

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 32. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. I. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1882. [ONE PENNY.]



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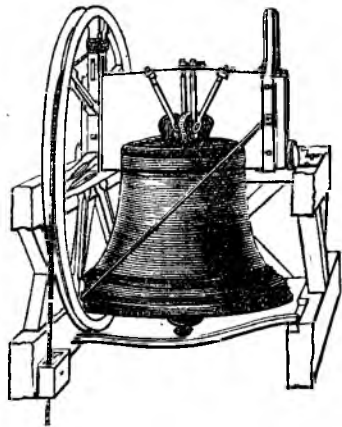
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THE DURHAM DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—ANNUAL MEETING.

THE Annual Meeting of this Association was held on Monday, the 21st ult., at Newcastle, and the day was ushered in by the bells of the various churches in the youngest city of Britain ringing joyously. In the afternoon a special sermon was preached in St. John's church by the Vicar, the Rev. W. E. Houldey, to the members of the Association. After the service the members repaired to The Crown and Mitre Hotel, where an excellent dinner was provided, and to which justice was done. The chair was occupied by the Rev. W. E. Houldey, and the vice-chair by W. Reed, Esq., of North Shields, president of the Association. After the repast the Chairman said that that day was to him as well as to them, associated with pain. They had lost a noble and earnest friend through the death of the Ven. Archdeacon Prest, who had been taken away from them by death.

Mr. G. J. CLARKSON (Hon. Sec.), then read the fifth Annual Report. We shall give copious extracts from this and other reports when the official printed copy reaches us. The report was adopted. Mr. Clarkson afterwards read an address which he had forwarded to the Right Rev. Dr. Wilberforce, Bishop of Newcastle, on behalf of the Association:—"We, the members of the Durham Diocesan Association of Ringers, share in common with all other bodies of churchmen in the counties of Durham and Northumberland a just appreciation of the great work of the creation of the new and important see of Newcastle-on-Tyne, believing, as we do, the spiritual welfare of the Church in two important counties has materially increased, not only by the division of an unwieldy diocese, but also by the exhibition of such magnificent liberality as, in the words of the Lord Bishop of Durham, 'tends to raise the standard of human generosity.' It is with such feelings that we heartily welcome your lordship as the first occupant of the Episcopal throne of Newcastle, remembering the high associations attaching to the name of Wilberforce, whether as an eminent philanthropist or a zealous divine. As members of the Durham Association, we are particularly glad to know that your lordship has taken an active interest in a similar association in the diocese of Winchester.—Signed, on behalf of the members, by William Reed, President; George James Clarkson, Honorary Secretary." The following was the reply received from his lordship:—"Benwell Tower, Newcastle-on-Tyne, October 24th, 1882. My dear sir,—I beg to thank you and the associated Association of Ringers most heartily for the kind address which they have been good enough to forward to me. I shall be only glad to give my name as a patron to the Association, and I heartily wish it success in every way, believing, as I do, that such an Association may be made a powerful engine for good. I am, ever yours faithfully, E. R. Newcastle." The election of officers was then proceeded with.

The meeting was well attended by ringers and their friends, above seventy sitting down to dinner. Touches of Grandsire Triples, Kent Treble Bob Major, Plain Bob Major, and other methods were rung on the bells of the various churches during the day, 1008 Grandsire Triples being rung at the Cathedral, this being the greatest length on these for two years. The tenor is 36 cwt., and requires two men. Of the bells at the other churches in Newcastle we may say that the tenor at St. Andrew's is cracked and useless; some of the bells at St. Nicholas' church are going very heavily or striking very false; and the fittings at All Saints' and St. Mary's, Gateshead, have been worn out for years past. It is stated that the bells at Chester-le-street are about to be recast by Messrs. Taylor, and augmented to eight.

OPENING OF BELLS AT CHRIST CHURCH, JARROW-ON-TYNE.

ON All Saints' day, November 1st, a new ring of six bells was opened at the above church. In the morning, at eleven o'clock, a service was held, which was attended as largely as the church would permit, an admirable sermon being preached by the Bishop of Durham. After the service, the bells were rung by members of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association of ringers from North Shields, and St. John's, Newcastle, a good 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor being rung, particulars of which will be found among our records of performances. During the rest of the day, touches of Plain Bob, Grandsire Minor, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Minor, and College Single were also rung.

At 1.30 p.m., the ringers were entertained to a capital dinner, and the day was spent most enjoyably. A company of ringers during the afternoon proceeded to St. Peter's church, in the same town, where they rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor. Ringing was kept up at Christ Church till 9.0 p.m.

The bells are by Messrs. Taylor, the tenor weighing 17 cwt., and the arrangements and fittings of the bells, as well as the handsome spire, are almost a counterpart of St. Stephen's, Newcastle.

BATH AND KEYNSHAM UNITED DEANERIES ASSOCIATION.

The first meeting in connection with the above newly formed Association was (by the very kind permission of the Rev. Canon Brooke, M.A., rector of Bath), held at Bath Abbey (S.S. Peter and Paul), on the evening of Monday, November 6th. There was a good attendance of ringers (sixty-three) from the various church towers connected with the Association. Ringing commenced shortly after six o'clock, and was kept up at frequent intervals till nine o'clock, during which time the various companies had a good opportunity of taking part in the ringing. After ringing had terminated for the evening, on the motion of Mr. Blackmore (Twerton-on-Avon company), a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. W. Stokes Shaw, M.A., honorary secretary to the Association, for his kindness in attending the meeting and arranging matters which so greatly promoted its success. During the evening Mr. Goodman, of the St. Saviour's Church Society, distributed several copies of the very interesting paper "THE BELL NEWS" amongst the members of the above Association.

IMPORTANT MEETING OF RINGERS AT BRADFORD.

