

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 10. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. I.

SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1882.

[ONE PENNY.]

CHURCH BELL DUMB PRACTICE APPARATUS.

Inventor:

E. SEAGE,

17, CODRINGTON STREET, EXETER.

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The last chapter is devoted to a list of the names of Composers of the different peals, with various particulars, and in the cases of deceased Composers with the dates of death, age, etc.

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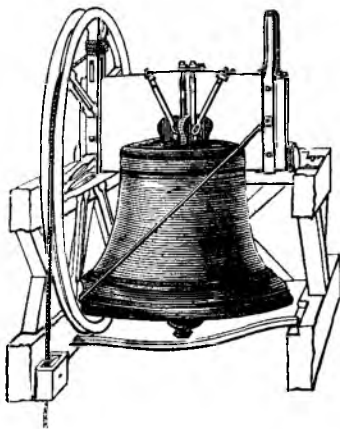
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THE DURHAM DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE Whit-Monday Meeting of this Association was held at Bishop Auckland, and was a great success, being the largest meeting yet held since its formation, several of the branches were so well represented, viz.: St John's, Darlington; St. Oswald's, Durham; Newton Hall; the three societies of Newcastle; North Shields; Staindrop; Stockton; and Willington, that a company numbering sixty-eight sat down to dinner at the Crown and Anchor, at two o'clock. Canon Long, the Vicar of Bishop Auckland, occupied the chair, and W. Reed, Esq., of North Shields, President of the Association, the vice-chair, amongst the company being Mr. Clarkson, of Stockton, the Secretary, and Mr. Peverell, of Southchurch, Churchwarden of St. Andrew's. The toast of "The Queen" was duly proposed by the rev. Chairman, after which the Vice-Chairman proposed "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese," coupling with it the name of Canon Long, who in responding, expressed his gratification at meeting so large a gathering of ringers, and hoped to have the pleasure of meeting them again on a future occasion. He also stated that the Bishop took an especial interest in the ringers connected with the churches in his diocese. Twenty-eight new members were elected, amongst them being the Rev. Canon Long, Rev. W. H. Deane, Curate of Hurworth, and Mr. Peverell, Churchwarden of Southchurch, also several performing members. Several touches of Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, and Treble Bob Major, were rung at St. Andrew's church, but no great lengths were accomplished. These bells were re-opened last September, after being hung by Mr. Mallaby, but we are sorry to record that the 3rd bell cannot be heard unless the clapper be on the wrong side. We hope this will at once be attended to, as removing the only blemish from this new peal of eight bells.

The next Meeting of this Association, which is the Annual Meeting, will be held on the last Monday in October at Newcastle.

NEWMARKET, SUFFOLK.

ON Whit-Monday, a party of ringers from the following places, Witnesham, Ipswich, Woodbridge, Coddendam, Helmingham, Stowmarket, etc., rang, by the kind permission of the Vicar, at the church of All Saints, several touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples. These bells are a light peal, recently erected. The arrangements of the steeple are of such a character that causes the practice of scientific ringing to be performed under very unpleasant circumstances; the conductor being unable to make himself heard on account of the bells being heard so much. The company being rather large, confined themselves mostly to courses, so that there should be an opportunity for all to have a turn, after which they proceeded on their way to Ely, in order to be present at the opening of St. Mary's bells, in that city. On the return journey, several of the party visited the town of Soham, and rang touches of Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob Royal, Grandsire and Stedman Caters, etc., upon this sweet peal of ten bells, with which the whole company were thoroughly delighted. The tablets recording the clever performances of the Tebbit family and others are in a good state of preservation, and the arrangements connected with bells and belfry appear to be in very good order.

FARNHAM ROYAL, BUCKS.

ON Whit-Monday, May 29th, a Friendly Meeting of Ringers took place at this picturesque village. The church nestles in a nook at the junction of three unimportant roads, and its square neat tower is conspicuous in the landscape for miles around. Ringers came from Slough and Maidenhead, and, enticed, no doubt, by the slight description we gave, in a recent number, of the natural beauties of the neighbourhood, two stalwart and worthy members of the Exercise journeyed all the way from Beddington, in Surrey, to pay a visit to this little Buckinghamshire village. We are glad to hear that everything connected with the proceedings on Whit-Monday went off with great *éclat*. The ringers at Farnham Royal, though they have only six bells, are very jealous of their honour, and whoever the unlucky might may be that while ringing does not sufficiently attend to his duties, and thus cause bad ringing, he is sure to incur the wrath of the bob-caller. We speak from experience. Our visit there some time ago had only one unpleasant,—not very bad, though—episode. We "spiked" a 720 at the half-way single! and ringing for afternoon service, too. This though done inadvertently was an offence against the proprietors, and we are by no means sure that the offence is even yet condoned. We hope to be forgiven, however. But this strictness has a tendency to the promotion of good striking. A great many touches were rung, full particulars of which will be found among our records. The ringers, with their visitors and friends, then adjourned to the schoolroom, where a bountiful tea was provided at the cost of the worthy Rector, the Rev. S. F. Marshall, who visited the company. The cup that is said to cheer, but not inebriate, appeared to be greatly enjoyed, for as the worthy postmaster of Farnham—who by the way is our representative in the neighbourhood—says, there is no mistake about a cup of tea going down when ringers are out. After this refectation had

been disposed of to the satisfaction of those immediately concerned, the company returned to the tower and rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, and a course of Kent Treble Bob, the first in the latter method upon the bells. A well-struck six-score of Stedman Doubles was much admired. The gentlemen from Beddington, Messrs. Gordon and Trappitt, were compelled to think of returning homeward, and the local company "rang" their visitors to the station by another 720 of Grandsire Minor. One of the features of this annual meeting is to ring on the bells as many 720's as the number of years the tower has been built. Therefore, this occasion being the fifth anniversary of so important an addition to the Church fabric being effected, having rung four, they had to ring another to make up the number. But is not this written in our chronicles of performances? At the close of the day, and not till then, did the ringers disperse, fully satisfied with the day's proceedings. The ringers ask us to express the thanks which are due to the esteemed Rector of Farnham Royal, the Rev. S. F. Marshall, who provided the tea before alluded to. We should be glad indeed to hear that the rev. gentleman had headed a movement for the increase of the number of bells to eight. Such a handsome steeple deserves such an augmentation, and the difficulty—if difficulty there be—of procuring the necessary funds for effecting so laudable an object, would not we think, be so great as anticipated.

