

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 172. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. IV.

SATURDAY, JULY 18, 1885.

[ONE PENNY.]

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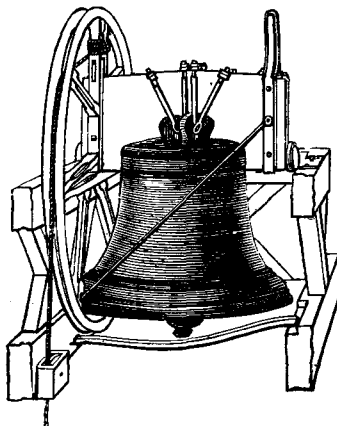
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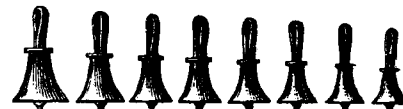
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The last chapter is devoted to a list of the names of Composers of the different peals, with various particulars, and in the cases of deceased Composers with the dates of death, age, etc.

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The whole of the above are made in the shape of a bell, initials, monograms, or plain. If the name is required in full 3d. extra. Peals, etc., engraved on the above at 5d. per dozen letters, in addition to the price quoted. Sole Maker—

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THE SURPRISE PEALS.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

WHEN some fifteen years ago I first turned my attention to change-ringing, I do not think that there was anything that interested me more than the footnotes in Hubbard's *Art of Ringing*, which gave the date and place of performance of some of the most interesting or complicated peals. As I gained a further acquaintance with the art, I was surprised to find that, with the exception of the information to be gained from these short notes, very little was known by the Exercise generally of such by-gone performances. One man, perhaps, knew something about what had been done in one particular method, but was entirely ignorant of the peals that had been rung in some other method. Finding that none of the authors of the different books on ringing had made any attempt to form any list of the highest class of performances, and knowing that, on account of the remote period at which some of these achievements were accomplished, every year would render the gathering together of these particulars more difficult, I began to collect all the information I could obtain on such points, and thus this history of the performances accomplished in the Surprise methods was first undertaken and eventually published in the early part of the year 1875.

Under the title of "The Surprise Peals," the Cambridge, London, and Superlative Surprise Variations of Treble Bob are generally classed. As these are the most intricate methods that have yet been practised by change-ringers, a short account of the limited number of peals that have been rung in them will be of interest, as, should they hereafter attain a more extensive practice, a full list of these performances for reference will then enable us at once to place any peal that may be rung in its proper numerical order in such records. As, on account of their intricacy, these peals have only been practised by the very best companies of ringers, the attention of composers has probably not been generally directed towards obtaining peals in them. This, coupled with the extreme precariousness of the method, may account for the fact that in Cambridge Surprise no greater length than 5600 has been composed or attempted, and that in Superlative and London Surprise no peals beyond the extent with the tenors together, 6720 changes, have yet been obtained or attempted. Knowing that while they are ignorant of what has hitherto been accomplished in these methods, many of our rising composers will have a little inclination to study them when all their trouble may be expended in reproducing some known peal, I hope to place before the readers of "THE BELL NEWS" a collection of the peals that have already been obtained. I also purpose giving an explanation of the different methods of proof required. As I propose to deal with these variations according to the order in which they were first practised, I shall place them before my readers in the order of Cambridge, Superlative, and London Surprise Major, and then proceed to Royal.

CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR.

Although next to London Surprise, this is the most complicated of the three variations to ring, it is without doubt the most difficult system in which composition has yet been attempted, and consequently it is not surprising to find that only one of the peals rung has its truth undoubtedly established.

With a regard to a well-known law among change-ringers, no false peal can claim to be recorded. At the same time it should be remembered, that as the composer only can be held blamable for the falseness of his work, and it is at any time just as hard to ring correctly a false peal as a true one; that, as a performance the one is as much entitled to merit as the other, especially in this

the case if the composer of the true peal is not one of its ringers, as in that case the band is but practically performing the work of another person, the merits or demerits of whose compositions can hardly be said to affect the actual ringing. While making these remarks, I would not, however, wish to be understood in any way to detract from the general recognition of the law against false peals, as its enforcement must always tend to improve and encourage the science of composition, whereas its relaxation might retard the same.

So far as I am aware, the first mention of the method of Cambridge Surprise is to be found in the record of a 5040 on six bells, rung on April 16th, 1737, at St. Mary's, Whitechapel, when "Cambridge Surprise" was one of the seven Treble Bob methods of which the peal consisted. In Annable's ms. book, a lead of Major, and the mode of calling a 5120 on eight bells is given, but as the method differs from the one in which the only known peals have subsequently been rung, I have never investigated the truth of this peal. The first mention of this method being practised, appears in *Clavis Campanalogia*, where the Major method that has since been generally rung, is given. A peal of 5152 is also given, concerning which the following statement appears:—

"It was rung by the Ancient Society of College Youths (there were two societies of College Youths at that time) at St. Giles's-in-the-Fields, on Sunday, February 23, 1783, being the greatest performance ever achieved in the Campanian Art, as so intricate a method was never practised by any other set of men whatever; indeed the same people (except one) did ring a peal in this same method, and at the same place, on Sunday, January 30, 1780, they being then "London Youths;" but as this was rung with the tenors together, it proved false on the new discoveries, which happened about this time, and was the cause of their ringing another peal."

It therefore appears that these peals were the first ever rung in the method, and thus although, as I shall shortly shew, both of them were false, I think my readers will be glad to have copies of the peal-book records of these peals which are still in existence laid before them. In the original entry of the first of these records, which is preserved in the library of the British Museum, a very good sketch of St. Giles's Church, shaded in Indian ink, forms a conspicuous part of the design.

From the peal-book of the Society of London Youths:—"St. Giles's in the Fields. The Society rang on Sunday, January 30, 1780, a complete peal of 5088 Cambridge Surprise, in 3 hours and 26 minutes, being the first ever done since the art was invented.

Thomas Bulgin,	Treble,	1.	Thomas Blakemore,	4.	John Anderton,	6.
Richard Wilson,	2.	William West,	5.	John Reeves,	7.	
Robt. Pye Donkin,	3.			Allen Grant,	Tenor.	

The peal was composed and called by Mr. Jno. Reeves."

From the peal-book of the Ancient Society of College Youths.—"Saint Giles in the Fields. On Thursday, the 23rd day of February, this society rang a true peal, consisting of 5152 changes of Cambridge Surprise, in three hours and thirty minutes, as follows:—

Charles Purser,	Treble,	1.	Thos. Blakemore,	Fourth,	John Anderson,	Sixth.
Richd. Wilson,	Second,	2.	Thomas Bulkin,	Fifth,	John Reeves,	Seventh.
Robt. Pye Donkin,	Third,	3.			Allen Grant,	Tenor.

Composed and called by Mr. J. Reeves."

As I have previously stated, the calling of the latter of these two peals is given in the *Clavis*, but unfortunately for the band who rang the peal, it is also a false one, as certain changes which occur at 5-6 down in the second lead of the second course are repeated at 5-6 up in the fifth lead of the third course.

THE JOHNSON TESTIMONIAL.

At a meeting of the local committee held on Tuesday last, it was decided that the above testimonial should take the form of a portrait and illuminated address. This form meets with the approval of Mr. Johnson, and the committee respectfully request that all who are interested in this "National Testimonial," will kindly forward donations to the Treasurer. Should sufficient funds be at the disposal of the Committee, a small reproduction of the presentation portrait will be forwarded to each donor, as suggested by Mr. Snowdon in his letter of the 4th inst. The Committee will cause a list of donations to appear periodically in "THE BELL NEWS," and will also give notice through the same medium when the fund is to be closed. Mr. A. Thomas, 83, Wheeley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, is the Hon. Secretary; and Mr. S. Reeves, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich, is the Hon. Treasurer.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

On Thursday, the 9th inst., an enjoyable afternoon's excursion was made by the Eastbourne members of the Royal Cumberland Youths Society, to Seaford, for the purpose of attempting a peal. Arrangements were made by Mr. Huggett, and the meeting time was fixed for 2.30 p.m., sharp, near the old parish church of St. Mary. Mr. Chapman, an old member of the St. Mary's company, was in readiness with a commodious waggonette and a serviceable pair of horses, the conveyance being fitted with a powerful brake invented by the driver, who has secured a patent for it. Under his careful conductorship the party safely returned to Eastbourne soon after 11.0 p.m., completing a delightful drive of about fifteen miles, along roads which presented at times very difficult and dangerous prospects usually to be found along our sea coasts.