TWELVE month ago the centenary of Sowerby parish church was celebrated amid much rejoicing, the district being gaily decorated, and the occasion of much festivity. Ringers from all parts of Yorkshire assembled, and took part in the proceedings, and it was then decided to perpetuate the event by periodical meetings in different parts of the county. Gatherings have been held quarterly during the year, and on Saturday, October 28th, the first annual celebration of the centenary took place, about 100 ringers assembling at the Bradford parish church shortly after noon. Among the places represented were Sowerby, Huddersfield, Halifax, Elland, Liversedge, Bolton (Bradford) Birstall, Shipley, Hull, and Tong. The visitors were received by the Bradford parish church ringers, who rang a touch of Kent Treble Bob Royal. At frequent intervals during the afternoon, several touches of Major and Royal were rung by the visitors, and there were also some enjoyable performances upon the handbells. Among those who took part in this lighter work was the veteran Mr. Sottanstell, of Sowerby, who is in his eighty-third year, and who is both a veteran bell-ringer and an authority upon matters pertaining to the science. At five o'clock a substantial tea was provided in excellent style by Mrs. Crowther, hostess of the Ring of Bells inn, to which about seventy ringers sat down. The cost of this entertainment had been generously contributed by the congregation of the parish church, in addition to which, Mr. Sowden, florist, forwarded some choice plants and flowers for the decoration of the room and tables. After tea, a business meeting was held, Mr. B. T. Copley (St. James's church, Bolton) being called to the chair, and Mr. Cheetham (Bradford parish church) to the vice-chair. Invitations were received to hold the meetings three months hence at Elland and Huddersfield, and the result of the voting was that the former place was selected. The meeting will take place on the last Saturday in January. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to the parish church ringers for their hospitality, and similar acknowledgments were made to the parish church congregation, to Mr. Sowden, and to the hostess to whose care and attention much of the evening's pleasure was due. Altogether the gathering was successful and enjoyable.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

UXBRIDGE.—On Saturday afternoon, November 4th, a band from All Saints', Boyne Hill, Maidenhead, in company with the Rev. A. H. Drummond, Vicar, by invitation of the Rev. E. T. Mayo, Vicar of St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, paid a visit to his church, and rang several touches of Grandsire Triples: and at five o'clock sat down to an excellent tea at the vicarage. After service, another touch of Triples brought the time near for their departure, and thanking the Vicar for his kindness, returned home by an early train, well pleased with their short outing.

DEDICATION OF A BELL AT LONGBRIDGE DEVERILL (Wilts).—A new church bell has recently been erected at the parish church. The bell was dedicated to holy uses at a special evening service, a portion of which was held in the belfry, and where the bell was rung by the Vicar, the Rev. J. D. Morrice. Afterwards the Rev. Canon Jacob preached an appropriate sermon.

CURRY RIVELL (Taunton).—The minute-bell here fell to pieces as it was being tolled the other day. It is stated that the sum of £100 will be required to replace it.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ANNUAL MEETING AT BOLTON.

THE Annual Meeting of this Association took place at this town on Saturday, October 28th. At four o'clock a service, which was fairly attended, was held at Holy Trinity Church. The prayers were read by the Rev. Charles Lowe, M.A., Vicar of the parish; suitable hymns were sung; and an appropriate sermon, brimful of interest to ringers, was preached by the Rev. H. R. Heywood, M.A. Vicar of Swinton, who based his discourse on the words, "The bells and ringers are intended to be exercised for God's glory and worship." At the close of the service a substantial tea was served in the schoolroom adjacent to the church, at which the following clergy and gentlemen attended, most of whom had attended the service in the church:—Rev. Canon Powell, Rev. C. Lowe, Rev. J. Lewis, Rev. W. Popplewell, Rev. Richard Loxham, Rev. A. R. Heywood, Rev. Charles Heath, Rev. T. A. Turner, Rev. B. Winfield, and John Greenhalgh and N. Greenhalgh, Esqrs. The meeting was afterwards held, 130 members being present, the Rev. C. Lowe, who is an old ringer and a life member of the Association, occupying the chair. In a somewhat lengthy address he accorded a hearty welcome to all present, remarking that the Bolton ringers were exceedingly gratified by the fact that the Association had two years in succession selected Bolton as their place of meeting. Alluding to the excellent sermon they had heard in the afternoon, he heartily agreed with the preacher when he said it was most inconsistent for bellringers to ring the people to church, and then leave the belfry and refrain from joining in the service themselves. This used to be the case universally, but thanks to various Associations like their own, and other causes, this bad old custom was gradually breaking down, a much higher tone now pervaded, and the ringers of the present were imbued with higher religious principles than were those of a by-gone day. Bell-ringing was no doubt a most healthy recreation, and to many it was also a source of amusement, but they must never forget that the belfry was an integral part of the church, and that to turn to it solely and absolutely as an amusement was wrong. They should acquire as much efficiency in the art as possible, but on the Lord's Day they should always look upon it as a special religious act, to be commenced with prayer, and conducted with reverence. He congratulated them upon having had a large influx of members during the year, and expressed a hope that their numbers would continue to increase, and that the influence of the Association would be felt among the bellringers throughout Lancashire. In conclusion, the Chairman said he trusted that all bellringers would come to feel that they had the credit of their respective churches at stake, as well as their own respectability and credit, and that they would strive, individually and collectively, to glorify God by their faithfulness, loyalty, and consistency of life.

