

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 22. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. I.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1882.

[ONE PENNY.]



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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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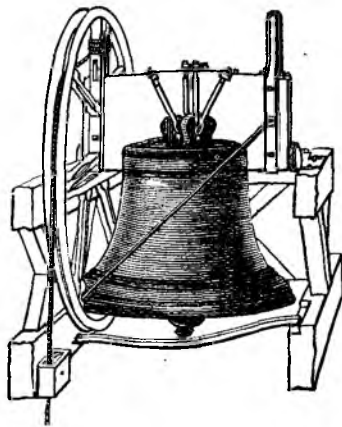
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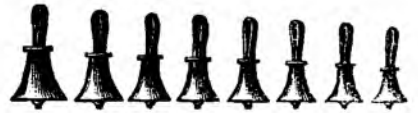


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LONG LENGTHS IN MORE THAN ONE METHOD.

BY JASPER W. SNOWDON.

SEVERAL peals have been rung on seven and other higher numbers of bells in which the total number of changes has been made up by peals or touches in more than one method. As such performances have not been noticed in any of my previous articles, I now propose to give a short account of such peals that I have heard of in which the total number of changes has reached 10,000.

The first peal of this description with which I am acquainted, is recorded in the peal book of the Union Scholars and was rung by that Society at St. Mary's, Hillingdon, Middlesex, on Tuesday, April 9th, 1751. In this record it states that a 5040 of Bob Major, which JOHN HOLT conducted, "was completed immediately after ringing 5800 Double Bob Major, the whole time being 7 hours and 30 minutes."

On Tuesday, February 20th, 1787, eight of the Society of Change-Ringers at Otley, Yorkshire, rang two whole peals of Grandsire Triples when the time taken to complete the 10,080 was 6 hours and 22 minutes. On the printed notice, which gives the names of the ringers and other particulars, it states that this was "the first set that ever completed the above in time and course in England."

From an old MS. note book supposed to have belonged to John Martin, of Leicester, I find that a peal of 10,080 changes, in two seven-bell methods, was rung at Wakefield, on Monday, May 12th, 1788. The note, which is as follows, is probably a copy of a newspaper paragraph:—

"On Monday last was rung at Wakefield by the ringers of that place a new peal of Triples Bob Triples, called 'Wakefield Delight,' consisting of 5040 changes in eight courses complete. The same set of ringers without changing a man or setting a bell began another peal of Oxford Single Triples in twelve courses, consisting of 5040 changes, and called 'Wakefield Surprise.' Both these peals, consisting of 10,080 changes, were performed, including the raising and ceasing the bells, in 7 hours and 1 minute and were rung with great exactness and distinction, an instance never before done in the kingdom. What adds to the singularity of the performance is, there were two fathers, five sons, five brothers, four cousins, one uncle, one nephew, yet not more than eight persons and only two names."

Here, therefore, we have not only an account of the performance, but a complicated conundrum in relationship placed before us!

On November 5th, 1821, the Society of change-ringers at Huddersfield, with Benjamin Thackrah of Dewsbury, rang 5040 of Treble Bob Triples and 5152 of Superlative Surprise Major, making a total of 10,192 changes in 5 hours and 56 minutes. This, which was certainly a capital performance, concludes the list of such peals of which I have been able to find particulars.

NOTE.—In my account of the different performances on six bells in last week's issue, it was my intention to have given the weight of the tenor at Wath, where the 15,120 was rung. As however, I had received the weight from several sources and in each case had found it differently stated, I concluded to omit any allusion to it. I have now however, received a note from Messrs. Shaw and Sons, the Bellfounders of Bradford, who are rehanging the Wath bells, and generally putting them in order, and who write:—"The weight of the tenor at Wath is, at the most, 12½ cwt. It is 40½ ins. diameter, 2½ ins. thick at the sound-bow, and the note is a sharp F. We are rehanging them, and shall have them ready for opening on Saturday, September 2nd."

BOMBAY UNIVERSITY BELLS, CLOCK, AND CARILLON.

At the Indian Government Stores, Belvedere Road, Lambeth, on Saturday, August 26th, a trial of this peal of bells, with the clock and carillon, took place, there being present, besides the officials from the India office, a select party of ladies and gentlemen, together with a sprinkling of members of the Ringing Exercise.

The trial was under the immediate superintendence of Mr. Lund, of the firm of Lund and Blockley, Pall Mall, Clock and Carillon Manufacturers. This gentleman very lucidly explained to the assembled company the beautiful machinery of the carillon, by means of which, with but three barrels, sixteen tunes are produced, a short touch of Grandsire Cinques, some musical changes on eight bells, rounds on twelve, and "firing." Another shorter barrel works the Cambridge quarters and hours. These barrels are made of the finest East Indian teak wood, as being best calculated to remain unaffected by the climate, with steel and gun-metal fittings; they can be changed at pleasure by the mere removal of a screw, an operation requiring but a minute or two to perform. A special feature is a twenty-four-hour "step-piece," by means of which the carillon may be made to play or remain dumb, any or every hour of the day.

A thorough personal inspection showed us that the workmanship and material were of the very first class, being equal in every respect to the best grade of fine engine work, while too much praise cannot be given to the manufacturers for the successful way in which they have overcome the mathematical and mechanical problem involved in the elimination of friction, a point of vital importance with this class of machinery. This fact will become obvious to the non-mechanical reader, when it is stated that the ponderous bell-hammers, many of them verging on one hundred pounds in weight, are worked by pins of

brass wire but one-sixteenth of an inch in diameter; and this in many passages of music involving rapid execution, as well as the precision required in "striking" in Grandsire Cinques.