The journey commenced with a continuous hill for about two miles, forming part of the South Downs. A fine view was obtained of the town of Eastbourne, and the whole of the locality, Pevensey Bay, and the coast along to Hastings, etc. As the journey continued on to Seaford, many interesting places were pointed out, that awakened further interest, so we enumerate them here as they appear in the "Guide." On reference to a map, the places will readily be seen.

BEACHY HEAD, which may be approached by a carriage road. To this noted promontory may be ascribed a considerable portion of Eastbourne's popularity; it is one of the lions of the place. The cliff forms a spur of the South Downs, and is about 575 feet in height, and commands extensive land and sea views. There is a coastguard station there, and the men have frequently rendered assistance to distressed vessels, and been of service in rescuing reckless visitors from perilous positions on the cliff. The grandeur of the rocky scenery is best viewed from below.

BELLE TOUTE LIGHTHOUSE, which supplemented a wooden structure in 1831, and has been of great service in the prevention of shipwrecks, is about two miles and a half to the west. It is open for the inspection of visitors from half-past nine till an hour before sunset, and is well worthy of a visit. The light is a revolving one, and can be seen in clear weather fourteen miles at sea.

BIRLING GAP is an opening from the cliffs, forming an easy descent to the beach. There is a coastguard station here, where rocket and line throwing apparatus are kept, and many smuggling adventures have taken place at this spot. A telegraph cable is submerged here, also extending to France, and inland to Battle, *via* Polegate and London.

SEAFORD.—One of the Cinque Ports, a telegraph station and quiet little bathing place, formerly the port where the river Ouse emptied itself into the sea; but ruined in the year 1570, when a storm diverted the course of the river. The Church is ancient. There is a Convalescent Hospital at Corsica Hall, under a part of the cliff, 290 feet above the sea. The Downs at this sea-side place are very beautiful and romantic.

On arriving at Seaford, Mr. John Jay, sen., of Brighton, and Mr. S. Deadman, of Eastbourne, also members of the Cumberlands, were awaiting, so a speedy entry into the tower was made, the sexton having everything in readiness, permission being kindly granted by the Vicar, the Rev. W. M. Buck, M.A. The church, dedicated to St. Leonard, is a very old building, and abounding with interest. A brass tablet was erected in 1879, in lower part of the tower, which runs:—

"In commemoration of recasting the five old bells and increasing the peal to eight bells

Erected in this Tower by public Subscription, A.D., 1811.

Collected as a labour of love by

Mr. John Catland, Church Warden.

Bell Founders, Messrs. Mears, London,

Bell Hanger, Mr. Markwick. Uckfield.

Total cost, £263 6s. 3d."

There is a tablet in the belfry recording the first peal on the bells, which was rung by ringers from Uckfield, Chaley, and Waldron, on December 27th, 1811, in 3hrs. 4mins., conducted by Jno. Ranger. It was evidently Grandsire, as the peal is mentioned as "Holt's Triples." The tenor was recast by Messrs. C. and G. Mears, of Whitechapel, in 1855, the former bell falling in halves while ringing on one occasion, after it had been cracked some time.

The visitors were not successful in their attempt for the peal, owing to the unpealable condition of the seventh. An adjournment was made to the "New Inn," where a thorough good tea was enjoyed, and a stroll along the sea parade, till the time of departure arrived.

As a more circuitous route was taken to afford a view of the country, the return journey was equally as interesting, a stop being made at Alfreton, where refreshments were obtained at a rare old picturesque half-timbered Inn, named "The Starr." Passing by Berwick, and on through Polegate, the old town of Eastbourne was duly reached, the words of parting and the hearty shake of hands, being evidence of the pleasure and enjoyment afforded to one and all by the outing, the unavoidable absence of Mr. S. Hart and T. Hunnissett being regretted, especially as the weather was so inviting.

W. H. F.

RESTORATION OF ST. MICHAEL'S, COVENTRY.

THE interest manifested in this undertaking is a sufficient apology for inserting the following account from the *Birmingham Daily Post*:— "The concluding services in St. Michael's, Coventry, prior to closing for restoration, were held on June 29th, when special sermons were preached in aid of Catharine Bayley's Charity. The Mayor (Mr. J. Maycock), and Corporation attended the morning service, when there was a full congregation, and in the evening the church was crowded, the numbers present being estimated at about 3000. The services were choral, the veteran organist Mr. E. Simms, who is approaching ninety years of age, and has been organist between fifty and sixty years, presiding at the fine old instrument, on which it is said Handel, has played. The grand peal of bells, which are about to be removed for the purpose of restoring the internal portions of the tower and spire, were rung both morning and evening, instead of being chimed, and at the close of the evening service the choir sung the 'Hallelujah Chorus.' The work of preparing for the restoration has proceeded rapidly since the contracts were placed with Mr. John Thompson, of Peterborough, the restorer of Lichfield, Chester, Peterborough, and other Cathedrals. The scaffolding for the tower is constructed in sections on the ground, and then drawn up by ropes over pulleys fixed to a mast at the battlements, and will soon be 50 ft. in height, the total height of the tower being 130 ft., and of the spire 303 ft. In the churchyard brick offices are being built, and the extensive shedding, &c., give evidences of the long period over which this great work will extend. The removal of the clock and the bells will in all probability be proceeded with this week. Mr. George Worton, of Coventry, has removed the machinery of the chimes, and will himself remove the clock, which was erected by an ancestor of Mr. Worton's in the year 1778, though Mr. Worton has himself added some bells. The removal of the bells is included in the builder's contract. They were first hung in St. Michael's tower in 1429, and thirty-six years later (1465) the Mayor and Council granted forty-shillings annually for keeping the clock and chimes, and thirty-one years afterwards an order of leet was made for regulating the price of death peals. In 1577 the record reads: "Paid for timber and for making a new barrel for the chimes, five shillings." Eighty years later a sum of £3 was paid for putting the clock and chimes in order, and in 1674 the six bells were recast into eight. Six years later George Tagg was allowed £3 by the City Council "to make the chimes go on three tunes." In 1774 a new peal of ten bells was contracted for with Messrs Pack and Chapman, and the weight of the whole was nearly seven tons; the tenor, unfortunately, cracked in 1804, and was recast and made slightly heavier. It is possible that the bell, music, which is dear to every Coventry person, and noted far and wide, will no more be heard in St. Michael's tower. The bells will be stowed away for a considerable time during the restoration of the fabric, and a proposal has been made to erect a separate campanile for their reception, owing to the continual ringing being, in the opinion of all experts, dangerous to the spire. Before this is finally decided upon, however, there is likely to be a strong controversy, as a considerable feeling exists against the project, the prevailing sentiment being that the bells are wedded to the tower. Accommodation is proposed to be found for limited congregations in the Girdler's and Capper's chapels, but practically the church may be considered as closed. The contracts accepted, which do not include the whole of the work in prospect, amount to about £30,000. About £5000 more is needed to complete the subscription list."

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROTHWELL BRANCH.

The following is the ringing done by this branch of the above Association, at Holy Trinity Church, during the month of June:—
June 1st: 240 of Oxford Treble Bob, 240 Violet, 240 Duke of York, 240 New London Pleasure, 360 Arnold's Victory, 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. June 8th: 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. June 14: 720 Duke of York, 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, 360 of Violet, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. June 21st: 360 of Violet, 360 of New London Pleasure, 120 of Violet, 360 of New London Pleasure. June 29th: 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, 240 of Violet, 240 of Duke of York, 240 of Arnold's Victory.