The Corresponding Secretary, Mr. Jos. Chatterton, of Manchester, then read the report, which no doubt we shall refer to in a future number. Mr. H. W. Jackson was unanimously re-elected Treasurer of the Association; and Mr. Joel Redford, who, like Mr. Jackson, belongs to Bolton, was reappointed assistant-secretary; the following gentlemen being elected to serve on the committee:—Mr. J. Aspinwall (Liverpool), Mr. J. Curtis (Leigh), and Mr. G. W. Hughes (Carston). New members, to the number of twenty-one, were then elected, these including the Rev. C. Heath, the Rev. R. Loxham, and the Rev. R. Popplewell, together with the ringers at All Souls' church. This was the whole of the business, and the proceedings terminated with votes of thanks to the Rev. H. R. Heywood for his sermon, and to the Chairman, the Bolton ringers, the Holy Trinity choir, and the lady helps for their services. Letters of apology for non-attendance at the meeting had been received from the Venerable Archdeacon Anson, the Rev. Canon Birley (Hulme), the Rev. Canon Sheldon (Ormskirk), and the Rev. Kinton Jacques, M.A. (Westhoughton).

Ringings took place both before the service, and after the meeting at Holy Trinity church, the parish church, and All Saints. The meeting was in every respect the most successful the Association has yet held.

ST. SAVIOUR'S CHURCH (BATH) AMATEUR SOCIETY OF RINGERS.

THE Annual Meeting of this society will be held in the Vestry of the above church, on Thursday evening next, at 7.45 p.m. All members are requested to attend punctually. The Rev. W. S. Vale (Rector) will preside.

30, The Paragon, Bath.

F. GLOVER, Hon. Sec.

* * A sentence in our last number in an account of the above sacred edifice should read thus:—"St. Saviour's church consists of nave, with east and west aisles, and very recently has been improved by the erection of a chancel and enlargement of the choir and organ vestries, which latter work was completed in the early part of the present year. The tower, which is some 120 feet in height, is situate at the south west end of the building."

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THIS Association recently held their Quarterly District Meeting at the Court House, Bisley. Divine Service was held in the parish church in the evening. A dinner took place at midday, the Rev. T. Keble, vicar, presiding, there being also present the Rev. Pitt Eykyn, of Franch Lynch (Hon. Sec. to the Association), Mr. John Drinkwater (Master), and the Rev. J. R. Keble (of Lichfield). The Chairman proposed "Success to the Association," coupling with it the names of Mr. Drinkwater (the worthy Master) and Mr. Giles Mansfield, ninety old, who the chairman said was the father of change-ringing in that neighbourhood. Mr. Mansfield, in returning thanks, said he had been a ringer for seventy-seven years, and would remain a ringer as long as he had strength. Mr. Drinkwater pointed out the necessity of belfry reform, intimating that there was a movement on foot by which those who would in time to come be clergymen were learning change-ringing, and that these people would either reform the ringers or remove them out of the church. At the business meeting Mr. Gambier Parry was elected an honorary member of the Association, and Mr. David Marment, of Painswick, re-elected. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Wotton-under-Edge, subject to the adjusting of the tenor bell in the church there. During the day the Stroud ringers, who acted as a representative band, rang the bells of the church at intervals, and in the evening at Stroud.

SOCIETY OF LIVERPOOL YOUTHS.

On Saturday, October 14th, a meeting was held in St. Peter's church tower, of the members of St. Peter's and St. Nicholas societies, when Mr. Robert Williams was voted to the chair, and explained the object of calling the meeting together, which was to advance the art of change ringing, as in days gone by, in this city. Nine members present joined the society. Mr. George Helsby was elected president; Mr. Richard Williams, vice-president; Mr. Robert Williams, secretary; Mr. Edward Vose, treasurer; Mr. Thos. Hammond, James Welch, and Henry Meadows elected on the committee. Since the above date eight more young members connected with the churches have joined. The practice nights are Thursday evenings, at St. Peter's each fortnight; and Tuesday evenings at St. Nicholas' each fortnight.

THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

This Association held their quarterly meeting at St. James's church, Milnrow, on Saturday, November 4th, when there were about thirty members present. The ringing commenced about 3.40, but was suddenly stopped by the Vicar through some misunderstanding on the part of their ringers not having asked permission, which we hope will not occur again. Afterwards the usual meeting was held for business (we are pleased to state that there has been a good gain of new members this year), and that being concluded the members sat down to a substantial dinner, in an upper room of the "Woolpack" Inn. After dinner the Milnrow ringers brought in their handbells, and a few beautiful selections were played, in fact the whole of the evening was spent very pleasantly. Intermediate meetings for ringing held every sixth week after quarterly meetings.

The *Christian Globe* of this week has the following notice of our paper:

"THE BELL NEWS. Weekly. Price One Penny. (London: W. E. Allen, 4, Ave Maria-lane.)—The last number of this journal of campanology and campanologists is an excellent one. In all respects it fulfils its mission, that of being the able exponent of the wants and wishes of bell-ringers, professional and amateur—while its diversified contents afford amusement to those who are not learned in the art and mystery of bob majors and minors."

Mr. S. B. Goslin, of the Crescent Foundry, Cripplegate, and Mr. Edward Warner, of Claremont Square, N., recently of Walsall, malleable iron founder, a nephew of Mr. Robert Warner, were sworn in as members of the livery of the Founders' Company of London, on the 6th instant.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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.

E. GIBBS and J. HEWETT.—Your communications have been forwarded to Mr. Snowdon.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1882.

THIS week we give an account of the proceedings at the Annual Meetings of two prominent ringing confederacies, viz.:—the Lancashire, and the Durham Associations. They will no doubt be read with great interest, and those ardent for the extension of scientific ringing will find in their perusal plenty of information calculated to give them encouragement in their endeavours to promote the art. With peculiar satisfaction we have read the report which is published in our columns of the Lancashire Association, because we had heard a few weeks ago, from a private source, that it was not flourishing to the extent it deserved in the locality from which it derives its title; but such a rumour is easily dispelled by the fact that ringers to the number of 130 and upwards attended the annual meeting. But though this be the case, the fact yet remains that in many parts of Lancashire, as unfortunately in other counties, ringers will be found lukewarm or even totally indifferent to the progress of the art beyond the precincts of their own immediate neighbourhood. With reference to this, we may state that we have been informed by a correspondent in the north, that in the town of Lancaster our paper is subscribed to by two ringers only. We do not make this statement public for the purpose of advertising "THE BELL NEWS," because we happen to know that persons outside ringing circles in that town are supporters of this journal, but it is a faithful index of the

indifference of many ringers to the prospects and well-being of their art. We have repeatedly maintained, that after attaining to eminence as a ringer, no one should stop at such a juncture, but should endeavour, by precept and example, to extend to others its advantages. One of the most effectual forms of doing this is by assisting in the work of the Association which is established in the neighbourhood.

