

# THE BELL NEWS

## And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 50 [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. I.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1883.

[ONE PENNY.]



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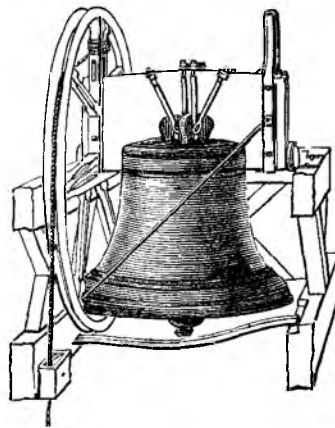
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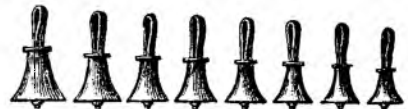
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the book to place in the hands of persons desirous of  
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The following pieces are in preparation, and will be  
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In the first week of February, 1883: "Haydn's Hymn  
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BY JASPER W. SNOWDON.

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together; and a Selection of Musical Compositions with  
the Tenors parted. Arranged with their reverse  
variations under a simple classification, with remarks  
upon the different qualities in each class; with particu-  
lars of the time of performance, etc.

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

J. W. SNOWDON, Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

AMONG the evidences which are continually being brought before the Exercise having especial reference to the promotion and extension of the art, none, perhaps, offers a more tangible proof of its rapid propagation than these interesting reports, which are periodically issued by the various ringing Associations. We have said as much before, perhaps, but a perusal of the report compiled by the Hon. Sec. of the Oxford Guild—the Rev. Dolben Paul—brings home the conviction to our minds with greater force, that the "Science" is—copying the opening sentences of this report—"enlarging its borders, lengthening its cords, and strengthening its stakes."

The report before us must be regarded as most satisfactory. Not from the number of performances eligible for booking, or the difficult character of such achievements—for more in this direction may have been reasonably expected—but in the great accession to the name-book of the Guild, the increase upon the previous year being nearly 200, while it is an additional cause for satisfaction that the greatest increase has taken place in what may be known as efficient, viz., those qualified by a probationary course to be reckoned among the ranks of skilled ringers.

The plan of having paid instructors for teaching the art seems to be recognised in the Oxford Guild far more than any other kindred Association. This feature, when care is exercised in the selection of teachers, cannot fail to act beneficially. But to our thinking, a kind of special aptitude and tact is necessary for those who lay claim to possess the qualifications of a teacher, and our experience has taught us that those who blazon forth very loudly their skill and success as preceptors have been found upon examination, to be unqualified for the position. But we doubt not that the Guild Committee have been alive to such possible drawbacks, and have selected, on the whole, good men, at any rate we congratulate them on having secured the services of Mr. J. Field as Principal Instructor, while the known reputation of such gentlemen as Messrs. White, Hounslow, Holifield, and Washbrook, augur well for the success of pupils placed under their tuition.

With such a Guild as the one we are dealing with, a good balance-sheet may be expected, and this interesting document shows a balance in hand of £63 8s. 6d. The performances by the Guild are five peals of Grandsire Triples; one of Stedman Triples; one of Kent Treble Bob Major; one of Union Triples; one of Grandsire Caters; and one of Stedman Caters; not a very great show, but nevertheless showing gradual improvement, which we hope to see, in the next report, has been fully maintained.

The only thing wanted to render these annual publications complete, is a record of what has been done in the way of reclaiming bells and steeples where mismanagement has for years been rampant. Ten towers, says the Oxford report, have joined the Guild during the year, and several others have made enquiries with the same view. This of course is satisfactory intelligence, but it may be presumed that the ringing companies at these places are not entirely ignorant of the art, or unaware of the prestige which a union with the Guild would give them; their connection with it, therefore, is only a matter of time. The work we consider peculiarly appropriate for all our ringing Guilds and Associations is that of discovering and bringing to light the cases where the bells, belfry, and ringers (such as they are), have for years been uncared for, and their existence positively ignored, with a strong and honest determination to have such offences removed. The restoration of bells and belfries should be regarded as the principal agency in promoting the extension of real ringing, and henceforth our Guilds should consider it their paramount duty to take thorough and vigorous action in the matter. The bells restored, the ringing-chamber made habitable, improvement in other matters will be sure to follow, and an increased desire to become acquainted with ringing will be evinced by intelligent communities. The diocese of Oxford offers a fair field for the Guild Committee, in which they may commence operations. We could point out, if necessary, steeples where their kindly interference would probably be productive of good, at any rate, the representations of such an influential body as the Oxford Diocesan Guild would, if not immediately acted on, be listened to with respect, and pave the way for offering counsel and advice in the future. In adopting and persevering in such a plan of operations the Oxford Guild will, we doubt not, succeed in effecting a truly noble work, and the reward will be great. With perfect faith it may be predicted that in entering upon such a warfare, the Guild would discover long before their labours in the manner we are alluding to are completed, that it had perceptibly "enlarged its borders, lengthened its cords, and strengthened its stakes."

DEATH OF AN OLD RINGER.—On Sunday, March 4th, died one of the old ringers, late of York Minster, Thos. Cooper, who was interred on the 7th, and on the same evening a muffled peal was rung to his memory. He had the misfortune to be run over by a vehicle about three years ago, and sustained a severe fracture of his leg, and afterwards was not able to ascend the steps of the tower.

## ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AT APPLETON, BERKS.

On Monday, March 5th, the Appleton society celebrated their sixty-third anniversary of the opening of the original peal of six bells. It has generally been the rule to ring a peal on the above occasion, but this year the peal was dispensed with, in order to give any ringing friends an opportunity of having a friendly touch on this beautiful peal of ten, which is supposed to be one of the best peals for their weight in England. Tenor 14½ cwt. in F.

