

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 894.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, MAY 27, 1899.

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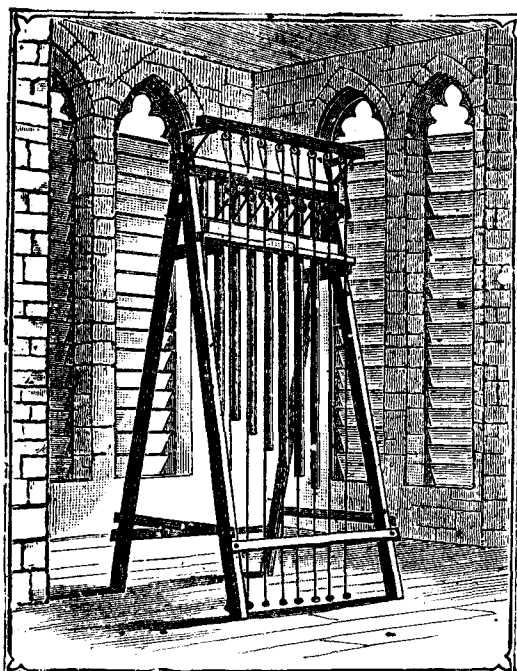
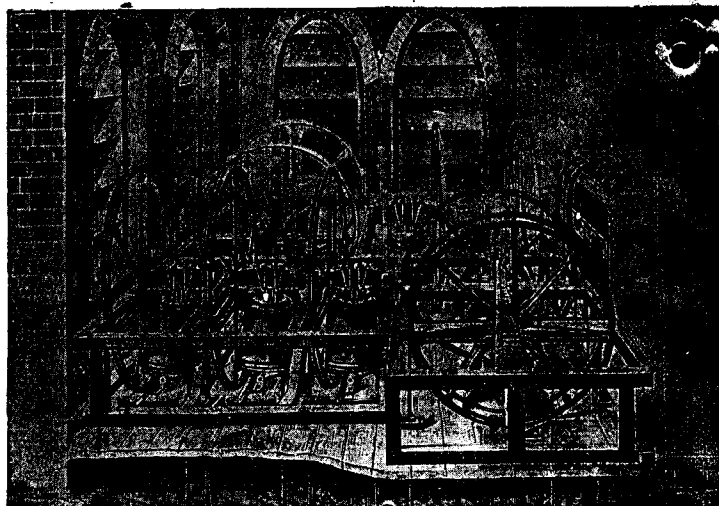
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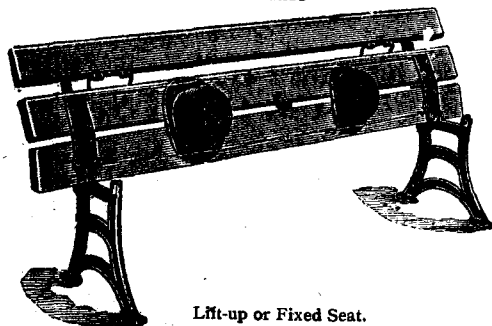
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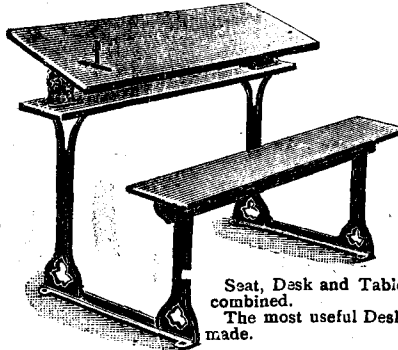
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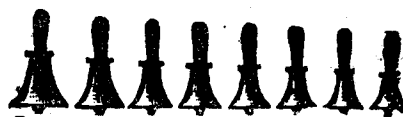
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 894.]

SATURDAY, MAY 27, 1899.

[VOL. XVIII.]

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

"All change!" So shouted the porters on the platform, as the train which conveyed my valuable person pulled up in Leeds station on Saturday last. And when I emerged from the carriage I found myself in the midst of a great crowd of excited and excitable humanity, pushing, elbowing, and rushing from one side of the platform to the other, just as though the whole world were in danger, and they were trying to get out of the way. Evidently the major portion were trippers, for there was the usual conglomeration of boxes, trunks, and other paraphernalia strewn and being carried about in all directions. However, by dint of much perseverance, and a larger quantity of patience, I eventually got clear of the railway station, its crowd and belongings, reaching Boar Lane, from whence the tram cars started for Headingley, my destination. Here again evidences of the holiday season were abundantly manifest on every hand. The tramcars, some propelled by steam engines, some by electricity, and some by horses, as they followed each other in quick succession round the town from Briggate, were filled to their utmost capacity; and I began seriously to consider, first the possibility, then the probability, of my having to resort to shanks' pony, in order to get within sight of St. Chad's. But fortune again rewarded patience and perseverance, and at length I secured a vacant seat, and was on my way towards Headingley. In a short time the busy streets had been left behind, and we were riding amid rural surroundings, which made the outlook most enjoyable. Then we reached the fine and comparatively new church of St. Michael, where a wedding was evidently in progress, and as if in contrast, an open grave was to be seen close by the little crowd at the gate, with a plank or two thrown loosely over to prevent accidents. A few minutes more brought us to our journey's end, which was also the tram terminus in that direction. When I alighted the weather, which had previously been of the character usually described as "threatening," was as pleasant as could have been desired. The sun was shining brightly, the light breeze which wafted across the fields was warm and invigorating, while the whole scene, with the magnificent church of St. Chad near by ("standing in its own grounds of so many acres," as the property agent would say), was most refreshing.

But I had little time to gaze on this, for directly on arrival I was taken possession of by one of the Headingley ringers, and marched off into the large up-stairs room of The Woodman inn, where I found an old acquaintance, George Barraclough, busily engaged reducing the size of a large piece of beef which ornamented a sideboard. Every one who came was expected to be hungry, and so ample provision had been made for that emergency.

Shortly afterwards I heard the bells of St. Chad's across the fields, a fine-toned ring of eight with a tenor weighing just over a ton, and I strolled along towards the school room, where the tables were laid out, and a number of ladies making active preparations for tea. In another room the committee were engaged transacting Association

business, which included the admission of a number of new members, which brought up the total to 44 for the year up to the present. Five o'clock arrived at length, and with it the advent of the schoolroom, where shortly after we were all busily engaged with a refreshing cup of tea and its more substantial concomitants, which were most efficiently served by the ladies of the parish.

The general business meeting followed, when the chair was occupied by Mr. William Snowdon, the President of the Association, who was accompanied on the platform by the Rev. W. Howard Stables, M.A., M.B., Vicar of St. Chad's; Mr. W. Stainthorpe, Hon. Treasurer; Mr. B. T. Copley, Hon. Secretary; Mr. W. Abbishaw, Mr. T. Lockwood, and other prominent members of the Association. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, communications from Keighley and Heptonstall were read, inviting the Association to hold its next meeting at those places. The voting resulted in the acceptance of the former town, and a cordial vote of thanks was given to the Heptonstall branch for their invitation. A letter was then read by the Rev. H. Walsham How, Vicar of Wakefield, respecting a proposal to form a Wakefield diocesan branch of the Association. After short discussions, it was unanimously decided that the Hon. Secretary assure promoters of this movement of the hearty support of the Association.

The President then moved, and Mr. Charles Jackson (Hull) seconded, a cordial vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and schools.

The Rev. W. Howard Stables, who was warmly greeted on rising to reply, acknowledged the vote in a humorous little speech, after which Mr. B. T. Copley proposed, and Mr. W. Stainthorpe seconded, a vote of thanks to the St. Chad's branch for their general arrangements, and the ladies for their valuable assistance at tea, which was carried amid cheers, and responded to by Mr. W. Child.

A vote of thanks to the chairman, proposed by Mr. B. T. Copley, and seconded by Mr. W. Abbishaw, concluded the business.

Directly afterwards the bells of St. Chad's were again in motion, which most fittingly concluded a very pleasant and in every way enjoyable meeting.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly general meeting was held at Redenhall on Thursday, May 18th. There was a good attendance of members, chiefly from neighbouring parishes. On the beautiful eight at Redenhall touches of Double Norwich, Treble Bob, and Bob Major, were rung during the day. The neighbouring towers of Pulham St. Mary, Starston, and Mendham were also open to the members. Forty-five members and friends sat down to an admirably-served repast at 1.30 in a marquee lent by J. Sancroft Holmes, Esq., and by kind permission of the Rector, the Ven. Archdeacon Perowne, pitched on a lawn in front of the rectory. The President of the Association, Dr. Raven, was in the chair; and there were present also the Ven. Archdeacon Perowne, J. Sancroft Holmes, Esq. (church-

warden), E. Mann, Esq. (of Thelverton Hall), Rev. R. W. Pitt (Rector of Saxlingham), Dr. Robinson, Charles Candler, Esq., Mr. J. A. Everson (of Harleston), and Mr. J. Munnings (of Mendham). Of the district secretaries there were present Messrs. F. R. Borrett, F. Day, F. Lambert, and A. Naunton; the caterer being Mr. Alfred Bradley, of The Cardinal's Hat inn, Harleston.

The President, at the conclusion of the meal, gave the toast of "The Queen," calling attention to the presence of one to whom Her Majesty had been graciously pleased to send a signed portrait of herself in recognition of his having rung on every anniversary of her birth since her accession, viz., Mr. Edward Chandler, of Fressingfield. They would drink the Queen's health all the more heartily and loyally because the celebration of Her Majesty's eightieth birthday was so near at hand.

The President next gave the toast of "The Association," drawing attention to some photographs he exhibited of bells moulded recently by Messrs. Taylor & Co., as examples of the old "cire perdue" process of ornamentation. He also reminded those present of the responsibilities of the ringer's office in connection with the services of the Church, and of the duty of attending the worship to which they summoned others.

The Hon. Secretary in replying to the toast, first of all thanked Archdeacon Perowne for allowing them the use of the beautiful Redenhall bells, and for permitting them to assemble in his grounds: also to Mr. Holmes for the use of the tent, and the flag that waved from the church tower. He expressed his pleasure at seeing so good an attendance at the meeting, and his gladness at being once again amid old friends and scenes at Redenhall, the memories and associations connected with which were very dear to him. Especially was it impossible to meet at Redenhall without having in remembrance their dear old friend Captain Moore, and their deep regret that he was no more longer living to be among them. He could hardly express to them the grievous sense of loss he had experienced at the death of so dear a friend; a feeling that he knew to be fully shared by many then present. He wished to associate himself most thoroughly with what had fallen from their president concerning ringers' duties: and entreated all ringers, in estimating their responsibilities, to put all merely selfish considerations on one side: and to remember that whatever their own feelings and views might be, or their own inclinations, they were bound, as Church-workers, to set a good example to others. He wished at that meeting to prepare them for the possibility of his relinquishing the office of Secretary at the Annual Meeting. There were reasons which weighed sufficiently heavily with him to make him contemplate the necessity of giving up all the honorary secretaryships he now held; and unless those reasons became considerably modified in the near future, he intended to do so.

The names of candidates for election were then read out including E. Mann, Esq., and J. Munnings Esq., as honorary members, two life members, twenty seven performing members and eight probationers, all being elected.

Archdeacon Perowne expressed the pleasure it gave him to be able to meet those present, and how glad he was to welcome them. He gave his testimony to the value of the Association to the Diocese, having watched its progress from the very first, he himself having been one of the original members. He also alluded to the affection and esteem in which Captain Moore had been

held by all who knew him, and the excellence of his work and example in connection with Redenhall bells more especially.

Mr. Edward Mann returned thanks for his election as an honorary member, and alluded to the probable restoration of Dickleburgh bells.

Mr. Sancroft Holmes having also acknowledged the vote of thanks, and Mr. J. Munnings having thanked the meeting for his election, the members returned to the tower, where ringing was kept up till the time for separation arrived, and ended a successful and enjoyable meeting, the weather having fortunately been all that could be desired.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of this Association was held at Chelmsford on Whit Monday, and was fairly well attended. As upon former occasions the towers of Chelmsford, Writtle, Widford, Great Baddow, Springfield, Boreham, and Broomfield were open to members of the Association, and ringing in most of these commenced early in the morning. A peal of Stedman was started for at Widford, but lost through a change-course when only from two to three short courses had to be rung. A peal was rung at Writtle the previous Saturday. The service was held in St. Mary's church, Chelmsford, the Rector, the Rev. H. A. Lake, and the Rev. T. L. Papillon, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, taking part in the same. The address which was given by the Rev. F. S. Paynter, Rector of Springfield, was founded upon the words from Philippians iii. 1, 2, 3. A historical and religious aspect of bells was given, and the preacher appealed to those present to make good use to the service of God of their ringing.

The business meeting was held in the schoolroom immediately after the service, the Rev. T. L. Papillon presiding. The Rev. H. A. Cockey, Oldlands, Bristol, was among those present. The Committee and other officers were re-elected. Mr. E. Wightman was elected upon the Peal Committee in place of Mr. W. H. L. Buckingham, who had ceased to be a member of the Association. The Rev. T. L. Papillon, Messrs. N. J. Pitstow, and H. J. Tucker were re-elected as representatives upon the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers, and Mr. B. Keeble, of Romford, was elected in place of Mr. E. G. Newman. Several new members from various towers were elected, and the Rev. H. T. W. Eyre, Assistant-Secretary, was elected a Life Member. The annual report showed that although the sum of £5 had been spent upon re-printing certificates, yet there was a balance of £11 6s. 11d. in hand against £11 5s. 7d. last year. Owing to Mr. Newman's action there were twenty-three peals waiting for insertion in the peal-book. Three new companies had joined during the year, and three towers had been restored. The district meetings had been well attended, and there was a large number present at the annual meeting, but only a few attended the service, which was distressing to those responsible for securing a preacher. Much good was done by the missionary enterprise in the Braintree district. Two hon. members were secured, and much good done otherwise. Forty peals had been rung during the year, among which were the extraordinary feats upon handbells double-handed by the brothers Pye and others.

Discussion arose upon various points, and it was decided to issue a supplementary report with a list of the peals omitted from the report issued and rung up to Christmas 1898.

Mr. C. Howard brought forward the question of the Association reaching its twenty-first year in 1900, and it was resolved to appoint a sub-committee to consider the arrangements for the annual meeting.

Dinner was afterwards served in the schoolroom, after which the usual complimentary votes of thanks were passed. Ringing was carried on till the evening in many of the surrounding towers.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES MEMORIAL BELLS.

The four additional bells placed in the tower of the Stockton Parish Church as a memorial of the Queen's long reign, were dedicated on Tuesday, May 2nd, by Dr. Sandford (the Assistant-Bishop of Durham). As the bells were in the nature of a town's memorial, great interest was shown in the proceedings. The Mayor (Alderman Cameron), and members and officials of the Corporation assembled at the Town Hall and walked in procession to the Parish Church, accompanied by many of the Freemasons, who had given one of the bells. The procession was headed by Inspector Dunn, with a detachment of the Stockton police. There was a great number of clergy and a large congregation present. The lessons were read by the Rev. J. A. Sharrock and the Rev. Canon Falconer. Dr. Sandford gave an appropriate address from Ex. xxviii., relating to the bells on the High Priest's garment, and observed that ever since those remote days bells had been associated with the life of the Church and the individual worshipper. They had become linked with the religious life of the congregation, the social life of the parish, and the municipal and national life of the people. They were also an evidence of peace and unity, and he hoped nothing might arise to disturb the unity of that parish or the peace of that great municipality. The bells would serve their highest purpose by warning them against the powers of death, and writing upon their hearts the words in the bells of the High Priest's garment—Holiness to the Lord. Subsequently, the Bishop, clergy, choir, and churchwardens entered the tower, and the formal service of dedication took place, concluding with the well-known hymn, "Lifted safe within the steeple." An offertory was made at the service on behalf of the renewal of the west window of the tower.

Luncheon was afterwards served in the Parish Hall, the Mayor (Alderman Cameron) presiding. About 130 ladies and gentlemen sat down. Ringers were present from neighbouring towns, numbering about 40 in all. The Mayor was supported by Dr. Sandford and most of the clergy present at the service, beside a great number of the influential inhabitants of the neighbourhood. The loyal toasts were duly honoured, after which Councillor Langley announced that Mr. John Mills, who had contributed 120 guineas to complete the fund, was unable to be present, owing to an attack of deafness following influenza. Mr. Wrightson and Mr. Samuel also sent apologies for absence. Councillor Langley then proposed, in eulogistic terms, the "Bishops and Clergy of all denominations," and remarked that one of the most pleasing features connected with the bells was the interest shown in them by all sections of the community. The Nonconformists of the town gave their assistance and enthusiasm to bring the undertaking to a successful issue. They were also pleased to know that on this occasion the Vicar of Stockton had received the kindest and warmest recognition, and an intimation that he would be made an honorary canon. The Vicar had laboured for many years in the work of temperance and education, and a fitting recognition of that work had now been made.

Bishop Sandford responded, and observed that there was no more interesting or romantic facts within their knowledge than those which clustered round bells. They knew how they symbolised the various phases of human happiness, from the birth of the child till the laying of the dead body in the dust. In regard to architecture, they owed a great deal to the bells. The first churches were built with roofs running east and west, with dormer windows for light and ventilation. But when the bells came, towers had to be provided. He had great doubt whether the towers or spires would ever have been built at all but for the bells. At any rate, that was an instance of how architecture had been influenced; and how many a landscape in the country and many a city had been adorned by them they all knew. They looked with pride and satisfaction on the

beautiful structures, whether spires or towers, which adorned their native land. The history of the bells brought them back to the end of the seventh century, when the Abbot of Wearmouth introduced bells into that part of the country, and in 1542, Pope Calixtus III. sent the largest peal of bells—the only peal in England—as a present to King's College, Cambridge. That peal connected them with the various developments which had since taken place in bells. The arithmetical progression in that matter was marvellous—from two changes on two bells, to 120 every minute for 12 bells; and taking exactly 91 years to complete.

The Rev. T. H. Horrell responded on behalf of the nonconformists of the town, and expressed his deep feeling and veneration for the historic Established Church of the country. Most profoundly did he desire that it should continue a bulwark against impiety and unbelief, and a living example of the faith which was wider than all creeds or church organisations. He felt that they owed a debt of gratitude to the Church of England, and he was not prepared to take any steps which would bring about a change in its connection with the State. He also took the opportunity of congratulating the Vicar on the honour he had received.

The Vicar then submitted "The Donors of the Bells," and said he trusted that the erection of the bells would make for peace in the town. They could not forget the hearty way in which the matter had been taken up by the whole town, and the bells had been dedicated for the use of the church and the town. Two of the bells bore the date 1696, and four were put into the church soon after its erection in 1714. The proposal to place four more in the tower originated with Mr. Clarkson, who had given one of the bells. The church officers had given another, the Freemasons one, and the townspeople one.

Mr. Clarkson responded, and observed that he had heard the bells both outside and inside, and thought they had achieved the success they desired. He thanked the members of the committee for their share in the work, and especially Councillor Langley, the chairman. Colonel Roper replied on behalf of the Freemasons, and said that they had given the bell heartily and with the view of furthering a good work. The bells were meant to be the bells of the town, and would not only call upon them to be better church or chapel people but to fulfil their municipal or social duties in a better way.

"The Mayor and Corporation" was proposed by Mr. G. H. Wass, and responded to by the Mayor, after which a course of Grandsire Caters was rung on the handbells. Besides the local company, ringers attended from Middlesbrough; Thornaby; St. John's, St. Cuthbert's and Trinity, Darlington; Staindrop; Hurworth; Northallerton; Thirsk; Ripon; York; Leeds; Whitby and Masham, also Mr. T. Clark, late of Ripon; Mr. W. Snowden, President of the Yorkshire Association; Mr. W. Reed, late President of the Durham and Newcastle Association, and the Rev. A. B. Simpson, of Fittleworth Rectory, Sussex. Between forty and fifty ringers were present, by whom the bells were extensively rung during the day. In the afternoon, several touches were rung at Thornaby, this being the first occasion on which the two peals within the Parliamentary Borough of Stockton have been rung together.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Fine weather favoured the members on the occasion of their half-yearly meeting, which was held at Lytham, on Saturday, April 29th. There was a good representative gathering of members from various parts of the County, including Manchester, Pendleton, Ashton, Bolton, Prestwich, Heywood, Rochdale, Bury, Helmsbore, Preston, Birch, Leyland, Kirkham, Blackpool, and the local companies. A considerable amount of ringing was done at the various towers in the town and district, and the business meeting was held in St. Cuthbert's Schools, the Vicar, the Rev. Canon Hawkins, presiding.

Canon Hawkins, in a few remarks, congratulated the Association on the work they were accomplishing. The Lytham ringers were certainly a credit to the town, and he was quite delighted to listen to the bells of their Parish Church. He welcomed all the visitors, and added that he should be only too pleased to see them in Lytham at any future time. Addresses were also given by the President and the Rev. C. A. Clements, and a vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the meeting.

REMARKS ON THE SECULAR NATURE OF THE ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF CHANGE-RINGING, HISTORICALLY CONSIDERED.

(Continued.)

By R. A. DANIELL.

CONCERNING THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH CHANGE-RINGING
TOOK ITS RISE.

Stedman tells us that change-ringing did not originate till the early part of the seventeenth century. But that there was ringing of some sort long before that time, is generally agreed. As Mr. Tyack has by referring to Hentzner alluded to the time of Queen Elizabeth I will also offer some remarks on that period, because that period is the starting-point of the conditions from which I shall endeavour to draw the inference that from its commencement down to our own day change-ringing could not be expected to be other than a purely secular pursuit.

But first let me make a quotation from Stow's *Survey of London*. Writing of St. Michael's, Cornhill (the church of his time, before the fire of London), he says:—

"The fair new steeple, or bell tower of this church, was begun to be built in the year 1421, which being finished, and a fair ring of five bells therein placed, a sixth bell was added, and given by John Whitwell, Isabell his wife, and William Russ, Alderman and Goldsmith, about the year 1430, which bell, named 'Russ,' nightly at eight of the clock, and otherwise for knells, and in peals, rung by one man, for the space of one hundred and sixty years, of late overhauled by four or five at once, hath been thrice broken, and new cast within the space of ten years, to the charges of that parish more than one hundred marks.

"And here a note of this steeple; as I have oft heard my father report, upon St. James's night, certain men in the loft next under the bells, ringing of a peal, a tempest of lightning and thunder did arise, an ugly shapen sight appeared to them, coming in at the south window and lighted on the north, for fear whereof they all fell down, and lay as dead for the time, letting the bells ring and cease of their own accord; when the ringers came to themselves they found certain stones of the north window to be razed and scratched, as if they had been so much butter, printed with a lions' claw; the same stones were fastened there again, and so remain till this day. I have seen them oft, and have put a feather or small stick into the holes where the claws had entered three or four inches deep. At the same time certain main timber posts at Queenhithe were scratched and cleft from the top to the bottom; and the pulpit cross in Paul's churchyard was likewise scratched, cleft and overturned. One of the ringers lived in my youth whom I have oft heard to verify the same to be true."

Stow's *Survey* was published in the year 1598, and Stow himself was born in 1525 in St. Michael's parish. This experience of the ringers he gives on the authority of his father's statement and those of one of the ringers who lived in his youth. It was before his own time; and it may have been considerably before it, if he means to convey that only one of these ringers was alive in his youth, and that the rest were then dead.

If we turn to his account of Paul's Cross, we find "This Pulpit Cross was by tempest of lightning and thunder defaced. Thomas Kempe, Bishop of London, new built in form as it now standeth." Thomas Kempe was Bishop of London from 1450 to 1489, so that if both these extracts refer to the same storm it took place some distance back in the fifteenth century. But at any rate the story is evidence that there was ringing before the Reformation. Though in these days our minds are not sufficiently imaginative to discern corporeal manifestations of the devil, either in thunderstorms or in anything else, we know that many persons are frightened even by a little thunder; and that this storm was severe seems to be shown by the damage done not only at St. Michael's but also at Queenhithe and Paul's Cross. At any rate these men were frightened; and we may be much obliged to them for being so, for otherwise they would not have let go their ropes and let the bells "ring and

cease of their own accord," and we should not have had this story handed down to us containing indisputable evidence of the practice of ringing at this early date.

We may note in passing Stow's use of the word "Ring" as applied to the bells themselves, and "Peal" as applied to the performance on them. I have always been given to understand that "Peal" should not be used for "Ring" and the distinction is convenient, but it has not been generally observed in modern times. The word "Peal" by which nowadays we usually understand a 5000, was formerly used as here to denote anything rung, irrespective of the number of the bells used, or of what was performed. We have a survival of this use of the word when we speak of a "Funeral Peal," which has not of necessity any change-ringing in it, and may be rung on any number of bells.

Now this ringing is reported to have taken place on St. James's night and it would be interesting if we could know whether that statement is meant to suggest that the ringing had anything to do with the festival, or whether it merely marks the time of year (July 25th) when it took place. St. James was not the patron Saint of the Church, and on reference to Brand's *Popular Antiquities* I do not find anything special about that day except that it was customary for the priest to bless apples. But either this ringing was in connection with some religious office or it was not. If it was not, then it would be of the same general character as meetings for peals or practice have always been, for mediæval ringing was not confined to ecclesiastical occasions. But if it was in connection with some religious office, then, in order to understand why we should expect to find ringing divorced from religious offices and become a purely secular pursuit in the time of Queen Elizabeth, we must consider the effect on the performance of religious offices and the standard of reverence of sundry circumstances connected with the Reformation.

At the time when these men were ringing at St. Michael's, London was adorned on every side by the dignity and magnificence of its ecclesiastical buildings. Sir Walter Besant in his most interesting book on London, estimates that at this time at least a fourth of the City belonged to the Church and the Religious Houses. The outward manifestations of religious institutions were in every street. The power of the Church was great, and as yet unthreatened. The mediæval ceremonial attended the Church services. The outward signs of reverence for sacred things and places were everywhere to be seen. Not indeed that people had come to entertain the view that a general reverence required also so particular a reverence as we nowadays deem fitting for the entire fabric of a church. The naves of the church were frequently used for secular purposes. But still it is substantially true to say that the more consecrated portions of these buildings, such as chancels, altars, chantries, etc., claimed and received reverent treatment.

What a contrast between this state of buildings and ideas and that of a century later.

Sir Walter Besant, in the book I have mentioned, points out in a striking manner that London was in Elizabeth's reign a city of ruins—"Ruins everywhere. Ruins of cloisters, halls, dormitories, courts and chapels and churches. Ruins of carved altar-pieces, canopies, statues, painted windows, and graven fonts. Ruins of old faiths and old traditions."

He then describes the destructions which had fallen on the great and small monastic houses and colleges which were so numerous in London, and whose names in many cases—such as Blackfriars and Whitefriars, for instance—remain to us till this day. Whatever may be said for or against the policy of suppressing the religious houses, it, as actually carried out, presented with the fewest exceptions, the spectacle of buildings consecrated and once revered handed over not to be reformed and continued in any way for the benefit of the community, but to be torn to pieces to satisfy the greed of men in high places who considered no interest, political or religious, but their own. Sir Walter Besant reminds us also that "The parish churches were filled with ruins. The carved fonts were defaced, the side chapels were desolate and empty; the altars were stripped; the rood-screens were removed; the roods themselves were taken down; the painted walls were whitewashed." In fact the things, customs and ideas sacred to their fathers had entirely ceased to be so to the men of that generation. Public

opinion acquiesced in this rapine and spoliation. It was an age in which men were rejoicing in everything new—the drama, poetry, the printing press, visions of the new world beyond the seas, and that increasing trade and commerce which by the end of the sixteenth century had made London the commercial centre of the world.

It is not in an age of such characteristics as these that we should look with much expectation of finding any but a low standard of reverence for the mutilated and defaced ecclesiastical buildings which were left standing, and moreover whatever desire for reverence may have been characteristic of the learned men who supported a Reformation grounded on constituted authority and historical enquiry, the fanatics who blindly accepted Genevan Protestantism not only had no reverence for sacred places, but considered they did God service by savage attacks on all that was intellectually or artistically beautiful.

We have evidence of a well-known and remarkable kind as to the reverence actually felt in the sixteenth and the earlier half of the seventeenth centuries for sacred buildings in what was known as "Paul's Walk."

"Paul's Walk" was the nave of St. Paul's Cathedral, and at this period it was used as a common meeting-place for business and pleasure. No doubt it had been long before this treated with some secularity, but now that the altars and chantries had been removed from it, it appears to have lost every vestige of sanctity. Queen Elizabeth indeed, issued a proclamation for remedying the abuse, and entrusted the enforcement of it to the Lord Mayor. But nothing came of it. Paul's Walk is described in many books, but I will taking the following extract from chapter xi. of Dean Milman's *Annals of St. Paul's*.

"But the Queen's Proclamation was only idle thunder. . . .

The Dean and Canons were either careless or powerless, perhaps content with decent order during the hours of service in the choir, or during sermons. The City authorities were either not summoned to, or regardless of their office; they perhaps found St. Paul's so convenient an exchange that they agreed tacitly to violate or to neglect the Queen's inhibitions."

"The Elizabethan literature teems with passages which shew to what base uses the nave and aisles of the Cathedral were abandoned, as lounging places for the idle and hungry, for knaves, thieves, ruffians or women; a mart for business of all kinds, even the lowest and most coarse. The walls were covered with advertisements, not always the most decent; it was the unrebuked trysting-place of both sexes, the place where villainies and robberies were plotted; where everything was bought, sold, hired. Shakspeare makes Falstaff buy Bardolph in Paul's; servants bought and hired there were proverbially no better than Bardolph. Dekker, in his "Gull's Handbook," gives a comical account of the Gulls and Knaves which swarmed in all corners. Parasites who wanted a dinner haunted what popular fame had transmitted into the tomb of the good Duke Humphrey. There was a noble monument of the Beauchamps at the foot of the second column at the north-east end of the nave. This was changed into the tomb of the old Duke (who was buried at St. Albans), and hence the common proverb, 'to dine with Duke Humphrey.' At length, before the close of the century, and of Elizabeth's reign, Ben Jonson actually lays the scene in the third act of his 'Every man out of his Humour' in the middle aisle of St. Paul's. The knave of the play boasts that he has posted up his bills without observation, and precious bills they were to be read on the walls of a church.* The characters which Old Ben, though a coarse yet not usually an irreverent writer, scruples not to assemble in the church, is the most vivid illustration of the extent to which the abuse had grown, nor does this comedy, so far as I can trace, appear to have given offence."

Such was Paul's Walk, and such it continued to be till the day of the Puritan ascendancy came, when it was converted into a cavalry barrack for men, and stables for their horses.

*In one the advertiser purports to profess to teach the art of smoking tobacco. The other is practically an advertisement for a lady, or ladies, to keep the advertiser.—R. A. D.

In connection with Paul's Walk it must be borne in mind that the abuse existed because public opinion supported it. This made it too strong for two of the most masterful persons of their time. We have already noticed that Elizabeth tried to put it down and failed: and later on, when Laud, who held the See from 1628 to 1633, was Bishop of London, and was promoting the work of repairing and adorning the Cathedral, the portico which was added at the west end from the designs of Inigo Jones was intended by Laud to be (so Heylyn tells us) "an ambulatory for such as by usual walking in the body of the church profaned the place, and disturbed the Divine Service in the choir." In other words, Laud, to whose orderly habits of mind and sense of reverence such profanation was offensive, who set his purposes before him definitely and pursued them unflinchingly, who had as much power as, if not more than, anyone then in the Kingdom of enforcing his views, and who certainly did not usually hesitate about using this power—found this abuse so firmly established that even he did not deem it practicable to go farther in the direction of abating it than to try to induce those who haunted the Cathedral to come outside by building a portico for them to walk about in.

London in those days was a small place in comparison with the London of our time, and Paul's Walk was accessible to everybody, and used by all classes, and therefore it will scarcely be necessary for me to add anything further about the standard of reverence for sacred places prevailing in London in the period from the commencement of the Reformation to the Restoration.

Now this is the period during which change-ringing originated and developed to the degree shewn in Stedman's *Tintinologia*, and within which its main principles were fixed. We should not expect, in London at any rate, to find this new art devoted to religious purposes. Indeed it would surprise us very much if we did. There had before the Reformation been plenty of ringing on secular occasions; that would naturally continue; while ringing in connection with religious offices would be considered superstitious. The use of church bells during this period in connection with Divine Service was simply to give notice to parishioners when it was about to take place, and not to call them to church in the sense of there being any Church work about the ringing or chiming. It was exactly like the use of a bell or bells to summon parishioners to a vestry meeting, which was formerly frequent, and is still in use, as, for instance, in the City of London. Further on I shall have some remarks to offer by way of evidence in support of that position, but at this point I revert for a moment to Mr. Tyack's statement that by Hentzner's time ringers had gained an evil reputation for irregularity of life. I venture to assert it to be incredible, and that no one who considers even the little that I have set out bearing on the public standard of reverence at the period of Hentzner's visit, can fail to conclude that a class of men must have done a great deal worse than anything Mr. Tyack suggests before in that generation they gained an evil reputation.

Hitherto I have spoken only of London. But lest I should appear to generalise too quickly, I will proceed next week to make a few remarks about the state of things at Cambridge at this period. I choose this place partly on account of its importance in the life of the Church as an abode of a University, and partly on account of its connection with the early period of change-ringing, according to the received tradition that Stedman was a native of the town.

(To be continued.)

CAVERSHAM. OXON.

On Saturday, May 20th, the ringers met in the tower to ring for the wedding of Mr. H. Simmonds, the steeple-keeper. When the happy pair was leaving the church a 504 Stedman Triples was rung. E. J. Menday, 1; T. Newman, 2; J. F. Tarrant, 3; J. Hands, 4; E. W. Menday (conductor), 5; G. Ess x, 6; H. W. Smith, 7; R. T. Hibbert, 8. Mr. A. Newman then took part in some firing, etc., after which the band adjourned to drink the healths of the bride and bridegroom, and were afterwards kindly invited to tea by the newly-married pair, all spending a pleasant evening, and wishing Mr. and Mrs. Simmonds every happiness and prosperity.

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The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MAY 27, 1899.

THE meeting of the Central Council at Norwich, of which a full report will appear in due course, seems to have been successful both as regards the members attending it and the interest of its proceedings. The Committee appointed to negotiate with the Railway Companies for reduced fares were unable to report much progress, but were not altogether despondent of success. The report of the Committee on the Glossary of Technical Terms showed that ringing literature will ere long be enriched by an exceedingly valuable work of reference, mainly due, as the President pointed out, to the persevering labours of the Hon. Secretary, the REV. H. EARLE BULWER. The discussion upon the conditions and features which constitute a legitimate method of change-ringing was one on which, from the nature of the case, not many can take part with expert knowledge; but in view of the frequent claims for recognition made by new "methods," it is very desirable that such a question should engage attention. The question of paid ringing produced an exceedingly interesting and valuable discus-

sion, which showed that a matter upon which strong opinions are often expressed has various sides, and must be approached from different points of view, of local custom and varying circumstances. No resolution was passed, but all who were present must have felt that the discussion had been instructive. Another subject of great practical importance, the best mode of instructing beginners in the art of change-ringing, was crowded out for want of time, but will, it may be hoped, receive adequate attention at a future meeting. With regard to next year's meeting in London, a new departure was taken by recommending that it be held in two sittings, morning and afternoon, with an hours' interval. This, we venture to think, will be a decided improvement.

The results of the long peal attempts announced last week will be found among the peal records. The 17,000 of Double Norwich at Kidlington was obtained, but the Wolverhampton essay was only partially successful, as will be seen. Mr. Washbrook describes in another column the difficulties under which his peal was secured; a relation of an apologetic character, somewhat. We suppose that the critics Mr. Washbrook alludes to, who were on the alert outside the tower, made themselves unpleasantly conspicuous. Unfortunately a rumour is current that "the critics" do not intend to remain silent. If so, let them say what they intend to without delay, and publicly. We may now imagine that the extreme length has been reached. "Choppy" may be looked for during a continuous run of more than eleven hours, especially when the difficulties of a mixed go have to be encountered.

The Metropolis.

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

On Saturday, May 20, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 24 cwt.

ARTHUR G. ELLIS Treble.	*WILLIAM H. PASMORE .. 5.
JOHN W. GOLDING* 2.	FREDERICK DENCH .. 6.
HARRY R. PASMORE* 3.	SAMUEL E. ANDREWS .. 7.
HENRY S. ELLIS 4.	JOHN N. OXBORROW .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, and
Conducted by JOHN N. OXBORROW.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. H. R. Pasmore on reaching his eighteenth birthday, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns. *First peal in the method.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 22, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, WALTHAMSTOW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5183 CHANGES.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

WILLIAM J. COAKHAM .. Treble.	GEORGE LUCAS 6.
CHARLES T. HOPKINS 2.	JAMES CULLEN 7.
JOHN H. WILKINS 3.	WILLIAM B. MANNING .. 8.
ROBERT J. MAYNARD 4.	FREDK. ARTHUR NUNN .. 9.
JAMES RANN* 5.	*JOHN MARDELL Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, of Chesterfield, and
Conducted by FREDK. A. NUNN.

*First peal of Caters. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 22, 1899, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR, WALTHAMSTOW,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

ALBERT D. O. ABRAHAMS* Treble.	*WALLACE ABRAHAMS .. 5.
GEORGE B. LUCAS 2.	*RICHARD ELLIOTT .. 6.
CHARLES T. HOPKINS 3.	FREDERICK A. NUNN .. 7.
ROBERT J. MAYNARD 4.	FRANK HULL Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE B. LUCAS.

*First peal of Major. This peal has the 4th 5th and 6th in 6ths place, and the 2nd never above 4ths place at a course-end, and is now rung for the first time. First peal of Bob Major on the bells. Rung to celebrate the 30th birthday of F. A. Nunn, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

The Provinces.

DERBY.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(DERBY BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, May 16, 1899, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALKMUND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; PARKER'S 12-PART. Tenor 17 cwt.

JOHN WM. THOMPSON .. Treble.	JOHN A. THOMPSON 5.
TOM ALTON 2.	ALBERT ED. THOMPSON .. 6.
GEORGE THOMPSON 3.	JOHN FLOWER 7.
JOSEPH DAVIES 4.	JOHN NEWBOLD Tenor.

Conducted by ALBERT E. THOMPSON.

THIRSK, YORKS.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, May 16, 1899, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

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

J. STOTT Treble.	J. WRIGHTSON 5.
D. BURTON 2.	G. NEESAM 6.
H. BROWN 3.	J. W. LONG 7.
J. NEESAM 4.	H. WRIGHT Tenor.

Conducted by D. BURTON.

First peal by all.

TILEHURST, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, May 17, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

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

JOHN TUCKER Treble.	WILLIAM NEWELL 5.
ALFRED E. REEVES 2.	CHARLES CHAPMAN 6.
WILLIAM P. ROUTH, Esq. 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
AMBROSE OSBORNE 4.	ALBERT W. HIGGS Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

Rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of the late F. Wilder, Esq., of Purley Hall, County Councillor for the district.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

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

On Monday, May 22, 1899, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lbs. in D.

ROBERT J. DAWB .. Treble.	JAMES HUNT 5.
ERNEST ALLEN 2.	FRANK BLONDELL 6.
FRANK BENNETT 3.	WILLIAM W. THORNE .. 7.
CHARLES WILLSHIRE 4.	KEITH HART Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by FRANK BLONDELL.

First peal of Major on the bells. J. Hunt was elected a Cumberland before starting.

NORTON FITZWARREN, SOMERSET.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, May 17, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Tenor 16 cwt.

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

Conducted by ISAAC CREED.

*First peal of Minor. Rung as a farewell peal to Frederick J. Saunders who is leaving for Salisbury, his brother-ringers wishing him success in his new home. The peal of Treble Bob Minor rung at this place on May 10th, 1899, was conducted by Isaac Creed.

CRAYFORD, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, May 18, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SHIPWAY'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN SAXBY* .. .. .Treble.	*PERCY E. BEX .. .. .5.
GEORGE CONYARD .. .. .2.	JOHN TURNER .. .. .6.
EDWIN BARNETT, JUN.* .. 3.	EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. .. 7.
EDWARD AUDSLEY† 4.	*WILLIAM BOND .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by EDWIN BARNETT, SEN.

*First peal. †First peal in the method.

COLEORTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(THE ASHRY PARISH CHURCH SOCIETY.)

On Thursday, May 18, 1899, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lbs. in G.

CHARLES R. LILLEY .. ..Treble.	JOSEPH CURTIS .. .. .5.
GEORGE HATTON .. .. .2.	WALTER CANNER .. .. .6.
HERBERT HATTON .. .. .3.	JOHN H. DUNMORE 7.
GEORGE HATTON, JUN. .. 4.	HENRY SMITH .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

The ringers wish to thank Canon W. Beaumont for the use of the bells, and Mr. Brooks, steeplekeeper, for having everything in readiness.

ROCHDALE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(ROCHDALE BRANCH.)

On Thursday, May 18, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, BALDERSTONE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

HARRY WALMSLEY .. ..Treble.	EDMUND SCHOFIELD 5.
JOHN MILLETT .. .. .2.	JOHN STOTT .. .. .6.
JOSEPH CROSSLEY .. .. .3.	WILLIAM SCHOFIELD .. 7.
GEORGE HOYLE .. .. .4.	ANDREW SIDEBOTTOM ..Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN MILLETT.

Rung as a birthday peal for G. Hoyle, the band wishing him many happy returns.

WORTLEY, NEAR SHEFFIELD, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, May 18, 1899, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

EDWARD HELLIWELL* ..Treble.	THOMAS ROBBINS 5.
ARTHUR JOHN SAXBY 2.	GEORGE W. DRONFIELD .. 6.
EDWARD ROBBINS .. .. .3.	JOHN PARKIN .. .. .7.
THOS. W. MCKEGG 4.	JOHN DRONFIELD .. ..Tenor.

Composed by F. W. MEADOWS, of Otley, Suffolk, and Conducted by JOHN DRONFIELD.

*First peal. Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a last token of respect to the Right Hon. the Earl of Wharfedale.

BUSHEY, HERTS.—THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, May 18, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 13 cwt.

ERNEST HOLLOWAY* ..Treble.	WILLIAM I. OAKLEY .. 5.
ERNEST E. HUNTLEY 2.	FRANCIS A. SMITH 6.
BERTRAM PREWETT .. .. .3.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 7.
WILLIAM G. WHITEHEAD .. 4.	FREDERICK EDWARDS ..Tenor.

Composed by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM, and

Conducted by ERNEST E. HUNTLEY.

*First peal of Major.

MANCHESTER.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

On Saturday, May 20, 1899, in Three Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

AT THE TOWN HALL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 52 cwt.

WILLIAM JAKEMAN .. ..Treble.	BENJAMIN THORP 6.
JAMES WOOD .. .. .2.	FRANCIS HYDE 7.
JAMES BOOTH .. .. .3.	ALFRED CROSS 8.
GEORGE E. TURNER 4.	SAMUEL WOOD 9.
JOSEPH MELLOR .. .. .5.	HARRY CHAPMAN .. ..Tenor.

Composed by the late JOHN THORP, and

Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

This is the first peal of Royal on the bells.

WRITTLE, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 20, 1899, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

GEORGE R. PYE .. ..Treble.	STAFF-SERGT. A. PYE .. 5.
THOMAS LINCOLN .. .. .2.	EBENEZER ANDREWS .. 6.
WILLIAM LINCOLN .. .. .3.	ERNEST PYE .. .. .7.
WILLIAM PYE .. .. .4.	ARTHUR HEAD .. .. .Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

SHERE, SURREY.—THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 20, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qrs. 2 lbs. in E.

SEPTIMUS RADFORD* ..Treble.	*FRANK BLONDELL 5.
ROBERT J. DAWE .. .. .2.	FRANK BENNETT 6.
JAMES HUNT* .. .. .3.	KEITH HART .. .. .7.
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 4.	†HARRY FELLOWES .. ..Tenor.

Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

†First peal. *First peal of Stedman; also on the bells. This was the conductor's 200th peal, a list of which appears elsewhere. R. J. Dawe was elected a member before starting.

PULBOROUGH, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 20, 1899, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

EDWARD SELLER* .. ..Treble.	ERNEST H. HOLDEN .. 5.
FREDERICK LUXFORD 2.	GEORGE H. LEE 6.
PERCY H. DOICK .. .. .3.	HAROLD D. SEARLE .. 7.
ALFRED GREENFIELD* .. 4.	*THOMAS H. LENEY .. ..Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE H. LEE.

*First peal. First peal of Grandsire Triples on the bells. Rung on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Hugh W. Herrington, captain of the local band.

KIDLINGTON, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, May 22, 1899, in Eleven Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
17,042 CHANGES. Tenor about 27 cwt.

HARRY G. JUDGE Treble.	WILLIAM BENNETT 5.
ALFRED E. REEVES 2.	FRANK HOPGOOD 6.
CHARLES R. LILLEY 3.	EDWIN HIMS 7.
JOHN TUCKER 4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

This is the greatest length in any method.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 22, 1899, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5152 CHANGES. Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lbs.

JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. Treble.	JOHN L. MAWBY 5.
ANDERSON Y. TYLER 2.	WALTER PERKINS 6.
JAMES GARRATT 3.	JAMES HOUGHTON, SEN. .. 7.
ALPHAEUS PERKINS 4.	WILLIAM PETTITT Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, of Chesterfield,
and Conducted by JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN.

This peal is a reduction of a 10,000, and has the 6th twelve times wrong and right, and is now rung for the first time. A note to this peal will be found elsewhere.

DORKING, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 22, 1899, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 25 cwt.

ARTHUR C. OTWAY Treble.	FREDERICK GODDARD 5.
GEORGE HUGGETT 2.	JOHN ANSELL 6.
THOMAS NEWNHAM 3.	GEORGE F. HOAD 7.
THOMAS BEADLE 4.	WILLIAM LYNCH Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE HUGGETT.

Messrs. Beadle and Goddard were elected members before starting.

BOLSTERSTONE, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 22, 1899, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5216 CHANGES.

Tenor 13 cwt. in F sharp.

HARRY SAMPSON Treble.	JOHN DRONFIELD 5.
THOMAS MCKEGG 2.	ARTHUR BREARLEY 6.
REGGIE DYSON 3.	GEORGE JACKSON 7.
LEONARD JACKSON 4.	DAVID BREARLEY Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and Conducted by DAVID BREARLEY.

This peal has the 5th and 6th twelve times each way in 5-6, and is now rung for the first time.

WOLVERHAMPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Monday, May 22, 1899, in Seven Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 11,563 CHANGES.

Tenor 23 cwt.

GEORGE BURROWS Treble.	THOMAS J. ELTON 6.
ROBERT PICKERING 2.	ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT .. 7.
HUGH J. BALCOMBE 3.	REUBEN HALL 8.
JAMES PAGETT 4.	JAMES E. GROVES 9.
JOHN C. ADAMS 5.	HERBERT KNIGHT Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

This was an attempt for 17,117, but owing to the indisposition of one of the ringers was brought round at this number.

AYLSHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 22, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

CHARLES E. BORRETT .. Treble.	ROBERT S. STORY 6.
WILLIAM WALMSLEY 2.	WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE .. 7.
GEORGE HOWCHIN 3.	HENRY DAINS 8.
HARRY HOSKINS 4.	JAMES MOTTS 9.
FRED. R. BORRETT 5.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Composed by the late JOHN REEVES, and
Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

ASHTREAD, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 22, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

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

JOHN HOYLE* Treble.	ERNEST C. LAMBERT 5.
JOHN WYATT 2.	ALBERT CALVER 6.
CHARLES BANCE 3.	WILLIAM S. SMITH 7.
ALFRED CLAYTON 4.	CHARLES E. READ Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM S. SMITH.

*First peal of Stedman.

WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, May 24, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13½ cwt.

WILLIAM DENNER Treble.	SAMUEL OAKES 5.
JOHN WORTHINGTON* 2.	ALFRED POTTER 6.
JOHN DENNER 3.	JOSEPH POTTER 7.
JOSEPH BROOKES 4.	JOHN POTTER Tenor.

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

*First peal in the method.

Ireland.

DUBLIN.—THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, May 20, 1899, in Three Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5017 CHANGES.

Tenor 39 cwt. in B.

GEORGE SALTER* Treble.	*R. R. CHERRY, Esq., Q.C. 6.
GABRIEL LINDOFF 2.	JAMES GEORGE 7.
WILLIAM SHORT 3.	THOMAS MILLER 8.
THOMAS J. SALTER 4.	JOHN BARBER 9.
WILLIAM H. BARBER 5.	JOHN BUFFERY Tenor.

Composed by G. LINDOFF, and Conducted by W. H. BARBER.

*First peal of Stedman Caters. This composition, which is now rung for the first time, has the 6th twenty-three times behind the 9th in the tittums, and its extent behind the 8th in the handstroke position.

DUBLIN.—THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

On Sunday, May 21, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. AUGUSTINE AND JOHN,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 25½ cwt. in D flat.

GEORGE SALTER* Treble.	WILLIAM SHORT 6.
WILLIAM F. HARTSHORNE* 2.	JOHN BUFFERY 7.
WILLIAM H. BARBER 3.	JAMES GEORGE 8.
THOMAS MILLER 4.	GABRIEL LINDOFF 9.
THOMAS J. SALTER 5.	JOHN BARBER Tenor.

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

*First peal of Royal. This composition, which is now rung for the first time, has the 6th her extent at home at the last twenty-four course-ends. References to these two peals will appear next week.

Miscellaneous.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

TIMBERLAND.—On Monday, May 1st, 720 Bob Minor. A. West, 1; H. King, 2; G. Cobb, 3; A. Sharpe, 4; A. O. Barber, 5; G. Elkington, 6. Also 360 Oxford Treble Bob. A. O. Barber, 1; H. King, 2; F. Cobb, 3; A. West, 4; W. Elkington, 5; G. Elkington, 6. Both conducted by G. Elkington. On Wednesday, May 31st, 720 Bob Minor. H. King, 1; F. Curtis, 2; F. Cobb, 3; G. M. Morton, 4; A. Sharpe, 5; A. House, 6. Also 360 Oxford. G. M. Morton, 1; H. King, 2; G. Cobb, 3; A. West, 4; G. Curtis, 5; G. Elkington, 6.

GRIMSBY (Lincolnshire).—On Monday, April 24th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 48 mins. F. Leigh, 1; H. Fuller, 2; *H. Robinson, 3; J. Baker, 4; J. W. Chapman, 5; T. Scrimshaw, 6; W. H. Heyhoe (conductor), 7; F. Howden, 8. *First quarter-peal with a bob bell.

GREAT HALE (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday evening, April 2nd, for Divine Service, 720 Duke of York. J. R. Green, 1; C. Ward, 2; J. W. Wood, 3; T. Humberstone, 4; T. B. Wood, 5; T. T. Taylor (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, April 11th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor in 29 mins. W. H. Wood (aged 15), 1; J. W. Wood, 2; J. R. Green, 3; R. Masters, 4; T. B. Wood, 5; T. Humberstone (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, April 16th, for Divine Service, 720 Grandsire Minor. W. H. Wood, 1; T. B. Wood, 2; J. W. Wood, 3; T. Humberstone, 4; J. R. Green, 5; T. T. Taylor (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, April 23rd, for Divine Service, 720 Duke of York. J. R. Green, 1; R. Masters, 2; J. W. Wood, 3; T. Humberstone, 4; T. B. Wood, 5; T. T. Taylor (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, April 30th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor in 29 mins. W. H. Wood, 1; R. Masters, 2; T. T. Taylor, 3; C. Ward, 4; J. R. Green, 5; T. B. Wood (conductor), 6. Tenor 11 cwt.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

OXHEY (Herts).—On Sunday, May 15th, at the Vicarage, 720 Bob Minor, on handbells, in 17 mins. C. George, 1-2; H. Martin, 3-4; G. N. Price (conductor), 5-6.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

DORCHESTER.—On Wednesday, May 10th, at St. Peter's church, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples which came to grief after ringing 2520 changes in 1 hr. 35 mins. S. G. Hodges, 1; G. T. White, 2; C. B. Hurst, 3; W. L. Benger, 4; E. P. O'Meara, 5; J. T. Hull, 6; T. W. Radford (conductor), 7; F. Uphill, 8. On Tuesday, May 16th, for practice, three 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. J. T. Hull, 1; W. J. Benger, 2; C. B. Hurst, 3; T. W. Radford (conductor), 4; G. T. White, 5; S. G. Hodges, 6. First in the method by the local band, and the first on the bells.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BROOMFIELD (Essex).—On Friday, February 24th, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob (twenty-one bobs). T. Crozier, 1; C. Parsons, 2; G. 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; A. Bradley, 5; E. Wright (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, February 28th, 720 Violet. E. Runter, 1; the rest as above. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. G. Clark, 1; E. Runter, 2; E. Wright, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; T. Crozier, 5; A. Bradley (conductor), 6. On Sunday, March 5th, 720 Kent. T. Crozier, 1; E. Runter, 2; W. Hawkes, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; A. Bradley (conductor), 5; H. Sharpington, 6. On Easter Sunday, April 2nd, 720 Oxford. E. Runter, 1; C. Parsons, 2; G. Parsons, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; A. Bradley, 5; E. Wright, 6. On Sunday, April 9th, 720 Oxford. G. Clark, 1; T. Crozier, 2; G. Parsons, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; E. Runter, 5; A. Bradley (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, April 11th, 720 Oxford. E. Runter, 1; A. Bradley, 2; G. Parsons, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; A. Turner, 5; E. Wright (conductor), 6. Also 720 Violet. T. Crozier, 1; C. Parsons, 2; G. Parsons, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; A. Bradley (conductor), 5; E. Wright, 6. On Sunday, April 16th, 720 New London Pleasure. E. Wright (conductor), 1; E. Parsons, 2; G. Parsons, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; E. Runter, 5; A. Bradley, 6. For evening service 720 Kent (fifteen bobs). E. Wright (conductor), 1; C. Parsons, 2; G. Parsons, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; T. Crozier, 5; E. Runter, 6. On Wednesday, April 18th, 720 Duke of York. C. Parsons, 1; E. Runter, 2; G. Parsons, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; A. Bradley (conductor), 5; E. Wright, 6. Also 720 Oxford. E. Wright (conductor), 1; C. Parsons, 2; J. Tunbridge, 3; E. Runter, 4; A. Turner, 5; A. Bradley, 6. On Sunday, April 23rd, 720 Woodbine. G. Clarke, 1; E. Runter, 2; G. Parsons, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; A. Bradley (conductor), 5; E. Wright, 6.

STANSTED (Essex).—Handbell Ringing.—On Friday, April 21st, at the house of Mr. W. Watts, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 19 mins. T. J. Watts, 1-2; G. Jordan, 3; T. Jordan, 4; W. Watts (conductor), 5-6. First 720 double-handed by the brothers Watts. On Friday, May 5th, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. T. J. Watts, 1-2; W. Watts (conductor), 3-4; T. J. Jordan, 5-6.

LEYTONSTONE.—On April 9th, 720 Bob Minor. F. Withers, 1; J. Philpot, 2; W. Doran, 3; J. Moule, 4; W. Miller (conductor), 5; G. Hayden, 6. On April 19th, 720 Bob Minor. J. Philpot, 1; W. Miller (conductor), 2; T. H. Beams, 3; C. Hopkins, 4; G. P. Burr, 5; G. Hayden, 6. On April 20th, 720 Coventry Surprise and 720 Cambridge Surprise. G. Hayden, 1; J. Mardell, 2; T. H. Beams, 3; J. Moule, 4; W. Miller (conductor), 5; E. Wightman, 6. On April 23rd, 720 Kent Treble Bob. H. Gowers, 1; J. Mardell, 2; J. Rann, 3; E. Carter, 4; W. Clark, 5; E. Wightman (conductor), 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ELHAM (Kent).—On Saturday, March 25th, 420 and a quarter-peal of Bob Triples. E. Smith, 1; E. Bush, 2; J. Andrews, 3; H. Baker, 4; J. Whitnall, 5; A. Castle, 6; A. Tanton (conductor), 7; J. Prebble, 8. On Saturday, April 29th, 112 and 336 Bob Major. E. Smith, 1; E. Bush, 2; J. Andrews, 3; H. Baker, 4; J. Whitnall, 5; E. Cheeseman, 6; A. Tanton, 7; A. Castle (conductor), 8. Also 350 Grandsire Triples, conducted by A. Tanton. A 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. E. Hogben, 1; J. Whitnall, 2; E. Cheeseman (conductor), 3; H. Baker, 4; A. Tanton, 5; A. Castle, 6. And a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. J. Andrews, 1; A. Castle, 2; E. Cheeseman, 3; H. Baker, 4; A. Tanton (conductor), 5; J. Prebble, 6.

ROCHESTER.—On Sunday, March 12th, 504 Stedman Triples. E. Rayner, 1; A. Osborne, 2; W. Baker, 3; J. Kidd, 4; O. Sullivan, 5; G. Chantler, 6; W. Hobbs (conductor), 7; J. Rayner, 8. On April 16th 504 Stedman Triples. E. Rayner, 1; W. Baker, 2; G. Chantler, 3; J. Kidd, 4; O. Sullivan, 5; A. Osborne, 6; W. Hobbs (conductor), 7; W. Ashbee, 8. On April 26th, for practice, 504 Stedman Triples. J. Tulett, 1; W. Hobbs, 2; E. Rayner, 3; J. Kidd, 4; O. Sullivan, 5; C. Winsor, 6; W. Baker (conductor), 7; W. Ashbee, 8. On April 30th, 504 Grandsire Triples. G. Lock, 1; E. Rayner, 2; W. Ashbee, 3; W. Baker, 4; W. Hobbs, 5; A. Osborne, 6; J. Tulett (conductor), 7; J. Rayner, 8. On April 30th, for evening service, 1152 Treble Bob Major. W. Ashbee, 1; E. Rayner, 2; A. Osborne, 3; J. Kidd, 4; O. Sullivan, 5; J. Rayner, 6; W. Hobbs, 7; W. Baker (conductor), 8.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WELLINGBOROUGH (Northants).—On Sunday morning, April 23rd, at the parish church, 658 Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original. G. Turnell, 1; W. Wood, 2; A. Smeathers (Finedon), 3; F. Wood, 4; T. R. Hensher (conductor), 5; E. West, 6; W. Perkins (Finedon), 7; F. Tompkins, 8. On Monday, April 24th, for practice, a quarter-deal of Oxford Bob Triples. G. Turnell, 1; W. H. Ette, 2; W. Wood, 3; F. Underwood, 5; T. R. Hensher, 6; E. West, 6; F. Wood, 7; F. Tompkins (first quarter-peal), 8. Composed by H. J. Tucker.

BRADFORD (Yorks).—On Tuesday, April 25th, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. *A. Whitehead, 1; *W. Bolton, 2; J. W. Cundall, 3; G. Titterton, 4; J. Broadley (conductor), 5; S. G. Clark, 6. *First 720.

PATELEY BRIDGE (Yorks).—On Sunday, May 21st, at St. Cuthbert's church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. C. R. Knibbs, 1; S. Basnett, 2; A. Haigh, 3; G. H. Mason, 4; J. Mumford, 5; J. Summersall, 6.

POSILINGFORD (Suffolk).—On Monday, May 15th, a 6-score each of St. Simon's, Stansted Court, Evening Star, Canterbury, Grandsire and Bob Doubles. H. Curtis, 1; D. Gridley, 2; A. Richardson, 3; C. Howe, 4; W. Atkinson, 5. And several 6-scores, with J. Frost, 4; the others as before.

TWYFORD (Hants).—On Friday, April 28th, the following touches were rung on the occasion of the visit of J. W. Taylor, jun., of Loughborough, 280 Grandsire Triples. T. Spratt, 1; G. Smith, 2; W. J. Sevier, 3; C. J. Chooet, 4; W. T. Tucker, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun., 6; W. H. George (conductor), 7; F. Unsworth, 8. And 168 in the same method. F. Unsworth, 1; G. Smith, 2; W. J. Sevier, 3; C. J. Chooet, 4; T. Spratt, 5; J. Ashford, 6; W. H. George, 7; G. Brown, 8. Another 168. E. Young, 1; G. Smith, 2; W. J. Sevier, 3; C. J. Chooet, 4; W. T. Tucker, 5; J. Ashford, 6; W. H. George, 7; R. Abrahams, 8. R. Abrahams, 1; G. Smith, 2; W. J. Sevier, 3; C. J. Chooet, 4; W. T. Tucker, 5; J. Ashford, 6; W. H. George, 7; R. Abrahams, 8. Messrs. W. H. George, Sevier, Chooet and Tucker, of Eastleigh, were invited to meet Mr. Taylor, who has recently augmented this peal from six to eight, in addition to recasting the old 5th. It is an excellent splice, and the "go" of them is all that can be desired, and there promises before very long to be a good band of ringers, under the able tuition of Mr. G. Smith, a local ringer.

THE LONG PEAL AT KIDLINGTON.

"Meet at Kidlington on Whit Sunday at two o'clock," was the order issued to the men desirous of attempting the long peal of Double Norwich. Seven good men and true were there, but the eighth man was not, he got nicely behind, as "only Oxford men can," and had the pleasure of being rung into the village with a touch of Stedman Triples. However, all was arranged for a trial touch at 4.30, when a quarter-peal of Double Norwich was rung for the evening service very satisfactorily. Arrangements were afterwards made for a substantial breakfast at 7.15 the next morning, the Oxford men going home for the night, while the others stayed at Kidlington. At 7.15 a.m. the company were altogether again, and storing away the good things which the host had provided. The tower was reached a few minutes past the time appointed, and the band were soon at work arranging ropes, etc., and at 8.30 the bells were started off into changes. The tenors were parted in the first course, and remained parted for thirty-two courses, the striking throughout being very good. The tenors parted seemed to suit the bells, but as soon as they got together again it was evident that a great deal more work was required with the heavy metal, the cutting on the leads was very heavy, which required a slower beat. Altering a compass is not such an easy matter, and nearly always produces "choppy" ringing, which was so in this case. The ringing got slower, but the striking was not so good, and after a time the bells fell back to the faster beat. It was all very nice for the critics outside to say that we got "choppy," and that the bells dropped about, but if they had been inside they would soon have seen the impossibility of guaranteeing every blow accurate. The old steeple will not be persuaded to stand quite firm, even for ringers, and it seemed to glory in making a graceful bow just when the tenors were together in front or behind. However, the excellent workmanship of Messrs. Webb and Bennett, bell-hangers of Kidlington, made things tolerable, and whenever the steeple was agreeable, the striking was good. It is always more or less so, when heavy bells are hung under a lofty steeple; but pluck and perseverance always overcomes difficulties, and the men settled down to their work in right earnest. Occasionally the bells would drop about a little, but there was no talking, each man was responsible for his work.

So things went on till 4 o'clock, when, by appointment Messrs. Webb and Franklin appeared in the belfry, and they were promptly despatched for oranges to quench the thirst of the heavy bell ringers, and as promptly returned with them and proceeded to slice them up, and pass them round. This did not suit the ringers of the light bells, for they were very uneasy and trippy, which rather spoilt the time, and gave the big bells harder work, but it was impossible to get round to them, so they had to make the best of it. At six o'clock the 6th bell came home and the ringing was the best of the whole peal, and the bells travelled slightly faster, but it was exceedingly hard work for the back bells when they were travelling much over 25 to the minute. The time was however, drawing on, and they could afford to use up the reserve strength to keep the pace, which was kept to the end, the bells coming home very nicely at 7.42 p.m.

Thus ended a peal which was a highly creditable performance although not rung without trips, which, in the opinion of the writer were utterly impossible to prevent in a case when bells are inclined to drop, or fly up.

We cannot close these few remarks, without thanking the vicar for his great kindness in granting the use of the bells and putting his services to fit in with the ringing, a kindness which will never be forgotten; and to Messrs. Webb and Bennett for their untiring exertions on our behalf, for it is no easy task to hang a peal of bells so that they may be rang for eleven hours with a tenor 53½ inches diameter and a swaying steeple.

. W.

Situations Vacant.

A SITUATION is offered to Change-ringer in Standard Methods, used to Cows and Horses, and out-door Gardening. Commencing 18s. weekly. Apply, W. S. PRITCHETT, Kings Norton, Worcestershire.

WANTED, Gardener. Good wages given. House and coal found. Must be change-ringer on eight bells. Apply—T. HAYWARD, Midsomer Norton, Bath.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(FYLDE DISTRICT BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 13th, a meeting took place at Poulton, the bells of the parish church being placed at the disposal of the members by the Vicar, the Rev. T. H. Guest. During the afternoon, touches were rang of Grandsire Doubles and Minor, Plain Bob, and College Single. Tea was partaken of at The Golden Ball hotel, when twenty-two persons sat down to a most enjoyable repast. A short meeting was held after tea, when Mr. John Cookson (Poulton), presided. The chairman opened the proceedings by giving the ringers a hearty welcome that day to Poulton, and hoped that there might be another meeting at no distant date. He then called on the Secretary, Mr. J. Fell, to read any correspondence. The Vicar apologized, he having another important engagement; Mr. G. R. Bellamy (Lytham), was sorry he could not attend, but hoped the ringers would have a pleasant meeting. The Secretary said that Poulton and Singleton were places where change-ringing was very little known. By these meetings they hoped to stir them up, and he would be glad to find an instructor if they desired to learn the art of change-ringing. Mr. Robert Cookson having resigned the office of Assistant Secretary, Mr. R. Rawcliffe, of South Shore, was appointed in his place. The next meeting is to take place at St. Anne's-on-the-Sea in September next. A vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and to the chairman for presiding, brought another nice little gathering of this Branch to a close; the Lytham contingent arriving home about 10.30, having driven, well pleased with the meeting.

Correspondence.

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

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

"TWO THE WRONG."

SIR,—Some one leaving here yesterday made an exchange of overcoats with me; that the exchange was unintentional admits of no doubt, for the coat left behind here was when new much better than mine ever was—also it is of a warmer nature than mine—also judging from the coat left here its owner would not be able to get mine on. Therefore, in case he is a ringer I write to console him with the intelligence that his is in the charge of the porter here till he sends for it. Mine had in the pockets, I believe, a pipe in a case, an old pair of gloves, and probably another unconsidered trifle or two, and if it should be in the hands of any one who sees this letter, I shall be much obliged if he will send it to me to 6, Abingdon Mansions, Kensington, London, W. Also the efforts of the staff here have been unable to discover my umbrella to day, but I have no suggestion to make as to what has become of that; but if anyone has inadvertently taken that away, I shall also be much obliged by its return.

R. A. DANIELL.

Royal Hotel, Norwich, 24th May, 1899.

GRANDSIRE DOUBLES.

SIR,—In answer to Mr. Gridley's letter in your last issue, I would gladly publish the 42 6-scores of Grandsire if I thought any useful purpose would be served. Beside I think it quite unnecessary seeing that the late Mr. Snowdon has in his book upon "Grandsire" so ably explained the matter, that any ringer with only a slight knowledge of figures can easily work them out for himself by referring to that work.

CHAS. HAZELDEN.

INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR,—Could some kind reader let me know the dimensions of the smallest church bell, or one of the smallest church bells in England. Anyone giving this information will greatly oblige.

J. A. SMITH.

A PEAL OF 362,880 GRANDSIRE CATERS, 6d.
Contains the full extent of changes on nine bells. Forwarded Post Free, on receipt of 7d. By James Hewett, 16 Chapel Row Gosport.

Notices.

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

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The monthly ringing meeting of the above Society will be held at Calverley (eight bells), to-day, Saturday, May 27. Meeting house, Thornhill Arms. A peal will be attempted at 2.30. Handbells provided. All members and friends invited.

H. GAYTHORPE, *Hon. Sec.*
1, Elm Avenue, Bramley, Leeds.

Sussex County Association.—Central Division.—The next district meeting will be held at Aldrington (6 bells) to-day, Saturday, May 27th. Tower open from 3 p.m. Short service at 5 p.m. Tea at 6.

GEO. WILLIAMS, *Hon. Sec.*
2, Grove Street, Brighton.

Sheffield and District Amalgamated Society.—The next monthly meeting of this society will be held at Norton on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells ready 4 p.m. Meeting-house—New inn.

R. HARRISON, *Hon. Sec.*

Oxford Diocesan Guild.—East Berks. and South Bucks. Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Great Kimble, on the occasion of the re-opening of the bells, on Thursday, June 1st. Opening service at 2 o'clock. The following towers will be available: Monks Ricborough (6); and Ellesborough (6), all the afternoon; Great Kimble (6), after 5 o'clock. All ringers will be welcome.

H. C. BELL, *Branch Secretary.*
All Saints Clergy House, Maidenhead.

The Lancashire Association of Six Bell Ringers.—The annual meeting of this Association will be held at Chorley parish church on Saturday, June 3rd. Tower open for ringing at 2 o'clock.

J. HIGSON, *Sec.*
60, Church Street, Blackrod.

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Kingsley, on Saturday, June 3rd. Members intending to be present are requested to give notice to Mr. J. Moreton, Kingsley, not later than Wednesday, May 31st.

REV. G. T. BIRCH, } *Hon. Secs.*
W. TWIGG, }

East Derbyshire Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Ault Hucknall, on Saturday, June 10th. Meeting at 5.30 p.m.

T. ALLIBONE, *Sec.*
North Wingfield, Chesterfield.

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—The Hon. Sec. would be glad to receive the addresses of the following members: P. Foskett, E. G. Hearn, H. B. Kingsford, F. Perrin, S. Phillips, C. L. Routledge, H. Warwick, at Dunsden Vicarage, Reading.

R. H. HART-DAVIS.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

YOUNG COMPOSER.—The peal you allude to was too long; 5500 is a stupid number unless for a reason. The last four courses were unnecessary, therefore bad.

J. HOUGH.—There is only one mode of doing it. You are working entirely in the wrong direction.

MR. G. WILLIAMS' 400 PEALS.

	Rang	Conducted
London Surprise Major ..	20	19
Cambridge Surprise Major ..	19	15
Superlative Surprise Major ..	55	40
New Cumberland Surprise Major ..	5	5
Oxford Surprise Major ..	2	1
Gloucester Surprise Major ..	2	
Westminster Surprise Major ..	2	
Norfolk Surprise Major ..	2	1
Champion Major ..	1	
College Exercise Major ..	1	
Double Norwich Court Bob Major ..	51	42
Kent Treble Bob Maximus ..	1	
Kent Treble Bob Royal ..	7	2
Kent Treble Bob Major ..	26	21
Oxford Treble Bob Major ..	3	2
Stedman Cinques ..	1	
Stedman Caters ..	11	9
Stedman Triples ..	89	62
Union Triples ..	1	1
Grandsire Caters ..	5	3
Grandsire Major ..	1	1
Grandsire Triples ..	50	41
" (on handbells) ..	4	4
Bob Royal ..	1	1
Bob Major ..	20	15
Bob Triples ..	6	4
5040s on six bells ..	14	11
Total—400		300

MR. F. BENNETT'S 200 PEALS.

In seven Minor methods ..	2
Grandsire Triples ..	29
Grandsire Major ..	1
Grandsire Caters ..	5
Union Triples ..	1
Oxford Bob Triples ..	1
Canterbury Major ..	1
Bob Triples ..	6
Bob Major ..	31
Bob Royal ..	4
Oxford Treble Bob Major ..	1
Kent Treble Bob Major ..	16
Kent Treble Bob Royal ..	4
Stedman Triples ..	26
Stedman Caters ..	5
Double Norwich Major ..	19
Oxford Surprise Major ..	2
Gloucester Surprise Major ..	2
Westminster Surprise Major ..	2
Norfolk Surprise Major ..	2
New Cumberland Surprise Major ..	4
Superlative Surprise Major ..	22
Cambridge Surprise Major ..	5
London Surprise Major ..	12
	200

NOTES TO PEALS.

THE PEAL AT IRTHLINGBOROUGH.—This peal was rung to celebrate the marriage of Mr. Clifton Newman to Miss Ada Ward. Mr. Newman is a member of the Irtlingborough company. Miss Ward is a descendant of a ringing family, her grandfather and great grandfather having been ringers. After the peal the ringers were invited to supper with Mr. and Mrs. Newman, when full justice was done to the good things provided. Afterwards the handbells were brought into use, when courses of Caters, tunes, etc. were rung. The ringers wish the happy couple health and prosperity. The peal was also rung on the forty-fifth anniversary of the wedding of Mr. Houghton, sen., also a 70th birthday compliment, the ringers heartily wishing him many happy returns. It was W. Pettitt's 60th, J. Garratt's 70th, and A. Perkins's 40th peal.

CANTERBURY RINGERS' EXCURSION.

On Whit-Monday the St. Alphege and All Saints ringers had their annual outing. Leaving Canterbury at 7.30 in a pair-horse brake Birchington was reached at 9.30, where touches of Treble Bob, Grandsire Minor, Stedman and Grandsire Doubles were rung on the peal of six. Journeying on to Margate the tower of St. John the Baptist was visited, but owing to the unsatisfactory "go" of this beautiful peal of eight nothing in the way of changes could be accomplished. After partaking of a capital dinner a start was made at 4 o'clock for St. Lawrence's church; where 168 Grandsire Triples was rung. After tea at the vicarage, kindly supplied by the Vicar (late Rector of St. Alphege, Canterbury), a course of Grandsire Caters and 252 Stedman Triples were rung on the handbells, after which the tower was again visited and a 504 and 216 Stedman Triples were rung. Leaving St. Lawrence at 8.15, the party had a wet journey home, which they reached at 10.45, with everything wet and damp except their spirits.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

WANTED.—Situation in Flour Mill as Flour Packer or any kind of mill work. Change-ringer on six, eight, or ten bells.—M. R. Watson, St. Helena Terrace, Boroughbridge.

HIGHLY respectable married man, age 31, wants Situation as Handy Man, used to taking up and re-laying Carpets, fixing Blinds, etc.; also understands Waiting and Valeting. Can ring Standard Methods.—Address, 175, Romany Road, West Norwood.

SITUATION WANTED; good General Hand as Saddler and Harness Maker. Change ringer, Standard Methods on six bells.—Address, A. F. STRANGWARD, Old Church, Pontefract.

A SITUATION as Head Gardener, where one or two others are kept, or second in a large establishment. Can manage Vines, Cucumbers, Peaches, Melons, Tomatoes, and the general work of a well-kept garden. Highest references. Abstainer, and very enthusiastic ringer and conductor.—Apply, Editor.

SITUATION required by a young married man without family, as Caretaker or some place of trust. Change-Ringer, also musical. Thirteen years' good references from present employer.—Apply R. W. V., care of Editor.

CAN anyone assist me to obtain a situation for a Lad, aged 15. Strong and willing to be useful, has commenced to ring. Chorister. Gardens preferred.—G. H. HEAD, 16, Susan's Road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, by Young Man, a Situation as Turner. Change-ringer, Standard Methods, used to ten bells. Member of Oxford and Winchester Guilds.—Address J. TUCKER, 2, James Street, Reading.

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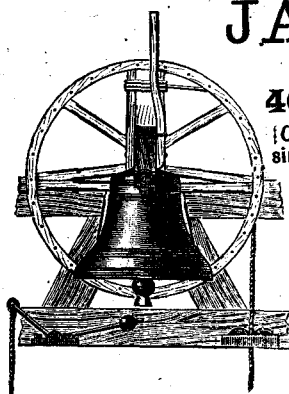
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No. 895.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 1899.

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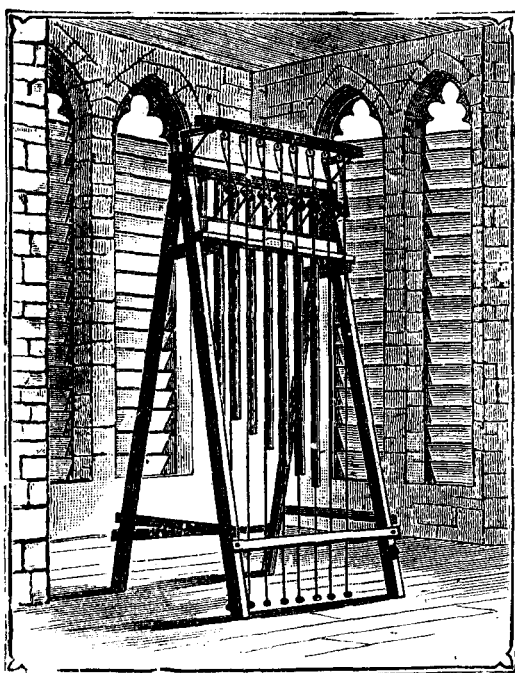
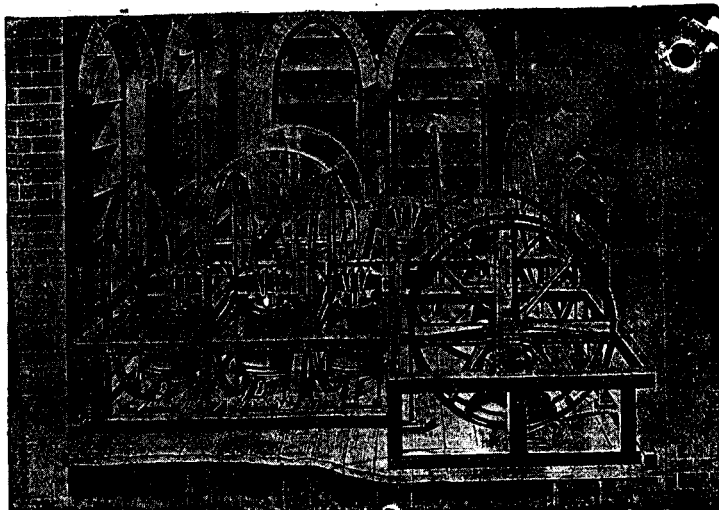
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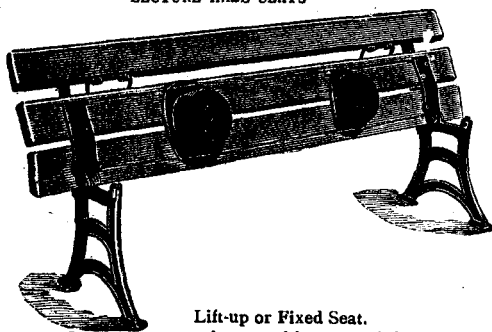
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No. 895.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The first Annual Meeting of this Association was held at Thirsk on Whit-Monday, May 22nd. A large number of the members put in an appearance, about thirty sitting down to lunch, and several others arriving in time for the business meeting afterwards. A committee meeting was held at 12.30 at Mr. Barnett's, in the market-place (where the lunch was also served), over which the president, Mr. G. J. Clarkson, presided. At 1.0 p.m. members sat down to an excellent lunch, the Vicar of Thirsk (Rev. F. L. Perkins), being asked to preside, a request to which he gladly assented, and he was supported by his curate (Rev. E. H. Blyth), who is an honorary and performing member of the Association.

After luncheon the first toast submitted was of course that of "The Queen," the Chairman proposing it in most felicitous terms; needless to say it was most loyally received and drunk with musical honours.

Mr. Clarkson in happy terms proposed "The Bishops and Clergy," coupling with it the name of the Vicar of Thirsk. This gave the rev. gentleman an opportunity of making a speech, which was much appreciated by the audience, in which he expressed the great pleasure it gave him to welcome the Association to his parish and church, and the good that the Association had already done in quickening his own band, who had the week before accomplished a peal of Grandsire Triples.

The Hon. Secretary (the Rev. W. P. Wright) was next called upon to read his report. This of course was somewhat short owing to the youthful age of the Association, but it presented many hopeful features. It contained the account of the following peals: 2 of Kent Treble Bob Major, 2 of Superlative Surprise Major, 1 of Double Norwich, 1 of Stedman Triples, and 1 of Grandsire Triples; besides a large number of 700s of Plain Bob and Treble Bob. The number of members (exclusive of those joining that day) was 105; and the balance in the hands of the Treasurer was very satisfactory.

The toast of "Success to the Association" was given by the Vicar, and responded to by the Hon. Secretary.

Both before lunch and after the bells of the parish church, a beautiful ring of eight, with a tenor of some 400 years old, were kept hard at work. It would be difficult, if indeed possible, to find another church in Cleveland so beautiful as this one.

In the afternoon some of the members went over to the village of Felixkirk, three miles away, and rang a 700 on the six bells, augmented and rehung by the squire there, Mr. Walker. Some members also visited North-allerton, where they were charmed with the belfry and go of the bells.

The account of the ringing done will be found elsewhere, suffice it to say that everyone greatly enjoyed the day. The next meetings were fixed as follows, subject to the consent of the respective incumbents: Guisborough and Skelton, 1st Saturday in October; Whitby and Robin Hood's Bay, first Saturday in August.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 6th, the First Annual Meeting of the above Association was held in Dublin. In the afternoon Christ Church Cathedral was visited, when various touches upon this beautiful ring of ten were rung.

At 6 p.m., at the kind invitation of W. Channey, Esq., the members sat down to an excellent tea in St. Patrick's schools. After the repast, the business part of the programme was proceeded with, the President, R. R. Cherry, Esq., occupying the chair. The minutes of the formation meeting having been read and confirmed, the rules, as drawn up by the committee, were then read, and adopted by an unanimous vote. Four honorary members were then admitted, together with three non-resident life members. The selection of Bray for the next annual meeting brought the business to a close, after which the Very Rev. the Dean of St. Patrick's (an hon. member) gave a most useful and interesting address. The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to Mr. Channey for his kindness in providing the tea, and to the Dean for his excellent address.

The bells of St. Patrick's Cathedral being open for the evening, the majority of the members availed themselves of the opportunity, and to the delight of all each band in union took turns at the ropes, and acquitted themselves in such excellent fashion that not a touch was lost.

Thus the first annual meeting of the Irish Association came to a close, not to be forgotten. For those who took part in it can but look back with great pleasure upon what was voted by all a great success.

THE LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 13th, the Annual Meeting of this Guild took place at Southport, when about fifty members attended. After some admirable touches Divine Service was held in Christ Church, where a very appropriate and able sermon was preached by the Rev. R. F. Markham, Rector of Aughton. Afterwards an adjournment was made to Messrs. Fisher's restaurant, where, after a bountiful tea, the business meeting was held, over which the Rev. W. T. Bulpit, Rector of Crossens, presided. During the progress of the tea, Lady Nina Balfour, accompanied by Mrs. Charles Scarisbrick, made a surprise visit, and the ladies were accorded an enthusiastic reception. The Secretary, Mr. Wm. Bentham (Aughton), read the report, and Mr. Martin (Liscard) formerly of Sefton) produced the balance-sheet, both of which were of a satisfactory character.

The Chairman, in moving their adoption, said it was "Old May Day," and people ought to be jolly and happy at any rate on that occasion. He believed there was a good and satisfactory balance in hand, and he thought they owed their thanks to Mr. Martin and the others who had kept the books in such a splendid manner. As for Mr. Martin, a worthier gentleman had never to do with a church society. The Guild was greatly indebted to him. Some nine or ten years since he strove for its formation,

and had been an earnest supporter of it since. Mr. W. L. Hutton (Ormskirk), in seconding the resolution, eulogised Mr. Martin as a Church worker, and particularly instanced his energies in connection with the Diocesan Guild. He (Mr. Hutton) had been asked to introduce another subject in connection with Mr. Martin—one whom they felt a delight in honouring—and that was to ask that gentleman to accept a gold watch and an illuminated address as a testimonial of his valuable services to the Guild. The motion being carried, the Rev. R. F. Markham then read the address as follows:—

"The Liverpool Diocesan Guild of Change Ringers. To Mr. John Martin.—The members of the above guild desire to recognise your earnest and continuous efforts, as honorary treasurer, for the prosperity of the guild. For nine years you have laboured for the improvement of bellfries, and for the furtherance of change-ringing. Your zeal for God's Church has won for you many kind friends, and they beg of you to accept this gold watch as a token of their esteem. May He for whose glory you have striven bless your endeavours, and hereafter grant you a place in the Kingdom of Glory. (Signed) W. T. Bulpit, Master."

Lady Balfour then presented Mr. Martin with the gold watch, and in doing so said: I have pleasure in presenting to you this watch in acknowledgement of your valuable and long services in connection with this Guild.

The address, which was handsomely framed, and adorned with some excellent portraits and Crossens church and officers of the Guild, was then handed to Mr. Martin by Mr. Hale, of Crosby.

Mr. Martin, who was much affected, thanked the givers, and said it had been a pleasure as well as a duty to assist in belfry reform, and he should prize their handsome gifts to the last day of his life. In its earlier days the Guild had had a keen struggle for existence, but now, under careful guidance, it was well established. Much of the honour which had fallen on him was in reality due to Mr. Bulpit, who had worked hard for the success of the Guild.

Mr. R. Armistead proposed, in a witty manner, a vote of thanks to Lady Balfour for coming amongst them that evening.

Mr. Hutton seconded, and Lady Balfour having expressed the pleasure it had afforded her to be present, she and Mrs. Scarisbrick withdrew.

The following honorary members were elected: the Hon. Arthur Stanley, M.P.; the Rev. R. F. Markham, Rector of Aughton; the Revs. C. A. Clements and E. P. Cook (Southport).

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

One of the best meetings ever held by this Association took place at Leigh on Saturday, May 20th, when there were present the Ven. Archdeacon Lane (President), Rev. H. E. Beech, Rector of Kingsley, Rev. — Frith, of Longton, and about fifty-six members from the following towers: Stoke, Longton, Fenton, Norton, Bucknall, Tunstall, Kingsley, Kidsgrove, Cheadle, and Leigh, being quite a record number for a monthly meeting. Ringing commenced about 4 p.m., when touches in various Minor methods were rung. At 6 p.m. the members adjourned to the schoolroom and partook of an excellent tea, which was provided by the Ven. Archdeacon. A short business meeting was held afterwards, presided over by the Ven. Archdeacon, who in giving a hearty welcome to the members, said how pleased he was to receive them at Leigh, and that their first meeting there should be a record meeting in point of numbers, and he hoped that when they came again next year they would again break the record by coming in still greater numbers.

Mr. W. Twigg, Hon. Secretary, gave a short account of the condition of the Association.

Mr. E. Glover (Norton), proposed that the Secretary call a committee meeting to consider the question of making a grant from the funds of the Association towards the rehanging of Christ Church bells, Tunstall. This was seconded by Mr. T. Rose (Stoke), and carried unanimously. Mr. G. Woods (Longton), and Mr. T. Rose seconded, that a vote of condolence be passed by that meeting to Mr. W. Twigg, Secretary, on the great loss which he had sustained in the death of his son, which took place on the 15th inst. This on being put by the chairman, was carried in silence. Fifteen new members were admitted, being nine from Leigh, and six from Cheadle. A

vote of thanks was passed to the Ven. Archdeacon and to the Leigh ringers for the excellent tea and the kind way in which they had entertained them.

The Leigh ringers afterwards rung some tunes on the handbells, after which the members again made for the tower, and several more touches were rung. The bells were lowered in peal about nine o'clock, and so came to an end one of the pleasantest meetings of the Association.

DEDICATION OF CHURCH BELLS AT OXENHOPE, YORKS.

On Saturday afternoon an interesting ceremony was witnessed at Oxenhope, when the Ven. Archdeacon Kilner formally dedicated a peal of bells which have been erected in the parish church tower through the generosity of Mr. Wilkinson Whittham, of Moorhouse. This is the jubilee year of the consecration of the church, and the peal is really the sequel to a suggestion thrown out in January, 1897, by the Vicar (the Rev. W. H. Gunyon), that a special effort should be made to duly commemorate the event. There was some idea of putting the church into a better state of repair, but owing to the indifference which appeared to prevail, this part of the scheme has been postponed. Mr. Whittham gave the order for the bells to Messrs. Shaw, Son, and Co., bellfounders, of Bradford, who have carried out the contract in a satisfactory manner. The peal consists of six bells, the tenor (F sharp) weighing 12 cwt., and the total weight of the peal being about 47 cwt. The bell-frame is of oak. There are also movable oak louvres to each belfry window.

Saturday's proceedings were interfered with to a serious extent by frequent showers of rain. A procession was formed at the school, and the children and members of the congregation walked to the church, headed by the Ovenden brass band. Clergy present included, in addition to the Archdeacon and Vicar, the Rev. J. W. Pendleton (Vicar of Oakworth), the Rev. C. E. Wannop (Vicar of Riddlesden), the Rev. W. E. Linney (Vicar of Eastwood, Keighley), and the Rev. T. D. Wheeler (Vicar of Cross Roads). A short service was held, in the course of which, whilst the clergy and the choir were standing beneath the belfry, the ringers from Haworth parish church rang a short touch, followed by the tolling of the tenor alone. Archdeacon Kilner delivered an appropriate address. The lesson was read by Mr. J. W. Dunderdale, Vicar's warden.

Subsequently the procession was re-formed, and a visit was paid to Moorhouse, but, owing to a misunderstanding, Mr. Whittham and his family had not returned home, and the party then wended their way back to the school. Here, before tea was provided, a vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Whittham for his generosity, on the motion of Mr. John Pickles (parish-ioners' warden), seconded by Mr. Isaac Feather.

Mr. Whittham, in responding, said that he had been very pleased indeed to present the peal, and he wished heartily that they would never ring anything but peace, prosperity, and goodwill towards Oxenhope.

A programme of field sports in the evening had to be abandoned on account of the weather. During the remainder of the day the bells were kept in a state of activity by the Haworth ringers.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH (NORTHAMPTONSHIRE).

THE LATE MR. THOMAS LILLEY.—The funeral of Mr. Thomas Lilley of this town, recently took place amid many signs of the esteem in which the deceased gentleman was held by the residents of Wellingborough, Irthlingborough, and the neighbourhood. The ceremony, both in the church and at the graveside, was conducted by the Rev. J. K. Taylor (rector). The body was enclosed in a coffin of plain oak, which bore the inscription: "Thomas Lilley, died April 22nd, 1899, aged 85 years," and was lowered into a grave which already contained the remains of Mrs. Lilley, the deceased gentleman's wife, who died about nine years ago. As the mourners were leaving the graveside the bells of the parish church rang out a half-muffled peal. Mr. Lilley was a liberal contributor to all church objects, both in Irthlingborough and Wellingborough.

NINTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The Ninth Annual Meeting of the Central Council was at the Conservative Hall, Norwich, on Whit-Tuesday, May 23rd, under the presidency of Sir Arthur Heywood, Bart. The following members were present: Bedfordshire Association—Rev. W. W. C. Baker; Chester Diocesan Guild—Mr. J. Dillon and Mr. W. Walmsley; College Youths—Mr. H. R. Newton; Cumberland Youths—Mr. H. Dains; Devonshire Guild—Rev. Maitland Kelly; Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association—Mr. R. Story; Essex Association—Rev. T. L. Papillon, Mr. N. J. Pitstow, and Mr. W. Nevard; Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association—Rev. H. A. Cockey. Hon. Members—Rev. J. Holme Pilkington, Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, Mr. F. W. J. Rees, and Mr. J. Carter; Kent Association—Rev. E. W. Carpenter and Mr. W. Haigh; Lancashire Association—Rev. H. J. Elsee; Midland Counties Association—Sir A. P. Heywood, Bart., Mr. Joseph Griffin, and Mr. W. Wakley; Middlesex Association—Mr. J. Waghorn; Norwich Association—Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, Mr. J. A. Trollope, Mr. W. Motts, and Mr. W. Catchpole; North Lincolnshire Association—Mr. A. Craven; Oxford Diocesan Guild—Rev. F. E. Robinson, Rev. G. F. Coleridge and Mr. A. H. Cocks; Stafford Archdeaconry Association—Mr. S. Reeves; Sussex Association—Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Mr. G. F. Attree, and Mr. G. Williams; Surrey Association—Dr. A. B. Carpenter and Mr. C. Dean; St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham—Mr. W. H. Godden; St. James' Society, London—Mr. E. P. O'Meara; South Lincolnshire Association—Rev. H. Law James; Worcestershire Association—R. E. Grove; Winchester Diocesan Guild—Rev. R. C. M. Harvey and Mr. H. White; Yorkshire Association—Mr. W. Snowdon.

After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, the Hon. Secretary (Rev. H. Earle Bulwer), read letters of regret for non-attendance from various members.

The President said Mr. Tom Lockwood, of Leeds, was the only hon. member due to retire this year.

Mr. Snowdon, in proposing the re-election of Mr. Lockwood, said the latter was doing good service upon the Collection of Peals Committee, and had charge of the Treble Bob peals. Mr. Lockwood would have been present that day, but that he was engaged in his own tower.

Mr. Dains seconded the proposition, which was unanimously adopted.

The Treasurer's statement showed that the subscriptions to the Council for the year had been £10 5s. 0d. Upon the expenditure side were expenses of Rail fare Committee, £4, Glossary Committee, £2 3s. 6d. These with other items left £23 6d. in hand to be added to the balance of the previous year, which resulted in the Council having now a balance of £60 15s. 2d. The accounts had been audited by the Standing Committee, and upon the proposition of the Rev. F. E. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Story, the balance-sheet was adopted.

RAIL FARE COMMITTEE.

The Rev. H. A. Cockey said as most of those present were aware a circular had been prepared and sent out to all Secretaries of Societies that were in union with the Council and a few others. He trusted that all present had already signed.

The form of the petition having been published in "THE BELL NEWS" he need not refer to it, but he would call attention of Secretaries of Associations to the letter of directions sent with the circulars. In the last paragraph they were requested, as soon as the petitions were complete, to inform him, and he would issue further directions. He had not been informed in every case. The Ely Association had refused to do at all. It was intended to take the following procedure as presentation of the petitions. When completed, all petitions were to be returned to him. When the greater number have been so received, a notice will be sent to the Secretaries whose petitions have not been returned, requesting them to send the petitions in by a given date. Having ascertained the date of next meeting of the General Managers of railway companies, he would undertake to see that the petitions to each company were presented to their Managers in good time. It would materially assist toward the success of the petitions if members

of the various Associations would put him, the speaker, in communication with some person of standing and influence with the several companies who would undertake to present the petitions to the Company with which he has interest. As it had been an undertaking which had involved an amount of labour and considerable expense, the sub-committee desired to impress upon all concerned the importance of obtaining every possible signature, both of ringing members, hon. members, and officers of each Association. If any additional signatures could be obtained to petitions already returned to him, if the signatures were sent him, he would be glad to affix them to the petitions, for if they failed now he did not know what else they could possibly do to obtain that for which they were and had been working. It was hoped that every effort would be made to obtain the signature of presidents of Associations, for in many cases such would have great weight. As an illustration of the amount of labour it entailed, he would just state that there were 127 petitions. These would include 20 to the Midland Railway, 19 to the London and North-Western, 14 to the Great Western, 13 to the Great Northern, 8 to the London and South-Western, 8 to the Great Eastern, and so on. Among the petitions he had already received was that of the Oxford Guild which had from 700 to 800 names upon it. If they could secure an acknowledgement of the petitions from the General Managers and the petitions that came before the Clearing House, some good result might be expected. He hoped no Secretary would hurry the matter on too fast and so miss obtaining signatures which might be obtained if held in hand a few days longer.

The Rev. H. J. Elsee asked when the petitions were sent out.

The Rev. H. A. Cockey replied in March and April.

The Rev. H. J. Elsee said he had only seen one of the petitions in his own district, but upon returning home would do all he could to push them forward.

The Rev. H. A. Cockey, in reply to further questions, pointed out that the petitions were sent to the Secretaries of Associations who were asked to send the petitions to every tower connected with the Association, and all were asked to return the petitions where possible within a week. In some cases a Society might have to make use of say three railways. If so they were to have three petitions, and the name of every member should appear upon each of the petitions. In some Associations there were a number of hon. members, and some of the Secretaries had kept a sheet to send round to them. As they were rather scattered this would take some little time, but he thought all the petitions ought to be returned during June, and sent into the companies in July or August at the latest.

The Rev. W. W. C. Baker did not agree exactly with the phrase in the petition that the members had no advantage in attending the meetings. In the case of the Bedfordshire Association part of the fare of the members who attended was paid by the Association.

The Rev. H. A. Cockey thought such might be regarded more as an acknowledgment for loss of time in attending the meeting. Many Associations paid something toward the tea or whatever was provided, but this could not be regarded as payment for attending the meeting.

The Rev. W. W. C. Baker said in his own case the Association might reap the advantage, and not the individual member. It was thought more important to get the members together, than to feed them when they were together (laughter).

The President said he was sure that all would agree that they were much indebted to Mr. Cockey and the Committee working with him, for the valuable work they had done in endeavouring to obtain such a privilege for the Exercise. He trusted that all would endeavour to carry out accurately the instructions that had been issued by Mr. Cockey, and that before long the labors of the Committee might be rewarded by the granting of tickets at a fare and a quarter.

THE GLOSSARY OF TECHNICAL TERMS.

The Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, Hon. Secretary, read the report of this Committee, which was as follows:—

The Committee charged with the drawing up of a Glossary of Technical Terms have pleasure in reporting that their labours have been practically concluded; and that the Glossary proper is ready for the printer. The Committee, however, have not felt at liberty to present the

work to the Council in a printed form; because the expense of doing so would obviously have been much greater than that sanctioned at the last meeting as necessary for its satisfactory completion. The result of collecting local terms has been to enrich the original draft considerably, either in the form of additional definitions, or in supplying local synonyms of terms already dealt with. In the absence of printed advance copies it may be well to describe the general arrangement of the Glossary, and then invite the Council to accept the work on the Committee's recommendation in order to save the expense of printing presentation copies on approval—a course which would involve considerable difficulty, because, once the work was in type, it would be impossible to lock up the formes sufficiently long to allow the Council to pronounce a decision upon it. The main portion of the Glossary is in four divisions, the first of which deals with bells and their mechanical appliances or fittings. The second division embraces definitions of a series of leading terms, preliminary to, and to clear the way for, the two divisions which follow. The third division deals with such terms as properly belong to the *Science*, and the fourth division with those having reference to the practical *Art* of change-ringing. In each division the arrangement of terms is not alphabetical, but progressive, one term leading on to another as it were. But to facilitate reference the work will be furnished with a strictly alphabetical Index of all the terms embodied in it, whether as the subjects of the main definitions, or as derivatives and synonyms. This Index has also been prepared, and merely awaits copying out to be ready for printing. In deference to a widely expressed wish, and what appears to be a widely felt want, the Committee have determined to add an Appendix which will include a classification of all methods now practised, a short description of their distinctive features and history so far as it can be ascertained, and a statement of the principles which govern their assignment to their respective classes. To have included these details in the body of the Glossary itself would have been to trespass far beyond the legitimate scope of the work in hand. And even in the Appendix itself the Committee feel that they cannot undertake to give an exhaustive list of all known methods, but must confine themselves to those in actual use for seven bells and upwards. It is hardly necessary to say, in conclusion, that the labour involved in the preparation of this work has been considerable for all concerned in it; and that no pains have been spared to make the result worthy of the Council's acceptance. The Committee are not at present prepared to submit any estimate of the cost of publication; but they will endeavour to secure its ultimate issue at as low a price as possible.

Mr. Attree proposed, and Mr. Griffin seconded, that the report be received, and the publication left in the hands of the Committee to be issued in whatever manner they considered most desirable.

The President said he should like to call attention to the very large amount of labour that had been given to this work by the Hon. Secretary. The MS. was very bulky, and immense pains had been taken in collating the opinions that had been placed upon paper by the members of the Committee. Mr. Bulwer had done the whole of the work. He did not think that the Council should take upon themselves the credit of the work. He would therefore suggest that the Hon. Secretary's name should appear upon the title-page as the author (applause), inserting of course the names of the Committee who had assisted. It would no doubt become a standard book of reference, and he considered that in no other way should it go forth than with Mr. Bulwer as its author. He could but express his gratitude to Mr. Bulwer for having taken up the work in the manner he had. As far back as the first meeting at Birmingham the matter was brought forward. It had been wanted for years. He trusted that when it was published that members of the Exercise would help the sale by each getting a copy. He hoped that most of the Associations would take as many copies as they thought they could sell.

The resolution moved by Mr. Attree was unanimously adopted.

The Hon. Secretary said he was very thankful to the President for the kind remarks that had been made. He shrank

from having his name upon the title-page of the work as the author. A great portion of the definitions had been altered by the Committee. The work had been the joint work of the Committee, but it was necessary for someone to collate the Committee's remarks, as also to draft the original definitions. This fell upon his shoulders, and although he had done the bulk of the work in the first place, yet after all what he had done was merely mechanical (no, no), and he had not therefore any wish to have his name appearing as the author.

The President said many authors acknowledged in a preface the assistance they had received from friends, this course might be adopted (applause).

The Rev. C. D. P. Davies said it was in connection with this matter that he wrote what appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" the previous week. The reason why he wrote was that in the definition of the word "bob-lead" by the Glossary Committee two alternative definitions had been proposed, (1) "a lead containing a bob"; (2) "a lead introduced by a bob." It was in order to get some light from outside, after asking Mr. Bulwer if he thought the idea a good one, that he wrote to "THE BELL NEWS." Mr. Davies proceeded to read extracts from replies he had received, some of which caused considerable laughter, and said he should refer further to the matter in "THE BELL NEWS."

The Rev. H. L. James remarked that one of the definitions given applied to Grandsire Triples, but not to any other method.

The President did not think it desirable to enter into a discussion on details, but he might say that the difficulty mainly arose by reason of the backstroke of the treble's whole pull in front being taken as the lead-end in Grandsire Triples, whereas in reality the last change of the lead—that after which a call took effect—was the backstroke before the whole pull.

A USEFUL PUBLICATION.

The Rev. T. L. Papillon desired to know if the original supply of the Council's publication on The Preservation of Bells had been exhausted, if so was it intended to republish? It had been put into the hands of many church authorities with good result. He had himself often been asked if he could recommend any publication of this nature, and had given copies which had proved useful.

The Hon. Secretary said he only had a few copies in hand, but these were the property of the Norwich Association.

The President suggested that if the pamphlet was to be re-issued it might be well to publish it with the proposed Report on the Condition of Church Bells, as both bore upon the same subject. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. H. A. Cockey thought it would be desirable to republish the pamphlet, and that in some districts a copy should be sent to every Vicar and churchwardens, by which means its object could be kept before the notice of the officials.

REPORT ON PEAL COLLECTION.

The Hon. Secretary read the following report:—

The Committee appointed for the formation of a Collection of Peals in the various methods, beg to report that the work in the hands of the several collectors has been progressing, and is at present in a forward state; the collection of compositions in the following methods having been practically completed up to date, and is awaiting selection:—London Surprise, Stedman Triples, Treble Bob Royal and Maximus, Treble Bob Major (of this latter a voluminous and carefully arranged collection has been sent in by Mr. Tom Lockwood), Double Oxford Court, Double Norwich Court Maximus Royal and Major, Duffield Major, Bob Major, and Grandsire Triples. With regard to other methods of Triples, Dr. Carpenter reports that composers have been slack in sending in compositions, and that the collection cannot yet be regarded as complete. The collectors of Superlative Surprise and Stedman Caters and Cinques have not yet made any report. It seems desirable before drawing up any selection from the above for publication, to adopt some means for securing a better sale than attended the last Appendix. The expense of production is necessarily considerable, and some prospect of adequate recoupment should be forthcoming before the Council is asked to sanction the printing of an additional Appendix,

Upon the proposition of Mr. S. Reeves, seconded by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, the report was adopted.

The Rev. H. Law James suggested that those who sent peals in for publication should be responsible for subscribing for a copy—one if not more.

The Hon. Secretary: One for every peal they have sent in? (Laughter.)

(To be continued.)

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Whit-Monday, May 22nd, a band of ringers of the above-mentioned Guild from Colwall and neighbourhood journeyed to Ross to attempt a peal on the fine ring of bells there. Having to wait in Hereford an hour-and-a-half, they visited the church of St. Nicholas, and having obtained permission, the bells were raised, and a 720 of Bob Minor was rung. H. W. Allen, 1; J. Thomas, 2; S. J. Hope, 3; C. Layton, 4; T. Williams, 5; F. Williams (conductor), 6.

Having reached Ross a wedding was found to be in progress, which delayed the start, but however an attempt was made for a peal of Darlaston Bob Triples, and after ringing for 30 mins. "stand" was called, the conductor having missed a bob. Owing to a service time did not allow another start, and touches of Bob Major and Darlaston Bob were rung, Messrs. Thomas and Clark taking part. In the peal attempt the ringers stood in the following order: F. Smith, 1; J. Field, 2; J. Thomas, 3; S. J. Hope, 4; H. W. Allen, 5; C. Layton (conductor), 6; T. Williams, 7; J. Curtis, 8. The ringers wish to tender their thanks to the authorities at St. Nicholas, Hereford, also to the Rev. — Ingram (Ross), for permission to use the bells, and hope to be able to visit there again in the near future.

THE LATE RECTOR OF ST. MARTIN'S, BIRMINGHAM.

Deeply lamented by all his former parishioners, the late Canon Wm. Wilkinson passed away on Wednesday, May 24th, at the ripe age of eighty-three years, having enjoyed his well-earned retirement from the onerous duties at St. Martin's for barely two years.

For thirty-one years he had worked in the mother parish of Birmingham to such purpose as to win the love and respect of all with whom he came in contact, whether Churchman or Dissenter.

Last Sunday—Trinity Sunday—special services were held at St. Martin's, when the preachers at the morning service—the Rev. Canon Sutton, Vicar of Aston, and at the evening service the Rector of St. Martin's—the Rev. A. J. Robinson, M.A.—paid high tributes to the sterling and manly character of their deceased colleague.

To the ringers at St. Martin's as to every other section of Church-workers, he had ever been a most genial friend, identifying himself with their duties and aspirations, and so arranging that there had never been the slightest hitch or misunderstanding in all their intercourse. He took a special interest in the restoration of the bells in 1876, and only just before his retirement in 1897 presented the St. Martin's Guild with a fireproof safe for the safe custody of their peal-books.

At the services on Sunday and again at a special funeral service on Monday, held at the same time as the funeral at Kensal Green, beside the usual whole pull and stand the following muffled touches were rung:—575 Grandsire Caters. W. Ellis, 1; T. Russam, 2; A. Smith, 3; H. Withers, 4; W. Short (conductor), 5; A. Flowers, 6; A. Walker, 7; H. Middleton, 8; T. Reynolds, 9; W. Painter, 10. 503, 209, and 97 Grandsire Triples. J. Day, 1; W. Ellis, 2; W. Short (conductor), 3; W. H. Godden, 4; A. Walker, 5; H. Middleton, 6; T. Reynolds, 7; W. Painter, 8. 529 Stedman Caters. W. Short (conductor), 1; W. Ellis, 2; A. Flowers, 3; A. Walker, 4; W. H. Godden, 5; W. R. Small, 6; J. Barber, 7; H. Middleton, 8; T. Reynolds, 9; W. Painter, 10. And 528 Stedman Cinques. W. Ellis, 1; J. Joynes, 2; T. Reynolds, 3; J. Day, 4; A. Walker, 5; A. Flowers, 6; W. H. Godden, 7; W. R. Small, 8; W. Short (conductor), 9; H. Middleton, 10; J. Barber, 11; W. Painter, 12.

There was a peculiar appropriateness in the touch of Stedman Cinques as a final one, inasmuch as that a touch of Stedman Cinques was rung at the late Canon Wilkinson's induction service in 1866.

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.

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."

SMALLEST CHURCH BELL.

SIR,—In answer to Mr. J. A. Smith, I may say that the smallest church bell that I know of is at Scrivelsby, Lincolnshire. This bell is only 8 inches in diameter, and hangs in a steeple, not in a turret. (See North's Church Bells of Lincolnshire). J. R. JERRAM.

SIR,—I notice in "THE BELL NEWS" of this week information is wanted by Mr. J. A. Smith as to the weight of the smallest church bells in England. Perhaps some of the smallest church bells are hung in the parish church, Lower Beeding, Sussex, there is a peal of eight, the treble weighing 1 cwt. 2 qrs. 26 lbs., and is 14½ ins. across the lip; the second weighs 1 cwt. 3 qrs. 9 lbs. These bells were cast in 1885 by Severin Van Aerschoot. They have been rung to five peals: two of Triples (Grandsire and Oxford Bob), and three peals of Major (two of Superlative and one of Kent Treble Bob). In the three peals of Major, the trebles were rung by A. Cripps, and F. W. Cripps; F. W. Cripps and J. Rice; the latter two ringing them also to the Treble Bob. The peals were conducted by J. Parker, G. Williams and Keith Hart respectively. WHISTLER.

THE PEAL AT WOLVERHAMPTON.

SIR,—Kindly allow me to say, that as regards the Wolverhampton long peal attempt, the striking was really good. I, with others, heard the first part, then about 11 o'clock Mr. Small and others came, and later Mr. Phillott, Mr. Musty and others, one and all being convinced that the ringing was first-class from beginning to end; that what was done was done well. A special word of praise must be given to the tenor-man, Mr. H. Knight, who rang to such excellent time. I heard the question asked, "Who's going to ring the tenor?" "That little chap (5 ft. 4 in.) with the big stick," was the reply, and surely he has proved that "Knights are bold to-day," as they were "In days of old, when Knights were bold." Better luck next time. J. JAGGAR.

PEAL-RINGING.

SIR,—I am informed on good authority that the peal of Stedman Cinques attempted at St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, on Whit Monday, was to have been rung in an illegitimate manner, i.e., not strictly to the method. If this be so, may I ask why Council members are allowed such latitude, while we poor ringers have to keep strictly to the method? I hope this has been a misunderstanding, as there should be fairness all round and no favour shown. JUSTICE.

DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.—CENTRAL COUNCIL COLLECTION.

SIR,—Two most interesting performances have recently taken place in this method, by a 15,000 and upwards rung in Kent, and last week this number is supplanted by a 17,000 and upwards rung in Oxfordshire. I may at once say I am not yet engaged in getting together a band to go for a 20,000, so there is no cause for any immediate alarm. But Sir, I think after such wonderful performances the gentlemen connected can well afford a little time to send me the composition of these peals with some of the others they are known to possess. Such an act I shall esteem a great favour. HY. DAINS.

Alliance House, 47, Richmond Road, N.

9600 SUPERLATIVE.

SIR,—While admitting the fact that my 9600 is not a legitimate peal, and that there should be compulsory rules laid down as regards sticking to the method, I see no cause whatever for Mr. Williams to criticise the publication of such a peal. Mr. Williams knows as well as I do that varied calls have been applied to methods where it has been impossible to obtain the extent or a desired end without. For this reason I obtained and published the peal in question, as it would be a point gained in composition, considering the complicity of its proof. Certainly it was not sent to put a slur in any way on Mr. Lindoff's able production, for I think we shall ever hold the laurels of ringing the longest peal of Superlative, a performance I feel proud of, on account of the correct and beautiful striking throughout. Neither did I say it was the longest peal composed, I simply said it was the greatest number of Superlative changes which is and will be obtained till the alternative. I neither see anything to condemn the peal of London Surprise that Mr. Williams mentions from becoming public property; surely it is not so bad as to be deprived the paper it is put on. F. DENCH.

JASPER W. SNOWDON'S WORKS.

ROPE-SIGHT : 1s. 6d. FOURTH EDITION

Commences by explaining how to manage a bell : deals with Change-Ringing on three, four, five, six, seven and eight bells in the PLAIN BOB METHOD, giving touches and peals in each case ; and closes with instructions for conducting, etc., etc. (143 pages).

STANDARD METHODS : 2s. 6d. THIRD EDITION

Now Ready. Contains full explanations and rules for ringing all the best methods, from five to eight bells, with plain-course diagrams of each printed in full, with coloured lines. 40 pages of diagrams and 87 of descriptive letterpress.

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Commences with ringing on five, six, and seven bells, for the benefit of a learner ; gives instructions on composing, proving, varying, and reversing, conducting and calling round ; and ends with a general survey of the practical and scientific aspects of the composition of triples—thus forming a complete reference book for all Grandsire ringers. (210 pages).

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

Part I. contains instructions for pricking, transposing, proving, composing, and conducting peals ; an essay on the *In and Out-of-course* of the changes ; and history of the various compositions and performances. Part II. contains classified peals of Minor, Major, Royal, and Maximus, with their reverse variations ; remarks on the different qualities ; particulars of first performances, composers names, &c., &c. (136 closely printed pages) *Part II. (136 closely printed pages) may be had separately, 2s. 1d.*

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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 (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, JUNE 3, 1899.

The Metropolis.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 27, 1899, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET, BARKING,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 22½ cwt.

ALBERT DEARDS Treble.	ERNEST PYE 5.
THOMAS FAULKNER 2.	ROWLAND FENN 6.
EDGAR WIGHTMAN 3.	CALEB FENN 7.
EBENEZER ANDREWS 4.	ALBERT C. HARDY Tenor.

Composed by C. MIDDLETON, and Conducted by A. C. HARDY.

This is the first peal in the method by all except the ringers of the 3rd and 5th ; also first in the method on the bells. First peal as conductor. This is T. Faulkner's 50th peal, a list of which appears elsewhere.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, May 27, 1899, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL HALLOWS BARKING,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES ; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 19 cwt.

HENRY SPRINGALL Treble.	WILLIAM TRUSS 5.
JAMES SCHOLES 2.	SAMUEL HAYES 6.
EDWARD WALLAGE 3.	HENRY TORBLE 7.
EMANUEL HALL 4.	THOMAS H. TAFFENDER Tenor.

Composed by THOMAS DAY, and Conducted by HENRY SPRINGALL,

The Provinces.

QUEDGLEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

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

On Saturday, May 20, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5088 CHANGES. Tenor 9½ cwt.

JESSE GILLETT Treble.	CHARLES R. LILLEY .. 5.
JOHN AUSTIN 2.	ERNEST E. DAVIS .. 6.
WILLIAM T. PEGLER .. 3.	ROBERT A. BARRETT .. 7.
ERNEST BISHOP 4.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER .. Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

WORCESTER.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 22, 1899, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES.
Tenor 23 cwt.

HUBERT SALISBURY Treble.	THOMAS BULLOCK 6.
BENJAMIN S. HILL† .. 2.	HENRY WILKES 7.
ALBERT HILL† 3.	WILLIAM C. JONES .. 8.
ARTHUR HADLEY* 4.	WILLIAM LEBBON 9.
WILLIAM BRIGHT† .. 5.	THOMAS MALIN Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and Conducted by WILLIAM C. JONES.

*First peal. †First peal of Caters. ‡First peal with a bob bell. W. C. Jones's 50th peal, and first as conductor.

GLOUCESTER.

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

On Monday, May 22, 1899, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

JESSE GILLETT Treble.	FRANCIS E. HART 6.
ERNEST E. DAVIS 2.	ERNEST BISHOP 7.
JOHN AUSTIN 3.	JAMES H. SHEPHERD .. 8.
FRANCIS E. WARD 4.	WILLIAM T. PEGLER .. 7.
WILLIAM PAGE 5.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER .. Tenor.

Composed by G. HAYWARD, of Bromsgrove, and
Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

STROUD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

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

On Monday, May 22, 1899, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES.
Tenor 20 cwt. 48 lbs.

RICHARD A. JUDD Treble.	WILLIAM HALE 6.
CHARLES WILLIAMS 2.	WILLIAM PAGE 7.
JAMES H. SHEPHERD .. 3.	ERNEST BISHOP 8.
JOHN AUSTIN 4.	ERNEST E. DAVIS 9.
THOMAS NEWMAN 5.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

LEICESTER.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, May 23, 1899, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES.
Tenor 24 cwt.

LEONARD W. COPSEY .. Treble.	JOSIAH MORRIS 5.
JOHN C. HILL 2.	CHARLES H. FOWLER .. 6.
JOHN BUTTERTY 3.	WILLIAM T. MILLER .. 7.
EDWARD E. SMITH 4.	WILLIAM WILLSON .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM WILLSON,

READING, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday May 24, 1899, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES.

Tenor 24 cwt.

ALFRED E. REEVES Treble.	*WILLIAM P. ROUTH, Esq. 6.
JOHN TUCKER 2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
CHARLES STONE* 3.	FRANK HOPGOOD 8.
CHARLES GILES 4.	AMBROSE OSBORNE 9.
FRANK TUBB 5.	REUBEN SAWYER Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

*First peal of Stedman Caters. Rung in honour of Her Majesty's 80th birthday.

WEDNESBURY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Wednesday, May 24, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, WOOD GREEN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 18 cwt.

A. COOPER Treble.	H. TINSLEY 5.
C. TYLER 2.	W. JOHNSON 6.
E. J. TYLER 3.	J. MALPASS 7.
G. NEWBOLD 4.	T. COOPER Tenor.

Composed by T. DAY, and Conducted by W. JOHNSON.

Rung on the occasion of Her Majesty's birthday.

FAVERSHAM, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, May 24, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARIE OF CHARITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt.

ALBERT BIGGS, SEN. .. Treble.	EDWARD E. FOREMAN .. 5.
RICHARD STAINES 2.	FREDERICK HUNT 6.
ALBERT BIGGS, JUN.* .. 3.	CHARLES R. MILLWAY .. 7.
WILLIAM SPICE 4.	GEORGE WOOD Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES R. MILLWAY.

*First peal. Rung in commemoration of the 80th birthday of Her Majesty the Queen.

HALESWORTH, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, May 24, 1899, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

SAMUEL KERRISON Treble.	ARTHUR TOOK 5.
T. LINTON WILSON, Esq. 2.	JAMES HOWARD 6.
FREDERICK LAMBERT .. 3.	CHARLES KERRISON .. 7.
ROBERT TRACY 4.	*SAMUEL SMITH Tenor.

Composed by H. HUBBARD, and Conducted by F. LAMBERT.

Rung to celebrate Her Majesty's birthday. *First peal.

QUEDGELEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

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

On Thursday, May 25, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 9½ cwt.

THOMAS NEWMAN Treble.	ROBERT A. BARRETT .. 5.
JESSE GILLETT 2.	CHARLES R. LILLEY .. 6.
JOHN AUSTIN 3.	ERNEST E. DAVIES .. 7.
WILLIAM T. PEGLER .. 4.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

A PEAL OF 362,880 GRANDSIRE CATERS, 6d.

Contains the full extent of changes on nine bells. Forwarded by Post Free, on receipt of 7d. By James Hewett, 16 Chapel Row, Gosport.

NOTTINGHAM.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 27, 1899, in Three Hours and Thirty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES.

SAMUEL WESLEY Treble.	CHARLES H. FOWLER .. 6.
WILLIAM CLARKE 2.	EDWARD E. SMITH .. 7.
ALFRED MILLIS 3.	HORACE W. ABBOTT .. 8.
JOSIAH MORRIS 4.	WILLIAM WILLSON .. 9.
JOSEPH WOOLLEY 5.	ROBERT GEE Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM WILLSON.

This is the first peal on these bells for over twenty years. A note to this peal appears elsewhere.

CHISLEHURST, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 27, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

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

Tenor 17½ cwt.

FREDERICK A. NUNN .. Treble.	ISAAC G. SHADE .. 5.
JOHN H. CHEESMAN .. 2.	EDWIN BARNETT .. 6.
STAFF-SERGT. A. PYE .. 3.	HARRY FLANDERS .. 7.
CHARLES WILKINS .. 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by JAMES PAGETT, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

FOXEARH, ESSEX.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(SUDBURY BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 27, 1899, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

SYDNEY HOWELL .. Treble.	FRED SYMONDS .. 5.
ARTHUR SYMONDS .. 2.	ERNEST AMBROSE .. 6.
CHARLES HONEYBELL .. 3.	CHARLES SILLITOE .. 7.
FRED WELLS .. 4.	OLIVER GARWOOD .. Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by CHARLES SILLITOE.

This was rung as a birthday peal for S. Howell, who attained his 15th year on that day, and it is his first peal.

SANDHURST, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 27, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES:

Being seven 720s each called differently.

Tenor about 15 cwt.

ARTHUR DADGE .. Treble.	THOMAS NEWMAN .. 4.
WILLIAM DADGE .. 2.	JOHN AUSTIN .. 5.
JESSE GILLET .. 3.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

First peal of Minor on the bells.

GLOUCESTER.

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

On Wednesday, May 24, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt.

FRED G. MAY .. Treble.	CHARLES R. LILLEY .. 6.
ERNEST E. DAVIS .. 2.	ROBERT A. BARRETT .. 7.
WILLIAM T. PEGLER .. 3.	FRANCIS E. WARD .. 8.
JESSE GILLET .. 4.	JOHN AUSTIN .. 9.
THOMAS NEWMAN .. 5.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and Conducted by FRANCIS E. WARD.

Rang to commemorate the 80th birthday of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria.

WALTHAM ST. LAWRENCE, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 27, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Each 720 called differently.

JAMES COOPER* .. Treble.	*ALFRED TALBOT .. 4.
GEORGE H. MARTIN* .. 2.	*REV. CYRIL W. O. JENKYN .. 5.
JESSE ELDRIDGE† .. 3.	†JAMES W. WILKINS .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WILKINS.

First peal on the bells. *First peal. †First peal of Minor.

GRAVESEND, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 27, 1899, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIAM HAIGH .. Treble.	WALTER HOBBS .. 5.
FREDERICK HAYES .. 2.	ALFRED OSBORNE .. 6.
ALFRED TAWNEY .. 3.	WILLIAM HARPER .. 7.
FREDERICK RING .. 4.	LEWIS SILVER .. Tenor.

Composed by J. WILDE, and Conducted by LEWIS SILVER.

RETTFORD, NOTTS.—THE NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 29, 1899, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SWITHUN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 24 cwt. in E flat.

GEORGE F. CLARKE* .. Treble.	HERBERT HAIGH .. 5.
GEORGE R. WINTER .. 2.	THOMAS SPURR .. 6.
GEORGE SWANNACK .. 3.	JOSEPH B. JOYNES .. 7.
ROBERT MILES .. 4.	RICHARD POTTER .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH B. JOYNES.

*First peal. Rung on the occasion of the marriage of Chas. H. Marshall, Esq. with Miss Staniland.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 29, 1899, in Three Hours,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES.

Tenor 8½ cwt.

ARTHUR GOWER* .. Treble.	JOSEPH SHARP .. 5.
GEORGE HOWSE .. 2.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH .. 6.
FREDERICK W. HARDING .. 3.	THOMAS PRICE .. 7.
FREDERICK LOCK* .. 4.	GEORGE HEAD .. Tenor.

Composed by FRANK BENNETT, and

Conducted by JOHN S. GOLDSMITH.

*First peal of Major.

Handbell Peals.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, May 29, 1899, in Two Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF W. H. PASMORE, PEABODY BUILDINGS, SOUTHWARK,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

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

Conducted by H. R. PASMORE.

Umpire—Herbert Langdon. First peal as conductor.

PEAL CORRECTION.—The peal of Treble Bob rung at Holy Trinity, Guildford, on Whit Monday, was conducted by Frank Bennett, and not Frank Blondell as published.—The number of the changes in the Kidlington peal was 17,024, not 17,042.

Miscellaneous.

THE SALOP GUILD.

SHREWSBURY.—On Friday, May 19th, for practice at St. Alkmund's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Stockdale, 1; W. Taylor, 2; G. J. Taylor, 3; H. Jones, 4; A. Espley, 5; F. Taylor, 6; A. Fullick, 7; J. Burrows, 8; conducted by W. Taylor. Also a course of Stedman Triples. W. Stockdale, 1; G. J. Taylor, 2; H. Jones, 3; W. J. Taylor, 4; F. W. Taylor, 5; A. Fullick, 6; G. Byolin, 7; A. H. Espley, 8. Also 400 Bob Major. W. Stockdale, 1; W. J. Taylor, 2; H. Jones, 3; F. W. Taylor, 4; A. H. Espley, 5; A. Fullick, 6; G. Byolin (conductor), 7; G. J. Taylor, 8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

HARLOW (Essex).—On Wednesday, April 12th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. E. Parish, 1; H. Perrin, junr., 2; R. Tabor, 3; G. Dent (conductor), 4; C. French, 5; T. Ellis, 6; H. Perrin, senr., 7; A. Bass, 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to C. French. Also a 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor, conducted by H. Perrin, senr. On Whit-Sunday, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples for Evensong in 45 mins., F. Perrin, of Walthamstow, ringing the 2nd. On May 24th, 224 Bob Major and a quarter-peal Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. E. Parish, 1; H. Perrin, junr., 2; F. Sworder (Epping), 3; G. Dent (conductor), 4; C. French, 5; T. Ellis, 6; H. Perrin, 7; A. Bass, 8. Rung to celebrate the 80th birthday of Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Easter Sunday morning for Divine Service at St. Michael's church, 720 each of Woodbine and Oxford Treble Bob, and 288 Kent Treble Bob. P. Holmes, 1; W. Hammond, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; C. H. Howard (conductor), 4; E. Wachter, 5; W. Webb, 6. For evening service 720 Bob Minor. T. Watson, 1; P. Holmes, 3; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Hammond, 4; H. Coote, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 9th, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. W. Farrow, 1; C. H. Howard, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; A. Saunders, 4; E. Ridgewell (conductor), 5; W. Webb, 6. On Monday, April 10th, 720 Bob Minor. A. W. Barton (first 720), 1; W. Hammond, 2; F. Slade, 3; W. Hammond, 4; H. Coote, 5; W. Webb (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, April 16th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. W. Hammond, 1; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 2; C. H. Howard, 3; W. Farrow, 4; H. Coote, 5; W. Webb, 6. For evening service 720 Bob Minor. T. Watson, 1; W. Farrow, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; H. Coote, 4; W. Hammond, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. Messrs. Saunders and Ridgewell hail from Greenstead Green; Wachter from Stratford.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LEICESTER.—On Monday, May 15th, at St. George's Church, 720 Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Hill, 1; L. W. Copsey, 2; C. H. Fowler, 3; J. Buttery, 4; J. Morris, 5; W. Wilson (conductor), 6. On Sunday, May 21st, 720 Bob Minor. L. W. Copsey, 1; J. C. Hill, 2; E. E. Smith, 3; W. Willson, 4; J. Morris, 5; C. H. Fowler (conductor), 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. S. Cooper, 1; J. Buttery, 2; L. W. Copsey, 3; W. Willson, 4; W. Miller, 5; C. H. Fowler (conductor), 6. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

WIGSTON (Leicestershire).—On Wednesday, May 24th, in honour of Her Majesty's birthday, was rung at the church of All Saints 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Cleal, 1; L. W. Copsey, 2; E. Smith, 3; J. Morris, 4; C. H. Fowler, 5; Willson, 6; also 720 Grandsire Minor. L. W. Copsey, 1; W. Willson, 2; E. E. Smith, 3; C. H. Fowler, 4; J. Morris, 5; G. Cleal (conductor), 6. On Sunday, May 28th, at St. Mary De Castro, 320 Grandsire Major. T. Palmer, 1; W. Willson, 2; J. Hill, 3; L. W. Copsey, 4; E. Smith, 5; J. Morris, 6; W. Miller, 7; C. H. Fowler (conductor), 8; also 518 Grandsire Triples. T. Palmer, 1; C. H. Fowler, 2; J. Hill, 3; J. Morris, 4; W. Miller, 5; L. W. Copsey, 6; W. Willson (conductor), 7; J. B. Willson, 8.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SEDBERGH.—On Wednesday, May 24th, in honour of Her Majesty's 80th birthday, 504 Grandsire Triples. E. Pennington, 1; J. J. Eaden, 2; R. Atkinson, 3; R. Ibbotson, 4; J. E. Lenogles, 5; G. F. Woodhouse (conductor), 6; F. S. J. Pile, 7; W. Pennington, 8. This is the longest touch in the method by the company. Also an unconducted 720 Bob Minor. E. Pennington, 1; R. Atkinson, 2; G. F. Woodhouse, 3; F. S. J. Pile, 4; J. E. Lenogles, 5; W. Pennington, 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUNDERLAND.—At the parish church on Wednesday, May 24th, to celebrate the eightieth birthday of Her Majesty the Queen, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with the tenor covering. F. Naisby, 1; R.

Miller, 2; W. Smallwood, 3; J. J. Leighton, 4; H. Peverell, 5; J. Naisby (conductor), 6; T. Naisby, 7. Also a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. F. Naisby, 1; J. W. Parker, 2; R. Miller, 3; R. Lovie, 4; W. Smallwood, 5; H. Peverell, 6; J. Naisby (conductor), 7; J. J. Leighton, 8; longest length by F. Naisby and Parker; and a plain course of Stedman Triples. F. Naisby, 1; J. W. Parker, 2; W. Smallwood, 3; R. Lovie, 4; R. Miller, 5; J. J. Leighton, 6; H. Peverell, 7; J. Naisby, 8.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, May 24th, at All Saints' church, the All Saints' company rang a touch of 588 Stedman Triples in honour of the Queen's birthday. S. Howell, 1; W. Griggs, 2; W. Bacon, 3; M. Silvester, 4; W. Howell, 5; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 6; H. Griggs, 7; A. Green and H. Bracket, 8. Touches of Bob Major and Grandsire Triples were also rang and the bells fired.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MIDHURST (Sussex).—On Whit-Sunday, 720 Woodbine. G. Boswell, 1; T. Stroud, 2; T. E. Ellis (conductor), 3; A. B. Bennett, 4; F. Trussler, 5; J. Lee, 6. On Wednesday, May 24th, on the occasion of Her Majesty's birthday, 720 London Scholars' Pleasure. C. Best, 1; T. Stroud, 2; T. E. Ellis, 3; A. B. Bennett (conductor), 4; F. Trussler, 5; J. Lee, 6.

ALDRINGTON (Sussex).—On Sunday evening, May 7th, for Divine Service at St. Leonard's church, 720 Bob Minor in 25 mins. M. Cherryman (first in the method), 1; A. Cherryman (first with a bob bell), 2; E. G. Godley, 3; M. Broomfield, 4; G. A. Steele, 3; F. W. Steele (first as conductor), 6.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—WIRRAL BRANCH.

OXTON (Cheshire).—On Sunday, April 30th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. C. Owens, 1; J. L. Grant, 2; J. Owens, 3; G. R. Newton, 4; W. Hughes, 5; J. Evans, 6; J. Hughes (conductor), 7; W. Grimant, 8. First 720 in the method by Messrs. Owens (2), and Grant.

CANTERBURY.—On May 24th, Queen's Birthday, at the Cathedral. 540 of Stedman Caters. W. Andrews, 1; J. H. Small, 2; G. Sayer, 3; P. Paine, 4; A. A. Andrews, 5; Rev. F. J. Helmore (conductor), 6; C. Luery, 7; M. W. Pierce, 8; H. G. Fairbrass, 9; F. Davison, 10.

LINDLEY (Yorks.).—On Wednesday, at the parish church, eighty leads of Kent Treble Bob Major, containing 2,560 changes, being the same number of leads as Her Majesty the Queen is years old. The time occupied was 1 hr. and 35 mins. The following were the ringers: A. Sykes, 1; G. W. Schofield, 2; G. Denbigh, 3; A. Crosland, 4; G. T. Turner, 5; C. Craven, 6; J. A. Rayston, 7; F. Schofield, 8. Composed by A. Sykes and conducted by F. Schofield.

THORNBURY (Gloucestershire).—At the parish church, on Whitmonday, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 47½ mins. W. Gale, 1; A. Burchell, 2; A. B. Phelps, 3; H. W. Fussell (conductor), 4; H. T. Howell, 5; T. Alsopp, 6; F. K. Howell, 7; D. Clark, 8. First quarter-peal by Messrs. Gale and Clark. First quarter-peal as conductor by H. W. Fussell.

RUGBY (Warwickshire).—On Sunday, May 28th, 1899, for Divine Service in the morning, 419 Grandsire Triples. A. Coleman, 1; A. Dubber, 2; R. Watson, 3; J. W. Chandler, 4; A. Bramall, 5; J. W. Shotton, 6; J. George (conductor), 7; A. Green, 8. Also on Monday, May 29th, 1899, for practice, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Coales, 1; R. Watson, 2; A. Dubber, 3; C. J. B. Cooke, 4; A. J. Gillings, 5; J. George (conductor), 6; A. Bramall, 7; H. King, 8.

WEDNESBURY (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, May 18th, for practice at St. Paul's church, Wood Green, 1008 Grandsire Triples in 32 mins. A. Coper, 1; C. Tyler, 2; E. J. Tyler, 3; E. Turner (longest touch), 4; G. Newbold, 5; J. A. Brown, 6; J. Malpass (longest touch as conductor), 7; T. Cooper, 8.

NOTICE.

Next week we shall issue an enlarged number of this paper, in order to publish several matters crowded out this week. The correspondence on the Kidlington peal is somewhat voluminous, if not conflicting; it is better that this should all appear in one number. Two peals (from Burton-on-Trent and Redhill) arrived too late for this week.

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.

REMARKS ON THE SECULAR NATURE OF THE ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF CHANGE-RINGING, HISTORICALLY CONSIDERED.

(Continued.)

BY R. A. DANIELL.

CONCERNING THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH CHANGE-RINGING
TOOK ITS RISE (continued).

In the earlier days of the University of Cambridge, that body was the reverse of wealthy, and though it gradually became possessed of buildings capacious enough to accommodate ordinary business meetings of the body, it had no place of sufficient size to receive a large concourse of people. So the Churches of the Franciscans and the Augustinians were used for those functions called "Commencements." But when these religious houses were suppressed, the University began to use in their place the Church of St. Mary the Great, and continued to do so until the Senate House was built and opened in 1730. Used in this secular way, the Church seems to have become a place for doing any business for which it seemed convenient. Thus in September, 1559, a misunderstanding having arisen between the Vice-Chancellor and the Mayor of the town about the Watch at Sturbridge Fair, it was arranged that they should meet at St. Mary's and discuss the matter. When Queen Elizabeth visited Cambridge in 1564, she attended St. Mary's to hear the performance of some exercises and disputations, and on the evening of Sunday, the 6th August, after she had attended prayers in the Choir of King's College Chapel, a Latin play—*The Aulularia of Plautus*—was performed before her in the ante-chapel.

Later on we find the state of things at St. Mary's described in a report to Archbishop Laud in the following terms:—

"St. Mary's Church at every great Commencement is made a theatre and the Prevaricator's Stage wherein he acts and sets forth his profane and scurrilous jests, besides divers other abuses and disorders then suffered in that place. All the year after a part of it is made a lumber house for the materials of the scaffolds, for bookbinders' dry fats, for aumeric cupboards, and such like implements, which they know not readily where else to put. The west windows are half blinded up with a cobbler's and a bookbinder's shop. At the east end are encroachments made by divers houses, and the vestry is lately unleaded (they say) with purpose to let it ruin or to pull it down."

Of the other churches in the town it is stated they were so much out of order that little was learned there but irreverence and disobedience in sacred performances. In Laud's account of his Province for the year ending Christmas, 1639, it is stated on the Bishop of Ely's authority, that most of the Churchyards in Cambridge were annoyed and profaned with dwelling houses and shops, and part of them turned into gardens, where, by digging, the bones of the dead had been displaced, with divers other profanations.

I will close this reference to Cambridge with the following extract from Mr. J. W. Clark's book on Cambridge. The reader will bear in mind that the "Acts" were disputations, and that they then took place in St. Mary's Church.

"Besides these 'Acts,' the University at the great Commencement deliberately appointed a person to the office of *Prevaricator* or *Varier*. He was supposed to vary the questions proposed, to set them in a ludicrous light, and in the course of his speech to allude to topics of the day, and even to indulge in personalities. He usually spoke in Latin, but English verse might occasionally be introduced; and when another form of buffonery, called a 'musick speech,' was allowed, it was wholly in English. . . . The most famous of the 'musick speeches,' that spoken by Dr. Roger Long, afterwards Master of Pembroke, in 1714, is a strange composition for a learned body to have listened to on a solemn public occasion, and there are some lines in it too gross for quotation. The Commencement on this occasion was attended by Thoresby, the well-known antiquary. He records in his diary that 'the Prevaricator's Speech was smart and ingenious, attended with volleys of hurras.'"

I will add one more quotation relating to this subject, to show the state of things in the seventeenth century at Oxford. Professor Montagu Burrows, in his "Worthies of all Souls," writing of Archbishop Sheldon, says:—

"Evelyn tells us he was induced to build the famous theatre which bears his name in consequence of the strong feeling he entertained against the profanation of St. Mary's Church by the annual acts (now popularly called commemorations) which had always been held there. Churches both before and for long after the Reformation were, as we know, used for many other purposes than Divine Service. But the University Act had come to be a very secular affair indeed, and it is only wonderful it could have gone on in a Church so long. There was, however, as yet no other building of sufficient size.

"The abuse of the satirical address made by the *Terræ filius* on these occasions was scandalous. Evelyn was present at the first 'Act' in the Sheldonian Theatre in 1669, and bitterly complains of 'that tedious abusive, sarcastical rhapsodie.' . . . He calls it 'mere licentious lying and railing,' and so it was. . . . This outlet for academical discontents was a regular institution of long standing, the 'Terræ filii'—a sort of mediæval jesters, the origin of whose name is quite unknown—were elected for their humour or impudence, and their licentious satires were virtually privileged though often the subject of complaint."

I will now give the words I omitted when quoting from Mr. Tyack's reference to Bunyan. They are:—

"In the general carelessness concerning the fabric and furniture of the Church, the belfry almost ceased at one time to be considered part of the consecrated building; the clergy seldom entered it, and the Ringers and their friends went in and out much as they pleased and rang their touches and peals for mere amusement; until it became almost proverbial that even after calling the parishioners to Divine worship the Ringers usually turned their backs upon the Church and sought the neighbouring ale house."

I do not admit that these considerations would contribute to the evil reputation of ringers. To take the last part first—A man does not now, and *a fortiori* did not in bygone times, necessarily form or contribute to an evil reputation for himself by abstaining from Church and seeking an alehouse. Plenty of persons, of most respectable reputation, do not go to Church, but frequent places of social resort from the Athenæum Club downwards. No doubt attendance at Divine Worship is both a Christian duty and privilege, but before a man loses caste among people at large for neglecting it he must be among such a small minority as to become conspicuous for the neglect. This can hardly have been the case with ringers anywhere; certainly not in towns. Mr. Tyack in effect admits that ringers were not at the time he refers to in any way regarded as Church workers or officers; therefore no argument will lie that they had any special duty to attend Service on account of their position. Moreover, it must not be forgotten that in towns, as the population increased in much larger proportion than Church accommodation, the practice was to allot more and more of the sitting space to the upper classes of the parishioners, whereby a Parish Church had a tendency to become a sort of Reserved Dress Circle for the smartest inhabitants, to the discouragement of attendance by others.

That ringers in past days went in and out of the Steeple much as they pleased, and rang their touches and peals for mere amusement, I agree. But I do not assent to the statement that the belfry *almost ceased* at one time to be considered part of the consecrated building. Assuming for the moment that in post-Reformation times the Steeple was less reverently treated than the rest of the building, where is the evidence that in pre-Reformation times it was otherwise? Did the Parish Priest of those days go in and out of his Steeple and insist on the maintenance of a high standard of reverence there? I do not believe he did. That doctrine of reverence for the Steeple, so far as it exists, is a characteristic of our own age, and I have not discovered any reason to suppose there was ever anything like it before.

From a consideration of what I have set out, we can only, I think, regard it as almost, if not quite, impossible that Ringing

could have been otherwise than secular during the Reformation period, that is the period of the struggles about the Mode of Reform of the National Church, first with the Papacy and afterwards with the Puritans, which lasted from the reign of Henry VIII. to the Restoration of the monarchy and the Act of Uniformity of the year 1662, when the Prayer-Book assumed the form in which we now have it. When Church order was at the latter date restored, Change-Ringing had become a science and must have been well known in many parts of the country; it was practised in Steeples, as we may suppose, and as I shall later endeavour to show, purely as a secular pursuit. But it would be absurd to expect that with the Re-establishment of Church order, ringing should have become recognised as in any way connected therewith. The Laity would have no objection to the existing custom, and of the Clergy, some conformed who had no strong views on Ecclesiastical matters. Even among the staunchest Churchmen, those, who in their University days had been accustomed from their place in the gallery or on a scaffold erected in one of the University Churches, to witness the Acts or Commencements, and had cheered the *Prevaricator*, laughed at the *Musick Speech*, or revelled in the witty personalities of the *Terra Filius* were little likely in later years, when they became beneficed Clergy, to see any harm in a purely secular use of the Steeple for Ringing. The use of the University Church for such ceremonies continued, as we have seen, longer at Cambridge than at Oxford; but it does not follow that the public opinion at Oxford was in advance of that at Cambridge in this matter. The alteration came about at Oxford, not by any opinion or act of the University, but by the munificence of an individual benefactor in presenting it with one of the finest rooms in Europe.

And the Clergy of those days could hardly be expected to seize on the new art and press it into the service of the Church. It was a period when men's minds were full of suspicion and unsettlement. The fear of Romanism was never altogether absent, and there were panics from time to time when this fear became emphasised. The excitement occasioned by the suspicions of perversions to Romanism among persons connected with the Court and administration led to the passing of the Test Act of 1673. This was followed by the avowal of the perversion of the Duke of York, the heir presumptive to the Crown, and by his marriage with a Romanist. In 1678, the country was excited about the so-called Popish Plot, which, though in the form in which it was known to the public at large, it turned out eventually to be the concoction of that infamous liar Titus Oates, created a great sensation at the moment. In 1680, the Bishops laid themselves open to odium by voting in the House of Lords against the Bill for the exclusion from the succession of the Duke of York, and there were discussions about a Bill for Protestant securities in the event of his accession. In 1685, Charles the Second died, and the Duke of York succeeded him as James the Second, and did what in him lay to bring the Church of England into subjection to the Papacy. Then came the Revolution of 1688, the advent of the Whigs to power with a jealousy of High Churchmen and the encouragement of what has been called latitudinarianism, and then the accession of Queen Anne, the death of the last of her children, the question of Romanist or Protestant succession, eventuating in the accession of the House of Hanover in 1714. During all this period there were Clergy and laity who accepted the Church's order of services and administration of the Sacraments none too willingly, and there were those who evaded as much as possible what they did not like in it. These people thought the Prayer-Book, with its forms and rubrics, not so agreeable with foreign Protestantism as they could wish, and more akin to Romanism than they liked. In such circumstances it could scarcely have occurred even to those most anxious for the reverence and dignity due to churches and services to say "Here is a new art of exercising ringing which has lately grown up. Let us claim it as a part of Church work and the Ringers as Church workers." If it did occur to anyone he could hardly attempt to put it into practice. It would certainly be an innovation, and as such would arouse suspicion, probably—however unreasonably—of Romanizing.

From the year 1714 down to our own day the only period that need detain us is that of the ascendancy of the Evangelicals in the early portion of the present century. No one will want to be bothered with any arguments to show the absurdity of

expecting Ringing could have been anything but secular in the Georgian period; and as to the Evangelicals the matter can be stated in the fewest words. We should not expect to find that they had done anything for ringing, because it lay outside the sphere of their intense earnestness. They loved simplicity in the conduct of the Church services and did not encourage—indeed would not have endured—any elaboration of them by music or ceremonial. Therefore they certainly were not likely to go into the steeple in search of anything ancillary to public worship. Nor would they have been drawn to ringing by its scientifically recreative character, for, speaking generally, they did not approve of recreations. In fact ringing would not lie within the circle of their thoughts and sympathies and they would naturally leave it alone.

In short, change-ringing having originated as it did and when it did, we should expect to find a movement set on foot among Churchmen to recognise it as ancillary to Divine worship when, and only when, there is characteristic of general Church sentiment a combination of these three elements:—

1. A high standard of reverence for the fabrics of Churches.
2. A sympathetic interest in scientific achievement and rational recreation.
3. A recognition of the fact that that which originates in scientific achievement or rational recreation may in its degree be suitable for use in connection with Church services and, if suitable, a desire so to use it.

This combination is characteristic of Church sentiment as a whole in our day, quite irrespective of party, and therefore we should expect now to find such a movement set on foot. But not before—for this combination has not until now existed since change-ringing began. The Puritans had the second of these elements to some extent in the earlier portion of their career, but never the first nor the third. The Churchman down to 1714 had sometimes the first to a considerable extent, often hardly at all; he generally had the second but he had not the third. The Georgian period shews the second to some extent, but not the first or the third. The Evangelicals, I think, were hardly conspicuous for the first, and they had neither the second nor the third.

(To be continued.)

WELLINGBOROUGH.—CENTRAL NORTHAMPTON-SHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday evening, May 29th. (Oak-apple Day), a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, 1260 changes, in 47 mins., conducted by T. R. Hensher. G. Turnell, treble; T. R. Hensher, 2; F. Tompkins, 3; W. H. Ette, junr., 4; F. Wood, 5; E. West, 6; W. Wood, 7; tenor, H. Pettit. First quarter-peal by the ringers of the third, fourth and tenor. Until 1858, the 29th of May was a regular ringing-day at Wellingborough. A branch of oak was always fixed up above the belfry door.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CHIPPING BARNET (Herts).—On Thursday, the 4th May, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung in 47 mins. at the parish church. W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 1; J. Miller, 2; F. Milne, 3; W. Pickworth, 4; F. Nunn, 5; S. Wade, 6; A. Miller, 7; A. T. King, 8. *First quarter-peal in the method with a bob bell.

CHELSEA.—On Sunday evening, May 28th, at St. Luke's church for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins. J. Pryer, 1; W. Moss (conductor), 2; G. Fardon, 3; J. Hinton, 4; T. E. Barber, 5; W. Barber, 6; J. Baker, 7; G. Chesterman, 8. *1st. quarter-peal with a bob bell.

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Notices.

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

Sheffield and District Amalgamated Society.—The next monthly meeting of this society will be held at Norton to-day, Saturday, June 3rd. Bells ready 4 p.m. Meeting house—New inn.

R. HARRISON, *Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association of Six Bell Ringers.—The annual meeting of this Association will be held at Chorley parish church to-day, Saturday, June 3rd. Tower open for ringing at 2 o'clock. J. HIGSON, *Sec.*
60, Church Street, Blackrod.

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Kingsley, to-day, Saturday, June 3rd.

REV. G. T. BIRCH, *Hon. Secs.*
W. TWIGG,

East Derbyshire Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Ault Hucknall, on Saturday, June 10th. Meeting at 5.30 p.m. T. ALLIBONE, *Sec.*
North Wingfield, Chesterfield.

The Heavy Woollen District Association.—The next monthly meeting of the above will be held at Armitage Bridge, on Saturday, June 10th. Meeting house, The Butcher's Arms. Meeting at 5 o'clock.

WALTER IDLE, *Secretary.*

47, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury.

The Kent County Association—Rochester District.—The next quarterly meeting of the above will be held at St. Botolph's, Northfleet, on Saturday, June 10th. Tower open for ringing at 5 p.m. Committee meeting 6.15.

A. OSBORNE, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.—The annual meeting of this Society will be held on Saturday, June 17th, at Lichfield. Ringing on Cathedral bells from 2 to 4. Committee meeting and payment of subscriptions in belfry at 4 p.m. Service in Cathedral at 5 p.m. in the Lady Chapel, preacher, the Ven. Archdeacon of Stafford, President. Tea at Coffee House at 5.30. Tickets for tea 6d. each to all members who have paid their subscriptions, to others it will be 1s. Names to be sent in not later than June 13th, to

S. REEVES, *Hon. Sec.*

10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—The Hon. Sec. would be glad to receive the addresses of the following members: P. Foskett, E. G. Hearn, H. B. Kingsford, F. Perrin, S. Phillips, C. L. Routledge, H. Warwick, at Dunsden Vicarage, Reading.

R. H. HART-DAVIS.

NOTES TO PEALS.

THE PEAL AT NOTTINGHAM.—On the 27th of May, 1874, a mixed band of Leicester and Nottingham ringers rang a peal of Grandsire Caters at this church, thus this peal was rung on the 25th anniversary. The bells have lately been rebung by Taylor and Co., and the "go" is much improved. Shipway gives the weight of the tenor as 35 cwt. in D. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar, the Rev. Canon Richardson, M.A., for kindly granting the use of the bells on this occasion. Messrs. Woolley, Clarke, Wesley, Abbott and Gee belong to Nottingham; the rest to

Leicester. Mr. E. Robinson was prevented by indisposition from ringing, but sat in the belfry during the peal to render help if necessary.

MR. W. C. JONES' FIFTY PEALS.—Minor—five methods, 1; seven methods, 1; Bob Triples, 3; Bob Major, 6; Bob Royal, 1; Bob Maximus, 1; Grandsire Triples, 7; Grandsire Caters, 8, conducted 1; Stedman Triples, 3; Stedman Caters, 1; Kent Treble Bob Major, 4; Double Norwich Major, 8; Duffield Major, 1; Gloucester Surprise, 1; Superlative Surprise, 2; Cambridge Surprise, 1; London Surprise, 1; total—50.

MR. T. FAULKNER'S FIFTY PEALS.—Grandsire Triples, 7, conducted 4; on handbells, 1, conducted 1; Bob Major, 3, conducted 2; on handbells, 3, conducted 3; Stedman Triples, 5; Kent Treble Bob Major, 11, conducted 6; on handbells, 3, conducted 3; Oxford Treble Bob Major, 1, conducted 1; Double Norwich Major, 9, conducted 1; Superlative Surprise Major, 5, conducted 2; Cambridge Surprise Major, 1; London Surprise Major, 1; total—50; conducted 23; * including 8896 (record).

ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, WOOLWICH.

By the kind invitation of the Rector and Mrs. Escreet, the ringers were entertained at supper at the Rectory on Tuesday, the 23rd May. The Rector presided, supported by Mr. Churchwarden Rahtz. The invitations sent out were not confined to the local band, but were extended to all the honorary members, of which there are eleven, and included Mr. W. J. Jeffries, Secretary of the Lewisham District. Advantage was taken of to hold the annual meeting on this occasion, and accordingly an adjournment was made to the parish room where we found a liberal supply of cigars and tobacco for our use, and where the assistant clergy, consisting of the Rev. A. Eglinton, Rev. F. J. Meyrick, and the Rev. L. Reiss, the ringers' chaplain, joined us. The accounts for the year ending Whit-Sunday were presented, and were in every way satisfactory, and showed a substantial balance for the annual excursion. It may be mentioned here incidentally—without any egotism—that the rules of St. Mary's band are undoubtedly some of the best which govern any body of ringers. The following were elected for the ensuing year:—Mr. H. G. Hill, Steeplekeeper; Mr. W. J. Aldridge, Master; Mr. R. G. Carter, Assistant Master; Mr. A. R. Sandiford, Auditor; and Mr. E. O. Masters, Hon. Sec. The outing was fixed for Hythe on the 15th July next. Mr. Jeffries said the Woolwich band appeared to work harmoniously, and remarked that this was largely due to the assistance of the Rector, and the assistant-clergy. He wished he could say that the west end at other churches were similarly dealt with. At the annual meeting of the K.C.A., held at Ashford on the preceding day (where he and some of the Woolwich ringers attended), they had elected the Rector of Woolwich on the central committee, and hoped he would see his way clear to attend the two meetings held in the year. Mr. Churchwarden Rahtz said he was pleased to be with them that evening, and if they wanted a friend he was always willing to listen to their wants. The chaplain, Rev. L. Reiss, mentioned that he had been asked to learn to ring, and some day he might be tempted to begin. Mr. Masters regretted the absence of Mr. Aldridge and Mr. Beaven, which was, however, unavoidable, and thanked the Rector and Mrs. Escreet for their hospitality, and remarked that the Woolwich band were a very happy family, and hoped they would continue to be so. As to

the selection of the Rector on the central committee he was sure they could not have chosen a better, for he was not only a friend to the ringers and ringing, but had their welfare at heart in every way. The Rector responded by saying he was confident that what they did in the belfry, in having the short service before ringing commenced, was the right thing to do, as it gave a tone to the work upon which the ringers were engaged. The remainder of the evening was spent in a convivial manner, including some handbell ringing, until 11 o'clock, while hands were joined in singing "Auld lang syne."

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DUNSTER (Somerset).—On Saturday, May 20th, at St. George's church, in 45 mins., a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, Thurstans'. C. E. Boutflower, 1; T. A. Elliott, 2; R. Hole, 3; J. Jones, 4; Rev. H. C. Courtney, 5; W. W. Thrush, 6; J. Grabham, 7. And on Whit-Sunday for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, the ringers standing as above, in 46 mins., both conducted by J. Grabham. Mr. Boutflower hails from Bristol.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. W. J. Jeffries, Hon. District Secretary, Lewisham District, Kent County Association, has removed to 27, Embleton Street, Lewisham.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

WANTED Situation as Shoeing and General Smith. Married, aged 29. Change-ringer, seven years in last place. Address—A. Y. Tyler, High Street, Irthlingborough, Northants.

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HIGHLY respectable married man, age 31, wants Situation as Handy Man, used to taking up and re-laying Carpets, fixing Blinds, etc.; also understands Waiting and Valeting. Can ring Standard Methods.—Address, 175, Romany Road, West Norwood.

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CAN anyone assist me to obtain a situation for a Lad, aged 15. Strong and willing to be useful, has commenced to ring. Chorister. Gardens preferred.—G. H. HEAD, 16, Susan's Road, Eastbourne.

WANTED, by Young Man, a Situation as Turner. Change-ringer, Standard Methods, used to ten bells. Member of Oxford and Winchester Guilds.—Address J. TUCKER, 2, James Street, Reading.

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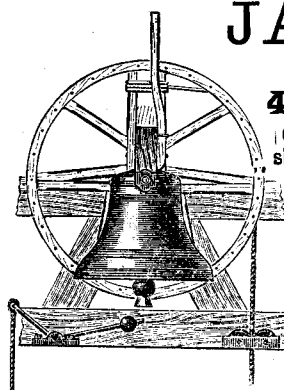
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No. 896.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1899.

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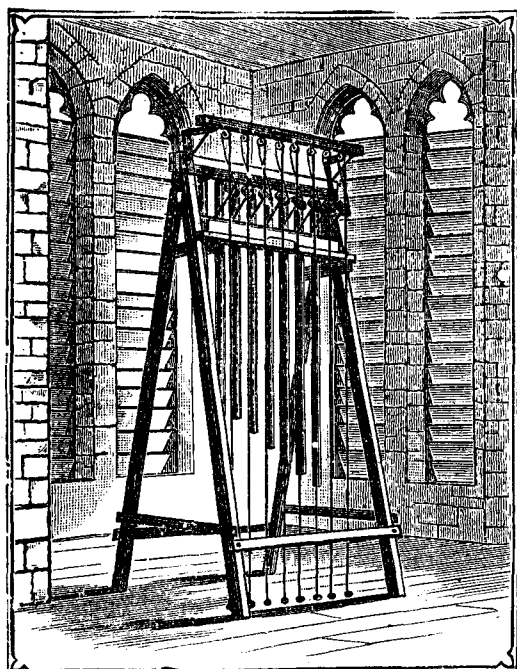
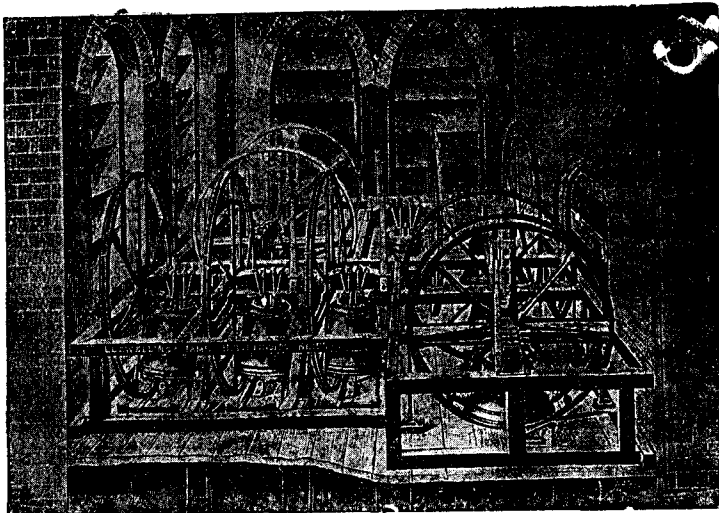
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HALEY, Price 1s. Auld Lang Syne, Hark! 'tis the Bells,
Home Sweet Home, March of the Men of Harlech, Rule
Britannia, Sailing, St. Patrick's Day, Sleighing Song, The
Bellringer's Glee, The Star-Spangled Banner, Wait till the
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No. 896.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A wet Whitsuntide proved disastrous to the attendance at the General Meeting held on Monday, 22nd ult., at Bishop Auckland. However, if the meeting was sparsely attended, the ringing was of a higher order than usual. The peal of eight at South Church were kept going during the day, and after 7 p.m. in touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Plain Bob, and Double Norwich Major. The Committee met at twelve o'clock to transact business, and at one o'clock the company, numbering thirty-three, sat down to an excellent dinner at The Wear Valley hotel. Mr. Hudson, of Bishops-wearmouth (vice-President), filled the chair in the absence of the President, Mr. Story, who wrote explaining his absence, being at the C.C. Meeting at Norwich. The Chairman was supported by the Revs. R. White and E. Hudson, of Bishop Auckland; Messrs. R. E. Chichester, W. Story and C. L. Routledge (Hon. Sec.)

Toasting the Queen, the Chairman in asking for musical honours, made reference to the near approach of Her Majesty's 80th birthday, and hoped that every ringer present would do his best to celebrate that joyous event with true loyal spirit.

Mr. Hudson next proposed "The Bishops and Clergy of the two Dioceses." He was glad to see that, though the Vicar of Auckland could not be present himself, two of his colleagues had been able to join them. He coupled the names of the Revs. R. White and E. Hudson with his toast. The Rev. R. White in responding welcomed the Association to Bishop Auckland, it would no doubt give an impetus to ringing in the district. The Rev. E. Hudson having spoken,

The Chairman, in reviewing the events since the last February meeting, mentioned the opening of the Stockton peal of ten bells. The Vicar of Stockton (Canon Martin), had been very warm and sincere in his invitation to the Association, extended through the medium of Mr. Hudson himself. He (the Chairman) however regretted that the letter which Mr. G. J. Clarkson (the Hon. Secretary to the Stockton bell scheme), had sent with the printed circular of invitation, had been of such a prohibitive character, and contained such impossible conditions to a re-union with the Stockton belfry, that it was deemed politic to ignore the invitation. The Hon. Secretary (Mr. Routledge), had written Canon Martin, thanking him for his kind invitation, and explaining the course taken by the officials of the Association in not attending their opening function.

Mr. W. Story proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar and Churchwardens of South Church for the use of their musical peal of eight during the day, and also to the Rector and Churchwardens of Heighington, who had placed their ring of six at the disposal of the Association, but owing to the inclement weather the members were unable to travel so far for a 720. These resolutions were seconded by Mr. Chichester and carried unanimously.

The Chairman then proposed the Revs. W. Dornell (the new Vicar of Consett), R. White, and E. Hudson, as hon-

orary members of the Association. Eighteen new performing members were also elected from Consett, Darlington (Holy Trinity), Bishop Auckland, and St. Oswald's, Durham.

The Association is deeply indebted to the Rev. E. Hudson and the members of South Church belfry for their kindness in providing tea to over thirty visitors in St. Andrew's church-house; it was appreciated to the full.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The formation of the 2nd branch of this Association was successfully inaugurated at Cirencester on Saturday, May 27th. The meeting commenced with a short service in the interesting old parish church, at which a practical and helpful address was given by the Vicar, the Rev. J. S. Sinclair. After the service the members present assembled for business in the old town hall adjoining the church. Representatives were present from the following places: Cirencester (St. John's and Holy Trinity), Swindon, Northleach, Latton, Kempsford, and Down Ampney; together with Mr. C. E. D. Boutflower, the Hon. Secretary. The Rev. J. S. Sinclair was unanimously elected Chairman of the branch, and the Rev. Charles Gott, Vicar of Latton, was also unanimously chosen as the Hon. Secretary for the branch. The following gentlemen were unanimously chosen to represent on the committee the various deaneries comprised in the branch, viz. :—

Cirencester Deanery	...	Mr. H. C. Bond.
Malmesbury	"	Mr. E. Harmer.
Northleach	"	Mr. T. W. Taylor.
Fairford	"	Rev. R. P. Davies.
Cricklade	"	Mr. Alfred Lawrence.

Fourteen new members were elected, including seven from Northleach, three from Coln St. Aldwyn, and one each from Siddington, Latton, Kempsford, and Cirencester. It was decided that the next meeting of the branch should be held at Northleach on Saturday, June 24th. On the invitation of the Rev. J. S. Sinclair, the members present then adjourned to the adjacent coffee tavern, where a capital tea had, through his kindness, been thoughtfully provided for them. On the suggestion of the Rev. C. Gott, several of the members from Swindon and Cirencester kindly volunteered to visit Latton tower next Saturday, June 10th, in order to interest the local men in change-ringing.

WATERMOOR, CIRENCESTER.

A large new Cambridge chime clock has just been erected in the parish church tower of Watermoor, which has all the latest improvements, and is guaranteed by the makers, Messrs. John Smith and Sons, of the Midland Steam Clock Works, Derby, to keep time within fifteen seconds a month.

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BOB LEADS.

BY THE REV. C. D. P. DAVIES.

I offer my cordial thanks to the forty-seven gentlemen who have kindly responded to my invitation in the number for May 20th, to express their opinion as to which of the alternate leads, those marked Q or those marked R, should be called "bob leads." As I said at the time, there was a special reason for the question. In the work of preparing the Glossary of Terms by the Committee appointed for the purpose by the Central Council the word "bob-lead" came up for definition. The first definition proposed was "a lead containing a bob" (a). To this was proposed as an alternative "a lead introduced by a bob" (b). At first I was in favour of (b), but on further consideration suggested by a long and interesting correspondence with another member of the committee, I came to the conclusion that I was far from certain on the point; and further that the term "bob lead" is in reality itself used most loosely and with varying signification in various connections. This conclusion is amply borne out by the replies. Though a large majority (42) are in favour of Q, there more than enough (14) on the other side to show that my uncertainty is quite justifiable. (It should be mentioned that some few of the forty-seven communications contain the names of several correspondents.) Two writers, like myself, are uncertain, while two speak only of the leading blows of the treble as being "treble's leads," and not of the whole block of fourteen rows. One says that neither Q nor R are bob leads. The fact is that on consideration there appear to be at least two different senses of the word "bob-lead." In speaking of the "bob-leads" of a touch or peal we practically, though perhaps unconsciously, mean only the blows at which the treble is at the lead, or even only her lead at backstroke. To this use of the word those of my correspondents who definitely take the word in that sense bear distinct testimony. When in congratulating a young hand we say "you got capitally through that bob-lead," I expect that we use the word in quite a different sense, and mean that he rang the bob that was called, *and continued safely and rightly on his way*. If it be so, then do we not in the term "bob-lead" include some, if not all, of the rows succeeding it until the next leading blows of the treble? In this latter sense the word is used in a meaning answering to definition (b) above. In the other sense it would be included under (a).

Underlying the whole question is the sad truth that existing terminology in this connection is hopelessly confused and unscientific. The real fact is that there is no such thing as a bob-lead at all. In this I am happy to find that two such authorities as Sir Arthur Heywood and Dr. Carpenter are both in agreement with me. A lead is a lead—a fixed and unalterable block. What has led to the confusion is that it has been customary to draw the line in the wrong place, viz.: after the backstroke lead of the treble. In his "Note on Grandsire Triples" Mr. Thompson, who in many instances adopted his own much more scientific ways and terms, unfortunately adopted this conventional division, and so we lost what might have been a glorious opportunity of getting rid of it. Of course the line should be drawn *before the treble's handstroke lead*, and then the whole thing is plain and straightforward. A "plain" or a bob are *nothing in themselves*, they are merely *modes of passage*. Once grant this and we instantly get a complete and intelligible system of terminology.

For instance in the five leads—

A	B
7214536	7512643
7125463	7156234
	1752643
	1576234
	5172643
	↓
C	5
	↓
	2431657
	2413567
	2145376
D	E
1254736	1243567
1527463	1425376
5124736	4123567
etc.	etc.

A is "plained" to C, which is "got by plain" from A, or—

B is "bobbed" to C, which is "got by bob" from B, and—

C is "plained" to D, which is "got by plain" from C, or—

C is "bobbed" to E, which is "got by bob" from C.

Here there is no mention of "plain lead" or "bob-lead." A lead is a "lead" pure and simple, it is "got by P," or "got by B," and all that these phrases indicate is which of two other possible "leads" was its predecessor. Also it is "plained" or "bobbed," these terms denoting which of two other possible leads is its successor. What more is wanted? It may be well to point out that these relations can with equal facility be denoted by employing the "characteristics" of the leads—we discard the term "lead-ends" not only as being untrue and therefore misleading, but as belonging to the bad old order of things. We therefore say, 563742 is "plained" to 576234, which is "got by plain" from 563742—or 634725 is "bobbed" to 576234, which is "got by bob" from 634725, and so forth.

Before leaving the subject it should be mentioned that in saying at the Council that such considerations as these apply only to Grandsire, and not, for instance, to such a method as Plain Bob, the Rev. E. B. James was mistaken. The only way in which odd bell methods differ in this respect from even bell methods is that in the latter the line of division falls one blow later, viz., between the two leading blows of the treble. With this proviso every consideration which has been urged in this letter, where Grandsire has been used as *example* only, is to be applied to all treble-denominated methods.

A HOLIDAY TRIP TO GUILDFORD.

We, that is to say Messrs. Hart, Bennett, and Dawe, of Brighton, and myself, were invited to spend our Whitsuntide vacation at Guildford, and we went. Two of us had never been on a ringing excursion in that neighbourhood before, and were delighted to have the opportunity of doing so. To me there is always a charm in going into fresh towers and making new friends, and on this occasion there was no lack of either, particularly the latter. Negotiations commenced some weeks ago, and Mr. Jones at the Guildford end, and Mr. Bennett down at Brighton, who had the matter in hand, fixed up the arrangements to the satisfaction of all parties concerned, upon which they are to be congratulated, for even with ringers it is difficult to please everybody. We had to depart from Brighton somewhat early in the day in order to carry out the first engagement

on the programme, which consisted of an attempt for a peal of Stedman at Shere in the afternoon. We were met at Guildford by Messrs. Hunt, Blondell, and Radford, of the St. Nicholas band, and at once left by South-Eastern express for Gumshall, seven miles away, which station we managed to reach on the same day that we started. Having patronised a local hostelry, (for we had had nothing from breakfast time, and it was then close upon 3 o'clock), we made the best of our way to Shere, and on arriving at the church we were greeted by the Vicar, who expressed a genuine pleasure at our visit. He said they wanted to put up another peal-board in their belfry, the last, which was erected in 1896, recording the first and only peal rung on the bells. We had a local man on the tenor, and Thurstans' four-part went along swimmingly until the ninth course-end, when the treble was found to be a quick bell. I wasn't ringing the treble, but still they told me that I had "shifted," and that it was my fault. It was no good saying it wasn't, because the others said it was. I tried to explain, but no amount of explanation would they accept, and so we started again. This time it was to some purpose, and after 2 hrs. 56 mins. we had the satisfaction of knowing that the Vicar would have an opportunity of erecting that peal-board. But there was more in it than that, it was the conductor's 200th peal, and besides the Guildford men had tried time after time to ring a peal of Stedman, but something always happened, and something happened this time, we got the peal. When the conductor said "this is all," their faces reminded me of a certain advertisement in which a baby is depicted hugging a lump of soap, and underneath the words "He's got it, and he's happy now." This first success put us on very good terms with ourselves, and augured well for what was to come after. The tea which followed went down with excellent relish, which was not diminished by the intimation that the Vicar wished to pay. While waiting for the train, a course or two of Grandsire Caters were tapped off on the handbells at the railway station, and when we finished we found ourselves surrounded by an admiring audience. Once back at Guildford the evening passed pleasantly enough with touches of Grandsire interspersed with a few tunes.

Being Whit-Sunday there was ringing at 5.30 in the morning at St. Nicholas, but somehow or other we didn't seem to take on, and the first item for that day was to ring for 11 o'clock service at Holy Trinity. Now at Holy Trinity there is a peal of eight, with a tenor turning the scale at 25 cwt, which could not fail to satisfy the most severe critic with regard to quality, and they were heard to no small advantage in a 576 of Kent Treble Bob, and subsequently in a 228 in the same method. The "go" of the bells, which have lately been rehung, seemed excellent, but that opinion was quite dispelled when the peal was rung there the next day. Just before dinner permission was obtained to ring on the peal of six at St. Mary's, and about 3 p.m. we traced our steps thitherward. The church is on the top of a hill, and if you enter the nave you have to mount a flight of steps to reach the chancel, and a further though lesser flight to reach the communion rails. But for all that the church is rather pretty. The vestry is on the highest level, and the staircase leading to the belfry is to be found there. Now of all the belfries I have ever been into this was about the queerest. The staircase takes you up under the roof of the church between the ceiling of the chancel and the rafters, the latter being well draped in cobwebs. You cross the ceiling and find yourself in the ringing-chamber, and what a ringing-chamber it is. In the very centre is a wooden case surrounding the clock-works and running from floor to ceiling, shutting out of sight altogether the opposite side of the belfry. The man on the 5th by running to-and-fro can just manage to see the 2nd and 3rd. For the man ringing the tenor it is impossible, whatever he does, to see the 4th, and *vice versa*, while to help it all the bells run backwards. There is but one small window opening out on to the roof, and if you want to see at all you must light the gas. Considering we were not used to ringing under such happy conditions, the 6-score of Stedman Doubles with which we started was not so bad. Then someone suggested a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. "The first on the bells, I believe, it will be if we ring it," said he. After some hesitation we agreed to start, but the man on the 5th quietly remarked "If you are going to ring a seven hundred, let me ring round here," and he promptly walked round to the treble. There has been a great talk lately about

Sunday labour, but if ever there was any work done on the Sabbath it surely was done that afternoon in St. Mary's tower. We didn't ring long, however, a convenient change-course when we got just over half-way, terminating our struggles. "We've had enough of this," said one, and we all agreed. In this tower, if you like, there is scope for the bell-hanger's talents. We found a cup of tea a good deal more refreshing, and felt just right for ringing when we got back to St. Nicholas at 5.15. According to the programme the trip was to conclude with a peal of something at St. Nicholas the next evening, but what should it be? There was a peal of ten with a tenor of 23 cwt., but in the ringing-chamber the circle was bad and the hearing none too good. A 543 of Stedman Caters and a course of Treble Ten brought us to the conclusion that although the latter might be the safer of the two, a peal of Caters would be better struck, and therefore Stedman was decided on.

The next morning we were on our way to Hawley, in Hants, and Stedman Triples was again attempted, but alas! soon after the fifth part-end of Brook's variation came up the seventh rope stranded in the last tuck. We stuck it until the sally began to unwind and then we thought it time to stop. As we had some time left on our hands we walked up to York Town, in the adjoining county, about a mile and a half distant. Here the bells went very well, and 336 Stedman Triples, 272 Bob Major, and a course of Double Norwich were struck off, and gave us an appetite for the dinner which followed. At one o'clock we were back in Guildford, 1.30 p.m. being the hour fixed for Treble Bob at Holy Trinity. Much to my chagrin and disappointment I was obliged to take my departure, business calling me away. I heard the commencement of the peal, however, and the striking was a treat to listen to. They were going at 28 to the minute, not so bad for bells of their weight, but the men round the heavy end knew it before they had finished. I subsequently learned the result of the day's ringing. The peal at Trinity was accomplished in 3 hrs. 2 mins., but the tenor man said afterwards "I've had enough ringing for to-day." The bells wanted a lot of ringing, especially towards the finish, and no wonder. An inspection the next day showed that the tenor had got an inch and a half play in the frame, surely this was an oversight on the bell-hanger's part when he left the bells. The peal in the evening at St. Nicholas came to grief after ringing an hour and a quarter owing to a change-course, and an adjournment was then made to Mr. Willshire's, where a most enjoyable evening was spent, the party breaking up at midnight. All that remains to be said further is to express our thanks to Mr. Jones and all the other gentlemen for their kindness to us during our visit, and to the various incumbents for granting the use of the bells in their respective towers. G.

SEDBERGH (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, May 27th, the ringers of St. Andrew's had their annual outing. They started by the 9.5 train to Windermere, and walking to Bowness took the steamer up the lake to Ambleside. Here they found a ring of six, tenor 7 cwt. A touch of Bob Minor was rung, followed by some Treble Bob, in which we were assisted by Mr. Satterthwaite, one of the local band. After some more ringing, we adjourned to dinner, to which full justice was done. We now had to catch the boat back to Bowness. The sail back was perhaps the most enjoyable part of the day. The weather was very warm, and the mountains, Bowfell, Langdales, &c., were looking their very best. At Bowness we had permission to ring on the eight in the old church. However, in raising the bells the third rope broke. While this was being spliced, courses of Bob Major and Duffield were rung on the handbells. Then followed a 240 of Bob Major and a touch of Grandsire. Tea was next indulged in, and then a move was made for the station. We arrived back about 7.45, all well pleased with the outing. W.

WOOD GREEN (Middlesex).—On April 30th, at St. Michael's church a quarter-peal of Bob Minor in 40 mins. A. Glasscock, 1; F. W. Ford (1st quarter-peal), 2; F. C. Fordham (1st quarter-peal), 3; J. Miller, 4; A. Miller, 5; S. Wade (conductor), 6.

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NINTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from page 15.)

CONDITION OF RINGS OF BELLS.

The President said that at present this Committee had no report to make. At the Bristol meeting last year the form of circular was agreed upon. Circulars had gone out some time ago to Secretaries of Associations asking them to give the name and address of a representative ringer of every church tower containing eight bells and upwards who would give dependable information as to their condition. About one-half of these circulars had been filled in and returned. Some of them were remarkable for the care with which they had been compiled, while others had evidently hardly been at the pains to read through the circular, and had either written asking for further information, or had given the names and addresses of the representative ringer in inadequate form. If the final report was to be comprehensive and satisfactory it must be done very carefully and thoroughly, and the information must come from ringers absolutely reliable. There were some 3000 ringers to be communicated with, and unless their replies were in accordance with the requirements of the circular, which, so far as could be judged from the returns already received, was by no means generally the case, it would be impossible for the Committee to produce a report in any sense comprehensive. He trusted that those applied to would give the subject their best attention, for if the whole matter was not properly dealt with, a satisfactory result could not be expected. The work for the present was of a mechanical nature, and until the returns were all in and collated, there was nothing further to refer to the Committee, who would then have to consider the form in which the information should be published.

PEAL VALUES COMMITTEE.

Mr. Attree said the Committee had been requested to consider the question of values for peals rung with tenors of 30 cwt. and more. The Committee considered that the question was one which would cause endless trouble, and be no easy thing to carry out. There were bells of 30 cwt. that went as easy as those of 10 cwt. If the weight of tenors was to be taken into consideration in the analysis, there would be a trot round the country to see how bells go. Under the whole of the circumstances the Committee had no further report to bring up. It was after very careful consideration that the peal values were last year adopted, and these were, the Committee thought, about as fair as could well be.

Mr. W. Snowdon said that, as the mover of the proposal for the weight of tenors to be taken into consideration, he did not think that Mr. Attree had given that satisfaction that he might have done. Mr. Attree told them that some of the heavy bells would go more easily than light ones, but still he thought it would be fairer to give a few additional points to the peal rung with a heavy tenor to those that were given for what might be termed a "waistcoat pocket" peal. Take for instance the peal rung at St. Paul's Cathedral; surely such a performance was worth more than the peals upon some of the lighter bells. He did not think that some of these waistcoat pocket peals were to be compared with peals upon such a ring as that at Norwich, and it was but fair that an extra point or two should be given for those upon a heavy ring. Big heavy bells wanted big heavy men to ring them, and there was more skill wanted for heavy bells than for the lighter ones.

The Rev. T. L. Papillon said that there was one point which appeared to have been overlooked—namely, the great uncertainty as to the weight of tenors. If one inquired as to the weight of a tenor, the ringers themselves gave one weight, while if you enquired of the makers they gave a different one.

The Rev. H. A. Cockey said that in Essex there was no tenor, so far as he knew, of over 30 cwt. Why should the Association be debarred from obtaining points through the want of a heavy tenor, for it would be no fault of the members of that Association that they could not score the same points as another Association with heavier rings.

The Rev. H. Law James said that it was a question of science versus brute strength.

Mr. W. Catchpole said he had seen some big men get down

in the front, and some little men up at the heavy end turn in the big bells to a peal. He thought that it was a question of science rather than brute strength, and that peals upon heavy bells should score more points.

Mr. Attree said he did not want to argue the question further, but he had given the matter a great deal of attention, and if everyone did the same they would see, not only the great difficulty, but that the analysis would be worth next to nothing if the suggested alterations were adopted. He thought that their friends must see that at last, although they had not done so before, they must give way upon this point.

Mr. Trollope asked if the Committee had considered a suggestion that he had made before, that there should be more points given for Double Norwich Maximus. As it now stood, the points were about equal to those given for Stedman Triples. This he did not consider was exactly fair.

Mr. Attree said no instructions had been given to the Committee, and consequently that no action had been taken.

Mr. Trollope said it was a question which really concerned the Ipswich band as the only one who rang it.

Mr. Catchpole said his band did not ring peals for the points which were allowed. When they rang a peal they gave it to the world for what it was worth.

Mr. Newton said he considered a peal of Double Norwich Maximus was worth the same points as Cambridge Surprise Major.

Mr. Trollope moved to make the number of points 32 for Double Norwich Maximus, and 28 for Royal.

The Rev. H. Law James, who seconded, remarked that he once rang a course with the Ipswich band, and found it exceedingly intricate.

Mr. Dains supported the resolution.

Dr. Carpenter asked how many points were now allowed for Double Norwich Major.

Mr. Attree replied sixteen.

Dr. Carpenter: Then you will go from sixteen for Major to twenty-eight for Royal.

The President said he would point out to Mr. Catchpole that there was a large field of ringers that took an interest in what others did. It should be borne in mind that many outsiders desired to know, when a peal was rung, what it was worth in value of points. As to Double Norwich Royal, he had conducted a peal in the method, and did not consider there was any great difficulty about it. In fact, as the bells kept a regular coursing order, if the conductor did not go to sleep he should be pretty certain of getting a peal provided there was a good treble-man. As to the points suggested, he thought it would be better to ask the Committee to consider them with a view to report at the next meeting, rather than to press the resolution as it stood.

Mr. Catchpole said there was more difference between Double Norwich Maximus and Royal than there was between Royal and Major.

The resolution amended as suggested by the President was adopted.

NEXT YEAR'S MEETING.

The President asked the Council to consider at this stage the question of next year's meeting. Should it be for one day with two sittings, or should it extend over two days, in accordance with the provision made at the last London meeting? The Standing Committee had discussed the matter and considered it would be best to have two sittings in one day. They feared that there would be but a very small attendance if the meeting was extended to the Wednesday. At the Bristol meeting, there were two or three questions that, for want of time, were not properly discussed, while the length of the meeting caused some of their friends to leave before the whole of the subjects were disposed of. The Council were much indebted to their Norwich friends for the most kind and excellent arrangements that had been made for ringing. Nevertheless, he felt bound to point out that the meeting day should be wholly devoted to the business of the Council, and the least those sent to represent the different Associations and Guilds could do was to allow nothing to interfere with the specific duties they had been sent to perform.

The Rev. M. Kelly thought that some of the members of the Council who had a long distance to travel would find a difficulty in reaching London, say, by 10.30 in the morning. There were some of the Associations that held their own annual meeting on

the Whit-Monday, and it would therefore be inconvenient to their representatives to leave before the Tuesday. He should himself prefer a two days' meeting.

Mr. Story said he was a strong advocate for having the two sittings in one day. The Council had often hurried over important matters for the want of more time. He thought if the Council met at 11 o'clock, adjourned for an hour at 1 o'clock, and met again, say at 2 o'clock to finish the business, it would be much better than the present arrangement.

Mr. Attree supported the idea of having two sittings in one day, and expressed an opinion that such a course would be much the best, even if the Standing Committee had to meet the previous day. He thought the difficulty of travelling might be easily surmounted.

The Hon. Secretary proposed that the London meeting next year be divided into two sittings, the first to commence at 11 o'clock, and further arrangements to be left in the hands of the Standing Committee.

The Rev. F. G. Coleridge in seconding, said he should object to having to continue the sitting on the Wednesday.

The resolution was adopted.

THE CONDITIONS AND FEATURES WHICH CONSTITUTE A LEGITIMATE METHOD OF CHANGE-RINGING.

The Hon. Secretary said that this question introduced one which had been encountered by two Committees. It would therefore seem time for it to be definitely answered, not so much because of the work of the Committee, but for the information and satisfaction of the Exercise. The Peals Committee had decided what peals they should admit, and the Glossary Committee had to decide the methods. The question of calls had already been dealt with, and he thought it wise that the matter should go further, and there should now be an answer given as to what a legitimate method was. It was a question which had been much neglected in the past, and it was the more necessary to draw attention to it now. Some Treatises contained methods with no claim from a scientific point of view to the title. No attempt had been made either individually or collectively to define what should constitute a method from a scientific point of view. That this point should be taken in hand he was sure would be to the interest of the Exercise at large. Some ringers took it for granted that it was sufficient if a method would run true, without reference to its musical qualities and to its constitution. But surely the science of change-ringing should have a voice in it. As the formation and object of the Council was to set up a standard, he did not think that they could well shrink from answering this question in a decisive way. No doubt ringers would still ring and practice what they pleased, but if the Council did this work ringers would not be able to plead ignorance as to the construction of a method. It was not his intention to make any formal motion; his object was more to open a discussion and to obtain an exchange of views. For this purpose it might be well for him to lay down two or three propositions which might be adopted as guides in estimating a legitimate method.

First: in methods for any number of bells it is essential that they should run true for the whole possible extent of the changes on numbers below eight. Eight, and above eight to such an extent as will render at least 5000 true changes possible. Some might think that the standard was too low, while many would consider that it should be stipulated that the tenors should be together. But that would be more from a musical aspect of the subject. He had thought it best, at any rate for initiating a discussion, to adopt a lower standard, and therefore had taken this view he had propounded.

Secondly: that methods should lend themselves to composition of extents without necessitating the use of other than legitimate calls, according to the decision of the Council.

Thirdly: in dealing only with Triples, Caters, and Cinques, the methods in their formation should be such that in their ordinary working they proceed by continuous triple, quadruple, or quintuple changes, which arrangement should only be capable of disturbance by the occurrence of a common single in the calling. In the case of Major, Royal, or Maximus, then their formation should enable them, in their ordinary working, to proceed by such an alternation of quadruple and triple, or quintuple and quadruple, or sextuple and quintuple changes as

would cause the lead ends to be of "like nature" till a common single occurred. Infringement of these provisions, in either class of the methods, caused the lead-ends to be alternatively odd and even in the plain course, which to say the least was undesirable.

Fourth: as a corollary to the last proposition, and to prevent its infringement, no bell in the ordinary working of a method, apart from the action of calls, should strike more than two consecutive blows in any one place.

Fifth: that a method should be at least decently musical in its ordinary working and under ordinary treatment in composition, a provision which is lamentably transgressed in some methods by the undue separation of the heavy bells.

These were the features and conditions of formation which seemed to him essential to the constitution of a legitimate method, and he submitted them as the basis upon which some regulations might be reasonably founded.

The Rev. C. D. P. Davies considered the ideas brought forward by the Hon. Secretary as most excellent.

Mr. Trollope drew attention to the striking more than two blows in one place by a bell at a single in Grandsire.

The Hon. Secretary pointed out that he had said "apart from the action of calls."

The Rev. H. Law James thought that 3, 4, and 5 might be confined in one definition, and said that a method was an arrangement of place-making and dodging upon an odd number of bells, working about one or more trebles in one plain or treble bob hunt, so that at each treble lead-end the treble, or trebles, occupy a different position among the working bells; coming between each pair in turn; and provided also that the working bells are at each treble lead-end in their proper coursing order.

Mr. Pitstow asked if this would not exclude Stedman.

The Rev. H. Law James said Stedman was a *principle*, and was called so by Stedman himself, who never called it a method (laughter). He thought, however, that the best plan would be to appoint a Committee to deal with the whole question, and to present a report.

The Rev. H. A. Cockey proposed, and the Rev. F. E. Robinson seconded, the appointment of the following Committee:—Rev. H. Law James; Messrs. H. Dains, J. Carter, A. Craven, and J. A. Trollope, to report as to the best definition of what constitutes a method.

The President regretted that so few had taken part in the discussion. The aim of bringing the various questions forward was to draw out the views of the representatives. There were many gentlemen present who did not give the Council the benefit of their opinions. They were sent to the Council for the purpose of expressing their views so that there might be an exchange of ideas. The broad principles that the Hon. Secretary had brought forward as to this particular question, would, he thought, prove very useful to the Committee as a basis to work upon. He might say that for Mr. James to pretend that an arrangement of changes which would not run to 5040 was a method, was about as logical as to call a jug a beer jug when it had a hole in the bottom (laughter). The resolution to appoint the Committee was adopted.

(To be continued.)

WYMONDHAM (Leicestershire).—On Thursday, May 4th, at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor (38 bobs and 22 singles). W. Spiby, 1; I. E. Goodacre, 2; E. J. Gale, 3; W. James, 4; C. Dalby, 5; R. H. Bartram (conductor), 6. The above was rung by the Melton society on the occasion of the annual Festival of the society for the Framland division of Leicestershire, held at Buckminster the same day. First 720 Grandsire on the bells.

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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, JUNE 10, 1899.

THE peal at Kidlington has brought forward a very conflicting expression of opinion. Reading between the lines of the correspondence as it appears upon another page, we find very little cause for gratulation in the incidents to which this performance has given rise. It is open to serious consideration whether some process of judging the worth and value of a lengthy peal, which shall be satisfactory to the Exercise, should not be brought into play. Scientific inventions of recent years have produced an instrument, known as the Gramophone, which we believe is able to record in a clear and distinct manner, every change rung. We shall have to insist upon the use of this or some similar machinery upon occasions of long peals; and not until some official warranty of the excellence or otherwise of a peal is given by the assistance of such an agency, shall we be able to rest assured that peals have been rung correctly and scientifically.

MR. PYE seems to fear that many will imagine him moved by a spirit of jealousy in this matter. We think that most men who had called a record peal of no mean character like he has would feel concerned in a perfor-

mance which was intended to supersede their own. He was quite right in going to Kidlington for the purpose of criticising, and no complaint whatever can be alleged against him for bringing the peal into question. Whether he has done this in a way calculated to obtain the approval of thinking people is a matter of conjecture. According to some of this week's correspondents it would seem that his attitude at Kidlington was unfortunately not of the most dignified character.

Here we leave the subject, not without a fear that the correspondence upon it is far from exhausted. In any future peals of the kind, and there are several on the tapis, we hope to hear that some scientific mechanical arrangement, of the kind hinted at above, may be employed, if only to protect us from becoming cognisant of the unfriendly, if not bitter rivalry which these record performances often beget.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, June 3, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 24 cwt.

WILLIAM H. PASMORE .. Treble.	HENRY S. ELLIS .. 5.
JOHN W. GOLDING .. 2.	FREDERICK DENCH .. 6.
FREDERICK G. MAY .. 3.	SAMUEL E. ANDREWS .. 7.
FRANK BUCK .. 4.	CHARLES T. P. BRICE .. Tenor.

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH, and
Conducted by CHAS. T. B. BRICE.

The Provinces.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Thursday, May 18, 1899, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; PITSTOW'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 26 cwt.

WILLIAM C. WAKLEY .. Treble.	GEORGE ROBINSON .. 5.
EDWARD I. STONE .. 2.	HARRY WAKLEY .. 6.
WILLIAM WAKLEY .. 3.	LEONARD BULLOCK .. 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN .. 4.	FREDK. G. ATTENBOROUGH .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

RANMOOR, SHEFFIELD, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Wednesday, May 31, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

THOMAS HATTERSLEY .. Treble.	SAMUEL THOMAS .. 5.
JOHN MULLIGAN .. 2.	THOMAS SYLVESTER .. 6.
WILLIAM LOMAS .. 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
ARTHUR BREARLEY .. 4.	WILLIAM BURGAR .. Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

First peal of Stedman on the bells.

A PEAL OF 362,880 GRANDSIRE CATERS, 6d.

Contains the full extent of changes on nine bells. Forwarded Post Free, on receipt of 7d. By James Hewitt, 16 Chapel Row Gosport.

REDHILL, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, May 31, 1899, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; A VARIATION OF PARKER'S 12-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

PELHAM E. J. KNIGHT .. Treble.	THOMAS SPARKS .. 5.
JOHN BEAMS .. 2.	EDWARD DEWEY .. 6.
GEORGE F. HOAD .. 3.	EDGAR KENWARD .. 7.
HENRY REEVES .. 4.	JOHN STEADMAN .. Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY REEVES.

Rung in honour of Her Majesty's 80th birthday.

ARUNDEL, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, June 1, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; CLEAL'S ONE-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt.

CHARLES ROGERS* .. Treble.	GEORGE H. LEE .. 5.
FREDERICK LUXFORD .. 2.	HAROLD D. SEARLE .. 6.
JOHN NETLEY .. 3.	CHARLES BLACKMAN .. 7.
GEORGE BALCHIN .. 4.	ERNEST J. HAMMOND .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE H. LEE.

Rung on the occasion of the marriage of W. W. Mitchell, Esq., of Lymminster Lodge, Arundel. *First Peal.

SHEFFIELD, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION, AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Thursday, June 1, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

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

THOMAS HATTERSLEY .. Treble.	EDWARD WOODWARD .. 5.
SAMUEL THOMAS .. 2.	THOMAS SYLVESTER .. 6.
JOHN MULLIGAN .. 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
ARTHUR BREARLEY .. 4.	DAVID BREARLEY .. Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

Rung on the front eight.

CARDIFF, SOUTH WALES.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, June 1, 1899, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES. Tenor 27 cwt. in D.

JOHN H. ALDRIDGE .. Treble.	JOHN HARRIS .. 6.
JOHN W. JONES* .. 2.	ALLEN ROWLEY .. 7.
WILLIAM B. BISS .. 3.	JOHN CLUTTERBUCK .. 8.
RICHARD C. BALCOMBE .. 4.	WILLIAM COOMBS .. 9.
FREDERICK ATWELL* .. 5.	BENJAMIN TILLEY .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN WRIGHT, of Kingston-on-Thames, and
Conducted by WILLIAM COOMBS.

*First peal of Caters.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, June 2, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

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

FRED. G. BIGGS .. Treble.	JOHN EVANS .. 5.
FRANK BIGGS .. 2.	RALPH BIGGS .. 6.
JOHN C. TRUSS .. 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
F. BOREHAM .. 4.	B. PAGE .. Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

A peal of London was contemplated, but the 8th man not turning up, Stedman was substituted. This was the conductor's 250th peal of Stedman Triples.

TICKHILL, YORKS.

On Saturday, June 3, 1899, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 15 cwt.

ALBERT GLEDSTONE Treble.	EDWIN F. RIPPON 5.
FRANK WILLEY 2.	JAMES REW 6.
WALTER HAMMOND* 3.	WILLIAM SMITHSON 7.
HARRY BOWER 4.	THOMAS CHOWN Tenor.

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

*First peal with a bob bell. First peal in the method on the bells, and the first peal since they were augmented to a peal of eight.

GOLDHANGER, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 3, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720s of Bob Minor, two of Canterbury Pleasure, and two of Grandsire. Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qrs.

HARRY SEAGER† Treble.	SAMUEL RUSHEN 4.
THOMAS HAMMOND 2.	JOSEPH SEAGER 5.
HARRY BROWN 3.	HENRY GEORGE ROWE .. Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY GEORGE ROWE.

†First peal. This is the first peal ever rung on the bells, which have recently been rehung and a new treble added. Rung in honour of the Duke of York's birthday.

WILLINGTON, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 3, 1899, in Two Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

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 10 cwt.

JOSEPH CHURCH Treble.	JAMES A. SMITH 4.
WILLIAM J. BARKER 2.	ALBERT ROBINSON 5.
CHARLES W. CLARKE 3.	CHARLES CHALTY Tenor.

Conducted by C. W. CLARKE.

HAWLEY, HANTS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(READING BRANCH.)

On Saturday, June 3, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

MAURICE STEER Treble.	JOHN TUCKER 5.
CHARLES GILES 2.	ALFRED E. REEVES 6.
ALFRED WATMORE 3.	HENRY TUCKER 7.
ERNEST BRUCK 4.	*ARTHUR W. HIGGS Tenor.

Composed by H. J. TUCKER, and Conducted by ARTHUR W. HIGGS.

*First peal as conductor. The ringers wish through the medium of this paper to thank the Vicar, the Rev. J. J. P. Wyatt, for kindly granting the use of the bells for the attempt.

SHIPLEY, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 3, 1899, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

JOSEPH BROADLEY Treble.	FREDERICK W. DIXON 5.
THOMAS B. KENDALL 2.	SAMUEL WHEATLEY 6.
CHARLES PRATT 3.	FRED. PAGE 7.
WALTER POPPLEWELL 4.	GEORGE A. O. NETTLETON Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and Conducted by T. B. KENDALL.

Rung to celebrate the eightieth birthday of Her Majesty the Queen,

ERITH, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 3, 1899, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES. Tenor 18 cwt.

FRANCIS GROVES† Treble.	CHARLES WILKINS 5.
GEORGE R. PYE 2.	ERNEST PYE 6.
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 3.	*HARRY FLANDERS 7.
ISAAC G. SHADE 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

†First peal in the method. *First peal in the method away from the treble. It was intended to start for London, but as one of the band lost the train, it had to result in the above.

FELSHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(SUDBURY BRANCH.)

On Saturday, June 3, 1899, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720s each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, and one each of New London Pleasure, Double Court, and Plain Bob.

Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

HARRY E. KINSEY* Treble.	*ROBERT WILDING 4.
HUGH GLADWELL* 2.	ARTHUR SYMONDS 5.
THOMAS LEVITT 3.	†WILLIAM KINSEY Tenor.

Conducted by W. KINSEY.

*First peal. †First peal of Minor. First peal as conductor. This is the first peal on the bells.

GREAT BENTLEY, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, June 5, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 8 cwt.

HARRY E. BOWERS Treble.	GEORGE LANCASTER 5.
WILLIAM J. NEVARD 2.	CHARLES CLARK 6.
GEORGE A. ANDREWS 3.	ERNEST W. BECKWITH 7.
WILBY J. HAZEL 4.	DAVID ELLIOTT Tenor.

Composed by J. REEVES, and Conducted by DAVID ELLIOTT.

Miscellaneous.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

READING (Berks).—On Tuesday, May 9th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Lawrence, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. E. Batten (first five hundred), 1; F. Hopgood, 2; E. Bruce, 3; C. Stone, 4; A. Osborne, 5; C. Giles, 6; W. Newell (conductor), 7; R. Sawyer, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

DEPTFORD (Kent).—On Sunday, April 23rd, for evening Service at the church of St. John, 420 Stedman Triples. E. H. Nixon, 1; J. Rose, 2; T. Deal, 3; A. C. Bedwell, 4; W. Bedwell (conductor), 5; G. H. Daynes, 6; W. J. Jeffries, 7; J. Law, 8.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ST. LEONARD'S-ON-SEA.—On May 24th, at Christ Church, in honour of the Queen's birthday, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. A. Novis, 1; G. Watson, 2; C. Weller, 3; F. Medhurst, 4; T. H. Waterhouse, 5; H. Harvey, 6; F. A. Kennett, H. Denman, 8. Composed by G. Watson and conducted by F. A. Kennett.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.

NORTH SHIELDS.—The following touches have been rung at Christ church by the ringers of the above-named branch recently, as follows: 720 of Grandsire Minor, 576 Bob Major, 640 Kent Major, 592 Bob Major, 714 Grandsire Triples, 1056 Kent Major, 576 Kent Major, 352 Oxford Treble Bob Major, 518 Grandsire Triples, conducted by W. Hunt; 720 Bob Minor, E. Hern ringing his first 720 with bob bell; 592 Grandsire Triples, 480 Grandsire Major, 1056 Bob Major, 624 Bob Major, 560 Grandsire Triples, 704 Kent Major, 1024 Kent Major.

The above touches have been conducted by T. Teasdale and J. E. R. Keen (late of Pontefract). On Sunday, April 16th, a quarter-peal of Kent, 1280. E. Hern, 1; G. Holmes, 2; T. Teasdale (composer), 3; A. Tully, 4; J. Browell, 5; J. Hern, 6; W. Hunt, 7; J. E. R. Keen (conductor), 8. On Tuesday, 18th of April, 880 Kent Treble Bob Royal. *E. Hern, 1; T. Teasdale (conductor), 2; W. Reed, 3; G. Holmes, 4; *H. Ross, 5; J. Hern, 6; *J. Browell, 7; *G. Dix, 8; *A. Tully, 9; *W. Hunt, 10. *Longest touch of Royal.

DARLINGTON.—On Easter Sunday, April 2nd, at St. John's church, 826 Grandsire Triples. R. Moncaster, 1; W. D. Lister, 2; Thos. Crawford, 3; Thos. Clark, 4; W. H. Porter, 5; Jas. Baxter (conductor), 6; W. Patton, 7; G. F. Williams, 8. Evensong: 800 Plain Bob Major. J. Bolton, 1; G. F. Williams, 2; Jas. Baxter, 3; Thos. Clark, 4; W. D. Lister, 5; R. Moncaster, 6; W. Patton, 7; W. H. Porter (conductor), 8. Sunday, April 16th, 840 Grandsire Triples. F. Naisbett, 1; W. D. Lister, 2; W. H. Porter, 3; Thos. Clark, 4; F. Johnson, 5; Jas. Baxter (conductor), 6; W. Patton, 7; F. Williams, 8. Tuesday, April 18th, for practice, 516 Grandsire Triples on handbells. F. Naisbett, 1; T. Clark, 2; R. Moncaster, 3; G. F. Williams, 4; F. Johnson, 5; W. D. Lister, 6; Jas. Baxter (conductor), 7-8. Sunday, April 23rd, 670 Grandsire Triples. F. Naisbett, 1; G. F. Williams, 2; T. Crawford, 3; Thos. Clark, 4; R. Moncaster, 5; W. H. Porter (conductor), 6; W. Patton, 7; Thos. Scollick, 8. Evensong: 800 Plain Bob Major. F. Scollick, 1; T. Crawford, 2; W. H. Porter, 3; G. F. Williams, 4; R. Moncaster, 5; T. Clark, 6; W. Patton, 7; Jas. Baxter (conductor), 8. Tuesday, April 25th, 432 Plain Bob Major. F. Naisbett, 1; W. D. Lister, 2; W. Patton, 3; Thos. Clark, 4; Thos. Lungley, 5; R. Moncaster, 6; G. F. Williams, 7; Jas. Baxter (conductor), 8. Sunday, April 30th, 816 Plain Bob Major. Jas. Bolton, 1; G. F. Williams, 2; Jas. Baxter, 3; T. Clark, 4; R. Moncaster, 5; W. D. Lister, 6; W. Patton, 7; W. H. Porter (conductor), 8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BARKING.—On a recent Sunday evening for Service, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major was rung in 46 mins. A. Whight, 1; A. Deards, 2; K. Fenn, 3; E. Lucas, 4; C. Fenn, 5; E. Andrews, 6; T. Faulkner, 7; A. C. Hardy (conductor), 8. On Wednesday, May 17th, a quarter-peal of Oxford Treble Bob was rung on handbells retained in hand; 1280 changes. R. Fenn, 1-2; T. Faulkner, 3-4; A. C. Hardy, 5-6; C. Fenn (conductor), 7-8. On Sunday, May 28th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung in 48 mins.; 1280 changes. C. Fenn (conductor), 1; T. Faulkner, 2; G. W. Faulkner, 3; E. Lucas, 4; A. J. T. Carter, 5; R. Fenn, 6; E. Andrews, 7; A. C. Hardy, 8. Tenor 22½ cwt. First quarter-peal in e method by G. W. Faulkner and A. J. T. Carter.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THIRSK.—On Monday, May 22nd, in connection with the annual meeting of the above Association, 672 Kent Treble Bob Major. G. I. Clarkson, 1; Rev. W. P. Wright, 2; J. Brown, 3; J. A. Carter, 4; G. F. Alexander, 5; A. McFarlane, 6; J. H. Blakiston (conductor), 7; T. Metcalfe, 8. 420 Stedman Triples. T. Haig (conductor), 1; R. Pick, 2; T. Neill, 3; W. Pick, 4; T. Metcalfe, 5; J. A. Carter, 6; J. H. Blakiston, 7; S. Walker, 8. 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Pick, 1; F. Johnson, 2; T. Neill, 3; J. W. Neesam (conductor), 4; I. Wrightson, 5; G. Neesam, 6; J. W. Long, 7; H. Wright, 8. 336 Bob Major. H. Brown, 1; A. McFarlane, 2; F. Johnson, 3; J. Neesam, 4; J. Wrightson, 5; G. Neesam, 6; J. W. Long, 7; T. Metcalfe (conductor), 8. 672 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. J. Titchener, 1; R. Pick, 2; J. A. Carter, 3; W. Pick, 4; T. Neill, 5; T. Metcalfe, 6; T. Haig (conductor), 7; A. McFarlane, 8. 216 Bob Minor. Rev. Blythe, 1; Rev. W. P. Wright, 2; J. Wrightson, 3; R. Haswell, 4; G. F. Alexander (conductor), 5; T. Metcalfe, 6.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—At the church of St. Paul, April 20th, 168 Grandsire Triples. F. Webb (conductor), 1; W. J. Barker, 2; W. Hall, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; C. Chasty, 5; I. Hills, 6; C. W. Clarke, 7; B. Jealous, 8. On April 23rd, 216 Stedman Triples. F. Webb, 1; W. J. Barker, 2; W. Hall, 3; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 4; C. Chasty, 5; I. Hills, 6; J. A. Smith, 7; J. Church, 8. Also 536 Grandsire Triples. F. Webb (conductor), 1; J. Church, 2; W. Hall, 3; B. Jealous, 4; C. Chasty, 5; I. Hills, 6; C. W. Clarke, 7; D. Thompson, 8. On April 27th, 395 Grandsire Caters. W. J. Barker, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; F. Webb, 3; H. Toll, 4; W. Hall, 5; J. A. Smith, 6; C. Chasty, 7; I. Hills, 8; H. Tysoe, 9; B. Jealous, 10. On April 30th, 305 Grandsire Caters. C. W. Clarke, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; F. Webb, 3; F. Hull, 4; W. Hall, 5; B. Jealous, 6; C. Chasty, 7; I. Hills, 8; W. J. Barker, 9; J. Sear, 10. Also a course of Grandsire Caters. On May 4th, 408 Stedman Triples. C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1; C. Chasty, 2; W.

Hall, 3; S. Cullip, 4; J. A. Smith, 5; I. Hills, 6; H. Tysoe, 7; J. Sear, 8. On May 11th, 504 Stedman Triples. F. Webb, 1; C. D. Smith, 2; W. Hall, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; J. A. Smith, 5; I. Hills, 6; C. Chasty, 7; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 8. On May 14th, 216 Stedman Triples. F. Webb, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; W. Hall, 3; F. Keech, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6; C. Chasty, 7; J. Sear, 8. On April 26th, at the church of St. Mary, 720 Treble Bob Minor. J. Church, 1; I. Hills, 2; W. Hall, 3; C. Chasty, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; F. Webb, 6. Also 720 Bob Minor. F. Webb (1st 720 as conductor), 1; I. Hills, 2; W. J. Barker, 3; J. A. Smith, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; J. Church, 6. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. On May 2nd, 720 Bob Minor. J. Sear, 1; I. Hills, 2; J. Church, 3; C. Chasty, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; B. Jealous, 6. On Thursday, May 11th, at St. Peter's, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. C. Chasty, 1; J. A. Smith, 2; F. Lowe, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; A. Robinson, 5; S. Constant (conductor), 6.

CHATHAM.—On Sunday, May 7th, 1899, at St. Mary the Virgin church before the morning service, 476 Grandsire Triples was rung. F. Moore, 1; W. Haigh (conductor), 2; C. Fryatt, 3; E. Mexter, 4; W. Easter, 5; F. Shedd, 6; W. Hunt, 7; H. Hinkley, 8. Also 336 Grandsire, conducted by W. Easter. A. Duncan, 1, the rest as before. These are the longest lengths by Moore, Duncan and Hinkley. Messrs. Haigh, Mexter and Easter belong to Gillingham, the rest to Chatham. On Monday, May 8th, for practice, 168 Grandsire Triples. A. Duncan, 1; F. Moore, 2; W. Haigh (conductor), 3; C. Winsor, 4; C. Fryatt, 5; F. Shedd, 6; W. Hunt, 7; G. Smith, 8. First touch inside by F. Moore. Tenor 25 cwt.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—At St. Nicolas church, before Evensong on Trinity Sunday, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. G. Foster, 1; J. Hunt, 2; J. J. Jones, 3; E. Allen, 4; S. Radford, 5; F. Blondell, 6; C. Willshire (conductor), 7. C. Heath tenor, 23 cwt. It was rung in 45 mins. as a birthday quarter for Mr. J. Hunt, the band wishing him many happy returns.

HADLEY (Middlesex).—On May 3rd, at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor. S. Roberts (1st 720), 1; J. Sumpter, 2; F. W. Ford, 3; A. J. Chidwick, 4; F. C. Fordham, 5; S. Wade (conductor), 6.

HALLIWELL.—On Wednesday evening, May 24th, at St. Peter's church, the ringers fired the bells eighty times, afterwards ringing a well-struck 350 of Grandsire Triples in honour of Her Majesty's 80th birthday. William Thornley (conductor), 1; James Fleetwood, 2; Robert Seddon, 3; Henry Morris, 4; J. H. Makinson, 5; Robert Barlow, 6; William Pennington, 7; John Partington, 8.

KNUTSFORD (Cheshire).—Prior to Service on Sunday, the Knutsford parish church ringers rang a peal of 720 Bob Minor. This was the first 720 rung on the bells by a local band of ringers, who stood as follows: S. Hough, 1; J. Hamman, 2; A. Hamman, 3; W. Hamman, 4; T. Venables, 5; A. Gidman, 6. Ringing for the Knutsford Royal May-day festival, two more 720's and several other half-peals of Bob Minor were rung by the above-named ringers. During the afternoon, another 720 was gone through by the following. S. Hough, 1; J. Hamman, 2; A. Hamman, 3; W. Hamman, 4; S. Johnson, 5; A. Johnson, 6. Messrs. Johnson are members of Witton (Northwich). The above were conducted by W. Hamman.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—On Sunday, May 21st, at the parish church, 1024 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. J. Titchener, 1; J. A. Carter, 2; R. Fenwick, 3; John Holden, 4; C. Hall, 5; T. Metcalfe, 6; J. H. Blakiston (conductor), 7; J. W. Passman, 8. Also 448 Superlative Surprise Major. F. P. Howcroft, 1; J. A. Carter, 2; R. Fenwick, 3; C. Hall, 4; T. Metcalfe, 5; J. W. Passman, 6; J. H. Blakiston, 7; A. Macfarlane, 8. On May 23rd, at a smoking concert in connection with the A.M.C. of Odd Fellows, courses of Triples, Caters and Treble Bob on handbells were accomplished, Bro. John Holden, who hails from Saddleworth, taking part.

NORTHALLERTON.—On Monday, May 22nd, 1088 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. J. Titchener, 1; R. Moncaster, 2; R. Pick, 3; G. J. Clarkson, 4; T. Metcalfe, 5; J. A. Carter, 6; J. H. Blakiston (conductor), 7; A. McFarlane, 8.

ROYDON.—At St. Peter's church, on the 28th of April, a quarter-peal of Doubles for practice, being four six-scores of Canterbury and four six-scores of Old, and two and a half six-scores of Grandsire. W. Marrable, 1; Isaac Cavill (conductor), 2; A. Pearman, 3; E. J. Webb, 4; W. Littlechild, 5; H. Shuttlewood, 6.

SOUTHGATE (Middlesex).—On May 2nd, at Christ Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. J. Armstrong (first quarter-peal), 1; A. Glasscock (first quarter-peal with a bob bell), 2; J. Miller, 3; J. Sumpter, 4; W. Dell, 5; A. Miller, 6; S. Wade (conductor), 7; W. Tegg, 8. On May 25th, 720 Bob Minor (42 singles), with 6-8 covering. J. Armstrong, 1; A. Glasscock, 2; F. C. Fordham, 3; F. W. Ford, 4; E. Marshall, 5; A. Miller, 6; S. Wade (conductor), 7; W. Tegg, 8.

REMARKS ON THE SECULAR NATURE OF THE ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF CHANGE-RINGING, HISTORICALLY CONSIDERED.

BY R. A. DANIELL.

(Continued.)

SOME CONSIDERATION OF EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF THE FOREGOING.

Proceeding now to notice some of the evidence in support of the proposition that change-ringing was in fact, as we should expect it to be, purely secular till our own day, I will remark that of evidence to the contrary I have found none. The first circumstance I shall notice from which a purely secular use of ringing may be inferred, is the passing of an ordinance by the Long Parliament dated the 28th August, 1643.

"The Lords and Commons in Parliament taking into their serious consideration how well pleasing it is to God and conducive to the blessed Reformation in his worship, so much desired by both Houses of Parliament that all monuments of superstition or idolatry should be removed and demolished, do ordain that in all and every the churches and chapels as well as Cathedral and Collegiate as other churches and chapels and other usual places of Public Prayer authorised by law within this realm of England and Dominion of Wales all altars and tables of stone shall before the first day of November in the year of our Lord God 1643 be utterly taken away and demolished and also all communion tables removed from the east end of every such Church, Chapel or place of Public Prayer, and chancel of the same, and shall be placed in some other fit and convenient place or places of the body of the said church, chapel or other such place of Public Prayer, and that all rails whatsoever which have been erected near to before or about any altar or communion table in any of the said Churches or Chapels or other such place of Public Prayer as aforesaid shall before the said day be likewise taken away, and the chancel ground of every such church or Chapel or place of Public Prayer which hath been within twenty years last past, raised for any altar or communion table to stand upon, shall before the said day be laid down and levelled as the same was before the said twenty years last past, and that all tapers and candlesticks and basons shall before the said day be removed and taken away from the communion table in every such Church, Chapel, or other place of Public Prayer, and neither the same nor any such like shall be used about the same at any time after the said day, and that all crucifixes, crosses and all images and pictures of anyone or more persons of the Trinity or of the Virgin Mary, and all other images and pictures of Saints or superstitious inscriptions" were to be taken away by the same date and none of the like thereafter permitted.

This ordinance was passed only twenty-five years before the publication of Stedman's *Tintinnalogia* in which he says "with-in these fifty or sixty years last past *Changes* were not known, or thought possible to be rang. Then were invented the *sixes* being the very ground of a *six-score*. Then the *Twenty* and *twenty-four* with several other *Changes*." But if this book of Stedman's is a fair index of the stage at which change-ringing had arrived in 1668 it is not unreasonable to suppose that in 1643 it was in a vigorous youth. Stedman must have known whether there was change-ringing at this time, and if there was none as yet he would not have gone so far back as to speak of "fifty or sixty years last past." Not to speak of the "Schollers of Chepeyde," of whom the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe gives us some information from a manuscript in the Bodleian Library, showing their existence from 1603 to 1634, or the Society of "St. Stephen's Ringers" at Bristol of whom he also tells us, the Ancient Society of College Youths was founded six years before this ordinance, and it is impossible that ringing was not then a well-known institution. And if so, then if it had been in any way regarded as a religious office it is inconceivable that bells, in excess of one or two at the most in any one steeple, should not have been proscribed and ordered to be taken away, especially as they could more easily be turned into money than the other items named in the ordinance; and if ringing—

whether change or round—had been regarded as a religious work by anyone it must have been so regarded by Churchmen of the school of Archbishop Laud and Bishop Wren of Ely. Yet it was against the system and views of these very men that the ordinance was directed. Laud and Wren had already by the order of the Parliament been lying prisoners in the Tower of London for two years. There Wren was destined to remain for sixteen years longer, and Laud was unjustifiably beheaded in 1645 by order of the Parliament, and in the same year the Book of Common Prayer was suppressed. Yet change-ringing went on without any interruption, and there appears to have been no spoliation of bells, notwithstanding so much damage in other respects. Take for instance Cambridgeshire, where Will Dowling was sent to carry out the work of this ordinance. A more ignorant, barbarous, wanton fanatic was never suffered to be at large. Yet, though owing to his exertions there is, with the exception of King's College Chapel (whose windows were probably preserved by some influence on the part of the Provost or likely enough by bribing Dowling), scarcely a patch of mediæval glass left in the county, the bells suffered no hurt at his hands or at those of any of his subordinates, or of any one else.

I will now proceed to deal with the evidence afforded by Bunyan's case. It seems to me to lie on the surface if people who write about his connection with ringing would be content to accept what he says instead of generalising about him without reference to his words.

John Bunyan was born in 1628 at Elstow, a village distant about a mile from Bedford. His father was by trade a tinker or brazier, and Bunyan was brought up to follow the same trade. He was a lad of spirit and imagination, fond of sports and games, but not apparently to the neglect of his trade—nor does there, notwithstanding his self-accusations, appear much evidence of his bad character. He was, indeed, in the habit of swearing, but on the other hand he solemnly assures us he was never drunken or unchaste, and at the age of twenty he found a most respectable young woman willing to marry him, and although neither his worldly circumstances nor hers held out any inducements to commence married life, married they were. We are not told who Bunyan's wife was, but she must have come of a Puritan family, for he tells us all she brought him was two books which had belonged to her father. These were *The Plaine Man's Pathway to Heaven, wherein every man may clearly see whether he shall be saved or damned*, by Arthur Dent, a Puritan minister, and *The Practice of Piety* by Lewis Bayly, Bishop of Bangor. These books were very popular among the Puritans of that day, and continued so for many years after, and indeed both of them were reprinted within the earlier half of the present century. I have looked at both these books, but I must confess I have not braced myself to the task of reading either of them all through. Therefore it is with deference to the opinions of those of my readers who are better versed in Puritan literature that I express my own on the tendency of these volumes. The appeal of them seems to me to be to the instinct of Terror rather than to that of Love. The great fact to be impressed is the certainty in the view of the authors of everlasting damnation—the torments of which are dwelt upon—for an immense majority of the human race. Hence the reader who does not already feel assured of his own salvation seems to be warned to flee from the wrath to come, which he probably will not after all—whatever his efforts—be able to escape. The doctrine of the love of God to mankind as exhibited in the New Testament seems to me to take an altogether subordinate place in this scheme of religion.

Bunyan then settled down with his wife at Elstow. They read these books together, and Bunyan's wife would be often telling him "what a godly man her father was, and how he would reprove and correct vice, both in his house and amongst his neighbours. What a strict and holy life he lived in his days, both in word and deed." In other words what a strict Puritan he had been.

The first result of all this was in Bunyan's own words:—

"Wherefore these books with this relation, though they did not reach my heart to awaken it about my sad and sinful state, yet they did beget within me some desires to Religion; so that, because I knew no better, I fell in very eagerly with the religion of the times; to wit, to go to

church twice a day, and that too with the foremost; and there should very devoutly both say and sing as others did, yet retaining my wicked life. But withal I was so over-run with the spirit of superstition that I adored, and that with great devotion even all things (both the High Place, Priest, Clerk, Vestment, service, and what else) belonging to the church; counting all things holy that were therein contained, and especially the Priest and Clerk most happy, and without doubt greatly blessed, because they were the servants, as I then thought, of God, and were principal in the holy temple to do His work therein."

These are very remarkable words in many ways. For one thing they show us that so late as 1649 there had been little alteration in ecclesiastical affairs at Elstow. The "High Place" is obviously the raised chancel floor and the altar, and the "Vestment" is the surplice; and this necessitates the conclusion that notwithstanding its suppression in 1645 the Prayer Book order had not disappeared in this village. Precentor Venables says that the Vicar, Christopher Hall, was an Episcopalian who, like Bishop Sanderson, retained his benefice unchallenged all through the Protectorate, and held it some years after the Restoration and the passing of the Act of Uniformity. He seems, like Sanderson, to have kept himself within the letter of the Ordinance in that behalf by making trifling variations in the Prayer Book formularies consistent with a general conformity to the old order of the Church, "without persisting to his own destruction in the usage of the entire liturgy."

But the special importance of these words for our purpose is to shew that Bunyan could not have regarded ringing as other than a purely secular pursuit. Indeed we may say these words are a further evidence that ringing was not regarded by churchmen at large as in any way connected with Divine Worship. For if it had been so regarded it could scarcely fail to be at Elstow under the influence of a man so attached to Church order as Christopher Hall. At all events, if Bunyan had so regarded it, he would at that time have considered himself a servant of God on the strength of his ringing, and afterwards, when writing his "Grace Abounding," could scarcely have avoided allusion to it as one of the instances of his having been, as he expresses himself, "over-run with the spirit of superstition."

While Bunyan was in this state the Vicar preached a sermon about Sabbath keeping, which Bunyan applied to himself because of his indulgence in games on Sunday; but, fortified by his dinner, he afterwards went as usual to the village green to play tip-cat. While engaged in this amusement he thought he had a vision from Heaven asking him whether he would leave his sins and go to Heaven or have his sins and go to Hell, but he did not take any immediate action in consequence. Then about a month after this he was severely rebuked by a woman, "a very loose and ungodly wretch," for his profane swearing. He felt the justice of the rebuke and was so stung with shame that he at once and for ever abandoned the practice; "and whereas," he says, "before I knew not how to speak unless I put an oath before and another behind to make my words have authority; now I could without it speak better and with more pleasantness than ever I could before." At the same time, he tells us, "all this while I knew not Jesus Christ, neither did I leave my sports and plays."

Mr. Tyack, as above quoted, says that Bunyan abandoned ringing as he grew more thoughtful, together with profanity and Sunday tip-cat, dancing and evil company. Sunday tip-cat and evil company we may pass by, because Bunyan does not say when he finally left off the former and he makes no reference to the latter at all.* But it is not true that he left off ringing

"I ought, perhaps, to say that in paragraph 43 of his "Grace Abounding," Bunyan says "there was a young man in our town to whom my heart before was knit more than to any other, but he being a most wicked creature for cursing and swearing and whoring, I now shook him off, and forsook his company." But this was considerably subsequent to Bunyan's abandonment of ringing, and from this isolated notice we cannot fairly infer that Bunyan kept what is usually known as evil company, especially as what we otherwise gather from his story is against such a conclusion. His experience in this particular case is that of many young men, however virtuous, of a lively and sympathetic nature who are in the first instance attracted to those about them by their best qualities.

and dancing together with profanity. The abandonment of profanity came first and was entirely disconnected with that of the other two. He distinctly tells us so in the last words of his I have quoted, for that his "sports" included ringing, as well as dancing, a perusal of the entire narrative clearly shows. And we should expect this to be so. There is no essential connection between swearing and ringing, and the fact that a man abandons the former is no more naturally connected with abandoning the latter than with abandoning surgery or shop-keeping. And so with dancing; the experience of mankind has not established that the enjoyment of this recreation depends upon the use of sulphurous language. Bunyan says that without the profanity he could speak better and with more pleasantness than before; if so, he would be even a more agreeable companion in his sports than he had previously been, and that would not offer any reason for leaving them off.

And then to a man like Bunyan it would be far easier to give up profane language than to give up ringing or dancing. I do not wish to minimise any credit due to Bunyan for so decisively abandoning profanity. But it seems to me that the credit is due more to what he *was* than to what he *did*. His profanity, however reprehensible in itself, was in relation to him a mere idle trick of the tongue. His was never the nature whose passions are so violent or depraved as to require profane language for their expression, or relief; in these cases the mouth speaks out of the abundance of the heart. But Bunyan was not morose, cruel, violent or depraved; his profanity was not rooted in the essence of him; it was merely superficial. He did not swear at individuals to relieve or express evil passions; he swore at large out of a careless and thoughtless irreverence.

But his ringing and dancing could not be put off so lightly. He was a young man, rejoicing in the strength and brightness of early manhood, and he had deeply implanted in his nature a young Englishman's love of sports and exercises. To abandon them was to make a void in his life; to abandon profanity was to lay aside what he did not value, and without which he at once found himself the better. How should we expect things so different in their relation to Bunyan to be abandoned by him together?

But they were not only different in their relation to Bunyan; they differed fundamentally in their own natures. When Bunyan took to heart the rebuke of that very loose and ungodly wretch he could have no doubt that it rested on a solid foundation. He was accustomed to go to Church and to hear the Commandments read and to join in the responses, and to read those books with his wife, and to hear of the virtuous behaviour of his father-in-law, and he must have realised that he was offending against the third Commandment. It was open to him to continue or discontinue the use of profane language, but he must have known there was a Divine prohibition of the practice. But rational recreation is not wrong, there is no Divine prohibition of it, and Bunyan could not infer from the third Commandment that he was not to ring or dance.

So to ring and dance he continued, as he tells us, for another year, but during this period his mind and conscience were getting bewildered amongst his puritanical books and conversations. The aspect of religion presented to him by these means tended to make his conscience "tender" about what he should or should not do, without giving him an insight into the principles or power of Christianity. The following account in Bunyan's own words makes this plain, but before giving it I will insert a passage from page 62 of the Life of Bunyan, by the Rev. Dr. Brown, Bunyan's present successor in the Baptist Ministry at Bedford, which seems to me very luminous on this point. Dr. Brown says:—

"When a man comes under the dominion of conscience and is a stranger to love, conscience is apt to become somewhat of a tyrant; a false standard is set up, and things right enough in themselves seem to become wrong to the man. Bunyan had hitherto taken pleasure in the somewhat laborious diversion of ringing the bells in the tower of Elstow church. He began to think this was wrong, one does not quite see why; still having this misgiving about it he gave up his bell-ringing, but not the love of it."

We will turn next week to Bunyan's "Grace Abounding."

(To be continued.)

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.

East Derbyshire Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Ault Hucknall, to-day, Saturday, June 10th. Meeting at 5.30 p.m. T. ALLIBONE, Sec.
North Wingfield, Chesterfield.

The Heavy Woollen District Association.—The next monthly meeting of the above will be held at Armitage Bridge, to-day, Saturday, June 10th. Meeting house, The Butchers' Arms. Meeting at 5 o'clock.
WALTER IDLE, Secretary.

47, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury.

The Kent County Association—Rochester District.—The next quarterly meeting of the above will be held at St. Botolph's, Northfleet, to-day, Saturday, June 10th. Tower open for ringing at 5 p.m. Committee meeting 6.15.
A. OSBORNE, Hon. Dist. Sec.

Lancashire Association—Liverpool Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held to-day, Saturday, June 10th. Tower open at four o'clock; meeting at six o'clock.
G. WOODHALL, Branch Secretary.

66, Annerley St., off Earl Rd., Liverpool.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.—The annual meeting of this Society will be held on Saturday, June 17th, at Lichfield. Ringing on Cathedral bells from 2 to 4. Committee meeting and payment of subscriptions in belfry at 4 p.m. Service in Cathedral at 5 p.m. in the Lady Chapel, preacher, the Ven. Archdeacon of Stafford, President. Tea at Coffee House at 5.30. Tickets for tea 6d. each to all members who have paid their subscriptions, to others it will be 1s. Names to be sent in not later than June 13th, to
S. REEVES, Hon. Sec.

10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

Lancashire Association, Rossendale Branch.—A meeting will be held on June 17th, at Ramsbottom, by the kindness of the Vicar. A tea will be provided for those sending their names to J. Wolstenholme, 33, Crow Lane. Business meeting after tea.

Helmshore. J. H. BANKS, Branch Sec.

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. G. N. Pilkington, at St. Mary's, Bedford, on Saturday, June 17th. Ringing to commence at 6 p.m.
C. EDWARDS, Hon. District Sec.

The Lancashire Association, Manchester Branch.—A meeting of the above will be held at Christ Church, Pendlebury, on Saturday, June 17th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Business meeting at 7 p.m.
W. BROWN, Branch Secretary.

The Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Cheddleton on Saturday next, June 17th. Members intending to be present are requested to give notice to Mr. Joseph Gilbert, Cheddleton.
Rev. G. T. BIRCH, } Hon. Secs.
W. TWIGG, }

The Hereford Diocesan Guild.—The festival will be held at Leominster on Wednesday, June 21st, 1899, by kind permission of the Vicar and Churchwardens. Service at 11 a.m. in the Priory church, preacher, Rev. A. Pope, M.A., Vicar of Upton Bishop, with offertory on behalf of the Guild funds. Annual meeting

at the free library at twelve o'clock. Dinner (2s.) at The Oak hotel at 1 p.m. Brakes, free of charge, to Bodenham, Eye, and Kingsland towers. Hampton Court Gardens will be open to members by kind permission of J. H. Arkwright, Esq. Parties of eight ringers can travel by rail at 1½ fare, by previous notice to local Stationmaster or Hon. Sec. Those attending and wanting dinner are kindly requested to send notice not later than the 17th instant to—

A. C. LEE, Hon. Sec. & Treasurer.
Lugwardine Vicarage, Hereford.

The Middlesex County Association—North and East District.—A meeting of the members of this district will be held on Saturday, the 24th June, at St. Stephen's church, Hampstead, by the kind permission of the Rev. J. Kirkman. Members and friends of the Association are cordially invited to attend.
ARTHUR T. KING, Hon. Sec.

18, Ravenscroft Park Road, Barnet.

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The monthly ringing meeting of the above society will be held at Tong on Saturday, June 24th. Meeting house, The Greyhound inn. Handbells provided. Members and friends cordially invited.
H. GAYTHORPE, Hon. Sec.

Lancashire Association—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Thomas's, Moorside, on Saturday, June 24th. Bells ready at 4 p.m., and meeting at 6 p.m. All ringers invited, members or not.
E. B. SHAW, Branch Sec.

The Hertfordshire Association—District meeting at Rickmansworth, Saturday, June 24th. Further particulars next week.
E. P. DEBENHAM, Hon. Sec.

The Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The next quarterly and committee meeting of the above Association will be held at Pershore on Saturday, July 1st, 1899, by the kind permission of the Rev. J. H. Bridgwater, Vicar. Service in the Abbey at five o'clock. Business meeting to follow in St. Agatha's mission room. Tea will be provided (free) for all members sending in their names to me on or before Tuesday, June 27th. The tower and bells are placed at the members' disposal for ringing.
JOHN SMITH, Hon. Sec.

The Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Taunton on Saturday, July 1st. Full particulars on June 24th. It is hoped that members will use every endeavour to attend, and inform the Hon. Secretary so that proper arrangements may be made. Notices of any special subject to be discussed must be sent to the Hon. Secretary at once.
HY. W. TOMKINS, Hon. Sec. & Treasurer.

The Cottage, Old Cleeve, Washford.

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—The Hon. Sec. would be glad to receive the addresses of the following members: P. Foskett, E. G. Hearn, H. B. Kingsford, F. Perrin, S. Phillips, C. L. Routledge, H. Warwick, at Dunsden Vicarage, Reading.
R. H. HART-DAVIS.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. W. H. Fussell's address for the summer will be 7, Osborne Street, Slough.

PEAL CARDS.—In neat border, 1s. 1d. per dozen, post free, if order is sent with report. Office of this paper. Postal order.

BURNLEY, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, June 24th, at St. Peter's church, a meeting is to be held to present J. Pollard (who has been a ringer for over 63 years), with a long-service medal (given by the *Sunday Companion*). He is supposed to be the oldest ringer in Lancashire. Tea will be provided, reasonably, for all names received by the 22nd. Tea at five; meeting at seven. Bells ready at three or sooner.

H. TOMLINSON.

3, Alnwick Court, West Gate, Burnley.

A CORRECTION.—The Rev. W. P. Wright, Hon. Sec. of the Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association, writes: "In your report last week of the Whit-Monday meeting of the above Association, a mistake occurred in the last sentence. 'The first Saturday in August' for the meeting at Whitby, should read 'the first Saturday in February.' Kindly insert this correction."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—The letters sent by Mr. G. H. Phillott, Mr. H. Dains, Mr. G. Williams and Mr. Washbrook will appear next week. We have a numerous array of compositions awaiting publication, which will all appear at the earliest possible moment.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

SITUATION required by Potter's Mould Maker. Good steady hand. Six years' reference from last situation. Good change-ringer on 6, 8 or 10 bells, Standard Methods. Member of the Lancashire and Stoke Archidiaconal Associations. Apply, T. G. Miller, Ellison Street, Wolstanton, Stoke-on-Trent.

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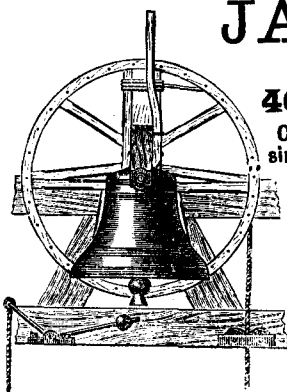
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 896.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The Twentieth Annual Meeting of this Association was held on Whit-Monday, May 22nd, at Ashford, and was attended by about 125 members from all parts of the county. The bells of St. Mary's, Ashford, which have been rehung recently by Taylors, were raised shortly before 10 a.m., and ringing in most of the usual methods was kept up except during the service and dinner until the evening. No record was kept of the various touches rung, but Stedman appeared to be the predominant method—a very distinct advance on the state of the ringing when the Association last met at Ashford eleven years ago. The other towers available through the kindness of the various incumbents were Wye (8), Mersham (8), Kennington (6), Willesborough (6), Great Chart (6), and Eastwell (6). In spite of the weather, which was not altogether favorable for country walks, all these towers were visited by various bands.

The annual service was at 10.30, which was very well attended though the time was a little too early for some of those coming from a distance. A small choir led the singing, accompanied by the organist. The hymn, "Praise the Lord, ye heavens adore Him!" was sung as a processional; the other hymns were "Our blest Redeemer," and "O God, our help in ages past." The Hon. Secretary read the prayers, the lesson was read by the Rev. O. R. Dawson, curate, and the address was given by the Vicar, the Rev. Canon Tindall, from Heb. viii. 5: "See that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed thee in the mount." The offertory for the Association's Belfry Repairs Fund amounted to 15s. 7d.

A meeting of the Central Committee was held in the Church House at 11.30 a.m., at which, among other business, the names of the following practising members were added to the committee: E. Barnett (Crayford), W. Bedwell (Deptford), W. Leonard (West Malling), W. Martin (Swanscombe), and J. Preston (Edenbridge). A grant of two guineas was made towards the rehanging of the bells at All Saints, Maidstone. It was also resolved to provide traps for members attending the district meeting at Tenterden in September.

One hundred and thirty sat down to dinner in the parish room at 1.40 p.m. The Vicar presided, and was supported by the Revs. Canon Dyke (Rector of Mersham), O. R. Dawson, J. Clapson, E. W. Winstanley (assistant-curates of Ashford), F. J. O. Helmore (Hon. Sec.), and Messrs. A. Osborne, A. Palmer, and F. W. Thornton. Dinner ended, the Chairman gave the toast of "The Queen and Royal Family," which it was needless to say was warmly received, the whole company rising and singing the first verse of the National Anthem. Mr. C. H. Drake (of Ospringe, Faversham), proposed the next and only other toast, viz.: "The Archbishop and Clergy," together with thanks to the preacher at the service.

Canon Tindall briefly returned thanks, and the Hon. Secretary then read his annual report. From this it appeared that the Association was in a flourishing condition. Two towers had for a time to be struck off, but this loss was more than made up by the enrolment of St. Mary's (Chatham), St. George's (Gravesend), Lenham,

Hartlip, Kennington, and Birchington. There were thus sixty-eight towers in union, the largest number yet recorded, and the total membership had for the first time reached 800. Much amusement was caused by a reference to the touch of call-changes of over two hours' duration recently recorded by some of the Wye band, who a couple of years ago had received instruction in change-ringing from the Hon. Secretary himself. The financial position was healthy, the balance in hand at the beginning of the year amounting to over £19, while the Belfry Repairs Fund at the same period was over £27.

There had been plenty of work for bellhangers during the past twelve months; and some very good jobs had been effected, notably the rehanging of the ten at Maidstone by Messrs. Warner. Forty-five peals were rung in 1898, the most noteworthy being two peals of Superlative and a 10,464 of Treble Bob Major. The accession of the brothers Pye and the return of J. H. Cheesman from New Zealand had enabled the Association to score its first peal of London Surprise, and to hold the record in Double Norwich. While these last words were being read, it turns out that a party of eight in Oxfordshire were thus rendering them null and void. In an Association report, such performances must be noticed whatever opinions may be entertained with regard to them. However they might be received the words were certainly not penned in any spirit of boastfulness. In the writer's opinion these record peals are in several ways a mistake, and the sooner they are tabooed the better.

Canon Dyke, who kindly invited any members who went over to Mersham after dinner to partake of tea provided for them at the village hostelry, moved the adoption of the report, and in doing so congratulated the Association on the evident progress it was making, and re-echoed the hope expressed in the report that the numbers would never fall below 800 again. This was seconded by Mr. G. Finn, of Brabourne, and carried. Mr. W. Harper (Swanscombe), proposed the re-election of the various officers—vice-Presidents (other than *ex officio*), Secretary and Treasurer, and Committee, substituting the name of the Rev. C. E. Escreet, Rector of Woolwich, for that of C. L. Graham, Esq. (Faversham), resigned. This was seconded by Mr. F. W. Thornton (Greenwich), who spoke in flattering terms of the Secretary's work for and interest in the Association. During these proceedings, a ballot was taken for the representation on the next Central Council. The present representatives, Messrs. Carpenter, Helmore, Haigh and Thornton offered themselves for re-election; two other names were proposed, E. Barnett (Crayford), and T. Groombridge (Sevenoaks). The votes were counted by Messrs. Palmer and Osborne, and resulted in the re-election of the present representatives.

The two peal-books were on view during the day in the Church House, but apparently were not much looked at. The publication of all peals in the Annual Report would seem to be a sufficient reason for discontinuing the somewhat antiquated and expensive custom of having the peals "booked" by a professional writer. During the morning a peal-board was "opened" to record a peal of Treble Bob rung by the Edenbridge band at Ashford last February.

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 LONG PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH AT KIDLINGTON.

SIR,—Mr. Washbrook is far too modest in his account of the long peal rung at Kidlington. I happen to be residing about two miles from the tower, and I heard most of the ringing during the first seven hours. The striking was admirable. Trips there were of course—plenty of them—but few in comparison with the length of the peal. Even while the tenors were together the ringing could hardly be called "choppy," as there were long periods in which the changes glided on like clock-work. Others besides myself were listening from the same distance, and pronounced the ringing extremely good. The peal was indeed a memorable achievement, and in every respect worthy of the best traditions of change-ringing. With regard to a point raised in Mr. Daniell's article of the week before last, I believe it to be a fact that St. James's Day was the anniversary of Queen Elizabeth's accession, and that this accounts for the ringing mentioned.

F. LL. E.

SIR,—How Mr. Washbrook could publish such a disgraceful performance as this as a peal I don't know. Having been outside the whole of the time it was in progress, and was never out of the sound of the bells, I must say that of all the attempts I have ever heard made for a peal this was the worst. I can understand ringing getting choppy in the latter part of a length like this, but they never rang the first 5000 anything like peal-fashion. After the 7th came home the ringing was disgraceful for about three quarters of an hour, there wasn't a good course, in fact there wasn't one free from firing; the 7th man was letting the bell roll about just where it liked. After this up till the sixth hour the ringing improved a little, and then got as bad as ever, for they were no sooner out of one muddle than they were into another. On one occasion they fired almost from one course-end to the other. Again, in the ninth hour, the ringing was as bad as ever, and when the 6th came home, which was about 6.15, not 6 o'clock as he states, the 7th was all over the place, he could never dodge with the tenor up behind, and frequently dropped the bell down after the course-ends in front of the tenor; on one occasion I thought he was never going to get up behind again. The last four or five courses were passable, and the bells came round clean. I see he puts the bad ringing down to the bad go of the bells and the vibration of the lofty tower as he calls it. One would think by what he says about the lofty steeple that the bells were bung about 150 ft. high. The tower certainly has a lofty spire, otherwise the tower itself is not above the average height. If the bells go as bad as he would have the ringing world believe, it is to be wondered why he went there for the peal after ringing there so much of late. I don't blame him for making plenty of excuses about the bad ringing, especially as I told him if he published it I should protest against it being recorded as a peal. It would have been a good thing if he had seen me before he started for it, as I should think he would have never kept on the way he did if he had known anyone was outside. If I had not been there myself no one else who might have been present would have led me to believe that he would have kept on as he did. He goes on to say that everyone was responsible for their own work, and that there was no talking. I will now ask him who was responsible for what was done in the eighty-first course, after the second lead, when the treble should turn the tenor from behind? The treble never reached behind, and the consequence was the fifth lead-end was forced up instead of the third in the scramble. Now as regards the number of changes which he gives as 17,042, an impossible number with full leads. After the tenors came together I counted it up, and found that with thirty-two courses with the tenors parted he wanted the extent with the tenors together to bring the number to 17,024. This I am positive he did not have. I will now ask Mr. Washbrook where he got the extent with the tenors together from, with the 6th only twenty courses at home, for this is all he had; and when he publishes the composition I will show him the courses he left out. This is one of the most daring pieces of work ever done by any con-

ductor, I should think, to publish 448 changes that he never attempted to ring. The number he brought the bells round at was 16,576, and I actually thought that was the length he was going to publish. Now as regards the number of changes rung per minute, I may say that after the first hour they never exceeded twenty-five per minute, but varied from twenty-four to twenty-five. Judging from what he says I should think some of his own ringers from Oxford have been lecturing him about the bad ringing, as he says "critics;" and I was the only stranger there. I daresay some of this will be put down to jealousy on my part; I cannot help it if it is, for I can assure your readers that what I have written is absolutely true; and if Washbrook and the remainder of the band will only confine themselves to the truth they cannot dispute what I have said, as Washbrook did not attempt to deny anything in my presence. If the Exercise at large is going to let this go off as a record peal there is not much encouragement to ringers who ring true and honest peals.

W. PYE.

SIR,—I take a great amount of interest in change-ringing, and I took a great interest in the ringing of the peal of Double Norwich on these bells on Whit-Monday. I am very surprised to see that, according to your comment on that magnificent performance, there has been something said as to the quality of the ringing. I heard there was a person present who claimed to understand ringing, and that he was anxious to find every fault possible. He was the only one that I can think of as likely to make such a unwarrantable assertion. I could not follow the peal, but I knew when the bells were struck regularly and when they were not, and I must say that, taking everything into consideration, it would be impossible to ring a heavy peal of eight in better style for so long a time. I look upon the performance with wonder and admiration, and I am sure that any person who may understand ringing at all, could not find any fault, unless he may be prejudiced against the accomplishment of the peal, and in that case one's judgment can count for nothing.

F. MILLS.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me to thank those gentlemen, through your valuable paper, that have sent congratulations to me on our record peal of Double Norwich at Kidlington, and I would like here to pass my opinion. We had one or two trips, but our worthy conductor was at his best, and all ringers that have had the pleasure of ringing with him know that he has a way of his own of putting these little wrongs right. There were several first-class ringers who heard the peal from beginning to end, and who thought, considering the weight of the metal, etc., that it was an excellent peal. All with the exception of one congratulated us on our success, and he informed us that we should not hold the record long. But before he can put us in the shade he will have to take into consideration the weight of the bells, and then if he should beat our record we will congratulate him, and not make ourselves conspicuously disagreeable.

G. H. JUDGE.

SIR,—I should like to say a few words about the long peal of Double Norwich rung at Kidlington. Taking the peal altogether I think it was a grand performance. There is no doubt a certain gentleman will have something to say about the matter, but he was very painfully aware the peal was rung. Myself and several other ringers listened to the whole of the peal, and the general opinion, with one exception, was that it was a good peal, the striking being good considering the length of the peal and the weight of the bells.

W. THORPE.

SIR,—Having just made a start in change-ringing I was much interested in the long peal at Kidlington. I could hear it distinctly at our village of Yarnton (Oxon), which is situated about three miles from Kidlington. The wind having changed at 5 o'clock I rode over and heard the last part, which in my opinion was most excellent, and the band was congratulated on their performance, but one was boasting that he would go for a longer length and beat it, which in my opinion will take him all his time, as Kidlington bells are not very light.

TOM JONES.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

An outing to Dublin by the above Guild was first suggested by Mr. G. Lindoff to W. H. Barber, and he put the suggestion to the Ringing-Master, Mr. W. Short, who took the matter up in earnest. On Thursday night, May 18th, T. Miller joined the 8.40 train at Birmingham for Holyhead: at Dudley Port, Messrs. W. Short, J. and T. Barber, W. Shilvock and W. Boughton (from Clent), also T. J. Salter (Kidderminster), joined the train; settling down in a compartment reserved for them through the kindness of Mr. J. George. Arriving at Holyhead at 1.20 a.m. on Friday morning, they were met by W. H. Barber, who had arrived from Bangor a few minutes earlier, and at 4 o'clock the party left Holyhead by "The Banshee." As the boat was leaving the harbour the handbells were brought out and a start was made for a touch of Grandsire Triples, but after two leads the boat gave a lurch and threw bells and ringers all in a heap, which greatly amused the passengers. Then a 97 was rung with difficulty by Messrs. W. Short, T. Miller (conductor), W. H. Barber, and J. Barber; also a 303 by W. Short, T. J. Salter, W. H. Barber (conductor), and J. Barber. At 7.20 we were alongside North Wall, none the worse for our voyage, being met by G. Lindoff and J. Buffery, the former giving us an invitation to look through the famous Guinness Brewery, and whilst waiting in the reception room there, a course of Grandsire Royal was rung on handbells by J. Buffery, T. J. Salter, W. H. Barber, W. Short, T. Miller; and a course of Stedman Caters. After going through the brewery (which alone is worth a visit to Dublin), we made our way to the residence of R. R. Cherry, Esq., Q.C., and at his kind invitation sat down to an excellent dinner. Then the handbells were again brought out, and a 395 Grandsire Caters was rung by R. R. Cherry, W. H. Barber, T. Miller (conductor), W. Short, and J. Buffery. Also a course of Treble Bob Major with R. R. Cherry, 7-8; a course of Bob Royal, and two courses of Erin Caters. At 7.30 the visitors met at St. Patrick's Cathedral and rang touches of Grandsire and Stedman Caters, also a course each of Treble Ten and Erin Caters. Saturday morning the party had a walk to the Phoenix Park and from there some went to the famous Glasnevin Cemetery; all meeting at Christ Church Cathedral at 4 o'clock, the band being reinforced by J. George, who arrived in the morning. Here we expected to have hard work before us, so we asked one of the local ringers (W. Burnett) to stay in the tower in case the tenor-man wanted assistance, which, he it said to his credit, he did not require. About 5 o'clock "go" for Stedman Caters was called, and we soon had the 6th behind the 9th, which proud position she held for twenty-three courses, when the large bells were put into the inverted home position. The excellent manner in which course after course rolled up on this truly noble peal of bells, told how earnest the ringers were in their work, and at the end of 3 hrs. 48 mins. the welcome words "this is all," were uttered, and the first peal of Stedman Caters out of Great Britain was scored; the band being congratulated by the local ringers for the excellent striking. A move was then made to the meeting-house, where tunes and touches were rung on the handbells. Sunday morning found the visitors again at the ropes at St. Patrick's Cathedral, when another member was added to the list—Mr. W. F. Hartshorne. An attempt was made for a quarter-peal of Erin Caters, but time not allowing it had to be curtailed. We met again at the church of SS. Augustine and John at 2 o'clock, but one of the band—Mr. J. George—had some difficulty in reaching the belfry, which is rather awkward for nervous people, being a spiral skeleton staircase some thirty or forty feet high. On reaching the ringing-chamber we found we had our hands full, as the tower is long and narrow, and the ropes run the wrong way round. However we stripped for the task, and were soon tapping away at Bob Royal. All went well till the end of 3 hrs. and 29 mins., when the above welcome words were again spoken, and the finish of an excellently struck peal—the first of Bob Royal out of Great Britain. The two peals were composed for the occasion, the Bob Royal about three hours before being rung. One of the local ringers was present in the tower during the peal on behalf of the local ringers. On coming from the tower a surprise was in store for us in the shape of an invitation from the clergy to partake of refreshment, which needless to say was well appreciated. A touch of Grandsire Caters was then rung on the handbells, and a selection also by the local ringers, which

greatly surprised the visitors. Monday morning we started for that famous resort, Bray. Reaching the tower about 11.30, we were soon tapping away for Double Norwich, but after 1 hr. and 32 mins. good ringing it came to grief, being our first failure. We were then met by the Ven. Archdeacon Scott and the Rev. G. W. Scott, the former providing an excellent dinner for us at The Royal hotel, the last-named gentleman ringing the treble in a course of Bob Major. We then took leave of our Bray friends, and set off for Dublin to attempt a peal of Stedman Caters on the noble peal at St. Patrick's Cathedral, but we were doomed to disappointment, only nine ringers being present. From thence we went to the meeting-house and spent an enjoyable evening with tunes and changes on the handbells; and songs, one effusion by T. Miller being greatly enjoyed, entitled "Bob Major," composed by himself, and is in relation to the long peal of Bob Major at Aston (over 15,000) which was rung a great many years ago. Tuesday morning we met at North Wall, J. Buffery seeing us depart on board "The Violet," and a course of Grandsire Triples being rung as we left the river, also 168 Stedman Triples. Soon after getting under weigh we were sorry to see our friend J. George down on the deck looking very pale, so by way of cheering him up a course of Grandsire Caters was attempted, which came to grief through T. J. Salter's hat blowing out to sea. This put a stop to handbell ringing on board. Arriving in Holyhead at 2.30, we were soon settled in our reserved compartment, W. H. Barber dropping off at Bangor, the rest going on to their homes, which were safely reached that night. The visitors wish through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS" to thank the ringers and clergy at the various towers for their kindness in granting the use of the bells and for getting everything in readiness for them, also their kind hospitality, which will never be forgotten. They also thank Mr. G. Lindoff for his excellent arrangements; and hope soon to see a company of their Irish friends paying them a visit.

W. H. BARBER.

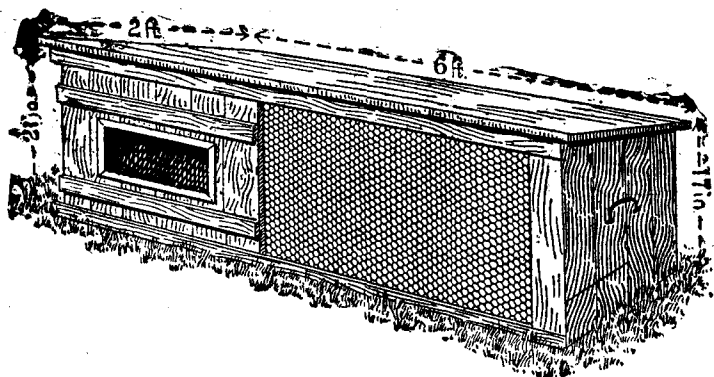
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Whit-Monday, twelve members from Coggeshall, Kelvedon, Feering, and Great Tey, in the persons of Messrs. Elliott (3), Newman (2), Sadler (2), Norfolk, Dyer, Potter, Ladham, and E. W. Beckwith, paid a visit by brake to the villages of Great Leighs, and Great and Little Waltham to attempt some change-ringing, which is quite unknown there. After a rather unpleasant ride in the rain, Great Leighs church was reached about 11 o'clock. The bells after being examined and found ringable, were raised, and several 120s of Grandsire and Bob Doubles were rung. The tower of this church is one of the six round towers of Essex, and has a handsome Norman doorway, and the bells are a ring of five, tenor 12 cwt. A few miles further on Great Waltham was reached, another five-bell tower, and Grandsire Doubles were again rung. We hardly expected to find these ringable, but after a good deal of rope adjusting, we got on very well. Leaving here, a short drive brought us to Great Waltham, with its grand parish church and beautiful ring of eight bells, tenor 28 cwt. in E flat. This was what we were all really looking forward to, and we were not disappointed. The wet day had stopped a party of cricketers, and we dropped in just in time for their lunch. Then the church was visited, its beautiful interior being much admired. Space will not admit of a description of the handsome font, with its pinnacled cover, fourteenth-century seats, carved oak pulpit, chancel screen, organ case, choir stalls, etc., or of an old alabaster monument with recumbent life-size figures. But these had to be left for the bells, which having been raised, were rung for the rest of the afternoon in some well-struck touches of Double Norwich, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and Bob Major, several touches and tunes being also rung on the handbells. The best thanks of the ringers were given to the clergy; and Great Waltham was left about 7.30, Coggeshall being reached at 10 o'clock, being one of the pleasantest outings we have had.

B.

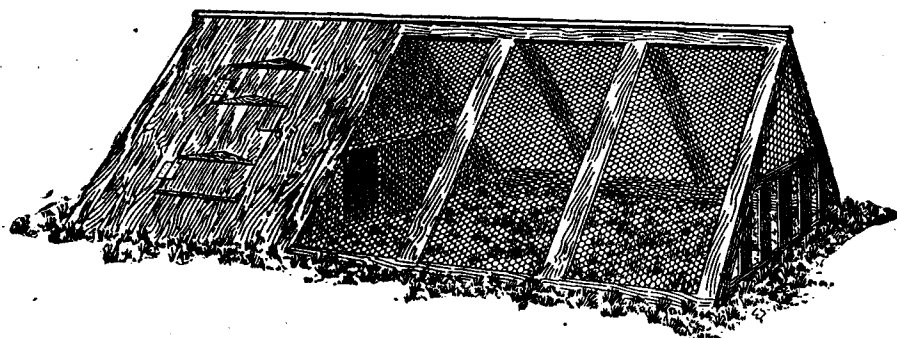
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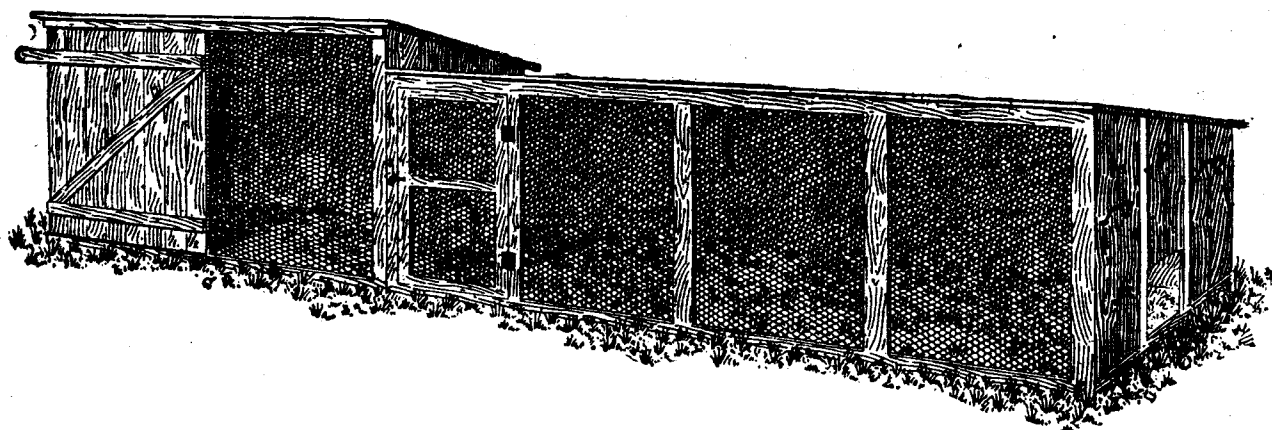
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No. 897.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 1899.

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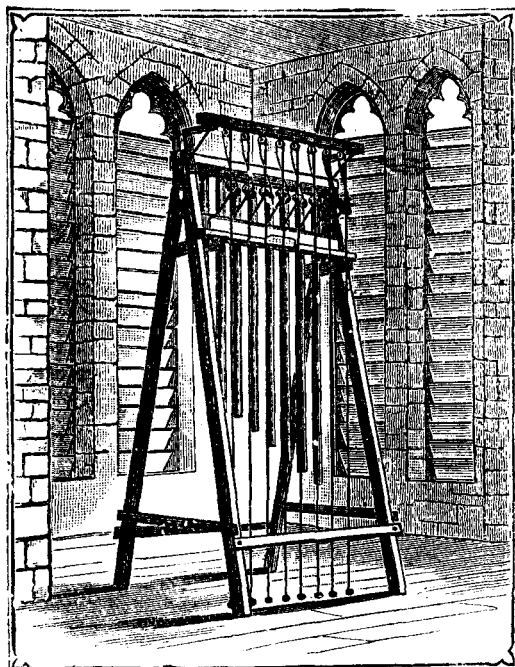
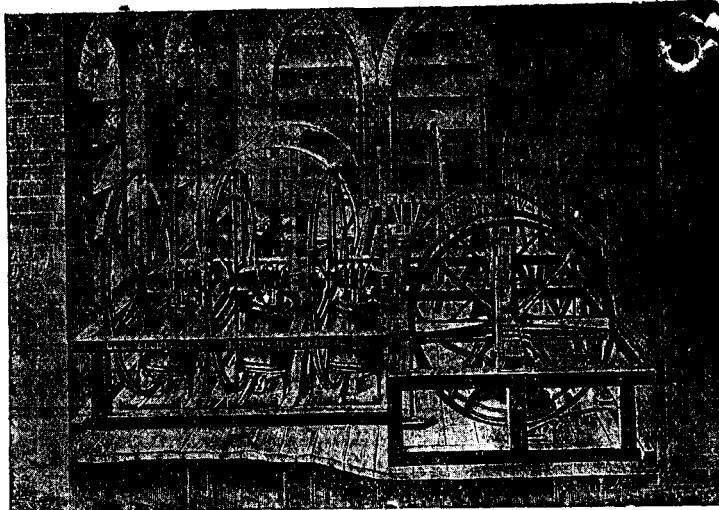
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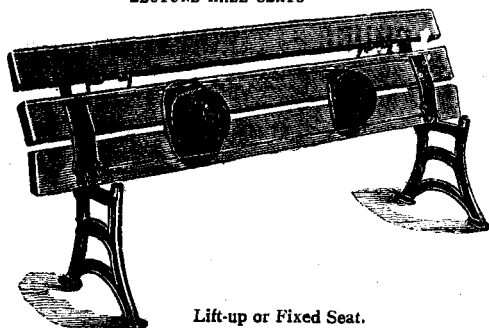
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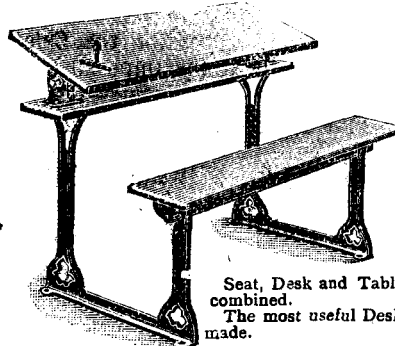
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No. 897.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the above was again held in Northampton, and notwithstanding the unfavourable weather, was well attended. By special permission the bells of the churches of St. Giles (ten), St. Sepulchre, St. Peter, and St. Edmund (eight), were placed at the liberty of the ringers at stated times throughout the day. At one o'clock a special service was held in St. Sepulchre's church, at which a large number of ringers were present. A short sermon was preached by the Vicar, the Rev. C. Brookes, who took for his text the 22nd and 23rd verses of the seventh chapter of St. Matthew—"Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy name? and in Thy name cast out devils? and in Thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me ye that work iniquity." Having welcomed the ringers to the grand old church of St. Sepulchre, the preacher said he had before them a word of warning, and a warning which all church officials alike needed. It was a warning against being taken up with the outside routine of their work so much as to forget the inner meaning and the inner sacredness of it. It applied to the choir boys, the clergy, and the ringers alike.

After the service, a dinner was held at The Peacock hotel. In the absence of the President (Archdeacon Lightfoot), the Rev. C. Brookes (Vicar of St. Sepulchre's), presided over a large company, and at the outset read the following telegram: "Best wishes for the welfare of the Association. Much regret unable to come. Archdeacon." The other Clergy present were: The Rev. H. C. Holmes (Curate of St. Sepulchre's); Rev. J. B. Fawcett (Mears Ashby); Rev. E. C. Channer (Ravensthorpe); Rev. R. Copeman (Stoke Albany); Rev. W. St. George Coldwell (Rector of Wilby); and Rev. A. S. Lindsay (vice-president).

The Secretary announced that the Rev. C. Brookes had expressed his desire to become an honorary member of the Association. The Chairman briefly expressed the pleasure he felt at being asked to preside over that gathering, and remarked that perhaps they might think he had been "letting them have it" from the pulpit that morning. (A Voice: "Not a bit, sir.") What he had said he meant quite as much for himself as for them. The Hon. Secretary explained that in a large part the absence of the Clergy was due to the number of weddings that took place on Whit-Monday. The balance at the bank in favour of the Association now stood at £26 4s. 3d. During the year they had added both to the list of honorary and ringing members. He regretted the deaths of several members, and then went on to congratulate the Vicar and Churchwardens of St. Sepulchre's on the re-hanging of the bells, which had been increased to eight. He mentioned that the first peal on the re-hung bells of St. Sepulchre's, as well as the first peal of ten bells at St. Giles' church, had been rung by Northampton men. The beautiful board recording the peal at St. Giles', was the gift of the Vicar of Christ Church. The total receipts for the year amounted

to £18, and the expenditure left a balance to the good of £2 os. 3d. Whiston and the district adjoining was selected for the next quarterly meeting. On the motion of Mr. Gilbert (Raunds), seconded by Mr. Roberts (Northampton), it was decided to join the Central Council. The Rev. J. B. Fawcett proposed a vote of thanks to the Clergy and Churchwardens for the use of the bells that day. Mr. Dennes seconded, and announced that a donation of 10s. 6d. from the funds of the Association, following the usual precedent, had been voted on account of the re-hung bells of St. Sepulchre's. The motion was heartily carried; Mr. Howard, captain of St. Sepulchre's belfry, and the Rev. H. C. Holmes responding.

The Hon. Secretary then announced new honorary and ringing members as follows:—The Rev. C. Brookes; Mr. H. F. Henson, Kettering; the Rev. W. Macmanus, Broughton; Mr. Newton Whitworth; Mr. J. B. Whitworth, Wilby; the Rev. P. M. Smythe; the Rev. E. E. Benson, Kettering; Mr. F. Watts, and Mr. John Porteous, Northampton. New ringing members also from Stoke Albany, Broughton, Mears Ashby, Finedon, Wellingborough, Desborough, Northampton, Earls Barton, Doddington, and Raunds, and an out-of-county member in the person of Mr. Avis, Evenhill, Suffolk. A hearty vote of thanks was moved to the Hon. Secretary by the Rev. W. St. George Coldwell, and seconded by the Rev. C. Brookes. This was carried with musical honours, and appropriately responded to.

The church of the Holy Sepulchre, Northampton, is one of four in England which were built under the direct influence of the Crusades, and of which the form was imitated from that of the Holy Sepulchre, Jerusalem. St. Sepulchre is the "soldier's church" of Northampton, and has several windows and tablets to the county regiment. By general desire of the ringing members of the Association, the bells of the church of All Saints were not used at this meeting, as they are in great need of re-hanging. In addition to ordinary church ringing and chiming, these bells are much rung in connection with Corporation and County affairs: there should therefore be no difficulty in raising the funds for their re-hanging and improvement. All Saints is always considered the town or corporation church of the ancient borough of Northampton.

After the conclusion of ringing in the evening, social chat, some good songs and glees, and tunes and changes on a veteran peal of twelve large handbells the property of St. Peter's belfry, passed away the time very pleasantly. The handbells in question came from Mears, of London, many years ago, and are a capital peal. It is to be hoped that St. Peter's ringers may soon be able to induce the parishioners to provide funds for their much-needed repair.

The Bishop of Wakefield is enquiring by circular for detail, as to all services which are held in addition to those provided for by the Prayer-book, and he desires to see for himself any manuals which are in use. His lordship is also enquiring as to the number of bells, the number of ringers, by whom they are appointed, how they are paid, at what times the bells are rung, whether the ringers attend the services, whether the ringing is preceded by prayer, and who is in charge of the belfry.

NINTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from page 28.)

THE ADVANTAGES, OR OTHERWISE, OF PAID RINGING.

Mr. Attree said that by request of the Hon. Secretary he had consented to bring this question forward. Had he not replied by return of post but given the question consideration, he should have hesitated to take the matter in hand. He was placed in a somewhat difficult position, for he could not see any advantages in a paid system, and would therefore leave its explanation to those who believed in it. As to its disadvantages he held strong views, for he considered the paid system to be detrimental to the good of the cause. What benefit was it to the ringer to get threepence or even sixpence a time for his services? Was it this that made men good ringers? He thought not. The ringer who rang for what he could get was not a ringer of the right sort. Payment for ringing often created an ill-feeling among bands in country places, and prevented ringers from being drawn from a better class. There were bands which, had it not been for payment, would long since have made good change-ringers, while in some cases good bands, from the same cause and through no fault of their own, had been broken up. Dissatisfaction often arose through the paid system by one ringer leaving, followed by another, and so a band of eight decreased to six, and finally broke up. It was said that one volunteer was worth so many pressed men, and he was one of those who considered that one volunteer ringer was worth a number of paid ringers. He had had some personal experience, and was himself much in favour of the voluntary system. At St. Paul's, Brighton, they had a band that took no pay for any ringing.

Mr. H. Dains asked what about weddings? Did the clergyman do his part free? If not, why should the ringers do theirs free?

Mr. Attree said not even for weddings did they take any pay. The members of the band gave up their work and time, and had done so for seventeen years. If a ringer took a real interest in the science, he would ring without wanting any money return. This had been the case with his own company for seventeen years, not one penny having been received by any of the band. Members of a choir were not as a rule paid for their services, but gave them voluntarily, and he looked forward to the day when bands would ring not for money, but for the good of the cause. He had looked in vain for the advantages of the paid system, and could not find any. It was a system he should not have anything to do with. It was said that money was "the root of all evil," and this he thought was true with respect to the ringing of church bells.

Mr. Story said the matter was not an urgent one, and he thought it required careful consideration. His own experience was that the paid ringer was the one to be most relied upon. Another point was that unless you had an over-strong band some of the members were drawn from that class of men who were not in a position at any time to give up their work and attend for ringing purposes without some payment. If no payment was made bands often met short, and, one falling out, another got tired of going, and at last the band did not prove a success, while on the other hand when payment was made, bands were kept more together and they became a success. He would advise that no vote should be taken upon the question.

Mr. Rees said he was for some years connected with a band that were not paid officially, but at Christmas time the hat was sent round with the result that a liberal collection was made. This was some recognition that the ringers had regularly performed their duties by ringing and chiming for the services of the church, for the greater festivals of the church, and generally conducted themselves to the satisfaction of the rector. There was one practice a week, and the amount collected was divided according to the attendances that had been made, and was thus regarded as a small remuneration for the practices they had attended. As to weddings, he considered that those who wanted bells rung when they were married should pay.

Mr. W. Snowdon said he agreed with the remarks that had been made by Mr. Story. He did not wish to draw comparisons, and would rather look upon himself as an amateur ringer than otherwise; but he did not think it possible to depend upon the

amateur ringer. Out of pocket expenses were often required, and in this respect difficulties would arise in all directions. The amateur ringer went off to a neighbouring tower, the paid man did not do so, at least there was not that temptation for him to do so, for he knew, if absent from his post, what would be the result. Therefore the paid man was the most to be depended upon. All honour, nevertheless, to the ringer who took such an interest in his ringing, and of his goodness gave the time without any payment. Most of those who knew the condition of a large majority of the working classes knew that many of them had a struggle to make both ends meet; such men should be paid, if not for their actual ringing for services, at least for their attendance at practice. Probably a great deal depended upon the custom of the district. In Yorkshire it was the custom to pay, while the amateur band was an exception. He thought it much more satisfactory to pay ringers than to let the hat go round, but if it did go round it should be undertaken by the churchwardens.

Mr. Rees said that was the custom in the place to which he had referred.

Mr. Snowdon said that made it so much the better. He did not know, however, where they would stop. There were no doubt two sides to the question. There were many temptations for a ringer to visit a neighbouring tower. There could be no doubt but that where ringers were paid they legitimately earned all they got. He was an admirer of an amateur band of ringers when they could be got.

Mr. W. Wakley said that as the leader of a band for twenty-five years—a band which had been successful—his experience was different to that of Mr. Attree's. His opinion was that in order to have a successful band of ringers they must be paid something. He had only known of one amateur band that was in any way a success. There should be something in the way of recognition for those who Sunday after Sunday turned up at their proper time. If they were not paid there was nothing to keep them together. Every ringer should take his proper share of what was paid. In his own company it was thought desirable to have fines, and at first a small fine was adopted, but at last it was necessary to make the fines larger, and so a shilling fine was adopted, and the result was that the company had been kept together for so many years. The members attended regularly, and nothing but continued success had been the result. To ensure success he thought it almost absolutely necessary that ringers should be paid. As to ringing for weddings it appeared to him most extraordinary that men who had to depend upon their work for their living should be expected to give up their time to ring for people when they were married, without any payment for their services. Surely this should be recognised as honest labour, and as such should be paid for.

The Rev. R. C. M. Harvey said he agreed with the remarks of the last speaker. As to ringing for weddings without payment, that was extraordinary. In some places it might be found necessary to pay for ringing on Sundays, while in others, as appeared the case with Mr. Attree's, it was not necessary. He had not found any difficulty in getting a band to turn up for ringing on Sundays without payment.

The Rev. H. Law James thought the question rested in a nutshell. It must depend upon circumstances. It would not be well for the Council to pass any resolution, neither should the Council be down upon the ringer who only rings because he is paid.

Mr. H. Dains said as one of those who came from London he could not help expressing his surprise that men could be found to give up their work and lose time without payment, and only for the sake of ringing, when people were married.

Mr. Attree said there appeared to be a mistake upon the matter. It was correct that his band did not receive any payment for ringing for weddings, but they always made a charge of two guineas for ringing at a wedding, but the men did not take the money, it was put in a box (laughter), and when they wanted an outing they had it (much laughter). He thought it best to make this statement to stop what appeared to be a misunderstanding. He anticipated that after he had consented to bring the question forward he should bring a hornet's nest about him (laughter).

Mr. Dains said in London they had to turn up and ring when

the Lord Mayor came along, or it might be even Her Majesty. If so, every one wanted the bells rung, and to do this men had to give up their work. Could it be expected that working men, as many of them were, could do this without any payment, let them ring what they might, even if it was only stony. If a man had to give up his work for a public service, which he considered ringing for such events as he had referred to was, then he for one considered that the man should be paid.

The Rev. H. J. Elsee said that the members of many bands lived considerable distances apart, in some cases as much as from one to twelve miles. For such men to ring three times upon the Sunday was rather a heavy tax upon the resources of a working man unless he was paid for his services, and would prevent some bands from meeting at all regularly.

The Rev. T. L. Papillon said there were two sides to the question. He had had some thirteen to fourteen years' experience in a country place, and considered it desirable that the bells should be rung for the services on the Sunday. He had not had much difficulty in keeping a band together without any fixed payment for their Sunday ringing, but had found it very desirable that there should be some recognition for the services that were rendered. The plan he had adopted was a kind of sending round the hat at Christmas, and it had hitherto answered very well. His practice was to head a sheet of paper or small memo. book, stating that the ringers had, during the year, discharged their duties to his satisfaction. During the year, this was taken round to the principal inhabitants and a sum of money was collected which was given as a recognition for work the ringers had done. This had acted well in keeping the band together; as to ringing for weddings, he considered that a band should be paid a sufficient sum to recompense them for their loss of time, and according to the circumstances of each place.

The President said he was sure that all had been interested in the discussion that had taken place, for many of them had listened to experiences which had not come under their notice previously. If there was one important thing in life it was to note both sides of every question. Those that did so were those whose opinions would have most weight. He looked with admiration upon what Mr. Attree had effected, and wished it could be done all over the country, but knew that it could not be so. It was not intended to take a vote of the Council upon the question, or that the Council should venture a decision either one way or the other. The object of the discussion was to get an exchange of opinions so as to enable members of the Council to acquire a wider knowledge and broader views on the question. There were occasions when it was necessary for the working man to lose time for ringing purposes, and it would be hard if he was not able to take home at least the same amount to his wife as he would have done had he remained at his daily work. Various speakers had given their experiences. There could be no doubt that local circumstances, as Mr. Papillon had said, must have a great deal to do with the system adopted.

(To be continued.)

THE HEAVY WOOLLEN DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The annual six-bell contest in connection with the above-named society took place at Shelly on Whit-Monday, May 22nd, when the Association silver challenge cup and other prizes given by the Shelly ringers and friends were competed for. Seven companies entered, all competing. Each company had to ring a peal of 720 changes of Violet. The following is the result of the competition:—

First prize—Association challenge cup and six electro-plated teapots—Almondbury, 280 faults. Second prize—six copper kettles—New Mill, 365 faults. Third prize—six pair of carvers—Dewsbury, 370 faults. The following also rang: Armitage Bridge, Tong, Kirkbeaton, and a mixed company.

Great credit is due to the winners of the second prize, as they are a very young company, and only commenced learning to ring within the last two years, this being the first contest they have been engaged in.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, HULL.

The new peal of ten bells cast by Taylor and Co., Loughborough, for the above church, will be dedicated on Tuesday afternoon next, June 20th. Ringers welcomed.

In Memoriam.

GEORGE PULLEN CROSSMAN.

It is our very painful duty to state that a well-known member of the Exercise, one who for a long time co-operated heartily in what we may term the literary produce of this journal, has just been called to his rest. GEORGE CROSSMAN soon after the establishment of this paper became anxious to assist its fortunes by his pen, and like others, now unfortunately no more, spared no gratuitous pains or energy in endeavouring to establish a position for "THE BELL NEWS." For the early numbers he wrote several clever stories which received an appropriate meed of praise from ringers, and numerous rhymes showing a great fund of humour. His last efforts in this direction were written under the heading "Musings by an Old Contributor," and it was hoped in such a capacity that at no distant period we should again have the pleasure of hearing from him. Mr. Crossman, though he had an excellent knowledge of almost every technique connected with the Art, was a tenor-man, and he had rung in that position several peals. He had a very wide acquaintance with ringers, among whom may be mentioned the late George Mash, Henry Haley, and others among the veterans who have preceded him; while among the living he was a man highly respected by such as George Muskett, Matthew Wood, James Pettit, Henry Dains, George Dorrington, William Cooter, and many others.

The deceased gentleman was a native of Putney. His profession was that of a marine engineer, and in this capacity he had travelled into every quarter of the world. From tropical latitudes, and frigid zones, he would frequently send some article or paragraph for insertion in these columns; and some of our readers may remember the account of a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles being rung upon handbells in a boat in the Sea of Azov, which he called.

We are quite aware that this sad intelligence will be deplored by many. The Editor of this journal mourns the loss of a brother-ringer—a brother in every sense—to whom he was deeply attached. Never ambitious to increase his list of friendships, George Crossman clung to his old friends, and he would feel acutely if a thought occurred to him that any of them refrained for any length of time from paying him a visit. One practically, of nature's noblemen—a man of true English spirit and mould; he had braved the storms and tempests of a life literally and socially, and had retired to spend the evening of his life upon land with his family. He leaves a devoted wife and five children to deplore the loss they have sustained. And not only those, but troops of friends also, who loved and honored him in life, and will never cease to regret his departure from among them, deeply sorrowing, but in strong hope of another meeting where partings shall be no more.

ST. MARTIN'S, TUDDENHAM, SUFFOLK.

On Tuesday, May 30th, the Bishop of Ipswich dedicated two new bells at the above church. Early in March the whole peal of five were conveyed to Ipswich to the foundry of Messrs. Bowell and Son, who have recast the 3rd and 4th, and entirely rehung the bells in all new framework. Members of the St. Mary-le-Tower society were engaged to re-open the newly-hung bells, one and all expressing their entire satisfaction of the excellent "go" of them, and also of the tone of the new bells. The ringers wish through this medium to thank the Rector and churchwardens for the excellent repast provided by them.

GIVEN AWAY. PEACH'S LACE CURTAINS.

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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 ATTEMPT AT THE LONG PEAL OF 17,000 GRANDSIRE CATERS AT WOLVERHAMPTON.

SIR,—Mr. Jaggar gives in his letter respecting the long peal at Wolverhampton a somewhat erroneous account of what my friend Mr. Musty and I are supposed to have said about the striking. As far as I know, Mr. Musty said nothing; and I certainly said nothing publicly about the striking (nor was I asked to do so). I was asked *privately* by a friend (one of the band) what I thought candidly about the striking, and I said that I considered it was not perfect, nor was it. It was very fair, and the attempt was a very good one. I am far from wishing to run the ringing or striking down, and only hope that the same party will succeed in their next effort, and wish them every success. I may mention that Mr. Cartwright, in an excellent little speech which he made, said he was not quite satisfied with the striking (which statement will bear out my opinion), and that he hoped next time it would be first-rate. I do not in the least mean to say, or to imply in the smallest degree, that the striking was such as to make the ringing false, but as to the striking being perfect it was not; and I do not see why either Mr. Musty or I should be reported as having said that it was. I hope none of the Wolverhampton men or Mr. Jaggar will take offence at my letter; no ill-will is meant towards them, and we hope that they will come and pay us a visit here, and bring a 17,000 or 20,000 of Grandsire Caters with them successfully accomplished.

G. H. PHILLOTT.

P.S.—Many people who know me will remember that striking is a thing I am for ever preaching, and it is a quality of change-ringing which is frequently too much neglected in modern times.

9600 SUPERLATIVE.

SIR,—I am obliged to Mr. Dench for his reply *re* the above in your issue of the 3rd instant, by which I anticipate that he (Mr. Dench) was not aware of the fact that the Central Council had issued a pamphlet in 1894 in which a full explanation is given as to special calls. On page 14 it says: "Hence the question of special calls, in the plain and Treble Bob systems and their various derivatives has never practically arisen, indeed the use of such would have been a very gratuitous violation of law and order." I think it is mainly through this that the peal of London in question was never published. Yet I agree with Mr. Dench that it should be recognised on the same grounds as Mr. Lockwood's 9120 of Treble Bob Major, although neither peal could be classed with Harrison's 8896 of Treble Bob Major, or Washbrook's 11,328 of London Surprise. If Mr. Dench will give me his address, I shall be pleased to send him a copy of the pamphlet.

GEORGE WILLIAMS.

P.S.—Is the eighth's place bob in the 9600 a plain lead of Mr. Lindoff's method—Rochester Surprise?

SIR,—I see some correspondence in "THE BELL NEWS" *re* the possibility of getting more true changes in the methods of Superlative and London Surprise Major. If it were possible that such a matter as using an extra call in these methods could be considered, it would be best that it should be made to affect an even number of bells, viz., 4 instead of 3. It would then be perfectly easy to put all the true changes together in the best possible manner, which would be far in excess of any number yet put together by our various friends. But to allow such a state of things would, in my opinion, entirely spoil the effect of the beautiful extents we now possess in these methods, and would reduce the art of composition to mere multiplication, or such like.

J. W. WASHBROOK.

ANSWER TO "JUSTICE."

SIR,—In reply to your correspondent "Justice" allow me to say, as one of the band in the attempted peal of Stedman Cinques at Norwich, and as joint author of the resolution that was passed by the Central Council upon illegitimate calls, that in response to an inquiry I made, I was informed the peal would come round by means of a bob-single, and as it was an old composition

by the late Henry Hubbard, I think, I considered it would pass muster. In the resolution above referred to, the Central Council never attempted, or intended, I believe, to taboo old compositions, otherwise Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples would not now be on the statute-book. But what it certainly did, and very wisely too I think, was to advise and admonish future composers not to employ any but the usual and ordinary calls properly belonging to the methods under treatment. Without doubt there are plenty of peals of Cinques as good or probably better obtained by the use of ordinary calls, and an easy coming-round course also, but that is not my business at present. All I am endeavouring to show is that the councillors in question were not ringing under special jurors.

HENRY DAINS.

THE KIDLINGTON PEAL.

SIR,—The letter by Mr. Pye is nothing short of a direct insult to the company who rang the above peal. It is the greatest concoction of falsehoods ever published upon ringing affairs; and the person that wrote it is a fine specimen of that conceited humanity which so often, unfortunately, is the cause of bitter and revengeful wrongs to one's fellow-man. I cannot treat his epistle with the contempt it deserves, owing to his damaging remarks affecting myself. The correspondence accompanying his is sufficient to show that what he writes is not the opinion of all other listeners. I sincerely hope that everyone of the ringers who were listening to the peal will give their straightforward and unbiassed opinion. Now as to his remarks affecting me personally. I will, first of all, swear by the true ringing of the peal, and by the correct making of all the calls. But I would like, just as a test of Mr. Pye's statements, to ask him to refer to his list of course-ends and bob-changes, and tell me the rows that turned up at the 80th and 81st course-ends respectively, and what bob rows occurred between them? This is the course in which he said we cut out two leads, so that he would be sure to have got the rows that occurred before and after, very conspicuously marked. It would be very interesting to know what Mr. Pye's course-ends are, so that they could be compared with the correct ones, which are in the hands of another of the listeners. I hope he will not tell us that he could not take the course-ends off, as other ringers present could do it without difficulty. As to the extent with the 6th at home, I am told by an expert ringer who happened to be present, that the 6th was brought home at 6.11 exactly, so that I was eleven minutes out in my reckoning when giving the account of the peal. Now from 6.11 to 7.42 would be 91 mins., and as I am also informed that after the 6th came home we rang just 25½ per minute; this just allows time for twenty courses, which was correct. Mr. Pye can say what he likes, but he must admit this. In fact he has already done so, only he says about 6.15, whereas the other person gives it more exact. I am told also that the only time we were ringing 24 to the minute was between 12 and 1 o'clock, but that the first hour's ringing was 26 to the minute, and the average for the whole, carefully totalled up by a careful listener was 25½ per minute. This brings the number of changes as near as possible correct. Mr. Pye's attack on the 7th man is only because he could not pick holes in any other individual ringer; it is a fearful lot of exaggeration, mountains made out of mole-hills in fact, and when a man makes such dreadful assertions, he should, at least, be careful that what he says is correct in every sense of the word, and that he has plenty of proof to back him up. It is quite possible for a man so disposed to wish for things, and brood over them till he really believes that they are facts, and treat them accordingly, and thereby run his head in a noose, which, to use a vulgar term, would hang forty folks. A man should also speak what he writes, and write what he speaks, if he is to be an effectual story-teller. Not as Mr. Pye did, contradict himself in this fashion outside Kidlington tower. Says he, "You fired the bells; there was no ringing about it; the last hour was good ringing; if you had brought them home at 5000 you would have rung a good 5000; if the 7th man had rung as well as the others, you would have rung a good peal."

Now, Sir, all I can gather from this is as follows: Although we fired the bells the 7th alone was responsible for it, and although we cut out two leads and rang four courses short, the 7th alone was responsible. Oh! Mr. 7th man, how very awful! you must, indeed, be in with the evil one, to accomplish such wonderful tricks without the knowledge of your fellow-

ringers, or of the great number of ringers outside the tower—*except one*. The next time you make such a wonderful exhibition let us all have the benefit of hearing it, and not, as on this occasion, confine it to one single person. I will not say a word regarding the attitude of Mr. Pye towards other ringers during the progress of the peal. That no doubt is best left alone, or rather, left to those who had the misfortune to make his acquaintance during that time. I hope that I have explained myself with regard to Mr. Pye's assertions. It will be understood by your many readers that the composition should not be made public property till after Mr. Pye has favored us with the courses he may have in hand, especially the 80th and 81st, for I consider that a man should take the whole of the course-ends, when he is judging a peal, or how is he to judge if the ringing is correct or not?

J. W. WASHBROOK.

P.S.—Since writing this letter a gentleman has informed me that Mr. Pye told him he considered that the tenor was rung well throughout the peal. May I thank Mr. Pye for this? It has, in my idea, somewhat lightened his sentence upon me.

SIR,—As the peal rung in my church tower on Whit-Monday last has been called in question, I think it only fair to state plainly my own impression in the matter. I heard the whole peal from beginning to end, and certainly it was a most admirable performance throughout. During the greater part of the time, the striking was perfectly even and distinct, and though here and there a slight irregularity may have been detected, there was nothing which could have been called "firing" by a really impartial critic. I do not know what may be the motive of any who desire to discredit this peal, but it can scarcely be that of simple justice.

A. C. R. FREEBORN.

Kidlington Vicarage, Oxford.

[We have several other letters to hand, all in terms of approval of the Kidlington peal, but they must stand over till next week.—ED.]

PEAL COLLECTION: STEDMAN CATERS AND CINQUES.

SIR,—As the peals of above which have reached me up to the present are very few, and as I am desirous of completing the same as soon as possible, I would esteem it a favour if those composers who have not sent their peals would do so as early as possible. That there are many who have not done so I am sure of, and as I have not the advantage of having all the back numbers of this paper by me, I am unable to find many that I know have been published. May I ask those who have not yet sent in to do so, whether published or not, to enable me to send in my report as early as possible.

J. R. PRITCHARD.

6, Ward Street, Salford, Manchester.

Obituary.

On Tuesday, June 6th, at his residence, The Green, Long Melford, Mr. John Silver, aged 87 years. Mr. Silver was the last survivor of the band of ringers who in 1840 rung the two peals at St. Peter's, Colchester, viz.: 5040 of Bob Major, in which he rang the 4th, and 5088 of Oxford Treble Bob Major, in which he rang the 2nd. Mr. Silver also at one time resided at Cambridge, and in the year 1852 he rang the 5th with the Cambridge Youths in a peal of Grandsire Caters, 5039 changes, at Great St. Mary's, Cambridge. Deceased had resided at Long Melford for several years, and was greatly respected by all who knew him.

Mr. R. Ford, of the Three Towns branch of the Devonshire Guild, after an illness of only a few days, passed to his rest on May 27th, at the age of 66, and was buried on the 31st. The deceased, who was at Charles belfry on the 17th May, was one of nature's gentlemen, a man noted far and wide for his integrity of character. Formerly he was a sergeant in the metropolitan police, but some years ago retired on his pension. He was first introduced to change-ringing by Mr. W. Banister, when they were in the dockyard together, and took part in 1867 in the first peal of 5000 ever rung in the West of England, conducted by Mr. Banister. Mr. Ford had for eleven years filled the office of treasurer to the local co-operative society, and on his retirement twelve months since, was presented with a gold watch and albert, costing £30. As far as can be gathered, he had rung

three peals of Grandsire Triples. His loss will be greatly felt by the local company. Messrs. Taylor, Marsh, Pine, Stead, Stephens, and Smith bore his remains into St. Barnabas church, where he had been an earnest worshipper. Mr. Banister was also present. The sad event was made doubly so by the fact that Mrs. Ford also passed away on the eve of the day on which her husband was buried, and Mr. Ford's brother, who attended the funeral, died within a week. At Charles belfry a knell was tolled while the funeral was taking place at Devonport cemetery, and in the evening touches of Grandsire Caters, with the bells half-muffled, were rung to his memory. Of him it may be said, that never a truer, more honest, upright, lovable, God-fearing man ever took hold of a bell-rope. His loss is acutely felt by his comrades, by whom he was greatly revered.

FARNHAM ROYAL, BUCKS.

On Whit-Monday, the annual friendly meeting took place. The number of visitors was not so great as was expected, owing no doubt to the unsettled state of the weather. At Burnham ringing commenced at 11 o'clock, and was kept up until 3.0., and at Farnham ringing continued until 8 o'clock. Ringers attended from Boyne Hill, Burnham, Farnham, Hanwell, Hughenden, Heston, Stanwell, Slough, Uxbridge, and Winkfield. In the course of the day, touches were rung in the following methods: Stedman, Oxford Bob, and Grandsire Triples; Kent and Oxford Treble Bob; and Bob Major. At 5.30 the company sat down to tea, provided under the management of Mr. J. J. Parker. The Rev. H. C. Bell, Hon. Secretary of the East Berks and South Bucks branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, being present, kindly took the chair, in the absence of the Rev. H. C. Wilder, Rector of Farnham Royal.

THE ST. THOMAS'S GUILD, DUDLEY.

A quarterly meeting of this Guild was held on Saturday, May 27th, at Halesowen. The Worcestershire Association Service was said in the church at 5 o'clock, the Rev. J. T. Cartwright, curate (an hon. member of the Guild), saying the prayers. The Vicar (Rev. J. C. Hill) read the lesson, and delivered an impressive address, which was listened to attentively, and much appreciated by those present.

After service the business meeting, at which the Rector presided, was held in the Church House, when eight new members were enrolled, and arrangements made for the ringing of three peals; it was also left with the Master to arrange for any other peals during the quarter that may be desired. It was resolved to hold the next quarterly meeting at Coseley on the last Saturday in August.

After the meeting, at the invitation of the Revs. J. T. Cartwright and L. G. Gosling, the visitors enjoyed a substantial tea in the schoolroom, where the Rector heartily welcomed the members, the rev. gentleman wishing the Guild every prosperity and expressing his pleasure at and approval of the formation of so useful a society.

Votes of thanks were given to the Rector for the service and address, the use of the bells, church-house and schoolroom for meeting and tea; also to the Revs. J. T. Cartwright and L. G. Gosling for their hospitality; which were suitably responded to.

Touches of Treble Bob and Plain Bob Major and Stedman Triples were afterwards rung on the tower bells.

Situations Vacant.

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The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 1899.

RE-OPENING OF THE BELLS AT GREAT KIMBER, BUCKS.

The valley of Great Kimber on the Chiltern hills, though it has not been much in the public eye of recent years, is historic ground. The place derives its name from Cymbeline, the Bristol chief who was killed in battle there against the Roman invaders, and whose reputed burial-place is Cymbeline's mound, or Kimber Castle as it is sometimes called; a barrow about half-a-mile from the church. In later years it was the scene of many skirmishes between the soldiers of the Parliament and of the King during the civil war, and the celebrated petition against the ship-money tax was actually drawn up in Great Kimber church. A descendant of the patriot, John Hampden, is Rector of Kimber at the present day.

On Thursday, June 1st, the village was *en fete* on the occasion of the re-opening of the church bells after they had undergone an extensive restoration.

About a year ago the existence of an Art of change-ringing came to the knowledge of the Kimber ringers, and their introduction to the rudiments of the Art (on handbells) was soon followed by an agitation for something to be done to the church bells. Eventually Messrs. Webb and Bennett, of Kidlington, were called in, and the result is that the peal of five is augmented to six by the addition of a new tenor weighing 10 cwt. 3 qrs 3 lbs.; the old tenor, now the 5th, recast, the 3rd and 4th, two old bells, cast by Knight in 1587, quarter-turned, and the peal rebung in an iron frame with entirely new fittings. It is hardly necessary to say that the work has been done in first-rate manner, and leaves nothing to be desired.

The opening service, conducted by the Rev. J. L. Challis, Rural Dean, took place at 2 o'clock, ringers being present from several towers, including Boyne Hill, Marlow, Hughenden, Lane End, chiefly from a distance, as change-ringing does not yet flourish in this part of the county. After prayers had been said in the tower by the Rural Dean the bells were rung round by the parish ringers. After the service an attempt was made for a peal, which unfortunately soon came to grief. During the afternoon and evening several touches of Plain Bob, Grandsire, Stedman, and Treble Bob were rung, and as a bazaar was being held in the Rectory garden in aid of the fund for re-hanging the bells, the ringers found plenty of amusement in the intervals of ringing, and all spent a very pleasant day.

The first touch on the bells was 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, rung as follows: M. Smithers, 1; Rev. H. C. Bell, 2; J. J. Parker (conductor), 3; G. Martin, 4; J. Evans, 5; J. C. Truss, 6.

Next autumn the local band intend to secure the services of one of the instructors of the Oxford Guild, and it is to be hoped that before long the ringing at Kimber may encourage other towers in the neighbourhood to take up change-ringing and join the Diocesan Guild.

The Metropolis.**THE ALL SAINTS SOCIETY, FULHAM.***On Saturday, June 10, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, FULHAM,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 21 cwt.

JAMES W. DRIVER Treble.	REUBEN CHARGE 6.
ERNEST A. ARTHURTON .. 2.	*WILLIAM PICKWORTH .. 7.
FREDERICK G. PERRIN .. 3.	GEORGE CHARGE 8.
EDWARD H. ADAMS 4.	†CORNELIUS CHARGE 9.
WILLIAM T. ELSON 5.	SAMUEL HOW Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by CORNELIUS CHARGE.

*First peal in the method. †First peal in the method as conductor, and first attempt.

The Provinces.**CHARLWOOD, SURREY.****THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.***On Saturday, May 27, 1899, in Three Hours,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Tenor 16 cwt.

GEORGE WICKENS Treble.	FREDERICK R. TULLETT .. 4.
JOHN AKEHURST 2.	FREDERICK WICKENS .. 5.
ALFRED D. MILLS 3.	ALBERT ELLIS Tenor.

Conducted by ALBERT ELLIS.

Reference to this peal will appear next week.

PULHAM, NORFOLK.**THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, June 3, 1899, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

JAMES TANN Treble.	CHARLES BAKER 5.
HERBERT MATTHEWS .. 2.	HENRY ADCOCK 6.
JAMES BOUGHTON 3.	CHARLES TANN 7.
ROBERT WHITING 4.	FREDERICK BORRETT .. Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and Conducted by JAMES TANN.

FRAMLINGHAM, SUFFOLK.**THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Wednesday, June 7, 1899, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 19 cwt.

WILLIAM OSTLER Treble.	ALBERT E. READ 5.
HORACE BEDINGFIELD .. 2.	CHARLES REVELL 6.
JOHN C. SELF 3.	SAMUEL GARNHAM 7.
JOHN J. O'NEILL 4.	DAVID G. WIGHTMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and Conducted by DAVID G. WIGHTMAN.

WOLVERHAMPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.**SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.***On Wednesday June 7, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE, BLAKENHALL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 10 cwt.

HUGH J. BALCOMBE Treble.	HERBERT KNIGHT 5.
ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT .. 2.	JOHN JAGGAR 6.
SAMUEL REEVES 3.	*JAMES E. GROVES 7.
WILLIAM R. SMALL 4.	HENRY DAWKES Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Rung to celebrate the birthday of Mr. E. Lisle, the donor of the bells. *First peal of Stedman as conductor.

SOUTHOVER, LEWES, SUSSEX.**THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.***On Wednesday, June 7, 1899, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lbs.

ROBERT J. DAWE Treble.	*GEORGE H. HOWSE 5.
THOMAS PRICE 2.	ALFRED J. TURNER 6.
GEORGE WILLIAMS 3.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 7.
GEORGE H. HEAD 4.	JOHN F. STEADMAN Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN S. GOLDSMITH.

*First peal of Stedman Triples. Rung as a birthday compliment to J. F. Steadman.

SPROUGHTON, SUFFOLK.**THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Thursday, June 8, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Grandsire, Double Bob, Double Court Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and Plain Bob Minor. Tenor 10 cwt.

DAVID SOUTHGATE* Treble.	*HENRY J. MEE 4.
EDGAR RIVERS* 2.	FREDERICK MEE 5.
ALFRED G. RIVERS* 3.	CHARLES MEE Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES MEE.

*First peal on six bells. This is the first peal on the bells.

NOTTINGHAM.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.*On Thursday, June 8, 1899, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

HARRY ROBERT COBBIN .. Treble.	JOHN W. THOMPSON .. 5.
ALBERT E. THOMPSON .. 2.	GEORGE H. JOHNSON .. 6.
JOSEPH WOOLLEY 3.	JOHN HICKMAN 7.
JOHN H. GRUNDY 4.	CHARLES R. LILLEY .. Tenor.

Composed by SIR ARTHUR HEYWOOD, BART, and

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

First peal in the method by the treble, 3rd and 7th ringers. The visitors wish to thank Mr. Hickman for making arrangements. The last peal of Bob Major rang in Nottingham was on October 14th, 1820, so it is seventy-nine years ago.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.**THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.***On Friday, June 9, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-four Minutes,*

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qrs.

GEORGE H. HOWSE Treble.	GEORGE H. HEAD 5.
FREDERICK W. HARDING .. 2.	THOMAS PRICE 6.
ARTHUR MILES 3.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH .. 7.
ARTHUR GOWER 4.	JAMES OSBORNE Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN S. GOLDSMITH.

ECCLES, LANCASHIRE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION

(MANCHESTER AND BOLTON BRANCHES.)

On Saturday, June 10, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs.

JOHN DENNER Treble.	ALFRED POTTER 5.
JOSEPH POTTER 2.	TITUS BARLOW 6.
JOHN JACKSON* 3.	RICHARD RIDYARD 7.
JOHN POTTER 4.	AMOS TRIPPIER Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD RIDYARD,

*First peal of Stedman Triples.

SMETHWICK, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, June 10, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes,

AT THE OLD PARISH CHURCH,

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

JAMES E. GROVES Treble.	JOHN JAGGAR 5.
ERNEST BROWN† 2.	HARRY MILLS 6.
SAMUEL REEVES 3.	THOMAS J. ELTON 7.
THOMAS HORTON 4.	*JOSEPH HUGHES Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

A peal of Stedman was arranged, but meeting one short a peal of Grandsire Triples was attempted with two of the local men. †First peal with a bob bell. *First peal in any method, and rang at the first attempt. This is the quickest peal rung on the bells.

KIDLINGTON, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, June 10, 1899, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE.

G. BONFIELD* Treble.	FRANK L. EDWARDS, ESQ. 5.
FRED. WEBB 2.	NEWMAN ALDERMAN .. 6.
WILLIAM BENNETT 3.	HARRY G. JUDGE 7.
JAMES FRANKLIN 4.	TOM JONES Tenor.

Conducted by H. G. JUDGE.

*First peal.

LISCARD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—WIRRAL BRANCH.

On Saturday, June 10, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 17 cwt. 3 qrs.

W. WILLIAMS Treble.	†J. HAMMOND 5.
J. MEALOR 2.	†J. HUGHES 6.
W. BRISCOE 3.	*W. WILCOX 7.
G. R. NEWTON* 4.	T. A. EVANS Tenor.

Conducted by J. HUGHES.

First on the bells by the above Guild. *First peal of Triples. †First peal. †First of Grandsire Triples as conductor. It may be interesting to state that a young lady walked about four miles in order to listen to this peal.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 10, 1899, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5088 CHANGES. Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lbs.

ARTHUR SMEATHERS Treble.	THOMAS R. HENSHER .. 5.
WALTER PERKINS 2.	*HENRY STUBBS 6.
JAMES GARRATT 3.	JAMES HOUGHTON, SEN. .. 7.
WILLIAM NEWMAN 4.	JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN.

*First peal in the method away from the treble.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 10, 1899, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

JAMES MOTTS Treble.	WILLIAM J. GROOM 5.
WILLIAM GRIMES 2.	ALFRED W. GRIMES 6.
WILLIAM CRICKMER 3.	WILLIAM C. RUMSEY 7.
JAMES G. RUMSEY 4.	HENRY FOLKARD Tenor.

Composed by W. SOTTANSTALL, and Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

A note to this peal will appear next week.

CAPEL, SURREY.

On Saturday, June 10, 1899, in Two Hours and Thirty-seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Superlative and Cambridge Surprise,
College Pleasure, College Exercise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent.
Tenor 7½ cwt.

MARK JENKINS Treble.	CHARLIE TAYLOR 4.
ROBERT JORDAN 2.	ALFRED D. MILLS 5.
FREDERICK W. RICE 3.	EDWIN JORDAN Tenor.

Conducted by EDWIN JORDAN.

MORTIMER, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(READING BRANCH.)

On Saturday, June 10, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 11½ cwt.

HENRY WHITE Treble.	*RICHARD K. MASON .. 5.
ALBERT E. REEVES 2.	WILLIAM NEWELL 6.
ARTHUR W. HIGGS 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
ARTHUR W. PIKE 4.	*JAMES J. MASON Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

†First peal of Stedman. Further reference to this peal will appear next week.

WORTLEY, SHEFFIELD, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 10, 1899, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF COLLEGE SINGLE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES.
Tenor 12½ cwt.

THOMAS ROBBINS* Treble.	*JOHN PARKIN 5.
THOS. MCKEGG* 2.	*GEORGE W. DRONFIELD .. 6.
EDWARD ROBBINS* 3.	GEORGE JACKSON 7.
JOHN DRONFIELD* 4.	DAVID BREARLEY Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and Conducted by DAVID BREARLEY.

This is the first peal of College Single on the bells. *First peal of College Single.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 10, 1899, in Three Hours and Thirty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES.
Tenor 17 cwt.

L. L. LOMAS* Treble.	W. HICKLING 6.
C. R. LILLEY 2.	B. SUGDEN 7.
J. GRUNDY 3.	*J. NEWBOLD 8.
G. DAWSON 4.	J. FLOWER 9.
J. W. THOMPSON 5.	A. E. THOMPSON Tenor.

Composed by SIR ARTHUR HEYWOOD, BART., and

Conducted by A. E. THOMPSON.

