

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 26. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. I.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1882.

[ONE PENNY.]



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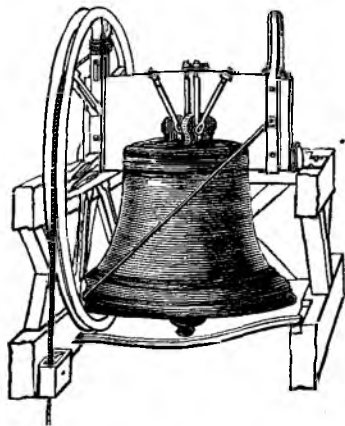
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DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

THE time of the year has once more come round when even those ringers who have not had a regular practice-night during the summer months will now be making their arrangements for meeting during the winter season. Such a time as the present, therefore, seems a particularly appropriate one at which to draw the attention of the more energetic of such companies to one of the most musical of the other methods besides those which are generally practised. To those ringers who do not wish to continue in the groove in which so many men are contented to remain even unto their lives' end, I hope the following notes on Double Norwich Court Bob Major may not be without interest, and to those who will make an effort to master the method, I may add that if they will only take the trouble to understand the observations to which I shall draw their attention, they will find the method a much more simple one than they could possibly have conceived.

In the first place I purpose to place before my readers some observations concerning the practical mode of ringing the method, substantially the same as those to be found in *Standard Methods*, after which I shall give an account of all the peals known to have been rung in the method, and conclude with some notes on compositions in Double Norwich, and a collection of peals. I shall therefore be glad to receive any peals that have not already appeared in any book. I may add that not only have I selected this method for explanation on account of its very musical properties, but also because it is one that has always received the attention of any company that has made any advance in the art of method ringing. Amongst such companies, select bands from the Cumberland and College Youths, as well as members of the companies practising at the Redenhall and Burton-on-Trent churches, have accomplished peals in this method in recent years.

DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

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

Rules for Pricking.—The above is a plain course of the method, to prick which it should be noticed that fourth's and third's places are made by one bell as the treble passes through 3-4 up, and sixth's and fifth's places by another bell as the treble passes through 5-6 up. As the treble hunts down, fifth's and sixth's places are first made, and then third's and fourth's places are made. This place-making causes dodging in 3-4 and 5-6 at certain times, but invariably causes each bell to make a *double dodge* both before and after leading or lying the whole pull, unless the treble intervenes.

Rules for Ringing.—To analyse the work of the bells in this method, it is first necessary to examine the work that the bells go through when at the lead and when behind. Let us therefore examine the work of the bells when in the first of these positions, namely, when at the lead.

Between each of the different whole pulls of the treble at the lead

three bells are in front; of these, the one that turns the treble from the lead first leads a whole pull and then makes a double dodge; this work may be described as the "*first work in front*."

The bell that comes in and makes the double dodge with the bell that does the first work in front, after making this double dodge, then leads a whole pull and makes another double dodge, and may be said to do the "*full work in front*."

The bell that makes the double dodge with this bell, leads a whole pull and is then turned from the lead by the treble, and may be said to do the "*last work in front*."

In the same way three bells do the work behind; one does "*first work behind*," another "*full work behind*," and the third "*last work behind*." Thus, whenever you come to lead or get behind, unless you turn the treble away you make a double dodge, lead or lie the whole pull, as the case may be, and then, unless the treble turns you away, you make another double dodge.

Having thus learnt the work that each bell does whether at the lead or behind, it is now necessary to understand the work that each of these bells will do when it leaves the front or the back. If we examine the work of the bell that does "*first work in front*" it will be seen that it dodges in 3-4 and 5-6 up, which for simplicity may be called "treble bob dodging." It will also be seen that the bell that does "*first work behind*" dodges in 5-6 and 3-4 on the way down. We therefore arrive at the following rule:—

Rule 1.—After first work in front or behind, Treble Bob dodging.

If the work of the bell that does *full work in front* is examined, it will be seen that it hunts up into 5-6, where it dodges, makes fifth's and sixth's places, and then hunts up. The bell that does *last work in front* hunts up into fourth's place, makes fourth's and third's places, dodges in 3-4, and then hunts up behind. Concerning these "*place-making bells*," it should be noted that the first dodges *before* making the places, the other *after* making them, but that they do not dodge in the intermediate places on their way to or from their place-making positions. In other words, the bell that hunts up to make the places in 5-6, although it makes a dodge in 5-6 *before* making the places, does not dodge in 3-4 up, on its way to 5-6, nor does it dodge in 5-6 *after* making the places. The other bell does not dodge *before* making the places in 3-4 up, but dodges *after* making them, but does not dodge in 5-6 on its way behind.

In the same way, of the bells from behind, the one that does *full work behind* then runs down into 3-4, where it dodges, makes third's and fourth's places, and then hunts down to the lead; the bell that does *last work behind* makes fifth's and sixth's places, dodges in 5-6, and then hunts straight down to the lead.

The places that are made from the front and from behind may be known as the "*far*" and "*near*" places, accordingly as they are the farthest from and the nearest to the respective positions. From the front the places to be made in 5-6 would be the far and those in 3-4 the near places; from behind the 3-4 would be the far and the 5-6 the near places. It has been seen that the bells that do the full work in front or behind then proceed to make the far places, and that the bells that do last work in front or behind make the near places. It most also be borne in mind that the far places *begin* and the near places *end* with a dodge. These facts can easily be remembered by noticing that the bell that does full work in front or behind *leaves that position with a dodge and begins the place-making with a dodge*; the bell that does the last work in front or behind leaves that position with a place (that is, after leading or lying the pull) and commences the place-making with a place.

