

THE

BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 187. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. IV.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1885.

[ONE PENNY.]

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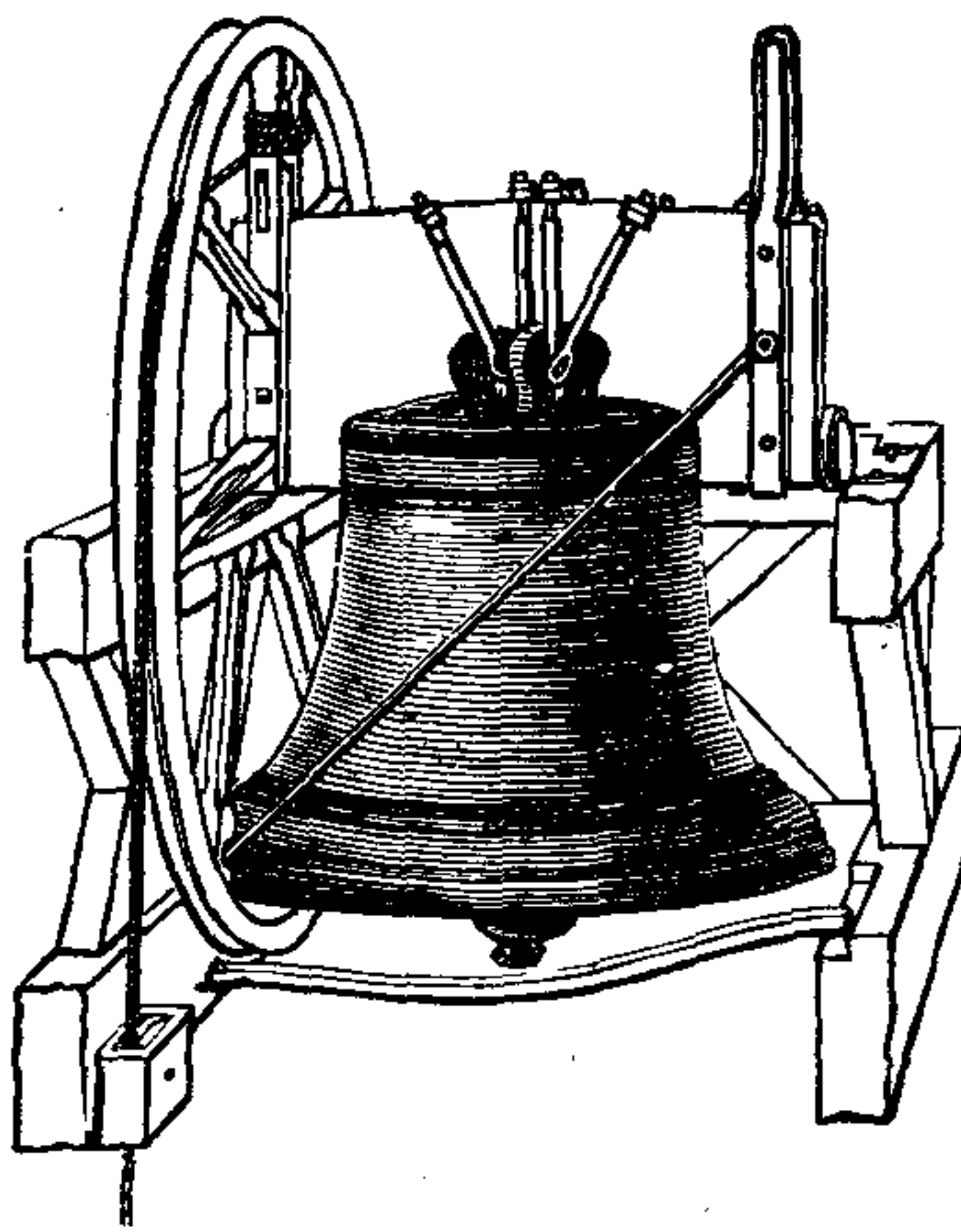
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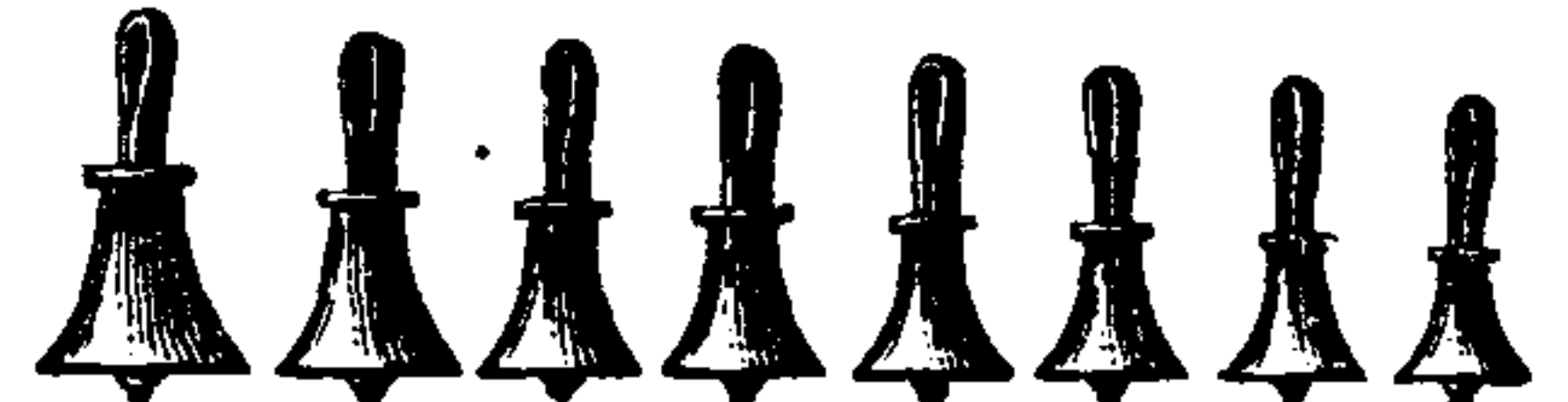
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A HOLIDAY RINGING TOUR.

On Saturday, September 12th, Messrs. R. S. and W. Story left Newcastle at 10 o'clock for Leeds, arriving there about 1.30, after a pleasant ride with a good view of the country through which they had passed. After dining near the Station, a start was made for Holbeck, where, through the kindness of Mr. Matt. Tomlinson, a peal had been arranged for, but, owing to the number of misdirections as to route, &c., it was considerably after the hour agreed upon when the two weary visitors reached the trysting-place. However, the band was soon pulled together, and an hour's good ringing at Bob Major was done, when a hitch occurred which brought the bells to a stand. As it was then too late to start again that night, the attempt was postponed till the following Monday, when, by a piece of great good luck, a band could easily be mustered, through Holbeck Feast being in full swing, and the most of the men being idle. The rest of the evening was pleasantly passed in the company of the Leeds Society, where some excellent double-handed change-ringing, and tune playing, by Messrs. Tom Lockwood, W. Walker, Binns, West, and Hubbard, was heard. Here R. S. rang his first touch of Grandsire Triples with bobs double-handed, and his first course of Bob Major.

On Sunday morning, for service at St. Peter's, a 639 of Stedman Caters was rung, in which R. S. took part, after which service was attended, at which the singing was much admired. After receiving the hospitality of Mrs. Tomlinson, a touch of Kent Treble Major was rung at Holbeck for evening service.

On Monday morning Mr. R. Binns kindly placed himself at the disposal of the visitors, beginning by giving them a complete inspection of the peal of 13 at St. Peter's, after which the handsome church, with its fine stained glass, was examined. The colours from the Crimea were also noticed, as well as some most interesting monuments and brasses. Mr. Binns then kindly led the way to some of the large printing and tailoring manufactories, and finally to the Free Library and Town Hall, the latter being greatly admired. As the hour arranged for attempting the peal was drawing near, our steps were turned in the direction of Holbeck, where, after ringing an hour with a break-down, a second attempt was made, which fortunately turned out more satisfactorily, a 5024 of Bob Major being performed in three hours.

We are greatly indebted to Mr. Tomlinson for arranging this peal, and also to Mr. Woodhead for the plucky way in which he rang the 5th, the bell going very badly all the time. After leaving the church, which adjoins the Moor where the feast was being held, the multiplicity of photographers suggested the notion of being photographed, and accordingly the whole band, which, with the exception of our two selves, was entirely made up of Holbeck ringers, entered one of the sanctums for the purpose, and a day or two after we had the pleasure of being in possession of a photograph which we shall always look upon with pleasant reminiscences. The evening was spent in hand-bell ringing, &c., and owing to the kind exertions of Mr. W. Walker and his friends, the time passed almost too quickly.