EAST HANNINGFIELD, ESSEX.

It will be remembered that the old church was burnt down on Sunday, December 30th, 1883. We are happy to say that the parish can now boast of having one of the neatest little country churches in Essex, with a neat little wood tower and spire, built with English oak timber, which is to contain five small bells. Although only the three largest have found their places, we hope shortly to hear of the other two being added. The frame and hanging the bells have been carried out by Mr. H. Bowell, of Ipswich. The church and tower were built by Mr. Wood, of Chelmsford, Essex. Mr. Stone, of London, being Architect.

ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

On Saturday, July 4th, the members of this society, accompanied by their wives and lady-loves, had their annual excursion, Guildford being the town selected for the purpose. Starting from Wallington Green at 7.30 a.m., a pleasant drive of eleven miles brought the party to Leatherhead, where they were met by that ever-courteous steeple-keeper, Mr. S. Brooker, who at once conducted them to the church, where a touch of about 500 Grandsire Caters was rung. Leaving the tower, and slightly refreshing the inner man, after bidding farewell to their friend Mr. Brooker, the party again betook themselves to the road, and a pleasant drive of eleven and a half miles brought them to their destination—Guildford, where they arrived about 12.20. They at once repaired to the church of St. Nicholas, where, as a kind of preliminary, they rang a touch of Grandsire Triples, and a course of Treble Bob Major. By this time dinner was ready at the "Cannon Inn," and the company—whose appetites had been whetted by the journey—assembled thither, and partook, with indomitable zest, of an excellent repast. At the end of this terrific onslaught on the good things provided, the tower was again visited, and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung. As it was hardly to be expected that the ladies present could go into raptures over the music from the practice of these methods, a change was adopted, and a four-oared schooner was engaged for their felicitous enjoyment, which, sailing majestically down the river, the fair occupants enjoyed to the full the delicious breezes wafted from the famed Downs of Surrey. Those of the company possessing tastes decidedly antiquarian, gratified themselves by an inspection of the old castle ruins; others betook themselves to the Hog's Back. Five o'clock having arrived, the roll was called, and thanking Mr. Eades, the steeple-keeper, for his courtesy, and host and hostess Williams, for their catering, the visitors started on their homeward journey. A drive of ten miles brought them to the "White Lion Hotel," Cobham, where a good tea had, with admirable forethought, been provided by the worthy host. A walk round the beautiful gardens attached to this hostelry, and a few tunes on the handbells on the lawn at the rear, hastened the hour of departure, and returning by way of Esher, Kingston, etc., the party reached home about the "witching hour," all having thoroughly enjoyed the day's outing.

The Beddington company take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar for allowing them to ring, the go of the bells being all that could be desired.

ST. PETER'S AMALGAMATED SOCIETY, SHEFFIELD.

On Monday, July 6th, about thirty members of the above Society held their annual outing at Liverpool. On arrival they were met by Mr. Williams, sen., and Mr. Helsby, of Liverpool, who had previously arranged for ringing. After refreshing the inner man a visit was paid to St. Nicholas's tower, a ring of twelve, tenor 41 cwt. in C., where Grandsire Triples, Grandsire Caters, and Grandsire Cinques were rung. All having had a pull, a start was made for St. Peter's church, a ring of ten, tenor 25 cwt. This tower is undergoing repairs, a good portion of it being down; here Stedman Caters were rung. At the same time a band started for the Catholic church in Salisbury Street, a ring of eight, tenor about 16 cwt.; here Grandsire Triples were proceeding when Messrs. Williams appeared, and Stedman Triples were rung. The majority visited New Brighton, where a pleasant afternoon was spent in various ways, some patronising photography, etc., where an abundance of charming young ladies may be seen soliciting orders for refreshments in quite a novel manner. In the evening, at the meeting house of St. Peter's society, Liverpool, a pleasant hour was spent with some of the Liverpool ringers. During the evening a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Williams, sen., who is a pretty good age, and who responded in a very suitable manner. It being time to return a move was made to the station, and every one arrived home well pleased with their day's outing. The members wish, through the medium of this paper, to thank the Vicars, churchwardens, and other gentlemen, for granting permission to ring, and other gentlemen who spent most of the day for their pleasure.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Harwich (8 bells), on Saturday, July 25th. Ringing to commence at twelve o'clock. A meat Tea will be provided at the Great Eastern Hotel, at four o'clock p.m. Tickets to be obtained from the Secretary at 6d. each, up to July 20th, after that date 1s. 6d. will be charged. The Business Meeting will be held immediately after the tea. Return tickets will be issued by the G.E.R. at a single fare and a quarter to members, providing that they shew their E.A.C.R. receipts for 1885-6 at the Booking Office, and inform the Sec., before July 20th, from what station they travel.

Rayleigh, S.O., Essex.

H. A. COCKEY, Hon. Sec.

BELLS AND RINGERS IN 1885.—(Continued.)

By F. W. J. REES.

LIST OF RINGS IN NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

Aynhoe	8 .. 18 ..	..	Trebles by Warner, 1870.
Daventry	8 .. 17 ..	..	By Eayre, 1738.
Kettering	8 .. 25 ..	..	..
King's Sutton .. .	8 .. .. .	..	1-2 by Briant, 1793.
North'mpt'n All'Sts	8 .. 23 ..	G.	Whitechapel, 1719.
" S. Giles	8 .. 30 ..	..	..
" S. Peter	8 .. 14 ..	..	A. Rudhall, 1734.
" S. Edmund	8 .. 18 ..	..	Taylor, 1884.
Oundle	8 .. 27 ..	..	1, 2, 3, 8 recast, 1868
Peterboro' S. John	8 .. 28 ..	..	Fine ring D'wn'm'o8
Wellingboro' .. .	8 .. 29 ..	..	Made eight in 1884.
Brampton Ash .. .	6 .. 12 ..	..	..
Braunston	6 .. 17 ..	..	Briant, 1811.
Brington	6 .. 19 ..	..	A. Rudhall, 1723.
Carlton, East .. .	6 .. 9 ..	..	Eayre, 1755.
Castor	6 .. 10 ..	..	Bagley of Ecton 1700
Chacombe	6 .. 15 ..	..	..
Cottesbrooke .. .	6 .. 16 ..	..	Bagley, 1702.
Cransley	6 .. 10 ..	..	Bagley, 1683.
Denford	6 .. 6 ..	..	..
Dodford	6 .. 14 ..	..	..
Earl's Barton .. .	6 .. 13 ..	..	..
Easton Neston .. .	6 .. 13 ..	..	..
Ecton	6 .. 13 ..	..	..
Finedon	6 .. 24 ..	..	Recast by Taylor, [1825.
Flore	6 .. 13 ..	..	..
Gayton	6 .. 15 ..	..	..
Glinton	6 .. 16 ..	..	Downham, 1799.
Guilborough .. .	6 .. 9 ..	..	Whitechapel, 1847.
Harleston	6 .. 21 ..	..	..
Harrington .. .	6 .. 8 ..	..	Whitechapel, 1817.
Helmdon	6 .. 10 ..	..	..
Higham Ferrers ..	6 .. 22 ..	..	..
Irthlingborough ..	6 .. 11 ..	B. T.B.	Whitechapel, 1829.
Kelmarsh	6 .. 10 ..	..	Arnold, 1774.
Maxey	6 .. 13 ..	B.	..
Middleton Cheney	6 .. 25 ..	..	..
Moulton	6 .. 17 ..	..	Arnold, 1795.
Newnham	6 .. .. .	..	Hugh Watts, 1633.
Northampton, St.	6 .. 15 ..	..	..
Sepulchre	.. .. .	..	..
Raunds	6 .. 18 ..	B. & C.	Penn, 1723.
Ringstead	6 .. 13 ..	B. & C.	..
Rothwell	6 .. 22 ..	..	..
Rushden	6 .. 20 ..	..	Taylor, 1794.
Stamford	6 .. 14 ..	..	Whitechapel, 1850.
Thorpe Malsor .. .	6 .. 7 ..	..	..
Towcester	6 .. 17 ..	..	..
Watford	6 .. 15 ..	..	..
Weldon	6 .. 11 ..	..	Penn, 1710.
Tichmarsh	6 .. 21 ..	B. & C.	..
Whilton	6 .. 12 ..	..	Whitechapel, 1777.
Wollaston	6 .. 19 ..	..	Taylor, 1806.
Yardley Hastings..	6 .. 14 ..	..	Penn, 1723.