The following rules may therefore be given:—

Rule 2.—After full work in front or behind, far places.

Rule 3.—After last work in front or behind, near places.

If the various observations in the few last paragraphs are well impressed on the mind, it can easily be understood that, as on arriving at the lead or behind any ringer can easily find out what work he has to do there, if he will also bear in mind the following three rules, he can always, on leaving the front or behind, work out the details connected with the different positions into which he will fall as the ringing proceeds.

RULE 1.—After first work in front or behind, Treble Bob dodging.

RULE 2.—After full work in front or behind, make the far places.

RULE 3.—After last work in front or behind, make the near places.

Of course the duty in a plain course does not occur in the order of these rules, they are merely arranged thus for simplicity. If it is preferred the order in which the different duties actually occur, as shewn in the following table, may be committed to memory.

Double Norwich Court. Duty of each bell in a plain course.

First work in front. Last work behind.
Full work in front.
First work behind. Last work in front.
Full work behind.

It will be seen that the first work (either in front or behind) is followed by the last work in the opposite position, and the last work is always followed by the full work.

The following is another way of considering all this duty. The bell that does the first work before or behind does not make any places but merely dodges; the bell that does full work goes as far as it can without making the places, that is, it makes the far places; the bell that does last duty at once makes the near places.

Practical Observations in Ringing.—At first there are one or two of the place-making positions in which, although a man may know well enough what he has to do, there is a little difficulty in finding out the correct bells over which to strike. This will be obviated if he will observe that the places are made over three bells, one is a bell that comes into the work, another the treble, and another his course-bell. Thus, in making the near places from behind—the most awkward places to make at first—you hunt down into fifth's, and strike over the bell that (afterwards) comes into the work, then over your course-bell, then the treble, then the new bell again, with which you then dodge.

In the Treble Bob dodging remember that you always pass the treble in the middle, between the two dodges.

When you do last work in front or behind, the treble turns you away, and there is, therefore, no time to forget that you have to make the near places. When you do first work or full work, you leave both positions with a double dodge, and may often have some difficulty in remembering (if you have been inattentive) whether you have just done first or full work. There is an observation which I have found of much advantage in solving this question at the moment of leaving after this double dodge. It is this: If you pass the treble at once in 2-3 up or 6-7 down, you run through the first dodging place and commence the far places (with a dodge of course), but if you do not pass the treble, you dodge in the first place, then pass the treble, and have to do the Treble Bob dodging. This is a rule which will perhaps not be very easily understood by those who have not practised the method, but will be easily appreciated by those who have had sufficient practice in it to grow attentive.

Bobs and Singles.—I shall now proceed to consider the different calls made in this method.

BOB :	SINGLE :
5 3 7 2 8 4 6 1	5 3 7 2 8 4 6 1
3 5 2 7 4 8 1 6	3 5 2 7 4 8 1 6
5 3 7 2 4 1 8 6	5 3 7 2 4 1 8 6
3 5 2 7 1 4 6 8	3 5 2 7 1 4 6 8
5 3 2 1 7 4 8 6	5 3 2 1 7 4 8 6
3 5 1 2 4 7 6 8	3 5 1 2 4 7 6 8
3 1 5 2 7 4 8 6	3 1 5 2 7 4 8 6
1 3 2 5 4 7 6 8	1 3 2 5 4 7 6 8
1 2 3 4 5 7 6 8	1 2 3 4 5 7 6 8
2 1 4 3 7 5 8 6	2 1 4 3 7 5 8 6
2 4 1 3 5 7 8 6	2 4 1 3 5 7 8 6
4 2 3 1 7 5 8 6	4 2 3 1 7 5 8 6
2 4 3 7 1 5 8 6	2 4 3 7 1 5 8 6
4 2 7 3 5 1 8 6	4 2 7 3 5 1 8 6
2 4 3 7 5 6 1 8	2 4 3 7 5 8 1 6
4 2 7 3 6 5 8 1	4 2 7 3 8 5 6 1

Bob.—At a bob, sixth's place is made instead of the whole pull behind; this causes the bells then behind to continue dodging (a five-pull dodge) until they are separated by the treble. The bells below sixth's place are unaltered. The others are altered as follows:—

The bell that does treble bob dodging going up, makes sixth's place and then does the treble bob work going down. This bell in fact works like the treble in Treble Bob Minor.

The bell that completed the first work behind, makes a three-pull dodge in addition to this work, and becomes the bell that has done full work behind. This bell dodges until it strikes over the treble.

The bell that would have done the full work behind, makes a five-pull dodge, lies whole pull, the last blow of which will be over the treble, and becomes the bell that has done the last work behind.

Single.—At a single, one bell does full work behind, as at a plain lead; another makes sixth's place, as a bob; the bell that has done first work behind makes seventh's place and then begins the last work behind.

THE ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE-RINGERS FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF DERBY AND DISTRICT.