The next morning (Tuesday) we set off to walk to Huddersfield, being accompanied four or five miles by Messrs. Tomlinson and Woodhead. The weather was, fortunately, delightful, and we had some splendid views of the country through which we passed, churches whose names constantly appear in "BELL NEWS," being seen on every side. Passing through Birstall and Liversedge, Huddersfield was reached about four o'clock, and head-quarters were fixed upon close to the church. Here we were glad to meet Mr. T. Haigh, to whom we had written the night before, and we were pleased to hear that a muster had kindly been arranged for a touch upon the bells. Accordingly, at eight o'clock, we had the pleasure of ringing a touch of 800 Kent Treble Bob Major, with the following band:—John Stead, 1; George Clay, 2; Richard Kidson, 3; W. Story, 4; H. Ellis, 5; J. Baraclough, 6; R. S. Story, 7; S. A. Haigh (conductor), 8. Tenor 18cwt. After the ringing a pleasant hour was spent with the handbells and in discussing various ringing matters.

The following morning a call was made upon a friend, the Rector of Lockwood, in the outskirts of Huddersfield, who kindly pointed out the best of the scenery in the neighbourhood, and also directed W. Story upon his way to Glossop, some 19 or 20 miles, R. S. Story preferring the train. Glossop was reached by the latter early in the afternoon, and after making the acquaintance of the genial host of the Bull's Head (Mr. Sellars), a party was made up to set out to meet the pedestrian, who was duly fallen in with not half-a-mile off, having done the distance in capital time, at the rate of 4 miles an hour throughout. Through the kindness of Mr. Sellars a band of the Senior Society was arranged to meet us that night to meet us at All Saints, Glossop, and accordingly, at seven o'clock, we struck off into the best piece of ringing which we consider we ever had the good luck to be in, and were congratulating ourselves on being sure of the peal, when it came to grief just one course short. This was a first-class one-part peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, composed by Mr. Sam. Knott, jun., who also conducted it. The band stood as follows:—Jos. Lawton, 1;

Thomas James, 2; W. Story, 3; Jos. Maloney, 4; R. S. Story, 5; Sam. Knott, sen., 6; Sam. Knott, jun., 7; J. Pye, sen., 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

After leaving the church we were very cordially received by the local ringers, who mustered very strong; and we could not help being struck with the difference, as regards the number of willing ringers, and the enthusiasm displayed, from what we are accustomed to at home, where change-ringing has not yet taken such deep root. The junior band of ringers here were anxious that we should ring a peal with them, and it was therefore arranged that the following evening the same peal should be attempted on the same bells. The next morning little was done before dinner, beyond a pleasant half-hour with Mr. Joe Woodhouse, an old standard ringer, and one who seems to delight in being of service to young ringers. His interesting collection of ferns was also admired, a specimen of which has now been transferred to Whitley, on the East coast, where it is hoped it may flourish as a memento of three very happy days at Glossop. In the afternoon, at two o'clock, a band mustered at St. James's church, Whitfield, Glossop, where a peal of 5008 Kent Treble Bob was accomplished in 3 hours and 3 minutes, being conducted by Mr. Jas. Lawton. Tenor 12 cwt. This allowed just comfortable time for tea before our evening engagement, in accordance with which we met the Junior Society at All Saints' church, and attempted the peal which had been lost the night before. The fates seemed, however, against us with regard to this peal, as it was again lost after 1 hour's ringing. We immediately, however, turned to and rang a date touch of Oxford Treble Major, the particulars of which have already appeared. The next morning Mr. Sellars and Mr. Sam. Knott, sen., arranged for us to visit one of the largest cotton mills (Messrs. Woods Brothers and Co., Limited), and here, under the guidance of the latter gentleman, we were shown some sights which opened our eyes. We were occupied here for an hour and a-half or so, in seeing the whole process of manufacture, beginning with the raw cotton, and a more interesting place we do not think we have ever seen. We were sorry to find that our stay in Glossop was almost at an end, and after dinner at the Bull's Head we set off to walk over to Saddleworth, determining to visit again the place where we had been so kindly entertained, and where we had spent two or three of the happiest days in our ringing experience. It gave us great pleasure, however, to be escorted on our way by Mr. John Pye, sen., Messrs. Harrop, and Mr. J. Sellars, who very kindly accompanied us for at least five miles, which was about half the way. After parting from them, we had about half an hour's walk over a delightful piece of high moorland. The grouse were rising in all directions, and the air was so exhilarating that we wished the road might continue the same all the way to Uppermill, where we were distressed to think Mr. John Holden would be waiting for us, our tardiness in leaving Glossop having thrown us somewhat late. However, after a scramble down the steep hills, and a longish walk up the valley, we had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Holden at his office door, and were glad to find that our lateness had not jeopardised the attempt for the peal which had kindly been arranged for us. After depositing our traps in the inn, we set off for Saddleworth church which, is half an hour's walk from Uppermill, and upon reaching the same we found that the ringers had disbanded for half an hour which fortunately gave us time for some tea at the inn near the church. This as may be imagined was very welcome to us after our walk and just previous to starting for a peal, and after ample justice had been done to it, we had the pleasure of inspecting several interesting tombstones in the churchyard, including "Bill o'Jacks," and the composer's, J. Platt. Mr. Holden also pointed out several of the graves of his own family, who seem all through to have been connected with the church, in a similar manner to himself, that is as energetic churchwardens, ringers, organists, or choristers. We then ascended the steeple, and had the pleasure of meeting ringers, well known to us by name, and after ringing three leads to see that all was right, we had the additional pleasure of ringing 5088 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 3 hrs. and $\frac{1}{2}$ minute, outsiders complimenting the band on the striking throughout. A very pleasant hour was then spent with the ringers, and some good handbell ringing listened to with pleasure.

(To be continued.)

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
ANNUAL MEETING.—SPECIAL NOTICE.

THE special service in St. Oswald's church will be at 2.30, and the dinner at the "Three Tuns" at 3.30. The meeting of the Committee will be held at the conclusion of the General Meeting, at 1.30, in the vestry of St. Oswald's church. Members are requested to proceed to the vestry, on their arrival in Durham, where companies will be made up for St. Oswald's and the Cathedral.

G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A most successful district meeting was held on Saturday, October 24th, at Harlow. In spite of the inclemency of the weather, there was a good number of ringing members, including representatives from such distant places as Dedham, Great Bentley, and Ipswich, though many of the towers in the neighbourhood of London, and well within reach of Harlow were unrepresented, in consequence, probably, of the meeting of the Royal Cumberlands at Enfield. At 4.30 a substantial meat tea was provided, at the expense of the Vicar, at the "Green Man," to which about forty sat down. On the removal of the cloth, the business meeting was held, the chair being taken by the Vicar. The minutes of the last meeting having been read by the secretary, the Rev. H. A. Cockey, and passed, the following gentlemen were elected members of the Association: Rev. W. Earle (Harlow College), Rev. H. Farrow (Harlow Vicarage), as honorary members; Messrs. F. Buck, D. Claydon, and F. Green (Earls Colne), T. Ellis, W. Pigram, and R. Tabor (Harlow), C. H. Howard (Braintree), C. Prior, H. Prior (sen.), H. Prior (jun.), G. Prior, W. Prior, and W. T. Prior (Stanstead), as ringing members; Messrs. G. Brand (Bishops Stortford), W. H. Buckingham, N. N. Hills, and H. Lewis (St. Albans), J. Tarling, and N. W. Tarling (Sawbridgeworth), and H. J. Tucker (Hertford), as distinguished ringers. The meeting was asked to confirm the election of four members in the Barking tower, on the occasion of a peal rung on October 3rd, but as an objection was lodged by Mr. B. Keeble, of Romford, it was decided that the question should be left over till the Annual Meeting. The Hon. Secretary gave notice of two motions to be brought forward at the Annual Meeting. 1. "That an Assistant Secretary shall be appointed at the Annual Meeting." 2. "That the Association shall, as far as its funds will permit, assist in providing for the instruction of companies who are willing to join the Association, as probationary members; and that members of the Association who are willing to act as instructors, be requested to send in their names to the Secretary at once, in order that a staff of eight or ten instructors may be appointed by the committee." A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for his kindness and hospitality, and to the Harlow ringers for their kind reception, was carried unanimously. Mr. Farrow replying, said that both he and his ringers had derived great pleasure from this visit of the Association, and he hoped that it would not be long before he might again welcome its members to Harlow, and entertain them in the same way. Speaking of the improvement of late years in Church choirs and among ringers, he hoped that the day might never come when such a work should be altogether stopped, and the whole machinery of the Church thrown out of gear by such a measure as the much talked of Disestablishment and Disendowment of the Church of England. Some very good ringing was done in the course of the afternoon and evening on the fine peal of eight (by Warner, tenor 21 cwt.), at the parish church; several touches of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Major, and Grandsire Triples being brought home; also courses of Bob Major, Grandsire Triples, and Grandsire Caters, double-handed, on the handbells. The companies represented were: Great Bentley, Dedham, Galleywood, Hallingbury, Harlow, Rayleigh, Rettendon, Saffron Walden, and Stanstead, members also being present from Bishop Stortford, Cambridge, Hertford, Ipswich, and Sawbridgeworth.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE Quarterly Meeting for this period of the year was held on October 21st, at Dymock, near Ledbury. The Brockworth company represented the Association with much credit. In this Association, it may be mentioned, that two meetings, January and Midsummer, are open meetings, and the other two have a representative company sent. Dymock is situated on the recently opened Gloucester and Ledbury line. Divine Service took place at 11.30. The service was choral, and the prayers, etc., were intoned by the Rev. Pitt Eykyn, Hon. Sec. The lessons were read by the Rev. H. Ravenhill, curate, and a suitable and earnest address was delivered by the Rev. R. Horton, Vicar. Dinner took place at the "Beauchamp Arms," when the Vicar presided, supported by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Master of the Association, in the Vice-chair, Rev. S. E. Bartleet, Vicar of Brockworth, Rev. H. Ravenhill, Curate of Dymock, and Rev. Pitt Eykyn, Hon. Sec., Vicar of Ashton Gate, Bristol, and the Dymock ringers. After dinner the Vicar gave "Success to the Association," coupled with the name of the Master, the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, who suitably responded. The Rev. Pitt Eykyn then proposed a cordial vote of thanks to the Vicar for his admirable address, and for the kind welcome the Society had received at Dymock. Several six-scores were creditably accomplished. The bells went well, but would be greatly improved by the addition of a couple of trebles as they are a heavy ring of six.

