Kent).—On Thursday, March 15th, at St. Stephen's church, 420 Stedman Triples. W. Lott, 1; M. W. Pierce, 2; J. Fox, 3; F. T. Brett, 4; G. Jenkins, 5; R. T. Rossiter, 6; P. H. Pierce, 7; J. Balaam, 8. First touch of Stedman by Messrs. Rossiter and Lott.

HERNHILL (Kent).—Recently, at the parish church, 504 Bob Triples. J. Chambers, 1; Rev. B. B. Smyth (longest length), 2; E. E. Foreman, 3; A. Castle, 4; G. H. Foster, 5; H. Foster, 6; H. T. Foreman (first 504 as conductor), 7; H. Creech, 8.

Handbells for Sale.

SET OF TWELVE HANDBELLS for Sale, tenor S in G, quite new, but no reasonable offer refused. Apply—Box 12, "BELL NEWS" office, Walthamstow, London.

SET OF FIFTEEN HANDBELLS for Sale, G to C tenor, and one B flat and two F sharp. Apply by letter to E. B. K., 25, Palace Gardens Terrace, Kensington, W.

SET of 15 Handbells, tenor 18g, viz., 13 consecutive notes, with semitone 12f and 1c sharp. By Mears and Stainbank. No reasonable offer refused. Apply to Mr. T. Hattersley, 79, West Street, Sheffield, or the Rev. F. G. Sandford, Sharrow Vicarage, Sheffield.

FOR SALE. Set of 8 Handbells in key of C. Only used twice. As good as new. Offered for £2. Address—Rector, Rammore, Dorking.

CLOCKS,

Striking the quarter, half-hour or hour, made specially for

THE VESTRY
THE RINGING-CHAMBER,
THE OFFICE, OR
THE HOUSE.

WATCHES,

NO BETTER MADE ANYWHERE,
AT VARIOUS PRICES.

Our Watches are to be depended on for workmanship and accuracy.

JEWELLERY

Of every conceivable description—English manufacture all made in our own factories.

WEDDING, SIGNET AND
FANCY RINGS

POTTS & SONS,

Church and Turret Clock Makers,
GUILDFORD STREET, LEEDS.

Church Items.

Lord Dysart has given £150 towards the addition of a chancel to Ham (Surrey) parish church. The scheme for the erection of a new church has been abandoned.

The committee of the Ripon Church Institute have started a scheme for providing new premises. A site was selected adjoining the market-place, and negotiations have been in progress for its purchase from the Marquis of Ripon. Miss Darnborough, of the Mount, has generously announced her intention to provide the purchase-money. The gift is understood to be equal to £150.

The late Duke of Westminster contributed £400 a year for the support of additional clergymen and lay agents in large and necessitous parishes of the rural deaneries of Stockport and Mottram. The withdrawal of so large a sum by reason of his death would have imperilled the existence of the Stockport and Mottram Church Aid Society. The present Duke, however, has intimated that he will give £200 a year, and it is hoped that a little more activity on the part of all concerned will enable the society to continue its work. In the hope of such a result, grants have been voted to the amount of £750 for assistant-curates. Last year the total income, including £400 from the late Duke of Westminster and a bank balance of £10 brought forward, was £757. The expenses of the society for the year did not exceed £5.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED

CHIEF OFFICE: HOLBORN BARS, LONDON.

Summary of the Report presented at the Fifty-First Annual Meeting, held on 1st March, 1900.

ORDINARY BRANCH.—The number of Policies issued during the year was 65,470, assuring the sum of £6,355,850, and producing a New Annual Premium Income of £352,003.

The Premiums received during the year were £3,144.464, being an increase of £176.963 over the year 1898.

The claims of the year amounted to £1,225,906. The number of Deaths was 5,899 and 3,963 Endowment Assurances matured.

The number of Policies in force at the end of the year was 570,414.

INDUSTRIAL BRANCH.—The Premiums received during the year were £5,168,958, being an increase of £208,202.

The Claims of the year amounted to £2,059,340. The number of Deaths was 209,807 and 2,239 Endowment Assurances matured.

The number of Free Policies granted during the year to those

Policyholders of five years' standing, who desired to discontinue their payments, was 72,611, the number in force being 663,250. The number of Free Policies which became Claims during the year was 14,533.

The total number of Policies in force at the end of the year was 13,433,785; their average duration exceeds eight and three-quarter years.

The assets of the Company, in both branches, as shown in the Balance Sheet, are £36,832,059, being an increase of £3,232,351 over those of 1898. A supplement, shewing in detail the various investments, is published with this Report.

The Staff Provident Fund, which was founded two years since for the benefit of the outdoor staff, shows a very satisfactory increase for the year, the total amount standing to the credit of the Fund being £73,085.

General Balance Sheet of the Prudential Assurance Company, Limited, on the 31st December, 1899.

LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Shareholders' Capital	1,000,000	0	0	British Government Securities (£3,180,000 Consols)	3,179,333	6	11
Ordinary Branch Funds	19,150,020	17	0	Indian and Colonial Government Securities	3,659,943	10	8
Industrial Branch Fund	15,708,695	17	8	Railway and other Debentures and Debenture Stock	2,175,734	12	6
Reserve Fund	800,000	0	0	Loans on County Council, Municipal and other Rates	7,048,287	10	8
Claims under Life Policies admitted	173,342	7	9	Freehold Ground Rents and Scotch Feu Duties	3,034,321	9	1
				Freehold and Leasehold Property	2,019,809	11	8
				Mortgages	4,870,960	2	6
				Railway, Gas, and Water Stocks	6,090,274	6	7
				Suez Canal Shares	168,369	5	8
				Telegraph and other Shares	72,532	8	3
				Metropolitan Consolidated Stock & City of London			
				Bonds	355,645	12	6
				Bank of England Stock	200,559	18	6
				Foreign Government Securities	1,046,970	14	2
				Reversions and Life Interests	738,486	14	11
				Loans on the Company's Policies	818,128	3	6
				Rent Charges	143,073	1	8
				Outstanding Premiums	372,987	12	5
				Cash in hands of Superintendents & Agents' balances	46,679	3	4
				Outstanding Interest and Rents	275,591	0	8
				Cash--On deposit, on Current Accounts, and in hand	514,370	16	3
	£36,832,059	2	5		£36,832,059	2	5

THOS. C. DEWEY,
WILLIAM HUGHES, } *Joint General Managers.*
FREDERICK FISHER, }
W. J. LANCASTER, *Secretary.*

EDGAR HORNE, *Chairman.*

HENRY HARBEN, } *Directors.*
PERCY T. REID, }

We have examined the Cash transactions, Receipts and Payments, affecting the accounts of the Assets and Investments for the year ended December 31st, 1899, and we find the same in good order and properly vouched. We have also examined the Deeds and Securities, Tificates, &c., representing the Assets and Investments set out in the above account, and we certify that they were in possession and safe to-day as on December 31st, 1899.

14th February, 1900

DELOITTE DEVER, GRIFFITHS & CO.

ROPES.

BEST QUALITY IN EVERY
RESPECT, AT
REASONABLE PRICES.

IRONMONGERS'

ROPE WORKS,

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Wolverhampton.

ESTABLISHED 1745.

ROPES.

Established 1851.

BIRKBECK BANK

Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London.
TWO AND-A-HALF per CENT. INTEREST allowed on
DEPOSITS, repayable on demand
TWO per CENT INTEREST on CURRENT ACCOUNTS
the minimum monthly balances when not drawn below
STOCKS, SHARES, and ANNUITIES purchased and sold.

SAVINGS DEPARTMENT.

For the encouragement of Thrift the Bank receives small sums of
posit, and allows interest, monthly, on each completed £1

BIRKBECK BUILDING SOCIETY
HOW TO PURCHASE A HOUSE
FOR TWO GUINEAS PER MONTH.

BIRKBECK FREEHOLD LAND SOCIETY
HOW TO PURCHASE A PLOT OF LAND
FOR FIVE SHILLINGS PER MONTH.

THE BIRKBECK ALMANACK, with full particulars, can be
obtained post free, on application to
FRANCIS RAVEN-CROFT, Manager.

Peal Boards

"MARBLETTE"

Is the very best possible material for the
above. It is durable, highly polished, and
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The letters are incised and gilded on the
"Marblette" tablet, making the most hand-
some Peal Board ever introduced to Bell
Ringers.

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Also Makers of Polished, Silvered,
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Benders, Embossers, Brilliant Cutters, &c.

Bell & Brass Founders by Special Appointment to Her Majesty.

JOHN WARNER & SONS, Ltd.
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"THE VICTORIA PEAL" OF EIGHT BELLS.



TENOR 25 cwt. WEIGHT OF PEAL 5 tons 4 cwt. 16 lbs.

Hung in the 'Victoria Tower,'
ST. MARY'S CHURCH, CHATHAM.

H.R.H. PRINCESS CHRISTIAN ATTENDED, at the DEDICATION SERVICE by the
BISHOP OF ROCHESTER, Feb. 2nd, 1896;

In Commemoration of Her Majesty's Jubilee, 1897.

JOHN SULLY,
Church Bell Hanger

Zinch, Stogumber, Somerset.

Rings of Bells to any number hung on the most approved
principles. Old Bells re-cast. New Bells supplied.

J. S., having had considerable experience in Church
Bell hanging, with confidence solicits the patronage of
the clergy, churchwardens and ringers generally.

THE ELLACOMBE CHIME HAMMERS FIXED
BELL ROPES SUPPLIED.

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(Successor to George Stockham)
HANDBELL FOUNDER,

51, Bankside, Southwark, London, S.E.
Musical Handbells to any size or key—Chromatic or
Diatonic Scales.

Old Bells repaired or augmented to any size, on the
most reasonable terms.

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BELL FOUNDER

AND
CHURCH BELL HANGER
SHEEP STREET, BURFORD,
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For Church Bells, Turret Bells, House Bells, Clock
Bells, and Bells of every description. Bell Ropes of the
best quality supplied. The Ellacombe Chime Hammers
accurately fixed.

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CELEBRATED CHURCH BELL
ROPE MANUFACTURER,

Maker to the principal Churches in Norfolk
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14, DOVE STREET, NORWICH.

ASTLEY'S head spinner has had FORTY YEARS' experience making their
Speciality Bell Ropes.

Send number, weight of tenor, and length to

JOHN ASTLEY & SONS, Ltd.,

ROPE SPINNERS,

Established 1730.

COVENTRY.

JOHN TAYLOR & CO.,

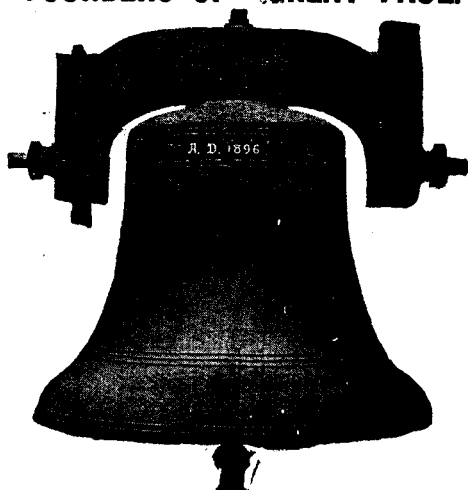
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Founders of the New Ring of Bells for ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, the HEAVIEST Peal of 12 Ringing BELLS in the COUNTRY.

"This is unquestionably the greatest ringing peal in England, and therefore in the world."—SIR EDMUND BECKETT, Bart., Q.C., Times, Nov. 20, 1878.

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Also founders of the noted peals of bells at the cathedrals of Worcester, Newcastle-on-Tyne, St. Mary's, Edinburgh, St. Patrick's, Dublin, Christ Church, N.Z. and Singapore; the Town Halls of Manchester, Bradford, Rochdale, Halifax, Wakefield, and Kendal, and the Adelaide and Sydney Post Offices in Australia.

Founders of the "Alexandra" Peal of Tenor Bells for the Imperial Institute, London.

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Before sending for Bell-ropes, write to

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CHURCH BELL-ROPE MAKERS,

11, MARKET STREET, OXFORD,
Who manufacture Bell-Ropes of the very best quality.

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BELFRIES AND CLOCK TOWERS INSPECTED.

Church Bells for {RINGING
OR
CHIMING} Erected Complete with Fittings and Frames.