THE QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association was held at Nottingham, on Saturday, September 23rd, 1882, and was a great success. Ringers attended from Derby, Burton-on-Trent, Nottingham, Long Eaton, Loughborough, Mansfield, Eastwood, Beeston, Lenton, Hull, &c. The following towers were opened for ringing: St. Peter's and All Saints', Nottingham; also Beeston and Lenton. Some excellent touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob Major, and Double Norwich Court Bob were rung during the day. At Beeston, eight members of the Association rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, being the first peal rung on the bells in that method. A notice of this performance will be found among our ringing records. At 5 o'clock the ringers, to the number of sixty, adjourned to the Arboretum Refreshment Room, where a most sub-

stantial repast was provided, and to which ample justice was done. After tea, the usual business meeting was held, the President of the Association, the Rev. J. H. Fish, Vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, in the chair, F. Gascoigne, Esq., of All Saints', Nottingham, in the vice-chair, supported by Mr. Beresford, of Derby; Mr. Ashworth, and several other influential Nottingham gentlemen. The President, in his opening remarks, congratulated the ringers upon their success of obtaining a peal during the day, and hoped that the Association would be able to obtain more peals during the winter months; and he strongly urged those ringers present who had not joined the Association to do so, and strengthen its cause. He was pleased to inform them that the Yorkshire Association had rung over fifty peals during their past year, and hoped that the members of the Derby and District Association would try and follow their example.

The following gentlemen were unanimously elected honorary members of the Association:—The Rev. J. Oldren, Beeston; the Rev. G. Edgecombe, St. Peter's; and the Rev. H. G. Ince, All Saints' Nottingham; the Revs. Lewis Lewis, P. C. Lewis, and E. Price, of Ockbrook; also a number of ringing members.

Mr. Thomas Beresford, Vice-President of the Association, in a few well-chosen words, urged the necessity of ringers co-operating with the Clergy and Churchwardens, so that they may be recognised in their true positions as Churchworkers.

The next Quarterly Meeting of the Association was proposed to be held at Leicester, about the end of December. The usual vote of thanks was given to the President, also to the Clergy and Churchwardens of the different churches who had kindly placed their bells at the disposal of the Association.

NORTH WILTS GUILD OF RINGERS.

THE ANNUAL MEETING (of this Guild) for 1882, will be held at Trowbridge, on Saturday, October 14th next. Divine Service in the Parish Church (St. James's) at 11.30 a.m. Ringing before and after Service, and after dinner. A. Mackay, Esq. has very kindly invited the members to dinner. Rule 7 provides that all subscriptions are due on the 1st of January in each year and must be paid on or before the day of the Annual Meeting.

After dinner the following resolution will be proposed:—"That in consequence of the formation of a Diocesan Guild of Ringers the North Wilts Guild cease to exist at the end of this present year, and that the Treasurer be empowered to pay over the balance (if any) in his hands to the Treasurer of the Diocesan Guild." Members of the North Wilts Guild of Ringers are considered as members of the Diocesan Guild for this year, and it is hoped they will all join the new (*i.e.*) Diocesan Guild next year.

There is a fine ring of eight bells at the Parish Church (St. James's), Trowbridge; tenor about 23 cwt., in Eb.

The Rev. C. W. Hony, Bishops Cannings, Devizes, is the Hon. Secretary to the North Wilts Guild. Trowbridge is situated on the Great Western Railway and has a station on that line.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD OF RINGERS

THE friends of Church Bell-ringing in the diocese of Salisbury have for some time been anxious to form a Diocesan Guild of Ringers. Their wishes have at length been realized, a Guild having been formed under the patronage of the Bishop of Salisbury, and the presidency of Earl Nelson; the Archdeacons of Dorset, Sarum, and Wilts, being Vice-Presidents.

At a meeting held in Salisbury on September 14th, at which the Archdeacon of Sarum took the chair, and which was attended by the Archdeacon of Wilts and several clergy and laity, rules similar to those of existing Associations were adopted, and a committee of management was appointed.

The season is too far advanced for much to be done this year, but it is hoped that some successful Guild meetings will be held in the course of next summer.

Full information respecting the Guild may be obtained from the Secretaries: the Rev. F. Wright-Anderson, Warminster; the Rev. T. F. Bigg, Handley Vicarage, Salisbury; and the Rev. C. W. Hony, Bishops Cannings Rectory, Devizes.

THE BIG BELL AT MANCHESTER TOWN HALL.—The large new bell, "Big Abel," recently cast by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, was after a week's work, successfully hoisted on Monday night into the bell chamber of the turret of the Manchester Town Hall. The work of raising "Abel" into his position was performed by about a dozen men, who have accomplished their work without the slightest scratch on the bell or any part of the tower. Operations commenced yesterday morning for finally swinging the bell in its proper position. As the striking gear will require some time for fixing it will probably be about three or four weeks before "Abel's" tones will be heard. The bell is about eight tons in weight, and is a ton and a half heavier than its predecessor.

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

One copy, 12 months	6s. 6d.
" 6 "	3s. 3d.
" 3 "	1s. 8d.

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

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.

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 30, 1882.

