

# THE BELL NEWS

## And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 186. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. IV.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1885.

[ONE PENNY.]

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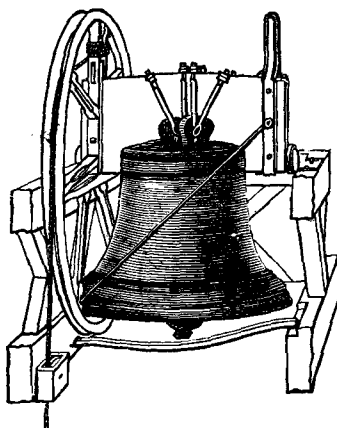
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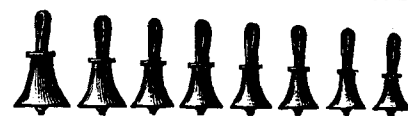
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UNION TRIPLES.

By the REV. C. D. P. DAVIES.

IN Nos. 17, 94, 96, 97 (all in the new series) of "THE BELL NEWS" were published the peals and other results of some of my investigations into the composition of Grandsire Triples. In a letter in the correspondence column somewhat subsequently, I promised to lay before the Exercise the method on which the enquiry had been conducted. This promise I hope very shortly to redeem. My apology for not having done so already lies in the fact that I was very anxious to combine the treatment of Union Triples with that of Grandsire. Some little of this has been done, but the subject has proved far more tedious than I expected, and the time I have been able to devote to it has been so uncertain and scanty, that I have determined to publish what I have thus far discovered, leaving the rest for any one who may have more leisure for it.

As with Grandsire Triples so with Union, my efforts have been confined to five-part peals and touches having as part-ends the leads of the plain course, and to ten-part peals with these same part-ends in the one half, those of the other half being the leads of what may be termed the "reverse" course.

The difficulty to be overcome was the plan of the singles, which are given in full below. So far as I can see this is absolutely the only form into which they can be moulded, and had Holt hit upon it, he would doubtless have bequeathed to us a ten-part peal of Union Triples, as a companion to his famous Grandsire peal on that plan, just as he has given us a "six-part" in each of the two methods.

The following compositions are merely given as specimens, and are not in any way to be regarded as what Shipway terms the "ne plus ultra" in this method. They comprise the longest touch I have so far attained in five equal and similar parts, each containing a lead of the reverse course; two five-part peals of seventy-one leads in each part, with the reverse course introduced by singles and prefixed to the first part; and also one simple ten-part peal with singles midway and at the end. It will be evident that they are all tolerably simple for the conductor.

The five-part peals with twenty-one bobs in each part are very simply produced, and peals of this form are capable of very extensive variation. The ten-part peal is that to which I am desirous of calling special attention. The calling of it may of course be reversed, that is, the first half may be called on the plan of the latter half, and the latter on that of the first.

In the case of the singles the letters are prefixed to the change at which the call is made.

2 3 4 5 6 7	4270.	4 3 2 7 6 5	
7 5 2 6 3 4		2 5 4 3 7 6	Four times repeated.
6 5 7 2 3 4		6 3 2 7 5 4	
7 4 6 5 2 3		3 5 6 4 2 7	
5 4 7 6 2 3		4 5 3 6 2 7	
7 3 5 4 6 2		6 5 4 3 2 7	
3 6 7 2 5 4		7 3 6 2 5 4	
2 6 3 7 5 4		5 6 7 2 4 3	
5 3 2 7 4 6		6 4 5 3 7 2	
2 6 5 3 7 4		7 5 6 3 2 4	
4 3 2 7 6 5		2 6 7 3 4 5	

Singles for the two peals next following.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7	1 2 7 6 5 4 3
2 1 3 5 4 7 6	2 1 7 5 6 3 4
2 3 1 4 5 6 7	2 7 1 6 5 4 3
3 2 4 1 6 5 7	7 2 6 1 4 5 3
3 4 2 6 1 7 5	7 6 2 4 1 3 5
S 4 3 6 2 7 1 5	S 6 7 4 2 3 1 5
4 6 3 7 2 5 1	6 4 7 3 2 5 1
4 6 3 7 5 2 1	6 4 7 3 5 2 1
4 3 6 5 7 1 2	6 7 4 5 3 1 2
3 4 5 6 1 7 2	7 6 5 4 1 3 2
3 5 4 1 6 2 7	7 5 6 1 4 2 3
5 3 1 4 2 6 7	B 5 7 1 6 2 4 3
5 1 3 2 4 7 6	5 1 7 2 6 3 4
1 5 2 3 4 6 7	1 5 7 6 2 4 3
1 2 5 4 3 7 6	1 7 5 2 6 3 4

5040.	5040.
7 5 2 6 3 4	7 5 2 6 3 4
2 4 7 5 6 3	5 3 7 4 2 6
5 4 2 7 6 3	4 3 5 7 2 6
7 4 5 2 6 3	7 3 4 5 2 6
5 3 7 4 2 6	6 5 7 2 3 4
4 3 5 7 2 6	7 4 6 5 2 3
7 3 4 5 2 6	5 4 7 6 2 3
6 5 7 2 3 4	3 6 5 2 4 7
7 4 6 5 2 3	5 7 3 6 2 4
5 4 7 6 2 3	2 3 5 6 4 7
3 6 5 2 4 7	6 3 2 5 4 7
5 7 3 6 2 4	3 4 6 7 2 5
6 7 5 3 2 4	7 4 3 6 2 5
3 7 6 5 2 4	6 4 7 3 2 5
2 6 3 5 4 7	5 3 6 2 4 7
3 7 2 6 5 4	6 7 5 3 2 4
6 7 3 2 5 4	3 7 6 5 2 4
2 7 6 3 5 4	2 6 3 5 4 7
5 6 2 3 4 7	5 6 2 3 4 7
6 4 5 7 2 3	6 4 5 7 2 3
2 5 6 7 3 4	2 5 6 7 3 4

Either of the above four times repeated.

First six lead-ends of these peals.

2 3 4 5 6 7
S 2 5 4 3 7 6
2 3 7 6 5 4
2 6 5 4 3 7
2 4 3 7 6 5
2 7 6 5 4 3
S.B. 7 5 2 6 3 4

Singles for the ten-part peal.

1 4 6 7 3 5 2	1 3 6 5 4 7 2
4 1 6 3 7 2 5	3 1 6 4 5 2 7
4 6 1 7 3 5 2	3 6 1 5 4 7 2
6 4 7 1 5 3 2	6 3 5 1 7 4 2
6 7 4 5 1 2 3	6 5 3 7 1 2 4
S 7 6 5 4 2 1 3	S 5 6 7 3 2 1 4
7 5 6 2 4 3 1	5 7 6 2 3 4 1
7 5 2 6 4 3 1	5 7 2 6 3 4 1
7 2 5 4 6 1 3	5 2 7 3 6 1 4
2 7 4 5 1 6 3	2 5 3 7 1 6 4
2 4 7 1 5 3 6	2 3 5 1 7 4 6
B 4 2 1 7 3 5 6	B 3 2 1 5 4 7 6
4 1 2 3 7 6 5	3 1 2 4 5 6 7
1 4 2 7 3 5 6	1 3 2 5 4 7 6
1 2 4 3 7 6 5	1 2 3 4 5 6 7

2 3 4 5 6 7	5040.	2 4 3 7 6 5
7 5 2 6 3 4		5 7 2 6 4 3
2 4 7 5 6 3		4 2 5 6 3 7
5 4 2 7 6 3		7 6 4 3 2 5
7 4 5 2 6 3		6 2 7 5 4 3
5 3 7 4 2 6		3 5 6 4 2 7
4 3 5 7 2 6		4 5 3 6 2 7
7 3 4 5 2 6		6 5 4 3 2 7
6 5 7 2 3 4		7 3 6 2 5 4
7 4 6 5 2 3		5 6 7 2 4 3
4 2 7 3 6 5		2 6 5 7 4 3
5 3 4 6 2 7		7 6 2 5 4 3
2 4 5 6 7 3		2 3 7 6 5 4

First part.

Sixth part.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5003.

By JOHN CARTER, Birmingham.

2 3 4 5 6 1 2 3 4

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

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

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

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

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

Round as usual. This peal has the 6th 24 times wrong and right, and the 5th twelve times right.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Members are specially requested to attend the Annual Meeting at St. Albans, on Monday, October 26th. Three towers containing ten, eight, and six bells will be open from 10.30. Service in the Lady chapel at 12.15, with sermon by the Rev. W. Wigram. Return tickets at a fare and a quarter on production of card of membership. Dinner tickets 2s. each.  
W. WIGRAM, General Secretary.

A CORRECTION.—The 720 rung at Bengoe, on October 18th last, was Grandsire Minor, not Bob Minor.