It is about seven years since the undertaking was first put in hand, and there was then a peal of sixteen bells, by Blews, of Birmingham, with a tenor of 20 cwt., but after a lapse of some years, the officials finding themselves well off in the matter of funds, decided to have a heavier peal; having therefore disposed of their bells, they obtained a grand peal from Taylor, of Loughborough, a peal of sixteen, the tenor of which, in the key of C., weighs 49 cwt., most of them being maiden bells. These are hung, not for ringing, in a massive wrought-iron cage, octagon in plan, with a diameter of 22 ft. 6 in. at the base, where it will sit on eight corbels in the tower, decreasing to 16 ft. on top, being a frustum of a cone, 11 ft. high, divided into two bays of 6 ft. and 5 ft. high respectively, the eight heavier bells hanging in the lower, and the eight lighter ones in the upper bay. The cage was built by Westwood and Baillie, of Millwall, the well-known ship and bridge builders, and is a fine example of the engineers' art as applied to bell-hanging.

The inspection being completed, the carillon was set going, and the whole of the sixteen tunes, with short intervals between, were played, after which, the barrel being changed, the touch of Cinques, as well as the changes on the back eight, with rounds and "firing," were gone through, the striking of the hours and quarters concluding the performance, with which the visitors—several of them well-known professors of music—were much pleased, and expressed to Mr. Lund their approbation of the complete manner in which his firm had carried out the task confided to them by the Government of India. We understand that it is the intention of Mr. Lund to proceed to Bombay to personally superintend the erection, in the University tower, of the whole of this fine work.

The services of our old friend Mr. John Mansfield, of the society of Cumberlands, were called into requisition by the manufacturers of the above, to arrange the touch of Grandsire Cinques.

The following list of tunes played by the carillon may be of interest:

Sinfonia (Handel)	Men of Harlech
Those Evening Bells	My lodging is on the cold ground
When the Rosy Morn	Blue Bells of Scotland
Luther's Hymn	The Last Rose of Summer
Hanover	Rule Britannia
National Anthem	Home, Sweet Home
The Harp that once through Tara's halls	Auld Lang Syne
St. Bride's	The Harmonious Blacksmith

A correspondence has recently been published in one of the Manchester papers anent the town hall bell, one of the writers, who seems to have a very poor opinion of Sir Edmund Beckett as an authority upon bells, says the following:—

"Sir E. B. Denison has too many crotchets, and is altogether too dogmatical to be relied on. His censure is as little to be accepted as his approval;—e.g., some eight years ago an action for libel was brought against him by a well-known founder; this he wisely settled, but was indiscreet enough to repeat the offence, and last year he was tried and condemned in £200 damages. . . . At pages 228-9, in a book entitled *Clock and Watch Making*, by Edmund Beckett Denison, M.A., occurs the following:—'No rules can be given to enable people to judge of the quality of sounds; but a few things may be mentioned as necessary to attend to; such as, whether the bell sounds freely on being lightly touched; how long it holds the sound, compared with other known bells of about the same size, and of good quality; and particularly whether on filing or polishing the bell anywhere the metal appears perfectly close and free from holes. If it does not, you may be sure the bell is a bad one without any further examination, and it ought to be condemned at once.' Now, sir, neither the cracked bell nor the present hour bell fulfils the above conditions, and, therefore, they are bad bells. The holes and crevices in them are so large that a blind man can find them with his fingers. It is generally understood, I suppose, that until a referee has given his award a contractor is not entitled to payment. These Town Hall Bells have been paid for (£5,000), and, therefore, the referee has given his award, which must have been satisfactory or else the account would have been disputed. As no gentleman surely would write a lengthy report on a ring of bells without having heard or seen them, it follows that Sir E. B. Denison, or some other referees, examined and passed these bells without discovering their defects."

"HONOUR TO WHOM HONOUR IS DUE."—In our ringing records of the 19th August, appeared an account of a peal rang at Barlow Moor, Lancashire, by eight members of the Lancashire Association. This was recorded as the first peal upon the bells. We have however, received three very courteous communications to the contrary, and that the peal which we publish this week, rung by the Manchester Cathedral Society, was performed on the bells prior to the one rung by the Lancashire Association. We regret the error, and hope this correction will be agreeable to all parties.

REMINISCENCES OF WARWICKSHIRE.

To the traveller by rail, road, or river, the Midland Counties afford a prospect of natural picturesqueness such as is not to be met with in many other parts of England, and as far as items of historic and antiquarian lore are concerned, the county of Warwick has long been famous. Who has not heard of Warwick Castle, once the feudal stronghold of the mighty and all-powerful "kingmaker;" the citadel of Guy's Cliffe—before whose walls perished, by the hands of barons lawless as himself, the royal favorite, Piers Gaveston; the classical ruins of Kenilworth's Keep, made still more famous by the pen of Sir Walter Scott; or, more than all, perhaps, the birthplace and shrine of the immortal Shakspeare? I could agreeably dwell on the details of these and other historical associations of this fair district, but it is not with such characteristics of the Midlands that I have now to deal with. I am only concerned to relate my experiences therein in connection with the subject-matter of these columns, and therefore I shall leave Guy of Warwick—and Gaveston—and the scene of the great Lord Leicester's revellings (now often desecrated by gastronomic contests awful to behold)—and the little town on the Avon—to those facile gentlemen of the press, who, in the proper place, and at the correct season, invariably do justice to matters of such momentous and eventful interest.