THE SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—DISTRICT MEETING.

THE SECOND DISTRICT MEETING of this newly-formed Association was held at Uckfield on Saturday last, October 24th, and was largely attended, about seventy members being present during the day from branches at Arundel, Brighton, Buxted, Chailey, Cuckfield, East Hoathly, Fletching, Henfield, Hurst, Newick, Ringmer, Uckfield, etc. Ringing was commenced at the parish church shortly after ten o'clock, and continued until one, when an adjournment was made to the "Maiden's Head Hotel," where a cold luncheon was in readiness, and to which about fifty or sixty members sat down, under the presidency of F. Maryon Wilson, Esq., Churchwarden of Uckfield (in the unavoidable absence of the Rector). The chairman was supported by the Revs. R. F. Tompkins (Vicar of Tortington), W. W. Kelly (St. Peter's, Brighton), and F. H. Fisher (Ringmer). At the close of the luncheon, the chairman in a few well chosen remarks, stated how pleasee he was to welcome the members of the Association to Uckfield, and added that at a time like the present when the horizon was obscured by dark clouds, he felt it a duty, as well as privilege, to propose one toast, viz., "The Queen, the Church, and State." This was received with applause, immediately followed by the singing of the National Anthem, in which all present joined. A business meeting was then held, the following gentlemen being duly elected honorary members. Revds. E. Sanderson (Rector of Uckfield), C. Powell (Rector of Newick), J. H. Masters (Rector of Slinfold), F. C. Norton (Vicar of Ditchling), W. W. Kelly (curate of Brighton); also J. M. Beard, Esq., churchwarden of Chailey, and Rashell Davidson, Esq., M.D., churchwarden of Battle. New branches were then formed for Westham and Burwash; fifteen members being elected for the former place, and one for the latter; also one additional member each for the Chailey and Goring branches. On the proposition of the Rev. R. F. Tompkins, seconded by Mr. J. Boniface, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rectors, Vicars, and churchwardens of Uckfield, Waldron, Buxted, and Maresfield, for kindly placing the bells of their churches in the hands of the Association for the occasions, and to the chairman for presiding. The selection of place for holding the next District Meeting in December was then discussed, Cuckfield and Brighton being proposed as suitable towns. The hon. secretary then suggested Chichester, the cathedral city, and remarked that he thought it was undesirable that either of the other places should be selected; Cuckfield, because the rural surroundings would be more enjoyed if a spring or summer meeting were decided upon; Brighton, because one meeting had already been held there during the present year, and as a County Association, it was only right that all the districts should be visited in turn. On the question being put to the vote, nearly all were in favour of Chichester. Two handsome marble tablets recording peals of Grandsire Triples were then formally handed over to the care of the authorities of Uckfield and Buxted churches for erection in the belfries. This terminated the business meeting; bands visited the churches above referred during the afternoon, and kept the bells in motion until a somewhat late hour.

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.

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."

LONDON SOCIETIES.

SIR,—We have had lately some good additions to the "collection of curious campanological correspondence" which I have no doubt some enthusiastic ringer is compiling with a view to publication. The stinging notes of "Little Jim," in addition to the more weighty articles which have appeared under various *noms de plume*, appear to have at last aroused the dormant feelings even of the Ancient Society of College Youths, that Rip Van Winkle of the Exercise. We are told with a flourish that this society is the same as it was two hundred years ago—well, that is precisely what it is blamed for, it has made no advance, no improvement; its members ring so many peals, make so many members, tell so many yarns about their own bygone deeds and those of their predecessors—talk, talk, talk, but very little else. Anyone who has attended the College Youths' meetings knows perfectly well how rigid a supervision has to be exercised over the funds to keep the balance on the right side; and yet a boast is made of the Society's financial position. Will the Secretary say how it is that no report or balance sheet is ever printed if they are so wealthy? There is no necessity to repeat in this place the charges which have been made, not against individuals, but against the company's general policy, charges which, though clearly defined and stated, have been met by no denial or disapproval; but only by

an attempt to set the matter in a false light by the introduction of personalities, and by a silly letter containing a storm of ridiculous and ungrammatical abuse from some anonymous nobody. But these matters are scarcely worthy of serious consideration—the question really is, how can the society be placed in the position deserved by the number and skill of its members. At present no one can vote who has not met the company twelve times during the previous year. This is an absurdity which should be done away with at once, as it places all the power in the hands of a dozen or so members, to the entire exclusion of the large provincial contingent. Another reform which appears desirable, is the substitution of an annual subscription in place of the present entrance fee, and collection of pence at the meetings; an expedient which is both clumsy and inefficient. This change would also relieve the Company from the state of poverty in which it undoubtedly is at the present time; and it would then be able to book all peals without the present worry and trouble collecting the sixpences, imposed by an arbitrary interpretation of the most incomplete and unsatisfactory rule in the book. Again, the appointment of an instructor is very necessary, and the institution of an eight or ten bell practice (under his supervision), for the education of beginners. Now I come to the state of the company's steeples. It is difficult to suggest any method of dealing with the scandalous state of many London belfries, without proposing a change in the constitution of the London societies, so radical that I am afraid it is at present hopeless, *i.e.* firstly, the introduction of a large number of the clergy (as honorary or performing members), who should by their presence and influence, raise the tone of the societies generally; and secondly, the amalgamation of the various societies of London into one united body, which would then be strong enough to bring such matters as these before the clergy in a manner which would at least command respectful attention. These are the remedies I venture to suggest; and in conclusion I have to ask that the readers of this article will be good enough to sink my personality, and consider the points raised on their own merits. Then I am not afraid of the issue.

EDWARD F. STRANGE,
Author of "Thumbnail Sketches."

SIR,—In answer to Mr. Muskett, I beg to inform him that I never asked for information respecting the age of the College Youths' Society; having my book of rules I could see for myself. He says they can boast some of the best ringers in the land, he should also have said and some of the laziest, for I fail to see what else it can be when practice night after practice night goes by without a bell being raised. He brags about the business being carried out in a proper manner, I could prove that some of the business is done in a very loose manner. I have been a member of the College Youths about eight years, and have never seen a balance-sheet in the whole time. He says that on Sunday mornings at St. Paul's Cathedral tower can be seen a body of respectable ringers; I do not think that the respectability of the ringers has been questioned. As for the brain power, they say that fish produce brain power, so I suppose that it is the loaves and fishes at the end of the ropes that draw them there, it cannot be the love of the ringing, or we should get more ringing on practice-nights, when there is nothing hanging to the ropes. As to obliging a country friend it depends entirely what position that country friend holds. Sir, I think it would be more becoming of Mr. Muskett, as Secretary of the College Youths, to use a little more argument and not so much abuse in his answers. I would also advise him to use the utmost care in putting me into the oven, that he does not burn his fingers, but if he should, to apply to me, I have a salve for every sore.

In answer to Mr. Jerram, I must ask him to confine himself to the subject of the London Societies, and not take us into the country. I must also ask him to apply to the secretary of the College Youths for a return of the practices of the last two years at the five twelve-bell steeples under their rule, then I should like to hear his opinion. When he said that on an average there is one practice a week, he should have said one a month, as that would have been more correct.