The ringers of the dioceses of Durham and Newcastle are to be congratulated in maintaining their ground. It would seem a remarkable feature could we not have the opportunity of mentioning any drawback to the work of this Association. Hitherto the condition of the bells at Durham Cathedral has been their grievance, but it is now unhappily augmented by a similar condition of affairs at Newcastle, the bells at three or four of the churches in that city being practically unringable. We do not hesitate to say that these churches may as well, nay better, have no bells at all, than for them to remain in a condition impossible to ring. Where is the utility of continually insisting that the belfry is part of the church, and therefore should be revered equally with other portions of the sacred edifice when it is well known that the continual neglect of the bells is the greatest incentive to irreverence, and the chief factor in the wholesale admission of individuals to the belfry who care not one jot about the sacred associations of the place? Then when such an untoward state of things exist, who really are the irresponsible parties? Several of the cathedrals of our land, Westminster, Gloucester, Durham amongst them, we have noticed. The bodies in charge of these edifices must be held responsible. They are divines whose scholarly attainments and standing in the Church entitle them to the enjoyment of her most distinguished and lucrative offices, but it seems to be a serious dereliction of duty on their part to allow the property of the Church to be totally neglected, and the receptacles for such property to be frequented by those whom they would not allow, much less encourage, over their own threshold. We earnestly beg the attention of the clergy of the two northern dioceses to the condition of their bells and steeples.

While we are writing about ringing associations, it is pleasant to note the formation of a new one at Bath, for the united rural deaneries of that city and Keynsham. If there is a city in England where the art should flourish, it is Bath—the birthplace of the great, and shall we add, immortal, SHIPWAY! This new society is commenced under the most favourable auspices, the Rev. W. STOKES SHAW, Rector of Twerton, being the Honorary Secretary, and we believe the Rev. Canon BROOKE and many of the influential residents in the district, have given the movement their cordial co-operation. Great things will be expected of this newly-formed society, and one important feature of their exertions should be the restoration and renewal, where absolutely required, of bells and their fittings, making it an indispensable article of their creed to employ in the prosecution of such repairs or additions, only those who have learnt, by constant experience, what is required.

The Provinces.

DRIGHLINGTON.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 4th, 1882, in Three Hours,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

HERBERT ROBINSON Treble.	MATTHEW TOMLINSON .. 5.
GEORGE BOLLAND 2.	JOSEPH HUTCHINSON .. 6.
RICHARD THORNTON 3.	THOMAS WEST 7.
WILLIAM BOLLAND 4.	ROBERT BINNS Tenor.

The peal was composed by JOHN COX and conducted by THOMAS WEST.

GUISELEY.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 4th, 1882, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT ST. OSWALD'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 10½ cwt.

ALFRED ANDERSON Treble.	WILLIAM WILKS, SEN. .. 5.
BEN. LIGHTFOOT 2.	SAMUEL BROWN 6.
EDWARD TUFF 3.	WILLIAM DEMAINE, JUN. .. 7.
WILLIAM WILKS, JUN. .. 4.	JAMES BALDWIN Tenor.

The peal was composed by WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL and conducted by JAMES BALDWIN.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.

On Saturday, November 4th, 1882, in Five Hours and Forty-one Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 10,080 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

THOMAS TAYLOR* Treble.	THOMAS WILDE 5.
JAMES S. WILDE 2.	SAMUEL WOOD 6.
JAMES WOOD, JUN. 3.	GEORGE LONGDEN 7.
WILLIAM MIDDLETON .. 4.	JOHN THORP Tenor.

The peal, which has the extent of the 7-8 before, was composed by the late WILLIAM HARRISON, of Mottram, and conducted by SAMUEL WOOD, and is the first time of its being rung.

The above company accidentally met together at Mottram, the Sunday previous, made up the peal, and rung it without practice. Messrs. Taylor, Wood Brothers, Longden, and Thorp hail from Ashton-under-Lyne; Middleton from Mottram; and Wilde Brothers from Hyde.

* First peal in the method.

Miscellaneous.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

JARROW-ON-TYNE.—On the occasion of the opening of the Christ Church Bells, November 1st, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. *C. L. Routledge (St. John's, Newcastle), 1; R. Smith (North Shields), 2; W. Eggleston (St. John's, Newcastle), 3; W. Reed, Esq. (conductor North Shields), 4; R. Wignall (North Shields), 5; F. Lees (St. John's, Newcastle), 6. Tenor 17 cwt. *First 720 in this method. At St. Peter's, on the same day, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. W. Reed, Esq., 1; R. Smith, 2; J. Nanson, 3; F. Lees, 4; *W. Story (St. John's, Newcastle), 5; W. Eggleston, 6. Tenor 8 cwt. *First 720 in this method.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Friday, October 20th, seven members of the Association, assisted by Gervas Holmes, Esq., who was on a visit to the Rev. J. B. Seaman, rang a touch of 504 Grandsire Triples, in 28 mins; W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains, 2; W. Rowlands, 3; H. F. de Lisle (conductor), 4; E. Scotcher, 5; W. Hawkes, 6; G. Holmes, Esq., 7; J. Bloomfield, 8. It is worthy of notice that this touch was conducted by Master H. F. de Lisle, son of the Rev. H. C. de Lisle, of Galleywood, who is not yet fourteen years old. Tenor 18½ cwt.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CODDENHAM (Suffolk).—On Monday evening, November, 6th, seven members of the Coddenham Society, assisted by Mr. T. Sadler, of Winesham, rang two touches of Grandsire Triples, each containing 504 changes, and called differently. S. English, 1; O. Waspe, 2; T. Sadler, 3; G. Lummis, 4; J. Oford, 5; H. English, 6; E. Wells (conductor), 7; W. Goldsmith, 8. Tenor 16½ cwt. in F#.