Some years ago, on returning from the north of England, I arrived, on the last day of the week, at that wonderful town which has been designated by envious cynics as "the toyshop of the world"—but which may with greater propriety and truth be termed its "workshop"—Birmingham. Proposing to remain till the following Monday morning, an impulse prompted me to pay a visit early on the Sunday to St. Martin's steeple, thinking it within the range of probability that that company would then meet (Sunday morning practice in and about this neighbourhood being in many instances the custom). Disappointment, however awaited me, as I found the company did not meet that morning. I regret, even at this time, that I had not then an opportunity afforded me of an introduction to the members of this renowned society, several of whose members stood so high in ringing circles. Since the time of my visit death has played havoc with their number, but some of them still live, and enjoy that very high position in the ranks of the Exercise their talent has gained for them. As I was leaving the precincts of St. Martin's church, I received the information that the St. Philip's company was sure to meet that morning, and that if I walked as far, I should "be right for a pull." This was welcome news, so I hastened thither, and in attempting to discover the mode of ingress to the steeple, met with a youth who evidently was bent on the same errand, and we "ascended the belfry" together. (That youth has since merged into ripe manhood, and J. J. is now an acquisition to any band that are fortunate enough to secure his services.) The ringing-chamber, a room of good size, was, as we entered, being swept and garnished by the steeple-keeper, who now and then held a conversation (*sotto voce*) with Amos Cresser, while ringing the second in Stedman Caters. The idea of any one sustaining a conversation with the steeple-keeper or any other person while ringing such a method as Stedman, without making a "trip," filled me with wonder. It soon became obvious that the old veteran, "the baker," was calling, for he was venting his displeasure to this one and that one in a manner peculiarly his own, though capital striking was going on. At the eighth bell I discovered a very old ringing acquaintance, whom, to preserve his *incognito*, I will name "Brother String," and if ever he should enjoy the unspeakable pleasure of reading these lines, he will no doubt call to mind the time when it was considered necessary to suppress or disguise his patronymic in the publication of a peal, and substitute a fictitious one, which was however, merely the letters of his name reversed. Let me, however, do justice to Brother String by stating that in connection with the occurrences which led to this caution being observed, he was entirely blameless.

But the bells are in rounds, and "stand" is soon called. I am introduced to several of the company, and kindly invited to ring, and did so—a touch of the same method which had just been rung. However, the morning was too far advanced, and coupled with the fact of its being Sunday, there was not only no opportunity, but no desire for any lengthy ringing. The touch being brought round, after the usual farewell salutations, I departed, and thus ended my first and only visit to a Birmingham steeple.

The next place of importance I visited, as far as bells are concerned, was the ancient town of Warwick. There are two peals here, ten at St. Mary's, and six at St. Nicholas. The former is known as the "high" church, and the latter as the "low" church, not from any distinction between the two in the ritual adopted, or the shade of doctrine taught, but from the fact that one is situated on an eminence, and the other at its base. But I am reminded that I have exhausted the space placed at my disposal by our Editor. So that till a more convenient season, must be postponed the wanderings, peregrinations, pilgrimages, and belfry reminiscences, of

A NEW MAN.

KEYNSHAM, SOMERSETSHIRE.

THE PARISH CHURCH (ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST) AND ITS BELLS.

KEYNSHAM is a small and unimportant town with station, situate on the main line (London to Bristol) of the Great Western railway, distant about four-and-a-half miles from Bristol and seven-and-a-half from Bath. The town contains but one church, which is dedicated to St. John the Baptist, and is a noble edifice in two styles of architecture, viz: Perpendicular and Decorated. It consists of nave, chancel north and south aisles, with massive western tower, which is surmounted with parapet and pinnacles. The tower contains a fine ring of eight bells, which bear the following dates and inscriptions:—

1. I value not who doth me see for Thomas Bilby casted me Although my sound it is but small I can be heard amongst you all William North and Robert Trower churchwardens. 1731.
2. William North and Robert Trower churchwardens. 1737.
3. Stephen Rodford, Robert Ford, churchwardens. 1654.
4. No inscription on this bell. 1613.
5. John Wood, James Millard, C. W. Thomas and James Bilby *Fecit.* 1791.
6. Drawe Neare To God. R D. 1607.
7. Laus Deo Vni Et Trivno In Secvla Secvlorum. 1602.
8. William Sanders, Henry Dolman, Thomas Browning, churchwardens. 1669.

There is also a "ting-tang" bell. The weight of the tenor bell is said to be 32 cwt., and is very rich in tone, in the key of D.

The clock (which of late years has been put into thorough working order) has a small brass plate, which bears the following inscription and date:—

MR. JAMES BRIDGE and WM. MORLEY, *Sidemen.*
MR. ABRAHAM FAWKS and JOSEPH PINKER, *Churchwardens.*
{ JOSIAS ROBINS
Fecit. 1729. }

There are also chimes in connection with the clock, which play daily at the following hours—nine, one, and five. Of late years a chiming apparatus, on the keyboard plan (by Kingman, of Bath), has been placed in the tower, which enables one person to chime the whole ring of bells. The weather vane, which surmounts the south-west pinnacle on the tower, bears the date 1655.

A 720 OF BOB MINOR.—Rung at Romford, Essex, August 20th.

3 5 2 6 4	3 2 5 6 4	S 3 4 5 6 2
5 6 3 4 2	2 6 3 4 5	S 4 3 6 2 5
S 6 5 4 2 3	S 6 2 4 5 3	3 2 4 5 6
S 5 6 2 3 4	S 6 2 5 3 4	2 5 3 6 4
S 6 5 3 4 2	S 6 2 3 4 5	S 5 2 6 4 3
S 5 6 2 3 4	S 2 6 4 5 3	S 2 5 4 3 6
S 6 5 2 3 4	S 6 2 5 3 4	S 5 2 3 6 4
5 3 6 4 2	2 3 6 4 5	S 2 5 6 4 3
S 3 5 4 2 6	3 4 2 5 6	S 5 2 4 3 6
S 5 3 2 6 4	S 4 3 5 6 2	2 3 5 6 4
S 3 5 6 4 2	S 3 4 6 2 5	3 6 2 4 5
S 5 3 4 2 6	S 4 3 2 5 6	S 6 3 4 5 2
S 3 6 5 2 4	S 4 6 2 5 3	
S 6 3 2 4 5	S 6 4 5 3 2	
S 3 6 4 5 2	S 4 6 3 2 5	
S 6 3 5 2 4	S 6 4 2 5 3	
3 2 6 4 5	4 5 6 3 2	
2 4 3 5 6	S 5 4 3 2 6	
4 5 2 6 3	4 2 5 6 3	
S 5 4 6 3 2	S 2 4 6 3 5	
S 4 5 3 2 6	S 4 2 3 5 6	
S 5 4 2 6 3	S 2 4 5 6 3	
4 6 5 3 2	S 4 2 6 3 5	
S 6 4 3 2 5	2 3 4 5 6	

JOHN NUNN,
Walthamstow.