*First peal of Royal.

RINGMER, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 10, 1899, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR,
5088 CHANGES. Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qrs.

LIONEL SEARS Treble.	EDWARD C. MERRITT .. 5.
FRANK BENNETT 2.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH .. 6.
ROBERT J. DAWE 3.	GEORGE A. KING 7.
KEITH HART 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Composed by JAMES W. WASHEROOK, and Conducted by KEITH HART.

This is the first peal of London Surprise on the bells.

PEAL CORRECTION.—The peal rung at Tickhill, Yorks., and reported in our last issue, was under the auspices of the Yorkshire Association.

Miscellaneous.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BRADFELD (Berks).—On Sunday evening, May 27th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor, in 23 mins. T. D. Rowe, 1; G. Abery, 2; J. Abery, 3; V. Rowe, 4; A. Savage, 5; F. J. Herridge, 6. First 720 by A. Savage.

READING.—On Tuesday, May 29th, at St. Lawrence's, for practice, 341 Superlative Surprise. V. Rowe, 1; J. Tucker, 2; Alfred E. Reeves, 3; Johnson Hern, 4; A. Tucker, 5; C. Giles, 6; Ambrose Osborne, 7; F. Hopgood, 8.

FULMER (Bucks.)—On Saturday, June 10th, a 720 Oxford Bob. E. Elderfield, 1; J. J. Parker, 2; J. Elderfield, 3; G. Basden, 4; G. Allder, 5; C. Clarke (conductor), 6. Also touches of Kent, Canterbury, College Single, Plain Bob, Court, and Grandsire, in which W. Clarke, J. J. Pratt, and G. Gutteridge took part.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ICKLETON (Camsb.)—On Tuesday, June 6th, at the parish church of St. Mary, a quarter-peal of Doubles (1320 changes), made up of 240 each of Old Doubles and April Day, and seven 6-scores of Grandsire, called differently. F. Bowtell, 1; E. Webb, 2; P. Webb (conductor), 3; A. Lilley, 4; J. Webb, 5; F. Crick, 6. Time 50 mins. Also recently on handbells, a quarter-peal of Doubles (1260 changes). F. Carver, 1, the others as above. Also on Saturday, June 3rd, a second quarter-peal (1320 changes). H. Flitton, 1; the others as above. Methods—Old and Grandsire Doubles and April Day. The first attempt at Minor was made a few nights ago by the local band, and the ordinary plain-course was successfully knocked off.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ALDRINGTON (Sussex).—On Tuesday evening, the St. Leonard's parish church ringers, assisted by the St. Peter's church ringers, rang their first 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor, for practice, as follows. M. Broomfield, 1; F. Steele, 2; R. S. Cherryman, 3; E. Marriott, 4; F. Tindall, 5; K. Hart (conductor), 6. The ringers of 3, 4, 6, are from the St. Peter's branch, whom the Aldrington ringers wish to thank for their kind help and assistance. Also on the above date a 720 of Plain Bob Minor by the Aldrington band. J. Broomfield, 1; A. Cherryman, 2; F. Tindall, 3; F. Steele, 4; E. Godby, 5; *G. Steele (conductor), 6. *First 720 as conductor.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

FYLDE DISTRICT BRANCH.—On Friday evening, June 9th, at the parish church, for practice, 720 of Bob Minor, eighteen bobs and two singles, by five of the local band, with one from St. John's, Lytham. G. Staff, 1; *J. Fowkes, 2; *J. Fenton, 3; J. Fell, 4; *J. Hargreaves, 5; *R. Rawcliffe, 6. *First in any method. Mr. G. Staff acting as conductor. Any ringer visiting Blackpool or South Shore during the season wishful for a pull will receive a hearty welcome, either on a Sunday, 10.0 or 6.0 o'clock, or Friday night from 7.30 to 9.0.

RYE (Sussex).—On Wednesday, May 24th, at the parish church of St. Mary, to celebrate the 80th birthday of Her Majesty, ten 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. Thorpe, 1; W. Billenness, 2; E. Reed, 3; C. Price, 4; J. H. Durrant (conductor), 5; G. Billenness, 6; H. Lucas, 7; E. Curd, 8. 108 Grandsire Minor. E. Reed, 1; H. Thorpe, 2; W. Billenness, 3; C. Price, 4; G. H. Henley, 5; J. H. Durrant, 6; E. Curd, 7; A. Taylor, 8. 120 Grandsire Doubles. E. Prime, 1; G. H. Henley, 2; E. Reed, 3; C. Price, 4; J. H. Durrant, 5; G. Billenness, 6; H. Lucas, 7; E. Curd, 8. The bells were fired eighty times to represent the age of Her Majesty.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

LEDGBURY (Hereford).—On Whit-Sunday, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Doubles, with 7-6-8 covering. J. Pitt, 1; F. Selwyn, 2; F. Summers (conductor), 3; J. Davis, 4; A. Matthews, 5; G. Haughty, 6; E. Gurney, 7; H. Ellsmore, 8. This is the longest length ever rung by a local band within memory of the oldest ringer in Ledbury.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

WORCESTER.—On March 31st, at the church of All Saints, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. B. S. Hill, 1; A. Hadley, 2; G. Hinton, 3; H. Wilkes, 4; C. Jones (conductor), 5; T. Watkins, 6; G. Checketts, 7; T. Malin, 8. April 1st, 210 Grandsire Triples. J. Clements, 1; A. Hadley, 2; B. Hill, 3; C. Jones, 4; W. Lebbon, 5; H. Wilkes (conductor), 6; G. Checketts, 7; T. Malin, 8. 360 Grandsire Triples. J. Hardman, 1; A. Hill, 2; B. Hill, 3; C. Jones, 4; W. Lebbon, 5; H. Wilkes, 6; G. Checketts (conductor), 7; J. Clements, 8. April 12th,

a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters. N. Wale, 1; A. Hill, 2; W. Lebbon, 3; B. Hill, 4; W. Bright, 5; A. Hadley, 6; H. Wilkes (conductor), 7; C. Jones, 8; G. Checketts, 9; T. Malin, 10. Rang to celebrate Mr. N. Wale's 60th birthday, he being the oldest change-ringer in Worcester. April 2nd, at the Cathedral for Divine Service, 528 Grandsire Cinques. B. Hill, 1; G. Hinton, 2; A. Hill, 3; L. Longney (conductor), 4; W. Powell, 5; A. Hadley, 6; W. Bright, 7; C. Jones, 8; W. Page, 9; G. Checketts, 10; W. Johnson, 11; T. Malin, 12. April 24th, for practice, 395 Grandsire Caters. W. Powell, 1; B. Hill, 2; A. Hill, 3; A. Hadley, 4; W. Bright, 5; G. Hinton, 6; G. Checketts (conductor), 7; C. Jones, 8; W. Lebbon, 9; J. G. Wayte, 10. Sun-May 21st, for Service, 528 Grandsire Cinques. B. Hill, 1; A. Hill, 2; T. Bullock, 3; W. Page, 4; W. Powell, 5; A. Hadley, 6; W. Bright, 7; G. Hinton, 8; H. Wilkes, 9; W. Lebbon (conductor), 10; W. Johnson, 11; T. Malin, 12.

THE SAFFRON WALDEN SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, June 13th, a quarter-peal of London Surprise Major. J. Freeman, 1; F. J. Pitstow, 2; J. F. Penning, 3; C. Freeman, 4; E. Pitstow, 5; A. F. James, 6; N. J. Pitstow (conductor), 7; A. F. Pitstow, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—On Saturday, May 6th, on the occasion of a monthly meeting of the Rochester and District Guild, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob in 25 mins. W. Hobbs (conductor), 1; C. Winsor, 2; A. Ring, 3; C. Fryatt, 4; W. Evans, 5; W. Haigh, 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

COLN ST. ALDWYNS (Gloucestershire).—On Wednesday, May 10th, 504 of Grandsire Triples. T. Barnett, 1; A. E. Peglar, 2; A. C. Harmer, 3; C. E. Bartlett, 4; C. Bate, 5; H. Griffin, 6; J. Kitchener (conductor), 7; A. J. Harris, 8. Also six courses of Grandsire Triples. R. Kitchener, C. Mustow, and W. Minchin taking part.

NORTHFIELD (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, May 14th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. A. Cole, 1; J. Cole, 2; F. Sumner, 3; H. Withers, 4; F. Clayton (conductor), 5; J. Withers, 6. Also 360 Grandsire Minor. H. Withers (conductor), 1; F. Sumner, 2; A. Hobbs, 3; E. Turner, 4; J. Withers, 5; F. Clayton, 6.

NORWICH.—On Wednesday, May 24th, at the church of St. Peter Mancroft, it being Her Majesty's 80th birthday, three courses of Stedman Cinques were rang at 9.30 a.m. as follows: F. Howchin (conductor), 1; P. Sadler (Norwich), 2; G. Howchin (Norwich), 3; A. Craven (Lincoln), 4; C. Dean (Sutton, Surrey), 5; H. White (Basingstoke), 6; E. Francis (Norwich), 7; J. Griffin (Burton-on-Trent), 8; S. Reeves (West Bromwich), 9; G. Smith (Norwich), 10; E. P. O'Meara (London), 11; S. Slater (Glensford), 12. At 12.30, a touch of Kent Treble Bob Maximus was rung, and the bells fired three-times-three in honour of the event. E. Ward, 1; A. Warner, 2; C. Barrett, 3; F. Knights, 4; P. Sadler, 5; C. Dean, 6; G. Howchin, 7; E. Francis, 8; F. H. Knights, 9; S. Slater, 10; G. Smith, 11; F. Howchin, 12.

SNATH (Yorks).—On Sunday morning, May 7th, at the parish church, for Divine Service, 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, twenty-one bobs and twelve singles. *C. Holmes, 1; G. Holmes, 2; E. Pick, 3; *H. Bullock, 4; R. Holmes, 5; J. D. Bullock (conductor), 6. *The first attempt of these two members.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On May 7th, being the annual school sermons, 546, 612, 168 Grandsire Triples, 704 and 288 Kent Treble Bob, 640 Oxford Treble Bob, 336, 504 and 168 Stedman Triples, and 352 Bob Major were rung. The following took part: W. Denner, J. Denner, J. Worthington, S. Oakes, John Potter, Joseph Potter, Alfred Potter, J. Brookes, M. Berry, R. Ridyard, J. Jackson, C. Cash, F. Hyde, A. Wallwork, J. Wilson, J. Ridyard. The conductors were—Grandsire, A. Potter and J. Potter; Treble Bob, J. Potter, R. Ridyard and J. Ridyard.

The General Steam Navigation Company have commenced daily sailings to Southend, Margate, and Ramsgate by the new and magnificent steamer *Eagle*. This vessel is one of the fastest and most comfortable passenger steamers afloat, and has already become a great favourite with the public. Leaving London Bridge wharf at 9.10 a.m., the boat calls at Greenwich at 9.30, and Woolwich (South) Pier at 9.50. Passengers for Margate and Ramsgate can travel to Tilbury by train leaving Fenchurch at 10.15. This Company on the 17th inst. commences running to Margate and Ramsgate (Sundays included), *via* Port Victoria, in conjunction with the S.E. and C. and D. Railways. There will be through bookings from Charing Cross, Waterloo Junction, London Bridge, and other intermediate stations between London and Port Victoria, and tickets will be issued down *via* Port Victoria and up direct to London Bridge, and *vice versa*; also down *via* Port Victoria and up direct by rail, S.E. or C. and D. Railways, from Margate or Ramsgate. Full particulars can be obtained at the offices of the Company, 55, Great Tower St., E.C.

REMARKS ON THE SECULAR NATURE OF THE ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF CHANGE-RINGING, HISTORICALLY CONSIDERED.

BY R. A. DANIELL.

(Continued.)

SOME CONSIDERATION OF EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF THE
FOREGOING (continued).

I now give the passage from *Grace Abounding*, referred to last week.

"Now you must know that before this, I had taken much delight in ringing, but my conscience beginning to be tender, I thought such practice was but vain, and therefore forced myself to leave it, yet my mind hankered. Wherefore I should go to the steeple house and look on though I durst not ring. But I thought this did not become religion neither, yet I forced myself and would look on still. But quickly after I began to think, how if one of the bells should fall? Then I chose to stand under a main beam that lay overthwart the steeple, from side to side, thinking there I might stand sure. But then I should think again, should the bell fall with a swing it might first hit the wall and then rebounding upon me, might kill me for all this beam. This made me stand in the steeple door; and now, thought I, I am safe enough for if a bell should then fall I can slip out behind these thick walls, and so be preserved notwithstanding.

"So after this, I would yet go to see them ring but would not go further than the steeple door, but then it came into my head, how if the steeple itself should fall? and this thought, it may fall for ought I know, when I stood and looked on did continually so shake my mind that I durst not stand at the steeple door any longer, but was forced to flee for fear the steeple should fall on my head. Another thing was my dancing. I was a full year before I could quite leave that. But all this while, when I thought I kept this or that commandment, or did, by word or deed, anything that I thought was good, I had great peace in my conscience; and should think with myself, God cannot choose but be now pleased with me, yea, to relate it in mine own way, I thought no man in England could please God better than I. But poor wretch as I was, I was all this while ignorant of Jesus Christ, and going about to establishing own righteousness; and had perished therein, had not God in mercy, showed me more of my state by nature."

Bunyan afterwards joined a Baptist congregation at Bedford, of which he was called to be the Minister in 1655. After the Restoration he got into trouble for offences against the law relating to Religious conformity, by preaching, and was imprisoned from 1660 with one brief interval till 1672. During this enforced seclusion from his usual work he wrote several books, including the biographical *Grace Abounding*, from which I have been quoting, and in a subsequent short imprisonment in 1675 he wrote the immortal *Pilgrim's Progress*, which has made Bunyan's name known throughout the world wherever the English tongue is spoken. In this allegory Bunyan speaks of bells being in the Heavenly City. He says of the two pilgrims approaching it:—

"They had the City itself in view, and they thought they heard all the bells therein to ring to welcome them thereto." And a few lines later, "Now I saw in my dream, that these two men went in at the gate, and lo! as they entered, they were transfigured; and they had raiment put on that shone like gold. There were also that met them with harps and crowns, and gave them to them; the harps to praise withal, the crowns in token of honour. Then I heard in my dream that all the bells in the City rang again for joy,* and that it was said unto them "Enter ye into the joy of your Lord."

Bunyan died of a fever consequent on a cold while on a visit

* It may be noted that the use of ringing, which Bunyan shows in this allegory, has obviously nothing to do with the worship of God, but with welcome extended to human beings. The actual earthly ringing, from which the simile is borrowed, is not ringing for church services, but ringing as a welcome to individuals. This must have been a cus-

tom well-known to Bunyan, who had probably taken part in such ringing when the Radcliffes or Hillersdons visited their seat of Elstow Priory, or when distinguished guests came to see them. Such ringing is still well known, especially in connection with the movements of members of the Royal Family.

to London on the 31st August, 1688, and was buried in the Bunhill Fields burying ground.

It is evident from the foregoing that Bunyan regarded ringing as a purely secular pursuit, and as such he left it. He had not as yet been enlightened about the central truths of Christianity, but got it into his mind, in some obscure manner, that God would be angry with him if he rang or even frequented the steeple, and by way of punishment might kill him there, and he did not wish to be killed. But he did not want to leave ringing. His "mind hankered," and he only left it under terror of possible death. That he did not in later days regard ringing as wrong seems clear from his placing it in the Heavenly city, and nowhere does Bunyan drop the smallest hint in support of Mr. Tyack's statement that ringing was in those days found to be a hindrance to a man, nor has he anything to say against ringers.

I have noticed Bunyan in connection with ringing at greater length than would have been strictly necessary for my purpose. I have done so because, beyond all doubt, he is the most distinguished person of whom we have certain knowledge that he ever practised the ringing exercise. We may accept or reject Bunyan's theological views, but about the man himself there can be no question. He ranks amongst the greatest of Englishmen. The nobility of his character, his strong common sense, and remarkable gifts, made this brazier a wise and brave leader of his fellow-men for more than thirty years in troublous and unsettled times, and the simple, manly vigour of his writings has made them part of the inheritance of all classes of the English speaking world. In these days when we and the American branch of our race are being drawn into bands of closer friendship, it is often pointed out how strong a bond of sympathy exists between us in the literature of our common language; and probably, after the Bible, there is no book of which this more widely true than of Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*.

The next evidence I adduce as to the secularity of ringing is a book entitled "The School of Recreation" by a certain "R.H.," published in the year 1684. The subjects included in this treatise are Hunting, Racing, Hawking, Riding, Cock-fighting, Fowling, Fishing, Shooting, Bowling, Tennis, Ringing and Billiards. The inclusion of instruction about change-ringing in such company as this shows not only that it was secular, but that it was an eminently respectable pursuit. The preface to the book is so quaint that I give it entire.

"TO THE READER.

Man the abridgement of the Creation or the Compendium of all God's works, having diversified himself by sin of that original innocence and Angelical state of life wherein his Creator had placed him, and thereby subjected his collapsed nature to the malediction of God, 'In the sweat of thy face thou shalt eat thy bread,' etc. It pleased however the Almighty to continue and confirm that original grand charter he had at first granted him of being *Lord of the Creatures*, hereby intimating that though man is now born to trouble, labour and cares, as the sparks fly upward, yet God has not deprived him of any comfort or felicity which the earth or creatures of it can afford, but has invested him with a superior authority and dominion over the beast of the field, the fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea. Thus it comes to pass that every creature pays a duty and a subjection (as it were) to man, as to their Master; and notwithstanding the ferocity and savageness of their natures, become tame and submissive to the empire of man. They court his favour and mutely supplicate his friendship and confederacy for the subduing the enemies of their several species; they readily obey his precepts, and ravish't with his service willingly execute his commands. And thus by this prime privilege from God, man is allowed the liberty of subduing the creature, and recreating his mind by hunting, fowling, fishing, and the like; and by observing the natural instincts of every species, the innate enmity and cunning of every creature, may glorify the immense wisdom of his Creator.

"And as the liberty of Recreation in lawful Exercises is thus natural, so is it highly necessary and useful too. Recreation keeps up the strength and alacrity of the bodily forces, without which the soul cannot work; I mean those brisk and violent exercises, which the following sheets specify.† They cause the body to transpire plentiful sweats, and exhale those black and fuliginous vapours which too much oppress some men, and remove the obstructions which hinder the circulation of nature. Brisk exercises render a man active, vigorous, strong and hardy, and attenuate and disperse that stagnation of humours, benumbedness and dullness which idleness contracts; nay (as one excellently observes), divers bodily infirmities, diseases and undecencies are hereby regulated and amended. Riding was used by the great Drusus for the strengthening his weak and small thighs and legs; and by his late Majesty, especially after dinner; and is also good for the head; shooting in a long bow for the breast and arms, and helps squinting; bowling for the reins, stone, gravel, etc.

"Nor are the several other games commonly practised less commendable were they used with a modest and prudent care. I recommend them as useful as the other, were a right use made of them. I would not have them made a trade instead of a Divertisement. But especially those that are managed by skill, and not fortune, may be learned, for these acquaint a man with numbering and quicken the fancy and memory and recreate the mind.

"And as recreation is thus natural and necessary, so is it commendable too, and recommended by the practices of all ages; as well sacred as profane Histories, plainly testifying the truth of it. But I shall not trouble you any longer by detaining you at the door, and enumerating the various examples which may authorize a virtuous use of recreations, and apologise for this work; the severest stoic being never so cruel to himself or nature as not to give his mind some relaxation, and recreate it in some more pleasant paths than the miry heavy way of his own sullen and wilful resolutions. Nor do our modern stoics, though of the strictest lives, deny themselves some mental, if not bodily, recreation, although perhaps, infirmity, age, station, degree, may render their divertisements the more private, yet not totally denied. Solomon had his Ittan for recreations, as Josephus informs us, and the heathen sages their Olympiques, wherein were exercised wrestling, running with horses, leaping, coursing with chariots, contentions of poets, rhetoricians, disputations of philosophers, &c.

"And because *velle suum cuique*, every man's nature claims a special prerogative in the electing a recreation suitable to itself, one thing being very pleasing and delightful to one, and offensive and troublesome to another, I have, therefore, like the industrious bee, gathered honey from various flowers, and, according to your palate, taste and eat; I have carefully delineated and drawn to the life the divers figures of the several recreations, and leave you to admire that piece you fancy best, entreating you to put them to the best use, not to make them your trade instead of your recreation, in which sense I would have you to accept this; and now you may walk in and view the structure."

Next week I will deal further with the *School of Recreation*.

† It is plain that this writer uses the word "exercise" as a general name for all the sports he enumerates, including change-ringing. This is the earliest use of the familiar term "exercise," as applied to our art, of which I am at present aware. It is used in the London Scholars' book of 1702, as "Exercise and Recreation," "Exercise and Diversion," "Exercise or Sport," and "Exercise" alone. In the preface to the *Clavis* of 1788, ringing is classed among "Athletic Exercises, or Amusements," and the book is dedicated to "The whole Exercise at large," thereby showing that by that time the term "Exercise" had come to mean, as it still does, both the art itself and those who practise it. So that if we trace back the use of one of our most familiar terms—one appearing on the title-page of this paper—we find it originally applied to change-ringing as a branch of sport.

"MARBLLETTE."—The new, excellent, imperishable material for Peal-Boards.—See advertisement.

WOODBURY, DEVON.

In the autumn of last year a party of ringers visited various parishes for peal purposes. Woodbury was one of the towers where success attended their efforts, and to commemorate the accomplishment of a peal, and the fact that it was the first in the parish, an illuminated board (executed by Messrs. Shepherd Bros., Exeter), has been placed in the belfry of the church. The board bears the following:

"Devon Guild of Ringers.—A peal of Stedman Triples, 5040 changes, Thurstans' four-part, was rung, true and complete, on these bells by the following members of the above Guild on Monday, October 10th, 1898. Rev. G. F. Coleman, 1; Rev. W. S. Willett, 2; Rev. Maitland Kelly, 3; J. W. Taylor, 4; Rev. H. C. Courtney, 5; F. Shepherd, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; J. Moss, 8. Time, 3 hrs. 6 mins. Tenor 25 cwt. This is the first peal ever rung on the bells."

The ceremony of unveiling and handing over the board took place in the belfry on Saturday afternoon, and was well attended. Among those present were the Rev. H. Neely (Vicar), the Rev. Maitland Kelly, and a number of members of the Guild.

The Vicar conducted a short and appropriate service. At a suitable interval the Rev. Maitland Kelly asked the Vicar's acceptance of the board, and said that a peal really meant the accomplishment of the number of changes that could be rung on seven bells, viz.: 5040; and it involved a great deal of previous industry and perseverance, physical endurance—for 5040 changes required three hours, or close upon it, of continuous ringing—and skill. The names on the board were those of veterans in change-ringing, and the younger ringers present must remember that there was a time when not one of the peal ringers could ring or "set" a bell. A peal meant, too, a great deal of ability on the part of the conductor. In this connexion he was exceedingly pleased to know that by the peal-board the name of the conductor would be perpetuated, because there was no one in England or the world who had done more to promote change-ringing than Mr. Robinson, who was honoured by all campanologists, and who had proved himself a right good conductor. Mr. Kelly proceeded to urge that a peal was not only an accomplishment and gratification, but should be regarded as an offering to God, and to point out that change-ringing was pushed forward, because until it had been mastered ringers were not producing the best music they could on the bells. In conclusion, he alluded to the fact that the present treble and second bells of the peal were added in memory of the Rev. J. L. Fullford, who for so many years was Vicar of Woodbury, and who always took a keen interest in everything connected with the church and in the Devonshire Guild of Ringers. The Guild was primarily promoted in part in the parish, because though the first President was the late Colonel Troyte, of Huntsham Court, the first Hon. Secretary was the Rev. Langdon Fullford, of Woodbury. He hoped the record of the achievement of the peal would be an incentive to the local band to study change-ringing and eventually to ring one themselves.

The Rev. R. H. Neely, in accepting the peal-board on behalf of the churchwardens and parishioners, said it was to him a very interesting occasion, being the eve of his induction into the parish twelve months ago. And one of his first official acts was to lay down a code of rules for the ringers, whose conduct in the belfry had been all that could be desired, and whose progress in the art of ringing had been noted with gratification by parishioners as well as himself. The ceremony was then closed.

ST. PETER-AT-ARCHES SOCIETY, LINCOLN.

This society has now ceased to exist, owing to a difference with the church authorities arising from the fact that the church is situated in the heart of the city. The ringers, who were a voluntary band, have always shown every consideration for the neighbours of the church, and maintain they have been very badly and unfairly treated by the Rector and churchwardens. (Signed) C. W. P. CLIFTON, Master.

PORTSEA (Hants).—On May 25th, at the parish church, 576 Treble Bob Major. J. Harris, 1; J. Harper, 2; J. Symons, 3; C. Reynolds, 4; C. Reynolds, 5; E. Newman, 6; Rev. G. J. Bayley, of Londo 17; F. S. Bayley, 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

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.—The annual meeting of this Society will be held to-day, Saturday, June 17th, at Lichfield. Ringing on Cathedral bells from 2 to 4. Committee meeting and payment of subscriptions in belfry at 4 p.m. Service in Cathedral at 5 p.m. in the Lady Chapel, preacher, the Ven. Archdeacon of Stafford, President. Tea at Coffee House at 5.30.

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

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. G. N. Pilkington, at St Mary's, Bedford, to-day, Saturday, June 17th. Ringing to commence at 6 p.m.

C. EDWARDS, *Hon. District Sec.*

The Lancashire Association, Manchester Branch.—A meeting of the above will be held at Christ Church, Pendlebury, to-day, Saturday, June 17th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Business meeting at 7 p.m.

W. BROWN, *Branch Secretary.*

The Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Cheddleton to-day, Saturday, June 17th.

REV. G. T. BIRCH, } *Hon. Secs.*
W. TWIGG, }

The Hereford Diocesan Guild.—The festival will be held at Leominster on Wednesday, June 21st, 1899, by kind permission of the Vicar and Churchwardens. Service at 11 a.m. in the Priory church, preacher, Rev. A. Pope, M.A., Vicar of Upton Bishop, with offertory on behalf of the Guild funds. Annual meeting at the free library at twelve o'clock. Dinner (2s.) at The Oak hotel at 1 p.m. Brakes, free of charge, to Bodenham, Eye, and Kingsland towers. Hampton Court Gardens will be open to members by kind permission of J. H. Arkwright, Esq. Parties of eight ringers can travel by rail at 1½ fare, by previous notice to local Stationmaster or Hon. Sec. Those attending and wanting dinner are kindly requested to send notice not later than the 17th instant to—

A. C. LEE, *Hon. Sec. & Treasurer.*
Lugwardine Vicarage, Hereford.

Notice.—The 88th anniversary of Lavenham bells will be celebrated on Wednesday, June 21st. Visitors will be made welcome.
A. SYMONDS.

Old East Derbyshire Association.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Norton on Saturday, June 24th. The ring of eight will be available from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Business meeting at The New inn at 5 o'clock. All ringers cordially invited. E. JAMES, *Hon. Sec.*

The Hertfordshire Association.—A district meeting will be held at Rickmansworth, on Saturday, June 24th, when the tower of the parish church will be open for ringing from 3 p.m. Tea at 5.30, business meeting to follow. Members and visitors intending to be present are requested to notify the same on or before Wednesday, June 21st, to

E. P. DEBENHAM, *Hon. Sec.*

The Middlesex County Association—North and East District.—A meeting of the members of this district will be held on Saturday, the 24th June, at St. Stephen's church, Hampstead, by the kind permission of the

Rev. J. Kirkman. Members and friends of the Association are cordially invited to attend. Bells raised at 5 o'clock.

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

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The monthly ringing meeting of the above society will be held at Tong on Saturday, June 24th. Meeting house, The Greyhound inn. Handbells provided. Members and friends cordially invited.

H. GAYTHORPE, *Hon. Sec.*

Lancashire Association — Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Thomas's, Moorside, on Saturday, June 24th. Bells ready at 4 p.m., and meeting at 6 p.m. All ringers invited, members or not.

E. B. SHAW, *Branch Sec.*

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—Cirencester Branch.—The next meeting of the members of this branch will be at Northleach on Saturday, June 24th. Short service at the parish church, followed by tea. Bells open for ringing at 2.30 p.m. One shilling each towards expenses allowed to all members present on giving three days' notice to me.

REV. CHARLES GOTT, *Branch Sec.*
Llatten Vicarage, Cricklade.

The Saffron Walden Society, Established 1623.—The anniversary will be held on Monday, June 26th.

F. J. FITSTOW, *Hon. Sec.*

The Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The next quarterly and committee meeting of the above Association will be held at Pershore on Saturday, July 1st, 1899, by the kind permission of the Rev. J. H. Bridgwater, Vicar. Service in the Abbey at five o'clock. Business meeting to follow in St. Agatha's mission room. Tea will be provided (free) for all members sending in their names to me on or before Tuesday, June 27th. The tower and bells are placed at the members' disposal for ringing.

JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

The Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Taunton on Saturday, July 1st. Full particulars on June 24th. It is hoped that members will use every endeavour to attend, and inform the Hon. Secretary so that proper arrangements may be made. Notices of any special subject to be discussed must be sent to the Hon. Secretary at once.

HY. W. TOMKINS, *Hon. Sec. & Treasurer.*
The Cottage, Old Cleeve, Washford.

The Llandaff Diocesan Association.—The Midsummer quarterly meeting will be held at Caldicot, Monmouthshire, on Saturday, July 1st. Meeting in schoolroom at 4 p.m. By the kind invitation of the Vicar a tea will be provided in the school at 5 p.m., free to members sending the number likely to attend from their respective towers to me not later than Monday, June 26th. Bells available all day.

H. G. WHITE, *Asst. Sec.*
18, Cymmer Street, Cardiff.

BURNLEY, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, June 24th, at St. Peter's church, a meeting is to be held to present J. Pollard (who has been a ringer for over 63 years), with a long-service medal (given by the *Sunday Companion*). He is supposed to be the oldest ringer in Lancashire. Tea will be provided, reasonably, for all names received by the 22nd. Tea at five; meeting at seven. Bells ready at three or sooner.

H. TOMLINSON.
3, Alnwick Court, West Gate, Burnley.

Compositions.

TWO PEALS OF BOB MAJOR.

BY ARTHUR T. KING, *Barnet.*

5056.				
23456	W	B	M	H
23645	-	2	-	-
56234	-	-	-	-
42635	-	-	-	-
63425	-	-	-	-
46325	-	-	-	-
34625	-	-	-	-
62345	-	-	-	-
36245	-	-	-	-
24365	-	-	-	-
32465	-	-	-	-
43265	-	-	-	-
43526	-	2	-	-
65432	-	-	-	-
24536	-	-	-	-
53246	-	-	-	-
25346	-	-	-	-
32546	-	-	-	-
54326	-	-	-	-
35426	-	-	-	-
42356	-	-	-	-
34256	-	-	-	-
32456	-	-	-	S

Repeated.

5088.				
23456	W	B	M	H
23564	-	-	-	-
45236	-	-	-	-
24365	-	-	-	-
53246	-	-	-	-
34562	-	-	-	-
25346	-	-	-	-
25463	-	-	-	-

Five times repeated, with a single instead of a bob mid-way and end.

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H.Y.—Such a process would now be laughed at. "Interdicts" have "gone off."

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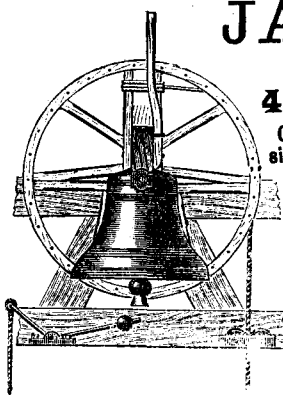
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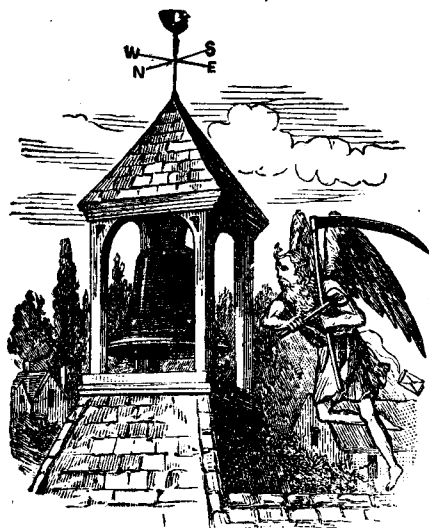
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No. 898. --VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 1899.

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Sydney Town Hall,	Church).
N.S.W.	Windermere Church.
Hammersmith Parish Ch.	Eiffel Tower, Paris.
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Duke of Albany Memorial,	Aylesford do.
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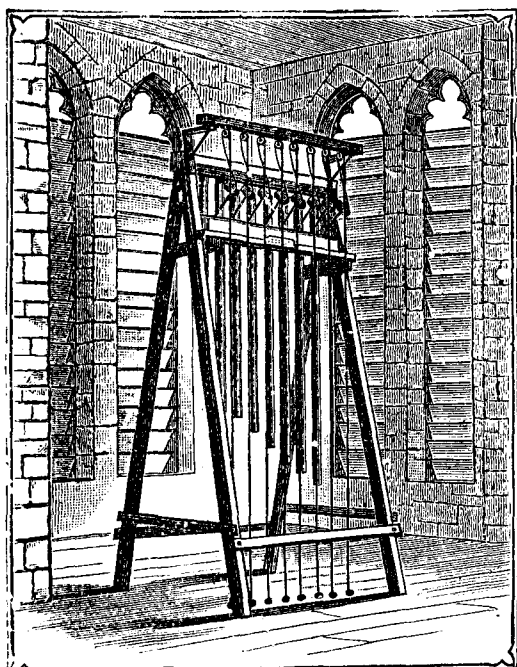
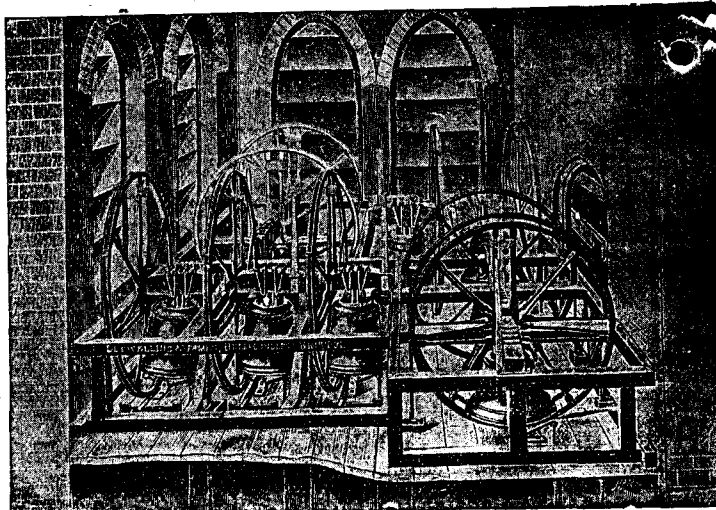
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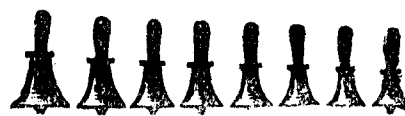
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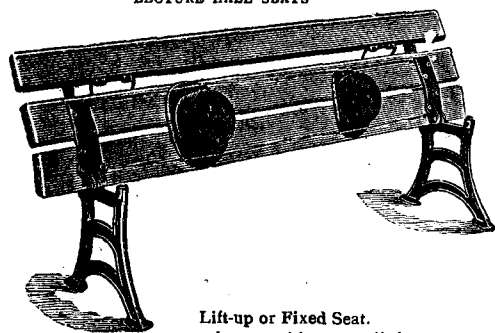
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 898.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 1899.

[VOL. XVIII.]

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

The Annual Festival of this Guild has just been held at Salisbury. There was a large attendance of members, the total number taking part in the festival being 146. The day's proceedings commenced at 11.0 a.m. with a service at St. Thomas's church, consisting of a shortened form of morning prayer. The hymn, "Three in One and One in Three," was sung before the sermon, which was preached by the Bishop of Salisbury from Num. x. 1, 2, 10. His lordship expressed pleasure at the large number of members present that day. He trusted they would bear the objects the Guild had in view constantly in mind, do all they could to ensure their extension, and not be content with a policy of self-satisfaction. He was pleased to see that several parishes had added to their peals during the past year. He saw by the annual report that fifteen out of the forty-two associate parishes in the diocese had peals of eight bells. A short time ago he had the pleasure of witnessing the casting at Mr. Blackburn's works of the first bell which had been cast in the city since 1731. He trusted the old industry would be revived, and if they had their bells cast in Salisbury it would do much to bring about the desired effect. In conclusion the Bishop asked them to contribute liberally to the offertory, which was in aid of the Guild. The hymn, "When morning gilds the skies," was then sung, and the benediction, pronounced by the Bishop, closed the service.

The annual meeting of the Guild was held in the St. Thomas's boys' schoolroom immediately after the service. The Master of the Guild (Mr. H. H. Palaiet) presided. The minutes of the last general meeting having been read and confirmed, the election of officers for the ensuing year was proceeded with. Mr. Palaiet and Mr. W. Pinckney were re-elected Master and treasurer respectively. The Master then announced that Mr. Blackburn, owing to his time being increasingly occupied with other duties, would not seek re-election as general Secretary. On the motion of Mr. Grist, seconded by Mr. Powney, Captain Wiltshire was elected as his successor, and after some demur, he consented to act on condition that the assistant-secretaries, whom he described as being more ornamental than useful, should not be re-appointed. This was agreed to. The Secretaries for Dorset and Wilts. Mr. A. Grist and the Rev. C. W. Hony, were re-appointed. Messrs. F. Rigden, J. R. Jerram, A. Smith, J. Judd, and S. Macey were again elected on the special committee. Mr. Blackburn, who was heartily thanked for his services as general Secretary, was elected on the committee in the place of the Rev. J. G. Bond, and the Rev. C. Ll. Sanctuary took the place of the Rev. C. Myers. Mr. G. Harris was re-appointed auditor, and Messrs. Palaiet, Smith, and Blackburn representatives on the Central Council. Mr. S. Hillier's name was added to the list of instructors.

After reading the report, Captain Wiltshire mentioned that there had been an increase of nearly fifty in the ringing members during the past year, and expressed a hope to see a still larger increase. He also gave notice that at the next meeting he would bring forward a motion relating

to the date of the financial year, which he desired should be altered from December to Easter.

After some discussion it was decided that the next annual meeting should be held at Marlborough. This concluded the business. During the afternoon companies of ringers rang at several towers in the neighbourhood.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THE meetings arranged for the central division will this year take place at towers which have not yet been formally visited by the Association, and the first of these was held at Aldrington on Saturday, May 27th. The tower contains a nice little ring of six, and being handy to Brighton, a fair number of visitors turned up. There were representatives present from St. Peter's and St. Nicholas' (Brighton), Shoreham, Angmering, Aldrington, Goring, Lewes, etc. The Rev. E. Morgan, the incumbent, conducted a service specially for the ringers at five o'clock, and subsequently he presided at the tea which was had at The Railway Hotel, to which between twenty and thirty sat down. The business meeting which followed was soon got through, and Mr. E. C. Merritt then proposed in felicitous terms a cordial vote of thanks to the Rev. E. Morgan for holding the service, and presiding over the meeting. In reply the rev. gentleman warmly welcomed the Association to Aldrington, and expressed the hope that the visit at some future date might be repeated. An adjournment was then made to the tower, and as in the afternoon touches of Bob Minor, Treble Bob, and Grandsire and Stedman Doubles were rung. Later in the evening an enjoyable impromptu smoking concert was held, the songs being interspersed with touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Treble Bob Major on handbells by Messrs. F. Bennett, G. Williams, K. Hart, and J. S. Goldsmith; and selections by the Aldrington handbell ringers.

INVITATION MEETING AT HURSTPIERPOINT.—As an acknowledgement of the services given by several Brighton gentlemen in instructing the Hurstpierpoint band, the Rector (Rev. A. C. Bevan), kindly entertained a number of ringers on Saturday, June 3rd. The visitors included the Rev. J. W. G. Loder Cother (Hon. Secretary of the Association), and Messrs. G. Williams, F. Bennett, K. Hart, G. King, E. C. Merritt, and R. J. Dawe (St. Peter's, Brighton), W. Palmer (St. Nicholas, Brighton), and J. S. Goldsmith and A. J. Turner (Lewes). On arriving at Hurst—as the village is locally known—the proceedings opened with a course of Major and a couple of touches of Grandsire Triples at the parish church. An adjournment was then made to the Chinese Gardens, of which Mr. A. Fuller (late of St. Peter's Brighton society) is the proprietor. Here plenty of amusements were found to keep the visitors busy until tea time: boating, quoits, swings, etc., being indulged in. There were several ladies with the party, and while their husbands were indulging in the more violent exercises, they found plenty to amuse and interest them. Mr. Fuller maintained his reputation as a caterer, and the tea which he provided was done ample

justice to. The Rector presided, and at the conclusion the Rev. J. W. G. Loder-Cotter proposed a hearty vote of thanks to him for his kindness. Mr. Bevan responded in a brief speech.

Touches of Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, and Treble Bob Major were then rung on handbells, the performers being Mr. and Mrs. G. Williams, Messrs. Hart, King, Bennett, and Goldsmith. This was followed by a game of bat and trap, and the tower was then again visited. The Rector, who is among the local beginners, took part in a couple of touches of Grandsire Triples with other members of the Hurst band. A touch of Double Norwich brought the ringing to a close, and the visitors then left for their respective destinations after a most enjoyable day.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

The annual meeting of this society was held at Lichfield on Saturday, June 17th, in glorious weather. Altogether about eighty ringers were present from various towers in the district. Ringing was indulged in during the afternoon at the Cathedral (ten bells), and St. Mary's (eight bells). At five o'clock a well-attended service was held in the Lady Chapel of the Cathedral. The authorized form of service was read by the Rev. Prebendary Southwell, a member of the society, and an address given by the President, the Ven. Archdeacon Hodgson, Rector of Handsworth. He took for his text Romans xi., verse 13: "I magnify mine office," and pointed out that what St. Paul did every one should do. The Apostle did not magnify himself, but he did consider the office that was entrusted to him as a most sacred charge. The same view should be taken by all who held any office in the Church. Such Associations of change-ringers as that to which they belonged were formed with several objects, but the first object stated in the rules of this society was to recognise the position of ringers as church-workers, and he urged all ringers to remember this and magnify their office.

After the service an adjournment was made to tea. The Archdeacon presided, and was supported by the Rev. Prebendary Southwell, the Rev. O. W. Steele, Rector of St. Michael's, Lichfield, the Rev. H. V. Stuart, Vicar of Cannock, and J. S. Pritchett, of King's Norton. Before leaving, the Archdeacon in acknowledging a vote of thanks made a genial reply, and promised so far as he could to support the interests of the society. The general business meeting was held after tea, the Rev. O. W. Steele taking the chair. The list of peals rung by members of the society during the past year was read. In quality these were considered to be an advance on previous years. The total number was twenty-five, including seven peals of Stedman Triples, one of Double Norwich, one of Cambridge Surprise, and two of Grandsire Caters, one of the latter consisting of 11,000 changes.

The balance-sheet was read and adopted, and the officers of the society re-elected. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the chairman for his kindness in presiding both at the general meeting and at the committee meeting held earlier in the afternoon.

The next meeting of the society will be held at Walsall on Saturday, September 30th, if possible.

A PEAL OF 362,880 GRANDSIRE CATERS, 6d.
Contains the full extent of changes on nine bells. Forwarded Post Free, on receipt of 7d. By James Hewett, 16 Chapel Row Gosport.

ISLIP, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

The annual meeting of the Association for Higham Ferrers Second Deanery was held at Islip on Monday, June 12th. Members to the number of about 40 were present from the following parishes:—Aldwinckle, Tichmarsh, Thrapston, Woodford, Thorpe Achurch, and Islip, and during the morning each team of ringers in succession had the use of the bells of the Parish Church for three-quarters of an hour. Some excellent change-ringing was done, and successful peals of Oxford Bob and Treble Bob rung during the day were a proof of the value of the Association's efforts in encouraging the study and practice of this sort of change-ringing. From eight o'clock in the morning until seven in the evening the bells were scarcely silent for a moment. Mr. S. G. Stopford-Sackville, the President of the Association, presided at the dinner, which was excellently served at The Woolpack inn by Mr. Beaver. After dinner, the toast of "Church and Queen" was proposed in felicitous terms by the President, and that of "Success to the Association" by Mr. T. S. Agutter (Parish Churchwarden, Islip). The last-named toast was responded to by the Rev. G. M. Edmonds (Secretary), who also presented a statement of the work and finances of the Association, and in the course of his speech congratulated the ringers of Tichmarsh and Thorpe Achurch on the improvements made since the last meeting to the bells in the churches of their parishes, and expressed the regret which all the members sincerely felt at the absence on account of illness of a veteran and widely-respected ringer, Mr. Eli Hudson, of Islip. A vote of thanks to the Chairman (Mr. S. G. Stopford-Sackville), proposed by Mr. Ben Green, of Woodford, was carried by acclamation.

At three o'clock a short service was held in the Parish Church. The ringers, preceded by the choir, entered in procession by the West door, singing a special hymn, "Set between the earth and heaven, Sweetly sounds the bells on high." The service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. A. C. Neely). The lesson, from 1 Corinthians xiv., was read by the Rural Dean, the Rev. F. M. Stopford, Tichmarsh, and an excellent and telling sermon, containing much practical advice and kindly advice to bell-ringers and to Churchwardens generally was preached from the text, Colossians iii. 23, by the Rev. E. E. Law, Vicar of Raunds. The following clergy were also present: The Rev. F. G. Hodgson, Aldwinckle; the Rev. J. S. Watson, Lowick; the Rev. C. E. Weston, Thorpe Achurch; and the Rev. G. M. Edmonds, Stoke Doyle. The Rectory gardens were open to members of the Association throughout the day, and here tea was provided for them after service. A good number of the members supped together at The Woolpack, when the Rector presided, and proposed the health of the Host and Hostess, whose catering left nothing to be desired. The day's proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the Secretary, the Rev. G. M. Edmonds, proposed by the Rector, and followed by three hearty cheers.

WEEDON, NORTHANTS.

The annual festival of the Daventry, Weedon and District Association was held with distinct success on Tuesday, June 6th. The proceedings commenced with the dinner at one o'clock, at which about sixty present thoroughly enjoyed the meal. The clergy present were the Revs. W. G. Whittingham (Vicar), A. O. James (Bugbrooke), H. H. Crawley (Stowe), E. W. Harrison

(curate of Weedon), W. Gregson (Flore), W. H. Logan (Whilton), and the Hon. Secretary (Rev. F. Churchill, Everdon). Mr. J. Phillips and Dr. F. L. Underwood were also present. After dinner the Vicar welcomed the visitors to Weedon, and wished to become a member. The Hon. Secretary read the balance-sheet, which was about £4 to the good, besides outstanding subscriptions. A short service was held in the church at which the Rev. W. Martin, Rector of Brington, was the special preacher, who took his text from Romans x. 18: "Yes, verily their sound went into all the earth." After service ringers from Harpole, Whilton, Weedon, Bugbrooke, Welton, and Flore, were engaged in a competition on the church bells which have just been re-tuned and rehung by Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, and the "go" of them is excellent. The test pieces consisted of Grandsire, Gog, and Antelope. The company then met in the vicarage grounds, when Mr. H. D. Smart, of St. Edmund's church, Northampton, gave his decision, viz.: 1—Bugbrooke; 2—Harpole; 3—Welton. In giving his decision he suggested that the ringers should adopt the modern method of learning a peal instead of committing the peal to memory.

The Rev. O. James moved a hearty vote of thanks to the judge for his services. Mr. J. Phillips seconded, and it was carried.

Mr. Arthur Green (Whilton), moved in consequence of the judge's suggestion that they have an instructor during the winter months, which was seconded by Mr. W. Clarke (Whilton), and carried by seventeen votes to seven.

The Revs. W. H. Logan, W. Whittingham, and Mr. Horton were added to the committee. A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar closed the proceedings.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TREVETHIN BRANCH.—On Saturday, May 27th, Mr. E. Davies, of Caerleon, and Mr. J. Jones, of Newport, paid a visit to Trevethin at the invitation of the Trevethin bell-ringers. Arriving at Trevethin about six o'clock, the bells were raised and several plain courses of Grandsire Triples were rung. The company then adjourned to the Yew Tree Inn, which is situated close to the Church, and kept by one of the ringers. Here a meat tea was provided, the Rev. C. E. T. Griffiths presiding. After tea, Mr. Trumper, the Captain, on behalf of Trevethin ringers, presented Mr. Davies with a silver-mounted umbrella, as a slight token of the services Mr. Davies had rendered them in instructing them in method-ringing. Speeches were made by the Vicar and Mr. Davies, which brought a very enjoyable evening to a close.

People who are fond of the pleasant sea trips by the New Palace Steamers, will be interested to learn that this Company's magnificent steamer "La Marguerite," having undergone a thorough overhaul in her machinery during the last few months, made her steam trial-trip on Tuesday last, with such satisfactory results, that it may be safely asserted her reputation as one of the fastest and most popular pleasure steamers running from the Thames will be greatly increased during the present season. Her first Sailing will be on 28th inst., at 7.10 a.m., from Tilbury (a special train from Fenchurch Street Station at 6.15 a.m.), when she will make her usual trip to Margate and Bologne and back in the day, allowing passengers 3½ hours on shore at Bologne. She will repeat the same trip every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday during the season, whilst on Tuesdays she will run to Margate and Ostend and back, and on Sundays to Southend, Margate and back.

ADDRESS WANTED.—Mr. Henry Springall, of London.

THE EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting of the above Association was held at Ault Hucknall on Saturday, June 10th, members being present from South Normanton, Tibshelf, Wingerworth, Bolsover, and North Wingfield, and a visiting friend from Mansfield.

The meeting was held under the sycamore tree again ("Plain Speaker" note), beautiful summer weather prevailing. Mr. T. Clough was voted to the chair, and the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Hearty votes of thanks were given to the Vicar (Rev. F. Brodhurst), for the use of the church bells; also to Mr. T. Clough for presiding; and lastly to Mr. and Mrs. Twiggs for providing refreshments which were partaken of under the sycamore tree. The flies did this time seem to have a desire to sup with us, as noted by "Plain Speaker" when the last meeting was held there, but we stuck to it manfully. However our small winged visitors evidently meant having their share, for when we had done they seemed bent on more; we therefore left them to pick up the crumbs, a very enjoyable meeting having been held.

T. A.

PATELEY BRIDGE, YORKS.

The annual bell festival of the St. Cuthbert's society was held on Sunday, May 28th. The Rev. F. E. Robinson, M.A., Vicar of Drayton, preached morning and evening, when collections were made on behalf of the ringers. Special touches were rung in which the rev. gentleman took part. For morning service 360 Kent Treble Bob was rung. S. Basnett, Jos. Summersell, Rev. F. E. Robinson, G. H. Mason, Jno. Mumford, and Jos. Heckingbottom (Armley, conductor). For evening service 720 Kent Treble Bob was rung. S. Basnett, Jno. Mumford, A. Haigh, Jos. Summersell, Jos. Heckingbottom, and Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor). The local band were glad to have met such an eminent ringer as the Rev. F. E. Robinson, he having rung nearly 600 peals.

THE KIDLINGTON PEAL.—We have no less than six long letters upon this peal, four of these from members of the company who rang it. As the writers of these letters are all of the opinion that the peal was a creditable performance, we think it unnecessary to make such a demand upon our space as to publish them. Their testimony all goes to the same end, but they mostly appear to make a strong point of the peculiar behaviour on the occasion of the opponent.

NOTE TO PEAL.—THE PEAL AT MORTIMER.—This peal, which was reported in our last number, was arranged specially for the brothers Mason, who are local men, all turning up to time with the exception of the "Father," through some misunderstanding as to time, the other ringers having a stroll round the church. At last the cry was, "Father's arrived," and the bells were soon going to Stedman Triples, and after 2 hrs. 53 mins., a good peal had been rung. As the ringers left the tower, each one was congratulated by E. Wilkins, Esq. (Churchwarden), who said he had listened to it all, and thought it a grand peal; afterwards all adjourned to The Railway hotel, at the invitation of Messrs. Mason, who had provided a splendid meat tea, to which ample justice was done. The ringers wish to thank the Rev. Cameron for the use of the bells, also Messrs. Mason for so kindly entertaining them.

GIVEN AWAY. PEACH'S LACE CURTAINS.

21^S DIRECT FROM THE LOOMS CARRIAGE PAID 21^S
POPULAR PARCEL.
Lot B.N. contains—1 pair Drawing-room Curtains, Superb Lacey Design, very Rich, 4 yards long, about 2 yards wide; 2 pairs alike, for Dining-room, handsome work, Copied Real Lace, 3½ yds long, 60 ins. wide; 1 pair Bedroom Curtains, Artistic Floral, 3 yds. long, 50 ins. wide. One five o'clock Table Cover, Choice Guipure Lace. Sent, Carriage Paid, for 21s. All goods taped edges. Ecu if desired.
GIVEN AWAY with each parcel—6 Lace Dressing-table Covers, Fringed, one 45 ins. long, 5 smaller. Our 1899 Parcel is the best we have yet sent out. PRIZE MEDALS, Chicago and Toronto. Satisfaction guaranteed or money returned.
1899 PRICE LIST Post Free. 300 Illustrations of Lace, Frilled Edge and Swiss Curtains, Madras Muslins, Laces, Lace Capes, Blouses, Fichus, Pinettes, etc. Lace-edged Roller Blinds, any size, below usual cost. Estimates and patterns sent. Also Hosiery, "Stand Hard" Wear. Factory Prices.

C. Peach & Sons, Lister-gate, Nottingham. Established 1857

NINTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from page 28.)

THE DESIRABILITY OF PRIZE-RINGING IN ANY FORM.

Mr. W. Snowdon said that this was not a subject of his own seeking, for he quite agreed in his deceased brother Jasper's view, viz., that the whole thing was dying a natural death and should be treated as beneath contempt. His brother further held that it was no use blaming the ringers when those in authority were the real culprits for lending the churches' bells for the purpose. Having however been asked to open the subject, he had much pleasure in doing so, trusting that he might prove an honest enemy, and even a generous one. Generous, since we had much to thank our predecessors for, and it was quite possible that the good striking which is generally heard in the north, might be claimed as resulting from past prize-ringing. Its present-day advocates would probably say that there were degrees of prize-ringing. This was true, and churchmen might be thankful for it. Quoting from memory he gave the following from amongst some mss. of his brother. "The ringers of such and such a church challenge any tower within a radius of twenty miles to ring for £10 or £20 a side, articles of agreement to be signed at such-and-such a public-house." Probably this advertisement would appear in *Bell's Life* early in the century. But to be quite fair to the modern prize-ringer, he would exert himself almost for the love of it, and in some cases even an innocent copper kettle would content him. He recalled an amusing speech by a Yorkshire Rector who was describing the old-world sports that were formerly held in his village, and who recounted the fact that papers were in existence that went to prove that the parson's dog had—*ex-officio*—the right of the first bite at the bear. It was unnecessary to say, added Mr. Snowdon, that roars of laughter followed this story, the difference between the pictured parson of old times and that of the present day being only too apparent to those who were listening to the Yorkshire clergyman. From this it might surely be argued that we were all advancing, both parson and people, not forgetting the ringer. On careful analysis it was difficult to say that there was any real harm in competition, taken by itself, for we had competition in almost everything, and perhaps his London friends would forgive him—knowing they were not prize-ringers—if he took an example of an imaginary prize-meeting in the Metropolis. Undesirable as such a thing would be, there would be nothing really harmful in a prize-meeting on the bells at the Imperial Institute, but what a loud outcry there would be if you changed the *venue* and advertised the contest to take place at St. Paul's Cathedral! The real objection to the system was in the desecration of sacred bells, and churchmen of to-day would not tolerate it. The modern ringer has learned to prize the scientific side of change-ringing, and to take an interest in the achievements of his brothers in various parts of the country, and such should prove the true stimulus to the true man.

The Rev. F. E. Robinson said that he found from a tour in Cornwall that there were good motives in prize-ringing. Prize-ringing in that county was in some places under the management of the clergy and churchwardens, thereby an interest in ringing was kept up, and great perfection in the Art was produced. He did not think it wise that any strong pressure should be put upon it, for on the whole it was doing good.

The Rev. Maitland Kelly said that his opinion formed through a tour was that prize-ringing did undoubtedly create considerable interest in ringing, and produced most excellent striking, even if it was but rounds. One feature was the perfect manner of raising and falling. As to the advantages of prize-ringing his opinion was not altered. So long as the bells remained in our churches he could not see how prize-ringing could be encouraged, and it was a custom which in Devonshire was dying out, and he believed that ultimately the whole system would come to an end.

The Rev. G. F. Coleridge said that he was one of those who

had heard some bitter things said against prize-ringing. He had been present at such gatherings and well remembered the lessons he was taught when a young ringer. One of the great objects was to raise and fall, ringing rounds so many times in an hour. There was great skill in the performance, and he would defy 90 ringers out of a 100 to go and do it as it was done in a west country tower. He had himself taken part in such an event, and had done it fifty times in the hour. The whole skill lay in the raising and falling. As a young ringer he spent some amount of time with an old man, who used to compare his notes with his own and point out to him how he had failed in not noting nearly all of the faults, and from whom he learnt many a lesson. There was another point not to be forgotten. He remembered in one village with a population of 500, or at the most 600, that there were seventy ringers. This was accounted for because the parson got them together in bands, and they had a day's ringing with the result that the band which had the least number of faults had the credit of standing at the top of the tree in that village as ringers for the next twelve months. After all they must admit that the bells were rung in a masterly manner, and it was a system that required great skill.

The Rev. W. W. C. Baker considered that change-ringers might well take a lesson from prize-ringers by paying more attention to the raising and falling of bells.

The Rev. H. A. Cockey said that it was a mistake that was generally made to put young ringers into changes before they had attempted to raise and fall a bell. More attention should be given to the raising and falling in peal than is the case at the present time. If this was done many men would prove far better ringers than they did now. If a man could not handle a bell he was no use as a change-ringer.

The President said that he had hoped that the discussion would have covered wider ground and that they might have heard something, for instance, as to the competitive ringing in Sussex. Competition was productive of improved ringing, but the reward should be nothing of substantial value, and should in any case advantage the band as a whole and not the individual members of it. Beyond this he did not think it wise that prize-ringing should be permitted to go.

QUALIFIED CONDUCTORS AND THE SUPPLY.

The Rev. F. E. Robinson said that this was a question which in the interest of the Exercise it was desirable should receive careful consideration. There were conductors who would not tell a young hand anything that he might desire to know, but would leave him to find it out for himself. This was however happily not the case in many places, and he thought that some of the Associations might have had something to do in bringing about the change, for there was now less exclusiveness than formerly. There should be in each band two or three fairly good conductors, and jealousy and exclusiveness, where it still remained, should be swept away.

Mr. Attree said that he would like to go a little further. His ambition was to see every member of the band capable of conducting.

The Rev. C. D. P. Davies said that conducting was too often done by one man in the tower who was revered as knowing everything about what was almost regarded as one of the great mysteries. What was wanted was a more liberal and generous action toward those who endeavoured to do something in conducting. There was, however, now a large amount of literature which did not exist in the past. In too many towers a real difficulty arose because the power of conducting was confined to one man.

The President said that there were some towers with one conductor in which none of the other ringers would take the trouble to learn how to conduct.

COMPLIMENTARY.

The President moved that the best thanks of the Council be given to their Norwich friends for the very excellent arrangements that had been made, and for the kind reception the visitors had received. When it was considered that, in a town by no means generally convenient of access, over forty members of the Council had attended, it would no doubt be admitted

that the meeting, which it was foretold would fail because Norwich was out of the way, had been a success.

Mr. Story seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

On the proposition of the Rev. F. E. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Snowden, a vote of thanks was accorded to the President and the Hon. Secretary.

The meeting then terminated.

In the evening a social gathering of ringers was held at the Royal hotel, when the Norwich contingent gave an excellent selection of music.

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 STEDMAN CINQUES AT NORWICH.

SIR,—I was glad to see a letter in your columns the other week signed "Justice," and also pleased to observe that my friend Mr. Dains had answered it in your last week's issue. I am surprised, however, that he, Mr. Dains, should countenance the class of composition in question; personally, I consider such productions fit only for men who are just learning, or for those who are afraid of the coming-home course. A few years ago I was invited to take part in a peal of Grandsire Cinques at Christ Church, West Bromwich, under the conductorship of Mr. Samuel Reeves. As soon as I was aware that one pair of bells was to lie still, I declined to ring in the peal, but was afterwards much pleased to learn that finally it was decided to ring it legitimately, which was more honour to the band. Had I been in the tower of St. Peter Mancroft as I had promised, I should certainly have declined, without any ill-feeling towards the conductor, to participate in the peal. My opinion is that all such peals should be suppressed, as much better results are obtained by adhering strictly to the methods. I am proud in having the honour to say that I have never rang a peal (in all my two hundreds peals), with two bells hung still, either in the going off or coming home.

JOHN CARTER.

THE BELLS IN LUNDY ISLAND

SIR,—As sea trips are now becoming plentiful, I should be glad to know if the peal of eight bells on Lundy Island are ringable, who are they cast by, and what is their weight? It would be a record for some band to accomplish a peal in that isolated spot. I should hardly think the Island contained any ringers. Hoping some of your readers can enlighten me.

W. T. BAXTER.

9600 SUPERLATIVE.

SIR,—In answer to Mr. Williams as regards the pamphlet issued by the Central Council in 1894, on special calls, I may say I have never seen or heard of one. Whatever the Central Council has said or done, the peal in question is 9600 of Superlative changes from beginning to end; no foreign ones, or bells lying still. The bob is the same original Superlative bob put in another place. I had no intention in the first place, of obtaining a peal in this form, but thought it a great pity, 9312 being the maximum length, when we had 10,400 beautiful changes at our disposal. I then introduced an 8th's place bob, which gave me the opportunity of using the extra course-end of "in and fifth," which is absolutely barred with fourth place bobs. Now Sir, I think greater advantage of your valuable space can better be taken than the present correspondence. In conclusion I forward Mr. Williams my address, also hand the peal down to the Exercise to use their own discretion as to its basis and merit.

F. DENCH.

79, Replingham Road, Southfield Road, S.W.

[Reference to the Kidlington peal will be found elsewhere.]

LONDON.—On April 2nd, at St. Mary Abbots Kensington, for Divine Service in the evening, 1260 of Grandsire Caters. S. Davie, 1; W. E. Garrard (conductor), 2; G. Brush, 3; H. Richardson, 4; H. G. Miles, 5; W. E. Judd, 6; A. E. Bradley, 7; A. F. Harris, 8; W. Fox, 9; J. Judd, 10. Composed by J. P. Bradley. On Tuesday, April 4th, on the occasion of the wedding of Miss Dorothea Bowman with Mr. Hubert Brinton, which took place at Sidmouth on that day, a 1260 of Grandsire Triples from Holt's original. S. Davie, 1; W. E. Garrard, 2; A. E. Bradley, 3; H. G. Miles, 4; W. E. Judd (conductor), 5; A. F. Harris, 6; W. Fox, 7; J. Judd, 8. On Sunday, May 7th, for evening service, a 1260 of Stedman Caters. T. H. Taffender, 1; W. E. Judd, 2; H. G. Miles, 3; H. Richardson, 4; A. E. Bradley, 5; A. F. Harris, 6; F. Richardson, 7; W. Fox, 8; W. E. Garrard (conductor), 9; T. Beadle, 10. Composed by J. P. Bradley. First quarter-peal of Stedman Caters by all, except the treble and conductor.

Ringers' Outings.

THE BOCONNOE SOCIETY, CORNWALL.—On Whit-Monday, O Gay, G. Frost, C. Page, and the Rev. R. H. Sowell (certificated members of the Truro Diocesan Guild), had a most pleasant day's outing, starting at 6.45 a.m. from Bococonoe Park. After a very interesting drive of rather more than two hours St. Goran was reached, where the ringers were most cordially welcomed by the Rev. C. R. Sowell, the Vicar of the parish. Shortly after arriving a move was made for the church, where Matins was said. The Vicar then threw open the tower to the ringers, who after a few attempts pulled off several 6-scores of Bob and Grandsire Doubles, with the tenor (11 cwt.) covering. The next move was made to the vicarage, where an ample repast had been kindly provided. The Vicar and his daughter having been warmly thanked for their hospitality a start was made for St. Michael's, Caerhays. By kind permission of J. C. Williams, Esq., the owner of Caerhays Castle, the ringers walked up through the beautiful drive to the church, where they were met by the Rector, the Rev. G. Martin. Here again several 6-scores were rung, tenor (10½ cwt.) covering, and the Rector having been thanked for the use of the tower and refreshment, a start was made for the last tower to be visited on that day, St. Vergan. The pretty village having been reached, the Vicar, the Rev. J. A. Kempe (Secretary of the Diocesan Guild) notwithstanding his many engagements—it being the annual fete day of the parish, found time to conduct the visitors to the tower, where once more several 6-scores were rung the tenor (12 cwt.) covering. The last two 6-scores were rung by four of the members of the St. Vergan's Guild (the Vicar being one) and two of the visitors. At 5 p.m. tea was provided in the vicarage, and before leaving at 6.45 p.m. the Rev. R. H. Sowell proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Kempe for their kind hospitality and for the use of the tower, which was promptly seconded and unanimously carried. Home was reached at 11 p.m., all being well pleased with the outing, and ready for another such day among kind friends, and the merry bells.

THE ST. JOHN'S SOCIETY, BROMSGROVE.—On Whit-Monday, this company (with a few friends) had their annual outing, the place selected being Bristol. Arriving at the grand old city at about 10 o'clock, the party were met by their old friend Jim Hinton, and a few other Bristol worthies. All having partaken of slight refreshment they repaired to the church of St. Nicholas, where permission to ring had been obtained. While some of the party rung a few touches, others made a journey round the docks; all spending an enjoyable time. After partaking of dinner Clifton, with its Zoological Gardens, was visited, and under the escort of the eminent Bristolians, they were greatly edified by what they saw. A minor conversazione took place later on at The George hotel, where a vote of thanks was passed to those Bristol friends who had so materially assisted to make the visit a success. The Bromsgrove men desire to thank the Vicar of St. Nicholas, Bristol, for so kindly granting permission, and also the tower-keeper for having everything in readiness.

THE ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY, SHEFFIELD.

The members of this society visited Tickhill on Saturday, June 3rd, and rang a peal of Grandsire Triples which was reported in the usual place. After the peal the ringers were entertained to tea at The Carpenters Arms by the Vicar, the Rev. J. G. Goodall, M.A., and Messrs. Brooksbank and Gillott, churchwardens. After tea a sincere and hearty vote of thanks was passed to the gentlemen for their kind hospitality. A chat round amongst the local company, and then it was time for home, which was reached in good time, and again ended the second of this season's convivals, with others in store all in good-time.

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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, JUNE 24, 1899.

IN this number the report of the proceedings at the Ninth Annual Meeting of the Central Council is completed. The agenda paper contained no startling item, but we should be inclined to the idea that the meeting was a successful one, and at the same time interesting and pleasant.

The view taken by Mr. ATTREE with regard to payment of ringers met with some good-humored objections, and the discussion of the subject ultimately gave rise to some hilarity. It appeared that payment (pure and simple) in some cases was looked upon as absolutely necessary, nor do we see how it can be otherwise. The idea of carrying to the end (or any part) of the year the sums received for such work as ringing for weddings and other extra occasions, cannot be satisfactory, we should say.

There may not be the best of processes in existence for the distribution of money earned in this way, but we think those concerned will not be inclined to alter ancient modes of procedure. But the subject was a pertinent one for the Council to take up.

The Provinces.**HARBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.***On Monday, June 12, 1899, in Three Hours and One Minute,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being six 6-scores of Old Doubles, eight 6-scores of Plain Bob, eight 6-scores of Canterbury, and twenty 6-scores of Grand-sire Doubles.

RICHARD H. SMITH Treble.	WALTER WHITE 3.
WILLIAM E. WHITE 2.	THOMAS DICKMAN 4.
CHEETHAM MARTIN Tenor.	

Conducted by WALTER WHITE.

First peal by all excepting W. E. White. Rung to celebrate the marriage of Mr. John James Jackson, of Harby, with Miss Georgina May Jallands, of Hose.

DERBY.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.*On Tuesday, June 13, 1899, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALKMUND,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 17 cwt.

T. W. ANTHONY Treble.	J. A. THOMPSON 5.
G. THOMPSON 2.	J. W. THOMPSON 6.
C. R. LILLEY 3.	J. NEWBOLD 7.
T. ALTON 4.	A. E. THOMPSON Tenor.

Composed by SIR ARTHUR P. HEYWOOD, BART., and
Conducted by A. E. THOMPSON.

First peal in the method on the bells.

APPLETON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(THE APPLETON SOCIETY.)

On Wednesday, June 14, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5075 CHANGES,

R. BENNETT Treble.	H. HOLIFIELD 6.
N. SPINDLOW 2.	S. WHITE 7.
F. WHITE 3.	G. HOLIFIELD 8.
F. BARRETT 4.	R. WHITE 9.
H. WOODWARDS 5.	T. BARRETT Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by G. HOLIFIELD.

Reference to this peal will be found elsewhere.

■ DARTFORD, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.*On Thursday, June 15, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 20 cwt.

GEORGE CONYARD Treble.	— HARRY 5.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE 2.	STAFF-SERGT. A. PYE 6.
ISAAC G. SHADE 3.	HARRY FLANDERS 7.
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 4.	FREDK. J. FRENCH Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN.

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

MANSFIELD, NOTTS.**THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, June 17, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 15 cwt. in F sharp.

EDWARD ROBINSON Treble.	JOHN W. THOMPSON 5.
GEORGE THOMPSON 2.	JOHN HICKMAN 6.
JOSEPH WOOLLEY 3.	SAMUEL WESLEY 7.
ALBERT E. THOMPSON 4.	CHARLES R. LILLEY Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by CHAS. R. LILLEY.

It is upwards of a century since a peal was rung on these bells.

HAWLEY, HANTS.—THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.*On Saturday, June 17, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

MAURICE STEER Treble.	CHARLES GILES 5.
GEORGE HAWKINS 2.	ALFRED E. COUSINS 6.
WILLIAM HORNE 3.	BARZILLAI HAWKINS 7.
ERNEST BRUCE 4.	ALFRED E. REEVES Tenor.

Composed by GEORGE HAWKINS, and Conducted by B. HAWKINS.

This composition is now rung for the first time: Rung as a birthday compliment to Messrs. B. Hawkins and Steer.

STOKE PRIOR, WORCESTERSHIRE.**THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, June 17, 1899, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

WILLIAM BRIGHT* Treble.	OLIVER JAMES 5.
JOHN MASON 2.	GORDON CHECKETTS 6.
GEORGE HAYWARD 3.	WILLIAM PAGE 7.
ALBERT HILL 4.	WILLIAM LEBBON Tenor.

Composed by J. CARTER, and Conducted by W. PAGE.

*First peal of Bob Major. This is the first peal on the bells.

EAST MARKHAM, NOTTS.**THE NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, June 17, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Being seven 720s each called differently.

Tenor 10 cwt.

ARTHUR B. CRAWFORD* .. Treble.	GEORGE R. WINTER 4.
ROBERT MILES 2.	†CHARLES CRAWFORD 5.
THOMAS BRETT* 3.	*WILLIAM FREEMAN Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES CRAWFORD.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor. First peal on the bells.

HENFIELD, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.*On Saturday, June 17, 1899, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5072 CHANGES.

Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

JOHN SMART Treble.	EDWARD C. MERRITT 5.
KEITH HART 2.	*JAMES HUNT 6.
FRANK BENNETT 3.	GEORGE PAYNE 7.
ROBERT J. DAWE 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Composed by FRANK BENNETT, and
Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

*First peal of Double Norwich, also first attempt, and hails from Guildford.

CHIDDINGFOLD, SURREY.**THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.***On Saturday, June 17, 1899, in Three Hours,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES.

Tenor 11½ cwt.

THOMAS W. BURDOCK .. Treble.	FRANK BLONDELL 5.
SEPTIMUS RADFORD 2.	ERNEST ALLEN 6.
JOHN HEATHORN 3.	THOMAS ATTWELL 7.
JOHN J. JONES 4.	CHARLES WILLSHIRE Tenor.

Composed by J. D. MATTHEWS, and Conducted by C. WILLSHIRE.

Reference to this peal will be found on another page.

SHIPLEY, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.*On Sunday, June 18, 1899, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 15 cwt.

BRO. FRED. LONDON Treble.	BRO. WM. R. SANDFORTH 5.
BRO. JOE BROADLEY 2.	BRO. JOS. S. CLARK (P.G.) 6.
BRO. BEN. EMMOTT 3.	BRO. WM. E. LONDON .. 7.
BRO. THOS. B. KENDALL 4.	BRO. G. A. O. NETTLETON Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and
Conducted by BRO. THOMAS B. KENDALL.

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

Handbell Peals.**HORNCHURCH, ESSEX.***On Saturday, June 17, 1899, in Two Hours and Twenty-eight Minutes,*

IN THE BELFRY OF THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES:

Being seven 720s each called differently.

JOHN DALE 1-2.	ACLAND J. PERKINS .. 3-4.
WILLIAM NASH 5-6.	

Conducted by ACLAND J. PERKINS.

Umpire—I. Dear.

SPROUGHTON, SUFFOLK.**THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Monday, June 19, 1899, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,*

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. H. J. MEE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

DAVID SOUTHGATE 1.	GEORGE W. MEE 5.
FRANK ROLFE 2.	EDGAR RIVERS 6.
CHARLES MEE 3-4.	FREDERICK MEE 7-8.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by CHARLES MEE.

This is the first peal of Major by all except C. and F. Mee. All are members of the Sproughton company. Umpire—H. J. Mee.

Miscellaneous.**THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—WIRRAL BRANCH.**

BIRKENHEAD (Cheshire).—On Monday, May 8th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). J. O. Mann, 1; G. Scholes, 2; W. Hughes, 3; W. Shone, 4; G. R. Newton, 5; J. Hughes (conductor), 6. First 720 by Messrs. Mann and Shone.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

KIDSGROVE (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, April 16th, for evening service, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. D. Smith, 1; G. Buckley, 2; A. Archer, 3; F. Dean, 4; H. Dean, 5; G. Siddons (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, May 3rd, 720 Violet Treble Bob standing as before. First 720 in the method by Messrs. Smith, Buckley, Archer, and F. Dean.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, May 7th, at the parish church for Divine Service, 720 Duke of York. F. Hancock, 1; W. Prinn, 2; G. Marsden, 3; S. Robinson, sen., 4; W. J. Nicholson, 5; G. Norman (conductor), 6. On Monday, May 8th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. F. Hancock, 1; W. Rhodes, 2; G. Marsden, 3; S. Robinson, sen., 4; G. Norman (conductor), 5; S. Robinson, 6. Rung as a birthday compliment to W. Rhodes, the band wishing him many happy returns.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—MANCHESTER BRANCH.

PENDLETON (Lancashire).—On Sunday, April 30th, at the church of St. Thomas, being the Sunday Schools anniversary, the following touches were successfully brought round: For Divine Service in the morning 576 Superlative Surprise. For afternoon service 640 Cam-

bridge Surprise. For evening service 1260 Stedman Triples. The ringers were—F. Smith, J. Smith, G. E. Turner, J. Winterbottom, J. Greenhalgh, H. Shuker, A. Cross, and H. Chapman. Also after evening service 288 each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob in which R. Ridyard, of Eccles, took part. The whole was conducted by H. Chapman.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

OSWALDTWISTLE (Lancashire).—On Sunday, March 5th, 720 Plain Bob. S. Collison (first 720), 1; R. Sharples, 2; J. Bentley, 3; T. Holden, 4; C. Sharples (conductor), 5; J. J. Haworth, 6. On Tuesday, March 7th, 720 College Exercise. R. Sharples, 1; J. Bentley, 2; R. Parkinson (conductor), 3; T. Holden, 4; C. Sharples, 5; J. J. Haworth, 6. On Sunday, March 12th, 720 Oxford Single. T. Haworth (first 720), 1; the rest as before. On Tuesday, March 14th, 720 Grandsire. On Tuesday, April 4th, 720 Plain Bob and 720 Violet. R. Sharples, 1; J. Bentley, 2; R. Parkinson (conductor), 3; T. Holden, 4; C. Sharples, 5; J. J. Haworth, 6. Rung as a farewell to T. Holden who is leaving the belfry. On Tuesday, April 11th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. On Sunday, April 16th, 720 College Single and 720 Oxford Single. On Tuesday, April 18th, 720 Plain Bob. On Sunday, April 23rd, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. On Sunday, April 30th, 720 Oxford Single and 720 Grandsire (thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles). S. Collinson, 1; R. Sharples, 2; R. Parkinson, 3; J. Bentley, 4; C. Sharples (conductor), 5; J. J. Haworth, 6.

THE CHEPSTOW AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

CHEPSTOW (Monmouthshire).—On Sunday, March 26th, at the parish church of St. Mary's, 720 Grandsire Minor, tenor covering, in 26 mins. G. Hobson, 2; J. Prickett, 3; *G. Vick, 4; J. Smith, 5; J. Morley, 6; R. Thompson (conductor), 7; B. Tamplin, 8. *First 720. On Sunday, April 16th, for Morning Service, with the bells half muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Mr. F. James, and who had been parish clerk for 30 years, 1008 Grandsire Triples in 42 mins. G. Hobson, 1; G. Vick, 2; J. Prickett, 3; J. Smith, 4; W. Freestone, 5; J. Morley, 6; R. Thompson (conductor), 7; F. Bye, 8. For Evening Service, 504 Grandsire Triples. G. Hobson, 1; G. Vick, 2; J. Prickett, 3; J. Smith, 4; W. Freestone, 5; R. Thompson (conductor), 6; J. Morley, 7; B. Tamplin, 8. Also a 209. E. Williams, 1; G. Vick, 2; J. Prickett (conductor), 3; J. Smith, 4; W. Freestone, 5; J. Morley, 6; R. Thompson, 7; F. Bye, 8. April 22nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes. G. Hobson, 1; G. Vick, 2; J. Prickett, 3; J. Smith, 4; W. Freestone, 5; J. Morley, 6; R. Thompson (conductor), 7; E. Williams, 8. Containing 24 6-7's. Composed by P. W. Davis, of Bangor, North Wales. First quarter-peal for G. Hobson and G. Vick, rung to celebrate the Silver wedding of Mr. Morley and birthday of Mr. Freestone. On Monday, April 24th, 720 of Grandsire Minor, tenor covering. E. Williams, 2; *G. Hobson, 3; J. Prickett, 4; J. Smith, 5; J. Morley, 6; R. Thompson (conductor), 7; F. Bye, 8. *First 720. On Wednesday, April 19th, 336 Grandsire Triples. G. Hobson, 1; E. Williams, 2; J. Prickett, 3; G. Vick, 4; J. Smith, 5; J. Morley, 6; R. Thompson (conductor), 7; F. Bye, 8. On Sunday, April 30th, for Morning Service, 504 Bob Triples. G. Hobson, 1; W. Freestone, 2; J. Prickett, 3; J. Smith, 4; R. Hughes, 5; R. Thompson (conductor), 6; J. Morley, 7; E. Williams, 8. On Saturday, April 29th, an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but was lost after ringing 2098 changes in 1 hr. 20 mins. G. Hobson, 1; W. Freestone, 2; R. Hughes, 3; J. Smith, 4; J. Morley, 5; J. Prickett, 6; R. Thompson (conductor), 7; E. Williams, 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Morley. On Sunday, April 30th, for Evening Service, 924 Grandsire Triples in 33 mins. G. Hobson, 1; J. Morley, 2; J. Smith, 3; R. Hughes, 4; W. Freestone, 5; J. Prickett (conductor), 6; R. Thompson, 7; E. Williams, 8. Also on Sunday Morning, at the home of R. Hughes on handbells, 336 Grandsire Triples. G. Hobson, 1; E. Williams, 2; R. Thompson (conductor), 3-4; J. Smith, 5; J. Morley, 6; R. Hughes, 7-8.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CARDIFF.—On March 16th, for practice at St. John's church, 518 Grandsire Triples. W. Northey, 1; W. B. Biss, 2; W. Lloyd, 3; J. Harris, 4; R. Thompson, 5; J. Clutterbuck, 6; W. Coombes (conductor), 7; J. H. Aldridge. Also 336 Bob Major. W. Lloyd, 1; W. B. Biss, 2; J. Harris, 3; A. W. Layng, 4; R. Thompson, 5; J. Clutterbuck, 6; W. Coombes (conductor), 7; J. H. Aldridge, 8. On Sunday evening, March 19th, 1008 Grandsire Triples. W. Lloyd, 1; G. Watkins, 2; J. Harris, 3; A. Rowley, 4; W. Biss, 5; J. Clutterbuck, 6; W. Coombes (conductor), 7; B. Tilley, 8. On Sunday, March 26th, 461 Grandsire Triples. W. Northey, 1; A. Rowley, 2; W. Lloyd, 3; J. Harris, 4; W. B. Biss, 5; J. Clutterbuck, 6; W. Coombes (conductor), 7; B. Tilley, 8. On Easter Sunday morning, 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Northey, 1; C. Stenner, 2; W. Lloyd, 3; C. Lloyd, 4; C. Winfield, 5; G. Watkins, 6; W. Coombes (conductor), 7.

ductor), 7; B. Tilley, 8. For evening service, 280 Grandsire Triples. W. Lloyd, 1; J. Harris, 2; C. Lloyd, 3; G. Watkins, 4; A. Rowley, 5; J. Clutterbuck, 6; W. Coombes (conductor), 7; B. Tilley, 8. Also 461 Grandsire Triples. C. Lloyd, 1; J. Harris, 2; W. Lloyd, 3; G. Watkins, 4; A. Rowley, 5; J. Clutterbuck, 6; W. Coombes (conductor), 7; B. Tilley, 8. On Sunday, April 16th, for children's service, 405 Grandsire Triples. W. Lloyd, 1; G. Watkins, 2; C. Winfield, 3; J. Harris, 4; A. Rowley, 5; J. Clutterbuck, 6; H. Coombes (conductor), 7; B. Tilley, 8. For evening service 504 Grandsire Caters. W. Lloyd, 1; G. Watkins, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; W. B. Biss, 4; C. Winfield, 5; J. Harris, 6; A. Rowley, 7; J. Clutterbuck, 8; W. Coombes (conductor), 9; B. Tilley, 10.

LLANDAFF.—On Sunday, April 16th, at the Cathedral, 784 Bob Major. W. Lloyd, 1; J. Harris, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; W. B. Biss, 4; A. Rowley, 5; J. Clutterbuck, 6; W. Coombes (conductor), 7; J. H. Aldridge, 8.

COWBRIDGE.—The following touches were rung at the quarterly meeting of the above Association on Easter Monday: 461 Grandsire Triples. W. Lloyd, 1; W. B. Biss, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; J. Harris, 4; G. Watkins, 5; J. Clutterbuck, 6; W. Coombes, 7; B. Tilley, 8. Also 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Northey, 1; W. B. Biss, 2; W. Lloyd, 3; J. Harris, 4; G. Watkins, 5; J. Clutterbuck, 6; W. Coombes (conductor), 7; B. Tilley, 8. And a course of Bob Major. W. Lloyd, 1; J. Jones, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; W. B. Biss, 4; J. Harris, 5; J. Clutterbuck, 6; W. Coombes, 7; G. Watkins, 8.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—MACCLESFIELD BRANCH.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Wednesday, April 12th, 720 Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and ten singles). W. H. Ingham (conductor), 1; T. Taylor, 2; J. M. Davenport, 3; J. Manifold, 4; T. Wood, 5; W. Steele, 6. First 720 in any method by T. Taylor. Also for Divine Service 720 Grandsire Minor. W. Matthews, 1; T. Taylor, 2; H. Davenport, 3; J. Manifold, 4; J. M. Davenport, 5; W. Steele (conductor), 6. First 720 of Grandsire with a bob bell by Messrs. Taylor, H. Davenport, and Manifold. On Monday, May 1st, to commemorate the opening of the bells twenty years ago by the Gawsworth ringers, 720 Grandsire. A. B. Lomas, 1; A. Lawton, 2; W. Steele (conductor), 3; A. Lomas, jun., 4; J. M. Davenport, 5; E. Johnson, 6. Also 240 Kent Treble Bob. A. B. Lomas, 1; W. H. Ingham, 2; W. Steele, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; A. Lomas, jun., 5; E. Johnson (conductor), 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HAYES (Kent).—On Sunday, March 5th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. A. Lanaway, 1; F. Keech, 2; H. Brown, 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Reader (conductor), 5; J. Hack, 6. On March 19th, 720 in the same method. A. Lanaway, 1; H. Brown, 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Reader, 5; J. Hack (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, April 2nd, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. F. Keech, 1; H. Brown, 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Reader, 5; J. Hack (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 in the same method standing as before. On Monday, April 3rd, 720 Grandsire Minor. T. G. Deal, 1; W. Weatherstone (conductor), 2; J. Town, 3; G. Durling, 4; W. Bedwell, 5; J. Hack, 6. On Monday, April 10th, for practice, 720 Oxford Single Bob Minor. A. Killick, 1; H. Brown, 2; W. Weatherstone, 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Reader, 5; J. Hack (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method on the bells and by all the band. On Sunday evening, April 16th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. A. Lanaway, 1; J. Hack, 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Brown, 5; H. Reader (conductor), 6. On April 17th, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob. H. Reader, 1; H. Brown, 2; F. Keech, 3; G. Harwood, 4; J. Town, 5; J. Hack (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Single. G. Harwood, 1; H. Brown, 2; A. Killick, 3; J. Hack, 4; J. Town, 5; H. Reader (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, April 30th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent. F. Keech, 1; J. Hack (conductor), 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Brown, 5; H. Reader, 6.

BORDEN (Kent).—On Easter Day, April 2nd, for evening service at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. T. E. Collard, 1; R. Staines, 2; S. Hutson, 3; C. Millway, 4; C. Duttall, 5; W. Tassell, 6; S. Wade (conductor), 7; R. Weller, 8.

HARTLIP (Kent).—On Sunday, April 16th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob. W. G. Kitchingham, 1; J. Clout, 2; A. J. Day, 3; W. A. Miles, 4; W. J. Walker, 5; H. Lampkin (conductor), 6. On May 5th, a 720 of Oxford Bob. E. G. Hollands, 1; J. Clark, 2; W. J. Walker, 3; W. A. Miles, 4; E. Clout, 5; H. Lampkin (conductor), 6. On May 7th, a 720 of Plain Bob. E. G. Hollands, 1; W. A. Miles, 2; W. J. Walker, 3; W. G. Kitchingham, 4; E. Clout, 5; H. Lampkin (conductor), 6. On May 12th, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. W. J. Walker, 1; W. G. Kitchingham, 2; J. Clout, 3; W. A. Miles, 4; E. Clout, 5; H. Lampkin (conductor), 6. On May 19th, a 720 of Oxford Bob. W. G. Kitchingham, 1; J. Clout, 2; W. J. Walker, 3; W. A.

Miles, 4; E. Clout, 5; H. Lampkin (conductor), 6. On Sunday, May 21st, for Morning Service, a 720 of Plain Bob. E. G. Hollands, 1; H. Lampkin, 2; W. G. Kitchingham, 3; W. A. Miles, 4; E. Clout, 5; W. J. Walker (conductor), 6. Also 720 of Grandsire Minor for Afternoon Service. E. G. Hollands, 1; J. Clout, 2; W. J. Walker, 3; W. A. Miles, 4; E. Clout, 5; H. Lampkin (conductor), 6. Also for Evening Service, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. E. G. Hollands, 1; J. Clout, 2; W. G. Kitchingham, 3; W. A. Miles, 4; E. Clout, 5; H. Lampkin (conductor), 6.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LITTLE MUNDEN (Herts).—On Tuesday, April 18th, 360 Bob Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Wright, 2; A. Lawrence, 3; A. Phillips, 4; J. F. Harvey, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, April 23rd, 720 Bob Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Wright, 2; A. Lawrence, 3; G. Barker, 4; W. H. Lawrence, 5; A. Phillips (conductor), 6. Also two 6-scores of Stedman's Slow Course. On Thursday, April 27th, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, F. Elliott and C. Gale respectively; F. Elliott being only aged 12. On Sunday, April 30th, for Service, 620 each of Stedman Slow Course and Grandsire Doubles. H. Carter, 1; A. Wright, 2; A. Lawrence, 3; A. Phillips, 4; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 5; G. Phillips, 6. Also Sunday, May 21st, two 6-scores in the same method, standing as above. On May 24th, at 5 a.m., in honour of Her Majesty's 80th birthday, four 6-scores of Grandsire and two of Bob Doubles, each called differently, standing as above, A. Phillips, conductor. On Thursday, May 25th, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. F. Elliott (aged 11), 1; W. H. Lawrence, 2; A. Lawrence, 3; A. Phillips, 4; J. F. Harvey, 5; A. Lock, 6.

OXHEY (Herts).—On Sunday, April 9th, for morning service, 288 Stedman Triples. A. W. Brighton, 1; W. H. L. Buckingham, 2; W. Norris, 3; J. B. Bates, 4; W. Norris, 5; G. N. Price (conductor), 6; C. George, 7; H. Martin, 8. Also 240 Double Norwich. W. Norris, 1; B. Prewett, 2; G. N. Price, 3; W. G. Whitehead, 4; C. George, 5; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 6; H. Martin, 7; A. W. Brighton, 8. For evening service 240 in the same method. J. B. Bates, 1; B. Prewett, 2; F. A. Smith, 3; C. George, 4; G. N. Price, 5; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 6; A. W. Brighton, 7; H. Martin, 8. On Sunday, April 16th, 504 Stedman Triples. G. N. Price (conductor), 1; W. H. L. Buckingham, 2; B. Prewett, 3; J. B. Bates, 4; W. Norris, 5; C. George, 6; H. Martin, 7; W. Norris, 8. On Sunday, April 30th, 504 Stedman Triples. C. George, 1; W. H. L. Buckingham, 2; G. N. Price, 3; J. B. Bates, 4; W. Norris, 5; C. Martin, 6; C. F. Winney (conductor), 7; Wm. Norris, 8. On Sunday, May 28th, for Divine Service in the morning, 336 Stedman Triples. W. Norris, 1; H. Eden, 2; C. George, 3; J. B. Bates, 4; Wm. Norris, 5; G. N. Price (conductor), 6; H. Martin, 7; B. Prewett, 8. Also 228 Kent Treble Bob. H. Eden, 1; C. George, 2; B. Prewett, 3; J. B. Bates, 4; Wm. Norris, 5; W. Norris, 6; H. Martin, 7; G. N. Price (conductor), 8. For evening service 288 Stedman Triples. G. N. Price (conductor), 1; H. Eden, 2; B. Prewett, 3; J. B. Bates, 4; C. George, 5; W. Norris, 6; W. Martin, 7; J. Vernon, 8. On May 28th, on handbells, 420 Stedman Triples. C. George, 1-2; H. Martin, 3-4; G. N. Price (conductor), 5-6; J. B. Bates, 7-8.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Sunday, April 2nd, at the parish church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. S. Sargent, 1; W. Moore, 2; F. Warren, 3; C. Bearman, 4; W. Grimwade (conductor), 5; F. Radley, 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Melbourne, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; C. Bearman, 4; S. Sargent, 5; W. Grimwade (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 16th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Smith, 1; S. Sargent, 2; W. Moore, 3; W. Farrow, 4; F. Radley, 5; W. Grimwade (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 30th, 720 New London Pleasure. J. Smith, 1; W. Moore, 2; F. Warren, 3; C. Bearman, 4; S. Sargent, 5; W. Grimwade (conductor), 6. On Sunday, May 14th, 720 Woodbine. J. Smith, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; F. Warren, 4; S. Sargent, 5; W. Grimwade (conductor), 6. On Sunday, May 21st, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Smith, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; C. Bearman, 4; W. Grimwade (conductor), 5; E. Carter, 6. On Sunday, May 28th, 720 Cambridge Surprise. F. Radley, 1; W. Moore, 2; F. Rudkin, 3; F. Warren, 4; E. Radley, 5; W. Grimwade (conductor), 6.

MITCHEAM (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, April 30th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 43 mins. R. Sewell, 1; J. Fayers, 2; J. Drewitt, 3; E. C. Lambert, 4; A. Calver, 5; L. Ferridge, 6; W. S. Smith, 7; J. Currell, 8.

WOOD GREEN (Middlesex).—On April 30th, at St. Michael's church, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor in 40 mins. A. Glasscock, 1; F. W. Ford (1st quarter-peal), 2; F. C. Fordham (1st quarter-peal), 3; J. Miller, 4; A. Miller, 5; S. Wade (conductor), 6.

REMARKS ON THE SECULAR NATURE OF THE ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF CHANGE-RINGING, HISTORICALLY CONSIDERED.

BY R. A. DANIELL.

(Continued.)

This ingenious argument of the preface to the *School of Recreation*, with which I concluded last week, may be briefly stated thus:—All these exercises the author has enumerated are recreations, and they are so by Divine appointment. That being so, they are to be used solely for the purpose which God has appointed, namely, the purpose of recreation. From this starting point the author cannot be expected to discover any condition about change-ringing different from those of the other exercises. A man could never have been supposed to recreate himself by cock-fighting, with the object of glorifying God, though he might thereby glorify Him incidentally, nor could the scientific game of billiards be made ancillary to Divine worship. The bells, to be sure, were in the steeple, but ringing was in the author's view, a recreation, and as such subject to the same conditions as cock-fighting and billiards and the other exercises.

Accordingly the author opens his section on ringing with the following words:—

"Since this recreation of ringing is become so highly esteemed, for its excellent harmony of music it affords the ear, for its mathematical inventions delighting the mind, and for the violence of its exercise bringing health to the body, causing it to transpire plentifully, and by sweats dissipate and expel those fuliginous thick vapours, which idleness, effeminacy and delicacy subject men to; I say for these and sundry other reasons I was induced to bring this of ringing* into the company of exercises in this treatise, that I might as well recreate you with some health-conducing pleasure *at home*, as I have carried you abroad, and there endeavoured to please you in what pastime your inclinations may most peculiarly select.

"Whosoever would then become an accurate master of this excellent art and pleasure, and is very desirous to be esteemed an elaborate and ingenious ringer and be enrolled amongst that honoured society of College Youths, I must beg leave to instruct him before he enters the belfry in these ensuing short rules."

Then follows the technical portion of the section, which lies outside my subject. The author then concludes with the following remarks.

"Thus much shall suffice for my treatment of ringing, and had not the variety of its theme, in which I was insensibly engaged, invited my taste of something of everything, I had not enlarged so much as I have; but I hope the pleasure it may produce will atone for my dilating on so delightful a subject. All I have therefore to add is some advice to the ringer, in the lawful prosecuting this recreation; and that is this:—

"When God in Israel's exodus out of Egypt commanded Moses to consecrate Aaron and his sons and invest them with those pontifical vestments according to the pattern God had cut out, it is observable that the robe of the ephod was with a particular circumstance of beauty to be adorned, by hanging the hem of it with golden bells and pomegranates, each placed in an orderly position one by another round. This was the first institution we can read of, for the use of bells in sacred offices, but the reason was this: because in Aaron's ministration before God, when he entered into the Holy Place, and when he came out the sound of the bells might be heard in the Temple, for a memorial to the children of his people. This use of bells continues in the Aaronial order to this day. From hence the Christian church likewise (of which the Church under the Mosaic dispensation was but a type), has made use of bells for the notifying the time when the people are to assemble, and made a signal for convocating them together to the Temple; and here-

in differing from the Mahometans in the steeples of whose churches are never found any bells, but persons who with a loud voice call them to prayers.

"Now let us make this use of the institution of bells. First let not only the music and delight the bells give thee invite thee to come to the Temple, to be partaker of that pleasure they may afford thy body, but let their music invite thee to come thither when they call thee, to exercise thy soul in devotion to God. Do not let thy frequent coming thither on week-days, for thy diversion make thee absent thyself on Sundays from thy devotion; but let this original use make thee mindful of the *sanctum sanctorum*, the most holy place. Do not let the Sunday morning's peal engage thy presence then, and the ale-house have thy company afterwards. Be as quick in hearing the chiming for prayers as thou art in the notes for pleasure.

When ere the Old Exchange of profit rings
Her Silver Saints Bell of uncertain gains,
Thy merchant soul can stretch both legs and wings,
How canst thou run, and take unwearied pains!

"And shouldst thou not be as nimble when the Saints bell of the church sounds in thy ears, and calls thee to attend the Priest, who now signifies his entrance into the holy place, and invites thee to join with him in the sacrifice of prayer and praise.

"Secondly, nor let the bells be made thy lullaby, to drown some dissatisfaction, and so make thee repair to the belfry (like the nurse to her whistle bells) to quiet thy disturbed mind, and thus (as the Divine poet excellently expresses it), to silence it with

Look, look, what's here? a dainty golden thing,
See how the dancing bells turn round and ring,
To please my bantling, here's a knack will breed
An hundred kisses; here's a knack indeed.

"But let the altar have thy presence in communion with God, in prayers for his grace, and patience to support any calamity that may fall upon thee.

"Lastly, let the bells put you in mind to contemplate on death, and every time you ring, think how long it may be ere one of these may be your turn to have to sound.

The nine sad knolls of a dull passing bell,
With the loud language of a nightly-knell.

"This in short is the use the ringer ought to make of this his recreation, which, if he makes duly and rightly he may then lawfully enjoy all the benefits he can desire from it. And here I shall make an end of this observation by way of advice to the ringer which perhaps coming amongst recreations may look unseasonable. But I know (at least presume) if I meet with an ingenious reader, I shall need no apology for playing the Divine in directing the good use of our pleasures, and aiming at the furtherance of virtue in all our actions."

This sermon arises naturally from the author's views as set out in his preface. He recognises the Divine initiative in all these recreations. This is the entire opposite to the view of Bunyan at the time of his leaving his ringing. He thought he might be punished for ringing. It is worthy of note that these opposite views lead to the same conclusion—the secularity of the Exercise. The author of the book we are considering draws a sharp distinction between bells and ringing. Bells were ordained by God to be on Aaron's robes. But Aaron was not directed to hang bells on wheels and train a Hebrew company in change-ringing. Therefore, while God's original ordinance about bells should remind and urge those who use them to observe their religious duties and privileges, the use of bells in ringing is a modern human invention and comes under another department of God's arrangements for mankind—his arrangements for their recreation.

This book went through several editions, the latest I find at the British Museum being dated 1736. In this last edition Billiards does not appear, and Fireworks, Military Discipline, the Science of Defence and Singing are added. The long preface is superseded by a short and simple one commending the exercises as "suitable recreations for the gentry of England and others wherein to please and delight themselves." The opening paragraph of the section on ringing is omitted, and so is what I have called the "sermon." Ringing therefore was still a suit-

* "This of ringing," is of course an abbreviated form of saying "This exercise of ringing." See my last week's note on the word "Exercise."

able recreation for the gentry of England, though billiards had ceased to be so, but it was entirely secular.

It is not necessary to bring further evidence in support of the secularity of ringing in the last century. We may just glance at the account of the ten bells at St. Bride's, London, being augmented to a ring of twelve in 1719 by the joint subscriptions of the College Youths and London Scholars, and the two trebles then added being kept chained so as not to be used except by members of those two societies. And there is the well-known evidence of the inscriptions on bells, of which we may take as an example the inscription on one of the eight bells hung at St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, in 1772, now the 7th in ten:—

The ringers' art our graceful notes prolong,
Apollo listens and approves the song.

So I will pass on to the evidences available in our own days. But on the way I will transcribe the following words from an article signed "Cantab, M.A.," which appeared in the *Ecclesiologist Magazine* in 1864:—

"Neither should any excuse whatever obtain permission for ringing on Sunday. Mr. Ellacombe, in his tractates, has well illustrated this point. Many, even clergymen, are not aware of the generic distinction between chiming and ringing; but on this distinction turns the animus of my present caution. Ringing is an intellectual and scientific enjoyment, as much so as chess or violin playing, in the opinion of some, much more so, when done as it should be; and we know what view we should take of Sunday chess players or Sunday concerts. Let me then implore every clergyman to exercise his authority to put an extinguisher on all Sunday ringing."

I am not in accord with the views here expressed, and what Mr. Ellacombe's views about Sunday ringing were I do not know, though no doubt many of my readers do; but if no ringing is to be permitted on Sunday, then ringing is not to be used on that day in connection with Divine worship. But the prohibition is put on the ground that ringing is an intellectual and scientific enjoyment. But if that which is an intellectual and scientific enjoyment is, by reason of its nature, to be disqualified from connection with Divine worship on Sundays, we must have no good Church music, and Sunday sermons must be kept dull, lest they should prove intellectually interesting. This result is of course absurd. Therefore I infer that "Cantab M.A.'s" objection is based on the view that ringing is solely a recreation, and that with regard to it he had not, so late as 1864, got in his mind the third of what I have called the elements necessary to be combined before ringing can be regarded as a natural adjunct to Divine worship. However, as Mr. Ellacombe's name is referred to in this extract, I do not lay stress on my inference in the absence of knowledge as to the views of that high authority, and will pass on to another kind of evidence open to all men's observation.

I will first notice that monumental instance of neglect—the ringing-chamber of Westminster Abbey. That chamber is eloquent with a message from the Dean and Chapter. It is as though that dignified body lifted up its voice in this wise:—

"Ringers of England, we cannot tell you without searching our records whether our ringing-chamber has ever been cleaned since the workmen left it, when the tower was finished in the year 1739, but from the look of it we should think very probably not, for it is one of the filthiest places we have ever seen. But then what does it matter? You will admit that we take all the care in our power of the other portions of the Abbey and have them kept clean. The steeple is not like the rest of a church. Our predecessors did not regard it so, nor do we. We have a sort of notion you are sometimes told it is, and if it was put to us by some fussy person we might not think it good form to deny it in words; but, as you plainly see, we don't believe it, and don't you be fools enough to believe it either."

(To be continued.)

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AN AUSTRALIAN LETTER.

SIR,—In "THE BELL NEWS" of March 11th last, in the report of the Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner, among other speeches I read the following:—

"In proposing 'Success to Kindred Ringing Societies,' Mr. Russam expressed the gratification it gave them all to see kindred societies well represented at that meeting, and joining with their own members in commemorating the late Henry Johnson. He would ask them in honouring this toast not to forget kindred societies across the seas, for only that day he had read in their own paper accounts of some performances by the society at Melbourne (Australia) and at Dublin. They would all join with him in wishing that the Exercise might be spread over all the English-speaking portions of the globe, so that they might have the same friendly rivalry with their brothers abroad as they now had with kindred societies in their own isle."

Now sir, the paper containing the above only reached us here a few days ago, and I have read Mr. Russam's remarks many times over, and the more I read them the more I like them. I have brought them under the notice of our society here in Melbourne, and on behalf of the Victorian Association I beg to thank Mr. Russam for the same, and say that we all here join with him in his good wishes.

Just fancy a company of colonial ringers invading England; or, the other way about, a company of Britishers visiting the Colonies. Not just yet, perhaps, but it is hard to tell what the next generation may see. You must know we are not all first-class cricketers, or we might invade England in that guise. I may tell you that there is at least one good ringer in the Australian cricket team with you. I allude to Mr. M. A. Noble, with whom I have had many an enjoyable ring in Sydney, and hope to do so again. Mr. Noble has been accustomed to six-bell ringing, and if by chance any one who reads these lines should happen to be present at a cricket match when the Australians are playing, perhaps such brother will pick him up, and invite him to some tower. He may have a little time to spare, though it is all rush with them.

I should dearly have liked to visit the old country this summer with the cricket team, but could not manage it. The last time I was in England was in 1860, for a month or two.

I might mention that the Victorian Association is composed of members of both St. Patrick's and St. Paul's Cathedral societies. We ring at each Cathedral one Sunday night and one week night in each month, but I am sorry to say that ringing is not flourishing in the Colonies as it should. We have plenty of bells, but nobody cares much for them, and somehow the Colonial youth will not take to the Art. Certainly it is very hot here for six or eight months of the year, but that alone is not the reason, I think. At all the churches which have bells the authorities appear to care very little for them. In very few instances will they pay for ringing, they get into bad repair, and then it is chiming or something worse.

I must, sir, now bring this rambling letter to a close; it is a few years since I sent you one, but Mr. Russam's remarks woke me up a bit, and I could not resist thanking him for his kind remarks. When I lived in England I used to ring (or what we called ringing) at Hillingdon, near Uxbridge, and left there early in 1854 for this place, just when England was preparing for the Russian war.

WILLIAM SHENTON.

High Street, Armadale, nr. Melbourne, Victoria.

Situations Vacant.

WANTED as Caretaker of a Church in county Wicklow, Ireland, a married man and his wife to live in a Gate Lodge and take charge of the gate. He must be a skilful Bellringer, and competent to undertake the training and management of a set of Bellringers, for a new Church with a peal of eight bells, and he and his wife will be required to keep the Church clean and tidy, wind the clock, attend to the lighting, and perform all the duties of Sexton. Salary 30s. per week, and a good house. Apply to the Earl of Carysfort, 10, Hereford Gardens, Park Lane, London, W.

WANTED a good Boot and Shoe Maker and Repairer. Change-ringer on eight bells preferred. Apply—Shifnal Boot Company, Shifnal, Salop.

A SITUATION is offered by a Corn and Seed Merchant to a lad used to horses and out-door gardening. One willing would have a good chance to learn the Seed trade. Abstainer, and able to handle a bell preferred. Apply—Editor.

"**MARBLETTE**."—The new, excellent, imperishable material for Peal-Boards.—See advertisement.

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

Old East Derbyshire Association.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Norton to-day, Saturday, June 24. The ring of eight will be available from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Business meeting at The New inn at 5 o'clock. All ringers cordially invited. E. JAMES, *Hon. Sec.*

The Hertfordshire Association.—A district meeting will be held at Rickmansworth, to-day, Saturday, June 24th, when the tower of the parish church will be open for ringing from 3 p.m. Tea at 5.30, business meeting to follow. E. P. DEBENHAM, *Hon. Sec.*

The Middlesex County Association—North and East District.—A meeting of the members of this district will be held to-day, Saturday, June 24th, at St. Stephen's church, Hampstead, by the kind permission of the Rev. J. Kirkman. Members and friends of the Association are cordially invited to attend. Bells raised at 5 o'clock.

ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*

18, Ravenscroft Park Road, Barnet.

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The monthly ringing meeting of the above society will be held at Tong to-day, Saturday, June 24. Meeting house, The Greyhound inn. Handbells provided. Members and friends cordially invited.

H. GAYTHORPE, *Hon. Sec.*

The Saffron Walden Society, Established 1623.—The anniversary will be held on Monday, June 26th. F. J. PITSTOW, *Hon. Sec.*

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—A business meeting will be held at The Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, after ringing at St. Paul's Cathedral, on Tuesday, the 27th inst. Conductors of peals who are responsible for any booking fees, will greatly oblige by forwarding the same without further delay.

WILLIAM T. COCKERILL, *Hon. Sec.*

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

Royal Cumberland Society.—There will be no meeting for practice at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields on Friday, June 30th, on account of Divine Service, but meetings will be resumed on Friday, July 1st, at 8 p.m.

A. JACOB, *Hon. Sec.*

10, St. Ann's Road, Hornsey.

The Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The next quarterly and committee meeting of the above Association will be held at Pershore on Saturday, July 1st, 1899, by the kind permission of the Rev. J. H. Bridgwater, Vicar. Service in the Abbey at five o'clock. Business meeting to follow in St. Agatha's mission room. Tea will be provided (free) for all members sending in their names to me on or before Tuesday, June 27th. The tower and bells are placed at the members' disposal for ringing.

JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

The Llandaff Diocesan Association.—The Midsummer quarterly meeting will be held at Caldicot, Monmouthshire, on Saturday, July 1st. Meeting in schoolroom at 4 p.m. By the kind invitation of the Vicar a tea will be provided in the school at 5 p.m., free to members sending the number likely to attend from their respective towers to me not later than Monday, June 26th. Bells available all day.

H. G. WHITE, *Asst. Sec.*

18, Cymmer Street, Cardiff.

The Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—The annual festival will be held at

Taunton, on Saturday, July 1st. Dinner at Tyler's, Fleur-de-lis hotel, North street, at 1 p.m., at 2s. each (1s. to members). Business meeting to follow, when the annual report will be presented, and election of Officers take place. Short Service at 3 p.m., at the church of St. Mary Magdalene, with an address by the Vicar, the Rev. Preb. Askwith. The Rev. Preb. Askwith has kindly invited all the members to tea in the Vicarage grounds. Towers open—St. Mary Magdalene, 10 bells (after 3 p.m. only); St. James, 8 bells; Norton Fitzwarren, Wilton, Trull, and Bishop's Hull, 6 bells each.

H. V. W. TOMKINS, *Hon. Sec. & Treasurer.*

The Cottage, Old Cleeve, Washford.

The Bedfordshire Association.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Harrold on Saturday, July 1st.

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

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

The Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, Bristol.—The next meeting will be held at Henbury, on Saturday, July 1st. Short Service at St. Mary's Church at 4 p.m. Bells (eight), open for ringing from 3 p.m. Business meeting after Service.

C. H. GORDON, *Branch Sec.*

Hill Street, Kingswood.

The Sheffield District Society.—The next meeting will be at Chesterfield Church on Saturday, July 1st. Meeting house, The Lord Nelson. Tower open 4 p.m.

R. HARRISON.

The Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The annual meeting of this Association will be held at Fenton on Saturday next, July 1st, when, by kind permission of the Hon. and Rev. L. Tyrwhitt (Vicar), the new tower and peal of eight bells will be at the disposal of the members. The business meeting will be held in the Church room at 5.30 p.m. Tea at 6 p.m. Service in the Parish Church at 7.30 p.m.; Preacher—the Vicar of Fenton. Members who intend being present are requested to give notice to Mr. J. Rayson, 15, Nelson Street, Fenton, not later than Tuesday, June 27th.

REV. G. T. BIRCH, } *Hon. Secs.*
W. TWIGG, }

The Waltham Abbey Society.—On Saturday, July 1st, this Society intends to meet at the Abbey Church for the purpose of ringing, and to celebrate the Silver Wedding of their brother ringer, Mr. George Thurgood (which occurs on June 27th). The bells will be available from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m., and all ringing friends will be cordially welcomed. Headquarters—The Green Dragon inn.

FRANK CARTER, *Hon. Sec.*

The Sussex County Association, Eastern Division.—The next District meeting will be held at Alfriston (Berwick Station), on Saturday, July 8th. Bells available 3 to 9. Tea at 5.30. Will members intending to be present kindly send postcard to the undersigned not later than July 5th.

S. SAKER, *Hon. Sec. Eastern Division.*
Arran, Baldslow Road, Hastings.

BURNLEY, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, June 24th, at St. Peter's church, a meeting is to be held to present J. Pollard (who has been a ringer for over 63 years), with a long-service medal (given by the *Sunday Companion*). He is supposed to be the oldest ringer in Lancashire. Tea will be provided, reasonably, for all names received by the 22nd. Tea at five; meeting at seven. Bells ready at three or sooner.

H. TOMLINSON.

3, Alnwick Court, West Gate, Burnley.

NOTES TO PEALS.

THE PEAL AT CHARLWOOD.—This peal, a report of which appeared in our last issue, was rung with the bells deeply-muffled in memory of the late Jesse Attwater, who met with his death under painful circumstances on Tuesday, May 23rd. While carting tiles from Horley station to Timberham he fell from the cart and was run over and died before medical aid could be obtained. He was not a scientific change-ringer, but very regular in the belfry and always willing to chime or ring the bells in rounds when short handed, which he had done on Whit-Sunday, May 21st, only two days before his death.

THE PEAL AT DEBENHAM.—This peal, a report of which appeared in our last issue, was rung to commemorate the anniversary of the long peal of Treble Bob Major (16,608 changes) that was rung at Debenham on Whit-Monday, June 6th, 1892, the performance of which the band may always feel proud, as the striking was excellent from beginning to end. This peal was also rung as a birthday compliment to James Rumsey, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

THE PEAL AT CHIDDINGFOLD.—This peal was arranged for Mr. John Heathorn, of Guildford, who, although in his 75th year, had expressed a wish to ring "just one more 5000," and great credit is due to him for the way in which he rang. Though starting but ten years ago to master the Art, he has succeeded in ringing twenty peals, a fact which speaks for itself of his perseverance. At the conclusion of the peal he was complimented by the rest of the band, one and all expressing the hope that in their 75th year (?) they might be able to "go and do likewise."

THE PEAL AT APPLETON.—This was a funeral peal for the late Mr. B. Barrett, who was sixty-four years of age last birthday. He had taken part in seventy-three peals, the longest being a 10,080 of Grandsire Caters, rung in 1871. The following is his list of peals: Grandsire Triples, 28; Union Triples, 2; College Single Triples, 3; Stedman Triples, 5; Bob Major, 1; Grandsire Major, 1; Duffield Major, 1; Treble Bob Major, 1; Double Norwich Major, 3; Superlative Surprise Major, 2; Cambridge Surprise Major, 1; Grandsire Caters, 9; Stedman Caters, 16. The bells were rung deeply-muffled at the funeral, touches of Grandsire Triples being brought round. Deceased was laid to rest in Appleton churchyard. He was a capital ringer and a good striker.

THE PEAL AT SHIPLEY, YORKS.—All this band are members of the Manchester Unity of Odd Fellows. Bros. F. London, Emmott, Kendall, Sandiforth, Clark and Nettleton belong to the Tree of Life Lodge; Bros. W. London and Broadley to the Philanthropic. It was rung as a farewell peal to the brothers London and Sandiforth, who are retiring from ringing. Bro. J. Broadley hails from Bradford; Emmott from Saltaire. This peal has the 4th, 5th and 6th their extent in 6ths place, the 2nd never being in that position.

A REQUEST.—Will any ringing friend kindly lend me "THE BELL NEWS" from January 7th, 1899, to May 27th, 1899? Will willingly pay all expenses for carriage, take great care, and return them in a short time.

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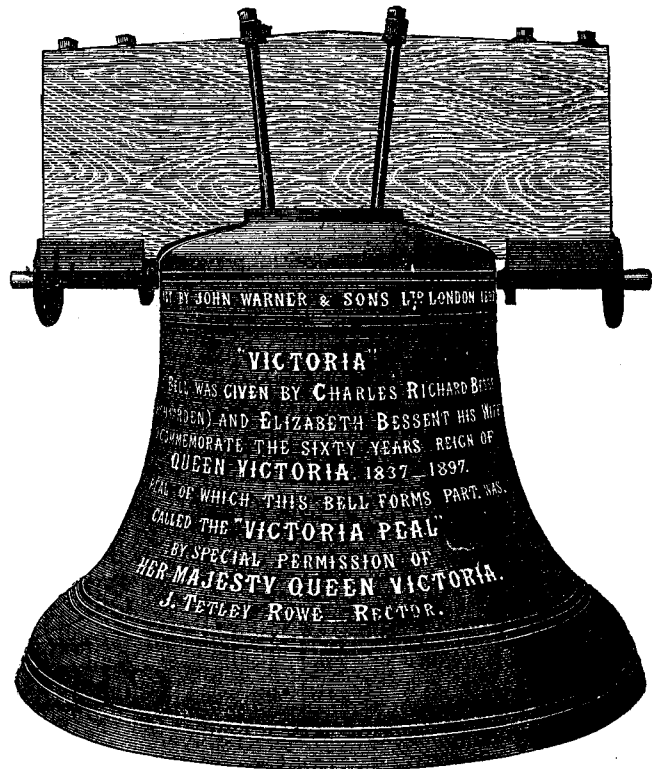
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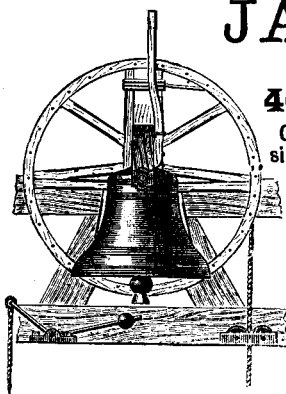
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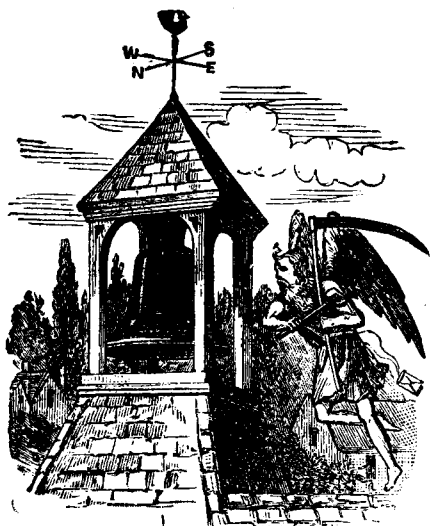
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No. 899. — VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, JULY 1, 1899.

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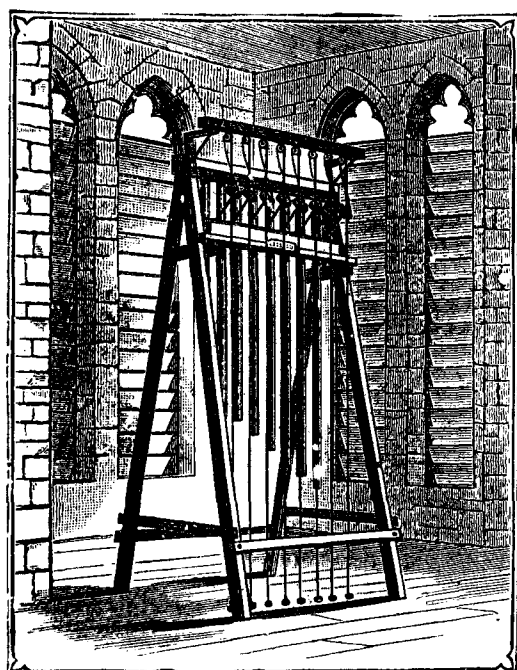
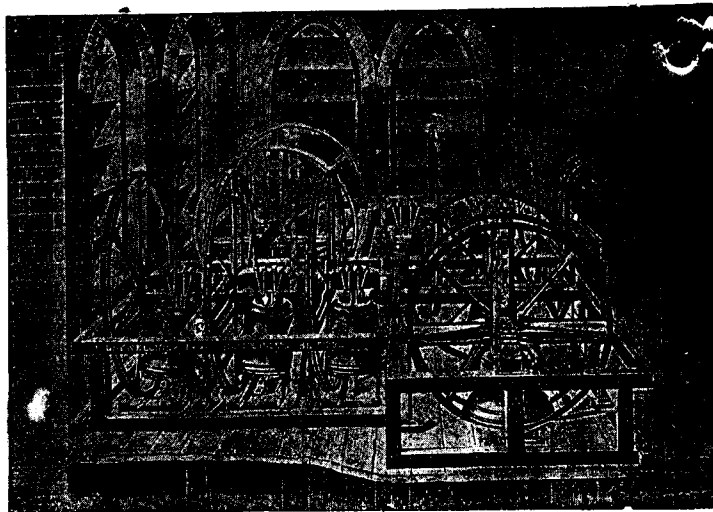
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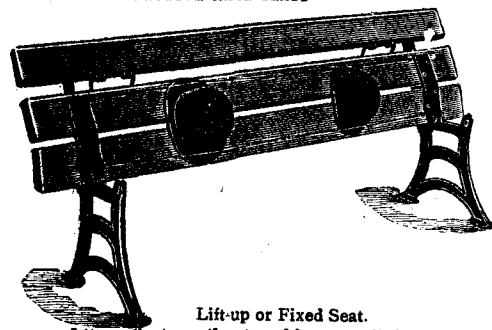
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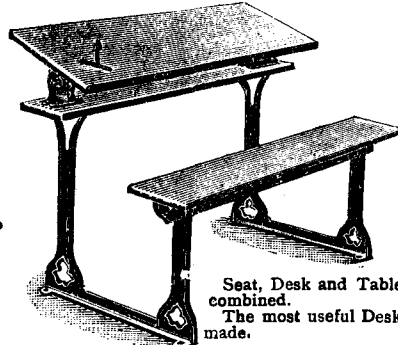
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Home Sweet Home, March of the Men of Harlech, Rule
Britannia, Sailing, St. Patrick's Day, Sleighing Song, The
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Clouds roll by, Whistling Farmer Boy.

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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 899.]

SATURDAY, JULY 1, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

BOB LEADS.

BY THE REV. H. DRAKE.

I am surprised that no one has criticised Mr. Davies's article on the above in the issue of June 10th. In the first place I do not think any value can be attached to the answers he received; for the question could not be properly understood, except by those who knew why it was asked. Thus neither I, nor those whose names I sent up with my own, understood what we now see to be Mr. Davies's meaning. And though we happened to be among the majority, it is possible that most of those in the minority also misunderstood it.

Mr. Davies laments that the existing terminology is "hopelessly confused and unscientific." I am afraid I do not see either the hopelessness, or the confusion, or the lack of science in the matter. Many—if not most—technical terms have two meanings—(a) an original, and (b) a derived meaning. Thus a "lead," I take it, means originally (a), that backstroke "lead" of the treble which corresponds most symmetrically with rounds. Secondly, its derived meaning (b) is the block of changes after any such backstroke treble-lead, and ending with the next such backstroke treble-lead; and this latter change is most conveniently and suitably called a lead-end by a further process of derivation. To a purist, who objects to these two latter terms, language is no longer a servant, but a tyrant.

In order to do away with these two terms Mr. Davies would draw the line two changes sooner than is usual. This introduces the question as to why a line is drawn at all. A method may be compared to a circle, in which, in order that we may know how often we have travelled round, we place some fixed point. It is clear that any point in the circumference might be taken, but I think most would admit that the starting place would be the most convenient. In Grandsire this is especially convenient, because it marks the place at which the work of the method comes; so that beginning with the first change after the line, all is plain hunting until we get near another "lead-end."

At any rate it is clear that the line is drawn for the sake of the method, and not for the sake of the bob. Something might be said on theoretic grounds for drawing the line between the leads of the treble, so as to divide the work of the bob from the work of the method—were it not that such a division would increase the practical difficulties of the method instead of lessening them. But to divide the blocks at the point at which the bob begins to act—so that the call is in one block and the work in another—can be defended on neither theoretical nor practical grounds.

At present when the line is drawn, both method and bob are practically ended; if you are going to extend the influence of the bob any further, why stop at a single block, why not go on to the next call?

The existing system—neither "confused nor unscien-

tific"—divides all methods into similar and symmetrical blocks, which can thus be easily compared and comprehended. Mr. Davies's new lines would introduce into all methods the anomaly of Stedman; we should always have a certain number of changes after and before rounds, left over at the beginning and end of every course and touch, which must be learnt by heart. And all this confusion is to be caused, because when we speak of any one "getting through a bob-lead" we naturally include the changes in the following lead as well as in the bob-lead itself.

I would suggest that when we wish to make it clear that we are not using the word "lead" in its original sense for a lead-end, we speak of a "lead-block"; and that we define a "bob-lead" as a "lead-block which introduces a bob."

Stedman can hardly be included in these definitions; for as the Rev. H. L. James said at the Central Council, it differs from other systems in principle rather than in method.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

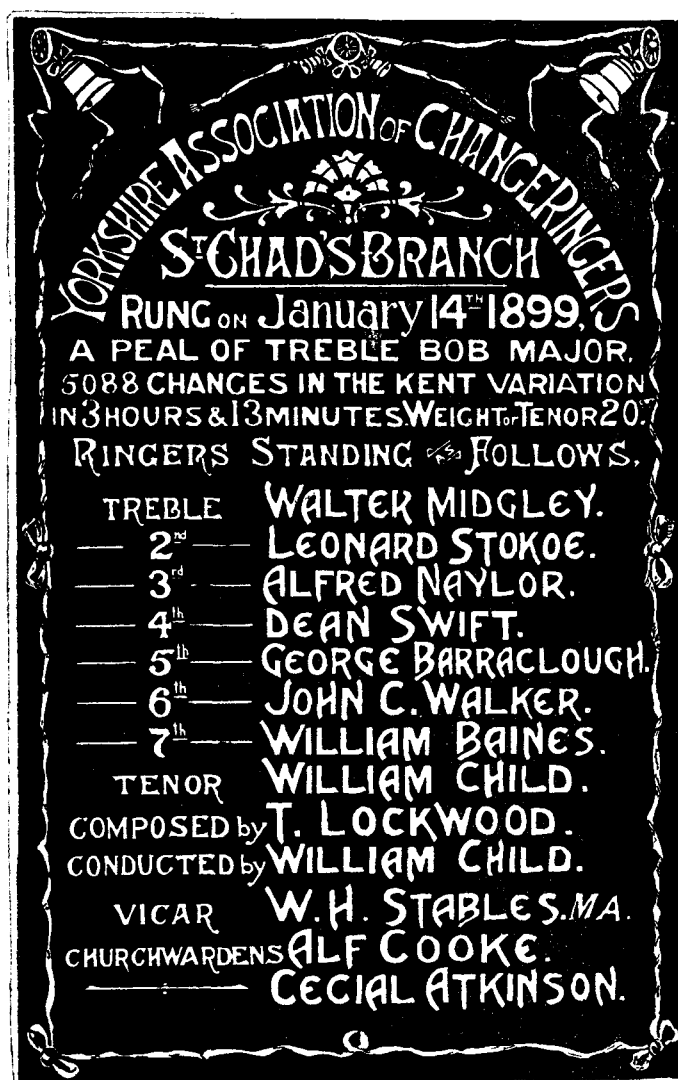
The annual meeting of this Association was held at Chorley on Saturday, June 3rd, the following towers being represented: Blackrod, Chorley, Leyland (parish church), Leyland (St. James's), Standish, Preston, and Penwortham. During the afternoon and evening touches of Grandsire Triples, London Single Bob, and Plain Bob, were rung at the parish church and St. Mary's.

At 5.30 the members repaired to The White Horse hotel, where a splendid tea was served, which as on previous occasions, gave entire satisfaction. At the conclusion of the repast, the business meeting was held, Mr. J. Banister, the president, occupying the chair. The Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, which were duly confirmed. After the election of officers and other business, votes of thanks to the Vicar and wardens for the use of the bells, to all officers for their past services, and to the local company, brought the meeting to a close.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. SOUTH AND WEST DISTRICT.

A meeting of the above was held at the church of St. Mary, Bedfont, on Saturday, June 17th. This was the first meeting of change-ringers held here. Mr. Alexander, the clerk and sexton was in attendance, and cordially welcomed all. The Vicar, the Rev. N. G. Pilkington, also called in, and gave the members a very cordial welcome. The bells are a very nice ring of six, tenor about 10 cwt. There was a very fair attendance of members present from Staines, Hillingdon, Ealing, Isleworth, and Heston. Touches of Oxford Treble Bob, Plain Bob, Grandsire, Oxford Bob Minor, Stedman and Grandsire Doubles were rung. It was proposed to hold the next meeting at Ruislip on Saturday, July 15th. The meeting closed about nine o'clock.

"MARBLETTE."



SOME days ago, the members of the company at St. Chad's church, Far Headingley, near Leeds, forwarded to us a photograph of a peal-board, and in the letter which accompanied this photograph the writer said :—

"Enclosed you will find photo. of a peal-tablet unveiled on Saturday last at St. Chad's, Far Headingley. The reason we send this is that we think it will be a benefit to the Exercise. The tablet is made of marblette by the British Plate Glass Co., Ravenhead, St. Helen's, Lancashire. It is a most beautiful and suitable material, and the first that has been made. We think if the material the tablet is made of and the excellence of the workmanship were better known, the ordinary board would be disregarded."

An investigation into the merits of this new material led to the determination to place before our readers the accompanying illustration of the peal-tablet in question. The design is unique and appropriate; quite out of the common in fact. We have been so much accustomed to see the painter's wretched daubs—quite innocent of the

rudiments of grammar or punctuation—disfiguring the walls of our ringing chambers and other places, that a design like this, with its "churchy" or ecclesiastical look, is quite refreshing.

"Marblette" is made in various thicknesses to one inch. The material is practically glass, it is thoroughly homogeneous right through, and if properly fixed will last for ever. The lettering is cut in by means of a powerful sand-blast machine, and the letters are then gilded with best English gold leaf, getting a combination of the two most durable materials known, namely, glass and gold. The polishing of the material is accomplished by very heavy machinery, specially put down for the purpose. The surface is first ground to a true plane with sand. It is then smoothed with emery, and finally polished in the highest degree possible with a polishing powder mostly made of oxide of iron, similar to that used by jewellers. Sometimes the peal-tablets are mounted on grey granite, sometimes on oak shields, and at other times are simply bolted against the wall; either method is satisfactory,

providing proper bolts are used; these are usually supplied with the tablet. Mounted on a stained or polished oak panel, a "Marblette" tablet appears really a work of art.

We sometimes see peal-tablets made of marble or stone, but though for a time these may appear to answer, the letters cut on the marble have to be eventually renewed; while stone tablets are apt to "flake" or "scale." An entablature of brass or copper, with the requisite lettering engraved thereon, soon loses its legibility from discoloration, and if periodically cleaned the inscriptions become obliterated. Now in "Marblette" we have a substance absolutely impervious to decay. To repeat the words of one of our friends, "A tablet of this material will last to all eternity." And it requires no cleaning whatever to preserve its brightness and legibility.

There is another feature. Our friend the painter rejoices in having an immense board, covering, perhaps, half one side of the tower, to show off his skill.

There is not the least necessity for such large tablets when "Marblette" is used for the purpose. A peal-board even if only two feet square, would look more effective when made with "Marblette" than one six feet square afflicted with the flourishes and dashes of a sign-writer. The appropriateness of the material also for erection in a church, and the design, should not be lost sight of. Durability is unquestioned, and we strongly recommend all those companies who wish to restore peal-tablets and records of the past, to get the material we are alluding to and nothing else.

ST. BARNABAS, LINSLADE, BUCKS.

On Sunday, June 11th, special services in connection with the patronal and dedication festival were held in St. Barnabas' church, and were well attended. There were early celebrations of Holy Communion at seven and eight o'clock in the morning (the latter choral), and again at mid-day. The Rev. C. E. Dandridge, Vicar, preached at the eleven o'clock general service, and in the evening the preacher was the Rev. C. F. Milner. The former took as his text the words of Acts xiv. 27: "They rehearsed all that God had done with them." St. Paul and St. Barnabas, said the preacher, had been sent forth from Antioch, in Syria, on their first missionary journey, now they had returned, and when they had called the disciples together "they rehearsed all that God had done with them." They gave an account of their work up to the end of a period. In like manner they of that parish had come to the end of a period in connection with the history and work of their church. It being now just fifty years since the church of St. Barnabas was consecrated by Bishop Wilberforce, of Oxford, on June 15th, 1849, it would be interesting to give a brief summary, as far as could be gathered, of the principal points in the history of the church during that period. The sacred edifice, as originally erected, consisted of nave and chancel only; it was built at a cost of about £3000. Twelve years later—in 1861—a small organ was erected at a cost of £150; and a year after that gas was laid on. Nineteen years after the consecration of the church a south aisle and tower were added at a cost of near upon £2000, bringing up the cost of the building thus far to £5000. In 1869 the five bells from St. Mary's, Old Linslade, were removed, by legal faculty, to the newly-built tower of St. Barnabas, and a sixth bell was purchased by public subscription at the same time. A smaller bell was placed in the tower of St. Mary's. The five old bells have this in-

scription on them: "Wm. Chapman, Founder, 1781; Andrew Corbet, Esq., Lord of the Manor; Joseph Gurney, Churchwardens." On the treble "Warner and Sons, 1869." On the 2nd is:

"ALL THO BUT SMALL YET WE ARE GOOD

JOHN SWINSTED JUNR. OF LEIGHTON FOR US STOOD."

On Sunday, June 11th, and Thursday, June 15th, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung by G. Wright, F. Vickers, W. Willis, A. Cheshire, C. White, F. Field, J. Nicolls, and L. Webster. Messrs. Nicholls and Webster belong to All Saints, Leighton, Beds., which is less than half-a-mile from St. Barnabas, Linslade, Bucks.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

HALESWORTH DISTRICT.

On Thursday, June 22nd, a meeting in connection with this district was held at Wissett, and was well attended by members and friends, twenty-one ringers putting in an appearance during the afternoon and evening, all enjoying a touch on these musical bells. Several 6-scores of Stedman, Grandsire, and Plain Doubles were rung on the tower bells, and courses of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major on the handbells. Tea was provided at The Swan inn, fifteen being present to enjoy the good things set before them, through the kindness of the Vicar, the Rev. W. D. Day, Mr. G. W. Green (churchwarden), and several ladies and gentlemen of the parish. During the evening a business meeting was held, Mr. G. W. Green occupying the chair in the absence of the Vicar, supported by Mr. T. Linton Wilson, of Rumburgh; Mr. F. Lambert, District Secretary, and members from most of the towers in the district, including Mr. Fuller, of Gorleston. One honorary member and two performing members were enrolled. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the kind donors of the tea, and also to the Vicar for the use of the bells, thus bringing to a close a very successful and enjoyable meeting.

STOKE DOYLE, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

The Oundle First Deanery Association held their sixth annual meeting in this parish in glorious weather on Wednesday, June 21st. The home ringers were joined by bands from Pilton, Cotterstock, Warmington, Benefield, and Elton. The service was most impressive from the manner in which it was joined in by the ringers, who entered the church singing through their belfry. A sermon well calculated to help the ringers as church-workers was preached by the Rev. A. C. Nealy, Rector of Islip. Tea was enjoyed at the beautifully decorated and well replenished tables laid out on the rectory lawn, under the welcome shade of a grand elm tree. The business meeting was short and pleasant, as it was found no subscription need be paid by the performing members, and that the tea could be provided from the funds of the society. An invitation was gladly accepted to meet at Cotterstock next year. The Stoke Doyle bells are five in number, tenor about 11 cwt. in G sharp. They bear only the name of their founder, but he was that prince of founders of his day—Thomas Eayre, of Kettering. They were all given by the Squire, Edward Ward, in 1727, just after he had rebuilt the church. His name, however, does not appear on the bells, building, or tombstone, though he was buried there in the family vault.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(SAXMUNDHAM DISTRICT.)

A Quarterly Meeting was held at Rendham on Saturday, June 10th, when twenty-five members assembled from Leiston, Aldeburgh, Saxmundham, Kelsale, Benhall, Sweffling, Bramfield, and Peasenhall. The bells of the parish church, and those of the adjoining tower of Sweffling were kindly placed at the disposal of the members, and were kept going during the afternoon and evening in various methods. The business meeting was held at six o'clock in the schoolroom under the presidency of the Vicar, the Rev. H. Watson. The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed and signed.

One new member was enrolled. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Peasenhall on the proposition of Mr. J. Button, seconded by Mr. E. Cooper. Mr. A. J. Lincoln proposed, and Mr. R. Wells seconded, a cordial vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and the schoolroom, and for presiding at the meeting. The rev. gentleman, in responding, expressed the great pleasure it afforded him to again meet the members and preside at their meeting. He urged upon the ringers to bear in mind the importance of their work and duty as church-workers, and dwelt upon the solemn sound the bells had not only in the call to the House of God, but the sympathising effect they had upon those who through affliction or other unavoidable causes, were unable to attend. A vote of thanks was passed to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. J. Button, for his services, on the proposition of Mr. R. Wells, seconded by Mr. C. Sampson, which brought to a close a successful and enjoyable meeting.

Unfortunately ringing is at a very low ebb at Rendham, and during the evening Mr. John Button gave some very practical and instructive remarks as to the formation and management of a company, which greatly interested the Vicar.

GREAT ADDINGTON, NORTHANTS.

The four old bells (dated first and second 1807, third 1605, and fourth 1630, the largest bell weighing about 8 cwt.) have lately been recast, two new ones added, and all rehung in modern style by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough. The expense thereof (a considerable sum), has been borne entirely by the Viscountess Downe. The weights of the bells are as follows: Treble—4 cwt. 1 qr. 2 lb.; Second—4 cwt. 1 qr. 25 lb.; Third—5 cwt. 0 qr. 18 lb.; Fourth—6 cwt. 0 qr. 11 lb.; Fifth—7 cwt. 1 qr. 23 lb.; Tenor—10 cwt. 0 qr. 12 lb. The note of the tenor is A flat: the diameter 38½ inches. The tenor is inscribed:—

MARY ISABEL, VISCOUNTESS DOWNE

—GAVE ME—

A.D. M.G.

JOHN TAYLOR—

MADE ME

1899.

It is to be hoped the neighbouring village of Little Addington will soon be able to get its bells rehung and increased in number. Ever since the 1887 Jubilee Mr. Alderman Green and others have been endeavouring to bring this much to be desired improvement about. The new Vicar appears to favor the project. A considerable amount of money has already been raised.

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ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

OFFICIAL MINUTES.

The Ninth Annual Meeting of the Council was held in the Hall of the Conservative Club, Norwich, on Tuesday, May 23rd, the President, Sir Arthur P. Heywood, Bart., in the chair. Of representative members, forty-three were present out of eighty, representing twenty-four out of thirty-one societies; and, of honorary members, four out of eleven.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

On the motion of Mr. Snowden, seconded by Mr. Dains, the only retiring honorary member, Mr. T. Lockwood, was re-elected.

The Hon. Secretary—the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer—read the statement of accounts shewing a balance from the last year of £59 13s. 1d.: receipts from subscriptions £10 5s. 0d.: total £69 18s. 1d. Expenditure: Rail Fare Committee, £4: Glossary Committee, £2 3s. 6d.: Reporting, postage, etc., £2 19s. 5d.: total, £9 1s. 11d., leaving a balance in hand of £60 15s. 2d. On the motion of the Rev. F. E. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Story, the accounts were passed.

The Rev. H. A. Cockey made a statement as to the progress of the labours of the Rail fare Committee.

The Rev. H. Earle Bulwer read the report of the Technical Terms Committee, shewing that their work was nearly completed. On the motion of Mr. Attree, seconded by Mr. Griffin, the report was adopted, and the form of publication of the Glossary was left in the hands of the Committee to be issued in such manner as they considered desirable.

The Rev. H. Earle Bulwer read the report of the Committee on Peal Collection, drawing attention to the importance of obtaining some guarantee of an adequate sale of the compilation when issued. On the motion of Mr. S. Reeves, seconded by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, the report was adopted.

The President made a statement in regard to the progress of the work of the Committee on the Condition of Bells.

Mr. Attree, on behalf of the Peal Values Committee, said they could not see their way to report in favour of the weight of the bells being taken into consideration in assigning points to a peal. On the motion of Mr. Trollope, seconded by the Rev. H. L. James, the Committee were requested to report to the next meeting upon the desirability of assigning thirty-two points to Double Norwich Maximus, and twenty-eight to Royal.

On the motion of the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, seconded by the Rev. G. F. Coleridge, it was resolved that the next (London) meeting be confined to one day and be divided into two sittings, the first to commence at eleven o'clock; further arrangements to be left in the hands of the Standing Committee.

On the motion of the Rev. H. A. Cockey, seconded by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, it was resolved that the Rev. H. L. James, Messrs. H. Dains, J. Carter, A. Craven, and J. Trollope, be appointed a Committee to report as to the best definition of what constitutes a method.

Mr. Attree opened a discussion on the advantages or otherwise of paid ringing.

The Rev. F. E. Robinson opened a discussion on the supply of qualified conductors and the numbers that should be attached to one company.

For lack of time it was agreed to adjourn to the next meeting the consideration of the question of "How best to instruct beginners in the Art of Change-Ringing."

The President moved, and Mr. Story seconded a vote of thanks to the Norwich ringers, which was carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks to the President and Hon. Secretary, moved by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, and seconded by Mr. Snowden, concluded the meeting.

ATTENDANCES OF MEMBERS AT THE ANNUAL MEETING.

SOCIETY.	PRESENT.	ABSENT.
Ancient Society of College Youths ..	H. R. Newton ..	W. T. Cockerill ..
Royal Cumberland Youths ..	H. Dains ..	W. Burkin ..
St. James' Society, London ..	E. P. O'Meara ..	W. D. Smith ..
Bath and Wells Diocesan Association ..	(Unrepresented) ..	B. Foskett ..
Bedfordshire Association ..	Rev. W. W. C. Baker ..	A. Jacob ..
Birmingham and District Society ..	(Unrepresented) ..	J. Parker ..
Birmingham, St. Martin's Guild ..	W. H. Godden ..	W. Weatherstone ..
Chester Diocesan Guild ..	J. Dillon ..	Rev. H. C. Courtenay ..
Devonshire Guild ..	W. Walmsley ..	C. E. O. Boutflower ..
Durham and Newcastle Association ..	Rev. M. Kelly ..	G. Hitchman ..
Ely Diocesan Association ..	(Unrepresented) ..	F. Shepherd ..
Essex Association ..	Rev. T. L. Papillon ..	W. Holmes ..
Gloucester and Bristol Association ..	N. J. Pitstow ..	T. Hudson ..
Hereford Diocesan Guild ..	W. Nevard ..	Rev. W. W. Crump ..
Hertford County Association ..	Rev. H. A. Cockey ..	F. G. Newman ..
Kent County Association ..	(Unrepresented) ..	Rev. E. B. James ..
Lancashire Association ..	(Unrepresented) ..	G. H. Phillott ..
Liverpool Diocesan Guild ..	(Unrepresented) ..	T. J. Bratton ..
Midland Counties' Association ..	Sir A. P. Heywood, Bart. ..	E. P. Debenham ..
Middlesex Association ..	W. Wakley ..	Rev. F. S. O. Helmore ..
Norwich Diocesan Association ..	J. Griffin ..	F. W. Thornton ..
North Lincolnshire Association ..	J. Waghorn ..	Rev. C. A. Clements ..
Oxford Diocesan Guild ..	Rev. H. Earle Bulwer ..	J. Eachus ..
Salisbury Diocesan Guild ..	W. L. Catchpole ..	R. Bidyard ..
South Lincolnshire Association ..	J. Motts ..	W. Bentham ..
Stafford Archdeaconry Society ..	J. A. Trollope ..	J. W. Taylor ..
Surrey Association ..	A. Craven ..	W. H. L. Buckingham ..
Sussex Association ..	Rev. F. E. Robinson ..	J. Basden ..
Winchester Diocesan Guild ..	Rev. G. F. Coleridge ..	G. Chester ..
Worcestershire Association ..	A. H. Cocks ..	J. W. Washbrook ..
Yorkshire Association ..	(Unrepresented) ..	Rev. A. D. Hill ..
Hon. Members ..	Rev. J. H. Pilkington ..	T. Blackburn ..
	Rev. A. H. Boughy ..	A. Smith ..
	F. W. Rees ..	Rowland Cartwright ..
	J. Carter ..	S. Saker ..
		Rev. C. E. Matthews ..
		J. W. Whiting ..
		J. S. Pritchett ..
		C. H. Hattersley ..
		G. Bolland ..
		G. Breed ..
		W. H. Thompson ..
		F. E. Ward ..
		F. E. Dawe ..
		T. Lockwood ..
		J. C. Mitchell ..
		J. Pettitt ..
		E. F. Strange ..
Societies represented ..	24	
„ unrepresented ..	7	
Representatives present ..	39	
„ absent ..	41	
Hon. Members present ..	4	
„ absent ..	7	
Total Members present ..	43	
„ absent ..	48	

Compositions.

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563124

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364125

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461325

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265341

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561342

165243

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213654

214356

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316452

312654

213456

216354

612453

613254

614352

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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, JULY 1, 1899.

THE correspondence about the Kidlington affair is becoming tiresome. The addition to the volume printed in this number carries the matter very little further, and it is patent that the wordy duel between the two belligerents will bring no settlement which shall meet with general approval. What measures may be adopted for the purpose of coming to a decision cannot yet be said; our friend, MR. KEEBLE, with his usual profundity of resource, lays down a plan which we fear will not be so easy to carry through as he imagines. MR. BORRETT appears to touch the right chord in invoking the machinery of the Central Council to decide upon such questions, and with all due deference we venture to submit that this kind of judicial interference by such a body would be perfectly natural and in order. If these "record" peals are to continue, the Council will soon be convinced, we hope, that its interference is necessary, and proper. There is an idea current in some quarters that one or more of the

London Societies generally watched these affairs, and took measures accordingly. There may have been one or two isolated cases of this sort, but for any local society either in London or elsewhere to take upon itself police duties of such a nature is impossible, for reasons which need not be particularized. But for the Central Council the duty seems peculiarly appropriate. We do not mean to say that when an attempt for a record peal is announced the Council or even its Standing Committee should be summoned to discuss the propriety of sending experts to report upon the value of such performance, but the President or Secretary should be empowered when they think it prudent, to select an expert who can be depended upon to visit the spot to hear the peal, and who will give an impartial opinion of its worth. Had such action being taken in the present instance by the body who fortunately possesses the confidence of the Exercise at large, the matter would have been settled in a moment, as it were, and every doubt and uncertainty dispelled.

Next week the periodical analysis of Mr. ATTREE will appear. We have just seen copies of new handbell music by that able exponent of this kind of thing, Mr. W. GORDON, of Stockport. A list of the principal musical novelties will be shown in Mr. GORDON's advertisement our next number. From the popularity enjoyed by these works, and the eminence as a professor of music our friend has reached, he must be held to be at the head of the musical profession so far as handbell music is concerned.

The Provinces.

NORWICH.—THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PETER MANCROFT SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, June 20, 1899, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL COSLANY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14½ cwt.

HARRY J. BORRETT† Treble.	*HORACE HOWLETT 5.
GEORGE HOWCHIN 2.	ALBERT G. WARNES 6.
HERBERT P. HARMAN 3.	GEORGE SMITH 7.
WALTER LAST* 4.	SAMUEL SMITH Tenor.

Conducted by HERBERT P. HARMAN.

†First peal. *First peal in the method. Rung on the anniversary of the birthday of Samuel Smith, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns. The conductor hails from Bromley, Kent.

NESTON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—WIRRAL BRANCH.

On Wednesday, June 21, 1899, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

VICARS'. Tenor 14½ cwt.

JAMES HOUGH* Treble.	JOSEPH HAMMOND 5.
JONATHAN EDWARDS* 2.	JAMES DILLON 6.
WILLIAM BRISCOE 3.	FRANK JONES 7.
JOHN MEALOR 4.	THOMAS A. EVANS Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES DILLON.

*First peal in any method.

EDENHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, June 21, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being twelve 6-scores of Plain Bob, and thirty 6-scores of Grand-sire Doubles. Tenor 15 cwt.

GEORGE CHAMBERLAIN* .. Treble.	*GEORGE H. FURNISS .. 3.
JOHN ALFORD† 2.	*ARTHUR J. HOLMES .. 4.
WILLIAM L. WADSLY Tenor.	

Conducted by JOHN ALFORD.

First peal on the bells. *First peal. †First peal as conductor.

BATTLE, SUSSEX.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 24, 1899, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

5184 CHANGES. Tenor 23 cwt.

WILLIAM LATTER Treble.	JOHN H. CHEESMAN 5.
ISAAC G. SHADE 2.	ERNEST PYE 6.
GEORGE R. PYE 3.	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE .. 7.
JAMES GEORGE 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by A. CRAVEN, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

*First peal of Double Norwich. It is also the first peal in the method on the bells. The band wish to thank the Very Rev. the Dean of Battle for so kindly granting the use of the bells, and Mr. W. Franks for so kindly making the necessary arrangements. This composition has the 2nd never in 5-6, and the 3rd never in 6ths place at a course-end.

SHENSTONE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, June 24, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE. Tenor 13½ cwt. in G.

FREDERICK COPE, JUN.* .. Treble.	PHILIP W. DAVIES 5.
ARTHUR BOWLER* 2.	CHARLES BARRETT 6.
WILLIAM DEMPSTER* 3.	FREDERICK COPE, SEN. .. 7.
HENRY MEACHAM 4.	JAMES H. GALLIMORE .. Tenor.

Conducted by F. COPE, SEN.

*First peal. First peal on the bells since being rebung by Messrs. Barwell, of Birmingham. Rung as a birthday compliment to H. Meacham.

WOKINGHAM, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, June 24, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 17 cwt. 27 lb.

HENRY TUCKER Treble.	CHARLES GILES 5.
ALFRED E. REEVES 2.	WILLIAM NEWELL 6.
ARTHUR W. HIGGS 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
AMBROSE OSBORNE 4.	MAURICE STEER Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

QUEDGELEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

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

On Saturday, June 24, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5248 CHANGES.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

GEORGE CONDLICK* .. Treble.	HENRY MITCHELL 5.
THOMAS NEWMAN 2.	ERNEST E. DAVIS 6.
JOHN AUSTIN 3.	*GEORGE CONDLICK, SEN. .. 7.
JESSE GILLET 4.	WILLIAM T. PEGLER .. Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

*First peal of Bob Major.

BRIGHTLING, SUSSEX.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, June 25, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS A'BECKET,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5184 CHANGES. Tenor 13 cwt.

GEORGE R. PYE Treble.	JAMES GEORGE 5.
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 2.	ERNEST PYE 6.
WILLIAM LATTER 3.	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE .. 7.
ISAAC G. SHADE 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by A. CRAVEN, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

This is the first peal in the method on the bells, and was rung for Divine Service in the morning. It was intended to ring a peal for afternoon service, but time did not permit, so a touch of Stedman and Oxford Treble Bob Major was substituted. The band wish to thank the Rev. — Cree for so kindly granting the use of the bells, also Mr. J. Pankhurst for having them in readiness, and for making arrangements for lodging and conveyance of the band from Battle. This composition has the 2nd and 3rd never in 6ths place at a course-end.

BUCKNALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, June 26, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES:

Being 720 of Chelsea, Chester, Ely, Wells, London, Lichfield, and Cambridge.

JOHN E. WHELDON .. Treble.	WILLIAM WHELDON .. 4.
THOMAS BETTISON 2.	CHARLES PRESTON 5.
DANIEL PRESTON 3.	WILLIAM TWIGG Tenor.

Conducted by W. TWIGG.

T. Bettison hails from Killamarsh, and was elected a member of the Association.

BARNET, HERTS.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, June 26, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 24 cwt.

JOHN R. SHARMAN .. Treble.	ALFRED H. BELTON 5.
ARTHUR J. CHIDWICK .. 2.	FREDERICK RICHARDSON .. 6.
SIDNEY WADE 3.	GEORGE SMITH 7.
WILLIAM PICKWORTH .. 4.	ARTHUR T. KING, Esq. .. Tenor.

Conducted by SIDNEY WADE.

Handbell Peals.

SPROUTON, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, June 27, 1899, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. H. J. MEE,

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

ALFRED WOOLWARD 1.	DAVID SOUTHGATE 5.
ALFRED G. RIVERS 2.	FRANK ROLFE 6.
CHARLES MEE 3-4.	FREDERICK MEE 7-8.

Conducted by FREDERICK MEE.

This peal is taken from the *Clavis*, and was rung as a birthday compliment to A. Rivers, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns. Umpires—Messrs. E. Rivers and H. J. Mee.

Date Touches.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

UPCHURCH (Kent).—On Tuesday, May 2nd, a date touch, 1899 changes, in 1 hr. 10 mins., being 459 Grandsire Minor, 720 Canterbury Pleasure, and 720 Bob Minor. T. Wraight, 1; E. J. Hyland, 2; W. J. Walker, 3; H. Lampkin, 4; G. Dennis, 5; W. T. Hyland (conductor), 6. Rung as a birthday compliment to Miss Winifred Trew, youngest daughter of the Vicar.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

HEMPSTED (Gloucestershire).—On Friday, May 12th, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles. G. Condict, jun., 1; W. Pegler (conductor), 2; W. Dadge, 3; J. Gillett, 4; A. Pegler, 5; A. Dadge, 6.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—On Tuesday, May 9th, at St. Nicholas, church, a date touch of 1899 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 20 mins. C. Godfrey, 1; R. Christian, 2; W. Secrett, 3; J. Souther, 4; G. Read, 5; D. Hayward (composer and conductor), 6; J. Matthews, 7; R. Tooley, 8.

Miscellaneous.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CHARING (Kent).—Recently, 720 Grandsire Minor. P. Edwards, 1; H. Ward, 2; E. Archer, 3; J. Willis, 4; W. Hadlow, 5; W. Spice (conductor), 6. Also 720 Grandsire Doubles, T. Hatcher ringing the 2nd. A 720 Bob Minor. P. Edwards, 1; W. Spice, 2; H. Ward, 3; E. Archer, 4; H. Goodwin (conductor), 5; J. Willis, 6. Also 720 Grandsire Minor. T. Hatcher, 1; E. Archer, 2; H. Ward, 3; J. Willis, 4; H. Goodwin, 5; W. Spice (conductor), 6. On June 15th 720 Grandsire Minor. P. Edwards, 1; C. F. Turner, 2; W. Goode, 3; W. Spice (conductor), 4; H. Ward, 5; J. Willis, 6.

BETHERSDEN (Kent).—On Wednesday, April 19th, this tower was visited, and the following rang 720 Grandsire Minor: G. Cramp, 1; C. Tribe, 2; A. Hinds, 3; E. Archer, 4; H. Goodwin, 5; W. Spice, 9. Also several 120s of Stedman, Grandsire and Bob Doubles, conducted by W. Spice. Believed to be the first 720 on the bells.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent).—On Sunday, May 7th, 504 Grandsire Triples. S. Faithfull, 1; W. Latter, 2; S. Perkins, jun., 3; S. Perkins, sen., 4; J. Muggridge, 5; W. Pollard, 6; G. Smithers (conductor), 7; W. Smith, 8. On Wednesday, May 10th, 504 Stedman Triples. S. Perkins, jun., 1; W. Latter, 2; B. Wadmora, 2; W. Pollard, 4; G. Smithers, 5; F. Harrington, 6; S. Perkins (conductor), 7; J. Muggridge, 8.

ROCHESTER (Kent).—On Sunday evening, May 14th, for Divine Service at St. Margaret's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, taken from Thurstan's peal. E. Rayner, 1; A. Osborne, 2; W. Baker, 3; J. Tulett, 4; O. Sullivan, 5; C. Millway, 6; W. Hobbs, 7; J. Kidd, 8. C. Millway hails from Borden; the rest belong to the local band.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ARMLEY.—On Sunday, June 18th, for evening service, 720 Woodbine. Jos. Thackray, 1; W. Heckingbottom, 2; A. Strangward, 3; T. Pease, 4; M. Broadbent, 5; Jos. Heckingbottom (conductor), 6.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

HEMPSTED (Gloucestershire).—On Wednesday, April 19th, two 720s of Bob Minor. E. Davis, 1; W. Pegler (conductor), 2; J. Austin, 3; J. Gillett, 4; T. Newman, 5; A. Pegler, 6. On Wednesday, May 3rd, 720 Bob Minor. G. Condict, jun., 1; J. Austin (conductor), 2; T. Newman, 3; W. Dadge, 4; G. Taylor, 5; E. Davis, 6. On Wednesday, May 7th, 720 Kent. E. Davis, 1; T. Newman, 2; J. Gillett, 3; J. Austin, 4; W. Pegler, 5; A. Pegler (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, June 7th, 720 Bob Minor. G. Condict, jun., 1; E. Davis, 2; W. Dadge, 3; J. Gillett, 4; W. Pegler, 5; G. Condict (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, June 14th, 720 Kent. G. Condict, jun., 1; E. Davis, 2; W. Pegler, 3; J. Gillett, 4; G. Condict, 5; A. Pegler (conductor), 6. Also 720 Bob Minor. G. Condict, jun., 1; W. Dadge, 2; E. Davis, 6; the rest as before.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

DERBY.—On Saturday, May 13th, at St. Luke's church, 336 Bob Major. J. Newbold, 1; J. Grundy, 2; J. Thompson, 3; J. Flowers, 4; J. Hickman, 5; A. E. Thompson, 6; W. H. Ingleasant, 7; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 8. Tenor 33½ cwt. Also 168 Grandsire Triples. J. Riley, 1; J. Newbold, 2; J. Thompson, 3; T. Anthony, 4; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 5; A. E. Thompson, 6; J. Flowers, 7; J. Grundy, 8. A course of Bob Major. J. Newbold, 1; C. R. Lilley, 2; J. Thompson, 3; J. Flowers, 4; J. Hickman, 5; W. H. Ingleasant, 6; J. Grundy, 7; A. E. Thompson (conductor), 8.

LOUGHBOROUGH (Leicestershire).—On Sunday, May 14th, for Divine Service at All Saints church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. A. W. Matthews, 1; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 2; J. Smith, 3; W. H. Ingleasant, 4; S. Smith, 5; J. Hutchby, 6. A 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. H. Colburn, 1; J. Grundy, 2; R. Lane (conductor), 3; C. R. Lilley, 4; S. Smith, 5; A. W. Matthews, 6. And a 6-score of

Grandsire Doubles. J. Hutchby, 1; C. R. Lilley, 2; A. W. Matthews, 3; W. H. Inglesant, 4; S. Smith, 5; H. Colburn, 6.

THE DARLINGTON AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

STAINDROP (Durham).—On Saturday, May 13th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. J. Lungley, C. Todd, W. D. Lister, D. Shipp, G. Park, W. H. Porter (conductor). And 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor. C. Todd, T. Clark (first in the method), R. B. Wilson, G. Park, G. J. Lungley (conductor). And 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. H. Porter, R. B. Wilson, D. Shipp, W. D. Lister, G. Park, G. W. Park (conductor). Also 360 Bob Minor. R. B. Wilson, C. Todd, T. Clark, G. W. Park, D. Shipp (conductor), G. J. Lungley. On handbells two courses of Grandsire Triples. W. D. Lister, 1-2; G. J. Lungley, 3-4; W. H. Porter, 5-6; D. Shipp, 7-8. The thanks of the band are due to Mr. D. Shipp, of the local company, for meeting them and having everything ready.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BLACKBURN BRANCH.

BURNLEY (Lancashire).—On Sunday, April 9th, at the church of The Holy Trinity, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. T. Knowles, 1; F. Towns, 2; W. Walton, 3; D. Campbell, 4; N. Townsend, 5; D. Heys, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; R. Ashworth (conductor), 8. For evening service 640 Oxford Treble Bob Major. R. Hartley, 1; F. Towns, 2; W. Walton, 3; D. Campbell, 4; D. Heys, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. On Sunday, April 16th, 376 Kent Treble Bob Major. T. Knowles, 1; F. Towns, 2; W. Walton, 3; D. Campbell, 4; R. Hartley, 5; N. Townsend, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; R. Ashworth (conductor), 8. For evening service 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. D. Campbell, 1; W. Walton, 2; R. Hartley (conductor), 3; R. Ashworth, 4; T. Mouncey, 5; F. Towns, 6. On Sunday, April 30th, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. D. Campbell, 1; F. Towns, 2; W. Walton, 3; R. Hartley, 4; T. Redman, 5; D. Heys, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; R. Ashworth, 8. For evening service 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. T. Knowles, 1; T. Redman, 2; J. W. Stirk, 3; D. Campbell, 4; N. Townsend, 5; D. Heys, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; R. Ashworth (conductor), 8.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HASTINGS.—Recently, at Christ Church Blacklands, 448 Grandsire Triples. J. Penfold, 1; L. Stone, 2; J. Livermore, 3; F. Lock, 4; C. Saker, 5; A. Barrow, 6; S. Saker, 7; W. Swain, 8. And 630 Grandsire Triples. J. Penfold, 1; L. Stone, 2; S. Saker, 3; J. Livermore, 4; C. Saker, 5; A. Barrow, 6; F. Lock (conductor), 7; W. Swain, 8. Also 588 in the same method. J. Penfold, 1; L. Stone, 2; C. Saker, 3; L. Stapley, 4; F. Long (conductor), 5; G. Watson, 6; A. Barrow, 7; W. Swain, 8. On Wednesday, June 7th, on the occasion of the re-dedication of the chancel touches were rung in various methods.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CHIPPING BARNET.—On Monday, May 8th, for practice at the parish church, 336 Bob Major. J. Withey, 1; A. J. Chidwick, 2; E. Marshall, 3; F. A. Milne, 4; J. Sumpter, 5; A. E. Dolton, 6; R. Bevan (Kentish Town), 7; A. H. Belton (conductor), 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

APFLETON (Berks).—On Sunday evening, May 7th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 1025 Grandsire Caters. S. White, 1; N. J. Spindlow, 2; F. White, 3; H. Holifield, 4; H. Woodward, 5; E. Bishop (Swindon), 6; R. White, 7; G. Holifield (conductor), 8; J. H. Shepherd (Swindon), 9; R. Bennett, 10.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH (Leicestershire).—On Thursday, May 4th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 50 mins. *H. Hatton, 1; E. W. Beadsmoore, 2; *G. Hatton, jun., 3; W. Canner, 4; J. Curtis, 5; G. Hatton, sen., 6; †J. H. Dnnmore (conductor), 7; *H. Smith, 8. *First quarter-peal in the method. †First in the method as conductor.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Saturday, May 6th, for practice at the parish church, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. On Sunday, May 7th, for Divine Service, 768 in the same method. On Wednesday, May 9th, 1184 in the same method. On Saturday, May 13th, 1536 in the same method, in 58 mins. And on Sunday, May 14th, 768 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. E. Emery, 1; T. Lincoln, 2; E. W. Davis, 3; A. Head, 4; G. W. Sorrell, 5; R. Wood, 6; F. G. Radley, 7; W. Lincoln (conductor), 8. These are the longest touches in the method by the local company. E. Runter, from Broomfield, rang the 4th in 288 Kent Treble Bob Major on May 9th. The 1184 and 1536 were taken from a peal by G. Lindoff.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

TIMBERLAND.—On Tuesday, May 2nd, for practice at the parish church, a 720 Bob Minor. A. West, 1; H. King, 2; F. Cobb, 3; A. Sharp, 4; A. Barber, 5; G. Elkington (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. A. O. Barber (first attempt at Treble Bob), 1; A. West, 2; F. Cobb, 3; H. King, 4; W. Elkington, 5; G. Elkington (conductor), 6. A. O. Barber hails from Prieston; the rest are local men. Great credit is due to them for the advancement they have made.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

FELSHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday, May 14th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. E. Kinsey, 1; H. Horrex, 2; H. Gladwell, 3; R. Wilding, 4; W. Stiff, 5; W. Kinsey (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. E. Kinsey, 1; W. Kinsey (conductor), 2; H. Gladwell, 3; W. Stiff, 4; H. Horrex, 5; R. Wilding, 6. And 710 Plain Bob. H. Gladwell, 1; R. Wilding, 2; J. Horrex, 3; E. Kingsley, 4; W. Stiff, 5; H. Horrex (conductor), 6.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Saturday, May 13th, for practice at All Saints church, 756 Stedman Triples. S. Howell, 1; W. Grigg, 2; W. Bacon, 3; M. Silvester, 4; W. Howell, 5; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 6; H. Griggs, 7; A. Cardy and A. Green, 8.

BRISTOL.—On Tuesday, May 2nd, at St. Nicholas' church, 1277 Grandsire Caters, in 50 mins. J. Thomas, 1; H. Pring, 2; P. Porch, 3; W. Porch, 4; W. Tyley, 5; A. Pearce, 6; J. Richmond, 7; P. Cave, 8; G. T. Daltry (conductor), 9; H. Tucker (composer), 10.

BLAKESLEY (Northants).—On Saturday, May 6th, for practice, a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. T. Howkins, 1; Rev. H. Wheat, 2; F. Leydell, 3; M. Howkins, 4; R. Bodley, 5.

CLAY CROSS (Derbyshire).—On a recent Sunday morning for Divine Service at St. Bartholomew's church, 720 Oxford Single (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). T. Millington (conductor), 1; F. Marshall, 2; W. Goodge, 3; F. Maycock, 4; J. Maycock, 5; J. J. Cook, 6.

LICHFIELD (Staffordshire).—On Friday, April 28th, at St. Michael's church, 720 Bob Minor. W. Rogers, 1; W. Dempster, 2; P. W. Davies, 3; H. Meacham, 4; A. Bowler, 5; F. J. Cope (conductor), 6. On Friday, May 5th, 720 in the same method. O. F. W. Steele, 1; W. Dempster, 2; P. W. Davies (conductor), 3; H. Meacham, 4; A. Bowler, 5; F. J. Cope, 6. On Sunday, May 14th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. T. Meredith, 1; W. Dempster, 2; P. W. Davies, 3; H. Meacham, 4; A. Bowler, 5; F. J. Cope (conductor), 6. First 720 in each method by Messrs. Steele, Bowler, Dempster and Rogers.

RUGBY (Warwickshire).—On Sunday evening, June 18th, for Divine Service at St. Andrew's church, 448 Grandsire Triples. A. Coleman, 1; R. Watson, 2; J. W. Chandler, 3; A. Dubber, 4; A. J. Gillings, 5; J. George, 6; A. Bramall (conductor), 7; —. Green, 8.

WICKEN (Northants).—On Sunday, May 7th, five of the Stony Stratford ringers paid a visit to St. James's church, and with the assistance of Mr. J. Read, parish clerk, rang 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. A. Clark, 1; G. Valentine, sen., 2; R. W. Valentine, 3; E. Yates, 4; J. Read, 5; G. Cowley (conductor), 6. First 720 of Minor on the bells. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. J. Read.

Situations Vacant.

WANTED as Caretaker of a Church in county Wicklow, Ireland, a married man and his wife to live in a Gate Lodge and take charge of the gate. He must be a skilful Bellringer, and competent to undertake the training and management of a set of Bellringers, for a new Church with a peal of eight bells, and he and his wife will be required to keep the Church clean and tidy, wind the clock, attend to the lighting, and perform all the duties of Sexton. Salary 30s. per week, and a good house. Apply to the Earl of Carysfort, 10, Hereford Gardens, Park Lane, London, W.

WANTED a good Boot and Shoe Maker and Repairer. Change-ringer on eight bells preferred. Apply—Shifnal Boot Company, Shifnal, Salop.

A SITUATION is offered by a Corn and Seed Merchant to a lad used to horses and out-door gardening. One willing would have a good chance to learn the Seed trade. Abstainer, and able to handle a bell preferred. Apply—Editor.

WANTED a Groom, 18 or 20. Must be able to ride well, and make himself useful. Wages £1 a week and stable clothes. Must be able to ring Standard methods. Address, Coachman, Hillside, Chislehurst.

STEADY Young Man as Coachman, and to assist occasionally in garden. About 25 years of age. Apply, Editor.

"MARBLETTE."—The new, excellent, imperishable material for Peal-Boards.—See advertisement.

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 KIDLINGTON PEAL.

SIR,—Does not all this conflicting correspondence sent to you in connection with this peal point to the desirability, or rather the necessity, of an independent referee for all attempts at record lengths? Mr. Washbrook's apologetic notes, and Mr. Pye's statement on the performance, show plainly that the ringing was not first-class. I cannot conceive a band feeling satisfied with ringing a record length in second or third-rate style, and unfortunately the performance now under discussion is not the first record length that has been rung in a doubtful manner. I sincerely hope the Central Council will take the matter up, and place some strong recommendation before the Exercise. The great majority of ringers are loyal to the Council, and obedient to their suggestions, so that nothing stands in the way of dealing with the question with a firm hand.

Norwich.

CHARLES E. BORRETT.

SIR,—Mr. Washbrook's letter of the 17th June is a very poor explanation of the questions I asked him; he simply denies everything, and says my letter contains the greatest concoction of falsehoods ever published on ringing affairs. My letter of the 10th June contained nothing but the truth—that he is well aware of. He seems to be one of those individuals who prefer to do their talking on paper, for I could get scarcely anything out of him outside the tower. He never properly denied anything: the only thing he said when I told him they fired almost from one course-end to another was "not for a course;" he did not deny firing. I suppose he thought the least he said to me the better, for he knew that if he had got into conversation with me I should have got him into a corner in a very short time. He says as a test to my statements I should publish the bob leads and course-ends of the 80th and 81st courses before he publishes the composition. This I refuse to do, as he has not shown the composition to any one, and he would be sure to try and make his case good. Now I will give him a fair offer. I am willing to send the bob-leads and course-ends of the courses he asks for to any practical ringer who is not concerned in the Kidlington peal providing he sends the composition to the same person. He says he hopes I shall not tell him I could not take the course-ends off. Unfortunately for him I did take them off, although at times it was a difficult job, as the ringing was so bad. He also says it would be interesting to know what my course-ends are. I think it would be interesting to your readers to know what his are, for in my opinion the composition he will publish he has yet to compose. I see he has now admitted that the 6th was only twenty courses at home, and he now says it was 6.11 when it came home; when he sent the peal for publication he said the 6th came home at 6 o'clock! What a curious thing that he should make a mistake of eleven minutes. He has accused me of telling two different tales, adding—"a story teller should always have a good memory." I think that before he has done with this he will find that it will be himself who will want the good memory. He also says that I contradicted myself outside the tower. He says that I remarked that "there was no ringing in it, and that the last hour was good ringing." What I said was that "I was surprised that a man of his ability should keep on as he did." I also told him that if he had brought the bells round at 5000 it would not have been worth recording. He also says that the correspondence accompanying mine is sufficient to show that what I say is not the opinion of the other listeners. Such correspondence amounts to nothing, for none of the writers have sufficient knowledge to enable them to tell Double Norwich from Plain Bob. There were only two ringers present who knew anything about it, and they never came until the afternoon. These men did nothing but complain about the ringing all the while they were there, repeatedly saying that "Washbrook ought to stop, as he must know some one was outside." I don't know what he means by my attitude towards ringers during the progress of the peal. In justice to myself I can safely say that I never said anything either during the progress of the peal or

after it was done that I am ashamed to hear repeated. No one could have been more straightforward in the matter than I was. I simply asked them if they were going to publish it as a peal, and the answer was—"what is the matter with it?" and I told them in a proper manner. I expected some of them would have been down my throat when I told them my opinion after keeping on all that time, but I did not expect to get insulted the way I was. I don't blame them in the least for trying to make the Exercise believe that they rang a good peal, after publishing it; what I blame them for is accusing me of what they did themselves, i.e. boasting and bad behaviour. This is a part of the affair which would have been best left alone, but as they accuse me of doing the very thing they did themselves, I think that in justice to myself I must tell the truth about it.

W. PYE.

SIR,—Probably most ringers will agree that the question raised as to this performance is one which for the credit of all concerned should be settled one way or the other. Some may have suggestions to make by which a decision may be arrived at, I have one, which if feasible, might be worth consideration. Upon arrival at Liverpool Street station from the Central Council on May 23rd, I met Mr. Pye, who gave me his version and stated that Mr. Hounslow was present during a portion of the peal. Mr. Pye also told me something respecting the course-ends. Now, sir, Mr. Hounslow's version I am sure a large majority of the Exercise would be prepared to accept, but as Mr. Hounslow might not desire to give a definite opinion as to the merits of the performance to be recorded as a peal, I would suggest that Mr. Washbrook and Mr. Pye should each name two prominent ringers, and in order to get a majority, yourself name a fifth, who should receive Mr. Hounslow's written version. Mr. Washbrook to also deposit with one of the committee named by Mr. Pye the figures of the peal, and that Mr. Pye should deposit with one of the committee named by Mr. Washbrook the figures of the two course-ends said to have been omitted, and their position. Upon this an effort should be made to form an opinion by the committee as to the merits of the performance. As I am an Essex man and live within three miles of Mr. Pye, permit me to add I hold no brief for anyone. I seldom meet Mr. Pye, in fact had not seen him for months previous to the evening referred to, and have not seen him since.

Romford.

B. KEEBLE.

Ringers' Outings.

On Monday, June 5th, the Rev. T. Briggs, the esteemed Vicar of Maker, Mount Edgcumbe, Cornwall, with his band of ringers, and friends, had their annual outing, in glorious weather. Starting from Saltash at 8.15 by brake, they journeyed to St. Mellion, Callington, Leyant, and Launceston, where through the kind courtesy of each Vicar, the four belfries were visited, and short touches were indulged in. At the last-named place a halt was made to refresh the inner man, and ample justice having been done to the good fare, the return journey was made, reaching home about 9.30, having had a most enjoyable day.

THE BLYTH SOCIETY, NOTTS.—The members of this society recently had their annual trip, the places chosen being Tuxford and East Markham. The journey was made by road, arriving first at Tuxford about 11.0 a.m. The party at once proceeded to the church, and at once rung a 720 of Kent Treble Bob in capital style. The ringers were J. Swinburn, J. Hind, G. Clayton, W. Swinburn, R. Beeston (conductor), S. Sewell. Then a 12-score of Violet, Mr. C. Crawford (of Markham) ringing the 4th. At the invitation of Mr. Wilson, of Tuxford Hall, the visitors, ten in number, were shown over his beautiful museum, and this was much enjoyed by all. Upon arriving at East Markham refreshments were obtained, and a 720 each of Violet and Oxford were rung. Then for home, which was reached about 9.30, all being well pleased with the day's enjoyment.

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.

REMARKS ON THE SECULAR NATURE OF THE ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF CHANGE-RINGING, HISTORICALLY CONSIDERED.

By R. A. DANIELL.

(Continued.)

This message of the Dean and Chapter of Westminster is being widely circulated in the kingdom. The incumbent who allows his steeple to be neglected when the rest of his church is cared for; he who insists on having a clean vestry and leaves his ringing room filthy; he, who when told that the bells and fittings in his tower urgently need repair, replies that he cannot be bothered, and that that must be seen to by his successor, are among those who are circulating it. I am far from asserting that it is the duty of the Clergy to be always collecting subscriptions. There is no doubt the laity ought to help the Clergy in this matter, a great deal more than, in many cases, they do, and for what has been spent in making our Church fabrics and fittings sound and decent, it is impossible to overstate the gratitude which is, and will be due to the Clergy, from our generation and posterity; but plainly, men who behave in such manner as I have instanced show that as a matter of fact, let them talk how they choose, they do *not* regard the steeple like the rest of the Church.

On Coronation Day last year, the Bishop of Exeter most kindly extended his hospitality to the ringers of his Diocese, and about four hundred and fifty of them accepted his generous invitation. According to the account of the gathering in the "BELL NEWS," the Bishop entertained his guests to dinner, and afterwards addressed them. He said he could not impress upon them too strongly the sacredness of their office. The Rev. Maitland Kelly, in the course of his speech of thanks, said that the Bishop in his late charge had included bellringing in his enumeration of the different branches of Church work, and, in his invitation to the ringers, had emphasized this thought still further.

All this was very nice, and it took place, we are told, in a marquee erected in the Bishop's grounds. These grounds adjoin the south transeptal tower of the Cathedral church, where there was the worst case of neglect in the Diocese. I call it the worst, because there hung the finest ring of ten bells in England, which had for years been in such bad order as to be almost unringable, and because the Dean and Chapter could have had no difficulty in raising funds to put them in good order if they had chosen to do so. No one who visits it can doubt their care for the rest of the Cathedral and all in it. They simply did not regard the steeple like the rest of the Church. The situation was the more humorous because of the persons then responsible for this state of things, one was an Archdeacon and another the Bishop of Exeter's Suffragan.

In London, among the cases where attention to steeples is needed, is St. Saviour's, Southwark. This grand edifice has been rejuvenated, if one may so say, for Church purposes in the Diocese of Rochester. Its affairs are now managed by a quasi Chapter, of which the Bishop of Rochester acts as Dean. Much money has been spent, and it is in contemplation to spend much more in connection with the fabric and fittings, and, judging from the circulars one sees in the Church, everything is to receive attention except the bells. I do not know that they will not be put in order, but it has not been thought worth while to mention them by name. But either that magnificent and historic ring of twelve will be put in proper order in connection with the making of this Collegiate Church an example to the Diocese or it will not. If so, we shall all be glad of it. If not, we shall have the spectacle of one of the most distinguished of our prelates oblivious of the theory of the steeple being to be cared for as the rest of the Church. In that case it will be said that the Bishop, having so much else to think of, cannot be expected to think of such a detail as this. I agree that if his Lordship has not begun to think about the steeple yet he is not likely to have time now. A man with the responsibilities of the Diocese of Rochester on his mind must of necessity be economical with his thinking. But if the Bishop has already accustomed himself to regard the steeple, as we are constantly being told we ought to, he will want no more time to think whether bells should be over-

hauled and put right, if needful, than whether dirty vestry ceilings should be cleaned, or worn-out organ action be renewed. If nothing should be done to the bells, the special interest in connection with the historical view I have been putting forward as to the secularity of the history of ringing, will be that this learned Prelate, who among other details of a distinguished career has been Warden of Keble College, Oxford, and Vicar of Leeds, with its ring of twelve in a change-ringing centre, will show by his inaction that the doctrine of the sacredness of the steeple has not arrested him.

Now all this is evidence of the strongest nature of the secular history of ringing. If the doctrine preached by the Bishop of Exeter on this subject was anything but quite modern, it is impossible that we should be finding throughout the country so many Clergy, otherwise taking pride in their Churches, utterly indifferent to their steeples. The indifference is natural enough when the whole matter is looked at historically, as I have endeavoured to set it out, and I do not blame any individuals or the Clerical body at large. But equally I object to Clerical attacks on ringers. They present the unedifying spectacle of the pots calling the kettles black, and if the kettles wished to return the compliment they would be justified as reasonably in vituperating such persons as the Dean of Westminster and the Bishop of Crediton. But if both Clergy and ringers grasp the matter historically and see how we all came to be as we are, they will neither of us indulge in recrimination, and the march of improvement will be natural and progressive and the irritation caused by the baseless cant in such books as Mr. Tyack's will be removed. No change-ringer is likely to begrudge the exercise of his Art for Church purposes, but we have a right to expect that if the Church adopts it, the Church will recognise its secular origin and history, and give credit, where credit is due, to those who made it an art now deemed worthy to take its place in connection with Divine worship.

I have now, I think, set out sufficient to support my position unless and until evidence is brought tending to refute it. I propose, in conclusion, to consider briefly the following questions:—

1. Was the difference in the use of a bell between chiming and ringing originally adopted in England in order that those who heard the Bell's voice might now whether it was being sounded for a sacred or secular purpose?

2. If the modern doctrine of reverence for sacred places and things had been accepted by the Church at large in the seventeenth century, would the art and science of change-ringing have come into existence? and if so would it have survived its birth?

3. Of what nature is the historic relation between the purely secular change-ringing of the past and the change-ringing under the patronage of the church in the present?

4. 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?

But I shall give the readers of "THE BELL NEWS" a holiday for two numbers or so, and in the meanwhile shall be glad to see any comments by the members of the Exercise on what I have hitherto written, which may suggest further food for reflection.

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.

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Notices.

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

The Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—The annual festival will be held at Taunton, to-day, Saturday, July 1st. Dinner at Tyler's, Fleur-de-lis hotel, North street, at 1 p.m., at 2s. each (1s. to members). Business meeting to follow, when the annual report will be presented, and election of Officers take place. Short Service at 3 p.m., at the church of St. Mary Magdalene, with an address by the Vicar, the Rev. Preb. Askwith. The Rev. Preb. Askwith has kindly invited all the members to tea in the Vicarage grounds. Towers open—St. Mary Magdalene, 10 bells (after 3 p.m. only); St. James, 8 bells; Norton Fitzwarren, Wilton, Trull, and Bishop's Hull, 6 bells each. **H. W. TOMKINS, Hon. Sec. & Treasurer.**
The Cottage, Old Cleeve, Washford.

The Bedfordshire Association.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Harrold to-day, Saturday, July 1st.
W. W. C. BAKER, Hon. Sec.
Ridgmont Vicarage, Aspley Guise, R.S.O., Beds.

The Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, Bristol.—The next meeting will be held at Henbury, to-day, Saturday, July 1st. Short Service at St. Mary's Church at 4 p.m. Bells (eight), open for ringing from 3 p.m. Business meeting after Service.
C. H. GORDON, Branch Sec.
Hill Street, Kingswood.

The Sheffield District Society.—The next meeting will be at Chesterfield Church to-day, Saturday, July 1st. Meeting house, The Lord Nelson. Tower open 4 p.m.
R. HARRISON.

The Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The annual meeting of this Association will be held at Fenton to-day, Saturday, July 1st, when, by kind permission of the Hon. and Rev. L. Tyrwhitt (Vicar), the new tower and peal of eight bells will be at the disposal of the members. The business meeting will be held in the Church room at 5.30 p.m. Tea at 6 p.m. Service in the Parish Church at 7.30 p.m.; Preacher—the Vicar of Fenton.
REV. G. T. BIRCH, } Hon. Secs.
W. TWIGG, }

The Waltham Abbey Society.—On Saturday, July 1st, this Society intends to meet at the Abbey Church for the purpose of ringing, and to celebrate the Silver Wedding of their brother ringer, Mr. George Thurgood (which occurs on June 27th). The bells will be available from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m., and all ringing friends will be cordially welcomed. Headquarters—The Green Dragon inn.
FRANK CARTER, Hon. Sec.

The Sussex County Association, Eastern Division.—The next District meeting will be held at Alfriston (Berwick Station), on Saturday, July 8th. Bells available 3 to 9. Tea at 5.30. Will members intending to be present kindly send postcard to the undersigned not later than July 5th.

S. SAKER, Hon. Sec. Eastern Division.

Arran, Baldsloe Road, Hastings.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—A meeting of the above will be held at Gloucester on Saturday, July 8th, to form a branch of the above Association for the Deanery of Gloucester. Service at Cathedral at 4 o'clock, tea at 5 o'clock at The Ram hotel,

Southgate Street. The bells of the Cathedral (8), St. Michael's (10), and St. Mary de Crypt (8), will be open for ringing after 2 p.m. All members intending to be present at tea please inform me not later than July 5th.

JOHN AUSTIN, Local Hon. Sec.
Bentham Villa, Conduit Street, Gloucester.

The Heavy Woollen District Association.—The half-yearly meeting of the above society will be held at The Dusty Miller's Arms, Mirfield, on Saturday, July 8th, at 4.30. The presentation to Mr. Simon, the late Secretary, will be made at this meeting.

WALTER IDLE, Sec.

47, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury

The Midland Counties Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Bakewell, on Saturday, July 8th. Bells ready at 2 p.m. Tea tickets 1s. each. All members and friends who intend being present at the tea are requested to inform Mr. J. W. Smith, 9, Catcliffe Cottages, Bakewell, not later than Wednesday, July 5th. Parties of eight or more can obtain fare-and-a-quarter tickets by giving three days' notice at any station. Further particulars in next week's issue.

W. E. WHITE, Hon. Sec.

Cotgrave, near Nottingham.

The Winchester Diocesan Guild.—The annual festival will be held at Portsea on Monday, July 10th. Annual meeting at 10.30 a.m. in St. Mary's Parish Institute. Service at 11.45 at St. Mary's church, preacher the Rev. S. G. Scott, Rector of Havant. Dinner at the Parish Institute at 12.45, provided only for those ordering beforehand and supplied with dinner tickets. The St. Mary's belfry will be open from 9.0 a.m. For other towers available see programme of arrangements. All claims for expenses incurred must reach me by July 31st.
CHARLES E. MATTHEWS, Hon. Sec.
Hursley, Winchester.

The St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—The usual quarterly meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 11th, at The Tamworth Arms, Moor Street, Birmingham. Chair to be taken at 8.30 p.m. The attendance of every member is earnestly requested.

W. H. GODDEN, Hon. Sec.

61, Roland Road, Handsworth.

The Surrey Association.—The next quarterly meeting of members will be held at Beddington (nearest stations Waddon or Hackbridge, Brighton line) on Saturday, July 15th. The bells (10) will be raised soon after three o'clock. Particulars as to tea, etc., later.

CHARLES DEAN, JUN., Hon. Sec.

5, Manor Parade, Sutton, Surrey.

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—The Annual Festival will be held at High Wycombe, on Monday, July 17th. Service at 11.30. Business meeting in Town Hall 12.30. Dinner in central hall 1.30. Tickets 2s. each on application before July 10 to Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, Dunsden Vicarage, Reading.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

MR. HAYWARD.—Will you send your address again; we have a reply to your advt.

MR. E. F. COLE, of 6, Whitehall Place, S.W., writes: I should be glad to have all or any of the following numbers of "THE BELL NEWS" at a reasonable price: Vol. 9, No. 432, 12th July, 1890; Vol. 10, 476, 16th May, 1891; Vol. 14, 692, 6th July, 1895; Vol. 15, 763, 21st November, 1896; Vol. 16, 796, 10th July, 1897.

PEAL CARDS.—In neat border, 1s. 1d. per dozen, post free, if order is sent with report. Office of this paper. Postal order.

THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, WOLVERHAMPTON.

Recently the members of this Society had a pleasant evening at the residence of Mr. Jagger, the guest of the evening being Mr. R. Pickering, on the occasion of his recent marriage. An excellent spread was presided over by Mr. Rowland Cartwright, to which fifteen sat down, and which was well served up by Mrs. Jagger, Mrs. Pickering and Miss Hodson. Supper over "The Health of Her Majesty" was proposed by the Chairman, after which Mr. Knight, on behalf of the St. Peter's Society, presented Mr. Pickering with a handsome kitchen clock.

The recipient, in returning thanks for the useful present, expressed the pleasure it gave him to be a member of the St. Peter's Society, which was making such excellent progress in the higher methods.

Mr. J. E. Groves said he was pleased to be amongst them again after several months absence, and looked forward to the time when the St. Peter's Society would be a credit to the ringing world.

Mr. Cartwright, in an excellent speech, reviewed the ringing and ringers generally at St. Peter's for the past ten years, and looked forward to the time when the present ring of ten would be converted into twelve, there now being only one peal of twelve in Staffordshire, and them unringable.

The rest of the evening was spent in songs and handbell ringing, including touches of Stedman Triples, Bob Major, and courses of Grandsire Caters and Cinques. Several excellent songs were well rendered by Messrs. Cartwright, Balcombe, Burrows, Knight and Jagger, and last, but by no means least, the humorous sketch by Mr. T. P. O'Connor—"How I went home from the Party."

LARGE NEW TURRET CLOCK.—The large clock in the central tower of the Hotel Great Central, Marylebone Road, has four illuminated dials each 8-ft. 6 ins. across, and has been made and erected by John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

WANTED by young man, 24, abstainer; well up in Standard Methods on 6 and 8 bells, member of the Devonshire Guild, situation to Plumbing, Hot Water Fitting, etc., in general Ironmonger's shop.—Apply L. A. Wilson, care of Miss Spackman, High Street, Wootton Bassett.

WANTED.—Situation in Flour Mill as Flour Packer or any kind of mill work. Change-ringer on six, eight, or ten bells.—M. R. Watson, St. Helena Terrace, Boroughbridge.

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DAILY SAILINGS from Old Swan Pier, London Bridge, by "KOH-I-NOOR," to Southend and Margate, at 8.50 a.m. (Tuesdays and Fridays excepted). By "ROYAL SOVEREIGN," to Margate and Ramsgate (calling Southend Tuesdays and Fridays), at 9.20 a.m. Special trains from Fenchurch-street at 9.45 a.m. for "Koh-i-Noor," and 10.28 a.m. for "Royal Sovereign," also from St. Pancras at 9.30 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, and 9.50 a.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays.

"LA MARGUERITE," Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays to Margate and Boulogne and back. On Tuesdays to Margate and Ostend and back. On Sundays to Southend and Margate and back. Special trains from Fenchurch-street Station—Mondays, 7.30 a.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 6.15 a.m.; Saturdays, 7.45 a.m. and 8.8 a.m. (St. Pancras, 8 a.m.); Sundays, 9.35 a.m. and 9.45 a.m. (St. Pancras, 9.40 a.m.).

"LA BELGIQUE," Southend, Margate and Ostend, on Mondays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. Returning following days.
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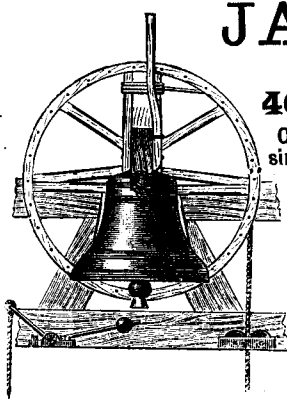
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And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 900. VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, JULY 8, 1899.

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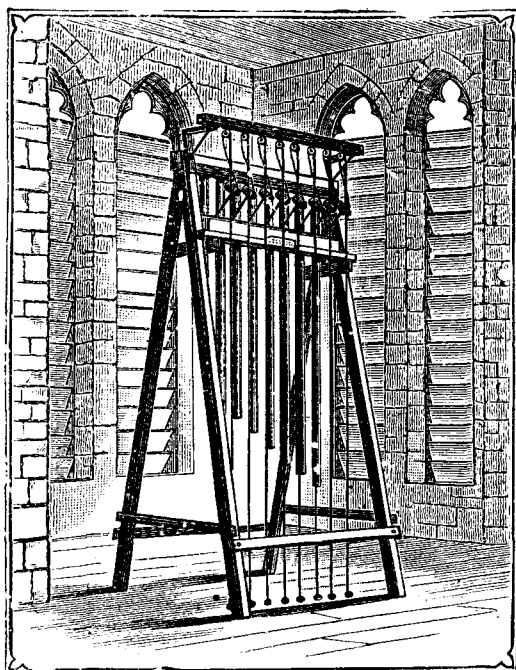
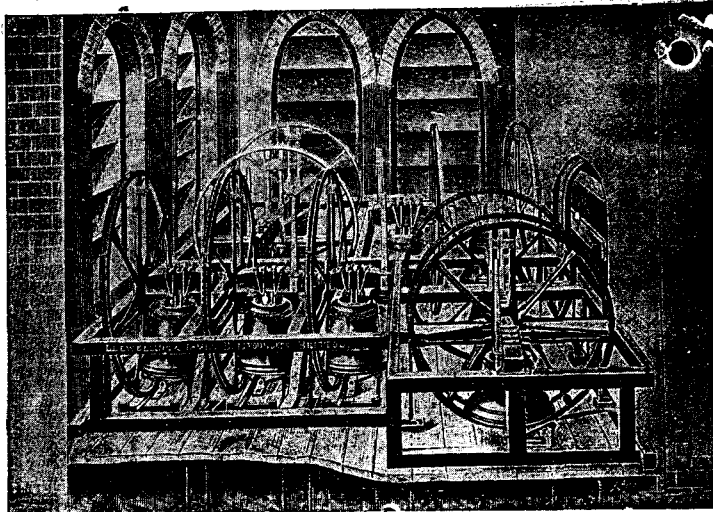
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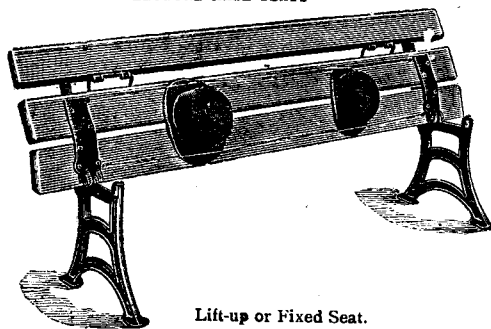
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 900.]

SATURDAY, JULY 8, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The annual festival of the above association was held on Saturday, July 1st, at Taunton. About seventy members from all parts of the diocese were present, and the following towers were open to members for ringing during the day:—St. Mary Magdalene and St. James (Taunton), Norton Fitzwarren, Wilton, Trull, and Bishop's Hull. At one o'clock, the members assembled at The Fleur-de-Lis hotel, where they sat down to a luncheon served in good style by Mr. E. J. Tyler. The Vicar of St. Mary Magdalene (the Rev. Preb. Askwith) presided, and there were also present the Revs. Preb. Herringham (Old Cleeve), J. U. Todd (Minehead), C. De Salis (East Brent), W. P. Hewett (Norton Fitzwarren), J. V. Buckland (St. Mary, Taunton), J. C. J. Pavey (St. James, Taunton), H. C. Courtney (Minehead, Master of the Association), and Mr. H. W. Tomkins (Old Cleeve), hon. secretary and treasurer.

The toast of "Her Majesty the Queen" having been loyally honoured, the minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Chairman then called upon the Hon. Secretary to read the annual report, which stated that a successful year's work had been accomplished. A few honorary members had been lost by death or removal from the diocese, and there had been a gain of one honorary life member. One or two towers had been struck out through non-payment of subscriptions, removals and other causes, but this had been more than compensated for by the number of new towers that had become affiliated to the association. Financially, there had been a gain of nearly £5, notwithstanding that the expenses of the year had been rather heavier than usual. The work of the association had been gradually extended, and its value and usefulness was being more fully recognised, the following towers having joined the association during the year:—Selworthy and Wiveliscombe (in the Dunster Deanery), Yeovil (in the Merston Deanery) and Nunney, Midsomer Norton, and Paulton (in the Frome Deanery). Thirteen peals had been rung, including one of Treble Bob Major, which was rung by the St. James's band, Taunton, and was the first in the method by the association. Four successful and well-attended meetings had been held—at Chard, Wells, Dunster, and Weston-super-Mare. The Wells meeting was by far the largest in the history of the association (nearly 140 ringers being present), and was presided over for the first time by the esteemed president, the Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells. Special thanks were accorded his lordship for his very excellent and helpful address in the cathedral and for the sympathy and practical interest which he took in the work of the association. Reference was made to the good work that is being done by the local branches and to the valuable aid rendered the executive by the local secretaries. Satisfaction was expressed at the work of restoration of old and the inauguration of new rings of bells in various parts of the diocese, and the report concluded by pointing out that, although much good work had been accomplished, much still remained to be done, and that each individual member

should do his utmost to help on and spread the work of the association throughout the diocese. The balance-sheet having been read, the Hon. Sec. said that, although it was strictly a matter to be dealt with in their next report, he could not allow that opportunity to pass without congratulating the Norton Fitzwarren band on their recent successes in peal-ringing. He hoped it would stimulate them to further efforts and that soon they would all have the pleasure of hearing that two new trebles were to be added to complete the octave.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, referred to the pleasure he had in doing so. It was an exceedingly good report in every way, and the balance-sheet showed that their finances were in a very satisfactory condition. The motion, on being seconded, was agreed to unanimously. The president and vice-presidents were unanimously re-elected. Mr. J. Maddock proposed, and Mr. J. Burge seconded, the re-election of the Rev. H. C. Courtney as Master.

The Rev. H. C. Courtney said that before they proceeded further, he thought it right to inform the members that he should shortly be leaving Minehead for Clifton. He very much regretted having to leave the west-country, where he had been received with the utmost kindness and courtesy by every band of ringers with whom he had come in contact. He thought it right to mention this matter so that they might be free to elect anyone they thought fit.

The Hon. Secretary supported the re-election of the Rev. H. C. Courtney as Master. Mr. Courtney and himself had always worked most harmoniously together in matters relating to the affairs of the association, although he much regretted Mr. Courtney's having to leave the neighbourhood. The motion was carried by acclamation.

The Rev. H. C. Courtney said that, as it was their wish that he should continue in office for another year, he would do so with pleasure. His removal to Clifton would place him more in touch with the work in another part of the diocese, but he hoped often to pay them a visit.

The Chairman said it was now their duty to elect an hon. secretary and treasurer. He thought they could not do better than re-elect their old secretary and treasurer. The motion was seconded by Mr. I. Creed and carried unanimously, and the Hon. Secretary thanked the members for their renewed confidence. The next business was the election of new members, twenty-four being proposed, seconded, and duly elected. It was decided that the next quarterly meeting be held at Midsomer Norton. An alteration in No. 3 of the rules for local branches was proposed by the Hon. Secretary, seconded by Mr. E. Burgess, and agreed to unanimously. A hearty vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the business. The members then adjourned to the church of St. Mary Magdalene, where a short service was held and an admirable address was delivered by the vicar. Subsequently, the members sat down to tea at Mr. Wickenden's (generously provided by the vicar and Mrs. Askwith), after which they dispersed to the various towers for ringing.

LONG BUCKBY, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

The bells at this parish church, which have been re-hung and thoroughly restored by Messrs. Taylor, at a cost of about £170, of which sum £130 has been raised by the parishioners, were dedicated on Wednesday evening with a special service, a fair congregation being present. The service commenced with the hymn "All people that on earth do dwell," which was sung as a processional. The clergy present were the Rev. R. A. Parsons (vicar), the Rev. V. J. Leatherdale (vicar of East Haddon), the Rev. W. H. Logan (rector of Whilton), the Rev. C. E. Bannerman (vicar of West Haddon), and the Rev. A. O. James, R.D., (rector of Bugbroke); while there were noticed amongst the audience the Rev. E. P. Rose (vicar of Norton). The service was conducted by the Vicar. The special Psalm was the 122nd. The lessons were read by the Rev. V. J. Leatherdale and the Rev. W. H. Logan respectively. "Magnificat" and "Dimittis" were sung to Bunnett's setting. Afterwards the Vicar and the Churchwardens (Messrs. How and Green) proceeded to the belfry, and the dedication took place, followed by the ringing of the bells, the congregation standing. The hymn before the sermon was "When're the sweet church bells." The preacher (the Rev. A. O. James) chose as his text the words from the Book of Zechariah, 14c., verse 20, "Upon the bells, holiness unto the Lord." The hymn, "O, Lord of heaven and earth and sea," was sung while the offertory was taken for the Bells Restoration Fund, which realised £3 10s. The service closed with Stainer's "Sevenfold Amen" and the "Doxology," the bells being rung at the close of the service.

The five bells of the church of St. Lawrence, Long Buckley, are of the following dates:—treble, 1814, cast by Briant, of Hereford; 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and tenor, 1624, cast probably by Watts, of Leicester. Diameter of tenor, 45 inches.

THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

The monthly ringing meeting of this Society was held at Tong on Saturday, June 24, when the following towers were represented:—Armley, Birstal, Bradford, Bramley, Liversedge, Pudsey, Wakefield, and local company. The bells were set going about 4 o'clock, when several touches were rung, including Violet, Oxford and Kent.

The business meeting was held at The Greyhound inn, the president, Mr. J. W. T. Holgate, in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. As there was no particular business to bring before the meeting an adjournment was made to the tower, when a few more touches were rung and also several touches on handbells at the meeting house, including Grandsire Caters, Triples and Major, etc.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar and Wardens for the use of the bells, and the local company for their kind arrangements, was responded to by Mr. G. Bolland, and that ended a very pleasant and enjoyable meeting.

WALTHAM ABBEY, ESSEX.

A LOCAL RINGER'S SILVER WEDDING.

Tuesday, June 27th, being the "Silver Wedding day" of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Thurgood, the bells of the Abbey Church were rung and fired in the evening in honour of the occasion by the local ringers, after which the party were joined by Mr. Thurgood and a few other friends at the headquarters, where a couple of very pleasant hours were spent in harmony and best wishes.

Saturday last being the ordinary practice-night, the local

society decided to meet earlier, having given notice to that effect in "THE BELL NEWS," ringers from no less than seven different parishes put in an appearance, viz.: E. Wallage (Whitechapel), E. Hall (Stepney), G. Taffender (Southwark), A. Darlington, P. Darlington, J. Parker, W. Ware (Edmonton), (the two latter being formerly of Crawley), H. Webb (Sawbridge-worth), G. Barker (Ware), and F. J. Harvey (Hertford). The ringing in the tower opened with a 504 Stedman Triples, and during the evening touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung, and also a course of Double Norwich Court Bob Major. The ringing in the tower finishing about 8.30 p.m., the company (augmented by a few friends) adjourned to The Green Dragon hotel. There they were enlivened by Mr. R. Kingston, who ably presided at the piano, and by the hilarity of the various vocalists, who gave much amusement. By special request a touch of Grandsire Triples upon the handbells was rung by D. Tarling, 1-2; W. A. Alps, 3-4; George Thurgood, 5-6; Thos. Colverd, 7-8; the three former, together with Messrs. A. Darlington and G. Taffender, ringing a course of Grandsire Caters.

Before the company separated, Mr. W. A. Alps, who presided, said that as master of the local society and in its name he wished to say how much the local ringers had enjoyed the company of the visitors, and trusted that they would "come again some day," and as often as they could, to their meetings. He knew the "go" of the Abbey bells was not very tempting, but he trusted that before long they would be put in good going order. He was certain that the effectual restoration of the bells would have a tendency to keep a good band of ringers together. In concluding, Mr. Alps said it was his privilege and pleasure to see Mr. Thurgood present with them that night, and it always a pleasure to see him. The fact that so many friends from a distance being present also showed what they thought of him as well. They heartily gave him and Mrs. Thurgood their heartiest congratulations upon their silver wedding. He asked them to drink upstanding "The health and happiness of Mr. and Mrs. Thurgood." He did so with a double pleasure, first because he had been associated with Mr. Thurgood in the belfry of the Abbey Church for nearly thirty years, and secondly because 25 years ago he had "to do the amiable" at his wedding. The toast was received with musical honours and Mr. Thurgood having replied,

Mr. F. Carter (hon. secretary) said he thought it only right they should mark their appreciation of the kindness and consideration extended to them at all times by their steeple-keeper, Mr. David Tarling, who not only tried to ease their labours in ringing the Abbey bells, but kept the belfry in a spick and span condition. On this occasion he had decorated the ringing chamber with beautiful flowers. He (Mr. Carter) had therefore much pleasure in proposing a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Tarling. This toast was also received with musical honours, and Mr. Tarling having thanked the company, a vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. R. Kingston for ably presiding at the pianoforte during the evening, and the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

The persons who rendered songs during the evening were Messrs. W. A. Alps, A. Darlington, E. Wallage, F. Carter, and P. Brown.

ST. IGNATIUS THE MARTYR, SUNDERLAND.

DEDICATION OF A NEW TREBLE BELL.

On Sunday, July 2nd, the tenth annual Dedication Festival was held in connection with the above church. Holy Communion was celebrated at seven, eight and half-past ten o'clock. Prior to the latter service, a stained glass window and a new treble bell were dedicated by the Vicar.

The new bell, which is from the Loughborough Foundry, is the gift of the Vicar, the Rev. Edgar Boddington, M.A., as a memento of his ten years' connection with the parish. The addition of the new bell makes the number in the tower up to six.

Members of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association of Ringers were present from Chester-le-Street, St. Matthew's, Newcastle and Bishopwearmouth, and Sunderland parish churches, and took part in the ringing during the day, particulars of which will be given in a later issue.

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 KIDLINGTON PEAL.

SIR,—As a looker-on can sometimes see more of the game than the players themselves, and as you have admitted the opinions of those who were neither ringers in the peal nor listeners, I ask the same indulgence.

The issue of the altercation concerns others besides the two principals. In fact I hold that any conductor worth his salt ought to chip in lest in future his own honour is impugned. Stripped of their vituperation and conceit, I take the facts to be as follows, viz. :—

(1).—B rings a long peal and supplants A.
(2).—A hears peal and condemns it (A is therefore plaintiff and judge combined).
(3).—A says there was firing throughout ("from course to course.")

(4).—A says four courses were eliminated from the original composition, and four courses therefore short of the length recorded. He offers to produce the courses that were not rung.

This is the case. B acknowledges inferior striking at times, but stakes his reputation on the truth of the peal. As we are English, we hold a man to be innocent until his accuser proves him guilty. It is therefore for A to prove his case. How does it work out?

Fact (1) supplies the motive for A's intervention. He has the right to criticise equally with any other ringer who aspires to call a record peal and hold it.

Fact (2) shews A's personal opinion of the ringing. Observe that he does not say it was a false peal. He takes no third party as a witness. He makes no complaint to the other listeners while the peal was in progress. He is the one who loses if B succeeds. His evidence is totally uncorroborated.

(3).—"Firing from course to course." This is disproved by four or five other witnesses who may be ignorant of the intricacies of a method but fully qualified to discriminate between regular striking and clashing.

(4).—A's statement here is inadmissible, he never having seen the original peal, and therefore is unable to verify his assertion. His offer is absurd, seeing that there were over 23,000 not rung, and any novice could make his assertion with safety. It therefore is for him to produce the whole that were rung.

It is obvious that A's evidence is thoroughly frittered away. On the one hand we have B (Washbrook), a man whose abilities are beyond question both as a composer and conductor, a man who can without doubt put together a peal in most standard methods while the peal is in progress. On the other we have A (Pye), a good ringer, but evidently chagrined that his own record should be lowered. By-the-way, did any one ever know a defeated man to admire his conqueror's methods? Washbrook's acknowledgement of occasional trips does not amount to an apology as seems inferred by some of your correspondents. The "firing from course to course" is even refuted by Mr. Pye himself. He is not the only man who can take the leads and course-ends off from outside, but I have never met the one who can do so while the bells are "firing from course to course." It follows then that Mr. Pye's statement must be exaggerated, and this belief is greatly strengthened by reading in this week's "BELL NEWS" his bombastic "I should soon have had him in a corner," etc.

Mr. Washbrook is somewhat to blame for not providing an umpire as in the case of the Debenham peal, which gave every satisfaction, but as there was no umpire in Mr. Pye's peal it is nothing in his favour. No doubt there are many ringers like myself who care not a fig for either of the parties, but who have been waiting for other evidence before forming their opinions. There were men in the band who were quite as experienced as Mr. Pye, yet they did not set their bells as any one with any sense would have done had the "firing" been so bad as he asserts. As his statements lack the one thing needful—corroboration, I for one must emphatically render a verdict of

NOT PROVEN. This brings me back to where I first set out. I hold that no individual ringer ought to be allowed to use your columns for the purpose of defaming another unless he furnishes additional testimony. No conductor's honour is safe if this kind of thing is to obtain. There is a class of men who experience the bitterness of gall at the success of others, and when statements of this kind have been once circulated they would damn any peal whether true or false.

WILLIAM WILLSON.

SIR,—Mr. Pye says that I have never shewn the composition of the above peal to anyone. Mr. Hounslow saw the figures before the attempt, and had every opportunity to take a copy of them. I also forwarded them to you, Sir, so that you should make what use of them you saw fit; and that I have acted straightforward in the matter nobody can deny. I shall not write again on this subject, as I consider that Mr. Pye's objections have been negated by independent and impartial witnesses, and I may also add that Mr. Hounslow is not of Mr. Pye's opinion, neither is Mr. Smith, from whom I understand you have a letter in favor of the peal, both gentlemen being eminently qualified for taking figures, and heard all the ringing after twelve o'clock. Mr. Borrett and Mr. Keeble write very sensibly, but their ideas cannot be carried out in this case, as the evidence is of such a one-sided nature, and the figures of the composition have been shewn to all who have had a wish to see them, except Mr. Pye, and of course he cannot want them, seeing that he has some of his own. I am sorry that my notes should have conveyed any idea that I considered the ringing second-class, but if people would only read things carefully, they would see that I treated the matter impartially. There was first-class ringing and plenty of it. There were trips, but no firing. Those who can do it better have the bells at their disposal, for the Vicar of Kidlington is a kind-hearted man, and would like to hear anything that could possibly eclipse what has already been done.

J. W. WASHBROOK.

BOB LEADS.

SIR,—There is something in the drift of Mr. Drake's first paragraph with which I cannot rest satisfied. I wish I could like it better than I do. In saying that my question could not be properly understood because it was not explained, he virtually accuses me of setting a trap. Nothing was farther from my intention, and I contend that I have not done so. The word "bob-lead" is universally known and very generally employed. Its turn came for definition. Two definitions were proposed, which practically excluded each other. It was desirable to know which of the two most nearly tallied with usage. To be fair to both sides of opinion within the Committee itself, and at the same time to obtain an unbiased opinion from without it was of the very essence of the case that no hint or help should be given at the time. In this I feel sure though I have not consulted with any one, that my fellow-members of Committee, and indeed, your readers in general, would agree with me. I note that Mr. Drake avoids saying what answer he would have given had he known more of the meaning of the question. I suppose that he will not deny that "bob-lead" has some meaning. This granted, either Q or R must be "bob-leads." The Committee wish to know which. Therefore to the question asked there could be only the answer Q or the answer R.

The whole of the rest of Mr. Drake's letter is on a side issue which I happened to raise, on the propriety of the use of the term "bob-lead" in any sense. It was merely propounded as my own private opinion, and I neither have, nor can have, any cause of complaint that Mr. Drake's opinion differs from mine. I hope others will express theirs. I also ask that there may be no confusion between the question as to what is the best definition of "bob-lead" which is the question that concerns the Committee and the wholly distinct question as to whether "bob-lead" is a good term in any sense.

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

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.

PRESENTATION TO A BURNLEY RINGER.

At the Burnley Parish Church on Saturday afternoon, June 24th, Mr. John Pollard, the veteran bellringer, was presented with a long service medal, the gift of the proprietors of "The Sunday Companion." The recipient is now in his 80th year, and has been a ringer at the Parish Church for 63 years. Inscribed on the medal, which is of silver, are the words, "Honour to every man that worketh good," and "Presented to Mr. John Pollard for honourable service," whilst on the reverse side is an inscription which shows that the recipient belongs to "The Sunday Companion" roll of honour.

At the presentation ceremony, which was performed by the Rev. H. G. Elsee, vicar of St. George's, Bolton, there were present representatives of the Lancashire Association of Bellringers. Preston was represented by Mr. T. Strickland, Colne by Mr. W. Heaton, Padiham by Mr. T. Duxbury, and Oswaldtwistle by Mr. J. Bentley, the local ringers present being Messrs. T. Holden, H. Tomlinson, Jno. Pollard, A. Riley, Jas. Pollard, H. Heyworth, Jas. Pollard, and R. Mills. During the afternoon various touches of Grandsire Triples were rung, and subsequently tea was served in the school, after which the company re-assembled in the belfry, when the presentation took place.

The Rev. M. W. Hall, one of the clergy at the Parish Church, had been expected to make the presentation, but he was unable to be present, and that pleasing function was undertaken, as stated, by Mr. Elsee, who said that he knew there were some very good ringers in Burnley, with whom he was very glad to be on that occasion. The medal he was to present to Mr. Pollard was one which would be held in great regard by that gentleman, inasmuch as it was the reward for honourable services rendered in a honourable cause. The work of a bellringer he regarded as a very honourable one. He was a ringer himself in the old parish church of Rugby, and learned to ring when he was about eight years of age. If he lived until he was 80 years old like Mr. Pollard he too might get a medal. They were met that day to do honour to the oldest bellringer in this district. It was very remarkable that during the 63 years he had been bellringing, Mr. Pollard had been associated with one belfry only, and he might take it for granted that there would be many associations with the old bells which pealed out that day the same old tale of simple truth as they did in former years. Mr. Pollard's was a record equalled by a few during the years of Her Majesty's reign. He would have noted the changes in the Parish Church—the mother church—and the other churches—her daughters, which had sprung up around her. But, above all, he had been able to do his work in a satisfactory manner. Perhaps some of the happiest hours of Mr. Pollard's life were when he was handling the bell ropes. The great pleasure in ringing was that the work was given in an honourable service, and whilst they were ringers for the Church they were ringers for the parishes too, and also for the glory of God. It was a long record the recipient of that medal had been permitted to accomplish, and he trusted that when his life ended he might be called to a higher service in the glory of God, and in a purer life. Mr. Pollard briefly replied, thanking all concerned in the presentation for their kindness, and especially the donors of the medal, which he would always keep and value.

Mr. Duxbury moved a vote of thanks to the Rev. H. G. Elsee for the part he had so ably filled, and being seconded, it was supported by Mr. Heaton, of Colne, who observed

that a few more men like Mr. Elsee were needed to take an interest in their welfare. If rectors, vicars and curates would associate a little more with the ringers the latter would be all the better for it. The motion was carried, and after a few more remarks from Mr. Elsee, the bells were again set in motion, Mr. Pollard taking a pull with the reverend gentleman. The proceedings concluded with another touch of Grandsire Triples.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

Saturday last, the 1st July, was the eleventh occasion that a party of College Youths has been most sumptuously entertained by Miss Macalpine-Leny, of Speldhurst Rectory. As usual special carriages had been reserved in the 8.8 a.m. train from Cannon Street, and in good time Messrs. Cockerill, Dawe, Haworth, Horrex, Hoskins, Hughes, Newton, Oxborrow, Pettit, Prime, Winney, Wise and Wood met at the station.

After the usual half-hour's delay on the part of the South Eastern Railway Company a start was made, another half-hour lost on the journey landed the party at Tunbridge Wells just one hour after the appointed time, which was considered by some some a fair performance for this line of railway. Miss Leny and her sister, Mrs. Mackinnon, were in waiting, and without further delay the party mounted the four-horse brake, which was soon *en route* for Cranbrook. The drive *via* Pembury Green and Goudhurst is over some of the best roads, and embraces some of the prettiest scenery in Kent, and, notwithstanding the intermittent showers, was much enjoyed by all.

At Goudhurst a short stay was made, and the church visited, with its massive low tower, which was found to contain a peal of eight bells—tenor, 27 cwt. from the Whitechapel Foundry.

Naturally the "Youths" were anxious to test their tone, and permission was asked to ring a short touch on the return journey. Cranbrook was reached about 1 o'clock, where a most inviting luncheon had been prepared by Mr. and Mrs. Smith at "The Limes."

Thanks to the kindness of Rev. W. Bell, touches of Grandsire, Stedman and Double Norwich were rung upon the eight bells, tenor 23 cwt., and after an early afternoon tea seats were taken for the return journey to Speldhurst.

At Goudhurst a halt was made for the anticipated touch upon the church bells, which was courteously permitted by the Rev. J. S. Clarke.

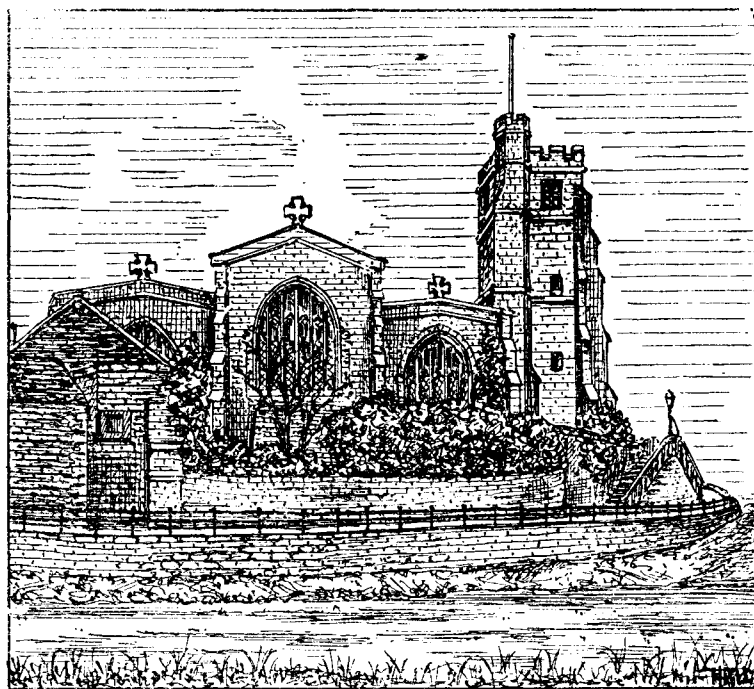
Speldhurst Rectory was reached at 7.15 p.m., and one and all did ample justice to the good dinner which was there provided.

It was regretted that the Rector, the Rev. D. Mackinnon, was unavoidably absent, the Rev. F. Helmore, Messrs. W. D. Smith and Taffender were also prevented from joining the company at the last minute. Time did not permit of ringing on the pretty little peal of eight bells at Speldhurst, and the party were driven to Tunbridge Wells in time for the 9.52 return train to London. The magnificent way in which Miss Leny and Mrs. Mackinnon arrange for the comfort and enjoyment of every one on these occasions makes the day a most memorable one for all.

Situations Vacant.

WANTED a Groom, 18 or 20. Must be able to ride well, and make himself useful. Wages £1 a week and stable clothes. Must be able to ring Standard methods. Address, Coachman, Hillside, Chislehurst.

STEADY Young Man as Coachman, and to assist occasionally in garden. About 25 years of age. Apply, Editor.



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, MAIDSTONE.

RE-OPENING OF BELLS AND DEDICATION OF NEW CLOCK AND CHIMES AT ALL SAINTS, MAIDSTONE.

In our issue of June 10th last, we were very pleased to read the following lines, which were incorporated with the report of proceedings at the Twentieth Annual Meeting of the Kent County Association:—

"There had been plenty of work for bellhangers during the past twelve months; and some very good jobs had been effected, notably the rehanging of the ten at Maidstone by Messrs. Warner."

It is doubly pleasing to be able to give the following brief account of the opening.

A very interesting ceremony took place at the above church on June 17th, when the fine ring of ten bells were re-opened, and a new clock and chimes dedicated by the Bishop of Dover. The bells have been rehanged on the old frame, with complete sets of new fittings, and quarter-turned, by Messrs. Warner and Sons, and great credit is due to them for the way they have carried out their work. The "go" of the bells is very satisfactory, and the way the bells are clattered is excellent, as they all strike perfectly true, and all clapper up the right way. This is considered a great advantage with a tenor weighing over 30 cwt. The new clock and chimes have been constructed by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, of Croydon, with all the latest improvements. The clock chimes the Westminster quarters and strikes the hours. The chimes are constructed to play fourteen tunes. This is considered a great desideratum to one of the grandest churches in England. Very little ringing was done owing to the work of the clockmakers being unfinished.

At some future time we may give a lengthy account of this sacred edifice.

A PEAL OF 362,880 GRANDSIRE CATERS, 6d.
Contains the full extent of changes on nine bells. Forwarded Post Free, on receipt of 7d. By James Hewett, 26 Chapel Row Gosport.

INDUCTION AT SOUTHAMPTON.

On Wednesday, June 21st, the Rev. J. W. S. J. Danbury (for the past eight years curate at St. Michael's, Basingstoke) was inducted into the Vicarage of St. Michael's, Southampton, in succession to the late Rev. F. M. Gregory. In the absence of Bishop Sumner the Rev. Dr. Cooper Smith, Vicar of Basingstoke, performed the ceremony and read the mandate outside the church, and after the usual formalities a shortened form of service was conducted in the church, where a fairly large congregation had assembled.

Eight members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild met by arrangement, in the hopes of attempting a peal in honour of the event, but the hot weather and the "go" of the bells would have made this too big an order, so the idea was abandoned and the following touches brought round: 504 Stedman Triples. H. White, 1; G. Smith, 2; E. J. Heathorn, 3; J. Harris, 4; G. Grafham, 5; Rev. R. C. M. Harvey, 6; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 7; J. Elcombe, 8. And 336 in the same method. J. Harris, 1; G. Smith, 2; E. J. Heathorn, 3; Rev. R. C. M. Harvey, 4; G. Grafham, 5; H. White, 6; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 7; J. Elcombe, 8. And 504 Grand-sire by the same band.

The new Vicar being a ringer we may hope that ere long change-ringing may be of frequent occurrence here, and that the frame and fittings may shortly be overhauled and the bells put in good going order. The writer, with Mr. E. J. Heathorn, of Bridge Road, Woolston, Southampton (who by the way would always be pleased to welcome any brother-ringer visiting Southampton) spent some time in the bell-chamber tightening bolts, seeing to ropes, oiling bearings, etc., and they trust that in the future this may be found unnecessary. W.

"MARBLETT"—The new, excellent, imperishable material for Peal-Boards.—See advertisement.

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Now Ready. Contains full explanations and rules for ringing all the best methods, from five to eight bells, with plain-course diagrams of each printed in full, with coloured lines. 40 pages of diagrams and 87 of descriptive letterpress.

GRANDSIRE: 2s. 6d. THE METHOD, ITS PEALS, AND HISTORY. WITH PORTRAIT AND MEMOIR. EDITED BY HIS BROTHER, WM. SNOWDON. COMPLETE WITH AN APPENDIX BY THE REV. CHARLES D. P. DAVIES, M.A., OXON. Commences with ringing on five, six, and seven bells, for the benefit of a learner; gives instructions on composing, proving, varying, and reversing, conducting and calling round; and ends with a general survey of the practical and scientific aspect of the composition of triples—thus forming a complete reference book for all Grandsire ringers. (210 pages).

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Part I. contains instructions for pricking, transposing, proving, composing, and conducting peals; an essay on the *In and Out-of-course* of the changes; and 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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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, JULY 8, 1899.

THE symptoms attendant upon the progress of the art in Ireland appears to be favorable. Our readers will remember that soon after the record of the peal at St. Patrick's, Dublin, appeared, the authorities wisely determined to engage a teacher of change-ringing, who should be also the custodian of the bells and belfry. Our friend GABRIEL LINDOFF was selected for this position, as is well known. An association has been founded, and everything seems to go on like the proverbial marriage-bell. Certainly the bells in the Irish metropolis have not been dumb.

Now we find that in another part of Ireland ringing is to be established. A ring of eight bells has been erected at a place called Arklow, in Wicklow county, and our readers will have seen the advertisement which appeared in our columns for the last two weeks for the services of one who could teach ringing. When it is understood that this advertisement was issued by no less a person than the Earl of CARYSFORT, K.P., an idea is likely to

take root that bell-ringing is rapidly casting its slough of misrepresentation. In fact we are making considerable headway just now. Just before going to press we have heard upon good authority that Mr. WASHBROOK has been engaged for Arklow. Such exponents of the Art as Messrs. LINDOFF and WASHBROOK ought certainly to make the "emerald isle" another ringing island.

The Provinces.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, June 27, 1899, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DARLSTON BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

ARTHUR GOWER Treble.	GEORGE PENFOLD 5.
GEORGE H. HOWSE 2.	JOSEPH SHARP 6.
THOMAS PRICE 3.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 7.
GEORGE H. HEAD 4.	*FREDERICK ELMS Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and Conducted by JOHN S. GOLDSMITH.

This is the first peal in the method by all the band, in the county, and by the Association, and was rung at the first attempt. *First peal.

WALTON-ON-THAMES, SURREY.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 1, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S SIX-PART (No. 11.) Tenor 27 cwt.

JOHN BASDEN Treble.	*THOMAS BEADLE 5.
EVERED J. WALSON 2.	FREDERICK GODDARD 6.
EDWARD HARRIS 3.	HARRY BROWNING 7.
GEORGE A. RANSOM 4.	HENRY SEWARD Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN BASDEN.

*First peal in the method with a bob bell. The ringers wish to thank the Vicar and also the churchwardens for granting the use of the bells, and Mr. Wickens for having all ready.

HAWLEY, HANTS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(READING BRANCH.)

On Saturday, July 1, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 16½ cwt.

HENRY TUCKER Treble.	ARTHUR W. HIGGS 5.
FRANK BLONDELL 2.	CHARLES GILES 6.
JAMES HUNT 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 7.
ALFRED E. REEVES 4.	MAURICE STEER Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

Messrs. Hunt and Blondell hail from Guildford; the Rev. F. E. Robinson from Drayton; Steer belongs to Hawley; the rest to Reading.

NOTTINGHAM.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 1, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5374 CHANGES.

Tenor 17 cwt. 3 qrs. 6 lbs. in E.

HARRY R. COBBIN Treble.	WILLIAM CLARKE 5.
WILLIAM H. INGLESANT 2.	JOHN HICKMAN 6.
JOSEPH WOOLLEY 3.	HORACE W. ABBOTT 7.
EDWARD ROBINSON 4.	CHARLES R. LILLEY Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM H. INGLESANT, and Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

First peal of Bob Major on the bells, also by Messrs. Clarke and Abbott. This peal is now rung for the first time.

CALVERLEY, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 1, 1899, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qrs.

WALTER CORDINGLEY .. Treble.	PETER GRIMSHAW 5.
FRANKLIN GRIMSHAW .. 2.	TOM LATIMER 6.
CHARLES PRATT 3.	FRED. PAGE 7.
WALTER POPPLEWELL* .. 4.	SAMUEL WHEATLEY Tenor.

Composed by W. SOTTANSTALL, and Conducted by W. POPPLEWELL.

*First peal as conductor.

WOLVERHAMPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

(THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY.)

On Monday, July 3, 1899, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5043 CHANGES.

Tenor 23 cwt.

JOHN JAGGAR Treble.	†WILLIAM G. HALL 6.
HERBERT KNIGHT† 2.	*ELMER S. HODGES 7.
HUGH J. BALCOMBE† .. 3.	†ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT .. 8.
BENJAMIN DALTON* 4.	JAMES E. GROVES 9.
ROBERT PICKERING† .. 5.	*ISAAC PURSER Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

*First peal of Stedman. †First peal of Stedman Caters. This is the first peal of Caters in the method by the St. Peter's society.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, July 3, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

CHARLES E. BORRETT .. Treble.	GEORGE A. KING 5.
KEITH HART 2.	FRANK BENNETT 6.
EDWARD C. MERRITT .. 3.	JAMES N. FROSSELL 7.
ROBERT J. DAWE 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

This peal was arranged for C. E. Borrett, who hails from Norwich.

BRIZE NORTON, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, July 4, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720s of Grandsire, each called differently.

Tenor 13 cwt.

REV. CYRIL JENKINS .. Treble.	WALTER LARGE 4.
HARRY BROOKS 2.	JOHN MONK 5.
JOHN SHIRLEY 3.	NOBLE SPINDLOW Tenor.

Conducted by NOBLE SPINDLOW.

First peal of Minor by all except the ringer of the treble, and the first peal on the bells.

Date Touches.

COTGRAVE (Notts).—On Monday, May 22nd, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles in 1 hr. 18 mins. J. Smart, 1; W. E. White, 2; P. Dabell, 3; Walter White (conductor), 4; T. Squires, 5. Longest length by Messrs. Smart and Dabell.

Miscellaneous.

ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY, RUGBY.

NEWBOLD-ON-AVON (Warwickshire).—On Wednesday, May 31st, a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. J. Coales, 1; A. J. Gillings, 2; J. W. Chandler, 3; A. Dubber (conductor), 4; A. Bramall, 5; J.

George, 6. Also another 6-score. A. Coleman, 1; A. J. Gillings, 2; J. W. Chandler, 3; A. Dubber, 4; A. Bramall, 5; J. George (conductor), 6. And 720 Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. Coales, 1; A. J. Gillings, 2; J. W. Chandler, 3; A. Dubber, 4; A. Bramall, 5; J. George (conductor), 6. Also 144 Bob Major. J. Coales, 1; J. George, 2; J. W. Chandler, 3; A. J. Gillings (conductor), 4; A. Bramall, 5; A. Dubber, 6. And a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. A. Coleman, 1; J. George (conductor), 2; J. W. Chandler, 3; A. J. Gillings, 4; A. Bramall, 5; A. Dubber, 6. Afterwards on handbells a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. A. J. Gillings, 1-2; J. George (conductor), 3-4; J. W. Chandler, 5-6. Also 112 Grandsire Triples. A. Dubber, 1-2; A. J. Gillings, 3-4; J. George (conductor), 5-6; J. W. Chandler, 7-8. A. Bramall, who hails from Great Grimsby, is now located at Rugby.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

PENN (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, May 7th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 41 mins. H. J. Balcombe, 1; R. J. Borough, 2; J. Purser, 3; R. Pickering, 4; S. Hodges, 5; H. Knight, 6; J. E. Groves (conductor), 7; W. T. Harley, 8.

WOLVERHAMPTON (Staffordshire).—On Wednesday, May 10th, an attempt for a peal of Stedman Triples came to grief after ringing 2 hrs. 30 mins. H. J. Balcombe, 1; J. Jaggard, 2; J. Purser, 3; R. Pickering, 4; G. Burrows, 5; H. Knight, 6; J. E. Groves (conductor), 7; F. Jones, 8. On Saturday, May 13th, at St. Peter's church, after meeting short for Stedman Caters, an attempt for a peal of Stedman Triples was lost in the 14th part. H. J. Balcombe, 1; B. Dalton, 2; H. Knight, 3; W. G. Hall, 4; E. S. Hodges, 5; R. Cartwright, 6; J. E. Groves (conductor), 7; R. Pickering, 8.

WOMBOURN (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, May 6th, a peal of Stedman Triples was lost after ringing 2 hrs. owing to the 6th guide getting loose. H. J. Balcombe, 1; R. Pickering, 2; J. Jaggard, 3; G. Burrows, 4; E. S. Hodges, 5; H. Knight, 6; J. E. Groves (conductor), 7; H. Sadler, 8.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WRAXALL (Somersetshire).—On Thursday, May 11th, 720 Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. S. Butchers, 1; F. Winsor, 2; W. Clarke, 3; H. Chard, 4; J. Bishop (conductor), 5; J. Winsor, 6. First 720 by Messrs. Butchers, F. Winsor, and Clarke. On Sunday evening, May 14th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 47 mins. W. Evered, 1; F. Winsor, 2; J. Youd, 3; J. Bishop, 4; W. Clarke, 5; J. Winsor, 6; H. Chard (conductor), 7; S. Butchers, 8.

LONG ASHTON (Somersetshire).—On Thursday, May 11th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins. G. Yeo, 1; F. Winsor, 2; J. Youd, 3; H. Chard, 4; W. Clarke, 5; J. Winsor, 6; J. Bishop (conductor), 7; H. Bridle, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks).—On Thursday, May 4th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. S. Jordan, 1; M. Smither, 2; F. Gomm, 3; G. Martin, 4; F. Dentry (conductor), 5; J. Eldridge, 6. Also three courses of Kent Treble Bob Minor, standing as above, with the exception of W. Walker taking the place of S. Jordan. On Thursday, April 11th, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. Rev. H. C. Bell, 1; M. Smither, 2; F. Bissley, 3; G. Martin, 4; F. Gomm, 5; J. Eldridge, 6; F. Dentry (conductor), 7; S. Jordan, 8.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CHIPPING BARNET (Herts).—On Sunday morning, May 14th, for Divine Service, 350 Grandsire Triples. J. Withey, 1; E. Marshall, 2; A. J. Chidwick, 3; W. F. Dolton, 4; W. J. Dell, 5; F. A. Milne, Esq., 6; J. Sumpter (conductor), 7; A. T. King, Esq., 8. For evening service 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Baldwin, 1; A. J. Chidwick, 2; E. Marshall, 3; A. E. Dolton, 4; W. J. Dell, 5; F. A. Milne, Esq. (conductor), 6; A. H. Belton, 7; A. T. King, Esq., 8. On Monday, May 15th, for practice, 168 Grandsire Triples. — Armstrong, 1; J. Miller, 2; A. J. Chidwick, 3; J. Sumpter (conductor), 4; E. Marshall, 5; A. H. Belton, 6; A. Miller, 7; A. T. King, Esq., 8. And 168 Grandsire Triples. A. T. King, Esq., 1; A. E. Dolton, 2; J. Miller, 3; E. Marshall, 4; J. Sumpter, 5; A. J. Chidwick, 6; A. Miller, 7; E. Dolton, 8. Also 336 Bob Major. J. Withey, 1; A. J. Chidwick, 2; A. Miller, 3; E. Marshall, 4; J. Sumpter, 5; A. E. Dolton, 6; J. Miller (conductor), 7; A. H. Belton, 8.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

STOCKPORT (Cheshire).—On Saturday, May 6th, for practice at St. George's church, Heaviley, 720 Bob Minor. W. Challoner, 1; G. D. Warburton, 2; J. W. Bayley, 3; E. Reader (conductor), 4; T. Marshall, 5; H. Leigh (Wilmslow), 6. On Saturday, May 21st, for

evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples on the back eight. T. Jackson, 1; J. Booth, 2; H. Meakin, 3; L. Meakin, 4; J. W. Bayley, 6; E. Reader, 6; T. Marshall (conductor), 7; T. Gordon, 8. First quarter-peal of Stedman on the bells; also first quarter-peal in the method by all except E. Reader.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL (Yorks).—On Tuesday, May 16th, at All Saints' church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins. C. Jackson (conductor), 1; G. Marshall, 2; T. Stockdale, 3; F. Merrison, 4; D. W. Brown, 5; G. Miller, 6; W. Southwick, 7; J. W. Dale, 8. First quarter-peal or long length of any sort on the bells, which have only just been hung by Warner and Sons.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

BETCHWORTH (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, May 21st, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples. J. Judd, 1; G. Thompson, 2; F. Goddard, 3; J. Ansell, 4; T. Beadle, 5; W. Street, 6; G. Huggett (conductor), 7; T. Arrow, 8.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—WIRRAL BRANCH.

OXTON (Cheshire).—On Thursday, May 11th, at St. Saviour's church, 1386 Grandsire Triples in 50 mins. H. S. Brocklebank, 1; J. L. Grant, 2; G. R. Newton (conductor), 3; R. Birchall, 4; W. Hughes, 5; J. Evans, 6; W. Hughes, 7; S. Moston, 8. On Sunday morning, May 14th, for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples. G. R. Newton, 1; H. S. Brocklebank, 2; R. Birchall, 3; J. L. Grant, 4; J. Hughes (conductor), 5; J. Evans, 6; W. Battle (St. Albans), 7; W. Hughes, 9. For evening service 672 Grandsire Triples. G. R. Newton, 1; H. S. Brocklebank, 2; J. L. Grant, 3; R. Birchall, 4; W. Hughes, 5; J. Evans, 6; J. Hughes (conductor), 7; W. Grimmant, 8. On Tuesday, May 16th, for practice, 384 Bob Major. C. Owens, 1; H. S. Brocklebank, 2; R. Birchall, 3; G. R. Newton (conductor), 4; J. L. Grant, 5; J. Evans, 6; W. Hughes, 7; J. Hughes, 8. On Sunday morning, May 21st, for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples. H. S. Brocklebank, 1; G. R. Newton, 2; H. T. Moston, 3; F. S. Barnes, 4; W. Hughes, 5; J. Hughes (conductor), 6; W. Battle, 7; W. Grimmant, 8. For evening service 224 Bob Major. C. Owens, 1; H. S. Brocklebank, 2; J. Owens, 3; H. T. Moston, 4; J. L. Grant, 5; J. Evans, 6; G. R. Newton, 7; J. Hughes (conductor), 8.

BIKKENHEAD (Cheshire).—On Sunday afternoon, May 21st, for Divine Service, 720 Grandsire Minor. C. Owens, 1; J. Scholes, 2; H. T. Moston, 3; G. R. Newton (conductor), 4; W. Hughes, 5; J. Hughes, 6.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—LINCOLN BRANCH.

LINCOLN.—On Monday, May 22nd, at the Cathedral, through the kind permission of the Dean and Chapter, an attempt was made to ring a peal of Superlative Surprise Major, but after ringing 2 hrs. 40 mins. it was decided to discontinue ringing on account of the bad go of the tenor. J. B. Fenton, 1; G. Flintham, 2; R. E. Clarke, 3; R. Dawson, 4; A. Craven, 5; J. W. Watson, 6; C. W. P. Clifton, 7; Rev. H. L. James (conductor), 8.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

FELIXKIRK.—On Monday, May 22nd, on the occasion of the meeting at Thirsk, 720 Bob Minor. G. F. Alexander, 1; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 2; T. Summershall, 3; R. Moncaster, 4; R. Haswell, 5; Rev. W. P. Wright, 6.

THORNABY-ON-TEES (Durham).—On Wednesday, June 14th, 720 Bob Minor. W. C. Hardy, 1; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 2; A. W. Barrett, 3; W. Newton, 4; T. Stephenson, 5; W. J. Wright, jun., 6. Messrs. Hardy, Barrett, and Wright belong to the Thornaby band, and this is their first 720. On Saturday, June 17th, 800 Bob Major. C. Todd, 1; G. F. Williams, 2; G. J. Clarkson, 3; T. Clark, 4; F. P. Howcroft, 5; W. Porter (conductor), 6; G. W. Park, 7; J. H. Blakiston, 8. Messrs. Todd, Williams, Clark, Porter and Park hail from Darlington.

FULHAM (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, July 2nd, for Divine Service at All Saints' church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters in 49 mins. H. Barton, 1; J. A. Trollope (Ealing), 2; C. E. Borrett (Norwich), 3; J. Aldridge, 4; E. H. Adams, 5; R. Charge, 6; W. T. Elson, 7; W. Meaton, 8; C. Charge (conductor), 9; S. How, 10.

LICHFIELD (Staffordshire).—On Monday, May 8th, at the Cathedral, 336 Bob Major. E. Gallimore, 1; A. Bowler, 2; W. Dempster, 3; J. Key, 4; H. Meacham, 5; C. Barrett, 6; P. W. Davies, 7; F. J. Cope, 8. First touch in the method by Messrs. Gallimore, Dempster, and Bowler. P. W. Davies has lately removed from Cardiff to Lichfield.

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF THE PRESENT YEAR,
AND PUBLISHED IN THIS PAPER
TABULATED ACCORDING TO VALUE IN POINTS.

Position to date.		Jan. and Feb.	March and April.	Treble Bob. Grandsire. Minor Mths.										Plain Mths.				Surprise.				Stedman.		Total value in points.													
				Total	Royal.	Major.	14 T. B. Minor methods.	7 Treble Bob Minor methods.	Caters.	Triples.	1 Minor mthd.	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24			
VALUE IN POINTS PER PEAL.....																																					
1	Kent County Association.....	23	13	36	—	5	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	586		
2	Oxford Diocesan Guild.....	12	20	32	—	2	—	—	1	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	526			
3	Sussex County Association.....	10	12	22	—	2	—	—	1	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	369			
4	Ancient Society of CollegeYouths..	6	9	15	—	5	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	311			
5	Lancashire Association.....	9	13	22	—	6	—	—	2	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	304			
6	Yorkshire Association.....	15	8	23	1	12	1	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	300			
7	Gloucester and Bristol Association	10	2	12	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	244			
8	Middlesex County Association.....	7	7	14	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	236			
9	Midland Counties Association.....	8	9	17	1	—	—	—	1	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	200			
10	Norwich Diocesan Association....	6	13	19	1	5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	186			
11	Hertford County Association.....	7	10	17	—	2	—	—	—	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	170			
12	Essex Association.....	6	3	9	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	160			
13	Society for Archdeaconry of Staffs.	7	4	11	—	1	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	156			
14	Surrey Association.....	8	3	11	1	—	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	154			
15	Central Northampton Association..	4	3	7	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	144			
16	Worcester & Districts Association	3	7	10	1	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	120			
17	St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham...	4	1	5	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	101			
18	Cleveland & North Yorks. Assocn.	2	3	5	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	94			
19	Old East Derbyshire Association..	1	5	6	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	78			
20	Waterloo Society, London.....	3	2	5	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	67			
21	Winchester Diocesan Guild.....	2	6	8	—	—	—	1	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	65			
22	Royal Cumberland Youths.....	4	1	5	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	58			
23	Chester Diocesan Guild.....	1	6	7	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50			
24	Bedford Association.....	2	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	42			
25	Bath and Wells Association.....	3	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	28			
26	Heavy Woollen Districts Assocn..	2	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27			
27	Llandaff Diocesan Association....	1	2	3	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	23			
28	Durham and Newcastle Assocn...	—	2	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	19			
29	Ely Diocesan Association.....	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15			
30	Hereford Guild.....	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7			
31	St. James's Society, London.....	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—</															

The peals of Triples and Major in plain methods comprise: Bob Triples, 4; Bob Major, 34; Oxford Bob Triples, 5; Union Triples, 1. Canterbury Pleasure Major, 1. The peals of Doubles, * 4, 5, 7 and 12 methods; † 5 methods.

The peals by Independent Societies were rung in the following counties: Gloucestershire, 1; Middlesex, 1; Surrey, 1; Sussex, 3; Warwickshire, 1; Worcestershire, 1; Yorkshire, 1.

1897—January 70
" February 100
" March 80
" April 63

313

1898—January 105
" February 104
" March 82
" April 91

382

1899—January 83
" February 93
" March 64
" April 107

347

Decrease on the corresponding four months of 1898—35.

8, Hanover Crescent, Brighton.
90, Church Road, Hove.

GEO. F. ATTREE.
GEORGE BAKER.

HUSBORNE CRAWLEY (Beds).—On Saturday, May 6th, at the parish church, the Woburn company rang the following: 720 Bob Minor. Cyril Herbert, 1; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 2; D. Harris, 3; M. Lane, 4; E. Herbert, 5; W. Chibnall (conductor), 6. 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. Smith, 1; Cyril Herbert, 2; S. Avis, 3; E. Herbert, 4; D. Harris, 5; M. Lane (conductor), 6. A 6-score of Stedman Doubles. D. Harris, 1; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 2; S. Avis, 3; E. Herbert, 4; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 5; W. Chibnall, 6.

LEIGH (Lancashire).—On Monday, May 8th, at the parish church, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 29 mins. J. Smith (conductor), 1; E. Prescott, 2; F. Banks (first half-peal), 3; S. Hayes, 4; Edmund Prescott, 5; A. Holden (first half-peal), 6; S. Arrowsmith (first half-peal), 7; J. Arrowsmith (first half-peal), 8. Tenor 21 cwt.

WALKLEY, SHEFFIELD (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, May 14th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. W. Horsfield, 1; W. Reaney, 2; C. Lake, 3; G. Heward,

4; J. Tuke, 5; G. O. Dixon, 6. First 720 in the method by the local company. Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLENHALL (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, May 6th, 1260 Grandsire Triples. G. Goodchild, 1; S. Pitt, 2; E. Unitt, 3; N. Kibble, 4; J. A. Brown (conductor), 5; J. Adams, 6; W. Smith, 7; W. Eyre, 8. On Wednesday, May 24th, 1260 Grandsire Triples. G. Goodchild, 1; S. Pitt, 2; S. Dace, 3; N. Kibble, 4; S. Atkins (composer and conductor), 5; J. Adams, 6; J. A. Brown, 7; W. Eyre, 8.

WOBURN (Beds).—On Monday, April 10th, 704 Kent Treble Bob Major. E. Herbert, 1; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 2; Chas. Herbert, 3; M. Matthews, 4; S. Avis, 5; D. Harris, 6; W. Chibnall, 7; M. Lane, 8. On Monday, April 17th, 480 Kent Treble Bob Major. Cyril Herbert (conductor), 1; M. Lane, 2; Chas. Herbert, 3; M. Matthews, 4; S. Avis, 5; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 6; E. Herbert, 7; W. Chibnall, 8. On Monday, May 8th, 448 Bob Major. W. Jones, 1; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 2; D. Harris, 3; M. Lane, 4; S. Avis, 5; M. Matthews, 6; E. Herbert, 7; W. Chibnall, 8.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The midsummer quarterly meeting of the above association was held on Saturday, July 1st, at Caldicot, Monmouthshire. The Rev. F. W. Clarke, M.A., vicar of the parish, very kindly undertook the duties of the chair, and opened the meeting with prayer. After the minutes had been read and signed as correct, the following towers were affiliated to the association, S. Mary's, Penmark, and S. Mary's Nash. The hon. sec. proposed the Penmark ringers, and Mr. Evan Davies, Caerleon, seconded. Mr. J. W. Jones, Newport, proposed the Nash ringers, and Mr. Clutterbuck, Cardiff, seconded. The following members were enrolled—Messrs. Smart Cullimore, Tom Butler, John Wheeler, St. Woolos, Newport; George Hobson, James Smith, George Vick, Chepstow; and George Daniel, Mathern. The chairman remarked that before the Caldicot ringers joined they should like to know more about the association and its aims and methods, also what benefit their tower would derive in the way of instruction, and what expenses they should incur. Mr. Evan Davies supplied the necessary information, observing that an instructor would be sent free of charge if the tower became affiliated to the association and the ringers paid the annual subscription of 1s. 6d. per member. The chairman said for his part he was most anxious to see the tower affiliated, but could not give a definite answer until the ringers had settled the question among themselves. In view of the tower becoming affiliated Mr. Evans Davies moved the following resolution, which was seconded by the hon. sec., and carried unanimously: "That if the Caldicot ringers decide to join the association, the honorary secretary on hearing from their foreman, will take immediate steps to see that they are enrolled and that an instructor is sent to assist them." Penmark was chosen as the centre of the next quarterly meeting to be held on Boxing Day—the next meeting in September will be the annual meeting. This concluded the day's business. The chairman expressed the pleasure it gave him to see the association visiting his parish, and accorded the meeting his very sincere thanks for choosing Caldicot, which he hoped would soon be chosen again. Mr. Davies suitably responded and thanked the vicar on behalf of the members present for all the kindnesses we had experienced at his hands in the loan of the schoolroom, the use of the bells, and for his presence in presiding over the meeting. The members were afterwards entertained to tea by Mr. and Mrs. Clarke in the new class room. Thus terminated a most successful meeting and a very pleasant social gathering. The ringers spent the evening in the belfry manipulating the ropes. In conclusion we should like to add that we were pleased to see such a good muster present from Chepstow. We haven't experienced this pleasure for a long time past. Now that they have made a fresh start we hope Mr. Morley will keep his men up to the scratch. There was an element of hopefulness about the meeting, and the fact that two fresh towers were affiliated, and every likelihood of a third joining, should infuse vigour and go into the life and work of the association. G.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

WALTHAM ST. LAWRENCE, Berks.—Monday, June 19th, the local ringers, with Messrs. J. W. Wilkins and J. Eldridge, of Maidenhead, met by invitation at the Vicarage, the occasion being to ring a farewell peal for the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, also to receive from him a peal tablet recording the 5040 rang on May 27th. The Rev. Grey Neville, Vicar of the parish, expressed the pleasure it was to receive them, and congratulate the ringers on their progress in ringing under the guild's instruction, imparted by Mr. Wilkins, of Maidenhead, and the successful peal rang on his bells. After reading some interesting passages from the parish register of very ancient date concerning the bells, he proceeded to speak of the Rev. C. Jenkyn, and his appreciation of his devotion both to the ringing and also to the ringers themselves, evidencing the gift of the handsome board, which he would be pleased to see erected in their belfry, and concluded by asking Mr. Jenkyn to formally present the tablet to them. After inspection round, the Rev. C. Jenkyn then handed it to the foreman, E. Palmer, saying how pleased he was to give the board recording the peal, and at the success that attended his efforts to better the ringing of their bells. He spoke strongly on the

subject of keenness in ringing, without which no one could hope to become a good ringer; he also thanked Mr. Eldridge for filling a vacancy by illness of Mr. Palmer, and added a word of praise to their instructor and conductor of their peal. The foreman then tendered on behalf of his fellow-ringers their thanks for the gift and other kindness received during his connection with them; and with a few more words from Mr. Wilkins, urging them to stick to one another, and by so doing go ahead with the ringing and improve on what he had striven earnestly to teach them, not resting till it was a purely local peal the next time one was rung. After taking of refreshment thoughtfully supplied by the worthy vicar and Mr. Neville, the company after returning him thanks adjourned to the tower and a 360 of Bob Minor was rung by J. Cooper 1; G. H. Martin, 2; J. Eldridge 3; W. Horn, 4; Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, 5; J. W. Wilkins (conductor), 6; the company wished Mr. Jenkyn good bye and success at Witney, to which place he is now appointed.

THE EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting was held at Swineshead on Saturday, the 24th June, when members attended from Boston, Freiston, Kirton, Shirbeck and Friskney, with two or three of the locals who joined the Association as probationers. Change-ringing is not practised at Swineshead, but it is hoped that it will be so now, four or five of the locals seeming willing to learn. They have eight very good bells which go well, and are kept in good order by the veteran steeple-keeper, Mr. Dawson.

A first-class dinner was served at The Green Dragon hotel at two o'clock, which fifteen members, with the locals, thoroughly enjoyed. The dinner was presided over by the worthy president, the Rev. J. P. Cheales, with Mr. A. Sellars in the vice-chair. After dinner the usual business meeting was held, when four skilled and three probationers were elected, and Burgh chosen for the next place of meeting, having a standing invitation from the Vicar. Mr. A. Sellars, of Kerton, was chosen as delegate to the Diocesan Association.

An adjournment was then made to the belfry, and after a touch of Triples with some North Lincolnshire brother-strings from Heckington, a 720 of Bob Minor was attempted, which came to grief at the half-way single; the president, the Rev. J. P. Cheales, ringing the 4th. Two more 720s came to grief at the same place, then touches of Triples and Doubles by the Boston contingent brought a pleasant meeting to a close.

Ringers' Outings.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—On Saturday June 10th, six of the Middlesbrough Parish Church ringers along with Mr. Clarkson, of Stockton-on-Tees, had their 2nd excursion on wheels. This time the pretty village of Whorlton was chosen, where arrangements for use of the bells had kindly been granted by the Rev. J. C. Fowler. Leaving Middlesbrough shortly after 2 p.m. the journey of 16 miles through one of the prettiest parts of Cleveland was run off in good time, the mile posts popping up every now and then like the course (ends of a well) struck peal, and at 3.30 p.m. 'stand' was called. The band having been met by one of the local men soon had the bells oiled and in readiness, during which operation a course of Grandsire Caters was tapped off on a set of handbells unearthed from a set of cobwebs, which told a tale of idleness. Having run up the bells in peal a well-struck 700 of Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung. Here a most agreeable surprise awaited the party: the Vicar having visited the tower during the ringing, left word that tea was being prepared at the vicarage, where the company was most cordially welcomed by the rev. gentleman, and soon made to feel at home. Tea over and a pleasant chat, found the visitors again at the ropes, and an equally well-struck 700 of Oxford Treble Bob was rung; then 360 of Kent Minor, and the bells were run down in peal. 8.30 saw the party moving homewards with many pleasant recollections of having spent a most enjoyable afternoon. The bells of Whorlton are a merry and pleasing peal of six by Warners, and in capital going order, and it is to be regretted that the

local men cannot pull themselves together and overcome a l obstacles that stand in their way of learning to ring, and thus give the good folk of the neighbourhood the benefit of their beautiful bells. The visitors would here like to express their heart-felt thanks to the Rev. J. C. Fowler for his great kindness, which will ever be remembered. Those taking part were Messrs Blakiston, Carter, Fenwick, Howcroft, McFarlane and Rudd, of Middlesbrough, and Mr. G. Clarkson of Stockton.

THE ST. NICHOLAS' SOCIETY, BRIGHTON.—On Saturday, June 16th, this society had its annual outing, Waldron being the place selected. Meeting at the Brighton central station we were joined by Messrs. Steele, Cherryman and Strudwick from Portslade, and thanks to the forethought of Mr. Randall we were agreeably surprised to find a saloon waiting for us on the 8.10 train and we duly arrived at Uckfield just before nine. Here a conveyance was in waiting to take us to our destination; a pleasant drive of five miles brought us to Easthoathly and several touches of Plain Bob, Grandsire and Stedman Doubles were rung on the light ring of six. Another three miles drive brought us to Waldron. Here the ring of eight at the parish church were soon going in Grandsire and Stedman Triples. At one o'clock we all met at The Star inn, where host Oliver had provided an excellent dinner which was much enjoyed. Several toasts followed the dinner, Mr. Jennings replying on behalf of the local band. A move was then made to the cricket field, a match having been arranged: Waldron Ringers *versus* Brighton Ringers. Mr. Fentiman was chosen captain of the Brighton team, the home team batting first, and after putting together 104 runs for two wickets closed their innings. Brighton managed to scrape together 43 runs for 10 wickets. However it was a very amusing and enjoyable game. Then tea and afterwards quoits were freely indulged in. At eight o'clock we had to bid good bye to Waldron and we were once more on the road, a drive of six miles in the cool of the evening being grand, Brighton being reached just before 11 o'clock all having spent a very happy day, and we wish to thank the Waldron ringers for their kindness.

THE NORTHWICH BRANCH OF THE CHESTER GUILD.—On Saturday, June 17th, members of the above branch had their annual outing. Grappenhall and Lymn being selected, a brake started from Northwich with members of St. Wilfrid's (Davenham) T. Moore and T. Foster of Witton, after a splendid drive through country and beautiful scenery arriving at Grappenhall shortly after 1 p.m., being welcomed by Mr. Mainwaring. The bells were soon set going, a 720 of Plain Bob being rung on the back six of the newly augmented peal of eight, then being joined by six members of Great Budworth company several courses of Grandsire Triples were rung, in which J. Holden, H. Dickens, E. Gragg and J. Thompson took part. Adjourning to Parr's Arms an excellent tea awaited us, provided by the Rev. R. Greenall, to which all done ample justice. The tower was again visited when a 336 of Grandsire Triples was rung, followed by several courses of Kent Treble Bob Minor, and an attempt at Treble Bob Major brought the ringing to a close. A friendly glass together, and shaking of hands, the brake was brought into use again, and a start made for Lymn, arriving there about 7 p.m., and being met by one of the local band, the fine-toned ring of eight, tenor 30 cwt., were soon set swinging to a 720 of Plain Bob with 6-8 covering, then several courses of Grandsire Triples. After light refreshments a start was made for home, arriving at 10.30 p.m. after a most enjoyable outing and moonlight ride through the country. We one and all wish to thank most heartily through "THE BELL NEWS," the Rev. R. Greenall, of Grappenhall for the use of the bells and his generosity in providing such an excellent tea, which was heartily enjoyed by all; also Mr. Spence and his brother ringers, ever kind welcome, and we also return our hearty thanks to the Vicar and Mr. Bradburn of Lymn for the use and having bells in readiness, also arranging for one of his band to meet us on arrival, himself being unable to do so through business.

THE SHIFNAL SOCIETY.—Some time ago Messrs. Bradney and Meredith, of Shifnal, spent the week end at Welshpool, and being much pleased with the surrounding country and towers, they decided to spend the first outing of the newly formed band there, so on Monday, the 19th inst., the following members left Shifnal at 7 a.m.: Messrs. J. Bradney, Meredith, Bingham,

Harrison, Whatmore, Shuker, Taylor, Hollingshead, Gwilliam, Rev. Jevons (Curate), and Mr. R. Cartwright of Wombourne, their instructor. They arrived at Welshpool at 8.42 a.m., and by 9 o'clock the bells of St. Mary's were being raised in order, after which a touch of Plain Bob and Grandsire Triples were rung. Most of the band then walked to the top of the churchyard which is level with the top of the church, and from which a magnificent view could be obtained of Powis Castle and park the seat of the Earl of Powis. This is a massive structure of red sandstone built by Cadogan-ap-Bleddan, Prince of Powis in 1109, and which has been occupied by the Herbert family since 1587. They also saw Leighton Hall and Church, built by the late J. Naylor, Esq., the beacon ring (Caer Digoll) through which runs Offa's dyke, dividing England and Wales, and where the Cromwellian forces entrenched themselves to destroy Powis Castle; and the Breidden hills, on the top of one (the Craig) being Rodney's Pillar, erected to commemorate the great naval victories of Admiral Lord Rodney. A church was built at Welshpool by St. Cynfelin in the 6th century, and also an ancient church called Capel Llewellyn, traces of both these have long since disappeared. The present edifice was first built in the 13th century. Luncheon was partaken of at the Victoria Vaults at 10 a.m., a brake was in readiness and at 10.25 the party set off for Leighton, where touches of Bob Minor and Doubles were rung. At 11.30 they left Leighton for Forden, passing en route the beautiful entrance gates to Leighton Hall and the menagerie gardens, containing some fine specimens of kangaroo, ostrich, emu, and wild fowl, which could all be seen from the road. Forden was reached at 12 noon, Bob Minor and Doubles were rung and the tone of this light peal of six by Taylor was much admired. The party then viewed the tombstone underneath the old yew tree, bearing a curious epitaph. Leaving Forden at 12.40 we arrived at Montgomery, the county town, at 1.15 p.m. Dinner was partaken of at The Dragon hotel, to which justice was done and the meat provided by host Clipstone from the purveyor to "Her Majesty's Judges" was pronounced excellent. Dinner over Sir Roland sang "A very different place" in good style, after which the party proceeded to the church, where the celebrated "Robbers Grave" upon which no grass will grow aroused especial interest. Touches were rung, after which the party visited the ruins of Montgomery Castle which was built during the reign of Henry III., and from which fine views of the surrounding district were to be had. Chirbury was reached at 4 p.m. and the belfry was soon invaded, Minor and Doubles were rung, and the party adjourned to the bowling green attached to The Herbert Arms hotel, where a game of bowls was played, host White and Mr. Bingham being opposed by Messrs. Bradney and Bratton, the latter couple proving victorious by eight points. Chirbury was left at 5.15 p.m. and the party arrived at Welshpool at 6.15, the scenery and other objects of interest en route being very much enjoyed by all. The go of the bells at the various towers were highly spoken of by all and reflect the greatest credit upon the abilities of Mr. Greenleaf, of Hereford, who has recently rehung them. We wish to thank the Vicars of the various towers for granting permission to ring. A vote of thanks was proposed to Mr. T. J. Bratton for accompanying them, and making all arrangements for the outing. Leaving Welshpool at 6.45 p.m. they arrived home about 9 p.m., having spent a most enjoyable day.

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.

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Notices.

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

The Sussex County Association, Eastern Division.—The next District meeting will be held at Alfriston (Berwick Station), to-day, Saturday, July 8th. Bells available 3 to 9. Tea at 5.30.

S. SAKER, *Hon. Sec. Eastern Division.*
Arran, Baldslow Road, Hastings.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—A meeting of the above will be held at Gloucester to-day, Sat., July 8th, to form a branch of the above Association for the Deanery of Gloucester. Service at Cathedral at 4 o'clock, tea at 5 o'clock at The Ram hotel, Southgate Street. The bells of the Cathedral (8), St. Michael's (10), and St. Mary de Crypt (8), will be open for ringing after 2 p.m.

JOHN AUSTIN, *Local Hon. Sec.*
Bentham Villa, Conduit Street, Gloucester.

The Heavy Woollen District Association.—The half-yearly meeting of the above society will be held at The Dusty Miller's Arms, Mirfield, to-day, Saturday, July 8th, at 4.30. The presentation to Mr. Simon, the late Secretary, will be made at this meeting.

WALTER IDLE, *Sec.*

47, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury

The Midland Counties Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Bakewell, to-day, Sat., July 8th. Bells ready at 2 p.m. Committee meeting at 4 p.m. Tea at 4.30 p.m. Tickets 1s. each, both at the Town Hall. W. E. WHITE, *Hon. Sec.*
Cotgrave, near Nottingham.

The Winchester Diocesan Guild.—The annual festival will be held at Portsea on Monday, July 10th. Annual meeting at 10.30 a.m. in St. Mary's Parish Institute. Service at 11.45 at St. Mary's church, preacher the Rev. S. G. Scott, Rector of Havant. Dinner at the Parish Institute at 12.45, provided only for those ordering beforehand and supplied with dinner tickets. The St. Mary's belfry will be open from 9.0 a.m. For other towers available see programme of arrangements. All claims for expenses incurred must reach me by July 31st. CHARLES E. MATTHEWS, *Hon. Sec.*
Hursley, Winchester.

The St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—The usual quarterly meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 11th, at The Tamworth Arms, Moor Street, Birmingham. Chair to be taken at 8.30 p.m. The attendance of every member is earnestly requested.

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

The Surrey Association.—The next quarterly meeting of members will be held at Beddington (nearest stations Waddon or Hackbridge, Brighton line) on Saturday, July 15th. The bells (10) will be raised soon after three o'clock. Tea at The Plough, Beddington, at 6 o'clock, and business meeting after. Representatives must acquaint the undersigned as to the number of their members likely to attend the tea not later than Wednesday, July 12th. The bells at Carshalton (8) will also be available by kind permission of the Rev. Lord Victor Seymour.

CHARLES DEAN, JUN., *Hon. Sec.*
5, Manor Parade, Sutton, Surrey.

North Notts. Association.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Everton on Saturday, July 15th. Tea 1s. per head at 5 p.m. Mem-

bers intending to be present at tea are requested to inform Mr. C. Lindley, Everton, Bawtry, not later than July 10th.

B. DARLEY, *Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at St. Peter's church, Swinton, on Saturday, July 15th, when a good muster of members will be expected.

W. BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—The Annual Festival will be held at High Wycombe, on Monday, July 17th. Service at 11.30. Business meeting in Town Hall 12.30. Dinner in central hall 1.30. Tickets 2s. each on application before July 10 to Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, Dunsden Vicarage, Reading.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the parish church, Rochdale, on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells will be ready at 3 p.m., and the meeting will be held in the vicarage library at 6.30 p.m. sharp. Business of meeting—election of branch secretary and committee-man for the above branch, the present one retiring. E. B. SHAW, *Branch Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Halewood on Saturday, July 22nd. The tower will be open for ringing all the afternoon, and the meeting will be held at 6 o'clock.

G. WOODHALL, *Branch Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—A meeting will be held at Bury on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Tea will be provided at 5.30 for those sending names not later than July 18th to W. R. Duckworth, 6, Byron Street, Bury. Business meeting after tea. Nominations for branch secretary and one committee-man are to be made at this meeting.

J. H. BANKS, *Branch Sec.*

Central Council Sub-Committee on Railway Fares.—Secretaries of Associations and Guilds who have not already returned the petitions, are requested to send them with as little delay as possible to the Rev. H. A. Cockey, Oldland Vicarage, Bristol. Any additional names for petitions already sent in should also be forwarded at once.

H. A. COCKEY,

For the Sub-Committee.

July 4th, 1899.

FORMATION OF A SOCIETY AT MELTON MOWBRAY.

At a meeting of twelve of the Melton Mowbray ringers over which the Vicar, the Rev. R. Blakeney, M.A., presided in the Collis Hall on May 23rd, 1898, it was decided to form a society to be called "The Melton Mowbray Parish Church Society." The Vicar was elected President; Mr. E. J. Gale, Secretary; Mr. R. H. Bartram, Captain; Mr. E. Dalby, Vice-Captain and Treasurer. It was also moved that a small subscription of 1d. per week be paid by each member into a common fund. A vote of thanks was next passed to Mr. Dalby for his past services as captain and conductor to this band, an office which he had held for several years. The meeting terminated with the usual vote of thanks to the Vicar.

The first annual meeting of this society was held in the vestry of the parish church on Friday, June 30th, 1899, when the Vicar again presided. The minutes of the last meeting being read and confirmed, the Secretary then read a short but interesting account of the work of the past year, which showed a slow but decided improvement on former years.

During the year a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, also a date touch of Doubles in three methods were accomplished. The President then congratulated the members on their progress, which he said he had already noticed by an improvement in the striking. The statement of accounts was next read, which was very satisfactory. All the officers were re-elected, and the usual votes of thanks to the Vicar for presiding being passed, a very successful year was brought to a close.

ST. IGNATIUS THE MARTYR, SUNDERLAND.

Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, having been entrusted with the order to add a new treble bell (the gift of the Vicar, the Rev. E. Boddington, M.A.) to the present ring of five, completed the work on Friday, June 23rd, when a 720 Bob Minor was rung. J. W. Parker, 1; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 2; R. S. Chichester, 3; R. M. Pick, 4; T. Hudson, sen., 5; R. L. Patterson, 6. This is the first 720 of Minor on the bells. The new treble was formally dedicated on Sunday, July 2nd.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

WANTED by young man, 24, abstainer; well up in Standard Methods on 6 and 8 bells, member of the Devonshire Guild, situation to Plumbing, Hot Water Fitting, etc., in general Ironmonger's shop.—Apply L. A. Wilson, care of Miss Spackman, High Street, Wootton Bassett.

WANTED.—Situation in Flour Mill as Flour Packer or any kind of mill work. Change-ringer on six, eight, or ten bells.—M. R. WATSON, St. Helena Terrace, Boroughbridge.

CAN anyone assist me to obtain a situation for a Lad, aged 15. Strong and willing to be useful, has commenced to ring. Chorister: Gardens preferred.—G. H. HEAD, 16, Susan's Road, Eastbourne.

A SITUATION as Head Gardener, where one of two others are kept, or second in a large establishment. Can manage Vines, Cucumbers, Peaches, Melons, Tomatoes, and the general work of a well-kept garden. Highest references. Abstainer, and very enthusiastic ringer and conductor.—Apply, Editor.

SITUATION required by a young married man without family, as Caretaker or some place of trust, Change-Ringer, also musical. Thirteen years' good references from present employer.—Apply R. W. V., care of Editor.

HIGHLY respectable married man, age 31, wants Situation as Handy Man, used to taking up and re-laying Carpets, fixing Blinds, etc.; also understands Waiting and Valeting. Can ring Standard Methods.—Address, 175, Romany Road, West Norwood.

SITUATION required by Potter's Mould Maker. Good steady hand. Six years' reference from last situation. Good change-ringer on 6, 8 or 10 bells, Standard Methods. Member of the Lancashire and Stoke Archidiaconal Associations. Apply, T. G. Miller, Ellison Street, Wolstanton, Stoke-on-Trent.

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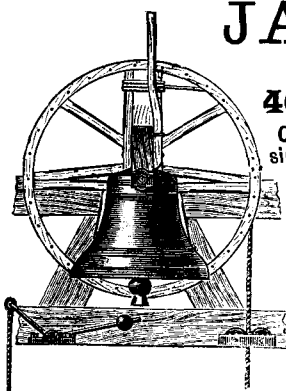
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| The above are for 6 ringers with 13 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.A. | | |
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| No. 320. | "The Mountaineer's Waltz," on Swiss Melodies | 1 6 |
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And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 901. — VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, JULY 15, 1899.

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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.
Duke of Albany Memorial,	Aylesford do.
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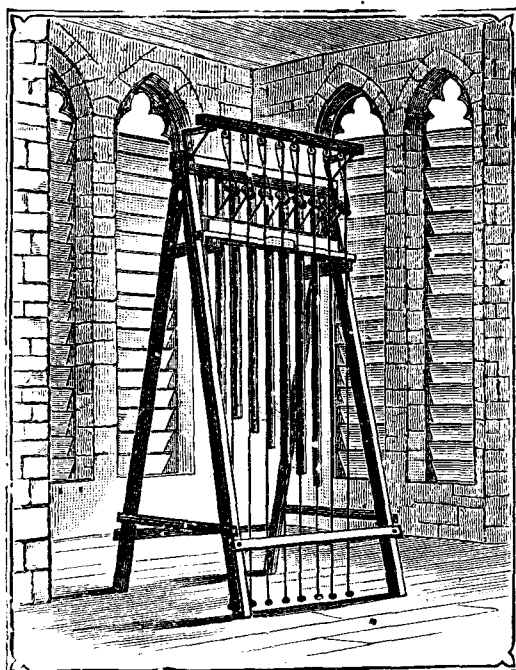
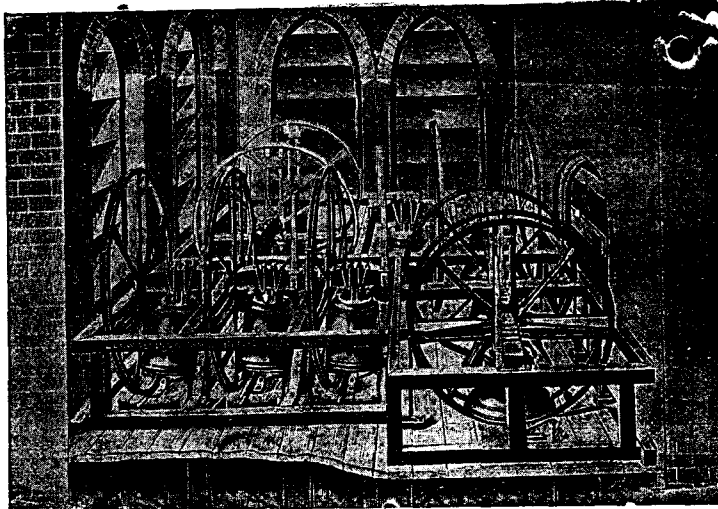
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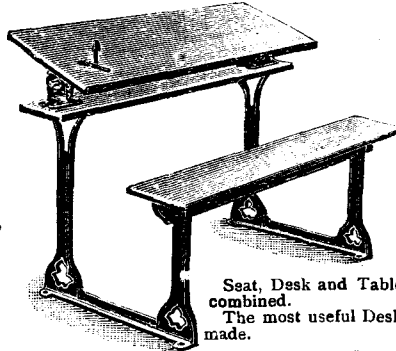
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 901.]

SATURDAY, JULY 15, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

OPENING OF NEW BELLS AT SWANSEA.

On Thursday, June 29th, eight members of the St. Michael's Juniors, Gloucester, were invited by the Vicar and churchwardens of St. Mary's church, Swansea, to open the new ring of bells which has just been put up by Mears and Stainbank. Meeting at the Great Western Railway at 7.50 a.m., the party were soon *en route* for South Wales, the journey down being enlivened by touches and tunes on the handbells. On arriving at Swansea the party were met by Mr. F. Curtis, and conducted to a restaurant where dinner was awaiting them, one of them causing a little amusement by his bad finger. During the dinner a messenger arrived from the clerk of the works to say that the bells were not to be rung on any account, but they could chime them for the opening and after the services, which, needless to say, was a great disappointment to all the band. Dinner being over they were conducted to the church, which has been entirely rebuilt at a cost of upwards of £30,000, the tower being opened that day, and a splendid view of Swansea bay and the Mumbles is obtained from the top of the tower. Here a course of Grandsire Caters was rung. The opening ceremony commenced at 3 o'clock with a processional hymn, then a shortened form of evening prayer, and whilst the hymn "Lifted safe within the steeple, now our bells are set on high," was sung, the Bishop and clergy ascended the organ-loft, where the ropes were hanging, and after the Bishop had given them over into the Vicar's keeping, the bells were chimed for a few minutes. Then followed the usual collects, and the anthem, "Send out Thy light," was beautifully rendered by the choir. Afterwards a very appropriate address was delivered by the Bishop of St. Davids. During the offertory the hymn, "Lord of all Creation," was sung, and whilst the congregation left the church the bells were chimed, much to the disappointment of the large crowd, who were anxious to hear the new bells ring out for the first time. After chiming for a short time some of the local ringers proposed a visit to Sketty, about two miles out, where there is a ring of eight on Lord Swansea's estate. On arriving the bells were soon raised, and two courses of Double Norwich a course of Cambridge Surprise Major, and three courses of Stedman Triples, were rung by E. E. Davis, F. G. May, Rev. E. Bankes James, F. E. Hart, J. Austin, J. Hinton, W. Cave, and W. T. Pegler. After lowering the bells a pleasant hour was spent with the Sketty ringers, one of whom chartered a motor car to take the party back to Swansea in time for the mail. On boarding the car the handbells were brought out, and a course of Grandsire Triples was rung as amidst the cheers of the Sketty people the motor car sped on its way, many of the Sketty friends coming into Swansea with the visitors, and wishing them a pleasant journey as the train steamed out of the station. The "faire citye" was reached about 12.15 p.m., after a most enjoyable day. The band wish to tender their sincere thanks to all those who so kindly did everything possible to make the visit a pleasant one.

AUGMENTATION AND RE-OPENING OF ST. MARGARET'S BELLS, IPSWICH.

Two new trebles have just been added to the old ring of six in the tower of St. Margaret's church, Ipswich, and it is now claimed that this grand old church, which is so rich in features of architectural and historical interest, has the best ring of eight bells in the county for their weight. The project had been under consideration for some time; and the work, which includes the rehanging of the old six bells and the provision of the two new treble bells, were entrusted to Messrs. Henry Bowell and Son, Bell Hangers and Bell Founders, of Bishop Street, Ipswich. The original bell-frame, probably 300 years old, has been replaced by one of new oak seated on steel girders. The two new treble bells just added were cast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, London, business successors of the famous Myles Graye, of Colchester. The tenor and the five old bells bear the following inscriptions:—

"Ye living to ye Church I call ye dead unto the grave is the only propertie and calling I have. Myles Graye made me A.D. 1630."

Both the new trebles have the following inscriptions:—

"These two smaller bells were added March 1899. Rev. Percival Smith, M.A., Vicar; Frederick Turner and Frederick Corder, Junior, Churchwardens; William Motts, Steeplekeeper."

The Dedication Service was held in the church on Friday evening, when there was a large congregation. The preacher for the occasion was the Lord Bishop of the Diocese. The ringers and chimers afterwards sat down to an excellent dinner at The Halberd inn, which was admirably served by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Flory. The opening of the bells by order of the churchwardens was kept private on Saturday, July 1st.

WILLIAM MOTTS.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, KIRKHEATON, YORKSHIRE.

The bells of the above-named church were re-opened on Saturday, July 1st, after being rehung, and necessary repairs being made, including quarter-turning, new gudgeons and brasses. The bells are now in very good condition, and are considered one of the finest rings of six in Yorkshire. The local company engaged the Friezland society to open the bells, and they commenced the ringing about 2.30 with short touches of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, and ringing was continued until 5.30, when the ringers and friends adjourned to The Beaumont Arms, and sat down to a substantial knife and fork tea. After ample justice had been done to the good things provided, Mr. J. D. Shaw, of Friezland, thanked the local company on behalf of the Friezland ringers and other friends invited, for the manner in which they had been entertained.

Mr. Harry Bottam, the oldest member of the local company, in a neat little speech thanked Mr. Shaw and ringing friends for the vote of thanks passed to his company. Then followed more ringing in the tower until

about 8 o'clock, when the bells had to cease for the day as the verger's wife was very ill and could not bear the noise of the bells any longer. All the ringers who rung during the day spoke highly of the "go" of the bells, and any ringers wanting a day's outing and a good peal of bells to ring upon, could not do better than pay a visit to Kirkheaton, where they will be welcomed by the local ringers.

EMBERTON, BUCKS.—DEDICATION OF NEW ORGAN AND BELL.

On Wednesday afternoon, July 5th, the Bishop of Reading dedicated the new organ which has been erected in All Saints church, Emberton, the cost of which had been defrayed by C. M. Tatham, Esq., and a new treble added to the bells to make a ring of six, which had been presented to the church by Campbell G. Hulton, Esq., the patron of the living. There was a large congregation, and the church had been tastefully decorated. Some splendid flowers had been placed on the Communion table, the pulpit was decorated with scarlet geraniums and ivy leaves, and the lamp standards with ivy leaves, the effect being extremely pleasing, and giving evidence of good taste on the part of those responsible for the work, there being no over-elaboration in any particular. The clergy present were the Rev. G. F. Sams (Rector); — Goodrich (Rural Dean, Hardmead); J. P. Langley (Olney); J. Tarver (Filgrave); W. S. Sutthery (Clifton Reynes); G. F. W. Munby (Turvey); G. P. Soames (Lavendon); C. A. Ranger (Yardley Hastings); — Harvey (Crawley); C. M. Ottley (Newport); and — Harrison (Paulsperry). The clergy robed at the rectory, and marched in procession to the church, headed by the churchwardens, Messrs. W. Hawkins and C. W. Gulle, the hymn, "Come ye faithful, raise the anthem," being sung without accompaniment as they entered the church. A special form of service was used, the dedicatory prayers being read by the Bishop, who accompanied by the Rev. G. F. Sams, proceeded to the organ and the belfry for the reading of the respective prayers. The special lesson was read by the Rural Dean; the remainder of the service was read by the Rev. G. F. Sams. After the dedication of the organ the 150th Psalm was sung accompanied by the organ, and after the dedication of the bell a few rounds were rung. A prayer for the donors followed, and after the collects for the day the hymn, "O praise ye the Lord," was sung.

The Bishop of Reading took for his text the 7th and following verses of Psalm xcvi. He said it gave him great pleasure to come in that beautiful church where they were about to make an addition to the things used for the glory of God. He was also glad to see that they kept God's Acre in beautiful order. As he came through the churchyard he noticed the condition in which the graves were kept, and it did one good to see that. He thanked God, for it did not seem so long ago to him since such a beautifying of God's House as they were witnessing that day would have been impossible. Those times had passed away, but the memory of them should not. They all knew quite well that a few years ago it was one of the most difficult things for a clergyman to endeavour to make a church beautiful, and that too often led to disputes. History repeated itself, and it appeared possible from the correspondence which had recently taken place in the newspapers, that the lesson taught in those days had been allowed to disappear. The right rev. prelate's address was listened to with great attention.

The hymn, "When morning gilds the skies," was sung at the close of the service, after which the Bishop pronounced the blessing.

After service time, being short, 240 Bob Minor was rung, when the ringers and singers adjourned to the old schoolroom, where tea was partaken of. After tea five of the local ringers, with the assistance of T. Wright, of Olney, again proceeded to the tower and rang a 720 of Bob Minor. S. Sharp, J. Lovell, W. Mynard, T. Wright, W. Freeman (conductor), H. Lett. Tenor 9 cwt.

The evening service was conducted by the Rector, when the bells were lowered in peal and the old schoolroom again visited, where supper was awaiting the ringers, both repasts being provided by Mrs. Sams. After full justice had been done, and the cloth removed, songs were sung by several of the company present till just close upon midnight, when the whole assembly joined heartily in singing Auld lang syne, and concluded by singing the National Anthem, which brought a most enjoyable day's proceedings to a close, long to be remembered in the village of Emberton.

The bell was cast by Messrs. H. Bond and Sons, of Burford, Oxfordshire, and bears the inscription:—"This bell was placed here in memory of Florence, wife of Campbell Hulton, A.D. 1899."

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

A committee and quarterly meeting of the above was held at Pershore, on Saturday, July 1st, 1899, after a lapse of eight years. There were members present from Areley Kings, Bromsgrove, Bengeworth, Dudley, Kidderminster, Norton (Evesham), Netherton, Pershore, Stoke Prior, Tipton, Wollaston, and Worcester. The attendance, owing chiefly no doubt to the weather, was hardly up to expectation, numbering only about forty. The members assembled in the grand old Abbey Church at five o'clock, when a brief, but most appropriate, address was given by the Rev. W. D. Lowndes, rector of Little Comberton, who took for his text the passage, "Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me?" The preacher emphasized the high privilege it was to take part in the service of the church, and trusted that each would endeavour to carry out the objects the Association had in view, by punctual attendance to duty, and as far as possible regular attendance at the services in the church, showing themselves to be church worshippers as well as church workers. Directly following the service the business meeting took place in St. Agatha's Mission Room, the Rev. J. H. Bridgwater, vicar of Pershore, presiding, supported by the master, Mr. S. Spittle, and the hon. secretary, Mr. Jno. Smith. Apologies were read from the Revs. W. E. Gibbs (clerical secretary), and J. K. Floyer (minor canon, Worcester Cathedral), Major Hudson, and Mr. A. W. Smith (Pershore).

The Chairman briefly and heartily welcomed the members to Pershore. This association had his sincere good wishes, and he was glad to hear of its flourishing condition. He hoped he should again have the privilege and pleasure of presiding over such a meeting. The minutes of the last quarterly meeting were read and confirmed.

The Rev. J. H. Bridgwater, vicar of Pershore, and Mr. Wm. Pearce (Pershore) were elected honorary members, and the Rev. W. D. Lowndes, rector of Little Comberton, as a performing member. Several other performing members were elected from Dudley, Evesham

Bangworth, Grimley, Pershore, Kidderminster, Tipton, and Westbromwich. It is worthy of note that seventeen members of the Pershore Society now belong to this association.

Mr. S. Spittle proposed a vote of thanks to the rev. chairman for presiding, for the use of his room, to wew and bells, and to the Rev. W. D. Lowndes for his eloquent address in the Abbey Church. It was to their greatest advantage in all respects to keep in touch with the clergy. Their meetings were far different now to those he could remember. Years ago they were held at public-houses, and were not of a very creditable character. Mr. B. S. Hill (Worcester Cathedral) seconded the vote, which was heartily responded to. The members then adjourned to the gymnasium, where a splendid tea, through the energetic efforts of Mr. John Godfrey, one of the local band, had been provided free, to which the choir boys, to the number of sixteen, were invited. Mrs. Amphlett, coffee tavern, was the caterer.

A hearty vote of thanks, on the motion of Mr. William Pearce (Pershore), was accorded Mr. J. Godfrey for getting in the subscriptions for the tea and making all arrangements. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Double Norwich Court Bob Major were indulged in on the Abbey bells. Many delegates from long distances stayed till Sunday, and paid a visit to Little Comberton, and rang for morning service a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, and 720 of Plain Bob Minor. During the afternoon through the kindness of Mr. Wm. Pearce, they availed themselves of the opportunity offered by him of spending a short stay with him in his house and a look at the choice fruit and flowers in his garden.

STOKE ARCHIDACONAL ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of this association was held at Fenton, on Saturday, July 1st, and was attended by the Rev. H. E. Beech (Kingsley), Rev. H. C. Frith (Longton), Mr. R. T. Holding (Crewe), Mr. J. Buffery (Birmingham), and over forty members, the following towers being represented: Stoke, Longton, Fenton, Tunstall, Leek, Cheddleton, Norton Bucknall and Leigh. Ringing commenced about 4 o'clock and was kept up by mixed bands during the afternoon. At 5.30 the members adjourned to the churchroom and partook of a capital tea, provided by the ringers and friends of Fenton. Tea being over, the business was held (and in the unavoidable absence of the president, and the Rev. H. Beech having to leave early to catch the train) Mr. H. Page was voted to the chair. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, Mr. W. Twigg (hon. lay secretary) read the annual report of the committee, which showed that the association was in a flourishing condition, there being an increase of six hon. members and nineteen ringing members during the year. On the motion of G. Woods (Longton), seconded by A. Clews (Stoke), the report was adopted. The secretary then read the statement of accounts, which showed that the income of the society during the year had been £11 3s., and the expenditure £10 10s. 0½, thus showing a saving of 12s. 11½d., which, with a balance of £17 3s. 4d. at the commencement of the year, brings the present worth of the association to £17 16s. 3½d.

Mr. E. Glover (Norton) proposed that the accounts as read be passed as very satisfactory. Mr. T. Mountford (Stoke), seconded, and it was carried unanimously.

The Ven. Archdeacon Lane was re-elected President,

as was also the Vice-Presidents with the addition of the Hon. and Rev. L. F. Tyrwhitt, Vicar of Fenton. The Rev. G. T. Birch having resigned the position of Hon. Clerical Secretary and Treasurer, the Rev. H. C. Frith was elected to fill that position. Mr. W. Twigg was re-elected Hon. Lay Secretary. with a vote of thanks for his past services.

The question of giving a grant from the funds of the Association towards the rehangng of the bells of Christ Church, Tunstall, was discussed at considerable length by the members.

Mr. W. Twigg proposed that the sum of £1 be granted towards rehangng, and an additional £1 if two more bells were added. This was seconded by Mr. G. Woods.

An amendment was proposed by A. Clews, and seconded by M. Pimmlot, that instead of a grant being made from the Association the members of each tower give a donation. This was carried by a large majority.

The members afterwards attended Divine Service, when an appropriate address was given by the Vicar. The bells were afterwards kept going until about 9.30.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar of Fenton for so kindly allowing the meeting to be held at Fenton, and to the ringers for the tea they had provided.

SPENNYMOOR CHURCH, COUNTY DURHAM.

Messrs. W. Potts and Sons, clock manufacturers, of Leeds, and Town Hall Buildings, Newcastle-on-Tyne, have just completed new chimes at the parish church, Spennymoor, and fixed a new bell in the tower as a memorial to the late Mrs. Duncombe Shafto, a benefactor to the church.

They have also fixed four new 7-feet illuminated dials at Darlington Town Hall for the Mayor and Corporation; fixed a new illuminated clock at the Yorkshire Penny Bank, Middlesbrough; and new clock and bell at Heaton Park, Newcastle-on-Tyne, as a memorial to the late Mr. Birkett, by the working men of Newcastle; and a new illuminated clock with two large external dials, Dewsbury Road, Leeds.

They have also a large Cambridge quarter clock with three external dials for Horbury Church, near Wakefield, for the Rev. Canon Sharp, M.A., to be fixed shortly.

SHORT TOUCHES.—No. 1.—By BELL WARDEN.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR OTHERS.

Ringers are often (mainly for want of thought) very much wanting in consideration for the public. Every effort should be made at all times to bear in mind that the sound of church bells badly rung or chimed, or foolishly or carelessly jangled, causes intense pain and annoyance to sensitive, musical people. It is the duty of ringers to remember this fact. A lack of such consideration may result in church bells being condemned as public nuisances, and placed under restrictions, such as those now applied to barrel organs, brass bands, and other noises. In the natural order of things, the great interest taken in bells and ringers during the last twenty years, and the impetus given to the increase of peals by the two Royal Jubilee celebrations, will be followed by a reaction, and it rests with ringers to determine whether this shall be of an unpleasant nature, detrimental to the interests of those who love the "art and mystery" of change-ringing.

For Sale.

TO BELLRINGERS AND OTHERS.—A BOOT BUSINESS for Sale.—Apply to G. Brown, Parish Clerk Twyford, Hants.

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.

SOME RINGING IN NORTHANTS.

On Monday, July 3rd, the Rev. F. E. Robinson, of Drayton, and Mr. Chapman, of Manchester, accepted an invitation from the Central Northamptonshire Association. St. Giles', Northampton, was the trysting-place, and the fine ten were set going about 11 a.m. to the tune of Kent Royal. After 2½ hours' good ringing a change-course was discovered. After refection St. Edmund's tower was visited, and there a good peal of Superlative was brought round, the first on the bells. Tuesday morning, July 4th, found the band in the belfry at Raunds, and there the Oxford Master had the pleasure of conducting his old favourite 'Thurstans' four-part, notwithstanding the presence of a half-witted intruder. This was the first peal of Stedman on the bells. No other peal was attempted that day, two peals being on the card for the 5th. Higham Ferrers was the rendezvous on the latter day, and the fine eight there were manipulated through a peal of Stedman, with the veteran at the helm. Irthlingborough in the afternoon, the baneful change-course was again to the fore, and what would have been a good peal of Superlative had to be abruptly terminated after ringing 2 hrs. 15 mins. On Thursday, July 6th, the band found themselves at Thrapston, where there is a very musical light ring by Taylor, lately put up, quite comparable with the famous eight at Privett, Hants. Once more the four-part was attempted, and completed. On Friday, July 7th, a band was got together at Irthlingborough for a peal of Double Norwich. Over 5000 changes were rung, but in the closing courses there were so many trips and so much rough ringing as to disqualify the performance from ranking as a peal. In the evening another peal of Stedman was attempted at Finedon, but before nine courses of it were rung, the conductor was requested by the ringer of the 6th to let the bells run round at the quarter-peal end (which he did), owing to the heavy going of the bell. The party wish to thank the various clergy for the use of their bells, and Mr. J. Houghton, jun., for his trouble in making the arrangements.

THAXTED, ESSEX.

On Friday week the Bishop of Colchester re-opened the west tower of Thaxted church. A new west door has been provided, the tower has been thrown open to the church, and the fine groined roof of the tower and the west window exposed to view. Altogether the tower has been completely restored. His Lordship also re-dedicated the fine peal of eight bells. These have been rehung, quarter-turned, and put in first-class ringing-order. About £100 was spent on the bells alone. The Bishop also consecrated two additions to the churchyard, given by the Countess of Warwick and Mr. T. Franklin. The service was fully choral. The Vicar (Rev. L. S. Westall), sung the office; the first lesson was read by the Rev. A. L. Whitfield, Rector of Little Easton, and the second lesson by the Rev. J. Steele, Vicar of Saffron Walden. The Bishop gave a very appropriate address, which he divided into three parts, drawing out the lessons the porch, bells, and churchyard respectively teach. After the service there was a parochial tea, at which about 160 sat down. Immediately following the service and at intervals during the evening some fine quarter-peals were rung by the Saffron Walden ringers. A start has been made with the preservation of this fine old church; the aim of the committee is to preserve the ancient work. With such names on the committee as the Countess of Warwick, the Bishop of Colchester, Lord Rayleigh, Mr. A. Ruggles-Brise, and many others, one may feel sure that the work undertaken will be carried out in this spirit.

A PEAL OF 362,880 GRANDSIRE CATERS, 6d.
Contains the full extent of changes on nine bells. Forwarded Post (Free, on receipt of 7d. By James Hewett, 16 Chapel Row Gosport.

THE ROSS SOCIETY.

PRESENTATION TO MR. J. CLARK.

By kind invitation of Dr. and Mrs. Cutfield, the members of this society met at Merton House on Saturday evening, for the purpose of presenting their leader, Mr. J. Clark, with a testimonial and an address expressive of the sincere feeling of respect and gratitude which they all entertained for him. In the rector's absence, the Rev. J. Herbert Orpen made the presentation on behalf of the bellringers. They all knew, he said, how very much Mr. Clark had done for the cause of bellringing in Ross. They were most fortunate in having such a really first-rate ringer for their leader, and they could best show their appreciation of the great services he had rendered in the past by loyally supporting him in every matter which concerned the conduct of affairs in the belfry. At the same time they had tried to give their unanimous feeling of respect a tangible form, and they felt sure that Mr. Clark would value the gifts which accompanied the address for what they expressed. Mr. Orpen then read the address, which was as follows:—

"Ross St. Mary's Society of Bellringers.—To Mr. J. Clark.—We, the clergy and ringers of Ross Parish Church, desire to express our deep sense of the obligation under which we stand to you. In spite of many difficulties and discouragements you have formed the present band of ringers, and with unfailing kindness and patience have personally trained each individual member of it. We beg your acceptance of the accompanying gifts, as a very small token of our gratitude and respect, and we earnestly hope that you may long continue to be the leader of the Ross St. Mary's Society of Bellringers. Signed:—Rev. E. H. Winnington-Ingram, rector; Revs. J. Herbert Orpen, F. W. Worsey, curates; W. H. Bellamy, A. Bushnell, E. Bushnell, A. T. Cutfield, P. H. Fernandez, A. W. Heath, R. C. Kings, E. T. Oliver, R. Summers, C. Thomas, H. Williams, A. Corbett, F. James, H. Kemp."

The presents consisted of a silver-mounted umbrella with name engraved on plate, and a jardiniere.

Mr. Clarke, in reply, gratefully acknowledged the gifts, and said how much he felt and appreciated the kindly feeling which prompted them. Whatever he had done in the past had been a pleasure to him to do, and he hoped his connection with the Ross Ringers would long continue. The Rev. F. W. Worsey, speaking as a non-member, referred to the great pleasure Ross people felt in hearing the bells, and in the fact that under Mr. Clark's able leadership an efficient band of ringers was being got together. Mr. Bellamy, in a few suitable words, thanked Dr. and Mrs. Cutfield very heartily for their kindness in inviting the members of the society to their house. Dr. Cutfield, in reply, said it gave him and Mrs. Cutfield great pleasure to see the members there. He, himself, was learning the mysteries of bell-ringing, and could cordially testify to Mr. Clark's ability and thoroughness as an instructor. The remainder of the evening was spent very pleasantly, several touches of Stedman Triples being rung on the handbells.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The following paragraph of the official minutes of the Norwich meeting was inadvertently omitted from the copy sent to us for publication:—

"Mr. Wm. Snowdon opened a discussion on 'the desirability of Prize-Ringing in any form.'"

We have been requested by the Hon. Secretary of the Central Council to publish the corrected schedule of attendances on the next page:—

Situations Vacant.

WANTED a Groom, 18 or 20. Must be able to ride well, and make himself useful. Wages £1 a week and stable clothes. Must be able to ring Standard methods. Address, Coachman, Hillside, Chislehurst.

STEADY Young Man as Coachman, and to assist occasionally in garden. About 25 years of age. Apply, Editor.

WANTED, GARDENER. Good wages given. House and coal found. Must be change-ringer on eight bells. Apply—THOS. T. HAYWARD, Midsomer Norton, near Bath.

CORRECTED SCHEDULE OF ATTENDANCES OF MEMBERS AT ANNUAL MEETING.

SOCIETY.	PRESENT.	ABSENT.
Ancient Society of College Youths ..	H. R. Newton	W. T. Cockerill
Royal Cumberland Youths	H. Dains	W. Burkin
St. James' Society, London	E. P. O'Meara	W. D. Smith
Bath and Wells Diocesan Association ..	(Unrepresented)	B. Foskett
Bedfordshire Association	Rev. W. W. C. Baker ..	A. Jacob
Birmingham and District Society ..	(Unrepresented)	J. Parker
Birmingham, St. Martin's Guild ..	W. H. Godden	W. Weatherstone ..
Chester Diocesan Guild	J. Dillon	Rev. H. C. Courtenay
Devonshire Guild	W. Walmsley	C. E. D. Boutflower ..
Durham and Newcastle Association ..	Rev. M. Kelly	G. Hitchman
Ely Diocesan Association	R. S. Story	F. Shepherd
Essex Association	(Unrepresented)	W. Holmes
Gloucester and Bristol Association ..	Rev. T. L. Papillon ..	T. Hudson
Hereford Diocesan Guild	N. J. Pitstow	Rev. W. W. Crump ..
Hertford County Association	W. Nevard	F. G. Newman
Kent County Association	Rev. H. A. Cockey ..	Rev. E. B. James ..
Lancashire Association	(Unrepresented)	G. H. Phillott
Leeds and District Amalgamated Society	(Unrepresented)	T. J. Bratton
Liverpool Diocesan Guild	(Unrepresented)	E. P. Debenham
Midland Counties' Association	Sir A. P. Heywood, Bart.	Rev. F. S. O. Helmore
Middlesex Association	W. Wakley	F. W. Thornton
Norwich Diocesan Association	J. Griffin	Rev. C. A. Clements ..
North Lincolnshire Association ..	J. Waghorn	J. Eachus
Oxford Diocesan Guild	Rev. H. Earle Bulwer ..	R. Ridyard
Salisbury Diocesan Guild	W. L. Catchpole	R. Binns
South Lincolnshire Association ..	J. Motts	W. Bentham
Stafford Archdeaconry Society ..	J. A. Trollope	J. W. Taylor
Surrey Association	A. Craven	W. H. L. Buckingham ..
Sussex Association	Rev. F. E. Robinson ..	J. Basden
Winchester Diocesan Guild	Rev. G. F. Coleridge ..	G. Chester
Worcestershire Association	A. H. Cocks	J. W. Washbrook ..
Yorkshire Association	(Unrepresented)	Rev. A. D. Hill
Hon. Members	Rev. H. L. James	T. Blackburn
	S. Reeves	A. Smith
	Dr. Carpenter	Rowland Cartwright ..
	C. Dean	S. Saker
	Rev. C. D. P. Davies ..	Rev. C. E. Matthews ..
	G. F. Attree	J. W. Whiting
	G. Williams	J. S. Pritchett
	Rev. R. C. M. Harvey ..	C. H. Hattersley
	H. White	G. Bolland
	R. E. Grove	G. Breed
	W. Snowdon	W. H. Thompson
	Rev. J. H. Pilkington ..	F. E. Ward
	Rev. A. H. Boughy	F. E. Dawe
	F. W. Rees	T. Lockwood
	J. Carter	J. C. Mitchell
		J. Pettitt
		E. F. Strange
Societies represented	31	
" unrepresented	8	
Representatives present	39	
" absent	42	
Hon. Members present	4	
" absent	7	
Total Members present	43	
" absent	49	

Compositions.

BOB MAJOR.

By GEORGE B. LUCAS, *Walthamstow.*

5040.

23456	W	M	H
64235	-	-	-
26435	-	-	-
24635	-	-	S
62435	-	-	-
46235	-	-	-
23465	-	-	-
24365	-	-	S
32465	-	-	-
43265	-	-	-
42365	-	-	S
36245	S	-	-
32645	-	-	S
63245	-	-	-
26345	-	-	-
23645	-	-	S

The 4th, 5th and 6th exclusively in 6ths place; 2nd never above 4ths place at a course-end.

Calling at the end of one part, instead of last course, wrong with s; 5th, 4th and M with bobs, reduces the peal to 5008.

TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By GEORGE HAYWARD, *Bromsgrove.*

5088.

23456	M	W	H
54326	2	2	
53246	1	2	
52436	1	2	
53624	2	1	1
64235	1	1	2
62345	1	2	
43265	2	2	
35264	1	2	
32654	1	2	
23456	2	2	

This peal has the 4th, 5th and 6th the only bells in 6ths place, with the 6th her extent at home. It is the first peal ever published containing the above qualities in this number of changes.

First rung at Gloucester, conducted by J. Austin.

NEW PALACE STEAMERS, LTD
DAILY SAILINGS from Old Swan Pier, London Bridge, by "KOH-I-NOOR," to Southend and Margate, at 8.50 a.m. (Tuesdays and Fridays excepted). By "ROYAL SOVEREIGN," to Margate and Ramsgate (calling Southend Tuesdays and Fridays), at 9.20 a.m. Special trains from Fenchurch-street at 9.45 a.m. for "Koh-i-Noor," and 10.25 a.m. for "Royal Sovereign," also from St. Pancras at 9.20 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, and 9.50 a.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays.
"LA MARGUERITE," Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays to Margate and Boulogne and back. On Tuesdays to Margate and Ostend and back. On Sundays to Southend and Margate and back. Special trains from Fenchurch-street Station - Mondays, 7.20 a.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 6.15 a.m.; Saturdays, 7.45 a.m. and 8.3 a.m. (St. Pancras, 8 a.m.); Sundays, 9.35 a.m. and 9.45 a.m. (St. Pancras, 9.40 a.m.).
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 Special Train from Fenchurch-street, 8.38 a.m. Return Fares from Old Swan Pier or Fenchurch Street Station to Margate: - 1s. First Saloon; 4s. Second Saloon. Boulogne or Ostend, 13s. 6d.
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JASPER W. SNOWDON'S WORKS.