OLD BELLS RE-CAST. PEALS RE-FITTED AND RE-HUNG.

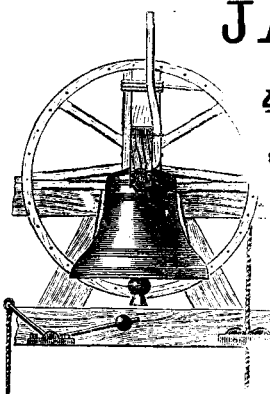
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JAMES BARWELL

Bell Founder,

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CHURCH BELLS, with all requisite Fittings and Framework, singly or in Peals. CLOCK and CHIME BELLS to any size and note.

SCHOOL BELLS with ringing arrangements, suitable for any position.

Existing Peals economically and efficiently restored.

CRACKED BELLS recast, and ANCIENT INSCRIPTIONS reproduced in fac-simile when required.

Men who are ringers sent to inspect Towers and report upon the tune and condition of Bells and Fittings.

MUSICAL HANDBELLS tuned in Diatonic and Chromatic Scales in sets of any numbers.

THOMAS MALLABY & SONS,
Church Bell Hangers,
MASHAM, YORKSHIRE.

RINGS OF BELLS to any number hung on the most approved principles. New Bells supplied. Old Bells Recast or Retuned. MESSRS. MALLABY & 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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|---|--|-------|---|---|
| No 232. | Selection, "Scotland Yet," containing "Kelvin Grove," "Comin' thro' the Rye," and "The Braes o' Mar" | price | 1 | 6 |
| No. 286. | "Men of Harlech," Welsh Melody | " | 1 | 6 |
| No. 287. | "Orange and Blue," Scotch Air | " | 1 | 6 |
| No. 319. | "Hark the bonny Christ Church Bells," varied | " | 1 | 6 |
| The above are for 6 ringers with 13 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.A. | | | | |
| The next are for 6 ringers with 12 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G. | | | | |
| No. 320. | "The Mountaineer's Waltz," on Swiss Melodies | " | 1 | 6 |
| No. 321. | "The Rose of Allendale" March | " | 1 | 6 |
| No. 322. | "The Pilgrim of Love" Galop | " | 1 | 6 |
| The next are for 6 ringers, with medium peal, i.e. 3 octaves, C22 to C1, chromatic. | | | | |
| No. 217. | "Belfry Chimes and Nursery Rhymes" | " | 3 | 0 |
| No. 720. | "Her Majesty's Waltz" | " | 3 | 0 |

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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. 942.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1900.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

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(Late Gillett & Bland.)
Clock Manufacturers,
BELL FOUNDERS,
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BELL HANGERS,
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CLOCKS AT	BELLS AT
Exeter Cathedral.	Craig-y-Nos Castle
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Manchester Town Hall.	Hove Town Hall.
Bradford Town Hall.	Burnley Holy Trinity Ch.
Law Courts, London.	Crawley Parish Church.
St. James' Palace, London.	Corbridge-on-Tyne, do.
Sherborne Abbey.	Pontypool (Trevelthin
Sydney Town Hall,	Church).
N.S.W.	Windermere Church.
Hammersmith Parish Ch.	Eiffel Tower, Paris.
Gateshead Clock Tower.	Dunsfold Parish Church.
Duke of Albany Memorial,	Aylesford do.
Cannes.	St. Mark's Church, St.
Eiffel Tower, Paris.	Helen's.
Shanghai Custom	Royal Normal College,
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Founders of the Jubilee Bells for Canon
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Selected by Lord Grimthorpe to make the
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Maker to St. Paul's, Canterbury, Edinburgh St.
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Send for Price List.

Maker of the Ropes for the Celebrated
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Church Bell Hangers & Musical
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Church & Turret Clocks of every description.

Church Bells hung with the latest improved fittings of
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SAFETY MATCHES

Do not contain
Phosphorous,
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CHURCH BELL HANGERS,
LEEDS ROAD, BRADFORD,
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Bells cast Singly or in Rings. Church Bells
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OLD BELLS RECAST OR REHUNG.

Musical Hand Bells

In sets, Diatonic or Chromatic Scales ;
Musical Clock Bells and Carillons to any
Size or Number.

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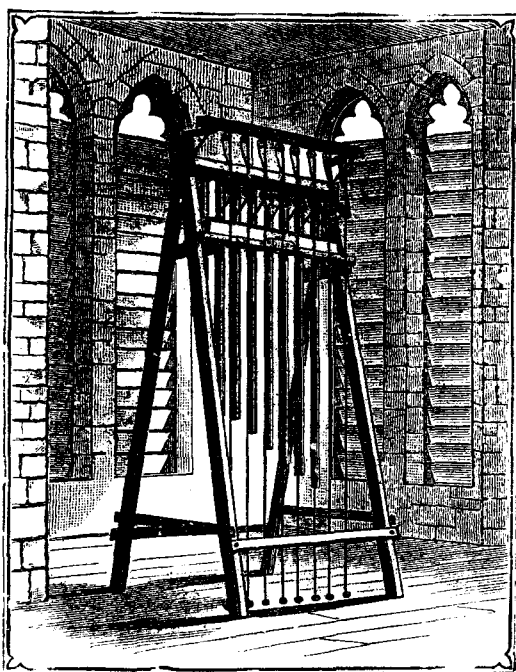
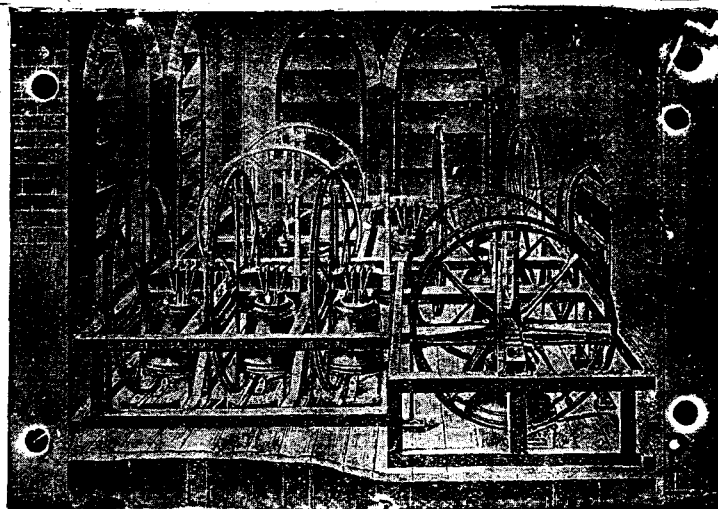
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Bells Cast to note and rehung. Covering Estimates given for whole Rings or parts of Rings.

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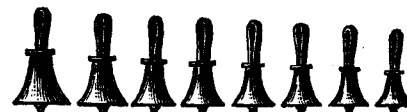
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And for all Buildings
where Bells are required.

Tubular Bells are better and
cheaper than the old form of
Bell.

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J. WARNER & SONS, LIMITED, Bell & Brass Founders TO HER MAJESTY, THE CRESCENT FOUNDRY, CRIPPLEGATE, LONDON, E.C.



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Musical Bell Founders.

Hand-Bells in Sets, in Diatonic or Chromatic Scales
Clocks, Bells, and Carillons in any size or number.
Bells of every description and size.

A Large Selection of Bell Literature always in Stock
THE BELL HYMN BOOK, by W. HALEY, for chiming
tunes on Church Bells. Price, paper covers 3s. each.
Cloth covers 5s.

TWELVE CAROLS for Handbell Ringers, by W.
HALEY, Price 1s.

12 POPULAR AIRS, for Handbell Ringers, by W.
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THE HANDBELL TUTOR.—A Collection of Tunes
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J.P. has had many years' experience
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New Handbell Music.

THE

"Soldiers of the Queen,"

By Special Arrangement with the Author and Composer, Mr.
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lishers, Messrs. Francis, Day, and Hunter.

In MSS. for 37 Bells, Chromatic Scale, C22 to C1,
Six Ringers, 5s.

In MSS. for Forty-nine Bells, Chromatic Scale, G25 to
G 04, Eight Ringers, 5s. 6d.

WM. GORDON, Lower Hillgate, Stockport.

The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 942.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1900.

[Vol. XVIII.]

DEDICATION OF NEW BELLS AT HORBURY, YORKSHIRE.

Saturday last was an interesting day for the good folk of this old Yorkshire town, when the ring of six in the tower of St. Peter's parish church, which had done duty for more than a century together, were to have the company of two new-comers, and for the first time send out the sound of Major. The bells were ringing a service touch of Minor as I walked from the railway station to the church, where on arrival I found service just commencing, with a very large congregation present, and well-filled choir-stalls. The special form of dedication service in use in the Wakefield diocese was intoned by the Vicar, and the lesson for the day was read by the venerable Canon Sharp (a former Vicar), whom I was gratified to see taking his part in this service notwithstanding the effect of his sixty years' vicariate, and a lifetime of over eighty years. During the service, while the congregation reverently stood, the bells were chimed for a moment or two, after which the hymn—

"Lifted gently to the steeple,"

was sung heartily, as indeed were all the hymns. Before the close of the service the Vicar gave a brief address from his stall in the choir, explaining that the promised sermon by the Rev. Canon Sharp would be preached on the following morning. He spoke forcibly of the position and use of bells in the church as instruments in God's service, and of their importance in the round of Church work. After service, the large number of visitors assembled at various points to hear the "opening touch," which of course was the evergreen Kent Treble Bob Major. This performance had been entrusted to the Dewsbury parish church company. And surely in no better hands could this duty have been placed, for the ringing from beginning to finish was like a piece of clockwork, and a treat worth travelling miles and miles to enjoy. This over, in company with others I wended my way to a neighbouring establishment, where we had a substantial tea. Steps were then directed back to church to hear the company from Earlsheaton, who gave us such another treat as we had had before. Thus the new ring of eight was ushered into permanent use with a couple of touches which for excellence of striking would be almost impossible to beat. Other touches followed during the evening, while the visitors occupied the remainder of their brief stay by mutual "confabs" together, during which the sweet tone of the bells, and the excellent "splice" which had been made, were the theme of universal encomiums. A rumour was also current that the Horbury company were meditating supplementing this opening ceremony by an invitation to the Yorkshire Association to hold its September meeting there. Should this turn out to be correct, and that meeting be so fixed, there can be no doubt as to its popularity. Also in that case, should I be privileged to be present, it will be my purpose to write you more about this old Yorkshire town, its church, and its people.

B.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The annual business meeting of this Association was held at St. Paul's Mission Room, Bedford, on Easter Monday last. Mr. E. Ransom presided, and there were present, among others, Messrs. Hills, Sear, Webb, Barker, Chas. Herbert, Matthews, Lane, Cyril Herbert, E. Herbert, Harris, and James. The Association was well represented by members from the various centres in connection therewith, except Bedford and Biddenham.

After a few preliminary remarks by the Chairman, who said that it was very pleasant to meet again in the old room in such numbers and with every prospect of an enjoyable day, the Secretary (Rev. W. W. C. Baker), read the following report:—

"A somewhat uneventful year affords few topics for comment. Nevertheless, the Committee, in presenting the eighteenth annual report, desire to express their belief that the comparative meagreness of the list of performances may be accounted for on sufficient grounds, and that interest in change-ringing and in the care of belfries is, to say the least, not decreasing in the county. Members of the Association will have heard with regret of the death of Mr. John Dickins, of Sharnbrook. His enthusiasm for ringing and all connected with it was remarkable, and at one time brought the Sharnbrook company to a high state of efficiency. While health remained he was a constant attendant at the meetings of the Association, and a valued member of the committee for many years, in both of which relations he will be much missed among us. The new ring for Cardington church has been cast and bung. Re-hanging and general repairs have also been carried out at Oakley and Houghton Regis, while at Ampthill a 6th bell has been added to the existing five. Quarterly meetings have been held at Harrold and Turvey. The meeting which was to have been held at Turvey at Midsummer fell through on account of serious illness in the parish, which rendered ringing impossible, but a successful meeting was held there at Michaelmas. Under the tuition of Mr. Clarke, the Harrold company have been making good progress during the past year. The new year's meeting at Turvey was not very largely attended, owing probably to the bad state of the roads. Those present were hospitably entertained at tea by the Rector. The Committee regret to learn that it is proposed to spend some considerable sum in adding two new bells to this ring without repairing the present bells. They desire to place on record their opinion that the present condition of the tenor requires attention before any addition is taken in hand. The Association will learn with pleasure that a company has been formed at Luton parish church, with the sanction and under the auspices of the Vicar, to learn and practice change-ringing, and they are in communication with the committee for advice and instruction. Their entrance into full membership of the Association will be awaited with cordial interest."