The parish church at Bettws-y-coed has lately received the much-needed addition of a reredos and low coped stone walls under the chancel-arch, as well as a handsome altar frontal worked by the Sisters of St. James's Home, Fulham. The reredos is of Bath stone with blue Forest of Dean inlay, having some carved panels over the altar and a rich cresting to surmount the central portion. The funds have been raised by a resident member of the congregation. Another village church in the neighbourhood, at Ysptyty, has at the same time been embellished by a reredos, the gift of Lady Penrhyn. It is of Bath stone with panels of red Dumfries stone, and a rich floriated cross in the centre. The architect in both cases was Mr. Edmund Ferrey.

CWMBACH.—A new church dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene was opened at Cwmbach, Aberdare, on Friday. Mr. E. M. B. Vaughan, A.R.I.B.A., is the architect. The church, which accommodates 300 people, has been built in a simple Gothic style, and consists of a nave and apsidal chancel. The walls are of Penrhwiweiber stone with Bath-stone dressings. The altar is constructed with a pitch-pine frame filled in with carved-ornamental work.

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" " 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.

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.

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.

CHARGES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS.

The charge for Advertisements is 4s. per inch single column, or 8s. per inch double column. Special arrangements for a series of more than four insertions. Displayed advertisements by special contract. All advertisements must reach the Publisher's by 12 o'clock at noon on Thursday.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1882.

IN a recent number we gave a short account of the proceedings at a meeting which was held in the "faithful city" of Worcester for the establishment of an Association of Change-Ringers for that city and neighbourhood. No news is more welcome to those who desire to see the Art of Ringing extended than to hear of measures being promoted for the formation of Guilds or Associations under the patronage of the leading resident clergy of the districts in which such movements have their growth. This satisfaction is peculiarly enhanced when a Cathedral city happens to be the field of operations, for hopes are then engendered that the principal church of the diocese—suffering from long continued neglect, perhaps—may become an important centre, a kind of head-quarters of ringing, for the whole diocese. Though unfortunately, such hopes as these have in several instances never yet been realized, it behoves us to patiently wait for their fulfilment in the fulness of time. In the case before us, however, it is pleasing to find that the Cathedral church of Worcester enjoys the privilege of possessing a ring of bells, twelve in number, ready for ringing; and it is also a satisfaction to know that there are several good rings of ten, and many rings of eight, which will be open for practice to the members of the new Association.

It is not clearly announced whether the jurisdiction of the Worcester Association will embrace all parts of the diocese, or whether it will merely include the county area. We think it would be more advantageous, from every point of view, that all parts of the diocese should be included, that it should, in fact, become an actual Diocesan Association. No one can question the benefits that would accrue to it by effecting a combination with such companies as the Birmingham societies of ringers.

The recent exploits of ringers resident in the hardware town must cause them to be a valuable acquisition to the ranks of a youthful Association like the one under consideration, and we hope this has not been lost sight of by the originators of the movement.

At any rate we hail the formation of this ringers' confederacy with the utmost satisfaction. For some years past the art has not flourished in the West Midland neighbourhood to the extent it formerly did. In the early part of the present century the local talent of Worcester was no means despicable, and men could there be found who were able to ring, double-handed, both Treble Bob and Stedman. The former method, at the time we speak of, as well as at a much later period, seemed to be the favourite practice. The peal of 8448 of Major, by REEVES, was rung on the bells of St. Helen's church in the year 1833, and until the last year or two the record of this peal, with others, could be easily deciphered on a tablet without the slightest difficulty. But alas! the "restorer" has been at work. What originally was a very comfortable ringing-chamber has been in a manner spoiled, and certainly for no architectural effect whatever worth consideration. The position of the tenor ringer has been interfered with by the erection of a hideous rail; and the belfry tablets, recording some good performances, have been thrust from view for no purpose but to satisfy the pedantry of those who lay claim to a monopoly of knowledge in Art.

Such evils as these we hope the Worcester Association will endeavour to remedy wherever they may exist. The members should not imagine that a constant attendance in the steeple, combined with an unflinching perseverance in attaining a knowledge of the science, is all that is required of them. They have a duty to perform in striving to rectify all irregularities that to their knowledge may exist in neighbouring steeples, and by enlisting the influence and co-operation of others in such a crusade, failure will not often be their portion. One good augury of success for efforts which may be made in this direction is shown in the Very Rev. Dean of Worcester, Lord ALWYNE COMPTON, being president of this newly-formed body of ringers.

"ST. GILES'S."

In contradistinction to "St. James's" "St. Giles's" used at one time to convey to the denizen of London a feeling of something akin to loathing. It was the term applied to any low or unsalubrious individual, thus:—a "St. Giles's rough," and so forth. In the drama of the *Miser's Daughter*, the principal scoundrel is made to say he lives in St. Giles's, on account, we suppose, of his class taking up their abode therein. At the present day indeed, many parts of the parish of St. Giles are not the safest walks for nervous pedestrians, especially as the shades of evening are falling. But for all this, to a ringer, St. Giles in the Fields—at any rate, the church—will ever be full of interest. There's something classical to a ringer in its historical recollections of some of the most celebrated ringers. Would that the church authorities of St. Giles—and in fact every other church—respect these associations, and thus have a little care for the feelings among the living of the ringing community. It was here that the celebrated John Noonan sat, MSS. in hand, and called his arrangement of Stedman Triples, in the composition of which he is said to have used as much paper as would cover the walls of St. Giles's church. A prettily-designed tablet records this performance, but its writing requires renovation by careful cleaning and varnishing. It has been removed from the walls, and has not been refixed since the redecoration of the belfry was completed, but with some others, also of interest, is consigned to a dark cupboard adjoining, which is a very sad state of affairs, and we should be glad if the authorities would see to this, and not only restore, but take means to preserve such a very interesting old relic, and earn the gratitude of all ringers. David Pollit deserves a word of encouragement for the condition in which he keeps the belfry, and for his obliging manner.