Ringings commenced at 11.30, and was kept up with much spirit for about 2½ hours. The following methods were all rung in good style, viz.: Grandsire Triples, Grandsire Caters, Stedman Caters and Oxford Treble Bob. The bells being lowered, the company made their way to the Greyhound, at Besselsleigh, which is about half a mile distant from Appleton, and the residence of Mr. F. White, church bell hanger, who had provided a most substantial repast. The dinner being over, the evening was spent in a most enjoyable manner by performances on the handbells, and we were pleased to find the Rev. F. E. Robinson officiating as chairman.

## STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

THE MONTHLY MEETING for the Stoke District was held on Saturday last, at Burslem parish church. Ringers attended in large numbers from Stoke, Burslem, Hanley, Norton, and Tunstall. Ringing commenced shortly after 3.30. Tea was provided by the Burslem tower and their friends, in the schools attached to the church. Some very excellent handbell ringing was performed by the Burslem handbell ringers amongst which are several of the tower ringers. Both Rev. A. Watton (Vicar), the churchwardens, and other kind friends, deserve and have the thanks of the ringers for the welcome we received, and the ringing-chamber itself bears witness of what they evidently feel it to be, a portion of the House of God. The tower is a very old one, very strong, and contains a nice peal of six.

The next meeting will be held at Keele, on Saturday, the 17th inst.

## SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of this Association will be held at Spalding, on Easter Monday. The eight bells of St. Paul's, Fulney, and the six of SS. Mary and Nicolas will be at the disposal of ringing friends. A meeting for the transaction of business will be held in the National Schoolroom at 12 o'clock, and dinner at 2.0 p.m. Members wishing to attend must send in their names to me on or before the 17th instant, or the usual allowance will not be made.

R. CREASEY, *Secretary (pro tem.)*.

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A SPECIAL MEETING of this Association will be held at Writtle, on Easter Monday, when alterations in rules will be submitted for discussion. Also for the election of a Secretary, the Rev. J. B. Seaman being about to leave the Diocese with his family for Manitoba.

Belfry open at 10 a.m. Meeting at 2 p.m. Arrangements made for refreshment at the "Cock and Bell."

Writtle Vicarage,  
March 12th.

JOHN B. SEAMAN,  
*Hon. Sec.*

## THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE first ANNUAL MEETING of the members of the above Association will be held at Bedford, on Easter Monday next. The fine ring of eight (tenor 28 cwt.) at St. Paul's, will be available for ringing during the day. A luncheon will be provided at the Swan Hotel.

CHARLES HERBERT, *Hon. Sec.*

HARLOW (Essex).—A stained-glass window has been erected in the church of St. Mary, Harlow, as a memorial to the late Mr. J. W. Perry-Watlington, the subjects chosen being "Faith" and "Good Works." A beautiful memorial has also been just placed over the grave of Mr. Perry-Watlington, consisting of three marble recumbent flat tombs of white. The largest and richest is over his grave, a small one over the infant child, and the third is a cenotaph for a future interment. Each marble has upon it a canopied cross, and the canopy on Mr. Perry-Watlington's tomb is enriched with his arms. The tomb was erected by Messrs. Wheeler Bros., of Reading, from the designs of Mr. H. Woodyer, architect, of Graffham, Guildford. The idea was at one time entertained to place a peal of bells in Harlow church to the memory of the above-named deceased gentleman, but ultimately the memorials took the above form. We hear by chance that the Royal Cumberlands intend visiting Harlow, on Easter-Monday, but they have not vouchsafed to us any official information of such intention.

## NON-MUSICAL BELLS AND CHANGE-RINGING.

It is usual for a gentleman who reads a paper before a society, upon whatsoever subject he may choose, to make himself thoroughly acquainted with the pro's and con's of the matter he takes in hand, as his audience naturally expect, and have a perfect right to so expect, that by giving their time to hear such paper read, they will learn something reliable upon a subject in which they feel interested, but have not, possibly, the time or inclination to search the authorities for themselves. If after the reading of the paper, no discussion is raised, it may be presumed that the audience are satisfied that the statements contained therein are incontrovertible, and that henceforth they can base their knowledge of the subject upon such statements.

These remarks are suggested by the paper read before the Oxford Architectural and Historical Society, by Mr. E. Pickard-Hall, M.A., on February 28th, which bears strong internal evidence that the author has relied principally for his matter upon Dr. Stainer's preface to "Great Paul," and has taken for granted all that is there stated, without troubling himself to look further afield, to see whether the Doctor's astonishing theories are born out by facts.

Mr. Pickard-Hall reproduces without comment (as far as the report tells), the misleading and mischievous assertions, that the falling-off in the quality and tone of the bells noticeable early in the last century, was owing to the introduction of change-ringing, when it must be obvious to every unprejudiced mind that the facts point in quite the opposite direction.

If it were not for change-ringing, whence the use or necessity for the large number of musical and melodious peals of eight, ten, or twelve bells scattered over our country so plentifully. Hundreds of churches on the continent of Europe possess a large number of bells, ranging from five or six, to forty or fifty, and in two or three instances even a yet larger number, but with the exception of a few in Western Mid-Europe which are possessed of carillons, no use is made of them except to clash away anyhow, without the slightest regard for time or order of any sort. What inducement therefore is there, or was there, for founders in those countries to produce good bells? None whatever; so long as a bell was made big enough and noisy enough all was done that was needed, whereas, on the other hand, it is one of the first essentials to the successful practice of change-ringing that the bells shall be tunable, and therefore melodious, and such being the case, it follows that it is owing to the invention and practice of change-ringing that the art of bellfounding has attained to its present state of perfection.

The logical consequences of the theory thus advanced, with regard to the decadence of bell-founding following upon the advancement of change-ringing, if followed up in another direction, say for example the art and science of music, leads to the conclusion that as proficiency in the study and practice of music advanced, so have the instruments of music themselves deteriorated; whether this be so or no, must be known to that old gentleman, the "merest school-boy," and that well-known individual is at liberty to draw his own inferences.