Change-ringing is certainly spreading in Northamptonshire.

CHRIST CHURCH, CONSETT, DURHAM.

A Meeting of the parishioners was held on Thursday, July 9th, to take immediate action to provide a peal of bells at the parish church at a cost of £400. A donation of £50 has been promised by the vicar and churchwardens, contingent upon the bells being obtained this year. The sum of £126 has already been subscribed, and on £300 being guaranteed, a peal of six will be procured forthwith.

ST. MARY'S, BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

THE members of the above Society will hold their sixteenth anniversary on Bank Holiday, August 13th. Any ringers honoring the members with their company will receive a hearty welcome.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

It is proposed to hold a District Meeting at Sudbury, on Monday, August 3rd, Bank Holiday. Full particulars will appear in next week's issue of "THE BELL NEWS." K. H. SMITH, Hon. Sec. July 13th, 1885.

THE SHIPWAY REPRINT.

THE first and second numbers of the weekly issue of this work are
NOW READY,

And may be obtained of all news agents in town and country. As in this shape the number of copies printed will only be just enough to cover the demand, it is obvious that those who neglect to obtain the numbers at once will not afterwards have the opportunity.

Each number contains sixteen pages, size of page being the same as the original work, and having about the same quantity of matter per page. Mr. Snowdon will probably add a valuable contribution to the work in the shape of an appendix.

The numbers are printed in a popular style, and on superior paper.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

PUBLISHED BY E. W. ALLEN, AVE MARIA LANE, LONDON.

"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, E. W. ALLEN, Ave Maria Lane, London.

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JULY 18, 1885.

SEVERAL correspondents have during the week sent letters of a most flattering character for publication, relating to the weekly issue of the "Shipway" reprint. We have deemed it advisable not to publish these communications, but to refer to them generally through the medium of what has come to be regarded as our leading comment. And at first we may tell our friends that the determination to enter upon this weekly issue was not arrived at without grave consideration, and a fair review of the quality and quantity of the solicitations made to us to do so. First of all, those gentlemen who had subscribed towards the production of the work in its complete shape had to be consulted; and in fact this appeared to be the chief obstacle to bringing it out in a serial form. As is well known, their views and objections (if any), were solicited, with the result that while some of them had not the slightest reason for opposing such a mode of publication, many others expressed themselves pleased with the idea, and not one of them offered the least objection. One gentleman certainly did make a point of protesting, but his protest only came last week, after we had finally and positively announced what was going to be done, and thus it was too late to have any regard paid

to it. As the covenant with the subscribers will be faithfully kept, we must be allowed to say that we see no tangible reason for objection to such a mode of publication, as upon easy terms SHIPWAY'S great work is thus brought within the reach of all.

In every book printed, there is necessarily a certain amount of introductory matter connected with it, and we could not eliminate a line of such matter from the book in question. Our object is to present the work exactly as the author himself produced it—with improvements in the style of printing. In our opinion, the prefaces—which will appear in due course—are as interesting, almost, as any other portion. This may be an answer to those of our friends who, having the first number, may see something which could have been dispensed with. In the second number published the methods begin, and this week our friends will no doubt be interested in seeing a method of which a peal of five thousand or more changes can be rung without one single dodge. The several appearance of the sheets as they are printed seems to us most satisfactory, so that we are enabled to fully endorse our publisher's notice at the commencement of this page, that they are "printed in a popular style," and upon really good paper. The probable addition to the work in the shape of an Appendix by Mr. SNOWDON, is sure to be hailed with a considerable degree of satisfaction, as the thorough manner in which he performs everything he undertakes, is ample warrant that such Appendix will be most valuable.

We do not want to dwell upon this subject too long, so that it may be thought we are unduly advertising the undertaking. Our remarks shall be concluded with expressing the belief that in this matter we are doing something, however little, to promote an interest in the art, coupled with a hope that the opportunity now offered of possessing a copy of the largest work on ringing, may not be thrown away by any of our brother-ringers.

The Metropolis.

FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

On Saturday, July 11, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-six Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 21 cwt.

RICHARD FRENCH	Treble.	ARTHUR JACOB	6.
WILLIAM CECIL	2.	WILLIAM BARON	7.
GEORGE NEWSON	3.	*J. MARTIN ROUTH, Esq. ..	8.
HENRY DAINS	4.	*MARTIN MURPHY	9.
JOHN CARTER*	5.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN ..	Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS and Conducted by F. G. NEWMAN.
J. Carter hails from Birmingham. *First peal of Treble Bob Royal.

THE WEST MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

The MEETING arranged for St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, on Saturday, July 11th, is postponed to July 25th, at 7.30 p.m., and the Slough meeting takes place on Saturday, August 1st, at 7.30 p.m. The Annual Dinner will take place at the "King's Head," Harrow-on-the-Hill, to-day (Saturday, July 18th), at 5 o'clock. Ringing at 3.30. Members intending to be present must kindly decide by Wednesday, July 15th, to
HENRY S. THOMAS,
71, Bridge Road West, Old Battersea, Surrey. Hon. Sec.

The Provinces.

ECCLES, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, July 6, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THE ORIGINAL BOB-AND-SINGLE PEAL. Tenor 13½ cwt. in G.

CHARLES CASH Treble.	JAMES BARRATT.. .. . 5.
SAMUEL WEST 2.	JOHN EACHUS 6.
ALBERT EDWARD WREAKS 3.	G. H. JOHNSON.. .. . 7.
EDWARD CASH 4.	WILLIAM ASHCROFT.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE HENRY JOHNSON.

* Messrs. West, Wreaks and Eachus belong to the Manchester Cathedral Society; the rest belong to the Eccles company.

CARSHALTON, SURREY.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.—BEDDINGTON BRANCH.

On Monday, July 13, 1884, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
IN ONE MAIN COURSE. Tenor 13 cwt. in Ab.

A. B. CARPENTER Treble.	J. TRAPPITT 5.
W. BURKIN 2.	C. BANCE 6.
J. HARRIS 3.	C. GORDON.. .. . 7.
J. PLOWMAN 4.	J. CAWLEY Tenor.

Composed and conducted by A. B. CARPENTER.

This is the first peal of Union by any of the above except the ringer of the 2nd, and the first peal ever called by the conductor.

Date Touches.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

COLWALL (Hertfordshire).—On Sunday, July 12th, at the parish church, a date touch of 1885 changes of Grandsire Doubles, consisting of fifteen 6-scores, of which ten were called with Grandsire extremes, each called differently, and 85 extra changes, in 1 hr. E. J. Beatley, 1; J. T. Horton, 2; Rev. G. M. Custance, 3; C. W. H. Griffith, Esq., 4; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 5; Chas. Pedlingham, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. The whole was arranged and conducted by A. F. M. Custance.

LIVERSEDGE (Yorkshire).—On Thursday, July 9th, at Christ Church, the local company rang a date touch of 1885 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 7½ mins., in honour of the 85th birthday of Mr. William Sottanstill, of Sowerby, near Halifax, Yorkshire, by whom it was composed. J. Whitworth, 1; J. Illingworth, 2; W. Firth, 3; T. North, 4; G. Illingworth, 5; S. Goodall, 6; L. Illingworth, 7; Mosley Ramsden, 8. Conducted by T. North. Tenor 15 cwt.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, July 11th, a date touch of 1885 changes was rung in 1 hr. 10 mins., in the following methods, viz.: 720 of Kent Treble Bob, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, and 445 of Plain Bob. J. Willmott, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; W. Hall, 3; H. Stubbs, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6. C. W. Clarke hails from Bedford.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, July 7th, at St. Mary's parish church, a date touch, 1885 changes, in the following methods, viz.: 445 Grandsire Minor (twenty-six bobs and one single), composed by J. J. Parker, Farnham Royal, Bucks, 720 College Single Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), and 720 Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 1 hr. 5 mins. J. Hurst, 1; R. H. Barton, 2; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 3; T. Rusaton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; W. Booth, 6. Tenor 9 cwt. R. H. Barton hails from Bootle, and this is the longest length he has rung. W. Booth hails from Liverpool.