## THE WREXHAM SOCIETY.

On Monday, October 12th, the above Society held their annual outing, the place selected being Manchester. Starting from Wrexham by the 8.6 a.m. train, they arrived in Manchester by 10.15, and were met by Mr. Eachus, who conducted them to their rendezvous. After refreshing the inner man, a start was made for the Cathedral, where it was intended to ring a peal of Caters (the late John Cox's 5021), but after ringing for 2 hrs. and 8 mins., a change-course occurred, which brought the bells to a stand. These bells go magnificently, are a good ring of ten, and are kept in grand order by those in charge. Mr. Eachus then conducted them through the Town Hall, where an inspection of the clock and bells proved most instructive. Here some of the ringers went to Belle Vue Gardens, and saw the fireworks (the siege of Khartoum), whilst the remainder went to the headquarters of the Cathedral ringers in Shudehill, and spent a most enjoyable evening with the handbells, several courses of Grandsire Cinques and Caters, being struck with great precision, also Triples and Grandsire Major. Eleven o'clock p.m. brought the pleasant evening to a close, and after hearty hand shaking and good night all round, the party retired for the night. Early on Tuesday morning the ringers were up, and took a stroll through Shudehill Wholesale Market, the remainder of the day being spent in loitering around the city. In the evening, a start was made for Ashton-under-Lyne, where a peal of Treble Bob Major was attempted at St. Peter's with the Ashton ringers; here as in Manchester, disaster attended their efforts, for after ringing for 2 hrs. and 40 mins., they got out, and so ended the Wrexham men's first attempt at a peal of Treble Bob. S. Wood, 1; W. Smith, 2; J. Wood, 3; J. Thorp, 4; E. Rowland (Wrexham), 5; J. Newall (Wrexham), 6; E. Evans (Wrexham), 7; G. Longden, 8. The remainder of the evening was spent with the Ashton ringers at Mr. Tumilty's, and was enlivened by singing, some of the Ashton men being capital singers, their abilities as ringers being well known. The Wrexham ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Manchester and Ashton ringers for their kindness.

## LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

On Saturday, October 3rd, the Sudbury company paid a visit to this place for the purpose of having a touch on the fine peal of bells. On arriving, a move was soon made to the tower, where through the exertions of Mr. W. Boby, everything was found in readiness. A 770 of Grandsire Triples by F. Tolliday, 1; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 2; G. Brown, 3; W. Griggs, 4; W. Bacon, 5; H. Harper, 6; A. Scott, 7; W. Howell, 8. Also a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major. F. Tolliday, 1; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 2; G. Brown, 3; W. Griggs, 4; W. Bacon, 5; W. Howell, 6; H. Harper, 7; A. Scott, 8. A touch of Bob Major was also started for with Messrs. Fisk, Symonds, and Moore, of the Lavenham company, but it unfortunately collapsed. Afterwards, an adjournment was made to the "Cock Inn," where Mr. Bruce had very kindly brought his handbells for use during the evening. A course of Grandsire Caters was rung by A. Symonds (Lavenham), 1-2; A. Scott, 3-4; C. Sillitoe, 5-6; W. Howell, 7-8; H. Harper, 9-10. Also a course of Grandsire Cinques. F. Tolliday, 1-2; A. Scott, 3-4; C. Sillitoe, 5-6; A. Symonds, 7; W. Griggs, 8; W. Howell, 9-10; H. Harper, 11-12. This is the first course of Caters and Cinques by A. Symonds. A course of Bob Major was rung to oblige some of the local company by C. Sillitoe, 1-2-3-4; W. Howell, 5-6; A. Scott, 7-8. Songs were also sung by Messrs. Fisk, Harper, Tolliday, Smith, etc., and a very pleasant evening was spent, the party reaching home about midnight, enlivened on the way with a political speech by Mr. F. Tolliday. The company desire, through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," to return their sincere thanks to the Rev. — Symonds for the use of the bells, also to the local company for the very kind manner in which they met them.

## ECKINGTON, DERBYSHIRE.

On Saturday, October 17th, the Anston company paid a friendly visit to the above place, with the intention of having an afternoon's ringing. Their outing was likely at first to meet with disappointment on account of two of their band not being able to come, but on arriving at Eckington, a band was soon made up by the local company, and after raising the bells in peal a 720 of Duke of York was rung, in 28 mins., and several touches of Oxford, Violet, and New London Pleasure, time not permitting any more, on account of service being held. G. Lidster, 1; C. F. Fowler, 2; E. James (Eckington), 3; J. Shaw (Eckington), 4; S. Smith, 5; T. Silvester (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. 14 lbs. An enjoyable hour-and-a-half was then spent with the handbells, the Anston men, assisted by T. Lunn, of Eckington, rang several airs in good style. Train time having now arrived, the visitors departed for home with the good wishes of the Eckington company. Our correspondent adds:—It may be mentioned that the Anston men are members of the Yorkshire Association, and are a young and promising company, all striving to master the art of change-ringing, which so many try and don't succeed, for want of unity.

## ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, OLD BATTERSEA, SURREY.

On Saturday morning, October 10th, the members of this society assembled in their belfry, in accordance with instructions, to set the tuneful bells a-ringing to celebrate the marriage of Miss Emily Mildred Thornton, youngest daughter of the late Henry Sykes Thornton, of Battersea Rise, to Charles Guy Pym, son of the late Rev. W. Wollaston Pym, of Willian, Herts. The ringing was opened by a well-struck 500 of Grandsire Triples, succeeded by another short touch in the same method to hail the arrival of the bride, a lady whose benevolent and loving ways has won for her the respect of all the old parishioners of Battersea, having followed, we might say, in the footsteps of her worthy father since his lamented decease, which occurred a short time ago, to the sorrow of a large circle of friends, but whose charitable gifts still live green in their memory. The service, which was choral, was conducted by the Very Rev. H. M. Butler, Dean of Gloucester, assisted by the Vicar of Battersea, Canon Erskine Clarke, and the bride having been given away by her brother, the closing words of the marriage lines were pronounced by the Rev. Dean, who in an eloquent and feeling address (which was alike touching to the congregation as to the bridal party), besought the happy couple to think of the future, as well as the present, and also gave them an outline of the way they should live in this world from a godly point of view, and concluded by asking God's blessing upon them for ever. After a short prayer, the bride and bridegroom, followed by their ten bridesmaids, proceeded down the aisle to the strain of the popular Wedding March, and amid the music from the pipes and the firing of the bells, signed their names in the parish register, receiving on all sides the hearty congratulations which they so thoroughly deserved. The ringing continued on and off for some time after the wedding party had left the church, after which, owing to the generosity of the happy couple, the members who had performed active service in the belfry were entertained in their own room to a good substantial repast, which after the exertions of the Exercise, they greatly enjoyed, and now take this opportunity of thanking the bride and bridegroom for their liberality, and sincerely wish them health and happiness for the rest of their days. On Sunday evening, October 18th, the members assembled together in the belfry to meet the Rev. Woolmore Wigram, of St. Andrew's, Hertford, who after preaching in the parish church, expressed a desire to ring a touch on the bells, and accompanied by Canon Clarke, ascended the tower soon after the conclusion of the service, and rang a good touch of Grandsire Triples, conducted by W. Baron. He expressed his thanks to the members for meeting him, and his admiration of the way in which the steeple was kept, leaving the belfry well pleased with his short but enjoyable visit.

## INTERESTING EVENT AT CHRIST CHURCH, AUGHTON, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, October 10th, by the kind permission of the Rector (the Rev. C. W. Markham), there was witnessed by the ringers of this locality, in the belfry of Christ Church, what is always a source of great pleasure to ringers, viz.: the unveiling of a memorial tablet. A short prayer having been said, Mr. Edward Bentham, of Wigan (in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Swindells, brother of the donor), after a few well-chosen words, unveiled the tablet, which bears the following inscription: "This tablet was presented by Miss Swindells, of Trafalgar House, in memory of her late sister, Mrs. Jones. On Saturday, August 29th, 1885, there was rung on the bells of this church, the late Mr. John Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in two hours fifty-three minutes, by the following ringers: Treble, Charles Sharples; Second, Henry Ellis; Third, George Larkey; Fourth, William J. Taylor; Fifth, Robert Foster; Sixth, William Bentham; Seventh, George Prescott; Tenor, Wm. B. Lloyd, Conducted by William Bentham. This is the first peal on the bells of this church by a whole company of local ringers. Inscription of bells: Treble, Ecclesia Christi, semper floreat; Second, In memory of Richard and Jane Rawsthorne, Holborn House, A.D. 1878; Third, William Horshaw, Vine Cottage, A.D. 1878; Fourth, James Shawe, Asmal House, Scarisbrick, A.D., 1878; Fifth, Presented to Christ Church, Aughton, in memory of John Jones, Trafalgar House, who died January 23rd, 1870, by Ann, his wife, A.D. 1878; Sixth, Presented to Christ Church, Aughton, in memory of Daniel Williams, who died April 29th, 1876, by his affectionate wife, A.D. 1878; Seventh, Warner and Sons, Crescent Foundry, Cripplegate, London; Eighth, Rev. W. H. Boulton, Rector, Rev. F. Nelham, curate, James Rawsthorne and James Fletcher, churchwardens, A.D., 1878. Rev. C. W. Markham, Rector, Rev. E. C. Hipkins, Curate, Alfred Dickinson, and Craven Wilson, churchwardens; Henry Cave, Superintendent." A few short touches of Grandsire Triples and Major were afterwards rung on the church bells. The whole of the work was entrusted to Mr. Thomas Balshaw, of Ormskirk, and was greatly admired, both for design and workmanship.

SERMON BY THE REV. H. EARLE BULWER.

