

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 29. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. I.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1882.

[ONE PENNY.]



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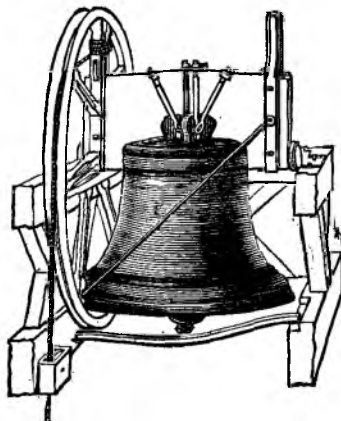
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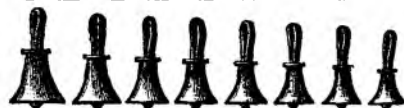


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CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL, CATTISTOCK, DORSET.
DEDICATION AND OPENING OF THE NEW BELLS.

ON Tuesday, October 10th, the little village of Cattistock was *en fête*, to celebrate the dedication of the new bells in the church tower, an event which had been looked forward to by old and young for the past ten years. No such gathering had been seen in Cattistock since January 5th, 1858, when the church was consecrated after its restoration under the Rev. H. H. Still, whose death in 1859 (Oct. 9th), his parishioners had so soon to lament. It is to his successor in the rectory, the Rev. K. H. Barnes, that the work, of which Tuesday's rejoicings are the fruit, is due. He had not long been in Cattistock before he conceived the idea of crowning his predecessor's work in restoring the church, by improving the state of things in the tower, where there were three bells, of some age, it is true, but not particularly melodious; and the recollection of the musical bells he had heard in Belgium decided him to obtain for his Dorsetshire village a carillon cast by some good Belgian founder. It is needless to say that Mr. Barnes found a willing seconder for his scheme in the Rev. H. R. Haweis, who at once offered to assist him in every way in his power. By the advice of this enthusiast of Belgian bells, he consulted the celebrated Severin van Aerschoot, of Louvain, a direct descendant of the still more celebrated Van der Gehn, and it was decided to obtain a carillon of twenty-nine bells, ranging over two and a half octaves, and the number has since been augmented to thirty-three. A subscription was at once set on foot to defray the cost of the bells, and as a necessary preliminary to their acquisition, steps were taken to provide accommodation for them by the removal of the old ivy-covered tower, which many were sorry to lose, and its reconstruction on a much larger scale; two of the three bells were at once sold to defray part of the expenses; and the third, after hunting up a tree in the churchyard, while the tower was being built, is now coursing the other two. The work, however, had not proceeded far, when the originator of the scheme was compelled, by ill-health, to resign the rectory, and entrust the completion of the scheme to his successor, the Rev. A. D. Wilkins, the present rector.

Simultaneously with the growth of the new tower, the necessary funds for the bells gradually accumulated, and one or two of the larger bells were cast, but it was not until 1880 that the bells were actually taken in hand, the tower having been only ready for them some two or three years. In October, 1881, the founder having reported that they were finished, the Rev. H. R. Haweis was requested to visit the foundry at Louvain, and report upon them, which he kindly consented to do. In the course of an exhaustive report, he confesses his opinion that he has never heard a carillon throughout in better tune, and that their tone is singularly sweet and sonorous. "Both in tune and tone, I can safely say that the Cattistock bells will be the finest in England, and it would be difficult to name their superiors in Belgium, though of course there are many suites of far heavier calibre."

It had been decided almost from the first, that eight of the heavier bells of the carillon should be hung for ringing, and when they arrived at Cattistock last February, the work was taken in hand by Messrs. Hooper and Sons, who, as far as the actual hanging of the bells are concerned, have done their work most satisfactorily. Unfortunately, however, as all ringers would naturally expect, Belgian founders not being in the habit of casting bells for ringing, the clappers sent from Louvain were found to be useless, and an enormous amount of time and trouble has been expended in new clappers; for owing to the practice in Belgium of casting small and large bells all to one scale, it has been found exceedingly difficult to arrange the clappers so as to obtain the pull from the light bells without making the clappers too heavy for the bells. This difficulty has not yet been overcome, but it is hoped that it soon will be, when it can safely be predicted that the church of SS. Peter and Paul, Cattistock, will possess as fine a ring of eight as any church in England. No expense has been spared to make every thing connected with the bells as complete as possible, and we are glad to see not only Ellacombe chiming hammers, but also Seage's dumb practice apparatus fixed and in use. The machinery for working the chimes is not yet fixed, but will, we believe, soon be ready; Messrs. Gillett and Bland have, however, supplied the clock, which is fitted with Westminster chimes.

The late Rector had always taught his flock to take a lively interest in the mission to Hawaii, and was in the habit of holding monthly services of intercession for that mission; and as advancing years made it impossible for the bishop of the diocese to undertake any duty that entailed ascending to the belfry, advantage was taken of the presence of the Bishop of Honolulu in England to invite him to come to Cattistock, to dedicate the bells. This he kindly consented to do, and arrived at the rectory early on Tuesday morning, having travelled all night from Liverpool on purpose. It had also always been the wish of the late rector that the bells should be opened by Oxford ringers, and they were accordingly invited to perform the ceremony, and the following band arrived from Oxford on Monday night, and were

hospitably entertained in the village during their stay: G. F. Coleridge, Esq. (Keble Coll.); C. C. Child, Esq. (Ch. Ch.); Messrs. C. Hounslow, J. Collier, S. Buckle, D. Francombe, C. Boots, J. H. Warner, and H. R. Cox; all members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, and of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