Miscellaneous.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, July 11th, eight members of the above Association, at St. Martin's church, attempted Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing seven parts, or 3528

changes in 2 hrs. and 3 mins., it came to grief owing to a shift course. J. Jones, 1; Joseph Fullwood (conductor), 2; W. Pardoe, 3; G. Hughes, 4; J. Martin, 5; S. Jesson, 6; R. Schofield, 7; H. Winfield, 8. R. Schofield hails from Sedgely, the rest belong to the local company. Also on Sunday, July 12th, seven of the above, with Mr. Thomas Bennett, attempted Mr. E. Taylor's peal, but after ringing 2 hrs. and 10 mins., the treble rope broke. The same day for Divine Service in the evening, six of the above rang on the back six two 720's of Grandsire Minor, in 49 mins., the first containing thirty-eight bobs and two singles, the second thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles. T. Bennett, 1; G. Hughes, 2; W. Pardoe, 3; S. Jesson, 4; J. Martin, 5; J. Fullwood (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

SEAFORD (Sussex).—On Thursday, July 9th, at St. Leonard's, after 1 hour's ringing, an attempt for Taylor's 6-part peal of Grandsire Triples was abandoned, the 7th not being ringable. Thomas Lewis, 1; W. H. Fussell, 2; F. W. Harding (conductor), 3; Leonard Huggett, 4; Thomas Willoughby, 5; John Jay, sen., 6; Thomas Hart, 7; John Rollison, 8. Tenor 12½ cwt. The above was arranged for Mr. Fussell, who was staying at Eastbourne.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—On Tuesday, June 16th, Mr. E. Wallis of Newcastle visited this town for the purpose of exhibiting a dog which won the third prize. In the evening the Stockton ringers met him at the parish church, and rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. G. J. Clarkson, 1; W. Newton, 2; W. Stephenson, 3; T. W. Waller, 4; E. Wallis, 5; T. Stephenson (conductor), 6. Mr. Wallis then went outside and listened to a well-struck 720 of York Surprise. On Friday, July 3rd, Mr. R. S. Story, of Newcastle, visited Stockton, and a muster was made for a pull the same evening. After listening to a 720 of York Surprise, Mr. Story then rang his first 720 of Durham Surprise. G. J. Clarkson, 1; W. Stephenson, 2; R. S. Story, 3; T. W. Waller, 4; T. Stephenson (conductor), 5; W. Newton, 6. On Wednesday, July 8th, Mr. Waldron, of St. Andrew's, Bishops Auckland, attended the practice, coming up from Redcar on his bicycle for that purpose, and succeeded in ringing a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Clarkson, 1; W. Stephenson, 2; A. J. B. Waldron, 3; T. W. Waller, 4; T. Stephenson 5; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 6.

DURHAM ST. OSWALD'S.—On Saturday, July 11th, the Stockton company visited Durham and rang for the first time in this city a 720 of Durham Surprise. W. Newton, 1; T. Burdon, 2; W. Stephenson, 3; T. W. Waller, 4; T. Stephenson, 5; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 6.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday, June 18th, at St. John's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles), in 28 mins. R. J. Robson, 1; F. Lees, 2; *H. Ferguson, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; T. Denton (conductor), 6. *First in the method. Also on Monday, July 6th, a 720 of Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs), in 29 mins. H. Ferguson, 1; R. J. Robson, 2; W. Eggleston, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; F. Lees, 5; W. Story (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, July 13th, at All Saints' church, a 1008 of Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled in respect to the late Robert Simm, jun., in 45 mins. J. Weddle, 1; T. Denton (conductor) 2; W. Story, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; J. West, 5; S. Power, 6; E. Wallis, 7; J. Dyball, 8. Tenor 21 cwt.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Wednesday, July 1st, an attempt was made for Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, but owing to a mis-call the bells were brought round after 1764 changes had been rung in 1 hr. C. L. Routledge (conductor), 1; W. Reed, 2; Joel Hern, 3; W. Story, 4; R. W. Wignall, 5; S. Power, 6; T. Denton, 7, R. Smith, 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

QUEDGLEY (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, July 5th, at the parish church, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 23 minutes. T. Brown, 1; W. Brown, 2; T. Mansfield, 3; Wm. Sevier, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; R. A. Barratt (conductor), 6. Also at the residence of Mr. W. Brown, several courses of Grandsire Triples, Major, and Caters were rung on the handbells.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CHURCH KIRK (Lancashire).—On Sunday, July 12th, the local company rang for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 28 mins. And for afternoon service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 28 mins. And for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27½ mins. James Horrocks (conductor), 1; Thomas Doran, 2; Henry Hayes, 3; James Pickles, 4; William Pattinson, 5; Thomas Horrocks, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

PENDBURY (Lancashire).—On Monday, July 13th, eight members of this Association paid a visit to Christ Church, Pendlebury,

with the intention to ring a peal of Grandsire Triples, Taylor's Bob-and-Single Variation, with the bells deeply muffled as a token of respect to the victims of the late disaster at Clifton Hall colliery, but after ringing four parts two bells changed course, and the conductor called "stand" after ringing 2 hrs. William Crossley, 1; John E. Downs, 2; James Barratt, 3; Edward Cash (conductor), 4; Samuel West, 5; Charles Cash, 6; John Withers, 7; John Briscow, 8. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs. Messrs. Downs, West, and Withers are of Manchester Cathedral; Crossley, St. Peter's, Swinton; Briscow from Pendlebury; Cash Brothers and Barratt from Eccles.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BURFORD (Oxon).—On Sunday evening, for Divine Service, the following rang a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 20 mins. H. Smith, 1; T. E. Glanville (conductor), 2; T. Brown, 3; W. Smith, 4; J. Smith, 5; D. Francis, 6; W. Large, 7; W. Launchbury, 8.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday, July 5th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins. J. Hands, 1; *H. Simmonds, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; T. Newman, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. And after Divine Service in the evening, another 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; W. Willshire (Reading), 4; T. Newman, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday evening, July 7th, for practice, another 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins. †F. Simmonds, 1; *H. Smith, 2; E. Pottinger, 3; E. Menday, 4; J. Hands, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. And a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles, E. Young ringing the treble, being his first 120. †First 720 with treble. *First 720 with a bob bell. Great credit is due to F. Simmonds for his good striking, considering his age and the very short time he has practised, having only rung two plain courses previous.

OXFORD.—On Monday, July 6th, six members of this Guild rang at St. Cross, Holywell, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. H. Castle, 1; W. Baston, 2; F. Castle, 3; S. Hounslow, 4; T. Payne, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. The above was rung on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. W. Payne.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

THAMES DITTON (Surrey).—On Sunday, July 5th, at St. Michael's church, after service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob in 28 mins. G. Hyde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Strutt, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 of Oxford Treble Bob rung during the past fifty years on these bells, which are a musical peal, but go very bad. The ringers thank the Vicar for allowing them to ring after service.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.—On Thursday, July 9th, on the front six, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 26 mins. G. Hyde, 1; R. Moss, 2; J. Strutt, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6.

WIMBLETON (Surrey).—On Sunday, July 6th, for Divine Service, a 710 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 27 mins. G. Hyde, 1; C. Hyde, 2; R. Moss, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, July 12th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Woodbine, in 26½ mins. G. Hyde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WEST MALLING (Kent).—On Tuesday, July 14th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. John Worsley (first 720), 1; D. Hall, 2; E. Baldock, 3; G. A. Osborne, 4; F. Shoobridge, 5; J. W. Leonard (conductor), 6.