No more unfair statements respecting change-ringing and its relation to the qualities of bells have ever been published than in the preface referred to, and Mr. Pickard-Hall would have done well to have studied the questions somewhat deeper before committing himself to repeat them in public. Had he have read "Great Paul Tongue-Tied," he would have seen the other side of the question stated in a manner that utterly demolishes Dr. Stainer's theories, and would have shown him that he was leaning upon a very broken reed indeed when he took the preface of "Great Paul" as the foundation upon which to rear the superstructure of his paper. DANIEL.

## REOPENING OF ST. MARY'S PARISH CHURCH BELLS, PRESCOT, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, February 24th, by the kind invitation of the Churchwardens, eleven members of the Liverpool Society paid a visit to this place and rung a touch of Grandsire Triples, afterwards eight members started for a peal of 5024 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, but after ringing in good style 3776 changes in 2 hrs. 36 mins. the 7th man called "stand." R. Williams, sen., 1; Geo. Helsby, 2; W. Woodhead, 3; H. Meadows, 4; E. Booth, 5; T. Hammond, 6; E. Foster, 7; R. Williams, jun. (conductor), 8. Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qrs. 21 lbs. After the ringing the members adjourned to the Royal Hotel and sat down to a sumptuous dinner provided by the Churchwardens. These bells have just been rehung by Messrs. Taylor of Loughborough.

The *Northampton Herald* states that the Rev. J. Godson, vicar of Ashby Folville, Melton Mowbray, has published a letter complaining of the mode in which the appeal for the restoration of the central tower of Peterborough Cathedral had been brought forward by the Dean and Chapter—of the situation of the Cathedral; of its architectural deficiencies; and of its practical uselessness, hinting that it had better be allowed to become an ivy-clad ruin! A Non-conformist has replied, contending that even Dissenters may fairly be asked to find funds in aid of the restoration.

## BELFRY RHYMES.

The following lines are in Gulval Church, Cornwall. The frames of the bells bear date 1688:—

Good Sirs! our meaning is not small,  
That God to praise assemblies call;  
And warn the sluggard when at home,  
That he may with devotion come  
Unto the church and join in prayer;  
Of absolution take his share.  
Who hears the bells, appears betime,  
And in his seat against we chime.  
Therefore I'd have you not to vapour,  
Nor blame ye lads that use the clapper,  
By which are scar'd the fiends of hell,  
And all by virtue of a bell.  
You ringers all, observe these orders well!  
He pays his sixpence that o'erturns a bell;  
And he that rings with either spur or hat,  
Must pay his sixpence certainly for that;  
And he that rings and does disturb the peal,  
Must pay his sixpence or a gun of ale.  
These laws elsewhere in ev'ry church are used,  
That bells and ringers may not be abused.

According to Halliwell's Dictionary of Archaisms and Provincialisms, Gun is a north country word for a large flagon of ale. "Son of a gun," implies a merry, jovial, drunken fellow."

Verses in Laudolph Church belfry, Cornwall:—

Let awful silence first proclaimed be,  
And praise unto the Holy Trinity;  
Then honour give unto our noble king,  
So with a blessing let us raise the ring.  
Hark how the charping treble sings most clear,  
And covering Tom comes rowling in the rear;  
And now the bells are up, come let us see,  
What laws are best to keep sobriety.  
Who swears, or curses, or in choleric mood  
Quarrels, or strikes, although he draw no blood:  
Who wears his hat, or o'erturns a bell,  
Or by unskilful handling, mars a peal;  
Let him pay sixpence for each single crime,  
'Twill make him cautious 'gainst another time;  
But if the sexton's fault an hind'rance be,  
We call from him a double penalty.  
If any should our Parson disrespect,  
Or Warden's order any time neglect,  
Let him be always held in full disgrace,  
And evermore be banished this place;  
So when the bells are ceased, then let us sing,  
God bless the church—God save the King.

In Calstock Church, Cornwall:—

We ring the quick to church, the dead to grave  
Good is our use, such usage let us have.  
Who swears, or curses, or in a choleric mood  
Quarrels or strikes, altho' he draw no blood;  
Who wears his hat, or spur, or turns a bell,  
Or by unskilful handling mars a peal,  
Let him pay sixpence for each single crime,  
'Twill make him cautious another time.  
So when the bells are ceased then let us sing,  
God bless our Holy Church, God save the King.

These bells were cast, and the tower new leaded, in the year 1773.  
John Moon, John Hunn, Churchwardens.

Copied from the belfry-wall of All Saints' Church, at Hastings:—

This is a belfry that is free  
For all those that civil be:  
And if you please to chime or ring,  
It is a very pleasant thing.  
There is no musick play'd or sung,  
Like unto bells when they're well rung  
Then ring your bells well, if you can—  
Silence is best for every man.  
But if you ring in spur or hat  
Sixpence you pay—be sure of that:  
And if a bell you overthrow  
Pray pay a groat before you go.

Dated 1756.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE.

On Saturday, April 7th, being the date of commencement of a new volume, this Paper will be

## PERMANENTLY ENLARGED TO 12 PAGES.

The increase in the circulation warrants this step being taken. The promoters of this paper hope that those gentlemen for whose need it is established, will continue their exertions in advancing its interests, so that at an early period it may be still further enlarged, and its usefulness increased. Printed circulars will be gladly forwarded to any of our friends who will take the trouble to distribute them.

"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.

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.

J. S. ARCHER.—We have just discovered that the church you mention is the actual one.

W. WALKER.—We hope that when this paper is enlarged we shall have a better opportunity of meeting your requirements.

J. W. WASHBROOK.—Next week.

## The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1883.

AN announcement placed at the head of this column formally publishes the fact, which on one or two occasions we have briefly referred to in our Editorial comment, of the proposed increase in size of "THE BELL NEWS." But a kind of prerogative belongs to us to comment upon the favourable position to which this paper has now attained. We read with feelings of the greatest satisfaction that its founders at last see their way clear to proceed, on the commencement of the next volume, to a "permanent enlargement." No one but those actually responsible for the conduct of a paper know the anxious solicitude attendant upon such an undertaking. We have watched with eager, almost feverish anxiety, the growth and steady progress of our bantling. Sometimes under circumstances of great discouragement, at other times cheered by indications of ultimate success gleaming forth,

we have striven, amid these alternating phases of despondency and exultation, to present to our readers, week by week, a faithful reflex of the doings of the Exercise. Such an era of doubt is passed, we hope, for ever; and the fact of our paper being now in a position to reimburse itself, or in other words, to pay its way, is a sufficient refutation of those lugubrious prognostications regarding the probable duration of its existence which were prophesied on its first appearance.