The Metropolis.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Monday, August 28, 1882, in Three Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT ST. GILES'S-IN-THE-FIELDS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 18 cwt.

GEORGE NEWSON Treble.	DAVID STACKWOOD 5.
CHARLES HOPKINS 2.	FREDERICK PITSTOW 6.
HENRY DAINS 3.	JAMES BARRETT 7.
HENRY HOPKINS 4.	JOHN MANSFIELD Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

The attempt at this peal was arranged as a compliment to Mr. F. Pitstow, who prolonged his stay in town to participate in the same. It is his first peal in the method, and is also the first peal of Stedman Triples rung by Mr. Barrett.

In another page will be found a paragraph headed "St. Giles's," having a reference to this peal.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Thursday, August 24, 1882, in Three Hours,

AT ST. GILES'S-IN-THE-FIELDS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 18 cwt.

NATHAN J. PITSTOW Treble.	JAMES HANNINGTON 5.
HENRY DAINS 2.	ARTHUR H. GARDOM 6.
HARRY RANDALL 3.	WILLIAM DORAN 7.
CHARLES T. HOPKINS 4.	GEORGE NEWSON Tenor.

Composed and conducted by N. J. PITSTOW.

This peal has the fifth and sixth their extent in 5-6, with double bobs at home at each course-end, and the sixth its extent home at the last four courses, and will be found in Snowdon's *Treatise*, part II., p. 48.

The Provinces.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

BLETCHINGLEY, SURREY.

On Tuesday, August 29, 1882, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART.

WILLIAM COOTER Treble.	AMOS CRESSER 5.
ROBERT JAMESON 2.	HENRY F. WOOD 6.
JAMES ROBERT HAWORTH 3.	MATTHEW A. WOOD 7.
HENRY BOSWELL 4.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF Tenor.

Conducted by MATTHEW A. WOOD.

These bells have just been rebung by Gillett and Bland, of Croydon, in a new frame. The work has been satisfactorily carried out by Mr. H. Boswell. On the same day 364 Grandsire Triples, 504 Stedman Triples, and 704 Treble Bob Major were also rung.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

SHEFFIELD.

On Saturday, August 26, 1882, in Three Hours and Thirty-six Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5130 CHANGES.

Tenor 41 cwt.

W. WORTHINGTON Treble.	M. A. WOOD (London) 6.
J. MULLIGAN 2.	G. FLINT 7.
C. BOWER 3.	C. H. HATTERSLEY 8.
H. F. WOOD (London) 4.	T. HATTERSLEY 9.
T. DIXON 5.	G. POTTER and H. MADIN Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY BOOTH (of London), and conducted by THOMAS HATTERSLEY.

All Members of the Yorkshire Association.

LIVERPOOL.—THE ST. PETER'S AND ST. NICHOLAS' SOCIETIES.

On Thursday, August 24, 1882, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes

AT ST. NICHOLAS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

GEORGE HELSBY Treble.	EDWARD VOSE 6.
RICHARD WILLIAMS 2.	THOMAS HAMMOND 7.
JOHN BROWN 3.	*HENRY COLEY 8.
ROBERT WILLIAMS 4.	*GEORGE FISHER 9.
HENRY BECK 5.	EDWARD POSTER Tenor.

Composed by ROBERT WILLIAMS, and conducted by THOMAS HAMMOND.

The figures of this peal, having the 5th and 6th only behind the 9th, appeared in our issue of the 5th of August.

[* First peal in any method.]

THE MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.

DIDSBURY, LANCASHIRE.

On Monday, August 7, 1882, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 18 cwt. in E.

JOS. WITHERS Treble.	ALBERT E. WREAKS 5.
SAMUEL WEST* 2.	JOHN EACHUS 6.
JOHN E. POLLITT* 3.	JOHN WITHERS 7.
GEORGE MEE* 4.	JAMES PARKINSON Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN EACHUS.

This is the FIRST peal upon the bells (which have just been cast by Mears and Stainbank), and it is proposed to erect a tablet to commemorate its performance. A paragraph relating to this peal will be found on another page.

[* First peal of Triples.]

ECCLES.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 28, 1882, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs.

T. YATES Treble.	C. CASH 5.
J. BARRATT 2.	R. ASHCROFT 6.
G. H. JOHNSON 3.	J. SCHOLEY 7.
E. CASH 4.	W. ASHCROFT Tenor.

Conducted by E. CASH.

This was Mr. C. Cash's first peal; he hails from Swinton, the rest of the company belong to Eccles.

Date Touch.

BRANDESTON (Suffolk).—On Sunday, August 6th, a date touch was rung by the local company, viz.: 720 of Bob Minor, 432 Bob Minor, and a lead of Doubles, in 1 hr. 5 mins. W. Bedingfield, 1; H. Bedingfield, 2; H. Colman, 3; A. S. Wightman, 4; S. Wightman, 5; G. Meadows (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, August 13th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-two singles. W. Bedingfield, 1; D. G. Wightman, 2; H. Colman, 3; A. S. Wightman, 4; H. Bedingfield, 5; S. Wightman (conductor), 6.

Miscellaneous.

