

# THE BELL NEWS

## And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 43. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. I.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 1883.

[ONE PENNY.]



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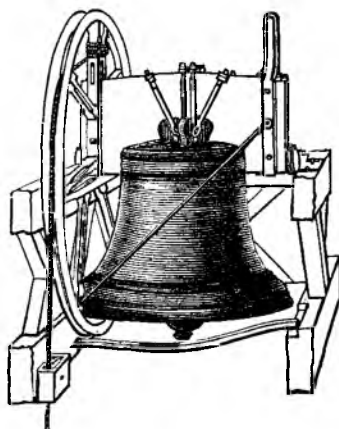
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The last chapter is devoted to a list of the names of Composers of the different peals, with various particulars, and in the cases of deceased Composers with the dates of death, age, etc.

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## THE BELLS OF BONNIE DUNDEE AND THEIR RINGERS.

THERE exists a rather prevalent opinion among strangers to Dundee that the bonnie town was celebrated for its bells at least two hundred years ago, at the time the infamous John Graham of Claverhouse was busy about the foul work of his weak and cruel master, James II., whose last contribution to the peerage, before his flight from London, was to make his notorious tool Viscount of Dundee.

This notion has evidently arisen from the lines of the famous song, which run:

Dundee he is mounted, he rides up the street,  
The bells they ring backward, the drums they are beat.

and more than one writer upon the subject of bells has assumed that the expression "ringing backward" was meant in the sense that they were rung contrary to the usual fashion, *i.e.*, from bass to treble, instead of from treble to bass, or tenor, and proceed to give instances of fire alarms, etc., being sounded in various parts of the country in a similar fashion. These hypotheses are founded upon the assumption that Dundee possessed a peal of bells of, at any rate, not less than five or six, and more probably eight, the latter being the number generally taken for granted by most writers upon the subject. But it is very doubtful whether in 1688 Dundee possessed more than one bell in any of its churches or steeples, and in fact the only one of which any record exists, hung in a turret appertaining to an old private house that formerly stood at the north end of Murraygate. This bell, before being re-cast in 1827, was found to bear the date of 1636.

It is very probable, therefore, that the author of "Bonnie Dundee," having seen a bell or bells rung "up," meant by "backward" (if he meant anything at all), to express the seemingly violent manner in which that operation is effected, calculated to arouse alarm in the minds of the uninitiated in bellringing.

The bells next in point of age were the two in the old steeple, cast by "J. OUDERROGGE, ROTTERDAMI, 1693." The largest of these was badly broken during the rebellion in 1745, which was said to have been done by a violent ringing (?) to celebrate the arrival of some succours from France. Bell experts will take this story for what it is worth. It remained in this state till 1819, when it was taken down, sent to London, and recast, but of a considerably less size, by "T. MEARS OF LONDON."

The old Trades' Hall had a good-toned bell by "PACK AND CHAPMAN, 1778," and upon the demolition of that building, it was rehung in the Town Hall, which already contained several bells of a mixed character; these were replaced, after a fire, in 1857, by the present not "most musical" but certainly "most melancholy" peal, upon which the clock chimes the quarters.

There are three odd bells at St. Andrew's Church, the two smaller of good tone, but the large one very panny.

About 1871 or '72 a fine peal of eight, tenor 23 cwt. was cast and hung by Mears and Stainbank in the tower of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, a fine work of Sir Gilbert Scott's.

In 1872, as a finish to the restoration of the magnificent old steeple, the pride and glory of Dundee, a movement was set on foot to provide a peal of bells worthy of the tower, and by the perseverance and energy of Mr. John Leng, the proprietor of the *Dundee Advertiser*, and the generosity of individual donors, six new bells were provided, Mr. Leng himself giving the largest, the present 6th; Mears' bell of 1819 weighing about 20 cwt. being retained as the tenor, and the old Rotterdam bell being re-cast to form the 7th. The bells were cast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank of Whitechapel, London, and are considered worthy of their reputation. They have been rendered more complete and serviceable by the hand chimes, the cost of which was defrayed by Messrs. W. Miles and P. Anderson. These hand-chimes comprise a fine peal of 56 musical bells by George Stockham. A band of eight members of the Ancient Society of College Youths were brought from London, at a cost of about £80, to inaugurate the bells, this they did by ringing Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples in 3 hours and 7 minutes, on May 21st, 1873, under the conductorship of Mr. M. A. Wood. One of the band, J. R. Haworth, remained in Dundee for six months, salaried by the Town Council, for the purpose of instructing the town ringers in the art of change-ringing.

Having thus sketched the history of the bells down to recent times, there remains a few words to be said about the ringing. Alas, bellringing, as the term is understood by proficient in the art, is simply non-existent, although, as shown above, the town possesses two as fine peals of eight as there are in the country. The reason for this very unsatisfactory state of things are various, one of the most potent being the want of a society or association, embracing every member of both bands, thus bringing together a sufficient number of men who would be induced to devote a few hours each week to mastering the intricacies of the art. At present there are, possibly, a few in each band so inclined, but they have no common ground upon which to meet, and the consequence is that each go their own way year after year, clashing away at "Stoney," and very bad "Stoney" too. What little the instructor taught them in 1873 has been utterly lost, none of the band thus taught now remaining in the town, the best man, a Mr. William Hill, having been drowned in Africa.

It may seem a very harsh term to use "very bad Stoney," but in the case of the old steeple there is a very good, or rather a very bad reason for such bad ringing. In this tower the authorities have neglected to have a "deadening" floor put in, there being nothing but the floor upon which the frame stands between the ringers and the bells. The consequence is that the noise is deafening, if anything, worse than York Minster, the caller being for the most part inaudible, even when shouting at the top of his voice: it is a mere truism to assert that under such circumstances good striking is simply unattainable. We may be permitted to doubt whether the band of College Youths who rang the opening peal would ring another for their own pleasure, if they even happened to be within easy distance. A well known member of the Royal Cumberland Youths, who made a prolonged stay in the town about four years ago, and who was visited by three or four other members of the same society from London, offered to provide the materials for a floor, on condition that the authorities would fix it, but the project came to nought.

At St. Paul's, too, there might be better striking. The bells are in good going order, and are heard just nicely from the ringing-room, but the ringers have fallen into the habit of ringing with no open lead at hand, consequently they soon get confused; and moreover, in justice to them it should be stated that the circle is bad, the 7th rope falling right behind the 6th and tenor, and their opportunities of practice are very small. Owing to the propinquity of the theatre, practice is not permitted later than 7.30 p.m., this practically limits them to a single half-hour's practice per week.