Since the bells were rehung, there have been thirty-nine 720's rung upon them, twenty-six of which, and a 720 of Bob, Grandsire and Stedman Doubles combined, have been performed since the anniversary of the previous year.

PROPOSED RINGERS' ASSOCIATION FOR THE DIOCESE OF ELY.

We are requested to state, and have great pleasure in so doing, that all persons who may feel interested in the formation of a Diocesan Association of Change-Ringers for Ely, will much oblige by forwarding their address to the Rev. K. H. Smith, the Cambridge Road, Ely.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A RINGING MEETING will held at Wigan on Saturday, June 17th. Ringing from Two o'clock p.m. All Ringers invited.

W. J. CHATTERTON, } Hon. Sec.
JOEL REDFORD, }

Correspondence.

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

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

SIR,—I beg to inform you that the Ancient Society of College Youth was not represented by a full company at Ely on Whit-Monday by reason of an erroneous statement being circulated in London the week previous to the effect that the Great Eastern Railway would convey ringers the return journey at a single fare. It appears that L. Procter, Esq., made application at the Great Eastern Terminus in London, and the officials there knew nothing of such an arrangement. This gave currency to the belief that the ordinary return fare would be charged, which had the effect of many of our company remaining at home, or going in another direction. Thanks to the Rev. K. H. Smith, who made all the necessary arrangements, I met with no difficulty in procuring my return ticket at a single fare, as previously announced. All who went to Ely returned home well pleased with the visit.

EDWIN GIBBS.

SIR,—The issue of "THE BELL NEWS" as a weekly is no doubt a very marked improvement, and one which deserves to meet with every success, which I sincerely hope it may; and you certainly merit the best thanks of all lovers of the ringing science for the very great interest you appear to have manifested in their behalf by the publication of so very an interesting periodical as "THE BELL NEWS" undoubtedly is. You may rely upon my every endeavour being used to promote the circulation of this useful and interesting paper. Wish you great success, I am, dear sir, yours very truly,

Gable House, Stanley Road, Bath,
June 5th, 1882.

F. GOODMAN,
Member of St. Saviour's
Society of Ringers.

A handsome tower and spire, 150 feet high, have been added to M. Brook Church, Hants, from the designs of Mr. H. Woodyer, architect. The contractor was Mr. J. Crook, of Southampton, and the material used was red-bed Farleigh stone, from the quarries of Messrs. Rand Saunders, and Co.

The parish-church of Ratlinghope, Salop, was reopened on Sunday week, after re-roofing on the south side and internal renovation. The builder was Mr. Lewis Sayce, of Ratlinghope.

PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

COMPILED BY JASPER W. SNOWDON.

PEALS WITH THE SIXTH THE EXTENT IN 5-6, AT FOUR COURSE-ENDS.

The following peal is on Mr. Cox's plan.

5024.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
52364	-	2			52364	-	2		
25463	2		2		63254			2	2
62534	-		2		62534			2	2
65324		I	2		65324			I	2
54326	2	-	I	2	24536	2	-	I	2
53246		I	2		62345	2		I	2
52436		I	2		25346	2	-	I	2
26435	I		2		56342	I		2	
24365		I	2		53462			I	2
23645	I	-	2	2	32465	I		2	
45362	I	2	2		25463	I		2	
24653	-	2	2		24653	I	-	2	2
43652	I		2		43652	I		2	
32654	I		2		54326			I	2
23456	2		2		23456	2		2	

N. J. PITSTOW.

5280.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
56342	I	2	2		64352	I		I	
36452		2	I		46253	2		2	
34562		I	2		34562	2		I	2
42563	I		2		42563	I		2	
52643		2	I		23564	I		2	
56423		I	2		32465	2		2	
35264	2		I	2	63425			I	
32654		I	2		35426	I		2	
56234		2	2		53624	2		2	
64235	I		2		56234			I	2
32465		2	2		65432	2		2	
63425		I			52436	I		2	
35426	I		2		36245	I	2	2	
24536		2	2		52643	I		I	
25346		I	2		25346	2		2	
23456		I	2		23456			I	2

C. RAVENSCROFT.

Rung at the opening of St. Alkmund's bells, Shrewsbury in 1812. Conducted by its composer.

PEALS WITH THE SIXTH THE EXTENT IN 5-6, AND FIVE COURSE-ENDS EACH WAY.

In Part II, p. 65, I gave several peals with the sixth the extent in 5-6, and five course-ends each way. One of these, by Mr. N. J. Pitstow, contained all the 867's, and the reverse all the 86's. The three following peals are improvements upon this plan, as they each contain the sixth the extent in all positions.

5024.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
36452	I		2		56342	I	2	2	
53462	I	-	2		32465	I		I	2
32465	I		2		26354				
23564	2		2		54632	2	-	2	
62345	-		2		35426				
45623	-	2			24536			2	2
24536	-		2		32546			I	
56342	I	I	2		26543	2	-	I	2
25463	2	I	2		42563			I	
34562	2	-	I	I	23564	I		2	
65243	2	-	2		34562	2	-	I	2
34256	2	-	2	I	25463	2	-	I	I
32546	I	-	2	2	64352	2	-	2	
35426	I	-	2	2	25346	2	-	2	I
23456		I			23456			I	-

N. J. PITSTOW.

By calling the original of the foregoing peal in the 5th, 6th, and 7th courses as annexed, another 5024 will be had.

By calling the 5th and 6th courses as annexed, a peal of 5056 changes will be produced.

This peal (5056) was first rung at Saffron Walden, on Saturday, the 22nd November, 1879, conducted by F. Pitstow, being the first rung with these qualities.