BIDDENHAM (Beds).—On Sunday, July 5th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. West, 1; J. West, 2; C. West, 3; H. Buckingham, 4; A. Squires (conductor), 5; W. Frossell, 6. Also another 6-score, W. West, 1; J. West, 2; H. Buckingham, 3; A. Squires, 4; C. West (conductor), 5; H. Wood, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G. A. Squires and H. Buckingham hail from Hitchin, Herts.

BRAMFORD (Suffolk).—On Sunday morning, July 12th, at the parish church, six 6-scores of Plain Bob Doubles. Charles Osborne, 1; Walter Brown, 2; Alfred Pryke (conductor), 3; William Read, 4; Charles Smith, 5; William Garnham, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in G. C. Smith, W. Read, and A. Pryke belong to the Norwich Diocesan Association.

CHEPSTOW (Monmouthshire).—On Tuesday, June 30th, six of the local company rang for practice at St. Mary's church, several 6-scores of Bob Doubles, on the back six, being the first ever rung on the bells. James Morley (conductor), 1; George Watkins, 2; William Green, 3; William Woods, 4; Tom Rosser, 5; Richard Morley, 6. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

COLWALL (Herefordshire).—On Wednesday, July 8th, at the Parish Church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. Perks, 1; G. Pacey (first 720), 2; F. Jelf (first 720 of Treble Bob), 3; C. W. H. Griffith, Esq., 4; J. T. Horton (first 720), 5; A. F. M. Custance, Esq. (conductor) 6. This is the first 720 ever known to have been rung on these bells.

COPDOCK (Suffolk).—On Saturday, July 11th, at the parish church, two 6-scores of Bob Doubles, Charles Osborne, 1; Walter Brown, 2; Charles Smith, 3; Alfred Pryke (conductor), 4; William Read, 5. And three 6-scores of Plain Bob Doubles. William Read, 1; Walter Brown, 2; William Mee, 3; Alfred Pryke, 4; Charles Smith (conductor), 5. Tenor 12 cwt.

EASTBOURNE (Sussex).—On Friday, July 10th, at the church of St. Mary, the last 700 of Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples. Henry P. Bennett, 1; F. W. Harding (conductor), 2; Wm. Bone 3; Thomas Hunnisett, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; James Potter, 6; Thomas Hart, 7; John Rollison, 8. Mr. Bone belongs to the Reigate society; and Mr. Potter to the Eastbourne company.

EALING (Middlesex).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Monday, July 13th, being the day of the funeral of the late Mr. Charles Atlee, who had been steeple-keeper at Christ Church for 27 years, and many years a member of the Royal Cumberland's and St. James's Societies, London, five members of the Royal Cumberland's, with Mr. J. Basden (St. James's Society), and one of the local company, rang the usual whole pull and stand. After which a touch of Grandsire Triples. J. Mansfield, 1; G. Ilsley, 2; J. Basden, 3; W. Fenwick, 4; G. Trinder, 5; J. Taber, 6; J. Baldwin (conductor), 7; E. Gould, 8. The decease of Mr. Atlee will be deeply regretted by all who knew him.

GREAT WALDINGFIELD (Suffolk).—On Sunday, June 28th, at the parish church, after Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung (six singles and fifteen bobs), in 28 mins. Geo. Death, 1; Wm. Hollocks, 2; H. Smith, 3; A. Hollocks, 4; Jas. Levitt, 5; A. Symonds (conductor), 6. This was rung on the occasion of the 47th anniversary of the coronation of Her Majesty. Also in the evening, for Divine Service, a start was made for a 720 in the same method (twenty-six singles), but after ringing 408 changes it came to grief through the breaking of the 3rd rope. H. Diggings, 1; Geo. Death, 2; Jas. Levitt, 3; A. Symonds, 4; H. Smith, 5; Jno. Newman (conductor), 6. Messrs. A. Hollocks, Wm. Hollocks, and Levitt hail from Preston; Symonds and Smith from Lavenham; Newman and Death from Edwardstone; Diggings belongs to Waldingfield. The ringers return many thanks to the vicar for granting permission to ring.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday, June 7th, after Divine Service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 25 mins. J. Barrett, 1; T. Gleed, 2; B. Foskett, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; G. Newson, 5; T. Titchener, 6. Also on Sunday evening, July 5th, after Divine Service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25½ mins. D. W. Greggs (1st 720 in the method), 1; T. Gleed, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; T. Titchener, 4; Wingfield Meadows, 5; G. Newson, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, July 12th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. J. Ward, 1; ———, 2; J. Nunn, 3; J. Waghorn, sen., 4; H. A. Barnett, 5; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 6. Also 120 of Grandsire Doubles (no calls). — Groves, 1; J. Waghorn, jun., 2; G. B. Lucas, 3; J. Waghorn, sen., 4; H. A. Barnett, 5; T. Ward, 6.

ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).—On Sunday, June 28th, for afternoon service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with 7-8 covering, in 26 mins. John Prescott, 1; James Sholicar (conductor), 2; Henry Ellis, 3; William Ellis, 4; George Prescott, 5; William J. Taylor, 6; William Lloyd, 6; James Pilkington, 8. And on Sunday, July 5th, for afternoon service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with 7-8 covering, in 26 mins. John Prescott, 1; William J. Taylor, 2; Henry Ellis, 3; George Prescott, 4; James Sholicar (conductor), 5; Edward Bentham (first 720), 6; William Lloyd, 7; James Pilkington, 8. E. Bentham hails from Wigan.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Thursday, June 25th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (four bobs and fourteen singles), in 25 mins. H. Symonds, 1; Wm. Hollocks, 2; H. Hollocks, 3; Jas. Levitt, 4; A. Symonds (conductor), 5; Jno. Levitt, 6. This was rung to celebrate the thirty-first birthday of H. Hollocks, the ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Sunday, July 5th, for early service, a 720 of Oxford Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Coles, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; F. Gilbert, 3; J. Stubbs, 4; J. Willmott, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. Also for service at 10.30 a.m., a 720 of London Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Coles, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; W. Hall, 3; A. Martin, 4; J. Willmott, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, July 7th, a 720 of Plain

Bob (eighteen bobs and eighteen singles). G. Kirk, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; W. Hall, 3; R. Nevill, 4; J. Willmott, 5; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 6. An attempt was made for a 5040 in seven different methods on six bells, but after ringing 1 hr. and 20 mins., "stand" had to be called. G. Kirk, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; H. Stubbs, 4; F. Gilbert, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, July 8th, another attempt was made for the 5040, but after ringing 2 hrs. "stand" had to be called by being interrupted at the door. R. Nevill (aged 70), 1; H. Stubbs, 2; F. Gilbert, 3; T. Stubbs, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. A. Martin hails from Higham Ferrers; and R. Nevill from Irthlingborough.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Friday evening, July 3rd, being the 20th anniversary of the bells at St. Ann's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 23 mins. J. Davidson, 1; J. W. Barr, 2; J. Waghorn, jun., 3; H. A. Barnett, 4; J. Waghorn, sen, 5; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 of Bob Minor rung by local men.

TYLDESLEY (Lancashire).—On Sunday, July 12th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 23½ mins. Peter Oakes (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; G. Heaton, 3; W. Gerrerd, 4; Charles Oakes, 5; Jas. Aldred, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. J. Worthington hails from Walkden, and is a member of the Lancashire Association; the rest are local ringers.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, July 7th, at St. Mary's parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. J. Hurst, 1; R. H. Barton, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; W. Booth, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. And on Sunday morning, July 12th, for Divine Service, a 240 of Single Bob Minor, and in the evening a 720 in the same method was attempted, but when about eighty changes from home, the rope of the 3rd bell broke. J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. Tenor 9 cwt. R. H. Barton hails from Bootle; W. Booth from Liverpool.

A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES.

IN ONE MAIN COURSE.

We have much pleasure in inserting the following original peal, composed by Dr. Carpenter. As will be seen from the usual weekly record, it has just been rung; conducted by its composer. In calling it Dr. Carpenter employed a series of mnemonics not unlike the plan laid down in Grey's *Memoria Technica*. Such a system demands, unfortunately, more space for explanation than we can afford. We may, however, have something to say about it in a future number.