THE increasing number of Diocesan and other Guilds, and the multiplication of the number of their members, leads us to examine into, first, the object of their existence, and secondly, the means that are used to attain that object. The first question may of course be answered in practically the same words in every case, viz.: "to establish ringers in their true position as Church officials, to bring about belfry reform where necessary, and to promote change-ringing." No one will for a moment question the desirability of these objects, and they are moreover sufficiently comprehensive to leave nothing that we could well add to them; we are therefore brought at once to the question as to what means are used to attain these most desirable objects. To this question we might not unreasonably expect a variety of answers, according to local and other circumstances, but here again we are met by the same uniformity of action, for, as far as we can tell, the work of the Guilds may, with very slight exceptions, be said to be confined to periodical meetings of ringers, at some place within their respective districts, for ringing at the churches in the neighbourhood. Opinions may, and probably do differ as to the extent to which these meetings fulfil the objects for which we have supposed the Guilds to exist; our own opinion is that as at present conducted they are rather an index of the amount of knowledge of ringing already existing, than any advance in the required direction. We fully recognise the value of periodical meetings, even if only with that object, as *part* of the Guilds' scheme of work, for nothing is more likely to stimulate ringers to further exertions than such meetings, but they should be only a *part* of their scheme, and not, as we are afraid is the case, to a great extent, the only or almost the only work they do. More-

over a great deal more use might easily be made of these meetings than is at present the case, if they were not so entirely devoted to ringing; they might with advantage be utilized as opportunities for lectures on matters connected with ringing; there might be some lectures for those more advanced in change-ringing, on "in and out of course," the proof of peals, and other kindred subjects, while for the less advanced there might be some on the management and maintenance of bells, the history of bells, and hints that might be useful to them in ringing the different methods. There would probably be no difficulty in finding ringers competent to lecture on such subjects, and experience has shown that such lectures are a most useful and successful way of teaching ringers. Again, the more experienced ringers and instructors should take every opportunity at these meetings of observing the defects in the performances of their less-experienced brethren, and pointing them out to them, and giving them advice to enable them to correct them. In these ways the usefulness of the meetings might be enormously increased.

But it is not by any means to these meetings alone that the work of the Guilds should be confined, the work they have to do extends over a far larger field. In the first place they should institute an investigation into the state of things existing in every church tower within their districts, and where necessary bring their influence to bear on the clergy, to persuade them to undertake the reforms that are needed, pointing out the repairs and alterations that are necessary and advisable, and the best means of having them executed. They should also endeavour to demonstrate to them the position the ringers should hold and the best means of acquiring for them that position, and fitting them to occupy it, at the same time suggesting rules where there are none, or alterations in existing rules that may seem to them expedient. Again they should urge the advantages of the instruction of ringers in change-ringing, and help the clergy to find instructors, and by every other means in their power strive to promote the adoption of salutary measures in the churches under their jurisdiction. These are measures which cannot of course be taken all at once, but each Guild would do well to take steps to carry them out by degrees. They might appoint several of the most experienced ringers living in various parts of their district as inspectors, and invite ringers and others to call their attention to the churches they may meet with that are most in need of reform; they might then instruct the inspector living nearest to that place to visit it and report to the Committee, who would then communicate with the incumbent; the inspector would of course receive a small fee and his expenses from the funds of the Guild. If these or some other similar measures were taken, the condition of the towers and ringers would very soon undergo a marked improvement.

Some Guilds we believe have taken a step in the right direction by the appointment of instructors, and compiling some suggested rules for ringers, and similar measures, but these seem to act somewhat as a tradesman who keeps articles in stock in case they are asked for, whereas the Guilds want rather to do the work of a hawker, and take their wares round and press them on their customers.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
PUTNEY, SURREY.

On Monday, September 25, 1882, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
At St. Mary's Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

WILLIAM A. TYLER Treble.	CHALLIS F. WINNY 5.
FREDERICK WEARE 2.	RICHARD KILBY 6.
HARRY CUTTER 3.	*JOSEPH JACKMAN 7.
BENJAMIN J. JAMES 4.	DANIEL NEWTON Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM A. TYLER; his first peal as conductor.
[* First peal.]

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Monday, September 25, 1882, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
At St. GILES'S-IN-THE-FIELDS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 18 cwt.

JOHN MANSFIELD Treble.	*ARTHUR JACOB 5.
JAMES PAGE 2.	JAMES HANNINGTON 6.
THOMAS TITCHENER* 3.	JAMES BARRETT 7.
THOMAS GLEED 4.	WILLIAM STRANGE Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES HANNINGTON.
[* First peal in the method.]

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
BATTERSEA, SURREY.

On Saturday, September 23, 1882, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,
At St. Mary's Church,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

GEORGE NEWSON Treble.	JAMES HANNINGTON 5.
HENRY HOPKINS 2.	HENRY DAINS 6.
JOHN NELMS 3.	JOHN ROGERS 7.
CHARLES HOPKINS 4.	WILLIAM BARON Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.
This peal has the sixth the extent in 5-6 at six course-ends each way
in that position.

The Provinces.

GARGRAVE.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(The Gargrave Branch.)

On Wednesday, September 20, 1882, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,
At St. Andrew's Church,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE COURT BOB MAJOR,
5040 CHANGES.

WILLIAM WRAY* Treble.	HARRY BIRTWHISTLE 5.
WILLIAM CLARKE 2.	WILLIAM MALLINSON 6.
HERBERT HORSMAN 3.	CRISTOPHER LANCASTER 7.
JOHN THOS. MIDDLEBROOK 4.	JOHN MCKELL Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN MCKELL.

This is the first peal ever accomplished in this method, which is a variation, by the late H. Hubbard, on the Court and Plain Bob Systems. This composition was first rung (as Double Bob Major), at St. Margaret's, Westminster, on July 8th, 1750, by the Society of Union Scholars, and conducted by its composer, John Holt.

[* First peal.]