In the future, we hope to receive from more of our ringing brethren than formerly, contributions for insertion in our columns. We wish that every ringer may be led, through the medium of this journal, to express their opinions upon the numerous subjects that at present agitate the ringing world. "In the multitude of counsellors there is wisdom," we are told, and the frequent interchange of opinion among ringers may often throw light upon many questions at present undecided. We shall be pleased to receive a continuance of that able assistance which many gentlemen connected with the Exercise have hitherto given us. The topics with which this paper deals being limited, their treatment is soon worked out and worn threadbare if the ingenuity of only one or two persons is exercised upon them. The fact that among ringers of the present day numbers of gentlemen possessed of undoubted literary talent are to be found, will not for one moment be denied, and we respectfully ask such to aid us in our work whenever an opportunity presents itself to them.

It has been our pleasure to receive many very flattering encomiums upon "THE BELL NEWS" during the past year; and while on the other hand improvements have been suggested and shortcomings pointed out, our critics have dealt their blows in a very gentle manner. We shall have a better opportunity to carry into effect many of the practical suggestions submitted for our consideration, when the enlargement takes place. And we indulge a hope that before the close of our second volume, we may hear of "our paper" having, from the increase in its circulation, to undergo a further enlargement, upon which gratifying feature we shall be able then, as now, to congratulate our readers.

### THE DERBY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

THE first ANNUAL MEETING of the members of the above Association will be held at Derby, on Easter Monday, March 26th, 1883. The following towers will be open for ringing from 10.0 a.m.:—All Saints' ten bells; St. Andrew's, eight bells; St. Luke's, eight bells; St. Werburgh's, eight bells; and St. Alkmund's, eight bells. Committee Meeting at 3.0 p.m. Service in St. Andrew's church at 4.30. Tea in St. Andrew's school-room at 5.0 p.m. Tickets 1s. 6d. each. General Meeting and Election of Officers for 1883-4 at 6.0 p.m. All ringers and friends are earnestly invited to attend.

H. C. WOODWARD, Hon. Sec.  
19, Morleston Street, Derby, March, 1883.

### THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association will be held on Easter Monday, March 26th, at Christ Church, Southport. Ringing from 10. a.m. Meeting at 5. p.m. All ringers invited. Cheap tickets will be issued from Manchester, Bolton, and various stations on the L. and Y. Railway.

WILLIAM JOS. CHATTERTON, } Hon. Sec.  
JOEL REDFORD, }

NOTICE.—Good Friday occurring next week, we shall have to go to press a day earlier. All communications, therefore, intended for insertion in next week's paper, must reach us not later than the morning of Wednesday, the 21st instant.

**The Metropolis.**

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

**Muffled Peal.**

On Wednesday, March 14, 1883, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHAPEL-OF-EASE, HOLLOWAY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART PEAL. Tenor 19 cwt.

JAMES RUMSEY .. .. .Treble.	THOMAS TITCHENER .. .. 5.
EDWARD MOSES .. .. . 2.	ARTHUR JACOBS .. .. 6.
JAMES LEACH .. .. . 3.	GEORGE NEWSON .. .. 7.
JAMES HANNINGTON .. .. 4.	DANIEL LOVETT .. ..Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES HANNINGTON.

This peal was rang with the bells fully muffled as a last mark of esteem and respect to the late Mr. John Layton, who was vestry-clerk and solicitor to the parish of St. Mary, Islington, for over thirty years.

**The Provinces.**

WREXHAM, DENBIGHSHIRE, NORTH WALES.

On Tuesday, March 6, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART PEAL. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

ALFRED LEA .. .. .Treble.	EDWARD ROWLAND .. .. 5.
ROBERT JONES .. .. . 2.	THOMAS NEWELL .. .. 6.
JOHN ELLIS .. .. . 3.	EDWARD EVANS .. .. 7.
JOSEPH WILLIAMS .. .. 4.	THOMAS DAVENPORT ..Tenor.

Conducted by E. ROWLAND.

[First peal by all except the conductor.]

BRISTOL.

On Saturday, March 10, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

GEORGE STADON .. .. .Treble.	HORACE W. ABBOTT .. .. 5.
HARRY PORTCH .. .. . 2.	JAMES HINTON .. .. 6.
OLIVER JAMES .. .. . 3.	WILLIAM PARSONS .. .. 7.
WALTER REA .. .. . 4.	WILLIAM EMORY .. ..Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES HINTON.

Messrs. O. James and W. Rea hail from Bromsgrove; the remainder are all members of the St. Stephen's society, Bristol.

THE LIVERPOOL YOUTHS' SOCIETY.

PRESCOT, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, March 10, 1883, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt., 3 qrs., 21 lbs.

RICHARD WILLIAMS .. ..Treble.	HENRY BECK .. .. . 5.
GEORGE HELSBY .. .. . 2.	ROBERT WILLIAMS .. .. 6.
WILLIAM WOODHEAD .. .. 3.	THOMAS HAMMOND .. .. 7.
JOHN BROWN .. .. . 4.	WILLIAM BROOKS .. ..Tenor.

Composed and conducted by ROBERT WILLIAMS.

It was intended to have rung a peal of Treble Bob, but a member of the above society, Mr. Henry Meadows, being unwell, it was abandoned. After the completion of the peal, the members sat down at the Royal Hotel, to a bountiful supper, provided by the Churchwardens.