The proceedings on Tuesday were announced to begin with evensong at 3.30, and by that hour the church, which was prettily decorated—the Harvest Festival having been held on the previous Sunday—was filled to overflowing, despite the dull and threatening appearance of the weather. Large numbers had come in from the neighbouring villages, and we know of instances in which old Cattistockians had travelled from long distances on purpose to be present. The bishop, with the clergy and choir, marched in procession from the rectory, preceded by their banner, and singing the "Old Hundredth" as a processional hymn. The service was fully choral, the rector intoning the prayers, and Mrs. Wilkins ably presiding at the organ; the special psalms and lessons being Psalms cxlix. and cl.; Numbers x., to 11 v., and 1 Cor. xiv., to v. 12. After the third collect, hymn 308 (*A. & M.*) was sung, and the bishop then preached an able sermon, taking as his text Psalm lxxxi. 3, 4., and spoke of the various applications of bells to the services of God's sanctuary from the days of the Israelites to the present time. After the sermon hymn 359 was sung, while an offertory was taken for the Hawaiian mission, and the bishop then pronounced the blessing. The recessional hymn, 299, was sung as the choir and clergy proceeded to the belfry, where the Oxford ringers were already assembled. The bishop then read the dedication service—which was the same as that used at the dedication of the bells at St. Paul's Cathedral—and after a few rounds, the hymn, "When morning gilds the skies," was sung, and the bishop pronounced the blessing.

Unfortunately, it was found impossible to go for a peal owing to the state of the clappers; but touches of Grandsire, Stedman, and Treble Bob were rung during the evening, while the Rector entertained his parishioners at tea in the schoolroom close by. Later on in the evening, Mr. Oliver played several airs on the bells by means of Ellacombe's chiming hammers. On Wednesday morning, before returning to Oxford, the Oxford ringers rang several short touches in various methods, both on the open bells and on Seage's apparatus, in the presence of a large number of ladies, who were anxious to see how change-ringing is accomplished.

We are glad to hear that a company of ringers has been formed, and that they have already made some progress under the able tuition of Mr. J. Field, of Oxford, and we hope that they will soon have performances to record in our columns.

CHRIST CHURCH, BATH.

THIS church, which is a neat but plain and commodious edifice, is situated in a part of Bath known as Montpelier. It consists of nave, apse, and north and south aisles. The tower which is a somewhat low structure (and surmounted with parapet and pinnacles) is situated at the west end of the building. It contains a ring of eight bells, each of which bear the following inscription and date:—

1. "Sister Anne." } The gift of two ladies in 1873.
2. "Sister Susan." }
3. "Let Christ Be Known Around. Mears and Stainbank Founders London 1867."
4. "And Loved Where'er I Sound. Mears and Stainbank Founders London 1867."
5. "Then Shall True Joys Abound. Mears and Stainbank Founders London 1867."
6. "Before Him Lowly Fall. Mears and Stainbank Founders London 1867."
7. "Where'er We Lift Our Call. Mears and Stainbank Founders London 1867."
8. "And Praise Him Lord of All. Hardy Gave Us. Stainbank Made Us. A.D. 1867."

The clock, which has but one dial (and that facing south), is a modern one, and was made by the late Mr. George Wadham, of Milsom Street, in this city. There is also a chiming apparatus on the keyboard plan (by Kingman of Bath), which enables one person to chime the whole ring of bells. Weight of tenor about 12 cwt., in G.

The ringing at this church is under the control of the Christ and St. Andrew's Churches company of ringers, Hon. Secretary, Mr. D. H. Goodman, 6 Abingdon Buildings; instructor and conductor, Mr. G. Kingman, Post Office, 2a, Lansdown Road. Meetings for ringing practice as follows:—St. Andrew's Church, Julian Road, first and third Monday in the month. Christ Church, Montpelier, second and fourth Monday, in the month. There is a fine ring of eight bells at St. Andrew's Church tenor 23 cwt. in E. Both of these churches are about twenty minutes' walk from either the Great Western or Midland Railway Stations.

[Our valued contributor who furnishes the very interesting reports concerning the churches and bells of Somerset, writes:—"In my report of Bath Abbey and its bells (see 'THE BELL NEWS' for September 16th) I mentioned that the weight of the tenor was 35 cwt. and its note D. I have since learnt that the actual weight is 34 cwt. 3 qr. 2 1/2 lb., note C 1/4#. I ought to mention that I am indebted to the kindness and courtesy of Messrs. Warner and Sons, the founders of the bell, for the above valuable information. The weight of the tenor at St. Saviour's, Larkhall, Bath, is some 16 or 17 cwt., and not 15 cwt., as I previously reported.]

TOUR ROUND THE FESTIVALS OF THE MIDLANDS.

THE old statute fair, though it is very happily a thing of the past, still retains its counterpart in the institution known as "the wake." What apology wakes have to offer for their existence we know not; but in our opinion the sooner they are abolished entirely, the better. From the following account of a visit to several of these, forwarded to us by a correspondent, it would seem that the ringers dwelling in the districts specified have a *penchant* for attending such gatherings. Tastes differ, we know; and though it may not be our duty to point out to any section of our ringing brethren, where and under what circumstances they shall meet for the enjoyment of a holiday, we may say that when the company we are in the habit of meeting determine upon an outing, a spot is invariably pitched upon where order and quiet is likely to reign. We have slightly altered our correspondent's phraseology in one or two instances, and with these exceptions, what he relates is as follows:—