5024.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
35642	I		2		56342	2	-	2	
34256		-	2	I	32465	2	-	2	2
32546	I	-	2	2	54263	2	-	I	I
56423	2	-	2	2	46325	2	-		
23564		-	2		25463	2		I	
32465	2		2		53462	I		2	
35264		-	I	I	35264	2		2	
46253	2	-	2	I	62534			2	2
34562	2		I	2	23645				
42563	2	-	I	2	32546			I	2
26543	I	-			35426	I	-	2	2
42635		-	2		65243	I	2	I	
24536	2		2		34256	2	-	2	I
35426		2	2		52436	I	-	2	
23456		I			23456			2	

H. DAINS.

First rung on May 15th, 1880, by the Norwich Association at St. Mary's, Redenhall. Conducted by E. Smith.

The reverse was first rung on December 31st, 1880, by the Norwich Association at St. Mary's, Redenhall. Conducted by E. Smith.

5056.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
36452	I		2		56342	2	-	2	
53462		I			32465	I		I	2
32465	I		2		42635			2	I
23564	2		2		53624	I	I	I	
53624		2	I		35426	2		2	
42635	I	I	I		24536			2	2
24536	2		2		32546			I	
56342	I	I	2		26543	I		2	
25463		-	2	I	42563			I	
34562	2	-	I	I	23564	I		2	
65243	2	-	2		34562	2	-	I	2
34256	2	-	2	I	25463	2	-	I	I
32546	I	-	2	2	64352	2	-	2	
35426	I	-	2	2	25346	2	-	2	I
23456		I			23456			I	-

N. J. PITSTOW.

The following peal has the sixth the extent each way at five consecutive course-ends, the original has also the fifth the extent in fifth's place.

5024.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
36452	2	-	I	2	36452	I		2	
34562		I	2		34562	I	-	2	2
42563	I		2		42563	I		2	
32465		-	I		32465			-	I
23564	-	I	2		23564	-	I	2	
24365	2		I		24365	2		I	
62453	-		2		36245			I	I
26354	2		2		45623	I	2	2	
26543		-	I		65243	I	-	I	
62345	-	I	2		46532			-	2
64523	2		I	I	35642	2		2	
35426	I		I		35426			-	I
24536		2	2		24536			2	2
43526	I	-			43526	I	-		
25346	I	-	2		25346	I	-	2	
23456		I	2		23456			I	2

N. J. PITSTOW.

PEALS WITH THE SIXTH THE EXTENT EACH WAY IN 5-6, AND SIX COURSE-ENDS HOME.

If the alternative calling is used in the third and tenth courses in the original variation of the following peal, the number will be increased to 5088 changes. The original contains all the 867's, the reverse all the 86's.

5024.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H	
26354	2		I		32654			-	I	2
64352	2	-	I	2	65324	I	-	2	I	
53462	I	-	2		23564			2	2	
32465	2	-	I	2	43265			-	I	
45623	2	-	2	2	45362			-	I	I
43526		-	I	I	63542	I	-	2		
32546	I	-			52436	2	-	2	2	
45236	I	-	2		54326	I	-	2	2	
62534	2	-	I	I	56423			-	I	I
35264	I	-	2		54263	I	-	2	2	
54263	2	-	I	2	34562			-	I	
23645	2	-	2	2	32465			-	I	I
25346		-	I	I	64235	I	-	2		
54326	I	-			25346	2	-	2	2	
23456	I	-	2		23456	I	-	2	2	

H. DAINS.

The following peal has the sixth the extent in all positions.

5056.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H
35642	2	-			35264	2		2	
53246		-	I	2	54263	2	-	I	2
45236	I	-	2		46253	I	-		
53462	2		2		53462			-	2
32465	2	-	I	2	32465	2	-	I	2
52643	I	-	I		34625	I	-	2	2
52436		-	I		34256			-	I
35264		-	2		34562			-	I
54263	2	-	I	2	36245			-	2
24653	I	-	I		35642			-	I
64523	I	-	I		53246			-	I
34256	2	-	I		52436	I	-	2	2
34562		-	I		52364			-	I
63425		-	2		52643			-	I
35426	2	-	I	2	35426	2	-	2	2
23456	I	-	2		23456	I	-	2	

H. DAINS.

The original of the following peal does not contain any bobs W., the reverse is, of course, without any at the M. This is the first peal ever composed with the sixth the extent each way in 5-6, and with these qualities.

5088.

23456	M	B	W	H	23456	M	B	W	H	
52364		-	2		35264			-		
24365	I		2		53462			-	I	2
45362	I		2		52364			-	I	I
54263	2		2		26543			-		
46532		-			43265			-	2	
46325		-	I		36452			-		
56234	2	-	I		36524			-		I
35642		-	2		32465			-	2	I
43526		-	2		26354			-		
32654	2	-			42563			-	2	2
32546		-	I		64235			-	2	
62453	2	-	I		64352			-		I
25634		-			65243			-	2	I
53246		-			54632			-		
34625	2	-			35426			-	2	
34256		-	I		24536			-	2	2
52436	I	-	2		25346			-	I	2
23456	I	-	2		23456			-	I	2

H. DAINS.

The reverse was first rung on April 18th, 1881, at St. Mary's, Redenhall, by the Norwich Association, being the first peal ever rung on this plan. Conducted by E. Smith, jun.

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

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

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

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed, "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; the insertion of Performances coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning, cannot be guaranteed in that week's number.

Contributions are invited from any of our friends. We shall always be glad to give any information asked for, relative to the subjects this paper deals with.

The Editor would be glad to receive the names of gentlemen who would be willing to act for their respective districts, in the capacity of reporter or correspondent. We shall feel obliged by Association and other Secretaries sending intelligence of events occurring within their jurisdiction.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1882.