LITTLE JIM.

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS RECORDS.

SIR,—I notice a statement in "THE BELL NEWS" of the week before last, that the records and peal-books of the College Youths Society are intact from 1627. Now is this so? I have it on good authority, that no document of contemporary date exists, and that what purports to be original, is simply a copy purchased of a member of the Cumberland Society in the year 1841. I wish at the same time to say that I have no ill-feeling against this society or any one of its members, so the truth or falsity of this statement will not, I suppose, affect the future success of the society, but as the above statement is now in print, and I have given my version of this society's history in private conversation, I think, for the benefit of all parties concerned, the matter had better now be settled. However, in any way, I consider a National Association unnecessary, as I fail to see the purpose it would serve.

H. DAINS.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION QUESTION.

SIR,—We are sometimes reminded that it is dangerous for those people who live in glass houses to throw stones. Evidently Mr. Muskett found himself so closely pelted and placed in such a shady nook by Little Jim, that he was unable, notwithstanding his usual strong fragrance, to again perfume the air in defence of the London Societies, hence his attack upon the plea for a National Association. Now Sir, I trust Mr. Muskett will pardon me, but I submit that he has utterly failed to grasp the subject, for his chief point is that the formation of a National Association would be throwing cold water upon the College Youths, a Society which he would have us believe is infallible. Far be it from me to advocate the slightest obstacle to such a society as in ages past have won laurels unsurpassed, but which, like the rays of the sun, have not of late proved very brilliant. Probably this may be the cause of Mr. Muskett's striking afresh upon such delicate soil, from which in throwing off such imaginary perfumery, he has so ably taxed the risible faculties of the whole of the ringing community. Commencing by expressing that no doubt it is the wish of many to have a National Association, he concludes by declaring that there shall not be such formed. I maintain, Sir, like your correspondent last week, that it must come, and that as it becomes expanded, it will give a new impetus to ringing, exercise a powerful influence throughout the country in supporting our County and Diocesan Associations that are advocating belfry reform, and rally forth to their wonted vigour, our old societies. Let those, Sir, who drew up the draft scheme, act upon Mr. Strange's feasible suggestions, and decide upon calling a meeting next spring—say in Easter week, and let the Association become a reality. As to the outlay, I fail to see what is required. As to those that will enrol themselves, it must not be anticipated that in the meantime these will amount to any considerable number, but once established upon a firm footing with the scheme expanded, the Association will gradually spread throughout the country, and after its committees are permanently selected, there need be no fear of the work it will accomplish or lack of attendance at its Annual Congress Meetings. If the suggestion is acted upon we shall be able to test Mr. Muskett's proclamation, and prove if his presidency, with the power of dictating to the whole ringing community, is an assumed or legitimate one.

NIL DESPERANDUM.

SIR,—The "Muskett" has gone off again, it has discharged its fiery volley. "We won't have a National Association," says this "big gun," and now, Sir, that this self-constituted mouthpiece of the ringers of England has said "No," further agitation in the matter will be superfluous and unnecessary, and the few timorous souls who ventured to oppose the opinions of Mr. Muskett, may just retire and meditate upon the selfishness of mankind, as represented by ringers.

W. G. R.

THE PEAL AT ECCLES.

SIR,—In answer to F. P.'s letter concerning the above, I may say that the last course of the peal, viz. 1M, 1B, 2W, was omitted, as the bells came round at the end of the fourth course of the third part, the peal being a three part one. The only reason I can account for the bells coming round at that place is, that a bob w must have been called in the third course of the last part. The time occupied should have been stated as 2 hrs. 49½ mins., and not 2 hrs. 52 mins. Your correspondent F. P. is quite mistaken as to the number of changes per minute, as the number of changes rung was 4896, which makes the average speed at 28.88 per min., so that the bells must have been going at 29 oftener than under 28 per minute as stated by F. P. With respect to there being two bob-callers, I may say that W. Walmsley calls the bobs very late (just previous to the treble leading her whole pull), and that I called a few, thinking at the time he had forgotten to call. Hoping this explanation will be satisfactory to F. P. and to the Exercise.

A. E. WREAKS.

PERTINENT ENQUIRIES.

SIR,—Your valuable paper is entitled among other things, "a compendium of information for the clergy." I am a curate and a change-ringer; and the information I glean from your instructive columns sometimes leaves me, like Oliver Twist, "asking for more." For instance, with reference to an insertion in your issue of this date, one cannot help wondering what are the hours of Divine Service, or the length of sermons at Leek, which allow of "a stroll around the outskirts of the town," and a "return to lodgings" by half-past twelve; and again the same phenomenon is apparent at Macclesfield in the evening, where two hours can be spent at "headquarters" and yet a departure effected by 8.40. I say hours of service and length of sermons, for it is almost impossible to believe that those to whom the Exercise looks up with such admiration and esteem as the long peal men would ring for service, and leave without staying for the service. Such conduct is surely the unique prerogative of the "smoking, swearing, nut-cracking" patrons of "stone," of whom another correspondent speaks. I hope someone will enlighten

CLERICUS.

"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.

W. MARTIN.—We would prefer it as hitherto.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1885.

OUR leading comment of a fortnight ago has brought us very many expressions of approval, in several instances from those who profess to belong to the "advanced" section of politicians, but who view with dismay the prospect of a bitter and vindictive onslaught upon such a time-honoured institution as the Church. We have also been favoured with an influx of correspondence from many others who welcomed our remarks in connection with disestablishment. Just as we are going to press the only reply of the other side has been received, and though we would not hesitate, under ordinary circumstances, to publish this, we are of opinion that such a subject deserves infinitely greater care in handling than our latest correspondent is able to employ. Random and irrelevant statements, which are used merely to trot out some fantastic hobby of the imagination, do not come within the region of pure discussion or argument. Our friend who sends this late effusion is afflicted with peculiarities of character which are well known. He belongs to one of the much-abused London Societies, and a stock argument of his is that there is no salvation for any ringer who continues, in spite of his exhortations, to remain outside the circle of that particular body. This is merely a specimen of the writer's idiosyncracies, and we mention it so that many of our readers will be able to discover the individuality of our correspondent. Great freedom is allowed to all our friends to express their opinions in our pages, but on such an important subject as Church Disestablishment it is as well to be somewhat near the mark, and to use a little care in keeping to the matters under treatment.

Though we cannot bring ourselves to believe that such a wholesale robbery of the Church as is preached by some people at the present time will come to pass, yet it is necessary to take note of the direction in which popular opinion has a tendency to flow. And we are glad to see that the most eloquent churchmen are equal to the occasion. They are doing their best to direct men's thoughts into the proper channel, for the impartial

consideration of this demand for disestablishment. The speeches of the Bishops of Peterborough and Durham lay bare the inflated oratory and arguments of the professional demagogue, and the words of truth and soberness from these distinguished prelates stand out in bold relief above the passionate shrieks of the enemy.

The point which seems to press itself upon us is that if pious endowments are to be set aside, where is such interference to stop? We suppose none of our readers believe for a moment that the Church receives a farthing from the revenue of the country; in other words, that she is supported by the State. Those who think so should learn the facts before they hastily form their opinion in favour of robbery.

The Provinces.

HEYWOOD, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, October 10, 1885, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT ST. LUKE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 CARTER'S 12-PART BOB-AND-SINGLE. Tenor 22½ cwt. in E.

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| GEORGE CROSSLEY Treble. | JOHN HARRISON 5. |
| JAMES PILKINGTON 2. | EDWARD ISHERWOOD .. 6. |
| SAMUEL STOTT 3. | JOSEPH STRUTT 7. |
| JOHN GREENWOOD 4. | WILLIAM R. BARRATT .. Tenor. |

Conducted by SAMUEL STOTT.

S. Stott hails from Glodwick; J. Greenwood from Leesfield; J. Strutt from Moor-side; E. Isherwood from Newhey; the rest belong to Heywood.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE
 ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Monday, October 19, 1885, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
 5088 CHANGES. Tenor 16½ cwt.

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| JOHN JAGGAR Treble. | HARRY WAKLEY 5. |
| EDWARD ISAAC STONE .. 2. | A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. 6. |
| ARTHUR WAKLEY 3. | *ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT .. 7. |
| JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4. | WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor. |

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by
 WILLIAM WAKLEY.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, is a three-part peal, and contains the 4th and 6th the extent in 5-6. *First peal in the method.

LIVERSEDGE, YORKSHIRE.

On Tuesday, October 20, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5038 CHANGES;
 Tenor 15 cwt.

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| HERR VON COLLINSON .. Treble. | RALPH ELLIS 5. |
| GEORGE THORNTON 2. | WALTER PEACOCK 6. |
| SAM PEACOCK 3. | BENJAMIN ROBINSON .. 7. |
| TOLSON CRAWSHAW 4. | JOAH PEACOCK Tenor. |

Composed by JOHN THORP, of Ashton-under-Lyne, and
 Conducted by RALPH ELLIS.