"On August 28th, being Darlaston wake, I visited the town, which is about nine miles from Birmingham. It is but a small place, containing about 14,000 inhabitants. The church, with its fine lofty steeple, and well-arranged churchyard, has a ring of eight bells, tenor about 20 cwt. I went up into the belfry, which was full of ringers, but its interior was in a deplorable condition. I was informed that it had been intended to have it painted, but owing to some misunderstanding this necessary operation had been delayed for another week. The place certainly looked as if it had not seen the whitewash-brush for a number of years. Some of the ringers present attempted a touch of Treble Eight, but owing to some disarrangement of the ringing gear, they were compelled to stop, but upon this being rectified, they succeeded in their next attempt. Ringing being over, the company adjourned to the 'Dartmouth Arms,' at which inn a great number of ringers, hailing from Wolverhampton, Walsall, Wednesbury, Bilston, and Willenhall had assembled. Among this numerous gathering of members of the Exercise, I espied J. Carter, of Birmingham (which town, I believe is his native place); also W. Hallsworth, of Walsall, who is a very good ringer and bob-caller, and who, I believe, called the 9000 of Stedman Cinques at Birmingham. Some touches of Grandsire Triples and Major were rung upon handbells, and very good courses of Grandsire Caters and Royal were rung by the Walsall and Darlaston Companies. Mr. J. Carter having left his seat to come over to me, he was accosted by one of the Bilston company with the following remark:—'I say, you've been at it again!' This was in allusion to the peal of Grandsire Caters rung on handbells (retained in hand) at Birmingham, recently, and which was composed and called by Mr. Carter. I noticed that some of the ringers had pins in their neckties in the shape of a bell, and upon them were engraved the words, "Great Paul." In my opinion, these articles of attire looked very well, and any one seeing them would naturally come to the conclusion that their wearers were ringers. When I left the house above-mentioned the company were as busy with the handbells as ever, but from the conversation which proceeded from such a numerous company (upwards of 150), and other causes, they could not well hear what they were about.

"On September 3rd, a similar festival—Oldbury wake—was held. Oldbury is a town about six miles from Birmingham, with a population of 21,000. There are, however, no bells there, and of course I could not meet with any ringers, but there were a great many people walking about.

"On September 10th occurred Wednesbury wake. This town is about eighteen miles from Birmingham, and one from Darlaston, and has a population of about 24,000. The church boasts of a ring of ten bells, tenor about 22 cwt. The belfry is in a nice clean condition, and was for the time being inhabited by ringers from the surrounding districts, who rang touches of Treble Bob Major, Stedman Caters, and Triples, and Grandsire Caters. After leaving the belfry they went to the 'Blue Ball' inn, where they rang, first of all, a short touch of Grandsire Triples. The room not being sufficiently large, they were compelled to enter one more capacious, but it was not long before that too was filled. Courses of Triples, Major, Caters, Royal, and Cinques were rung, and the Darlaston company played a few hymn tunes.

"September 17th was Willenhall wake. This town is about ten miles from Birmingham, and one mile from Darlaston, with a population of 29,000. Here is a nice ring of six, tenor about 14 cwt. Ringers from the adjacent neighbourhood visited the belfry which was not so clean as it ought to have been, and the bells were in such bad order that nothing worth mentioning could be rung. Afterwards the 'Plough Inn' was visited, where the company rang a few courses upon the handbells. On the Monday, ringers from Walsall, Wolverhampton, and Darlaston, met here in large numbers, and played a few tunes on the handbells and rung a few changes.

"On September 24th was Walsall wake. Walsall is about eight and a half miles from Birmingham, three miles from Darlaston, and

one and a half miles from Wednesbury; population about 58,000. The church contains a very good ring of ten bells, tenor 24 cwt.; the belfry is in a very creditable condition. The ringers present rang short touches of Stedman and Grandsire Caters, and a course of Treble ten. An adjournment was then made to the 'Market Tavern,' where a good course of Grandsire Royal was performed. Mr. J. Carter, and four others of the Birmingham Amalgamated Society (being the same five ringers who recently rang the peal of Grandsire Caters in hand), rang three courses of Grandsire Caters in excellent style, likewise two courses of Bob Major, and a course of Stedman Triples, which was much appreciated.

"On Saturday, being the Birmingham fair, I visited this town, and made my way to the church known as Bishop Ryder's. This church is where the Birmingham Amalgamated Society meet, and there is a ring of eight bells, tenor about 14 cwt. Hardly had I arrived in the tower when I was invited to have a ring. The company assembled were giving vent to their disapprobation at the quality and quantity of the light supplied—four candles being much inferior to one gas-light. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major were rung, and after the ringing was over, the company adjourned to their clubhouse, the 'Hope and Anchor' inn. The club-room is small, but nicely-appointed, and soon became full. Seeing Mr. Carter distribute copies of 'THE BELL NEWS' to the company, I asked him how many he procured, when he replied, "Eleven, every week; far the society only." I think if other societies were to procure the like number, it would be a very good thing, for the paper deserves a hearty and continual support for the good it has done and is doing for the benefit of ringers, and the Exercise in general; this society think a great deal of it. In the course of the evening the company rang courses of Grandsire, Stedman, and Plain Bob upon the handbells. I am of opinion that any one—whether resident in Birmingham or not—who visits this society will meet with a hearty welcome. This concludes my visit round the wakes and fairs of the Midland district.

"A VISITOR."

Correspondence.

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

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

"THE MERRIE CHRISTCHURCH BELLS."

SIR,—As a subscriber to your paper, I have written to endorse entirely your remarks that the difficulty of obtaining funds for the rehanging of bells in our church towers is not so great as it is thought to be, provided the undertaking was set about in right earnest. A case in point is that of the Priory Church, of Christchurch, Hants, where for years the state of the bells is nothing less than a disgrace to the authorities, it being next to impossible to ring them, four men being required at the 7th and tenor, and the smaller bells are in an equally bad condition, change-ringing being an entire impossibility. It is only required, I am sure, to set the ball a-rolling, in other words, to make an appeal for funds to put everything "decent and in order." I feel convinced that the nobility and gentry of the district would come forward and liberally assist in a movement to restore "The Merrie Christchurch Bells." This title would act as a talisman to many to induce them to contribute to so desirable a work. It is hoped that these few lines may meet the eye of some one who will take the matter in hand, and successfully carry it through.

Bournemouth.

A CHANGE-RINGER.

AN ANSWER.