BENHILTON (Surrey).—On Friday, the 27th, ult., a mixed band rang at All Saints' church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. S. Greenwood, 1; *T. Miles, 2; D. Springhall, 3; *Joe Fayers, 4; *G. Peil, 5; S. Brooker (conductor), 6. Also 240 of Oxford Treble Bob, and two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. The above are the first 720 and 6-score rung on these bells since they were augmented to six by Messrs. Gillett and Bland, of Croydon. *First 720 in the method.

CRETINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday, October 29th, twelve 6-scores in the following methods:—Plain Doubles, Old Doubles, London Doubles, St. Dunstan's Doubles, the Dream, Farthing, Antelope, Gog Magog, Grandsire, Cambridge Delight, St. Peter's Doubles, and Victory. James Durrent, 1; D. G. Wightman, 2; G. Wicks, 3; A. S. Wightman, 4; S. Wightman (conductor), 5.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Thursday, November 2nd, six members of the Glemsford Society rang upon the bells of their parish church, a 720 of Double Oxford Bob Minor in 30 minutes. Charles Adams, 1; Zachariah Slater, 2nd; Frederick Wells, 3rd; Oliver Garwood, 4th; Samuel Slater (conductor), 5th; John Slater, 6; this is the first 720 in this method rung in this county. Also on Saturday evening, November 4th, for practice, six members of the above society rang the following Touches, viz.:—360 of Double Oxford Bob, 120 of New London Pleasure, 360 of Violet Treble Bob, 360 of Cambridge Surprise, 120 of Double Court Bob, 240 of Oxford Treble Bob, and 120 of Kent Treble Bob; total 1680 changes. F. Wells, 1; S. Slater, 2; C. Adams, 3; Z. Slater, 4; O. Garwood, 5; F. P. Adams (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

HANDSWORTH (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, November 5th, before Evening Services, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. H. Bastable, 1; J. Saunders, 2; J. Buffery (conductor), 3; T. Reynolds, 4; A. Thomas, 5; — Berry, 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

HIGHER SUTTON, MACCLESFIELD.—On Monday, November 6th, at St. James's church, two 720's of Grandsire Minor was rung by six members of the local society, the first containing forty-six bobs and two singles, the second thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles. Wm. H. Ingham (conductor), 1; J. Holt, 2; E. Mathews, 3; J. M. Devenport, 4; W. H. Hardman, 5; Walter Ingham, 6. After which the ringers again rung 1000 changes of Grandsire Minor variations in 40 mins. Wm. H. Ingham (conductor), 1; W. Kenny, 2; J. Holt, 3; J. M. Devenport, 4; W. H. Hardman, 5; Walter Ingham, 6. Tenor about 12 cwt. in G.

HENDON (Middlesex).—On Sunday, October 29th, the members of Willesden company attempted a 720 of Bob Minor here, but owing to the very bad "go" of the tenor only about half was accomplished. In the evening six 6-scores of Bob Doubles and the same number of Grandsire were rung, Mr. Martin, of Hendon, taking part in the latter. It is several years since anything was rung on these bells. The company were Messrs. Tyler, Cutter, Wear, Kilby, Kendall, Wellar, Jakeman, and Meadows, Esq.

LONGDON (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, November 5th, six members of the Tewkesbury Abbey Society of Change-ringers rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 24 mins. S. Cleal, 1; F. J. Moore, 2; C. Halford, 3; J. Hale, 4; Jno. Wathen, 5; Josiah Wathen (conductor), 6.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Monday evening, November 6th, six members of the local society rang with the bells half muffled, as a tribute of respect to the memory of Mrs. Clough, (a prominent church member and Sunday school teacher), who was interred on the above date, 720 of Double Court Bob Minor, being the first performed of that method on the above bells, in 27 mins. R. Hickton, 1; S. Clark, 2; J. Ward, 3; W. Gibson, 4; A. Widdowson, 5; J. Barrow (conductor), 6. Also 600 of Bob minor, 240 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, and 99 changes of Grandsire Doubles, (round at hand), was rung during the evening. Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

PALGRAVE (Suffolk).—On Saturday, November 4th, part of the Diss and Eye companies met at St. Peter's church, and paid their last token of respect to their late comrade Mr. Thomas Preston, by

attending his funeral, and directly afterwards rang a 720 of Bob Minor, with the bells half muffed, in 27 mins. W. Ireland (conductor), 1; J. Rudd, 2; C. Webster, 3; E. Francis, 4; T. Ford, 5; T. Clarke, 6. Also a 504 of Oxford, in 19 mins. W. Ireland (conductor), 1; T. Ford, 2; J. Cuthbert, 3; F. Day, 4; G. Day, 5; W. Brown, 6; concluding with the whole pull and stand. Tenor 9 cwt. in A. The ringers then proceeded to St. Mary's, Diss, and after muffling the bells, rang 1200 changes of Bob Major, in 54 mins. W. Ireland (conductor), 1; J. Rudd, 2; T. Ford, 3; G. Day, 4; E. Francis, 5; W. Brown, 6; F. Day, 7; T. Clarke, 8. After which three more touches of Plain Bob and one of Grandsire, in which Messrs. Webster, Scales, C. Rudd, Driver, Morley, Cuthbert, Murton, and Morley took part, conducted by Mr. George Murton, of Eye. The whole pull and stand was then gone through, and after the muffles were taken off two courses of Kent Treble Bob was rung. Tenor 24 cwt. in D. Deceased had been a member of the Norwich Association since its commencement, and for 27 years a faithful servant in the police force. He was in his 62nd year.