The Chairman said there were some interesting things in the report. He was glad to hear that it was proposed to form a company of bell-ringers at Luton. St.

Mary's church was one of the oldest in the county, and he hoped the movement would be successful. He read a letter from Dr. Pauli to Mr. Baker, in which the latter was asked to give the Luton ringers the benefit of his long experience.

Mr. Baker said he should be pleased to go over and help them whenever he was able.

Attention was drawn to the statement in the report that the meeting at Turvey was poorly attended. As a matter of fact the ringers from Harold went over on one occasion when a meeting was announced to have been held and no meeting took place.

The Secretary said he was sorry they were inconvenienced, and the meeting would no doubt allow him to pay their expenses. He suggested that the words "and to a misunderstanding about the date" should follow the reference to the state of the roads. The report was adopted as amended.

The Secretary then submitted the annual statement of accounts as follows: Receipts, nine hon. members, £2 5s. five non-resident members, 12s. 6d., sixty-three performing members, £3 3s., and interest on amount in savings bank, 16s. 3d. The balance in the savings bank at Easter, 1899, was £34 19s. 4d. The payments during the year left a balance at the bank of £32 8s. 6d., but there was a sum of 10s. still due to the secretary.

Mr. Matthews drew attention to the discrepancy of 30s. in the accounts of 1897-8, and asked if the secretary could give any explanation of it.

Mr. Baker said that when the late treasurer died they had some difficulty in adjusting the accounts. He remembered that on one occasion a statement was submitted which was really only an approximation of the financial position of the Association. He was on the track of the money, but had not succeeded in running it down yet. At the same time he must point out that it was the duty of the treasurer and not the secretary to look after the money and keep the accounts.

Mr. Fredk. Crouch was appointed a member of the committee in place of the late Mr. Dickins. The other members were all re-elected. Mr. T. Bull was re-appointed treasurer, and the Rev. W. W. C. Baker secretary, Mr. G. C. Walker was re-appointed hon. auditor. Mr. Baker was asked to represent the Association at the meetings of the Central Council on during the next three years. Votes of thanks were passed to all these gentlemen for their services during the past year.

The Chairman said it had been suggested that they might have a better day for their meetings than Easter Monday. It had been their custom for many years to meet then, but there were certain reasons why another day would be more preferable.

The Secretary said that in order that the matter might be discussed he would move that it was expedient to alter the date of the annual meeting. He did not think they got such good meetings as they ought to have, and he felt sometimes that members came somewhat under compulsion. It was not that they had no enthusiasm and were not good ringers, but Easter Monday in Bedford in 1882, when the arrangement was first made, and Easter Monday in the year 1900 were two very different things.

Some further discussion took place, but the proposition was lost by an overwhelming majority. It was resolved, however, to alter the hour of meeting from twelve o'clock to eleven. The next quarterly meeting was arranged to be held at Woburn. Several new members were enrolled.

Mr. Ransom received a very cordial vote of thanks for

the services he had rendered to the Association for so long a period. Other votes of thanks were passed to the officers of the Association, and the meeting terminated.

Tea was provided in the mission room at four o'clock, of which a large number partook. A special service was subsequently held at St. Paul's Church. There was a good congregation, and the sermon, which was preached by the Rev. W. W. C. Baker, was very interesting.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The fifteenth annual meeting of this Association was held at Brighton on Easter Monday, and was attended by about sixty members. The belfries of St. Peter and St. Nicholas were open for ringing at 10 a.m. The service was held at St. Peter's at 12 p.m. The Rev. J. J. Hannah, Vicar of Brighton, preached the sermon from Psalm lxxxi, 1. A few boys and gentlemen of the choir very kindly attended and rendered a choral service, whilst a lady presided at the organ. The luncheon followed at 1 p.m. at the Pavilion. The chair was taken by the Rev. J. J. Hannah in the absence of the Mayor.

After the Presidents and Vice-Presidents had been re-elected, Mr. Attree announced that the Rev. J. W. G. Loder-Cotter had resigned the office of Hon. Secretary in consequence of his probable removal to another diocese, and proposed a most hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Cotter for the great interest he had always shewn in their Association.

Mr. Attree then proposed that Mr. A. B. Bennett (Midhurst), should be elected as Hon. Secretary, which met with the approval of all.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Master—Mr. Attree; Treasurer—Mr. F. B. Tompkins; Divisional Secretaries—Mr. S. Saker, Mr. G. Williams, and Mr. H. Evans; Auditors—Mr. Fuller and Mr. Tyler; Delegates to Central Council—Mr. G. Attree, Rev. C. D. Davies, Mr. G. Williams, and Mr. S. Saker.

The balance-sheet was read and adopted, and shewed a balance in hand of £27 14s. 8d.

Mr. Rice proposed "That the Association allow members attending the district meetings a moiety of their railway fares as funds permit, with a maximum of two shillings."

Mr. Tompkins proposed an amendment "that the question should be referred to the Committee to consider." This was carried.

Mr. H. Evans proposed the following resolution. "To encourage peal-ringing, it is suggested that once a quarter a band for a peal be organised in each division with the help of the nearest competent conductor, and that the conductor's expenses be paid by the Association." This was agreed to.

The challenge bell was passed to the Heene belfry, having been won by only two points. After votes of thanks were passed, the members returned to the belfries.

Mr. C. Smart writes:—

"I see by the issue of 'THE BELL NEWS' of April 21st, my friend Mr. Dains publishes the one and same method (as Alliance) which appeared in 'THE BELL NEWS' of July 25th, 1896, as Double Steyning Major; also two peals of 5040 of the same, the one by Shipway, and the other being a variation of W. Sottanstell. My friend Mr. Dains points out in the issue of August 15th, 1896, that the introduction of 7ths place is unnecessary and useless. If the places mentioned are useless, why does he introduce them in the method of the 21st inst.? so it will be seen that the method is old to the public."

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting was held at Dudley on Easter Monday, upwards of seventy members being present, and most of the towers in union being represented. The following towers through the kindness of the clergy, were available for peals: St. Michael's, Brierley Hill, St. Andrew's, Netherton, Holy Trinity, Old Hill, All Saints, Sedgley, Christ Church, Oldbury, and St. Martin's, Tipton, but only two were used, viz., Brierley Hill by the Kidderminster company, and Netherton by a mixed company. The peal of ten at St. Thomas', Dudley, were kept open during the day for touches. The usual service was held in St. Thomas' church at 4 p.m., at which all the members were present. The Rev. J. K. Floyer, Minor Canon of Worcester and Warden of the Cathedral Guild, delivered a very appropriate address from the 31st chapter of the second book of Chronicles, verse 18: "For in their set office they sanctified themselves in holiness." The Rev. S. J. A. Dean, curate of Dudley, intoned the service, and the Rev. W. C. Gibbs, Rector of Hagley, and Clerical Secretary of the Association, read the lesson. The Rev. A. Gray Maitland, Vicar of Dudley, and the Rev. T. J. Cartwright, curate of Halesowen, were also present.

Tea was served in the schoolroom at 5 o'clock, where the business meeting was afterwards held, the Vicar presiding. In opening the business the Vicar gave the members a hearty welcome to Dudley. He congratulated them upon the good work they were doing, and expressed his sorrow that he was not able to practically work with them in the belfry.

The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and confirmed. Thirteen performing members were added to the roll, also an honorary member, Mr. H. Grove, of Pershore, and Messrs. W. F. Hartshorne, of Crewe, and J. H. Gallimore, of Lichfield, life members. It was resolved to hold the next quarterly meeting at Leigh, near Malvern. A letter was read from the Rev. Canon Cattley regretting his inability to attend. The whole of the officers were re-elected with the addition of the Rev. A. Gray Maitland on the Clerical Committee in place of the Rev. H. Kingsford (Stoulton), resigned. The Secretary read a communication from the Hon. Secretary of the Central Council re the Glossary of Technical Terms connected with the Art and science of change-ringing. After discussion it was resolved to take 250 copies by the Association. A report was received from Mr. W. H. Smith, of Kidderminster, who was appointed Instructor to the Wolverley company at the last annual meeting, who stated that the company were now able to ring five different Minor methods, which was considered very satisfactory.

Votes of thanks were given to the officers for their past services, to the Vicar for the use of the bells, the service in the church, the use of the schoolroom, and for presiding at the meeting; to the Rev. J. K. Floyer for his able address, to the other clergy present, and to Mrs. Maitland, Mrs. W. H. Thompson, and Mrs. T. Rhodes for presiding at the tea tables.

A peal of Superlative Surprise Major was rung at Brierley Hill by the Kidderminster society, and a peal of Treble Bob Major was attempted at Netherton, which failed. Touches in different methods were rung during the day by mixed companies at Dudley. The meeting in the school-room was brought to a close by singing the National Anthem.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting of the above was held at Braintree, on Easter Monday. Ringers were present from Braintree, Bocking, Barking, Boreham, Broomfield, Colchester, Chelmsford, Great Bardfield, Great Totham, Goldhanger, Harwich, Maldon, Rayne, Romford, Stisted, Saffron Walden, Springfield, Writtle, Widford, and Witham. At 4.30 p.m. fifty-three sat down to an excellent tea at The Horn hotel, at the meeting which followed the Rev. H. T. W. Eyre (assistant hon. secretary) presided, supported by the Rev. H. J. Shildrick, incumbent of St. Peter's, Bocking. The Rev. T. L. Papillon was present during the day, but was unable to stay to the meeting. Messrs. C. H. Howard (Braintree) and B. Keeble (Romford) were re-elected auditors.

Several new members were elected.

The question of dividing the county into districts was discussed, and was favourably received, all the speakers being in favour of the scheme. The meeting was reminded that the association will attain its majority on Whit-Monday next, and that arrangements were being made for celebrating the occasion in a fitting manner. The bells of the parish church were kept going the whole of the day, to the tune of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob and Double Norwich Court Bob Major, and the towers of Stisted and Bocking were visited by various bands.

The beautiful tone of the Bocking bells were very much admired. The augmentation of their number to eight, by the addition of two new trebles, would be a splendid acquisition.

THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

The monthly ringing meeting of this society was held at Calverley on Saturday, April 21st, when upwards of twenty ringers were present from the following places: Bramley, Bradford, Guiseley, Headingley (St. Michael's), Pudsey, Rothwell, Shipley, Tong, besides the local company. A few touches of Treble Bob Major were rung before the meeting which was held at The Thornhill Arms, the President in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were passed as read. On the proposition of Mr. G. W. Steele, seconded by Mr. C. Pratt (and as there was no other particular business to transact), it was decided to adjourn the meeting so that the members could enjoy themselves ringing. A company was soon got together for ringing, which was kept on until 9 o'clock. The handbells were also kept going in the meeting-house until a late hour.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar, churchwardens, and local company brought a well attended and pleasant meeting to a close.

THE ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY, SHEFFIELD.

On Easter Monday the members of this society, with a few friends both young and old, visited Bolsterstone, a place far out in the country away from the busy haunts of man. Arrangements had been made by Messrs. Willey and Rowley for the conveyance and comfort of the company, and everything bade far for a pleasant day's enjoyment, if only the rain would keep off. Certainly there was a strong head wind, but that tended to brace one up for the full and complete enjoyment of the good things had in readiness by host Helliwell.

Deepcar station is on the Great Central Railway, and

lies out among the hills, leading on to the famous Broomhead and Langsett moors, noted for their extensive grouse shooting. After alighting at Deepcar station you wend your way up the hills, which has a very rapid rise, and arriving at the top you find yourself about 1000 feet above the sea level, with the aforementioned moors stretched out before you, and a background of rugged rock, the famous Wharnccliffe Crag, which puts any Transvaal kopje to shame.

Bolsterstone is a quaint country village, with a church, and schools under the good management of the Vicar (the Rev. W. R. Wilson, M.A.). The tower contains a ring of eight bells from the Loughborough foundry, tenor 13 cwt., erected to the memory of a former Vicar (the Rev. F. Bell.) There is a post office where you buy stamps, pounds of tea, sticks of toffee, and pieces of rubbing-stone; and one public house, The Castle, where the landlord, Mr. J. T. Helliwell, with his good wife, knows how to cater for the wants of the inner man.