THE DERBY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

DERBY.—On Wednesday, August 23rd, 1882, six members of the above Association rang at St. Alkmund's, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins., the bells being half muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mr. S. Marshall, who for many years, held the position of sexton at the above church. J. Ridgway, 1; T. Bancroft, 2; H. C. Woodward, 3; F. Sephton, 4; R. Bosworth, 5; J. Howe (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt., in F.

MATLOCK BRIDGE (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, August 12th, 1882, six members of the above Association visited the above, and by kind permission of the Vicar, rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins., being the first 720 rung on the bells. J. Ridgway, 1; R. Bosworth, 2; A. Taberer, 3; J. Newbold, 4; H. C. Woodward, 5; J. Howe (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

NEWINGTON-NEXT-HYTHE (Kent).—On Friday evening, August 25th, at St. Nicholas' church, five members of the above Association rang three 6-scores of Doubles in the following methods: Grandsire, Stedman, and St. Simon's. A. Tanton, 1; J. Hogben, 2; J. Nutley, 3; J. Toms, 4; J. Marsh (conductor), 5. Tenor 12½ cwt.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL CHANGE-RINGERS.

LEYLAND (Lancs.).—On Sunday, August 27th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor was rung in 28 mins. Oliver Worden (conductor), 1; Thos. Bowling, 2; W. Bowling, 3; Humphrey Greckson, 4; Thos. Baron, 5; Jas. Banister, 6. Tenor 18½ cwt. Also for Divine Service in the evening the same was rung again in a faultless manner; in all 1850 changes.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Saturday, August 26th, at St. Mary's, a 720 of Grandsire Minor with forty-four bobs and four singles, in 26½ mins. R. Flaxman, 1; A. Fussell, 2; W. Wilder, 3; C. Clarke, 4; J. Parker (composer and conductor), 5; W. Fussell, 6.

OXFORD.—On Saturday, August 26th, at Christ Church, an excellent touch of Grandsire Caters, containing 3275 changes, was rung in 2 hrs. 13 mins., by the following members. C. Hounslow (conductor), 1; T. Payne, 2; J. Collier, 3; O. Thomas, 4; C. Boots, 5; G. Lapworth, 6; W. Baston, 7; S. Hounslow, 8; W. Washbrook, 9; W. Finch, and J. Walker, 10. Tenor 42 cwt. And on August 27th, at Merton College, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 1260 changes, in 52 mins. W. Finch, 1; S. Hounslow, 2; C. Boots, 3; W. Baston, 4; O. Thomas, 5; N. Alderman (of London), 6; W. Washbrook (conductor), 7; C. Hounslow and T. Payne, 8. Tenor 36 cwt. Also on Friday, August 25th, at St. Thomas-ye-Martyr, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. W. Washbrook (conductor), 1; T. Payne, 2; G. Lapworth, 3; O. Thomas, 4; S. Hounslow, 5; W. Baston, 6. And on Monday, August 28th, at St. Thomas-ye-Martyr, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. W. Washbrook (conductor), 1; T. Payne, 2; C. Hounslow, 3; O. Thomas, 4; N. Alderman, 5; S. Hounslow, 6. Tenor 9 cwt.

ALDEBURGH (Suffolk).—On August 11th (being the Sunday School Children's treat), the following members of the local society, assisted by Mr. W. Shipp, of Otley, rung three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. C. Smith, 1; W. Shipp, 2; C. Cook, 3; F. Copper (conductor), 4; J. Collis, 5.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Saturday, August 26th, at St. Michael's, was rung a 720 of Violet Treble Bob. C. Huckson, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; W. H. Dyson, 4; S. Hammond (conductor), 5; F. Rudkin, 6. This is H. E. Hammond's first 720 of Violet with a bob bell. Also a 720 of College Exercise, H. E. Hammond, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; W. H. Dyson, 3; S. Hammond (conductor), 4; F. Rudkin, 5; A. Huckson, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. The practice-nights at Braintree are Wednesdays and Saturdays, 6.30 p.m.

BEDDINGTON (Surrey).—On Sunday, August 27th, for Divine Service in the evening on the back six of the ring of ten, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung by six of the St. Mary's Society in 29 mins. Charles Bance, 1; James Trappitt, 2; Edgar Bennett (conductor), 3; John Plowman, 4; James Cawley, 5; Charles Gordon, 6. This is the first 720 in this method by any of the above. Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb.

HARTEST, NEAR BURY ST. EDMUNDS (Suffolk).—On Sunday, August 20th, after Divine Service at the parish church, was rang several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles by the following members of the Glemsford and Hartest companies: George Banham, James Pope, Arthur Honeybald, Frederick Sturgan, Zach. Honeybald, Samuel Slater, Zachariah Slater, and Oliver Garwood. Tenor about 11 cwt.

OTLEY (Suffolk).—On Sunday, August 13th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor, with forty-two singles. J. Cullum (conductor), 1; D. G. Wightman, 2; W. Whiting, 3; H. Bedingfield, 4; S. Wightman, 5; H. Pepper, 6.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On August 20th, for Divine Service in the morning at St. Paul's, Fulney, 920 Grandsire Triples. G. Keal, 1; (2nd left out); A. Hayes, 3; E. Quinton, 4; A. Walker, 5; C.

Creasey, 6; R. Creasey 7; J. Croxford, (conductor), 8. And on August 27th, for Divine Service, on the back six, 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. R. Creasey, 1; E. Quinton, 2; A. Walker, 3; C. Creasey, 4; J. W. Creasey, 5; J. Croxford (conductor), 6.

WARNHAM (Sussex).—On Monday evening, August 28th, the above society assisted by H. Burstow, of Horsham, rang two 720's of Oxford Bob Minor. They were each rung in 25 mins. by William Wood, 1; William Short, 2; Joseph Dale, 3; Henry Wood, 4; Thomas Andrews, 5; Henry Burstow, 6. Henry Chantler rung the 6th in the second 720. Composed (with thirty bobs and thirty singles) and called by H. Burstow.