THE DERBY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.
BEESTON, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

On Saturday, September 23, 1882, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

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

JOSEPH GRIFFIN Treble.	JOHN JAGGAR 5.
EDWARD ISAAC STONE 2.	ARTHUR WAKLEY 6.
GEORGE APPLEBY 3.	THOMAS HOLMES 7.
SAMUEL COOPER 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor.

The peal, a three-part composition by the late WILLIAM HARRISON, was conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

The above is the first peal in this method rung upon the bells.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.

On Saturday, September 23, 1882, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

ROBERT WRIGHT Treble.	JAMES S. WILDE 5.
HUGH SHAW 2.	GEORGE LONGDEN 6.
THOMAS WILDE 3.	JOHN THORP 7.
SAMUEL WOOD 4.	JOHN BAILEY Tenor.

The peal, which has the sixth at home at nine different course-ends, was composed by JOHN THORP and conducted by SAMUEL WOOD; the calling will be found on another page.

The above was rung with the bells deeply muffled as a last token of respect for the late Mr. Thomas Shaw, who was interred just before starting for the peal. The deceased, who was fifty-five years of age, was much respected, and had been a ringer at the above church over half-a-century. He had rung a great number of peals on eight, ten, and twelve bells, varying from 5000 to 10,000 changes.

Messrs. Thorp, Wood, and Longden hail from Ashton-under-Lyne, Wilde Brothers from Hyde, Shaw from Stalybridge, and Wright and Bailey from Mottram.

Miscellaneous.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

KINGS NORTON (Worcestershire).—On Thursday, September 7th, six members of the King's Norton branch of the above Association rung at the parish church a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. F. Townsend, 1; W. H. Sumner, 2; Fred. Palmer, 3; J. Wright, 4; J. Cooks, 5; W. Palmer (conductor), 6.

SELLY OAK (near Birmingham).—On Saturday, September 23rd, four of the King's Norton society, with two ringers of Selly Oak, all members of the above Association, rung at St. Mary's, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with the bells muffled, as a token of respect to the memory of the late Mr. Walter Meere, of the Selly Oak Odd Fellows' society. J. Nix (Selly Oak), 1; J. Cooks (King's Norton), 2; Fred. Palmer (King's Norton), 3; T. Hinton (Selly Oak), 4; W. Palmer (King's Norton), 5; J. Wright (King's Norton, (conductor). 6. Called with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks).—On Tuesday, September 26th, at the church of All Saints, Boyne Hill, a touch of Grandsire Triples, 910 changes, in 35 mins. J. Eldridge, 1; J. W. Wilkins, 2; G. Wilkins, jun., 3; H. Rogers, 4; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 5; R. Smith, 6; Edn. Rogers, 7; Ed. Keeley, 8. Tenor 17½ cwt.

OXFORD.—At St. Thomas-ye-Martyr, on September 12th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. W. Washbrook (conductor), 1; T. Payne, 2; S. Hounslow, 3; C. Hounslow, 4; W. Finch, 5; W. Baston, 6. Also on Thursday, September 14th, being the Dedication Festival of St. Cross, Holywell, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. H. Payne, 1; T. Payne, 2; G. Lapworth, 3; W. Baston (conductor), 4; S. Hounslow, 5; W. Payne, 6. Also on Sunday, September 24th, for Divine Service in the evening at St. Cross, Holywell, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. T. Payne, 1; W. Finch, 2; W. Baston, 3; G. Lapworth, 4; W. Washbrook (conductor), 5; S. Hounslow, 6. And on Monday, September 25th, at St. Thomas-ye-Martyr, a 720 of College Single, in 25 mins., this being the first ever accomplished by the Guild. W. Finch, 1; S. Hounslow, 2; W. Baston, 3; C. Hounslow, 4; O. Thomas, 5; W. Washbrook (conductor) 6.

DONCASTER.—On Sunday evening, September 24th, at St. Mary Magdalene, Campsall, eight members rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 46 mins. F. Lorrinan, 1; R. Pearson, 2; J. Senior, 3; J. Senior (conductor), 4; A. Jubb, 5; H. Butcher, 6; W. Pearson, 7; F. Briggs, 8. Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

ELTHAM (Kent).—On Thursday, September 21st, at the church of St John the Baptist, a 720 of Bob Minor, with forty-two singles, in 24 mins. C. Musset, 1; F. Fraser, 2; C. English, 3; J. Smith, 4; G. Conyard, 5; F. French (conductor), 6. Tenor 9½ cwt. in A.

HIGHER SUTTON, MACCLESFIELD (Cheshire).—On Monday evening, September 24th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, having thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, was rung by the local society at St. James's church, in 26 mins. Conducted by Wm. H. Ingham.

HORSHAM (Sussex).—On Sunday evening, September 24th, the Warnham Society visited Horsham and rung two 720's of Oxford Bob Minor, with the sixth and eighth bells behind; the first was called with thirty bobs and thirty singles, the second with thirty-six bobs

and twenty-two singles; they were rung in half an hour each. Joseph Dale, 1; William Short, 2; Henry Chantler, 3; Henry Wood, 4; Thomas Andrews, 5; William Wood, 6; Henry Burstow, 7; Henry Cook, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. Also on Monday evening, the 26th, the same Society rung their first 720 of Bob Minor, at Warnham, it was rung in 25 mins.; called with fourteen bobs and two singles. William Wood, 1; William Short, 2; Henry Chantler, 3; Henry Wood, 4; Thomas Andrews, 5; Henry Burstow, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. Conducted by Henry Burstow.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday, September 21st, at St. Stephen's, a touch of Grandsire Triples, 1008 changes, in 40 mins. R. Bell, 1; R. Richardson, 2; E. Scott, 3; E. Pyle, 4; F. Ord, 5; J. Power, 6; E. Wallis (conductor), 7; G. Stobart, 8. And on Saturday, September 23rd, the first half of T. Day's peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 40 mins. W. Challenor (Sheffield branch of the Yorkshire Association), 1; R. Richardson, 2; E. Scott, 3; E. Pyle, 4; F. Ord, 5; John Power (conductor), 6; E. Wallis, 7; G. Stobart, 8. Tenor 30 cwt.