Arriving at our destination, and after refreshing the wants and appeasing the pangs of hunger, we turned our steps towards the church, and soon had the bells raised, and started for a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, conducted by Mr. J. Lloyd, but unfortunately it came to grief through a change-course after ringing forty minutes.

Short touches were the order of the day, so a start was made for six courses of Stedman Triples, which was tapped off in a workmanlike manner. Another start was made for a 630 of Grandsire Triples, which was successfully brought round.

Tea time was approaching and we had not given the ladies any of our time, nor as yet pointed out to them many of the picturesque spots in this lovely secluded old village. The hour of refection having arrived, grace was sung at the table, and here an interesting gathering took place. Four generations of one family sat down to tea, Mr. Astrop, the veteran, at the head of the table, with his children, grandchildren, and great grandchild round about him. Mr. J. Lloyd, his son-in-law, sat on his left hand, while his good wife presided at the other end of the table, and Messrs. Rowley and Willey did the needful to the joints of beef and ham.

After tea a short stroll through an old burial ground, and then a clan gathering for an hour altogether. Mr. Rowley was voted to the chair, and after telling them to get their glasses filled, he very felicitously proposed "The Health of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen," coupling with it "Church and State." Then a chat ensued, when the chairman called on Mr. F. Willey, the senior member of the company, to say a few words, and make a small presentation to one of their late members, Mr. J. T. Rew, who has lately joined the parish church company. It consisted of a black ebony walking stick with a self tip handle, silver-mounted, and suitably engraved with the following initials—

"J. T. R. 1900."

Mr. Willey, in making the presentation, spoke of the amiability of their late secretary, Mr. Rew, and he knew from personal experience that some of the happiest hours of Mr. and Mrs. Rew's life had been spent with the All Saints company. Accompanied with the presentation was an illuminated framed peal card presented by Mr. Joseph Rowley, recording a peal rung at St. Chad's church, Pattingham, Staffordshire, the first peal recorded by the Yorkshire Association in that county. Mr. Rowley and Mr. Rew were closely connected with this place in their early boyhood. Both gentlemen took part in the

peal, and it was the first peal rung by all their own band; conducted by F. Willey.

Mr. Rew very suitably replied, but asked to be excused making further remarks, as he could not find words to adequately express his feelings that afternoon; but he wished it to be known that his best wishes were with the company who first taught him half-pull ringing. The remainder of the time was spent in a convivial manner. Songs were given by Miss L. K. Willey and by Messrs. Lloyd, Rew, Lewis, Smithson and a friend, Miss A. E. Outwin accompanying on the piano.

The homeward journey was commenced, and home, sweet home was reached at an early hour, all thoroughly satisfied and tired out. Thus ended another of the company's pleasant excursions. The members wish to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells, and Mr. D. Brearley for having everything in readiness. W.

THE DARLINGTON AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Easter Tuesday several members of this Society paid a visit to Newcastle-on-Tyne. They were fortunate enough to arrive in time to listen to a well-struck touch on the Cathedral bells by the local band, which was being rung in honour of the election of the churchwardens for the ensuing year. At the conclusion we ascended to the belfry where we received a most cordial welcome. With the assistance of some of the local men, the bells were soon going in a touch of Stedman Caters, which, however, was unsuccessful. Time getting short a 336 Grandsire Triples were rung on the back eight. F. C. Naisbitt, 1; G. F. Williams, 2; J. Johnson, 3; J. Baxter (conductor), 4; T. Clark, 5; G. Park, 6; W. H. Porter, 7; G. J. Lungley, 8. Tenor 37 cwt.

After dinner a start was made for St. George's, Jesmond, some taking the tram while others walked. Poor fellows, they had not reckoned on the vagaries of their guide who took them to every place but the one they wanted to go to, and notwithstanding the friendly policeman, still took the wrong direction. Oh! William, the next time be sure you know the way. However, the party eventually found their themselves in St. George's belfry. A 576 of Kent Treble Bob Major came to grief within two rounds from home. G. J. Lungley, 1; T. Clark, 2; G. H. Williams, 3; J. Baxter, 4; W. D. Lister, 5; G. Park, 6; G. Tait, 7; W. H. Porter, 8. Two attempts at Grandsire Triples met the same fate. A 420 Grandsire Triples finished the ringing here. J. Baxter, 1; W. D. Lister, 2; T. Clark, 3; F. C. Naisbitt, 4; T. Johnson, 5; G. Park, 6; G. J. Lungley (conductor), 7; T. Scollick, 8. Tenor 18 cwt.

In the evening All Saints' church was visited, where we were met by some of the local men. The ringing here included a 504 Stedman Triples. R. Richards, 1; W. Holmes, 2; J. E. R. Keen, 3; G. Park, 4; G. J. Lungley, 5; W. H. Porter (conductor), 6; H. D. Dall, 7; — 8. and a 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. G. Tait, 1; J. Baxter, 2; G. F. Williams, 3; G. J. Lungley, 4; W. D. Lister, 5; G. Park, 6; R. Richards, 7; W. H. Porter (conductor), 8. Tenor 19½ cwt. The visitors wish through the medium of this paper, to thank the respective authorities for allowing the use of their bells, all those friends who met them and contributed such a large share to the enjoyment of the day, also Mr. Simm of the Cathedral, Mr. Mundle of St. George's, the caretaker of All Saints, and especially Mr. W. Holmes for making preliminary arrangements. W. P.

Compositions.

DOUBLE NORWICH.

By FREDERICK DENCH, *London.*

5120.

23456 I 4 5 6

42635 -
 26435 -
 24635 -
 46235 S
 32645 -
 26345 -

32564 -
 42365 -
 24563 -
 45263 -
 52463 -
 25364 -
 53264 -
 23465 -
 34265 -

35246 -
 42536 -
 25436 -
 54236 -
 32456 -
 24356 -
 43256 -
 52346 -
 23546 -

Repeated.

Has the 6th its extent wrong and right without the 2nd in 5-6, reduced to 5008 by calling the following five courses in lieu of the first six, the peal containing the same qualities.

23456 I 4 5 6

42635 -
 36245 -
 46235 S
 32645 -
 26345 -

TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By ARTHUR CRAVEN, *Chesterfield.*

7168.

23456 M B W H

52364 2 2 2
 26543 -
 42635 2 2 2
 53624 I I I
 26354 2 2 2
 42563 2 I 2
 64523 I I
 53246 I I 2
 34625 I 2
 34256 - I
 45236 2

Repeated.

7168.

23456 M B W H

52364 2 2 2
 26543 -
 32465 2 I 2
 64523 I I
 43526 I 2
 26354 I 2 2
 24653 2 I
 63542 I I 2
 34625 2 2
 34256 - I
 45236 2

Repeated.

Each peal has the 6th her extent each way.

5312.

23456 M B W H

24536 I - 2 2
 32465 - 2
 64235 2 2
 62345 I 2
 63425 I 2
 35426 I 2
 23564 - 2
 25634 I - 2 2
 26354 I - 2 2
 52643 - 2
 46253 2 2
 42563 I 2
 45633 I - 2 2
 53624 I 2
 25346 - 2
 23456 2 2

Has the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th their extent in 6th place, and the 2nd never there.

TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By CHARLES H. MARTIN, *Hendon.*

5000.

23456 M B W H

32654 2 2
 46253 I I
 42563 I 2
 24365 2 2
 23645 I 2
 32546 2 2
 26543 I 2
 45623 2 2
 54326 2 2
 23456 2 2

Rung at St. Stephen's, Hampstead, on April 16th, 1900; conducted by its composer.

STEDMAN CATERS.

By W. A. CAVE, *Bristol.*

5187.

231456 5 16

A362154
 364251
 361452
 163254 -
 164352 -
 461253 -
 463152 -
 462351 -
 264153 -
 263451 -
 261354 -
 162453 -

162354 S -
 164253 -
 163452 -
 361254 -
 364152 -
 463251 -
 461352 -
 462153 -
 264351 -
 261453 -
 263154 -

B253461
 251364 -
 254163 -
 452361 -
 452361 -
 451263 -
 154362 -
 152463 -
 153264 -
 351462 -
 352164 -
 354261 -
 453162 -
 453261 S -
 451362 -
 452163 -
 254361 -
 251463 -
 152364 -
 154263 -
 153462 -
 351264 -
 354162 -
 352461 -
 253164 -
 C214365879

A 1, 2, 3, 6, 9S, 14S, 16.
 B 4, 5, 6S, 11S, 16.
 C 2, 8, 9, 16.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.—The address of Mr. James George is 19, William Street, Rugby.—Charles Giles has removed from 21, Coley Street, Reading, to 18, Seamer Place, Hosier Street, Reading.

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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 Wednesday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1900.

THOUGH we had closed the correspondence about the recent peal at St. Michael's, Cornhill, we give way with pleasure to Mr. KING, as his letter this week is of that character which we should like to see more general. We welcome the remarks of the REV. T. L. PAPILLON, and if his words can be read thoughtfully by intending correspondents, we may hope to see in the future an improvement in the correspondence page. The old proverbs about the pot calling the kettle black, and washing dirty linen at home, may well be thought of by some of our friends when they think of exhibiting themselves in print. We regret to say that some writers, from the absence of proper scholastic training, are positively unfit to put pen to paper. But such as these cannot observe the gross absurdity of their attempts to influence public opinion.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

[SECOND NOTICE.]

The meeting of the Central Council will be held on Whit-Tuesday, June 5th, at 11 a.m. at the Church House, Westminster. There will be two sittings—morning and afternoon—to be followed by a social gathering of members and friends in the evening at 9 p.m. at the Inns of Court hotel, Holborn.

Nominations for the offices of President and Secretary, and also all notices of motion, must reach the Hon. Secretary of the Council *before Tuesday, the 8th of May.*

Hon. Secretaries of Societies whose subscriptions are not yet paid, are respectfully requested to forward them *without delay.*

H. EARLE BULWER, *Hon. Sec.*
Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn,
24th April, 1900.

The Metropolis.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Saturday, April 21, 1900, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES, CAMBERWELL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 25 cwt.

HARRY BARTON Treble.	FREDERICK G. PERRIN .. 6.
REUBEN CHARGE 2.	CHARLES R. LILLEY .. 7.
HERBERT LANGDON 3.	*WILLIAM S. LANGDON .. 8.
WILLIAM H. WEBBER .. 4.	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 9.
HERBERT P. HARMAN* .. 5.	ARTHUR HARDY Tenor.

Composed by the late GEORGE NEWSON, and
 Conducted by HARRY BARTON.

*First peal of Stedman Caters. This composition is a reduced variation of a 5256, and has the 5th and 6th exclusively in 2nds place and behind the 9th.

The Provinces.

DORKING, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 16, 1900, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 25 cwt.

EDWARD E. DODD Treble.	GEORGE F. HOAD 5.
GEORGE HUGGETT 2.	JOHN ANSELL 6.
HARRY F. SONGHURST .. 3.	JOHN WHITE 7.
WILLIAM J. SONGHURST .. 4.	WILLIAM LYNCH Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE HUGGETT.

RYE, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, April 18, 1900, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor about 19 cwt.

T. WATERHOUSE Treble.	F. A. KENNETT 5.
S. SAKER 2.	G. WATSON 6.
F. MEDHURST 3.	F. LOCK 7.
H. HARVEY 4.	H. DENMAN Tenor.

Conducted by G. WATSON.

Messrs. Saker and Lock are from Christ Church, Blacklands, Hastings; the rest are members of the Christ Church St. Leonard's company. The ringers wish to thank the Rev. Crosse, Vicar of Rye, for so kindly granting the use of the bells.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD PEAL-BOOK.—A RECORD of Five Hundred and Twenty Peals rung by this Guild. Paper covers, 6d.; cloth do., 9d.—Blackwell, Reading; or the Hon. Sec. of the Guild—the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, Dunsden Vicarage Reading Berks.

MIDDLESBROUGH, YORKS.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 23, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HILDA,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR
5088 CHANGES.

WILLIAM J. TITCHENER .. Treble.	WILLIAM RUDD 5.
RICHARD FENWICK 2.	FRED P. HOWCROFT .. 6.
CHARLES HALL 3.	JOHN H. BLAKISTON .. 7.
JAMES A. CARTER 4.	THOMAS METCALFE .. Tenor.