SIR,—Why do some people delight in stirring up the mud? It is a very unhealthy occupation. I had hoped that we had heard the last of the painful dispute to which Y. A. alludes. What can be the object of Y. A. publicly asking a question which he could answer for himself? He has read in "THE BELL NEWS" that the peal in question is a false one; and at p. 207 he has seen the composer's apology. That is not enough for our friend. As A. Y. takes so much interest in the Ipswich ringers, and their performances, he surely must know what peal is referred to in the report read the other day, if he does not, he had better quietly wait for the Annual Report, which will appear in full in due course of time.

A. Y.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY

OFFICERS FOR THE CHRISTMAS TERM, 1882.

Master: C. C. CHILD, Ch. Ch.

Secretary: J. F. HASTINGS, C. C. C.

Life members visiting Oxford during term are requested to communicate with the Secretary.

In the account of the Church Bells of Salisbury, in last week's issue, the diameter of Tenor at St. Edward's, was "54½ inches" it should be "53½ inches."

Christ Church, Blackburn, was reopened on Thursday week after having been renovated and decorated by Messrs. Isherwood Brothers, of the same town.

A bazaar was held at Livesey, near Blackburn, last week, in aid of a scheme for adding a spire to St. Andrew's church, from designs by Messrs. Paley and Austin, of Lancaster, under whose supervision the corbels and other decorative features left in the rough when the church was erected, have recently been carved.

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

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

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, OCTOBER 21, 1882.

MANY of our readers have heard that the peal of twelve bells in the symmetrical tower of St. Bride, Fleet Street, London, were augmented from ten to the present number at the expense of the members of the Ancient Society of College Youths. Such at least, is the statement recorded, and vouched for as a fact. It is also maintained with equal pertinacity, that the peal at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, were augmented in a like manner by the Society of Cumberland Youths. To neither of these statements are we about to demur, or take the slightest exception, we only are concerned to point out that such action on the part of these companies effectually showed that they did not hesitate to supply, at their own cost, the means which they held to be requisite for the enjoyment to the full, of the ringing art. We speak advisedly when we say that these distinguished London societies were not alone in defraying, at the personal cost of the members, expenses which were incurred in adopting contrivances by which the adjuncts of the belfry could be rendered perfect. We are acquainted with one instance where an intermediate floor—not for the purpose of deadening sound, but to enhance the comfort of the ringing-room, was erected, and the material found, by the ringers themselves. Though undoubtedly it is the duty of the Church authorities to supply every thing that is wanted for the proper furnishing of the steeple, it is equally clear that much may be done, and easily, by the ringers themselves to make the appointments of the belfry a little orderly. It is not the bounden duty of ringers to do so, but surely

any improvement of a trifling nature ought never, in a grudging spirit, be refused on that ground. In cases where it is hopeless to expect from the Churchwardens, an attention to the wants of the belfry, would it not be better for the ringers to put the parish authorities to shame, by doing it themselves? When such expenditure would certainly be for their own advantage and comfort—though some of the company concerned may reasonably object to such a course, they would soon be of opinion that it was, in the end, not a very unwise plan to adopt.

The above remarks have suggested themselves to our notice on reading an account, in a recent number of this paper, of the doings of a young and enterprising society in the Staffordshire potteries. The members of this company have access to six bells only; they are presented with a periodical honorarium by the Church authorities; and these sums, which appear to have been carefully hoarded, together with the addition of the receipts of several public handbell entertainments they have given at various times, have reached the extraordinary amount of one hundred and fifty pounds! This money, when more is obtained, sufficient for the purpose, is to be spent in the purchase of two more bells, thus augmenting them to eight. This is certainly a commendable mode of expending money obtained for ringing, whatever may be said with regard to its prudence. At any rate, the members of the society in question are only treading in the footsteps of those who added to the peal of St. Bride, Fleet Street, and that of St. Leonard, Shoreditch.

BRADFIELD DEANERY BRANCH OF THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

A Meeting of the above will be held at Englefield on Saturday, October 28th, 1882 (Festival of S. Simon and S. Jude). There will be Divine Service in Englefield Church at Three o'clock. The Sermon will be preached by the REV. DOLBEN PAUL, Rector of Bearwood, and Hon. Secretary and Treasurer of the Guild.

The Towers of Englefield and Theale and Bradfield Churches will be open to Members of the Guild for Change-Ringing, from 5.30 p.m. to 8.0 p.m. Tea will be provided for Members of the Guild in the Schoolroom at Englefield at 4.0 p.m.

CHARLES HENRY TRAVERS, *Rural Dean, Chairman.*
I. B. BURNE, *Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.*

DUNKERTON, SOMERSET.

THE PARISH CHURCH AND ITS RING OF BELLS.

DUNKERTON is a small picturesque village pleasantly situate midway between the beautiful city of Bath and the coal-mining district of Radstock, distant from either place about five miles. The village church, which is dedicated to All Saints, was (with the exception of the tower) rebuilt some few years ago. It is in the Decorated and Perpendicular styles of architecture, and consists of nave, chancel, porch, and tower.

The tower contains a light ring of five bells (tenor about 12 cwt.), with the following dates and inscriptions:—

- Treble. C. and G. Mears 1846.
- Before . I . was . A . Broke . I . Was . As . Good . As . Aney . But . When . That Cokcy . Casted . I . near . Was . Worth . A . Penny.
Thomas Bilbie Cast All Wee.
Mr. Thomas Harding and Mr. Thomas Flower Churchwardens 1732.
- I. B.
- I. B.
- Harke . How . The . Chirping . Treble . Sovnds . So . Clear . While . Rowling Tom . Com . Tumbleing . In . The . Reare.
Mr. Thomas Harding and Mr. Thomas Flower Churchwardens
Thomas Bilbie Cast All Wee 1732.

The Somersetshire coal canal passes through the village.