**Date Touch.**

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

YORK.—On Tuesday, March 12th, at the Minster, by the kind permission of the Dean, a date touch of 1883 changes of Grandsire

was rung in 1 hr. 18 mins. [No. Cundall, 1; Wm. Bean, 2; Thos. Hodgson, 3; Robt. Thompson, 4; Josh. Underwood, 5; Jas. Thompson, 6; Thos. Haigh, 7; Wm. Morrell, 8; Wm. H. Howard (composer), 9; Geo. Breed (conductor), 10. Tenor 54 cwt.

**Miscellaneous.**

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday evening, March 12th, at St. John's church, a 720 of Violet Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. G. Campbell, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6. This is the first 720 in this method, by all the band except F. Lees. This beautiful method is now introduced for the first time into the northern dioceses, and is the first peal in the method rung by the Association. Tenor 14½ cwt.

STAINDROP (Durham).—On Sunday, March 11th, for Divine Service in the evening at St. Mary's, a 396 of Bob Minor with sixteen singles and two bobs. Also on Tuesday, March 13th, a 720 of Bob Minor with twenty bobs and ten singles. W. McLean, 1; J. W. Shipp, 2; W. Johnson, 3; J. Leonard, 4; D. Shipp (conductor), 5; J. Brown, 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

THE GLEMSFORD SOCIETY, SUFFOLK.

On Saturday evening, March 3rd, six of the above Society, rang on the bells of the parish church, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise Minor, in 30 mins. John Slater, 1; Zachariah Slater, 2; Frederick Paul Adams, 3; Charles Honeybell, 4; Oliver Garwood, 5; Samuel Slater, (conductor), 6.

On Saturday evening, March 10th, being the anniversary of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales's wedding-day, six members succeeded in ringing a 720 of that most intricate method of all in the scientific art of ringing, London Surprise Minor, in 30 mins. John Slater, 1; Zachariah Slater, 2; Frederick Wells, 3; Oliver Garwood, 4; Frederick Paul Adams, 5; Samuel Slater (conductor), 6. Our correspondent adds:—"This company has taken in *Church Bells* from its commencement, and also that interesting paper "THE BELL NEWS," of which every number is still in the company's possession, and the above is the first and only instance of a 720 of London Surprise having been recorded. May merit meet its due reward."

Also on the same evening, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise Minor, in 29 mins. John Slater, 1; Zachariah Slater, 2; Samuel Slater, 3; Frederick Wells, 4; Oliver Garwood, 5; F. P. Adams (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt., in F.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

FOLKESTONE (Kent).—On Tuesday evening, March 13th, eight members of the above association rang 2520 changes of Grandsire Triples (Taylor's bob-and-single variation), in 1 hr. 38 mins. \*Fredk. Rolfe, 1; \*Fredk. Finn, 2; Jas. Fisher, 3; \*Edwd. Potter, 4; Henry Croucher, 5; Saml. Barker (conductor), 6; \*Fredk. Slingsby, 7; \*Geo. Millen, 8. \*The greatest number of changes in the method. Rolfe hails from Cheriton; Potter from Dover; and the rest from Folkestone. Tenor 25½ cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Saturday, March 10th, being the anniversary of the marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales, a 720 of Bob Minor, with thirty-four bobs and ten singles, was rung at St. Mary's, in 26 mins. F. Fells, 1; J. Basden, 2; A. Fussell, 3; A. Batten, 4; J. Parker (composer and conductor), 5; C. Clark, 6. Also another 720 of Bob Minor with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 29 mins. G. Basden, 1; F. Fells, 2; A. Fussell, 3; J. Parker (conductor), 4; A. Batten, 5; J. Basden, 6. [J. Parker would like to have W. H. Fussell's address, and so would the Editor of this paper.]

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 10th, being the 20th anniversary of the Prince of Wales's wedding-day, the undermentioned members of the above society visited (upon the kind invitation of Mr. G. Sayers, jun., Ashstead, and after doing justice to a substantial tea, most generously provided by Mr. G. Sayers, at the brewery, rung at the parish church upon the very musical peal of eight bells a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, 1260 changes, in 40 mins. J. Trappitt, 1; E. F. Cole, Esq., 2; D. Springall, 3; G. Pell, 4; S. Brooker, 5; J. Fayers, 6; S. Greenwood (conductor), 7; T. Miles, 8. Also two courses of Kent Treble Bob Major. D. Springall, 1; G. Sayers, 2; J. Trappitt, 3; E. F. Cole, Esq., T. Miles, 5; J. Fayers, 6; G. Pell, 7; S. Brooker (conductor), 8. The party then returned home, having throughly enjoyed their evening's outing.

## STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

LEEK (Staffordshire).—On Sunday morning, March 11th, at the parish church, 18-score of Grandsire Minor, and in the evening a 720 of Bob Minor. S. Sheldon, 1; H. Carding, 2; R. Gibson, 3; T. Turner, 4; E. Sharratt, 5; W. H. Armit (conductor), 6. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

## WORCESTER DIOCESAN AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, March 4th, at St. Andrew's church, four members of the above society, and two from Dudley, rang their first 720 of Plain Bob, after six weeks' practice, in 28 mins. B. Townsend, 1; W. Micklewright, junr. (composer and conductor), 2; W. Micklewright, senr., 3; J. Townsend, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GARGRAVE (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, March 10th, the local branch of this Association attempted the reverse of Annable's six-part peal of Bob Triples, when a shift taking place in the fifth part, the bells were called round at the fifth part-end, in 2 hrs. 25 mins., W. Wray, 1; C. Lancster, 2; H. Horsman, 3; W. Clarke, 4; J. T. Middlebrook, 5; W. Mallinson (conductor), 6; J. McKell, 7; J. McGoun, 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

CHESTER.—On Sunday evening, March 11th, six members of the St. Michael's Society, rang at St. Michael's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25½ mins. J. Moulton, 1; E. Ward, 2; T. Bethell, 3; J. Errington, 4; J. Gibson, 5; C. Price (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in D.