GREAT PAUL has spoken. The efforts of the founders, of the carriers of the bell from the foundry, of the architect to the Dean and Chapter—MR. PENROSE, of DR. STAINER, and of the "referees" who seem just now to keep in the background, have, up to this point, been rewarded with signal success. The Metropolitan Cathedral can now boast of possessing the largest bell in the British Islands, or, we suppose, in the whole Empire, and with whatever feelings such an announcement may be regarded a few months hence by the shopkeepers and residents within the precincts of St. Paul's, the inhabitants of London,—speaking, apart from the ringing Exercise, in a general sense—will no doubt hail this fact as an additional triumph for the belief which many of them entertain, that everything colossal, everything grand, and the very best of every thing—with the single exception of a bellfounder, perhaps—either capable or incapable of life, is only to be found in the charmed circle which is known to ignorant provincials by one word—London.

It is gratifying, of course, to all concerned to hear of the safe arrival and subsequent hanging of a bell the calibre and dimensions of the one under consideration. Apart from criticism, we must congratulate the founders in producing such a bell if only on account of its size, and sincerely hope, for the credit of British bellfounders' art, that Great Paul may be all that fancy has painted him. We have been told by one gentleman that if we want good bells we must go to Antwerp—to Van Somebody—for them; it has also been maintained, we hear, that no other English founder but the Messrs. Taylor should be "entrusted" with the casting of bells. Such statements are, to use a vulgar term, "bosh." We care not from whom they emanate. We can dismiss them with the observation that the first shows a want of patriotic sentiment, and in the latter a wish for fair play is entirely absent. If advocacy is meant by such remarks as the latter to which we have alluded, we imagine that the Loughborough firm can do without it. All that is wanted, is that founders may be kept free from fussy, meddling, interference. Now to whom is praise to be awarded, after competent critics have said the bell is a success? Any one would naturally come to the conclusion that it would be the founders. But a daily paper, whose remarks we

give in another column, believes that DR. STAINER is solely responsible for the musical result. Then we say this gentleman has had the tuning in his own hands, is a matter of sheer luck if the tone is correct. The worthy organist of St. Paul's is a most affable gentleman and accomplished musician, but though it may appear a somewhat remarkable statement, it is nevertheless true that skilful musicians of his kind are not the most suitable judges of the tune of bells. Is the same gentleman responsible for "the dull thudding of the headstock moving on its gudgeons," as *The Standard* observes? (This paper, by the way, seems to have got inspiration from a quarter where *The Times* formerly received it.) We fancy we could "fix" another gentleman who must be responsible for the "thudding." Of course there ought not to be the slightest sound of any kind if the bell is properly hung. If all that "dull thudding" occurs there is a radical defect somewhere. And then how about the ringing of this great bell? The same paper—which in this bell business seems to betray an apologetic tone throughout—is not certain how many men it took to pull the bell over some ten or twelve degrees, just enough for the clapper to strike the sound-bow. Eight or ten stalwart ringers, we read, were required.

We repeat the question—How is the bell to be rung? By eight or ten stalwart ringers? and will the Dean and Chapter consent to pay the piper? Our advice to the Dean is to obtain counsel on the matter from a few of the most celebrated ringers of the day, in conjunction with MR. TAYLOR, who is himself a ringer. In fact, the guidance of practical ringers only should have been secured before the wisdom of the remarks addressed to us by a talented correspondent, and which appeared in the first number of our weekly issue, become more apparent every day. It may be considered an ungracious act on the part of the Dean and Chapter to throw over the "referees" at this period. But the public who purpose subscribing to the cost of the bell will hardly be content unless they know that every detail connected with it is as near perfection as possible; and in soliciting the opinion of ringers the Cathedral body will be enlightened by no fustian argument, but by the valuable experience which begat a suggestion which led to a vast improvement in the peal of twelve at Paul's—a method of regulating the clappers, emanating from a member of the Ancient Society of College Youth at first pooh-poohed, but afterwards carried into effect, the great improvement of the peal.

The Provinces.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTH

On Saturday, June 3, 1882, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGING

Tenor 21 cwt., in Eb.

CHARLES MARTIN	Treble.	JAMES TRAPPITT
JOHN BRANCH	2.	JOHN PLOWMAN
AMOS CRESSER	3.	JAMES CAWLEY
CHARLES GORDON	4.	JOSEPH ZEALEY
EDGAR BENNETT	5.	JOSEPH CLARK

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., of Birmingham; and Conducted by EDGAR BENNETT.

The above company comprised nine of the Beddington Society, with A. C. formerly of Birmingham. The peal was first rung at Aston, near Birmingham, the 6th of May last, and the calling of the same appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" May 13th. The sixth is practically undisturbed throughout the peal.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—GUISELEY, LEEDS.

On Saturday, June 3, 1882, in Four Hours and Five Minutes,

AT ST. OSWALD'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 7008 CHANGES,
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 10½ cwt.

CHARLES RALPH.. .. .	Treble.	JOSHUA HUTCHINSON .. .	5.
TOM LOCKWOOD	2.	JAMES BARRACLOUGH .. .	6.
LISTER CAWOOD	3.	JAMES BALDWIN	7.
DAVID E. RHODES	4.	JASPER W. SNOWDON, Esq.	Tenor.

The peal (*Snowdon*, Part II., p. 31) was composed and conducted by TOM LOCKWOOD.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

WALTHAM ABBEY (Essex).—On Tuesday, June 6th—a practice-night, says our correspondent, quite unprecedented—four members of the Waltham Abbey Society, met at the house of Mr. T. C. Powell, and succeeded in ringing upon handbells, retained in hand, the first fifteen courses of a peal (Brook's variation) of Stedman Triples, with one extra call in the 15th course to bring them round at the quarter-peal, which was rang in 40 mins. T. C. Powell, 1-2; W. A. Alps, 3-4; G. Thurgood, 5-6; D. Tarling, 7-8. Conducted by W. A. Alps. This is the longest length in this particular method ever rung upon handbells by a local party. Also a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 40 mins. D. Tarling, 1-2; W. A. Alps, 3-4; G. Thurgood, 5-6; T. Colverd, 7-8. Composed by G. Marriott; conducted by W. A. Alps. Also a touch of Grandsire Caters, 395 changes, in 16 minutes. D. Tarling, 1-2; T. C. Powell, 3-4; W. A. Alps, 5-6; G. Thurgood, 7-8; T. Britten, 9-10. Conducted by W. A. Alps. Besides belonging to the above society, all the above-named are members of the Essex Association.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

CAMBRIDGE.—Recently, at the church of Great St. Mary, with Seage's apparatus, a 720 of Bob Minor, having eight bobs and six singles, in 28 mins. W. W. P. Baker (Clare), 1; G. Holmes (Emmanuel), 2; Rev. A. H. F. Boughiey (Trinity), 3; H. E. T. Glover (Clare), 4; E. Knowles (St. John's), 5; M. C. Potter (St. Peter's), 6. Called by M. C. Potter. Tenor 17½ cwt.