The Metropolis.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
CLERKENWELL, MIDDLESEX.

On Saturday, October 14, 1882, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
At St. James's Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 22 cwt.

HENRY HOPKINS.. .. .Treble.	THOMAS TITCHENER.. .. .5.
JOHN NELMS2.	CHARLES HOPKINS6.
WILLIAM JONES3.	JAMES BARRETT.. .. .7.
JAMES HANNINGTON4.	J. BARRY AND D. LOVATT Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY HOPKINS.

The re-opening of the above church, after undergoing repairs and alterations, took place on Friday, October 13th, in the presence of the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs of London and Middlesex. A peal was then attempted, but, owing to one of the ringers being unwell, the bells were brought round after ringing 2520 changes, in 1 hr. and 35 mins.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

On Saturday, October 7, 1882, in Three Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,
At St. Clement Danes, Strand,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5220 CHANGES;
Tenor 24 cwt., in Eb.

JAMES R. HAWORTHTreble.	FRANCIS E. DAWE6.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE2.	CHALLIS F. WINNY.. .. .7.
FREDERICK MARGETSON3.	JOHN M. HAYES8.
RICHARD FRENCH4.	GEORGE BANKS.. .. .9.
FREDERICK T. GOVER5.	EDWARD ALBONETenor.

Composed by the late HENRY HUBBARD, and conducted by
JOHN M. HAYES.

The above peal was rung to celebrate the Birthday of the Rector, the Rev. JOHN LINDSAY.

The Provinces.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—KIRKBURTON, NEAR
HUDDERSFIELD.

On Saturday, October 14, 1882, in Three Hours and One Minute,
At St. John's Church,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

JOHN STEAD.. .. .Treble.	ROWLAND HILL.. .. .5.
JOHN HOLDEN2.	TOM HAIGH6.
JOHN GREEN HARDY3.	JOSEPH PICKERING7.
GEORGE CLAY4.	JASPER W. SNOWDON, Esq. Tenor.

The peal, with the fourth and sixth the extent each way in 5-6, was composed by HENRY DAINS, and conducted by JASPER W. SNOWDON.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.

On Saturday, October 14, 1882, by the St. George's Society, in Three Hours,
At St. George's Church,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 16 cwt.

HENRY FILDESTreble.	HENRY ROSTRON5.
RALPH PRICHARD*2.	*SAMUEL BRADLEY6.
THOMAS BRADLEY*3.	THOMAS WILDE.. .. .7.
WALTER SLATER*4.	JAMES S. WILDETenor.

[* First peal.]

Composed by the late HENRY HUBBARD, and conducted by
HENRY ROSTRON.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
WALTER BELCHAMP, ESSEX.

On Sunday, October 1, 1882, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,
At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6048 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 11 cwt.

N. J. PITSTOWTreble.	OLIVER GARWOOD5.
ZACHARIAH SLATER2.	FREDERICK WELLS6.
PAUL ADAMS.. .. .3.	JOHN F. PENNING7.
GEORGE MARTIN.. .. .4.	SAMUEL SLATER.. .. .Tenor.

The peal contains the fourth, fifth, and sixth their extent in 5-6, and was composed and conducted by N. J. PITSTOW.

The calling of this peal has appeared in these columns in Mr. Snowdon's collection.

ROCHDALE, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, October 14, 1882, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
At St. Mary Balderstone,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 16½ cwt., in F.

J. W. FLETCHERTreble.	H. DEARNLEY5.
A. FITTON2.	J. H. PRESCOT6.
J. E. HOWARTH3.	J. W. HOWARTH7.
J. TITTER4.	J. ASPINALTenor.

Conducted by W. HOWARTH.

Our correspondent says the above was a maiden peal, and that the company have only been under the tuition of two members of the Rochdale parish church company—Messrs. C. J. Butterworth and F. Birtwistle—for two quarters.

Date Touches.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

CHELTENHAM (Gloucestershire).—On Saturday, October 14th, a very musical date touch of Stedman Triples, 1882 changes, was rung at the parish church (St. Mary's), by the following ringers, being all members of the above society, and of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, in 1 hr. and 7 mins. W. Morris, 1; F. Musty, 2; H. Hodges, 3; W. T. Pates, 4; G. H. Phillott, Esq. 5; G. Acocks, 6; G. F. Coleridge, Esq. 7; H. Karn, 8. Tenor 22 cwt. 2 qrs. 16 lbs. The above touch, which is produced without any deviation from the method, and has never been previously performed, was composed by the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS," and conducted by G. F. Coleridge.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

HARBORNE (near Birmingham).—On Monday, October 16th, at St. Peter's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1882 changes, in 1 hr. 8 mins. G. Farmer, 1; G. Russam, 2; B. Stevens, 3; J. Carter (composer and conductor), 4; J. Perry, 5; R. Hackley, 6; A. Hackley, 7; T. Chayton, 8. Messrs. Farmer and Chayton belong to Harborne, the rest of the company hail from Birmingham. This touch has the sixth and seventh together throughout.

Miscellaneous.

THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Saturday, October 7th, at Bishop Ryder's church, a muffled touch of Grandsire Triples, about 700 changes, was rung as a token of respect to the memory of the late Mr. Smallwood, who was a ringer at this church. W. Saniger, 1; J. Carter (conductor), 2; W. Bagnell, 3; B. Stevens, 4; R. Hall, 5; T. Russam, 6; R. Hackley, 7; A. Hackley, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

LEYTONSTONE (Essex).—On Wednesday, October 11th, the following members of the above Association rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. W. Smith (first 720), 1; J. Priest (first 720), 2; G. Akers, 3; H. Randall, 4; W. Doran, 5; A. H. Gardom (conductor), 6.