It is cheering to notice however, that there are some signs of better things being at hand, and it is to be hoped that a move in the right direction having been made, the ringers of the Bells of Bonnie Dundee, famed wherever the English tongue is spoken (although upon mistaken grounds), will persevere, and endeavour to do something worthy of the name of bell-ringing. There is also room for a little "Belfry Reform," and we would ask them, in all kindness, to read attentively our article in a recent number upon the subject, which will show the direction in which reform is needed. It is worthy of notice that the keeping of the old steeple bells has been in the same family for at least four generations.

## THE BELLS OF SUFFOLK.

BEING much interested in that district of Suffolk about which "N. W. W. M." has published an account in "THE BELL NEWS" of the 6th instant, and knowing well most of the belfries there referred to by him, I should like to add a few remarks to his, at the same time hoping that, should they come under his notice, he will not think that I wish in any way to detract from the merits of his paper in so doing.

The ring of twelve at Ipswich (the only one in Suffolk) is not unfrequently brought before the readers of "THE BELL NEWS," by the performances of the S. Mary-le-Tower ringers, a most energetic and successful company, a superior to which it would be hard to find out of London. But a short time ago the pretty story of the way in which the ring was increased from ten to twelve, and put in order, was published in this paper, (see p. 235) so I will only just refer to it by saying, it was through the munificence of the late T. C. Cobbold, Esq. of Holy Wells, Ipswich. The 5th and 9th were recast, and a new treble and tenor were added by J. Warner and Sons, of Cripplegate, in 1866. The second and third were cast by J. Taylor and Son, of Loughborough, in 1845 and 1844 respectively; the 4th by Christopher Graye, in 1688, 6th, 8th, 10th by John Darbie, 1671; 7th by Miles Graye in 1607; and the 11th, by Miles Graye in 1610. Two other rings in the town deserve to be mentioned as being especially interesting, one being that of S. Margaret's, tenor 17 cwt. in F. This is a complete ring by the celebrated founder, Miles Graye, of Colchester, cast in 1630, and as far as I know is the only one of his in existence. The Tenor bears the inscription:

The living to the church, the dead unto the grave,  
That's my only calli'g and propertie I have.

The other ring which deserves special notice, is that of S. Lawrence's, tenor 15 cwt. in F. It consists of five "black-letter" bells; and with the exception of a ring of four at S. Botolph's, Cambridge, is, I believe the only "black-letter" ring in the Eastern counties. The bells are severally inscribed:—

Treble—Sancta Maria Ora Pro Nobis.  
2nd—Sancta Katerina Ora Pro Nobis.  
3rd—Sonitus Egidii Accendit Ad Culmina Celi.  
4th—Nos Thorne Meritis Mereamur Gaudice Lucis.  
Tenor—Sum Rosa Pulsata Mundi Maria Vocata.

The treble is by a London founder, whose name is unknown. The second is by a founder who lived at Bury St. Edmunds, whose initials appear on his foundry stamp as H. S. The other three are the work of Richard Brasyer, of Norwich. All are 15th century bells, and are a good-toned ring of five. Rings similar to that at Otley are not at all uncommon in this district, there being a great number of mediæval bells in this part of the country. With regard to the Otley ring in particular, N. W. W. M.'s tradition of the third, fourth, and fifth being cast in the churchyard is not improbable, but they are not all the

work of the same founder. The 3rd was certainly the work of a founder residing at Bury S. Edmunds, many of whose bells are to be found in the neighbourhood. This is proved by the peculiarity of the capital letters, and also by the foundry stamp, which is given in *L'Estrange's Church Bells of Norfolk*, p. 62. This founder has not left us his name behind, but his stamp bears two letters, which are generally supposed to be "H.S.," and this is all we know of him. He appears to have carried on business about the latter end of the 15th century, and was not improbably one of the monks of the Abbey. Shortly afterwards we find bell-founding carried on here by one "Chirch." The inscription on this bell is:—

Sancta Katerina Ora Pro Nobis.

The 4th and 5th are the work of Richard Brasyer, of Norwich, and bear his well-known highly ornamented capital letters and ermine shield, given in the *Church Bells of Norfolk*, p. 31. Their inscriptions are:

4th—Hac Tu Conclave Gabriel Nunc Pange Suave.  
5th—Nos Thome Meritis Mereamur Gaudice Lucis.

There are many of Brasyer's bells scattered about Norfolk and Suffolk, and they are mostly of a superior quality, both in tone and workmanship. The tenor speaks for itself:—

De Buri Sante Edmondi Stephanus Touni, me Fecit. W. L. 1576.

W. L. stands for one William Land, at this time Touni's foreman, but he afterwards set up business for himself.

The beautiful ring of eight at Coddendam, tenor 16½ cwt. in F♯, was presented by Theodore Ecclestone, Esq., at the beginning of the last (not the present) century, as is proved by the inscriptions on the bells themselves, e.g., that on the treble:

Theodore Eccleston, Esqre., 1742. Thomas Lester made mee.

This bell also bears the inscription:—

Although I am but small, I will be heard above you all.

About the same time, this Mr. Ecclestone also presented the Stoneham ring of ten, tenor 24 cwt. in E, as is shown by the inscription on the 9th, which reads thus:—

In this tower hung 5 bells the tenor weighing 10 cwt. 2 qrs. In the year 1742 they were taken down and with the addition of 3 tons of metal were recast into ten at the expense of Theodore Ecclestone Esqre., of Crowfield Hall, aged 27 years. He gave also a new frame at the same time 1742. Thos. Lester made us all.

With the exception of the 9th and tenor, the whole ring has since been recast. What became of this Mr. Ecclestone I have been up to the present unable to ascertain, but I have heard a tradition that he became bankrupt, and went out to America. In *Page's History of Suffolk*, I find that he was owner of the Crowfield Hall estate, which was purchased in the year 1764, by William, son of Arthur Middleton, Esq., governor of South Carolina, and grandfather of the late Sir William F. F. Middleton, Bart., of Shrubland Hall.