ROPE-SIGHT : 1s. 6d. FOURTH EDITION.

Commences by explaining how to manage a bell; deals with Change-Ringing on three, four, five, six, seven and eight bells in the PLAIN BOB METHOD, giving touches and peals in each case; and closes with instructions for conducting, etc., etc. (143 pages).

STANDARD METHODS: 2s. 6d. THIRD EDITION

NOW READY. Contains full explanations and rules for ringing all the best methods, from five to eight bells, with plain-course diagrams of each printed in full, with coloured lines. 40 pages of diagrams and 87 of descriptive letterpress.

GRANDSIRE; 2s. 6d. THE METHOD, ITS PEALS, AND HISTORY.

WITH PORTRAIT AND MEMOIR. EDITED BY HIS BROTHER, WM. SNOWDON. COMPLETE WITH AN APPENDIX BY THE REV. CHARLES D. P. DAVIES, M.A., OXON. Commences with ringing on five, six, and seven bells, for the benefit of a learner; gives instructions on composing, proving, varying, and reversing conducting and calling round; and ends with a general survey of the practical and scientific aspect of the composition of triples—thus forming a complete reference book for all Grandsire ringers. (210 pages).

IREBLE BOB. PART I. out of print and under revision.

Part I. contains instructions for pricking, transposing, proving, composing, and conducting peals; an essay on the *In and Out-of-course* of the changes; and history of the various compositions and performances. Part II. contains classified peals of Minor, Major, Royal, and Maximus, with their reverse variations; remarks on the different qualities; particulars of first performances, composers' names, &c., &c. (236 closely printed pages. Part II. (136 closely printed pages) may be had separately, 2s. 1½d.

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

Contains rules and instructions for pricking and ringing the method; a linear diagram of the plain course; a collection of touches and peals; instructions for proving, and a history of the earlier performances with a list of peals down to 1884 (pages).

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THE Just Published.

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J. J. RAVEN, D.D., F.S.A., of Emmanuel College, Cambridge. With upwards of 90 illustrations. Half-morocco, Roxburgh, 27s. 6d. net; in cloth, 20s. net; packing and postage 1s. 6d. extra. This edition is limited to 500 copies. The large paper edition was all sold within a few days of issuing the first prospectus.

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

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

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication arriving later than the first Postal delivery on 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, JULY 15, 1899.

THE interesting, plain, and straightforward "remarks" from the pen of MR. R. A. DANIELL, which have been published in chapters during the past few weeks, having ended, the author naturally looks for an expression of opinion from some of those gentlemen among the Exercise whose pursuits and station afford an opportunity for literary effort, and at the same time are possessed of the ability necessary for enlightened and sensible discussion, or if they think fit, animadversion. Unfortunately we hear that MR. DANIELL is suffering from illness, and therefore we have not heard whether he has received any communication with reference to his papers, or otherwise. We hope soon to hear of his restoration to health.

The subject-matter of his "remarks" may not be considered as involving any important question connected with ringing. And it is possible also that their tendency to dispel the notion of ringing being always regarded as a strict appanage of pure Church work, may be questioned. Still it must be said that the papers are an important contribution to ringing literature, to say the least, and they afford another instance of a professional gentleman devoting his time and attention to a very interesting enquiry into sundry chapters of ringing annals,

The Provinces.

NORTHAMPTON.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, July 3, 1899, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5056 CHANGES. Tenor 17 cwt. 3 qrs. 25 lbs.

JOHN J. MAWBY Treble.	JAMES GARRATT 5.
JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. .. 2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 6.
WILLIAM V. NEWMAN .. 3.	ANDERSON Y. TYLER .. 7.
THOMAS R. HENSHER .. 4.	HARRY CHAPMAN Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by HARRY CHAPMAN.

First peal in the method ever rung in the county town.

RAUNDS, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, July 4, 1899, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 22 cwt. 0 qrs. 8 lbs.

WILLIAM V. NEWMAN .. Treble.	THOMAS R. HENSHER .. 5.
HARRY CHAPMAN 2.	*WILLIAM J. GILBERT .. 6.
JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. .. 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
FRED. GILBERT 4.	*HARRY STUBBS Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

First peal in the method on the bells. *First peal in the method.

HIGHAM FERRERS, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, July 5, 1899, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 22 cwt. 3 qrs. 17 lbs.

ALPHAUS PERKINS* .. Treble.	HARRY CHAPMAN 5.
WILLIAM R. HENSHER .. 2.	WILLIAM J. GILBERT .. 6.
THOMAS R. HENSHER .. 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. .. 4.	HARRY STUBBS Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON

*First peal in the method.

THRAPSTON, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, July 6, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 14 cwt. 0 qrs. 7 lbs.

JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. .. Treble.	ALPHAUS PERKINS 5.
THOMAS R. HENSHER .. 2.	WILLIAM J. GILBERT .. 6.
WILLIAM R. HENSHER .. 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
HARRY CHAPMAN 4.	HARRY STUBBS Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

First peal in the method on the bells.

SMETHWICK, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Wednesday, July 5, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
LATES' FIVE-PART.

JAMES E. GROVES Treble.	THOMAS J. ELTON 5.
JOHN JAGGAR 2.	SAMUEL REEVES 6.
HUGH J. BALCOMBE .. 3.	HARRY MILLS 7.
THOMAS HORTON 4.	ERNEST BROWN Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

Rung to commemorate the receipt of the charter for the incorporation of Smethwick as a borough.

ALDENHAM, HERTS.

THE MIDDLESEX AND HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Wednesday, July 5, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

ERNEST E. HUNTLEY .. Treble.	WILLIAM E. OAKLEY .. 5.
HERBERT MARTIN 2.	WILLIAM HEWETT .. 6.
BERTRAM PREWETT 3.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 7.
ALFRED W. BRIGHTON .. 4.	ARTHUR T. KING, ESQ. .. Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST E. HUNTLEY.

GREAT YARMOUTH, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, July 7, 1899, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

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

CHARLES JACKSON Treble.	DENISON HAYWARD .. 5.
ROBERT CHRISTIAN 2.	GEORGE F. READ .. 6.
ARTHUR WEBBER 3.	JOHN SOUTER 7.
PHILIP SADLER 4.	JAMES MATTHEWS Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES JACKSON.

The tenor-man was 70 years of age last June.

PORTSEA, HANTS.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION, AND THE
WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 8, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.
Tenor 17½ cwt.

JOHN W. WHITING* .. Treble.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH .. 5.
ROBERT J. DAWE 2.	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY .. 6.
HENRY WHITE* 3.	KEITH HART 7.
FRANK BENNETT 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Composed by JAMES W. WASHBROOK, and

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

*First peal of London Surprise. This is the first peal of London Surprise rang in the county of Hants., and the first in the method by the Winchester Diocesan Guild.

BIRCH, LANCASHIRE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(MANCHESTER AND BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, July 8, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
BROOK'S VARIATION.

THOMAS PIERS Treble.	TITUS BARLOW 5.
JOHN POTTER 2.	JOSEPH POTTER 6.
JOHN DENNER 3.	RICHARD RIDYARD .. 7.
ALFRED POTTER 4.	SAMUEL OAKES Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD RIDYARD.

This is the first peal in the method on the bells, also the first in Manchester for over sixty years. The ringers wish to thank the clergy and also the local ringers for having all in readiness.

CHESTER.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, July 8, 1899, in Three Hours and Forty-one Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 33½ cwt.

CHARLES PRICE Treble.	WILLIAM F. HARTSHORNE 5.
PHILLIP W. DAVIES 2.	SAMUEL WOOD 6.
GEORGE CALDWELL* .. 3.	WILLIAM H. BARBER .. 7.
JAMES MOULTON 4.	JAMES GEORGE Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and

Conducted by WILLIAM H. BARBER,

*First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells. This is the first College Youths' peal in the City of Chester. Messrs. Barber, Davies and Hartshorne were elected members before starting. The ringers wish to thank Messrs. Bethell and Davies for making arrangements.

WESTERHAM, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.*On Saturday, July 8, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

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

Tenor 23½ cwt. in E.

HENRY J. SELBY* Treble.	ERNEST PYE 5.
ISAAC G. SHADE 2.	JOHN H. CHEESMAN 6.
ALFRED W. BRIGHTON .. . 3.	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE .. 7.
CHARLES WILKINS 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

*First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells. It was intended to have rung Superlative, but as one of the band was unable to attend the above was resorted to.

FAREHAM, HANTS.—THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.*On Sunday, July 8, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES:

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

SEPTIMUS RADFORD Treble.	JOHN SYMONS 5.
JOHN J. JONES 2.	ERNEST ALLEN 6.
JOSIAH HARRIS 3.	CHARLES GILES 7.
ALBERT D. STONE 4.	FRANK BLONDELL Tenor.

Composed by H. HUBBARD, and Conducted by CHARLES GILES.

Rung as a birthday compliment to S. Radford.

WOLVERHAMPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.**SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.***On Saturday, July 8, 1899, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES.

Tenor 23 cwt.

FARRINGTON JONES Treble	JAMES HALL 6.
WILLIAM G. HALL 2.	JOHN C. ADAMS 7.
HUGH J. BALCOMBE 3.	REUBEN HALL 8.
BENJAMIN DALTON 4.	HERBERT KNIGHT 9.
ROBERT PICKERING* 5.	JAMES E. GROVES Tenor.

Composed by JAMES E. GROVES, and Conducted by R. PICKERING.

*First peal of Caters as conductor.

PEAL CORRECTION.—The peal of Bob Major rung at Nottingham should have been published as 5376 changes, not 5374.

Date Touches.**THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

HOUGH-ON-THE-HILL (Lincolnshire).—On Wednesday evening, May 24th, at All Saints church, a date touch of Doubles, in 1 hr. 12 mins., consisting of one 6-score of St. Simons, ten of Grandsire, and four 6-score and 99 of Plain Bob. A. Mackers. 1; C. Nicholson, 2; J. Hoyes (conductor), 3; F. Tannadine, 4; S. Nicholson, 5; W. Maw, 6. Rung in honour of Her Majesty's 80th birthday.

Miscellaneous.**THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

(SUDBURY BRANCH.)

LAVENHAM (Suffolk).—On Whit-Monday, May 22nd, at the parish church, a touch of Grandsire Triples, in 58 mins. W. Bobby, 1; *S. Howell, 2; F. Symonds, 3; W. Howell, jun., 4; W. Howell, sen., 5; A. Symonds, 6; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 7; H. Brackett, 8. A touch of 1232 Bob Major. F. Symonds, 1; S. Howell, 2; H. Poulson, 3; J. Fayers, 4; W. Hollocks, 5; W. Howell, jun., 6; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 7; W. Howell, sen., 8. *Longest touch in the method.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUNDERLAND.—On Sunday, July 2nd, at the church of St. Ignatius the Martyr, on the occasion of the dedication of the new treble, after morning service, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. Brown, 1; A. Meyers, 2; J. J. Leighton, 3; E. Ferry, 4; R. L.

Patterson, 5; W. Sheraton (conductor), 6. For the Children's Flower Service 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. W. Parker, 1; W. Brown, 2; E. Ferry, 3; R. C. Hudson, 4; A. Meyers, 5; W. Sheraton (conductor), 6. First 720 of Kent on the bells. For evening service 600 Bob Doubles, being five 6-scores called differently. J. W. Parker (conductor), 1; W. Denteth, 2; G. R. Taylor, 3; R. H. Blakey, 4; R. Manning, 5; R. L. Patterson, 6.

DARLINGTON (Durham).—On Sunday, May 7th, at St. John's church, 882 Grandsire Triples, conducted by J. Baxter. Also for evening service 816 Bob Major, conducted by W. H. Porter. On Tuesday, May 9th, for practice, 672 Grandsire Triples, conducted by J. Baxter. And 576 Bob Major, conducted by W. H. Porter. On Sunday, May 14th, 672 Grandsire Triples, conducted by J. Baxter. For evening service 816 Bob Major, conducted by W. H. Porter. On Tuesday, May 16th, for practice, 656 Bob Major, conducted by J. Baxter. And a plain course of Kent Treble Bob Major. On Sunday, May 21st, 700 Grandsire Triples, conducted by J. Baxter. For evening service, 688 Bob Major, conducted by W. H. Porter. On Sunday, May 28th, 840 Grandsire Triples, conducted by J. Baxter. On Tuesday, May 30th, for practice, 447 Grandsire Triples, conducted by J. Baxter. And a plain course of Kent Treble Bob Major. The other ringers taking part in the above touches were Messrs. Bolton, Clark, Crawford, Johnson, Lister, Moncaster, Patton, Scollick, Naisbitt, and Williams.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GUISBOROUGH (Yorks).—On Thursday, May 18th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. J. H. Pybus (first 720), 1; J. Cottrell, 2; J. Thompson, 3; J. A. Metcalfe, 4; R. Haswell (conductor), 5; W. G. Haswell, 6. On Wednesday, May 24th, to celebrate the Queen's birthday, five 720s of Bob Minor each called differently, standing as before.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BALDOCK (Herts).—On Wednesday, May 24th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 49 mins. A. Cattle, 1; J. Morley, 2; B. Bidnell, 3; T. Webb, 4; R. Jackson, 5; C. Castle, 6; G. T. Spicer (conductor), 7; G. Gentle, 8.

BUSHEY (Herts).—On Saturday, July 1st, a peal of Double Norwich Major, but after ringing 1 hr. 52 mins. the conductor called "stand" owing to one of the band being taken ill. W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 1; B. Prewett, 2; F. A. Smith, 3; C. George, 4; H. Martin, 5; W. E. Oakley, 6; F. Edwards, 7; E. E. Huntley, 8. On Sunday morning, for Divine Service, two courses of Double Norwich. W. Thorn, 1; F. A. Smith, 2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3; W. G. Whitehead, 4; W. I. Oakley, 5; W. E. Oakley, 6; F. Edwards, 7; E. E. Huntley, 8. For evening service 1008 Stedman Triples. E. E. Huntley (conductor), 1; F. A. Smith, 2; W. E. Oakley, 3; W. H. L. Buckingham, 4; W. I. Oakley, 5; W. G. Whitehead, 6; F. Edwards, 7; J. Bates, 8.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

CHESTERFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Whit-Monday, ten members of the above attempted a peal of Grandsire Caters, but after ringing 4000 changes in 2 hrs. and 30 mins. the 4th rope broke. W. Nuttall, 1; S. Price, 2; W. J. Thyng, 3; D. Farthing, 4; A. Worthington, 5; A. Knights (conductor), 6; J. P. Tarlton, 7; J. Hunt, 8; W. Biggin, 9; G. Mee, 10.

WHITWICK (Leicestershire).—On Wednesday, May 24th, an attempt was made to ring a peal of Grandsire Triples, but it collapsed after ringing 4000 changes, in 2 hrs. 30 mins. W. Fern, 1; S. W. West, 2; J. Rawson, 3; A. Whitmore, 4; H. Partridge, 5; J. A. Moulton (conductor), 6; L. Partridge, 7; F. Boam, 8. This is the greatest length by an entirely local band.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Tuesday, June 20th, for practice 720 Grandsire Minor. G. Tomlin, 1; G. C. Tunncliffe, 2; W. Malins, 3; L. Hollingworth, 4; W. Earle, 5; F. Hollingworth (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, June 27th, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor. F. Parsons, 1; G. Tomlin, 2; L. Hollingworth, 3; W. Malins, 4; F. Hollingworth, 5; W. Earle (conductor), 6. First 720 by F. Parsons.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

PORTSEA (Hants).—On Tuesday, May 2nd, for practice, 504 Stedman Triples. W. J. Pickard (conductor), 1; F. S. Bayley, 2; J. T. Matthews, 3; P. M. Hannam, 4; H. Reynolds, 5; A. D. Stone, 6; E. C. Newman, 7; H. C. Ingram, 8. On Sunday morning, May 21st, for Divine Service, 336 Grandsire Triples. F. S. Wilson, 1; C. Groves, 2; J. Harper, 3; J. J. Symons, 4; J. Harris, 5; A. D. Stone, 6; E. C. Newman, 7; E. Reynolds, 8. For evening service 360

Grandsire Triples. F. S. Wilson, 1; J. Harper, 2; C. Groves, 3; J. J. Symons, 4; E. Reynolds, 5; J. T. Matthews, 6; E. C. Newman, 7; H. C. Ingram, 8. On Wednesday, May 24th, to commemorate Her Majesty's birthday, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. F. S. Wilson, 1; J. Harris, 2; C. Groves, 3; J. J. Symons (conductor), 4; J. T. Matthews, 5; A. D. Stone, 6; J. Harper, 7; H. C. Ingram, 8. Also 504 Grandsire Triples. F. S. Wilson, 1; A. D. Stone, 2; C. Groves, 3; J. J. Symons (conductor), 4; J. T. Matthews, 5; J. Harris, 6; E. Reynolds, 7; H. C. Ingram, 8. On Sunday morning, May 28th, for Divine Service with the bells muffled, on the occasion of the death of the Rev. Canon E. P. Grant, Vicar of St. Thomas', Portsmouth, 504 Stedman Triples. P. M. Hannam, 1; J. Harper, 2; C. Groves, 3; J. J. Symons, 4; J. Harris, 5; A. D. Stone, 6; E. C. Newman (conductor), 7; J. T. Matthews, 8. For Divine Service in the evening with the bells muffled, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 47 mins. P. M. Hannam, 1; J. Harper, 2; C. Groves, 3; J. J. Symons, 4; J. Harris, 5; A. D. Stone, 6; E. C. Newman (conductor), 7; J. T. Matthews, 8.

FAREHAM (Hants).—On Sunday, July 9th, for morning service, 336 Stedman. Alice White, 1; G. Grafham, 2; F. Hill, 3; H. White, 4; G. Chappell, 5; K. Hart (conductor), 6; C. Giles, 7; J. Whiting, 8. For afternoon service, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. C. Privett, 1; Alice White, 2; H. White, 3; F. Hill, 4; G. Chappell, 5; G. Grafham, 6; K. Hart, 7; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 8. For evening service, 504 Stedman Triples. K. Hart (conductor), 1; Alice White, 2; F. Hill, 3; C. Privett, 4; G. Chappell, 5; C. Giles, 6; H. White, 7; J. W. Whiting, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BROMLEY (Kent).—On Sunday, May 21st, for morning services, 1056 Bob Major. G. Simpson, 1; E. Dunn, 2; J. Town, 3; J. E. Craft, 4; J. Emery, 5; F. Sanders, 6; W. J. Smith, 7; G. Durling (conductor), 8. On Wednesday evening, May 24th, 720 Bob Minor. F. Sanders, 1; J. Hack (conductor), 2; J. Town, 3; J. E. Craft, 4; W. J. Smith, 5; G. Durling, 6. Also a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples. J. E. Craft, 1; F. Sanders, 2; J. Town, 3; E. Dunn, 4; J. Hack, 5; G. Durling (conductor), 6; W. J. Smith, 7; W. James, 8. These touches were rung to commemorate the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. J. Town, the ringers wishing them health and prosperity, hoping that they may live to see their golden wedding. It was intended to have started for a peal of Oxford Bob Triples, but meeting too late the above was rung instead.

OSPRINGE (Kent).—On Tuesday evening, June 13th, on the occasion of the marriage of the Rev. W. K. Kefford, curate of Ospringe, and Miss Henrietta Mabel Trigg, of Bury St. Edmunds, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. S. Croucher, 1; E. E. Foreman, 2; S. R. Garner (first quarter-peal), 3; E. E. Bridges, 4; H. Foster, 5; C. H. Drake (conductor), 6; W. J. Wills (first quarter-peal), 7; G. Pearson, 8.

FAVERSHAM (Kent).—On Wednesday, June 28th (Coronation Day), a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. H. Wallis, 1; A. Biggs, sen., 2; F. Hunt, 3; A. Biggs, jun., 4; H. F. Foreman, 5; H. Foster, 6; E. E. Foreman (conductor), 7; G. Wood, 8.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

BARKING (Essex).—On Saturday, June 17th, at St. Margaret's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans'). C. F. Winney, 1; H. Springall, 2; C. Green, 3; T. H. Taffender (conductor), 4; W. Truss, 5; S. Hayes, 6; S. Lawrence, 7; E. J. Webb, 8. On Sunday evening, June 18th, for Divine Service at St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, several touches of Stedman Caters in which Messrs. Richardson, Winney, Taffender, Green, Harris, Fox, Garrard, Judd, Richardson, and others took part. First touch on ten bells by C. Green.

BEDMINSTER, NEAR BRISTOL.—On June 23rd, being the annual outing of the St. Luke's Sunday School children to Weston-super-Mare, a date touch of Grandsire Minor was rung to welcome them home, in 1 hr. 5 mins. W. Bevan, 1; J. Thomas, 2; S. Thomas, 3; A. Parish, 4; W. Stowell, 5; J. Burford (conductor), 6. On Sunday, June 25th, after evening service, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. W. Bevan, 1; J. Thomas, 2; H. Stowell, 3; A. Parish, 4; W. Stowell, 5; J. Burford, 6.

BADGEWORTH (Gloucestershire).—On Saturday evening, June 17th, at Holy Trinity church, the St. Peter's Society of Leckhampton rang 1160 Grandsire Doubles for practice. W. Harrison, 1; F. Pratt, 2; T. Hunt (conductor), 3; W. Townsend, 4; J. F. Ballinger, 5; I. Wallace, 6.

BOURNEMOUTH (Hants).—On Thursday, June 15th, at St. Peter's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 51 mins. A. Grist, 1; E. T. Green, 2; E. Waters, 3; G. A. Martineau (Birmingham), 4;

Rev. A. H. Hitchcock, 5; J. G. Bristow, 6; C. W. Goodenough (conductor), 7; T. Belbin, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

GOSPEL OAK.—On Sunday, June 18th, for Divine Service in the evening, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. R. Bevan, 1; G. Hollis (first in the method with a bob bell), 2; E. Bonfield, 3; J. Nixon, 4; E. Young, 5; G. Smith (conductor), 6.

GISLINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday, May 21st, for evening service, 360 Bob Minor was rung by J. Buckingham, 1; E. Youngs, 2; W. H. Symonds, 3; E. H. Symonds, 4; A. W. Symonds, 5; G. E. Symonds (conductor), 6.

HACKNEY.—On Sunday evening, June 25th, after Divine Service at St. John's, Hackney, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins. Arthur Coles, 1; F. Rumens, 2; G. J. Gaines, 3; Albert Coles, 4; C. Beech, 5; W. Prime, 6; W. A. Masters (Loughborough), 7; W. D. Smith (conductor), 8. Composed by the late John Cox.

LONDON.—On Sunday evening, May 28th, for Divine Service at St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, 1260 Stedman Caters. C. F. Winney, 1; W. E. Judd, 2; T. H. Taffender, 3; F. Richardson, 4; A. E. Bradley, 5; A. F. Harris, 6; *Rev. H. C. Courtney, 7; W. Fox, 8; W. E. Garrard (conductor), 9; J. Judd, 10. *First quarter-peal of Caters.

MORTIMER (Berks).—On Sunday, June 4th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. F. Wenman, 1; H. Cox, 2; W. Ballard, 3; T. Neville, 4; W. Jerrom, 5; W. Ford, 6; K. Mason (conductor), 7; A. Davis, 8. On Sunday, July 2nd, on the occasion of a christening, another quarter-peal in the same method. H. Cox, 1; T. Neville, 2; W. Ballard, 3; B. Hawkins, 4; J. Mason, 5; W. Ford, 6; K. Mason (conductor), 7; A. Davis, 8.

PENGE (Surrey).—Recently, at the church of St. John the Evangelist, 720 Bob Minor. E. Edwards, 1; W. Smith, 2; G. Wickeus, 3; H. Edwards, 4; — Pogbee, 5; J. W. Battison (conductor), 6.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, May 10th, 720 Kent. F. G. Symonds (conductor), H. Poulson, J. Fayers, W. Hollocks, A. Hollocks, and C. Levitt. On Saturday, May 13th, 720 Woodbine. C. Levitt, H. Gladwell, A. Hollocks, J. Fayers, T. Levitt, W. Hollocks (conductor). First 720 in the method by all, also on the bells. On Saturday, May 27th, 720 Woodbine. T. Levitt, H. Gladwell, A. Hollocks, R. Wilding (first 720 in the method), H. Horrex (first 720 in the method), W. Hollocks (conductor). On Sunday, May 28th, 720 Bob Minor. E. Newman (first 720 on tower bells), H. Poulson, A. Hollocks, J. Fayers, C. Levitt, W. Hollocks (conductor). On Monday, May 29th, 720 Kent. F. Symonds, C. Levitt, A. Hollocks, J. Fayers, R. Grimwood (London), W. Hollocks (conductor). Also 720 Oxford. F. Symonds, H. Sewell (Hitcham), W. Hollocks, J. Fayers, R. Grimwood (conductor), C. Levitt.

SHIPLEY (Sussex).—On Sunday, May 21st, 720 Oxford Bob. W. Pearce, 1; R. Bowell, 2; A. Cripps, 3; S. Woolgar, 4; J. Bowell, 5; W. Denman (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Oxford Bob. J. C. Penn, 1; R. Bowell, 2; W. Pearce, 3; A. Cripps, 4; J. Bowell, 5; W. Denman (conductor), 6. On May 24th, in honour of Her Majesty's 80th birthday, 720 Oxford Bob. W. Pearce, 1; R. Bowell, 2; A. Cripps, 3; S. Woolgar, 4; J. Bowell, 5; W. Denman (conductor), 6. Also 720 Court Bob. J. Bowell, 1; R. Bowell, 2; W. Pearce, 3; A. Cripps, 4; S. Woolgar, 5; W. Denman (conductor), 6. A 720 of Oxford Bob. W. Pearce, 1; R. Bowell, 2; S. Woolgar, 3; W. Denman, 4; J. Bowell, 5; A. Cripps (conductor), 6. (Also 360, J. C. Penn ringing the treble. And touches of Grandsire Doubles, conducted by A. Cripps and W. Denman respectively.)

STOKESLEY (North Yorks).—For practice on Tuesday, June 27th, 720 Bob Minor. W. J. Titchener, 1; Rev. W. P. Wright, 2; J. A. Carter, 3; H. H. Bowes, 4; J. H. Blakiston (conductor), 5; W. Lane (first 720), 6.

WICKHAM (Hants).—On Wednesday, June 14th, 720 Grandsire Minor. N. Welch, 1; L. Page (Titchfield, first 720), 2; W. Langford, 3; W. Singleton, 4; W. Churcher, 5; G. Chappell (conductor), 6.

WILLESDEN (Middlesex).—On Sunday, May 21st, at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor, in 20 mins. A. Hill, 1; F. Side, 2; J. Jackman, 3; W. Steggall, 4; H. Kilby, 5; A. Pittam (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, May 13th, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. A. Hill, 1; A. Pittam (conductor), 2; F. Side, 3; H. Kilby, 4; W. Steggall, 5; A. Tennant, 6. On Tuesday evening, June 20th, a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. A. Pittam (conductor), 1; F. Side, 2; H. Kilby, 3; A. Tennant, 4; W. Steggall, 5; W. Neal, 6.

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.

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."

BOB LEADS.

SIR,—To avoid any personal question arising let me say at once that it was as far as possible from my thoughts to accuse Mr. Davies of anything at all. If we have fallen into a "trap"—to use Mr. Davies' words, though it is hardly applicable—it was not a trap that had been "set" by any one. I merely mentioned the matter to show that the returns of the census were hardly reliable, as the reason for the question was not given. This need not have involved any hint or help. Mr. Davies was too careful, that was all. I shall certainly be glad for other ringers to give us their opinions, but I hope Mr. Davies will also himself defend his own thesis. I have not been able to procure my "BELL NEWS" for July 1st yet, so I have not seen my letter as printed; but I thought I made it quite clear that my answer to the question would be that a "bob-lead" is a lead which has a bob at the end.

H. DRAKE.
Leicester.

THE KIDLINGTON PEAL.

SIR,—As you have allowed Mr. Willson to give his verdict on the long peal attempt at Kidlington, will you kindly allow me to give mine.

A rings a good and true record peal.

B attempts a longer one, and whatever muddle the bells get into, keeps on ringing and don't mean to stop as long as no one sets his bell, or the ropes break.

B on coming out of the tower and finding that an outsider has been listening, is bewildered, writes an apologetic letter, accompanied by excuses.

B has a lot of friends there whom he has as much influence over as a Fakir (or Hindoo priest) has over his flock, gets them to support the peal.

A trusting to Mr. Washbrook's honesty to ring a good and true peal, and being rather an expensive journey, did not think of asking any one to go with him, not expecting to hear such ringing from a man of Mr. Washbrook's abilities.

This is a case where circumstantial evidence has to be taken, which according to the English law often condemns a man to death, which is as follows:

- (1) B has no written outsider to support the peal.
- (2) B's supporters are not practical men.
- (3) B had no congratulations until it was found that an account of the attempt would be published.
- (4) B's apologetic letter (which he appears now to regret, and no doubt it would never have been sent had no outsider been there), sufficiently condemns it, and shows it is not worth the paper it was printed on.

Of course one can imagine their wrath and indignation on coming out of the tower and finding some one who knew what had been going on. I may mention that I have not had the slightest hint from my brother to write this, in fact he has never mentioned the subject to me only when I have asked him.

On hearing of his intention to go to Kidlington I asked him to let me know the result, and received a post-card as follows: "They rang 16,576 Double Norwich yesterday in 11 hrs. 12 mins., the worst ringing I ever heard; fired time after time, once for nearly a whole course." Now I am positive he would not have written that to me had it not been true. Of course as he called the record peal they had a good excuse, which they have not failed to take advantage of. I don't dispute that any one who has rung a record peal likes to see it beaten, but I am certain if they had rung any sort of a fair peal he would have given them credit for it as Mr. Barnett did the Erith peal, and as any ringer should do after ringing all that time when rung fairly.

There is no doubt that Mr. Washbrook is capable of ringing a long peal with a good band (although I have heard he prefers inexperienced ringers on an occasion like this), and I should think it would have been more creditable to him to try until he rang a good one, as what satisfaction he can have in a peal like this I don't know.

Woolwich,

A. PYE.

SIR,—The correspondence on this peal seems as far behind as ever. Mr. Willson's letter of this week is like most of the others on this subject (all one side). Amongst all the letters that have appeared in favour of this peal, I don't consider one from an experienced man capable of judging a peal. Are we to be contented with their version? On the other hand we have the opinion of an experienced man, Mr. Pye, which leads us to think it ought to be rung again. I should suggest that the original peal and the peal that was rung be published side by side. By doing so the matter would be settled.

W. H. BARBER.

SIR,—I was surprised to see in your last issue a letter from Mr. Washbrook's counsel, W. Willson, Q.C. Mr. Washbrook says he has done with it. I suppose he thinks it is time to be when he cannot get any further. I suppose he has now turned the case over to his counsel. Mr. Willson's letter contains neither common sense nor reason, he has run his head into a thing that does not concern him in the least. As he professes to have authority on composition, I think he is only showing himself up in saying what he has. He also says that I have not proven my assertions. That is the very thing I am waiting to do as soon as opportunity offers itself. I gave Washbrook a fair offer which he does not seem inclined to accept, and as he professes to have acted straightforward in the matter, I wonder he doesn't either accept my offer or otherwise publish the composition he professed to ring, and show that he is straightforward, as I think it is for him to publish the composition, not me. And if it is correct, as he says it is, what are his ideas for keeping it private. Mr. Washbrook says that Mr. Hounslow saw the figures beforehand. I will now ask him how he showed the figures of the peal before he started, as he was asked by a ringer whom he asked to take part in it, if he had a 17,000, and his reply was "No." He also said he did not intend to compose one. He said he should ring the same peal as we rang at Erith and tack a piece on as he went along. There were several ringers heard him make this statement. I am not going to say he rang the last 120 courses in the same order as we did. He did not. But there was very little difference in some of the calling, and Washbrook has got the most difficult job he ever had in his life to produce a 17,024 on the plan he used, as he has got to get the extent with the tenors together, the last 120 courses of the peal to bring the number right, as he only had 3584 changes with the tenors parted. Mr. Washbrook also states that neither Mr. Hounslow, nor Mr. Smith, are of the same opinion as myself. Nobody could have found more fault with the ringing than they did while it was in progress, and if Mr. Hounslow will speak the truth, he knows as well as I do that he reduced the peal as above. Five minutes before they stopped a listener came up to him and asked how long they would be before they finished, and he said to me "I should think about half-an-hour, shouldn't you?" And I said "about twenty-five minutes, as they have got five courses to ring after the one they were in to complete the 17,024," and when the bells came round, he says to me "they are home," and shot off out of the churchyard. Now, if I had been in Washbrook's place, and there had been ringers present whom I had been life friends with, I should have thought it very strange on their part to run away as soon as it was over if I had rang a good peal. I don't suppose these men will round on him for their own sake. Perhaps they have been unfortunate enough to be in some peals of the same class with him. Mr. Willson says Mr. Washbrook's abilities are beyond question, and says he is capable of composing a peal as he goes along. In a 5000 this may work all right, but not in a method where the extent with the tenors is to be obtained. We have had some of Washbrook's peal-patching before at Southgate, when he tried to stick the Burton variation of Superlative on the original method. I should like to know what authority Willson has to make such statements as he has concerning me. His statements are just about as much value to the Exercise as he is as a ringer; and I strongly advise him before running his head into a thing that doesn't concern him to learn to strike a bell, as I was outside a London tower some time ago when he was trying to ring, and I never heard any novice make a worse show than he did in my life.

W. PYE.

"MARBLLETTE."—The new, excellent, imperishable material for Peal-Boards.—See advertisement.

CURRENT TOPICS.

It is the forenoon of Tuesday, the 11th instant, at the hour of 10 a.m., when I commence these paragraphs. The sun is exceptionally powerful, the atmosphere oppressive, and the epiglottis is veritably and literally a scorcher; rivers of lemonade go with a hiss along it. The barometer is steadily going up: present climatic conditions being totally adverse to the attempting of peals anywhere, even at Kidlington. The bare thought of any movement produces profuse and alarming exudation (I hope this will be understood), and a suggestion to ring for a five-guinea wedding even would throw one into convulsions just now. All this merely means that we are nearly in the middle of the hottest month of the year.

This is a fine way to begin—about the weather. Our friend, "Jingle," who used to amuse us sometime in the far-off ages, would commence something like this: "Ho, ho, ho! He, he, he! and likewise Ha, ha, ha." But then he was a little inclined to frivolity, and also had a leaning to violent revolutionary sentiments and opinions. But all the while we enjoyed his electric sparkle and his incisiveness. But the distinguishing characteristic of our old friend "Free Lance" and also of your humble servant is seriousness. We never attempt to deal with anything but subjects of the most profound gravity, as you know. But—comparisons are odorous.

Some of you will have your risibility aroused at the following lines, which are taken from a recent number of *The Bath Journal* :—

"CLAVERTON.—At the church of St. Mary the Virgin, Claverton, in celebration of Queen Victoria attaining her eightieth birthday, a peal of 5,040 changes was rung in 2 hrs. 43 min. by the following ringers:—J. Taylor, treble (conductor); F. Watts, 2nd; J. Mulcock, 3; J. Mulcock, jun., tenor. This is the first time, in this belfry, that such an attempt has been made, and the peal was carried through successfully, therefore standing as a record for this tower."

This is not amiss, considering that the place "Claverton" is only about three miles from the city of Bath. The persons whose names are given evidently have not beard of this paper else we should have among the records: "A peal of singles, 5040 changes; being two hundred and ten 24s, each called differently." All of us would regard this a splendid performance—that is, if it was ever done.

High jinks at Waltham Abbey lately—silver weddings and what-not! How about the proposed cathedral for Essex, and the talked-of ring of twelve bells. Ah! about it! We shall know all about it directly, perhaps, and the reasons for the delay.

There is a fine old pother about the Kidlington job. What's the use of banging away at each other like this? Cannot a Royal Commission be asked for to decide the question? or some distinguished personage, President Kruger, or Mark Twain, say? It is getting a second Dreyfus case. We are told that the bells "fired," I think for so many thousands, or so many courses, or so many changes, or so many something else. If during this performance the bells "fired"—actually and really "fired," mind you, only once=no peal, I say. But the word "fired" must be taken figuratively, I expect. And, if so, it is a pity that it was ever used in the controversy. Londoners are very fond of speaking figuratively. They say a *lump* of news; a *piece* of salt, and so forth. And when they use the word in question they don't mean strictly what they say, always.

The epistolary contest on this Kidlington peal is getting rough. If it was a good accurate performance, without a flaw or anything, the correspondence is enough to cast a doubt on it for ever. Something—not much—has been made of Pye's behaviour at Kidlington. Now, he was one there by himself and had to stand to his guns. Under the circumstances he can't be blamed at all if he did get a little excited. But this is nothing to the point. Is the peal to be booked or not? I shall

be invited to act as arbitrator in the matter very likely. In short, I have my award ready now, and it will please both parties very much, when it appears in print.

Here is another paragraph which a friend tells me is taken from the *Bilston Herald* :—

"MEMORIAL BELL-RINGING AT BRADLEY.—On Saturday last a half-muffled peal was rung on the bells of the parish church, Bradley, as a token of respect to the memory of the late Mr. Edward Pugh, who died May 2nd, 1882. The ringers were as follows:—Messrs. B. Reeves, treble; William Fletcher, 2nd; William Bayliss, 3rd; Walter Waller, 4th; Job Greensill, 5th; and John Dicken, tenor. Under the able conductorship of Mr. Reeves a grand peal was rung. The weight of the tenor bell is 24 cwt."

To this my correspondent adds: "The grand peal was completed in one hour, and included the breaking of a rope, the knocking of a bell over, and sundry other stoppages. The bells have the hardest 'go' of any in the district. The ABLE conductor has been a ringer for nearly twenty years, but neither he or either of the others know what a 120 means, the usual 'stony' being rung." Did the "able" conductor of this affair have the bell turned back again after it was thrown? Certes, this company deserves a medal made of some flexible compound.

Still they come! Another friend writes:—"There are evidently people who are interested in bell-ringing, but at the same time are not aware that the Exercise can 'sport' a paper of its own, as the accompanying 'par.' will show. It appeared in the *Leeds Mercury* supplement the other week, and if any of my readers would answer the questions through 'THE BELL NEWS,' I will undertake to supply the paper, from which it emanates, with the reply. No doubt it would be interesting to the readers of our paper as well as the person asking the question. The method—Oxford Single Bob I suppose means Oxford Bob Triples, if not I stand corrected. Nonpareil Bob! Well I have seen the name somewhere, but cannot for the life of me remember where or in what connection either. Would it be of any use or interest to the Exercise at large if a treble lead and bob-change could be published?" And here is the par referred to:—

"OLD YORKSHIRE CHANGE RINGING.—I find from an old record that on Sunday evening, December 31st, 1769, a new peal of triples, called Oxford Single Bob, consisting of 5,040 changes, was rung at Wakefield Church in 2 hrs. 46 min., to end the old year. To welcome in the new year (1770) another new peal of triples, called Nonpareil Bob, consisting of the same number of changes, was rung in 2 hrs. 45½ min. Both peals were composed by a Wakefield youth. Can any one say (1) who this youth was; and (2) whether these peals are ever rung now-a-days?—L.M."

If I am right there has been more than once an editorial caution about Oxford Single Bob. If by these words is meant Oxford Bob pure and simple, why will those people still maniacally use such a description? There is too much leniency shown to some of those vain persons who send their reports. They want their own ridiculous phraseology to appear, and I must really say, with all respect, that they are too often allowed to have their own way. If my representations can prevail, Oxford Single Bob will never again appear in print in this paper. Fancy a record of Holt's Original, and calling it "Grandsire Single Triples." It would look rather rum, wouldn't it? But not more so than Oxford Single Bob. The matter is irritating to refer to because of its stupidity. The next man who sends a foolish record of the sort, if I get to know of it, I'll fine him five pounds or forty days' detention on the 7th at Kidlington. Ring the ting-tang.

PLAIN SPEAKER.

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Notices.

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

North Notts. Association.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Everton to-day, Saturday, July 15th. Tea 1s. per bead at 5 p.m.
B. DARLEY, *Hon. Sec.*

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—The Annual Festival will be held at High Wycombe, on Monday, July 17th. Service at 11.30. Business meeting in Town Hall 12.30. Dinner in central hall 1.30.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the parish church, Rochdale, on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells will be ready at 3 p.m., and the meeting will be held in the vicarage library at 6.30 p.m. sharp. Business of meeting—election of branch secretary and committee-man for the above branch, the present one retiring.
E. B. SHAW, *Branch Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Halewood on Saturday, July 22nd. The tower will be open for ringing all the afternoon, and the meeting will be held at 6 o'clock.
G. WOODHALL, *Branch Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—A meeting will be held at Bury on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Tea will be provided at 5.30 for those sending names not later than July 18th to W. R. Duckworth, 6, Byron Street, Bury. Business meeting after tea. Nominations for branch secretary and one committee-man are to be made at this meeting.
J. H. BANKS, *Branch Sec.*

The Sussex County Association (Central).—Next quarterly meeting at Buxted on Saturday, July 22nd. Tower open from 4 p.m. Tea at 6 p.m. Members intending to be present will oblige by letting me know at once.
GEORGE WILLIAMS, *Hon. Sec.*

2, Grove Street, Brighton.

Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The monthly ringing meeting will be held at Headingley (St. Chad's) 8 bells, on Saturday, July 29th. Meeting house The Woodman inn. Handbells provided. Trams pass the church every few minutes. All ringers are cordially invited.
H. GAYTHORPE, *Hon. Sec.*
1, Elm Avenue, Bramley.

Halifax and District Association.—The next meeting will be held at Stainland, on Saturday, July 29th. Tower will be open at 12.30 for ringing. Business meeting at 6 p.m.
WRIGHT INGHAM, *Hon. Sec.*

Middlesex County Association.—South and West District.—The next meeting of the above will be held by the kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. T. M. Everett, at Ruislip, on Saturday, July 29. Ringing to commence at 4.30. Members and friends are cordially invited. Will members who have not paid up their subscriptions kindly do so as soon as possible?

The Ashton-under-Lyne Society.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Elizabeth's, Reddish. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 7 p.m.
J. BOOTH, *Hon. Sec.*
108, Albermarle Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

POSTPONEMENT OF MEETING.

The Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at St. Peter's church, Swinton, on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Business meeting 7 p.m.
W. BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

SKELTON-IN-CLEVELAND, YORKS.

On Saturday, June 24th, several members of the Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association visited this place, when the following touches were rung: 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. H. Blakiston, 1; J. A. Carter, 2; Rev. W. P. Wright, 3; G. W. Park, 4; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 5; T. Metcalfe, 6. A 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. W. J. Titchener, 1; J. H. Blakiston, 2; J. A. Carter, 3; G. W. Park, 4; T. Metcalfe, 5; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 6. Also 240 Kent Treble Bob. W. J. Titchener, 1; T. Metcalfe, 2; P. W. Park, 3; J. A. Carter, 4; J. H. Blakiston, 5; Rev. W. P. Wright, 6. And 216 Bob Minor, E. R. Avery of the local band ringing the treble. The bells are a melodious ring by Taylor, in D, tenor about 24 cwt., and are in fairly satisfactory going condition. It is a pity, however, the Loughborough firm had not instructions to complete the octave when they were on, and it is to be hoped this will soon be done, or even the example of our Stockton friends followed, and made into 10. The visitors tender their thanks through the medium of this paper to the Rev. J. T. Ellis for the use of the bells, also to the local ringers for having everything in readiness. J. H. B.

WELCOME TO MR. M. A. NOBLE, THE AUSTRALIAN CRICKETER.

On Wednesday evening, July 5th, a meeting of the Nottingham branch of the Midland Counties' Association was held at St. Peter's church, to welcome Mr. M. A. Noble, a member of the Australian team of cricketers now visiting this country. This was his first visit to a ringing-chamber in England. Touches of Kent Treble Bob Minor and Grandsire Triples, in which Mr. Noble took part, were rung, also some Stedman Triples. Mr. Noble is not only a first-class cricketer, but also a good exponent of the art of change-ringing. After ringing on the tower bells a very pleasant time was spent, the handbells being brought into use. Among those present to welcome Mr. Noble were Messrs. J. Hickman, H. R. Cobbin, S. Wilkins, W. Flinders, H. W. Abbott, E. Robinson, W. E. White, E. Hughes, J. Woolley, G. H. Johnson, and several others from the district.

Mr. Noble, in bidding farewell, spoke in most felicitous terms of the kindly reception he had met with.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ST. PETER'S PARISH CHURCH SOCIETY,
BRIGHTON.

On Saturday, June 24th, the members of the above had their annual outing, the places selected being Horsham, Lower Beeding, Rusper and Warnham. Leaving Brighton at 8.15 a.m., Horsham was reached in a little over an hour, where the fine old church of St. Mary's was visited, and two courses of Superlative and a touch of Stedman Triples was brought round. After partaking of a little refreshment we were soon on a most beautiful drive to West Grinstead (this tower being substituted for Lower Beeding, owing

to illness) where a touch each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung. After a few rounds by the juvenile members of the party, the bells were lowered. At the request of Miss Hugesson, daughter of the Rector, a touch of Stedman Triples was rung on the handbells. Leaving West Grinstead about 1 p.m. another drive of five miles brought us to the rural village of Nuthurst, where our worthy Master (Mr. Attree) had a sumptuous dinner all in readiness for us. This was served on the spacious lawn, under the personal superintendence of Mrs. Attree, to the greatest satisfaction of all. After this repast a few outdoor amusements were indulged in, and before leaving for Rusper a touch of Stedman Triples was rung by Messrs. Hart, Bennett, Williams and King. Another hour's beautiful drive landed us at Rusper, and the nice little ring of eight here were soon heard to the tune of London and Bristol Surprise and Stedman Triples. A splendid view was got from the top of the tower here. Then on to Warnham, where we arrived at 6.30 p.m. (half an hour late.) After an excellent tea at The Sussex Oak inn, the tower was visited, and the fine new ring of eight by Mears and Stainbank were soon swinging to New Cumberland, Bristol and Superlative Surprise, a course of each and a touch of Stedman Triples being brought round. Then the final drive to Horsham station brought another very pleasant outing to a close.

The band, one and all, wish through the medium of this paper to tender their sincere thanks to the various incumbents for the use of the bells, and to Mr. W. Charman, of Warnham, who was responsible for a great part of the arrangements, and all other ringers at the various towers who met us. W.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

SITUATION required by a married man, aged 31, without family, in a month or by the 11th of October as Gardener, singlehanded. Can manage Cucumbers, Melons, Tomatoes, etc., and the general work of a well-kept garden. Highest references. A change-ringer on six or eight bells. Apply John Gaymer Miles, Point Cottages, Attleboro, Norfolk.

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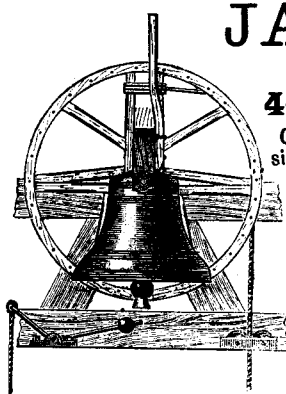
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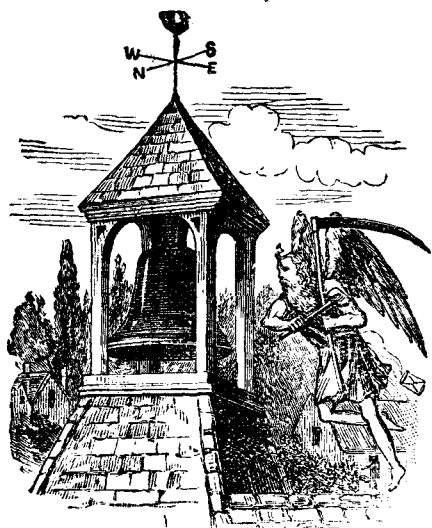
A Weekly Journal of the Ringing Exercise ; and Compendium of Information for the Clergy and Churchwardens.

No. 902. —VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, JULY 22, 1899.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

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Sydney Town Hall,	Church).
N.S.W.	Windermere Church.
Hammersmith Parish Ch.	Eiffel Tower, Paris.
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Duke of Albany Memorial,	Aylesford do.
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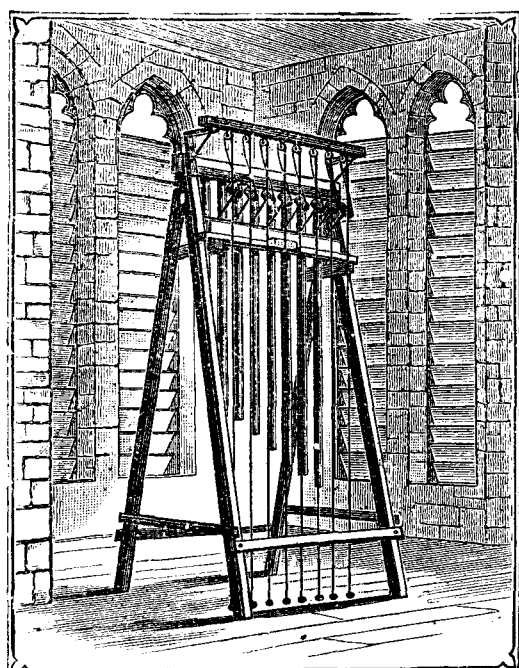
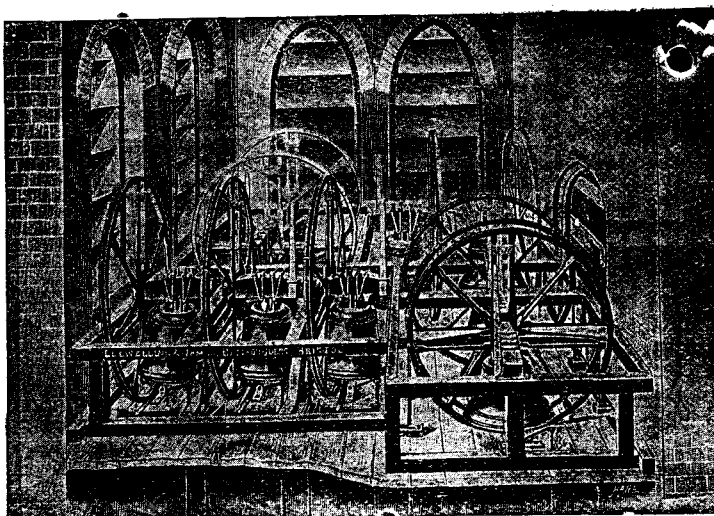
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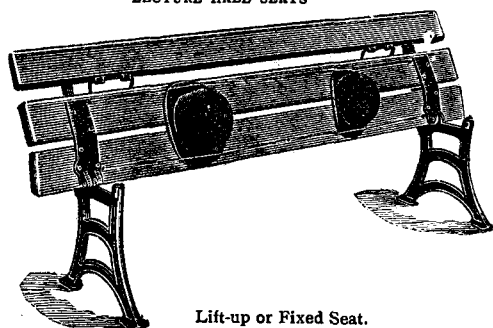
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 902.]

SATURDAY, JULY 22, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting was held at Bakewell on Saturday, July 8th, when members to the number of thirty to thirty-five attended, and were welcomed by the Rev. C. T. Abrahams and Bishop Abrahams. After ringing touches on the excellent peal of eight bells, an adjournment was made at 4.30 to the Town Hall, where a splendid tea had been provided, and to which full justice was done.

At the conclusion of the repast, a general meeting was held, Sir A. P. Heywood, Bart., in the chair, supported by the Rev. C. T. Abrahams. The Hon. Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, which were passed and signed. The Rev. C. T. Abrahams, of Bakewell, and E. T. Ann, Esq., Mayor of Derby, were unanimously elected honorary members; also four ringing members, including Rev. Arthur Beeston, Curate of New Mills.

The President in his address remarked that although the quality of the fifteen peals rung during the past quarter was not perhaps so high as they had been used to, he was very pleased to see that a peal of Grandsire Triples had been rung at Bakewell, and hoped that the Bakewell ringers would let it be an earnest of more to come. As the bells at Bakewell are very noisy he advised the bricking up of the belfry windows, and said that if this was done there and at many other places where bells are noisy and neighbourhoods populous it would do a great deal towards stemming the tide of objection to peal-ringing. He considered fifteen peals a fair record for the time of the year, and hoped they would, as usual, have more in the winter.

Mr. J. W. Taylor proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. C. T. Abrahams for the use of the bells, and for his attendance at the tea. Mr. W. Wakley seconded, and said he should like to add the names of those who had been kind enough to make the excellent arrangements for the tea and meeting.

The Rev. C. T. Abrahams in responding, said he was sure it gave him great pleasure, and he considered it a honour to have the Association there that day. He wished the numbers had been larger, and hoped they would be on the next occasion. It also gave him great pleasure to hear the ringing.

It was decided, on the proposition of Mr. J. W. Taylor, that the next quarterly meeting be held at Rugby.

The Rev. C. T. Abrahams proposed a vote of thanks to Sir A. P. Heywood, Bart., for presiding, which being seconded by Mr. W. Fox, and carried with applause, brought the meeting to a close, the members dispersing, some to the church for another pull, others for a walk to the famous Haddon Hall, or amongst the beautiful scenery for which this part of the country is noted.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting of this Association was held at The Plough, Beddington, on Saturday, July 15th. At six o'clock the members sat down to a substantial meat tea,

there being an attendance of nearly seventy, almost every tower in the district being represented. The business meeting followed, the chair being occupied by the Rev. Thomas Bentham, senior curate at Beddington. The minutes of the last quarterly meeting were read and confirmed. The Secretary reported that since the last meeting two peals had been rung—Grandsire Triples at Dorking, conducted by Mr. George Huggett, and Stedman Triples at Ashted, conducted by Mr. W. S. Smith, both being rung on Whit-Monday last. It was resolved that the peals be recorded among the performances of the Society. Mr. Thomas Gwynne (Beddington), and Mr. Amos Clark (St. John's, Croydon), were elected performing members, and the Rev. Thomas Bentham was elected an honorary member of the Association. It was decided unanimously that the next meeting be held at Reigate, where the number of bells has recently been increased to ten, and Redhill, the date to be left to the Secretary, but to be on a Saturday in October next. Dr. Carpenter moved a vote of thanks to the Rev.—Hodgson and the Rev. Lord Victor Seymour, the incumbents at Beddington and Carshalton respectively, for allowing the use of the bells during the day. This having been seconded, was carried unanimously. The business was here interrupted for the purpose of presenting to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. C. Dean, a handsome secretaire in recognition of his services as Secretary to the Association. The Secretary having replied and thanked the members, it was proposed, and carried unanimously, that a vote of thanks be passed to the Rev. T. Bentham for presiding at the meeting, to which he responded.

The bells at Carshalton and Beddington were open during the afternoon and evening, and a meeting, which showed the Association to be in a healthy condition, was brought to a close with a social at The Plough amongst the members who had not trains to catch.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the branch for the Gloucester Archdeaconry was held at Gloucester on the 8th instant for the election of officers under the new scheme recently approved by the Association, but owing to a combination of circumstances the attendance of members was limited. The arrangements were:—2 to 4 o'clock, ringing at Cathedral, St. Michael's and Crypt Churches; 4 o'clock, Service at Cathedral; 5 o'clock, tea at Ram hotel, followed by the business meeting. The items were duly gone through, and at the final meeting Mr. F. E. Ward occupied the chair. Apologies were read from the Master of the Association, Mr. F. G. May, and the Hon. Secretary, Mr. C. E. D. Boutflower, both of whom were unavoidably absent. Briefly, the Venerable Archdeacon Hayward was elected Chairman of the branch and Mr. John Austin as Secretary. The election of Committeemen was left over until the next meeting to enable the different towers to nominate their own. Twelve new members were elected for Ruar-dean, and the promise was made that at the September

meeting eleven new proposals would be made from Mitcheldean. It was informally proposed that the next District Meeting be held at Tewkesbury, by which it is hoped to revive the interest in the Association, which was so ably displayed there some few years since. The day's proceedings terminated with some excellent touches of Grandsire, Stedman and Double Norwich at the Cathedral, in which the visitors evinced much interest.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, HULL.

The new peal of ten bells cast by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, for this church, were successfully opened with much rejoicing on Friday, July 14th. The dedication service commenced at 12.30 noon, and was conducted by the Vicar, the Ven. Archdeacon Hughes-Games, assisted by the Revs. Jarvis Makepeace and J. Davies. Ringing was indulged in throughout the day until 9 p.m. The following ringers formed the band who had the first pull on the bells in peal: H. Tyler (Loughborough), 1; T. Stockdale, 2; J. Highfield, 3; G. T. Miller, 4; W. Southwick, 5; G. T. Marshall, 6; T. Neill (York), 7; C. Jackson, 8; D. W. Brown, 9; J. W. Dale, 10. The undermentioned also took part in the day's ringing, viz.: J. Taylor, jun. (Loughborough), F. Merrison, H. W. Needham (Hull), and Messrs. Fuller and Skinner, of Grimsby.

Various touches of Grandsire Caters were rung, being conducted by Messrs. Taylor, Jackson, and Needham. The weight of the tenor is 26 cwt. in D, and she is considered a very fine bell, in fact the whole peal gave great satisfaction both as to tone and the manner in which they go.

At 5.30 p.m. the ringers sat down to a substantial dinner kindly provided by C. R. Moxon, Esq., churchwarden. It should be noted that Mr. Moxon has been most active in getting the new bells put in, and the ringers of Hull and Yorkshire generally should be thankful to him for his labours.

The old peal of eight has been taken away, and an entirely new peal of ten substituted.

COLWALL, HEREFORDSHIRE.

On Monday evening, July 3rd, after the usual ringing practice, the ringers assembled in the vestry for a very pleasing event: a presentation of a handsome cruet with an address from the Colwall ringers to Mr. H. W. Allen on his forthcoming marriage to Miss Rodway, of Colwall, which took place on the following Wednesday at 2.30, the ringers all being present to witness the ceremony, which was performed by the Rector, the Rev. G. M. Custance, assisted by the curate, the Rev. T. H. Birks, and which was fully choral.

After the service the ringers ascended to the ringing-chamber (the bells already being up), when courses of Grandsire Triples were rung with intervals of firing, while the books were being signed. The bells were kept merrily going until 4.15.

The ringers then went to the clerk's cottage, and sat down to an excellent repast, provided by the bridegroom, his health and the bride's being most enthusiastically drunk.

Ringing was again commenced, and some excellent touches were brought round. At 8.50 the bells were lowered in peal. After partaking of wine and cake the ringers dispersed, having spent a most enjoyable time.

The ringers present throughout the day were the Rev. G. M. Custance, Messrs. Layton, Field, Smart, Evans, J. and C. Thomas, Smith, and Biggs, all being sorry at the unavoidable absence of T. Williams, of Eastnor, and S. J. Hope, who has lately left Colwall for Coventry.

THE MITCHAM (SURREY) SOCIETY.

After an interval of a few years the members of this society went for their annual excursion on Monday, July 10th, and certainly spent a most enjoyable day, visiting again the church towers in which they have so many times rung. They met at Mitcham to ring at 6 a.m., and then in a brake and pair started for Epsom to breakfast provided there. Then to Dorking, ringing at Ranmoore, passing Dorking and Betchworth, dining at Buckland, returning through Reigate, ringing at Kingswood, and home through Banstead and Sutton.

VISIT TO STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.

On Saturday, July 15th, the St. George's company of Stockport received a visit of four members of the All Souls' company of Bolton. After inspecting the beautiful church, they ascended the tower, and along with four of the local company rang 518 Grandsire Triples. F. Markland, 1; T. Marshall, 2; R. Vickers, 3; J. W. Bayley (conductor), 4; E. Reader, 5; W. Challoner, 6; J. Markland, 7; J. Moulding, 8.

After a course or two on the handbells (the weather being too hot for much tower bell ringing), an adjournment was made to refresh the inner man, and after a pleasant chat the company dispersed, the visitors expressing themselves pleased with their visit and the arrangements made for their reception.

THE CHELTENHAM AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday last, July 15th, 1899, twenty-eight members of the above Guild had their annual excursion, going to Chepstow. They were met at the station at Chepstow by the Vicar, and Mr. Morley, master of the Chepstow Society of Ringers, to both of whom, and to the Chepstow company the Guild wish to tender their thanks for the kindness and attention received and for permission being given to use the bells of Chepstow church; the latter a fine peal of eight by William Evans, of Chepstow.

Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung during the day, in some of which, Mr. Morley and Mr. Pickering, of Chepstow, took part.

Dinner was served at The Bath hotel, and some of the party afterwards proceeded to Tintern to visit the ruins of the Abbey, returning to Chepstow via the far-famed Wynd Clift.

Chepstow Castle (well worth a visit), was also inspected, and the visitors returned to Cheltenham in the evening, all agreeing that a most enjoyable and successful day had been spent.

THE STOWMARKET COMPANY.—On Tuesday, June 27th, this company had their annual outing. Starting at seven o'clock Coddennham was soon reached, where a capital touch of 1008 Bob Major was rung, also touches of Grandsire Triples; then to Hemlingham, where touches of Bob Major, Oxford Major, and Grandsire were rung; then to Grundsburgh and Woodbridge, where, at the last-named a capital dinner was provided. An hour's ringing was had on the bells and then the return journey was made by way of Ipswich, Stowmarket being reached about 10.30. The company thank the clergy, churchwardens, and ringers of the different parishes for the use of the bells.

CURRENT TOPICS.

The present age, or era, or decade, or epoch, or by whatever title it is known, is one of encyclopædias and dictionaries. The daily papers have lately been saturated with advertisements concerning colossal publications of this sort. The other day I came across a review of a "Dictionary of National Biography," and very interesting the writer had made it. It appeared the work had got as far as the letter "W," and the surnames of several notable persons commencing with that letter were mentioned. "Here's an opportunity" thought I. Could not one make a communication to the editor to the effect that this "National Biography" would be most woefully deficient unless it biographized some (at least) of the "cleveralities" among ringers? Let us recollect well-known names among us beginning with "W": Williams, Wood, Washbrook, Witchell, and hundreds more, I dare say. There are four ladies also who have rung peals—whose names all begin with the same letter. Do not these deserve the honor of a place in a National Biography? They do indeed.

When shall we hear the last of the Kidlington performance? It is to be almost regretted that any but the parties concerned put their "spoke" in. A. Pye, brother of W. Pye, made a terrible hash. No originality in his letter: he copied the style of another writer, which is very bad form. Such people are called "plagiarists," I think. The letter from W. H. Barber I can't understand at all. But don't try again, friend Barber, for goodness' sake. Take this hint: It is not considered safe to edit letters written under such circumstances as those surrounding the Kidlington peal.

What is this discussion about "Bob Leads?" I have no doubt the subject is a profound one, and so was the clever book published by a Cambridge gentleman some years ago, but I can't comprehend the least particle of it. And to this Bob-Lead question I say "You're another." I will therefore leave it to my learned friends to make the best of it in their own way, though it strikes me that the introduction of the subject was unnecessary.

At last I see they have a ring of eight bells in the town of Ipswich. Well they wanted it. I don't know the town itself, but every one is aware that until this increase at St. Margaret's Church, Ipswich had one ring of twelve, one of six, and about a hundred—more or less—rings of five. And this in the town of two great men—Wolsey and another. The other was named Weller, a gentleman very apt at quotation, and though filling a somewhat subordinate position, was a prominent character among a few of the members of a distinguished antiquarian body. —*Verb. sap.*

That renowned veteran—the Master of the Oxford Guild—shows no sign of giving up peal-ringing. He has just been starring in Northamptonshire, and made a fairly good show. There is a rumour—not exactly a rumour perhaps, but a bird whisper—that a 17,000 of Caters is to be attempted in Ireland, and the worthy Master is to call it. This may be a *canard*. So might the saying to the effect that the rev. gentleman will sometime or other leave his present parish, and retire to Kidlington, where he is to invite all those who have had a say about the Kidlington job to go for a 40,000, just to settle record peals for ever.

Perhaps Messrs. Webb and Bennett will, ere this happens, receive instructions to put the tower straight, saw a piece off the top, and wedge the buttresses to prevent any swaying.

A correspondent writes to me thus:—"Mr. Plain Speaker. —Sir,—The last word of the second section of 'Current Topics' last week was wrong. It should have been 'odious,' not 'odorous.' Please make the correction this week, and oblige," etc. This is very kind of the writer, very. It shows he reads the "topics" carefully. Perhaps for his own good he can get the following quotation translated: *Ne sutor ultra crepidam*.

A pretty little presentation affair at Ross the other day—an address and gifts to the leader of the company for his exertions. I should like to hear of a good company in such an historical place as Ross, and it is to be hoped the members will push on and do something worth talking about, if it is only a "record" peal. It is a pleasant thing to read that the good folk at Ross feel a great pleasure in hearing the bells. The lines of the Ross company are laid in pleasant places evidently, and the members should use every effort, as no doubt they will, to keep on the right side of the clergy and wardens, and the inhabitants also. The Rector of Ross is a member of an ancient and honorable family belonging to an adjoining county, a gentleman with whom all may get on well.

It has fallen to the lot of the Nottingham company to welcome Mr. A. Noble, one of the Australian team of cricketers, now in England, to their tower the other evening. Mr. Noble is a half-pull ringer, I am pleased to find. He took part in some Treble Bob and Grandsire Triples. Our friends in Australia will be glad to read of this, particularly Brother Shenton, of Melbourne, Australia, who, in a recent number of this paper, suggested to his English brethren the idea of looking up Mr. Noble.

In connection with this visit of Mr. Noble to St. Peter's, Nottingham, an enthusiastic member of the Exercise, a Yorkshireman, writes: "I am glad to notice that Mr. A. Noble, of the Australian Cricketing Team, has been welcomed to the belfry of St. Peter's Church, Nottingham. The letter from Mr. Shenton calling attention of ringers to the fact of Mr. Noble being a devotee of the art of change-ringing, appeared in your issue of the 24th ult., and as the team were due to play at Headingley, in Yorkshire, on the 29th and 30th June, and 1st July, a letter was written by Mr. Harry Williams inviting Mr. Noble to the tower of St. Michael's Church on Friday evening. To the regret, however, of the company, Mr. Noble replied, thanking them for their kind invitation, but a previous engagement prevented his acceptance."

Perhaps Mr. Noble would like to take a peal back with him to the Antipodes. Quite a novelty such would be if he could ring it at Kidlington. PLAIN SPEAKER.

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.

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."

BOB LEADS.

SIR,—Let me thank Mr. Drake for his letter in your last issue. I am very glad that the ground between us is cleared. So far as my original question was concerned, I meant a lead to be understood in its conventional signification of (taking Grandsire Triples as an instance) fourteen rows ending with each back-stroke lead of the treble. But to have actually drawn a line would have been an approach to a suggestion of the answer.

In reply to Mr. Drake's second paragraph, I would ask him how, if there is no confusion nor lack of science in the terms now generally used, it comes to pass that to my original query some gave answer Q and some R? The concluding sentence of this paragraph appears to me to be entirely fallacious. A good servant is one who does what he is wanted to do. If a word refuses to express, *without possibility of mistake*, the meaning that I wish it to convey, I dismiss it as a bad servant, and he who suffers it to remain is the one who bows to its tyranny. In view of his second paragraph, Mr. Drake's last paragraph but one is really too funny. "I would suggest that when we wish to make it clear," etc. I hope after this he will not teach us any more about the tyranny of language. And to crown it all, after blowing me up for inventing new terms, he invents one himself! and actually makes a lead exist for a bob, instead of a bob for a lead. I am as far as possible from wishing to pick needless holes, but I must say that the third and two following paragraphs of his letter seem to me to exhibit a condition of terrible muddle. What is "the work of the method" if it is not the path of a bell throughout? And what does he mean when saying that a line is drawn for the "sake of the method and not for the sake of the bob?" I always thought that a bob was a part of the method. "Something might be said on theoretic grounds for drawing the line between the leads of the treble," etc. I hope that Mr. Drake will tell us some of these grounds. He says that it is indefensible "to divide the blocks at the point at which the bob begins to act, so that the call is in one block and the bob in another." As far as I understand a bob, it is instantaneous, and therefore cannot be said to "begin" to act, for when it has begun it has done. Mr. Drake should know as well as I do that whenever the leads may be divided in treble-dominated methods, these methods will always be rung exactly as they are now, and that he is setting up a purely fictitious bogey when he says that there will be changes left over at the ends. In fine, I demand of Mr. Drake to show me at what other point in the lead the alternative of a plain lead or a bob gives him the opportunity of varying a single figure except at this point—

2164537	2164537
1246357	1265473

Until he can do so, I hold myself justified in maintaining that there, and there only, is the real passage from one lead to another, and until Mr. Drake does this he must excuse me from any further discussion of the matter.

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

SIR,—For more than thirty years I have never found the slightest difficulty in understanding the meaning of the terms "lead," "lead-end," and "bob-lead," and it seems to me that the present discussion has been raised somewhat unnecessarily. In Grandsire, a "lead" is the series of changes (or "block of rows," as my friend Mr. Davies would call them), from the time the treble leaves the lead until it has been up and down and led again; the back-stroke lead of the treble being the last of the series, is of course the "lead-end," or the end of the lead.

The term "bob-lead" is merely an abbreviation for "bob-lead-end," i.e. a lead-end produced by a bob. There is no such thing really as a bob-lead, a lead being (in Triples) 14 changes, and if the Committee attempt to define the term bob-lead, it seems to me they must fail. But let it be under-

stood that the terms "plain-lead," or "bob-lead," are used colloquially for a plain lead-end or a bob lead-end, then no difficulty arises at all. When we write out touches of Grandsire, we do so by lead-ends, i.e. the back-stroke leads of the treble; some of them are produced by the plain work of the method, some by bobs, or singles, these are what we refer to when we speak of "bob-leads," or "plain leads," but to call a whole string of 14 changes a "bob-lead" is really absurd. If the change when the treble is in 2nd's place coming down is to be called the "lead-end," all touches must be written out by the corresponding changes; thus the plain course will look like this:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
5	1	7	2	6	3	4
7	1	6	2	4	5	3
6	1	4	2	3	7	5
4	1	3	2	5	6	7
3	1	5	2	7	4	6

and I do not think it will make matters much better!

These terms are almost solely used by conductors and composers; the great body of practical ringers probably care for none of these things. But I hold firmly to the opinion that the old plan is the best.

J. E. ACLAND-TROYTE.

SIR,—I cannot agree with Mr. Davies's contention that if the term bob-lead means anything, then either R or Q is a bob-lead. I rather think that that person was right whose postcard declared that neither R nor Q is a bob-lead. What any ordinary person means when he uses the term is not fourteen or sixteen changes, but the actual changes at which the treble leads, and as it is a term confined solely to composition and conducting, it gets further limited to the backstroke at the treble's full lead, which is produced by a bob. I never heard anybody talk about a band ringing a bob-lead well or otherwise, and if such did happen I don't think the right expression would be used. The various learned gentlemen who have taken part in the discussion seem to take it for granted that there must be some connection between a bob-lead and a treble's lead, but in my humble opinion they are two distinct terms, one created to supply a want in practical ringing, the other in theoretic, and it must not be taken that bob-leads and plain-leads are two classes of treble leads. One can easily perceive that as in composition the changes with the treble away from the front are practically non-existent, those persons who first used the terms bob-lead, plain-lead, did not bother to consider whether the preceding or succeeding fourteen or sixteen changes belonged to their bob-lead, and neither do we now. As a matter of fact P does equally as much as R, and consequently if P is a bob-lead so is R, "which is absurd," as Euclid would say. Though the term is not an ideal one, if no attempt is made to stretch it beyond what it originally meant and still does mean, for the sake of a neatly-turned definition, it is a very fair working name, but if we are going to have "bob (treble's) lead," why not "bob courses?" one would be equally as logical as the other—equally as logical and equally as absurd.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

THE KIDLINGTON PEAL.

SIR,—I am sorry to be again obliged to write, but Mr. Pye makes a statement regarding a remark made by me in the presence of some ringers. I dare say he will be surprised if I tell him that I never saw his composition, or rather that which he called at Erith till the week before last. I did not know it was published till a friend told me and brought it to me; however it is rather a good thing that this should have been mentioned, as it helps one to know who may be one's friends or otherwise. I remember mentioning to a gentleman whom I asked to take part in the peal that I should probably extend my 13,440. This I believe was said in the presence of some others who were down from London, but this I did not do, but produced an original composition containing features of which one may be justly proud. I think Mr. Pye may venture to send his peal—or rather that which he may have tried to make people believe he took off—to the Editor of this paper, so that he may compare the two things, then we can do some good by asking the other two gentlemen who were present to tell us which were rung. I

might also mention that Mr. Robinson dealt with the matter at the annual meeting, when Mr. Hounslow gave his word for the correct ringing of the peal, the Master adding that he was sorry that such an ungallant attempt should have been made to upset such a magnificent performance.

J. W. WASHBROOK.

SIR,—All I could mutter when I had got through my old friend's—Mr. Willson's—summing up was "A Daniel come to judgment," "A Daniel come to judgment." I for one was simply surprised and disgusted that he had taken such a course. I was surprised—knowing the views that he holds on matters not concerning ringing—that he had acted in such a hot-headed way. And disgusted, because to my mind his letter cast as much doubt on the peal as did Mr. Pye's accusation. If the peal was rung good and true, then he would simply put it on the shelf labelled "Don't touch; a doubtful performance." If rung as Mr. Pye states, then I can quite understand that he is simply trying to get his friend off by hushing up the matter. Now friend William, in a fight for truth, this won't do. I think it would be more honourable to take in your own sign-board and fall into line with the majority who want to see right done. "Peal," or "no peal," must be the verdict, not by one man, but by the majority of ringers. If the truth is not arrived at before the next meeting of the Central Council, then it will be their duty to take the matter up, and give their decision, which should be final. Time has not come for condemnation. Why all we have had of the case up to the present is the accusation and the plea of "not guilty." Surely a Solomon could not give his verdict yet. What has Mr. Hounslow to say on the matter? silence is not golden in his case. Is Mr. Pye to be condemned because he won't show his hand before the game starts? He might have in his mind's eye a certain Stedman Caters record, who knows? And who can blame Mr. Washbrook for holding back his figures? He is only defending what he says is right. Thus we come to a dead-lock; the only way out of which I can see is that both figures and notes on the same should be published simultaneously, if it could be so arranged in our next issue. Truth is what we want; let it be fought with truth.

G. LINDOFF.

SIR,—Having had my say, I should not have written again had not W. Pye attempted to bluster me into silence, but his abuse runs like water off a duck's back. I have always thought (and I have yet to learn otherwise) that the correspondence column of a public print was never intended for the sole use of one or two persons! W. Pye says I had no business to interfere, etc., but his statement looks very foolish in print, for alongside of his letter are two others also "interfering," but on Pye's side. Mr. A. Pye adopts my style of argument from another standpoint, which he or anyone else has a perfect right to do, but let us see when W. Pye writes again how he blusters the other writers for "interference." He concludes his tirade by saying something about my "striking." This I can afford to laugh at, but one thing I will say and without egotism, I have rung from Plain Bob to London Surprise in the company of better men than he, and Pye will need some pudding before showing me anything in that line. The Southgate peal, and whether I have rung in London or Timbuctoo, has nothing to do with the case. He wants to know what right I have to say anything, I will tell him:

(1). June 10th. Pye said, "The 5th lead was forced up instead of 3rd," two leads cut out (32 changes), also four courses short of the 6th her extant home at the end of the peal (448 changes). "He brought the bells round at 16576 changes (?)."

Now 480 from 17,024 does not leave 16,576. W. Pye here shows what marvellous "value he is to the Exercise." I would suggest he gets a schoolboy to work this sum for him and meanwhile put ice on his head.

(2). July 1st. "These men (Smith and Hounslow) did nothing but complain all the afternoon." Now, sir, you will see by the enclosed postcard, sent just after the peal from Oxford (note the postmark), that "Bill Smith says it was a very good peal."

(3). July 1st. Pye said, "The peal he will publish he has yet to compose." Yet at the time this dastardly libel was

penned, the composition was in the hands of the Editor of "BELL NEWS" (proved July 8th).

These are the reasons why I interfered. I believe, with the majority of ringers, that if the peal was a wrong one it ought not to stand, and I have no interest whichever man comes out on top, nor should I even if the peal was found false when published, but I am one of that Exercise Pye appeals to, just as much as he, and we want the evidence straight and honest, and while I have a voice and pen I shall use them against either party if occasion demands.

WILLIAM WILLSON.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY BELFRY.

SIR,—I think there have been some rather severe remarks made recently in "BELL NEWS" about the state of the belfry in Westminster Abbey. I hear on very good authority that two years ago it was repaired and thoroughly cleaned and put in order. Perhaps your correspondent was not aware of this fact; and if I am right and he is wrong, he will no doubt be glad of the opportunity to make a graceful acknowledgement of his error.

COLLEGE YOUTH.

THE ST. MARY'S, SOCIETY, WOOLWICH.

On Tuesday, June 20th, the ringers of the above met specially for the purpose of unveiling the new peal-boards. The Rector, the Rev. C. E. Escreet, was unavoidably absent, and asked the Rev. A. Eglington to attend. The proceedings commenced with the usual Service before ringing, after which Mr. W. J. Aldridge, Master, was requested to remove the covering from a handsome board recording a peal of Stedman Triples, Thurstans' four-part, rung on December 5th, 1898, and conducted by Mr. I. G. Shade, the lettering of which is in gold on a dark ground. Mr. E. O. Masters, hon. sec., was then asked to unveil the other board, which is of ornamental design, and records a peal of Grandsire Triples, Holt's ten-part, rung on April 3rd, 1899, by eight local members of the K.C.A., and conducted by Mr. W. J. Aldridge, the lettering of which is black on a light ground, interspersed with red and gold, and matches the marble tablet opposite, erected some five years ago at the time the bells were re-hung.

The rev. gentleman said it was a pleasure to be present on such an occasion, seeing that these additional records of good work done added fresh beauty to the ringing chamber. Looking round, he said the records then in view of the various peals rung in the tower reminded him of history. No one took much notice of what occurred at the time, but when it was chronicled, and was read, the events then became fastened upon the mind. So with the records of peals which had been rung, they would be an incentive to others, who would say, "Look what these men did." He concluded by applying the lesson individually, for the life being led by each had a history of its own, the whole records of which were being written down as they occurred. A few touches were then rung as a fitting tribute to the occasion.

NOTE TO PEAL.

THE PEAL AT IPSWICH.—This is the first peal upon the recently-augmented ring of eight bells, and was rung in honour of Mr. Alfred Howell's twenty-fifth birthday, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns. It was he who fixed in the tower a new oak frame, and re-hung the bells in a satisfactory manner. Great credit is also due to his father, Mr. Henry Howell, who rang the 6th bell in the peal, and who is in the seventieth year of his age; also to Robert Hawes, who rang the 5th, and is in his sixty-sixth year of his age. The ringers wish kindly to thank the Rev. A. L. B. Liillingstow, Vicar of St. Margaret, for granting permission to ring.

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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, JULY 22, 1899.

WE are reluctantly compelled to again allude to the great topic of the day; we say "great" advisedly. During the past three weeks the circulation of this paper has considerably increased, and we have means of knowing that the Kidlington matter is the cause. It has been delicately hinted in a certain—perhaps not very influential—quarter that this paper has not been impartial in dealing with this subject. In answer to this we challenge any one, whether concerned in this peal or not, to prove to any intelligent mind that we are guilty in the slightest degree of partisanship in this or in anything else. What has been our action? Every communication we have received which went to second the statements of Mr. PYE has been inserted in this paper. We have now before us five letters from gentlemen taking the opposite view, which we have not inserted. Why? Because we consider their publication unnecessary. But it is not these who breathe the least hint that we have been unfair in this discussion.

We have (unasked) the figures of the peal from Mr. WASHBROOK. If it is thought that such action will help towards a decision of this question, we will have these

figures put into type. If Mr. PYE will then favour us with a call, and in the presence of any witness hand to us those course-ends or any other figures he pleases for publication, we will hand to him the same moment printed copies of WASHBROOK'S peal to take away, or do what he likes with, and then in the following number publish both sets of figures side by side; or if there is any other mode within our power of helping towards a settlement, we shall not hesitate to adopt it.

The Provinces.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

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

On Wednesday, July 12, 1899, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15½ cwt.

WILLIAM MOTTS Treble.	ROBERT HAWES.. .. 5.
WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE.. 2.	HENRY BOWELL 6.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER .. 3.	ROBERT H. BRUNDLE .. 7.
JAMES MOTTS 4.	ALFRED BOWELL Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

Reference to this peal will be found on another page.

HANDSWORTH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Thursday, July 13, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; BROOK'S VARIATION.

THOMAS REYNOLDS Treble.	SAMUEL REEVES 5.
THOMAS HORTON 2.	WILLIAM KENT 6.
WILLIAM SHORT 3.	WILLIAM VERRY 7.
WILLIAM R. SMALL 4.	WILLIAM PAINTER Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

The tower-keeper, Mr. W. Verry, is in his 72nd year, and this is his first peal in the above method.

OLD WARDEN, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 15, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Tenor 11 cwt.

JOSEPH CHURCH.. .. Treble.	JAMES A. SMITH 4.
FRANK WEBB 2.	ALBERT ROBINSON 5.
CHARLES WM. CLARKE .. 3.	CHARLES CHASTY Tenor.

Conducted by C. W. CLARKE.

First peal of Minor away from the treble by F. Webb.

GRAPPENHALL, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 15, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

JAS. MAINWARING Treble.	SAMUEL HORSFALL 5.
HY. THOS. MOSTON 2.	ROBERT GEORGE LEWIS.. 6.
THOMAS BURROWS 3.	JOS. HUGHES 7.
GEORGE R. NEWTON 4.	FREDK. THOS. SPENCE .. Tenor.

Composed by J. BARKER, and Conducted by FRED. T. SPENCE.

This is the first peal of Treble Bob on the bells and first in the method by all the band.

ERITH, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, July 16, 1899, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; THURSTANS' ONE-PART. Tenor 18 cwt.

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

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

The above was rung for Divine Service in the evening.

Date Touches.

THE NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

ORDSALL (Notts).—On Tuesday, June 6th, at the church of All Hallows, a date touch in 1 hr. 2 mins., being 459 Bob Minor, 720 College Single, and 720 Canterbury Pleasure. J. Merrills, 1; G. R. Winter, 2; J. Gilbert, 3; H. Lambert (conductor), 4; H. Blagg, 5; J. White, 6.

Miscellaneous.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

NORTHAMPTON.—On Monday, June 19th, at the church of St. Giles, 1259 Grandsire Caters in 50 mins. E. Wilford, 1; A. Arnold, 2; H. Rainbow, 3; E. Huxley, 4; A. Moore, 5; W. Farey, 6; H. Blundell, 7; W. Roberts, 8; A. Stewart (conductor), 9; E. James, 10. On Thursday, June 22nd, 518 Grandsire Triples J. Freeman, 1; H. Hensman, 2; A. Arnold, 3; W. Farey, 4; F. Wilford, 5; A. Moore, 6; A. Stewart, 7; E. James, 8. And 360 Bob Minor. A. Stewart, 1; T. Harris, 2; H. Key, 3; F. Wilford, 4; H. Rainbow, 5; E. Huxley, 6.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On May 27th, 720 Double Court (eighteen bobs and two singles). H. Gladwell, 1; J. Fayers, 2; A. Hollox, 3; R. Wilding, 4; H. Horrex, 5; W. Kinsey (conductor), 6. Also 720 Woodbine. T. Levitt, 1; H. Gladwell, 2; A. Hollox, 3; R. Wilding, 4; H. Horrex, 5; W. Hollox (conductor), 6.

DRINKSTONE (Suffolk).—On Sunday, May 28th, 720 New London Pleasure. E. Kinsey, 1; A. Symonds, 2; H. Gladwell, 3; H. Horrex, 4; R. Wilding, 5; W. Kinsey (conductor), 6. Also 720 Double Court. E. Kinsey, 1; H. Gladwell, 2; W. Kinsey, 3; R. Wilding, 4; H. Horrex, 5; A. Symonds (conductor), 6.

FELSHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday, May 28th, 720 Kent Treble Bob in 27 mins. J. Horrex, 1; H. Gladwell, 2; A. Symonds, 3; H. Horrex, 4; R. Wilding, 5; W. Kinsey (conductor), 6.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

WINCHESTER.—On Wednesday, June 7th, for practice, 504 Grand-sire Triples on the back eight. W. S. Lampard, 1; W. C. Lampard, 2; J. W. Elkins, 3; W. J. Sevier, 4; W. T. Tucker, 5; E. G. Lampard, 6; W. H. George (conductor), 7; W. H. Loveland, 8. Also another 504. W. H. Loveland, 1; J. W. Elkins, 2; W. T. Tucker, 3; E. G. Lampard, 4; C. Russell, 5; W. C. Lampard, 6; W. H. George (conductor), 7; W. J. Sevier, 8.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LITTLE MUNDEN.—On Saturday, June 3rd, 360 each of Canterbury Pleasure, Oxford Bob and College Single. A. Wright, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. F. Harvey, 3; G. Barker, 4; A. Phillips, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. On Saturday, June 10th, two 720s of Canterbury and one of Oxford Bob, standing as before. This was rung as an attempt for a farewell peal to W. H. Lawrence, who is leaving the village for Streatham Hill, but was lost in the last part of a 720 of College Single through a change-course.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PULHAM (Norfolk).—On Sunday evening, June 11th, for Divine

Service, 1024 Oxford Treble Bob Major. J. Tann (conductor), 1; H. Matthews, 2; J. Boughton, 3; C. Baker, 4; F. Surridge, 5; H. Adcock, 6; C. Tann, 7; F. Borrett, 8.

STOWMARKET.—On Sunday, June 4th, for evening service, 768 Oxford Treble Bob Major. W. G. Melbourne, 1; C. Souter, 2; C. Alderton, 3; W. Stiff, 4; W. Souter (conductor), 5; W. Simons, 6; J. G. Wade, 7; W. P. Rowse, 8. On Wednesday, June 7th, with the bells deeply muffled, 336 Bob Major. W. Welham, 1; W. G. Melbourne, 2; C. Alderton, 3; C. Souter, 4; E. Diaper, 5; W. Souter (conductor), 6; J. G. Wade, 7; W. P. Rouse, 8. Also several touches of Grandsire Triples, standing as before. Rung as a tribute to the late Mr. S. A. Turner, who was buried on that date. He was a great friend to this company of ringers, and was respected by all who knew him. On Sunday morning, June 11th, 1008 Bob Major was rung with the bells half-muffled, on the occasion of the funeral sermon being preached by the Rev. Macdonald Munro. W. Welham, 1; C. Souter, 2; C. Alderton, 3; W. G. Melbourne, 4; W. Souter (conductor), 5; W. Simons, 6; J. G. Wade, 7; W. P. Rouse, 8. For evening service 1264 Bob Major. W. Welham, 1; C. Souter, 2; C. Alderton, 3; *W. G. Melbourne, 4; W. Souter (conductor), 5; W. Simons, 6; J. G. Wade, 7; W. P. Rouse, 8. *Longest length. Composed by E. Bennett, of Croydon. Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

LONGTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, June 25th, at St. John's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins. G. Ray, 1; C. Harp, 2; W. Wade, 3; P. Brookfield, 4; H. Pimlott, 5; J. Rayson, 6; G. Woods (conductor), 7; F. Boden, 8. Composed by the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS." This is the first quarter-peal by all except the conductor, and the first by a local band.

FENTON (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, July 1st, at the parish church, on the occasion of the annual meeting, 518 Grandsire Triples. W. H. Harratt, 1; W. Harrison, 2; W. Wheelodon, 3; P. Brookfield, 4; C. Harp, 5; R. T. Holding (conductor), 6; W. Twigg, 7; H. Page, 8. On Sunday, July 2nd, it being the occasion of the annual school sermons, the Longton St. John's ringers rang several touches of Grandsire Triples for morning and evening service. The newly-formed Fenton band rung in the afternoon. This is their first attempt without outside help.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

WIRKSWORTH.—On Sunday evening, 720 Bob Minor on the back six. F. Turner, 1; H. Ogden, 2; J. Wardman, 3; H. Gell, 4; F. Johnson, 5; W. Fox (conductor), 6.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—On Sunday, May 28th, 648 Stedman Caters. E. Nichols, 1; G. Burrows, 2; J. Jaggar, 3; S. Purser, 4; R. Pickering, 5; W. G. Hall, 6; E. S. Hodges, 7; H. Knight, 8; J. E. Groves (conductor), 9; E. Graham, 10. Rung as a birthday compliment to E. Graham. On Sunday evening, June 4th, for Divine Service, 1056 Stedman Caters. J. Jaggar, 1; H. Knight, 2; H. J. Balcombe, 4; B. Dalton, 4; R. Pickering, 5; W. G. Hall, 6; E. S. Hodges, 7; R. Cartwright, 8; J. E. Groves (conductor), 9; G. Burrows, 10. On Sunday morning, June 11th, for Divine Service, 1299 changes in 48 mins. J. Jaggar, 1; W. R. Small, 2; H. J. Balcombe, 3; J. Purser, 4; R. Pickering, 5; W. G. Hall, 6; E. S. Hodges, 7; H. Knight, 8; J. E. Groves (conductor), 9; F. Jones, 10.

TETTENHALL (Staffordshire).—On Sunday morning, June 4th, for Divine Service, 720 Grandsire Minor in 23 mins. E. Genna, 1; B. Dalton, 2; W. G. Hall, 3; J. H. Rowe, 4; H. Knight, 5; J. E. Groves (conductor), 6.

BLOXWICH (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, April 9th, 518 Grandsire Triples. J. Birch, 1; J. Barton, 2; A. Painter, 3; J. C. Adams (conductor), 4; W. Barton, 5; F. Edwards, 6; J. Elton, 7; R. W. Frost, 8. On Saturday, May 21st, 630 Grandsire Triples. J. Birch, 1; W. Barton, 2; J. Barton, 3; A. Painter, 4; J. C. Adams (conductor), 5; F. Edwards, 6; J. Elton, 7; R. W. Frost, 8. Recently for practice, 630 Grandsire Triples. E. J. Stafford, 1; J. Barton, 2; A. Painter, 3; W. Barton, 4; J. Birch, 5; J. C. Adams (conductor), 6; F. Edwards, 7; J. Elton, 8. And 504 Grandsire Triples. E. J. Stafford, 1; E. J. Tyler, 2; A. Painter, 3; G. Newbold, 4; J. Birch, 5; J. C. Adams (conductor), 6; J. Malpas, 7; J. Elton, 8. On Wednesday, June 21st, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. R. J. Thomas, eldest son of Mr. R. Thomas, J.P., and churchwarden of the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 41 mins. J. Birch, 1; W. Barton, 2; J. Barton, 3; A. Painter, 4; F. Edwards, 5; J. C. Adams (conductor), 6; J. Elton, 7; R. W. Frost, 8. Composed by T. Collinson, of Birmingham.

RUSHALL (Staffordshire).—On Monday, May 8th, for practice, 480

Grandsire Doubles. E. Ash, 1; E. J. Stafford, 2; T. Proudman, 3; D. Chapman, 4; J. C. Adams (conductor), 5.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

LEYTONSTONE.—On May 4th, 720 each of Cambridge and Coventry Surprise. G. Hayden, 1; W. Miller (conductor), 2; T. H. Beams, 3; J. Moule, 4; J. Mardell, 5; E. Wightman, 6. On May 21st, 720 Bob Minor. J. Philpot, 1; H. Gowers, 2; H. Bottrill, 3; J. Moule, 4; W. Miller (conductor), 5; J. Mardell, 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Beech, 1; W. Miller (conductor), 2; H. Gowers, 3; W. Doran, 4; J. Mardell, 5; J. Moule, 6. On May 28th, 720 Cambridge Surprise. G. Hayden, 1; W. Miller (conductor), 2; W. Keeble, 3; J. Moule, 4; J. Mardell, 5; T. H. Beams, 6. Rang with the bells muffled in memory of the late Miss A. Cotton, whose family gave the bells; one of which bears her name.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

KENNINGTON (Kent).—On Monday, May 22nd, at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor in 24 mins. J. Law, 1; H. Denne, 2; S. Mockett, 3; H. Sone, 4; W. Weatherstone (conductor), 5; H. Castle, 6. Tenor 14½ cwt.

DEAL (Kent).—On Sunday evening, June 11th, for Divine Service at St. Leonard's church, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-two singles) in 24½ mins. S. Mockett, 1; H. Denne, 2; H. Sone, 3; G. Denne (conductor), 4; H. Castle, 5; W. Root (Halstead, Essex), 6. Tenor 9½ cwt. in G.

THE CBESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—CREWE BRANCH.

LAWTON (Cheshire).—On February 19th, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor in 25 mins. J. Hancock, 1; J. Wildblood, 2; J. Massey, 3; G. Baddeley, 4; J. Pierpoint, 5; W. Rigby (conductor), 6. On Thursday, June 8th, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. J. Hancock, 1; J. Wildblood, 2; J. Massey, 3; J. James, 4; G. Baddeley, 5; W. Rigby (conductor), 6. First 720 of Grandsire by Messrs. Hancock, Wildblood, Massey, and James. On Sunday evening, June 18th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor in 28 mins. J. Hancock, 1; W. Rigby, 2; J. Massey, 3; J. James, 4; G. Baddeley, 5; J. Wildblood (first as conductor), 6.

THE ALL SAINTS SOCIETY, FULHAM.

FULHAM.—On Sunday, June 18th, for Divine Service, 1259 Grandsire Caters in 51 mins. A. Ough, 1; J. Hinton (first quarter-peal of Caters), 2; E. H. Adams, 3; C. Charge, 4; H. Adams, 5; W. Pickworth, 6; R. Parsons, 7; W. T. Elson (composer and conductor), 8; R. Charge, 9; W. Charge (first quarter-peal), 10.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CHEPSTOW (Monmouthshire).—On Sunday morning, July 2nd, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 536 Bob Major. G. Hobson, 1; R. Hughes, 2; J. Prickett, 3; J. Smith, 4; R. Thompson (conductor), 5; J. Morley, 6; J. Clutterbuck, 7; G. Watkins, 8. Also 336 Grandsire Triples. G. Hobson, 1; G. Watkins, 2; J. Prickett, 3; R. Thompson, 4; R. Hughes, 5; J. Morley, 6; J. Clutterbuck, 7; B. Tamplin, 8. For evening service 224 Bob Major. E. Williams, 1; R. Hughes, 2; J. Prickett, 3; J. Smith, 4; R. Thompson (conductor), 5; J. Morley, 6; J. Clutterbuck, 7; C. Smith, 8. Also 672 Bob Major. E. Williams, 1; W. Freestone, 2; J. Prickett, 3; C. Smith, 4; R. Thompson (conductor), 5; J. Morley, 6; J. Clutterbuck, 7; G. Watkins, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. in E. First touch in the method by Messrs. J. Smith, Hobson, Hughes, and Williams.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—On Tuesday, June 6th, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles). R. Miller, 1; *F. Scrafton, 2; R. Scrafton, 3; J. Crawford, 4; H. Peveral, 5; W. Hunt (conductor), 6. *First 720 of Grandsire Minor. On Sunday evening, June 25th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (forty-two singles). R. Robertson, 1; F. Scrafton, 2; R. Scrafton, 3; J. Crawford, 4; J. Hopper, 5; W. Hunt (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, July 27th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. R. Miller, 1; R. Scrafton, 2; R. W. Lovie, 3; J. Crawford, 4; W. Peveral, 5; W. Hunt (conductor), 6.

SUNDERLAND.—On Sunday, June 11th, for Divine Service at Holy Trinity church, 504 Grandsire Triples. F. Naisby, 1; *R. L. Patterson, 2; R. Miller, 3; T. Ditchburn, 4; T. Naisby, 5; J. Leighton, 6; J. Naisby (conductor), 7; J. Furness, 8. *First touch of Grandsire Triples.

DARLINGTON.—On Sunday, June 4th, at St. John's church, 720 Bob Minor. F. Naisbitt, 1; W. Patton, 3; T. Crawford, 4; J. Baxter, 5; T. Clark, 6; W. H. Porter (conductor), 7; G. F. Williams, 8. Also 784 Bob Major. T. Scollick, 1; T. Crawford, 2; R. Moncaster, 3; G. F. Williams, 4; W. H. Porter, 5; T. Clark, 6; W. Patton, 7; J. Baxter (conductor), 8. On Tuesday, June 6th, 560 Bob Major. F.

Naisbitt, 1; G. Williams, 2; R. Moncaster, 3; W. Patton, 4; T. Clark, 5; W. H. Porter, 6; T. Scollick, 7; J. Baxter (conductor), 8. On Wednesday, June 7th, on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. F. A. Teasdale, 576 Bob Major. R. Moncaster, 1; T. Clark, 2; W. Patton, 3; H. Taylor, 4; F. Johnson, 5; G. F. Williams, 6; W. H. Porter, 7; J. Baxter (conductor), 8. On Sunday, June 11th, 546 Grandsire Triples. R. Moncaster, 1; T. Crawford, 2; T. Clark, 3; G. Williams, 4; F. Johnson, 5; W. D. Lister, 6; W. H. Porter (conductor), 7; J. Bolton, 8. On Tuesday, June 13th, 504 Grandsire Triples. F. Naisbitt, 1; W. D. Lister, 2; C. Todd, 3; T. Clark, 4; F. Johnson, 5; J. Baxter (conductor), 6; G. F. Williams, 7; T. Scollick, 8. On Sunday, June 25th, 800 Bob Major. F. Naisbitt, 1; G. F. Williams, 2; W. Patton, 3; T. Clark, 4; F. Johnson, 5; W. D. Lister, 6; R. Moncaster, 7; W. H. Porter (conductor), 8. On Tuesday, June 27th, 700 Grandsire Triples. F. Naisbitt, 1; G. F. Williams, 2; J. Baxter (conductor), 3; W. D. Lister, 4; F. Johnson, 5; T. Clark, 6; W. H. Porter, 7; T. Scollick, 8.

ARELEY KINGS (Worcestershire).—On April 16th, 720 Oxford Bob. T. Griffiths, 1; E. Mapp, 2; T. Elcox, 3; J. Reynolds, 4; C. Beaman, 5; W. Martin (conductor), 6. On April 26th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. *E. Mapp, 1; *W. Martin, 2; T. Elcox, 3; J. Reynolds, 4; C. Beaman, 5; T. Griffiths (conductor), 6. *First 720 of Treble Bob. First 720 of Treble Bob by the local company. On April 30th, 720 Kent Treble Bob in 23 mins. E. Mapp, 1; T. Griffiths, 2; T. Elcox (conductor), 3; W. Martin, 4; C. Beaman, 5; J. Reynolds, 6. On Wednesday, May 10th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. E. Mapp, 1; T. Elcox, 2; T. Griffiths, 3; W. Martin, 4; C. Beaman, 5; J. Reynolds (conductor), 6. On Sunday, May 14th, 720 Plain Bob. W. Martin, 1; E. Mapp, 2; T. Elcox, 3; *W. Bowen, 4; J. Reynolds, 5; C. Beaman (conductor), 6. *First 720 with a bob bell. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. E. Mapp, 1; J. Reynolds, 2; T. Elcox, 3; W. Martin, 4; T. Griffiths, 5; C. Beaman (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, June 7th, 720 Oxford Bob. T. Griffiths, 1; T. Elcox, 2; J. Reynolds, 3; W. Martin, 4; J. Earp, 5; C. Beaman (conductor), 6. On handbells 72 Grandsire Minor. W. Bowen, 1; T. Elcox (conductor), 2; J. Reynolds, 3-4; T. Griffiths, 5-6.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Sunday, June 11th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. S. Sargent, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Farrow, 3; W. Hammond, 4; W. Grimwade, 5; C. Howard (conductor), 6. On Sunday, June 18th, 720 Bob Minor. F. Warren, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; C. Bearman, 4; S. Sargent, 5; W. Grimwade, 6. On Saturday, June 24th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. S. Sargent, 1; W. Moore, 2; S. Hayes, 3; C. Bearman, 4; W. T. Cockerill, 5; E. Carter (conductor), 6. On Sunday, June 25th, 720 Cambridge Surprise. S. Sargent, 1; S. Hayes, 2; C. Howard (conductor), 3; E. Carter, 4; E. Radley, 5; W. T. Cockerill, 6. Messrs. Carter, Cockerill and Hayes hail from London.

BETCHWORTH (Surrey).—On Sunday, June 25th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. W. Fuller, 1; F. Hoad (conductor), 2; G. Hoad, 3; J. Ansell, 4; *H. Longhurst, 5; *W. Longhurst, 6; J. White, 7; W. Lynch, 8. *First quarter-peal.

CHEPSTOW.—On Saturday, June 3rd, at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor, 7-8 covering. G. Hobson, 1; J. Smith, 2; E. Williams, 3; J. Prickett, 4; J. Morley, 5; R. Thompson (conductor), 6; G. Vick, 7; W. Davis, 8. On Sunday, June 4th, for Divine Service in the morning, 375 Grandsire Triples. E. Williams, 1; G. Hobson, 2; J. Prickett (conductor), 3; G. Vick, 4; J. Smith, 5; J. Morley, 6; R. Thompson, 7; B. Tamplin, 8. On Saturday, May 13th, 360 Bob Minor, with 7-8 covering. A. Paddock, 1; E. Williams, 2; J. Prickett, 3; G. Hobson, 4; J. Morley (conductor), 5; R. Thompson, 6; F. Bye, 7; B. Tamplin, 8. On Sunday morning, May 14th, 360 Bob Minor, 7-8 covering. J. Morley, 1; G. Hobson, 2; J. Prickett, 3; G. Vick, 4; R. Thompson (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6; B. Tamplin, 7; W. Davis, 8. On May 21st, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor, 7-8 covering. G. Hobson, 1; W. Freestone, 2; J. Prickett, 3; J. Smith, 4; R. Thompson, 5; J. Morley (conductor), 6; B. Tamplin, 7; W. Davis, 8. On May 28th, for Divine Service in the morning, 210 Darlaston Bob Triples. G. Vick, 1; G. Hobson, 2; J. Prickett, 3; J. Smith, 4; W. Freestone, 5; R. Thompson, 6; J. Morley (conductor), 7; E. Williams, 8. For evening service 720 Grandsire Minor, 7-8 covering. J. Prickett, 1; W. Freestone, 2; G. Vick, 3; J. Smith, 4; R. Thompson (conductor), 5; J. Morley, 6; E. Williams, 8; W. Davis, 8. Also 240 Grandsire Minor, 7-8 covering. E. Williams, 1; G. Hobson, 2; J. Prickett, 3; G. Vick, 4; J. Morley (conductor), 5; R. Thompson, 6; F. Bye, 7; B. Tamplin, 8. On Monday, May 28th, for practice, 360 Grandsire Minor, on the back six. G. Hobson, 1; G. Vick, 2; J. Smith, 3; J. Morley, 4; J. Prickett, 5; R. Thompson (conductor), 6. Tenor 21 cwt.

HADDENHAM (Cambridgeshire).—On Monday, May 24th, at the church of Holy Trinity, a 720 Oxford Treble Bob in 25 mins. J.

Markwell, 1; H. Markwell, 2; J. N. Wright, 3; A. Hazel, 4; H. Sharp, 5; A. Markwell (conductor), 6. Also a 720 College Single, with A. Markwell, 5; J. Markwell, 6; the rest as before; also short touches of Woodbine and Merchants' Return. Tenor 18 cwt. The above is the first 720 on the bells for upwards of twelve months, the same being a splendid ring of six and the go of them leaves nothing to be desired. A. Markwell and J. N. Wright hail from Terrington, Norfolk, all the rest belong to the Wilburton band; Mr. A. Markwell once again paying a visit to his old fellow-strings, and his absence is still keenly felt by all interested in ringing in the above-named district. Also first 720 of Merchants' Return by J. N. Wright, and also first attempt in the method.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES (Surrey).—On Tuesday, May 23rd, at All Saints church, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Chandler, 1; A. Strutt, 2; E. Stacey, 3; W. H. Pasmore, 4; G. Naish, 5; G. Strutt, 6; J. Howes (conductor), 7; J. Apps, 8. Also another 504. J. Chandler, 1; A. Strutt, 2; E. Stacey, 3; J. Howes, 4; G. Naish, 5; G. Strutt, 6; J. Strutt (conductor), 7; W. H. Pasmore, 8. On Wednesday, May 24th, 630 Grandsire Triples. A. Strutt, 1; J. Wright, 2; G. Strutt, 3; E. Stacey, 4; G. Naish, 5; J. Baldwin, 6; J. Howes (conductor), 7; J. Strutt, 8. Also a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 49 mins. G. Strutt, 1; A. Strutt, 2; E. Stacey, 3; J. Howes (composer and conductor), 4; G. Naish, 5; J. Baldwin, 6; J. Strutt, 7; J. Chandler, 8. Tenor 33 cwt.

LUTTERWORTH (Leicestershire).—On Wednesday, July 12th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins. A. Coleman, 1; C. Fowler, 2; F. Betts, 3; C. J. B. Cooke, 4; J. George, 5; A. Dubber, 6; A. Bramall, 7; J. W. Shotton, 8. Composed and conducted by James George. C. Fowler hails from Leicester; the rest from Rugby. First quarter-peal by Messrs. Coleman, Betts and Cooke.

MITCHELDEAN.—On Sunday, June 4th, at the church of St. Michael and All Angels, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. G. Capewell, 1; A. Bird, 2; J. H. Price, 3; J. G. Wall (conductor), 4; C. Davis, 5; C. L. Sadler, 6; F. Voyce, 7; J. Watts, 8. First quarter-peal by E. Capewell. All the above hail from Ross-on-Wye.

NEWHAM (Gloucestershire).—On Saturday, May 5th, five members from St. Mary's Chepstow, paid a visit to this place to attempt a peal of Grandsire Triples, but owing to a change-course the bells came home after ringing 2181 changes in 1 hr. 10 mins. G. Hobson, 1; J. Smith, 2; R. Hughes, 3; W. Prosser, 4; W. Gleeb, 5; J. Morley, 6; R. Thompson (conductor), 7; E. Williams, 8. An attempt was also made for a quarter-peal but after ringing over 700 changes the treble rope broke. G. Hobson, 1; E. Williams, 2; W. Prosser, 3; J. Morley, 4; J. Smith, 5; R. Hughes, 6; R. Thompson (conductor), 7; W. Gleeb, 8. Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lbs. in E.

NORTHAMPTON.—On Sunday morning, June 4th, for Divine Service at St. Sepulchre's church, 168 Grandsire Triples. H. Tinston, 1; R. Howard, 2; H. E. Howard, 3; R. Leader, 4; H. Jepps, 5; H. Howard, 6; F. Hopper (conductor), 7; F. Cousby, 8. This is the first 168 by all except the conductor.

PENGE (Surrey).—On Thursday, June 8th, at the church of St. John the Evangelist, 720 Bob Minor. G. Conn, 1; E. Edwards, 2; J. Town, 3; T. P. Richards, 4; W. Smith, 5; W. J. Battson (conductor), 6.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday evening, July 2nd, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 43 mins. J. Lloyd, 1; R. Hall, 2; *J. Small, 3; G. James, 4; *T. Hill, 5; J. Hall, 6; A. H. Hill, 7; F. Harris, 8. Composed by T. Collinson, and Conducted by A. H. Hill. First quarter-peal by Messrs. Small and T. Hill.

WILLESDEN (Middlesex).—On Tuesday, May 30th, for practice, two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. A. Pittam (conductor), 1; *F. Side, 2; H. Kilby, 3; W. Steggall, 4; A. Tennant, 5; *W. Neal, 6. *First in the method. Also 360 Bob Minor. W. Neal, 1; W. Steggall, 2; F. Side, 3; A. Tennant, 4; H. Kilby, 5; A. Tennant (conductor), 6.

WILBURTON (Cambridgeshire).—On Sunday, May 21st, before Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob in 24½ mins. J. Markwell, 1; J. Markwell, 2; H. Sharp, 3; A. Hazel, 4; J. N. Wright, 5; A. Markwell (conductor), 6. Also before Divine Service, touches of College Single and a 720 Oxford Treble Bob in 24 mins. J. Markwell, 1; J. Markwell, 2; A. Markwell (conductor), 3; A. Hazel, 4; J. N. Wright, 5; H. Sharp, 6. On Monday, May 22nd, for practice, a 720 Merchants' Return in 25 mins. J. Markwell, 1; J. Markwell, 2; H. Markwell, 3; A. Markwell (conductor), 4; J. N. Wright, 5; H. Sharp, 6. Also 720 Plain Bob in 24 mins, with 42 singles with H. Sharp, 4; A. Markwell, 6, the rest as before and conducted by A. Markwell.

A PEAL OF 362,880 GRANDSIRE CATERS, 6d.
Contains the full extent of changes on nine bells. Forwarded! Post Free, on receipt of 7d. By James Hewett, 16 Chapel Row, Gosport.

AN ENJOYABLE TOUR IN EAST ANGLIA.

A close student of human nature would, had he been at Liverpool Street Station just before 5 a.m. on Saturday, the 8th instant, have had ample food for reflection to observe ten good men and true, ranging in age from the bearded veteran of nearly seventy to the young man whose fresh looks proclaimed him not long out of his teens. Nor were they men proceeding to their daily avocations although arriving by workmen's trains, for their dress was not their working attire, but such as at once proclaimed them the working man on pleasure bent. Each adopted a rosebud as a buttonhole, and the happy look upon the faces of all was a perfect study of contentment.

But what had brought these men together at such an early hour, necessitating, as was ascertained, a start by 3.30 to 3.45 in the morning? One magic word supplies the answer, "ringing," for these were none other than the ringers of St. John the Baptist, Leytonstone, Essex, about to embark on their first tour.

For a young company, the programme arranged was of an ambitious nature, the rendezvous being the ancient, historic, and picturesque town of Bury St. Edmunds. Repairing to the reserved compartment of the "Ipswich and Norwich Paper Express," the outward journey commenced. For some time the view was very confined owing to the thick haze which is so often the forerunner of a hot day, so the handbells were brought out and set going. Chelmsford, the first stopping place, was soon reached, and not long after, Colchester. The sun having asserted his power, we had, between these places and onwards to Bury, grand views of the surrounding country, and two of the party knowing the district well the most interesting views and buildings were pointed out.

Poppyland is generally supposed to be around Cromer, but from Chelmsford to Bury the name might be quite as truly applied, nearly every field supplying its mass of bright red colour. When growing amongst the corn this had a most pleasing effect.

At Ipswich we had to change and wait about half-an-hour, so a stroll was taken outside the station, and some of the numerous towers viewed from a distance. Boarding a Doncaster train, Bury was reached at 8.15 a.m. Two or three minutes' walk brought us to The Britannia, Ipswich Street, which was our head quarters for the two days, and let me at once say that if any individual or party going to the same town should want thoroughly good accommodation, combined with moderate charges, go and make arrangements with host and hostess Polston and you will never want to try another in that town.

Breakfast being ready on the table, not many minutes elapsed before we were seated, and busy with what had been provided. Then a half hour's stroll to stretch our limbs after our long ride, and to look up friend Osborne, who was too busy to accompany us, and then the brake was ready to convey us to the different churches we had arranged to visit.

The first of these was Fornham St. Martin. Here we found a building of flint in the Gothic style, consisting of chancel, nave, south aisle, and western embattled tower containing a peal of six bells, cast by Mears in 1844 to replace three heavy bells which were taken away. The tenor only weighs 6 cwt. 2 qrs. 20 lbs., and is in C. The bells go well, but the ropes, the production of a local ropemaker, may be better imagined than described.

The Rev. J. S. Pratt welcomed us in a very cordial manner, and we soon had the bells in motion, Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Bob Minor, and a 720 Woodbine Treble Bob, probably the first on the bells, was rung.

Another chat with the Vicar and with an old man who assisted at the hanging of the bells in 1844, and who gave us some of his reminiscences, and time was up to start for the next place, West Stow. We discovered the Rev. A. H. Pemberton busy haymaking, and while some were ringing others turned to with forks and rakes and assisted. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a fine Gothic building with an embattled tower at the west end containing a splendid peal of six, with a 15 cwt. tenor in F. Stedman and Grandsire Doubles, Kent Treble Bob, and a 720 of Coventry Surprise was accomplished, and then all adjourned to the vicarage lawn and partook of the Vicar's generous hospitality. Then leaving him to his haymaking we were off

to Ixworth (locally Ixer). Noticeable along the roads were the number of pheasants, partridges and squirrels. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is, for a country place, a very handsome building, chiefly in the decorated and perpendicular styles. The tower at the west end contains some uncommon flint work panels, containing the monogram and initials of the Blessed Virgin, crosses of various forms, shields, chequers, a catherine wheel, and the arms of Bury St. Edmunds, all being worked in that material. The peal of six bells are a good ring but go very badly. The tenor is in F, weighing 14 cwt. 3 qrs. 2 lbs. Here we tried for Cambridge Surprise, and after that Kent, but in both were unsuccessful through the unresponsive nature of the bells. The only thing we pulled off was a course of Plain Bob and a six-score of Doubles.

Leaving Ixworth just a little disappointed at our non-success, a short drive brought us to the last place we intended visiting that day—Pakenham. The church St. Mary is of various dates, and contains specimens of architecture from early Norman to late Decorated. It is a cruciform building with central tower, the upper part of which is octagonal, and contains five bells, with a tenor about 18 cwt. The font is very old and has some very quaint carvings. Having indulged in several six-scores with some of the local band we all adjourned to the Rectory lawn adjoining the churchyard. Here under the shade of a splendid thorn we partook of a good meat tea generously provided by the Rev. C. W. Jones, our own numbers being augmented by the local band. Grace having been said by the Rector, we fell to with a will. Having satisfied our hunger the handbells were requisitioned, and touches rang to the enjoyment of Mr. and Mrs. Jones and their friends. A stroll round the old-world garden, a pipe and chat, and the time passed all too rapidly. Having wished our kind and generous friend "Good-bye," we started for Bury. Driving direct to St. Mary's church, some of us had our first view of Bury's chief sights—the Abbey Gate, the Norman Tower, and the two grand churches, St. James and St. Mary standing in one churchyard. The peal of ten at the Norman tower being in the hands of the bell hangers we were unable to have a pull there, but the Rev. F. L'Estrange Fawcett had readily granted us the use of the peal of eight at St. Mary's. This is a very fine church, and the bells, tenor 28 cwt. in D, are on a par with the building. Being rather late only a short touch of Grandsire Triples was rung, arrangements being made to ring for the 8 o'clock service next morning. Back to quarters where supper was awaiting us, and so finished the first day.

Curiosity however got the better of sleep, and in the "wee sma' hours" the majority were astir and having a look round the town. Then to St. Mary's, where a good 504 and 112 of Grandsire was rung. Then a look over the Norman tower brought breakfast time. With the finish of this came our conveyance which took us to Rougham. The church of St. Mary is a structure well worth visiting, on account of its carvings, which even in their mutilated condition are handsome. The peal of six bells in the western tower are very good and go well, so we had no difficulty in accomplishing 720 of Cambridge Surprise, followed by Bob Minor and Doubles with one of the local band. A pleasant drive back to Bury found us quite ready for the dinner awaiting us, after which we repaired to Horringer, calling *en route* on Mr. Turner, a Bury ringer, and late of London. At St. Leonard's church, Horringer, we rang 720 Double Oxford, and a long touch of Oxford Treble Bob with two of the local band standing in.

Returning to Bury we had just time to wish all those who had conducted to make our outing a success, a hearty good-bye, and then we were "homeward bound." Tired we were, but every one voted the outing a great success, and although somewhat extensive, still we had no difficulty in carrying it out, for having arranged our time-table, we faithfully adhered to it.

We wish to convey our sincere thanks to the clergy who readily granted us permission to ring; to the Revs. Jones and Pemberton for their welcome hospitality; to Mr. Osborne for his assistance in making our arrangements; and to Mr. and Mrs. Polston who so ably and successfully catered for us.

NORTH'S ENGLISH BELLS AND BELL LORE.
Illustrated. Price 12s., Postage 6d. Should be in the hands of all Bell lovers.—W. H. EATON, Publisher, Leek, Staffs.

Ringers' Outings.

THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, BUCKNALL.—The ringers of this parish, accompanied by Mr. T. Bettison, of Killamarsh, Derbyshire, had their annual outing on Saturday and Sunday, June 24th and 25th, the place selected being Crewe. Starting about 3.40 p.m. on Saturday by brake, arriving at Keele about 5.15 p.m., a halt was made and a visit made to the church; here a 720 London Surprise was rung by G. Clarkson, 1; T. Bettison (conductor), 2; J. E. Wheeldon, 3; C. Preston, 4; W. Wheel-don, 5; W. Twigg, 6. After partaking of refreshments and a chat with some of the local ringers, Bettley was reached about 8 p.m., and a 720 of Tichfield Surprise was unsuccessfully attempted. Spending a short time with the local ringers the journey was again resumed, Crewe being reached about 11 p.m. Here the visitors were met by Mr. R. T. Holding, the genial Captain of the Crewe ringers, with whom arrangements were made for ringing on the following day. Sunday morning found the party in the belfry of Crewe Parish Church, and a 768 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung for Morning service and for Evening service 672 Bob Major. During the day a drive was taken to Nantwich, and the opportunity had of paying a visit to the Parish Church of this town, which is both ancient and interesting. The return journey was commenced at 7.45 p.m., and after a pleasant drive, home was reached about 11 p.m. The company thank, through the medium of this paper, the clergy and ringers of the various Churches which they visited for their kindness in allowing them the use of the bells.

THE BATH ABBEY COMPANY.—The annual outing of this company was had on Saturday, July 8th, to Portsmouth. By the courtesy of the S. & D. R. Company, two compartments were reserved for the party, and Portsmouth was reached about 11 o'clock. On arrival a start was made to St. Mary's Church, Portsea Parish, where Capt. Pickard, a member of the Bath and Wells Association, had made arrangements for the company to have the use of the bells, by kind permission of the Rev. C. J. Lang. A quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 44 mins. The ringing-chamber of this tower is admirably fitted out, which is a great comfort to ringers, and the bells are in capital ringing order. Dinner was partaken of at the Speedwell Restaurant, after which a move was made to Southsea. A short sea trip was then taken, and a capital view of the ironclads and also of the Shamrock under canvas was obtained. After tea a sailing boat was chartered, and another pleasant time was spent on the water. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Canon Quirk, the clergy, churchwardens, sidesmen, and friends who generously helped to defray the expenses. We also wish, through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," to thank the Rev. C. J. Lang and other Portsea friends for the arrangements made for the ringing. Leaving Portsmouth at 8.25, Bath was reached about 12.30, the company having thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

THE ST. MICHAEL'S ASSOCIATION, BRISTOL.—On Saturday, June 17th, the members of this Society had their annual outing. Leaving Temple Meads by the 2.20 a.m. train, the party, numbering nine, had several touches of Grandsire, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob Minor, and Grandsire Triples upon the handbells. Penzance was reached about 9.30, and an enjoyable hour was spent sailing out around the gear pole. After a pleasant stroll along the Esplanade and through the magnificent gardens, with its fountains and fish ponds, we made our way to dinner, to which full justice was done; going next to the grand old church of St. Mary, which is built with large blocks of granite, and where a 504 and 436 of Grandsire Triples were rung. Having visited the docks and lighthouse we retired this time for tea, then to the station, leaving Penzance by the 5.20 train for the long journey home after a most enjoyable day, Mr. A. Isaacs on the way giving us a few of his old favourite songs. We thank the Vicar for the use of the bells and the steeple keeper for getting everything in readiness for us. L.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL COMPANY.—Monday, July 10th—Train to Tunbridge Wells, 8.55 a.m.; arrive 10.25. Ring two touches of Stedman Triples at St. Peter's church. Dinner at Ralph's Temperance Restaurant, Mount Pleasant, 12 o'clock. Drive to Penshurst via Rusthall Common, Lington, and Fordcombe. Arrive at Penshurst at 2.30 p.m. Short touches of

Stedman and Grandsire on the church bells; look round the church, castle, etc. Drive to Speldhurst; ring a few touches from 4.45 to 5.30. Tea in the rectory garden at 5.45. Drive back to Tunbridge Wells and home by train at 7.30 p.m. The thanks of the company are due to the Revs. C. Courtenay, Vicar of St. Peter's, Tunbridge Wells; Canon Smith, Rector of Penshurst; and D. Mackinnon, Rector of Speldhurst, for permission to ring; and to Miss Macalpine Leny and Mrs. Mackinnon for their cordial welcome and kind hospitality.

THE ST. MARY'S WOOLWICH, SOCIETY.—The annual outing of the members of this company and their friends to the number of twenty-five took place on Saturday, July 15th. The place chosen was Hythe, and by the programme it had been arranged that ten hours were to be spent at the sea-side. Accordingly the company assembled at the Arsenal railway station at 7 and left by the appointed train, and here it may be remarked that the S. E. and C. and D. Railway kindly reserved comfortable accommodation for the party. This concession was duly appreciated, but on arriving at Hythe our spirits were ruffled because we were one hour and a quarter late. The first part of the programme was therefore upset, and as there was no time for a chat and a stroll to the beach, the Woolwich ringers hurried to the church and rang one or two touches. These bells are a splendid tone, and the go of them decidedly easy. Our friends enjoyed the privilege of handling the ropes. The next thing was to see the skulls and bones in the crypt, which is of interest to those who have never seen them, but once having viewed them there is little desire to renew the visit. Dinner was ordered at 1.15 at The White Hart hotel, and in justice to Mr. Cobay, the proprietor, it is well to record that he sustained his reputation in being able to provide an admirable spread, which was thoroughly enjoyed to the satisfaction of every one. The Rector of Woolwich, the Rev. C. E. Escreet, presided, supported by Mr. Richards, Secretary of the Hythe band, but before the company separated Mr. Masters, of Woolwich, said he was glad their Rector was with them that day, also that Mr. Richards had accepted the invitation to dine with them, but regretted the absence of the only one of the Woolwich band, viz., Mr. G. Carter, who could not be spared from his duties. Mr. Churchwarden Rahtz also wrote regretting his absence. The Rev. Pryce was thanked for the use of the bells. The cigars, sent by Mr. Churchwarden Woodford to the ringers, were appreciated, likewise the button-holes for all the party provided by Mr. Hoare. Our next item was a drive to Folkestone, and a char-a-banc was procured and quickly filled, and a most enjoyable ride it proved. On our arrival at the Town Hall the party dispersed at their own sweet will, and leisurely made their way back over the Leas and Sandgate lift to the Tram. This Tram-line is managed entirely by the Railway company, and affords a very pleasant diversion to visitors staying in the neighbourhood. Here was another enjoyable ride in open cars and back to Hythe four miles by the sea in prospect, which we were not slow to patronize and appreciate. Tea was the next thing, after which the ringers again made their way to the tower accompanied this time by the Hythe band, and rang several touches, thereby cementing the bond of friendship amongst the ringing fraternity. All too soon, 7.30 arrived for ringing to cease, to spend the remaining time in friendly intercourse between the two bands was now the one object in view. The Hythe friends then accompanied us to the station, and we took leave of them at 8.30, remembering the kindness shown to us by our acquaintances at this sea-side resort. London was reached at 10.43, but Woolwich not until 11.45. The weather proved delightfully fine. All the arrangements were admirably carried out, thanks to all concerned, and except for the delays in travelling, all must feel grateful that nothing more serious occurred to mar the enjoyment of the day. M.

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Notices.

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

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the parish church, Rochdale, to-day Saturday, July 22nd. Bells will be ready at 3 p.m., and the meeting will be held in the vicarage library at 6.30 p.m. sharp. Business of meeting—election of branch secretary and committee-man for the above branch, the present one retiring. E. B. SHAW, *Branch Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Halewood on Saturday, July 22nd. The tower will be open for ringing all the afternoon, and the meeting will be held at 6 o'clock. G. WOODHALL, *Branch Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—A meeting will be held at Bury on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Business meeting after tea. Nominations for branch secretary and one committee-man are to be made at this meeting. J. H. BANKS, *Branch Sec.*

The Sussex County Association (Central).—Next quarterly meeting at Buxted on Saturday, July 22nd. Tower open from 4 p.m. Tea at 6 p.m. GEORGE WILLIAMS, *Hon. Sec.*
2, Grove Street, Brighton.

The Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at St. Peter's church, Swinton, to-day Saturday, July 22nd. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Business meeting 7 p.m. W. BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The monthly ringing meeting will be held at Headingley (St. Chad's) 8 bells, on Saturday, July 29th. Meeting house The Woodman inn. Handbells provided. Trams pass the church every few minutes. All ringers are cordially invited. H. GAYTHORPE, *Hon. Sec.*
1, Elm Avenue, Bramley.

Halifax and District Association.—The next meeting will be held at Stainland, on Saturday, July 29th. Tower will be open at 12.30 for ringing. Business meeting at 6 p.m. WRIGHT INGHAM, *Hon. Sec.*

Middlesex County Association.—South and West District.—The next meeting of the above will be held by the kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. T. M. Everett, at Ruislip, on Saturday, July 29. Ringing to commence at 4.30. Members and friends are cordially invited. Will members who have not paid up their subscriptions kindly do so as soon as possible?

The Ashton-under-Lyne Society.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Elizabeth's, Reddish, on Saturday, July 29th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 7 p.m. J. BOOTH, *Hon. Sec.*

108, Albermarle Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—A business meeting will be held at The Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., after ringing at St. Paul's Cathedral, on Tuesday, July 25th. Conductors of peals who are responsible for any booking fees are requested to forward the same without further delay.

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

The Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, Bristol Branch.—The next meeting for practice will be held at Bitton, near Bristol, on Saturday, July 29th. Kindly make this known among the ringers of your parish. Service at 5.30 p.m. Bells open for ringing from 4 p.m.

C. H. GORDON, *Hon. Branch Secretary.*
Hill Street, Kingswood.

The Kent County Association, Lewisham District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Chislehurst on Saturday, July 29th. Tower open from 3.30 to 8.30 p.m. Committee meeting in parish room at 6 p.m.

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

The Kent County Association, St. John's Deptford.—The usual Wednesday evening practices at this tower will be discontinued until further notice.

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

The Sheffield and District Society.—The next meeting will be held at Staveley on August 5th. Tower ready 4 p.m.

R. HARRISON, *Hon. Sec.*

ANNUAL EXCURSION OF THE WALTHAM ABBEY SOCIETY.

On Saturday last, the members of this Society, together with Mr. E. Wallage and a few other friends left their head quarters, The Green Dragon, by brake for Sawbridgeworth, via Epping, Potters Street and Harlow, and being blessed with delightful weather the drive through the Forest was very much enjoyed by all. Arriving at Sawbridgeworth a few minutes after three, a visit was paid to the tower, where the visitors were met by Messrs. N. Tarling, W. Tarling, F. Saban and G. Webb (Bishops Stortford), Mr. G. Barker (Ware). The ringing opened with a 504 Stedman Triples, when Mr. Frank Carter, Hon. Sec., together with Mr. James Pettit arrived from London, when a course of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung, Mr. A. Mattin, formerly of Woodbridge, Suffolk, taking part in the same. Another 504 Stedman Triples having been rung, the company now numbering nineteen, were met at The Bell and Feathers inn by the Vicar of Sawbridgeworth, the Rev. H. A. Lipscomb, M.A., who presided over the company while all those present recruited the inner man from the good things so satisfactorily supplied by the hostess, Mrs. Snow. Before reparing to the belfry again the Vicar said:—In reply to your invitation it is a pleasure to me to be here and to have taken the chair, and as Vicar of the parish to welcome the Waltham Abbey ringers, as I have always heard a very good account of your Society, and should you wish to pay a visit in future I shall always feel it a pleasure to place the bells at your service. May your Society go on and prosper.

Mr. W. A. Alps, in responding for the Waltham Abbey Society and other visitors present, thanked the Vicar for having given them permission to use the church bells that day, and also for the kind and encouraging remarks he had made; and he trusted that whenever they visited Sawbridgeworth again the traditions of the Waltham Abbey Society would be maintained. In conclusion, he also wished to thank Mr. N. Tarling and other ringing friends for having met them, and so contributing to the success of their visit.

Mr. Tarling having replied,

Mr. Frank Carter proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for so kindly presiding, and the Vicar having replied, the ringers then visited the tower again, and rang some touches

of Grandsire Triples. A drive home via Parn-don and Nazing brought a very pleasant excursion to a close.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A CHANGE-RINGER.—You have not told us who you are, so that your letter does not appear. Also, the subject is overdone already.

NOB.—A ring of eight; we are not acquainted with the date.

The writer who sends a long account this week asks us a question, which we are unable to answer because he gives us not the least clue to his identity.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

SITUATION required by a married man, aged 31, without family, in a month or by the 11th of October as Gardener, singlehanded. Can manage Cucumbers, Melons, Tomatoes, etc., and the general work of a well-kept garden. Highest references. A change-ringer on six or eight bells. Apply John Gaymer Miles, Point Cottages, Attleboro, Norfolk.

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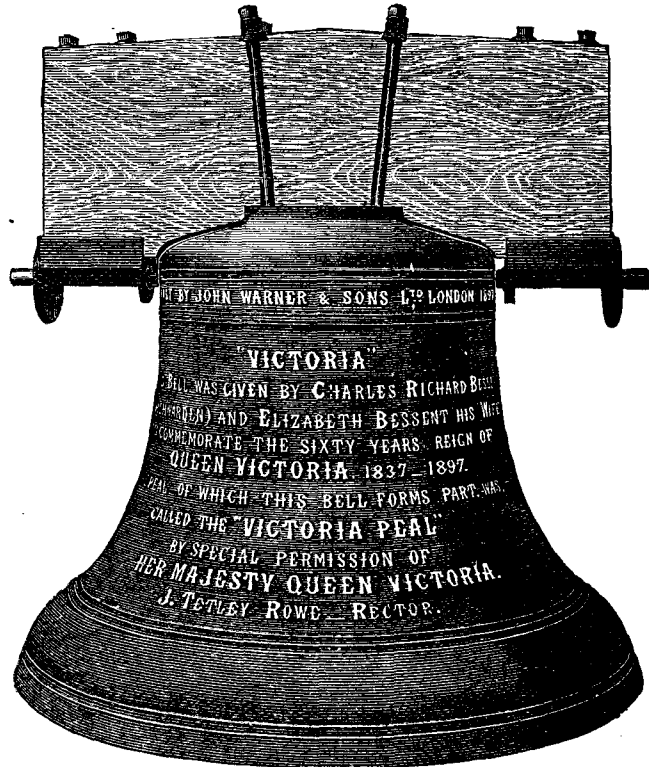
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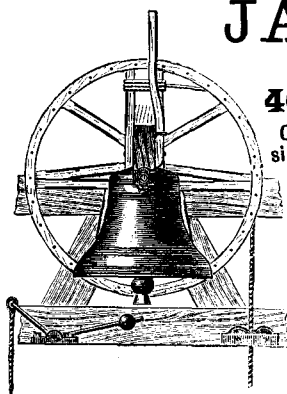
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And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 903. — VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 1899.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

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Sydney Town Hall,	Eiffel Tower, Paris.
N.S.W.	Dunsfold Parish Church.
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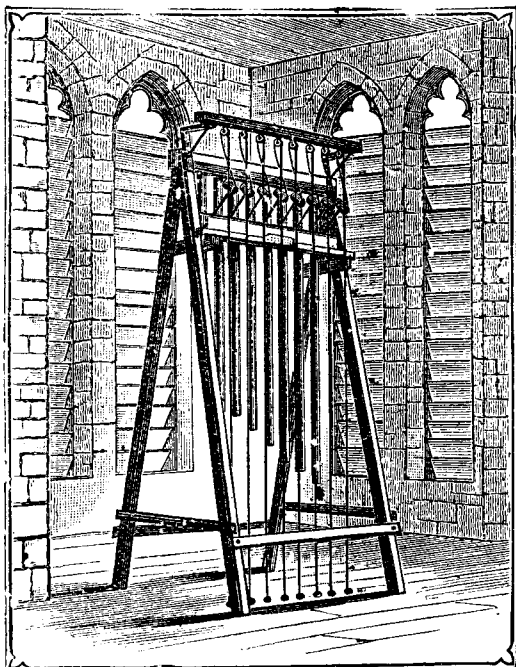
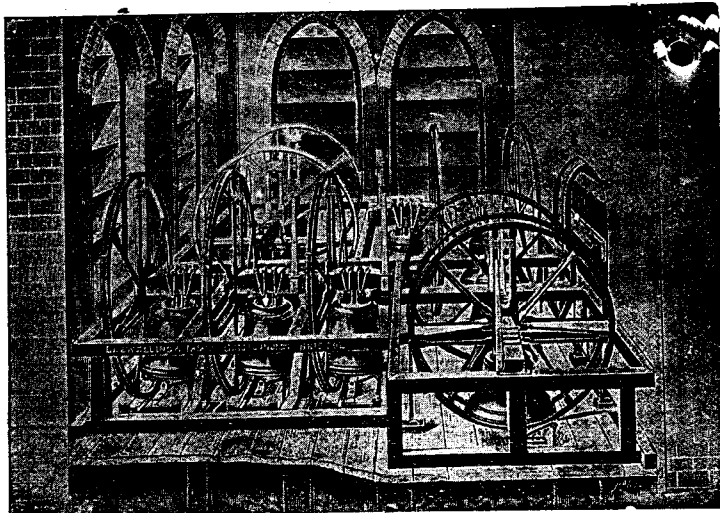
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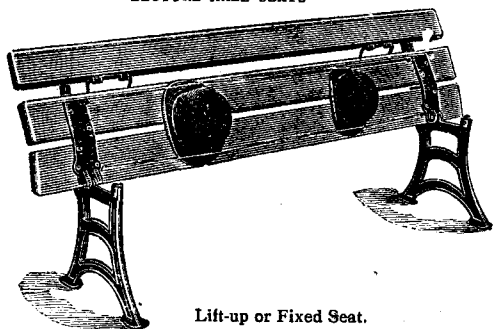
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Britannia, Sailing, St. Patrick's Day, Sleighing Song, The
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 903.]

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

ANNUAL MEETING AT WYCOMBE.—PRESENTATION TO THE MASTER.

The annual meeting of the above Guild took place at Wycombe on Monday, July 17th, and passed off with great success. The programme was of the usual character with one notable addition in the shape of a presentation to the Master of the Guild, the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Vicar of Drayton, near Abingdon, whose services for many years in promoting the prosperity of the Guild were thus appropriately recognised. At 11.30 service was held in the fine Parish Church of Wycombe, justly known as the "Cathedral of Bucks," a large number of ringers being present, in addition to other residents of the town. The service commenced with the hymn "Now thank we all our God," which was followed by the General Confession, Special Psalms xlviii., xcvi., cl., the lesson from Hebrews x. 19 and 31, the *Te Deum*, Creed, Collects, and the hymn "Holy, holy, holy." The Rev. E. P. Baverstock, curate of Wycombe, said the prayers, and the lesson was read by the Rev. F. E. Robinson. Mr. G. F. Andrews at the organ and his choir led the musical portion of the service with their usual efficiency and good taste. Tallis's Responses were used, the Psalms were taken to chants set in the Westminster Book, and the *Te Deum* to Garrett in G. An appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. E. D. Shaw, Vicar of Wycombe, from 1 Corinthians ix. 27:—"Lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway."

The annual meeting of the Guild took place in the Town Hall, at half-past twelve o'clock. The Master, Rev. F. E. Robinson, presided over a large gathering of members. Minutes of the last annual gathering and of committee meetings were read by the secretary, the Rev. R. Hart Davis. These minutes, which were confirmed, showed that a good deal of business had been transacted during the year, and an unwelcome announcement was made at one of the committee meetings that Mr. Hart Davis desired to resign his office.

The re-election of officers for the year was the first business. The re-election of the Master of the Guild was proposed by the Rev. A. C. R. Freeborn, of Kidlington, seconded by Rev. H. C. Bell, and supported by Rev. R. Hart Davis, who described Mr. Robinson as "our only Master." The proposition was carried unanimously, and the Rev. F. E. Robinson, in reply, said he would do as much as he could for them and work as hard as he could for another year.

On the secretarial appointment coming before the meeting, the Master said Mr. Hart Davis undertook the duty when the affairs of the Guild were in some little confusion, and he had worked very hard and successfully for their interests. They were under a great debt of obligation to him. He was glad to say that he held a letter in his hand from Mr. A. H. Cocks, of Marlow, consenting to accept the office of hon. secretary for 1900, on condition that he was provided with an assistant secretary, with or without salary—the latter being a question they could not deal

with to-day. Mr. Cocks also suggested that a form should be drawn up defining the duties of the secretary and assistant secretary. The Rev. G. F. Coleridge (Crowthorne), proposed the election of Mr. Cocks, and said they could not have a better man. He occupied a conspicuous position in the East Berks and South Bucks Branch. The proposition was seconded by Mr. J. Evans (Hughenden), and carried by acclamation.

Mr. Hart Davis said he must congratulate the meeting on having at last a secretary who was not a duffer. They had exchanged one who was not a ringer for one who was most accomplished in all that pertained to the art.

Mr. Cocks, in acknowledgment, said he would do what he could; but he was afraid he would not be able to hold a candle to Mr. Hart Davis, who had devoted time to the duty. Mr. Cocks mentioned, with regard to an assistant, that three residents in his own neighbourhood had volunteered their help—Messrs. Lewis Collins, Harry Collins, and W. E. Yates. A proposition was made that all three of these gentlemen should be appointed, but after a brief discussion it was decided that it should be left to Mr. Cocks to nominate his assistant.

The following other appointments were made:—Auditor, Mr. A. E. Preston, Oxford. Committee—12 elected members, Revs. H. Barter, Canon Blagden, G. F. Coleridge, A. H. Drummond, R. W. Carew Hunt, J. B. Kirby, G. A. Littledale, J. P. Malleson, F. L. Nash, R. P. Newhouse, and R. Hart Davis; and Mr. J. E. Hern; 12 change-ringing members—Messrs. J. Bissley, J. Evans, W. Gibbs, F. W. Hopgood, C. Hounslow, W. Huckin, W. Newell, J. Pether, J. W. Washbrook, W. E. Yates, A. E. Reeves, and F. Dentry. Representatives on the Central Council—Rev. F. E. Robinson, Rev. G. F. Coleridge, Mr. W. E. Yates, and Mr. F. W. Hopgood.

A letter was received from the Rev. A. K. Hobart-Hampden, asking whether the Guild would make a grant towards the re-hanging of the bells at Kimble Church, a work which cost £216. The committee recommended a grant of three guineas.

Replying to a question, the Rev. R. Hart Davis said the balance in hand was £37, about the same as last year.

Mr. Cocks proposed that the grant be made. He had seen the work, and although he personally did not like iron frames, he thought the work was very well done.

The Master—Will somebody second that?

Rev. G. F. Coleridge—I will, because it is an iron frame. The proposition was agreed to.

A recommendation was made by the committee that any duly qualified member nominated by a branch to act as instructor should, with the approval of the Master, be reckoned as duly appointed, subject to such appointment being confirmed by the Guild Committee. It was explained that this was proposed in consequence of the delay which sometimes occurred in sanctioning an appointment when the application had to be referred to the committee, and the suggestion was endorsed. It was resolved that the Guild Autumn Meeting should take place at Newbury and the Annual Festival for 1900 at Oxford.

The Rev. G. F. Coleridge, as the representative to the

Central Council, gave a *resumé* of the doings of the Council. He mentioned that the Oxford Diocese found great credit for having sent a petition signed by 750 members to railway Companies asking for reduction of fares; but he added that he himself considered that it was rather a scandal that only 750 out of 1,350 members should desire facilities for travelling to the Festivals, and if the petition failed they would only have themselves to thank. A Glossary of Technical Terms, which would be a very useful work, was reported to be in progress, and good work was being done by a committee which was considering the question of peal values and the apportionment of points. The Oxford Diocesan Guild at present stood second in England upon points, and he urged them all during the coming year to ring ten peals at least and put themselves at the top of the tree. He had protested as their representative against the extension of the business of the next Council meeting, in London at Whitsuntide, over two days, on the ground that many members could not afford the expense. Interesting discussions took place on what constituted legitimate methods of ringing, and as to the advantage of paid ringers or otherwise, the conclusion on the latter point being that there was no harm in the Vicar heading a list of subscriptions which might be used for an excursion or something of the kind for the ringers. The merits and demerits of prize-ringing were also discussed, and this was condemned as involving the use of the instruments of sacred worship in contending for money. Having himself been brought up as a prize ringer in the West of England he put before the Council what an art it was. When he listened to the rounds in Wycombe Tower before they went into Church that day he found there was not one where the notes were struck as they ought to be. They called themselves change-ringers, and they could not ring rounds. He did not think any man ought to go in for change-ringing until he could strike the bell as accurately as a clock. There was also a discussion as to conducting peals, and it was pointed out that it was a good thing for all to aim at being conductors. In conclusion Mr. Coleridge promised to endeavour to represent their interests at the Council in the future as he had done in the past.

The Rev. R. Hart Davis mentioned that the Rev. R. W. Carew Hunt (Hughenden) was absent that day through illness, and several letters, one being from the Vicar of All Saints, Maidenhead, regretting inability to attend, had also been received.

A discussion ensued upon the possibility of establishing a branch covering the district between Abingdon and Wantage, and it was remarked that all that was needed was an efficient secretary. It was said that the committee would not lose sight of the matter.

The proceedings ended with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

At the conclusion of the business meeting the members adjourned to the Central Hall, where an excellent cold collation was served by Mr. F. W. Miles, of The Red Lion hotel. The chair was occupied by the Right Hon. Earl Carrington, G.C.M.G., who had on his right the Master of the Guild, and on his left Mrs. F. E. Robinson. Supporting the chairman also were the Rev. R. Hart Davis, and Mrs. and Miss Hart Davis, the Mayor of Wycombe (Mr. C. W. Deacon, J.P., C.C.), the Vicar of Wycombe (Rev. E. D. Shaw), and Mr. A. H. Cocks, Treasurer East Berks and South Bucks Branch, and many clergy.

After the repast, the Chairman gave The Health of the Queen, which was loyally honoured.

The Rev. R. Hart Davis said he had the permission of the Chairman at this stage to perform a very pleasant duty as the mouthpiece of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Bellringers—to ask the Master of the Guild to accept a small tribute of their gratitude for having devoted himself during the last 19 years body, soul and spirit to the support of the Guild's work. Some of them knew better than he did what Mr. Robinson had done in regard to the initiation of the Guild, but as an active member of the committee for the last ten years, he (Mr. Davis) knew that their Master had not spared himself in any way in promoting its interests, whether it was in relation to its meetings and festivals or in matters relating to the improvement of bells or bell ringing. He was sure they all agreed that it was most appropriate that in the 19th year of his mastership they should make some acknowledgement of all he had done for them. The pre-

sentation, which consisted of a silver bowl and tea set, was accompanied by an illuminated address, which was the work of a member of the Guild, who refused to be paid, and it contained the names of nearly 600 members. Having referred with pleasure to the presence of Mrs. Robinson, and expressed the hope that she would share in the use of the gift, Mr. Hart Davis asked Mr. J. W. Washbrook to add a few words on behalf of the ringing members.

Mr. Washbrook, in a brief speech, testified to the respect and regard every member entertained for the Master. Speaking of his ability as a ringer, Mr. Washbrook said he had had the audacity to ask Mr. Robinson for the twelve performances he considered his best, and he had received the following list:—

1st Peal Stedman Triples	.. Appleton ..	.. Feb. 12, 1861
6264 Stedman Caters	.. St. Clement Danes ..	.. Dec. 27, 1879
6264 Stedman Caters	.. Appleton ..	.. Mar. 4, 1880
Clerical Peal Stedman Triples	.. Drayton ..	.. Oct. 2, 1884
10080 Double Norwich Court Bob Major	.. Appleton ..	.. Jan. 28, 1888
12041 Stedman Caters	.. Appleton ..	.. Mar. 5, 1888
13265 Grandsire Caters	.. Appleton ..	.. Apr. 11, 1888
15041 Stedman Caters	.. Appleton ..	.. Dec. 31, 1888
12096 Double Norwich Court Bob Major	.. Boyne Hill ..	.. Dec. 31, 1892
11328 London Surprise Major	.. Drayton ..	.. Sept. 17, 1896
5088 London Surprise Major	.. Drayton ..	.. Jan. 7, 1897
5056 Cambridge Surprise Major	.. Drayton ..	.. Apr. 3, 1899

He did not suppose any other man in England had such a record of peals, and he was sure they would be glad to know that these performances had been emblazoned on the leaves of the address, where they would remain as a memorial of good work well done.

Earl Carrington then, amid cheers, handed to the Master the address and the accompanying gifts. The address and names of donors were very handsomely engrossed and illuminated on vellum in book form, bound in morocco, the first page reading as follows:—

To the Rev. F. E. Robinson, M.A., Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—We, the undersigned, honorary and ringing members of the Guild, in asking your acceptance of the accompanying gift, desire to assure you of our grateful and heartfelt appreciation of the services you have rendered to the Guild as its Master from the day of its institution in 1881 to the present time. The high place taken by the Guild among similar institutions in this country, and the sound Churchmanship and scientific efficiency of its change-ringing members, are sufficient and satisfactory testimony to the value of your work. Many church bells and belfries in this diocese have been improved or restored by your helpful and ever-ready counsels. It is our earnest hope that you may be spared in full health and strength for many more years of office and untiring and zealous activity, and that God may bless and prosper your work in the future as abundantly as in the past.

The bowl was an elegant silver one of old Irish pattern, bearing an inscription as follows:—"Presented to the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Bellringers since its institution in 1881, during the 19th year of his Mastership, in appreciation of his great services, by many members of the Guild.—July 17th, 1899."

Mr. Robinson, who was received with cheers on rising, said he had not the slightest idea when Mr. Washbrook asked for his best performances of the use to which they were to be put, and he was quite taken by surprise. He thanked them cordially for their kind references to himself and to Mrs. Robinson. His wife had certainly taken the part a better half should take in regard to his ringing career; for it was she who stimulated him to take part in these long peals. He had been a change-ringer for about twenty years, and one morning his wife, having read an account of the ringing of a peal, said "You have been a change-ringer for many years—why don't you go in for a long peal?" A ringer's wife who would stimulate him in that way was a very valuable institution indeed. He assured them that he felt very grateful for their handsome gifts, and also for the testimony of appreciation which they had been good enough to record in that handsome book. Their assistance and kindness had stimu-

lated him in the past, and now he could only repeat what he said at the annual meeting, that he would work as hard as he could, and do his best for the Guild.

Earl Carrington, in giving the toast of "The Guild," said it was with the greatest possible pleasure that he gave "Success to the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Bell-ringers," coupling with it the name of the gentleman who had done so much to bring it to its present successful position—their rev. Master. The toast was heartily pledged, cheers being given for the Master and Mrs. Robinson.

The Master, in replying, said the members of the Guild continually increased, they had been told that day that its finances were in a satisfactory condition, and so good an authority as Mr. Coleridge had told them they stood second in Mr. Attree's analysis, so he thought they might congratulate themselves on what they had done in the past, and their success would stimulate them to do better in the future. In reference to performances of recent times, he should be neglecting a duty if he did not allude to the wonderful performance the other day at Kidlington—the long peal of Double Norwich. They ought to pay a tribute of thanks to Mr. Washbrook, the conductor of the peal, and he mentioned this especially because the peal had been disputed, and if they were silent on that point it might be misinterpreted. He himself was not in the peal, but he had read the correspondence, and heard what had been said for and against the peal. One or two writers in "BELL NEWS" had said that the matter ought to be referred to the Central Council. In reply to that he reminded them that in 1898 the Central Council passed a resolution that such points must be left to the honour of conductors. He thought that was a very proper resolution: if the conductors of the present day were not men of honour, and not men to be trusted, he said "Sweep them all away and find some who can be trusted." With regard to the peal at Kidlington, he was quite prepared to follow the Central Council and leave it to the honour of Mr. Washbrook whether it was or was not a peal.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar of Wycombe for the use of his church, and his excellent sermon, was passed.

A vote of thanks to the Rev. R. Hart Davis, in which Mrs. and Miss Hart Davis were included, was also accorded, on the proposition of the Master. A vote of thanks to the Mayor brought the proceedings to a close.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CENTRAL DIVISIONAL MEETING.

Buxted, what better place in all Sussex could be selected at which to hold a meeting in the summer, but on Saturday the weather—phew! it was warm; one of those days when most people feel like jelly-fish, and would prefer to be swinging in a hammock under the shade of some mighty oak, with plenty of iced champagne within arm's reach. But at Buxted we did not have the hammock or the champagne, but we had mighty oaks in abundance. To those who do not know Buxted let me here say it is a small village situate in the heart of the county, and surrounded by undulating woodland. The church, which is dedicated to St. Margaret, is an ancient building, standing away from the village in one of the prettiest parks anywhere to be found, a park whose trees have stood the storms of centuries, and in the glades of which browse deer of a kind not to be seen elsewhere, a species in fact which is never allowed to go out of the park alive.

The old church, which adjoins the mansion that was once the seat of the Earl of Liverpool, but now the residence of Viscountess Portman, is a spacious building of the Early English and Decorated styles. The tower, built of a kind of sandstone, contains a peal of eight bells, of varying dates. Three of them, the 4th, 5th, and 7th, were cast in 1686. They bear the following inscriptions:

4th.—"WILLIAM HVLL MADE MEE 1686 I H. ROGER. WICKING."

5th.—"WILLIAM HVLL MADE MEE 1686. DAVID AVSTIN THOMAS PARKS CHVRCHWARDENS I H. T. R."

7th.—"WILLIAM HVLL MADE MEE 1686. DAVID AVSTIN THOMAS PARKS CHURCHWARDENS. I H."

This William Hull, it is interesting to know, was a Sussex

bell-founder, who I learn from an article published in vol. xvi. of the Sussex Archaeological Society's collections, was at first a subordinate of John Hodson, a great bell-founder, of London, during the latter half of the 17th century. His initials occur on many of John Hodson's bells in Surrey, Kent, and Middlesex, between the years 1654 and 1671. His name occurs in full on some of the bells at Hailsham in 1663, which have also upon them "John Hodson made me." These bells were no doubt cast at Hailsham, at the spot called Bell Bank; William Hull being sent down by his master to do the work. About the year 1672 William Hull left his place as foreman to John Hodson, and next appears in the same relation to a founder named Michael Darbie—a founder whose home was in the Eastern Counties. The latter was, however, of a very itinerant nature, and in 1654-6 he set up a temporary foundry at Oxford and recast many bells in that city and its neighbourhood. In 1676 William Hull set up for himself at South Malling, in Sussex, where, for the next eleven years he continued to exercise his craft. There were more than twenty of his bells still in existence in the neighbourhood, the biggest of which was Catsfield tenor, at the middle of the present century. From the inscriptions given above it will be seen that he cast the bells for Buxted church in 1686. In the following year he died, for in South Malling register is the entry:

"Buried William Hull, of this parysh ye 13th day of August, 1687."

On most of William Hull's bells cast after 1683, the initials I H occur. These are the initials of his son John Hull, who is mentioned in his father's will, and to whom William Hull left "all his bell mettle that is really mine," and the use of his workshop. There was, I learn, one and only one bell made by this John Hull after his father's death, and that is at Kingston. It will be noticed that upon the three bells cast for Buxted by William Hull, the initials I H also occur.

Of the remaining five bells which complete the ring, three came from the famous Whitechapel Foundry in 1761, when the firm traded in the name of Lester and Pack. The tenor besides bearing the founders' name is inscribed:

"At proper times my voice I'll raise,
And sound to my subscribers' praise."

As to the two remaining bells they are of later date and call for no comment.

But to hark back to the meeting. Whether it was the awkward train service or whether it was the excessive heat, I cannot say, but nevertheless there was not a very large attendance. Indeed had it not been for the presence of several members from outside the county, the meeting would have been a very small one. The first visitors to arrive at the church were Messrs. T. and G. Card, and E. Mankelow, of Tonbridge. They were soon joined by Messrs. Bennett and Dawe, of St. Peter's, Brighton, and Goldsmith, of Lewes, while not long afterwards Mr. E. Butler, of St. Nicholas, Brighton, put in an appearance. After an inspection of the church and bells, some touches of Treble Bob and Bob Minor were rung, and by the way didn't some of the bells want just a bit of ringing. Those who tackled the tenor apparently lost considerably in weight, and went home several pounds lighter than they came. With the arrival of tea time other ringers came upon the scene, including the Hon. Secretary (Mr. G. Williams), Mr. H. Dains, of London; Mr. A. Turner, of Lewes; Messrs. Thompsett, of Lindfield, etc. At tea, which was served at The White Hart hotel, the party were joined by Mrs. Williams and Mrs. and Miss Bennett.

The subsequent business meeting was quite a formal affair, Mr. F. Bennett being in the chair. Several new members were elected, and a vote of thanks for granting the use of the bells was accorded to the Rector, the Rev. G. S. Pownall, who was unavoidably absent, on the motion of Mr. J. S. Goldsmith. The walk back through the park to the church in the cool of the evening was most delightful, and to those who were able to listen to the various touches as they were knocked off, the bells sounded quite a pretty peal; quite different in character compared with when in the belfry. The methods rung included Cambridge and Superlative Surprise, Double Norwich, Bob Major, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, the last touch being brought round just as the candles glittered in their sockets, for candles are the only artificial means existing at present to illuminate the belfry.

OCCASIONAL CONTRIBUTOR.

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."

BOB LEADS.

SIR,—The correspondence on this subject in your last issue introduces us to two fresh combatants in the lists. Both of these, as well as Mr. Drake, heretofore, are nominally fighting with me, but virtually all three are fighting with each other. Poor "bob-lead" must by this time be feeling very much like Aunt Sally at the end of a club feast. Here is how it gets treated—"A lead-block which introduces a bob" (Mr. Drake); "An abbreviation for bob lead-end" (Captain Acland); "The back-stroke at the treble's full lead, which is produced by a bob" (Mr. Trollope). The last, at first sight, seems in agreement with the definition given by Captain Acland, but closer examination reveals that the two are really in conflict, for Captain Acland says that "lead" here is an abbreviation for "lead-end," that is, that "lead" itself means fourteen rows. Mr. Trollope says no; "lead" means only one blow. To these add the two definitions proposed in the Committee of Council—"a lead introduced by a bob," and "a lead containing a bob," and I think that we have as pretty a picture of confusion as could possibly be painted. As an enquirer (for be it remembered that my position is that I do not know what "bob-lead" means, and that I wish to find out) I think I may fairly leave my friends to settle it themselves, and then to come and tell me. In the meanwhile I prefer to advocate my own terminology, which I take this opportunity of specifying more fully:—

1423765
+1247356
2143765
2417356
4271536
4725163
7452613
7546231
5764321
5673412
6537142
6351724
3615274
3162547

BLOCK A.

1743526
+1475362
4173526
4715362
7451632
7546123
5764213
5672431
6527341
6253714
2635174
2361547
3216457
3124675

BLOCK B.

1326457
+1234675
2136457
2314675
3241765
3427156
4372516
4735261
7453621
7546312
5764132
5671423
6517243
6152734

BLOCK C.

1625374
+1263547
2165374
2613547
6231457
6324175
3642715
3467251
4376521
4735612
7453162
7541326
5714236
5172463

BLOCK D.

1657243
+1562734
5167243
5612734
6521374
6253147
2635417
2364571
3246751
3427615
4372165
4731256
7413526
7145362

BLOCK E.

The rows marked with a cross are the "characteristics" of the blocks, and when written as characteristics are to be taken as standing for the whole block. Every block has its own in-

variable characteristic, and no characteristic can ever stand as such for any block except its own block and characteristic are thus indissolubly united.

Now block C can be preceded either by block A or by block B. When it is preceded by A I say that it is "plain-got." When it is preceded by B I say that it is "bob-got." Also block C can be followed by block D or by block E. When it is followed by D I say that C is "plained." When C is followed by E I say that C is "bobbed."

Now put the characteristics for the blocks, and we get:—

247356—plained
234675—plain-got and plained
263547—plain-got
etc.
247356—plained
234675—plain-got and bobbed
562734—bob-got
etc.
475362—bobbed
234675—bob-got and plained
263547—plain-got
etc.
475362—bobbed
234675—bob-got and bobbed
562734—bob-got

When blocks are strung together by P or B, I say that they form a "segment" or a "circle," the latter term being employed when the segment runs to the block from which it started.

Thus:

234675
is a P
circle
263547
256734
275463
247356
234675
234675
is a B
circle
562734
475362
234675
234675
is a P and B segment
of 8 blocks
342675-4
423675-4
234675-4
is a P segment
of three blocks
is a B
segment
is a P and B
circle of 12
blocks

A P circle must contain five blocks, and a B circle must contain three, and therefore in neither case need the number be stated.

Holt's Original is a P and B circle of 357 blocks with a B circle spliced into it. His ten-part consists of two P and B circles of 180 blocks spliced together.

It will be at once seen that my terminology is almost wholly borrowed from Mr. Thompson. His Note on Grandsire Triples did more than one great thing for the Exercise. It showed us what an independent mind outside of ourselves found wanting. He invented his own terminology, most of it not capable of improvement. But as could only be expected in one new to the subject there were one or two particulars in which he might have been more fortunate. He adopted the old division of the method into "leads." Here we cannot blame him. He simply followed his instructors. It is his use of the word "block" that is one of the very few points on which I am inclined to criticise him. A "block" suggests unity, rigidity, and infrangibility. To employ it for a series whose units are alterable at will is a great pity. I think "block" far preferable in the sense in which I employ it. My word "segment" on the other hand suggests an incomplete part of something, and that something a re-entering curve—a circle. By this means also all need for "round-block" is done away. "Got by bob" and "got by plain" though excellent as descriptions, are clumsy as names. I have attempted to shorten and solidify them into "plain-got" and "bob-got."

I will just put in conclusion one question to the combatants. Here is a "lead-end"—234675—kindly write in full the "lead"

of 14 rows of which it is the "lead-end." When a fixed and permanent set of 14 rows ending with this lead-end can be found I will yield. In the meanwhile it seems to me that the only account of themselves that can be given by "lead," "plain lead" and "bob-lead" is that given by herself of the dusky young lady—"spects I grewed."

At one result of this correspondence I know that the whole Exercise will rejoice. It has drawn Captain Acland from the covert in which he has lain hidden for all too long.

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

P.S.—Incidentally what I have written shews the mistake of Captain Acland in supposing that such ugly things as

5172634

7162453

are necessary on my division of blocks. I nowhere adopt them, and still less recommend them.

SIR,—I.—*Definitions.* The confusion Mr. Davies now speaks of, arises not out of the terms themselves, but because they are not always used alike. This is clear from the fact that the three letters in your last issue take three mutually opposite views on the point. So far from objecting to the use of new terms, I was objecting to Mr. Davies being too conservative, and trying to force us back to the etymologically original meaning of a term, which has now acquired additional meanings. Nor did I invent new terms; I only re-arranged those of Mr. Davies in what seemed a more useful manner. Again, if Mr. Davies will dismiss every word which does not express its meaning "without possibility of mistake," there are few words he can use; as it is obvious from a dictionary that most words have more than one meaning. At the same time I cannot agree that the raising of the question is unnecessary or that it only affects composers and conductors. Experience in teaching some hundreds of beginners has shown me that the existing confusion in the use of terms—usually quite clear in themselves—is the greatest hindrance to the Art at the present moment.

2.—*Leads.*—This hindrance is clear in the present case: a composer does not trouble about any of the fourteen changes but the last, and thus any of the three interpretations becomes the same to him; but in explaining different points it is necessary to differentiate. And while I agree with the arguments of Mr. Acland-Troyte and Mr. Trollope, I dissent from their conclusions. If it is allowable to call a certain block of changes a "lead," and one in which no call is made is a "plain lead," it seems most useful to call the others "bob-leads" or "single-leads." What we really want is a term to describe the series, as opposed to the last line. I have suggested that we adopt Mr. Davies' term "a block" and speak of "bob-leads" being "bob-lead-blocks" and bob-lead-ends." Mr. Trollope's suggestion of "bob-courses" seems to me not only logical but useful withal.

3.—*Drawing the Line.*—When Mr. Davies says that at a certain place is the "passage from one lead" (or I should say, kind of block) "to another," he makes clear why he draws his line there: but it does not prove that that is the best place to draw the line. The fact is, as I said before, that the line is caused by the method, not by the bob. This does not mean that the bob is not part of the method, but that the method can exist without the bob, as it does in the plain course. The grounds for drawing the line between the leads of the treble would be such as (i) it would divide the thirds place made, so that all blocks would begin with thirds, and bob-blocks would end with them also; and (ii) drawing a line before instead of after rounds, would be equally easy understood by the beginner. When I said "begins to act" it was clear I did not oppose the words to "continue to act," but to its not acting at all during the change after the one in which the call is uttered. I still think it would cause unnecessary confusion to a beginner pricking the changes to have to write "B" in one block, and the work in another. As to the changes left over at the beginning or end, Mr. Davies must come round in one of three ways:—

3152746		3124567		2134567
1325476	or	1325476	or	1235476
1234567		1234567		1234567

In each case there are two rows after the line, and of course at the beginning there are the complement of twelve rows before the first line, which being out of the written symmetry of the method as shown by the lines, will practically have to be learnt by heart by the beginner—as happens in Stedman.

H. DRAKE.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY BELFRY.

SIR,—I am obliged by "College Youth's" letter in your last number. I enquired a few months ago of a ringer, whom I regarded as a good authority about this place, and was told that nothing had been done to it. Your correspondent does not correct me of his own knowledge, so that we have received contradictory information. Certainly no strictures could be too severe for the vile state of the place when I last saw it, and therefore I should be sorry to represent it as so continuing if it is contrary to fact, and unless anyone sends to your columns a statement of his own knowledge on this subject, I will investigate it further when I return to town. But the passing of strictures was not my object, and the inference I drew is not affected by the fact—if it be one—that this belfry was put in order two years ago. The fact that it was in the state in which it was, and had been allowed to be so for so many years, shows plainly that the succession of combinations of well-known ecclesiastics, who during that time had formed the Dean and Chapter of Westminster, were wholly indifferent to—if indeed they had ever heard of—the theory of the sacredness either of the steeple or of ringing. Therefore if your correspondent is right I will beg leave to amend my statement on page 59, first column, by adding after the words "Westminster Abbey" the words "as it was till within the last two or three years," and in the same line and in the line below by substituting the word "was" for the word "is."

R. A. DANIELL.

"HONOUR TO WHOM HONOUR IS DUE."

SIR,—As I am continually being congratulated upon ringing in the record peal at Kidlington, I wish to state it was not me but my nephew, who happens to have the same initials as myself. The only honour due to me is that I first introduced him into a belfry, and also conducted his first peal, of which I feel proud.

ALBERT E. REEVES.

[We have another long letter from Mr. W. Pye, on the long peal at Kidlington. Perhaps he will call at our office in connection therewith.—Ed.]

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

OTTERY ST. MARY BRANCH.—On July 18th, at the church of St. Winifred, Branscombe, 360 Bob Minor and a Plain Course of Kent Treble Bob Minor. H. Channon, 1; W. Godfrey, 2; Rev. M. Kelly (conductor), 3; J. E. Baker, 4; J. H. Godfrey, 5; A. E. Pike, 6. On July 21st, at the Vicarage, 720 Treble Bob Minor on handbells. Miss A. M. Kelly, 1; Rev. F. Knight, 2; Miss D. Kelly, 3; J. E. Baker, 4; A. E. Pike, 5; Rev. M. Kelly (conductor), 6. First 720 by all the band except the conductor.

WHITTEN'S ALMANAC.—Over sixty years ago "Whitten's Almanac" and "Whitten's Embrocation" were household words in Wellingborough. Mr. John Whitten was a bookseller, bookbinder and stationer, occupying a shop next to The Hind hotel, in Sheep Street. The old gentleman died in the early eighties, considerably over ninety years of age. The business had many years before that passed into the hands of Mr. Sharman, whose shop was in the front street (one of the old houses since pulled down to open out the Market Square). For thirty years he conducted it in a manner which gained him general respect. After his death it was taken by Dennes Brothers, who added a printing department, and since the year 1879 have carried on this old-established business in the Market Square. Now, however, circumstances render it necessary for them to move from the premises of which they have been tenants for so long. They have much pleasure in stating that they have secured the two shops, numbers 33 and 34 Sheep Street (next to Messrs. Tressider and Norris), very near the spot where John Whitten published his Almanac as far back as the early part of the century. They hope to meet with an increased share of public patronage, and take this opportunity of thanking their many customers in the town and surrounding villages for twenty years' kind support.

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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, JULY 29, 1899.

THE members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild have done the correct thing in passing a compliment to their Master by presenting him with an appropriate testimonial. We don't go so far as to say that without MR. ROBINSON the Guild would enter on a downward career, but it is well-known that he has been for several years the Guild's central figure—a pivot, as it were, round which the machinery of its operations revolved. His active pursuit of the Art is too well-known to require any reference now; but his exertions to bring the Guild to its present high position is worthy of more than a passing word. We say that the action of the Master has caused the Guild to enjoy such a recognition in the Diocese as few bodies of the kind are favored with. And he himself has become the arbiter throughout the diocese upon all matters connected with bells.

The testimonial appears to have been carried out in a somewhat unpretentious manner, members of the Guild only being made aware of the intention. Else we might have expected to see something more extensive. We congratulate the worthy Master on the happy circumstance, and our congratulations will certainly be shared in by all our readers.

MR. NOBLE IN LONDON.

On Sunday, July 23rd, Mr. Noble, of the Australian Cricket team, in response to the invitation of the writer, visited St. Paul's Cathedral during the afternoon ringing, and by the courtesy of Mr. Pettit and Mr. Horrex, was enabled to see the fine ring of twelve in motion—Great Paul—and other objects of interest in the Cathedral. Mr. Noble visited All Saints' Fulham, in the evening, taking part in a touch of Kent Treble Bob Minor, and a course of Treble Bob Major (this being his first course of Major), and a course of Grandsire Minor on hand-bells. Among those present to welcome Mr. Noble were Messrs. E. H. and H. Adams, Aldridge, Arthurton, Barton, C. and R. Charge, Driver, Elson, How, Meaton, Ough, Parsons, Pickworth, and Wade.

W. T. E.

The Metropolis.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, July 24, 1899, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE, WOOLWICH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES. Tenor 13 cwt.

WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE Treble.	STAFF-SERGT. A. PYE .. 5.
BERTRAM PREWETT 2.	JOHN R. SHARMAN 6.
CHARLES WILKINS 3.	HARRY FLANDERS 7.
ISAAC G. SHADE 4.	ALFRED W. BRIGHTON .. Tenor.

Composed by J. PAGETT, and Conducted by ALFRED W. BRIGHTON.

The band wish through the medium of this paper to thank the Rector and church-wardens for the use of the bells, also Mr. H. G. Hill, the steeplekeeper, for having everything in readiness.

The Provinces.

NESTON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—WIRRAL BRANCH.

On Wednesday, July 19, 1899, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES: VICARS'. Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOHN MEALOR Treble.	HENRY DEW 5.
WILLIAM BRISCOE 2.	†EDWIN BREEZE 6.
J. HOUGH* 3.	JAMES DILLON 7.
WILLIAM SCONCE 4.	THOMAS A. EVANS .. Tenor.

Conducted by E. BREEZE.

*First peal. †First peal in the method as conductor.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 22, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5068 CHANGES. Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lbs.

FREDERICK PALMER .. Treble.	WILLIAM R. HENSHER .. 5.
JOHN B. MARTIN 2.	JOHN J. MAWBY 6.
JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. .. 3.	WILLIAM V. NEWMAN .. 7.
WALTER PERKINS 4.	†JAMES GARRATT Tenor.

Composed by J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE, and

Conducted by JAMES GARRATT.

†First peal in the method as conductor. Great credit is due to the lad who rang the treble, he being only 15 years of age, and only learnt to ring a bell a few months ago.

BATTLE, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 22, 1899, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' TEN-PART. Tenor 23 cwt.

W. H. ELDRIDGE .. Treble.	W. THOMAS 5.
S. SAKER 2.	C. CARTER 6.
L. J. STAPLEY 3.	W. FRANKS 7.
F. LOCK 4.	J. SINDEN Tenor.

Conducted by S. SAKER.

First peal as conductor. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor, the band wishing him many happy returns.

Date Catches.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ECRINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Friday, May 26th, at the parish church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major in 1 hr. 13 mins. F. Hancock, 1; W. Rhodes, 2; J. Morton, 3; W. Price, 4; G. Norman, 5; S. Robinson, 6; G. Marsden, 7; Solomon Robinson, jun. (conductor), 8. Tenor 17 cwt. Rung in honour of the twenty-fifth birthday of Solomon Robinson, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns. Longest length on eight bells by a local company.

Miscellaneous.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LITTLE MUNDEN (Herts).—On Saturday, June 3rd, 360 each of Canterbury Pleasure, Oxford Bob, and College Single. A. Wright, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. F. Harvey, 3; G. Barker, 4; A. Phillips, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. On Saturday, June 2nd, two 720s of Canterbury and one of Oxford Bob, standing as above. This was rung as an attempt for a farewell peal to W. H. Lawrence who is leaving the village for Streatham Hill, but was lost in the last part of a 720 of College Single owing to a change-course.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

DEAL (Kent).—On Sunday evening, May 28th, for Divine Service at St. Leonard's church, 720 Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles) in 24 mins. E. Waghorn, 1; S. Mockett, 2; E. Potter, 3; G. Denne (conductor), 4; H. Denne, 5; H. Castle, 6. Tenor 9½ cwt.

HAYES (Kent).—On Sunday, May 7th, for Morning Service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor. A. Lanaway, 1; H. Brown, 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Reader, 5; J. Hack (conductor), 6. For Evening Service, 720 Kent. F. Keech, 1; A. Killick, 2; J. Hack (conductor), 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Brown, 5; H. Reader, 6. On Ascension Day for Early Celebration, 720 Bob Minor. F. Keech, 1; H. Brown, 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Reader (conductor), 5; J. Hack, 6. For Evening Service, 720 in the same method. A. Lanaway, 1; F. Keech, 2; J. Hack, 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Brown, 5; H. Reader (conductor), 6. On May 17th, on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. W. Heriot, of Reigate, and Miss A. Martin Smith, of The Warren, Hayes, 720 Bob Minor. A. Lanaway, 1; H. Brown, 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Reader, 5; J. Hack (conductor), 6. Also 720 Kent, F. Keech ringing the treble; conducted by H. Reader. On Sunday, May 21st, for Morning Service, 720 Kent, conducted by J. Hack. For Evening Service, 720 Bob Minor. A. Lanaway, 1; F. Keech, 2; H. Reader (conductor), 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Brown, 5; J. Hack, 6. On Sunday, May 28th, for Morning Service, 720 Kent. F. Keech, 1; H. Brown, 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Reader (conductor), 5; J. Hack, 6. For Evening Service, 720 in the same method, conducted by J. Hack.

LEWISHAM (Kent).—On Sunday, May 14th, for Evening Service, 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Keates, 1; C. Bedwell, 2; G. Wilson, 3; C. H. Walker, 4; T. Chandler (conductor), 5; T. Taylor, 6; H. Barrett, 7; F. Kettel, 8. *Longest touch with a bob bell. On Monday evening, May 15th, 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Keates, 1; H. Warnett, 2; C. Bedwell, 3; C. H. Walker, 4; T. Chandler, 5; T. Taylor, 6; H. Barrett (conductor), 7; T. Clews, 8. Also 630 Grandsire Triples. J. J. Lamb, 1; H. Barrett, 2; C. Bedwell, 3; C. H. Walker, 4; T. Chandler, 5; T. Taylor, 6; H. Warnett (conductor), 7; F. Kettel, 8. On Wednesday, May 24th, on the anniversary of the 80th birthday of Her Majesty, a 720 Bob Minor. W. Keates, 1; H. Warnett, 2; C. Bedwell, 3; H. Barrett, 4; T. Taylor, 5; F. Kettel, 6; T. Chandler (conductor), 7; T. Clews, 8. 7-8 covering. On Sunday, May 28th, for Evening Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 43 mins. C. H. Walker, 1; H. Warnett (conductor), 2; C. Bedwell, 3; W. Turner, 4; T. Taylor, 5; H. Barrett, 6; T. Chandler, 7; F. Kettel, 8. On Sunday, June 4th, for Evening Service, a 720 Bob Minor. C. H. Walker, 1; C. Bedwell, 2; G. Wilson, 3; H. Barrett, 4; T. Taylor (conductor), 5; W. Keates, 6; T. Chandler, 7; T. Clews, 8. 6-8 covering. On Sunday, June 11th, for Morning Service, a 720 Bob Minor on the back six. C. H. Walker, 1; C. Bedwell, 2; G. Wilson, 3; T. Taylor, 4; T. Chandler, 5; H. Warnett (conductor), 6. On June 20th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. *W. Keates, 1; H. Warnett (conductor), 2; C. Bedwell, 3; C. H. Walker, 4; T. Chandler, 5; T. Taylor, 6; H. Barrett, 7; *T. Clews, 8. *First quarter-peal with a bob bell. On June 28th, 500 Grandsire Triples. C. H. Walker, 1; H. Warnett (conductor), 2; C. Bedwell, 3; G. Wilson, 4; T. Taylor, 5; T. Chandler, 6; H. Barrett, 7; F. Kettel, 8. Also 336 Grandsire Triples. C. H. Walker, 1; H. Warnett (conductor), 2; C. Bedwell, 3; G. Wilson, 4; H. Barrett, 5; T.

Taylor, 6; T. Chandler, 7; T. Clews, 8. Also 168 Grandsire Triples. W. Keates, 1; H. Warnett, 2; C. Bedwell, 3; H. Barrett, 4; T. Taylor, 5; G. Wilson, 6; T. Chandler, 7; T. Clews, 8.

RODMERSHAM (Kent).—Recently 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). E. Sedge, 1; J. E. Grensted, 2; H. Coast, 3; J. Dixon, (conductor), 4; J. G. Grensted, 5; W. J. Walker, 6. On April 2nd, 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). C. Clift, 1; *E. Sedge, 2; J. E. Grensted, 3; J. Dixon (conductor), 4; W. J. Walker, 5; J. G. Grensted, 6. *First 720 away from the treble. On May 18th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. E. Grensted, 1; A. Trowell, 2; J. G. Grensted, 3; J. Dixon (conductor), 4; A. Day, 5; W. B. Wilkins, 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. E. Grensted, 1; J. G. Grensted, 2; A. Day, 3; J. Dixon, 4; A. Trowell, 5; W. B. Wilkins (conductor), 6. On May 24th, in honour of Her Majesty's birthday, 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). E. Sedge, 1; W. Hollands, 2; J. E. Grensted, 3; J. Dixon (conductor), 4; G. Coast, 5; H. Coast, 6. On May 27th, 720 Plain Bob (eight bobs and twenty-two singles). E. J. Hyland, 1; W. T. Hyland, 2; C. Day, 3; J. Dixon, 4; W. J. Walker, 5; W. T. Wilkins (conductor), 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. A. Day, 1; W. B. Wilkins, 2; J. E. Grensted, 3; J. Dixon (conductor), 4; W. T. Hyland, 5; W. J. Walker, 6. Also 720 Oxford Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. E. Grensted, 1; E. J. Hyland, 2; A. Day, 3; W. T. Hyland, 4; W. B. Wilkins, 5; W. J. Walker (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. E. Grensted, 1; A. Day, 2; W. T. Hyland, 3; J. Dixon, 4; W. J. Walker, 5; W. B. Wilkins (conductor), 6. On May 28th, 720 Plain Bob (eight bobs and twenty-two singles). W. Hollands, 1; J. Dixon, 2; J. E. Grensted, 3; J. G. Grensted, 4; A. Day, 5; W. B. Wilkins (conductor), 6.

EDNRIDGE (Kent).—On Wednesday, May 24th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original, in 45 mins. J. Edwards, 1; J. Wallis, 2; J. Preston (conductor), 3; J. Steddy, 4; T. Wallis, 5; J. Heasman, 6; R. Jenner, 7; P. Smith, 8.

ERITH (Kent).—On Saturday, June 10th, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal, 1344 London Surprise Major. W. Weatherstone, 1; J. H. Cheesman, 2; E. Wightman, 3; I. G. Shade, 4; G. R. Pye, 5; C. Wilkins, 6; E. Pye, 7; W. Pye (conductor), 8.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

BUCKNALL.—On Sunday, April 16th, for Divine Service, 720 Lichfield Surprise. J. Preston, 1; C. Preston, 2; W. Wheeldon, 3; D. Preston, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 23rd, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Chichester Surprise. For evening service, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. G. Clarkson, 3; the rest as before. On Tuesday, April 25th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Clarkson, 1; C. Preston, 2; J. Preston (first in the method with a bob bell), 3; W. Wheeldon, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 30th, 720 Chichester Surprise. J. Preston, 1; D. Preston, 2; G. Clarkson, 3; W. Wheeldon, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, May 9th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. G. Clarkson, 1; W. Twigg, 2; J. Preston (first in the method with a bob bell), 3; W. Wheeldon, 4; C. Preston, 5; D. Preston (conductor), 6. On Sunday, May 14th, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Duke of York. J. Preston, 1; D. Preston, 2; G. Clarkson, 3; W. Wheeldon, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. For evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. C. Preston, 3; the rest as before. On Sunday, May 21st, 720 London Surprise. G. Hobbs, 1; D. Preston, 2; W. Wheeldon, 3; C. Preston, 4; J. E. Wheeldon, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, May 24th, being the Queen's 80th birthday, 720 Kent Treble Bob. D. Preston, 1; G. Clarkson, 2; J. Preston, 3; W. Wheeldon, 4; C. Preston, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks).—On Thursday, May 25th, for practice, a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, also 720 Grandsire Minor. G. Martin, 1; Rev. H. C. Bell, 2; F. Gomm, 3; W. Walker, 4; F. Dentry (conductor), 5; J. Eldridge, 6. First 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor by all except G. Martin and F. Dentry.

WITNEY (Oxon).—On Thursday, May 25th, 720 Grandsire Minor. G. Room, 1; T. Bull, 2; N. Spindlow, 3; H. Brooks, 4; J. Brooks, 5; J. Monk, 6. On Monday, May 29th, 120 Grandsire Doubles. Rev. H. T. Scott, 1; T. Bull, 2; G. Room, 3; J. Monk, 4; H. Brooks (conductor), 5; J. Brooks, 6. On Thursday, June 1st, 720 Grandsire Minor. G. Room, 1; T. Bull, 2; J. Monk, 3; H. Brooks, 4; W. Large (conductor), 5; N. Spindlow, 6.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

NORTHENDEN (Cheshire).—On a recent Tuesday, at St. Wilfrid's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 24½ mins. J. Brickill, 1; G. Gresty, 2; H. Steele, 3; S. Price, 4; E. Price (conductor), 5; T. Price, 6. This is the first 720 in the method by a local band.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—On Coronation Day, June 28th, at Holy Trinity church, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, starting at 6 p.m. Shortly after commencing a most violent thunderstorm broke over the town, and the lightning played in the ringing-chamber to a startling effect, while the claps of thunder were heard above the music of the bells. The band kept hoping that the storm would wear itself out, but at length a serious trip brought the attempt to grief after one hour's ringing. This was the more to be regretted, because two of the Holy Trinity men were making their first attempt at peal-ringing, and J. Harris, of Portsea, was also standing in. Afterwards 352 Stedman Triples and 288 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung. In the Grandsire the band stood as follows: F. Haydon, 1; J. J. Jones, 2; W. W. Thorne, 3; J. Harris, 4; C. Willshire (conductor), 5; B. Chorley, 6; F. Blondell, 7; J. Hunt, 8. Messrs. S. Radford and J. Foster took part in the Treble Bob and Stedman. The St. Nicolas band have recently began the practice of Double Norwich, and rung several 224s called differently, and on Thursday, June 29th, rung a touch of 416. J. Foster, 1; J. J. Jones, 2; W. W. Thorne, 3; E. Allen, 4; S. Radford, 5; J. Hunt, 6; C. Willshire (conductor), 7; F. Blondell, 8. The striking was exceptionally good throughout these touches, and are the first ever rung by a local band in the diocese of Winchester.

HAVANT (Hants).—On Monday, May 1st, for practice, 504 Stedman Triples. J. Harper, 1; A. D. Stone, 2; J. Harris, 3; J. J. Symons, 4; E. C. Newman, 5; J. Instrill, 6; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 7; T. Pullen, 8. Also 220 Grandsire Triples. Rev. J. H. Selmes, 1; J. Harper, 2; A. D. Stone, 3; J. J. Symons (conductor), 4; T. Pullen, 5; E. C. Newman, 6; J. Instrill, 7; J. W. Whiting, 8. Also 252 Stedman Triples. J. Harris, 1; J. Harper, 2; J. J. Symons, 3; A. D. Stone, 4; E. C. Newman (conductor), 5; J. Instrill, 6; J. W. Whiting, 7; T. Pullen, 8. Messrs. Harris, Harper, Symons, Stone and Newman hail from Portsea; Mr. J. W. Whiting from Fareham; Rev. J. H. Selmes, T. Pullen and J. Instrill belong to the local band.

PORTSEA (Hants).—On Sunday evening, June 4th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes in 47 mins. J. Harper, 1; E. Reynolds, 2; C. Groves, 3; J. J. Symons (conductor), 4; Rev. R. C. M. Harvey, 5; A. D. Stone, 6; J. Gould, 7; J. T. Matthews, 8. Also on Sunday morning, July 2nd, for Divine Service, 504 Stedman Triples. P. M. Hammain, 1; J. Harper, 2; C. Groves, 3; J. J. Symons, 4; J. Harris, 5; W. J. Pickard, 6; E. C. Newman (conductor), 7; J. Gould, 8. Also on Sunday Morning, July 9th, for Divine Service, 504 Stedman Triples. F. S. Bayley (conductor), 1; E. C. Newman, 2; R. J. Dawe, 3; J. J. Symons, 4; J. Harris, 5; A. D. Stone, 6; J. Gould, 7; H. C. Ingram, 8. Mr. R. J. Dawe hails from St. Peter's church, Brighton.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, May 28th, eight members of the St. Lawrence's Society rang 864 Duffield Major. J. Harrison, 1; C. P. Smith, 2; J. E. Hexter, 3; W. Hexter, 4; W. R. Hexter, 5; F. C. Wicks, 6; J. R. Ward, 7; J. Bailey (conductor), 8. On Saturday, June 3rd, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins., was rung as a welcome to the Rev. R. W. Whittington, on the occasion of his induction to the living of Long Eaton, in succession to the late Canon Dolphin. A. Spencer, 1; W. R. Hexter, 2; J. Harrison, 3; W. Hexter, 4; C. P. Smith, 5; F. C. Wicks, 6; J. R. Ward (conductor), 7; E. Wicks, 8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

GALLEYWOOD (Essex).—On Sunday, May 24th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. W. Pye, 1; G. R. Pye (conductor), 2; J. Tarbun, 3; Staff-Sergeant A. Pye, 4; C. Waskett, 5; C. Andrews, 6; E. Pye, 7; E. Brazier, 8.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BATTLE (Sussex).—On Tuesday, April 11th, at the parish church, 336 Oxford Bob Triples. J. Sinden, 1; S. Saker, 2; L. J. Stapley, 3; F. Lock, 4; W. Franks, 5; C. J. Hyland, 6; W. J. Thomas, 7; W. H. Eldridge, 8. And 448 Grandsire Triples. J. Linden, 1; S. Saker, 2; C. Saker, 3; F. Lock (conductor), 4; J. Livermore, 5; W. J. Thomas, 6; W. Franks, 7; W. H. Eldridge, 8. On Tuesday, May 16th, 504 and 210 Grandsire Triples, and 210 Oxford Bob Triples, conducted by F. Lock. F. Lock, W. Franks, W. J. Thomas, C. J. Hyland, C. R. Carter, F. Mathis, W. H. Eldridge, and J. Sinden. On Whit-Sunday, ringing began at 6 a.m., and amongst other touches was a 428 of Grandsire Triples. J. Linden, 1; C. J. Hyland, 2; F. Mathis, 3; W. Eastland, 4; C. R. Carter, 5; W. J. Thomas (conductor), 6; H. Elliott, 7; W. H. Eldridge, 8. On the Queen's birthday, ringing began at 6 a.m., and at 12.30 eighty volleys were fired; at 6.30 ringing for a grand Masonic Thanksgiving Service.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

SALISBURY.—The following touches were rung by members of this Guild who met at the annual meeting held in Salisbury on Wednesday, May 31st: At St. Thomas's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. F. S. Wilson, 1; A. Draper, 2; T. Raddon, 3; A. Brown, 4; Rev. A. M. Hitchcock, 5; I. T. Hull, 6; S. Hillier (conductor), 7; C. Gaisford, 8. A 336 in the same method. F. S. Wilson, 1; J. Stevens, 2; T. Raddon, 3; A. Brown, 4; Rev. A. H. Hitchcock, 5; A. Draper, 6; S. Hillier (conductor), 7; R. Phillips, 8. At St. Martin's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. F. S. Wilson, 1; T. Raddon, 2; C. R. Hampton, 3; A. Brown, 4; W. H. Johnson, 5; A. Draper, 6; S. Hillier (conductor), 7; R. Phillips, 8.

BROMHAM (Wilts).—On Coronation Day, 720 Grandsire Doubles, in 25 mins. C. Wootton, 1; T. Jones, 2; A. Webb, 3; G. Minty, 4; J. Bush (conductor), 5; F. Wootton, 6.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GREAT HALE (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday evening, May 14th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 28 mins. J. R. Green, 1; C. Ward, 2; T. B. Wood, 3; T. Humberstone, 4; R. Masters, 5; T. T. Taylor (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, May 21st, for Divine Service, 720 Kent 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.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday morning, May 21st, 720 Oxford Bob. F. Hancock, 1; W. Rhodes, 2; G. Norman, 3; G. Marsden, 4; T. Johnson, 5; H. Turton, 6. Conducted by G. Norman. For Divine Service in the evening 1024 Kent Treble Bob Major. F. Hancock, 1; W. Rhodes, 2; J. Morton, 3; W. Price, 4; G. Norman, 5; S. Robinson, 6; G. Marsden, 7; Solomon Robinson, jun. (conductor), 8. Rung in honour of the twenty-sixth birthday of J. Morton, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns. On Sunday morning, June 4th, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. T. Hancock, 1; W. Rhodes, 2; J. Morton, 3; W. Price, 4; G. Norman, 5; S. Robinson, 6; G. Marsden, 7; Solomon Robinson, jun. (conductor), 8. In the evening 268 Kent Treble Bob Major. F. Hancock, 1; W. Rhodes, 2; W. Price, 3; J. Morton, 4; G. Norman, 5; S. Robinson, 6; G. Marsden, 7; S. Robinson, 8. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On May 24th, at the church of St. Paul, 504 Stedman Triples. F. Webb, 1; W. J. Barker, 2; W. Hall, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; C. Chasty, 5; I. Hills, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; J. Church, 8. Also 305 Grandsire Caters. J. Church, 1; C. Chasty, 2; F. Webb, 3; W. J. Barker, 4; W. Hall, 5; S. J. Cullip, 6; J. A. Smith, 7; I. Hills, 8; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 9; W. Ellis, 10. On June 22nd, 336 Grandsire Triples. S. J. Cullip, 1; J. Church, 2; W. Hall, 3; B. Jealous, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6; C. Chasty, 7; J. Ellis, 8. On July 12th, 395 Grandsire Caters. J. Church, 1; F. Webb, 2; H. Toll, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; W. Hall, 5; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; C. Chasty, 8; W. J. Barker, 9; J. Sear, 10. Also 503 and 305 Grandsire Caters. J. Church, 1; F. Webb, 2; H. Toll, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; W. Hall, 5; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 6; C. Chasty, 7; W. J. Barker, 8; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 9; J. Sear, 10. Also 408 Stedman Triples. F. Webb, 1; C. Chasty, 2; W. Hall, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6; W. J. Barker, 7; J. Sear, 8. On May 30th, at the church of St. Mary, Bedford, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. J. Church, 1; I. Hills, 2; F. Webb, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; J. A. Smith (conductor), 5; C. Chasty, 6. On June 13th, 720 Kent. B. Jealous, 1; I. Hills, 2; W. Hall, 3; C. Chasty, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; F. Webb, 6. On July 4th, 720 Bob Minor. F. Webb (conductor), 1; W. J. Barker, 2; C. Chasty, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; H. Toll, 5; J. Church, 6. On June 20th, 720 Kent. H. Toll, 1; I. Hills, 2; W. Hall, 3; A. Robinson, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; B. Jealous, 6.

HOUGHTON CONQUEST (Bedfordshire).—On May 27th, an attempt for a 5040 Minor, but after ringing a 720 of Woodbine and Kent and 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, the treble rope broke. J. Church, 1; F. Webb, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; J. A. Smith, 4; A. Robinson, 5; C. Chasty, 6. Afterwards 720 of Oxford Treble Bob and 720 Double Oxford. J. Church, 1; A. Robinson, 2; C. Chasty, 3; C. D. Smith, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; J. A. Smith (conductor), 6.

HECKINGTON (Lincolnshire).—On April 16th, 720 Bob Major. H. P. Nash, 1; J. Clark, 2; J. Hilton, 3; F. Hilton, 4; F. Warrington, 5; J. T. Holmes, 6; W. Dickinson (conductor), 7; E. Houlden, 8. On May 16th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. F. Warrington, 1; J. T. Holmes, 2; J. Hilton, 3; E. Houlden, 4; H. P. Nash,

5; J. Clark, 6; W. Dickinson (conductor), 7; W. Houlden, 8. And 1008 Grandsire Triples. T. Taylor, 1; J. T. Holmes, 2; J. Hilton, 3; F. Warrington, 4; H. P. Nash, 5; J. Clark, 6; W. Dickinson (conductor), 7; W. Houlden, 8. On May 28th, 630 Union Triples. H. P. Nash, 1; J. T. Holmes, 2; J. Hilton, 3; E. Houlden, 4; F. Warrington, 5; J. Clark, 6; W. Dickinson (conductor), 7; W. Houlden, 8.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH (Northants).—Recently for Sunday evening services, 864 London Surprise Major. J. Mawby, 1; C. Newman, 2; W. Newman, 3; A. Perkins, 4; J. Houghton, jun., 5; W. Pettitt, 6; J. Garratt, 7; A. Tyler, 8. And 576 London Surprise Major. J. Mawby, 1; C. Newman, 2; J. Garratt, 3; J. Houghton, jun., 4; W. Newman, 5; W. Pettitt, 6; A. Perkins, 7; A. Tyler, 8. Also 448 London Surprise Major. J. Mawby, 1; C. Newman, 2; J. Houghton, jun., 3; J. Garratt, 4; W. Newman, 5; W. Pettitt, 6; A. Perkins, 7; A. Tyler, 8. And a course of London Surprise Major. J. Mawby, 1; C. Newman, 2; W. Newman, 3; A. Tyler, 4; J. Garratt, 5; W. Pettitt, 6; W. Perkins (first in the method), 7; J. Houghton, jun., 8. Also 420, 352, and 252 Stedman Triples; also two 720s of Bob Minor and a 224 of Bob Major, F. Palmer ringing the treble, being his first 720 and first touch of Major.

LITTLE COMBERTON (Worcestershire).—Recently at St. Peter's church a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles. T. Winwood, 1; C. Taylor, 2; C. Collins, 3; H. Salisbury (conductor), 4; H. Hiron, 5; J. Godfrey, 6. On handbells a quarter-peal, being four 6-scores of Canterbury Pleasure, and six-and-a-half of Grandsire. H. Collins, 1-2; H. Salisbury, 3-4; C. Collins, 5-6.

MORTIMER (Berks).—On May 9th, for practice at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. H. Cox, 1; W. Jerrom, 2; G. Boddington, 3; T. Neville, 4; H. Austin, 5; A. W. Reeves, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; W. Ford, 8. On Sunday morning, May 28th, 518 in the same method. H. Stell, 1; W. Jerrom, 2; H. Cox, 3; T. Neville, 4; H. Austin, 5; W. Ford, 6; K. Mason (conductor), 7; A. Davis, 8. For evening service a quarter-peal in the same method. H. Cox, 1; W. Jerrom, 2; J. Mason, 3; T. Neville, 4; K. Mason, 5; W. Ford, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; A. Davis, 8.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent).—On Wednesday, May 24th, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples in 46 mins. *S. Perkins, jun., 1; S. Perkins, sen., 2; J. Muggridge, 3; *W. Pollard, 4; W. Latter, 5; G. Smithers, 6; H. Porter (conductor), 7; *H. Martin, 8. *First quarter-peal. †First quarter-peal in the method.

TERRINGTON (Norfolk).—On Sunday, May 27th, at St. John's church, 720 Bob Minor, in 24 mins. A. Markwell, 1; J. Edwards, 2; W. Burton, 3; H. Butters, 4; J. N. Wright, 5; F. Easton, 6. Conducted by A. Markwell. The above is the first 720 on the bells for a great number of years. They are a handy ring of six, but the 5th is badly cracked, and the rest sadly need overhauling. All the above hail from Terrington St. Clements. On Sunday, June 4th, for Divine Service at St. Clement's church, several touches of Bob Minor and Oxford Treble Bob was rung. A. Markwell and S. Howling, 1; J. Edwards, 2; W. Burton, 3; H. Butters, 4; J. N. Wright, 5; F. Easton, 6.

WOLSTANTON.—On April 2nd, before morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. E. Smith, 1; L. Miller, 2; W. Fitchford (conductor), 3; S. J. Holden, 4; J. Goodhead, 5; F. Miller, 6; T. G. Miller, 7; W. Slater, 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal in the same method. H. Roberts, 1; W. Fitchford, 2; W. Miller, 3; S. J. Holden, 4; J. Goodhead, 5; F. Miller, 6; T. G. Miller (conductor), 7; W. Slater, 8. On May 28th, for morning service, 504 of Stedman Triples, in 20 mins. W. Miller, 1; L. Miller, 2; F. Miller, 3; S. J. Holden, 4; J. Goodhead, 5; W. Grice, 6; T. G. Miller (conductor), 7; W. Slater, 8. On Sunday, June 10th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 46 mins. W. Miller, 1; L. Miller, 2; W. Fitchford, 3; S. J. Holden, 4; J. Goodhead, 5; F. Miller, 6; T. G. Miller (conductor), 7; W. Slater, 8. For evening service 504 Grandsire Triples. E. Smith, 1; W. Fitchford (conductor), 2; H. Roberts, 3; S. J. Holden, 4; J. Goodhead, 5; F. Miller, 6; T. G. Miller, 7; W. Slater, 8.

Situations Vacant.

WANTED, Groom-Coachman. Good Change-ringer on eight bells. Apply, THOS. G. HAYWARD, Midsomer Norton, near Bath.

STEADY Young Man as Coachman, and to assist occasionally in garden. About 25 years of age. Apply, Editor.

WANTED, GARDENER. Good wages given. House and coal found. Must be change-ringer on eight bells. Apply—THOS. T. HAYWARD, Midsomer Norton, near Bath.

THE KIDLINGTON PEAL.—A MANIFESTO.

DECLARATION BY THE COMPANY.

SIR,—We, the undersigned ringers in the Kidlington Long Peal, respectfully claim a right to be heard. We herewith solemnly declare, individually and collectively, the truth of the following statement:—At no time in the peal did the conductor have to separate the bells, and at no time was never more than one man tripping nor needed correction. The striking was of the same kind that the average 5000 peal contains, neither better nor worse.

We beg to point out to ringers generally the following:—

(1). That if two leads were cut out of 81st course it would entail altering the work of the whole of working bells at one moment. Such a statement is false, and any conductor who attempted it would find some bells set up, and any man clever enough to do it would be clever enough to prevent it.

(2). All the band is aware that the 6th came home for four courses in the middle of the peal, a fact unnoticed by our critic W. Pye.

(3). That the peal was well advertised, and if Mr. Washbrook wanted to score the peal haphazard he would not have chosen Whit-Monday, a day when everybody could come and criticise it. Only one (the 7th man) belongs to Washbrook's band, and had we failed any other day would have suited us.

(4). We protest against the unfair hostile criticism and somewhat impudent statement of us as "unexperienced." We cannot all monopolise the bob calling, but below will be found how dishonest the term "unexperienced" is. We believe the peal was rung full and correct, as far as the ringing was concerned, in faith of which we herewith append our names.

H. G. Judge, *Treble*.—Grandsire Doubles, 1; Triples, 13; Stedman Triples, 5; Cinques, 1; Double Norwich (17,024), 1; total, 21; conducted 6.

Alfred E. Reeves, *2nd*.—On six bells, 5; Bob Triples, 2; Bob Major, 15; Bob Royal, 2; Grandsire Triples, 10; Caters, 2; Stedman Triples, 15; Caters, 2; Treble Bob Major, 5; Royal, 1; Double Norwich Major, 2; total 61; conducted 2.

C. R. Lilley, *3rd*.—Superlative, Double Norwich, Stedman Caters and Triples, Grandsire Caters and Triples, Treble Royal and Major, Bob Royal and Major, Union Triples; total 72; conducted 19.

John Tucker, *4th*.—Grandsire Triples and Caters, Bob Major and Royal, Stedman Triples and Caters, Treble Bob Major and Royal, Double Norwich Major (including 17,024); total 59; conducted 1.

William Bennett, *5th*.—Grandsire Triples, 20; Caters, 6 (including a 13,000); College Single Triples, 1; Union Triples, 2; Stedman Triples, 20; Caters, 13 (including a 12,000 and 15,000); Cinques, 1; Treble Bob Major, 3; Royal, 2; Duffield Major, 1; Double Norwich Major, 11 (including a 10,000 and 17,024); Superlative Surprise, 8; Cambridge Surprise, 1; total 89; conducted 3.

Frank Hopgood, *6th*.—Seven methods on six bells, 1; Grandsire Triples, 36; Major, 1; Caters, 6; Bob Triples, 2; Major, 19; Royal, 2; Treble Bob Major, 8; Royal, 2; Maximus, 1; Stedman Triples, 19; Caters, 5; Double Norwich Major, 8 (including 17,024); Superlative Surprise, 5; total 115; conducted 51. Has conducted peals in every method he has rung except Superlative.

Edwin Hims, *7th*.—Stedman Triples, 7; Caters, 3; Treble Bob Major, 2; Double Norwich, 2 (including 17,024); London Surprise, 2 (including 11,328), total 16.

This declaration is made by us alone, unknown to the conductor. We wish to thank those gentlemen who have intervened to see fair play, and trust the Oxford Guild and the Exercise generally will come to a wise decision.

CURRENT TOPICS.

It was noticeable last week that the weather had some effect upon peal-ringing. Only five peals recorded. This small amount shows that peal-ringers are imbibing wisdom, slowly perhaps, but surely. In looking over my volumes of "B.N." the other day, the fact was plain that the ringing of a peal was at one time thought a rarity, and therefore an honour. Perhaps it is considered an honour now, but a peal is certainly not a rarity. We have made a peal performance too common by its frequency, I fear. It is quite refreshing, therefore to see so few just now. They shine out among the records in bold relief and more refulgent than when we have page after page of them. Don't let peals get too common, brethren. You know the saying—"Familiarity breeds contempt."

I find I can't get on very far before the Kidlington peal crops up. Why? you think. Your humble servant "P.S." is becoming so popular that ringers from all parts relate to him their hopes and trials, and solicit his interest and advice. Complimentary, is it not? Well, I've no objection; anything for a quiet life; and I am always anxious to give pleasure. Letter No. 1. follows. It was not exactly a letter, because it was a post-card, and it was not addressed to me, but to the Editor. But this was only my correspondent's modesty. Here it is:—

"CHURCH STREET, KIDLINGTON.—Plain Speaker' says that it would be quite a novelty for Mr. Noble, the Australian cricketer, to ring a peal at Kidlington. I shall only be too pleased to arrange a peal for him if he would mention a date convenient for himself. He would not only have an opportunity of ringing a peal where the record peal was rung, but would be able to ring with some of the band who took part in it. I remain, yours very truly, H. G. Judge."

The next letter, it must also be admitted, was not sent direct to me, but it is thought well that I should deal with it. Here it is, just as written:

"Sir,—I was surprised on reading the last issue of 'THE BELL NEWS' by 'Plain Speaker's' remarks on my letter. In justice to myself I should like to know why I cannot express my opinion. I notice he does not mention his friend Willson's letter, which caused others to interfere. In conclusion I should like 'Plain Speaker' to take this hint—give fair play to everybody.—W. H. Barber."

My friend Barber should not be upset like this. All I said was that I could not understand his letter, and gave him a valuable hint which it seems he could not "brown" to. Mr. Willson I don't know and never saw. If Mr. W. H. Barber can mention any instance of "unfair" play at my hands, perhaps he will specify it in plain terms. I am not angry with friend Barber; not in the least. There's an old saying about "rushing into print" which is very applicable here.

When a great question arises which causes some commotion, some unpleasantness, some irritation, and an immense difference of opinion, some of those concerned are sure to think they are being treated unfairly. This is shadowed in the leader of last week. No doubt it would have admirably suited these people if this paper had taken up their views *holus bolus*, but because it has not done so, and eschewed partisanship altogether, they grumble, and growl, and threaten. This behaviour shews a spurious manliness; and it is contemptible. I shall not pursue the subject, for fear the language I might be betrayed into using may be considered too strong.

Mr. E. Hims, who rung the 7th in the Kidlington peal, writes (not direct to me) this week:

"Sir,—The ringers who rang the long peal at Kidlington will be present at that place on Sunday afternoon, August 6th, and would be glad to meet any gentleman who may possibly doubt the ringing of the long peal. They could then show them the true style of the ringing as on that occasion."

Now who will stay away after such an invitation?

Here endeth my lacubrations (that's a capital long word) for this week.

PLAIN SPEAKER.

Ringers' Outings.

THE HORLEY BRANCH OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION held their annual outing on Monday, July 17th, and it proved to be one of the most pleasant they have ever experienced. This year their choice fell upon Westerham, Kent, celebrated as the birthplace of General Wolfe, the hero of Quebec. The ringers started from Horley at 9 a.m. in a large brake provided by Mr. Peek, and proceeded by way of Smallfields, Godstone and Limpsfield, to Westerham, arriving there at noon. They put up at The Crown hotel, whose popular proprietor is Mr. G. Whitmore, a native of Horley. The Vicar, the Rev. H. T. Lewis, arrived soon after the ringers. A capital luncheon was served in one of the spacious rooms of the large hotel, Mr. Whitmore and his daughters doing everything possible for the comfort and enjoyment of the visitors. After luncheon a start was made for the church tower, where, on the splendid peal of bells, several touches were rung of Grandsire Triples, the following taking part:—Messrs. W. Edwards, A. Longhurst, T. Post, G. Staplehurst, S. Kenward, J. Kenward, F. Voice, E. Taylor, A. Taylor, G. App, A. Jennings, junior, H. Chart, T. Whitmore, F. Wickens (Charlwood), E. Dewey (St. John's, Redhill), and Mr. Wright, Foreman of the Westerham ringers. The Rev. H. C. Bartlett was not sufficiently well to meet the ringers himself, but Mrs. Bartlett and the Rev. Mr. Stubbs (senior curate) welcomed the ringers to the church. The bells being lowered, a return to the hotel, where a good tea was provided, after which a start was made for home, arriving at about 10.30 p.m., all having spent a most pleasant day. The ringers, through the medium of this paper, wish to thank the Rev. H. C. Bartlett for his kindness in allowing the use of the bells, also to the steeplekeeper for having everything in readiness.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.—On Monday, July 17th, the ringers of St. Thomas's, Kidsgrove, branch of the above, with their wives and children, had their first outing, which was to Betley by brake. Starting about 1.30 p.m., we had a very pleasant drive about seven miles through one of the prettiest parts of Cheshire, arriving about 3.30 p.m. when we were met by Mr. Warham, the foreman of the Betley ringers. After refreshing the inner man we wended our way to the tower, and 720 of Kent was tapped off. Then we made for The Swan hotel, where tea had been provided, which was done full justice to. Tea over and a pleasant chat again found the visitors at the ropes and 720 of Oxford was tapped off in 24 mins. by J. Mason, 1; G. Buckley, 2; A. Archer, 3; *F. Dean (conductor), 4; H. Dean, 5; G. Siddons, 6. *First 720 as conductor. Our friends Mr. Warham and Mr. Vickers then came upon the scene, having cycled over from Audley, so an attempt was made for a 720 of Grandsire Minor which came to grief owing to a change of course. The bells were then dropped, and after having a friendly drink together a start was made for home, where we safely arrived at 10.30, all being thoroughly satisfied with the day's outing. The band wish to thank the rector and churchwardens through "THE BELL NEWS" for the use of the bells, also Mr. Warham for having everything in readiness for us. H.

THE ST. MARK'S SOCIETY, WORSLEY.—On Saturday, July 22nd, the members of this company had their annual outing along with the Vicar, the Rev. F. K. Hodgkinson, and the choir. The place selected this year was Windermere. The company assembled at Worsley Station at 8.30, and on the arrival of the train took their seats in the reserved compartments which the railway company had kindly placed at their disposal. On the journey the handbells were brought out, thus helping to while away the time until the train got into the north, when the change-ringing scenery came in for a share of admiration, as the railway skirts Morecambe Bay and then amongst the hills and vales of Cumberland and Westmorland. On arriving at Windermere a char-a-banc was waiting to convey the party to Ambleside—a most beautiful drive alongside the lake. On arriving at Ambleside dinner was the next item on the programme, to which ample justice was done. A walk to the waterfall above the head of the lake was well worth the exertion required to climb the hill. Next followed a sail on the steamboat down the lake to Bowness, enlivened at intervals by tunes and changes on the handbells. On arrival at Bowness

tracks were made for Windermere parish church, where through the kindness of the Rector the bells were at the disposal of the company. Here was found a beautiful peal of eight in capital going order, and three courses of Stedman and five courses of Double Norwich Major were rung. With tea at The Stag's Head hotel over, train time came, and after a pleasant day's outing home was reached about ten o'clock. R.

THE ST. STEPHEN'S SOCIETY, WESTMINSTER.—The members of this society held their annual outing on July 8th. Starting from Paddington by the 9 a.m. train, Reading was reached in good time, where we were met by a friendly ringer from Caversham. As we were not permitted to view the secrets of biscuit making (Saturdays being barred) a quiet stroll brought us to our headquarters, The Crown hotel, Caversham, where refreshments were partaken of. A visit was then paid to the tower and a peal of London Surprise attempted which came to grief after an hour. Joined by Mr. T. Newman and friends the principal parts of Reading were explored before proceeding to the station to meet those who were unable to get off in the morning. Dinner was served and due justice done to it at 3.50, and then boating on the river and touches on the bells brought on the evening. This was by no means the duller part of the day for the songs were well rendered, and the tune-playing on handbells by our Caversham friends was something which we shall not forget for a very long time. Sunday morning early found some of us bathing in the river and others taking a row before breakfast. A walk to Sonning was the next order, but unfortunately only about ten minutes' ringing could be obtained upon this fine peal of bells. After dinner another long spin was taken upon the river and a few photos taken by our professional. As this with tea took up more time than was anticipated we were not able to get into Reading for a pull, for which we wish to apologise to the Reading ringers, who had promised to meet us. Farewells were uttered at the station and the 8.20 p.m. train brought us back to London well satisfied with ourselves. The members wish to thank Mr. Newman for so kindly making arrangements, also all the friends who assisted in making the outing so pleasant and successful. O.

THE ST. MARY'S COMPANY, ISLINGTON.—On Saturday, July 8th, the ringers of the above church held their annual outing, Enfield being the place chosen. Arriving there about 3 p.m., they found some of the local men and some friends from town, among them being ringers from St. Sepulchre, Snow Hill, St. Olave, Hart Street, Allhallows Barking, Tower Street, and St. George's-in-the-East. A move was made for the church of St. Mary, where a touch was rung. A stroll brought them to The Crown and Horseshoes where the host had a first-class meat tea awaiting them, to which ample justice was done. Tea over tracks were made for St. Andrew's church, where several touches were rung. A very pleasant evening was afterwards spent in harmony and tunes and touches on the handbells, returning home by the last train, having had a very enjoyable outing. The ringers wish through the medium of this paper to thank the rev. gentlemen of the churches visited for granting the use of their bells; likewise Mr. Boswell, of St. Andrew's, for having everything ready.

SOMERBY (Leicestershire).—On Saturday, June 10th, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, J. W. Barnes, 1; E. J. Gale, 2; C. Dalby, 3; W. James, 4; R. H. Bartram (conductor), 5. Then a 720, being two 6-scores each of Grandsire, Plain Bob, and Canterbury. J. W. Barnes, 1; C. Dalby, 2; E. J. Gale, 3; W. James, 4; R. H. Bartram (conductor), 5. Two more 6-scores were rung by nearly the same company, conducted by J. H. Preston.

GIVEN AWAY. PEACH'S LACE CURTAINS.

21^S DIRECT FROM THE LOOMS CARRIAGE PAID 21^S
POPULAR PARCEL.

Lot B.N. contains—1 pair Drawing-room Curtains, Superb Lacey Design, very Rich, 4 yards long, about 2 yards wide; 2 Pairs alike, for Dining-room, handsome work. Copied Real Lace, 3½ yds long, 60 ins. wide; 1 pair Bedroom Curtains, Artistic Floral, 3 yds. long, 50 ins. wide. One five o'clock Table Cover, Choice Guipure Lace. Sent, Carriage Paid, for 21s. All goods taped edges. Ecu if desired.

GIVEN AWAY with each parcel—6 Lace Dressing-table Covers, Fringed, one 45 ins. long, 5 smaller. Our 1899 Parcel is the best we have yet sent out. PRIZE MEDALS, Chicago and Toronto. Satisfaction guaranteed or money returned.

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Notices.

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

Leeds and District Amalgamated Society—The monthly ringing meeting will be held at **Headingley (St. Chad's)** 8 bells, to-day, Saturday, July 29. Meeting house The Woodman inn. Handbells provided. Trams pass the church every few minutes. All ringers are cordially invited. **H. GAYTHORPE, Hon. Sec.**

1, Elm Avenue, Bramley.

Halifax and District Association—The next meeting will be held at **Stainland**, to-day, Saturday, July 29th. Tower will be open at 12.30 for ringing. Business meeting at 6 p.m. **WRIGHT INGHAM, Hon. Sec.**

Middlesex County Association—South and West District.—The next meeting of the above will be held by the kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. T. M. Everett, at **Rnislip**, to-day, Saturday, July 29. Ringing to commence at 4.30. Members and friends are cordially invited. Will members who have not paid up their subscriptions kindly do so as soon as possible?

The Ashton-under-Lyne Society—The next quarterly meeting will be held at **St. Elizabeth's Reddish**, to-day, Saturday, July 29. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 7 p.m. **J. BOOTH, Hon. Sec.**

108, Albermarle Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

The Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, Bristol Branch—The next meeting for practice will be held at **Bitton**, near Bristol, to-day, Saturday, July 29th. Kindly make this known among the ringers of your parish. Service at 5.30 p.m. Bells open for ringing from 4 p.m.

C. H. GORDON, Hon. Branch Secretary.
Hill Street, Kingswood.

The Kent County Association, Lewisham District—The next quarterly meeting will be held at **Chislehurst** to-day, Saturday, July 29. Tower open from 3.30 to 8.30 p.m. Committee meeting in parish room at 6 p.m. **W. J. JEFFRIES, Hon. District Sec.**

The Kent County Association, St. John's, Deptford—The usual Wednesday evening practices at this tower will be discontinued until further notice. **W. J. JEFFRIES, Hon. Sec.**

The Sheffield and District Society—The next meeting will be held at **Staveley** on August 5th. Tower ready 4 p.m. **R. HARRISON, Hon. Sec.**

Oldbury Parish Church, Worcestershire—On and after July 27th our practice night will be on a Thursday, at 7.30. **J. W. PARISH.**

St. Mary's, Beddington, Surrey—The tower will be open at Beddington as usual on Bank Holiday, at 3 o'clock. All ringers are invited. Flower Show and Sports in Beddington Park. **C. BANCE, Hon. Sec.**

SILENT PEAL.

Thurstans' four-part peal of Stedman Triples will be attempted, unconduted, by resident members of the Oxford Guild, at **Drayton, Berks**, on Monday, August 7th, at 10.30 a.m. Umpire—Mr. C. Hounslow, Ifley Road, Oxford.

Compositions.

BOB MAJOR.

By **SAMUEL JESSON, Tipton.**

5088.

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

The last thirteen courses repeated.

This peal has the full combinations of 4, 5 and 6 in 5-6; the 2nd and 3rd never in 6ths place at a course-end.

First rung at St. Martin's, Tipton, on May 15, 1899, conducted by ADAM H. HILL.

NORWICH MAJOR.

By **HERBERT TUCKER, Bristol.**

5376.

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

Five times repeated; single for bob half-way and end.

5376.

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

Eleven times repeated; single for bob at 1 in the last course of the sixth and twelfth parts.

A PRIOR CLAIM.

SIR,—The composition of Bob Major published in "THE BELL NEWS" of July 15th, 1899, under the name of George B. Lucas, Walthamstow, is the same composition as was published in "THE BELL NEWS" of September 3rd, 1897, under the name of Horace Howlett, Framlingham, Suffolk.

HORACE HOWLETT.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

SITUATION required by a married man, aged 31, without family, in a month or by the 11th of October as Gardener, singlehanded. Can manage Cucumbers, Melons, Tomatoes, etc., and the general work of a well-kept garden. Highest references. A change-ringer on six or eight bells. Apply John Gaymer Miles, Point Cottages, Attleboro, Norfolk.

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.

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.

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Of every conceivable description—English manufacture all made in our own factories.

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FANCY RINGS

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Church and Turret Clock Makers,
GUILDFORD STREET, LEEDS.

NEW PALACE STEAMERS, LTD.

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"LA MARGUERITE," Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays to Margate and Boulogne and back. On Tuesdays to Margate and Ostend and back. On Sundays to Southend and Margate and back. Special trains from Fenchurch-street Station—Mondays, 7.20 a.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 8.15 a.m.; Saturdays, 7.45 a.m. and 8.3 a.m. (St. Pancras, 8 a.m.); Sundays, 9.35 a.m. and 9.45 a.m. (St. Pancras, 9.40 a.m.).

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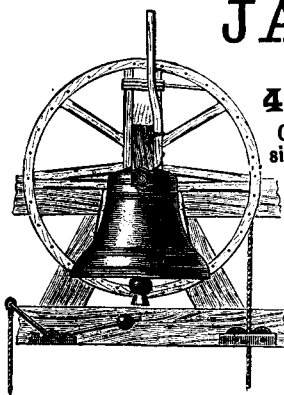
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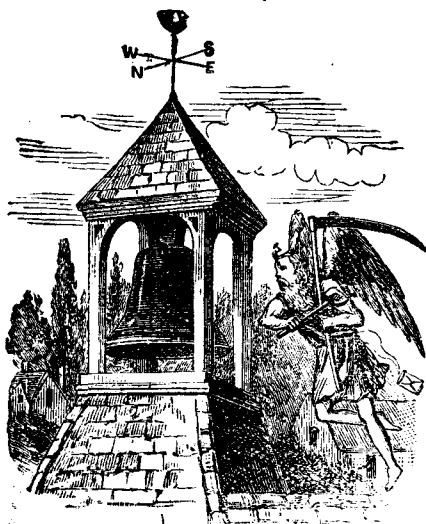
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No. 904.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 1899.

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Hammersmith Parish Ch.	Eiffel Tower, Paris.
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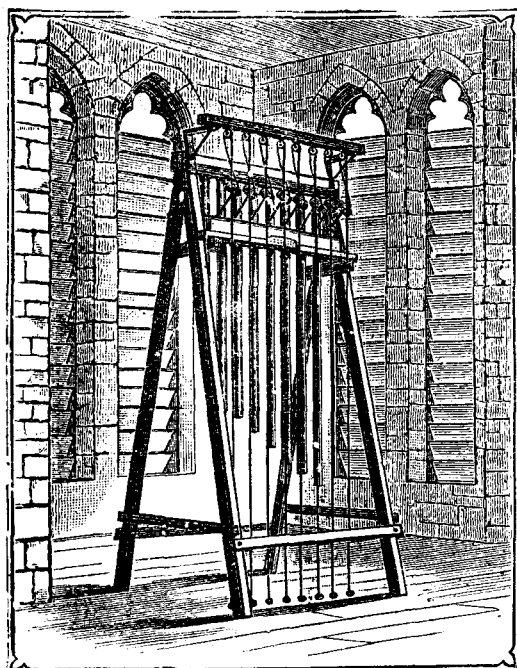
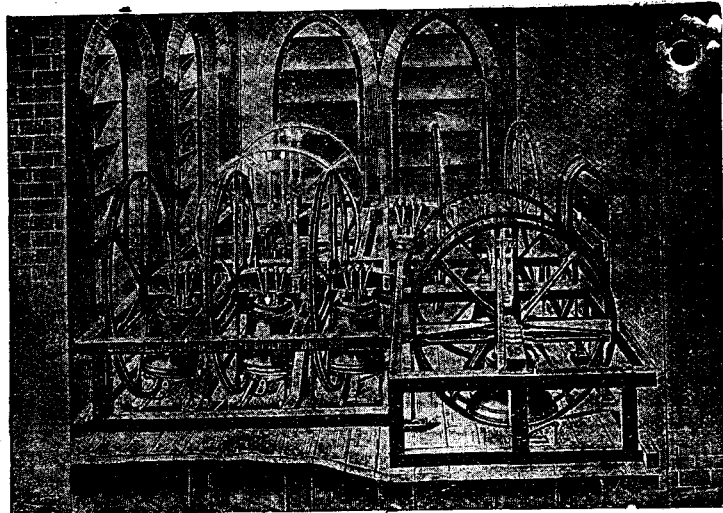
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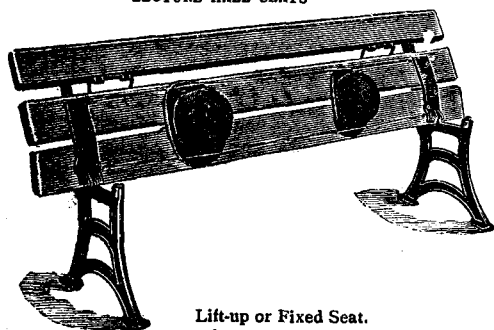
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 904.]

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

ST. DUNSTAN'S CHURCH BELLS, STEPNEY.

A most interesting service and ceremony took place last Wednesday at old Stepney church, when the fine ring of ten were formally re-opened after restoration, which has been effected through the munificence of Spencer Charrington, Esq., M.P. Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of the Whitechapel foundry, have practically placed these bells in the condition of a new peal. They have all been quarter-turned, which with new fittings, restored frame, etc., cost £260.

The service, conducted by the Rev. A. E. Dalton (the Rector), was well attended, a goodly number of ringers being present.

The service over, a general move was made for the tower, when the district ringers, assisted by several old members, rang several touches of Grandsire Caters, conducted by H. Springall. With a fair amount of pressing, Mr. Charrington was persuaded to ascend to the ringing-chamber—a rather difficult matter for a gentleman over eighty years of age, but he was well rewarded, for his presence was the signal for a general outbreak of enthusiasm, and he quite enjoyed what he saw and heard. He then formally declared the bells open for ringing.

At 5.30 the ringers, by special invitation of the Rector, repaired to the rectory, where a most elaborate dinner was provided for some twenty-five guests, and ample justice was done to the same. During the progress of the repast, Mr. Charrington had to take his departure, but before doing so, Mr. Ernest Richards (secretary) rose, and in a few well-chosen words thanked him on behalf of the Stepney society, also on behalf of the Ancient Society of College Youths, for the great kindness he had conferred upon them that day. He assured him that by his munificent gift to the church, in having the fine ring of bells restored, and thus put into good ringing order, he had most nobly assisted the cause and Art of change-ringing. Mr. Charrington would carry away the heartfelt thanks of every ringer throughout the country for this great and good act.

In response Mr. Charrington thanked every one for their presence, and their appreciation of what he had done in the matter of the bells' restoration.

Dinner over, the party then enjoyed a walk upon the lawn, and at 7.30 another visit was paid to the belfry to ring the bells for service. After service the company met at their own meeting-rooms, when a good musical programme was ably carried out, Mr. Richards, R.C.M., at the pianoforte. During the evening several toasts were given and responded to, and great praise was awarded to Mr. Ernest Richards for the able manner in which he had conducted the proceedings. Without his valuable co-operation it was thought that possibly the bells would never have been restored in the manner they have been. At 11.30 the company dispersed.

Although the bells have been re-opened, there will be no ringing for some time to come, as the church is now undergoing a complete restoration. Due notice will be given of the period when ringing may recommence.

DEDICATION AT ASH PRIORS, SOMERSET.

A most satisfactory work of complete restoration of bells and fittings, says a local print, has just been done in the tower of the parish church at Ash Priors. For a long time past the necessity for such a work has been felt in the parish, and the authorities at last decided to call in Mr. J. Sully, bellhanger, of Stogumber. As a result of the examination which he made, the old bell-cage and beams were found to be in an utterly rotten state alike dangerous to bells and ringers. He recommended a complete clearance of the old timber work, and the substitution of a new oak cage and timber to support it, entirely new fittings to the bells, and the casting of the whole of the six bells, which were poor in tone and badly out of tune. It was ultimately decided to adopt the whole of Mr. Sully's recommendations, and this decision has been fully justified by the excellent results which have been obtained. The old bells were sent to Loughborough to be recast, and the result is highly satisfactory. The new bells are perfect in tune and tone, the tenor about 10 cwt., and Ash Priors may now be said to possess one of the most musical light rings of six in the county.

The dedication service took place at 3.0 p.m. on Saturday, and was conducted by the rural dean, Prebendary Askwith (of Taunton). The Rev. H. Courtney, Master of the Diocesan Association, was present among other clergy. After singing the 100th psalm, the rural dean announced the object of the service. During the recitation of Psalm cxxii. the clergy, churchwardens, and choir proceeded to the ringing-chamber, where Mr. W. P. Baker, as one of the churchwardens, handed the bellropes to the rural dean. Prebendary Askwith then delivered them to the Vicar as a sacred trust to be used ever and only in God's service and glory. The bells were then raised in peal by the Taunton St. James's company. The hymn, "O thanks to Thee, our gracious Lord," having been sung, the rural dean said the customary prayers, and gave a brief but admirable and appropriate address. He described the origin of the bells being hung in the church. That church had been restored in 1874, and one of the bells was recast at that time, but had to be again recast on the present occasion. He alluded to the excellent order which everything connected with the church appeared in, and said the thanks of all were due to those who had assisted in the work of having the bells made perfect.

During the hymn, "Hark on high the joyful music!" the offertory was taken, and it has been given to the Taunton and Somerset Hospital. The Vicar pronounced the Benediction.

After Divine Service the Taunton St. James's company rang a 700 each of Bob and Grandsire Minor, and several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. The ringers taking part, and who are all members of the Diocesan Association, were the Rev. H. C. Courtney, and Messrs. J. Maddock, H. Peatce, F. Millard, A. Evans, E. E. Burgess, and G. H. Yendall. Other ringers were present from Wiveliscombe, Bishops Lydeard, Halse, Heathfield, Bagborough, and other places, and rang during the evening. Complete

satisfaction was expressed with the work done by Mr. Sully. One of the ringers present, and qualified to judge, describes it as "the best job I have ever seen; the bells go like tops."

Through the kindness of Mrs. Proctor Baker, a capital tea was provided in a marquee erected in a meadow adjoining the churchyard for the ringers, choir, and practically all comers. The weather was delightful, and the day will long be remembered in connection with church life in Ash Priors.

THE EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 2nd, a special ringing meeting of this Association was held at Horsley. Owing to the inclemency of the weather only five towers were represented to partake of the Vicar's (Rev. A. G. Waldy's) hospitality, viz.: Ripley, Tibshelf, Horsley, Pentrich, and North Wingfield. Thirty-two sat down to a splendid tea, after which a hearty vote of thanks was given to the Vicar, who suitably responded, expressing regret that more members had not turned up, the clerk of the weather being blamed (rightly or wrongly) for the same.

The bells, a musical ring of five, and going like tops, were kept merrily going the whole of the afternoon to all sorts of five-bell methods.

The local company and the Vicar are anxious to get an additional treble, but the one thing needful is not at present forthcoming, but it is to be hoped that at no distant future such a worthy object may be attained.

The fine old church was greatly admired by all present. Towards 8 p.m. the members began to disperse to their various stations, all having had an enjoyable time, the bad weather notwithstanding. The Vicar was duly thanked for the use of his bells. He expressed a wish to soon see the Association meeting there again.

THE NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held at Everton, on Saturday, July 15th. Everton has in former years been a very popular place of meeting, but this time, from one cause or another, there was but a small gathering. The Secretary was kept away by illness, and the Vicar was unable to preside, and so, for the first time in the history of the Association no clerical member was present. Representatives attended from the following towers: Shireoaks, 6; Harthill, 5; Bawtry, 3; East Markham, 2; Ordsall, 1. A capital tea was provided by the host of the clean little inn adjoining the church, and when that had been disposed of the usual business meeting was held in the same room, in the course of which Blyth was proposed as the place for the next quarterly meeting, an amendment being moved in favour of East Markham. As no Blyth representative was present to endorse the original proposition, and as the East Markham tower had sent a pressing invitation, the amendment was carried, the date being fixed for Saturday, October 14th. The following ringing was done during the afternoon: 360 Violet by D. Taylor, E. Russon, J. Fitzjohn, W. Hargreaves (conductor), D. Russon, B. Hall. A 360 Duke of York by the same. A 720 of Kent by H. Unwin, J. White (conductor), J. Guest, T. Smith, C. Crawford, T. Laking. And 720 Violet by J. Holgate, John Swindin, J. Swindin, C. Crawford, G. Stevenson (conductor), G. Brown.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The monthly meeting of the Bristol branch of this Association was held on Saturday, July 29th, at Bitton. Between twenty and thirty were present, the following towers being represented: St. Mary, Bitton; St. Thomas a Becket, Pucklechurch; St. Stephen, Bristol; St. George, Bristol; St. Andrew, Clifton.

A short service was held in the parish church, conducted by the Rev. H. A. Cockey, of Oldland.

After service a 700 of Kent Treble Bob, and several 6-scores of Stedman Doubles were rung.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar and wardens for the use of the bells, and to Mr. Sommerville for making the necessary arrangements for the musical part of the service.

It was decided to hold the next monthly meeting in the deanery of Dursley.

THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

The usual monthly meeting of the above-named society was held at St. Chad's, Headingley, on Saturday, July 29th, when the following towers were represented: Armley, Bramley, Calverley, Headingley (St. Michael's), Leeds, Rothwell, and the local company. The business meeting was held at The Woodman hotel, Mr. C. D. Smith, in the unavoidable absence of the president, being voted to the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. A discussion then took place as to which were the best means to be adopted for collecting the arrears of subscriptions, and after many members had given their views, it was moved—"That the secretary write to the towers, warning them of their subscriptions."

Two new members were elected, viz.: Mr. R. Squires and Mr. T. F. Savage.

A hearty vote of thanks was given to the Vicar and wardens for the use of the bells; and the local company for their kind arrangements. This brought to a close a very enjoyable meeting.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The summer quarterly meeting of the Lewisham branch of this Association was held at Chislehurst on Saturday, July 29th. The tower was open from 3.30 p.m., and touches in various standard methods were indulged in until 8.0 p.m. By kind invitation of the Rev. F. H. Murray, the committee-meeting was held in the parish room at the rectory, and a walk round the grounds was enjoyed by all. It was decided that the annual meeting should be held at Crayford on Saturday, October 28th.

TUNSTALL.—On Sunday, June 4th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. Daniels, 1; G. Jay, 2; G. Savage, 3; W. Sawyer (conductor), 4; G. Thompson, 5; J. Avis, 6.

Situations Vacant.

WANTED, Groom-Coachman. Good Change-ringer on eight bells. Apply, THOS. G. HAYWARD, Midsomer Norton, near Bath.

STEADY Young Man as Coachman, and to assist occasionally in garden. About 25 years of age. Apply, Editor.

WANTED, GARDENER. Good wages given. House and coal found. Must be change-ringer on eight bells. Apply—THOS. T. HAYWARD, Midsomer Norton, near Bath.

CURRENT TOPICS.

A week or two back I alluded to the long-talked of increase of bells for Waltham Abbey—a very old edifice as most of my readers know—which is to become the Cathedral of Essex before the end of the 20th century, perhaps. Well, the following quotation is taken from a local newspaper:—

"We understand that at a meeting of the Abbey Church Estate Trustees held at the Girls' Sunday Schoolroom, on Wednesday week, Mr. Parnell proposed the following resolution:—'That a iron frame be inserted in the Abbey Church tower in place of the defective one of oak, to carry twelve bells; that the eight bells when taken down be tuned and properly hung, particular attention being given to the fifth and seventh bells; the iron frame to rest on four steel girders, and the girders on stone corbels inserted in the church tower; the frame to be so constructed as to carry at some future time a 39 cwt. tenor bell in place of the 19 cwt. tenor bell, with corresponding gradations in the weight of the other bells.' The motion is under consideration, and will come before a further meeting, when it is to be hoped unanimity will prevail, and the work which is so necessary, and has been so long deferred, will be carried out. By the way, we heard of another gentleman who contemplated the gift of two additional bells, and knowing his great liberality, feel sure, if he were approached in a proper manner, the gift would stand good."

You will say this shows no immediate augmentation of the bells. Well no; but some one has "moved," and that is something. In the above extract we find these portentous words: "It is hoped that unanimity will prevail." Unanimity I am afraid is a scarce article at this end of Essex. But of course I echo the hope sincerely. I also hope something, and that is while this rehanging is being done, they will determine to have two more bells at least. It can be managed if exertions are made.

One thing about this bob-lead question is, it is drawing out some of the—*elite* (I was about to irreverently say "the great pots") of the Exercise. Whatever subject the Rev. C. D. P. Davies writes upon he generally deals with it in a popular and interesting manner, and it is always a pleasure to read what he says. But his last letter is awfully scientific and learned, and has a Jesuitical look. The compositor who sets up the type of Mr. Davies's letters, wishes, I am told, that his flower-knots of figures were a little way off.

Then we have Captain Acland, of whom very little has been heard lately; and our old friend Mr. Trollope, of Norwich; the Rev. H. Drake is a new acquaintance to most of us. Such names as these give *eclat* (I think that is a proper word) to any question.

Looking over my back volumes of "B.N." recently, I dropped upon those chapters entitled: "A Ring of Bells in Perfect Tune," written by Mr. Davies years ago. I read them through again, and found them very worthy of perusal. Would that they could be published in pamphlet form. Perhaps the "C.C." might take the hint.

Talking over this subject of "bob-leads" the other

evening with a friend who knows a thing or two, it was said that the term seemed to be created almost for the purpose of this discussion. He had scarcely ever heard the word used. A lead of Triples with a treble plain hunt was fourteen changes, Caters eighteen, and so on. The terms in use in my friend's younger days were "treble leads" and "bob-changes"; not "bob-leads." And those who wished to understand such things never were at a loss; they could always obtain the intelligence if they went the right way to work. An opinion was also expressed that no benefit was obtained by so many attempts at simplification. The supposed "crying evil" of a defective or ambiguous phraseology in ringing terms is being made too much of; "he who runs may read;" and so on, etc., etc. I certainly am of opinion that in a ringing company the fewer quidnuncs the better. But I had better leave this subject, before I get into deep water.

A ringing manifesto is the latest development. The next thing to do is to file a bill in Chancery and make powerful affidavits all round. I think it was some of the Norwich men who many years ago made oath and said before a bench of magistrates that a certain peal was "O.K." Well, it's as good a way as any, perhaps. It is really no use saying that you didn't leave forty courses out; your opponents say you did, and you can't get over that. "Not by no means however." We shall have to have that Royal Commission after all.

So they have given the worthy Master of the Oxford Guild a testimonial. Well he has been a great exponent of the Art, and his energies have been in the right direction. May be the time will come when I shall be allowed to "fathom the bowl" in company with the Rev. F. E. R. Mr. Master; My sincere and heartfelt congratulations! More power to your elbow, especially when the "four-part" is on.

PLAIN SPEAKER.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(WIRRAL BRANCH.)

The monthly meeting of the above branch was held at Bromborough on Saturday, July 22nd, when thirty-four members attended from the following towers: Bebington, Bromborough, St. Mary's Chester, Neston, Oxtan, and West Kirby. After ringing touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples an adjournment was made to the schoolroom at 6 p.m. for tea, kindly provided for the ringers by Mr. Anthony. The ringers were kindly welcomed by Mr. Thompson (churchwarden), who kindly took the chair in the unavoidable absence of the Rev. E. Dwyer Green, who however arrived later on at the conclusion of tea. Mr. Thompson kindly read the minutes of four previous meetings, in the absence of the Hon. Secretary—Mr. Woolcott—who was unavoidably absent, owing to other pressing engagements. Mr. Battle, late of St. Albans, was proposed and elected a member of the above branch; and Mr. J. Hammond was proposed and elected Assistant Hon. Secretary to the branch.

A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Anthony, Mr. Thompson, and the Rev. E. Dwyer Green for presiding. The business meeting over, several of the ringers returned to the tower and rang touches of Treble Bob Major, Stedman and Grandsire Triples, thus bringing to a close a most enjoyable and one of the largest meetings of the branch.

THE ST. MARGARET'S SOCIETY, LEISTON.

On Saturday, July 29th, the members of this Society had their excursion. The weather, that all important element, was all that could be desired. Starting at 6.30 in one of Mr. F. Garrod's well-appointed brakes, the first halt was made at Framlingham, where they were met by Mr. A. E. Read and Mr. W. Oastler, of the local company. On arriving at the tower the Rector, the Rev. J. H. Pilkington, met them, and gave the ringers a very cordial welcome. The bells were set going in the Plain and Treble Bob Major methods, the rev. gentleman taking part in one of the touches, and afterwards conducting the visitors over the portion of the church now closed for restoration, in which are several historical tombs, which the rev. gentleman gave them an interesting account of. Having thanked the rev. gentleman for his kindness, they again mounted the brake, the next halting place being at Grundisburgh, where the octave has recently been completed. The requirements of that stereotyped being "the inner man" were now very much in evidence, and the local hostelry, The Dog, was next visited, where host Mallett had a capital spread in readiness, and which was much appreciated. Here the ringers were met by Mr. Last, of the local company, who had kindly got all in readiness for them, and several touches were rung. The bells were then lowered, and the party were soon again on the brake *en route* for Woodbridge, which was reached at 4 o'clock, and where they were met by that veteran ringer, Mr. John Fosdike, also Mr. C. Ward and Mr. E. Sherwood, who took part in several touches upon the grand bells of St. Mary's.

Again the horses were put in the brake, and the ringers were soon on their way to Ufford, Mr. Fosdike occupying a seat in the brake, Messrs. Ward and Sherwood following on. Upon arriving at The Lion host A. Ward, a brother-string, who was unavoidably from home, had a capital tea in readiness. Having disposed of this most acceptable acquisition, the party proceeded to the tower, where Mr. W. Ward also met them, and where various touches were rung in the Kent, Oxford and Double Norwich methods, upon the handy and musical occupants of the Ufford tower. The local hostelry was again sought, and a social hour was spent, during which some touches were rung and tunes played on the handbells. The time passed all too quickly, and the visitors were reluctantly compelled to leave their friends. An arrangement for an early attempt for a peal having been made, and after a hearty shake hands at 9.30, the brake was again mounted and home reached at 12 o'clock.

The company wish to thank the Incumbents of the several churches visited for so kindly granting the use of the bells, and the members of the respective companies who met them, which contributed much to the success and enjoyment of the outing.

THE WALKDEN SOCIETY, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, July 22nd, the Walkden ringers took a drive to the old town of Bury, it being the occasion of the monthly meeting of the Rossendale branch of the Lancashire Association. The day was rather gloomy and wet, though none the less enjoyable was the outing.

The party left Walkden about 2.30, and arrived at Bury by 4 o'clock. They were very courteously welcomed by the curate and local ringers, along with about forty other brother-strings, who had come from Bacup, Haslingden,

Helmshore, Newchurch, and Ramsbottom. Some good touches were rung during the afternoon by mixed bands in the following methods: Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Double Norwich Court Bob, Stedman Triples, and Darlaston Bob Triples. At 5.30 a good substantial tea was provided in the school-room by the generosity of the Rector. After tea a short business meeting was held, the curate in the chair. At the close of the meeting a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector for his kindness, and for allowing the use of the bells. The meeting being closed ringing was again indulged in, and was kept up till a very late hour.

The Walkden ringers would like to accord their special thanks to the Rector of Bury, feeling as they do much indebted to that gentleman.

YORKSHIRE AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

The Staveley branch of the above Associations held their annual dinner at The Hotel Victoria on Saturday evening, July 29th, when host Bates provided a splendid repast, which was done full justice to. After the cloth was removed the respected Captain of the Society, Mr. H. Madin, was voted to the chair. He said it gave him great pleasure to be with his brother-ringers once again, and he hoped he would be spared to be amongst them for many years to come. On behalf of the ringers he thanked the host and hostess for the capital repast they had partaken of that evening.

Mr. Bates, in reply, said although not being a ringer himself he very much enjoyed ringers' company, and would use every effort in his power to accommodate them in the future as he had done in the past. He felt quite certain that the ringers of Staveley were admired by every resident of the parish, and he thought that taking into consideration the splendid talent they had shewn, and the achievements they had gained, they were worthy of praise and merit beyond measure.

After several toasts had been given and responded to by different members,

Mr. S. Smedly said he was sorry that the Rector and churchwardens were not able to be with them that evening, and he proposed a vote of thanks for their kindness towards them, and asked the company to drink their healths.

After ringing tunes on the handbells and the singing of several songs and glees, the time for parting came, after having spent a most enjoyable evening.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL.

The Dean and Chapter of Carlisle have placed the order for a new clock for the Cathedral tower with Messrs. Wm. Potts and Sons, Clock Manufacturers, of Leeds and Newcastle-on-Tyne, who are also making a new Town Hall clock for the Mayor and Corporation of Carlisle, and a new clock for Chatham new Town Hall, for the Mayor and Corporation of Chatham.

NOTICE.—The Rev. H. Earle Bulwer expects to be away from home from the 7th of August to the 1st of September, and requests that all communications on Central Council or Norwich Association business be deferred until after his return.

BOB LEADS.

AN APPEAL.

"And, pray, Sir, what manner of man is your bellringer?"—"Indeed, Sir, your bellringer is a man of many parts; and it likes him well to dangle for hours at the rope's end as if he were the prince of highwaymen; he takes kindly to the bowl, nor quarrels over much but with his own fellows. Egad! to hear them with their Grandsire-Bob-Majors is very Bedlam let loose."

The Rector of East Marden on a dull and rainy day
Sat wond'ring how he best might pass the weary hours away.
Of many parts and deep research, a scientist was he,
But chiefly in the mystic paths of Campanology.
Yet spite of all his sapience he had a merry wit,
And loved a joke, especially the artful sort of hit
That savants aim at savants, with intention to ensnare,
Beneath the guise of problem superficially most fair,
The eager brain into a maze of complicated thought
Whose victim, after working till his head is nigh distraught,
Discovers what, assuredly, was all along quite plain,
That he has been made a fool of, and his labour's all in vain.

For long the Rector pondered on, immersed in study brown;
Till presently a creeping smile smoothed out his wisdom's frown.
"A joke I'll have," quoth he, "and this no solitary jest
To trick but one wise man and put his talent to the test.
What I have in my eye will serve a nobler little game
And hang them high and dry in shoals, and add to Sussex fame."

"I'm known as 'Grandsire Davies,' with an erudition deep
In that most peculiar method which performers hold so cheap,
But where, in fact, there lurks beneath its simple-seeming skin,
A charming store of pitfalls fit to take composers in."
"Will you walk into my Grandsire?" said the spider to the fly,
"You all know about it, so you all can have a try
To decipher what I ask you in this most attractive way;
So turn my query over and then come and have your say.
Like flies they'll crowd to answer, and like flies they'll get
stuck fast,
For there shall be no solution to the question they've been
asked."

As thus the Sage prepared his plot, expanded on his brow
The smile to grin, and grin to laugh. Joyous, he pictured how
The bait would take; the simpletons would haste with reckless
speed
To air their views in public, for "the answer's plain indeed."
With pen and ink on paper now his paradox he states
In naive simplicity, lest any extra stolid pates
Should fail to comprehend exactly how the question stands;
And next of "B.N.'s" Editor the needful space demands.
The ball thus set a rolling, when the Saturday comes round,
He cons the column closely, and feels sure it will be bound
To trap the proud composers; and he waits and gloats in glee,
Expecting sheaves of answers in a post or two to see.

Right gallantly the Exercise, so gullible and green,
Attack the knotty problem with its nonsense all unseen—
The Sage is lost in ecstasy at finding that his plot,
Not only catches on, but brings the most eccentric lot
Of quaint replies at variance with common sense and truth,
Teeming with wild suggestions, explanations all, in sooth,
Beside the mark, emmeshing fast within the wily net
Their authors; to the huge delight of him who it had set.

You think, perhaps, the time had come when things would take
a turn;

When all these poor deluded ones the shameless fraud would
learn,

And angrily combine to flatten out the wicked Sage.
But no! this arch-deceiver from himself diverts their rage;
Assures them they are fighting with each other, not with him,
With skilful hand at once he starts afresh his course to trim:

"What *bob-lead* is or may be, friends, I really do not know,
And one of you says: 'fourteen rows,' and one: 'a single blow.'
But as I long to find the real truth of what I ask,
Why settle it among yourselves, then tell me. To the task
I leave you, and meanwhile prefer to advocate my own,

My latest terminology, just opportunely thrown
In shape *characteristic*." Yes, good Sage, no truer word
Could you have used than this one, the *reductio ad absurdum*;
Um; for you gaily let off now a firework blazing hot
"Plain-got and plained, plain-got and bobbed, bob-got and
plained, bob-got."
And "string" your "blocks" in "segments" "circling" round
"by P and B,"
Till your friends and your opponents are most hopelessly at sea.

Good Sage, we pray you leave us of our wits some trifling part;
Your joke, we grant, was funny, but you've got a kindly heart
Don't press it any further lest the popular belief,
That ringers all are lunatics, come true, and you be chief.

H.

ODE (AND PAID) TO HUGH KHAN GUESSUM.

I had a dream the other night,
To tell it turns me pale;
'Twas caused no doubt by an extra bite
Of a crusty pie which was not too light,
Washed down with Romford ale.

I saw "BELL NEWS" of a future year,
(Henceforth I sup on porridge.)
One long peal notice read so queer—
"At Kidlingford in Oxtshire
A peal of Double Norwich

"Will be attempted by the Guild,
And everyone's invited,
All criticism shall be killed
The composition will be billed
And wrongs (if any) righted.

"But whoever comes to umpire, he
Must not to 'Public's' roam.
A stopwatch, registered—there will be—
To the thousandth part of a second to see
What time the 6th comes home!

"And if the heat should be intense
(To listeners 'trilbies' trying),
Refreshments found at the Guild's expense
With easy chairs and couches immense
For those who are smart at 1-----.

"And when the evening shadows fall,
If the peal is safely got;
The Rector he will give to all,
To critics, umpires, great and small
A jay pie smoking hot."

* * * *

Thus ran the words before my eyes,
Delighted then I said—

"I'll pack my bag when I arise,
That fits a man about my size,"
When—I fell out of bed!!!

It was a fall and no mistake,
Remembrance makes me frown;
In half-a-tick I was wide awake,
The dream had gone—my head did ache,
(And I cannot yet sit down.)

'Twas cruel luck, but even yet—
And one can never know;
There may be a critic's place to let
(On the same conditions of course, you bet)
If so that job I mean to get,
If I walk to Jericho.

JINGLE.

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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, AUGUST 5, 1899.

THE disclosures which are the outcome of the Kidlington peal warfare, are far from satisfactory. Indeed, if they are all gospel truth, we have certainly been living in a fools' paradise, laying the flattering unction to our souls that the days of untrue or enigmatical peals of 5000 were over. The events of the past few weeks have sadly dispelled this comforting belief; and until we are assured that these untoward rumors are without foundation, we can only look upon the weekly peal-record as a delusion.

While refraining from actually particularising the instances brought to our notice, they must be alluded to. It may reasonably be said that if the offence is so prevalent as alleged, no exposure or condemnation will be too drastic. No penalty will be too heavy for such an offence when clearly proved.

We hear of a peal of Stedman Caters being "fired into rounds." The conductor's explanation is said to be that "the tenor-man let his bell down into the middle of the other bells." How can such ringing be called Caters? It

was Royal! of a sort. Two peals of something said to be Stedman Triples, rung at two villages in Essex, are not recognised by all the band. And a recent famous peal of Treble Ten has had the stigma of the word "firing" affixed to it.

These reports are, we dare say, the *tu quoques* of the Kidlington peal warfare. But they have a very ugly look. What shall be said of those who knew of the equivocal character of these performances, and yet took no steps to prevent their being recorded? The Exercise will require some further testimony than is now current of accuracy in peal-ringing, if greater zeal is not shown in preventing the perpetuation of falsehood.

HEAVY WOOLLEN DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The half-yearly meeting of this Association was held on Saturday, July 8th, at The Dusty Miller's Arms, Mirfield, members being present from Liversedge, Huddersfield, Dewsbury, Batley Carr, Earlsheaton, Lindley, New Mill, Kirkheaton, and Mirfield.

After the ordinary business had been gone through, the President (Mr. S. Goodall), was requested to make the presentation to Mr. G. H. Simon, the late Secretary, of a purse of gold and a splendid silver Albert and pendant, subscribed for by various societies and friends in the Association.

The President, in calling upon Mr. Simon to accept the presents, spoke in very high terms of the services rendered to the society by that gentleman. He had been one of the principal men to form the Association, and the work that fell to his lot during the five years he held the office of Secretary, was done to the satisfaction of the Association. They were very sorry when they found they were going to lose his services, owing to his ordinary work taking him out of the district. The President now on behalf of the Association and friends asked Mr. Simon to accept the presents, at the same time wishing him good health and prosperity.

Mr. Simon on rising was heartily cheered by all. In accepting the gifts he thanked the members present and all who had subscribed towards them, as they were a great surprise to him. He never expected his work to be recognised in such a manner. Referring to his past services he said they had been a pleasure to him. He hoped the Association would continue to prosper.

After other members had spoken of the good work done by the late Secretary, the meeting was brought to a close, and the remainder of the time was spent in handbell ringing; and in the tower touches of Minor and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung.

NEW CLOCK AT DERBY.

A large memorial clock is to be erected in the Osmaston road church, Derby, which will have three 6-feet illuminated dials, and strike the hours and chime the quarters. The work is being carried out by John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby.

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.

HARWICH, ESSEX.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 5, 1899, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

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

A. WARD	Treble.	A. S. BARRELL	5.
W. ARNOTT	2.	W. WARD	6.
E. SHERWOOD	3.	W. DREW	7.
W. MOTTS	4.	C. WARD	Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN, and Conducted by W. DREW.

The above are all members of the Ufford company with the exception of Mr. W. Motts. First peal on the bells since being rehung. The above is a one-part peal. The company thank the Vicar for the use of the bells, also the local ringers for having everything in readiness.

HEMPSTED, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, July 26, 1899, in Two Hours and Thirty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SWITHUN,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720s, each called differently.

Tenor 14 cwt. in F sharp.

GEORGE TAYLOR	Treble.	JESSE GILLET	4.
WILLIAM DADGE	2.	GEORGE CONDIK	5.
ERNEST E. DAVIES	3.	WILLIAM T. PEGLER	Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM T. PEGLER.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 29, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 9 cwt. 20 lbs.

CHARLES GILES	Treble.	ARTHUR W. HIGGS	5.
FRANK HOPGOOD	2.	WILLIAM NEWELL	6.
ALBERT E. REEVES	3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON	7.
ALFRED E. REEVES	4.	ERNEST BRUCE	Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

LUTTERWORTH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 29, 1899, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT WYCLIFFE'S CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

JOHN O. LANCASHIRE	Treble.	WILLIAM H. INGLESANT	5.
JOSIAH MORRIS	2.	CHARLES H. FOWLER	6.
ALFRED MILLIS	3.	CHARLES R. LILLEY	7.
WILLIAM WILLSON	4.	JAMES GEORGE	Tenor.

Composed by JOHN COX, and Conducted by WILLIAM WILLSON.

HAGLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 29, 1899, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 9 cwt.

WILLIAM H. SMITH	Treble.	THOMAS J. SALTER	5.
JOHN BARBER	2.	JOSEPH WAGHORN, SEN.	6.
HENRY MIDDLETON	3.	ALFRED FLOWERS	7.
NOAH DAVIS	4.	WILLIAM SHORT	Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY JOHNSON, and Conducted by WILLIAM SHORT.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the late Noah Patrick, of this parish. J. Wagborn hails from London, and was proposed a member of the above Association before starting for the peal.

DEANE, LANCASHIRE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.*On Saturday, July 29, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. CARTER'S No. 10.

Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs. 21 lbs.

THOMAS PEERS Treble.	TITUS BARLOW 5.
JOSEPH LOWE 2.	FREDERIC DERBYSHIRE .. 6.
EDWARD CASH* 3.	JAMES HENRY RIDYARD .. 7.
JOHN WELSBY 4.	*WILLIAM BARLOW Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES H. RIDYARD.

*First peal in the method.

HEMPSTED, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, July 29, 1899, in Three Hours,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being thirty-two 6-scores of St. Dunstan's and ten of Grandsire, each called differently. Tenor 14 cwt. in F sharp.

ARTHUR DADGE Treble.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER 4.
WILLIAM T. PEGLER 2.	GEORGE TAYLOR 5.
ERNEST E. DAVIES 3.	GEORGE NASH Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM T. PEGLER.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to Mr. Percy Hancock, of Gloucester, who was interred at this church the same day. G. Nash was elected a member of the above Association previous to starting.

BEDFORD.—THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.*On Monday, July 31, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Tenor 13 cwt.

HERBERT P. HARMAN .. Treble.	CHARLES CHASTY 4.
FRANK WEBB 2.	ALBERT ROBINSON 5.
CHARLES WM. CLARKE .. 3.	WILLIAM J. BARKER .. Tenor.

Conducted by C. W. CLARKE.

H. P. Harman hails from Bromley, Kent, and was proposed a member of the above Association previous to starting for the peal. Rung as a farewell peal to the Rector, the Rev. W. Hart-Smith, who is leaving Bedford for Cornwall.

Date Touches.

WOOD GREEN (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, June 25th, for Divine Service, a date touch of Bob Minor in 1 hr. J. Armstrong, 1; A. Glascock, 2; F. W. Ford, 3; F. C. Fordham, 4; J. Miller, 5; S. Wade, 6. After service 720 Bob Minor. A. Glascock, 1; F. W. Ford, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. C. Fordham, 4; J. Miller, 5; S. Wade (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

Miscellaneous.**THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**

STOCKPORT (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, May 9th, 672 Stedman Triples. A. Gordon, 1; T. Sale, 2; J. Barlow, 3; G. D. Warburton, 4; J. A. Gordon, 5; W. Gordon, jun, 6; W. Gordon (conductor), 7; A. Birch, 8. On Sunday evening, May 24th, for Divine Service, 1259 Grandsire Caters. C. Darwin, 1; W. Gordon, 2; A. Gordon, 3; T. Sale, 4; J. Barlow, 5; G. Warburton, 6; J. A. Gordon, 7; A. S. Gordon, 8; W. Challenor, 9; A. Birch, 10. Composed by C. Charge and conducted by W. Gordon. Longest length by W. Challenor who hails from Coventry.

PRESTBURY (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, June 6th, seven members of the St. Michael's Society, Macclesfield, paid a friendly visit to this place, and with the assistance of an ever-obliging local ringer, Mr. J. D. Wheelton, rang 503 Grandsire Triples. J. Hankinson, 1; A. Mottershead, 2; W. McKinnell, 3; W. W. Steel, 4; W. Walmsley (conductor), 5; J. D. Wheelton, 6; W. Matthews, 7; J. Norbury, 8. The nave of Macclesfield parish church is about half rebuilt, and half

of the tower is recased. Any of our ringing friends paying us a visit and desirous of having a pull, should write to W. Walmsley, 88, High Street, Macclesfield.

WITTON, NORTHWICH (Cheshire).—On May 9th, at St. Helen's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. S. Johnson, 1; S. Forster, 2; G. Johnson, 3; A. Johnson, 4; J. Bell, 5; W. Forster (conductor), 6. Also 720 Grandsire Minor. W. Forster (conductor), 1; S. Johnson, 2; R. Chandler, 3; G. Johnson, 4; J. Bell, 5; A. Johnson, 6. And 720 Plain Bob Minor. W. Forster (conductor), 1; S. Forster, 2; G. Johnson, 3; S. Johnson, 4; J. Bell, 5; A. Johnson, 6.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

REDHILL (Surrey).—On Sunday morning, June 25th, for Divine Service at St. John's church, 672 Oxford Bob Triples. J. Robinson, 1; J. Beams, 2; F. Linter, 3; G. Thompson, 4; H. Reeves (conductor), 5; G. F. Hoad, 6; E. Kenward, 7; A. Moseley, 8. Also 112 Grandsire Triples in which Messrs. Edwards and Ewins took part.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

READING (Berks).—On Tuesday, June 6th, for practice at the church of St. Laurence, 672 Superlative Surprise Major. W. Newell, 1; J. Tucker, 2; A. E. Reeves, 3; J. E. Hern, 4; H. Tucker, 5; C. Giles, 6; A. Osborne, 7; F. Hopgood (conductor), 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CHIPPING BARNET (Herts).—On Monday, June 12th, for practice, 504 Grandsire Triples. A. J. Chidwick, 1; *J. Withey, 2; J. Sumpster (conductor), 3; W. F. Dolton, 4; W. J. Dell, 5; F. A. Milne, Esq., 6; A. E. Dolton, 7; A. T. King, Esq., 8. *Longest touch.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—On Saturday, June 3rd, after meeting one short for a peal, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung. G. Marshall, 1; W. Hollier, 2; W. Hunt, 3; Quartermaster-Sergeant C. Fryatt, 4; W. Easter, 5; W. Haigh (conductor), 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

LOUGHTON (Essex).—On June 18th, at the church of St. John the Baptist, 544 Double Norwich. W. Keeble, 1; W. Miller, 2; E. Bacon, 3; F. Freeman, 4; J. Mardell, 5; G. Carter, 6; W. Clark, 7; E. Wightman (conductor), 8. A 448 in the same method. E. Wightman (conductor), 4; J. Rann, 5; T. Beams, 6; J. Mardell, 7; G. Carter, 8. And 504 Stedman Triples. W. Keeble, 1; W. Miller, 2; E. Bacon, 3; F. Freeman, 4; J. Rann, 5; T. Beams, 6; E. Wightman (conductor), 7; J. Mardell, 8. On Tuesday, June 20th, for practice, 1344 Double Norwich. F. Freeman, 1; J. Mardell, 2; E. Bacon, 3; W. Keeble, 4; J. Rann, 5; G. Carter, 6; W. Clark, 7; E. Wightman (conductor), 8. And 252 Stedman Triples. E. Wightman, 1; F. Freeman, 6; G. Carter, 8; the rest as before.

PRITTLEWELL (Essex).—On Sunday evening, June 11th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. W. Hunt, 1; A. J. Perkins (composer and conductor), 2; W. Dowsett, 3; W. Dudley, 5; J. Dale, 6; C. Anderson, 7; W. H. Judd, 8; J. Perry, 8. Also a long course of Kent Treble Bob, standing as before.

HORNCHURCH (Essex).—On Saturday, June 3rd, four 720s of Bob Minor, on handbells, each called differently. J. Dale, 1-2; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 3-4; W. Nash, 5-6.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DEBENHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday, June 4th, for Divine Service in the evening, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Grimes (conductor), 1; J. Rumsey, 2; W. Groom, 3; W. Rumsey, 4; W. Bullock, 5; J. Creasey, 6; A. W. Grimes, 7; G. Rumsey, 8. On Tuesday, June 16, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Rumsey (first 720 in the method), 1; W. Grimes (conductor), 2; W. Rumsey, 3; J. Rumsey, 4; W. Groom, 5; A. W. Grimes, 6. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. W. Groom, 1; A. W. Grimes, 2; W. Rumsey, 3; W. Grimes (conductor), 4; J. Rumsey, 5; G. Rumsey, 6. Another 120 in the same method, with W. Bullock, 3; the rest as before. First 120s in the method by the local company. On Thursday, June 8th, 672 Bob Major. G. Rumsey, 1; W. Groom, 2; A. W. Grimes, 3; W. Bullock, 4; J. Rumsey, 5; W. Rumsey, 6; C. Brunning, 7; W. Grimes (conductor), 8. On Thursday evening, June 15th, an attempt was made for a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major, which was lost after ringing nearly 1 hr. 30 mins. W. Grimes (conductor), 1; A. W. Grimes, 2; Rev. J. H. Pilkington, 3; J. O'Neill, 4; W. H. Bullock, 5; A. E. Read, 6; J. Rumsey, 7; W. Rumsey, 8. On Saturday, July 8th, an attempt was made for a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major, which was lost after ringing 2 hrs. 36 mins. W. Rumsey (conductor), 1; S. Collins, 2; W. Groom, 3; G. Thurlow, 4; W. H. Bullock, 5; W.

Crickmer, 6; J. Rumsey, 7; W. Grimes, 8. This peal was attempted as a birthday compliment to W. Rumsey, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

STANSTEAD (Suffolk).—On Wednesday evening, June 14th, 720 Double Court Bob. A. Papworth, 1; W. Underwood (first 720 in the method with a bob bell), 2; G. Smith, 3; S. Slater, 4; R. Gowers, 5; A. Clarke (conductor), 6.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, May 24th, being Her Majesty's birthday, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. W. Underwood (conductor), 1; H. Perkins, 2; W. Purdy, 3; B. Pettitt, 4; E. Perkins, 5; P. Newman, 6. On Sunday evening, June 11th, for Divine Service, 720 Plain Bob. F. Connell, 1; A. Ambrose, 2; H. Perkins, 3; S. Ford, 4; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 5; G. Maxim, 6.

MONKS ELEIGH (Suffolk).—On Sunday, June 11th, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Kent Treble Bob. A. Keeble (conductor), 1; R. Keeble, 2; C. Parker, 3; R. Wilding, 4; D. Gridley, 5; C. Green, 6. Also 720 Bob Minor. R. Keeble, 1; D. Gridley (conductor), 2; C. Parker, 3; R. Wilding, 4; A. Keeble, 5; W. Green, 6.

THE EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CLAY CROSS (Derbyshire).—On Sunday morning, June 2nd, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Single Minor (twenty-two singles and two bobs). T. Millington (composer and conductor), 1; F. Marshall, 2; W. Goodge, 3; F. Maycock, 4; J. Maycock, 5; J. J. Cook, 6.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—WIRRAL BRANCH.

WOODCHURCH (Cheshire).—On Monday, June 5th, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles). A. Bennett, 1; W. Duckers, 2; G. R. Newton (conductor), 3; W. Williams, 4; W. Bennett, 5; G. Taylor, 6. Also 720 Canterbury Pleasure (twenty-six bobs and twelve singles). A. Bennett, 1; W. Duckers, 2; S. Walters, 3; G. Taylor, 4; G. R. Newton (conductor), 5; W. Bennett, 6. On Sunday, June 11th, for Divine Service, 360 Bob Minor (twelve singles). A. Inglefield, 1; G. Taylor, 2; C. Taylor, 3; W. Williams, 4; G. R. Newton (conductor), 5; W. Bennett, 6.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

STANFORD-ON-SOAR (Notts).—On Sunday, June 4th, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but came to grief after ringing nearly 5000 changes in 3 hrs. 4 mins. W. Pervin, 1; J. Hutchby, 2; H. Whittle (conductor), 3; J. Grundy, 4; E. Cartwright, 5; J. Smith, 6; G. Doughty, 7; J. Yates, 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late John William Whitton, Esq., the late steward of this parish. For Divine Service 504 Grandsire Triples. F. Pervin, 1; A. Trigg, 2; H. Whittle (conductor), 3; J. Yates, 4; W. Pervin, 5; J. Wilson, 6; G. Doughty, 7; W. Merriman, 8. On Sunday, May 28th, 504 Grandsire Triples. F. Pervin, 1; A. Trigg, 2; G. Doughty, 3; J. Yates, 4; W. Pervin, 5; J. Wilson, 6; H. Whittle (conductor), 7; S. Needham, 8.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, June 20th, 720 Oxford. W. Underwood (conductor), 1; H. Perkins, 2; C. Honeybell, 3; H. Evans, 4; E. Perkins, 5; P. Newman, 6.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, June 25th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 565 Stedman Triples. W. States, 1; F. Pates, 2; J. Rumble, 3; E. Bray, 4; G. Talbot, 5; W. Groves, 6; W. Hill, 7; G. Jones, 8. On Sunday morning, 408 Stedman. G. Rumble, 1; W. Webb, 2; E. Bray, 3; F. Pates (conductor), 4; G. Talbot, 5; W. States, 6; W. Hill, 7; T. Talbot, 8. For evening service 565 Stedman. G. Rumble, 1; W. States, 2; C. Gordon, 3; G. Talbot, 4; W. Groves, 5; E. Bray, 6; F. Pates (conductor), 7; W. Hill, 8.

HUGHENDEN (Bucks).—On Saturday, June 10th, 1008 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. W. Truss, 1; A. E. Reeves, 2; G. E. Symonds, 3; F. Richardson, 4; F. G. Biggs, 5; J. Evans, 6; T. H. Taffender, 7; H. Barton (conductor), 8.

PENGE (Surrey).—On Thursday, June 28th, for practice, 720 Oxford Bob Minor. F. Keech, 1; H. Reader, 2; A. Killick, 3; *W. Smith, 4; J. Town, 5; J. Hack (conductor), 6. *First in the method. Believed to be first in the method on the bells.

PRESTWICH (Cheshire).—On Wednesday, June 7th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. Gratrix, 1; A. Percival, 2; J. Brooks, 3; W. Stevens (conductor), 4; H. Percival, 5; W. Warburton, 6. Tenor 15 cwt. Rung in honour of the wedding of Miss Laura Walkden, daughter of John Walkden, Esq., C.C., to Mr. James Hampson, of the same place.

SOUTHGATE (Middlesex).—On Sunday morning, June 4th, for Divine Service at Christ Church, 720 Bob Minor with 6-8 covering. W. Tegg, 1; A. Glasscock, 2; F. C. Fordham, 3; J. Armstrong, 4; S. Wade, 5; C. Bale, 6; J. Miller (conductor), 7; J. Hitch, 8. In the evening 720 Bob Minor. J. Armstrong, 1; W. Tegg, 2; A. Glasscock, 3; J. Miller, 4; A. Miller, 5; H. Balaam, 6; S. Wade (conductor), 7; H. Miller, 8. On Thursday, June 22nd, 720 Bob Minor. J. Hitch, 1; A. Glasscock, 2; W. Tegg, 3; A. Miller, 4; J. Armstrong, 5; C. Bale, 6; J. Miller (conductor), 7; H. Miller, 8. On Sunday morning, June 25th, for Divine Service, 462 Bob Triples. W. Tegg, 1; J. Armstrong, 2; A. Glasscock, 3; F. C. Fordham, 4; J. Miller, 5; A. Miller, 6; S. Wade (conductor), 7; H. Balaam, 8. On Thursday, June 29th, 720 Bob Minor. J. Hitch, 1; A. Miller, 2; A. Glasscock, 3; F. C. Fordham, 4; J. Armstrong, 5; C. Bale, 6; S. Wade (conductor), 7; H. Miller, 8. On Sunday morning, July 2nd, for Divine Service, 720 Plain Bob. W. Tegg, 1; A. Glasscock, 2; S. Ansell, 3; F. C. Fordham, 4; J. Armstrong, 5; J. Hitch, 6; S. Wade (conductor), 7; H. Miller, 8. After evening service a quarter-peal of Bob Triples in 50 mins. W. Tegg, 1; J. Armstrong (first quarter-peal with a bob bell), 2; A. Glasscock, 3; F. C. Fordham (first quarter-peal of Triples), 4; E. Marshall (first quarter-peal), 5; W. Dell, 6; S. Wade (conductor), 7; C. Bale, 8. First quarter-peal in the method by all the band. On Thursday, July 6th, 720 Bob Minor. W. Best, 1; J. Armstrong, 2; A. Glasscock, 3; J. Miller, 4; E. Marshall, 5; A. Miller, 6; S. Wade (conductor), 7; H. Miller, 8. Tenor 25 cwt.

WINCHESTER. — On Wednesday, July 5th, for practice at the Cathedral, 280 Grandsire Triples. W. T. Lampard, 1; W. C. Lampard, 2; W. J. Tucker, 3; W. J. Elkins, 4; C. E. Borrett, 5; W. Andrews (conductor), 6; W. H. George, 7; L. S. Lampard, 8; F. Smith, 9; A. Smith, 10. A 504 in the same method. W. S. Lampard, 1; W. C. Lampard, 2; W. J. Elkins, 3; W. Andrews (conductor), 4; W. T. Tucker, 5; C. E. Borrett, 6; W. H. George, 7; F. Smith, 8. And two courses of Grandsire Caters. W. H. Loveland, 1; E. Andrews, 2; W. Andrews, 3; W. J. Elkins, 4; E. G. Lampard, 5; W. T. Tucker, 6; C. E. Borrett, 7; W. C. Lampard, 8; W. H. George, 9; F. Smith, 10. Tenor 32 cwt.

WORLINGWORTH (Suffolk).—On Sunday, June 11th, 720 Bob Minor. H. Creasey, 1; W. Grimes (conductor), 2; C. Chambers, 3; J. Rumsey, 5; D. Collins, 6. Also 360 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. D. Collins (conductor), 1; H. Creasey, 2; J. Rumsey, 3; F. Ling, 4; W. Grimes, 5; A. W. Grimes, 6.

THE SABBATH BELLS.

[A kind friend from Warrington sends us a very handsome book of hymns, written by Robert Anderton Naylor, M.S.A., etc., a local gentleman. He asks us to insert the following one of them in this number of our paper. To such request we gladly comply.]

WE hear the blessed Sabbath bells,
Inviting on that holy day,
Each faithful soul, responding tells
His willingness to praise and pray.
The bells how earnestly they plead,
They bid us to the House of prayer;
Oh! that their chimes may oft succeed
In drawing many people there.
Shall those sweet bells e'er chime in vain,
Let all within their sound say "No";
Let none their plaintive notes disdain,
But ere they ask decide to go.
We should with boundless joy accept
The invitation which they bring;
Oh! may we listen with respect,
Whenever Sabbath bells may ring.
Loud praise is due from every one,
That God does grant the power to go;
How we regret should sickness come,
If we when able answered "No."
Chime on ye Bells each Sabbath day,
Till we on earth our last shall spend;
Then other bells shall call away,
To that blest Sabbath without end.

For Sale.

TO BELLRINGERS AND OTHERS.—A BOOT BUSINESS for Sale.—Apply to G. BROWN, Parish Clerk, Twyford, Hants.

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."

BOB LEAD.

SIR,—Having been driven well nigh crazy by the persistent and protean attacks of the above "fearsome beast" maintained through many months previous to the last meeting of the Council, I might well shrink from plunging into the controversy that has been filling your correspondence columns during the last few weeks; and, indeed, I have no intention of entering into any argument about the meaning of the term. I do not like, however, to see good men fighting the air; and it may help to clear up the confusion, and lay the dust a bit, if I remind the combatants that the Glossary Committee have one clear duty to do, and that is to define the meaning of words and phrases according to the various current significations attaching to them. The Committee cannot adopt one accepted signification and ignore another; all have to be dealt with as comprehensively and concisely as possible.

In the present instance it is clear that the definition of "bob-lead" depends upon a previous definition of "lead." Now "lead" is a term which has more than one current signification. It may refer to the action of a particular bell striking first in a change; or, it may refer to a well-defined and specific group of changes, taken as a whole; or, it may refer from a composer's point of view to a single row of figures standing as the characteristic, or representative, of such a specific group. The Committee must regard it from all these points of view: because they know that if they confine themselves to one of them only, they will only be courting ridicule. It is the same with "bob-lead." We have to look at that from more than one point of view. It is a term which is used in treatises; and indicates a something which enters very largely into the calculations of the composer. It is no use to say there is no such thing as "bob-lead." The term exists: and has to be dealt with: and in dealing with it we must do justice to the current significations of it, without ignoring any. What are the current significations? First: A specific group of changes ending with the backstroke lead of the treble, the full change either at that backstroke, or at the previous handstroke, being the result of the "operation" known as "bob." If either Captain Acland or Mr. Trollope should doubt this, will they do me the favour to refer to Mr. Thompson's "Note on Grandsire Triples." There, on page 7, they will find two specific groups of changes pricked in full side by side, one of which is called "plain lead" and the other "bob lead." I might give other references: but this is enough to show that the Committee cannot ignore this first signification. Secondly: A single row of figures standing as the characteristic, or representative, of a specific group of changes, indicating the backstroke lead of the treble (in treble-dominated methods), and shewing by the arrangement of the figures the result of the "operation" known as "bob." In witness whereof, turn to *Rope Sight*, page 65, and observe the "Scales for pricking Bob Minor by the lead-ends," one of which is designated "bob lead." Witness also the many examples of touches of Minor, Triples and Major pricked by the lead-ends, in which certain rows are preceded by a mark, or dash. "What do those marks mean?" asks the beginner in the Art. "Oh! we answer, 'they indicate the bob leads, or the bob-lead-ends, or the bob changes.'" Either of the three names would be perfectly correct according to the current usage; but I would point out with regard to "bob lead end" that it is an expression which infers a "bob lead beginning" and a "bob lead continuation," and, therefore, points unmistakably to a specific group of changes, and not merely to the backstroke lead of the treble.

Now the Glossary Committee have to provide for both these significations. The first may be called the practical ringers' point of view; the second may be called the composer's point of view. The first draft definition regarded the term from the practical ringers' point of view, and described "bob lead" as a "lead," the last change of which is a "bob change." If, to include the Grandsire family, we add after "last change" the words "or last change but one," we have an accurate definition of "bob lead" as a specific group of changes. But since "bob six" was shortly after defined, equally accurately, as "a six

introduced by a bob," my friend, Mr. Davies, complained of the diversity of form observable in the two definitions, and suggested that a uniform definition for these and all kindred terms would be better—that if we described "bob six" as "a six introduced by a bob," we ought, to be consistent, to describe "bob lead" as "a lead introduced by a bob" (I quote from his criticism). Thus was the apple of discord thrown into our midst; and we have never quite got over the shock it administered. "A lead introduced by a bob" was felt to be a more scientific form of definition, because it comprehended the composer's point of view, from which a "lead" appears only as a single row of figures; and as this may be, and generally is, introduced into the pricking of a touch, or peal, in the form that results from the "operation" known as "bob," the definition was perfectly accurate from the scientific or composer's point of view; and since "bob lead" was to appear in the scientific section of the Glossary, it seemed more appropriate to cast the definition in the scientific form with an explanation of it for the information of the practical ringer. But this did not please Mr. Davies either, who thought no explanation was necessary. An epistolary warfare ensued between us, in which I am convinced neither of us knew what the other meant; but the result of it was Mr. Davies' Q.R. puzzle, which was put forth to ascertain the general idea prevailing as to what was "bob lead." The answers received show that the great majority of ringers regard "bob lead" from the practical ringers' point of view, which was to be expected, and adhere to the first signification noted above.

There is a third signification which I have not mentioned; because it is not current, and is only "in the clouds." But I feel sure that in his secret soul Mr. Davies would wish to alter the *venue* (so to speak) of "bob lead," so that it should apply not, as heretofore, to the specific group of changes preceding and ending with a "bob"; but to the specific group of changes beginning with and following the "bob change." And I frankly admit that in my own secret soul that is also my wish. But it is too late! Existent facts are too strong for us. No such alteration of signification could be proposed without bowling out all previous writers, and upsetting the firm belief of ninety-nine ringers out of every 100.

I know that Mr. Davies looks upon the Glossary as a "golden opportunity" for setting right what, in his judgment, is wrong in ringing phraseology and signification of terms. It was a "golden opportunity" five or six years ago; but the Committee could only agree on a very few alterations in terms and usage, which were embodied in a Preliminary Report, printed, presented to the Council at Sheffield, and finally approved and adopted at Brighton in 1896. It is too late now to make further alterations, or to put forth new terms, or to add new significations to existing terms. The Glossary must now be confined to defining things as they are, not as we would wish them to be. It must give all reasonable current meanings of all reasonable terms and phrases in current use; and it must not totally exclude one reasonable point of view out of preference for another. This, I humbly venture to think, has been the fault of the present controversialists. They have not been sufficiently catholic in their views. They have been like the three Athenian critics in the sculptor's studio; one of whom looked at the statue from the back, and condemned it because it had no face; another looked at it from the front, and condemned it because it had no back; the other took a side view of it, and condemned it because it had only one arm. "Bob lead" has met with much the same kind of treatment; each critic endeavouring to emphasise his own point of view to the exclusion of others: and when we look at it from all points of view, we find that, like the statue, it has both face and back and two arms and two legs! What confusion!! "Bob lead" is a lead containing a bob; it is a lead introduced by a bob; it is a hand or backstroke lead of the treble at which a bob takes effect; it is a lead-end row which shows the effect of a bob; it is a specific group of changes ending with a bob change; it is a specific group of changes with a bob change just before its end; and (to gratify the revolutionary instincts of the reformer) it may one day become a specific group of changes beginning with a bob change; I am not sure it is not that now in some modern methods. What confusion!!

Let it be remembered that I am not by this letter in any way

throwing myself into the controversy as to what is, or is not, "bob lead." I take the catholic view. I believe "bob lead" is everything it is said to be. I exclude nothing. And I am going away for a few weeks' holiday into remote wilds unpenetrated by "BELL NEWS," and unhaunted by "bob lead." So if my friend, Mr. Davies, or anyone else wants to fall upon me tooth and nail, be it known unto him that it is of no use. I shall be invulnerable; because ungetatable.

H. EARLE BULWER.

SIR,—I greatly admire the ability with which Mr. Davies trots out his hobby of the new "terminology," and I do not mean to question the scientific accuracy of his statements. But surely it is unnecessary. We all got on very well with our "bob leads" and "lead ends" until a few weeks ago, and I shall certainly jog along still in the good (or bad?) old way, as I think we have quite enough technical terms already in use. Perhaps the word "lead" is used in different senses, in different connections, but there is no great harm in that, if we all know what is meant. Let me instance another word—*Course*. There is "Plain Course," "Course Bell," "In-and-out-of-course," the same word used with different meanings. Forgive me for suggesting such a useful word on which to raise a discussion; if by chance it is taken up and treated as our old friend "Bob Lead" has been, I shall speedily return to the shade of the covert from which Mr. Davies has so kindly welcomed me. I thank him for his cordial reception, and am glad to think that we agree on the main points at issue. I do not wish to have to fight with such a redoubtable combatant during this hot weather.

JOHN E. ACLAND.

Dorchester, Dorset.

SIR,—I go the whole length with Mr. Davies in his argument this week, but it must be remembered that the question was what we mean by the term "bob lead." What ever it may be in theory, there is no doubt that the outward and visible sign is the back-stroke of the treble's full lead, and used in this way there is no possibility of confusion. The confusion is solely due to the raising of side issues which have not the slightest practical value. Improve the term by all means, but I protest against making a term which has answered its purpose fairly well for a century ridiculous by fastening a definition on it which it does not and never did mean.

J. A. TROLLOPE.

SIR,—Mr. Drake fully admits "the existing confusion in the use of terms." My battle is won. When in line 3 of par. 3 he speaks of "kind of block," I take it that he uses "block" in the sense of "lead" (of 14 rows). Otherwise I entirely dissent. My blocks are all of one kind. They are absolutely similar. The only alternative is the mode of *transit* (P or B) from one to the next. Mr. Drake pricks a single. I have purposely kept clear of singles, but I hope to be able to prepare a letter for next issue on the subject of calls other than bobs.

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

THE KIDLINGTON PEAL.

SIR,—I see in your issue of the 22nd inst. that Mr. Washbrook says he never saw the composition I called at Erith till a fortnight ago. He might just as well acknowledge that he was going to lengthen it as he went along, for a person who was present when he said so wrote and asked me if that was what he done. He also says his composition is original and contains features of which one may be justly proud. I cannot say what features the composition he publishes will contain; the one he tried to ring did not contain anything that he might be proud of—*vice versa*. He does not seem inclined to publish it. I suppose he wants to get the one that was jumbled through from me, as I very much doubt whether he knows himself what he did ring. This is something new, I should think, for a conductor to call a supposed record peal and then be afraid to publish it. I suppose the time will come when he will have to. I offered to send the course-ends and bob leads he asked for to any practical ringer providing he sent the composition to the

same person. I suppose this is too straightforward for him. He wants to be able to send it in three different ways, as he did the Superlative at Southgate. Mr. Washbrook says Mr. Hounslow gave his word for the correct ringing of the peal at the Oxford Guild meeting. Now I have been informed by a person who was present at the meeting that Mr. Hounslow said nothing about it, and when asked about the peal declined to have anything to say about it. The declaration of the band does not surprise me in the least, for a band that will ring a bad peal will always declare it is a good one hereafter. As regards the 6th coming home four courses in the middle of the peal, if they were to tell me so till they were bald-headed I should not believe it, for I know better; it was never above 5ths place after the thirty-second course till within twenty courses of home. Their reasons for now saying that it came home four courses in the middle are because they find I know it was only twenty courses at home at the finish; and as Mr. Washbrook says it came home at six o'clock, he had to alter the composition to make it correspond with the time. Mr. Willson does not seem to like being told plainly. He says I am trying to bluster him into silence, and wonders whether I shall bluster the other writers for interference. I don't wish to bluster him or anyone else into silence, in fact I should not have taken the trouble to reply to his letter at all if he had not accused me of publishing falsehoods. There is a contrast between him and the other writers. They want to see the affair settled in a straightforward manner, and he wants to get his friend out of trouble. He is the person who professes to be neutral. As regards the number of changes I may say that I did not trouble to deduct the two leads left out in the 81st course I simply deducted the changes left out by different calling, but as he is so strict about the number of changes perhaps he won't mind turning his attention to the time, as he professes to be neutral in the matter. If he will refer back to "THE BELL NEWS" of May 27th he will find in Mr. Washbrook's note concerning the peal that he says the 6th came home at six o'clock; and if he will also refer back to June 17th he will find that he says it was eleven minutes past six. This will show whether he is neutral or not.

W. PYE.

[This correspondence is now closed.—ED.]

Obituary.

BERNARD SCOTT CLARK.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of the above-named ringer, which took place at his residence 10, Bennett Street, Long Eaton, on Saturday, July 15th, at the early age of 21 years, after a long and painful illness of six months' duration. The deceased joined the St. Lawrence Society in 1897, and the Midland Counties Association in 1898, but was never able to do much ringing owing to ill health. The funeral took place at the Long Eaton cemetery on Tuesday, July 18th, and was attended by members of the St. Lawrence Society and also by members of the Bible class he attended, some of whom carried him to his last resting place. On Saturday, July 22nd, the bells at the Parish church were muffled, when an attempt was made for Holt's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, the conductor calling stand at the sixth part-end owing to a change-course. On Sunday, July 23rd, 840 Stedman Triples were rung for Evening Service, with the bells half muffled as a token of respect to the memory of the deceased.

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Notices.

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

The Kent County Association, Lewisham District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Chislehurst to-day, Saturday, July 29. Tower open from 3.30 to 8.30 p.m. Committee meeting in parish room at 6 p.m.

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

The Kent County Association, St. John's Deptford.—The usual Wednesday evening practices at this tower will be discontinued until further notice.

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

The Sheffield and District Society.—The next meeting will be held at Staveley to-day, Saturday, August 5th. Tower ready 4 p.m.

R. HARRISON, *Hon. Sec.*

Oldbury Parish Church, Worcestershire.—On and after July 27th our practice night will be on a Thursday, at 7.30.

J. W. PARISH.

St. Mary's, Beddington, Surrey.—The tower will be open at Beddington as usual on Bank Holiday, at 3 o'clock. All ringers are invited. Flower Show and Sports in Beddington Park.

C. BANCE, *Hon. Sec.*

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Wraysbury, on Saturday, August 12th. Ringing to commence at 3 o'clock.

H. C. BELL, *Branch Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—The annual meeting of this branch will be held on Saturday, August 12th, at Rawtenstall. Business meeting in the tower at 6.30 p.m. Will members who have not paid their subscriptions kindly do so at this meeting.

J. H. BANKS, *Branch Sec.*

Helmshore.

The Heavy Woollen Districts Association.—The next monthly meeting of the above named Society will be held at Tong, on Saturday, August 12th. Meeting at 5 o'clock.

WALTER IDLE, *Secretary.*

47, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury.

The Kent County Association.—Rochester District.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at St. Mary Magdalene, Gillingham, on Saturday, August 26th. Tower open at 4 p.m. Tea in schoolroom at 5.30. Business meeting after tea. Members wishing to be present at the tea must let me know on or before Wednesday, August 23rd. Half railway fares up to two shillings will be paid.

A. OSBORNE, *Hon. District Sec.*

65, Clive Road, Rochester.

St. Margaret's Society, Westminster.—All ringing meetings are suspended during the month of August. The next meeting will be on Thursday, September 7th.

A. HARDY.

INFORMATION WANTED.—Can any one inform me where I can obtain the Bell Anthem and a good selection of hymns suitable for the dedication of bells, or has anyone copies of either anthem or hymns they would lend. Great care would be taken of them.

CHAS. H. HOWARD.

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TETTENHALL.—On a recent Sunday evening, after Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor, in 26 mins. E. S. Hodges, 1; B. Dalton, 2; J. F. Simpson, 3; G. Burrows, 4; J. E. Groves, 5; R. Pickering (conductor), 6. And 6-score of Stedman Doubles. J. E. Groves, 1; G. Burrows, 2; B. Dalton, 3; R. Pickering, 4; E. S. Hodges, 5; J. Simpson, 6.

SILENT PEAL.

Thurstans' four-part peal of Stedman Triples will be attempted, unconduted, by resident members of the Oxford Guild, at Drayton, Berks., on Monday, August 7th, at 10.30 a.m. Umpire—Mr. C. Hounslow, Iffley Road, Oxford.

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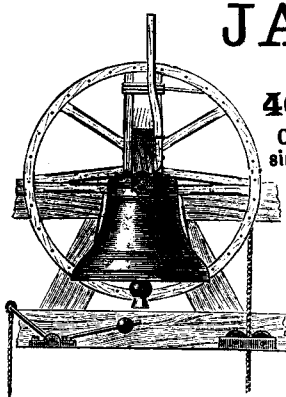
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And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 905.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 1899.

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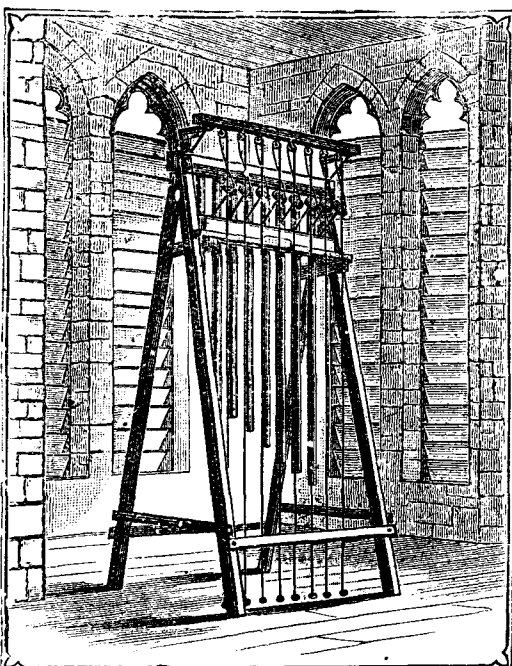
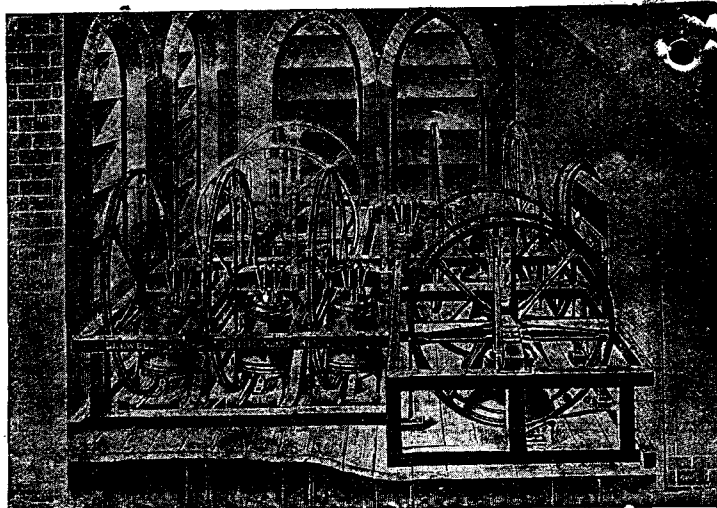
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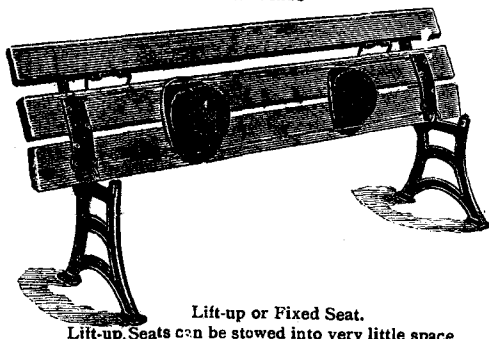
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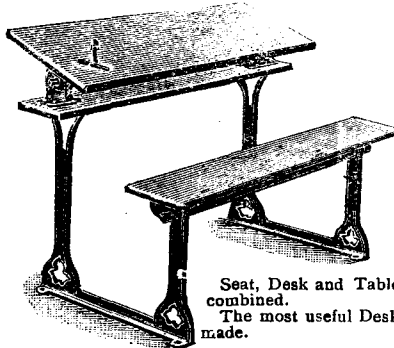
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 905.]

SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

ANNUAL MEETING AT PORTSEA.

Beautiful weather favoured this annual festival, on Monday, July 10th, and some 150 members from various parts of the diocese assembled for business and pleasure. The bells of the parish church (St. Mary's) were set going soon after 9.0 a.m., and continued to ring until 10.45.

The annual business meeting was half-an-hour late in starting, consequently there was very little time for discussion. At 11.0 a.m. (instead of 10.30) the Rev. R. C. M. Harvey, Master of the Guild, took the chair, supported by the Rev. F. Whyley, Vicar of Alton, and the Hon. Secretary—the Rev. C. E. Matthews. The following clergy were present with their ringers: Revs. W. E. Medlicott (Swanmore), C. T. P. Edwards (Petersfield), A. L. Keith (Haslemere), S. G. Scott (Havant), and W. H. Thomas (Privett).

The Secretary read a letter from J. P. Stilwell, Esq., President of the Guild, regretting his ability to attend the meeting.

The minutes of the last quarterly meeting were read and passed, and the minutes of the last annual meeting were re-read.

On the motion of Mr. J. Gould, seconded by Mr. J. W. Whiting, the President, Master, and Hon. Secretary were re-elected to their respective offices, and the two latter returned thanks for the renewed confidence shown towards them.

The Rev. F. Whyley expressed in a few well-chosen words his appreciation of the work of the Hon. Secretary, which he felt they all appreciated. He thought they were very happy in possessing such active and painstaking officers. Mr. Whyley's remarks were received with applause.

Mr. A. Grist proposed, Mr. J. Harper seconding, the re-election of the standing committee, with the exception of Mr. S. Merritt, resigned. Mr. T. W. Fairey (of Yorktown) was elected in Mr. Merritt's place.

The re-election of the district secretaries followed, Mr. J. Harper proposing, and Mr. M. Steer seconding. Mr. C. W. Goodenough (Bournemouth) was elected hon. sec. for the Christchurch district.

The election of new members came next, and the following were nominated hon. members: Rev. G. M. Waters and J. V. Gilligan Esq. (Shere), Rev. S. F. Bourdillon (East Tytherley), Rev. W. H. Thomas (Privett), and Mr. W. J. Pickard (Portsea). Twenty-seven performing members were duly declared attached to some fourteen towers, and Mr. F. S. Wilson (of Devizes), was elected a compounding member.

Mr. H. White (of Basingstoke) who had most kindly acted once more as hon. auditor of the Guild's accounts, was asked to make any comments on the balance-sheet. In reply he stated that for the first time in the history of the Guild their funds had reached over £100. There was a good balance in hand, but he regretted that the sum of only £2 11s. had been spent in instruction.

Mr. J. Gould moved the adoption of the balance-sheet.

Mr. W. J. Pickard, in seconding, remarked that he had

carefully read the report and balance sheet, and shared Mr. White's regrets with regard to the amount spent in instruction. He did not think they should congratulate themselves too much upon the amount of receipts, while their number of peals rung during the past year was less than it had been for the past seven years. It was evident that the ringing report was not as good as it should be. Instead of spending any money on the publication of the Guild's first 300 peals he advocated the expenditure of money upon instruction, and hoped that the district secretaries would be even more active in the future.

Mr. J. J. Jones (Guildford) said he did not take such a gloomy view of the position of affairs as the last speaker did, and should like to know the names of any towers in his district with which he was not personally acquainted.

Mr. Pickard, in reply, said that Mr. Jones was laboring under a mistake. He did not mean to criticise any particular district, or district secretary; he simply referred to the report as a whole, and the remarks he made were made in no antagonistic spirit.

Mr. A. Grist (Bournemouth) referred to the re-opening of the Whitchurch bells. Very shortly the increased ring of eight would be opened at Fordingbridge. He did not know what they would do on the occasion as regards a dedication service. Some forty years ago, when the tenor and treble were recast by Warner, they were turned upside down, filled with wine, and every one drank to their prosperity. He hoped there would be a proper dedication service.

The Hon. Secretary said he had been in communication with the Vicar of Fordingbridge, and the new bells would be properly dedicated—without wine. An opening peal would be attempted by members of the Guild.

The Master, alluding to Mr. Pickard's observations, said there was a great deal of truth in them. They wanted more good ringers and strikers, and more conductors. They wanted men to go on and learn more difficult methods, and not rest content with what they already knew. On looking over the names of those who had taken part in peals during the past twelve months, he found that very few had succeeded in ringing their first peal; and out of all their members he wondered how many could sensibly explain the elementary principles of their art, and give a reason for what they did with the bells. He urged them all to increase their efforts during the next year.

The balance sheet was then passed without further comment. Weybridge was chosen as the place for the next quarterly meeting, and Leatherhead received 77 votes against Guildford's 34, for the next annual meeting.

There was no time left for the discussion of any other subjects, and a vote of thanks to the officers of the Guild, proposed by Mr. J. Gould, terminated the meeting.

The annual Service, which was timed for 11.30 a.m., did not commence till 11.50 in St. Mary's church. The usual form of choral service was used, and the same hymns sung to the familiar tunes. The Rev. A. R. Warburton read the prayers, and the Rev. E. R. Walker read the lesson.

The Rev. S. G. Scott, Rector of Havant, preached from

1 Corinthians, x. 31. He said it was good for people to gather together for special objects, and to consecrate special work to the service of God and of His church. Change-ringing was a gift or talent which could be so consecrated. Bells aroused many sacred memories of holy seasons; they spoke of national celebrations, and of family incidents, and no ringer could therefore look upon his work as an ordinary secular pastime. Sculptors and architects in days of old had been known to pray over their work, and this same spirit of devotion should find a place in the ringers of the Diocese; whether men took knowledge of their work or not they should give God their best, purged of self. As they made exquisite harmonies float over hamlet, vale and hill, so as the servants of God they should cultivate spiritual harmonies, by using gifts they had already received in confirmation, and they should foster a life of devotion. It should never be said of them that they called people to church and to the Holy Communion and never came themselves. Without harmony one with another, there would be friction and strife. They must bear and forbear, watch against any jangling, and pray for the spirit of charity in the belfry. If they carried music into the belfry, they should also be able to let music be seen in their daily lives, and this meant nothing short of being in harmony with the moral law of God. Let them ask themselves whether they studied to improve their ringing, whether they were interesting the young in the art, did they fire them with enthusiasm, and patiently train them so that the old and well-known music might flow on in and around the village when they themselves had passed away.

The annual dinner was held, by the kind permission of the Rev. C. G. Lang, Vicar of Portsea, in the parish institute, and eighty-nine sat down to the excellent catering of Messrs. Butler. At the conclusion of the repast, the Master rose and thanked the Rev. S. G. Scott for his excellent sermon. He sincerely hoped that those who heard his sound teaching in the pulpit, would try and put it into practice.

The various bands present then dispersed to ring at neighbouring towers, but not before a very cordial vote of thanks had been passed to the Rev. C. G. Lang (whose absence was much regretted) and the Churchwardens for the kind manner in which they had received the Guild that day.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, August 7th, a most enjoyable day was spent among the beautiful six-bell towers of the Witney district by some members of the above-mentioned Guild. The band was composed of four Witney men, with Messrs. Large and Spindlow, of Barford and Ducklington respectively, and J. Wilkins of Maidenhead; the expedition being planned by Mr. J. Monk, who has for so long been the mainstay of ringing in Witney.

It had been intended to commence operations by ringing a quarter-peal for Evening Service at the Parish Church, Witney, but our Maidenhead friend failed to put in an appearance, so a 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung instead, J. Monk turning in the tenor and conducting. A start was made soon after 8 a.m. on Monday on bicycles for Freeland, about five miles away in the Woodstock direction; there we found a nice little peal of six, and the bells were soon going in Grandsire Minor; unfortunately they ran round after some ten minutes' ringing, but the mishap was soon forgotten, as almost at the same time Mr. J. Wilkins made his appearance, and a fresh start

being made, a true and complete 720 was rung in 24 mins. N. Spindlow, 1; T. Bull, 2; J. Wilkins, 3; Rev. C. Jenkyn, 4; J. Monk, 5; W. Large (conductor), 6. Then the order was, "down and away," and before very long we found ourselves at Eynsham. It was necessary to wait a few minutes as a wedding was taking place, but at the conclusion of the ceremony the happy pair were greeted with a well-struck 720 of Bob Minor. H. Brooks, 1; N. Spindlow, 2; W. Large, 3; J. Wilkins (conductor), 4; J. Monk, 5; Rev. C. Jenkyn, 6; after which Mr. J. B. Pearse, of Shipton, came up into the belfry and took part in ringing 120 Stedman Doubles. N. Spindlow, 1; J. Pearse, 2; W. Large, 3; Rev. C. Jenkyn, 4; J. Wilkins (conductor), 5; T. Bull, 6. The bells were then lowered in peal and the party set out for Stanton Harcourt, a place famous for its historical associations and for its ringers. On the way the handbells were produced from various pockets, and several courses of Grandsire Doubles were struck off, Messrs. Wilkins, Large, Monk and Spindlow manipulating one bell each, while Mr. Jenkyn came behind with 5-6. On arriving at the village we were met by Mr. James Trinder, more commonly known as "Old Jimmy," who gave us a most hearty welcome, his only regret being that the harvest work prevented most of the local band from joining us. While waiting for luncheon, which was served at The Harcourt Arms, a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on the handbells, followed by some tunes by Messrs. Trinder and Wilkins, which so inspired the veteran James that he at last acceded to the general request to ring some Grandsire Doubles, and starting away in a clear high-pitched voice, the best part of a six-score was rolled off before shortness of breath compelled him to desist. Lunch being over, the party adjourned to the fine old tower, where six bells hang in a space big enough for twelve. Hard by the church stand the remains of the old embattled manor-house of the Harcourts, the most noticeable feature of which, at the present time, is the tower known as Pope's tower, in which the said poet wrote many of his famous lines, while close to the churchyard gate is a cottage where once lived the celebrated John Wesley. After raising the bells in peal, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung. T. Bull, 1; W. Large, 2; J. Wilkins, 3; J. Monk, 4; N. Spindlow, 5; Rev. C. Jenkyn (conductor), 6. A wedding had been fixed for half-past two, and the bells just came round in time, and at the end of the service a six-score of Stedman Doubles was struck off, and the bells were then lowered. The combination of a heavy thunderstorm and a punctured tyre delayed our departure for a considerable time, but at last we were able to proceed, and reached our next destination, Northmoor, at about half-past four. This fine ring of six was soon going in Grandsire Minor, and a very quick and well-struck 720 was secured. J. Wilkins, 1; J. Monk, 2; N. Spindlow (conductor), 3; W. Large, 4; H. Brooks, 5; Rev. C. Jenkyn, 6. Here also we were met by Mr. Walters, of Kidlington, who accompanied us to the neighbouring village of Standlake, and assisted in ringing our fifth 720 that day. The bells of Standlake cannot be said to be beautiful or to go well, and the ringing-chamber is hardly inviting, being about the size and shape of a respectable factory chimney. However after a series of delays and mishaps a 720 was scored. H. Walters, 1; N. Spindlow, 2; Rev. C. Jenkyn, 3; J. Wilkins, 4; J. Monk, 5; H. Brooks (conductor), 6. At the conclusion no time was lost in mounting machines and getting away, as two towers had yet to be visited, if possible. Aston

being next on the list, it was very late in the evening, and most of the band were feeling just a bit tired when Aston church was reached, and it was nearly half-past nine when the bells came round after a good 720 of Grandsire Minor. J. Monk, 1; N. Spindlow, 2; H. Brown, 3; T. Bull, 4; Rev. C. Jenkyn, 5; J. Wilkins (conductor), 6. Ringing in this tower was quite a treat, and was considered by some members to be the best part of a very good day. It had been hoped that we should have finished up by ringing at Ducklington, the scene of so many of Mr. Spindlow's labours and triumphs, but it was too late then to do anything but get home as soon as possible. Our best thanks are due to the clergymen in the various parishes for having granted the use of the bells, and to the steeple-keepers who had got things ready for us.