WILBY (near Stradbroke, Suffolk).—On Sunday, September 24th, for Divine Service at the parish church, in the evening, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins., by five of the local society, with Mr. T. Taylor, of the Royal Cumberland Society. David Collins, 1; Thomas Taylor, 2; Robert Taylor, 3; Robert Ruth, jun., 4; Robert Ruth, sen., 5; Edgar Collins, 6. Conducted by David Collnis. Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

WILLESDEN (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, September 17th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor, having eighteen bobs and two singles, in 23 mins. William Kendall, 1; William A. Tyler (conductor), 2; Frederick Weare, 3; Richard Kilby, 4; Harry Cutter, 5; Joseph Jackman, 6. Tenor 9 cwt.

THE BELLS OF BRAY, BERKS.

NEARLY every one has heard of Bray in some way or other, mostly by means of that well-known song, "The Vicar of Bray," with its quaint, old-fashioned musical accompaniment. I think many would therefore like to know something of Bray as it is at present, and an account of its bells, so I will give a brief description of both, as they interested me very much when I visited the village a short time ago. To the visitor there is every facility for reaching this place by rail, road, or river, viz.: first by the Bath road, from which it is about a mile to the left, over Maidenhead Bridge, and twenty-eight miles from London; second, by Great Western Railway to Maidenhead Station, twenty-four miles from Paddington; and lastly, by means of the river Thames. To the change-ringer the river would give a "long pull," the road by bicycling a good bumping (not hunting) up and down, while the railway would be "quick work" for him.

The first sight that attracted my attention on entering this village, was the almshouses on the left-hand side of the road, the appearance of which was one of cleanliness and neatness. Along the front of the building was a row of yew-trees, six on either side of the entrance, most accurately and symmetrically trimmed to the form of a sugar-loaf, about 18 feet high. These I found, were attended to by the sexton. Nearly all the houses in the village are quaint and old-fashioned, being built of red brick, half-timber work and plaster, with thatched and tile roofs. Having walked through the village, and finding myself near the river, I came upon a most inviting house of entertainment—a very comfortable house indeed, which, in order to satisfy the wants of the inner man, I entered. I found that the worthy host was no other than the sexton himself, and the very person with whom I was so anxious for an interview. Upon making my desire of paying a visit to the church known to this gentleman, he immediately produced the keys, and in less than five minutes we were in the edifice, which is a fine old stone building, with a massive square tower. The sacred building is dedicated to St. Michael.

We made our entrance by means of the south door under the tower, the lower portion of which serves as a porch. This was restored in memory of the Rev. Arthur Leigh, the late vicar. At the further end of the passage by which we entered, and bedded in the north wall, is a large stone slab, ten feet high and three feet wide, inlaid with ornamental brass work in a canopied form, with a base resting on a couched greyhound; the canopy is divided into three—in the centre is the figure of a knight in armour, prepared for war, and on either side that of a lady with hands clasped in prayer. This elaborate monument formerly covered the tomb of the Foxleys—which was situated in front of the altar—but was removed to its present position during the restoration. A similar stone, though not so large, is laid in the north aisle, but nearly all the brasses are taken away from this one. Both are supposed to belong to the fourteenth century. Two stone coffin lids found during the alterations, are set in the west wall,

and an old brass, dated 1603. The following lines are from an old brass tablet in the south pier of the chancel arch:—

When Oxforde gave the two decrees in art
And Love possesst the Master of my heart
Thy Colledge fellowshipp thou leust for mine
And nought but death could sep'rate me fro thine.
35 yeares We livde in wedlock bands
But deathe the bodies of best friendes divides
And in the earth close womb their relyckes hides
Yet here they are not lost, but sowedn that they
May rise more glorious on the judgement daye.

A tablet to the memory of "Sessely, the wife of Arthur Page, of Water Oakley, in ye parishe of Braye, who died March 12th, 1598;" another, still older, dated 1594, to Guilielmus Smythe, who died at the age of eighty-four, on the 28th of October. The most ancient tablet I found was one dated from A.D. 1592, "To the memory of William Norreys, who was Controller of the works at Windsor Castle;" and another to "Samuel Kelke, gent., who died at the age of seventy, on the 29th of this month, Anno Domini 1593." He was a citizen of London, and boon at Brystow, and his remains have now been interred 289 years. On the left-hand side of the chancel is a marble monument built into the wall, and erected to the memory of the wife of William Goddard, "who deceased in the year of our Lord 1602." The aforesaid William Goddard died A.D. 1622. He was the founder of the almshouses before mentioned.