REDENHALL (Norfolk.—On Saturday, November 4th, 1120 changes of Superlative Surprise Major was rung by eight members of the Redenhall company. E. Smith (conductor), 1; J. Bentley, 2; W. Sheldrake, 3; R. Whiting, 4; G. Prime, 5; G. Mobbs, 6; J. Smith, 7; Captain Moore, 8.

WARNHAM (Sussex).—On Sunday, November 5th, the local company rang five 720's in the Court Bob and Plain Bob methods. The first was Plain Bob, with forty-two singles: William Wood, 1; William Short, 2; Henry Chantler, 3; Henry Wood, 4; Thomas Andrews, 5; Henry Burstow, 6. The second was Plain Bob, with eighteen bobs and two singles: Elias Knight rang the third to this one, the others same as the first. The third was Court Bob, with thirty singles: Wm. Muggerage, 1; Elias Knight, 2; George Rapley, 3; George Jenkins, 4; Felix Knight, 5; Henry Burstow, 6. The fourth was Court Bob, with twenty-six singles: Henry Chantler rang the sixth to this one, the rest same as the one previous. The fifth was Shipway's 720 of Plain Bob, with twenty-two singles, in ten parts, and rung by the same men who rung the first 720. Conducted by H. Burstow.

WILLESDEN.—On the 2nd of November, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with thirty bobs and two singles. W. A. Tyler (conductor), 1; F. Weare, 2; H. Cutter, 3; W. Meadows, Esq., 4; R. Kilby, 5; G. Jackson, 6. And on Sunday, was rung another 720 by the same band, W. Kendall taking the treble.

BELL FOUNDING OPERATIONS.

Messrs. WARNER AND SONS have received orders for a ring of eight bells, for a new church at Enfield, Middlesex (built by Mrs. Twells in memory of her late husband). The tenor of this new peal will be about 20 cwt. The inscriptions to be placed upon them, round the soundbow, will be of a special character of lettering.

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."

BELL REFEREES.

SIR,—When I was a boy at school, and had learnt to pull the rope and catch the sally of the large school-bell, and at times to go into the church tower to have a pull there, I had no idea that it would be my lot to be connected with a bellfounder's business for sixteen years, and ultimately to dive into the question of bellfounding and judging bells.

At that time my father used frequently to instil into my mind those short but terse words of the good book, "Behold, what a great fire a little spark kindleth."

At that time I had no idea that I should in after-life have to say somewhat in defence of my own conduct—which conduct would be found to have been the means of the production of the little spark which had kindled a fire of discussion through the medium of your paper. I do not know if you are aware of the fact that from the publication of the article which appeared in *The Palatine Note-Book* for May, 1881, in your journal of June, 1881, and the letter which I wrote, and which was published in your journal of December, 1881, which answered Mr. R. Langton's assertion that "no man could tell why the great hour-bell of the town hall, Manchester, had cracked!" has caused a deal of correspondence in *The Manchester City News*; and further, the aspersions of Mr. Langton—the writer of the articles in *The Palatine Note-Book*—has been pleased to make in another letter to that journal as to the honesty of my intent, from the fact that I was in the employ of a rival bellfounder. It will, I have no doubt, be very interesting to your readers to know that I have been at some trouble to find out who this Mr. Robert Langton really is, who has taken upon himself the office of referee in bell matters, the authorship of some lines in connection with bell literature, and the origin of innuendoes as to the honesty of one of your contributors; and I may say that several letters which I have addressed to this Mr. Robert Langton have not received a reply, the first in which I asked him if he was the writer of these articles; and the second, wherein I asked him if it was not a fact that he had been employed by the Messrs. Taylor and Co. to produce their wood-cuts of this and other bells.

The Editor of *The Palatine Note-Book* has given me the information that this Mr. Robert Langton is the wood-engraver of Albert Chambers, Manchester, and that I

might expect a letter from him in answer to my enquiries. This Mr. Robert Langton appears then to be an engraver on wood, and is the gentleman who has been frequently employed by the founders of the Manchester bells, and at the same time has forgotten to show the defects of the casting of this particular bell which were to be seen on the face of it in the photographs taken at the time, of which I had a copy sent to me, without any solicitation on my part, at the time when it was produced. This is the gentleman who has assumed to write upon the bells of his masters' production, and to say that no man could tell why it cracked! This is the gentleman who was one of the referees appointed by the Manchester bell committee to inspect and report upon bells, and I ask, in fairness and justice—Is this the man who should be taken for an authority upon bells, or to be a referee of a reliable nature in other similar cases? For should we let him palm himself off as an authority upon bellfounding, the rival bellfounders of his friends will have to be plagued with a wood engraver, who assumes an authority without practical knowledge of the subject upon which he presumes to be a judge, and the result will be that the purchasers of bells will suffer by his interference, as the country and the corporation of Manchester have, by the interference of other self-constituted authorities, who, while they condemn every one but themselves and their own friends, are not ready to show that, whilst in the first instance they condemn in print the porosity of bells, pass them as good castings when they are called upon to act as referees, and when asked upon oath if they can tell the cause or cure of porosity in the casting of bells, have confessed that they did not know.

I enclose a copy of the letters which I have sent to the Editor of *The Palatine Note-Book*, which I should be glad if you would insert for your readers, and ask your pardon for the lengthy matter which I have now sent to you for insertion. My sole object in so doing is to warn your readers against self-constituted authorities, or judges of bells, whose knowledge of the facts are trivial, and whose judgement is not to be relied upon; persons who do not mind making inaccurate statements, and throwing out innuendoes and libels, whilst they may receive adulation and fees.