ROMFORD (Essex).—*Chiming*.—On Sunday afternoon, for Divine Service, 97 of Grandsire Triples. A. Pye, 1-2; B. Keeble, 3-4; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 5-6; G. Roughton, 7-8. *Ringling*.—On Tuesday evening, for practice, a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. G. Garnet, 1; A. Pye, 2; G. Roughton, 3; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 4; B. Keeble, 5; J. Pye, 6; A. Porter, 7; H. Skingsly, 8. Composed by the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS," and contains the twenty-four 6-7's all at back-stroke. Also 120 Stedman Doubles.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CODDENHAM (Suffolk).—On Monday evening, October 16th, the following members of the Coddenham branch of the above Association rang a touch of 360 Grandsire Minor. S. English, 1; O. Waspe, 2; G. Lummis, 3; H. English, 4; J. Offord, 5; E. Wells (conductor), 6. Also two touches of Grandsire Triples, each touch containing 336 changes. W. Goldsmith, 1; O. Waspe, 2; S. English, 3; G. Lummis, 4; J. Offord, 5; H. English, 6; E. Wells (conductor), 7; S. Goldsmith, 8. Tenor 16½ cwt., in F♯.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Thursday, October 12th, at the parish church (St. Mary's), a 720 of Bob Minor, with nine bobs and six singles, in 25 mins. F. Fells, 1; W. H. Fussell, 2; A. C. Fussell, 3; R. Flaxman, 4; J. Parker (conductor), 5; C. Clark, 6. Also on Sunday afternoon, October 15th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. C. Chapman, 1; J. Parker (conductor), 2; F. Fells, 3; W. H. Fussell, 4; R. Flaxman, 5; C. Clark, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

THE WEST MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

SLOUGH (Bucks).—On Wednesday, October 11th, at the parish church (St. Mary's), being the Anniversary of the Dedication of this church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. A. C. Fussell, 1; W. H. Fussell, 2; J. Steel, 3; W. Wilder, 4; J. Pursey, 5; R. Flaxman (conductor), 6. Tenor 9½ cwt.

BRIGHOUSE (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, October 14th, 1882, at Saint Martin's church, eight members of the local society made an attempt to ring a peal of Kent Treble Bob, 6016 changes, but after ringing 5280 changes in 3 hrs. and 15 mins., it was found a mistake had been made, and the bells were called round. Henry Wilson, 1; Fred. Crossley, 2; John T. Pearson, 3; George Lawton, 4; Wilson Wood, 5; Joseph Cockroft, 6; Christopher Nield, 7; Francis Prince (conductor), 8. Tenor 14½ cwt.

HORNCHURCH (Essex).—After evening service on Sunday, a 720 of Bob Minor, by three of the local company, with three members of the Essex Association. J. Dear, 1; B. Keeble, 2; A. J. Perkins, 3; A. Pye (conductor), 4; I. Dear, 5; J. Dear, 6. This was a new composition (No. 4) by Mr. J. Nunn, of Walthamstow, and was produced with forty-two singles.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, October 15th, for Divine Service at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. T. Titchener, 1; J. Leach, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; J. Nixon, 4; A. Jacob, 5; T. Monks, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. The above 720, taken from "THE BELL NEWS" of September 2nd, contains thirty-four bobs and ten singles, and is the composition of Mr. J. F. Penning, of Saffron Walden.

LEEDS (Kent).—On Sunday, October 15th, for evening service at St. Nicholas' being the Harvest Thanksgiving, seven of the Leeds company assisted by Mr. H. Pearce, of Maidstone, rang 672 changes of Bob Major, in 27 mins. F. Gibbons, jun., 1; W. Wicken, 2; A. Knight, 3; F. Hollands, 4; E. Gibbons, 5; W. Sloman, 6; F. Gibbons, sen., 7; H. Pearce, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. [Will our correspondent kindly send direct to us, not to the publisher?—ED.]

TONG (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, October 14th, a company of the St. James's society assembled and rung touches of Cambridge Surprise, Arnolds Victory, and College Pleasure to celebrate the marriage of one of their company. George Carter, 1; Henry Oddy, 2; Edward Webster, 3; William Bolland, 4; Geo. Bolland (conductor), 5; John Haley, 6. Also on Sunday, October 15th, for morning service, a 720 of Oxford. Geo. Carter, 1; Samuel Oddy, 2; Edward Webster, 3; Henry Oddy, (conductor), 4; C. J. Sallaway, 5; John Haley, 6. For evening service 240 of College Pleasure, and 240 of Violet. Geo. Carter, 1; Samuel Oddy, 2; Edward Webster, 3; Henry Oddy, 4; Geo. Bolland (conductor), 5; John Haley, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

WEST HAM (Essex).—On Thursday, October 12th, after the Harvest Festival Service at All Saints' church, the following members of the Royal Cumberland Society, assisted by Mr. Bradley, of the College Youths, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. George Pearl, 1; John Bradley, 2; Harry Randall, 3; John Gobbett, 4; William Doran, 5; Arthur H. Gardom, Esq. (composer and conductor), 6; Samuel Jarman, 7; Fred. Searl, 8. Tenor 28 cwt.

WITNESHAM (Suffolk).—On October 9th, a 720 of Oxford Delight was rang by the following in 27 mins. Thomas Sadler, 1; William Damant, 2; Charles Chooett, 3; William Woods, 4; William Ramsey (conductor), 5; George Pyett, 6. Also 240 of London Scholars' Pleasure, 120 of College Pleasure, and 120 of Merchants' Delight. And on October 14th, four of the above society, assisted by Messrs. Catchpole and Pemberton, of the St. Mary-le-Tower society, Ipswich, rang a 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob, 120 of Oxford Delight, and 120 of College Pleasure. William Damant, 1; Edgar Pemberton, 2; Charles Chooett, 3; William Catchpole, 4; William Woods (conductor), 5; George Pyett, 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

BENHILTON (SURREY) HARVEST THANKSGIVING.