THE DURHAM DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CRAMLINGTON (Northumberland).—On Whit-Tuesday, six members of the North Shields branch of this Association rang at St. Paul's, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. S. Nott, 1; J. Rossiter, 2; R. Willins, 3; R. Smith, 4; W. Reed, Esq. (conductor), 5; J. Hern, 6. Tenor 19 cwt., in E.

JARROW-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, May 22nd, five members of the North Shields branch of the above Association, with Mr. W. G. Routledge, of the St. John's (Newcastle) Guild, rang at St. Peter's church a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. S. Nott, 1; R. Rossiter, 2; W. G. Routledge, 3; R. Willins, 4; W. Reed, Esq., 5; R. Smith (conductor), 6. Tenor 8 cwt., in Bp.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Sunday, June 4th, at Christ Church, on the back six, for Divine Service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. Rossiter, 1; H. Ross, 2; J. Hern, 3; W. Waugh, 4; R. Willins, 5; R. Smith (conductor), 6. Tenor 19 cwt., in E.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

DAGENHAM (Essex).—On Sunday evening, July 4, a company of the above Association rang a 720 of Bob Minor, having nine bobs and six singles, in 26 mins. W. Keeble (first 720), 1; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 2; B. Keeble, 3; A. Porter, 4; G. Roughton, 5; A. Pye, 6. The band found ringing a laborious task owing to the wretched condition of the bells. The whole of the appliances have apparently been neglected for a long number of years, which, considering the peal is a musical one—tenor 13 cwt.—is much to be regretted, especially as there are no signs of any kind of restoration being carried out. [Evidently bell-chamber reform has not reached such a benighted place as Dagenham.—ED.]

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Sunday, May 28th, for Divine Service in the afternoon at St. Mary's (the parish church), a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. C. Chapman, 1; F. Fells, 2; J. Parker (conductor), 3; J. Basden, 4; C. Clark, 5; R. Flaxman, 6. This 720 con-

tains thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles, the latter are called at the following leads: 3, 6, 10, 13, 17, 20, 21, 24, 27, 31, 34, 38, 42, 43, 44, 46, 47, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 55, 56, 58, and 60. If a single is called at 41, it will come round at 504.—On Monday, May 29th, a 720 of Bob Minor in 26 mins. F. Fells, 1; J. Parker (conductor), 2; Reuben Flaxman, 3; J. Trappitt (of Beddington, Surrey), 4; C. W. Gordon (of Beddington, Surrey), 5; W. Fussell, 6. A 720 of Grandsire Minor in four parts, having forty bobs and eight singles, in 24 mins. J. Parker (composer and conductor), 1; J. Trappitt, 2; A. Fussell, 3; W. Wilder, 4; R. Flaxman, 5; C. W. Gordon, 6. Another 720 in the same method in 25 mins. W. Leader, 1; F. Fells, 2; J. Parker (conductor), 3; E. Rogers, 4; W. Fussell, 5; R. Flaxman, 6. Another in 26 mins. A. Fussell, 1; J. Parker, 2; W. Fussell (conductor), 3; E. Rogers, 4; W. Wilder, 5; R. Flaxman, 6.—On Sunday, June 4th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. C. Chapman, 1; F. Fells, 2; J. Parker (conductor), 3; W. Fussell, 4; C. Clark, 5; R. Flaxman, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

SLOUGH (Bucks).—On Wednesday, May 24th, at St. Mary's (the parish church), in honour of the birthday of her Majesty, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 23 mins. W. Leader, 1; A. Fussell, 2; J. Steel, 3; W. Wilder, 4; J. Parker (conductor), 5; R. Flaxman, 6. Tenor 9½ cwt. All the above are members of the West Middlesex Association.

WINDSOR.—On Monday, June 5th, the day appointed for the celebration of the birthday of George III., and for the unveiling, by the Prince and Princess of Wales, of a marble screen in Eton College Chapel, also two stained glass windows in Trinity Church, the following members of the above Guild, had the honour of ringing, on the heavy peal of eight at the "Julius Cæsar" Tower, Windsor Castle, two 504's of Grandsire Triples, in 20 and 21 mins. respectively; also two 168's with Queens and tittums. T. Udell, 1; A. Fussell, 2; J. Steel, 3; J. Parker (conductor), 4; W. Fussell, 5; W. Wilder, 6; R. Flaxman, 7; J. Perryman, 8. This is the first half-pull ringing upon these bells since a party from Fulham (Middlesex) visited Windsor about ten years ago, and it is ninety-five years since the last peal was rung upon them. The bells, adds our correspondent, go right well, considering their weight. Tenor 36 cwt.

BIRMINGHAM.—Handbell Ringing.—On June 6th, three members of the Amalgamated Birmingham Society rang upon handbells (retained in hand), at 114, Moland Street, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with forty-four bobs and four singles, in 21 mins. T. Russam, 1-2; J. Carter, 3-4; B. Stevens, 5-6. Composed and conducted by J. Carter. Mr. W. Bagnall acted as referee, and marked off the leads as the 720 was rung.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Whit-Sunday, May 28th, for Divine Service in the afternoon at St. Mary's, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. T. Watson, 1; C. F. Winny, 2; S. Hammond, 3; J. M. Hayes, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; E. Carter (conductor), 6.