CRAYFORD (Kent).—On Sunday, March 4th, for Divine Service in the morning at the church of St. Paulinus, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, was rung by the Crayford company, in 42 mins. C. Saxby, 1; W. Fright, 2; J. Saxby, 3; G. Conyard (conductor), 4; G. Sheppard, 5; C. Hammant, 6; M. Jacobs, 7; F. French, 8. Composed by Mr. W. Washbrook, of Oxford. Also on Monday evening, March 5th, a 720 of Bob Minor, forty-two singles, in 27 mins. C. Saxby, 1; G. Conyard, 2; C. Hammant, 3; J. Saxby, 4; F. French (composer and conductor), 5; W. J. Reeve, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

EAST MALLING (Kent).—On Tuesday, March 13th, at the parish church, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 24 mins. H. Bonner, 1; E. Bonner, 2; J. White, 3; D. Hall, 4; F. Shoobridge (first 720) 5; W. Leonard, 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. H. Bonner, 1; D. Hall, 2; J. White, 3; F. Colegate, 4; F. Shoobridge, 5; W. Leonard (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

ERITH (Kent).—On Saturday evening, February 24th, a 720 of Treble Bob Minor, was rung on the back six bells, in 29 mins. M. Jacobs, 1; G. Conyard, 2; F. Fraser, 3; C. Hammant, 4; G. Sheppard, 5; F. French (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

FARNWORTH-NEAR-WIDNES (Lancashire).—On Saturday, March 10th, at St. Luke's church, four of the local company, assisted by Messrs. S. Oxworth and W. Brown of Runcorn, Cheshire, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26½ mins. S. Oxworth, 1; A. Whitfield, 2; J. Whilde, 3; W. Brown, 4; J. T. Lowe, 5; J. Latchford (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

HANDSWORTH (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, March 4th, before Morning Service at St. Mary's, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 30 mins. T. Verry, senr., 1; H. Bastable, 2; F. H. Banks, 3; T. Westwood (conductor), 4; T. Reynolds, 5; A. Thomas, 6. Also on Monday, March 12th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. T. Verry, junr., 1; H. Bastable (conductor), 2; F. H. Banks, 3; A. Thomas, 4; T. Verry, senr., 5; T. Westwood, 6. Tenor about 12 cwt.

HORNCHURCH (Essex).—On Saturday, March 10th, at St. Andrew's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, (Penning's original), with 28 bobs and 18 singles. J. Barry, 1; A. Perkins (conductor), 2; W. Meadows, Esq., 3; A. Pye, 4; G. Dear, 5; I. Dear, 6.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, March 11th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. J. Ward (first 720), 1; G. Griffin, 2; N. Alderman, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; T. Titchener, 5; A. Jacob, 6. After service a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 25 mins. J. Leach, 1; J. Hannington, 2; N. Alderman, 3; T. Titchener, 4; A. Jacob, 5; G. Newson (conductor), 6. A 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 26 mins. G. Griffin, 1; J. Leach, 2; N. Alderman, 3; A. Jacob, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; G. Newson, 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (four bobs and fourteen singles), in 27 mins. F. Parker (first 720), 1; G. Griffin, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; N. Alderman, 4; A. Jacob, 5; G. Newson, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

MAIDSTONE (Kent).—On Thursday, March 8th, at St. Michael and All Angels, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. J. Fergusson, 1; C. Payne, 2;

E. Elliott, 3; R. Simmonds, 4; A. H. Woolley, 5; G. Pawley (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. E. Elliott, 1; C. Payne, 2; A. Moorcraft, 3; S. Kemp, 4; G. Pawley (conductor), 5; A. H. Woolley, 6.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Saturday, March 10th, at St. Edward's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with fourteen bobs and four singles, in 24 mins. F. Gillingham, 1; A. Perkins, 2; B. Keeble, 3; W. Meadows, Esq., 4; G. Roughton, 5; A. Pye, 6. Composed and conducted by A. Pye.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Thursday, March 8th, on the occasion of the Lord Bishop of Ely holding a confirmation service at All Saints' Church, the local company rang before service a 720 of Bob Minor, and after service 1056 changes in the same method. W. Cross, 1; J. Tolliday, 2; G. Brown, 3; M. Silvester, 4; H. Brackett, 5; A. Scott (conductor), 6; C. Sillitoe, 7; H. Harper, 8. Also on the same evening a 576 of Grandsire Triples. W. Cross, 1; J. Tolliday, 2; G. Brown, 3; M. Silvester, 4; C. Sillitoe, 5; A. Scott (conductor), 6; H. Harper, 7; H. Brackett, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

TEWKESBURY (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, March 13th, seven members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, with C. Bassett, rung for practice, at the Abbey, 1792 changes of Union Triples, in 1 hr. 8 mins. R. H. Witherington, 1; C. Awford, 2; S. Cleal, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Wathen, 5; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; C. Bassett, 8. Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs. 19 lbs.

WRAYSBURY (Bucks).—On Sunday evening, February 11th, at the parish church (St. Andrew's) after Divine Service, on the occasion of the baptism of Gladys Mary, infant daughter of Mr. J. J. Hall, F.M.S. (one of the local ringers), his brother-ringers rang their first 120 of Grandsire Doubles. G. Whatmore (conductor), 1; R. Shanks, 2; H. Clarke, 3; J. Mills, 4; R. Parker, 5; G. Grant, 6.

## CHARTHAM BELLS, KENT.

BEING occupied recently at Chatham church, near Canterbury, I took the opportunity of examining the bells. From what I saw, and from information gathered from the sexton, I found that at the restoration of the church about ten years ago, the gallery was taken down, the tower arch opened up, and the belfry-floor taken away, as it came across the middle of the arch. The bells, six in number, have never been rung since, though the room beneath the bells with a little alteration would make a good ringing-chamber. The bells and frame are in a deplorable state, everything being covered with pigeon-manure in some places several inches thick. The wheels and fittings seem in fair order, at least, nothing was broken or unsound.