J.

THE ST. THOMAS'S SOCIETY, PENDLETON.

On Monday, August 7th, the members of this company, with their esteemed friends Messrs. W. Pyle (Pendlebury) and J. Gilliver, and Master J. Winterbottom, had their annual excursion. Meeting at Victoria Station, Manchester—fourteen all told—they were soon seated in the express for Southport, and as the journey began a little indulgence was had with the contents of a cigar-box: then a little chat, and the handbells were brought into use, and Grandsire Triples, Major, and Caters were rung.

Southport being reached at 10.15, the company soon repaired to Christ Church, where they were kindly met by Mr. Rimmer (one of the local ringers) and the Rev. C. A. Clements, the rev. gentleman welcoming the party by his hearty wishes for an enjoyable day.

After partaking of a little refresher at the Railway Hotel, the tower was visited, and everything found in readiness except the go of the bells. They are, however, to be rehung, orders having been given to this effect. They were soon mixed up in a well-struck touch of 488 Superlative Surprise, 288 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and two courses of Stedman Triples. It was then thought advisable to have a touch with the inner man, so an adjournment was made to a noted restaurant, where dinner had been previously ordered, and ample justice done to a good meal.

This completed, the next move was along the promenade; a brake requisitioned; and the party soon en route for Ormskirk, when the handbells were again brought into use. A halt was made when about one-half of the journey had been performed, at a roadside inn, to spend a few moments in Grandsire Triples and Caters, and taste the Lancashire brew. Then again entering the four-wheeler, and bowling along, the company were soon overtaken by Mr. Clements on his two-wheeler, and he exchanged with Mr. Downs for the remainder of the journey.

Arriving at the parish church, the visitors were met by two of the local band, and escorted to the tower, a massive low structure, but only sorry to find the contents—an old peal by Rudhall, tenor 25 cwt.—in such bad going order as to be scarcely ringable, but with a little perseverance a touch of 384 Cambridge was accomplished, but an attempt for a 448 Superlative failed in the last lead. It was then suggested that two courses of Stedman Triples should, under the circumstances, suffice. This done, the bells were lowered, and then a resort to the nearest inn for a wash and general freshen-up, and then courses of

Caters and Triples on handbells, in which the local men took part.

Now the return journey was commenced, and the views of the cornfields, orchards, etc., intermixed with jokes by the humorous members of the company—Messrs. Downs and Greenhalgh—made the return very pleasant, Southport being reached about 7.0. Then a substantial tea, and a quiet stroll under the leadership of Mr. Clements, brought on the time too early to depart for Manchester, which was reached at 11.0.

The company desire to thank the rev. gentlemen for kindly granting the use of the bells, and the local ringers for their kindness; also to the Rev. C. A. Clements for so kindly contributing to the day's success. The company hope the time is not far distant when they will have the pleasure of another pull with him.

At a meeting of the Huntingdon Town Council on Thursday, the Mayor (the Earl of Sandwich) reported, in connection with the local Cromwell statue scheme, that there were only two subscriptions that reached two figures—those of the Marquis of Ripon and himself. Independently of these the total was under £50. Only five dollars had been raised in America. There was not one subscriber from the borough of Huntingdon, and only two or three from the county. The committee had done what it could, and it was now time, after four months' work, to close the matter up. It was unanimously agreed that the fund be closed and the money returned to the subscribers.

The Guardian is informed by the Church Army authorities that a clergyman well known on the East coast, feeling that he was living more luxuriously than he ought, has presented his horse to the Church Army to be sold, and the proceeds applied to the society's work in the prisons and workhouses, while the money saved yearly on the horse's keep is to be devoted to foreign Mission work.

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."

BOB LEAD.

SIR,—This letter is not to continue the discussion but merely to point out that I do not remember to have suggested in the private correspondence between Mr. Bulwer and myself, nor am I in the least conscious at present of any desire "in my secret soul" to alter the *venue* of "bob-lead" so that it should apply to a block. Much the reverse. I entirely desire to leave it to the multifarious meanings which Mr. Bulwer so clearly shews it to possess. I should be very sorry to see my blocks confused with leads, and should like to speak only of a bobbed or bob-got block according as it introduces another block or is itself introduced by one by means of a bob.

I said in my last that I hoped to say something on the subject of the Grandsire Single, but H.'s poem is quite too much for me; I am cleaned bowled. I will only say that a common Grandsire Single is a very terrible thing, and refer to the report of the committee appointed to carry out a scheme for the formation of a catalogue of peals as amended and adopted by the Council, 1894, page 9 last paragraph, and first eight lines of page 10.

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

A PEAL OF 362,880 GRANDSIRE CATERS, 6d.
Contains the full extent of changes on nine bells. Forwarded Post Free, on receipt of 7d. By James Hewett, 18 Chapel Row, Gosport.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

An expedition was organised on Bank Holiday under the auspices of this Association to visit some of the outlying churches in the neighbourhood of Ongar, and which are very inaccessible from the centre of the county. A brake started with a party of ringers from Chelmsford at 10.0 a.m., and were joined by others at Writtle. The Rev. H. Eyre, of Great Totham, assistant-secretary, planned and carried out the undertaking. At the last moment the Rev. T. L. Papillon, Vicar of Writtle and Hon. Secretary of the Association, was prevented from going, and his place was taken by the Rev. W. Norris. High Ongar was reached at 11.30. An endeavour was made to ring out a welcome upon the five bells from the Association to the parish, but it was found that they were not in good ringing condition, so a move was made to see the most interesting church at Greenstead, which was within walking distance. An excellent dinner was served at The Red Lion at one o'clock, and was thoroughly enjoyed. At two we took up our carriage and made for Fyfield, a village which has lately come into notoriety for its bicycling services. We found a nice-toned ring of five modern bells in the ancient Norman tower, but the ringing-chamber left much to be desired. The next stage was Moreton, where we found a kind and hearty welcome from the Rector and his family. The bells here were in good order, but being in a minor key, did not give out such a gladsome sound as if they had been pitched in an ordinary key. Before leaving we were ranged in position to enable the Rector to take a photograph, which, if successful, will prove an interesting souvenir. Our last tower to visit was North Weald, and we arrived in time for tea, which was most kindly provided by the Vicar under the trees on his lawn. The church is a very interesting one, and in excellent order. The six bells hang in an ancient tower of brick similar to those at Ingatestone and Friering. We had time to ring a few touches on the bells, and to conclude our visit with some tunes on the handbells, which we had brought with us. As 7 o'clock approached it was necessary to make tracks for home, which meant for some of us a drive of 25 miles. We had a most enjoyable day, and we endeavoured at the same time to spread the influence of the Association in villages, where not only scientific change-ringing is unknown, but where, through the constant migration of the rising generation, it has become almost impossible to get the bells rung even in the most rudimentary manner.

ST. MARY-LE-BOW, LONDON.

An alarming condition of affairs is said to prevail at the church of St. Mary-le-Bow. Several great cracks have developed, consequent, it is alleged, on the subsidence of the ground owing to the works of the Central London Railway. The original church was destroyed at the time of the Great Fire, and the present structure was erected by Sir Christopher Wren, the tower being regarded as one of his masterpieces. The church is seriously imperilled, and it is felt that steps must immediately be taken to ensure its safety.

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.

Ringers' Outings.

THE REIGATE SOCIETY.—On Wednesday, July 19th, the Society held their annual outing, Reading being the place selected. Leaving Reigate at 8.19 a.m., Reading was reached at 10.15. On arrival we at once adjourned to The Mitre hotel where we were joined by Mr. W. Newell, who was formerly proprietor of this hostelry, and after partaking of slight refreshment we separated, some going to view the seed grounds and nurseries of the well-known firm of Sutton and Sons, while others were conducted to St. Mary's church by Mr. Newell, he having obtained permission for us to ring. However, owing to a funeral, we were informed that we could not ring till after four o'clock. We then agreed to meet there later in the day, and then journeyed on to St. Giles', where we were successful in obtaining the key, and on ascending the tower we found a little splicing necessary before raising the bells. However, this was soon done and put right by Mr. Newell, during which a course of Grand-sire Triples was rung on the handbells. F. Linter, 1-2; G. Hoad, 3-4; F. Hood, junior, 5-6; H. Reeves, 7-8. The bells were then raised, and a well-struck 420 Stedman Triples was brought round. P. Knight, 1; F. Hoad, senior (conductor), 2; F. Linter, 3; G. Thompson, 4; G. Hoad, 5; H. Reeves, 6; F. Hoad, junior, 7; J. Steadman, 8. Also 288 Kent Treble Bob Major and 224 Bob Major, Messrs. Newell and Higgs taking part in the latter touch and others of our own band in the former (they having rejoined us). The bells were then lowered, and we adjourned to a refreshment house near The Mitre where Mr. Newell had kindly arranged for dinner, and justice having been done to the good things provided, we again separated, some, being led by Mr. Newell, went on the river as far as Pangbourne, while others, with Mr. A. W. Higgs, went to Tilehurst, where they found a splendid peal of eight, tenor 20 cwt., which were soon raised and set going to the tune of Stedman Triples, and a 420 was brought round. G. Thompson, 1; F. Hoad, senior (conductor), 2; A. W. Higgs, 3; J. Ansell, 4; H. Reeves, 5; G. Hoad, 6; F. Hoad, junior, 7; J. Steadman, 8. Also 336 Bob Major. T. Sparks, 1; F. Hoad, senior, 2; G. Thompson, 3; J. Ansell, 4; F. Hoad, junior, 5; H. Reeves (conductor), 6; G. Hoad, 7; A. W. Higgs, 8. We then retraced our steps to Reading, where we rejoined the remainder of our party who had just returned from Pangbourne by train, and after partaking of tea, we again went to St. Mary's, where we had arranged to meet at 6.30, but, however, for some unknown reason the steeple keeper could not be found, he having gone out and taken the keys with him, and after waiting three-quarters of an hour we gave it up, as train time was drawing near, which was all too soon, so after taking a walk through the gardens to the station, and after bidding our friends, Messrs. Newell and Higgs, farewell, we were soon *en route* for Reigate, which was reached at 9.45 p.m., and which brought to a close one of the most enjoyable and successful outings of the Reigate Society. In conclusion, the ringers wish to thank the various Vicars for their kindness in granting permission to ring, and also Messrs. Newell and Higgs for so kindly making arrangements, and showing us to various places of interest, thereby enabling us, one and all, to spend a pleasant day.

R.

PADWORTH (Berks).—On Saturday, June 3rd, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. J. Abery, 1; G. Abery, 2; A. Savage, 3; J. Abery, sen., 4; G. Seymour, 5; T. Herridge (conductor), 6. Also another 720. J. Abery, 1; G. Abery, 2; A. Savage, 3; T. Herridge, 4; J. Abery, 5; J. Hatto (conductor), 6. And 360 Oxford Bob. A. Savage, 1; G. Abery, 2; J. Abery, 3; J. Abery, sen., 4; T. Herridge, 5; J. Hatto (conductor), 6.

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Notices.

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

The Kent County Association, St. John's, Deptford.—The usual Wednesday evening practices at this tower will be discontinued until further notice.

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

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Wraysbury, to-day, Saturday, August 12th. Ringing to commence at 3 o'clock.

H. C. BELL, *Branch Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—The annual meeting of this branch will be held to-day, Saturday, August 12th, at Rawtenstall. Business meeting in the tower at 6.30 p.m. Will members who have not paid their subscriptions kindly do so at this meeting.

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

The Heavy Woollen Districts Association.—The next monthly meeting of the above named Society will be held at Tong, to-day, Saturday, August 12th. Meeting at 5 o'clock.

WALTER IDLE, *Secretary.*

47, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury.

The Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The monthly meeting of the above will be held at Leek on Saturday next, August 19th. Members intending to be present are requested to give notice to Mr. T. Turner, Westwood, near Leek.

W. TWIGG, *Hon. Sec.*

The Kent County Association—Rochester District.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at St. Mary Magdalene, Gillingham, on Saturday, August 26th. Tower open at 4 p.m. Tea in schoolroom at 5.30. Business meeting after tea. Members wishing to be present at the tea must let me know on or before Wednesday, August 23rd. Half railway fares up to two shillings will be paid.

A. OSBORNE, *Hon. District Sec.*

65, Clive Road, Rochester.

The Lancashire Association, Manchester Branch.—A monthly meeting will be held at Christ Church, Barlow Moor Road, West Didsbury, on Saturday, August 26th, when nominations will take place for the following officials, viz., Vice-President, Ringing Secretary, four representatives to Central Council, and one Committeeman. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Business meeting, 7 p.m.

W. BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

The St. Thomas's Guild, Dudley.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Coseley on Saturday, August 26th. Tower ready at 4 p.m.

W. MICKLEWRIGHT, *Hon. Sec.*

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The monthly ringing meeting will be held at Woodlesford (six bells) on Saturday, August 26th. Meeting house, The White Hart inn. All ringers are cordially invited.

1, Elm Avenue,
Bramley, Leeds.

H. GAYTHORPE,
Hon. Sec.

St. Margaret's Society, Westminster.—All ringing meetings are suspended during the month of August. The next meeting will be on Thursday, September 7th.

A. HARDY.

Miscellaneous Couches.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWPORT.—On Tuesday, June 6th, for practice at St. Woolo's church, 504 Stedman Triples. F. Atwell, 1; J. Butler, 2; F. Green, 3; W. B. Biss, 4; G. Cullimore, 5; J. W. Jones, 6; J. Trowbridge (conductor), 7; J. Pippin, 8. On Tuesday, July 11th, 504 Stedman Triples. H. Millard, 1; J. Butler, 2; J. W. Jones, 3; W. B. Biss, 4; F. Green, 5; F. Atwell, 6; J. Trowbridge (conductor), 7; J. Pippin, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

STOKE POGES (Bucks.)—On Monday, June 26th, at St. Giles' Church, 720 Grandsire Minor. *C. Hartley, 1; J. J. Parker (conductor), 2; *W. Clark, 3; J. Elderfield, 4; G. H. Gutteridge, 5; C. Clarke, 6. *First 720. Also 720 Grandsire Doubles. J. J. Parker, 1; J. Elderfield, 2; W. Clark, 3; G. H. Gutteridge, 4; C. Clarke (conductor), 5; J. Lovell, 6. The above is the first 720 of Minor on the bells for upwards of two years, and was rung as a birthday compliment to G. H. Gutteridge.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION

HENDON.—On Sunday, June 4th, after evening service at St. Mary's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Hollis, 1; C. H. Martin (conductor), 2; E. Bonfield, 3; F. Pratt, 4; R. Bevan, 5; F. Richardson, 6. First 720 of Treble Bob by G. Hollis. On Sunday, July 2nd, after evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. C. Crampton, 1; G. Hollis (first 720 in the method), 2; F. Pratt, 3; E. E. Pratchett, 4; R. Bevan, 5; C. H. Martin (conductor), 6. And 288 Kent Treble Bob. R. Bevan, 1; G. Hollis, 2; C. H. Martin, 3; F. Pratt, 4; E. E. Pratchett, 5; C. Crampton, 6. Tenor 16½ cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

DEPTFORD.—On Sunday, June 25th, at St. John's, 1260 changes of Darlaston Bob Triples. J. Law, 1; J. Rose, 2; W. Bedwell (conductor), 3; A. C. Bedwell, 4; T. G. Deal, 5; G. H. Daynes, 6; W. J. Jeffries, 7; H. Young, 8. On Sunday, July 16th, for Evening Service, 504 Stedman Triples. J. Rose, 1; T. G. Deal, 2; E. H. Nixon, 3; A. C. Bedwell, 4; G. H. Daynes, 5; W. Bedwell (conductor), 6; W. J. Jeffries, 7; H. Young, 8.

THE STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

KIDSGROVE.—On Sunday, June 18th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. D. Smith, 1; G. Buckley, 2; J. Mason, 3; H. Dean, 4; H. Dean, 5; A. Archer (conductor), 6. For evening service, 720 Duke of York. J. Mason, 1; G. Buckley, 2; A. Archer, 3; F. Dean, 4; H. Dean, 5; G. Siddons (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all. On Sunday, July 16th, for Divine Service, 360 Oxford. F. Johnson, 1; G. Buckley, 2; A. Archer, 3; F. Dean, 4; J. Mason, 5; G. Siddons, 6.

INFORMATION WANTED.—Can any one inform me where I can obtain the Bell Anthem and a good selection of hymns suitable for the dedication of bells, or has anyone copies of either anthem or hymns they would lend. Great care would be taken of them.

CHAS. H. HOWARD.

37, Bank Street, Braintree.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. T. J. Salter has removed to 4, Hall Street, Kidderminster.

"BELL NEWS" WANTED.

Will any gentleman kindly oblige me with the following copies of "THE BELL NEWS," wanted for binding. Will gladly give a reasonable price for same: No. 735, vol. 15, May 9th, 1896; No. 761, vol. 15, November 7th, 1896; No. 773, vol. 15, January 30th, 1897.—J. R. Pritchard, 6, Ward Street, Salford, Manchester.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

SITUATION required by a married man, aged 31, without family, in a month or by the 11th of October as Gardener, singlehanded. Can manage Cucumbers, Melons, Tomatoes, etc., and the general work of a well-kept garden. Highest references. A change-ringer on six or eight bells. Apply John Gaymer Miles, Point Cottages, Attleboro, Norfolk.

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.

SITUATION wanted by Brushmaker. Change-ringer on 6, 8, or 10 bells.—A. S., 38, Heron Street, Fenton, Staffs.

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Commences by explaining how to manage a bell; deals with Change-Ringing on three, four, five, six, seven and eight bells in the PLAIN BOB METHOD, giving touches and peals in each case; and closes with instructions for conducting, etc., etc. (143 pages).

STANDARD METHODS: 2s. 6d. THIRD EDITION
Now Ready. Contains full explanations and rules for ringing all the best methods, from five to eight bells, with plain-course diagrams of each printed in full, with coloured lines. 40 pages of diagrams and 87 of descriptive letterpress.

GRANDSIRE; 2s. 6d. THE METHOD, ITS PEALS, AND HISTORY. WITH PORTRAIT AND MEMOIR. EDITED BY HIS BROTHER, WM. SNOWDON. COMPLETE WITH AN APPENDIX BY THE REV. CHARLES D. P. DAVIES, M.A., OXON. Commences with ringing on five, six, and seven bells, for the benefit of a learner; gives instructions on composing, proving, varying, and reversing, conducting and calling round; and ends with a general survey of the practical and scientific aspect of the composition of triples—thus forming a complete reference book for all Grandsire ringers. (210 pages).

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Part I. contains instructions for pricking, transposing, proving, composing, and conducting peals; an essay on the *In and Out-of-course* of the changes; and history of the various compositions and performances. Part II. contains classified peals of Minor, Major, Royal, and Maximus, with their reverse variations; remarks on the different qualities; particulars of first performances, composers' names, &c., &c. (236 closely printed pages. Part II. (136 closely printed pages) may be had separately, 2s. 13d.

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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 (pages)

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THE CHURCH BELLS OF HUNTINGDONSHIRE.—Just Published.
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CHURCH BELLS OF SUFFOLK.—By THE REV. J. J. RAVEN, D.D., F.S.A., of Emmanuel College, Cambridge. With upwards of 90 illustrations. Half-morocco, Roxburgh, 27s. 6d. nett; in cloth, 20s. nett; packing and postage 1s. 6d. extra. This edition is limited to 500 copies. The large paper edition was all sold within a few days of issuing the first prospectus.
"An unexpectedly entertaining book. His researches as to the Norwich founders will be found full of new historical matter. We heartily welcome Dr. Raven's contribution to Campanology."—*Saturday Review*.
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" 6 "	3s. 3d.
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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, AUGUST 12, 1899.

THE holiday season has evidently affected the intelligence and news of the ringing world. True it is that the period has given a fillip to peal-ringing, but if the present weather continues we may expect to see the list decrease. Many of our brethren are now to be found in well-known holiday haunts, forgetful of everything but pleasure and its recuperative effects, which we hope may be great and lasting.

The principal items of the week's news are the silent peal of Stedman Triples at Drayton, and the meeting of the Winchester Guild. At the latter Mr. H. WHITE and Mr. PICKARD made some very pertinent observations. Ringing instruction is a fine thing if good teachers can be obtained. The Association it appears is about to indulge in the luxury of a peal-book. This sort of thing we are afraid generally proves a white elephant, while the value of such a publication is hardly worth the cost,

THE SILENT PEAL AT DRAYTON.

An unconduted peal of Stedman has for some time been contemplated by the Oxford Guild. An attempt to assemble a band for the task in December last was not successful. On that occasion non-resident members of the Guild were invited, but more mature deliberation resulted in the determination to select the band from resident members only—the sufficient number being furnished by the two chief towns of the Diocese, Oxford and Reading. Bank Holiday, August 7th, was the day chosen for the business, and at an early hour on that day the arrivals at Drayton vicarage began. By eleven o'clock the men were in their places, and the umpire—Mr. Hounslow—seated in his judicial chair, gave the word "go." The command was promptly obeyed, each man settling down to his work with the confidence of an expert at unconduted work, though none of them had ever done much of it before. Part-end after part-end rolled up with the most satisfactory precision, the single was made as a perfect matter of course, and the prospects of success were of the brightest, when alas! in the 40th course one or two of the old hands began to look as if something was wrong, and in the 41st course, two of the bells having shifted, the ringing ceased. An adjournment for refection followed, and after an interval for rest and tobacco the task was again undertaken at 3.30 p.m., and this time with complete success. Mr. Hounslow's most careful scrutiny could not detect any assistance given by any of the band to a neighbour in distress, because no one was ever in that predicament, the peal was absolutely uneventful, good solid clear striking throughout. Its truth and quality can be attested by Messrs. Phillott, Jaggard and Jeffery, as well as Mr. Hounslow. In short Thursant's four-part peal, true, complete, unconduted, has now been rung for the first time on church bells.

The Provinces.

SEVENOAKS, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, August 2, 1899, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES' VARIATION OF HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 21½ cwt. in D.

JOHN COX†	Treble.	WILLIAM G. GRANGER ..	5.
GEORGE B. SELBY	2.	JAMES STEVENS	6.
HAROLD MARCHANT* ..	3.	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE ..	7.
HERBERT J. FORD	4.	*SIDNEY AVON	Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE.

*First peal. †First peal on eight bells. ‡First peal in the method with a bob bell. This is the first peal on the bells since they were restored by Messrs. Warner. It is also the first in which local ringers have taken part.

HARWICH, ESSEX.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 5, 1899, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

WALTER BROWN	Treble.	CHARLES W. PARKER ..	5.
HENRY JAMES MEE	2.	CHARLES P. RAMPLIN ..	6.
CHARLES MEE	3.	THOMAS STEWARD	7.
ARTHUR MORRIS	4.	FREDERICK MEE	Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by CHARLES MEE.

WALKDEN.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION,

(BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Thursday, August 3, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF DARLSTON BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

JOSEPH BROOKES	Treble.	SAMUEL OAKES	5.
JOHN WORTHINGTON	2.	JOHN POTTER	6.
ALFRED POTTER	3.	JOSEPH POTTER	7.
JOHN DENNER	4.	WILLIAM DENNER	Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and Conducted by JOSEPH POTTER.

First peal in the method by all, and by the Association. Rung in honour of the marriage of Mr. T. A. Rothwell, eldest son of Mr. W. A. Rothwell, of Brentwood, Walkden, and Janie Hall, second daughter of Dr. W. Y. Martin, J.P., of the Limes, Walkden, which took place this day at St. Paul's church.

HEADCORN, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, August 6, 1899, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 25½ cwt.

THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE ..	Treble.	JOHN H. CHEESMAN	5.
JOHN R. SHARMAN	2.	EDGAR WIGHTMAN	6.
ISAAC G. SHADE	3.	ERNEST PYE	7.
GEORGE R. PYE	4.	WILLIAM PYE	Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

The above is the first peal in the method on the bells, and the first peal of Major since 1766.

BARTON-UNDER-NEEDWOOD, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Monday, August 7, 1899, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; A SIX-PART VARIATION (HARRISON'S MS) Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

CHARLES OTTEY*	Treble.	HENRY MEACHAM	5.
ARTHUR BOWLER	2.	THOMAS MEREDITH	6.
JOSEPH KEY	3.	FREDERICK J. COPE	7.
WILLIAM DEMPSTER	4.	JAMES H. GALLIMORE ..	Tenor.

Conducted by F. J. COPE.

*First peal.

MERSHAM, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 7, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES.

Tenor 13 cwt.

EDGAR WIGHTMAN	Treble.	GEORGE R. PYE	5.
JOHN H. CHEESMAN	2.	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE ..	6.
JOHN R. SHARMAN	3.	ERNEST PYE	7.
ISAAC G. SHADE	4.	WILLIAM PYE	Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

First peal in the method on the bells.

FOLKESTONE, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 7, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND EANSWYTH,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 25½ cwt.

THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE ..	Treble.	EDGAR WIGHTMAN	5.
ERNEST PYE	2.	WILLIAM PYE	6.
GEORGE R. PYE	3.	JOHN R. SHARMAN	7.
ISAAC G. SHADE	4.	JOHN H. CHEESMAN	Tenor.

Composed by CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY, and Conducted by JOHN R. SHARMAN.

First peal of Major on the bells.

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.

HARWICH, ESSEX.—THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. (SUDBURY BRANCH.)

On Monday, August 7, 1899, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

CHARLES SILLITOE Treble.	WILLIAM J. NEVARD .. 5.
WALTER GRIGGS 2.	ARTHUR SYMONDS 6.
WILLIAM HOWELL 3.	HARRY BOWERS 7.
ERNEST AMERUSE 4.	SAMUEL FORD Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by CHARLES SILLITOE.
The company wish to thank Mr. C. P. Ramplin for having everything ready.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, August 7, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES:

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lbs.

ARTHUR W. PIKE Treble.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 5.
CHARLES GILES 2.	WILLIAM J. SMITH 6.
FRANK HOPGOOD 3.	EDWIN HIMS 7.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 4.	REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. Tenor.

Rung un-conducted for the first time on church bells.

KETTERING, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 7, 1899, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES. Tenor 24 cwt.

ARTHUR SMEATHERS .. Treble.	WILLIAM R. HENSHER .. 5.
EDWARD CHAPMAN* .. 2.	JAMES GARRATT 6.
HERBERT P. HARMAN .. 3.	WALTER PERKINS 7.
JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. .. 4.	ANDERSON Y. TYLER .. Tenor.

Composed by A. KNIGHTS, of Chesterfield, and
Conducted by ANDERSON Y. TYLER.

*First peal in the method. This peal was arranged for Mr. H. P. Harman, who hails from Bromley, Kent. He was proposed a member of the above Association before starting. This peal has the full combination of 4-5-6 in 5-6, and the 2nd never there at a course-end.

EPSOM, SURREY.—THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Monday, August 7, 1899, in Two Hours Fifty-eight-and-a-half Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 12 cwt.

HERBERT LANGDON .. Treble.	GEORGE E. SYMONDS .. 5.
HENRY LANGDON, SEN. .. 2.	WILLIAM S. LANGDON .. 6.
HARRY R. PASMORE .. 3.	JOHN W. GOLDING 7.
FREDERICK G. PERRIN .. 4.	WILLIAM CROCKFORD .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

GREAT YARMOUTH, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 7, 1899, in Four Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5184 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 30 cwt.

JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM .. Treble.	GEORGE HOWCHIN 7.
CHARLES E. BORRETT .. 2.	FREDERICK R. BORRETT .. 8.
HENRY R. NEWTON 3.	ALBERT G. WARNES 9.
ROBERT HAWES 4.	FREDERICK DAY 10.
JAMES MOTTS 5.	WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE .. 11.
WILLIAM MOTTS 6.	GEORGE SMITH Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

The above is the first peal rung upon this recently augmented ring of twelve. The band wish to thank Mr. Denison Hayward, the Master of the local society, for making the necessary arrangements.

MINEHEAD, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 7, 1899, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 21 cwt.

CHALLIS F. WINNEY .. Treble.	JAMES JONES 5.
HENRY J. POOLE 2.	REV. H. C. COURTNEY .. 6.
GEORGE ATKINS* 3.	JOSEPH MADDOCK 7.
JAMES GRABHAM 4.	HENRY MOORE Tenor.

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNEY.

*First peal of Stedman.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 5, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES:

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

RICHARD NICHOLS* .. Treble.	THOMAS J. SALTER 5.
NOAH DAVIS 2.	THOMAS WAKEMAN 6.
WILLIAM H. SMITH 3.	WILLIAM SHORT 7.
JOHN BARBER 4.	WILLIAM H. BARBER .. Tenor.

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

*First peal. It was intended to ring Cambridge, but owing to the heat the above was rung instead.

READING, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, August 7, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 24 cwt.

VALENTINE ROWE .. Treble.	ERNEST BRUCE 6.
HENRY TUCKER 2.	WILLIAM HORNE 7.
CHARLES R. LILLEY .. 3.	ALFRED WATMORE 8.
AMBROSE OSBORNE .. 4.	JOHN TUCKER 9.
CHARLES STONE 5.	ALFRED E. REEVES .. Tenor.

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD, and Conducted by ALFRED E. REEVES.

Rung as a wedding compliment to C. H. Fowler, late of Oxford.

DUNSTER, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(THE DUNSTER GUILD.)

On Tuesday, August 8, 1899, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 21 cwt.

CHALLIS F. WINNEY .. Treble.	REV. H. C. COURTNEY .. 5.
THOMAS A. ELLIOTT .. 2.	JAMES JONES 6.
ROBERT HOLE 3.	JAMES GRABHAM 7.
ARTHUR LONG 4.	JOHN PAYNE Tenor.

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNEY.

CANTERBURY, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, August 8, 1899, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5035 CHANGES.

Tenor 30 cwt.

GEORGE R. PYE .. Treble.	REV. F. J. O. HELMORE .. 6.
HENRY G. FAIRBRASS .. 2.	ALFRED PALMER 7.
ERNEST PYE 3.	JOHN H. CHEESMAN 8.
GEORGE M. SAYER* .. 4.	WILLIAM PYE 9.
CHARLES F. TURNER* .. 5.	JOHN R. SHARMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

*First peal of Stedman Caters. A further account will be given next week.

Date Catches.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—WIRRAL BRANCH.

OXTON (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, June 20th, at St. Saviour, a date touch of Bob Major in 1 hr. 11 mins. C. Owens, 1; H. Brocklebank, 2; J. Owens, 3; G. R. Newton (composer and conductor), 4; J. L. Grant, 5; J. Evans, 6; W. Hughes, 7; W. Hughes, 8. Rung in honour of the Queen's Accession. Longest length of Major by an entire local band.

Miscellaneous.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, April 23rd, St. George's Day, at St. Michael's Church, at 6 a.m., 720 Bob Minor. W. Hammond, 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Farrow, 4; H. Coote, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. T. Watson, 1; W. Farrow, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Hammond, 4; C. H. Howard, 5; W. Webb (conductor), 6. For Afternoon Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob (12 bobs). T. Watson, 1; P. Holmes, 2; C. H. Howard (conductor), 3; W. Farrow, 4; W. Hammond, 5; W. Webb, 6. For Evening Service, 720 Double Court Bob. W. Farrow, 1; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 2; C. H. Howard, 3; W. Hammond, 4; W. Grimwood, 5; W. Webb, 6. Also 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. W. Farrow, 1; H. E. Hammond, 2; C. H. Howard, 3; W. Grimwade, 4; W. Hammond, 5; W. Webb (conductor), 6. Five 720's were rung during the day, each in a different method. On Monday, April 24th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. H. Coote, 1; P. Holmes, 2; C. H. Howard (conductor), 3; W. Grimwade, 4; W. Hammond, 5; W. Webb, 6. On Sunday, April 30th, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. H. E. Hammond, 1; W. Farrow, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Hammond, 4; F. Slade, 5; W. Webb (conductor), 6. On Thursday, April 27th, on the occasion of the wedding of Miss A. E. Parmenter, of Braintree, to Mr. F. S. Abbott, of London, 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Hammond, 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Farrow, 4; H. E. Hammond, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. Also two 720's Bob Minor. W. Hammond, 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Farrow, 4; H. Coote, 5; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 6. Also another 720 Bob Minor. H. E. Hammond, 1; Rev. H. T. W. Eyre, 2; P. Holmes, 3; W. Farrow, 4; H. Coote, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 30th, 720 Double Court Bob. W. Webb, 1; E. Wachter, 2; E. Radley, 3; E. Chaplin, 4; A. Chaplin, 5; F. Slade (conductor), 6. On Sunday, May 9th, for Morning Service, 720 Bob Minor. A. W. Barton, 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Hammond, 4; H. Coote, 5; W. Webb (conductor), 6. For Evening Service, 720 Bob Minor. T. Watson, 1; H. E. Hammond, 2; C. H. Howard (conductor), 3; H. Coote, 4; W. Hammond, 5; F. Slade, 6. On Sunday, May 14th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. H. Coote, 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Farrow, 4; H. E. Hammond, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. On Whit-Sunday, May 21st, 720 Kent Treble Bob. T. Watson, 1; W. Farrow, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; C. H. Howard, 4; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 5; F. Slade, 6. On May 24th, in honour of Her Majesty's 80th birthday, 720 Double Court Bob. T. Watson, 1; C. H. Howard (conductor), 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; E. Carter, 4; W. Grimwade, 5; W. Webb, 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. P. Holmes, 1; W. Farrow, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; C. H. Howard (conductor), 4; W. Grimwade, 5; F. Slade, 6. On Sunday, May 28th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Hammond, 1; P. Holmes, 2; C. H. Howard, 3; W. Farrow, 4; H. E. Hammond, 5; W. Webb, 6. On Sunday, June 11th, 720 Kent Treble Bob (15 bobs). T. Watson, 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 3; W. Farrow, 4; W. Hammond, 5; E. Wachter, 6. On Saturday, June 24th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. S. Hayes, 1; S. Sargent, 2; F. Slade, 3; E. Carter, 4; W. T. Cockeril, 5; W. Grimwade (conductor), 6. On Sunday Evening, June 25th, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. T. Watson, 1; W. Farrow, 2; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 3; H. Pilcher, 4; W. Hammond, 5; C. H. Howard, 6.

STISTED (Essex).—On Sunday afternoon, April 30th, at All Saints' Church for Divine Service, 720 New London Pleasure. W. Hammond, 1; E. Radley (conductor), 2; F. Slade, 3; E. Chaplin, 4; W. Webb, 5; A. Chaplin, 6.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Monday, July 31st, at St. Martin's church, meeting one short for a peal, 720 Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. W. R. Small (conductor), 1; R. Hall, 2; J. Small, 3; J. Hall, 4; T. Hill, 5; A. H. Hill, 6. First 720 of Minor by Messrs. J. Small and T. Hill.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MIDHURST (Sussex).—On Thursday, June 1st, 720 Oxford, G. Bos-

well, 1; C. Best, 2; T. E. Ellis (conductor), 3; T. Stroud, 4; F. Trussler, 5; J. Lee, 6. Rung on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. Shepherd and Miss Lewes, On Tuesday, June 13th, 720 Kent. G. Boswell, 1; C. Best, 2; T. E. Ellis, 3; A. B. Bennett, 4; T. Stroud, 5; F. Trussler (conductor), 6.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

SHALFORD (Surrey).—On Friday, June 23rd, to celebrate the return of Mr. N. E. Mitchell and his bride, 720 Bob Minor. *R. Crowhurst, 1; G. Elston, 2; W. Trewin, 3; E. Lucas, 4; C. Worsfold (conductor), 5; J. Smithers, 6. *First 720. Also 720 College Single. R. Crowhurst, 1; G. Elston, 2; T. Streeter, 3; E. Lucas, 4; H. Burkiitt (conductor), 5; W. Trewin, 6. And 360 Grandsire Minor. P. Worsfold, 1; G. Elston, 2; T. Streeter, 3; H. Burkiitt, 4; E. Worsfold (conductor), 5; W. Trewin, 6. And two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. F. Haydon, 1; J. Smithers, 2; T. Streeter, 3; E. Lucas, 4; E. Worsfold (conductor), 5; W. Trewin, 6.

ALTON (Hants).—On Sunday evening, June 25th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Lawrence, 518 Grandsire Triples. A. Mussell, 1; W. Brambley, 2; Miss W. Whyley, 3; H. Garfath (conductor), 4; A. Davis, 5; R. Applegarth, 6; F. Healey, 7; F. Noakes, 8.

THE WEST MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

UXBRIDGE (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, July 6th, at St. Andrew's church, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples in 42 mins. J. Peddle, 1; Rev. G. H. Bird, 2; J. J. Parker (composer and conductor), 3; A. Finch, 4; H. Gasden, 5; G. H. Gutteridge, 6; G. Alder, 7; J. Foster, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Thursday, July 6th, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 44 mins. J. Barrington, 1; J. J. Parker (conductor), 2; G. Basden, 3; G. Guttridge, 4; J. Elderfield, 5; J. Parker, 6; C. Clarke, 7; W. Bovington, 8. Arrangements had been made to attempt a peal, but one or two of the company turning up so late the above was rung instead as a birthday compliment to the Rev. H. C. Wilder, Rector of Farnham Royal.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GREAT HALE (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, June 27th, on the occasion of the club feast, a quarter-peal of Minor, being 720 of Kent Treble Bob, 360 of Grandsire, and 180 of Bob Minor, in 47 mins. J. R. Green, 1; R. Masters, 2; W. Dickinson, 3; T. Humberstone, 4; T. B. Wood, 5; T. T. Taylor (conductor), 6. First quarter-peal of Minor by all; also first on the bells. Tenor 11 cwt.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, June 18th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. A. Wales, 1; E. Jordan, 2; E. Holloway, 3; C. Taylor, 4; G. Smart, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6.

RUGBY (Warwickshire).—On Sunday evening, July 9th, for Divine Service, 574 Grandsire Triples. A. Coleman, 1; C. J. B. Cooke, 2; R. Watson, 3; J. Coales, 4; A. J. Gillings, 5; J. George (conductor), 6; A. Dubber, 7; J. W. Shotton, 8.

SOUTHPORT (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, June 20th, at Christ Church, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles) with 7-8 covering in 23 mins. Jas. Rimmer, 1; Jos. Rimmer, 2; L. Tyldesley, 3; H. Heywood, 4; J. Brandreth, 5; J. W. Rimmer (conductor), 6; W. Sutcliffe, 7; R. Dutton, 8.

WORCESTER.—On Tuesday, June 6th, at St. John's church, 360 Bob Minor. H. Bradburn, 1; E. Bradburn, 2; W. Lebbon, 3; A. Hadley, 4; E. Watkins, 5; W. C. Jones (conductor), 6. And two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. E. Bradburn, 1; W. Lebbon (conductor), 2; A. Hadley, 3; E. Watkins, 4; W. C. Jones, 5; — Bradburn, sen., 6. On Tuesday, June 13th, 720 Bob Minor. H. Bradburn, 1; E. Bradburn, 2; A. Hadley, 3; A. Hill, 4; W. Lebbon, 5; W. C. Jones (conductor), 6. And two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. A. Hill, 1; W. Lebbon (conductor), 2; A. Hadley, 3; E. Watkins, 4; W. C. Jones, 5; — Bradburn, sen., 6.

Situations Vacant.

WANTED, Groom-Coachman. Good Change-ringer on eight bells. Apply, THOS. G. HAYWARD, Midsomer Norton, near Bath.

STEADY Young Man as Coachman, and to assist occasionally in garden. About 25 years of age. Apply, Editor.

WANTED, GARDENER. Good wages given. H. use and coal found. Must be change-ringer on eight bells. Apply—THOS. T. HAYWARD, Midsomer Norton, near Bath.

Compositions.

BOB MAJOR.

TWELVE-PART PEALS.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

5184.

23456 W 5 4 M

24356 S - - -

63524 - - -

26534 - - -

65234 - - -

32564 - - -

Eleven times repeated; single for first bob 2nd course of the 4th and 10th parts. Only 4-5-6 in 6ths place at the course-ends, and contains sixty courses.

5024.

By omitting the bobs except the one at w in the last two courses in any two parts of the peal only.

5184.

23456 W 5 4 B M

35264 - - -

63254 - - -

56324 - - -

52634 - - - S

Eleven times repeated; single the first lead of the 6th and 12th parts. Has the full extent of the 4th and 6th in 6ths place, and no other bell there. This is the first peal composed on this plan.

5024.

By calling a bob at H the third course of the 3rd and 4th parts instead of the single, the first lead of the 6th and 12th parts cuts away the last course in that part.

5184.

23456 5 4 B M H

35264 - - -

65234 - - - S -

26534 - - -

52634 - - -

Eleven times repeated: single last call of the 6th and 12th parts. Has the full extent of the 4th and 5th in 6ths place at the course-ends, no other bell being there.

5024.

By calling a single first lead in the second course, and bob at H (of any two parts) instead of the 5, 4, M S H, cuts away that course and reduces it to the above.

5184.

23456 W 5 4 B M H

42635 - - - -

63254 - - - -

35264 - - - -

32564 - - - -

Eleven times repeated; single for bob at M in the first course of the 6th and 12th parts. Only the 4th, 5th, and 6th in 6ths place at the course-ends.

5024.

By calling a single for bob M second course instead of the shunting single of the above in the 6th and 12th parts.

By F. BENNETT, *Brighton.*

5056.

23456 W B M H

53462 - I - 3

43265 - - - 3

35264 - - - 2

25463 - - - 3

35462 - S 3

45263 - - - 3

53264 - - - 2

23465 - - - 3

42536 - - - 3

45326 - - - 2

24356 - - - 3

52346 - - - 3

34526 - - - I

52436 S - - I

35426 - - - 3

34256 - - - 2

53246 - - - 3

45236 - - -

23456 - - - I

TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By GEORGE HAWKINS, *Hawley, Hants.*

5120.

23456 M B W H

56234 2 - - I

64235 I - - 2

45236 I - - 2

62534 I - - I

54326 I - I 2

46325 2 - - I 2

53624 2 - - I I

24365 2 - - 2

62345 I - - 2

25346 I - - 2

42356 I - - 2

26354 I - - 2

23564 I - - 2

23645 2 - - I

23456 2 - - I

DOUBLE NORWICH MAJOR.

By JAMES PAGETT, *Kidderminster.*

5184.

23456 I 5 6

42635 - - -

26435 - - -

34625 - - -

46325 - - -

63425 - - -

24365 - - -

43265 - - -

62345 - - -

36524 - - -

25634 - - -

56234 - - -

32654 - - -

26354 - - -

63254 - - -

52364 - - -

23564 - - -

52436 - - -

24536 - - -

45236 - - -

32546 - - -

25346 - - -

53246 - - -

42356 - - -

32456 - S

Repeated: contains the 4th, 5th, and 6th only in 6ths place at a course-end.

5120.

By JOHN HOWES, *Kingston-on-Thames.*

23456 I 4 6

53624 - - -

36524 - - -

25634 - - -

56234 - - -

62534 - - - *

32465 - - -

24365 - - -

43265 - - -

62345 - - -

23645 - - -

The above twice repeated, substituting a single for bob marked * in third part produces—

23654 I 4 6

53426 - - -

34526 - - -

45326 - - -

23546 - - -

35246 - - -

52346 - - -

26345 - -5

63245 - - -

32645 - - -

42536 - - -

25436 - - -

54236 - - -

32456 - - -

34256 - S

42356 - - -

23456 - - -

LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR.

By F. BENNETT, *Brighton.*

5056.

23456	M	IN 5TH'S	W	H
25346		X	-	-
45236		X	-	-
52436		X	-	-
32465	-	X	-	-
24365		X	-	-
64235		X	-	-
36245			-	-
62345		X	-	-
23645		X	-	-
43265		X	-	-
63425		X	-	-
35426	-	X	-	-
32546		X	-	-

Repeated.

5024.

23456	M	IN 5TH'S	W	H
34256		X		
54326		X	-	
43526		X		
23564	-	X	-	
35264		X		
52364		X		
24365	-	X		
43265		X		
32465		X		
25463	-	X		
54263		X		
42563		X		
62534	-	X	-	
24536	-	X		
45236		X		
52436		X		
42635	-	X		-H
32654	-	X	-	
26354		X		
63254		X		
53624		X	-	
63425	-			
35426	-	X		
25346		X	-	
53246		X		
32546		X		
42356		X	-	
23456		X		

6th the extent in 5-6 without the second in 6th's place.

5408.

23456	M	IN 5TH'S	W	H
53462	-	X	-	
34562		X		
45362		X		
65432		X	-	
52436	-	X		
24536		X		
45236		X		
35264	-	X	-	

Continued— M IN 5THS W H

52364		X		
24365	-	X		
43265		X		
32465		X		
25463	-	X		
54263		X		
42563		X		
23564	-	X		
63254		X	-	
34256	-	X		
54326		X	-	
43526		X		
53624	-	X		-H
63425	-			
35426	-	X		
25346		X	-	
53246		X		
32546		X		
42356		X	-	
23456		X		

6th the extent in 5-6.

STEDMAN CATERS.

By ARTHUR KNIGHTS, *Chesterfield.*

5186.

123456 5 16

354261*		
453162	-	-
352164	-	-
253461	-	-
351462	-	-
153264	-	-
154362	-	-
152463	-	-
251364	-	-
254163	-	-
452361	-	-
451263	-	-

361254†		
163452	-	-
362451	-	-
263154	-	-
364152	-	-
463251	-	-
461352	-	-
462153	-	-
264351	-	-
261453	-	-
162354	-	-
164253	-	-

Repeated: calling the first course of the second half 4s, 5, 7, 10, 12, 13 produces 361452. Round with bobs at 3, 5, 8.

*This course is called 1, 2, 4, 5, 6s, 11, commencing from rounds with a slow six.

†3, 4, 7, 9, 10, 13, 14, 17, 18.

This peal contains the 5th and 6th each twenty-four times in 2nds and 5ths places.

5079.

By E. HIMS, *Oxford.*

231456	I	6	5	16
362154	-	-	-	-
364251				
361452				
163254				
164352				
461253				
463152				
462351				
264153				
263451				
261354				
162354				S
164253				
163452				
361254				
364152				
463251				
461352				
462153				
264351				
261453				
263154				
362451				

352164 4, 5, 6s, 11s, 16

The last twenty-three courses repeated, calling the last course of the second part thus—4, 5s, 8, 9, 13s, 16, 18.

CANTERBURY PLEASURE.

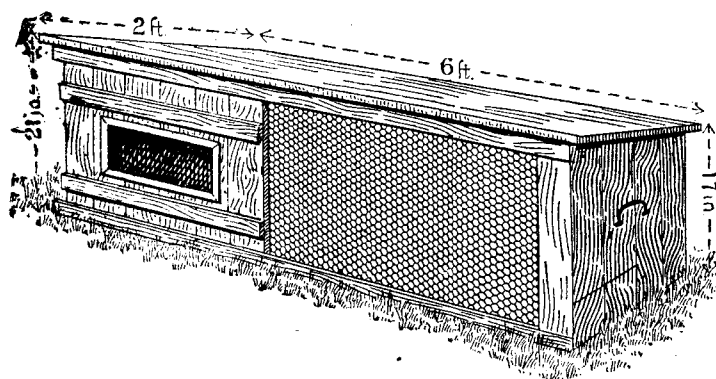
By J. BURROWS, *Dalton-in-Furness.*

720.

42563	
- 65432	
- 34625	
- 26354	
- 53246	
- 25463	
- 64235	
- 32654	
- 56342	
- 43526	
- 54263	
- 62534	
- 35642	
- 46325	
- 34256	
- 52364	
- 63542	
- 45623	
- 26435	
- 42356	
S 35462	
- 64325	
- 23654	
- 56243	
- 42536	
S 53462	
- 64523	
- 25634	
- 36245	
S 24356	

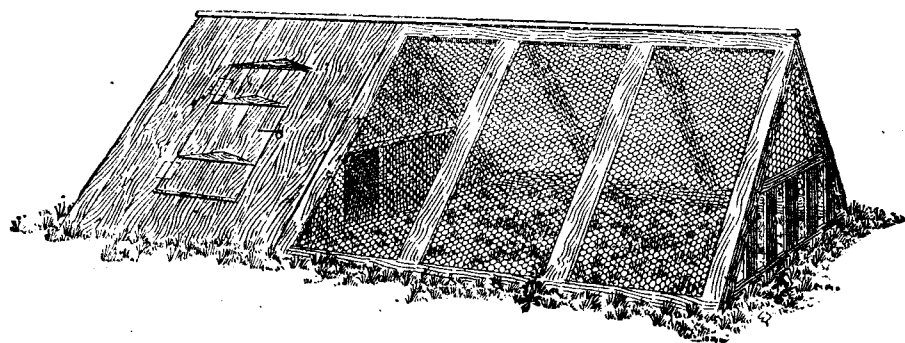
Repeated.

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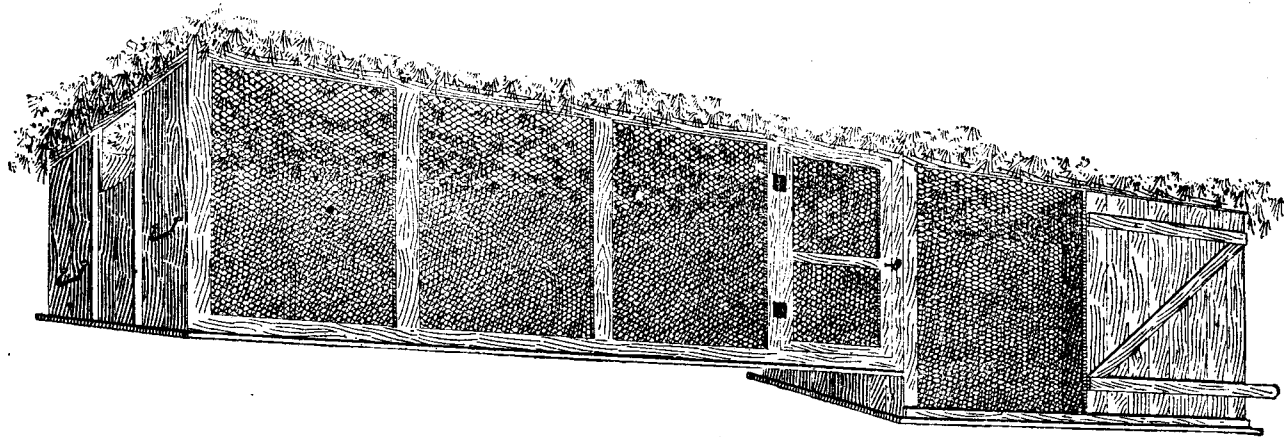
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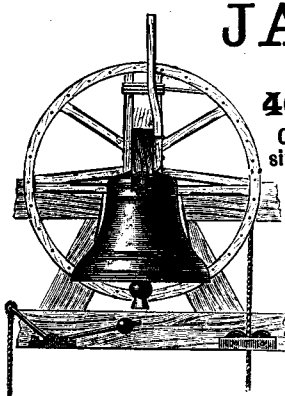
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No. 287.	"Orange and Blue," Scotch Air	"	1 6
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The above are for 6 ringers with 13 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.A.			
The next are for 6 ringers with 12 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.			
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No. 321.	"The Rose of Allandale" March	"	1 6
No. 322.	"The Pilgrim of Love" Galop	"	1 6
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No. 906.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19, 1899.

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Bradford Town Hall.	Burnley Holy Trinity Ch.
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St. James' Palace, London.	Corbridge-on-Tyne, do.
Sherborne Abbey.	Pontypool (Trevethin
Sydney Town Hall,	Church).
N.S.W.	Windermere Church.
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Duke of Albany Memorial,	Aylesford do.
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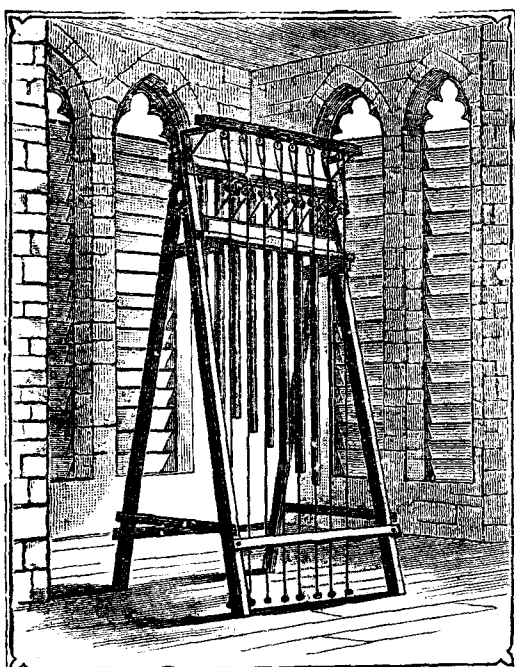
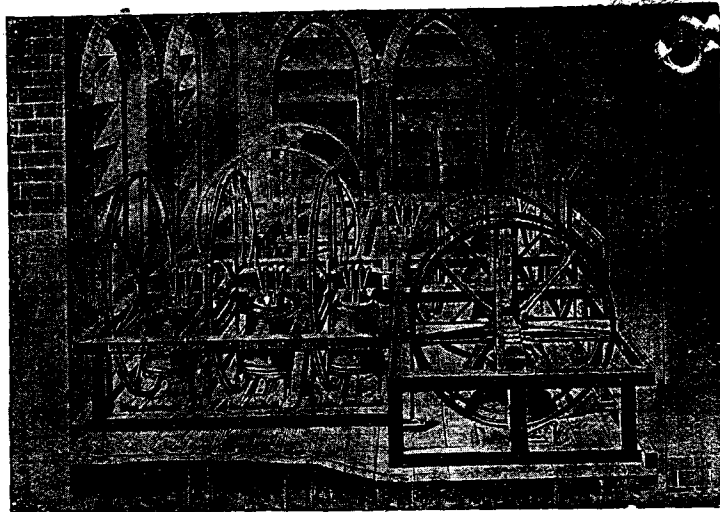
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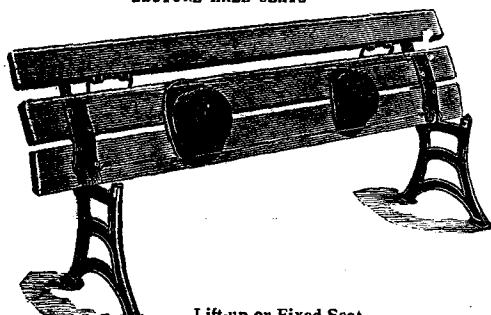
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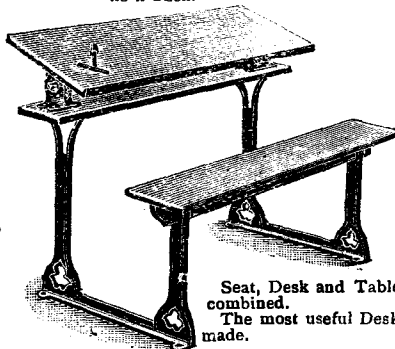
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12 POPULAR AIRS, for Handbell Ringers, by W.
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Home Sweet Home, March of the Men of Harlech, Rule
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Clouds roll by, Whistling Farmer Boy.

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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 906.]

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

GOLDEN WEDDING OF MR. AND MRS. JAMES GEORGE, OF PINNER, MIDDLESEX.

On Sunday, August 13th, 1899, this event was commemorated at Rose Villa, Pinner. Before luncheon some good touches were rung on the handbells in the front garden, which was gaily decorated. Shortly after two o'clock the bells of the Parish Church went off for a peal of Grandsire Triples (5040 changes), which, as will be seen by the record, was brought round in 3 hours and 3 minutes, and in which two noted ringers took part, viz., Mr. W. H. George (Eastleigh), and Mr. J. George (Rugby), the peal being ably conducted by the latter, and was the first ever conducted by a native of Pinner at that place. After the peal the ringers were hospitably entertained by the worthy host and hostess at Rose Villa in company with their family and a large number of friends, and was a very happy gathering.

Mr. W. H. George gave a short but interesting account of his father's career, in which he said he was a very old and respected inhabitant of the parish, having been born there 79 years ago; he had been a ringer there over 60 years, and rang on the occasion of the death of William the Fourth and the accession of Queen Victoria. Some fifty years since he was connected with a band of change-ringers in the district, and on one occasion rang in an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples at Pinner, besides taking part in change-ringing at other churches. He was pleased to think that his brother James had been fortunate enough to conduct his 200th peal on such a memorable occasion, and the fact that his brother bore the same name as his father did not decrease in value the interesting circumstances connected with the peal. He asked them all to kindly drink the health of his father and mother, and also that of his brother, which was done with musical honours.

Mr. James George, sen., said he was not going to delay the festive proceedings, but he thanked them all for the high tribute they had paid him and his dear wife by ringing the peal which he had listened to very attentively, and the striking he considered was very good.

Mr. James George, jun., then intimated how pleased he was to have a band there that day that could strike a good peal of Grandsire Triples. He should think more of that peal than any other he had rung. He gave the health of the visiting brother-ringers.

Mr. Winney, in responding, spoke in very high terms of the striking and ringing of both his old friends, the brothers George. They had all spent a most enjoyable day. At that moment passages which he had read reminded him, as this did, as "one of the happy homes of England."

The handbells were then brought into use, and well-struck touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples were brought round, conducted by J. George.

A very enjoyable day was spent by all, and the company would have been more numerous, and the festivity of a more pronounced character had the date fallen on any other day but Sunday.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH AND WEST DISTRICT.

A meeting of the above was held on Saturday, July 29th, at the church of St. Matthew, Ruislip, and there was a very fair attendance of members from Ealing, Isleworth, Hillingdon, Heston and Hornsey. Unfortunately the Vicar, the Rev. T. M. Everett, was away from home, so could not be present. Ringing commenced about five o'clock; at six o'clock the members adjourned for tea, to which about twenty-four sat down. After tea the tower was again visited, and touches of Grandsire, Oxford Bob, Union, and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Oxford, and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung. During the evening, a splendid ring of twelve handbells, belonging to the worthy Master, were opened, first in rounds, and then a touch of Grandsire Triples by J. Basden, 1-2; A. H. Taber, 3-4; W. Weatherstone, 5-6; F. Goddard, 7-8. The tone and finish of the bells, which were made by Messrs. Shaw, Son and Co., of Bradford, were greatly admired by all present.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

EAST BERKS. AND SOUTH BUCKS. BRANCH.

The August monthly meeting took place at Wraysbury on Saturday, the 12th instant, about sixteen members being present from towers in the neighbourhood. The members were invited by the Vicar, the Rev. L. F. Hake, to tea at the Vicarage.

Ringling began about four o'clock and continued until half-past eight. The methods practised were Grandsire, Stedman, and Oxford Bob Triples, with an occasional touch of Plain and Treble Bob Major.

Before separating, a vote of thanks to the Vicar for his kindness in entertaining the ringers, and for the use of the bells, was proposed by Mr. J. J. Parker, who, by the way, has been the mainstay of these monthly meetings, he having been present at every one during the year.

It was agreed, subject to the approval of the Vicar of Lane End, to hold the next meeting there in September.

A CLOCK THAT KEPT ON STRIKING.

The clock of the Parish Church at Great Bookham gave signs of incontinence on Sunday night. It began to strike ten, but it was not satisfied with that, and went on until the startled inhabitants of the Surrey village had counted 200. Still the clock went on, and it was felt that if anyone wanted to sleep that night heroic measures must be taken. After the demented clock had been striking for fifteen minutes two of the inhabitants went up to the tower and, thrusting some brooms in one of the wheels, succeeded in silencing it.

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.

CURRENT TOPICS.

We are in the slack season. There is nothing doing scarcely anywhere. The weather too, makes the human frame slack and limp. A don't-want-to-do-anything sort of feeling pervades one. If they have had it much hotter in the Transvaal than we have had it this week, I pity them. And yet there are to be found men in this equatorial weather bold enough to ring peals. It certainly shows their pluck.

Some of my women-folk beguiled me last week to accompany them to the coast, or "the sea-side," as they termed it. As previously, I found that a little of the "sea-side" went a very long way, and after two days I gave it up to find a spot more to my inclination. This I found in an old-fashioned, quiet, country village, where there was one public, one policeman, no brass band or noisy milk (?) vendors, or any other street horror. Ah! this village was something like. And there I deposited myself upon a beautiful greensward underneath some noble trees, and read, and smoked, and eat, and drank—a perfect elysium (you will know what that means).

I took some volumes with me, of course; and as you all are fond of variety which is said to be charming, here is an extract or two from one of them. The book is entitled "Echoes of Old County Life," by Mr. J. K. Fowler, of Aylesbury, a gentleman whose experiences are most varied and interesting. It is published by Arnold, of Bedford Street, Strand. The following is rather a funny coincidence: "When a former Archdeacon once made a parochial visitation, he went into a certain church and was shown round by the sexton, the rector being from home at the time. On entering the churchyard he found about half of it dug up and planted with potatoes, and the Archdeacon, much horrified, exclaimed, 'What, what! Potatoes, potatoes! This is very wrong, very wrong indeed.' 'Yes, sir,' says the sexton, 'I tould measter 'twere wrong, for it were taters last year, and taters the year before, and it ought to have bin wheat this year.'"

"Another archidiaconal story, from Suffolk. The venerable Archdeacon, when visiting a certain parish asked the parish clerk what sort of man the Rector was; the clerk, looking hard at the lectern with the eagle and out-stretched wings, and at the same time pointing to the pulpit, replied, 'Well, sir, he ain't much in the tub, but he's stunning behind the goose,' or 'geuse' as the Suffolk vernacular has it."

The following story has been told many times I know, but there are thousands, aye thousands, of my readers who have never heard it. Here it is, as given by Mr. Fowler:—

"In connection with the Tate and Brady version of the Psalms, I remember being told a good story, as all stories about Lord Palmerston and Wilberforce, Bishop of Oxford, are likely to be. On one occasion these two were visiting at a country house, and on the morning of departure were told that carriages were ready to take the departing guests to the railway station. Palmerston decided to go in one of these carriages, as he feared there would be rain; but the Bishop, who was a great pedestrian, preferred to walk. Before he had proceeded half-way to the station a heavy storm of rain came on; yet

the good Bishop struggled on, when the carriage containing Lord Palmerston overtook him, and his lordship called out from its window a part of the first verse of the Tate and Brady version of the first psalm—

'How blest is he who ne'er consents
By ill advice to walk.'

But Bishop Wilberforce, with the usual twinkle in his eye, replied with the remainder of the verse—

'Nor stands in sinners' ways, nor sits
Where men profanely talk.'

And the Bishop drew to one side, and proceeded to walk on."

I understand that the rev. gentleman who is the honoured Secretary of the "C.C." is taking his holiday on some almost unknown part of the earth's crust where bob-leads, Kidlington harangues, and so forth, cease to trouble, and the "B.N." is unknown. Happy man! Yet I would not have him be too sure of the accuracy of the last statement. The adumbrations of your humble has been read upon the Matterhorn, in the Caucasus, on the steppes of Tartary, in the Soudan, and many other places where civilization is still in swaddling clothes. You may not believe that the celebrated Balfour, of Liberator fame, when in Argentina, carefully studied, week by week, those pages of compositions, a perusal of which delights every ringer, young and old. Mind, I don't state this as a positive fact, for I have learned that it is best never to be cocksure of anything. However, we all hope that Mr. Bulwer may not only greatly enjoy his holiday, but that such a thing as a refreshed giant will be very small beer compared with the renewed strength, increased vigour, and fresh life the rev. gentleman will secure through this temporary retirement. But I am sure that his old friend the "B.N." will not be forgotten by him, no matter in what part of the world he may be.

"Bob Leads" again! The subject conduces to poetry. Note the following from one who knows something about it.

BOB LEADS.

The ringer, as he week by week
His trusty "B.N." reads,
Can follow there to heart's content,
The question of "Bob Leads."
But Robert as he sits at home,
And rocks the baby's bed,
Perforce has more to contemplate,
The question why Bob's led!

T.

PLAIN SPEAKER.

LITTLE COMBERTON (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, July 2nd, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. H. Goodman, 1; W. R. Small, 2; S. Spittle, 3; H. Salisbury, 4; J. Smith, 5; J. W. Smith (conductor), 6. Also 720 Plain Bob. H. Goodman, 1; W. R. Small, 2; J. W. Smith (conductor), 3; H. Salisbury, 4; S. Spittle, 5; J. Smith, 6.

GIVEN AWAY. PEACH'S LACE CURTAINS.

21^s DIRECT FROM THE LOOMS CARRIAGE PAID 21^s
POPULAR PARCEL.

Lot B.N. contains—1 pair Drawing-room Curtains, Superb Lacey Design, very Rich, 4 yards long, about 2 yards wide; 2 Pairs alike, for Dining-room, handsome work. Copied Real Lace, 3 yds. long, 60 ins. wide; 1 pair Bedroom Curtains, Artistic Floral, 3 yds. long, 50 ins. wide. One five o'clock Table Cover, Choice Guipure Lace. Sent, Carriage Paid, for 21s. All goods taped edges. Ecu if desired.

GIVEN AWAY with each parcel—6 Lace Dressing-table Covers, Fringed, one 45 ins. long, 5 smaller. Our 1899 Parcel is the best we have yet sent out. PRIZE MEDALS, Chicago and Toronto. Satisfaction guaranteed or money returned.

1899 PRICE LIST Post Free. 300 Illustrations of Lace, Frilled Edge and Swiss Curtains, Madras Muslins, Laces, Lace Capes, Blouses, Fichus, Pinafores, etc. Lace-edged Roller Blinds, any size, below usual cost. Estimates and patterns sent. Also Hosiery, "Stand Hard" Wear. Factory Prices.

C. Peach & Sons, Lister-gate Nottingham. Established 1857

FOUR DAYS' HOLIDAY IN KENT.

It had been the ambition of the Erith band for some time to spend a Bank Holiday in Kent for the purpose of attempting peals on some of the famous bells in the Weald of Kent, and on Saturday, August 5th, at 5.50 a.m., we started for Headcorn. On arrival, a conveyance was awaiting to take us to Tenterden, where we were met by some of the local ringers, who had been getting the bells ready for us, and after refreshing the inner man a start was made for the tower, which possesses a splendid ring of eight, tenor 30 cwt. A peal of Superlative was attempted, which unfortunately came to an end after ringing two hours, chiefly owing to the intense heat. Now back to Headcorn, where, with Mr. Hodgkin, one of the local ringers, a course each of Treble Bob and Double Norwich was rung for the sake of having a pull. Then to Staplehurst, but owing to various circumstances, all hopes of securing a peal of Double Norwich vanished. Early on Sunday morning we caught the first train back to Headcorn and rang a quarter-peal of Superlative Surprise and a course each of London and Cambridge Surprise for morning service, Mr. Hodgkin, the steeplekeeper, ringing the treble. We attended morning service, and as there was no afternoon service, permission was kindly given to attempt a peal for evening service, and at the end of three hours and twelve minutes a well-struck peal of Superlative was brought to a successful issue, the first in the method on the bells, and the first peal of Major since 1766. These bells are a nice ring, and are in first-class ringing order. Merham, where a peal of Double Norwich was to be attempted early on Monday morning, was the next place visited, and the bells were pealing out Double Norwich by 6.50 a.m., and by 9.45 an excellent peal was the result, the first in the method on the bells, particulars of which have already appeared. In the absence of the Vicar we were met by one of the Churchwardens, who congratulated us on our success, and most generously provided us with some refreshment. Then to Folkestone, which was reached about twelve o'clock, and at 1.45 the bells were set going to Superlative, and at the end of 3 hours 21 minutes, an excellent peal was the result; the first peal of Major on the bells. These bells are a splendid ring of eight, tenor 25½ cwt., and are in perfect going order. Here the band had to be broken up, Messrs. Shade, Groombridge and Wightman having to get back on Monday night, the remaining five staying at Folkestone. Tuesday morning, the first train to Canterbury was caught, and we were met at the Cathedral by the Rev. F. G. O. Helmore and Messrs. Fairbrass, Sayer and Turner, of Canterbury, and Mr. A. Palmer, of Maidstone. Here a peal of Stedman Caters was attempted, and at the end of 3 hours and 30 minutes a good peal of Stedman Caters was the result, the first peal on the bells since they were re-hung. After refreshing the inner man, Mr. Helmore kindly showed us over the Cathedral, which alone is well worth a visit to Canterbury. Bidding our Canterbury friends farewell, we returned to the station, where the band broke up, Mr. Cheeseman returning to Greenhithe, Sharman to London, and the brothers Pye to Chadwell Heath. The band wish, through the medium of this paper, to thank the clergy for giving permission, and also the local ringers, who did all in their power to make our outing a success.

P.

THE MIDDLESBROUGH COMPANY.

On Saturday, August 4th, the Middlesbrough Parish Church ringers had their annual excursion to Ripon, where arrangements had been kindly made by Mr. Pick, of the local band, for use of the Cathedral peal of ten. Arriving shortly after 4 p.m., the party made for head-quarters (The Black Bull), and were soon afterwards busy stowing away a substantial tea, after which tracks were made for the tower, where a lengthy touch of Superlative was rung. It was intended to have started for a 5000, but one of our band having to return home that night the bells were brought round at 1696. Adjourning to head-quarters, handbell ringing was indulged in, and afterwards the sights of the town were seen, it being St. Wilfrid's feast, there was plenty of life. Sunday morning saw us astir shortly after 6 a.m., several of the party visiting Sharow, where, I hear, they sampled some of Mr. Pick's XXX., whilst the others indulged in walking exercise nearer home until breakfast time. 9.15 saw us again in the belfry, where we rung 1008 of Double Norwich and 420 Stedman

Triples for morning service. In the afternoon, seven of the party visited Studley and Fountains Abbey, which was worthy of our exertions, whilst the rest of us were assisting the local men to ring a 720 Kent Treble Bob Royal for afternoon service. The visitors would here like to thank the authorities for placing the bells at their disposal, also the local ringers for allowing us to take their places on the Sunday morning, and to Mr. Pick for making arrangements, the visit proving highly successful, which could not very well be otherwise, seeing the way the boys kept things merrily moving. That the Shadow Show was a great draw judging from the number of people that hung round the hotel until almost sunrise; this was mainly due to the exertions of the younger members of the band, who always go with the intention of making the most of it. That the catering of Mr. Mackley, of The Black Bull, was to our liking, and ringers visiting Ripon will do well by giving him a call.

B.

Obituary.

ALFRED GEORGE BROOKS.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of the above-named ringer, which took place at his residence at Stoke Bishop, Somerset, on August 4th, at the early age of 21 years. He joined the St. Mary's company some few years ago, and was mostly known to many Bristol ringers. On the 8th, he was carried to his last resting-place, by the following brother-ringers:—W. and H. Sweeting, W. Roberts, J. Clark and G. and A. Davis. A muffled peal was rung by his brother-strings after the funeral. At 8 p.m. the same evening, a muffled peal of Grandsire was rung at Holy Trinity, Westbury-on-Trym, conducted by H. Edwards, standing as follows:—H. Edwards, 1; W. Bennett, 2; G. Davis, 3; R. Devenish, 4; W. Russell, 5; H. Walters, 6; L. R. Devenish, 7, representing Henbury.

C.

FINEDON (Northants).—On Tuesday, May 23rd, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. James Cooper to Miss Jesse Wittering, 504 and 168 of Bob Triples. W. Warner, 1; P. J. Manning, 2; A. Leonard, 3; J. S. Tompkins, 4; T. Abbott, 5; A. Smeathers, 6; W. Perkins (conductor), 7; J. Packwood, 8. Also 880 same method. J. Packwood, 1; P. J. Manning, 2; A. Leonard, 3; J. S. Tompkins, 4; S. Abbott, 5; A. Smeathers, 6; W. Perkins (conductor), 7; J. Houghton, 8. Also 336 Bob Triples. W. Warner, 1; J. T. Tompkins, 2; A. Leonard, 3; T. Abbott, 4; P. J. Manning, 5; A. Smeathers, 6; W. Perkins (conductor), 7; J. Packwood, 8. On Wednesday, May 24th, to celebrate Her Majesty's birthday, 420 and 672 Bob Triples. W. Warner, 1; P. J. Manning, 2; A. Leonard, 3; A. Smeathers, 4; G. Line, 5; T. Abbott, 6; W. Perkins (conductor), 7; J. Packwood, 8. On June 4th, for Divine Service, 252 and 420 in the same method. W. Warner, 1; A. Loveday, 2; A. Leonard, 3; T. Abbott, 4; G. Line, 5; A. Smeathers, 6; W. Perkins (conductor), 7; J. Packwood, 8. Loveday hails from Islip.

GREAT ADDINGTON (Northamptonshire).—Recently at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. G. Hudson, 1; B. Perret, 2; G. Betts, 3; W. Hayes, 4; F. Tivey, 5; R. Loveday (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Bob. B. Perret, 1; G. Hudson, 2; R. Loveday, 3; G. Bellamy, 4; J. Betts, 5; T. Roberts (conductor), 6.

KELSEA (Suffolk).—On Sunday, July 16th, for evening service, 960 Oxford Treble Bob Major. F. Watling (conductor), 1; W. Drew, 2; J. Colman, 3; J. Larter, 4; G. Noy, 5; C. Sampson, 6; F. Thompson, 7; G. Hardy, 8.

PRITTLEWELL (Essex).—On Sunday, August 6th, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. J. Perry, 1; W. Dowsett, 2; G. W. Piper, 3; C. Collins, 4; C. Anderson, 5; J. Smith, 6; W. H. Judd (conductor), 7; A. Yob, 8. Composed by A. Perkins.

WINCHESTER. —On Wednesday, July 5th, for practice, 210 Grandsire Triples with 9-8-10 behind. W. S. Lampard, 1; W. C. Lampard, 2; W. Tucker, 3; J. W. Elkins, 4; C. E. Borrett (Norwich), 5; W. Andrews (conductor), 6; W. H. George, 7; L. Lampard, 8; F. Smith, 9; A. Smith, 10. And 504 Grandsire Triples. J. W. Elkins, 1; W. C. Lampard, 2; W. Tucker, 3; W. Andrews (conductor), 4; E. G. Lampard, 5; C. E. Borrett, 6; W. H. George, 7; F. Smith, 8. Also two courses of Grandsire Caters. W. H. Loveland, 1; E. Andrews, 2; W. Andrews, 3; J. W. Elkins, 4; C. E. Borrett, 5; W. Tucker, 6; E. G. Lampard, 7; W. C. Lampard, 8; W. H. George, 9; D. Froome, 10.

DOUBLE NORWICH TREBLE BOB.

There seems to be some need of apology for suggesting such a thing as another new method to the Exercise, but I venture to think that the one to which I have given the above name is worth consideration, and I am supported in my idea by my brother, Dr. Carpenter, who in a letter to me about it says, "If this has not been published it ought to be." The method is simply an adaptation of Double Norwich to Treble Bob, and the work of the plain course is exactly similar, except that the near places begin with a dodge and the far places end with one, and there are, of course, additional dodges in consequence of the Treble Bob hunt. The work is very simple to a Double Norwich ringer. The double dodges on the lead and behind are converted into five-pull dodges, and the work in 3-4 and 5-6 is always: further place, dodge, nearer place. This takes the place of the single dodge of the treble bob bell in Double Norwich, and is rung twice over for the places, beginning or ending with a dodge as already mentioned. The plain course contains all the changes of the plain course of Double Norwich in groups of four, with the tenors together there are no false course-ends, so that any touch or peal of Double Norwich will be true and double the length in this method. There are only four false leads against rounds—6842753, 6247853, 5847263, 3847256, which transposed for the other leads give nothing which can occur without parting the tenors. The following is a lead of the plain course:—

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7
 1 2 3 4 6 5 7 8
 2 1 4 3 5 6 8 7
 2 4 1 3 6 5 7 8
 4 2 3 1 5 6 8 7
 2 4 1 3 5 6 7 8
 4 2 3 1 6 5 8 7
 2 4 3 6 1 5 7 8
 4 2 6 3 5 1 8 7
 2 4 6 3 1 5 7 8
 4 2 3 6 5 1 8 7
 2 4 6 3 5 8 1 7
 4 2 3 6 8 5 7 1
 2 4 3 6 5 8 1 7
 4 2 6 3 8 5 7 1
 4 6 2 8 3 7 5 1
 6 4 8 2 7 3 1 5
 4 6 8 2 3 7 5 1
 6 4 2 8 7 3 1 5
 4 6 8 2 7 1 3 5
 6 4 2 8 1 7 5 3
 4 6 2 8 7 1 3 5
 6 4 8 2 1 7 5 3
 4 6 8 1 2 7 3 5
 6 4 1 8 7 2 5 3
 4 6 8 1 7 2 3 5
 6 4 1 8 2 7 5 3
 6 1 4 8 7 2 3 5
 1 6 8 4 2 7 5 3
 6 1 4 8 2 7 3 5
 1 6 8 4 7 2 5 3
 1 8 6 7 4 5 2 3

Bobs as in Double Norwich.

Milton Vicarage, Sittingbourne.

E. W. CARPENTER.

THE TONG SOCIETY, YORKSHIRE.

It was proposed by the members of this Society to have a ringing tour for the August Bank Holiday in the Niddendale Valley, but owing to circumstances a full company could not be made up, and the proposition fell through. Not to be deprived however of the holiday, a section of the party determined upon a journey to Cleethorpes, the rising Lincolnshire sea-coast town, on Tuesday, in order to pay a brief visit to their friend and former comrade, Mr. F. Hargreave, who is now residing there, holding a responsible position at the Gas Works. The party comprised Mr. and Mrs. George Bolland, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Oddy and Master Oddy, and Messrs. John Cordingley and T. Maude. Mr. Hargreave, being apprised beforehand, was on the look out for the passing of the train, and to his abode the steps of the visitors were wended, where they received a real Yorkshire welcome. After despatching the good cheer provided, the handbells were produced and a course of Grandsire Triples was rung to test if "Fred" had forgotten any of his old prowess. Mr. Hargreave having got a release from business, placed himself as cicerone at the disposal of his friends, but unfortunately he could not conduct the ringers to any tower containing bells, Cleethorpes, as yet, not boasting a peal.

After tea, several courses of Oxford Minor, Grandsire and Bob Major were rung before steps were retraced to the station for the return homewards, the handbells and a small supply of "Cleethorpes Dew" helping to reduce the tediousness of the four hours' journey. The thanks of the party are due to Mr. and Mrs. Hargreave for their thoughtful hospitality.

WENSLEY PARISH CHURCH, WENSLEYDALE, YORKSHIRE.

It having been decided to place a reliable clock in the tower of this ancient edifice, the order has been placed with Messrs. W. Potts & Sons, clock manufacturers, of Leeds and Newcastle-on-Tyne, who are making a new illuminated clock for the Working Men's Club, Newburn, Northumberland, and a large illuminated quarter-chime clock for Dundalk, Ireland, and a new striking clock for Walton Parish Church, Suffolk.

THE MAN WHO RANG GEORGE IV.'S FUNERAL PEAL.

The death is announced from Leigh of Thomas Hussey, one of the oldest, if not the oldest of bell-ringers in the country. Hussey, who was 87 years of age, rang for the funeral of George IV., the coronation and funeral of William IV., the coronation and the 1887 and 1897 jubilees of the Queen, and the funeral peal for the murdered Lord Frederick Cavendish.

AN OLD CUSTOM.

Torquay and other parts of Devonshire has been visited during the past week by some heavy thunderstorms. In conformity with an old custom the bells of Dawlish Church were rung during the storm in the belief that "the spirit of the bells would overcome the spirit of the lightning." "Lightning and thunder I break asunder," was a monkish couplet, which, in the 17th century, was engraved on many church bells.

Notices.

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

The Kent County Association, St. John's, Deptford.—The usual Wednesday evening practices at this tower will be discontinued until further notice.

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

The Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The monthly meeting of the above will be held at Leek to-day, Saturday, August 19th. Members intending to be present are requested to give notice to Mr. T. Turner, Westwood, near Leek.

W. TWIGG, *Hon. Sec.*

The Kent County Association—Rochester District.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at St. Mary Magdalene, Gillingham, on Saturday, August 26th. Tower open at 4 p.m. Tea in schoolroom at 5.30. Business meeting after tea. Members wishing to be present at the tea must let me know on or before Wednesday, August 23rd. Half railway fares up to two shillings will be paid.

A. OSBORNE, *Hon. District Sec.*

65, Clive Road, Rochester.

The Lancashire Association, Manchester Branch.—A monthly meeting will be held at Christ Church, Barlow Moor Road, West Didsbury, on Saturday, August 26th, when nominations will take place for the following officials, viz., Vice-President, Ringing Secretary, four representatives to Central Council, and one Committeeman. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Business meeting, 7 p.m.

W. BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

The St. Thomas's Guild, Dudley.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Coseley on Saturday, August 26th. Tower ready at 4 p.m.

W. MICKLEWRIGHT, *Hon. Sec.*

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The monthly ringing meeting will be held at Woodlesford (six bells) on Saturday, August 26th. Meeting house, The White Hart inn. All ringers are cordially invited.

1, Elm Avenue,
Bramley, Leeds.

H. GAYTHORPE,
Hon. Sec.

The Middlesex County Association.—North and East District.—A meeting of the members of this Association will be held at Stanmore on Saturday, August 26th, by kind permission of the Rector, the Rev. S. F. L. Bernays. All friends of the Association will be cordially welcomed by the members. The bells will be raised at 4 o'clock.

ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*

18, Ravenscroft Park Road, Barnet.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—Bristol Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Dursley, on Saturday, August 26th. Bells open for ringing all the afternoon and evening. Service at 5 p.m. Business meeting after service. There is a cheap train leaving Bristol (Temple Mead) at 2.35 p.m. and returning at 7.45 p.m. Fare, 1s. 6d. return.

C. H. GORDON,
Branch Sec.

The Midland Counties Association.—Nuneaton District.—A meeting will be held at Sharnford, on Saturday, August 26th. Ringing at 4 p.m. All will be welcome.

J. H. SWINFELD, *Hon. Sec.*

The East Derbyshire Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Bolsover, on Saturday, September 2nd. Meeting at 5.30 p.m.

T. ALLIBONE, *Secretary.*

North Wingfield, Chesterfield.

The Salop Guild.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Shrewsbury, on Saturday, September 9th, 1899. Service at St. Chad's church at 3.30 p.m. Address by the Rev. T. J. Rider, Vicar of Baschurch. Ringing at 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. Business meeting at 4.15 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m.

J. MACKAY,
Hon. Sec.

Holy Trinity Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

Central Northamptonshire Association.—The Secretary regrets to say that the quarterly meeting arranged for the district of Whiston, Grendon, and Castle Ashby, will have to be postponed from August 26th until September 30th.

E. J. DENNES.

St. Margaret's Society, Westminster.—All ringing meetings are suspended during the month of August. The next meeting will be on Thursday, September 7th.

A. HARDY.

Miscellaneous Couches.

DEAL (Kent).—On Sunday, July 2nd, for Divine Service at St. Leonard's church, 720 Bob Minor (thirty bobs and two singles), in 23 mins. J. Henley (first 720), 1; E. Newman, 2; H. Denne, 3; G. Denne (conductor), 4; H. Castle, 5; W. Root, 6. On Tuesday, July 4th, 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 24 mins. J. Henley, 1; H. Denne, 2; W. Root, 3; G. Denne (conductor), 4; H. Sone, 5; H. Castle, 6. First 720 in the method by Messrs. Henley and Sone.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—On Tuesday, July 4th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, 1259 changes. E. Fenn, 1; R. Christian, 2; J. Souter, 3; A. Webber, 4; D. Hayward, 5; W. Secrett, 6; G. Read, 7; C. Jackson (conductor), 8; J. Matthews, 9; F. Pestell, 10. On Tuesday, July 11th, 528 Grandsire Cinques. E. Fenn, 1; R. Christian, 2; G. Orford, 3; C. Fenn, 4; D. Hayward (conductor), 5; A. Webber, 6; F. Fenn, 7; W. Secrett, 8; C. Jackson, 9; G. Read, 10; J. Souter, 11; J. Matthews, 12. A touch of Stedman Caters: F. Fenn, 1; E. Fenn, 2; P. Sadler, 3; C. Fenn, 4; A. Webber, 5; W. Secrett, 6; C. Jackson, 7; D. Hayward, 8; J. Souter (conductor), 9; J. Matthews, 10. A 504 Stedman Triples. F. Fenn, 1; E. Fenn, 2; A. Webber, 3; C. Fenn, 4; J. Souter, 5; D. Hayward, 6; C. Jackson (conductor), 7; J. Matthews, 8. Also a touch of Grandsire Cinques on handbells. A. Webber, 1-2; C. Fenn, 3-4; F. Fenn, 5-6; C. Jackson, 7-8; J. Souter (conductor), 9-10; D. Hayward, 11-12.

NEWARK (Notts).—On Sunday evening, July 30th, for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples. F. W. Foster, 1; H. Kelly, 2; A. S. Foster, 3; J. Miller, 4; E. C. Thrale, 5; L. Thorpe, 6; C. H. Newbald (conductor), 7; H. Ireland, 8.

WOBURN (Beds).—On Monday, July 3rd, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. M. Matthews, 1; Cyril Herbert, 2; S. Avis, 3; E. Herbert, 4; Rev. W. C. Baker, 5; W. Chibnall (conductor), 6. On Monday, July 10th, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Smith, 1; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 2; C. Herbert, 3; M. Matthews, 4; E. Herbert, 5; D. Harris, 6; W. Chibnall, 7; M. Lane, 8.

THANKS FOR "BELL NEWS."

Will the gentleman who kindly sent me the two copies of "BELL NEWS" last Friday kindly accept my thanks for same. Not knowing his address I now thank him through "THE BELL NEWS."

J. R. PRITCHARD.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

SITUATION required by a married man, aged 31, without family, in a month or by the 11th of October as Gardener, singlehanded. Can manage Cucumbers, Melons, Tomatoes, etc., and the general work of a well-kept garden. Highest references. A change-ringer on six or eight bells. Apply John Gaymer Miles, Point Cottages, Attleboro, Norfolk.

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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, AUGUST 19, 1899.

THE REV. ARTHUR JEPHSON, a London incumbent, and an expert change-ringer, has given utterance to some very practical observations about what has come to be known as "the crisis" in the Church. Mr. JEPHSON thinks that in the contention between the different parties in the Church, and in the recent judgment, there is an immense waste of energy, which could be much better employed in philanthropical operations. There is sound sense in such a statement. If the two Church Societies, whose object appear to be attack and defence, were to utilise their funds for the various charitable and philanthropic movements, it would be much better for all, and we should then be relieved, at least, from Church brawlers. The country, taking it all in all, cares little for the controversy. The day has gone for ever when Britons will fear in the least the power of any foreign potentate, ecclesiastical or otherwise. If the whole nation became Roman Catholics, it would never succumb to foreign domination of any sort.

The Provinces.

WITHINGTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 29, 1899, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720s each called differently. Tenor 14½ cwt.

GEORGE CONDICK, JUN. .. Treble.	RICHARD BRUNSDON .. 4.
JESSE GILLET .. 2.	GEORGE CONDICK, SEN. .. 5.
WILLIAM DADGE .. 3.	JOHN AUSTIN .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN

EASTNOR.—THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, August 3, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

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

W. MYTTON .. Treble.	M. WAGSTAFF .. 4.
R. BROWNING .. 2.	T. WILLIAMS .. 5.
E. PHILLIPS .. 3.	T. MYTTON .. Tenor.

Conducted by T. WILLIAMS.

First peal by all except the conductor.

SOUTHOVER, LEWES, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, August 9, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lbs.

GEORGE WILLIAMS .. Treble.	ALFRED J. TURNER .. 5.
JOHN MULLIGAN .. 2.	GEORGE HEAD .. 6.
THOMAS PRICE .. 3.	CHARLES R. LILLEY .. 7.
FRANK BENNETT .. 4.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

J. Mulligan hails from Sheffield; Lilley from Loughborough, for whom this peal was arranged.

FRAMLINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, August 10, 1899, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 19 cwt.

WILLIAM OSTLER .. Treble.	HORACE C. HOWLETT .. 5.
REV. J. H. PILKINGTON .. 2.	CHARLES REVELL .. 6.
JOHN SELF .. 3.	SAMUEL GARNHAM .. 7.
WILLIAM FLORY .. 4.	ALBERT E. READ .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by HORACE C. HOWLETT.

This composition has only the 4th, 5th, and 6th in 6ths place, and is now rung for the first time. This peal was arranged for the conductor, who hails from Norwich, a late member of the company, and who wishes to thank the Rector (the Rev. J. H. Pilkington) for the use of the bells, and the rest of the company for their kindness.

EASTBOURNE.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, August 11, 1899, in Two Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 8½ cwt.

JAMES J. HUNNISETT .. Treble.	JAMES MULLIGAN .. 5.
GEORGE G. MARTIN .. 2.	CHARLES R. LILLEY .. 6.
THOMAS PRICE .. 3.	GEORGE H. HEAD .. 7.
JOSEPH SHARP .. 4.	GEORGE H. HOWSE .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

Messrs. Hunnisset and Martin were elected members previous to starting for the peal. This is the quickest peal on the bells.

MELTON MOWBRAY, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
(THE MELTON SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, August 12, 1899, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 25 cwt.

CHARLES DALBY* .. Treble.	JOHN WILDMAN .. 5.
ERNEST J. GALE .. 2.	HENRY BARTRAM .. 6.
JOSIAH MORRIS .. 3.	WILLIAM WILLSON .. 7.
EDWARD E. SMITH .. 4.	*WALTER JAMES .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WILLSON.

*First peal. Rung as a wedding compliment to Charles H. Fowler and Miss Jenny Jones, late of Oxford, now of Leicester; and a birthday peal to the conductor. First peal by the local society.

RAUNDS, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 12, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5376 CHANGES. Tenor 23 cwt.

FREDERICK STUBBS* .. Treble.	JOHN B. MARTIN .. 5.
WILLIAM J. GILBERT .. 2.	WILLIAM R. HENSHER .. 6.
FRED. GILBERT .. 3.	JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. .. 7.
HERBERT P. HARMAN .. 4.	HENRY STUBBS .. Tenor.

Composed by A. KNIGHTS, of Chesterfield, and

Conducted by JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN.

This peal has the 5th and 6th the extent in 6ths place, and is now rung for the first time. *First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells. H. P. Harman hails from Bromley, Kent.

DEANE, LANCASHIRE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION
(BOLTON AND MANCHESTER BRANCHES.)

On Saturday, August 12, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 13½ cwt.

THOMAS PEERS .. Treble.	JOSEPH GREEN .. 5.
ALFRED POTTER .. 2.	JOHN POTTER .. 6.
TITUS BARLOW .. 3.	JOSEPH POTTER .. 7.
JOHN DENNER .. 4.	SAMUEL OAKES .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH POTTER.

WOMBOURN, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, August 12, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BENEDICT,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 10 cwt. 12 lbs.

HUGH J. BALCOMBE .. Treble.	ROBERT PICKERING .. 5.
JOHN JAGGAR .. 2.	WILLIAM G. HALL .. 6.
JAMES E. GROVES .. 3.	HERBERT KNIGHT .. 7.
BENJAMIN DALTON† .. 4.	*FARRINGTON JONES .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

†First peal of Stedman Triples. *First peal of Stedman. Mr. Rowland Cartwright kindly entertained the ringers after the peal.

MAIDENHEAD, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 12, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, BOYNE HILL,

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

Tenor 17 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lbs.

HENRY TUCKER .. Treble.	ALFRED E. REEVES .. 5.
CHARLES GILES .. 2.	WILLIAM HORNE .. 6.
ARTHUR W. HIGGS .. 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
CHARLES H. FOWLER .. 4.	ERNEST BRUCE .. Tenor.

Conducted by the Rev. F. E. ROBINSON.

PINNER, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Sunday, August 13, 1899, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. Treble.	JAMES GEORGE 5.
CHARLES GEORGE 2.	THOMAS H. TAFFENDER .. 6.
CHALLIS F. WINNEY .. . 3.	WILLIAM H. GEORGE .. . 7.
GEORGE N. PRICE 4.	ERNEST E. HUNTLEY .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and Conducted by JAMES GEORGE.

This is the conductor's 200th peal, and was rung in honour of the golden wedding of his parents. The ringers desire to thank the Rev. C. E. Grenside and churchwardens for kindly granting permission to ring on such a special occasion.

BELGRAVE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 14, 1899, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JAMES POLE Treble.	WILLIAM T. MILLER .. . 5.
ARTHUR J. BALLARD .. . 2.	JOHN O. LANCASHIRE .. . 6.
CHARLES J. HUBBARD* .. 3.	JOSIAH MORRIS 7.
GEOFFREY POLE† 4.	WILLIAM BENNETT .. . Tenor

Conducted by JOHN O. LANCASHIRE.

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

Date Touches.

PENN (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, July 22nd, a date touch of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 3 mins. A. Cooper, 1; H. Tinsley, 2; E. J. Tyler, 3; A. Griffiths, 4; W. Johnson (composer and conductor), 5; C. Vickers, 6; J. Malpas, 7; T. Cooper, 8. Tenor 9 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BROMLEY (Kent).—On Sunday, August 6th, for morning service, 546 Oxford Bob Triples. J. Gratrix (Manchester), 1; F. Sanders, 2; E. Dunn, 3; J. Town, 4; W. Ingham, 5; G. Simpson, 6; G. Durling (conductor), 7; W. James, 8. On Tuesday, August 8th, for practice, two courses of Bob Major, 252 Stedman Triples, 168 Grandsire Triples, and two courses of Kent Treble Bob Major, all of which Mr. J. Gratrix took part in.

CHISLEHURST.—On Sunday, August 6th, for evening service, 546 Grandsire Triples. A. Humphrey, 1; T. Durling, 2; F. Sanders, 3; J. Gratrix, 4; W. Ingham, 5; E. Dunn, 6; J. Harford (conductor), 7; W. Farr, 8.

HARTLIP (Kent).—On May 26th, 720 Oxford Bob Minor. W. G. Hetchingham, 1; J. Clout, 2; W. J. Walker, 3; W. A. Miles, 4; E. Clout, 5; H. Lampkin (conductor), 6. On June 4th, 720 Plain Bob. E. G. Hollands, 1; W. A. Miles, 2; W. G. Hetchingham, 3; W. J. Walker, 4; E. Clout, 5; H. Lampkin (conductor), 6. On June 17th, 720 Plain Bob. W. G. Hetchingham, 1; W. J. Walker, 2; W. H. B. Wilkins, 3; S. Jewel, 4; E. Clout, 5; A. Day (conductor), 6. Also 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor. A. J. Day, 1; T. Jewel, 2; W. G. Hetchingham, 3; W. A. Miles, 4; E. Clout, 5; H. Lampkin (conductor), 6. On June 30th, 720 Plain Bob. W. G. Hetchingham, 1; J. Clout, 2; W. A. Miles, 3; W. J. Walker, 4; E. Clout, 5; H. Lampkin (conductor), 6. On July 2nd, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor. E. G. Hollands, 1; J. Clout, 2; W. J. Walker, 3; W. G. Hetchingham, 4; W. A. Miles, 5; H. Lampkin (conductor), 6.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On May 8th, 720 Violet Treble Bob. W. Lane, 1; G. Hayes, 2; F. J. Ring, 3; L. Silver, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. First in the method by all. On May 14th, 720 Cambridge Surprise. H. Milhams, 1; W. Lane, 2; G. Hayes, 3; F. J. Ring, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. On May 21st, 720 Kent Treble Bob. A. Broom, 1; W. Lane, 2; G. Hayes, 3; W. Harper, 4; J. Broom, 5; W. Martin (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. H. Milhams, 5; the rest as before,

On June 5th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Avis, 1; E. Brett, 2; G. Hayes, 3; W. Lane, 4; F. J. Ring, 5; F. Hayes (conductor), 6. On June 11th, 720 Bob Minor. A. Thompson, 1; W. Lane, 2; G. Hayes, 3; M. Digby, 4; F. J. Ring, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. On June 26th, 720 Bob Minor. T. W. Booker, 1; E. Brett, 2; G. Hayes, 3; F. Head, 4; F. J. Ring, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

MISTLEY (Essex).—On Tuesday, July 4th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 27 mins. W. Bridges, 1; T. Steward, 2; J. Souter (conductor), 3; W. Honeywood, 4; G. Moss, 5; A. Fuller, 6.

SPRINGFIELD (Essex).—On Tuesday, May 2nd, 720 Bob Minor. E. Runter, 1; D. Dawson, 2; J. Savill, 3; W. Hawkes, 4; E. Wright (conductor), 5; H. Sharpington, 6. On Whit Sunday morning, 720 Oxford. J. Savill, 1; W. Hawkes, 2; E. Runter, 3; E. Wright, 4; A. Bradley (conductor), 5; H. Sharpington, 6. Also 720 Kent J. Savill, 1; W. Hawkes, 2; E. Runter, 3; A. Bradley, 4; E. Wright (conductor), 5; H. Sharpington, 6. And 720 Woodbine. A. Edwards, 1; C. Parsons, 2; A. Saunders, 3; E. Runter, 4; A. Bradley, 5; E. Wright (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, June 11th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs). A. Whight, 1; D. Dawson, 2; W. Hawkes, 3; W. Sharpington, 4; E. Runter (conductor), 5; H. Sharpington, 6.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

KIDSGROVE (Staffordshire).—On Sunday evening, June 4th, for Divine Service, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. J. Mason, 1; G. Buckley, 2; A. Archer (conductor), 3; F. Dean, 4; H. Dean, 5; G. Siddons, 6. On Sunday, June 11th, for Divine Service, 720 Violet in 24 mins. J. Mason, 1; G. Buckley, 2; A. Archer, 3; F. Dean, 4; H. Dean, 5; G. Siddons (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 New London Pleasure. J. Mason, 1; G. Buckley, 2; A. Archer, 3; F. Dean, 4; H. Dean, 5; G. Siddons, 6. First in the method on the bells.

AUDLEY (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, June 10th, 720 Woodbine. J. Mason, 1; G. Buckley, 2; H. Dean, 3; F. Dean, 4; A. Archer, 5; G. Siddons (conductor), 6. Also 360 Kent Treble Bob standing as before. And another 360. C. Warren, 1; G. Buckley, 2; J. Mason, 3; F. Dean, 4; H. Dean (conductor), 5; A. Archer, 6. First touch of Treble Bob by C. Warren.

BUCKNALL (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, June 4th, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 College Exercise. J. Preston, 1; D. Preston, 2; G. Clarkson, 3; W. Wheeldon, 4; C. Preston, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, June 13th, for practice, 720 Violet. G. Hobbs, 1; G. Clarkson, 2; J. Preston, 3; W. Wheeldon, 4; D. Preston (conductor), 5; W. Twigg, 6. *First in the method with a bob bell. On Sunday, June 18th, for Divine Service, 720 Worcester Surprise. J. Preston, 1; W. Wheeldon, 2; G. Clarkson, 3; C. Preston, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. On Sunday, July 2nd, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Worcester Surprise. D. Preston, 2; W. Wheeldon, 3; the rest as before; for Evening Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Hobbs, 1; D. Preston, 2; J. Preston, 3; W. Wheeldon, 4; G. Clarkson, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. On Sunday, July 9th, for morning service, 720 Violet, standing as before; for evening service, 720 Chichester Surprise. J. Preston, 1; D. Preston, 2; G. Clarkson, 3; W. Wheeldon, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. On Thursday, July 13th, 720 Superlative Surprise. C. Preston, 5; the rest as before. On Sunday, July 16th, for morning service, 720 Bristol Surprise. C. Preston, 1; the others as above. For evening service, 720 Rochester Surprise. G. Hobbs, 1; C. Preston, 5; the others as before.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CHIPPING (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, July 11th, 720 Bob Minor. T. Seed, 1; J. Seed, 2; W. Timbrell, 3; F. Timbrell, 4; E. Timbrell, 5; A. E. Wrecks (conductor), 6. And 720 Kent (fifteen bobs). R. Kenyon, 1; F. Timbrell, 2; J. Kenyon, 3; W. Timbrell (conductor), 4; A. E. Wrecks, 5; E. Timbrell, 6. On Thursday, July 13th, on handbells, plain courses of Grandsire Triples and Minor, and Bob Triples and Minor. F. Timbrell, 1-2; A. E. Wrecks, 3-4; W. Timbrell, 5-6; E. Timbrell, 7-8. Arranged for A. E. Wrecks, of Bolton.

BURNLEY (Lancashire).—On Sunday, June 4th, at Holy Trinity Church, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. D. Campbell, 1; R. Ashworth, 2; W. Walton, 3; J. W. Stirk, 4; N. Townend, 5; R. Hartley, 6; D. Heys (conductor), 7; T. Mouncey, 8. On Sunday, June 25th, 576 Kent Treble Bob Minor. D. Campbell, 1; D. Heys, 2; F. Towns, 3; W. Walton, 4; N. Townend, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; R. Hartley (conductor), 8. On Sunday, July 2nd, 576 Kent Treble Bob. D. Campbell, 1; F. Towns, 2; D. Heys, 3; W. Walton, 4; N. Townend, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; R. Hartley (conductor), 8. On Sunday, July 9th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. D. Campbell, 1;

W. Walton, 2; T. Burrows, 3; R. Ashworth, 4; T. Mouncey, 5; R. Hartley (conductor), 6. On Sunday, July 23rd, 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Walton, 1; D. Campbell, 2; R. Hartley, 3; R. Ashworth, 4; T. Mouncey, 5; D. Heys (conductor), 6. On Sunday, July 30th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. D. Campbell, 1; W. Walton, 2; T. Burrows, 3; T. Mouncey, 4; F. Towns, 5; R. Hartley (conductor), 6. On Sunday, August 6th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. D. Campbell, 1; W. Walton, 2; T. Burrows, 3; N. Townend, 4; T. Mouncey, 5; R. Hartley (conductor), 6.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NORTH SHIELDS.—The following is the list of ringing done by this branch for May, June and July. Grandsire Triples, twelve 504s; Kent Treble Bob Major, 640, 704, 704, 640; Kent Treble Bob Minor, 363, 720, 720, 360, 360; 720 Bob Minor; 504 Bob Triples. The following took part in the ringing: A. Tully, J. Brownell, H. Ross, G. Dix, J. Hern, E. Hern, G. Holmes, A. Dowell, J. E. Keen, C. Waugh.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TORTWORTH (Gloucestershire).—On Wednesday, July 19th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. J. J. Poole, 1; F. Oakhill, 2; F. Webb, 3; H. Jones, 4; S. Jones, 5; F. K. Howell (conductor), 6. First 720 of Minor on the bells.

CIRENCESTER.—On Sunday, July 2nd, 350 Grandsire Triples. F. Protherough, 1; F. J. Lewis, 2; L. A. Wilson, 3; F. W. Bond (conductor), 4; C. E. Bartlett, 5; G. W. Lait, 6; H. T. Gardner, 7; W. C. F. Holmes, 8. On Monday, July 3rd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. F. W. Bond, 1; A. C. Harmer, 2; F. Gardner, 3; F. J. Lewis, 4; C. E. Bartlett, 5; A. E. Edwards, 6; H. C. Bond (conductor), 7; W. C. F. Holmes (first quarter-peal), 8.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GREAT HALE (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday, June 18th, for Divine Service in the evening, 720 Bob Minor, in 30 mins. W. H. Wood, 1; R. Masters, 2; C. Ward, 3; T. B. Wood, 4; J. R. Green, 5; T. Humberstone (conductor), 6. On Sunday, June 25th, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Kent. J. R. Green, 1; R. Masters, 2; C. Ward, 3; T. Humberstone, 4; T. B. Wood, 5; T. T. Taylor (conductor), 6. Also for Divine Service in the evening 720 Oxford. J. R. Green, 1; R. Masters, 2; C. Ward, 3; T. Humberstone, 4; T. B. Wood, 5; T. T. Taylor (conductor), 6.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(STOCKPORT AND BOWDON BRANCH.)

STOCKPORT (Cheshire).—On Tuesday evening, June 14th, at St. Mary's church, five courses of Stedman Caters, the first on the bells by the ringers of that church only. C. Darwin, 1; W. Gordon (conductor), 2; A. Gordon, 3; T. Sale, 4; J. Barlow, 5; G. D. Warburton, 6; J. A. Gordon, 7; W. Gordon, jun., 8; A. S. Gordon, 9; A. Birch, 10. Also a few touches of Treble Bob Minor and Grandsire Caters. On Thursday evening, July 20th, a special meeting was held to oblige the Rev. A. H. Hitchcock, of Blandford, Dorset, when touches of Treble Bob, Grandsire and Stedman were rung, some of which were records for the rev. gentleman. The same week, acting on a hint in "THE BELL NEWS," an invitation was sent to Mr. A. Noble, the Australian cricketer, then playing at Manchester, which was duly acknowledged in a courteous reply, wherein that gentleman regretted his inability to avail himself of the opportunity, through pressure of business. On Tuesday, August 1st, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans) in 45 mins. C. Darwin, 1; W. Greenleaf, 2; J. Barlow, 3; G. D. Warburton, 4; J. A. Gordon, 5; W. Gordon, jun., 6; W. Gordon, sen. (conductor), 7; A. S. Gordon, 8. This is the longest length of Stedman Triples by all except the ringers of the 2nd and 7th. Mr. Greenleaf hails from Hereford, and is now in this neighbourhood engaged in the work of rehangng the bells at Norbury parish church.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

STOURBRIDGE (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, May 14th, at St. Thomas' Church for Morning Service, 720 Grandsire Minor. E. Harper, 1; W. A. Pugh, 2; G. H. Pagett, 3; *R. James, 4; A. Brooks, 5; A. Roberts (conductor), 6. On Sunday, June 18th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs). *E. Harper, 1; A. Roberts (conductor), 2; J. Pagett, 3; F. Brace, 4; A. J. Skelding, 5; G. H. Pagett, 6. On Sunday, June 25th, in the same method (nine bobs). E. Harper, 1; *W. A. Pugh, 2; *R. James, 3; G. H. Pagett (conductor), 4; A. Roberts, 5; A. Brooks, 6. On Sunday, July 2nd, 720 (fifteen bobs). E. Harper, 1; W. A. Pugh, 2; A. Brooks, 3; G. H. Pagett, 4; R. James, 5; A. Roberts (conductor), 6. On Thursday, July 6th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. E. Harper, 1; A. Brooks, 2; *R. James,

3; F. Brace, 4; G. H. Pagett (conductor), 5; A. Roberts, 6. On Thursday, July 20th, 720 Double Oxford Bob. *R. James, 1; T. Heathcote, 2; F. Brace, 3; W. Whitehouse, 4; G. H. Pagett, 5; A. Roberts (conductor), 6. On Sunday, July 23rd, on the occasion of the choir festival, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs). R. James, 1; W. Fryer, 2; F. Brace, 3; T. Heathcote, 4; G. H. Pagett, 5; A. Roberts (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method.

WOOLASTON (Worcestershire). On Tuesday, May 2nd, at St. James's Church, 720 Bob Minor. *A. Dakin, 1; A. Roberts, 2; G. H. Pagett, 3; F. Brace, 4; W. Fryer, 5; H. Dakin (conductor), 6. *First 720. On May 30th, 720 Oxford Bob. *H. Mason, 1; J. H. Parsons, 2; H. Dakin, 3; A. Roberts (conductor), 4; W. Fryer, 5; G. H. Pagett, 6. *First 720.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS (Lancashire).—On March 21st, for practice at St. James' church, 720 Plain Bob on the back six. J. Frost, 1; A. F. Hardy, 2; T. P. Jackson, 3; T. Suart, 4; C. Cushing (conductor), 5; J. Burrows, 6. On March 23rd, for practice, 720 Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs) in 25 mins. J. Huddleston, 1; T. P. Jackson, 2; A. F. Hardy, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. R. Jackson (conductor), 5; J. Burrows, 6. On March 26th, for afternoon service, 720 Bob Minor (thirty-four bobs and ten singles) in 24 mins. T. Watson (conductor), 1; J. Huddleston, 2; W. H. Dennison, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. For evening service 720 Bob Minor (forty-two singles) in 24 mins. T. R. Jackson, 1; J. Huddleston, 2; W. H. Dennison, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. Watson (conductor), 5; J. Burrows, 6. On April 2nd, for early service, 720 Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles). W. Williams, 1; J. Huddleston, 2; T. Watson (conductor), 3; W. H. Dennison, 4; T. Suart, 5; J. Burrows, 6. On April 20th for practice, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 26 mins. W. Williams, 1; T. Watson (conductor), 2; J. Huddleston, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. Also 720 Canterbury Pleasure (twenty-one bobs and six singles) in 26 mins., standing as before. On April 23rd, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor (forty-two singles) in 34 mins. T. Watson (conductor), 1; J. Huddleston, 2; W. H. Dennison, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. On June 25th, for afternoon service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (forty-two singles) in 25 mins. W. Williams, 1; J. Huddleston, 2; T. Watson (conductor), 3; W. H. Dennison, 4; T. Suart, 5; J. Burrows, 6. For evening service 720 Canterbury Pleasure (forty-four bobs and ten singles) in 24 mins. W. Williams, 1; J. Huddleston, 2; T. Watson, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. P. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. On June 28th, 720 Bob Minor (forty-two singles) in 25 mins. T. Watson (conductor), 1; J. Huddleston, 2; W. H. Dennison, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; T. P. Jackson, 6. Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a last mark of respect to the late Mrs. Sheppard.

ULVERSTON.—On July 1st, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-six singles) in 27 mins. J. Frost, 1; A. F. Hardy, 2; W. H. Dennison, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. R. Jackson (conductor), 5; J. Burrows, 6. Also 720 Canterbury Pleasure (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 27 mins. W. H. Dennison, 1; A. F. Hardy, 2; T. P. Jackson, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows (conductor), 6.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Tuesday, August 8th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. W. States, 1; A. Arnold, 2; J. Rumble, 3; C. Gordon, 4; E. Bray, 5; F. Pates (conductor), 6; W. Groves, 7; J. Talbot, 8.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS (Lancashire).—On March 12th, for morning service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (twenty-six singles) in 24 mins. T. Watson, 1; J. Huddleston, 2; W. H. Dennison, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows (conductor), 6.

EDINBURGH.—On Sunday, July 30th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's cathedral, 360 Bob Minor. W. R. Fyfe, 1; E. F. Price, 2; C. C. Ellis, 3; W. C. S. Heathcote (conductor), 4; C. George (Oxhey), 5; R. Whitson, 6. On Monday, July 31st, on handbells, 238 Grandsire Triples. W. R. Fyfe, 1; E. F. Price, 2; C. George (conductor), 3-4; W. C. S. Heathcote, 5-6; C. C. Ellis, 7-8. On Wednesday, August 2nd, an attempt was made for a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original, which was lost after ringing about 924. C. George (conductor), 1-2; E. F. Price, 3; —. McKillop, 4; W. C. S. Heathcote, 5-6; C. C. Ellis, 7-8.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—On Monday, July 10th, 546 Grandsire Triples. T. Willoughby, 1; A. Gower, 2; C. Lewis, 3; R. C. Mayo (conductor), 4; E. Willoughby, 5; A. E. Midmore, 6; T. Lewis, 7; S. Lewis, 8. Also 350 Grandsire Triples. A. Gower, 1; H. G. Hill, 2; B. Vernon, 3; E. Wells, 4; A. M. Phillips, 5; R. Mayo (conductor), 6; T. Lewis, 7; A. R. Sandiford, 8. On June 11th, 518 Grandsire Triples. J. Beavan, A. Phillips, W. Watchorn, H. Hill (conductor), R. G. Carter, W. Aldridge, A. R. Sandiford. For morning service 504 Oxford Bob Triples. J. Beavan, H. G. Hill, W. Watchorn, E. Wells, R. G. Carter (conductor), F. Groves, W. Aldridge, A. R. Sandiford.

Compositions.

BOB ROYAL.

By CORNELIUS CHARGE, *Fulham.*

5040.

23456 W M H

64235 - - -

23645 - - -

62345 - - -

36245 - - -

24365 - - -

32465 - - -

43265 - - -

26435 - - -

42635 - - -

56234 - - -

23564 - - -

52364 - - -

35264 - - -

26354 - - -

32654 - - -

63254 - - -

25634 - - -

62534 - - -

45236 - - -

24536 - - -

53246 - - -

25346 - - -

32546 - - -

54326 - - -

35426 - - -

42356 - - -

34256 - - -

23456 - - -

First rung at All Saints, Fulham,
by the Fulham Society on October
10th, 1896, conducted by its author.

TWO PEALS OF BOB MAJOR.

By JAMES E. GROVES.

5184.

23456 W 5 4 B M H

42356 - - - -

35264 - - - -

56234 - - - -

52634 - - - - s

Eleven times repeated; s for B at H
in the second course of the 6th and
12th parts.

5376.

23456 W M H

64235 - S S

23645 - - -

46235 - - S

34265 - - -

Eleven times repeated; s at H end
of 6th and 12th parts. Reduced to
5152 by calling any one part thus—

W M H

- - S

By D. H. BURTON, *Thirsk, Yorks.*

5008.

23456 W B M H

52364 - - -

35264 - - -

23564 - - -

56234 - - -

25634 - - -

62534 - - -

53624 - - -

65324 - - -

32654 - - -

46325 - - -

34625 - - -

63425 - - -

42635 - - -

64235 - - -

26435 - - -

43265 - - -

24365 - - -

53246 - - -

24536 - - -

52436 - - -

43526 - - -

54326 - - -

35426 - - -

42356 - - -

34256 - - -

32456 - - S

32645 - 2 -

43625 - - -

62435 - - -

46235 - - -

24635 - - -

63245 - - -

26345 - - -

34265 - - -

23465 - - -

The last nine courses repeated com-
pletes the peal. With singles for last
bob—

3265478

3257684

5362478

3257684

STEDMAN CATERS.

By ARTHUR KNIGHTS, *Chesterfield.*

5081.

312456 5 16

514362978

415263 - -

513264 - -

315462 - -

512463 - -

215364 - -

214563 - -

213465 - -

312564 - -

Continued—

5 16

314265 -

413562 -

412365 -

412365879*

415263 -

413562 -

314265 -

315462 -

513264 -

514362 -

512463 -

215364 -

214563 -

213465 -

312564 -

Repeated: calling the first course
4, 5, 6, 9, 11, 13, 14 produces 214365879.
Round next change.

*This course is called 4, 5, 6, 8s, 9,
11, 13, 14.

The first course is produced with
bobs at 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 12, commen-
cing with the last four changes of a
quick six.

213547698

231

321

312456789

By WILLIAM G. HALL, *Wolverhampton.*

5057.

231456 5 16

361245*

163542 -

2345 -

5243 -

561342 -

2143 -

3241 -

365142 -

2541 -

263145 -

5341 -

1543 -

261345 s -

5143 -

3541 -

362145 -

5241 -

563142 -

2341 -

1243 -

165342 -

2543 -

3245 -

*Bobs at 1, 4, 6, 10, 16, 17.

Repeated, except first course, calling
bobs at 3, 7, 10, 14, produces 412365.
Calling bobs at 2, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12
brings rounds the third change after
the course-end.

The 4th and 6th each twenty-three
times behind the 9th.

GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By W. T. ELSON.

5021.

23456789
 34256 8-9
 25436 9th in three s
 45632 9-7
 25634 9-7s
 62534 7th in three
 56234978 7th in and out at three

26453 s at 1, bob at 8-9
 32654 9th in three s
 63254 9th in three
 26354 9th in three
 42653 9th in three s
 34256 9th in three s
 23456 9th in three
 42356 9th in three
 64253 9th in three s
 36452 9th in three s
 43652 9th in three
 24356 9th in three s
 62453 9th in three s
 36254 9th in three s
 23654 9th in three
 62354 9th in three
 46253 9th in three s
 34652 9th in three s
 63452 9th in three
 46352 9th in three
 24653 9th in three s
 32456 9th in three s
 43256 9th in three
 64352 9th in three s

The last 24 courses repeated produce 42563. Round by 9th in and out at 2. Contains the 5th and 6th their extent behind the 9th.

LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR.

By F. BENNETT, Brighton.

5056.

23456	M	B	H
23564	x	-	-
52364	-	-	-
35264	-	-	-
56342	x	-	-
23645	-	-	-
62345	-	-	-
36245	-	-	-
26543	-	-	-
56423	-	x	-
62534	-	x	-
45236	-	-	-
24536	-	-	-
43265	x	-	-
43652	x	-	-
64352	-	-	-
34256	-	-	-
24653	-	-	-
36452	-	-	-

Continued—
 65324 M B H
 35426 - X
 45623 -
 52643 - X
 52436 X -
 23456 - X

By calling two courses from —
 thus—

26543	M	B
64523	-	x
42635	-	x
62534	-	-

increases the peal to 5280.

5056.

23456	M	B	H
23564	x	-	-
52364	-	-	-
35264	-	-	-
56342	x	-	-
23645	-	-	-
62345	-	-	-
36245	-	-	-
52643	-	-	-
24536	x	-	-
54632	-	in 5ths	-
64235	-	-	-
43265	-	x	-

Repeated.

These two peals are produced without a call at the wrong.

5312.

23456	M	B	W	H
64352	-	-	-	-
56342	-	-	-	-
36245	-	-	-	-
42563	-	-	-	-
52364	-	-	-	-
46325	-	-	-	-
53624	-	-	-	-
43526	x	-	-	-
24536	-	-	-	-
54632	-	-	-	-
64235	-	-	-	-
32546	-	-	-	-

Repeated.

5376.

23456	M	W	H
54632	-	-	-
64235	-	-	-
52436	-	-	-
45236	-	-	-
24536	-	-	-
35642	-	-	-
26543	-	-	-
42563	-	-	-

Continued—
 52364 -
 63425 - -
 43526 -
 25634 - -
 Repeated.

5056.

23456	M	IN	5ths	W	H
52346	x	-	-	-	-
43526	x	-	-	-	-
23564	-	x	-	-	-
35264	x	-	-	-	-
52364	x	-	-	-	-
56234	x	-	-	-	-
53624	x	-	-	-	-
23645	-	x	-	-	-
36245	x	-	-	-	-
46325	x	-	-	-	-
24365	-	-	-	-	-
43265	x	-	-	-	-
32465	x	-	-	-	-

Repeated.

4th, 5th, and 6th their combination in 5-6.

A DATE TOUCH OF STEDMAN TRIPLES.

By J. P. BRADLEY, College Youth.

2314567 7 12

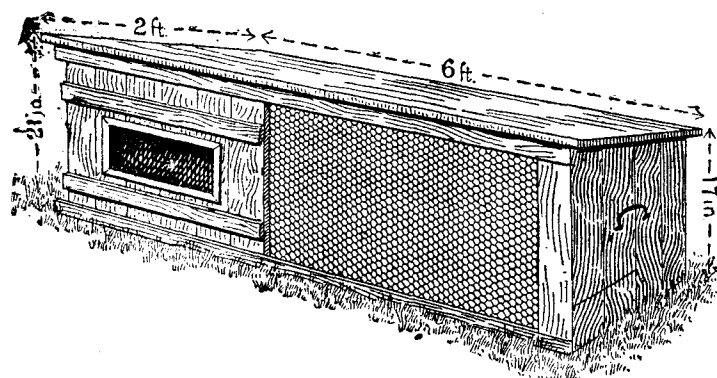
2341657*
 2614357 - -
 2461357 - -
 2316457 - -
 2631457 - -
 2163457 - -
 2436157 - -
 2643157 - -
 2364157 - -
 2146357 - -
 2164357 s -
 2346157 - -
 2634157 - -
 2463157 - -
 2136457 - -
 2613457 - -
 2361457 - -
 2416357 - -
 2641357 - -
 2314657 - -
 2431657 - -
 2143657 - -

* 1, 4, 7, 9, 11, 13, 14, 20.

The peal of Stedman Caters by E. Hims, of Oxford, published in last week's issue, is false.

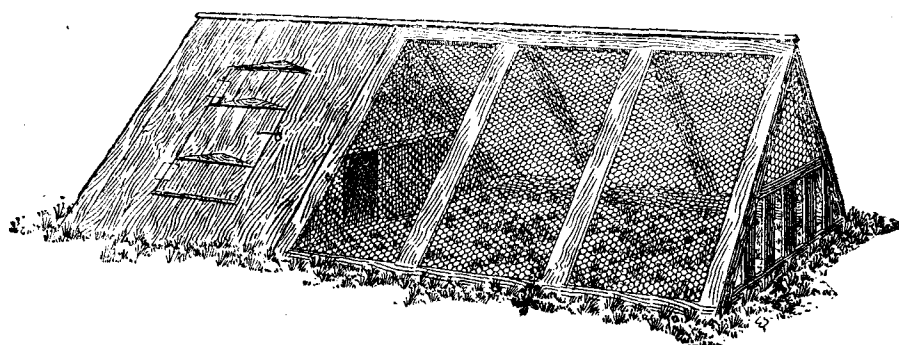
FOR SALE.—A nice little ring of eight HANDBELLS; very good tone; (by Welch) in fair order. Approval with pleasure. Apply to MRS. CROSSMAN, Dudley House, Erskine Road, Walthamstow.

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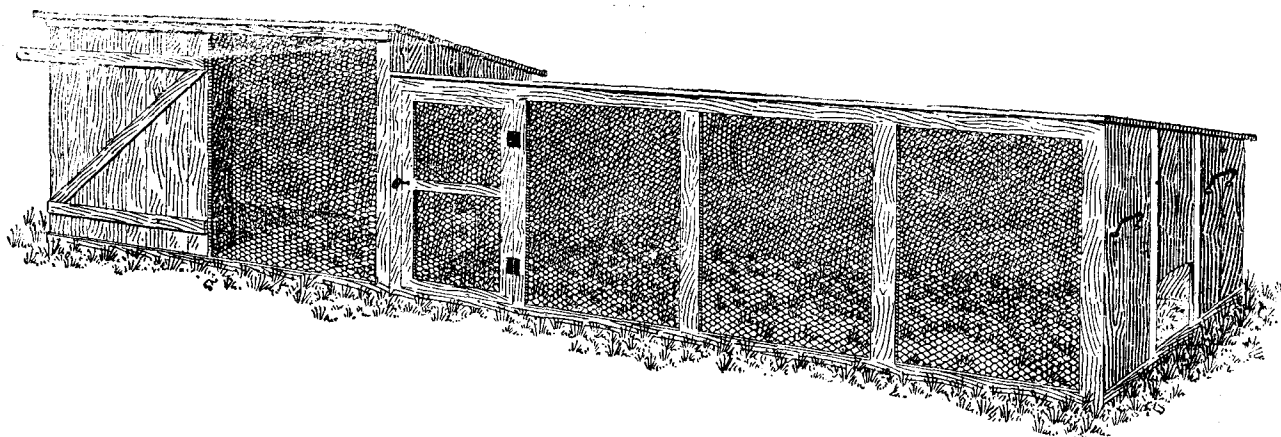
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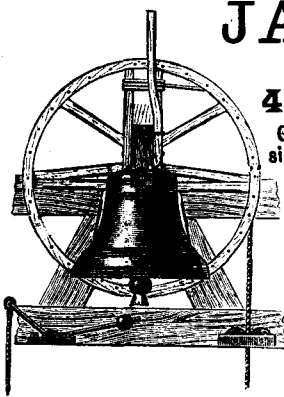
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The above are for 6 ringers with 13 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.A.

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And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 907.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26 1899.

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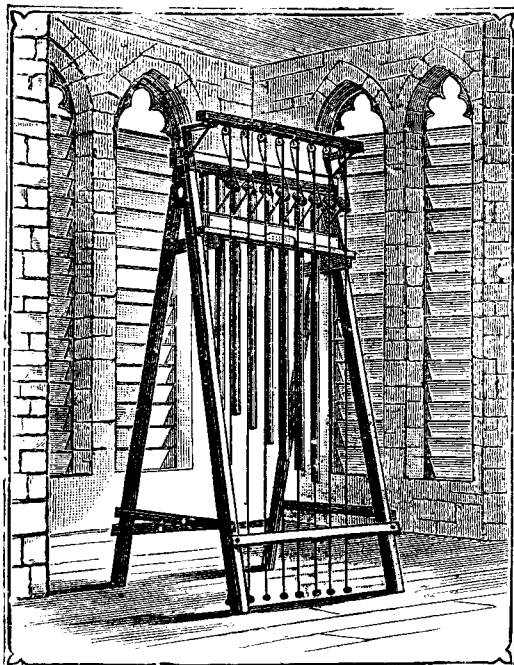
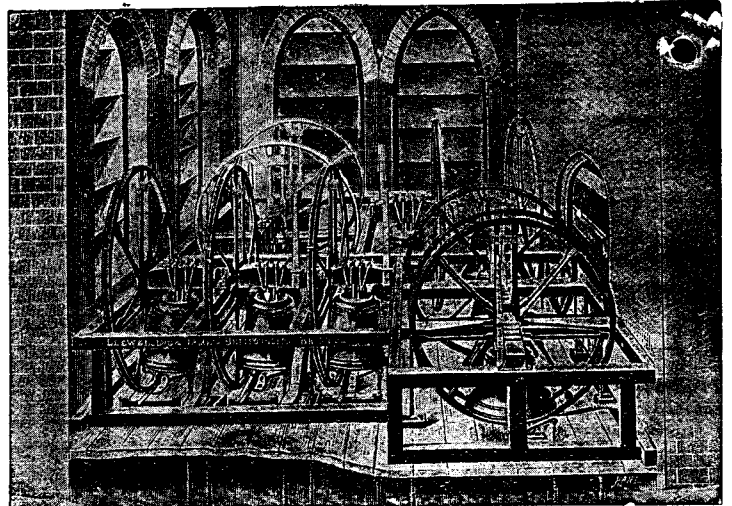
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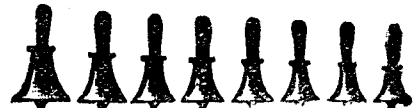
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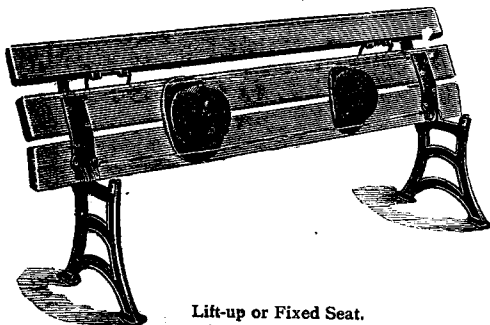
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Clouds roll by, Whistling Farmer Boy.

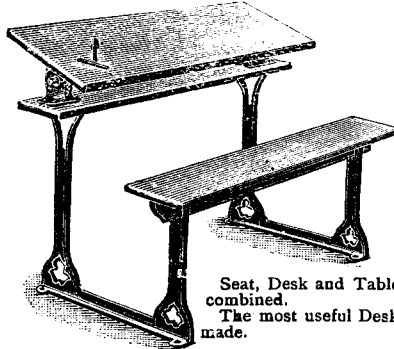
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 907.]

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

OPENING OF A NEW RING OF BELLS AT ARKLOW, IRELAND.

The ringers of the parish church, Loughborough, were honoured by an invitation from the Right Hon. the Earl of Carysfort, K.P., to ring, on Saturday, August 12th, at the dedication service of the magnificent new church which his lordship has erected at Arklow, in the county of Wicklow, Ireland, and for the special service on the following day (Sunday).

Leaving Loughborough at 3.55 p.m. on Thursday, August 10th, the party travelled by the picturesque Midland railway route through Derbyshire to Liverpool, where they took boat for Dublin. Fortunately for those of the party who are not good sailors, the passage was as smooth as could possibly be; Dublin being reached soon after six o'clock on Friday morning. After a stroll through some Dublin streets the company found themselves in the train again, on the way to Arklow, the line passing through an exceedingly lovely bit of country. On one side for most of the way was the sea, and on the other side beautifully wooded hills. Amongst other towns passed through were the fashionable watering-places of Bray and Greystone, Wicklow, Ovoca, etc. Arklow was reached soon after twelve o'clock, and during the afternoon a short touch was rung upon the bells in order that his lordship and Sir Arthur Blomfield (the architect) might hear them. The bells are a ring of eight cast by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., the tenor is 19 cwt. 2 qrs. 19 lbs. in E; the total weight of the peal being 88 cwt. 8 lbs.

Immediately after the dedication service, and before the ordinary morning service a short touch of Grandsire Triples was rung. Then as the very large congregation was leaving the church, the bells went off into Stedman Triples, and were kept going for over an hour. They were also rung at intervals during the afternoon and evening. It was arranged to meet the following morning at eight o'clock to attempt a peal of Double Norwich, and all were pleased when the welcome indication, "that is all," was given by the conductor just five minutes before the commencement of the Sunday morning service. Thus the first peal in the method ever rung in Ireland was accomplished, and in good style, the record of which will be found in its proper place.

Touches of Stedman, Treble Bob, and Double Norwich, in which Mr. W. Masters and Mr. J. W. Townley took part, were also rung after the morning service, as well as before and after the evening service. Everyone expressed great pleasure at the quality of tone and tune of the bells, and the ringers were particularly pleased with the go of them.

The Earl of Carysfort having engaged Mr. J. W. Washbrook as instructor to the newly-enrolled band of ringers, it is to be hoped that they will carefully follow his teachings, when there is no doubt the ringing world will soon read with pleasure of the doings of the Arklow company.

We must not omit to mention that the Earl arranged for a sumptuous dinner and tea to be provided for the visitors both on Saturday and Sunday, to which the

Loughborough ringers did ample justice. Members of the Surrey Association will be pleased to hear that Mr. J. W. Townley, who is now at Enniscorthy, was present, and assisted with the ringing on both days. It is almost needless to add that a hearty vote of thanks to the Earl of Carysfort was passed for his lordship's kindness and hospitality.

On the return journey a halt was made at Bray to see the regatta on Monday, and in the evening St. Patrick's Cathedral was visited, where, with the assistance of Mr. Lindoff, six courses of Stedman Caters was rung on the noble peal of bells, as well as a course of Treble Bob Royal, a course of Double Norwich Major, and a course of Stedman Triples, with one of the St. Patrick's young ringers at the treble.

On Tuesday morning Mr. Lindoff kindly arranged for a visit to the well-known Guinness's brewery, and was at the North Wall in the evening to speed the parting guests. A calm passage back to Liverpool, and a pleasant railway journey terminated a most excellent outing, which was enjoyed by everyone.

There is an inscription on each bell denoting its erection in memory of one or other of the Proby (the family name of the Earl of Carysfort) family; and the founders' name also.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, August 7th, the above-named Guild held its annual meeting at Grappenhall. There was a large attendance of members from various parts of Cheshire. The weather was all that could be desired. About nine o'clock the church bells gave notice of the arrival of the first batch of ringers. The service was held in the parish church at 11 a.m., and was largely attended by ringers and parishioners. The organist was present at the organ, and the choir was in full force, and contributed in no small degree, we hope, to stir up the warm feelings of the heart; as seemed to be noticeable in the singing of the 148th Psalm, and of the hymn 540. To the great delight of the members of the Guild, the President, the Bishop of the Diocese, preached the sermon from 1 Cor. 14-12. The wise, paternal, deeply interesting and inspiring discourse, delivered by his lordship, was one which it is hoped may be long remembered. At the conclusion of the service the annual meeting was held in the National Schools, and was well attended. The Ven. the Archdeacon of Chester, and Master of the Guild, presided, and there were also present the Revs. C. J. Howson, H. Leigh Mallory, T. Clark, W. R. Gardner, H. Hatt Cook, Esq., the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Canon Holme and the Rev. S. A. Boyd.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The Treasurer's statement of accounts for the year 1898, which had been previously approved by the general committee, were taken as read and passed. From this it appears that the balance in the bank for the year above mentioned, amounted to £62 13s. 9d. The Ven. the Archdeacon of Chester was unanimously re-elected

Master of the Guild. The Rev. Richard Greenall was unanimously re-elected Hon. Secretary and Treasurer. The following seven honorary members were elected on the general committee: Revs. Canons Holme and Blencowe, Revs. G. J. Howson, S. A. Boyd, H. Leigh Mallory, J. H. Thorpe, H. Hatt Cooke, Esq. Seven ringing members were also elected on this committee: Messrs. J. Dillon, F. Spence, W. Walmsley, W. Gordon, R. T. Holding, T. J. Bethell, J. Ashmole. Two representatives to serve on the Central Council were elected, viz., Mr. W. Gordon (Stockport), and Mr. F. Spence (Grappenhall). Liscard was the place fixed upon for the meeting of the Guild next year on August Bank Holiday.

A move was then made to the large room, where a hot dinner was laid out for 180 members. At the close of the dinner the Master of the Guild rose and said that it was usual to propose the toast of "Church and Queen." He would not vary from this rule, but would give it with this addition, which he was sure would meet with the approval of all—"The Lord Bishop of the Diocese," who, he said, interested himself in the work and prosperity of the Guild, and was present to preach the sermon on this its annual gathering. This toast was received with most hearty fervour.

His Lordship having returned thanks, the company separated to the various belfries which were opened for ringing by the kindness of the clergy, such as Grappenhall, Lymm, Warburton, Daresbury and Stretton. As the evening closed in the ringing ceased, and each ringer betook himself to his home, pleased with the work of the day, and encouraged, let us hope, to persevere in the good work of church bell ringing.

VISIT TO SEVENOAKS, KENT.

On Sunday, July 30th, six of the Bromley ringers and a few friends from Chislehurst and Beckenham, paid a visit to Sevenoaks, to ring for evening service. Arriving at Sevenoaks a little before three o'clock, the visitors were met at the station by their worthy friend, Mr. T. Groombridge, who took them to his house to have a ring upon a nice-toned peal of twelve handbells, several courses of Grandsire being rung in hand.

Arriving at the church a little after five, the bells were soon going, touches of Plain Bob, Oxford Bob, Grandsire and Stedman Triples being rung, in which several of the local men took part. Lowering the bells in peal, a walk was had through Knole park, and then back to the residence of Mr. J. Groombridge, where more handbell ringing was had until train time.

The visitors wish to thank Mr. and Mr. Groombridge for the kind way in which they treated them; also A. Laurie, Esq. (churchwarden), for granting permission and longer time to ring.

LEEDS CORPORATION MARKETS.

At a meeting of the Leeds Corporation Markets Committee held on Monday, August 21st, Alderman Knowles (chairman), presiding, the tender of Messrs. W. Potts and Sons, Clock Manufacturers, of Leeds and Newcastle-on-Tyne, was accepted for the supplying and fixing of a new eight-day illuminated turret clock for the tower of the new meat market.

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THE SAFFRON WALDRON SOCIETY.

[ESTABLISHED 1625.]

The Society which holds the proud position of being the oldest extant had another most enjoyable outing on Saturday, the 19th inst., Horsham being again the destination, and this can be scarcely wondered at when one remembers the kind receptions which the Society has received on past occasions from Mrs. Willis and the Misses Hodgson (friends of their worthy Master, E. Taylor, Esq., F.L.S.) Leaving Saffron Walden by the 7.40 train, accompanied by their old friend and member, George Taylor, of Cambridge, Horsham was duly reached at 11.35, when the Master with his usual forethought had a brake in readiness, a drive through most enjoyable country brought them to Warnham. The pretty little ring of eight was soon swinging to Double Norwich and Stedman; one of the members being accidentally left behind at Horsham robbed the company of the pleasure of touches in the Surprise methods. The brake being again called into requisition, the return journey to Horsham by a different and very pretty route was made, the point of attraction being The Black Horse hotel, where a bountiful repast, provided by the generosity of the esteemed Master, was awaiting them. Here too the missing member turned up, and also that illustrious ringer the Rev. C. D. P. Davies. One has heard a good deal about cooked peals of late, but if these peals had been cooked half so well as the repast, all members concerned must have been well satisfied. After dinner an adjournment was made to the tower, but the weather being very hot and the bells going bad much ringing was decidedly out of the question. The next item on the programme was tea, which was generously provided by the Misses Hodgson, where each member received an opal photograph of Horsham church as a memento of their visit, given by Mrs. Edward Taylor and Miss Hodgson. A little handbell ringing by the Messrs. Pitstow, and a few photographs taken, brought a most enjoyable day to a close, home being reached at 12.30.

A. F. J.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WEST TYNE DISTRICT GUILD.

The August monthly meeting of this Guild took place at Winlaton on Saturday, the 19th instant, about fourteen members being present from Whitley, Blaydon, Benwell, and the local band. Ringing commenced about three o'clock, when twos 720 of Plain Bob was rung, and a 720 of Violet. It was agreed, subject to the approval of the Rector of Benwell, to hold the next meeting there on the 16th of September next.

THE PARISH CHURCH, SWANSEA.

A large clock, with four 8-foot dials, chiming the Cambridge quarters, and striking the hours, has just been erected at the parish church, Swansea, by Messrs. John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby.

Situations Vacant.

STEADY Young Man as Coachman, and to assist occasionally in garden. About 25 years of age. Apply, Editor.

WANTED, GARDENER. Good wages given. House and coal found. Must be change-ringer on eight bells. Apply—Thos. T. HAYWARD, Midsomer Norton, near Bath.

A RINGERS' WEDDING.

If a good wife is better than rubies—and Solomon, who had a vast experience, ought to have known, what he was talking about—then Charlie Fowler, of Leicester, has just made a good investment, for on Tuesday, August 8th, he took unto himself the girl of his choice. The wedding took place at Sandford St. Martin, Oxfordshire, and at 2.30 p.m. the two were made one. That is; in theory, for however much married a man may be, himself and wife can never obtain double tickets for anywhere at single prices. However, the contract was made, and those who know Charlie Fowler and *nee* Miss Jenny Jones are unanimous of opinion that neither will regret it. The bride was given away by her father, Edward Jones, Esq., and the groom was supported in his hour of trial by Mr. Ernest Jones. Miss Jones was tastily dressed in white, trimmed with white satin and Maltese lace, and carried a handsome bouquet. A shower of confetti completed the picture, and the local ringers added their tribute of a wedding peal, in fact, the quiet country hamlet was *en fete* for the occasion.

After the ceremony followed the breakfast, at which forty-one sat down, and the newly-married couple posted to Reading, which place was chosen for the honeymoon. As the carriage drove into the town, those inside little knew the excitement it caused, for on the back rail the prophetic villagers had tied some score of old boots for luck. Many Readingites thought it was a new-fashioned boot-repairing shop on the move, but they imagined a vain thing.

Two peals were rung in honour of the wedding, and as Charlie (who was in the long peal of London Surprise at Drayton) has himself since rang two peals within a week of his marriage, it augurs well. Those who know him and those who don't, will wish Mr. and Mrs. Fowler every happiness and success.

W. W.

EXCURSIONS IN SUSSEX.

"9.15 sharp at Hailsham" was the order to a band of eight members of the Christ Church company, Eastbourne, on Bank Holiday, August 7th. On arrival the party were greeted with the pleasant intelligence that the dry weather had caused the bells to run badly, so after a course or two of Bob Major, it was decided to attempt Holt's ten-part. The bells were soon going merrily, but after a bit got somewhat slow, but on rousing up the ringer of the 5th, the bells went like tops. After about forty-five mins. ringing someone tried to enter the church, and persisted in trying first one door and then another for a whole hour, so shortly after the half-way single "stand" was called. On going to see what was the matter, two girls presented themselves to clean up the church. No act of personal violence was performed, but if scathing remarks are painful these girls smart still. It is a pity those girls are not ringers, if they persevered at change-ringing as they did at the door they would soon be top of the tree.

In the afternoon Grandsire Triples was again the order at Waldron. One of the locals rang the tenor, and he is not likely to forget it. Long before the time for the peal to finish he held out signals of distress, but with true Sussex doggedness he stood to his task. Unfortunately in the tenth part (Holt's) a change-course occurred. Although no peals were scored, the party spent an enjoyable day, and hope for better luck in future. The conducting was efficiently carried out by G. H. Head.

RINGERS' RULES.

AT ST. CUTHBERT'S CHURCH, FISHLAKE, YORKSHIRE.

Orders to be observed :

All ye that are ringers,
These words well remark ;
If a bell you throw over,
By light or by dark.
Fourpence you do forfeit,
Or your hatt to the clark.

And if any with hatts on,
Or spurs they do ring,
Fourpence without grudging,
Must pay unto him.

Also all new ringers,
On the entering day,
Twelve pence each man,
To the old ringers must pay.

JAMES PICKMAN,

Licens'd Clark, ANNO. D. 1735.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, ULVERSTONE, LAKE DISTRICT.

If to ring you do come here,
You must ring well with hand and ear ;
And if your bell you overthrow,
You pay twelve pence before you go.

If we for you the changes ring,
You must to us a shilling bring ;

And sixpence too besides all that,
If you appear in spur or hat ;

And if above you choose to go,
Sixpence you pay or stay below.

LATE NOTICES.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.—The monthly meeting of this Association will be held at Cheadle on Saturday, September 2nd. All members who intend being present must give notice to the Rev. E. S. Carlos, the rectory, Cheadle, not later than Wednesday, August 30th. W. TWIGG, *Hon. Sec.*

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—The next Committee and Quarterly meeting of this Association, by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. S. Phillips), will be held in the Chantry of St. Mary's church, Kidderminster, on Saturday, September 21st. Service in the church at 5 o'clock; business meeting afterwards. The tower will be open for ringing. 36, Simms Lane, Netherton. J. SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

Correspondence.

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

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

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—Will you kindly correct the peal of Grandsire Triples rang at Christ Church, Eastbourne, on Friday, August 11th, and published in your last issue. It should have read this way: James Hunnisett, treble; George Martin, 2; John Mulligan, 5; and not this way: James J. Hunnisett, George G. Martin, James Mulligan. It was Carter's twelve-part, not Parker's. Also the peal was arranged for Mr. G. Martin, who bails from Maidenhead. It was very careless on the part of the one who sent it on to you. T.P.

CURRENT TOPICS.

Many happy returns of the day to Mr. and Mrs. James George, sen. Of course we can't expect another golden wedding, but there is the "iron" wedding, and the "diamond" wedding, and goodness knows what else. But to put it short, we shall all wish the old people many years' good health, and that their bell-ringing sons may be a credit and solace to them in their declining years.

The 200th peal of our friend James on such an occasion is a matter to be proud of, though Grandsire Triples was the method, "common Grandsire," as it was once called. Our friend James thought I suppose it best to pick something easy, so as to put the peal beyond question, else we were to have Stedman. The fact of the day being Sunday also prevented many from attending. Among these were your humble servant, and I believe the Editor had a pressing invitation. But Sunday is looked upon by every inmate of the "B.N." sanctum as a day of rest and quietness. I don't allude to the religious aspect of the day, though if I did every one of my readers would be satisfied, I am sure.

Many of James George's friends want his portrait to appear; and I am not certain that it will not appear in a week or two.

I was glad to hear from a few friends that last week's number pleased them muchly. One correspondent writes: "I had the colly-wobbles when the paper arrived, but reading Mr. Plain Speaker soon shook the cobwebs from my brain." I need not say that this correspondent writes from Gloucestershire way.

Some of those who said they were greatly amused tell me they would like to have some more. I would like them to know that the intention of the writers of this page is to deal, as a rule, with matters of serious import. What do you my friends think of this, also from Mr. Fowler's book:—

"The ingenuity with which Hodge and his *confreres* managed to twist the names of my cattle used to amuse me. I had a cow called Alberta, but my man persisted in calling her 'All Butter'; while he called my Chevalier barley the 'Shrivelled ear.' When I was judging farming in Worcestershire the owner of one of the competing farms recommended us to eat one of his pears, which he called the Bronchitis; we discovered, on looking at the label, it was the 'Bon Chretien.' But, for an excellent misnomer, the following always commended itself to me: The Clerk of the Peace for the county of Bucks had a very good garden, and was accustomed to present the Chairman of Quarter Sessions each quarter with a bunch of a well-known rose, called *La Rose des Quatre Saisons*; his gardener always persisted in calling it the 'Rose of the Quarter Sessions.'"

A friend from Old Hill, Staffordshire, sends the following lengthy extract. Mr. C. W. Bassano used to be a ringer at Old Hill—in fact the Bassanos appear to be a ringing family:—

"HOW AN OLD HILL RINGER WAS SHADOWED. — The little seaside town of Barmouth ought to have a place in the history of our times all to itself, as being the scene of a real detective story. The 'Hawkshaw' of the drama (says the *London Mail*) is a local fisheries inspector, and the subject of his observations

were three men who went a-fishing, and whose movements appeared to the keen vision of the lynx-eyed detective to be more than mysterious. It is fair to say that the detective did not know that the suspects were Mr. Charles Bassano (a Staffordshire magistrate), Dr. F. Bassano, and Professor Bassano, his brothers; but making allowance even for that, the course of his investigations is somewhat peculiar. One day the three sportsmen went out in a boat, and returned with a haul of nine bass. This was the beginning of the trouble. Long-headed fishermen, who spend much of their time on the quay at Barmouth, drew deductions. Some of them said the bass must have been got by electricity; a few hinted at magnetism; others with bated breath spoke of dynamite. The more cautious came to the conclusion that at any rate it was something. From that moment observation was kept every time the three gentlemen took a boat. One day a policeman was sent over to an island to watch to better advantage. It rained all the time the policeman was there, but faithful to duty he stood like a post. A day or two later the climax was reached. The three mysterious visitors went for a sail, taking their cameras with them, and on their return they found 'Hawkshaw,' an elderly gentleman, waiting for them, who immediately they stepped on shore, demanded to search the boat and tackle. Mr. Charles Bassano absolutely refused to allow him, whereupon 'Hawkshaw' produced a certificate, showing that he held the post of inspector, or some similar office. 'Right you are,' said the trio, and forthwith they proceeded to get the cameras out of their cases. But the crafty 'Hawkshaw' was not to be deceived, he must see the inside there and then of these boxes. Mr. Bassano to this retorted that if 'Hawkshaw' dared to open the cameras except in a dark room, he would sue him for damages. This resulted in the whole party—the Messrs. Bassano, 'Hawkshaw,' and a policeman—marching to a dark room, the Messrs. Bassano, of course, practically in custody. Mr. F. Bassano's camera was opened first, and 'Hawkshaw' was at length convinced that it was a camera. The case however, assumed a serious aspect when it came to an examination of Mr. Charles Bassano's camera, for 'Hawkshaw' came upon a loose spiral spring which holds the film down. 'Ha!' he exclaimed, 'this is quite different; now we have got something important.' It cost the photographer to whom the dark room belonged a lot of trouble to convince the old gentleman that this camera was not some lethal engine for killing fish. When he had accomplished this feat the photographer wanted payment for his time and the use of his room. 'Hawkshaw' at once declared that the Messrs. Bassano must do that, and in this exposition of the law he was backed up by the policeman. Now the talk of the group of fishermen on the quay turns on the big law case that may go to the 'coorts in Lunnon,' and will settle the great question—'Who pays the photographer?'"

My chapter would be incomplete without some reference to the weather. As I write it is very hot. But there is one place where it is much hotter than here. That place is called "Paris." Very warm indeed there; up to boiling point. A distinguished member of the Exercise has been taking his holiday there. Perhaps he went to hear the Dreyfus burlesque. It was venturesome indeed, John, for such a gunsmith of your scientific attainments to go to Paris. Had the officials known what an authority you are on guns, pistols, and projectiles, you would have been hustled, John. Then the "C.C." would have invoked the Foreign Secretary at once.

PLAIN SPEAKER.

GIVEN AWAY. PEACH'S LACE CURTAINS.

21^S DIRECT FROM THE LOOMS CARRIAGE PAID 21^S
POPULAR PARCEL

Lot B.N. contains—1 pair Drawing-room Curtains, Superb Lacey Design, very Rich, 4 yards long, about 2 yards wide; 2 Pairs alike, for Dining-room, handsome work. Copied Real Lace, 3½ yds long, 60 ins. wide; 1 pair Bedroom Curtains, Artistic Floral, 2 yds. long, 50 ins. wide. One five o'clock Table Cover, Choice Guipure Lace. Sent, Carriage Paid, for 21s. All goods taped edges. Ecru if desired.

GIVEN AWAY with each parcel—6 Lace Dressing-table Covers, Fringed, one 45 ins. long, 5 smaller. Our 1899 Parcel is the best we have yet sent out. PRIZE MEDALS, Chicago and Toronto. Satisfaction guaranteed or money returned.

1899 PRICE LIST Post Free. 300 Illustrations of Lace, Frilled Edge and Swiss Curtains, Madras Muslins, Laces, Lace Capes, Blouses, Fichus, Pinafores, etc. Lace-edged Roller Blinds, any size, below usual cost. Estimates and patterns sent. Also Hosiery, "Stand Hard" Wear. Factory Prices.

C. Peach & Sons, Lister-gate Nottingham. Established 1857.

Notices.

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

The Kent County Association, St. John's, Deptford.—The usual Wednesday evening practices at this tower will be discontinued until further notice.

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

The Kent County Association—Rochester District.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at St. Mary Magdalene, Gillingham, to-day, Saturday, August 26. Tower open at 4 p.m. Tea in schoolroom at 5.30. Business meeting after tea. Half railway fares up to two shillings will be paid.

A. OSBORNE, *Hon. District Sec.*

65, Clive Road, Rochester.

The Lancashire Association, Manchester Branch.—A monthly meeting will be held at Christ Church, Barlow Moor Road, West Didsbury, to-day, Saturday, August 26, when nominations will take place for the following officials, viz., Vice-President, Ringing Secretary, four representatives to Central Council, and one Committeeman. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Business meeting, 7 p.m.

W. BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

The St. Thomas's Guild, Dudley.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Coseley to-day, Saturday, August 26. Tower ready at 4 p.m.

W. MICKLEWRIGHT, *Hon. Sec.*

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The monthly ringing meeting will be held at Woodlesford (six bells) to-day, Saturday, August 26th. Meeting house, The White Hart Inn. All ringers are cordially invited.

H. GAYTHORPE, *Hon. Sec.*

1, Elm Avenue, Bramley, Leeds.

The Middlesex County Association.—North and East District.—A meeting of the members of this Association will be held at Stanmore to-day, Saturday, August 26th, by kind permission of the Rector, the Rev. S. F. L. Bernays. All friends of the Association will be cordially welcomed by the members. The bells will be raised at 4 o'clock.

ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*

18, Ravenscroft Park Road, Barnet.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—Bristol Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Dursley, to-day, Saturday, August 26. Bells open for ringing all the afternoon and evening. Service at 5 p.m. Business meeting after service. There is a cheap train leaving Bristol (Temple Mead) at 2.35 p.m., and returning at 7.45 p.m. Fare, 1s. 6d. return.

C. H. GORDON,
Branch Sec.

The Midland Counties Association.—Nuneaton District.—A meeting will be held at Sharnford, to-day, Saturday, August 26th. Ringing at 4 p.m. All will be welcome.

J. H. SWINFELD, *Hon. Sec.*

Society of Royal Cumberland Youths.—Practice at Chapel-of-Ease, Holloway, on Wednesday, August 30th, at 8 p.m.

10, St. Ann's Road, Hornsey. A. JACOB.

The East Derbyshire Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Bolsover, on Saturday, September 2nd. Meeting at 5.30 p.m.

T. ALLIBONE, *Secretary.*

North Wingfield, Chesterfield.

The Salop Guild.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Shrewsbury, on Saturday, September 9th, 1899. Service at St. Chad's church at 3.30 p.m. Address by the Rev. T. J. Rider, Vicar of Baschurch. Ringing at 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. Business meeting at 4.15 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m.

J. MACKAY,
Holy Trinity Vicarage, Shrewsbury. Hon. Sec.

Central Northamptonshire Association.—The Secretary regrets to say that the quarterly meeting arranged for the district of Whiston, Grendon, and Castle Ashby, will have to be postponed from August 26th until September 30th.

E. J. DENNES.

The Sheffield District Society.—The monthly meeting takes place at Bolsterstone, on Saturday, September 2nd.

R. HARRISON, *Hon. Sec.*

Lancashire Association.—Next monthly meeting at Aughton on Saturday, September 2nd. Tower open at 3 o'clock, when the chair will be taken by the Rector. There will be an election of officers for the branch, and it is hoped that as many will attend as possible.

G. WOODHALL, *Branch Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Middleton, on Saturday, September 9th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6.30. Members not having paid their subscriptions of this branch will kindly do so on or before September 9th. All ringers invited.

E. B. SHAW, *Branch Sec.*

The Llandaff Diocesan Association.—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, September 9th, at Treveling, Mon. There will be shortened evensong in church at 3.30. The meeting at the adjoining schoolroom at 4 o'clock. Business—(1) to present annual statement of account; (2) to appoint officers for the ensuing year; (3) to enrol new members; (4) to fix place of next annual meeting; (5) any other. The bells will be available for ringing all day. Ringers are particularly requested to make a special effort to attend this meeting.

REV. D. H. GRIFFITHS, M.A.

39, Charles Street, Cardiff.

H. G. WHITE,

18, Cymmer Street, Cardiff.

Hon. Secs.

St. Margaret's Society, Westminster.—All ringing meetings are suspended during the month of August. The next meeting will be on Thursday, September 7th.

A. HARDY.

THE KIDLINGTON BAND.

The band who rang the long peal of Double Norwich at Kidlington have had their photos taken. Anyone who would like to have a copy can have one post free for 2s. by applying to H. Judge, Church Street, Kidlington.

"BELL NEWS" WANTED.

Mr. B. A. Lee, of 8, Lombard Street, New-castle-on-Tyne, writes; "You would confer a favour on me by putting me in the way of getting the following numbers: Volume 9, No. 459; Volume 10, Nos. 472 and 508. I have some extra numbers on hand, and would be glad to supply them to any reader of your paper who is in need of them."

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. ROWE, Upminster, Essex.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

SITUATION required by a married man, aged 31, without family, in a month or by the 11th of October as Gardener, singlehanded. Can manage Cucumbers, Melons, Tomatoes, etc., and the general work of a well-kept garden. Highest references. A change-ringer on six or eight bells. Apply John Gaymer Miles, Point Cottages, Attleboro, Norfolk.

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.

SITUATION wanted by Brushmaker. Change-ringer on 6, 8, or 10 bells.—A. Shuffelebotham, 62, Wellington Road, Hanley, Staffs.

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

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.

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Of every conceivable description—English manufacture all made in our own factories.

**WEDDING, SIGNET AND
FANCY RINGS**

In great variety.

POTTS & SONS,

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GUILDFORD STREET, LEEDS.

NEW PALACE STEAMERS, LTD.

DAILY SAILINGS from Old Swan Pier, London Bridge, by "KOH-I-NOOR," to Southend and Margate, at 8.50 a.m. (Tuesdays and Fridays excepted). By "ROYAL SOVEREIGN," to Margate and Ramsgate (calling Southend Tuesdays and Fridays), at 9.20 a.m. Special trains from Fenchurch-street at 9.45 a.m. for "Koh-i-Noor," and 10.28 a.m. for "Royal Sovereign," also from St. Pancras at 9.20 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, and 9.50 a.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays.

"LA MARGUERITE," Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays to Margate and Boulogne and back. On Tuesdays to Margate and Ostend and back. On Sundays to Southend and Margate and back. Special trains from Fenchurch-street Station—Mondays, 7.20 a.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 6.15 a.m.; Thursdays and Saturdays, 7.45 a.m. and 8.3 a.m. (St. Pancras, 8 a.m.); Sundays, 9.35 a.m. and 9.45 a.m. (St. Pancras, 9.40 a.m.) "LA BELGIQUE," from Tilbury to Southend, Margate and Ostend, on Mondays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. Returning following days.

Special Train from Fenchurch-street, 8.38 a.m. Return Fares from Old Swan Pier or Fenchurch Street Station to Margate: 6s. First Saloon; 4s. Second Saloon. Boulogne or Ostend, 13s. 6d.

T. E. BARLOW, Director and Manager,
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FOR SALE.—A nice little ring of eight HANDBELLS; very good tone; (by Welch) in fair order. Approval with pleasure. Apply to Mrs. CROSSMAN, Dudley House, Erskine Road, Walthamstow.

JASPER W. SNOWDON'S WORKS.

ROPE-SIGHT : 1s. 6d. FOURTH EDITION.
Commences by explaining how to manage a bell; deals with Change-Ringing on three, four, five, six, seven and eight bells in the PLAIN BOB METHOD, giving touches and peals in each case; and closes with instructions for conducting, etc., etc. (143 pages).

STANDARD METHODS: 2s. 6d. THIRD EDITION
Now Ready. Contains full explanations and rules for ringing all the best methods, from five to eight bells, with plain-course diagrams of each printed in full, with coloured lines. 40 pages of diagrams and 87 of descriptive letterpress.

GRANDSIRE; 2s. 0d. THE METHOD, ITS PEALS, AND HISTORY. WITH PORTRAIT AND MEMOIR. EDITED BY HIS BROTHER, WM. SNOWDON. COMPLETE WITH AN APPENDIX BY THE REV. CHARLES D. P. DAVIES, M.A., Oxon. Commences with ringing on five, six, and seven bells, for the benefit of a learner; gives instructions on composing, proving, varying, and reversing, conducting and calling round; and ends with a general survey of the practical and scientific aspect of the composition of triples—thus forming a complete reference book for all Grandsire ringers. (210 pages).

IRREBLE BOB. PART I. out of print and under revision.
Part I. contains instructions for pricking, transposing, proving, composing, and conducting peals; an essay on the *In and Out-of-course* of the changes; and history of the various compositions and performances. Part II. contains classified peals of Minor, Major, Royal, and Maximus, with their reverse variations; remarks on the different qualities; particulars of first performances, composers, names, &c., &c. (136 closely printed pages. Part II. (136 closely printed pages) may be had separately, 2s. 1½d.)

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 (pages)

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

THE REV. T. M. N. OWEN'S NEW BOOK.

CHURCH BELLS OF HUNTINGDONSHIRE.—
By THEODORE M. N. OWEN, M.A., Rector of Wood Walton. Large Paper Edition (limited to 30 copies) £2 2s.; Small Paper Edition (limited to 200 copies) 15s. 6d. Packing and postage 1s. 6d. extra.
London:—JARROLD & SONS, 10 & 11, Warwick Lane, E.C.

THE REV. DR. RAVEN'S WORK.

CHURCH BELLS OF SUFFOLK.—BY THE REV. J. J. RAVEN, D.D., F.S.A., of Emmanuel College, Cambridge. With upwards of 90 illustrations. Half-morocco, Roxburgh, 27s. 6d. nett; in cloth, 20s. nett; packing and postage 1s. 6d. extra. This edition is limited to 500 copies. The large paper edition was all sold within a few days of issuing the first prospectus.
"An unexpectedly entertaining book. His researches as to the Norwich founders will be found full of new historical matter. We heartily welcome Dr. Raven's contribution to Campanology."—*Saturday Review*.
London:—JARROLD & SONS, 10 & 11, Warwick Lane, E.C.

THOMAS BLACKBOURN, CHURCH BELL HANGER, AND TUNER SALISBURY, WILTSHIRE.

THOMAS BLACKBOURN is a practical Ringer and having had considerable experience in Church Bell hanging and tuning, with confidence solicits the patronage of the Clergy, Churchwardens and Ringers generally.

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

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

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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, AUGUST 26, 1899.

WHEN the peal rung at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, led to an interest being taken in change-ringing in the sister island, which culminated in the appointment of a teacher to teach the "youths" of St. Patrick, we indicated that progress in the Art would follow. "The Irish Society" was founded, and further bellhanging operations are said to have been effected in Dublin. This week we record another peal upon a new ring of bells at Arklow. The record, with interesting descriptive matter connected therewith, can be seen upon another page, and perhaps no further comment is desired. But the circumstances must be noted. A new church has been built by the Earl of CARYSFORT, and he has wisely furnished the sacred edifice with a ring of bells. Bells have to be rung, and the ringing should be of the best, no doubt thought his lordship, and we must compliment him and the Exercise at large upon his action. The arrangements by the noble Earl for the practice of the Art in his country are most worthy of imitation, and Ireland has shown, not only in the case before us, but in others, that bells and bellringing are becoming popular in the country.

THAME, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thursday, August 17, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES:
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt.

RICHARD WHITE Treble.	WILLIAM BENNETT 5.
JOHN TUCKER 2.	HARRY JUDGE 6.
CHARLES H. EXON 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 7.
FREDERICK WHITE 4.	EDWARD HIMS Tenor.

Conducted by the Rev. F. E. ROBINSON.

First peal of Stedman on the bells.

THRAPSTON, NORTHANTS.

On Saturday, August 19, 1899, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES.

Tenor 14 cwt.

DANIEL REDHEAD* Treble.	FRED. GILBERT 5.
JAMES HUDSON* 2.	*LEWIS CHAPMAN 6.
JAMES NICKERSON* 3.	WALTER GILBERT 7.
REGINALD LOVEDAY* 4.	FRANK KIRK Tenor.

Composed by F. BENNETT, of Guildford, and
Conducted by F. GILBERT.

*First peal. First peal in the method on the bells.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

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

On Saturday, August 19, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 12½ cwt.

ALBERT E. PARSONS.. .. Treble.	ADOLPHUS ROBERTS 5.
SAMUEL J. HUGHES 2.	HARRY PRICE 6.
WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT 3.	JOHN SMITH 7.
WILLIAM TALBOT 4.	JOSEPH FAULKNER Tenor.

Conducted by ALBERT E. PARSONS.

The above was rung to commemorate the fifteenth birthday of Master Reginald Guy Langley Marriott, youngest son of the Vicar; also to S. J. Hughes on his 35th birthday, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

LUTTERWORTH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 19, 1899, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT WYCLIFFE'S CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S FOUR-PART (A VARIATION).

ALFRED MILLIS.. .. Treble.	WILLIAM G. GRAINGER 5.
GEORGE CLEAL 2.	WILLIAM WILLSON 6.
GEORGE BURROWS 3.	CHARLES H. FOWLER 7.
WILLIAM P. COOPER 4.	EDWARD C. SMITH Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE CLEAL.

BEARSTED, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 19, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

JOSEPH E. GRINSTED .. Treble.	ALBERT J. DAY 4.
ALFRED E. TROWELL 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 ever rung on the bells, and also by the ringer of the treble. The company wish to thank the Rev. and Mrs. A. L. Brine for the kind way in which they entertained them after ringing the peal by way of refreshments, and also for granting the use of the bells and having everything in readiness. The "go" of the bells is all that can be desired, and are of a good tone.

BRIGHTON.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 19, 1899, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5000 CHANGES.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

GEORGE WILLIAMS Treble.	WILLIAM PALMER 6.
EDWARD C. MERRITT 2.	THOMAS PRICE 7.
JOHN JAY, SEN. 3.	JOHN JAY, JUN. 8.
FRANK BENNETT 4.	KEITH HART 9.
ROBERT J. DAWE 5.	RICHARD FENTIMAN Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

Rung as a birthday compliment to J. Jay, sen., who received the usual congratulations after its completion. This composition has the 6th fixed in 2nds place throughout, with the 5th twenty-four courses at home, and twenty-two courses in trebles place.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 21, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE. Tenor 12 cwt.

B. W. VAN TROMP* .. Treble.	WILLIAM SHORT 5.
WILLIAM ELLIS 2.	THOMAS J. ELTON 6.
HARRY WITHERS† 3.	ALBERT WALKER 7.
HENRY MIDDLETON 4.	*CHARLES MACKENZIE Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM SHORT.

*First peal. †First peal with a bob bell. Rung as a birthday compliment to Messrs. Ellis and Withers. B. W. Van Tromp (aged 15), hails from Taunton; and with Messrs. Withers and Mackenzie were elected members of the above Association before starting for the peal.

LOWER BEBINGTON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—WIRRAL BRANCH

On Monday, August 21, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

In seven different methods, being 720 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, College and Oxford Single, Canterbury, Plain Bob and Grandsire.

FRANK JONES* Treble.	JOSEPH CLIFFE 4.
EDWIN BREEZE 2.	*JAMES MARTIN 5.
H. E. HOUGH 3.	JAMES DILLON Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES DILLON.

*First peal in seven methods.

Ireland.

ARKLOW, COUNTY WICKLOW.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, August 13, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR,

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

Tenor 22 cwt. 2 qrs. 19 lb.

JOHN GRUNDY Treble.	SAM. SMITH 5.
ARTHUR MATTHEWS 2.	RICHARD F. LANE 6.
JOHN SMITH 3.	ERNEST CARTWRIGHT 7.
JOS. HARDY 4.	JOHN W. TAYLOR, JUN. Tenor.

Composed by W. ROYLE, and Conducted by JOHN W. TAYLOR, JUN.

The first peal on the bells, and the first peal in the method in Ireland.

Handbell Peals.

ATTLEBOROUGH, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, August 12, 1899, in One Hour and Forty-nine Minutes,

AT THE HOUSE OF MR. J. G. MILES, POINT COTTAGES,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being Seven 720s, each called differently.

JOHN G. MILES 1-2.	ALBERT HOWES 3-4.
JOHN HOWES 5-6	

Conducted by ALBERT HOWES.

Date Touches.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Sunday evening, July 9th, for Divine Service at St. James' church, a date touch of Grandsire Minor in 1 hr. 7 mins. T. Wood, 1; T. Taylor, 2; H. Davenport, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; W. Matthews, 5; W. W. Steele (conductor), 6. The above was rung at the first opportunity as a welcome touch for the new vicar, the Rev. A. G. Childs. Longest touch by Messrs. Wood, Taylor, and H. Davenport.

THE NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

ANSTON (Yorks).—On Monday, July 10th, the local company assisted by W. Allwood, of Treeton, rang a date touch in 1 hr. 4 mins. being 360 each of the following methods: City Delight, Killamarsh, College Pleasure, Duke of York, Kent, and 99 Oxford Treble Bob. W. Platts, 1; H. Turner, 2; H. Stenton, 3; R. Smith, 4; S. Smith (conductor), 5; W. Allwood, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. Rung as a birthday compliment to C. Fowler.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MIDHURST (Sussex).—On Tuesday, July 11th, a date touch in 1 hr. 7 mins., in the following methods: 75 Kent, 384 Woodbine, 720 Oxford, 720 London Scholars' Pleasure. C. Best, 1; T. Stroud, 2; T. E. Ellis, 3; A. B. Bennett (conductor), 4; F. Trussler, 5; J. Lee, 6.

WALSALL (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, July 15th, at the church of St. Matthew, a date touch of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 11 mins. J. W. Palmer, 1; W. Griffin, 2; F. Hallsworth, 3; E. Washbrooke, 4; W. Johnson (composer and conductor), 5; J. Lawton, 6; J. C. Adams, 7; J. Hamilton, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. in E flat.

Miscellaneous.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—FYLDE BRANCH.

SOUTH SHORE (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, July 2nd, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor in 25 mins. *R. Hill, 1; J. Foulks, 2; J. Fenton, 3; H. Elston, 4; J. Hargreaves, 5; G. Staff (conductor), 6. *First 720.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BROOMFIELD (Essex).—On Saturday, April 29th, 720 Duke of York. T. Crozier, 1; C. Parsons, 2; E. Runter, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; A. Bradley, 5; E. Wright (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 30th, 720 Woodbine. A. Turner, 1; C. Parsons, 2; E. Runter, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; A. Bradley (conductor), 5; E. Wright, 6. On Thursday, May 4th, 720 Duke of York. E. Wright (conductor), 1; C. Parsons, 2; G. Parsons, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; E. Runter, 5; A. Bradley, 6. On Sunday, May 7th, 720 Woodbine. T. Crozier, 1; C. Parsons, 2; E. Runter, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; A. Bradley, 5; E. Wright (conductor), 6. On Saturday, May 14th, 720 New London Pleasure. T. Crozier, 1; A. Bradley, 2; G. Parsons, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; E. Runter, 5; E. Wright (conductor), 6. On Whit-Monday on the occasion of the annual meeting, 720 Kent Treble Bob (fifteen bobs). E. Wright (conductor), 1; W. J. Nevard, 2; W. J. Hazell, 3; C. Ramplin, 4; G. A. Andrews, 5; A. Fuller, 6. And 720 Oxford. E. Runter, 1; A. Fuller, 2; W. J. Hazell (conductor), 5; W. J. Nevard, 4; A. Bradley, 5; E. Wright, 6. On May 24th, 720 Oxford. A. Turner, 1; C. Parsons, 2; A. Bradley, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; T. Crozier, 5; E. Wright (conductor), 6. And 720 Kent standing as above. On May 31st 720 New London Pleasure. A. Turner, 1; C. Parsons, 2; G. Parsons, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; E. Runter, 5; A. Bradley (conductor), 6. On Sunday, June 4th, 720 New London Pleasure. T. Crozier, 1; E. Runter, 2; G. Parsons, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; A. Bradley, 5; E. Wright (conductor), 6.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRISTOL.—On Thursday, July 6th, for practice at St. Michael's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob in 24 mins. S. Thomas (conductor), 1; W. H. Thomas, 2; W. Lansdowne, 3; A. Knight, 4; F. Isaacs, 5; A. M. Isaacs, 6. First 720 of Kent on the bells, and first by the band. Also 360 Kent Treble Bob. G. Thomas, 1; W. W. Lea, 2; S. Thomas (conductor), 3; J. Thomas, 4; F. Isaacs, 5; A. M. Isaacs, 6. First 360 by Messrs. G. Thomas, Lea, and J. Thomas. And 720 Grandsire Minor. A. H. Lea, 1; A. M. Isaacs, 2; G. Thomas, 3; J. Thomas, 4; F. Isaacs, 5; S. Thomas (conductor), 6.

BRISLINGTON, NEAR BRISTOL.—Recently 720 Grandsire Minor. S.

Thomas (conductor), 1; A. Stowell, 2; J. Thomas, 3; W. H. Thomas, 4; W. Stowell, 5; G. Stowell, 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WORSLEY (Lancashire).—On Thursday, July 27th, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 25 mins. J. H. Ridyard, 1; P. H. Derbyshire, 2; F. Derbyshire, 3; J. Lowe, 4; T. Derbyshire, 5; Joseph Ridyard (conductor), 6.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—On Tuesday, July 11th, for practice at the church of The Holy Trinity, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins. F. Haydon, 1; C. Willshire (conductor), 2; G. Gunned, 3; G. Foster, 4; A. Pulling, 5; E. Reilly, 6; B. Chorley, 7; E. Pulling, 8.

PORTSEA (Hants).—On Sunday evening, July 15th, for Divine Service, 504 Stedman Triples. C. Groves, 1; Miss Alice White, 2; J. Harris, 3; J. J. Symons, 4; J. G. Norris, 5; A. D. Stone, 6; E. C. Newman (conductor), 7; H. C. Ingram, 8.

BASINGSTOKE (Hants).—On Thursday, August 3rd, 504 Grandsire Triples. C. Holdaway, 1; Dora White, 2; Alice White, 3; Rev. M. Kelly, 4; H. Lawes, 5; J. E. Ballard, 6; H. White, 7; F. Redgate, 8. A 504 Stedman Triples was attempted with Dora White, 1; Alice White, 2; C. Holdaway, 3; the rest as before; but was lost in the last course. The Rev. Maitland Kelly, for whom this was arranged, hails from Ottery St. Mary, Devonshire. On Wednesday, August 16th, for practice, 504 Grandsire Triples. H. White, 1; Dora White, 2; Alice White, 3; W. T. Tucker, 4; J. E. Ballard, 5; C. Holdaway, 6; W. H. George (conductor), 7; F. Redgate, 8. And 504 Stedman Triples. Dora White, 1; Alice White, 2; C. Holdaway, 3; E. R. Sutton, 4; J. E. Ballard, 5; W. H. George, 6; H. White (conductor), 7; F. Redgate, 8. Also 224 Bob Major. Dora White, 1; Alice White, 2; C. Holdaway, 3; *W. J. Tucker, 4; F. Wilson, 5; J. Ballard, 6; W. H. George, 7; H. White (conductor), 8. *First touch of Major.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CHIPPING BARNET (Herts).—On Monday, July 10th, for practice, 297 Grandsire Triples. J. Withey, 1; S. Marshall, 2; A. J. Chidwick, 3; W. F. Dolton, 4; W. J. Dell, 5; A. H. Belton, 6; J. Waghorn, sen. (conductor), 7; E. Dolton, 8. And 336 Bob Major. J. Withey, 1; A. J. Chidwick, 2; W. J. Dell, 3; E. Marshall, 4; J. Sumpter, 5; A. E. Dolton, 6; J. Waghorn, sen. (conductor), 7; A. H. Belton, 8.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUNDERLAND.—On Sunday morning, July 30th, for Divine Service at the church of The Holy Trinity, 504 Bob Triples. R. Briscoe, 1; F. Naisby, 2; R. Miller, 3; T. Ditchburn, 4; T. Naisby, 5; W. Smallwood, 6; J. Naisby (conductor), 7; J. Furniss, 8. For evening service 504 Grandsire Triples. R. Briscoe, 1; F. Naisby, 2; R. Miller, 3; W. Smallwood, 4; T. Naisby, 5; J. Leighton, 6; J. Naisby (conductor), 7; J. Brass, 8. On Sunday, August 6th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Ignatius the Martyr, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), being the first 720 of Minor rung entirely by the local band. On Sunday, August 13th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (thirty-two bobs and two singles). The ringers in both cases stood as follows: J. W. Parker (conductor), 1; G. S. Taylor, 2; G. R. Taylor, 3; R. H. Blakey, 4; R. Manning, 5; R. L. Patterson, 6. First 720 of Minor by Messrs. Taylor (2), Blakey, and Manning.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HAYES (Kent).—On Sunday morning, June 4th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. F. Keech, 1; H. Brown, 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; J. Hack (conductor), 5; H. Reader, 6. For Divine Service in the evening, 720 in the same method conducted by H. Brown. On Sunday, June 18th, 720 Oxford Bob Minor. F. Keech, 1; H. Reader, 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; W. Bedwell, 5; J. Hack (conductor), 6. On Sunday, July 2nd, for morning service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor. A. Lanaway, 1; H. Brown, 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; J. Hack (conductor), 5; H. Reader, 6. For evening service 720 Kent. F. Keech, 1; conducted by H. Reader. On Sunday evening, July 16th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. A. Lanaway, 1; F. Keech, 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Reader (conductor), 5; H. Brown, 6. On Sunday, July 30th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. F. Keech, 1; H. Brown, 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Reader, 5; J. Hack (conductor), 6.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

HALESWORTH (Suffolk).—On Sunday evening, August 13th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 672 Bob Major. A. Took, 1;

W. Pierce, 2; F. Lambert (conductor), 3; J. O'Neill, 4; E. Easter, 5; E. Lincoln, 6; J. Howard, 7; R. Tracy, 8. And on handbells three courses of Grandsire Triples. J. O'Neill, 1-2; E. Lincoln, 3-4; F. Lambert, 5-6; Mrs. F. Lambert, 7-8.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—On Friday, July 14th, a course of Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Clarkson, 1; C. Hall, 2; T. W. Waller, 3; W. Newton, 4; G. J. Clarkson, 5; T. Metcalf, 6; T. Stephenson, 7; A. P. Goddard, 8. Also a course of Kent Treble Bob Royal. G. J. Clarkson, 1; J. Clarkson, 2; J. Carter, 3; C. Hall, 4; T. W. Waller, 5; A. P. Goddard, 6; F. P. Howcroft, 7; W. Newton, 8; T. Metcalf, 9; T. Stephenson, 10. On Sunday morning, August 3th, 720 Bob Minor. J. W. Newton, 1; J. Clarkson, 2; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 3; T. W. Waller, 4; W. Newton, 5; T. Stephenson, 6. Tenor 27½ cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Wednesday, August 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, composed by the Editor, in 46 mins. J. Elderfield, 1; G. Gutteridge, 2; L. Reid, 3; A. V. Buckland (first quarter-peal), 4; G. Basden, 5; R. Flaxman (conductor), 6; G. Alder, 7; C. Clarke, 8.

STOKE POGES (Bucks).—On Monday, August 7th, 720 each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor. J. J. Parker, J. Basden, G. Gutteridge, R. Flaxman, G. Alder, H. H. Chandler (conductor).

BEACONSFIELD (Bucks).—On Monday, August 7th, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples. J. Basden, J. J. Parker (composer and conductor), W. Pickworth, G. Gutteridge, G. Alder, J. Parker, H. H. Chandler, R. Flaxman. Also touches of Stedman and Treble Bob.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

MELTON MOWBRAY (Leicestershire).—On Saturday, August 5th, at St. Mary's church, 2500 Bob Triples. *C. Dalby, 1; E. J. Gale, 2; J. Morris, 3; W. E. White (Cotgrave), 4; J. Wildman, 5; H. Bartram, 6; W. Willson (Leicester, conductor), 7; *W. James, 8.

STANFORD (Notts).—On Tuesday, August 8th, at the parish church, 3000 Treble Bob Major. *E. E. Smith, 1; G. Cleal, 2; W. H. Ingle-sant, 3; J. O. Lancashire, 4; J. Morris, 5; A. W. Matthews, 6; *W. Miller, 7; W. Willson, 8. *Longest length in the method; and was attempted as a wedding peal to C. H. Fowler, of Leicester, who was married on this day.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ARUNDEL (Sussex).—On Sunday, July 9th, 546 Union Triples in 18 mins. A. Mills, 1; H. Searle, 2; H. Lee (conductor), 3; J. Netley, 4; G. Balchin, 5; F. Luxford, 6; C. Blackman, 7; W. Searle, 8.

BATTLE (Sussex).—On Tuesday, July 11th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor, conducted by S. Saker on the treble and back six. J. Sindon, 1; J. Livermore, 3; F. Mathis, 4; W. J. Thomas, 5; S. Saker, 6; W. Franks, 7; W. H. Eldridge, 8.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TAUNTON (Somersetshire).—On Thursday, July 27th, at the church of St. James, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triplee, taken from Thurstans' four-part. H. Pearce, 1; H. J. Poole, 2; A. Doble, 3; A. Evans, 4; F. Millard, 5; E. E. Burgess, 6; J. Maddock (conductor), 7; W. Thorn, 8. On Sunday, August 13th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples taken from Thurstans' four-part. H. Pearce, 1; A. Evans, 2; A. Doble, 3; F. Millard, 4; J. Hunt, 5; E. E. Burgess, 6; H. J. Poole (conductor), 7; G. H. Yendall, 8.

ASPLEY GUISE (Beds).—On Saturday, July 15th, at St. Botolph's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. Cyril Herbert, 1; Chas. Herbert, 2; D. Harris, 3; M. Lane, 4; E. Herbert, 5; W. Chibnall (conductor), 6. And 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. Smith, 1; Cyril Herbert, 2; D. Harris, 3; E. Herbert, 4; W. Chibnall, 5; M. Lane (conductor), 6. Also 720 Bob Minor. W. Smith, 1; *A. Millard, 2; S. Avis, 3; Cyril Herbert, 4; M. Lane (conductor), 5; E. Herbert, 6. *First 720. Recently 720 Bob Minor. *W. Brown, 1; H. Checkley, 2; W. Smith, 3; *J. Cooper, 4; M. Lane (conductor), 5; W. Chibnall, 6. *First 720.

BETHERSDEN (Kent).—On Sunday afternoon, July 9th, after Divine Service at St. Margaret's church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. Hodgkin, 1; P. Hodgkin, 2; C. Tribe, 3; H. Brown (first 720), 4; F. Sharp (first 720 as conductor), 5; W. Spice, 6. Also another 720 (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Hinds, 1; C. Tribe, 2; P. Hodgkin, 3; H. Brown, 4; W. Spice (conductor), 5; F. Hodg-

kin (first 720 with a bob bell), 6. First 720 in the method by A. Hinds. These are believed to be the first 720s in the method on these for nearly forty years. Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

BOTTESFORD (Leicestershire).—On Sunday morning, July 16th, with the bells muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Duchess of Rutland, two 6-scores of Plain Bob. T. Rawdin, 1; T. Clow (conductor), 2; D. Gilden, 3; W. Twiner, 4; R. Bend, 5; S. Baker, 6. The same was rung for evening service. On Tuesday, July 18th, the day of the funeral, 360 Plain Bob. T. Rawdin, 1; D. Gilden, 2; T. Clow, 3; M. Bend, 4; R. Bend, 5; J. Barker, 6. Also two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. S. Baker (conductor), 1; D. Gilden, 2; M. Bend, 3; T. Clow, 4; R. Bend, 5; J. Barker, 6.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, July 2nd, for Divine Service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (twenty-two bobs and fourteen singles) in 26 mins. T. Watson (conductor), 1; J. Huddleston, 2; W. H. Dennison, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. On Sunday evening, July 16th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen singles and three bobs) in 24 mins. W. Williams, 1; J. Huddleston, 2; W. H. Dennison, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. R. Jackson (conductor), 5; J. Burrows, 6. On Tuesday, August 8th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-six singles) in 25 mins. W. Williams, 1; J. Huddleston, 2; T. P. Jackson, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. R. Jackson (conductor), 5; R. E. Grove (Kidderminster), 6. On Sunday afternoon, August 13th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs) in 25 mins. J. Huddleston, 1; W. H. Dennison, 2; A. F. Hardy, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows (conductor), 6.

EDINBURGH.—On Sunday, July 23rd, 720 Bob Minor. W. R. Fyfe, 1; E. F. Price, 2; C. Ellis, 3; W. C. S. Heathcote (conductor), 4; *R. Whitson, 5; *J. Honeyman, 6. *First 720.

EXETER.—On Thursday, July 13th, at St. Petrock's church, a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. Also 720 Grandsire Minor. T. Mudge, 1; F. Davey, 2; J. Lock, 3; C. Carter, 4; T. Radford, 5; J. Moss, 6. Rung as a compliment to T. Radford. Tenor 5½ cwt. in B flat.

GREAT ADDINGTON (Northants).—On Saturday, July 29th, 720 Bob Minor (forty-two singles). T. Abbott, 1; A. Smeathers, 2; G. Lines, 3; J. Houghton, jun., 4; W. B. Meadows, 5; W. Perkins (conductor), 6. Another 720 (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Houghton, jun. (conductor), 1; T. Abbott, 2; A. Smeathers, 3; G. Lines, 4; W. Perkins, 5; W. B. Meadows, 6.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—On Tuesday, July 4th, for practice at the church of St. Nicholas, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters in 57 mins. E. Fenn, 1; R. Christian, 2; A. Webber, 3; D. Hayward, 4; W. Secrett, 5; J. Souther, 6; G. Read, 7; C. Jackson (Hull, conductor), 8; J. Matthews, 9; F. Pestell, 10.

HEADCORN (Kent).—On Sunday morning, July 9th, after Divine Service at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, 600 Bob Minor. F. Hodgkin, 1; P. Hodgkin, 2; T. Swan, 3; H. Brown, 5; F. Sharp (conductor), 5; W. Spice (conductor), 6. Tenor 24 cwt. in E flat.

HITCHAM (Suffolk).—On Monday, July 3rd, at the parish school-room for practice on handbells, 720 Double Court Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). T. Levett (conductor), 1; J. Francis, 2; J. Manning, 3; A. Grimwood, 4; G. Levett, 5; W. Stiff, 6. First 720 in the method by all except the conductor. Also 720 Plain Bob (six bobs and fourteen singles). T. Levett, 1-2; J. Francis, 3; J. Manning, 4; W. Stiff (conductor), 6.

LONDON.—On Sunday, July 16th, for Divine Service at St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. W. E. Judd, 1; H. G. Miles, 2; H. Richardson, 3; A. E. Bradley, 4; A. F. Harris, 5; W. Fox, 6; W. E. Garrard (conductor), 7; W. J. Miles (first quarter-peal), 8.

MIDDLEWICH (Lancashire).—On Thursday, July 13th, at the parish church, 784 and 336 Bob Major. G. Johnson (conductor), 1; T. Sutton, 2; S. Johnson, 3; S. Foster, 4; R. Chantler, 5; S. Johnson, 6; J. Bell, 7; W. Foster, 8.

NORTON-IN-THE-MOORS (Staffordshire).—On July 6th, 720 Kent in 29 mins. *F. Goldstraw, 1; *W. Goldstraw, 2; E. Johnson, 3; G. Goldstraw, 4; J. H. Naylor, 5; E. Glover (conductor), 6. On Sunday, July 9th, 720 Oxford Bob in 28 mins. F. Goldstraw, 1; W. Scragg, 2; E. Glover, 3; J. H. Naylor, 4; T. Johnson, 5; A. Ryles (conductor), 6. On July 25th, 720 Kent in 29 mins. F. Goldstraw, 1; *W. Scragg, 2; E. Johnson, 3; G. Goldstraw, 4; E. Glover (conductor), 5; T. Johnson, 6. On Thursday, July 27th, 720 Bob Minor in 28 mins. W. Goldstraw, 1; T. Johnson, 2; J. H. Naylor, 3; G. Goldstraw, 4; E. Glover (conductor), 5; Rev. A. H. Hitchcock (Bournemouth), 6. *First in the method.

STOKESLEY (North Yorkshire).—On Sunday, July 16th, 720 Bob Minor. *J. W. Whittle, 1; W. Bennison, 2; *A. C. Bowes, 3; H. H. Bowes, 4; Rev. W. P. Wright (conductor), 5; W. Lane, 6. *First 720; also first 720 by an entirely local band.

HOVE SURPRISE MAJOR. A NEW METHOD.

By GEORGE BAKER, Member of the St. Peter's Society, Brighton.

SIR,—The method here given is not a double method, neither has it a clean proof scale, the false course-ends against 23456 being 32465 and 43265, the same as in Superlative. In this method (unlike Superlative) 2nds and 7ths places are not to be found, the only contiguous places (four in each lead) being made in 5-6 when the treble is dodging in 1-2 and 3-4 up and down. The bells are always in proper coursing order throughout the course in front and behind, so that the tenor dodges only with the 6ths place bell, the 7th, and the treble, this being the third Surprise method published with this quality, the other two being New Cumberland and Norfolk.

The work in 1-2 is all double dodging, each bell doing the same as the full work in Double Norwich, unless the treble intervenes. The work in 7-8 consists of two single dodges, and two three-pull dodges. The interior work is very complicated, and the best way to examine this is to draw a diagram of the plain course, taking one bell in the first lead and following through to the end of course. It will be noticed that there is a dodge in 4-5 in each lead when the treble is lying the whole pull behind, a characteristic not found in any other Surprise method yet published. I shall be pleased to send any member of the Exercise a pen and ink diagram of the plain course on application.

The bob is made in 6ths place, and the calling positions for the tenor come at the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th leads, the hob at 3 brings up the course-end, a short course of 96 changes.

The 6ths place bell being shifted by the bob at 1, there are twelve different ways in which the 6th can be brought home in the last twelve courses of a peal from four different course-ends. The four peals of 5024 changes here given show the 6th at home in the last twelve courses, each from one of the four course-ends respectively.

A LEAD.

12345678

21436587

12346578

21435687

24136578

42315687

24135678

42316587

24361857
42638175
46231857
64328175
46238715
64283751
46827315
64872351
68427531
86472513
68745231
86754213
68574123
86751432
87654123
78561432
87516342
78153624
87513642
78156324
71853642
17586324
71856342
17583624
15738264

BOB ON THE FIRST LEAD-END.

71853642
17586324
71856342
17583624
15738642
51376824
15736842
51378624

BOB LEAD.

15738642 (1)
18674235 (2)
14263578 (3)
17856423 (5)

SCALE OF COURSE-ENDS.

FULL COURSES.				will run
I	2	5	23456	
-	-	63254	3	
-	-	35426	3	
-	-	34256	3	
-	-	35264	5	
-	-	32654	2	
-	-	52364	5	
-	-	54326	2	

SHORT COURSES.

I	2	3	23456	
-	-	42635	5	
-	-	26435	3	
-	-	43652	3	

SCALE FOR PRICKING LEAD-ENDS FOR PROOF.

	I	2	course-end
Plain lead	53264	56243	56342
Bob lead	53642	56432	63542
	Short course		35264

5024

23456	I	2	3	5
32654	-	-	-	-
26354	-	-	-	-
53624	-	-	-	-
36524	-	-	-	-
25634	-	-	-	-
56234	-	-	-	-
62534	-	-	-	-
26435	-	-	-	-
34625	-	-	-	-
46325	-	-	-	-
63425	-	-	-	-
43526	-	-	-	-
32546	-	-	-	-
24536	-	-	-	-
35426	-	-	-	-
52436	-	-	-	-
34256	-	-	-	-
45236	-	-	-	-
53246	-	-	-	-
42356	-	-	-	-
25346	-	-	-	-
54326	-	-	-	-
23456	-	-	-	-

5024

23456	I	2	3	5
32654	-	-	-	-
56234	-	-	-	-
62534	-	-	-	-
25634	-	-	-	-
36524	-	-	-	-
46325	-	-	-	-
56423	-	-	-	-
65324	-	-	-	-
53624	-	-	-	-
26354	-	-	-	-
62453	-	-	-	-
42356	-	-	-	-
53246	-	-	-	-
34256	-	-	-	-
52436	-	-	-	-
24536	-	-	-	-
45236	-	-	-	-
32546	-	-	-	-
25346	-	-	-	-
43526	-	-	-	-
35426	-	-	-	-
54326	-	-	-	-
23456	-	-	-	-

5024.					
23456	I	2	3	5	
32654	-			-	
26354				-	
53624		-		-	
36524				-	
46325	-				
56423	-				
25634	-	-		-	
56234				-	
62534				-	
26435	-			-	
64235				-	
24536	-	-			
45236				-	
52436				-	
34256	-			-	
42356				-	
53246	-			-	
32546				-	
25346				-	
43526	-			-	
35426				-	
54326				-	
23456	-			-	

5024.					
23456	I	2	3	5	
32654	-			-	
26354				-	
53624		-		-	
36524				-	
63425	-			-	
34625				-	
46325				-	
56423	-				
25634	-	-		-	
56234				-	
62534				-	
52436	-	-			
34256	-			-	
45236	-			-	
53246	-			-	
42356	-			-	
25346	-			-	
43526	-			-	
32546	-			-	
24536	-			-	
35426	-			-	
54326	-			-	
23456	-			-	

5056.					
23456	I	2	3	5	
26435	-			-	
64235				-	
42635				-	
64523				-	
45623				-	
65324	-	-		-	
53624				-	
63425	-	-		-	
34625				-	
46325				-	

Continued—

I 2 3 5				
36524	-	-		
25634	-			-
56234				-
62534				-
52436	-	-		
34256	-			-
45236	-			-
32546	-			-
24536	-			-
35426	-			-
54326				-
43526				-
25346	-			-
53246				-
42356	-			-
23456				-

5088.

I 2 3 5				
23456	I	2	3	5
32654	-			-
63425				-
34625				-
64523	-	-		
45623				-
65324	-	-		
53624				-
36524				-
25634	-			-
56234				-
62534				-
36245	-	-		-
64235	-			-
24536	-	-		
35426	-			-
54326				-
42356	-			-
25346	-			-
43526	-			-
32546	-			-
45236	-			-
53246	-			-
34256	-			-
52436	-			-
23456	-			-

5120.

I 2 3 5				
23456	I	2	3	5
32654	-			-
56234				-
62534				-
25634				-
36524	-			-
65324				-
56423	-			-
46325	-	-		
63425				-
34625				-
26435	-			-
64235				-
24536	-	-		
45236	-			-
32546	-			-
25346	-			-
43526	-			-

Continued—

I 2 3 5				
35426				-
54326				-
42356	-			-
53246	-			-
34256	-			-
52436	-			-
23456	-			-

5152.

I 2 3 5				
23456	I	2	3	5
32654	-			-
56234				-
62534				-
25634				-
36524	-			-
65324				-
56423	-			-
64523				-
46325	-			-
63425				-
26354	-	-		-
53624	-			-
32546	-			-
24536	-			-
35426	-			-
52436	-			-
34256	-			-
45236	-			-
53246	-			-
42356	-			-
25346	-			-
54326	-			-
23456	-			-

5376.

I 2 3 5				
23456	I	2	3	5
54326	-			-
43526	-			-
35426	-			-
24536	-			-
42635	-			-
36245	-			-
62345	-			-
23645	-			-

6048.

I 2 3 5				
23456	I	2	3	5
54326	-			-
43526	-			-
35426	-			-
24536	-			-
45236	-			-
52436	-			-
35264	-			-
52364	-			-
23564	-			-

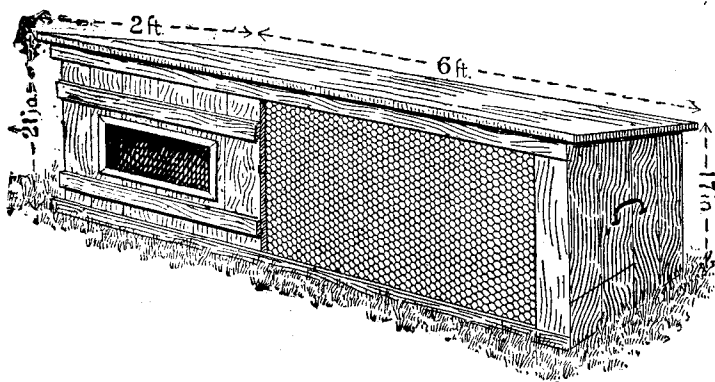
Twice repeated.

By omitting the six bobs braced in one part, this peal is reduced to 5152.

N.B.—The above method was composed on May 2nd, 1898.

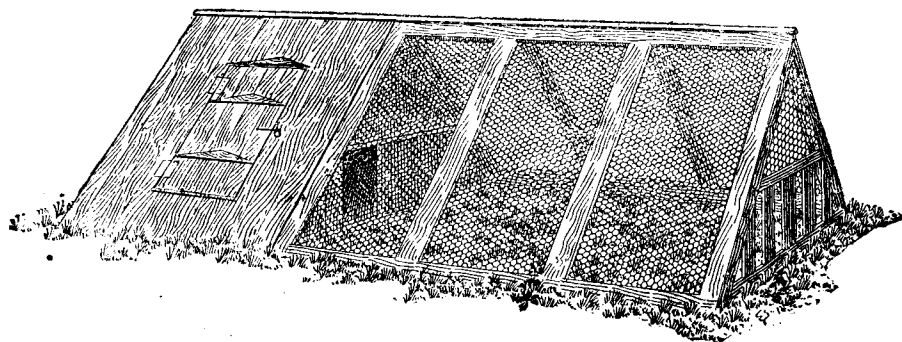
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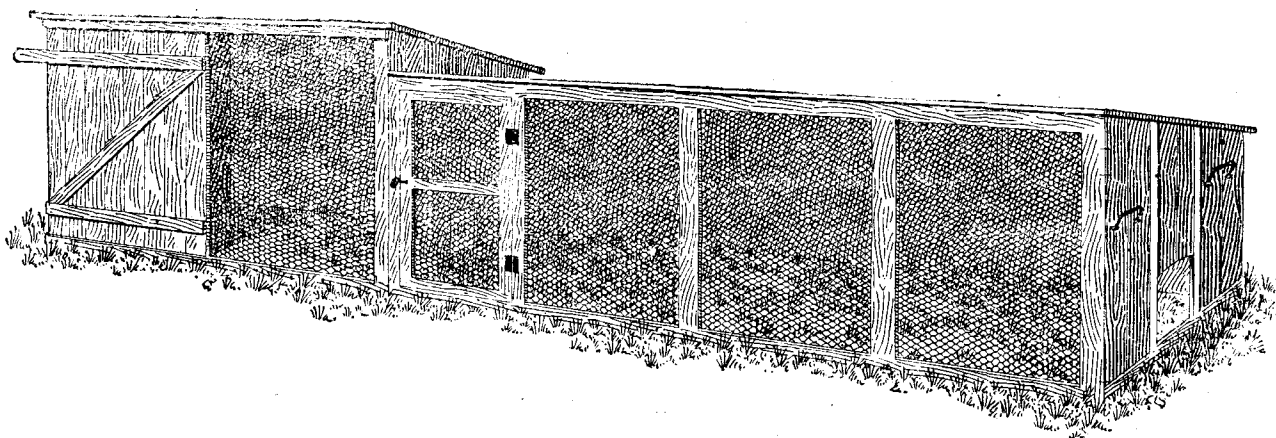
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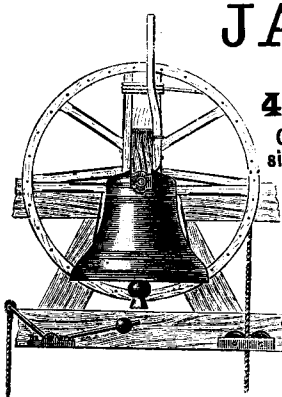
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No. 287.	"Orange and Blue," Scotch Air		1 6
No. 319.	"Hark the bonny Christ Church Bells," varied		1 6
The above are for 6 ringers with 13 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.A.			
The next are for 6 ringers with 12 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.			
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. 908.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1899.

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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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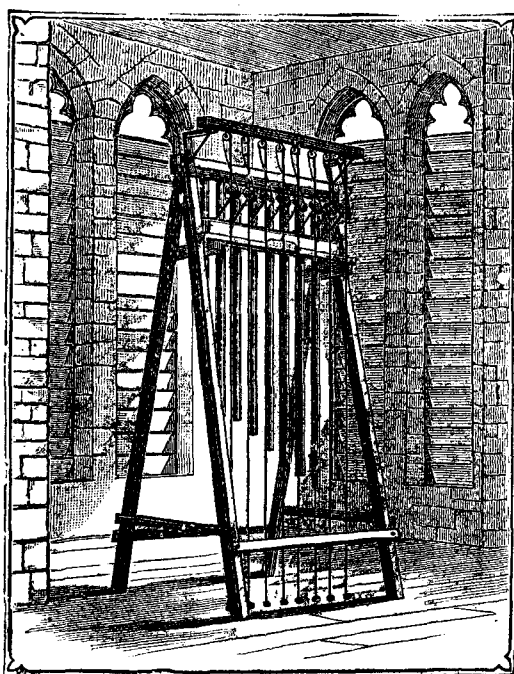
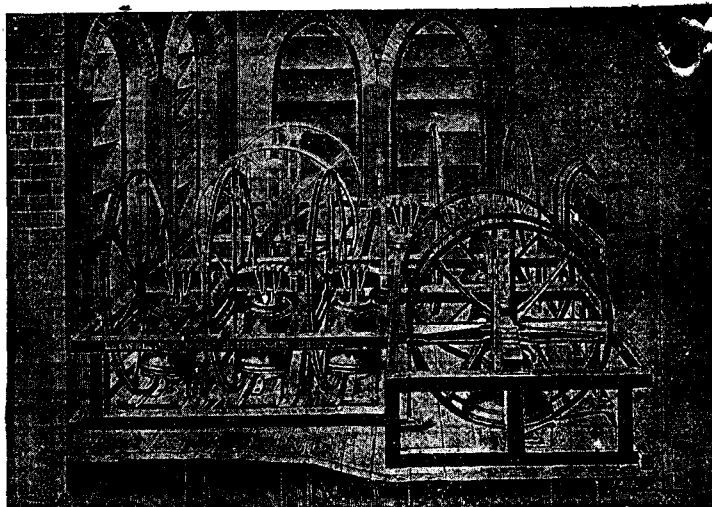
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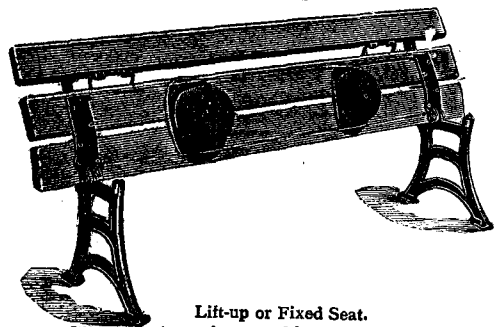
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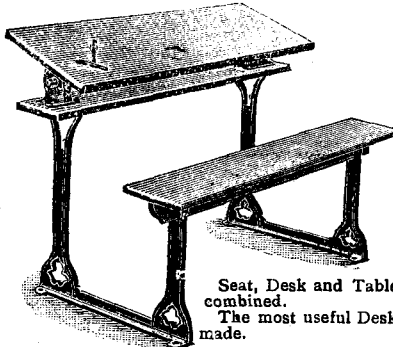
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 908.]

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

FORMATION OF A CLERICAL GUILD.

ON Monday, August 21st, a meeting of some of the junior clergy of Leicester was held in St. Mark's tower, at which it was decided to form a "Leicester Clerical Guild of Change-Ringers." Nine clergymen who were present gave in their names, and it was announced that several others had promised to join. The Rev. H. Drake (St. Mark's) was elected Master, and the Rev. A. J. Meakin (St. Margaret's), Secretary. The office of President was left vacant, as it was hoped some of the Vicars of Leicester might join.

It was decided not to have any subscription, so no Treasurer was appointed.

Meetings are to be held every Monday at 10.0 a.m. in St. Mark's tower for the present, and a weekly handbell practice is also arranged for.

This is an advance in the right direction for Leicester, for twelve months ago the oldest ringer could not remember any Leicester clergyman who had rung in a Leicester tower.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(NORTH AND EAST DISTRICT.)

A very pleasant meeting of the members of the above Association was held at Stanmore on Saturday, the 26th August. There were upwards of thirty ringers present, Gospel Oak supplying by far the largest contingent. More were expected from towers closer at hand, but in spite of their absence, the meeting was fairly representative. Barnet, Hornsey, Heston, Edgware, Gospel Oak, Harrow Weald, and even far distant Walthamstow sending one or more members to meet their brother-ringers.

Five new members were elected; making in all some eighty ringers added to the roll of the Association during the past year from this district alone.

The Hon. Secretary congratulated the local band upon the businesslike way in which their Secretary, Mr. Heading, conducted the correspondence with him on matters relating to the Association. He pointed out that it largely rested with them, as pioneers of method-ringing in that part of the county, to extend the Art, and he felt confident that help would never be asked of them in vain by their brother-ringers in the neighbourhood. He hoped that they would afford an especial welcome to their brethren of Harrow Weald, some of whom were desirous of becoming method-ringers, and testified to their desire by being present on that occasion.

The bells at Stanmore are very sweet in tone, but are somewhat noisy in the belfry. It is a defect which could easily be remedied, and not only would it be a distinct encouragement to the ringers, but it would conduce to their greater efficiency, if the matter could be taken in hand at once.

A vote of thanks to the Rector for the use of his bells brought an unusually interesting meeting to a close.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 26th, the Annual Meeting of the Rochester District of this Association took place at the church of St. Mary Magdalene, Gillingham. The weather was delightfully fine and warm, and a goodly number of ringers put in an appearance from Gillingham, Chatham, Rochester, Frindsbury, Maidstone, Gravesend, etc.

A capital meat tea was provided in the National Schoolroom, to which about sixty sat down; grace being said before and after by Mr. A. Osborne, Hon. District Secretary.

The business meeting took place immediately after tea, Mr. W. Martin (of Swanscombe) being voted to the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. Messrs. A. Duncan and F. Moore (of Chatham) were advanced from probationers to full members. Mr. A. Osborne was unanimously re-elected to fill the office of Hon. District Secretary, which he has filled for several years past to the great satisfaction of the district. Mr. Osborne returned thanks for the confidence reposed in him. Mr. F. Hayes (of Milton) was re-elected to represent the district on the Central Committee, and he also returned thanks for his re-election.

A vote was next taken as to where the next district meeting was to be held, and Hartlip was decided on.

Mr. Hayes was instructed to support at the central committee meeting that the Annual General Meeting be held on a Saturday instead of Whit-Monday as heretofore.

Mr. W. Hunt moved a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the schoolroom and the bells; also to Mr. Hopper (of Rochester), for the very excellent tea he had provided. Mr. A. Marshall seconded, and it was carried unanimously.

Through the kindness of the Rector of Chatham, the bells of St. Mary's, also those of Gillingham, were kept going during the afternoon and evening in Superlative, Double Norwich, Stedman, Treble Bob, and Grandsire, by mixed companies.

THE ST. WERBURGH'S SOCIETY, BRISTOL.

The members of this society, with their ladies, had a grand day on Monday, August 7th. They left Stapleton Road station at 6.20 a.m. for Torquay, calling at Newton Abbot about 10.0, where they rang Grandsire Doubles and Minor. Then dinner, to which the usual full justice was done; and a visit to the grand old church of St. Mary, Kingsteignton, where several 6-scores of Grandsire were rung. After tea several places of interest were visited, and a most gratifying day was spent; home being reached about 2.10 a.m. The members thank the clergy for the use of their bells, and the steeplekeepers for their kindness.

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.

STREATHAM, SURREY.

"What are the bells ringing for?" "Why, haven't you heard? it's the Rector's birthday." Any one living within sound of the parish church bells might have heard the foregoing freely exchanged in all directions on Saturday morning, August 19th. Well, soon after 8.0 a.m. the ringers ascended the tower and rang several touches with "three times three" by firing the bells as a mark of respect to the venerable Rector, who had attained his ninetieth birthday that day. This was a little surprise, and gave great pleasure to him. A special messenger was dispatched to Mr. Greenwood with a very kind letter of thanks, together with a most liberal donation for the ringers.

Meeting again in the evening, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor was rung by Messrs. S. Greenwood (conductor), G. Barrington, J. Waldock, H. Pates, R. Blanchard, and S. Pell; finishing up with a few more "volleys," and off to the meeting-house to drink the worthy Rector many more years of health and happiness.

It may not be out of place to state that the reverend and venerable gentleman has celebrated his golden wedding and his jubilee as Rector. He still preaches; and is often present at the 8.0 a.m. celebration.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

BRISTOL BRANCH.

The monthly meeting of this branch was held on Saturday last, at Dursley, when about twenty ringers were present.

Short services was held at the parish church, conducted by the Rev. N. W. Gresley.

Several touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples were rung on the bells.

After ringing was over a short meeting was held in the belfry.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

It was proposed by the Rev. H. A. Cooley, seconded by C. E. D. Boutflower, Esq., and carried unanimously: "That the next meeting be held at Chippenham, on September 30th." Eleven new members were elected.

The various towers represented were (St. Stephen's, St. George, Stapleton), Bristol, Bitton, Wootton-under-Edge, Stinchcombe, and Dursley. C. H. G.

A WEEK END IN OXFORD.

On Saturday, August 19th, several members of the Ancient Society of College Youths from London, viz.: Messrs. A. W. Brighton, J. R. Sharman, T. H. Taffender, T. Faulkner, and C. F. Winney, with the Rev. F. E. Robinson, of Drayton, R. T. Hibberd, from Caversham, J. George, of Rugby, and F. Hopgood, from Reading, visited Oxford to attempt a peal of Stedman Cinquses, at Christ Church Cathedral. 5.30 p.m. was the order to meet, but a start was not made until 6.45 p.m., but after two hours the ringing ceased. We then adjourned to the head-quarters of the Oxford Society in Cornmarket Street, where we were highly entertained by the Oxford men, the time being passed in conversation and touches on the handbells, but 11 p.m. came all too soon, the announcement being by the sudden failure of the electric light. By this time F. Hopwood had to depart to Reading by cycle. Messrs. Brighton, Faulkner, J. George, Hibberd,

Sharman, Taffender, and C. F. Winney, with Mr. C. Hounslow, retired to the house of Host Birt, of the Exchange Restaurant, George Street, where the knife and fork changes were rung on the good things provided. Sunday found us early astir to Kidlington, of long peal renown, to ring for morning service. A brake having been chartered, five of us started en route; Kidlington being reached at 10 a.m., where Mr. Judge was waiting to meet us. A look round the church, and an inspection of the bell frame, then touches of Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung. The inner man having been refreshed a splendid drive was had through the country, Oxford being reached at 11 p.m.

After dinner a course of Grandsire Cinquses was rung on the handbells. T. H. Taffender, 1-2; R. T. Hibberd, 3-4; C. T. Winney, 5-6; T. Faulkner, 7-8; A. W. Brighton, 9-10; J. George, 11-12. To ring at Merton College at 3 p.m., was the next on the programme, but through a misunderstanding permission to ring had not been obtained, but with Mr. C. Hounslow in charge, we viewed the famous ringing gallery. Then a walk through Christ Church Meadow, and to ring for the 5 p.m. service at the Cathedral. Tea having been had, T. H. Taffender and T. Faulkner had to leave to catch the 5.50 train to return to Great Marlow, from whence they had come on Saturday, the others to ring at All Saints', finally leaving at 7.25 p.m. for their respective destinations after having spent an enjoyable week end, through the above management, and conductorship of Messrs. C. Hounslow, A. Fox, W. J. Smith, E. Hims, and H. G. Judge, to whom our best thanks are due, also the excellent manner in which Host Birt catered for us. T.

THE ST. MICHAEL'S SOCIETY, MELBOURNE, DERBYSHIRE.

On Saturday, July 29th, the above society visited Bakewell. They were met at Derby by Mr. Draper, who joined the party, Bakewell being reached at 11.15, repairing at once to The Castle Hotel, where they were joined by Mr. Smith, who had kindly made all arrangements. After partaking of slight refreshments, some of the party preferred a game at billiards, and others a stroll through the recreation grounds. Dinner was the next item, and this met with the usual fate. Afterwards the church was visited, and the bells were raised, a well struck 420 of Oxford Bob Triples, conducted by F. Hollingworth, being rung. Then a visit to Haddon Hall, the historical building being inspected. On returning to Bakewell the party were pleased to meet their friend Mr. Ward of Derby, who had cycled through. The bells were set going again and touches of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major, and two courses of Stedman Triples were rung by Messrs. S. Hollingworth, A. Lee, G. C. Tunnicliff, F. Hollingworth, L. Hollingworth, C. Draper, A. Ward, G. Tomlin, W. Malins, R. Smith, and W. Earle. The bells were then lowered and light refreshments were served. After drinking healths and bidding all farewell the party were soon en route for Derby, which they reached at 10 p.m. The next part of the journey was by brake, home being reached at 11.45, which brought to a close one of the most enjoyable excursions of the Society.

The visitors wish to thank the Vicar of Bakewell for his kindness in granting them permission to ring, and the steeplekeeper for having everything in readiness.

A PEAL OF 362,880 GRANDSIRE CATERS, 6d.
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CURRENT TOPICS.

At last we have some delightful weather. Copious showers of generous rain are falling while I am penning these lines, cooling the parched earth, and furbishing up (if I may use such a term) all the dormant vegetation. The little grass plat in front of my parlour (cockneys would say "drawing-room") window looks as fresh as ever, and the dwarf fir I have had planted to prevent the gaze and stare of the vulgar has evidently received a new lease of life. Of course others have gladly experienced the beautiful change like myself, and like myself, feel thankful.

It is no hard matter to contemplate at such times as these the wisdom of a bounteous Creator. Such a continued length of dry weather that we have had made husbandmen very dissatisfied and very apt to grumble. Now the feared drought is forgotten, and just in the nick of time the rain has come to mature and revivify "the kindly fruits of the earth," so that, as we pray in our beautiful Litany, "in due time we may enjoy them." There is also a promise that while this earth remains seed-time and harvest time shall not cease.

That was a very satisfactory and most interesting meeting of the Chester Guild at Grappenhall the other day. There was a good array of clergy present, and the Lord Bishop of the Diocese preached. This was a gilt-edged day for the parish of Grappenhall. A very few years ago the church had but six bells, and scientific ringing was well, "nowhere." A few brave and good men have changed all this. Now there is a ring of eight, and a company who know how to handle them in the choicest of methods. The worthy Vicar and his ringers must be complimented on the change for the best which has taken place in his parish from a ringer's point of view. "Praise Him on the loud cymbals" is I believe a favorite idea of the Vicar of Grappenhall.

My old friend Mr. W. H. Judd, of Southend-on-Sea, is as every one knows, of a humorous turn. I see that in sending the reports of some touches the other day he forgot the name of the youth who rung the tenor. To get out of the difficulty he writes:—"A. Yob." Very good, friend; but I wonder it passed muster.

Another new ring of bells in Ireland! and another peal; this time it is Double Norwich; the first in the method in the island. The account of the opening was very interesting; so was the record of the peal, conducted by Mr. John Taylor, jun.

I notice that almost every ringing visitor to Ireland seems bound to pay a visit to the brewing establishment of Guinness. I see not the least objection in doing so; I merely mention it as a fact. I believe it to be one of the great sights of the Irish metropolis, but there seems to me a wonderful singularity in everybody going over this celebrated brewery. I dare say my friend Lindoff, when I visit him in Ireland, will say—"Of course you will go and see the brewery?" And I shall say—"Yes, certainly."

Some of you recollect that funny song—"The Private Still." This is an Hibernian joke. I'll tell it you as well as I can. Every one knows to what a degree the practice of illicit distillation of spirits at one time

abounded in Ireland. Excisemen, called "gaugers," were out everywhere day and night for the detection of these "private stills," and a good reward being offered for their discovery made the gauger on the alert. One of these officers once accosted a simple-looking Hibernian, and asked him if he knew where a private still was to be found. The reply was in the affirmative. The gauger promised liberal payment both in money and kind for the information. So they went together to look after the "private still."

The gauger was very free in standing treat, and the peasant took him about from place to place to show him the sights of Dublin. The different points of interest were mentioned so often that the gauger got wild, and in forcible language kept notifying that he did not want this, that, or the other; he wanted the "private still." At last, when the Exciseman was nearly maddened with the idea that he was being fooled, they came to a barracks, and the soldiers being at drill, the simple-looking Irishman, pointing to a man in the ranks sung to the gauger—

There goes my brother Bill,
They won't make him a corporal yet,
So he's a private still.

After this—tableau! Don't ask to see a private still when you go to Ireland—Guinness's brewery for preference.

I recently made an allusion to the late Lord Palmerston, and a correspondent writes to say that there are many anecdotes of his lordship which would interest my readers. He sends me one. There are many who will recollect Palmerston's jaunty and sometimes amusing style; and on the hustings at an election he was generally in very good form. He was member for Tiverton (Som.), and whenever he addressed his constituents there there was a little heckling by a local Radical butcher named "Rowcliffe." This man was always present at the open-air speaking at Tiverton to give Lord Palmerston a "bit of his mind," but the old Minister always got the best of the encounter. Rowcliffe this time declared Lord Palmerston was a downright Tory, and the best representative the Tories could possibly have. He hoped his lordship would answer his questions in an honest manner. Lord Palmerston said "he was delighted to find that his old friend, however far advanced in years, retained that youthful vigour which he possessed when first he knew him, and with his vigour he had retained also his prejudices and opinions (laughter and a cry of 'no chaff.')

His friend asked for a straightforward answer, and he would give him one. He totally disagreed with him in almost all his opinions (laughter). He thought the day would never come when he and Mr. Rowcliffe would agree in political faith (much laughter). His friend asked him what he thought on many points. In the first place he would say he was opposed to the ballot. He was against manhood suffrage. (Rowcliffe: 'How far will you go with the suffrage?') He would give a straightforward answer to that. He would not tell him (laughter). He held it was his duty after the confidence they had reposed in him to act according to his judgment in any measure relating to Reform (cheers). He hoped that the political difference between his friend and himself would not alter their private friendship (much laughter). He was sorry to disagree with his friend, but no man could agree with everybody. The man who did agree with everybody was not worth having anybody to agree with him (cheers and laughter).

PLAIN SPEAKER.

EXCURSION TO WALMER AND DOVER.

On Monday, July 3rd, the Chislehurst and Bromley ringers, with a few friends, enjoyed a trip to the above-mentioned places. Leaving Bromley at 7.45 a.m., the party arrived at Walmer at 10.45, the journey being enlivened en route by several touches on the handbells. Partaking of a slight refreshment at The Railway Hotel, the company were soon on the way to the church, which possesses a new ring of eight bells, tenor 19 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt. Permission to ring had previously been obtained, and therefore the worthy steeple-keeper—Mr. J. Burnap—was soon in attendance, and until dinner-time, 12.30, touches of Plain and Oxford Bob, and Grandsire Triples, were rung. The host of the house above-named had a good dinner just in time, and the hearty ringers soon spoil the looks of the good things upon the table. The 1.37 train for Dover having to be met, no time was to be lost, and that seaport was reached about 2.0. Permission to ring at 3.0 having been granted, a walk through the town was had during the interval of waiting. The hour having arrived, and simultaneously the sexton of St. Mary's, who ushered the visitors into the ringing-chamber, some Bob Major was rung, the first in the method on the bells for over forty years. As this touch was completed, to the company's great surprise and immense satisfaction, who should walk into the apartment but Mr. Potter, the steeple-keeper at St. James's, inviting them to have a pull on the ring of six there! Needless to say that such an invitation was accepted.

A few more touches of Plain and Oxford Bob and Grandsire Triples, Mr. Potter standing in; a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles was rung for the steeplekeeper to "essay his infant skill." And justly proud he was at achieving his first 6-score. The bells were then lowered, and all at once repaid to the church of St. James, where an 18-score of Bob Minor, and a 6-score each of Stedman and Grandsire Doubles were pulled off. This concluded the ringing. With feelings of thankfulness to the various authorities for granting permission to ring, and to the steeplekeepers for their courtesy, the party arrived safely home in Bromley an hour before midnight; fully aware of the fact that they had had an enjoyable day.

VISIT TO MIDHURST, SUSSEX.

The Gosport Holy Trinity Society visited Midhurst on Monday, August 7th. They left Portsmouth at 10 a.m., arriving at their destination about noon. After dinner, they were met by Messrs. Elliss and Best, who showed them over the tower and church. Then a visit to the ruins of Cowdray House, and a ramble over the hills which form a part of Cowdray Park, the seat of the Earl of Egmont. Here is the oak under which Queen Elizabeth used to pass; and part of the herd of deer for which the park is noted, showed themselves to the visitors. Directly after tea the tower was visited, and the bells, which are a pretty ring of six, were rung in Bob Minor and Grandsire Doubles. Then a brake was chartered, and a drive round the country enjoyed, reaching the railway station just before 9.0 p.m., in good time to depart for home, which was reached at 11.0. The company desire to thank the Vicar for permission to ring, and Messrs. Ellis and Best for their kindness.

NORTH'S ENGLISH BELLS AND BELL LORE.

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Correspondence.

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

THE BOGUS BERMONDSEY PEAL.

SIR,—I wish to enter a protest against a certain peal being included in this year's analysis which in due course will be compiled by those gentlemen—Messrs. Attree and Baker.

We have recently been treated to some frantic endeavours by Mr. W. Pye to purge the Exercise, and extract the mote from his opponent's eye—while ignoring the beam in his own. If his efforts were genuine, I heartily agree with him, and will help him to do it, but I shall take the material closest to hand. That material is W. Pye himself. I herewith intend to firmly administer to him a dose of his own medicine, and will prove beyond doubt in the correspondence which is bound to follow the publication of this letter that there is something rotten in the state of Denmark (or shall we say Essex?).

The peal (*sic*) of Stedman Caters composed by G. Lindoff, and conducted by W. Pye, rung at St. James's, Bermondsey, on January 19th, was a fraud!

In the last course there was a general smash-up, and the bells were fired into rounds, as was intimated in your editorial of August 5th.

This did not, however, prevent the ambitious conductor from publishing it as a peal in this paper of January 28th, with half-a-dozen stars in it. When the band came down the tower they waited about outside to see if anyone had "spotted" the performance, but as none appeared Mr. W. Pye thought it safe to publish it. But the "peal" was heard right through. I hope this indictment is sufficiently clear, and I challenge W. Pye to answer; after which I shall have something more to say.

WILLIAM WILLSON.

"DOUBLE NORWICH TREBLE BOB."

SIR,—Will you allow me to apologize to the Exercise for unwittingly publishing an old method as a new one. It turns out to be "Norfolk Surprise," of which the original author was the Rev. E. B. James; as well as "Arundel Surprise," discovered by Mr. George Baker, who conducted the first peal in the method.

E. W. CARPENTER.

NOTE TO PEAL.

THE PEAL AT BUSHEY.—This peal was rung as a farewell to Mr. F. Edwards, who is leaving the neighbourhood, having been a member of the Bushey Society since its formation in 1887. At the conclusion of the peal the Rector (the Rev. G. Montague Hall), Mr. J. Field (churchwarden), and other members, visited the tower. The Rector, in a few well-chosen remarks, presented Mr. Edwards with a timepiece, suitably inscribed, on behalf of the society, the members of whom heartily wish him prosperity in his new home. This was Mr. Edwards's fiftieth peal.

CHEPSTOW (Monmouthshire).—On Wednesday, July 26th, an attempt for a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples came to grief after ringing 1160 changes. A. Paddock (longest length), 1; G. Hobson, 2; J. Prickett, 3; W. Freestone, 4; J. Morley, 5; G. Vick, 6; R. Thompson (conductor), 7; F. Bye, 8. On Sunday evening, July 30th, for Divine Service, 630 Darlaston Bob Triples. A. Paddock, 1; G. Hobson, 2; J. Prickett, 3; J. Smith, 4; W. Freestone, 5; J. Morley, 6; R. Thompson (conductor), 7; G. Daniels, 8. On Monday, August 7th, 720 Grandsire Minor with 7-8 covering. C. Mackie (first 720), 2; J. Prickett, 3; G. Hobson, 4; T. Collinson, 5; J. Morley, 6; R. Thompson (conductor), 7; F. Bye, 8.

Situations Vacant.

STEADY Young Man as Coachman, and to assist occasionally in garden. About 25 years of age. Apply, Editor.

WANTED, GARDENER. Good wages given. House and coal found. Must be change-ringer on eight bells. Apply—Thos. T. HAYWARD, Midsomer Norton, near Bath.

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 East Derbyshire Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Bolsover, to-day, Saturday, September 2nd. Meeting at 5.30 p.m. T. ALLIBONE, Secretary.
North Wingfield, Chesterfield.

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The monthly meeting of this Association will be held at Cheadle to-day, Saturday, September 2nd. W. TWIGG, Hon. Sec.

Lancashire Association.—Next monthly meeting at Aughton to-day, Saturday, September 2nd. Tower open at 3 o'clock, when the chair will be taken by the Rector. There will be an election of officers for the branch, and it is hoped that as many will attend as possible. G. WOODHALL, Branch Sec.

The Sheffield District Society.—The monthly meeting takes place at Bolsterstone, to-day, Saturday, September 2nd. K. HARRISON, Hon. Sec.

The Salop Guild.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Shrewsbury, on Saturday, September 9th, 1899. Service at St. Chad's church at 3.30 p.m. Address by the Rev. T. J. Rider, Vicar of Baschurch. Ringing at 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. Business meeting at 4.15 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. J. MACKAY, Holy Trinity Vicarage, Shrewsbury. Hon. Sec.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Middleton, on Saturday, September 9th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6.30. Members not having paid their subscriptions of this branch will kindly do so on or before September 9th. All ringers invited. E. B. SHAW, Branch Sec.

The Llandaff Diocesan Association.—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, September 9th, at Treveithing, Mon. There will be shortened evensong in church at 4.30. The meeting at the adjoining schoolroom at 5 o'clock. Business—(1) to present annual statement of account; (2) to appoint officers for the ensuing year; (3) to enrol new members; (4) to fix place of next annual meeting; (5) any other. The bells will be available for ringing all day. Ringers are particularly requested to make a special effort to attend this meeting. REV. D. H. GRIFFITHS, M.A.
39, Charles Street, Cardiff.

H. G. WHITE,
18, Cymmer Street, Cardiff. Hon. Secs.

Oxford Diocesan Guild.—East Berks. and South Bucks. Branch.—The next monthly meeting for six-bell practice will be held at Winkfield on Saturday, September 9th. Ringing to commence at 3 p.m.

H. C. BELL, Branch Sec.
Boyne Hill, Maidenhead.

The Lancashire Association of Six-Bell Ringers.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Standish on Saturday, September 9th. JAMES HIGSON, Sec.
60, Church Street, Blackrod.

The Heavy Woollen District Association.—The monthly meeting of this Association will be held on Saturday, September 9th, at Batley Carr. Meeting to be held at The Cambridge Arms at 5 o'clock. WALTER IDLE, Secretary.
47, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury.

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—A meeting will be held at Helmshore on Saturday, September 16th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. J. H. BANKS, Hon. Sec.
Helmshore.

The Yorkshire Association.—The next general meeting will be held at Keighley on Saturday, September 16th. Parish church bells at liberty from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Committee meeting at 4; tea at 5; business meeting afterwards. The local Hon. Sec. is Mr. Wilson Bartle, 12, Acres Street, Keighley. BEN. T. COPELY, Hon. Sec.
14, Hillside Terrace, Bradford.

The Essex Association.—A district meeting of this Association will be held on Saturday, September 23rd, at Mistley. The towers of Mistley (6 bells) and Harwich (8 bells) will be open for ringing. Tea and business meeting at The Thorn inn at 4.45. Members intending to be present must notify the same to me not later than the previous Tuesday. HENRY T. W. EYRE, Asst. Sec.
Great Totham Vicarage, Witham.

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The next committee and quarterly meeting of this Association, by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. S. Phillips), will be held in the Chantry of St. Mary's church, Kidderminster, on Saturday, September 23rd. Service in the church at 5 o'clock; business meeting afterwards. The tower will be open for ringing. J. SMITH, Hon. Sec.
36, Simms Lane, Netherton.

The Middlesex County Association.—The annual meeting of this Association has been unavoidably postponed from the 9th to the 23rd September, and will be held at Hillingdon. Members are requested to take note of the altered date, and to make arrangements for attending the meeting. It would facilitate matters if those intending to be present would kindly signify their intention to the Hon. Secretaries. Further particulars will be announced later. C. EDWARDS, } Hon. Secs.
ARTHUR T. KING, }

Central Northamptonshire Association.—The Secretary regrets to say that the quarterly meeting arranged for the district of Whiston, Grendon, and Castle Ashby, will have to be postponed from August 26th until September 30th. E. J. DENNES.

The Lancashire Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Preston on Saturday, September 30th. Further particulars by circular. All reports of ringing during the past year ending August 31st, should be forwarded to the Ringing Secretary, Mr. J. Shepherd, 1, Venture Street, Bacup. All other matter to the General Secretary, Mr. A. E. Wreaks, 41, Gibbon Street, Bolton.

A. E. WREAKS, } Secretaries.
J. WILSON, }
J. SHEPHERD, }

Waltham Abbey, Essex.—In consequence of the impending complete restoration and re-hanging of these bells, the usual meetings at the tower for practice are suspended until further notice. FRANK CARTER, Hon. Sec.

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. ROWE, Upminster, Essex.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

SITUATION required by a married man, aged 31, without family, in a month or by the 11th of October as Gardener, singlehanded. Can manage Cucumbers, Melons, Tomatoes, etc., and the general work of a well-kept garden. Highest references. A change-ringer on six or eight bells. Apply John Gaymer Miles, Point Cottages, Attleboro, Norfolk.

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.

SITUATION wanted by Brushmaker. Change-ringer on 6, 8, or 10 bells.—A. Shuffelebotham, 62, Wellington Road, Hanley, Staffs.

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

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THE OFFICE, OR
THE HOUSE.**

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ROPE-SIGHT: 1s. 6d. FOURTH EDITION
Commences by explaining how to manage a bell; deals with Change-Ringing on three, four, five, six, seven and eight bells in the **PLAIN BOB METHOD**, giving touches and peals in each case; and closes with instructions for conducting, etc., etc. (143 pages).

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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, SEPTEMBER 2, 1899.

THE formation of a Clerical Guild of Change-Ringers is a new departure from the usual manner of things. We advocate as strongly as possible the establishment of Diocesan, County, and District Guilds, especially the first-named, but we must confess that the idea of a Clerical Guild never occurred to us before.

The gentlemen answerable for the particulars of this new Guild, which may be read on another page, assert that the movement is a step in the right direction, and we have not the slightest reason for doubting the statement. Whatever steps may be taken to bring into line with us the clergy as a body, must tend to benefit the Art of change-ringing. We rejoice in the fact that our ranks are becoming well leavened by the presence and close contact of men of education and refinement. May the leaven be strengthened day by day.

But what we would in all deference say in connection with this Clerical Guild is that we hope the members may be in earnest. We beg of those gentlemen who have joined to do their best to become, not merely ornamental

members of a scientific and fascinating Exercise, but useful ones, striving to their utmost to extend a knowledge of the Art, while maintaining for it that character which its excellences deserve. There is nothing whatever in the pursuit of ringing inconsistent with the work of the Christian Ministry; quite the contrary. Change-ringing may become a valuable handmaid to religion where a little tact is practised with the ringers.

No doubt the operations of this new body will be watched with great interest, assuming that its proceedings are made public from time to time.

THE CHURCH BELL OF GLENGARRY, INVERNESS.

With this number we publish photographs of both sides of a church bell cast by Messrs. John Taylor to the order of the Right Honourable Lord Burton. Its diameter is 3-ft. 2½ ins., note A flat, and weight 10 cwt. 2 qrs. 19 lbs.

The ornamentation of this bell is very elaborate. The arms are those of his lordship. This kind of work is known as *cire perdue*; Messrs. Taylor's object, we believe, was to show that English founders could execute artistic work of the kind quite as well as (we should say better than) any foreign founder. Every one will admit that this bell is a work of art.

The Provinces.

BISHOPS STORTFORD.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, August 29, 1899, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt.

HENRY J. TUCKER Treble.	FREDERICK J. PITSTOW .. 6.
ARTHUR F. JAMES 2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
FREDERICK PITSTOW 3.	JOHN F. PENNING 8.
ERNEST PITSTOW 4.	NATHAN J. PITSTOW .. 9.
ALFRED E. PITSTOW 5.	CORNELIUS CHARGE Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY JOHNSON, and Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

This is the first peal of Stedman on the bells.

EASTBOURNE.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 26, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 8½ cwt.

KEITH HART Treble.	THOMAS PRICE 5.
GEORGE H. HOWSE 2.	*JOSEPH SHARP 6.
GEORGE HEAD 3.	GEORGE WILLIAMS 7.
JOHN HACK 4.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

*First peal of Stedman. First peal of Stedman on the bells.

HAWLEY, HANTS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 26, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

ALFRED E. REEVES Treble.	JAMES HUNT 5.
ERNEST ALLEN 2.	CHARLES GILES 6.
ARTHUR W. HIGGS 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
BARZILLAI HAWKINS .. 4.	MAURICE STEER Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

HARROLD, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 26, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

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.

FRANK WEBB Treble.	WILLIAM J. BARKER .. 4.
JAMES AUSTIN SMITH .. 2.	ALBERT ROBINSON .. 5.
CHARLES WM. CLARKE .. 3.	CHARLES CHASTY Tenor.

Conducted by C. W. CLARKE.

BUSHEY, HERTS.—THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 28, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 13 cwt.

ERNEST E. HUNTLEY .. Treble.	WILLIAM G. WHITEHEAD .. 5.
HUBERT EDEN* 2.	FRANCIS A. SMITH 6.
BERTRAM PREWITT 3.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 7.
FREDERICK EDWARDS .. 4.	WILLIAM I. OAKLEY Tenor.

Conducted by ERNEST E. HUNTLEY.

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

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, August 29, 1899, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 30½ cwt. in D.

JOHN SMITH Treble.	WM. A. MASTERS 6.
W. H. INGLESANT 2.	JOS. HARDY 7.
ARTHUR W. MATTHEWS .. 3.	JAMES HUTCHBY 8.
ERNEST W. CARTWRIGHT .. 4.	W. R. HENSHER 9.
SAMUEL SMITH 5.	JOHN W. TAYLOR, JUN. .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN COX, and Conducted by JOHN W. TAYLOR, JUN.

W. R. Hensher, of Kettering, was elected a member of the above Association before starting for the peal. First peal on the bells since they were recast by John Taylor and Co.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Sunday, August 10th, at Christ Church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. C. E. Waugh, 1; H. Ross, 2; G. Dix, 3; E. Hern (first 720 with a bob bell), 4; J. Browell, 5; A. Tully, 6; A. Dowell, 7.

WINLATON (Durham).—On Thursday, July 27th, for practice, 720 Woodbine. G. T. Ross, 1; T. T. Gofton (conductor), 2; J. B. Dobson, 3; Z. Scott, 4; W. C. Bennett, 5; J. Pattison, 6. On Thursday, August 10th, 720 Double Oxford. O. Jobling, 1; G. T. Ross, 2; J. B. Dobson, 3; Z. Scott, 4; T. T. Gofton (conductor), 5; J. Pattison, 6. First 720 in the method by all except the conductor. On Thursday, August 17th, 720 Plain Bob. F. Hurst (first 720), 1; T. T. Gofton (conductor), 2; J. B. Dobson, 3; Z. Scott, 4; G. T. Ross, 5; J. Pattison, 6.

NEWBURN.—Handbell Ringing.—On Saturday, August 12th, 720 Plain Bob. J. A. Gofton, 1-2; T. T. Gofton, 3-4; R. A. Gofton, 5-6. Also 720 in the same method. J. A. Gofton, 1-2; T. T. Gofton (conductor), 3-4; *J. Pattison, 5-6. *First 720 on handbells.

THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WYTHAM-ON-THE-HILL (Lincolnshire).—On Saturday, August 12th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). G. H. Furniss, 1; G. Hollis, 2; J. Alford, 3; A. Holmes, 4; T.



Glengarry Church Bell.



Glenqarry Church Bell.

Allam, 5; R. Brightman (conductor), 6. Another 720 (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles). G. H. Furniss, 1; G. Hollis, 2; J. Alford, 3; G. Wells, 4; A. Holmes, 5; R. Brightman (conductor), 6. Also a 360 (four bobs and two singles). G. H. Furniss, 1; J. Alford, 2; G. Wells, 3; A. Holmes, 4; T. Allam, 5; R. Brightman (conductor), 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—On Sunday, August 13th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples. R. Sandiford, 1; J. Beavan, 2; W. Watchorn, 3; E. Wells, 4; R. Carter, 5; H. Hill, 6; W. Aldridge (conductor), 7; G. Carter, 8.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

WITHYCOMBE (Devon).—Recently, at the parish church, 910 Grandsire Triples. H. Wilmott, 1; J. Snow, 2; H. Burch, 3; A. Snow, 4; J. Pike, 5; R. Manley, 6; C. Bond, 7; G. Stocker, 8. Also a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. H. Wilmott, 1; J. Snow, 2; H. Burch, 3; A. Snow, 4; R. Manley, 5; J. Lockyer, 6; C. Bond, 7; G. Stocker, 8. Conducted by C. Bond. On Wednesday, July 19th, 518 Grandsire Triples. H. Wilmott, 1; J. Snow, 2; R. Manley, 3; Rev. Maitland Kelly (conductor), 4; C. Bond, 5; J. Lockyer, 6; H. Burch, 7; G. Stocker, 8. And another 518 in the same method, conducted by the Rev. Maitland Kelly.

BRIGHTON.—On Sunday, August 13th, for Divine Service at St. Peter's church, two courses of Superlative Surprise Major. J. Jay, sen., 1; C. R. Lilley, 2; R. J. Dawe, 3; F. Bennett, 4; G. King, 5; E. C. Merritt, 6; G. Williams, 7; K. Hart (conductor), 8. On handbells at 2, Grove Street, 504 Stedman Triples. K. Hart, 1-2; F. Bennett, 3-4; G. Williams (conductor), 5-6; C. R. Lilley, 7-8. Also a course of Grandsire Caters. Mrs. Williams, 1-2. On Thursday, August 10th, an attempt for a peal of Stedman Triples at St. Paul's church came to grief after ringing 1 hr. R. J. Dawe, 1; F. Bennett, 2; C. R. Lilley, 3; H. Stalham, 4; W. Allfrey, 5; P. Allfrey, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; G. Hill, 8.

HORLEY (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, August 20th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 43 mins. A. Songhurst, 1; J. Kenward, 2; J. Beams (composer and conductor), 3; E. Dewey, 4; W. Edwards, 5; F. W. Rice, 6; S. Kenward, 7; T. Post, 8.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

EASTBOURNE.—On Thursday, August 10th, for practice at Christ Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 40 mins. G. H. Head, 1; G. H. Howse, 2; J. Sharp, 3; G. Baker, 4; B. Hobbs, 5; A. Spittle, 6; S. Wade (conductor), 7; C. Arfey, 8. Also 352 Bob Major. G. A. Howse, 1; S. Wade, 2; J. Sharp, 3; F. C. Fordham, 4; G. Barker, 5; A. Spittle, 6; B. Hobbs, 7; G. H. Head (conductor), 8.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GREAT HALE (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday evening, July 23rd, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor, in 29 mins. W. H. Wood, 1; J. R. Green, 2; J. W. Wood, 3; R. Masters, 4; T. T. Taylor, 5; T. B. Wood (conductor), 6. After service 720 Kent, in 29 mins. J. R. Green, 1; C. Ward, 2; T. B. Wood, 3; R. Masters, 4; J. W. Wood, 5; T. T. Taylor (conductor), 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

FORNHAM ST. MARTIN (Suffolk).—On Saturday, July 8th, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. C. Hopkins, 1; W. Miller (conductor), 2; W. Doran, 3; J. Moule, 4; J. Mardell, 5; T. H. Beams, 6.

WEST STOW (Suffolk).—On Saturday, July 8th, 720 Coventry Surprise. G. Hayden, 1; W. Miller, 2; W. Doran, 3; J. Moule, 4; J. Mardell, 5; T. H. Beams (conductor), 6.

ROUGHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday, July 9th, 720 Cambridge Surprise. J. Osborne, 1; W. Miller (conductor), 2; W. Doran, 3; J. Moule, 4; J. Mardell, 5; T. H. Beams, 6.

HORRINGER (Suffolk).—On Sunday, July 9th, 720 Double Oxford. C. Hopkins, 1; W. Miller, 2; W. Doran, 3; J. Moule, 4; J. Mardell, 5; T. H. Beams (conductor), 6.

LEYTONSTONE (Essex).—On Wednesday, July 12th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. T. H. Beams (conductor), 1; W. Miller, 2; W. Doran, 3; J. Moule, 4; J. Mardell, 5; G. Hayden, 6. Rung as a birthday compliment to G. Hayden, it being his first 720 of Treble Bob away from the treble. On Wednesday, July 19th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. F. Withers, 1; W. Miller, 2; W. Keeble, 3; W. Doran, 4; E. Wightman (conductor), 5; G. Hayden, 6. First 720 of Treble Bob by F. Withers.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday evening, July 2nd, for Divine Service at St. Michael's church, 720 New London Pleasure. W.

Hammond, 1; W. Webb, 2; F. Slade, 3; W. Grimwade, 4; H. C. Hammond, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. On Sunday, July 9th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. H. Coote, 1; P. Holmes, 2; C. H. Howard, 3; H. Pilcher, 4; W. Hammond, 5; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 6. On Monday, July 10th, 720 Bob Minor. C. H. Howard (conductor), 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Hammond, 4; H. Coote, 5; W. Grimwade, 6. On Sunday, July 16th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. T. Watson, 1; W. Webb, 2; F. Slade, 3; W. Farrow, 4; H. C. Hammond, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. On Monday, July 17th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. H. Coote, 1; P. Holmes, 2; C. H. Howard (conductor), 3; E. Chaplin, 4; W. Hammond, 5; F. Slade, 6. On Sunday, July 23rd, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. P. Holmes, 1; W. Farrow, 2; C. H. Howard (conductor), 3; H. Pilcher, 4; F. Slade, 5; W. Webb, 6. On Thursday, August 3rd, on the occasion of the annual Sunday School treat, 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Webb, 1; P. Holmes, 2; F. Slade, 3; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 4; W. Hammond, 5; W. Webb, 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. P. Holmes, 1; W. Webb, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 4; W. Hammond, 5; F. Slade, 6. On Sunday, August 6th, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. T. Watson, 1; H. E. Hammond, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; C. H. Howard, 4; W. Hammond, 5; W. Webb (conductor), 6. On Sunday, August 13th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. H. E. Hammond, 1; P. Holmes, 2; W. Webb, 3; W. Farrow, 4; W. Hammond, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. For evening service, 720 Bob Minor. W. Webb, 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Farrow, 4; W. Hammond, 5; C. H. Howard (conductor), 6. On Monday, August 14th, 720 Bob Minor. T. Watson, 1; W. Webb, 2; C. H. Howard (conductor), 3; H. Coote, 4; W. Hammond, 5; C. Gordon, 6.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

ASHSTEAD (Surrey).—On Monday, August 7th, at St. Giles' church, 576 Bob Major. H. Langdon, 1; H. Langdon, sen., 2; F. G. Perrin, 3; W. Crockford, 4; H. R. Passmore (conductor), 5; R. Charge, 6; W. S. Langdon, 7; J. W. Golding, 8. Also a touch of Stedman Triples in which G. E. Symonds took part. Several touches of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major were rung on the handbells by Messrs. Symonds, Passmore, Golding, Langdon (2), and Charge.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MINEHEAD (Somersetshire).—On Saturday, August 5th, an attempt was made for a peal of Bob Major which came to grief after ringing 3 hrs. A. Long, 1; H. J. Poole, 2; G. Atkins, 3; J. Grabham, 4; J. Jones, 5; C. F. Winney, 6; H. Moore, 7; J. Maddock (conductor), 8.

DUNSTER (Somersetshire).—On Sunday, August 6th, for Divine Service at St. George's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 45 mins. C. F. Winney (conductor), 1; T. A. Elliott, 2; R. Hole, 3; H. J. Poole, 4; Rev. H. C. Courtney, 5; J. Grabham, 6; J. Maddock, 7; J. Jones, 8.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

DERBY.—On Friday, August 18th, for practice, 1296 Bob Major in 49 mins. T. W. Anthony, 1; G. Thompson, 2; C. Hart, 3; C. Draper, 4; T. Alton, 5; W. Fox (first quarter-peal in the method), 6; J. Newbold, 7; A. E. Thompson (conductor), 8.

MANSFIELD (Notts).—On Saturday, July 22nd, St. Peter's church, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples which came to grief after ringing 30 mins. E. Robinson, 1; G. Hardstaff, 2; W. Gosling, sen., 3; J. Hickman, 4; S. Wesley, 5; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 6; W. H. Inglesant, 7; H. W. Abbott, 8. It was intended to ring Kent Treble Bob Major, but one of the band being ill, Mr. Hardstaff kindly obliged. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. S. Wesley, 1; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 2; W. Gosling, sen., 3; E. Robinson, 4; W. H. Inglesant, 5; H. W. Abbott, 6.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ATTLEBOROUGH (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, August 8th, on the occasion of the marriage of the Rector, the Rev. Maxwell Webb, 720 Bob Minor. R. Davey, 1; J. Standley, 2; J. G. Miles, 3; J. Howes (conductor), 4; A. Howes, 5; J. Lawrence, 6. On handbells touches of Oxford Treble Bob and a course of Bob Major. J. G. Miles, 1-2; A. Howes, 3-4; J. Howes, 5-6; J. Lawrence, 7-8. On Thursday, August 10th, at the house of Mr. Miles, 720 Bob Minor. J. G. Miles, 1-2; A. Howes, 3-4; J. Howes (conductor), 5-6. On Sunday, August 13th, 336 Bob Major. R. Davey, 1; J. G. Miles, 2; A. Howes, 3-4; J. Howes, 5-6; J. Lawrence, 7-8. On Monday, August 14th, 720 Bob Minor. J. G. Miles, 1-2; A. Howes, 3-4; J. Howes, 5-6. On Friday, August 18th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor. J. G. Miles (conductor), 1-2; A. Howes, 3-4; J. Howes, 5-6.

QUIDENHAM (Norfolk).—On Sunday, August 13th, at the parish church, an attempt for a date touch came to grief through the

stranding of a rope. R. Davey, 1; J. Sage, 2; A. Howes, 3; R. Haylett, 4; J. Howes, 5; J. Woods (conductor), 6. Afterwards 600 Bob Minor. R. Davey, 1; J. Sage, 2; J. Woods, 3; R. Haylett, 4; J. Howes, 5; A. Howes (conductor), 6.

THORNHAM MAGNA (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, August 2nd, on the occasion of the outing of the choir and fingers, 360 of Doubles, being 120 each of Canterbury, St. Dunstan's and Grandsire. W. Rose, 1; E. Grange, 2; C. Nunn, 3; H. Symonds, 4; G. D. Buckingham (conductor), 5. On Sunday, August 6th, for Divine Service in the morning, 120 each of Canterbury, St. Simons, and Grandsire. C. Nunn, 1; E. Youngs, 2; G. Moss, 3; E. Buckingham, 4; J. D. Buckingham (conductor), 5. Also 240 Stedman Doubles. G. Moss, 1; W. H. Symonds, 2; E. Buckingham, 3; H. Symonds, 4; G. D. Buckingham (conductor), 5. On Monday, August 7th, 120 each of Canterbury, St. Simons, the Dream, Plain Bob, April Day and Grandsire. E. Youngs, 1; G. Moss, 2; C. Nunn, 3; E. Buckingham, 4; G. D. Buckingham (conductor), 5. Also 120 St. Simons Doubles. E. Youngs, 1; C. Nunn, 2; G. Moss, 3; G. D. Buckingham, 4; E. Buckingham (conductor), 5. On Wednesday, 720 Canterbury, on handbells. W. Rose, 1; F. Cullum, 2; C. Nunn, 3; E. Buckingham, 4; G. D. Buckingham (conductor), 5-6. On Saturday, August 19th, 120 each of the Dream, Canterbury, and Grandsire. W. Rose, 1; F. Cullum, 2; C. Nunn, 3; E. Youngs, 4; G. D. Buckingham (conductor), 5. On Sunday, August 20th, for Divine Service in the morning, 360 Stedman Doubles. G. E. Symonds, 1; H. W. Symonds, 2; G. D. Buckingham, 3; H. Symonds, 4; A. W. Symonds (conductor), 5.

WICKHAM SKEITH (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, July 25th, 720 College Single. H. Collins, 1; G. Kemp, 2; G. D. Buckingham, 3; E. Young (first in the method), 4; J. Rose, 5; G. Cattermole (conductor), 6. Also 360 Oxford Single, with H. Cattermole, 1; the rest as before.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

RIPON (Yorks).—On Saturday, August 5th, at the Cathedral, 1696 Superlative Surprise Major. R. Alcock, 1; J. A. Carter, 2; C. Hall, 3; R. Fenwick, 4; F. P. Howcroft, 5; T. Metcalfe, 6; J. H. Blakiston (conductor), 7; A. McFarlane, 8. This is the first touch of Superlative on the bells. On Sunday, August 6th, for Divine Service, 1008 Double Norwich. R. Alcock, 1; C. Hall, 2; J. A. Carter, 3; F. P. Howcroft, 4; A. McFarlane, 5; J. W. Passman, 6; J. H. Blakiston (conductor), 7; T. Metcalfe, 8. Also 420 Stedman Triples. W. J. Titchener, 1; R. Alcock, 2; C. Hall, 3; J. A. Carter, 4; F. P. Howcroft, 5; T. Metcalfe, 6; J. H. Blakiston, 7; J. W. Passman, 8. And for afternoon service 720 Kent Treble Bob Royal. R. Pick, 1; J. Rumbold, 2; W. Orton, 3; J. Strodger, 4; R. Alcock, 5; J. Metcalfe, 6; T. Metcalfe (conductor), 7; F. Shephard, 8; C. Swiers, 9; J. W. Passman, 10.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

BASINGSTOKE (Hants).—On Tuesday, August 22nd, 504 Grandsire Triples. E. R. Sutton, 1; Dora White, 1; Alice White, 3; Rev. F. Knight, 4; C. Holaway, 5; J. E. Ballard, 6; H. White, 7; F. Redgate, 8. The Rev. F. Knight hails from Ottery St. Mary, Devon.

BOURNEMOUTH (Hants).—On July 30th, for evening service at St. Peter's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. G. Colborne, C. Goodenough, E. Waters, F. L. Edwards, E. T. Green (conductor), W. J. Pickard, J. J. Bristow, C. Forfett.

WINCHESTER.—On August 2nd, at the Cathedral, 270 Grandsire Caters. C. Russell, J. W. Elkins, W. Andrews, W. Tucker, W. J. Pickard, W. J. Sevier, E. G. Lampard, W. C. Lampard, W. H. George (conductor), H. Lovelane.

EMBERTON (Bucks).—On Wednesday, August 9th, on the occasion of the marriage of Miss S. A. Caves and Mr. Walter Andrews, 720 Bob Minor. J. Lovell, 1; T. Wright, 2; W. Mynard, 3; W. Freeman, 4; F. Hopper (conductor), 5; H. Lett, 6. Also 360 in the same method. F. Mynard, 1; J. Lovell, 2; H. Lett, 3; F. Hopper, 4; T. Wright, 5; W. Freeman (conductor), 6.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—On Tuesday, August 29th, at the church of St. Nicholas, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins. J. Godfrey, 1; A. Webber, 2; R. Christian, 3; W. Secrett, 4; J. George (composer and conductor), 5; D. Hayward, 6; J. Matthews, 7; F. Pestell, 8.

HARROLD (Beds).—On Monday, August 7th, 720 Bob Minor. J. Lett, 1; T. Wright, 2; F. Hopper, 3; W. Jones, 4; J. Lovell, 5; W. Freeman (conductor), 6.

HARROGATE (Yorks).—On Friday, May 12th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor on the back six. J. Rumbold, 1; F. Durdy, jun., 2; J. Benson, 3; T. H. Dickinson, 4; F. Durdy, sen., 5; A. W. Brighton (conductor), 6.

ISLIP (Northants).—On Monday, August 7th, 720 Kent Treble Bob

Minor. G. Hewitt, 1; J. Hudson, 2; R. Pendered, 3; A. Perkins, 4; R. Loveday, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6.

KING'S NORTON (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, August 6th, for Divine Service, 672 Grandsire Triples. W. H. Sumner, 1; J. S. Pritchett, 2; F. Sumner, 3; T. Pritchett, 4; J. Betterton, 5; W. Palmer, 6; H. Withers (conductor), 7; W. Williams, 8.

LOWICK (Northants).—On Wednesday, August 16th, at St. Peter's church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). C. Swan, 1; R. Loveday, 2; J. T. Allen, 3; J. Betts, 4; R. Dunkley, 5; J. Guess (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Bob. R. Loveday, 1; J. T. Allen, 2; J. Guess, 3; J. Betts, 4; R. Dunkley, 5; C. Swan (conductor), 6. And 720 College Little. J. Guess, 1; R. Loveday, 2; R. Dunkley, 3; J. Betts, 4; C. Swan, 5; J. T. Allen (conductor), 6. Also 720 College Single. R. Dunkley (conductor), 1; R. Loveday, 2; J. T. Allen, 3; J. Betts, 4; C. Swan, 5; J. Guess, 6. And 720 London Single. J. Guess, 1; R. Loveday, 2; C. Swan, 3; J. Betts, 4; R. Dunkley, 5; J. T. Allen (conductor), 6. Rang in honour of the wedding of Mr. Oswald Neal, of Whittlesey, and Miss Jones, of Lowick.

LONDON.—On Saturday, February 11th, at Christ Church, Spitalfields, 800 Cambridge Surprise Major. F. A. Nunn, 1; C. Fenn, 2; A. W. Brighton (conductor), 3; R. Fenn, 4; W. Pye, 5; E. Andrews, 6; E. Pye, 7; A. C. Hardy, 8. Tenor 33 cwt.

LINCOLN.—On Sunday, April 30th, for Divine Service in the morning, 604 Superlative Surprise Major. D. W. Brown, 1; G. Fenton, 2; J. B. Fenton, 3; R. Dawson, 4; A. W. Brighton (conductor), 5; A. Craven, 6; J. W. Watson, 7; C. W. Clifton, 8.

MANUDEN (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, August 8th, at St. Mary's church, ten 6-scores and a half of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. G. Prior (conductor), 1; J. Harvey, 2; W. Prior, 3; S. Ward, 4; F. Tharby, 5.

MENDLESHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday, August 13th, for Divine Service, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. G. Jackaman, 1; B. Keble, 2; A. Baker, 3; H. Torble, 4; A. Clements (conductor), 5. These bells were rehung to commemorate Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee. They are a nice ring of five, and in good going order. It only wants the addition of another bell, for which the frame is already prepared, to make them a splendid ring of six.

NEWPORT (Mon).—On August 9th, 504 Grandsire Triples. T. Butler, F. Attewell, H. Millard, E. Cook, G. Butler, W. J. Pickard (conductor), J. Trowbridge, G. Peppen.

NORTHFLEET (Kent).—Recently at St. Botolph's church, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-six singles). F. Draper, 1; H. Fello, 2; H. Lingham, 3; H. Simmonds, 4; W. Ware, 5; R. Smith (conductor), 6. Also 720 Canterbury Pleasure. F. Draper, 1; H. Fello, 2; H. Lingham, 3; H. Simmonds, 4; W. Ware, 5; R. Smith (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by a local band. Rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. Gardner, organist of Northfleet church.

SHAROW (Yorks).—On Saturday, May 13th, at St. Mary's church, 704 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to Mr. Williams, who for many years was schoolmaster of the village. R. Miller, 1; R. Pick, 2; A. W. Brighton (conductor), 3; R. Lovac, 4; W. Pick, 5; H. Peverill, 6; J. Leighton, 7; W. T. Robson, 8.

THRAPSTON (Northants).—On Sunday evening, August 6th, after Divine Service, 720 Oxford Bob. L. Chapman, 1; W. Yates, 2; J. Hudson, 3; J. Nickerson, 4; R. Loveday, 5; J. Betts (conductor), 6. On Monday, August 7th, 720 London Single on the back seven with the tenor covering. W. Shaw, 1; J. Nickerson, 2; R. Pendered, 3; J. Betts, 4; F. Tiney, 5; R. Loveday (conductor), 6; J. Hudson, 7.

TURVEY (Beds).—On Monday, August 7th, 720 Bob Minor. J. Lett, 1; F. Hopper, 2; T. Wright, 3; W. Jones, 4; W. Freeman (conductor), 5; J. Lovell, 6.

WINCHESTER.—On Sunday morning, August 6th, for Divine Service, 297 Grandsire Triples. E. Andrews, 1; W. C. Lampard, 2; W. Taylor, 3; W. T. Tucker, 4; W. J. Elkins, 5; C. Russell, 6; J. George (conductor), 7; F. Smith, 8.

GIVEN AWAY. PEACH'S LACE CURTAINS.

21^S DIRECT FROM THE LOOMS CARRIAGE PAID 21^S
POPULAR PARCEL.
Lot B.N. contains—1 pair Drawing-room Curtains, Superb Lacey Design, very Rich, 4 yards long, about 2 yards wide; 2 Pairs alike, for Dining-room, handsome work. Copied Real Lace, 3½ yds long, 60 ins. wide; 1 pair Bedroom Curtains, Artistic Floral, 3 yds. long, 50 ins. wide. One five o'clock Table Cover, Choice Guipure Lace. Sent, Carriage Paid, for 21s. All goods taped edges. Ecu if desired.
GIVEN AWAY with each parcel—6 Lace Dressing-table Covers, Fringed, one 45 ins. long, 5 smaller. Our 1899 Parcel is the best we have yet sent out. PRIZE MEDALS, Chicago and Toronto. Satisfaction guaranteed or money returned.
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YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR.

A NEW METHOD.

By ARTHUR CRAVEN, *Lincoln*.

In introducing Yorkshire Surprise to the Exercise, I might say that it is the result of my endeavours for three years to obtain a Surprise method with its place-making of the Double Norwich fashion, *i.e.* 6ths, 5ths and 5ths, 6ths, 4ths, 3rds, and 3rds, 4ths. I feel sure that the majority of ringers will share my opinion that Double Norwich is the most musical method in existence, there being not the slightest semblance of monotony in it. This fact we must attribute to the beauty of its place-making. In Yorkshire Surprise the places are made in the same style, systematically, in coursing order, no bell ever having to turn back. For example, take the first treble lead. The tenor makes 5-6 places down, the 7th runs through them to make the 3-4 places, when here again the tenor runs through 3-4 places to lead, the 7th coursing her down. At the treble's whole pull behind the changes reverse themselves as in Bob Major, 87654321. These facts, I think, go to prove that the tenors work very well together; in fact, counting change for change, the tenors strike exactly the same number of changes together as in Kent Treble Bob, but are more evenly distributed throughout the course. The lead-ends are the same as Bob Major, the bob also having the same result. Like Cambridge it can be extended on to any even number of bells. It allows a good and interesting field for composition, there only being one false course-end against the plain course, *viz.*: 24365, and that does not occur against the wrong, middle and home leads. In conclusion I give the figures of a treble lead and bob, along with proof scale and a few peals (one by Mr. G. Lindoff, which apparently seems to be the extent), and present it to the Exercise at large to be judged according to its merits.

A LEAD.

12345678

21436587
12463857
21648375
26143857
62418375
26148735
62417853
64271835
46728153
46271835

64728153
46782513
64875231
68472513
86745231
87654321
78563412
75864321
75683412
75638142
57361824
57638142
75361824
73516842
37158624
73518264
37152846
31758264
13572846
31527486
13254768
13527486

A BOB.

73516842
37158624
73518264
37152846
37152864
13572846
31527486
13254768
12357486
21534768
12543678
21456387
24153678
42516387
24156837

PROOF SCALE.

2345678

5273846
3572846
4236587
3426587
5274863
3852746
8234567
3456782
3256748
3274568
3257846
3274856
3256487
3264587

6720.

23456	W	M	H
64235	-	-	-
23645	-	-	-
56342	-	-	-
34562	-	-	-
25463	-	-	-

Continued—

	W	M	H
62453	-	-	-
45623	-	-	-
64523	-	-	-
35426	-	-	-
42356	-	-	-

Twice repeated.

The extent with the tenors together.

6048.

23456	W	M	H
64235	-	-	-
36245	-	-	-
43265	-	-	-
26435	-	-	-
42635	-	-	-
63425	-	-	-
46325	-	-	-
34625	-	-	-
23645	-	-	-

Twice repeated.

By omitting bobs braced in two parts the peal is reduced to 5152.

The extent without 2nd or 3rd in 6ths place.

13,440.

This peal by G. LINDOFF.

23456	W	5ths	M	H
64235	-	-	-	-
672453	-	-	-	-
235764	-	-	-	-
536724	-	-	-	-
632754	-	-	-	-
26435	-	-	-	-
274653	-	-	-	-
234756	-	-	-	-
42635	-	-	-	-
63425	-	-	-	-
46325	-	-	-	-
34625	-	-	-	-

Five times repeated.

5024.

23456	W	B	M	H
42635	-	-	-	-
56234	-	-	-	-
25634	-	-	-	-
62534	-	-	-	-
52436	-	-	-	-
35426	-	-	-	-
42356	-	-	-	-
34625	-	-	-	-
64523	-	-	-	-
54326	-	-	-	-
25346	-	-	-	-
45362	-	-	-	-
35264	-	-	-	-
25463	-	-	-	-

Continued—

	W	B	M	H
34256	—	—	—	—
53246	—	—	—	—
45236	—	—	—	—
62453	—	—	—	—
45623	—	—	—	—
36524	—	—	—	—
36245	—	—	—	—
23456	—	—	—	—

5024.

23456	W	B	M	H
35264	—	—	—	—
26354	—	—	—	—
32654	—	—	—	—
46325	—	—	—	—
34625	—	—	—	—
63425	—	—	—	—
54326	—	—	—	—
35426	—	—	—	—
52364	—	—	—	—
36524	—	—	—	—
53624	—	—	—	—
65432	—	—	—	—
24536	—	—	—	—
52436	—	—	—	—
23564	—	—	—	—
56234	—	—	—	—
25634	—	—	—	—
46253	—	—	—	—
24653	—	—	—	—
62453	—	—	—	—
34256	—	—	—	—
23456	—	—	—	—

6048.

23456	W	M	H
64235	—	—	—
26435	—	—	—
42563	—	—	—
52364	—	—	—
32465	—	—	—
46325	—	—	—
34625	—	—	—
63425	—	—	—
42635	—	—	—
56234	—	—	—
25634	—	—	—
63254	—	—	—
26354	—	—	—
32654	—	—	—
65324	—	—	—
36524	—	—	—
53624	—	—	—
62534	—	—	—
52436	—	—	—
43526	—	—	—
24536	—	—	—
32546	—	—	—
54326	—	—	—

Continued—

	W	M	H
25346	—	—	—
42356	—	—	—
35426	—	—	—
23456	—	—	—

Has the 4th, 5th and 6th their extent in 5-6. By omitting the bobs braced the peal is reduced to 5152.

5152.

23456	W	M	H
42635	—	—	—
63425	—	—	—
46325	—	—	—
34625	—	—	—
62345	—	—	—
36245	—	—	—
43265	—	—	—
64235	—	—	—
23645	—	—	—
56234	—	—	—
25634	—	—	—
62534	—	—	—
45236	—	—	—
34256	—	—	—
25346	—	—	—
32546	—	—	—
53246	—	—	—
24536	—	—	—
52436	—	—	—
43526	—	—	—
54326	—	—	—
35426	—	—	—
23456	—	—	—

Has the 6th her extent in 5-6, and 2nd and 3rd never in 6ths place.

5024.

By ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

23456	W	B	M	H
42635	—	—	—	—
63425	—	—	—	—
46325	—	—	—	—
42356	—	—	—	—
54326	—	—	—	—
25346	—	—	—	—
32654	—	—	—	—
65324	—	—	—	—
36245	—	—	—	—
23645	—	—	—	—
62345	—	—	—	—
32546	—	—	—	—
43526	—	—	—	—
24536	—	—	—	—
65243	—	—	—	—
45236	—	—	—	—
34256	—	—	—	—
53246	—	—	—	—
62534	—	—	—	—

Continued—

	W	B	M	H
52436	—	—	—	—
35426	—	—	—	—
23456	—	—	—	—

5184.

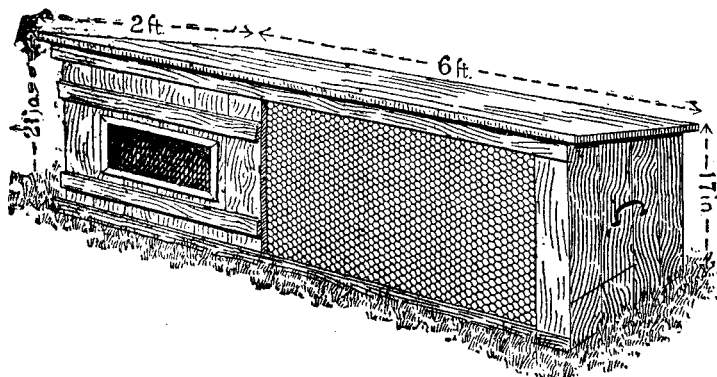
23456	W	B	M	H
64235	—	—	—	—
26435	—	—	—	—
42635	—	—	—	—
63425	—	—	—	—
54326	—	—	—	—
35426	—	—	—	—
42356	—	—	—	—
34256	—	—	—	—
25346	—	—	—	—
32546	—	—	—	—
65324	—	—	—	—
36524	—	—	—	—
36245	—	—	—	—
23645	—	—	—	—
56234	—	—	—	—
25634	—	—	—	—
62534	—	—	—	—

5184.

23456	W	B	M	H
64235	—	—	—	—
26435	—	—	—	—
26354	—	—	—	—
32654	—	—	—	—
46325	—	—	—	—
34625	—	—	—	—
63425	—	—	—	—
43526	—	—	—	—
24536	—	—	—	—
53246	—	—	—	—
45236	—	—	—	—
34256	—	—	—	—
25346	—	—	—	—
42356	—	—	—	—
54326	—	—	—	—
32546	—	—	—	—
65324	—	—	—	—
36524	—	—	—	—
53624	—	—	—	—
62534	—	—	—	—

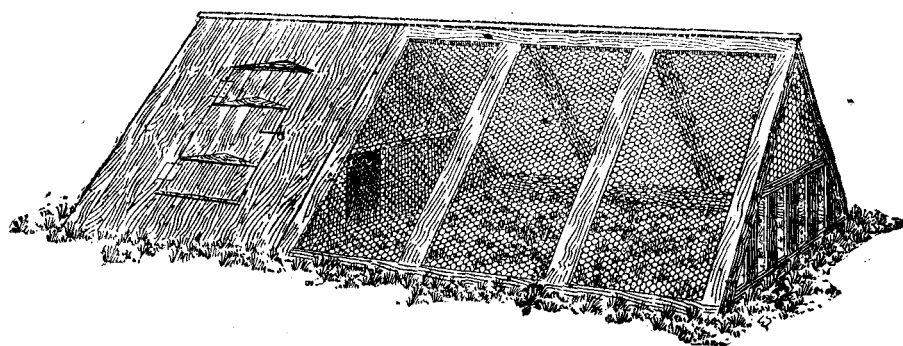
The last three peals have the 6th her extent at home.

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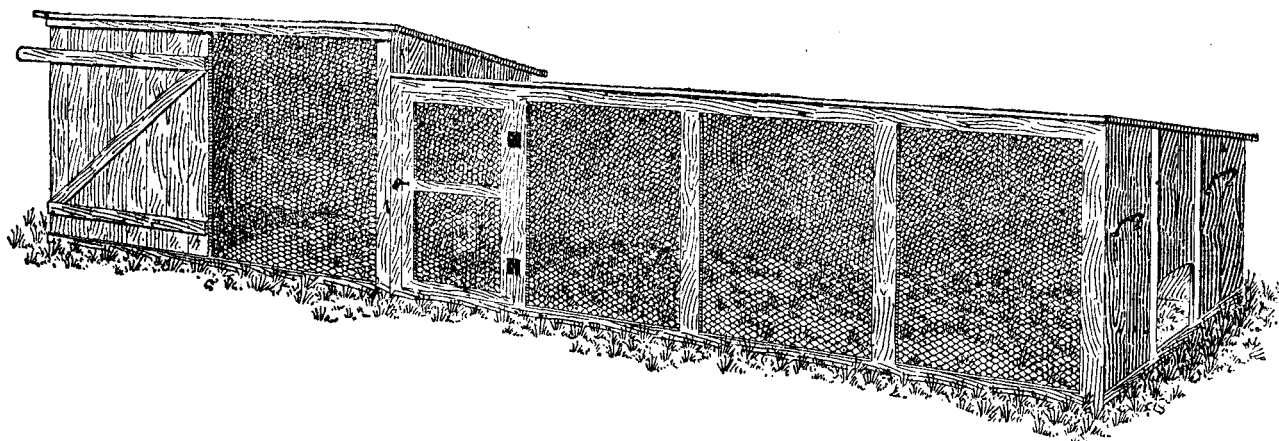
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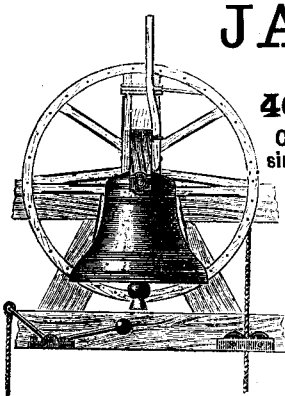
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The next are for 6 ringers with 12 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.			
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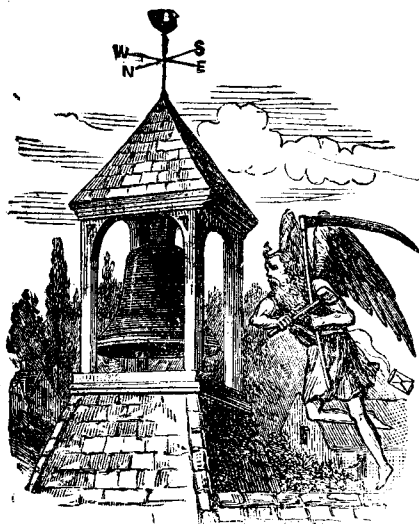
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No. 909.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1899.

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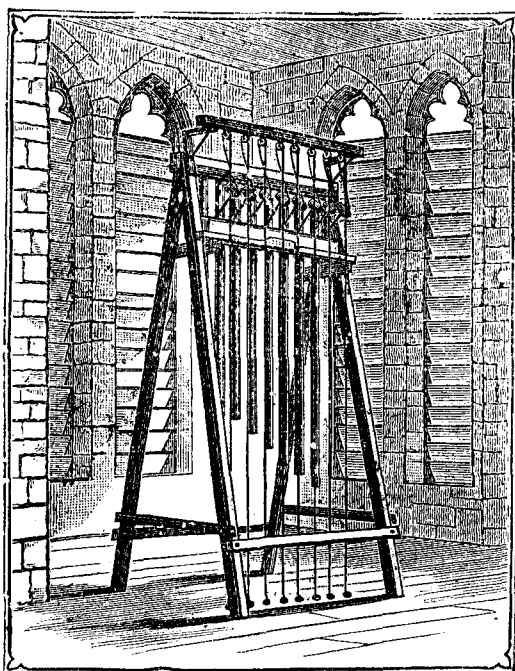
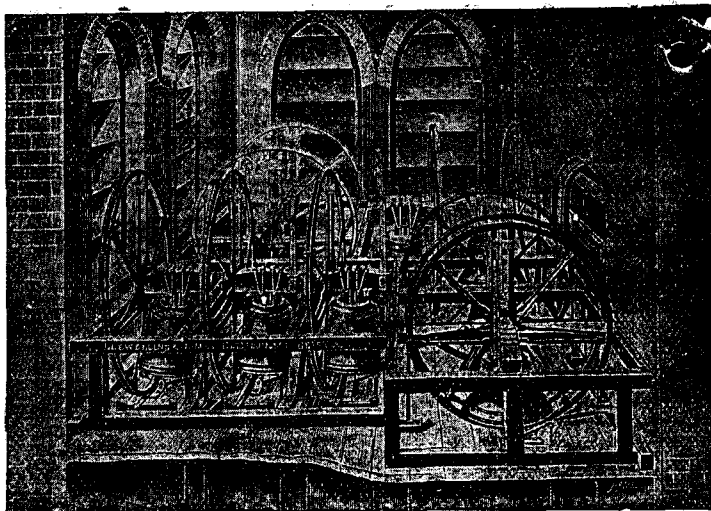
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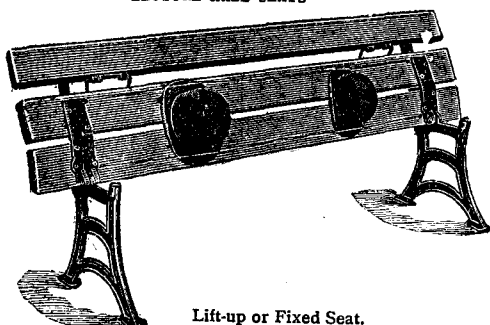
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Home Sweet Home, March of the Men of Harlech, Rule
Britannia, Sailing, St. Patrick's Day, Sleighing Song, The
Bellringer's Glee, The Star-Spangled Banner, Wait till the
Clouds roll by, Whistling Farmer Boy.

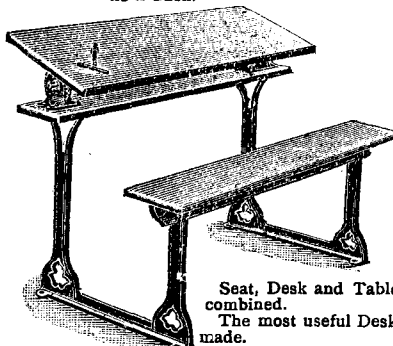
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 909.]

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE ST. THOMAS'S GUILD, DUDLEY.

A Quarterly Meeting of this Guild was held on Saturday, August 26th, at Coseley, Staffordshire, ringers being present from Dudley, Coseley, Halesowen, Netherton, Old Hill, Tipton and Wolverhampton. A short service was held in the church at 5 o'clock, conducted by the Rev. A. J. L. Haworth, curate, and an interesting address delivered by the Rev. W. Spencer, Vicar, who also provided a free tea, which was served in the schoolroom, and presided at the business meeting which followed. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, letters of apology were read from the Rev. T. J. Cartwright, curate of Halesowen, and Mr. J. Smith, Hon. Secretary of the Worcestershire and Districts Association, who was unable to be present owing to an attack of pleurisy. A notice of motion standing in the name of Mr. Smith to move—"That members may be elected at a meeting in a belfry subject to the approval of the next quarterly meeting of the Guild," was moved by Mr. S. Spittle, who explained the reason why it should be adopted. It was seconded by Mr. W. R. Small, and carried. Arrangements were made for attempting peals at St. Thomas's, Dudley, on September 11th, at Halesowen on September 30th, Coseley October 28th, Tipton and Netherton on dates to be arranged with the Master.

It was resolved that the next meeting be held at Tipton on Saturday, November 25th. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for his hospitality, the service in church, and the use of the bells and schoolroom. Touches of Double Norwich Major, Stedman and Grandsire Triples were with difficulty brought round, owing to the stretching of the new ropes which had been recently put on.

THE EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 2nd, the Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held at Bolsover, members being present from Bolsover, Clay Cross, Old Brampton, North Wingfield, South Normanton, Tibshelf and Pentrich. The Vicar (the Rev. T. C. Hills), who is also President, was prevented from attending the meeting through illness, and the curate, the Rev. A. B. Maughan, was unanimously elected to the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. By a unanimous vote the chairman was asked to convey a vote of sympathy to the Vicar from the meeting, wishing him a speedy return to good health again. The Chairman kindly promised to do so, and also to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells and schoolroom.

The Rev. A. B. Maughan was heartily thanked for presiding, and in a few well-chosen remarks gave some very good advice to the members present upon the duties of ringers as church officers, laying stress upon the necessity of constant practice to obtain proficiency.

The beautiful ring of bells were greatly admired by all, and go like tops. Various five and six-bell methods were

rang during the afternoon and evening, 720 of Bob Minor being tapped off in good style by J. Maycock, W. Butler (conductor), T. Allibone, J. Flint, F. Marshall, J. J. Cook. Afterwards the bells were lowered in peal. The best thanks of the members are due to the verger, Mr. Clarke, also to the tower-keeper, Mr. Flint, for making arrangements for the meeting.

RAUNDS, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

By the death of Archibald Coles the Raunds company of ringers and the Vicar, churchwardens, and parishioners of Raunds have lost one of the oldest and most respected members of that ancient belfry. Although an advocate for change-ringing he did make that the first and only object of his ambition. Until illness prevented him he was most regular in his Sunday duties, and did his best at all times to get others to attend to them equally well. Punctual in calling others to God's House he was a regular attendant there himself. Although debarred by illness (with great suffering) from taking a rope, either for ringing or chiming, for some years past yet his interest in bells and belfry was as great as ever, and none were more pleased than he with the improvements recently made to the old ring of six at Raunds by the addition of two trebles and the re-casting of the tenor. After a long illness he at last expired rather suddenly in the presence of one of his old ringing friends and companion, Mr. F. Gilbert. He had been connected with Raunds belfry for 25 years, and took part in one peal of 5040 changes on the old ring of six. He was for many years "Town Crier" of Raunds. He was 61 years of age. After the funeral his fellow ringers rang a muffled peal as a tribute of respect to his memory. He had been a member of the Central Northamptonshire Association ever since it was founded at Raunds by the then Vicar of that town in 1883.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BATH BRANCH. — On Monday, August 14th, a very successful meeting was held at Newton St. Loe, the whole of the towers in the district being represented by over thirty members. Ringing commenced at 6.30 sharp, and consisted of Grandsire Doubles, Bob Minor and Kent Treble Bob Minor. During the evening the members visited the rectory gardens by kind permission of the Rector, the Rev. E. Lascelles, and viewed the magnificent show of begonias. These flowers were in perfection, the size and shape of the blooms and delicacy of colour blended together on the stands were a sight not to be forgotten. A substantial repast was provided by the Rector, at which Mr. C. Langdon presided. At the close a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector for his great kindness, and to Mr. Langdon for assisting to make the meeting such a pleasant one.

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.

CURRENT TOPICS.

What a variety of new methods! Scarcely a number of this paper appears now without one of these inventions. I admit they show great cleverness and research by their inventors, but I greatly doubt whether their practice will ever become so universal as the well-worn methods. The most popular of the methods invented during the last twenty years—"Duffield"—seems to be going out of practice; and it can hardly be hoped therefore, that any of these Surprises will make headway. It will surprise me if they do.

It appears to me that what is known as the three Standard methods will hold their own for many a year to come. They are popular, and I think always will be so. We don't like to turn our backs upon old friends, and many veterans, therefore, have to the end a filial affection for the old Grandsire, in which they made their *debut* as ringers. Besides it is said to be, and I believe it, a very entertaining method, especially in Caters.

More about Lord Palmerston. A dear friend writes to say that Tiverton (the town he represented), is in Devon, not in Somerset. And he gives the following spar:—

ROWCLIFFE.—"I should like to ask what Government Lord P. will join next?"

LORD P.—"I am prepared to join any Government save one—*i.e.* that which has Mr. Rowcliffe as Prime Minister."

There is an occurrence connected with the official life of Palmerston which is rather interesting, and though lengthy I will quote it. It is taken from a short memoir of the Viscount. It is an "amusing instance of the way in which Lord Palmerston was determined to let his views be known 'in the proper quarter,' no matter what others of his Government at home might think of the action which excited either his approval or his condemnation. The incident occurred at Macao. The sun was high and the weather was beautiful at that port one summer day. The town was crowded with natives and 'foreign devils,' for a *festa* was to be honoured by a religious procession through the streets, and a High Mass and impressive music and ceremonies were to be seen and heard in the cathedral. The bells were jingling and intoning their confused calls from every steeple, and below the belfries the buildings of the town, which covered the slope of the land down to the water's edge, shadowed streets filled with holiday crowds. At anchor in the port lay one of her Britannic Majesty's frigates, commanded by Captain Keppel, the same gallant officer who is now Sir Harry, Admiral of the Fleet. Soon word was brought to Captain Keppel in his ship that during the progress of the procession, which had been slowly making its way over the steep roadways to the church above, accompanied by the priests with the holy wafer and the officials of the place, including the Governor, there had happened an unfortunate occurrence.

"A young English clergyman from Shanghai or Canton, or a mere passenger in some passing steamer, had happened to be in the street when the array of priests, acolytes, prelates, and officials, all decked out in sumptuous canonicals or in uniforms, had walked past, and had failed to remove his hat and to bow bareheaded as the sacred emblems went by. He had been arrested, and it was feared he had been put into the common gaol. Keppel had the same liking that Palmerston had of

expressing his opinion when any act derogatory to the dignity of a 'Britisher' had been perpetrated by a foreigner. So, after stamping once or twice up and down his deck, he ordered one of his officers to go forthwith and demand of the Governor an explanation of their proceeding of the arrest of the English clergyman, and to insinuate that he must be at once released. The lieutenant went and returned with one of the Governor's staff, who with much gesticulation assured Keppel that what had been done could not be undone. The gallant captain said that he could not parley with one of the Governor's officers, for he, the gallant captain, was her Majesty's representative while in command of her Majesty's war-vessel at that port, and that he must ask that the Governor himself should say anything that was to be said.

"So the subordinate returned, and his Excellency the Governor himself was soon seen coming off from shore, and was rowed alongside, looking very sulky, very pompous, but in very fine uniform, his flag floating at a little flagstaff in the stern of his boat, his men in tolerably good-looking white dresses, and the whole party heated and embarrassed. As soon as the deck of the British frigate was reached and bows had been exchanged, the captain, who possessed, as all the service knows, a pluck in a quantity contrary to the number of his own inches, looked up at the tall and slim foreign functionary, and asked, was it true he had imprisoned one of her Majesty's subjects? The olive countenance, with its dark moustache, much agitated, looked down on the robust countenance and bushy eyebrows of the British commander, and explained with much energy that it was most unfortunate that disrespect had been shown not only to the Host but to himself, the Governor, by the young Englishman who had contravened the law, and that what had been done could not be helped, and much more to the same purpose. Keppel's brow did not relax, as the Governor may have expected they would, after such an exercise of his eloquence. On the contrary, they made the expression of the blue eyes much more trenchant, and the words came forth as an order, 'That doesn't make the matter a bit better—the man must be at once set at liberty.' Then did every one of the foreign party shrug his shoulders, as their chief gave the example, and voluminous vociferations declared the liberation impossible. Keppel was quite quiet, and when a pause came in the ejaculations he took out his watch and said, 'Now, sir, you will go ashore, and if in twenty minutes after you land the man is not liberated, I land and I liberate him myself.' There was no disobeying the first order, but the second the Governor again repeated to be impossible of fulfilment. The official's boat reached the town. Twenty minutes passed. There was no sign. Keppel's marines and bluejackets were ready on his deck. They filled the boats, which rowed ashore bristling with bayonets.

"There was no opposition to their landing. The local forces were evidently quite unprepared to offer any. The men were formed on the quays, a guard left with the boats, and with Keppel at the head of the little column, an advance was easily made through the streets to the gaol. There was the greatest excitement among the people; cries and crowding at every corner and along the narrow thoroughfares. Presently the prison came into sight across a piazza. Here all was consternation and fear. The gaoler's daughter was hurried down the stairs with the keys, and handed them out of a window to the nearest bluejacket, and her hurry and fright were so great

that as she leant out to hand the keys she overbalanced herself, and fell into his arms, keys and all. Then the door was unlocked and the young English aspirant for martyrdom released, none the worse, and marched down to the shore, and placed for safety on board. Again there was no incident, but noise and excitement among the outraged Governor's subjects. But the affair of course got wind at home, and it was equally of course that some of our friends in the House of Commons, who cannot see a good joke, made the cause of the Governor their own, and the Admiralty of that day being not all composed of men like Keppel, and perhaps being rather glad—some of them—to have a fling at him as being of a different stamp to themselves, sent to him a formal letter of reprimand for the action he had taken. Lord Palmerston knew perfectly well of this letter of the Admiralty, and he was himself at the time Foreign Minister of Britain. He took good care that by the same mail that took the Admiralty's reprimand, Keppel should receive a formal letter from himself thanking Keppel for the manner in which he had acted and supported the consideration due to one of her Majesty's subjects in a foreign town. Lord Palmerston had the pleasure years afterwards of recommending the gallant officer for a good post on shore."

Some few of you have solicited me more than once to come out strong in the historical line, and I have done so of late. The foregoing will be nearly as interesting as the accounts of ringing excursions, a multiplicity of which we are being favored with now. And allow me to say, in all politeness, that the preparation of some of the "copy" of these outings, and also some of the recent correspondence, is enough to turn one's hair grey.

A Clerical Guild of Ringers! We are still progressing. Who would have thought it? I always felt assured that there would be a great many clergymen become ringers. And it has actually come to pass. Some of our clerical ringers are among the best executants in every branch of the Exercise, I conclude my observations upon this topic by calling attention to the fact that the report of the inaugural meeting of Clerical ringers, together with part of the editorial, was copied into this week's *Guardian*.

I see that the foundation-stone has been laid of a new Cathedral for Belfast. The edifice is to cost no less than £200,000! When this is built there will be a favourable opportunity presented for a ring of twelve bells, which will be the first of that number in Ireland. It may be considered somewhat premature to brooch the subject, but I am in the habit of performing that operation known as "taking time by the forelock," and a word in season, you know, etc. If it was ever to be that these few lines were the original cause of the erection of such a peal, what would you say? Probably I should draw your attention to the circumstance in a very modest way.

My notes are lengthy this week, and they partake of variety. We shall be having the proper weather soon for plenty of ringing. This week the weather in the neighbourhood of London has changed; and the change is agreeable. We had a rather heavy storm this day (Wednesday). The spire of Battersea Church is said to have been struck by the electric fluid, but apparently no damage has been done.

PLAIN SPEAKER.

RINGERS' WEDDINGS.

NEW SHOREHAM (Sussex).—A pretty little wedding took place at St. Mary's church, New Shoreham, on Thursday, August 31st, the contracting parties being Mr. F. R. Dearing, late member of the Shoreham and Aldrington branch of the Sussex County Association, and Miss E. F. Artlett of Shoreham. The Aldrington ringers, with the assistance of Mr. P. Allfrey, of St. Paul's, Brighton, rang a 720 of Bob Minor, with 6-8 covering, in 29 mins., as a wedding peal in honour of the event. P. Allfrey, A. Cherryman, M. Broomfield, G. Steele, F. Tindall, F. Steele, L. E. Sears, G. Dray. Afterwards the ringers were entertained at The East Street Arms by the bride and bridegroom for refreshments, who then left for Earlswood, where the honeymoon will be spent. In the evening a 720 of Grandsire Doubles was rung, when the ringers journeyed to St. Leonard's parish church, Aldrington, and rang another 720 of Grandsire Doubles, F. Wadey ringing the treble, and F. Tindall, captain of the Aldrington ringers, conducting. The ringers wish to thank the Vicar, the Rev. M. A. Tower, for the use of the bells, and the vergers for making arrangements for the ringers.

ALDRINGTON (Sussex).—On Saturday, August 12th, the wedding of Mr. F. Tindall (late of Old Windsor), who has acted as captain of the company of ringers, with Miss F. A. Ashdown, of Portslade, took place at St. Leonard's, Aldrington, when his brother-ringers met to give him a wedding peal. During the afternoon and evening some touches of Bob Minor were rung, assisted by F. Banks (Ringmer), and F. Dearing (Shoreham). The ringers were then invited by the bridegroom to partake of refreshments and spend the evening with him, and the company wished him every health and happiness during his married life.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(HORBURY BRANCH.)

On Saturday, August 26th, the members of this branch with a few friends had a trip to Wragley and Felkirk. The party numbering forty-three started from Horbury church at 2.15 in four waggons. Arriving at Wragley church it was found they could not ring on account of a funeral, so after watching a cricket match near for a few minutes they got "aboard" again, and were soon on the way to Felkirk, the way being enlivened by touches on the handbells. Arriving at Felkirk a look round the church was had, till the "Governor" went to fetch the key and arrange about the tea, which was had at The Fox inn. From thence into a field at the back of the inn, where courses of Grandsire Triples and Major were rung by various members of the party, and several glees and songs were well rendered, the inhabitants turning out in full force to listen to them. The other members of the party were enjoying themselves playing games, horse-riding, etc. At the church a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob was rung in 26 mins., by W. H. Giggles, E. Brooke, G. Hunt, H. Rowley (conductor), G. F. Pickles, R. Thickett. Then a start for home, which was reached about eleven o'clock, all having thoroughly enjoyed themselves. They take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar of Felkirk for granting them the use of the bells; also Mr. and Mrs. Normington, of The Fox inn, for the good tea provided for them.

A PEAL OF 362,880 GRANDSIRE CATERS, 6d.
Contains the full extent of changes on nine bells. Forwarded, Post Free, on receipt of 7d. By James Hewett, 18 Chapel Row, Gosport.

THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, CAVERSHAM.

On Monday, August 7th, this Society had an excursion to Gloucester. Leaving Reading station at 7.10 a.m. the "Fair City" was reached about 10 o'clock, and the visitors were met at the station by Mr. J. Austin, who however had a little damper to put on them by relating that he had found it impossible to get the cathedral bells. A move was made to St. Michael's at once, and soon the back eight were sailing in London, which, however, did not seem to suit the bells, as they would refuse to come out of any touch with rounds to finish. A try on the ten was next proposed, and a short touch of Grandsire Caters and three courses of Stedman Caters were brought round by E. Davies, J. Austin, J. Hands, T. Newman, J. F. Tarrant, E. W. Menday, H. Smith, G. Essex, R. T. Hibbert (conductor), H. Simmonds. The next move was to The Druce Arms, where a short time was spent with something even more satisfying than ringing, and which the writer ventures to say made every one feel more like tackling a long peal than hitherto. To St. Mary-de-Crypt was the next order, and here three courses of Cambringe were tapped off in good style by H. Simmonds, E. E. Davies, R. T. Hibbert, E. W. Menday, J. Hands, G. Essex, H. Smith, T. Hibbert (conductor). This was followed by touches of Stedman Triples. A heavy rain prevented a move being made for some time, but the time passed quickly away down in the church, thanks to Mr. R. Brunsdon, a "junior" and an organist, who gave the company the pleasure of hearing the fine organ of which he has charge. A look round the grand old Cathedral, with many a longing glance at the fine tower, brought on evening. Another visit was paid to the tower and a touch of Treble Ten was rung by R. Simmonds, R. T. Hibbert (conductor), T. Newman, J. Hands, J. F. Tarrant, E. W. Menday, H. Smith, E. E. Davies, J. Austin, A. Pegler. Train time was now drawing on, so a short rest and chat was indulged in, and then to the station with quite a strong band of "juniors" to see the party off, to all of whom they tender their best thanks for making the day a very pleasant one, and also for making up a band for ringing.

Correspondence.

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

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

THE BERMONDSEY PEAL.

SIR,—I see in your last issue, Mr. Willson, the man that accuses me of purging the Exercise, now wants to condemn a peal that he neither heard or had any information from anyone that did. His letter is simply based on hearsay; its a little piece of what Mr. So-and-so told Mr. So-and-so. Now I know that Mr. Willson has been writing to numerous ringers for the past three months asking them if they know where I have taken part in a bad peal, for I have had the letters shown to me by various ringers, and if this is all the information he has got, he had better spend another three months with the pen and try and get some more. The peal he alludes to was a very good one, and was rung true and complete, and there was no firing, and it will want ten better ringers than Mr. Willson to equal it, leave alone surpass. I should advise Mr. Willson to practice what he preaches, as in a previous letter he says the "B.N." should not be used for defaming another. Now he has done the same thing himself, for he says that the band on coming out of the tower looked about to see if they could see anyone, and saw no one. Now on coming out of the tower we were met by a well-known ringer, who had been outside all the time in company with another ringer who had gone home. I hope

when Mr. Willson writes again he will write on principle and not let spite, jealousy, and animosity carry him thus far, for he admits in his letter that he is only doing it out of spite, and the rotten state of affairs applies to Leicestershire, not to Essex. As he is one of these men that cannot strike a bell but simply murders change-ringing, I shall not pay any attention to any more correspondence sent by Mr. Willson concerning the peal, and if he writes again on the subject I shall treat his letter with the contempt it deserves; but should either of the persons that heard the peal, and think it is not worthy of publication choose to write, I will reply to them in a satisfactory manner, but shall pay no attention to any one else, for I think that if there were any complaints to be made about the peal it should have been made at the time and not seven months after. W. PYE.

SIR,—I should like to ask Mr. W. Willson why he has allowed seven months to elapse before raising the protest to the peal of Stedman Caters rang at St. James', Bermondsey, on January 19th. If he heard the peal, why did he not as a straightforward man should do, raise the protest at the time? If he is working through some one else, his protest stands for nothing; let the man speak who heard it. T. GROOMBRIDGE.

SIR,—I cannot resist writing a line to say I think Mr. Willson's protest in reference to W. Pye's peal of Stedman Caters at Bermondsey last January is rather belated. I have not the pleasure of knowing Mr. Willson personally, so cannot form any opinion as to his capability as a ringer or a peal critic; but it would have been much more gentlemanly on his part, if he had protested at the time it was rang. Had he done so no ringer could have thought his action was prompted by any jealous illfeeling towards Mr. Pye, through Mr. Pye's exposure of the Kidlington peal. Mr. Pye is an expert ringer, and quite as capable of ringing, conducting or criticising a peal as Mr. Willson, even though he (W. Pye) hails from a county, the state of which he (Mr. Willson) thinks is rotten. I suppose some of the knowing ones made the bullet, and got Mr. Willson to fire it. WILLIAM J. PIPER,

Widford, Essex.

RINGER AND CHURCHWARDEN

SIR,—May I ask your permission to protest most emphatically against the tone of Mr. Willson's letter in this week's "BELL NEWS." Of the peal mentioned therein I know nothing and have heard nothing, but if it be as Mr. Willson says, it is a matter that concerns the Exercise that it should not be booked. But it concerns the Exercise far more that the difference which must of necessity arise between ringers should not be carried out in a spirit which would disgrace Billingsgate fish women. I repeat I know nothing of the facts of the case, and I hold no brief for either, both of whom I have rung with, but humbly submit that you would have been justified in curtailing the wide liberty you wisely allow in your correspondence column, by excluding a letter, avowedly written not merely for the purpose of vindicating the truth, but of expressing the illfeeling which the writer felt against another person, and indulging in that most human and most petty gratification of retorting—"You're another!" J.

[We have also a letter from Mr. T. Newman, of Caversham, but the publication of it would re-open the Kidlington correspondence.—Ed.]

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

FRESSINGFIELD (Suffolk).—On Sunday evening, August 27th, after Divine Service, 1056 Bob Major. W. Barber, 1; J. Adams, 2; E. Chandler, 3; R. Algar, 4; R. Rayner, 5; E. Lincoln, 6; W. Riches (conductor), 7; A. Riches, 8.

Situations Vacant.

STEADY Young Man as Coachman, and to assist occasionally in garden. About 25 years of age. Apply, Editor.

WANTED, GARDENER. Good wages given. House and coal found. Must be change-ringer on eight bells. Apply—THOS. T. HAYWARD, Midsomer Norton, near Bath.

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 Salop Guild.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Shrewsbury, to-day, Saturday, September 9th, 1899. Service at St. Chad's church at 3.30 p.m. Address by the Rev. T. J. Rider, Vicar of Baschurch. Ringing at 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. Business meeting at 4.15 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. J. MACKAY, *Holy Trinity Vicarage, Shrewsbury. Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Middleton, to-day, Saturday, September 9th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6.30. Members not having paid their subscriptions of this branch will kindly do so on or before September 9th. All ringers invited. E. B. SHAW, *Branch Sec.*

The Llandaff Diocesan Association.—The annual meeting will be held to-day, Saturday, September 9, at Treveling, Mon. There will be shortened evensong in church at 4.30. The meeting at the adjoining schoolroom at 5 o'clock. Business—(1) to present annual statement of account; (2) to appoint officers for the ensuing year; (3) to enrol new members; (4) to fix place of next annual meeting; (5) any other. The bells will be available for ringing all day. Ringers are particularly requested to make a special effort to attend this meeting. REV. D. H. GRIFFITHS, M.A., 39, Charles Street, Cardiff. H. G. WHITE, 18, Cymmer Street, Cardiff. *Hon. Secs.*

Oxford Diocesan Guild.—East Berks. and South Bucks. Branch.—The next monthly meeting for six-bell practice will be held at Winkfield to-day, Saturday, September 9th. Ringing to commence at 3 p.m. H. C. BELL, *Branch Sec.* Boyne Hill, Maidenhead.

The Lancashire Association of Six-Bell Ringers.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Standish to-day, Saturday, September 9th. JAMES HIGSON, *Sec.* 60, Church Street, Blackrod.

The Heavy Woollen District Association.—The monthly meeting of this Association will be held to-day, Saturday, September 9th, at Batley Carr. Meeting to be held at The Cambridge Arms at 5 o'clock. WALTER IDLE, *Secretary.* 47, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury.

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—A meeting will be held at Helmshore on Saturday, September 16th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. J. H. BANKS, *Hon. Sec.* Helmshore.

The Yorkshire Association.—The next general meeting will be held at Keighley on Saturday, September 16th. Parish church bells at liberty from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Committee meeting at 4; tea at 5; business meeting afterwards. The local Hon. Sec. is Mr. Wilson Bartle, 12, Acres Street, Keighley. BEN. T. COPLEY, *Hon. Sec.* 14, Hillside Terrace, Bradford.

The Waterloo Society. London.—The meetings at St. John's, Vassal Road, Brixton, will be recommenced on Monday, September 11th, and every alternate Monday at 8 p.m. GEO. E. SYMONDS, *Hon. Sec.*

The Kent County Association.—Ashford District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Tenterden on Saturday, September 16th. Tower open at 3. Committee Meeting at 5.30. Tea at 6. Members intending to be present must send their names to me through the Secretaries of their bands before the previous Thursday. Half railway fares but not exceeding 2s. and 1s. extra for driving over will be allowed to all members present at 5 o'clock. C. WILFRID BLAXLAND, *Dis. Hon. Sec.* Hythe, Kent.