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

Twice repeated.

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."

"COMMON" GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

SIR,—In answer to "Essex Association" of the 19th, I beg to state I used the word "Common" in reference to the peals of Grandsire Triples at Galleywood and Writtle, (which were both Holt's Ten-part peal), meaning the peal of Treble Bob at Barking was more worthy of a peal-board at the expense of the Association, as it is much harder to perform; and also, I think all scientific ringers will agree with me in thinking the Original the most musical of the two. The reason the peal of Treble Bob was gained at the first attempt, at Barking, was, we were more fortunate with that than with the Grandsire Triples. Your correspondent mentioned there were two colts in the Treble Bob peal, I beg to state there were three in the peal of Grandsire Triples that had not rung a peal before. In regard to Yorkshire, Treble Bob is practised more there than Grandsire Triples. I should feel obliged if your correspondent would kindly send his name next time and not write under cover.

West Ham.

W. DORAN.

MUFFLED PEALS.

SIR,—Will you kindly give me your opinion, in your next issue, as to which is the right stroke to have the bells open in half-muffled ringing. I consider the back-stroke should be open, so as to allow the part-ends to be heard, and that the bells may come round open.

A. J. P.

P.S.—I have just got four new subscribers to our paper.

[Tastes differ; we prefer the back-stroke muffled. In Cater ringing the bells as a rule come round at hand; and to us it seems of very little consequence how the part-ends come up.—Ed.]

BOB MINOR.

SIR,—It is Mr. Penning who, I think, is displeased with me, for producing the two different 720's in question; I say different, because each do not contain twenty-six singles and sixteen bobs. It will be remembered that one of mine has forty-two singles, and the other, twenty bobs and twenty-two singles.

I must tell Mr. Penning that I can make the necessary comparison without going in for the transposing business he mentions, besides it is not my 720's that require transposing; I am quite willing to admit they are variations. Mr. Penning says the photos belong to those who take them; it is evident he had not got it in ten divisions, so the photos are mine, that is something.

If any one will take the trouble to compare Mr. Barnett's productions with mine, they will see that Mr. Penning has given a very lame excuse for raking up this subject.

J. J. PARKER.

THE RECENT PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES AT IPSWICH.

SIR,—You have kindly inserted the letters from myself and Mr. Catchpole with reference to the peal of Grandsire Cinques at Ipswich, may I again ask the privilege to reply to Mr. Catchpole's letter? In the first place he acknowledges the truth of my statement concerning the time, so I hope that when we again ring a peal, the exact time may be sent. I must beg to differ from his statement to the effect that this was the only charge my letter contained, because I distinctly referred to the complaint he made against one of the band. As he has not denied this, I must take his silence as a tacit acknowledgment of the truth of my statement. Now I ask, if one bell manages to get down to lead before his course-bell, would not such a proceeding have a great tendency to throw the other bells out? In such a case, it was, as I have before explained, where the muddle began, and as I told Mr. Catchpole, I saw the 9th and 10th bells pulling exactly together at a bob dodge. This I could very well perceive, as one of these bells was the next below me. With all due deference to Mr. Catchpole, I differ from when he says there was no need for him to place the bells right by any other means than telling each ringer what bells to course, for he called out to several where to dodge, lead, etc.; and I ask him—was he not accused, directly we left off ringing, by the ringers of the 4th and 6th bells, of directing them wrongly? He also says that "the last two leads, though not good ringing, was fair;" here I must again join issue with him, for it was at the beginning of the last lead that the bells began to tell in their places, therefore the last five or six changes were rang clean. But for three or four leads it was a most desperate struggle, hardly a man knew what to do to get out of the difficulty, and it was only by the conductor telling one to lead, then the other, in the last lead, that the bells were got home at all; and this, Sir, is one great reason why I condemn the peal. Some time ago—I am not certain as to date, you see—the Ipswich company rang 5088 changes of Treble Bob Maximus, conducted by Mr. Prentice, but though two bells changed courses, the number of changes was rung. But the company again attempted it, and rang a good sound peal; would it not have been more creditable to have attempted again the peal of Grandsire Cinques? I cannot agree with Mr. Catchpole that the performance in question is a true peal. One of the company has stated that he would not have his name go down to it as a peal, though it would be his first 5000. Mr. Catchpole has remarked that he was very near calling "set;" one of the band did so call out, and in fact, set his bell a stroke, but started off again at the conductor's request. Mr. Catchpole has alluded to Mr. W. Ireland. I can only say, with respect to that gentleman, that if he should state that this was a true peal, and worthy of record, I will with pleasure submit to his decision.

R. BRUNDLE.

STEDMAN CATERS.

5069.
 2 3 1 4 5 6 Bob on 7 8 9.
 4 5 6 16
 1 3 6 5 2 4 - - - -
 3 1 6 4 2 5 - - - -
 2 1 6 5 3 4 - - - -
 2 1 4 6 3 5 - - - -
 2 1 5 4 3 6 - - - -
 5 1 2 6 3 4 - - - -
 5 1 4 2 3 6 - - - -
 5 1 6 4 3 2 - - - -
 6 1 5 2 3 4 - - - -
 6 1 4 5 3 2 - - - -
 4 1 6 2 3 5 - - - -
 4 1 5 6 3 2 - - - -
 4 1 2 5 3 6 - - - -

These eleven courses three times repeated, produce—

2 1 5 3 6 4 9 7 8
 1 3 4 7 2 6 5 8 9
 3 7 6 8 1 2 4 9 5
 7 8 3 2 6 4 1 9 5
 7 8 2 4 3 1 6 9 5
 4 9 5 6 8 7 1 3 2
 9 6 4 7 5 1 8 3 2
 9 6 7 1 4 8 5 3 2
 6 1 8 3 9 4 7 2 5

Round at two sixes and three changes. The 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th, successively behind the 9th. FREDERICK COATES, Rotherham.