ON Thursday, October 5th, the ingathering of the year's harvest was commemorated in this parish, and the church was most profusely decorated for the occasion by many ladies of the congregation. An excellent sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon Cazenove, Vicar of St. Mark's, Reigate. The offertory at the close of Divine Service was in aid of the Bell Fund. The bells, both before and after service, rang out some merry peals. They have been recently augmented to six bells by the addition of a new treble, which was supplied by Messrs. Gillett and Bland, of Croydon, and hung by the foreman of their establishment, Mr. H. Boswell, who took part in the ringing of several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles upon them. After ringing, the company were invited to a capital supper in the Schoolroom.

Benhilton has now a fine ring of six, with a tenor of 19 cwt., in E., and there is room in the frame for two additional trebles to complete the octave.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY'S REPORT.—One of the gratifying features belonging to what is known as the "revival" of the art of ringing, is the spirit in which its practice has been taken up by the undergraduates of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. The report issued by the society of the first-named university, a small, unpretending document, lies before us as we write. The society, during its ten years of existence, appears to have suffered from a paucity of members. "This may be attributed," says the report, "to the semi-private way in which the society was formed, the numerous other occupations of undergraduates, and lastly, to the failure on the part of the officers to take sufficient pains to make it more publicly known. An endeavour is now made to remove this latter cause by posting notices in all the Colleges every term, and so far this seems to be having the desired effect; but still it is to be hoped that a larger number of undergraduates will join the society, and in particular those who intend to take Holy Orders, for it is by means of these that change-ringing will be most readily disseminated through the country." We have no fear that the hope entertained will not become realised, eventually, and therefore we shall not be considered too sanguine in firmly believing that the connection with the Exercise of gentlemen who will in the future have the control of our steeples, must lead to the most favorable results so far as the science is concerned. Appended to the report is a list of the original members, which we suppose may be taken as the society's founders; likewise a list of the past and present officers. Among these names appear those of the brothers Acland-Troyte, whose labours in the cause have conduced so much during the past few years, to the progress of the art.

AYCLIFFE.—The parish-church of Aycliffe was re-opened on the 29th ult., after restoration. The edifice was erected in the early part of the 12th century, the oldest parts being the chancel and the northern arcade, of three semicircular arches. The remainder of the building dates from between 1812 and 1820. The restoration has been effected at a cost of about £3000. Mr. Ewan Christian, of London, designed the plans which have been carried out by Mr. R. T. Snaith, contractor, of Darlington. Part of the work comprised the restoration of pinnacles and battlements of the tower, which were in a dangerous condition.

BOB MINOR.

The first two of the following 720's are by Mr. J. Parker, Farnham Royal; the third by Mr. J. F. Penning, Saffron Walden. Each of them are in two parts.

3 5 2 6 4	- 2 3 5 6 4	- 2 3 5 6 4
5 6 3 4 2	3 6 2 4 5	- 2 3 6 4 5
s 6 5 4 2 3	s 6 3 4 5 2	3 4 2 5 6
- 6 5 2 3 4	3 5 6 2 4	4 5 3 6 2
5 3 6 4 2	s 5 3 2 4 6	- 4 5 6 2 3
- 5 3 4 2 6	3 4 5 6 2	4 5 2 3 6
- 5 3 2 6 4	4 6 3 2 5	5 3 4 6 2
s 3 5 6 4 2	s 6 4 2 5 3	- 5 3 6 2 4
- 3 5 4 2 6	4 5 6 3 2	- 5 3 2 4 6
5 2 3 6 4	s 5 4 3 2 6	3 4 5 6 2
- 5 2 6 4 3	4 2 5 6 3	- 3 4 6 2 5
- 5 2 4 3 6	2 6 4 3 5	- 4 2 3 5 6
2 3 5 6 4	s 6 2 3 5 4	- 4 2 5 6 3
3 6 2 4 5	3 6 4 3 5	2 6 4 3 5
- 3 6 4 5 2	s 2 5 6 4 3	- 2 6 3 5 4
s 6 3 5 2 4	s 5 2 4 3 6	6 5 2 4 3
- 6 3 2 4 5	s 2 5 3 6 4	- 6 5 4 3 2
3 6 3 4 5	5 6 2 4 3	- 6 5 3 2 4
s 6 3 5 2 4	6 4 5 3 2	5 2 6 4 3
6 2 3 4 5	4 3 6 2 5	- 5 2 4 3 6
- 6 2 4 5 3	- 4 3 2 5 6	- 5 2 3 6 4
- 6 2 5 3 4	3 5 4 6 2	2 6 5 4 3
2 3 6 4 5	5 6 3 2 4	6 4 2 3 5
3 4 2 5 6	6 2 5 4 3	- 6 4 3 5 2
- 3 4 5 6 2	2 4 6 3 5	s 4 6 5 2 3
- 3 4 6 2 5	- 2 4 3 5 6	- 4 6 2 3 5
4 2 3 5 6	4 5 2 6 3	- 4 6 3 5 2
- 4 2 5 6 3	5 6 4 3 2	s 6 4 5 2 3
- 4 2 6 3 5	6 3 5 2 4	4 2 6 3 5
s 2 4 3 5 6	3 2 6 4 5	s 2 4 3 5 6
	- 3 2 4 5 6	

The three following are also by Mr. Parker, and are in three parts.