The Essex Association.—A district meeting of this Association will be held on Saturday, September 23rd, at Mistley. The towers of Mistley (6 bells) and Harwich (8 bells) will be open for ringing. Tea and business meeting at The Thorn inn at 4.45. Members intending to be present must notify the same to me not later than the previous Tuesday. HENRY T. W. EYRE, *Asst. Sec.* Great Totham Vicarage, Witham.

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The next committee and quarterly meeting of this Association, by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. S. Phillips), will be held in the Chantry of St. Mary's church, Kidderminster, on Saturday, September 23rd. Service in the church at 5 o'clock; business meeting afterwards. The tower will be open for ringing. Tea will be provided for all those sending in their names to me not later than Monday, September 18th. J. SMITH, *Hon. Sec.* 36, Simms Lane, Netherton.

The Middlesex County Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Hillingdon on Saturday, September 23rd. Service in St. John's church at 6.15 p.m., to be followed by business meeting in the parish room. The bells of St. Andrew's (8) and St. John's, Hillingdon (8) will be available, and will be ready at 3 p.m. A substantial tea will be provided for members and their friends at 1s. 6d. a head. The Hon. Secretaries hope that ringers will make a special effort to attend this meeting, and give them early notice of their intention to ensure proper provision being made. C. EDWARDS, } *Hon. Secs.* ARTHUR T. KING, }

Central Northamptonshire Association.—The Secretary regrets to say that the quarterly meeting arranged for the district of Whiston, Grendon, and Castle Ashby, will have to be postponed from August 26th until September 30th. E. J. DENNES.

The Lancashire Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Preston on Saturday, September 30th. Further particulars by circular. All reports of ringing during the past year ending August 31st, should be forwarded to the Ringing Secretary, Mr. J. Shepherd, 1, Venture Street, Bacup. All other matter to the General Secretary, Mr. A. E. Wreaks, 41, Gibbon Street, Bolton. A. E. WREAKS, } *Secretaries.* J. WILSON, } J. SHEPHERD, }

Waltham Abbey, Essex.—In consequence of the impending complete restoration and re-banging of these bells, the usual meetings at the tower for practice are suspended until further notice. FRANK CARTER, *Hon. Sec.*

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. ROWE, Upminster, Essex.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

SITUATION required by a married man, aged 31, without family, in a month or by the 11th of October as Gardener, singlehanded. Can manage Cucumbers, Melons, Tomatoes, etc., and the general work of a well-kept garden. Highest references. A change-ringer on six or eight bells. Apply John Gaymer Miles, Point Cottages, Attleboro, Norfolk.

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.

SITUATION wanted by Brushmaker. Change-ringer on 6, 8, or 10 bells.—A. Shuffelebotham, 62, Wellington Road, Hanley, Staffs.

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Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication arriving later than the first Postal delivery on 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, SEPTEMBER 9, 1899.

OUR well-known contributor who tries his best to interest and sometimes amuse his readers has on more than occasion recently alluded to the quiet period, which now obtains in ringing affairs. We must expect and in fact look for a quiet season about this time of the year. A great many of our friends are keeping a well-earned holiday in different parts of the country; and some of these who used to pack as much ringing as they could for themselves into the time when they were absent from business, now begin to feel that their relaxation is quite as efficacious if they allow the art of ringing a little rest also. Several of our friends who formerly were not content unless peals at the rate of two or three per diem fell to their lot while holiday-keeping are not now so eager as they once were. Perhaps it is the wisest plan not to let ringing at such times be the all-in-all. We can reasonably imagine that incessant and continuous ringing at such times as we are alluding to tends generally to satiety; while to refrain for the time

would be likely to give greater zest and pleasure when the practice was resumed.

We know that all this depends upon the inclination and taste of the individual; but it is as well to bear in mind that the ringer who practises moderation is generally the one whose connection with the Art lasts the longest, and whose efforts in its promotion are the most continuous and effective.

BELLS AT THE ECCLESIASTICAL ART EXHIBITION.

Messrs. Taylor will have an exhibit at the above Exhibition at the Imperial Institute at the same time as the Church Congress is being held, of seven church bells in an iron frame. These will all be cast on the *cire perdue* system.

The Metropolis.

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

On Saturday, September 2, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5075 CHANGES.

Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

HERBERT LANGDON Treble.	JOHN W. GOLDING 6.
HARRY BARTON 2.	WILLIAM S. LANGDON 7.
HARRY R. PASMORE 3.	GEORGE E. SYMONDS 8.
FREDERICK G. PERRIN 4.	WILLIAM H. PASMORE 9.
WILLIAM R. CROCKFORD 5.	ARTHUR HARDY Tenor.

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

Rung as a birthday compliment to H. Langdon, who attained his eighteenth year on that day; also in honour of the first anniversary of the victory of the 21st Lancers at Omdurman.

The Provinces.

COBDOCK, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, August 29, 1899, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720s each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, two 720s of Plain Bob, and one of Double Court Bob. Tenor 11 cwt.

ALFRED R. WOOLLARD .. Treble.	FRANK ROLFE 4.
GEORGE W. MEE 2.	HARRY J. MEE 5.
EDGAR RIVERS 3.	ALFRED G. RIVERS .. Tenor.

Conducted by ALFRED G. RIVERS.

First peal of Minor on the bells, and the first peal of Minor by Messrs. Woollard, G. W. Mee, and Rolfe. The above are all members of the Sproughton company.

ALDENHAM, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, August 31, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 15 cwt.

ERNEST E. HUNTLEY .. Treble.	HERBERT MARTIN 5.
FRANCIS A. SMITH* 2.	WILLIAM PICKWORTH 6.
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 3.	WILLIAM HEWITT 7.
WILLIAM G. WHITEHEAD .. 4.	THOMAS WALLER Tenor.

Composed by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM, and Conducted by FRANCIS A. SMITH.

*First peal as conductor. Rung as a compliment to Lord Aldenham on his eightieth birthday.

THAXTED, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, August 31, 1899, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES: A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor about 18 cwt.

A. F. JAMES Treble.	E. A. PITSTOW 5.
N. J. PITSTOW 2.	F. PITSTOW 6.
J. F. PENNING 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
F. J. PITSTOW 4.	A. E. PITSTOW Tenor.

Conducted by the Rev. F. E. ROBINSON.

First peal in the method on the bells.

BRIGHTON.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, August 31, 1899, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLIAM ALLFREY .. Treble.	JOHN HACK 5.
HENRY STALHAM 2.	PHILIP J. ALLFREY 6.
GEORGE WILLIAMS 3.	KEITH HART 7.
WILLIAM MILLER 4.	*WILLIAM TUGKER .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

*First peal.

FRAMLINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 2, 1899, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES; IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 19 cwt.

WILLIAM OSTLER .. Treble.	ALBERT E. READ 5.
REV. J. HOLME PILKINGTON .. 2.	WILLIAM FLORY 6.
JOHN C. SELF 3.	SAMUEL GARNHAM 7.
JOHN J. O'NEILL 4.	CHARLES REVELL Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by WILLIAM FLORY.

For calling see Appendix 1895, page 92.

Miscellaneous.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—NORTHWICH BRANCH.

DAVENHAM (Cheshire).—Recently at St. Wilfrid's church, 720 Grandsire Minor. W. Hine, 1; T. Bush, 2; A. Booth, 3; H. Yarwood (composer and conductor), 4; T. Wilkinson, 5; J. Ashmole, 6. Also another 720 of Grandsire. T. Wilkinson, 4; H. Yarwood, 5. Composed and Conducted by J. Ashmole. On Wednesday, August 30th, for practice, 720 Grandsire. G. Wilkinson, 1; T. Bush, 2; A. Booth, 3; H. Yarwood, 4; T. Moore, 5; J. Ashmole (conductor), 6.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ISLEWORTH (Middlesex).—On Sunday, September 3rd, at All Saints church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans') in 42 mins. J. A. Trollope, 1; E. J. Walsom, 2; *J. Howes, 3; F. Goddard, 4; J. Aldridge, 5; A. H. Taber, 6; J. Basden (conductor), 7; A. Sheard, 8. *First quarter-peal in the method.

THE CHESTER GUILD.—WIRRAL BRANCH.

NESTON (Cheshire).—Recently, at the parish church, for practice, 1792 Grandsire Triples. J. Tilley, 1; J. Edwards, 2; J. Mealor, 3; E. Breeze, 4; W. Briscoe, 5; J. Dillon (conductor), 6; C. Grundy, 7; C. Grimes, 8. For practice 2310 Grandsire Triples. H. Grundy, 1; J. Edwards, 2; J. Mealor, 3; W. Williams, 4; W. Briscoe, 5; J. Dillon (conductor), 6; C. Grundy, 7; T. A. Evans, 8. On July 26th, 1008 Grandsire Triples. J. Tilley, 1; J. Edwards, 2; W. Briscoe, 3; F. Jones, 4; W. Williams, 5; J. Dillon (conductor), 6; J. Mealor, 7; T. A. Evans, 8. On Wednesday, August 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, standing as in the last touch, except Mealor and Briscoe. On Wednesday, August 16th, 447 Grandsire Triples. J. Tulley, 1; W. Briscoe, 2; J. Edwards, 3; F. Jones, 4; W. Williams, 5; J. Dillon (conductor), 6; J. Mealor, 7; T. A. Evans, 8. On Sun-

day, August 20th, for Divine Service, 336 Grandsire Triples. J. Tilley, 1; H. Grundy, 2; J. Edwards, 3; W. Williams, 4; W. Briscoe (conductor), 5; J. Meador, 6; C. Grundy, 7; T. A. Evans, 8. On Sunday, August 27th for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Tilley, 1; J. Edwards, 2; H. Grundy, 3; W. Williams, 4; J. Meador (conductor), 5; W. Briscoe, 6; C. Grundy, 7; T. A. Evans, 8.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

RYDE (Isle of Wight).—On Sunday, July 9th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 377 Grandsire Triples. S. V. Salisbury, 1; G. H. Coombes, 2; A. Earl, 3; J. G. Norris, 4; E. Hatcher, 5; P. Long, 6; H. Jennings (conductor), 7; E. G. Brett, 8. On Tuesday, July 11th, for practice, 518 Grandsire Triples. S. V. Salisbury, 1; G. H. Coombes, 2; A. Earl, 3; J. G. Norris, 4; E. Hatcher, 5; P. Long, 6; H. Jennings (conductor), 7; E. G. Brett, 8. On Sunday, July 23rd, for Divine Service, 447 Grandsire Triples. S. V. Salisbury, 1; W. R. Small, 2; A. Earl, 3; J. G. Norris, 4; E. Hatcher, 5; P. Long, 6; H. Jennings (conductor), 7; E. G. Brett, 8.

PORTSEA (Hants).—On Sunday evening, July 2nd, for Divine Service at the parish church, 504 Stedman Triples. P. M. Hannam, 1; C. Groves, 2; J. Harper, 3; J. J. Symons, 4; J. Harris, 5; W. J. Pickard, 6; E. C. Newman (conductor), 7; J. Gould, 8. On Sunday evening, July 9th, for Divine Service, 504 Stedman Triples. F. S. Bayley (conductor), 1; E. C. Newman, 2; R. J. Dawe, 3; J. J. Symons, 4; J. Harris, 5; A. D. Stone, 6; J. Gould, 7; H. C. Ingram, 8. On Sunday evening, July 15th, 504 Stedman Triples. C. Groves, 1; Miss Alice White, 2; J. Harris, 3; J. J. Symons, 4; J. G. Norris, 5; A. D. Stone, 6; E. C. Newman (conductor), 7; H. C. Ingram, 8. On Tuesday morning, August 1st, for special service and annual meeting of the British Medical Association, 504 Grandsire Triples. P. M. Hannam, 1; J. Harper, 2; C. Groves, 3; J. J. Symons (conductor), 4; J. T. Matthews, 5; A. D. Stone, 6; J. Gould, 7; H. C. Ingram, 8. Also a 168 standing as before.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CHATHAM (Kent).—On Friday, August 4th, at St. Mary's church, several touches of Kent Treble Bob Major, Stedman, and Grandsire Triples. O. Sullivan, W. Hobbs, W. Haigh, W. Hunt, W. Baker, W. Easter, C. Fryatt, A. Osborne, and C. Gordon. On Saturday, August 5th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor on the back six in 30 mins. O. Sullivan, 1; C. Fryatt, 2; A. Osborne, 3; W. Baker, 4; W. Easter, 5; W. Haigh (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, August 8th, on the occasion of the marriage of Miss Athawes, eldest daughter of the stipendiary magistrate, to Mr. G. F. Tendall, B.A., several 6-scores of Doubles with 4-6-8 behind, and touches of Bob Minor. A. Duncan, F. Moore, C. Fryatt, H. Hinkley, F. Shedd, A. Lilley, W. Haigh, and W. Hunt. On Monday, August 21st, at the weekly practice, 360 Bob Minor with 6-8 behind. A. Duncan, 1; W. Haigh (conductor), 2; C. Fryatt, 3; W. Hunt, 4; C. Winser, 5; G. Smith, 6; F. Shedd, 7; A. Lilley, 8. Also 350 Grandsire Triples. A. Duncan, 1; F. Moore, 2; C. Fryatt, 3; C. Winser, 4; W. Hunt (conductor), 5; W. Haigh, 6; F. Shedd, 7; G. Smith, 8. Tenor 25 cwt.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—On Thursday, August 24th, at St. Peter's church, 210 Grandsire Triples. S. Faithfull, 1; W. Latter, 2; W. Smith, 3; H. Martin, 4; J. Heathorne, 5; G. Smithers, 6; H. Porter (conductor), 7; E. Mankelow, 8. Also 504 Stedman Triples. S. Perkins, jun., 1; E. Mankelow, 2; P. Stapley, 3; W. Latter, 4; H. Porter, 5; G. Smithers, 6; S. Perkins, sen., 7; W. Smith, 8. Also 336 Bob Major. S. Perkins, jun., 1; S. Perkins, sen., 2; H. Porter, 3; J. Heathorne, 4; E. Mankelow, 5; G. Smithers, 6; P. Stapley, 7; W. Latter (conductor), 8. And 224 Oxford Bob Triples. S. Perkins, jun., 1; J. Muggridge, 2; J. Heathorne, 3; S. Perkins, 4; G. Smithers, 5; E. Mankelow, 6; W. Latter, 7; H. Martin, 8.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

PENN (Staffordshire).—On Wednesday, July 19th, 432 Double Norwich Major. B. Dalton, 1; H. J. Balcombe, 2; R. Pickering, 3; H. Knight, 4; S. Hodges, 5; W. G. Hall, 6; J. Jaggar, 7; J. E. Groves (conductor), 8. Also 544 Double Norwich. B. Dalton, 1; H. J. Balcombe, 2; R. Pickering, 3; H. Knight, 4; S. Hodges, 5; G. Burrows, 6; J. E. Groves (conductor), 7; R. Cartwright, 8. And 288 Forward Major. H. J. Balcombe, 1; R. Pickering, 2; J. Jaggar, 3; H. Knight, 4; W. G. Hall, 5; G. Burrows, 6; R. Cartwright, 7; J. E. Groves (conductor), 8. Also 252 Stedman Triples. R. Cartwright, 1; H. J. Balcombe, 2; B. Dalton, 3; J. E. Groves, 4; S. Hodges, 5; G. Burrows, 6; H. Knight, 7; J. Jaggar (conductor), 8. Tenor 11½ cwt. These touches were rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect for the late Coroner, W. H. Phillips, Esq.

TETTENHALL (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday, August 1st, on the occasion of a wedding, 720 Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. E. Warboys, 1; B. Dalton, jun., 2; E. Genna, 3; J. H. Rowe, 4; B. Dalton, sen.,

5; J. E. Groves (conductor), 6. And several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles.

WOLVERHAMPTON (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, July 22nd, at St. Peter's church, an attempt for a peal of Stedman Caters came to grief in the last course in 3 hrs. 6 mins. W. G. Hall, 1; H. Knight, 2; H. J. Balcombe, 3; B. Dalton, 4; R. Pickering, 5; T. Elton, 6; S. Hodges, 7; J. George, 8; J. E. Groves (composer and conductor), 9; E. Brown, 10.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

LOUGHTON (Essex).—On Tuesday, July 11th, at the church of St. John the Baptist, 400 Double Norwich. W. Keeble (conductor), 1; W. Doran, 2; E. Bacon, 3; F. Freeman, 4; J. Rann, 5; G. Carter, 6; W. Clark, 7; E. Wightman, 8. On Tuesday, July 18th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Miller, 1; W. Doran, 2; W. Keeble, 3; E. Bacon (conductor), 4; W. Clark, 5; G. Carter, 6. And 120 Stedman. E. Bacon (conductor), 2; G. Carter, 4; W. Doran, 5; W. Clark, 6. On Tuesday, July 25th, 528 Double Norwich. W. Keeble, 1; W. Doran, 2; J. Mardell, 3; F. Freeman, 4; J. Rann, 5; G. Carter, 6; W. Clark, 7; E. Wightman (conductor), 8. On Tuesday, August 15th, for practice, 640 Double Norwich. E. Bacon, 1; T. H. Beams, 2; E. Wightman (conductor), 3; J. Mardell, 4; W. Doran, 5; W. Keeble, 6; W. Clark, 7; G. Carter, 8. On Tuesday, August 15th, 640 Double Norwich. E. Bacon, 1; T. H. Beams, 2; E. Wightman (conductor), 3; J. Mardell, 4; W. Doran, 5; W. Keeble, 6; W. Clark, 7; G. Carter, 8.

LEYTONSTONE (Essex).—On Tuesday, July 18th, at the church of St. John the Baptist, 720 Kent Treble Bob. F. Withers, 1; W. Miller, 2; W. Keeble, 3; W. Doran, 4; E. Wightman (conductor), 5; G. Hayden, 6. On Sunday evening, August 13th, after Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. T. Beams, 1; W. Keeble (conductor), 2; G. Wigg, 3; W. Miller, 4; W. Doran, 5; G. Hayden, 6.

WOODFORD (Essex).—On Sunday evening, July 30th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. F. Withers, 1; H. Gowers, 2; W. Keeble (conductor), 3; J. Kimberly, 4; J. Mardell, 5; G. Hayden, 6. This is the first on the bells for fifteen months, owing to the condition of the tower. On Sunday evening, August 6th, for Divine Service, 240 Stedman and 120 Grandsire. W. Keeble (conductor), 1; E. Bacon, 2; J. Rann, 3; J. Mardell, 4; W. Clark, 5; C. Morse, 6. After service 720 Bob Minor. — Fox, 1; W. Keeble (conductor), 4; the rest as before.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NORTON FITZWARRREN (Somersetshire).—On Wednesday, August 2nd, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. I. Creed (conductor), 1; F. Wyatt, 2; H. Creed, 3; T. Creed, 4; J. Hunt, 5; J. Cridland, 6. First 720 in the method by J. Hunt, and was rung at the first attempt. On Sunday morning, August 13th, for Divine Service, 720 Violet Treble Bob. F. Wyatt, 1; H. Creed, 2; I. Creed (conductor), 3; J. Hunt, 4; T. Creed, 5; J. Cridland, 6. First in the method by J. Hunt, and rung at the first attempt. On Thursday, August 17th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. J. Sloman, 1; F. Wyatt, 2; I. Creed (conductor), 3; H. Chaplin, 4; T. Creed, 5; J. Cridland, 6. First 720 in the method by J. Sloman.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

KIDLINGTON (Oxon).—On Sunday morning, August 20th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 288 Stedman Triples. A. W. Brighton, R. T. Hibbert, 2; T. Faulkner, 3; T. H. Taffender, 4; W. Bennett, 5; H. G. Judge, 6; J. George (conductor), 7; F. Webb, 8. And three courses of Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Franklin (first touch of Treble Bob), 1; W. Bennett, 2; T. Faulkner, 3; T. H. Taffender, 4; J. George, 5; H. G. Judge, 6; A. W. Brighton, 7; R. T. Hibbert (conductor), 8. Also two courses of Stedman Triples. J. Franklin, 1; W. Bennett, 2; A. W. Brighton, 3; T. H. Taffender (conductor), 4; H. G. Judge, 5; J. George, 6; R. T. Hibbert, 7; T. Faulkner, 8. And 168 Grandsire Triples. J. George, 1; W. Bennett, 2; A. W. Brighton (conductor), 3; J. Franklin, 4; R. T. Hibbert, 5; F. Webb, 6; H. G. Judge, 7; W. Franklin, 8.

OXFORD.—On Sunday evening, August 20th, for Divine Service at Christ Church Cathedral, a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major on the back eight. W. J. Smith, 1; T. H. Taffender, 2; C. Hounslow, 3; W. Jeffery, 4; T. Faulkner, 5; E. Hims, 6; A. W. Brighton (conductor), 7; J. George, 8. For evening service at All Saints church, 360 Kent Treble Bob. C. Hounslow, 1; J. R. Sharman, 2; J. George, 3; A. W. Brighton (conductor), 4; C. F. Winney, 5; R. T. Hibbert, 6.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday, August 27th, after Divine Service in the evening, 518 Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Lady Constance Louisa Wolseley. A. Newman, jun., 1; G. E. Harbour, 2; J. F. Tarrant, 3; E. W. Men-day (conductor), 4; J. Hands, 5; H. W. Smith, 6; T. Newman, sen., 7; H. Simmonds, 8.

EALING (Middlesex).—On Sunday, September 3rd, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Brook's). J. A. Trollope, 1; E. J. Walsom, 2; J. Howes, 3; A. H. Taber, 4; E. Harris, 5; J. Basden (conductor), 6; H. Browning, 7; R. George, 8. Tenor 19½ cwt.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LITTLE MUNDEN.—On Sunday, July 23rd, for morning service, 360 Bob Minor and 108 Grandsire. H. Carter, 1; A. Wright, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Lawrence, 4; A. Phillips, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. On Sunday, August 13th, for morning service, 360 Oxford Bob. G. Carter, 2; the rest as before. For evening service, 720 in the same method was lost 120 changes from home through the 6th rope breaking. On Sunday, August 26th, three 6-scores of Grandsire and Bob Doubles. J. Smith (aged 12), 1; A. Phillips (conductor), 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Lawrence, 4; W. H. Lawrence, 5; H. Carter, 6. For evening service, 360 Bob Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Wright, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Lawrence, 4; W. H. Lawrence, 5; A. Phillips (conductor), 6. And 108 Grandsire Minor.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ICKLETON (Cambs).—On Sunday, August 27th, on handbells, 720 of Doubles, being a 6-score each of April Day, Grandsire, Plain, and Old Doubles, and two 6-scores of Canterbury. F. Bowtell, 1; E. Webb, 2; P. Webb (conductor), 3; A. Lilley, 4; J. Webb, 5; H. Flitten, 6.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

REIGATE (Surrey).—On Monday, August 28th, at the parish church, 378 Grandsire Caters. J. Beams, 1; G. Thompson, 2; P. Knight, 3; F. Hoad, sen. (conductor), 4; T. Brown, 5; F. Hoad, jun., 6; G. Hoad, 7; E. Kenward, 8; H. Reeves, 9; J. Steadman, 10. And 108 Stedman Caters. P. Knight, 1; J. Beams, 2; G. Thompson, 3; F. Hoad, sen., 4; F. Hoad, jun., 5; H. Reeves, 6; G. Hoad, 7; E. Kenward, 8; W. Argent, 9; J. Steadman, 10. Also 503 Grandsire Caters. G. Garrot, 1; J. Beams, 2; G. Ewins, 3; F. Hoad, sen. (conductor), 4; T. Brown, 5; E. Kenward, 6; W. Argent, 7; F. Hoad, jun., 8; G. Hoad, 9; J. Steadman, 10. Tenor 20 cwt.

REDHILL (Surrey).—On Saturday, August 26th, at St. John's church, an attempt was made for a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, but after ringing 1666 changes in 1 hr. 2 mins. the conductor called "stand," owing to the 7th and tenor bells going very bad, being quite unfit for peal-ringing at the present time. G. Wickens, 1; G. F. Hoad, 2; G. Thompson, 3; F. T. Hoad, jun., 4; F. W. Rice, 5; E. Kenward, 6; A. Ellis, 7; F. Wickens (conductor), 8.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

WOLVERLEY (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, August 22nd, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. Addleton, 1; J. Smith, 2; G. H. Frazier, 3; P. Perry, 4; W. Perry, 5; W. H. Smith (conductor), 6. First by all the band except the conductor.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BATTLE (Sussex).—On Sunday, August 27th, at the parish church, two courses of Bob Major. J. Sindon, 1; W. Eastland, 2; F. Mathis, 3; C. J. Hyland, 4; W. H. Eldridge, 5; C. R. Carter, 6; W. J. Thomas, 7; W. Franks, 8. On Tuesday, August 29th, for practice, 350 Grandsire Triples. W. H. Eldridge, 1; W. J. Thomas, 2; F. Mathis, 3; C. J. Hyland, 4; J. Sindon, 5; C. R. Carter, 6; W. Franks (conductor), 7; W. H. Eldridge, 8. *Longest length with a bob bell.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

STONEY STANTON (Leicestershire).—On Friday, September 1st, 2520 Grandsire Triples. F. Stevens, 1; H. Taylor, 2; C. Briggs, 3; F. W. Howe, 4; J. Noble, 5; W. Briggs, 6; H. Briggs (conductor), 7; W. Jones, 8. The above is taken from Snowdon's Grandsire, and was rung on the first anniversary of the re-opening of the bells. Great credit is due to the young ringers, as with the exception of Messrs. H. Briggs and J. Noble, none of the above could ring changes a year ago.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Friday, August 18th, at St. John's church, Deritend, 503 Grandsire Triples. B. W. Van Tromp, 1; W. Short, (conductor), 2; W. Ellis, 3; C. Watts, 4; E. Peek, 5; H. Middleton, 6; A. Walker, 7; R. Speakman, 8. It was intended to start for a quarter-peal, but owing to shortness of time the above was rung instead. It was arranged for B. W. Van Tromp, who hails from Taunton.

CAWSTON, NEAR RUGBY.—On Thursday, August 3rd, on handbells, 360 Bob Minor. On Monday, August 7th, two 6-scores of Bob Doubles and 720 Bob Minor. On Thursday, August 10th, 252 and

120 Bob Minor. On Monday, August 21st, being the conductor's 20th birthday, 360 Bob Minor, and three 6-scores of Doubles. Miss Lily Gillings, 1-2; A. J. Gillings (conductor), 3-4; W. Gillings, 5-6.

CHARING (Kent).—On Thursday, August 17th, 720 Grandsire Minor. W. Hadlow, 1; E. Archer, 2; P. Stover (first 720), 3; W. Goode, 3; J. Willis, 5; W. Spice (conductor), 6. On Saturday, August 19th, 720 Grandsire (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). And 720 Plain Bob (eight bobs and six singles). T. Hatcher, 1; E. Archer, 2; C. Tribe, 3; A. Hinds, 4; H. Ward, 5; W. Spice (conductor), 6.

FULHAM.—On Thursday, August 31st, in the belfry of All Saints church, on handbells, retained in hand, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 40 mins. E. H. Adams, 1-2; H. Barton (conductor), 3-4; J. W. Driver, 5-6; R. Charge, 7-8. First quarter-peal on handbells by all. Umpire—John Hudnott.

HEADCORN (Kent).—On Sunday morning, August 6th, for Divine Service, 1280 Superlative Surprise Major in 48 mins. P. Hodgkin, 1; W. Pye (conductor), 2; I. G. Shade, 3; G. R. Pye, 4; E. Pye, 5; E. Pye, 5; E. Wightman, 6; T. Groombridge, 7; J. R. Sharman, 8. Also a course each of Cambridge and London Surprise, J. H. Cheesman ringing the 7th.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Sunday, August 20th, at St. James's church, 720 Grandsire Minor. T. Wood, 1; T. Taylor, 2; W. Matthews (conductor), 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; J. Perry, 5; W. Steel, 6. On Sunday, August 27th, 720 Grandsire Minor. T. Wood, 1; T. Taylor, 2; W. Matthews, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; J. Berry, 5; W. Steel (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, August 30th, 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor and a course of Caters, on the handbells.

KIDDERMINSTER (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, August 22nd, on handbells, retained in hand, 360 Bob Minor. E. C. Hunt, 1-2; T. J. Salter, 3-4; J. Pagett (conductor), 5-6.

MONKS ELEIGH (Suffolk).—On Thursday, August 17th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. R. Keeble, 1; J. P. Brodley, 2; H. Randall, 3; R. Wilding, 4; A. Keeble (conductor), 5; W. Green, 6.

PLUCKLEY (Kent).—On Sunday, August 13th, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-four singles). T. Hatcher, 1; E. Archer, 2; C. Tribe, 3; A. Hinds, 4; W. Spice (conductor), 5; T. Tabrett, 6. Another 720 with eighteen bobs and two singles. C. Tribe, 1; E. Dixon, 2; A. Hinds, 3; W. Hills, 4; W. Spice, 5; T. Tabrett (conductor), 6.

PORTSEA (Hants).—On Sunday evening, July 30th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 48 mins. J. J. Symons, 1; C. Groves, 2; J. O. Bennett, 3; A. D. Stone, 4; J. Harris, 5; J. Gould, 6; E. C. Newman (conductor), 7; J. T. Matthews, 8. On Sunday evening, August 13th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 45 mins. P. M. Hannam, 1; H. Tucker, 2; J. Harper, 3; A. D. Stone, 4; J. Harris, 5; E. C. Newman, 6; E. Lindup (first quarter-peal as conductor), 7; H. Ingram, 8.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, August 20th, after Divine Service at St. Edward's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins. L. W. Copsey, 1; G. Roughton, 2; W. Pye, 3; J. Watson, 4; R. Pye, 5; E. Pye, 6; J. W. Wilkins (Boyne Hill, composer and conductor), 7; C. Dawkins, 8. Recently an attempt for a peal of Oxford Treble Bob came to grief after ringing 3000 changes in 1 hr. 45 mins. A. Brighton, 1; L. W. Copsey, 2; W. Miller, 3; R. Pye, 4; W. Doran, 5; W. Pye (conductor), 6; G. Watson, 7; E. Pye, 8. For practice on handbells 336 Stedman Triples. W. Pye, 1-2; R. Pye, 3-4; E. Pye, 5-6; L. W. Copsey (first touch of Stedman), 7-8.

STAPLEFORD (Essex).—On Wednesday, August 23rd, on handbells, a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. W. Blay, 1; G. Walters, 2; J. W. Wilkins, 3-4; P. W. Wilkins, 5-6. Another 6-score. J. W. Wilkins, 1-2; W. Blay, 3; P. W. Wilkins, 4; G. Walters, 5-6. The above was the first attempt at change-ringing by Messrs. Walters and Blay, and was conducted by J. W. Wilkins, sen., and P. W. Wilkins, respectively, and all hail from Maidenhead.

STAPLEHURST (Kent).—On Saturday, August 5th, 448 London Surprise Major. T. Groombridge, 1; J. R. Sharman, 2; G. R. Pye, 3; I. G. Shade, 4; J. H. Cheesman, 5; E. Wightman, 6; E. Pye, 7; W. Pye (conductor), 8. The above was rung after meeting one short for a peal.

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21^S DIRECT FROM THE LOOMS CARRIAGE PAID 21^S
POPULAR PARCEL.
Lot B.N. contains—1 pair Drawing-room Curtains, Superb Lacey Design, very Rich, 4 yards long, about 2 yards wide; 2 Pairs alike, for Dining-room, handsome work Copied Real Lace, 3 yds long, 60 ins. wide; 1 pair Bedroom Curtains, Artistic Floral, 3 yds. long, 50 ins. wide. One five o'clock Table Cover, Choice Guipure Lace. Sent, Carriage Paid, for 21s. All goods taped edges. Ecru if desired.
GIVEN AWAY with each parcel—6 Lace Dressing-table Covers, Fringed, one 45 ins. long, 5 smaller. Our 1899 Parcel is the best we have yet sent out. PRIZE MEDALS, Chicago and Toronto. Satisfaction guaranteed or money returned.
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C. Peach & Sons, Lister-gate Nottingham, Established 1857

NEW METHODS.

No. 1.

PAINSWICK SURPRISE.

MAJOR.	ROYAL.	MAXIMUS.
12345678	1234567890	1234567890ET
21436587	2143658709	2143658709TE
12463578	1246357890	1246357890ET
21645387	2164538709	2164538709TE
26143578	2614357890	2614357890ET
62415387	6241538709	6241538709TE
26145837	2614583079	2614583079TE
62418573	6241850397	6241850397TE
64281537	6428153079	6428153079TE
46825173	4682510397	4682510397TE
46281537	4628153079	4628153079TE
64825173	6482510397	6482510397TE
46285713	4628501937	4628501937TE
64827531	6482059173	6482059173TE
68472513	6870251937	6840251937TE
86745231	8604529173	8604529173TE
68472531	6840592713	6840329173TE
86745213	8604957231	8604957231TE
87654231	8069475213	8069475213TE
78562413	0896742531	0896742531TE
87652143	8069475231	8069475231TE
78561234	0896742513	0896742513TE
78652143	0987624531	0987624531TE
87561234	9078265413	9078265413TE
85716243	0987256143	0987256143TE
58172634	9078521634	9078521634TE
85712364	9705826143	9705826143TE
58173246	7950281634	7950281634TE
51872364	9705218364	9705218364TE
15783246	7950123846	7950123846TE
51738264	7905218364	7905218364TE
15372846	9750123846	9750123846TE
15738264	9571028369	9571028369TE
	5917203846	5917203846TE
	9571230486	9571230486TE
	5917324068	5917324068TE
	5197230486	5197230486TE
	1579324068	1579324068TE
	5173920486	5173920486TE
	1537294068	1537294068TE
	1573920486	1573920486TE

In sending the annexed figures for publication, I must offer my humble apologies to the compositor for the trouble I am giving. But I feel that time is fast approaching when the Exercise will be demanding a supply of Surprise methods for Royal and Maximus, and this is my excuse for trespassing on your valuable space. The three time-honoured Surprise methods, grand as they are for Major,

are but ill adapted for ten and twelve. In Cambridge the tenors are apart for 160 changes in the course for Royal, and when we turn to Superlative, the confusion is pitiable. London is no go, and can only be cooked for ten bells.

The figures shewn in No. 1 give a method which approaches Superlative so closely as to retain all its musical properties, and allows them to be retained for Royal and Maximus. It has only one false course-end, I forget what it is, but leave it to the composers who may care to work it out. I remember, when Norfolk Surprise was first published, Mr. Baker suggested that it was abandoned at Gloucester because I did not care to bring out a method in which I had so little scope for composition, but he was mistaken. I have never taken any interest in any composition but Grandsire Triples, and have only produced peals of Major when they were absolutely wanted for ringing. We abandoned Norfolk because of the horrible monotony of the five-pull dodging.

No. 2 is not adapted for eight and twelve. Its characteristics are: A clean Proof Scale; no consecutive places; true coursing order in front and behind; a fourth's place bob, giving the repeating lead.

Will Mr. Craven forgive me if I make a suggestion with regard to Yorkshire Surprise. That he should withdraw it in its present form, add seventh's place when the treble lies the whole pull behind; and bring it out on ten and twelve, and he will then have a method which cannot be beaten for beauty and sympathy of place-making.

In conclusion I should like to make a remark on the question of methods, recently discussed at the Central Council. All that Mr. Bulwer has said on the subject seems to me excellent, but there is one question undiscussed, the lead-ends. To me it seems evident that the lead-ends of Plain Bob and Grandsire, in which all the working bells are in proper coursing order, are the only ones permissible. Anything else savours not of method, but confusion, and when I see the hundreds of good methods that are to be had with this quality, it seems absurd that the Exercise should tolerate an inferior article. Double London Court is the only exception amongst Major methods in Snowdon's book, and it is one we could well do without.

And there is one other point that I had forgotten, symmetry. The place-making in the second half of the lead should always correspond with that in the first half. Yorkshire Court is

again the only exception in Snowdon, and its unhappy result in 720s is well-known. And, by the way, why Yorkshire Court? To my mind a Court method is one in which consecutive places are never made, and the Yorkshire variation is the only one I know that breaks the rule.

E. BANKES JAMES.

No 2.

DREWS COURT SURPRISE.

1234567890

2143658709
1234685079
2143860597
2418365079
4281630597
2418360957
4281639075
2486193057
4268910375
4628193057
6482910375
4628901735
6482097153
6840291735
8604927153
8069472513
0896745231
0987654213
9078562431
0987652341
9078563214
9705836241
7950382614
7593028164
5739201846
5372908164
3527091846
5372019486
3527104968
3257019486
2375104968
3271540986
2317459068
3271549608
2317456980
2134759608
1243576980
2134567890
1243658709
1426385079

DEDICATION OF NEW BELLS
AT BRAINTREE, ESSEX.

This event will take place on Thursday, September 28th, at 3 p.m. All ringers will be welcome. Further particulars next week.

SACRILEGE AT KETTERING.—Kettering church was broken into on Tuesday night. The contents of the offertory boxes were taken, and a quantity of sacramental wine drunk.

THE ST. PETER MANCROFT SOCIETY.

The members of the above Society had their Annual outing on Monday, August 28th.

London had been chosen, with but one dissentient voice, as the happy hunting ground—the success and enjoyment of their London excursion of 1893 evidently accounted for this unanimity amongst the members. The meeting time was 5.45 a.m., and within fifteen minutes the party, eighteen in number, were seated in a saloon carriage and under weigh.

By eight o'clock the yawning state of some of the company (the older men and all the ladies were not accustomed to such early hours) was past, and handbell ringing interspersed with a great deal of gossip (for which our better halves were solely responsible) enlivened the journey. Messrs. Winney, Brighton, and Taffender were at Liverpool Street, and at once piloted us to the Collegians' headquarters—The Coffee Pot.

What splendid judges of human nature our London confreres are, to be sure!

Our next journey was to St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, where a touch of Grandsire Cinques and three leads of Treble Twelve were rung. The very necessary dinner followed, at the conclusion of which our M.C.'s ordered us to Westminster pier for a trip up the Thames to Chelsea. Touches of Stedman and Grandsire Caters were rung at St. Luke's church, the more ardent followers of the science getting into sad grief with the women-folk for prolonging the ringing.

This concluded our campanological programme, as the remainder of the day was devoted to Earl's Court. The water chute, great wheel, savage South Africa, and kaffir kraal—to say nothing of an hour spent in a vain endeavour to obtain tea—soon absorbed the time at our disposal, as we were due at The Coffee Pot at 8 o'clock for a convivial hour.

Messrs. H. R. Newton, W. T. Cockerell, J. W. Rowbotham, and London East Anglians in the person of Messrs. E. Gibbs, E. Horrex, and J. A. Trollope, as well as other London brethren, were there to greet us, for which kindness we wish to record our grateful thanks. We have only one complaint to make, and that a serious one—the Collegians possess a clock that is exceedingly energetic, for 10.30 p.m. was approached with appalling swiftness, necessitating a move to Liverpool Street for the homeward journey.

The city of gardens was reached at 3.15, the party separating with the firm conviction that the most enjoyable outing in the annals of our Society had just ended. Our very best thanks are hereby accorded to all those gentlemen we have named, who added so much to our enjoyment, and also to Mr. Henry Dains for obtaining permission to ring at St. Martin's. We can only hope for an opportunity of returning their hospitality. C. E. B.

ST. MARY'S GUILD, TAUNTON, SOMERSET.

This Guild enjoyed an excursion on Saturday, August 26th, to Exmouth. The members, with the Rev. F. C. Powning, left Taunton by the 7.40 train for Exeter, and on arriving at St. David's Station were met by A. Blake, and after a very interesting drive of twelve miles Exmouth was reached at 11.0 a.m. A little spare time being at the visitors disposal, some took a stroll on the sands, others took a boat. One o'clock came the appointed time for dinner at the London hotel, where a capital repast was served, to

which every one done the usual service. This over, the tower of Withycombe Raleigh was visited, the company being met by C. Bond, an old member of St. Mary's Guild. A light ring of eight was found, which was soon raised in peal and set going in Grandsire Triples, several touches being rung, then the bells were lowered in peal, and the company returned to the London hotel at 4.30 where the brake was awaiting to take them back to Heavitree, Exeter. After a most enjoyable drive of two hours Heavitree was reached, and here was found a splendid ring of eight, tenor 25 cwt., put in by Taylor to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee. They were soon raised in peal and some well-struck touches of Grandsire Triples brought round, and the bells again lowered in peal. Steps were next taken for the City of Exeter, where the company sat down to tea at the Arcade. After refreshing the inner man and a chat with some Exeter friends time arrived to catch the mail train for Taunton, where all arrived just before midnight, well pleased. The company wish to thank the incumbents of the two churches visited for so kindly granting the use of the bells, and the members of the respective companies who met them.

DEATH OF MR. J. FOSDIKE OF WOODBRIDGE.

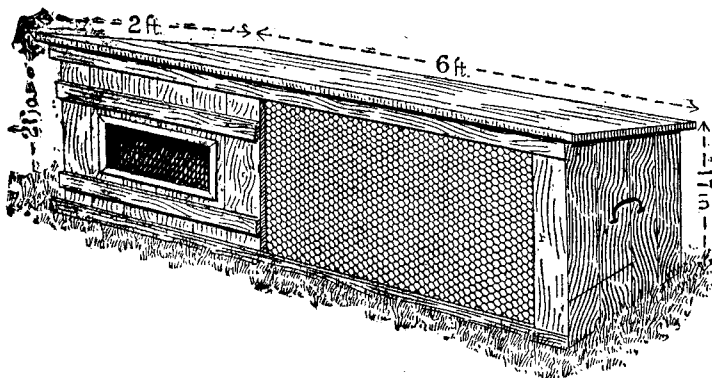
Many lovers and exponents of the art of change-ringing will learn with regret of the death of the veteran ringer, Mr. John Fosdike, sen., who passed away at his residence, Alma House, Woodbridge, on Friday morning, after a very short illness. Deceased, who celebrated his golden wedding in 1896, was in his 83rd year, and leaves a widow, two sons (Mr. John Fosdike and Mr. Edward A. Fosdike), and six daughters, four of whom are married.

As an enthusiastic member of the Norwich Diocesan Association the late Mr. Fosdike was well known throughout the diocese. He was early initiated into the art of ringing, becoming a chimer at 12 years of age, and he continued his interest in the science almost up till the time of his death, for on Thursday in last week he was ringing the treble in three methods on the bells of Ufford church. The most noteworthy circumstance in Mr. Fosdike's ringing career is that he rang in a dumb-peal on the death of King William IV., and also rung on the Accession of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, whilst for 60 successive years he formed one of the band (on most occasions he conducted) who rang on the bells of St. Mary's, Woodbridge, on the anniversary of Her Majesty's birthday, and also on Coronation day.

Mr. Fosdike is the last of the old company of Woodbridge change-ringers, and a number of boards in St. Mary's belfry record the various peals in which he rang. It is worthy of note that both his father and grandfather were ardent ringers, and with regard to the former, Mr. Robert Fosdike, it is recorded on the belfry that he rang the tenor in 1789 to a peal of 5040 Bob Major, in three hours. The name of Fosdike also appears on a board in the belfry as early as 1753, in the following lines:—"Andrew Fosdike went up and down this steeple seven times in twenty-seven minutes, in the 67th year of his age, March 15th, 1753." When it is remembered that the tower is 108 feet high, and there are 132 steps to ascend, it was no mean feat for a person 66 years of age.

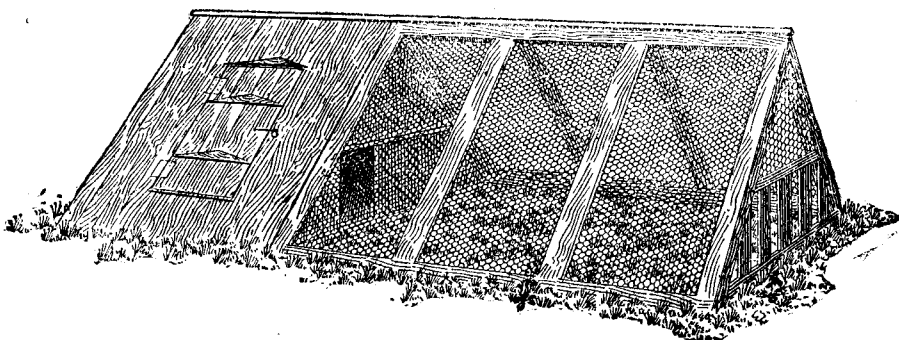
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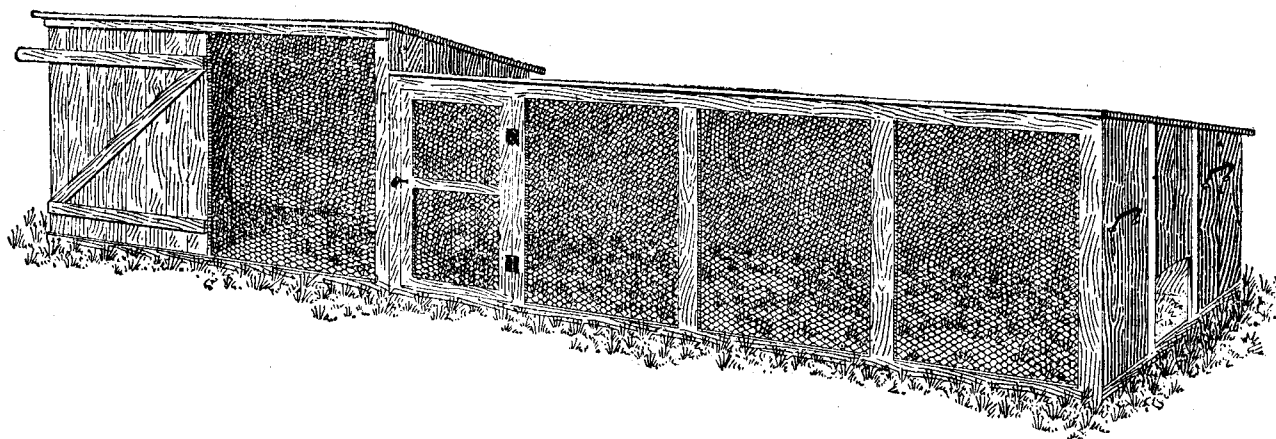
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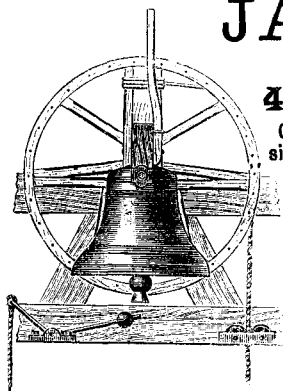
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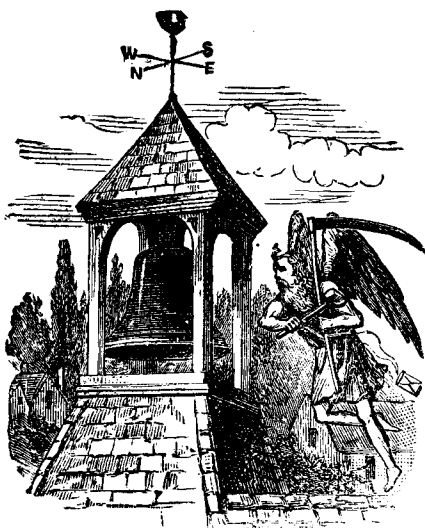
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No. 910.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1899.

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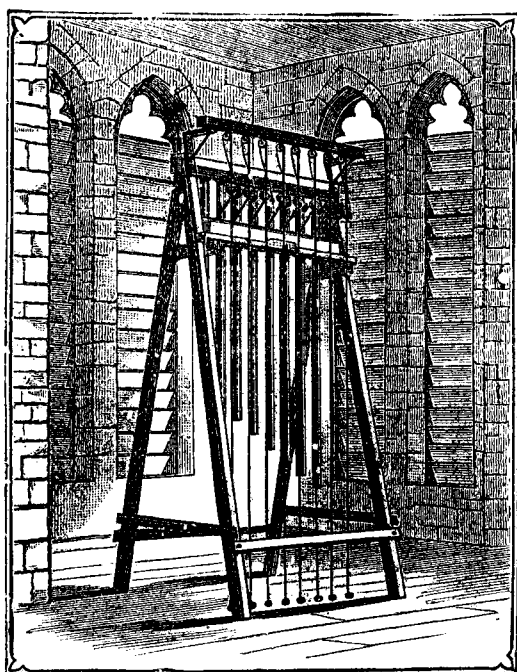
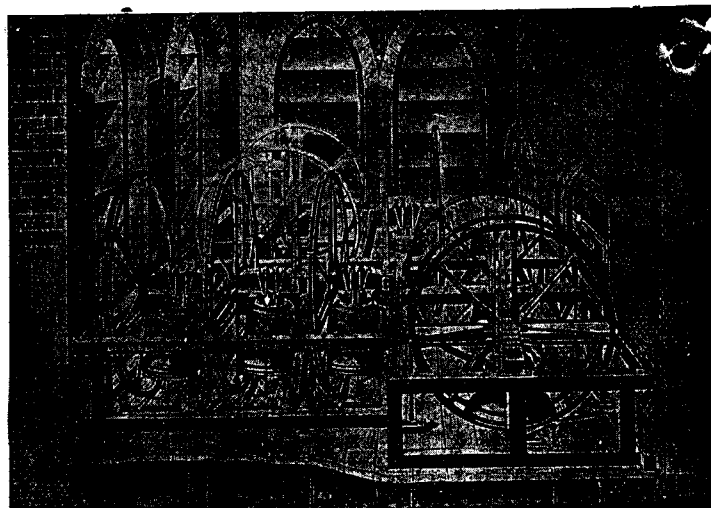
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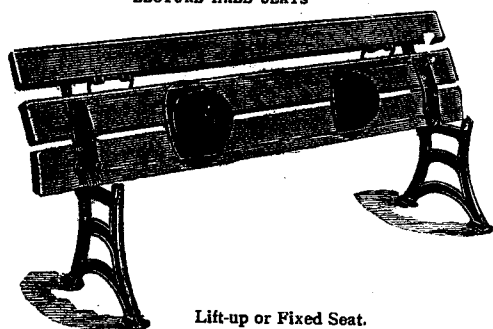
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 910.]

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of this Association was held at Trevethin, Monmouthshire, on Saturday, September 9th. At 5.30 p.m. the Rev. D. J. Davies, in the absence of the Vicar of the parish, took the chair, and called upon the Hon. Secretary to open the proceedings with prayer. The chairman expressed his heartfelt sympathy with the work of the Association, under whose auspices the ringers of the parish of Trevethin took keen interest in the Art and method of change-ringing.

After the minutes of the previous annual meeting had been read and signed as correct, the Secretary distributed to the members present copies of the annual statement of accounts, which showed a balance in hand of £17 13s. 8d. On the motion of Mr. Evan Davies (Caerleon), seconded by Mr. Rogers (Trevethin), the statement was unanimously adopted by the meeting. The following officers were unanimously elected for the ensuing year:

Master—Mr. William Coombes, Cardiff.

Honorary Secretary—Rev. L. Connop Price, M.A., Minor Canon, Llandaff.

Assistant Hon. Secretary—Mr. William Lloyd, 24, Prince Leopold Street, Cardiff.

Honorary Treasurer—Rev. L. Connop Price, M.A.

Auditors—Rev. D. H. Griffiths (Cardiff), Mr. D. Thomas (Penarth).

Mr. Evan Davies (Caerleon) expressed the thanks of the Association to the Rev. D. H. Griffiths, M.A., for his services as Hon. Secretary during the past four years, and their regret at his resignation of the post in consequence of pressure of parochial work.

The late Hon. Secretary acknowledged Mr. Davies' kind words of appreciation, and spoke eulogistically of the willing help and invariable kindness he had always experienced at the hands of Mr. H. G. White, who had acted as Assistant Hon. Secretary during the four years he had been officially connected with the Association.

The ringers of Caldicot tower were unanimously elected members of the Association, and Llandaff chosen as the place of the next annual meeting. A vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding concluded the meeting.

We should like to have seen many more members present at the annual meeting, for of all the meetings held in the course of the year it is by far the most interesting and important.

THE SALOP GUILD.

The Annual Meeting of the above Guild was held at Shrewsbury on Saturday, September 9th. The proceedings commenced with a short touch of Grandsire Triples on St. Chad's bells, followed by service at 3.30, when an appropriate sermon was delivered by the Rev. J. T. Rider, Vicar of Baschurch, Salop, from Genesis xxviii. verse 16. The meeting which was held in the vestry was presided over by the Rev. N. J. Norris, Vicar of St. Alkmund's, Shrewsbury. A most interesting report for the past year was presented by the Hon. Secretary, the

Rev. J. Mackay. Two peals only had been rung during the past year, both of which were Grandsire Triples, one at Wellington, conducted by John Jaggar, and one at Church Stretton, conducted by J. E. Groves. The Guild contributed towards the cost of putting the light but musical peal of six at St. Michael's church in ringing order, which was done by Messrs. Barwell, of Birmingham. Grants were also made for instruction to the ringers of Montford (six bells), and Shifnal (eight bells), the former being instructed by Mr. G. Byolin (Shrewsbury), and the latter by Mr. Rowland Cartwright, of Wombourn. The new certificate was issued at this meeting, to which all members are entitled who have paid their subscriptions. The balance-sheet shows a margin on the right side of £10 14s. 6d.

It is to be hoped that during the coming year greater interest will be taken in the Guild. That the steeple-keepers of Shrewsbury do their level best to discourage the monotonous and unscientific method of call-changes at their respective towers, by adopting regular and uninterrupted meetings for practising half-pull ringing, if not on the church bells then on the handbells.

After the meeting tea was provided free for visitors in St. Chad's parish room. The towers of St. Chad's (twelve bells), St. Mary's (ten bells), and St. Alkmund's (eight bells), were open for ringing, and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Grandsire Caters was rung; also an attempt for a touch of Grandsire Cinques. Besides the local men ringers were present from Wellington, Shifnal, Wolverhampton, and Tipton.

HAZEL GROVE, CHESHIRE.

After a silence of over twelve months, the bells of the parish church have again been set going. They have undergone a thorough repairing, re-hanging, etc., by Mr. W. Greenleaf, of Hereford, and that gentleman appeared to have done his work very effectively, as the bells were thoroughly tested during the evening by several experts, who one and all pronounced the "go" of the bells to be all that can be desired. This is the more creditable to Mr. Greenleaf, as the job has proved very awkward, owing to the peculiar manner in which the bells are placed in the tower and to the scarcity of room. By Mr. Greenleaf's invitation the late parish church ringers were the first to handle the ropes, and an 18-score of Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung by J. Dean, S. Fernley, G. D. Warburton, S. Rutter, J. S. Wilde (conductor), A. Fernley. Then 12-score of Oxford Treble Bob Minor with J. Fernley on the treble in place of J. Dean. The local ringers then gave place to a mixed company from St. George's and St. Mary's, Stockport, who rang a good 18-score of Stedman Minor. C. Darwin, G. D. Warburton, J. Barlow, T. Marshall, J. W. Bayley, W. Gordon, sen. (conductor). The standard of the various ringing performances was very good, and Mr. Greenleaf, who is himself an experienced ringer, expressed his satisfaction that the report of the various ringers who had tested the condition of the bells, should be so favourable.

KETTERING, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

The ringers of this place had a drive out on Saturday, September 2nd. The party, including friends, numbered sixteen. Leaving Kettering about 2 o'clock in the afternoon, a drive of six miles brought us to Desborough, where we arrived just in time to escape a storm. After staying about half an hour a start was once more made, a drive of between four and five miles bringing us to Brampton Ash. Here we were met by the steeplekeeper with the key of the church, and we soon had the bells up and going in Bob Minor and Grandsire Doubles. These bells are a fine peal of six. The treble was cast by Thomas Norris, 1657, the 5th recast by Eayre of Kettering, 1754, the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 6th were cast by Watts of Leicester, 1632. In 1896 they were rehung in iron frames by Taylor and Co., of Loughborough. It is a great pity such a fine peal of bells should have no ringers to ring them. It is here that six young ladies chime for service. After a stay of about an hour and a half the bells were lowered and a move was made for our next stopping place. A short drive through a very pretty country (obtaining a good view of Leicestershire, Rutlandshire and Warwickshire) brought us to Stoke Albany, and having obtained permission for a pull on the bells we were soon at it ringing touches of Grandsire and Plain Bob. These bells are a nice ring of six, five of them being cast by Taylor of St. Neots, 1790, and a treble added by J. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, a few years ago. Shortly after seven o'clock the bells were lowered, and we adjourned to The White Hart, where full justice was done to the good things provided by host Thacker. After the meal was over and the cloth removed, the handbells were brought out and tunes and change-ringing were indulged in for another hour. Miss Thacker presiding at the piano, a pleasant time was spent in harmony, Mr. Ernest Ingram being a local lion. By this time it was getting rather late, so we had the horses put it again, and were soon bowling along homewards, which we reached shortly after midnight, everyone having spent a very enjoyable holiday. The ringers wish to thank the Rev. S. L. Smith, of Brampton Ash, and the Rev. R. Copeman, of Stoke Albany, for the use of the bells, and the steeplekeepers for having everything ready.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

HEXHAM BRANCH.—On Thursday, August 24th, this band of ringers enjoyed their annual excursion, kindly provided by the Rector and churchwardens. Nearly all the members were present, the most notable exception being Mr. William Story, whose enforced absence was frequently regretted during the course of one of the most pleasant days ever spent by a body of ringers. The Rev. C. F. Ayerst, one of the Abbey curates, and Mr. R. S. Story accompanied the party, which left Hexham at 7.30 a.m., decorated with buttonhole bouquets, the thoughtful gift of one of the members. Mr. W. Story was down to see the departure, and to wish the band good luck, and certainly his wishes were amply fulfilled, as the weather was brilliant throughout the day. Our first stop was at Naworth, the seat of Lord Carlisle, where the ancient castle was inspected, through the kindness of Lord and Lady Carlisle. This castle is noted as the seat of the famous Belted Will, who was of the greatest use in putting down the lawlessness which existed between Scots and English throughout the borders in the time of James I.

In the hall, which is hung by some of the very finest tapestry brought by the Howard family, are to be seen the portraits of this powerful nobleman, as well as his armour. There are two important towers, that of the Dacres, which is closed to the public, and Belted Will's, which is of great interest, and which, with its secret room, is much as he left it, having been preserved from a fire in 1841, by the stout door which he had provided for his defence. A very fine view of the beautiful surrounding country is to be had from the top. Following a charming path by the stream through the wood, a walk of a mile brought us to Lanercost Priory, which was found very interesting. The nave is in good order, and is used as a church, the chancel and transepts being roofless. It is very noteworthy to find that this Priory has been partially built of stone used by the Romans, one of their altar stones, dedicated to Jupiter, being built in as the key stone of an arch.

A walk of about two miles brought us to Brampton, where an excellent dinner was partaken of, the Rev. C. F. Ayerst taking the chair. Mr. Ayerst took the opportunity to express the feeling of those present by moving a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector and churchwardens, and to Lord and Lady Carlisle for permission to view their castle and grounds, and to the Vicar of Brampton for permission to ring. These remarks were most cordially endorsed by the warm acclamation of the party, and a visit was then paid to the tower. The bells are a light peal of six by Mears, but the trebles are rather awkwardly hung, and owing to the fact that the band are still in their novitiate little ringing beyond rounds was accomplished on them.

A brake now took us to the well-known Talkin' Tarn, where the annual regatta was enjoyed to the full. In addition to rowing, in which we were pleased to see the lads from the Tyne take premier positions, there were races round the lake on foot, a record being pulled off, a hound trail, which brought out the strong sportsmanlike feelings of the local people, and the world-renowned Cumberland wrestling brought the day to a close. The lake with its wooded walks was charming, one of the party securing some capital views with his camera. After tea at The Howard Arms, and another pull on the bells, the train was taken for Hexham, which was reached about 10 p.m.

THE BISHOPS STORTFORD SOCIETY.

On Saturday, September 2nd, the members of the St. Michael's Society, Bishops Stortford, had their annual excursion, Thaxted, Essex, being the place selected. A start was made from Bishops Stortford at 2.10 p.m. by brake, and a pleasant drive of about two hours brought us to our destination, and after attending to the wants of the inner man a move was made to the church, and very soon the bells were going to the tune of Oxford Bob Triples, a 504 being brought round; also a touch of Grandsire and another of Oxford, the conducting being shared by H. J. Tucker, A. Tucker and C. Charge. Afterwards an adjournment was made to The White Swan, where justice was done to an excellent meat tea. Another visit was paid to the tower, and a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples was rung in 40 mins. G. Prior, A. Tucker, W. Prior, W. Watts, W. T. Prior, H. J. Tucker (conductor), C. Charge, J. Sampford. Then another visit to The White Swan, where tunes and touches of the handbells passed a pleasant hour away. The ride home was enlivened by songs and a few fairy tales, and everyone expressed himself thoroughly satisfied with the afternoon.

THE ROMSEY ABBEY COMPANY.

On Monday, August 21st, the Abbey ringers and friends had their annual outing, Christchurch and Bournemouth being the places visited. They left the market-place at 7 a.m. in two brakes for Christchurch. After a pleasant drive across the forest, Ringwood was reached at 9.30, and here a halt was made to rest the horses. The ringers found their way to the church, and permission having been granted by the Vicar, the bells were raised, and were soon going to Bob Triples. Two short touches were rung so as to enable all to have a pull, and then was up to start again. After a little refreshment they were soon on the way to Christchurch, where they arrived at 12.15 p.m. Here again permission had been granted to ridg, so no time was lost in finding the way to the tower, and this very fine peal was soon going to Grandsire and Plain Bob. After a couple of short touches had been rung they had to leave as it was time for dinner, which had been ordered at The Ship hotel. A good substantial meal was provided by host Stone, to which full justice was done. Dinner over they were soon on the move to the station to catch the train for Bournemouth, which was reached at 2.20 p.m. Here again permission having been granted, the bells were soon going, and a 504 and several short touches were rung. After tea the party dispersed, some to the beach and others to the gardens till 7.10, when the train left for Christchurch where the brakes were in waiting to take them back across the forest to Sandhurst. Home was reached shortly after midnight after a most enjoyable day. The ringers, through the medium of this paper, wish to thank the respective Vicars for the use of the bells.

A SCENE IN THE BELFRY.

(From the *Todmorden Parish Magazine*.)

It is not often bellringers, experiences embrace a fight with a gas pendant, but such an experience fell to our lot not long ago. It was practice night on Wednesday, August 9th, at Christ Church, and by a strange coincidence the Vicar had put in an appearance in the belfry, when all of a sudden everything went wrong. One of the best "rings" our ringers had ever yet accomplished was almost at an end, when the rope of the big tenor bell showed at its lower end signs of giving way, and almost immediately broke. The ringers had the presence of mind to stop, but the big bell went on, the rope cracking up and down with a report like a pistol. Everyone wondered who would be caught in it, and no corner of that belfry seemed secure. Then came a climax. The long iron gas pendant ventured to dispute the liberty of the rope to behave so "flippantly." It was only a short struggle. The rope was victorious, and in the darkness which immediately prevailed, rope and pipe together began their horrid dance. We trembled for the window; we wondered which of us would be struck, but we could see nothing. Fortunately, however, the sweep of the bell wheel soon subsided, and the terror passed: window and ringers uninjured; fragments of rope and a dismantled pendant being the only symptoms of the fight.

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.

A PEAL OF 362,880 GRANDSIRE CATERS, 6d. Contains the full extent of changes on nine bells. Forwarded Post-Free, on receipt of 7d. By James Hewett, 18 Chapel Row, Gosport.

Obituary.

JAMES HEWETT.

On Wednesday, September 6th, there passed peacefully away one who in his youth and vigour was one of the most accomplished ringers of handbells and church bells in Europe. Latterly, owing to increasing years, Mr. Hewett's name had not been very prominently observed amongst the lovers of the Art, but whenever he could get to a quarterly meeting of the Winchester Guild he always did, and on July 11th last he duly attended the annual meeting of this society at Portsea. At all times he was ready to help young ringers on in the Art he loved so dearly, and he will now be greatly missed at Holy Trinity, Gosport, which he attended regularly, rarely missing the Sunday morning service. Others who are more competent than the writer will no doubt be able to furnish interesting records of Mr. Hewett's long life. With him the Art loses one of its ablest exponents, and the Winchester Guild loses its oldest member.

He was laid to rest in St. Ann's Hill Cemetery, Gosport, on Saturday afternoon, September 9th. The funeral was a very simple one, and no doubt many more ringers would have been present had there been more time to inform them of the date and hour. The opening sentences and the committal prayers were said by the Rev. W. Lee, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Gosport, and the Psalms and Lessons were taken by the Rev. C. E. Matthews, Hon. Secretary of the Winchester Diocesan Guild; the Master, the Rev. C. M. Harvey, was unable to be present, being abroad on his holidays. Mr. A. E. Tomlins represented the local band; Mr. J. W. Whiting—an old friend—represented Fareham; and Mr. J. Harper did the same for St. Mary's, Portsea. As the funeral left deceased's house, the Holy Trinity bells (half-muffled) rang the whole pull and stand. On Sunday, September 10th, half-muffled touches were rung at St. Thomas', Portsmouth, St. Mary's, Portsea, and at Holy Trinity, Gosport. We will conclude by hoping that many young ringers may be stimulated to follow the steadfast and consistent example of James Hewett. After a long and a useful life, full of many vicissitudes—may he rest in peace.

THE HALESOWEN COMPANY, WORCESTER.

The members of this band with a few friends had their annual excursion, this time to Bromsgrove. Arriving there they put up at The Dolphin inn, where a capital meal was done justice to. Afterwards the church was visited, and the visitors were met there by Mr. Oliver James, who showed them round the church and town, and then the bells were raised and a good 504 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by Joseph Brettell, was rung. After a little rest, by the assistance of Mr. James, they had a course of Grandsire Caters; then the bells were lowered, and the party broke up, having spent a most enjoyable day. The visitors wish to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells, and the steeplekeeper for having everything in readiness.

B.

VISIT TO KILLAMARSH.

On Saturday, August 19th, two of the Bacup ringers and their friends paid a visit to Killamarsh, where they were met by some members of the local company. After partaking of refreshments a visit was paid to the church, and during the afternoon a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob was rung, followed by a 360 and 720 of Carlisle.

After tea a stroll by the river was taken to the neighbouring village of Beighton, where a 720 of Bristol Surprise was rung by G. Shottin, H. Greaves, T. Bettison, G. Burnham, H. Turton, J. H. Barnes. This proved to be very warm work, as the services of the bellhanger would be a good thing here. All confessing to being dry inwardly, The Cumberland Head was inspected to sample the various liquids. Here a pleasant hour was spent. The party afterwards wended their way homeward by the light of the moon.

Meeting again on Sunday morning a 720 of London Surprise was rung for morning service. During the afternoon a drive was taken to Bolsover, when a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob was rung for evening service by J. Severn, G. Shottin, J. Emsen, T. Bettison, H. Turton, J. H. Barnes. After partaking of tea an hour was spent in company with some of the local ringers, and then home again.

The Bacup ringers spent Monday in Chesterfield and neighbourhood, and on Tuesday a drive was taken through Norton and Baslow to Bakewell, reaching the latter place soon after noon. After a look round the town Mr. R. S. Smith was sought out and permission was readily granted to ring a 720 each of Lichfield and York Surprise. G. Shottin, 1; T. Bettison, 2; J. Emsen, 3; G. Burnham, 4; H. Turton, 5; J. H. Barnes, 6. The ringers in the last 720 being J. H. Barnes, 4; G. Burnham, 5; H. Turton, 6; the rest as before.

After tea the return journey was undertaken, Killamarsh being reached at 12 o'clock, all having enjoyed themselves. Good-bye being said the company dispersed to their homes.

The ringers wish to thank their ringing friends at the three B's, namely: Beighton, Bolsover, and Bakewell for their kindness in granting them permission to ring.

THE ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY, FULHAM.

On Saturday, August 19th, the members of this Society had their annual excursion, Betchworth and Reigate being the places visited. Owing to difficulties of train connections only six members of the party were able to reach Betchworth by 11.30. They were met by Messrs. Ansell, Judd and others of the local band. The bells were soon set going to the tune of Grandsire Triples, and on the arrival of Messrs. Adams, Driver and Pickworth (who had walked from Redhill) a well-struck touch of Stedman Triples was accomplished, the "go" of this recently-augmented ring of eight giving every satisfaction. A walk of a "country" mile brought them to Betchworth Station, and after a few minutes by train Reigate was reached, where the visitors were joined by Mr. Burkin and a London friend. Dinner was the next item on the programme, an excellent repast being served up at The Railway hotel by host Carter. As the bells were not available until 4.30 the afternoon was taken up by handbell ringing, touches of Grandsire Triples, Bob Major and Stedman Triples being brought round. On arrival at the church they were met by Messrs. Hoad and others of the local band, the bells being kept going until nearly eight

o'clock. The ringing consisted of a course of Kent Treble Bob Royal (the first on the bells) and a course of Double Norwich, touches of Grandsire Triples and Caters and of Stedman Triples and Caters. The ringing throughout the day was conducted by Messrs. Hoad, Driver, Charge, and Elson. Touches of Grandsire Triples, Bob Major and a course of Grandsire Caters was also rung on the handbells in the tower. Mr. Knight chimed a course of Stedman Triples and two leads of Grandsire Caters. The "go" of this ring of ten is everything than can be desired, and the visitors hope that the Reigate Society may soon have the satisfaction of scoring the first peal on them.

The excursionists wish to thank Messrs. Judd and Argent for making the necessary arrangements, and all others who assisted in making the outing a thorough success. E.

DEDICATION OF TWO NEW TREBLES AT BRAINTREE, ESSEX.

The above will take place on Thursday, September 28th, at 3 p.m. Free meat tea to ringers at 5 p.m. Members of the Essex Association can obtain reduced fares upon production of receipt for the current year's subscription. Notice must be given to me from which station ringers propose booking, and those requiring tea not later than Monday, September 25th.

37, Bank Street, Braintree.

C. H. HOWARD.

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 THE REV. E. B. JAMES.

SIR,—With your permission I should like to reply to the remarks made by the Rev. E. B. James, re "Norfolk Surprise" and Bob Major lead-ends.

The St. Peter's Society of Brighton have rung two peals of Norfolk Surprise Major, and I believe I am correct in saying that not one of the members of either company who took part in these peals have found the horrible monotony (described by Mr. James) in the five-pull dodging; and some go as far as to say that it equals any method yet published for musical qualities.

In regard to Bob Major lead-ends for even bell methods, the only two Surprise Major methods that I know of with foreign lead-ends that have been published in this paper are "Oxford Surprise" and "Arundel Surprise."

The first, "Oxford Surprise," by Mr. Washbrook in 1887, contains no contiguous places, and is a double method, the only faults that can be urged against it being 2nds place at a bob, and that it has two false course-ends.

The last, "Arundel Surprise," by myself in the early part of the year.

These no doubt are the methods Mr. James was thinking of when writing last week, and from his remarks we might suppose that he considers that all other qualities are quite secondary to retaining the Bob Major lead-ends, hence we have "Gloucester Surprise" given us by Mr. James as his best effort, a method with three false course-ends, making musical compositions impossible; 2nds place twice in every lead, causing the tenors to dodge the wrong way in 1-2 (a double dodge) twice in every course; and for this method he would not only claim priority over, but because of the foreign lead-end would condemn all methods like "Arundel Surprise," which is a double method, has a clean proof-scale, tenors always the right way together in front and behind, 2nds and 7ths places never made, and only two more contiguous places than in "Gloucester Surprise."

while for symmetry of place-making "Arundel Surprise" is not to be beaten by any method yet published.

I do not say that Bob Major lead-ends are not preferable, provided the same qualities could be obtained, but I strongly protest against the condemnation of a good method because of the foreign lead-end.

GEORGE BAKER.

P.S.—Whatever may be the qualities of Painswick Surprise Royal and Maximus, Painswick Surprise Major is simply a very inferior variation of Superlative; twenty rows in each lead being Superlative pure and simple, and with the bells above 4ths place Superlative only from beginning to end. There are three false course-ends against the method: 24365, 32465, and 43265 (not one only, as stated by Mr. James), the proof I give below.

How this method can be called anything but a variation of Superlative, passes my comprehension.

Proof of Painswick Surprise.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5	7	8	3	2	4	6	
5	2	3	8	7	4	6	
6	5	7	2	8	3	4	
3	4	7	2	8	6	5	
5	2	7	6	8	3	4	
5	4	7	3	8	6	2	
3	7	8	2	5	4	6	
8	5	3	2	7	4	6	
5	3	8	2	7	4	6	
5	3	7	2	8	6	4	
7	3	8	5	6	2	4	
2	3	5	4	7	6	8	

THE BERMONDSEY PEAL.

SIR,—It is a curious fact that nearly all the trouble in the world is caused by difference of opinion. Thus—what one person thinks is fair, another considers it exactly opposite. Also, what is termed redress by one party, by another is termed spite or revenge. Witness the correspondence in last week's number. Personally, I am at all times willing to be judged by results, and not by mere verbiage or private opinion.

It greatly amused me to see only four letters expressing concern at my condemnation of the performance. At the first sound of alarm they all rush into print to "get their friend out of trouble," but the similarity of phraseology gives obvious proof of their inspiration. If the writers will take the trouble to read the first sentence of my first letter they will see I am perfectly in order in objecting any time before the year's peals are compiled. I could have brought the charge some time ago, but it is morally certain that my motives would have been misconstrued. The writer who signs "J." no doubt means well, but he cannot find anything unparliamentary in my letters, and all I shall say in subsequent letters will be fully qualified by my first. His remarks about Billingsgate are simply hyperbole, and would have been more appropriate some weeks ago, when my opponent made the most scurrilous charges (without proof) he could invent. On this occasion he will not have it all his own way. Perhaps I ought to submit to W. Pye's mis-statements, and turn the other cheek, but I am not built that way. I am sorry for "J.'s" nerves, perhaps the quotation from Shakspeare shocked him. However, I think he means well, so I will pass on. As regards Mr. "W. J. Piper—ringer and churchwarden," I don't know why he labels himself in this manner, as it doesn't matter one iota whether he is a churchwarden or a coalheaver—his protest emanates from the same source as his friend's, and says that because it is seven months after date the protest is invalid. Is he afraid something may come out about the Double Norwich peal Pye called on Piper's bells last year? *Verb. sap.* If there are any more of W. Pye's friends fearful of hiding their light under a gill measure (a bushel is superfluous) will they please signify the same in the usual manner? Some short time ago they thought to make a meal of me; now I give them a hearty invitation to the picnic. Friends will please accept this (the only) intimation.

But to return. Mr. W. Pye has become so emboldened by making false statements that I mean to make him prove those that concern me. He says "I neither heard the peal nor had

information from anybody that did, my remarks being hearsay, what so-and-so told so-and-so." This is mis-statement No. 1. He says: "Willson has been writing to numerous ringers for three months asking them if they knew where I (Pye) have taken part in a bad peal." This is mis-statement No. 2; and further, I will pay £10 to any institution he likes to name if he can produce one line of mine asking that question. Here is a chance for him to prove himself a truthful man or the opposite. He can lose nothing but his character. *I keep copies of my letters.*

He says: "The peal was a very good one, rung true and complete, and no firing." This is mis-statement No. 3, for in my next letter I shall prove that the tenor was down among the working bells for twenty blows up to where they ought to have come home. No doubt some of W. Pye's friends hail with delight the drubbing they think I am getting, but softly! so sure as the night follows the day so sure shall I get the victory in this encounter. I am not such a fool as to pull the chesnuts out of the fire for anybody else, nor to start action of this kind without holding the trumps. I have had ample evidence for a long time which justifies me in protesting when Londoners themselves were too weak-kneed to take the initiative, and do what they knew to be right. W. Pye says he will "treat with contempt," etc., and wont answer me again, but I'll warrant he answers me in the next number of this paper. I shall expect (?) to see him claim that £10 or be branded as a perverter of the truth. If he fails to face the music I shall publish something the next week which will convict him and fully vindicate

WILLIAM WILLSON.

SIR,—After Mr. Willson's letter on the Kidlington peal I am not surprised at the tone of his last one. This noble, high-minded patriot, with a magnanimous suppression of all personal feeling, is so pained by the contemptible remissness of his fellow-ringers, who for seven long weary months have kept disgraceful silence, that at last his righteously indignant soul has burst its bonds, and he comes forward with heroic zeal to denounce the traitor in our midst!

His colossal argumentative powers we already know from the previous occasion. Woe betide poor Pye if he venture rashly to reply to this latter-day *deus ex machina*! The magnificent Peal-Purger, eager to preserve the purity of the Exercise, will in that case have Something More to Say!!

Oh Willson, Willson! Why did you not come sooner on the scene? The Exercise has long waited with grief and pain for such a man as you! Who else but this campanalogical Genius could so ably criticize a peal at which he was not present, graphically describing the actions of the ringers as they emerged from the tower, condemning it with graceful flippancy so as to hurt the feelings not even of the unspeakable Pye! What a debt of gratitude the Exercise owes to this sublime man!

Bedford.

C. D. SMITH.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKS. ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 2nd, the Thirsk branch of this Association paid a visit to Feliskirk, and by the kind invitation of Mr. F. A. Walker, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung by H. Brown, D. H. Burton, J. Wrightson, J. W. Neesam, G. Neesam, J. W. Long (conductor). Afterwards the ringers were entertained to supper in the schoolroom by the same gentleman, in which the local party took part. Then all adjourned to the belfry and a few more touches were rung. The visitors desire to thank the Vicar and wardens for the use of the bells, and Mr. Dix for having everything in readiness.

The bells are in remarkable good order. The host of The Carpenters' Arms catered admirably for the visitors.

BRADDOCK (Cornwall).—On Sunday morning, September 3rd, for the Harvest Festival Service at St. Mary's church, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. O. Gay, 1; A. Voss, 2; R. Frost, 3; C. Page, 4; Rev. R. H. Sowell (conductor), 5.

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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, SEPTEMBER 16, 1899.

ST. MARY-LE-BOW, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON.

Not very many people, says *The Standard*, seem to be aware that since Easter Bow bells have not rung. Amid the roaring tide of life that ebbs and flows at the foot of the grey tower in Cheapside, the silence of these "stupendous bells"—as Pope describes them—may have been unnoticed. The cause of the muteness of these bells that rang out the curfew in ancient days is serious. Nearly twelve months ago certain ominous cracks were observed in the solid masonry which the genius of Wren raised upon the arches of a Norman church. These fractures, naturally, have been ascribed to the burrowings of the Central London Railway under Cheapside. Sir Benjamin Baker has made careful examination. There are five cracks, two of which may be traced on the outer western wall and three in the porch. Two of them look alarming. One seems to threaten the severance of the tower from the arches of the porch, while the other runs from floor to roof through a couple of feet of stone and solid brick. The theory is that the tower—two hundred and twenty-one feet high, and in some places eight feet

thick—has given way on the north side, and has fallen thirteen inches from the perpendicular. Strangely enough, there are no indications of subsidence below the level of the street. After the Great Fire which destroyed the Norman church, Wren used the arches and the solid Roman causeway for the foundation of his building. Some of the vaults, in which are mummies and several hundred coffins, have been closed since 1819, and until they can be inspected the extent of the damage cannot be precisely estimated.

St. Mary-le-Bow, says the historian Stow, has been made more famous than any other parish church of the whole City or suburbs, owing to "diverse accidents." In 1271 the steeple fell and killed many people. Two centuries before, a hurricane carried away the roof "like an autumn leaf." It has been used as a fortress, and has been the scene of a treacherous murder. The Fire of London destroyed it, and in 1818 one of the arches threatened its overthrow. This appearance of sinking in one of the vaults led to an examination of the foundation. After removing a great number of coffins and two perfectly dried bodies, and cutting through an arch closed with brickwork, a portion of the old church was discovered. The vault was choked up with rubbish, apparently the ruins left by the Fire. These were taken out, and the ground being cleared to its original base, two rams' horns—marking the site of the Roman altar—were recovered. At the same time, forty-two feet of the spire affected by the expansion and rusting of the iron used in its construction were rebuilt.

Although the danger is not past, it is re-assuring to learn that it is not immediate, and that measures will be taken to preserve one of the most interesting and historic buildings in the City. What would Cheapside be without the stately grey tower, the beautiful doorway—unsurpassed by many that are objects of artistic pilgrimages on the Continent?

The Metropolis.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 9, 1899, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL HALLOWS BARKING,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

HARRY FLANDERS Treble.	JOHN H. CHEESMAN 5.
ROWLAND FENN 2.	CHARLES WILKINS 6.
ISAAC G. SHADE 3.	ERNEST PYE 7.
CALEB FENN 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by C. MIDDLETON, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

First peal in the method ever rung in the City of London, and the first peal in the method by the Association.

The Provinces.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.—SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, September 4, 1899, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

JOHN HACK* Treble.	GEORGE WILLIAMS 5.
JOHN STEDDY* 2.	FRANK BENNETT 6.
GEORGE BAKER 3.	EDWARD C. MERRITT 7.
ROBERT J. DAWE 4.	JAMES N. FROSSELL Tenor.

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK, and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

*First peal of Superlative.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, September 7, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-four Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qrs.

THOMAS PRICE Treble.	JOHN HACK 5.
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 2.	GEORGE H. HEAD 6.
CHARLES F. TURNER* 3.	JOSEPH SHARP 7.
GEORGE H. HOWSE 4.	FREDERICK ELMS Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN S. GOLDSMITH.

*First peal of Grandsire.

BURFORD, OXON.

On Saturday, September 9, 1899, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 19 cwt.

ERNEST BISHOP Treble.	H. ROBERTS 5.
ALFRED LAWRENCE 2.	WILLIAM BENNETT 6.
FREDERICK WHITE 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 7.
J. H. SHEPHERD 4.	F. STEDMAN WHITE Tenor.
	RICHARD WHITE

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

This is the first peal of Stedman on the bells.

WALKDEN.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 9, 1899, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13½ cwt.

JOSEPH POTTER Treble.	JOSEPH GREEN 5.
JOHN EACHUS 2.	H. SHUKER 6.
ALFRED POTTER 3.	JOHN POTTER 7.
ALFRED CROSS 4.	TITUS BARLOW Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and Conducted by JOHN POTTER.

DUDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

On Monday, September 11, 1899, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES.

HERBERT SHEPPARD† .. Treble.	*JOSEPH BRETTELL 6.
HENRY GOODMAN† 2.	SAMUEL SPITTLE 7.
WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT .. 3.	*JOSEPH FAULKNER 8.
HARRY PRICE* 4.	JOHN GOODMAN 9.
ARTHUR SPITTLE 5.	*CHARLES ROLLASON Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT.

*First peal of Caters. †First peal away from the tenor. ‡First peal with a bob bell.

Miscellaneous.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL (Yorks).—On Saturday, August 26th, at Holy Trinity, 467 Grandsire Caters. F. Moulson, 1; T. Stockdale, 2; W. T. Verity, 3; C. Jackson, 4; G. Marshall, 5; R. Chaffer, 6; D. W. Brown, 7; J. W. Stickney, 8; A. Knights (conductor), 9; J. W. Dale, 10. Tenor 26 cwt.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

WONERSH (Surrey).—On Monday, August 28th, several of the Guildford men accompanied Mr. Willshire to the church of St. John the Baptist, to meet the Vicar of Borden, Kent (Rev. A. J. Wilson),

who was spending his holiday at this pleasant little Surrey village. The rev. gentleman expressed his regret at not being able to invite them to the vicarage to supper, as things were all in a turmoil owing to their returning to Borden on the following day. The bells which are a musical ring of six, were kept going in various methods, but owing to the bad "go" of one or two of them, only two touches were brought round. A 720 Bob Minor. C. Willshire (conductor), 1; E. Allen, 2; J. J. Jones, 3; T. Streeter, 4; G. Foster, 5; F. Blondell, 6. And 120 Stedman Doubles. C. Willshire (conductor), 1; J. J. Jones, 2; E. Allen, 3; F. Blondell, 4; G. Foster, 5; A. Pulling, 6. Tenor about 18 cwt.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—On Sunday morning, September 3rd, for Divine Service at the church of St. Nicolas, 550 Stedman Triples. S. Radford, 1; G. Foster, 2; J. J. Jones, 3; J. Hunt, 4; A. Pulling, 5; F. Blondell, 6; C. Willshire (conductor), 7; R. Wood, 8. For evening service a course of Double Norwich. F. Wood, 1; G. Foster, 2; J. J. Jones, 3; E. Allen, 4; S. Radford, 5; J. Hunt, 6; C. Willshire, 7; F. Blondell, 8. And 168 Stedman Triples.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FULMER (Bucks).—On Sunday, September 10th, 720 Grandsire Doubles. E. Elderfield, 1; T. Toombs, 2; W. Clarke, 3; E. Harding, 4; G. H. Gutteridge (conductor), 5; W. Bateman, 6. Also 120 in the same method. C. Clarke, 1; T. Toombs, 2; W. Clarke, 3; G. H. Gutteridge (conductor), 4; W. Bateman, 5; G. Dean, 6.

TYLEHURST (Berks).—On Saturday, September 9th, at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, on the back six, in 29 mins. C. Giles (conductor), 1; C. Chapman, 2; E. Bruce, 3; A. W. Higg, 4; A. E. Reeves, 5; W. Horne, 6. Rung after meeting short for a peal.

THE ALL SAINTS SOCIETY, FULHAM.

BARNES (Surrey).—On Monday, September 11th, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 43½ mins. J. W. Driver, 1; E. A. Arthurton, 2; W. T. Meaton, 3; W. T. Elson (composer and conductor), 4; J. Aldridge, 5; W. Pickworth, 6; R. Charge, 7; S. How, 8. This is the first on the bells. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

WHITWICK.—On Sunday, September 3rd, for evening service, 900 Grandsire Triples. W. Fern, 1; S. W. West, 2; J. Rawson, 3; A. Whitmore, 4; H. Partridge, 5; J. A. Moulton (conductor), 6; L. Partridge, 7; G. Horwood, 8. Recently, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. H. Partridge, 1; A. Whitmore, 2; J. A. Moulton, 3; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 4; L. Partridge, 5; S. Wesley, 6. On Monday, September 4th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins. J. T. Allen, 1; S. W. West, 2; J. Rawson, 3; A. Whitmore, 4; J. A. Moulton (conductor), 5; B. West, 6; L. Partridge, 7; G. Horwood, 8. This is G. Horwood's first quarter-peal, and the quickest by the local company.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GREAT HALE (Lincolnshire).—On Thursday, August 3rd, 720 Bob Minor. W. H. Wood, 1; J. B. Fenton, 2; R. Masters, 3; T. Humberstone, 4; J. R. Green, 4; W. Dickinson (conductor), 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. T. Humberstone, 1; R. Masters, 2; J. B. Fenton, 3; W. Dickinson, 4; T. B. Wood, 5; T. T. Taylor (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, August 20th, for Divine Service, 720 Grandsire Minor. W. H. Wood, 1; C. Ward, 2; T. B. Wood, 3; R. Masters, 4; T. Humberstone, 5; T. T. Taylor (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, August 27th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. W. H. Wood, 1; T. B. Wood, 2; C. Ward, 3; R. Masters, 4; J. R. Green, 5; T. T. Taylor (conductor), 6. Tenor 11 cwt.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CREWE (Cheshire).—On Sunday evening, September 3rd, for Divine Service at Christ Church, 1260 Bob Triples in 53 mins. J. Simons, 1; J. Kettle, 2; R. T. Holding, jun., 3; R. Langford, 4; W. F. Hartshorne, 5; J. Dentith, 6; R. T. Holding, sen. (conductor), 7; A. Crawley, 8. Composed by Joseph Davis, of Derby. First quarter-peal by J. Simons; and first quarter-peal away from the treble by J. Kettle.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

RICHMOND (Yorks).—On Sunday, June 4th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 720 College Single. R. Todd, 1; J. Peake, 2; T. Frenchum, 3; W. Phillips, 4; A. Shelton, 5; R. Briscoe (conductor), 6. This is R. Todd's first 720 with a bob bell. On Sunday, June 11th, 720 Bob Minor. R. Briscoe, 1; J. Peake, 2; R. Borrowes, 3; T. Rushton, 4; A. Shelton, 5; W. Phillips (conductor), 6. On Sunday, July 20th, 360 Oxford Treble Bob. R. Todd, 1; J. Peake, 2;

R. Briscoe, 3; T. Rushton, 4; W. Phillips, 5; A. Shelton, 6. On Sunday, July 16th, 720 Bob Minor. R. Todd, 1; J. Peake, 2; T. Frenchum, 3; W. Phillips, 4; R. Borrowes, 5; J. Rushton, 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

LEYTONSTONE (Essex).—On August 9th, 720 Plain Bob. G. Dawson, 1; W. Miller, 2; W. Doran, 3; J. Mardell, 4; E. Wightman (conductor), 5; G. Hayden, 6. On August 13th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. T. H. Beams, 1; W. Keeble (conductor), 2; E. T. Wigg, 3; W. Miller, 4; W. Doran, 5; G. Hayden, 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. F. Withers, 1; W. Miller, 2; H. Gowers, 3; E. Wightman, 4; J. Moule, 5; J. Mardell (conductor), 6. On August 23rd, 720 Worcester Surprise. G. Hayden, 1; W. Keeble, 2; W. Miller, 3; J. Mardell, 4; J. Moule, 5; E. Wightman (conductor), 6. Also 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. G. Hayden, 1; W. Keeble, 2; A. J. Perkins, 3; J. Moule, 4; E. Wightman (conductor), 5; J. Mardell, 6. On August 30th, 720 Worcester Surprise. J. Rann, 1; E. Wightman (conductor), 2; W. Doran, 3; W. Keeble, 4; J. Moule, 5; J. Mardell, 6.

MISTLEY (Essex).—On Sunday, September 10th, for evening service, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. B. Osborne, 1; W. Bridge, 2; J. Souter (conductor), 3; W. Harvey, 4; W. Honeywood, 5; F. Steward, 6.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, April 25th, for practice, the local band, assisted by T. Pegler, rang 720 Bob Minor (sixteen singles and four bobs) in 26 mins. J. Waite, A. A. Waite, G. Smith, H. Mitchell, C. Browett, T. Pegler (conductor). On Tuesday, May 2nd, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 27 mins. A. E. Davies, H. Mitchell, G. Smith, T. Pegler, C. Browett, A. A. Waite (conductor). On Wednesday, May 24th, eight 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Waite, A. Rheam (Swansea), G. Smith, H. Mitchell (conductor), C. Browett, L. Robinson. Also on Tuesday, June 13th, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 26 mins. J. Waite, G. Miles, G. Smith, H. Mitchell, C. Browett, G. Condict (conductor). On Sunday morning, July 30th, prior to Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 26 mins. A. Rheam, G. Miles, G. Smith, A. A. Waite, H. Mitchell (conductor), C. Browett. Rung in honour of Archdeacon Sheringham coming to conduct the service.

NORTH NIBLEY (Gloucestershire).—Recently at St. Martin's church 720 Bob Minor in 27 mins. A. Philpot, 1; S. Jones, 2; H. Jones, 3; F. E. Webb, 4; H. W. Fussell (conductor), 5; A. Burcombe, 6.

BRISTOL.—On Thursday, September 7th, for practice at the church of St. John-on-the-Wall, 720 Kent Treble Bob in 25 mins. G. Thomas, 1; J. Thomas, 2; S. Thomas (conductor), 3; F. Isaacs, 4; J. Burford, 5; A. M. Isaacs, 6. First 720 in the method by G. Thomas. Also a touch of College Single standing as before.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

EWERBY (Lincolnshire).—On July 5th, 1470 Grandsire Triples. S. C. Skinner, 1; T. Woods, 2; R. Masters, 3; W. Pickworth, 4; H. P. Nash, 5; J. T. Holmes, 6; W. Dickinson (conductor), 7; H. Houlder, 8. On July 2nd, 720 Bob Minor. J. Clark, 1; J. Hilton, 2; E. Houlden, 3; H. P. Nash, 4; J. T. Holmes, 5; W. Dickinson (conductor), 6; H. Houlder, 7. On July 16th, 720 Grandsire Minor. H. P. Nash, 1; J. T. Holmes, 2; J. Hilton, 3; E. Houlden, 4; J. Clark, 5; W. Houlden, 5; W. Houlden, 6; W. Dickinson (conductor), 7; G. Smith, 8. On August 20th, 630 Union Triples. H. P. Nash, 1; J. Clark, 2; J. Hilton, 3; E. Houlden, 4; F. Warrington, 5; J. T. Holmes, 6; W. Dickinson (conductor), 7; W. Houlden, 8.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

FRESSINGFIELD (Suffolk).—On Sunday, September 10th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 720 Bob Major. W. Barber, 1; R. Riches, 2; J. Adams, 3; E. Lincoln, 4; R. Rayney, 5; F. Barber, 6; W. Riches (conductor), 7; A. Riches, 8. After service 1392 Bob Major. E. Lincoln, 2; E. Chandler, 3; J. Adams, 4; the rest as before.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

BUCKNALL (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday, July 25th, for practice, 720 Duke of York. C. Preston, 1; D. Preston, 2; J. Preston, 3; W. Wheeldon (conductor), 4; G. Hobbs, 5; W. Twigg, 6. *First in the method with a bob bell. On Sunday evening, July 30th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent. D. Preston (conductor), 1; W. Scragg, 2; J. E. Wheeldon, 3; J. Naylor, 4; W. Wheeldon, 5; W. Twigg, 6. On Tuesday, August 1st, 720 College Pleasure. J. Preston, 1; C. Preston, 2; G. Clarkson, 3; W. Wheeldon, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; W. Twigg (con-

ductor), 6. On Sunday morning, August 13th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. D. Preston, 2; W. Wheeldon, 3; C. Preston (conductor), 4; the rest as before. On Tuesday, August 15th, 720 Duke of York. W. Twigg, 1; D. Preston, 2; J. Preston, 3; W. Wheeldon, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; C. Preston (conductor), 6. On Sunday, August 20th, 720 Durham Surprise. J. Preston, 1; C. Preston, 2; G. Clarkson, 3; W. Wheeldon, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, August 22nd, for practice, 720 Woodbine. W. Wheeldon, 1; W. Twigg, 2; J. Preston (first in the method with a bob bell), 3; G. Clarkson, 4; D. Preston, 5; C. Preston (conductor), 6. On Sunday, September 3rd, 720 Woodbine. J. Preston, 1; C. Preston, 2; G. Clarkson, 3; W. Wheeldon, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, September 10th, with the bells muffled, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Preston, 1; D. Preston, 2; W. Twigg, 3; W. Wheeldon, 4; C. Preston (conductor), 5; J. Beardmore, 6. Rung as a mark of respect to the late J. Lovell Hamshaw, Esq., Clerk to the Hanley Borough Magistrates, and for many years lay representative to the Archidiaconal conferences for the parish of Bucknall. For evening service 720 Violet. C. Preston, 3; G. Hobbs, 5; W. Twigg, 6; the rest as before.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ARUNDEL (Sussex).—On Sunday, September 10th, for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples. C. Rogers, 1; H. D. Searle (conductor), 2; G. H. Lee, 3; J. Netley, 4; G. Balchin, 5; F. Luxford, 6; C. Blackman, 7; E. J. Hammond, 8. For evening service a quarter-peal of Union Triples, in 45 mins. C. Rogers, 1; H. D. Searle, 2; J. Netley, 3; G. Balchin, 4; F. Luxford, 5; G. H. Lee (conductor), 6; C. Blackman, 7; E. J. Hammond, 8. Rung on the occasion of the harvest festival.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CHIPPING BARNET (Herts).—On Sunday, September 3rd, at the parish church, on the occasion of a special service for the members of local Friendly Societies, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 47 mins. J. Wittey, 1; A. Miller, 2; J. Sumpter, 3; W. J. Dell, 4; S. Wade (conductor), 5; W. Pickworth, 6; A. H. Belton, 7; Arthur T. King, 8.

ALDENHAM (Herts).—On Sunday morning, September 3rd, for Divine Service at the church of St. John the Baptist, 1008 Double Norwich, and 168 Stedman Triples. W. Hewitt, 1; B. Prewitt, 2; F. Smith, 3; F. Whitehead, 4; A. W. Brighton (conductor), 5; G. N. Price, 6; W. Pickworth, 7; W. H. L. Buckingham, 8.

BUSHEY (Herts).—On Sunday evening, September 3rd, for Divine Service, 504 Stedman Triples. E. E. Huntley, 1; F. Smith, 2; F. Whitehead, 3; A. W. Brighton (conductor), 4; W. I. Oakley, 5; F. Edwards, 6; W. H. L. Buckingham, 7; ———, 8.

CHESTER.—On Monday, September 11th, at St. Mary's church, on the occasion of a wedding, 408 Stedman Triples. J. Swainson, 1; C. Sconce, 2; T. E. Chamberlain, 3; W. Sconce (conductor), 4; H. Dew, 5; J. Tomlinson, 6; W. Moulton, 7; H. Jones, 8. Also a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 45 mins. H. Jones, 1; C. Sconce, 2; W. Sconce, 3; T. E. Chamberlain, 4; W. Moulton, 5; J. Tomlinson, 6; H. Dew (conductor), 7; J. Swainson and F. Wood, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. in E flat.

GRAPPENHALL (Cheshire).—On Sunday morning, September 10th, for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Mainwaring, 1; S. Spence (longest length with a bob bell), 2; F. T. Spence (conductor), 3; T. Burrows, 4; H. T. Moston, 5; J. W. Booth, 6; R. G. Lewis, 7; J. E. Ashcroft, 8. In the evening 672 Grandsire Triples. S. Spence, 1; H. T. Moston, 2; F. T. Spence (conductor), 3; W. Hughes, 4; T. Burrows, 5; J. W. Booth, 6; R. G. Lewis, 7; J. E. Ashcroft, 8. W. Hughes hails from Birkenhead.

GRIMSBY (Lincolnshire).—On Friday, September 1st, for practice at St. James' church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. F. Leigh, 1; H. Fuller, 2; J. W. Chapman, 3; J. Baker, 4; T. Scrimshaw, 5; A. Knights (Chesterfield), 6; C. Jackson (Hull, conductor), 7; C. Taylor, 8. Our correspondent adds:—Any of our ringing friends paying us a visit and desirous of having a pull, should write to the Hon. Secretary, A. B. Shepherd, Deansgate, Grimsby.

KIDDERMINSTER (Worcestershire).—On Wednesday, August 30th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. R. E. Grove, 1; J. Smith, 2; W. H. Smith, 3; T. J. Salter, 4; F. Bennett, 5; J. Pagett (conductor), 6; E. C. Hunt, 7; T. Wakeman, 8.

LEATHERHEAD (Surrey).—On Tuesday, September 5th, to welcome the return of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. McGaw from their honeymoon, to Downside, Leatherhead, the residence of the bride's father, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Messam, 1; H. Wood, 2; T. Newnham, 3; H. Newnham, sen., 4; W. Marks, 5; J. Hoyle, 6; A. Dean (con-

ductor), 7; E. Hull, 8. Also 224 in the same method. E. Hull (conductor), 7; A. Dean, 8; the rest as before.

LONDON.—On Sunday, September 10th, at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, for Divine Service in the evening, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. W. J. Williamson, 1; M. A. Wood, 2; J. Bonney, 3; C. Lee, 4; A. Hughes, 5; J. Scholes, 6; H. Alford, 7; G. Dorrington, 8. Rung on the 53rd anniversary of Mr. W. J. Williamson's birthday.

MELTON MOWBRAY (Leicestershire).—On Sunday, September 3rd, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Spiby, 1; J. Barnes, 2; E. J. Gale, 3; W. James, 4; C. Dalby, 5; W. Potter, 6; J. E. Goodacre, 7; T. Gillett, 8; H. Bartram (conductor), 9; R. Young, 10. On the occasion of the Friendly Societies Church Parade, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Barnes, 1; J. E. Goodacre, 2; E. J. Gale (conductor), 3; W. Potter, 4; W. James, 5; G. Skerriott, 6; C. Dalby, 7; W. Starbuck, 8. For evening service 168 Grandsire Triples, standing as before. Also a 6-score of Bob Minor. W. Spiby, 1; J. E. Goodacre, 2; E. J. Gale, 3; W. James, 4; C. Dalby, 5; T. Gillett, 6; H. Bartram (conductor), 7; W. Starbuck, 8. On Tuesday, September 5th, 720 Bob Minor. J. Barnes, 1; J. E. Goodacre, 2; E. J. Gale, 3; W. James, 4; C. Dalby, 5; T. Gillett, 6; H. Bartram (conductor), 7; W. Starbuck, 8. Also several 6-scores of Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob Doubles. On handbells, a 6-score of Grandsire. W. Potter, 1; E. J. Gale, 2; C. Dalby, 3; W. James, 4; H. Bartram, 5; J. Barnes, 6.

THE ST. MARGARET'S SOCIETY, BARKING, ESSEX.

On Saturday, through the generosity of Mr. Churcawarden Davies, the members of the above society had their annual outing, Dorking (Surrey), being the place selected. Leaving Barking at noon, the company was augmented at Cannon Street Station by other members and friends, including Mr. Churchwarden Weller, Mr. W. T. Cockerill (the Secretary of the Ancient Society of College Youths), the Rev. J. A. Telford, Mr. A. ("Father") Whight (Chelmsford), etc. Embarking on the South Eastern Railway, Dorking was reached at 2.45, only half-an-hour late, the journey being enlivened by handbell ringing, singing, etc. After a short walk through the fields and a hasty glance through the quaint old town, the party found themselves under the shadow of the church tower, where they were further reinforced by Mr. Robert Sewell, formerly of Barking, who, in spite of his seventy-five years, still retains his ringing abilities, and handles a rope with a skill which many a young ringer might envy. Mr. Dodd, the steeplekeeper, was ready with the keys, and he, after showing the visitors round the church, led the way to the belfry, and soon the grand old bells, with a tenor weighing 25 cwt. in the key of D, were pealing out to the tune of Grandsire Triples, Mr. Davies being at the tenor. Other touches in various methods followed, including Stedman Triples and Double Norwich Court Bob Major, under the conductorship of Mr. Faulkner.

An adjournment was made to the parish room for tea, at the conclusion of which Mr. Davies, who presided, moved a vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens of Dorking for so kindly granting the use of their bells that afternoon. He said how pleased he was to have the pleasure of bringing his ringers to that place, and that he hoped he should have the pleasure repeated on many other occasions.

Mr. Dodd having suitably responded on behalf of the vicar (who was away on his holidays), Mr. R. Fenn, jun., on behalf of the ringers, thanked the chairman for making such perfect arrangements for their comfort, and enabling everyone to enjoy himself as they had done.

The Rev. J. A. Telford, in a humorous speech, said he should carry home pleasant memories of his first outing with the ringers; he also made a graceful acknowledgment of the help the clergy received from the ringers in their branch of Church work.

The tower was again visited, and the bells kept going until seven o'clock, after which a pleasant hour was spent in handbell ringing and speechifying at The Bull hotel, in company with some of the local ringers. Barking was reached at 11 p.m., and all concerned agreed that the outing had been a great success.

GIVEN AWAY. PEACH'S LACE CURTAINS.

21^S DIRECT FROM THE LOOMS CARRIAGE PAID 21^S
POPULAR PARCEL.
Lot B.N. contains—1 pair Drawing-room Curtains, Superb Lacey Design, very Rich, 4 yards long, about 2 yards wide; 2 Pairs alike, for Dining-room, handsome work Copied Real Lace, 3½ yds long, 60 ins. wide; 1 pair Bedroom Curtains, Artistic Floral, 3 yds. long, 50 ins. wide. One five o'clock Table Cover, Choice Gimpure Lace. Sent, Carriage Paid, for 21s. All goods taped edges. Ecu if desired.
GIVEN AWAY with each parcel—6 Lace Dressing-table Covers, Fringed, one 45 ins. long, 5 smaller. Our 1899 Parcel is the best we have yet sent out. PRIZE MEDALS, Chicago and Toronto. Satisfaction guaranteed, or money returned.
1899 PRICE 1.15T Post Free. 300 Illustrations of Lace, Frilled Edge and Swiss Curtains, Madras Muslins, Laces, Lace Capes, Blouses, Fichus, Pinafores, etc. Lace-edged Roller Blinds, any size, below usual cost. Estimates and patterns sent. Also Hosiery, "Stand Hard" Wear. Factory Prices.
C. Peach & Sons, Lister-gate Nottingham. Established 1857

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

5075.

23456

35264 1 2 5 2
 23564 9th in 3
 52364 9th in 3
 36254 8th in 3s
 23654 9th in 3
 62354 9th in 3
 25364 8th in 3
 32564 9th in 3
 53264 9th in 3
 26354 8th in 3s
 32654 9th in 3
 63254 9th in 3

This part twice repeated, calling the
 first course 8th in 2 produces—

62453

42356 8-9
 34256 9th in 3
 23456 9th in 3
 53426 1-s
 32456 8th in 3
 43256 9th in 3
 24356 9th in 3

54623 8th in 2 and 7-8
 64325 8-9

42365 8th in 3
 34265 9th in 3
 23465 9th in 3
 63425 1-s
 32465 8th in 3
 43265 9th in 3
 24365 9th in 3

Round by bobs at 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 1.
 First rung at St. Margaret's, West-
 minster, September 2nd, 1899, con-
 ducted by George E. Symonds.

BOB MAJOR.By E. J. GALE, *Melton Mowbray.*

5376.

23456 W M H

45236 - -
 25634 - -
 23654 - 3 s*
 32654 - 3 s
 36524 - 2
 32564 - 3 s
 23564 - 3 s

Twice repeated.

To reduce to 5040 call B A for s H
 marked * in one part which will cut
 out the next three courses.

YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR.By ARTHUR KNIGHTS, *Chesterfield.*

5248.

23456 W B M H

42635 - -
 63425 - -
 43526 - -
 24536 - -
 32546 - -

65324 - -
 32654 - -
 46325 - -
 42356 - -
 54326 - -
 25346 - -

63254 - -
 53246 - -
 45236 - -
 34256 - -

62345 - -
 36245 - -
 23645 - -
 62534 - -
 56423 - -
 52436 - -
 35426 - -
 23456 - -

Has the 6th her extent at home.

6048.

23456 W M H

64235 - -
 26435 - -
 42635 - -
 56234 - -
 25634 - -
 63254 - -
 26354 - -
 32654 - -
 46325 - -
 34625 - -
 63425 - -

54326 - -
 35426 - -
 42356 - -
 34256 - -
 25346 - -
 32546 - -

65324 - -
 36524 - -
 53624 - -
 62534 - -
 52436 - -
 43526 - -
 24536 - -
 53246 - -
 45236 - -
 23456 - -

The foregoing peal has the 4th, 5th,
 and 6th their extent in 5-6; the 2nd
 and 3rd never in 6ths place. By
 omitting the bobs braced, the peal is
 reduced to 5152.

DOUBLE NORWICH MAJOR.By J. E. GROVES, *Wolverhampton.*

5288.

23456 1 4 5 6

53624 - -
 26354 - -
 32465 - -
 62534 - -
 35264 - -
 52364 - -
 23654 - s

The last four courses four times
 repeated, then repeat the whole.

5376.

23456 1 4 6

63254 - -
 32564 - s
 26534 - -
 33624 - -

Eleven times repeated: adding s at
 1 in the first course of the 6th and
 12th parts. By calling these courses

1 4 6
 s - -

instead of any one part, the peal is
 reduced to 5040.

5376.

23456 1 4 6

35426 - -
 62534 - -
 32564 - -
 32564 s

Eleven times repeated; adding s at
 6 in the first course of the 6th and
 12th parts. Reduced to 5152 by
 calling any one part, thus—

1 4 6
 - -
 - s

AN ENQUIRY.

On Monday next, September 18th, I
 shall be carrying out some repairs at
 Glastonbury, Somersetshire, and should
 like to know if there are any change-ringers
 within twenty miles or so, and their nights
 and times of practice. Post-cards written
 on Sunday to T. H. Jones, Builder, etc.,
 75, Monnow Street, Monmouth, will be
 esteemed a favour; after Sunday address
 will be 48, Benedict Street, Glastonbury,
 Somersetshire. I will repay postage.

Notices.

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

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—A meeting will be held at Helmsshore to-day, Saturday, September 16th. Bells ready at 3 p.m.

Helmsshore. J. H. BANKS, *Hon. Sec.*

The Yorkshire Association.—The next general meeting will be held at Keighley to-day, Saturday, September 16th. Parish church bells at liberty from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Committee meeting at 4; tea at 5; business meeting afterwards. The local Hon. Sec. is Mr. Wilson Bartle, 12, Acres Street, Keighley.

BEN. T. COPELY, *Hon. Sec.*

14, Hillside Terrace, Bradford.

The Waterloo Society, London.—The meetings at St. John's, Vassal Road, Brixton, will be recommenced on Monday, September 19th, and every alternate Monday at 8 p.m.

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

The Kent County Association.—Ashford District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Tenterden to-day, Saturday, September 16th. Tower open at 3. Committee Meeting at 5.30. Tea at 6. Members intending to be present must send their names to me through the Secretaries of their bands before the previous Thursday. Half railway fares but not exceeding 2s. and 1s. extra for driving over will be allowed to all members present at 5 o'clock.

C. WILFRID BLAXLAND, *Dis. Hon. Sec.*
Hythe, Kent.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—The next business meeting will be held at The Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, after ringing at St. Michael's Cornhill, on Tuesday, September 19th, the bells at St. Paul's cathedral not being available that evening through a special choir-practice.

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

The Royal Cumberland Society.—The annual election of officers of this Society will take place on Friday, September 22nd, at head quarters, Bedford Head hotel, Maiden Lane, Strand. All members who can make it convenient are requested to attend.

A. JACOB, *Hon. Sec.*

10, St. Ann's Road, Hornsey, N.

The Essex Association.—A district meeting of this Association will be held on Saturday, September 23rd, at Mistley. The towers of Mistley (6 bells) and Harwich (8 bells) will be open for ringing. Tea and business meeting at The Thorn inn at 4.45. Members intending to be present must notify the same to me not later than the previous Tuesday.

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

Great Totham Vicarage, Witham.

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The next committee and quarterly meeting of this Association, by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. S. Phillips), will be held in the Chantry of St. Mary's church, Kidderminster, on Saturday, September 23rd. Service in the church at 5 o'clock; business meeting afterwards. The tower will be open for ringing. Tea will be provided for all those sending in their names to me not later than Monday, September 18th.

J. SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

36, Simms Lane, Netherton.

The Middlesex County Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Hillingdon

on Saturday, September 23rd. Service in St. Andrew's church at 6.15 p.m., to be followed by business meeting in the parish room. The bells of St. John (8) as well as of St. Andrew (8) will be available, and will be ready at 3 p.m. A substantial tea will be provided for members and their friends at 1s. 6d. a head. The Hon. Secretaries hope that ringers will make a special effort to attend this meeting, and give them early notice of their intention to ensure proper provision being made.

C. EDWARDS, } *Hon. Secs.*
ARTHUR T. KING, }

The Ely Diocesan Association.—Sudbury District.—There will be a meeting of this district at Felsham, on Saturday, September 23rd. Business and tea in the National Schoolroom at 3.30.

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

The Lancashire Association.—The new ring of eight bells at St. John's, Farnworth, Bolton, will be opened on Saturday, September 23rd. Dedication service at 3 o'clock, with address by the Rev. H. J. Elsee. Tea provided for ringers sending in their names beforehand to the Rev. H. S. Butler, Farnworth Vicarage, Bolton. All ringers welcome.

A. E. WREAKS.

41, Gibbon Street, Bolton.

Central Northamptonshire Association.—The Secretary regrets to say that the quarterly meeting arranged for the district of Whiston, Grendon, and Castle Ashby, will have to be postponed from August 26th until September 30th.

E. J. DENNES.

The Norwich Diocesan Association.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Ipswich on Wednesday, September 27th. Special service at St. Mary-le-Tower at 12.45, preacher the Rev. G. F. Coleridge. Dinner (2s. 6d. hon. members, 1s. 6d. company members), at 1.30 in Co-operative Hall, Carr Street. Notice to be sent to Hon. Secretary of intention to be present before Thursday, September 21st.

H. EARLE BULWER,
Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn. *Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Preston on Saturday, September 30th. Further particulars by circular. All reports of ringing during the past year ending August 31st, should be forwarded to the Ringing Secretary, Mr. J. Shepherd, 1, Venture Street, Bacup. All other matter to the General Secretary, Mr. A. E. Wreaks, 41, Gibbon Street, Bolton.

A. E. WREAKS, } *Secretaries.*
J. WILSON, }
J. SHEPHERD, }

Sussex County Association.—Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Mayfield on Saturday, September 30th. Further particulars next week. S. SAKER, *Hon. Sec.*
"Arran," Baldslow Road, Hastings.

Halifax and District Association.—The next meeting of this Association will be held at Heptonstall, on Saturday, September 30th. Bells ready from dinner. Business meeting in schoolroom at 6 o'clock.

WRIGHT INGHAM, *Sec.*

Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The next meeting of the above Society will be held at Drighlington (8 bells), on Saturday, September 30th. A peal will be attempted at 2.30. Meeting house The Spotted Cow. All ringers are cordially invited.

HY. GAYTHORPE, *Hon. Sec.*

1, Elm Avenue, Bramley, Leeds.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.—The quarterly meeting in connection with this Society will be held on Saturday, Sep-

tember 30th, at St. Matthew's Walsall. Bells ready from 2 o'clock. Short service in church at 5 p.m. Tea at 6.30, one shilling per head. Reports will be ready for distribution at this meeting. Numbers for tea to be sent in not later than the 26th inst. to

S. REEVES, *Hon. Sec.*

10, Bull Street, Westbromwich.

The Surrey Association.—The next quarterly meeting of the members of this Association will be held at Reigate, on Saturday, October 14th. The bells at St. Mary Magdalene will be raised at 3 o'clock by kind permission of the Vicar the Rev. J. N. Harrison, M.A. Tea will be provided at Mr. Mark Dean's refreshment rooms near the Town Hall, and local representatives must communicate to Mr. William Argent, of 4, Croydon Road, Reigate, the number of their members likely to attend, not later than Thursday, October 12th. The usual business meeting will follow the tea, and the Rev. C. G. Lynn Fryer will preside.

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

5, Manor Parade, Sutton, Surrey.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

SITUATION required by a married man, aged 31, without family, in a month or by the 11th of October as Gardener, singlehanded. Can manage Cucumbers, Melons, Tomatoes, etc., and the general work of a well-kept garden. Highest references. A change-ringer on six or eight bells. Apply John Gaymer Miles, Point Cottages, Attleboro, Norfolk.

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.

SITUATION wanted by Brushmaker. Change-ringer on 6, 8, or 10 bells.—A. Shuffelbotham, 62, Wellington Road, Hanley, Staffs.

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

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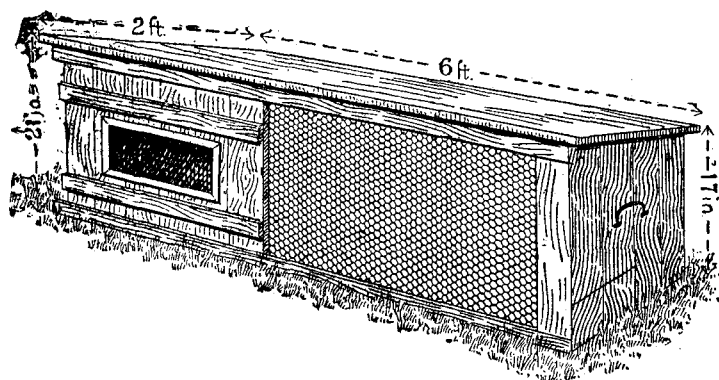
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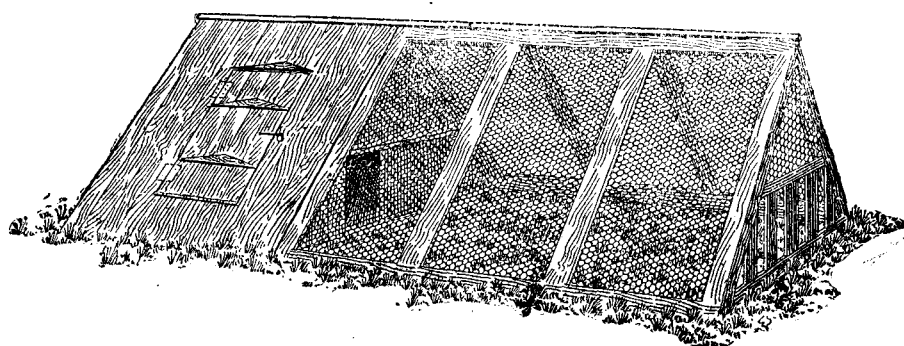
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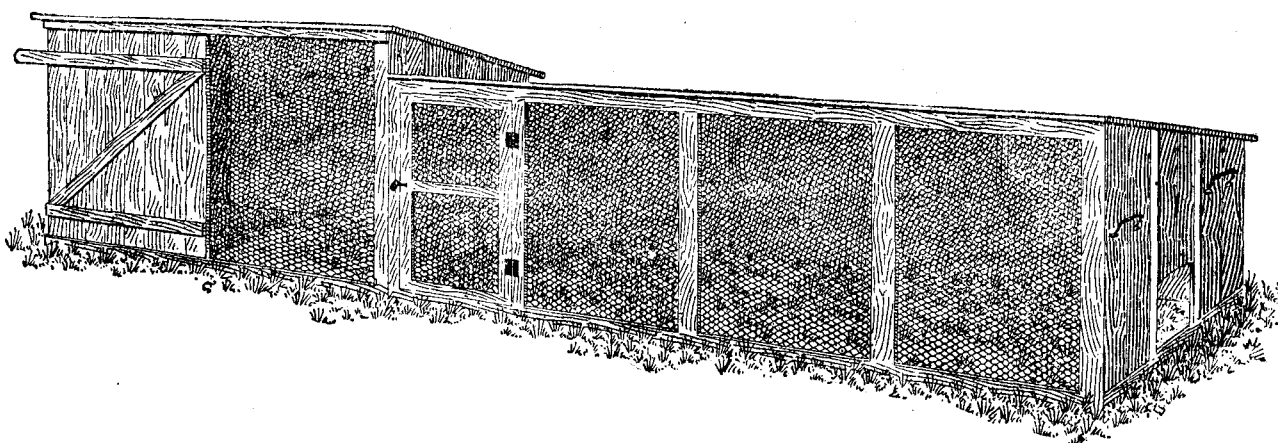
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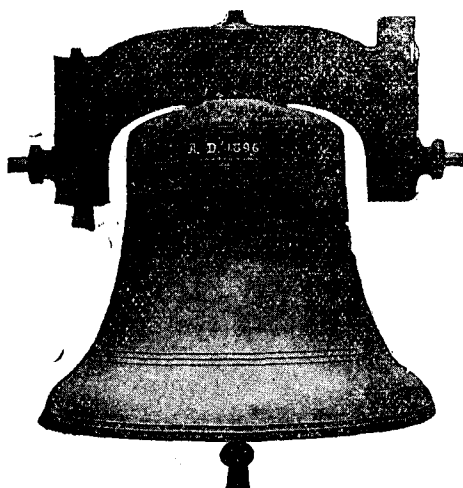
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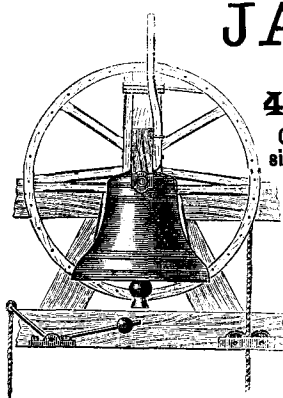
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The above are for 6 ringers with 13 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.A.			
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No. 320.	"The Mountaineer's Waltz," on Swiss Melodies	"	1 6
No. 321.	"The Rose of Allandale" March	"	1 6
No. 322.	"The Pilgrim of Love" Galop	"	1 6
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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. 911.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1899.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

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Bradford Town Hall.		Burnley Holy Trinity Ch.
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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.
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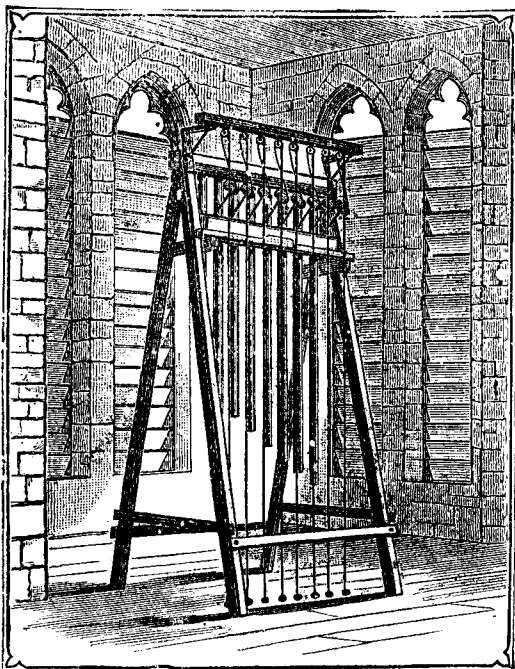
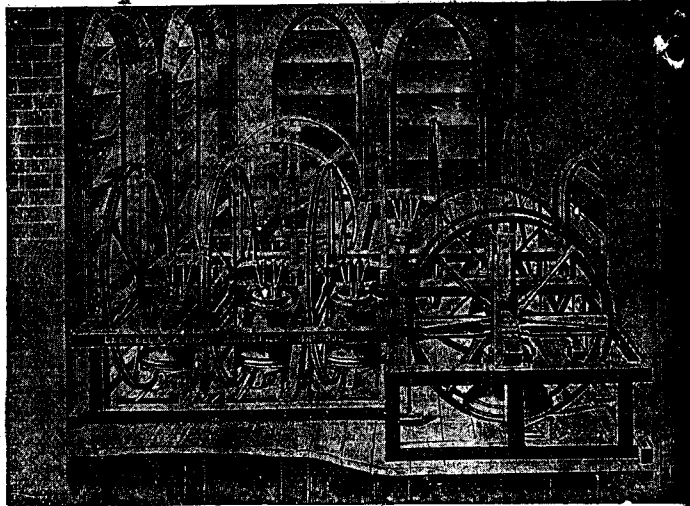
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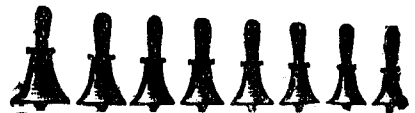
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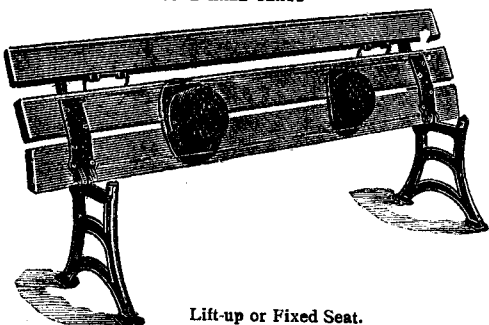
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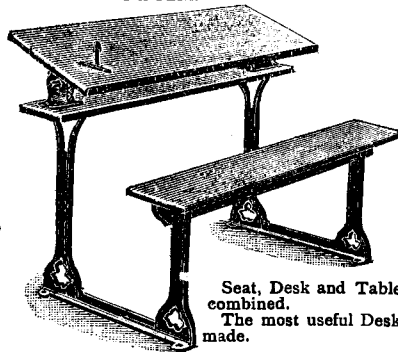
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 911.]

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

"A summer sun and a cloudless sky." That was very nearly the atmospheric conditions on Saturday noon, when I started on my way once again to meet the members of the Yorkshire Association. This time my destination was Keighley, one of the modern towns of the great county of Shires, characterised like most of its contemporaries by great activity and keen business enterprise, which has built up a busy and prosperous municipality. Fortunate in catching one of the popular Morecambe trains, I was soon speeding my way along beautiful Airedale, with its alternating rural and urban scenes, its panoramic sketches of hill and dale, with the river lazily flowing along the valley. The curve at Shipley having been rounded, Saltaire, with its tremendous factory and I don't know how many thousand horse-power engines, was soon passed. Then came Bingley, that quaint old-world town, with its Druids' altar, its ancient parish church in which is the famous rune stone that has been the puzzle of antiquaries throughout the world, its Roman roads and encampments, and numberless other antiquities. A few miles further brought me to my journey's end, when out of the busy railway station I stepped into the equally busy street, and threaded my way to the hostelry, where I was informed the local committee would be sitting prepared to welcome visitors and make their brief stay at "Keethla" (or "Keeley" as "foreigners" pronounce it) as happy as possible. After a few minutes' stay there I accompanied a band to the parish church for the purpose of raising the bells. Floating over the top of the fine square tower was "the flag that's braved a thousand years," mutely proclaiming the fact that there was something unusual going on. Ascending the spiral staircase, we reached the belfry, a comfortable well-appointed apartment, and soon the bells were swinging, bidding welcome to the visitors of the day, to the tune of Kent Treble Bob. Accepting an invitation, I then mounted still higher and stood on the top of the tower to have a view of the surrounding country. And I should have been sorry had I missed the opportunity, for whichever way one looked he saw a beautiful picture. In one direction was to be seen a portion of the winding Worth Valley, leading to Haworth, and bringing up in one's mind the Bronte family, which has given fame to that upland village. Turning northwards one viewed miles of pasture, moor and dell; till in imagination we could almost see the charming lake district, or Ingleton with its mountains, waterfalls and caves, which were on the other side of the hills forming the Pennine range. Southwards we could see the moors, which shielded Ilkley, Bolton Abbey and the Valley of the Wharfe from view. But time did not permit lingering on the lovely scene (or rather, I should say, scenes) thus presented to view, and so I descended to *terra firma*, and went my way to the Church School, where I found the Committee of the Asso-

ciation busily transacting its business, while the sound of the bells came continuously from the louvred windows of the church tower.

Five o'clock came surprisingly soon, and with it the guests, whose appetites (if I might draw a personal inference) were in full qualification for the substantial meat tea which was shortly afterwards served. Just before grace was sung, however, the worthy Rector, the Rev. Henry J. Palmer, M.A., entered the room, and chatted a little while. I then learnt that he had "tramped" somewhere about a mile from the cricket field, where a "James Kana" (I beg pardon, I find I should have spelt it gym-Khana) was being held in aid of the renovation fund of the parish church, where Lady Wilson was to present prizes to the fortunate winners of "events," and in honour of which, banners were flying from the towers of Cliffe Castle, the residence of Mr. Butterfield, an old and generous friend of Keighley Church and its ringers. It was very good of the Rector to thus not only put himself to inconvenience, but give himself a couple of miles' walk just to give countenance to the ringers' meeting in his parish, and assure them of his sympathy with them in their work of change-ringing. This sentiment was voiced by Mr. W. Snowdon (president), who briefly proposed the thanks of the gathering to the Rector. This was seconded by Mr. B. T. Copley, Hon. Secretary, and carried amid loud cheers. The reply of the Rector was cordial. He, while assuring the visitors of his hearty welcome, along with that of the churchwardens, referred to the great reform which had been brought about in our belfries during the past quarter-of-a-century by Associations like the one which he was addressing. He described the Art of Change-ringing as one of a most interesting character, and was gratified to know that its exponents now realised their true position, and that of their Art, as a branch of Church work. He also told of the pleasure he felt at seeing so many ladies present, as he considered their presence an indication of the interest they took in the work of ringing, and (perhaps it was a bit gallant on his part) expressed his conviction that where the ladies interested themselves, the "sterner sex" would not get far wrong. The Rector's remarks were interpolated with hearty applause, then, grace having been sung, we had a real good tea together with appetites corresponding.

In the course of forty minutes or so, we had done justice to the good things provided and served by our lady friends of Keighley. We had enjoyed the steaming cups of good tea which accompanied the tasty and substantial edibles that had loaded the tables. Then, as is customary with well-fed human nature, we were happy with ourselves and content with the world at large—even, for the nonce, with old Kruger and his stick-in-the-mud Boers.

Presently we adjourned into what appeared to be an assembly hall, with its organ in front and gallery in the rear. And here, I cannot help remarking, the resources of these Keighley parish church schools seemed to be almost boundless. One got bewildered amongst its maze of rooms—large, small, and medium-sized. I have been in a great number of those flowers of our country—her Church

Schools—in my lifetime, but for amplitude, convenience and excellence of arrangement generally, commend me to Keighley. This *en passant*. We got settled down at length for the business meeting, when Mr. William Snowden, President, occupied the chair. After the passing of the minutes of the previous meeting, the President referred briefly to the proceedings at the meeting of the Central Council, during the recital of which it was evident that his action as representative of the Association was cordially approved.

The next item on the agenda was the selection of place for the Annual Meeting. Here it appeared that there had been a general impression that Rotherham would have sent in an invitation, which would doubtless have been unanimously accepted. This however, had not come to hand, and no other place pressing their claims, the selection was left with the committee, with that end in view.

Messrs. Joe Hardcastle (Bradford), and John Lawson (Lightcliffe), were unanimously appointed auditors.

The President then referred in graceful terms to the loss the Association had sustained by the death of Mr. John Holden, of Saddleworth, a member of the Committee. He spoke of the whole-heartedness which had characterised Mr. Holden in all his work, whether as a ringer, Churchwarden, Oddfellow, or citizen, and concluded by moving a resolution that a recognition of the same be placed in the records of the Association, and a letter expressive of it be sent to the family. This was seconded by the Hon. Secretary, and carried in silence, all standing in approval of the same.

The vote of thanks to the Rector for his permission to use the bells and school, and also for his presence at tea-time, was then ordered to be entered on the minutes.

Mr. John Lawson (Lightcliffe), asked for information as to the petition respecting railway fares, in reply to which the President stated that the petition sheets forwarded to the Association had been sent out and returned to the Hon. Secretary, who would despatch them in due course to the proper quarters, when arrangements for the same had been completed.

A cordial vote of thanks to the Keighley branch for their generous arrangements, and to the ladies who had served the tea, was proposed by the President, seconded by Mr. Yeadon (Guiseley), and carried amid loud applause, to which Mr. Wilson Bartle responded.

Mr. W. Stainthorpe, Hon. Treasurer (Birstall), then proposed, and Mr. F. P. Powell (Heptonstall), seconded a vote of thanks to the President, which was heartily carried and acknowledged, this terminating the serious business of the day.

The schoolroom was soon after cleared of its visitors, some making their way back to the tower, where the bells were swinging merrily, others to the large room of The Black Horse hotel, which had been specially reserved for their convenience, to exchange pleasant greetings, and have "a handful" on the handbells together. But, as in things human, *tempus will fugit*, and the time for the "iron horse" came only too soon. We thus reluctantly retraced our steps to the railway station, envying those more fortunate who were still in the belfry sending out the sweet sounds of the bells "over hill and dale," but, notwithstanding these regrets, full of pleasant reflections of this our visit to the craft in the energetic and prosperous town of Keighley on the banks of the Aire.

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 CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

WIRRAL BRANCH.

The monthly meeting of this branch was held at St. Mary's church, Birkenhead, on Saturday, September 16th. Ringing commenced about 5 p.m. with a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. S. Breeze, E. Breeze, J. Hughes, J. Cliff, W. Battle, J. Dillon (conductor). Also 720 Plain Bob. A. Bennett, J. Hughes, J. Hammond, J. Dillon, W. Battle, E. Breeze (conductor). It being now tea-time ringing was suspended for a short time, and the visitors arrived at St. Mary's schools, to be warmly welcomed by the clergy from St. Mary's church, and also Mr. Clark (churchwarden). Twenty-nine members sat down to a well-provided tea, kindly given by Mr. Clarke, and to which ample justice was done. Members were present from Bebington, Bromborough, Bidston, Birkenhead, Neston, Oxtown, West Kirby, and Woodchurch. After tea a vote of thanks was passed to the Rev. —. Bryant for presiding, and Mr. Clark for his hospitality. Ringing commenced again with a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Pownall, G. Newton, W. Briscoe, J. Dillon, J. Hughes (conductor), W. Wilcox. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Briscoe, J. Meador, J. Pownall, W. Wilcox, J. Dillon, E. Breeze (conductor). Also 720 Grandsire Minor. J. Tilley, J. Meador, W. Briscoe, J. Cliffe, S. Breeze, J. Pownall (conductor). This concluded one of the best attended and most enjoyable meetings at St. Mary's. It is expected that the next meeting will be held at West Kirby.

THE UFFORD (SUFFOLK) SOCIETY.

This Society had their annual outing on Friday and Saturday, and were accompanied by Messrs. J. and W. Motts, of Ipswich. A start was made from Mr. C. Ward's, The Horse and Groom, Melton, at 6.15 a.m., the party proceeding to Stonham Aspell, where a substantial beef-steak breakfast awaited them at The Ten Bells. A touch of Grandsire Triples and a course of Double Norwich was rung here. The next drive was to Lavenham. Here is a fine peal of eight bells, said amongst ringers to be the finest in Suffolk. A few touches of Treble Bob, Double Norwich, and Stedman were rung. Arriving at Sudbury, the ringers found that Mr. Charles Sillitoe had made arrangements with the proprietor of The Christopher hotel for sleeping accommodation, etc., and had obtained leave from the clergy to ring at the three towers which Sudbury possesses. Touches of Double Norwich, Stedman, and Treble Bob were rung at All Saints' and St. Peter's. Returning next day, the ringers called at Boxford, and rung Double Norwich and Stedman. The next places of calling were Hadleigh and St. Margaret's, Ipswich; at the latter place the visitors had the pleasure of ringing on the new peal of eight bells, which "go" very satisfactorily. They also had the pleasure of ringing on St. Mary-le-Tower bells some Stedman Caters and Cinques, the "go" of the bells being delightful. The company takes this opportunity of thanking the clergy for their kindness, and the steeplekeepers who had the bells in readiness. Leaving The Halberd inn between 9 and 10, the party arrived at Mr. C. Ward's, at Melton, about 11 p.m.

The late Mr. John Fosdike, who died suddenly on the day of starting, was to have accompanied them, having a few days previous made arrangements with the company to go with them. Deceased was greatly respected by the company, and the outing was marred somewhat by his death.

CURRENT TOPICS.

I write these few lines to you hoping to find you in good health, as it leaves me very well at present—ah! I did not intend this, but what I meant to say was that these lines were written under feelings of great sorrow. How are the mighty fallen! One of the greatest of British institutions has received its death-blow; like many a long peal, its record is broken. Ah me!

Some of you will be likely to ask whatever is the matter? You know as well as I do all about it. The immense popularity which the institution I am alluding to has enjoyed among us for ages; how it has consoled us in our childhood, and amused us in our manhood. Alas! its glory has departed. Ichabod!

To keep you no longer in suspense, and to come abruptly to the point, we all regret to know that that famous institution known to us as "Punch and Judy," is brought low. After many days it has been superseded by several French marionettes, whose antics have caused our old friends to play the second fiddle. Colonel Jorrock, or some such name, leads the affair, and extenuates the circumstances, whatever that may mean. There was never a greater fraud perpetrated; though some very rum things have been done in France at one time or another. Here I'll leave it.

The Colonial Minister seems to have a Dreyfus case also. Though he is held to be a wide-awake man, he does not appear to make much headway with Mr. Kruger. The columns of intelligence—true or fictitious—which half fill the morning papers upon this Transvaal business is getting sickening. The Government ought to be able to find a way out of this difficulty without going to war.

The battle of the methods! That's the next thing, I suppose. Messrs. Baker and James will be going at it hammer and tongs directly if I mistake not. Some people it would appear, object to a five-pull dodge. Well, perhaps it is a little bothering. But then so is the dodging work in Stedman Triples when half-a-dozen bobs are called, especially when you are cutting at back-stroke. There are many worse things than five-pull dodges, I dare say. But no one is compelled to have them unless they please.

The weather is getting right for peal-ringing, and we shall soon have lots of news: peals, touches, and breakdowns. I object to the publication of the last-named. No one can say that the account of a breakdown was ever published wherein my name appeared. I should not be flattered by such publication, I assure you. Quite the reverse.

I am asked by the Editor to give notice that several members of the Winchester Guild commence this day (Saturday), a peal-ringing tour in Hants. The arrangements are thus: Saturday, 23rd—Curdrige; Sunday, 24th—Netley; Monday, 25th—Netley and Romsey; Tuesday, 26th—East Tytherley; Wednesday, 27th—Twyford and Winchester. The band are Messrs. Williams, Hart, Goldsmith, Gifford, Shade, White, Whiting, Hopgood, Giles, Bayley, and the Rev. F. E. Robinson.

There was a question asked last year, I think, when a

tour similar to this was on, but I suppose the interrogator of that day won't repeat the performance. This sort of thing seems to be left to the Winchester people altogether now. Is it beyond the power of ringers in other parts of the country to get up such affairs? We shall have the Irish Society making a ringing tour in England before long, and they will knock off peals of Erin Delight—another new method, having perhaps a ten-pull dodge both in front and behind, and in the middle also.

The allusion to Ireland brings to recollection a note I saw at the office this evening. Our old friend Gabriel is on the war-path. He does not confine his efforts to Dublin alone, but is prosecuting a mission into other neighbourhoods. How nice for the Milesians, to possess such men as Gabriel and James William. The latter gentleman, as is well known, is at Arklow, where Kidlingtons are at rest, and Pyes cease from troubling. What a glorious relief James, you must think it. I shall do myself the pleasure some day, of coming over to see you in your new capacity. I feel convinced you make an excellent sexton.

If the report of the condition of Bow steeple which we read about last week is correct, it is a very calamitous state of affairs. And there seems no real cure, practically. There is an underground railway close to the foundations of the steeple, and it is to be feared that whatever is done towards securing the edifice will not obviate danger in the future. But I suppose such men as Sir Benjamin Baker know best, of course. A remarkable rumour is afloat, that now the steeple is being braced up, the bells are to be rehung in a new frame. May this rumour be genuine.

There is another very valuable and painstaking officer of a Guild just resigned. I allude to the Rev. D. H. Griffith—the late Hon. Secretary of the Llandaff Diocesan Association. The Association will not lose Mr. Griffiths altogether, for he is still connected with it. The rev. gentleman has done good work in the principality, for I believe it is owing to his industry that the Llandaff Association has risen to the high position it now enjoys. The late Hon. Secretary had no small amount of uphill work, but he mastered every difficulty, and hands over to his successor a solvent organization.

The Society for the Archdeaconry of Salop have just held their annual meeting. Here is another organization with an excellent clerical Hon. Secretary, the Rev. J. Mackay, who is untiring in promoting the efficiency and popularity of the Guild. Such gentlemen deserve the unsparing support of all ringers, especially those they directly labour for.

PLAIN SPEAKER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

The Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held at Standish, on Saturday, September 9th, when members were present from Blackrod, Chorley, Leyland, Penwortham, and Standish. Touches of Plain Bob were rung during the afternoon and evening. At 5.30 they adjourned to The Black Horse hotel, where they partook of some refreshments, after which the business meeting was held. Votes of thanks to the Rector and wardens for the use of bells, and to the local company for their kindness, brought the meeting to a close.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(ROSSENDALE BRANCH.)

The place selected for the meeting of this branch fell, on the 16th of September, to the lot of Helmshore, a small though picturesque village in the heart of the county, and the light, though musical, ring of eight by Mears, were rung by members from various parts of the branch, in addition to the home company, as well as the full force from the neighbouring town of Accrington, who fulfilled an often-promised visit.

Shortly before ringing commenced one of the local company was elected a member of the matrimonial association, and when this happy ceremony was over, the bells were set off in a few Minor methods: a 12-score each of Duke of York and London Surprise being rung. The trebles were then raised and 576 of Kent Treble Bob Major secured. It was the wish of our Accrington friends to have their first pull together, and their 720 of Bob Minor was a good performance.

The business meeting was held in the church vestry, the Vicar, the Rev. J. H. Oldroyd, presiding. A friendly chat on ringing affairs, and the usual votes of thanks, with a suitable response from the Vicar, brought this to a close. The rest of the evening was mainly spent in the belfry; mixed bands continuing the ringing in various methods until about 9.30, the last touch being 336 of Double Norwich, and this was the first in the method by two of our Bacup friends.

J. H. B.

DEDICATION OF TWO NEW TREBLES AT BRAINTREE, ESSEX.

The above will take place on Thursday, September 28th, at 3 p.m. Free meat tea to ringers at 5 p.m. Members of the Essex Association can obtain reduced fares upon production of receipt for the current year's subscription. Notice must be given to me from which station ringers propose booking, and those requiring tea not later than Monday, September 25th.

37, Bank Street, Braintree.

C. H. HOWARD.

DEATH OF MR. J. HENSON, OF KETTERING.

We regret to record the death of Mr. John Henson, one of Kettering's oldest and most respected inhabitants, and the father of the family of that name. The circumstances surrounding the deceased gentleman's death, says a local organ, are sad. About a fortnight ago he had the misfortune to scratch one of his arms with a piece of wire, but nothing very serious was apprehended at the time the injury was sustained. But blood poisoning set in, and although everything was done that was possible he continued to get worse, and died about 10.30 a.m. on Wednesday. Deceased, who was in his 77th year, carried on for many years a successful and extensive builder's business, but retired from it some years ago.

Mr. Henson was a member of a family of Northamptonshire ringers. He was a great lover of church bells, ever ready to condemn bad striking, and to praise and encourage those who did their best to ring well. By his death, the Kettering ringers will lose a good friend, and the Central Northamptonshire Association one of its oldest and warmest supporters. Three years ago Mr. Henson presented a handsome peal-board to Kettering belfry, to commemorate the first 5000 of Major ever rung on those bells by a local company.

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."

COURTESY.

SIR,—Is it not quite time that letters of a class which have appeared in your columns for some weeks past should cease? As far as one can judge from the tone of most of the letters the principal object of the various writers would appear to be to blacken the characters of, or hold up to ridicule brother-ringers with whom they are for the time being at variance. It seems to me very sad to find Church bellringers, who probably belong to one or other of our Diocesan Associations, instead of trying to promote goodwill amongst us, adopting a course which must tend to produce an exactly opposite result. May I appeal to my brother-ringers if they feel compelled, for the honour of the Exercise generally, to criticise the doings of a brother in the Art, through the medium of the public Press, to do so in as courteous and friendly a spirit as possible.

C. E. D. BOUTFLOWER.

THE REV. E. B. JAMES TO MR. BAKER.

SIR,—In the first place I must thank Mr. Baker for supplying the proof scale of Painswick Surprise. It is more than a twelve-month ago that I proved it, and had forgotten the number of false course-ends, and thought there was only one. The method is, as Mr. Baker says, only a slight variation on Superlative, and no other improvement but otherwise for eight bells. It was produced as I said last time, to retain Superlative music on ten and twelve bells without parting the tenors so hopelessly as the original method does. With regard to Norfolk Surprise, a liking for five-pull dodging is a matter of taste, some may like it, others may not. At Gloucester it is not liked, and Double Oxford was abandoned for the same reason that Norfolk was rejected. I trust Mr. Baker does not think that I had any intention of attacking his method, Arundel, or any other special method in my remarks about lead-ends; as a matter of fact I had the many mongrel methods in Sottanstell's book in my eye when I wrote, but I am glad that the other side has found so able an advocate as Mr. Baker, as it is a subject that ought to be fought out properly. I hold then that no other lead-ends are permissible, because I consider a method, to be a system composed of treble-leads, such that while the working bells are always in the same coursing order, the treble changes its place every lead with regard to the other bells. Now if the other bells are to be in any position we please at the lead-ends, what happens to the old idea of coursing order? and again if we get out such a system with the tenors well together, it does not follow that the tenor and sixth's place bell will be kept together, consequently a peal in which the sixth is her extent at home, may have no music at all, save just at the course-ends where she comes home. Now, Sir, I do not want this to be a correspondence that shall go on indefinitely, and end in a squabble, so I take this opportunity of suggesting that you should leave the question open to debate in your columns, and then take the votes of all composers on the subject, that it may tend to help the committee appointed by the Central Council, in the difficult task assigned them.

E. B. JAMES.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—The Rev. H. C. Courtney, Master of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association, has removed to "Haslemere," Henleaze Road, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol.

GIVEN AWAY. PEACH'S LACE CURTAINS.

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Notices.

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

The Essex Association.—A district meeting of this Association will be held to-day, Saturday, Sept. 23, at Mistley. The towers of Mistley (6 bells) and Harwich (8 bells) will be open for ringing. Tea and business meeting at The Thorn inn at 4.45.

HENRY T. W. EYRE, Asst. Sec.
Great Totham Vicarage, Witham.

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The next committee and quarterly meeting of this Association, by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. S. Phillips), will be held in the Chantry of St. Mary's church, Kidderminster, to-day, Saturday, Sept. 23rd. Service in the church at 5 o'clock; business meeting afterwards. The tower will be open for ringing.

J. SMITH, Hon. Sec.
36, Simms Lane, Netherton.

The Middlesex County Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Hillingdon to-day, Saturday, Sept. 23rd. Service in St. Andrew's church at 6.15 p.m., to be followed by business meeting in the parish room. The bells of St. John (8) as well as of St. Andrew (8) will be available, and will be ready at 3 p.m. A substantial tea will be provided for members and their friends at 1s. 6d. a head. The Hon. Secretaries hope that ringers will make a special effort to attend this meeting.

C. EDWARDS, }
ARTHUR T. KING, } Hon. Secs.

The Ely Diocesan Association.—Sudbury District.—There will be a meeting of this district at Felsham, to-day, Saturday, Sept. 23rd. Business and tea in the National Schoolroom at 3.30.

W. M. K. WARREN, District Sec.

The Lancashire Association.—The new ring of eight bells at St. John's, Farnworth, Bolton, will be opened to-day Saturday, Sept. 23rd. Dedication service at 3 o'clock, with address by the Rev. H. J. Elsee.

A. E. WREAKS.

41, Gibbon Street, Bolton.

Central Northamptonshire Association.—The Secretary regrets to say that the quarterly meeting arranged for the district of Whiston, Grendon, and Castle Ashby, will have to be postponed from August 26th until September 30th.

E. J. DENNES.

The Norwich Diocesan Association.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Ipswich on Wednesday, September 27th. Special service at St. Mary-le-Tower at 12.45, preacher the Rev. G. F. Coleridge. Dinner (2s 6d. hon. members, 1s. 6d. company members), at 1.30 in Co-operative Hall, Carr Street. Notice to be sent to Hon. Secretary of intention to be present before Thursday, September 21st.

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

The Lancashire Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Preston on Saturday, September 30th. Further particulars by circular. All reports of ringing during the past year ending August 31st, should be forwarded to the Ringing Secretary, Mr. J. Shepherd, 1, Venture Street, Bacup. All other matter to the General Secretary, Mr. A. E. Wreaks, 41, Gibbon Street, Bolton.

A. E. WREAKS, }
J. WILSON, } Secretaries.
J. SHEPHERD, }

Sussex County Association.—Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Mayfield on Saturday, September 30th. Bells (recently rehung) available 4.30 to 9. Tea 6 o'clock. As this is the first time a meeting of the Association has been arranged at this tower the Secretary is anxious to see a strong muster present. Half railway fare allowed not exceeding 2s. each.

S. SAKER, Hon. Sec. Eastern Division.
"Arran," Baldsloe Road, Hastings.

Halifax and District Association.—The next meeting of this Association will be held at Heptonstall, on Saturday, September 30th. Bells ready from dinner. Business meeting in schoolroom at 6 o'clock.

WRIGHT INGHAM, Sec.

Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The next meeting of the above Society will be held at Drighlington (8 bells), on Saturday, September 30th. A peal will be attempted at 2.30. Meeting house The Spotted Cow. All ringers are cordially invited.

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

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

—The quarterly meeting in connection with this Society will be held on Saturday, September 30th, at St. Matthew's Walsall. Bells ready from 2 o'clock. Short service in church at 5 p.m. Tea at 6.30, one shilling per head. Reports will be ready for distribution at this meeting. Numbers for tea to be sent in not later than the 26th inst. to

S. REEVES, Hon. Sec.
10, Bull Street, Westbromwich.

Central Northamptonshire Association.

—Quarterly Meeting in the Castle Ashby District on Saturday afternoon, September 30th. The bells at Castle Ashby (five, tenor 20 cwt.), Grendon (five, tenor 14 cwt.), Whiston (five, tenor 15 cwt.), have very kindly been placed at the disposal of the Association from 2.30 to 7 o'clock. Tea at The Falcon hotel, Castle Ashby, at 5 o'clock. Business meeting afterwards. Castle Ashby is the seat of the Marquis of Northampton, and is one of the prettiest and most interesting parts of Northamptonshire.

E. J. DENNES, Hon. Sec.
Wellingborough.

Gloucester and Bristol Association.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Chippenham, on Saturday, September 30th. Short service at the parish church at 5.30 p.m.

C. H. GORDON, Branch Sec.

The Bedfordshire Association.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Harrold, on Saturday, September 30th.

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

Sheffield and District Society.—The next meeting will be held at Eckington, on Saturday, October 7th. All ringers invited. Bells ready at 4 p.m.

R. HARRISON, Hon. Sec.

The Midland Counties Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Rugby, on Saturday, October 7th. The tower (8 bells) will be open from 3 to 8 p.m. Tea will be provided at 1s. per head in the Schools, Church Street, for all who send in their names to Mr. J. George, 55, Bath Street, Rugby, not later than Tuesday, October 3rd.

W. E. WHITE, Hon. Sec.
Colgrave, near Nottingham.

The Surrey Association.—The next quarterly meeting of the members of this Association will be held at Reigate, on Saturday, October 14th. The bells at St. Mary Magdalene will be raised at 3 o'clock by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. J. N. Harrison,

M.A. Tea will be provided at Mr. Mark Dean's refreshment rooms near the Town Hall, and local representatives must communicate to Mr. William Argent, of 4, Croydon Road, Reigate, the number of their members likely to attend, not later than Thursday, October 12th. The usual business meeting will follow the tea, and the Rev. C. G. Lynn Fryer will preside.

CHAS. DEAN, JUN., Hon. Sec.
5, Manor Parade, Sutton, Surrey.

NOTE TO PEAL AT MAIDENHEAD.

This peal was arranged for Thomas Price, of Eastbourne, formerly a member of the local company. The peal was a very creditable performance, as there were several juniors comprising the band, and thorough good striking being maintained throughout. The bells go very well. W. Truss hails from Great Marlow; the rest belong to the local band.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

SITUATION required by a married man, aged 31 without family, in a month or by the 11th of October as Gardener, singlehanded. Can manage Cucumbers, Melons, Tomatoes, etc., and the general work of a well-kept garden. Highest references. A change-ringer on six or eight bells. Apply John Gaymer Miles, Point Cottages, Attleboro, Norfolk.

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.

SITUATION wanted by Brushmaker. Change-ringer on 6, 8, or 10 bells.—A. Shuffelbotham, 62, Wellington Road, Hanley, Staffs.

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

CLOCKS,

Striking the quarter, half-hour or hour, made specially for
**THE VESTRY,
THE RINGING-CHAMBER,
THE OFFICE, OR
THE HOUSE.**

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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. ROWE, Upminster, Essex.

JASPER W. SNOWDON'S WORKS.

ROPE-SIGHT: 1s. 6d. FOURTH EDITION.
Commences by explaining how to manage a bell; deals with Change-Ringing on three, four, five, six, seven and eight bells in the PLAIN BOB METHOD, giving touches and peals in each case; and closes with instructions for conducting, etc., etc. (143 pages).

STANDARD METHODS: 2s. 6d. THIRD EDITION
Now Ready. Contains full explanations and rules for ringing all the best methods, from five to eight bells, with plain-course diagrams of each printed in full, with coloured lines. 40 pages of diagrams and 87 of descriptive letterpress.

GRANDSIRE; 2s. 0d. THE METHOD, ITS PEALS, AND HISTORY. WITH PORTRAIT AND MEMOIR. EDITED BY HIS BROTHER, WM. SNOWDON. COMPLETE WITH AN APPENDIX BY THE REV. CHARLES D. P. DAVIES, M.A., OXON. Commences with ringing on five, six, and seven bells, for the benefit of a learner; gives instructions on composing, proving, varying, and reversing, conducting and calling round; and ends with a general survey of the practical and scientific aspect of the composition of triples—thus forming a complete reference book for all Grandsire ringers. (210 pages).

PREBLE BOB. PART I. out of print and under revision.
Part I. contains instructions for pricking, transposing, proving, composing, and conducting peals; an essay on the *In and Out-of-course* of the changes; and history of the various compositions and performances. Part II. contains classified peals of Minor, Major, Royal, and Maximus, with their reverse variations; remarks on the different qualities; particulars of first performances, composers' names, &c., &c. (236 closely printed pages. Part II. (136 closely printed pages) may be had separately, 2s. 13d.

DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR. 1s. 0d.
Contains rules and instructions for pricking and ringing the method; a linear diagram of the plain course; a collection of touches and peals; instructions for proving, and a history of the earlier performances with a list of peals down to 1884 (pages)

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CHURCH BELLS OF HUNTINGDONSHIRE.—
By THEODORE M. N. OWEN, M.A., Rector of Wood Walton. Large Paper Edition (limited to 30 copies) £2 2s.; Small Paper Edition (limited to 200 copies) 15s. 6d. Packing and postage 1s. 6d. extra.
London:—JARROLD & SONS, 10 & 11, Warwick Lane, E.C.

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CHURCH BELLS OF SUFFOLK.—By THE REV. J. J. RAVEN, D.D., F.S.A., of Emmanuel College, Cambridge. With upwards of 90 illustrations. Half-morocco, Roxburgh, 27s. 6d. nett; in cloth, 20s. nett; packing and postage 1s. 6d. extra. This edition is limited to 500 copies. The large paper edition was all sold within a few days of issuing the first prospectus. "An unexpectedly entertaining book. His researches as to the Norwich founders will be found full of new historical matter. We heartily welcome Dr. Raven's contribution to Campanology."—*Saturday Review*.
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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, SEPTEMBER 23, 1899.

THE quality of some of the letters which have recently been sent to this paper has not been sufficient, or good enough, to merit universal favor. Far from it, it may be added. Some of our friends would have us curb the liberty of the correspondence page with a heavy hand, and the inclination very often points in such a direction. But the difficulties attendant upon rigorous elimination are not small, especially in a journal devoted to any particular class. But in future, we must insist that with all letters must also appear the names and addresses of the writers.

As no response has been made to the last letter of Mr. WILLSON, the correspondence that has been a result of the Kidlington discussion may now be ended. No possible good can come of any further recriminative discussion, and therefore it is done with so far as we are concerned. It has been hinted, that some of our correspondents may

advantageously peruse a work called "The Art of Polite Writing," and learn therefrom. We may certainly hope to see a little more charity displayed towards the opinions of an opponent, and more gentle dealings with those who from some obscure cause or other fancy themselves always to be in the right.

If a final word may be allowed upon the performance at Kidlington, we may say that it is much to be regretted that more than one competent person was not appointed specially to watch the peal. We think it came within the province of the Oxford Guild to take such a step. That we gain wisdom after an event has transpired is a mere truism; but how much trouble and exhibition of temper would have been saved had some strong measures been taken to ensure a decision upon this that the Exercise would have welcomed? We are in the receipt of letters upon this matter wherein very pronounced language has been indulged in, and some very strong statements made, but the publication of which would not have assisted one iota towards decision or settlement.

And now the matter and its collaterals are done with so far as our columns are concerned. The position of the Kidlington peal is threatened on all sides; a longer length is to be attempted directly almost in several places in different parts of the country. When such attempts are made, if they are made, would it not be advisable to agree that no record of them should be published until the umpires had given favorable decisions?

EAST TYTHERLEY, HANTS.

This quiet but very pretty spot was visited on Saturday, September 16th, by Messrs. Elcombe, White, Russen, and Fowler, from Romsey; Mr. Whiting from Fareham; and the Rev. C. A. Clements and Messrs. Blackburn and Gifford from Salisbury, for the purpose of attempting a peal of Grandsire Triples, which was successfully accomplished, and its record will be found in its proper place.

The ringers particularly wish to mark their sense of the kindness of the Vicar, the Rev. Stafford F. Bourdillon, who on the occasion of every visit most hospitably entertains them. East Tytherley possesses a tower and a very fine ring of bells, placed there through the instrumentality of the worthy Vicar.

The Metropolis.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, September 18, 1899, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, WOOLWICH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt.

ISAAC G. SHADE Treble.	EDWARD WELLS 5.
GEORGE J. TAYLOR* 2.	HARRY FLANDER 6.
WILLIAM WATCHORN* 3.	STAFF-SERGT. A. PYE 7.
HENRY G. HILL 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

*First peal in the method. Rung as a birthday compliment to Messrs. Watchorn Hill, and Harman, their brother-strings wishing them many happy returns.

A PEAL OF 362,880 GRANDSIRE CATERS, 6d.
Contains the full extent of changes on nine bells. Forwarded Post Free, on receipt of 7d. By James Hewitt, 16 Chapel Row, Gosport.

The Provinces.

HIGHAM FERRERS, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 9, 1899, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES. Tenor 22 cwt.

HENRY STUBBS* Treble.	JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. 5.
JOHN J. MAWBY* 2.	THOMAS R. HENSHER 6.
JAMES GARRATT 3.	*FRED. GILBERT 7.
JOHN B. MARTIN 4.	ANDERSON Y. TYLER Tenor.

Composed by E. HIMS, of Oxford, and Conducted by A. Y. TYLER.

†First peal in the method.

NOTTINGHAM.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 14, 1899, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 21 cwt.

WILLIAM FLINDERS Treble.	EDWARD ROBINSON 5.
HERBERT P. HARMAN 2.	EBENEZER WOODING 6.
JOSEPH WOOLLEY 3.	JOHN HICKMAN 7.
SAMUEL WESLEY 4.	THOMAS SAVAGE Tenor.

Conducted by HERBERT P. HARMAN.

H. P. Harman hails from Bromley, Kent.

MAIDENHEAD, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, September 14, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, BOYNE HILL.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 17 cwt. 2 qrs. 11 lbs.

FREDERICK GOMM* Treble.	JESSE ELDRIDGE 5.
THOMAS PRICE 2.	WILLIAM WALKER 6.
FREDERICK DENTRY 3.	GEORGE MARTIN 7.
JOHN C. TRUSS 4.	*SYDNEY JORDAN Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE MARTIN.

†First peal of Stedman as conductor. Further reference to this peal will be found on another page.

WORSLEY.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, September 14, 1899, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 21 cwt.

HEBER DERBYSHIRE Treble.	JOHN WELSBY 5.
JOSEPH LOWE 2.	THOMAS DERBYSHIRE 6.
PERCY H. DERBYSHIRE 3.	FREDERIC DERBYSHIRE 7.
JAMES H. RIDYARD 4.	JOSEPH RIDYARD Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP, and Conducted by JOSEPH RIDYARD.

CHISLEHURST, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 16, 1899, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES. Tenor 17½ cwt.

WALTER INGHAM* Treble.	JOHN H. CHEESMAN 5.
ALFRED W. BRIGHTON 2.	*THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE 6.
ISAAC G. SHADE 3.	HARRY FLANDERS 7.
ERNEST PYE 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

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

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

BOLTON.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, September 16, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight $\frac{1}{2}$ Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SOULS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
BIDDLESTONE'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 23 cwt.

F. MARKLAND† Treble.	J. E. MARKLAND 5.
J. MARKLAND 2.	G. PINCOTT 6.
R. VICKERS† 3.	HY. MOSS 7.
R. HOLDEN 4.	J. MOULDING Tenor.

Conducted by H. Moss.

†First peal.

ARUNDEL, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 16, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. in E.

CHARLES ROGERS Treble.	ERNEST H. HOLDEN 5.
HAROLD D. SEARLE 2.	GEORGE H. LEE 6.
PERCY H. DOICK 3.	JOHN NETLEY 7.
FREDERICK LUXFORD 4.	ERNEST J. HAMMOND .. Tenor.

Conducted by HAROLD D. SEARLE.

*First peal as conductor.

BANGOR, NORTH WALES.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, September 16, 1899, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DAVID,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

RICHARD NICHOLS Treble.	JAMES H. MIDWINTER 5.
REV. T. LEWIS JONES 2.	JOSEPH GAYTON 6.
SAMUEL TAYLOR 3.	PHILIP W. DAVIES 7.
WILLIAM H. BARBER 4.	THOMAS G. MILLER Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by W. H. BARBER.

First peal by the above society in North Wales. This composition has the 6th six courses wrong and her extent right at six course-ends.

SPELDHURST, KENT.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, September 16, 1899, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5024 CHANGES. Tenor 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

JAMES MAYNARD Treble.	*EDWARD MANKELOW 5.
HENRY DAINS 2.	GEORGE A. CARD 6.
STEPHEN PERKINS* 3.	KEITH HART 7.
THOMAS CARD 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

*First peal in the method.

PULBOROUGH, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 16, 1899, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5024 CHANGES. Tenor 14 cwt.

ROBERT JORDAN Treble.	JOHN R. SHARMAN 5.
SIDNEY WADE* 2.	GEORGE PAICE 6.
JOHN RICE 3.	JAMES PARKER 7.
WILLIAM WARD 4.	FREDERICK W. RICE Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN, and Conducted by JAMES PARKER.

*First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells. The band wish to thank the Rector, the Hon. and Rev. G. W. Bourke, for the use of the bells, also Mr. H. Herrington, for having everything in readiness.

EAST TYTHERLEY, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, September 16, 1899, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 25 lbs. in F.

JAMES ELCOMBE Treble.	REV. CHAS. A. CLEMENTS .. 5.
ROBERT WHITE 2.	JOHN W. WHITING 6.
A. FRED. RUSSEN 3.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD 7.
THOMAS BLACKBOURN .. 4.	WILLIAM G. FOWLER .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES ELCOMBE.

Reference to this peal will be found elsewhere.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 16, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 17 cwt.

HERBERT P. HARMAN .. Treble.	WILLIAM HICKLING 5.
GEORGE DAWSON 2.	ELME S. HODGES 6.
HUGH J. BALCOMBE 3.	JOHN JAGGAR 7.
THOMAS DRAPER 4.	JOHN FLOWER Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN JAGGAR.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Balcombe.

BRIDGNORTH, SALOP.

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

On Saturday, September 16, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' PEAL. Tenor 22 cwt.

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

Conducted by RICHARD E. GROVE.

This is the first peal in the method on the bells.

CROYDON, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, September 18, 1899, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 27 cwt. in D.

FREDERICK LARBEY Treble.	CHARLES R. LILLEY 5.
WILLIAM BULPITT 2.	CHARLES KITCHING 6.
HENRY BROOKER 3.	FREDERICK HERMON 7.
HENRY LOVER 4.	HENRY SMITH Tenor.

Conducted by C. R. LILLEY.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, September 19, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' ONE-PART. Tenor 13 cwt.

ERNEST E. HUNTLEY .. Treble.	FRANCIS A. SMITH 5.
BERTRAM PREWETT 2.	HERBERT MARTIN 6.
CHARLES GEORGE 3.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 7.
WILLIAM G. WHITEHEAD .. 4.	WILLIAM I. OAKLEY .. Tenor.

Conducted by ERNEST E. HUNTLEY.

Handbell Peals.

NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE. THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. (THE NUNEATON SOCIETY.)

On Tuesday, September 12, 1899, in Two Hours and Twenty-nine Minutes,
IN THE BELFRY OF THE PARISH CHURCH,

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

WALTER STONE 1-2.	HARRY ARGYLE 5-6.
THOMAS W. CHAPMAN .. 3-4.	JAMES F. CLARKE .. 7-8.

Composed by J. REEVES, and Conducted by JAS. F. CLARKE.

This is the first peal in the method on handbells by all, and by the Association.
Referee—Mr. F. Adams, who ticked off the bobs as they were called.

Miscellaneous.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHGATE (Middlesex).—On Thursday, July 13th, at Christ Church, 720 Grandsire Minor with 6-8 covering. W. Tegg, 1; J. Miller, 2; E. Marshall, 3; F. C. Fordham, 4; A. Miller, 5; H. Balaam, 6; S. Wade (conductor), 7; C. Bale, 8. On August 11th, 720 Bob Minor. H. Miller (first 720), 1; J. Miller, 2; A. Glasscock, 3; F. C. Fordham, 4; J. Armstrong, 5; C. Bale, 6; S. Wade (conductor), 7; W. Tegg, 8. On August 24th, 168 Stedman Triples. S. Wade (conductor), 1; J. Miller, 2; A. W. Darlington, 3; F. C. Fordham, 4; W. H. Lawrence, 5; F. C. Newman, 6; A. Miller, 7; C. Bale, 8. On August 31st, the last 742 of Holt's Original. H. Miller, 1; S. Wade (conductor), 2; J. Armstrong, 3; J. Miller, 4; F. C. Fordham, 5; W. H. Lawrence, 6; A. Miller, 7; H. Balaam, 8. On Sunday evening, September 3rd, after Divine Service, 1344 Bob Major in 55 mins. W. Tegg, 1; *W. Dell, 2; *J. Armstrong, 3; *F. C. Fordham, 4; *E. Marshall, 5; W. H. Lawrence, 6; A. Miller, 7; S. Wade (conductor), 8. *First quarter-peal of Major. On Thursday, September 7th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire. A. R. Glasscock, 1; *F. C. Fordham, 2; *J. Armstrong, 3; J. Miller, 4; *E. Marshall, 5; S. Wade (conductor), 6; A. Miller, 7; C. Bale, 8. *First quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. Tenor 25 cwt.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HATFIELD (Herts).—On Tuesday, September 5th, at the church of St. Ethelreda, 504 Stedman Triples. S. Wade (conductor), 1; A. Shepherd, 2; J. Shepherd, 3; W. Harvey, 4; R. Shepherd, 5; F. Richardson, 6; W. Pickworth, 7; J. Hollingsworth, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

TUNERIDGE WELLS (Kent).—On Thursday, September 7th, at St. Peter's church, 1032 Grandsire Triples. S. Faithfull (longest length), 1; G. Smithers (conductor), 2; S. Perkins, jun., 3; H. Martin, 4; P. Stapley, 5; S. Perkins, sen., 6; W. Latter, 7; W. Smith, 8. On Thursday, September 14th, for practice, 504 Grandsire Triples. S. Faithfull, 1; S. Perkins, jun., 2; W. Smith, 3; H. Martin, 4; W. Latter (conductor), 5; G. Kember, 6; F. Harrington, 7; S. Perkins, sen., 8. On Sunday evening, September 17th, for Divine Service, 504 Stedman Triples. S. Perkins, jun., 1; E. Mankelow, 2; W. Pollard, 3; W. Latter, 4; S. Perkins, sen., 5; G. Smithers, 6; H. Porter (conductor), 7; J. Muggridge, 8.

DEAL (Kent).—On Tuesday, September 12th, at St. Leonard's church, 720 Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles) in 26 mins. H. Castle, 1; A. Denne, 2; H. Westbrook, 3; G. Denne (conductor), 4; H. Denne, 5; H. Sone, 6. And 360 Grandsire Minor. J. Henley, 1; H. Denne, 2; H. Westbrook, 3; G. Denne, 4; H. Sone, 5; H. Castle, 6. Tenor 9½ cwt.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CHESTERFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, September 16th, an attempt was made for 5220 Bob Royal, but failed after 3960 changes had been rung in 2 hrs. 35 mins. H. Madin (Staveley), 1; A. Knights (conductor), 2; A. Worthington (Staveley), 3; W. Lambert (Treeton), 4; S. Thomas (Sheffield), 5; D. Brearley (Deepcar), 6; A. Brearley (Sheffield), 7; C. Jackson (Hull), 8; W. Biggin (Norton), 9; C. W. P. Clifton (Lincoln), 10. On Sunday morning, September 17th, 756 Stedman Triples. A. Knights, 1; G. M. Farr, 2; G. Davies, 3; S. Price, 4; W. J. Thyng, 5; A. Craven (conductor), 6; C. W. P. Clifton, 7; G. Mee, 8. For Divine Service in the evening 1259 Grand-

sire Caters in 48 mins. A. Savage, 1; J. Hunt, 2; A. Knights (conductor), 3; D. Farthing, 4; G. Toplis, 5; S. Price, 6; W. J. Thyng, 7; G. M. Farr, 8; G. Davies, 9; G. Mee, 10. Tenor 24½ cwt.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

NOTTINGHAM.—On Monday, September 4th, at St. Peter's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples taken from Holt's Original. S. Wilkins, 1; H. P. Harman (conductor), 2; J. Woolley, 3; G. H. Johnson, 4; J. Hickman, 5; E. Wooding, 6; S. Wesley, 7; T. Savage, 8.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WELLINGBOROUGH (Northants).—On Thursday, September 7th, on the occasion of the marriage of Howard Brown, Esq., to Miss Helen Parker, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples. G. Turnell, 1; F. Underwood, 2; W. H. Ette, 3; T. R. Hensher, 4; W. Wood, 5; E. West, 6; F. Wood, 7; T. Craddock, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

NORTHMOOR (Oxon).—On Sunday evening, September 17th, for Divine Service, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles). R. Bennett, 1; F. White (conductor), 2; A. Browning, 3; C. Hounslow, 4; H. Woodward, 5; R. White, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BATTLE (Sussex).—On Tuesday, September 12th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor on the front six. W. H. Eldridge, 1; *C. Hill, 2; F. Mathis, 3; C. J. Hyland, 4; W. J. Thomas, 5; W. Franks (conductor), 6. *First 720.

CHELSEA.—On Sunday evening, September 17th, for Divine Service at St. Luke's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples taken from Holt's Original in 45 mins. G. Chesterman, 1; J. Pryer, 2; W. Moss (conductor), 3; E. Cassell, 4; W. Dean, 5; T. E. Barber, 5; O. J. Baker, 7; J. Thorpe, 8. Handbell Ringing.—On Friday, September 15th, 720 Bob Minor. W. Charge, 1-2; R. Charge, 3-4; C. Charge (conductor), 5-6.

CRAWLEY (Sussex).—On Sunday, September 17th, at the parish church, an attempt was made for a peal of Superlative Surprise Major, but was lost through the second rope slipping wheel, after ringing 55 mins. R. Jordan, 1; J. Rice, 2; W. Wade, 3; W. Ward, 4; J. R. Sharman (conductor), 5; G. Paice, 6; J. Parker, 7; F. W. Rice, 8. For evening service 560 Double Norwich Court Bob Major, standing as above.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Tuesday, August 28th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor. A. Hird, 1; W. Dixon, 2; T. Langdon, 3; S. Wade, 4; F. C. Fordham, 5; A. Jacob (conductor), 6. For evening service on Sunday, September 10th, 720 Bob Minor. W. Dixon, 1; F. C. Fordham, 2; T. Langdon, 3; J. Waghorn, sen., 4; H. Stubbs, 5; A. Jacob (conductor), 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

LEISTON (Suffolk).—On Sunday morning, for Divine Service, 640 Kent Treble Major. A. Button, 1; W. Taylor, 2; A. Lincoln, 3; C. Bailey, 4; E. Bailey, 5; H. Button, 6; W. Button, 7; J. Button, 8. On Sunday afternoon, September 10th, for afternoon service, 640 Kent Treble Bob Major. A. Button, 1; C. Sampson, 2; E. Bailey, 3; C. Bailey, 4; F. Rolt, 5; E. Rivers, 6; J. Button, 7; A. Lincoln (conductor), 8.

MANUDEN (Essex).—On Tuesday, September 12th, at St. Mary's church, ten 6-scores and a half of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. G. Prior (conductor), 1; W. Prior, 2; W. T. Prior, 3; S. Ward, 4; F. W. Tharby, 6.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, September 10th, for Divine Service at All Hallows church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins. A. G. Christmas, 1; H. Barnett (conductor), 2; A. E. Martin, 3; J. Langran, 4; W. Dickinson, 5; H. Ellis, 6; C. A. Button, 7; W. Martin, 8. Rung as a farewell touch to Mr. J. Langran, who is leaving Tottenham.

WOOD GREEN (Middlesex).—On Sunday, August 20th, at St. Michael's church, 720 Bob Minor. A. Jacob, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; F. C. Fordham, 3; W. H. Lawrence, 4; G. Barker, 5; S. Wade (conductor), 6. Another 720. S. Wade (conductor), 1; A. Lawrence, 2; F. C. Fordham, 3; G. Barker, 4; A. Jacob, 5; W. H. Lawrence, 6. Also another 720. W. H. Lawrence, 1; F. W. Ford, 2; F. C. Fordham, 3; G. Barker, 4; S. Wade (conductor), 5; A. Jacob, 6. And another 720. A. Jacob, 1; F. W. Ford, 2; F. C. Fordham, 3; G. Barker, 4; W. H. Lawrence, 5; S. Wade (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

BRIGHTON SURPRISE MAJOR. A NEW METHOD.

By GEORGE BAKER, *Member of St. Peter's Society, Brighton.*

The method here given is a double Treble Bob method, and has a clean proof scale—tenors together.

The bells are always in proper coursing order in front and behind, the changes are alternate quadruple and triple throughout the course, quadruple dodging and place-making being now introduced in a Surprise method for the first time.

There are only four contiguous places in each lead (two in 3-4, and two in 5-6), and all places are made the right way, *i.e.* at hand and backstroke.

With the exception that there are four places made instead of two, the place-making in this method is similar to Double Norwich, the 6th begins by making places in 5-6 down, and the tenor runs through to dodge with the treble and make places in 3-4, the 6th after dodging with the treble in 5-6 down, runs through the 3-4 places to lead.

The bob being made in fourth's place, new compositions for this method are unnecessary, as any peal of New Cumberland Surprise can be applied to same.

12345678
21436587
12346857
21438675
24183657
42816375
24186357
42813675
24831657
42386175
24381657
42836175
24863715
42687351
46283715
64827351
68472531
86745213
87642531
78465213
87456123
78541632
87546123
78451632
87415623
78146532
87416523
78145632
71854623
17586432
71856342
17583624
15738264

P.S.—By the addition of 7ths and 2nds places when the treble is lying full, an excellent variation of the above method is produced (the lead-end being 18674523) a lead of which, and some peals that I have on hand (produced for an entirely different method) I hope with your permission to publish at an early date.

YORKSHIRE SURPRISE.

SIR,—Instead of forgiveness I tender my thanks to Mr. James, for his remark on my method, "Yorkshire Surprise." I quite agree with him that the method does not seem complete without 7ths place being made at the treble's whole pull behind, because in that case all the placemaking is the same, starting and finishing with a dodge. I got the method out originally in that form, but seeing the many objections made against 7ths place in a method (Mr. James himself is one to do so in introducing Gloucester Surprise), I decided to shunt it out and with it the three-pull dodge in 5-6. Another reason was to get a different lead-end to those which other Surprise methods have, so that the compositions in this method would not clash with the others. Then again take it from a musical point of view, most ringers condemn 7ths place where it can be done without. The method may be rung as easily one way as the other, all the difference would be that other compositions would be required, as the Superlative lead-end is produced 5738264. The four positions where bobs are called reading B M W H. It would not alter the proof of the method, the one false course-end (24365) standing just the same. As there may be some confusion arise as to the distinction of the one from the other, I should be pleased if Mr. James or any other gentleman would suggest some way of making a distinction. In conclusion, I give a lead of the method with 7ths place made under the treble behind, so that ringers can judge for themselves.

ARTHUR CRAVEN.

12345678
21436587
12463857
21648375
26143857
62418375
26148735
62417853
64271835
46728153
46271835

Continued—

64728153
46782513
64875231
68472513
86745231
68472531
86745213
87642531
78465213
87456123
78541632
78456123
87541632
85714623
58176432
85716342
58173624
51876342
15783624
51738264
15372846
15738264

STEDMAN CATERS.

5182.

By WILLIAM G. HALL, *Wolverhampton.*

123456 5 16

*513264
315462 - -
2564 - -
4265 - -
413562 - -
2365 - -
5263 - -
514362 - -
2463 - -
215364 - -
4563 - -
3465 - -
213564 s - -
312465 - -
5264 - -
4562 - -
413265 - -
5362 - -
2563 - -
214365 - -
5463 - -
512364 - -
4263 - -
3462 - -

*Bobs at 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11. Commencing with a slow six.

Repeated, except first course, calling bobs at 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, 14 produces—

162453978.

Round with bobs at 3, 5, 8.

This peal has the 5th and 6th each twenty-four times behind the 9th.

Mr. Attree's Analysis will appear next week.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, September 17th, an invitation was sent by Mr. E. Gridley, the genial sexton of St. Andrew's Parish Church, North Weald Bassett, to ring for evening service on the occasion of the Harvest Festival. The party consisted of Messrs. Miller (Leytonstone), Gowers (Woodford), Keeble (Buckhurst Hill), Clark and Rann (Loughton). It was previously intended to make up a band to attempt a 720 of Cambridge, but on arriving at North Weald station it did not look much like any ringing at all, the muster being three, but on walking out of the station number four appeared, having travelled by turnpike road on the ever-increasing safety with the comforting news that he was a substitute for one of the absentees. So far so good. Having to meet number five at the Church we proceeded, having two miles on the turnpike road before us. Arriving at our destination there was number five, and also six in the person of Mr. D. Gridley, of Suffolk, a brother of Mr. E. Gridley. Having been offered a refreshing cup, the offer was gladly taken; and then for some ringing, but what sort of striking? Well as to that we did not fire, no not once! For although the tenor is given as weighing only 9½ cwt., taken from measurement by Mears and Stainbank in 1886, it wants ringing more than some bells double the weight. Now then what are we going to ring? "Kent Treble Bob," says one; and Kent we rung, some of the striking being excellent, considering the bad go of the bells. The extent of 720 was quite enough at once, the band being H. Gowers, D. Gridley, J. Rann, W. Miller, W. Clark, W. Keeble (conductor). Then an 18-score of Bob Minor. After service another touch in the same method standing as before. Not having much time at our disposal we had to make tracks for the station, having enjoyed ourselves with what we had done, although we all agreed that it required six good men to better it (the striking) the writer thinking that as so much has been said of late about this ever forward subject (as it should always be) that these few words might be appropriate to the occasion. There is some work for the bellhangers, as these bells are sadly in need of rehanging.

W. K.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(ASHFORD DISTRICT.)

The Annual District Meeting was held last Saturday, September 16th, when upwards of thirty members attended from Brabourne, Charing, Folkestone, Hythe, Mer-sham, Rolvenden, and Willesborough. Touches in various methods were rung on the bells, which are celebrated throughout Kent for their beautiful tone. The committee having disposed of the business the members sat down to an excellent tea at Miss Cassingham's temperance hotel, to which ample justice was done. An early start for home had to be made, as the majority of the members, who had come through Ashford, had to drive back a distance of twelve miles, but in spite of the shortness of their visit it was thoroughly enjoyed.

Situations Vacant.

STEADY Young Man as Coachman, and to assist occasionally in garden. About 25 years of age. Apply, Editor.

WANTED, GARDENER. Good wages given. House and coal found. Must be change-ringer on eight bells. Apply—THOS. T. HAYWARD, Midsummer Norton, near Bath.

NOTES BY THE WAYSIDE.

Having occasion to travel from the east end of London to the west not long ago, I jumped into a 'bus not far from Liverpool Street station. In the corner was seated one of the veterans of the famous Bethnal Green peal, which for so many years stood the record. As the 'bus turned the corner of Broad Street in came a knight of the pencil—who has done duty at many ringers' gatherings—the pair recognised each other. I need not state the exact mission which was calling me to the west end beyond just mentioning that as I had to meet a posse of ladies and several gentlemen I put on my chimney-pot and had on a black suit (a most unusual thing for me to do), which probably explains why I passed unrecognised.

Having exchanged the compliments of the day, the knight of the pencil asked the veteran what was to be the next great performance. "Well," said the veteran, "they keep talking of big jobs that will want doing, but some of them are a long time starting." "On the other hand," said the knight of the pencil, "some make a rush and do two or three big jobs one after the other." "Well, let us hope," said the veteran, "this last was all right; there's one thing I know, ours was, for we had as good men outside as we had in the tower, some that were just as sharp in picking anything up that was wrong as we should be ourselves." "And you would soon have heard of it," said the knight. The veteran's rejoinder to this was: "Yes; there is no doubt of that, but we never did."

"Well, I don't much doubt the Double Norwich on Easter Monday," said the knight of the pencil. "What I should sooner have a doubt about is London, judging from attempts I have heard some of them make at Cambridge and Superlative." "Well, after all," said the veteran, "it is very well to ring a peal of it, so that one can say he has rung London."

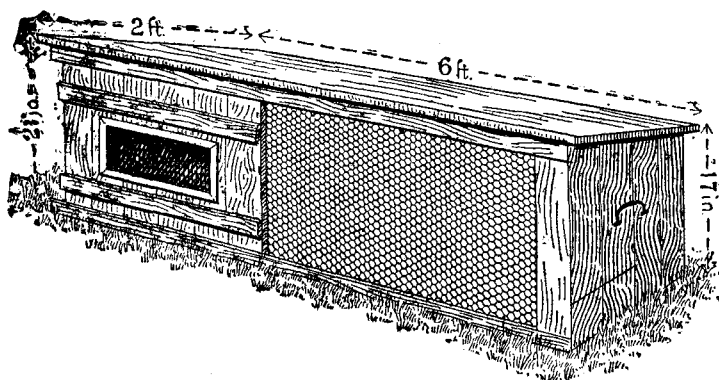
Now as an even 20,000 of Double Norwich—I am not going to say if it's by Mr. White or Mr. Wash—is ready, here is a word of advice to the band who is preparing for the job. Give plenty of notice. Invite as good a man (or men) to be outside the tower as you consider yourselves to be. Do the job neat and clean, and although your peal will not stand so many years the record, for the other big wigs will try to do something longer, yet you will have the satisfaction, when you become veterans, of declaring it to have been all right.

I heard a reader of this paper declare the other day that the report of an attempted peal which failed would have been a little more correct if it had stated 300 changes instead of 3000. Some of you had better be careful, or we shall not only be disputing peals, but also the length of failures. Also if I remember rightly, it is not long ago since a footnote to a peal thanked the steeple-keeper for having everything in readiness upon this and former occasions, and adding "rang at the first attempt." At a more recent date the footnote to a Sunday peal pleaded as an excuse for the ringing of the peal on Sunday that the band lived so far apart. How about getting together for a nine hours' pull on a week-day?

This is my first appearance before the readers of the "B.N." in this capacity. But I hope to appear again if approved of.

LOOKER-ON.

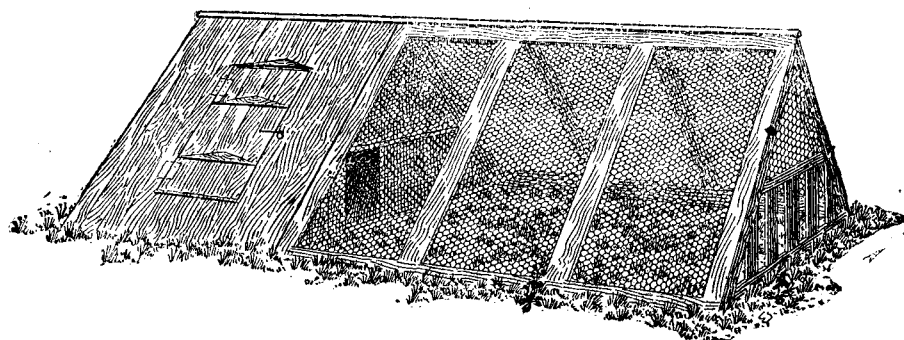
RANDOLPH MEECH'S ORIGINAL POULTRY APPLIANCES.



THE

HYGIENIC FOSTER MOTHER

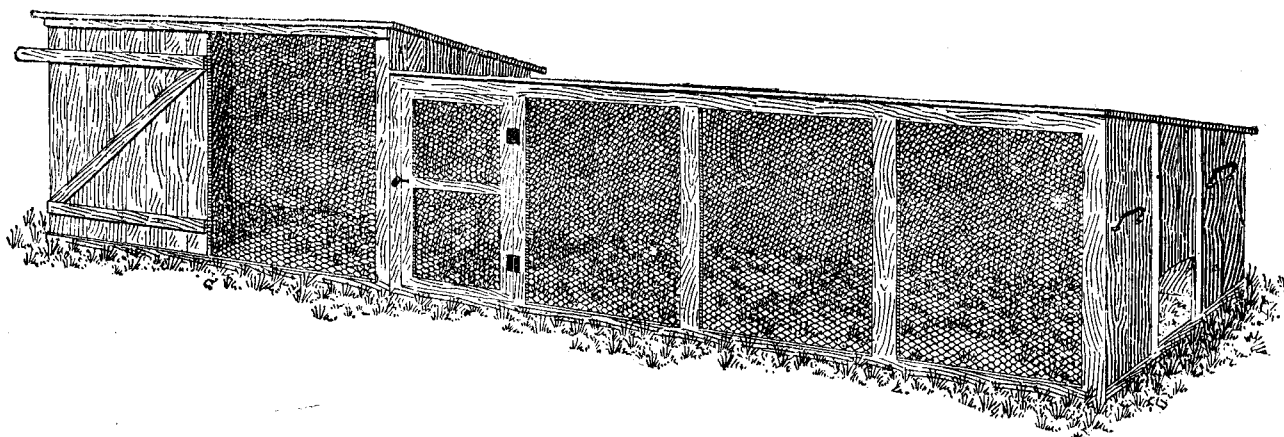
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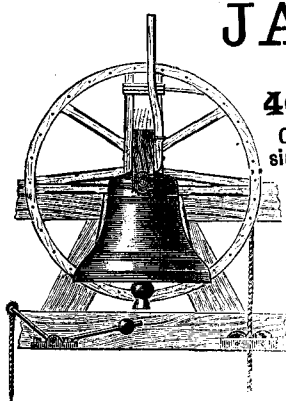
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No. 912.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1899.

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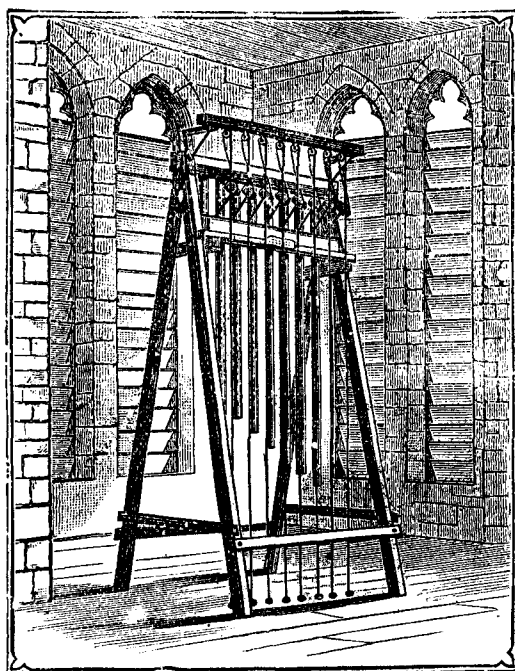
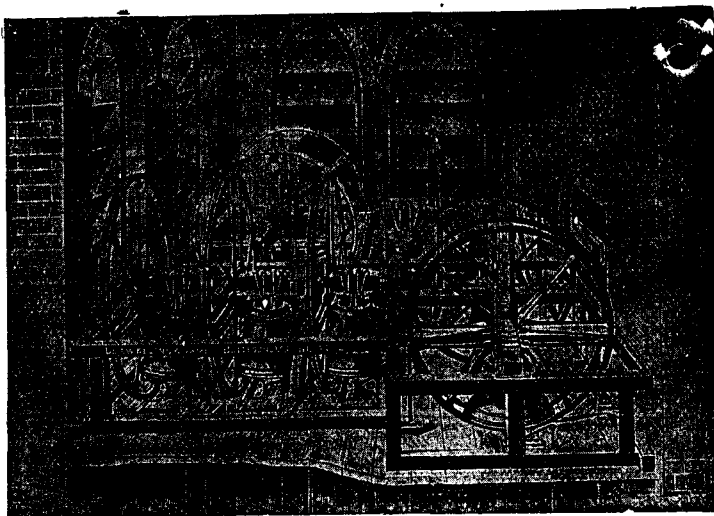
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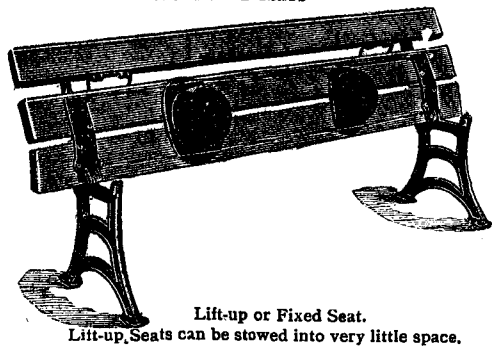
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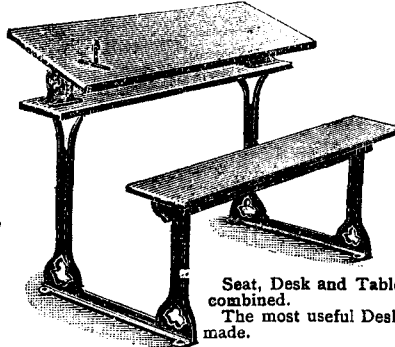
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 912.]

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

CLARE (SUFFOLK) PARISH CHURCH TOWER.

COMPLETION OF ITS RESTORATION.

The ancient little town of Clare is to be congratulated upon the satisfactory completion of an enterprise which, doubtless, exceeds in magnitude, importance and interest anything attempted in modern times by its inhabitants. This was the restoration of the embattled tower of SS. Peter and Paul's Church, which for some years was in so precarious a condition that the ringing of the fine peal of bells, eight in number, was prohibited. It is impossible within the limits of the space at our disposal to fully indicate the state into which the tower, which is partly of fine 13th century work and partly of the 15th century, had fallen, but it may be said that fissures of a most pronounced description had appeared on all sides of the structure. Two of the buttresses had become cracked and the pressure of the tower had caused them to bulge in threatening fashion. In the tower itself, one fissure in the belfry was so wide that an owl was able to make its home there and rear its young. Altogether the damage was of a most extensive character, and was attributed chiefly to the building of the frame-work of the bells into the walls. Under the advice of the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings, the work of restoration was undertaken by the Vicar and the Churchwardens, assisted by a committee of parishioners. The services of Mr. Detmar Blow, the Society's architect, were requisitioned, and from his plans and under his superintendence the important and difficult work has been accomplished. Courses of concrete, tiles, and concrete again have been inserted in a remarkable way, and the old parts have been bonded to the new by a system of grouts. From an antiquarian point of view, an interesting feature of the restoration is that the old flints, which speak of bye-gone ages, have been used afresh, and thus the tower of to-day is, in a practical sense, the tower of centuries ago. The core of the walls is, however, almost entirely new, and some idea of the magnitude of the work may be gathered from the fact that 43,000 bricks have been used. Operations were commenced about 10ft. from the bottom of the tower, and have been carried on to within about 4ft. of the top. About 20ft. from the floor blue Staffordshire bricks have been inserted, bonding the tower to the church. In the interior of the tower a mural tablet, inscribed as follows, records the work which has been accomplished:—"This tower, built in the 13th century, added to and partly rebuilt in 15th century, which last work gave way under the strain of the bells, was mended with a new inside from 10ft. of the bottom under the advice of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings at a cost of £1160, A.D. 1899.—James Vatcher, vicar; George Goodey and G. H. Metcalfe, churchwardens; Detmar Blow, architect; J. Neil, mason." It is stated that the work has cost close upon £300 more than was estimated. This has been due to the fact that masons' wages have risen 12 per cent. since the estimate was made,

and the core of the old wall turned out to be wholly rotten from a few feet above where the work starts to the summit.

A further £200 is required for the rehanging of the bells, the weight of which ranges from 28cwt. to 6cwt. The bells rank among the sweetest peals in Suffolk, and the inhabitants of Clare may now look forward to hearing their tones once more after a lapse of over 17 years. Nearly a year, however, must elapse before ringing will be permitted in the tower, it being deemed advisable first to allow the work which has just been completed to mature. A subsidiary but not unimportant task has been the renovation of the faces of the clock.

From what has already been said, it will be gathered that for a small and not very affluent community like Clare, the enterprise was of a stupendous character, and it speaks well for the energy and enthusiasm of the Vicar (Rev. J. Vatcher), the churchwardens, and the restoration Committee that, with the exception of the sum required for the rehanging of the bells, the whole of the cost has been defrayed. Upon the success which has so far attended their efforts the Vicar and his colleagues are to be heartily congratulated. Needless to say, donations will be gratefully received by them.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A district meeting was held on Saturday, September 23rd, at Mistley, near Harwich, where a peal of six bells has been hung in memorial of the Jubilee of 1897. The tower of Harwich (eight bells) was also open, but there was no time to visit it. About twenty-three members from Mistley, Harwich, Colchester, Great and Little Bentley, Hadleigh (Suffolk), Ipswich, and Colne, sat down to tea at The Thorn inn. The Rev. Canon Norman, Vicar of Mistley, presided, and was supported by the Hon. Secretary (Rev. T. L. Papillon), and the Assistant Secretary (Rev. H. T. W. Eyre). After tea a business meeting was held, at which new members were elected, and a vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Canon Norman, who in reply called attention to a leading article in *The Times* of that morning upon "Church Bells and Campanology" as a sign of the advance that ringers and their Art were making in public estimation. There was plenty of ringing during the afternoon, but complaint was general of the heavy going of the bells, caused probably by their being "nipped" in the frame, so as not to have sufficient play—a defect which should be remedied at once, if (as is reported) two trebles are before long to be added.

NEEDWOOD, STAFFORDSHIRE.

The church here is about to have a new large clock erected on its tower, which is to shew time on two large dials, chime the "Westminster" quarters and strike the hours. Messrs. John Smith & Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby, are carrying out the work, and they are also making a large clock for Clones Church, Ireland.

MINEHEAD AND DUNSTER SOCIETY.

PRESENTATION TO THE REV. H. C. COURTNEY.

An interesting presentation took place in the belfry of St. Michael's tower on Thursday evening, when members of the Minehead and Dunster Guilds of Change-ringers met to make a presentation to the Rev. H. C. Courtney, who has for some years been a very valued help in ringing in both towers. He is now leaving the district, and the Guilds, in recognition of the assistance he has given and as a memento of his association with them, resolved to present him with a set of handbells, by Messrs. Shaw, Son and Co., of Bradford, and an illuminated address framed in oak, the frame being the handiwork of Mr. J. Jones, one of the ringers. The presentation took place at nine o'clock, but earlier in the evening the ringers had gone into the tower and rung several short touches of Stedman, Grandsire and Union Triples, and Bob Major.

The Rev. J. Utten Todd, in making the presentation, said he had to do that which he might describe as a very mournful and yet a very pleasant duty, if the two ideas could be associated. The sorrow was in the thought that they were going to lose Mr. Courtney, and he was sure there would be a touch of sorrow in the hearts of all in the towers of Minehead and Dunster. Mr. Courtney had been with them many years; he had been of much assistance in introducing new methods, and generally to better their exertions as to ringing and time. They would be sorry to lose him, but they knew that he was going for the good of himself and his family. Minehead was getting too small for him, and they did not want to keep him if he felt that it was to the advantage of himself and family to move. They had the utmost good-will for him, and as a token of that good-will and of their best wishes they asked him to accept those bells, and thanked him for the help he had given them in times gone by. In presenting the bells, he would like to read the address, which was as follows:—"To the Rev. H. C. Courtney.—Dear Sir,—The undersigned members of the change-ringing Guilds of St. Michael's, Minehead, and St. George's, Dunster, desire to convey to you their regret at your departure from the neighbourhood, and their appreciation of your constant efforts for the promotion of the art of change-ringing while amongst them. They trust you will accept the accompanying gift of a set of handbells as a slight memento of their affectionate regard and grateful thanks for your kind assistance in furthering the welfare and efficiency of the Guilds, and earnestly hope that your labours elsewhere may be abundantly blessed." (Here followed the names of the members of both Guilds).

The Rev. H. C. Courtney said he did not know how to thank them enough for the splendid gift. The little he had done had been for his own pleasure as well as theirs, for he had done it out of love for ringing. He was exceedingly sorry to leave, because they had been such good friends together. They had pulled off some very good peals at both Minehead and Dunster, but the good ringing was not due to him. He had simply suggested that they should try some Stedman, and they had taken up his suggestion *con amore*. The handbells were just the thing he had wanted, and such a splendid peal as they were giving him quite took his breath away. He hoped and trusted that the ringers of Dunster and Minehead would go on in the future as in the past, and try some higher methods. He hoped that he might be able to come down some times and have a peal with both bands, and he would like very much to hear them ring a peal of Stedman

with a local conductor. Though he would be away from them, he should still consider himself a local ringer, and should try to come down. He thanked them very much for the kind present they had given him and wished them all very many happy years.

Several touches were rung upon the presentation set of handbells, which were found to be of very sweet tone, and the party then left the tower.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(SAXMUNDHAM DISTRICT.)

A quarterly meeting was held at Peasenhall on Saturday, September 23rd, which was attended by sixteen members from Leiston, Benhall, Yoxford and Peasenhall. Through the kindness of the Vicar the bells were rang in various methods during the afternoon and evening. The business meeting was held at The Angel hotel, presided over by Mr. John Button. The minutes of the last meeting were read by the Hon. Sec., Mr. N. Button, and duly confirmed. Mr. F. N. Brewer, of Yoxford, was enrolled as a member of the Association on the proposition of Mr. E. Rowe, and seconded by Mr. T. Rodwell. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Leiston during the Christmas week, on a proposition of Mr. A. Button. A vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells concluded the business of the meeting.

THE ST. JOHN'S SOCIETY, DARLINGTON.

On Saturday, September 2nd, the members of the above society had their annual excursion, the place chosen being Scarborough. Touches of Plain Bob Major and Grandsire Triples were rung on the bells of St. Mary, Castle Hill. The following ringers took part in a 504 of Grandsire Triples: T. Scollick, Jas. Baxter (conductor), W. Patton, Thos. Clark, F. Williams, F. Johnson, W. H. Porter, Jas Bolton. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Bishop of Hull for kindly granting the use of the bells.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Friday, September 22nd, the election of officers for the ensuing year took place. The following were elected: R. A. Daniell, Esq., re-elected Master; Mr. A. Jacob, re-elected Secretary; Mr. T. Langdon, junior Steward, in place of Mr. Stubbs who takes the office of senior Steward. Mr. Baron, sen., re-elected Treasurer.

CORRECTIONS.—Mr. J. E. Groves, of Wolverhampton, writes: "Kindly allow me to correct a mistake in the annual report of the Salop Guild, which appeared in your issue of the 16th instant. It reads: 'Two peals only had been rung; one at Willington and one at Church Stretton.' It should have been: 'Two peals only had been rung during the past year, both of which were Grandsire Triples; one at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, conducted by C. Byolin; the other one at Church Stretton, conducted by J. E. Groves.'"

GIVEN AWAY. PEACH'S LACE CURTAINS.

21^s DIRECT FROM THE LOOMS CARRIAGE PAID 21^s

POPULAR PARCEL.

Lot B.N. contains—1 pair Drawing-room Curtains, Superb Lacey Design, very Rich, 4 yards long, about 2 yards wide; 2 Pairs alike, for Dining-room, handsome work. Copied Real Lace, 3½ yds long, 60 ins. wide; 1 pair Bedroom Curtains, Artistic Floral, 2 yds. long, 50 ins. wide. One five o'clock Table Cover, Choice Guipure Lace. Sent, Carriage Paid, for 21s. All goods taped edges. Ecu if desired.

GIVEN AWAY with each parcel—6 Lace Dressing-table Covers, Fringed, one 45 ins. long, 5 smaller. Our 1899 Parcel is the best we have yet sent out. PRIZE MEDALS, Chicago and Toronto. Satisfaction guaranteed or money returned.

1899 PRICE LIST Post Free. 300 Illustrations of Lace, Frilled Edge and Swiss Curtains, Madras Muslins, Laces, Lace Capes, Blouses, Fichus, Pinafores, etc. Lace-edged Roller Blinds, any size, below usual cost. Estimates and patterns sent. Also Hosiery, "Stand Hard" Wear. Factory ices.

C. Peach & Sons, Lister-gate Nottingham. Established 1857

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(MACCLESFIELD BRANCH.)

A meeting of this branch was held at Disley, on Saturday, September 16th. There were about twenty members present from the different towers. The party arrived about 4 o'clock and at once made tracks for the church, which is beautifully situated on the top of a hill, the winding path up to it being bordered on each side by well kept shrubberies; it was built by one of the Leighs of Lyme in the 16th century. There is a tombstone in the middle aisle, erected to the memory of a man who drove twelve brace of stags to Windsor for a wager, and who drank a gallon of ale every day of his life for sixty years. The bells were found in splendid going order, and 720 of Grandsire was rung: then several touches; after which an adjournment was made for tea, to which special attention (even for ringers) was given for a considerable time, the sharp air having whetted everyone's appetite. Disley is situated on the main road from Manchester and Stockport to Buxton, and must be a remarkably healthy place, as is evidenced by the number of people one meets who have passed the allotted span of three score years and ten, and who still look hearty and vigorous. One of the local ringers has just retired after sixty years, and another brother is still ringing he having been a ringer fifty-six years.

A 720 of Kent Treble Bob and several other touches were afterwards rung, and the meeting was held, votes of thanks being passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and to the ringers for making all the arrangements.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting of the Taunton branch of this Association was held at Milverton on Saturday, September 2nd. Mr. Burgess presided. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, about twenty members put in an appearance. It was proposed by Mr. Chapman and seconded by Mr. Yendall that the next meeting be held at Langford Budville. The members wish to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells. One new member was elected. Several touches of Grandsire and Bob Triples were brought round.

WENSLEY PARISH CHURCH, NEAR LEYBURN, YORKSHIRE.

This ancient edifice, wherein are buried the Lord Scropes of Bolton Castle, a short distance from the church, and members of the Orde-Powlett family, Mason the poet, Peter Goldsmith, M.D., and other celebrated personages, has had another valuable addition in the shape of a new public clock, showing the time on one external dial and striking the hours upon one of the bells in the tower, which has been erected by the widow and five children of the Rev. and Hon. Thomas Orde Powlett, M.A., who was Rector of Wensley parish for forty-four years. A brass plate is fixed inside the church bearing out the above facts. The work has been carried out by Messrs. W. Potts and Sons, Clock Manufacturers, of Guildford Street, Leeds, and Town Hall Buildings, Newcastle-on-Tyne, who are making new clocks for St. Anne's parish church, Lancashire, Leeds Corporation Markets, Leeds, and Newburn Working Men's Club, Northumberland.

WEEK-END AT TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT.

"Go! Double Norwich," was the cry given in Speldhurst tower on Saturday evening, September 9th, at about seven o'clock, and away went the bells into changes for something like 3 hrs. 15 mins. until a peal was completed. The band comprised five of the local men, and three visitors, two from Brighton, and one from town. Thanks of the very best are hereby given to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and also to the local ringers for having all in readiness. It was thought to apply to the Vicar for permission to muffle the bells as a token of respect to the memory of an old and deeply respected member of the Royal Cumberland Youths, Mr. James Hewett, of Gosport, Hants., but as the rev. gentleman had only just returned home, it was deemed best to ring the peal open. But the members of the society ringing in the peal were not unmindful of the fact, it will be noticed, that a very dear old friend had gone hence to increase the great majority. The event recalls the fact that deceased had been a great traveller in his day, visiting most of the continental states of Europe besides that of America. In the latter he took part in a peal of Grandsire Triples at Philadelphia many years ago. It also recalls a more important fact that in his day he was friendly with the departed Shipway and Jeremiah Miller. With the latter he rang in a peal of Double Norwich in the year 1840 at St. James', Clerkenwell. The late John Cox and him were boy companions, the latter being an apprentice to Mr. Hewett's father as a mattress maker. The late Mr. Haley was a youthful acquaintance, and of course there were hosts of others, but as I write from memory, I cannot go any further, and so return to the Kentish week-end in and around Tunbridge Wells. On Sunday morning we attended the parish church, Tonbridge, and rang for Divine Service touches of Double Norwich, Kent Treble Bob, and Stedman Triples with the local men. After service we returned on foot over that splendid common of Southborough, which is said to be the largest in the south of England. It is beautifully wooded, and quite a lovely spot, from which the tower of East Grinstead was pointed out by our host and guide, Mr. Thomas Card. On the return journey it was very clear to the naked eye, and is said to be sixteen miles distant, but I cannot say this for certain, as I have not a map giving the position and distances of churches and cathedrals from one another.

The visitors who dined together at Mr. Card's table were taken for a drive of some twenty miles through the vales and over the hills of this lovely and romantic country, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Card and their two little children all being of the party, all of whom thoroughly enjoyed themselves, although at times under difficulties, as for instance the horse lost a shoe, and so a village smith had to be found; and two or three times did the axle and the wheel box fall out, and although we tried to soothe matters by oiling the axle, they were never reconciled for long at a time, indeed the last time these neighbours disagreed. The two Brighton visitors bolted, and never stopped till they caught the seven o'clock train—just on the move—for the homeward journey. I am glad to say they both arrived home safe, and I am requested to tender their best thanks with my own to all the ringing friends we met on this occasion, and especially to Mr. T. Card for his kindness, forethought, and arrangements.

H. DAINS.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held on Saturday, September 23rd, at Kidderminster, members being present from Areley Kings, Birmingham, Bromsgrove, Clent, Dudley, Halesowen, Kidderminster, Little Comberton, Netherton, Old Hill, Pershore, Stourbridge, Stoke Prior, Tipton, Wolverley, Westbromwich, Wolverhampton, Wollaston and Worcester to the number of fifty.

The bells were started about 3.30, deeply-muffled on both sides, several touches being brought round. The muffles were removed from one side, whole pull and stand was rung, and another touch, as a tribute of respect to the late Thomas Walters, who for many years had been connected with the Kidderminster Society and this Association. The muffles were then removed.

The special service approved by the Bishop of Worcester for use by the Association was said in church. Mr. R. E. Grove presided at the organ, and an interesting address was delivered by the Rev. Sidney Phillips, Vicar, who invited the members to stay at the close and view the objects of interest under his guidance in this ancient and most beautiful church, which invitation was accepted and much appreciated by all present.

A bountiful tea was gratuitously provided and served in the schoolroom, where the business meeting was afterwards held. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, when the question being asked, the Secretary explained why the meeting was held at Kidderminster, instead of Malvern, or as an alternative Areley Kings, according to the minutes, which explanation was accepted as satisfactory. On the motion of Mr. Salter, seconded by Mr. Short, Mr. R. Nicholls, of Bangor, was elected a life member. Mr. John Smith, in the absence of the Rev. W. D. Lowndes, Rector of Little Comberton, who was unable to stay for the meeting, proposed that the Revs. H. B. S. Fowler, Vicar of Elmley Castle, and Hugh Bennett, Rector of Pirton, become performing members. This was seconded by Mr. B. S. Hill. It was resolved, on the motion of Mr. Salter, that the next meeting be held at Selly Oak, in January, 1900. Mr. A. E. Parsons (Old Hill) and Mr. W. Micklewright (Dudley) were re-elected auditors. It was resolved that the appointment of representatives for the Central Council take place at the next meeting. Mr. H. Salisbury (Little Comberton), was appointed instructor to the Pershore Society.

A very cordial vote of thanks was given Mr. Harry Mason (Old Hill) for presenting the Association with 300 copies of the form of service to be used at the meetings, fifty copies to be reserved for use by the St. Thomas's Guild, Dudley.

On the motion of Mr. A. E. Parsons, seconded by Mr. S. Spittle, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rev. S. Phillips for the service and address in the church, the use of the bells, the schoolroom, and for the tea, coupling with this part of the resolution the name of Mr. R. E. Grove, which being suitably responded to, the meeting was closed. Touches in various methods were indulged in during the evening on the beautiful bells in the tower.

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.

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."

BOB MAJOR LEAD-ENDS.

SIR,—I beg to differ from the Rev. E. B. James on this matter. Two of our oldest Surprise methods—London and Cambridge—have the Bob Major lead-ends, and these two are about as unmusical as any methods could possibly be, and besides this, London has three false course-ends, and Cambridge five.

How methods of this description (because of the lead-end) can be held up as permissible, and any methods like Arundel Surprise condemned, because of the foreign lead-end, seems to me incomprehensible; it certainly shows an utter disregard of musical qualities to be obtained in a method, or by composition.

Arundel Surprise was published in this paper on the 25th of February this year. If those interested in the matter will take the trouble to write out the plain course in full, it will be found that except for single dodges with the second and thirds' place bells (four with each bell) the tenor never dodges with any but the sixth's place bell, the seventh's, and the treble.

Superlative Surprise has always been considered the Queen of Major methods, but here we have the tenor dodging four times each with the fourth's and fifth's place bells (double dodging) in every course. All are agreed, I believe, that in Major the 2nd bell should be kept away from the tenor as much as possible; I will now show by the two following peals (the compositions being identical but reversed for the different methods) how better qualities are to be obtained in Arundel Surprise than in Superlative. The peal of Superlative was composed by Mr. Washbrook.

6048 SUPERLATIVE.

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

6048 ARUNDEL SURPRISE.

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

In the peal of Superlative the 2nd is two courses in fourth's place, and three courses in fifth's place in each part, fifteen courses in all, which gives *sixty double dodges* with the 2nd and tenor in the peal. In the peal of Arundel Surprise the 2nd is never in third's place, and only nine courses in second's place in the peal, this gives a total of *thirty-six single dodges* in the peal of Arundel Surprise, against the *sixty double dodges* in Superlative with the 2nd and tenor together.

Other qualities obtained in Arundel Surprise over a good many methods with Bob Major lead-ends have been described previously; and when better qualities are obtained from the foreign lead-end, why should it be condemned? To be consistent, if all methods should be required to have the Bob Major lead-ends, then the backstroke of the treble's whole pull behind should also be the reverse of the Bob Major leads, and this would do away with a good many of the existing Surprise methods.

GEORGE BAKER.

LONG PEALS.

SIR,—With a view of preventing unnecessary correspondence in your valuable paper, I beg to suggest that notice of long peals be advertised twice in its columns. I also beg to suggest that the Central Council will select two competent persons to hear the whole peal and report thereon. I was pleased to read Mr. Boutflower's letter in your issue of the 23rd instant, and sincerely hope that all ringers will exercise every discretion in communicating all matter through the medium of the public press in a friendly manner.

JAMES GEORGE.

55, Bath Street, Rugby.

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF THE PRESENT YEAR,
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.																	
	Jan. to April.	May and June.	Total	Royal.	Major.	14 T. B. M. M.	15 T. B. M. M.	Caters.	Major.	Triples.	1 Minor mthd.	"	"	"	"	"	"	Dbl. Norwich C. B. Major.	Duffield.	Forward Major.		Royal.	Major.	Triples.	Doubles.	London S. Maj.	Cam. S. Royal.	" Major	Sup. Sur. Major	Westminster " "	7 Surprise Minor methods.	Cinquies.	Caters.	Triples				
VALUE IN PTS. PER PEAL																																						
1 Oxford Dicsn. Guild..	32	14	46	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	7	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	16	16	20	10	8	7	2	50	50	30	30	25	28	24	24	886				
2 Kent County Asscn..	36	10	46	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	10	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	8	1	—	—	1	2	—	1	1	3	1	—	—	1	1	5	742			
3 Sussex County Assn..	22	12	34	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	4	1	2	—	—	—	—	2	555			
4 Ancient Soc. Coll. Yths	15	9	24	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	2	—	—	1	1	4	533			
5 Yorkshire Association	23	12	35	1	16	1	4	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	466		
6 Lancashire Asscn...	22	6	28	1	7	—	—	—	2	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	376			
7 Glos. & Bristol Asscn.	12	8	20	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	4	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	1	4	388			
8 Middlesex Cty. Asscn.	14	5	19	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	5	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	6	319			
9 Norwich Dio. Asscn...	19	13	32	2	10	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	317			
10 Midland Cties. Asscn..	17	11	28	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	306		
11 Essex Association....	9	7	16	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	270		
12 Soc. Archdy. Staffs...	11	5	16	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	229		
13 Hertford Cty. Asscn..	17	2	19	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	202		
14 Surrey Association....	11	3	14	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	192		
15 Centl. Northamp. Ass.	7	2	9	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	176			
16 St. Martin's Gld. Birm	5	3	8	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	163			
17 Worcs. & Dists. Assn.	10	4	14	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	153			
18 Winchester Guild....	8	4	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	112		
19 Cleveland & N. York..	5	1	6	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	101		
20 Old East Derby Assn.	6	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	78			
21 Waterloo Soc. London	5	1	6	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	74		
22 Chester Dio. Guild....	7	3	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	71			
23 Royal Cumblid. Yths...	5	1	6	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	70			
24 Bedford Association...	3	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	51			
25 Bath & Wells Assn...	4	2	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	49			
26 Ely Diocesan Assn...	2	3	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	42			
27 Llandaff Dio. Assn...	3	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32			
28 Heavy Woollen Dists.	2	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27			
29 Stoke Archdl. Assn...	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25			
30 Durham & Newtle Ass.	2	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	19			
31 Hereford Dio. Guild..	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14			
32 North Notts. Assn....	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10			
33 St. James' Soc. Lond.	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7			
34 Salisbury Dio. Guild...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7			
35 Irish Association.....	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7			
36 South Lincoln Assn....	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3			
Independent Societies...	9	6	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	177			
Totals..	347	154	501	11	68	1	13	20	1	121	7	4	1	6	2	1	13	27	1	1	1	3	54	12	9	10	1	10	16	2	2	4	13	67	7199			

The peals of Triples, Major and Royal in Plain methods comprise: Bob Triples, 5; Bob Major, 52; Bob Royal, 3; Oxford Bob Triples 5; Union Triples, 1; Canterbury Pleasure Major, 1; College Single Major, 1; Darlaston Bob Triples, 1. The peals of Doubles: *12, 7, 5 and 3 peals of 4 methods; †5 methods; ‡2 methods; †4 methods.

The peals by Independent Societies were rung in the following counties: Essex, 1; Gloucestershire, 1; Leicester, 1; Middlesex, 3; Staffordshire, 1; Surrey, 2; Sussex, 3; Warwickshire, 1; Worcestershire, 1; and Yorkshire, 1.

January, 83; February, 93; March, 64; April, 107; May, 97; June, 57.

Decrease on the corresponding six months of 1898—29.

8, Hanover Crescent, Brighton.
90, Church Road, Hove.

GEO. F. ATTREE.
GEORGE BAKER.

CHATHAM.—On Sunday, September 17th, at the Victoria tower of St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. A. Duncan, 1; H. Moore, 2; W. Haigh (conductor), 3; C. Fryatt, 4; W. Hollier, 5; J. Tullet, 6; T. Haigh, 7; G. Smith, 8. This is the first quarter-peal by ringers of 1, 2, 4 and tenor, and the first quarter-peal on the bells.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—On Thursday, September 14th, for practice, 504 Stedman, Triples. T. Haigh (conductor), 1; W. Haigh, 2; W. Hollier, 3; P. Taffs, 4; W. Easter, 5; C. Fryatt, 6; W. Bate, 7; E. Phillips, 8.

GREAT DALBY (Leicestershire).—On Thursday, September 21st, at the church of St. Swithun, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, several 6-scores of Bob Doubles. J. E. Goodacre, 1; C. Dalby, 2; E. J. Gale, 3; A. V. Potter, 4; R. H. Bartram, 5. Also 720 Grandsire Doubles, by the same band, except W. James, 4; conducted by B. H. Bartram. These bells, which have recently been rehung by Taylor, are in excellent order.

LONDON.—At the church of St. John the Divine, Vassall Road, Brixton, on Sunday, September 24th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 45 mins. E. Gibbs, 1; C. F. Winney (conductor), 2; E. P. O'Meara, 3; J. W. Rowbotham, 4; E. Horrex, 5; G. Wild, 6; W. T. Cockerill, 7; A. E. Davies, Esq., 8.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On the occasion of the Harvest Festival at St. Edward's church, the last 742 of Holt's Original. S. James, 1; G. R. Pye (conductor), 2; J. Turban, 3; G. Piper, 4; G. Roughton, 5; W. Watson, 6; L. W. Copsey, 7; H. Vyes, 8.

THRAPSTON (Northants).—On Wednesday, August 23rd, 720 Plain Bob, with the bells half muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Canon Bechey. A. Kingsford, 1; W. Yates, 2; D. Redhead, 3; R. Loveday, 4; J. Hudson, 5; J. Nickerson (conductor), 6; A. Baines, 7; R. Bland, 8. On Sunday, September 17th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples, in 56 mins. A. Baines, 1; W. Yates, 2; A. Kingsford, 3; J. Hudson, 4; L. Chapman, 5; D. Redhead, 6; J. Nickerson (conductor), 7; J. Carter, 8.

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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, SEPTEMBER 30, 1899.

WE have on several occasions felt it our duty to comment severely upon what has appeared in the public press concerning bells, bellringers, and bellringing. Hitherto most of that which has been written for the columns of our contemporaries about such subjects have been ridiculous, and demonstrated the complete ignorance of the writers. One notable exception to this assertion we gladly point out. That leading and excellent Church organ, *The Guardian*, has frequently published what may be termed "ringing news," but never has it descended to vulgarise or decry ringing, or perpetrate a joke at the expense of ringers. This is characteristic of such an influential organ.

On Saturday last, the 23rd instant, those members of the Exercise who daily peruse the columns of *The Times*, were surprised and of course gratified to read a leading

article on "Bells and Bellringers" in its columns. For the benefit of a great number of our readers, we give on another page this article at full length. They will rejoice to find that the most powerful newspaper in the world has at last been led to speak a word on behalf of the practice of change-ringing, and the necessity which exists that church bells should be taken care of and preserved by Churchmen. Our space prevents us from reviewing this article at any great length, but it will speak for itself, and, all who read it will be glad. To the writer—whoever he may be—the thanks and appreciation of the whole Exercise are given.

There is one sentence in this article which we may briefly allude to. When speaking of the Central Council of Church Bellringers, the writer, after inferring that this body represents some thirty thousand ringers, says that these are "a body of respectable men well disposed to the Church and to the clergy, whose allegiance is by no means to be despised by Church authorities." How often we have on this page said the same thing will be in our readers' recollection. Repeatedly has it been pointed out what a bulwark in defence of the Church her bellringers would prove if necessary. But we have spoken to deaf ears, comparatively. Not one of the Church newspapers save the one above-mentioned, has ever thought fit to notice the urgent claims of ringers to Churchpeople's recognition, or ever quoted a line of what we have said in such a direction. They have been taken up too much with many matters, we do not hesitate to say, of less importance. Now that ringers have *The Times* on their side, some good will ensue. We do not want, and will not have, the kind of popularity awarded to "sport," we want the generous recognition of all true Churchfolk, and this we believe will come in due time.

The Metropolis.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, September 25, 1899, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, EDMONTON,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 17 cwt.

PERCY J. DARLINGTON* .. Treble.	WILLIAM WARD 5.
SIDNEY WADE 2.	*LEWIS DARLINGTON 6.
WILLIAM BENNETT* 3.	JAMES PARKER 7.
ALFRED W. DARLINGTON .. 4.	JOHN R. SHARMAN Tenor.

Composed by A. KNIGHTS, and Conducted by JAMES PARKER.

*First peal of Treble Bob.

The Provinces.

WOLVERHAMPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, September 16, 1899, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 23 cwt.

FARRINGTON JONES Treble.	WILLIAM G. HALL 5.
BENJAMIN DALTON 2.	THOMAS J. ELTON 6.
THOMAS HORTON 3.	HERBERT KNIGHT 7.
ROBERT PICKERING 4.	JAMES E. GROVES Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

BISLEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

On Tuesday, September 19, 1899, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' TEN-PART (No. 1). Tenor 17 cwt. in G.

H. NATION Treble.	W. MALLER 5.
REV. CANON J. R. KEBLE .. 2.	A. E. WRIGHT 6.
H. PEGLER 3.	G. DOWDESWELL 7.
C. HEMMING 4.	T. LONG Tenor.

Conducted by A. E. WRIGHT.

The Rev. Canon Keble is Vicar of Bishopthorpe, Yorks.

WOLVERHAMPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Tuesday, September 19, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE, BLAKENHALL,

A PEAL OF FORWARD MAJOR, 5016 CHANGES.

Tenor 10 cwt.

ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT .. Treble.	*ROBERT PICKERING 5.
SAMUEL REEVES* 2.	*WILLIAM G. HALL 6.
WILLIAM R. SMALL 3.	*HUGH J. BALCOMBE 7.
HERBERT KNIGHT* 4.	†JAMES E. GROVES Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

*First peal in the method. †First peal in the method as conductor. First peal in the method on the bells. This peal has only the 4th, 5th, and 6th in 6ths place, and is now rung for the first time.

PENN, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD, AND THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, WOLVERHAMPTON.

On Wednesday, September 20, 1899, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES. Tenor 11½ cwt.

ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT .. Treble.	*ROBERT PICKERING 5.
HUGH J. BALCOMBE* 2.	*ELMER S. HODGES 6.
JOHN JAGGAR 3.	*HERBERT KNIGHT 7.
WILLIAM G. HALL* 4.	†JAMES E. GROVES Tenor.

Conducted by the late HENRY JOHNSON, and

Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

*First peal in the method. †First peal in the method as conductor. First in the method on the bells; and first peal of Double Norwich by the St. Peter's society.

SOUTHOVER, LEWES, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, September 20, 1899, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

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

KEITH HART Treble.	ROBERT J. DAWE 5.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, SEN. .. 2.	FRANK BENNETT 6.
LIONEL SEARS* 3.	ALFRED J. TURNER 7.
GEORGE A. KING 4.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and Conducted by FRANK BENNETT

*First peal in the method.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, September 21, 1899, in Three Hours and Thirty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES. Tenor 26 cwt.

GEORGE ROBINSON Treble.	EDWARD I. STONE 5.
HARRY WAKLEY 2.	ARTHUR WAKLEY 6.
JOHN BENSTEAD 3.	JOSEPH GRIFFIN 7.
HERBERT P. HARMAN 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by W. WAKLEY.

HULL, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 23, 1899, in Three Hours and Thirty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES.

Tenor 26 cwt.

W. SOUTHWICK* Treble.	T. HAIGH 6.
TOM STOCKDALE* 2.	W. MORRILL 7.
T. F. EARNSHAW 3.	G. BREED 8.
T. NEILL 4.	C. JACKSON 9.
G. T. MARSHALL* 5.	*J. W. DALE Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and Conducted by C. JACKSON.

This is the first peal on the Bells which have only recently been cast and supplied by Taylor and Co. *First peal of Caters.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 23, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

WILLIAM R. HENSHER .. Treble.	WILLIAM G. BEMROSE .. 5.
JOHN J. MAWBY 2.	THOMAS R. HENSHER .. 6.
ALPHAUS PERKINS 3.	JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. .. 7.
JOHN B. MARTIN 4.	JAMES GARRATT Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and
Conducted by JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN.

This is J. Houghton's 100th peal, not including two false ones. The composition was taken from the Appendix for 1895, page 77. Mr. Bemrose, for whom this peal was arranged, hails from Peterborough, late of the St. Peter-at-Arches Society, Lincoln. Rung in honour of the birth of a daughter to the parish clerk, Mr. John Sherwood.

YATELEY, HANTS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, September 23, 1899, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 17 cwt.

WILLIAM HORNE Treble.	ALFRED WATMORE 5.
G. L. BODDINGTON 2.	WILLIAM NEWELL 6.
ARTHUR W. HIGGS 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
ALFRED E. REEVES 4.	ERNEST BRUCE Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

First peal of Stedman on the bells.

MIDDLESBROUGH, YORKSHIRE.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, September 25, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HILDA,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

FRED. P. HOWCROFT .. Treble.	JAMES A. CARTER 5.
ROBERT ALCOCK 2.	WILLIAM NEWTON 6.
RICHARD FENWICK 3.	JOHN H. BLAKISTON .. 7.
REV. W. P. WRIGHT* .. 4.	THOMAS METCALFE Tenor.

Composed by PAUL CASHMORE, and Conducted by J. H. BLAKISTON.

*First 5000 in any method.

REIGATE, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

(THE REIGATE SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, September 23, 1899, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt.

JOHN BEAMS Treble.	HENRY REEVES 6.
GEORGE THOMPSON 2.	WILLIAM ARGENT 7.
PELHAM E. J. KNIGHT .. 3.	EDGAR KENWARD 8.
FRANCIS T. HOAD, SEN. .. 4.	GEORGE F. HOAD 9.
FRANCIS T. HOAD, JUN. .. 5.	JOHN STEADMAN Tenor.

Composed by JOHN WRIGHT, and Conducted by FRANCIS T. HOAD, SEN.

This is the first peal of Caters on the bells, which were recently rehung and increased to ten by Mears and Stainbank, and the "go" of them all is everything that can be desired.

BURNHAM, BUCKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, September 26, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SIX-PART (No. II.)

Tenor about 16 cwt.

ERNEST CARTER Treble.	JAMES ELDERFIELD 5.
GEORGE GUTTRIDGE 2.	GEORGE ALLDER 6.
GEORGE BASDEN 3.	CHARLES CLARKE 7.
JOSEPH J. PARKER 4.	REUBEN FLAXMAN Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by J. J. PARKER.

Rung on the second anniversary of the dedication of the two treble bells, and the first peal upon them.

BARKING, ESSEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 23, 1899, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR,

5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 22½ cwt.

ALBERT DEARDS Treble.	ERNEST PYE 5.
WILLIAM PYE 2.	CALEB FENN 6.
ROWLAND FENN 3.	ALBERT C. HARDY 7.
CHARLES WILKINS 4.	JOHN H. CHEESMAN Tenor.

Composed by C. MIDDLETON, and Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN.

WORTLEY, NEAR SHEFFIELD, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, September 26, 1899, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

THOMAS MCKEGG Treble.	EDWARD ROBBINS 5.
CLIFF DRONFIELD† 2.	DAVID BREARLEY 6.
ARTHUR JOHN SAXBY 3.	JOHN DRONFIELD 7.
GEORGE W. DRONFIELD .. 4.	*THOMAS ROBBINS Tenor.

Composed by J. E. GROVES, and Conducted by THOS. ROBBINS.

*First peal as conductor. †First peal.

Miscellaneous.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

WICKHAM (Hants).—On Wednesday, September 6th, for practice, a 720 Grandsire Minor. W. Holmes, 1; L. Page, 2; C. Singleton, 3; E. A. Collins (first 720), 4; W. Churcher, 5; G. Chappel (conductor), 6. And a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. H. Merritt, 1; C. Westmore (first 6-score), 2; W. Churcher, 3; E. A. Collins, 4; G. Chappel (conductor), 5; N. Welch, 6. On Wednesday, September 13th, 720 Grandsire Minor. W. Holmes, 1; C. Singleton, 2; W. Langford, 3; E. A. Collins, 4; W. Churcher, 5; G. Chappel (conductor), 6.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

WOLVERLEY (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, September 19th, at the parish church, 360 Grandsire Minor in 14 mins. Also 720 Grandsire Minor in 27½ mins., and 180 Bob Minor. G. E. Jukes, 1; W. H. Smith (conductor), 2; G. H. Frazier, 3; J. Smith, 4; W. Perry, 5; J. Perry, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

LLANDAFF.—On Sunday, June 25th, for Divine Service at the Cathedral, 448 Bob Major. J. Pitcher, 1; J. Harris, 2; W. B. Biss, 3; R. C. Balcombe, 4; A. Rowley, 5; J. Clutterbuck, 6; W. Coombes (conductor), 7; J. H. Aldridge, 8. On Monday, June 26th, for practice, 518 Grandsire Triples. F. Pitcher, 1; W. Coombes (conductor), 2; W. Lloyd, 3; J. Pitcher, 4; O. W. Layng (Swindon), 5; W. B. Biss, 6; J. H. Aldridge, 7; H. Day, 8. Also 336 Grandsire Triples. J. Price, 1; O. W. Layng, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; W. Coombes (conductor), 4; J. H. Aldridge, 5; R. C. Balcombe, 6; W. B. Biss, 7; H. Day, 8. On July 23rd, for Divine Service, 448 Bob Major. J. Pitcher, 1; W. B. Biss, 2; G. Watkins, 3; J. Morley (Chepstow), 4; J. Clutterbuck, 5; W. Coombes (conductor), 6; A. Rowley, 7; J. H. Aldridge, 8. On Sunday morning, August 6th, for Divine Service, 419

Grandsire Triples. F. Pitcher, 1; J. H. Aldridge, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; W. B. Biss, 4; A. Rowley, 5; J. Clutterbuck, 6; W. Coombes (conductor), 7; W. Canter, 8.

CARDIFF.—On Sunday morning, July 2nd, for Divine Service at the church of St. John the Baptist, 419 Grandsire Triples. W. Lloyd, 1; W. B. Biss, 2; J. Harris, 3; A. Rowley, 4; C. Winfield, 5; J. H. Aldridge, 6; W. Coombes (conductor), 7; B. Tilley, 8. On Sunday evening, July 23rd, for Divine Service, 503 Grandsire Caters. W. Lloyd, 1; G. Watkins, 2; W. B. Biss, 3; A. Rowley, 4; C. Winfield, 5; J. Harris, 6; J. Morley, 7; J. Clutterbuck, 8; W. Coombes (conductor), 9; B. Tilley, 10. On Sunday, July 30th, for Divine Service, 503 Grandsire Caters. W. Lloyd, 1; J. H. Aldridge, 2; W. B. Biss, 3; R. J. Dawe (Brighton), 4; C. Winfield, 5; J. Harris, 6; A. Rowley, 7; J. Clutterbuck, 8; W. Coombes (conductor), 9; W. Canter, 10. On Saturday, August 5th, for the High Court of Foresters, 615 Grandsire Triples. W. Northey, 1; G. Watkins, 2; J. H. Aldridge, 3; J. Harris, 4; A. Rowley, 5; J. Clutterbuck, 6; W. Coombes (conductor), 7; B. Tilley, 8. On Sunday afternoon, August 6th, for the High Court of Foresters parade, 395 Grandsire Caters. L. Viconte, 1; G. Watkins, 2; S. Cooper (Leicester), 3; W. B. Biss, 4; C. Winfield, 5; J. Harris, 6; A. Rowley, 7; J. Clutterbuck, 8; W. Coombes (conductor), 9; B. Tilley, 10.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WICKHAM SKEITH (Norfolk).—On Sunday, August 22nd, two 720s of Kent Treble Bob Minor. E. Youngs, 1; C. Nunn, 2; G. D. Buckingham, 3; W. H. Symonds, 4; A. W. Symonds, 5; G. C. Symonds (conductor), 6. Also 240 Stedman Doubles. A. W. Symonds, 1; G. D. Buckingham, 2; W. H. Symonds, 3; F. Cullum, 4; G. E. Symonds (conductor), 5; E. Nunn, 6. On Friday, September 15th, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. E. Youngs, 1; D. Mayes, 2; G. Kemp, 3; J. Buckingham, 4; F. Potter, 5; G. Cattermole (conductor), 6.

EYE (Suffolk).—On Saturday, August 26th, 504 Stedman Triples. F. Day, 1; A. H. Grimes, 2; W. Rumsey, 3; A. H. Symonds, 4; W. Grimes, 5; G. D. Buckingham, 6; G. C. Symonds (conductor), 7; C. Palmer, 8. *Longest touch of Stedman.

GISLINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Saturday, September 16th, 720 Bob Minor. E. Youngs, 1; C. Nunn, 2; G. Cattermole, 3; F. Potter, 4; E. Buckingham, 5; G. D. Buckingham (conductor), 6.

THORNHAM MAGNA (Suffolk).—On Sunday, September 10th, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 360 of Doubles, being 120 each of St. Simon's, April Day, and Grandsire. W. Rose, 1; E. Youngs, 2; C. Nunn, 3; A. H. Symonds, 4; G. D. Buckingham (conductor), 5.

BURGATE (Suffolk).—On Sunday, September 17th, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, a quarter-peal of Doubles, being 120 each of The Dream, Morning Star, St. Dunstan's, Fortune, April Day, Plain Bob, Canterbury, and 300 Grandsire. G. Benou, 1; W. Rose, 2; E. Youngs, 3; W. H. Symonds, 4; G. D. Buckingham (conductor), 6.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—WIRRAL BRANCH.

WEST KIRBY (Cheshire).—On Sunday evening, September 10th, for Divine Service, 720 Grandsire Minor with the tenor covering. S. Wharton, 1; C. Powell, 2; J. Rutter, 3; J. Hammond, 4; A. Smith, 5; J. Pownall (conductor), 6; E. Hampson, 8. On Thursday, September 14th, for the Harvest Festival, 720 Bob Minor. S. Wharton, 1; J. Hale, 2; J. Rowland, 3; J. Hammond, 4; A. Smith, 5; J. Pownall (conductor), 6; E. Hampson, 8. On Sunday evening, September 17th, 336 Bob Major. S. Wharton, 1; J. Rowland, 2; J. Hale, 3; J. Rutter, 4; J. Hammond, 5; A. Smith, 6; C. Powell, 7; J. Pownall (conductor), 8.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

BRAY (County Wicklow).—On Saturday, September 16th, at Christ Church, 504 Bob Triples. H. Rickerby, 1; G. Matthews, 2; J. Lambert, 3; D. Towson, 4; T. Smith, 5; Rev. G. D. Scott, 6; G. Lindoff (conductor), 7; W. Smith, 8.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

WIRKSWORTH.—On Monday, September 18th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor on the back six. F. Turner, 1; Rev. A. Beeston, 2; J. Wardman, 3; A. Gell, 4; F. Johnson, 5; W. Fox (conductor), 6. *First 720

BRADBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Tuesday, September 20th, 720 Bob Minor. J. Lomas, 1; Rev. A. Beeston, 2; W. Fox, 3; H. Midlane, 4; H. Baldy, 5; Rev. A. Gamble (conductor), 6.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BATTLE (Sussex).—On Tuesday, September 19th, for practice at the parish church, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Sinden, 1; S. C. Saker, 2; F. Mathis, 3; L. J. Stapley, 4; W. H. Eldridge, 5; J. Livermore, 6; W. Franks (conductor), 7; W. J. Thomas, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Sunday, September 24th, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples was rung for Divine Service in the morning in 43 mins. J. Bovington, G. Guttridge, A. Barker, J. J. Parker (composer and conductor), J. Elderfield, J. Parker, R. Flaxman, and C. Clark. And for evening service another quarter-peal in the same method in 42 mins. W. Clark, R. Flaxman, G. Basden, J. J. Parker (composer), G. Allder, J. Parker, C. Clark (conductor), J. Bovington.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

FILIXTON (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, September 19th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor in 29 mins. W. Massey, 1; J. Gratrix, 2; S. Collier, 3; J. H. Collier, 4; J. Nuttall, 5; J. Eachus, 6. Tenor 14½ cwt.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—On Sunday morning, September 24th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. S. Purser, 1; H. J. Balcombe, 2; E. S. Hodges, 3; H. Knight, 4; R. Pickering, 5; J. E. Groves (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all except the conductor.

TETTENHALL.—On Wednesday, September 13th, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. B. Dalton, sen., 1; B. Dalton, jun., 2; H. Knight, 3; J. H. Rowe, 4; W. Butler, 5; J. E. Groves (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, September 24th, after Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor in 24 mins. W. Butler, 1; B. Dalton, 2; R. Pickering, 3; W. G. Hall, 4; J. E. Groves (conductor), 5; H. Knight, 6.

BOLTON (Lancashire).—On Sunday afternoon, September 24th, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. F. Markland, 1; J. Markland, 2; R. Vickers, 3; R. Holden, 4; J. E. Markland, 5; J. Hilton, 6; J. W. Bayley (conductor), 7; J. Moulding, 8. Tenor 23 cwt. 2 qrs. 23 lbs.

DISLEY (Cheshire).—On Saturday, September 16th, 720 Grandsire Minor. J. Gratrix, 1; A. B. Lomas, 2; H. Davenport, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; J. Minshull (conductor), 5; J. Norbury, 6. And 720 Kent Treble Bob by the same band, conducted by A. B. Lomas. Also 480 Plain Bob. H. Davenport, 1; W. Ingham (conductor), 2; J. Minshull, 3; J. Norbury, 4; A. B. Lomas, 5; J. M. Davenport, 6. And 360 in the same method. J. Johnson (conductor), 1; W. Ingham, 2; J. Gratrix, 3; J. Norbury, 4; T. Atkinson, 5; J. M. Davenport, 6.

GODALMING (Surrey).—On Tuesday, September 19th, after meeting one short for a peal, a 720 Grandsire Minor was rung with the tenor covering. W. Freaks, 1; T. Radford, 3; G. Foster, 4; T. W. Radford (conductor), 5; G. Mansfield, 6; F. Blondell, 7; J. Hunt, 8. Also a 360 with F. Blondell (conductor). And with the help of a local man a 504 Grandsire Triples. S. Radford, 1; W. Freaks, 2; G. Foster, 3; W. Hoaker, 4; T. W. Radford, 5; G. Mansfield, 6; F. Blondell (conductor), 7; J. Hunt, 8.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, September 17th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Nicolas, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. C. Willshire, 1; G. Foster, 2; E. Allen, 3; J. Hunt, 4; F. Blondell, 5; T. Radford, 6; T. W. Radford (conductor), 7; E. Radden, 8. On Monday, September 18th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor. J. Hunt, 1; G. Foster, 2; S. Radford, 3; C. Willshire, 4; T. W. Radford (conductor), 5; F. Blondell, 6. This is believed to be the first 700 on the bells.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, September 10th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 43 mins. W. Smith, 1; J. D. Drewett, 2; B. Wadmore, Esq., 3; E. C. Lambert, 4; A. Calver, 5; L. Ferrige, 6; G. Welling (conductor), 7; A. Lambert, 8.

PRITTEWELL (Essex).—On Sunday, September 24th, for Divine Service, 518 and 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Hunt, 1; W. Bedwell, 2; C. Collins, 3; W. Dudley, 4; C. Anderson, 5; J. Smith, 6; W. H. Judd (conductor), 7; J. Prior, 8.

RAYLEIGH (Essex).—On Wednesday, September 20th, for Harvest Festival, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. F. Faulkner, 1; W. Bedwell, 2; J. Johnson, 5; S. Bingham, 4; G. Smith, 5; H. Smith, 6; W. H. Judd (conductor), 7; W. Bingham, 8.

For Sale.

JUVENILE BICYCLE. Very good condition. Too small for Owner. £6 or offer.—L., Vicarage, Walthamstow.

BELLS AND BELLRINGING.

The following appeared in *The Times* of Saturday last, the 23rd instant, as a leading article:—

"Among the 'ornaments' or accessories of churches and of Divine worship few possessions of such value are often so little regarded, if not entirely neglected, as the church bells. Far away out of sight in windy towers, accessible only by narrow winding staircases or dangerous ladders, hang peals of bells, which with their fittings cost many hundreds of pounds, unvisited and uncared for by clergy or churchwardens, who grudge even the small annual expenditure that is necessary to keep them in good order for ringing, till some day or other it is discovered that they are unringable or even dangerous, and large sums have to be expended for want of the 'stitch in time.' The desire for what is sometimes misnamed 'restoration,' or at least for order and decency in the fabric and the fittings of the church, does not in all cases extend to the belfry. Our modern architects take even less trouble than those of older days to provide easy access to the ringing-chamber and good accommodation for bells and ringers, of whose requirements they are, as a rule, ignorant. The clergy, with a few exceptions, take little interest in their bells; the churchwardens know nothing about them, and care less; the sexton, whose duty it is to look after them and see that ropes, wheels, bearings, and frame are in proper order, saves himself all the trouble he can; and so the process of neglect goes on. It is not an unknown thing to find a church beautifully restored and cared for, with a good organ and a competent choir, but with the tower, which is after all part of the consecrated building, in a condition of disgraceful neglect. The time, indeed, has not long passed when this could be said of some Cathedrals, even of the Abbey itself. St. Paul's Cathedral, in this as in other respects, sets a better example. In its north-western tower hangs a heavy ring of twelve bells, in first-rate order and rung by competent change-ringers—the finest ringing peal in England, and therefore in the world. But in Exeter Cathedral an equally fine, but much older, peal hangs useless, as far as scientific ringing is concerned, for want of proper rehanging. The restorers of St. Saviour's, Southwark—hereafter, perhaps, to be the Cathedral of South London—have declined even to consider the rehanging of its grand peal of twelve, now lying voiceless and discredited. It cannot be said that our Cathedral Chapters, as a rule, set the same example to the parochial clergy in regard to church bells as they do in regard to church music. The atmosphere of a Cathedral close is not, however, very congenial to reform.

"Yet within the present generation there has been, and is still going on, an active movement for reform both in belfries and among ringers. The days are not far distant when change-ringing was classed among lower forms of sport; when the belfry was too often in close connexion with the publichouse; and when ringers bore an ill-reputation for good conduct and sobriety. That this is now a thing of the past is due largely to a revival of the art of change-ringing, and to the formation all over the country of diocesan or county societies for the encouragement of change-ringing and the reform of belfries. Some of the clergy have become practical change-ringers, and their constant presence in the belfry does more perhaps than any outward regulations to improve the moral of their ringers. The art of change-ringing, requiring as it does patience, perseverance, steadiness, and concentration, and, above all, sobriety, is no bad training for those who take it up. It was once, we are told, a fashionable pastime; it might again have become so had Mr. Gladstone made it, rather than wood-cutting, his hobby. It has, even now, its literary organ. A 'Central Council of Church Bellringers,' consisting of delegates from the various guilds, societies, or associations, meets annually in London or some provincial centre for the discussion of matters concerning the ringing art. This council is said to be representative of some thirty thousand ringers, a body of respectable men well disposed to the Church and to the clergy, whose allegiance is by no means to be despised by Church authorities. Among other useful works which this council has taken in hand is the dissemination of knowledge respecting the proper care of bells and of belfries, and particularly of well-ascertained means for diminishing, without entirely silencing, the sound of bells in close proximity to houses. The distant sound of 'bells at evening pealing,' or

of the curfew 'over some wide-watered shore Swinging slow with sullen roar,' is one thing; but quite another is the hammering crash of a noisy peal above the streets and houses of a town. The natural annoyance which finds vent in indignant complaints of the 'bell nuisance' might often, in justice, be diverted from those who ring the bells, or allow them to be rung, to those who neglect proper precautions to soften and modify their sound. There is, we believe, no reason why the bells of any town church should cause more annoyance than those of a country village, or than the bells of St. Paul's Cathedral as their music rolls out above the roar of London streets. The public have a right to require from clergy, churchwardens, or others responsible for steeples and bells that the architectural arrangements of the bell-chamber shall be such as enable the bells to be rung with a *minimum* of annoyance to the neighbourhood.

"That church bells should be silenced few, we imagine, would desire. The 'sound of the church-going bell,' familiar to many from their childhood, has in it a suggestion of home; and to those who have lived at home within sound of a melodious peal its absence aggravates the bitterness of exile. Bells, too, have from very early times in England been associated with the life of the people. We still expect them to ring joyfully at a wedding and toll mournfully for a funeral; and the 'passing bell,' no longer as a rule at the time of death, but shortly after it, is in general use. We can still appreciate Shakespeare's illustration of the 'first bringer of unwelcome news'—

'his tongue

'Sounds ever after as a sullen bell

'Remember'd knolling a departing friend.'

The curfew survives here and there by force of custom, though its meaning is lost. The 'harvest' or 'gleaning' bells, to call labourers and gleaners into the fields, have not long disappeared, if they have yet disappeared, from some country parishes. The 'market bell,' originally rung as a signal for selling to commence, so as to guard against forestalling, is still rung at noon on market days at Oundle; and at Nottingham a bell given by a washerwoman, with a bequest to provide for its being rung at 4 o'clock in the morning to call the washerwomen of the town to their work, is still (or was till recently) rung during part of the year at the more reasonable hour of 6. The 'fire bell' is still common; but the 'storm' or 'tempest' bell, to ward off thunder—perhaps from its supposed power to drive away evil spirits; the 'oven bell' to announce that the manor oven was heated, to which the tenants had to bring their bread; or the 'pancake bell,' rung on Shrove Tuesday as a signal to housewives to use up all their grease and dripping before the Lenten fast, have disappeared. In remote country parishes there are still curious survivals of such customs in the ringing of bells at odd times without apparent reason. Occasions of great public rejoicing have always been celebrated by the ringing of bells. Her Majesty's Jubilee, for instance, in 1887, and the celebration of the 60th year of her reign in 1897, gave occasion for much ringing of peals, and also to the rehanging and restoration of church bells all over the country. The church bells of England have their part both in national and in social life. If their more frequent use, due to the revived enthusiasm for change-ringing, has here and there aroused murmurs of annoyance, it is for those who have the charge of them to see that causes of annoyance are removed, as they can be without recourse to such drastic methods as silencing the bells or discouraging the art whose object is to make the best use of them."

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The meeting of this Association at Hilingdon last Saturday passed off very successfully. We shall have a full report from Mr. King in time for our next number.

PRIOR COMPOSITION CLAIMS.—The peal of 5376 Bob Major, published a fortnight ago as the composition of E. J. Gale, of Melton Mowbray, will be found in this paper of May 18th, 1895, and belongs to H. W. Wilde, of Belgrave.—The peal of Stedman Caters last week by W. G. Hall, of Wolverhampton, belongs to J. P. Bradley, of West Ham, Essex, and was rung on handbells at Aston, conducted by W. H. Barber.

Notices.

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

The Lancashire Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Preston to-day, Saturday, September 30th. Further particulars by circular. All reports of ringing during the past year ending August 31st, should be forwarded to the Ringing Secretary, Mr. J. Shepherd, 1, Venture Street, Bacup. All other matter to the General Secretary, Mr. A. E. Wreaks, 41, Gibbon Street, Bolton.

A. E. WREAKS,
J. WILSON,
J. SHEPHERD, } Secretaries.

Sussex County Association.—Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Mayfield to-day, Saturday, Sept. 30. Bells (recently rehung) available 4.30 to 9. Tea 6 o'clock. As this is the first time a meeting of the Association has been arranged at this tower the Secretary is anxious to see a strong muster present. Half railway fare allowed not exceeding 2s. each.

S. SAKER, Hon. Sec. Eastern Division.
"Arran," Baldslow Road, Hastings.

Halifax and District Association.—The next meeting of this Association will be held at Heptonstall, to-day, Saturday, September 30. Bells ready from dinner. Business meeting in schoolroom at 6 o'clock.

WRIGHT INGHAM, Sec.

Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The next meeting of the above Society will be held at Drighlington (8 bells), to-day, Saturday, September 30th. A peal will be attempted at 2.30. Meeting house The Spotted Cow. All ringers are cordially invited.

HY. GAYTHORPE, Hon. Sec.
1, Elm Avenue, Bramley, Leeds.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.—The quarterly meeting in connection with this Society will be held to-day, Saturday, Sept. 30th, at St. Matthew's Walsall. Bells ready from 2 o'clock. Short service in church at 5 p.m. Tea at 6.30, one shilling per head. Reports will be ready for distribution at this meeting.

S. REEVES, Hon. Sec.
10, Bull Street, Westbromwich.

Gloucester and Bristol Association.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Chippenham, to-day, Saturday, Sept. 30th. Short service at the parish church at 5.30 p.m.

C. H. GORDON, Branch Sec.

The Bedfordshire Association.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Harrold, to-day, Saturday, September 30th.

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

Old East Derbyshire Association.—The Quarterly Meeting will be held at Rotherham to-day, Saturday, Sep. 30th. Bells open for ringing during the afternoon.

E. JAMES, Hon. Sec.
18, Meersbrook, Bank Road, Sheffield.

Central Northamptonshire Association.—Quarterly Meeting in the Castle Ashby District this Saturday afternoon, September 30th. The bells at Castle Ashby (five, tenor 20 cwt.), Grendon (five, tenor 14 cwt.), Whiston (five, tenor 15 cwt.), have very kindly been placed at the disposal of the Association from 2.30 to 7 o'clock. Tea at The Falcon hotel, Castle Ashby, at 5 o'clock. Business meeting afterwards. Castle Ashby is the seat of the Marquis of Northampton, and is one of the

prettiest and most interesting parts of Northamptonshire.
E. J. DENNES, Hon. Sec.
Wellingborough.

Sheffield and District Society.—The next meeting will be held at Eckington, on Saturday, October 7th. All ringers invited. Bells ready at 4 p.m.

R. HARRISON, Hon. Sec.

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Longton on Saturday, October 7th. Members intending to be present are requested to give notice to Mr. G. Woods, 48, Clarence Street, Fenton.

W. TWIGG, Hon. Sec.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—A meeting will be held at Tewkesbury Abbey, on Saturday, October 7th. Short service at 4.30. It is hoped as many as possible will attend.

JOHN AUSTIN,
Local Hon. Sec.

The Midland Counties Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Rugby, on Saturday, October 7th. The tower (8 bells) will be open from 3 to 8 p.m. Committee Meeting at 3.30. Tea will be provided at 1s. per head in the Schools, Church Street, at 4.0 p.m. for all who send in their names to Mr. J. George, 55, Bath Street, Rugby, not later than Tuesday, October 3rd.

W. E. WHITE, Hon. Sec.

Cotgrave, near Nottingham.

Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association.—Meeting at Guisborough (six bells), on Saturday, October 7th. Tea, 9d. each, at Mr. Wear's, Church Street; at 4 p.m. Members are requested to inform the Secretary before October 4th, if intending to be present. Skelton bells (6), tenor 23 cwt., three miles distant, will also be available. The towers will be open all day.

REV. W. P. WRIGHT, Hon. Sec.
Stokesley, R.S.O.

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, October 14th, at Childwall. Abbey tower open at 3 o'clock; meeting at 6 o'clock. The Right Rev. Bishop Royston, D.D., will attend if possible, as he wishes to give all the ringers a hearty welcome to his church, and it is hoped that as many ringers as can will make it convenient to attend.

G. WOODHALL, Branch Sec.

The Surrey Association.—The next quarterly meeting of the members of this Association will be held at Reigate, on Saturday, October 14th. The bells at St. Mary Magdalene will be raised at 3 o'clock by kind permission of the Vicar the Rev. J. N. Harrison, M.A. Tea will be provided at Mr. Mark Dean's refreshment rooms near the Town Hall, and local representatives must communicate to Mr. William Argent, of 4, Croydon Road, Reigate, the number of their members likely to attend, not later than Thursday, October 12th. The usual business meeting will follow the tea, and the Rev. C. G. Lynn Fryer will preside.

CHAS. DEAN, JUN., Hon. Sec.
5, Manor Parade, Sutton, Surrey.

Oxford Diocesan Guild.—The autumn meeting will be held at Newbury on Saturday, October 14th. Evensong at the parish church at 4.30. Preacher—the Master. Tea at 5.15 in the parish room. Apply—Rev. J. A. THOMAS, Newbury, Hon. Sec.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—The annual dinner will be held at The Bridge House hotel, London Bridge, S.E., on Saturday, November 11th. Further notice will appear next week.

WILLIAM T. COCKERILL, Hon. Sec.
37, Trudescant Road, South Lambeth, S.W.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The Sudbury district of the above Association held a meeting at Felsham on Saturday, September 23rd. Felsham being a village, rather inaccessible to those not riding bicycles, only fifteen members were present. However some good ringing was done. The striking being particularly good for the most part. In the forenoon 720 Kent Treble Bob was rung on the Drinkstone bells, and later on 720 Kent Treble Bob and 720 Violet Treble Bob and touches of other methods were rung on the Felsham peal of six. Members had a good meat tea in the village schoolroom at 3.30. Members began to disperse about 6 p.m. before a threatening sky. It is to be hoped that none got so thoroughly drenched as the transmitter of this account.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

SITUATION required by a married man, aged 31 without family, in a month or by the 11th of October as Gardener, singlehanded. Can manage Cucumbers, Melons, Tomatoes, etc., and the general work of a well-kept garden. Highest references. A change-ringer on six or eight bells. Apply John Gaymer Miles, Point Cottages, Attleboro, Norfolk.

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, Watford.

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.

SITUATION wanted by Brushmaker. Change-ringer on 6, 8, or 10 bells.—A. Shuffelbotham, 62, Wellington Road, Hanley, Staffs.

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

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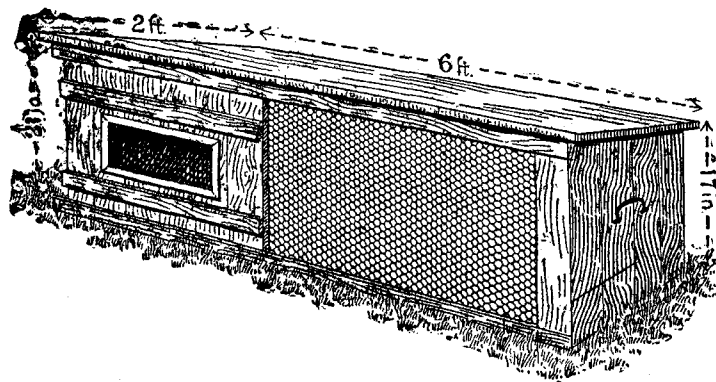
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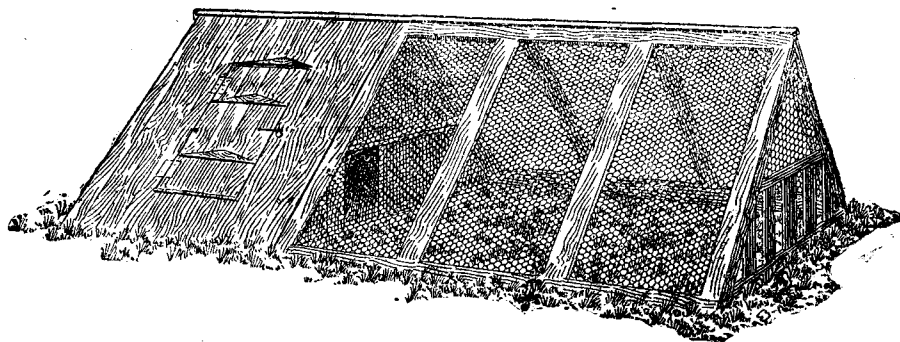
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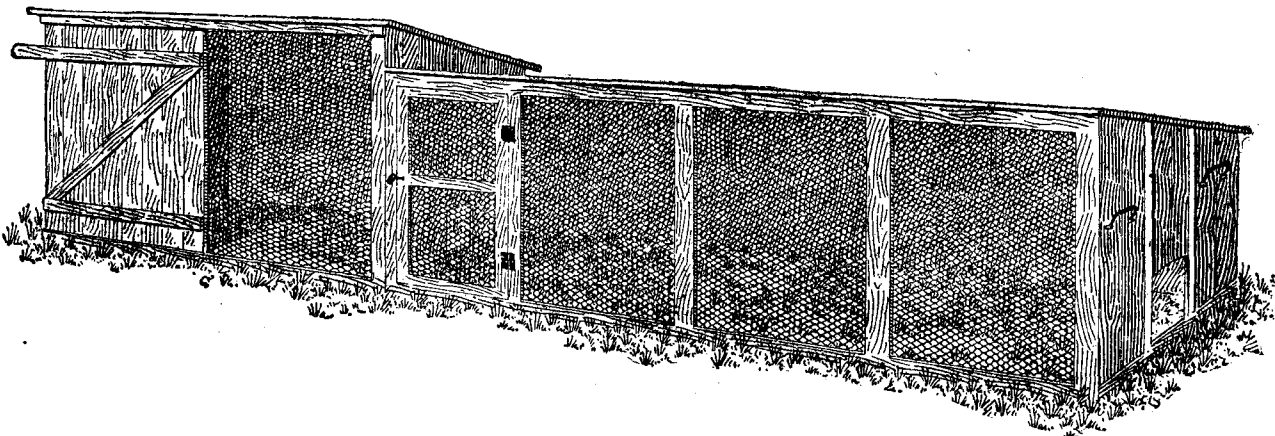
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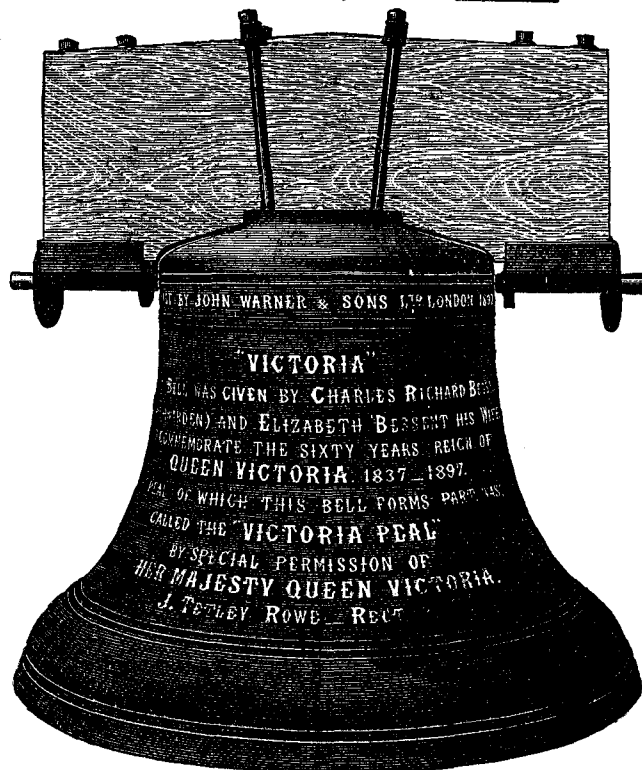
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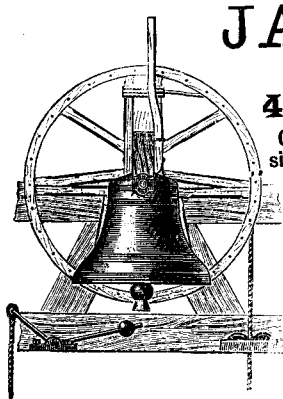
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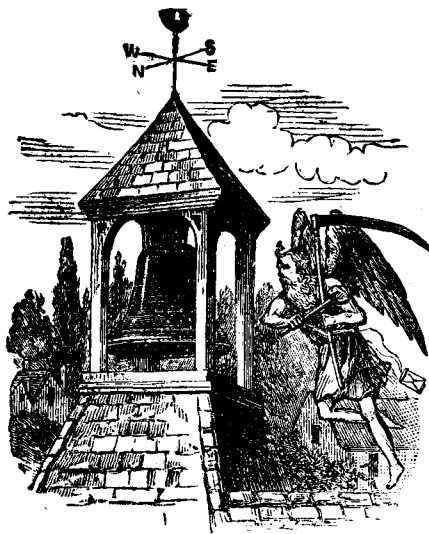
A Weekly Journal of the Ringing Exercise; and Compendium of Information for the Clergy and Churchwardens.

No. 913.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1899.

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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.
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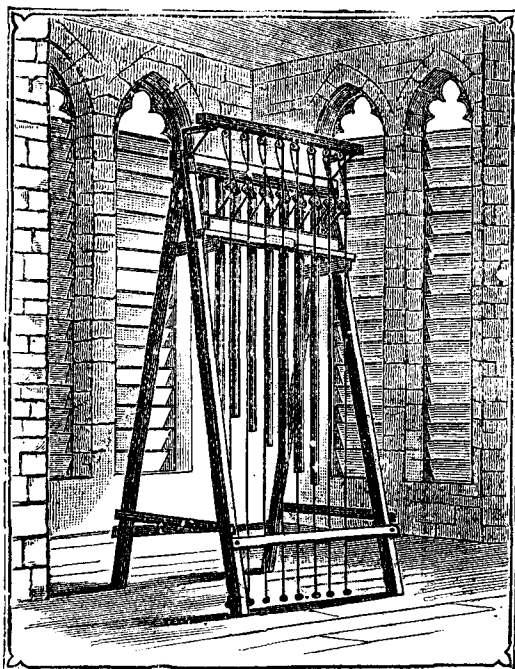
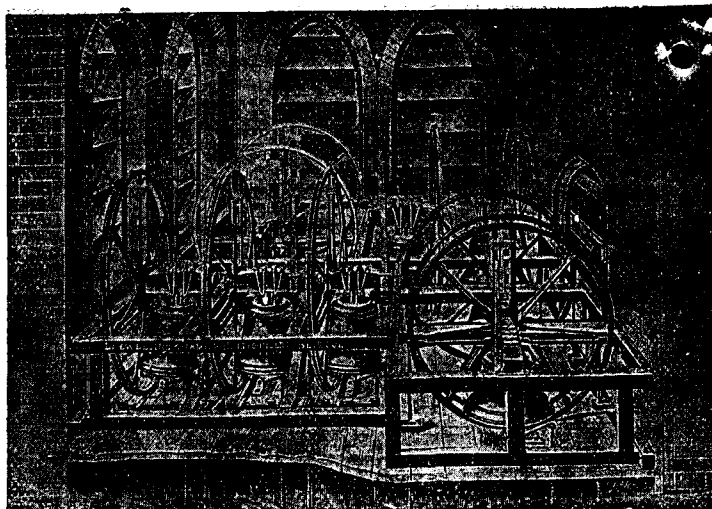
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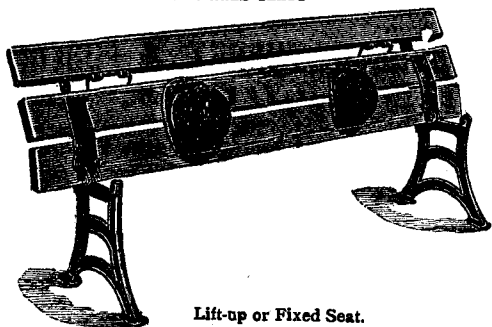
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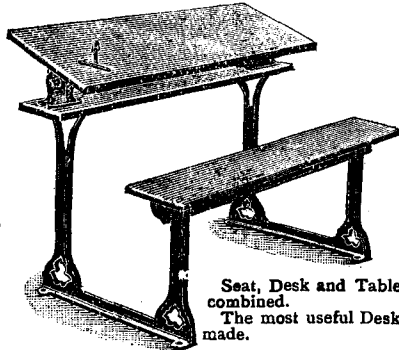
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 913.]

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of this Association was held on Saturday, September 23rd, at St. Andrew's church, Hillingdon, and looking to the distance to be travelled in getting to the place of meeting, the attendance of members was altogether satisfactory. Ringing was commenced early in the afternoon both at St. John's and St. Andrew's churches, relays of ringers arriving at Uxbridge by the afternoon trains, enabling the ringing to be carried on with vigour. There were present the Rev. H. G. Bird (President), the Rev. H. C. Bell, of Boyne Hill, Maidenhead (Branch Secretary of the Oxford Guild), the Rev. H. W. S. A. Row (Vicar of West Drayton), Mr. F. A. Milne (Hon. Treasurer), Mr. J. Basden (Master), Mr. C. H. Martin (Master of the North-East district), and Mr. C. Edwards and Mr. Arthur T. King (joint Hon. Secretaries), with representatives from all parts of the county. Touches were rung in various methods until six o'clock, and at 6.15 service was held at St. Andrew's church. The church was tastefully decorated, and the service was fully choral. The address was given by the President, who selected for his text the words of the special lesson, Numbers x., v. 1-10. He pointed out that Moses had been directed to prepare two trumpets for the calling together of the assembly of the congregation, and by means of them, two sounds were to be made, one to call to battle, the other to worship. It might be difficult to understand why people specially chosen by ALMIGHTY GOD should be so often engaged in conflict. One reason may have been to remind us that our life is a life of battle, that we have to be continually making war against sin, and if we are not doing this, we are making no progress in spiritual life. So when we hear the sound of the bells, or when we ourselves take part in ringing, we should learn the lesson that life is a life of struggle, a life of warfare against sin. This is one lesson, and the other is perhaps to be found in the fact that bells or trumpets were used for calling people to worship. Now, worship implied not receiving, that is, not coming to church to hear the music or the singing, but giving, the giving up of ourselves to God. What ringers especially had to learn was not the ringing of bells from the mere fascination of scientific ringing, but to look upon it as a sacred office to be performed for the honour and glory of God. If they set before themselves that object in their ringing, it would help many to avoid being slack in their work, to be punctual in practice, to harvest their time and forego other pleasures in order that they might do all they possibly could for the Giver of all good, remembering that He loved them and gave Himself for them. The preacher concluded with an earnest appeal to his hearers to be unselfish, for selfishness would inevitably bring great trouble. He thanked those present, as one of God's ministers, for the great work they had done, and were still bent on doing, recognising that the condition of belfries and of ringers had during the past half century undergone great changes, and that it was due to those who had been doing their utmost to make the belfry a suitable part of the

House of God. Might God bless their Association, and help the members of it to live so that at the last great day they might reap the heritage of eternal glory.

The social function followed at the girls' schoolroom, where a profusion of good things had been provided on prettily decorated tables. With the help of a committee of ladies, who rendered personal service in the arrangements of the evening, it goes without saying that the work was admirably done; everything that could minister to the comfort of the numerous company being foreseen and carefully carried out. After a most excellent repast, the business meeting was commenced, in the course of which the report for the past year was read. It was a record of continued progress. As regards numbers, nearly ninety members had joined during the year, bringing up the total membership to 420. It is impossible for us, for lack of space, to print the whole of this interesting report; but it will suffice to say that it is an endeavour to set forth a high ideal for ringers to attain to, exhorting them to be true to themselves, loyal to one another, and to the Church, and, in endeavouring to keep in mind the aim of their special vocation, to let the time-honoured bell inscription help them with its simple eloquence—*Non clamor, sed amor cantat in aure Dei.*

Thirty-two peals had been rung since the last annual meeting, viz.: Bob Minor, 1; Bob Triples, 1; Oxford Bob Triples, 1; Grandsire Triples, 8; Stedman Triples, 7; Bob Major, 6; Double Norwich Major, 1; Superlative Surprise Major, 3; Cambridge Surprise Major, 1; Stedman Caters, 2; and Kent Treble Bob Royal, 1. No fewer than eleven members sought election, and their election was unanimously approved. The officers of the Association were re-elected, viz.: Rev. H. G. Bird (President); Mr. Frank Milne (Treasurer); Mr. J. Basden (Master); and Messrs. C. Edwards and Arthur T. King, joint Hon. Secretaries. After many congratulatory speeches, the business was concluded by a comprehensive vote of thanks to all who had ministered to the success of the evening; to the clergy for the use of their bells; to their honoured President for the more than generous manner in which he had welcomed them; to the ladies who had been so carefully attending to their comfort during tea; and last but not least, to the organist and choir, who had so ably assisted in rendering the musical portion of the service.

We cannot conclude this notice without a reference to an old peal tablet in the church of St. John the Baptist, Hillingdon, which records that "The whole peal of Grandsire Triples of 5040 changes was thrice performed by these persons hereinafter mentioned in ye year 1733:—Richard Ashley, jun.; Jas. Munday; Richard Ashley, sen.; William Smith; Jno. Christmas; Richard Smith; Mat. Ashley; Richard Brown; Jno. West; Richard Perris; Robt. Cox."

It will be observed that no less than eleven persons are mentioned as having taken part in one or other of these three peals, and that the time occupied is not recorded; but the following announcement in the *Penny London Post*,

No. 37, of Monday, August 19th, 1733, a copy of which is in the possession of the President, clearly refers to one of these occasions.

"Last week the young ringers of Hillingdon, near Uxbridge, rang the whole peal of Grandsire Trebles, being 5040 changes, in 3 hours and about 8 minutes, to the great satisfaction of all that heard them."

There is a soothing compliment in these last few words, and we may hope that it equally applies to the peal rung there on April 3rd, 1899, which is described as the first peal of Major since April 9th, 1751. The interval between the two peals is perhaps a long one; and we should like to suggest that henceforward a peal of Grandsire Triples and of Bob Major should be rung annually in memory of the older achievement, and "to the great satisfaction of all who hear them."

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of this Association was held at Ipswich on Wednesday, September 27th. There was a fair attendance of members, about eighty putting in an appearance during the day. The Honorary members, however, who usually attend these gatherings were unfortunately absent—a circumstance the more to be regretted because the clergy and influential laity of Ipswich appear to take no interest in the Society—at least not sufficient to induce them to be ever present at the Ipswich gathering. At the special service at St. Mary-le-Tower, an excellent and most appropriate address was delivered by the Rev. G. F. Coleridge, Vicar of Crowthorne, Berks., to a fair congregation of ringers, the attendance being much better than on the last occasion of the Ipswich meeting. The theme, based on Ezekiel i. 9, "They went every one straightforward," was progress not only in the Art, but in Churchmanship, and the spiritual life.

After the service the members made their way to the Co-operative Hall, Carr Street, where Mr. W. H. Cook again most excellently catered for the appetites of those assembled. The chair was taken, in the absence of the President, by the Hon. Secretary, who was supported by the Rev. G. F. Coleridge, Rev. J. H. Pilkington, F. W. J. Rees, Esq., Messrs. George Day, W. Taylor, T. L. Wilson, Esq., the District Secretaries for Ipswich (Mr. J. Motts), Saxmundham (Mr. H. J. Button), and Eye (Mr. Fred. Day). After the usual loyal toasts had been given from the chair, Mr. Rees proposed "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese," with thanks to Mr. Coleridge for his excellent address, and to the clergy of Ipswich for the use of the bells.

The Rev. G. F. Coleridge briefly responded, again urging the Society to make progress in the Art.

The Hon. Secretary, in introducing the toast of "The Association," explained his presence in the position of chairman by the enforced absence of the President through indifferent health, which compelled him to avoid over-exertion. He alluded also to the appearance that day in one of the Ipswich papers of a singular paragraph running down the Association, and advising the inhabitants to take themselves out of the town for the day, if they did not wish to be driven crazy by the bells. In exposing the ignorance and stupidity of this attack, the Hon. Secretary called attention to the work recently done to the sound-windows of St. Mary-le-Tower, as a proof of the ability of the church authorities and inhabitants to modify the sound of the bells sufficiently to obviate all annoyance if they chose to do it. Having proposed

"The Association," it was his duty to reply for it, and he could not do so better than by reading the Annual Report, which showed that the numerical strength of the society remained about the same as last year. The particulars of the sixty-one performances achieved in the twelve months were set forth, and also the details of the principal restorations in the diocese during the same period. After reading the Report, the chairman resigned office on behalf of the President, who, he said, was anxious to be relieved, but would consent to provisional re-election pending arrangements for his final retirement. He would therefore propose the re-election of Dr. Raven as President. This was seconded by Mr. Frank Cooper, and carried unanimously. The chairman then formally resigned his office as Hon. Secretary, and was re-appointed. The election of four representatives to the Central Council was then proceeded with, and resulted in the appointment of Mr. Charles Mee, and the re-appointment of the Hon. Secretary, and Messrs. Catchpole and J. Motts. As places for the next two meetings, Banham and Eye were selected. With the election of two honorary, ten non-resident life, and nine performing members, together with seven probationers, the business of the meeting came to a close, and the members separated to proceed again to the towers of St. Mary and St. Margaret till the hour of departure arrived.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

The quarterly meeting in connection with this society was held on Saturday, September 30th, at Walsall, when members were present from the following places: Lichfield, Wolverhampton, Wednesbury, Walsall, Rushall, West Bromwich, Handsworth, Tipton, Wombourn, Cannock, Tettenhall, and Smethwick. The bells of the parish church were kept going during the afternoon and evening, when some touches in the Grandsire and Stedman methods were brought round. At five o'clock a short service was held in St. Matthew's church, and was well attended by the members present, the Vicar giving a very interesting address, which was much appreciated.

A committee meeting was afterwards held at the Church House, the President, the Ven. Archdeacon Hodgson, in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting being read and confirmed, several new members were elected, and it was proposed by Mr. W. H. Godden, seconded by Mr. W. R. Small, that Mr. S. Reeves, of West Bromwich, and Mr. R. Cartwright, of Wombourn, represent the society at the Central Council meeting, which will be held next year in London. It was also proposed, seconded, and unanimously agreed that Mr. David Chapman be no longer a member of this society.

The next meeting was fixed to be held at Rushall early in January 1900. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Archdeacon for presiding, and to the Vicar of Walsall for his address, and also for the use of the bells and schoolroom.

An adjournment was then made for tea, which was found to be in readiness at the schoolroom, and every member being in good form, ample justice was done to the good things provided, giving great satisfaction to all present, after which some went again to the tower, others wending their way to the railway station to catch their trains for home.

CARMAN Wanted. Change-ringer. Wages £1 to commence. Apply—J. J. PRATT, Contractor, Hillingdon, near Uxbridge, Middlesex.

"CHURCH BELLS."

The following letter, from Sir Arthur Heywood, Bart., appeared under the above heading in *The Times* of Saturday, the 30th ult. :—

"Sir,—Absence from home has delayed my seeing the encouraging and accurate article on church bells which appeared in your issue of last Saturday. I crave permission to amplify on one or two points the information it conveys. As a practical ringer of some 40 years' experience over a tolerably comprehensive area I can corroborate your remarks as to the radical change for the better in the ringer and the wholly incommensurate improvement in the condition of church bells and their accessories. The explanation is simple. The extraordinary spread of scientific change-ringing, attended by a notable advance in the social position of ringers as a class, has been due chiefly to their own exertions. Had church authorities led the way, naturally the belfry, not the ringer, would have first improved; a sequence distinctly exceptional.

"For several years the Central Council of Church Bellringers pressed upon Church Congress the desirability of considering this subject, but fruitlessly. Foiled in thus drawing attention to the neglected state of so many of our fine bells, the council set to work to obtain, by means of printed questions sent to the leading ringers of each tower, a return of the actual condition of every ring of eight bells and upwards throughout the country; to be followed, perhaps, by a similar inquiry in respect of the smaller rings. This return, when by-and-bye published, will, it is hoped, do something towards opening the eyes of church authorities and the public to the need of reasonable expenditure on keeping valuable instruments in order and their surroundings decently clean. I often marvel at the persistency with which ringers follow their art when, as frequently, it is amid the discouraging surroundings of neglected, and therefore laborious, bells and of dirt-laden belfries; but I do not marvel that, seldom favoured by the intelligent sympathy and criticism which even an unmusical clergyman educates himself to bestow on his choir, they are, as a rule, irregular churchgoers. An elderly vicar in my neighbourhood was urgent that his ringers should attend service, and their leader hinted that an occasional pastoral visit to the belfry might be productive of an improvement in this direction. On next meeting the man, the Vicar said he had made an honest effort to get up the tower, but that the dangerous state of the steps and the dust with which his Sunday coat was being covered had necessitated a retreat.

"In regard to the nuisance of noisy bells, you rightly say there is no reason for this. Unfortunately architects, wedded to a false tradition, invariably assume that bells, to be properly heard, should be hung on a level with the window-openings; the result in the immediate vicinity being a deafening clang with an undue preponderance of the tones of those bells which hang nearest the listener. The ideal tower is one with no sound windows, but with an open top. This desideratum is most nearly approached by building up the windows—of course behind the louvres—even if necessary to the spring of their arched heads, so that the sound from the bells when mouth upwards may have to rise before obtaining a vent. This procedure is well worth its cost, for the result is effectually to soften the tones to the bystander, while making them at the same time more distinct, if slightly less loud, at a distance. Loughborough Church is a notable example of the success of this treatment.

"During the past ten years bell-hangers, under some pressure, have come round to substituting, as far as possible, iron for wood in their work, which is consequently now more costly, but far more satisfactory from every point of view. Less generally successful has been the endeavour to induce architects to admit the well-established advantages of using the bell frame as an effective cross-bracing to the tower instead of leaving it loose on projecting corbels, as of old, to batter and spread the walls.

"Bell-founding itself is probably on the eve of a great change. Hitherto it has been deemed sufficient to tune a ring of bells by more or less accurately adjusting the note given out by the sound-bow, or thick part of the rim. But it is well-known to experts that every bell sounds at least three distinct notes, and yet perfect harmony between these has but rarely been attempted or obtained. Of late, however, elaborate experiment, mainly initiated under the able direction of the Rev. A. B. Simpson,

whose letter you print to-day, has demonstrated the possibility of removing metal from the inside of a bell in such manner as to bring its various sound zones into accurate accord with a standard series of large tuning-forks. Thus each bell gives out a true and melodious chord in place of the usual discordant clang, an effect which has only occasionally and by chance been achieved before in the case of a single bell, and, as Mr. Simpson says, probably never in the case of a whole ring. Some time ago a ringer, standing with an unsympathetic friend near a tower in which a band of skilled performers were hard at work, remarked that change-ringing was a most difficult acquirement, to which his companion replied that he was sorry that it was not altogether impossible, thereby, without doubt, expressing the feelings of a considerable section of the public.

"Seeing, however, that, as you justly point out, large sums of money have been—and assuredly will continue to be—spent on new bells it seems little short of folly to grudge such moderate outlay as will suffice to keep them in good order and their ringers in reasonable comfort; nor in face of the deep-rooted national love of bell music need grumblers urge objections which, as has been shown, can in great measure be removed. Add to this the not inappreciable gain to the Church in the thereby increased loyal adhesion of a body of respectable men (whose numbers you, Sir, certainly underrate at 30,000) already by their occupation if not by belief well-disposed towards her, moving, too, for the most part in that stratum of society which questions much the benefits of Establishment, and a case is surely made out for more liberal attention from those to whom the care of our valuable church bells is entrusted.

"I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

"ARTHUR P. HEYWOOD, President Central
"Council of Church Bell Ringers.

"Doveleys, Utttoxeter, Sept. 27."

THE HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held on Saturday last at Heptonstall, when a good number of members were present chiefly from Lightcliffe, Halifax, Staniland, Elland, Mytholmroyd, and Todmorden. The bells were started shortly after dinner, and some good striking in various methods, by different companies, ensued. The Rev. E. P. Powell, Vicar, kindly entertained the members to a good substantial tea in the schoolroom, to which about thirty sat down. The meeting for the transaction of business was afterwards held, the chair being occupied by the Vicar. At the close of the meeting a resolution was moved by Mr. Lawson (of Lightcliffe), that the best thanks be given to the Vicar for the generous way in which he had entertained them. Mr. Lawson said he only wished they had more vicars like him in the town of Halifax. This was seconded by a member of the Staniland company, and most unanimously carried.

The Rev. E. P. Powell, in responding to the toast, gave a neat little address, which was highly appreciated.

The company then assembled at the tower to ring, leaving off about 9 o'clock. They then repaired to The White Lion hotel, where the rest of the evening was spent in a social manner, being entertained by Mr. J. Armstrong, humorist (of Heptonstall) and Mr. Lawson, while a member of the celebrated Todmorden handbell company contributed a number of Scotch airs upon the handbells.

GREENWICH (Kent).—On Sunday evening, October 1st, for Divine Service on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 1280 Superlative Surprise Major in 50 mins. W. Berry, 1; H. Hoskins, 2; E. Pye, 3; G. R. Pye (conductor), 4; I. G. Shade, 5; Staff-Sergeant A. Pye, 6; H. Flanders, 7; W. Pye, 8. Tenor 25 cwt.

HENFIELD (Sussex).—On Sunday evening, September 24th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 504 Stedman Triples. W. A. J. Ives, 1; L. Payne, 2; S. Burt, 3; *A. E. Fish, 4; C. Tyler, 5; H. Markwell, 6; G. Payne (conductor), 7; *W. Markwell, 8. *First 504.

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.

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."

"BOB MAJOR LEAD-ENDS."

SIR,—Mr. Baker's letter this week leads me to ask you to publish the definition of a method which I brought before the last C.C. meeting at Norwich, and to ask the other members of the Committee to write to me about it, if they do not think the definition or my reasons for it sufficiently clear. But first let me say a word about Mr. Baker's letter.

I differ from Mr. Baker because I start from a totally different standpoint; Mr. Baker starts from the standpoint of producing good music; but sir, although we all agree in wishing for good music this is not the correct starting-point. Change-ringing is a science, and therefore it must start from a scientific basis, and I find that if we do start from a scientific basis the music will take care of itself.

Definition.—A method is an arrangement of working bells about (a) one or more trebles working on some recognised principle so that at each treble's lead the treble (or trebles) shall occupy a different position amongst the working bells, but the working bells shall remain in the (b) same course and (c) in the same coursing order, and the trebles shall occupy all the possible positions amongst the working bells.

(a) Such as plain hunt principle. Treble Bob hunt principle.

(b) Same course and (c) same course order because—

i.—A Plain Lead is an arrangement of changes that the treble return to her place in a different position among the working bells without changing their course, or their course order.

ii.—A Bob Lead is an arrangement of changes so that the treble returns to her place in a different position among the working bells without changing their course but changing their coursing order.

iii.—A Single Lead is an arrangement of changes so that the treble returns to her place in a different place among the working bells changing both their course and their coursing order.

For practical purposes we should have only one treble unless another is necessary (as on odd numbers of bells) to produce a method; and never more than two; but this is purely arbitrary.

Finally, sir, let me ask Mr. Baker not to think that this is aimed at him or at anybody; my only desire is the good of the Exercise, and I would ask his co-operation and that of all other ringers to settle this question in a manner worthy of the best traditions of the Exercise.

H. LAW JAMES.

SIR,—I am sorry that Mr. Baker has taken the line of argument he has adopted as it places me in a very awkward position. I must either acknowledge the high claims that he makes for his method, in which case I must drop the claim for Bob Major lead ends; or else I must point out the fault that renders Arundel Surprise worthless as a musical method. If I take the latter course I trust that Mr. Baker will see that I am only doing so to carry on the argument on the lines on which he himself has placed it, and will believe me when I say that it is with sincere regret that I am compelled to subject his method to adverse criticism. But first of all, I must refer to the second paragraph of Mr. Baker's letter, in which he suggests that I show "an utter disregard of musical qualities to be obtained in a method, or composition." This statement I repudiate. It is because I believe that musical methods cannot be obtained unless in conjunction with the Bob Major lead-ends that I have taken the position I now hold. The reason for this opinion will appear as we discuss Arundel Surprise. The point then that I have to demonstrate is that Arundel Surprise is worthless as a musical method.

The rules governing the construction of musical methods have been so well laid down by Sir Arthur Heywood, in his treatise on the Duffield principle, that I need not repeat them here, but will only refer to the first, and most important of all.

1. The tenors must be well kept together. As opinions may differ on the question as to what is meant by "well kept together," I have drawn up a table of methods with the Bob

Major lead-ends, showing the number of rows in each lead in which the tenors are parted, that we may be able to arrive at some conclusion as to the meaning of the phrase.

Here they are:—

Cambridge Surprise	..	9	17	13	14	13	17	9	..	92
Oxford Treble Bob	..	2	2	20	19	19	20	2	..	84
Superlative Surprise	..	9	17	6	12	6	17	9	..	76
Brighton Surprise	..	9	18	9	11	9	9	11	..	76
London Surprise	..	10	12	5	16	5	12	10	..	70
Yorkshire Surprise	..	0	13	11	16	11	13	0	..	64
Norfolk Surprise	..	4	7	12	7	4	13	13	..	60
Gloucester Surprise	..	10	1	18	6	6	18	1	..	60
Kent Treble Bob	..	2	2	4	20	20	4	2	..	54

A careful study of the figures above will enable us to put Arundel in its right place, a position very far removed from Superlative, as will appear from the following:—

Arundel Surprise.. .. 16 4 26 4 16 17 17 .. 100

Or to put it in words, the tenors are parted in Arundel for 100 changes, and only together for 124.

Oxford Treble Bob was condemned long ago for this fault, but its music would be heavenly compared with this.

And it is idle to talk of the beauties of composition, and keeping the 6th at home twelve courses, when the very 7th is parted from the tenor for more than three leads in every course.

Now the faults that I have pointed out are not peculiar to this one specimen of a method with mongrel lead-ends, had it been so I would never have put pen in ink to disparage Mr. Baker's work. They are faults which it would be difficult to avoid in any method that has not got the proper lead-ends, and it is in the hope that the standard of our methods may be kept high, and the music good, that I have written. I believe that Mr. Baker also desires that end. Let me appeal to him to relegate Arundel to its proper place, the waste paper basket. I know that it is hard to give up anything for which we have worked hard, but he will have the satisfaction of knowing that he is making the sacrifice for the benefit of the Exercise, and removing one of the obstacles that stands in the way of a great and much-needed reform. Arundel Surprise is unworthy to be retained as the work of the author of so pretty a method as Brighton Surprise. I most heartily congratulate Mr. Baker on its discovery; the regularity of the coursing order at both ends is admirable; and in conclusion must once again apologise to Mr. Baker for the line of argument that I have been forced to take, and trust that no ill-feeling may be engendered by what "Plain Speaker" was pleased to call "the battle of the methods."

E. BANKES JAMES.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

LEYTONSTONE.—On September 13th, 720 College Single. E. Tugwood, 1; W. Keeble, 2; T. H. Beams (conductor), 3; J. Mardell, 4; J. Moule, 5; G. Hayden, 6. On September 19th, 720 Plain Bob. J. Philpot, 1; W. Miller (conductor), 2; W. Doran, 3; F. Withers, 4; J. Mardell, 5; G. Hayden, 6. On September 24th, 720 Plain Bob. F. Withers, 1; W. Keeble, 2; J. Mardell, 3; W. Miller (conductor), 4; W. Doran, 5; G. Hayden, 6. On September 27th, 720 Double Court Bob. T. H. Beams (conductor), 1; W. Miller, 2; W. Doran, 3; J. Mardell, 4; J. Moule, 5; G. Hayden, 6.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

OAKHAM (Rutland).—On Saturday, September 30th, at the church of All Saints, 518 Grandsire Triples. C. Dalby, 1; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 2; W. E. White, 3; W. Dexter, 4; E. J. Gale, 5; L. Partridge, 6; R. H. Bartram, 7; R. Baker, Esq., 8. Mr. Baker was elected a member in the belfry, and this is his first touch of Triples. It was intended to attempt a peal, but owing to only having the bells for an hour, the above was rung. The ringers wish to thank the Rev. T. Baggally for the use of the bells.

STANFORD-ON-SOAR.—On Friday, September 14th, at the church of St. John the Baptist, five 720s of Bob Minor each called differently. L. Price, 1; H. Whittle, 2; W. Purvin, 3; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 4; J. Wilson, 5; G. Doughty, 6.

For Sale.

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Notices.

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

Sheffield and District Society.—The next meeting will be held at Eckington, to-day, Saturday, October 7th. All ringers invited. Bells ready at 4 p.m.

R. HARRISON, *Hon. Sec.*

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Longton to-day, Saturday, October 7th.

W. TWIGG, *Hon. Sec.*

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—A meeting will be held at Tewkesbury Abbey, to-day, Saturday, October 7th. Short service at 4.30. It is hoped as many as possible will attend.

JOHN AUSTIN,
Local Hon. Sec.

The Midland Counties Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Rugby, to-day Saturday, October 7th. The tower (8 bells) will be open from 3 to 8 p.m. Committee Meeting at 3.30.

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

Cotgrave, near Nottingham.

Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association.—Meeting at Guisborough (six bells), to-day, Saturday, October 7th. Tea, 9d. each, at Mr. Wear's, Church Street; at 4 p.m. Skelton bells (6), tenor 23 cwt., three miles distant, will also be available. The towers will be open all day.

REV. W. P. WRIGHT, *Hon. Sec.*
Stokesley, R.S.O.

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch. The monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, October 14th, at Childwall. Abbey tower open at 3 o'clock; meeting at 6 o'clock. The Right Rev. Bishop Royston, D.D., will attend if possible, as he wishes to give all the ringers a hearty welcome to his church, and it is hoped that as many ringers as can will make it convenient to attend.

G. WOODHALL, *Branch Sec.*

The Surrey Association.—The next quarterly meeting of the members of this Association will be held at Reigate, on Saturday, October 14th. The bells at St. Mary Magdalene will be raised at 3 o'clock by kind permission of the Vicar the Rev. J. N. Harrison, M.A. Tea will be provided at Mr. Mark Dean's refreshment rooms near the Town Hall, and local representatives must communicate to Mr. William Argent, of 4, Croydon Road, Reigate, the number of their members likely to attend, not later than Thursday, October 12th. The usual business meeting will follow the tea, and the Rev. C. G. Lynn Fryer will preside. The bells (8) at St. John's, Redhill, will also be available from 7 to 8.45, by permission of the Vicar.

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

5, Manor Parade, Sutton, Surrey.

Oxford Diocesan Guild.—The autumn meeting will be held at Newbury on Saturday, October 14th. Evensong at the parish church at 4.30. Preacher—the Master. Tea at 5.15 in the parish room. Apply—REV. J. A. THOMAS, Newbury, *Hon. Sec.*

The North Notts. Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at East Markham (Tuxford Station G.N.R.) on Saturday, October 14th. Tea at 5 p.m., 1s. per head. Members who intend to take tea are requested to inform Mr. C. Crawford, East Markham, Tuxford, not later than Monday, October 9.

B. DARLEY, *Hon. Sec.*

The Ancient Society of College Youths. Members are earnestly requested to attend the meeting at The Coffee Pot on Tuesday, October 17th, after ringing at St. Paul's, when an important discussion will be raised. The 262nd anniversary dinner will be held at The Bridge House hotel, London Bridge, on Saturday, November 11th, at 6.30 p.m. Tickets (3s. 6d. each), may be bought of Messrs. W. H. L. Buckingham, E. A. Davies, Dawe, Garrard, Horrex, Hughes, Newton, O'Meara, Pettit, Prime, Rowbotham, Sharman, W. D. Smith, Springall, Taffender, Winney and

WILLIAM T. COCKERILL, *Hon. Sec.*

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

The Hertfordshire Association.—District Meeting at Bushey, on Saturday, October 21. Further particulars next week.

E. P. DEBENHAM, *Hon. Sec.*

Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Midsomer Norton, on Saturday, October 28. Fuller particulars on 21st.

HY. W. TOMKINS, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer*,
The Cottage, Old Cleeve, Washford.

St. Mary's, Woolwich.—Practice night has been changed from Thursday, to Tuesday, at 8 p.m.

E. O. MASTERS, *Hon. Sec.*

The Heavy Woollen District Association.—There will be no meeting of the above-named Society this month.

WALTER IDLE, *Hon. Sec.*

47, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury.

WITHYCOMBE RALEIGH, DEVON.

An interesting ceremony took place in the belfry of the church of St. John the Evangelist on Saturday afternoon, September 16th, namely, the unveiling of an illuminating record (executed by Mr. S. H. Godfrey, of the Ottery St. Mary branch of the above Guild) of the ringing by the members of the local branch of their first quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. There were present the Vicar, the Rev. G. P. De Putron, the Rev. Maitland Kelly, President of the Devonshire Guild, Messrs. E. Oliver, Hon. Secretary of the local branch, W. H. Dunn, J. D. Shapland, and Master Pierre De Putron, and the following members of the Devonshire Guild: O. Bond, H. Boucher, H. Burch, H. R. Channon, S. H. Godfrey, W. H. Godfrey, J. Lovering, R. C. G. Manley, J. Pike, A. H. Snow, and E. G. Stocker. The Vicar opened the proceedings with prayer, and then explained the object of the gathering. He heartily congratulated the ringers, and made special mention of the efforts of Mr. Ferris Shepherd, of Exeter, the Guild's instructor, to whom the Withycombe company greatly owed their success.

The Rev. Maitland Kelly, in unveiling the record, said he considered the ringing of a quarter-peal by a comparatively new band quite as great an accomplishment, if not greater, than the ringing of a peal by ringers who had practised the Art for a number of years. The first quarter-peal meant a wonderful amount of perseverance on the part of each member, together with the combination of the whole band. He heartily congratulated the ringers, and eulogised the excellent rules for belfry.

After a touch had been rung on the bells, Mr. W. H. Dunn congratulated the ringers on their performance, and said the outside public had no idea of the hard work involved in half-pull ringing, which was really a science.

A combined party of Ottery and Withycombe ringers rang a well-struck quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins. H. R.

Channon, 1; W. A. Godfrey, 2; S. H. Godfrey, 3; Rev. M. Kelly, 4; R. C. G. Manley, 5; A. H. Snow, 6; O. Bond, 7; J. Lovering, 8. The Ottery men, at the invitation of the local ringers, sat down to tea with them at the house of A. H. Snow.

On Sunday, September 24th, the Withycombe ringers visited Woodbury, and rang 546 Grandsire Triples for evening service. R. C. G. Manley, 1; J. Lockyer, 2; J. A. Snow, 3; O. Bond (conductor), 4; J. Pike, 5; H. Burch, 6; A. H. Snow, 7; E. G. Stocken, 8.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, September 27th, at the church of St. Andrew, Holborn, an attempt for a peal of Superlative Surprise Major was made, but after 3 hrs. 16 mins. excellent ringing the peal was lost within five minutes of its completion, through the illness of one of the band. H. Flanders, 1; W. H. L. Buckingham, 2; R. Fenn, 3; A. W. Brighton (conductor), 4; C. Wilkins, 5; J. H. Cheesman, 6; J. R. Sharman, 7; W. Pye, 8. It is believed that no attempt has been made for a peal on this fine ring of bells for nearly twenty years.

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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 (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, OCTOBER 7, 1899.

BRAINTREE, ESSEX.

DEDICATION OF TWO NEW BELLS.

The 700th Anniversary of the foundation of Braintree Parish Church was commemorated on Thursday, September 28th, by a special service of dedication for two new bells that have been added to complete the octave. The church itself is dedicated to St. Michael the Archangel; but as the eve of St. Michael and All Angels' coincided this year with the early closing day for business, it was thought better to secure a larger attendance by holding the service on that day. The townspeople generally have taken great interest in the matter and have subscribed the money necessary for the two new bells, re-hanging the old ones, and providing a chiming apparatus; the undertaking having been originated by Mr. C. H. Howard, the Ringing Master, and successfully carried through by his energy and perseverance. A large congregation, including members of all denominations, assembled at 3 p.m. for the special dedication service, for which the six old bells were rung. The clergy present were the Revs. J. W. Kenworthy, Vicar of Braintree; T.

L. Papillon, Vicar of Writtle, and Hon. Sec. of the Essex Association of Change-ringers; H. T. W. Eyre, Vicar of Great Totham, Assistant Secretary E.A.C.R.; and E. G. Norris, Curate of Writtle. The Rev. G. F. Coleridge, Vicar of Crowthorne, Berks., a well-known ringer, was among the congregation. The service began with a processional hymn, the "Old Hundredth," from the choir vestry at the west end. Psalms 47, 148, and 150 were chanted, and a special lesson (Isaiah 40) was read by the Rev. T. L. Papillon. The choir and clergy then moved in procession, singing the hymn "Lifted high within the steeple," to the space under the tower; where, as the ringing chamber is only accessible by a steep ladder, the actual dedication of the bells took place. Ropes had been passed down through the floor, attached to those of the two new bells; and taking these in his hand, the Vicar, after a few special prayers and collects, declared the bells to be "dedicated and consecrated to the service of Almighty God." The eight bells were then rung in rounds, while the procession returned to the chancel; and a short address was then delivered by the Rev. T. L. Papillon, from the text, "What mean ye by this service?" (Exodus 12-26), with reference to the dedication of the church, of the bells, and of men's lives, to the service of God. After the dedication service the eight bells were rung in different methods; and at 5 p.m. about sixty ringers and friends sat down to a meat tea liberally provided at the Masonic Hall. The Vicar presided, supported by the Revs. T. L. Papillon, H. T. W. Eyre, E. G. Norris, and G. F. Coleridge. The churchwardens, Messrs. W. F. Pilcher and H. Pryke, being also present; and ringers from Bocking, Broomfield, Barking, Great Bentley, Boreham, Coggeshall, Colchester, Colne, Feering, Greenstead Green, Harlow, Saffron Walden, Stebbing, Stisted, Great Totham and Widford, with two former Braintree ringers from Waterford in Ireland and York Minster. At 7 p.m. there was choral Evensong, the preacher being the Rev. H. T. W. Eyre, who took for his text Daniel 3., 10. The offertories at both services were devoted to the belfry fund, the bells themselves being opened free of debt.

The provision of an eight-bell tower will be a great benefit to the district of which Braintree is the centre, and in which there are many change-ringers, but only six-bell towers. It is intended to arrange for a united monthly practice open to all ringers in the district; and it may be hoped that some excellent advice given by the Rev. G. F. Coleridge, in responding for the visitors, will be taken to heart. Mr. Coleridge "touched the spot" when he said that too many ringers are content with perpetual Grandsire or Treble Bob, and seems to have no ambition to push on to new and better methods. Stedman, for instance, is but seldom attempted in Essex, and there are towers in which nothing but Plain Bob or Treble Bob is ever rung. There is a good opening for Braintree to set an example of greater variety and more constant progress.

NOTE TO PEAL.