The other ring of eight, viz., at Debenham, mentioned by N. W. W. M., I have never had the pleasure of listening to, but have always heard them spoken of in terms of praise. The tenor is 20 cwt. in E. The whole ring, with the exception of the 5th (cast in 1793 by T. Mears), is the work of Messrs. Lester and Pack, of the Whitechapel Foundry, London. They are all dated 1761. The tenor bears the humorous stanza:

In wedlock's bands all ye who join,  
Your hearts with hands unite,  
So shall our tuneful tongues combine,  
To laud the nuptial rite.

Within a few miles of Coddendam are two fine rings of eight which N. W. W. M. has not referred to.

The first of these is Helmingham, tenor 19¾ cwt. in D. These bells were all cast by Mr. T. Mears in 1815, and were presented by the Earl of Dysart. There is a good and energetic company of change-ringers here, and several peals have been obtained during the last year or two. In the adjoining parish of Framdsen, there is also a good ring of eight bells, tenor 16½ cwt. in F. Five of these bells were presented by the patron of the living, Lionel Tollemach, Earl of Dysart in 1773. The 6th was the work of Henry Pleasant, in 1706. The treble and 2nd were the gift of Wilbraham, Earl of Dysart, in 1814, and were cast by T. Mears. The 3rd was recast by W. Dobson, of Downham, in 1809.

Two rings of six in the neighbourhood deserve mention: one at Clopton, the adjoining parish to Otlev, the tenor weighs about 15 cwt. in F♯, and is the work of Lester and Pack, in 1788, as are also the rest of the ring, with the exception of the 3rd, which has since been recast by the firm of Moore, Holmes, and Mackenzie, of Redenhall. The other is at Grundisburgh, the tenor weighing 14 cwt.; the treble is by T. Mears, 1830; 2nd and 4th by J. Darbie, 1665; 3rd by Pack and Chapman; 5th by G. Mears, 1864; tenor by Miles Graye in 1628. In conclusion I must say that I owe too much to the assistance that Mr. T. Sadler has ever been willing to give me, not to thoroughly endorse what N. W. W. M. has said in reference to the perseverance and trouble that he has for some long time past taken to instruct numerous bands of young ringers throughout the district. It must be a great satisfaction to him to see how well many of his pupils have profited by his lessons, and it is to be hoped that he will long be spared to see the result of his labours. W. P.

## LINDFIELD. SUSSEX.

ON Saturday, January 20th, the tower of St. Peter's parish church was visited by the following ringers:—Messrs. Jno. Gasson, E. Streeter, F. Streeter, and W. Comber, from Balcombe; and G. Hillman, F. Rice, and B. Payne, from Worth, who rang six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, being the first 120's on the bells. W. F. Meads, the Secretary of the newly-formed Society here, rang the treble in two of them. Conducted by J. Gasson. Tenor about 18 cwt. in E.

A short paragraph about these bells appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" of December 30th. The two coins which are stated in error to be cast in the 2nd bell, are in the treble. They are about the size of a crown piece, having the "head" outwards and the words "Carolus II., Dei Gratia," but no date.

## ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, KIRK ELLA, YORKSHIRE.

On Tuesday, January 9th, this ring of six bells was solemnly dedicated to God's service. The new peal, which has been cast and hung by Messrs. Taylor and Co., and fitted with Ellacombe chiming apparatus, is the generous gift of Arthur Egginton, Esq., of South Ella. The opening peal was performed by members of the Yorkshire Association of change-ringers, from Holy Trinity church, Hull, as given in the last number of this paper. At 7 o'clock Divine Service commenced, and the church was filled. The ceremony was performed by the Vicar, the Rev. James Foord, M.A.; intonations by the Rev. H. C. Davies, B.A., Curate; and the lessons read by the Revs. W. T. Pearson, and R. H. Foord, B.A. In the midst of the service, and during a pause, the ringers gave a round upon the bells.

The sermon was preached by the Rev. H. L. Clarke, M.A., Vicar of Hedon, who spoke of the change and improvement that had taken place amongst our ringers during the last fifty years.

## THE SCIENCE AT HERTFORD.

THIS ancient county town possesses features of great interest relative to the ringing Exercise, if only from the fact that the art has, in years gone by, received great encouragement and patronage from several noblemen who figure most conspicuously in our historical annals. We have on a previous occasion alluded to various documents in the possession of the Hertford College Youths—a totally different association to the London society bearing that title—which shows that ringing flourished here at an early period. But though the ringers of a past age were thus fortunately placed in having such patrons as the Earl of Salisbury and the like, we question whether the ringers of that day were equal to those of the present in point of skill. And considering that such a town, so far as ringing matters were concerned, would repay a visit, we last Tuesday made our way thither.

Hertford boasts of two rings of bells: All Saints, a ring of ten, about 22 cwt., and St. Andrew's, a ring of eight. Many of our readers will not need to be told that the rector of the latter church is the Rev. Woolmore Wigram, the author of the work, *Change-Ringing Disentangled*. On the evening of our visit, practice took place at All Saints, where, of course, we attended. The ringing-chamber is a marvel of neatness and comfort, and the bells go very well. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major, with a course of Grandsire Caters were rung, but the striking of either was not up to the mark, this is however, not to be wondered at, the majority of the company being actually learners, but we hope at our next visit to hear of an improvement in this direction. We are sure, even from the little knowledge we have of the Hertford gentlemen, that they will not take our advice amiss, when we tell them that they should early give their attention to so important a matter as precision of striking. The leads, when they are good, they should endeavour to perpetuate throughout their touches, and their tenor ringers should be shown, in polite but forcible language, how easy it is for a mere "coverer" to destroy the ringing compass. A little attention would soon bring about a happy change, to the satisfaction of all, and we believe from the calibre of this ringing company, not one of them would object to being told when they may be striking indifferently. We would impress upon them the desirability of listening to each blow of the bell when ringing, and when thus discovering a bad blow after a certain bell, take pains to gauge the blow correctly when that bell again comes up.

The ropes at All Saints may certainly be improved by being replaced by others less clumsy to handle. This is, however, about the only fault to find with the belfry arrangements, and that can be easily overcome. As long as ringing remains in the hands of the gentlemen constituting the present company, Hertford will always be one of the most favoured spots near London for a visit, and we need not say that the courtesy of the gentlemen forming the company highly enhances the prospect of a ringer's enjoyment.