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

P.S.—By transposing this peal so that the singles come at the end, there will be many more musical changes at the bobs. But in Union ringing this does not much matter, as there is double dodging behind at every lead.

A. B. CARPENTER, *Croydon*.

The smallest church in England is said to be that of Lullington, Sussex. It is about ten feet by twelve feet, and will not accommodate more than twenty-two people.

HANDBELL RINGING CONTEST.

ON Saturday, July 11th, a contest was held at the "Ring of Bells" Inn, Bradford, Yorks. The first competition was a course of Grandsire Caters and Royal, the prize for which being a splendid new peal of fifteen handbells, made and presented for the occasion by Messrs. James Shaw, Son, and Co., Bellfounders, Bradford, of the value of £6 10s. For the second competition three money prizes were offered; £2, £1, and 10s., the test of which was a course of Grandsire Triples and Royal. Four bands entered for the first contest: Almondbury, Batley Carr, Leeds, and Liversedge; and six for the second: Batley Carr, Leeds, Mirfield, Liversedge, Almondbury, and Birstall, all of whom put in an appearance, and competed. After the last company had rung, the judges requested the 3rd and 5th companies to ring over, which was done, and they gave their award as follows:

For the ten-bell prize—

Almondbury	.. .. .	123 faults.
Leeds	.. .. .	165 "
Liversedge	.. .. .	91 "
Batley Carr	.. .. .	98 "

The Liversedge Band thus became the winners of the bells. For the eight-bell prizes—

Batley Carr	.. .. .	53 faults.
Leeds	.. .. .	80 "
Mirfield	.. .. .	75 "
Liversedge	.. .. .	47 "
Almondbury	.. .. .	75 "
Birstall	.. .. .	93 "

On the Mirfield and Almondbury bands ringing off, the result was:

Mirfield	.. .. .	90 faults,
Almondbury	.. .. .	81 "

According to the rules of the contest, Liversedge having won the ten-bell prize, could not take another, so that the winning teams were:

First Prize	.. .. .	Batley Carr.
Second "	.. .. .	Almondbury.
Third "	.. .. .	Mirfield.

Messrs. Hanson Kitchen, and Stansfield Lord, of Elland, with J. H. Hardcastle and James Angus, of Bradford, acted as judges. Mr. Jesse Naylor officiated as chairman throughout the proceedings, and presented the prizes, after which the Liversedge men rang a course of Grandsire Royal, and some tunes on the new bells, the beautiful tone of which elicited unanimous praise. The attendance of ringers was very large.

[We have also the report of another contest in Bucks, sent to us by our friend Mr. Newell, which will appear next week.—Ed.]

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE General Quarterly Meeting of this Association took place at Brigg, on Saturday, July 4th. Owing to the election which was pending in the Division, and other uncontrollable circumstances, the attendance of members was not so large as was anticipated, nevertheless the meeting was a satisfactory and encouraging one in all respects. Shortly after one o'clock the bells were raised in peal by the visitors, and during the afternoon touches were rung by mixed bands in the following methods: Grandsire Doubles, Grandsire Minor, Plain Bob, and Grandsire Triples. F. F. Linley, Esq., of Gainsboro', one of the vice-presidents of the Association, presided over the meeting. It was resolved that the next meeting should be held at Nocton, near Lincoln, on Saturday, October 3rd. The visiting ringers were kindly treated to refreshments by the conductor of the Brigg company, Mr. W. E. Rowbottom, who manifested the greatest possible interest in the proceedings. The rector of Brigg, the Rev. P. H. Brierley, visited the belfry in the course of the afternoon, and gave the Association a cordial welcome. Change-ringing appears to be at a very low ebb at Brigg, but there is every reason to believe that one good result of the Association meeting will be to stimulate the local brother strings to study and persevere in the art until they attain proficiency. The steeple at Brigg contains eight bells, six of which are of excellent tone; the two treble bells are of recent date, and scarcely harmonise with the remainder. The tenor weighs, we understand, about 9 cwt. All the bells are in good going order, and it is hoped the art of change-ringing will ere long have a home in this tower. The Association committee and members desire to tender their thanks to the Rev. P. H. Brierley for his kindness in granting them the use of the church bells, and also to Mr. W. E. Rowbottom, for his praiseworthy efforts in contributing to the enjoyment and success of the meeting.

The parish church of Welford has been re-opened. About six months ago, a fire broke out at this church, and the peal of bells and clock were destroyed.

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."

SUNDAY RINGING.

SIR,—The leading article on this subject in your issue of the 27th June comes not a moment too soon. The idea of the church bells being un-rung on the day of all days, when their legitimate functions should be exercised, strikes a reflective person as being absurd; and perhaps you will allow a little space for the discussion of the matter. I think the true explanation of this state of things may be found in the fact of the majority of the ringing fraternity being drawn from what is called the working class—a very important branch of the community. From the nature of their employment very many of these are too tired to undertake the task of attending twice on their day of rest to perform another task, and the desire to spend as much time as possible, on the only available day, with wife and family, is most laudable, and except when there is some remuneration to be earned, it is unreasonable to expect ringing from those so placed. But why should ringers be so almost exclusively working men? The art is certainly as engaging as any other, and if the clergy were to make themselves as well acquainted with their bells and ringers as they are with their organs and choirs, it would not be long before they had a competent band of ringers drawn from the same class as their organists and choirs are drawn from, who would be glad to ring without any thought of payment: and what paid ringing there was might very well be left to the local scruffe—though I fancy very few of our best men are much better off for what they earn at the ropes' end. But if a young band of enthusiasts is formed, why should call-changes be deemed sufficient? Mr. Snowdon has made the acquisition of a scientific method possible to any who care to spend a few pence on a book, and you, Sir, are going to publish "Shipway's Work" in penny numbers. "Stoney" ringing—as the only sort of performance ever attempted in many places—has done a lot to keep ringers, as ringers, in the position they have so long occupied; whereas they should take their place, *ex officio*, with other artists. And now, Sir, let me ask what many of your readers may consider a very singular question, viz.: what are our four great London Societies doing to practically and systematically promote the art of change-ringing? I ask this in all sincerity and respect. They have been in existence for many years, and their members have rung very many excellent peals. But are they moving with the times? Are they doing anything to promote the art outside their own particular towers, or adding to the usefulness of themselves by opening up new and neglected fields of operation? I am afraid their visits are only too frequently those at which the object is the purely selfish one of getting a peal, and that they are more a lot of practice societies for a number of already accomplished ringers, than, as they should be, training schools for their successors. In short, have they any well-organised system of instruction, by which aspirants can be properly taught, instead of having to pick up bits here and there, at a deplorable expenditure of time? Our choral Societies furnish our churches and chapels with respectable and competent choristers, who give their services freely enough from love of their art, but do our Societies do much in that way? They number among their members many who would volunteer if the necessary arrangements were made, and very many worthy men would be happy to devote an hour occasionally to giving "young hands" a lift, and if a society did not see its way to pay instructors out of its funds, then learners might pay something extra on tuition nights; it is quite time that societies resolved to add to their peal competition departments one for the *efficient* and *systematic* education of those who are to follow after them. I purposely omit here any reference to ringers as Church workers, for the reason that the musical papers do not deal with patronising sermons to musicians; and our academies and our colleges educate their pupils and leave them to attach themselves to what denomination they please. I hope this letter may induce a little discussion on one or two important points.

ANSWER TO MR. T. LOCKWOOD.

SIR,—In answer to what Tom Lockwood said in your issue of the 4th of July, I beg to say there is no lead of 2 4 6 5 8 3 7 in the sixteenth course, so that Tom Lockwood must try once more in some other place.

ABRAHAM SYKES.

FALSE TOUCHES.