S. B. GOSLIN.

[Copy.] "J. E. Bailey, Esq.,

"Egerton Villa, Stretford, Manchester.

"The Editor of *The Palatine Note-Book*.

"Dear Sir,—Referring to our previous correspondence in reference to the letter or article in the issue of your journal dated March 1st, 1882, written by Mr. R. Langton, whom, as it appears, is of Albert Chambers, Manchester, and is an engraver on wood, in which he has seen fit to throw some aspersions as to the honesty and right, or good will in the expressions which I made in a letter to 'THE BELL NEWS' of December, 1881, may I ask you to be kind enough to tell your readers that whilst it is the fact that I happen to be the general manager of Messrs. Warner and Sons' business, it is also the fact that bellfounding, brassfounding, and bronzefounding, have been my study for some years, with the advantage of the opportunities of practical experiments and daily operations which would be out of the province of a wood engraver, who whilst frequently engaged to cut the wood-cuts for Messrs. Taylor and Co. for their illustrations, is hardly the person to publicly laud the productions in point as a disinterested party; and who, if he had not made the assertion in your journal of May 2nd, 1881, with an air of authority, that no man could tell why the bell should give in, which was copied in 'THE BELL NEWS,' would not have called forth the answer which I gave as to its porosity and cause of failure. I should like your readers to know that this Mr. Langton has a happy method of not showing defects in wood-cuts as are to be seen in the photographs of the bell under discussion, as it really was, from which your readers may judge, if the inscription on the bell, as well as my very awkward answer to Mr. Langton's authority is correct, as it runs—

"Ring out the false; ring in the true."

"Yours very truly,

(Signed) "S. B. GOSLIN."

[Copy.] "J. E. Bailey, Esq.,

"Egerton Villa, Stretford, Manchester.

"Dear Sir,—In accordance with your favour of the 13th, I enclose a copy of an answer which I should be obliged, in common justice to me and your readers, if you will insert in your next issue to Mr. Langton's aspersions as to my motives and intent in writing as I did, in reply to his letter, in 'THE BELL NEWS.' I send copies of this correspondence to 'THE BELL NEWS,' as they are interested therein. I know nothing of the origin of the re-copies in the Manchester papers except very recent information, and long after they appeared.

(Signed) "Yours truly,

"S. B. GOSLIN."

THE 2520 AT SPALDING.

SIR,—I read with interest the account of the 2520 rung at Spalding, on October 26th, which, I think, does the ringers great credit, but I think your correspondent should have stated that the first part of the performance was rung on the last five bells by five of the ringers only, and that Mr. Creasey only came in and assisted in the two 720's, which formed the last part, two of the other ringers changing bells as well, which altogether, is not strictly speaking, a correct thing in ringing any particular length.

J. R. JERRAM.

A PECULIAR INTERROGATORY.

SIR,—Can you or any of your readers tell me if it is correct that the ringers of St. Peter's, Norwich, always have a New Year's feast in the belfry, in the shape of hot pot and bread and beer, and is it subscribed to by the principal gentry of the city? If so, a little belfry reform would not be out of place there.

M. R.

THE BELLS OF ST. PANCRAS.

SIR,—In your last issue, a most interesting cutting from another paper gives an account of new bells in St. Pancras new church:—the state of bells in this church has long been a puzzle to many. The strictures on the character of the edifice have been fully dilated upon by Augustus Pugin, who has taught us that it is anything but a cathedral; especially in the unhappy way the steeple was obtained, viz.—two "temples of the winds" placed one on top of another!

Passing over the architectural detail for the present, at least, in this paper, we always used to hear three bells drummed out, and believed a fourth was in existence; but how hung or rung in such a ginger-bread structure was an enigma; a few more particulars, relative to the four older bells, by whom cast? and how hung? would be most interesting to many former inhabitants in this part of London—and are the new bells to be only drummed upon?

The weight of the old fourth bell is certainly astonishing—but the original cost of the bells, as given in Britton and Pugin's volume, is now explained. Having slept very often in the Euston Hotel—or rather made attempt to, it always occurred to us that the hour struck on an enormous gong, or very thin large bell.

C.

DOUBLE NORWICH.

SIR,—I see in "THE BELL NEWS" of October the 14th, Mr. Snowdon mentions the fact as an encouragement to others, that the peal of Double Norwich Court Bob, rung by the College Youths, the company only met twelve times for practice, including the time they rang the peal. The peal rung at Redenhall, in 1876, the company only met eight times, and each time the company met, the distance walked by the eight was fifty-six miles, being an average of seven miles per man. By insert these few remarks in "THE BELL NEWS," you will greatly oblige the Redenhall company.

J. SMITH.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.
10,080.

BY THE LATE WILLIAM HARRISON, *Mottram.*

2 3 4 5 6 M B W H

5 6 7 4 3 2 2*
2 3 7 5 4 6 I 4th.
5 2 7 3 4 6 I - 2
2 6 4 3 5 2 I in and out.
6 3 2 5 4 -
3 5 6 4 2 -
5 4 3 2 6 -
2 5 4 6 3 - 2
5 6 2 3 4 -
6 3 5 4 2 -
3 4 6 2 5 -
4 2 3 5 6 -

Twice repeated.

* Out a double, 4th, 4th and in, 1 in 5th.

Rung at Mottram, November 4th, 1882; conducted by Samuel Wood.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5184.