BROMLEY (Kent).—On Saturday, June 3rd, at St. Mary's, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. G. French, 1; T. Dirling (conductor), 2; J. Thomas, 3; G. Sheppard, 4; E. Dunn, 5; T. Titchener, 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor, 9 bobs and 6 singles, in 26 mins. G. French, 1; T. Dirling, 2; J. Thomas, 3; *E. Dunn, 4; T. Titchener, 5; G. Sheppard, 6. Tenor 19½ cwt. There are eight bells in this steeple, the above was rung on the back six. *First 720 in this method.

CODDENHAM (Suffolk).—On Whit-Sunday, after Divine Service, the following members of the local society, with Mr. Thomas Sadler, of Witnesham, and Mr. Samuel Slater, of Glemsford, rang a touch of Grandsire Triples, 504 changes. Samuel English, 1; Edward Wells (conductor), 2; Thomas Sadler, 3; G. Lummig, 4; John Offord, 5; Hawkins English, 6; Samuel Slater, 7; Samuel Goldsmith, 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, June 4th, for Divine Service at St. Martin's church, a 720 Bob Minor, in 24 mins. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; T. Gleed, 2; A. Jacob, 3; J. Nixon, 4; J. Barrett, 5; T. Monks, 6. Composed by Mr. J. Parker of Farnham Royal, and is called with twenty-five bobs and ten singles. Tenor 12½ cwt.

LIVERSEDGE (Yorkshire).—Birthday Touch.—On Sunday, May 21st, the Liversedge company was assisted in ringing for Divine Service in the morning by the oldest ringer in Liversedge, Joshua Midgley, this day being his 79th birthday. A touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 992 changes was rung on this occasion. J. Whitworth, 1; W. Goodall, 2; W. Firth, 3; L. Illingworth, 4; M. Ramsden, 5; T. Goodall, 6; J. Midgley, 7; J. Illingworth (conductor), 8. The old veteran performed his part in a very creditable manner. His natural faculties, especially sight and hearing, appear, in an extraordinary degree, to be

unimpaired, and he works daily at his occupation as a pit carpenter at an establishment in the neighbourhood. [We cordially wish Mr. Midgley "many happy returns."—ED.]

WITNESHAM (Suffolk).—On Whit-Sunday, five of the local society, with Mr. Samuel Slater, of Glensford, rang in the early morning a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. George Sadler, 1; Samuel Slater, 2; Charles Chovett, 3; Thomas Sadler, 4; William Ramsey (conductor), 5; George Pyett, 6.

OPENING OF THE BELLS OF ST. MARY, ELY.

WE have very little to add to our report of last week relating to the proceedings in connection with this opening on Whit-Monday. All accounts we hear agree in establishing the opinion that it was the most successful meeting ever witnessed in the Eastern Counties.

The work of restoring the bells has been carried out by Messrs. Day and Son, of Eye, Suffolk. As we never shirk from condemning any work in connection with bells when we hear or know from personal inspection that it has been unsatisfactorily performed, so it is nothing but common fairness to award commendation where it is deserved. The Eye firm of bell-hangers are actually unknown to us, they may or may not be supporters of this paper, therefore we are not under the least obligation to gloss over any defect which they may overlook while occupied on a bell-frame. With them, as with all others, we speak according to knowledge, without fear. And what has been done at Ely has been done satisfactorily, says our representative there, who is able to judge of the quality of bell-hanging operations. The old bell-frame has been entirely restored with new oak timber, and well ironed up; the six heavy bells turned, on new stocks, with new false crown staples. The bells are all hung on new cushion head-plates, fitted to underside of stocks, and the seventh and tenor fitted with crank gudgeons, all being turned up in the stocks, with gun-metal bearings, fitted into new cast-iron carriages (with lids for grease), securely bolted down on to the top of the frame; wheels and all fittings being new.

The following extract is from a local paper, with which we have been kindly favoured by the Rev. K. H. Smith, who has taken such an active part in the affair:—

ST. MARY'S BELLS.—Whit-Monday was a red-letter day in the annals of Ely campanologists. After more than a year's silence, these bells sent forth their jubilant sounds, calling to mind the plaintive song:

Chime again, chime again, beautiful bells,
Let thy soft melody float on the wind.

Bell-ringers from various parts of England, even the metropolis, paid the old city a visit on this auspicious occasion; and as early as six o'clock in the morning one might have exclaimed:

Hark! the merry St. Mary's bells.

for they rattled away "like mad," making the welkin ring with the music of their tongues. So soon as the trains arrived, our streets were thronged with campanologists, playing upon handbells; in fact, there were at least 250 ringers among us; from Hopton, Garboldisham, West Ham, Diss, Stratford, St. Ives, Wimesham, Dodington, March, Lynn, Wisbech, Woodbridge, Helmingham, Stowmarket, Spalding, Plaistow, Coddensham, Cambridge, Bury, Bishops Stortford, Sawbridgeworth, Waltham Abbey, Beccles, Redenhall, Kenninghall, Ipswich, Swatham Prior, Bennington, Woolpit, Sutton, Haddensham, Hitchin, Methwold, Northwold, Norwich, Long Melford, Hundon, and other places. The peals were rung in first-rate style, but owing to the serious illness of patients in the Militia Hospital, near the church, there was little or no chance for peals of five or six bell hands displaying their dexterity. It is a curious fact that the last time these bells were rung was to celebrate the wedding of a ringer, and his wife died whilst the bells were being rung at the re-opening; after one short year of happy married life. Such is life! This life, at least, and such is death! Dinner was provided at the National School, by Mr. Howe, of the White Lion, which gave great satisfaction. In the afternoon the Cathedral was thronged, Dr. Chipp giving an orcan recital. Prebendary Sutton and Archdeacon Emery delivered suitable addresses from the pulpits of St. Mary's and the Cathedral. In the evening some 400 sat down to tea, in the Corn Exchange, trays being liberally given by ladies of Ely, and this concluded a bright and happy day, our numerous visitors seeming as merry as the bells themselves while under vigorous manipulation. It is suggested that a Diocesan Bell-ringers' Association should be established.