Composed by G. LINDOFF, and Conducted by J. H. BLAKISTON.

Rung on the occasion of St. George's Day, also as a wedding compliment to W. Rudd, who was recently married to Miss K. Toal, his brother-strings wishing him much happiness.

GARSTON, LANCASHIRE.—LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 23, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 12 cwt.

SAMUEL GOUGH Treble.	JAMES MARTIN 5.
JOHN ASPINWALL 2.	THOMAS HAMMOND .. 6.
JOHN ALLEN 3.	GEO. W. HUGHES 7.
WALTER HUGHES 4.	JOHN TURNER Tenor.

Conducted by GEO. W. HUGHES.

The company met at the desire of Mr. Samuel Gough, who has attained his 77th year, and was anxious to ring one more peal. The old veteran finished fresh and well, and his pupils hope he may be spared many years yet to give encouragement and instruction to all who love the Art. The ringer of the 2nd has passed his 63rd birthday. Walter Hughes was proposed a member of the above before starting.

CAVERSHAM, OXON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Wednesday, April 25, 1900, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR,
5184 CHANGES.

HARRY SIMMONDS Treble.	EDWIN J. MENDAY 5.
ERNEST W. MENDAY 2.	GEORGE ESSEX 6.
JOHN HANDS 3.	HARRY W. SMITH 7.
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER* .. 4.	THOMAS NEWMAN Tenor.

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK, and Conducted by THOMAS NEWMAN.

*First peal in the method. Rung on the occasion of the marriage of the youngest daughter of Lieutenant-General R. P. Radcliffe, R.A., churchwarden of this parish.

Date Touches.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

EDENHAM (Lincolnshire).—On Thursday, March 1st, in honour of the relief of Ladysmith, a date touch of Doubles in 1 hr. 4 mins., being two 6-scores of St. Dunstan, four 6-scores of Plain Bob, nine 6-score and a 5-score of Grandsire. G. Sentance, 1; A. Holmes (conductor), 2; J. Alford, 3; G. H. Furness, 4; W. G. Jones, 5.

Miscellaneous.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BACUP (Lancashire).—On Friday, March 7th, at Christ Church, 720 Tulip. D. Briggs, 1; H. L. Cockroft, 2; J. H. Barnes, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. Brierley, 5; J. S. Lomas (conductor), 6. On Sunday afternoon, March 4th, 720 Stedman Slow Course. L. Holt, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. S. Lomas, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. Brierley, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. First 720 on the bells and by all the band. For evening service 720 Rochester Surprise, standing as before. First 720 on the bells and by all the band. On Friday, March 9th, 720 Arnold's Victory. D. Briggs, 1; H. L. Cockroft, 2; J. H. Barnes, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. Brierley, 5; J. S. Lomas (conductor), 6. Also 720 Ely Surprise. H. L. Cockroft, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. S. Lomas, 3;

E. J. Cockcroft, 4; J. Brierley, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. First 720 on the bells. On Sunday morning, March 11th, 720 Ringers' Surprise. L. Holt, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. S. Lomas, 3; E. J. Cockcroft, 4; J. Brierley, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. First 720 on the bells. For evening service 720 Huddersfield Surprise. J. S. Lomas, 2; J. H. Smith, 3; the rest as before. First 720 on the bells. On Monday, March 12th, 720 City Delight. D. Briggs, 1; H. L. Cockcroft, 2; J. H. Barnes, 3; E. J. Cockcroft, 4; J. Brierley, 5; J. S. Lomas (conductor), 6. On Thursday, March 15th, 720 Primrose. L. Holt, 1; J. S. Lomas, 3; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6; the rest as before. On Friday, March 16th, 720 London Scholars Pleasure. L. Holt, 1; H. L. Cockcroft, 2; J. H. Barnes, 3; D. Briggs, 4; J. Brierley, 5; J. S. Lomas (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Surprise. L. Holt, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. S. Lomas, 3; E. J. Cockcroft, 4; J. Brierley, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method on the bells. On Sunday morning, March 11th, 720 College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). L. Holt, 1; H. L. Cockcroft, 2; D. Briggs, 3; J. S. Lomas, 4; J. Brierley, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Cambridge Surprise. W. Smith, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. H. Smith, 3; the rest as before. On Monday, March 19th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. L. Holt, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. S. Lomas, 3; E. J. Cockcroft, 4; J. Brierley, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method on the bells. Also 720 Symphony. H. L. Cockcroft, 2; J. H. Barnes, 3; J. S. Lomas (conductor), 6; the rest as before. On March 22nd, 720 Killamarsh Treble Bob. L. Holt, 1; H. L. Cockcroft, 2; J. S. Lomas, 3; E. J. Cockcroft, 4; J. Brierley, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, March 25th, 720 Superlative Surprise. D. Briggs, 2; J. H. Smith, 3; J. S. Lomas, 5; the rest as before. For evening service 720 London Surprise, standing as in the morning. On Tuesday, March 27th, 720 Cambridge Surprise. L. Holt, 1; H. L. Cockcroft, 2; J. H. Barnes, 3; D. Briggs, 4; J. Brierley, 5; J. S. Lomas (conductor), 6. Also 720 Chester Surprise. L. Holt, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. S. Lomas, 3; E. J. Cockcroft, 4; J. Brierley, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method on the bells. On Thursday, March 29th, 720 Ebor. H. L. Cockcroft, 2; the rest as before. On Friday, March 30th, 720 Lincoln Surprise. L. Holt, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. S. Lomas, 3; E. J. Cockcroft, 4; J. Brierley, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method on the bells.

LYTHAM (Lancashire).—On January 1st, at St. John's church, 720 Bob Minor. W. Bamber, 1; J. Fell, 2; G. Maris, 3; A. E. Wilson, 4; C. H. Kerr, 5; E. Tipping (conductor), 6. On January 21st, 720 Grandsire Minor. W. Bamber, 1; J. Fell, 2; J. Tipping, 3; R. Seddon, 4; C. H. Kerr, 5; E. Tipping (conductor), 6. On February 21st, 720 Plain Bob. J. Fell, 1; R. Seddon, 2; G. Maris, 3; J. Moore, 4; C. H. Kerr, 5; E. Tipping (conductor), 6. On March 2nd, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. W. Bamber, 1; G. Maris, 2; J. Tipping, 3; J. Moore, 4; C. H. Kerr, 5; E. Tipping (conductor), 6. On March 11th, 720 Grandsire Minor. A. E. Wilson, 1; J. Fell, 2; J. Tipping, 3; R. Seddon, 4; C. H. Kerr, 5; E. Tipping (conductor), 6. On March 17th, 720 College Single. H. Threlfall, 1; J. Fell, 2; J. Tipping, 3; J. Moore, 4; E. Tipping (conductor), 5; J. Allanson, 6.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

KIDSGROVE (Staffordshire).—On Sunday morning, January 21st, for Divine Service, 720 Kent. F. Johnson, 1; G. Buckley, 2; J. Mason, 3; F. Dean, 4; A. Archer (conductor), 5; H. Dean, 6. For evening service 720 Oxford, standing as before, conducted by A. Archer. On Sunday evening, January 24th, for Divine Service, 720 College Exercise. J. Mason, 1; G. Buckley, 2; A. Archer, 3; F. Dean, 4; H. Dean, 5; G. Siddons (conductor), 6. First in the method by all, also on the bells. On Saturday, February 3rd, being the monthly meeting of the Association, 720 Kent. J. Mason, 1; W. F. Hartshorne, 2; R. T. Holding, 3; A. Archer (conductor), 4; F. Dean, 5; H. Dean (conductor), 6. Messrs. Hartshorne and Holding hail from Crewe. On Sunday evening, February 4th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent. F. Johnson, 1; G. Siddons, 2; H. Dean, 3; F. Dean, 4; G. Buckley (conductor), 5; J. Mason, 6. On Wednesday, February 21st, 720 City Delight. J. Wildblood, 1; G. Buckley, 2; A. Archer, 3; F. Dean, 4; H. Dean, 5; G. Siddons (conductor), 6. First in the method by all, and on the bells. J. Wildblood hails from Lawton. The following 720s were rung during a ten day's mission conducted by the Rev. A. E. Foster, of Christ Church, Richmond, Yorks. On Sunday, February 25th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. F. Johnson, 1; G. Buckley, 2; J. Mason, 3; H. Dean, 4; A. Archer (conductor), 5; F. Dean, 6. For afternoon service for men only, 720 Kent. F. Johnson, 1; G. Buckley, 2; F. Dean, 3; J. Mason, 4; A. Archer, 5; H. Dean (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, February 28th, 720 Kent. J. Mason, 1; G. Buckley, 2; J. Wildblood, 3; W. Rigby (conductor), 4; F. Dean, 5; G. Siddons, 6. *First 720 with a bob bell. On March 1st, in honour of the relief of Ladysmith, 720 Kent. W. Priestman, 1; G. Buckley, 2; H. Dean, 3; J. Mason, 4; F. Dean, 5; G. Siddons, 6. For evening service 720 Oxford. W. Priestman,

1; G. Buckley, 2; J. Mason, 3; F. Dean, 4; H. Dean, 5; G. Siddons (conductor), 6. On March 2nd, 720 Kent. F. Johnson, 1; F. Dean, 2; J. Wildblood, 3; G. Buckley, 4; J. Mason, 5; G. Siddons (conductor), 6. On March 4th, for evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. R. Vickers, 1; G. Buckley, 2; A. Archer, 3; G. Baddeley, 4; C. Preston (conductor), 5; H. Dean, 6. C. Preston hails from Bucknall; Baddeley from Lawton; Vickers from Audley. On Tuesday, March 6th, 720 Kent. F. Johnson, 1; W. Rigby (conductor), 2; J. Mason, 3; G. Buckley, 4; H. Dean, 5; F. Dean, 6.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

STEYNING (Sussex).—On Thursday, March 1st, in honour of the relief of Ladysmith, 789 Grandsire Doubles with 7-6-8 covering. J. Woodgate, 1; E. Bristow, 2; G. Gatland, 5; J. Smart, 4; C. Smart (conductor), 5; G. Phillips, 6; E. Rapley, 7; F. Smart, 8. On Sunday evening, March 18th, for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples. A. Sturt, 1; E. Bristow, 2; J. Matthews, 3; E. Rapley, 4; J. Smart, 5; G. Gatland, 6; J. Smart, 7; G. Wood, 8.