THE following is the text of the Sermon preached at the Annual Meeting of the Norwich Diocesan Association, at the church of St. Peter Mancroft, by the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, Rector of Stanhoe, Norfolk, a practical ringer, and a member of the Association. The text was 1 Corinthians, xii., 20: "But now are they many members, yet but one body."

He was speaking to his hearers as a body of Church-helpers and workers; for although one of the objects in view was scientific change-ringing, it was not the only object that the Association sought to accomplish. The Association was not forgetful of the first and most important use for which the bells of our churches were intended to be put, and for which they existed. One of its objects was to procure for ringers recognition as Church workers, for without their aid the church bells could not fulfil the general purpose they were meant to serve; and, further, to encourage them to a real and efficient discharge of their duties as Church workers. He did not know to what extent the Association had succeeded in these two latter objects, but he had no doubt that good had resulted in that direction, and he felt sure those who were present, or those members who were absent, were devoted sons of the Church, ready to stand by her and help her in the hour of adversity, as they were to rejoice with her in her days of prosperity. Now, having regard to the circumstances of the times, there was one word which particularly expressed their need and our duty, and that word was union—union as members of the Association in pursuit of its objects, union as Church-workers in the discharge of their duties, union as sons of the Church in her support and defence. It was so well-known to all that union was strength, that there would be no need to enlarge upon such a truism, if it were not for the danger there might be in disregarding it. The nation, the Church, the Association, the family, was weak in proportion as it was disunited in politics, in religion, in action, in sentiment. St. Paul in this chapter employed as an illustration the healthy human body in order to describe the union that ought to exist in the body religious—the Church; and which must exist in it if it were to be strong and effective for the great purpose for which it was planted in the world by Christ. Nor was there any need to confine the illustration to the body religious. It might be applied with equal force to the body politic, to the national institutions, to the social community, to this Association, to their parishes, their families, and their homes. The Apostle's argument was this: "For as the body is one and hath many members, and all the members of that one body being many, are one body, so also is Christ. For the body is not one member but many. If the foot shall say because I am not the hand I am not the body, is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear shall say, because I am not the eye I am not of the body, is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling? But now hath God set the members everyone of them in the body as it hath pleased him, and if they were all one member where were the body? But now are they many members yet but one body. That there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care one for another. And whether one member suffer all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured all the members rejoice with it. Now ye are the body of Christ and members in particular." St. Paul laid stress on the oneness of the body, though it was composed of many members which had their special offices to fulfil in harmony with the rest. This oneness was the secret of the strength and effective action of the body in any work which it might have to do. That unity which existed among the several members of the body ensured their working harmoniously together, not independently of one another, not in antagonism, not in rivalry, but without division, and without disruption. The healthy human body, then, was a proper figure of what the spiritual body of the Church ought to be, and it was a figure, as he had said, that might be applied with advantage to other institutions as well. The secret of success in any undertaking in which the energies of the body or of the people were employed, was to be found in the unity and in the harmonious action of the several members, working together for the attainment of a given end. They who knew something of the mysteries of change-ringing were well aware of this, and conversely, that the secret of failure might often be traced to divided counsel and to the separate action of a few individuals taking their own course independently of and in antagonism to their fellow-workers. The efficiency of an engine or machine, as they knew very well, depended upon the several pieces of which it was composed being properly adapted to the work they had to perform, and of being accurately fitted together in their proper places, and all working smoothly together. Leave some pieces out or put them in their wrong places, or reverse their positions, and the machine would not work at all. Just so it was in human undertakings. If men all worked smoothly together as the parts of a machine, success would be achieved, but if they threw themselves out of gear, a successful result would be at once placed in jeopardy and most likely rendered impossible. In an Association such as this, consisting as it did of many separate companies of ringers, the principle of union, as described by St. Paul, should be all the more zealously followed out, for where such sub-divisions existed, the risk of losing cohesion was greatly increased. For this reason it was important that the quarterly meetings should be as largely attended as possible by the members, in order that the necessity of being united in a common object might be kept alive, and to encourage a feeling that though they were many members they were yet but one body. And he would venture to remind them also how much their union and success depended on forbearance, patience, and good temper on the part of each individual member. Small jealousies and heartburnings should be studiously avoided amongst them, as tending only to create the splits of which they so often heard, and which when they did occur were a source of weakness and discredit. In their several parishes and companies let them never forget that they were all members of one body and one Association; let them set the objects of the Association before them, and strive honestly to carry them out. Much also might be done by the various companies towards the extension of the work of the Association, by inviting other ringers and companies of ringers within its fold who had not yet joined, and thus the Association would be made a far more powerful and useful organization, and a more effectual handmaid of the Church in this diocese than even it had been hitherto. Let them remember also that it was on the church bells that they depended for the means of practising their beautiful art in its highest development. But change-ringing ought not to be all pastime, or all for the gratification of the taste, and it was not too much to ask them to take a higher and nobler view of it than that, and to bear in mind that the Church looked to them for the hearty discharge of their duties in return for the facilities and liberties she afforded them for the pursuit of their favourite science. Besides, an effective and united discharge of duty was urgently needed on the part of all office-bearers of the Church, more especially at this time, as an important element in Church defence. For the times were times of danger, almost every institution was under threat of extinction, and although it was humanly impossible to destroy the Church as the spiritual body of Christ, yet it was possible, and was in the thoughts of many so to cripple and impair her outward character as grievously to hinder her in the transaction of her great and holy work. It therefore behoved every one who counted himself one of her sons to do her diligent and devoted service, and to support her honestly and loyally in the time of trial. While there were far higher and cogent reasons for doing this than any of a merely

selfish character, still there was the great question in which might be fairly put on an occasion such as this. Was it likely to be of benefit to their Association should those who sought to destroy the conditions under which the Church exists, be allowed to gain their object? Would not the occupation of this Association be gone, for was not its existence so bound up and dependant on the continued prosperity of our village churches, that should they be deprived of the material support and watchful care of the resident clergy, the means and opportunity of pursuing this work would be no more. For these reasons let him earnestly exhort them to put away from them everything which might tend to hinder that godly union and concord which ought to exist amongst them for Christ's sake. "Though many members, yet there be but one body." Therefore, with one heart and soul, with one undivided mind, let them dedicate themselves, their service, and their science, to the honour and glory of God.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROTHWELL BRANCH.

The following is the ringing done by this branch at Holy Trinity church during the month of September: September 6th: 360 of Arnold's Victory, 240 of Duke of York, 240 of Oxford Treble Bob; September 7th: †720 of Violet, 120 of London Scholars, 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, 240 of London Scholars; September 13th: 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, 360 of Violet; September 20th: 360 of Violet, 360 of New London Pleasure, 240 of Oxford Treble Bob; September 21st: \*720 of London Scholars; September 27th: 360 of Arnold's Victory, 720 of London Scholars, 216 of Duke of York. The following are the ringers: J. Verity, A. Chapman, \*J. Harrison, †J. Abbishaw, Wm. Abbishaw, S. Stacey, J. M. Chadwick. †First 720 of Violet. \*First 720 of London Scholars.

BRAINTREE, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

The following is an account of the ringing done by the Braintree company during the month of September: September 12th: 720 of Cambridge Surprise, 144 of Bob Minor; September 13th: 720 of Bob Minor, 720 of London Surprise; September 14th: 720 of Bob Minor; September 19th: 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, 720 of Woodbine; September 20th: 720 of Oxford Delight, 720 of College Exercise, 240 of College Exercise, 96 of New London Pleasure; September 22nd, 720 London Surprise, 60 of Bob Minor; September 24th: 720 of Kent Treble Bob; September 27th: 720 of Bob Minor, 108 of Bob Minor.

BROCKWORTH, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

ON Sunday, October 11th, five members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, assisted by Mr. J. Baldwin, member of the Royal Cumberland Youths, visited the above parish church, it being the Harvest Festival, and rang for evening service 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 26 mins. J. Baldwin, 1; W. Sevier, 2; A. A. Waite, 3; H. G. Gardener, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; R. A. Barrett (conductor), 6. The company afterwards adjourned to the residence of Mr. J. Price, one of the local band, and rung several courses of Grand sire Triples on the handbells, likewise doing justice to the inner man, afterwards returning to their respective homes, very much pleased with the afternoon's outing. It is thirty-five years since a 720 of the above method was rung on these bells.

SUBSCRIPTION LIST FOR THE JOHNSON TESTIMONIAL

Subscribed by the following	£	s.	d.	M. A. Wood, Bethnal Green, London	£	s.	d.
members of the St Martin's Company, Birmingham—				London	2	6	
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H. Avery, Birmingham	5	0		Mr. Redgate, Birmingham	5	0	
C. H. Hattersley, Sheffield	5	0		Rev. C. D. P. Davies	5	0	
Albert H. Wreaks, Manchester	3	0		Mr. W. Gordon, Stockport	5	0	
J. Lawton, Tipton	2	6					
Josh Johnson, Birmingham	2	6					

The committee earnestly request that donations from ringers and friends interested in this "National Testimonial" be forwarded at an early date to one of the undersigned: A. Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 83, Wheeley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham; S. Reeves, Hon. Treasurer, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

"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.

G.W.R.—The peal you ask about is produced by common bobs only. There is a three-part peal in the same method by the same composer; also a five-part peal by Shipway with bobs only.