THE PEAL AT MIDDLESBROUGH.—This peal was arranged as a birthday compliment to the Vicar of the parish church, the Rev. J. K. Bealey, M.A., who attained his majority of three-score years and ten. An attempt was also made for a 5000 of Double Norwich, but after ringing upwards of 2000 a mis-call happened. The company afterwards adjourned to a restaurant, where they were kindly entertained at the Vicar's cost. During the evening a "smoker" was held, at which "The Health of the Vicar" was heartily drunk.

The Metropolis.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION, AND THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 30, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, WALTHAMSTOW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5004 CHANGES.

Tenor 19½ cwt. in E.

GEORGE R. PYE Treble.	CHARLES T. HOPKINS .. 6.
FREDERICK RUMENS* .. 2.	WILLIAM B. MANNING .. 7.
GEORGE GRIMWADE* .. 3.	EDGAR WIGHTMAN .. 8.
WILLIAM PYE 4.	ERNEST PYE 9.
JOHN H. CHEESMAN.. .. 5.	ARTHUR T. KING, ESQ. .. Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by W. PYE.

*First peal of Stedman Caters. Rung as a birthday compliment to Arthur T. King, Esq.

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

On Saturday, September 30, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5020 CHANGES.

HENRY BARTON.. .. Treble.	FREDERICK G. PERRIN .. 6.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 2.	THOMAS LANGDON .. 7.
WILLIAM H. WEBBER .. 3.	REUBEN CHARGE .. 8.
ARTHUR HARDY.. .. 4.	GEORGE E. SYMONDS .. 9.
VICTOR W. WEST 5.	*CHARLES W. WARD Tenor.

Composed by GEORGE E. SYMONDS, and Conducted by HARRY BARTON.

*First peal of Stedman.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, October 3, 1899, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHGATE,

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

WILLIAM H. BARBER .. Treble.	JOHN R. SHARMAN .. 5.
SIDNEY WADE 2.	GABRIEL LINDOFF .. 6.
ISAAC G. SHADE 3.	JAMES PARKER .. 7.
WILLIAM WARD 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

The Provinces.

FARNWORTH, NEAR BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, September 26, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; BIDDLESTONE'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOSEPH PENNINGTON .. Treble.	JOHN DAVIES 5.
WALTER RUSHTON 2.	REV. H. J. ELSEE .. 6.
WILLIAM FARNWORTH .. 3.	HENRY MOSS 7.
ALBERT E. RUSHTON .. 4.	JOHN MAKIN Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY MOSS.

These bells were cast by Thomas Blackburn, of Salisbury, and were opened on Saturday, September 23rd. The tone and "go" of the bells speaks admirably of the founder. This is believed to be the first peal of eight cast by him.

ECCLES.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, September 28, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes

AT THE PARISH CHURCH

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; CARTER'S NO. 10. Tenor 13½ cwt.

JOSEPH RIDYARD Treble.	*ALBERT G. WARNES .. 5.
PHILIP JACKSON* 2.	RICHARD RIDYARD .. 6.
PERCY H. DERBYSHIRE .. 3.	JAMES H. RIDYARD .. 7.
FREDERIC DERBYSHIRE .. 4.	AMOS TRIPPIER Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES H. RIDYARD.

*First peal in the method. A. G. Warnes, for whom this peal was arranged, hails from Norwich, and was elected a member of the Association previous to starting for the peal.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
(ASHBY PARISH CHURCH SOCIETY.)

On Thursday, September 28, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 16 cwt. 2 qrs. 23 lbs. in E flat.

GEORGE HATTON, JUN. .. Treble.	JOSEPH CURTIS 5.
GEORGE HATTON, SEN. .. 2.	ERNEST W. BEADSMORE .. 6.
HERBERT HATTON 3.	JOHN H. DUNMORE 7.
ARTHUR HITCHCOCK 4.	CHARLES R. LILLEY .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

The conductor has called this peal from every bell. This is the first peal in the county of Leicester conducted from the tenor.

PERRY BARR, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Friday, September 29, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 13½ cwt. in F sharp.

JOHN WILLIAMS Treble.	WILLIAM VERRY 5.
WILLIAM COOPER, JUN. .. 2.	WILLIAM COOPER, SEN. .. 6.
WILLIAM H. GODDEN .. 3.	CHARLES WILLIAMS 7.
GEORGE T. MITCHESON .. 4.	FRANCIS WILLIAMS .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES WILLIAMS.

Rung on the 5th anniversary of the completion of the church; also as a birthday compliment to J. Williams, he having attained his 21st year on the above date, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns.

MIDDLESBROUGH, YORKSHIRE.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, September 29, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HILDA,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5056 CHANGES.

ALEXANDER MCFARLANE .. Treble	RICHARD FENWICK 5.
JOHN H. JONES* 2.	FRED P. HOWCROFT 6.
CHARLES HALL 3.	JAMES A. CARTER 7.
WILLIAM RUDD 4.	THOMAS METCALFE .. Tenor.

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY, and Conducted by T. METCALFE.

*First peal of Superlative. Rung on the 70th birthday of the Rev. J. K. Bealey M.A., Vicar of Middlesbrough.

ASSTEAD, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 30, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

WILLIAM COOK Treble.	HENRY CORBETT 5.
JOHN WYATT 2.	CHARLES E. READ 6.
JOHN BEAMS 3.	JOHN HOYLE 7.
HARRY G. BEAMS 4.	WILLIAM FARREL .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN WYATT.

Rung as a birthday compliment to John Beams, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

UPPINGHAM, RUTLANDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 30, 1899, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qrs. 2 lbs. in E.

CHARLES DALBY*† .. Treble.	WILLIAM E. WHITE .. 5.
ERNEST J. GALE 2.	R. HENRY BARTRAM .. 6.
WILLIAM DEXTER 3.	†LEVI PARTRIDGE 7.
CHARLES R. LILLEY .. 4.	*RICHARD YOUNG .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

†First peal with a bob bell. *First peal. †First peal of Grandsire. This same peal was rung at Uppingham on Tuesday, March 25th, 1773, and conducted by William Doubleday Crofts, of Nottingham, with a Nottingham band; so it is 126 years since a peal of Triples was rung in the county, and this is the second.

After the peal the Archdeacon congratulated the band. The ringers wish to thank the Archdeacon, the Ven. Reginald Prideaux Lightfoot, M.A., for so kindly granting permission; also Mr. W. Gregory for having everything in readiness. It is to be hoped this will revive change-ringing in the county, where there is such an excellent peal.

READING, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

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

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 28 cwt.

FRANK HOPGOOD .. Treble.	AMBROSE OSBORNE .. 5.
ALFRED WATMORE 2.	ARTHUR W. HIGGS .. 6.
ALBERT E. REEVES 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
ALFRED E. REEVES 4.	ERNEST BRUCE .. Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

MITCHAM, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 30, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 16 cwt.

CHARLES BANCE .. Treble.	ALBERT CALVER 5.
CHARLES DEAN 2.	*L. C. FERRIGE 6.
GEORGE WELLING 3.	WILLIAM S. SMITH .. 7.
ERNEST C. LAMBERT .. 4.	JOSEPH FAYERS .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM S. SMITH.

*First peal. Rung as a farewell peal to Ernest C. Lambert, his brother-ringers wishing him success in his new vocation.

DRIGHLINGTON, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Saturday, September 30, 1899, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

ALFRED CHAPMAN .. Treble.	GEORGE W. STEEL .. 5.
HARRY GAYTHORPE* .. 2.	JOHN THACKRAY .. 6.
JOSEPH C. ABBISHAW .. 3.	WALTER CHAPMAN .. 7.
JOHN W. T. HOLGATE* .. 4.	JOHN M. CHADWICK .. Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and

Conducted by JOHN M. CHADWICK.

This peal has the 4th, 5th and 6th their extent in 5-6, without the 2nd in 6th place. *First peal on eight bells.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 30, 1899, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5152 CHANGES. Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lbs.

HARRY STUBBS .. Treble.	HERBERT P. HARMAN .. 5.
JAMES GARRATT 2.	JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. .. 6.
GEORGE DENT* 3.	WILLIAM J. GILBERT .. 7.
WILLIAM PETTITT 4.	ANDERSON Y. TYLER .. Tenor.

Composed by J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE, and

Conducted by A. Y. TYLER.

*First peal in the method, and first attempt. This peal was arranged for Messrs Harman and Dent, who hail from Bromley (Kent), and Harlow (Essex), respectively.

TAUNTON, SOMERSET.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(THE ST. JAMES'S GUILD.)

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

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

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

HENRY J. POOLE .. Treble.	*ALEXANDER EVANS .. 5.
HENRY PEARCE* 2.	*EDGAR E. BURGESS .. 6.
ARTHUR DOBLE 3.	JOSEPH MADDOCK .. 7.
FRANK MILLARD* 4.	†ERNEST MADDOCK .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH MADDOCK

*First peal of Stedman. †First peal. First peal of Stedman as conductor. This is the first peal of Stedman Triples ever rung west of Bristol by a local band of the above Association.

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

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

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 19½ cwt.

THOMAS J. SALTER Treble.	ALBERT E. PARSONS 5.
HARRY MASON 2.	GEORGE N. COCKIN 6.
ELIJAH WHITE 3.	ADOLPHUS ROBERTS 7.
HARRY WILLIAMS* 4.	MATTHEW HACKETT Tenor.

Conducted by ALBERT E. PARSONS.

*First peal in the method with a bob bell. Rung on the thirty-third birthday of Thomas J. Salter, who was the recipient of the usual congratulations.

WITNEY, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, October 2, 1899, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES.

Tenor 19 cwt. in E.

H. WOODWARDS Treble.	REV. O. JENKYN 5.
F. S. WHITE 2.	N. SPINDLOW 6.
F. WHITE 3.	G. HOLIFIELD 7.
J. MONK 4.	R. WHITE Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by G. HOLIFIELD.

First peal of Major on the bells.

The six following peals are the result of the Winchester Diocesan Guild ringing tour:—

CURDRIDGE, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, September 23, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 26 cwt. 2 qrs.

GEORGE WILLIAMS Treble.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 5.
KEITH HART 2.	FRANK HOPGOOD 6.
HENRY WHITE 3.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD 7.
ISAAC G. SHADE 4.	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

First peal of Triples on the bells.

NETLEY, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, September 24, 1899, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 8 cwt. 2 qrs. in A flat.

JOHN W. WHITING Treble.	HENRY WHITE 5.
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 2.	FRANK HOPGOOD 6.
CHARLES GILES 3.	KEITH HART 7.
ISAAC G. SHADE 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY, and Conducted by G. WILLIAMS.

NETLEY, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, September 25, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 15 cwt.

JOHN W. WHITING Treble.	KEITH HART 5.
ISAAC G. SHADE 2.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 6.
CHARLES GILES 3.	*FRANK HOPGOOD 7.
HENRY WHITE 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Composed by C. MIDDLETON, and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

*First peal of Cambridge. This is also the first peal of Cambridge on the bells.

EAST TYTHERLEY, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

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

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 25 lbs. in F.

JOHN W. WHITING Treble.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 5.
HENRY WHITE 2.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 6.
ISAAC G. SHADE 3.	KEITH HART 7.
CHARLES GILES 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Composed by C. MIDDLETON, and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

First peal of Major on the bells.

EAST TYTHERLEY, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, September 26, 1899, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

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

JOHN W. WHITING Treble.	FRANK HOPGOOD 5.
HENRY WHITE 2.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 6.
ISAAC G. SHADE 3.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD 7.
CHARLES GILES 4.	KEITH HART Tenor.

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by KEITH HART.

WINCHESTER.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, September 27, 1899, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY AND ST. SWITHUN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5037 CHANGES. Tenor 32 cwt. in C.

KEITH HART Treble.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 6.
ISAAC G. SHADE 2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 7.
HENRY WHITE 3.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD 8.
CHARLES GILES 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS 9.
FRANK HOPGOOD 5.	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY Tenor.

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY, and Conducted by G. WILLIAMS.

This is the first peal of Stedman Caters ever rung in Hampshire, and by the above Guild. It is also the first time that the tenor has been rung single-handed to a peal of Caters.

The three following peals concluded the week's ringing in Sussex:—

UCKFIELD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, September 28, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR PART. Tenor 12 cwt. in F sharp.

KEITH HART Treble.	GEORGE WILLIAMS 5.
ISAAC G. SHADE 2.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 6.
FRANK BENNETT 3.	GABRIEL LINDOFF 7.
GEORGE N. PRICE 4.	WILLIAM H. BARBER Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

First peal of Stedman on the bells.

HAVANT, HAMPSHIRE.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, September 29, 1899, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. FAITH,

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

KEITH HART Treble.	WILLIAM H. BARBER 5.
GEORGE WILLIAMS 2.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 6.
ISAAC G. SHADE 3.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD 7.
GEORGE N. PRICE* 4.	GABRIEL LINDOFF Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by W. H. BARBER.

*First peal of Superlative.

CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, September 29, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5024 CHANGES.

WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. Treble.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 5.
ISAAC G. SHADE 2.	WILLIAM H. BARBER 6.
FRANK BENNETT 3.	KEITH HART 7.
GABRIEL LINDOFF 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

First peal of Superlative on the bells.

Miscellaneous.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL (Yorks).—On Tuesday, September 19th, at Holy Trinity church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters was rung on the new ring of 10 W. Southwick, 1; T. Stockdale, 2; W. T. Verity, 3; J. Higfield, 4; G. T. Marshall, 5; R. Chaffer, 6; J. W. Stickney, 7; G. T. Miller, 8; C. Jackson, 9; J. W. Dale, 10.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

READING (Berks).—On Sunday, September 10th, for Divine Service at the church of St Lawrence, 503 Grandsire Caters. V. Rowe, 1; A. Osborne, 2; F. Hopgood, 3; C. Stone, 4; A. Watmore, 5; E. Bruce, 6; W. Goseltine, 7; W. Newell, 8; F. Tubb (conductor), 9; R. Sawyer, 10. On Sunday, September 17th, 447 Grandsire Triples. A. E. Reeves, 1; W. Mayo, 2; F. Watmore, 3; E. Bruce, 4; W. Higgs, 5; A. Osborne, 6; F. Tubb (conductor), 7; R. Sawyer, 8. At St. Mary's church on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 504 Grandsire Triples. R. Swain, 1; F. Tubb (conductor), 2; W. Mayo, 3; A. E. Reeves, 4; C. Giles, 5; W. Higgs, 6; A. Watmore, 7; R. Sawyer, 8.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CREWE (Cheshire).—On Saturday, September 23rd, at Christ Church, 700 Grandsire Triples. J. Simon, 1; W. T. Hartshorn, 2; A. Booth, 3; R. Langford, 4; H. Yarwood, 5; J. Ashmole, 6; R. T. Holding (conductor), 7; J. Dentith, 8. And 336 Plain Bob Major. J. Simon, 1; J. Ashmole, 2; A. Booth, 3; R. Langford, 4; H. Yarwood, 5; J. Dentith, 6; W. T. Hartshorn, 7; R. T. Holding (conductor), 8. Also a quarter-peal of Bob Triples. J. Simon, 1; R. Langford, 2; A. Booth, 3; J. Ashmole, 4; H. Yarwood, 5; J. Dentith, 6; R. T. Holding (conductor), 7; W. T. Hartshorn, 8.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CAERLEON (Monmouthshire).—On Thursday, September 28th, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 336 Grandsire Triples. T. Butler, 1; J. W. Jones, 2; R. Le Vesconte, 3; F. Green, 4; F. Atwell, 5; J. Butler, 6; E. Davies (conductor), 7; H. Baulch, 8.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WALDRON (Sussex).—On Saturday, September 23rd, an attempt was made for Parker's five-part peal of Grandsire Triples which came to grief after ringing 2000 changes in 1 hr. 8 mins. owing to a change-course: A. Dawes, 1; H. Rann (conductor), 2; J. Eastman, 3; B. Hobbs, 4; A. J. Turner, 5; A. Reid, 6; R. J. Dawe, 7; W. Jenner, 8. On Sunday morning, September 24th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 43 mins. A. Dawes, 1; B. Hobbs, 2; J. Eastman, 3; A. Reid, 4; R. J. Dawe, 5; H. Rann, 6; A. J. Turner (conductor), 7; W. Jenner, 8.

HENFIELD (Sussex).—On Sunday evening, October 1st, for Divine Service at the parish church, two 504s of Stedman Triples. G. Payne, 1; L. Payne (conductor), 2; S. Burt, 3; A. E. Lish, 4; C. Tyler, 5; H. Markwell, 6; A. Heasman, 7; W. Markwell, 8. Second 504: N. A. J. Ives, 1; L. Payne, 2; S. Burt, 3; A. E. Lish, 4; G. Payne, 5; H. Markwell, 6; C. Tyler (conductor), 7; A. Hodges, 8.

ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA.—On Sunday evening, October 1st, for Divine Service on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 48 mins. A. Novis, 1; C. Weller, 2; T. Waterhouse, 3; C. Hill, 4; F. Medhurst, 5; G. Watson (composer and conductor), 6; F. Kennett, 7; H. Denman, 8.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TAUNTON.—Recently, at St. Mary's church, 1036 Grandsire Triples

E. Kite, 1; J. Routledge, 2; C. Summers, 3; J. Fowler, 4; F. Sadd, 5; S. Wyatt, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; C. Macey, 8. Also 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Routledge, 1; A. H. Iles, 2; C. Summers, 3; J. Fowler, 4; J. Garland, 5; W. Eveleigh, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; C. Macey, 8. And 324 Grandsire Caters. A. H. Iles, 1; J. Routledge, 2; C. Summers, 3; F. Sadd, 4; J. Garland, 5; J. Burge (conductor), 6; S. Wyatt, 7; W. Eveleigh, 8; J. Fowler, 9; C. Macey, 10. Also 648 Grandsire Caters. J. Routledge, 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. And 672 Grandsire Triples. C. Macey, 1; A. H. Iles, 2; C. Summers, 3; J. Fowler, 4; E. Wyatt, 5; J. Burge (conductor), 6; E. Wyatt, 7; E. Poole, 8.

PORTISHEAD.—On Friday, September 22nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. T. Wyatt, 1; E. Knight, 2; G. E. Harbour, 3; L. Moore, 4; G. Tippetts, 5; J. Nisbitt, 6; W. Gillingham (conductor), 7; C. Urch, 8.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BACUP (Lancashire).—On Sunday morning, September 3rd, for Divine Service at Christ Church, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-two singles). L. Holt, 1; D. Briggs, 2; Jas. Smith, 3; J. S. Lomas, 4; J. H. Smith, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 College Single (twenty-two singles), standing as before. On Monday, September 4th, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. L. Holt, 1; H. L. Cockroft, 2; *D. Briggs, 3; J. S. Lomas, 4; J. Brierley, 5; Jas. Smith (conductor), 6. On Friday, September 8th, for practice, 720 Plain Bob (sixteen bobs and singles). D. Briggs, 1; H. L. Cockroft, 2; J. Smith, 3; J. S. Lomas, 4; J. Brierley, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, September 10th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). L. Holt, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. Smith, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Friday, September 15th, for practice, 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 Sunday morning, September 17th, for Divine Service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (eighteen bobs and two singles). L. Holt, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. Smith, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. Brierley, 5; J. S. Lomas (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles), standing as in the morning. On Monday, September 18th, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. L. Holt, 1; H. L. Cockroft, 2; D. Briggs, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. S. Lomas, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, September 24th, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. L. Holt, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. Smith, 3; E. J. Cockroft, 4; J. H. Smith, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Violet, standing as before, with the exception of J. S. Lomas, 4.

WORSLEY (Lancashire).—On Sunday, October 1st, for morning service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. H. Ridyard, 1; J. Lowe, 2; F. Derbyshire, 3; J. Walsby, 4; T. Derbyshire, 5; J. Ridyard (conductor), 6.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On July 30th, 395 Grandsire Caters. F. Smith, 1; F. Webb, 2; W. J. Barker, 3; H. P. Harman, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; B. Jealous, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; I. Hills, 8; C. Chasty, 9. J. Sear, 10. On August 17th, 504 Stedman Triples. F. Webb, 1; J. Church (first touch in the method), 2; W. Hall, 3; C. D. Smith, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; C. Chasty, 6; W. J. Barker, 7; D. Thompson, 8. Also 224 Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Church, 1; F. Webb, 2; W. Hall, 3; C. D. Smith, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; W. J. Barker, 6; I. Hills, 7; C. Chasty, 8. On August 20th, 305 Grandsire Caters. F. Smith, 1; J. Church, 2; W. J. Barker, 3; W. Tyler, 4; W. Hall, 5; S. J. Cullip, 6; C. Chasty, 7; I. Hills, 8; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 9; J. Sear, 10. Also 503 Grandsire Caters. S. J. Cullip, 1; F. Webb, 2; J. Church, 3; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 4; W. Hall, 5; B. Jealous, 6; I. Hills, 7; C. Chasty, 8; W. A. Tyler, 9; J. Sear, 10. On September 3rd, 504 Grandsire Triples. F. Webb, 1; J. Church, 2; W. Hall, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; F. Keech, 5; I. Hills, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; J. Sear, 8. On August 1st, at St. Mary's church, 720 Woodbine. B. Jealous, 1; I. Hills, 2; H. P. Harman, 3; C. Chasty, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; F. Webb, 6. On August 15th, 720 Woodbine. B. Jealous, 1; I. Hills, 2; C. R. Lilley, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; C. Chasty, 5; F. Webb (conductor), 6. On September 5th, 720 Kent. B. Jealous, 1; I. Hills, 2; G. Valentine, 3; C. Chasty, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; F. Webb (conductor), 6. On September 12th, 720 Woodbine. C. Chasty, 1; I. Hills, 2; W. Hall, 3; F. Webb, 4; W. J. Barker, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. On September 19th, 720 Double Court. J. Sear, 1; I. Hills, 2; W. Hall, 3; F. Webb, 4; W. J. Barker, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. On September 19th, 720 Double Court. J. Sear, 1; I. Hills, 2; W. Hall, 3; C. Chasty, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; F. Webb, 6.

Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1; C. Chasty, 2; F. Webb, 3; A. Robinson, 4; W. J. Barker, 5; G. Valentine, 6. On September 26th, 720 Kent. C. Chasty (conductor), 1; F. Smith, 2; B. Jealous, 3; I. Hills, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; G. Valentine, 6. On September 7th, 288 Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Church, 1; F. Webb, 2; W. Hall, 3; C. Chasty, 4; H. Toll, 5; I. Hills, 6; W. J. Barker, 7; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 8. On September 14th, 252 Stedman Triples. F. Webb (conductor), 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; W. Hall, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; I. Hills, 5; C. Chasty, 6; G. Valentine, 7; H. Toll, 8. On September 21st, 216 Stedman Triples. F. Webb, 1; J. Church, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; W. J. Barker, 4; I. Hills, 5; C. Chasty, 6; G. Valentine, 7; D. Thompson, 8. On September 28th, 408 Stedman Triples. W. Hall, 1; J. Church, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; B. Jealous, 4; C. Chasty, 5; I. Hills, 6; G. Valentine, 7; D. Thompson, 8.

HIGHAM FERRERS (Northamptonshire).—On August 19th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. W. J. Barker, 1; J. Church, 2; W. Warner, 3; C. D. Smith, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; C. Chasty, 6; J. B. Martin, 7; F. Webb, 8.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Tuesday, September 26th, at St. George's in the East, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original, in 49 mins. W. Truss, 1; H. Alford, 2; E. Wallage, 3; J. Scholes, 4; S. Parmenter, 5; T. H. Taffender (conductor), 6; E. Hall, 7; G. Barrell, 8. Rung as an 18th birthday compliment to Miss Emma Evans, of the above parish.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

EPSOM.—On Sunday, August 20th, at St. Martin's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 44 mins. J. Wyatt, 1; T. Miles, 2; J. Rumble, 3; H. Kenton, 4; J. Easton, 5; C. Gordon, 6; A. Clayton (conductor), 7; A. Bassett, 8.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Monday, September 25th, for practice at St. Peter's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. H. Brooker (conductor), 1; F. Larbey, 2; G. Burt, 3; H. Lover, 4; W. Bulpitt, 5; *C. H. Kitching, 6; *F. Hermon, 7; T. Hayward, 8. *First quarter-peal in the method. Longest length in the method by the St. Peter's society. On Sunday, October 1st, for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples. G. A. Hensman, 1; A. Arnold, 2; F. Larbey, 3; W. Gammon, 4; G. Burt, 5; C. Kitching, 6; H. Brooker (conductor), 7; H. Smith, 8.

EWELL (Surrey).—On Sunday morning, October 1st, for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples. H. Sycamore, 1; J. Beams, 2; G. Wilson, 3; E. Groves, 4; H. Beams, 5; H. Greenhill, 6; C. Read (conductor), 7; G. Price, 8. For evening service another 504. H. Sycamore, 1; G. Wilson, 2; J. Beams (conductor), 3; E. Groves, 4; H. Beams, 5; H. Greenhill, 6; C. Read, 7; G. Price, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LEEDS (Kent).—On Saturday, September 23rd, the Boxley ringers paid a visit to this place and rang 720 Grandsire Doubles. *C. Attwood, 1; A. Arnold (conductor), 2; G. Pound, 3; W. Hope, 4; W. Kilpatrick, 5; *J. Moldon, 6. Afterwards a few rounds were rung on the ten, which was the first on ten bells by most of the visiting band. *First 720.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

DEVIZES (Wilts).—On Friday, September 22nd, at St. John's church, 336 Grandsire Triples. F. Merritt, 1; C. H. Hampton, 2; T. Radon, 3; C. D. Heginbotham, 4; C. R. Hampton, 5; F. S. Wilson, 6; S. Hillier (conductor), 7; R. Phillips, 8.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THORNABY-ON-TEES.—On August 30th, 720 Bob Minor. W. C. Hardy, 1; *J. H. Pinkney, 2; A. Barrett, 3; T. Kelly, 4; W. Newton, 5; T. Stephenson (conductor), 6. On September 20th, 720 Bob Minor. *T. Beckwith, 1; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 2; W. Newton, 3; T. Metcalf, 4; *E. Usher, 5; W. J. Wright, 6. On September 27th, 720 Bob Minor. T. Beckwith, 1; G. J. Clarkson, 2; W. C. Hardy, 3; *T. H. Jones, 4; *N. Kidd, 5; T. Stephenson (conductor), 6. *First 720.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

BASINGSTOKE (Hants).—On Thursday, September 21st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 42 mins. W. Leavey, 1; Dora White, 2; Alice White, 3; H. Lawes, 4; G. Gasson, 5; J. G. Ballard, 6; H. White (conductor), 7; F. Redgate (composer), 8. Rung in honour of the marriage of Mr. R. Gregory, of West Ham, Basingstoke, with Miss E. Rogers, of Wells, Norfolk, which was solemnised at Christ Church, Teddington, on that day.

Ringers' Outings.

THE LOUGHTON (ESSEX) SOCIETY.—On Saturday, September 9th, this society started at 8 a.m. for a drive to Harlow and Sawbridgeworth, the way thither being enlivened by the handbells. At Harlow a peal of Stedman Triples was attempted, but lost after 25 mins. Touches of Kent Treble Bob and Double Norwich were then rung, after which a capital dinner was partaken of at The Queen's Head inn. Then to Sawbridgeworth, where the party were met by the Messrs. Tarling and others. Here among other ringing a 504 of Stedman Triples. Then a little friendly conversation and the visitors left. They thank their Harlow and Sawbridgeworth friends for their welcome, and hope to pay them another visit before long.

THE ST. LEONARD'S SOCIETY, HYTHE, KENT.—This society visited Maidstone on the 9th ult., calling on the way at Bearsted, where after a cricket match on the village green the visitors, with the Rev. A. L. Brine, rang Plain Bob and Grandsire. Mr. Brine also conducted them over the church. Reaching Maidstone, dinner was at once had at Ye Ancient Bell hotel. Then a drive in a brake; and afterwards the company divided, some boating on the Medway, others lionizing the old county town. Then tea at the hotel above-named. Every one had an enjoyable time; and thanks are given to the Vicar of Bearsted for the use of the bells, and to the Rev. A. L. Brine for his kind and courteous assistance; also to the captain's wife, who with a lady friend was present at the tea, making themselves generally useful.

THE ST. PETER PERMOUNTERGATE (NORWICH) RINGERS.—The annual outing was on Saturday, the 16th ult. Carleton Colville was decided on. Here is a ring of five bells, on which Plain Bob and Grandsire were rung. The Rector's invitation to the visitors to refresh themselves at the rectory was thankfully accepted. Then a walk to Lowestoft, where the train was taken for Norwich. Thanks are given to the Rev. R. A. Bignold for the use of the bells, and to the Rev. T. G. Pollard, for making the necessary arrangements.

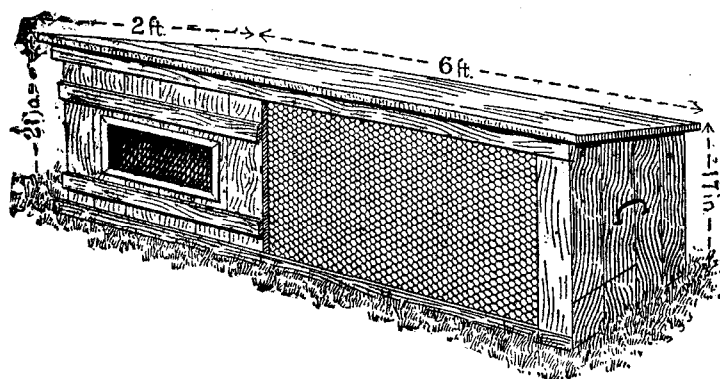
THE STANFORD-ON-SOAR (NOTTS.) RINGERS had an outing to Scarborough on Monday, the 11th ult. The journey thereto, in a saloon car, was through some lovely country, and handbells added to the enjoyment. Arriving at their destination, the visitors were pleased to get a sniff of the briny, and then dined at The Salisbury hotel. Afterwards some of them went for a sail, others drove round the locality. The hotel was again visited at 5.30, and all made a very hearty meal, especially the lovers of fish. Then soon after the return journey was begun, home being reached at 1.15 am.

THE HANLEY (STAFFS.) ST. JOHN'S SOCIETY.—This newly-formed band of ringers had their first outing on August 11th. Accompanied by the Rector and churchwarden they went to Liverpool, and there was only one absentee. A good substantial breakfast was awaiting them at Liverpool on their arrival, which with the dinner at the same establishment later on, received the usual treatment. New Brighton was visited, and an enjoyable afternoon spent there. The rest of the time was filled up in making purchases of articles for the dear ones at home. A happy day was spent, and in the opinion of the writer the excursion has braced up every member of the party for another year of church work. The Rector is thanked for his kindness and forethought in connection with this outing.

A VISIT TO LONDON.

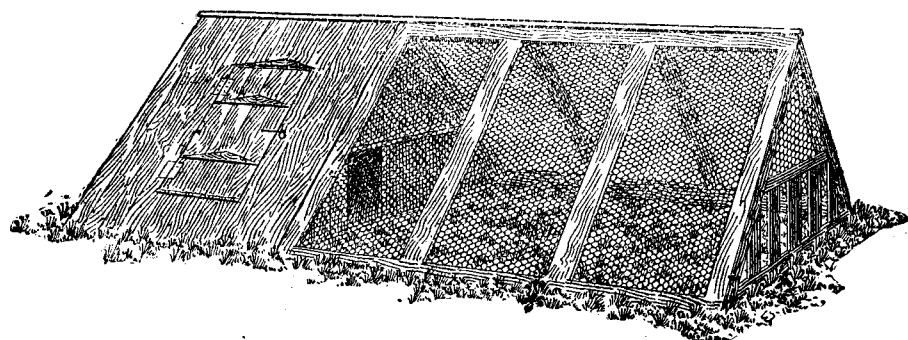
On the 17th ult., the brothers W. Perkins (Finedon) and A. Perkins (Irthlingborough) commenced to spend three days in London. They were met by Mr. C. T. P. Brice, who took them to St. Stephen's, Westminster. Sunday ringing at St. Paul's, where Great Paul was seen. Then a tour round the parks, etc., and again to St. Stephen's, where London, Superlative, and Double Norwich were rung. Mr. Brice unsuccessfully attempted to get a tower open for a peal of London. Monday was spent in seeing some of the sights of London, and ringing various methods in the evening at St. Clement Danes. They thank the London ringers for making them so welcome.

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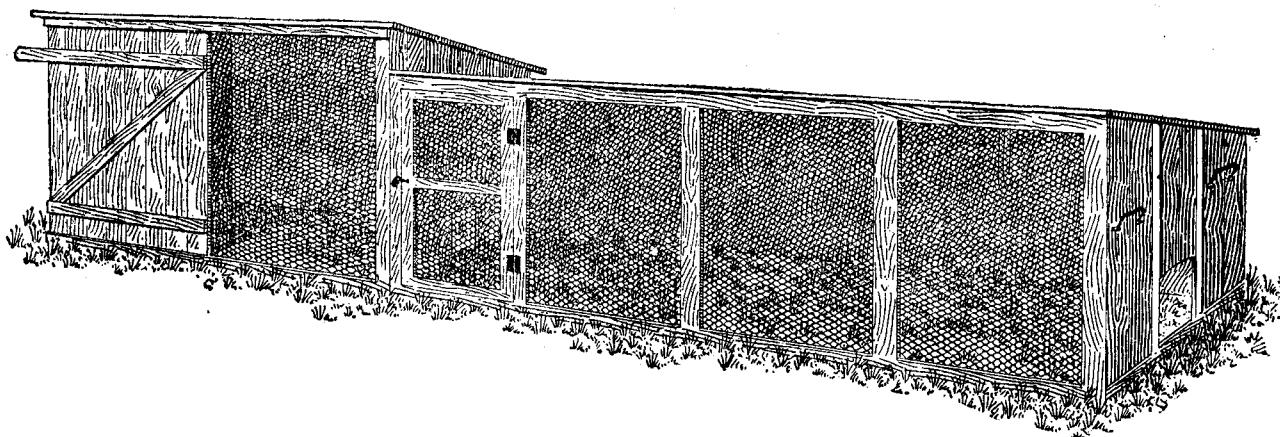
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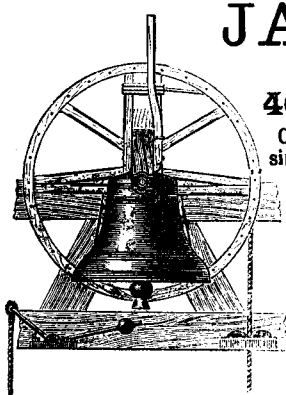
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A Weekly Journal of the Ringing Exercise ; and Compendium of Information for the Clergy and Churchwardens.

No. 914.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1899.

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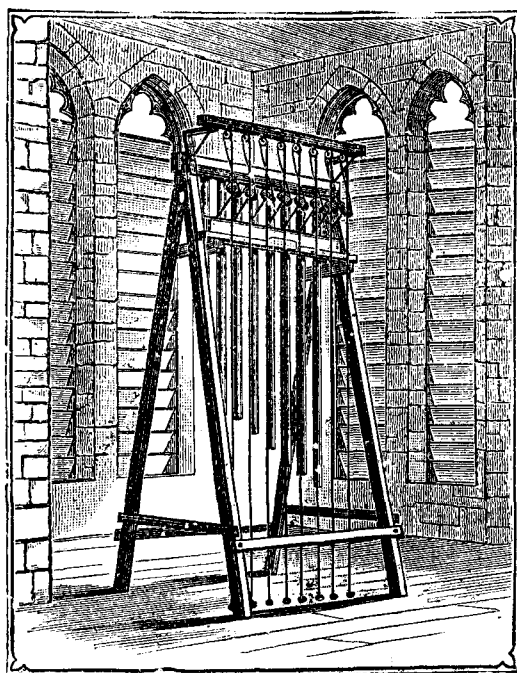
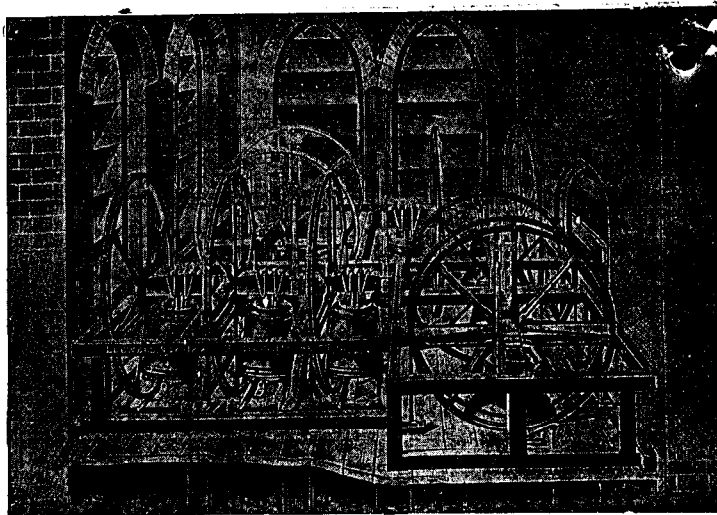
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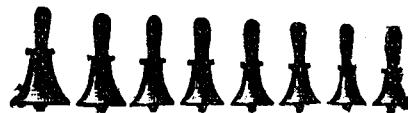
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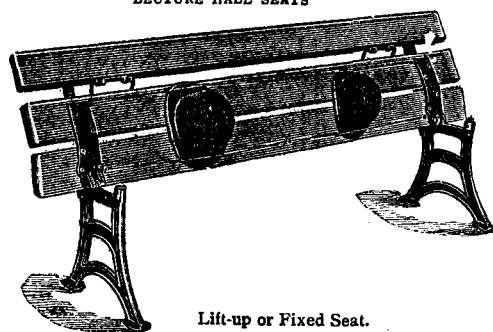
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 914.]

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

METHODS.

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

Whoever undertakes the task of drawing up a definition of a "Method" is almost bound to fall into the double fault of at once conceding too much and allowing too little; and, draw his line where he will, he is sure to find many bad methods allowed and many fair ones excluded.

As a result therefore, we have in both the definition submitted to the Central Council by the Hon. Secretary, and Mr. James's in last week's "BELL NEWS," an attempt, if not avowed yet actual, to blend the practical with the theoretical, and while appearing to give a logical definition of what a "method" is, to define what a *good* method should be. I cannot say I think the result happy though I am bound to admit the cleverness shewn in both cases, which indeed we can always expect from the sources whence these came.

We are asked for a definition that draws some distinction between a legitimate method and a bastard. The first thing that meets us is the great variety of the ground we must cover, and the consequent difficulty of providing for all cases. This difficulty Mr. James met by boldly narrowing the term "method" to those that have a fixed treble or trebles. When it was pointed out that Stedman and such-like would be excluded, his reply was that these were "Principles," and not methods at all. For proof of this he relied, I suppose, on two precedents, that of Stedman himself, and Sir A. Heywood's Duffield. But Sir Arthur in his introduction gives as his reason for doubting if he can call Duffield a "method," that the coursing order of the bells is not altered in its natural working, an objection which certainly does not apply to Stedman. And, further, it seems certain that he considered the distinction very fine and academic, or he would not have described "Duffield" as a "musical method for eight, ten, and twelve bells." In Stedman's own case, I certainly do not see that the term "Principle" was intended in contradistinction to that of "method," but only to the other "Principles" of Treble Bob, Plain Bob, etc. Further, Mr. James himself in his own definition uses the term principle in connection with Plain Bob and Treble Bob. If then Stedman is to be excluded because it is a principle, what is to be the fate of Treble Bob, which is also a principle?

But beside this the custom of a century and the universal usage of the present day all include Stedman and similar systems among the methods.

Admit this, and Mr. James's definition falls to the ground.

The scope of enquiry having been thus widened, I am unable to find any single collection of words which will describe a method in such a way as to preserve those worth preserving, and condemn those worthy of destruction. I can only fall back on the widest possible definition, which would be something like this:—

A "method" is a system of place-making and dodging

which alters the coursing order of the bells, so as to produce a certain number of rows.

Further than this I fail to see we can logically go, and for the purpose of stating what shall be considered a method worthy of being rung, it is necessary to treat each case by itself, and that by means of certain restrictions which must be more or less arbitrary.

But it may be thought that, though Mr. James's definition will not cover the whole ground, it will at least serve the purpose which he intended, and apply to treble dominated methods. To this I object that it excludes methods which have not "Bob Major lead-ends" (which I hope to shew are not *all* so bad as they are painted), and therefore does not go far enough for a general definition. And since, on the other hand, it shelters some of the most fantastic abortions that ever masqueraded under the title of "method" it is no use for defining what a good method should be.

Let us then, having admitted that among our methods we must have tares as well as wheat, see how we can distinguish between what is worthless and what is worthy of being rung.

There are, I think, only three qualities which can belong to a method, that are in themselves good, all others are subordinate to them, and are only valuable in so far as they contribute to these three.

They are:

- 1.—Capacity for producing a sufficient number of rows.
- 2.—Symmetry.
- 3.—Music.

The first will not detain us long, for no method stands a chance of being rung which will not produce a peal. With this is bound up the question of false changes.

The second qualification comprises most of the points in dispute. The first essential is that each row shall be produced from that preceding it by the maximum number of changes. This would result in all seven-bell methods being produced by triple changes, all eight-bell methods by alternate triple and quadruple changes, all nine by quintuple changes, and so on. This condition is one I venture to think we might now insist on. The chief objection is that there are several methods in common use, among them Kent Treble Bob and London Surprise, which do not conform. We cannot hope to put them down, but we can certainly see that their defects are not copied, and if it be thought desirable to proscribe such of the old methods as do not come up to the standard which the Central Council would set before the Exercise, I suppose we must pass the defects of the above methods by a special Act of Indemnity for past services.

There is I believe in certain influential quarters a desire to put down such methods as Bob Triples and Grandsire Major, and for this it was proposed that no method should be allowed in which the course of the bells (odd or even) was altered at the treble's lead. Surely such an enactment savours of washing the outside of the cup. If we are to have the bells in their proper course at the treble's lead, let us have them so throughout, for one row is equal in value to another, and the treble's lead is but

the signature of the lead. I confess that here I part with one or two methods with a little regret. Grandsire Major is one. The President wondered why none of those who had spoken well of it, said a word in its defence at the Council meeting. The answer is easy. Stern logic was too much for us. I believe Mr. John Carter will agree with me here.

But there is one other method for whose sake I should oppose the application of this rule to the lead-end only, and that is New Bob Triples, one of the oldest of methods, and without that blemish which seems to have excited so much horror in some minds, the four or six blows behind. But if we can have the due succession of rows, in and out, well, e'en let that go too.

Agree to this qualification, and the question of more than two blows by one bell in the same place disappears at once.

The next question is the advisability of insisting on the bells at the treble's lead being in their proper coursing order, or in other words, having Bob Major lead-ends. Certainly on all grounds they are preferable to any others, but great as is our respect for them, we cannot *insist* on their use till we find that there are no others which in any case can do their work. Again let me point out that the lead-end is not in itself of any more value than any other row, and since no method except Plain Bob and Grandsire (and strictly speaking not even they) preserves the coursing order of the bells wholly intact, why should not the variation come at the lead-end as well as elsewhere. Against this it is argued that the due coursing order of the bells of the interior of the lead is bound up with the use of these lead-ends. I thought so too, till I suddenly thought of Canterbury Pleasure. Now I am not going to say one word in favour of that poor bastard, but the fact remains that without Bob Major lead-ends the coursing order of the bells is kept as well as in any method in existence, and till it can be shewn that the same thing cannot be produced in another method free from the defects of Canterbury, we must not say that Bob Major leads *only* are admissible.

Other qualifications which should be found in good methods are that the leads should reverse, and that no adjacent places should be made, a thing which however occurs in several excellent methods. But I must pass on to the third qualification of music.

This is certainly the most difficult of all the qualifications to lay down definite rules about. Music is only to be had in a method by keeping close to the proper coursing order, which means keeping the tenors together, and having as much double dodging as possible. But double dodging of necessity brakes up the coursing order, and so the method builder must blend the two as best he may.

There are other points which cannot now be touched upon, but I feel sure that it is on the lines of laying down a general definition and supplementing it by some such restrictions as I have already mentioned that the only satisfactory solution can be found to the task set before the Committee by the Central Council.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, September 24th, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, an attempt was made for a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 24 mins. it came to grief. J. Dines, 1; W. Newman, 2; H. Richell, 3; A. Shuttleworth, 4; W. Lilley, 5; A. White, 6; G. Piper (conductor), 7; H. Head, 8. Also, 336 in the same method. J. Dines, 1; H. Richell, 2; W. Newman, 3; A. Shuttleworth, 4; W. Lilley, 5; G. Piper (conductor), 6; H. Head, 7; A. White, 8.

DEDICATION OF A NEW RING OF BELLS AT BANGOR, IRELAND.

On Saturday afternoon, September 23rd, a special service was conducted in the parish church of Bangor, Ireland, for the purpose of dedicating a new peal of bells, the magnificent gift of Mr. Robert Atkinson, J.P. The occasion was invested with great interest, not only to the congregation, but to members of other Protestant denominations in the locality, who have at all times shown very active and liberal sympathy with the popular Dean of Down in the noble work he has carried on in the parish ever since his appointment as Rector. Despite the inclement weather, people were wending their way into the building long before the hour announced for the dedication ceremony, and by the time the service commenced it would have been a matter of difficulty to find a vacant seat. The bells, numbering eight, were made, forwarded, and fitted by Messrs. Taylor and Co. Their total weight is over 83 cwt. and their cost £800—an expenditure on the part of Mr. Atkinson which has secured him the gratitude of the congregation and of the parishioners generally. His munificent gift has helped to render more complete a handsome church which is in every other respect well equipped, and there is no doubt the music of the bells will be highly appreciated both by residents in, and visitors to Bangor. It should be mentioned that Mr. Atkinson has also contributed £200 towards the cost of the belfry. Each bell is hung on steel girders and a cast-iron "H" frame, while they are all ranged in two tiers—odd numbers above and even numbers below—and fitted with the Ellacombe chiming apparatus. The tones are E flat, D C B flat, G F E flat; and the respective weights 5 cwt. 2 qrs. 8 lbs., 5 cwt. 3 qrs. 15 lbs., 6 cwt. 3 qrs. 17 lbs., 7 cwt. 3 qrs. 12 lbs., 9 cwt. 3 qrs. 21 lbs., 11 cwt. 2 qrs. 18 lbs., 14 cwt. 1 qr. 21 lbs., and 21 cwt. 0 qr. 4 lbs. On the last-named bell (tenor) is the following inscription:—"In honorem Dei et Sancti Comgalli me septemque sorores meas Robertus Atkinson, de Belmont, Belfast, et de Castello, in hac parochia, armiger, huic ecclesie d.d." The inscription on the seventh bell is:—Edward Maguire, D.D., Dean of Down, Rector of Bangor; Robert Edward Ward, William MacDonagh, churchwardens, MDCCCXCIX." The clergy present at the dedication included:—The Lord Primate (Dr. Alexander), the Lord Bishop of the Diocese (Rev. Dr. Welland), the Archdeacon of Down, the Dean of Down, Dean O'Hara, Canon Smyth, Canon Irvine, Canon Duke, Canon Kernon; Revs. S. S. Holmes, W. T. L. Whatham, F. W. Garstin, J. E. Archer, G. A. Earle, W. H. Davis, D. C. Greene, William Dowse, F. Matchett, Thomas M'Creight, John Mervyn, G. G. Mervyn, George Ensor, S. P. Mitchell, H. G. Austin, H. A. Moore, R. H. Coote, James Wilson, A. E. Cooper, R. A. Cooper, F. J. Grierson, T. G. G. Collins, T. J. Forsythe, and G. Emerson. Several others sent apologies. Among the congregation were noticed:—The Marquis and Marchioness of Dufferin and Ava and party, the Lord Mayor of Belfast (Mr. Otto Jaffe, J.P.), Lord and Lady Clanmorris, Dr. Reuben Bolton, Messrs. Wm. MacDonagh, Robert Atkinson, J.P. (the donor of the bells), S. G. Cunningham, C. W. Dunbar-Buller, D.L., F. R. Lepper, S. W. B. Cowan, H. Wheeler, Workman (Craigdarraugh), Dr. R. L. Moore, and Major Blackwood Price. The seven last-named, with the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava, acted as collectors of the contributions made during the service on behalf of the belfry and spire fund. Sir James Henderson, J.P., was also on the list of collectors, but not being able to attend he sent an apology

and subscription. The solemn proceedings began with hymn 335, "The Church's one Foundation," and while it was being sung the clergy entered in processional order, and took their seats in the chancel. The Dean of Down then read the first lesson, and the Psalms 149 and 150 having been rendered, the second lesson was read by Canon Duke. Subsequently, the Lord Bishop read the dedication prayer, and uttered the invocation.

The service was concluded by his Grace pronouncing the benediction, and a large number of the visitors adjourned to the Ward Hall, opposite the church, where they were entertained to an excellent tea, dispensed by the following ladies of the parish:—Lady Clanmorris, Mrs. Lepper, Mrs. Mehaffy, Mrs. Conolly, Mrs. Bolton, Mrs. Maguire, Mrs. Currel, Mrs. P. Charley, Mrs. White, Mrs. Moncrieff, Mrs. Cregg, Mrs. G. Herdman, Miss Bowen, the Misses Corry and Miss Murphy.

The St. Thomas Hon. Society of Bellringers, Belfast, opened the bells, and the ringers at the first ring were:—J. H. B. Hesse, 1; H. G. Simms, 2; E. S. Corry, 3; J. T. Filson, 4; W. G. Macdun, 5; P. A. Jackson, 6; A. G. Ward (conductor), 7, and N. Jackson, 8. In the evening there were several additional touches rung, in which Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun., and Mr. R. Lane, of Loughborough, took part. The bells have a fine tone, and are beautifully hung.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A meeting was held on Saturday, September 30th, in the Castle Ashby district. By kind permission, the bells at Castle Ashby (five bells), Grendon (five bells), and Whiston (five bells), were at the disposal of the Association from 2.30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tea was provided at The Falcon hotel, Castle Ashby, at 5 o'clock. Notwithstanding the stormy weather, over forty ringers attended from Northampton, Grendon, Castle Ashby, Wellingborough, Wollaston, Earls Barton, Rushden, Whiston, and Yardley Hastings. The Rev. I. B. Wane, Rector of Castle Ashby; the Rev. C. Brooke, Vicar of Grendon; the Rev. A. C. Ranger (Rural Dean); the Rev. R. R. Cobbold, Vicar of Earls Barton; and Mr. J. Abbott, churchwarden of Earls Barton, were also present. The Rector of Whiston, the Hon. and Rev. L. C. R. Irby, made the ringers most welcome at his beautiful church, and gave a handsome donation to the society's funds. At the business meeting following the tea, the Rector of Castle Ashby presided. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to the clergy and ringers of the three parishes for the very kind welcome given to the Association. The Secretary referred to the death of Mr. Alexander Coles, of Raunds, one of their oldest ringing members; and Mr. John Henson, of Kettering, a well-known member of a Northamptonshire ringing family, and a hearty supporter of the Association. The Rector of Castle Ashby, and Mr. O. Parker, of Higham Ferrers, were added to the list of honorary members. Mr. H. P. Harman, of Bromley, Kent, and Mr. W. Bemrose, of Peterborough, were proposed as "out of county members." Additional members were also admitted from Irthlingborough, Ravensthorpe, Grendon, and Castle Ashby. The Hon. Secretary, Mr. E. J. Dennes, suggested Irthlingborough as the place for the next quarterly meeting; but the general feeling of the meeting was in favour of Wellingborough. It was decided that the meeting take place in that town (if convenient) on Saturday, November 18th.

Whiston bells (lately rehung), were found in good order. At Grendon a considerable amount was spent on the repair of the bells and fittings in Jubilee year, and they go fairly well. Nothing less than a complete rehanging of Castle Ashby bells would be of any use. In their present condition they may be described as unringable. Well restored by a competent bell-founder, and the missing treble (disposed of in 1826) replaced, they would make a grand, rich ring of six, worthy of their noble surroundings. The present first bell (the old second) is inscribed: "William Lord Compton and Lady Elizabeth, his wife, gave this bell to the Towne of Ashbe, Anno D.M. 1610," and bears the arms of William, second Lord Compton.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The adjourned summer quarterly meeting of this Association was held at Harrold, on Saturday, September 30th, and was well attended by members from St. Paul's and St. Peter's, Bedford, Copal, Odell, and the local company. About twenty-three sat down to a good tea, provided at The Wheatsheaf inn by Host Crawley, the expense of which was provided by the Harrold ringers and some leading parishioners, and very kindly dispensed by Mrs. and Miss Crawley.

After tea the usual business meeting was held, which was very ably presided over by Mr. Churchwarden Manton. In the course of the Chairman's remarks he said how very pleased he was to welcome the Association to Harrold, as he thought such meetings did a great deal of good. He wished the Association every prosperity and hoped it would choose Harrold again at some future time, for it was very pleasing to the parishioners and himself to hear such ringing as had been done that afternoon. He proposed several new members from Harrold and the adjoining village of Odell, a new centre. Mr. Clarke proposed that the next meeting be held at Turvey on the first Saturday in the new year. This was seconded and carried. Mr. Hills asked for a hearty vote of thanks to the subscribers of the tea, which was very cheerfully given. The Chairman then proposed a vote of thanks to the Host and Hostess. He said they were always very pleased to provide and do anything for the ringers at any time. Mr. and Mrs. Crawley suitably responded. This concluded the business, and the ringers then wended their way back to the tower.

The bells at the village of Odell are sadly in need of repair.

GIGGLESWICK (Yorks).—On Monday, September 25th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. S. James, jun., 1; J. L. Bulcock, 2; M. Whatley, 3; S. James, sen., 4; J. Parker, 5; W. Fell (conductor), 6. And 360 Grandsire. J. L. Bulcock, 1; S. James, jun., 2; M. Whatley, 3; S. James, sen., 4; J. Parker, 5; W. Fell, 6. Also 252 Grandsire. E. Brown, 1; S. James, jun., 2; M. Whatley, 2; S. James, 4; J. Parker, 5; W. Fell, 6. On Monday, October 2nd, 720 Kent Treble Bob. S. James, jun., 1; J. L. Bulcock, 2; M. Whatley, 3; S. James, sen., 4; J. Parker, 5; W. Fell, 6. And 504 Grandsire. E. Brown, 1; S. James, 2; M. Whatley, 3; S. James, sen., 4; J. Parker, 5; W. Fell (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

WITNEY (Oxon).—Recently, at the residence of the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, on handbells, 336 Grandsire Triples. J. Brooks, 1; G. Bull, 2; H. Brooks, 3; M. Woodcock, 4; J. Monk, 5-6; Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, 7-8.

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 LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING AT PRESTON.

The Annual Meeting of this Association took place at the historical town of Preston on Saturday, September 30th. By the kind permission of the authorities, the towers of the parish church, St. Mark's church, and Walton and Penwortham churches were open for ringing to the members during the afternoon and evening.

The proceedings commenced with the performance of Divine Service at the parish church, at which the sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon Rawdon, M.A., who took as his text the first three verses of Psalm lxxxi. The rev. Canon said that they were gathered together in God's House that day as ringers, as those who discharged the necessary and important function of summoning God's people to worship. He thought there were two great principles which the ringing of bells seemed to illustrate, and the first was the importance of regularity and punctuality in everything that was connected with divine worship. They knew that in the affairs of men in proportion as they were important there was a great necessity for regularity and punctuality. All important matters in this world were regulated by time. There was a time, as the wise man said, for everything. If this was so in earthly matters, how much more was it important in matters relating to God. The bells called them to church, Sunday after Sunday, as they rang out their merry peals. They heard their sweet music as they walked through the country lanes, and drew near the village church, and they rejoiced to hear it from the parish churches of their great towns, where the bells told them the business of the world was to be laid aside, and that the business of the Lord was to be taken in hand. It was a most important duty to call God's people to His house, and it was important that the hours of service should be faithfully adhered to, that the people should come in time, not hurrying or missing part of the service, nor treating the worship of God as they would hardly treat a secular engagement or entertainment of consequence. They should make a point of coming regularly and punctually. There were cases of necessity, of course, where punctuality was impossible, but these were exceptions; and where was no reasonable excuse every person should be in his place when the service began. The second lesson which the ringing of the bells in the belfry taught them was the duty of cheerfulness in all that appertained to religion. Religion was never intended to make men dull, solemn, or ill-tempered, or to abridge their rational and innocent enjoyment. It should be a source of constant enjoyment to every true Christian, and a cheerful subject of thought. They should come with alacrity and willingness and joy, and it should be never necessary—he was not sure whether it was not pernicious—to ask people to come to church, for if they had not that within them which bid them come, a suggestion from without would not have much effect. Their desire should be spontaneous, and as the bells rang out their merry peals there should be a response in every Christian heart—a response of cheerfulness and willingness. There was just one word more which he would venture to say to those who were met there. He felt it was a responsibility to have this service for them, and as he would perhaps never have the opportunity of speaking to them again, because they were not likely to visit this same centre for some years to come, he would not like to finish the task without saying some word of earnest exhortation, which he knew they would accept in the spirit in which it was given. Those who were engaged in duties

in the House of God should always try to keep in mind the solemn responsibility which they were under, and be reverent and careful in the handling of holy things. This was a lesson which the clergy had constant reason to remind themselves of, for alas! familiarity with holy things was apt to blunt their perceptions with regard to them. Perhaps ringers had special temptation to take less thoughtful and less reverent views of holy things. They were often away from the main body of the church in the belfry, which might be ill-constructed, and where there were perhaps few associations to suggest reverence and godly fear. They knew that too many belfries were sadly neglected. Perhaps the clergy were at fault for not taking more interest in these matters and showing greater sympathy with their ringers. He feared they might be to blame, but he thought they would allow that the blame was not all on their side, and there were ringers who when they had rung the congregation to church did not enter themselves. They who rang for God's people to come to church were members of that same Church and were children of the same Heavenly Father, with souls to be saved and fed Sunday after Sunday by spiritual food, and he urged them to think of that last bell which would ring its sad notes, telling of souls departed, to remember this.

The annual meeting for the election of officers took place after the service in the parish church schools. This was preceded by a tea, to which a large number sat down. Over the after-proceedings the Rev. H. J. Elsee presided, supported by the Rev. Canon Rawdon. Representatives were present from Manchester, Bacup, Rochdale, Bury, Bolton, Blackburn, Newchurch, Waterfoot, Worsley, Eccles, Prestwich, Reddish, Rawtenstall, Walkden, Burnley, Chipping, Heywood, Church, Ashton-under-Lyne, Pendlebury, and Southport.

The Chairman expressed the thanks of the members to Canon Rawdon for his address, and also for the trouble he had taken in making arrangements for that meeting. He had assisted their Association for a long time, and was the best honorary member they had got. One year he paid his subscription twice over.

Canon Rawdon said it was a very great advantage to the Association to have a gentleman as President who was not only a clergyman of the highest character, but also a brother-ringer. He was very wishful that the Preston parish church ringers would join the Association, and if there were any who had not joined he hoped they would do so.

The Chairman, in his presidential address, expressed his pleasure at seeing such a representative gathering. He read the report of the committee, which stated that the number of members now on the books was 921. This included 62 honorary life members, 30 honorary members, 53 life performing members, 723 performing members, and 53 non-resident members. Sixty-four new members had been elected, and a slightly larger number of names had been taken off, which was due to a more strict enforcement of the rules relating to subscriptions. The membership was distributed as follows: Manchester 151, Rossendale 113, Liverpool 112, Bolton 94, Blackburn 92, Preston 83, Rochdale 72, and the Fylde 59. The treasurer's statement showed that the income was £74 15s. 4d., and the expenditure £61 18s. 11d. These figures included income and expenditure on the Redford memorial fund. The total amount of money belonging to the Association at present was £77 1s. 6d., and the year's working showed a net gain of £2 1s. 7½d. The list of peals rung during the

year was a gratifying one as to quality, but in quantity did not approach that of previous years.

The officers were elected as follows: President, Rev. H. J. Elsee; vice-President, Mr. J. Eachus; Ringing Secretary, Mr. J. Shepherd; Committee—Manchester branch, Mr. H. Chapman; Rochdale, Mr. E. B. Shaw; Liverpool, Mr. J. Aspinwall; Central Council representatives, Rev. H. J. Elsee, Rev. C. A. Clements, Mr. J. Eachus, and Mr. R. Ridyard; Auditors, Messrs. J. H. Haydock and R. Leach.

The Chairman next referred to the work that had been done by the Central Council, and said that at present it was endeavouring to bring pressure to bear upon the railway companies to get a reduction of fares for attending meetings of this kind.

A discussion ensued as to the advisability of sending four gentlemen as representatives to the Central Council, but it was finally decided to make no change in the present arrangement. Oldham was the place chosen for the next annual meeting.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(BRISTOL BRANCH.)

A meeting of this branch was held at Chippenham, on Saturday, September 30th. Only about twelve ringers were present, which can be partly accounted for owing to the very wet day. Ringing was indulged in at the parish church and St. Paul's, consisting of touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples. A short service was held in the parish church at 5.30 p.m., conducted by the Rev. Canon Rich. After the service a meeting was held in the belfry. The minutes of the last meeting were taken as read. It was proposed by the Rev. H. A. Cockey, seconded by Mr. C. E. D. Boutflower, and carried unanimously, "That the next meeting be held at Stapleton, Bristol, on the last Saturday in October." Six new members were elected.

THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

The monthly ringing meeting of this society was held at Drighlington on Saturday, September 30th, when the following towers were represented: Armley, Bramley, Calverley, Horbury, Tong, Wakefield, and the local company. Mr. C. D. Smith (of Bradford) was also present. A peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major was rung during the afternoon by members of the society, the record of which has already appeared.

The business meeting was held at The Spotted Cow inn, the president in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed. A short discussion then took place as to the advisability of holding meetings at towers that were not eligible owing to arrears of their subscriptions, but it was thought the best plan to continue in the ordinary course till the annual meeting, thus giving all an opportunity of clearing-up their arrears. A vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and the local company for their kind arrangements, was carried with applause; a vote of thanks to the President ending a very enjoyable meeting.

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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."

"BOB MAJOR LEAD-ENDS."

SIR,—When I introduced New Cumberland Surprise to the Exercise more than thirteen years ago, I remember laying stress on the preservation in that method of the customary Bob Major lead-ends as a point in its favour. I thought so for more reasons than one. Not only is it possible to keep the tenors better together with these lead-ends; but any innovation, such as the introduction of a new set of lead-ends, ought to have some special and very strong reason and recommendation behind it, before it could have any chance of successfully appealing to experts. I am glad, therefore, to find the Rev. E. B. James urging the importance of retaining these lead-ends in any new Major method. I quite agree with him.

The importance to the music of a method of keeping the tenors as well together as possible throughout is obvious and undeniable. The table of comparison between various Treble Bob methods, as to this point, which Mr. James gives is very interesting, and I am wondering why he did not include New Cumberland in his list. I am well aware of the faults of construction in that method, but ruthless parting of the tenors is not one of them; for Mr. James will find it stands higher in this respect than any of those he gives; the figures being:—

3 16 3 6 9 9 6 ... 52

6 7 8 are also together behind in the plain course in four combinations. No method, I think, has more, except Superlative, in which all six combinations are to be found.

H. EARLE BULWER.

P.S.—I have had three copies of Norwich Association Report returned to me for want of correct address, viz.: those sent to Rev. H. L. James, Mr. Alfred Avis, and Mr. Johnson E. Hern. Will these gentlemen kindly furnish me with their present addresses?—H. E. B.

SIR,—I thank the Rev. E. B. James for his favorable comments on Brighton Surprise, but I must still beg to differ as to the exclusive use of Bob Major lead-ends.

The table that Mr. James gives showing how the tenors are parted in different methods condemns his own arguments. According to this table, if keeping the tenors together in the interior of the leads and at the lead-end produces the better music, then London Surprise should be more musical than Superlative or Brighton Surprise, but I doubt if Mr. James will ever get other ringers to believe in this anomaly.

Before I published Arundel Surprise in our paper I forwarded same to one of our greatest authorities on methods and composition, and received from this gentleman a very favourable comment on same, the letter being still in my possession.

My contention is this: the music in Superlative is chiefly obtained through the tenor never dodging with any but the 7th's and 6th's place bells in 1-2 and 7-8 in the five-pull dodges, and if this is taken for granted, then Arundel Surprise (having a clean proof-scale, showing it to be sound in construction) will not be very far behind any other method for good music, although it has the foreign lead-end.

GEORGE BAKER.

OBITUARY.—It is but a few weeks ago that we published an account of some very interesting proceedings in connection with the "golden wedding" of Mr. and Mrs. George (parents of the well-known brothers George), of Pinner, Middlesex. We regret to announce the decease, after a short illness, of the venerable lady who so amiably sustained the part of hostess on that occasion. Much sympathy is felt for the family, especially for Mr. George, sen. It goes without saying that the sympathies of every ringer will be given to our brethren above-mentioned in their hour of affliction.

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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 (pages)

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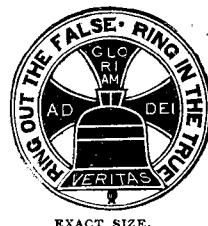
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Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of 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, OCTOBER 14, 1899.

OUR last number contained an account of the dedication of two new bells at the little town of Braintree, in Essex. These bells, as the report stated, were erected to complete the octave. Those who have been directly concerned in this undertaking, and those who have watched the struggle to carry through such a happy work successfully, rejoice that the efforts of the leader of the local company—**MR. C. H. HOWARD**—have met with their reward. This restoration and augmentation of Braintree bells—which we omitted to say last week was carried out by Messrs. **JOHN WARNER and SONS**—will certainly give encouragement to those who may intend to begin a similar work. Unfortunately there is plenty of bell-restoration required all over the country. The Braintree example shows what can be done by industry and perseverance, and we hope to see it closely followed without delay. Difficulties of course present themselves, sometimes very hard to surmount, but they can be got over by inflexible constancy in the pursuit.

The Metropolis.**THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.***On Saturday, October 7, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER, WALWORTH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

THOMAS WYATT* Treble.	WILLIAM CROCKFORD .. 5.
JOHN R. HINTON* 2.	HARRY BARTON 6.
ARTHUR HARDY 3.	WILLIAM H. WEBBER .. 7.
FREDK. G. PERRIN 4.	GEORGE E. SYMONDS .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

*First peal. Rang as a farewell peal to D. Nerrip, Esq., who is, owing to the recent crisis in the Transvaal, summoned back to look after his estate at Warluff, near Johannesburg.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.*On Monday, October 9, 1899, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE, WOOLWICH,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,

5056 CHANGES. Tenor 13 cwt.

WILLIAM J. ALDRIDGE .. Treble.	STAFF-SERGEANT A. PYE* 5.
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 2.	ALFRED W. BRIGHTON .. 6.
GEORGE R. PYB 3.	HARRY FLANDERS 7.
ISAAC G. SHADE 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

*First peal of Superlative.

The Provinces.**STEYNING, SUSSEX.****THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.***On Tuesday, October 3, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qrs. 24 lbs.

JOHN SMART Treble.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. 5.
EDWIN RAPLEY 2.	NATHAN J. PITSTOW .. 6.
JAMES MATTHEWS 3.	GEORGE WILLIAMS 7.
KEITH HART 4.	GEORGE GATLAND Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

HEENE, WORTHING, SUSSEX.**THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.***On Wednesday, October 4, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR,

5088 CHANGES. Tenor 10½ cwt.

WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. Treble.	GEORGE A. KING 5.
KEITH HART 2.	EDWARD C. MERRITT .. 6.
ROBERT J. DAWE 3.	NATHAN J. PITSTOW .. 7.
FRANK BENNETT 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Composed by FRANK BENNETT, and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

This was the first peal of London Surprise on these bells. This composition is now rung for the first time.

KIRTLINGTON, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.*On Wednesday, October 4, 1899, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR PART. Tenor about 18 cwt.

FREDERICK WHITE .. Treble.	HARRY G. JUDGE 5.
ALFRED E. REEVES 2.	WILLIAM NEWELL 6.
ALFRED THOMAS 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
WILLIAM BENNETT 4.	RICHARD WHITE Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

First peal of Stedman on the bells.

MERSTHAM, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.*On Wednesday, October 4, 1899, in Two Hours and Twenty-nine Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CATHERINE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being eight 6-scores each of College, Oxford, Canterbury and Plain Bob, and ten 6-scores of Grandsire.

JOHN BEAMS Treble.	HENRY REEVES 3.
WILLIAM STANFORD 2.	FRANCIS T. HOAD, JUN. .. 4.
GEORGE F. HOAD .. Tenor.	

Conducted by HENRY REEVES.

This is the first 5040 on the bells. W. Stanford was elected a member previous to starting.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.**THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.***On Thursday, October 5, 1899, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR,

5024 CHANGES. Tenor 10½ cwt.

WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. Treble.	KEITH HART 5.
ROBERT J. DAWE 2.	JAMES N. FROSSELL .. 6.
FRANK BENNETT 3.	NATHAN J. PITSTOW .. 7.
GEORGE A. KING 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW, and

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to Mr. E. J. Marshall, late Head Master of Brighton Grammar School.

ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.**THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.***On Thursday, October 5, 1899, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5125 CHANGES.

Tenor 24 cwt.

ALBERT WALKER .. Treble.	GABRIEL LINDOFF 6.
THOMAS REYNOLDS 2.	*HENRY MIDDLETON 7.
FREDERICK FLOWERS .. 3.	WILLIAM H. BARBER .. 8.
PHILIP W. DAVIES* .. 4.	BERNARD WITCHELL .. 9.
WILLIAM SHORT 5.	FREDERICK CLAYTON .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

*First peal of Stedman Caters. This composition contains the least number of changes yet obtained with the 6th her extent behind the 9th and 8th, and is now rung for the first time.

KING'S NORTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.**THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.***On Friday, October 6, 1899, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,

5184 CHANGES. Tenor 14½ cwt.

HENRY MIDDLETON* .. Treble.	WILLIAM SHORT 5.
WILLIAM R. SMALL 2.	WILLIAM H. BARBER .. 6.
GABRIEL LINDOFF 3.	ARTHUR E. PEGLAR .. 7.
WILLIAM S. PRITCHETT .. 4.	FREDERICK CLAYTON .. Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and

Conducted by WILLIAM H. BARBER.

*First peal in the method. This composition has the 4th eighteen times in 6ths place, and the 6th her extent.

CUCKFIELD, SUSSEX.—SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.*On Saturday, October 7, 1899, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,

5056 CHANGES. Tenor 15 cwt.

GEORGE WILLIAMS .. Treble.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH .. 5.
HENRY DAINS 2.	JAMES N. FROSSELL .. 6.
FRANK BENNETT 3.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. 7.
GEORGE A. KING 4.	KEITH HART Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by KEITH HART.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, October 7, 1899, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

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

WALTER JAKEMAN Treble.	SAMUEL STOTT 5.
GEORGE HOYLE 2.	WILLIAM JAKEMAN 6.
EDWIN B. SHAW 3.	JOHN HARRISON 7.
JAMES PRIESTLEY 4.	BENJAMIN THORPE Tenor.

Composed by the late JOHN THORP, and
Conducted by WILLIAM JAKEMAN.

STANSTED, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 7, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of London Scholars' Pleasure, New London
Pleasure, Violet, Duke of York, Woodbine, and Oxford and
Kent. Tenor 13 cwt.

THOMAS JORDAN Treble.	GEORGE GRAY 4.
GEORGE JORDAN 2.	THOMAS J. WATTS 5.
JOHN LUCKEY 3.	WILLIAM WATTS Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WATTS.

This is the first peal on the bells since the tenor has been rehung with new stock
and bearings by John Warner and Sons.

WOLVERHAMPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, October 7, 1899, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES.

Tenor 23 cwt.

HUGH J. BALCOMBE Treble.	ROBERT PICKERING 6.
RICHARD W. BURROW* 2.	THOMAS J. ELTON 7.
ISAAC PURSER† 3.	†E. SIDNEY HODGES 8.
BENJAMIN DALTON 4.	HERBERT KNIGHT 9.
JOHN C. ADAMS 5.	*ERNEST BROWN Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by R. PICKERING.

*First peal on ten bells. †First peal of Caters with a bob bell. ‡First peal of
Grandsire Caters. Rung as a compliment to B. Dalton on his fifty-sixth birthday,
the band wishing him many returns of the day on the completion of the peal.

KINGSTON, SURREY.

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

On Saturday, October 7, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5080 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 33 cwt.

JOHN N. OXBORROW Treble.	JOHN W. GOLDING 6.
HARRY R. PASMORE 2.	JAMES WILLSHIRE 7.
WILLIAM H. PASMORE 3.	NATHAN J. PITSTOW 8.
ARTHUR G. ELLIS 4.	CHARLES T. P. BRICE 9.
HENRY S. ELLIS 5.	HENRY R. NEWTON Tenor.

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW, and
Conducted by HENRY R. NEWTON.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

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

On Saturday, October 7, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
VICARS'.

HERBERT SHEPPARD Treble.	SAMUEL SPITTLE 5.
HARRY PRICE 2.	WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT 6.
HENRY GOODMAN 3.	JOHN SMITH 7.
JOHN GOODMAN 4.	*WILLIAM JACKSON Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT.

*First peal.

CHISLEHURST, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, October 9, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 17½ cwt.

ISAAC EMERY Treble.	†GEORGE J. TAYLOR 5.
THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE 2.	WALTER INGHAM 6.
RICHARD HIMS† 3.	GEORGE DURLING 7.
JOSEPH CRAFT 4.	WALTER J. SMITH Tenor.

Composed by HENRY J. TUCKER, and Conducted by GEORGE DURLING.

†First peal in the method. First in the method on the bells, and first peal of
Major as conductor. This peal was rung on the occasion of the birthday of T.
Groombridge, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

Date Touch.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

QUIDENHAM (Norfolk).—On Monday, October 2nd, at St. Andrew's
church, a date touch of Bob Minor, in 1 hr. 12 mins. E. G. Kemp, 1;
J. Sage, 2; W. Ringer, 3; R. Haylett, 4; G. Haylett, 5; J. Woods
(conductor), 6.BREWOOD (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, October 8th, at the house
of Mr. J. Perry, a date touch of 1899 Grandsire Doubles, on handbells,
retained in hand, in 50 mins. J. Perry (conductor), 1-2-3; T. Perry,
4-5-6. Longest length by both.

Miscellaneous.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BATTLE (Sussex).—On Sunday morning, October 1st, for Divine
Service at the parish church, 508 Grandsire Triples, being the first
part of Holt's ten-part peal. J. Sinden, 1; W. Franks (conductor),
2; C. J. Hyland, 3; F. Mathis, 4; W. H. Eldridge, 5; C. R. Carter,
6; W. J. Thomas, 7; A. Saunders, 8. For Divine Service in the
evening 420 Oxford Bob Triples. W. H. Eldridge, 1; W. Eastland,
2; F. Mathis, 3; C. J. Hyland, 4; W. J. Thomas, 5; C. R. Carter,
6; W. Franks (conductor), 7; A. Saunders, 8.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

HURWORTH-ON-TEES.—On Friday, September 29th, for the Harvest
Festival, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. T. Newton, 1; C.
Tood, 2; W. Patton, 3; R. Moncaster, 3; G. W. Park (conductor),
5; G. Overton, 6.SUNDERLAND.—On Sunday morning, September 17th, for Divine
Service, 168 Stedman Triples. For evening service 168 in the same
method. F. Naisby, 1; R. Miller, 2; W. Smallwood, 3; T. Ditch-
burn, 4; T. Naisby, 5; J. Leighton (conductor), 6; J. Naisby, 7; T.
Brass, 8. On Sunday evening, October 1st, for Divine Service, 504
Stedman Triples, standing as before, conducted by J. Naisby.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

BRAY (County Wicklow).—On Saturday, October 7th, at Christ
Church, on the front six, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two
singles). H. Rickerby, 1; J. Millar, 2; G. Matthews, 3; D. Towson,
4; T. Smith, 5; Rev. G. D. Scott (conductor), 6; J. Tough, 7; W.
Smith, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

DEAL (Kent).—On Sunday morning, September 17th, for Divine
Service at St. Leonard's church, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight
bobs and twenty-two singles) in 24 mins. J. Henley, 1; H. Denne,
2; C. F. Turner (Canterbury), 3; G. Denne (conductor), 4; E. New-
man, 5; H. Castle, 6. Tenor 9½ cwt. in G.TUNSTALL (Kent).—On Sunday, September 3rd, for Divine Service,
720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Hyland, 1; J. Grenstead, jun., 2; W.
Hyland, 3; A. Day, 4; W. Walker, 5; W. H. B. Wilkins (con-
ductor), 6. On Sunday, September 24th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J.
Hyland, 1; J. Grenstead, jun., 2; W. Hyland, 3; A. Day, 4; W.
Spice, 5; W. H. B. Wilkins (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Bob
Minor. J. Grenstead, jun., 1; J. Hyland, 2; W. Hyland, 3; W.
Spice, 4; A. Day, 5; W. H. B. Wilkins (conductor), 6.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

HAYES (Kent).—On Sunday, August 6th, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor. A. Lanaway, 1; F. Keech, 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Reader, 5; J. Hack (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 in the same method. On Sunday, August 20th, 720 Bob Minor, conducted by J. Hack. On Sunday, September 17th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. F. Keech, 1; H. Brown, 2; W. Bedwell, 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Reader (conductor), 5; J. Hack, 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. H. Reader, 1; H. Brown, 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; W. Bedwell, 5; J. Hack (conductor), 6. On Monday, September 18th, for practice, 720 Kent. G. Harwood, 1; H. Brown, 2; A. Killick, 3; W. J. Smith, 4; J. Town, 5; J. Hack (conductor), 6.

GODSTONE (Surrey).—On a recent Sunday the Hayes ringers paid a visit to this place, and rang for evening service 720 Kent Treble Bob. F. Keech, 1; H. Brown, 2; W. Bedwell, 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Reader, 5; J. Hack (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. W. Bedwell, 1; H. Brown, 2; A. Killick, 3; G. Harwood, 4; H. Reader, 5; J. Hack (conductor), 6. Also 240 Bob Minor, J. Hayward, of the local band, ringing the treble.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GREAT HALE (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday evening, September 17th after Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 29 mins. T. B. Wood, 1; R. Masters, 2; A. Howes, 3; T. Humberstone, 4. W. Dickinson, 5; T. T. Taylor (conductor), 6. On Thursday, September 21st, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 720 Kent Treble Bob. T. B. Wood, 1; R. Masters, 2; C. Ward, 3; E. Houlden, 4; W. Dickinson, 5; T. T. Taylor (conductor), 6.

TIMBERLAND (Lincolnshire).—On Thursday, September 14th, 720 Bob Minor. Rev. H. Wheat, 1; A. Sharpe, 2; F. Cobb, 3; F. Curtis, 4; W. Elkington, 5; G. Elkington, 6. This was the first 720 by the Rev. H. Wheat. On Sunday, September 17th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, in 28 mins. A. Sharpe, 1; H. King, 2; F. Cobb, 3; A. West, 4; G. Curtis, 5; G. Elkington (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, September 20th, 720 Bob Minor. F. Curtis, 1; Rev. H. Wheat (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; F. Cobb, 3; H. King, 4; A. Sharpe, 5; A. West (conductor), 6. On Sunday, September 24th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent. A. Sharpe, 1; H. King, 2; F. Cobb, 3; F. Curtis, 4; W. Elkington, 5; G. Elkington (conductor), 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GRASSENDALE (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, October 1st, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. Turner, 1; R. H. Green, 2; C. Newton, 3; T. Morris, 4; W. Greenleaf (Hereford), 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. On Monday, October 2nd, for practice, 720 Bob Minor in 26 mins. R. H. Green, 1; J. Turner, 2; C. Newton, 3; T. Morris, 4; W. Greenleaf, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

STANSTED (Essex).—On Sunday morning, August 20th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Cavill, 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; G. Jordan, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, September 6th, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Cavill, 1; H. Little, 2; G. Gray, 3; T. Jordan, 4; I. Hammond, 5; T. J. Watts (conductor), 6. Also 720 Bob Minor (eighteen singles and three bobs). Composed by William Norris, of Farleton, near Lancaster. J. Cavill, 1; H. Little, 2; T. Jordan, 3; I. Hammond, 4; G. Gray, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. On Saturday, September 9th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Jordan, 1; I. Hammond, 2; H. J. Tucker, 3; G. Gray, 4; G. Charge, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. T. Jordan, 1; G. Jordan, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; G. Charge, 5; T. J. Watts (conductor), 6. On Sunday afternoon, September 10th, for Divine Service, 720 College Single. J. Cavill, 1; H. Little, 2; G. Gray, 3; T. Jordan, 4; G. Jordan, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. On Sunday afternoon, September 17th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Cavill, 1; H. Little, 2; I. Hammond, 3; G. Gray, 4; W. Watts, 5; G. Jordan (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, September 20th, Duke of York. T. Jordan, 1; I. Hammond, 2; T. J. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; G. Jordan, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. Also 720 London Scholars' Pleasure. J. Cavill, 1; G. Jordan, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; I. Hammond, 5; T. J. Watts (conductor), 6. And 720 London Surprise. J. Cavill, 1; I. Hammond, 2; T. J. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; G. Jordan, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION

LITTLE MUNDEN.—On Sunday, September 10th, for morning service, 360 Oxford Bob and 216 Grandsire. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; G. Carter, 4; A. Phillips, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 in the same method. A. Lawrence, 1; G. Barker, 5; the rest as before. On Tuesday, September 12th, 720 Grandsire Minor and two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; G. Carter, 4; A. Phillips, 5; J. F. Harvey (conductor), 6. On Sunday, September 23rd, for morning service, 360 Oxford Bob. A. Phillips (conductor). Also 240 Canterbury Pleasure and 60 College Single. H. Carter, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; J. Heady, 3; G. Carter, 4; A. Phillips, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. For afternoon service 216 Grandsire Minor, and an attempt for a 720 of College Single, which was lost after ringing 500 changes. For evening service 720 Bob Minor. A. Wright, 1; the rest as before. On Sunday, September 30th, for morning service, 288 Grandsire Minor and a touch of College Single; for evening service, 720 Oxford Bob. H. Carter, 1; A. Phillips, 2; J. Heady, 3; G. Carter, 4; A. Lawrence, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6.

BUSHEY (Herts).—On Sunday evening, October 1st, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 42 mins. J. R. Sharman (conductor), 1; E. E. Huntley, 2; W. E. Oakley, 3; W. G. Whitehead, 4; W. I. Oakley, 5; F. A. Smith, 6; W. H. L. Buckingham, 7; J. J. Allen, 8.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

DARFIELD (Yorks).—On Tuesday, October 3rd, on the occasion of the marriage of Miss C. B. Taylor, daughter of the late F. H. Taylor, Esq., of Middlewood Hall, Darfield, to Mr. R. A. Rodgers, of Medina Villas, Hove, 360 Oxford Treble Bob, 360 Violet, and 240 New London Pleasure. In the evening 720 Violet, and 360 New London Pleasure was rung. S. Woodcock, 1; C. E. Bell, 2; W. Woodcock (conductor), 3; C. D. Potter, 4; R. J. Ricketts, 5; A. Crossman, 6. Tenor 19 cwt. 3 qrs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BLACKBURN BRANCH.

PADIHAM.—On Saturday, July 29th, 720 Kent. W. Walton, 1; R. Scholes, 2; N. Townend, 3; F. Towns, 4; D. Heys, 5; R. Hartley (conductor), 6.

BURNLEY.—At Holy Trinity church, on Sunday, September 10th, 640 Kent. D. Heys, 1; N. Townend, 2; D. Campbell, 3; W. Walton, 4; R. Hartley, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. On Sunday, September 17th, 720 Kent. T. Mouncey, 1; R. Hartley, 2; T. Burrows, 3; D. Heys, 4; R. Ashworth, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6. On Sunday, September 24th, 720 Kent. W. Walton, 1; N. Townend, 2; T. Burrows, 3; D. Heys, 4; R. Ashworth, 5; R. Hartley (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford. W. Walton, 1; N. Townend, 2; R. Hartley (conductor), 3; D. Heys, 4; T. Mouncey, 5; R. Ashworth, 6. On Thursday, September 25th, 720 Oxford. D. Campbell, 1; W. Walton, 2; R. Hartley, 3; N. Townend, 4; T. Mouncey, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

PORTSEA (Hants).—On Sunday morning, September 3rd, for Divine Service, 504 Stedman Triples. E. C. Newman, 1; J. Harper, 2; C. Groves, 3; J. Symons, 4; E. Reynolds, 5; J. T. Matthews, 6; J. Gould, 7; A. D. Stone, 8. On Sunday morning, September 10th, for Divine Service with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the late Mr. James Hewett, 518 Grandsire Triples. P. M. Hannam, 1; J. Harper, 2; J. Harris, 3; J. Symons (conductor), 4; J. T. Matthews, 5; E. C. Newman, 6; A. D. Stone, 7; H. C. Ingram, 8. On Sunday evening, October 1st, 504 Stedman Triples. J. Harper, 1; J. Harris, 2; J. J. Symons, 3; C. Groves, 4; F. S. Bayley, 5; A. D. Stone, 6; E. C. Newman (conductor), 7; H. C. Ingram, 8. Rung as a farewell touch to A. D. Stone, who is leaving the town for Brighton, his brother-ringers wishing him every success. On Tuesday, October 3rd, for practice, 252 Stedman Triples. F. S. Bayley, 1; J. Harper, 2; P. M. Hannam, 3; J. J. Symons (conductor), 4; A. C. Collins, 5; J. T. Matthews, 6; E. C. Newman, 7; H. C. Ingram, 8. *First touch in the method as conductor. Another 252 in the same method. F. S. Bayley, 1; J. Harper, 2; P. M. Hannam, 3; J. J. Symons, 4; E. C. Newman, 5; A. C. Collins, 6; J. Harris (conductor), 7; J. T. Matthews, 8. This is the second time the conductor has conducted this touch, the first time not being recorded. On Sunday evening, October 8th, for Divine Service, 504 Stedman Triples. C. Groves, 1; W. W. Gifford, 2; F. S. Bayley (conductor), 3; J. J. Symons, 4; E. C. Newman, 5; J. Harper, 6; J. Gould, 7; J. T. Matthews, 8.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

LEISTON (Suffolk).—On Saturday, October 7th, for practice at St. Margaret's church, 720 Bob Major. A. Button, 1; W. Taylor, 2; A. J. Lincoln, 3; E. Bailey, 4; H. J. Button, 5; W. Sawyer, 6; C. Samson (conductor), 7; J. Button, 8. On Sunday morning, October 8th, for Divine Service, 560 Bob Major. A. Button, 1; W. Taylor, 2; C. Samson, 3; E. Bailey, 4; A. J. Lincoln (conductor), 5; W. Sawyer, 6; E. Bailey, 7; H. J. Button, 8. Tenor 20½ cwt. in E.

QUIDENHAM (Norfolk).—On Sunday, September 10th, for Divine

Service in the morning at St. Andrew's church, 720 Bob Minor. E. G. Kemp, 1; J. Sage, 2; W. Ringer, 3; R. Haylett, 4; W. Killington, 5; J. Woods, 6. On Tuesday, September 12th, 1080 Bob Minor, standing as above. On Friday, September 15th, 720 by the same band. On Friday, September 22nd, two 360s. For the Harvest Festival service in the morning 720, and for evening service two 360s. E. J. Kemp, 1; J. Sage, 2; W. Ringer, 3; R. Haylett, 4; W. Killington, 5; J. Woods, 6. J. Ringer rang the treble in the second 360, the others as before. On Sunday, October 8th, 360 Bob Minor. R. Davey, 1; R. Haylett, 2; W. Ringer, 3; J. Lawrence, 4; R. Ettridge, 5; J. Woods, 6. Also 360. R. Davey, 1; J. Tite, 2; J. Barmham, 3; R. Ettridge, 4; R. Mann, 5; J. Lawrence (conductor), 6. The above was rung for Divine Service in the morning.

BANHAM (Norfolk).—On Sunday, October 8th, two 360s of Bob Minor. E. J. Kemp, 1; J. Sage, 2; R. Mann, 3; J. Tite, 4; W. Killington, 5; J. Woods (conductor), 6.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

WOLVERLEY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday evening, September 24th, 720 Bob Minor in 25 mins. W. Perry, 1; J. Reynolds, 2; G. H. Frazier, 3; P. Perry, 4; J. Smith, 5; W. H. Smith (conductor), 6. On Friday, September 29th, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 360 Canterbury Pleasure Minor in 14 mins. On Tuesday, October 3rd, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor in 27 mins. T. E. Jukes, 1; J. Smith, 2; T. H. Frazier, 3; P. Perry, 4; W. Perry, 5; W. H. Smith (conductor), 6.

BROMSGROVE (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, October 1st, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. F. Alcock, 1; H. Buckingham, 2; J. Eades, 3; T. Allbutt, 4; O. James, 5; G. Bourne, 6; J. Mason (conductor), 7; J. Parry, 8.

BARKING (Essex).—On Monday, 18th, a quarter-peal of London Surprise Major (1280 changes), in 48 mins. A. Deards, 1; G. R. Pye, 2; T. Faulkner, 3; R. Fenn, 4; E. Pye, 5; C. Fenn, 6; E. Andrews, 7; A. C. Hardy (conductor), 8. First quarter-peal in the method on the bells, and the first by all the band except the brothers Pye. On Sunday, October 1st, being the Harvest Festival, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung for morning service. A. C. Hardy, 1; E. G. Fenn, 2; G. W. Faulkner, 3; E. Andrews, 4; A. J. T. Carter, 5; T. Faulkner, 6; C. Fenn (conductor), 7; R. Fenn, 8. *First quarter-peal in the method, and first as conductor.

COLCHESTER (Essex).—On Sunday, September 24th, 768 Kent Treble Bob Major. S. Howell, 1; W. Howell, sen., 2; W. Howell, jun., 3; G. Burch, 4; F. Bumpstead, 5; W. Button, 6; S. Wolff, 7; G. Lindoff (conductor), 8. On Tuesday evening, October 3rd, 420 Grandsire Triples. A. Burch, 1; W. Button, 2; S. Wolff, 3; G. Burch, 4; F. Bumpstead, 5; W. Schofield, 6; G. Lindoff (conductor), F. Manning, 8.

BRAMLEY (Yorks).—On Sunday, October 8th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. J. Turner, 1; *W. Brown, 2; J. W. Chadwick, 3; H. Gaythorpe, 4; J. Brown, 5; E. Newton, 6. *First 720 with a bob bell.

CALVERTON (Bucks).—On Saturday, September 30th, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. Bonham (conductor), 1; W. Tucker, 2; J. Tompkins, 3; H. Tompkins, 4; R. Tucker, 5. Also another three 6-scores. W. Tucker (conductor), 1; O. Tompkins, 2; J. Tompkins, 3; H. Tompkins, 4; R. Tompkins, 5. And a 6-score with R. Tucker, 5; the rest as before. Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qrs.

CHARLWOOD (Surrey).—On Sunday afternoon, September 24th, some of the Capel band visited this place and rung before evening service 720 Violet. D. Jordan, 1; E. Holloway, 2; J. Akehurst, 3; E. Jordan, 4; F. Wickens, 5; A. Elliss (conductor), 6. And 720 Kent. G. Wickens, 1; E. Holloway, 2; J. Akehurst, 3; A. Elliss, 4; T. Fairs, 5; E. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also 720 London Scholars' Pleasure. G. Wickens, 1; F. Wickens, 2; J. Akehurst, 3; F. Tullett, 4; E. Jordan, 5; A. Elliss (conductor), 6. And 720 College Pleasure. G. Wickens, 1; E. Holloway, 2; J. Akehurst, 3; F. Tullett, 4; A. Elliss, 5; E. Jordan (conductor), 6.

STONY STRATFORD (Bucks).—On Sunday morning, October 1st, for Divine Service, 240 Grandsire Doubles. W. Bonham, 1; G. Cowley (conductor), 2; G. Valentine, 3; W. Tucker, 4; A. Clarke, 5; H. Tucker, 6. For evening service 720 Bob Minor in 23 mins. A. Clarke, 1; G. Valentine, sen., 2; R. Valentine, 3; W. Tucker, 4; G. Cowley, 5; G. Valentine, jun. (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

GRIMSBY.—On Monday, October 2nd, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 48 mins. F. Howden (first quarter-peal), 1; T. Scrimshaw, 2; J. W. Chapman, 3; J. Baker, 4; A. B. Shepherd, 5; W. H. Heyhoe (conductor), 6; C. Creasy, 7; J. Lamb, 8.

A SUCCESSFUL WEEK'S RINGING.

THE ANNUAL WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD TOUR.

The annual tour in Hampshire by several members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild is now becoming an old institution, and the result of the excursion is looked for by others beside the participants themselves, and in the annals of the Guild it forms a prominent feature. On this occasion an entirely new route was selected and, as things turned out, it would be impossible to find a district where a band of ringers could meet with a more hearty reception than did those who took part in this tour. Generally in former years the opening peal has been at Fareham, but this time illness prevented it, but nevertheless it made no difference to the meeting place, the residence of Mr. J. W. Whiting. The first arrivals were Mr. H. White, of Basingstoke, and Mr. C. Giles, of Reading, who appeared upon the scene on Friday. On Saturday, September 23rd, on which day the programme was commenced, the remainder, in ones and twos turned up at friend Whiting's, the party consisting, in addition to those mentioned above, of Messrs. G. Williams and K. Hart, of Brighton; J. S. Goldsmith (Lewes); W. W. Gifford (Salisbury); F. S. Bayley (Portsmouth); I. G. Shade (Greenwich); and F. Hopgood (Reading). Having got into form for ringing with a touch or two upon handbells, a bountiful tea, which Mrs. Whiting had provided, placed everyone upon excellent terms with themselves, and ere long all were speeding on their way to Curdridge, where the first attempt was to be made for a peal. The back bells were not found to be in the best condition for going, and added to this the exceptional noise in the ringing-chamber, Cambridge Surprise did not seem to suit, and therefore after a change about, Stedman Triples was started, and a good peal, the first of Triples on the bells, was the result, but it had not been all "beer and skittles" for the man on the seventh, who at the conclusion found his hands rather the worse for wear.

A peal at Netley on Sunday afternoon stood next on the programme, and after spending the night at Fareham and having again accepted the hospitality of Mr. Whiting, train was taken for Southampton, *en route* for the destination. Arriving about half-past ten there was just time to ring for service at Holy Rood Church, where the local ringers kindly gave up the ropes in order that the visitors might have a turn. A touch of Stedman was brought round, and then a move was made for Netley, which was reached by a carriage drive, and Host Dorey, of The Royal Victoria hotel, upon arrival of the party had a substantial dinner in the concluding stages of preparation. The meal having been discussed the church was visited, and, without mishap the second peal of the tour was successfully accomplished—Superlative, in 3 hrs. 2 mins. This part of the day's proceedings over, carriages were again requisitioned, and the party returned to Southampton, where at Woolston they were most kindly entertained to tea by an old friend, Mr. P. J. Heaththorne. Later in the evening the excursionists were again to be found at Netley preparing for a good night's rest in readiness for the next day's business.

On Monday morning soon after seven o'clock "Go, for Cambridge" was the order, and all went well for three-quarters-of-an-hour, when a trip ended in a change-course and put an end to that attempt. Not in the least dismayed the bells were again soon into the method, but only a few leads were rung when there was another stoppage. "Third and last time" we all agreed, and it was the last time, too, for in a couple of minutes less than three hours the first peal of Cambridge on the bells was completed. Right away for Southampton and on to Romsey, and soon we were on the move again. Mr. Elcombe was at Romsey station to welcome the band, and under his pilotage a suitable spot at which to appease the cravings of the appetite was found. Beefsteaks had scarcely got into process of demolition when, as if by instinct, the veteran Parson-ringer, Rev. F. E. Robinson, came upon the scene. Perhaps, however, Mr. Robinson may object to being called a veteran, for he goes about his ringing with a great deal more vigour than many men years younger, but I doubt not he will forgive me this time, because he did once refer to ringing his first peal forty years ago. After dinner a move was made to the church, a splendid specimen of Norman architecture and about the second largest church in England. After a brief inspection of the building the ascent to the ringing-chamber was commenced. And by the

way this is no small matter, for it is up stairs and along corridors, up more stairs and along more corridors again. It was very trying for the stout and short-winded members of the party. But eventually the belfry was reached and preparations were made for Stedman Triples. Matters went well for a considerable time, although it was apparent that the reverend gentleman on the 7th had got his hands full. At the 27th course-end, which came up in an hour-and-a-half, the 6th man, having previously suggested that he should change with the 7th, proceeded to carry out the idea. There was some little misunderstanding and then both ropes were flying about in space, making vain endeavours to hang the ringer of the 5th, and to tear the gas bracket out of its fittings. And that is how the first failure of the tour came about, much to the regret of all concerned. To while away the time until tea was ready, the Vicar (the Rev. J. C. Yarborough) invited the ringers to inspect his beautiful garden and his live stock, and among the latter was found almost anything from a peacock to a monkey. In the vicarage a bountiful tea was provided, and at the conclusion, the Rev. J. C. Yarborough having been heartily thanked for his hospitality, a move was again made to the belfry, where practice at London Surprise was indulged in preparation for the next day. A touch of Grandsire Triples was afterwards rung with the local men, with whom the evening was afterwards spent.

At seven the next morning the party started on about an eight miles drive to East Tytherley, where the real business of the tour was to be done. On arriving soon after eight o'clock the Vicar (Rev. S. F. Bourdillon) met the excursionists, and taking them under his charge, graciously made them his guests for the day, and right royally did he treat his visitors. By the way, the ringing world could do with a few more gentlemen of Mr. Bourdillon's stamp. In his last living, at Lockerley, an adjoining parish of East Tytherley, he succeeded in securing a ring of six bells, and in his present parish he has surpassed even his previous effort, by collecting sufficient funds to erect a tower and place in it a ring of eight splendid bells. It is almost an ideal place at which to ring. A good roomy belfry with plenty of air and light, and no sun to dazzle the eyes, the tower being on the north side of the church. The bells go like the proverbial tops, and with the exception perhaps of being just a trifle noisy, a better place for peal-ringing could not be found. If peals were to be rung this was the place to ring them. The programme set out three peals for that day in three Surprise methods, viz.: Superlative, Cambridge and London. Cambridge came the first in order and by noon was "a done job." A good square meal and a short rest helped the Superlative along beautifully, and by four o'clock or soon after "this is all," finished peal No 2. At tea Mr. Bayley, who had been obliged to return to Portsmouth after the peal at Curdrige on Saturday, rejoined the party. The meal having been dispensed it was not long before preparations were made for the London, and about six o'clock "go" was called. For fifty minutes things went swimmingly and better striking need never be wished for, but then a bad trip put an end to the attempt, the three Surprise peals still to be rung in one day. A slight refresher and a touch on the handbells at the Vicarage followed, then it was time to leave behind the good Vicar of East Tytherley and soon we were travelling on towards Romsey. The day's success put everyone in good spirits and raised several to singing pitch. "The Friar of Orders Grey" opened the ball and was repeated each evening afterwards "by request." Then from a totally unexpected quarter came something about "Two Israelite Brethren." Other songs followed, no less than three being contributed by the Schoolmaster, and Romsey was safely reached—before eleven.

The gem of the trip had been reserved for Wednesday, when by permission of the Dean an attempt was to be made for a peal of Stedman Caters at the Cathedral. Mr. J. W. Elkins and Mr. W. Andrews met the visitors upon their arrival, and the former gentleman having kindly provided lunch, steps were turned to the Cathedral, where morning service was in progress. The Litany was being intoned and the music of the responses was delightful, the noble building lending itself to singing of such a character. After the service Mr. Elkins conducted the party over the edifice, explaining the various items of interest, but after all it was only a hurried survey, for hours could be spent in wandering round such a place. About half-past eleven the

tower was ascended, the bells raised, and at 11.50 "Go for Stedman Caters" came from the Conductor. Very soon the ringers began to warm to their work, and no band ever set about a peal with more determination than did those ten men. Course-end after course-end came up and was left behind, until at last extra bobs showed that the coming-home course had been entered, and then at 3.20 p.m., "this is all," and the peal was rung. No ten-bell ringing had before been attempted upon one of these tours, and it is needless to add that the satisfaction of the band was great, the performance being the more appreciated inasmuch as it was the first peal of Stedman Caters ever rung in Hampshire, and also by the Winchester Diocesan Guild. And it was but right that this should be achieved at the Capital, so to speak, of the Diocese, for although there is no other peal of ten in the county there are, still, a couple of peals in the Diocese. Double Norwich was to be attempted in the evening, to conclude the programme, at Twyford, but time unfortunately would not permit. Nevertheless it was decided to go down, and not dis-appoint the Vicar. Consequently, having said good-bye to the Rev. F. E. Robinson, the remainder set off for Twyford, where they were met by the foreman of the ringers, Mr. Brown. Once more the visitors were entertained, an enjoyable spread being laid out at the Vicarage by Rev. E. M. Hoets. After tea a couple of courses of Double Norwich, a bit of Stedman and a course of Superlative were tapped off. Then away to the station, where practically the breaking up took place. Mr. White went back to Winchester, on his way to Basingstoke, while all down the line others left at intervals. At Fratton there were five left, Messrs. Hart, Williams, and Goldsmith, who with Messrs. Gifford and Shade returned to Brighton. And so ended one of the most enjoyable ringing tours that has ever taken place in Hampshire.

But before bringing this report to a conclusion it is necessary to thank the many gentlemen who have contributed to the success of the outing. Never have ringers met with a more hearty reception than did the tourists at the hands of the local clergy and ringers, and to them they return their best thanks. It would be a long matter to mention each individually, and therefore they will perhaps accept the thanks of the party in this general form.

THE WEEK CONCLUDED IN SUSSEX.

The prospects of a visit, at the end of the Hampshire ringing tour, of Mr. Gabriel Lindoff, now of Irish fame, Mr. W. H. Barber, of Bangor, and Mr. G. N. Price, of Oxhey, as well as those who returned to Brighton from westward, led to arrangements being made to finish out the week at peal-ringing. On Thursday evening, therefore, Uckfield was visited, and the first peal of Stedman on the bells was rung. A day in the western part of the county was arranged for Friday, and just before noon Superlative Surprise was attempted at Havant and safely negotiated in 3 hrs. 11 mins. The bells of Chichester Cathedral had been obtained for the evening, and here again Superlative was rung with success equal to that at Havant. Ringmer bells had been secured for Saturday, and it was with light hearts that Cambridge was booked for trial. But alas, there was something desperately wrong with the go of the bells, and at the third course-end, "stand" put an end to the struggles. "'Tis an ill wind that blows nobody good," however, and a talk with the genial Vicar afterwards led to something practical, a member of the band being deputed to communicate with a well-known bell-hanger, so that at not a very distant date there is every possibility of once more having the bells in pealable condition.

This brought the week's ringing to a close, and taken all in all, it had been attended with a very large measure of success, for although three peals were lost in twelve attempts, one only, the London Surprise, failed through an actual mistake on the part of the ringers.

ONE OF THE PARTY.

STANTON HARCOURT (Oxon).—On Tuesday, September 19th, on the bells of the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor. J. Trinder, 1; A. Pimm, 2; Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, 3; M. Woodcock, 4; W. Pimm, 5; J. Monk, 6. Another 720. A. Mitchell, 1; J. Trinder, 2; C. Allen, 3; W. Batts, 4; Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, 5; J. Monk, 6. On handbells, a course of Grandsire Triples. M. Woodcock, 1-2; Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, 3-4; J. Mouk, 5-6; J. Trinder, 7; A. Pimm, 8.

Notices.

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

The Surrey Association.—The next quarterly meeting of the members of this Association will be held at Reigate, to-day, Saturday, October 14. The bells at St. Mary Magdalene will be raised at 3 o'clock by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. J. N. Harrison, M.A. Tea will be provided at Mr. Mark Dean's refreshment rooms near the Town Hall. The usual business meeting will follow the tea, and the Rev. C. G. Lynn Fryer will preside. The bells (8) at St. John's, Redhill, will also be available from 7 to 8.45, by permission of the Vicar.

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

5, Manor Parade, Sutton, Surrey.

Oxford Diocesan Guild.—The autumn meeting will be held at Newbury to-day, Saturday, October 14th. Evensong at the parish church at 4.30. Preacher—the Master. Tea at 5.15 in the parish room. Apply—REV. J. A. THOMAS, Newbury, *Hon. Sec.*

The North Notts. Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at East Markham (Tuxford Station G.N.R.) to-day, Saturday, October 14. Tea at 5 p.m. free of charge. B. DARLEY, *Hon. Sec.*

The Ancient Society of College Youths. Members are earnestly requested to attend the meeting at The Coffee Pot on Tuesday, October 17th, after ringing at St. Michael's, Cornhill, when an important discussion will be raised. The 262nd anniversary dinner will be held at The Bridge House hotel, London Bridge, on Saturday, November 11th, at 6.30 p.m. Tickets (3s. 6d. each), may be bought of Messrs. W. H. L. Buckingham, E. A. Davies, Dawe, Garrard, Horrex, Hughes, Newton, O'Meara, Pettit, Prime, Rowbotham, Sharman, W. D. Smith, Springfield, Taffender, Winney and

WILLIAM T. COCKERILL, *Hon. Sec.*

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

Kent County Association.—Tonbridge District.—The next meeting of this District will be held at Seal Chart (6 bells) on Saturday, October 21st. Tower open at 5 o'clock. Business meeting in the Schoolroom at 6.30. The bells of St. Peter's, Seal, are also available. W. LATTER, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*

The Hertfordshire Association.—District Meeting at Bushey, on Saturday, October 21. E. P. DEBENHAM, *Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Oldham parish church on Saturday, October 21st. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6.30. J. JAGUES, *Branch Sec.*

17, Samuel Street, Middleton.

The St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—The usual quarterly meeting will be held at The Tamworth Arms, Moor Street, on Tuesday, October 24th, when some important business will come under consideration. Chair will be taken at 8.30 p.m.

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

61, Roland Road, Handsworth.

Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Midsomer Norton, on Saturday, October 28. Fuller particulars on 21st.

HY. W. TOMKINS, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer,*
The Cottage, Old Cleve, Washford.

Sussex County Association.—Central

Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Lower Beeding, on Saturday, October 28. A conveyance will leave Horsham station at 3.15 for members who let me know by Saturday, October 21st. Tea at 6 p.m.

GEO. WILLIAMS, *Hon. Sec.*

2, Grove Street, Brighton.

N.B.—Members who have not paid their subscriptions for 1899 will oblige by doing so as early as possible.

The Kent County Association.—Lewis-ham District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Crayford on Saturday, October 28th. The tower will be open from 3 p.m. Tea will be provided for members advising the Secretary not later than Wednesday, October 25th. Half railway fares up to two shillings will be allowed, and paid out at 5.30 p.m. in the parish room, where tea will be held at 6 p.m. sharp. Business meeting will follow tea. A short service and address will be given in the church at 7.30 p.m.

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

27, Embleton Street, Lewisham.

The Middlesex County Association.—North and East District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held on Saturday, October 28th, at Christ Church, Southgate, by kind permission of the Rev. J. Beardall. Further arrangements will be duly notified. The bells will be raised about four o'clock. It is requested that members will do their utmost to attend.

ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*

18, Ravenscroft Park Road, Barnet.

The Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—The next meeting of this Guild will be held at Halsall on Saturday, October 28th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Business meeting at 6 p.m.

REV. W. T. BULFIT, *Hon. Secs.*

W. BENTHAM,

The Middlesex County Association.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held at Hayes by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. J. Godding, on Saturday, October 28th. Bells ready at 4.30.

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

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The next monthly ringing meeting of this society will be held at Bramley (six bells) on Saturday, October 28th. Meeting-house—The Cardigan Arms. A peal will be attempted at 2.30. Business meeting at 7.0. Handbells provided. The secretary will be glad to receive all arrears of contributions.

HY. GAYTHORPE, *Hon. Sec.*

1, Elm Avenue, Bramley, Leeds.

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—The 22nd Annual Festival will be held at Durham on Monday, October 30th. The bells of the Cathedral open to members after 1 p.m.; St. Nicholas (6) and St. Oswald's (6) all day. Committee meeting at The Three Tuns hotel, 12 noon; Service in cathedral choir stalls 1 p.m. (preacher Rev. Dr. Randell, Rector of Sunderland). Dinner 2 p.m., at The Three Tuns hotel, 1s. 6d. to members, 2s. 6d. to non-members. Intending visitors kindly notify before October 25th.

C. L. ROUTLEDGE, *Hon. Sec.*

18, West Parade, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

St. Mary's, Woolwich.—Practice night has been changed from Thursday, to Tuesday, at 8 p.m.

E. O. MASTERS, *Hon. Sec.*

The Heavy Woollen District Association.—There will be no meeting of the above-named Society this month.

WALTER IDLE, *Hon. Sec.*

47, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury.

NOTE TO PEAL.

THE PEAL AT UPPINGHAM (RECORDED LAST WEEK).—After making preliminary arrangements, "Meet at Melton Station, to travel by the 10.10 a.m. train," was the order given to members of the Midland Counties Association who were to attempt the above peal. Arriving at Oakham, the county town of the smallest county in England, somewhat late, arrangements were at once made for the necessary means of conveyance to Uppingham, a distance of about six miles, by a contingent of the band, while others interviewed the Rev. F. Baggalley to gain permission for Oakham bells on the return, two peals being on programme for the day. Leaving Oakham about noon a pleasant journey was being enjoyed, when on reaching Preston Hill, a rather steep one of about a quarter of a mile in length, a halt had to be made, the consequence being the harness, which was not of the best order, giving way. Our steed was bound in the shafts by means of bell ropes, etc. (I hope my friends will excuse me if I am wrong, but it was a rope of some kind, but I do not recollect seeing the sallie) and we again loaded up, but before getting settled we had to alight again, this time to lighten the load, as we were now ascending another hill of about the same dimensions as the last one, and so on our journey was made under these little difficulties, until we reached our destination. I might point out that Rutland is rather a hilly county, especially about Uppingham, one of our band remarking that it was rightly named Upp—. We were driven straight to church, where the bells were at once raised, and at 1.20 p.m. "Go Grand-sire," was received from our conductor, and in 3 hrs. and 10 mins. those welcome words, "This is all," completed Holt's ten-part, which was the first peal on these bells for upwards of a century, the last one taking place in March, 1773. After the peal Archdeacon Lightfoot came into the church and congratulated the members on their performance. The next item on the programme was to attend to the wants of the inner man, and this done we set off back to Oakham, but did not arrive in time to attempt the second peal, so a 518 of Grandsire satisfied our ambition. All being well a peal will be attempted here to-day, Saturday, October 14th. The band one and all wish to tender their sincere thanks to Archdeacon Lightfoot (Uppingham), and to the Rev. F. Baggalley (Oakham), for the use of their bells. Leaving one of the band "at home" at Oakham for the night, we departed at 8.50 p.m. for Melton, where the Honorary Secretary of the Midland Counties Association—W. E. White—was despatched to Nottingham, and the remaining two (Messrs. Lilley and Partridge) stayed for ringing on Sunday. This concluded a most enjoyable outing, probably the first of its kind in little Rutland.

G.

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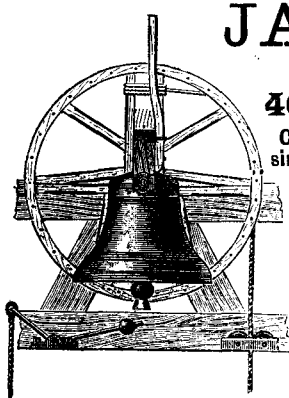
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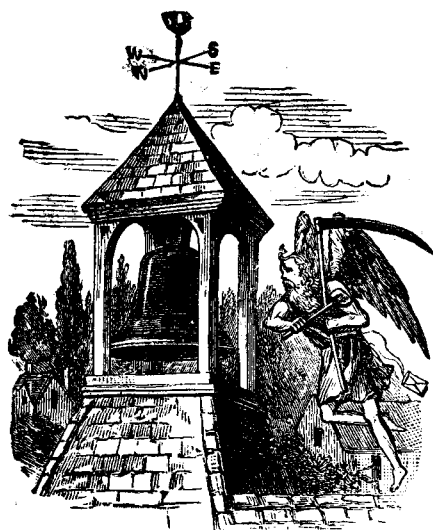
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No. 915.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1899.

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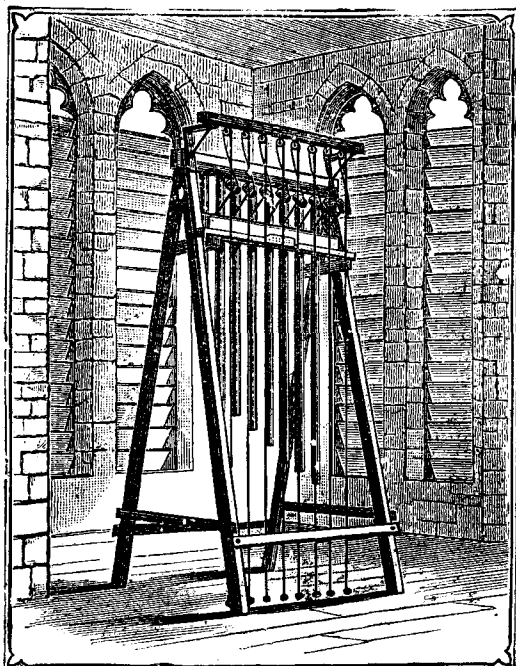
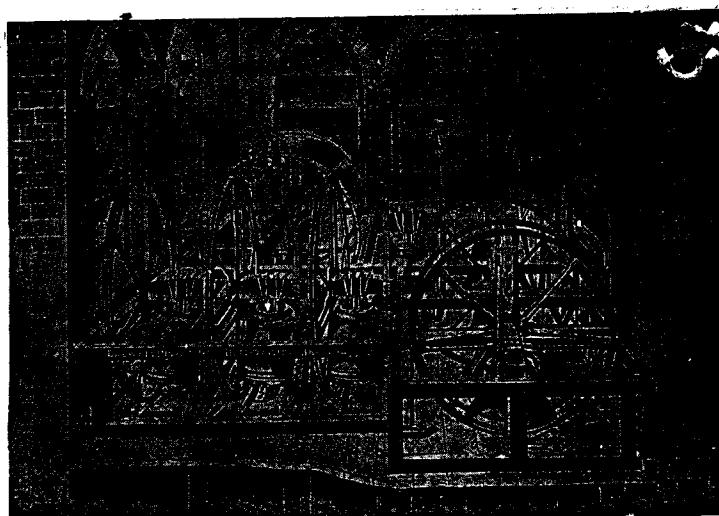
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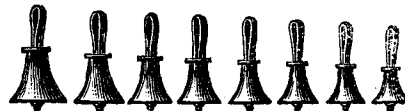
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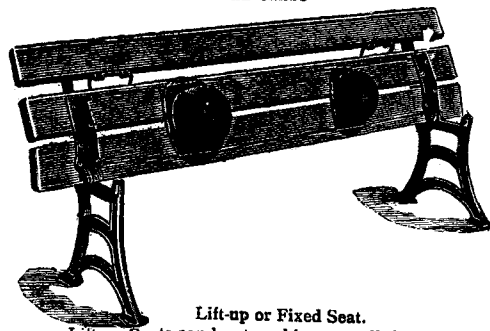
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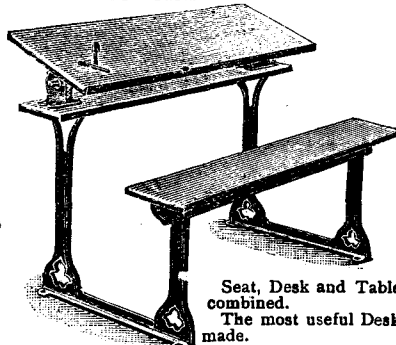
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 915.]

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

RESTORATION OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH BELLS, BRIDGWATER.

Sunday, the 8th instant, was an important day in the history of St. Mary's Church, Bridgwater. It marked in a way that will not quickly be forgotten, the final scene in connection with the renovation of that splendid peal of bells which has swung for so long a period in the belfry 'neath the loftiest tower in Somersetshire. The circumstances under which the restoration was brought about are still so fresh in mind that it need only be briefly repeated that it was due to the persistent energy of Mr. Geoffrey Leigh—whose efforts were worthily accorded public appreciation a short time since—that the condition of the bells and the dangerous state of their supports were brought to the notice of the townspeople, and a fund opened for bringing about the renovation of the peal and the replacing with steel girders of the decaying wooden beams, upon which the bells formerly hung. Two of the bells—the treble and the 5th—have been re-cast, and the remaining ones cleaned and fitted with new clappers, and judging from the sweetness with which the bells resounded on Sunday, it may well be claimed that Bridgwater now possesses a peal second to none in the county. A sum of about £500 was required to carry out the desired improvement in a satisfactory manner, and by means of subscriptions and a bazaar this amount was reached within a matter of £40, but as on Sunday the offertory was in aid of the fund this deficit was reduced to the extent of £18. The work just accomplished may be said to have put the finishing touch, as it were, to the beautiful and ancient mother church of Bridgwater, and after the lengthened period over which the bells have been silent, it was only fitting that importance should enter into the event associated with the completion of such an undertaking. This was the case, the ceremony of re-dedication of the bells by the Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells, the attendance of his Worship the Mayor and Corporation, with every degree of civic pomp and splendour, and the presence of a large gathering of townsmen and the local corps of Volunteers investing the occasion with great interest, and it was one that should long remain memorable in the borough.

The service of re-dedication was fixed for eleven o'clock, and a quarter of an hour previously the Mayor (Mr. Councillor Thos. Good), the members and officials of the Corporation, and an unusually large gathering of townsmen, who had been invited to accompany his Worship, assembled at the town-hall, and in procession—in every way one of "State"—proceeded to the church. The Mayor and five ex-Mayors—Aldermen F. C. Foster, H. W. Pollard, and T. Manchip, Councillor J. H. Waddon, and Mr. A. G. Barham—were resplendent in their ermine robes of office, and amongst others who were in the forefront of the procession were the Lord Bishop, the officiating clergymen, and Mr. E. J. Stanley, M.P. The two companies of Volunteers, under the command of Major

Edward Trevor, and headed by their band, had, ere this, paraded and marched to the church, and after the entry of the Mayoral procession the sacred edifice was crowded with a large congregation.

The first part of the service was the usual form of morning prayer. The Vicar (the Rev. H. W. H. Bircham) intoned the prayers, and the lessons were read by the Rev. T. B. Waddell.

The re-dedication portion of the service followed.

The Bishop then preached a sermon from the words: "Whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God."

After the sermon, the hymn, "Hark, on high the joyful music" having been rendered, and the Benediction pronounced, the service was concluded, the Mayoral procession and the Volunteers first leaving, during which the organ, at which Mr. J. Burch presided, pealed forth the National Anthem.

At the Town Hall the Lord Bishop replying to a vote of thanks, said he was much obliged to them for passing it, but after all he had only tried to do his duty, and he did not know that any Englishman meant to be thanked for that. It had, however, been a very great pleasure to him to come amongst them, and to see that the energy of his friend, Mr. Bircham, had been crowned with the success that that day must reward him when he heard those bells rung, about which he had taken so very much interest. The Mayor had alluded to very many happy interesting topics, and if it were not Sunday he (the Bishop) should feel very much inclined to try and follow him in some of the happy and interesting allusions he had made. He had been interested in the Mayor's reminiscences. As they came along the Mayor told him of the times when he had heard those bells ringing, of their being rung after the victory of the Alma, but he (the Bishop) hoped that if ever those bells had in any way to commemorate anything that had happened to English arms, it would be to record a victorious achievement, though they might well rather wish that those bells might summon people to pray that peace might be preserved, and that awful scourge of war might yet be averted. He congratulated them on having the bells. He thought they were well hung; as far as he could tell they were being well rung, and he hoped they would always be well rung. Whether those who lived in the immediate vicinity might have too much of them was a matter upon which he could not speak, but it was always a pleasure to him to come and hear the bells of St. Mary's, Bridgwater, and he was very much honoured by having been asked to come on those occasions. He thanked them for the vote which they had passed to him for simply doing his duty in coming down when he was asked.

The company then separated.

When the bells were taken down they were all sent to the foundry of Messrs. John Taylor and Co., Loughborough, the same firm of bell-founders to whom the re-casting of the tenor bell was entrusted thirty years ago. Here they were carefully examined, and as the treble bell was found to be a bad one, and the 5th was cracked, these two were re-cast. All the bells were

cleaned with sand-blast, and fitted with new clappers and new hollow cast headstocks of a special pattern peculiar to the firm, pivoted on mild steel gudgeons. The stays are of an improved pattern, in which what is known as the "Hastings tongue," replaces the old-fashioned wooden slider. A chiming apparatus is to be added.

RE-OPENING OF THE PARISH CHURCH OF WOODDITTON, CAMBS.

It is doubtful whether there was a parish church in the diocese of Ely which was in a worse condition than that of Woodditton, near Newmarket. For many years the fabric was most dilapidated, and in a really dangerous state. Recently through the munificence of the patron, Mr. Harry McCalmont, M.P., the church has been entirely renovated, and on September 30th last was re-opened by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese. It is now a very pretty church, and is carefully and tastefully furnished throughout. A new organ has been built, also a new vestry. At the west end of the church a pair of very handsome antique gates, ornamented with beautiful brass medallions of saints, have been erected. These gates were purchased by Mr. McCalmont in Italy, and bear the date 1805. The cost of restoration will be about £5000. As has already been stated, Mr. McCalmont is bearing the whole of the expense. The tower, which was also in a very unsafe condition, contained a peal of five bells (two were cast in 1588), which have not been rung for several years. These were taken down and sent to the Loughborough Foundry, where they have been tuned, the treble recast, and the whole peal fitted with cast-iron headstocks, new clappers and wheels, etc. It is almost needless to add that a vast improvement has been effected. The bells were re-opened by the Newmarket All Saints Society, who rang altogether nine 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles before and after the service. The ringers were unanimous in praising the splendid "go" of the bells and the way in which Messrs. Taylor had done their work. The tenor weighs about 12½ cwt., and is considered a very fine-toned bell for its weight. It was strongly suggested that another bell be added, and we trust it may soon be obtained, as nearly all the churches in this district possess only five bells. This of course is much against young ringers who wish to follow up the Art, and it is hoped that the article which appeared in *The Times* recently, may be the means of setting the machinery in motion that will eventually fill up the spaces in our towers, and though we may not be fortunate enough to get peals of eight, we trust the number will not drop below six.

F. C. T.

THE NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

The Autumnal Quarterly Meeting of this society was held at East Markham, on Saturday, October 14th. East Markham possesses a fine old church and tower, with a commodious ringing-chamber and a sweet-toned, well-hung ring of six bells; it is easy of access both by road and rail, and in addition to these attractions, the members had an invitation to tea, free of charge, so that it was no wonder that they turned up in force to the number of forty. The following towers sent representatives:—Anston, Everton, Harthill, Ordsall, East and West Retford and Shireoaks, besides the local men and some unattached brethren. Ringing commenced at 2.30 p.m., but up to tea-time the performances were singularly

unsuccessful, especially considering the favourable circumstances, and no completed touch had been recorded in the Secretary's book at 5 o'clock. At that hour an adjournment was made to The Old England inn, where a good old English tea was provided by the genial hospitality of Mr. Cowlshaw, who, although he does not ring himself, takes a deep interest in the bells of his parish and all that pertains to them. Whatever failure there had been in the ringing there was nothing to find fault with in the service and consumption of the good things provided, the frequent "calls" of "a little more ham, please," and "just another cup of tea," were responded to without the least hitch or "clashing," and both host and guests were well satisfied with the way in which the meal was brought round. After grace had been said, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Cowlshaw for his kindness, to which he made a brief but cordial reply. The quarterly business meeting was then proceeded with, the Rev. A. E. Briggs, Vicar of the parish, in the chair. It was decided to hold the winter meeting at Worksop, on January 13th, 1900. Mr. Cowlshaw was elected an honorary member with acclamation; Messrs. D. Taylor and H. H. Hall, both of Shireoaks, were elected performing members, and a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and for attending the meeting, concluded this part of the day's programme. A 720 of Violet was then rung for Evensong which was attended by a good number of ringers, and this being ended, ringing was resumed and carried on to the late close of a very pleasant day.

THE CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The October Meeting of this Association was held at Guisbrough and Skelton on Saturday, 7th inst., when upwards of forty members were in attendance, the following places being represented: Darlington, Middlesbrough, Guisbro', Stokesley, Stockton-on-Tees, Thirsk, Thornaby and Whitby. Some good ringing was accomplished during the afternoon, and a marked improvement was shown by several members who hitherto have had but a limited opportunity of making progress in the art. The following peals and touches were rung on the Guisbrough bells, tenor 9 cwt. 720 Bob Minor; two 720's Kent Treble Bob; 360 Grandsire Minor; 120 each of Stedman, Grandsire and Bob Doubles and 720 Oxford Treble Bob, whilst at Skelton-in-Cleveland, tenor 23 cwt., the ringing comprised two 360s of Plain Bob, and 720 each of Kent Treble Bob and York Surprise Minor.

At 5.15 p.m. an adjournment was made for tea, and a substantial spread was disposed of, followed by a short business meeting, at which eighteen new members were elected, including the Skelton ringers, the Rector of Skelton and A. J. Walker, Esq., donor of the Felixkirk bells. After which a cordial vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. F. H. Morgan (Guisbrough), and the Rev. R. J. Ellis (Skelton), for the use of the bells. Thos. Wrightson, Esq., M.P., donor of the Thornaby bells, has expressed his intention to join the Association. The February meeting will be held at Whitby, and the Annual Meeting on Whit Monday of next year at Middlesbrough, Thornaby and Stockton.

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CARMAN Wanted. Change-ringer. Wages £1 to commence. Apply—J. J. PRATT, Contractor, Hillingdon, near Uxbridge, Middlesex.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(EASTERN DIVISION.)

A most successful meeting of the above Association was held at Mayfield on Saturday, September 30th, and in spite of the distance of this village (said to be one of the prettiest in Sussex) from most of the change-ringing centres, the stormy weather, and poor train service, a goodly member attended from Brighton, Eastbourne, Hastings, Lewes, and Hailsham.

The majority of the members arrived by the train due about 4.30 p.m., and within a quarter-of-an-hour later started to raise the bells with great eagerness, as the notice in "BELL NEWS" stated, "bells just re-hung," and enjoyable 720s in various methods were anticipated. Disappointment was however in store for us; 1, 2, 3, and 5 went up quite readily, but 4 and 6 were very obstinate and remained so all the evening in spite of a liberal supply of oil, the result being that no longer touches than 224s of Minor were brought round, and Stedman and Grandsire Doubles predominated. Tea was provided at the village hostelry by Host Foord, the Rev. J. H. R. Kirby presiding, and the members of the local company joining the party. The usual business meeting followed at the instigation of the Vicar, the whole of the members of the Mayfield Society were made members of the Association. John Easton of Christ Church, Eastbourne, was also elected.

The formal business being ended the Secretary proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the hearty welcome he had accorded the Association upon their first visit to Mayfield, and during the course of his remarks stated that he was very pleased to find the local band had made such a good start in change-ringing. He had no idea that change-ringing had been attempted by them, and was surprised when inviting a member of the Battle Society to attend, about a week before the date fixed for the meeting, to hear him remark, "Oh, that's where Jack Curtis gave them their first lesson in Grandsire Doubles sometime ago." He was very glad to find that they had not forgotten that first lesson, and now that the bells were re-hung would persevere until they mastered something beyond Grandsire Doubles, and he was sure that if they did so they would never be satisfied with ringing call-changes. He was sorry to find that the "go" of the 4th and tenor was not quite what it should be, and he hoped they would induce the bellhangers to improve this.

The Vicar in responding said it gave him very great pleasure to welcome the Association to his church, and he hoped they would come again at some future time. With reference to the bells, he was sorry they were not quite satisfactory, as he had taken a great deal of trouble to have them so. They were in a very bad state when he first came to the parish, two of them being quite unringable, and on the occasion of a recent wedding four bells were rung and the other two "clocked." They had spent about £220 in restoring the bells, and he hoped in course of time, to be able to add two more.

The bells are a heavy ring of six, the weight of the tenor being given as approximately 20 cwt. They have just been rehung in a new iron frame with new wheels and fittings, and space has been left for the addition of two trebles when funds are forthcoming.

Ringling was indulged in until 9 p.m. and included several 6-scores of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles and touches of Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob Minor, and everyone appeared to have enjoyed the outing.

BELL RESTORATION IN SUFFOLK.

The scheme for the restoration of the five bells in Badwell Ash having been announced in *The Bury and Norwich Post*, the following letter appeared in the issue of that paper of the 29th August:—

"Sir,—A tradition exists in the parish of Wyverstone, that the tower there formerly contained a larger bell than any of the present three, which bell was sent to Badwell Ash, in exchange for stones to repair a road. It would be interesting to know if any records of this transaction exists in either parish. From Dr. Raven's *Bells of Suffolk*, we learn that in the return of 1553, Wyverstone tower contained three large bells and Badwell four. Of these Wyverstone bells, the third, dating back to the middle of the 15th century, would be one. The second, dated 1719, is probably a re-cast of another, and the tenor bell at Badwell the other. The probable story of the Wyverstone bells is that towards the end of the 17th century a fourth bell was added and a new frame erected partly out of the old one. This frame contains a pit once occupied by a larger bell than any of the present three, this larger bell being, according to tradition, the now cracked tenor at Badwell, which, like Wyverstone third, was cast at Norwich in the 15th century. Dr. Raven gives this bell as 41½ inches in diameter, and its note F sharp. This would make it about 13 cwt. When Martin made his tour of inspection sometime last century, he found only three bells at Wyverstone, and five at Badwell, so that the removal of the larger bell must have taken place in the early years of last century, and not long after the re-casting of the Wyverstone second, probably during the rectorship of the Rev. Benjamin Brundish, 1717—43, who has left evidence of his sense of the duties of his office by wholesale omissions from the Wyverstone Register.

"As an ardent campanologist, I am always pleased to hear of any improvement in the numerous peals in which my old county of Suffolk is so rich, and would suggest that the example of Badwell Ash might well be followed at Walsham-le-Willows, where the fifth and tenor have been allowed to remain cracked for so many years.

Yours truly,

"Stockton-on-Tees."

[G. J. CLARKSON.]

It is gratifying to observe in the same paper of September 26th, the following notice:—

"Mr. John Martineau has added another to his many generous and thoughtful actions towards the parish of Walsham-le-Willows, a parish which he has clearly shown is enshrined in his affections, apart from the fact of his residing there. The condition of the church bells has for some time past been a source of anxiety, several of the bells being damaged, whilst the beams supporting them exhibit marked signs of decay, and a parish meeting was accordingly held last week to consider the matter, when it was made known that Mr. Martineau had very kindly offered to bear the cost of restoration—which will doubtless be considerable—himself. Needless to say the offer was gratefully accepted, and as church bells in villages are proudly regarded as a common heritage, the thanks of the whole parish will once again go out to its generous resident landowner."

Badwell Ash and Walsham-le-Willows are adjoining parishes in the diocese of Ely.

WITNEY (Oxon).—Recently, at the residence of the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, on handbells, 336 Grandsire Triples. J. Brooks, 1; G. Bull, 2; H. Brooks, 3; M. Woodcock, 4; J. Monk, 5-6; Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, 7-8.

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."

PRINCIPLE OR METHOD.

SIR,—During the past few weeks several very interesting letters have appeared in this paper from various talented gentlemen, touching more or less upon the subjects under the above heading. I was at the Norwich Council Meeting, and heard the Rev. H. L. James comment upon the regulations introduced by the rev. hon. secretary upon method building, and I thought the former in his remarks left out the word "principle," but I see Mr. Trollope thinks differently. Be that as it may, it makes but little difference to the line of argument I am taking up.

I consider "principle" to be one thing and "method" another. Quite distinct are they from each other, as in my point of view there are several different principles, upon each of which there are built several various methods of good, bad, and indifferent qualities. The dominating factor which determines a principle I consider is the path of the treble, and I will endeavour to describe and explain these by the following illustrations:—

Principle 1 is that wherein the treble has a straight path from lead to behind and back again to lead, with an attendant bell, viz.: in the hunt. This is a plain hunt principle, and upon which we have built the Grandsire method and several others.

Principle 2 also has a straight path both up and down, but without a bell in the hunt, and is known as the plain hunt principle, upon which we have such methods as Plain Bob, Court Bob, Double Norwich Court Bob, and others.

Principle 3 has a zig-zag path for the treble. It is known by the term dodging hunt, in contrast from the plain, and also as Treble Bob hunt. Upon this principle we have several and various methods constructed, such as Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Superlative, New Cumberland, Cambridge, Norfolk, and London Surprise, with many others.

Principle 4 is one wherein the path of the treble is the same as the other bells, without any distinction, in fact. Upon this principle we have such methods as Stedman, Duffield, Shipway's, Forward, etc.

Principle 5 is a combination of the plain and dodging hunts, the dodging of the treble being in front—1-2, and behind in 7-8, with a straight path between these positions. Upon this principle methods have been published; and I expect a friend will soon publish several other new and interesting methods, both upon the lengthening lead and others.

I think if we can only look at this question in this light we shall see Stedman as a method as well as a principle, and also see when speaking of a method what principle it belongs to.

In a very excellent letter the Rev. E. B. James correctly, I thought, said that adjoining places should not occur in a Court method. Certainly not; as Court Bob is the superb method of the plain hunt principle. I think and hope he will agree with me in saying that Surprise Court will have a tendency to confuse matters. Drews Court Surprise one would say is all right, but how will Superlative Court Surprise sound, and how are we to distinguish this from Superlative Surprise? let me suggest Drews Surprise for that method published in your issue of the 9th ult. My allusion is, I confess, rather brief, but I think it will be understood that if we allow Drews Court Surprise to stand anyone has a right to claim the title Superlative Court Surprise, then who can distinguish the one from the other? I consider the term and title of Court to belong to the Plain Bob principle as previously stated.

Concerning the Plain Bob lead-ends several letters have passed between my friend G. Baker and myself upon this question. I am inclined to those above-mentioned until some one invents a new method with equal music to what has already obtained, with a new set of lead-ends, then I give way, but not until then.

HENRY DAINS.

"BOB MAJOR LEAD-ENDS."

SIR,—I must take exception to the second paragraph of Mr. Baker's letter wherein he hints that I, by my argument, have placed London Surprise above Superlative from a musical point of view. To condemn a method for one great fault is one thing;

to place it above another on account of a slight superiority in one particular, while ignoring the beauties of the Superlative double dodging is another; and he, not I, has drawn an erroneous conclusion. As to the rest, I have said my say, and must leave the Exercise to decide whether they will be guided by Mr. Baker's contention, or the old established rules for musical effect.

But I now have another mongrel method to contend with. Canterbury Pleasure has been put forward by Mr. Trollope. While granting all that he says in favour of the method I shall endeavour to show that it is all in favour of my side of the argument. Canterbury Pleasure does keep the tenors well together, but I will ask the Exercise to consider how it does it.

For this purpose let us compare the plain course of Canterbury with the course of Bob Major that comes from the course-end 24356. I give the first lead of each, which will be sufficient for my purpose.

CANTERBURY.	BOB MAJOR.
12345678	12435678
21346587	21346587
23164857	23164857
32618475	32618475
36281745	36281745
63827154	63827154
68372514	68372514
86735241	86735241
87653421	87653421
78564312	78564312
75846132	75846132
57481623	57481623
54718263	54718263
45172836	45172836
41527386	41527386
14523768	14253768
14257386	14527386
41253768	41253768
etc.	etc.

Now a glance will show that the plain course of Canterbury is got from Bob Major, by the ingenious process of tacking in-course lead-ends, which are mongrels, on to an out-of-course course of Bob Major.

This process might be carried out in any good method, in which 2nds place is made at the treble's lead; for instance, make 5ths and 6ths in Double Oxford, and we have another method with mongrel leads and the tenors well together. I hardly think that Mr. Trollope will advocate the retention of mongrel leads that they may be spliced into good methods already existing, and which work far better from their own Bob Major lead-ends.

There is one other point in Mr. Trollope's article that I must touch on, his note on symmetry. He says: "The first essential is that each row shall be produced from that preceding it by the maximum number of changes." If this be meant as a counsel of perfection for those who are striving after very high-class music, I agree with him; but if as an arbitrary rule, I do not. For it is not necessary for scientific accuracy, and it cuts away many methods that are valuable (Cambridge Surprise for instance), and prevents us from getting many more points that would be most useful. Take for instance a place made the wrong way: as in the start for London:—

12345678

21354768

12537486

We have here the quadruple change made between the hand and the backstroke, and the lead comes to take off the effect of the place-making. Or again take the question of double methods. We have put few Double methods on eight bells, and of these Double Norwich is the only one that receives any attention, it would be difficult to obtain another good one if we kept to Mr. Trollope's rule, yet the two that I give below are interesting, musical, and amusing, besides being scientifically accurate; and there are many more to be had well worthy of

attention. But what when we come to Royal? If this rule is carried out it is impossible to get a double method on the Treble Bob principle. I give four changes with the treble dodging in 5-6, and it is obviously impossible to let her dodge there in a double method, unless four places are made. Let us keep to what is scientifically accurate. If we fall short of it we get rubbish. If we go beyond it to lay down arbitrary rules, we land ourselves in hopeless restrictions grievous to be borne. I was very pleased to see Mr. Bulwer's letter last week, and to find that he supports my view. I only omitted New Cumberland from my table of methods because I have not got, and have never seen a copy of it. I should be much obliged to any one who would forward me one. My apologies to you, Sir, for the amount of your valuable space I am monopolising.

Churchdown, Gloucestershire.

E. BANKES JAMES.

1.	2.
12345678	12345678
21435768	21436587
24137586	24135678
42315768	42315768
24351786	24351786
42537168	23457168
24357618	32547618
23456781	23456781
32547681	24365871
35246718	42638517
53426178	24368157
35241687	23461875
53214678	32416857
35126487	23146587
31524678	21345678
13254768	12436587
13527486	14263857

Fourth's place bobs for each.

A DOUBLE ROYAL METHOD,

With treble in 5-6.

4263158709
2436517890
2346157980
3264519708

[We have received from the Rev. H. Law James part of a letter on this subject, the first page missing.—ED.]

SIR,—I do not know Mr. Trollope personally, neither have I ever corresponded with him, but I tender him my hearty thanks for his most excellent exposition on Methods contained in your last issue, his arguments cannot *with truth* be refuted.

GEORGE BAKER.

THE LATE JAMES HEWETT.

SIR,—By the request of Mrs. Hewett I beg to thank the many correspondents to her and myself for their kind sympathies in her recent bereavement. Little was it thought, that within six months of Mr. Hewett's extent of Grandsire Caters being written in full, the extent of his life on earth would have arrived. May his endeavours in fostering change-ringing reap him a heavenly reward.

A. E. TOMLINS.

[We shall be glad to comply with Mr. Tomlins' request conveyed in another letter.—ED.]

RINGERS, YET NOT RINGERS.

SIR,—It would afford me great pleasure if you would allow me through your valuable paper, to express a few remarks in regard to the ringers of Speen tower, which is situated just outside Newbury. It has struck me for some considerable time why the ringers of this tower do not interest themselves in the grand Art of rope-sight or method ringing. If it was a tower where there was only a peal of five bells, there would then perhaps be some excuse, as it is a well-known fact that very little rope-sight ringing can be done on less than six bells. Seeing that Speen tower has a peal of six bells, all of which are in good going order, there can be no excuse on this point, and I can say

that the tower in every respect is suitable for change-ringing. As this is the case I must pronounce the ringers as an indolent lot of men, who take no interest in ringing, and are content with going on in the same old jig-jog trot. They have a system—quite one of their own—of ringing changes at full pull from a card which is placed on the floor. I have heard them ring Stedman Doubles, Bob Doubles, and Grandsire Doubles on this system, and I must say they rung these changes well, good striking being a conspicuous feature. But, Sir, I contend that this is not the thing. Now it is true that ringing changes from a card like this is easy to learn, and a system which can be easily taught to a new hand, but when this has been achieved they can get no further. If the Speen ringers would only dispense with these cards and take up rope-sight ringing, they could always be learning. After they had learnt the various methods of Doubles, they could then turn their attention to Minor ringing, in which there are a good number of methods sufficient to make up a peal of 5040 changes. Then they could term themselves ringers, but at the present standard they can do nothing, and they surely must feel very small when they go into another tower and cannot take part in the ringing because they cannot ring any method. I must say that it would take them some time to pick it up at first, but once they got into the way in which the bells worked and the quickness in sighting the ropes, they could soon make rapid strides. As they are at the present time they do neither one thing or another, but keep on in the same old ding-dong style. I suggest to them that they should join the Oxford Guild and have a qualified instructor, showing that they take an interest in ringing. If any of your readers, Sir, can give me a reason or suggest a reason to this subject, which remains a riddle to me, I shall feel greatly obliged.

A MEMBER OF THE OXFORD GUILD.

CANTERBURY, KENT.

SIR,—Ashford is not the only district of the Kent County Association where stoney ringing takes place, as the following will show: Having detached themselves from the Canterbury Cathedral company and their President, the two worthy brother conductors of a well-known Canterbury six-bell tower, have with the valuable assistance of an old call-change ringer, formed a band of about twenty to practise the most pleasing Art (?) of stoney ringing, with the first two changes of a popular change-ringing method thrown in by way of variety. Their practices take place weekly (there is no need to give the day, you are sure to know when they are at it), at an eight-bell tower a short distance from the city, and no Cathedral or other change-ringers are allowed to take part, unless, I suppose, they should fail to throw their bell over when "stand" is called. Change-Ringers! is this the spirit of Association?

ROBERT CALLER, SEN.

THE LATE JAMES HEWETT.

On Friday evening, the 29th ult., at the church of St Martin-in-the-Fields, London, some members of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths rang, with the bells half-muffled, the usual whole pull and stand, as a mark of respect to the memory of the above-named old member of this society. Mr. Hewett had not enjoyed robust health for several years, let alone the fact that he was eighty-one years of age. He suffered greatly for rather more than a week before he succumbed, which event happened peacefully on Wednesday, the 6th ult., particulars of which appeared in a previous number.

It may be said that the sad event has quite prostrated his companion in life, who survives him, at the advanced age of ninety-one. Mrs. Hewett is, we are sorry to hear, confined to her bed, and in an helpless condition. We hear that a movement is on foot for the benefit of the old lady, which it is hoped may be successful. We shall refer to the career of Mr. Hewett later.

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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, OCTOBER 21, 1899.

At the present time there appears to be a great upheaval in the bell world. The restorations and so forth are certainly now in full swing, the bell founders seeming to be very well occupied. The sister country, as it is called, by which of course is meant "Ireland," is doing well indeed, and if all we hear be true, the tide there is still flowing. Those directly concerned look forward to the erection of a ring of twelve in the proposed Belfast Cathedral as a certainty. We hope so; and not only this, but that other churches in the island may be furnished with bells.

The late REV. H. T. ELLACOMBE used to assert, and in his day the assertion was true, that change-ringing was unknown West of Bristol. Of course he would see the difference now. Belfry reform in its truest sense has progressed in the West; and we congratulate the inhabitants

of the historic town of Bridgwater on the grand restoration they have just carried out upon their bells.

There has been, in a small place in Cambridgeshire named "Woodditton," a splendid and liberal restoration of the parish church. The edifice has only five bells, and these have been restored also. But what a pity it is that those principally concerned in this noble work did not see their way clear to augment the number of these bells. We hope it is not too late for such a desirable increase to be effected.

NOTICE OF PEAL.

On Saturday, October 28th, eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Association will attempt a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major at Hereford Cathedral, starting at 5.15 p.m.

The Metropolis.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 14, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHGATE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

ALFRED R. GLASSCOCK .. Treble.	†GEORGE H. BARKER .. 5.
WILLIAM J. DELL† .. 2.	JOHN E. MILLER .. 6.
JOHN ARMSTRONG* .. 3.	ARTHUR MILLER .. 7.
FREDERICK C. FORDHAM* .. 4.	SIDNEY WADE .. Tenor.

Composed by CHARLES H. MARTIN, and Conducted by SIDNEY WADE

*First peal. †First peal of Major.

The Provinces.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Thursday, October 5, 1899, in Three Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 26 cwt.

WILLIAM C. WAKLEY .. Treble.	EDWARD I. STONE .. 5.
WILLIAM J. SMITH .. 2.	GEORGE ROBINSON .. 6.
JOHN BENSTEAD .. 3.	LEONARD BULLOCK .. 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN .. 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY .. Tenor.

Arranged by SIR ARTHUR HEYWOOD, Bart., and Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

EMBERTON, BUCKS.—THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 7, 1899, in Two Hours and Thirty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Tenor about 9 cwt.

JOSEPH CHURCH .. Treble.	JAMES A. SMITH .. 4.
CHARLES D. SMITH .. 2.	CHARLES CHASTY .. 5.
CHARLES WM. CLARKE .. 3.	WILLIAM J. BARKER .. Tenor

Conducted by C. W. CLARKE.

This is the first 5040 on the bells, which have lately been overhauled and a new treble added. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Rector for the use of the bells, and for entertaining them to tea after the peal.

PENDLETON.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. (MANCHESTER BRANCH.)

On Monday, October 9, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 14 cwt.

FRANCIS SMITH .. Treble.	SAMUEL GREENHALGH .. 5.
GEORGE E. TURNER .. 2.	W. HENRY SHUKER .. 6.
JOHN SMITH .. 3.	ALFRED CROSS .. 7.
JOSEPH WINTERBOTTOM .. 4.	HENRY CHAPMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by C. MIDDLETON, and Conducted by HARRY CHAPMAN.

First peal in the method by all, first by the above Association, and the first in the county.

QUORNDON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, October 11, 1899, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES.

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qrs. in F sharp.

JOHN C. HILL .. Treble.	ALFRED MILLIS .. 5.
WILLIAM H. INGLESANT .. 2.	JOHN H. GRUNDY .. 6.
ROBERT H. COBBIN* .. 3.	SAMUEL WESLEY .. 7.
ROBERT CHRISTIAN .. 4.	CHARLES R. LILLEY .. Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK, and

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

*First peal in the method.

QUEDGLEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

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

On Thursday, October 12, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

GEORGE CONDISCK, JUN. .. Treble.	JESSE GILLET .. 5.
WILLIAM T. PEGLER .. 2.	THOMAS NEWMAN .. 6.
RICHARD A. JUDD .. 3.	HARRY FORD .. 7.
CHARLES COX .. 4.	ARTHUR DADGE .. Tenor.

Composed by the Rev. E. BANKES JAMES, and

Conducted by WILLIAM T. PEGLER.

The above is the first bachelors peal by the St. Michael's Juniors, and is believed to be the first by the Association.

CHELTENHAM, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE CHELTENHAM AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Thursday, October 12, 1899, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5129 CHANGES.

Tenor 22 cwt. 2 qrs. 16 lbs.

F. WADE .. Treble.	F. WARD .. 6.
G. PHILLOTT .. 2.	F. MUSTY .. 7.
E. MENDAY† .. 3.	W. DYER .. 8.
W. T. PATES .. 4.	T. PENDRY .. 9.
W. BRINKWORTH .. 5.	*J. BALLINGER .. Tenor

Conducted by W. DYER.

This peal was rung to oblige Mr. Menday, of Caversham, who has been at work in the neighbourhood of Cheltenham. The composition will be found in Hubbard's change-ringing.

WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 14, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, — CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

WILLIAM DENNER .. Treble.	SAMUEL OAKES .. 5.
ALFRED POTTER .. 2.	RICHARD RIDYARD .. 6.
JOSEPH POTTER .. 3.	JOHN POTTER .. 7.
JOSEPH BROOKES .. 4.	TITUS BARLOW .. Tenor.

Composed by W. ROYLE and Conducted by JOHN POTTER.

First peal in the method by Messrs. Denner, Brookes, and Oakes.

COLWALL, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 14, 1899, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES THE GREAT,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
HUBBARD'S FIVE-PART.

JAMES THOMAS Treble.	FREDERICK SMITH 5.
CHARLES THOMAS 2.	THOMAS WILLIAMS 6.
HARRY W. ALLEN 3.	JAMES FEILD 7.
WALTER S. EVANS 4.	CHARLES LAYTON Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES LAYTON.

First peal in the method by all the band, and is supposed to be the first peal of Bob Major rung in the county of Hereford.

HAWLEY, HANTS.
THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 14, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 16½ cwt.

FREDERICK MUSTOW* .. Treble.	MAURICE STEER 5.
GEORGE HAWKINS 2.	BARZILLAI HAWKINS 6.
CHARLES SMART† 3.	SYDNEY RIDDLE 7.
ALFRED PULLING* 4.	WILLIAM BOYLES Tenor.

Conducted by B. HAWKINS.

*First peal. †First peal of Grandsire. C. Smart was elected a member of the Guild previous to starting.

BURNHAM, BUCKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 14, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 16 cwt.

ALFRED DAY Treble.	*GEORGE BASDEN 5.
GEORGE GUTTRIDGE 2.	REUBEN FLAXMAN 6.
JOSEPH J. PARKER 3.	GEORGE ALLDER 7.
JOHN BASDEN 4.	†RICHARD LANE Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN BASDEN.

*First peal in the method. †First peal.

ECKINGTON, DERBYSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 14, 1899, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;
IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 16½ cwt.

ARTHUR CRAVEN Treble.	CHARLES SEVERN 5.
ARTHUR KNIGHTS 2.	SOLOMON ROBINSON, JUN. .. 6.
WILLIAM LAMBERT 3.	WILLIAM H. TURTON 7.
THOMAS BETTISON 4.	HERBERT P. HARMAN Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by ARTHUR CRAVEN.

This peal which was rung as a birthday compliment to W. Lambert, has the 6th her extent wrong, and the 4th, 5th, and 6th their extent in 6th place, the 6th at six course-ends in the minimum number of courses, and is the first peal rung containing these properties.

HARROW-ON-THE-HILL, MIDDLESEX.
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, October 14, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs.

FRANCIS HEDGES* Treble.	GEORGE R. FARDON 5.
WILLIAM E. MOSS 2.	WILLIAM FOX 6.
ALBERT V. SELBY 3.	WILLIAM E. GARRARD 7.
SIDNEY H. GODFREY 4.	*VALENTINE SEAR Tenor.

Conducted by W. E. GARRARD.

*First peal, and hail from Bletchley, Bucks, for whom this peal was arranged. The ringers wish to thank the Rev. F. W. Joyce for having given permission to ring, also for the interest he took in the ringing, and his kind words at the conclusion of the peal.

LLANDAFF, SOUTH WALES.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 14, 1899, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.
Tenor 23 cwt. in E flat.

GEORGE WATKINS Treble.	ALLEN ROWLEY 5.
RICHARD C. BALCOMBE 2.	JOHN CLUTTERBUCK 6.
WILLIAM B. BISS 3.	WILLIAM COOMBS 7.
JOHN HARRIS 4.	JOHN H. ALDRIDGE Tenor.

Composed by HENRY HUBBARD, and Conducted by WM. COOMBS.

First peal of Major on the bells. First by all the band, and the first by the Association. Rung as a birthday compliment to J. H. Aldridge, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns. The band wish to thank the Very Rev. the Dean for granting them the use of the bells.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 14, 1899, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5184 CHANGES. Tenor 12½ cwt.

WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. Treble.	JOHN C. TRUSS 5.
GEORGE MARTIN 2.	THOMAS TAFENDER 6.
HARRY BARTON* 3.	*GEORGE E. SYMONDS* .. 7.
FREDERICK RICHARDSON* .. 4.	JOHN EVANS Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN, and Conducted by G. E. SYMONDS.

*First peal in the method.

NEWBURY, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 14, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR PART. Tenor 22 cwt.

ALFRED E. REEVES Treble.	WILLIAM NEWELL 5.
ALFRED LAWRENCE 2.	WALTER E. YATES 6.
FREDERICK WHITE 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
RICHARD WHITE 4.	REUBEN SAWYER Tenor.

Conducted by the Rev. F. E. ROBINSON.

Rung on the occasion of the quarterly meeting of the Guild.

PRESTBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE CHELTENHAM AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, October 14, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 15 cwt.

A. W. HUMPHRIS Treble.	W. T. PATES 5.
G. H. PHILLOTT 2.	W. DYER 6.
F. E. WARD 3.	*T. PENDRY 7.
W. BRINKWORTH 4.	†J. BALLINGER Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM DYER.

*First peal of Stedman Triples. †First peal of Triples.

BURNLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BLACKBURN BRANCH.)

On Sunday, October 15, 1899, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 11½ cwt.

WILLIAM WALTON* Treble.	NOAH TOWNEND 5.
DAVID CAMPBELL 2.	RICHARD ASHWORTH 6.
JOHN WILLIAM STIRK 3.	THOMAS MOUNCEY 7.
RENNIE HARTLEY 4.	TOM REDMAN Tenor.

Composed by JNO. R. WERRING, and Conducted by TOM REDMAN.

First peal in the method on the bells by the branch, and by all the band. *First peal. This composition has the 4th, 5th, and 6th exclusively in 6th place, and is new rung for the first time.

SHEFFIELD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, October 17, 1899, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 14 cwt.

JOHN MULLIGAN Treble.	HERBERT P. HARMAN .. 5.
HARRY BOWER 2.	THOMAS SILVESTER .. 6.
THOMAS HATTERSLEY .. 3.	WILLIAM BURGAR .. 7.
FRANK BURGAR 4.	WILLIAM MIDGLEY .. Tenor.

Conducted by HERBERT P. HARMAN.

HELMSHORE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(ROSSENDALE BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, October 17, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 10 cwt.

H. STEFF* Treble.	R. WALLWORK 5.
T. P. BRANDWOOD* .. 2.	T. WALLWORK 6.
J. H. ENTWISTLE* .. 3.	*W. HASLAM 7.
J. BANKS* 4.	J. H. BANKS Tenor.

Composed by J. PATRICK, and Conducted by J. H. BANKS.

*First peal in the method. First peal of Major on the bells.

Date Touch.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL (Yorks).—On Wednesday, October 4th, at the church of The Holy Trinity, a date touch of Grandsire Caters in 1 hr. 25 mins. W. Southwick, 1; T. Stockdale, 2; W. T. Verity, 3; J. Highfield, 4; G. T. Marshall, 5; D. W. Brown, 6; J. W. Stickney, 7; G. T. Miller, 8; C. Jackson (composer and conductor), 9; J. W. Dale, 10. Tenor 26 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHGATE (Middlesex).—On Thursday, September 14th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins. A. Glascock, 1; E. Marshall, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; A. Miller, 4; W. H. Lawrence, 5; J. Miller, 6; S. Wade (conductor), 7; J. Howard, 8. On Thursday, September 28th, 560 Double Norwich. P. J. Darlington, 1; J. Miller, 2; W. Ward, 3; A. W. Darlington, 4; A. Miller, 5; L. J. Darlington, 6; J. Parker (conductor), 7; S. Wade, 8.

WOOD GREEN (Middlesex).—On Sunday morning, October 8th, for Divine Service at St. Michael's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob. *A. Glascock, 1; *J. Armstrong, 2; *F. C. Fordham, 3; J. Miller, 4; A. Miller, 5; S. Wade (conductor), 6. *First 720 of Treble Bob. For evening service 720 Canterbury Pleasure. J. Armstrong, 1; F. W. Ford, 2; E. Marshall, 3; F. C. Fordham, 4; J. Miller, 5; S. Wade (conductor), 6. And 720 Plain Bob. A. Glascock, 1; J. Armstrong, 2; E. Marshall, 3; W. Pickworth, 4; J. Miller, 5; S. Wade (conductor), 6. After evening service 720 Canterbury Pleasure. E. Marshall, 1; J. Miller, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. C. Fordham, 4; W. Pickworth, 5; S. Wade (conductor), 6. And 720 Plain Bob with F. W. Ford, 2; the rest as before. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. A. Glascock, 1; J. Armstrong, 2; E. Marshall (first 720 of Treble Bob), 3; W. Pickworth, 4; J. Miller, 5; S. Wade (conductor), 6. First 720 of Canterbury Pleasure by Messrs. Marshall, Miller, Armstrong, Fordham, and Pickworth.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(SUDBURY BRANCH.)

FELSHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday, September 10th, 720 Violet Treble Bob. J. Horrex, 1; H. Gladwell, 2; T. Levitt, 3; A. Symonds, 4; A. Horrex, 5; W. Kinsey (conductor), 6. And 720 Kent Treble Bob (fifteen bobs). E. Kinsey, 1; H. Gladwell, 2; A. Horrex, 3; T. Levitt, 4; A. Symonds (conductor), 5; W. Kinsey, 6. Also 720 New London Pleasure. E. Kinsey, 1; T. Levitt, 2; H. Gladwell, 3; A. Symonds, 4; A. Horrex, 5; W. Kinsey (conductor), 6. And 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. E. Kinsey, 1; H. Gladwell, 2; T. Levitt, 3;

A. Symonds, 4; A. Horrex, 5; W. Kinsey (conductor), 6. These touches were rung during the day for the Harvest Thanksgiving Services.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Saturday, September 16th, 720 Violet Treble Bob. A. Symonds (conductor), 1; H. Gladwell, 2; T. Levitt, 3; J. Fayers, 4; W. Kinsey, 5; A. Horrex, 6. On Sunday, September 16th, 720 New London Pleasure. E. Newman, 1; C. Levitt, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; A. Symonds, 4; J. Fayers, 5; W. Hollocks (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, September 24th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. E. Newman, 1; C. Levitt, 2; A. Hollocks, 3; J. Fayers, 4; A. Symonds, 5; W. Hollocks (conductor), 6. On Saturday, September 30th, 720 Violet Treble Bob. E. Newman, 1; H. Gladwell, 2; A. Symonds, 3; J. Fayers, 4; W. Kinsey (conductor), 5; A. Horrex, 6.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TETTENHALL (Staffordshire).—On Sunday evening, October 1st, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 720 Bob Minor. I. Purser, 1; B. Dalton, 2; J. F. Simpson, 3; R. C. Burrow, 4; R. Pickering (conductor), 5; W. G. Hall, 6.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—On Monday, October 2nd, for practice at St. Peter's church, 482 Stedman Caters. R. Pickering, 1; J. Purser, 2; H. J. Balcombe, 3; B. Dalton, 4; R. C. Burrow, 5; W. G. Hall (conductor), 6; H. Knight, 7; E. S. Hodges, 8; R. Cartwright, 9; E. J. Graham, 10. Also three courses of Double Norwich Court Bob Major. F. Jones, 1; H. J. Balcombe, 2; R. C. Burrow, 3; W. G. Hall, 4; E. S. Hodges, 5; R. Pickering, 6; H. Knight, 7; R. Cartwright (conductor), 8.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—On Thursday, October 5th, at St. Hilda's church, for the Harvest Festival, 504 Grandsire Triples. R. Hopper, 1; F. Scafton, 2; R. Scafton, 3; R. Miller, 4; J. Hopper, 5; W. C. Hunt (conductor), 6; H. Peveral, 7; J. Crawford, 8. First 504 by F. Scafton. On Sunday, September 3rd, 360 College Single. R. Hepper, 1; F. Scafton, 2; R. Scafton, 3; J. Crawford, 4; J. Hopper, 5; W. C. Hunt (conductor), 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BARKING (Essex).—On Sunday morning, October 18th, for Divine Service, 1280 Kent Treble Bob Major in 49 mins. A. C. Hardy, 1; *E. G. Fenn, 2; G. W. Faulkner, 3; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 4; A. J. T. Carter, 5; E. Andrews, 6; R. Fenn, 7; C. Fenn, 8. *First quarter-peal in the method.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

SHERE (Surrey).—On Saturday, September 30th, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal of Stedman Triples, 504 Grandsire. C. Willshire (conductor), 1; J. J. Jones, 2; E. Allen, 3; G. Foster, 4; S. Radford, 5; J. Hunt, 6; H. Fellowes, 7; F. Blondell, 8.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—On Sunday October 1st, 518 Grandsire Triples. S. Radford (conductor), 1; E. Radden, 2; G. Gunner, 3; A. Pulling, 4; G. Foster, 5; E. Allen, 6; J. Hunt, 7; F. Blondell, 8. For evening service 504 Stedman Triples. S. Radford, 1; G. Foster, 2; J. J. Jones, 3; C. Willshire, 4; A. Pelling, 5; J. Hunt, 6; F. Blondell (conductor), 7; E. Heather, 8. On Sunday, October 8th, for Matins, 720 Treble Bob Minor, with tenor covering. C. Willshire, 1; G. Foster, 2; J. J. Jones, 3; S. Radford, 4; J. Hunt, 5; F. Blondell, 6; E. Heather, 7.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HECKINGTON.—Recently, at St. Andrew's church, 560 Bob Major. H. P. Nash, 1; J. Clark, 2; J. Hilton, 3; F. Hilton, 4; F. Warrington, 5; J. T. Holmes, 6; W. Dickinson (conductor), 7; W. Houlden, 8. On October 8th, 588 Bob Triples. T. Woods, 1; J. T. Holmes, 2; J. Hilton, 3; E. Houlden, 4; H. P. Nash, 5; J. Clark, 6; W. Dickinson (conductor), 7; W. Houlden, 8. Also 720 Bob Minor. H. P. Nash, 1; J. Hilton, 2; E. Houlden, 3; J. Clark, 4; J. T. Holmes, 6; W. Dickinson, 6; W. Houlden, 7. On October 9th, 630 Oxford Bob Triples. T. Woods, 1; J. Clark, 2; J. Hilton, 3; E. Houlden, 4; H. P. Nash, 5; J. T. Holmes, 6; W. Dickinson, 7; T. Taylor, 8. First touch on the bells and by the whole of the band.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

SELLY OAK.—On Sunday evening, September 24th, for Divine Service, 504 Stedman Triples. C. H. Watts, 1; H. Withers, 2; F. Clayton (conductor), 3; W. Ellis, 4; J. Porter, 5; A. Walker, 6; H. Middleton, 7; E. Bryant, 8. On Sunday, October 1st, five courses of Stedman Caters. J. Austin (conductor), 1; F. Flowers, 2; T.

Reynolds, 3; W. Pegler, 4; J. Barber, 5; A. Walker, 6; J. Porter, 7; H. Middleton, 8; A. E. Pegler, 9; H. Withers, 10. And three courses of Grandsire Caters. J. Austin, 1; F. Flowers, 2; T. Reynolds, 3; H. Withers, 4; H. Middleton, 5; F. Cooks, 6; W. Short, 7; W. Pegler, 8; A. E. Pegler, 9; J. Barber, 10. Also 880 Treble Bob Royal. T. Reynolds, 1; W. Short, 2; W. Pegler, 3; J. Austin, 4; J. Barber, 5; F. Flowers, 6; A. Walker, 7; H. Middleton, 8; F. Clayton, 9; A. E. Pegler, 10. And 395 Grandsire Caters. T. Reynolds, 1; W. Short, 2; F. Flowers, 3; H. Withers, 4; H. Middleton, 5; F. Cooks, 6; A. Walker, 7; J. Porter, 8; F. Clayton, 9; J. Barber, 10. The last three touches were conducted by W. Short.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

HALESWORTH (Suffolk).—On Sunday evening, September 10th, for Divine Service, three courses of Stedman Triples. T. L. Wilson, 1; W. Pierce, 2; F. Lambert, 3; R. Tracy, 4; A. Took, 5; A. Lee, 6; C. Kerrison, 7; W. Lee, 8. On Thursday, September 14th, three courses of Oxford Treble Bob Major. A. Fuller, 1; F. Cullum, 2; F. Lambert, 3; J. O'Neill, 4; A. Lee, 5; J. Howard, 6; C. Kerrison, 7; R. Tracy, 8. Also 672 Bob Major by the same company.

PEASENHALL (Suffolk).—On Sunday, October 8th, 720 Bob Minor in 25 mins. E. P. Foreman, 1; W. Bacon, 2; F. Lambert (conductor), 3; W. Nichols, 4; R. Tracy, 5; A. Lee, 6. Also 360 Oxford Treble Bob. W. Nichols (conductor), 1; W. Bacon, 2; F. Lambert, 3; A. Lee, 4; E. Rowe, 5; R. Tracy, 6. These bells were rehung last year, and a new tenor added, and now go well, making a very pretty peal of six.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

DUBLIN.—On Monday, October 9th, for practice at St. Patrick's Cathedral, 1260 Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. G. Salter, 1; G. Lindoff (conductor), 2; H. Greene, 3; R. Greene, 4; C. Murray, 5; R. T. Greene, 6; R. R. Cherry, 7; A. W. Coady, 8. On Saturday, October 14th, 1871 Grandsire Caters in 1 hr. 35 mins. G. Salter, 1; J. Lambert, 2; G. Lindoff (conductor), 3; G. Lambert, 4; H. Greene, 5; R. Greene, 6; C. Murray, 7; R. T. Greene, 8; R. R. Cherry, 9; A. W. Coady, 10. Tenor 45½ cwt.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—On Tuesday, October 10th, 504 Grandsire Triples. R. Alcock, 1; T. Burdon, 2; J. Clarkson, 3; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 4; J. Waller, 5; T. W. Waller, 6; T. Stephenson, 7; W. Newton, 8.

THORNABY-ON-TEES.—On Wednesday, October 11th, a course of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major. *T. Beckwith, 1; *W. C. Hardy, 2; G. J. Clarkson, 3; R. Alcock, 4; W. Newton, 5; T. Metcalf, 6; T. Stephenson, 7; *N. Kidd, 8. *Members of the Thornaby band, and first attempt beyond Minor. On Saturday, October 14th, 1088 Kent Treble Bob Major. R. Alcock, 1; W. Newton, 2; T. Metcalf, 3; T. Burdon, 4; F. P. Howcroft, 5; T. W. Waller, 6; J. H. Blakiston (conductor), 7; T. Stephenson, 8. Rung to afford the donors of the bells (Mr. and Mrs. Wrightson, of Neasham Hall), their first opportunity of hearing them. The ringers were afterwards entertained to light refreshments by the Vicar of Thornaby.

THE NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

EAST MARKHAM.—At the Quarterly Meeting on October 14th, 720 Violet. D. Taylor, 1; D. Russon (conductor), 2; J. Fitzjohn, 3; E. Russon, 4; B. Hall, 5; H. Stenton, 6. Also a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. Rev. H. F. deLisle, 1; J. B. Joyes, 2; H. Haigh, 3; G. Clarke, 4; G. R. Winter (conductor), 5; C. Crawford, 6. And 720 Oxford. A. B. Crawford, 1; H. Haigh, 2; G. F. Clark, 3; T. Smith (conductor), 4; G. R. Winter, 5; C. Crawford, 6.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHOVER.—On Thursday evening, October 5th, at Christ Church, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. E. Mallard, 1; G. H. Howse, 2; J. Eastman, 3; J. Hunnisett, 4; J. S. Goldsmith, 5; C. Harkey, 6; G. W. Head (conductor), 7; F. Elms, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BROMLEY.—On Sunday, October 8th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples. A. Humphrey, 1; F. Sanders, 2; E. Dunn, 3; J. Craft, 4; G. Durling, 5; G. Simpson, 6; W. J. Smith (first quarter-peal as conductor), 7; W. James, 8. On Tuesday, October 10th, for practice, 630 Oxford Bob Triples. G. J. Taylor, 1; E. Dunn, 2; G. Durling, 3; J. Town, 4; W. Smith, 5; F. Sanders, 6; W. J. Smith, 7; W. James, 8. Also 640 Kent Treble Bob Major. E. Dunn, 1; G. J. Taylor, 2; J. Harford, 3; J. Craft, 4; J. Town, 5; W. Smith, 6; G. Durling (conductor), 7; W. J. Smith, 8.

ARELEY KINGS (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, May 28th, 720 College Single. W. Bowen, 1; T. Griffiths, 2; T. Elcox, 3; J. Reynolds, 4; C. Beaman, 5; W. Martin (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, July 5th, 720 Oxford Bob. D. Mapp, 1; T. Elcox, 2; T. Griffiths, 3; J. Reynolds, 4; C. Beaman, 5; W. Martin (conductor), 6. On Sunday, July 23rd, 720 Plain Bob. C. Beaman, 1; E. Mapp, 2; W. Martin, 3; W. Bowen, 4; J. Reynolds, 5; T. Griffiths (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, July 26th, 720 College Single. W. Bowen, 1; J. Reynolds, 2; J. Griffiths, 3; J. Earp, 4; C. Beaman, 5; W. Martin (conductor), 6. On Sunday, August 20th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. E. Mapp, 1; W. Martin, 2; T. Elcox, 3; J. Reynolds, 4; T. Griffiths, 5; C. Beaman, 6. On Wednesday, August 23rd, 720 Oxford Bob. W. Bowen, 1; E. Mapp, 2; J. Reynolds, 3; C. Beaman, 4; T. Griffiths, 5; W. Martin (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, September 6th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor. W. Martin, 1; E. Mapp, 2; T. Elcox (conductor), 3; J. Earp, 4; C. Beaman, 5; T. Griffiths, 6. On Wednesday, September 27th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. E. Mapp, 1; W. Martin, 2; T. Elcox, 3; J. Reynolds, 4; T. Griffiths, 5; C. Beaman (conductor), 6. And 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor. T. Griffiths, 1; E. Mapp, 2; J. Reynolds, 3; W. Martin, 4; J. Earp, 5; C. Beaman (conductor), 6.

BLETCHLEY (Bucks).—On Sunday, September 17th, Messrs. Bradley, Garrard, Judd, Richardson and H. Sear, of St. Mary Abbot's, Kensington, and H. Shepperd, of Hatfield, paid a visit to Bletchley, at the invitation of Mr. H. Sear, who is a native of this place, for the purpose of ringing a peal with two of the local band standing in. All having met at the church an inspection was made of the same, and afterwards an adjournment to the house of Mr. V. Sear, who very kindly entertained the visitors to dinner, at the conclusion of which another move was made to the church to attempt the peal. The Vicar, the Rev. W. Bennett, met them in the belfry, and after some very interesting conversation, a start was made for Holt's Original. F. Hedges, 1; W. E. Judd, 2; H. Sear, 3; H. Shepperd, 4; A. E. Bradley, 5; F. Richardson, 6; W. E. Garrard (conductor), 7; V. Sear, 8. After ringing an hour one of the band had the misfortune to miss the sallie. There being a long draught, this, though disappointing was somewhat excusable. Another visit to the house of host Sear, and a touch on the handbells brought on tea time. Then another move to the church, where a well-struck quarter-peal was rung for evening service, the ringers standing as in the attempt for the peal. This was the first quarter-peal by F. Hedges and V. Sear, who are to be congratulated on the manner in which they rang. After an enjoyable hour together, and supper with Mr. Hedges, the visitors returned to town. They wish to thank Mr. V. Sear for his kindness in providing for them, and for the great pains he took in having everything in readiness.

BURY (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, October 10th, for practice, the second half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples. F. Rothwell, 1; W. R. Duckworth, 2; H. Woodcock, 3; W. Mirkhell, 4; W. Cass, 5; S. Greenhalgh, 6; C. Bradbury, 7; J. Ramsbottom (conductor), 8. The above is the longest by all with the exception of J. Ramsbottom and H. Woodcock. It is also the longest length with a bob bell by H. Woodcock.

SHEPHERD (Leicestershire).—On Tuesday, October 10th, after meeting short for a peal of Triples, the last 742 of Holt's Original. W. Whitworth, 1; R. Christian, 2; W. Johnson, 3; T. Start, 4; H. Hoyes, 5; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 6; W. H. Inglesant, 7; S. Briers, 8. And 336 Bob Major. S. Briers, 1; W. Whitworth, 2; R. Christian, 3; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 4; H. Hoyes, 5; W. Johnson, 6; T. Start, 7; W. H. Inglesant, 8.

WYMSWOLD (Leicestershire).—On October 6th, 720 Bob Minor. J. Wilson, 1; W. H. Inglesant, 2; H. Whittle, 3; R. Baker, 4; G. Doughty, 5; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 6.

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.

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"BELLRINGERS AT PRESTON."

[From *The Preston Herald*.]

"That Canon Rawdon considered the occasion of the visit of the Lancashire Association of Change-Ringers worthy of the holding of a special service, and the delivery of a very interesting sermon, last Saturday, at the Prestor Parish Church, will come somewhat in the nature of a surprise to most people. Few persons have any idea of the remarkable change which has been effected in the status, within the past few years, of those who are the successors of the men entrusted with the tolling of the curfew bell 'over some wide watered shore, swinging slow, with sullen roar.' We fear that among many the tradition is still maintained as a pious belief that the belfry is too often in close communion to the vaults of low public-houses, and that the character of the surroundings in belfries are well in keeping with the moral and mental furniture of their bodies. If these people had been present in the Preston Parish Church on Saturday, they would have been surprised at the spectacle of the high intelligence and great respectability presented there by the members of the association in question. That scene would have shattered all delusions of the kind under notice. The wonder is that such an opinion could have been so generally held in a generation when the term of 'revival' can no longer be applied to the art of change bell-ringing. The word has long been erased by those who are familiar with the subject. Change-bell-ringing is now an accomplished fact; it is just as much a feature of our social system as the Church service is itself. Calling, as it manifestly does, for the exercise of patience, perseverance, concentration, sobriety, and, above all, keen intelligence, it is, as we have said, surprising that the belief is so widespread that the bellringer as a man is to be regarded as a necessary evil, and only to be tolerated as a church officer, not because his morale is as good as any of the worshippers, but because of his indispensability. Those who peruse this article will at all events know better for the future. It will come as news to many to learn that the bellringers have formed an effective organisation, numbering some thirty thousand, having its own literary organ and council, and that each year a congress, is annually held for 'the dissemination of knowledge respecting the proper care of bells and of belfries, and particularly of well ascertained means of diminishing, without entirely silencing, the sound of bells in close proximity to houses.' It would appear that the bell-ringers in communion have so well studied their art that the reproach can no longer be laid to their doors that they are responsible for the 'bell nuisance.' Superficially they may be, but in strict fact they are not. They have discovered that it is possible through certain arrangements of the bell-chamber to so soften and modify the sound of the noisy peals as to create a minimum of annoyance in the neighbourhood. In future those who may be inclined to direct uncomplimentary objurgations against the toller of the bell would be more just if they fixed the responsibility on those who neglected to provide the precautions ascertained by the association of bellringers. As a matter of fact there is no reason, we believe, why 'the distant sounds of bells at evening pealing' should not be a literal fact, instead of the 'jangling, hammering crash of the church-going bell,' as many so unfortunately know it. One of the cardinal objects of the association of which the members who met at Preston form a branch is the encouragement of public interest in the condition of church towers. It is a singular fact that in all schemes of church restoration little, if any, interest is taken in the belfries and church towers; and that, more often than not, they are so neglected that it is with the greatest difficulty those responsible for their maintenance can be induced to lay out funds even when it is rendered imperative. Were a more intelligent interest taken in this matter, we think there would be little room left for the complaint of Canon Rawdon that bellringers as a body hardly show that close attention to religious duties which their association with the Church leads one to expect. He pleaded with them that the excuse of no time 'to change clothes' is one that fought not to prevail. However much we may deplore the existence of the complaint it cannot be said of bellringers that the excuse is a novel one, or one confined to their body. It unfortunately is common to a much wider circle. Who has not heard, who has not said of himself or herself, 'I haven't clothes nice enough

to go to church?' But in the case of the bellringers there is some palliation at least for his plea. Hung as the bells are, far away out of sight in windy towers, access to which is only gained by climbing dusty and badly-kept ladders, is the ringer to blame if he elects to wear the shabbiest of his garments? On the face of it he would be improvident if he wore clothes suited to 'decent assembly' in the work of summoning the faithful to divine exercise. The remedy in great part lies to the hands of the parson himself. The allegiance of a body of 30,000 men to the Church is not to be despised, and we trust as the fact becomes more recognised, and the status of the Church bellringer in this generation better realised that the requirements of a sober and respectable body of men will be better attended to. Canon Rawdon, during the course of his very interesting address, referred to the introduction of church bells, which he ascribed to the middle of the seventh century. We wished that he had pursued this part of the matter further and communicated some information on their history out of his well stored brains. The theme is an interesting one, but we presume that the worthy Canon would argue that the occasion was more appropriate to the impressing of spiritual truths than one for the tracing of the many uses that they have been put to. Bells once upon a time were something more than masses of metal, for superstition often beautiful and poetic in its imaginings bestowed upon them varied and supernatural gifts. At Dawlish and Devizes they are still rung to ward off thunder and drive away the evil spirits that are supposed to accompany it. There are also many other evils for which they are supposed to be efficacious. Here and there the curfew survives, and the practice has not yet disappeared of calling the labourers and gleaners to the harvest fields. Not many years ago it was the custom to take the tolling of the bell as a signal in the markets to commence buying and selling. The custom still exists at Dundee. We are all familiar with the fire bell, but it is not so well known that the oven bell used to be rung to announce that the manor oven was heated, to which tenants had to bring their bread; or that the pancake bell was formerly a reminder to housewives to use up all their grease and dripping before the Lenten fast. There was also the washerwoman's warning. Bellringers have a long and interesting history, and in an age where reverence for antiquity still subsists it is to be hoped that where that obtains a place this article will be productive of enlisting the impulses common to it to the appeal of the ringer for more consideration to his comforts and his aims. If it does this the meeting of the branch noticed at Preston will not have been in vain, and Canon Rawdon's appeal will perhaps bear important fruit."

VISIT TO BRISTOL.

On Saturday, September 23rd, the ringers of the Frome (Somerset) parish church visited Bristol. They arrived in the old city about 10.30, being met at the railway station by Mr. J. Hinton. They first proceeded to St. John's church, and rang several 6-sores of Grandsire Doubles, and while here Mr. C. D. E. Boutflower put in an appearance. The crypt, built on the old city walls, was inspected with much interest. The party afterwards dispersed, spending the afternoon in different ways, but re-assembled at All Saints' church in the evening where various touches of Triples were rung, and Bob Major. They returned home by the last train well pleased with their day's excursion, and greatly satisfied at the welcome met with.

THE FUNERAL OF THE LATE MRS. GEORGE.—The funeral of this lady (who would have reached the age of 70 had she lived till Sunday next) took place on Saturday last at the parish church of Pinner, amid manifestations of public sorrow. Among the many wreaths sent to place on the coffin was one "from the St. Andrew's Society of Change-Ringers, Rugby," having upon it also the words "With our sympathy; October 13th, 1899." Much feeling, very widespread, is shown for the family, particularly for Mr. George, sen., who is in his 79th year.

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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 Ancient Society of College Youths.—The 262nd anniversary dinner will be held at The Bridge House hotel, London Bridge, on Saturday, November 11th, at 6.30 p.m. Tickets (3s. 6d. each), may be bought of Messrs. W. H. L. Buckingham, E. A. Davies, Dawe, Garrard, Horrex, Hughes, Newton, O'Meara, Pettit, Prime, Rowbotham, Sharman, W. D. Smith, Springall, Taffender, Winney and

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

Kent County Association.—Tonbridge District.—The next meeting of this District will be held at Seal Chart (6 bells) to-day, Saturday, Oct. 21st. Tower open at 5 o'clock. Business meeting in the Schoolroom at 6.30. The bells of St. Peter's, Seal, are also available. W. LATTER, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*

The Hertfordshire Association.—District Meeting at Bushey, to-day, Saturday, October 21st. E. P. DEBENHAM, *Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Oldham parish church to-day, Saturday, October 21st. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6.30. J. JAGUES, *Branch Sec.*
17, Samuel Street, Middleton.

The St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—The usual quarterly meeting will be held at The Tamworth Arms, Moor Street, on Tuesday, October 24th, when some important business will come under consideration. Chair will be taken at 8.30 p.m.

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

Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Midsomer Norton, on Saturday, October 28. Short service at 3.30 p.m., in the parish church, with an address by the Vicar (Rev. W. E. Newling). Tea at The Greyhound hotel, and business meeting to follow. It is hoped that as many as possible will attend. Will tower Secretaries please send a post card not later than Thursday, October 26th, to Thos. T. Hayward, Esq., the Bank, Midsomer Norton, Bath, informing him how many from their towers will be present.

HY. W. TOMKINS, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer*,
The Cottage, Old Cleeve, Washford.

Sussex County Association.—Central Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Lower Beeding, on Saturday, October 28. A conveyance will leave Horsham station at 3.15 for members who let me know by Saturday, October 21st. Tea at 6 p.m.

GEO. WILLIAMS, *Hon. Sec.*
2, Grove Street, Brighton.

N.B.—Members who have not paid their subscriptions for 1899 will oblige by doing so as early as possible.

The Middlesex County Association.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held at Hayes by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. J. Godding, on Saturday, October 28th. Bells ready at 4.30.

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

The Kent County Association.—Lewisham District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Crayford on Saturday, October 28th. The tower will be open from 3 p.m. Tea will be provided for members advising

the Secretary not later than Wednesday, October 25th. Half railway fares up to two shillings will be allowed, and paid out at 5.30 p.m. in the parish room, where tea will be held at 6 p.m. sharp. Business meeting will follow tea. A short service and address will be given in the church at 7.30 p.m.

W. J. JEFFRIES, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*
27, Embleton Street, Lewisham.

The Middlesex County Association.—North and East District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held on Saturday, October 28th, at Christ Church, Southgate, by kind permission of the Rev. J. Beardall. Tea will be provided. The bells will be raised about four o'clock. It is requested that members will do their utmost to attend. ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*
18, Ravenscroft Park Road, Barnet.

The Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—The next meeting of this Guild will be held at Halsall on Saturday, October 28th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Business meeting at 6 p.m.

REV. W. T. BULFIT, *Hon. Secs.*
W. BENTHAM,

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The next monthly ringing meeting of this society will be held at Bramley (six bells) on Saturday, October 28th. Meeting-house—The Cardigan Arms. A peal will be attempted at 2.30. Business meeting at 7.0. Handbells provided. The secretary will be glad to receive all arrears of contributions.

HY. GAYTHORPE, *Hon. Sec.*
1, Elm Avenue, Bramley, Leeds.

Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—A meeting of the above will be held at the parish church, Radcliffe, on Saturday, October 28th. Bells ready at 4.0 p.m. Business meeting in the schoolroom at 7 p.m.

WALTER BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting of this branch will be held at Christ Church, Bacup, on Saturday, October 28th. Bells ready at 3.30. Meeting at 6.30 prompt.

W. CASS, *Branch Sec.*

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Stapleton, on Saturday, October 28th. Short service at 4.30 p.m. at parish church. Towers open for ringing during afternoon and evening—Stapleton (6), St. Werburgh's (6).

C. H. GORDON, *Branch Sec.*

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—The 22nd Annual Festival will be held at Durham on Monday, October 30th. The bells of the Cathedral open to members after 1 p.m.; St. Nicholas (6) and St. Oswald's (6) all day. Committee meeting at The Three Tuns hotel, 12 noon; Service in cathedral choir stalls 1 p.m. (preacher Rev. Dr. Randell, Rector of Sunderland). Dinner 2 p.m., at The Three Tuns hotel, 1s. 6d. to members, 2s. 6d. to non-members. Intending visitors kindly notify before October 25th.

C. L. ROUTLEDGE, *Hon. Sec.*
18, West Parade, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

St. Mary's, Woolwich.—Practice night has been changed from Thursday, to Tuesday, at 8 p.m.

E. O. MASTERS, *Hon. Sec.*

The Heavy Woollen District Association.—There will be no meeting of the above-named Society this month.

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

Obituary.

JOHN DICKENS.

It is my painful duty to record the death of the above-named ringer, which took place at his residence Sharnbrook, Beds., after a long and painful illness, on October 7th, aged 67 years. He joined the Bedfordshire Association some years ago, and served on the Committee, and was also local secretary to that district, working very hard some years ago, and was successful in getting the Sharnbrook bells, at that time 5, rehung, and also later on in getting a new treble put in. Although not very far advanced in the Art, for he began late in life, nevertheless he was a great lover of bells and ringers. On the 11th inst. he was carried to his last resting place, followed to the grave by some of the company that he was the chief means of forming. In the evening a half-muffled 720 of Plain Bob was rung by F. Bird, F. Webb, A. Allen, C. W. Clarke, I. Hills and W. Page. Also 360 in the same method by F. Bird, I. Hills, A. Allen, W. Barcock, C. W. Clarke, F. Webb. J. H.

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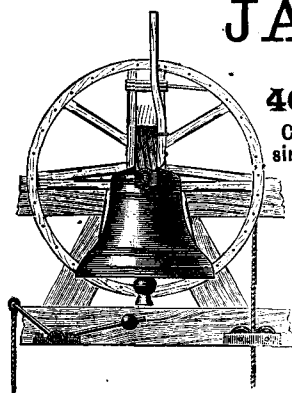
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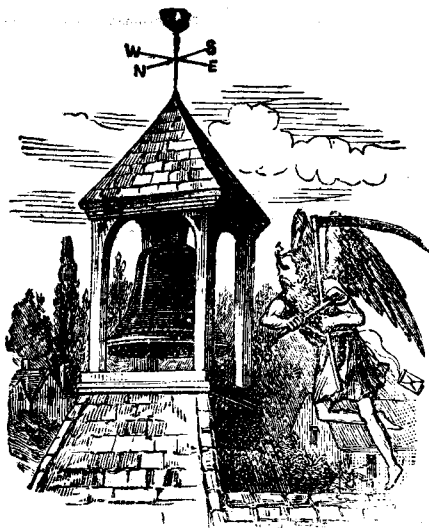
A Weekly Journal of the Ringing Exercise ; and Compendium of Information for the Clergy and Churchwardens.

No. 916. VOL. XVIII]

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1899.

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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.
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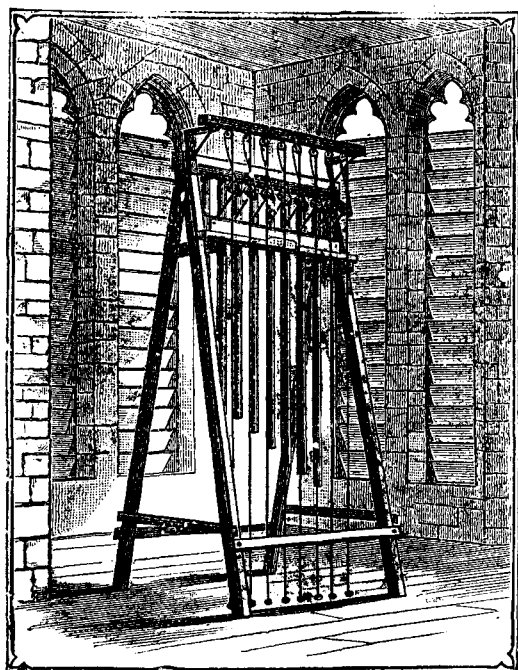
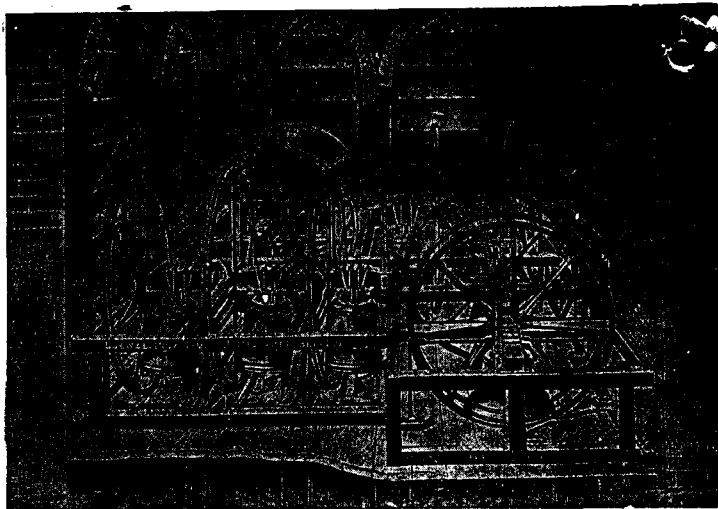
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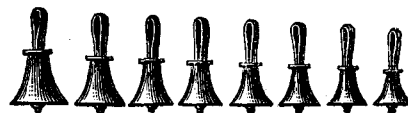
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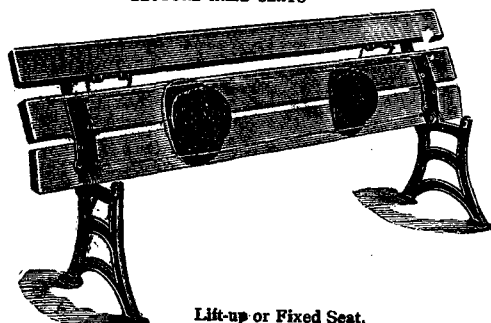
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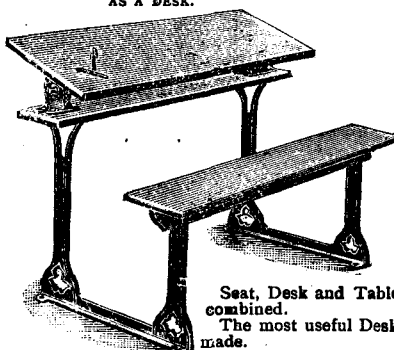
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No. 916.]

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

DEDICATION OF NEW BELLS AT ALFRETON, DERBYSHIRE.

Two new trebles have just been added to the ring at Alferton parish church. They are the gift of C. N. Palmer Morewood, Esq., of Alferton Park, and are erected to commemorate the coming of age of his son Rowland, and his daughter Clara. On Wednesday, October 4th, the bells were dedicated at the harvest festival. On the Saturday following, by the invitation of the Vicar, the Rev. A. C. Beckton, a meeting of ringers was held for a trial of the bells, and the verdict of all the listeners was that they were a good peal. Touches of Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, and Stedman Triples were rung during the afternoon. At five o'clock a substantial meat tea was provided at The George hotel by the Vicar, to which about forty sat down. This over, a vote of thanks was unanimously passed to the Vicar for his kindness. Then ringers from Chesterfield—including Messrs. Knights and Craven—rang touches of Grandsire Caters on handbells, after which another visit to the tower was made, and the bells kept going in various methods until 9.0 p.m. The whole of the work has been most successfully carried out by Messrs. Taylor, who also recast the jubilee bell of 1897. Mr. John Taylor, jun., was present at the trial of the bells. As yet they are only open for practice, until the coming of age, which is in January, after which they will be open for all ringing. Ringers were present from Chesterfield, Mansfield, Wirksworth, Ripley, together with one from St. Mary's, Nottingham, and nine local ringers.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting of the members of the Association was held at Reigate on Saturday, the 14th October, 1899. Readers of this paper will remember that some time ago it was decided to overhaul the bells and their fittings, and to add two trebles to the ring of eight at St. Mary Magdalene. The work was entrusted to the well-known firm of Mears and Stainbank, who found it necessary before rehanging the bells to take out the old wooden beams and renew them. The bells have been rehung in a new frame, and fitted with new fittings, seven of them have been quarter-turned, and the old 2nd recast. The first touch on the back eight was rung on Friday, May 12th, and the ten were opened on Saturday, May 27th, being the occasion of the Vicar's 84th birthday. The addition of a ten-bell tower to the district formed by the Association could not of course be allowed to pass unnoticed, and accordingly the members at their previous meeting chose Reigate as the next place at which to meet. Members from nearly all the towers in the district attended, there being an assemblage of over sixty, including Messrs. Saker, Waghorn, Taylor, and Pickworth, who were welcomed as visitors. The members found the belfry at St. Mary's thoroughly reinstated, the matchboarding, peal tablets, etc., having received a coat of varnish, and altogether the belfry presented an appearance which some members envied for their own towers.

The members began to arrive at three o'clock, and the bells were raised and rung in Grandsire and Stedman Caters—Mr. F. T. Hoad, sen., conducting the first 500 of the latter—until 6 o'clock, everybody agreeing that the bellfounders and hangers had carried out their work in an excellent matter.

Tea was served at Mr. Mark Dean's refreshment house, close to the town hall. The usual business meeting followed, the chair being taken by the Rev. C. G. Lynn Fryer, senior curate at St. Mary's. The rev. gentleman, in returning thanks for his appointment to the chair, welcomed the members to Reigate in the name of the Vicar, who, he said, was unable to be present in consequence of his great age. He referred to the crisis through which the country was passing, and was sure that whatever political opinions were held by the members present they would one and all wish quick success to British arms, and that the struggle would not be prolonged; sentiments which provoked loud applause.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Two peals of Stedman Triples, one of Grandsire Caters, three of Grandsire Triples, and one peal of Doubles, were reported to have been rung since the previous meeting.

Six performing members and one life performing member were declared elected, and the meeting was brought to a close with a vote of thanks to the Rev. C. G. Lynn Fryer, and a request that he would convey to the Vicar the thanks of the members for the use of the bells.

The meeting over, the members adjourned, some to resume ringing at St. Mary's, and others to try the ring of eight at St. John's, Redhill.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(WEST TYNE DISTRICT GUILD.)

The usual monthly meeting of this Guild was held at Newburn on Saturday, October 14th, when the following towers were represented: Whitley, Winlaton, Blaydon, and the members of the local band, also Messrs. Meyers and Robinson, of Chester-le-Street. Ringing commenced about 3 o'clock, and continued until about 8.30. Three 720s were rung, particulars of which are given on another page. A vote of thanks was passed to the Rector for the use of the bells. It was agreed to hold the next meeting at Jarrow on Saturday, November 11th.

MAIDENHEAD, BERKS.

The Jubilee clock tower for Maidenhead is now in a fair way to be carried out, as the order for the clock, which will have four 3 ft. 6 in. dials, and strike the hours, has been given to Messrs. John Smith and Sons, of the Midland Steam Clock Works, Derby. This firm has also just erected a large chiming clock at the Guildhall, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

The second quarterly meeting of the year was held on Saturday afternoon September 30th, at Rugby. Upwards of thirty members were present, and a very enjoyable day was spent by all, the only regret being the unavoidable absence of the president, Sir Arthur Heywood, Bart., and Mr. J. George, of Rugby. A capital tea had been arranged in the church schools, to which the usual measure of justice was done. After tea, the meeting was held, at which the Rev. A. V. Baillie, Rector of Rugby, presided, supported by the Rev. H. Drake, of Leicester.

The Chairman read a letter from Mr. Brooks (churchwarden) explaining that unexampled pressure of business prevented his attendance.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and signed, two honorary, two life, and seven new ringing members were duly admitted. Birmingham was chosen as the place for the next quarterly meeting.

The Rev. A. V. Baillie spoke of the great pleasure it gave him to welcome the Association to Rugby.

Mr. W. Wakley proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector for presiding, and for the use of the bells, which was seconded by the Rev. H. Drake, and carried with great acclamation.

The meeting over, most of the company returned to the tower to witness the unveiling of a beautiful peal tablet, made by the British Plate Glass Co. of St. Helens, Lancashire, of the new material known as "marblette." This tablet records a peal of Grandsire Triples (the first peal on Rugby bells) recently rung; conducted by Mr. James George. The tablet elicited great commendation.

This ceremony having been satisfactorily accomplished by the Rector, touches in various methods were rung until the time came round for the closing of the tower, after which an adjournment was made for a little while to The Bell, in company with Mr. Churchwarden Brookes, who is greatly interested in the Rugby bells and ringers. Several touches were rung on the handbells.

DUDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.—UNVEILING OF PEAL TABLETS.

On Monday, October 16th, an interesting gathering was held in the belfry of St. Thomas's parish church, Dudley. There were present the Rev. A. Gray Maitland (Vicar), the Rev. A. R. Dean (curate), Mr. W. H. Thompson (Vicar's warden) and Mrs. Thompson, Mr. T. Rhodes (people's warden) and Mrs. Rhodes, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Thompson, Mr. John Nayler (vice-president of the Worcestershire Association) and Miss Nayler, Mr. and Mrs. W. Nayler, Mr. V. Maitland, Mr. C. Oaks, Messrs. John Smith (Secretary of Worcestershire Association), Samuel Reeves (Secretary of the Stafford Archdeaconry Association), S. Spittle (Master of Worcestershire Association), W. R. Small (Tipton), H. Mason (Old Hill), W. Micklewright, and about twenty ringers from the surrounding districts.

The Vicar—after offering a short prayer—in explaining the object of the gathering, said that tablets had already been unveiled commemorating his own marriage and that of Mr. S. G. Hooper. In the present instance those to be unveiled would commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the marriage of Mr. W. Nayler, the first being a present from the ringers and Mr. Hartland (the painter) the other from Mr. J. Nayler, the father of the bridegroom.

Mr. S. Spittle, in offering on behalf of the St. Thomas's Guild a hearty welcome to the Vicar and the ladies and

gentlemen present, pointed out that the object of the ceremony to be performed was in the first place to present the tablets to the Vicar and churchwardens, by which act they would become the property of the church so long as they endured; and secondly, to call together in that part of God's House the authorities and the leading members of the congregation, so that they might be more in touch with the work and wants of the ringers, and to heighten their interest in that part of Church work. He ventured to say the five tons and upwards of metal, with the fittings, which hung over their heads, was the most valuable property in the church except the organ, and it was only right the authorities of the church should take an interest in the safeguarding of the bells equal to their value. It was not an uncommon thing, at the restoration of churches which possess rings of bells, to make the fabric within easy view beautiful, but the belfry and the bells, which were so much out of sight, were very often forgotten, and left to go from bad to worse, until it became dangerous to ring the bells. He hoped such would never be the case at Dudley. The wardens there had not only listened to any suggestions regarding the repairs required among the bells, but they had taken prompt steps to have them done, and also to minimise the annoyance caused by the ringing to those living near the church, by repairing the windows near the heavy bells. He hoped the same attention would be given in the future as in the past. It was with a view to obtain this end that he welcomed them in the belfry.

The Vicar said before he called upon the ladies to unveil those tablets, what a charming addition it would be to have some chimes similar to those he heard at Ashford attached to their bells. In an industrial centre like Dudley, it would be a desirable innovation. He threw that out as a hint, and hoped the question would be taken up either by subscription, or as a memorial to some departed friend.

Mrs. W. H. Thompson then unveiled the Diamond Jubilee tablet, and Mrs. W. Nayler the one commemorating her marriage amid hearty applause. The Jubilee tablet records a peal of Grandsire Caters, composed by Mr. W. Micklewright, and composed by the late Mr. H. Johnson, and conducted by Mr. S. Spittle; the other a peal of Grandsire Caters composed by Mr. W. Micklewright, and conducted by Mr. S. Spittle, both of which appeared in "THE BELL NEWS."

Mr. J. Nayler expressed the pleasure it gave him to be there that night. He had always taken a great interest in bell-ringing. He knew it used to be said that the singers and the bell-ringers were the plague of the parson's life, but he was pleased to say that was changed, and so far as the bell-ringers were concerned, he believed the change was due to the formation of the different Associations which existed all over the country. He had been connected with the Worcestershire Association a number of years, and he was pleased to see the good work which was being done by that and kindred societies in bringing bell-ringing and bell-ringers into their proper place among Church work. It was a source of great pleasure to him to present that tablet to the church, not only as a memorial of his son's marriage, but also of the skill displayed by the ringers of the peal, most of which he heard and appreciated. He trusted there would be many more weddings, and that the ringers would be successful in ringing peals for them, so that the belfry may be further decorated with tablets.

Mr. Churchwarden Rhodes proposed a vote of thanks to the ladies for their presence. He was sure the

exertion required to get up that dark winding staircase in order to take part in that ceremony, was worthy of their best thanks.

Mr. Thompson seconded.

Mr. W. Nayler, in responding on behalf of the ladies, expressed his pleasure at being present that night, and took that opportunity to thank the ringers for the peal they rang on his wedding day, although he heard but little of it. He often thought the services of the ringers were not properly appreciated, for while we listened to the music pealing out from the bells, very little was thought of the men at the ropes.

Mr. Harry Mason proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for presiding. It always gave him pleasure to come to Dudley, whether to have a ring or to partake of the vicar's hospitality at the vicarage, there always seemed a thoroughness about it, there was life put into the work which it would be well to imitate in many of the belfries round about. Mr. W. Rock Small, in seconding, endorsed all the proposer had said. Referring to the abuse which Mr. Nayler said existed in years gone by, he knew it was true, for he had been there in the belfries and seen it, but that was at the time when parsons took no interest in the ringers. He should like to see every vicar and curate practical bell-ringers; he knew many parsons that were, and had rung with them, and he always found when the clergyman was a practical ringer, scientific bell-ringing prospered. The Vicar in responding said he was afraid he was past the time when learning to ring was feasible. He had one or two lessons, but he was afraid he cut a sad figure, but if Mr. Small would undertake to give him lessons, he would have another try. No doubt his friend Mr. Dean, and some other of the gentlemen present, would embrace the opportunity. He thanked them for their kind remarks, also the ladies and gentlemen visitors for their presence that evening. A short touch of Grand-sire Caters before the visitors left, and a touch of Stedman Caters after, closed the programme.

A SATURDAY AFTERNOON IN DUNDEE.

On Saturday, October 21st, the members of St. Mary's Cathedral Society, Edinburgh, visited Dundee, where there are two peals of eight bells, at St. Paul's and at the old steeple. Both peals are in excellent condition, being rung regularly, and it is a pleasure to handle the ropes. On arrival the ringers were met by Mr. Gray, of St. Paul's, who conducted them to the belfry. Here ringing, including a 720 of Bob Minor, was indulged in until five o'clock, when the St. Paul's band entertained the Edinburgh ringers to tea in the schoolroom. After tea a movement was made to the church, where a most enjoyable organ recital was kindly given by Mr. Cowe, who was formerly sub-organist of Edinburgh Cathedral. The bells of the old steeple were next visited. Six of these bells were cast in 1872 by Mears and Stainbank to make up a peal of eight, the tenor dating from the beginning of the century, and the 7th being still older. The ornamentation on the crown of this bell is very fine. The permission to ring extended to eight o'clock, so after some touches of Grandsire the bells were lowered, and the ringers returned, having spent a very pleasant afternoon.

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 BISHOPSGATE SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Tuesday evening week a very interesting ceremony took place in the tower of St. Botolph's Church, Bishopsgate, when the above society, assisted by ringers from all parts of London, met for the unveiling of a peal board, the gift of Mr. Webb. After several touches, the Rev. Mr. Jones (on behalf of the Right Rev. the Bishop of Marlborough), addressed the company, and assured them that every opportunity would be given to allow the achievement of peals. He also hoped that many more boards would be placed in the belfry before long, and he thought that the churchwardens would soon place a new set of ropes. He then uncovered the board, which is a very fine type of old English, the writing being in fine gold, setting forth the achievement of 5040 changes of Stedman Triples. Several touches were rung and after a vote of thanks to the Rev. Mr. Jones, the company adjourned to their meeting room, where a good musical programme was provided, ably assisted by Mr. Ernest Richards, R.C.M., at the piano. During the evening the Master, Mr. Williamson, assured Mr. Webb of the society's heartfelt thanks for his munificent gift of the board, and in reply Mr. Webb said he was so pleased to think that his small gift was so appreciated that it was his intention to give a peal board to every belfry in the East of London (cheers) and do all he could for the benefit of the art.

OYLING THE BELLS, AND "OYLING" THE RINGERS.

Two or three weeks ago, *The Essex Times*, in an article on "Bells and campanology," remarked that amongst the ornaments and accessories of churches and Divine worship, few possessions of such value are often so little regarded, if not actually neglected, as the church bells—clergy and churchwardens often grudging the small annual expenditure needed to keep them in good order for ringing."

Mr. Thomas Mathews has told us that years ago—about 1760 as he believes—five of the bells were sold out of the East Ham Church tower, but the churchwardens were "sold" too, for they never got the money—the buyer failed.

In 1643 there were only six bells in West Ham church. These half-dozen bells did not cost the churchwardens much that year—about 10s., as far as we can make out from the accounts. Here are the items:—

Paid for nailes used about the Bells	00 01 00
Paid for the rope for the great Bell	00 07 00
Paid for oyle for the Bells	00 02 00

A charge of two shillings for "oyle" seems to have been made annually. Here we have it for 1644:—

Paid for oyle for the Bells and clock	00 02 00
---------------------------------------	----------

Eighteen months later there is another entry for "oyle," only this time, as we should expect, after eighteen months instead of twelve, the charge is three shillings instead of two.

So much for the bells. What about the ringers? They were paid a trifle occasionally for ringing on special occasions, but there seems to have been only one regular reward, and that was annual. It was on Guy Fawkes' day—then still fresh in the minds of men. The entry for 1643 reads thus:—

Paid to the ringers for ringing on Gun-powder day	00 16 06
---	----------

An entry in the following year makes it clear that this 16s. 6d. was not paid in cash. It runs on this wise:—

Paid to the ringers for a dinner for them for their ringing on the 5th of November, the gunne powder Treason day	00 16 04
--	----------

The ringers evidently took as their regular remuneration an annual dinner—probably at the old "King's Head." Having pulled for a year at the ropes, they pulled on the 5th of November at the pewter, and it cost the churchwardens two-pence less in 1644 than it did in 1643. That is how the ringers were "oyled."

Situations Vacant.

CARMAN Wanted. Change-ringer. (Wages £1 to commence. Apply—J. J. PRATT, Contractor, Hillingdon, near Uxbridge, Middlesex.

WANTED.—First-class Shoeing and General Jobbing Smith, capable of taking charge of yard. Good wages and constant place to the right man. Change-ringer, eight bells.—Particulars to A. RICHARDSON, Bathwick Carriage Works, Bath.

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."

"BOB MAJOR LEAD-ENDS," ETC.

SIR,—I thank the Rev. E. B. James for the first paragraph of his last letter; it supplies me with one more argument in favor of Arundel Surprise. Mr. James upholds Cambridge Surprise because of the lead-end, although it has only a very slight superiority over Arundel Surprise in respect to tenors together (eight changes only in each course), and he completely ignores the beautiful triple dodging in 1-2 and 7-8 obtained in Arundel Surprise; also the clean proof-scale, against the five false course-ends in Cambridge.

And now Sir, if you will kindly publish the enclosed method to illustrate this letter, I will try and show the Exercise what I hold to be good or bad in a method.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7

1 2 3 4 6 8 5 7

2 1 4 3 8 6 7 5

2 4 1 3 6 8 5 7

4 2 3 1 8 6 7 5

2 4 1 3 8 6 5 7

4 2 3 1 6 8 7 5

4 3 2 6 1 8 5 7

3 4 6 2 8 1 7 5

4 3 6 2 1 8 5 7

3 4 2 6 8 1 7 5

3 2 4 8 6 7 1 5

2 3 8 4 7 6 5 1

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2 4 3 7 8 5 6 1

4 2 7 3 5 8 1 6

2 4 7 3 8 5 6 1

4 2 3 7 5 8 1 6

4 3 2 5 7 1 8 6

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2 3 1 4 5 7 6 8

2 1 3 4 7 5 8 6

1 2 4 3 5 7 6 8

2 1 3 4 5 6 7 8

1 2 4 3 6 5 8 7

1 4 2 6 3 8 5 7

The method here given is after Mr. James's own heart, the tenors are parted for sixty-four changes only in each course, they also come together the right way in 1-2 as well as 7-8.

This method is obtained without 2nds or 7ths places being made, there are only six contiguous places in each lead, and these are made in 3-4 and 5-6. The false course-ends are 24365, 32546, and 46253; if such methods as "London," "Cambridge," and "Gloucester" are accepted, there would seem to be no reason why this method should not be, but Sir, except as an illustration, I would not lend my pen to publish such a method. Any methods that have more false course-ends than the bells reversed in 5-6, except when there is the saving grace of the middle, wrong, and home leads being true, I condemn with all the force of argument I can employ. In Treble Bob methods with 1-7-8 as fixed bells there are but twelve courses to be had with the 6th at home, and if any methods are so false as not to admit the 6th being at home her full extent (with the exception above-mentioned), such methods are in my opinion condemned by their own demerits. Methods of this description may have passed muster in the 15th century, but they are not good enough for the 20th. GEORGE BAKER.

P.S.—The plain method, No. 2, published by Mr. James last week, I composed on August 30th last (to this my friend Mr. Dains

can testify), but possibly as in a similar instance Mr. James has the prior claim as author.

In plain methods, Alliance methods, and Treble Bob, I have on hand about thirty in all (and all have Bob Major lead-ends), composed by Mr. Dains and myself, and these, Sir, with your permission, I hope to publish in our paper when I can spare the time and you can find the space. G. B.

WHAT IS A METHOD?

SIR,—Mr. Trollope's article in last week's "BELL NEWS" leads me to write again. From it I gather that Mr. Trollope has never realised my meaning, because he does not see the difference between a method and a principle. Change-ringing we all are agreed is a science, and therefore must be based on a scientific foundation; but if Mr. Trollope's position is true, we have no scientific foundation, and change-ringing is not a science. Again Mr. Trollope says that I am attempting to blend the practical with the theoretical; but if Mr. Trollope will forgive me, I have no such intention. My object is to establish the theoretical foundation of all methods. There are good methods and bad methods; there are methods which will produce the full extent of changes on a given number of bells and others which will not produce more than a 500, but all this musical and practical side of the question must be set on one side until we have

first of all found an answer to the simple question which I have put at the head of this letter. "What is a method?" When we have found a satisfactory answer to this question it will be time enough to come to the musical and practical side of the question. Let me then begin once more at the very beginning which I omitted in my last letter, because I thought that every one would assume it; and ask what is a principle? Now Sir, Stedman is a principle, so there is a Treble Bob principle, and a plain hunt principle, and Shipway's principle, and Forward principle, and Duffield principle. Because a principle is an arrangement of changes in which every bell follow the same rules as to its motion, every bell falls the same number of times in each place, and when they have each one completed the round of principle, the bells come round again, and we have in plain hunt principle on four bells eight changes, etc. The Treble Bob principle is hopelessly false, and the other principles produce changes according to the number of times each bell falls into each place. And now we desire to form a method. We take any principle we please. we arrange that one bell (or two) shall do the work of the principle, and that the others shall so work against them that the bell ringing the "principle" work shall be moved about among the others, (a) by plain leads, in which the other bells when all above the "principle" bell shall be in the same course and course order among themselves; (b) by bob-leads, in which the other bells when all above the "principle" bell shall be in the same course but not in the same course order; (c) by single leads, in which the other bells shall be neither in the same course or course order.

From this it follows that any method will come under the definition which I enclosed in my last letter.

Finally for the sake of illustration let us look at the bastards; I will not call them methods, which Mr. Trollope mentions. Bob Triples.—This has no plain leads, but consists of two different kind of singles, and a bob which is commonly called the single.

Grandsire Major is the same, and also New Bob Triples. And speaking of Grandsire Major I maintain that in strict theory the method we call Bob Major is Grandsire Major, and the method we call Grandsire Triples is Bob Triples.

Mr. Trollope says in his article that I use the word principle in connection with Plain Bob and Treble Bob; what I meant to convey was that Plain Bob is built upon plain hunt principle, and Treble Bob upon the Treble Bob principle.

Surfleet Vicarage, Spalding.

H. LAW JAMES.

P.S.—In reference to Mr. Dains' letter of October 21st, will Mr. Dains kindly say (1)—What is the essential scientific difference between a method and a principle. According to his way of looking at it, I can see only an arbitrary distinction. 2.—What is the distinction between principle i. and principle ii. in his list. Lastly, Superlative has consecutive places in 1-2 and 7-8, the next possible position. H. L. J.

METHODS.

SIR,—After perusing the several letters on methods, which have lately appeared in your valuable paper, I must coincide with Mr. Trollope that Canterbury is a mongrel method. I wrote myself a short time ago pointing out that Canterbury was simply Plain Bob spoilt.

Having read many works, old and new, on ringing, I can nowhere find that singles are upheld, excepting to extend peals and touches, and, here in Canterbury two singles are made in every lead, and to no purpose but to turn the changes to the reverse order, except the last whole pull of the treble lead.

In your issue of last week was a letter by the Rev. E. Banks James, of Gloucester, in which occurred the following expression:—"The plain course of Canterbury is got from Bob Major by the ingenious process of tacking in-course lead-ends."

Where is the ingenuity, when Mr. James himself acknowledges that it could be done in other methods?

If this kind of ingenuity be permissible why not allow the 4-5 to lie still in common Grandsire Triples instead of dodging, and have six leads to the course instead of five with double the quantity of 5 6 7s at the treble lead-ends? A far more important matter than the above.

In my humble opinion Canterbury might be more properly consigned to the tender mercies of the waste-paper basket than some other methods lately published.

My idea is in all methods to cut away as much place-making as possible, not add to it, excepting in such cases where more musical qualities may be obtained, which is not the case with Canterbury over Bob Major.

Referring to the letter of Mr. H. Dains, in your issue of last week, this gentleman gives five principles. This number might be increased by the addition of two variations of his principle No 3.

This principle is a single dodging treble, the first variation could be a double dodging treble as in Forward Surprise, etc., and the second a triple dodging treble, as in Champion Surprise.

This latter is one of the very best musical methods known, the only objection being the length of the course.

I should like to have Mr. James's opinion on the method or principle given below, which runs on all odd numbers of bells from 5 to 11, and in doubles two singles only will complete the peal to the 120 changes, as in Stedman.

Doubles.	Triples.	Bob.
1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
2 1 4 3 5	2 1 4 3 6 5 7	2 1 4 3 5 7 6
1 2 4 5 3	1 2 4 6 3 7 5	etc.
1 4 2 3 5	1 4 2 3 6 5 7	Single.
4 1 2 5 3	4 1 2 6 3 7 5	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
1 4 5 2 3	1 4 6 2 7 3 5	2 1 4 3 5 6 7
1 5 4 3 2	1 6 4 7 2 5 3	etc.
5 1 4 2 3	6 1 4 2 7 3 5	
1 5 2 4 3	1 6 2 4 7 5 3	
5 1 2 3 4	6 1 2 7 4 3 5	
1 5 3 2 4	1 6 7 2 4 5 3	
5 1 3 4 2	6 1 7 4 2 3 5	
5 3 1 2 4	6 7 1 2 4 5 3	
3 5 2 1 4	7 6 2 1 5 4 3	JOHN CARTER.

SIR,—I trust that the Rev. E. Bankes James will forgive me for pointing out that he has evaded the point of my argument in favour of the toleration of other than Bob Major lead-ends, and that his letter is practically no more than an exposure of the defects of Canterbury Pleasure. Now I expressly said I had not a good word for that method and therefore so far as Mr. James' letter deals with it I am in perfect agreement with him. But before insisting on the sole use of Bob Major lead-ends you must show that no others under any circumstances can do their work.

That they are usually far better we all admit. But why? I think the reason is this. Taken individually, the rows in the plain course of Bob Major (in which the coursing order is kept), are the most musical you can get for the construction of the plain course of any method, and therefore the more of them you have the better. Now I don't mean that Bob Major is a more musical method than, say, Double Norwich, for here comes in the question of dodging to which I referred in my article. What I do mean is that if you could arrange the rows of Bob Major with the dodging of Double Norwich you would have a method more musical than the latter. But you can't do this. As soon as you make a dodge which does not affect the whole of the working bells you break the coursing order. Now if you use Bob Major lead-ends those rows at least are in coursing order and are therefore better than any others, but since you must break the coursing order somewhere why should not this be done as well at the lead-end as the interior of the lead. For there is a fact which seems to have been entirely overlooked, which is, if you let any row in the lead, say the sixth, be in coursing order and you make your bells come into coursing order again at the sixth row of the next lead, the result is exactly the same as if you used Bob Major lead-ends, no matter what your lead-ends actually are. Canterbury is a proof this. I may hear remark, *en passant*, that out of 112 rows in the course of Mr. James's first method only 28 are in coursing order.

But there is another class of method, not the best, I admit, but certainly a class which one would hesitate before putting out of court altogether. Oxford and Kent are the best known examples. In this class the idea of keeping the working bells in

as near coursing order as possible is abandoned, and in place, a certain number—six in Kent and four in Oxford—are kept in coursing order with each other, and the others do a work which has almost the effect of additional trebles. Here a lead-end which shows those bells, bells alone in coursing order, which are in coursing order in the interior of the lead is quite able to do all the work which Bob Major lead-ends do, and quite as well.

The question of the succession of the rows, odd and even, which Mr. James raises I must leave for the present, but I notice he adjures us to keep to scientific accuracy. Quite so, but any one who will convince us of what is scientifically accurate will do us no little service, and it is to this end I have written, for I trust no one will think I advocate "mongrel" lead-ends for the sake of mongrel methods. J. A. TROLLOPE.

THE SPEEN RINGERS.

SIR,—In your last issue I noticed a letter about the Speen ringers, signed by "A Member of the Oxford Guild." Now I should like to give him a little insight of my ringing career. I began in the year 1886, and for eleven years we rang the three lots of Doubles he mentioned, and now and then a few courses of Minor, but there was not one of us that knew what method meant till about the year 1897, when a member of the Oxford Guild visited our tower and interested one or two of us in Grandsire Doubles, and we have learned to ring Method slowly, but I hope sure now. Now I suggest that someone connected with the Guild visit Speen and try and interest some of the ringers in method-ringing, and they will give up the card, and they would no doubt join the Guild, and that would be adding new members to the Guild. A SIX-BELL RINGER.

[Other letters on this subject next week.—ED.]

A RINGING TOUR BY MR. G. LINDOFF AND W. H. BARBER.

On Saturday, September the 23rd, Mr. G. Lindoff left Dublin by the night boat for Holyhead, and from thence by train to Colchester, which place he reached in time to ring with the locals for evening service. The next three days were occupied in visiting friends at Leiston and attending the annual meeting of the Norwich Diocesan Association held at Ipswich. Thursday the 28th, according to previous arrangements, we met at Liverpool Street, London, to proceed down to Brighton. Our visit to Sussex proved a success, an account of which appeared in this paper. Returning to London on Sunday, we visited St. Paul's in the afternoon, and met Mr. James Parker, in whose charge we placed ourselves while in London. Monday we called on Mr. H. N. Davis, and after receiving his kind hospitality wended our way to Southgate, and there rang a well-struck peal of Superlative. Tuesday night another peal of Superlative was attempted at Blackfriars, but after two hours and fifteen minutes' excellent ringing, stand was called owing to the tenor going heavily. Wednesday we left London for Kidderminster, which place was reached about five o'clock, and at 6.40 a start was made for Silent Cambridge, but in the fifth course it came to grief, being our first failure through a mistake on the ringers' part. Thursday morning we had a look round a carpet factory which was very interesting. Leaving Kidderminster about two o'clock we went to Aston, a good peal of Stedman Caters being the result. Friday morning found us at Selly Oak; here we found good friends in Mr. and Mrs. E. Bryant; and at night a peal of Double Norwich was rung at King's Norton; returning to Selly Oak about eleven o'clock. At 11.55 an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples on the handbells, but it was a hard task to keep awake. After ringing over 4000. we had to stop through a mis-call; the ringers being F. Clayton, 1-2; G. Lindoff, 3-4; W. H. Barber (conductor), 5-6; E. Bryant, 7-8. Saturday we left Selly Oak, passing through Clent on our way to Kidderminster to again try our luck at Silent Cambridge. After two false starts it was decided to go for it conducted, but a nasty trip brought it to grief in the sixth course from home. This brought to a close a very interesting outing, and we wish through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS" to thank Mr. G. Williams (Brighton), J. Parker (London), W. Short (Birmingham), T. J. Salter (Kidderminster), and all other friends too numerous to mention, for making the outing a pleasant and successful one.

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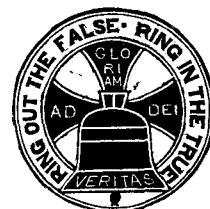
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Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of 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, OCTOBER 28, 1899.

THE Art of Ringing and its adjuncts has of late been somewhat to the fore in the public prints; and this week we copy, for the benefit of our readers, three very interesting letters which have been inserted in *The Times*. Such correspondence as this is of great use, not only to progress, but it may be said, also for correction and reproof, in more ways than one.

Our old friend Mr. BENJAMIN KEEBLE points out the wisdom of keeping up, as far as possible, references in the Press to Bells and Ringing. He urges the desirability of making use of the Parish Magazine for this purpose. The idea is certainly a very good one. Almost every parish in the Kingdom has an organ of this character, and if the columns of such periodicals as these can be

utilized in the manner indicated, it will tend to do away with much of the ignorance which now obtains with regard to our Church Bells.

We have before us as we write, part of the current number of the Parish Magazine for Romford. In this our friend has distinguished himself by contributing two closely-written pages under the heading—"Change-Ringing." He illustrates "Stedman" by giving two sixes, saying: "Here is an illustration of Stedman, called by its author a 'principle.'" This quotation betrays the character of the reading Mr. KEEBLE has indulged in lately. We quote in full the last paragraph of this magazine article:—

"Apart from the question that ringing is a branch of Church work, it is to be regretted that, to use that little word which Mr. Justice HAWKINS once said was not in the English language, the knowledge of the Art of change-ringing outside the tower is *nil*. I am fully aware that it is far from pleasant for those who have to reside in the immediate neighbourhood of the tower where bells hang so low as the ring at St. Edward's, but it is somewhat remarkable that so much prejudice should exist toward ringers who practice a science which is not only one of the healthiest forms of recreation, but which bring brain and muscle into action, and thereby affords such intellectual enjoyment. If I have been successful in spreading any knowledge upon the science or removing any of the prejudice which exists, my labours have not been in vain. Who has not had the sweet memories of childhood days brought before them by the sound of the old Church bells?"

Now this kind of thing is work in the proper direction. If we are wise in our generation we shall take advantage of every conceivable opportunity to make our Art and its requirements known. The Parish Magazine is a good medium for the purpose; and no elegance of composition is really necessary for the purpose. The intelligent public have to be educated upon the subject of bells and ringers; let all exert themselves to this end.

NOTICE OF PEAL.

This day, Saturday, October 28th, eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Association will attempt a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major at Hereford Cathedral, starting at 5.15 p.m.

The Metropolis.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON

On Saturday, October 21, 1899, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE, VASSAL ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt.

GEORGE W. WILD Treble.	WILLIAM H. WEBBER .. 5.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 2.	*THOMAS LANGDON .. 6.
ARTHUR HARDY 3.	CORNELIUS CHARGE .. 7.
FREDERICK G. PERRIN .. 4.	GEORGE E. SYMONDS .. Tenor.

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

*First peal of Bob Major. First peal in the method on the bells. Rung on the twenty-fourth anniversary of the battle of Trafalgar; also as a "send off" to the Foot Guards who left London for South Africa on that day.

The Provinces.

DISS, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, October 17, 1899, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

WILLIAM IRELAND* Treble.	*GEORGE ARCHER 5.
WILLIAM PYE 2.	*FREDERICK R. BORRETT .. 6.
JOHN SOUTER 3.	ERNEST PYE 7.
WILLIAM SALTER* 4.	*JOHN TITE Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

*First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells, and the first in the method rang in the county since 1879.

HADLEY, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, October 18, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720s, each called differently. Tenor 11 cwt.

THOMAS MARSHALL* .. Treble.	*ERNEST W. MARSHALL .. 4.
WILLIAM J. DELL 2.	JOHN E. MILLER 5.
FRANK A. MILNE, ESQ. .. 3.	SIDNEY WADE Tenor.

Conducted by SIDNEY WADE.

*First peal.

HILLINGDON, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, October 18, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 13 cwt.

CLEMENT HILL* Treble.	*HENRY GOSDEN 5.
REV. HENRY G. BIRD* .. 2.	GEORGE GUTTRIDGE .. 6.
JOSEPH J. PARKER 3.	GEORGE ALLDER 7.
ARTHUR FINCH* 4.	*WILLIAM FOSTER Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by J. J. PARKER.

*First peal in the method.

WORTLEY, NEAR SHEFFIELD, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, October 18, 1899, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

THOS. MCKEGG* Treble.	GEORGE W. DRONFIELD .. 5.
ARTHUR J. SAXBY 2.	THOMAS ROBBINS 6.
EDWARD ROBBINS 3.	JOHN PARKIN 7.
DAVID BREARLEY 4.	JOHN DROUFIELD Tenor.

Composed by the late W. SOTTANSTALL, and

Conducted by THOS. MCKEGG.

*First peal as conductor.

TILEHURST, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, October 18, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt.

RONALD CHAPMAN* .. Treble.	WILLIAM NEWELL 5.
FRANK TUBB† 2.	CHARLES STONE 6.
VALENTINE ROWE† 3.	FRANK HOPGOOD 7.
JOHNSON E. HERN 4.	CHARLES CHAPMAN Tenor.

Conducted by FRANK TUBB.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor. †First peal with a bob bell.

WHITWICK, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, October 18, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 12 cwt. in F.

JOHN RAWSON Treble.	HENRY PARTRIDGE 5.
STORER W. WEST 2.	LEVI PARTRIDGE 6.
JOHN A. MOULT 3.	CHARLES R. LILLEY 7.
ALBERT WHITMORE 4.	GEORGE HORWOOD Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

PULHAM MARY, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, October 18, 1899, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 15 cwt.

JAMES TANN Treble.	ERNEST F. POPPY 5.
ERNEST PYE 2.	FREDERICK SMITH 6.
FREDERICK R. BORRETT .. 3.	JAMES BETTS 7.
ROBERT WHITING 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

NORWICH.—THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, October 19, 1899, in Three Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER MANCROFT,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5088 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 43 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lbs.

FREDERICK J. HOWCHIN .. Treble.	*ERNEST PYE 7.
CHARLES E. BORRETT .. 2.	EDWARD FRANCIS 8.
FREDERICK KNIGHTS .. 3.	FREDERICK H. KNIGHTS .. 9.
WILLIAM BALES 4.	ALBERT G. WARNES .. 10.
CHARLES MEE 5.	FREDERICK DAY 11.
GEORGE HOWCHIN 6.	*WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY HALEY, and Conducted by W. PYE.

*First peal of Maximus.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, October 19, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

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

Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.

FREDERICK WHITE Treble.	EDMUND ALDWORTH 5.
HARRY HOLIFIELD 2.	GEORGE HOLIFIELD 6.
THOMAS SHORT 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
RICHARD WHITE 4.	RICHARD BENNETT Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

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

On Thursday, October 19, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES.

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

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT.

I. Faulkner was elected a member for the Archdeaconry of Stafford previous to starting for the peal. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Mrs. J. Rolinson.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Thursday, October 19, 1899, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

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

Tenor 26 cwt.

WILLIAM C. WAKLEY .. Treble.	HARRY WAKLEY 5.
JOHN BENSTEAD 2.	ARTHUR WAKLEY 6.
WILLIAM J. SMITH 3.	JOSEPH GRIFFIN 7.
EDWARD I. STONE 4.	F. J. ATTENBOROUGH .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

ARUNDEL, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, October 19, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

CARTER'S ONE-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt. in E.

CHARLES ROGERS* .. Treble.	GEORGE BALCHIN 5.
FREDERICK LUXFORD .. 2.	*GEORGE H. LEE 6.
JOHN NETLEY* 3.	CHARLES BLACKMAN .. 7.
HAROLD D. SEARLE* .. 4.	*ALFRED MILLS Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE H. LEE.

*First peal in the method. Rung to commemorate the anniversary of the bells. This is C. Blackman's fiftieth peal.

RUMBURGH, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(HALESWORTH DISTRICT.)

On Friday, October 20, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

In the six following methods: St. Simon's, Morning, Star, Plain Bob, Old Doubles, April Day and Grandsire.

Tenor 10 cwt.

E. PERCY FOREMAN .. Treble.	T. LINTON WILSON, ESQ. 3.
FREDK. LAMBERT 2.	SAMUEL BIRD 4.
JOHN PUNCHARD Tenor.	

Conducted by FREDK. LAMBERT.

FRAMSDEN, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, October 20, 1899, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES.

Tenor 16 cwt.

STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. Treble.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. 5.
GEORGE PERRY 2.	DAVID G. WIGHTMAN .. 6.
ERNEST PYE 3.	GEORGE WIGHTMAN 7.
WILLIAM WIGHTMAN .. 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

STONEY STANTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(NUNEATON DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, October 21, 1899, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 14 cwt. in F sharp.

JOHN NOBLE* Treble.	THOMAS W. CHAPMAN .. 5.
JOHN H. SWINFIELD .. 2.	JAMES F. CLARKE 6.
WALTER STONE 3.	HARRY ARGYLE 7.
HENRY BRIGGS* 4.	ARTHUR R. ALDHAM .. Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN, and Conducted by ARTHUR ROBERT ALDHAM.

This is the first peal in the method on the bells. *First peal of Treble Bob.

WINDSOR, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 21, 1899, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 20 cwt.

JOSEPH J. PARKER Treble.	WILLIAM NEWELL 5.
GEORGE STANBROOK 2.	ALFRED E. REEVES 6.
CHARLES GILES 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 7.
HENRY TUCKER 4.	ARTHUR W. HIGGS Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

This is the first peal of Stedman on the bells, which have been rehung by Messrs. Webb and Bennett, and ge well.

EAST MARKHAM, NOTTS.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AND YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Saturday, October 21, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Primrose, College Exercise, London Scholars' Pleasure, Arnold's Victory, College Pleasure, Duke of York, and Oxford. Tenor about 10 cwt.

THOMAS BETTISON Treble.	WILLIAM LAMBERT 4.
GEORGE BURNHAM 2.	WM. HENRY TURTON 5.
CHARLES SEVERN 3.	WALTER ALLWOOD Tenor.

Conducted by W. LAMBERT.

This is the first 5040 of Treble Bob on the bells. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar for the use of the bells, and Mr. Crawford for getting them ready.

HALESOWEN, WORCESTERSHIRE.

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

On Saturday, October 21, 1899, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY PLEASURE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

WILLIAM COLEY Treble.	HARRY MASON 5.
WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT 2.	GEORGE N. COCKIN 6.
HARRY WILLIAMS 3.	JOSEPH BRETTE 7.
ELIJAH WHITE 4.	WILLIAM PAINTER Tenor.

Composed by A. KNIGHTS, and Conducted by W. MICKLEWRIGHT.

W. Painter was elected a member of the St. Thomas' Guild previous to starting for the peal.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 21, 1899, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES. Tenor 19½ cwt.

WILLIAM GROOM Treble.	ERNEST PYE 5.
WILLIAM WIGHTMAN 2.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN 6.
GEORGE WIGHTMAN 3.	ALFRED W. GRIMES 7.
STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

The calling of the above will be found in the Central Council Appendix for 1895, page 75. E. and W. Pye, for whom this and the previous peals were kindly arranged, hail from Chadwell Heath, Essex.

WICKHAM SKEITH, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 22, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Double Oxford, Double Court, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, College Single, Oxford Single, and Plain Bob.

EDWARD YOUNGS Treble.	THOMAS DAVY 4.
JOHN BUCKINGHAM 2.	FREDERICK POTTER 5.
GEORGE KEMP 3.	GEORGE CATTERMOLLE Tenor.

Conducted by G. CATTERMOLLE.

First peal in the methods by E. Youngs.

CHELTENHAM, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(CHELTENHAM AND DISTRICT GUILD.)

On Wednesday, October 25, 1899, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 22 cwt. 2 qrs. 16 lbs.

F. W. WADE Treble.	FEEDERICK MUSTY 5.
G. H. PHILLOTT 2.	*THOMAS PENDRY 6.
WILLIAM DYER 3.	FRANCIS E. WARD 7.
WILLIAM T. PATES 4.	J. F. BALLINGER Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS E. WARD.

Rung in honour of the Bishop's visitation to the clergy of the Deanery. *Nominated for membership before starting.

Miscellaneous.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BROOMFIELD (Essex).—On Monday, September 18th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. A. Bradley (conductor), 1; C. Parsons, 2; J. Tunbridge, 3; E. Wright, 4; T. Crozier, 5; E. Runter, 6. Also 720 Woodbine. T. Crozier, 1; E. Runter, 2; G. Parsons, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; A. Bradley, 5; E. Wright (conductor), 6. On Sunday, September 25th, 720 Woodbine. E. Wright, 5; A. Bradley (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, October 3rd, 720 Kent. E. Runter, 1; C. Parsons, 2; J. Tunbridge, 3; E. Wright, 4; A. Turner, 5; A. Bradley (conductor), 6. And 720 New London Pleasure. A. Bradley, 1; T. Crozier, 2; G. Parsons, 3; J. Tunbridge, 4; C. Parsons, 5; E. Wright (conductor), 6.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Thursday, September 28th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. A. Turner, 1; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 2; E. Runter, 3; A. Bradley, 4; H. J. Collins, 5; E. Wright (conductor), 6. On Sunday, October 1st, for Divine Service, 288 Kent Treble Bob Major. H. Coote, 1; W. Farrow, 2; C. H. Howard, 3; P. Holmes, 4; H. Pilcher, 5; F. Slade, 6; H. E. Hammond, 7; W. Webb, 8. On Wednesday, October 11th, for practice, 288 Kent Treble Bob Major. H. Coote, 1; W. Farrow, 2; F. Slade, 3; P. Holmes, 4; C. H. Howard, 5; W. Grimwade, 6; E. Chaplin, 7; W. Webb, 8. Also 704 in the same method. C. H. Howard, 1; W. Farrow, 2; Edgar Chaplin, 3; F. Slade, 4; H. Pilcher, 5; W. Grimwade, 6; Ernest Chaplin, 7; W. Webb, 8. On Sunday, October 15th, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. H. Coote, 1; W. Farrow, 2; F. Slade, 3; P. Holmes, 4; H. Pilcher, 5; H. E. Hammond, 6; W. Hammond, 7; C. H. Howard, 8. For evening service 576 in the same method. C. H. Howard, 1; W. Farrow, 2; F. Slade, 3; P. Holmes, 4; H. E. Hammond, 5; E. Carter, 6; W. Grimwade, 7; W. Webb, 8. All the above touches were conducted by C. H. Howard.

SPRINGFIELD (Essex).—On Sunday, September 25th, 720 Bob Minor. C. Cook, 1; D. Dawson, 2; E. Runter, 3; W. Sharpington, 4; A. Bradley (conductor), 5; H. Sharpington, 6. Rung as a farewell touch to C. Cook, of the Army Service Corps, who was leaving for the South African frontier. On Sunday, October 1st, 720 Bob Minor. W. Hawkes, 1; D. Dawson, 2; J. Savill, 3; E. Runter, 4; A. Bradley (conductor), 5; H. Sharpington, 6.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SWANSWICK.—On Friday, September 1st, at the parish church, ten 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently in 50 mins. A. W. Snell, 1; E. Holder, 2; W. C. Ricketts (longest length as conductor), 3; H. C. Hallett, 4; G. W. Hutchings, 5; J. Moore (longest length), 6.

NORTON-SUB-HAMDON.—On Monday, October 2nd, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins. F. N. Quantock Shuldham (conductor), 1; T. Rousell, 2; H. Hayward, 3; B. Harrison, 4; I. Hayward, 5; T. G. Osborne, 6. First 720 by an entirely local band.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

BRETON (Notts).—On Sunday, October 8th, at St. John's church, for morning service, 464 Bob Major. L. Price, 1; G. Oldham, 2; F. S. Price, 3; W. Clifford, sen., 4; W. Clifford, jun., 5; R. Clifford, 6; A. Lowe, 7; J. Hutchby (conductor), 8. For evening service, 1280 in the same method. J. Paling, 1; G. Oldham, 2; A. Lowe, 3; W. Clifford, jun., 4; F. S. Price, 5; R. Clifford, 6; W. Clifford, sen., 7; J. Hutchby (conductor), 8.

THE ALL SAINTS SOCIETY, FULHAM.

FULHAM.—On Sunday, October 15th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, 1278 changes, in 50 mins. A. Ough, 1; E. Arthurton, 2; S. Wade, 3; W. T. Elson, 4; W. Pickworth, 5; W. Charge (first quarter-peal), 6; J. Aldridge, 7; W. T. Meaton, 8; R. Charge, 9; R. Burgess, 10. Composed and conducted by W. T. Elson.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SPOUGHTON (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, October 10th, 720 Cambridge Minor. A. Woollard, 1; G. Mee, 2; A. Riveri, 3; H. J. Mee, 4; J. Mee (conductor), 5; C. Mee, 6.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXTON (Cheshire).—For Divine Service on Sunday evening, October 15th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins. H. Brocklebank, 1; J. Hughes, 2; J. Grant, 3; R. Birchall, 4; W. Hughes, 5; J. W. Evans, 6; W. Battle (conductor), 7; C. Owens, 8.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE.—On Sunday, October 15th, for evening service, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 630 Grandsire Triples. J. Parker, 1; W. Gale, 2; F. E. Webb, 3; F. Oakhill, 4; H. Jones, 5; J. J. Poole (conductor), 6; S. Jones, 7; T. W. Grimes, 8. Longest touch by the local band. The ringers of the 2nd and tenor kindly rode over from Thornbury to help.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

NORTHAMPTON.—On Sunday evening, October 15th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Darlaston Bob Triples. G. A. Hensman, 1; A. P. Hensman, 2; H. Rainbow, 3; H. Blundell, 4; A. Arnold, 5; A. Moore, 6; W. Farey (conductor), 7; C. Fennell, 8. First in the method by all.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—On Tuesday, October 24th, 1040 Kent Treble Bob Royal. G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 1; W. J. Titchener, 2; R. Alcock, 3; W. Newton, 4; T. W. Waller, 5; R. H. Fenwick, 6; F. P. Howcroft, 7; J. H. Blakiston, 8; T. Metcalf, 9; T. Stephenson, 10.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

WORCESTER.—On September 21st, at St. Martin's church, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor. J. Clements, 1; A. Hadley, 2; W. Powell, 3; W. Page (conductor), 4; C. Jones, 5; G. Checketts, 6. On Thursday, October 19th, 720 in the same method. B. S. Hill, 1; A. Hill, 2; A. Hadley, 3; W. Page (conductor), 4; C. Jones, 5; G. Checketts, 6. On Sunday, October 22nd, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 720 Bob Minor. B. S. Hill, 1; A. Hill, 2; W. Powell, 3; A. Hadley, 4; W. Page (conductor), 5; G. Checketts, 6. And 720 Oxford Bob Minor. G. Checketts, 5; W. Page (conductor), 6; the rest as before. First 720 of Canterbury and Oxford Bob by A. Hill.

ASPLEY GUISE (Beds).—On Thursday, September 28th, at St. Botolph's church, 360 Kent Treble Bob. H. Checkley, 1; W. Smith, 2; M. Matthews, 3; E. Herbert, 4; M. Lane, 5; W. Chibnall (conductor), 6. And 360 Bob Minor. H. Checkley, 1; A. Millard, 2; W. Brown, 3; W. Smith, 4; M. Lane (conductor), 5; W. Chibnall, 6. Recently, 720 Bob Minor, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival. W. Brown, 1; W. Smith, 2; D. Harris, 3; E. Herbert, 4; M. Lane, 5; W. Chibnall (conductor), 6. On Thursday, October 5th, 720 Bob Minor. H. Checkley, 1; A. Millard, 2; W. Brown, 3; W. Smith, 4; W. Chibnall (conductor), 5; T. W. Brown, 6.

BLAYDON.—On Monday, October 9th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor *J. Cliff, 1; J. Robinson, 2; V. Mothersill, 3; J. Pattison (conductor), 4; W. Palliser, 5; J. Leighton, 6. *First 720. This is the first 720 ever rung on the bells by a local band.

BRETENHAM (Suffolk).—On October 10th, on handbells, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. T. Levitt, 1; J. Frances, 2; J. Manning, 3; A. Grimwood, 4; W. Kinsey, 5; H. Horrex (conductor), 6. First 720 of Oxford on the bells.

BRIGHTON.—On Sunday evening, October 1st, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Freeman, 1; A. Allfrey, 2; W. Allfrey (conductor), 3; H. Hill, 4; F. Hill, 5; H. Stalham, 6; P. Allfrey, 7; G. Hill, 8. On Thursday, October 5th, for practice, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Freeman, 1; H. Stalham, 2; H. Griffiths, 3; H. Hill, 4; D. Hill, 5; P. Allfrey, 6; W. Allfrey, 7; G. Hill, 8.

BUNGAY (Suffolk).—On Monday, October 16th, at St. Mary's church, 1056 Grandsire Triples. I. Folkard, 1; W. Felgate, 2; F. Hembling, 3; F. Smith, 4; E. Lincoln, 5; C. Woods, 6; R. Baker (conductor), 7; F. Baker, 8.

HEADCORN (Kent).—On Sunday, October 8th, on the occasion of Harvest Festival, 720 Bob Minor. F. Hodgkin, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; T. Swan, 3; H. Brown, 4; F. Sharp, 5; P. Hodgkin (conductor), 6. Another 720 in the same method. C. Tribe, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; A. Hinds, 3; H. Brown, 4; F. Sharp, 5; P. Hodgkin (conductor), 6.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD (Beds).—On Tuesday, October 10th, for practice, 504 Grandsire Triples. B. Nash, 1; W. Seabrook, 2; L. Webster, 3; F. Nash, 4; J. Nicholls, 5; N. Alderman (conductor), 6; G. Bonfield, 7; L. Rickett, 8. And 360 Grandsire Triples. L. Webster, 1; W. Seabrook, 2; B. Nash, 3; F. Nash, 4; J. Nicholls, 5; N. Alderman, 6; G. Bonfield (conductor), 7; W. Felce, 8.

LONDON.—On Sunday evening, October 1st, at St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 1277 Grandsire Caters. S. Davie, 1; W. E. Judd (conductor), 2; *H. Sear, 3; H. Richardson, 4; *A. V. Selby, 5; G. R. Fardon, 6; R. E. Bradley, 7; W. Fox, 8; W. E. Garrard, 9; J. Judd, 10. *First quarter-peal of Caters.

NEWBURN.—On Saturday, October 14th, 720 Woodbine. T. T. Gofton (conductor), 1; J. Robinson, 2; J. A. Gofton, 3; R. A. Gofton, 4; G. T. Ross, 5; W. C. Bennett, 6. And 720 Bob Minor. A. B. Jones, 1; J. Leighton, 2; J. A. Gofton, 3; T. T. Gofton (conductor), 4; *J. Sisterson, 5; A. Meyers, 6. *First 720. Also 720 Kent. J. Pattison, 1; *J. Leighton, 2; J. A. Gofton, 3; *J. Robinson, 4; R. A. Gofton, 5; T. T. Gofton (conductor), 6. *First 720 of Treble Bob.

RATBY (Leicestershire).—On Monday, October 16th, for evening service, 1440 changes of Minor, being 720 of Plain Bob and 720 of Oxford, in 50 mins. J. Toone, sen., 1; J. Wain, 2; C. Toone, 3; J. Toone, jun., 4; J. Marvin, 5; A. E. Palmer (conductor), 6. The ringers of the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 6th bells are members of the Midland Counties Association.

WEDNESBURY (Staffordshire).—On Sunday evening, October 8th, for Divine Service, 672 Grandsire Triples. A. Cooper, 1; O. Brown, 2; C. Tyler, 3; E. Turner, 4; G. Newbould, 5; E. J. Tyler, 6; J. Malpass (conductor), 7; T. Cooper, 8.

WELLINGTON (Salop).—On Sunday, October 15th, at All Saints church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins. J. Rowley, 1; J. Evason, 2; R. Nicholls, 3; J. Peach, 4; R. Rowley, 5; E. Childs, 6; T. Pritchard (conductor), 7; G. Moore, 8.

WITNEY (Oxon).—On Tuesday, October 24th, at the parish church; 2520 Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 32 mins. F. Pounds, 1; H. Brooks, 2; G. Room, 3; T. Bull, 4; F. Powell, 5; J. Monk (conductor), 6. Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, 7; J. Brooks, 8. Longest touch of Triples by Messrs. Pounds, H. Brooks, Room, and Bull.

WOBBURN (Beds).—Recently on handbells 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. C. Herbert, 1; M. Matthews, 2; E. Herbert, 3-4; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 5-6; D. Harris, 7-8. On Monday, September 25th, at St. Mary's church, 704 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Smith, Cyril Herbert (conductor), 2; E. Herbert, 3; M. Matthews, 4; S. Avis, 5; M. Lane, 6; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 7; W. Chibnall, 8. A 518 Grandsire Triples. M. Matthews, 1; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 2; D. Harris, 3; E. Herbert, 4; S. Avis, 5; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 6; M. Lane, 7; R. Marshall, 8. On Monday, October 2nd, 518 Grandsire Triples. W. Jones, 1; Cyril Herbert, 2; Chas. Herbert, 3; M. Matthews, 4; S. Avis, 5; E. Herbert, 6; M. Lane, 7; W. Smith, 8. And 252 Stedman Triples. Cyril Herbert (conductor), 1-2; Chas. Herbert, 3; M. Matthews, 4; M. Lane, 5; S. Avis, 6; E. Herbert, 7; W. Smith, 8. On Monday, October 16th, 252 Stedman Triples. Cyril Herbert (conductor), 1; S. Avis, 2; E. Herbert, 3; M. Matthews, 4; M. Lane, 5; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 6; W. Chibnall, 7; W. Smith, 8. And 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Brown, 1; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 2; M. Matthews, 3; E. Herbert, 4; S. Avis, 5; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 6; M. Lane, 7; W. Smith, 8.

WOOD GREEN (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, October 12th, at St. Paul's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 42 mins. A. Cooper, 1; O. Brown, 2; C. Tyler, 3; E. W. Turner, 4; W. Johnson, 5; E. J. Tyler, 6; J. Malpass, 7; G. Newbould, 8. This is the longest touch by Messrs. Brown and Turner.

GIVEN AWAY. PEACH'S LACE CURTAINS.

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POPULAR PARCEL

Lot B.N. contains—1 pair Drawing-room Curtains, Superb Lacey Design, very Rich, 4 yards long, about 2 yards wide; 2 Pairs alike, for Dining-room, handsome work. Copied Real Lace, 3½ yds. long, 66 ins. wide; 1 pair Bedroom Curtains, Artistic Floral, 3 yds. long, 50 ins. wide. One five o'clock Table Cover, Choice Guipure Lace. Sent, Carriage Paid, for 21s. All goods taped edges. Ecur if desired.

GIVEN AWAY with each parcel—6 Lace Dressing-table Covers, Fringed, one 45 ins. long, 5 maller. Our 1899 Parcel is the best we have yet sent out. PRIZE, MEDALS, Chicago and Toronto. Satisfaction guaranteed or money returned.
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C. Peach & Sons, Lister-gate Nottingham. Established 1897

"CHURCH BELLS."

The following three letters have appeared in *The Times*. It will be seen that the first one is a reply to Sir Arthur Heywood's letter we printed in our number dated October 7th; the other two are replies to that one:—

Sir,—Sir Arthur P. Heywood, in his letter in your issue of the 30th ult., advances views which raise a point of such serious importance to the welfare of our ancient church towers that this society hopes you will allow the other side of the case to be stated. He says:—

"During the past ten years bellhangers, under some pressure, have come round to substituting, as far as possible, iron for wood in their work, which is consequently now more costly, but far more satisfactory from every point of view. Less generally successful has been the endeavour to induce architects to admit the well-established advantages of using the bell frame as an effective cross-bracing to the tower instead of leaving it loose on projective corbels, as of old, to batter and spread the walls."

Sir Arthur Heywood, from his position of president of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers, must be accepted as an authority upon the question of how bells should be hung from the bellringers' point of view, but we are convinced that he has dismissed the traditional method of the medieval builders too lightly, and also that their method, if properly carried out, is quite satisfactory from the ringer's point of view.

No one can deny that oscillation and vibration are set up by the ringing of a peal of bells. If rigid iron cages are used and cross-braced to the tower, the whole movement is received directly by the masonry or brickwork, whereas an oak cage of a reasonable height, properly constructed, relieves the walling of some strain, as it is taken by the natural spring in the timber, provided the cage stands clear of the wall all round at the level of its upper beams.

We are aware that in time, partly through shrinkage of the timber, the frames work loose, and the bellringers usually take the simple expedient of driving in wedges between these upper beams and the walls, and this has caused the destruction of very many towers, but, after all, this is in effect somewhat similar to the iron frame advocated by Sir Arthur Heywood. These timber cages can in all cases be tightened up so as to avoid the necessity for the bellringers' wedges.

I think it will be obvious to all that the lower down the tower the support of the bell cage is taken the less strain the tower will have to receive, and also that timber is a better material for deadening the vibration than metal.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

THACKERAY TURNER, Secretary.

The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings,
10, Buckingham Street, Adelphi, W.C., October 6th.

Sir,—I am hardly fit to write yet after my illness, caused by doing too much in the great heat of last August, and perhaps I never shall be again. But I cannot refrain from writing again to warn church-builders of all kinds against being misled by Mr. Thackeray Turner's nonsense, as great as his habitual false pretences of "preserving ancient buildings," really as only interesting ruins. This is a mechanical question which I have been dealing with in every way for 60 years, both as a builder and a bell-designer, including bell-hanging. The only right way is to build the frames of iron fast into the walls; which prevents all the battering and also the constant shrinking and swelling of wooden frames, which are or were the real causes of the destruction of most old towers by bellringers. Let any such great bellfounders and hangers as Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, give you their experience about it, and no reasonable or capable mathematical reader will doubt. I cannot write more now.

Batch Wood, St. Albans.

Yours obediently,

GRIMTHORPE.

Sir,—May I ask space to reply to the letter, in your issue of October 11th, of the secretary of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, who opposes with the time-worn arguments for unsecured timber bell-frames the modern iron one, bolted in as cross-bracing to the tower? Wood was formerly

the universal material for every sort of framing—ships, bridges, machinery, railway stock—and, in spite of all melancholy forebodings, iron and steel have been advantageously substituted. The same process is tardily taking place in bell-hanging. Mr. Turner rather implies that I regard the matter exclusively from the ringer's point of view. This is not so. I have, indeed, had more to do with building than with bell-hanging. The stability of the tower interests me as an engineer's question, and I advocate bell-frames bolted right through the walls more for the sake of the structure than of the bells. Mr. Turner says, "It will be obvious to all that the lower down the tower the support of the bell-cage is taken, the less strain the tower will have to receive." So obvious, that in St. Hugh's tower at Lincoln an eminent architect was led to reduce the theory *ad absurdum* by carrying the supports of the frame down to the ground level, thus causing the bells to hang in an independent and rickety structure of 70ft. high. That which is obvious has seldom been the subject of careful inquiry; hence many errors. The wedge between frame and wall, so justly condemned by Mr. Turner, was of course in evidence here, as it will continue to be, despite the most stringent injunctions, wherever unsecured bell-frames are to be found—of itself almost a sufficient reason for their disuse. Yet wedges, mischievous as they are, often save the walls from the worse thumps of a loose frame.

The slow oscillations set up by swinging bells—not at all the rapid vibrations of revolving machinery—seem to have been but little studied, and are extremely complex, partly owing to the axes of some of the bells being at right angles to others, partly to the continuously changing order of their swing. With an unsecured frame these varying forces at one time counteract one another, and again accumulate to produce surprising oscillations of the whole tower. It is this cumulative action which does the mischief. The fast-bolted frame, being part of the mass of the tower, readily resists the feeble initial oscillations, which consequently have no tendency to magnify. Argument, unfortunately, never carries conviction except to the ignorant; but if any architect will, as I have often done, stand against bell-frames of various kinds, in various conditions of repair, when the bells are being rung, and note carefully all he sees and feels, he may probably come to favour my contention that most of the harm to towers is due to unsecured frames, and to recognize the steadying effect of bolting them, both above and below the bells, to, or if necessary through, the walls.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

ARTHUR P. HEYWOOD.

Doveleys, Utttoxeter, October 12th.

Obituary.

THOMAS MILES, SEN.

It is with much regret we have to record the death of the above-named ringer, which took place at his residence, High Street, Epsom, after a brief illness of only a fortnight, at the age of seventy-three years. Deceased was well known in ringing circles during the sixties and seventies, but owing to pressure of business, had not been able to take an active part in ringing for the last twenty years. He was the last of the four Fathers, who, with their four eldest sons, rang a peal of Grandsire Triples at the Church of St. Martin, Epsom, on April 23rd, 1869 (of which band his eldest son is still conductor), a record of which hangs in the belfry. His remains were laid to rest in the Epsom cemetery, on Tuesday, the 3rd inst., in the presence of a large gathering of friends. In the evening the ringers of St. Martin's, with two or three friends, met and rang with the bells half muffled, the usual whole pull and stand, and a few touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples as a last token of respect. Those taking part in the ringing were W. Sutton, A. E. Basset, G. Saunders, S. Wilson, J. Easton, H. Kenten, T. Everett, W. Sanders, J. Wyatt, and J. Hoyle. May he rest in peace.

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

The Ancient Society of College Youths. Members are earnestly requested to attend the meeting at the Coffee Pot on Tuesday, October 31st, after ringing at St. Michael's, Cornhill, when an important discussion affecting Rule xiv. will be raised. The 262nd anniversary dinner will be held at The Bridge House hotel, London Bridge, on Saturday, November 11th, at 6.30 p.m. Tickets (3s. 6d. each), may be bought of Messrs. W. H. L. Backingham, E. A. Davies, Dawe, Garrard, Horrex, Hughes, Newton, O'Meara, Pettit, Prime, Rowbotham, Sharman, W. D. Smith, Springall, Taffender, Winney and

WILLIAM T. COCKERILL, *Hon. Sec.*

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

Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Midsomer Norton, to-day, Saturday, October 28. Short service at 3.30 p.m., in the parish church, with an address by the Vicar (Rev. W. E. Newling). Tea at The Greyhound hotel, and business meeting to follow. It is hoped that as many as possible will attend. HY. W. TOMKINS, *Hon. Sec. and Treasurer*, The Cottage, Old Cleeve, Washford.

Sussex County Association.—Central Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Lower Beeding, to-day, Saturday, October 28th. GEO. WILLIAMS, *Hon. Sec.*

2, Grove Street, Brighton.

N.B.—Members who have not paid their subscriptions for 1899 will oblige by doing so as early as possible.

The Middlesex County Association.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held at Hayes by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. J. Godding, to-day, Saturday, October 28th. Bells ready at 4.30. C. EDWARDS, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*

The Kent County Association.—Lewis-ham District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Crayford to-day, Saturday, October 28th. The tower will be open from 3 p.m. Half railway fares up to two shillings will be allowed, and paid out at 5.30 p.m. in the parish room, where tea will be held at 6 p.m. sharp. Business meeting will follow tea. A short service and address will be given in the church at 7.30 p.m.

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

27, Embleton Street, Lewisham.

The Middlesex County Association.—North and East District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held to-day, Saturday, October 28th, at Christ Church, Southgate, by kind permission of the Rev. J. Beardall. Tea will be provided. The bells will be raised about four o'clock. It is requested that members will do their utmost to attend. ARTHUR T. KING, *Hon. Sec.*

18, Ravenscroft Park Road, Barnet.

The Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—The next meeting of this Guild will be held at Halsall to-day, Saturday, October 28. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Business meeting at 6 p.m.

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

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The next monthly ringing meeting of this society will be held at Bramley (six bells) to-day, Saturday, October 28. Meeting-house—The Cardigan Arms. A peal will be

attempted at 2.30 Business meeting at 7.0. Handbells provided. The secretary will be glad to receive all arrears of contributions.

HY. GAYTHORPE, *Hon. Sec.*

1, Elm Avenue, Bramley, Leeds.

Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—A meeting of the above will be held at the parish church, Radcliffe, to-day, Saturday, October 28th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Business meeting in the schoolroom at 7 p.m. WALTER BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting of this branch will be held at Christ Church, Bacup, to-day, Saturday, October 28th. Bells ready at 3.30. Meeting at 6.30 prompt. W. CASS, *Branch Sec.*

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Stapleton, to-day, Saturday, October 28. Short service at 4.30 p.m. at parish church. Towers open for ringing during afternoon and evening—Stapleton (6), St. Werburgh's (6).

C. H. GORDON, *Branch Sec.*

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—The 22nd Annual Festival will be held at Durham on Monday, October 30th. The bells of the Cathedral open to members after 1 p.m.; St. Nicholas (6) and St. Oswald's (6) all day. Committee meeting at The Three Tuns hotel, 12 noon; Service in cathedral choir stalls 1 p.m. (preacher Rev. Dr. Randell, Rector of Sunderland). Dinner 2 p.m., at The Three Tuns hotel, 1s. 6d. to members, 2s. 6d. to non-members.

C. L. ROUTLEDGE, *Hon. Sec.*

18, West Parade, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

The St. James's Society, London.—Members are particularly requested to attend the meeting on Monday next, the 30th October, for transaction of the Society's business.

R. A. DANIELL, *Hon. Sec.*

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next monthly meeting of the above will be held at Audley, on Saturday, November 4th. Members who intend being present are earnestly requested to give notice to Mr. C. B. Warham, Church Street, Audley, not later than Tuesday, October 31st.

W. TWIGG, *Hon. Sec.*

The St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—Preliminary notice to members and subscribers.—The peal-board recording the muffled peal to the memory of the late Henry Bastable will be unveiled by the Rev. Canon A. J. Robinson, Rector of St. Martin's, on Saturday, November 25th, when the Rector will afterwards entertain the members at tea. Full particulars in next week's issue.

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

61, Roland Road, Handsworth.

St. Mary's, Woolwich.—Practice night has been changed from Thursday, to Tuesday, at 8 p.m. E. O. MASTERS, *Hon. Sec.*

The Heavy Woollen District Association.—There will be no meeting of the above-named Society this month.

WALTER IDLE, *Hon. Sec.*

47, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A RINGER.—Your name and address was omitted. The answer to your question is in the affirmative; 11 hours 12 minutes.

J. BRIERLEY.—Please put the question to a bellfounder.

ST. MARY'S, BRIDGWATER.

We gave last week an account of the restoration of the bells at this church, and it was mentioned that the complete success of the affair was owing to the exertions of Mr. Geoffrey Leigh, a respected inhabitant. His townsmen have presented him with a handsome oak arm chair made from the wood of the old beams. The Corporation Arms are carved in the back, two gargoyles support the arms and his initials thereon. A gold bell hangs from the top, with the following inscription: "This oak chair is made from wood taken from the tower of St. Mary's church, Bridgwater, and presented to Geoffrey Leigh, Esq., for his zeal in collecting funds for the restoration of the church bells, 1899. Thomas Good, Mayor."

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.—The present correct address of Mr. W. Short, ringing master at St. Martin's, Birmingham, is 27, Primrose Avenue, Poplar Road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham.—The address of Mr. John Rogers is 83, Carlton Vale, London, N.W.

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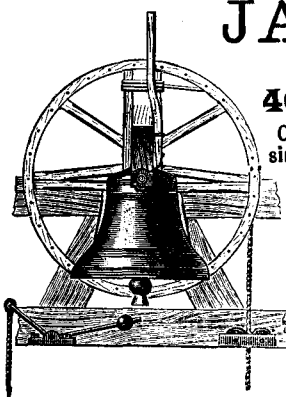
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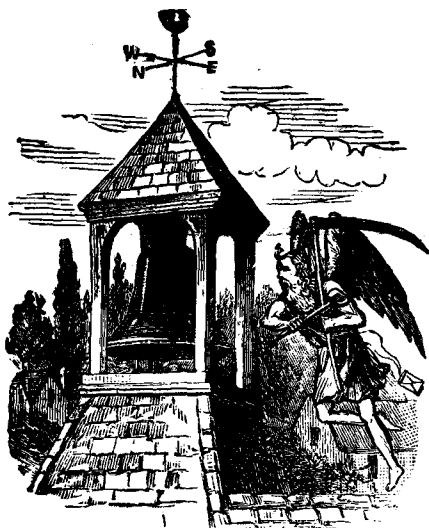
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No. 917.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1899.

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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.
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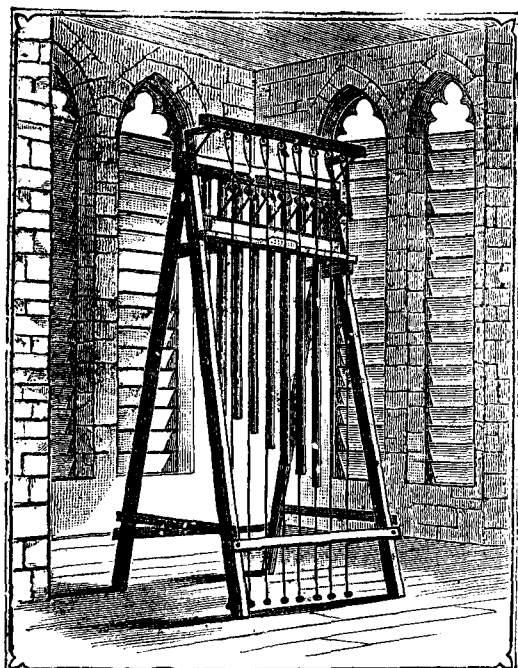
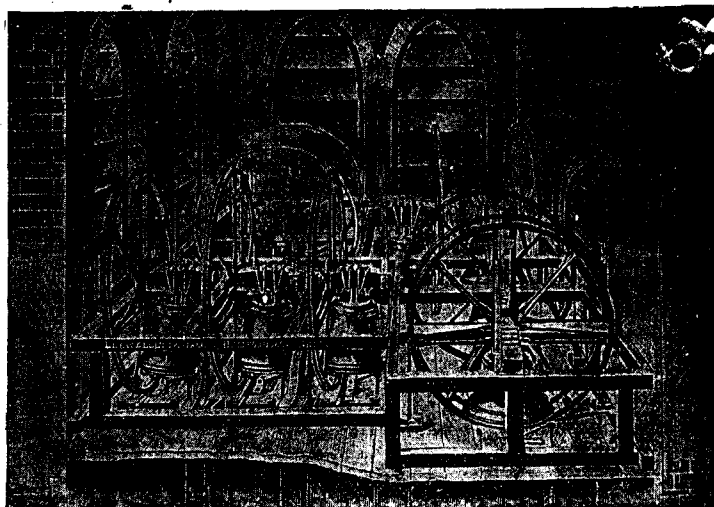
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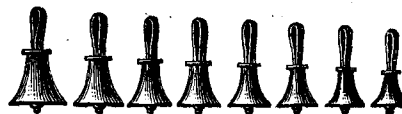
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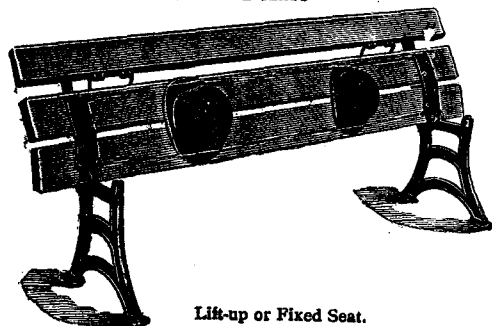
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 917.]

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, the 28th ult., this Association held its twenty-second Annual Meeting in the old City of Durham, and it proved a success in every way.

Ringers began to arrive as early as 9 a.m., and the bells of St. Nicholas, in the market place, were kept going nearly all day, with the exception of the service time and the all-important dinner and meeting time. Ringing was also done at St. Oswald's, a church for which all members of the Association must have warm feelings, as in it the Association was received when, for various reasons, the other belfries of the city were practically closed to any but their own bands. A Committee meeting was held at The Three Tuns Hotel, at which there was a fair muster, and several matters of business connected with the Association were disposed of, tuition receiving a share of attention. At one o'clock the members attended a special service in the Cathedral Choir. The clergy were represented by Archdeacon Hamilton, Dean Kitchin, Canon Firth, and the Rev. Dr. Randell, of Sunderland. Canon Firth read the special service of the Association, and Dr. Randell delivered an excellent and eloquent sermon, pointing out how ringing should be practised in relation to the Spirit and the understanding. Dr. Kitchin pronounced the Benediction, and Dr. Armes kindly officiated at the organ. At 2 p.m. an excellent dinner was partaken of at The Three Tuns, after which the Annual Meeting of the Association was held. The President, Mr. R. S. Story, occupied the chair, supported by the Rev. Dr. Randell, and the Secretary, Mr. C. L. Routledge, while Mr. Hudson, vice-President, filled the vice-chair. The toast of "The Queen" was drunk with musical honours, followed by that of "The Bishops and Clergy of the two Dioceses." The Rev. Dr. Randell responded, and greatly interested his hearers by telling them of the success that was attending his efforts to restore the bells of Sunderland Parish Church, of which he is Rector. There appears every prospect of this being carried out in a thoroughly efficient manner.

The Annual Report was next read, and while it deplored the low position of the Association in the matter of peal ringing, it gave evidence of great vitality throughout the organisation. If the eight-bell towers have been behindhand in peal ringing, the six-bell towers have made great strides, especially in bringing on new members, and it is notable that in connection with one tower three brothers have been ringing a number of Minor methods double-handed, and it had been intended to attempt a 5000 on handbells this winter, but the band is disturbed through one having to go out to South Africa in the Coldstream Guards. The regret of the Association was expressed at the decease of the Rev. Canon Barker of Hexham, and at the removal of the Rev. E. Boddington from St. Ignatius, Sunderland, to which church he had

given a treble bell, to make up a peal of six. The balance-sheet showed an amount in hand of £8 1s. 6d., being an increase on the year of about £4. The report and balance-sheet were adopted.

Before leaving the chair at the year's termination of office, the President wished on behalf of the general body of members of the Association to present Mr. Hudson with a roll-top writing secretaire, as some token of their appreciation of his exertions for the advancement of the Association while filling the post of Secretary. He expressed at the same time his personal experience of all Mr. Hudson's painstaking care, and of the high pitch of excellence into which he had brought the affairs of the Society. Mr. Ferry, who had kindly acted as Secretary in this matter, wrote, in his unavoidable absence, testifying to the ready response he had received from the members, many of whom had written most eulogistic letters with regard to Mr. Hudson's work. It was expected that Mr. Hudson would find the desk at home on his return to Sunderland that evening, and the President wished him many happy years to use it. A most hearty acclamation endorsed these remarks, every member of the Association who has had the privilege of coming in contact with Mr. Hudson having the warmest feelings towards him.

Mr. Hudson replied in very feeling terms, and regretted very much that failing health prevented him from giving the attention to the affairs of the Association which he considered they merited. He assured his hearers that the sight of their present would ever remind him of them, and of the happy hours he had spent amongst ringers, and the warm friendships it had brought to him. Mr. Hudson's remarks were most impressive, and the members showed their appreciation by prolonged applause. The Rev. Dr. Randell then took the chair, while the officers for the incoming year were elected, when the old staff was replaced in its entirety, each officer returning thanks in suitable terms. The old representatives on the Central Council were re-appointed.

The President made a few remarks with regard to the arrears of subscriptions, pointing out that a little consideration for the Secretary in this matter very materially lightened his work, while carelessness gave him treble and quadruple labour, beside involving the officers in the unpleasant task of going over a list of those in arrears with a view to their exclusion, which the rules automatically provide for. He also referred to the exceptionally low position of the Association in Mr. Attree's list. As he had mentioned at previous meetings he had been this year unable to devote as much time to actual ringing as usual, and he feared that the engagements which made a prior call on him for a period would continue for a few months longer, after which he hoped to give more assistance in peal ringing. Marrying and giving in marriage had also interfered, Mr. F. J. Harrison having recently entered the bonds of wedlock, and Mr. Routledge, their valued Secretary, having been in strict training for a similar event for some months past. Unfortunately his system of training did not permit of many attendances to

the belfry, to say nothing of such a long performance as a peal. However, it is pleasing to know that he is going to reside at Wylam, where he will have the opportunity of instructing a good band of learners, and the Association will forgive his recent absences in anticipation of his services in this direction.

A number of new members were elected, including the Rev. F. C. Ayerst, Curate at Hexham, and Mr. Passman of Middlesbrough, who became an honorary member. Very hearty votes of thanks were returned to the Very Rev. Dean Kitchin, D.D., for his kindness in allowing the service to be held in the Cathedral, and for his presence, as well as to Archdeacon Hamilton and Canon Firth, to the Rev. Dr. Randell for his excellent sermon, to Dr. Armes for his assistance at the organ, and to the Vicars of St. Nicholas and St. Oswald's churches, for the use of their bells. The chairman announced that the next place of meeting would be Heighington, in February, that is the last Saturday before Ash-Wednesday, and the Whit-Monday meeting would be held at Consett. A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the meeting.

The members then adjourned to the different churches, a large body visiting the Cathedral. It was gratifying to note that there were two or three bands equal to handle these bells, now that they have been put in order through the intervention of Dean Kitchin, this being so different to the conditions of a year or two ago, when the bells were in a bad state and the number of capable ringers less. One or two good touches of Stedman and Kent Treble Bob were rung, the bells sounding very fine outside, and the striking proving good, and much better than to those in the belfry. Details of the ringing will be found later in the proper column.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION. (BRISTOL BRANCH.)

A meeting of this branch was held at Stapleton, on Saturday, October 28th, 1899. About sixteen members were present. Service was held in the parish church at 4.30 p.m., conducted by the Rev. —. Shaw. After service a short business meeting was held in the belfry. The minutes of the last meeting were taken as read. It was proposed by the Rev. H. E. T. Bassett, seconded by Mr. W. A. Cane, and resolved: "that the next meeting take place at Colne, on the last Saturday in November." It was proposed by Mr. E. Grey, seconded by Mr. C. H. Gordon and resolved: "That Mr. J. Long, of Stapleton, and Mr. F. Cullen, of St. Nicholas, Bristol, be elected members of the Association." Ringing was indulged in before and after service, also at St. Werburgh's, where a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung by the following: Thomas, 1; C. H. Gordon, 2; H. B. Howell, 3; Thomas, 4; W. A. Cave, (conductor) 5; F. Burford, 6.

LEYTONSTONE, ESSEX.

A new set of Westminster chimes are to be fitted to the parish church clock by John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby.

Situations Vacant.

WANTED.—First-class Shoeing and General Jobbing Smith, capable of taking charge of yard. Good wages and constant place to the right man. Change-ringer, eight bells.—Particulars to A. RICHARDSON, Bathwick Carriage Works, Bath.

WANTED.—Men or Yonths used to the Cycle filing, or such work.—Apply Mr. J. CARTER, care of Webley & Co., Weaman Street, Birmingham.

MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA.

UNVEILING OF A PEAL TABLET.

A ceremony of rare occurrence in Australia took place on Saturday, September 9th, when a tablet erected to commemorate a peal of Grandsire Triples rang on the bells of St. Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne, on the 10th of September, 1898, was unveiled.

A good number of ringers and friends assembled in the tower, and the Cathedral was represented by Mr. F. R. Godfrey, a gentleman who has always taken great interest in the bells. After a touch of 168 Grandsire Triples had been rung by the men who took part in the peal, the President of the Association (Mr. J. C. Nolan) requested Mr. Godfrey to accept the tablet as a gift from the Victorian Association to the Cathedral. The tablet recorded a peal which would be historical in the annals of bellringing in Australia. It was not only the first on the heavy bells of this Cathedral, which are the heaviest peal in this country, and on that account alone was worthy of record, but it was also the first by the Association, and the first peal composed in Australia. The members had subscribed amongst themselves to place the tablet in the tower, and although they were not all of one denomination he was sure that the tablet would be valued for the event it commemorated.

Mr. Godfrey in reply said it gave him great pleasure to attend that evening and take part in such an unique ceremony. He could quite understand the difficulty of the feat, and was proud to know that such a good peal had been rung on those bells, and he congratulated the ringers on such a splendid performance. He was sorry that ringing was not appreciated here as it was in the old country, where every town had its peal of bells, but he hoped that the future of bellringing in Australia would be brighter. He was pleased to know of the existence of the Association in Melbourne, and to learn that some of the young generation were taking kindly to ringing, and he also noticed with satisfaction that the members were not all of one creed, but visited one another freely. Such a feeling should always be encouraged, and he was sure that no matter at which church they were ringing, they would all be ringing to the honour and glory of God. He was rather surprised to find that the Association had contributed the whole cost of the tablet, and had not asked for outside help, but he thought that it would be all the more valued on that account. He would promise that the Cathedral would take great care of the tablet. Mr. Godfrey then unveiled the tablet amidst applause.

The conductor of the peal then proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Godfrey for his kindness in attending that evening, and assured him that his presence was greatly appreciated by the members, and he hoped that before long other influential gentlemen connected with the church would show the interest that Mr. Godfrey had always shown. The vote was carried with acclamation.

After further remarks by other speakers, the meeting adjourned for a social evening.

Before leaving the belfry Mr. Godfrey gave a very handsome donation to the funds of the Association.

The tablet is of Italian marble, 3 ft. by 2 ft. and 1½ in.

thick, and was made to the design of a member of the Association. It bears the following inscription:—

"The Victorian Association of Change-Ringers. In commemoration of the first peal on the heavy bells of this Cathedral. On Saturday, September the tenth, 1898, this Association rang a true and complete peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040 changes, in three hours and eighteen minutes. Sylvester J. Hallissy, *Treble*; Matthew O'Shea, 2; James P. Nolan, 3; John C. Nolan, 4; James L. Murray, 5; Arthur E. Barnes, 6; Joseph Freeman, 7; Walter Woollard and Isaac Davis, *Tenor*. Composed and conducted by Arthur E. Barnes. Referees: W. Shenton and E. O'Shea."

THE STANSTED SOCIETY, ESSEX.

On Saturday, September 23rd, the members of this society paid a visit to Matching, Essex, where there is a handy and musical little ring of six bells in good going order, with a tenor of about 9 cwt. Arriving at the church at 3.30 p.m., the bells were raised, and were soon in Cambridge Surprise, of which a 720 was rung, and then a 720 of Oxford Bob. After this the visitors repaired to the church room, where the Vicar (Rev. J. B. Andrewes) had kindly provided an excellent tea for the ringers, to which the usual justice was done. A course of Grandsire Triples having been rung and a few tunes played on the handbells, some of the visitors took a walk round the garden, while others went to the church and rung 720 of Oxford Treble Bob and two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles, an attempt for a 720 failing through the breaking of the treble rope. These are the first 720s in the methods yet rung upon the bells. The back five bells were lowered in peal, and the company thanking the Vicar for his kindness, undertook the homeward journey through a storm of thunder and rain, reaching their destination at 10.30.

WALTHAM ABBEY, ESSEX.

On Sunday, October 22, Mr. D. Tarling, the respected steeplekeeper at Waltham Abbey, completed his 55th year, when four of the local company met at the Abbey church for the purpose of chiming a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, thus: G. Peace, 1-2; D. Tarling, 3-4; W. A. Alps, 5-6; F. Carter, 7-8. Two attempts were made, but owing to the bad condition of the ropes, the band did not succeed, and had to be content with a 1008. In the evening another attempt was successfully made by the same band with the exception of 7-8, which were taken by T. Colverd, the quarter-peal (composed and conducted by W. A. Alps) being chimed in 44 mins.

On each occasion the chiming took place immediately before Divine Service, ringing being quite out of the question owing to the woful condition of the bells and ropes. Although apparently the complete restoration of the bells had many weeks ago been decided on, nothing has been done towards it up to the present moment. It is hoped that progress may be made without delay.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(NORTH AND EAST DISTRICT.)

The annual district meeting of this Association was held on Saturday, October 28th, at Southgate. The bells were raised about four o'clock and kept going til six o'clock, when an adjournment was made by some to the service which is held daily, and others to the village hall direct, where tea was served in excellent style at 6.30. By this time those who had attended the service joined.

After tea the Hon. Secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, and made statements as to finance, etc. At the conclusion of the meeting votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and also to the curate and churchwarden for their presence; the former took the chair in the absence of the Vicar, who is away. A return visit was made to the tower, and touches of Bob Minor, Stedman Triples, Double Norwich, Oxford Treble Bob, Grandsire Triples, Treble Bob Major; and two courses of Grandsire Triples on handbells in the village hall before tea. The time as usual went by rapidly, and the dispersing hour came too soon. There was a good attendance of members from all the towers in this district, although some were elsewhere attempting peals for the Association.

HORBURY PARISH CHURCH, WAKEFIELD.

Messrs. W. Potts and Sons, Clock Manufacturers, of Guildford Street, Leeds, and Town Hall Buildings, Newcastle-on-Tyne, are just completing a fine Cambridge quarter-clock, showing the time upon three large external dials at the above church for the Rev. Canon Sharp, M.A., who has been curate and Vicar of Horbury for sixty-five years, and is now in his ninetieth year. The same firm are also making new clocks for Stickney church, Lincolnshire, St. Anne's-on-Sea, Lancashire, Thornbridge Hall, Derbyshire, Upsall Castle, Yorkshire, Carlisle Cathedral and Town Hall.

The Guardian informs its readers that the Vicar of Eccleshall, Staffordshire, will be much obliged to any one kindly sending him a copy of belfry rules and a form of admission to the office of a ringer.

Mr. John Hart, Maltravers House, Arundel Street, Strand, writes to thank those who kindly contributed to the loan collection at the Ecclesiastical Art Exhibition, and to say that every loan has now been despatched, and he has not heard of a single article being lost or damaged. Should any contributor not have received his loans safely, Mr. Hart would be glad to hear at once.

The Guardian says that the dedication of a new organ took place at All Saints', Sapcote, on Thursday week. There was a celebration of Holy Communion at 7 a.m., and in the afternoon the organ was dedicated by Archdeacon Stocks (Leicester). At the close of the service a selection of music was rendered by Mr. C. Hancock, Mus. Bac., organist of St. Martin's, Leicester. The dedication services were continued in the evening, when a sermon was preached by the Rev. C. Rodwell, R.D., Rector of Kimcote. At this service Mr. Smith, F.R.C.O., organist of the Martyrs', Leicester, was at the organ. It may be added that during the rectorship of the Rev. A. G. Lound this church was restored in 1886, and the four old bells were rehung and cast, and two new ones added in 1895.

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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."

"METHOD" OR "PRINCIPLE."

SIR,—Mr. James is wrong in supposing either that I make no difference between "principles" and "methods," or that I misunderstood his meaning. I had considered both sufficiently well to have sketched out my present reply before I published my first article. Mr. James's definition is a very clever one, and would be scientifically accurate only that it is founded on two false premises—an incorrect view of the difference between methods and principles, and a false estimate of the value of lead-ends above all other rows. The result is that instead of framing the definition to include all methods he would narrow the number of methods to the scope of the definition. We must bear in mind that the term "method" is one in common use on the practical side of ringing to a far greater extent than on the theoretic. To the ordinary ringer any allowable method of producing rows is a "method," and if you narrow this you not only create a schism between theory and practice, but you try to deprive us of a term we cannot do without. It seems to me that a "principle" is the general rules that govern the nature of the formation of a method, the skeleton, so to speak, while the "method" is the flesh and blood. Thus the Plain Bob principle is that one bell shall have a plain hunting course, and that the others shall work about it. The method of Bob Major is the making of 2nds; the method of Double Norwich is the making of certain 4ths and 3rds, and 6ths and 5ths. Again the principle of Treble Bob is that one bell shall have a continuous dodging course; the method of Kent is the making of certain 2nds and 3rds and 4ths. The principle of Stedman is that the course of the bells should be altered by alternate slow and quick strikes, the method is the making of certain 3rds.

To Mr. James's view I object on the threefold ground of history, utility, and scientific accuracy.

Of history, because there is absolutely nothing to warrant the assumption that any one considered a principle to be what Mr. James would have us believe it is. Stedman certainly did not have this view, as a cursory review of his book will show. All those who have at various times brought out systems which are not treble-dominated, with the possible exception of Shipway, who copied the term "principle" from Stedman, have called those systems "methods." And Mr. Snowden, no mean authority on such matters, classes Stedman among the standard methods. Not only so, but you can scarcely go into any tower but you will hear the term "method" applied to Stedman, Forward, Duffield, etc. Again, suppose you accept Mr. James's view, what term have you to designate the various systems, treble-dominated, and non-treble-denominated, when speaking of them collectively. I foresee the day not far distant when what Mr. James calls principles will be as numerous as what he calls methods. What will you call them then? Mr. James's invitation to us, when constructed a method, to take our choice of the various "principles" sounds plausible, but of them only two are at all suitable for treble-dominated methods. One of these is the plain hunting course, the other is Treble Bob. But will Mr. James or anyone else shew us *how* you can possibly get a principle such as he mentions on the plan of having every bell a dodging hunt. He admits it is hopelessly false; it is not that, it is impossible.

But to pass to the other side of his definition. It amounts to this, you can do what you please with the interior of your leads if only you have the lead-end correct. You can have any amount of corruption in your tomb if only the sepulchre is well whitened outside.

Now I thought that if one fact had been established it was that all successions of rows were formed in round blocks, that these round blocks have theoretically no start nor finish, the round being merely an incidental row, and that every row is of equal value. In accordance with custom and general utility we always use the treble as the fixed bell, but this is surely arbitrary (Mr. James's definition admits it), and therefore the division of the leads between the hand and backstroke of the treble or after the latter is arbitrary also. Mr. Davies says of at least one method that the division is at neither place. Now all Mr.

James's arguments are based on the assumption that the lead-end is a row of more value than any other row, but if this be not so, as it certainly is not, then his definition is not scientifically accurate. He objects, and rightly, to the alteration of the course of rows at the lead-end. Can he be blind to the logical conclusion that the alteration of the course of any row is equally objectionable? Yet when I venture to point this out I was told of "restrictions grievous to be borne." I have had "scientific accuracy" cast in my teeth a good deal lately, but surely those that do so cannot expect to be allowed to maintain it as far as they will, and then shirk the logical consequences. My position is this—every row is of equal value; what you cannot insist on at the interior of the lead, you cannot insist on at the lead-end, which by a necessary but still arbitrary arrangement is made the signature of the lead, and I am sure I stand on ground far more scientifically accurate than any of my opponents.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

AN ADMISSION.

SIR,—I find that the Rev. E. B. James has the prior claim (by some years) to the No. 2 plain method published by him in "THE BELL NEWS" of October 21st, and I therefore relinquish my claim to same.

GEORGE BAKER.

ROBERT CALLER'S SARCASTIC.

SIR,—In answer to a letter which appeared in your issue of October 21st, I feel I cannot let it pass without a few words in justice to the St. Alphege band of ringers. I have had several chances of hearing them ring, and can truthfully say that I never heard them ring stoney. I can remember them ringing Grandsire Triples in Thanet five years ago, and I have known them to ring Caters at Quex Park, Birchington, and as late as last Whit-Monday they rang Stedman Triples at St. John's church, Margate, a ring which has since been condemned as unringable by a better band. I can truthfully say that they do the best change-ringing in Canterbury, and they ring in more methods than the Cathedral company, who a matter of three months ago were ringing stoney and Grandsire Doubles on a Sunday afternoon; I happened to be in Canterbury for the day and heard it myself. Perhaps Robert Caller was one of the ringers on that occasion. Personally, I do not know the conductor of St. Alphege, but I am sure he must be very energetic to have such a good band.

AN OLD THANET RINGER.

SIR,—I was more than surprised to see Mr. Robert Caller's letter in your issue of October 21st, but I am afraid the "Caller" is much prejudiced against the two brothers he mentions. How he or any of the Cathedral band can glory in calling themselves change-ringers is a query. I have known all the band for years, or at least ten years, and what are the achievements of the band during that time? For the whole time I state, though they have a Stedman Caters band, I think I am right in stating that more than half the band have never rung a peal of Stedman Triples, Caters being out of the question. It is the old story of *£ s. d.*, not change-ringing, but my friend Mr. Caller, sen. is not correct, as he knows fully well no two or one either of the above company have spent the time or done anything for the advancement of change-ringing, as the two brothers he would condemn, either of whom would conduct a peal to-morrow. Talk about Association! you don't have to look to Canterbury for Kent County points, or we should be one lower than the bottom of the list. With a President of the ability of our Association Hon. Sec., the records of the Cathedral company read *nil*, and I sincerely trust our friend who professes to be in earnest, will improve the standard, and let us see some result of his energy without a pen. I should most certainly name him Bob Caller, jun., not sen., as his powers have been too limited in that direction.

AN OUTSIDER INTERESTED.

INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR,—Could you help me in a little matter of belfry improvement? We have a tower with eight bells. Some years ago there was a proper ringing-stage, but for some reason or other, some said it was unsafe; others said it was removed to improve the appearance of the structure. Whatever the reason it was removed, it does not matter; the result is that we have now for a good number of years been pushed up into the clock.

chamber. Last year the bells were rehung, and two trebles added, completing the eight. The rope-sight is bad, and it is also very noisy. We did our best to get the Vicar to have the floor replaced, but to no purpose. He also refused to put guides in, and allow us to ring on the floor. He seemed inclined to listen to a floor that could be raised and lowered, so that when not ringing the floor would not cut across the tower arch. The question is could such an arrangement be fixed at a not exorbitant figure. Have you ever heard of such a thing? Could you put it in your valuable paper, so that if possible we might be able to hear of a case as a precedent, if there is such a one. I am afraid I have put it very clumsily to you, but perhaps you can make out what I mean.

A. R. L.

SIR,—Will any reader of your paper tell me where I can get a reliable history of change-ringing, and the price; also if it is possible to get an illustration or diagram of a bell hung for ringing that would be suitable for illustrating an essay on ringing?

J. W. KNEESHAW.

Obituary.

JOHN SMITH.

Norwich Association members will learn with regret of the death of John Smith—or as he was universally known, "Peter." Deceased had been in failing health for some time, and had therefore done comparatively little ringing for the last three years. Norwich youngsters had much to thank Peter for—always willing to attend meetings, get the bells ready, and then offering to ring the worst-going bell in the tower. His prowess in the latter direction was well known, taking a keen delight in ringing a bell that had been declared by others to be unringable. Of an odd disposition he was, however, universally liked, and many will regret his comparatively early death.

ROBERT PALGRAVE.

The above-named member of the St. Peter Mancroft society, Norwich, passed peacefully away on October 21st, aged 82 years. He had done little ringing for the past ten years, although he retained his position as senior member of the company. He was in his day a very fine heavy bell-ringer, and was the last of the men who took part in the 7126 of Stedman Cinques in 1844. Very few peals can be traced to his credit, almost the last being one of Stedman Caters, conducted by the late John Cox. A muffled peal, consisting of the whole pull and stand, followed by a touch of Grandsire Cinques, was rung on the day of the funeral. The ringers were C. E. Borrett (conductor), H. W. Stanley, F. Knights, W. Bales, P. Sadler, F. J. Howchin, G. Howchin, E. Francis, F. H. Knights, A. G. Warnes, G. Smith, and S. Smith.

RENOVATION OF PODINGTON CHURCH.

The offer of Mrs. Orr, a London lady, who occupies The Cottage, Podington, to contribute £100 towards the renovation of the church, was brought before the parish by the Vicar, and it was then decided that the work should be carried out. It was unanimously decided that the work should be given to the tradesmen of the village. The work was proceeding with despatch, and several of the seats had been transformed, when Mr. Orlebar, the patron, intervened, and said he should apply for an injunction against the Vicar and churchwardens if they did not desist, as he maintained that the character of the wood-work was not being retained, and that before they could proceed it would be necessary to have a faculty, and consult an architect. The attention of Archdeacon Bathurst, of Bedford, having been called to the matter, the Archdeacon held a consultation at the Vicarage, Podington, and he decided that the work should be carried out under his superintendence, a decision agreed to by both parties. It is hoped that the renovation of the church will not give rise to any further unpleasantness.

BY MOOR AND FELL.

A WEST YORKSHIRE SKETCH.

[From *The Bradford Observer*.]

We are still in the old garden behind Bingley Church, and still old stories lead us on. But time is jogging, and the moon is up above the hazel trees already; and midnight will surprise us if we tarry longer with the maiden ladies, the pedagogues and doctors and country gentlemen, of a generation past and done with. Yet the church-tower keeps us dreaming still, for it, too, has its memories. It held a famous peal of six bells—there are eight now—this square old tower with its grated belfry windows; and in its day it has seen as staunch a succession of ringers as any in the country. Good bells they were, and their tones gathered sweetness from the ranging hills and wooded slopes that caught the music, and mellowed it, and sent it back and forth in soft, re-echoing waves. Whatever they did in Bingley, they did it with a whole heart; and if you ask the last-remaining of the old ringers to step into the garden here—he lives just behind—you will listen to such praise of campanology as makes you sure that hunting the fox is light and unenthusiastic work compared with that intricate maze of uprising and down-descending bell-ropes which taxes muscle and brain to the top-most of their strength. There are few enthusiasms so deep-seated as the older-fashioned bellringer's; he can talk by the hour, and never weary, of Crown Bobs and Royal Bobs, Snappers and Taking Peals—and if we fail to grasp the details of technique, we realise that in its broader aspect ringing is not only an art, but a sport that calls out every sporting trait of nerve and hard endurance.

This Bingley peal has a history unique in the annals of its brethren; for a hundred years it was rung by a company of earnest fellows—son following father—who worked with persistent courage to master every difficulty that was presented by their art; they composed arrangements of their own; and once—on the Shrove-Tuesday of 1826, it was—they rang upwards of 8,000 changes, on thirty-five methods, without a mistake of any sort. The feat occupied more than five hours, and it stands alone as an exhibition of faultless and sustained change-ringing. Old Henry Dickinson, a prime Bingley character, rang on that occasion; he was young Henry Dickinson then, and six-and-forty years later we find him ringing second in a round of nearly two thousand changes by way of celebrating his eightieth birthday. The youngsters tire long before two thousand in our own day; and few will credit that a greybeard of eighty could have an arm so full of sap, and a head so clear, as to perform the feat—a feat which is handed down, not by hearsay, but by history. Nay, more; he had not had enough when they stopped; and so, by way of a little further exercise, he and his five comrades rang nine-score changes of Bob Minor—and then they went to feast, carrying wet brows and appetites outrageous.

As far back as 1793 they rang an historic peal to commemorate the coming of age of a local magnate, and again in 1849 there was a noteworthy performance, rendered singular by the fact that three pairs of fathers and sons took part in it. And yet again—but the story of Bingley bells is long, and in their time they were as well-known to ringers as the Rune-stone underneath is known to antiquaries.

What is the use, ask the scoffers, of these record performances that have no more than empty sound to show for themselves when all is done? Nay, but they have more to show, and the endurance which the ringers learned from such-like enterprises stood them in good stead at many an awkward corner of their life-journey.

The older generation is always pessimistic about the young—and usually with good cause. What does our ringer say of the new race of bellringers? What is sadly true of nearly every town and village in the West Riding.

"There are no such ringers now," he says, as we go down the garden-steps together and in at the house door. "They haven't the brains, and they haven't the muscle, and they'd rather have it done by machinery."

Here and there the old spirit lingers, but it has grown old-fashioned, like enthusiasm, and the parochial spirit, and all the other cleanly things of yesterday. Progress has crushed out bell-ringing; and progress, when it takes, is apt to give so little in return.

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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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. 13d.

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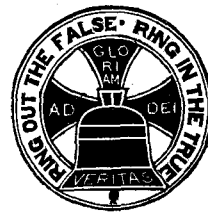
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Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of 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, NOVEMBER 4, 1899.

THAT the treatises on the words "method" and "principle" show a great deal of cleverness and ingenuity, we do not dispute or call in question for one moment. It is thought, however, that those concerned are riding their horse to death, without any commensurable advantages to the Exercise at large. We may venture to say, with the utmost deference of course, that whichever word is used is of no practical importance. The historical term is the shortest one, and no ingenuity, or cleverness, or even pedantry, will ever substitute the general use of "principle" for "method." In this number Mr. TROLLOPE deals with the matter very lucidly. SHIPWAY copied "principle" from STEDMAN without a doubt; but are we certain that STEDMAN ever used the word himself?

We do not object in the least to the space occupied in

our columns by the ventilation of these opinions; not in the least. They show that no small amount of thought is being given to such questions, though they may not be of any practical use. For whatever dictum may be laid down after the discussion is at an end, we feel sure that hardly a dozen ringers will be found to disregard the old word and take up the other. "Method" is as correct as "principle," and usage recommends its universal retention.

The Durham and Newcastle Association have performed a most graceful act in acknowledging by a testimonial the services of their late Honorary Secretary. Mr. HUDSON is a gentleman whom to know is to greatly esteem; an excellent pattern of a courteous Englishman. One good thing is that though he has left office he has not left the Exercise, and we hope to hear of him during many years. The Association does not appear to have retrograded in any way through the establishment of the Cleveland Association: in fact both bodies appear to progress with uncommon rapidity. The executive of each are of course full of energy.

It has been brought to our notice that a ridiculous joke was perpetrated the other week by a ringer who sent a peal report. This may appear very satisfactory to the person concerned, but to all right-thinking people it is the height of folly. Further madness of this sort will place the individual concerned in a somewhat awkward position.

The Provinces.

BRIGHTON.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. (BRIGHTON PARISH CHURCH BRANCH)

On Monday, October 23, 1899, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES. Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qrs. 2 lbs.

GEORGE F. ATTREE Treble.	GEORGE A. KING 5.
GEORGE BAKER 2.	EDWARD C. MERRITT .. 6.
FRANK BENNETT 3.	GEORGE SMART 7.
ROBERT J. DAWK 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the memory of Lieutenant Wm. Hannah, second son of the Vicar of Brighton, who was killed in action in Natal on Friday, October 27th, the sad news only being known in Brighton about two hours before the peal commenced.

BEDFORD.—THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, October 24, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

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 7½ cwt.

JOSEPH CHURCH Treble.	WILLIAM J. BARKER .. 4.
ISAAC HILLS 2.	CHARLES CHASTY 5.
CHARLES WM. CLARKE .. 3.	FRANK WEBB Tenor.

Conducted by F. WEBB.

This is the first 5040 by F. Webb as conductor, he being only fourteen years of age.

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.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.

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

On Wednesday, October 25, 1899, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; A VARIATION OF THURSTANS.

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

Conducted by R. E. GROVE.

*First peal.

WROTHAM, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, October 25, 1899, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

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

Tenor 21 cwt.

ARTHUR C. WEST Treble.	WILLIAM G. GRANGER .. 5.
GEORGE B. SELBY 2.	HENRY J. SELBY 6.
DAVID WRIGHT 3.	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE .. 7.
HERBERT J. FORD 4.	RICHARD GOODBURN Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE.

First peal of Stedman on the bells.

ERITH, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, October 26, 1899, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES. Tenor 18 cwt.

WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE Treble.	ISAAC G. SHADE 5.
JOHN R. SHARMAN 2.	CHARLES WILKINS 6.
ALFRED W. BRIGHTON .. 3.	HARRY FLANDERS 7.
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 4.	EDWIN BARNETT Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN.

SHIPTON-UNDER-WYCHWOOD, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, October 27, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

HARRY MILES Treble.	SAMUEL COOMBS 5.
GEORGE BARTLETT 2.	ALBERT TURNER 6.
WALTER LONGSHAW .. 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
RICHARD HARTLEY 4.	ALFRED MILES Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

First peal of Stedman by all the band except the conductor, and it is his 270th peal of Stedman Triples.

RODMERSHAM, KENT.—KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 28, 1899, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

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.

*First peal with a bob bell.

BRAMLEY, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Saturday, October 28, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Tenor 12 cwt.

GEORGE W. STEEL.. ..Treble.	JOHN THACKRAY 4.
JOS. C. ABBISHAW 2.	WALTER CHAPMAN 5.
ALFRED CHAPMAN 3.	JNO. W. T. HOLGATE ..Tenor.

Conducted by WALTER CHAPMAN.

COSELEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Saturday, October 28, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

ANNABLE'S.

WILLIAM A. JEAVONS ..Treble.	SAMUEL SPITTLE 5.
SAMUEL J. HUGHES 2.	WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT 6.
ARTHUR SPITTLE 3.	JOHN SMITH 7.
JOHN GOODMAN 4.	JOSEPH FAULKNER ..Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT.

DEWSBURY, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 28, 1899, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qrs.

A. WINDSOR .. ..Treble.	G. TAYLOR 5.
J. GARFORTH* 2.	G. H. HARDY 6.
S. PEACOCK 3.	F. WOODHEAD 7.
C. SENIOR 4.	R. BINNS .. ..Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by G. H. HARDY.

Rung in honour of the thirty-sixth birthday of F. Woodhead, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns. *First Association peal.

BANGOR, NORTH WALES.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, October 28, 1899, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DAVID,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

WILLIAM CRANE† ..Treble.	JAMES H. MIDWINTER .. 5.
SAMUEL TAYLOR 2.	*ROBERT WATSON 6.
REF. T. LEWIS JONES .. 3.	†RICHARD NICHOLS 7.
WILLIAM H. BARBER .. 4.	THOMAS G. MILLER ..Tenor.

Composed by FRANK BENNETT, of Brighton, and Conducted by WILLIAM H. BARBER.

*First peal. †First peal in the method. This composition contains the full combinations of 4-5-6 in 5-6.

WEST BROMWICH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, October 28, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HULT'S ORIGINAL.