So speaks a local contemporary. With respect to the last sentence, we shall be pleased to hear of its quick realisation. As we have previously maintained, Diocesan and County Associations, in which many of the clergy find it very agreeable and pleasant to become members, are an immense factor in the extension of the true principles of sound ringing. Then by all means let there be a Diocesan Association for Ely immediately. No one can foresee the extent of the ultimate good which the establishment of such a body must have upon the prospects and reputation of bell-ringing in the diocese, and we confidently hope, nay we implore the clergy and all the wealthy churchmen to lend their aid in the promotion of such a inestimable undertaking. To merely talk of the great evils existing in many of our belfries is one thing; to attempt to remove them, by spirited and prompt action, is another. We venture to suggest that the aid of the Lord Bishop of the Diocese should be immediately secured—and if Dr. Woodford is the man we take him to be, he will not refuse his valuable co-operation in such a movement—likewise the Dean and Canons of the Cathedral, the Archdeacons, and other Church dignitaries of the diocese. We should be glad to hear of such an Association firmly established, and discussing without a moment's delay, the propriety

of erecting, by the aid of public subscriptions from all parts of the diocese, a peal of bells, cast and hung with the latest improvements, in the cathedral—a peal worthy of the grand old fabric. This would not be so tremendous a task as may appear, but the credit and honour which would fall upon those who initiate such a scheme, and successfully carry it out, would be immeasurably great. At any rate, the idea of establishing a Diocesan Association for Ely must not be suffered to lapse, and any assistance we can give, either personally or by the medium of our columns, towards its success, or the furthering of such an object as we have just alluded to, will always be gladly given. Attention is directed to a notice which appears in another column relative to the establishment of the proposed Association.

THE DEDICATION OF GREAT PAUL.

The *Daily News* says:—"The dedication service took place immediately after the ordinary afternoon service in the cathedral, a procession of fifty or sixty clergymen and choristers passing up by the dome staircase to the corridor leading along by the Dean's library, where the service was held. Canon Gregory was the officiating clergyman, assisted by Dr. Simpson, one of the minor canons. A good many visitors had apparently come in the expectation that they would be able to see the bell. This was quite impracticable, however, and all had to content themselves with listening to it from the floor on which the service was held. There was a long pause after the benediction had been pronounced, the signal up into the belfry being rather tardy apparently. The large door opening into the staircase, up the centre of which the bell had passed, was thrown open, and presently amid dead silence the hoarse, heavy swing of the monster could be heard, but it was a long time before he could be persuaded to speak. It had already been publicly announced that the full tone of the bell cannot be given, or any rate, will not be given until the disturbed masonry of the tower has been completely restored, which may perhaps be in a fortnight's time. The first stroke of the bell, however, must have satisfied all who heard its fine tone. Down on the floor of the Cathedral the sound is very sweet and solemn, and Dr. Stainer, who is, we believe, solely responsible for the musical result, and who has certainly shown immense energy and earnestness in the matter, is to be cordially congratulated. Especially, we think, he is to be congratulated upon deciding, after thorough exploration of Continental belfries and bell foundries, that there were founders in England quite capable of turning out bells equal at least to anything on the Continent. Undoubtedly Great Paul fully justifies this belief. Saturday was a quiet day in the City, but there were considerable crowds of listeners gathered about the Cathedral, and the sweet musical tone of the bell was admitted on all hands. In a week or two's time the new arrival will make himself heard far and wide, and we hope that one result will be a steady determination on the part of those in authority to re-cast the unfortunate Big Ben, who has now been eclipsed in size and put to still deeper shame in the matter of tone. It is very satisfactory to learn that no accident of any kind has occurred in the course of this largest bell-hanging feat yet achieved in England."

In giving an account of the above the *Standard* has the following:—"There was now a pause of what seemed, to the strained attention, some minutes, during which the dull thudding of the head-stock moving on its gudgeons could be heard, increasing as the bell got up its swing, and then the pure, deep-tone, solemn note of Great Paul boomed through the tower doorway, and vibrated through the corridor; stronger became those solemn boomings when the swing of the bell was maintained. There was one universal admiration of the quality and musical perfection of its tone. The modulations of the upper partials—B flat, E flat, and G—were just audible by close listening. Every one in turn mounted the dark ascent to see, as best they could, between each other and the timbering of the massive cage, the great bell knolled. By the ropes attached to the cross-levers eight or ten stalwart ringers pulled the bell over some ten or twelve degrees, just enough for the clapper to strike the sound-bow. Out of doors, amongst the populace, there was the like gratification expressed with the music of the bell; but it seemed to be thought less powerful than had been imagined. There are reasons, no doubt, for this opinion. In the first place, the bell is not a noisy one; the note has, however, already been heard beyond the Edgware Road. In the next place, the bell in its present site is surrounded by thick masonry, and the comparatively small orifices through which the sounds are admitted are much choked by the works and dials of the clock; whilst there is little or nothing to reflect the sound downwards into the Cathedral-yard. Thirdly, the bell at its dedication was not swung so high nor hit anything like so hard as it will be when the masonry disturbed for its ascent shall have been replaced. Then when there shall be ringers at both cross-levers and the bell shall be swung right up full 50 degrees, will the ponderous clapper deal harder strokes and increase, possibly by ten times, the roar of its voice."

A 720 OF BOB MINOR.

Rang at Bexley, Kent, on May 21st, reported in our last number.—42 singles,

Singles are omitted at the following leads:—1, 2, 12, 13, 14, 15, 21, 26, 27, 29, 35, 39, 42, 46, 53, 58, and 60.

F. FRENCH.

A 720 OF GRANDSIRE MINOR.

Rang at Farnham Royal (Bucks), on Monday, May 29th.—See Record.

- 6 5 2 4 3	- 3 4 2 5 6
S 4 3 6 2 5	- 6 5 3 2 4
4 2 3 5 6	6 2 5 4 3
- 6 5 4 3 2	S 4 3 6 5 2
- 2 3 6 4 5	- 2 5 4 6 3
- 5 4 2 6 3	- 3 6 2 4 5
- 3 6 5 2 4	- 5 4 3 2 6
3 2 6 4 5	5 2 4 6 3
- 5 4 3 6 2	- 3 6 5 4 2
- 2 6 5 3 4	- 2 4 3 5 6
- 4 3 2 5 6	- 6 5 2 3 4
- 6 5 4 2 3	S 3 4 6 2 5
6 2 5 3 4	3 2 4 5 6
S 3 4 6 5 2	- 6 5 3 4 2
- 2 5 3 6 4	- 2 4 6 3 5
repeated	repeated
2 6 5 4 3	2 3 4 5 6

Part-end.