M. ELLSMORE.—It is not good to be over-confident. You "distinctly wrote" Grand-sire Minor, so you say. Allow us to tell you you did not. You wrote "Minor" only, and our compositor not being so well versed as yourself in such intricacies of composition, concluded that Bob Minor was intended. A notice of the correction appears this week.

# The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1885.

## The Provinces.

HERTFORD.—THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION, AND THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Thursday, October 15, 1885, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' FIVE-PART. Tenor 22 cwt.

JAMES JAUNCEY* .. .. . Treble.	MATTHEW ELLSMORE .. 5.
HERBERT BAKER .. .. . 2.	*WILLIAM GOODCHILD .. 6.
WILLIAM A. TYLER .. .. . 3.	HENRY J. TUCKER .. .. 7.
JOSEPH CULL .. .. . 4.	FREDERICK GEORGE .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by HERBERT BAKER.

\* First peal. W. Goodchild is also a member of the Ware Company.

GLODWICK, NEAR OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

On Thursday, October 15, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT ST. MARK'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 8½ cwt.

RICHARD GUEST .. .. . Treble.	GEORGE H. BEEVER .. .. 5.
ALBERT CLEGG* .. .. . 2.	JAMES T. KERSHAW .. .. 6.
JOHN GREENWOOD .. .. . 3.	JAMES RILEY .. .. . 7.
SAMUEL STOTT .. .. . 4.	WILLIAM RHODES .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by ALBERT CLEGG.

\* First peal as conductor. John Greenwood hails from Lees.

LEEK, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

*Birthday Peal.*

On Saturday, October 17, 1885, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 18½ cwt.

THOMAS MOSS .. .. . Treble.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 5.
WM. SMITH .. .. . 2.	JOSEPH MELLOR .. .. 6.
JAS. WOOD, JUN .. .. . 3.	GEORGE LONGDEN .. .. 7.
S. WOOD .. .. . 4.	JOHN THORP .. .. . Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN THORP.

The above peal was rung in commemoration of the 70th birthday of Jas. Wood, sen., of Ashton-under-Lyne, and the ringers wish him many happy returns of the day. The ringers were stationed in their original positions of the long peal at Mottram, with the exception of Mr. Wm. Smith, who was in place of one of the ringers who has gone abroad.

WHITFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY, GLOSSOP.

On Saturday, October 17, 1885, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT ST. JAMES'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN LAWTON .. .. . Treble.	SAMUEL KNOTT, SEN. .. 5.
JOHN HARROP .. .. . 2.	JOSEPH ROBINSON .. .. 6.
WILLIAM HARROP .. .. . 3.	SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN. .. 7.
JOSEPH MALONEY .. .. . 4.	JOHN PYE, SEN. .. .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN.

BIRCHINGTON, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION, AND THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, October 17, 1885, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT WATERLOO TOWER, QUEx PARK,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 15½ cwt.

CHARLES WILLSHIRE .. .. Treble.	THOMAS B. REED .. .. 5.
LEON WILLSHIRE .. .. . 2.	PERCY A. REED* .. .. 6.
ALBERT SAYER .. .. . 3.	GEORGE WILLSHIRE .. .. 7.
THOMAS B. REED, JUN. .. 4.	SAMUEL FULCHER .. .. Tenor.

Conducted by PERCY A. REED.

\* First peal as conductor.

LONG EATON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, October 20, 1885, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT ST. LAWRENCE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

AMOS CRESSER .. .. . Treble.	ARTHUR WIDDOWSON .. 5.
WILLIAM GRICE .. .. . 2.	J. W. TAYLOR, JUN., Esq. 6.
RICHARD HICKTON .. .. . 3.	E. DENISON TAYLOR, Esq. 7.
SAMUEL CLARKE .. .. . 4.	JOHN WARD .. .. . Tenor.

Composed by JOSEPH FLEMING and Conducted by JOHN WARD.

Amos Cresser and the brothers Taylor hail from Loughborough; the others are of the St. Lawrence society, Long Eaton.

## Date Touches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SHEFFIELD (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, October 18th, at All Saints' church, for Divine Service, the following members of the above Association, also members of the St. Peter's Amalgamated Society, rang a date touch of 1885 changes, in 1 hr. 6 mins. (no method given). W. Gardiner, 1; J. Rowley, 2; F. Willey (conductor), 3; E. F. Rippon, 3; S. Seed, 5; H. J. Thompson, 6; W. Smithson, 7; J. Lloyd, 8. Composed by C. Jackson, of Hull. Tenor 15 cwt.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Sunday, October 18th, at St. Mary's church, a date touch of Bob Minor, 1885 changes, containing 118 calls, viz.: seventy-two singles and forty-four bobs, in 1 hr. 8 mins. H. Symonds, 1; Arthur Keeble, 2; Percy Chas. S. Scott (conductor), 3; Alfred Hollocks, 4; Harry Smith, 5; Arthur Symonds, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. This is the longest length rung on the bells.

YORK.—On Saturday evening, October 17th, at York Minster, for practice, the local company rang a date touch of 1885 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 15 mins., on the front eight. R. Long, 1; Thos. Hodgson, 2; R. Thompson, 3; Jas. Thompson, 4; W. H. Howard (composer), 5; T. Haigh (conductor), 6; Albert Fernley, 7; Geo. Crampton, 8. Tenor about 18 cwt.

## Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ASPLEY GUISE.—On Tuesday, October 13th, at the parish church for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. G. Usher, 1; E. Lewin, 2; J. Carwell Cook, 3; M. Lane, 4; W. Chibnall, 5; W. E. Turney (Woburn; conductor), 6. And on

Sunday, October 18th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor (thirty-two bobs and two singles), in 24½ mins. G. Usher, 1; E. Lewin, 2; W. Mynard, 3; J. Carwell Cook, 4; M. Lane, 5; W. Chibnall (conductor), 6.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, October 8th, for practice, a 720 of College Little, eighteen bobs and two singles. F. Keech, 1; T. Foote, 2; J. Atkins, 3; M. Warwick, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6. First 720 in the method by all except the fifth man, and the first on the bells. Also on Thursday, October 15th, the following six members attempted a 5040 in seven different methods, but after ringing a 720 each of the following.—Woodbine, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor, Plain Bob, and 684 of Grandsire Minor, the fourth rope broke, which brought it to grief. S. J. Cullip, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; T. Foote, 3; M. Warwick, 4; J. N. Frossell, 5; I. Hills, 6. Tenor 8 cwt. in B.

HUSBORNE CRAWLEY.—On Friday, October 16th, at the parish church, two 6-scores of Bob Doubles. 1st: W. Chibnall, 1; M. Lane (conductor), 2; W. Mynard, 3; J. Carwell Cook, 4; W. E. Turney, 5; J. Alley, 6. 2nd: J. Carwell Cook, 1; W. Mynard, 2; M. Lane, 3; W. E. Turney, 4; W. Chibnall (conductor), 5; G. Taylor, 6. Tenor 20 cwt.

#### THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Friday, October 16th, being the anniversary of the 10,176 Grandsire Major rung by the above society on handbells, an attempt was made to ring a 5056 of Grandsire Major, at the house of Mr. J. Carter, Hockley, but after ringing 880, a mishap occurred. J. T. Perry, 1-2; J. Carter, 3-4; T. Russam, 5-6; R. Hackley, 7-8. And a 504 of Bob Triples, 224 of Stedman Triples, and 168 of New Grandsire Triples. On Saturday, October 17th, at St. Chad's cathedral, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. A. Druce, 1; W. Saniger, 2; J. Callaghan, 3; T. Russam, 4; A. Hackley, 5; J. Carter (composer and conductor), 6. The above are all members of the Birmingham and District Association.

#### THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday morning, October 11th, after Divine Service, it being Harvest Thanksgiving at St. John's, Deritend, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. Francis H. James, 1; Charles Carmell, 2; Charles Barnacle, 3; Oliver James, 4; Richard Hackley, 5; John T. Perry (conductor), 6; Albert Hackley, 7; James Eatings, 8. And at St. Phillip's church, it being the Harvest Thanksgiving, about 900 of Grandsire Caters. Thomas Miller, 1; Charles Barnacle, 2; John Carter (conductor), 3; Richard Hackley, 4; Oliver James, 5; Charles Carmell, 6; Bennett Stevens, 7; John T. Perry, 8; Albert Hackley, 9; James Eatings, 10.

#### THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Sunday, October 11th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). W. Bearman, 1; W. Moore, 2; F. Saunders, 3; C. Bearman, 4; E. Radley, 5; W. Radley (conductor), 6. Also 360 in the same method (six bobs). W. Bearman, 1; H. E. Hammond, 2; F. Saunders, 3; C. Bearman, 4; E. Radley, 5; W. Radley (conductor), 6. And after service a 720 of Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles). H. E. Hammond, 1; W. Bearman, 2; F. Saunders, 3; C. Bearman, 4; E. Radley, 5; W. Radley (conductor), 6.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Saturday evening, October 10th, the Ilford band visited Romford, and rang several 120's of Grandsire Doubles. J. Mumford, 1; W. J. Mumford, 2; C. Marriott, 3; J. J. Bird, 4; W. Mead, 5; A. Porter, 6. Also on Monday evening, October 12th, the same band, assisted by Messrs. Mears, B. Deal, and S. Deal visited Little Heath, and several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rang.