JAMES CULLWICK ..Treble.	JAMES HALL 5.
WILLIAM H. GODDEN .. 2.	ARTHUR GRIFFITHS .. 6.
THOMAS R. HORTON .. 3.	SAMUEL REEVES 7.
WILLIAM R. SMALL .. 4.	GEORGE GRIFFITHS ..Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

These bells have been rehung with new fittings, etc., by Messrs. James Barwell, and the work has given general satisfaction to the church authorities and the ringers, the "go" of them being all that can be desired. This is the first peal on them since the restoration.

ECKINGTON, DERBYSHIRE.

OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AND YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Saturday, October 28, 1899, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

WILLIAM LAMBERT ..Treble.	JOHN P. TARLTON 5.
THOMAS BETTISON 2.	SOLOMON ROBINSON, JUN 6.
WILLIAM PRICE 3.	WILLIAM H. TURTON .. 7.
THOMAS WHITWORTH .. 4.	ARTHUR KNIGHTS ..Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN and Conducted by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

This peal has the 6th her extent wrong and the 4th, 5th and 6th their extent in 6ths place, the 4th at four, the 5th at five, and the 6th at six course-ends in the minimum number of courses, and is the first peal rung containing these combined properties.

MIDDLETON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 28, 1899, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

GEORGE HOYLE ..Treble.	SAMUEL STOTT 5.
ISAAC SCHOFIELD 2.	JAMES PRIESTLEY 6.
JOHN MILLETT 3.	JOHN HARRISON 7.
WILLIAM JAKEMAN 4.	BENJAMIN THORPE ..Tenor.

Composed by SAMUEL WOOD, and Conducted by WM. JAKEMAN.

RUSPER, SUSSEX.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Sunday, October 29, 1899, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

CHARLES TAYLOR ..Treble.	GEORGE T. HOAD 5.
JOHN AKEHURST 2.	ALBERT ELLIS 6.
GEORGE THOMPSON 3.	JAMES WORSFOLD 7.
FRANCIS T. HOAD, JUN. .. 4.	FREDERICK WICKENS ..Tenor.

Composed by THOMAS DAY, and Conducted by FREDERICK WICKENS.

Miscellaneous.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

HARWICH (Essex).—On Thursday, October 12th, for practice at the church of St. Nicholas, 720 Double Court on the back six in 24 mins. W. Durrant, 1; G. Thompson, 2; G. Moss, 3; F. Watling, 4; C. Ramplin (conductor), 5; A. Morris, 6. On Sunday evening, October 15th, for Divine Service, 910 Grandsire Triples. W. Durrant, 1; J. Brewster, 2; C. Ellis, 3; G. Knock, 4; G. Moss, 5; G. Thompson, 6; C. Ramplin (conductor), 7; A. Morris, 8.

LEYTONSTONE (Essex).—On September 23rd, for practice at the parish church, 720 College Single. E. Tugwood, 1; W. Keeble, 2; T. Beams (conductor), 3; J. Mardell, 4; J. Moule, 5; G. Hayden, 6. On Sunday evening, September 24th, after Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. F. Withers, 1; W. Keeble, 2; J. Mardell, 3; W. Miller (conductor), 4; W. Doran, 5; G. Hayden, 6. On Wednesday, October 11th, 720 Double Oxford and 240 London Surprise. C. Hopkins, 1; W. Miller (conductor), 2; W. Doran, 3; W. Keeble, 4; J. Moule, 6; E. Wightman, 6.

LOUGHTON (Essex).—On September 26th, at the church of St. John the Baptist, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. G. Carter, 1; W. Doran, 2; E. Bacon, 3; W. Miller, 4; J. Rann, 5; W. Keeble, 6; W. Clark, 7; E. Wightman (conductor), 8. Also 224 Double Norwich. H. Gowers, 1; E. Wightman, 5; W. Keeble (conductor), 6; E. Carter, 8. On Sunday, October 8th, 1680 Double Norwich. W. Keeble, 1; W. Miller, 2; E. Bacon, 3; W. Doran, 4; J. Rann, 5; G. Carter, 6; W. Clark, 7; E. Wightman (conductor), 8. It was intended to have started for a half-peal, but as time would not permit, the above was resorted to.

WOODFORD (Essex).—On Sunday evening, August 20th, 720 Coventry Surprise. H. Gowers, 1; W. Keeble, 2; E. Wightman, 3

T. Beams, 4; J. Moule, 5; J. Mardell (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method on the bells. After service 720 Kent Treble Bob (twelve bobs), and 360 Bob Minor. G. Hayden, 1; W. Keeble (conductor), 2; J. Moule, 3; J. Kimberly, 4; J. Mardell, 5; E. Wightman, 6. On Monday, October 9th, for practice, 720 Woodbine. W. Keeble, 1; H. Gowers, 2; T. H. Beams, 3; J. Kimberly, 4; J. Mardell, 5; E. Wightman (conductor), 6.

WEST HAM (Essex).—On Tuesday, October 10th, 336 Grandire Triples. E. Wightman (conductor), 1; W. Keeble, 2; H. Bottrell, 3; C. Hopkins, 4; J. Rann, 5; J. Moule, 6; G. Carter, 7; G. Hayden, 8. And 270 Grandire Caters. H. Bottrell, 1; C. Hopkins, 2; W. Doran, 3; W. Keeble, 4; J. Rann, 5; G. Carter, 6; E. Wightman (conductor), 7; J. Moule, 8; H. Torble, 9; G. Hayden, 10. Also a course of Stedman Caters. T. Taffender, 1; C. Hopkins, 2; J. P. Bradley, 3; W. Keeble, 4; J. Rann, 5; G. Carter, 7; W. Doran, 7; E. Wightman, 8; H. Torble, 9; J. Moule, 10.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

BENHILTON (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, October 15th, for Divine Service at All Saints church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. W. Smart, 1; S. Smithers, 2; W. Wood, 3; C. Dean (conductor), 4; C. Barltrop, 5; H. Bryant, 6; F. Trendell, 7; L. C. Ferrigo, 8. Rung as a farewell to Mr. B. Wadmore, who has left Sutton.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

Foy (Herefordshire).—On Tuesday, October 3rd, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. W. Phillips, 1; C. Kings, 2; J. Cartwright, 3; J. Clark, 4; A. Llewellyn, 5; J. E. Groves (conductor), 6. Also several 120s of Stedman and Grandsire Doubles. Tenor 9 cwt.

UPTON BISHOP.—On September 29th, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 720 Grandsire Doubles. J. E. Groves, 1; F. Oakley, 2; H. Oakley, 3; W. Oakley, 4; H. Booth (conductor), 5; A. James, 6. On Sunday morning, October 1st, for Divine Service, 720 Grandsire Doubles. A. James, 1; T. Morgan, 2; J. E. Groves, 3; W. Oakley, 4; H. Booth (conductor), 5; F. Oakley, 6. For evening service 1260 Grandsire Doubles in 40 mins. J. E. Groves, (conductor), 1; T. Morgan, 2; H. Oakley, 3; W. Oakley, 4; H. Booth, 5; F. Oakley, 6. Also several 120s, conducted by G. Wilks. Tenor 11 cwt.

MADELEY.—On Thursday, October 5th, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 720 Grandsire Doubles. J. Whiting, 1; R. Trehearn, 2; J. E. Groves (conductor), 3; J. W. Taylor, 4; J. Morgan, 5; T. Morgan, 6. Also three 120s. J. E. Groves, 1; Rev. G. W. Turner, 2; T. Ricketts, 3; Rev. J. P. Cranstoun, 4; J. Morgan, 5; T. Morgan, 6. On Tuesday, October 10th, 720 Grandsire Doubles. J. E. Groves (conductor), 1; Rev. G. W. Turner, 2; R. Trehearn, 3; J. Morgan, 4; J. W. Turner, 5; T. Ricketts, 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

WITHINGTON.—On Friday, October 6th, on the occasion of the dedication of a new organ, and also the Harvest Festival, 360 Grandsire Minor. G. Cole, 1; W. Davies, 2; A. Brace, 3; C. Clifford, 4; J. E. Groves (conductor), 5; A. Bowers, 6. Also several 120s of Doubles. Tenor 16 cwt.

CODDINGTON.—On Sunday, October 22nd, 720 Kent Treble Bob. H. W. Allen, 1; J. Thomas, 2; C. Thomas, 3; C. Layton, 4; F. Smith, 5; J. E. Groves (conductor), 6. Also 720 Bob Minor. C. Layton, 1; H. W. Allen, 2; J. Thomas, 3; F. Smith, 4; C. Greening, 5; C. Thomas (conductor), 6. And 360 Oxford Treble Bob. H. W. Allen, 1; C. Thomas, 2; J. Thomas, 3; J. E. Groves, 4; F. Smith, 5; C. Layton (conductor), 6. Also three 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. Tenor 9 cwt.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Wednesday, October 11th, at St. Mary Matfelon, Whitechapel, the last 742 of Holt's Original; T. Bernardin, 1; W. Truss, 2; H. Alford, 3; J. Scholes, 4; E. Wallage, 5; E. Hall, 6; T. H. Taffender (conductor), 7; G. Barrell, 8. On Sunday evening, October 22nd, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans') in 48 mins. T. H. Taffender (conductor), 1; H. Springall, 2; J. Scholes, 3; W. Truss, 4; H. Torble, 5; E. Wallage, 6; H. Alford, 7; G. Burrell, 8.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AND YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

ORDSALL (Notts).—On Saturday, October 21st, 720 London Surprise. C. Crawford, 1; T. Bettison (conductor), 2; W. Lambert, 3; W. Allwood, 4; H. Turton, 5; C. Severn, 6. Also 360 Cambridge Surprise. J. White, 1; T. Bettison (conductor), 2; W. Lambert, 3; W. Allwood, 4; C. Severn, 5; H. Turton, 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent).—On Thursday, October 19th, for practice at St. Peter's church, 336 Grandsire Triples. S. Faithfull, 1; S. Perkins, jun., 2; W. Smith, 3; H. Martin, 4; P. Stapley, 5; W. Latter, 6; F. Harrington (conductor), 7; G. Kember, 8. And 504 Stedman Triples. S. Perkins, jun., 1; A. Welsh, 2; P. Stapley, 3; G. Smithers, 4; S. Perkins, sen., 5; F. Harrington, 6; W. Latter (conductor), 7; W. Smith, 8. On Sunday, October 22nd, 336 Grandsire Triples. G. Smithers, 1; S. Perkins, jun., 2; J. Heathorn, 3; H. Martin, 4; E. J. Heathorn, 5; J. Muggridge, 6; W. Latter (conductor), 7; W. Smith, 8. And 504 Stedman Triples. S. Perkins, jun., 1; W. Pollard, 2; H. Porter, 3; W. Latter, 4; E. J. Heathorn, 5; H. Ford, 6; S. Perkins, sen., 7; W. Smith, 8.

DEPTFORD (Kent).—On Sunday morning, October 8th, at St. John's church, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 1164 Bob Major. J. Law, 1; J. Rose, 2; T. G. Deal, 3; E. H. Nixon, 4; A. C. Bedwell, 5; W. Bedwell (conductor), 6; G. H. Daynes, 7; W. J. Jeffries, 8. After evening service 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Law, 1; J. Rose, 2; T. G. Deal, 3; A. C. Bedwell, 4; E. H. Nixon, 5; G. H. Daynes, 6; W. J. Jeffries (conductor), 7; H. Young, 8. On Wednesday, October 11th, 1260 Oxford Bob Triples. W. Jeffries, 1; J. Rose, 2; T. G. Deal, 3; W. Weatherstone, 4; W. J. Jeffries, 5; J. Law, 6; W. Bedwell (conductor), 7; H. Young, 8.

TENTERDEN (Kent).—On Sunday, October 22nd, at St. Mildred's church, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 504 Grandsire Triples was rung for morning service. W. Clift, 1; R. Edwards (conductor), 2; F. Edwards, 3; G. Cramp, 4; C. Tribe, 5; A. Hinds, 6; G. Neve, 7; H. Holdstock, 1. Another 504 in the same method by the same band. On Monday, October 23rd, for practice, 504 Grandsire Triples. E. Burden, 1; R. Edwards (conductor), 2; F. Burden, 3; G. Cramp, 4; A. Hinds, 5; C. Tribe, 6; F. Edwards, 7; H. Holdstock, 8.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CHEPSTOW (Monmouthshire).—On Saturday, October 14th, at St. Mary's church, 630 Grandsire Triples. A. Paddock, 1; J. W. Davis (Lydney), 2; G. Hobson, 3; J. Smith, 4; J. Prickett, 5; J. Morley, 6; R. Thompson (conductor), 7; G. Daniell, 8. Also a 97 in the same method. A. Paddock, 1; G. Hobson, 2; R. Thompson, 3; J. Smith, 4; J. W. Davis, 5; J. Prickett (conductor), 6; J. Morley, 7; G. Daniels, 8.

BRIDGEND.—On Sunday, September 3rd, 720 Plain Bob. W. Hummel, 1; R. Evans, 2; J. Evans, 3; R. Bunston, 4; D. J. Hurford, 5; J. Cox, 6. On Saturday, September 30th, 720 College Single. D. J. Hurford, 1; J. Evans, 2; W. Hardwick, 3; R. Bunston, 4; J. South, 5; J. Cox, 6. On Sunday, October 1st, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Evans, 1; R. Evans, 2; D. J. Hurford, 3; R. Bunston, 4; J. South, 5; J. Cox, 6. On Saturday, October 7th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. R. Evans, 1; J. Evans, 2; R. Bunston, 3; D. J. Hurford, 4; J. South, 5; J. Cox, 6. And 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Evans, 1; R. Evans, 2; J. South, 3; D. J. Hurford, 4; R. Bunston, 5; J. Cox, 6. On Saturday, October 14th, 720 Plain Bob. W. Hummel, 1; J. Evans, 2; D. J. Hurford, 3; R. Evans, 4; R. Bunston, 5; J. Cox, 6. On Sunday, October 15th, 720 Plain Bob. W. Hummel, 1; R. Evans, 2; R. Bunston, 3; J. South, 4; D. J. Hurford, 5; J. Cox, 6.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUNDERLAND.—On Sunday morning, October 1st, for Divine Service at the church of St. Ignatius the Martyr, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. Denteth, 1; J. W. Parker, 2; G. R. Taylor, 3; R. Manning, 4; J. Butler, 5; R. Patterson (conductor), 6. First 720 by Messrs. Denteth and Butler. For evening service 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and eighteen singles). W. Denteth, 1; J. W. Parker (conductor), 2; G. R. Taylor, 3; R. H. Blakey, 4; R. Manning, 5; R. Patterson, 6. On Thursday, October 5th, for the Harvest Festival, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-two singles). R. Manning, 1; G. S. Taylor, 2; G. R. Taylor, 3; R. H. Blakey, 4; J. W. Parker, 5; R. Patterson (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, October 8th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles). J. W. Parker (conductor), 1; G. S. Taylor, 2; R. H. Blakey, 3; R. Manning, 4; J. Butler, 5; R. Patterson, 6. On Sunday evening, October 15th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles). W. Denteth, 1; G. S. Taylor, 2; G. R. Taylor, 3; R. H. Blakey, 4; J. W. Parker, 5; R. Patterson (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, October 22nd, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles). J. W. Parker (conductor), 1; G. S. Taylor, 2; G. R. Taylor, 3; R. Manning, 4; J. Butler, 5; R. Patterson, 6.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

STOURBRIDGE (Worcestershire).—On Thursday, August 31st, at St.

Thomas' church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. W. A. Pugh, 1; J. H. Parsons, 2; F. Brace, 3; W. Fryer, 4; A. Roberts, 5; G. H. Pagett (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, September 26th, for a special service on the occasion of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Freemasons of Worcestershire in connection of the Jubilee of the Lodge "Stability," 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. A. Pugh, 1; R. James, 2; F. Brace, 3; A. Roberts, 4; W. Fryer, 5; G. H. Pagett (conductor), 6. And 720 Bob Minor. A. Roberts, 1; R. James, 2; W. Fryer, 3; F. Brace, 4; W. A. Pugh, 5; G. H. Pagett (conductor), 6. Also 720 Grandsire Minor. R. James, 1; W. A. Pugh, 2; G. H. Pagett, 3; W. Fryer, 4; A. Roberts (conductor), 5; F. Brace, 6. On Thursday, September 28th, for the Harvest Festival, 720 Bob Minor. R. James, 1; W. A. Pugh, 2; G. H. Pagett, 3; W. Fryer, 4; R. Matthews, 5; A. Roberts (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, October 1st, several ten-scores of Doubles with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to the late W. O. Foster, Esq., of Apley, a generous supporter to this church and neighbourhood. For evening service 720 Bob Minor, J. Pagett (conductor), 1; R. James, 2; W. A. Pugh, 3; W. Fryer, 4; R. Matthews, 5; G. H. Pagett, 6. On Thursday, October 5th, on the day of the funeral at Stockton, being one of the seven churches on his estate, another 720 Bob Minor. W. Fryer, 1; A. Roberts (conductor), 2; J. H. Parsons, 3; R. James, 4; R. Matthews, 5; G. H. Pagett, 6.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

IPSWICH.—On Saturday, October 14th, an attempt was made for a peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus which came to grief after ringing 3900 changes in 2 hrs. 50 mins. owing to a change-course. S. Cook, 1; J. Motts, 2; A. E. Durrant, 3; C. H. Gillingham, 4; R. Hawes, 5; W. Motts, 6; W. L. Catchpole, 7; J. T. Howard, 8; E. Pye, 9; W. Woods, 10; R. H. Brundle, 11; W. Pye, 12. Tenor 30 cwt.

REDENHALL (Norfolk).—On Monday, October 16th, an attempt was made for a peal of Superlative Surprise Major, which came to grief after ringing 1 hr., owing to a change-course. R. Whiting, 1; J. Betts, 2; E. Pye, 3; F. R. Borrett, 4; E. F. Poppy, 5; J. Souter, 6; F. Smith, 7; W. Pye (conductor), 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

FRAMSDEN (Suffolk).—On Sunday afternoon, October 22nd, for Divine Service, 504 Stedman Triples. W. G. Crickmer, 1; W. Pye, 2; E. Hicks, 3; G. Thurlow, 4; E. Pye, 5; J. Creasey, 6; G. Wightman (conductor), 7; W. Sawyer, 8. Also 480 Oxford Treble Bob Major, and a course of Double Norwich. E. Hicks, 1; W. Pye, 2; E. Pye, 3; G. Thurlow, 4; W. Wightman, 5; W. E. Bullock, 6; W. G. Crickmer, 7; G. Wightman (conductor), 8.

HADLEIGH (Suffolk).—On Thursday, October 12th, 720 Plain Bob in 27 mins. A. Thorp, 1; H. J. Mee, 2; T. Reed, 3; F. Scowen, 4; E. Willis, 5; F. Mee (conductor), 6. Tenor 28 cwt.

LEICESTER.—On Saturday, October 14th, at St. Mary's church, three courses of Bob Major. W. Willson, 1; J. T. Holmes, 2; J. Swinfield, 3; A. R. Aldham, 4; C. R. Lilley, 5; W. Dickinson, 6; J. Houghton, jun. (conductor), 7; W. R. Hensher, 8. And 168 Grandsire Triples. C. R. Lilley (conductor), 1; J. Barrow, 2; J. Swinfield, 3; C. Fowler, 4; J. Houghton, 5; J. T. Holmes, 6; W. Dickinson, 7; W. Lowe, 8.

NORTON-IN-THE-MOORS (Staffordshire).—On September 22nd, 720 Duke of York in 27 mins. *F. Goldstraw, 1; J. F. Naylor, 2; E. Johnson, 3; *G. Goldstraw, 4; E. Wheeldon, 5; E. Glover (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. On Sunday, October 15th, 720 Woodbine in 28 mins. W. Goldstraw, 1; J. H. Naylor, 2; E. Johnson, 3; G. Goldstraw, 4; E. Glover (conductor), 5; A. Ryles, 6.

NORWICH.—On Sunday, October 15th, at the church of St. Lawrence, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 29 mins. G. Howchin, 1; H. Howlett, 2; H. J. Borrett, 3; G. Smith, 4; E. Francis (conductor), 5; J. Bunn, 6.

WOOTTON BASSETT (Wilts).—On Sunday afternoon, October 1st for Divine Service, 1260 Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. T. Lawrence, 1; O. W. Layng, 2; A. Lawrence (conductor), 3; C. Gardiner, 4; L. A. Wilson, 5; A. Breakspear, 6; T. Robinson, 7; T. Ricketts, 8. For evening service 2520 Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 30 mins. T. Lawrence, 1; O. W. Layng, 2; A. Lawrence, 3; C. Gardiner, 4; L. A. Wilson, 5; T. Ricketts (conductor), 6; T. Robinson, 7; A. Breakspear, 8. A short touch of Stedman Triples started for unfortunately came to grief on account of a rope breaking.

For Sale.

A Peal of Right Handbells, No. 15 size, in the key of C, by Taylor. They have been but very little used, price £1 10s.—Apply I. HILLS, Sewage Pumping Works, Bedford.

WHIP DOG DAY.

[From *The Midland Counties Herald*.]

St. Luke's Day, October 18th, was also Whip Dog Day, though at the end of the nineteenth century the name, it may be suspected, conveys to most persons very little meaning. The story of its origin, however, is curious and interesting. At a time long prior to the Reformation tradition tells us, a priest, while celebrating mass during some festival at York, dropped the pyx after consecration, and the wafer was snatched up and devoured by a dog which had been lying concealed under the altar. The solemnity of the occasion, it is added, did not save the offending animal from instant death; while public reprobation of the deed led to a general persecution of the dogs, which was afterwards continued on St. Luke's Day. This is the account of the matter given in Drake's History of York. Other antiquaries, however, declare that the custom of whipping dogs out of church dates back from the time of the Romans; and in any case it is certain that not even in the less decorous middle ages was St. Luke's Day the only one of the year which was made unpleasant for canine intruders in the churches. As early as the middle of the 16th century the dog whipper was a recognised official, while as late as 1868 or 1870 the church of Youlgrave, in Derbyshire, possessed its dog whippers' pew. In the churchwardens' accounts for the parish of Workop appears an entry that the sum of ninepence was "paid to old Verde for whipping dogs," while in 1616 "for whipping dogges out of ye church for whole year" 12d. was paid, and at Reading and Louth still earlier entries are to be found. In the parish of Trysull, Staffordshire, John Rudge gave by his will, dated so late as April 17th, 1725, five shillings a quarter to pay a poor man to go about the parish church of Trysull during the sermon to keep people awake and to keep dogs out of church. In the neighbouring county of Shropshire, however, Mr. John Rudge had been anticipated, as at Cloverley Richard Dovey, of Farmcote, granted in August, 1659, certain premises to John Sanders on certain conditions, one being that he would pay yearly the sum of 8s. to a poor man of that parish who would undertake to awaken sleepers and to whip out dogs from the church of Cloverley during divine service.

Here and there lands have been devised for the endowment of the dog-whipper's office, one instance being near Chislet in Kent. If not at the present time, it was at all events the custom until comparatively recently for the tenants of a certain place called Dog-Whipper's Marsh to pay 5s. a year to a person for keeping order in church, while from time immemorial there had been an acre of land in the parish of Peterchurch, Herefordshire, which had been appropriated to the use of a person for keeping dogs out of church, the person being appointed by the minister and churchwardens.

York Minister had its official, but Canterbury Cathedral had not, in 1644; or, if there was one, he must have performed his office with negligence, as Richard Culmer, "Minister of God's Word, dwelling in Canterbury," relates, in his "Cathedral News from Canterbury," that "one of the great canons or prebends," while genuflecting devoutly on his passage to the altar, was "resoluted" by a big mastiff, which leaped upon him again and again, until he was forced to cry out: "Take away the dog!—take away the dog!" There would also appear to have been a sort of qualified dog-whipper attached to St. Paul's Cathedral, but it would seem that he was merely required to turn all dogs out of the cathedral on Saturday night, in readiness for the Sunday services.

The custom of taking dogs to church is a very old one: some of the Dutch artists in representing the interior of a church invariably introduced a dog, while in Landseer's picture "The Free Church" dogs are in evidence. In Peterborough Cathedral there is or was a life-size likeness of Scarlett, who was sexton, and in his waistbelt is thrust his dog whip, while in a church near Bakewell a dog whip is preserved.

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 monthly meeting of the above will be held at Audley, to-day, Saturday, November 4.
W. TWIGG, *Hon. Sec.*

The Ancient Society of College Youths. The 262nd anniversary dinner will be held at The Bridge House hotel, London Bridge, on Saturday, November 11th, at 6.30 p.m. Tickets (3s. 6d. each), may be bought of Messrs. W. H. L. Buckingham, Cockerill, E. A. Davies, Dawe, Garrard, Horrex, Hughes, Newton, O'Meara, Pettit, Prime, Rowbotham, Sharman, W. D. Smith, Springall, Taffender, and Winney. The tower of St. Michael's, Cornhill, will be open to members and friends at 4 o'clock. As there will be no ringing at St. Paul's cathedral on November 14th, it has been decided to commence the business meeting that evening at 9 o'clock. The chief item on the Agenda will be the election of officers and it is hoped that all members who can possibly do so, will attend. WILLIAM T. COCKERILL, *Hon. Sec.*
37, Tradescant Road, South Lambeth, S.W.

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch.—Monthly meeting at St Peter's Woolton, on Saturday, November 11th. Belfry open at 3 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m.
G. WOODHALL, *Branch Sec.*

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—Cirencester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Tetbury, on Saturday, the 11th of November. There will be short evening-song in the parish church at 5 p.m., which it is hoped all will endeavour to attend. The bells (8) will be open for ringing from 2 p.m. Meeting for the election of members, etc., after the service. REV. CHARLES GOTT, *Hon. Sec.*
Latton Vicarage, Cricklade.

St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—The peal board recording the muffled peal of Cinques to the memory of the late Henry Bastable will be unveiled by the Rector of St. Martin's, the Rev. Canon A. J. Robinson, at 4 p.m. on Saturday, November 25th. The tower will be open for ringing at 3.30 p.m. Members and subscribers are invited. The Rector will afterwards entertain the members of the Guild at tea in the Dean Street School Rooms at 5 p.m. Tickets for the tea (free) must be applied for before the 18th inst., to
W. H. GODDEN, *Hon. Sec.*
61, Roland Road, Handsworth.

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO BRISTOL ON NOVEMBER 15TH, 1899.

If any ringers who contemplate paying Bristol a visit on the above date, and would like to take part in any ringing—peals or otherwise—will kindly communicate with Mr. F. G. May, St. George's, Bristol, he will give them a hearty welcome and arrange for ringing, etc. Nearly all the towers in the City are open, including St. Mary Redcliffe, St. Nicholas and St. Stephen's, and a number of eight-bell towers.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—The present address of Mr. T. J. Salter is 73, Baxter Street, Kidderminster.

FUNERAL OF MR. W. J. HENRY, AT WELLINGBOROUGH.

Amid many signs of regret and sympathy, the mortal remains of the late Mr. W. J. Henry, solicitor, were placed in their last resting-place in the Wellingborough Cemetery on Saturday afternoon, a large company witnessing the ceremony. The tradesmen of the town drew their blinds as the funeral cortege proceeded from the deceased's residence to All Saints. The mournful cortege was met at the church gates by the Rev. A. S. Altham, Vicar of All Saints, the Rev. R. W. Wynter, Vicar of St. Luke's, and the Rev. F. L. Ewens, curate of All Saints. At the conclusion of the service, which was conducted by the Rev. A. S. Altham, the hymn, "Abide with me," was sung. The cemetery having been reached, the concluding portion of the funeral service was read by the Rev. R. W. Wynter. The coffin, which was of polished oak, with massive brass fittings, was inscribed on the breast plate: "William James Henry, died October 3rd, 1899, aged 67 years."

At All Saints church on Sunday morning, the Rev. A. S. Altham referred to the loss the Church had sustained by the death of Mr. Henry. He said Mr. Henry helped to lay the foundation stone of All Saints' church, and the rev. gentleman spoke of his courtesy to everyone and the humility with which he would tender his advice. Deceased was a christian man and kind friend, and steadfastness and immovability were special features of his character.

In the evening, at the parish church, the Rev. R. Wynter alluded to the sad event, and held Mr. Henry up as one of the bright examples which contributed so much to the great honour and pious dignity of their list of Churchmen. The rev. gentlemen spoke of him with a sense of the deepest reverence and highest respect. He was a man who recognised his duty as a citizen, and one who feared God and did his duty. They should all cherish his memory. The rev. gentleman also expressed great sympathy with the widow. The Dead March was played at both churches.

Mr. Henry was a much-valued honorary member of the Central Northamptonshire Association, having joined it at its formation in 1883. When Wellingborough parish church bells were increased to eight in the year 1884 Mr. and Mrs. Henry most kindly came forward and paid for the recasting of the 5th bell. Mr. Henry was always a liberal contributor to belfry improvements. Each day from his death until the funeral the fifth bell was rung half-muffled for each of the services, a fitting tribute of respect to the memory of a staunch churchman and an ex-churchwarden.

SUNDERLAND PARISH CHURCH BELLS.

A circular has been issued "To the past and present inhabitants of Sunderland, especially to those associated with the parish church, whose fore-elders have been baptised and married there; whose kith and kin have lived near it and worshipped in it; whose surnames are found on the tombstones in the churchyard; whose families have been honourably connected with the history, trade, and commerce of the port; and have held office in the Church." This is for help in preserving and restoring the beautiful peal of bells that hang in the parish church tower. An excellent example has been set by the

eight ringers themselves. Although they are all working men, they have volunteered to give a whole year's ringing-pay—twenty-four pounds in all—towards the fund. This generous act of self-denial is the most conclusive proof of the need of the proposed work, as well as a clear indication of the men's enthusiasm and affection for their belfry. And it cannot be doubted that this large contribution of three pounds apiece (on the average) from eight working men will stimulate others to give, and be the means of evoking still larger donations from such as are able to afford them. Contributions or promises will be gratefully received from any of our readers. They may be sent to Ralph B. Annison, 11, Park Terrace, Sunderland, Chairman of the belfry fund committee.

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

In great variety.

POTTS & SONS,

Church and Turret Clock Makers,
GUILDFORD STREET, LEEDS.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

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.

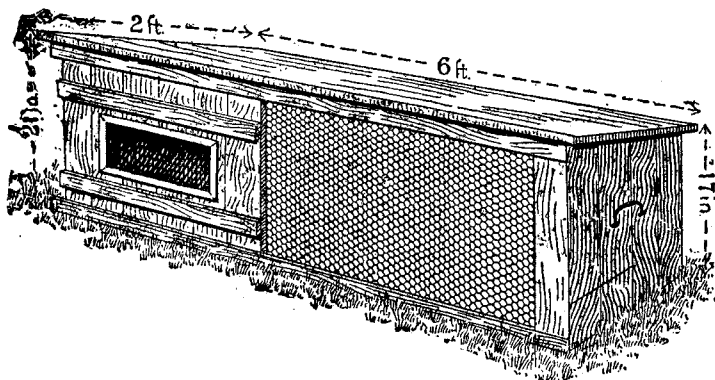
A Very Respectable Married Man requires a position of trust. First-class change-ringer, Instructor, and Conductor. Most exemplary testimonials. W. H. B., 14, Henrietta Street, Waterford.

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.

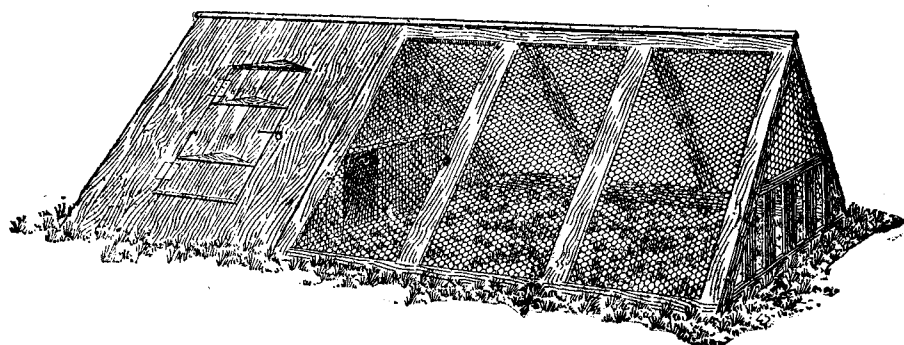
COMPLETE Set of 44 HANDBELLS, practically new, in F27, chromatic scale. By John Warner and Sons. Also sundry Music. Will sell for £12.—W. H. ROWE, Upminster, Essex.

RANDOLPH MEECH'S ORIGINAL POULTRY APPLIANCES.



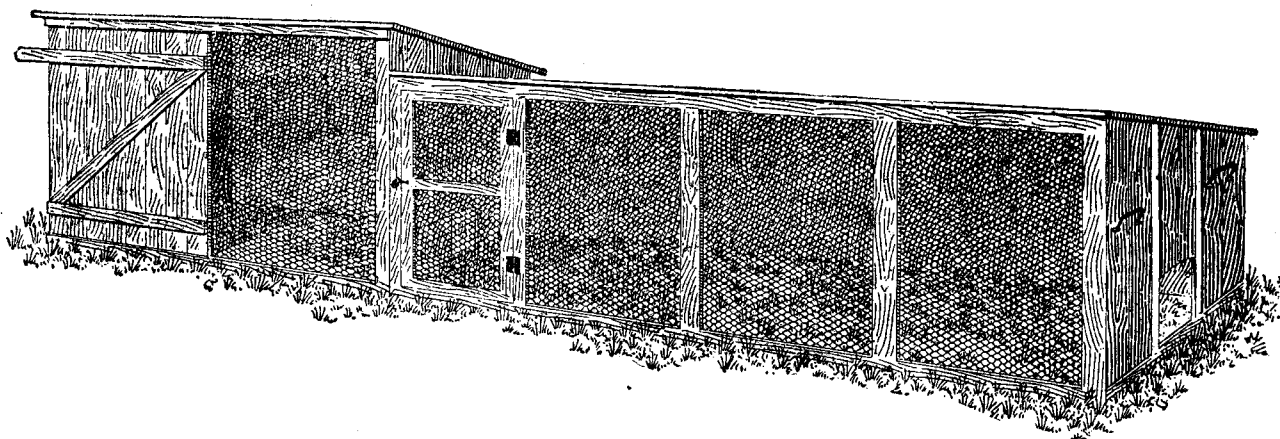
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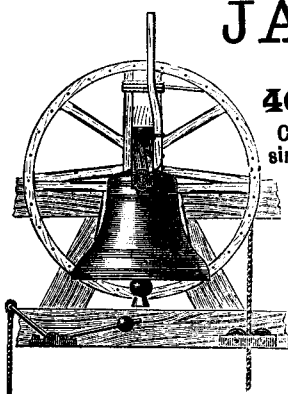
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No. 918.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1899.

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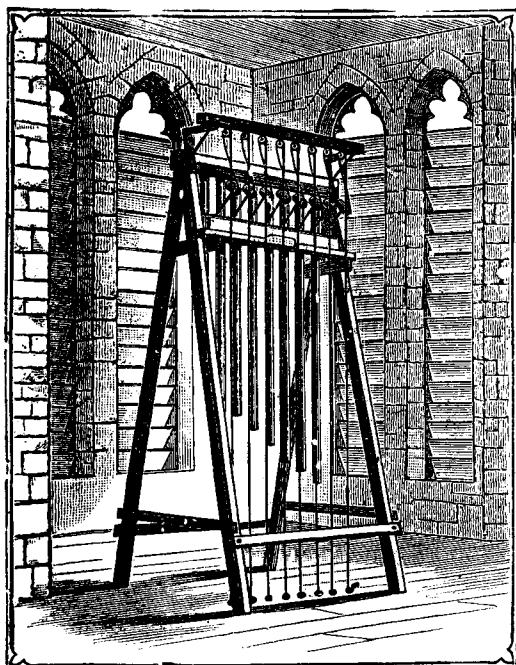
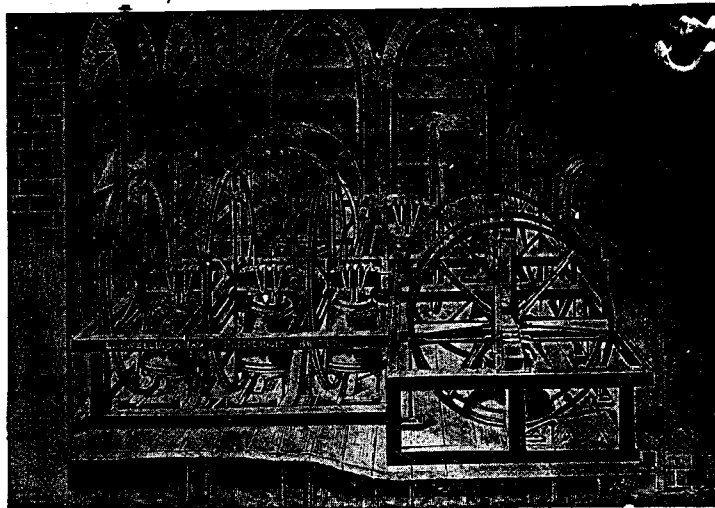
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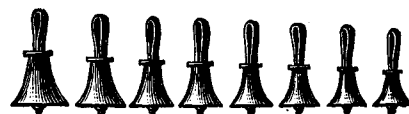
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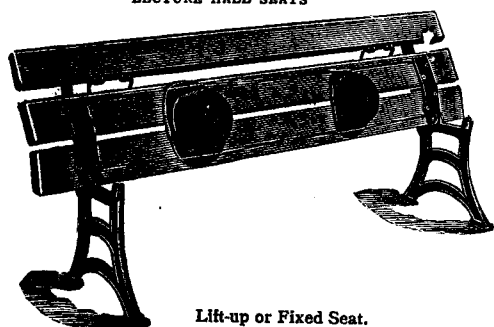
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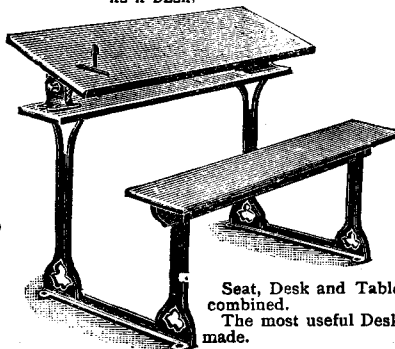


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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 918.]

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(CHIPPING NORTON DEANERY BRANCH.)

The Annual Meeting of this branch was held on Saturday, October 28th, at Eustone, where there is a very handy ring of six bells in good going order. The Vicar, the Rev. J. E. Philipps, gave the members a very hearty welcome, and placed the bells at their disposal from the early afternoon until late in the evening.

At 4.30 evensong was sung by the Rev. H. Barter, the Vicar of Eustone reading the lessons, and the Master of the Guild giving an appropriate address from St. Paul's epistle to the Ephesians.

After the service tea was served in the schoolroom, to which close on forty sat down. Immediately after grace had been said the business meeting was held. The Rev. H. Barter presided, and there present the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Rev. J. Philipps, Rev. W. J. Palmer, Rev. A. W. B. Marshall, Rev. Cyril W. O. Jenkyn (of Witney), Mr. Nat Parsons, Mr. E. W. Arkell, and Mr. J. F. Barlow (Hon. Secretary of the branch).

The President said he was glad to meet the members of the branch, though it probably would be the last time he would meet them, except it might be as a visitor. Letters of apology were read from several who would have been present if they had not been prevented by various circumstances. The minutes of the two previous meetings having been read, Mr. Barlow, in presenting the annual report, said that the committee were pleased to be able to state that the branch had made satisfactory progress during the year. One peal of Grandsire Triples had been rung, and on the previous evening, at Shipton, the Master safely piloted the members of that tower through a peal of Stedman Triples. At Chipping Norton recently two 720s of Grandsire Minor had been rung, and it was hoped that a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples might be scored before Christmas. It was pleasing to note that the membership had gradually increased, as all told they were 102 strong against 93 last year. Great Rollright had become affiliated this year, where the bells had been restored, and an additional bell added, making a ring of six. At Hook Norton two new trebles had been added, and the Master had had the satisfaction of taking a company there to ring the first peal of Stedman Triples. Financially they were in a better position than last year, though it was not possible to give the exact balance in hand that day. The members generally would regret the removal from amongst them of their esteemed president, and it was needless to say that the best wishes of all would go with him. This last remark being received with rounds of applause, Mr. Barlow added that since it had been his privilege to act as secretary to the branch, he had always found the president most willing to help in any way he could to promote the best interests of the members, and he himself would have good cause to regret his removal. Their loss would however be others' gain.

The President, before moving that the report be received, said he must thank Mr. Barlow for the kind words he had said, and thanked them all for the way in which

those words had been received. It had been one of the pleasantest parts of his work during the last few years at Shipton to be allowed to be President of that branch. He had seen the much greater interest which was taken in bellringing since the Guild started, which was evidence of the good the Guild was accomplishing. He could only wish them all success and prosperity in their work, and thanked them for the way they had attended the meetings. He hoped they would believe how sensible he was of the high honour they had done him in electing him President of the branch, an office which he must now resign.

The next business was to elect a president for the year 1900. Mr. Barlow proposed, and Mr. Bartlett seconded, the election of the Rev. J. E. Philipps, which was agreed to unanimously. Mr. Barlow was re-elected Secretary and Treasurer, and Mr. Burbridge auditor. Two probationers were elected, and it was decided that the spring meeting should be held at Great Rollright. Votes of thanks to the retiring president, to the Vicar of Eustone, and the rev. Master, followed by an unsuccessful attempt for a 720 of Grandsire Minor, brought a most successful meeting to a close.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(LEWISHAM DISTRICT.)

The annual meeting of this district was held at Crayford on Saturday, October 28th, and fairly well attended by members from most parts of the district. Ringing commenced at 3.0 p.m., touches in most of the standard methods keeping the bells going until 6.0 p.m., when tea was served in the parish room.

After tea followed the usual business meeting. The Rev. J. P. Alcock, Vicar of Crayford, took the chair. The minutes of the last annual meeting read and confirmed, the Secretary gave his report. He stated the work of the past year had been very satisfactory, ten bands being affiliated as last year, and the membership was well maintained. Three quarterly meetings had been held—at Crayford, Lewisham, and Chislehurst. Forty-two peals had been rung by members mostly belonging to the district proper. Special mention was made of the record peal of Double Norwich rung at Erith. A suggestion was made that the towers of Eltham and Dartford be visited, and invited to become affiliated.

St. John's, Deptford, was elected as the place to hold the next quarterly meeting—on Saturday, January 27th. Messrs. P. Bex and G. Conyard were appointed district secretary and representative respectively, for the ensuing year. Votes of thanks to the retiring secretary for past services: to the Rev. J. P. Alcock for the use of the bells, parish room, etc.; to the clergy present for their attendance; and to Mr. G. Conyard for having everything in readiness, brought the business to a close.

A service was held in the church, followed by a few more touches on the bells, and this concluded a very pleasant meeting.

The address of the new district secretary is P. E. Bex, Estate Office, Barnehurst, Bexley Heath.

THE LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN GUILD.

A meeting of this Guild was held at Halsall on Saturday, October 28th. There was a good representative gathering, and some excellent touches were rung. Mr. Mawdsley, foreman of the Halsall belfry, received the visitors. The Rev. Canon Blundell, with his usual generous hospitality, arranged an excellent collation, which his guests, after their long walks and active exertions, well appreciated. The business meeting was afterwards held in the Cocoa Rooms, and Mr. John Martin, of Liscard, Hon. Treasurer of the Guild, presided. The bells of Christ Church, Southport, Great Crosby church, and Ormskirk church were reported as not in good going order; and the foreman ringer from Tue Brook reported that their bells were to be stopped.

The Rev. W. T. Bulpitt, Master of the Guild, moved that a vote of sympathy and regard be forwarded to Bishop Ryle on his resignation of the diocese. It was a pathetic sight to witness a veteran giving up life's duties. Bishop Ryle was a distinguished scholar, and had made himself a niche in Church history.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Martin, who spoke of their diocesan as a working man's Bishop, and said his visits had always been welcomed along the Liverpool Docks.

The resolution was supported by Mr. W. Bentham, of Aughton, Hon. Secretary of the Guild, who said that Bishop Ryle had been placed in a very difficult position, and the verdict of posterity would be that he had nobly fulfilled his duties in his varied career.

Mr. James Rimmer, of Southport, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Canon Blundell for his kind reception, suggested that official notice of the meeting should be sent to receiving belfries.

Mr. Bentham seconded, and promised that this should be done.

The motion was then carried, and responded to by Mr. Mawdsley, of Halsall, who expressed himself satisfied with the explanation that the belfry members were considered as hosts.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting in connection with this Association was held at Midsomer Norton on Saturday, October 28th. Twenty ringers attended, the places represented being Bath (five towers), Bristol, Frome, Buckland Dinham, Twerton-on-Avon, Marston Biggott, Midsomer Norton, Minehead, and Old Cleeve. At 3.30 p.m. there was a short service in the church at Midsomer Norton, the Vicar (the Rev. W. C. Newling), officiating, assisted by the Rev. A. C. Taylor, curate. The latter delivered an admirable and appropriate address on the 17th verse of Psalm xc. After service the members adjourned to The Greyhound hotel, where they partook of a capital knife and fork tea. The usual business meeting followed. Before proceeding however, the Vicar welcomed the Association to Midsomer Norton, and expressed the regret he

felt at not being able (through absence from home) to make the necessary arrangements for entertaining the members at the vicarage, as he would like to have done. He hoped when they paid him a visit again, to be able to do so.

The minutes of the last meeting were then read and confirmed, and eight new members from St. Decuman's (Watchet), Midsomer Norton, and Marston Biggott were proposed and duly elected.

It was decided that the place of the next quarterly meeting should be left in the hands of the Master and Hon. Secretary.

On the proposition of the Hon. Secretary, seconded by the Master, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the church and bells, the Rev. A. C. Taylor for his address, and Mr. Hayward for the local arrangements. Each suitably replied, and the members then adjourned to the church tower, where touches of Grandsire Triples and Major, Bob Major and Minor, and a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples were brought round.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

The members of this Society having emphasised the military associations which its title implies by ringing a peal at St. John's, Brixton, in honour of the departure of the Guards for the Cape, on the following Saturday sought fresh fields and pastures new, and eight members of the company therefore determined to pay a visit to the historical city of St. Albans, the object in view being a peal of Bob Major on the fine ring of bells at the Cathedral (tenor 33 cwt.), permission having been kindly given by the Ven. Archdeacon Lawrance.

In response to a special application made to Mr. J. Elliott, station-master of St. Pancras, pointing out the disadvantages under which ringers travel compared with football, cricket, fishing, and other clubs, the welcome information was courteously given that ringers, eight or more in number, might travel third class return journey at a single fare and a quarter, a concession which was, we believe, taken advantage of for the first time by a company of ringers, notwithstanding the efforts which the Central Council Committee have been making on behalf of the Exercise.

It being a glorious afternoon, and the band having turned up promptly at the appointed hour—4 o'clock—Father Perrin being there at three hours' notice, which kind action his comrades duly appreciated, St. Pancras was left in high spirits. The smoke and din of the metropolis had not been left far behind when Mr. Fussell's handbells were in demand and were kept going in Grandsire Caters and Bob Royal until the party's destination was reached.

The walk through the ancient town and the Abbey were much appreciated by those who were visiting St. Albans for the first time, the recent restoration of the latter destroying any appearance of antiquity it originally had, though stored in the chancels and choir beautiful specimens of architectural stonework and ornament were to be found, giving evidence of the handsome and early structure preserved through many centuries. An interesting experience also was it to find one's way to the ringing-chamber through many weird passages and dark stairs. However the belfry was reached in perfect safety, and after a pre-

liminary flourish of 16 changes the bells set going to that grand old music, "Bob Major," the conductor choosing for the occasion one of Mr. A. Knights's musical productions—a 5248, which is believed never yet to have been rung. The company soon became accustomed to the rather heavy metal, and settled down to some capital striking, the go being almost perfection. The ringers were: B. Langdon, H. Barton (conductor), F. G. Perrin, A. Hardy, W. H. Webber, W. H. Fussell, R. Charge, and G. E. Symonds.

All went well until the first few changes of the very last course of the peal had been rang, when a loud rumbling noise was suddenly heard on the floor above. "Stand" was called, and it soon transpired that ill-luck had followed the party to St. Albans, for the tenor clapper had broken off about a foot from the staple, the fracture plainly shewing that it had commenced some time previously, owing to a flaw in the metal. Needless to say keen disappointment was expressed in every face, but in this we are sure the band had the sympathy of the local men, who came up into the tower in a body and expressed their regret at the catastrophe, one of the first to do so being Mr. H. L. Waddington, the Secretary of the St. Albans Society. Amongst them was also noticed that well-known ringer and member of the Waterloo Society, Mr. J. C. Mitchell.

We will not attempt to describe the return journey, but merely add that St. Pancras was again reached about midnight, and although the object of the excursion was not accomplished, the men appeared to swallow their bitter pill with a certain amount of good humour, and fully determined, when circumstances permitted, to take another journey to St. Albans, when it is to be hoped that success will attend their efforts.

The Society is indebted to the Rector of St. Albans for permission, to Mr. Waddington and Mr. Wright for making necessary arrangements for the attempt, and to the Midland Railway Company (through Mr. Elliott) for furthering its members' interests on this occasion. B.

VISIT TO HEXHAM ABBEY.

The Bishopwearmouth ringers had their annual excursion on Saturday, October 28th, the place chosen this year being Hexham. An early start was made by the 7.25 a.m. train, arriving at their destination about nine o'clock. A call was made at the cafe where some little alarm was caused by the appearance of eight hungry bell-ringers at such an early hour, but their wants were soon attended to. After a walk round, the party made their way to the Abbey, where ringing was indulged in on the peal of bells till dinner-time. An adjournment was then made to The Royal hotel, where they were joined by Mr. Burnicle, one of the churchwardens of Bishopwearmouth, who remained with the party during the remainder of the day, and whose company the ringers were very pleased to have. Full justice was done to the excellent catering, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the churchwardens of Bishopwearmouth for the excursion they had provided. After dinner the Abbey crypt was visited, and then more ringing was accomplished with the assistance of Mr. W. Story. A return was made to the cafe for tea, and the party returned home by the seven o'clock train, all having thoroughly enjoyed the pleasant outing. The ringers desire to express their thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens of Hexham for kindly granting them the use of the bells.

A DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATION.

RINGERS' DINNER AT LEWES.

Saturday, October 28th, was an important one in the annals of ringing at Southover, Lewes, for on that day was celebrated the 60th anniversary of the opening of the bells. October 28th, 1839, from the very first has always—with but two or three exceptions—been fittingly commemorated as the day came round by each successive company of ringers, and at this church, by the way, there has been not a few. This year proved no exception to the rule. In the afternoon an attempt was made to ring a peal of Grandsire Triples, but unfortunately had to be abandoned after 2 hrs. owing to the heavy going of the tenor. Associated also with October 28th was the inauguration of the existing guild of ringers connected with the church, and the two events thus coinciding, the annual dinner of the guild was held on the same date at The King's Head, Southover. In the absence of the Rector, the Rev. W. E. Richardson, President of the guild, the chair was taken by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, while Mr. K. Hart (of Brighton), filled the vice-chair. There was a large company present of well-known ringers and influential inhabitants. At the conclusion of an excellent repast, served by Mrs. Goldsmith, the loyal and patriotic toasts were enthusiastically honoured. Mr. Fletcher then submitted "The Southover Church Bell-ringers' Guild," and in reply,

The Chairman pointed out with satisfaction to the fact that the Guild were the holders for the time being of the County Association Challenge Bell. Although, he said, they were debarred from holding it two years in succession, the Guild would be well up in the list for the trophy this year. Throughout the year the Guild had kept in a satisfactory condition, and the members had worked most amicably together. With regard to the bells themselves, however, he was sorry to say they were in need of attention from a bellhanger's hands, as their experience that afternoon had proved. Concluding, the Chairman urged upon the members the necessity not only of continuing but of increasing their interest in the Guild.

Mr. Turner next submitted "The health of the Rector and Churchwardens," referring to the keen interest which they had taken in the working of the society. The toast was drunk with musical honours.

Other toasts received the customary observance. Mr. Attree was able during the evening to be present for a short time, and his health was also drunk with musical honours. In acknowledging the compliment he made an encouraging speech.

A pleasing incident of the evening's proceedings was the presence of Quarter-Master-Sergeant Grimes among the visitors. Mr. Grimes, who was leaving the next day or two for the Transvaal, met with a hearty reception, and his health was drunk with three rousing cheers and every wish for a speedy and safe return.

A capital musical programme was very well sustained during the evening by various members of the company, and a most enjoyable time was concluded with "Auld lang syne" and the National Anthem.

The accompaniments to the various songs were played by Mr. W. H. Paris.

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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."

WHAT IS A METHOD?

SIR,—In this week's "BELL NEWS" appears an editorial comment on the correspondence under the above heading which calls for a few remarks from me; and first of all allow me to thank you, sir, for not objecting to the space occupied in your valuable columns by a discussion about a point which you consider of no practical utility, but a point which I hope I shall finally shew to be of the greatest practical utility to anyone who desires to produce new methods.

And now for Mr. Trollope's letter. He says first of all that my definition is a clever one; I thank him for thinking so, but I cannot see that it is, because it is after all a mere statement of facts, and although the reading may be altered in many ways, the facts are absolutely unchangeable. He then says that it is founded on two false premises (i) an incorrect view of the difference between methods and principles; (ii) and a false estimate of the value of lead-ends above all other rows.

(i) The difference between Mr. Trollope and myself here is merely a matter of words, he uses the word principle in one sense, and I am using it in another. The real point is not names but facts, and a little further down Mr. Trollope agrees with my facts when he speaks of systems treble-dominated, and non-treble-dominated; what I call a method Mr. Trollope calls a treble-dominated-method, and what I call a principle Mr. Trollope calls a non-treble-dominated-method, and as a mere matter of words, I must confess I think my short terms better than his long ones. He then asks how we are to speak of them collectively, and answers his own question by speaking of them collectively as systems, a word which Shipway used for the same purpose. In connection with this same point, a little further down Mr. Trollope objects on the ground of history. Now, Sir, history does not touch facts, and in ordinary language we still speak of sunrise and sunset, although we now know that the sun does not move round the earth, but the earth revolves on its axis, and if Mr. Trollope disputes the facts on the ground of the historical use of the word principle, then to be consistent he must maintain that the world is flat, and the sun moves round it. But even in the historical use of the word I do not see how Mr. Trollope can claim an advantage; I can nowhere find the use of the word principle in any old ringing books, as Mr. Trollope uses it, whereas I find Stedman's Principle and Shipway's Principle without any other use of the word at all, and they differ from all other systems produced up to that time in being what Mr. Trollope calls non-treble-dominated methods, which is their leading characteristic, and therefore I use the word principle in that old sense, and believe that I am historically correct in doing so.

Now, sir, I return to your leading article, you say that the historical term is the shortest one, and that no ingenuity, or cleverness, or even pedantry will ever substitute the general use of "principle" for "method." Now, sir, the general use of a word and its scientific use are two very different things, and I for one have no wish to interfere with the general use of the word method. I with others should speak of the four Standard Methods, including Stedman's Principle, but that does not in any way commit me to the statement that Stedman is in the strict sense of the word a method, any more than a general description of the inhabitants of the sea as fish commits me to the statement that a crab, an oyster, or a whale, is a fish, which they are not.

(ii) "A false estimate of the difference between the value of lead-ends above all other rows." Mr. Trollope says further down—"My position is this—every row is of equal value." Now, sir, this side of the question is in truth a very simple one, and Mr. Trollope's position is absolutely false. When Mr. Trollope says that the choice of the treble as the fixed bell is arbitrary, and that therefore the division between the hand-stroke and backstroke of the treble is arbitrary also, I agree with him, but he forgets that if we do not choose the treble, we are absolutely compelled to choose one of the other bells, or we have no method (treble-dominated-method) at all; and when he

speaks of round blocks, he also forgets that as far as the treble (or any bell chosen to do her work) is concerned, each lead is a round block complete in itself, and however long the composition is, the treble has completed all her work in her first lead, which is not the case with any row in the lead. This constitutes a difference between leads which no amount of talk can alter, and it shows its own fact that no man can produce a touch in any method (treble-dominated-method) which is not a multiple of the lead, or one less than a multiple of the lead; if all rows are equal as Mr. Trollope asserts, this would not be the case.

There is one more point in Mr. Trollope's letter I must notice. Mr. Trollope says that it is impossible to get a principle having every bell a dodging hunt. As I stated, it is false, but it is certainly not impossible. If Mr. Trollope will write out thirty-two changes of Major, making each bell dodge once in each place, he will find that each bell is ringing the Treble Bob hunt principle. It will consist of the same changes as Plain Hunt Major, but each will be rung twice, the principle being therefore as I said, false, but the principle is just the same. Falseness does not vitiate the principle, although it makes it practically useless because we lay down *arbitrarily* the rule that changes must be true.

Finally, I hope now that Mr. Trollope will agree with the definition as the definition of what he calls a treble-dominated-method, or what I call a method, or else prove the truth of his position that all rows are equal by producing a date touch of Bob Major for the present year, in which he may use any bell for the treble which he pleases.

H. LAW JAMES.

PRINCIPLE OR METHOD.

SIR,—In your issue for October 28th I note a request by the Rev. H. L. James to myself, and although I wish the matter was placed in hands more able I will do what I can in reply.

The essential scientific of Principle is in my opinion to discover and establish something at once original and definite, form and lay down rules and conditions for use and guidance, thus producing a sound and certain basis to work upon.

The path of the treble fulfils these conditions, as in her walks up and down, be they straight or zigzag, all the other bells, no matter what number the ring may be, they all pay the compliment and homage due as she goes; she acts as the compass to the mariner; she is the essence of activity, the centre of gravity around whom all other bells revolve; she is the boss of the show and Queen of the ring; her laws must be obeyed, as they resemble very much those of the Medes and Persians, which never alter.

The essential scientific of method is something puzzling as follows: the builder, or operator, selects the principle upon which to devote his labour, with a full knowledge he is not allowed to manipulate the treble. His first consideration should be the production of harmonies, with a sneaking regard for symmetry of construction. He may use his bells for hunting, dodging, and place-making, as they revolve around the treble, in any shape or form he pleases, being the best judge of what he is searching for, and the results he wishes to obtain. The object of his search may be a method of simple construction, or complex in build. Another consideration is to steer clear of the rocks and shoals, such as those obstacles, false course-ends, if he wishes his new method to run into long lengths. But musical combinations must have attention. Of late those in the know have searched for short methods, so as to relieve the monotony of these long course methods, hence Duffield and Forward systems and methods, and Alliance principle.

Much more can and should be said, but sufficient for the day, etc. This is my explanation of the difference between principle and method.

(i) The plain hunt principle is divided into two systems. No. 1 has a bell in the hunt, following the treble up and down, as a kind of a companion bell.

(ii) Principle No. 2 has not, the treble walks up and down by herself, unattended and alone.

I have to apologise to the Rev. H. Law James for my reference to Drews Court Surprise, as Superlative places I overlook for the moment.

In reply to Mr. J. Carter, I had not overlooked Forward and

Champion Surprise, but took these to be built upon principle No. 3 extended.

I note the comments in your issue of the 4th inst., and at once wish to say I have no wish to substitute principle for method, and don't see how such an idea originated. They appear so different to me.

Stedman probably, like other inventors, did not realise the value of his work, and so it comes to pass just 100 years after he wrote, *The Clavis* was published, and here we get Stedman's principle set forth. Let those of your readers who possess this work, turn to page 20, chapter iv., and read for themselves; principle and methods is there separated distinctly.

In *Standard Methods* by the late and lamented J. W. Snowden, the first chapter define the principle of Plain Bob. Chapter iv. is headed Stedman's Principle, and I think he was quite correct in classing Stedman with other methods in this work.

The following is a method that comply and conform to all conditions of good method building. No adjoining places, no long dodging, the changes are regular and even. It is constructed upon this plain hunt principle, and is very musically composed. The bob is made in 6th place, and also the single. Calls are made at 1-2-3 and 5. The call at 3 retain the tenors at home, and five bobs give a touch of five three-lead courses, peals of 5000 may be had on this three-lead course plan, and for those who like course-end music, this is the thing.

BARNSBURY COURT 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
6 8 4 7 2 3 5 1
8 6 7 4 5 2 1 3
8 7 6 5 4 1 2 3
7 8 5 6 1 4 3 2
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

Plain 1 5 7 3 8 2 6 4 Lead

Bob 1 5 7 3 8 6 4 2 Lead

Single 1 5 7 3 8 6 2 4 Lead

H. DAINS.

REPLY TO "A.R.L."

SIR,—I cannot inform "A.R.L." as to the feasibility of a movable ringing floor. With strong ropes or chains and pulleys it might be done, though the difficulty would be to keep the floor when let down from swaying like a suspension bridge. The case of the ringers being "pushed up into the clock chamber" is the exact counterpart of the state of affairs at Hereford Cathedral. Some years ago the groined roof of the first stage of the tower was removed in order to make the tower into a "lantern." As a result the ringers now have to operate in a curious little low chamber among the rafters. The ropes, besides being in a bad circle, are half-hidden from one another by beams. Standing under the tenor-bell I could look through a very wide "mousehole" and see its great wheel barely twelve feet above me, and that bell weighs nearly 40 cwt. Truly the noise must be appalling; yet a peal has been rung there, and several unsuccessful attempts.

H. E. W.

"BOB MAJOR LEAD-ENDS," ETC.

SIR,—Owing to an unfortunate delay in the receipt of copy of "B.N." I was unable to reply to Mr. Trollope's letter last week. Confession is good for us all, and I freely confess that I was staggered by his argument, it seemed so plausible. After studying it carefully I have come to the conclusion that he is correct in his argument, but herein we only have another proof of the necessity for Bob Major lead-ends.

Let me quote two extracts from his letter of the 28th. He says (i): Taken individually the rows in the plain course of Bob Major (in which the coursing order is kept) are the most musical you can get for the construction of the plain course of any method, and therefore the more of them you have the better. And again (ii): There is a fact which seems to have been entirely overlooked, which is, if you let any row in the lead, say the sixth, be in coursing order, and you make your bells come into coursing order again at the sixth row of the next lead, the result is exactly the same as if you used Bob Major lead-ends (no matter what your lead-ends actually are). I have taken the liberty of inserting the last sentence in brackets for a reason that will presently appear. Now all this I am thoroughly ready to admit, and am now to show the consequences of the admission. Let us take the sixth rows of a Treble Bob method, with the bells in coursing order as in Bob Major. The treble will be in thirds place, and here they are taken direct from Bob Major.

24163857	46182735	68174523	87156342
12345678	14263857	16482735	18674523
75138264	53127486	32145678	
17856342	15738264	13527486	

Now what are these seven rows? Clearly the sixth rows of the seven leads of the plain course mentioned in extract (i).

The problem we have now to solve is a simple one. To find the lead-ends.

Since it is the plain course the first one is given us, since it must begin from rounds. Prick it below any row you like, and we find the others by transposition. I have written them in above—the old Bob Major lead-ends, so that Mr. Trollope's arguments, though expressed in other words, amounts to this. All that we need to keep the tenors together is to have the Bob Major lead-ends. But Mr. Trollope may seek to turn my flank by saying that if any given row of any course has this qualification it is sufficient. If so I would reply that these rows can always be brought up simply and musically from the Bob Major lead-end, no matter where they occur, and all that he will have is a grafting-in of an irregular lead-end into a method that would be much better with its own proper lead-ends. This question is one that is of more interest to the young method builder, than the practical ringer (the good taste of the latter has led him in almost every instance to reject methods that lack this desideratum, Canterbury being the only exception that has made much headway), and if this correspondence shall prove of any assistance to those beginners who are seeking for new methods, in helping them to work for that which has real excellence, I shall feel fully rewarded. I shall never forget the difficulties I had to face as a beginner in finding out what were the real properties that went to make a good method.

E. BANKES JAMES.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION.

On Monday evening, November 6th, the Leek (Staffs.) company rang a 720 of Bob Minor in honour of the 70th birthday (on the 4th instant) of their esteemed foreman, Thomas Turner, whose ringing is perhaps not excelled. He first rang in the "set" the day the Queen was crowned, but had been associated with bells for two years previously. The ringers were: J. Rider, G. Cope, J. Bullin, H. Birch, A. Pegg, E. Sharratt, E. A. Ridgway (conductor), and J. H. Goodwin. Afterwards seventy rounds of firing were accomplished, and the bells lowered in Queens. H. Birch, who came from Cheddleton, took the place of Mr. Turner, who was unable to attend owing to an accident to his ankle on the previous Friday.

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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, NOVEMBER 11, 1899.

WE are pleased to announce that next week a further series of chapters—entitled "A brief consideration of a few points connected with the History of Ringing,"—by Mr. R. A. DANIELL, will be commenced, and continue weekly until concluded. From the great amount of interest which the former papers by this gentleman created among our readers, we do not doubt that this announcement of a further contribution from him will be gladly received.

Mr. DANIELL is well-known as a practical half-pull ringer, and a Secretary of an important London Society. For the edification of his ringing brethren he has written these papers, which show no small amount of research; the chapters about to be published being by no means less interesting and instructive than those already printed. We think it wise to make this prior announcement, for reasons which must be obvious to all.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(WIRRAL BRANCH.)

The monthly meeting of the above branch was held at West Kirby on Saturday, October 21st. The Rev. Canon Blencowe, Rector of West Kirby, presided, and was supported by the Vicar of St. Saviour's, Oxtun, and his curate, who kindly came from Oxtun to attend the meeting. Honorary members from West Kirby were represented by the Rev. —. Hollowell and Henry Bell, Esq. The meeting was held at 5 p.m., and it was proposed and seconded that future meetings be held at 5 p.m. instead of the usual hour 6 p.m.; the reason for alteration is to give more time for ringing after tea. The following towers were represented: Bebington, Birkenhead (St. Mary's), Neston, Oxtun (St. Saviour's), and West Kirby. After tea touches were rung in the following methods: Bob Major, Grandsire Triples, and a short touch of Stedman. The next meeting will be held at Liscard on November 18th.

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL PEAL ATTEMPT.

As previously announced, eight members of the Gloucester and Bristol Association attempted a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, on October 28th, which to the dismay of all the ringers and listeners came to an untimely end after 1 hr. 5 mins. excellent striking, through the conductor missing a single. Finding it too late to start again we made tracks for our headquarters, The Raven hotel, where a pleasant evening was spent among the locals, several touches being rung upon the handbells. In a natty speech Mr. A. Pegler remarked that although the attempt had been a failure, he for one was not daunted, and hoped the band would soon be got together for another attempt. A resolution was then passed that the same men make another attempt early in February next. The band were—W. Greenleaf, J. Austin, W. A. Hancox, F. E. Ward, W. T. Pegler, C. H. Watts, E. Groves, A. Pegler. Mr. Hancox was elected a member previous to starting. Tenor 44 cwt.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, November 7, 1899, in Three Hours and Thirty-three Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY ABBOTS, KENSINGTON.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES.

Tenor 32 cwt. in D.

WILLIAM E. GOLBY* .. Treble.	ARTHUR E. BRADLEY .. 6.
WILLIAM E. JUDD 2.	ARCHIBALD F. HARRIS .. 7.
HENRY G. MILES* 3.	WILLIAM FOX 8.
ALBERT V. SELBY 4.	WILLIAM E. GARRARD .. 9.
SIDNEY H. GODFREY .. 5.	HARRY SEAR Tenor.

Composed by JAMES GEORGE, and Conducted by W. E. GARRARD.

*First peal. First peal of Caters by all except the conductor, and first peal ever rung at St. Mary Abbots by a local band.

The Provinces.

BOLTON, BRADFORD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, October 31, 1899, in Three Hours and Three Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES:

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

WM. JOYCE Treble.	JOHN PALFRAMAN 5.
BEN. T. COPLEY 2.	BERNAL E. HOWE 6.
ARTHUR GILL 3.	SAM PALFRAMAN 7.
ARTHUR BENSON 4.	JOHN JOYCE Tenor.

Composed by J. REEVES, and Conducted by B. T. COPLEY,

Rung to commemorate the "coming of age" of the bells.

SELLY OAK, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

On Monday, October 30, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR. 5040 CHANGES:

Being 720 each of Double Oxford, Single Oxford, College Single, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Plain Bob, and Canterbury Pleasure. Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr.

HENRY WITHERS* .. Treble.	HENRY MIDDLETON 4.
WILLIAM ELLISS* 2.	WILLIAM SHORT 5.
JOHN BARBER 3.	FREDERICK CLAYTON .. Tenor.

Conducted by W. SHORT.

*First peal in seven methods. It was intended to have rung Treble Bob Major, but meeting one short the above was rung instead; also as a birthday compliment to F. Clayton, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

BICESTER, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, November 1, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

FREDERICK WHITE .. Treble.	HARRY JUDGE 5.
ALFRED THOMAS 2.	*REV. C. W. O. JENKYN .. 6.
WILLIAM BENNETT 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
RICHARD WHITE 4.	JAMES FRANKLIN .. Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

*First peal of Stedman.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, November 1, 1899, in Three Hours and Three Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13½ cwt. in F.

JOHN RICE Treble.	GEORGE PACE 5.
ROBERT JORDAN 2.	ALBERT ELLIS 6.
JOHN AKEHURST 3.	JAMES WORSFOLD 7.
ALFRED D. MILLS 4.	FREDERICK WICKENS .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN BUCKLEY, and Conducted by FREDERICK WICKENS.

YORK TOWN, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, November 2, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 15½ cwt.

CHARLES PEARCE* .. Treble.	MAURICE STEER 5.
GEORGE HAWKINS 2.	ALFRED E. COUSINS .. 6.
THOMAS GOULD 3.	BARZILLAI HAWKINS .. 7.
CHARLES SMART 4.	FREDERICK MUSTOW .. Tenor.

Conducted by B. HAWKINS.

*First peal.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(MANCHESTER BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, November 2, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

H. WOLSTENCROFT* .. Treble.	J. W. JAKEMAN 5.
J. W. HOLME 2.	†W. W. WOLSTENCROFT .. 6.
B. THORPE 3.	J. HARRISON 7.
W. JAKEMAN 4.	H. PALMER Tenor.

Conducted by W. WOLSTENCROFT.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor. This is the quickest peal on the bells.

DEANE, BOLTON.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, November 4, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

THOMAS PEERS Treble.	TITUS BARLOW 5.
ALFRED POTTER 2.	JOHN POTTER 6.
HENRY MOSS* 3.	JOSEPH POTTER 7.
A. EDWARD WREAKS .. 4.	SAMUEL OAKES Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH POTTER.

*First peal of Stedman. First peal in the method by the Bolton branch.

HECKINGTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE BRANCH.)

On Thursday, November 2, 1899, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.
Tenor 19½ cwt.

ROBERT P. NASH Treble.	FREDERICK WARRINGTON .. 5.
JOHN H. CLARK 2.	JOHN T. HOLMES 6.
THOMAS B. WOODS 3.	WILLIAM DICKINSON .. 7.
EDWARD HOULDEN 4.	REV. H. LAW JAMES .. Tenor.

Composed by SIR ARTHUR P. HEYWOOD, Bart., and
Conducted by the REV. H. LAW JAMES.

This is the first peal by the Diocesan Guild; the first peal of Major on the bells, and the first peal of Major by all except the conductor.

ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, November 4, 1899, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5010 CHANGES.
Tenor 24 cwt.

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

Composed by SIR ARTHUR HEYWOOD, and
Conducted by WILLIAM H. BARBER.

*First peal of Stedman Caters. This composition has the 5th twenty-four courses behind the 9th and twenty-two courses a treble bell, with the 6th in 2nd place throughout, and was rung on the conductor's 23rd birthday.

SOUTH MIMMS, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 4, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720s of Canterbury Pleasure and four of Plain Bob.
Tenor 11½ cwt.

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

Conducted by SIDNEY WADE.

This is the first peal on the bells, and the ringers wish to thank the Vicar for kindly granting the use of them.

HEADCORN, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, November 4, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty-eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES.
Tenor 25½ cwt.

CHARLES WILKINS Treble.	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE .. 5.
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 2.	GEORGE R. PYE 6.
ISAAC G. SHADE 3.	ERNEST PYE 7.
WILLIAM PYE 4.	JOHN R. SHARMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN, and Conducted by JOHN R. SHARMAN.
First peal in the method on the bells. The above is J. H. Cheesman's 100th peal.

HEENE, WORTHING, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 4, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 10½ cwt.

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

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

*First peal of Stedman. Messrs. Paice, Norris, Groves, Standing, Lindup, and Tulett belong to the local band.

MAIDENHEAD, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 4, 1899, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, BOYN HILL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.
Tenor 17½ cwt.

MAURICE SMITHERS* .. Treble.	†FREDERICK GOMM 5.
ALFRED E. REEVES 2.	ARTHUR W. HIGGS 6.
JESSE ELDRIDGE† 3.	GEORGE ALLDER 7.
HENRY TUCKER 4.	†GEORGE MARTIN Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by GEORGE MARTIN.

*First peal. †First peal in the method. The above was rung as a compliment to Mr. Thos. Price, who was formerly of the local band, but who now hails from Eastbourne, and who was married on that day.

HEADCORN, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, November 5, 1899, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

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

THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE* .. Treble.	*JOHN R. SHARMAN 5.
GEORGE R. PYE 2.	CHARLES WILKINS 6.
ISAAC G. SHADE 3.	ERNEST PYE 7.
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by C. MIDDLETON, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

*First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

ERITH, KENT.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 6, 1899, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 18 cwt.

JOHN R. SHARMAN Treble.	JOHN H. CHEESMAN 5.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE .. 2.	CHARLES WILKINS 6.
ALFRED W. BRIGHTON .. 3.	HARRY FLANDERS 7.
ISAAC G. SHADE 4.	ARTHUR T. KING Tenor.

Conducted by ALFRED W. BRIGHTON.

THORNHAM MAGNA, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 7, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Being 360 each of Stedman's Slow Course, St. Simons, Fortune, St. Dunstan's, Canterbury Pleasure, London Doubles, Morning Star, Evening Star, April Day, The Dream, 720 Grandsire and Bob Doubles.

EDWARD YOUNGS Treble.	*WILLIAM ROSE 3.
EDWARD BUCKINGHAM .. 2.	ALEC W. SYMONS 4.
JOHN D. BUCKINGHAM .. Tenor.	

Conducted by JOHN D. BUCKINGHAM.

*First peal with a bob bell. Rang as a birthday compliment to Edward Buckingham, who attained his 21st year.

Date Touch.

POLSTEAD (Suffolk).—On Friday, October 20th, a date touch of Bob Minor in 1 hr. 10 mins. A. Thorp, 1; H. Mee, 2; J. Scowen, 3; T. Read, 4; E. Willis, 5; F. Mee (conductor), 6.

Miscellaneous.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

BRAY (County Wicklow).—On Saturday, October 21st, at Christ Church, 1008 Bob Triples. H. Rickerby, 1; G. Matthews, 2; J. Lambert, 3; D. Towson, 4; T. Smith, 5; Rev. G. D. Scott, 6; G. Lindoff (conductor), 7; W. Smith, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CHARING (Kent).—On Sunday, October 1st, 720 Grandsire Minor. T. Hatcher, 1; E. Waghorn, 2; E. Archer, 3; J. Willis, 4; H. Goodman (conductor), 5; W. Spice, 6. On Sunday, October 15th, 720 Plain Bob. E. Waghorn, 1; E. Archer, 2; E. Dixon, 3; W. Hills, 4; H. Goodwin, 5; W. Spice (conductor), 6. On Saturday, October 28th, 720 Plain Bob (forty-two singles). P. Edwards, 1; E. Archer, 2; W. Hooker, 3; W. Hills, 4; H. Goodwin (conductor), 5; W. Spice, 6. And 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). J. Hatcher, 1; E. Archer, 2; W. Hills, 3; H. Goodwin, 4; W. Hooker (conductor), 5; W. Spice, 6.

DOVER.—On Saturday, October 21st, at St. James' church, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. A. Burnup, 1; A. Denne, 2; H. Denne, 3; G. Denne (conductor), 4; E. Potter, 5; E. Newman, 6. And 720 Bob Minor, in 28 mins. J. Henley, 1; A. Denne, 2; E. Potter, 3; G. Denne (conductor), 4; H. Denne, 5; E. Newman, 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

READING (Berks).—On Monday, October 23rd, for practice at St. Laurence's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. R. Sawyer, 1; C. Stone, 2; E. Bruce, 3; J. E. Hern, 4; W. P. Routh, 5; W. Newell, 6; A. Osborne (conductor), 7; F. Hopgood, 8. Also 1062 Grandsire Caters. V. Rowe, 1; A. E. Reeves, 2; J. E. Hern, 3; A. Osborne, 4; E. Bruce, 5; F. Hopgood (conductor), 6; W. P. Routh, 7; W. Newell, 8; C. Stone, 9; R. Sawyer, 10. On Tuesday, October 31st, for practice, 504 Stedman Triples. P. Tubb, 1; J. E. Hern, 2; F. Hopgood (conductor), 3; K. Mason, 4; W. P. Routh, 5; W. Newell, 6; A. Osborne, 7; R. Sawyer, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

DEVIZES.—On Wednesday, November 1st, 1899, at St. John's church, 504 Grandsire Triples, standing as follows: F. Merritt (longest touch of Triples), 1; A. Draper, 2; T. Raddon, 3; C. H. Hampson, 4; C. R. Hampson, 5; F. S. Wilson (longest touch with a bob bell), 6; S. Hillier (conductor), 7; R. Phillips, 8.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

LLANDAFF.—On Tuesday, October 3rd, for practice at the Cathedral, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Price, 1; J. Harris, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; F. Pitcher, 4; R. C. Balcombe, 5; W. B. Biss (conductor), 6; J. Aldridge, 7; W. Canter, 8. On Sunday morning, October 15th, for Divine Service, 602 Grandsire Triples. J. Price, 1; J. Aldridge, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; F. Pitcher, 4; J. Harris, 5; A. Rowley, 6; J. Clutterbuck (conductor), 7; W. Canter, 8. On Monday, October 16th, for practice, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Price, 1; W. Northey, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; F. Pitcher, 4; J. Harris, 5; W. B. Biss (conductor), 6; J. Clutterbuck, 7; W. Canter, 8.

CARDIFF.—On Sunday evening, October 15th, for Divine Service at St. John's church, 410 Grandsire Triples. R. C. Balcombe, 1; W. B. Biss, 2; J. Pitcher, 3; J. Harris, 4; C. Wingfield, 5; A. Rowley, 6; W. Coombes (conductor), 7; B. Tilley, 8. On Sunday morning, November 5th, for Divine Service, 475 Grandsire Triples. W. Lloyd, 1; R. C. Balcombe, 2; W. B. Biss, 3; J. Harris, 4; C. Wingfield, 5; J. Clutterbuck, 6; W. Coombes (conductor), 7; B. Tilley, 8.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH (Leicestershire).—On Saturday, October 28th, being the thirteenth anniversary of the re-dedication of the bells, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Brook's) in 48 mins. H. Hatton, 1; E. W. Beadsmore, 2; G. Hatton, jun., 3; A. Hitchcock (first quarter-peal in the method), 4; J. Curtis, 5; G. Hatton, sen., 6; J. H. Dunmore (conductor), 7; G. Thornley, 8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

FEERING (Essex).—On Thursday, October 12th, being the 80th birthday of Mr. Robert Harvey, several touches were rung, including a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. R. Harvey, 1; G. Hume, 2; W. Hurwick, sen., 3; J. Newman, 4; W. Hurwick, sen., 5. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Newman, 1; H. Pye, 2; G. Hume, 3; C. Rogers, 4; W. Hurwick, jun., 5; D. Elliott (conductor), 6.

BARKING (Essex).—On Sunday, October 15th, for morning service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (taken from Holt's Original), in 45 mins. J. Cottis (first quarter-peal), 1; G. W. Faulkner, 2; E. G. Fenn, 3; R. Fenn, 4; A. J. T. Carter, 5; A. C. Hardy, 6; C. Fenn (conductor), 7; T. Faulkner, 8. Much credit is due to J. Cottis, as he only started to learn a few months ago. Also a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, in 48 mins. G. W. Faulkner, 1; A. Deards, 2; A. C. Hardy (conductor), 3; E. Andrews, 4; A. J. T. Carter (first in the method), 5; T. Faulkner, 6; R. Fenn, 7; C. Fenn, 8.

BOOKING (Essex).—On Sunday, September 10th, 720 New London Pleasure. N. Smith, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; F. Warren, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; W. Grimwade (conductor), 6. On Sunday, September 24th, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. N. Smith, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; F. Warren, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; W. Grimwade (conductor), 6. On Sunday, September 24th, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. N. Smith, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; F. Warren, 4; S. Sargent, 5; W. Grimwade (conductor), 6. On Friday, September 29th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. T. Watson, 1; S. Hayes, 2; G. Livermore, 3; G. Dent, 4; W. Grimwade, 5; G. Breed (conductor), 6. On Sunday, October 1st, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. N. Smith, 1; F. Radley, 2; S. Sargent, 3; C. Bearman, 4; S. Hayes, 5; W. Grimwade (conductor), 6. On Sunday, October 15th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. N. Smith, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; E. Carter, 4; S. Sargent, 5; W. Grimwade (conductor), 6. Also 240 Cambridge Surprise. On Tuesday, October 24th, 720 Cambridge Surprise. N. Smith, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; C. Bearman, 4; S. Sargent, 5; W. Grimwade (conductor), 6.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

BLOXWICH (Staffordshire).—On Sunday morning, August 15th, for Divine Service, 527 Grandsire Major. A. Painter, 1; W. Barton, 2; J. Barton, 3; J. C. Adams, 4; A. Jones, 5; A. Turley, 6; J. Elton, 7; F. Edwards, 8. On Sunday evening, October 1st, for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Birch, 1; A. Painter, 2; W. Barton, 3; F. Edwards, 4; A. Turley, 5; J. C. Adams, 6; J. Elton, 7; R. W. Frost, 8. On Friday, October 6th, for practice, 504 Grandsire Triples. E. J. Stafford, 1; J. C. Adams, 2; A. Painter, 3; J. Birch, 4; A. Turley, 5; W. Barton, 6; F. Edwards, 7; R. W. Frost, 8. On Sunday morning, October 15th, for Divine Service, 672 Grandsire Triples. F. Edwards, 1; A. Painter, 2; J. Birch, 3; W. Barton, 4; A. Turley, 5; J. C. Adams, 6; J. Elton, 7; R. W. Frost, 8. Recently for practice 252 Bob Triples. A. Painter, 1; J. Birch, 2; A. Turley, 3; W. Barton, 4; J. C. Adams, 5; F. Edwards, 6; J. Elton, 7; R. W. Frost, 8. And 518 Grandsire Triples. E. J. Stafford, 1; A. Painter, 2; J. Birch, 3; J. C. Adams, 4; W. Barton, 5; W. Smith, 6; J. Elton, 7; R. W. Frost, 8. All the above were conducted by J. C. Adams.

WALSALL (Staffordshire).—On Wednesday, October 18th, 720 Grandsire Minor in 28 mins. with 7-8 covering. E. J. Stafford, 1; W. Griffin, 2; F. Hallsworth, sen., 3; E. Lightwood, 4; J. Lawton, 5; J. C. Adams (conductor), 6; E. Taylor, 7; F. Hallsworth, jun., 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ST. LEONARD'S-ON-SEA.—On October 31st, for Divine Service at Christ Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins. A. Novis, 1; C. Hill, 2; T. Waterhouse, 3; F. Locke, 4; A. Harvey, 5; G. Watson, 6; F. Kennett, 7; W. Swain, 8. On November 2nd, on the occasion of the visit of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught to the town, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins. A. Novis, 1; C. Hill, 2; H. Harvey, 3; F. Medhurst, 4; F. Locke, 5; G. Watson, 6; F. Kennett, 7; H. Denman, 8. Both quarter-peals were composed and conducted by G. Watson.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Saturday, October 28th, at the Abbey, an attempt was made for a peal of Bob Major, which unfortunately came to grief after ringing 4928 changes, in 3 hrs. 19 mins., through the clapper coming off the tenor. H. Langdon, 1; H. Barton (conductor), 2; F. G. Perrin, 3; A. Hardy, 4; W. H. Webber, 5; W. H. Fussell, 6; R. Charge, 7; G. E. Symonds, 8. Tenor 33 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

READING (Berks).—On a recent Wednesday, at St. Giles's church,

in honour of the wedding between Charles W. Hunt and Maude M. Wheeler, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. H. Dibley, 1; H. Coffee, 2; G. L. Boddington, 3; F. Sweetzer, 4; A. H. Evans, 5; A. W. Higgs, 6; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 7; H. Smart, 8.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

RICHMOND (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, October 15th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. R. Todd, 1; N. Peake, 2; T. Frenchum, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Borrows, 5; A. Shelton (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, October 22nd, 720 Kent Treble Bob. R. Todd, 1; J. Peake, 2; T. Frenchum, 3; T. Rushton, 4; A. Shelton, 5; R. Briscoe (conductor), 6.

ARMLEY (Yorks).—On Sunday morning, October 15th, 720 Oxford (fifteen bobs), and 72 Tulip. Jos. Thackray, 1; B. Cowling, 2; Jno. Thackray, 3; J. Heckingbottom (conductor), 4; M. Broadbent, 5; J. Guy, 6. On Sunday morning, October 22nd, 720 Kent (fifteen bobs), and 72 Merchant's Delight. Jos. Thackray, 1; Jos. Heckingbottom (conductor), 2; B. Cowling, 3; Jno. Thackray, 4; M. Broadbent, 5; J. Guy, 6. For evening service 648 Kent (fifteen bobs), and 144 Duke of York. J. Heckingbottom (conductor), 1; Jos. Thackray, 2; others as before. On Sunday morning, October 29th, 240 Violet, 240 and 72 Duke of York. J. Hey, 1; Jos. Heckingbottom, 2; Jos. Thackray (conductor), 3; others as before. And for evening service, 576 Oxford (nine bobs). J. Heckingbottom (conductor), 1; Jos. Thackray, 2; B. Cowling, 3; others as before. On Sunday morning, November 5th, 576 Kent and 72 Duke of York. Jos. Thackray, 1; J. Heckingbottom (conductor), 2; the others as before.

ASHTED (Surrey).—On Saturday, October 21st, 2520 Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 21 mins. H. Carbett, 1; J. Wyatt (conductor), 2; H. Songhurst, 3; W. Songhurst, 4; E. Dodd, 5; J. Hoyle, 6; A. Dean, 7; W. Lynch, 8. Longest length by the brothers Songhurst.

DOLGELLEY (North Wales).—On October 11th, at St. Mary's church, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, with 6-7-8 covering. J. Megan, 1; I. Myers, 2; M. J. Morris, 3; O. G. Jones, 4; D. Roberts, 5; D. Jones, 6; Rev. O. Evans, 7; O. Jones, 8. This is the first change-ringing on tower bells ever performed by a local band. These bells were cast in the year 1809.

HADLEIGH (Suffolk).—Recently 720 Bob Minor in 28 mins. A. Thorpe, 1; H. Mee, 2; J. Scowen, 3; T. Read, 4; E. Willis, 5; F. Mee (conductor), 6. Tenor 28 cwt.

HAWLEY (Hants).—On Tuesday, October 31st, for combined practice, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Brinn, 1; G. Hawkins (conductor), 2; F. Mustow, 3; C. Smart, 4; M. Steer, 5; B. Hawkins, 6; A. E. Cousins, 7; W. Boyles, 8. Also 112 in the same method. J. Brinn, 1; G. Hawkins, 2; F. Mustow, 3; C. Smart, 4; W. Boyles, 5; B. Hawkins, 6; A. E. Cousins (conductor), 7; M. Steer, 8. Also 120 Bob Minor. W. Boyles, 1; G. Hawkins (conductor), 2; C. Smart, 3; A. E. Cousins, 4; M. Steer, 5; B. Hawkins, 6.

HENFIELD (Sussex).—On Sunday evening, October 29th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 840 Stedman Triples. *W. A. J. Ives, 1; L. Payne, 2; S. Burt, 3; *A. E. Lish, 4; C. Tyler (conductor), 5; H. Markwell, 6; G. Payne, 7; *W. Markwell, 8. *First 720.

LONDON.—On Tuesday, October 24th, a quarter-peal of Bob Major, 1264 changes, in 38 mins. H. Barton, 1-1; W. H. Fussell, 3-4; R. Charge, 5-6; C. Charge (conductor), 7-8. On Thursday, October 26, at All Saints' church, Fulham, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original, in 37 mins. J. W. Driver, 1-2; H. Barton (conductor), 3-4; R. Charge, 5-6; C. Charge, 7-8.

MELTON MOWBRAY (Leicestershire).—On Tuesday, September 26th, 720 Plain Bob, in 28 mins. T. Barnes, 1; J. E. Goodacre, 2; E. J. Gale, 3; W. James, 4; C. Dalby, 5; R. Young, 6; R. H. Bartram (conductor), 7. W. Starbuck, 8. On October 10th, 720 Plain Bob. W. Spiby, 1; the rest as before. On October 17th, 720 Plain Bob, in 30 mins. J. E. Goodacre, 1; E. J. Gale, 2; C. Dalby, 3; W. James, 4; A. V. Potter (first 720 of Minor), 5; J. Barnes, 6; R. H. Bartram (conductor), 7. R. Young, 8. For evening service on October 22nd, 720 Plain Bob, in 29 mins., standing as before. On October 24th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. C. Dalby, 2; E. J. Gale, 3; T. Gillett, 8; the rest as before.

NORTHAMPTON.—On Tuesday, October 24th, at St. Sepulchre's church, 336 Grandsire Triples. H. Tinston, 1; F. Causby, 2; R. Leader, 3; R. Howard, 4; H. Jepps, 5; F. Wilford (conductor), 6; H. Howard, 7; W. H. Ashby, 8.

NORTON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, October 29th, for evening ser-

vice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, was rung with the bells muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Rev. W. Mercer, M.A., Vicar of St. Paul's, Norton Lees. The deceased had been connected with the parish for the space of 28 years. G. Oates, 1; J. Biggin, 2; E. James, 3; J. Goacher, 4; J. Atkin, 5; W. Biggin, 6; A. Slater, 7; G. Butcher, 8.

NEW MILLS (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, October 28th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Marsden, 1; E. Garside, 2; W. Hadfield, 3; Rev. A. T. Beeston (first 720), 4; E. O. Rostron (conductor), 5; J. Dewsnap, 6. A 720 of Oxford was attempted, but it ran out false owing to a change-course. The above, except the Rev. A. T. Beeston, are members of the St. James' band, Whitfield, Glossop, who were visiting the place for the day.

OAKHAM (Rutlandshire).—On October 24th, at the parish church, on handbells, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, being the longest length by all. G. Towell, 1; H. Hetterley, 2; W. Herbert, 3; F. Towell, 4; T. Briggs (conductor), 5; E. Higgs, 6. Also 240 Canterbury Pleasure Doubles, standing as before except the 6th, which was rung by T. Needham. First in the method by all.

PETERBOROUGH.—On Tuesday, October 17th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-two singles) in 26 mins. J. Skinner, 1; J. Tirrell, 2; E. G. Baker, 3; C. Chasty, 4; J. Davis, 5; W. T. Johnson (conductor), 6. Another 720 (nine bobs and six singles) in 26 mins.; with J. Chasty, 4; C. Chasty, 5; the rest as before.

PULBOROUGH (Sussex).—Recently for practice at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. J. Blake, 1; S. Stone, 2; H. W. Herrington, 3; A. Greenfield, 4; P. Doick, 5; E. Seller, 6; E. Holden (conductor), 7; C. S. Child, 8. First quarter-peal and longest length ever rung by a local band.

STOKESLEY (Yorks).—On Saturday, October 15th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. W. Clarkson, 1; W. Bennison, 2; A. C. Bowes, 3; J. W. Whittles, 4; H. H. Bowes, 5; Rev. W. P. Wright (conductor), 6. On Thursday, October 19th, 720 Bob Minor. W. Clarkson, 1; W. Bennison, 2; J. W. Whittle, 5; H. H. Bowes, 4; F. Mellanby, 5; Rev. W. P. Wright (conductor), 6. On Saturday, October 21st, 720 Bob Minor. G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 1; W. Clarkson, 2; A. C. Bowes, 3; J. W. Whittles, 4; H. H. Bowes, 5; Rev. W. P. Wright, 6. On Sunday, October 29th, 720 Bob Minor. *J. P. Clarkson, 1; W. Bennison, 2; J. W. Whittle, 3; H. H. Bowes, 4; Rev. W. P. Wright (conductor), 5; W. Lane, 6. *First 720, aged 16.

WIRKSWORTH (Derbyshire).—On Monday, October 23rd, for practice, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples. F. Turner, 1; *C. Allsop, 2; *H. Ogdon, 3; J. Wardman, 4; A. Gell, 5; F. Johnson, 6; A. E. Thompson (conductor), 7; W. Fox, 8. *First quarter-peal.

WYMONDHAM (Leicestershire).—On Saturday, October 25th, in 28 mins., 720 Plain Bob. W. Spiby, 1; C. Dalby, 2; G. H. Huddleston, 3; W. Janes, 4; A. V. Potter, 5; R. H. Bartram (conductor), 6. Also another 720. R. W. Baker, 1; W. Dyke, 3; G. H. Huddleston, 5; the rest as before. Also 240 Grandsire. A. V. Potter, 1; the rest as before.

THE LATE JAMES HEWETT.

The following gentlemen have consented to join me in forming a committee for promoting a Memorial Fund in memory of the veteran ringer, James Hewett, of Gosport. We beg to appeal to ringers and friends for subscriptions for above object, which will from time to time be duly acknowledged in "THE BELL NEWS":—

Richard Brown, 2, South Cross Street, Gosport.
Henry Dains, 47, Richmond Road, London, N.
James Gould, 199, Lake Road, Landport, Portsmouth.
Rev. R. C. M. Harvey, Master Winchester Diocesan Guild, the Vicarage, Eastleigh.
J. Harper, 69, Brompton Road, Mile End, Portsmouth.
H. Slater, 80, High Street, Gosport.
Henry Stubbington, 183, Somers Road, Southsea.
George Williams, 2, Grove Street, Brighton.
A. E. Tomlins, 30, Curtis Terrace, Landport, Portsmouth.
Arthur Jacob, 10, St. Ann's Rise, Hornsey.
John Mansfield, 51, Sandringham Buildings, Soho, W.

Situations Vacant.

WANTED.—First-class Shoeing and General Jobbing Smith, capable of taking charge of yard. Good wages and constant place to the right man. Change-ringer, eight bells.—Particulars to A. RICHARDSON, Bathwick Carriage Works, Bath.

WANTED.—Men or Youths used to the Cycle filing, or such work.—Apply Mr J. CARTER, care of Webley & Co., Weaman Street, Birmingham.

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. The 262nd anniversary dinner will be held at The Bridge House hotel, London Bridge, on Saturday, November 11th, at 6.30 p.m. Tickets (3s. 6d. each), may be bought of Messrs. W. H. L. Buckingham, Cockerill, E. A. Davies, Dawe, Garrard, Horrex, Hughes, Newton, O'Meara, Pettit, Prime, Rowbotham, Sharman, W. D. Smith, Springall, Taffender, and Winney. The tower of St. Michael's, Cornhill, will be open to members and friends at 4 o'clock. As there will be no ringing at St. Paul's cathedral on November 14th, it has been decided to commence the business meeting that evening at 9 o'clock. The chief item on the Agenda will be the election of officers, and it is hoped that all members who can possibly do so, will attend. **WILLIAM T. COCKERILL, Hon. Sec.**

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

The Lancashire Association. — Liverpool Branch.—Monthly meeting at St. Peter's Woolton, to-day, Saturday, November 11. Belfry open at 3 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m.

G. WOODHALL, Branch Sec.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—Cirencester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Tetbury, to-day, Saturday, 11th of November. There will be short evensong in the parish church at 5 p.m., which it is hoped all will endeavour to attend. The bells (8) will be open for ringing from 2 p.m. Meeting for the election of members, etc., after the service. **REV. CHARLES GOTT, Latton Vicarage, Cricklade, Hon. Sec.**

St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—The peal board recording the muffled peal of Cinques to the memory of the late Henry Bastable will be unveiled by the Rector of St. Martin's, the Rev. Canon A. J. Robinson, at 4 p.m. on Saturday, November 25th. The tower will be open for ringing at 3.30 p.m. Members and subscribers are invited. The Rector will afterwards entertain the members of the Guild at tea in the Dean Street School Rooms at 5 p.m. Tickets for the tea (free) must be applied for before the 18th inst., to **W. H. GODDEN, Hon. Sec.**

61, Roland Road, Handsworth.

The Heavy Woollen District Association.—The monthly meeting of the above-named society will be held to-day, Saturday, November 11th, at The Fleece inn, Batley. Meeting to commence at 5 o'clock.

WALTER IDLE, Secretary.

47, Vulcan Road, Dewsbury.

The St. James's Society, London.—Members are particularly requested to attend the meeting on Monday next, November 13th, for transaction of the Society's business.

R. A. DANIELL, Hon. Sec.

Ely Diocesan Association.—A meeting of the Ely Archidiaconal districts will be held at Littleport on Monday afternoon, November 13th. Tea at 4 p.m.

**E. J. TEASDALE, } Hon. Secs.
R. M. CROFT, }**

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—The annual social in connection with this branch will be held on Saturday, November 18th, at The Railway hotel, Ramsbottom. Tea at 6 p.m., 1s. 6d. each to all sending their names to Jonathan

Wolstenholme, 33, Crow Lane, Ramsbottom, not later than Wednesday, November 15th.

W. CASS, Sec.

83, Chesham Road, Bury.

The Kent County Association.—Canterbury District.—The next meeting of the above (for ringing only), will be held at Elham on Saturday, November 18th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. **E. E. FOREMAN, Hon. Dis. Sec.**

The Lancashire Association.—Bolton Branch.—The next monthly meeting of the above branch will be held on Saturday, November 18th, at the parish church, Bolton. Bells ready at 5 o'clock; business meeting at 7 o'clock. All ringers invited.

HY. MOSS, Branch Sec.

64, Beverley Road, Bolton.

The Winchester Diocesan Guild.—A Quarterly Meeting will be held at Weybridge on Saturday, November 18th.

REV. C. E. MATTHEWS, Hon. Sec.

Hursley.

The Central Northamptonshire Association.—Quarterly Meeting at Wellingborough on Saturday, November 18th. Usual arrangements. Tea and business meeting at St. Helier's Hall at 5 o'clock.

E. J. DENNES, Hon. Sec.

Wellingborough.

The Kent County Association.—Maidstone District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at West Malling on Saturday, November 18th. Tower open at 4 o'clock. Committee Meeting at 5.30.

A. PALMER, Hon. Dis. Sec.

7, Knight rider Street, Maidstone.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—Gloucester Branch.—A meeting of the above will be held at Mitcheldean on Saturday, November 18th.

JOHN AUSTIN, Local Hon. Sec.

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The monthly meeting of the above society will be held at Holbeck (R.C., 8 bells), on Saturday, November 25th. Meeting-house—The Foundry inn. Handbells provided. All arrears of contributions will be thankfully received.

HY. GAYTHORPE, Hon. Sec.

1, Elm Avenue, Bramley.

East Derbyshire Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Ashover (6 bells), on Saturday, November 25th. Two miles from Stretton station on Midland railway.

T. ALLIBONE, Sec.

North Wingfield, Chesterfield.

The Middlesex County Association.—South and West District.—A monthly meeting will be held at All Saints church, Isleworth, on Saturday, November 25th. A business meeting will be held in the tower for the election of the district officers. Members are requested to make an effort to attend.

C. EDWARDS, Hon. Dis. Sec.

The Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next monthly ringing meeting will be held at the parish church, Eccles, on Saturday, November 25th. Bells ready at 4 o'clock. Business meeting to be held in the Mission Room at 7 o'clock. A good attendance expected.

W. BROWN, Branch Sec.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. W. H. Barber has removed from Bangor to 1, Woodcut Place, Sydenham Road, Small Heath, Birmingham.

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO BRISTOL ON NOVEMBER 15TH, 1899.

If any ringers who contemplate paying Bristol a visit on the above date, and would like to take part in any ringing—peals or otherwise—will kindly communicate with Mr. F. G. May, St. George's, Bristol, he will give them a hearty welcome and arrange for ringing, etc. Nearly all the towers in the City are open, including St. Mary Redcliffe. St. Nicholas and St. Stephen's, and a number of eight-bell towers.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

I. HILLS.—Nothing whatever.

BOB MAJOR.—We cannot say.

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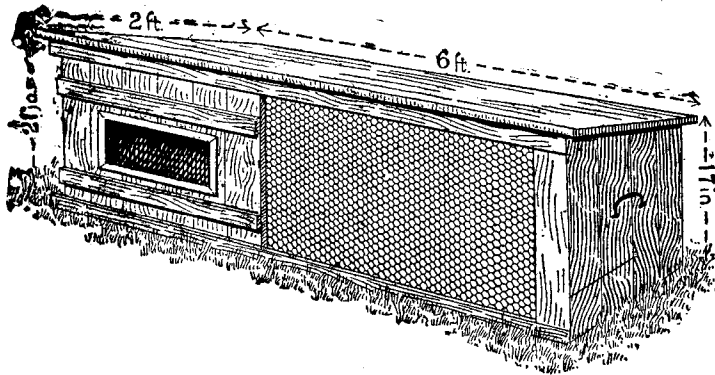
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WANTED.—Situation as all-round jobbing compositor. Stone, Platen Machines, etc. Society, age 23. Change-ringer in Standard Methods.—Apply X., care of Editor.

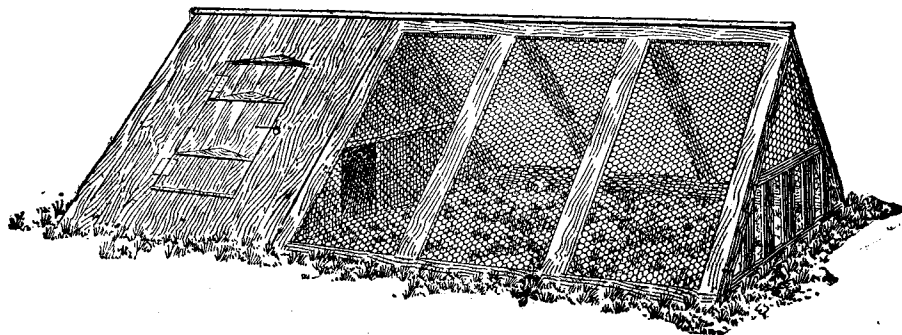
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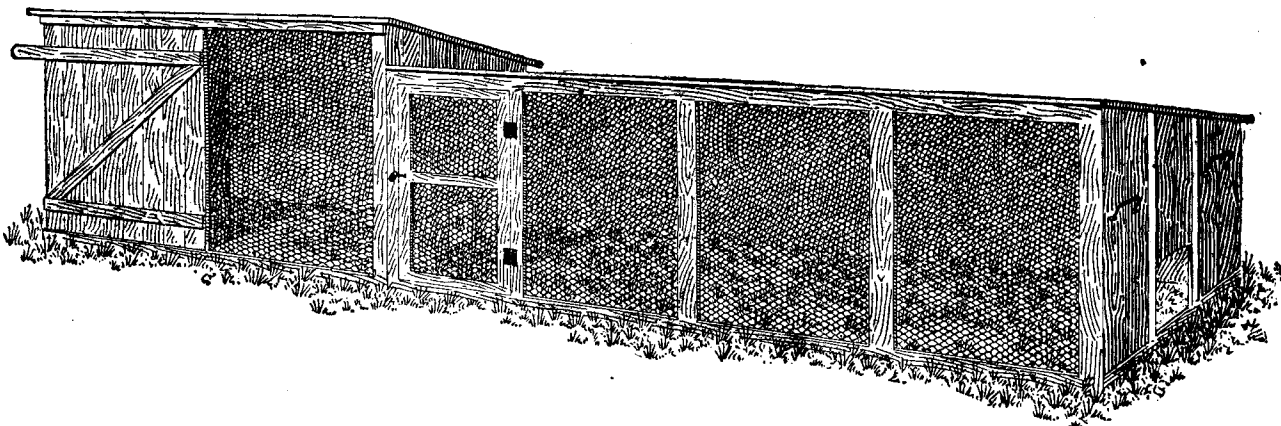
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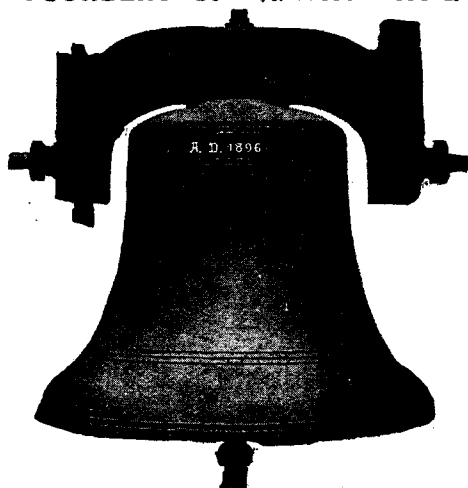
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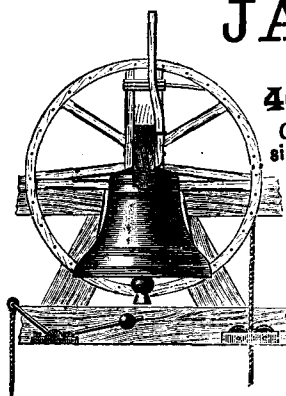
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No. 286.	"Men of Harlech," Welsh Melody	"	1	6
No. 287.	"Orange and Blue," Scotch Air	"	1	6
No. 319.	"Hark the bonny Christ Church Bells," varied	"	1	6
The above are for 6 ringers with 13 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.A.				
The next are for 6 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 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

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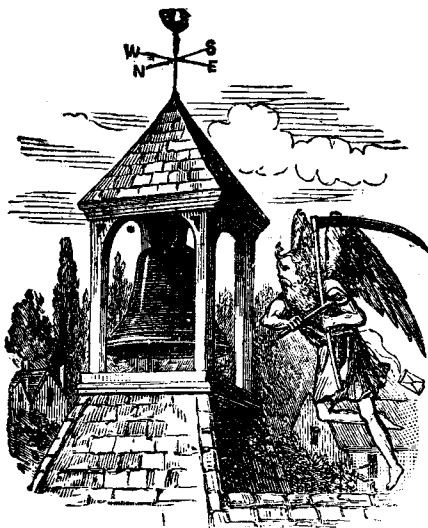
A Weekly Journal of the Ringing Exercise ; and Compendium of Information for the Clergy and Churchwardens.

No. 919. — VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1899.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

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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,
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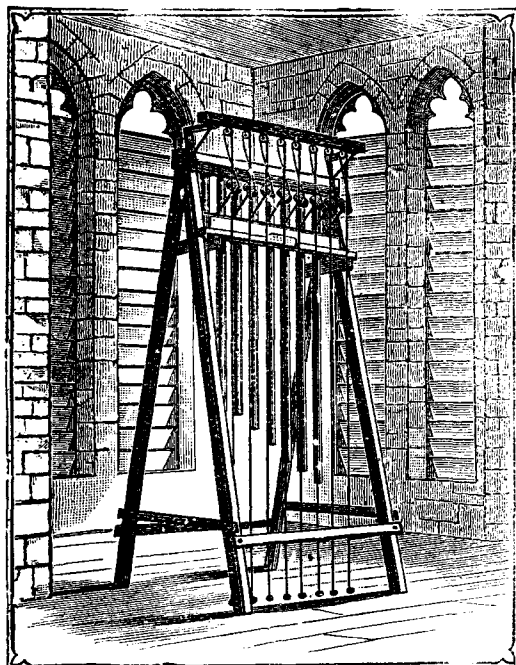
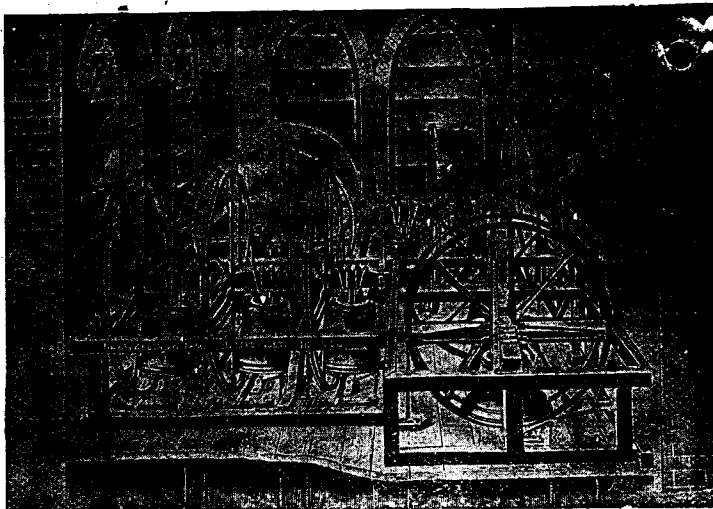
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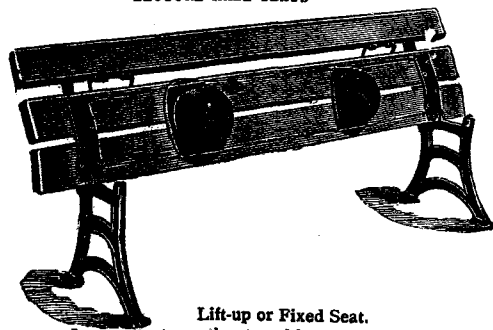
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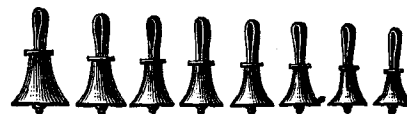
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 919.]

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

RESTORATION OF ST. WINNOW BELLS. CORNWELL.

Owing to the dilapidated state of the belfry, St. Winnow church bells, five in number, have for more than three years been silent. St. Winnow parish church is situated in a secluded spot on the banks of the river Fower, about two miles from Lostwithiel, and in the past the sound of the sweet chiming bells over the water on a summer's evening was one of the pleasures of a boating excursion. It is therefore not to be wondered at that people roundabout, as well as the parishioners of St. Winnow took pride in the beautiful peal.

Early this year the St. Winnow clergy and the Church Council made an appeal to the land-owners and the parishioners for funds to restore the belfry. The necessary amount was quickly raised, Lord Robartes (now Viscount Clifden) subscribing £25, and Mr. R. Foster, of Lanwithan, and Mr. J. B. Fortescue, of Boconnoc, each £10. Mrs. Howell, her children and grandchildren, asked to be allowed to place a new bell in the belfry in memory of the late Mr. Francis Buller Howell, of Ethy. Permission was, of course, gladly given. The restoration of the belfry cost about £150. The new sixth bell, which weighs 3 cwt. 3 qrs. 17 lbs. is inscribed:—"To the glory of God and in memory of Francis Buller Howell, this bell is given by his wife, children, and grandchildren. Sursum Corda: Venite Adoremus."

The re-opening of the belfry and dedication of the bell took place on All Saints' Day. The weather being fine there was a large attendance, including many people and village ringers from surrounding parishes. In the afternoon there was a choral dedication service, attended by St. Winnow surplised choristers and the Archdeacon of Bodmin, Rev. E. Durno, Vicar of Egloshayle (rural dean), Rev. G. T. B. Kyngdon, public preacher, Revs. Richard H. Boles and E. Ormerod, St. Winnow. A processional hymn having been sung and prayers said, Psalms xcvi. and ci. were chanted, and the Vicar of Egloshayle read the lesson. After the hymn "We love the place, O God," collects were said in the belfry and a short peal was rung. On the bells ceasing the Archdeacon gave an address from the words: "Called to be saints." An offertory was taken for the relief of widows and orphans of soldiers fallen in the Transvaal, the amount being £15 5s. 6d.

After the service peals were rung by ringers of St. Winnow, Lostwithiel, Lanlivery (two sets), Landyrock, St. Breward, Braddock-with-Boconnoc, and St. Veep. Some of the ringers rang remarkably well, and the new bell proved a great acquisition to the peal. A public tea was provided in a barn lent by Mr. Tuckett, one of the churchwardens, and a large number sat down. Over eighty Sunday scholars were entertained at tea by Mrs. Howell, of Ethy.

The whole work of putting in new beams and floors, and new oak frames and fittings for six bells and providing the new bell, and providing and fixing Ellacombe chiming apparatus to the six bells, was carried out most satisfactorily by Mr. Harry Stokes, of Woodbury, Exeter.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. (NORTHERN BRANCH.)

The first meeting of this branch since the formation of a Diocesan Guild, was held at Grimsby, on Monday, the 11th instant, and notwithstanding the unpropitious state of the weather, a good company assembled at the Coffee Palace to partake of tea at 5 p.m. Immediately tea was over the usual business meeting was held, the Rev. G. H. Ridout, of Gainsborough, being in the chair in the unavoidable absence of the Vicar of St. James', Grimsby, who was detained at another meeting, but who very kindly called in later in the evening, just after the conclusion of the business.

The minutes of the meeting held at Gainsborough were confirmed and several new members were elected.

In reviewing the doings of the branch since the annual meeting last April, the Secretary said that he had very little to report. A Diocesan Guild Committee meeting had been held to draw up the new rules, and it had been proposed to hold a Diocesan Meeting at some convenient centre, probably at Grantham, when the members would be asked to confirm such rules. It was to be regretted that the peal record had fallen away considerably during the year. If the branch was to make the progress in the future as it had done in the past, more energy in this respect must be shown by its members. Mention was also made of the scarcity of clergy who really took a practical interest in the work. Out of the whole district covered by the branch, the Secretary only knew of one practical ringing clergyman, and that was the Chairman, and he was about to leave the Diocese. The late Rector of Branston's (The Rev. J. C. M. Mansell Pleydell, now of Sturminster-Newton), kind message for the welfare of the Branch, was conveyed to the members. The Secretary also mentioned that he wished to resign his office at the end of the current year.

The Chairman said he felt sure the meeting would wish to congratulate the members who rang the first Diocesan peal at Heckington, a short time since.

Mr. Heyhoe, of Grimsby, remarked that as regards peal ringing and progress in change ringing, the branch had received a heavy blow by the disbanding of the S. Peter-at-Arches Society at Lincoln. He felt very sorry that the Church authorities there did not think it necessary to use their influence and try to keep the society together.

Votes of thanks to the Vicar of St. James' for the use of the bells, to the local Secretary (Mr. A. B. Shepherd), for making arrangements, and to the Chairman for presiding, were passed. The Chairman in replying remarked that he took a real interest in change ringing and was always very glad when an opportunity arose to do his best to promote the welfare of ringing societies.

Touches on the handbells were rung and an adjournment was afterwards made to St. James' tower where Stedman, Bob Major, and Grandsire were indulged in for the rest of the evening.

CHURCH RESTORATION AT NORTH-TAWTON,
DEVON.

DEDICATION OF BELLS.

This event had been eagerly anticipated by the inhabitants of Northtawton since it was determined on at a public meeting held in the town, mainly through the energetic instrumentality of the Parish Churchwarden (Mr. Jas. C. Tavener) about sixteen months since to proceed with the work of restoration and addition in the following order:—(a), repair Church steeple which is covered with oak shingle; (b), rehang the bells; (c), add a vestry; (d) add two new bells; and (e), reseal the Church. In August, 1898, a most successful bazaar was held in the Rectory grounds and a sum of about £170 was raised as a nucleus. Public subscriptions were solicited, and with the above about £600 have been obtained. A Building Committee, which has proved a most efficient one, was appointed as follows:—The Rector (Rev. R. Hole, who next year will celebrate his Jubilee as Rector of the parish), Messrs. J. C. Tavener and J. H. Gibbings (Churchwardens), Messrs. W. D. Bickham and W. Merchant (sidesmen), Dr. Catcliffe, Mr. S. J. Tucker, Mr. F. Skinner (Hon. Treasurer of the Building Fund), Messrs. J. C. Pierce and J. E. Pyke (Hon. Secretaries). Tenders were, under the instructions of Mr. Jas. Hooper, of Hatherleigh (the architect engaged) invited for repairing the steeple and tower, and fixing a window over the belfry door. On examination it was found necessary to rebuild the steeple. Messrs. Fisher Bros. were successful in securing the contract for £165 and the same firm also obtained the tender for erection of a vestry, with which the Church had not been provided hitherto, necessitating robing, signing the register, etc., in the Church itself, and which they agreed to build for a sum of £75. Mr. Henry Gibbings, the head of an esteemed and old-established Northtawton family, who however removed from the parish a few years since, generously offered, in conjunction with the members of the family, to provide an additional bell in memory of his eldest son Harry, who died last year. The offer was accepted and a special Committee appointed to endeavour to secure the other bell to complete the octave, and success attended the effort.

The re-hanging of bells was entrusted to the well-known expert, Mr. Harry Stokes, of Woodbury, who found it necessary to have new beams to carry the framework and bells, as the old beams, after the removal of masonry, etc., were found to be in a positively dangerous state. Eight new beams of splendid hearts of oak were provided, three about twenty feet long and twelve inches square at the end, the remaining five being about the same length, and with 12 x 10 ends. This involved an expenditure of over £40 which had not been expected. All the old framework was removed and new fixed at a cost of about £130. Considerable alteration has been made in the interior of the tower, which now presents a very clean and commodious appearance, and will be found quite in keeping with the church itself when the last section of the work—the re-seating of the church and opening of the belfry arch—is undertaken.

During the day capital touches were rung by the Northtawton band, and an admirable exposition of Stedman Triples and Grandsire Triples were given by the following members of the Devonshire Guild: Rev. Maitland Kelly (President), Messrs. Ferris Shepherd, Moss, Searle, Taylor, Marsh, Munday and J. Godfrey.

The inscriptions on the bells are as follows:—Treble

(new), "We praise Thee O God," raised by public subscription, 1899: second, new, "To the Glory of God and in memory of Henry Durant Gibbings, 1898," (both new bells are by Mears and Stainbank, founders). The remaining six with the exception of the tenor, which bears the date of 1770, bear the impression, "Pennington fecit (765); third (bears inscriptions of the coins of the realm), "Glory be to God on High"; fourth, "On earth peace, Weeks Hole, Esq., Rd., Hole, Clerk, donors"; fifth, "Good will towards men"; seventh, "Fear God, honour the King, Wm. Skinner, Samuel Brock, churchwardens"; eighth, "Jesu Nazarene, Rex Judæorum fili dei miserere," Thomas Hole, rector, Edward Gostwyck and Jno Wensley, churchwardens, William Kelland, William Sommers.

The Luncheon was held at The Ring of Bells hotel. The esteemed Rector (Rev. R. Hole) occupied the chair, and was supported by Mr. J. H. Gibbings (Rector's Warden), Mr. Alderman Snell, J.P., and F. Skinner (vice-chairmen).

An excellent meal was provided by Mr. and Mrs. Heath. The loyal toast having been duly honoured,

Mr. J. H. Gibbings (Rector's warden), gave the toast of the "Bishop, Clergy, and Ministers of all denominations," to which the Revs. R. Hole, Maitland Kelly, and G. H. Molineaux responded. The latter said the clergy felt that in the ringers they had a strong body of workers who deserved encouragement and recognition.

Mr. G. Cutcliffe submitted the toast of "The Navy, Army, and Reserve Forces."

Sergeant Heath, 4th V.B.D.R., replied.

Mr. Alderman W. Snell next gave "The Donors of the Bells, Window, Vestry, and Tower Restoration Fund." He was proud as a native of Northtawton at the way in which the people of the parish had risen to the occasion, and co-operated in restoration and augmentation.

Mr. Hy. Gibbings, who with his family had given one of the new bells, was pleased to hear that the addition of two new bells was in every way satisfactory from a musical point of view. He hoped that the augmented bells would add to the pleasure of the local ringers, and add a little life and colour to the life of the town.

Mr. J. G. Tavener gave the toast of "The Ringers," and said it was largely due to the enthusiasm of the local ringers that the second bell was able to be finished. The names of the Rev. M. Kelly (President of the Devonshire Guild, and Mr. W. Fewings (captain of the local ringers), were coupled with the toast.

Mr. John Pyke proposed the health of the "Committee and Ladies," and eulogised the services they rendered in the work.

Mr. F. Skinner, in responding, said that £560 had been subscribed in the parish and neighbourhood for the work, and that although there was a balance on the wrong side, he hoped it would be cleared off that day.

Mr. Tucker also replied, and the names of Messrs. T. Fisher and W. D. Bickham were coupled with the toast.

The dedication service commenced at 3 o'clock. The Bishop of Crediton, accompanied by the Rector, Revs. J. L. Francis (Bridestowe), J. F. Clarke (Southtawton), S. Heathcote (Bondleigh), and T. W. Little (Sampford Courtenay), proceeded to the new vestry where a dedication prayer was said. To the strains of the Old Hundredth the robed clergy entered the Church from the vestry, where a shortened form of service was gone through. The lesson was read by Rev. J. L. Francis (Rural Dean). The anthem was "Arise, O Lord, into thy resting place," and

was beautifully sung, Mr. T. Fisher singing the solo. The Bishop then proceeded to the south aisle where the new window was unveiled and solemn prayer offered. Accompanied by the Churchwarden (Mr. J. C. Tavener, the Parish Warden being unavoidably prevented from attending), and the sidesmen, his Lordship went to the belfry, where the new bells were dedicated. A short peal was then rung by the Northtawton ringers. On the return to the Church the Bishop preached an eloquent sermon, dwelling more particularly on the use of bells under the old dispensation and at the present time.

In the evening the Rev. H. Bremridge (Winkleigh) preached. Collections were made at both services and liberally responded to. Immediately following the afternoon service a public tea was held in the Market-room, which was totally inadequate so far as size was concerned, and from 400 to 500 attended. Mrs. Hole (chairwoman of the Ladies' Committee) was assisted by a large band of helpers.

PRESENTATION TO A RINGER.

At the conclusion of the weekly practice at the church of the Holy Trinity, Guildford, on Tuesday, the 7th inst., an interesting presentation was made to Mr. Chas. Willshire, by the above band, in recognition of his untiring efforts in teaching them the Art of change-ringing. The present took the form of an eight-day clock, and bears the following inscription:—

"Presented to Charles Willshire by the Bellringers of Holy Trinity Church, Guildford, November 7th, 1899.

The presentation was made by Mr. B. Chorley.

Mr. Willshire on returning thanks, congratulated the band on the progress they had made, and said he believed that next year they would be ringing Stedman as well as they ring Grandsire this year.

It is worthy of note that the band have only been change-ringing nine months, and when they commenced none of them knew anything of methods.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL.

The Dean and Chapter of Carlisle Cathedral have placed a new clock in the tower of the Cathedral, which has been made and fixed by Messrs. Potts and Sons, Clock Manufacturers, of Leeds and Newcastle-on-Tyne, from the designs and plans of Lord Grimthorpe.

MR. ATTREE'S ANALYSIS.—This interesting compilation will appear next week.

STOKESLEY (Yorks.)—On Saturday, October 15th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. W. Clarkson, 1; W. Bennison, 2; A. C. Bowes, 3; J. W. Whittles, 4; H. H. Bowes, 5; Rev. W. P. Wright (conductor), 6. On Thursday, October 19th, 720 Bob Minor. W. Clarkson, 1; W. Bennison, 2; J. W. Whittle, 5; H. H. Bowes, 4; F. Mellanby, 5; Rev. W. P. Wright (conductor), 6. On Saturday, October 21st, 720 Bob Minor. G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 1; W. Clarkson, 2; A. C. Bowes, 3; J. W. Whittles, 4; H. H. Bowes, 5; Rev. W. P. Wright, 6. On Sunday, October 29th, 720 Bob Minor. *J. P. Clarkson, 1; W. Bennison, 2; J. W. Whittle, 3; H. H. Bowes, 4; Rev. W. P. Wright (conductor), 5; W. Lane, 6. *First 720, aged 16.

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 DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WEDDING OF THE HON. SECRETARY.

The esteemed Secretary of the above Association, Mr. C. L. Routledge, was married to Miss J. M. Turnbull, third surviving daughter of the late Geo. Turnbull, Esq., of Newcastle-on-Tyne. The ceremony took place on the 6th inst., at St. Paul's, High Elswick, Newcastle, where, unfortunately, there are no bells, though on this occasion there were plenty of another style of spelling in evidence. The wedding, which was a quiet one, passed off most satisfactorily before a large congregation of well-wishers, Mr. R. S. Story representing the Association, and Mr. W. G. Routledge, brother of the bridegroom, and an old and respected member of the Association, superintending matters generally. The happy pair left for Edinburgh, and the following band attempted a peal of Stedman in the evening at North Shields, the Cathedral bells not being available. W. Holmes (conductor), 1; H. Dall, 2; R. S. Story, 3; S. Power, 4; J. E. R. Keen, 5; R. Chichester, 6; A. Hillier, 7; E. E. Ferry, 8; T. T. Gof-ton, 9; F. J. Harrison, 10. Tenor 19 cwt. After ringing about 3,200 changes in very good style, a change-course brought the attempt to grief. The good wishes of the band, however, none the less were extended to their old and tried friend and his good bride.

A RINGING TOUR.

Mr. George Williams (of Brighton), writes: "All being well we are starting for our usual week of evening's peal-ringing. On Saturday, November 18th, at Bolney; November 20th—St. Nicholas, Brighton; November 21st, Lewes; November 22nd—Heene; November 23rd—St. Paul's, Brighton; November 24th—St. Peter's, Brighton; November 25th—Steyning; November 27th—Shoreham; November 28th—Hurst. It is intended to attempt only one peal in each method."

THE LATE JAMES HEWETT.

The following gentlemen have consented to join me in forming a committee for promoting a Memorial Fund in memory of the veteran ringer, James Hewett, of Gosport. We beg to appeal to ringers and friends for subscriptions for above object, which will from time to time be duly acknowledged in "THE BELL NEWS":—

Richard Brown, 2, South Cross Street, Gosport.
Henry Dains, 47, Richmond Road, London, N.
James Gould, 199, Lake Road, Landport, Portsmouth.
Rev. R. C. M. Harvey, Master Winchester Diocesan Guild, the Vicarage, Eastleigh.
J. Harper, 69, Brompton Road, Mile End, Portsmouth.
H. Slater, 80, High Street, Gosport.
Henry Stubbington, 183, Somers Road, Southsea.
George Williams, 2, Grove Street, Brighton.
A. E. Tomlins, 30, Curtis Terrace, Landport, Portsmouth.
Arthur Jacob, 10, St. Ann's Rise, Hornsey.
John Mansfield, 51, Sandringham Buildings, Soho, W.

HADLEIGH (Suffolk).—Recently 720 Bob Minor in 28 mins. A. Thorpe, 1; H. Mee, 2; J. Scowen, 3; T. Read, 4; E. Willis, 5; F. Mee (conductor), 6. Tenor 28 cwt.

Situations Vacant.

WANTED.—First-class Shoeing and General Jobbing Smith, capable of taking charge of yard. Good wages and constant place to the right man. Change-ringer, eight bells.—Particulars to A. RICHARDSON, Bathwick Carriage Works, Bath.

WANTED.—Men or Youths used to the Cycle filing, or such work.—Apply Mr J. CARTER, care of Webley & Co., Weaman Street, Birmingham.

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

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

By R. A. DANIELL.

Before proceeding to discuss the questions I stated in "THE BELL NEWS" of July 1st, 1899, at the conclusion of the papers I had then been contributing, I will revert for a moment to Bunyan. Dr. Raven has most kindly called my attention to a poem of Bunyan's referring to Church Bells.

In the year 1686 Bunyan published *A Book for Boys and Girls*, consisting of a series of short poems designed for their instruction. In the year 1701 a doct of an editor set to work to improve on Bunyan by omitting a large number of the poems, mangling most of the rest, and renaming this unintelligent performance "Divine Emblems." No copy of the original edition of 1686 was known to be in existence till one was discovered a few years since, which is now in the Library of the British Museum. This contains a meditation (omitted in the "Divine Emblems") which I will now set-out.

UPON A RING OF BELLS.

"Bells have wide mouths and tongues, but are too weak,
Have they not help, to ring or talk or speak,
But if you move them they will mak't appear,
By speaking they'll make all the town to hear.

When Ringers handle them with art and skill,
They then the ears of their observers fill,
With such brave notes, they ring and tang so well,
As to outstrip all with their ding, dong, Bell."

COMPARISON:

"These bells are like the powers of my soul;
Their clappers by the Passions of my mind,
The ropes by which my Bells are made to tole
Are Promises (I by experience find).

My body is the steeple where they hang,
My Graces they which do ring every bell,
Nor is there anything gives such a tang,
When by these Ropes these Ringers ring them well.

Let not my bells these Ringers want nor ropes,
Yea let them have room for to swing and sway;
To toss themselves deny them not their scopes,
Lord! in my steeple give them room to play.

If they do tole, ring out, or chime all in,
They drown the tempting, trickling voice of vice,
Lord! when my bells have gone, my Soul has bin
As 'twere a tumbling in this paradise!

Or if these Ringers do the changes ring,
Upon my Bells they do such musick make,
My Soul then (Lord) cannot but bounce and sing,
So greatly her they with their musick take.

But Boys (my Lusts) into my Belfry go,
And pull these Ropes, but do no musick make,
They rather turn my bells by what they do.
Or by disorder make my Steeple shake.

Then Lord! I pray thee keep my Belfry key,
Let none but graces meddle with these Ropes,
And when these naughty Boys come, say them nay,
From such Ringers of Musick there's no hopes.

O Lord if thy poor child might have his will,
And might his meaning freely to thee tell;
He never of this musick has his fill,
There's nothing to him like thy ding, dong, Bell.

From these lines—sent forth for the instruction of youth within two years of their author's death—we may gather that to the last Bunyan remained a ringer at heart. As Dr. Brown says, "Bunyan had a fable ready for everything." But how different a fable would he have written about bells and ringers if what Mr. Tyack says about ringers of Bunyan's time and his personal experiences of ringing had any foundation in fact! That a man who had left ringing when young because the practice was a hindrance to men in general who used it, owing mainly to the wickedness of their ringing companions, should in his mature

years have likened the bells to the powers of his soul, made to give evidence before men by means of their clappers—the passions of his mind—and set in motion through the ropes by ringers whom he likens to the graces of his character—is inconceivable. It is plain Bunyan could have had no complaint against ringers as a class, and that he must have looked on ringing as a scientific and pleasurable exercise both to those who perform and those who listen. He does not draw his comparison from any connection with church work or services, but shews his appreciation of ringing in general and change-ringing in particular as such. He knew good ringing from bad as well as anyone, and felt strongly the contrast between ringing by expert bands and the noise of youths pulling ropes with no good result, overturning (I suppose he means this by "turning") the bells and producing only a disorder of sound and vibration. And so we have this old ringer, more than thirty years after he had been terrified by an unenlightened conscience into abandoning so favourite a pursuit, using appreciatively its excellences and the qualities of its qualified practitioners as a vehicle of instruction for boys and girls. This is the culmination of the interesting passages connecting Bunyan with ringing, and I am indebted to Dr. Raven for kindly calling my attention to it.

I will now proceed to briefly consider the questions above-mentioned, and first

Was the difference in the use of a bell in chiming and ringing originally adopted in England in order that those who heard the bell's voice might know whether it was being sounded for a sacred or secular purpose?

I must at once say that I cannot answer this question. To do so one wants to ascertain who first rang a bell in England instead of chiming it? When did he do it? What did he do it for? Why did other people follow his example? I do not possess, nor do I know where to seek, the information necessary to give a definite reply to these questions. Nevertheless I at present incline to the belief that ringing was from the first the form adopted for secular, as distinguished from sacred purposes. And for the present I will advance this as a theory for criticism and destruction by the learned.

The old references to the use of bells—the many scraps collected by Mr. Ellacombe, for instance—seem to me in many cases too indefinite to give much help directly on this point, though indirectly they are often extremely valuable. To begin with, Latin references or translations therefrom are useless, as it is impossible to tell to what method of sounding a bell the verb in the Latin relates, and I also feel a strong suspicion that the word "ring" was in some instances used without regard to technical exactness. But the question is not what word was used, but what was actually done.

Now it is at any rate certain that Church Bells, though originally introduced for use in connection with Divine worship, have for many centuries been, and still are, used also for secular* purposes. It is also certain that there was ringing in the middle ages. Stow's reference to the subject, which I have already set out in these columns from his account of St. Michael's, Cornhill, make this quite plain. It is beside the point that bells were then hung on half or three-quarter wheels, for Stedman tells us in his *Campanalogia*—"Whole pulls was the general practice in former times; and indeed considering the manner of the hanging of the bells in those days, they could not well have been rung at half-pulls; but since the improvement in the art of bell hanging, that is with round wheels, trussing them up in the stock and placing the roll at right angles with the sole of the wheel, the bells go much better and are managed with more ease at a set pull than formerly; therefore the changes are now generally rung at half-pulls." So that it would seem that the old bell-hanging arrangements were sufficient for ringing purposes till the introduction of change-ringing.

It is likewise certain that the general method of summoning to Divine worship is even now by chiming, and until the recent development of Church interest in ringing, that method was almost exclusively in use, except, I believe, in some parts of the north of England. Whether we should regard the practice of ringing for Sunday services in Yorkshire, for instance, as originally an exception to the general rule, or as introduced

* By the word "secular" I mean to convey all uses not being those in connection with the offices of Divine worship. I do not suggest that such uses are necessarily in any way improper.

there within, say, the last two centuries or so, I do not know, though I suspect the latter alternative to be the true one. Perhaps some Yorkshireman can tell us something about this. But certainly, as a general proposition, it may be said that chiming is the traditional English method of summoning to Divine worship. On the other hand, when one hears bells used for secular purposes, they are almost invariably rung.

Now as chiming is a much simpler process than ringing, it is reasonable to suppose that it is the older method of using a bell, and as bells were originally hung for use in connection with Divine worship, they would originally be chimed in that use; and included in this class of use would be the tolling of the canonical hours. In days when people at large had not clocks in their houses nor watches in their pockets, and when the machinery of such clocks as there were was not sufficient for striking on tower bells, they were naturally largely dependent on some "sign" (*signum*) for information as to the progress of time, and the bell was ready to hand for the purpose. As regards their religious duties the chiming would keep them informed. But men came to require also a knowledge of time for their public secular duties and private business, and when the hour was intimated to them for these purposes it was obviously desirable that it should be intimated to them in such a way that they might not be likely to mistake the notice for notice of a religious office or hour.

(To be continued.)

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS' ANNIVERSARY.

The Ancient Society of College Youths celebrated its 262nd Anniversary at The Bridge House hotel, London Bridge, on Saturday evening last. Mr. H. R. Newton, the Master of the Society, presided, and among the company were Miss Macalpine Leny, the Ven. the Archdeacon of London, the Rev. P. M. Wathen, M.A., Vicar of Barking; Colonel Mackinnon, assistant Adjutant-General—home district; J. S. Pritchett, Esq., LL.B.; and R. A. Daniell, Esq., Hon. Secretary of the London St. James's Society. The vice-chairman was Mr. F. E. Dawe. A very large company assembled, 138 sitting down to dinner, comprising ringers from various parts of the country.

The usual loyal toasts having been given and responded to, the Master proposed the toast of "Success to the Ancient Society of College Youths." In doing so he was glad to be able to announce that the Society had not lost any of its past honors since the last anniversary. It might be that not so many peals as in some former years had been rung, but he ventured to say that they had been of a better class. He hoped yet to see the Society at the top of the tree, and believed this might be case if they would only all pull together.

Mr. W. T. Cockerill, the energetic Hon. Secretary of the Society, whose name was coupled with the toast, said that it was most gratifying to know that the members of the Society and their friends could meet together once a year upon the occasion of the Anniversary, and spend a social hour together. A pleasant feature of the gathering was the presence of so many from various ringing centres. Among those not able to be present that evening were Dr. Wall, Canon Haydock (St. Michael's, Cornhill), G. H. Phillott, Esq., and Sir Arthur Heywood, Bart., all of whom were unavoidably prevented from attending. Sir Arthur Heywood had sent a communication, a portion of which he (Mr. Cockerill) thought would greatly interest them. Sir Arthur wrote that he was reluctantly compelled to relinquish his intention of being present because the Lord-Lieutenant had called a county meeting at Stafford in regard to an organisation of the war relief fund throughout the county. He had received a communication that the Chapter propose to proceed with the restoration of St. Saviour's bells, and asking when he could attend a meeting. This he could not do until the relief of the families of the men serving in South Africa is put upon a working footing. While they regretted the absence of each of the gentlemen he had mentioned, he was sure that Sir Arthur's letter contained what would be welcome news to them all. He regretted that they not only had to deplore the loss of the use of Bow bells, but also the peal at Cripplegate, and it was to be hoped that repairs would follow. As to peals rang during the year the following was the list:

tower bells—seven 720s, 2; Grandsire Triples, 5; Bob Major, 1; Stedman Triples, 14; Caters, 1; Ciuques, 1; Kent Treble Bob Major, 9; Royal, 1; Double Norwich Major, 2; Westminster Surprise, 2; Superlative, 4; Cambridge, 1; London, 4; total 47. Handbells—Grandsire Triples at Oxhey, 2; at Bushey, 2; also one conducted by G. E. Symonds, and another conducted by H. Pasmore, the latter having called Holt's Original at eighteen years of age; Bob Major at Bushey, 1; Kent Treble Bob Major at Barking, 2. One of these was the extent with the tenors together—8896. Among the noticeable performances upon the tower bells was Stedman Cinques at St. Paul's, when the tenor was rung single-handed by Mr. W. Prime. Another feature was that out of the last eleven peals nine were rung by the St. Stephen's, Westminster, Society of which the chairman was a prominent member. The Society had enrolled sixty-two new members, and during the year bands had joined from St. Mary's, Tannton, and Bangor, North Wales. Having congratulated the Ipswich company upon the success at Southgate during the day, Mr. Cockerill concluded by expressing the thanks of the Society for the manner in which the toast of the evening had been received.

The vice-chairman proposed "The London and Provincial Ringing Societies." He coupled with it the names of R. A. Daniell and J. S. Pritchett, Esqrs., and added that of Colonel Mackinnon, as representing the army.

Mr. R. A. Daniell, in reply, claimed that if it had not been for the old societies there would not have been any change-ringing. He had investigated many historical facts, and hoped that he should succeed in creating some interest in the publication of them.

Mr. J. S. Pritchett 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. The object of the Diocesan Associations was to bring the clergy and ringers more in touch one with another, and he would say to the mutual benefit of both, for the clergyman who took a real interest in his ringers not only secured better ringers, but also better churchmen. He regretted that during the year at Birmingham they had lost their old friend Henry Bastable; a more noble man or better ringer he had never met. He was pleased to receive such a cordial reception in London, and was sure the same hearty welcome would be given to any who might visit the provinces, for the freemasonry of ringing was so well known that it would continue.

Colonel Mackinnon, in replying, said that it was at all times a pleasure to have the sympathy of the people expressed toward the army, and it was especially so at the present time. One feature of the present struggle was the readiness of the navy to assist the army. Without in any way speaking officially, he believed the whole situation depended upon Ladysmith holding out. He did not think that any fear need be entertained but what the gallant army there would be able to do so.

During the evening a course of Stedman Caters was rung in hand by C. F. Winney, 1-2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3-4; W. M. Wise, 5-6; M. A. Wood, 7-8; J. W. Golding, 9-10.

The speeches were interspersed with songs by various vocalists. Mr. D. S. Prime sang "The ship that belongs to a lady" in capital style, introducing an original verse upon the Transvaal, which was received with applause. Mr. W. H. Judd caused roars of laughter by his hits upon recent events.

The arrangements for the event, which were made by a dinner committee under the able superintendence of Mr. W. T. Cockerill, left nothing to be desired.

To "A. R. L."—I quite expected to see a satisfactory reply to "A. R. L." in the last issue. I think it is quite possible to have a stage to raise up and down, to ring from, providing you build corbels in its walls to support such stage during ringing. Some years ago a stage of this kind was talked about at the Abbey Church, Shrewsbury, where the ringing-chamber is only some 8 ft. from the bells, and the rope-sight obstructed by supporting beams and braces.

J. E. GROVES.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Friday, September 29th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Watson, 1; G. Livermore, 2; S. Hayes, 3; G. Dent, 4; W. Grimwade, 5; G. Breed, 6.

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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, NOVEMBER 18, 1899.

THE College Youths have held their Anniversary Dinner, which, if the report on another page is any criterion, has been as successful as any of the former ones. We have occasionally heard from trustworthy authority, that the meetings at the head-quarters of this Society are not so well attended as of yore. Now with the utmost deference it may reasonably be suggested to many of those who think they are fulfilling the duties of membership by attending this annual festivity, whether it would not be better to attend the business meetings sometimes, and assist by their counsel and experience, towards a fuller and more ample discussion of the subjects brought forward. Some time in the history of the Society it was a reproach that its affairs were administered by two or three members, through, we suppose, a failure of interest on the part of others. This is a state of things which we hope the Society will pardon us when we say it is what they must endeavour to prevent.

The Metropolis.**THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH.***On Saturday, November 11, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,*

AT CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHGATE,

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

Tenor 25 cwt.

STEPHEN COOK	Teeble.	WILLIAM PYE	5.
WILLIAM MOTTS	2.	JAMES MOTTS	6.
WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE ..	3.	E. P. O'MEARA	7.
ALBERT E. DURRANT	4.	ROBERT H. BRUNDLE ..	Tenor.

Composed by W. SHIPWAY, and Conducted by JAMES MOTTS

Rung in honour of the 262nd anniversary of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.*On Tuesday, November 14, 1899, in Two Hours and Thirty-seven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL, WOOD GREEN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of Kent Treble Bob and three 720s each of 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.

The Provinces.**HANBURY, WORCESTERSHIRE.***On Saturday, November 4, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

FREDERICK ALCOCK	Treble.	ALFRED MOORE	5.
JOHN MASON	2.	ALBERT JACKSON	6.
JABEZ EADES	3.	OLIVER JAMES	7.
GEORGE HAYWARD	4.	JAMES PARRY	Tenor.

Conducted by J. MASON.

HARLOW, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.*On Tuesday, November 7, 1899, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 21½ cwt.

HENRY J. TUCKER	Treble.	ERNEST PYE	5.
WALTER PRIOR	2.	*WILLIAM WATTS	6.
GEORGE DENT	3.	*ISAAC CAVILL	7.
WILLIAM PYE	4.	THOMAS NEWMAN	Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

*First peal in the method.

BURY, LANCASHIRE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. (ROSSENDALE BRANCH.)*On Tuesday, November 7, 1899, in Two Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 13 cwt.

F. ROTHWELL	Treble.	*W. CASS	5.
W. R. DUCKWORTH	2.	*S. GREENHALGH	6.
H. WOODCOCK	3.	*C. BRADBURY	7.
W. MITCHELL	4.	J. RAMSBOTTOM	Tenor.

Conducted by J. RAMSBOTTOM.

*First peal. †First peal with a bob bell. The above is the first peal on the bells by a local band.

HEENE, WORTHING, SUSSEX.**THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.***On Wednesday, November 8, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

VICARS. Tenor 10½ cwt.

J. A. EAST	Treble.	ALFRED W. GROVES	5.
JOHN PAICE	2.	EDMUND LINDUP	6.
H. EVANS	3.	GEORGE NORRIS	7.
REUBEN STANDING	4.	A. ARNELL	Tenor.

Conducted by E. LINDUP.

*First peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to J. A. East.

EAST RETFORD, NOTTS.**THE NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.***On Thursday, November 9, 1899, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SWITHUN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 24 cwt. in E flat.

ARTHUR T. WINTER	Treble.	ROBERT MILES	6.
HERBERT HAIGH	2.	THOMAS SPURR	7.
ERNEST COLLINGBURN ..	3.	†HARRY WARBURTON	8.
GEORGE W. D. METCALFE ..	4.	GEORGE R. WINTER	9.
T. HERCY DENMAN	5.	JOSEPH B. JOYNES	Tenor.

Composed by JOHN WRIGHT, and Conducted by HARRY WARBURTON.

*First peal. †First peal away from the tenor. ‡First peal as conductor. This peal was rung as a compliment to his Worship the Mayor, Alderman F. Huntsman, on the day of his election to the Mayoralty and the Aldermanic bench; and also to Aldermen T. W. Denman and J. W. Holmes on their re-election.

FARNHAM ROYAL, BUCKS.**THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.***On Thursday, November 9, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

WILLIAM CLARK	Treble.	JAMES ELDERFIELD	5.
REV. H. G. BIRD	2.	GEORGE BASDEN	6.
JOSEPH J. PARKER	3.	REUBEN FLAXMAN	7.
REV. H. C. BELL	4.	CHARLES CLARKE	Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by J. J. PARKER.

*First peal. Rung in honour of the birthday of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

LUDLOW, SHROPSHIRE.**THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.***On Thursday, November 9, 1899, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. E. GROVES'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 25 cwt.

JOHN PALMER	Treble.	J. E. G. BOWEN	5.
PERCY LANE	2.	ALFRED CHESTER	6.
ARTHUR WILLIAMS	3.	JAMES E. GROVES	7.
HARRY PRICE	4.	WILLIAM R. NASH	Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

*First peal. Rung as a compliment to Robert Marston, Esq., ringing master of St. Lawrence's Guild, Ludlow, who was on that day elected Mayor of Ludlow.

ASHTED, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.*On Thursday, November 9, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

DAVID ANSCOMB	Treble.	WILLIAM COOK	5.
THOMAS J. ADES	2.	THOMAS MILES	6.
JOHN WYATT	3.	HARRY KENTEN	7.
HENRY CORBETT	4.	WILLIAM FARREL	Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS J. ADES.

Rung as a birthday compliment to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. This is H. Kent's sixtieth peal.

SALISBURY, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, November 10, 1899, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES:

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

ROBERT P. KNIGHT Treble.	SIDNEY MACEY 5.
GEORGE H. PHILLOTT 2.	REV. H. A. COCKEY 6.
THOMAS F. STEVENS 3.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD 7.
THOMAS BLACKBOURN 4.	SIDNEY AMES Tenor.

Conducted by W. W. GIFFORD.

WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 11, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

JOHN POTTER Treble.	SAMUEL OAKES 5.
JOHN WORTHINGTON 2.	WILLIAM DENNER 6.
ALFRED POTTER 3.	JOSEPH POTTER 7.
JOSEPH BROOKES 4.	JOHN DENNER Tenor.

Composed by H. JOHNSON, and Conducted by JOSEPH POTTER.

First peal in the method by all.

UPPER BEEDING, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 11, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES.

JOHN SMART Treble.	ROBERT J. DAWE 5.
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 2.	CHARLES SMART 6.
JOHN J. JONES 3.	GEORGE GATLAND 7.
FRANK BENNETT 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

This was Mr. Jones' (who hails from Guildford), first peal of Double Norwich, for whom it was arranged.

QUEDGLEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

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

On Saturday, November 11, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

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

Tenor 9½ cwt.

JESSE GILLET Treble.	ROBERT A. BARRETT 5.
THOMAS NEWMAN 2.	ERNEST E. DAVIS 6.
JOHN AUSTIN 3.	GEORGE CONDICK, SEN. 7.
FRED G. MAY 4.	WILLIAM T. PEGLER Tenor.

Composed by F. DENCH, and Conducted by W. T. PEGLER.

Rang as a wedding compliment to Mr. F. W. Bond, of Cirencester, to Miss Edith Lucy Moles, who were married that day at St. Mary de Lode. Unfortunately the 5th bell at that church is down in the pit, thus making ringing out of the question.

STAVELEY, DERBYSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 11, 1899, in Three Hours and Thirty-three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5568 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 19 cwt.

HERBERT MADIN Treble.	ARTHUR KNIGHTS 5.
ARTHUR CRAVEN 2.	WILLIAM BURGAR 6.
FRANK BURGAR 3.	SAMUEL SMEDLEY 7.
CHARLES R. LILLEY 4.	ARTHUR WORTHINGTON Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN, and Conducted by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

This peal contains the 4th, 5th, and 6th their extent in 6th place, all at six course-ends, the 2nd never there, the 3rd only one lead, it being the first and only peal composed containing these qualities.

WOKINGHAM, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 11, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES:

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 17½ cwt.

GEORGE BODDINGTON .. Treble.	WILLIAM NEWELL 5.
ARTHUR W. HIGGS 2.	AMBROSE OSBORNE 6.
CHARLES GILES 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 7.
ALFRED WATMORE 4.	REUBEN SAWYER Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

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

On Saturday, November 11, 1899, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR,

5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

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

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by R. E. GROVE.

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

BACUP, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, November 12, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES

Being 720 each of London, York, Durham, Lichfield, Bristol, Chichester and Worcester,

L. HOLT Treble.	E. J. COCKROFT 4.
D. BRIGGS 2.	J. BRIERLEY 5.
J. S. LOMAS 3.	H. H. BARNES Tenor.

Conducted by J. H. BARNES.

This is the first peal of Surprise Minor by all, on the bells, and by the above Association.

READING, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, November 14, 1899, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

CHARLES GILES .. Treble.	HENRY TUCKER 5.
G. L. BODDINGTON .. 2.	ALBERT E. REEVES 6.
FREDERICK SWEETZER .. 3.	ARTHUR W. HIGGS 7.
ALFRED W. REEVES .. 4.	ALFRED E. REEVES Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS, and Conducted by ALFRED E. REEVES.

This is H. Tucker's 50th peal.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 14, 1899, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

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

Tenor 18½ cwt.

J. BASDEN Treble.	T. BEADLE 5.
F. G. GODDARD 2.	A. H. TABER 6.
E. V. BEADLE* 3.	H. BROWNING 7.
G. A. RANSOM 4.	A. SHEARD Tenor.

Conducted by J. BASDEN.

*First peal in the method.

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.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—On Tuesday, October 10th, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. R. Hopper, 1; R. Miller, 2; R. Scrafton, 3; J. Crawford, 4; W. Hunt, 5; H. Peveril (conductor), 6.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—WIRRAL BRANCH.

WOODCHURCH.—Recently for practice at the parish church 720 Bob Minor. Also 360 Bob Minor. J. Johnson, 1; W. Duckers, 2; C. Taylor, 3; W. Williams, 4; A. Bennett, 5; W. Bennett (conductor), 6.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

KIDDERMINSTER.—At the parish church during August the following touches were rung: 432 Double Norwich, 504 and 503 Grandsire Triples, and 448 London Surprise. J. Addleton, N. Davis, T. Wakeman, E. C. Hunt, T. Bennett, J. Pagett, J. Crane, W. H. Smith, R. E. Grove, T. J. Salter (conductor). A 504 Grandsire Triples, conducted by W. H. Smith, and 448 Superlative, conducted by R. E. Grove. On Sunday, September 3rd, 448 and 384 Superlative. T. Bennett, 1; N. Davis, 2; T. Wakeman, 3; T. J. Salter (conductor), 4; E. C. Hunt, 5; W. H. Barber, 6; W. H. Smith, 7; J. Pagett, 8. On Wednesday, September 13th, 504 Stedman Triples. N. Davis, 1; T. Wakeman, 2; W. H. Smith, 3; J. Smith (first attempt at Stedman Triples), 4; T. J. Salter (conductor), 5; T. Bennett, 6; J. Crane, 7; J. Pagett, 8. And 448 London. On Sunday, October 8th, for morning service, 504 Stedman Triples. T. J. Salter (conductor), 1; N. Davis, 2; T. Wakeman, 3; T. Bennett, 4; E. C. Hunt, 5; J. Pagett, 6; J. Crane, 7; W. H. Smith, 8. For evening service 464 Bob Major. On Sunday, October 15th, 448 Superlative. T. J. Salter, 1; N. Davis, 2; T. Wakeman, 3; T. Bennett, 4; E. C. Hunt, 5; J. Crane, 6; J. Pagett, 7; W. H. Smith, 8. On Sunday, October 22nd, 504 Stedman Triples, conducted by W. H. Smith. On Sunday, October 28th, 448 Superlative and 448 Double Norwich, conducted by T. J. Salter.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HILLINGDON EAST (Middlesex).—On Sunday, October 5th, at St. John's church, 336 Grandsire Triples. F. Weeden, 1; H. Dyer, 2; W. Odell, 3; W. Honor, 4; J. J. Pratt (conductor), 5; H. Chandler, 6; H. S. Reeves, 7; C. Bellamy, 8. And 420 Oxford Bob Triples. C. Bellamy, 1; H. Dyer, 2; W. Odell, 3; H. Chandler (conductor), 4; H. S. Reeves, 5; G. Gutteridge, 6; J. J. Pratt, 7; W. Honor, 8. Also 336 Grandsire Triples. C. Bellamy, 1; G. Gutteridge, 2; W. Odell, 3; W. Honor, 4; J. J. Pratt, 5; H. Chandler, 6; H. S. Reeves (conductor), 7; G. Bellamy, 8. On Sunday morning, October 8th, for Divine Service, 196 and 280 Grandsire Triples. C. Bellamy, 1; H. Ayers, 2; W. Odell, 3; W. Honor, 4; J. J. Pratt, 5; H. Chandler, 6; H. S. Reeves, 7; G. Bellamy, 8. For evening service 720 Oxford Bob Minor with the tenor covering. F. Weeden, 2; W. Odell, 3; H. Ayers, 4; J. J. Pratt, 5; H. Chandler, 6; H. S. Reeves (conductor), 7; W. Honor, 8. On Thursday, October 26th, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples in 43 mins. *F. Weeden, 1; †H. Ayers, 2; W. Odell, 3; H. S. Reeves, 4; H. Chandler, 5; G. Gutteridge, 6; J. J. Pratt, 7; W. Honor, 8. Composed by J. J. Parker and conducted by J. J. Pratt. *First quarter-peal. †First quarter-peal with a bob bell. And 720 Oxford Bob Minor with the tenor covering. F. Weeden, 2; W. Odell, 3; J. J. Pratt, 4; H. Chandler, 5; G. Gutteridge, 6; H. S. Reeves (conductor), 7; W. Honor, 8. On Sunday, October 28th, 360 Grandsire Minor with the tenor covering. F. Weeden, 2; W. Odell, 3; H. Ayers, 4; H. Chandler, 5; H. S. Reeves (conductor), 6; J. J. Pratt, 7; W. Honor, 8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

STANSTED (Essex).—On Sunday, September 24th, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 720 Cambridge Surprise, in 25 mins. H. Little, 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; G. Jordan, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. For afternoon service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Cavill, 1; T. Jordan, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; J. Luckey (conductor), 5; G. Jordan, 6. On Wednesday, October 4th, for practice, 720 New London Pleasure. H. Little, 1; T. Jordan, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; W. Watts, 5; T. J. Watts (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, October 11th, for practice, 720 York Surprise. H. Little, 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; G. Jordan, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. Also 720 Worcester Surprise. J. Cavill, 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; J. Luckey, 4; W. Watts, 5; T. J. Watts (conductor), 6. On Sunday, October 15th, for morning service, 720 Double Oxford Bob. H. Little, 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; G.

Jordan, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. For afternoon service 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Cavill, 1; T. Jordan, 2; G. Jordan, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. On Sunday, October 22nd, for morning service, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. W. Watts (conductor), 1; I. Hammond, 2; T. J. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; G. Jordan, 6. Also for afternoon service, 720 Plain Bob Minor. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; P. Webb (first 720), 3; G. Gray, 4; T. Jordan, 5; W. Watts (conductor).

BLACK NOTLEY (Essex).—On Friday, September 29th, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Watson, 1; G. Livermore, 2; G. Dent, 3; G. Breed, 4; S. Hayes, 5.

WITHAM (Essex).—On Friday, September 29th, 720 Bob Minor. J. Watson, 1; G. Dent, 2; G. Livermore, 3; G. Breed, 4; E. Garnett, 5; S. Hayes (conductor), 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On September 3rd, 720 Kent Treble Bob. H. Milhams, 1; A. Cornford, 2; F. J. Ring, 3; M. Digby, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. A 720 Bob Minor. A. Broom, 1; A. Cornford, 2; G. Hayes, 3; W. Lane, 4; W. Harper, 5; M. Digby (conductor), 6. On September 11th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. A. Broom, 1; E. Brett, 2; G. Hayes, 3; W. Lane, 4; W. Martin (conductor), 5; F. Hayes, 6. On September 25th, 720 Cambridge Surprise. F. Hayes, 1; W. Lane, 2; J. H. Cheeseman, 3; M. Digby, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. On October 1st, 720 Kent Treble Bob. A. Broom, 1; H. Milhams, 2; F. J. Ring, 3; W. Lane, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. On October 15, 720 Kent Treble Bob. R. Brett, 1; E. Brett, 2; M. Digby, 3; W. Lane, 4; W. Martin (conductor), 5; G. Martin, 6. On October 23rd, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. R. Jones, 1; W. Lane, 2; F. J. Ring, 3; M. Digby, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

DURHAM.—On Monday, October 30th, at the church of St. Nicholas, on the occasion of the annual meeting, 720 Kent. G. Clarke, 1; W. Newton, 2; F. P. Howcroft, 3; T. W. Waller, 4; T. Stephenson (conductor), 5; T. Metcalf, 6. Another 720. T. T. Gofton, 1; J. W. Parker, 2; J. Gofton, 3; A. Meyers, 4; J. Baxter, 5; W. Thompson, 6. And 720 Bob Minor. O. Simm, 1; G. Peverill, 2; J. Gofton, 3; J. W. Parker, 4; W. Pallister, 5; H. Peverill, 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. T. T. Gofton (conductor), 1; J. W. Parker, 2; J. A. Gofton, 3; A. Myers, 4; J. Baxter, 5; W. Thompson, 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. R. T. Manning, 1; J. W. Parker, 2; W. Newton, 3; T. W. Waller, 4; J. Baxter (conductor), 5; T. Stephenson, 6. At St. Oswald's church 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. B. Dobson, 1; A. Myers, 2; T. T. Gofton (conductor), 3; S. Ross, 4; W. C. Bennett, 5; W. Thompson, 6. Also 600 Bob Minor. J. W. Parker, 1; W. Pallister, 2; R. T. Manning, 3; J. Baxter (conductor), 4; H. Peverill, 5; W. Thompson, 6. At the Cathedral 168 Grandsire Triples. J. Baxter (conductor), 1; — Chichester, 2; R. S. Story, 3; J. W. Passman, 4; W. Newton, 5; T. Metcalf, 6; T. T. Gofton, 7; T. Stephenson, 8. And 672 Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Baxter, 1; R. E. Chichester, 2; R. S. Story, 3; J. W. Passman, 4; W. Newton, 5; T. Metcalf, 6; W. Holmes (conductor), 7; T. Stephenson, 8.

WESTERHAM (Kent).—On Sunday, July 30th, at St. Mary's church, 224 Bob Major. H. J. Selby (conductor), 1; S. A. Wright, 2; G. B. Selby, 3; W. G. Granger, 4; M. Whalley, 5; J. Heath, 6; G. Steer, 7; D. Wright, 8. Also 720 in the same method. H. J. Selby, 1; S. A. Wright, 2; G. B. Selby, 3; W. G. Granger, 4; M. Whalley, 5; R. Stone, 6; G. Steer, 7; D. Wright, 8. On Sunday, August 6th, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. H. J. Selby, 1; S. A. Wright, 2; G. B. Selby, 3; W. G. Granger, 4; M. Whalley, 5; J. Heath, 6; G. Steer, 7; D. Wright (conductor), 8. On Thursday, August 10th, 360 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. M. Whalley, 1; G. B. Selby, 2; H. J. Selby, 3; J. Heath, 4; G. Steer, 5; D. Wright (conductor), 6. On Sunday, August 13th, 336 Stedman Triples. R. Stone, 1; S. A. Wright, 2; A. V. Selby, 3; G. B. Selby, 4; M. Whalley, 5; J. Heath, 6; D. Wright (conductor), 7; G. Steer, 8. For evening service a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 47 mins. H. J. Selby, 1; A. V. Selby, 2; G. B. Selby, 3; J. Heath, 4; M. Whalley, 5; J. Hack, 6; D. Wright (conductor), 7; G. Steer, 8. On Thursday, August 31st, 577 Treble Bob Major. R. Stone, 1; H. J. Selby, 2; W. G. Granger, 3; G. B. Selby, 4; S. A. Wright, 5; J. Heath, 6; G. Steer, 7; D. Wright (conductor), 8. On Thursday, September 14th, 720 Bob Major. H. J. Selby (conductor), 1; C. Hazledean, 2; G. B. Selby, 3; W. G. Granger, 4; S. A. Wright, 5; M. Whalley, 6; D. Wright, 7; G. Steer, 8. On Sunday, September 17th, 504 Stedman Triples. H. J. Selby, 1; G. B. Selby, 2; R. Stone, 3; W. G. Granger, 4; S. A. Wright, 5; M. Whalley, 6; D. Wright (conductor), 7; G. Steer, 8. For evening service 504 Stedman Triples. H. J. Selby, 1; S. A. Wright, 2; G. B. Selby, 3; W. G. Granger, 4; M. Whalley, 5; R. Stone, 6; D. Wright (conductor), 7; G. Steer, 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."

CONSTRUCTION OF BELL-FRAMES.

SIR,—The letters which have recently appeared in *The Times* and were reproduced in your columns with regard to the construction of bell-frames is a most entertaining subject to be taken up by those able to give an opinion.

Up till very recently if you mentioned to an architect or bell-hanger anything about securing the top portion of a bell-frame to the walls of the tower you would be considered mad. But now matters are just the reverse, and instead of building a tower to carry the bell-frame we must build the frame to support the tower.

Only a few weeks ago I paid a visit to a new tower just completed. On getting into the bell-chamber I found there an iron frame to carry eight bells, the tenor bell at present only being hung. The sections, which were H shape, were bolted down to massive steel (?) girders. The tops of the sections were all connected together, and in their turn were secured in four places to the tower walls. In each side of the tower were two sets of louvres separated by what may be termed a pillar of masonry, approximately some 3-ft. 6-in. by 2-ft., and to these small pillars was secured the top portion of the bell frame. What will be the consequence in a few years time, when the eight bells are being rung and the frame-work through neglect becomes loose? Why, these pillars will become shattered.

Mr. Thackeray Turner in his excellent letter says that the lower down the tower the support of the bell-frame is taken the less strain the tower will have to receive. In answer to these Sir Arthur Heywood goes to the extreme by taking St. Hugh's tower at Lincoln as an example, where the frame is built up from the ground level. This of course everyone will admit is absurd.

In my opinion a bell-frame constructed of iron should be on the same plan as a wood frame, the top portion to be free from the walls. There is always a certain amount of movement in a bell-frame, which when free from the walls is never communicated to the tower, no matter how rigid the frame is built.

Several years ago I was ringing a great deal in a peal of eight bells which were hung on an old wood frame, and although the frame was very loose the bells went remarkably well, and the oscillation of the tower was but very little. Since then the bells have been re-hung in massive girders built into the tower walls, and what is the result? the tower oscillates a great deal more and the bells themselves are to a visitor practically unringable. I have seen a good ringer try his hand on them and go away disgusted.

I am often called in to inspect and report on the condition of church bells, but after what I have seen of iron frames secured to the tower walls, I could not entertain the idea of recommending the adoption of such destructive pieces of so-called engineering skill.

JAMES E. GROVES,

November 13th.

Instructor to Hereford Diocesan Guild.

EXPLANATORY.

SIR,—In the report of the visit of the Waterloo Society to St. Albans contained in last week's "BELL NEWS," the fact that the party obtained third-class return tickets at a fare-and-a-quarter is spoken of as if it were an unprecedented occurrence. What may be the case on other lines I do not know, but I can speak for the Great Western, and on this line I have over and over again for some years past obtained, as a matter of course, an order for the issue of not less than eight such tickets at that rate of fare, the only trouble being that of writing for it. Ringers in this district certainly have no cause to complain of illiberal treatment by the railway company, and I cannot help thinking that the same result would ensue everywhere if the necessary application were made. It seems to me that it will be impossible ever to arrange for individual ringers to obtain cheap tickets, for the simple reason that it is so easy to say you are a ringer, whether you are or not, that the companies would inevitably be swindled right and left unless some precautions were taken against it. The issue of an order to a definite individual

for the issue of a minimum number of tickets secures the Company against fraud of this kind, and I do not think anything further is really required.

C. H. HAMPTON,
Hon Sec. Devizes Association.

"BOB MAJOR LEAD-ENDS," ETC.

SIR,—I quite agree with Mr. Trollope that every row in a lead is of equal value; to prove this assertion and convince the Rev. H. L. James that Mr. Trollope is perfectly right in his argument I enclose herewith a date touch of Bob Major for the present year, in which 3, 7, 8, are fixed bells instead of 1, 7, 8.

Mr. James will find that every change until the last (which is rounds brought up by a single made on the four back bells) is Bob Major pure and simple, and the 3rd is never altered from the ordinary plain hunt of the treble. A lead is given herewith showing the 3rd a fixed bell instead of the treble.

GEORGE BAKER.

A LEAD.	DATE TOUCH 1899.
12345678	123456 3 6 7
21436587	163254 - -
24163857	653214 - -
42618375	213654 - -
46281735	243156 - -
64827153	153246 - -
68472513	543216 - -
86745231	213546 - -
87654321	143526 - -
78563412	423516 - -
75836142	213456 - s
57381624	153426 - -
53718264	523416 - -
35172846	413526 - -
35718264	123546 - -
53172846	543126 - -
51327486	423156 - -

Four plain leads brings up the lead-end 68371524, the eleventh change from this is rounds brought up by the four back bells lying still, see below:—

1898th change 21435678

1899th change 12345678

P.S.—The bobs and first single are made exactly the same as in the original variation, but would of course have to be called two blows earlier. The bob at 3 has the same effect as the bob before with the treble a fixed bell.

BARNSBURY COURT BOB MAJOR.

SIR,—I should like to point out to Mr. Dains that the above method has been produced before, and also that it would be better to ring it as a double method, of which there are two, producing the same lead-ends. They will be the best placed side by side, as follows:—

1.	2.	3.
12345678	12345678	12345678
21436587	21436587	21436587
24135678	24135678	24163857
42316587	42316587	42618375
24361857	24361857	46281357
42638175	42638175	64823175
46283715	46283715	46283715
64827351	64827351	64827351
68472531	68472531	68472531
86745213	86745213	86745213
87654123	87654123	87654123
78561432	86741532	78561432
87516342	87614523	87516342
78153624	78165432	78153624
71856342	71856342	71856342
17583624	17583624	17583624
15738264	15738264	15738264

R. CARTWRIGHT.

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, Birmingham.—The peal board recording the muffled peal of Cinques to the memory of the late Henry Bastable will be unveiled by the Rector of St. Martin's, the Rev. Canon A. J. Robinson, at 4 p.m. on Saturday, November 25th. The tower will be open for ringing at 3.30 p.m. Members and subscribers are invited. The Rector will afterwards entertain the members of the Guild at tea in the Dean Street School Rooms at 5 p.m. Tickets for the tea (free) must be applied for before the 18th inst., to

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

61, Roland Road, Handsworth.

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—The annual social in connection with this branch will be held to-day, Saturday, November 18th, at The Railway hotel, Ramsbottom. W. Cass, *Sec.*

83, Chesham Road, Bury.

The Kent County Association.—Canterbury District.—The next meeting of the above (for ringing only), will be held at Elham to-day, Saturday, November 18th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. E. E. FOREMAN, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Bolton Branch.—The next monthly meeting of the above branch will be held to-day, Saturday, November 18th, at the parish church, Bolton. Bells ready at 5 o'clock; business meeting at 7 o'clock. All ringers invited.

H. V. MOSS, *Branch Sec.*

64, Beverley Road, Bolton.

The Winchester Diocesan Guild.—A Quarterly Meeting will be held at Weybridge to-day, Saturday, November 18th.

REV. C. E. MATTHEWS, *Hon. Sec.*

Hursley.

The Kent County Association.—Maidstone District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at West Malling to-day, Saturday, November 18th. Tower open at 4 o'clock. Committee Meeting at 5.30.

A. PALMER, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*

7, Knightbridge Street, Maidstone.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—Gloucester Branch.—A meeting of the above will be held at Mitcheldean to-day, Saturday, November 18th.

JOHN AUSTIN, *Local Hon. Sec.*

Oxford Diocesan Guild.—East Berks. and South Bucks. Branch.—The November meeting will be held to-day, Saturday, November 18th, at Stoke Poges. Ringing to begin at 3 o'clock.

H. C. BELL, *Branch Sec.*

The Ancient Society of College Youths. By kind permission of the Dean the bells of St. Paul's Cathedral will be available for ringing on Tuesday evening, November 21st, from 7.30 to 9.15. The ordinary meeting will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on Tuesday, November 28th, at 8 p.m. Members who wish to pay the sum of 1s. 8d. in lieu of booking fees for the ensuing year, are hereby reminded that that sum is now due.

WILLIAM T. COCKERILL, *Hon. Sec.*

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

The Central Northamptonshire Association.—Quarterly Meeting at Wellingborough

to-day, Saturday, November 18th. Usual arrangements. Tea and business meeting at St. Helier's Hall at 5 o'clock. St. Helier's Hall has been secured for the entire evening, and a social will be held there after 8 o'clock. The Wellingborough ringers hope that as many members as possible will be present. Handbells will be provided.

E. J. DENNES, *Hon. Sec.*

~ Wellingborough.

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The monthly meeting of the above society will be held at Holbeck (R.C., 8 bells), on Saturday, November 25th. Meeting-house—The Foundry inn. Handbells provided. All arrears of contributions will be thankfully received.

H. V. GAYTHORPE, *Hon. Sec.*

1, Elm Avenue, Bramley.

East Derbyshire Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Ashover (6 bells), on Saturday, November 25th. Two miles from Stretton station on Midland railway.

T. ALLIBONE, *Sec.*

North Wingfield, Chesterfield.

The Middlesex County Association.—South and West District.—A monthly meeting will be held at All Saints church, Isleworth, on Saturday, November 25th. A business meeting will be held in the tower for the election of the district officers. Members are requested to make an effort to attend.

C. EDWARDS, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next monthly ringing meeting will be held at the parish church, Eccles, on Saturday, November 25th. Bells ready at 4 o'clock. Business meeting to be held in the Mission Room at 7 o'clock. A good attendance expected.

W. BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—Bristol Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Wootton-under-Edge on Saturday, November 25th. Bells (8) open for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Short service at the parish church. Trains from Bristol 1.25 p.m. and 2.35 p.m. to Chalford.

C. H. GORDON, *Branch Sec.*

Society for the Archdeaconry of Salop.—The next monthly meeting will be held at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, instead of Wellington, which was unavailable, on Saturday, November 25th. Ringing at 3 o'clock. Business Meeting at 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock.

J. MACKAY, *Hon. Sec.*

Holy Trinity Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting of the above branch will be held on Saturday, November 25th, at the parish church, Todmorden. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Business meeting at 6.30 p.m. All ringers invited.

JAS. JACQUES, *Branch Sec.*

48, Church Street, Middleton.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E. J. GALE.—Apply to the publisher.

GEORGE H. GUTTERIDGE.—Merely printer's errors, we fear.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.—On and after December 4th next, the address of the Rev. C. E. Matthews, Hon. Secretary of the Winchester Guild, will be Bursledon Vicarage, Southampton.—The address of Mr. F. J. Harrison is 26, Vine Street, Tyne Dock.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

At a meeting held at the Society's headquarters in Warwick Lane, on Tuesday, November 14th, the following officers were elected for the year 1899-1900: Master, Mr. E. P. O'Meara; Secretary, Mr. W. T. Cockerill; Treasurer, Mr. J. Pettit; Senior Steward, Mr. J. R. Sharman; Junior Steward, Mr. W. H. Pasmore; Trustees, Mr. W. Prime and Mr. C. F. Winney.

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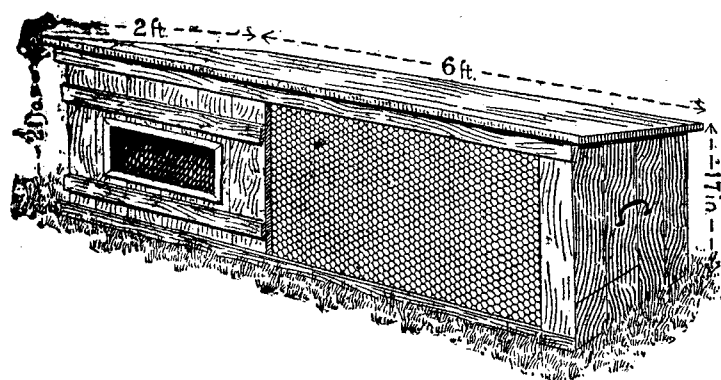
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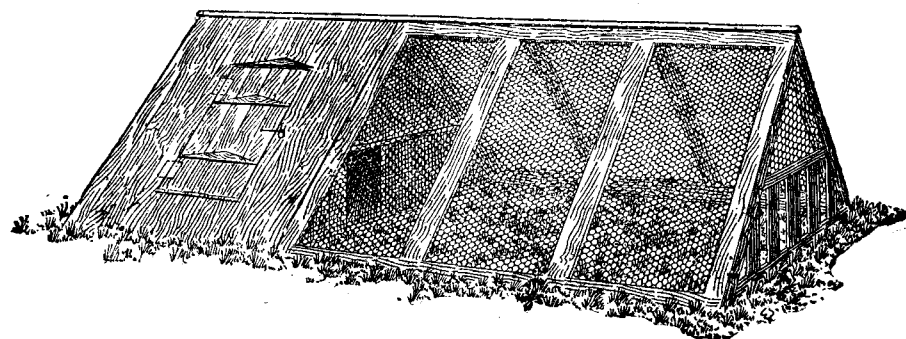
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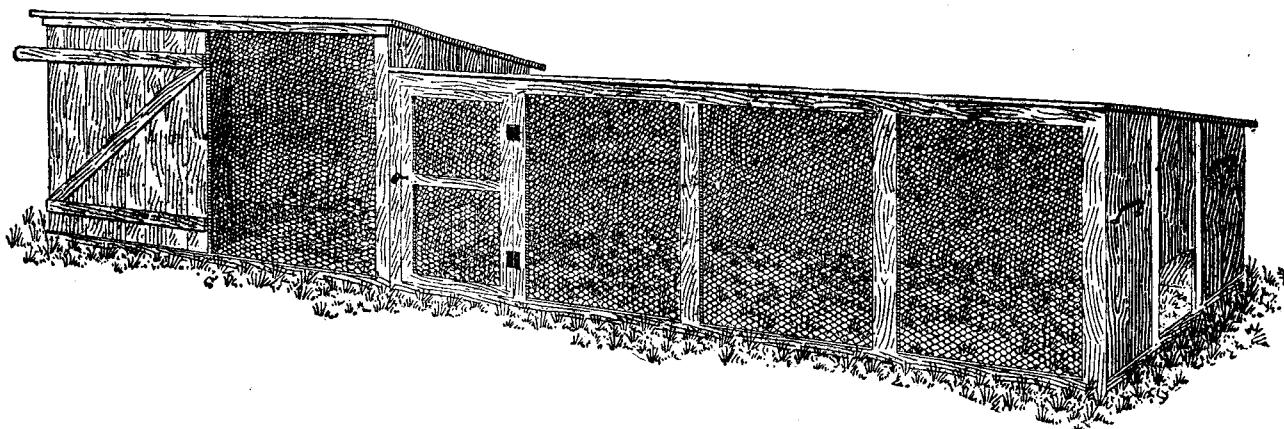
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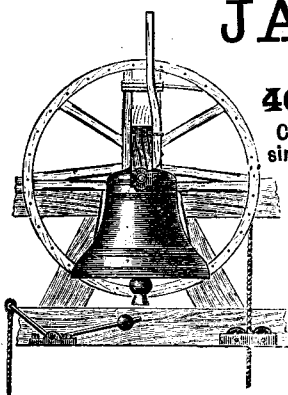
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No. 920.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1899.

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Sydney Town Hall,	Eiffel Tower, Paris.
N.S.W.	Dunsfold Parish Church.
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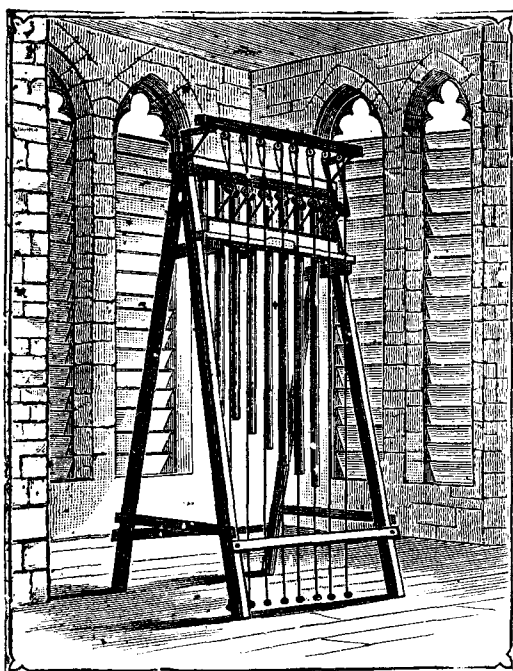
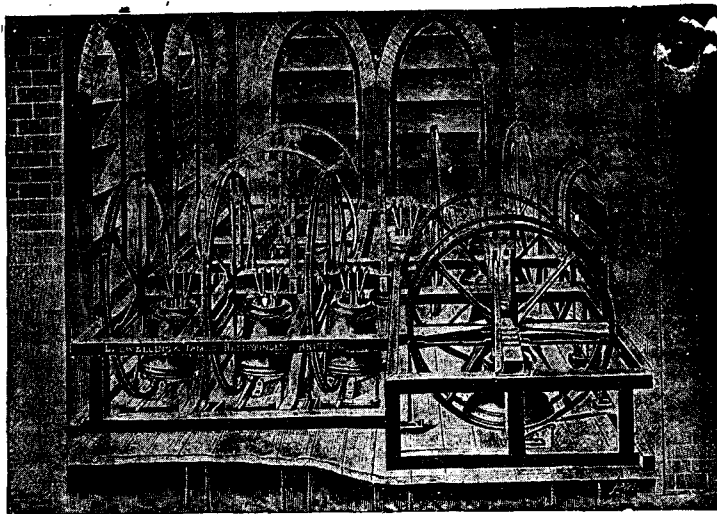
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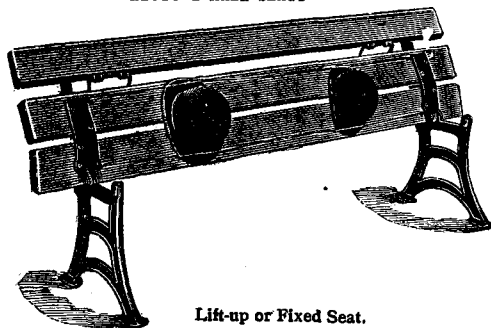
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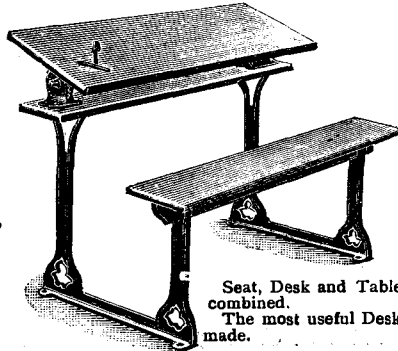
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 920.]

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A Quarterly Meeting of this society took place on Saturday, November 18th, at Weybridge, by the kind permission of the Rev. W. B. Money, Vicar. The bells (eight) were raised at about 2.30, and touches of Treble Bob Major, Stedman, and Grandsire Triples were rung until 4.0 p.m., when a move was made for the parish room for the business meeting and the tea.

Representatives or members were present from the following towers: Basingstoke, Hawley, Guildford (St. Nicolas), Hursley, Fareham, Bournemouth, and York Town.

It was regretted that so few of the Surrey towers were represented, the meeting having been especially arranged on a Saturday to suit the Surrey members.

In the unavoidable absence of the Rev. R. C. M. Harvey, Master, who was away from home, the Hon. Secretary, the Rev. C. E. Matthews, was voted to the chair.

The minutes of the Annual Meeting were read, and adopted on the proposition of Mr. J. W. Whiting, seconded by Mr. M. Steer.

There being no names of new members for election, the Secretary said that since the last meeting of this Guild they had to lament the loss of their old friend Mr. James Hewett, of Gosport. He had reached a ripe age, and as they knew he had been a very distinguished ringer in his day, and a very loyal member of their Guild since its foundation. It was very important that some steps should be taken to erect a suitable memorial to the memory of their respected friend. He did not wish (and he felt certain that they shared his wish) that there should be any friction or unpleasantness over such a matter. At the same time a list of gentlemen had appeared in two numbers of "THE BELL NEWS," who had consented to act on a memorial committee. He was glad to see that some of the names on that list were influential ones, but was quite sure that they would not wish to act independently. It was important on all such occasions that the Guild should act as a corporate body, and members should not take individual action. When the standing committee, or the officers of the Guild, had discussed the matter, he was sure they would appoint a memorial committee, and thus place the whole subject suitably before the Guild. He should only act as an officer of the Guild, and he was quite sure that the Master would do the same.

Mr. J. J. Jones (Guildford) said that he had recently visited Brighton, and the general opinion there was that the society of Cumberland Youths or the Winchester Diocesan Guild should take the matter up. He felt that both societies might well co-operate in such a worthy object.

Mr. J. W. Whiting said that the matter should be left entirely in the hands of the Guild. The memorial would thus receive far greater and wider support than any local

or district committee might expect to receive. He proposed—"That a suitable Hewett Memorial Fund be formed in connection with the Winchester Diocesan Guild."

This was seconded by Mr. J. Harper, and carried unanimously.

Mr. H. White proposed, Mr. Jones seconding—"That the Secretary be instructed to write to Mr. A. Jacob, the Secretary of the Cumberland Youths, and to ask him if that society would be willing to unite with them in forming a memorial fund." Carried *nem. con.*

The Secretary said he was very glad that the matter had now been placed on a proper basis and would report progress in the matter at the next meeting.

Mr. H. White applied for an instructor for the new band at Whitchurch, Hants. Mr. J. W. Whiting proposed, Mr. A. Grist seconded—"That the usual course of twelve lessons be given." Carried.

Fordingbridge received five votes as place of next meeting, while Hawley secured nine; the latter was chosen. An excellent tea was then brought round, and terminated business.

THE CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, the 18th instant, a meeting for friendly practice was held at Northallerton, and was attended by ringers from Middlesbrough, Stockton, Thornaby, and Thirsk, and of course the indefatigable Secretary, the Rev. W. P. Wright, of Stokesley, who cycled the journey sixteen miles both ways in a dense fog. The peal, with a 16 cwt. tenor, is a delightful one to ring on, and the bells were sent along through touches of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major. A creditable attempt for a 720 of Bob Minor was also made by the Thornaby band, and lost in the 4th part. It is gratifying to notice that the local band, hitherto one short, have received an accession of strength in the assistance now rendered by the Rev. —. Frost, the curate, who has become interested in the Art, and of course is now ambitious to become an adept. Should he succeed there will be three clerical performing members within the pale of this Association.

GITTISHAM, DEVONSHIRE.

A large new church clock has just been erected at Gittisham, Devon, which strikes the hours and shows time upon one large dial. It is fitted with all the latest improvements and generally to the designs of Lord Grimthorpe. Messrs. John Smith and Sons, of the Midland Steam Clock Works, Derby, carried out the work. The same firm are also restoring the clock of the neighbouring church of Coombe Raleigh.

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 CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

PRESENTATION TO THE HON. SECRETARY.

The members of this Association held their quarterly meeting at Wellingborough on Saturday, and the proceedings were of an exceptionally interesting character. A tea was provided at 5 o'clock, at the close of which the Rev. A. S. Lindsay (vice-president of the Association) took the chair, supported by the Vicar of Wellingborough and a numerous array of clergy and influential laymen.

The Chairman said that all present except Mr. Dennes knew why they had met there that evening; it was to present him with an address and a clock, and to show him how they appreciated the great services that he had rendered to the Association as Hon. Secretary. Nothing to his mind showed more completely the thoroughness of the great movement of Church Reform that spread throughout the Church of England than the way in which one point after another in the Church's system had been put in order, and belfry after belfry had felt the influence of the great religious revival going on throughout the country. What had that to do with this presentation? Everything, because the leader in belfry reform which had made such great strides in that neighbourhood he believed to be Mr. Dennes. He did not speak with the knowledge of a practical ringer, but as an honorary member of the Association, and also as a clergyman, he looked upon the work done by that organisation as some of the very highest work that could be done. Mr. Dennes had always had in view the recognition of a certain charter of rights on behalf of the belfry. If he understood their secretary's work it had been this: that the clergy should look upon the belfry from the same point of view that they looked at their choir, that the bellringers were to the parish at large what the choir was to the congregation in church, that the ringer should consider himself a worker in connection with the church, and that the bells should be kept in as good going order as the organ. He felt that that was the idea behind this great belfry reform movement which was spreading so widely, and had had such splendid results; and believing that Mr. Dennes had been the main spring of that work in this neighbourhood the members had decided to do what they could to show they were not unmindful of his services. During the secretaryship of Mr. Dennes the work had very much increased, the membership he believed having more than doubled. In one respect Mr. Dennes was almost like Mr. Kruger—he was always on the look-out for something to annex. The Association had already had to change its name because it had taken in the best part of the county, and if Mr. Dennes remained secretary many years longer they would have to take another name, because he would have annexed the British Isles. The rev. gentleman then presented to Mr. Dennes the illuminated address and a handsome clock.

The address, which had been very artistically engraved by the Rev. E. C. Channer, and framed in oak, commenced with the name of the Association and date, and proceeded as follows:

"The members of this Association desire to express their appreciation of the great service rendered to it during many years by Mr. E. J. Dennes, with their sincere wishes for his health and welfare, and hopes of his long continuance in the post of honorary secretary to the Association which he has so admirably filled." The names of a great number of belfries were appended.

The clock is in an oak case, has the Cambridge quarters,

and a silver plate bears the following inscription, surmounted by a bell:—

"Presented to Mr. E. J. Dennes, in gratitude for many years' arduous service as secretary to the Central Northamptonshire Association of Church Bell-Ringers, by honorary and ringing members."

Mr. Dennes, who on coming forward to receive the gifts was very heartily cheered, said he felt very much surprised, and he could now see why they were so anxious to have the quarterly meeting at Wellingborough, when he wanted them to go to Irthlingborough. He was exceedingly obliged to them for their kindness, and he felt very much flattered by the kind words in which Mr. Lindsay had spoken of him. He could assure them that it was a post he did not seek, but, having been appointed to it, he tried, as Nelson said all Englishmen should, to do his duty. He did not suppose he had pleased everybody—he would not say that he had tried, as one was bound to tread on somebody's corns in an association that numbered as many as their's did. He felt so very much touched that he was unable to say all he would like to, but he might tell them, as they had seen fit to give him a testimonial of that kind, it was something that others would share in, because in spending the time on this association that he had done it entailed additional labour on those he left at home, and in all these matters he had the sympathy and help of his brother and sisters. And it was something that would be very useful to him; indeed, he was only thinking about the necessity of going in for a clock the other day, because since he removed farther away from the belfry, and could not hear the church clock strike the hours and quarters except when the wind was in one direction, he had been getting up too soon in the morning, and going home too early at night, so that he would now be all right. He could not promise to hand them down to his children and grandchildren, but he should value both the clock and the address immensely, and he could assure them that he felt very much the honour the association had done him.

The Rev. R. W. Wynter (Vicar of Wellingborough) said he was very pleased indeed with the opportunity of saying a few words. He congratulated the Association upon having the services of his belfry sidesman as their secretary. If they wanted to know what a man was they must not take reports from a distance, but find him out in his home, and they knew Mr. Dennes at home, and they knew what he was worth. He could not say how much he appreciated the work of Mr. Dennes. During the ten years he had been Vicar of that parish he did not recollect on one single occasion any difficulty arising between Mr. Dennes and himself, that being chiefly due to Mr. Dennes taking precious good care that he had the whole job in his own hands. That was his clever way of working; he was always able to "boss the show" without doing anything to cause friction. Mr. Dennes had not only revived bell-ringing and brought into it a greater spirit of enthusiasm, but, as they had heard, he saw to the reform of belfries, which was no light task. He himself had had experience of belfries before he came to Wellingborough, and he only wished that during his experience he had had the help of Mr. Dennes. Just as it was true that a regiment was good or bad according to its officers, so was it the case in regard to the belfry, and at Wellingborough his experience had been a pleasant one. Perhaps he was not always as grateful for the bells as he ought to be; he lived too near. But they were a magnificent peal, beautifully rung, and rung with great consideration. They were a great acquisition and of

much value in parish work, and he hoped that he would always have assistance from the belfry such as that given to him by Mr. Dennes.

Mr. Dennes said he would leave the quarterly business to a future meeting, and he would like their next meeting to be at Irthlingborough. This suggestion having been received with approval, Mr. Dennes said they had lost several friends of their movement recently. At Wellingborough they had been deprived of a good friend by the death of Mr. Henry, who had been a good supporter of the Wellingborough belfry all through his time, and a helper to the association ever since it started. He would not like them to part without recording a vote of sympathy with Mrs. Henry, whose name he would suggest, should be put in place of that of their departed friend as an honorary member. Then there was Mr. Law, of

Doddington, an old ringer and a most regular attendant at the belfry at that village, and he noticed that Mr. Dickens, of Sharnbrook, one of the old ringing characters of this district, was also dead. Some of these old hands had stood the brunt of the bad order of bells, ringing them and doing their best with them long before the days when the clergy and churchwardens did their duty as they were doing it now. The vote of sympathy moved by Mr. Dennes having been carried,

Mr. W. E. Askham proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman, this being seconded by Mr. E. Noble, who said it was very inspiring to him to be present at a gathering of that kind and to find that there was such a fine body of men amongst the ringers in this neighbourhood, and he would be very pleased to become an honorary member of the association. The vote was heartily accorded.

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF THE PRESENT YEAR, 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.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
	Jan. to June.	July, Aug. Sep.	Total	Maximus.	Royal.	Major.	14 T. B. M. M.	7 T. B. M. M.	Caters.	Major.	Triples.	1 Minor mthd.	"	"		"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"

The peals of Triples, Major and Royal in Plain methods comprise: Bob Triples, 6; Bob Major, 58; Bob Royal, 4; Oxford Bob Triples, 7; Union Triples, 1; Darlston Bob Triples, 2; Canterbury Pleasure Major, 1; College Single Major, 1. The peals of Doubles: *12, 7, 5 and 3 peals of 4 methods; †5 methods; ‡1 method; †2 methods; ‡4 methods.

The peals by Independent Societies were rung in the following counties: Essex, 1; Gloucestershire, 2; Leicester, 1; Middlesex, 3; Northamptonshire, 1; Oxford, 1; Staffordshire, 1; Surrey, 2; Sussex, 3; Warwickshire, 1; Worcestershire, 1; and Yorkshire, 1.

8, Hanover Crescent, Brighton.
90, Church Road, Hove.

Decrease on the corresponding nine months of 1898—15.

GEO. F. ATTREE.
GEORGE BAKER.

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

By R. A. DANIELL.

(Continued from page 304.)

At what date bells were first used for this secular notice giving I do not know, but it will be sufficient for present purposes to start with the Curfew. It has been said that this was a special hardship introduced by William the Conqueror and inflicted on his Anglo-Saxon subjects. But the better opinion seems to be that it was a practice which had existed before his time, whose object was by securing the extinguishment of artificial light at an early hour to reduce the danger of conflagrations at a time when houses and cottages were mainly of wood, and when not situated in towns were often among trees or in forests. But it is probable that the Conqueror enforced this practice by new and severe penalties, so as not only to maintain its former use, but also by forcing men to keep at home at night to provide against night forays or plotting against his government. It is plain that if men were subject to severe penalties for not complying with a law dependent upon a point of time, it was very desirable that the notice bell be sounded in such a manner that there might be as little chance as possible of its being confused with bells denoting ecclesiastical hours or offices.

Can we then infer that this curfew bell was rung? I do not see why we should not. Dr. Raven in his *Church Bells of Cambridgeshire* quotes a dispute which took place in the year 1273 about the use of a bell at St. Benet's, Cambridge, for University secular purposes, which was settled by the then Bishop of Ely, and the bell was "to be rung in a civil and honest manner." This quotation is a translation from a Latin official document, but more likely than not the bell was really rung as the University bell, so far as we know always has been and still is rung. I shall return to Cambridge directly, observing for the present that if this bell really was rung so early as 1273 there is no reason we know of why the Curfew bell should not have been rung while the law directing it was in force.

The law of the Curfew was repealed by Henry I. in the year 1100, but, though no longer obligatory, the bell continued to be used as a matter of convenience or municipal regulation. It was a handy method of marking time, and people were used to it; and though no longer necessary to us, it has descended to our own day, name and all, though it has long been getting gradually disused. From what Stow says of St. Michael's, Cornhill, there can be no doubt that the eight o'clock bell was rung there in 1430. Mr. Ellacombe quotes Milton's lines in *Il Penseroso* :—

"I hear the far-off Curfew sound
Over some wide-watered shore,
Swinging slow with sullen roar."

These words are meaningless unless they refer to a bell rung, and therefore show the practice in Milton's time, and we need not wonder at it, for is it not so in our own? Wherever this bell is sounded, so far as I know, it is rung, even where the formality is reduced to a minimum.

Well then, we have, as it seems to me, evidence of a single bell rung for a secular purpose as far back as 1430, and if this practice is at least five centuries and a half old, how much older is it? We have probable evidence of a bell rung for such a use in 1273 in an official document, but even without that there is no more reason to suppose the practice new than old in 1430. We have the fact of the word "Curfew" attaching to an evening bell whose use has lasted at least from the time of William the Conqueror to our own day, and the method of its use so far as we can trace it, has been by ringing it. Then why was it rung? There must have been some reason for adopting this more cumbersome method of sounding a bell, and I suggest that in all probability the reason was in order that secular notices should be announced by the bell in a different manner from ecclesiastical ones, and there could hardly have been a case in which such a difference was of more practical importance than in the apprehension of the Curfew bell.

Whether or not the Curfew was the earliest secular bell in use in England is not of importance to us, but there have been and still are other secular bells, and it may be said of them gener-

ally that the practice has been and still is to ring them. So far as they still survive they have very little practical use. They have been gradually superseded by another secular institution, the church clock, with its dial, and its machinery, making use of the bells to announce to the public the flight of time. There is an instance recorded in the Law Books of this process of supersession. It is the case of *Martin v. Nutkin*, otherwise known in ringing books as the "Hammersmith Ringing Case," heard in 1724 and reported in the second volume of Peere Williams' Reports at page 268. According to the statement of the facts in this case, it had been the practice to ring a bell at Hammersmith Church at five o'clock every morning. Dr. Martin and his wife, Lady Arabella Howard, lived in a house near the church, and the lady being an invalid, this ringing caused her much annoyance, so much in fact that she and Dr. Martin were preparing to leave the neighbourhood. As the parishioners did not wish this to happen, negotiations were opened, and an agreement was come to between Dr. Martin and his wife and the parish in vestry, that they should be at the expense of erecting a wooden turret on the church tower and of a clock and dial therein and a bell for it to strike on, and that in consideration of this the morning bell should not be rung during the life of Dr. Martin and Lady Arabella Howard, or the survivor of them; and accordingly Dr. Martin provided a turret and clock, which or its successor were familiar to those of us who remember the interesting old Hammersmith church before it was so regretably destroyed to make way for the present edifice. The clock thus superseded the morning bell, though an attempt was made shortly afterwards to ring it, which was stopped by injunction.*

I will now turn to the use of the University bell at Cambridge, as it was rather more than twenty years ago, and for all I know still is. Besides the regular ringing of the tenor at St. Mary's for a quarter of an hour every evening at nine o'clock, for which I do not know whether the University or the town was responsible, this bell was rung for all University occasions whether the meetings of the senate or sermons. From what I have cited from Dr. Raven it appears that the University used a bell as far back as the thirteenth century, and there can be no doubt that it has used one ever since, and so far as we can learn its history that bell has always been rung. The origin of its being rung admits, I think, of no doubt; it was to summon members of the University to meet for lectures, business, pleasure, sermons, or what not, and it was therefore important that it should sound in a different manner from bells calling parishioners to religious offices.

The mention of sermons brings me to another custom of ringing single bells. A sermon is now according to the rubric a portion of the Communion Office, but the reasons for assembling for public worship are stated in the opening exhortation in the order of Morning and Evening Prayer to be, "to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his most holy Word, and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary, as well for the body as the soul." It is for such objects as these that churchmen are supposed to assemble in church, and convenience obviously dictates that when they are thus come together a suitable opportunity presents itself for imparting instruction or exhortation. Before the Reformation the parochial clergy in many cases did not consider preaching as part of their duty, and during the Reformation period, in the sixteenth century, many parochial clergy adhered to their

*In one of the digests this case is indexed as one of injunction to restrain a nuisance, and this has probably misled Mr. Ellacombe to cite the case as one in which the ringing was restrained on this ground. But it is obvious on reference to the report of the case that this is not correct. What happened was that shortly after Dr. Martin had performed his part of the contract, the Hammersmith Vestry ordered the bell to be again rung—about as wilful a piece of dishonesty as can be conceived. Accordingly Dr. Martin sought and obtained an injunction to restrain this continuing breach of contract. No question of nuisance was raised or decided in the case, which might as well have been about anything else as ringing a bell. The case decides nothing about bells or ringing; what it decides is that the Court will no more allow a parish than an individual, when it has received valuable consideration, to go on doing that which it has duly contracted not to do.

former practice, either because they preferred it or because they were too ignorant to preach. Still in such cases there were sermons from time to time, perhaps when some special preacher came round, and by the canons of 1604 beneficed persons not licensed to preach were to provide a sermon to be preached if possible at least once a month. Hence it became a convenient practice to announce in some special way when there was going to be not only Divine worship, but also a sermon. It was convenient to those who liked the sermons to have notice so that they should not miss them, and to all, that they might know it would be longer than the time covered by their devotions before they would be free to return to their homes. The giving of notice of things other than Divine worship by means of ringing a single bell had long become familiar, and the practice was naturally adopted in the sixteenth century either before or after the chiming for prayers, in order to give notice of a sermon if there was to be one. The custom of ringing up a bell for services when there is to be a sermon, which still exists in some places, is therefore an adaptation of a secular practice, adopted to give notice of something in addition to the Divine worship to which the parishioners are called by the chiming. Later on, when the Puritan time came and by a topsy-turvy view of things the sermon became everything and the offices of the church little or nothing in the eyes of those of Puritan leanings, we find Bishop Wren, of Ely, directing the sermon bell to be rung for all services, whether with a sermon or not, his object evidently being to try and stop the growing habit of regarding churches mainly as preaching houses, and those services as most worthy of attendance at which sermons were preached.

Hitherto, then, I have considered the ringing of single bells, and suggested that this practice is secular in its origin. It seems to have been widely known at an early date, and thus when men began to ring more bells than one—to ring bells in peal—to what use were they likely to apply this ringing in peal? One is, I think, justified in assuming that men began by ringing one bell only, and that ringing more together was a subsequent development, though perhaps not long subsequent. But when men did get to ringing in peal the obviously natural use of such ringing would be secular. The Church had got the chiming of bells as its special method of calling to its offices. That was a practice well known and understood; what was the use of bringing confusion by altering it? On the other hand the original object of ringing a bell at all, according to my theory, was a secular one, and this practice was as well known as the other. When, then, men could ring more bells than one, their doing so would naturally be used for secular occasions.

Perhaps it would be more correct to say for the secular side of religious life. Someone, I think the late Archbishop Benson, said that nothing was secular but sin, and certainly the Church throughout the middle ages had its part in every phase of national life. As the men who reared the noble churches of those days saw no harm in adorning them with sculpture embodying satire or caricature or other incidents which we should think inconsistent, so when the festival of the patron saint of the parish church came round, besides the solemn services within the church, the wake or fair was not uncommonly held in the churchyard or close by. And on such occasions we can readily understand that the bells that were chimed for mass would be rung for the secular enjoyment of the holiday. The very word "holiday" (holy day) survives to remind us that the festal days of the Church were also days of respite from labour and of social enjoyment. The doctrine that recreation and enjoyment are of Divine appointment, which we have noticed in the *School of Recreation*, was accepted to the full by the medieval Church. The wake or the fair or the general enjoyment of leisure were in their way as much part of the festival as the mass; the ringing for the one would be as appropriate as the chiming for the other.

Welcome to individuals, honour to those in authority and expressions of joy, seem, as far as we can trace, to have been the special uses of ringing in old days, and down to our own time. I do not say that there was never any occasion on which bells were rung before Divine worship, but I doubt if they were ever rung for it. Reasons for ringing may occur when Divine worship is going to take place, of which we all know instances. One of the best known in our day is the ringing when the judges of

assize proceed to Church for service before opening the commission. As we all know the ringing is because the judges, the representatives of the Sovereign, are come; not because a service is going to be held; chiming would ordinarily be used for that.

(To be continued.)

RESTORATION OF THE BELLS AT ST. MARY'S, WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

These ancient old bells have for a long time been in great want of repair. The churchwardens and the Vicar have decided to have them done. The contract was given to the founders of them, Mears and Staibank. The bells, six in number, have been half-turned, new fitting throughout, and the frame strengthened, which was very much needed. This has been carried out very satisfactory indeed, and the "go" of them now is much better. On Sunday, November 19th, the bells were opened with a 720 of Plain Bob, for Divine Service in the morning. J. Acott, F. Side. W. Steggall, A. Pittam (conductor), H. Kilby, A. Tennant. In the evening 720 Plain Bob. J. Acott, F. Side, W. Steggall, H. Kilby, A. Tennant, A. Pittam.

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."

TO MR. CARTWRIGHT.

SIR,—The first method given by Mr. R. Cartwright in your last issue is what Shipway gives as Double Court Bob Major, the second method being the reverse variation of the first. Neither of these methods can be called double methods, as the places in the first half of the lead are not duplicated in the same position in the second half, and for this same reason neither of the methods given by Mr. Cartwright would be recognised as genuine methods nowadays by anyone who understands method-building up to date. All interior places in the first half of a lead should be duplicated in the second half, and in the same positions. Barnsbury Court Bob Major conforms to these conditions. GEORGE BAKER.

BARNSBURY COURT BOB MAJOR.

SIR,—I should like to ask Mr. R. Cartwright to point out to me the difference between his No. 1 of last week's issue and the one in "Standard Methods," page 3, Double Court. JOHN CARTER.

THANKS.

SIR,—I should like to thank H. E. W. and J. E. Groves for responding to my enquiry. My opinion is like Mr. Groves', to rest the floor on corbels when down, so it should be solid. The greatest difficulty, I think, is to prevent the floor from chafing the walls while being drawn up. I had hoped to have heard a satisfactory reply in the last issue of "THE BELL NEWS." A precedent would have been a great service to our cause. I received a satisfactory answer from one of the most eminent bell hangers, providing the arrangements of the tower are suitable for it. A. R. L.

Situations Vacant.

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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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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 (pages)

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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, NOVEMBER 25, 1899.

If it was customary, in giving reports of meetings in this paper, to insert such words as "laughter," "cheers," "applause," and such-like, the report of proceedings of a meeting held at Wellingborough last Saturday would be full of them. Our readers will be sure to have their risible faculties aroused when reading some of the speeches given on this occasion, and they may therefore interpolate these words where and as often as they please; to use the words of the itinerant showman—"they pay their money, and they can take their choice."

The testimonial to our excellent friend Mr. DENNES affords material for more than a brief allusion. In fact it teaches a moral which those having authority in the Church would do well to take to heart. Week by week complaints reach us of the insecure and neglected con-

dition not only of Church bells, but the towers which contain them. As we write a communication of this sort lies before us, referring to a splendid ring of ten, upon which some excellent work has been done, which is now placed under an interdict owing to the dangerous condition of the tower. This case is not an isolated one by any means.

Now if those callous people whose duty it is to remedy, or at least try to remedy these things, would take a leaf from the book of Mr. DENNES, we should hear less complaints. Bell and tower restoration is not easy to bring about in most cases; that the difficulties are great will be admitted. But the entire absence of any trial to overcome them is to be condemned. The history of ringing is fortunately alive with many instances where well-directed efforts have proved successful. Our friend Mr. DENNES will agree with us that unflinching perseverance in well-doing generally brings a good recompense in its train. *Nil desperandum!*

GREAT ROLLRIGHT, OXON.

Reference was made a week or two ago in the secretary's report of the work of the Chipping Norton Deanery Branch for the year 1899, to the restoration of the bells and the addition of a new treble at Great Rollright. The special dedication services for the bells and new clock was held on the 6th instant, but it was not possible for the Master of the Guild to be present on that day. However on Monday last, he very kindly brought down a band to ring the first 720 on the bells. This, needless to say, was most satisfactorily accomplished, and a well-struck 720 of Grandsire Minor was tapped off in 25 mins., composed and conducted by Frederick White. Tenor about 11 cwt. in G.

The Metropolis.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 18, 1899, in Three Hours and Thirty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CLEMENT DANES, STRAND,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5001 CHANGES.

Tenor 24 cwt.

JAMES PETTIT .. .. .Treble.	ERNEST E. HUNTLEY .. 6.
GEORGE J. SMITH 2.	CHARLES H. MARTIN .. 7.
MATTHEW A. WOOD 3.	EBENEZER ANDREWS .. 8.
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 4.	JOHN R. SHARMAN 9.
ALBERT COLES 5.	ARTHUR T. KING .. ..Tenor.

Composed by the late JOHN NELMS, and Conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

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

On Saturday, November 18, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

HERBERT LANGDON* ..Treble.	FREDERICK G. PERRIN .. 6.
HARRY BARTON 2.	*FREDERICK RICHARDSON .. 7.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 3.	WALTER C. HASTED .. 8.
ARTHUR HARDY 4.	WILLIAM E. GARRARD .. 9.
WILLIAM R. CROCKFORD* .. 5.	*GEORGE E. SYMONDS .. ..Tenor.

Composed by HENRY TUCKER, and
Conducted by GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

*First peal of Bob Royal

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, November 18, 1899, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, SHADWELL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16½ cwt.

SAMUEL HAYES .. ..Treble.	HENRY TORBLE 5.
EDWARD WALLAGE 2.	JOHN M. HAYES 6.
WILLIAM TRUSS 3.	HENRY SPRINGALL 7.
JAMES SCHOLES 4.	EMANUEL HALL .. ..Tenor.

Composed by T. LOCKWOOD, and Conducted by HENRY SPRINGALL.

Rung in honour of the marriage this day of Miss E. M. Reeves to Mr. W. P. Abrahams, the company wishing them every happiness.

THE KENT AND MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS.

On Tuesday, November 21, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES, BERMONDSEY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES; IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt.

WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE Treble.	ERNEST PYE 6.
ISAAC G. SHADE 2.	JOHN H. CHEESMAN 7.
EDWIN BARNETT 3.	HARRY FLANDERS 8.
CHARLES WILKINS 4.	ALFRED W. BRIGHTON .. 9.
JOHN R. SHARMAN 5.	WILLIAM PYE .. ..Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and
Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Marchioness of Salisbury. First peal in the method by the above Associations.

The Provinces.

SHIFNAL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SALOP GUILD, AND THE ALBION SOCIETY, SHIFNAL.

On Thursday, November 9, 1899, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 19½ cwt

E. BINGHAM .. ..Treble.	A. SHUKER 5.
R. HOLLINSHED 2.	J. BRADNEY 6.
J. E. MEREDITH 3.	W. LEBBON 7.
W. TAYLOR 4.	T. GWILLIAM .. ..Tenor.

Conducted by W. LEBBON.

Reference to this peal will be found elsewhere.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Thursday, November 9, 1899, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

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

Tenor 26 cwt.

GEORGE BULL .. ..Treble.	HARRY WAKLEY 5.
WILLIAM WAKLEY 2.	ARTHUR WAKLEY 6.
WILLIAM C. WAKLEY .. 3.	JOHN GRIFFIN 7.
EDWARD I. STONE 4.	JOHN BENSTEAD .. ..Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

Rung in honour of the election of Councillor G. L. Blackhall (a director of Messrs. Ind, Coope, and Co., Limited, of Romford and Burton-on-Trent), as Mayor of Burton.

Marriage.

On Saturday, the 18th instant, at the Church of St. Michael and All Angels, Walthamstow, by the Rev. E. B. Clarabut, vicar, WALLACE PERCIVAL ABRAHAMS (member of the Essex and Middlesex Associations), to ETHEL MARY, youngest child and only daughter of Harvey Reeves.

NORWICH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. PETER MANCROFT SOCIETY.

* On Tuesday, November 14, 1899, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER MANCROFT,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 14 cwt. 0 qrs. 18 lbs.

EDWARD FRANCIS Treble.	HORACE HOWLETT 5.
HARRY J. BORRETT 2.	SAMUEL SMITH 6.
ALBERT G. WARNES 3.	CHARLES E. BORRETT 7.
WILLIAM BALES 4.	GEORGE HOWCHIN Tenor.

Composed by J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE, and
Conducted by CHARLES E. BORRETT.

Rung upon the front eight. First peal in the method by the ringers of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th bells.

WITNEY, OXON.

On Tuesday, November 14, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAKEN FROM TROYTE.

FRED POUNDS* Treble.	F. 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.

First peal on the bells by a band composed entirely of residents in Witney. *First peal. †First peal as conductor.

SANDHURST, BERKS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, November 14, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, Oxford Bob, College Single, Plain Bob and Grandsire.
Tenor 9½ cwt.

H. WATTS Treble.	C. SMART 4.
S. RIDDLE 2.	A. E. COUSENS 5.
G. HAWKINS 3.	B. HAWKINS Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE HAWKINS.

First peal in seven methods by all.

BOURNEMOUTH, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, November 15, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 20 cwt.

J. G. BENNETT Treble.	E. WATERS 5.
J. O. LANCASHIRE 2.	J. J. BRISTOW 6.
E. T. GREEN 3.	C. W. GOODENOUGH 7.
T. BEST 4.	C. FORFITT* Tenor.

Conducted by J. O. LANCASHIRE.

*First peal.

CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 18, 1899, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 24½ cwt. in E flat.

HERBERT MADIN Treble.	DAVID BREARLEY 6.
ARTHUR CRAVEN 2.	SAM THOMAS 7.
ARTHUR WORTHINGTON .. 3.	CHARLES JACKSON 8.
WILLIAM LAMBERT 4.	WILLIAM BIGGIN 9.
CHARLES R. LILLEY 5.	ARTHUR KNIGHTS Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

First peal in the method on the bells, and first in the method by all except the ringer of the 5th.

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EAST BERKS AND SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, November 15, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 21½ cwt.

W. SHERMAN Treble.	A. S. BAGLEY 5.
T. E. BUCKLAND 2.	J. W. WILKINS 6.
J. BATTING 3.	R. BUCKLAND 7.
W. BAGLEY 4.	J. W. BAGLEY Tenor.

Conducted by J. W. WILKINS.

First peal by ringers of treble, 2nd, 4th and 5th. First peal with a bob bell by the ringer of the 3rd.

BIRMINGHAM.—THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

On Wednesday, November 15, 1899, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT ST. CHAD'S (R.C.) CATHEDRAL,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE OXFORD COURT BOB MAJOR,
5184 CHANGES. Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

CHARLES H. WATTS* .. Treble.	FREDERICK CLAYTON .. 5.
WILLIAM H. BARBER .. 2.	*HENRY MIDDLETON .. 6.
THOMAS MILLER* 3.	WILLIAM SHORT 7.
JOHN BARBER 4.	*ARTHUR E. PEGLER .. Tenor.

Composed by H. W. WILDE, and Conducted by WILLIAM SHORT.

*First peal in the method. First by the St. Martin's Guild, and in the city of Birmingham.

WORTLEY, NEAR SHEFFIELD, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, November 15, 1899, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES.
GEO. PARKIN Treble. EDWIN ROBBINS 5.
CLIFF DRONFIELD 2. JOHN DRONFIELD 6.
THOS. W. MCKEGG 3. THOS. W. ROBBINS 7.
DAVID BREARLEY 4. *GEORGE W. DRONFIELD .. Tenor.
Composed by F. HOPGOOD, and Conducted by GEO. W. DRONFIELD.
*First peal as conductor.

ASHTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

On Thursday, November 16, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES.
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 23 cwt. in D.

WILLIAM SHORT Treble.	WILLIAM S. PRITCHETT .. 6.
SAMUEL REEVES 2.	*HENRY MIDDLETON .. 7.
WILLIAM R. SMALL 3.	*ALFRED FLOWERS 8.
ALBERT WALKER* 4.	WILLIAM H. BARBER .. 9.
THOMAS REYNOLDS 5.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER .. Tenor.

Composed by J. RILEY, Stroudwater, and Conducted by WILLIAM S. PRITCHETT.

*First peal of Royal. A note to this peal will be found on another page.

KILLAMARSH, DERBYSHIRE.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AND YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Saturday, November 18, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Chester, Carlisle, London, Wells, Bristol, Lichfield and York. Tenor 11 cwt.

FREDERICK HANCOCK .. Treble.	GEORGE BURNHAM 4.
HARRY GREAVES* 2.	WILLIAM H. TURTON .. 5.
THOMAS BETTISON 3.	†CHARLES SEVERN Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES SEVERN.

*First Surprise peal away from the treble. †First Surprise peal as conductor.

KNEBWORTH, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 18, 1899, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5248 CHANGES.

Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

ALFRED R. GLASSCOCK .. Treble.	GEORGE H. BARKER 5.
JOHN ARMSTRONG 2.	FRANK C. NEWMAN 6.
FREDERICK C. FORDHAM .. 3.	ARTHUR MILLER 7.
WILLIAM PICKWORTH .. 4.	SIDNEY WADE Tenor.

Composed by CORNELIUS CHARGE, and Conducted by SIDNEY WADE.

This is the first peal of Major on the bells, and this composition is now rung for the first time. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the vicar for the use of the bells and Mr. Dennis the steeplekeeper for having everything in readiness.

GRAPPENHALL, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 18, 1899, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 12 cwt.

JAS. MAINWARING .. Treble.	SAMUEL HORSFALL 5.
SIDNEY SPENCE* 2.	JOS. HUGHES 6.
FREDK. THOS. SPENCE .. 3.	ROBT. GEO. LEWIS 7.
HY. T. MOSTON 4.	*JNO. E. ASHCROFT .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOS. HUGHES.

*First peal.

BLETCHINGLEY, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 18, 1899, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 19 cwt.

GEORGE F. HOAD .. Treble.	WILLIAM BURKIN 5.
FRANCIS T. HOAD, SEN. .. 2.	FREDERICK BALCOMBE .. 6.
THOMAS COPPARD* 3.	FRANCIS T. HOAD, JUN. .. 7.
WILLIAM MAYNE 4.	GEORGE BROWN Tenor.

Conducted by W. BURKIN.

*First peal.

FARINGDON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 18, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 17 cwt.

FREDERICK WHITE .. Treble.	ALFRED THOMAS 5.
ERNEST BISHOP 2.	HARRY ROBERTS 6.
GEORGE HOLIFIELD 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
J. H. SHEPHERD 4.	RICHARD WHITE Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

This is the first peal of Stedman on the bells.

GILLINGHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 18, 1899, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

W. HOBBS Treble.	E. MEXTER 5.
W. EASTER 2.	Q. M. S. C. FRYATT, R.E. 6.
W. HOLLIER 3.	L. SILVER 7.
R. SMITH 4.	W. HAIGH Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by W. HAIGH.

First peal by ringers of the 4th and 6th. Mr. R. Smith and L. Silver hail from Gravesend.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 18, 1899, in Two Hours and Thirty-one Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qrs.

JAMES H. HUNNISETT .. Treble.	THOMAS PRICE 5.
ALFRED E. REEVES 2.	GEORGE H. HOWSE 6.
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 3.	ALFRED J. TURNER 7.
ARTHUR GOWER 4.	BENJAMIN HOBBS Tenor.

Conducted by ALFRED E. REEVES.

Mr. Reeves, for whom this peal was arranged, was elected a member of the Association before starting.

MELKSHAM, WILTS.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(CIRENCESTER BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 18, 1899, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. E. BANKES JAMES' TEN-PART. Tenor 18 cwt. in E flat.

THOMAS LAWRENCE .. Treble.	THOMAS ROBINSON 5.
ALFRED LAWRENCE 2.	THOMAS RICKETTS 6.
OWEN W. LAYNG 3.	*SIDNEY HILLIER 7.
WALTER H. JOHNSTONE* 4.	CHARLES J. GARDINER .. Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS RICKETTS.

*First peal. Rang as a birthday compliment to Thomas Robinson, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

HORLEY, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 19, 1899, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

GEORGE THOMPSON .. Treble.	GEORGE PAICE 5.
JOHN RICE 2.	FREDERICK WICKENS .. 6.
FRANCIS T. HOAD, JUN. .. 3.	HENRY REEVES 7.
GEORGE F. HOAD 4.	FREDERICK W. RICE .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS and Conducted by HENRY REEVES.

MIDDLESBROUGH, YORKS.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 20, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HILDA,

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

WILLIAM J. TITCHENER* Treble.	RICHARD FENWICK 5.
FRED P. HOWCROFT 2.	JAMES CARTER 6.
ROBERT ALCOCK 3.	JOHN H. BLAKISTON .. 7.
JOHN H. JONES 4.	WILLIAM NEWTON Tenor.

Composed by J. H. BARRETT, and Conducted by J. H. BLAKISTON.

*First 5000, and rung as a complimentary peal to the reservists who left here for South Africa to-day.

QUIDENHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 20, 1899, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720s, each called differently. Tenor 16 cwt.

EDWARD G. KEMP .. Treble.	ROBERT HAYLETT 4.
JOHN SAGE 2.	WILLIAM KILLINGTON .. 5.
WILLIAM RINGER 3.	JOHN WOODS Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN WOODS.

First peal on the bells by a local company.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TAUNTON (Somersetshire).—On October 10th, 1078 Grandsire Triples. E. B. Kite, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; W. Eveleigh, 3; J. Fowler, 4; F. Sadd, 5; J. Burge (conductor), 6; E. Wyatt, 7; E. Poole, 8. On October 17th, 1260 Grandsire Triples. *E. Kite, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; *W. Eveleigh, 3; J. Fowler, 4; *F. Sadd, 5; J. Burge (conductor), 6; E. Wyatt, 7; *E. Poole, 8. *First quarter-peal of Triples. On October 24th, 714 Grandsire Triples. E. B. Kite, 1; S. Wyatt, 2; W. Eveleigh, 3; J. Fowler, 4; F. Sadd, 5; J. Burge (conductor), 6; E. Wyatt, 7; C. Macey, 8. And 1259 Grandsire Caters. *C. Macey, 1; *J. Rontley, 2; *C. Summers, 3; *F. Sadd, 4; J. Fowler, 5; J. Burge (conductor), 6; S. Wyatt, 7; *W. Eveleigh, 8; *E. Wyatt, 9; *E. Poole, 10. *First quarter-peal of Caters. On October 29th, 503 Grandsire Caters. C. Macey, 1; J. Rontley, 2; C. Summers, 3; F. Sadd, 4; J. Fowler, 5; J. Burge (conductor), 6; S. Wyatt, 7; W. Eveleigh, 8; E. Wyatt, 9; E. Poole, 10. On October 31st, 504 Grandsire Triples. C. Macey, 1; J. Rontley, 2; L. Wilson, 3; S. Radford, 4; J. Fowler, 5; W. Eveleigh, 6; J. Burge (conductor), 7; E. Wyatt, 8.

NORTON FITZWARRREN (Somersetshire).—On Wednesday, October 11th, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. I. Creed (conductor), 1; J. Sloman, 2; H. Creed, 3; H. Chaplin, 4; T. Creed, 5; J. Cridland, 6. Also 720 Violet. H. Creed, 1; F. Wyatt, 2; I. Creed, 3; H. Chaplin, 4; T. Creed, 5; J. Cridland, 6. On Sunday morning, October 22nd, for Divine Service, 720 London Scholars' Pleasure. F. Wyatt, 1; H. Creed, 2; I. Creed (conductor), 3; H. Chaplin, 4; T. Creed, 5; J. Caidland, 6. On Wednesday, November 1st, for practice, 720 City Delight. F. Wyatt, 1; H. Creed, 2; I. Creed (conductor), 3; H. Chaplin, 4; T. Creed, 5; J. Cridland, 6.

BATH.—On October 10th, at St. Michael's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. W. Simmonds, 1; W. J. Prescott, 2; C. Goodenough, 3; J. D. Matthews, 4; J. Fussell, 5; J. Taylor, 6; C. W. Bell (conductor), 7; C. Cambridge, 8. This is the first quarter-peal on these bells for over twenty-five years.

BATHWICK (Somersetshire).—On Thursday, November 2nd, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 48 mins. W. F. Flower, 1; J. Whale, 2; C. Densley, 4; J. Fussell, 4; A. Richardson, 5; W. J. Prescott, 6; J. D. Matthews (conductor), 7; R. Whatley, 8. First quarter-peal by Messrs. Flower, Richardson, and Whatley.

MILVERTON (Somersetshire).—On Thursday, November 2nd, at St. Michael's church, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. H. Norman, 1; F. Collins, 2; R. Scott (conductor), 3; F. Norman, 4; J. Richards, 5; A. J. Andrews, 6; W. Chapman, 7; R. Chapman, 8. First quarter-peal by Messrs. H. Norman and R. Chapman.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

LEYTONSTONE (Essex).—On October 8th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Moule, 1; H. Gowers, 2; J. Barker, 3; W. Keeble, 4; J. Mardell, 5; T. H. Beams (conductor), 6. On October 11th, 720 Double Oxford Bob. C. T. Hopkins, 1; W. Miller (conductor), 2; W. Doran, 4; W. Keeble, 4; J. Moule, 5; E. Wightman, 6. On October 25th, 720 Superlative Surprise. G. Hayden, 1; W. Miller (conductor), 2; W. Keeble, 3; J. Moule, 4; J. Mardell, 5; T. H. Beams (conductor), 6. Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a token of respect to the vicar's wife who was buried on that date.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday evening, October 22nd, for Divine Service at St. Michael's church, 704 Kent Treble Bob Major. H. Coote, 1; W. Farrow, 2; Edgar Chaplin, 3; Ernest Chaplin, 4; C. H. Howard (conductor), 5; A. Shufflebotham, 6; F. Slade, 7; W. Webb, 8. Sunday morning, October 29th, 640 Kent Treble Bob. H. Coote, 1; C. H. Howard (conductor), 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; A. Shufflebotham, 4; H. Pilcher, 5; P. Holmes, 6; W. Hammond, 7; W. Webb, 8. For evening service 576 in the same method. C. H. Howard (conductor), 1; H. E. Hammond, 2; Ernest Chaplin, 3; A. Shufflebotham, 4; H. Pilcher, 5; P. Holmes, 6; W. Hammond, 7; W. Grimwade, 8. On Wednesday, November 1st, 720 Bob Minor. F. Webb (first 720), 1; W. Webb, 2; W. Farrow, 3; P. Holmes, 4; A. Shufflebotham, 5; F. Slade (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, November 5th, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. C. H. Howard (conductor), 1; W. Farrow, 2; A. Shufflebotham, 3; F. Slade, 4; H. Pilcher, 5; P. Holmes, 6; H. E. Hammond, 7; W. Webb, 8; and after evening service 960 in same method. C. H. Howard (conductor), 1; W. Farrow, 2; F. Slade, 3; P. Holmes, 4; A. Shufflebotham, 5; W. H. Dyson (first attempt on eight bells), 6; H. E. Hammond, 7; W. Webb, 8.

STISTED (Essex).—On Sunday, October 22nd, for Divine Service in the afternoon, at All Saints' church, 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Farrow, 1; B. Pettitt, 2; A. Shufflebotham, 3; Edgar Chaplin, 4; Ernest Chaplin, 5; A. Chaplin (conductor), 6.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WOOD GREEN (Middlesex).—On Tuesday, October 10th, at St. Michael's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob. S. Wade (conductor), 1; J. Armstrong, 2; E. Marshall, 3; F. C. Fordham, 4; J. Millar, 5; J. R. Sharman, 6. And 720 Bob Minor. H. Miller, 1; F. W. Ford, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; E. Marshall, 4; F. C. Fordham, 5; S. Wade (conductor), 6. On October 24th, 720 Bob Minor. F. W. Ford, 1; A. Glasscock, 2; F. C. Fordham, 3; E. Marshall, 4; J. Armstrong, 5; A. Miller (conductor), 6.

SOUTH MIMMS (Middlesex).—On Saturday, October 21st, at St. Giles' church, 720 Bob Minor. S. Roberts, 1; J. Armstrong, 2; E. Marshall, 3; W. J. Dell, 4; T. Marshall, 5; S. Wade (conductor), 6.

SOUTHGATE (Middlesex).—On Sunday, October 22nd, at Christ church for morning service, 1120 Kent Treble Bob Major. A. Glasscock, 1; J. Armstrong, 2; F. C. Fordham, 3; W. Pickworth, 4; G. H. Barker, 5; J. Miller, 7; S. Wade (conductor), 8. On Sunday, October 29th, 1280 Kent Treble Bob Major. A. R. Glasscock, 1; J. Armstrong, 2; F. C. Fordham, 3; W. Pickworth, 4; W. H. Lawrence, 5; J. Miller, 6; A. Miller, 7; S. Wade (conductor), 8. First quarter-peal of Treble Bob by all except ringers of 4th and 8th. Also on handbells, 720 Bob Minor. A. Glasscock, 1; F. W. Ford, 2; J. Dart, 3; F. C. Fordham, 4; S. Wade, 5-6 (conductor).

THE WORCESTER CATHEDRAL GUILD.

OMBERSLEY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday evening, November 12th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. B. S. Hill, 1; A. Hill, 2; A. Hadley, 3; W. Page, 4; G. Checketts, 5; W. C. Jones (conductor), 6. Also 360 Canterbury Pleasure Minor standing as before, conducted by W. Page.

WORCESTER.—On Saturday, November 18th, at the church of All Saints, the following members of the above Guild met of ring a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples to celebrate the wedding of Miss Ethel Mary Reeves, a native of this city, and only daughter of the Editor, with Mr. W. P. Abrahams, of Walthamstow, which took place on this day, but it unfortunately came to grief owing to a change-course after ringing 800 changes. T. Malin, 1; A. Hill, 2; W. Powell, 3; B. S. Hill, 4; G. Hinton, 5; G. Checketts, 6; W. C. Jones (conductor), 7; W. H. Johnson, 8. The ringers heartily wish the happy pair prosperity, long life, and happiness.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

NORTHAMPTON.—On Sunday evening, October 22nd, for Divine Service at the church of All Saints, 1638 Grandsire Triples. G. A. Hensman, 1; A. P. Hensman, 2; H. Rainbow, 3; W. Farey, 4; A. Arnold, 5; A. Moore, 6; H. Blundell (conductor), 7; E. Fennell, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

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

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BATTLE.—On Sunday, October 29th, for morning service, 350 Grandsire Triples. J. Sinden, 1; W. J. Thomas, 2; F. Mathis, 3; C. J. Hyland, 4; W. H. Eldridge, 5; C. R. Carter, 6; W. Franks (conductor), 7; A. Saunders, 8. And for evening service, 504 Oxford Bob Triples. J. Sinden, 1; W. Eastlaid, 2; F. Mathis, 3; C. J. Hyland, 4; C. R. Carter, 5; W. J. Thomas (conductor), 6; W. Franks, 7; W. H. Eldridge, 8.

CRAWLEY (Sussex).—On Saturday, October 28th, 1260 Grandsire Triples in 44 mins. J. Rice (conductor), 1; J. Newnham, 2; G. Attfield, 3; P. Tyler, 4; F. W. Rice, 5; R. Jordan, 6; G. Paice, 7; F. Merritt, 8.

HEADCORN (Kent).—On Sunday morning, November 5th, for Divine Service, three courses of Superlative Surprise Major. P. Hodgkin, 1; W. Pye (conductor), 2; I. G. Shade, 3; J. R. Sharman, 4; G. R. Pye, 5; E. Pye, 6; C. Wilkins, 7; T. Groombridge, 8. Also 288 Kent Treble Bob with I. G. Shade, 1; P. Hodgkin, 3; the rest as before.

MALDON (Essex).—Recently at the residence of Mr. W. Chalk, and on his fifty-first birthday, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung upon handbells by his sons and daughters (with himself) in 35 mins, standing in accordance with age. P. Chalk (aged 13), 1; Fanny Chalk, 2; Laura Chalk, 3; Walter Chalk, 4; Fred. Chalk, 5; Wm. Chalk, jun. (conductor), 6; Wm. Chalk, sen. (conductor), 7-8. Four of the above are members of the Essex Association.

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, Birmingham.—The peal board recording the muffled peal of Cinques to the memory of the late Henry Bastable will be unveiled by the Rector of St. Martin's, the Rev. Canon A. J. Robinson, at 4 p.m. to-day, Saturday, November 25th. The tower will be open for ringing at 3.30 p.m. Members and subscribers are invited. The Rector will afterwards entertain the members of the Guild at tea in the Dean Street School Rooms at 5 p.m.

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

61, Roland Road, Handsworth.

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The monthly meeting of the above society will be held at Holbeck (R.C., 8 bells), to-day, Saturday, November 25th. Meeting-house—The Foundry inn. Handbells provided. All arrears of contributions will be thankfully received.

H. V. GAYTHORPE, *Hon. Sec.*

1, Elm Avenue, Bramley.

East Derbyshire Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Ashover (6 bells), to-day, Saturday, November 25th. Two miles from Stretton station on Midland railway.

T. ALLIBONE, *Sec.*

North Wingfield, Chesterfield.

The Middlesex County Association.—South and West District. A monthly meeting will be held at All Saints church, Isleworth, to-day, Saturday, November 25th. A business meeting will be held in the tower for the election of the district officers. Members are requested to make an effort to attend.

C. EDWARDS, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch. The next monthly ringing meeting will be held at the parish church, Eccles, to-day, Saturday, November 25. Bells ready at 4 o'clock. Business meeting to be held in the Mission Room at 7 o'clock. A good attendance expected.

W. BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—Bristol Branch. The next monthly meeting will be held at Wootton-under-Edge to-day, Saturday, November 25. Bells (8) open for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Short service at the parish church. Trains from Bristol 1.25 p.m. and 2.35 p.m. to Chalfeld.

C. H. GORDON, *Branch Sec.*

Society for the Archdeaconry of Salop.—The next monthly meeting will be held at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, instead of Wellington, which was unavailable, to-day, Saturday, November 25th. Ringing at 3 o'clock. Business Meeting at 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock.

J. MACKAY, *Hon. Sec.*

Holy Trinity Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch. The next monthly meeting of the above branch will be held to-day, Saturday, November 25, at the parish church, Todmorden. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Business meeting at 6.30 p.m. All ringers invited.

JAS. JACQUES, *Branch Sec.*

48, Church Street, Middleton.

Sheffield and District Society.—The next

meeting will be held at Rotherham parish church on Saturday, December 2nd. Meeting-house—The White Hart.

R. HARRISON, *Hon. Sec.*

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of the above Association will be held at Stoke on Saturday, December 2nd. Members who intend being present are requested to give notice to Mr. H. Page, 25, Richmond Street, not later than Wednesday, November 29th.

W. TWIGG, *Hon. Sec.*

The Kent County Association.—Rochester District. The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at St. Michael's church, Hartlip, on Saturday, December 2nd. Tower open for ringing at 4 p.m. Business meeting in belfry at 5.30.

A. OSBORNE, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch. The monthly meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Warrington, on Saturday, December 2nd. The tower will be open for ringing at 4 o'clock; meeting at 6 o'clock. The Vicar has expressed his desire to give all the ringers a most hearty welcome to his church. The bells have been rehung, and the Vicar will also give a tea, and it is hoped that members will try and attend, as it is very disheartening to the Vicars after they have provided tea for so few to turn up.

G. WOODHALL, *Branch Sec.*

St. Thomas' Guild, Dudley.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Tipton on Saturday, December 2nd. Tower open for ringing at 4 o'clock.

W. MICKLEWRIGHT, *Hon. Sec.*

Halifax and District Association.—The next meeting of this Association will be held at Todmorden on Saturday, December 9th. Bells ready from dinner-time. Business meeting in schoolroom at 6 o'clock.

WRIGHT INGHAM, *Sec.*

NOTE TO PEALS.

THE PEAL AT ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM. The conductor of this peal, Mr. William S. Pritchett, has rang the following fifty peals, forty-eight of which have been rung whilst he has held office as churchwarden at the parish church of King's Norton, Worcestershire. Grandsire Triples, 6, conducted 3; on handbells, 2, conducted 2; Darlaston Bob Triples, 1; Stedman Triples, 5, conducted 3; Bob Major, 6, conducted 1; on handbells, 1; Kent Treble Bob Major, 5, conducted 3; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 6; Superlative Surprise Major, 1; Cambridge Surprise Major, 1; Grandsire Caters, 3; Stedman Caters, 2; Bob Royal, 1; Kent Treble Bob Royal, 5, conducted 1; Forward Royal, 1; Grandsire Cinques, 1; Stedman Cinques, 2; Kent Treble Bob Maximus, 1; total, 50; conducted 13.

THE PEAL AT SHIFNAL.—No peal has been rung by a local band since September 3rd, 1845. Mr. Bradney has been instrumental in re-forming this old society, and obtained the services of Mr. Rowland Cartwright, of Wombourn, as instructor. This is their first peal as a society. It is Mr. Bradney's first peal with a bob bell, and Mr. Lebbon's first peal of Bob Triples, and the first peal by the remainder of the band.

RINGING THE GODS UP.—There is now in *The Times* and elsewhere an interesting controversy about church bells. But are they right who say that bells were first used in places of worship, simply, to call people to

prayers. I venture to think not. There is reason to believe that they were first used, not to summon the worshippers, but to summon the gods to listen to the worshippers. To this very day it is so in the heathen temples of the east, Brahminical and Buddhist. The assembly is gathered, the sacrifice is ready, and the first act of the priest is to ring the bell, so as to rouse the god to give attention to his worshippers. When Akbar Khan, the Great Mogul, set himself up as a divinity, he had a great bell hung at the back of the Durbar Hall, which every petitioner had to ring when he went to supplicate. The custom was not confined to the Great Mogul; and it indicates, as it seems to me, the original use of bells.—*The Newcastle Journal.*

CLOCKS,

Striking the quarter, half-hour or hour, made specially or

**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**

In great variety.

POTTS & SONS,

Church and Turret Clock Makers,
GUILDFORD STREET, LEEDS.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

BRIDGE BUILDER seeks situation. Society, well up in all class of bridge yard work. Ringer, Double Norwich, Stedman and Superlative.—Write J. A. Carter, 18, Woodside Street, Middlesbrough.

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.

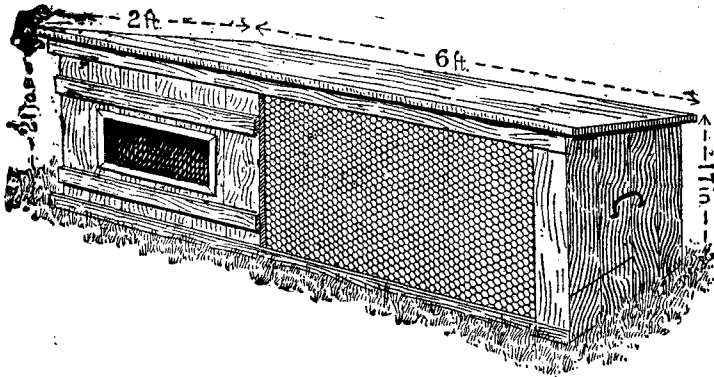
A Very Respectable Married Man requires a position of trust. First-class change-ringer, Instructor, and Conductor. Most exemplary testimonials. W. H. B., 14, Henrietta Street, Waterford.

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.

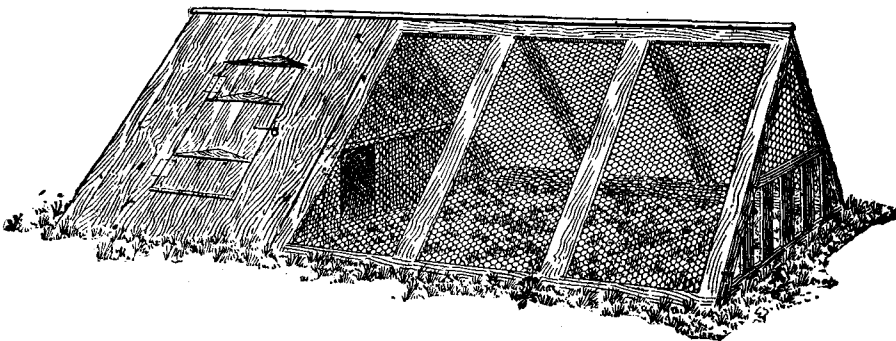
COMPLETE Set of 44 HANDBELLS, practically new, in F27, chromatic scale. By John Warner and Sons. Also sundry Music. Will sell for £12.—W. H. ROWE, Upminster, Essex.

RANDOLPH MEECH'S ORIGINAL POULTRY APPLIANCES.



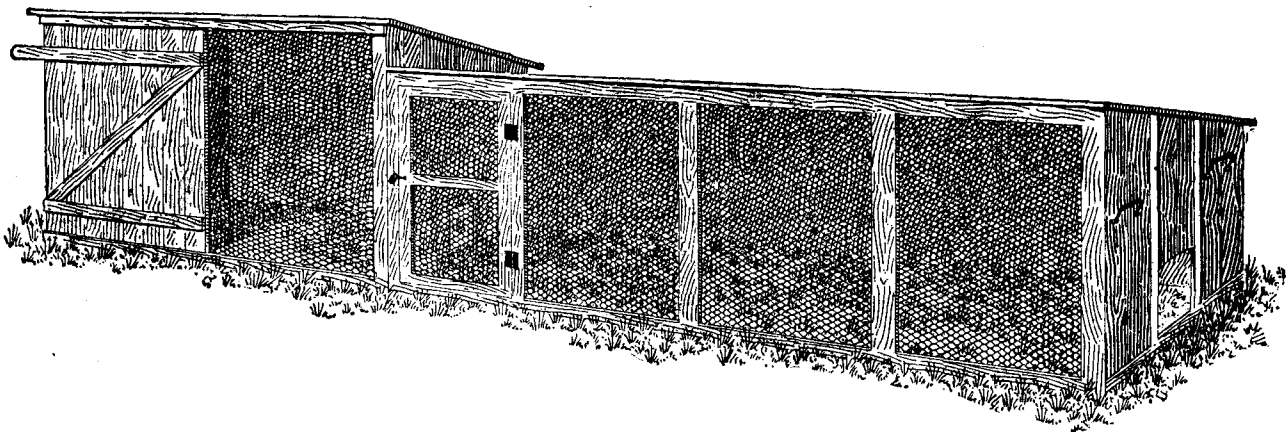
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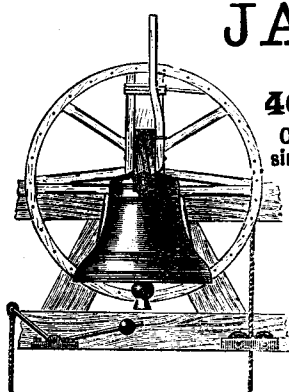
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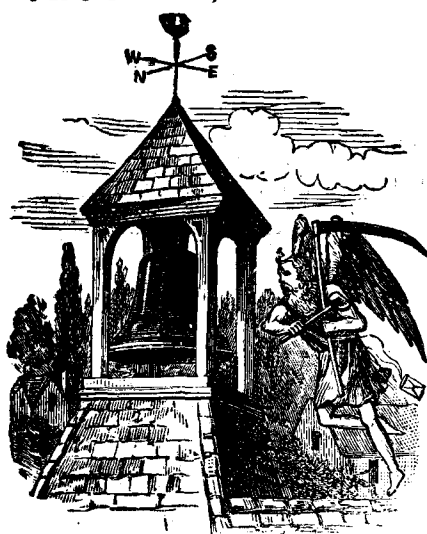
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No. 921.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1899.

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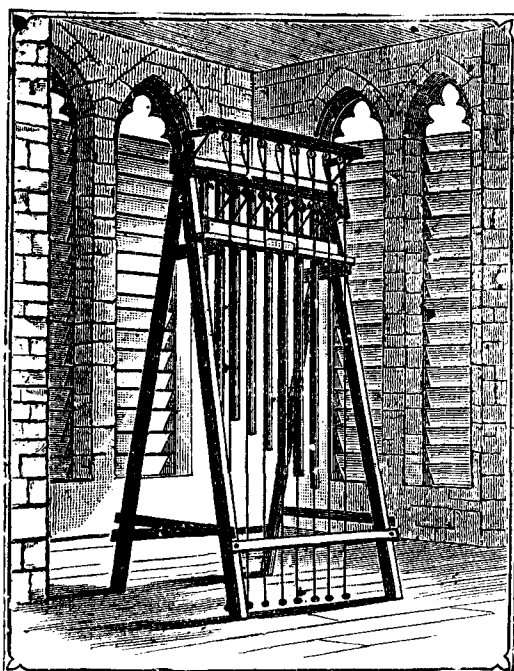
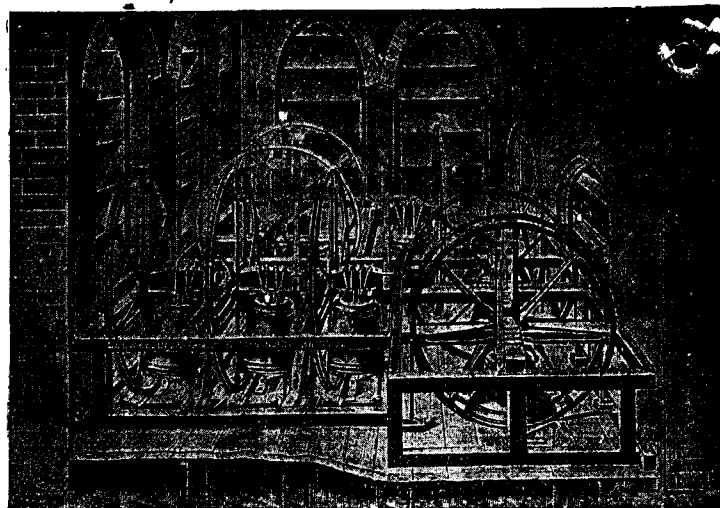
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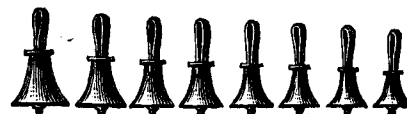
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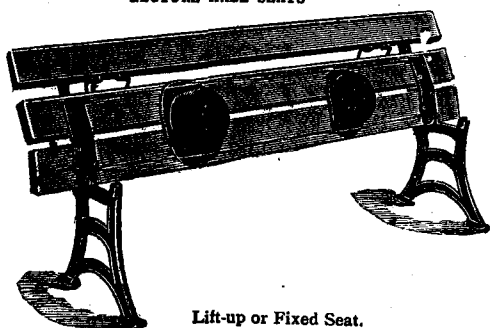
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 921.]

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD OF BIRMINGHAM.

UNVEILING OF THE HENRY BASTABLE MEMORIAL PEAL TABLET.

This Guild has not hitherto had any public unveiling of peal tablets erected by its members, but so much interest attached to this, as commemorating the services of one who was so greatly esteemed by all ringers with whom he came in contact, that it was decided to have it unveiled by the Rector, and to issue the invitation which has appeared in our recent numbers. The attendance at the ceremony sufficiently justified the course adopted.

Punctually at four o'clock the ringing-chamber at St. Martin's was probably more full of occupants than ever it had been before. A company of nearly eighty, which included the churchwardens, several ladies, and Mrs. Bastable with her young son, had assembled, when the Rector—the Rev. Canon A. J. Robinson—opened the proceedings with prayer. J. S. Pritchett, Esq., M.A., vice-president of the Guild, introduced the subject by inviting the Rector to unveil the tablet, referring in most feeling terms to the many excellent qualities of the late Henry Bastable, which had so endeared him to them all, and which had made it desirable to commemorate his services in that way. His remarks evidently deeply impressed his audience, and he concluded by reminding them that the value of a good man's work was never lost, but that its influence made itself felt for all time.

The Rector then unveiled the tablet, and in a very earnest address explained how glad he was to meet such a large number of ringers in his official capacity that day, and why he had been unable to meet them at an earlier stage of his incumbency.

After concluding his address with a benediction, he remained in the belfry during a touch of Stedman Cinques. (It may here be mentioned that all the ringing throughout the afternoon and evening was with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Lady Salisbury.)

Before leaving the belfry the presiding ringing master, Mr. John Day, on behalf of the members of the Guild, presented a nice bouquet to Mrs. Jones, explaining to her at the same time how deeply grateful the ringers always felt towards her husband, Mr. Churchwarden Jones, for the kindly feeling he had ever shewn to the ringers.

In order that an opportunity might be afforded to the members of the Guild to more freely associate with himself and the assistant-clergy and wardens, the Rector invited them to tea at Dean Street Schools. This sort of thing certainly does catch on with ringers, and they were shortly, in an unmistakable manner, made to feel how kind and sympathetic a host they had. Tea ended, Mr. Day proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector, which was most enthusiastically tendered. In doing so he referred to this being the first instance of the kind he had known at St. Martin's during his fifty-five years' career in the ringing world, and prophesied favourably for the future result of such a meeting.

From the outset the Rector's earnest and kindly greeting had so won its way that a very attentive and sympa-

thetic audience was given to his address in reply. Tersely he gave them the keynote of enthusiasm which ought to underlie all their parish work and organisation, instancing his serious and by no means uninteresting experiences in other parishes. He then explained what he thought might be done by the members of the Guild for the services of the Church, and invited them, after well considering the matter, to lay their views before the wardens and himself, assuring them that a hearty goodwill and consideration would be extended to their suggestions. In a very clear and business-like manner Mr. W. S. Pritchett, a vice-president of the Guild, then explained that the matter had already received some amount of attention from the members, and that he was then empowered to indicate some broad lines on which a mutual understanding might be based, such lines being fully endorsed by his own experience as churchwarden for many years in a neighbouring parish.

With some further explanations from Mr. Churchwarden Jones, the matter was referred for further consideration. and after thanks were tendered to the assistants at the tea, the company were regaled with a course of Cinques and a tune upon the handbells.

Ringling at the tower, in which many of the members from a distance participated, was then indulged in. A very enjoyable hour was afterwards spent at The Tamworth Arms, where indefatigable steward Painter had made such arrangements with the obliging landlord, Mr. Clift, as enabled the members to have a comfortable reunion devoted to social converse and harmony. As usual at such gatherings Mr. Painter presided at the piano, our old friend, Mr. S. Reeves, in the chair. Every one appeared to vie with each other in making the time pass cheerfully and pleasantly.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(BRISTOL BRANCH.)

A meeting of this branch was held on Saturday, November 25th, at Wootton-under-Edge. Short service was held at the parish church, conducted by the Rev. Canon Sewell. A business meeting was afterwards held at the Mill House, presided over by the Rev. H. A. Cockey, chairman of the branch. Four new members were elected. The next meeting will be held at Corsham on the first or second Saturday in January. A resolution was passed that a sub-branch be formed for Wootton-under-Edge and district. It was also resolved that Mr. F. E. Webb be elected Secretary of the new sub-branch.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. Canon Sewell for the use of the bells etc., ended a very pleasant meeting. Touches of Stedman Triples and Bob Major were rung during the afternoon and evening.

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.

FEERING, ESSEX.

The condition of the churchyard in this village had for some time been a cause of anxiety to the Vicar (Rev. W. J. Packe), as it was almost impossible to dig a grave without disturbing the bones of others buried previously. As no land immediately adjoining the churchyard was suitable, the Vicar offered to purchase and present to the parish an acre of ground. His offer was accepted, and it was ultimately decided to build a little chapel on the ground. The Vicar, who has given £200 towards the erection of the chapel, has also given a magnificent St. Martin's Cross, which is to all intents a copy of the famous cross on the island of Iona.

The consecration ceremony by the Bishop of St. Albans took place Saturday, November 11th. At the commencement of Evensong the two new bells which have been erected to complete the octave were solemnly dedicated by the Bishop. In his address, which was based on Psalm cxix. 73, he said that the bells he had dedicated were to be a call to prayer, praise, and thanksgiving, and also a call to be taught as well as a call to receive grace to be taught.

A collection at the close realised £54s. 1d. There is upwards of £100 still needed to defray the expenses of the chapel, etc., and the new bells.

On Tuesday, November 21st, the pleasant ceremony of opening the newly-augmented ring took place. First the local company rang some good rounds, and then the following touches were brought round: 576 of Oxford Treble Bob Major. D. Elliott, F. Day (conductor), W. Dyer, H. Evers, J. Sadler, W. Elliott, E. W. Beckwith, J. Newman. Also a course of Bob Major, and a 224. W. Hunwick, H. T. Pye, G. Hum, H. Evers, E. W. Beckwith, W. Elliott, W. E. Hunwick, J. Newman. The whole concluded with a well-struck 400 of Double Norwich by H. T. Pye, D. Elliott (conductor), W. Dyer, F. Day, J. Sadler, W. Elliott, E. W. Beckwith, J. Newman.

The inscription on the second bell bears the following: "Every day sincerely pray"; and the treble—"To God's Praise me raise," in addition to the names of the Vicar and churchwardens. The "go" and tone of the bells (which were supplied by Warner's), is perfect, and leaves nothing to be desired.

GRINTON, SOMERSET.

On Sunday, November 12th, the Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells dedicated to the use of St. Michael and All Angels' church, Grinton, Somerset, two new bells which have just been added to the old ring of four. The complete ring of six has been hung in an iron cage by Mr. T. Blackburn, of Salisbury. The old bells have been re-clappered and quarter-turned, and all the stocks and fittings are new, the work throughout being beyond praise. The only thing wanting now is to ring a 720 on them.

The two new bells weigh respectively 5 and 5½ cwt. The tenor is just 12 cwt. She is a most remarkable bell and bears the inscription:—"Philip Watts, Thomas Winiat, caused mee to be made 1586." Evidently the outer mould of this bell cracked in the casting, and there are two or three very rugged seams down the outside which have been roughly touched up with a hammer. In consequence of this cracking she is a good half-inch thicker one side than the other. However, her tone is good, and equal to that of a far heavier bell. She has never been turned at all. The 5th bell has:—"Richard Mogg, Church Warden 1788 Wm. Bilbie Chew Stoke

fecit," and is a beautiful bell. The 4th has:—"R. Clarke, Winniard Bilbie 1707," and is also a splendid bell. The 3rd, the old treble, is a pre-Reformation bell, and rather thin, though a very good casting. She bears the inscription:—"Sancte Paule ora pro nobis," in very fine old English characters. The 2nd, cast by Blackburn:—"E. B. Barter dedit. 1899. When mirth and joy are on the wing, I ring." The treble:—"Ad gloriam Dei et in mene. Sarah and Mary Barter, R. B. Barter, Rector, 1861, dedit 1899. To call the folk to church in time, I chime." The 3rd was of course the earliest bell in the tower. Then three others were added in 1586, of which two were re-cast by two of the Bilbies. The whole peal now is as fine as could be wished, and go to perfection.

THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

The monthly meeting of this society was held at Holbeck on Saturday, November 25th, when the following towers were represented: Armley, Bramley, Calverley, Headingley (St. Michael's), Leeds, Wakefield, and the local company; also Mr. C. D. Smith, of Bradford, and Mr. J. F. Mallaby, of Barnby Don. A few touches of Grandsire Triples were rung before the meeting on the tower bells by mixed bands, and all seemed satisfied with the "go" of the bells.

The business meeting was held at The Foundry inn, the vice-president, Mr. T. Mars, in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. It was then agreed to alter the date of the Armley meeting from December 30th to January 6th, owing to the Christmas holidays. The secretary had to make another complaint about the members being backward with their contributions. A vote of thanks to the Rev. Father McAuliffe for the use of the bells, and the local company for their kind arrangements, was carried unanimously and responded to by

Mr. R. Binns, who stated that they were always pleased to have some ringing friends among them, and hoped some of them would be trying to score a peal there, as the bells were nearly always at liberty.

A vote of thanks to the chairman brought the business meeting to a close, and the rest of the evening was spent in ringing handbells until it was time for the visitors to wish the local company a hearty good-night.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(CANTERBURY BRANCH.)

A meeting of this branch was held at Elham on Saturday, November 18th, when ringers attended from Bra-bourne, Canterbury, Elham, Lyminge, and Ospringe. Ringing commenced at 5.30, when touches of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major were rung. The meeting closed at 9 o'clock.

Situations Vacant.

WANTED.—First-class Shoeing and General Jobbing Smith, capable of taking charge of yard. Good wages and constant place to the right man. Change-ringer, eight bells.—Particulars to A. RICHARDSON, Bathwick Carriage Works, Bath.

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

WANTED.—Steady young man to look after small out-door garden, pony and trap. One with a knowledge of the seed trade (or willing to learn) preferred, and able to handle a bell.—Apply by letter to R. H. HAYWARD, Marlesford, Suffolk.

THE EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting of this Association was held at Ashover on Saturday, November 25th, and was well attended by members from the following towers: Ashover, Bolsover, Clay Cross, Norton, South Normanton, North Wingfield, Ripley, Tibshelf, and Shirland.

The Rector (Rev. J. B. Nodder) kindly entertained the ringers to tea in the schoolroom, to which twenty-four sat down. The Rector was heartily thanked for the tea, and for the use of the schoolroom and bells for the day, the ladies who waited at the tea not being forgotten. The Rector suitably replied, and expressed his pleasure at meeting the ringers once more at Ashover.

By an unanimous resolution, the Secretary was instructed to write to all towers in union, and ask the local secretaries to make a collection among their members, and forward the amounts received to the Secretary on or before Saturday, December 16th. The sum so received by the Secretary to be forwarded to the fund for the relief of the widows and orphans of our soldiers now fighting in the Transvaal. The money to be sent up in the name of the E.D.A.

The Secretary trusts that all who feel so disposed will contribute their mites, and be good enough to forward the same to him on or before the date named.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRISTOL BRANCH.—A meeting was held at Mitcheldean on Saturday, November 18th, members being present from Gloucester, Newnham, and Ruardean. Ringing was indulged in till six o'clock, after which a meeting was held, Mr. A. E. Brain kindly undertaking the duties of chairman. The minutes of the previous meeting were passed as read. Sixteen new members were elected. It was proposed that the next meeting be held at Newnham towards the end of January. This being the whole of the business, the members again adjourned to the tower, where several touches were brought round.

THE REV. F. E. ROBINSON'S 600 PEALS.

	Conducted.	
Grandsire Triples	52	8
Grandsire Caters	*27	1
Stedman Triples	275	138 (one uncondacted.)
Stedman Caters	†62	30
Stedman Cinques	2	
Union Triples	1	
College Single Triples	2	
Bob Major	2	
Duffield Major	1	
Double Oxford Major	1	
Double Norwich Major	†73	5
Oxford Treble Bob Major	3	
Kent Treble Bob Major	13	2
Kent Treble Bob Royal	9	
Kent Treble Bob Maximus	2	
Duffield Royal	1	
Superlative Surprise Major	45	6
Cambridge Surprise Major	16	4
London Surprise Major	†13	3
	600	197

* Including a peal of 13,247 changes. † Including a 12,041 and a 15,041 (record). ‡ Including a 10,080 and a 12,096. a Including an 11,328 (record).

Handbells Wanted.

WANTED A Peal of Eight Handbells.—Address—MOLINEUX, Harford Outry St. Mary.

Obituary.

THOMAS WHITFIELD.

The death of the above-named ringer occurred at his residence, Stockton-on-Tees, on Sunday, November 19th, at the age of seventy. He joined, or rather re-joined, the ringers at Stockton when a regular system of weekly practices was inaugurated in 1872, with a view of establishing the art of change-ringing in the belfry of the parish church. In due course he became fairly efficient in hunting the treble, and in that capacity took part in a 5040 of seven methods of Minor rung on the Stockton bells on September 15th, 1883. When the Durham Diocesan Association was formed in 1877, he joined it and attended several of the meetings of its early years, and at one time was a vice-president. His attendance at the Stockton belfry had ceased some years ago, and his death did not become known to his former colleagues in time to ring a muffled peal on the day of the funeral of their genial associate of former days.

HENRY LANGDON.

It is with deep regret that we have to report the death of the above-named, aged fifty-six, who passed away at his residence on Thursday, November 23rd, after a long and painful illness of upwards of ten weeks. Deceased first learned to ring at Holy Trinity Church, Trinity Square, Borough, London, S.E., nearly thirty years ago, and had been a most reliable and energetic ringer in and around London ever since. He had during his career rung numerous peals, of which unfortunately he kept no record. On Wednesday, November 29th, the under-mentioned members of the Waterloo Society rang the usual whole pull and stand as a mark of respect in which he was held by the society, who wish to tender through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS" their heartfelt sympathy and regret to the bereaved widow and family on behalf of the society. W. H. Pasmore, T. H. Taffender, F. G. Perrin, G. E. Symonds, A. Hardy, E. Frazer, W. H. Webber, H. Barton (conductor).

HENRY FREEMAN.

By the death of the above-named on the 16th inst., a very old inhabitant of Henfield (Sussex), has been removed. Deceased passed his early years at Ashurst, and died at Woodmancote, but he always considered himself to belong to Henfield, indeed he lived at Wantleigh for more than thirty years, and during that time he was a very constant member of the bell-ringers. He never lost his interest in the bells, nor in the parish. His special desire was that his last resting-place should be in the cemetery, and he now lies there, having being buried on the 20th inst., within a few months of his wife's interment there. Mr. and Mrs. Freeman lived many years together, and we trust are re-united where parting is unknown. The Henfield ringers rang several touches, half-muffled, after the funeral in memory of their old comrade. A course of Grandsire Triples was rung over the grave on handbells. On the tower bells, half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples and several other shorter touches were rung.

M.

LAYER MARNEY, ESSEX.

The three old bells in this church have been silent for years, owing to the 2nd being badly cracked and the old stocks so decayed as not to be safe to chime. The cracked bell has been recast, and the three rehung with new stocks, and a chiming apparatus attached, the whole of the work being successfully carried out by Messrs. Bowell and Son, Bell Founders, Ipswich.

MARLESFORD, SUFFOLK.

A new treble bell has been cast and hung by Messrs. Bowell and Son, of Ipswich, in the above church, thus making a nice ring of five. Tenor about 11 cwt.

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

By R. A. DANIELL.

(Continued from page 314.)

I will pass by the use of bells at weddings and deaths, as I do not think they are material for my purpose. Bells for weddings are obviously joybells for individuals. The use of bells for deaths is an interesting subject, but it is concerned with private and personal cases and not with public worship. I will close my remarks on the whole question with some allusion to the history of Sunday Ringing as I understand it, which will require a further allusion to the holy days of the medieval church. Sundays and holy days were of old festival days, and what was permissible on holy days was permissible on Sundays. Holy days were days of recreation as well as of religious observance, and so were Sundays. The Sabbatarian doctrine, turning the first day of the week into a day of repression and declaring pleasure, except in its carnal form of eating and drinking, to be wrong on Sundays, had not yet been proclaimed. And that there was ringing on these days for pleasure can hardly, I think, be doubted. The direction in the canons of 1604 for prohibition of superstitious ringing on festivals and eves formerly observed but then abolished, appears to me to refer to secular ringing. One can hardly suppose that if the ringing had originally been for some religious service a band would come together to ring for it for nearly half a century after the service had ceased to be held, while on the other hand the holiday traditions of the holy day would naturally be the more permanent. As a matter of fact in some cases they last till this day, the dates of country fairs, for instance, being still sometimes fixed by them. The feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, on the 15th of August, is one of these abolished days, and it is hardly conceivable that so late as 1604 a band should be meeting to ring for a service never then held. But undoubtedly the day had been a holiday, and it is quite intelligible that the memory of that fact was then green, indeed in many parts of the country it may very well still have been a holiday to some extent.

Holiday ringing then, on this (and on other such days) would be natural at the beginning of the 17th century. But the festival had been abolished by the English Church, because it celebrated a doctrine which this Church rejected as fabulous. Therefore it was undesirable that the memory of the day should be kept alive in the popular mind. But to ring because the day came round, no matter with what absence of reference to the doctrine it had celebrated, was a way of keeping this memory alive. Therefore the ringing was objectionable, and, in the language of the canon, superstitious.

If, then, the observance of Sundays and Holy Days was in early times pretty much the same, and if there was secular ringing on holy days, we should expect to find that there was also secular ringing on Sundays, and as a matter of fact we may, I think, find in the practice of Sunday ringing down to our own day evidence of that early secular ringing. When we find a long continued practice whose origin cannot be dated, we must look out for the most probable origin we can find, and the more general we find the practice to be, the further back must we be prepared to find that origin. When I was in Exeter in the autumn of 1897, there was some ringing at St. Sidwell's on a Sunday morning early, but the bells were lowered in order that the parishioners might be chimed into church, and I was told that this was always done when there was early Sunday ringing. This seems to be the same thing as the early Sunday ringing to which Mr. Ellacombe alludes in some of his early writings, which seems to have been common, and which he regarded as secular and did not like. It also seems to have been the practice in the seventeenth century. Our old friend, R. H. in the passage I extracted from the *School of Recreation* "BELL NEWS," June 24th, 1899, says:—"Do not let the Sunday morning's peal engage thy presence then, and the ale-house have thy company afterwards. Be as quick in hearing the chiming for prayers as thou art in the notes for pleasure."

And should'st thou not be as nimble when the Saint's Bell of the Church sounds in thy ears, and calls thee to attend the Priest, who now signifies his entrance into the holy place and invites thee to join with him in the sacrifice of prayer

and praise." This clearly shows that in R. H.'s time the Sunday morning peal was prior to and entirely distinct from the chiming for prayers, and was a secular performance. But if the prayers were chimed for, when did this Sunday ringing come into existence? The probabilities are against its introduction as a novelty during the Puritan ascendancy. Ringers, to be sure, as a body, were no more likely to have Puritan leanings then than now, but bearing in mind the opposition of the Puritan Party to relaxation on the Lord's Day it seems hardly likely that secular ringing would have been started on Sunday at that period as something new. On the other hand the general observance of Sunday, except in the form of the religious offices, underwent little change from the early Tudor period to the middle of the seventeenth century or later, and we know from the canons of 1604 that medieval ringing traditions were not extinct at that date. Then there is what is known as "The Book of Sports," really a declaration issued by James I. in 1617, allowing certain sports after Divine Service, or rather allowing sports except those forbidden. Ringing is not mentioned, but dancing and other games, and maypoles and other things were permitted, and these were old recreations; and if these were old and permissible the probability is the same of ringing. In 1625 was passed a Sunday observance Act which recognises these sports, and in 1633 Charles I. directed the republication of the "Book of Sports." Then we come to the ordinances of the Long Parliament, one of which in 1644, deals with Sunday. This of course is of a repressive nature and forbids—"ringing of bells for pleasure or pastime," on Sunday, together with the other things previously allowed. There was another ordinance about Sunday passed in 1650, but this deals mainly with work rather than play. But the Parliamentarians grew more morose with time, and in 1656 Cromwell's second parliament passed yet another ordinance dealing with Sunday. In this, ringing of bells for pleasure on Sunday is again specially forbidden together with those other sports.*

For breaches of this ordinance men became liable to a penalty of ten shillings, a considerable sum in those days. They were also liable to pay one shilling in respect of each of their children under fourteen years of age who offended; but they might escape this latter fine, the ordinance allowing them the alternative of "correcting," that is, chastising, the kiddies to the satisfaction of the churchwardens or other parochial officers. A perusal of these Lord's Day ordinances is sufficient without anything further to enable us to understand how opposed Puritan policy was to the habits of the time and how natural it was that Englishmen should resent the parliamentary government and be ready to welcome back royalty. But the thing to note for our purpose is that Sunday ringing for pleasure was in the seventeenth century a well-known practice, that it was persistent, and that it was legislated against in the same way as practices then still existent and undoubtedly of medieval origin; and that the persistency of this Sunday ringing seems much more consistent with its being an old and rooted habit than with its being of then recent introduction. I therefore come to the belief that this Sunday morning ringing came down from the middle ages as a relic of the secular side of the weekly Christian festival. And if this be so, it is equally probable that Sunday ringing later in the day has a similar origin. We have learned incidentally from Stow about the evening peal-ringing on St. James's Day, and at least it is more probable than not that there was ringing of a similar kind on Sunday. But at any rate there seems no room for doubt that Sunday ringing after afternoon service was an established practice at least two centuries ago, and like the morning peal its most probable origin is medieval. Out of these secular Sunday ringings were gradually evolved, as the art of change-ringing developed, Sunday peals

* I may note as a matter of curiosity that there is also included in the prohibition of this ordinance "vainly and profanely walking on the Lord's Day." "Vainly" means without definite object or necessity, that is, walking for pleasure, which is a pastime as old as human nature, and as pleasure was in the view of these men necessarily profane on Sunday, it followed that taking a walk for enjoyment on Sunday was made an offence against the laws of the land. What a distorted view of Christianity must have been that of men who deliberately enacted an ordinance in such terms that a man who took his children for a stroll in the fields on Sunday rendered himself liable to be apprehended and brought before the justices as a law breaker!

in the technical sense, *i.e.* 5000's, so that if my surmises are correct, the Sunday peal of to-day is the legitimate descendant of early English custom.

Before passing to the consideration of my next question, I desire to assure my readers that they cannot be more sensible than myself of the incompleteness of what I have put before them. I can only plead that this paper is only meant as an endeavour in the direction of historic truth, according to my means and opportunities for research. Definite information is hard to come at, and dictionaries and such works are well nigh useless in consequence of the ignorance of their learned writers about the use of technical terms in connection with ringing. I doubt if this question can be solved—if at all—without concerted action in gathering ringing traditions and customs throughout the country; but so far as I can grasp them, the indications seem to point to the historical secularity of ringing from its very nature and origin. However, it may be that some learned person knows all about it, and if so it is to be hoped he will kindly enlighten us.

(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."

THE HISTORY OF RINGING.

SIR,—Will you allow me to express my appreciation of the articles by Mr. Daniell which you are publishing, and especially to thank him for rescuing from oblivion the beautiful poem by Bunyan which appeared in last week's issue. Lest it should be forgotten, might I suggest that you publish as one of your artistic illustrated supplements, a process block of the tower in which Bunyan rang, together with the extracts Mr. Daniell has referred to, and this poem. It might then be framed and hung in every belfry for the edification of future generations of ringers.

With regard to the remarks on the curfew in this week's article, it is to be remembered that the curfew was rung at eight every night. Now-a-days what is called the curfew is rung at nine in every instance I am acquainted with, but one. I have heard it stated by antiquarians that this is really not the curfew but the Compline bell. That when the curfew was abolished, the name (and style of ringing?) was transferred to the bell for the last of the offices said daily in church. Mr. Daniell has also omitted to note that besides the tenor being rung at St. Mary's, Cambridge, from 9 to 9.15 p.m., it is also rung at from 6 to 6.15 a.m. each day. This does not seem to be the old *Angelus*, as it is not rung in the style appropriate for that devotion—when the bell is necessarily chimed. For in many places it is rung at 5 a.m.—*c.f.* the "Hammersmith Ringing Case." It would seem as if the bell for the Monastic Prime and Compline, the first and last of the day offices, had become so useful for rousing people in the morning and sending them to bed at night, that they were kept up after the destruction of the monasteries, and disuse of the public prayer in church at those times. I do not know if this consideration would modify Mr. Daniell's argument.

Another similar custom on which ecclesiastical antiquaries do not seem able to throw much light, is the ringing at 6 a.m. on St. Thomas' Day (December 21st). In the church where I know it, all the bells are rung for a quarter or half-an-hour. The dedication is St. Michael's, so it cannot be the Patronal Festival. I thought however it might be the ancient anniversary of the dedication; but I hear that it is a custom in other churches as well. I should be glad to hear if this is so.

H. DRAKE.

BARNSBURY COURT BOB MAJOR.

SIR,—Mr. Cartwright in your issue of the 18th ult., gives three methods in the Court Bob system placed side by side, with advice that they have before been produced.

No. 2 is a reprint from Shipway.

No. 3 is a reverse to the same method. In each places are made exclusively in 3-4 and 5-6. Now, Sir, in No. 1 the places are exclusively made in 3-4, there are none whatever in 5-6, and

cannot be classed either by method or diagram, with examples No. 2 or No. 3. In further illustration I give another method, Canonbury Court, an exact counterpart of Barnsbury, wherein places are exclusively made in 5-6.

Mr. Cartwright's further advice is to have No. 1 rung as a double method. The question then comes forward as to what is a double method. Shipway seems to define this when a bell makes places immediately before and after passing the treble in her path both up and down, and if this proposition holds good, then both Barnsbury and Canonbury methods conform, as Mr. G. Baker correctly says, to the rule. But, Sir, by recent expositions in the science of method building, I think something more is wanted, and in fact it is not till we arrive at Double Norwich Court do we find a truly constructed double method. This is the method which stands out far away and above all others of the Court Bob systems.

Will Mr. Cartwright kindly point out to me the difference between the methods given on pages 28 and 29 of *Standard Methods*.

CANONBURY COURT BOB MAJOR.

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
4	6	2	8	3	7	1	5
6	4	8	2	7	3	5	1
6	8	4	7	2	5	3	1
8	6	7	4	5	2	1	3
6	8	4	7	5	1	2	3
8	6	7	4	1	5	3	2
8	7	6	1	4	5	2	3
7	8	1	6	5	4	3	2
7	1	8	5	6	3	4	2
1	7	5	8	3	6	2	4

Plain 1 5 7 3 8 2 6 4 Lead

Bob 1 5 7 3 8 6 4 2 Lead

Single 1 5 7 3 8 6 2 4 Lead

H. DAINS.

SIR,—I am not aware when, or who laid down the constitution of a double method as given by Mr. Baker; it might be method building up to date, but I don't give much for it. I always understood that a double method was one in which the bells worked the same from the back as from the front (the same as Double Norwich, Superlative, etc.), and also one that is capable of making two bobs in one lead, and that could be rung backwards and forwards the same, or the bobs made with the treble at the back instead of the front. This cannot be done in the above, and therefore I am still of opinion that it is not a double method.

In attempting method building I always started from the last change of the course, counted the places from 8, 7, 6, 5, the same as from 1, 2, 3, 4, and took the position between 4-5 as the centre of the double, and placed the working position of the bells 1-2 equal to 8-7, and 3-4 equal to 6-5.

In reply to Mr. John Carter's ingenious query, I should think there is no difference with a distinction. R. CARTWRIGHT.

THE HENRY BASTABLE MEMORIAL PEAL TABLET.

SIR,—On Saturday last I was privileged to be present in St. Martin's belfry at the unveiling of the peal tablet, and should like through your columns to express my heartfelt gratitude to all his fellow-members of the St. Martin's Guild, and other ringers, who have thus honoured the memory of my dear husband, and have shewn their appreciation of his loss, and sympathy with me, in this and other ways.

S. E. BASTABLE.

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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, DECEMBER 2, 1899.

THE Rev. F. E. ROBINSON has just recorded his Six Hundredth peal! The announcement of this amazing fact is given in our peal records this week, and on another page will be gathered detailed information of such performances. These details will be perused with wonder and close interest by all. It is supposed that the rev. gentleman will not—if his health holds out—stop peal-ringing until his list reaches four figures. Every one will hope that he will continue hale and hearty sufficiently to reach such a point as his one thousandth peal.

We are also able to place before our readers the results of the ringing tour by ten members of the Sussex Association, previously announced in our columns. We may suppose that the usual good fortune of this celebrated ringing company did not attend them on this occasion;

four peals only out of eight attempts not being up to the usual mark. But these performances were of the most elaborate and intricate character, and fully show the high talent of those gentlemen who achieved them.

The members of the East Derbyshire Association have felt it their duty to assist as far as they are able, the fund for the relief of the widows and orphans of our soldiers who may fall in the South African conflict at present raging. A patriotic fund like this deserves the utmost encouragement, and it is hoped that such a worthy attempt as is about to be made by our East Derbyshire brethren will not be singular. The contest is unfortunately a severe one, and it is to be feared that an immense number of lives will be lost before the conflict is at an end. Our gallant soldiers are hourly getting nearer the foe, and though they will no doubt conquer in the end, there is some terrible work indeed before them.

The Metropolis.

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AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR, WALTHAMSTOW.

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

ALBERT O. D. ABRAHAMS .. Treble.	FREDERICK W. J. BUTLER .. 5.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, SEN. .. 2.	RICHARD ELLIOTT .. 6.
ERNEST D. LILLYWHITE* .. 3.	GEORGE B. LUCAS .. 7.
FRANK HULL .. 4.	ARTHUR T. KING .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and Conducted by GEORGE B. LUCAS.

*First peal in the method.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 25, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHGATE.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

ALFRED R. GLASSCOCK .. Treble.	GEORGE H. BARKER .. 5.
JOHN ARMSTRONG .. 2.	WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE .. 6.
FREDERICK C. FORDHAM .. 3.	JOHN E. MILLER .. 7.
FRANK C. NEWMAN .. 4.	SIDNEY WADE .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by SIDNEY WADE.

First peal of Treble Bob by all except the ringers of the 4th and tenor, and first peal of Treble Bob as conductor.

The Provinces.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.

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

On Wednesday, November 22, 1899, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

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

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by R. G. GROVE.

*First peal. It was the intention to have rung the above on Saturday, November 18th, in honour of the wedding of the only daughter of the Editor, but it was unavoidably postponed until this date.

YATELEY, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, November 22, 1899, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 17 cwt.

HERBERT WATTS .. Treble.	MAURICE STEER .. 5.
GEORGE HAWKINS .. 2.	ALFRED E. COUSINS .. 6.
SYDNEY RIDDLE .. 3.	BARZILLAI HAWKINS .. 7.
CHARLES SMART .. 4.	FREDERICK MUSTOW .. Tenor.

Conducted by B. HAWKINS.

First peal of Triples by H. Watts. The ringers wish, through this paper, to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells.

KING'S NORTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM

On Wednesday, November 22, 1899, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

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

Tenor 14½ cwt.

HENRY MIDDLETON .. Treble.	WILLIAM H. BARBER .. 5.
JOHN BARBER .. 2.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER .. 6.
FREDERICK CLAYTON .. 3.	WILLIAM SHORT .. 7.
THOMAS MILLER .. 4.	*CHARLES H. WATTS .. Tenor.

Composed by G. LINDOFF, and Conducted by WILLIAM SHORT.

*First peal in the method, and was rung as a birthday compliment to J. Barber.

TAUNTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 23, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

JOSEPH MADDOCK .. Treble.	FRANK MILLARD .. 5.
HENRY PEARCE .. 2.	EDGAR E. BURGESS .. 6.
SIDNEY WYATT* .. 3.	†HENRY J. POOLE .. 7.
ALEXANDER EVANS .. 4.	THOMAS DOBLE .. Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY J. POOLE.

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

BRIDGNORTH, SHROPSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, November 23, 1899, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

J. E. GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt.

ERNEST FOXALL* .. Treble.	*WILFRED OVERTON .. 5.
ALBERT BAKER* .. 2.	JOHN OVERTON .. 6.
JOHN ELCOCK* .. 3.	JAMES E. GROVES .. 7.
BERTRAM HEAD* .. 4.	HARRY JONES .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

*First peal.

STANSTED, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 23, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Bocking Treble Bob, London Scholars' Pleasure, College Exercise, Superlative Surprise, Oxford Delight, Oxford Treble Bob, and Cambridge Surprise. Tenor 13 cwt.

THOMAS JORDAN .. Treble.	GEORGE GRAY .. 4.
GEORGE JORDAN .. 2.	JOHN LUCKEY .. 5.
THOMAS J. WATTS .. 3.	WILLIAM WATTS .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WATTS.

Rung on the tenth anniversary of the first peal on the bells. This is the conductor's 1700th 720.

OXHEY, HERTS.—THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 28, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' ONE-PART.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. Treble.	*JOHN B. BATES 5.
HUBERT EDEN* 2.	GEORGE N. PRICE 6.
HERBERT MARTIN 3.	ERNEST E. HUNTLEY .. 7.
CHARLES GEORGE 4.	FRANK A. SMITH Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE N. PRICE.

*First peal of Stedman.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, November 24, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

GEORGE MARTIN Treble.	RALPH H. BIGGS 5.
REV. H. C. BELL* 2.	F. BOREHAM 6.
JOHN EVANS 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
WALTER E. YATES 4.	ARTHUR G. JAMES Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

*First peal of Stedman.

HAGLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

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

On Saturday, November 25, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

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

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

*First peal in the method.

FRAMLINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 25, 1899, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5216 CHANGES.

Tenor 19 cwt.

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

Composed by EDGAR WIGHTMAN, and Conducted by G. WIGHTMAN.

First peal in the method on the bells, and first in the method by Messrs. Crickmer and Bedingfield.

NEWBURN-ON-TYNE, NORTHUMBERLAND.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 25, 1899, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Tenor 16 cwt.

JAMES LEIGHTON* .. Treble.	FREDERICK SHERATON .. 4.
JOSEPH A. GOFTON* 2.	JOSEPH PATTISON 5.
THOMAS T. GOFTON 3.	ANTHONY MEYERS Tenor.

Conducted by T. T. GOFTON.

First peal on the bells. *First peal.

SANDHURST, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(SONNING BRANCH)

On Saturday, November 25, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720s' each called differently.

JOSEPH BRINN Treble.	HERBERT WATTS 4.
ARTHUR WOODERSON 2.	CHARLES SMART 5.
SAMUEL PAICE 3.	ALFRED E. COUSINS Tenor.

Conducted by ALFRED E. COUSINS.

FINEDON, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 25, 1899, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 22 cwt. 3 qrs. 1 lb.

ARTHUR SMEATHERS† .. Treble.	THOMAS R. HENSHER .. 5.
JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. .. 2.	†WALTER PERKINS 6.
GEORGE LINES* 3.	*WILLIAM B. MEADOWS .. 7.
JAMES GARRATT 4.	WILLIAM R. HENSHER .. Tenor.

Composed by YORK GREEN, and

Conducted by JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN.

*First peal of Bob Major. †First peal in the method. Rung as a wedding peal to W. B. Meadows. First peal in the method on the bells. Taken from the Central Council Appendix, 1895.

BROMSGROVE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 25, 1899, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES.

Tenor 18 cwt.

FREDERICK ALCOCK .. Treble.	GEORGE HAYWARD 6.
JABEZ EADES 2.	JOHN MASON 7.
OLIVER JAMES 3.	ALFRED MOORE 8.
THOMAS ALBUTT 4.	GEORGE BOURNE 9.
ALBERT JACKSON 5.	JAMES PARRY Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE HAYWARD.

This is the quickest peal of Caters on the bells. First peal of Caters by Messrs. Eades and Alcock.

APPLETON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 25, 1899, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5075 CHANGES.

Tenor 14½ cwt. in E,

F. S. WHITE Treble.	HARRY HOLIFIELD 6.
FREDERICK WHITE 2.	ERNEST BISHOP 7.
ALFRED LAWRENCE 3.	GEORGE HOLIFIELD 8.
REV. C. W. O. JENKYN .. 4.	RICHARD WHITE 9.
JAMES H. SHEPHERD 5.	R. BENNETT Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE HOLIFIELD.

MITCHELDEAN, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 25, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor about 13 cwt.

DR. N. F. SEARANKE .. Treble.	THOMAS HART 5.
ALBERT E. BRAIN 2.	FREDERICK BLANTON .. 6.
JOHN MORGAN 3.	JOHN AUSTIN 7.
HENRY GARDNER 4.	THOMAS BALDWIN Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

First peal of Grandsire Triples by all except the conductor.

GODALMING, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 25, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 25 cwt.

SEPTIMUS RADFORD Treble.	FRANK BLONDELL 5.
JOHN J. JONES 2.	WILLIAM W. THORNE .. 6.
CHARLES WILLSHIRE .. 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
JAMES HUNT 4.	EDWARD RADDON } Tenor.
	ALFRED PULLING }

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

First peal of Stedman on the bells. This is the conductor's 600th peal.

GREAT GRIMSBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, November 27, 1899, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 18 cwt.

JOHN W. CHAPMAN Treble.	ARTHUR B. SHEPHERD .. 5.
GEORGE WELDON 2.	WILLIAM H. HEYHUE .. 6.
GEORGE T. MARSHALL .. 3.	CHARLES JACKSON 7.
HERBERT P. HARMAN .. 4.	JAMES LAMB Tenor.

Conducted by HERBERT P. HARMAN.

The conductor was made a member of the Guild previous to starting for the peal, which was rung to commemorate the 50th birthday of Mr. Jackson, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Monday, November 27, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES,
T. THURSTAN'S FIVE-PART.

WILLIAM H. GODDEN Treble.	THOMAS HORTON 5.
SAMUEL REEVES 2.	JOHN C. ADAMS 6.
WILLIAM R. SMALL 3.	THOMAS J. ELTON 7.
WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT .. 4.	ERNEST BROWN Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

WITNEY, OXON.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, November 28, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAYLOR'S SIX-PART.

FREDERICK POUNDS Treble.	FRANCIS P. POWELL 5.
HARRY BROOKS 2.	JOHN MONK 6.
GEORGE ROOM 3.	REV. CYRIL W. O. JENKYN 7.
THOMAS BALL 4.	JESSE BROOKS Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN MONK.

KIDSGROVE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 28, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of New London Pleasure, Violet, College Pleasure,
Woodbine, Duke of York, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob,
Tenor 9½ cwt.

JOSEPH MASON Treble.	FREDERICK DEAN 4.
GEORGE BUCKLEY 2.	HARRY DEAN 5.
ARTHUR ARCHER 3.	GEORGE SIDDONS Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE SIDDONS.

First peal on the bells, also first peal by the ringers of 1, 2, 4, 5, and first peal on six by the ringers of 3 and 6, also first peal as conductor.

The following four peals are the result of eight attempts for peals in eight Surprise Methods by ten members of the Brighton Church Branch of the Sussex County Association.

BOLNEY, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, November 18, 1899, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

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

GEORGE A. KING Treble.	EDWARD C. MERRITT .. 5.
GEORGE F. ATTREE 2.	GEORGE SMART 6.
ROBERT DAWE 3.	KEITH HART 7.
FRANK BENNETT 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Composed by FRANK BENNETT, and Conducted by GEO. WILLIAMS.

This is the first peal of New Cumberland on the bells.

HEENE, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, November 22, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF GLOUCESTER SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056
CHANGES. Tenor 10½ cwt.

FRANK BENNETT Treble.	EDWARD C. MERRITT .. 5.
KEITH HART 2.	GEORGE F. ATTREE .. 6.
ROBERT DAWE 3.	GEORGE A. KING 7.
GEORGE BAKER 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Composed by the REV. E. BANKES JAMES, and
Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

This is the first peal of Gloucester on the bells.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 25, 1899, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF WESTMINSTER SURPRISE MAJOR,
5088 CHANGES. Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qrs. 24 lbs.

GEORGE A. KING Treble.	EDWARD C. MERRITT .. 5.
GEORGE F. ATTREE 2.	KEITH HART 6.
FRANK BENNETT 3.	JAMES N. FROSELL .. 7.
ROBERT DAWE 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

This is the first peal of Westminster on the bells.

BRIGHTON.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 27, 1899, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR,
5024 CHANGES. Tenor 10½ cwt.

GEORGE BAKER Treble.	FRANK BENNETT 5.
GEORGE F. ATTREE 2.	GEORGE A. KING 6.
KEITH HART 3.	GEORGE SMART 7.
ROBERT DAWE 4.	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

§ HUGHENDEN (Bucks).—On Saturday, October 28th, at St. Michael and All Angels, 504 Stedman Triples. A. G. Jones, 1; J. H. Taffender (conductor), 2; J. Evans, 3; F. Biggs, 4; F. Boreham, 5; C. Green, 6; R. H. Biggs, 7; E. Brown, 8.

LONDON.—On Tuesday, November 21st, at St. George's-in-the-East, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Haley's variation of Thurston's), in 50 mins. J. H. Taffender (conductor), 1; E. Wallage, 2; W. Truss, 3; H. Torble, 4; J. Scholes, 5; E. Hall, 6; H. Alford, 7; *J. Jones, 8. *First quarter-peal.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HADLEY (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, November 22nd, for practice, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. S. Roberts, 1; A. Glass-

cock, 2; E. Marshall, 3; G. Godfrey, 4; T. Marshall, 5; J. Armstrong (conductor), 6. First 720 as conductor. Also 360 in the same method. W. Dell, 1; A. Glasscock, 2; E. Marshall (first 360 as conductor), 3; A. Chidwick, 4; J. Armstrong, 5; G. Godfrey, 6. And recently for practice, 720 Plain Bob, conducted by W. J. Dell. H. Baldwin, 1; A. Chidwick, 2; E. Marshall, 3; G. Godfrey, 4; T. Marshall, 5; W. J. Dell, 6.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CREWS (Cheshire).—On Sunday evening, for Divine Service, at Christ church, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples, in 46½ mins. J. Simon, 1; R. T. Holding, jun., 2; R. T. Holding, sen., 3; G. Crawley, 4; R. Langford, 5; J. Dentith, 6; W. F. Hartshorn (composer and conductor), 7; A. Crawley, 8.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WOBURN (Beds).—On Saturday, October 21st, a quarter-peal of Bob Major, 1264 changes, in 47 mins. W. Brown, 1; Cyril Herbert, (conductor), 2; Chas. Herbert, 3; M. Matthews, 4; S. Avis, 5; W. Smith, 6; D. Harris, 7; E. Herbert, 8. On Monday, October 30th, 1024 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 38 mins. W. Smith, 1; M. Matthews, 2; Chas. Herbert, 3; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 4; S. Avis, 5; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 6; E. Herbert, 7; M. Lane, 8.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

LONDON.—On Saturday, November 4th, at St. John's Waterloo Road, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans), in 42 mins. W. H. Fussell, 1; B. Langdon (first quarter-peal in the method, 2; H. Barton, 3; F. G. Perrin, 4; C. Charge, 5; G. E. Symonds, 6; T. Langdon, 7; R. Charge, 8. This quarter-peal was conducted by G. E. Symonds and H. Barton, calling each alternate course.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

STOWMARKET (Suffolk).—At the parish church a 1008 of Bob Major was rung. W. Welham, 1; C. Souter, 2; C. Alderton, 3; W. G. Melbourne, 4; J. Souter, 5; W. Souter, 6; J. G. Wade, 7; W. Rouse, 8. On Sunday, October 1st, 1008 Bob Major. W. Welham, 1; W. G. Melbourne, 2; C. Alderton, 3; F. Allard, 4; C. Souter, 5; W. Symons, 6; J. G. Wade (conductor), 7; W. Rouse, 8. On Monday, October 2nd, 1040 Bob Major. W. Welham, 1; C. Souter, 2; C. Alderton, 3; W. G. Melbourne, 4; W. Souter (conductor), 5; W. Symons, 6; J. G. Wade, 7; W. Rowse, 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mr. J. Jeffries, an old and esteemed member of this company, whose death occurred on September 28th. On Sunday, November 5th, for morning and evening services, 2960 changes were rung, comprising touches of Oxford Major, Bob Major, and Grandsire Triples, the following taking part: W. Welham, T. Diaper, A. Moss, W. Morris, C. Alderton, W. Souter (conductor), C. Souter, J. G. Wade, W. G. Melbourne, F. Allard and W. Rouse.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

HIGH WYCOMBE (Bucks).—For Divine Service, on All Saints' Eve, 120 Grandsire Doubles. P. W. Wilkins, 1; J. W. Wilkins (conductor), 2; R. Atkins, 3; G. Twitchen, 4; C. Page, 5; R. Wheeler, 6. Also on All Saints' night, for service, another 120 in the same method. P. W. Wilkins, 1; R. Atkins, 2; F. Hayes, 3; G. Twitchen, 4; J. W. Wilkins (conductor), 5; R. Wheeler, 6.

BEACONSFIELD (Bucks).—On Wednesday, November 8th, for practice, 532 Grandsire Triples. P. W. Wilkins, 1; R. Buckland, 2; J. Batting, 3; L. Bagley, 4; A. Bagley, 5; J. Bagley, 6; J. W. Wilkins (composer and conductor), 7; G. Bagley, 8. Also 336, with T. Buckland in place of J. Bagley, and conducted by R. Buckland. Also 112 and 97, with J. W. Wilkins (conductor), 1; P. W. Wilkins (first with a bob bell), 2; J. Batting, 3; F. Bagley, 4; A. Bagley, 5; T. Buckland, 6; R. Buckland, 7; J. Bagley, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CHATHAM.—On Sunday, October 1st, at St. Mary's church, on the occasion of the harvest festival, 360 Bob Minor, was rung before the morning service. A. Duncan, 1; F. Moore, 2; W. Haigh (conductor), 3; W. Hunt, 4; W. Easter, 5; A. Lilley, 6; F. Shedd, 7; H. Hinkley, 8. Also 504 Grandsire Triples, with C. Fryatt, 6; the rest as before, conducted by W. Easter. On Saturday, October 14th, an attempt was made for a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, but after ringing 3 hrs. 1 min., it unfortunately came to grief. P. Taffs, 1; W. Mannering, 2; Rev. E. W. Carpenter, 3; Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, 4; W. Easter, 5; W. Haigh, 6; W. Hunt, 7; A. Palmer (conductor), 8. On Monday, October 16th, 350 Grandsire Triples. W. Haigh, 1; A.

Duncan, 2; W. Beaumont, 3; C. Fryatt, 4; W. Hunt (conductor), 5; C. Winsor, 6; F. Shedd, 7; A. Lilley, 8. Also two 168's, conducted by W. Haigh. On Wednesday, November 8th, in honour of the outgoing Mayor, several 120s Grandsire Doubles, with 4-6-8 behind, were rung. F. Moore, 1; A. Duncan, 2; C. Fryatt, 3; H. Hinkley, 4; W. Hunt, 5; A. Lilley, 6; F. Shedd, 7; C. Smith, 8. Conducted by F. Shedd and W. Hunt. Tenor 25 cwt. in E flat.

BLETCHLEY (Bucks).—On Saturday, October 28th, the Woburn company with other friends from Leighton paid a visit to this tower and rang several touches as follows, Messrs. Sear and Hedges, of Bletchley, also taking part kindly having the bells ready: 420 Bob Triples. Cyril Herbert (conductor), 1; E. Herbert, 2; M. Matthews, 3; S. Avis, 4; M. Lane, 5; D. Harris, 6; W. Chibnall, 7; V. Sear, 8. And 336 Grandsire Triples. Cyril Herbert (conductor), 1; F. Hedges, 2; — Nash, 3; M. Lane, 4; J. Nicholls, 5; S. Avis, 6; E. Herbert, 7; W. Smith, 8. And 224 Bob Major. F. Hedges, 1; S. Avis, 2; M. Matthews, 3; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 4; W. Smith, 5; E. Herbert, 6; M. Lane, 7; W. Chibnall, 8. And 168 Grandsire Triples. V. Sear, 1; E. Herbert, 2; M. Matthews, 3; M. Lane, 4; J. Nicholls, 5; W. Chibnall, 6; G. Bonfield (conductor), 7; G. Archer, 8. Also various other touches.

CHEPSTOW (Monmouthshire).—On Sunday, November 5th, for Divine Service in the evening, at St. Mary's church, 504 Darlaston Bob Triples. E. Williams, 1; G. Hobson, 2; J. Prickett, 3; J. Smith, 4; W. Freestone, 5; R. Thompson (conductor), 6; J. Morley, 7; F. Bye, 8.

EMBERTON (Bucks).—On Sunday evening, October 29th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor, ten bobs and six singles. J. Lett, 1; J. Lovell, 2; S. Sharp, 3; W. Freeman (conductor), 4; T. Wright, 5; H. Lett, 6. After service, 720 Bob Minor, thirty-two bobs and two singles. J. Robinson, 1; J. Lett, 2; T. Wright, 3; J. Lovell, 4; H. Lett, 5; W. Freeman (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, November 5th, 720 Bob Minor, four bobs and fourteen singles. J. Lett, 1; S. Sharp, 2; W. Mynard, 3; J. Lovell, 4; W. Freeman (conductor), 5; H. Lett, 6. Also after service, 360 Bob Minor. C. Crouch, 1; J. Lett, 2; J. Lovell, 3; H. Lett, 4; S. Sharp, 5; W. Freeman, 6.

GREENSTEAD GREEN (Essex).—On Thursday evening, November 9th, at St. James' church, 720 of Bob Minor. Morice Root, 1; H. Newman, 2; E. Ridgewell (conductor), 3; W. Root, 4; A. Saunders, 5; W. Burst, 6.

GOSPEL OAK.—On Sunday, November 4th, for morning service, 360 Bob Minor. H. Ellis, 1; G. Hollis, 2; E. Young, 3; J. Nixon, 4; N. Alderman (conductor), 5; R. Beavan, 6. Another 360. H. Ellis, 1; H. Sear, 2; E. Young, 3; G. Hollis, 4; W. Nudds, 5; R. Beavan (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Bob Minor. H. Parsons, 1; G. Hollis, 2; N. Alderman, 3; J. Nixon, 4; W. Nudds, 5; R. Bevan (conductor), 6. On Thursday, November 9th, for practice, 300 Bob Minor. H. Parsons, 1; G. Hollis, 2; E. Bonfield, 3; R. Bevan, 4; J. Nixon, 5; W. Burrows (conductor), 6. Another 360, standing as before. On Saturday, November 11th, 720 Bob Minor. H. Ellis, 1; G. Hollis, 2; E. Bonfield, 3; J. Nixon, 4; E. Young, 5; R. Bevan (conductor), 6. These bells have just been rehung by Messrs. Warner, the go of them being excellent. Any ringing friend will be welcome, Thursdays at 8 o'clock, Sundays 10.30 and 6.30.

HALSTEAD (Essex).—On Saturday evening, November 11th, at St. Andrew's church, 720 Bob Minor. H. Newman, 1; W. Ward, 2; W. Cooper, 3; W. Root, 4th; Nelson Hawkins (conductor), 5; A. Abiss, 6. Also 360 Oxford Treble Bob. H. Newman, 1; W. Spurgeon, 2; W. Cooper, 3; W. Ward (conductor), 4; N. Hawkins, 5; W. Root, 6.

LONDON.—On Sunday, November 12th, at St. Michael's Star Street, 504 Grandsire Triples. H. Ellis, 1; G. Hollis, 2; E. Bonfield, 3; J. Nixon, 4; E. Young, 5; N. Alderman (conductor), 6; R. Bevan, 7; W. Burrows, 8.

MATERN (Monmouthshire).—On Wednesday, November 1st, 360 Grandsire Doubles. W. Richards (conductor), 1; E. Newman, 2; J. Morley (Chepstow), 3; W. Newman, 4; J. Prewett, 5; G. Daniels, 6. Tenor about 12 cwt. The bells are in good going order. This church is said to be one of the oldest in Monmouthshire and bears the date 600. The bells are by W. Evans, Chepstow, 1745.

NORTHAMPTON.—On Sunday, November 12th, at All Saints church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. A. Arnold, 1; A. P. Hensman, 2; H. Rainbow, 3; H. Blundell, 4; H. Sear, 5; A. More, 6; W. Farey (conductor), 7; C. Fennell, 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

Sheffield and District Society.—The next meeting will be held at Rotherham parish church to-day, Saturday, December 2nd. Meeting house—The White Hart.

R. HARRISON, *Hon. Sec.*

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of the above Association will be held at Stoke to-day, Saturday, December 2nd.

W. TWIGG, *Hon. Sec.*

The Kent County Association.—Rochester District.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at St. Michael's church, Hartlip, to-day, Saturday, December 2nd. Tower open for ringing at 4 p.m. Business meeting in belfry at 5.30. A. OSBORNE, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Warrington, to-day, Saturday, December 2nd. The tower will be open for ringing at 4 o'clock; meeting at 6 o'clock. The Vicar has expressed his desire to give all the ringers a most hearty welcome to his church. The bells have been rehung, and the Vicar will also give a tea, and it is hoped that members will try and attend, as it is very disheartening to the Vicars after they have provided tea for so few to turn up.

G. WOODHALL, *Branch Sec.*

St. Thomas' Guild, Dudley.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Tipton to-day, Saturday, December 2nd. Tower open for ringing at 4 o'clock.

W. MICKLEWRIGHT, *Hon. Sec.*

Halifax and District Association.—The next meeting of this Association will be held at Todmorden on Saturday, December 9th. Bells ready from dinner-time. Business meeting in schoolroom at 6 o'clock.