After seeing the church, my next desire was to see the bells. Accordingly we ascended the stone staircase, and soon arrived in the ringing-chamber, a large and spacious apartment, well swept and dusted, and very orderly—18 ft. by 15 ft. Climbing yet higher, up another flight of stairs, which taxed the lungs of my elderly friend the sexton, we came to the bells, a truly splendid ring of six, the tenor weighing 30 cwt., measuring 4 ft. 4 in. across the mouth, and 3 ft. 4 in. high from the lip to the shoulder. The windlass still remains which was used to hoist the bells into position, and the inscriptions upon upon them are as follows:—

Treble—Fear God Honour the King, 1678.

Second—Henri: Knight: made: this: bell:: Anno:: 1612:
R G H P E L T W

Third—Henri: Knight: made: this bell:: Anno 1613::

Fourth—The Rev. Edward: Townsend: Vicar:: Geo. Sanders: Wm. Baker:
Church Wardens 1812

:: Perpetius: Annis: Memor: Esto: Marciae: Johannis: Cujus:
Subscura: Fucras: Mala: Pelle: Futura:: T. Mears: Fecit::

Fifth—Thos.: Ward:: Wm.: Lee:: Church Wardens: 1771: Thos. Swain Fecit.
Tenor—1656

[The above are within bands or reeds. At the end of the inscription on the fifth bell are three rings, with the founder's name beneath each.]

It is possible that the well-known Vicar of Bray may have heard the second bell, which was made in 1612, as he was Vicar of Bray during the reigns of Henry VIII., Edward VI., Mary, and Elizabeth; the last-named queen continued to reign after 1600. The Vicar was once accused by a parishioner of being a turncoat, to which he replied, "Not so; for I have always kept to my principle, which is to live and die the Vicar of Bray." There is an old oak table, still in a fair state of preservation, though black with age, which formerly stood in the vestry, and upon which it is said he used to sign the marriage-registers. I could not help noticing the huge lock on the door to the staircase, which is made of a solid piece of oak, 4 in. by 21 in. by 10½ in. with double iron bolts, the key to which is 13 in. long, and has 2½ in. wards. After fastening this ponderous protection to the bells, I parted with my friend Mr. Warrell, who has, I may add, worthily fulfilled the duties of sexton for thirteen years, thanking him for having shown me over so interesting a fabric.

Unfortunately, the bells are not in a ringable condition at present, and the usual complaint—"funds are not forthcoming to have them repaired"—was made. This is really a great pity, as they are exceedingly fine-toned bells. Their sound is drummed out of them by means of a chiming gear, fixed in the belfry, for the use of Divine Service.
W. H. F.

THE CUMBERLANDS AT BATTERSEA

As will be seen from our ringing records this week, eight members of the above society on Saturday last, visited this metropolitan suburb, and rang a peal of Stedman Triples at the parish church. This meeting deserves more than a mere record, as the peal was rung on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, and in response to an invitation given by the local society, through their esteemed hon. sec., Mr. H. S. Thomas. After the peal, the ringers were escorted to the club-room of the Battersea society, where they partook of an excellent supper, provided and served up in good old English style. After the repast, and when an excellent touch of Stedman Caters and a course of Cinques had been performed upon handbells, Mr. Master Newson, in the course of a few pertinent observations, on behalf of the ringers thanked the above-named gentleman for his good hospitality and kindness. These remarks being approved by all present, Mr. Thomas responded in appropriate language, and with an "all round of jolly good fellows," the pleasant proceedings terminated.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By J. THORP, Ashton-under-Lyne.

2	3	4	5	6	M	B	W	H
3	5	4	2	6	I	-		
2	3	5	6	4	-		2	
2	5	6	3	4	I	-	2	2
5	3	6	2	4	I	-		
5	3	2	4	6	-		I	
3	4	2	5	6	I	-		

Twice repeated.

Rung at Mottram-in-Longendale, September 23rd, 382. Conducted by Samuel Wood.

HANDBELL RINGING CONTEST.

THE twenty-eight Annual Handbell Ringing contest took place at the Belle Vue Gardens, Manchester, on Monday last, September 25th. There were fourteen bands entered, numbering 142 performers, but eleven only put in an appearance. After drawing for places they rang in the following order :-

	No. of performers.
1. Broseley	9.
2. Leesfield, Lancashire	12.
3. Honley Temperance	11.
4. Old Glossop (junior)	10.
5. St. Thomas's, Hyde	11.
6. Shelley, Yorkshire	8.
7. Birch Vale, Derbyshire	9.
8. Leeds Road, Bradford	11.
9. Christ Church, Tintwhistle	11.
10. West Hartlepool!	10.
11. Bowdon Vale, Cheshire	8.

Each company rang Woelf's Rondo in C, and a selection from *Lucretia Borgia*, which had been sent to them two or three months ago. The ringing, which was very good this year considering the difficulties of the music, occupied about three hours; and in a very short time after the last company had finished the judges' decision was given as follows :-

	Conductor.
1st Prize £15 ... Honley Temperance ...	George Boys.
2nd " £10 ... Birch Vale, Derbyshire ...	Alfred Bradley.
3rd " £7 ... Leesfield, Lancashire ...	A. Egerton.
4th " £5 10s. Old Glossop (junior) ...	C. Beresford.

A gold medal is presented to the band winning the first prize, and silver medals to all members of any band that gains the first prize three years in succession; silver medalists are not allowed to compete again for three years. A company from Shelley, and also one from Glossop, have enjoyed the honours of the triple triumph.

The judges were Dr. Spark, organist of Leeds Town Hall; Mr. Grosse, of the Richter Concerts, London.

Letters to the Editor.

THE HANDBELL RINGING AT LIVERSEDGE.