ST. LEONARD'S-ON-SEA.—On March 15th, at Christ Church, to celebrate the occupation of Bloemfontein by Lord Roberts, 630 Grandsire Triples. S. Watson, 1; C. Weller, 2; T. Waterhouse, 3; C. May, 4; F. Medhurst, 5; G. Watson, 6; F. Kennett, 7; H. Denman, 8.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Sunday, February 11th, at St. Paul's church, 408 Stedman Triples. F. Webb, 1; J. Church, 2; W. Hall, 3; S. Cullip, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6; C. Chasty, 7; J. Sear, 8. Also 208 Stedman Triples. F. Webb, 1; S. Cullip, 2; W. Hall, 3; B. Jealous, 4; C. Chasty, 5; I. Hills, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; J. Sear, 8. On Friday, February 16th, 300 Stedman Triples. F. Webb, 1; E. Tingey, 2; W. Barker, 3; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 4; C. Chasty, 5; I. Hills, 6; H. Tysoe, 7; W. Ellis, 8. Also 504 Stedman Triples. E. Tingey, 1; W. Barker, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; B. Jealous, 4; I. Hills, 5; W. J. Smith, 6; F. Webb, 7; W. Ellis, 8. On Sunday, February 18th, 336 Stedman Triples. C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1; J. Church, 2; W. Hall, 3; B. Jealous, 4; F. Webb, 5; I. Hills, 6; C. Chasty, 7; J. Sear, 8. On Sunday, February 25th, a course of Grandsire Caters. J. Sear, 1; C. Chasty, 2; E. Tingey, 3; J. Church, 4; W. Hall, 5; B. Jealous, 6; F. Webb, 7; I. Hills, 8; W. Valentine, 9; C. W. Clarke, 10. Also 336 Stedman Triples. C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1; E. Tingey, 2; W. Hall, 3; B. Jealous, 4; I. Hills, 5; W. Barker, 6; F. Webb, 7; J. Sear, 8. And 305 Grandsire Caters. W. Barker, 1; F. Webb, 2; D. Lane, 3; E. Tingey, 4; W. Hall, 5; B. Jealous, 6; I. Hills, 7; W. Davidson, 8; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 9; J. Sear, 10. On Tuesday, February 27th, 216 Stedman Triples. E. Tingey, 1; F. Webb, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; B. Jealous, 4; W. Barker, 5; I. Hills, 6; C. Chasty, 7; W. Ellis, 8. And a 504. F. Webb, 1; E. Tingey, 2; C. Chasty, 3; B. Jealous, 4; I. Hills, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6; H. Tysoe, 7; W. Ellis, 8. Also two courses of Grandsire Caters. F. Webb, 1; W. Barker, 2; E. Tingey, 3; H. Tysoe, 4; C. Chasty, 5; B. Jealous, 6; I. Hills, 7; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 8; W. Valentine, 9; W. Ellis, 10. On Thursday, March 1st, 216 Stedman Triples. S. Cullip, 1; E. Tingey, 2; W. Barker, 3; B. Jealous, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6; C. Chasty, 7; W. Ellis, 8. On Sunday, March 4th, 336 Stedman Triples. C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1; S. Cullip, 2; W. Hall, 3; B. Jealous, 5; I. Hills, 5; C. Chasty, 6; F. Webb, 7; J. Sear, 8. Also 540 Grandsire Caters. J. Sear, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; E. Tingey, 3; S. Cullip, 4; W. Hall, 5; B. Jealous, 6; F. Webb, 7; I. Hills, 8; D. Lane (conductor), 9; W. Ellis, 10. And 252 Stedman Triples. F. Webb (conductor), 1; E. Tingey, 2; W. Hall, 3; B. Jealous, 4; I. Hills, 5; D. Lane, 6; C. W. Clarke, 7; W. Ellis, 8. On Sunday, March 11th, 305 Grandsire Caters. J. Sear, 1; J. Church, 2; F. Webb, 3; E. Tingey, 4; W. Hall, 5; S. Cullip, 6; C. W. Clarke, 7; I. Hills, 8; C. Chasty, 9; D. Thompson, 10. Also 336 Stedman Triples. F. Webb, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; W. Hall, 3; B. Jealous, 4; I. Hills, 5; J. A. Smith (conductor), 6; W. Barker, 7; J. Sear, 8. On Sunday, March 24th, 377 Grandsire Caters. J. Sear, 1; W. Barker, 2; E. Tingey, 3; F. Webb, 4; W. Hall, 5; B. Jealous, 6; I. Hills, 7; C. Chasty, 8; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 9; ———, 10. Also a course of Stedman Caters. F. Webb, 1; W. Barker, 2; J. Church, 3; S. Cullip, 4; W. Hall, 5; B. Jealous, 6; C. Chasty, 7; I. Hills, 8; C. W. Clarke, 9; J. Sear, 10. And another course. F. Webb, 1; E. Tingey, 2; J. Church, 3; S. Cullip, 4; W. Hall, 5; B. Jealous, 6; I. Hills, 7; C. Chasty, 8; C. W. Clarke, 9; J. Sear, 10. Also 216 Stedman Triples. E. Tingey, 1; F. Webb, 2; W. Hall, 3; B. Jealous, 4; W. Barker, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6; C. Chasty, 7; J. Sear, 8.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

EDENHAM (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday evening, February 25th, for

Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles in 23 mins., being ten 6-scores and a 3-score each called differently. W. Bellamy (aged 14), 1; G. Sentance, 2; A. Holmes (conductor), 3; J. Alford, 4; G. H. Furness, 5.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CHARING (Kent).—Recently with the bells muffled 720 Grandsire P. Edwards, 1; H. Ward, 2; W. Goode, 3; E. Archer, 4; J. Willis, 5; W. Spice (conductor), 6. On March 1st, in honour of the relief of Ladysmith, 720 Grandsire. T. Hatcher, 1; H. Ward, 2; W. Goode, 3; E. Archer, 4; J. Willis, 5; W. Spice (conductor), 6. On March 5th, 360 Plain Bob by the same band.

LENHAM (Kent).—On March 17th, 720 Kent Treble Bob on the back six. A. Hinds, 1; R. Staines, 2; C. Tribe, 3; W. Spice, 4; H. G. Foord, 5; T. Groombridge (conductor), 6. Tenor 23 cwt. This is the first 720 on these bells for about 100 years.

HARRIETSHAM (Kent).—On March 18th, 504 Stedman Triples. T. Groombridge (conductor), 1; W. Spice, 2; A. Hinds, 3; C. F. Turner, 4; C. Milway, 5; H. G. Foord, 6; C. Tribe, 7; E. Randall, 8.

MAIDSTONE (Kent).—Recently a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters; also 503 Stedman Caters. G. Pawley, 1; T. Mannering, 2; P. Taffit, W. Mannering, 4; W. Spice, 5; W. Easter, 6; W. Haigh, 7; A. Tawney, 8; A. Palmer (conductor), 9; W. Hadaway, 10. Messrs. Haigh, Easter, and Taffit hail from Gillingham; Spice from Charing.

DEPTFORD (Kent).—On Sunday, April 8th, for morning service, 518 Grandsire Triples. W. Bedwell, 1; J. Rose, 2; E. H. Nixon, 3; A. C. Bedwell, 4; G. H. Daynes, 5; J. Law, 6; W. J. Jeffries (conductor), 7; H. Young, 8. For Special Friendly Society Service in the afternoon, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. J. Rose, 1; W. Bedwell, 2; H. Wood, 3; A. C. Bedwell, 4; E. H. Nixon, 5; W. J. Jeffries, 6; G. H. Daynes (conductor), 7; J. Law, 8. For evening service, 560 Bob Major. J. Law, 1; J. Rose, 2; E. H. Nixon, 3; A. C. Bedwell, 4; G. Deal, 5; G. H. Daynes, 6; W. Bedwell (conductor), 7; W. Jeffries, 8. On Wednesday, March 14th, for practice, 560 Double Norwich. J. Law, 1; J. Rose, 2; W. Weatherstone, 3; T. G. Deal, 4; J. Hack, 5; G. H. Daynes, 6; W. Bedwell (conductor), 7; W. J. Jeffries, 8. On Wednesday, March 21st, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. W. Bedwell (conductor), 1; J. Rose, 2; W. Weatherstone, 3; E. H. Nixon, 4; T. G. Deal, 5; J. Hack, 6; W. J. Jeffries, 7; J. Law, 8.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THIRSK.—On Sunday, February 25th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. F. Kettlewell, 1; H. Brown, 2; J. Stott, 3; J. Neesam (conductor), 4; J. Wrightson, 5; D. Burton, 6; J. W. Long, 7; H. Wright, 8. On March 1st, 784 Bob Major. F. Kettlewell, 1; J. Stott, 2; H. Brown, 3; J. Neesam, 4; J. Wrightson, 5; G. Neesam, 6; D. Burton, 7; J. W. Long (conductor), 8. On March 11th, for Divine Service in the morning, 1008 Bob Major. F. Kettlewell, 1; H. Brown, 2; J. Stott, 3; J. Neesam, 4; J. Wrightson, 5; G. Neesam, 6; D. Burton, 7; J. W. Long (conductor), 8. For evening service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. F. Kettlewell, 1; H. Brown, 2; J. Stott, 3; J. Neesam, 4; J. Wrightson, 5; G. Neesam, 6; D. Burton, 7; J. W. Long (conductor), 8. For evening service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. F. Kettlewell, 1; H. Brown, 2; J. Stott, 3; J. Neesam, 4; J. Wrightson, 5; D. Burton, 6; J. W. Long, 7; H. Wright, 8. On March 14th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. F. Kettlewell, 1; J. Stott, 2; H. Brown, 3; J. Neesam (conductor), 4; D. Burton, 5; G. Neesam, 6; J. W. Long, 7; H. Wright, 8. On March 18th, for Divine Service in the morning, 672 Grandsire Triples. F. Kettlewell, 1; H. Brown, 2; J. Stott, 3; J. Neesam, 4; D. Burton, 5; G. Neesam, 6; J. W. Long (conductor), 7; H. Wright, 8. For evening service, 630 Grandsire Triples. F. Kettlewell, 1; J. Stott, 2; H. Brown, 3; J. Neesam, 4; D. Burton, 5; G. Neesam, 6; J. W. Long (conductor), 7; H. Wright, 8. On March 21st, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. Rev. E. H. Blyth, 1; J. Stott, 2; J. Wrightson, 3; H. Brown, 4; D. Burton (conductor), 5; J. W. Long, 6. On March 25th, two 360s of Bob Minor. Rev. E. H. Blyth, 1; J. Stett, 2; J. Neesam, 3; J. Wrightson, 4; H. Brown, 5; J. W. Long (conductor), 6; H. Wright, 7. Second 360: F. Kettlewell, 1; J. Stott, 2; J. W. Long, 3; H. Brown, 4; J. Wrightson, 5; J. Neesam (conductor), 6; H. Wright, 7.

THORNTON-ON-TREES.—On Wednesday, April 4th, at the usual practice, 672 Bob Major. E. Usher, 1; T. Kelley, 2; W. C. Hardy, 3; T. Beckwith, 4; J. H. Pinkney, 5; T. H. Jones, 6; T. Metcalfe (conductor), 7; N. Kidd, 8. And 576 in the same method. E. Usher, 1; T. Kelley, 2; W. C. Hardy, 3; T. Beckwith, 4; W. Newton, 5; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 6; N. Kidd, 7; T. Metcalfe, 8.

MIDDLESBROUGH (Yorks).—On Sunday, March 11th, at the parish church, 1008 Stedman Triples. W. J. Titchener, 1; J. H. Jones, 2;

C. Hall, 3; J. A. Carter, 4; T. Metcalfe, 5; F. P. Howcroft, 6; J. H. Blakiston (conductor), 7; S. Walker, 8. On March 21st, for Confirmation Service, 560 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. W. J. Titchener, 1; J. H. Jones, 2; R. Alcock, 3; W. Rudd, 4; C. Hall, 5; F. P. Howcroft, 6; J. H. Blakiston (conductor), 7; T. Metcalfe, 8. On March 23rd, for practice, 672 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. J. Newton, 1; W. J. Titchener, 2; J. H. Jones, 3; T. Metcalfe, 4; N. Kidd, 5; F. P. Howcroft, 6; J. H. Blakiston (conductor), 7; W. Newton, 8. Also 448 Superlative Surprise Major. W. J. Titchener, 1; J. H. Jones, 2; T. Metcalfe, 3; J. A. Carter, 4; C. Hall, 5; F. P. Howcroft, 6; J. H. Blakiston (conductor), 7; W. Newton, 8. On March 30th, 672 Kent Treble Bob Major. J. H. Jones, 1; W. J. Titchener, 2; R. Alcock, 3; N. Kidd, 4; C. Hall, 5; W. Rudd, 6; J. H. Blakiston (conductor), 7; W. Newton, 8. Also 1024 Superlative Surprise Major. R. Alcock, 1; J. H. Jones, 2; W. Rudd, 3; J. Carter, 4; T. Metcalfe, 5; F. P. Howcroft, 6; J. H. Blakiston, 7; W. Newton, 8.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHGATE (Middlesex).—On Sunday morning, February 18th, for Divine Service at Christ Church, 1264 Bob Major. H. Miller, 1; A. Glasscock, 2; E. Marshall, 3; F. C. Fordham, 4; J. Armstrong, 5; A. Miller, 6; G. Charge, 7; S. Wade (conductor), 8. For evening service 720 Bob Minor on the back six. H. Miller, 1; A. Glasscock, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; J. Miller, 4; A. Miller, 5; S. Wade (conductor), 6. On March 11th, 1264 Bob Major. H. Miller, 1; A. Glasscock, 2; W. Tegg, 3; F. C. Fordham, 4; J. Armstrong (composer and conductor), 5; A. Miller, 6; S. Wade, 7; J. Miller, 8. On March 22nd, 1260 Bob Triples. H. Miller, 1; A. Glasscock, 2; W. Tegg, 3; J. Miller, 4; J. Kentish, 5; E. W. Marshall, 6; S. Wade, 7; C. Bale, 8. Tenor 25 cwt.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THORNHAM MAGNA (Suffolk).—On Sunday morning, April 1st, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. W. H. Symonds, 1; G. Moss, 2; P. Sadler, 3; H. Symonds, 4; F. Day (conductor), 5. On Sunday, March 25th, for Children's Service, 360 of Doubles, being 120 each of Canterbury and Grandsire. A. Berry, 1; E. Youngs, 2; W. Rose, 3; H. Symonds, 4; A. Symonds (conductor), 5.