WRIGHT INGHAM, *Sec.*

The Heavy Woollen District Association.—The monthly meeting of the above will be held at Liversedge on Saturday, December 9th. Meeting at 5 o'clock at The Albion inn.

WALTER IDLE, *Secretary.*

The Chester Diocesan Guild.—A meeting of the Bowden, Stockport, and Mottram branch of this Guild will be held at St. George's, Stockport, on Saturday, December 9th.

H. LEIGH MALLORY, *Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Philip's church, Hulme, on Saturday, December 16th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Business meeting in the schoolroom at 7 p.m. Annual Reports ready.

W. BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

KIRDFORD, SUSSEX.

The six bells in the above church have recently been entirely rehung and quarter-turned. A new English oak frame has been erected on six massive steel joists, and the whole peal put in first-class order by Messrs. Bowell and Son, Church Bell Founders, of Ipswich. The weight of the tenor is about 14½ cwt.

WOULDHAM, KENT.

On Thursday week two new bells were added to the four old ones, one of which had also been recast, thus forming a peal of six. A Diamond Jubilee clock with Cambridge chimes was also placed in the tower, and a chiming apparatus. The church is particularly interesting as having the grave of Walter Burke, purser of His Majesty's ship Victory, and in whose arms the immortal Nelson died. The dedication service took place at 11 a.m. The Rev. W. H. Addison read the prayers, the Rev. A. E. Bourne, Vicar of Burnham, the lesson, and the Rector, the Rev. R. W. Taylor, gave an address on the invention and use of bells. The date on the old bells is 1624, "Joseph Hatch made me," the Rector at that time being Dr. Cacott. Mrs. Henry Peters started the clock. The Aylesford ringers rang touches during the day; 500 children and all the old people over sixty years of age had tea. There was a display of fireworks in the evening, after which the Jubilee Committee and bell-ringers of the two parishes had supper. It was necessary to have a new roof to the tower. The whole cost £670, of which Mr. Henry Peters and the Rector each gave 200 guineas. The Royal Engineers had their chief pontooning station in this village, and there are many navy and army pensioners residing there; this fact prompted a telegram to be sent to Her Majesty expressing the parishioners' loyalty and devotion. A gracious reply was received by the Rector.

WALKLEY, SHEFFIELD, YORKS.

On November 14th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob was rung by the local band to celebrate the wedding of Mr. Reaney, one of the ringers. Selections were given on the handbells, and songs were rendered by several lady friends. Afterwards a few tittums and some firing was indulged in, and the bells were lowered in peal. The ringers then adjourned to the Walkley Cottage hotel, where a splendid dinner was provided by the bridegroom, which was greatly enjoyed by all.

Tea was partaken of at five o'clock, after which the company went to the bride's home, where a most enjoyable evening was spent. Songs, recitations, cornet and pianoforte solos and handbell selections were rendered, Mr. Stainforth being very prominent at the piano and cornet. The following rung the 720 of Oxford Treble Bob: W. Horsfield, 1; W. Reaney, 2; R. Renshaw, 3; A. Stainforth, 4; J. Duke, 5; G. O. Dixon (conductor), 6.

DEATH OF AN OLD RINGER.

Mr. Thomas Hussey, one of the oldest of bell-ringers, has died at the age of eighty-seven. He had a notable career. He was born on a Glazebury farm on February 1st, 1812, and came to reside in Leigh when a boy of nine. He worked as a hand-loom weaver when that industry was at its prime in Leigh. He was one of the first scholars to attend the first Sunday School in connection with Leigh parish church. His memory was very retentive, and it was very interesting to hear him speak of the "Leighth Feight," as the Chartist riots in 1839 were termed. He will, however, be known to posterity by his connection with bell-ringing. He commenced as a ringer in Leigh parish church in 1827, when fifteen years old, and for upwards of seventy years he filled that position. For forty-one years he rang the 7th bell. In 1830 he rang in the peal for the funeral of George IV., and he rang for the coronation and burial of William

IV., and the accession, coronation, 1887 Jubilee, and 1897 Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria. He was the last of the ringers who rang at the birth of the late Lord Lilford. He rang peals at the funerals of old Squire Withington, father of the present Squire, and Lord Frederick Cavendish, who was murdered in Phoenix Park, Dublin, fifteen years ago. In fact he took part in almost all the noted events which were celebrated by ringing peals. It is also a strange coincidence he resided in the same house where he died for fifty-four years, and had been a tenant of the same landlord for sixty-three years.

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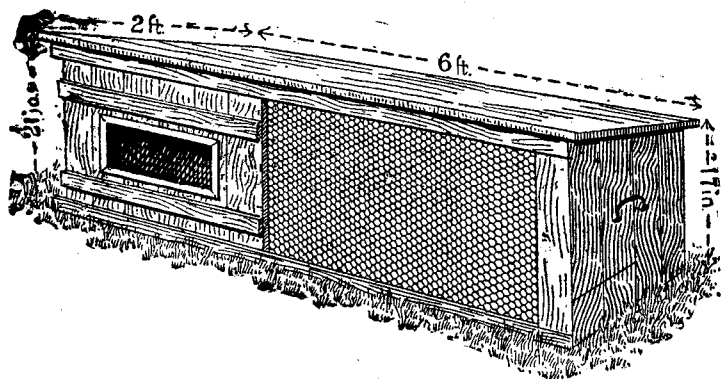
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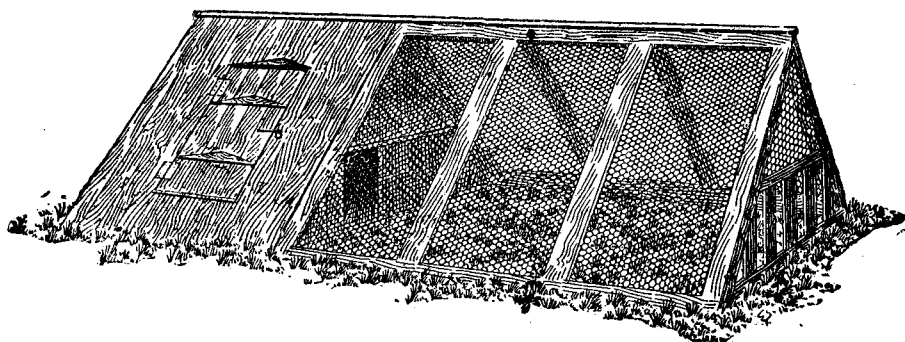
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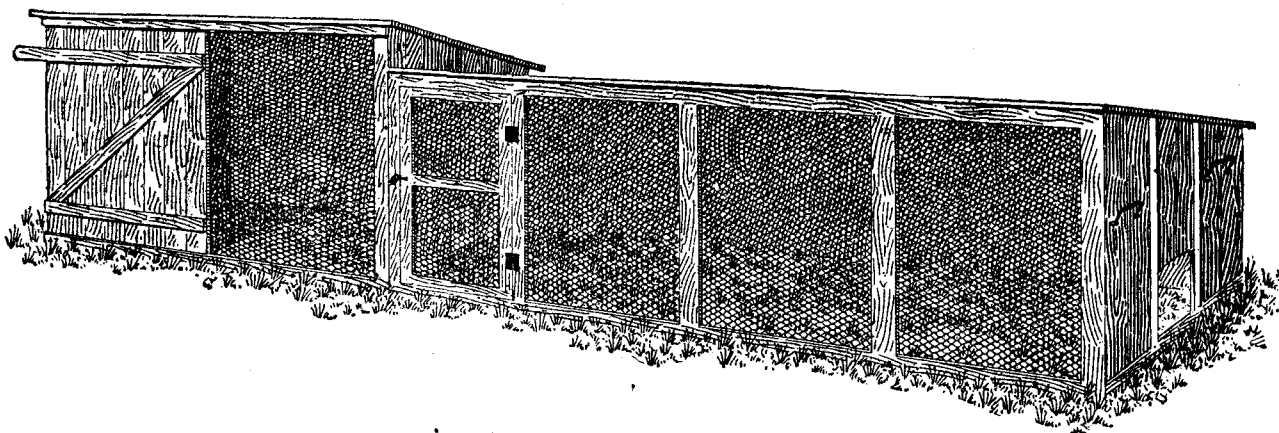
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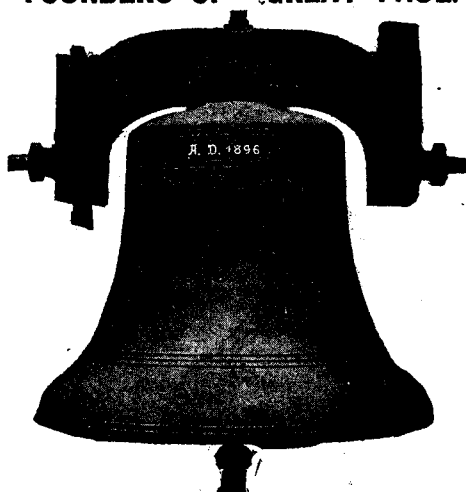
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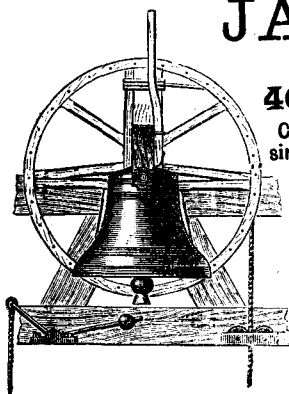
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No. 922.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1899.

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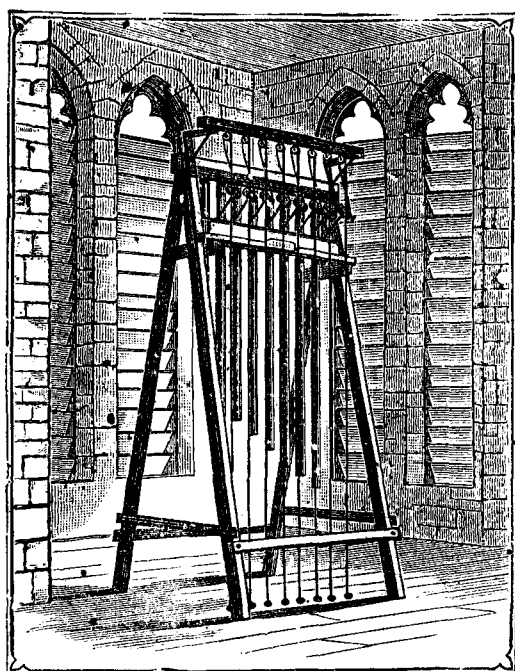
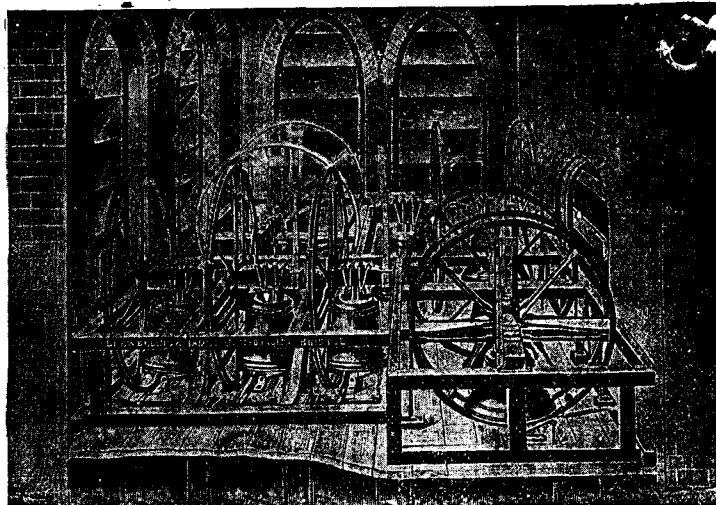
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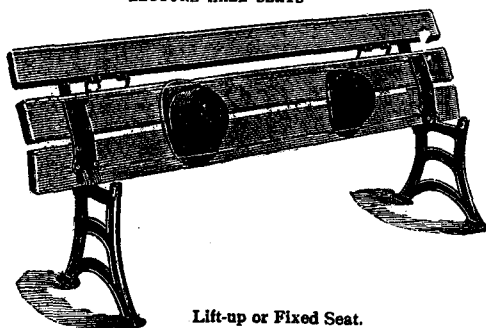
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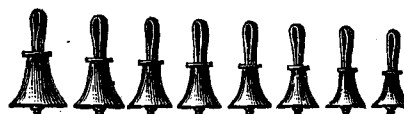
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No. 922.]

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1899.

[VOL. XVIII.]

ST. GEORGE-THE-MARTYR, SOUTHWARK.

RESTORATION AND RE-DEDICATION OF BELLS.

For many years the necessity of restoring the ring of eight bells at the above-named church has been felt. A committee, consisting of the Rector (Rev. W. J. Somerville, B.A.), the Churchwardens, and Messrs. W. Neville, T. Haynes, and R. Fulton, with the Church Council, was formed, and these gentlemen, after due deliberation, gave Messrs. Mears and Stainbank instructions to rehang them in entirely new fittings except the frame, which was found to be in excellent condition after being in use for 182 years. The bells were cast by Rudhall, of Gloucester, in 1717, the weight of the tenor being 15 cwt. 3 qr. 3 lbs. Several of the bells have been quarter-turned; the go of them all is everything to be desired, and reflects great credit on the Whitechapel Foundry.

On Sunday morning, November 26th, before and after Divine Service, touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung by the local society and visitors. The Rev. the Rector of St. Mary, Lambeth, was very eloquent in his sermon upon such important subjects as bells and bell-ringing.

For the re-dedication service, which took place in the evening, at which the Bishop of Southwark officiated, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by five members of the St. George-the-Martyr society, assisted by three members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, Messrs. Springall, Dawe and Truss; conducted by T. H. Taffender.

At a point during the service the Bishop gave a signal for the bells to be rung, during which he was conducted by the Rector and Churchwardens to the pulpit. The ringers were: E. Clements, H. Green, W. H. Smith, T. H. Taffender, C. Deer, F. Clements, W. Humberstone, W. Cobbett. After the service touches were rung, in which Messrs. W. and H. Langdon, F. Perrin, T. Gwynn, G. Woodage, and G. E. Symonds took part.

It is to be regretted that not many peals can be attempted on account of the densely-populated neighbourhood, but Thurstans' one-part peal of Stedman Triples was rung by members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, on the second anniversary of the Rector's induction, on Thursday, November 30th.

THE CARILLON AT CATTISTOCK.

Miss Janet Keith Barnes, of St. Catherine's, Horndean, Southampton, who died on October 24th, aged sixty-six, bequeathed to the trustees of Cattistock Church, Dorsetshire, £1,000, in trust, to expend the income thereof in the maintenance and repair of the carillon at Cattistock, and she directed that a sum of £140 in the testatrix's hands, collected on behalf of the carillon fund, should be paid over to the trustees. She left £50 in addition, for a key-board, and £100 for furnishing and decorating the baptistry of Cattistock church.

A NONAGENARIAN RINGER.

On Sunday last, the 3rd December, Mr. George Russell, who still resides at Croydon, entered on his ninety-first year, and several bands connected with the Surrey Association sought therefore to ring in his honour. The Beddington company attempted a peal of Grandsire Caters at Beddington on Saturday, the 2nd December, which unfortunately came to grief after an hour and a-half's ringing, owing to a change-course. On Sunday, however, the members of the Beddington company rang for evening service ninety sixes of Stedman Triples, specially composed by Mr. Edgar Bennett, the ringers standing as follows:—H. Brooker (conductor), 1; J. Rumble, 2; A. Boxall, 3; E. Bennett, 4; A. J. Plowman, 5; A. Clayton, 6; C. Bance, 7; J. Wignell, 8: and at Mitcham, on the same evening, the same touch was rung by the local band, viz.:—W. S. Smith (conductor), 1; J. D. Drewett, 2; R. Sewell, 3; A. J. Lambert, 4; J. Fayers, 5; A. Calver, 6; L. C. Ferrige, 7; J. Currell, 8. All the ringers taking part united in wishing Mr. Russell many happy returns of the day.

Mr. Russell has been a member of the Surrey Association since its inception in 1881, and so far as that Association is concerned, he has rung in eight peals, viz.: Three of Grandsire Caters, three of Grandsire Triples, one of Union Triples, and two of Stedman Triples, the first of which latter being the first in the method by members of the Association, was rung on the 24th January, 1887. Despite his great age, Mr. Russell still considers he can pull a bell; his remark being that "his arms want to go up and down," but that "his legs will not carry him up to the belfry," although the writer only last year stood in an attempt for a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters, in which the veteran also participated. While, however, he is not quite able to mount steps, he is still able to get about without assistance on the level; as it was only a few weeks ago that he walked from his house in Croydon to visit one of his old ringing friends in Mitcham.

Mr. Russell is also an old member of the Royal Cumberland Society, and doubtless his old associates in that society will be pleased and proud to hear that their old colleague is still in such good health, in possession of his faculties, and with an ear for the dear old bells. C. D.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(MANCHESTER BRANCH).

A very successful meeting of members of the above was held at the parish church, Eccles, on Saturday, November 25th, when members attended from Ashton, Manchester, Pendleton, Pendlebury, Reddish, Stockport, Worsley, and Walkden, beside the local company. The bells were set going soon after 4 p.m., some very good ringing being done, and touches brought round in Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob and Treble Bob Major. At the business meeting held in the Schoolroom, at which Mr. J. Eachus (vice-President), was unanimously voted to the chair, it was decided to hold the next meeting at St. Phillip's church, Hulme, on Saturday, December

16th, so as not to clash with the Christmas holidays. Two gentlemen, non-resident in the County, were then elected members, viz.: the Rev. A. T. Beeston, of New Mills, Derbyshire, and Mr. J. E. Sykes, of Huddersfield, Yorks. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells and schoolroom, and likewise to the local ringers for having all in readiness, which brought the business to a close. The members then adjourned to the tower for more ringing, which brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(SOUTH AND WEST DISTRICT.)

The annual meeting of this district took place at All Saints' church, Isleworth, by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. T. F. Bigg. The bells were raised about five o'clock, and touches of Treble Bob, Bob Major, Stedman, Oxford Bob, and Grandsire Triples were rung. Representatives were present from Ealing, Isleworth, Hillingdon, Burnham, Hornsey, and Heston. In the unavoidable absence of the Vicar, the Master, Mr. J. Basden, was voted to the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting and the accounts were read, and on the proposition of Mr. T. Beadle, seconded by Mr. G. Alder, were adopted. All the officers were unanimously re-elected. On the proposition of Mr. G. Alder four new members were elected. A vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells terminated the business.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, November 12th, as the ringers entered the belfry of Witney parish church, to ring for morning service, they were surprised to find a new set of ropes, all ready for use. It was soon seen by the tucking in of the ends, and tying on at the wheel, that they were not put on by a novice at the work. They were the kind gift of the Rev. Cyril and Mrs. Jenkyn, who have done much to further the art of change-ringing since being here. The ropes were supplied by Mr. John Nicoll, and give every satisfaction. For evening service, 896 Grandsire Triples. F. Pounds, 1; H. Brooks, 2; G. Room, 3; T. Bull, 4; F. P. Powell, 5; J. Monk (conductor), 6; Rev. Cyril W. O. Jenkyn, 7; J. Brooks, 8.

On Thursday, 23rd, 120 Bob Doubles, and 120 Grandsire. F. Pounds, 1; T. Bull, 2; H. Brooks, 3; J. Monk, 4; Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, 5; J. Brook, 6.

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL TOWER.

The *Chichester Diocesan Gazette* announces that an offer has been received from a layman to give £150 towards the £750 required to complete the north-west tower of Chichester Cathedral if four others will give the same, or if six will give £100 each before the end of the year.

STROOD, NEAR ROCHESTER.

The tower of this parish church, which was destroyed by fire last December, has now been restored, and a new peal of bells and a clock have been added. The restoration has been carried out at a cost of £2,000. The restored portions were dedicated on Wednesday by the Bishop of Rochester.

ST. PETER'S, HALLIWELL.

On Wednesday evening, November 29th, the ringers of the above church were entertained to supper by the Bell Committee, and after justice had been done to the good things provided, a kind of social evening was held. Mr. J. Bradley was elected to the chair, and Mr. J. Brown occupied the vice-chair. The chairman in his speech feelingly referred to the loss sustained by the death of the Vicar, the Rev. J. H. Coghlan. Afterwards songs and recitations were given by the ringers, and a very enjoyable evening was spent, the proceedings closing with a cordial vote of thanks to the Bell Committee, and the singing of the Doxology.

Obituary.

THOMAS BRUCE.

It is my painful duty to record the death of the above-named ringer, which took place at his residence at Lavenham (Suffolk) on Wednesday, November 22nd, after a short illness. He passed peacefully away at the advanced age of 82 years. Deceased had been a ringer for upwards of forty-five years, though not advanced far in the Art. He had been steeplekeeper for thirty-four years, and with very few intervals had chimed the church bells for four Sunday services during that period, and it will be difficult to fill his place. He was much respected by all with whom he came in contact, his unassuming manner making him a general favourite. He leaves a son and two daughters to mourn their loss.

On the following Sunday morning the Rev. Canon Scott (Rector), preaching from Ecclesiastes xii. 5, said at the conclusion of his sermon: "An old neighbour has been taken from us full of years, and his death was a peaceful and happy one. He was as true a gentleman as you could find, and scorned to speak an untruth or unkind word. He lived as a true and humble-minded child of God. After a life of hard work he has been ctilled away. Would that he could return for a short while to tell us of what he now knows."

On Tuesday, the 28th, deceased was taken to his last resting place by four of his brother-ringers—Messrs. W. Bobby, W. Moore, H. Smith, and A. Symonds. After the interment, the band he loved so much rang with the bells deeply muffled a touch of 800 Grandsire Triples in 35 mins. W. Bobby, 1; C. Fish, 2; H. Parker, 3; H. Smith, 4; C. Jarvis, 5; A. Symonds, 6; T. King (conductor), 7; W. Moore, 8.

One by one has the old band of Lavenham ringers been taken, and only one of them now remains, in the person of Mr. John Bobby, who is in his 86th year, and had been a faithful companion of his departed friend from youth. Mr. H. Symonds (Preston) was at the graveside to pay his last mark of respect to one who he loved so much. May he rest in peace. A. S.

WHITFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Tuesday, November 14th, for practice, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 25 mins. W. Hadfield, 1; E. Garside, 12; W. Marsden, 3; J. Lawton, 4; E. O. Rostron (conductor), 5; *Rev. A. T. Beeston, 6. *First 720 in the method. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob in 26 mins. T. Jackson, 2; E. Garside, 4; the rest as before.

WINCHESTER.—On November 1st, for practice at the Cathedral on the back eight, 504 and 280 Grandsire Triples. E. Andrews, 1; J. W. Elkins, 2; W. C. Lampard, 3; C. Russell, 4; W. J. Sevier, 5; W. J. Tucker, 6; W. H. George (conductor), 7; W. Payne, 8.

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

By R. A. DANIELL.

(Continued from page 329.)

I proceed now to consider the second question I have proposed to myself, namely:—

If the modern doctrine of reverence for sacred places and things had been accepted by the Church at large in the seventeenth century, would the art and science of change-ringing have come into existence? and, if so, would it have survived its birth?

This question being hypothetical, it will perhaps be the easiest way to deal with it if I take a definite instance of what I mean in our own day. According to "THE BELL NEWS" of the 17th June, 1899, the Rev. Maitland Kelly, the esteemed President of the Devon Guild went to Woodbury to unveil a peal-board. When he got there the Vicar of the parish conducted a short service, and Mr. Kelly addressed those assembled about the peal, and we are told that "Mr. Kelly proceeded to urge that a peal was not only an accomplishment and gratification, but should be regarded as an offering to God, and to point out that change-ringing was pushed forward because, until it had been mastered, ringers were not producing the best music they could on the bells."

None of us, with the experience of two centuries and more behind us, is likely to dissent from what Mr. Kelly says. But how would it be if we had not that experience? Suppose, for instance, that change-ringing had been invented last week, last month, or last year, what view of the subject would Mr. Kelly have taken? I venture to think he would not be convinced by arguments such as those of "R. H." of a recreative character. Yet it was as a recreation that change-ringing actually grew up, and it is inconceivable to me that it would have even been invented unless ringers knew that they would be free to practise it for their own enjoyment. It is very well to say that a desire for the glory of God ought of itself to be a sufficient stimulus to make the highest use of the bells, but would imperfect human beings have taken the labour and pains of inventing and practising something hitherto unknown, and demanding so much time and patience as change-ringing, solely or mainly for the object of ringing for church on Sundays? especially when the general practice was not to ring for the services at all, but to chime for them? The answer to this is, in my opinion, "No."

But let us assume that besides the recreative aspect of change-ringing it was further pointed out to Mr. Kelly that the Art as it grew, and as men became more proficient in it, might be used as an offering to God. What would he say to this? Would he say, "Then go on and prosper?" Or would he say, "It is all very well for you to say that, but we have hitherto got on well enough with our existing use of bells, and I don't think the difference you propose to make is of sufficient importance to justify me in allowing you to turn a portion of a consecrated building into a mental and physical gymnasium." Or what other view would he take? I don't know, and I should not be much surprised if he does not know either. We, who know Mr. Kelly, may be quite satisfied that whatever course he would take would be one which it would be open to a cultivated, wide-minded and sympathetic man to take; still the question remains, what would that course be? But whatever might be the attitude of Mr. Kelly and a few others towards change-ringing if now introduced, there can be no doubt as to the attitude of the bulk of the clergy. That they are actuated by strong views of reverence for their Churches, and would not allow the introduction of anything in any part of them which they deemed to savour of secularity, and that change-ringing, if a new thing, would have that savour, we know. We know also that he would be very rash who could suggest that the bulk of the clergy of our day would condescend to trouble themselves with any investigations as to anything connected with the possibilities of their bells. The seeming secularity of the innovation would suffice to condemn it in their eyes.

Change-ringing, then, must in its inception be strongly marked by secularity, and if it is to be born or to survive its birth, it must be born in a secular age. Born in our days, it would have been too late. Either it would not have been permitted, or it would have been put under regulations which

would have stifled its vitality. It might have been encouraged by a few clergy, but it could not under modern conditions have become a national institution.

If, then, the standard of reverence among Churchmen at large for sacred buildings and their fittings had, at the time of the birth of change-ringing, been what it is now, there would be no change-ringing to-day. As Mr. Tyack says, ringers in old days went in and out of steeples as they pleased. It was necessary that they should. They must have needed perpetual practice. The assistance derived in our days from books and handbells was not available to them, and bell-fittings were not so well adapted for ringing changes as they now are. They had to struggle with greater difficulties than are met with in our time, and therefore to make more use of steeples for practice.

Change ringing, then, came into being under the only conditions that appear possible, and it was developed under similar conditions until the day came when our modern ideas of reverence drew attention to it as something practised within the area of consecrated buildings. But by that time it was a fully developed science ready for adoption, as it has been adopted by the Church.

Standards of reverence vary in different ages and in different people: they do not remain permanently the same like the ten commandments; and some things in which we now see no harm may for all we know be deemed irreverent a century hence. Reverence is a matter of conscience, and while it is for us to see that our practice is in accordance with the present conscience of our Church, it is not for us to blame others whose conscience is not in accordance with it. Our non-conforming fellow Christians do not, as a rule, regard their buildings for worship sacred; and if the congregation of Mount Zion Chapel see no harm in having tea-fights within its walls, it is not for us to find fault with them, however unseemly we may ourselves deem such proceedings to be. And so with those who have gone before us. It is not for us to blame those who saw no harm in what we now think secular treatment of Churches, steeples, or churchyards. If, then, we are in these days, really to regard change-ringing as not only a recreation but also a suitable adjunct to Divine worship, and capable of being in itself—as Mr. Kelly says it is—an offering to God, let us not forget the circumstances—essential circumstances—of its birth and growth; and let us take occasion at Ringers' Services now and again, by way of a change, to thank God that in the standard of reverence not only are we different from our forefathers, but also that our forefathers were different from ourselves.

I come now to the third of my questions—

Of what nature is the historic relation between the purely secular change-ringing of the past, and the change-ringing under the patronage of the Church in the present?

This question can be dealt with very briefly. Indeed, on consideration, I do not think it worth stating, as the answer to it is really included in what I have already written; but as I stated it in a former number, it seems best not to omit it now.

Change-ringing is now as it has always been a science and an art; and it is practised now in substantially the same way as it always has been, though modified to some extent by the changes in habits and customs which are always gradually taking place. That the interest of the Church has had much to do with extending the influence of the Exercise in late years is undoubted, but the proceedings at meetings in steeples which are in connection with Diocesan Associations differ little, if at all, from those of the meetings of, for instance, the old London Societies, which have not been modified by Church influence. The reason is plain. It is that change-ringing has always been carried on by respectable bodies of men according to the standard of the times in which they have lived. The historic relation between the old purely secular change-ringing and the present change-ringing under the patronage of the Church, is simply one of continuity. It is not change-ringing or change-ringers as a body that have altered except by the natural modification which I have just mentioned; but it is the attitude of the Church that has altered, with its growing recognition of the excellences and possibilities of all arts and sciences; and from its appreciation of the scientific character of the ringing exercise, the Church has come to include that exercise among its interests and its work and the accessories of its public worship.

But there is an element of change going on around us in the

multiplication of Associations and Societies of change-ringers. In and about London this is almost bewildering. Formerly, a man belonged to one of the two oldest companies, and probably to the St. James' Society, and with these his peal-ringing was done. But now, besides these and the purely local companies, there are the Kent, Essex, Middlesex and Hertfordshire Associations; and peal-ringers of London and the neighbourhood appear to be members of all these as well as of the old companies. That this is so, is natural enough. Decentralization is a feature of our day, and comes of increased facilities of locomotion and circulation of knowledge. Then a result of the numerous Ringing Associations throughout the country is the Central Council. This, too, is perfectly natural. Everything of national interest in these days has its parent Association or its Federation or Council or Conference, and we cannot expect it to be otherwise with change-ringing. But it results from all this that the old companies, whether in London or elsewhere, are ceasing to be of the paramount importance they have been; and this, not because membership of them is less honourable than of old, or because there is any falling off in the ability of their members as a body, but because the ringing energies of their members are by the force of modern conditions much more widely diffused than was formerly the case. It is, therefore, as well that we should from time to time remind ourselves that we owe to the old companies of England the preservation of change-ringing to our own day, and this leads me to the consideration of my last question.

(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."

"THE HISTORY OF RINGING."

SIR,—I am much obliged to the Rev. H. Drake for his letter to you appearing in your issue of the 2nd instant. It is refreshing to me to find that I have sufficiently interested a member of the Exercise to induce him to write to you, and I will give myself the pleasure of discussing with him the points raised in his letter without delay. But first let me remind him that though I have included Bunyan's poem in my articles, it is not to me but to Dr. Raven that its rescue from oblivion, as Mr. Drake calls it, is due. But for Dr. Raven's courtesy in writing to me about it I should not have known of its existence.

Now as to what is called the Curfew. I agree with Mr. Drake that the nine o'clock bell is not really the Curfew, but then neither has the eight o'clock bell been since the year 1100. The name has ever since then been merely traditional, and if in the course of time it became convenient to ring the bell an hour later, I do not see why on that account people should not still have applied the accustomed name. At whatever time since the end of the eleventh century the practice of ringing at the later hour may have arisen, the object and use of the bell would be same as before the time was altered, and the name may naturally enough have gone with the bell to the later hour. My point is that the name Curfew has come down to us at least since the days of William the Conqueror in connection with an evening secular bell, which as far back as I can ascertain its history, has always been rung, whether at eight or nine o'clock.

I know of more places than one where the evening bell is or was rung at eight o'clock, and I am inclined to think that the origin of the bell is the same at either hour. If the antiquarians to whom Mr. Drake alludes have any evidence in favour of their statement as to a change taking place in this matter close upon eight hundred years ago it will be extremely interesting when produced, but at present the statement appears to me a mere guess, and in any case it can hardly be universally true. But assuming it for present purposes the question still arises how comes the 9 o'clock bell to be rung? If it is in its origin a Curfew I have set out my view about it. If it is in its origin a Compline bell, then if it was chimed when it was used for that service and rung after it ceased to be so, the secular theory accounts for the change, and I do not know of any other that does. But if it was rung when used for the service, how came it to be so

when service bells as a rule were not rung? Then I should say that when it came to do secular duty a secular form of use came to be employed, and that consequently the chiming became, so to speak, absorbed by the ringing, and hence would arise the exceptional case of a bell being rung before a service. Therefore I do not at present see that I need modify my argument, if the nine o'clock bell is in its origin a Compline bell instead of a Curfew.

About early morning bells I know next to nothing, besides the fact that where they exist they appear as a rule to be rung; but whether they are in their origin secular, or are secularised forms of what were formerly service bells I do not know. I have not found sufficient information on the subject as yet to form any opinion. Is Mr. Drake right about the tenor at St. Mary's, Cambridge, being rung in the morning? I thought it was a lighter bell that is then used.

With reference to this discussion it occurs to me that unless I am wrong there are at Oxford two evening bells; one at eight at a church in the city, and "Great Tom" at Christ Church at nine. If this is so, the former apparently represents the Curfew. Then what does the latter represent? Tom is not, I believe, rung, but it is obviously now a secular notice bell. Is it then an instance of a purely secular bell in origin sounded an hour later than the old Curfew hour? or does it represent a former Compline bell? If any one can give the history of this it will be interesting.

I am sorry I know nothing about ringing on St. Thomas's day.
R. A. DANIELL.

BARNSBURY COURT BOB MAJOR.

SIR,—If it was not for the fact that Mr. Dains also misunderstood my letter, I should have thought that Mr. Cartwright willfully misunderstood same. In no part of my letter did I say that Barnsbury Court Bob Major was a double method. The sentence misconstrued by Mr. Dains and Mr. Cartwright reads as follows: "All interior places in the first half of a lead should be duplicated in the second half, and in the same positions; Barnsbury Court Bob Major conforms to these conditions."

Where is the mention of Barnsbury Court Bob Major as a double method? The portion of my letter preceding the above sentence is in reference to the methods given by Mr. Cartwright, the sentence quoted above ("All interior places," etc., etc.) shows what constitutes a legitimate method, whether double or single.

In support of the methods given by him, Mr. Cartwright quotes Double Norwich and Superlative as double methods. Quite so; and because these two are double methods, I say again that the methods given by Mr. Cartwright are not double methods, neither are they legitimate methods as understood nowadays. In Double Norwich and Superlative and in all methods that are entitled to the distinction of "double," the places made in the first half of the lead are duplicated in the second half, and in the same positions whether it be in 3-4 or 5-6. Barnsbury and Canonbury Court Bob Major are single methods, and conform to the conditions of legitimate composition. The methods given by Mr. Cartwright are lop-sided single methods, and do not conform to the conditions of legitimate composition?

GEORGE BAKER.

SIR,—In reply to Mr. Dains's query with regard to the difference between the methods on pages 28 and 29 of "Standard Methods," I beg respectfully to point out to him that there is the same difference as between the two methods given on page 3 of the same work.

I did not say that the figures I gave were not in Shipway; perhaps a little searching in a few of the old works may discover the sets of figures. They were certainly in the hands of the late Mr. Snowden about the time the first edition of the work was in the hands of the printers. Perhaps some one else will favour us with their opinion as to what is a double method.

R. CARTWRIGHT.

CANONBURY (?) METHOD.

SIR,—I addressed you a fortnight ago with regard to "Barnsbury." This week the same method appears again, but reversed, under the name of "Canonbury." May I ask Mr. Dains if we are to accept these methods as old or new ones.

JOHN CARTER.

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.

Halifax and District Association.—The next meeting of this Association will be held at Todmorden to-day, Saturday, December 9th. Bells ready from dinner-time. Business meeting in schoolroom at 6 o'clock.

WRIGHT INGHAM, *Sec.*

The Heavy Woollen District Association.—The monthly meeting of the above will be held at Liversedge to-day, Saturday, December 9th. Meeting at 5 o'clock at The Albion inn.

WALTER IDLE, *Secretary.*

The Chester Diocesan Guild.—A meeting of the Bowden, Stockport, and Mottram branch of this Guild will be held at St. George's, Stockport, to-day, Saturday, December 9th.

H. LEIGH MALLORY, *Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Philip's church, Hulme, on Saturday, December 16th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. A substantial tea will be provided at 9d. per head, at the British Workman Clubroom, opposite the church. All members intending to be present at the tea must send in names or numbers to the undersigned not later than Wednesday, the 13th inst. Tea on the table at 6 p.m. Business immediately after tea. Annual Reports ready.

W. BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

54, Wenlock Street, Hulme, Manchester.

St. James' Society, London.—Members are particularly requested to attend the meeting at St. Clement Danes and the society's meeting-room on Monday next the 11th December, to receive the report of the auditors and to elect officers for the ensuing year.

R. A. DANIELL, *Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Newchurch on Saturday, December 16th. Bells ready at 3. Meeting at 6.30.

W. CASS, *Branch Sec.*

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—East Berks. and South Bucks. Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Horton on Saturday, December 16th. Ringing to begin at 3 o'clock. Tea will be provided at 6d. per head.

H. C. BELL, *Branch Sec.*

The Lancashire Association of Six-Bell Ringers.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Penwortham on Saturday, December 16th.

JAMES HIGSON, *Sec.*

The Llandaff Diocesan Association.—The Christmas quarterly meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 26th, at Peckham, near Cowbridge. There will be Divine Service at the parish church at 2.30. Meeting in the schoolroom at 3 o'clock. The bells will be available for ringing all day. Members who have not already paid their subscriptions for the current year are kindly requested to do so at this forthcoming meeting.

REV. CONNOP PRICE, *Hon. Sec.*

NOTES TO PEALS.

THE PEAL AT BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.—This is the first peal of Grandsire Triples on the bells, and the first peal on eight bells by the

ringers of 3 and 4. Messrs. F. Hedges, H. Sear and V. Sear were elected members of the Association previous to starting for the peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. F. Hedges, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns. The company take this opportunity of thanking the Rector (the Rev. W. Bennett), for the use of the bells.

MR. H. J. TUCKER'S 100 PEALS.—Kent Treble Bob Maximus, 1; Stedman Cinques, 1; Kent Treble Bob Royal, 3, conducted 2; Oxford Treble Bob Royal, 1; Stedman Caters, 2; Grandsire Caters, 7, conducted 6; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 9, conducted 2; Kent Treble Bob Major, 9, conducted 7; Canterbury Pleasne Major, 1, conducted 1; Bob Major, 7, conducted 6; Grandsire Major, 1, conducted 1; Stedman Triples, 7; Grandsire Triples, 43, conducted 30; Oxford Bob Triples, 4, conducted 4; Darlaston Bob Triples, 3, conducted 3; seven methods on six bells, 1, conducted 1. Total 100, conducted 63.

Compositions.

GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By GEORGE HAYWARD, *Bromsgrove.*

5418.

23456

62354 7th in and out at 3s

25364 8th in 3

32564 9th in 3

53264 9th in 3

23465 8-9

43526 1 single and 8-9 bobs

35426 7-8

54326 7-8

42356 8th in 3

The calling five times repeated; 9th in 3s first course of the next part, single the last call of the third and sixth produces—23456978. This peal contains the 6th its extent in 5-6, with the 5th twelve courses at home. By omitting the last four courses in the last part, the course-end 32465 comes up, and by calling the 9th in and out at 2 with D, and 8th in 3 twice, the peal is reduced to 5057. The 5057 was rung at Bromsgrove on November 25th, conducted by its composer.

A 1-PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By J. F. ECKERSLEY, *Wigan.*

234567

672453

346572

673425

546273

675432

426375 s

674253

326574

743652

267543

742635

567342

475623 s

634275 s

746352 s

237546

Twice repeated. Has thirteen 6-7s, thirteen 7-4s, and thirteen 4-6s.

FESTIVITY.

On Thursday evening, November 16th, a party of friends and brother-ringers met at the house of Mr. R. Fenn, sen., Barking, to celebrate the twenty-first birthday of his son, Caleb Fenn, one of three sons, all of whom are ringers. The evening was made most enjoyable, with plenty of good songs and handbell ringing, and last but not least a good supper. Then with a few more songs and a final touch on the handbells, the party broke up about 1 a.m. The ringers both present and absent on Thursday evening, take this opportunity of once more wishing Mr. Caleb Fenn many happy returns of the day, and the very best of luck.

CLOCKS,

Striking the quarter, half-hour or hour, made specially or

THE VESTRY

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THE OFFICE, OR

THE HOUSE.

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Ringers Wanting Situations.

BRIDGE BUILDER seeks situation. Society, well up in all class of bridge yard work. Ringer, Double Norwich, Stedman and Superlative.—Write J. A. Carter, 18, Woodside Street, Middlesbrough.

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.

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. Rowe, Upminster, Essex.

JASPER W. SNOWDON'S WORKS.

ROPE-SIGHT : 1s. 6d. FOURTH EDITION.
Commences by explaining how to manage a bell; deals with Change-Ringing on three, four, five, six, seven and eight bells in the PLAIN BOB METHOD, giving touches and peals in each case; and closes with instructions for conducting, etc. etc. (143 pages).

STANDARD METHODS: 2s. 6d. THIRD EDITION
Now READY. Contains full explanations and rules for ringing all the best methods, from five to eight bells, with plain-course diagrams of each printed in full, with coloured lines. 40 pages of diagrams and 87 of descriptive letterpress.

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IREBLE 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. (136 closely printed pages Part II. (136 closely printed pages) may be had separately, 2s. 1s. 6d.

DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR. 1s. 6d.
Contains rules and instructions for pricking and ringing the method; a linear diagram of the plain course; a collection of touches and peals; instructions for proving, and a history of the earlier performances with a list of peals down to 1884 (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, DECEMBER 9, 1899.

It has been said more than once that the practice of bell-ringing tends greatly to longevity. Certain it is that we have had some remarkable cases in which bell-ringers have attained a sound old age. The late Mr. HENRY JOHNSON rang a bell in the last record peal of Stedman Cinques on his 71st birthday, and he lived some years after that feat. We read this week of a celebrated veteran of Croydon—Mr. GEORGE RUSSELL—who has just entered his 91st year, anxious and able to ring anywhere if there are no steps to climb. When 90 years of age is reached, in full possession of the faculties, one may reasonably imagine that Time has dealt kindly by him. Our friend Mr. RUSSELL no doubt thinks so. We join in the compliment paid by his brethren, not only of the Surrey Association, but everywhere. "A fine old English

gentleman, one of the olden time," is Mr. RUSSELL. He has a great deal about him of what is sometimes called "old world courtesy," which is very pleasant to experience. We hope he will find himself in good form at the approaching Christmastide for "The Bells of St. Michael's Tower."

CENTRAL COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON RAILWAY FARES.

Secretaries of Associations and Guilds who have not yet returned their petitions to the Rev. H. A. Cockey, are requested to do so in the course of the coming week, without fail. Address—Rev. H. A. Cockey, Oldland Vicarage, Bristol.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Thursday, November 30, 1899, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE-THE-MARTYR, SOUTHWARK,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' ONE-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qrs. 3 lbs.

CHALLIS F. WINNEY .. Treble.	EDWARD P. O'MEARA .. 5.
HENRY SPRINGALL 2.	THOMAS FAULKNER 6.
MATTHEW A. WOOD 3.	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL .. 7.
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER .. 4.	GEORGE WOODAGE .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNEY.

Rung on the second anniversary of the induction of the Rev. W. J. Somerville, B.A. as Rector of the above parish. First peal on the bells since they have been restored by Mears and Stainbank, the "go" of them being excellent.

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

On Saturday, December 2, 1899, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF WESTMINSTER 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.
FRANK BUCK 4.	HENRY R. NEWTON .. Tenor.

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH, and
Conducted by HENRY R. NEWTON.

First peal in the method on the bells.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 30, 1899, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHGATE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES.

Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

WILLIAM TEGG* .. Treble.	WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE .. 5.
JOHN ARMSTRONG 2.	JOHN E. MILLER 6.
ALFRED R. GLASSCOCK† .. 3.	FRANK C. NEWMAN 7.
FREDERICK C. FORDHAM .. 4.	SIDNEY WADE Tenor.

Composed by CORNELIUS CHARGE and Conducted by SIDNEY WADE.

*First peal. †First peal with a bob bell. ‡First peal of Bob Major. This composition is now rung for the first time. Rung as a birthday compliment to F. C. Fordham, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

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 MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 2, 1899, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, POPLAR,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 25 cwt.

ALFRED W. BRIGHTON .. Treble.	WILLIAM PYE 5.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE .. 2.	JOHN H. CHEESMAN 6.
ISAAC C. SHADE 3.	JOHN R. SHARMAN 7.
CHARLES WILKINS 4.	ARTHUR T. KING, Esq. .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

The above was rung through meeting one short for Stedman Caters.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Saturday, December 2, 1899, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER, WALWORTH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

HARRY BARTON .. Treble.	HAROLD N. DAVIS 5.
FRED. G. PERRIN 2.	REUBEN CHARGE 6.
ARTHUR HARDY 3.	WILLIAM H. WEBBER .. 7.
WILLIAM R. CROCKFORD .. 4.	GEORGE E. SYMONDS .. Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and Conducted by HARRY BARTON.

Rung with the bells half-muffled, as a last mark of respect to the late Henry Langdon, sen.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

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

AT CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHWARK,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' ONE-PART.

Tenor 18 cwt.

WILLIAM TRUSS .. Treble.	JAMES SCHOLES 5.
HENRY SPRINGALL 2.	CHALLIS F. WINNEY .. 6.
EDWARD WALLAGE 3.	THOMAS H. TAFFENDER .. 7.
EMANUEL HALL 4.	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNEY.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, December 4, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, PUTNEY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,

5040 CHANGES

Tenor 16 cwt.

JOHN N. OXBORROW .. Treble.	JOHN W. GOLDING 5.
CHARLES T. P. BRICE .. 2.	WILLIAM E. GARRARD .. 6.
ARTHUR G. ELLIS 3.	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL .. 7.
GEORGE LANGFORD 4.	HENRY R. NEWTON .. Tenor.

Composed by NATHAN PITSTOW, and
Conducted by HENRY R. NEWTON.

The Provinces.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.

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

On Wednesday, November 29, 1899, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

N. J. PITSTOW'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

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

Conducted by W. H. SMITH

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 30, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

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

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT.

Rung on St. Andrew's Day, the patron saint of the church.

THORNABY, YORKS.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 2, 1899, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 10½ cwt.

GEORGE J. CLARKSON .. Treble.	THOMAS METCALFE 5.
WILLIAM NEWTON 2.	FRED. P. HOWCROFT 6.
THOMAS HAIGH 3.	JOHN H. BLAKISTON 7.
THOMAS NEILL 4.	THOMAS STEPHENSON Tenor.

Composed by CHAS. H. HATTERSLEY, and

Conducted by J. H. BLAKISTON.

REDDISH.—THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(STOCKPORT AND BOWDEN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 2, 1899, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ELISABETH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 12 cwt.

T. JACKSON* Treble.	H. MEAKIN 5.
A. BARNES 2.	*G. WARBURTON 6.
J. W. BAILEY 3.	T. MARSHALL 7.
S. FERNLEY 4.	E. READER Tenor.

Composed by C. W. CLARKE, of Bedford, and

Conducted by E. READER.

*First peal in the method.

BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

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

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor about 18 cwt.

FRANCIS HEDGES .. Treble.	CHARLES WM. CLARKE .. 6.
HARRY SEAR 2.	JAMES GEORGE 7.
FRANK WEBB 3.	CHARLES CHASTY 8.
JOSEPH CHURCH 4.	VALENTINE SEAR Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and Conducted by JAMES GEORGE.

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

WOOTTON BASSETT, WILTS.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(CIRENCESTER BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 2, 1899, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE. Tenor 18 cwt.

THOMAS LAWRENCE .. Treble.	*LEVI A. WILSON 5.
ALFRED LAWRENCE 2.	CHARLES J. GARDINER .. 6.
THOMAS RICKETTS 3.	THOMAS ROBINSON 7.
OWEN W. LAYNG 4.	ALFRED BREAKSPEAR Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS RICKETTS.

*First peal.

PRESTON, SUFFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(SUDBURY BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 2, 1899, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Violet, Woodbine, New London, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Court Bob and Bob Minor.

Tenor 11 cwt.

ERNEST KINSEY .. Treble.	ARTHUR SYMONDS 4.
HUGH GLADWELL 2.	*HARRY HORREX 5.
THOS. LEVITT 3.	WILLIAM KINSEY Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM KINSEY.

*First peal.

BISHOPS STORTFORD, HERTS.—THEESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 2, 1899, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIAM RICKETT* .. Treble.	*WILLIAM T. PRIOR 5.
ALFRED TUCKER 2.	WALTER W. TUCKER 6.
THOMAS NEWMAN† 3.	HENRY J. TUCKER 7.
WALTER PRIOR 4.	JOSEPH SAMPFORD Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by HENRY JAMES TUCKER.

*First peal in the method. †First peal with a bob bell, also the 100th peal rung by the conductor.

RAUNDS, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 2, 1899, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 22 cwt.

HENRY STUBBS .. Treble.	*FRANK KIRK 5.
FREDERICK STUBBS* .. 2.	*WALTER GILBERT 6.
WILLIAM R. HENSHER 3.	WILLIAM J. GILBERT .. 7.
JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. 4.	FRED. GILBERT Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS, and Conducted by F. GILBERT.

This peal was taken from *Snowdon's Treatise*, Part II., and contains the 6th at home ten course-ends. First peal in the method on the bells. *First peal of Treble Bob.

DISS, NORFOLK.

On Monday, December 4, 1899, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt.

GEORGE ARCHER* .. Treble.	JOHN SMITH 5.
JOHN TITE 2.	ELLIS HAYWARD 6.
CLEMENT MOOR 3.	ABEL HART 7.
WILLIAM SALTER 4.	JOHN SOUTER Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and Conducted by G. ARCHER.

*First peal as conductor.

MAIDENHEAD, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EAST BERKS AND SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Monday, December 4, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, BOYNE HILL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 17½ cwt.

ARTHUR WALKER* .. Treble.	WILLIAM WALKER 5.
GEORGE MARTIN 2.	REV. H. C. BELL 6.
F. GOMM 3.	J. ELDRIDGE 7.
M. SMITHER 4.	S. JORDAN Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE MARTIN.

*First peal. First peal of Grandsire by all except the conductor and ringer of the 5th. The ringers are all bachelors and members of the local band.

Date Couches.

GUISELEY (Yorks).—On Tuesday, November 14th, on handbells, a date touch of Bob Major, in 54 mins. J. Jackson, 1-2; T. M. Thompson, 3-4; F. W. Dixon (conductor), 5-6; J. Waite, 7-8.

WEDNESBURY (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, November 9th, a date touch of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 5 mins. A. Cooper, 1; O. Brown, 2; C. Tyler, 3; G. Newbould, 4; W. Johnson (composer and conductor), 5; H. Tinsley, 6; J. Malpass, 7; T. Cooper, 8. Tenor 18 cwt. Longest touch by O. Brown.

Miscellaneous.

ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY, RUGBY.

RUGBY (Warwickshire).—On Monday, November 20th, at the church of St. Andrew, the following members of the above society met to ring a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples to celebrate the wedding of Miss Ethel Mary Reeves, a native of Worcester, and only daughter of the Editor, with Mr. W. P. Abrahams, of Walthamstow, which took place on the 18th inst., but it unfortunately came to grief after ringing 300 changes. A. Coleman, 1; R. Watson, 2; C. J. B. Cooke, 3; J. George (conductor), 4; A. J. Gillings, 5; A. Dubber, 6; A. Bramall, 7; J. W. Shotten, 8. The composition attempted was composed by the Editor. The ringers wish the happy pair every happiness and prosperity.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GRASSENDALE (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, November 12th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Turner (conductor), 1; R. H. Green, 2; C. Newton, 3; T. Morris, 4; J. T. Lowe, 5; J. Allen, 6.

BACUP (Lancashire).—On Sunday, October 1st, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Duke of York. J. S. Lomas, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. Smith, 3; E. J. Cockcroft, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. For evening service, 720 Merchants' Delight, standing as before, except J. H. Smith, 3. On Monday, October 2nd, for practice, 720 Chelsea Surprise. L. Holt, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. S. Lomas, 3; E. J. Cockcroft, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. First in the method by all. On Sunday morning, October 8th, 720 Place Treble Bob. L. Holt, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. S. Lomas, 3; E. J. Cockcroft, 4; J. H. Smith, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. First in the method by all. For evening service, 720 College Treble, standing as in the morning, except A. L. Hardman, 1. On Friday, October 13th, for practice, 720 Cumberland Exercise. L. Holt, 1; J. S. Lomas, 2; J. Smith, 3; E. J. Cockcroft, 4; J. Brierly, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, October 15th, for service, 720 Primrose. L. Holt, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. S. Lomas, 3; E. J. Cockcroft, 4; J. Brierly, 5; H. Barnes (conductor), 6. For evening service, 720 Tulip Treble Bob, standing as before. On Sunday morning, October 22nd, for service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. L. Holt, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. Smith, 3; J. S. Lomas, 4; J. H. Smith, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. For evening service, 720 Double Court Bob Minor, standing as before. First in the method by all. On Friday evening, October 27th, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob. L. Holt, 1; H. L. Cockcroft (first in the method), 2; D. Briggs, 3; E. J. Cockcroft, 4; J. S. Lomas (conductor), 5; J. Brierly, 6. On Sunday morning, October 29th, 720 Braintree. L. Holt, 1; D. Briggs, 2; J. S. Lomas, 3; E. J. Cockcroft, 4; J. H. Smith, 5; J. H. Barnes (conductor), 6. For evening service, 720 Symphony. J. Smith, 3; J. S. Lomas, 5; the rest as before.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—On Sunday, November 12th, for Divine Service at the church of The Holy Trinity, 518 Grandsire Triples. F. Haydon, 1; B. Chorley (conductor), 2; A. Pulling, 3; G. Foster, 4; G. Gunner, 5; R. Wood, 6; C. Willshire, 7; E. Pulling, 8. And 168 in the same method. F. Haydon, 1; J. W. Reilly, 2; H. Hutton, 3; E. Pulling, 4; E. Allen, 5; C. Willshire (conductor), 6; G. Gunner, 8. Also 168. F. Haydon, 1; J. W. Reilly, 2; E. Allen, 3; G. Foster, 4; G. Gunner (conductor), 5; R. Wood, 6; A. Pulling, 7; B. Chorley, 8.

SHALFORD (Surrey).—On Tuesday, October 5th, for practice, 720 College Single. R. Crowhurst, 1; E. Lucas, 2; T. Streeter, 3; W. Trewin, 4; E. Worsfold, 5; H. Burkhith (conductor), 6. Also 720 in the same method. R. Crowhurst, 1; G. Elston, 2; T. Streeter, 3; W. Trewin, 4; E. Worsfold, 5; H. Burkhith (conductor), 6. On November 5th, 720 in the same method. R. Crowhurst, 1; G. Elston, 2; T. Streeter, 3; E. Lucas, 4; W. Trewin (first as conductor), 5; J. Smithers, 6. On November 12th, for the 11 o'clock service, 720 Bob

Minor. R. Crowhurst, 1; F. Blondell, 2; E. Lucas, 3; W. W. Thorne, 5; S. Radford, 5; J. Hunt (conductor), 6. Also, for practice, on Tuesday, November 14th, 720 in the same method. R. Crowhurst, 1; T. Streeter, 2; E. Lucas, 3; W. Trewin, 4; E. Worsfold (conductor), 5; J. Smithers, 6. On Sunday, November 19th, 720 Grandsire Minor. R. Crowhurst, 1; E. Lucas, 2; W. Trewin, 3; S. Radford, 4; E. Worsfold (conductor), 5; J. Hunt, 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WOODFORD (Essex).—On Sunday evening, October 1st, for Divine Service, 720 Plain Bob. E. Tugwood, 1; H. Gowers, 2; E. Wightman, 3; J. Kimberley, 4; J. Mardell (conductor), 5; T. H. Beams, 6. On Sunday evening, October 29th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. E. Wightman, 1; H. Gowers, 2; J. Rann, 3; J. Kimberley, 4; J. Moule, 5; J. Mardell (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, November 5th, for Divine Service, 720 Plain Bob. E. Tugwood, 1; H. Gowers, 2; G. Cornell, 3; J. Kimberley, 4; J. Mardell, 5; E. Wightman (conductor), 6. After service another 720 of Plain Bob with E. Wightman, 5; J. Mardell, 6; the rest as before.

STANDED (Essex).—On Saturday, September 16th, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, 720 Bob Minor. J. Sewell, 1; W. Marrable, 2; W. Watts, 3; A. Pearman, 4; J. Crabb, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. And 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Cavill, 1; A. Pearman (first 720 of Treble Bob), 2; T. J. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Hammond, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. Also 720 Bob Minor. J. Sewell, 1; W. Marrable, 2; J. Crabb, 3; A. Pearman, 4; H. Shuttleworth, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, October 25th, for practice, 720 Chichester Surprise. H. Little, 1; I. Hammond, 2; T. J. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. Also 720 Huddersfield Surprise. J. Cavill, 1; T. Jordan, 2; I. Hammond, 3; T. J. Watts, 4; G. Jordan, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, October 29th, for Divine Service, 720 College Single. J. Cavill, 2; H. Little, 2; I. Hammond, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. Jordan, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. For afternoon service 720 Woodbine. J. Cavill, 1; H. Little, 2; G. Gray, 3; T. Jordan, 4; W. Watts, 5; G. Jordan (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, November 1st, for practice, 720 Cambridge Surprise. G. Jordan, 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; T. J. Watts, 4; I. Cavill, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Cavill, 1; H. Little, 2; G. Gray, 3; T. Jordan, 4; W. Watts, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. And 720 London Surprise. G. Jordan, 1; W. Watts, 2; G. Gray, 3; J. Luckey, 4; T. J. Watts, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

MATCHING (Essex).—On Saturday, September 23rd, at the parish church, 720 Cambridge Surprise. G. Jordan, 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. J. Watts, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. Also 720 Double Oxford Bob. J. Cavill, 1; W. Prior, 2; W. Watts, 3; H. J. Tucker (composer and conductor), 4; I. Hammond, 5; T. J. Watts, 6. And 720 Oxford Treble Bob. A. Pearman, 1; H. Little, 2; W. Watts, 3; I. Hammond, 4; J. Luckey, 5; G. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also two 120s of Stedman Doubles. H. J. Tucker, 1; W. Prior, 2; T. J. Watts, 3; J. Luckey, 4; W. Watts (conductor), 5; G. Jordan, 6. These are the first 720s in the methods yet rang on the bells.

HARLOW (Essex).—On Saturday, September 9th, an attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Triples, which came to grief through a change-course after ringing 2242 changes in 1 hr. 20 mins. W. Doran, 1; W. Keeble, 2; E. Bacon, 3; G. Carter, 4; J. Rann, 5; E. Wightman (conductor), 6; W. Clark, 7; J. Moule, 8. Also 224 Double Norwich. Tenor 14 cwt.

SAWBIDGEWORTH (Herts).—On Saturday, September 9th, at the parish church, 504 Stedman Triples. N. Tarling, 1; W. Keeble, 2; E. Bacon (conductor), 3; W. Doran, 4; J. Rann, 5; —, Tarling, 6; E. Wightman, 7; J. Moule, 8. Also a touch of Double Norwich. Tenor 25 cwt.

LOUGHTON (Essex).—Recently at the church of St. John the Baptist, 416 Double Norwich. G. Hayden, 1; T. Beams, 2; E. Bacon, 3; W. Doran, 4; J. Rann, 5; W. Keeble (conductor), 6; W. Clark, 7; G. Carter, 8. And 504 Stedman Triples. E. Wightman, 1; W. Miller, 2; E. Bacon (conductor), 3; J. Moule, 4; J. Rann, 5; W. Keeble, 6; W. Clark, 7; G. Hayden, 8. Also 288 Kent. G. Hayden, 1; W. Miller, 2; E. Wightman (conductor), 3; W. Doran, 4; J. Rann, 5; G. Carter, 6; W. Clark, 7; T. Beams, 8. On Tuesday, October 24th, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. G. Hayden, 1; H. Gowers, 2; E. Bacon, 3; W. Keeble, 4; W. Doran, 5; G. Carter, 6; W. Clark, 7; E. Wightman (conductor), 8. Also 336 Stedman Triples. E. Wightman, 1; W. Doran, 2; E. Bacon (conductor), 3; W. Keeble, 4; J. Rann, 5; G. Carter, 6; W. Clark, 7; G. Hayden, 8. On handbells 224 Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Keeble, 1-2; E. Bacon, 3-4; E. Wightman, 5-6; W. Doran, 7-8. On Tuesday, November 7th, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Rann, 1; H. Bottrell, 2; E. Wightman, 3; E. Bacon (conductor), 4; W. Doran, 5; W. Keeble, 6; G. Carter, 7; W.

Clark, 8. Also 464 Double Norwich. H. Bottrell, 1; W. Doran, 2; E. Bacon, 3; W. Keeble, 4; J. Rann, 5; G. Carter, 6; W. Clark, 7; E. Wightman (conductor), 8.

LEYTONSTONE (Essex).—On Wednesday, November 8th, at the parish church, 720 London Surprise. E. Wightman (conductor), 1; J. Mardell, 2; W. Miller, 3; W. Keeble, 3; J. Moule, 5; T. Beams, 6. On Saturday, October 28th, 720 Superlative. G. Hayden, 1; W. Miller (conductor), 2; W. Keeble, 3; J. Moule, 4; J. Mardell, 5; T. H. Beams, 6. Rung with the bells muffled as a token of respect to Mrs. Bettison, wife of the Vicar, the Rev. J. W. Bettison.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

HIGH WYCOMBE (Bucks).—For practice at the parish church, on Monday, November 13th, 336 Grandsire Triples. P. W. Wilkins, 1; T. Buckland, 2; J. Batting, 3; W. Bagley, 4; B. Page, 5; J. W. Wilkins, 6; R. Buckland, 7; R. Wheeler, 8. And 336 in the same method. J. Sharman, 1; J. W. Wilkins, 2; J. Batting, 3; W. Bagley, 4; T. Buckland, 5; R. Buckland, 6; B. Page, 7; R. Atkins, 8. The above were conducted by J. W. Wilkins, who with his son hail from Maidenhead. Several plain courses were also rung with R. Atkins and F. Hayes at the treble.

READING (Berks).—On Sunday, November 12th, at St. Lawrence church, 522 Grandsire Caters. H. Tucker, 1; A. Osborne, 2; F. Tubb (conductor), 3; E. Bruce, 4; C. Giles, 5; F. Hopgood, 6; W. Horne, 7; W. Newell, 8; A. E. Reeves, 9; R. Sawyer, 10. On Sunday, November 19th, 558 Grandsire Caters. V. Roene, 1; C. Giles, 2; E. Bruce, 3; F. Tubb (conductor), 4; F. Hopgood, 5; A. W. Pike, 6; A. Watmore, 7; W. Newell, 8; A. Osborne, 9; H. Tucker, 10. On handbells, at the residence of Mr. F. Hopgood, 672 Bob Major. F. Lobb, 1-2; C. Giles (conductor), 3-4; F. Hopgood, 5-6; A. E. Reeves, 7-8.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BLACKBURN BRANCH.

BURNLEY (Lancashire).—On Sunday, October 8th, at the church of The Holy Trinity, 720 Kent. D. Campbell, 1; R. Hartley, 2; T. Burrows, 3; R. Ashworth, 4; W. Walton, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford. J. W. Stirk, 1; W. Walton, 2; R. Hartley, 3; R. Ashworth, 4; E. Heys, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, October 10th, 720 Oxford. T. Burrows, 1; D. Campbell, 2; N. Townend, 3; T. Redman (conductor), 4; R. Hartley, 5; W. Walton, 6. On Saturday, October 14th, 720 Bob Minor. J. Bentley, 1; T. Duxbury, 2; Jno. Walker, sen., 3; T. Strickland, 4; T. Redman (conductor), 5; W. E. Willson, 6. On Sunday, October 15th, 576 Oxford. W. Walton, 1; N. Townend, 2; D. Campbell, 3; D. Heys, 4; R. Hartley, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. On Sunday, October 22nd, 704 Oxford. W. Walton, 1; D. Campbell, 2; J. W. Stirk, 3; R. Hartley, 4; N. Townend, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. On Sunday, October 29th, 576 Kent. T. Burrows, 1; R. Ashworth, 2; W. Walton, 3; D. Campbell, 4; N. Townend, 5; R. Hartley, 6; D. Heys, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. Also 720 Kent. W. Walton, 1; D. Campbell, 2; T. Burrows, 3; R. Hartley, 4; N. Townend, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, October 31st, 720 Kent. J. R. Eastwood (first 720), 1; T. Burrows, 2; R. Hartley, 3; R. Ashworth, 4; W. Walton, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6. On Sunday, November 5th, 720 Kent. D. Campbell, 1; W. Walton, 2; T. Burrows, 3; R. Hartley, 4; R. Ashworth, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6. Also 576 Oxford. T. Burrows, 1; T. Redman (conductor), 2; W. Walton, 3; D. Campbell, 4; J. W. Stirk, 5; R. Hartley, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; R. Ashworth, 8.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LITTLE MUNDEN (Herts).—On Saturday, October 14th, 720 College Single. H. Carter, 1; A. Phillips, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Lawrence, 4; G. Carter, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. Also a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. For morning service, two 6-scores of Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles. J. Smith (aged 12), 1; G. Carter (conductor), 2. For evening service, 360 Canterbury Pleasure, standing as above. On Thursday, October 26th, 108 Grandsire Minor. C. Gale (first of Minor), 1; J. Smith, 2; A. Smith, 3; A. Lawrence, 4; A. Phillips (conductor), 5; G. Carter, 6. On Sunday, November 5th, for morning service, two different 6-scores of Grandsire, and one of Bob Doubles, non-conducted. For afternoon service, 720 Oxford Bob. H. Carter, 1; A. Phillips, 2; A. Lawrence, 3; G. Barker, 4; G. Carter, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BATTLE (Sussex).—On Tuesday, November 7th, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples was rung, in 47 mins. W. H. Eldridge, 1; F. Lock, 2; C. J. Hyland, 3; W. J.

Thomas, 4; S. Saker, 5; C. R. Carter, 6; W. Franks (conductor), 7; J. Sinden, 8. Composed by J. Beams.

ST. LEONARD'S-ON-SEA.—On November 13th, at Christ Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 49 mins. A. Novis, 1; C. Hill, 2; T. Waterhouse, 3; F. Medhurst, 4; B. Prewett, 5; H. Harvey (conductor), 6; G. Watson (composer), 7; H. Denman, 8.

EASTBOURNE (Sussex).—On Tuesday, October 17th, for practice at Christ Church, a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. G. Head, G. Penfold, A. Gower, J. Sharp, G. H. Howse, R. Head. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. A. Gower, G. H. Howse, G. Penfold, J. Eastman, J. Sharp, G. Head (conductor). And 168 Grandsire Triples. G. Head, A. Gower, G. Penfold, G. Howse, J. Eastman, J. Sharp (conductor), R. Head. On Saturday, November 4th, on the occasion of the wedding of T. Price, meeting one short for a peal, some Bob Minor was rung instead and also some Doubles. G. Penfold, A. Gower, B. Hobbs, J. Sharp, J. Osbourne, J. Hunnisett, G. Head.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

LITTLE COMBERTON.—On Sunday, November 12th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles. J. Godfrey, 1; G. Dolphin, 2; H. Salisbury (conductor), 3; W. Need, 4; C. Annis, 5; J. Amphlett, 6.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

OTTERY St. Mary (Devon).—On October 26th, at the parish church, 504 Stedman Triples. Rev. M. Kelly (conductor), 1; W. Godfrey, 2; *Rev. F. G. Knight, 3; H. Channon, 4; F. H. Godfrey, 5; J. E. Baker, 6; A. E. Pike, 7; J. Lovering, 8. *First 500 in the method. On November 2nd, at the vicarage, on handbells, a plain course of Double Norwich Court Bob Major. F. W. Godfrey, 1; Miss D. Kelly, 2; Miss A. M. Kelly, 3; Rev. F. Knight, 4; W. Godfrey, 5; T. E. Baker, 6; A. E. Pike, 7; Rev. M. Kelly, 8. The first course in method by all the band except Rev. M. Kelly, and in Devon by natives of the County.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CHISLEHURST (Kent).—On Monday, October 30th, for practice on the back six, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. R. Hims, 1; T. Durling, 2; W. Ingham, 3; G. Durling (conductor), 4; I. Emery, 5; W. J. Smith, 6.

PENGE (Surrey).—On Sunday afternoon, November 5th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. H. Edwards, sen., 1; E. Dunn, 2; H. Edwards, jun., 3; J. Town, 4; G. Durling (conductor), 5; W. J. Smith, 6.

BROMLEY (Kent).—On Sunday morning, November 12th, for Divine Service, 1152 Kent Treble Bob Major. E. Dunn, 1; G. J. Taylor, 2; G. Daynes, 3; J. Craft, 4; W. Bedwell (conductor), 5; J. Hack, 6; G. Durling, 7; W. J. Smith, 8.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

NORTHALLERTON.—On Saturday, November 18th, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. H. Blakiston, 1; J. Barnett, 2; J. Stott, 3; J. Neasham, 4; J. Wrightson, 5; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 6; D. H. Burton, 7; H. Wright, 8. Also 1260 Grandsire Triples. J. Wrightson, 1; J. Barnett, 2; J. Stott, 3; J. W. Neasham (conductor), 4; G. J. Clarkson, 5; H. Brown, 6; D. H. Burton, 7; A. McFarlane, 8. And 336 Bob Major. J. Barnett, 1; J. Stott, 2; H. Brown, 3; J. W. Neasham, 4; J. Wrightson, 5; D. H. Burton, 6; A. McFarlane, 7; J. Blakiston (conductor), 8.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BRADFELD, NEAR SHEFFIELD (Yorks).—On Thursday, November 2nd, at the church of St. Nicholas, 720 Oxford Treble Bob in 26 mins. F. Gillott, 1; H. Gillott, 2; F. Wilson (conductor), 3. G. Merryman, 4; C. Fox, 5; G. H. Uttley, 6. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mr. Edmund Hemingfield, of Ecclesfield, who rang at the opening of Bradfield bells in 1847.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

GREAT HALE (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday morning, October 1st, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. W. H. Wood, 1; R. Masters, 2; J. R. Green, 3; C. Ward, 4; T. B. Wood, 5; T. T. Taylor (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, October 8th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent. J. R. Green, 1; R. Masters, 2; C. Ward, 3; T. Humberstone, 4; T. T. Taylor, 5; T. B. Wood (conductor), 6.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

MELKSHAM (Wilts).—On Saturday, November 4th, at the parish

church, 168 Grandsire Triples. T. Raddon, 1; C. H. Hampton, 2; W. H. Johnson, 3; C. D. Heginbotham, 4; C. R. Hampton, 5; F. S. Wilson, 6; S. Hillier (conductor), 7; F. Merritt, 8. Also 504 same method. F. Merritt, 1; C. H. Hampton, 2; T. Raddon, 3; W. H. Johnson, 4; C. H. Hampton, 5; C. D. Heginbotham, 6; S. Hillier, 7; R. Phillips, 8. Also 336 in the same method, standing same as in the 504 except F. S. Wilson, 1.

DEVIZES (Wilts).—On Sunday, November 5th, at St. John's church, 336 Grandsire Triples. F. Merritt, 1; W. H. Johnson, 2; C. D. Heginbotham, 3; C. F. Hampton, 4; C. R. Hampton, 5; F. S. Wilson, 6; S. Hillier (conductor), 7; R. Phillips, 8. On Wednesday, November 8th, a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. S. Hillier (conductor), 1; C. D. Heginbotham, 2; F. Merritt, 3; F. S. Wilson, 4; C. H. Hampton, 5; R. Phillips, 6.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON,

LONDON.—On Sunday, December 3rd, for Divine Service in the evening at St. John's, Waterloo Road, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original, in 43 mins. F. J. Shepherd (first quarter-peal), 1; W. H. Webber (conductor), 2; F. G. Perrin, 3; H. Langdon, 4; A. Hardy, 5; H. Barton, 6; G. E. Symonds, 7; E. Oxenham, 8.

BRETENHAM (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, October 31st, in the school-room on handbells, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. T. Levett (conductor), 1; A. Grimwood, 2; G. Levett, 3; F. Pearl, 4; W. Stiff, 5; W. Proctor, 6. On Tuesday, November 14th, 720 Bob Minor. C. Adams, 1; J. Francis, 2; J. Manning, 3; J. Horrex, 4; W. Proctor, 5; T. Levett (conductor), 6.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS (Lancashire).—On September 10th, for evening service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure, in 25 mins. W. N. Williams, 1; J. Huddleston, 2; T. P. Jackson, 3; W. H. Dennison, 4; T. R. Jackson (conductor), 5; T. Stuart, 6. On September 14th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor, in 23 mins. T. Watson (conductor), 1; J. Huddleston, 2; A. H. Hardy, 3; W. H. Dennison, 4; T. Stuart, 5; J. Burrows, 6. On September 24th, for afternoon service, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. T. Watson (conductor), 1; J. Huddleston, 2; W. H. Dennison, 3; T. Stuart, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. For evening service, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins., standing as before. On November 5th, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. N. Williams, 1; J. Huddleston, 2; W. H. Dennison, 3; T. Stuart, 4; T. R. Jackson (conductor), 5; J. Burrows, 6.

FULHAM.—On Sunday evening, November 5th, for Divine Service at All Saints church, 1280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major in 48 mins. H. Barton, 1; S. Wade, 2; J. W. Driver, 3; W. Pickworth, 4; R. Charge, 5; J. R. Mackman (2nd Scots Guards), 6; G. E. Symonds, 7; C. Charge (conductor), 8. On handbells the last 742 of Holt's Original. H. Barton (conductor), 1-2; R. Charge, 3-4; G. E. Symonds, 5-6; C. Charge, 7-8. Also three courses of Bob Major, with W. Charge, 1-2; H. Barton, 7-8.

FOXEARH (Essex).—On Sunday, September 16th, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 720 of Plain Bob Minor was rung for the morning service. A. Maxim, 1; W. Gridley, 2; A. Butcher, 3; W. Underwood, 4; F. Inch, 5; S. Evans (conductor), 6. Also for the evening service 720 of Plain Bob. A. Maxim, 1; R. Mingay, 2; A. Butcher, 3; F. Inch, 4; W. Underwood, 5; S. Evans (conductor), 6. After service 360 Plain Bob. A. Maxim, 1; R. Mingay, 2; A. Butcher, 3; F. Inch, 4; S. Evans, 5; W. Underwood, 6.

GODALMING (Surrey).—On Friday, October 27th, five members of the Holy Trinity company of Guildford journeyed to this place for a ring at the parish church, but owing to a service at 8.30 only a 504 of Grandsire could be brought round. F. Haydon, 1; A. Pulling, 2; R. Wood, 3; — Hooker, 4; G. Foster, 5; G. Manfield, 6; B. Chorley, 7; C. Wheeler, 8. The visitors wish, through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells.

GREAT ADDINGTON (Northants).—On Sunday morning, November 12th, for Divine Service, 720 Double Court. A. Perkins, 1; W. Newman, 2; A. Tyler, 3; J. Garratt, 4; J. Houghton, sen., 5; J. Houghton, jun. (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method on the bells.

HARWICH (Essex).—On Thursday, November 9th, 1008 Bob Major in 36 mins. F. Watling (conductor), 1; J. Brewster, 2; C. Ellis, 3; G. Knock, 4; G. Moss, 5; G. Thompson, 6; C. Ramplin, 7; A. Morris, 8. Also 720 Bob Minor with the tenor covering. W. Durrant, 1; G. Knock, 2; C. Ellis, 3; J. Brewster, 4; T. W. Pannifer, 5; C. Ramplin (conductor), 6; T. Borrett, 8. And 336 Grandsire Triples. T. Durrant, 1; A. Morris, 2; C. Ellis, 3; G. Knock, 4; J. Brewster, 5; G. Thompson, 6; C. Ramplin, 7; T. Borrett, 8.

HASTINGS (Sussex).—On November 12th, at Christ Church Blacklands, 630 Grandsire Triples. J. Penfold, 1; L. Stone, 2; B. Prewett, 3; F. Medhurst, 4; A. Barrow, 5; G. Watson (conductor), 6; J. Livermore, 7; W. Swain, 8. Tenor 20½ cwt.

HENFIELD (Sussex).—On Sunday, November 12th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 504 Stedman Triples. G. Payne, 1; L. Payne (conductor), 2; S. Burt, 3; A. E. Lish, 4; C. Tyler, 5; H. Markwell, 6; A. Heasman, 7; W. Markwell, 8. On Sunday, November 12th, 504 Stedman Triples. W. A. J. Ives, 1; G. Payne, 2; S. Burt, 3; A. E. Lish, 4; H. Markwell, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6; A. Heasman, 7; A. Hodges, 8. On Tuesday evening, November 14th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. W. A. J. Ives, 1; L. Payne (conductor), 2; S. Burt, 3; C. Tyler, 4; H. Markwell, 5; G. Payne, 6; A. Heasman, 7; A. Hodges, 8.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH (Northants).—Recently for practice 1008 London Surprise Major. J. Mawby, 1; C. Newman, 2; W. Newman, 3; J. Houghton, jun., 4; J. Garratt, 5; W. Pettitt, 6; A. Perkins, 7; A. Tyler (conductor), 8. On Monday, November 20th, for practice, a quarter-peal of London Surprise Major. J. Mawby, 1; C. Newman, 2; W. Newman, 3; A. Perkins, 4; J. Houghton, jun., 5; W. Pettitt, 6; J. Garratt, 7; A. Tyler (conductor), 8. This is the longest length in the method by all the band.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES (Surrey).—On Thursday, November 9th, at All Saints church, 630 Grandsire Triples. A. Strutt, 1; J. Wright, 2; G. Strutt, 3; E. Stacey, 4; H. G. Naish, 5; J. Baldwin, 6; J. Howes (conductor), 7; J. Strutt, 8. Also 812 Grandsire Triples. G. Strutt, 1; J. Wright, 2; A. Strutt, 3; E. Stacey, 4; H. G. Naish, 5; J. Baldwin, 6; J. Howes (conductor), 7; J. Chandler, 8. Also a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins. H. G. Naish, 1; J. Howes (composer and conductor), 2; A. Strutt, 3; E. Stacey, 4; G. Strutt, 5; J. Baldwin, 6; J. Strutt, 7; J. Chandler, 8. Rung in honour of the birthday of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

LONDON.—On Sunday evening, November 26th, for Divine Service at St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, 1260 Stedman Caters. W. E. Judd, 1; H. G. Miles, 2; A. V. Selby, 3; H. Richardson, 4; A. E. Bradley, 5; W. E. Garrard (conductor), 6; A. F. Harris, 7; W. Fox, 8; J. George (Rugby), 9; W. Hollier (Gillingham), 10. This being the evening previous to the birthday of Mr. George, the ringers wished him many happy returns.

MELTON MOWBRAY (Leicestershire).—On Sunday, October 29th, for evening service, 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Spiby, 1; E. J. Gale, 2; S. Saker, 3; S. F. C. Saker, 4; C. Dalby, 5; R. H. Bartram, 6; W. James, 7; T. Gillett, 8. Also 210 in the same method. C. Dalby, 1; J. Barnes, 2; S. Saker, 3; S. F. C. Saker, 4; J. E. Goodacre, 5; R. H. Bartram, 6; W. James, 7; T. Gillett, 8. On November 3rd, 336 Grandsire Triples. E. J. Gale, 5; W. Spiby, 8; the rest as before. Also 224 in the same method. A. V. Potter, 1; S. F. C. Saker, 2; C. Dalby, 3; R. H. Bartram, 4; S. Saker, 5; J. E. Goodacre, 6; E. J. Gale, 7; W. James, 8. For morning service on Sunday, November 5th, 504 Grandsire. W. Spiby, 1; S. Saker, 2; S. F. C. Saker, 3; W. James, 4; E. J. Gale, 5; C. Dalby, 6; R. H. Bartram (conductor), 7; W. Starbuck, 8. For evening service, 112 Grandsire Triples, standing as before. The above touches were arranged for and conducted by Messrs. Saker and Son, of Hastings, during their temporary stay in Melton, to the pleasure of all the band.

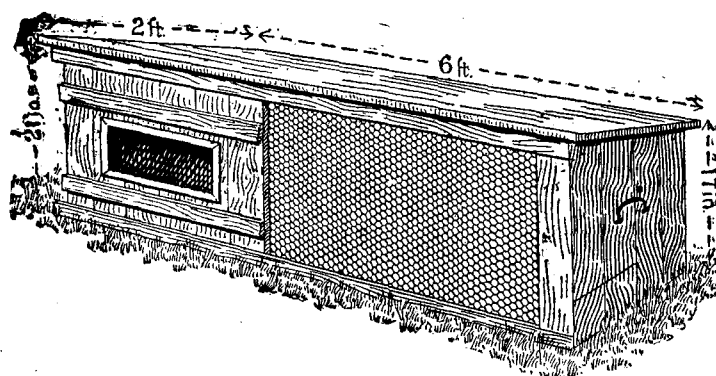
PETERSFIELD (Hants).—On Sunday evening, November 26th, before Divine Service at St. Peter's church, 350 Grandsire Triples. W. Butler, jun., 1; A. Butler, 2; T. Cole, 3; W. Wilkinson (conductor), 4; W. Butler, sen., 5; G. Barnes, 6; J. Arthur, 7; W. Downs, 8. After service 504 Grandsire Triples. Rev. C. Edwards, 1; W. Butler, 2; A. Butler, 3; T. Cole, 4; G. Barnes, 5; W. Wilkinson, 6; J. Arthur (conductor), 7; W. Downs, 8.

SEDBERGH (Yorks).—On Wednesday, November 15th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins. J. W. Harrison, 1; R. Atkinson, 2; E. Pennington, 3; R. Ibbotson, 4; J. E. Senogles, 5; W. Pennington, 6; G. F. Woodhouse (conductor), 7; A. Campbell, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. Longest length of Grandsire by all the band except the conductor.

WEDNESBURY (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, November 9th, 952 Grandsire Triples in 38 mins. A. Cooper, 1; O. Brown, 2; E. J. Tyler, 3; E. W. Turner, 4; G. Newbould, 5; J. Malpass (conductor), 6; W. Johnson, 7; T. Cooper, 8. And several courses of Stedman Triples.

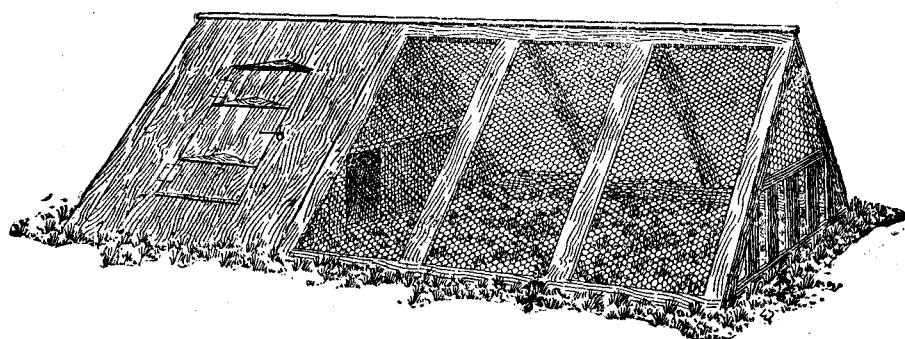
WELLINGBOROUGH (Northants).—On Saturday, November 18th, a course each of Double Norwich and London Surprise Major. J. Mawby, 1; A. Perkins, 2; C. Newman, 3; J. Garratt, 4; W. Newman, 5; W. Pettitt, 6; A. Tyler, 7; J. Houghton, jun., 8. Also two courses of Superlative Surprise Major. W. Perkins, 1; W. Pettitt, 2; A. Tyler, 3; J. Garratt, 4; T. R. Hensher, 5; J. Martin, 6; C. W. Clarke, 7; J. Houghton, jun., 8. And 252 Stedman Triples. A. Perkins, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; J. Garratt, 3; W. Perkins, 4; T. R. Hensher, 5; J. Houghton, jun., 6; J. George, 7; E. Chapman, 8. These are believed to be the first courses in the methods ever rung on the bells. Rung in connection with the quarterly meeting of the Central Northamptonshire Association.

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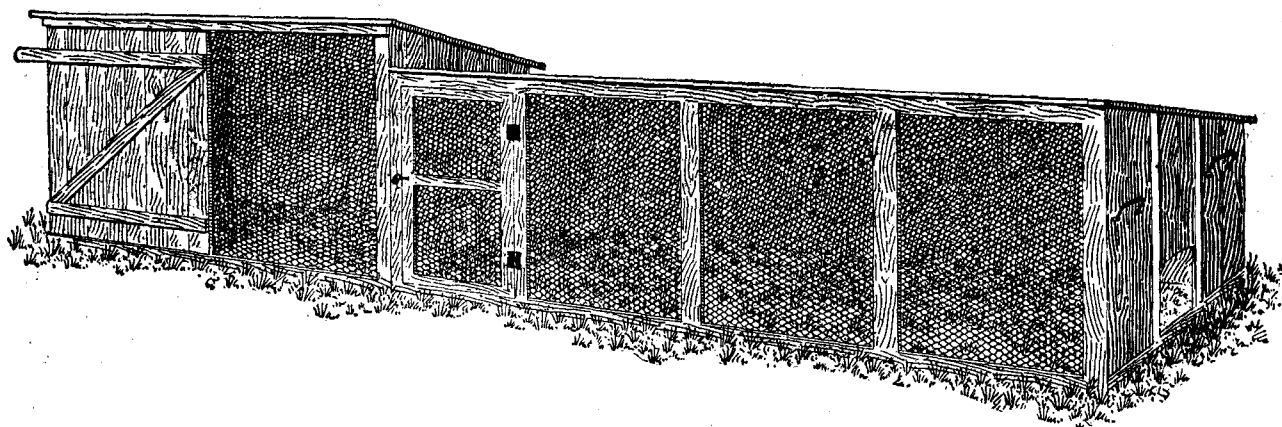
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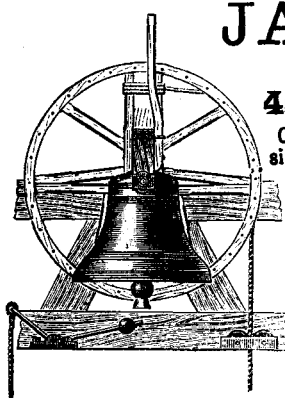
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No. 923.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1899.

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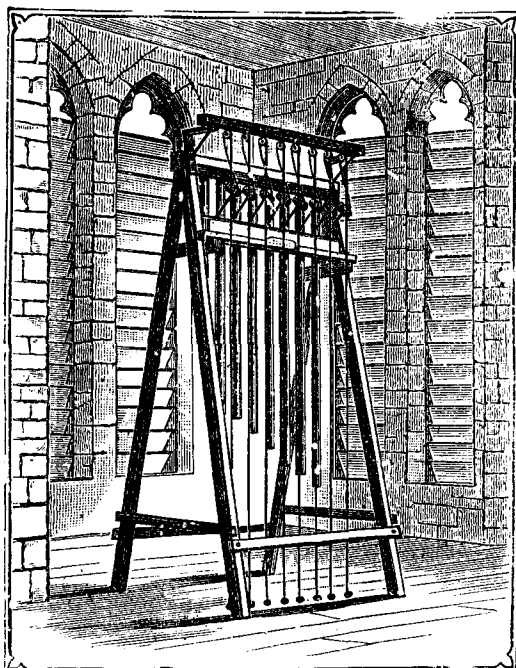
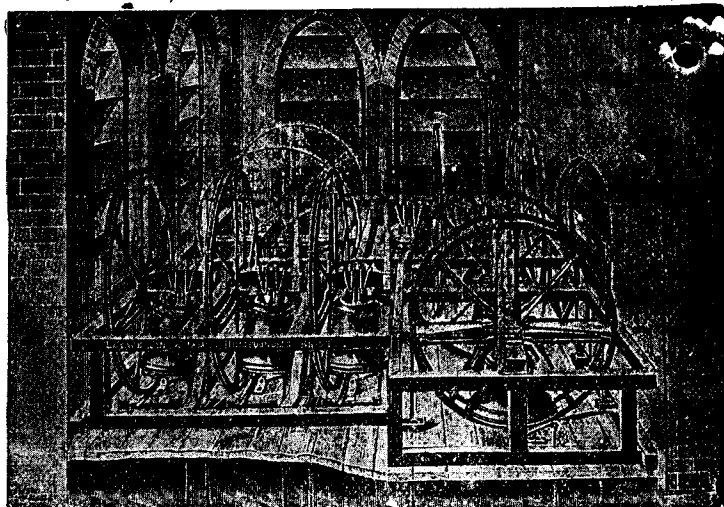
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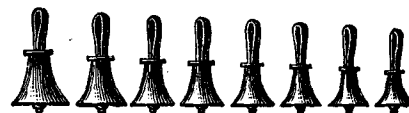
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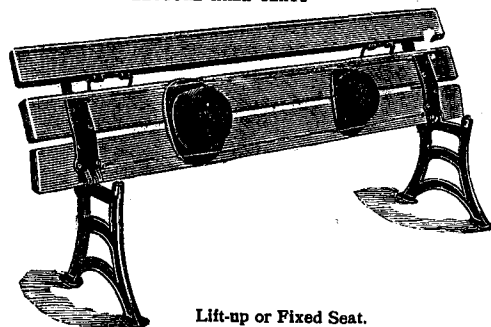
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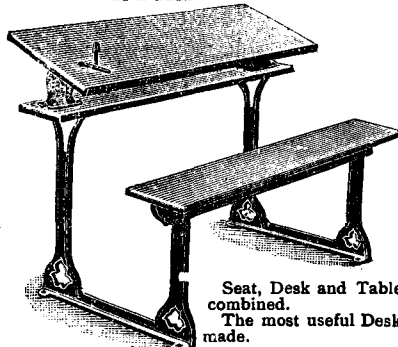
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 923.]

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

THE ST. THOMAS'S GUILD, DUDLEY.

A quarterly meeting of the above Guild was held at Tipton on Saturday, December 2nd. Members were present from Dudley, Netherton, Old Hill, Coseley, and Tipton. The authorised form of prayer for the Worcestershire Association was said in church by the curate; the Vicar read the lesson, and gave a practical discourse upon the use of the bells, applying such use in a spiritual sense, in a manner which brought home the lessons to his hearers.

After service, the business meeting was held in the schoolroom, presided over by the Vicar—the Rev. Wilson T. De Vine. The minutes of the last quarterly meeting were read and confirmed. The Secretary mentioned that arising out of the minutes the three peals arranged at the last meeting to be attempted* had been successfully accomplished.

It was proposed that during the next quarter peals be attempted at Dudley (Bob Royal), Tipton and Old Hill, dates and methods to be arranged by the Master; and any other peals desired also by arrangement with the Master. Two members previously proposed in the belfry were elected.

It was proposed that the next meeting, being the annual meeting, be held at Dudley on the last Saturday in February.

A cordial vote of thanks was given the Vicar for the interest he had taken in the meeting, and for the use of the schoolroom and bells. The younger members of the Guild received a good coaching in several touches on the church bells during the afternoon.

THE MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

A new ring of eight bells, tenor 12 cwt., from the foundry of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, will by kind permission of the Vicar, be opened on Wednesday, December 27th, at the church of St. Catherine, Feltham. Dedication service at 2.15 p.m. The bells will be available at three o'clock. Members and friends are cordially invited.

C. EDWARDS, *Hon. District Secretary.*

ST. GILES, CAMBERWELL, LONDON.

On Thursday, December 7th, at the church of St. Giles, the usual whole pull and stand was rung as a last tribute of respect to the late Henry Langdon, sen., by Messrs. Flower, Weatherstone, Peters, Perrin, Pasmore, Hayward, Gummer, Mash, French, and Summers.

Afterwards a 500 of Grandsire Triples was rung by H. Flower, W. Weatherstone, H. Langdon, jun., F. Shepherd, W. Pasmore, J. Golding, R. French, and —. Oxenham.

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.

SOCIAL GATHERING AT RUGBY.

On Thursday evening, December 7th, Mr. James George, Master of the St. Andrew's Association of Rugby, entertained a number of his fellow-ringers and also his colleagues in the Estate office of the L. & N. W. railway at Rugby, wherein he is employed, to a social evening at The Bull hotel. The occasion of the gathering was to celebrate the thirtieth year of his service with the above-named railway company, and also the ringing of his two hundredth peal, which took place at Pinner a short time ago, when he conducted a peal of Grandsire Triples in honour of the golden wedding of his father and mother. About twenty of his local friends were present, also Messrs. W. Short, W. H. Barber, A. Walker, and W. H. Godden, of the St. Martin's Guild; P. W. Davies (Lichfield), H. Argyle and T. W. Chapman (Nuneaton). Mr. W. Brooke (churchwarden) presided, and was supported by Mr. R. Over, ex-churchwarden. The company were hospitably entertained by Mr. George, mine host of The Bull doing his part well. The evening was devoted to toast and harmony, songs being contributed by Messrs. F. Stannard, A. White, and F. Betts, Mr. W. M. Parsons presiding at the piano. Tunes were played on the handbells by the St. Martin's Guild members, and Messrs. Argyle, Chapman, and George joined these gentlemen in ringing touches in various methods.

The Chairman, in proposing the health of the founder of the feast, first read a letter from the Rector expressing his appreciation of Mr. George's services, and good wishes for the enjoyment of the meeting. He (the chairman) then referred to the objects of the gathering, as mentioned above, and said there was another, viz.: the promotion of good fellowship among the members of the Association. It was only ten years ago that Mr. George went in for peal-ringing, and they were proud to have as their Master one who had been able to ring two hundred peals in that time. He paid a tribute to Mr. George's zealous efforts to promote the welfare of the St. Andrew's society, and congratulated him upon the successful results.

Mr. Godden added a few words of appreciation of Mr. George's good qualities as a friend and as a ringer, and Mr. F. Stannard bore testimony to his faithful zeal in the discharge of his duties in the Estate Office, and his excellence as a colleague. The toast was received with musical honours, and

Mr. George, in responding, expressed his gratitude for the kindness he had always received from the Rector and churchwardens, from Mr. Coales, and his ringing friends; and when he told them that in the Estate Office he had one of the best of chiefs, and a most admirable working staff, they would understand that he had every reason to be grateful. With regard to ringing, while being satisfied with the progress of the band, he hoped soon to take them into the higher methods of the Art.

Mr. Over added a few words of appreciation, both of Mr. George and of the bellringing, and recounted some amusing reminiscences of the time when the magistrates used to hold their court in the room in which they were met. Congratulatory letters from Mr. C. J. B. Cooke and

Mr. T. A. Ball were read, after which the healths of Mr. Brooke and Mr. Over were enthusiastically honoured, as well as other toasts, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. It should be mentioned that the visiting ringers, by the kind permission of the Rector and churchwardens, rung touches on the church bells earlier in the evening.

THE STRIKE OF THE BELLS.

[From *The Wycliffe Review*.]

Christmas-Eve had come, the last of the nineteenth century. It was now nearly eleven o'clock and it was time for me to set out for the church. The sexton had got all ready in the tower for the bellringers—lighted the stove and the lamp, and had just left the key with me. He had grown so infirm of late that I had promised to relieve him of his duty to-night, to open the church for the ringers, and after they had done to lock up and let him have the key in the morning.

It seemed to me, as I stepped into the night and made my way across the few fields that lay between the house and the church, that all nature sympathised with the season of peace and goodwill. My vicar had asked me to take the service in the morning, and I had just completed the preparation of my sermon. It was an old one, written several years ago, and although it scarcely expressed my present mood, I had managed to induce that frame of mind which had inspired its composition. It was on that perennial Christmas text, "On earth peace; goodwill towards men;" and full of my subject, what wonder if I saw in the outward scene a beautiful reflection of the peace which possessed my spirit. A crisp frost lent sharpness to the air and firmness to the tread, but a fall of snow had covered the ground and not a footstep could be heard. Overhead a crescent moon sailed in a cloudless sky, and the ceaseless twinkle of the stars—movement without sound, seemed but to increase the silence. And when the ivy-mantled tower arose in the midst of this tranquility, its lower windows radiant with ruddy light, it required little effort to imagine that the celestial choristers were within, and that any moment the silence might be broken by their glorious song.

But here I was at the door, and entering I soon found a comfortable seat before the warm stove. As I waited for the ringers my thoughts returned to the subject with which they had just been occupied. But the lateness of the hour and the genial heat both had their influence, so that I am not prepared to vouch for the reality of what I am about to relate. But "we are such stuff as dreams are made on," and it is hard sometimes to tell what is actual and what is visionary. Be that, however, as it may, I had not been seated long before I was aware of a noise in the room above. To this I was at first indifferent, but I soon became conscious that something unusual was happening. I was not naturally of a timid disposition, or else I should not have been sitting alone in a church at this hour. Still I must say that my heart beat quicker than usual, as I held my breath and listened. Yes, there it was again—a low musical murmur coming from the chamber overhead. As I became less agitated, I was able to distinguish separate voices, each in a different key, but at times so blended and so subdued that they floated down like music. But what amazed me most was that the tones resembled nothing human. Were they the angels? Was I listening to the heavenly choir trying a low prelude to their Christmas love-song? If I waited would that musical

murmur swell into the full rich notes of the Saviour's birthday anthem? But I could not wait. With lantern in hand I climbed gently up the stairs which led to the room whence the mysterious sounds proceeded. It was an exciting moment when I pushed open the old oak door. But if I had expected to enter the company of angels, I was disappointed. Here were no signs of celestial visitors—and yet, it seemed as though there were voices in the air. Up above me in the darkness swung the bells, and by my side the ropes descended through the floor to the room which I had just left. And as I stood there, every sense strained to the utmost, trying to puzzle out the mystery, light broke in upon my brain. I noticed that the ropes vibrated in sympathy with the sounds. And all at once it dawned upon me that I was listening neither to the tongues of men nor of angels, but of bells. And with that knowledge came understanding. The murmurs became articulate, shaped themselves into words, and to my amazement this is what I heard.

"No," said the big bell, "however they pull, I will not ring to-night. Years ago, you remember how a lass saved her lover who was to have been hanged at curfew. She clung with her lithe limbs to my clapper, and shutting her eyes, swung fearlessly into the air. It was a brave deed, and well she deserved her lad's fate. But she did not stop that night's curfew unaided—I helped her. I checked the pull then, but I will stop it to-night." Again the musical murmur floated down, and I understood now it was the other bells expressing their approval by applause. "It would be such a hollow mockery," the deep tones continued, "to ring to-night, that I will not be a party to the hypocrisy. If men do not see that the birthday of the Prince of Peace cannot be held amidst the clamours of war, we will show them their error. Why, there is our vicar, he seems to know nothing about the gospel of peace which he professes to teach. And many ministers of other denominations are just as ignorant. Last Sunday as he came to church a telegram was handed to him announcing a great victory for the British in which 800 Boers had been killed. This bloody news he read to the congregation, and he and they expressed their joy by rising and singing 'God save the Queen.' How disappointed this good 'Christian' must have been to find the next day that that no such slaughter had taken place. But did you hear what he said in his sermon that same morning? My tongue quivered to return an answer—an answer that would have been more striking than pleasant. He asserted (and no one contradicted the untruth!) that war was 'a part of the awful providence of God.' Now I know what war is, and I can tell him that his words were a horrid libel upon the fair character of the Father." But here the speaker stopped, overcome by his feelings. His campanological audience, however, would not consent to his silence. The air was full of resonant cries "Go on, go on." Thus urged, the big bell got the better of his emotion and resumed—"It seems but like yesterday that I took part in the horrors of war. Then I was a cannon and in the hands of evil men I was forced to fight. Now my metal has been re-cast, and thank God my duties are the more peaceful ones of a church bell. But too well do I remember those other days—those days of pillage, rape, and bloodshed. Then, oh hateful sight! I saw man made to be the brother, become the deadly foe of his kind—I saw him, drunk with the lust of slaughter, gash and hew his brother's body and plunge his sword into that brother's heart—I saw him when venerable age was no protection against his fury and female purity no defence against his

passion. And I am afraid that in its essentials the character of war is much the same to-day as then. Only this morning I heard one of the workmen below read to his companions an extract from an infamous letter published in *The Times*. I give it exactly as he read it, for I have remembered every word.

And the men who listened greeted the 'pig-sticking' with roars of brutal laughter. And, the people around us have no idea that a system which encourages this sort of thing contradicts the gospel of Jesus Christ. They intend to ring the Christmas bells as usual, and speak and act as though there were nothing in war inconsistent with this season of peace and goodwill. Shall we consent to this hideous hypocrisy? No; let us strike—not in sounds, but in silence. Our dumbness will best appeal to their callous hearts." This conclusion was greeted with long-continued applause. When at last the musical murmur had ceased, I heard a treble voice shaping itself into words. There were tears in the tone which moved me to sympathy. "Our leader is right," said the voice, "men and women must be hardened indeed who can be happy this Christmas time. Yesterday there was a burial in the graveyard below. Only from the window near me could you see the simple funeral. It was a common deal coffin, carried on the shoulders of some labouring men. Rough fellows they were, but they bore that plain casket as though it held the body of a queen. Behind them walked a girl just on the threshold of womanhood, and at her side trudged a sturdy little lad happily unconscious of what was taking place. But the drawn face of the girl presented such a picture of hopeless grief that my heart melted at the sight. I was looking now on a tragedy of the war, more full of pathos because so bare of all accessories. The lonely woman was a soldier's widow with her fatherless boy, and the body being carried so reverently to its last ringing-place was the remains of that soldier's mother. Only a week ago that widow was a wife rejoicing in the love of her husband, and finding some solace for his absence in caring for his aged mother. But one morning came the fatal news that her husband had been shot and buried in a nameless grave, and ere her dazed brain could realise the fact, the bullet found another victim in the soldier's mother. And all the pathos of this story stared at you from that tearless stricken face. In how many homes in England and South Africa has the light of happiness been extinguished this Christmastide? If men will not show any sympathy, let us do so—let us refuse to mock such grief with the joy-bells of Christmas—with the birthday chimes of the Prince of Peace."

Here I became conscious that I was sitting by the stove. How I found my way from the bell-chamber to the chair I have no recollection. But there were the ringers, warming their hands while they cracked a joke at my expense, and waited for the time to handle the ropes. At last they took their places, and at a signal from their leader the Christmas peal commenced, or should have commenced, for pull as they would no sound came from the tower. Again they tried. Round went the wheels, but the bells were dumb. The ringers looked at each other in dismay. What was to be done? The bells must ring; and if they did not do so within half-an-hour Christmas would have commenced without a peal. There was only one man in the village who thoroughly understood the machinery of the tower, but where to find him on this festive night was most uncertain. Still the attempt must be made, so all set out on the search, leaving me once

more alone. I could have told them the cause of the silence, but I dared not simply because they would only have laughed incredulously at my story.

The noise of their conversation had scarcely died away when again those musical tones fell on my ears. This time I was so accustomed to the sound that I readily distinguished the words without mounting to the room above. It was a new voice that was speaking, and it regarded the matter which the bell-chamber had been discussing from quite a different standpoint. "You are right," came in silvery tones from above. "Between the minds of men and the spirit of Christmas there is this war-time a painful divergence. But friends, do not let us widen the gulf by withholding our softening influence. Let us aim to awaken holier feelings—to bring men back to the peace and goodwill which should be eternally associated with the birth of Christ."

What further words the speaker used and whether he gained his point, I was not permitted to hear; for just at this moment I was roused by the arrival of the ringers all eager to repair the defect in the machinery of the bells. They had found the mechanic, but before going upstairs one went to the ropes to show him the extent of the mischief. What was their surprise to find that the tower was no longer dumb! It was a marvel, they were non-plussed. But there was no time to make enquiries, only to ring. They got to the ropes, and soon the merry music of the bells was floating far and wide on the frosty air. Across the snow it spread, dropping its message of peace and love into every listening ear. Again there arose in men's minds that vision of a Golden Age so distant and yet so near. Again the old question was asked, not in despair but in hope.

And the vicar corrected his theology by the gospel of the Saviour's birthday. And the widow, although her tears flowed afresh, found her lonely heart strangely comforted. And never did the hatefulness of war appear so repugnant as when men listened to the Christmas Chimes.

As we walked home the ringers could talk of nothing else but the night's experience. Yet only one in their company knew the cause of the Bells' Strike, and how it had been overcome.

STROOD, KENT.

A large chiming clock has just been erected in the newly-erected church tower in this parish. It has two large dials and all the latest improvements. Messrs. John Smith and Sons, of the Midland Steam Clock Works, Derby, carried out the work under Messrs. Ruck and Smith, architects, of Maidstone.

PETERSFIELD (Hants).—On Sunday evening, November 26th, before Divine Service at St. Peter's church, 350 Grandsire Triples. W. Butler, jun., 1; A. Butler, 2; T. Cole, 3; W. Wilkinson (conductor), 4; W. Butler, sen., 5; G. Barnes, 6; J. Arthur, 7; W. Downs, 8. After service 504 Grandsire Triples. Rev. C. Edwards, 1; W. Butler, 2; A. Butler, 3; T. Cole, 4; G. Barnes, 5; W. Wilkinson, 6; J. Arthur (conductor), 7; W. Downs, 8.

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

By R. A. DANIELL.

(Continued from page 340.)

What view are we justified on knowledge and common-sense in talking of the characteristics of change-ringers of the past as a body, in contradistinction to the flapping of such writers as Mr. Tyack?

This is the last of the questions I stated in "THE BELL NEWS" of July 1st, 1899, and one not, I think, without considerable interest in itself, capable of being treated instructively by those who have a full knowledge of the old ringers and their ways. I do not profess to have this full knowledge, and am therefore obliged to do the best I can with such knowledge as I have been able to gather.

Now it is, and apparently has long been, a superstition of the pious, that ringers as a class have been especially distinguished among their fellow-men for excessive indulgence in drink. It is, of course, very foolish of the pious, because they do not know what they are talking about. Still, one cannot altogether treat them with neglect when these assumptions make their appearance in books such as Mr. Tyack's. I have already pointed out (page 592) that he has used Hentzner's statement of 1598 as evidence of ringers having then gained an evil reputation for irregularity of life. I have shown the absurdity of that statement from the then standard of reverence. But the suggestion is that what the men did was prompted by excessive drink. Supposing it was, would that gain them an evil reputation? The answer to this must depend upon what was the habit of people in general in this matter of drink. We shall perhaps clear our minds for the consideration of this question as affecting ringers if we get some correct ideas of the state of drinking in England from the time of Hentzner's visit downwards. The best compendious statement on this subject down to the reign of George II., of which I am aware, is that of Mr. Lecky, in his *History of England in the Eighteenth Century*, Vol. I, commencing at page 476; and as some of my readers may possibly not have convenient access to this book, I set the passage out.

"Drunkenness, it is true, had long been common, though Camden maintained that in his day it was still a recent vice, that there had been a time when the English were 'of all the Northern nations the most commended for their sobriety;' and that 'they first learned in their wars in the Netherlands to drown themselves with immoderate drinking.' (Camden's *History of Elizabeth*, A.D. 1581.) The Dutch and German origin of many drinking terms lends some colour to this assertion, and it is corroborated by other evidence.

'Superfluity of drink,' wrote Tom Nash in the reign of Elizabeth, is a sin that ever since we have mixed ourselves with the Low Countries is counted honourable; but, before we knew their lingering wars, was held in the highest degree of hatred that might be.' 'As the English,' said Chamberlayne, 'returning from the wars in the Holy Land, brought home the foul disease of leprosy . . . so, in our fathers' days the English returning from the service in the Netherlands brought with them the foul vice of drunkenness.' But the evil, if it was not indigenous in England, at least spread very rapidly and very widely. 'In England,' said Iago, 'they are most potent in potting. Your Dane, your German and your swag-bellied Hollander are nothing to your English.' (Othello, Act 2, Sc. 3). 'We seem,' wrote a somewhat rhetorical writer in 1657, 'to be steeped in liquors, or to be the dizzy island. We drink as if we were nothing but sponges . . . or had tunnels in our mouths . . . we are the grape suckers of the earth.' The dissipated habits of the Restoration, and especially the growing custom of drinking toasts, greatly increased the evil; but it was noticed that the introduction of coffee, which spread widely through England in the last years of the 17th century, had a perceptible influence in diminishing it: and among the upper classes drunkenness was, perhaps, never quite so general as between the time of Elizabeth and the Revolution. . . . The amount

of hard drinking among the upper classes was still very great, and it is remarkable how many of the most conspicuous characters were addicted to it. Addison, the foremost moralist of his time, was not free from it. Oxford, whose private character was in most respects singularly high, is said to have come, not unfrequently, drunk into the very presence of the Queen.* Bolingbroke, when in office, sat up whole nights drinking, and in the morning, having bound a wet napkin round his forehead and his eyes to drive away the effects of his intemperance, he hastened without sleep to his official business. When Walpole was a young man, his father was accustomed to pour into his glass a double portion of wine, saying, 'Come, Robert, you shall drink twice while I drink once; for I will not permit the son in his sober senses to be witness of the intoxication of the father.' This education produced its natural fruits, and the entertainments of the minister at Houghton were the scandal of his county, and often drove Lord Townshend from his neighbouring seat of Rainham. The brilliant intellect of Carteret was clouded by drink, and even Pulteney, who appears in his later years to have had stronger religious convictions than any other politician of his time, is said to have shortened his life by the same means."

The habit of excessive drinking lasted throughout the eighteenth century. Among well-known persons who indulged in it were to be found distinguished statesmen and members of the House of Commons. Speaking of the clergy in the early part of the present century, Mr. Wakeman, in his *History of the Church of England*, says (page 459)—"When such was the state of things the wonder was that the clergy were on the whole so good as they seem to have been. No doubt there were many among them whose consciences were singularly unresponsive to their duties. A few of them hunted, shot, fished and drank or gambled during the week like their friends in the army or at the bar, and mumbled through a perfunctory service in church on Sundays, untroubled by the thought of archdeacon or bishop. Some of them, where there was no residence in the parish, lived an idle and often vicious life at a neighbouring town, and only visited their parishes when they rode out on Sundays to conduct the necessary services. It would not be difficult to find districts of England and Wales where drunkenness was very common among the clergy. It was the vice of the age, and many of the clergy, especially in remote districts, were no better than their neighbours. Discipline was extremely lax, and the public conscience was not so much shocked at these excesses as it would be now. But such men were by no means in the majority."

I quote this passage not for the purpose of dwelling on the habits of a minority of the clergy, but as an evidence of the general standard of conscience in the matter of drink, which tolerated what our generation would find unendurable. With regard to the Universities, Canon Overton in his book, *The English Church in the Nineteenth Century* says that at Oxford "the bad old habits of intemperance had not been rooted out" at the beginning of the present century, and quotes Professor Pryme's *Autobiographic Recollections* for the statement that when the future professor first went to Cambridge, about 1800, "the habit of hard drinking was almost as prevalent there as it was in country society."

Evidence of the drinking habits of our forefathers may be multiplied to almost any extent, but what I have set out appears sufficient for my purpose. For if ministers of state, men in the army and at the bar, Clergy, country gentlemen, and resident members of the Universities were addicted to them, it is obviously absurd to single out ringers as special offenders in this way. Moreover, we must remember that what is true of a class in general is not necessarily true of all the members of it. We are not warranted in the assertion that all statesmen were intemperate in their drink, but only that it was a common practice among them. And so of the other classes I have named, and so also of ringers. And there is another point to be noticed, namely that drunkenness is possible without loss of self-respect. A Minister of the Crown who in our day got scandalously drunk in public, would not be able to face his colleagues, but would

*Queen Anne.

have to resign. But in the last century, a man in that position would not dream of resigning: he would have done nothing which would put him at a disadvantage with public opinion. Drunkenness outrages the public opinion of our day, and consequently a man who indulges in it feels himself at a disadvantage, and tends to lose his self-respect, so that he can hardly help falling gradually lower while he continues in the habit. But in days when public opinion tolerated drunkenness the same result did not follow. The heavy drinking of Pitt did not sever him from intimacy with the evangelical Wilberforce, nor the intemperance of Fox from the affection of the abstemious Burke, and the great moralist, Dr. Johnson, bestowed an intimate friendship on the oftentimes tipsy Boswell.

It was then possible in the old days for men to get drunk as a matter of course, without their doing so proving a necessary bar to their general usefulness or the exercise of their abilities. Sir Robert Walpole, to whom Mr. Lecky above refers, was Prime Minister of England under George I. and II., and was certainly one of the most able men who have ever held such a position. He did much valuable work for his country, and would have done more had he not been thwarted by others. Instances be may multiplied of men who have indulged in the drinking habits of their time, and yet by their actions and capacity have shewn that while their drinking may not have been according to our ideas, it was not incompatible with a vigorous use of their mental and physical endowments.

(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."

"THE HISTORY OF RINGING."

SIR,—I must thank Mr. Daniell for his interesting letter. I fear my memory is defective as to which bell is rung at 6 a.m. at Cambridge. But that is beside my point, which is that a secular origin for the evening bell demands similarly a secular origin for the morning one, and such has not even been conjectured. Whereas a religious origin solves all difficulties. As for "Tom" at Oxford, I always understood it struck once for each scholar, to count them, as it were, as they came in to chapel for Compline, the service immediately before bed-time.

In last week's article Mr. Daniell says it is hardly conceivable that a band should be meeting to ring for a service that had not been held for over half-a-century. But what does he make of the Sunday morning bells still rung in all—so far as my experience goes—our country churches? I suppose it is unquestioned that these were rung formerly for the Sunday Mass; and although the service was dropped the ringer or ringers kept it up—probably to save their stipend—until during the last twenty years the service has been resumed almost everywhere.

At my native place—Mountsorrel, Leicestershire—twenty years ago, there was one bell rung out of the three at 8 a.m.; and two bells at 9 a.m.; the former it is supposed for Matins, the latter for Mass. That the two bells were rung I can vouch for, as when I learnt, it was the custom to teach beginners to keep time by putting them to ring one of them. For the eleven o'clock service all three bells were chimed for a quarter-of-an-hour, and the tenor rung for the remaining quarter; shortly after the service one bell was chimed for a minute or so, "to tell the people that there would be a sermon at evensong" as it was then explained. I have not myself the least doubt that this was really the *Angelus*, as it was rung in very much the traditional way for that devotion, and at the customary time. All these customs have now ceased, these being superseded by the modern requirements of frequent services. But there may be churches where they are still observed. I hope such of your readers as know of any such will conquer their usual unwillingness to write to you, and let us know of all the old customs they can remember either now or formerly in use.

My own belief is that in every case it will be found that whenever a bell was rung it was for some disused service, and even where it seems for a directly secular purpose, it is probably because the functions announced used to begin with a service

which is now dropped. I am therefore obliged to disagree entirely with what Mr. Daniell says in this week's "BELL NEWS." In fact if he will compare the state of the ringing in the last century, he will find it much the same as the singing. The parson did what was prescribed in his part of the service; if the singers cared to get up some singing and fiddling, they could do so; if not the clerk took their place; but they were allowed to do pretty much as they liked, and practice as they liked, and go out singing elsewhere if they were asked. The idea of a parson taking charge of the practices would then be as strange, as unfortunately it usually still is, in the belfry.

And therefore if they adopted chiming it was simply because they thought anything was good enough for God's service; just as inside the church any rubbish was allowed to find a place or any music to be sung; they were paid to sound the bells, few but themselves knew or cared whether they were rung or not, so they adopted a style of sounding them, which required the attendance of the least number, and kept their ringing for their own recreation. This is the case in many helfries to this day.

I do not think that the practice of Sunday chiming is universal; I have rung on Sundays with a band in Sussex who performed a method of their own, in whole-pull changes, and from their appearances would probably have had pipes and beer in the belfry had I not been there; and they stated that the bells had always been rung on Sundays. The chief—and only, so far as I know—objection to Sunday ringing is a Sabbatarian objection to "work" on that day.

Nor do I think that change-ringing would have seemed "secular," either then or now, to parsons, had they troubled about it. Not only because the music was then so largely secular, but because I doubt whether its secularity exists. If we are to call it a physical and mental gymnastics, what are we to say of the introduction of harmony into our church music? But as it happened, I had an instance to the contrary a short time ago. A fellow-clergyman overhearing me arguing with some of our ringers on the advisability of their not being content with ringing the bells in call-changes on Sunday, interposed and said that from a musical point of view the repetition of one change was very monotonous, and a variation each time was a great relief, and much appropriate to a Sunday service. Now change-ringing (and ringing on Sunday) was new to him, so he gave the opposite answer to what Mr. Daniell anticipates. And I think any clergyman who was interested in choir work would look on it in the same light.

Therefore while I agree that change-ringing was strongly marked by secularity, yet I think such was merely a slovenly irreverence similar to the state of the singers, and begotten of the spirit of the times. In some places matters were better, and there the traditional ringing has been kept up.

Willenhall, Dec. 9, 1899.

H. DRAKE.

SIR,—I must not allow Mr. Daniell's thanks to me for bringing to his notice Bunyan's poem on Ringing to be chronicled without for my own part acknowledging my indebtedness. The book in which this piece, entitled *Comparison*, is found, published in 1686, and entitled *A Book for Boys and Girls, or Country Rhymes for Children*, was reproduced in facsimile by Messrs. Elliot Stock, some ten years ago. Messrs. Stock kindly lent the plates containing these lines to the Rev. C. H. Evelyn White, F.S.A., Editor of the *East Anglian*, our local *Notes and Queries*. It is to be found in Vol. III. New Series, p. 275.

Fressingfield Vicarage, 9th Dec., 1899.

J. J. RAVEN,

BARNSBURY AND CANONBURY COURT BOB MAJOR.

SIR,—Mr. John Carter asks the question "Are we to take these methods as new or old ones?" I myself think there is some mystery about them. They are both old to me, but what are they? Each is a reverse of the other, and contain half of Double Norwich work, Barnsbury the 3-4 places, and Canonbury the 5-6 places. I also find in this week's "BELL NEWS" that Mr. Baker asserts that both are single methods. If so I say they must be Single Norwich Court Bob Major and its reverse. Will Mr. Dains or Mr. Baker please explain this?

1, Vale Terrace, Spital, Chesterfield.

ARTHUR CRAVEN.

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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, DECEMBER 16, 1899.

THE Nineteenth Century is almost at its close, and we are therefore upon the threshold of the Twentieth. The commencement of the former one found us involved in war against the first Napoleon, and the latter will find us in a struggle more sanguinary than that in which the Corsican was put down. There is an awful similarity between the two periods. Britain is at present engaged in a great struggle for supremacy on another continent, and victory is absolutely necessary for the British arms. It would appear from recent intelligence that an insufficient estimate was made of the lasting powers of the enemy, and his provision for maintaining the contest. But there seems to be no doubt in the minds of anyone that our valiant army will eventually carry all before it,

and enforce peace upon its own conditions. It would be unpatriotic not to fervently hope this.

One remarkable concomitant of this war is the manner in which some of our continental friends speak of it. Some of the French papers are pleased to make merry over the checks which some portions of our army in South Africa have met with. Frenchmen should be the last to indulge in pleasantry of this kind. Have they so soon forgotten the war they rushed into "with a light heart" with their powerful neighbour? Have the boasts they made about taking Berlin, and other games of brag they played at at the time slipped from their memory? Do they recollect the terrible and humiliating defeat they suffered? They certainly have no room to say anything.

In spite of the manner in which the editors of some continental papers are for the present moment indulging themselves, sensible people hesitate to believe that responsible European statesmen favour in any way the hysterical ravings of the continental press. We could with great propriety call upon most of the European powers at the present moment to show their gratitude to Great Britain for the vast services rendered to them at the commencement of this century. The leading powers of Europe were buffeted about, and their monarchs regarded as satraps of the conqueror. They were unable and powerless to rise without the assistance of Great Britain. Millions upon millions of money were sent them periodically, and torrents of British blood poured out for the purpose of restoring them to national existence. But gratitude is an unknown quantity in such a case. But we can afford to regard their conduct with complacency.

We shall emerge from this combat, God willing, with the reward of victory. The British nation throughout the world is not an effete institution. The greatest Empire the world has ever seen will not succumb on account of a reverse or two. The subjects of the Queen at home and abroad are of one mind on this matter. Let foreign snarlers understand these facts, and look on and gnash their teeth, and howl themselves blue, if either process affords them any delight. We shall view their future antics with the greatest equanimity.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, December 9, 1899, in Four Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL, CORNHILL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5014 CHANGES.

Tenor 41 cwt.

JAMES PETTIT	Treble.	MATTHEW A. WOOD.. ..	7.
HARRY R. PASMORE*	2.	EDWIN HORREX	8.
HENRY SPRINGALL	3.	*JOHN R. SHARMAN	9.
CHALLIS F. WINNY	4.	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL ..	10.
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ..	5.	EDWARD P. O'MEARA ..	11.
THOMAS HATTERSLEY ..	6.	WALTER PRIME	Tenor.

Composed by the late JOHN COX (born December 9th, 1813), and Conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

*First peal of Stedman Cinques.

FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.

THE ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY, FULHAM.

On Saturday, December 9, 1899, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 21 cwt.

JAMES W. DRIVER	Treble.	WILLIAM T. ELSON	6.
HARRY BARTON	2.	*WILLIAM PICKWORTH ..	7.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL ..	3.	†LANCE-CORP. J. R. MACKMAN	8.
FREDERICK G. PERRIN ..	4.	REUBEN CHARGE	9.
GEORGE E. SYMONDS ..	5.	CORNELIUS CHARGE	Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by CORNELIUS CHARGE.

*First peal in the method, also of Royal. †First peal of Royal.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 9, 1899, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHGATE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

ALFRED R. GLASSCOCK ..	Treble.	FRANK C. NEWMAN	5.
JOHN ARMSTRONG	2.	JOHN E. MILLER	6.
FREDERICK C. FORDHAM ..	3.	†ARTHUR MILLER	7.
GEORGE H. BARKER	4.	SIDNEY WADE	Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN, and Conducted by SIDNEY WADE.

†First peal of Treble Bob Major. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

The Provinces.

SMETHWICK, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

On Monday, November 27, 1899, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

WILLIAM SHORT	Treble.	HENRY MIDDLETON	5.
WILLIAM G. ELLIS	2.	ALBERT WALKER	6.
FREDERICK CLAYTON ..	3.	*HENRY WITHERS	7.
WILLIAM H. BARBER ..	4.	JOHN BARBER	Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and Conducted by FREDERICK CLAYTON.

*First in the method. This composition has the 4th, 5th, and 6th their extent in 6th place.

SOUTH MIMMS, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 2, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Tenor 11½ cwt.

ALFRED R. GLASSCOCK ..	Treble.	WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE ..	4.
JOHN ARMSTRONG	2.	JOHN E. MILLER	5.
GEORGE H. BARKER	3.	SIDNEY WADE	Tenor.

Conducted by SIDNEY WADE.

ALDENHAM, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 4, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

GEORGE LAZELL	Treble.	FRANK SMITH	5.
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM ..	2.	ERNEST HOLLOWAY	6.
WILLIAM JAY	3.	ERNEST E. HUNTLEY ..	7.
BERTRAM PREWETT	4.	WILLIAM HEWETT	Tenor.

Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

BIRMINGHAM.—THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

On Wednesday, November 29, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT ST. CHAD'S (R.C.) CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.
5008 CHANGES. Tenor 15 cwt.

ALBERT WALKER Treble.	THOMAS MILLER 5.
WILLIAM H. BARBER 2.	*HENRY MIDDLETON 6.
WILLIAM SHORT 3.	JOHN BARBER 7.
ARTHUR E. PEGLER 4.	FREDERICK CLAYTON Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and Conducted by WILLIAM H. BARBER.

*First peal in the method with a bob bell. This composition has the 6th twelve times wrong, and the last twenty-four courses home, with all the 6-4s, 6-5s, 4-6s and 5-6s, and is now rung for the first time.

ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.—THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

On Saturday, December 2, 1899, in Three Hours and Thirty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5120 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 23 cwt.

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

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM H. BARBER.

*First peal of Royal. The figures of this composition will appear later.

OLDBURY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY BRANCH.)

On Monday, December 4, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.
Tenor 10½ cwt.

JOHN JENNINGS Treble.	THOMAS COLLINSON 5.
REUBEN HALL 2.	JOHN T. PERRY 6.
THOMAS HORTON 3.	JOHN CARTER 7.
CHARLES SPARKES 4.	RICHARD SPEAKMAN Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

This peal is in five parts, and is now rung for the first time.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 6, 1899, in Two Hours and Twenty 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.	WESLEY WATSON 7-8.

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

Umpires—L. W. Copsey and H. F. Dawkins.

GILLINGHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 7, 1899, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

WALTER HOBBS Treble.	ERNEST MEXTER 5.
WILLIAM HOLLIER 2.	SERG. FRYATT, R.E. 6.
PERCY TAFES 3.	WILLIAM BATE 7.
CHARLES MILLWAY* 4.	WILLIAM HAIGH Tenor.

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

*First peal of Major.

NEWDIGATE, SURREY.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, December 9, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of New London Pleasure, London Scholars' Pleasure, Woodbine, College Exercise, Oxford Treble Bob, College Pleasure and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 8½ cwt.

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

Conducted by ALBERT ELLIS.

FRESSINGFIELD, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 9, 1899, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.
Tenor 17½ cwt.

WILLIAM RICHES Treble.	ROBERT RAYNER 5.
ALBERT RICHES 2.	FREDERICK SMITH 6.
ROBERT WELTON 3.	JAMES BETTS 7.
JAMES ADAMS 4.	ERNEST POPPY Tenor.

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE, and Conducted by JAMES BETTS.

First peal as conductor.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

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

On Saturday, December 9, 1899, in Three Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5040 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 32 cwt.

JAMES MOTTS Treble.	ERNEST PYE 7.
WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE 2.	HENRY BOWELL 8.
ALBERT E. DURRANT 3.	WILLIAM ROUGHTON 9.
CHARLES H. GILLINGHAM 4.	WILLIAM MOTTS 10.
ROBERT H. BRUNDLE 5.	JOHN H. CHEESMAN 11.
GEORGE R. PYE† 6.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

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

†First peal on twelve bells. For calling see Association Report for 1894.

OXHEY, HERTS.—THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 9, 1899, in Three Hours and one Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

HUBERT EDEN* Treble.	*JOHN B. BATES 5.
BERTRAM PREWETT 2.	ERNEST E. HUNTLEY 6.
FRANK A. SMITH 3.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM 7.
CHARLES GEORGE 4.	GEORGE N. PRICE Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by GEORGE N. PRICE.

*First peal of Major. This composition has the 4th, 5th and 6th only in 6ths place, the 2nd never in 5ths place, and the 3rd there for only eight courses.

BURNLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(ROSENDALE, PRESTON AND BLACKBURN BRANCHES).

On Saturday, December 9, 1899, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 11½ cwt.

DAVID CAMPBELL Treble.	WILLIAM T. H. TIMBRELL 5.
RICHARD ASHWORTH 2.	EDWIN TIMBRELL 6.
ZEBULON LORD* 3.	*JOHN HENRY BARNES 7.
RENNIE HARTLEY 4.	TOM REDMAN Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM HARRISON, and Conducted by TOM REDMAN.

*First peal in the method.

HAWLEY, HANTS.—THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.*On Saturday, December 9, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-three 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.	ARTHUR W. HIGGS 5.
SEPTIMUS RADFORD 2.	FRANK BLONDELL 6.
HENRY WHITE 3.	CHARLES GILES 7.
JAMES HUNT 4.	ALFRED E. REEVES Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS, and Conducted by CHARLES GILES.

*First peal of Treble Bob. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of esteem to a local chorister, who died the day previous. A. W. Higgs was elected a member of the Guild previous to starting.

KING'S NORTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.**THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION,**

(THE KING'S NORTON GUILD.)

On Saturday, December 9, 1899, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR,

5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOHN WITHERS* Treble.	WILLIAM H. BARBER 5.
ALFRED PRITCHETT* 2.	WILLIAM SHORT 6.
WILLIAM S. PRITCHETT 3.	*WILLIAM PALMER 7.
THEODORE PRITCHETT* 4.	JOHN S. PRITCHETT Tenor.

Composed by C. MIDDLETON, Conducted by JOHN S. PRITCHETT.

*First peal of Cambridge. First by the Guild, and believed to be the first time four brothers have taken part in a Surprise peal together.

MIDDLESBROUGH, YORKS.**CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.***On Monday, December 11, 1899, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HILDA,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,

5056 CHANGES.

WILLIAM NEWTON† Treble.	WILLIAM RUDD 5.
FRED P. HOWCROFT 2.	THOMAS METCALFE 6.
JAMES A. CARTER 3.	JOHN H. BLAKISTON 7.
JOHN H. JONES 4.	ALEXANDER MCFARLANE Tenor.

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY, and Conducted by J. H. BLAKISTON.

†First peal in the method. Rung as a birthday compliment to Messrs. Howcroft and McFarlane.

WORTLEY, SHEFFIELD, YORKS.**THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.***On Tuesday, December 12, 1899, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF COLLEGE SINGLE MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

CLIFF DRONFIELD† Treble.	EDWARD ROBBINS 5.
THOMAS MCKEGG 2.	GEORGE W. DRONFIELD 6.
JOHN DRONFIELD 3.	JOHN PARKIN 7.
THOMAS ROBBINS 4.	DAVID BREARLEY Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and Conducted by DAVID BREARLEY.

This peal has the full combinations of 4-5-6 in 5-6 †First peal of College Single.

TAUNTON, SOMERSET.**THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE ST. MARY'S GUILD, TAUNTON.***On Saturday, December 12, 1899, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 30 cwt.

JOHN GARLAND† Treble.	†FRANK SADD 5.
SIDNEY WYATT 2.	JAMES BURGE 6.
WILLIAM EVELEIGH† 3.	EDWARD WYATT 7.
JOSEPH FOWLER 4.	†CHARLES MACEY Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES BURGE

†First peal, and first peal as conductor.

Date Touches.**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—MACCLESFIELD BRANCH.**

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Tuesday evening, November 14th, at St. James' church, a date touch, 1899 changes, in 1 hr. 10 mins., being 360 each of Oxford, Kent, Canterbury Pleasure and Bob Minor, and 459 Grandsire Minor. T. Taylor, 1; W. W. Steel, 2; W. Walmsley, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; J. Minshull, 5; W. Matthews, 6. Composed and Conducted by W. Walmsley. First touch in five methods on the bells, and for all the ringers. Tenor 11½ cwt.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THORNHAM MAGNA (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, October 7th, a date touch of Doubles in the following methods: The Dream, Morning Star, April Day, London, Canterbury, Evening Star, Plain Bob and Grandsire. A. W. Symonds, 1; E. Buckingham, 2; W. Rose, 3; E. Youngs, 4; J. D. Buckingham (conductor), 5.

Miscellaneous.**THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**

BOCKING (Essex).—On Tuesday, October 31st, at the parish church, 720 Cambridge Surprise. N. Smith, 1; W. Moore, 2; F. Warren, 3; C. Bearman, 4; S. Sargent, 5; W. Grimwade (conductor), 6. On Sunday, November 5th, 720 New London Pleasure. N. Smith, 1; W. Moore, 2; F. Warren, 3; C. Bearman, 4; S. Sargent, 5; W. Grimwade (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, November 7th, 720 College Exercise. N. Smith, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; F. Warren, 4; S. Sargent, 5; W. Grimwade (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, November 14th, 720 College Exercise. N. Smith, 1; W. Moore, 2; F. Warren, 3; C. Bearman, 4; S. Sargent, 5; W. Grimwade (conductor), 6. On Sunday, November 19th, 720 Bob Minor. F. Warren, 1; N. Smith, 2; W. Chalk, 3; C. Bearman, 4; S. Sargent, 5; W. Grimwade (conductor), 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Chalk, 1; W. Moore, 2; P. Holmes, 3; C. Bearman, 4; F. Radley, 5; W. Grimwade (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, November 21st, 720 Bocking Treble Bob. N. Smith, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; C. Bearman, 4; S. Sargent (conductor), 5; W. Grimwade, 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. N. Smith, 1; S. Sargent, 2; A. Shuffelbotham, 3; C. Bearman, 4; F. Radley, 5; W. Grimwade (conductor), 6. On Sunday, November 26th, 720 Double Court Bob. P. Holmes, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; F. Warren, 4; W. Grimwade, 5; C. Howard (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 10th, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. N. Smith, 1; W. Moore, 2; F. Warren, 3; C. Bearman, 4; C. Howard, 5; W. Grimwade (conductor), 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

WITNEY (Oxon).—On Sunday morning, November 26th, for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples. G. Room, 1; — Lawrance, 2; J. Monk, 3; T. Bull, 4; F. P. Powell, 5; J. H. Shepherd, 6; E. Bishop, (conductor), 7; J. Brooks, 8.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

WEYBRIDGE (Surrey).—On Saturday, November 18th, on the occasion of the quarterly meeting, the following touches were rung on the handy ring of eight, tenor 12½ cwt. Other touches were rung by mixed companies, but the names of the ringers did not transpire. The whole of the ringing showed a marked improvement in the striking to that usually heard by mixed bands on strange bells. A 210 Grandsire Triples. J. W. Whiting, 1; J. Harper, 2; F. Blondell, 3; J. Hunt, 4; J. J. Jones, 5; S. Radford, 6; C. Willshire (conductor), 7; Rev. C. E. Matthews, 8. 288 Treble Bob Major. M. Steer, 1; G. Foster, 2; J. J. Jones, 3; S. Radford, 4; H. White, 5; C. Willshire, 6; F. Blondell, 7; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 8. 252 Stedman Triples. J. W. Whiting, 1; G. Foster, 2; H. White, 3; F. Blondell, 4; A. Pulling, 5; J. Hunt, 6; C. Willshire (conductor), 7; —, 8. 224 Bob Major. J. Hunt, 1; J. Foster, 2; J. W. White, 3; H. White, 4; A. Pulling, 5; F. Blondell, 6; S. Radford, 7; C. Willshire (conductor), 8. 560 Double Norwich. G. Foster, 1; H. White, 2; J. J. Jones, 3; C. Willshire, 4; S. Radford, 5; J. Hunt, 6; J. W. Whiting, 7; F. Blondell (conductor), 8.

RYDE (Isle of Wight).—On Sunday, November 5th, for evening service at All Saints church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. H. Jennings (conductor), 1; G. H. Coombes, 2; A. Earl, 3; J. G. Norris, 4; C. Stainer, 5; P. Long, 6; E. Hatcher, 7; E. J. Brett, 8. On Wednesday, November 8th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins. S. V. Salisbury, 1; G. H. Coombes, 2; A. Earl, 3; J. G. Norris, 4; E. Hatcher, 5; P. Long, 6; H. Jen-

nings (conductor), 7; E. G. Brett, 8. On Sunday, November 12th, 349 in the same method, for morning service. S. V. Salisbury, 1; G. H. Coombes, 2; H. Jennings (conductor), 3; J. G. Norris, 4; C. Stainer, 5; P. Long, 6; E. Hatcher, 7; E. G. Brett, 8.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ARUNDEL (Sussex).—On Monday, November 20th, 536 Bob Triples. C. Rogers, 1; F. Luxford, 2; J. Netley, 3; G. Balchin, 4; H. D. Searle, 5; G. H. Lee, 6; C. Blackman, 7; A. Mills, 8.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

KIDSGROVE (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, July 30th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. F. Johnson, 1; G. Buckley, 2; A. Archer, 3; H. Dean, 4; F. Dean, 5; J. Mason (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Oxford Treble Bob. F. Johnson, 1; G. Buckley, 2; A. Archer, 3; J. Mason, 4; H. Dean, 5; F. Dean (conductor), 6. On Sunday, September 10th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, for evening service. F. Johnson, 1; G. Buckley, 2; A. Archer, 3; F. Dean, 4; J. Mason, 5; H. Dean (conductor), 6. On Monday, September 18th, 720 College Pleasure. J. Mason, 1; G. Buckley, 2; A. Archer, 3; F. Dean, 4; H. Dean, 5; G. Siddons (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all, and first 720 in the method on the bells. On Thursday, September 21st, 720 College Pleasure. On Sunday, October 1st, for evening service, 720 Woodbine. On Monday, October 2nd, 720 Duke of York and 720 Violet. On Wednesday, October 18th, 720 New London Pleasure. On Thursday, October 19th, 720 Violet. On Monday, October 30th, 720 College Pleasure. All conducted by G. Siddons. On Sunday, November 5th, for evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. F. Johnson, 1; G. Buckley, 2; A. Archer, 3; J. Mason, 4; F. Dean, 5; G. Siddons (conductor), 6. On Sunday, November 12th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. F. Johnson, 1; G. Buckley, 2; J. Mason, 3; F. Dean, 4; H. Dean, 5; G. Siddons (conductor), 6. On Monday, November 13th, 720 New London Pleasure. J. Mason, 1; G. Buckley, 2; A. Archer, 3; F. Dean, 4; H. Dean, 5; G. Siddons (conductor), 6.

BUCKNALL (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, September 14th, 720 Bob Minor. J. Preston, 1; D. Preston, 1; G. Clarkson, 3; H. Alcock, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; C. Preston (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, September 19th, 720 City Delight. C. Preston, 1; W. Wheeldon, 2; J. Preston (first in the method), 3; D. Preston, 4; G. Clarkson (conductor), 5; W. Twigg, 6. Also 720 Imperial Treble Bob. J. Preston, 1; W. Wheeldon, 2; D. Preston, 3; G. Clarkson, 4; C. Preston, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, September 24th, for Divine Service, 720 Westminster Treble Bob. For evening service 720 London Treble Bob. J. Preston, 1; D. Preston, 2; G. Clarkson, 3; C. Preston, 4; W. Wheeldon, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. On Sunday, October 1st, 720 Coventry Surprise. G. Hobbs, 5; the rest as before. On Sunday, October 8th, 720 Durham Surprise. G. Hobbs, 1; W. Wheeldon, 5; the rest as before. On Sunday, October 15th, 720 Bucknall Surprise. J. Preston, 1; D. Preston, 2; G. Clarkson, 3; W. Wheeldon, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. On Sunday, October 22nd, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, for Holy Communion at 8 o'clock, 720 York Surprise. J. Preston, 1; C. Preston, 2; G. Clarkson, 3; D. Preston, 4; W. Wheeldon, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. For morning service 720 Lichfield Surprise. W. Wheeldon, 2; G. Hobbs, 5; the rest as before. And for evening service 720 Woodbine, standing as before.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

BRAY (County Wicklow).—On November 11th, at Christ Church, 720 Bob Minor, on the front six, tenor covering. H. Rickerby, 1; G. Matthews, 2; J. Lambert, 3; G. Lindoff, 4; T. Smith, 5; Rev. G. D. Scott (conductor), 6; W. Smith, 8. On November 18th, 504 Bob Triples. H. Rickerby, 1; G. Matthews, 2; G. Lindoff (conductor), 3; D. Townson, 4; T. Smith, 5; G. D. Scott, 6; W. Cherry, 7; W. Smith, 8.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

BERMONDSEY.—On Sunday, November 19th, at the residence of Mr Pasmore, on handbells, 1040 Bob Major. H. R. Pasmore, 1-2; W. H. Pasmore, 3-4; G. E. Symonds (conductor), 5-6; J. W. Golding, 7-8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ROCHESTER.—On Tuesday, November 14th, for practice, 1008 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. J. Kidd, 1; E. Rayner, 2; G. Chantler, 3; W. Baker, 4; O. Sullivan, 5; J. Tulett, 6; W. Hobbs, 7; W. Haigh (conductor), 8.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

REDHILL.—On Sunday, November 26th, for morning service, 700 Grandsire Triples. H. Ewens, 1; F. Hoad, 2; T. Beams, 3; G. Hoad (conductor), 4; E. Kenward, 5; T. Sparks, 6; H. Reeves, 7; A. Moseley, 8. For evening service, 672 Grandsire Triples. H. Evans, 1; F. Linter, 2; J. Beams (conductor), 3; G. Thompson, 4; E. Dewey, 5; E. Kenward, 6; F. Hoad, 7; G. Hoad, 8.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

BRETON (Notts).—On Saturday, November 18th, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but it came to grief after ringing 2 hrs. L. Price, 1; W. Clifford, jun., 2; H. Whittle (conductor), 3; W. Pervin, 4; R. Clifford, 5; J. Grundy, 6; F. Price, 7; J. Wilson, 8. Rung on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. R. Clifford.

STANFORD-ON-SOAR.—On Sunday, November 12th, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. F. Perrin, 1; A. Trigg, 2; G. Hardy, 3; W. Pervin, 4; J. Wilson, 5; H. Whittle (conductor), 6. On Monday, November 13th, for practice, 1440 Bob Minor. J. Wilson, 1; A. Trigg, 2; J. Grundy, 3; W. Pervin, 4; H. Whittle (conductor), 5; G. Doughty, 6.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

REDGRAVE (Suffolk).—On Sunday, October 15th, 720 Plain Bob. H. Garnham, 1; E. Youngs, 2; G. Broome, 3; C. Nunn, 4; H. Symonds, 5; J. D. Buckingham, 6.

GISLINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Saturday, October 11th, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-six singles). E. Youngs, 1; E. Buckingham, 2; H. Symonds, 3; C. Nunn, 4; A. W. Symonds, 5; J. D. Buckingham (conductor), 6.

THORNHAM MAGNA (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, October 18th, 720 Bob Minor on handbells. E. Young, 1; W. Rose, 2; C. Nunn, 3; H. Symonds, 4; E. Buckingham, 5; J. D. Buckingham (conductor), 6. On Sunday, November 12th, 240 Stedman Doubles. W. Rose, 1; A. W. Symonds, 2; E. Buckingham, 3; H. Symonds, 4; J. D. Buckingham (conductor), 5.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRISTOL.—On Saturday, October 14th, at St. Michael's church, 360 and 720 College Single, and two 720s of Kent Treble Bob Minor. S. Thomas (conductor), 1; F. Isaacs, 2; W. H. Thomas, 3; J. Thomas, 4; J. Burford, 5; A. M. Isaacs, 6. At St. George's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Thomas, 1; H. J. Howell, 2; A. Stowell, 3; A. Knight, 4; F. Isaacs, 5; S. Thomas, 6. First 720 by A. Stowell. Also 360 College Single. A. H. Lea, 1; W. W. Lea, 2; S. Thomas, 3; J. Thomas, 4; W. H. Thomas, 5; A. M. Isaacs, 6. And 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. W. Lea, 1; W. H. Thomas, 2; R. Clark, 3; J. Thomas, 4; F. Isaacs, 5; A. M. Isaacs (conductor), 6.

MARDEN (Kent).—On Sunday morning, November 26th, before Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 26 mins. J. Austen, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; H. Brown, 3; G. Haddaway, 4; F. Sharp (conductor), 5; G. Hodgkin, 6. This is the first 720 by J. Austen and G. Haddaway, and the first 720 on the bells by an entirely local band.

RUGBY (Warwickshire).—On Monday, November 13th, at St. Andrew's church, 518 Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original. A. Coleman, 1; R. Watson, 2; F. Betts, 3; C. J. B. Cooke, 4; A. J. Gillings (conductor), 5; A. Dubber, 6; J. George, 7; J. W. Shotton, 8. Tenor 25 cwt.

WIDFORD (Herts).—On Sunday evening, October 15th, for Divine Service at the church of St. John the Baptist, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. J. Sewell, 1; W. Marrable, 2; A. Pearman, 3; E. J. Webb, 4; J. Crabb, 5; C. Redington, 6. Also three 6-scores each called differently. J. Sewell, 1; W. Marrable (conductor), 2; A. Pearman, 3; E. J. Webb, 4; J. Crabb, 5; A. King, 6.

Situations Vacant.

WANTED.—First-class Shoeing and General Jobbing Smith, capable of taking charge of yard. Good wages and constant place to the right man. Changering, eight bells.—Particulars to A. RICHARDSON, Bathwick Carriage Works, Bath.

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

WANTED.—Steady young man to look after small out-door garden, pony and trap. One with a knowledge of the seed trade (or willing to learn) preferred, and able to handle a bell.—Apply by letter to R. H. HAYWARD, Marlesford, Suffolk.

Notices.

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

The Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Philip's church, Hulme, to-day, Saturday, December 16th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. A substantial tea will be provided at 9d. per head, at the British Workman Clubroom, opposite the church. Tea on the table at 6 p.m. Business immediately after tea. Annual Reports ready.

W. BROWN, Branch Sec.

54, Wenlock Street, Hulme, Manchester.

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Newchurch to-day, Saturday, December 16th. Bells ready at 3. Meeting at 6.30.

W. CASS, Branch Sec.

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—East Berks. and South Bucks. Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Horton to-day, Saturday, December 16th. Ringing to begin at 3 o'clock. Tea will be provided at 6d. per head.

H. C. BELL, Branch Sec.

The Lancashire Association of Six-Bell Ringers.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Penwortham to-day, Saturday, December 16th.

JAMES HIGSON, Sec.

The Llandaff Diocesan Association.—The Christmas quarterly meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 26th, at Penmark, near Cowbridge. There will be Divine Service at the parish church at 2.30. Meeting in the schoolroom at 3 o'clock. The bells will be available for ringing all day. Members who have not already paid their subscriptions for the current year are kindly requested to do so at this forthcoming meeting.

REV. CONNOP PRICE, Hon. Sec.

The Norwich Diocesan Association.—Saxmundham District.—The 36th Quarterly meeting will be held at Leiston, on Tuesday, December 26th. Tower will be open for ringing all day. Business meeting in the schools at 3 o'clock.

H. J. BUTTON, Hon. Dis. Sec.

Compositions.

PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5136.

By J. GALE, Melton Mowbray.

23456 W B H

52364 - - -
36524 - - -
53624 - - -
65324 - - -
32654 - - -
63254 - - -
62354 - - -
36254 - - -
23654 - - -
26354 - - -
35264 - - -
32564 - - -
63245 - - -
26345 - - -
23645 - - -

Twice repeated. Has the combinations of 4, 5 and 6 in 5-6, without 2nd in 6ths, or 3rd in 5-6.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS,

5236.

By GEO. E. SYMONDS, London.

123456 I 4 5 6 16

261354 - - -
264153 - - -
263451 - - -
362154 - - -
364251 - - -
361452 - - -
561234 - - -
564132 - - -
562431 - - -
652134 - - -
654231 - - -
651432 - - -
152364 - - -
154263 - - -
153462 - - -
653214 - - -
654312 - - -
652413 - - -
562314 - - -
564213 - - -
563412 - - -
163452 - - -
162354 - - -
164253 - - -

Repeated, calling the first course 5-16 produces—162453. Rounds with bobs at 3-5-8. Start from rounds with a slow six. By omitting any three consecutive 16s the number is reduced to 5020. First rung at St. Margaret's, Westminster, on September 30th, 1899, conducted by Harry Barton.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE.

5088.

By E. TIMBRELL, Chipping, Lancashire.

23456 B M W H

45236 - - -
62534 - - -
43526 - - -
65324 - - -
42356 - - -
35426 - - -
35264 - - -
23564 - - -

Twice repeated.

720 OF GRANDSIRE MINOR.

By R. JOHNSON, Farmworth, Widnes.

- 23456

- 65243
s 43625
s 25463
- 36245
s 45326
- 62435
s 35642
- 24365
- 56234
- 43526
- 62453
s 53642
- 24563
- 36254
s 54326
- 62534
- 43652
s 52463
- 36542
s 42356

Twice repeated, with bob in place of single at second call in part 2, and last call in part 3.

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THE RINGING-CHAMBER,

THE OFFICE, OR

THE HOUSE.

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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.

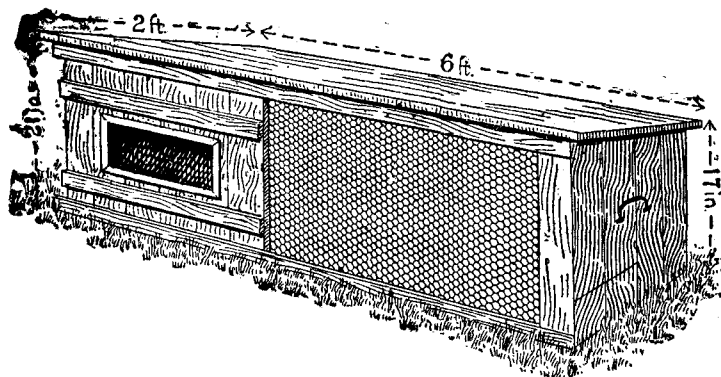
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A SET of Fifteen HANDBELLS, by Mears. Tenor 18G, thirteen consecutive notes with semitone 12F and 8C-sharp.—Apply to T. HATTERSLEY, 79, West Street, Sheffield, or the Rev. F. G. SANDFORD, Sharrow Vicarage, Sheffield.

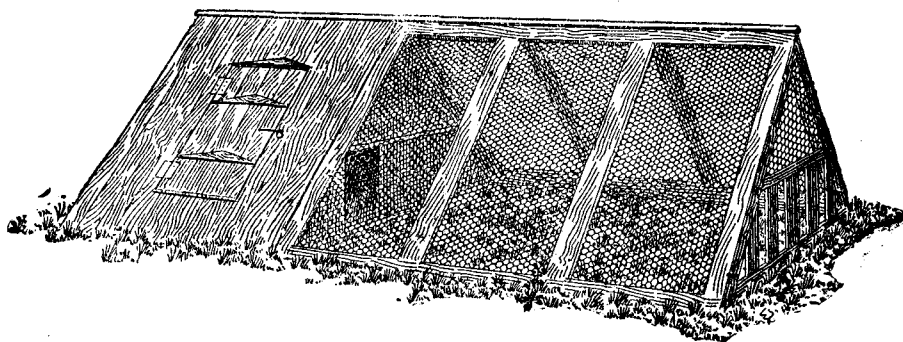
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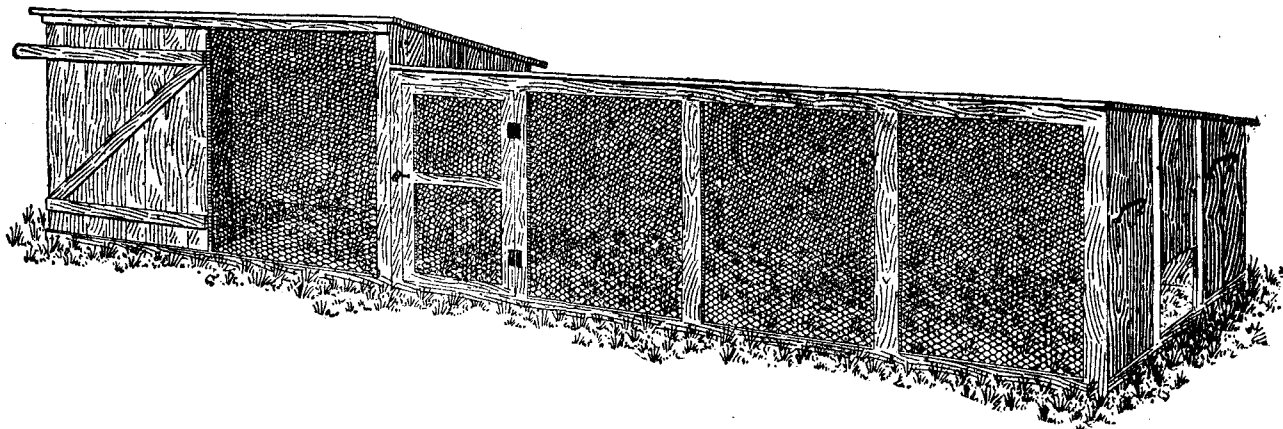
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ATTENDED, at the DEDICATION SERVICE by the
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In Commemoration of Her Majesty's Jubilee, 1897.

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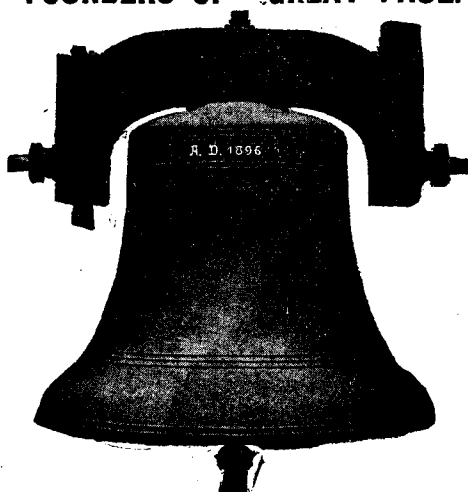
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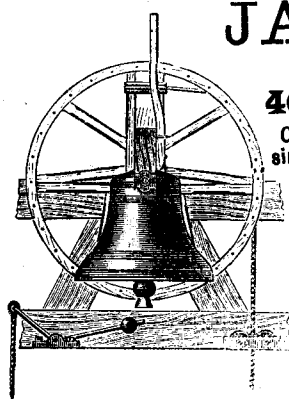
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No. 319.	"Hark the bonny Christ Church Bells," varied		1	6
The above are for 6 ringers with 13 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.A.				
The next are for 6 ringers with 12 bells thus—C.D.E.F.G.A.B.C.D.E.F.G.				
No. 320.	"The Mountaineer's Waltz," 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. 924.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1899.

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Exeter Cathedral.	Craig-y-Nos Castle
Llandaff do.	Eddystone Lighthouse.
Wells do.	Birmingham Municipal
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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 (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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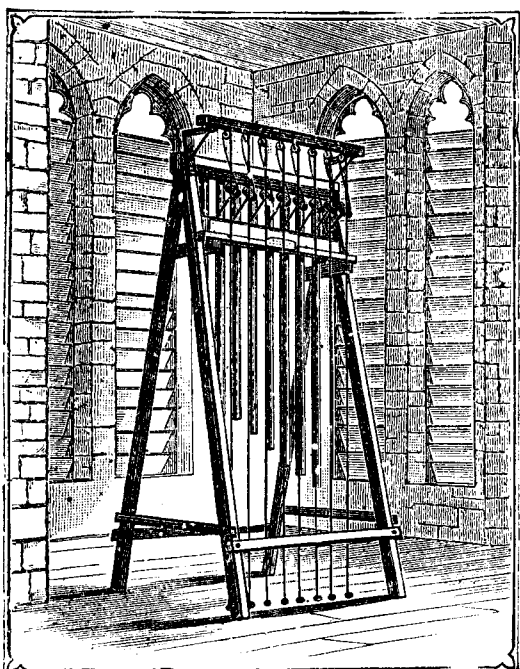
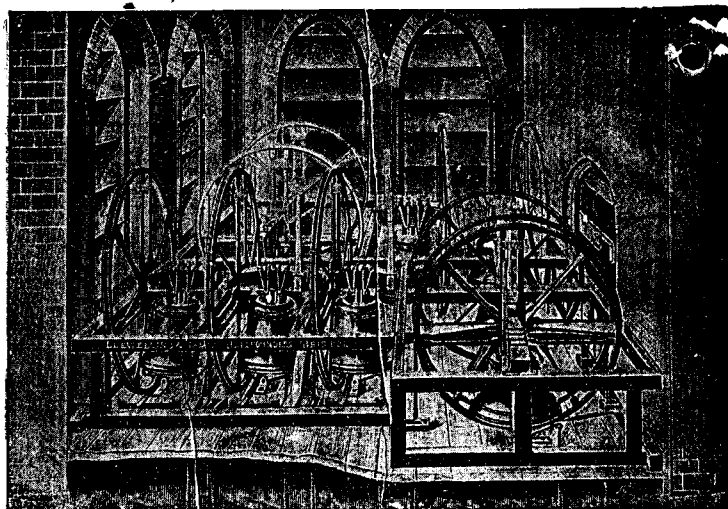
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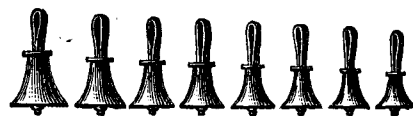
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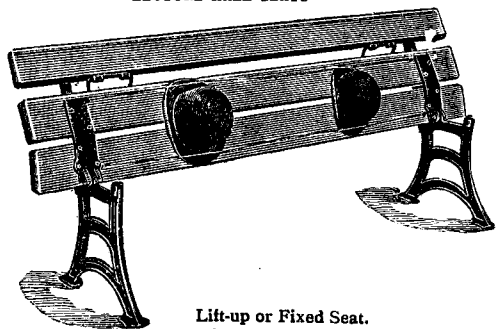
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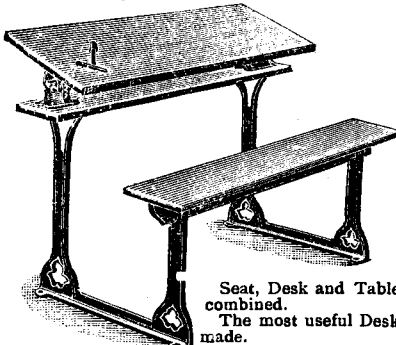
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DALTRY and SON, Contractors to the Bristol School Board.

The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 924.]

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

MR JAMES GEORGE, OF RUGBY.

(*Vidê Portrait*).

ON December 8th, 1894, we published a notice of this ringer, and have now much pleasure in again presenting a portrait of him on his having completed his 200th peal.

JAMES GEORGE was born on November 27th, 1853, at Pinner, Middlesex, his father, James George, being for many years leader of the ringers at that place. On Sunday, August 13th, 1899, the subject of this notice conducted an admirably-struck peal of Grandsire Triples, at Pinner parish church, to celebrate the golden wedding of his parents, which took place on that date, this being his 200th peal.

At an early age he showed a great liking for bells, and although he learnt to pull a bell when a boy, it was not until 1889 that he rung his first peal. Since that date, however, he has rapidly advanced in the art, and as the following particulars will show, has proved himself a splendid ringer, and in ten years has obtained such a record that very few can supersede.

Mr. GEORGE is at home on any bell, but has proved himself an exceptionally good heavy bellringer (although only a light-weight, 10 st. 8 lbs.). Amongst other performances he has turned in the tenor at St. Peter's Mancroft, Norwich, 43 cwt., to Treble Ten and Twelve, and at Chester 33½ cwt., to Treble Eight, the tenor at St. Philip's, Birmingham, 29 cwt., to Treble Bob Royal and Forward Royal.

Previous to 1896 there was at Rugby only five bells, but in that year a splendid tower and peal of bells were added to the parish church, and the bells by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank are acknowledged to be one of the finest peals in the country. A local change-ringers' society was formed, and Mr. GEORGE was naturally selected, for which he has continued to act as Master. His teaching has had good results, a peal of Grandsire Triples having been rung by a local band in spite of the fact that the time allowed for practice on the bells is very limited.

Mr. GEORGE has only one hobby, which is change-ringing. During the past few years he has devoted his holidays to ringing tours. We might mention that last year in a fortnight he travelled 2,500 miles, and at Whitsuntide this year he visited Dublin, where he rung in two peals. It will therefore be easily understood that he has rung peals in a great many different towers, his record being two hundred peals in one hundred and sixteen different towers, in ninety-five towns and twenty-six counties, and the number of different ringers with whom he has rung peals, if totalled up, would probably be over eight hundred.

As mentioned in the previous account, the longest peal

he has rung is 8009 Grandsire Caters, at Wolverhampton, in 5 hours and 11 minutes.

The following is a list of his peals:—

	Rang.	Conducted.
Kent Treble Bob Maximus ...	1	
Kent Treble Bob Royal ...	10	
Kent Treble Bob Major ...	26	
Oxford Treble Bob Major ...	1	
Stedman Cinques ...	3	
Stedman Caters ...	12	
Stedman Triples ...	35	
Grandsire Royal ...	1	
Grandsire Major ...	2	
Grandsire Cinques ...	4	
Grandsire Caters ...	22	
Grandsire Triples ...	45	12
Grandsire Triples (Handbells) ...	2	
Bob Royal ...	6	
Bob Major ...	18	
Bob Minor ...	1	
Bob Triples ...	1	
Double Norwich Court Bob Major	5	
Forward Royal ...	1	
Canterbury Pleasure Major ...	1	
Darlaston Bob Triples ...	2	
Union Triples (Handbells) ...	1	
	200	12

Mr. GEORGE is a member of the following Guilds and Associations:—

Essex Association, Midland Counties Association, Middlesex Association, Winchester Diocesan Guild, Salisbury Diocesan Guild, Sussex County Association, Hertford Association, Oxford Diocesan Guild, Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, Worcester and adjoining Districts Association, Hereford Diocesan Guild, Lancashire Association, Kent County Association, Birmingham Amalgamated, Ancient Society of College Youths, St. James Society, Waterloo Society, All Saints' Fulham Association, St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham, Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association, St. Margaret's Society, Westminster, Bedfordshire Association, St. Peter's Guild, Wolverhampton, United Counties Association, The Central Northamptonshire Association, Ashton-under-Lyne Society, Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, St. Michael's Juniors, Gloucester, St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, Norwich Diocesan Association, Nun-eaton Society, St. Peter Mancroft Society, Norwich, St. Andrew's Society, Rugby, The Surrey Association, The Cheltenham and District Guild.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A Meeting of the Central Committee was held at Maidstone on Saturday, December 16th, at which it was decided to hold the annual meeting of the Association on Whitsun-Monday at Tonbridge. It was also decided to grant the sum of one guinea from the Belfry Repairs Fund towards the rehanging of the bells at Hayes.

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.



MR. JAMES GEORGE.

(Of Rugby.)

ANOTHER VETERAN RINGER.

A recent number of the *Hull Times* gives an account of an old brother-string who has seen and rung some changes during his lifetime. We extract the following about this old worthy:—It would not be too much to say that Mr. Geo. Willis is one of the oldest bellringers, both in point of age and service, not only in the county, but also in the country. At present in his eightieth year, he commenced ringing when only twelve. He can thus point to an unbroken record of sixty-seven years' service, and he is as fond of it to-day as when he first pulled a rope. Indeed, in a conversation lately, he said the biggest favour one could grant him was to "gie him a good warming" at his favourite pastime. The passion for bellringing, and it is indeed a passion with him, is hereditary, both his father and grandfather being change-ringers in their day. He has, according to his own statement walked hundreds of miles in pursuit of his hobby, and he knows the pitch and tone of every bell in the neighbourhood for miles round. For twelve years he walked once a week to Barrow, (his native place) to teach the ringers there the art of change ringing, but, said the old man, he gave it up because "they wouldn't be larnt," although he considers it as easy as A B C.

So fond was he of ringing that he could even spare an hour or two on his wedding day to help in a peal, and his history repeated itself when on Friday, September 23rd, 1898, a peal was rung to celebrate his golden wedding.

Said Mr. Willis, in answer to enquiries, the position of the ringers to-day is vastly different from what it was when he first commenced his career. They fill an important position, and are recognised by the authorities of the church as an almost indispensable part of the system. No such orgies as often disgraced bell-ringing of the olden days ever took place at Barton. Only on one occasion could he remember drink being taken into the bell chamber. There had been a wedding of the daughter of a prominent townsman, and the father of the bride had presented each ringer with a bottle of liquor, which had been surreptitiously conveyed to the tower of the church, and there consumed.

A career of fifty-seven years could not pass over without some amusing experiences, but space forbids their repetition. Asked if he rang at the Queen's Accession, he replied, "No, that year I was living in service in Yorkshire," which fact prevented him doing so. He has, however, rung on many important events, such as Queen's birthdays, etc. In St. Peter's tower is a large framed sheet of paper, which to the uninitiated looks like a lot of addition sums waiting to be added up. To the trained eye it is a peal of 720 changes, worked out by Mr. Willis—a self-imposed task which took him weeks to accomplish. It indicates a thorough knowledge of the subject. The peal is often rung as it was last Friday night. Mr. Willis has rung during the term of four vicars, namely, Mr. Uppleby, Mr. Holt, Mr. Hogarth, Mr. (now Canon) Moor, and is still in harness with a fifth, namely, the Rev. H. G. C. North-Cox.

This sketch should not be concluded without reference to another matter upon which Mr. Willis holds strong views, namely, the Identity Question. He believes, and has done for thirty years, from the bottom of his heart, that the English people are identical with the lost tribes of Israel. This opinion is the result of an earnest study of [the] Bible, and nothing can shake his faith in this theory.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Committee Meeting was held on Saturday, December 16th, at the head-quarters, Leeds. Mr. W. Snowdon presided, and there was a good attendance. It was decided to accept the invitation from the Earlsheaton branch to hold the annual meeting at that place on January 20th. A draft of the annual report read by the President, and adopted by the Committee, showed that good progress had been made in all directions during the past year.

PARISH CHURCH, ST. ANNE'S-ON-SEA, LANCASHIRE.

A fine new eight-day turret striking clock has just been erected at the above church showing the time upon three external dials, and striking the hours on the large or tenor bell, with all the latest improvements inserted by Lord Grimthorpe. The clock is fixed on strong iron brackets, thus forming a firm foundation, and it will be very useful both to visitors and townspeople alike of the sea-side resort. The work has been executed by Messrs. Wm. Potts and Sons, Clock Manufacturers, of Guildford Street, Leeds, and Town Hall Buildings, Cloth Market, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

The *St. Mary, Newington, Parish Magazine* says:—"A notice of the visit of the Archbishop of York to our parish has been copied from the *Yorkshire Post* into the *Guardian*. It states that he and the Rector were undergraduates together fifty years ago. Those interested in his Grace's age and the continuance of his wonderful energy will be pleased to know that as he graduated in 1856, the period referred to was forty rather than fifty years ago. It is singular that if the Archbishop had an opportunity of showing consideration for the worshippers at the Tabernacle by arresting the ringing of the bell for Morning Prayer, as the London correspondent of the *Yorkshire Post* narrates, the present Rector had a similar opportunity of exhibiting it in a similar way, with regard to the bell for Evening Prayer. Matins and evensong were then said at St. Gabriel's. Mr. Spurgeon wrote to the Rector complaining that the prayer-meeting on Monday evenings at the Tabernacle was disturbed by the bell (and a very unmusical bell it is), and pointed out that St. Gabriel's was not a parish church, and therefore had no legal right to a bell, and that if the nuisance could not otherwise be abated, he should be obliged to have recourse to the law. The Rector replied that he hoped he knew more of the Gospel than he did of the law; that the Gospel would teach him that he was not to cause annoyance to his neighbours, and that the bell-ringer should be told to ring the bell for a few strokes only, and that he ought to be grateful to Mr. Spurgeon for lightening his labours, as the weather was very hot. Mr. Spurgeon replied in the following kind and characteristic letter, now in the Rector's possession:—

Westwood, Beulah Hill, April 18th, 1884.

Dear Mr. Palmer,—I must heartily thank you for your courteous reply, nay, for your kind Christian letter. It is no trouble, but a joy to write to you. I have been very ill since I returned, but I am now better, and in for work. I am glad the bell rang, and thus led to your hearty letter. God bless you.—Yours very heartily,

C. H. SPURGEON.

And the rector was glad the bell rang too, for it was the occasion of a friendship with the great preacher which was never interrupted. The rector has often been asked about this incident, and so he thinks it may, after the lapse of fifteen years, be correctly recorded."

CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GREETING AND GOOD WISHES FROM THE SECRETARY TO THE MEMBERS.

In sending Christmas greeting and cordial good wishes to all members of the Central Northamptonshire Association, the Hon. Secretary desires also to take the opportunity to thank once more all who so kindly contributed to the handsome testimonial presented to him recently. Both the valuable clock and the Rev. E. C. Channer's beautifully executed address have been admired by a large number of friends and supporters of the Association who have desired to see it. It will interest members to know that the clock keeps excellent time (as a ringers' timepiece should do) and the rich mellow tones of its "quarter chimes" and "hour-stroke" are deemed most musical by all who have heard them. When with muffled bells we ring or "toll" for the passing of the year 1899, and the advent of a new century, let us all try and think of it not only as the usual tribute to the dying year, but as a requiem for hundreds of our soldiers and sailors who had laid down their lives in fighting for Queen and Country in the Transvaal.

A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR
TO ALL.

Christmas, 1899. E. J. DENNES, *Wellingborough.*

THE END OF THE THETFORD STRIKE.

The peal of eight bells of St. Peter's, Thetford, were rung on Friday evening, after being silent for over twelve months owing to a little difference between the church authorities and the ringers.

Thanks to the efforts of Mr. Edgar Hunt and Mr. Dunk, who are employed at Shadwell Court, a reconciliation has been brought about, and they have spared no pains in getting a company of twelve ringers and two probationers together, including several of the old ringers.

The Rector and churchwardens arranged a meeting with the company, and a set of satisfactory rules were drawn up. Mr. Dunk, formerly of Westerham, was unanimously elected captain, and it is hoped that the townspeople will be treated to some good ringing in the near future.

May their efforts be crowned with success, and to reiterate the words inscribed on a bell in the Midlands:—

"When I send forth my joyful sound,
May Peace and Loyalty abound."

EASTLEIGH, HANTS.

Extensive alterations are now in progress in the parish church of Eastleigh, Hants. The place, which was originally an outlying part of the parish of South Stoneham, containing three farm houses and a few labourers' cottages, has, since the London and South Western Railway made it an important junction and (in 1891) moved their carriage and waggon works there, grown into an artisan settlement of over eight thousand. The parish church was built in 1868, largely through the generosity of Miss C. M. Yonge, from the designs of the late Mr. Street. Towards the sum required to complete the portion now in hand 5,000*l.* has already been paid or promised, and an anonymous friend has now offered to the vicar (the Rev. R. C. M. Harvey) a sum of 500*l.* towards the remaining 1,700*l.*, provided that another 1,000*l.* is forthcoming by Easter, 1900.

THE DEAN OF ROCHESTER.

The Dean of Rochester has recently completed his eightieth year, and the venerable octogenarian (says the London correspondent of the *Yorkshire Post*) will receive from both sides of the Atlantic such a shoal of good wishes as would be accorded but to few other men. "The hold which Samuel Reynolds Hole has acquired over the hearts of his countrymen is due to a variety of causes, but chiefly, perhaps, to the fact that to a rigid conscientiousness and strictly Christian example he adds a robust common sense and rich humour which seem to come naturally from one of his manly aspect and courtly bearing. His earliest book, *A Little Tour in Ireland*, which was illustrated by his friend John Leech, is not now so widely known as it was in that distant past when it was first published, but the Dean's *Book about Roses* and *Our Gardens* are the companions of every lover of flowers. In his two volumes of *Memories*, which we were glad to think may soon be supplemented by a third, we get the best examples of the Dean's rich humour and wide acquaintance with every form of life. Dr. Hole's wide sympathies have prevented him from becoming a faddist in any direction, and a few years ago he was a good deal criticised, it might almost be said a good deal villified, because he preached a sermon commending moderation in the use of alcoholic beverages.

CHEPSTOW (Monmouthshire).—At the parish church of St. Mary, a quarter-peal of Darlaston Bob Triples. A. Paddock, 1; G. Hobson, 2; J. Prickett, 3; J. Smith, 4; W. Freestone, 5; J. Morley, 6; R. Thompson (conductor), 7; B. Tamplin, 8. Composed by J. T. Perry, of Birmingham. First quarter-peal by all except J. Prickett, and first quarter-peal in the method in the county. On Saturday, December 16th, a 6-score of Graadsire Doubles, with 6-8 covering. J. Morley (conductor), 1; G. Hobson, 2; J. Smith, 3; J. Prickett, 4; G. Daniels, 5; M. Close, 6; B. Tamplin, 8.

CHRISTCHURCH (Hants).—On Thursday evening, November 23rd, at the Priory Church (by kind permission of the Vicar and churchwardens), a finely-struck quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung in 53 mins. W. Kerley, 1; J. O. Lancashire, 2; E. Waters, 3; S. Best, 4; C. Goodenough, 5; W. Dyer (conductor), 6; T. Best, 7; W. Saffery, 8. Tenor 32 cwt.

DORKING (Surrey).—On Monday, November 20th, a quarter-peal of Graadsire Triples in 48 mins. H. Songhurst, 1; W. Songhurst, 2; H. Druce, 3; H. Boxall, sen., 4; E. Dodd, 5; H. Boxall, jun., 6; J. White, 7; W. Lynch, 8. Conducted by H. Boxall, jun.

LONDON.—On Sunday, November 26th, for Divine Service in the evening at St. Stephen's, Rochester Row, 1344 Double Norwich Court Bob Major, in 50 mins. W. H. Pasmore, 1; H. R., 2; F. Buck, 3; G. Langford, 4; A. G. Ellis, 5; H. S., 6; H. R. Newton, 7; J. W. Golding, 8.

MANUDEN (Essex).—On Tuesday, November 21st, at St. Mary's church, three 6-scores of Graadsire Doubles. G. Prior, 1; W. Harvey, 2; W. Prior, 3; S. Ward, 4; F. W. Tharby (conductor), 5. Also three 6-scores of Graadsire Doubles. W. Phillips, 1; G. Prior, 2; W. Prior, 3; S. Ward, 4; F. W. Tharby (conductor), 5. Also three 6-scores of the Dream, four-and-a-half 6-scores of Graadsire, and three 6-scores of Antelope. G. Prior (conductor), 1; J. Harvey, 2; W. Prior, 3; S. Ward, 4; F. W. Tharby, 5.

NORTHFLEET (Kent).—On Sunday, November 5th, 720 Bob Minor. F. Potter, 1; H. Ffello, 2; F. Draper, 3; H. Lingham, 4; W. Ware, 5; R. Smith, 6. On Thursday, November 9th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. Lane, 1; H. Lingham (conductor), 2; F. Hase, 3; W. Simmonds, 4; W. Ware, 5; R. Smith, 6. On Monday, November 13th, 720 in the same method. H. Ffello, 1; H. Lingham, 2; R. Smith, 3; H. Simmonds, 4; W. Ware, 5; R. Smith (conductor), 6. On Saturday, November 18th, another 720 in the same method. F. Hase, 1; H. Lingham, 2; R. Smith, 3; W. Ware, 4; H. Simmonds, 5; L. Silver (conductor), 6. Also two 720s of Canterbury Pleasure Minor, and two 720s of Bob Minor, standing as above.

NORTH STONEHAM (Hants).—On Wednesday, November 22nd, at the church of St. Nicholas, nine 6-scores of Graadsire Doubles. W. Tucker (conductor), 1; W. Ball, 2; E. Dumper, 3; A. Marks, 4; W. Rowe, 5; F. Pitman, 6. On Sunday morning, November 26th, two 6-scores. E. Munday, 1; W. Ball, 2; E. Dumper, 3; A. Marks, 4; W. Rowe, 5; W. Tucker (conductor), 6.

PEASENHALL (Suffolk).—On Saturday, November 25th, at St. Michael's church, 720 Bob Minor. E. Rowe, 1; H. Last, 2; A. Friend, 3; W. Nichols, 4; F. Rodwell, 5; W. Bacon (conductor), 6. And 720 Treble Bob Minor. F. Rodwell, 1; W. Bacon, 2; A. Friend, 3; H. Last, 4; E. Rowe, 5; W. Nichols (conductor), 6.

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

By R. A. DANIELL.

(Continued from page 353.)

Mr. Tyack speaks of ringers having gained an evil reputation for irregularity of life. So far I have referred to drink, and I think my readers will agree with me that if, on that score, ringers really did get such a reputation—which I do not believe—they cannot have deserved it more than other classes of the community. But drink is not the only factor in an irregular life. There is sexual immorality, for instance. But whatever the standard in that respect may have been at different periods there is no reason to suppose that ringers were worse than anyone else. Gambling is a habit that has always had its votaries in all classes of life. Swearing was common in all ranks, and there was much coarseness of expression throughout the period I am considering. The Elizabethan dramatists exhibited much of it, and, passing by the notorious literature of the Restoration period, I may mention such writers as Jonathan Swift, Laurence Sterne and Henry Fielding. They were distinguished men. Swift was Dean of St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, Sterne was a prebendary of York, and Fielding was chief magistrate at Bow Street. Their literary power was great, and their writings were very popular; yet much that they wrote was distinguished by a coarseness of language and incident which strikes us unpleasantly now. In the case of Swift, this is the more remarkable, because his writings were those of a moral man, whose object was the improvement of his fellow men, and the fact that he deemed coarseness a useful method of enforcing his teaching is cogent evidence of the general standard of manners in his day. This coarseness affected even musical composition. In a pamphlet prepared for the members of the Round Catch and Canon Club by Mr. William Coates, he states that the most complete collection of the vocal musical compositions known as Rounds and Catches is one published in the last century, containing many admirable specimens by Purcell, Blow and other masters of the English School. He adds that it is to be regretted that they are too often disfigured by an obscenity of so gross a nature as to make them now utterly unfit for performance, owing to which a large amount of clever and learned musical contrivance is banished from use.

In all these respects, then, drink, immorality, gambling, profanity and coarseness, ringers as a whole may well have been whatever their circumstances and times tended to make them. But when we know what we do about these circumstances and times, it is idle to suggest that ringers deserved an evil reputation above other people; and the fact that certain well-meaning but narrow-minded and prejudiced persons go on repeating like parrots statements to the detriment of ringers does not show that ringers ever had an evil reputation among any appreciable section of their rational fellow-countrymen. But at any rate, as regards change-ringers as a body, whatever their failings may have been, they must have been men who, like Walpole, had high capacities and intelligence which they exercised to the full. No one who takes the smallest trouble to study the rise and progress of methods and peal-ringing can possibly suppose them to be the achievements of besotted social outcasts; nor can anyone who has given the slightest attention to the history of peal contests—such, for instance, as the contests between the College and Cumberland Youths in Treble Bob Royal, ending with the 12,000 at Shoreditch in the year 1784—suggest that these would be possible to other than bands of good all round men.

But the pious, as I have called them, have still something to urge. They have a knack of asserting that at any rate ringers were more irreverent than their fellows, because they took liquor into steeples and consumed it there. This objection is of course, absurd, and it is hard to say whether the stupidity or the cant of it is the greater. For unless it be shown either that it was not the practice for Churchwardens and other persons to drink in vestries, or that vestries are less part of a consecrated edifice than steeples, or that wine is a less sacreligious compound than beer, it cannot be shown that ringers, if they did drink in steeples, were thereby guilty of anything which was avoided by other persons having such access

to churches as to have the opportunity of drinking therein. The two latter of the above alternative propositions may be passed by. But was there drinking in vestries? Throughout the country it was probably very general, and I expect that many readers of extended memories will be able to give instances, and there can be no doubt that it was common in London. We must remember that it was not till well into the present century that such things as Poor Law Unions, or Local Boards of Health were established, and a great deal of secular parochial work was formerly transacted in vestries. Refreshment was often found necessary or desirable, and was partaken of accordingly. A gentleman, formerly connected with one of the churches in the City of London, once told me that dinners used to be held from time to time in its vestry; but whether he was correct or not about that, there are many references to be found indicating the practice of drinking in vestries. Sometimes they take the form of resolutions of vestry meetings as to the amount of wine to be allowed for the vestry on Sundays or other occasions; sometimes they take the form of complaints about the amount expended. There is extant a pamphlet of the last century in which the writer comments strongly on the enormous sums charged to the parish of St. Martin-in-the-Fields by the churchwardens for sacramental wine, the bulk of which must, he says, have been consumed in the vestry. Up till a quarter of a century or so ago, if not later, when the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs attended Church in state for charity sermons, they were accustomed, before leaving the Church, to retire into the vestry to drink. Wine is still supplied to St. Paul's Cathedral under some trust or benefaction for the use of the Sunday morning preachers. I believe that these gentlemen do not now-a-days partake of it: still, no doubt they or their predecessors formerly did. In fact, when you have a period in which drinking takes place on most occasions when it is possible, and in which at the same time a low standard of reverence for sacred places prevails, it is natural to expect drinking within the precincts of churches, and the wonder would be if it was not found. Men would think no more of drinking in the vestry than of taking snuff in their pews.

The vilification of ringers on the alleged ground of their having formerly taken liquor in steeples is, therefore, mere clap-net. So far as ringers did so, they acted in accordance with the standard of all classes of their time, and there is no reason why in the last century and well into this one ringers should not have taken drink into steeples. But then, how far did they do so? That is not an easy question to answer. As regards change-ringers, it is obvious that if liquor was consumed in steeples, it must have been with strict moderation, as otherwise the objects of the meetings could not have been carried out, and no one would go to a change-ringing tower merely for the purpose of drinking there, when he could so much more conveniently drink elsewhere. What the practice formerly was among change-ringers in different parts of the country I have not found out, but I incline to the opinion that drink in the steeple was for the most part exceptional, if, indeed, it was taken at all: as to London—the evidence derived from Osborn's manuscripts and other sources convinces me that drinking in steeples was never practised by the London Companies, so that they acted more in accordance with the views of our day than their contemporaries among the Corporation of London, and the Sunday morning preachers at St. Paul's. On this evidence I shall have something more to say presently.

If in the opinion of any of my readers I have dwelt at too great length on the manners and customs of our ancestors, I offer my apologies. But to me it seems that a realisation of these manners and customs is essential when we have to deal with aspersions cast on those who have gone before us. It is the thoughtless or wilful neglect of these considerations which alone renders possible such defamation by Mr. Tyack and others as I have been protesting against. At all events, after what I have said, there can be no need for me to labour the points in favour of ringers. I shall therefore briefly fall back on the authority of Dr. Raven, Mr. Ellacombe, and Mr. Osborn.

In his "Church Bells of Cambridgeshire" at page 38 of the 1869 edition, Dr. Raven, after quoting from Stedman, says, "We may mark the rise of change-ringing in Cambridgeshire, then, by the improvements in the Benet peal from 1607 to 1615, by the making of Great St. Mary's four into five in 1611,

by the addition or recasting of the two trebles in the Stetchworth peal in 1608, etc., etc.; but more conclusively from the general fact that 18 per cent. of the bells now existing in the county were cast in the early half of the 17th century." Such a state of things was not peculiar to this county, as anyone who refers to the books dealing with the bells of other counties may see. Nor was it peculiar to that particular time. From then downwards, rings of bells have been augmented or cast, and, until our own day, entirely with a view to ringing; for no ideas of the glory of God have given rise to such work since the Reformation till of late years.

Then how did all this work come about? Bell founding has always been expensive, and I think founders' charges have in the past been much the same in relation to the value of money as they now are. And the trouble connected with the work was formerly much greater than now; either a founder had to be got to come to the parish to cast on the spot, or greater difficulties of transport had to be overcome than at present; besides, the constituents of bell metal appear to have often been scarce. The work could only be achieved by the co-operation of the more wealthy and, therefore, generally speaking, the better educated and bred classes of the parishioners, who raised the necessary funds by subscription or rate. Then, is it conceivable that such people would so act if they regarded ringers, the persons who were indispensable if the intended use was to be made of the bells when cast and hung, as men distinguished among their fellows for "irregularity of life," for "bearing anything but the best of reputations," for bearing a "general reputation for careless lives," for being "notorious for spending their earnings too readily and too selfishly"? This is, in effect, what Mr. Tyack, and those who talk like him, would have men believe. That anybody who seriously considers the matter can so believe seems impossible. The fact that all the provision of bells that took place in the 17th and 18th centuries did take place, and took place with a view to secular ringing, and this without any crusade for the improvement of ringers as a body, appears to me an absolute refutation of the balderdash about the special wickedness of ringers.

(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."

"THE HISTORY OF RINGING."

SIR,—Mr. Drake's letter in your last number seems to show me that we approach the origin of *ringing* a bell or bells at all from somewhat different points. Firstly, Mr. Drake comes to the discussion armed with an amount of pre-Reformation liturgical knowledge to which I am quite unequal. I should be much obliged if Mr. Drake can direct me to liturgical books likely to be useful to me in investigating ringing history, and also whether he knows of any Latin verb which may be accepted as signifying *ringing* in a technical sense, and if so, why so?

Secondly, Mr. Drake has more experience than I of country customs, whereas my knowledge is mainly of towns.

Thirdly, if I understand Mr. Drake, he seems to me to start with the view that ringing is in itself something better than chiming, and that therefore it is reasonable to think that it was used in connection with Divine worship in pre-Reformation days. I am unable to see that ringing is in itself something better than chiming. What has made it so now is the introduction and development since the Reformation of the science of change-ringing, which, until Mr. Drake or someone else shows my papers contributed to your columns in the summer to be inadequate, I am compelled to regard as absolutely secular in its very origin. Now that we have that science it follows that change-ringing for Sunday services is a much higher use of bells than chiming, because it includes an offering of man's mental ability, and therefore is the more appropriate to the occasion. But, as Mr. Snowdon has already observed, anyone with sufficient strength and intelligence to turn a mangle could probably be taught to ring rounds, and I fail to see that round-

ringing would be any improvement on the good old swing chiming which to my ear produces some of the sweetest tones that can be got. And of course it was the old swing chiming that was done in pre-Reformation days. How much longer we shall be permitted to enjoy its beauties I do not know. It tends to get extinguished by the use of chiming machines which produce the most contemptible sounds ever got out of English bell-metal.

I have not said that Sunday chiming is *universal*. I spoke of it being *general*, and I should apply to the Sussex ringing Mr. Drake refers to what I said about Yorkshire ringing in your issue of November 18th last. After all, the ringers Mr. Drake spoke to on that occasion cannot be able to put a limitless meaning on the word "always." Then where shall we place the limit? and why?

If Mr. Drake holds, as I understand he does, that Sunday chiming is a deterioration from original practice, when does he hold that the change took place? I ask this lest I should be in error in assuming the time intended in his fifth paragraph to be the same as in his fourth, and because I regard the last century in ecclesiastical matters as something similar to the lodging-house cat, which domestic animal steals and breaks, but gets credited with more depredations than it commits; and therefore if Mr. Drake refers to the last century, I hope he will give his reasons for fixing upon it on this point.

The case mentioned in Mr. Drake's seventh paragraph is not precisely the one I put, but as the matter is one of opinion I will not pursue it further now.

As to the introduction of harmony into church music, the apprehension of the similarities and differences between church music and change ringing seems to me interesting and instructive, and I propose to refer to this in a week or two in the conclusion of my remarks, and therefore I will resist the temptation to deal with it now.

But if the main question is to be settled at all, I hope readers will do as urged by Mr. Drake in his third paragraph and write to you, so that we may have as wide premises as possible to infer from. Mr. Drake seems to me to pay much less attention to the eight o'clock evening bell and its influence than I do, but I admit I have nothing useful to suggest about the early Sunday bells on which he places emphasis.

So I wish him and you, and all the Exercise, a happy Christmas.

R. A. DANIELL.

THE TWENTIETH CENTURY.

SIR,—In your issue of the 16th inst., I see in your leader the following quotation: "The Nineteenth Century is almost at its close, and we are therefore upon the threshold of the Twentieth." Now with all due respect to you, Mr. Editor, I believe that to be a mistake, as I have always understood the 20th century to commence with 1901, not 1900; this, I think, has been settled by the authorities of the Royal Observatory at Greenwich, which is the final "Court of Appeal" in questions of this kind, this question having been threshed out to the best of my recollection in one or more of the daily London papers. If a century is 100 years, and the 1st century started with the year 1, it cannot have ended until the end of 100, consequently the 2nd century began with 101; therefore, by similar calculation the 19th century must end with 1900 and the 20th begin with 1901. W. E. PITMAN.

Norman Road, Faversham, Dec. 19th, 1899.

A REQUEST.

SIR,—Can you, or any of your readers, please inform me what is the best book I can get on ringing, that deals with the history of ringing and oblige

A CONSTANT READER.

ROMSEY (Hants).—On Tuesday, November 28th, for practice at the parish church, 238 Grandsire Triples. E. King, 1; F. Paskins, 2; J. Chalk, 3; G. Newman, 4; J. Walker, 5; T. Cole, 6; J. Elcombe (conductor), 7; E. Medley, 8. Also 336 Bob Major. F. Paskins, 1; R. White, 2; J. Chalk, 3; G. Newman, 4; J. Walker, 5; F. Russen, 6; J. Elcombe (conductor), 7; T. Cole, 8.

SPELDHURST (Kent).—On Monday, November 27th, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 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.

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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, DECEMBER 23, 1899.

THE season of Christmas will find some of our countrymen unequal to the festivity which always obtains at this period. Many families have suddenly been plunged into misery and sorrow through the war, and to them Christmas will be the reverse of joyful. Those who have been so bereaved will need all a nation's sympathy, and it will be given them in abundance. There will be hundreds who at the festive board on next Monday will not forget the widow and orphans, made so by the war. The day on which we commemorate the Nativity of the Prince of Peace may possibly be spent in a terrible conflict.

This is a deplorable state of things for Christian men all over the world to consider. A writer in one of the daily papers this week intimates his opinion that war has almost worn itself out, and it is thought that the tremendous instruments of destruction now employed will lead

to its prevention altogether. May such opinion soon be realised. Thoughts of our soldiers in the front of the enemy overcome all others; and we dwelling at home at ease can hardly appreciate what our poor fellows have to go through. Well, we shall all wish them "The Compliments of the Season" nevertheless, living in hope that they will in England, next Christmas, be able to talk to their friends of the horrors they went through upon the South African veldt.

The Metropolis.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 16, 1899, in Three Hours and Thirty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SEPULCHRE, SNOW HILL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5008 CHANGES.

Tenor 33 cwt.

CHARLES WILKINS Treble.	ERNEST PYE 6.
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 2.	EDGAR WIGHTMAN 7.
BERTRAM PREWETT* 3.	HENRY FLANDERS 8.
ISAAC G. SHADE 4.	WILLIAM PYE 9.
CALEB FENN* 5.	JOHN R. SHARMAN Tenor.

Composed by FREDK. J. PITTS, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

*First peal of Stedman Caters. The above is the 100th peal by E. Wightman, and the 101st by E. Fye.

The Provinces.

SMETHWICK, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Wednesday, December 6, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. E. GROVES' VARIATION OF J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

GEORGE WIGGIN* Treble.	ERNEST BROWN 5.
SAMUEL REEVES 2.	HARRY MILLS 6.
WILLIAM G. ELLIS 3.	THOMAS J. ELTON 7.
THOMAS HORTON 4.	JOSEPH HUGHES Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS J. ELTON.

*First peal.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, December 12, 1899, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 25 cwt.

ALFRED F. HAYDON Treble.	GEORGE GUNNER 5.
BEN. CHORLEY 2.	RALPH WOOD 6.
ALFRED H. PULLING 3.	CHARLES WILLSHIRE 7.
GEORGE FOSTER 4.	EDWARD J. PULLING Tenor.
	HENRY HUTTON Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES WILLSHIRE.

Reference to this peal will be found on another page.

HEENE, WORTHING, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 13, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

GEORGE WILLIAMS Treble.	REUBEN STANDING 5.
GEORGE NORRIS 2.	BENJAMIN BASSETT 6.
JOHN PAICH 3.	EDMUND LINDUP 7.
ALFRED W. GROVES 4.	ARTHUR ARNELL Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

WYE, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 14, 1899, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. GREGORY AND MARTIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 26 cwt.

WILLIAM HILLS Treble.	ALFRED HINDS 5.
CHARLES TRIBE 2.	WILLIAM SPICE 6.
CHARLES F. TURNER 3.	EDWARD E. FOREMAN 7.
REV. F. J. O. HELMORE 4.	GEORGE JOHNSON Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. J. O. HELMORE.

First peal on the bells since being rehung by Warner and Sons a few years back.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.

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

On Wednesday, December 16, 1899, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

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

Conducted by FRANK BENNETT, of Brighton, and

Conducted by THOMAS J. SALTER.

SOLIHULL, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, December 16, 1899, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALPHEGE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5017 CHANGES.

Tenor 19 cwt.

WILLIAM SHORT Treble.	*HENRY WITHERS 6.
WILLIAM G. ELLIS 2.	JOHN BARBER 7.
WILLIAM H. BARBER 3.	HENRY MIDDLETON 8.
ALBERT WALKER 4.	FREDERICK CLAYTON 9.
THOMAS REYNOLDS 5.	WILLIAM PAINTER Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by WILLIAM SHORT.

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

CARSHALTON, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 16, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt. in G sharp.

JAMES WIGNELL Treble.	FRANK HOLDER 5.
ARTHUR B. CARPENTER 2.	HENRY BROOKER 6.
EDGAR BENNETT 3.	ALFRED CLAYTON 7.
CHARLES DEAN 4.	CHARLES BANCE Tenor.

Composed by S. THURSTON, and

Conducted by DR. A. B. CARPENTER.

LINDFIELD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 16, 1899, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 21 cwt. 2 qrs. 19 lbs.

GEORGE TOMSETT Treble.	ALFRED TOMSETT 5.
HERBERT TOMSETT 2.	EDMUND LINDUP 6.
ALBERT D. STONE 3.	GEORGE WILLIAMS 7.
FRANK BENNETT 4.	FREDERICK WILLEY Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

A. D. Stone was proposed a member before starting for the peal.

NORTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AND YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Saturday, December 16, 1899, in Three Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6560 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

SAM. THOMAS Treble.	THOMAS WHITWORTH .. 5.
CHARLES R. LILLEY .. 2.	ARTHUR CRAVEN 6.
WILLIAM LAMBERT 3.	ARTHUR KNIGHTS 7.
DAVID BREARLEY 4.	WILLIAM BIGGIN Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN, and
Conducted by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

This peal which was rung to commemorate the conductor's fortieth birthday which occurred on the following day, has the sixty course-ends in sixty-four, changes less than any previous peal yet rung. The figures of the peal will be found on another page.

THORNHAM MAGNA, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 16, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of St. Simon's, Canterbury, London, Evening Star, April Day, Grandsire, and Plain Bob.

HARRY CATTERMOLE* .. Treble.	JOHN BUCKINGHAM 3.
EDWARD YOUNGS 2.	HARRY SYMONDS 4.
EDWARD BUCKINGHAM† Tenor.	

Conducted by EDWARD BUCKINGHAM.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor.

HADLEY, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 16, 1899, in Two Hours and Forty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, Grandsire, and Two 720s of Plain Bob.

Tenor 11 cwt.

WILLIAM J. DELL Treble.	JOHN ARMSTRONG 4.
ERNEST W. MARSHALL .. 2.	JOHN E. MILLER 5.
FREDERICK C. FORDHAM .. 3.	SIDNEY WADE Tenor.

Conducted by SIDNEY WADE.

GUISELEY, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 19, 1899, in Two Hours and Twenty-eight Minute,

AT ROSE COTTAGES,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES.

JOHN JACKSON* 1-2.	FREDERICK W. DIXON .. 5-6.
THOMAS M. THOMPSON .. 3-4.	JOSEPH WAITE 7-8.

Composed by WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL, and
Conducted by FREDERICK W. DIXON.

Referee—C. E. Waite, who ticked off the calls and course-ends. *First peal.

READING, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, December 19, 1899, in Three Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 15½ cwt.

ALFRED W. REEVES .. Treble.	ARTHUR W. HIGGS 5.
G. L. BODDINGTON 2.	CHARLES GILES 6.
FREDERICK SWEETZER .. 3.	ALFRED E. REEVES 7.
ALBERT E. REEVES 4.	*CHARLES HOUSE Tenor.

Conducted by ALFRED E. REEVES.

*First peal. Rung on the twenty-first birthday of the conductor, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

Date Catches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BOLTON, BRADFORD (Yorks).—On Tuesday, December 12th, at St. James's church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1899 changes, in 1 hr. 5 mins. W. Joyce, 1; B. T. Copley (conductor), 2; A. Gill, 3; A. Benson, 4; J. Palframan, 5; B. E. Howe, 6; S. Palframan, 7; J. Joyce, 8.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Monday, November 20th, at All Saints' church, a date touch of Stedman Triples in 1 hr. 20 mins. S. Howell, 1; W. Bacon, 2; G. S. Brown, 3; M. Silvester, 4; W. Howell, 5; W. Griggs, 6; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 7; H. Griggs, 8. Composed by J. P. Bradley, of West Ham. Tenor 28 cwt. On Monday, November 27th, the same touch was rung in 1 hr. 16 mins. by four members of the All Saints' company, three of St. Gregory's and St. Peter's, and E. Ambrose, of Melford. S. Howell, 1; E. Ambrose, 2; G. S. Brown, 3; J. Campin, 4; W. Howell, 5; H. Harper, 6; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 7; A. Scott, 8. Tenor 23 cwt.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(STOCKPORT AND BOWDEN BRANCHES.)

HAZEL GROVE (Cheshire).—On Saturday, December 16th, a date touch of 1899 changes, consisting of 99 Plain Bob, 360 College Single, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, and 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 1 hr. 5 mins. J. Dean, 1; J. Fernley, 2; S. Rutter, 3; A. Fernley, 4; S. Fernley, 5; G. D. Warburton, 6. Arranged and conducted by S. Fernley.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ALDRINGTON (Sussex).—On Saturday, at St. Leonard's church, a date touch of Bob Minor in 1 hr. 8 mins. M. Cherryman, 1; A. J. Cherryman, 2; F. Tindall, 3; M. Broomfield, 4; G. A. Steele, 5; F. W. Steele (conductor), 6. This is the longest touch rung by the local band.

Miscellaneous.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

DUCKLINGTON (Oxon).—On Monday, October 30th, 1080 Grandsire Doubles. E. Hudson, 1; C. Edwards, 2; J. Clarke, 3; W. Collis, 4; N. Spindlow (conductor), 5; W. Gould, 6. On Thursday, November 2nd, 720 Grandsire Doubles. J. Clarke, 1; C. Edwards, 2; C. Hudson, 3; W. Collis, 4; N. Spindlow (conductor), 5; W. Gould, 6. On handbells 360 Grandsire Minor. Miss A. E. Macray, 1; C. Edwards, 2; J. Clarke, 3; E. Hudson, 4; N. Spindlow (conductor), 5-6. On Monday, November 20th, 720 Grandsire Minor. W. Collis, 1; E. Hudson, 2; J. Clarke, 3; C. Edwards, 4; G. Davis, 5; N. Spindlow (conductor), 6. First 720 by the local band.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

LITTLEPORT (Cams).—On Monday, November 13th, on the occasion of the quarterly meeting, 720 Bob Minor. J. Osler, 1; J. Markwell, 2; H. Markwell, 3; A. Firth, 4; A. Ferguson, 5; H. Sharp (conductor), 6. Also 360 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. James Markwell, 1; Joseph Markwell, 2; H. Markwell, 3; A. Hazell, 4; A. Bowell (conductor), 5; H. Sharp, 6.

ELY.—On Monday, November 13th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. James Markwell, 1; Joseph Markwell, 2; H. Markwell, 3; A. Hazell, 4; H. Sharp, 5; A. Bowell (conductor), 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BETHERSDEN (Kent).—On Saturday, November 18th, 720 Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and six singles). E. Waghorn, 1; E. Archer, 2; A. Hinds, 3; C. Tribe, 4; H. Goodwin, 5; W. Spice (conductor), 6. Also 720 Grandsire (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). A. Hinds, 1; E. Waghorn, 2; E. Archer, 3; C. Tribe, 4; H. Goodwin, 5; W. Spice (conductor), 9. And 120 Stedman. E. Waghorn, 1; C. Tribe, 2; A. Hinds, 3; H. Goodwin, 4; W. Spice (conductor), 5; E. Archer, 6. Also one or two 120s of Bob Doubles with Messrs. Link, Padgeham, and Moore of the local band standing in, this being their first 120s. Tenor 16 cwt.

CHARING (Kent).—On Thursday, November 16th, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). T. Hatcher, 1; E. Archer, 2; C. Turner (Canterbury), 3; W. Goode, 4; J. Willis, 5; W. Spice (conductor), 6.

ELHAM (Kent).—A meeting of the Canterbury District for ringing

practice took place on Saturday, November 18th. Members attended from Canterbury, St. Alphege (3), Lyminge (4), Ospringe (1), Stowting (1), Elham (4). Ringing commenced at 5.30, and continued till 9 p.m. and some excellent touches of Bob Minor, Grandsire, Bob Major and Stedman were rung, conducted by A. Tarlton and Mr. Pierce.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SHEFFIELD.—On Saturday, October 28th, at St. Marie's Norfolk Row, 560 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. W. Allwood, 1; W. Bugar, 2; W. Lambert, 3; H. P. Harman, 4; S. Thomas, 5; A. Craven (conductor), 6; A. Knights, 7; R. Lilley, 8. On October 30th an attempt for a peal of Kent Treble Bob had to be abandoned owing to the electric light being turned off. S. Thomas, 1; H. Bower, 2; F. Bugar, 3; H. P. Harman (conductor), 4; H. Ward, 5; T. Sarel, 6; T. Sylvester, 7; C. R. Lilley, 8. On November 12th two courses of Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Midgley, 1; F. Bugar, 2; T. Sarel, 3; W. Gardiner, 4; H. Ward, 5; E. Harrison, 6; J. A. Dixon, 7; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 8. On November 17th, with the bells deeply muffled, on the occasion of the funeral of Lady M. Howard, 742 of Holt's Original. T. Sarel, 1; F. Bugar, 2; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 3; E. Harrison, 4; H. Ward, 5; J. A. Dixon, 6; W. Bugar, 7; W. Midgley, 8. And 560 Bob Major. W. Midgley, 1; F. Bugar, 2; T. Sarel, 3; C. R. Lilley, 4; H. Ward, 5; E. Harrison, 6; J. Dixon, 7; W. Bugar (conductor), 8. Also 504 Grandsire Triples, conducted by F. Bugar. And three courses of Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Midgley, 1; F. Bugar, 2; W. Bugar, 3; T. Sarel, 4; H. Ward, 5; E. Harrison, 6; J. A. Dixon, 7; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 8.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

SMETHWICK (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday evening, November 21st, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. W. G. Ellis, 1; T. Elton, 2; E. Brown, 3; T. Horton, 4; J. Mordey, 5; A. Joymen, 6; H. Mills (conductor), 7; J. Hughes, 8.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WEST DERBY (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, November 21st, at the church of St. James, 720 Canterbury Pleasure in 28 mins. R. Dilworth, 1; J. Hudson, 2; A. Taylor, 3; W. Hargreaves, 4; H. Winstanley, 5; R. Davis, 6. Conducted by W. Hargreaves. First 720 in the method on the bells. First 720 in the method by all.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

LUDLOW (Salop).—On Sunday morning, November 5th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 49 mins. J. Palmer, 1; P. Lane, 2; R. Marston, Esq., 3; G. Jones, 4; J. E. Bowen, 5; H. Price, 6; J. E. Groves (conductor), 7; A. Chester, 8. On Monday, November 6th, for practice, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. R. Nash, 1; A. Chester, 2; P. Lane (conductor), 3; J. E. Bowen, 4; G. Jones, 5; H. Price, 6; J. E. Groves, 7; W. Nash, 8. Also 336. J. Palmer (conductor), 1; J. E. Groves, 2; R. Marston, 3; G. Jones, 4; J. E. Bowen, 5; P. Lane, 6; A. Chester, 7; W. R. Nash, 8. On Sunday, November 12th, another 336. J. Palmer, 1; P. Lane, 2; R. Marston, Esq. (Mayor of Ludlow), 3; A. Chester, 4; J. E. Bowen, 5; G. Jones, 6; J. E. Groves (conductor), 7; E. Davies, 8. Tenor 25 cwt.

HOLME LACY (Herefordshire).—On Saturday, November 18th, an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples came to grief at the end of the first quarter. Afterwards 1050 was rung. R. Chamberlin, 1; H. Price, 2; A. Williams, 3; W. Davis, 4; J. Clark, 5; J. E. Groves (conductor), 6; T. Lewis, 7; R. Powell, 8. Also several shorter touches. Tenor about 16 cwt.

BRIDGNORTH (Salop).—On Thursday, November 9th, 336, 350, and 420 of Grandsire Triples. E. Foxall, 1; A. Baker, 2; J. Elcock, 3; B. Head, 4; W. Overton, 5; H. Hammond, 6; J. Overton (conductor), 7; H. Jones, 8. The 350 was conducted by H. Hammond. On Sunday, November 12th, 630 Grandsire Triples. E. Foxall, 1; A. Baker, 2; J. Elcock, 3; B. Head, 4; W. Overton, 5; J. Overton, 6; J. Howard, 7; H. Jones, 8. Also 672. T. Overton, 1; A. Baker, 2; J. Elcock, 3; B. Head, 4; W. Overton, 5; J. Overton, 6; J. Howard, 7; H. Jones, 8. On Saturday, November 4th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Darlaston Bob Triples in 45 mins. E. Foxall, 1; W. Overton, 2; J. Elcock, 3; J. E. Overton, 4; J. Howard, 5; B. Hammond, 6; J. Overton (conductor), 7; H. Jones, 8. On Sunday morning, November 26th, for Divine Service, 672 Grandsire Triples. E. Foxall, 1; A. Baker, 2; J. Elcock, 3; B. Head, 4; W. Overton, 5; J. Howard, 6; J. E. Groves (conductor), 7; J. Overton, 8. For evening service a quarter-peal of Darlaston Bob Triples. E. Foxall, 1; W. Overton, 2; J. Elcock, 3; B. Head, 4; J. E. Groves (conductor), 5; J. E. Overton, 6; H. Overton, 7; J. Hammond, 8. On Monday, November 27th, an attempt for a peal of Darlaston Bob was lost after ringing 3780 changes in 2 hrs. 17 mins. E. Foxall, 1; W. Overton, 2; H. Hammond, 3; B. Head, 4; J. E. Overton, 5; J. Overton, 6; J. E. Groves (conductor), 7; H. Jones, 8.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD, AND THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

TIPTON.—On Sunday, December 10th, for evening service, the first two parts of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 34 mins. W. R. Small, 1; T. Horton, 2; J. Small, 3; J. Smith, 4; H. Middleton, 5; H. Price, 6; J. Faulkner, 7; J. Nichols, 8. Also 336 Grandsire Triples. W. R. Small, 1; F. Bywater, 2; J. Small, 3; J. Smith, 4; H. Price, 5; E. Jones, 6; H. Middleton, 7; J. Faulkner, 8. The above were rung on the occasion of special sermons for the choir, and were conducted by the tower-keeper, W. R. Small.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DUNSTER (Somerset).—On Wednesday, September 20th, at St. George's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans'), in 46 mins. A. Long, 1; G. Stacey, 2; R. Hole, 3; J. Jones, 4; Rev. H. C. Courtney, 5; W. W. Thrush, 6; J. Grabham (conductor), 7; J. Payne, 8. On Wednesday, November 22nd, a quarter-peal in the same method (Brook's), in 45 mins. G. Stacey, 1; T. Elliott, 2; R. Hole, 3; A. Long, 4; J. Jones, 5; W. Thrush, 6; J. Grabham (conductor), 7; J. Payne, 8.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—On Sunday evening, December 17th, after Divine Service at St. Peter's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 45 mins. I. Purser, 1; B. Dalton, 2; G. Burrows, 3; J. Jagger (conductor), 4; S. E. Hodges, 5; R. Pickering, 6; H. Knight, 7; F. Jones, 8.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

QUIDENHAM (Norfolk).—On Thursday, November 9th at the church of St. Andrew, in honour of the marriage of Miss Blofield to Mr. E. Sherwood, 720 Bob Minor. Also 432 and 360 in the same method. On Sunday evening, November 12th, for Divine Service, a 720. And on Monday, November 13th, another 720. On Friday, November 17th, another 720. G. Kemp, 1; J. Sage, 2; W. Ringer, 3; R. Haylett, 4; W. Killington, 5; J. Woods (conductor), 6. On Saturday, November 18th, an attempt was made to ring seven 720s, but came to grief after ringing four 720s and three courses. G. Kemp, 1; J. Sage, 2; H. Seckser, 3; W. Ringer, 4; R. Haylett, 5; J. Woods (conductor), 6. And a 360, conducted by R. Haylett. On Sunday evening, November 26th, for Divine Service, two 360s, standing as before, conducted by J. Woods.

ARMLEY (Yorks).—On Sunday morning, November 19th, for Divine Service at Christ Church, 720 London Scholars. Jos. Thackray, 1; J. Heckingbottom (conductor), 2; B. Cowling, 3; Jno. Thackray, 4; M. Broadbent, 5; J. Guy, 6. For evening service 720 Violet. Jno. Thackray, 1; J. Heckingbottom, 2; B. Cowling (conductor), 3; — Stubley (Batley), 4; M. Broadbent, 5; J. Guy, 6.

BIRMINGHAM.—On October 23rd, at Bishop Ryder's church, 620 Double Oxford Bob Major. J. Neal, 1; J. Jones, 2; C. Sparkes, 3; E. J. Peake, 4; T. Collinson, 5; J. T. Perry, 6; J. Carter (conductor), 7; C. R. Lilley, 8. On Wednesday, October 25th, at St. Chad's church, an attempt for a peal of Double Oxford Bob Major, but after ringing 1 hr. it had to be abandoned owing to a service. C. H. Watts, 1; C. R. Lilley, 2; T. Miller, 3; J. Barber, 4; F. Clayton, 5; H. Middleton, 6; W. Short, 7; A. E. Pegler, 8.

BEDFORD.—On November 10th, at St. Paul's church, 408 Stedman Triples. S. J. Cullip, 1; H. Sear, 2; W. Hall, 3; F. Webb, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6; C. Chasty, 7; J. Sear, 8. Also 809 Grandsire Caters. F. Webb, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; S. J. Cullip, 3; J. Church, 4; W. Hall, 5; H. Sear, 6; C. Chasty, 7; I. Hills, 8; W. J. Barker, 9; J. Sear, 10. On October 10th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Double Court. F. Smith, 1; I. Hills, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; C. Chasty, 4; W. J. Barker, 5; F. Webb (conductor), 6. On October 31st, 720 Double Court. F. Smith, 1; H. Toll, 2; W. Hall, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; G. Valentine, 5; F. Webb (conductor), 6. On November 7th, 720 Double Court. F. Smith, 1; I. Hills, 2; W. Hall, 3; W. J. Barker, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; F. Webb (conductor), 6. On November 9th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. F. Webb, 1; W. J. Barker, 2; W. Hall, 3; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; C. Chasty, 6. Also 720 Double Court. F. Smith, 1; W. J. Barker, 2; W. Hall, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; F. Webb (conductor), 6. On November 14th, 720 Double Court. J. Sear, 1; I. Hills, 2; W. Hall, 3; F. Webb, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; C. Chasty, 6. On November 28th, 720 Bob Minor. W. Darlow, 1; C. Chasty, 2; W. Hall, 3; F. Webb, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; J. Sear, 6. And 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. C. Chasty, 1; I. Hills, 2; W. Hall, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; A. Robinson, 5; W. J. Barker (conductor), 6.

CURRENT TOPICS.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS to you all my dear readers and brother-strings throughout the world! This is the correct and orthodox statement for the season. But how strange it is that such a time-honoured wish should in many cases seem something like a mockery. The misery and distress brought upon so many families of every description of society through the war in the Transvaal, is a cause of deep regret that the Christmas season of the present year of grace will in many a British home be an unhappy one. Ah! What miseries war brings on a nation. The depth of human suffering can hardly be estimated; the amount of grief and sorrow caused by war, is, I think, impossible to realise. Let us pray that the war in which our nation is engaged may be soon brought to a conclusion, and the ultimate results be that the civilized nations of the earth will determine upon some peaceful mode of settling their differences in the future.

I think it was truly said, or hinted, by the Editor last week, that the Government had not duly estimated the volume of opposition our army would have to contend with in this war. We are told that there need be no fear whatever, but we shall conquer eventually. Exactly; we do not fear the ultimate result. But the loss of our gallant countrymen appals us for the time. The perfection to which the engines of war have attained seems to prevent the brave and determined attributes of our soldiers from having full sway. We are apt to think that in close quarters with bayonet or sword, the British soldier can bear every thing before him, and no doubt this is true. But in this wretched Transvaal war, the enemy takes care not to risk engagements in the open, but to adopt a kind of guerilla warfare. The loss to our troops must, in such case, be great.

But these Dutch guerillas must be met in their own fashion; they must be paid in their own coin; and I am glad to see that the government have determined to send out Lord Roberts to take chief command. This distinguished soldier has assuredly proved himself a great leader of armies. He has served with immense *eclat* in India. He commanded the army of retribution which was sent to Cabul to punish the Afghans for their treachery. The expedition, though the march was through the dreaded defiles of Northern India, was singularly successful. The gallant general has I believe, lost an arm in the service of his country.

The nation is shocked and disheartened at the great slaughter of our soldiers, and naturally so. But those who have read history, or the annals of the British army, know that battles have been fought by our own men where the loss has been much greater. In cases too, when the old flint musket and bayonet were the arms used, not the present weapons of murderous precision. In the Peninsular war, one of the battles fought was that of Albuera. The English Commander for the nonce was Marshal Beresford, an ancestor of the present gallant Admiral Lord Charles Beresford. The Marshal was not considered to be one of the best chief commanders in the field, but he possessed other valuable soldierlike qualities. It is said that he was, like others of his race, of great strength and stature, and once when a big French lancer on horseback attacked him while on foot, he seized the lancer by the collar and dragged him from his horse on to the ground, where he was despatched. The celebrated historian of the war says that at this battle, the encounter was so fierce that the Marshal "wavered." The brave and gallant generals who commanded their respective divisions in the field were, however, of the right stuff, and through the efforts of one or two of them the conflict resulted in complete victory, but the carnage was terrible.

Just let me give you an extract from Sir William Napier's history concerning this very battle. In recording the surpassing gallantry of the British troops during the concluding phase of this combat he says:—

"Nothing could stop that astonishing infantry. No sudden bursts of undisciplined valour, no nervous enthusiasm weakened the stability of their order; their flashing eyes were bent on the dark columns in their front, their measured tread shook the ground, their dreadful volleys swept away the head of every formation, their deafening

shouts overpowered the dissonant cries that broke from all parts of the tumultuous crowd, as slowly and with a horrid carnage it was pushed by the incessant vigour of the attack to the farthest edge of the hill. In vain did the French reserves mix with the struggling multitude to sustain the fight—their efforts only increased the irremediable confusion, and the mighty mass, breaking off like a loosened cliff, went headlong down the steep. The rain flowed after in streams discoloured with blood, and eighteen hundred unwounded men, the remnant of six thousand unconquerable British soldiers, stood triumphant on the fatal hill."

I quote this for you to see what a shambles a battlefield was years ago. It might be doubted whether our army at present in the field, will meet with less casualties than the war in the Peninsula.

Allusion has been made to our *friends* on the Continent and their bilious comments. They are jealous of the high position Great Britain holds among the nations. We can smile benignantly on them all. What would have happened if their armies had received a check in their progress? Why they would have wanted to blow up an Emperor, or have a revolution, or have demanded the heads of their Governments. The non-success in war of both the Bonapartes cost them their thrones. But our nation takes these things philosophically. Let the Cassagnacs bully how they like—we laugh. Let the redoubtable Paul of that ilk come over here, and spout his froth; he will return a much sadder man.

I do not intend these notes to be regarded as a part of a war number, you will be strongly of opinion that I should have no claim to the heading at the commencement of this page. The South African turmoil is the topic of the hour just now, and I believe it is in the thoughts of all my ringing brethren, and in fact, of all Britishers. You all think for the moment more of your flesh and blood, fighting to maintain the honour and prestige of Britain than of the intricacies of any supposed new methods, whether they be Surprising or otherwise. Now after this, don't any of you for goodness sake invent a "Boer Bob Major Agony," or a "Methuen Delight;" we might have a "Pretoria Victory," but later on.

I have, however, almost come to the end of the space allowed me. There is a little episode I should like to relate before I finish this week. The following dialogue, or conversation, or whatever you like to call it, occurred between myself and "THE BELL NEWS" office boy this week:—
"Go to Sunday school, my boy?" "Yes sir."—"Know anything of the Scriptures; who were the Apostles, for instance?" "Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John."—"Have you ever heard of the Old Testament; who were the Philistines?" "A race of men, who were most always fighting."—"Yes; anything further about them?" "Yes; they were fighting with the Americans last year." The boy had read about the Philippines.

PLAIN SPEAKER.

THE PARSON'S DEPUTY.

[FROM *St. Mark's Magazine*, Leicester.]

The Reverend Benjamin Evence and I were chums. We were both at college at Oxford, and rowed in the same eight; and when we parted, he to enter the church, I the ranks of journalism, it was arranged we should occasionally spend Christmas together. Several years passed, however, before an opportunity occurred, but 'Xmas eve, 189—, I found myself esconced in the Rev. Ben Evence's study, for he was now the hard-working vicar of Leathercester, on the borders of Blankshire.

Our temperaments were somewhat similar, but differed in a degree. In the pulpit he was the right man in the right place, but out of it somewhat too meek, sensitive and generous I thought, whereas I preferred to rough it and would cross swords of opinion with anyone and on any subject. I loved argument, and like Oliver Twist, agitated for more. "Ah!" said the Rev. Benjamin, "I used to wonder what nerve you possessed to stand up in St. Giles' and speak for those unpopular Socialists, and face an hostile crowd, mostly our fellows, and knowing you were

turning friends into enemies by your espousal of Christian Socialism and renunciation of your own political faiths."

"Yes, my dear vicar," I answered, "It takes some strength and courage even for we laymen to speak unpleasant truths, but there is some consolation for a minority. If a thousand are against one, the one is against a thousand! It wants no courage to shout *with* the crowd, but against it! Majorities are not always in the right, and their subsequent revocations in many instances prove it."

"That is true," said the vicar, "and I have found it so. There is one occasion, however, in the year when I positively shrink from facing a crowd. That occasion is Boxing-day. It is then that everyone thinks the parson's 'living' is to disburse something for all without question as to claim. It is not the money it costs me, and none can say I am mean, although few would believe the enormous strain it is on a limited income; but on the most flimsy pretence I am expected to give. I cannot refuse, for I hate stinginess, but I know the gifts do not go where they might do most good. My hands are tied and I dread Boxing-day."

"Well, I agree with you," I said, "and I should much like to argue the point with some of your 'clients.' I have an idea! Shall I be your deputy? I will not turn one deserving case away, and, forgive my presumption, I think I shall play parson fairly well."

"Thanks," answered the vicar, "but you don't know what you are undertaking."

Boxing morning arrived, and with it my "clientèle." Enter two dustmen, and between the leader and me the following dialogue ensues:

"Good morning yer reverince, compments er the season; its werry cold, werry."

"It is cold my man, but seasonable."

"Ahem, hum, ahem, haw, haw, ahem."

"What can I do for you?"

"Ahem, haw, ahem, well sir, you see its like this, we allus comes round on this hospishus hocation to gather 'em in; Christmas boxes, sir."

"I see, but why should I give you a Christmas box? Are you not paid wages?"

"Yus, ahem, yus, but its old custom, and we don't like to bust up old customs, do we Jim?" (Jim turned up the whites of his eyes as though it would be a sin.)

"Probably not when they are to your interests, but as you are paid your wages in full, I see no reason why I should give you anything but best wishes; good morning." Exit dustmen and their halo of hot rum.

Next came Tomkins on behalf of the bell-ringers. He presented a book for my autograph—and a subscription. I challenged him with: "Do you think you ought to come around like this? Does not the Church pay you all for your services? Surely you must see it is unfair to expect further remuneration."

"Excuse me, sir," said Tomkins, "but our services are not paid for, nor do we desire them to be. We ring freely for the services of the church and for love of the work. I didn't think you would object sir to—"

"Stop!" I answered. "I was unaware of your gratuitous services. I do not object to help those who work unselfishly, I want no man to work for naught. Those who labour for love deserve appreciation. Do you divide your funds?"

"Well sir," said Tomkins, "we used to be paid, but the Church is poor, so we forego payment. I might say that we ringers will not benefit personally by whatever we collect as we intend to devote the money to belfry improvements."

"It is very considerate of you all," I replied, "here is a donation, and may you obtain more; but use discretion, for poor shopkeepers can ill afford to give something for nothing. They do it to keep their custom, yet every customer expects to get full value. I wish you success."

The vicarage grounds were now simply crowded with grocers, porters, fishmongers, postmen, butchers, and even the rag-and-bone brigade were there along with the cats'-meat men, wreathed in smiles, and all intent on extending to me their good wishes (for a consideration). One more instance will suffice. Enter postmen presenting their "brief," with perfect nonchalance, as though the matter was a foregone conclusion! Alas,—for

them!!

I opened fire. "On what grounds do you expect a Christmas-box?" This staggered the spokesman, who shot an enquiring glance at his mate, but he too jibbed at the question.

"What hours do you work?" I asked.

"Eight sir."

"Is your employment regular right throughout the year?"

"Yes sir, but we allus does our duty to the public."

"Exactly, that is what you are paid for, I understand also that holidays are paid for and clothing found free?"

"Yes sir."

"And you have a pension or superannuation scheme in operation?"

"Yes sir, since you put it that way."

"Well then, I put it to you as man to man—does not the public do its duty to *you*? How many 'factory hands' are as well provided for as Government servants? To the average workman a holiday means 'out of work,' and he has no pension except the workhouse. Are your needs greater than theirs?"

The man stood thinking. Suddenly he said, "Well sir, I never looked at it in that light before. We didn't know we were such valuable public servants until the newspapers said so and we were made a lot of. There is no harm in taking what is freely offered, but after to-day I don't think I shall 'box' again!"

As we sat at tea that evening I told the Reverend Ben my experiences and obtained his permission to use the money saved as I thought fit. I had quite a considerable sum which might have been scattered almost indiscriminately among the seekers of the morning—and with what benefit? Poverty or pleasure—which has the prior claim? My decision was made. Among the courts and alleys I wended my way, and what a Kaleidoscope was there! Here was want and misery. Here was wilful waste and misfortune side by side with revelry and silent sorrow. In one home (?) a widow was stitching clothing at a price that ought to shame the wearers. It was the "Song of the Shirt" over again. On a bed in the corner lay a little baby girl who had sobbed herself to sleep because "Daddy Christmas" had forgotten her. As I heard her fitful sobbing even in sleep, I mused:—

Little baby stockings on a Christmas night

Hanging 'neath the mantle near the fire,

Little curly heads are peeping from their beds

Until their tender little eyelids tire.

And with the morning light they open wide their eyes

Santa Claus has come again! Oh, hear their cries.

"Oh, what pretty things Daddy Christmas brings

For the baby stockings on a Christmas night."

Little empty stockings in the poor man's home,

Wistful faces asking mother dear,

"Other girls and boys all have pretty toys,

Oh, mother, why don't Santa Claus come here?"

But mother's heart is fit to break, she feels the woes,

She knows their wants are pitiful to hear.

Mothers eyes are red, the battle is for bread;

And mother's only answer is a tear.

I thought of my own two darlings snugly asleep in their warm cot, and as I laid a large doll by the side of the fatherless child I felt with what joy would she wake up and find that Father Christmas had been with that dolly after all! In another house a father of a large family lay ill. In his racking cough and emaciated frame I saw consumption had laid its fatal grip upon him. The doctor said he was hopeless, but with nourishing food and strengthening delicacies his days might be lengthened, but as he looked at his children clinging round their mother, his eyes filled with tears and I knew his thoughts,—the children! As I left him something substantial for his necessities he grasped my hands and said, "Thank you, God bless you," but I stopped him. "Don't thank me, my brother," I said, knowing that the money was not mine, yet feeling proud to put my socialistic theory into practice:—"Everyone according to his needs."

From thence I went into many other homes of a similar kind until my Christmas-box fund was gone. When I thought how it might have been squandered, I felt I had done right for once and I came away from these scenes a sadder but a wiser man

W. WILLSON.

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 Llandaff Diocesan Association.—The Christmas quarterly meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 26th, at Penmark, near Cowbridge. There will be Divine Service at the parish church at 2.30. Meeting in the schoolroom at 3 o'clock. The bells will be available for ringing all day. Members who have not already paid their subscriptions for the current year are kindly requested to do so at this forthcoming meeting.
REV. CONNOP PRICE, *Hon. Sec.*

The Norwich Diocesan Association.—Saxmundham District.—The 36th Quarterly meeting will be held at Leiston, on Tuesday, December 26th. Tower will be open for ringing all day. Business meeting in the schools at 3 o'clock.
H. J. BUTTON, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*

Sheffield and District Society.—The next meeting will be held at All Saints, Sheffield, on 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), on 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.

NOTE TO PEAL.

THE PEAL AT GUILDFORD.—The members of the Trinity band, Guildford, have every reason to be proud, not only of their peal on Tuesday, but of their instructor, who had a great many difficulties in the shape of illness near the church to check the band in their practice. It is only twelve months ago since he took the band (who knew nothing of method ringing) in hand, and out of that time they were stopped for four months through illness. In spite of this the band started for the peal full of confidence, and succeeded not only in ringing a good peal, but also in ringing the quickest peal on the bells. The band no doubt will enjoy the supper which the genial Rector, the Rev. Canon Grant, promised them on the success of their first peal. The ringer of the 6th was elected a member of the Guild before starting.

Compositions.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By F. DENCH, *Glasgow.*

5120.				
23456	M	B	W	H
26354	2			1
24653	2			1
32546	2		1	2
35426			1	2
52436	1			
23645	2			
46325	1			2
25634	2			2

Repeated. This peal has the 4th and 6th their extent in 6ths place, without the 2nd there at a course-end, and is believed to be the first composed with the 4th and 6th their extent at five course-ends in two equal parts,

A DATE TOUCH OF STEDMAN CATERS.

By E. BENNETT, *Beddington.*

1920.				
123456	4	5	16	
*216453				
612354	-	-		
614253	-	-		
613452	-	-		
513264	-	-		
514362	-	-		
512463	-	-		
215164	-	-		
214563	-	-		
213465	-	-		
312564	-	-		
314265	-	-		
413562	-	-		
412365	-	-		
415263	-	-		
615342	-	-		
612543	-	-		

*1, 5, 6. Round by hobs at 1, 2, 8, 10 in four changes. Start with a slow six from rounds.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By ARTHUR CRAVEN, *Lincoln.*

6560.				
23156	M	B	W	H
54326	1	-		2
25463	-			2
62534	-			2
24536	2	-	1	2
25346	1	-	2	2
62453	-		2	2
64523	1	-	2	2
36245	-		2	2
32465	1	-	2	2
64235	1	-		2
36452	-			2
63254	2			2
56342	-			2
65243	-		1	2
46532	-			2
45362			1	2
52364	1			2
53624			1	2
34625	1			2
23456	-			2

This peal has the sixty course-ends. First rung at Norton, Derbyshire, on December 16, 1899, in 3 hrs. 49 mins., conducted by Arthur Knights.

FALSE COMPOSITIONS.—Mr. Lindoff writes: "The peal of Stedman Caters in your last issue which was rung at St. Margaret's, Westminster, is unfortunately false. Our friend will notice that if he uses that start, he cannot use course-end 163254, as the second six from rounds and this course-end are exactly alike. The Superlative 5088 is the composition of Sir Arthur Heywood."—Mr. E. Cook, of Cardiff, writes: "The quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples by Mr. Eckersley, published a fortnight ago, is false."

GIFT TO BOLTON.—Mr. W. H. Lever, of Port Sunlight, has purchased and presented to the Mayor of Bolton, on behalf of the town, the residence known as Hall Wood, the birthplace of Samuel Crompton, inventor of the mule spinning frame.

WANTED a Peal of Eight Handbells.—Address, S., The Nook, Winslow, Bucks.

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THE HOUSE.

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BRIDGE BUILDER seeks situation. Society, well up in all class of bridge yard work. Ringer, Double Norwich, Stedman and Superlative.—Write J. A. Carter, 18, Woodside Street, Middlesbrough.

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.

For Sale.

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. ROWE, Upminster, Essex.

A SET of Fifteen HANDBELLS, by Mears. Tenor 18G, thirteen consecutive notes with semitone 12F and 8C-sharp.—Apply to T. HATTERSLEY, 79, West Street, Sheffield, or the Rev. F. G. SANDFORD, Sharrow Vicarage, Sheffield.

A PEAL of Nineteen HANDBELLS, size 18G, by John Taylor; in perfect condition; no reasonable offer refused.—Address, C. SHARPLES, 30, White Ash Lane, Oswaldtwistle, Lancashire.

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the minimum monthly balances when not drawn below
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FOR FIVE SHILLINGS PER MONTH.

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FRANCIS RAVEN-CROFT, Manager.

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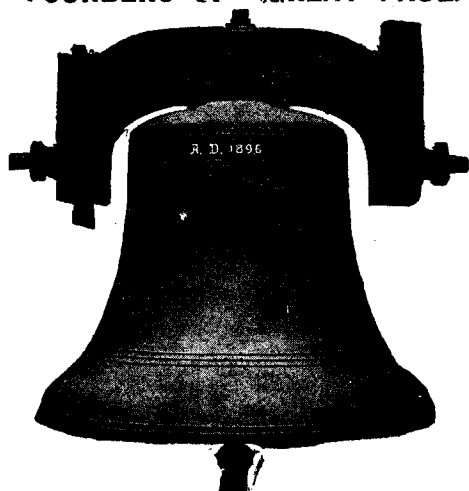
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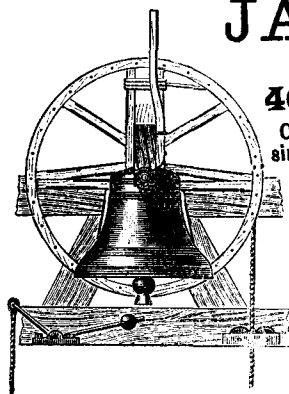
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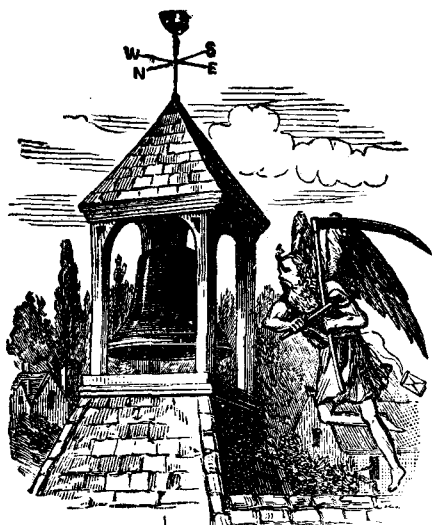
A Weekly Journal of the Ringing Exercise ; and Compendium of Information for the Clergy and Churchwardens.

No. 925.—VOL. XVIII.]

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1899.

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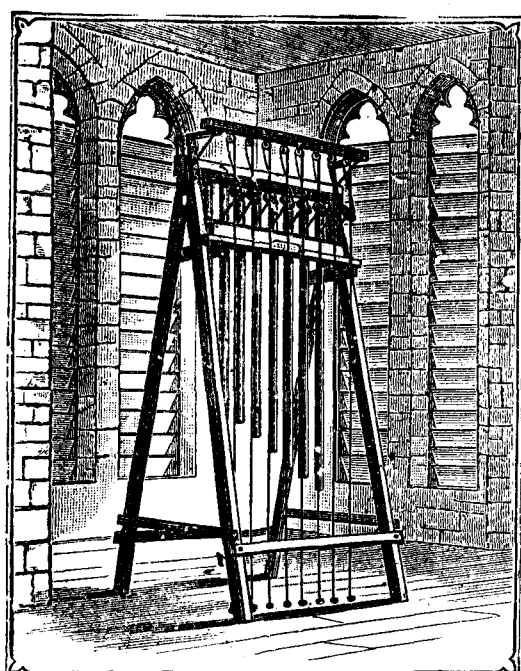
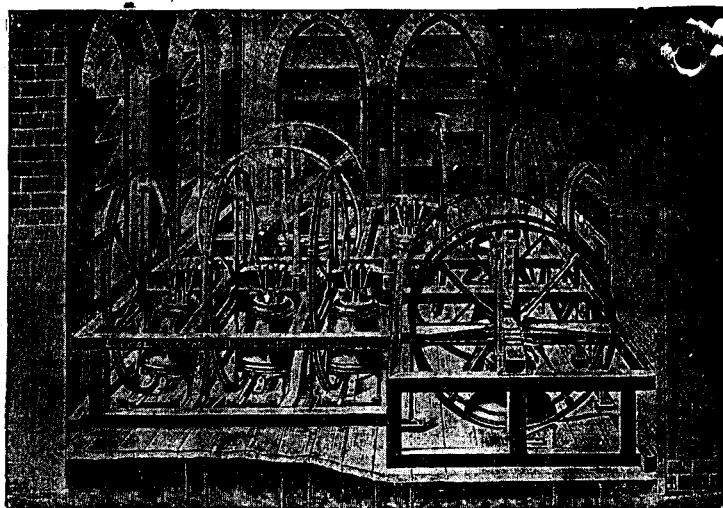
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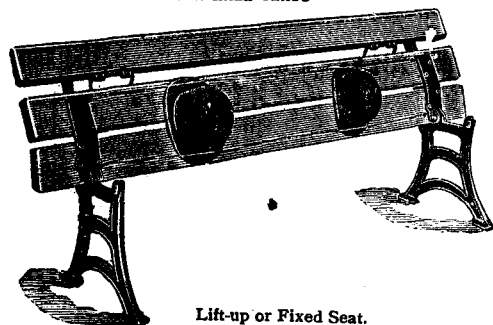
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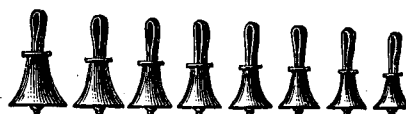
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 925.]

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1899.

[Vol. XVIII.]

ST. PETER'S, CONGLETON, CHESHIRE.

In 1740 a faculty was given the inhabitants of Congleton to take down the "parochial chapple" described as "old and decayed," and rebuild the same on an enlarged plan. The work was commenced the same year, and completed before the close of 1742. The present church, dedicated to St. Peter, stands on high ground in Chapel Street. It is a rectangular brick building, with stone tower at the west end, a nave and two side aisles, and galleries on its north, south and west portions. The inhabitants, successful in obtaining a structure ample in its proportions and graceful in its interior, according to the style of the times, sought not not to combine therewith any external architectural pretensions, and long exterior walls of brick, bare and unbroken, present an appearance neither elegant nor church-like. Two stories of the ancient tower (to the level of the roof) were allowed to remain, though sorely mangled by the modernised west door and circular belfry window. The completion of the tower was deferred till 1716, by the addition of the clock chamber, belfry, and parapet, surmounted by eight stone pinnacles. Mr. Randle Bursham, of Congleton, undertook to raise the tower for £450. By a private note in the old mason's pocket-book, I find the actual cost was £599 7s. 4d., and after deducting £24, value of old lead, he lost £125 7s. 4d.

Entering the church by the west door, the interior, in the Wren style of architecture, bears a marked resemblance to that great master's church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, and is a stately specimen of its period—1740. The chancel-end is lighted by a large Venetian window. Well-executed paintings of St. Paul and St. Peter adorn the walls on either side of this window, and written in gold on the centre panels of the fine oak reredos are the Commandments, with the Creed on one side and the Lord's Prayer on the other. Pilasters of oak, with floriated capitals, divide these inscriptions, surmounted with heads of cherubs beautifully-carved in oak, but some years ago unfortunately painted white. Above the reredos and immediately under the great window is the emblematic pelican feeding her young with her own blood, excellently carved. The nave is divided from the north and south aisles by seven square massive columns on each side, over which are raised galleries with oak-panelled fronts; above the galleries the columns up to the roof are exchanged by massive circular stone pillars of the Tuscan order. The pews are made in the old square and long box-shaped character, and in keeping with the other workwork, are of dark-colored oak. There is seating accommodation for over 1200 worshippers. The old pulpit, reading-desk, and clerk's seat were of very fine workmanship, of the old-fashioned three-storied construction always to be found in churches of this type; they were removed twenty-one years ago. A reading-desk was placed on the south side of the chancel, the clerk's seat abolished, and the old polygonal-shaped reading-desk removed from Astbury church was erected in the place of the original lofty pulpit, on a stone pedestal. In the west gallery is the organ. This instrument, built by Messrs. Renn and Boston, of

Manchester, cost one thousand pounds, is of beautiful and perfect tone, and was placed in the church in the year 1824. Mr. S. C. Eyre, the present organist, has held the appointment for over forty years. The vestry is by the west entrance, on the south side, near which is the font of plain marble. The entire length of the church is 24½ yards, and its width is 18½ yards. The parochial registers are without interest. Before 1720 they were taken to Astbury, and a portion, from 1711 to 1744 are included in a volume of Astbury registers. The oldest baptisms and burials, viz., from 1789 to 1783, are bound together in one vellum-covered volume, and kept in the vestry safe.

Frequent allusion has been made to the bells hanging in the old tower. About 1558 these were two in number, one of which became disused during the reign of Queen Elizabeth. In 1594 Henry Oldfield cast two new bells, and in 1624 a fourth or great bell was added. The town accounts have the following: "1624. Spent the xiiij daie of Novembre in goinge throughe Buglawton, myself Maior, Mr. Ald. Hobson, Mr. Ald. Drakeforde, Mr. Ald. Rode, Willm. Baylie and others, Mr. Ald. Poynton being in companie with us after our return, wee travellinge all the daie to know what the Inhabitance of Buglawton would bestowe towards our greatest and new bell—two shillinges & 8d." "1630. Paid for foure Bell Ropes at Nottingham 10 shillinges."

Paul Hutton, the Congleton founder, recast three of the old bells, and added a treble about 1635. In 1720 the five bells were recast into six by "the old Church and State Bellfounders," the Rudhalls of Gloucester. These were rehung in the new tower. The following is a copy of the agreement or contract:—

"Articles of agreement had made concluded and agreed upon the 15th day of November Anno Domini one thousande seven hundred and twenty betweene the Maior Aldrmen and Burgesses of the Burrough of Congleton in the County of Chester and Abraham Rudhall of the City of Gloucester Bellfounder. It is agreed that if Mr. Mayor thinks fit to deliver the five Bells & Clappers now belonging to the Chappell of the sd. Burrough at Salop betwixt the twenty-fift day of March next ensuing the said Abm. Rudhall shall be at the charge of fetching and carrying them away to Gloucester afd. make them into six good new tuneable Bells and shall deliver the sd. six new Bells at Salop aforesd. as soon as he can and shall make six new clappers for the said bells and deliver them at the same time. The sd. Mayor Alrmen and Burgesses agree to pay the sd. Abram Rudhall his Executors or Admratos for the casting the sum of flourty Pounds within three months after the sd. Bells have been delivered safe as aforesaid, that the said six new Bells shall containe in weight as near as may be allowed to each cwt. and the sd. Mayor Alrmen & Burgesses & their successrs. shall pay Abram Rudhall flfourteen pence for every pound of additionall mettall and Abraham Rudhall allow the Corporation 14d for every pound weight the new bells want in weight of the old ones allowing for wast as aforesaid. And Abraham Rudhall agrees to & with the Corporation & their succrs if any of the New Bells break or are not

tuneable within one year after being hung he shall change the same at his own cost and cause the same to be hung up as soon as possible. Witnesses etc."

Since rebuilding the church the bells have been changed at different periods, and now form an octave of rich and perfect tone. What is known as the pancake bell, or goodit (good tide) bell, is still rung at 11 a.m. on Shrove Tuesday, when the boys from the grammar school are released for the day. This custom has existed far beyond the memory of man. The noon, or one o'clock bell (3rd bell), and the curfew (6th bell), are rung each day, the latter at eight o'clock. As late as 1839 the 6th (or tenor, then), was rung each night at ten during the week, and on Sunday at nine, when publicans were obliged to clear their houses.

The bells were augmented from a ring of six to a peal of eight in 1867, Mears and Stainbank executing the work. There were three new bells, as the old treble was cracked after it was taken from the tower to the Town Clerk's office. It used to be called Old Ralph, and bore the inscription: "R. A. Malbon, Minister and Schoolmaster, A.D. 1720." The bells were opened by the Macclesfield Company on January 22nd, 1868. The day the three bells arrived at the station they were put on a waggon, headed by the old Borough Band, Mayor and Aldermen and Councillor and Burgesses, the day being made a general half-holiday. The following are the inscriptions on the bells. No. 1.—"Stainbank Foundry, London, John Green, Deputy Warden, Thomas Statan, ringer, 1867." No. 2.—"Stainbank Foundry, William Shepard Williamson, Thomas Potter Johnson, Churchwardens, 1867." No. 3.—"Thomas Mears and Son, London, Fecit, 1806." No. 4.—"God direct the consultations of the Corporation, 1720." No. 5.—"Thomas Shaw, John Jackson, John Wood, Aldermen. A.R. 1720." No. 6.—"Peter Lingard, John Shaw, Jehu Varden, Aldermen. A.R. 1720." No. 7.—"Prosperity to the Parish. A.R. 1757." No. 8.—"Stainbank Foundry. Hung in St. Peter's Belfry, 1867. John Latham, Mayor, Congleton, Rev. John Hughes, B.A., Minister."

The first minister I can get from the town's records is Sir Roger Wylliams, 1588-90. There was another church called the Lower or Bridge Chapel; the date of this chapel's disuse as a place of worship is uncertain. I find "one Reginald Brodok of Congulton did bequeath a certain plot of land to Philip de Greene, Mayor of Congulton and successors on conditions that they pay over the rent and profit of land to the work and to the sustentation of the Bridge Chapel of Congulton. Witnesses Philip de Greene, Mayor, John de Latham Catchpole; dated at Congleton, Sunday next after the Feast of St. Giles Abbot, 1. Henry v. 1413." I find the first Mayor, Richard de Bradocke, 1348 and 1349, and the silver mace had been restored (after the tyranny of the then Republican Mayors), with this inscription at the restoration of Charles II. "To the Freedom of England by God's blessing restored, 1651."

The custom of ringing the chains or fetters in the early morning of St. Peter's Day, now obsolete, was to represent the shaking or clanging of fetters, which bound the Apostle hundreds of years ago. When the 29th of June was the Feast day of St. Peter, these chains were invented. Prior to the Reformation the Calendar was enlarged and a second day set apart for Peter's imprisonment by Herod, viz., August 1st, or Lammas Day, known in the Catholic calendar as the Feast of St. Peter ad Vincula, or St. Peter in Fetters. Congleton "Wake," more properly the

Feast of the Dedication, commenced and continued till 1752, when in order to bring the seasons back to their old order, a change of style was made, and the Calendar put back twelve days. It happens the "Wake" festival commences on the 1st Sunday after or on 12th August, the day these chains or bells were used. The set consists of three bells, each with different tones. I have taken this from *The Cheshire Sheaf*: A quaint custom of sending round the town at midnight of the Vigil on 12th August, three acolytes each carrying sashes, or leather belts studded with spherical bells and rolling bullet clappers. These minor ministers danced about public places, making horrid clangings enough. "Wake" purposely having disturbed the faithful, the chief officer proclaimed at the Market Cross the holding of St. Peter's "Wake," and exhorted all good people to keep it religiously. It is curious this custom was called "ringing the chains." At the Reformation when many good things happened, this bad one supervened. To show their contempt for ancient religious forms, these three bells of chains were handed over to a family of chimney sweeps, named Stubbs, who perambulated the town on the midnight of the Vigil Wake. They published at the Market Cross a profane travesty of the old days, asking for as much strong drink as the people would give them during the "Wake." These sweeps for nearly three hundred years used these chains or bells, which were handed down from father to son, and their ringing nuisance kept on until the last twenty or twenty-five years; at last the line of succession became duplex, fights occurred between the claimants until they were locked up; they sent for the Town Clerk who gave them 10s. each, and they gave up their rights to them, and they are now in the town clerk's office being renovated, and the missing bells put on. We cannot trace any village or town with this ancient custom.

Congleton.

JAS. PERRY.

THE ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY (NETHERTON), DUDLEY.

This society held their second annual dinner on Tuesday, December 19th, at the house of Mr. J. Danks, Five Ways inn, Netherton. Among those present were the Revs. J. Marriott (Vicar), and J. B. Brinkworth (Curate), Mr. J. Davies (Churchwarden), Councillor D. Rollinson, Messrs. E. Russell, W. W. Frost, B. Cutler, J. Barnsley, and ringing friends from the neighbourhood.

The Vicar occupied the chair, and proposed "Queen and Church and State," making special reference to the war in South Africa. This was met in a truly English manner, a verse of the National Anthem being sung.

"The Army and Navy" was proposed by Mr. Churchwarden Davies, and this was also received with applause, Mr. Brettie, a volunteer from Halesowen, responding.

Mr. J. W. Smith recited a poem by Walter Manning, entitled, "The Messenger Boy," with much feeling, and Mr. S. Spittle sang "The Absent-minded Beggar," after which the hat went round and brought in a guinea for the *Daily Mail* fund, which the chairman kindly promised to forward next day.

Other toasts followed; and tunes were played on handbells by various members of the company.

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 OLD YEAR'S KNELL:

A short cut is usually the longest way round, and if people will go careering about the wilds of the North Riding of Yorkshire on a twenty-five mile journey in an open dog-cart during the depth of winter, instead of travelling comfortably in the train like sensible folk, they must not grumble if they meet with delays and mishaps. After all, one might find oneself in a worse place on new-year's eve than snugly snowed up in the best bed of an old-fashioned country inn, after a dinner of grass-fed beefsteak, done to a turn, washed down with a warm glass of undeniable dew from the Scotch mountains by way of a digestive. Such was my sage soliloquy as I prepared to forget my recent bad treatment at the hands of the elements in those slumbers which are popularly believed to be the exclusive perquisite of the just man. Somehow, as I dozed off, the church clock opposite seems to be taking an unconscionable time in striking eleven, and considering that it is at least a quarter-of-an-hour late in starting according to my watch, it might have the politeness to hurry a little, and let me alone in peace. Mechanically I count the strokes—eleven, twelve, *thirteen!* and getting louder every blow! Who would have expected the new mode of reckoning time to have found its way down to this unsophisticated spot already? Twenty-three! twenty-four! Yes, it has stopped now. Well, the system doubtless has its advantages, but it is noisy, very, and takes a power of counting at this time of night. "Bome!" What, another clock? "Bim!" Two! By all that is distracting! "Clash," "clang!" I sit up, wide awake at last, to the fact that the church bells are being raised singly, and soon became aware of what I ought to have guessed at once, the reason. Hastily donning dressing-gown and slippers, for lying in bed is now out of the question, I descend the stairs to find old Boniface busily preparing some supper for the ringers. So subsiding into a cosy chair in the chimney-corner with a cigar in my mouth, the lateness of the hour is forgotten, and I even become impatient to hear the disturbers of my incipient slumbers strike up in earnest. Presently the deep voice of the tenor booms out as she is being raised. "That's a grand bell!" I involuntarily exclaimed. "You may well say that," said a grizzled old man sitting opposite, smoking. He had hitherto been staring into the fire, apparently absorbed in his own reflections, without taking the slightest notice of me or of anything else. "I wonder what her weight is?"

"Thirty-four hundredweight, three quarters, and ten pounds, exactly," said he, glibly; "although the folks hereabouts will have it she's double that. Aye, and they believe it, bless you. But considering that I rang her for five-and-twenty years, I ought to know."

A verse of an old ballad came into my head:—

"For full five-hundred years I've swung
In my old grey tower on high;
And many's the varied peal I've rung
As the years went stealing by."

And I suppose I must have repeated it aloud, unconsciously, for the old man said,—

"Yes, and many's the queer tale those bells could tell, if they could master our language with their iron tongues and brazen lips, I can vouch for one at all events."

"What arrant old gossips they would be! It seems to me that they speak to us in a better language than ours. But pray let us hear your story."

He removed the extreme tip of the "churchwarden" from his mouth, the better to gaze at me from beneath his shaggy eyebrows, and then, glancing furtively at the

waning interior of the tankard, observed, "It's somewhat lengthy."

I took the hint. "You mean to say that a long tale dries the throat." As he did not dissent in any way from this proposition, I called the landlord, and, having satisfactorily arranged preliminaries, was all attention and expectation; but my newly-found acquaintance was once more gazing abstractedly at the glowing logs, and continued to do so for such a lengthened period that I began to think he had obtained the refilling of his pewter by false pretences, and just as I had given up all hopes of his promised narrative, he heaved a sigh from the bottom of his waistcoat, and said,—

"Yes, it must be two-and-fifty years ago since Annie Faulkner married her father's apprentice, Robert Lever. What a lass she was! Tall and slim, with fair hair, and brown eyes, which sparkled with fun and good-nature; her bright face seemed to throw a charm over everything she came near, and her cheery laugh used to put all who heard it into the highest of spirits. Then she was as good as gold into the bargain. You should just have heard the old woman! They were never tired of singing her praises. And well they might, for there was'n't a day of the week but what she must be doing one or other of them a kindness; something good and nourishing for this one in her basket, or a cheery word of comfort for that one because she was low or in trouble; a warm garment to cure somebody's rheumatics, and so on.

"Of course, we youngsters were head-over-ears in love with her, to a lad. I was myself, but seeing it was no good, I managed to get over it, although I do believe I've never really cared for anyone else since. Well, Bob had the pull of us all, being a fine-looking young fellow, and, what is everything with women folk, always on the spot; besides he'd a little money of his own, and that didn't go against him in her people's eyes, as you may well suppose. So as soon as he was out of his time, he set up as a carpenter for himself, and took Annie to church, and we ringers willingly lost half-a-day's work all round, in order to ring their wedding peal, and to show that there was no illfeeling amongst us at his good fortune.

"I said 'willingly,' but there was one man who handled a rope that day whose heart wasn't much in his work, and he was Isaac Loader, the beadle's son—a strong, active lad enough, who would have been handsome except that he had a way of never looking you straight in the face, and, somehow, none of us seemed either to like or to trust him. He had got into a bad set, too, and was always in the public houses along with the poachers, and there was a rumour that he was out with them one night when they half killed the squire's keeper; but it couldn't be proved against him, and he got off without being summoned with the rest. Well, there's good and bad in every village, and you know the sort of man I mean. Now Ike had been very sweet on Annie before Bob made up to her. He used to walk her out of a Sunday, but when it came to her people's ears they stopped all that, and then Bob cut him out, as I told you. After that Ike would not let her alone, he was for ever dogging her about, and even trying to get her to run away with him; but Annie told him she had broken no promise to him, and now that she knew her own mind it would be better for them both to part as friends. Then Ike persistently insulted his rival, until the latter could stand it no longer, and they fought it out on a summer's evening under the old oak in Knight's Wood, when Bob came off victorious after a hard struggle.

"The wedding once over, however, Ike, to all outward

appearances had dropped his animosity towards his late antagonist; yet he became more sullen and morose, so much so that his own set began to drop him, he attended the ringing on practice nights less regular, drank harder than ever, and then got into trouble with the magistrates for poaching. Yet he somehow contrived to keep his place as assistant steeplekeeper, for the church authorities were not so particular about characters in those days as they are now.

"As for Bob and Annie, there never was a happier couple, or a handsomer, for the matter of that; and it was a right merry party that met in their cottage, not a hundred yards away from here, just after I had stood godfather to their first-born, as fine a little boy as ever you saw. Ike did not come, although he had been asked, and, as you may suppose, we were not sorry; yet, as I left in the evening, I felt sure I saw him lurking round the house.

"After that came the fall of the leaf, followed by the approach of the new year. I mind the time well, for, seeing at that party how happy matrimony had made Bob, I got myself and my old woman asked in church a month or so afterwards, and we were married on Christmas Day. Well, we are all of us liable in our time to make mistakes."

"You didn't assist at your own wedding peal, I suppose?" said I, by way of not noticing his ungallant remark.

"Well, of course, I wanted to as soon as I heard the bells, for I was as keen as the keenest in those days; but, would you believe it? the women wouldn't hear of it! I was at it again, however, worse luck, a week afterwards. You must know that most of us were anxious to complete a long peal of Treble Bob Major, a new method which we had just learnt, before the old year was out, and we had arranged to start at two o'clock in the afternoon, so as to get it over before the New Year's Eve service at half-past five. Shortly after one o'clock, Loader, who was not one of our party, brought the belfry keys round to me, with the remark that we had better make a quick start of it if we wished to get done in time, adding that he was going into the town to see the circus. I soon mustered the band. The bells were well up, for we had been ringing in the early morning. 'Time is short, my lads,' said I, for I was conducting from the tenor. 'We'll ring a few rounds, and if no one cries *stand off* we go into changes without more ado.'

"Then here's one, and good luck go with us," said the treble man, as he pulled his bell off. My bell seemed to slip wheel as she followed suit, for she came half-way down; but after a pull or two I got her into place once more, and she behaved better, and was soon in compass with the others.

"Up to her old tricks and banging against the frame," muttered my neighbour, the seventh man. 'Ike Loader said he'd have that looked to.' However, feeling no more of it, I cried 'go,' and we went off into changes. Somehow I felt uncomfortable; something wrong was sure to happen; drive it away from my thoughts as I would, the foreboding of evil kept returning. Although the ringing was so good that the bells seemed to drop into their right places in the changes as if by magic, I was certain that the peal was doomed. After an hour or so this feeling increased so much as to become almost unbearable; a cold sweat burst from my forehead, and my hands became moist and clammy as they grasped the white sallie. White, did I say? No, it had suddenly become

red!! Red with blood running down the rope! My hands were bloodstained too, and so was the floor and block on which I stood, and, unable to go on, I set my bell, and, sinking on to the bench behind me, almost fainted away. I recovered soon enough, however, to go up among the bells with the others. There, under the tenor, still poised in threatening attitude over her victim, lay poor Bob—dead, with his working tools around him. As we bore his mangled body along the bell-frame towards the spiral staircase, we could see Annie in the garden below nursing her boy, evidently on the watch for her husband's return, and we felt that the worst had yet to come, a task, moreover, which none dared to face. At the foot of the steps stood the Rector, come to inquire the cause of the breakdown of the peal. When he knew, his cheek blanched, but his lip was firm, and there was no falter in his voice as he said—'My lads, this is my duty, and God help me to do it.' Then, beckoning me to follow him, he went towards the cottage. 'God bless parson,' I heard more than one say after him. Annie opened the garden-gate for us with her happy smile of welcome, a smile which I saw on her face for the last time. The Rector followed her in doors, and presently through the latticed windows I saw them kneel together, the white-haired old man and the fair-haired girl. Then from the room there came a cry, not loud, but the low fearless wail of one whose life is left unto her desolate, and unable to bear it I went away.

"Then followed the inquest, whereat, of course, the question was how deceased came to be amongst the bells. Loader, who came home drunk from the town that night, could throw no more light on the mystery than this: that some few weeks prior to the accident he had told Bob that the frame required planing a little where the tenor in her swing sometimes touched it, and that this small job might lead to more work, repairs being frequently required in the belfry; but that he had given no orders for the work to be done, nor, in fact, had he seen the deceased on the day in question; that he supposed the man must have been finishing some carpenter's work, and had entered the church and thence obtained access to the belfry stairs through the organ-loft; that, on reaching the bells, he had set to work in ignorance both of his danger in remaining under a bell which was set up, and of the fact that a peal was about to be attempted; that he (the witness) had locked the bottom door of the stair-case, which was outside the church, and also that of the ringing-chamber, and had given the keys to me; and that the key of the other door, which led from the church to the staircase, and which had been found open, was not in his custody, and never had been.

"The jury brought in a verdict of 'accidental death,' and exonerated us all from blame; and after a time things went on as usual, except that Loader left our band, but having succeeded his father as beadle, he continued to look after the bells. He was observed to drink deeply, as of old, but more especially when certain fits of great despondency, to which he was subject, came over him.

"Mrs. Lever, the widow, left the village owing, it was rumoured, to the importunity with which Loader had pressed her, soon after the death of her husband, to marry him. Certain it is that she left no clue as to whither she had gone, and before long the awful story of her husband's death ceased to be a topic of conversation in the village.

"Now, let me see, yes, its twenty years ago this very day that I was sitting where I am now, in the dusk of the evening, when a young man, a stranger, came in, and while hiring a bed for the night, enquired whether the

bells would be rung, as he was curious to hear them. The landlord there referred to me, being the ringers' captain, inasmuch as he seemed both civil and respectable. I told him that we should ring the old year out as usual, and that if he would be outside the tower at half-past eleven I would take him up to see how it was done."

"‘I suppose,’ he said, ‘I shall have to pay my footing?’"

"‘Well,’ said I, ‘my mates won’t take it amiss if you do, but you’re welcome whether or no.’"

"And I went home to tea."

"I met him at the time appointed. It was blowing hard and raining, in fact a very dirty night, and as dark as pitch. As we went up the staircase he expressed a wish to see the bells, and asked if it was true a man was once killed by one of them."

"‘Only too true,’ I replied. ‘I lost my best friend by that sad accident.’"

"‘I’ll get you to tell me the whole story presently, after the ringing is over.’"

"By this time we had reached the frame. The wind was howling and roaring dreadfully through the louvre windows, and Loader was at the other side muffling the bells, which were all up."

"‘Stay here a minute in this corner,’ said I to the young man. ‘I’ll get the beadle’s lantern as soon as he has finished; it’s very dangerous walking about among the bells if you aren’t well used to it. Hold on to this rail, and mind you don’t stir till I come back.’"

"I had to go round to the further side of Loader, who was working at the clapper of the seventh. He did not appear to see me as I came up behind him, but I think he must have felt the vibration to the frame caused by my tread, for he looked up nervously, and, taking up his lantern, cast its rays towards the entrance, where I had left the stranger. As I glanced in the same direction, the small, glowing circle of light revealed, as if in a frame, the features of Robert Lever to the life!"

"My surprise was instantly changed to horror when I beheld Loader, as with eyes almost starting out of his head, and uttering an appalling shriek of horror, he fell backwards into the pit under the tenor, clutching the wheel convulsively in his fall. By the glimmer of the expiring light I could see the mighty mass of metal begin to move slowly off the poise, and then, after an awful pause, there was a dull thud as the revolving bell struck the man with all her force, followed by the deafening roar of her tongue, which seemed like a shout of triumph at her own dread handiwork."

"The ringers below soon stopped the bell, and brought up a light, when the unfortunate man was found alive, but unconscious. The bell’s first blow, which I heard, had knocked him beyond the range of her circuit, but had so terribly injured his spine, as to render his recovery hopeless."

"The rest of my story is soon told. As you have no doubt guessed already, the stranger turned out to be my godson, the very image of his father as we knew him. He had come to see the village where he was born, and was naturally enough interested in the dreadful story connected with the bells. He remained at my house, and was most studious that everything should be done, through me, to ensure the comfort of the dying man. The latter I was in the habit of visiting every day, and on my telling him that Robert Lever’s son was with me in the belfry at the time of the fatal mishap which had befallen him, he

became very anxious that I should bring my guest with me, which I accordingly did."

"We found the sick man calm, and in no pain, but from his appearance there was no mistaking that the end was near. Loader, on looking at the young man muttered, as though to himself, ‘Yes, that is the face I saw!’ and beckoning to him said, ‘Until I made a clean breast of it to the parson a fortnight ago, I’ve known no rest for more than twenty years; and as a man whose hours are numbered, I’ve sent for you to ask your forgiveness for my sin and the wrong I have done you. I decoyed your father into the tower under pretence of getting him some profitable work, and there left him to be killed in the way in which you saw me receive my death-blow. What my punishment will be hereafter is in the hands of a merciful God; what is has been here I could not attempt to describe in words. Say a kind word to me if you can find it in your heart to do so."

"As soon as the lad had recovered himself sufficiently he took the beadle’s hand, and simply said ‘I forgive you!’ and then he knelt down by the bedside and so did I."

"Presently the dying man raised his head and enquired, ‘Is she alive?’ Lever nodded assent. ‘Don’t let her know that her husband, your father, was—’"

"But the effort was too great, and he sank back, dead!"

The old man stopped speaking, drained his tankard to the dregs, and replacing his pipe in his mouth, gazed once more into the expiring embers. I watched him for a time without saying a word, and then, seeing a big tear coursing down his weather-beaten cheek, I rose and left him, pondering as I went over the weird story I had just heard, which the bell herself now seemed to repeat to me, and to the snow-clad country, with terrible truthfulness as the ringers lowered her."

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX BELL RINGERS.

The quarterly meeting of this Association was held at Penwortham, on Saturday, December 16th. London Single Bob, College Single Bob and Plain Bob were rung during the afternoon and evening, by members from Blackrod, Chorley, Leyland Parish, St. James Leyland, Preston, and Penwortham. At 5.30 the members adjourned to The Fleece inn, where a substantial repast was awaiting them, after which the business meeting was held, the Secretary reading the minutes of the previous meeting, which were duly confirmed. It was unanimously agreed that the next quarterly meeting be held at Leyland Parish Church, in February next. Votes of thanks to the Vicar and wardens for the use of the bells, and to the local company, brought the meeting to a close."

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HEAVITREE (Devon).—On Sunday, November 26th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung for Divine Service. E. Searle, 1; F. Davey, 2; C. Carter, 3; W. Richardson, 4; T. Mudge, 5; E. Shepherd (conductor), 6; J. Moss, 7; W. Ackerman, 8."

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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, DECEMBER 30, 1899.

BEFORE the next number of this paper appears we shall according to some, have entered upon another Century of the Christian Era; according to others, we shall have done no such thing. It is astonishing what a deal of ink has been expended during the past few weeks on this argument. Some writers tell us that we do wrong in calling the present century the "nineteenth," and bring forward profound reasons for their assertions. Viewing the tenor of our comment a fortnight ago, such a discussion was entirely outside the matter. It is safe to say that we are on the advent of another year, and in doing so are for the first time during the past one hundred years increasing the second figure of the date of the year by one. Let us rest in the belief that this fact admits of no contention whatever.

A review of the year now closing would be most incom-

plete did it not contain an exhaustive synopsis of improvement and progress; but this would occupy a large space. The most burning, or exciting question of the year was the peal at Kidlington; the discussion on new methods occupied a front position; while the researches of Mr. R. A. DANIELL have unearthed a vast amount of reliable information, not, perhaps, receiving the close attention of the rank and file, but very interesting to the many antiquarian ecclesiologists among the Exercise. The philological essays of the Rev. C. D. P. DAVIES showed a clever dealing with a subject which, however, seemed to be unnecessary, and too tortuous for the general body to follow accurately.

Bell-chamber reform, by which is meant the restoration of old bells, and the erection of new ones, has been fairly maintained. From a remark dropped at the College Youths' annual dinner, it would appear that some hope is entertained that the favourite ring of twelve at St. Saviour's, Southwark, will be restored—a consummation devoutly to be wished.

The leading article which appeared in *The Times* some weeks ago, and the correspondence which was its outcome, especially the letters of Sir ARTHUR HEYWOOD, Bart., gave hopes that change-ringing would become better known and appreciated by sensible Churchmen. Perhaps the fruition of these hopes will be in the near future. But if not, it is satisfactory to find that the Art is extending gradually but surely. Spasmodic or hysterical effects in this direction would be deplored, for it is highly necessary that the practice and pursuit of change-ringing should not become vulgarised by an unrefined or gross popularity. The establishment of a purely Clerical Guild was mooted during the year, and though this was noticed in the leading church paper—*The Guardian*—together with our remarks upon the scheme, we have not heard whether it is still in existence.

The Very Rev. the Dean of Christchurch has in a recent sermon said that we have this time "faltered in our Christmas greetings; only with some hesitation or apology have we brought ourselves to use the familiar words." True. But in the fervent hope and strong belief that the dark cloud enveloping us will soon pass away, we again wish with sincerity to all our brethren—"A HAPPY NEW YEAR."

The Provinces.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Thursday, December 14, 1899, in Three Hours and Thirty-five 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.
WILLIAM J. SMITH 2.	ARTHUR WAKLEY 6.
HARRY WAKLEY 3.	JOSEPH GRIFFIN 7.
GEORGE ROBINSON 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

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

HEENE, WORTHING, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 20, 1899, in Two Hours Forty-eight and $\frac{1}{2}$ Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS FOUR-PART.

Tenor 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.

BENJAMIN BASSETT Treble.	ALFRED W. GROVES 5.
JOHN PAICE 2.	REUBEN STANDING 6.
GEORGE NORRIS 3.	GEORGE WILLIAMS 7.
EDMUND LINDUP 4.	FREDERICK LINDUP Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

BRISTOL.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 21, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION.

Tenor 18 cwt.

FRED. G. MAY Treble.	STEPHEN THOMAS 5.
GILBERT PEARCE 2.	FRANK GOODING 6.
HENRY PRING 3.	GEORGE T. DALTRY 7.
RAYMOND J. WILKINS 4.	WILLIAM BEVAN Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE T. DALTRY.

CAMBRIDGE.—THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

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

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW THE GREAT,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 11 cwt.

J. JACKSON Treble.	F. PITSTOW 5.
W. B. KEMPTON* 2.	J. F. PENNING 6.
REV. A. H. F. BOUGHEY* 3.	*W. LUSDEN 7.
J. TAYLOR* 4.	G. TAYLOR Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by F. PITSTOW.

*First peal in the method. This is the first peal of Treble Bob on the bells.

TILEHURST, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 23, 1899, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt.

G. L. BODDINGTON Treble.	CHARLES CHAPMAN 5.
ALFRED E. REEVES 2.	WILLIAM NEWELL 6.
JOHN TUCKER 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 7.
ARTHUR W. HIGGS 4.	REUBEN SAWYER Tenor.

Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

MIDDLESBROUGH, YORKSHIRE.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 25, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HILDA,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,

5088 CHANGES.

ALEXANDER MCFARLANE .. Treble.	RICHARD FENWICK 5.
JAMES A. CARTER 2.	FRED P. HOWCROFT 6.
WILLIAM RUDD 3.	JOHN H. BLAKISTON 7.
CHARLES HALL 4.	THOMAS METCALFE Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by J. H. BLAKISTON.

Situations Vacant.

WANTED.—First-class Shoeing and General Jobbing Smith, capable of taking charge of yard. Good wages and constant place to the right man. Change-ringer, eight bells.—Particulars to A. RICHARDSON, Bathwick Carriage Works, Bath.

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

BARNET, HERTS.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

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

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 24 cwt.

WALTER DOLTON* Treble.	JOHN ARMSTRONG 5.
FRANK A. MILNE 2.	WILLIAM J. DELL 6.
JOHN SUMPTER 3.	GEORGE B. LUCAS 7.
ERNEST W. MARSHALL .. 4.	ARTHUR T. KING Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by G. B. LUCAS.

*First peal. First peal in the method by all except the conductor, and the first peal in the method on the bells.

DORKING, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 26, 1899, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

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

Tenor 25 cwt.

JAMES H. BLYTHMAN .. Treble.	EDWARD E. DODD 5.
HARRY F. SONGHURST .. 2.	WILLIAM H. STREET .. 6.
WILLIAM J. SONGHURST .. 3.	FRANCIS T. HOAD, JUN. .. 7.
GEORGE F. HOAD 4.	WILLIAM LYNCH Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE F. HOAD.

SOUTHOVER, LEWES, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 26, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lbs.

ALFRED S. LANGRIDGE .. Treble.	ROBERT J. DAWE 5.
WILLIAM PELLING 2.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH .. 6.
RICHARD W. HOATHER .. 3.	ALFRED J. TURNER .. 7.
KEITH HART 4.	JOHN F. STEADMAN .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN S. GOLDSMITH.

CODDENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 26, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

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

Tenor 16 cwt.

ALFRED WOOLWARD .. Treble.	EDGAR RIVERS 5.
GEORGE W. MEE 2.	FRANK KOLFE 6.
HENRY J. MEE 3.	ALFRED G. RIVERS .. 7.
CHARLES MEE 4.	FREDERICK MEE Tenor.

Composed by the late H. W. HALEY, and
Conducted by CHARLES MEE.

This is the first peal of Major by a whole Sproughton company. It is only fourteen months since four of the members began to learn ringing, and considering there are only six bells at Sproughton, it is a creditable performance.

FRAMSDEN, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 26, 1899, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

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

Tenor 16 cwt.

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

Composed and Conducted by EDGAR WIGHTMAN.

The above was rung after meeting too late for a 10,000. This composition has the 6th, twelve times wrong and right, and the 4th and 5th twelve times each in 6ths place, without the use of singles, and is now rung for the first time.

BRISTOL.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

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

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
BROOK'S VARIATION.

Tenor 20 cwt.

JOHN THOMAS Treble.	FREDERICK W. ELLES .. 5.
JOHN BURFORD 2.	WALTER PORCH 6.
WILLIAM KNIGHT 3.	GEORGE T. DALTRY .. 7.
HENRY PRING 4.	JAMES W. HINTON Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE T. DALTRY.

Rung in honour of the marriage of Mr. W. A. Cave, member of the St. Stephen's Guild, Bristol, to Miss Kate Cooper. A note to this peal will appear next week.

NESTON, CHESHIRE.—THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(WIRRAL BRANCH.)

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

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE.

W. BRISCOE Treble.	H. DEW 5.
W. SCONCE 2.	J. DILLON 6.
JOS. WOODS 3.	W. MOULTON 7.
J. MEALOR 4.	J. TILLEY Tenor.

Conducted by J. DILLON.

Rung as a birthday peal to H. Dew, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

STANSTED, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 26, 1899, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Stansted Court Bob, College Single, Oxford Bob, Oxford Delight, Kent Treble Bob, Woodbine Treble Bob, and Oxford Treble Bob.

Tenor 13 cwt.

JOHN CAVILL Treble.	GEORGE JORDAN 4.
THOMAS JORDAN* 2.	ISAAC HAMMOND 5.
THOMAS J. WATTS 3.	WILLIAM WATTS Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WATTS.

*First peal with a bob bell. The ringer of the treble is in his sixty-seventh year.

SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(SUDBURY BRANCH.)

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

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

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

Tenor 23 cwt.

CHARLES SILLITOE .. Treble.	WILLIAM KINSEY 5.
HARRY THOMPSON 2.	ARTHUR SYMONDS 7.
HUGH GLADWELL* 3.	ERNEST BECKWITH .. 6.
CHARLES HONEYBELL .. 4.	DAVID ELLIOTT Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by CHARLES SILLITOE.

*First peal of Major. Messrs. Beckwith and Elliott were elected members of the Association on this occasion.

Miscellaneous.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

GREAT HALE (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, November 28th, for practice, 180 Bob Minor in 48 mins. J. R. Green, 1; R. Masters, 2; C. Ward, 3; T. Humberstone, 4; T. B. Wood, 5; T. T. Taylor (conductor), 6.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

BOURNEMOUTH (Hants).—On Thursday, October 26th, for practice at St. Peter's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins. *F. Phillips, 2; *C. Forfitt, 3; E. T. Green (conductor), 4; C. W. Goodenough, 5; J. J. Bristow, 6; E. Waters, 7; T. Belbin, 8. *First quarter-peal with a bob bell.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

LEYTONSTONE (Essex).—On Wednesday, November 8th, 720 London Surprise Minor. E. Wightman (conductor), 1; J. Mardell, 2; W. Miller, 3; W. Keeble, 4; J. Moule, 5; T. H. Beams, 6. On Wednesday, November 22nd, 720 Chichester Surprise Minor. A. J. Perkins, 1; J. Moule, 2; J. Mardell, 3; W. Keeble, 4; W. Miller (conductor), 5; T. H. Beams, 6. On Sunday, November 26th, 720 Worcester Surprise Minor. G. Hayden, 1; W. Keeble, 2; J. Mardell, 3; W. Miller, 4; J. Moule, 5; T. H. Beams (conductor), 6. Another 720 in the same method. G. Hayden, 1; W. Miller, 2; W. Doran, 3; T. H. Beams, 4; J. Mardell, 5; W. Keeble (conductor), 6.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On October 12th, 408 Stedman Triples. F. Webb, 1; J. Church, 2; W. Hall, 3; B. Jealous, 4; I. Hills, 5; C. Chasty, 6; G. Valentine, 7; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 8. On October 15th, two courses of Grandsire Caters. F. Webb, 1; F. Webb, 2; W. Hall, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; J. Church, 5; C. Chasty, 6; I. Hills, 7; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 8; W. J. Barker, 9; W. West, 10. On October 19th, 252 Stedman Triples. F. Webb (conductor), 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; W. Hall, 3; B. Jealous, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; I. Hills, 6; C. Chasty, 7; J. Sear, 8. On October 22nd, 277 Grandsire Caters. F. Webb, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; J. Church, 3; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 4; W. Hall, 5; B. Jealous, 6; W. J. Barker, 7; I. Hills, 8; C. Chasty, 9; G. Irons, 10. On October 26th, 336 Stedman Triples. C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1; E. Tingey, 2; W. Hall, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; I. Hills, 5; G. Valentine, 6; C. Chasty, 7; W. Webb, 8. Also 288 Kent Treble Bob Major. F. Webb, 1; E. Tingey, 2; W. Hall, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; I. Hills, 5; G. Valentine, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; W. Barker, 8. On November 9th, 408 and 252 Stedman Triples. F. Webb, 1; J. Church, 2; W. Hall, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; C. Chasty, 5; W. J. Barker, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; F. Smith, 8. On November 12th, two courses of Grandsire Caters. F. Webb, 1; C. Chasty, 2; W. J. Barker, 3; J. Church, 4; W. Hall, 5; B. Jealous, 6; I. Hills, 7; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 8; G. Valentine, 9; J. Sear, 10.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BOLTON, BRADFORD (Yorks).—On Sunday, December 3rd, for evening service at St. James's church, 1184 Kent Treble Bob Major. H. Sugden, 1; B. T. Copley, 2; A. Gill, 3; J. Palframan, 4; S. Palframan, 5; B. E. Howe, 6; W. Joyce (conductor), 7; J. Joyce, 8.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

HALESWORTH (Suffolk).—On Sunday morning, November 26th, for Divine Service, 350 Grandsire, and three courses of Stedman Triples. F. Cullum, 1; T. L. Wilson, 2; F. Lambert, 3; R. Tracy, 4; A. Took, 5; A. Lee, 6; C. Kerrison, 7; W. Lee, 8. On Sunday evening, December 3rd, 672 Bob Major. E. P. Foreman, 1; W. Peirce, 2; F. Lambert (conductor), 3; E. Easter, 4; A. Took, 5; A. Lee, 6; J. Howard, 7; R. Tracy, 8.

WISSETT (Suffolk).—On Monday, November 27th, 720 each of Canterbury, Plain Bob, and Grandsire Doubles. W. Kemp, 1; F. Lambert (conductor), 2; T. L. Wilson, 3; A. Lee, 4; C. Kerrison, 5.

CHEDISTON (Suffolk).—On Sunday, November 26th, 360 Bob Singles. W. Cullingford, 1; E. Hurren, 2; T. Crane, 3; L. Hammond, 4. It is to be hoped this peal will soon be augmented to five by the addition of a treble, as they are beautiful bells. Tenor 15 cwt. in F. The ringers of the district have already undertaken to subscribe the sum of five pounds towards it.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HILLINGDON.—On November 9th, 434 Grandsire. A. Becker, 1; H. Ayres, 2; W. Odell, 3; W. Honor, 4; H. Chandler, 5; J. J. Pratt, 6; H. S. Reeves (conductor), 7; C. Bellamy, 8. On November 16th, 372 Grandsire. C. Bellamy, 1; H. Ayres, 2; W. Odell, 3; W. Honor, 4; H. Chandler, 5; H. S. Reeves, 6; J. J. Pratt (conductor), 7; G. Bellamy, 8. On November 19th, 360 Grandsire Minor. F. Weeden, 1; H. Ayres, 2; J. J. Pratt (conductor), 3; H. Chandler, 4; H. S. Reeves, 5; W. Honor, 6; C. Bellamy, 7; G. Bellamy, 8. On November 30th, 168 Grandsire Triples. C. Bellamy, 1; H. Ayres, 2; W. Odell, 3; W. Clark, 4; G. Gutteridge, 5; H. S. Reeves, 6; J. J. Pratt, 7; W. Honor, 8. Also 420 Court Bob Triples. H. Ayres, 1; H. Chandler (conductor), 2; W. Odell, 3; W. Clark, 4; J. J. Pratt, 5; G. Gutteridge, 6; H. S. Reeves, 7; W. Honor, 8. First Court Bob Triples by all except the conductor.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HEVER (Kent).—On Sunday, October 8th, 720 Treble Bob Minor. H. Harrington, 1; J. Eastman, jun., 2; C. Eastman, 3; E. Seal, 4; D. Webb, 5; F. J. Harrington (conductor), 6. And 720 Grandsire

Minor. D. Webb, 1; H. Harrington, 2; C. Eastman, 3; C. Seal, 4; J. Eastman, 5; F. J. Harrington (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Kent Treble Bob. H. Harrington, 1; E. Harrington, 2; C. Eastman, 3; E. Seal, 4; J. Wallis, 5; F. J. Harrington (conductor), 6. On Saturday, December 3rd, 720 Grandsire Minor. G. Hollingsbee, 1; E. Longley, 2; E. Harrington, 3; E. Seal, 4; H. Harrington, 5; F. J. Harrington (conductor), 6. On Saturday, December 9th, 720 Bob Minor. G. Hollingsbee, 1; E. Longley, 2; E. Harrington, 3; E. Seal, 4; H. Harrington, 5; F. J. Harrington (conductor), 6.

MAIDSTONE.—On Tuesday, December 5th, at St. Michael's church, 720 Plain Bob Minor. G. Pound, 1; T. Mannering, 2; S. Jeffery, 3; A. Tawney, 4; W. Mannering, 5; A. Palmer (conductor), 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Pound, 1; S. Jeffery, 2; A. Tawney, 3; W. Mannering, 4; T. Mannering, 5; A. Palmer (conductor), 6. After the meeting of the central committee of the Association on Saturday, December 16th, the following touches were rung at All Saints' church: 880 Kent Treble Bob Royal. A. West, 1; W. Bedwell, 2; W. Haigh, 3; A. Osborne, 4; A. Tawney, 5; W. Mannering, 6; E. Barnett, 7; T. Groombridge, 8; T. Mannering, 9; A. Palmer (conductor), 10. A 504 Stedman Triples. A. West, 1; S. Jeffery, 2; W. Martin, 3; W. Mannering, 4; A. Tawney, 5; A. Palmer, 6; T. Mannering, 7; T. Groombridge (conductor), 8. And two courses of Grandsire Caters. A. West, 1; W. Bedwell, 2; G. Conyard, 3; E. Bex (first touch on ten bells), 4; A. Osborne, 5; A. Tawney, 6; W. Haigh, 7; T. Groombridge, 8; T. Mannering (conductor), 9; A. Palmer, 10. Tenor 31 cwt. These touches were rung with the bells half-muffled, as a last mark of respect to those officers and men who have fallen in South Africa.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—On Thursday, November 9th, 672 Kent Treble Bob Major. G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 1; J. A. Carter, 2; F. P. Howcroft, 3; Rev. W. P. Wright, 4; J. Waller, 5; T. W. Waller, 6; T. Metcalf, 7; T. Stephenson, 8. Also 640 Kent Treble Bob. J. Clarkson, 1; T. Burdon, 2; J. A. Carter, 3; Rev. W. P. Wright, 4; F. P. Howcroft, 5; T. W. Waller, 6; T. Metcalf (conductor), 7; T. Stephenson, 8. And 704 Kent Treble Bob. J. Clarkson, 1; T. W. Waller, 2; T. Burdon, 3; Rev. W. P. Wright, 4; J. A. Carter, 5; F. P. Howcroft, 6; T. Metcalf, 7; T. Stephenson (conductor), 8. And 1024 Kent Treble Bob. J. Clarkson, 1; J. A. Carter, 2; F. P. Howcroft, 3; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 4; T. Burdon, 5; T. W. Waller, 6; T. Metcalf, 7; T. Stephenson, 8. Also 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Clarkson, 1; J. A. Carter, 2; F. P. Howcroft, 3; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 4; T. Burdon, 5; T. W. Waller, 6; T. Metcalf, 7; T. Stephenson, 8. On Sunday evening, November 12th, on the back six, 720 York Surprise. W. Newton, 1; T. W. Waller, 2; J. Waller, 3; T. Burdon, 4; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 5; T. Stephenson, 6. On Tuesday, November 21st, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Clarkson, 1; J. J. Brown, 2; R. Alcock, 3; W. Newton, 4; J. Waller, 5; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 6; T. Metcalf, 7; T. Stephenson, 8. On Tuesday, November 28th, 960 Kent Treble Bob Royal. G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 1; W. T. Titchener, 2; W. Newton, 3; T. Langley, 4; T. W. Waller, 5; T. Metcalf, 6; F. P. Howcroft, 7; J. H. Blakiston, 8; A. Macfarlane, 9; T. Stephenson, 10. On Tuesday, December 12th, on the front six, 720 Bob Minor. G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 1; W. Newton, 2; R. G. Greenwood (first 720), 3; T. W. Waller, 4; T. Metcalf, 5; T. Stephenson, 6. And 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Clarkson, 1; F. P. Howcroft, 2; J. Brown, 3; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 4; T. W. Waller, 5; T. Stephenson, 6; W. Newton, 7; T. Metcalf, 8. Tenor 27½ cwt.

THORNABY-ON-TEES.—On Wednesday, November 15th, 720 Bob Minor. N. H. Job (first 720), 1; H. Pinkney, 2; T. Kelly, 3; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 4; A. Barrett, 5; N. Kidd, 6. On Wednesday, November 29th, 720 Bob Minor. T. Beckwith, 1; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 2; W. Newton, 3; W. J. Wright, 4; A. Barrett, 5; N. Kidd, 6. And 336 Bob Major. *N. H. Job, 1; W. Newton, 2; *F. Beckwith, 3; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 4; T. Metcalf, 5; *W. J. Wright, 6; *A. Barrett, 7; *N. Kidd, 8. Tenor 10½ cwt. *First touch of Major.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WELLINGBOROUGH.—At the parish church on Sunday morning, November 19th, 504 Grandsire Triples. F. Wood, 1; F. Underwood, 2; W. Farey, 3; W. Wood, 4; W. H. Ette, jun., 5; E. West, 6; W. H. Ette, 7; H. Pettit, 8. W. Farey belongs to the All Saints' company, Northampton.

GREAT BARLFIELD (Essex).—On Tuesday, November 14th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. F. Dee, 1; W. Richardson, 2; H. C. Ruffel, 3; H. Hills, 4; J. T. Barker (conductor), 5; F. Suckling, 6.

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

By R. A. DANIELL.

(Continued from page 365.)

I shall now only refer briefly to such evidence as we may take as a sample of the general evidence which might be collected, and as will be sufficient for the purpose of showing of what sort of persons we may suppose the members of the Exercise in bygone times to have consisted. And first I will notice Oxford. The interest of members of that University in ringing in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries is indubitably shown by the augmentation or provision of bells at Christchurch, New College, Magdalen and Merton, and the industry of Mr. Ellacombe has extracted some notices of ringing from the diaries of Hearne. Thomas Hearne was born in 1678 at Shottesbrooke, where his father was the parish clerk. Francis Cherry, the squire of the place, took an interest in young Hearne and had him educated and sent him to Oxford University in 1695, where after taking his degree he entered into Holy Orders. Cherry was a non-juror, and from him and his friend Dodwell Hearne acquired non-juring principles, in consequence of which he lost such places as he had and forfeited all chance of future preferment by refusing on conscientious grounds to take the oath of allegiance to the Hanoverian sovereigns. He continued to reside in Oxford, and edited and printed historical manuscripts which were of great value to students. He died in 1735. Whether or not he had ever practised ringing himself I do not know. But he kept a diary in which, among other things, are notices relating to ringing performances, which shew that he took an interest in it and knew a great deal about it. Mr. Ellacombe has extracted some or all of these notices and printed them in the supplemental matter to his "Church Bells of Gloucestershire." I will note two or three of these.

On the 2nd January, 1734, a band made a start at Christchurch for a peal, Hearne says—"They were everyone of them townsmen, but had received some considerable instructions from Mr. Stone, M.A., a man in orders, and a good ringer himself, Fellow of Wadham College." On the 27th September, 1734, a band started for a peal at New College, the day being the commemoration of the founder's death. They were to have started at eleven, but did not do so till nearly twelve, having apparently, or some of them, been spending the time in the College buttery drinking to the pious memory of the founder, not wisely, but too well. Several mistakes were made, and Vicars, who conducted, missed a bob, and the attempt came to grief. Hearne says—"and yet it must be owned that it happened purely from their being much in liquor, whereas they ought to have been sober, as indeed there never can be any true ringing but by persons who come to it perfectly sober."

This passage throws an instructive light on the manners of the time as compared with our own. Hearne, as we have seen, was a man of character, who stuck, regardless of his own loss, to what he believed to be right. He also, as extracts from his diaries show, could and did call a spade a spade and use forcible language about persons or things he disapproved. What groans would be groaned by a modern Hearne about the wickedness of men—and ringers too—being much in liquor before mid-day! Hearne very naturally did not groan. He contented himself with the reflection that if people attempted peals they should not handicap themselves by drinking too much first. Doubtless he knew well enough that by the time the festivities of the day were over, out of the Warden and Fellows of the College and their guests some at least would be much more fuddled than Vicars and his friends. On the 22nd March following, a peal of 6876 Grandsire Caters was rung at New College, and Hearne says that on its completion, the ringers were made much of and entertained by members of the College.

We also learn from Hearne, who and what were some of the Oxford Ringers of his time. There were Richard Hearne, a tailor; John Vicars, second butler at New College; John George, a tailor; Guy Terry, a potash maker; Thomas Yates, second cook at Magdalen; John Broughton, a barber; Richard Smith, a glover; William Barnes, second cook at Christchurch; Arthur Lloyd, carpenter and bell-hanger; Richard Benwell, sexton at Christchurch; William Crozier, a cork cutter; Thomas Nash, a cabinet maker; and Mr. Brickland, a schoolmaster.

Of Vicars Hearne says that he "is very ingenious in the art of

ringing and is excellent in calling the bobs and managing the music of ringing. I think he is one of the very best in England as he is withall a very good ringer himself." In Mr. J. W. Snowdon's "Grandsire" a peal of Grandsire Triples is given on page 66, and referred to on page 125. This peal is extracted from the manuscript notebooks of Dr. Mason, of Cambridge. "Where it came from, and who Vicars, the composer, was," Mr. Snowdon says, "unfortunately there are no means of ascertaining from these volumes." Mr. Snowdon gives reasons for believing this peal to have been in Mason's hands before Holt's peals. A peal composed by an Oxford Ringer would be at least as likely to get to Cambridge as anywhere else, and Hearne's words must mean that Vicars was a composer as well as a conductor, and that at a time anterior to the production of Holt's peals, so that it is very possible that the composer of this peal of Grandsire Triples was John Vicars, second butler of New College, Oxford.

These scraps, and others, from Hearne show us ringing in Oxford in the last century appreciated by members of the University, one at least of whom was a ringer himself, and practised by men of established position as townsmen, or in employment at the Colleges. But for Hearne's death we might have been able to follow the Oxford ringing farther. What information there is about it in the latter part of the last century I do not know. Osborn does not appear to have collected anything bearing on it. But at any rate there can be no reason to suppose that if change-ringing continued to flourish at Oxford its exponents would be other than respectable men of the classes above-mentioned.

At Cambridge things were necessarily somewhat different. Owing to the fact that none of the Colleges had towers, except Jesus, and that but a small one, there was not the same opportunity for members of the University to provide bells for their societies as was afforded at Oxford, and ringing was therefore necessarily confined to the parish churches. In the early part of the seventeenth century there were five bells at St. Benet's, and it was here that tradition has it that Stedman and his band used to meet for ringing. This tower, owing to its extreme antiquity, has mercifully been let alone in modern days. Built before the Norman Conquest and not having had any medieval insertions of later date in its upper stages, the purist, so rampant some years ago, has had nothing to "restore;" and on the other hand the improver has been awed into staying his tasteless hand, so that the place has escaped grimthorping. Consequently this old steeple shows itself to us how much as it did to Stedman, and if Mr. Editor is going in for process blocks, as suggested by Mr. Drake in the case of Elstow, I can suggest to him St. Benet's, Cambridge, as another steeplo worthy of his attention. It would be interesting if we could know how far Stedman's influence extended. Mr. Ellacombe says there was a good company at Bedford in the middle of the 17th century. One wonders whether Stedman ever went across country to Bedford to ring, and if so whether he and Bunyan ever met. But we are not likely to learn anything about that. It is very possible that some members of the University may have frequented the meetings at St. Benet's. It is stated in a reprint of the register of the Cambridge Youths that the former accounts of the old Society, which began in the reign of Queen Elizabeth are not to be found. If such a Society really existed, ringing would not be a new interest in Cambridge in Stedman's day. However, to come to facts, we know that Stedman published two books on ringing—the "Tintinnalogia" and the "Campanalogia"—and admitting that he probably had some literary assistance in their production, the books shew him to have been a man of great ability. At any rate, the cultivation of the ringing exercise became firmly established at Cambridge. The ring at St. Mary's was augmented to eight in 1667. In 1723 a new ring of ten was cast at Whitechapel for St. Mary's and the Society of Cambridge Youths was founded in 1724. A copy of the Reprint of the Register of this Society among Osborn's manuscripts shows the members to have consisted from the foundation down to 1830 of most reputable persons—members of the University (including Dr. Mason, who is so fully mentioned by Mr. Snowdon that I need say no more about him), musicians and persons connected both with the Colleges and the trade of the place.

(To be continued.)

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, on 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), on Saturday, January 6th. Meeting house The White Horse. Business meeting at 6.30. Handbells provided. All ringers are cordially invited.

H. V. GAYTHORPE, *Hon. Sec.*
1, Elm Avenue, Bramley.

The Old East Derbyshire Association.—The Quarterly Meeting will be held at All Saints' church, Sheffield, on 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 on Saturday, January 6th. Members who intend being present are requested to give notice to the Secretary not later than Wednesday, January 3rd.

W. TWIGG, *Hon. Sec.*

The Essex Association.—A district meeting will be held on Saturday, January 13th, at Romford. Fuller particulars next week.

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

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.*

NOTE TO PEAL.

THE PEAL AT BURTON-ON-TRENT.—The peal of London Surprise at St. Paul's was rung to complete W. J. Smith's first fifty peals; G. Robinson's 100 peals; and W. Wakley's 200 Midland Counties Association peals.

W. SMITH'S FIFTY PEALS.—Grandsire Triples, 20; 6n handbells, 4; Caters, 1; Stedman Triples, 10; Double Norwich Major, 3; Superlative Major, 2; Cambridge Major, 1; New Cumberland Major, 1; London Major, 6; Duffield Major, 1; Double Oxford Major, 1; total—50.

G. ROBINSON'S 100 PEALS.—Union Triples, 1; Grandsire Triples, 13; Caters, 1; Stedman Triples, 26; Caters, 2; Double Norwich Major, 10; Double Oxford Major, 1; Duffield Major, 2; Superlative Major, 16; Cambridge Major, 9; New Cumberland Major, 2; London Major, 17; total—100.

W. WAKLEY'S 200 PEALS.—Grandsire

Triples, 11, conducted 3; Union, 1, conducted 1; Stedman, 48 (including one non-conducted, and one all-conducted) conducted 17; Stedman Caters, 2; Cinques, 1; Bob Major, 1; Double Oxford Major, 2, conducted 1; Double Norwich Major, 30, conducted 14; Duffield Major, 3, conducted 1; Royal, 2; Kent Treble Bob Major, 14, conducted 11; Royal, 1, conducted 1; Superlative Major, 46, conducted 27; Cambridge Major, 15, conducted 11; New Cumberland Major, 3, conducted 3; London Major, 20, conducted 15; total—200, conducted 105. His peals with other Associations number about 20, these including three peals of Stedman Triples, three of Stedman Caters, three of Stedman Cinques, one each of Double Norwich and Superlative, one of Duffield Royal, and one of Duffield Maximus.

Compositions.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

BY CORNELIUS CHARGE, *Fulham.*

5004.

123456 4 5 16

351245	-	-	-
451532	-	-	-
452135	-	-	-
45231	-	-	-
554132	-	-	-
552431	-	-	-
551234	-	-	-
155132	-	-	-
152534	-	-	-
251435	-	-	-
255134	-	-	-
254531	-	-	-
254135	8	-	-
255431	-	-	-
251534	-	-	-
152435	-	-	-
155234	-	-	-
151532	-	-	-
451235	-	-	-
455132	-	-	-
554231	-	-	-
551432	-	-	-
552134	-	-	-
352451	-	-	-
351254	-	-	-
354152	-	-	-
453251	-	-	-
451352	-	-	-
452153	-	-	-
254351	-	-	-
251453	-	-	-
152354	-	-	-
154253	-	-	-
153452	-	-	-
153254	8	-	-
351452	-	-	-
352154	-	-	-
354251	-	-	-
453152	-	-	-
452351	-	-	-
451253	-	-	-
154352	-	-	-
152453	-	-	-
251354	-	-	-
254153	-	-	-
253451	-	-	-

* Bobs at 3, 5, 6, 11, 14. Commencing with a quick six. Round with bobs at 3, 5, 8. This peal has the 3rd twenty-two, and the 5th twenty-three courses behind the 9th.

WANTED a Peal of Eight Handbells.—Address, S., The Nook, Winslow, Bucks.

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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.

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

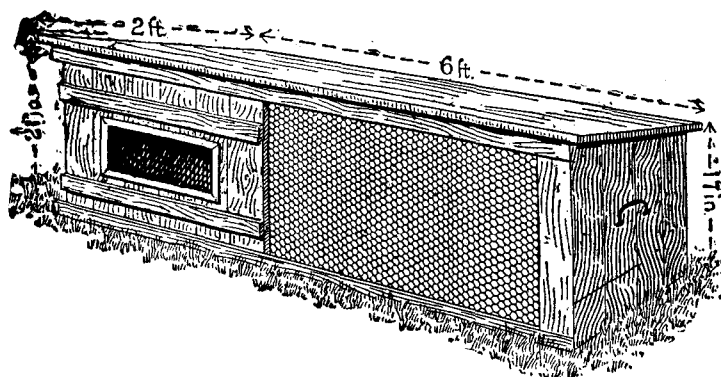
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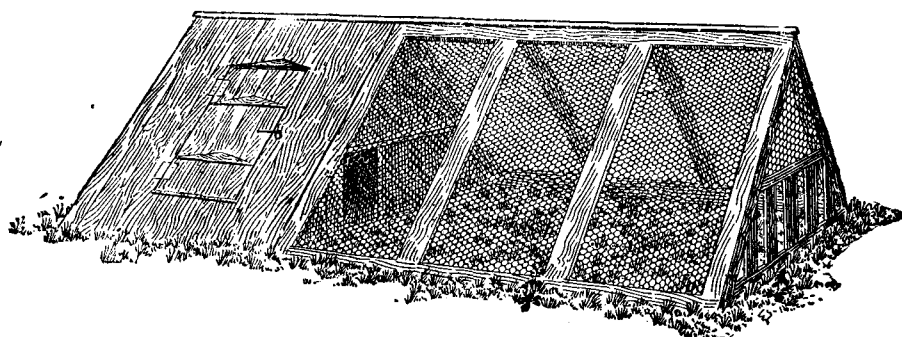
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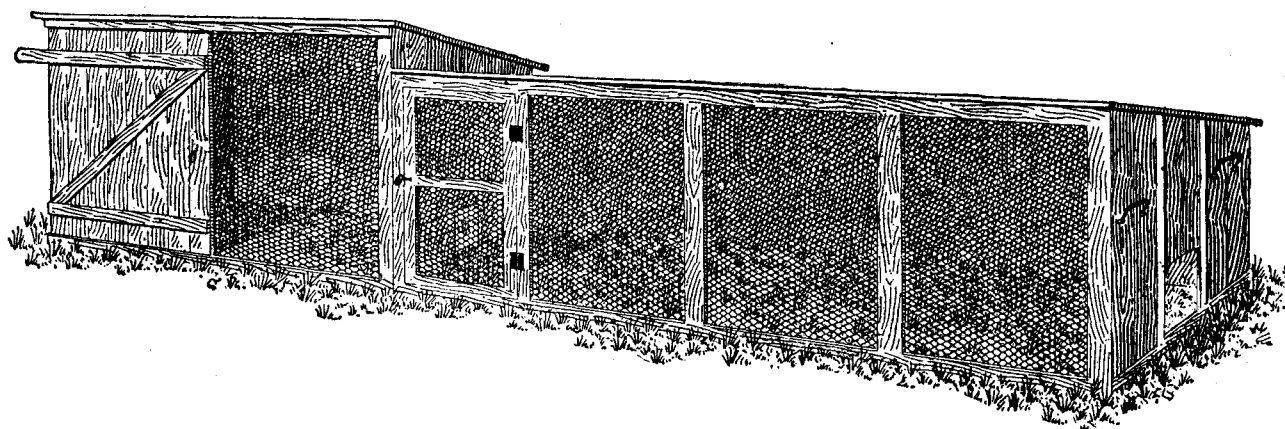
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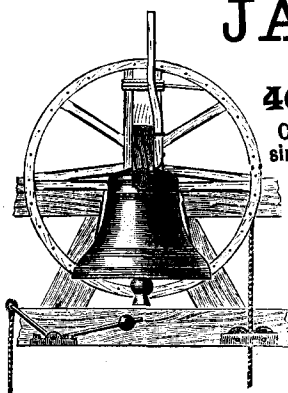
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