This 720 having the lead-ends of the plain course for its part-ends, either part will run round true.

It also contains the 6-4, 4-5, and 5-6 the right way six times each.

J. J. PARKER.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

We beg to notify to several of our friends who sent their Subscriptions last February for 12 copies, that payment was again due last week. All applications for copies to be sent through the post to be made to the Publisher.

THE HANDBELL RINGERS' MUSIC JOURNAL,

For 1882,

Subscription: Twelve Shillings per Annum, payable in advance.

The Journal consists of Music arranged for medium peals, C 22 to C 1, Chromatic scale, with six ringers; and also for large peal, G 25 to G 0 4, Chromatic scale, with eight ringers.

Each subscriber will receive twelve pieces of music during the year, arranged for either large or medium peal (not both), with a copy for every ringer. State which peal required, and send scale of bells when ordering. The first five numbers are now ready, and will be sent at once on receipt of remittance. The other seven numbers to follow in due course.

The pieces for May consist of Selection—"Don Giovanni," by Mozart; Large Peal "Life's a Jumper," Glee, by Wainwright; with the Country Dance, "Drops of Brandy." Medium peal, &c., Price 3s. each.

Just published, the following extra Numbers, suitable for Pic-nics, &c.

"The Bell Flower Quadrille," by John Shaw, 2s.

"Off She Goes," Country Dance, 1s. 6d.

"Soldiers' Joy," Hornpipe, 1s. 6d.

The above are arranged for two octaves of bells in G., with the F naturals and C sharps as well.

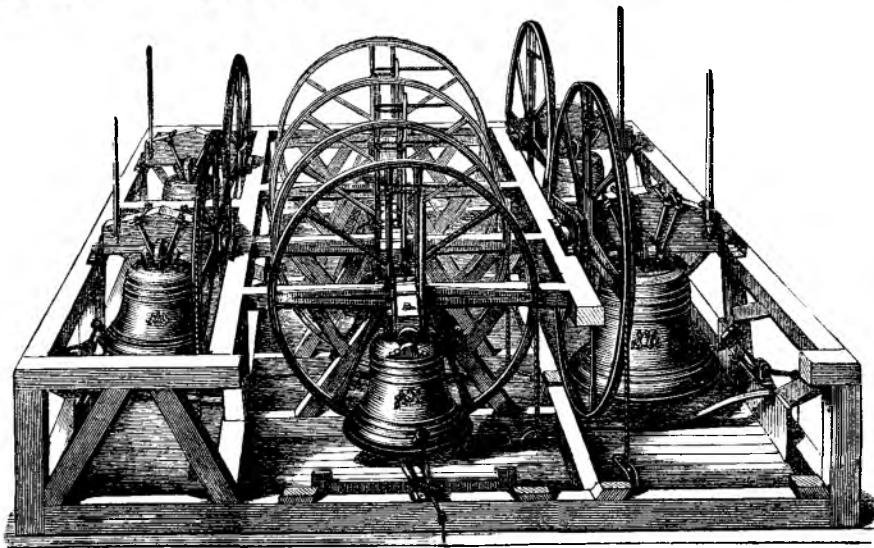
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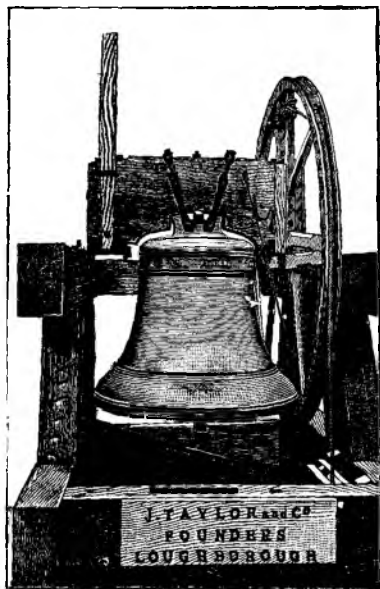
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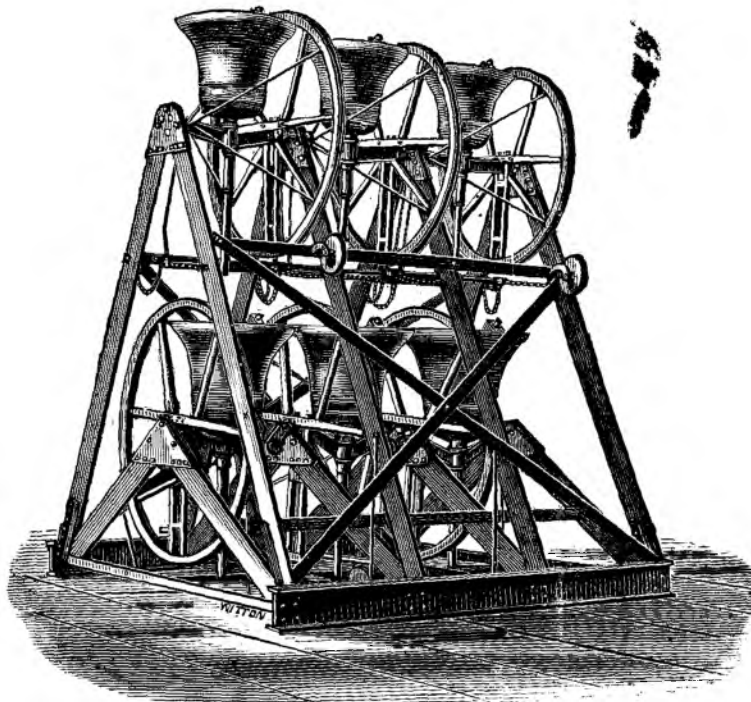
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