WICKHAM SKRITH (Suffolk).—On Sunday afternoon, April 1st, for Divine Service at St. Andrew's church, 360 Double Court Minor. E. Youngs, 1; P. Sadler, 2; F. Day, 3; G. Kemp, 4; F. Potter, 5; G. Cattermole (conductor), 6.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BUSHEY (Herts).—On Sunday, April 8th, for morning service, 336 Double Norwich. J. J. Allen, 1; B. Prewett, 2; E. E. Huntley (conductor), 3; W. H. L. Buckingham, 4; W. I. Oakley, 5; W. G. Whitehead, 6; W. E. Oakley, 7; E. Holloway, 8. Also one course of Superlative Surprise. J. J. Allen, 1; B. Prewett, 2; F. A. Smith, 3; W. G. Whitehead, 4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5; W. E. Oakley, 6; E. Holloway, 7; E. E. Huntley, 8. For evening service, 504 Stedman Triples. E. E. Huntley (conductor), 1; B. Privett, 2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3; E. Holloway, 4; W. E. Oakley, 5; W. Thorne, 6; F. A. Smith, 7; J. Bates, 8.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PENARTH.—On Sunday morning, March 11th, for Divine Service at St. Augustine's church, 720 Kent (nine bobs). W. T. Northey, 1; F. Bartlett, 2; D. Thomas (conductor), 3; W. B. Biss, 4; T. Northey, 5; J. Vinnicombe, 6. On Sunday morning, March 25th, for Divine Service, 240 Oxford Treble Bob. W. T. Northey, 1; F. Bartlett, 2; D. Thomas, 3; W. B. Biss, 4; T. Northey, 5; J. Vinnicombe, 6. For evening service 720 Plain Bob (sixteen bobs and two singles). J. Jones, 1; W. T. Northey, 2; D. Thomas (conductor), 3; F. Bartlett, 4; T. Northey, 5; J. Vinnicombe, 6. On Sunday morning, April 8th, for Divine Service, 240 Kent, and 240 Oxford Treble Bob. W. T. Northey, 1; D. Thomas (conductor), 2; W. B. Biss, 3; F. Bartlett, 4; T. Northey, 5; J. Vinnicombe, 6. For Confirmation Service in the afternoon 720 Kent (twelve bobs). F. Bartlett, 2; D. Thomas, 3; W. B. Biss (conductor), 4; the rest as before.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—LIVERPOOL BRANCH.

GRASSENDALE (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, March 4th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor. F. C. Newton, 1; J. Allen, 2; J. Turner, 3; T. J. Morris, 4; J. T. Lowe, 5; R. Green (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, March 25th, for Divine Service, 720 Violet Treble Bob Minor. F. C. Newton, 1; R. Green, 2; J. Turner, 3; T. J. Morris, 4; J. T. Lowe (conductor), 5; J. Allen, 6. First 720 in the method by all.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

HIGH WYCOMBE (Bucks).—On Wednesday, March 14th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. F. Hayes, 1; J. W. Wilkins, sen., 3; R. Buckland, 3; P. W. Wilkins, jun., 4; B. Page, 5; F. Healey, 6; T. Buckland, 7; G. Twichen, 8. Composed and Conducted by J. W. Wilkins, who with his son hail from Maidenhead; Buckland (2) from Beaconsfield; Healey from Wooburn; the rest are local men. A peal was intended, but meeting one short the above was substituted. The above was rung in honour of the success of our brave countrymen in South Africa.

KIMBLE (Bucks).—On Thursday, March 22nd, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. F. Darvill, 1; A. Darvill, 2; E. Eldridge, 3; Alf. Darvill, 4; G. Darvill, 5; J. W. Wilkins (conductor), 6. Also several touches with W. Durling, 1; O. Darvill, 3.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

LEYTONSTONE (Essex).—On March 7th, 720 Cambridge Surprise. H. Bottrill, 1; T. H. Beams, 2; W. Doran, 3; W. Miller, 4; J. Moule, 5; G. Hayden, 6. Conducted by W. Keeble, who sat in the tower and called it, but did not ring. On March 11th, 720 Bob Minor. E. Tugwood, 1; J. Philpot, 2; H. Bottrill, 3; W. Miller, 4; J. Mardell, 5; W. Keeble (conductor), 6. And 720 Cambridge Surprise. G. Hayden, 1; W. Keeble, 2; W. Doran, 3; J. Mardell, 4; J. Moule (conductor), 5; W. Miller, 6. On March 16th, 720 Wells Surprise. G. Hayden, 1; W. Keeble (conductor), 2; J. Mardell, 3; W. Miller, 4; J. Moule, 5; T. H. Beams, 6. On March 21st, 720 Bristol Surprise. G. Hayden, 1; J. Mardell, 2; W. Keeble, 3; J. Moule, 4; W. Miller (conductor), 5; T. H. Beams, 6. On March 25th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. W. Keeble, 1; J. Moule, 2; W. Doran, 3; W. Miller, 4; H. Torble, 5; T. H. Beams (conductor), 6. On March 29th, in an attempt for a peal, 720 each of London, Wells, Ely, Bristol, and Lichfield Surprise were rung. W. Doran, 1; W. Miller, 2; W. Keeble (conductor), 3; J. Moule, 4; J. Mardell, 5; T. H. Beams, 6.

HARWICH (Essex).—On Saturday, March 24th, at St. Michael's church, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 30 mins. A. Redwood, 1; A. Morris, 2; C. Ellis, 3; G. Knock, 4; G. Moss, 5; G. Thompson, 6; C. Ramplin (conductor), 7; W. Pannifer, 8. This was rung as a compliment to the ringer of the 3rd, who attained his 21st birthday, his brother-strings wishing him many happy returns.

GOSPEL OAK (Middlesex).—On Sunday morning, March 18th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). H. Ellis, 1; G. Hollis (conductor), 2; E. Young, 3; N. Alderman, 4; W. Nudds, 5; R. Bevan, 6. On Sunday, March 25th, 720 Bob Minor. H. Ellis, 1; E. Turle, 2; G. Hollis, 3; E. Young, 4; W. Nudds, 5; R. Bevan, 6.

LONDON.—On Wednesday, March 7th, at the church of St. Mary Magdalene, Holloway, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. A. Jacob (conductor), 1; G. Hollis, 2; T. Langdon, 3; W. Burrows, 4; T. Titchener, 5; H. Stubbs, 6. On Sunday, April 1st, for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples. H. Spencer, 1; A. Jacob (conductor), 2; — Simmons, 3; G. Hollis, 4; W. Burrows, 5; H. Stubbs, 6; T. Langdon, 7; E. Nudds, 8. On Sunday, April 1st, at St. Michael's Star Street, Paddington, 504 Grandsire Triples. E. Nudds, 1; W. Nudds, 2; W. Burrows, 3; G. Hollis, 4; E. Young, 5; N. Alderman (conductor), 6; R. Bevan, 7; H. Ellis, 8.

WOBBURN (Beds).—On Monday, March 5th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor. W. Jones, 1; E. Herbert, 2; Chas. Herbert, 3; M. Matthews, 4; S. Avis, 5; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 6. On Monday, March 12th, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Brown, 1; D. Harris, 2; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 3; M. Matthews, 4; S. Avis, 5; W. Smith, 6; E. Herbert, 7; M. Lane, 8. On Thursday, March 15th, 784 Bob Triples. W. Jones, 1; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 2; Chas. Herbert, 3; E. Herbert, 4; S. Avis, 5; D. Harris, 6; M. Matthews, 7; R. Marshall, 8. And 504 Bob Triples. W. Jones, 1; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 2; Chas. Herbert, 3; E. Herbert, 4; S. Avis, 5; D. Harris, 6; M. Matthews, 7; R. Marshall, 8. On Monday, March 19th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. Chas. Herbert, 1; Cyril Herbert, 2; S. Avis, 3; M. Matthews, 4; E. Herbert, 5; M. Lane (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. M. Matthews, 1; D. Harris, 2; S. Avis, 3; Cyril Herbert, 4; E. Herbert, 5; M. Lane (conductor), 6. On Monday, March 26th, 704 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Smith, 1; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 2; Chas. Herbert, 3; M. Matthews, 4; S. Avis, 5; D. Harris, 6; E. Herbert, 7; M. Lane, 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 PEAL AT ST. MICHAEL'S, CORNHILL.

SIR,—The Middlesex County Association does not fear honest criticism, but when criticism is made the pretext for abuse, we naturally feel it our duty to protest. The tone and temper, however, of Mr. Taffender's remarks puts him out of serious consideration. We might have expected that on the first occasion of a twelve-bell peal being rung for so young an Association, Mr. Taffender, as a member of an ancient and honourable organization, would have adopted a very different attitude, and indulged rather in kindly criticism than otherwise, but let that pass. We do not look for compliments, and, as I have said, we do not fear honest criticism. It is only fair, however, to those who took part in the peal to insist that it was a very creditable peal indeed under difficult conditions. The band had had no opportunity of united practice, and the ropes were new. There was certainly nothing to warrant the comment of Mr. Taffender that the peal, if recorded, would be a pollution to our annual Report and peal-book. On the contrary, we welcome the successful efforts of the band, as an instalment of even greater and more successful efforts in the future. In conclusion, may I say that those who know me will give me credit for being absolutely without any ulterior motive in endeavouring to obtain the very occasional use of a twelve-bell tower in London for the use of our members. I do not seek to curtail the existing privileges of any society, and my heart's desire is to live and let live, as ringers should, in perfect concord, in the hope that we may all help to foster that glorious exercise in which we delight, and of which we are so justly proud.

In the course of my humble efforts on behalf of our own organization, I have been privileged to make many friends, and it is because I value those friendships that I make no comment upon other aspects of the unfortunate temper and mistaken zeal displayed by Mr. Taffender. ARTHUR T. KING, Hon. Sec.

PEAL DISPUTES.

SIR,—The correspondence about the genuineness of certain peals has been melancholy reading; and three-fourths of it, from either total disregard of the nature of evidence or the too obvious personal bias of the writers, is quite useless for its purpose. If such letters fairly represent the sort of evidence that would be forthcoming upon a formal enquiry, I do not see what tribunal—Central Council or local Association—can do much to settle these disputes. That they have been more frequent than they used to be, and much too frequent, no one will deny. The competition among ringers and ringing societies that is stimulated by Mr. Attree's analysis and by attempts to break records has done much to encourage good ringing; but it has also perhaps, opened a door to jealousy, and possibly to a little sharp practice. Is it too much to expect that conductors of peals (who must know, or ought to know, when a peal is going wrong) should always "play the game," and have the moral courage to stop the peal, if it ought to be stopped? Unless ringers and conductors are themselves determined to score no peal that is not absolutely fair and above board, I doubt if any tribunal can compel them. On the other hand, those who question the genuineness of a peal would do well to remember that the burden of proof rests with them, that mere assertion is not argument, and that unless they are prepared with some real evidence for their view they had better keep it to themselves—especially when, as in some recent cases, the question is raised after a considerable interval. I express no opinion upon the discussions that have recently filled your columns, except this general one—that to a disinterested person, able to judge of evidence and anxious to arrive at the truth, much of what has been written is absolutely valueless.

Writtle.

T. L. PAPILLON.

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.

OUR ASTROLOGER AGAIN.

Mr. W. J. Sevier, a distinguished member of the Exercise, is, as most of our readers know, a prognosticator or prophet, and an astrologer to boot. What follows is taken from the *Gloucester Citizen*, and may amuse our readers if not instruct them:—

Mr. W. J. Sevier, "the prophet" of Eastleigh, Southampton, and formerly of Gloucester—whose predictions have from time to time been published in newspapers in various parts of the country—has spent the Easter holidays in the city, and before leaving to resume his duties in the south he looked in at the *Citizen* office with some more forecasts for the benefit of our readers.