This peal has the 6th the extent at nine different course-ends, and the fifth the extent at home. The ages of the treble, 2nd, and 3rd ringers are 17, 18, and 16 years respectively. All the above company belong to Mirfield.

BELL-HANGING OPERATIONS.—The bells at Ideford (Devon), have been hung by Mr. Harry Stokes, of Woodbury, Exeter, in new oak frame and all new fittings, and the Ellacombe chiming hammers have been fixed. The tower being small, they have been in two tiers—1st, 2nd, 4th, 6th in bottom frame, and 3rd and 5th hung in top frame. The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd are new bells, and the 4th and 5th, which were the old treble and 2nd, have been recast. The same bellhanger has also been employed in hanging a 19cwt. bell at St. John's, Torquay.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.

THE ALL SAINTS' JUNIOR SOCIETY.

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

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| SAMUEL HARROP Treble. | CHARLES BROOKE 5. |
| DANIEL JAMES 2. | JOSEPH MALONEY 6. |
| WILLIAM HARROP 3. | HENRY COOPER 7. |
| SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN.* .. 4. | *JOHN PYE, JUN. Tenor. |

Composed by SAMUEL KNOTT, JUN., and Conducted by HENRY COOPER.

*College Youths.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.
(DUFFIELD BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, October 21, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 17 cwt.

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| GEORGE DAWSON Treble. | GEORGE HINGLEY 5. |
| SAMUEL JOHNSON 2. | WILLIAM HICKLING 6. |
| JOHN HOWE 3. | ROBERT JOHNSON 7. |
| ALFRED ROBINSON 4. | A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. Tenor. |

Composed and Conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, ESQ.

This peal has the 4th and 6th respectively eighteen and twenty-four times in 6th's place.

HAYFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

Birthday Peal.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE
ST. MATTHEW'S SOCIETY, HAYFIELD.

On Wednesday, October 21, 1885, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS
UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 of each of the following:—

Duke of York; Yorkshire Delight; Merchant's Return; Kent Treble Bob; New London Pleasure; Violet; and Oxford.

Tenor about 9 cwt.

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| JOHN VERNON Tenor. | ALFRED RANGELEY 4. |
| JOSEPH BROCKLEHURST .. 2. | ABEL HADFIELD 5. |
| THOMAS WHITEHEAD 3. | THOMAS BROCKLEHURST .. Tenor. |

Conducted by THOMAS WHITEHEAD.

The above was rung in honour of Mr. Joseph Brocklehurst's 24th birthday, he having attained it on the above date, and his ringing friends wish that he may live to see many more.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE
ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Friday, October 23, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 22 cwt.

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| THOMAS MEREDITH Treble. | HARRY WAKLEY 5. |
| EDWARD ISAAC STONE .. 2. | JOHN JAGGAR 6. |
| ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT .. 3. | WILLIAM WAKLEY 7. |
| JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4. | THOMAS HOLMES Tenor. |

Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

GUISELEY.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 24, 1885 (no time given),

AT ST. OSWALD'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 10½ cwt.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| DAVID E. RHODES Treble. | JAMES BALDWIN 5. |
| EZRA KEIGHLEY 2. | SIMEON LANGSTAFFE .. 6. |
| WILLIAM HOLLINGS 3. | GEORGE BOLLAND 7. |
| WILLIAM BOLLAND 4. | JOHN HALEY Tenor. |

Composed by WILLIAM GOODALL and Conducted by G. BOLLAND.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE
ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Saturday, October 24, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5056 CHANGES. Tenor 26 cwt.

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| JOHN JAGGAR Treble. | HARRY WAKLEY 5. |
| EDWARD ISAAC STONE .. 2. | *ALFRED THOMAS 6. |
| ARTHUR WAKLEY 3. | THOMAS HOLMES 7. |
| ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT .. 4. | WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor. |

Composed and Conducted by JOHN JAGGAR.

This peal, which has never been previously performed, is a two-part peal, and contains the 6th eighteen times wrong and twenty-four times right. It is Harry Wakley's 50th peal. *First peal in the method.

SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.

On Saturday, October 24, 1885, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT ST. GREGORY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| ARTHUR SCOTT Treble. | WILLIAM BACON 5. |
| CHARLES SILLITOE* 2. | †HARRY HARPER 6. |
| GEORGE S. BROWN 3. | WALTER GRIGGS 7. |
| WILLIAM HOWELL 4. | †HARRY BRACKETT Tenor. |

Conducted by CHARLES SILLITOE.

*College Youth. †Cumberland Youth. †First peal.

This is the first peal in the method by all the above except the conductor, and also the first peal in the method on the bells, and rung at the first attempt. It is upwards of twenty years since a peal was rung on these bells, the last being a 6000 of Bob Major.

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, October 24, 1885, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5008 CHANGES.

Tenor 23 cwt. in D.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ARTHUR JOHN JONES* .. Treble. | BERNARD WITCHELL .. 6. |
| HENRY BASTABLE 2. | *JAMES PLANT 7. |
| THOMAS JAMES HEMMING* 3. | WILLIAM KENT 8. |
| THOMAS REYNOLDS 4. | *CHARLES STANBRIDGE .. 9. |
| JOHN SANDERS 5. | *MARTIN MURPHY Tenor. |

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON and Conducted by HY. BASTABLE.

*First peal of Stedman Caters.

This peal contains the 6th, 5th, 3rd, and 2nd behind the 9th, and the treble a 2nd's place bell throughout, and has not been previously performed. It is the first peal of Stedman Caters rung by the Holt Society.

LEEDS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 24, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty-three Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES.

Tenor 36 cwt.

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| HENRY HUBBARD Treble. | JOSHUA WOODHEAD 6. |
| WILLIAM PAWSON 2. | WILLIAM FIRTH 7. |
| ROBERT TUKE, ESQ. 3. | TOM LOCKWOOD 8. |
| MATTHEW TOMLINSON .. 4. | THOMAS WEST 9. |
| WILLIAM WALKER 5. | ROBERT BINNS Tenor. |

Composed by the late HENRY HUBBARD and Conducted by ROBERT BINNS.

This peal, which is in the tittum position, and has never been previously performed was found amongst an old ms. of Mr. Hubbard's since his death, no doubt intended for publication, with many more peals in various methods and lengths.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A Meeting of the above Association will be held at Cambridge on Monday, November 2nd. The tower of St. Andrew's (eight bells), will be open at ten o'clock, and that of Great St. Mary's (twelve bells), after lunch. Divine Service in Great St. Mary's Church at 12.30, and lunch at "The Castle," Guildhall Street, immediately afterwards.
10, Brookside, Cambridge.
M. C. POTTER.

UFFORD, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

Wedding Peal.

On Saturday, October 24, 1885, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 of each of the following:—

Cambridge Surprise; Oxford Bob; Double Court Bob; Kent Treble Bob; College Single Bob; Oxford Treble Bob; Bob Minor.

Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| JOHN J. HOWARD Treble. | GEORGE BAILEY 4. |
| EDWIN R. TODD 2. | HORACE MATTIN 5. |
| WILLIAM P. GARRETT .. 3. | EDWARD SHERWOOD .. Tenor. |

Conducted by EDWARD SHERWOOD.

This is the first peal ever known to have been rung on these bells, and was rung to celebrate the marriage of a member of the Ufford company, Mr. A. Ward. W. P. Garratt belongs to the local company, the rest hail from Pettistree.

MANCHESTER.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Muffled Peal.

On Monday, October 26, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty-three Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5080 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb.

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| HENRY HEAP* Treble. | GEORGE H. JOHNSON .. 6. |
| THOMAS HEALD* 2. | *WILLIAM FRITH 7. |
| JAMES BARRATT* 3. | JOHN EACHUS 8. |
| SAMUEL WEST 4. | GEORGE LONGDEN 9. |
| A. EDWARD WREAKS .. 5. | SAMUEL WOOD Tenor. |

Composed by JOHN THORP, and Conducted by GEORGE LONGDEN.

*First peal in the method.

First peal in the method by the Association. T. Heald belongs to the St. Philip's Society, Hulme, Manchester; Messrs. Johnson and Barratt hail from Eccles; Heap, Frith, Longden and Wood from Ashton-under-Lyne; West, Wreaks and Eachus are of the Cathedral Company. The above peal was rung with the bells muffled in memory of the late Dr. Fraser, Bishop of Manchester.

LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS AND THE LONG MELFORD COMPANY.