BY ARTHUR KNIGHTS, *Chesterfield.*

2 3 4 5 6

4 5 3 2 6 9th in and out at two.
5 2 3 4 6 8th in three.
3 5 2 4 6 7th in three.
2 3 5 4 6 7th in three.
3 4 5 2 6 8th in three.
4 2 5 3 6 8th in three.
5 4 3 2 6 7th in three.
2 5 4 3 6 7th in three.
5 3 4 2 6 8th in three.
3 2 4 5 6 8th in three.
4 3 2 5 6 7th in three.
2 4 3 5 6 7th in three.
3 4 6 5 2 8 7.
6 3 4 5 2 7th in three.
4 6 3 5 2 7th in three.
6 5 3 4 2 8th in three.
5 4 3 6 2 8th in three.
3 5 4 6 2 7th in three.
4 3 5 6 2 7th in three.
3 6 5 4 2 8th in three.
6 4 5 3 2 8th in three.
5 6 4 3 2 7th in three.
4 5 6 3 2 7th in three.
5 3 6 4 2 8th in three.

The last twelve courses twice repeated produce—

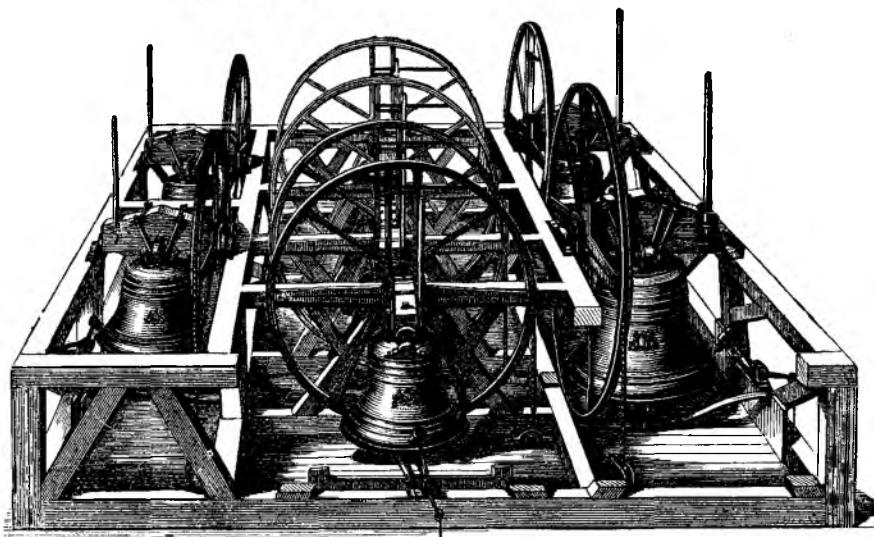
3 2 5 6 4

5 2 4 6 3 8 7.
4 5 2 6 3 7th in three.
2 4 5 6 3 7th in three.
4 6 5 2 3 8th in three.
5 4 6 2 3 7th in three.

Rounds are produced by calling the 8th, 6th, 4th, and 2nd, into the hunt.

The Chapel Royal, Whitehall, which had been closed since the 13th of August for necessary internal repairs, was reopened for Divine service last Sunday. The walls of Inigo Jones' nobly-proportioned chamber have been repainted a bright stone colour, and the discoloured old crimson festoons, which, it is said, had previously done service at her Majesty's coronation in Westminster Abbey, have been replaced by a dark maroon material—not crimson, as generally selected for the Royal chapels. Fortunately, during the recent renovations Rubens' magnificent ceiling and its rich gilt framework was untouched. The only alteration in the service is that the gentlemen and boys in the choir have seats before the pulpit and Royal closet, instead of in the galleries as heretofore.

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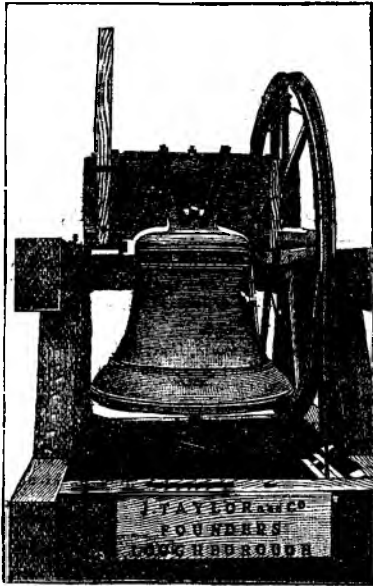
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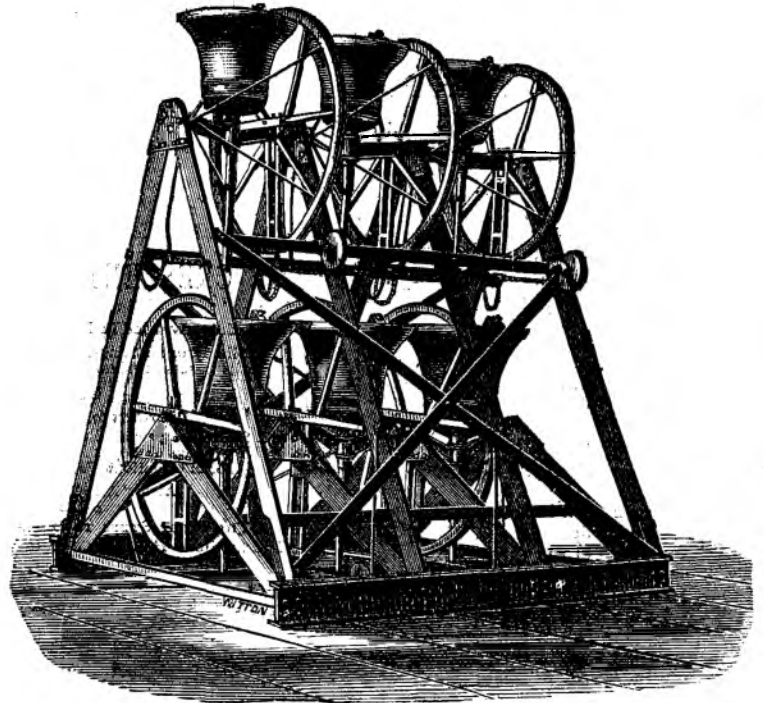
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