A 720 OF BOB MINOR.

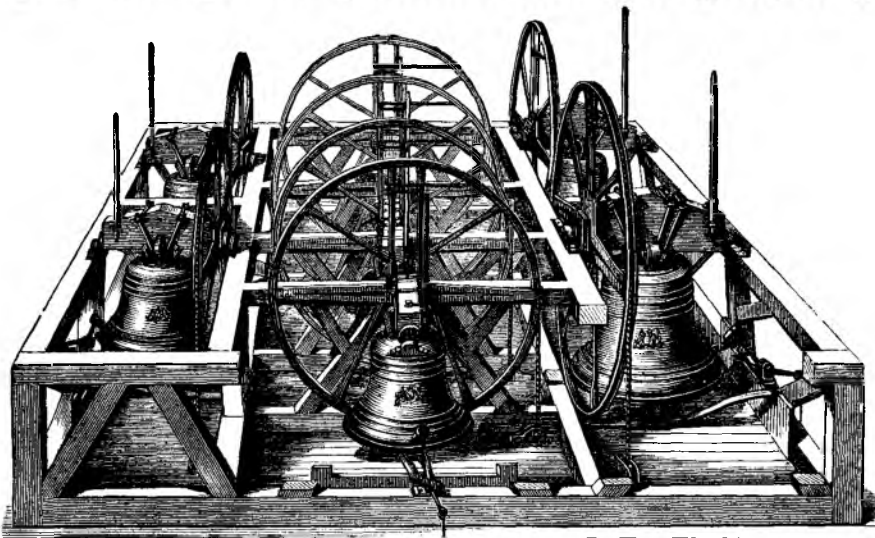
- 2 3 5 6 4	S 3 4 6 2 5	- 6 2 3 5 4
S 3 2 6 4 5	4 2 3 5 6	- 6 2 5 4 3
- 3 2 4 5 6	- 4 2 5 6 3	S 2 6 4 3 5
- 3 2 5 6 4	S 2 4 6 3 5	- 2 6 3 5 4
S 2 3 6 4 5	- 2 4 3 5 6	- 2 6 5 4 3
3 4 2 5 6	- 2 4 5 6 3	6 4 2 3 5
- 3 4 5 6 2	4 6 2 3 5	- 6 4 3 5 2
S 4 3 6 2 5	- 4 6 3 5 2	4 5 6 2 3
- 4 3 2 5 6	- 4 6 5 2 3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

J. F. PENNING,
 Saffron Walden.

The widow of the late Dean of Salisbury, has presented for the north porch of the Cathedral, a corona, which has been fixed this week.

ZANZIBAR CATHEDRAL.—A large shipment of church furniture has lately been sent out to Zanzibar, which comprises amongst other things, brass lectern, altar-cross, vases, candlesticks, Hesperus lamps, choir desks, hangings, &c. It was entrusted to the well-known firm of Jones and Willis, of Great Russell-street, London. As the goods had to be carried on men's backs for a long distance up the country, they were packed in cases not exceeding 40lb. in weight. This necessitated a great amount of forethought, on account of the very varified nature and sizes of the articles. The same firm have now on view a novel kind of font in polished brass, designed by the architect, Mr. C. F. Hayward, F.S.A., of 20, Montague-street, Russell-square, W.C., for the same cathedral.

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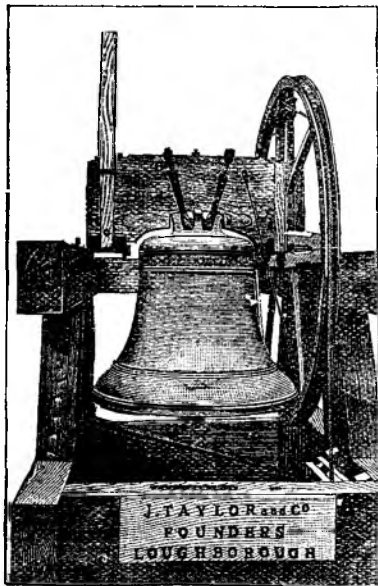
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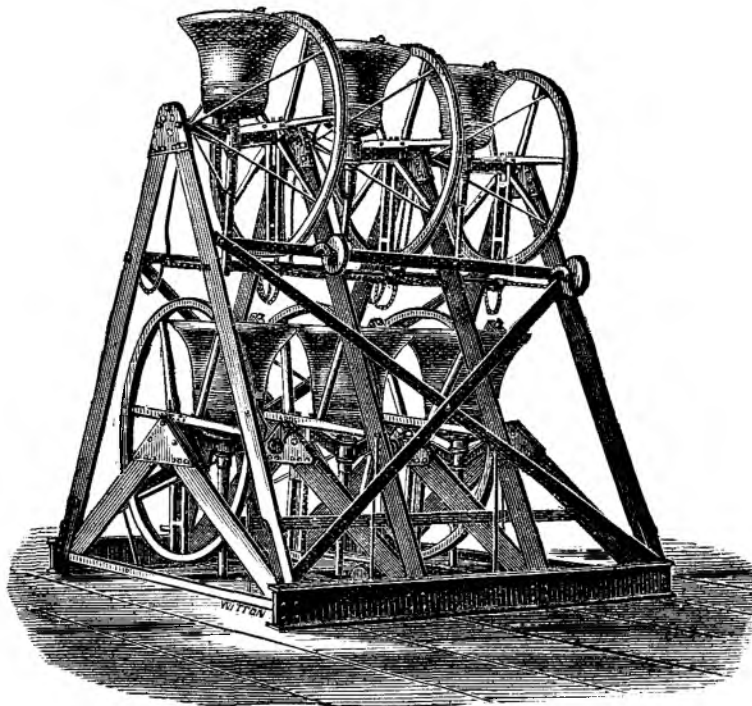
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