On Tuesday, October 27, 1885, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| FREDERICK STEED* Treble. | JAMES BIRD 5. |
| PERCY CHAS. S. SCOTT .. 2. | OLIVER GARWOOD 6. |
| FREDERICK WELLS 3. | †GEORGE HAMMOND 7. |
| ZACHARIAH SLATER 4. | SAMUEL SLATER Tenor. |

Composed by JOHN HOLT and Conducted by GEORGE HAMMOND.

*First peal. †First peal in the method, and also as conductor.

This peal contains the utmost number of bobs with the tenors together, viz., 123, and was first rung by the Union Scholars, in 1750. This is the second peal lately rung here, conducted by a Melford ringer. For 103 years, from 1782 to 1885, there was not a peal rang on the bells, with a man residing in the parish as conductor.

LEES, NEAR OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

THE LEESFIELD SOCIETY.

Muffled Peal.

On Tuesday, October 27, 1885, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S TEN-PART REVERSED. Tenor 14 cwt.

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| EDWIN B. SHAW Treble. | JAMES BAILEY 5. |
| FRED CROSLAND 2. | JNO. GREENWOOD 6. |
| JAMES PRIESTLEY 3. | JOHN HILTON 7. |
| THOMAS EGERTON 4. | JOSHUA M. PLATT Tenor. |

Conducted by FRED CROSLAND.

The above peal was rung with the bells deeply muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Dr. Fraser, Bishop of Manchester.

Date Touch.

Ross (Herefordshire).—On Thursday evening, October 22nd, the Ross company rang a date touch of Grandsire Triples, (1885 changes), in 1 hr. 13 mins. J. Kings, 1; J. G. Wall, 2; J. Atkins, 3; G. Price, 4; A. Bird, 5; H. Bird, 6; C. Young (conductor), 7; R. Clarke, 8. This touch was composed by Mr. Henry Johnson, sen., of Birmingham. Tenor 25 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY OF BRISTOL.

BRISTOL.—On Friday, October 23rd, on the occasion of the Musical Festival at Colston Hall, the bells having recently been rehung, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. J. Hunt, 1; C. Waters, 2; J. Davis, 3; T. Salter (conductor), 4; R. Knill, 5; J. Brain, 6. And on Monday, October 26th, at Brislington parish church, by invitation, a 720 of Grandsire Minor. G. Hunt, 1; C. Walters, 2; J. Davis, 3; A. Parish, 4; R. Knill, 5; J. Brain, 6. Conducted by T. Salter, standing out.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

LEWISHAM (Kent).—On Tuesday, October 27th, at St. Mary's church, eight members of the above Society attempted the Rev. Chas. D. P. Davies' five-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 1750 changes, in exactly 1 hr. the rope of the 6th bell broke at the "Queen's" change. Harry W. Grout, 1; William Pead, 2; Thomas Taylor, 3; William Weatherstone, 4; Frederick W. Thornton (conductor); St. Alphege, Greenwich), 5; William H. Freeman, 6; Abraham G. Freeman, 7; William Foreman, 8. Tenor 23 cwt. in Eb.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, October 22nd, at St. Mary's Church, for practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs. *F. Keech, 1; C. West, 2; T. Foote, 3; M. Warwick, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6. *First 720 in the method. Also a 720 of College Single Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. S. J. Cullip, 1; C. West, 2; I. Hills, 3; M. Warwick, 4; J. Frossell, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles. F. Keech, 1; C. West, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; M. Warwick, 4; J. Frossell, 5; T. Foote, 6.

WOBURN (Beds).—On Saturday, October 24th, Messrs. Hills, Frossell, Clarke, and Foote (Bedford), Chibnall, Carwell Cooke, and Mynard (Aspley Guise), and C. Herbert of Woburn, met at the tower for the purpose of ringing a peal of Bob Major, but unfortunately, after ringing two hours and ten minutes, the peal came to grief. It is intended shortly to again attempt the peal.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD.—On Sunday evening, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). J. Mumford (Ilford; 1st 720), 1; W. Nash, 2; J. Porter, 3; B. Keeble, 4; A. J. Perkins, 5; A. Pye (conductor), 6. Also after service, a 720 of Bob Minor (Hammond's), conducted by A. J. Perkins.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Monday, October 26th, eight members of the St. Albans branch of this Association rang at St. Peter's church, 1008 of Grandsire Triples, in 37 mins. A. Godman, sen., 1; A. Godman, jun., 2; W. H. L. Buckingham, 3; H. Lewis, 4; G. W. Cartmel, 5; N. N. Hills (conductor), 6; T. Waller, 7; W. Battle, 8. Tenor 23 cwt. in D.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SITTINGBOURNE (Kent).—On Friday evening, October 23rd, for practice, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 19 mins. *F. Grayling, Esq., 1; J. G. Elliott, 2; E. White, 3; J. M. Cooper, 4; J. Bottle, 5; S. Snelling, 6; W. H. Judd, 7; — Gower, 8. Also another 504 of Grandsire Triples. — Gower, 1; J. G. Elliott, 2; E. White, 3; S. Snelling, 4; E. J. Bottle, 5; J. M. Cooper, 6; W. H. Judd, 7; J. Grensted, 8. *First 504. Tenor 21 cwt.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent).—On Sunday, October 25th, at St. Peter's church, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. J. Muggeridge, 1; J. Colthup, 2; H. Barefield (conductor), 3; R. Sharville, 4; W. Latter, 5; G. Kember, 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Tuesday, October 27th, at St. Paul's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (thirty-two bobs and two singles), with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect for the

late Bishop of Manchester, in 29½ mins. J. Welsby (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Williamson, 4; A. Potter, 4; W. Denner, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt.

MANCHESTER.—*Muffled Peal*.—On Tuesday evening, October 27th, at Holy Trinity church, Hulme, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-four bobs and eighteen singles), with the bells deeply muffled, as a mark of respect, and in memory of the much beloved Rt. Rev. James Fraser, D.D., late Bishop of Manchester, in 33 mins. H. Wagstaff, 1; C. F. Woodward, 2; W. Diggles, 3; W. H. Lockett, 4; J. J. Mason, 5; W. Savage (conductor), 6. Tenor 15½ cwt.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WICKHAM MARKET (Suffolk).—On Wednesday evening, October 21st, for practice at All Saints' Church, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob in 27 mins. *F. Reeve, 1; A. Acfield, 2; W. Reeve, 3; H. Matten, 4; C. Potter, 5; J. Howard (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt. in G. *First 720 in the method. A. Acfield hails from Ufford; H. Matten, C. Potter, and J. Howard hail from Pettistree; the rest are members of the local company. Several touches in various methods were rung during the evening.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

NORTHMOOR (Oxon).—On Sunday, October 25th, a 720 of Grand-sire Minor in 27 mins. Jesse Avery, 1; Frederick White, 2; Henry Woodward, 3; William Bennett, 4; Harry Holifield, 5; George Holifield (conductor), 6. H. Holifield hails from Abingdon, the rest from Appleton, Berks.

ABINGDON (Berks).—On Monday, October 26th, at the church of St. Nicholas, eight members of the St. Helen's company joined the above Guild by ringing three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in the presence of the Rev. F. E. Robinson, vicar of Drayton, and Master of the Guild. H. Bright, J. Viner, G. Hosier, H. Didcock, E. Webb, A. Keates (conductor), A. W. Carter, G. Young.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, October 25th, at St. Ann's church, 720 Oxford Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. Baddeley, 1; E. Glover, 2; G. Walker, 3; J. Wood, 4; J. W. Brough, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, October 20th, six members of the local company rang at the parish church 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. (nine bobs, 5th the observation). J. Baldwin, 1; J. Yates, 2; A. A. Waite, 3; W. Sevier, 4; H. Mitchell (conductor), 5; G. Miles, 6. A course of Oxford Treble Bob Minor was also rang: G. Miles, 3; A. A. Waite, 6; the others standing as before. Some Stedman and Grandsire Doubles were also rung. Tenor 14 cwt. in G. *Muffled Peal*.—On Friday, October 23rd, ten 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung with the bells muffled, as a token of respect to the late Colonel Dowling, who was in his seventy-eighth year.

SANDHURST (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, October 25th, six members of the Barnwood company paid a visit to this parish church, and with the kind permission of the Vicar (after twenty minutes' attention to the ropes), rose the bells in peal, and rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (4th the observation), in 27 mins. J. Baldwin, 1; A. A. Waite, 2; Wm. Sevier, 3; H. G. Gardner, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; R. A. Barrett (conductor), 6. A six-score of Stedman was also rung.

QUEDGELEY (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, October 18th, five members of the above, assisted by J. Baldwin, rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. (sixteen bobs and two singles). T. Brown, 1; R. A. Barrett, 2; Wm. Sevier, 3; J. Baldwin, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; H. G. Gardner (conductor), 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in A. Afterwards the company adjourned to the residence of Mr. W. Brown, where a substantial tea was provided. After tea the handbells were brought into use, and courses of Grandsire Triples, Major, and Caters rung, Mr. Brown taking part in it. The company then returned home very much pleased with the afternoon's proceedings.