We would recommend all who visit this town to make their head quarters at "The Maidenhead Inn," where they will find the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Fryor, do everything to make them comfortable, indeed the visits of ringers who have on so many occasions called on Mr. Fryor testify to his genial, hospitable, and gentlemanly treatment.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### CHARGES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS.

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

## The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 1883.

IN response to the wishes of many ringers who have been unable to obtain copies of our Christmas number, we have at great inconvenience reprinted a few hundreds of that issue, which are now on sale at the publisher's.

### The Metropolis.

#### THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, January 20, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,  
AT ST. MATTHEW'S, BETHNAL GREEN,

#### A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART.

JOSEPH WEST .. .. .	Treble.	THOMAS DUPEN .. .. .	5.
WILLIAM CECIL .. .. .	2.	EDWARD WALLAGE .. .. .	6.
JOHN BONNEY .. .. .	3.	MATTHEW A. WOOD .. .. .	7.
WILLIAM COOTER .. .. .	4.	JAMES MONDAY .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by MATTHEW A. WOOD.

The above peal was rung in commemoration of the fortieth year of Mr. Matthew A. Wood's charge of the bells.

### The Provinces.

#### BRIGHOUSE, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, January 20, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,  
AT ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH,

#### A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14½ cwt.

HENRY WILSON .. .. .	Treble.	WILSON WOOD .. .. .	5.
JOHN WALKER RAWLINSON .. .. .	2.	FRED CROSSLEY .. .. .	6.
JOHN FRANCIS PEARSON .. .. .	3.	CHRISTOPHER NIELD .. .. .	7.
GEORGE LAWTON .. .. .	4.	JOHN WILLIAM WALKER .. .. .	Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL, and Conducted by JOHN WILLIAM WALKER.

#### MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.

On Saturday, January 20, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

#### A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

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

JOHN SIDEBOTHAM .. .. .	Treble.	WILLIAM MIDDLETON .. .. .	5.
JOHN HARROP .. .. .	2.	JAMES S. WILDE .. .. .	6.
ROBERT WRIGHT .. .. .	3.	THOMAS BRADDOCK .. .. .	7.
ROBERT WOOLLEY .. .. .	4.	THOMAS WILDE .. .. .	Tenor.

Composed and conducted by JAMES S. WILDE.

Messrs. Woolley and Wilde Brothers hail from Hyde; and the rest of the company from Mottram.

#### THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, CRAYFORD, KENT.

On Monday, January 22, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT ST. PAULINUS' CHURCH,

#### A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART.

W. J. REEVE .. .. .	Treble.	C. F. WINNY .. .. .	5.
J. SAXBY .. .. .	2.	R. FRENCH .. .. .	6.
G. CONYARD .. .. .	3.	F. M. JACOBS .. .. .	7.
C. HAMMANT .. .. .	4.	THOMAS WEBB .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES SAXBY.

#### LEESFIELD, LANCASHIRE.

On Tuesday, January 23, 1883, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH,

#### A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

JAMES THOMAS HARTLEY .. .. .	Treble.	JAMES PRIESTLEY .. .. .	5.
FRED CROSLAND .. .. .	2.	FRANK EDMUNDSON .. .. .	6.
JAMES PLATT .. .. .	3.	SAMUEL STOTT .. .. .	7.
GEO. HY. BEAVER .. .. .	4.	JOHN HILTON .. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by GEO. HENRY BEAVER.

Messrs. Hartley, Crosland, Platt, Priestly, and Edmundson, hail from Oldham; Messrs. Beaver and Stott from Glodwick; and John Hilton from Leesfield.

### Date Touches.

#### THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BRADFORD (Yorkshire).—On Tuesday, January 23d, at St. John's church, by the St. James's (Bolton) society, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major. R. S. Ambler, 1; H. Rastrick, 2; R. Tuke, Esq., 3; J. Broadley, 4; B. Sugden, 5; A. Moulson, 6; B. T. Copley, 7; J. B. Jennings, 8. Composed by B. T. Copley, and conducted by J. B. Jennings. Time 1 hr. 10½ mins. Tenor 15½ cwt.

ROTHERHAM (Yorkshire).—On Tuesday, January 23rd, this branch of the above Association rang a date touch of Stedman Caters, 1883 changes, in 1 hr. 19 mins. George Briggs, 1; Thomas Jenkinson, 2; Fred Coates, 3; Job Athey, 4; Walter Coates, 5; John Hale, 6; George Flint, 7; Tom Lee, 8; Alfred Rodgers, 9; William Hirst and assistant, 10. Composed by Fred Coates, and conducted by Walter Coates. Tenor 32 cwt.

#### THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ECCLES.—On Monday evening, January 22nd, eight of the local company rang at the parish church a date touch of Bob Major, 1883 changes, in 1 hr. 5 mins. John Barratt, 1; James Scholey, 2; William Walton, 3; Thomas Yates, 4; James Barratt, 5; Richard Ashcroft, 6; George Henry Johnson (composer and conductor), 7; William Ashcroft, 8. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs.

TICKHILL (Yorkshire).—On Tuesday, January 23rd, the local society rang for practice at St. Mary's church a date touch of 1883 changes, consisting of 720 of Duke of York; 720 of New London Pleasure; and 443 of Oxford Treble Bob; which was completed in 1 hr. 7 mins. Alfred Wright, 1; Charles Ainley, 2; John S. Jenkinson, 3; Thomas Manfield, 4; George Gleadall, 5; Francis Jenkinson (conductor), 6. Tenor 19½ cwt. in F.

WALTON-LE-DALE (Lancashire).—On Thursday, January 4th, at St. Leonard's Church, on the occasion of the marriage of J. F. Kershaw, Esq., and Miss Wilson, five of the parish ringers, assisted by Mr. Jas. Mather, of Higher Walton, rang a date touch of 1883 changes, composed of the following methods, viz:—720 of Kent Treble Bob; 720 of Oxford Treble Bob; 360 of Plain Bob Reverse; 83 of Plain Bob; in 1 hr. 14 mins. Robert Dewhurst, 1; James Mather, 2; Hy. Robinson, 3; John Robinson, 4; Eli Balshaw, 5; James Robinson, 6. Tenor 17 cwt. 3 qrs.

### Miscellaneous.

#### THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Friday evening, January 19th, the undermentioned met the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Vicar of Drayton, Berks., at the church of St. Clement Danes, Strand, and rang a touch of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, containing 1120 changes. H. J. Tucker, 1; F. T. Gover, 2; J. W. Rowbotham, 3; R. French, 4; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 5; E. Gibbs, 6; E. Horrex, 7; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 8.

#### DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday, January 18th, for evening service at St. John's Church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. George Herdman, 1; Charles L. Routledge, 2; Walter G. Routledge, 3; Thomas Des Forges, 4; William Story, 5; Francis Lees (conductor), 6. Tenor 14½ cwt. The first 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor rung entirely by members of the St. John's Guild. And on Monday, January 22nd, on the same bells, in 27½ mins., a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. George Herdman, 1; Charles L. Routledge, 2; William Egglestone, 3; Thomas J. Des Forges, 4; William Story, 5; Francis Lees (conductor), 6.

#### THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD.—On Tuesday morning, at St. Edward's, in honor of the marriage of the Rev. H. M. Burgess (late curate), 1050 of Grandsire Triples. G. Garnett, 1; A. Pye (conductor), 2; G. Roughton, 3; A. Porter, 4; B. Keeble, 5; A. Pye, 6; G. Galley, 7; H. Skingsley, 8. The above band includes five of the Romford and three of the Little Heath members of the Association.

#### THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

KENNINGHALL (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, January 16th, eight members of this Association met at the church of St. Mary's, and attempted to ring the Rev. H. E. Bulwer's peal of 5088 Kent Treble Bob Major, but after ringing within one course of the finish it was brought to grief by the fourth rope breaking, after three hours good ringing by the following:—R. Hutton, 1; H. Eagling, 2; G. Edwards, 3; J. Saunders, 4; C. Everett, 5; J. Woods, 6; J. Mordey, 7; J. Cunningham (conductor), 8. Tenor 16½ cwt.

ACTON (Middlesex).—On January 18th, at St. Mary's, eight members of the Acton Society rang a touch of Grandsire Triples, 1008 changes, in 40 mins. W. Taylor, 1; G. Ilsley, 2; W. Baron (conductor), 3; W. Fenwick, 4; G. Trinder, 5; F. Goddard, 6; F. Slade, Esq., 7; E. Gould, 8. Tenor 13 cwt. This is the longest touch rung by this society, which has been established but a short time.

CAMBRIDGE.—On January 22nd, at Great St. Mary's, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. W. W. Baker, Esq., 1; W. Kempton, 2; J. Rocket, 3; G. Taylor, 4; E. Andrews, 5; M. C. Potter, Esq. (conductor), 6. First 720 in this method by any of the above band. Tenor 17½ cwt.

CLAY CROSS (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, January 21st, at St. Bartholomew's church, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, was rung by the St. Lawrence ringers of Northwingfield, for the first time on the bells. G. Clough, 1; T. Allibone, 2; J. J. Cook, 3; T. Millington (conductor), 4; J. Atkin, 5; T. Clough, 6. Time 32 mins. from rising to settling. Tenor 9½ cwt. in A.

CHACELEY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, January 21st, 1883, the Tewkesbury ringers walked to Chaceley, and, with Mr. Davies, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor. S. Cleal, 1; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 2; F. Moore, 3; J. Hale, 4; John Wathen, 5; Josiah Wathen (conductor), 6. Also a 6-score of Stedman Doubles; and on the handbells three courses of Plain Bob Major, and a touch of Union Triples.

DISS (Norfolk).—On Monday, January 22nd, the local company rang at St. Mary's church, 1008 changes of Bob Major, in 38 mins. C. Webster, 1; J. Rudd, 2; J. Cuthbert, 3; B. Francis, 4; T. Ford, 5;

E. Francis, 6; W. Ireland (conductor), 7; W. Brown, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. in D. The ringer of 4th bell, first 1000. Rung it before ringing his 720 on six.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, January 20th, six members of the Glemsford Society rang on the bells of the parish church a 720 of Rochester Surprise Minor in 30 mins. John Slater, 1; Zachariah Slater, 2; Frederick Wells, 3; Oliver Garwood, 4; Fred. Paul Adams, 5; Samuel Slater (conductor), 6. This 720 is taken from the *Clavis*. Also on the same evening was rung for practice by the same band, 360 of Cambridge Surprise, and 360 of Violet Treble Bob. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

HAYERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, January 17th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (15 bobs), in 26 mins. J. Nixon, 1; N. Alderman, 2; A. Jacob, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; T. Titchener, 5; H. J. Tucker, 6. Also on Sunday evening, January 21st, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 26 mins. J. Leach, 1; A. Jacob, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; J. Nixon, 4; T. Titchener, 5; T. Monks, 6. This 720 is the composition of Mr. J. F. Penning, of of Saffron Walden, and contains twenty-eight bobs and eighteen singles. On Wednesday evening, January 24th, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. P. S. Kendall, Esq. (first 720), 1; H. J. Tucker, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; T. Titchener, 4; A. Jacob, 5; G. Newson, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Sunday, January 14th, for Divine Service at St. James's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles, was rung by the local society. William H. Ingham (conductor), 1; Edward Matthews, 2; William Kenny, 3; John M. Devenport, 4; William H. Hardman, 5; Walter Ingham, 6. Tenor about 12 cwt. in G.

SAFFRON WALDEN (Essex).—On Tuesday evening, January 23rd, at St. Mary's church, the following rang the first part of Annable's 5040 of Bob Major, viz., 1680 changes, in 1 hr. 9 mins. John Freeman, 1; A. G. Coe, 2; Ernest Pitstow, 3; John Seaman, 4; George Martin, 5; Charles Freeman, 6; N. J. Pitstow, 7; F. Pitstow (conductor), 8. This is the longest touch in this method by A. G. Coe, Ernest Pitstow, and John Seaman.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—At St. Paul's, Fulney, on Sunday evening, after service, a 720 of Bob Minor in 26 mins. George Keal, 1; Edwin Quinton, 2; Alfred William Walker, 3; Charles Creasey, 4; James William Creasey, 5; Richard Creasey (conductor), 6.

#### THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CHARSFIELD (Suffolk).—On Saturday last, five members of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich, paid a visit to this village for the purpose of ringing and inspecting the bells of this interesting church, and upon reaching the same commenced taking rubbings of dates, &c. The bell-frame is placed corner-wise in the tower, with the treble hoisted, and a large piece out of her crown, also a double-lined Latin inscription; the second is a black-letter bell, without date; the third was east by James Edbere, 1068; the fourth and fifth are black-letter bells, without dates. After this inspection, the company rang 1883 changes in the following methods: Stedman, Grandsire, and Plain Doubles, supposed to be the longest length ever rang upon the bells. William L. Catchpole, 1; John Fosdike, 2; Isaac S. Alexander, 3; Robert H. Brundle, 4; Edgar Pemberton, 5. Conducted by W. L. Catchpole. Time, 1 hr. 4 mins. Tenor 10 cwt.

#### THE TRINITY SOCIETY, HULL.

THE ANNUAL DINNER of the above Society was held at the "Malt Shovel Hotel," North Church Side, on Wednesday, January 17th, when members and friends to the number of thirty sat down to dinner, which was served in the host's most excellent style, the chair being occupied by Mr. C. Jackson, Master, and the vice-chair by Mr. J. Stickney, Secretary. After dinner the usual loyal toasts were given and responded to. During the evening, songs, a course of Caters, and a double course of Grandsire Triples, were rung on handbells, which was heartily applauded. The Victoria Handbell Ringers, under the conductorship of Mr. W. Southwick, also gave some very excellent music, which was heartily received, and a very pleasant evening was brought to a close by the singing of the "National Anthem."

OBITUARY.—It is our melancholy duty to announce the death, after a painful illness, of ROBERT STAINBANK, Esq., of the Old Foundry, Whitechapel, which took place at his residence at Sydenham on Wednesday morning last. We shall briefly allude next week to the sad occurrence of the demise of the late esteemed gentleman.

## THE DERBY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

THE QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association was held at Leicester, on Saturday, January 13th, 1883, and was a great success. Ringers attended from Derby, Burton, Nottingham, Long Eaton, Lenton, Syston, Loughborough, and Leicester. The following towers were open to the Association, by the kind permission of the Vicars and Churchwardens:—St. Saviour's, St. Mary's, and St. Mark's. It was however a matter of regret that the fine peal of ten at St. Margaret's, could not be rung the Vicar and Churchwardens having had advice of their dangerous condition, and it was deemed advisable that the bells should not be rung, until they had been rehung and made secure, and we hope that upon the next visit of the members of the Association, they will be able to ring on one of the finest peals of ten in Leicester, the question of rehanging the bells having now the careful attention of the worthy Vicar and Churchwardens of St. Margaret's. During the day a mixed band from Derby and St. Paul's Society, Burton-on-Trent, rang at St. Saviour's Church a peal of 5088 Kent Treble Bob Major (the account of which appeared in our ringing columns of last week). At 5.0 p.m. about 50 ringers sat down to an excellent Tea provided in St. Margaret's School-Room by Mr. Stephen Cooper, of the "Alliance" inn, after which the usual business meeting was held, the President, Rev. James H. Fish, Vicar of St. Paul, Burton-on-Trent, in the chair, supported by the Rev. L. Clayton, Vicar of St. Margaret's, and Canon Broughton, of St. Mary's, Leicester. The President congratulated the members of the Association upon the number of peals that they had rung during the past quarter, and hoped they would still persevere in their attempts at peal-ringing; he was also pleased to inform them that the Association had during the past quarter rung the greatest number of changes that had yet been accomplished in the method of Double Norwich Court Bob, and which spoke well for the future of the Association. Having read and explained the rules and objects at some length, and which were well received, the following gentlemen signified their willingness of becoming Honorary Members: The Rev. Canon Broughton (St. Mary's), Rev. L. Clayton (St. Margaret's), and Mr. Stephen Cooper (Leicester), also Enoch Hitchcock, Esq. (of Syston), Secretary of the North Goscote Ringers Association, also 24 ringing members joined the Association, which brings up the total number of members to nearly 100. The Rev. L. Clayton, in a few well chosen words, congratulated the Association on their visit to Leicester that day, and urged the necessity of ringers joining with the Clergy and Churchwardens as Churchworkers. Having explained the dangerous condition of St. Margaret's bells, the rev. gentleman informed them that the next great work in St. Margaret's parish would be the putting of the bells in thorough order, and hoped that the work might soon be put in hand. During the evening the ringers again visited the towers of St. Mary's and St. Mark's, when touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, also of Kent Treble Bob Major, were rung. The visitors expressed themselves highly pleased with their visit, and also the kind reception given to them by their Leicester friends.

The annual meeting of this Association was proposed to be held at Derby, on Easter Monday, March 26th, 1883.

## THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting of this Association took place on Saturday last at Glington, when ringers to the number of forty met for some friendly ringing on the fine-toned bells of the parish church. During the day some very good 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, Bob Minor, Treble Bob, and Bob Minor variations were rung. At 12 o'clock, a meeting for the transaction of the business of the Association was held, when Spalding was fixed upon for holding the Annual Meeting, that being the only suitable place in the Southern division having two churches one with a peal of eight, and one with six bells. Stamford was mentioned, but although there are two or three peals of six, and one of eight, the latter are in such bad order, that it was given up, but with a hope that they may soon be put in proper repair. At 2 o'clock, a substantial dinner was provided, by mine host of "the Bell," to which ample justice was done by forty-five guests, the Vicar presiding after dinner. Mr. J. T. Hollis, of Wakefield, entertained the company with some excellent tunes and change-ringing in different methods on the handbells; a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob was then rang on the church bells by the following: James Storey Wright, (Spalding), 1; William Pearce (Bourne), 2; Thomas Taylor (Bourne), 3; John T. Hollis (Wakefield), 4; Robert Clarke (Bourne), 5; Richard Creasey (Spalding; conductor), 6. Mr. Thomas Taylor, of Bourne, is 77 years of age next March, and as keen a ringer as when a young man, and a pattern for a great many young ringers of the present day.

It is encouraging to find that there is a marked improvement in the striking during the past quarter, and great credit is due to the young members for their perseverance and practice of the science.

We have had some interesting rubbings sent us which we shall be glad to submit to the inspection of any of our readers.

## 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."

BOB MINOR.