SIR,—Allow us to correct an error which crept into your columns last week. You stated that the Liversedge ringers played "Callers Herrin," which was greatly appreciated; may I be allowed to inform you that it was not the Liversedge company, but the Whitefield ringers? Being as we are only beginners we think what little we do well, we should have credit for.

Sept. 25th. THE WHITEFIELD RINGERS.

THE FALSE PEAL OF CINQUES.

SIR,—I beg to apologise for having sent to you a false peal, and also to the ringers for having called it. But you will see by the enclosed letter (and peal as returned to me) that I had submitted it to one whom I considered quite competent if willing to have proved it, and as he stated the peal is a fair one, I took it for granted that it was also true, otherwise I should have not attempted it until someone had proved it for me; and though it is now 18 months since I had not thought of looking through it again myself. Please to insert this to show my mistake was unintentional.

W. L. CATCHPOLE.

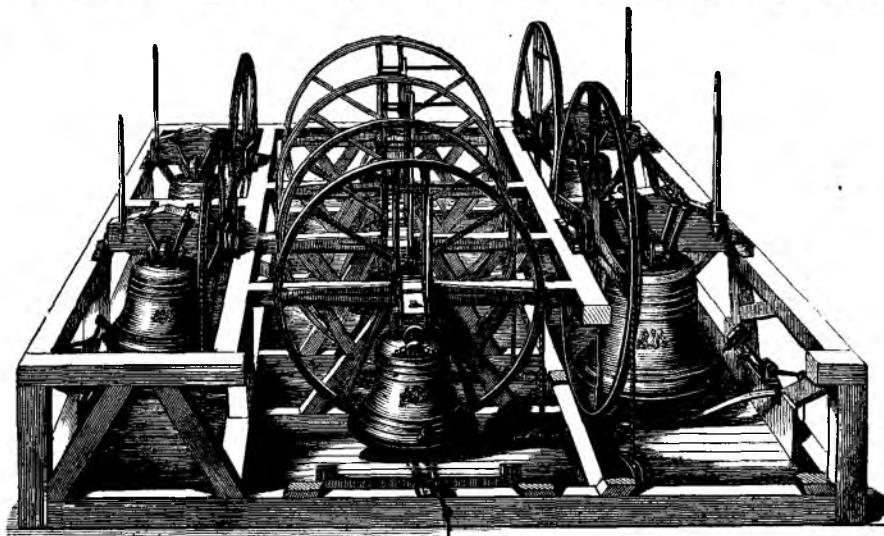
LINCOLNSHIRE EXERCISE.

SIR,—In your issue of Saturday last, I saw an account of a muffled touch of Lincolnshire Exercise, rang at Holbeach. Could you or your Holbeach correspondent give me any information as to the method of the above, and how long there has been a company of change-ringers at Holbeach?

R. CREASEY.

Spalding, Sept. 25th.

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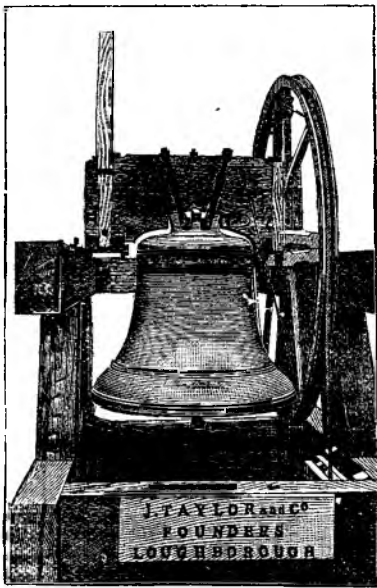
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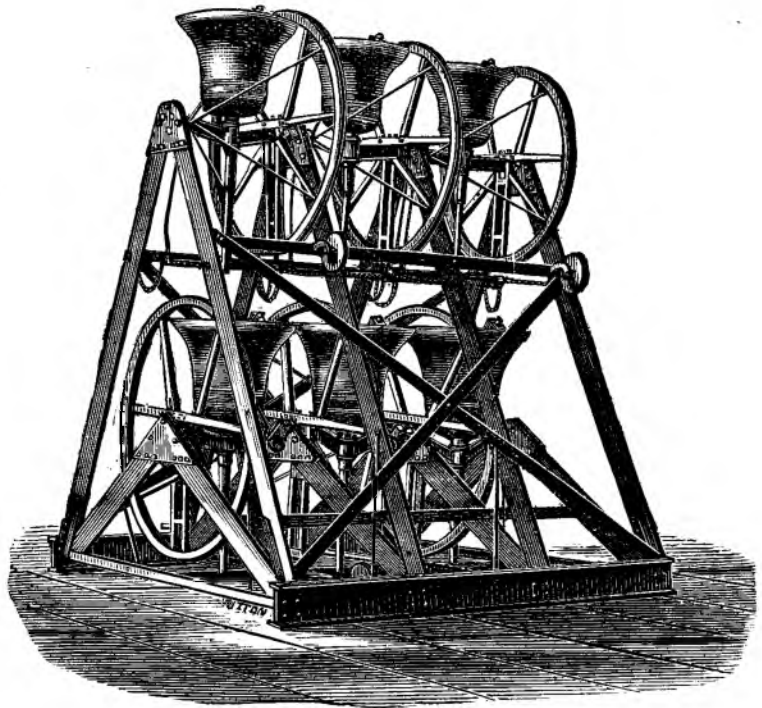
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