ROMFORD (Essex).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Saturday evening, October 17th, a 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). A. J. Perkins, 1-2-3-4; A. Pye, 5-6. Also a silent 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). A. J. Perkins, 1-2; A. Pye, 3-4; B. Keeble, 5-6.

#### GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, October 6th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Miles, 1; A. A. Wait (conductor), 2; J. Yates, 3; W. Sevier, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; R. A. Barrett, 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs, 2nd the observation), was rung by the St. Laurence's company, at the parish church, in 29 mins. G. Miles, 1; A. A. Waite (conductor), 2; J. Yeates, 3; W. Sevier, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; R. Barrett, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G. The above was rang on the occasion of Mr. H. Mitchell's fiftieth birthday, his brother-ringers and all the members of the Association wishing him many happy returns of the day.

#### THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HALE (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, October 18th, for the Harvest Festival, five members from Garston, assisted by J. Large, of

Widnes, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. Samuel Gough, 1; Joshua Large (conductor), 2; James Alexander, 3; John Allen, 4; Walter Hughes, 5; F. Turner, 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

#### THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

HORNINGLOW, NEAR BURTON-ON-TRENT (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, October 15th, at St. John's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins., by the following members. S. Gretton, 1; J. Austin, 2; F. Dimpleby, 3; G. Robinson, 4; H. Wakley, 5; J. Jaggar (conductor), 6. Tenor about 18 cwt. This is the first 720 in the method by all, also first in the method on the bells.

#### THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Monday, October 19th, eight members of the St. Albans branch rang for practice the last 700 of Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, in 28 mins. T. Grant, 1; A. Godman, jun., 2; E. Hulks, 3; W. H. L. Buckingham, 4; H. Lewis, 5; E. P. Debenham, 6; N. N. Hills (conductor), 7; W. Battle, 8. Tenor 30 cwt. in Eb.

#### THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Wednesday, October 7th, on handbells, a 504 of Stedman Triples, in 17 mins. O. Thomas, 1-2; H. F. Castle, 3-4; W. C. Baston (conductor), 5-6; W. Woods, 7-8. On Sunday, October 11th, at the church of St. Thomas-ye-Martyr, being Harvest Thansgiving, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 25 mins. W. Wood, 1; J. Howes, 2; F. Castle, 3; H. Castle, 4; O. Thomas, 5; W. C. Baston (conductor), 6. And for evening service, a 360 of Plain Bob, in 13 mins. W. Burgess, 1; W. Sandell, 2; F. Castle, 3; H. Sheard, 4; J. Howes, 5; W. C. Baston (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, October 13th, a 360 of Double Court Bob Minor and 120 of Oxford Treble Bob. F. Castle, 1; W. C. Baston, 2; Job Howes, 3; H. Castle, 4; Oliver Thomas, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. Also various touches of Stedman Triples and Caters on handbells, Oliver Thomas, 1-2; W. C. Baston, 3-4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5-6; H. Castle, 7-8; W. Wakelin, 9-10. *Handbell Ringing*.—On Friday, October 16th, at St. Thomas' Working Men's Club Room, a 570 of Stedman Triples, on handbells, in 18 mins. J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 1-2; H. J. Castle, 3-4; W. C. Baston, 5-6; W. Wood, 7-8. Also on Sunday, October 18th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 20 mins. \*T. Kerbey (non-member), 1; \*W. Wood, 2; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 3-4; †H. J. Castle, 5-6. \*First in the method. †First attempt with two bells. And two courses of Double Court Bob Minor, standing as above.

#### THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

LEATHERHEAD (Surrey).—On Tuesday, October 20th, at the church of S.S. Mary and Nicholas, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins. W. Cook, 1; H. Newnham, 2; J. Hewett, 3; Rev. H. A. Spyers, 4; W. Marks, 5; E. Hull, 6; S. Brooker (conductor), 7; W. Brown, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. W. Cook halls from Ashted, and the Rev. H. A. Spyers from Weybridge: the rest are local men.

WEYBRIDGE (Surrey).—On Monday, October 12th, at St. James's church, 168 of Grandsire Triples. G. Rothwell, 1; C. Mitchell, 2; P. Beale, Esq., 3; G. Slater, 4; Rev. H. A. Spyers (conductor), 5; C. Morgan, 6; C. Keene, 7; W. C. Anstead, 8.

ABINGDON (Berks).—On Sunday, October 18th, at St. Nicholas Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 25 mins. H. Fruin, 1; W. Sandell, 2; J. Higgs, 3; F. Castle (Oxford), 4; H. Sheard (conductor), 5; H. Holifield, 6. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. H. Holifield, (conductor), 1; W. Sandell, 2; F. Castle, 3; J. Brown, 4; H. Sheard, 5; J. Burgess, 6.

BENGO (Herts).—On Sunday evening, October 18th, a 720 of Bob Minor (twenty bobs and ten singles), in 26 mins. H. Phillips, 1; J. Channer, 2; M. Ellsmore, 3; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 4; J. Pomfret, 5; W. A. Tyler, 6. Tenor 7½ cwt.

BENHILTON (Surrey).—On Friday, October 16th, at the weekly practice, three members of the Benhilton Society, assisted by three members of the Beddington Society, rang at All Saints' Church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs, in 19 mins. J. Harris, 1; J. Branch, 2; —\*Russell, 3; G. Petrie, 4; J. Trendell, 5; John Trendell (conductor), 6. Tenor 19½ cwt. in C. \*First 720 in the method.

BRAMFORD (Suffolk).—On Thursday, October 8th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), in 29 mins. Charles Osborne (first 720), 1; Charles Smith, 2; Alfred Pryke, 3; Charles Mee (conductor), 4; William Read (first 720 with a bob bell), 5; Frederick Mee, 6. All the above, except C. Osborne, belong to the Norwich Diocesan Association. Tenor 16 cwt. in G.

BROCKWORTH (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, October 11th, for Divine Service in the evening, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. T. Baldwin, 1; W. Sevier, 2; A. Waite, 3; H. G. Gardner, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; E. A. Barrett (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt. in F.

**BROMLEY (Kent).**—On Saturday, October 10th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 46 mins. J. Jolds, 1; G. Shepherd, 2; G. F. French, 3; G. Conyard, 4; H. J. Shade, 5; T. Durling, 6; F. French (conductor), 7; T. Phillips, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. This quarter-peal was taken from the ms. of the late Mr. Eversfield, of Gravesend.

**CRAYFORD (Kent).**—*Muffled Peal.*—On Thursday evening, October 8th, a ½-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins., with the bells muffled as a token of respect to the memory of the late Lord Shaftesbury, who was buried at Westminster Abbey on that day. \*J. King, 1; F. M. Jacobs (conductor), 2; \*C. Hamment, 3; G. Conyard, 4; J. Sloper, 5; F. French, 6; J. Garard, 7; \*J. Still, 8. \*First ½-peal. Tenor 12½ cwt.

**DORKING (Surrey).**—On Sunday, October 18th, at St. Martin's church, before evening service, touches of Grandsire and Plain Bob Triples, and after service 504 Stedman Triples, in 18 mins. \*G. Sayer (conductor), 1; \*C. Boxall, sen., 2; W. Webb, 3; \*G. Williams, 4; \*W. Marks, 5; E. Moses, 6; \*S. Brooker, 7; H. Dudley, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb. \*Members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild. Messrs. Webb, Williams, and Moses are of the Reigate Society.

**EAST HAGBOURNE (Berks).**—On Sunday evening, October 18th, four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, with 4-6-8 behind. James Pether, 1; Frank Napper, 2; Dennis Napper, 3; E. Pether, 4; Ernest Napper, 5; J. H. Danbe, 6; Wm. Napper (conductor), 7; A. Woodley, 8.

**EXETER.**—On Sunday, October 11th, at St. Sidwell's church, 1050 Grandsire Triples, taken from Hollis's five-part peal. J. Moss, 1; E. Shepherd (conductor), 2; W. Pitts, 3; F. R. Shepherd, 4; W. Richardson, 5; A. Shepherd, 6; F. Shepherd, 7; W. Munday, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

**EYNSFORD (Kent).**—On Sunday, October 18th, for Divine Service in the morning, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, and for Divine Service in the evening, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 15 mins. J. Eves, 1; E. N. Howard, 2; F. Wickenden, 3; F. Head, 4; W. Wash (conductor), 5; W. West, 6.

**FOXEARH (Essex).**—On Tuesday, September 15th, a 720 of Bob Minor in 24 mins. G. Maxim, 1; W. See, 2; W. Ince, 3; R. Mingay (conductor), 4; R. Ellams, 5; G. Hammond, 9. This was rung on the occasion of the Harvest Festival.

**FULMER (Bucks).**—On Wednesday, October 14th, for practice, at the parish church, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. W. Burnham, 1; J. Spring, 2; E. Brown, 3; A. Jordan, 4; J. W. Udell (conductor), 5; C. Jeffrey and F. Stannett (alternately), 6. This is the first 120 by all except the conductor, who is a member of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Tenor 7½ cwt.

**GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).**—On Thursday, September 17th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 29 mins. John Slater, 1; Joseph Slater, 2; Samuel Slater, 3; Zach. Slater, 4; Percy Scott, 5; Fredk. Paul Adams (conductor), 6.

**HORNSEY (Middlesex).**—On Sunday, October 11th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. Ward, 1; G. Thorlow, 2; J. Waghorn, jun., 3; A. Jacob, 4; H. A. Barnett, 5; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 6.

**HORSHAM (Sussex).**—On Saturday, evening, October 17th, a mixed band attempted Shipway's six-part peal of Oxford Bob Triples, but after ringing 1 hr. and 46 mins., at the sixth treble lead after the middle single a shift course occurred, and the conductor called the bells round. W. Lanaway, 1; H. Chandler, 2; W. Wadey, 3; G. Rapley, 4; \*D. J. Aston, 5; J. Cooper, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; H. Wood, 8. \*Member of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

**KINGSWINFORD (Worcestershire).**—On Monday, October 10th, at St. Mary's Church, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Alfred Pinson, one of the local company, the ringers, with the assistance of W. Lawrence, rang a few touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, and 180 of Plain Bob Minor. Thomas Hillman, 1; William Jones, 2; John Hillman, 3; Joseph Hillman, 4; W. Lawrence (conductor), 5; Edward Bourne, 6. Also in another touch, W. Sackfield rang the second in a plain of Grandsire Doubles. Great credit is due to the whole party for the progress they have made in scientific change-ringing in so short a time.

**LEWISHAM (Kent).**—On Thursday evening, October 15th, after the Harvest Thanksgiving at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, (selected from Taylor's six-part peal), in 41 mins. Harry W. Grout, 1; William Weatherstone, 2; Ernest E. Vinen, 3; William H. Freeman, 4; Frederick W. Thornton, 5; Joseph Laws (his first quarter-peal with a bob bell), 6; Abraham G. Freeman (conductor), 7; William Foreman, 8. Messrs. Grout,

Thornton, and Foreman, hails from Greenwich; W. H. Freeman and A. G. Freeman from Lewisham; W. Weatherstone from Rotherhithe; Ernest E. Vinen from Horsleydown; Joseph Laws from Deptford. Tenor 23 cwt. in Eb.

**MONEWDEN (Essex).**—On Sunday, October 18th, at St. Mary's church, after afternoon service, two of the local company, with Messrs. C. and H. Prior, and Isaac Cavill, of Stanstead, rang five 120s of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, and a 120 of Antelope. I. Cavill, 1; A. Key, 2; G. Harvey, 3; H. Prior, jun., 4; C. Prior, 5. In the 120 of Antelope G. Harvey rang the treble, the rest as before. And 120 of Grandsire Doubles. G. Harvey, 1; A. Key, 2; C. Prior, 3; H. Prior, jun., 4; S. Ives, 5. Tenor 11 cwt. Conducted by Mr. A. Key.

**MITCHAM (Surrey).**—On Friday, October 16th, at Christ Church, being the anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Harris's wedding day, 192 of Grandsire Minor. E. Burtenshaw, 1; H. J. Schneider, 2; D. Burtenshaw, 3; R. Reynolds, 4; A. Nicholson, 5; G. Welling (conductor), 6. Also six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. H. J. Schneider (conductor), 1; E. Burtenshaw, 2; D. Burtenshaw, 3; R. Reynolds, 4; A. Nicholson, 5; W. Gallagher, 6. And touches of Bob Doubles, standing the same as above. Mr. and Mrs. Harris, of Gorrington Park, Mitcham, are the donors of the bells. Tenor 7½ cwt. in Eb.

**RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).**—On Saturday, October 3rd, at St. Peter's church, for practice, a 720 of Double Court Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). G. Kirk, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; H. Stubbs, 3; J. Stubbs, 4; J. Houghton (Irthingborough), 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. A. Coles, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; E. Mayes (Ringstead), 4; J. Willmott, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Plain Bob. J. Pettit (Hargrave), 1; R. Pendered, 2; G. Kirk, 3; E. Mayes, 4; J. Chapman (Bythorn), 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, October 5th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob (nine bobs). G. Kirk, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; J. Stubbs (first 720 in this method), 4; F. Gilbert, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. On Monday, October 12th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob (nine bobs). G. Kirk, 1; R. Pendered, 2; H. Stubbs (conductor), 3; J. Stubbs, 4; J. Willmott, 5; F. Gilbert, 6. And on Saturday, October 17th, a 720 of Plain Bob (twenty bobs and ten singles). W. Hall, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; J. Stubbs, 3; B. W. Allen, 4; J. Willmott, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6.

**READING (Berks).**—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Friday, October 16th, for practice at the Reading Youths' Room, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. \*B. Coffee, 1; \*H. Coffee, 2; F. Sweetzer, 3; A. Evans, 4; A. E. Reeves, 5; G. Gibbard (conductor), 6. Also another 720 of Plain Bob Minor. B. Coffee, 1; H. Coffee, 2; F. Sweetzer, 3; A. Evans, 4; G. Gibbard, 5; J. E. Willshire (conductor), 6. And a plain course of Stedman Doubles, in which J. F. Tarrant took part.

**RINGSTEAD (Northamptonshire).**—On Saturday, October 17th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, 720 College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). G. Roberts, 1; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 2; R. Shipley, 3; E. Mayes, 4; J. Sawford, 5; T. Roberts, 6.

**PONTEFRAC (Yorkshire).**—On Sunday, October 11th, being the occasion of the re-opening of All Saints' church, six members of the local company rung a touch of 2160 changes (being a 720 each of Violet, Oxford, and Kent Treble Bob Minor), in about 76½ mins. W. Wilcock, 1; J. Brook, 2; F. Moody, 3; J. Pollard (conductor), 4; J. Carter, 5; W. Pearson, 6. This is the longest touch rung by any of the above company. Tenor 11 cwt. in F.

**SALISBURY (Wilts).**—On Wednesday, October 14th, at St. Edmund's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), taken from the *Clavis*. J. R. Jerram, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; T. Blackburn, 3; \*E. A. Foster, 4; \*F. Rigden, 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; \*J. Judd, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in C#. The conductor, G. F. Attree, hails from Brighton, and is secretary of the Sussex County Association. This is the longest length ever rung in Salisbury, and was rung in honour of Mr. E. Foster's birthday, and who, his fellow-ringers regret to say, is leaving the neighbourhood. \*First quarter-peal. Also a 420 in the same method. J. Parsons, 1; E. A. Foster, 2; G. F. Attree (conductor), 3; J. R. Jerram, 4; C. A. Clements, 5; T. Blackburn, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; J. Judd, 8.

**SHIREOAKS (Nottinghamshire).**—On Sunday, October 18th, the Anston company visited this place and rang 720 each of Duke of York and Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Lidster, 1; R. S. Fox, 2; J. Bland, 3; C. F. Fowler, 4; S. Smith, 5; T. Silvester (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Violet, and 240 of Oxford. J. Bland, 1; W. Hargreaves (conductor), 2; T. Silvester, 3; C. F. Fowler, 4; S. Smith, 5; J. Hargreaves, 6. The brothers Hargreaves hail from Shireoaks. This is the first 720 of Violet by any of the Anston company.

**SUBBURY (Suffolk).**—On Sunday, October 11th, at All Saints' church, for the Harvest Thanksgiving service in the morning, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. F. Tolliday, 1; W. Howell, 2; G. Brown, 3;



C. Sillitoe (conductor), 4; W. Cross, 5; H. Harper, 6; A. Scott, 7; H. H. Brackett, 8. And after service in the evening 1008 Grandsire Triples. W. Cross, 1; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 2; G. Brown, 3; F. Tolliday, 4; H. Harper, 5; W. Howell, 6; A. Scott, 7; H. Brackett, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. Also on Saturday, October 17th, at St. Gregory's church, for practice, 1064 of Grandsire Triples. F. Tolliday, 1; W. Griggs, 2; W. Howell, 3; H. Harper, 4; W. Bacon, 5; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 6; W. Cross, 7; A. Scott, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. in F. This touch was taken from "Shipway's Art of Ringing."

**SHEFFIELD (Yorkshire).—Muffled Peal.**—On Tuesday, October 13th, ten members of the St. Peter's society rang at St. Peter's Church, a half-muffled touch of Grandsire Caters, as a last tribute of respect to the late John Heald, who was found drowned on Sunday, October 11th, in the Sheffield Canal. Deceased had been a member of the St. Peter's company thirty-three years, and for many years steeple-keeper. He rang the tenor in twelve peals of Grandsire Triples, Caters, and Cinques, and Stedman Triples and Caters. He was fifty-four years of age.

**SWANSCOMBE (Kent).**—On Thursday, October 15th, a mixed company rung a 720 of Grandsire Minor, at the parish church, in 25 mins. L. Digweed, 1; J. Broom, 2; F. King, 3; F. Hayes, 4; B. Spuner, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, October 18th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. L. Digweed, 1; J. Brown, 2; F. King, 3; G. Martin, 4; W. Harper, 5; W. Martin (conductor), 6.

**THEALE (Berks).**—On Saturday, October 17th, at the parish church, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. Stevens, 1; A. Wright, 2; H. Dibley, 3; A. E. Reeves, 4; J. E. Willshire (conductor), 5; T. Hibbert, 6. And 120 Grandsire Doubles. A. E. Reeves (first 120 as conductor). Also several courses of Minor and Doubles, in which H. Coffee and G. Sims took part.