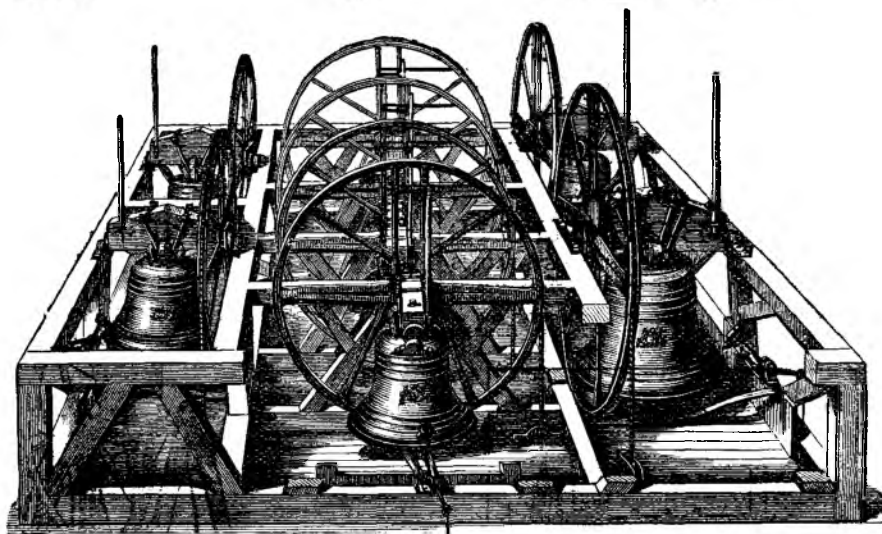
3 5 2 6 4	3 5 2 6 4	* Omit the singles in the third and sixth courses.
5 6 3 4 2	5 6 3 4 2	
6 4 5 2 3	- 5 6 4 2 3	
- 6 4 2 3 5	s 6 5 2 3 4	
- 6 4 3 5 2	- 6 5 3 4 2	
4 5 6 2 3	- 6 5 4 2 3	
- 4 5 2 3 6	5 2 6 3 4	
s 5 4 3 6 2	s 2 5 3 4 6	
4 6 5 2 3	s 5 2 4 6 3	
- 4 6 2 3 5	s 2 5 6 3 4	
- 4 6 3 5 2	s 5 2 3 4 6	
6 5 4 2 3	s* 2 5 4 6 3	
5 2 6 3 4		
- 5 2 3 4 6		
2 4 5 6 3	4 5 2 6 3	
- 2 4 6 3 5	- 4 5 6 3 2	
- 2 4 3 5 6	- 4 5 3 2 6	
s 4 2 5 6 3	s 5 4 2 6 3	
- 4 2 6 3 5	- 5 4 6 3 2	
- 4 2 3 5 6	- 5 4 3 2 6	
	s 4 2 5 6 3	
	s* 2 4 6 3 5	

LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR.

5152.				
2	3	4	5	6
M	W	H		
5 4 6 3 2	-	-		
2 3 6 4 5	-	-		
4 2 6 3 5	-	-		
3 4 6 2 5	-	-		
2 6 5 4 3	-	-		
4 5 3 6 2	-	-		
6 3 2 5 4	-	-		
4 5 2 3 6	-	-		
3 4 2 5 6	-	-		
5 2 6 4 3	-	-		
4 6 3 2 5	-	-		
3 6 5 2 4	-	-		
2 5 4 6 3	-	-		
6 4 3 5 2	-	-		
2 5 3 4 6	-	-		
4 2 3 5 6	-	-		

The last seven courses repeated.
N. J. PITSTOW.

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OVER TWO TONS
EACH,
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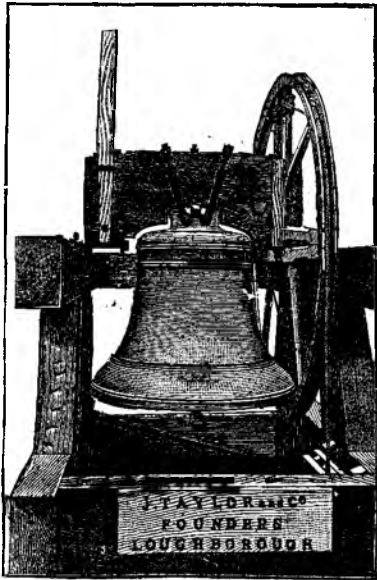
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Specially Manufactured by
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BROAD GATE, COVENTRY.**

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Coventry, one of the best Rings of Ten extant.*

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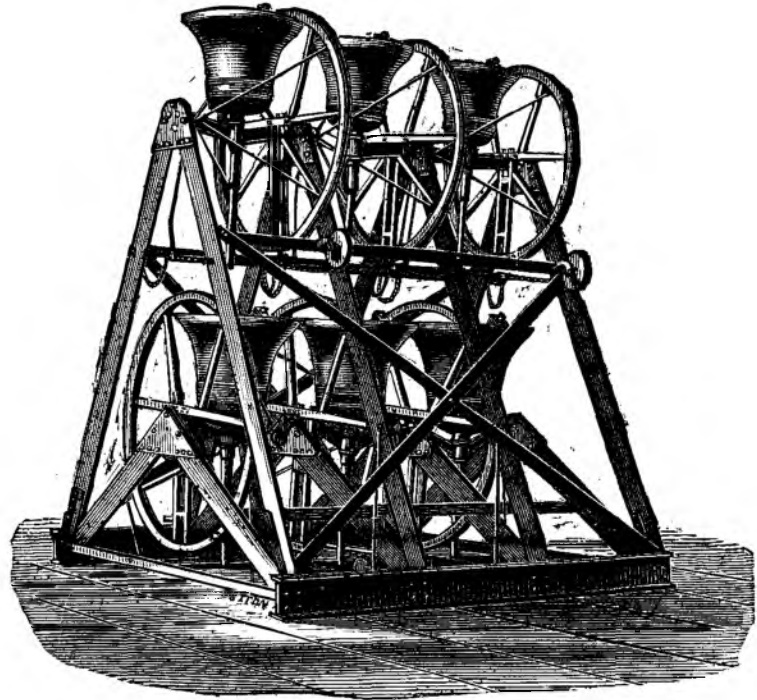
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