The bells do not hang regularly, the treble being between the 5th and tenor. The tenor is 3 ft. 10 ins. in diameter.

At the bottom of the tower, which is used as the vestry, there is a chiming apparatus, but I was told that it was seldom that all six were chimed.

MAN OF KENT.

The same writer also adds:—

For the information of G. B. (York), I beg to state that at Rainham church, Kent, there are six bells, the 2nd, 3rd, and tenor of which were cast by Robert Mot, the two former in 1601, and the tenor in 1582. Of the other bells, the treble was cast by Christopher Hodson, in 1685, the 4th by Josephus Hatch, 1618, and the 5th by Pack and Chapman, 1773. The tenor is 49 inches in diameter, and said to weigh 24 cwt. 3 qrs.

THE ROYAL HANDBELL RINGERS during their last passage across the Atlantic, in the White Star Steamer "Britannia," gave an entertainment for charitable purposes by which a large sum was realized. This is a common form of helping the Merchant Seamen's Orphan Asylum and other charities, adopted by travelling companies of public entertainers, and is always highly appreciated during the monotony of a sea voyage, no charge being made for admission, but often as much as a guinea apiece obtained for the programmes from the wealthier passengers, but which is of course left entirely to their own ideas of generosity.

## Correspondence.

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

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

## THE TREBLE BOB QUESTION.

SIR,—I am told by a ringing friend that the Bradford Company are charging my letter of your issue of the 3rd instant, to Mr. Snowdon's account. I am extremely sorry that this should be the case, and in justice to that gentleman beg to be allowed to assure them that neither Mr. Snowdon, nor any of his company, know anything about it.

[If our friends at Bradford are under this impression, it is requisite that we at once undeceive them. Mr. Snowdon has never written a line to us having the least connection with this controversy.—ED.]

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5580.

By JAMES WOOD, Sen., *Ashton-under-Lyne.*

2 3 4 5 6

2 3 4 5 6\*

- 3 5 4 2 0 8th in three.
- 5 2 4 3 6 8th in three.
- 4 5 2 3 6 9th in three.
- 2 4 5 3 6 9th in three.
- 4 3 5 2 6 8th in three.
- 3 2 5 4 6 8th in three.
- 5 3 2 4 6 9th in three.
- 2 5 3 4 6 9th in three.
- 5 4 3 2 6 8th in three.
- 4 2 3 5 6 8th in three.
- 3 4 2 5 6 9th in three.

These eleven courses four times repeated, being preceded in each instance by 8th in with a double, and a 7-8, produce—

5 3 6 2 4 9 7 8

when the following bobs bring the bells round :

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

\*7th in and out at three, with a double.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS.

By HENRY DAINS, *Royal Cumberland Youths.*

5040.

6000.

2 3 4 5 6 MWH

2 3 4 5 6 MWH

- 6 4 3 5 2 I I
- 3 4 5 6 2 2 I
- 2 5 4 6 3 I I
- 6 2 4 5 3 I
- 3 4 2 5 6 I I
- 3 2 5 4 6 I 2
- 3 5 4 2 6 I 2
- 2 3 4 5 6 I

- 3 6 4 5 2 I 2
- 3 4 5 6 2 I 2
- 4 3 2 6 5 2 2
- 3 5 2 6 4 I 2
- 3 2 6 5 4 I 2
- 3 4 2 5 6 2 I
- 3 2 5 4 6 I 2
- 3 5 4 2 6 I 2
- 2 3 4 5 6 I

Each of these peals possess the same qualities viz. : both the 5th and 6th are at home at four course-ends.

By omitting a bob at M and H in the third course of the 6000, the third course-end of 5040 is brought up, and the changes augmented to 5088.

ORGAN (FINGER) FOR SALE,

Very Superior, suitable for Large Room or Small Church or Chapel; in substantial oak grained case, bold and handsome front (speaking) six stops, viz. :—

- STOP DIAPASON ... .. Through.
- OPEN DIAPASON ... .. Through.
- PRINCIPAL ... .. Through.
- FIFTEENTH ... .. Through.

German Gamba; Tenor, F & to C C; Stop Flute; Tenor C, two Composition Pedals, and front and side Blowers.

Will sell at cost price, room being required.

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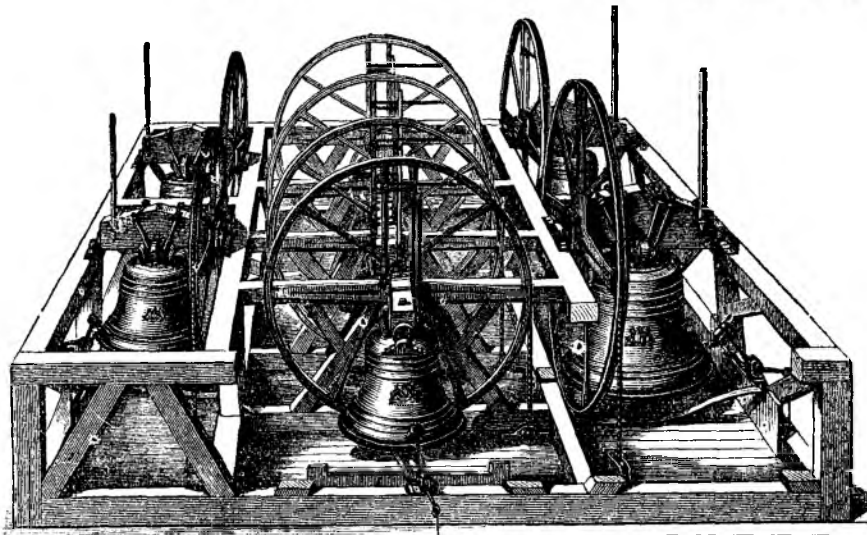
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Church Bell Hangers,  
WOODBURY, NEAR EXETER,

Undertake to hang Church Bells, single or in peal, on the most improved principles, and best workmanship and materials.