TEWKESBURY ABBEY.—On Wednesday evening, October 21st, a quarter-peal of Union Triples, 1260 changes, in 46 mins. W. Hampton, 1; F. J. Moore, 2; F. E. Ward, Esq. (Cheltenham), 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Wathen, 5; T. Devereux, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; C. W. Dyson, 8. The above touch was rung in recognition of the Association having held their district meeting at Dymock that day.

BENGEO (Herts).—On Friday, October 23rd, at Holy Trinity church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. T. Barker, 1; H. J. Tucker, 2; W. Odell (first 720 in the method), 3; W. A. Tyler, 4; H. Baker,

5; H. Phillips (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, October 25th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. H. J. Tucker (conductor), 1; J. Channer, 2; H. Phillips, 3; J. Pomfret, 4; W. Odell, 5; W. A. Tyler, 6. And a 360 of Grandsire Minor. J. Channer, 1; W. Bennett, 2; W. Goodchild, 3; M. Ellesmore, 4; H. Phillips (conductor), 5; H. J. Tucker, 6.

BRAMFORD (Suffolk).—On Thursday, October 22nd, at St. Mary's church, a 360 of Plain Bob Minor, in 19 mins. Walter Brown, 1; William Mee, 2; Alfred A. Pryke, 3; Charles Smith, 4; William Read, 5; Frederick Mee (conductor), 6. And three 6-scores of Plain Bob Doubles. Charles Osborn, 1; Walter Brown, 2; Alfred A. Pryke, 3; William Read, 4; Charles R. Smith (conductor), 5; Harry Farnham, 6. And on Sunday, October 25th, at the parish church, four 6-scores of Plain Doubles, each called differently. Charles Osborne, 1; Walter Brown, 2; William Read, 3; Charles R. Smith, 4; Alfred A. Pryke (conductor), 5; Joseph Hardwicke, 6. Charles Smith, A. Pryke, W. Read, and F. Mee belong to the Norwich Diocesan Association.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Monday, October 26th, at SS. Peter and Paul, for practice, 1680 changes in the following methods: Tulip, Primrose, Colledge Trebles, Arnold's Victory, Colledge Pleasure, Oxford and Violet, in 1 hr. and 4 mins. George Smith, 1; William Price, 2; Edwin James, 3; George Norman, 4; George Marsden (conductor), 5; Thomas Lunn, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. 14 lbs.

HALEWOOD (Lancashire).—On Sunday, October 25th, six members of the local company rang a 504 Grandsire Triples. Samuel Gough, 1; Thomas Morris, 2; Joshua Large, 3; Frank Turner, 4; G. W. Hughes, 5; C. Newton, 6; Walter Hughes (conductor), 7; J. Allen, 8. Tenor 11 cwt.

HAMPSTEAD (Middlesex).—On Sunday, October 24th, for Divine Service in the morning at St. Stephen's church, eight members of the local company, assisted by W. J. Nevard, of Great Bentley, and W. Smith, of Dedham, Essex, rang a 503 of Grandsire Caters. S. Clarke, 1; B. Foskett, 2; B. Payne, 3; *W. J. Nevard, 4; H. Tyler, 5; *W. Smith, 6; W. Pryor, 7; N. Alderman, 8; G. Newson (conductor), 9; W. Arscott, 10. *First touch of Caters. And for Divine Service in the evening, the local company rang a 504 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by B. Foskett. The bells of St. Stephen are rung every Sunday from 10.30 to 11.0 a.m. and from 6.30 to 7.0 p.m. when any brother-string is welcome.

HAYFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, October 18th, at St. Matthew's church, for Divine Service in the morning, a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. A. Thomas, 1; Joseph Brocklehurst, 2; William Wild, sen., 3; A. Rangeley, 4; Thomas Whitehead (conductor), 5; Thomas Brocklehurst, 6. And in the afternoon a 720 in the same method, standing as before. Messrs. Thomas and Wild hail from Haughton, Lancashire, and this is their first 360 of Oxford; the rest belong to the local company.

HIGHAM (Suffolk).—On Tuesday evening, October 20th, two 720's of Bob Minor. First: G. Winny, 1; J. Levitt, 2; W. Ranson (first 720), 3; W. Smith (conductor), 4; R. Parr, 5; C. Ablitt, 6. Second: C. Ablitt, 1; J. Isom, 2; J. Levitt, 3; W. Smith, 4; R. Parr, 5; J. W. Smith (conductor), 6. *Handbell Ringing*.—And on handbells, a course of Treble Bob Minor. R. Parr, 1; J. Levitt, 2; W. Smith, 3-4; J. W. Smith, 5-6. And a course of Bob Major. C. Ablitt, 1; R. Parr, 2; J. Levitt, 3-4; W. Smith, 5-6; J. W. Smith, 7-8. And 108 of Bob Minor. J. Levitt, 1-2; J. W. Smith, 3-4; W. Smith, 5-6. W. Ransom, G. Winny, R. Parr, and J. Levitt hail from Stratford; the brothers Smith, Isom, Ablitt, belong to Higham.

HIGHER WALTON (Lancashire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday, October 25th, for Divine Service in the afternoon at All Saints' Church, a 720 of Colledge Single, in 26 mins., with the bells deeply muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Bishop of Manchester. G. Thornley (conductor), 1; James Harwood, 2; Harry Hunt, 3; H. Brewer, 4; J. Eccles, 5; J. Mather, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qrs. 26 lbs.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—On Saturday, October 24th, at SS. Peter and Paul's church, an attempt was made to ring a peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's Original) but after ringing about 1300 changes in 54 mins., a change-course occurred and "stand" was called. H. C. Haley (conductor), 1; H. Dudley, 2; S. Greenwood, 3; G. Pell, 4; G. Foster, 5; U. Holman, 6; G. Welling, 7; T. Verrall, 8. Also a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins. G. Foster, 1; H. Dudley, 2; T. Verrall, 3; G. Pell, 4; S. Greenwood, 5; G. Welling (conductor), 6; H. C. Haley, 7; U. Holman, 8.

PENZANCE (Cornwall).—On Monday, October 26th, at St. Mary's church, 1554 of Grandsire Triples, in 60 mins., being three parts from the second half of Holt's 10-part peal. M. Hicks, 1; J. Hodder, 2; J. Boase, 3; J. Hichens, 4; C. Boase, 5; J. Symons (conductor), 6; J. Richards, 7; T. Hicks, 8.

PEVENSEY (Sussex).—On Saturday, October 7th, being the wedding day of Wm. Bone, of Reigate, a band of ringers from Eastbourne proceeded to this place, and rang a merry peal at Westham church, including a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. Thos. Lewis, 1; H. Colbran, 2; S. Sinden, 3; E. Willoughby, 4; S. Deadman, 5; S. Lewis, 6. Mr. Bone has for several years past, as a visitor, taken part with the Eastbourne ringers in ringing, and the general feeling of esteem towards him is shared by all, which fact is testified by the band having comprised three members of All Saints', one of Christ Church, one of St. Mary's, and two past members of St. Mary's.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, October 24th, at St. Peter's church, for practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). G. Kirk, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; H. Stubbs, 3; J. Stubbs, 4; F. Gilbert, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Yorkshire Court Bob. A. Coles, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; W. Hall, 3; J. Stubbs, 4; F. Gilbert, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. *Handbell Ringing*.—At the house of Mr. H. Stubbs, a 336 of Bob Triples. A. Coles, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; G. Kirk, 4; W. Hall, 5; J. Willmott, 6; H. Stubbs (conductor), 7; F. Gilbert, 8. And a 476 in the same method. A. Coles, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; W. Hall, 4; H. Stubbs, 5; J. Willmott, 6; F. Gilbert (conductor), 7; G. Kirk, 8. And a plain course of Bob Major. A. Coles, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; G. Kirk, 4; W. Hall, 5; F. Gilbert, 6; J. Willmott, 7; H. Stubbs, 8. And a course of Bob Minor. W. J. Gilbert, 1-2; F. Gilbert, 3-4; H. Stubbs, 5-6. First course double-handed by W. J. and F. Gilbert. On Monday, October 26th, was rung a 720 of London Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Coles, 1; R. Pendered, 2; H. Stubbs, 3; N. Martin, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6.

RINGSTEAD (Northamptonshire).—On Tuesday, October 20th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Oxford Bob (twenty-six singles). E. Mayes, 1; G. Roberts, 2; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 3; J. Sawford, 4; J. Braybrook, 5; T. Roberts, 6. And a 360 of Yorkshire Court Bob (nine bobs). W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 1; J. Braybrook, 2; R. Shipley, 3; J. Sawford, 4; E. Mayes, 5; T. Roberts, 6.