Mr. Sevier, be it explained, is employed in a large railway works at Southampton during the day, and he plays the role of the prophet in his spare time. He told our reporter that he is naturally endowed with the gift of prophecy, and that he became aware of its possession at a very early age.

Asked if he had any objection to stating for the information of a mystified public the methods he adopted in forecasting the future, Mr. Sevier replied: "I do it entirely by the stories of the heavens, which I interpret." "Then you are an astrologer?" "Yes, but with this distinction: all astrologers are not prophets. As soon as I see the heavens I am able to transfer the things I observe to paper."

Our reporter suggested that the Prophet would find a knowledge of shorthand useful in committing to paper "readings of the heavens" immediately they were discovered, and remarked that without the aid of the winged art he must fail to record many inspirations drawn from the skies. Mr. Sevier says, however, that he has such a good memory that none of the things he sees are forgotten, and therefore to him—however necessary it may be to others—shorthand would be of no advantage.

After this brief explanation as to his methods, Mr. Sevier proceeded to explain that he was about four years old when he became aware that the "gift of prophecy" was his. "It was in Gloucester, about thirty years ago, and at this time of year that I discovered my first war sign. The whole heavens were as red as crimson, like blood, and my father was anxious to know what the meaning of that sign was. I told him it meant that there was to be a terrible war—awful destruction of life—because the heavens at that time represented blood. In July of that year the Franco-German war broke out, causing 100,000 deaths by the sword and plague."

"Such an excellent start at so immature an age encouraged you, to 'try again' in the prophecy line?" "Yes, I have foretold many events since then, and year by year I am better able to explain these things, as I go on."

Alluding to his astronomical observations, Mr. Sevier said: "I dared some years ago to address a communication to Sir Robert Ball, telling him that I was able to explain to him many discoveries. But Sir Robert did not reply!"

Our reporter ventured the suggestion that Mr. Sevier might attribute Sir Robert Ball's refusal to reply to him to professional jealousy! "I expect there would be a little feeling that way," returned Mr. Sevier, "and so I have not troubled to communicate with him again. Sir Robert Ball gives lectures on the heavens in Portsmouth Town Hall, but I consider that works of mine which have been published in the Portsmouth papers outstrip any of his arts and sciences."

"You think that Sir Robert Ball has read your works

on astronomy, and that that explains why he will not write to you?" "I do."

Asked if he had anything good to tell the Gloucester people about the war, Mr. Sevier said he is convinced that hostilities will cease towards the end of the present month. There will be one more great battle, like the one when Cronje surrendered, and then the Boers will begin to give in."

Our representative remarked that it would be interesting if Mr. Sevier could accurately locate the scene of the final battle. Would it be in the vicinity of Pretoria? For diplomatic or other reasons—probably the latter—Mr. Sevier deemed it prudent not to make a definite announcement on this point. "I may say, however, that I don't think we shall have to fight all the way to Pretoria. The Boers will, in the course of a few weeks, find the struggle hopeless, and after the great battle to which I have alluded, sue for peace."

Mr. Sevier is very pleased with himself with regard to the relief of Ladysmith and Kimberley. Of course he had no active participation in these happy events, but he foretold them, which from his point of view is equally important. Mr. Sevier also "shakes hands with himself" over his prediction—given in general terms, it must be admitted, but none the less a prophecy for all that, that our troops would safely depart from Southampton to South Africa; an embarkation which, by reason of its magnitude, he considers it one of the greatest events in history.

Politicians will be interested to learn that the General Election will take place towards November of this year, and that a Liberal Government holding almost the same views as the Conservative views, will be returned to power. Lord Rosebery is to preside over this new Government, and Mr. Sevier predicts that his lordship will be a greater Prime Minister than either Mr. Gladstone or Lord Salisbury.

Mr. Sevier is nothing if not up-to-date, and he has "views" about the attempted assassination of the Heir Apparent. I have over and over again predicted that the Prince of Wales will never ascend the throne; five years ago I prophesied it, and for the last two years I have been expecting the Duke of York to succeed the Queen.

With a delicate consideration which is most praiseworthy, Mr. Sevier has refrained from sending any of his predictions concerning the Reigning House to any members of the Royal Family, but he says he has forwarded communications to the Rector of Sandringham. "The signs are now good for the Duke of York," said the Seer, but, he gloomily added, "I have seen signs that a member of the Royal Family will pass away towards the end of the year." He claims to have forecasted the death of the Duke of Teck, which, however, occurred a month earlier than was provided for in the published prediction—"The Royal Family will certainly suffer from loss by death in February."

Mr. Sevier concluded by revealing to our reporter that he has a wonderful invention in his mind which, if brought to fruition, would certainly work wonders in the history of warfare. Lyddite shells and "Long Toms" will sink into insignificance when the Prophet and Astrologer has developed his plans for the conversion of the search-light into "electric lightning," which when properly applied will turn opposing forces "into a cinder."

Death.

On Sunday, April 22nd, at his residence, Hanover Street, Pimlico, from pneumonia, JOHN MURRAY HAYES, in his 60th year.

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.—A meeting of members of this Association will be held to-day, Saturday, April 28, at Christ Church, Southgate. The bells will be raised about 4 o'clock, and members and their friends are cordially invited to attend. A further meeting will be held on May 12th, at St. Margaret's, Westminster, notice of which is given in advance for the convenience of members.

ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—Spring Meeting at Haddenham to-day, Saturday, April 28. Evensong at 5.0. Preacher—Rev. G. B. Rhind. Tea at 5.30 at The White Hart. Brakes meet 3.36 and 4.3 trains at Thame. Please inform Rev. G. B. Rhind, Haddenham Vicarage, Thame. Thame tower open.

R. H. HART-DAVIS, *Hon. Sec.*

Kent County Association.—Lewisham District.—The usual Quarterly Meeting will be held at St. Mary's Woolwich, to-day, Saturday, April 28. Tower open at 3 p.m. Committee meeting in the vestry. Will members whose subscriptions are still unpaid kindly settle same at the meeting, in order that the annual report may be prepared.

PERCY E. BEX, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*

Barnekurst, Bexley Heath.

The Winchester Diocesan Guild.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Chiddingfold (8 bells), to-day, Saturday, April 28th, Wittey, London and South Western Railway, is the nearest station. Tea will be provided for members.

C. E. MATTHEWS, *Hon. Sec.*

Burlesdon Vicarage, Southampton.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting of this branch will be held at St. Mary's, Balderstone, to-day, Saturday, April 28. Bells ready at 3.30. Business meeting at 6.30. All ringers welcome.

J. JACQUES, *Branch Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at St. Mary's church, Walton-on-the-Hill, to-day, Saturday, April 28th. Tower open at 4 o'clock. Meeting at 6.

G. WOODHALL, *Branch Sec.*

Chester Diocesan Guild.—Macclesfield Branch.—The next meeting of this branch will be held at St. Peter's church, Congleton, to-day, Saturday, April 28th. Tea at 5 o'clock.

J. NORBURY, *Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting of this branch will be held at Walkden, to-day, Saturday, April 28th. Bells ready at 3.30. Unveiling of peal-tablet at 5 o'clock. All ringers invited.

HENRY MOSS, *Branch Sec.*

64, Beverley Road, Bolton.

Middlesex County Association.—South and West District.—The next monthly meeting of the above will be held by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. R. D. Ram, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, Hampton-on-Thames, to-day, Saturday, April 28th. Ringing to commence at 5 p.m. Members and friends are cordially invited.

C. EDWARDS, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—Bristol Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at St. George's, to-day, Saturday, April 28. Service at 5 p.m. Bells open for ringing from 3 p.m. Tea will be provided at the Tramway Refreshment Rooms, St. George, after the service.

C. H. GORDON, *Branch Sec.*

Hill Street, Kingswood.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.—The quarterly meeting in connection with this Society will be held to-day, Saturday, April 28, at the parish church, Harborne. The bells will be available for ringing during the afternoon and evening. There will be a short service in the church at 5 o'clock.

S. REEVES, *Hon. Sec.*

10, Bull Street, Westbromwich.

St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—The usual quarterly meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 1st, at The Tamworth Arms, Moor Street, when all members who can make it convenient are requested to attend. Chair will be taken at 8.30 p.m.

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

61, Roland Road, Handsworth.

The Lancashire Association.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Garston, near Liverpool, on Saturday, May 5th. Further particulars by circular.

A. E. WREAKS, }
J. WILSON, } *Hon. Secs.*
J. SHEPHERD, }

The Kent County Association.—Canterbury District.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at St. Peter's, Thanet, on Saturday, May 5th. Tower open from 2 p.m. Tea at Burridge's restaurant, High Street, at 5.30. Business meeting after tea. Tea and half railway fare up to 2s. allowed to those sending in their names to me not later than Thursday, May 3rd. Subscriptions became due on January 1st, and should be paid at or before the meeting.

E. E. FOREMAN, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*

Summer Lees, Hernhill, Faversham.

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next monthly meeting of this Association will be held at Audley, on Saturday, May 5th. Members intending to be present are requested to give notice to Mr. C. B. Wareham, Church Street, Audley.

W. TWIGG, *Hon. Sec.*

North Notts. Association.—The annual general meeting will be held at Retford on Saturday, May 5th. Divine Service in the parish church at 3.15 p.m. Business meeting in the parish room after service. Tea in the Oddfellows' clubroom at 5 p.m. The towers of Ordsall, West Retford (6 bells), and East Retford (10 bells), will be open for ringing all the afternoon. Tea free to members, 1s. per head to visitors. Members of kindred Associations will be heartily welcome.

B. DARLEY, *Hon. Sec.*

The Sheffield and District Society.—The yearly meeting will take place on Saturday, May 5th, at St. Maries, Norfolk Row. Tower open at 4 o'clock. Business meeting at The Sportsman inn, Cambridge Street, at 8. All ringers invited.

R. HARRISON, *Hon. Sec.*

Salisbury Diocesan Guild.—The annual meeting will be held at Marlborough on Monday, May 14th. Service at St. Peter's church at 11.30, when an address will be given by the Rev. Canon Wordsworth. Meeting in the Town Hall immediately after the service to

elect officers and transact business. Dinner (2s. each) in the Town Hall at 1.15. All who intend being present should let me know by Friday, May 4th. THOMAS BLACKBURN.

"Ringwell," Exeter Street, Salisbury.

The Norwich Diocesan Association.—A Quarterly Meeting will be held at Eye, on Thursday, May 17th. Dinner at The White Lion at 1.30 p.m., 2s. 3d. Hon., and 1s. 3d. company members. Notice to be sent to the Hon. Secretary before Saturday, 12th May.

H. EARLE BULWER, *Hon. Sec.*

Stanhoe Rectory, Kings Lynn.

Central Northamptonshire Association. Will all members who have not yet paid their subscriptions for 1899 kindly send them at once. One question to be considered at the usual meeting of delegates, to be held at Wellingborough shortly after Easter, will be the election of a member to act as representative of the Association on the Central Council.

E. J. DENNES, *Hon. Sec.*

WIRKSWORTH (Derbyshire).—On Wednesday, April 18th, for practice, on the back six, 720 Bob Minor, in 27 mins. F. Johnson, 1; C. Allsop, 2; Rev. R. Stowell (first 720), 3; B. Greatorex, 4; W. Fox, 5; Rev. A. T. Beeston (conductor), 6.

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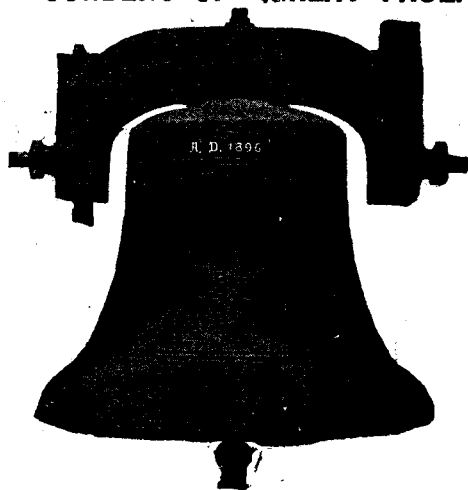
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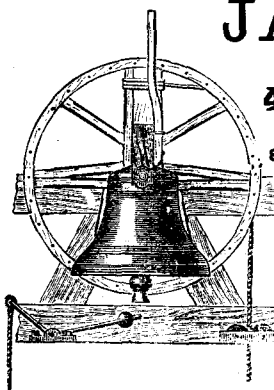
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