The Ellacombe chiming apparatus fixed at the cost of £1 per bell. Over 200 sets have already been fixed.

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Bell and Brass Founders to Her Majesty,



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Bells of every Description and Size.

References to Cathedrals and Churches in every part of the world, if desired.

J. W. & SONS are prepared to send an experienced Bell-hanger to report or advise upon repairs, Alterations or New Rings of Bells. Illustrated Catalogues can be obtained upon application, post-free, giving a large amount of information.

Also, "A B C OF MUSICAL HAND BELL RINGING," by S. B. GOSLIN. Second Edition, enlarged and revised, price 1s.; and

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"THE MUSICAL HAND-BELL RINGERS' INSTRUCTOR," Part II., by S. B. GOSLIN, containing Musical Theory and Tunes for Hand Bells. Price 2s.

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HANDBELL MUSIC.

THE ANNUAL JOURNAL FOR 1883 WILL CONSIST OF

TWELVE PIECES OF DANCE MUSIC, value 27s., if purchased separately. The first two monthly numbers are now ready, arranged for medium peal, six ringers, bells from C 22 to C 1; or large peal, seven ringers, bells from G 25 to G 04. Subscription for the whole year, 12s.

No. 86. "The Sphinx" Quadrille (January No. journal music), price 3s., separately.

No. 88. "The Crocus" Polka (February No. journal music), 1s. 6d. separately.

Also, just out, new editions to No. 66.—"The Blue Bells of Scotland," one variation, 1s. No. 63.—"Glorious Apollo," 1s. For six ringers, small peal, two octaves, in G.

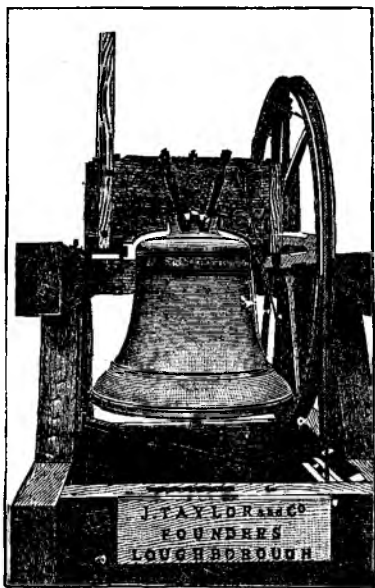
N.B.—"The Sphinx" Quadrille is also arranged for full brass band of twenty instruments, price 2s.

**Church Bell Ropes,  
CLOCK AND CHIME ROPES,**  
*Specially Manufactured by*  
**JOHN ASTLEY,**  
BROAD GATE, COVENTRY.

*Maker for many years past of the Ropes for St. Michael's,  
Coventry, one of the best Rings of Ten extant.*

**John Taylor and Co.,**  
**Bell Founders,**  
**LOUGHBOROUGH.**

Founders of the New Ring of Bells for ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, the HEAVIEST Peal of 12 ringing BELLS in the COUNTRY.  
"This is unquestionably the grandest ringing peal in England, and therefore in the world."—SIR EDMUND BUCKETT, Bart., Q.C., Times, Nov. 20th, 1878.



Also Founders of the Ring of Sixteen Bells, the heaviest, 4 tons to cwt., for Worcester Cathedral.  
And the Bells for the Carillons at Manchester Town Hall; Bradford Town Hall, Yorks, and Rochdale Town Hall.  
The Ring of Ten, Tenor 4½ cwt., for St. Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh

**HARRY STOKES,**  
*(Late a partner with Mrs. C. Hooper)*

**\*CHURCH+BELL+HANGER,\***  
*ETC.,*  
WOODBURY, EXETER.

*Bells Re-hung with New Fittings, Wheels, &c.*  
*The Ellacombe Chiming Hammers fixed complete for £1 per bell and travelling expenses.*

**JOHN NICOLL,**  
*Rope, Line, Twine, and*  
**CHURCH**  
**BELL ROPE MANUFACTURER,**  
**155, KEETON'S ROAD,**  
*(Late Blue Anchor Road)*  
**BERMONDSEY,**  
LONDON.  
ESTABLISHED 1760.

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**THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY, LONDON.**  
Established 1570.

FOUNDERS OF BIG BEN OF WESTMINSTER; THE GREAT BELL OF S. PAUL'S THE FAMED BOW BELLS;

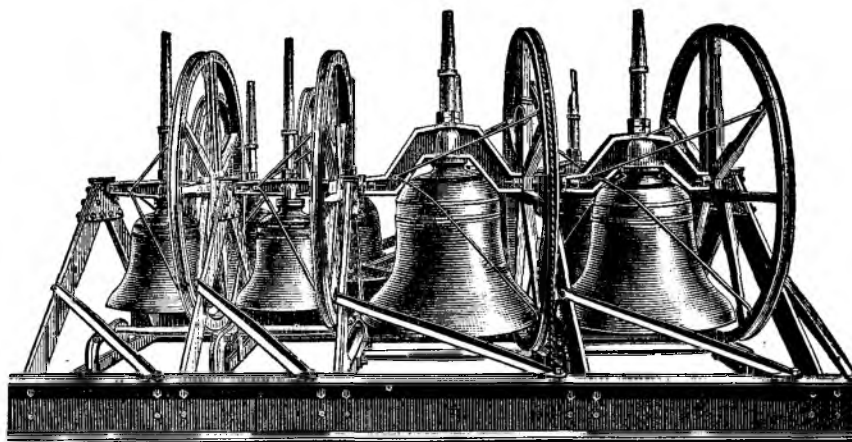
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ESTIMATES FOR NEW RINGS. RE-CASTING, RE-HANGING, AND REPAIRS.

THE  
**Redenhall Bell Foundry, Harleston, Norfolk.**

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