SIR,—Allow me to inform Mr. Tucker that the work I have, which is one lent me by a friend, has the three touches spoken of, and no footnotes whatever. No doubt this is one of the "earlier editions," which has fallen into the hands of many besides myself. I know that some of these touches have been called, and the bob-caller entirely ignorant of their being false, so I think it is very likely that the band I spoke of, and many others, have done the same. I remember

ringing the 377 on hand-bells, because of its good music, and after it was finished I was informed the touch was false, and this led me to examine other touches in Mr. Troyte's work, with the same result. Mr. Tucker thinks that musical touches, such as these, although false, should be considered legitimate on account of their pretty musical effect, and as a test of the young conductor's skill. I do not wish to pass any adverse comments on Mr. Troyte's work, as it would ill become me to do so, but I maintain that anything in the shape of peals or touches, known to be false, should not be allowed to go forth to the ringing world. Why do anything by foul means when the same ends are to be attained by fair means? This is a new theory to set up amongst ringers, and one, I fully believe, that would be condemned by nineteen out of twenty who essays to call a touch of any kind, as there is something which sounds very obnoxious in the word "false."

A. J. PERKINS.

THE PEAL AT WEST MALLING.

SIR,—As requested by Mr. H. Pearce in his letter of July 4th, I beg to enclose herewith the peal as rung. And in answer to his letter of July 11th, I beg to say that he is not in a position to contradict me as to F. G. Newman's whereabouts on the day in question, as he did not see him from the time the peal began (about 6.30) till he met him in a public house, as he was on his way (with a friend) to the station, to meet a train leaving Malling at 8.48. Neither can he endorse F. G. Newman's statement as to having heard the whole of the peal, as he (H. Pearce) did not arrive in Malling till about an hour after the peal commenced. The peal rung was the second peal of Bob Major in the *Clavis*, with a single at the end of third part instead of a bob, which produces:—

3 2 4 5 6	W	M	H
5 3 4 2 6	—	—	—
2 5 4 3 6	—	—	—
4 3 2 5 6	—	—	—
2 4 3 5 6	—	—	—
2 3 4 5 6	S	—	—

The above is the 560 tacked on.

JAMES W. LEONARD.

THE RECENT ACCIDENT TO A RINGING PARTY.

THE following sums have been received for the purpose of helping to defray the great loss sustained by Mr. H. F. Wood in this unfortunate affair:—

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Rev. E. S.	2	6	G. Dorrington	2	0
J. West	2	0	H. J. Shade	2	6
J. W. Snowdon, Esq. ...	10	0	G. Russell, Croydon ...	1	0
W. Banister	5	0	H. Pearce	2	0
Bedfordshire Association	5	0	F. Newman	2	0
St. Martin's, Salisbury ...	10	0	R. Turner	2	0
St. Peter's, Leeds, Yorks	5	0	T. Dupen	2	6
H. Edwards	2	6	W. Prime	2	0
J. Dwight	2	6	W. Cooter	2	6
I. Shade	5	0	J. Davidson	3	0
R. S. Story	5	0	Widford and Galleywood C.R.	5	0
E. Wallege	2	0	H. Lewis, St. Albans ...	5	0
J. Barrett	2	0	S. Joyce	2	0
J. Comb	5	0	J. H. Monday	5	0
Spalding, SS. Mary and Nicolas	3	0	M. A. Wood	10	0
B. Newton	1	0	A. Hayward	2	6
J. Dupen	2	0	W. Cecil	2	6
C. Lee	1	0	A. B. Goody	5	0
C. Beecu	1	0	Mr. Lewis Green	2	6
J. West (second donation) ...	3	0	St. Mary's society, Walthamstow	10	0
J. Barry	1	0	Thomas Clark, Sharow, Ripon	5	0
T. Powell, Waltham Abbey ...	2	6			

Further donations, however small, are urgently solicited. Mr. Matthew Wood, 11 Church Row, Bethnal Green, London, will be happy to give any further information, and will thankfully acknowledge any sums forwarded to him.

In Memoriam.

ROBERT SIMM, JUN.

After a short and painful illness this gentleman departed this life on Thursday, July 9th, at his father's residence, in Shieldfield, Newcastle-on-Tyne, at the early age of twenty-seven. Although still very young, he was respected and esteemed by all he came into contact with, his quiet unassuming manner making him a favourite with all. His abilities as a change-ringer were of no extraordinary character, but that which he had mastered was always rung with a steadiness rarely equalled. The funeral took place at All Saints' cemetery, on Sunday, July 12th, a large concourse of relatives, ringers and friends attending him to his last resting-place. On the Monday following, his fellow-members of the Newcastle Society rang the bells of All Saints', Newcastle, in a muffled touch of Grandsire Triples to his memory. The deceased was also a member of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association and of the Newcastle handbell-ringers.

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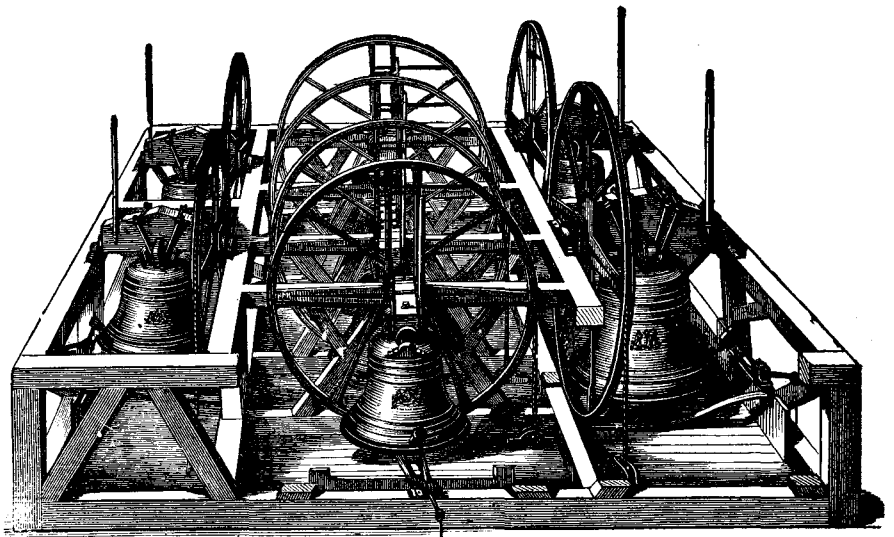
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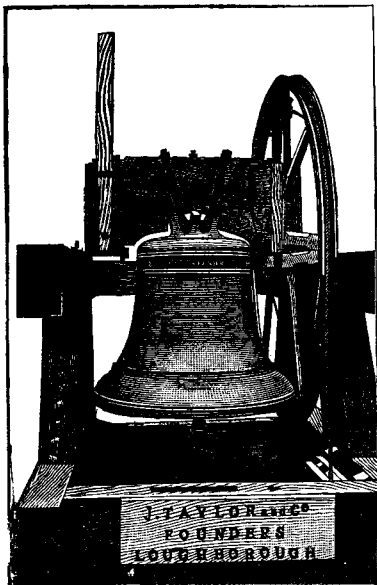
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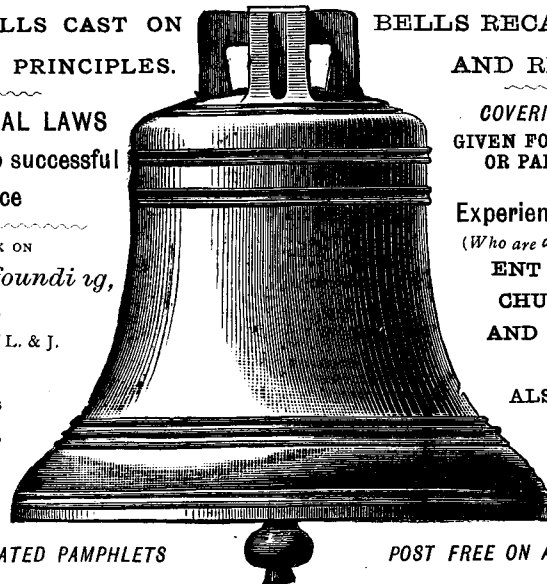
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