**UPTON ST. LEONARDS (Gloucestershire).**—On Sunday morning, October 4th, for Divine Service, five members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, assisted by Mr. J. Baldwin, a member of the Royal Cumberland Youths, rung a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, on the back six (nine bobs), in 28½ mins. J. Baldwin, 1; A. A. Waite, 2; J. Yeates, 3; H. G. Gardener, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; R. A. Barrett (conductor), 6. Tenor 17½ cwt. in F.

**WALKDEN (Lancashire).**—On Sunday evening, October 18th, at St. Paul's church, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25½ mins. J. Welsby, 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Oaks, 3; J. Williamson, 4; A. Potter, 5; J. Brooks (conductor), 6.

**WORCESTER.**—On Sunday, October 18th, the junior society of St. Helen's Parish church, rang for Divine Service in the morning, 168 Grandsire Triples. T. Brown, 1; H. Wilks (conductor), 2; W. Powell, 3; W. Johnson, 4; G. Hinton, 5; G. Cleal, 6; W. Page, 7; T. Malim, 8. Also 280 in the same method. F. Owen, 1; G. Cleal, 2; W. Powell, 3; W. Johnson, 4; G. Hinton, 5; H. Wilks (conductor), 6; W. Page, 7; T. Malim, 8. For evening service 807 Grandsire Triples. F. Owen, 1; T. Gwynn, 2; W. Powell, 3; W. Johnson, 4; G. Hinton, 5; H. Wilks (conductor), 6; W. Page, 7; J. Hale, 8. And after service 476 Grandsire Triples. F. Owen, 1; G. Cleal (conductor), 2; W. Powell, 3; W. Johnson, 4; G. Hinton, 5; H. Wilks, 6; W. Page, 7; J. Hale, 8. Several courses of Stedman Triples was also rung by the above. The above was rung on the occasion of the Harvest Festival.

#### THE BRADFORD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of this Society was held on Tuesday evening, October 13th, R. Tuke, Esq., President, in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed, a short paper on the position and work of the society was read by the secretary. After some discussion on the points raised in the paper, it was resolved to hold a special practice meeting at St. Peter's, on the first Tuesday evening in each month. The meeting was then adjourned until Saturday. On Saturday afternoon, October 27th, the members met at St. John's. The proceedings commenced with a half-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (2528 changes), which was rung in 1 hr. 30 mins. A. Moulson, 1; J. Naylor, 2; H. Raistrick, 3; R. Tuke, 4; J. Fisher, 5; T. Pollitt, 6; J. B. Jennings, 7; J. H. Hardcastle (conductor), 8. After the touch, the adjourned meeting was held, when all the officers were re-elected: R. Tuke, President; J. H. Hardcastle, Chairman and Ringing Master; J. Angus, Vice-Chairman and Treasurer; B. T. Copley, Secretary. The rules of the Society were then read over and considered, with a view to their revision.

#### THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting of this Association will be held at Ashford, on Monday, November 2nd. Members must attend at 11 o'clock, at the Old Grammar School, when the Secretary will be present. The bells are all in good condition.

#### VISIT OF THE ASHTON RINGERS TO LEEK.

ON Saturday, October 17th, in response to an invitation, eleven members of the Ashton Society paid a visit to Leek, Staffordshire. The company left Guide Bridge by the 1.30 train, and arrived at Macclesfield about half-past two. Here it was found that there was no train going in the direction of Leek for nearly an hour, and the intervening time was spent in visiting an old ringer and acquaintance, W. Hulme, the parish clerk, who was agreeably surprised to see them, and begged that on their return they would if possible, call and have a pull. A short time was then devoted to an inspection of the interior of the Parish Church. Promising to return on the following night in time to ring for service, the party wished Mr. Hulme farewell, and at once made for the railway station, from whence shortly afterwards they proceeded along the "iron road" to their destination, which was reached shortly after four o'clock. Here they were met by one of the local company, and on reaching the church were received with a "welcome touch," consisting of a 756 of Bob Triples, conducted by Mr. Armit. This over, and after a hearty hand-shake all round, the visitors took hold, and rang a short touch by way of practice. The inner man now claimed attention, and accordingly the visitors repaired to a hostelry conveniently near, where refreshments were provided for them by the Leek company. No time was wasted however, for in about fifteen minutes the visitors were again in possession of the tower, and immediately started for a peal, which was successfully accomplished. They then adjourned to the "Talbot Hotel," where a substantial dinner was partaken of. The rest of the evening was spent in a convivial manner, interspersed with courses on the handbells, and songs by Mr. Frith and others, which brought a pleasant and enjoyable evening to a close all too soon. The visitors were then escorted to their lodgings by the local company, and parted for the night. On the following morning (Sunday), after a pleasant stroll and breakfast, the visitors again ascended the tower, when touches of Bob Triples, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and Stedman Triples, were rung by mixed bands. Service ringing over, the Leek gentlemen took the visitors a walk round the outskirts of the town, which no doubt would have been doubly enjoyed had the atmosphere not been misty. The party returned to their lodgings at half-past twelve, where a substantial dinner awaited them, to which ample justice was done. It was now time to think of returning, and there being no train until late at night, a waggone was chartered to convey the party to Macclesfield. This was soon ready, and after good-byes had been said several times over, the visitors were soon bowling along the road in the homeward direction. Mr. Armit, however, had determined to have the last word, and accordingly mounted the steps of the conveyance. When about a mile outside Leek, he said he thought he would like to go with them. No sooner said than done. He was promptly hauled into the vehicle, and the journey was made the more pleasant by his company. The drive from Leek to Macclesfield, fourteen miles, is a beautiful one, but it was considerably marred on this occasion, by the hazy weather. A strong desire was, however, manifested to revisit the place in the summer time. On arriving at the old church, Macclesfield, the party were very heartily received by a full company of ringers. The belfry was at once gained, and a course of Kent Treble Bob Royal was rung for service, with the assistance of Mr. Armit, of Leek. An adjournment was afterwards made to the meeting-house of the Macclesfield company, where a pleasant two hours were spent with handbells and ringing friends. Leaving here at 8.40, the ramblers arrived home at half-past nine, after a thoroughly enjoyable outing. The Ashton ringers tender to their Leek friends most hearty thanks for their great liberality in providing lodging, and every other requisite free of cost, and hope to return the compliment on some future occasion. They also desire to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells. For the unexpected generosity of the Macclesfield company, the Ashton ringers are deeply grateful, and hope to be able to again visit them in the near future.

#### DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held at Durham, on Monday, November 2nd. Ringing at the Cathedral and St. Oswald's. Special service at St. Oswald's at 2 o'clock. Dinner at the "Three Tuns," at 3 o'clock. Particulars of arrangements by circular.

G. J. CLARKSON, *Hon. Sec.*

#### THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

ON Saturday, October 24th, this society's annual outing will take place at Enfield. Permission has been graciously given by the vicars and wardens of the new and old churches for the use of the bells upon the occasion. Dinner will be served at the "King's Head" at 6 p.m. sharp. Members are invited to meet at head quarters, 54, St. Martin's Lane, on the 23rd inst., when all further particulars may be obtained.

H. DAINS, *Hon. Sec.*

## 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."

## DISESTABLISHMENT.

SIR,—Your excellent leading article of this week, indicates very forcibly the probable effects of disestablishment upon the ringing fraternity. The experience of history teaches us still more. What was the effect of Puritan ascendancy under Cromwell in the seventeenth century? The bells were silenced throughout the country! Their joyful notes were entirely out of tune with the sour humour of Puritanism. There are extant amusing accounts of the delight with which the ringers returned to their duty in welcoming the accession of Charles II., and they are illustrated by a contemporary print, which however would not accord with our modern ideas of belfry reform. It is the descendants of these Puritans who now advocate disestablishment, for we must remember that the danger of that act of robbery being committed, arises almost entirely from the influence of the Dissenters.

CUMBERLAND YOUTH.

October 17th.

## LONDON SOCIETIES.

SIR,—In answer to "Little Jim," I still maintain that the leading members of the London Societies are always most kind and obliging in doing what they can for country members. Many of the noted twelve bell ringers are not above coming to assist a young hand through a peal of Triples or Major, as I, and many others can testify. I myself do not aspire to Stedman Cinques or Treble Bob Twelve in, but I have nearly always found a chance of getting a bit of Triples or Major, when I have been in London, and others will say the same. I do not pretend to say what chance there is for young seven and eight bell ringers residing in London, trying to attain to Cinques or Maximus, but the fact that some young men do manage to accomplish great lengths on nine, ten, eleven and twelve bells proves that it is not all done by what "Little Jim" calls "oldsters." As to he and I having rung a touch of "stone" together, I am sure I am proud of the honour of having rung with so distinguished a member, and I hope we may do another touch together in the same method some day. My remarks about the difficulty of young ringers learning anything in years gone by, and the way it is shoved into them now and the way in which many of them drop it for some other amusement in less than a twelvemonth, did not necessarily apply to London or to eleven and twelve-bell ringing in particular, but to change-ringing generally throughout the country; and I am sure that older ringers than I will bear me out in what I say. With regard to the unfrequent meetings for practice at twelve-bell steeples, "Little Jim" knows perfectly well, or he ought to know, that on an average there is a meeting once a week at some twelve-bell steeple among the College Youths alone, let alone other societies.