SIR,—I am surprised at Mr. Parker's letter of the 13th instant. Surely no letter could have been written in a more humble spirit than mine, yet he thinks me "sarcastic, and in high dudgeon." These terms apply more to himself than to me, as any ringer at once may see. The statement at which he is this time offended, is correct, as no other peals have been published with more than forty-two calls, and how could I know of such being in his collection. He gives as his reason for non-publishing that "he does not like taking up too much of your valuable space," why not have sent you some of them, instead of so many of such little interest? He is evidently envious of other composers. Mr. Nunn, in giving a 720 some time back, asked if any one had the same in his collection. Mr. Parker replies he had, and says, "there is not a spark of originality about it." (Mr. Nunn's.) Which is the original—the one first published, or a variation of it? Mr. Nunn must be more clever with his "bunch of fives" than Mr. Parker credits him with, to produce a variation of an unknown peal. It is much easier to do so afterwards. In the letter referred to, he gives Mr. Nunn some able instruction (?) on composing, without tending to display any great knowledge on his own part.

In a former letter, Mr. Parker congratulates himself on having produced a "photo" of an old peal, but he must certainly hand over the palm to Mr. Nunn in this art, he having obtained a photo, of one (which Mr. Parker himself admits) he had never seen.

Without egotism, perhaps I may claim the following points in Bob Minor:—The first with forty-two calls by a known composer; the only 720's (excepting one by Mr. Annable) with thirty-two bobs and two singles; the first with thirty-four or thirty-five bobs; and the first with forty-six calls.

Apologising for taking up so much of your valuable space, and wishing every success to "THE BELL NEWS," I remain, Yours,  
JNO. F. PENNING.

## "EXCLUSIVENESS."

SIR,—As I was one of the unfortunate ringers from the Manchester Cathedral who were so politely excluded from the townhall, I trust that you will give me space to reply to W. Roberts's letter, which appeared on the 30th proximo, in reply to one by "A Ringer," who I wish to state was not one of the ringers from the above church.

I have been at a little trouble to ascertain if some of the statements made by W. R. were correct. I am able to state, on the authority of the chairman of the townhall committee, Mr. Alderman Heywood, that no such order was ever issued, to prevent any ringer from going to the belfry, either to have a pull, or to watch. If such an order was ever promulgated, how was it W. R. did not inform us of it when we first entered the belfry, and not let us remain so long before he went through the farce of carrying the wine into another room, and returning before the rest of his men and politely asking us to withdraw? There were other visitors present besides us; it is simply nothing but the petty jealousy of himself and some members of the C division of the force. If it was against orders for anyone to be there, why was ex-P.C. Staton (the person who held the position now filled by W. R., but had to resign the force through the "high jinks" which took place last Whit-Monday after ringing for the school procession) allowed to remain? and he was not the only one. Why did he select us to retire, and the rest to remain? His conduct, sir, was mean and contemptible. When we were asked to withdraw, can W. R. explain where he expected us to go; was it downstairs, or on to the roof? His answer is evasive and absurd. The same remark may be applied to another statement he made, to the effect that "it was not when the Mayor was returning, but a considerable time before." It would have been useless to have gone afterwards, because the bells stopped soon after the Mayor entered the hall, and it was to ring that we went.

W. R. also insinuates that the Cathedral ringers are frequently intruding. Let me inform him we should not have been present that day had we not been invited by three of his men. It is no treat for a change-ringer to visit the townhall for the purpose of ringing; some of the bells are always going bad, and the ringers can ring nothing but rounds, thirds, and a very rough attempt at a plain course of Grandsire Caters: the tenor at the present time takes three or four men to ring it; and with this combination of evils, I will leave my brother-ringers to judge if there is anything enticing to intrude so frequently.

As to the "high jinks" at the church near the city, in the first place, there is no publichouse nearer than half-a-mile, and what we received that day was kindly sent by the founder of the church, and was brought to the tower by one of the clergy. It is hardly creditable to say so, perhaps, but W. K. was an intruder upon that occasion, but he was not treated as such, for he partook of what was provided and was not looked upon with contempt by any means.

Before concluding, let me give this young ringer—whose only record is a 720 of Bob Minor—a little advice, first to learn to ring and call that which he professes to teach his brother-policemen, i.e., Grandsire Triples and Caters. The attainment of such knowledge will assist him in the capacity of teacher; and should at any time a ringer from the Cathedral or from any other church visit the townhall belfry, let him give them the right hand of fellowship. Some of them will be able to give him a few hints that he will find useful in the arduous task he has undertaken, and then perhaps we shall hear from the bells something more pleasing than rounds and thirds.

3, Hayden Street, Queen's Road, Manchester.

JOHN EACHUS.

## GRANDSIRE CINQUES.

SIR,—I suppose my thanks are due to Mr. Prentice for having pointed out a third way in which my unfortunate 5082 of Grandsire Cinques will go true, for he cannot with any consistency claim the peal inserted last week as his own, as he has simply varied the calling of the first and coming-round courses by calling the 9th into the hunt, and out at three with a double, and thus adopting my last course-end as his first, and so getting rid of the repeating changes, and calling rounds from 23456. Two other ways of this peal go true—you will remember that I sent to you, sir, the week after the notice of its being false appeared in our paper—the first by reversing the calling of the last two parts, viz., 11th in three, 11th in four, 7th in four, 7th in four, &c., by which the course-end 35426 will be produced by 7th in four, and so will be true. The second way is by calling bobs with the 10th and 11th before, from the eleventh course-end, third part, 23456, and shorten the peal to 5038 changes. It may be thought that I am very selfish in seeking to deprive Mr. Prentice of the peal, but this is a matter in which I should like to have an expression of opinion from others.  
Ipswich.

W. L. CATCHPOLE.

## MR. PENNING'S PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

SIR,—In perusing your paper of the 13th and 20th inst., I perceive two peals of Grandsire Triples, reported as "Mr. Penning's Original one-part Peal." Now, Sir, I would like to inform the sender of the above peals to "THE BELL NEWS" to send them properly in future, as the peal is not original nor does the composer put it as such. Give credit where credit is due, but do not violate Mr. John Holt, or Mr. Penning, as the remark respecting the Original peal in the *Clavis* is sufficient to suffice. I hope to see the above peal published in its true form in future.

COLLEGE YOUTH.