J. R. JERRAM.

## THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

SIR—I have repeatedly read the draft scheme issued by the committee of the proposed National Association, and I must say that I fail to see any grounds for rejecting it. No doubt it will require some amendment, and perhaps addition, but the general outline, as lately published, has, I think, much to recommend it. As for Mr. Muskett, I must remind him that he has not written one word which bears upon the subject at hand, his last letter being little more than a personal tirade, not to say how much is repeated from his former effusion. In his answer to "Nil Desperandum," and "Little Jim," he, with great candour, declares that we not only do not want a National Association, but won't have one. Well, Sir, I for one, say we do want a National Association, and what is more, we will have one. Sooner or later it must come. Does Mr. Muskett for one moment believe that the proposed scheme would in any way lower or take away the old "character or rights" of his pet society, which is always so willing and ready to coach a youngster? However that may be, when people will discuss the question upon its own merits, then, perhaps we may expect for the movement less opposition than at present prevails on the subject.

X. Y. LONDON.

## ELSTOW BELLS.

SIR,—I hope none of your readers will believe C. P.'s statement about Elstow bells being like iron boilers, because I am quite sure they are a fairly good ring of five. The Vicar of Elstow, the Rev. James Copner, intends making an effort to restore them, and if possible to augment them to a ring of eight. I hope all ringers will try to assist in restoring this interesting ring of bells, which John Bunyan used to ring. But unless the restoration of the bells is accompanied by a reformation of ringers, the work will do no good. Therefore I trust if anyone feels inclined to subscribe, they will do so, on the condition that the bells are to be used for change-ringing, and not merely for the benefit of the publicans and their patrons. Hitherto

it has been the custom to drink intoxicating drinks on the premises, and the authorities wink at their proceedings. They cannot be ignorant of facts which have been put before them, but still they suffer them. I visited Elstow Church the other Sunday, and in the belfry I saw about a dozen young men smoking, swearing, cracking nuts, and so forth. Surely here is a need for reformation.

JOHN ATKINS.

## CROYDON, SURREY.

This fine peal of eight, having been lately rehung by various eminent firms, is now in excellent condition. The tenor can be easily managed by one man—with a rope on the clapper—for of course she was never intended to be rung. The 7th also goes well, for a strong man can ring her right through a 500. On Tuesday, October 20th, for practice, a 504 of Grandsire Triples was rung. H. Dudley, 1; A. B. Carpenter (conductor), 2; H. C. Haley, 3; S. Fisk, 4; V. Holman, 5; W. States, 6; T. Verrall, 7; J. Barber, 8. Also a 504 of Union Triples. H. Dudley, 1; G. Russell, 2; T. Verrall, 3; A. B. Carpenter (conductor), 4; W. States, 5; A. Bruce, 6; V. Holman, 7; S. Fisk, 8. And a 504 of Grandsire Triples. H. Dudley, 1; G. Russell (conductor), 2; A. B. Carpenter, 3; V. Holman, 4; Rev. E. D. L. Harvey (first 500), 5; A. Bruce, 6; T. Verrall, 7; S. Fisk, 8.

## ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

The members of the above Society held their first meeting for winter practice in St. Mary's tower, on Monday evening, October 5th, and rang 672 of Grandsire Triples, taken from Hubbard's work, in 22 mins. Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qrs. S. Hart, 1; H. P. Bennett, 2; C. Harfey, 3; L. Huggett, 4; F. Harding (conductor), 5; Thos. Willoughby, 6; Thos. Hart, 7; Jno. Rollison, 8. The practice evenings throughout the winter will be every Monday and Friday.

## THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

At a General Meeting of the above Society on Thursday, October 15th, for the election of officers, arranging times of practice and other business, the following officers were elected for the present term:—

President: Rev. A. H. F. BOUGHNEY, Trinity.

Conductor: H. T. ELSEE, B.A., St. John's.

Secretary and Treasurer: E. L. HOLMES, St. John's.

Mondays at 6, and Tuesdays at 8.30 were times arranged for handbell practices, and Fridays at 2 o'clock, in the tower of Great St. Mary's church.

## THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

Officers for Michaelmas Term, 1885:—

Master: C. W. H. GRIFFITH, C.C.C.

Secretary: A. F. M. CUSTANCE, B.N.C.

## THE REIGATE SOCIETY.

Several members of this Society intend paying a visit to London, to-day, Saturday, October 24th. They would be pleased to meet any ringing friends at St. Clement Danes, at 3.30 p.m., or at St. Margaret's, Westminster, at 5 p.m., permission having been granted for the above churches.

WILLIAM ARGENT, Master.

## THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING of the above Association will be held at Cambridge, on Monday, November 2nd. Divine Service at 12 (noon), lunch at one o'clock. The Great Eastern Railway will grant return tickets to Cambridge at a fare and a quarter. Ringers intending to be present are requested to communicate as soon as possible with

10, Brookside, Cambridge.

M. C. POTTER.

Further particulars next week.

## THE BELLS AT TUE BROOK, LIVERPOOL.

It was stated in our last number that the tenor of this ring of bells goes extremely bad. We have during the week received from a correspondent the information that they were hung in 1868 and 1869. It is therefore very probable that by this time, after 17 years' use, some attention is needed. It is only just to point this out, because it would almost appear that the bells were recently put up by Messrs. Warner, instead of, as is the fact, having been hung 17 years.

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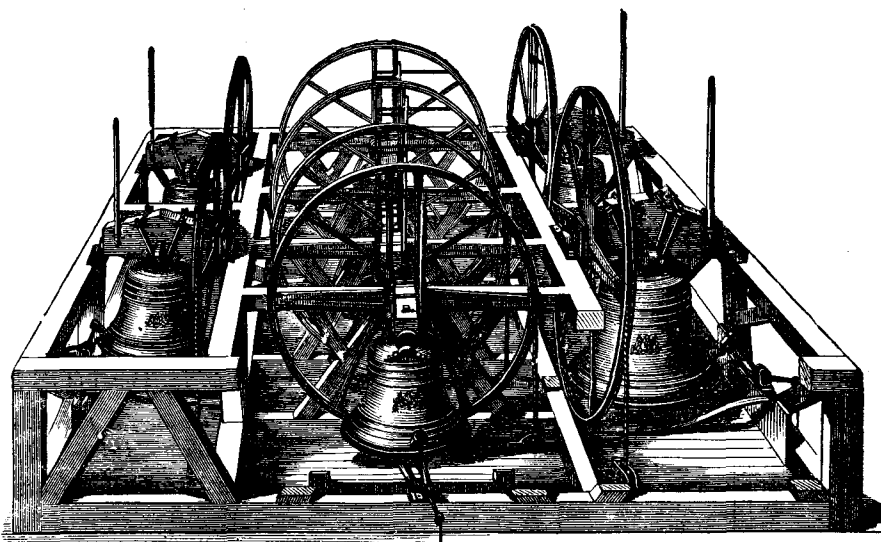
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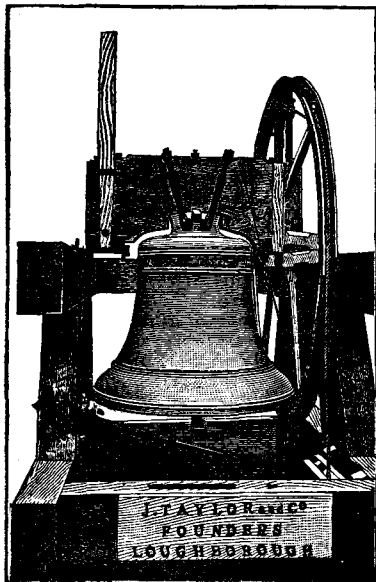


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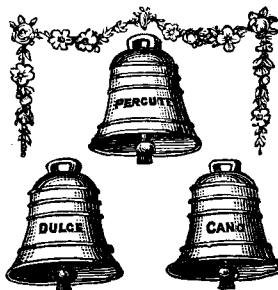
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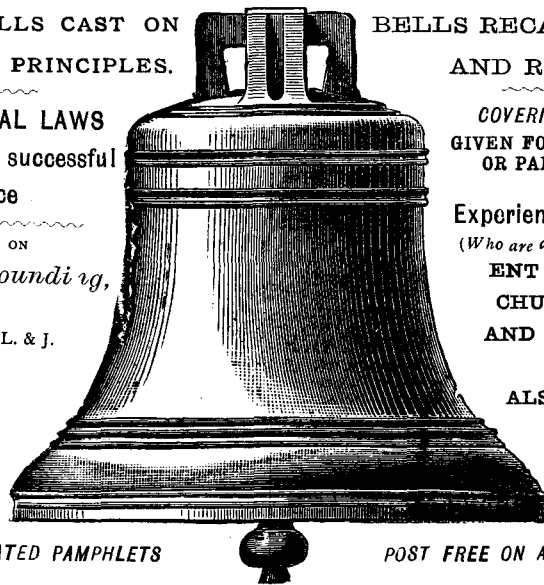
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