**REOPENING OF BELLS AT MOUNT-SORREL, LEICESTERSHIRE.**

On Sunday afternoon, January 21st, the village of Mountsorrel was enlivened by the reopening of the church bells, which have been augmented by Taylor and Co. from three to six, by having two new trebles and a tenor added, and one of the old bells recast, thus making a light ring of six. The work has been very carefully executed, and seems almost a marvel how the above firm could manage to squeeze a ring of six into so small a tower, it being not more than 8 feet square. Early in the afternoon, ringers from the neighbouring parishes of Loughborough, Wymeswold, Sileby, Rothley, and Syston, and a band of ringers from Long Eaton (Derbyshire), mustered in strong force. Immediately after arrival, four members of the Long Eaton Society, with Mr. W. Taylor, of Loughborough, and Mr. J. North, of Syston, raised the bells and rang three courses of Bob Minor. Afterwards five members of the Long Eaton Company, assisted by the Rev. W. C. Pearson, of Syston, rang a course of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 25 mins. Samuel Clarke, 1; Richard Hickton, 2; John Ward, 3; Rev. W. C. Pearson, 4; Arthur Middleton, 5; Joseph Barrow (conductor), 6. Tenor 9 cwt. in A. Ringing was taken up with great spirit by the neighbouring societies, who sang touches of Bob Minor and Grandsire Doubles. A special service was then held, and an excellent sermon on the use of Church Bells was preached by the Rev. — Sheers, of Sileby. Then the service was brought to a close, 360 of Kent Treble Bob was rung by the Long Eaton Company, which concluded the opening ceremony, and a most enjoyable afternoon was spent by all present.

**ST. MARY'S, STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.**

From January 1st to March 19th, and from October 29th to December 31st, 1822, has been rung on the bells of the above church, 32,711 changes of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 69 touches, as follows:—  
 One touch of 1882 changes; one of 1022; three of 1008; one of 952; one of 811; two of 700; one of 658; one of 602; one of 560; two of 546; four of 518; nine of 504; one of 503; one of 490; one of 476; one of 475; one of 461; one of 448; one of 434; two of 420; one of 419; two of 406; one of 405; one of 392; one of 387; one of 363; one of 350; one of 349; seven of 336; two of 335; two of 294; three of 280; two of 266; one of 237; one of 223; one of 210; and five of 168.  
 756 changes of Stedman Triples, consisting of three touches containing 252 each.  
 Also 360 changes of Plain Bob Minor, consisting of two touches containing 180 each.

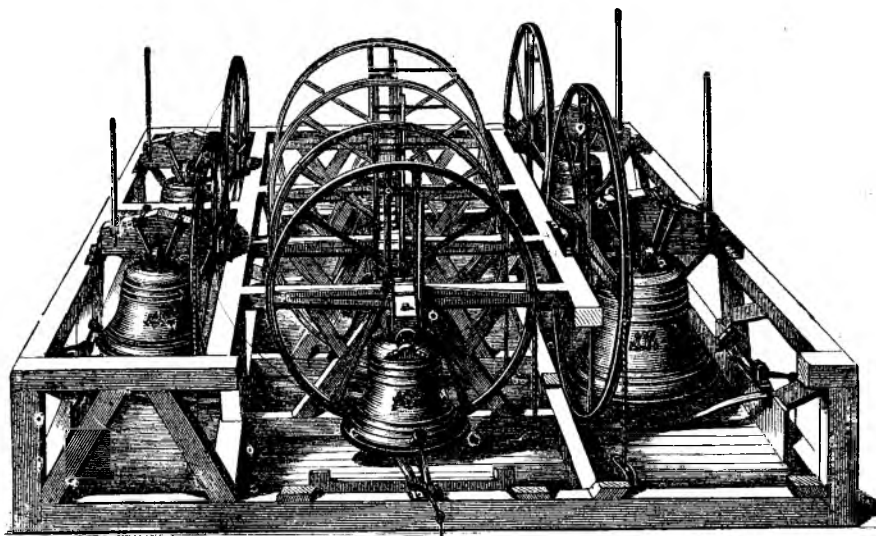
**THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**

The Third Quarterly Meeting of this Association will be held at Selly Oak, on Saturday, February 10th. The tower will be open during the afternoon for ringing, after which the business of the Association will be transacted at the club-house of the Selly Oak branch, "The Oak." All members who can are requested to attend.  
 J. WRIGHT, Hon. Sec.

**THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

A General Meeting will be held at Stockton, on Monday, February 5th. Members intending to dine, are requested to apply for tickets on or before Thursday, February 1st, to the Secretary, ringing at Stockton parish church—ring of six, tenor 12 cwt., and at Middlesbrough, ring of eight, tenor 12 cwt.  
 G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.  
 Post Office Chambers, Stockton-on-Tees.

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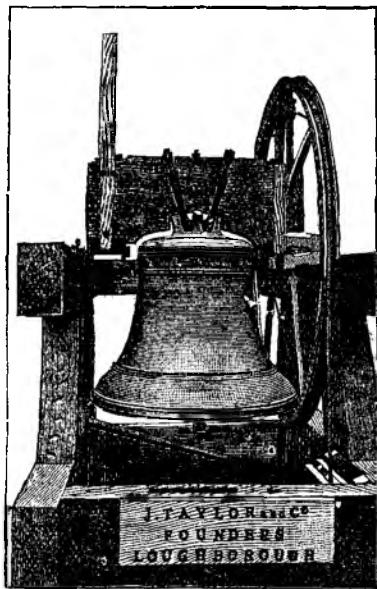
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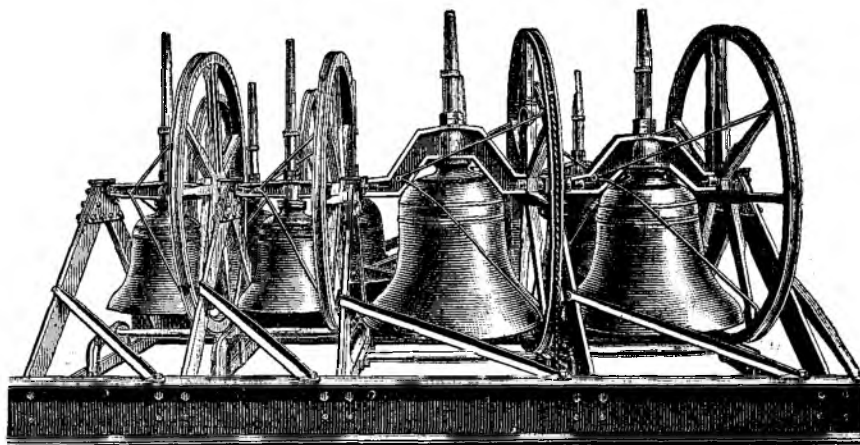
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