SADDLEWORTH (Yorkshire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Tuesday, October 27th, at St. Chad's church, a 960 of Kent Treble Bob Major, as a last tribute of respect to the late Bishop of Manchester. J. J. Brierley, 1; Joseph Radcliff, 2; Edgar Buckley, 3; James Wrigley, 4; Joseph L. Buckley, 5; James Radcliff, 6; James H. Shaw, 7; Joseph Wood (conductor), 8.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Saturday evening, October 24th, a mixed company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. L. Digweed, 1; J. Broom, 2; F. Hayes (conductor), 3; G. Hayes, 4; B. Spinner, 5; G. Martin, 6. And on Sunday, October 25th, for morning service a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. A. Cornford, 1; J. Broom, 2; F. Ring, 3; G. Hayes, 4; W. Harper, 5; W. Martin (conductor), 6.

UNION TRIPLES.

In connection with this subject, the Rev C. D. P. DAVIES writes as follows:—

With reference to my communication on Union Triples, in your last issue, kindly allow me to make an observation. The printer had not sufficient room for the words "four times repeated" to be placed below the figures at the foot of the first column. These words refer to the whole, viz., from 752634 to 267345 inclusive, and not merely, as might possibly be imagined, to the portion beginning with 432765.

It will be noted that in the two five-part peals, the observation-bell is called neither before nor behind. In the second of them there is a call every time she is in the "wrong." These twelve bobs together, with three times "in and out" and three times in the "middle," make up the whole twenty-one calls. In the ten-part peal the observation bell is never called behind.

And now that I am writing, will you kindly allow me to ask a question, though on a totally different subject?

What valid reason can be given for calling the bobs in the Treble Bob method, when the treble is making her snapping-lead?

THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association will be held at Manchester Cathedral, on Saturday, November 7th, when all members are earnestly requested to attend this meeting, so that all subscriptions may be paid up, according to the notice which was given a few weeks ago. The names of those will not be entered in the next year's list who have not paid. All meetings are held at 4 o'clock. Time as to the bells being ready, and place of meeting, will be posted to the members. I earnestly beg of all the members to let this meeting be a successful one, and let the old times of this Association appear once more, in respect of attendance. I give credit for the last two meetings, but still there might be amends yet. Ringers of any other Association will be quite welcome.

J. ADSHEAD, Secretary.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, October 24th, the members of this society with their friends, mustered at the "King's Head," Enfield, to the tune of about forty persons, and considering the late period of the season, the weather being all that was required to make one disagreeable and keep others away, the movement may be considered a decided success. The chair was occupied by Mr. A. H. Gardom, Master, whose breast was adorned by the Society's grand old medal, the vice-chair being ably filled by Mr. Henry S. Thomas, Hon. Secretary of the Battersea Amateur Society. Upon removal of the cloth, the toast of the evening was ably given and well received, being responded to by Mr. John Rogers, the oldest member present on the occasion, the room resounding with the words, "Success to the Royal Cumberland Society." The toast of "The Steeplekeepers" was next given and well received, regret being felt that steeplekeeper Lovatt was unable to attend. Mr. Mansfield responded, and in conclusion gave "The Society's Officers," which was responded to by the Master, Treasurer W. Baron, and Secretary H. Dains, the latter remarking that although the society's funds were in a good condition, there was a question looming in the future, and one requiring serious consideration, as when the large batch of peals remaining to be booked up was accomplished, the book would be full. However, continued the speaker, here was a problem easily solved by gentlemen of means and benevolence, whose names by well-directed generosity would be honoured by posterity. The toast of conductors was fittingly responded to by Mr. G. Newson. The health of the vice-chairman was well received and responded to in that gentleman's usual graceful manner. A vote of thanks to the Vicars and Churchwardens for the use of the bells of both the new and old churches, which notwithstanding the inclement weather, were set a-ringing in the various usual practised methods in good style, was proposed by W. Doran and we understood that Mr. John Baalham, who appeared the picture of good health and happiness, seconded. Mr. Steeplekeeper Boswell, who dined with, and became a member of this society, received many warm thanks for his kindness, and use of the handbells, which were put into use for the first time by Messrs. Rogers, Hopkins, and Baron, W. Doran taking the place of Mr. Baron in a course of Treble Bob Major. The Master and Secretary assisted in a course of Cinques, and Mr. Davidson, a friend, was obliged with a course of Caters. Songs were rendered by Mr. W. Sally, and "The Rhine Wine" was well rendered by Mr. Durrant. Mr. George Harvey looked as well as has been the case for many a long day, as also did our great friend Barrett. Mr. Jacob, professor of Cambridge Surprise, received quite an ovation, coming in just too late for dinner, which was so well put upon the table. Mr. Nevard, of Great Bentley, with his friend Mr. Smith, was present, and rang at the old church. Thanks to the chairman and stewards concluded the proceedings, and members moved off for their respective destinations well satisfied with the treatment of mine host and hostess of the "King's Head."

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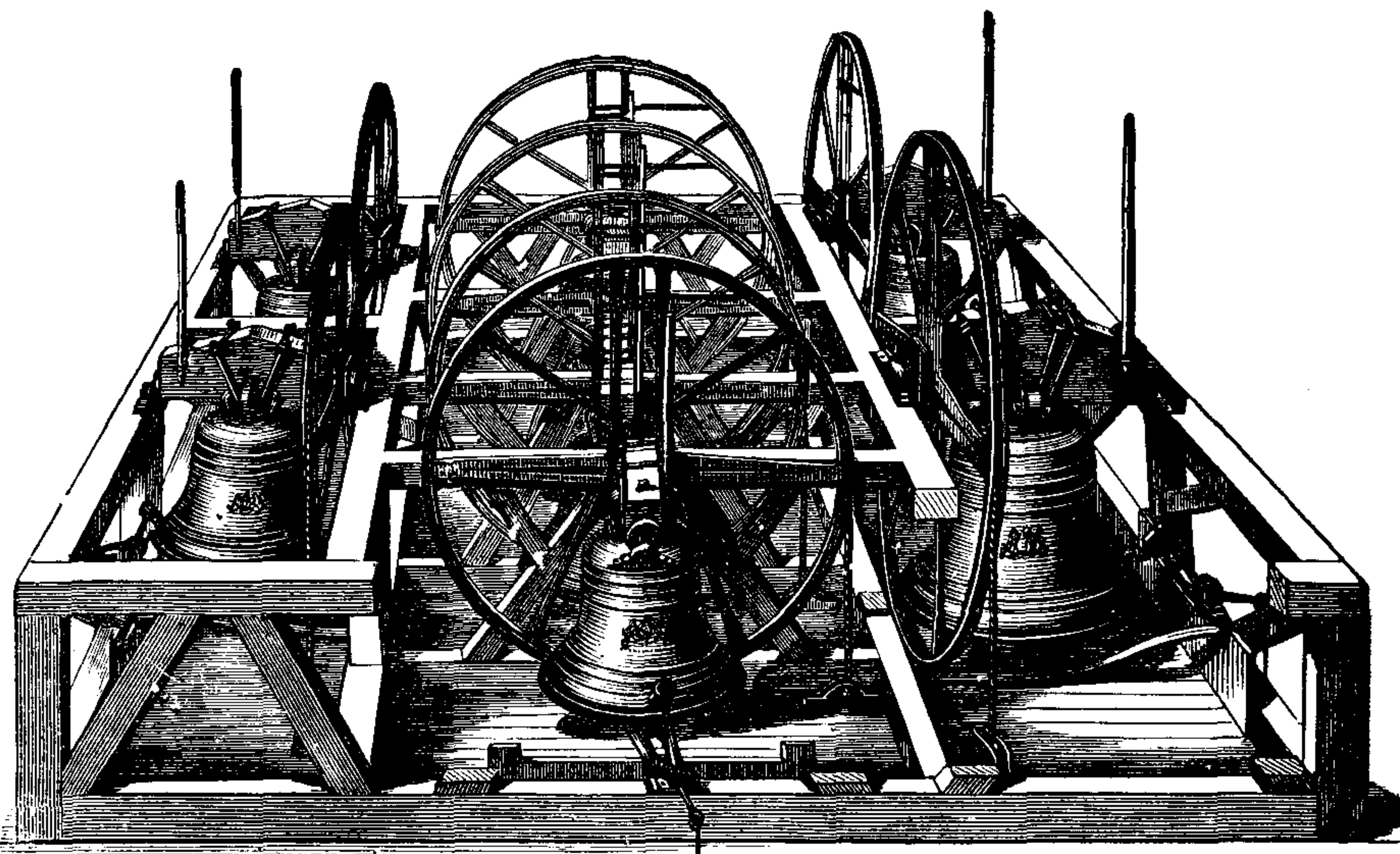
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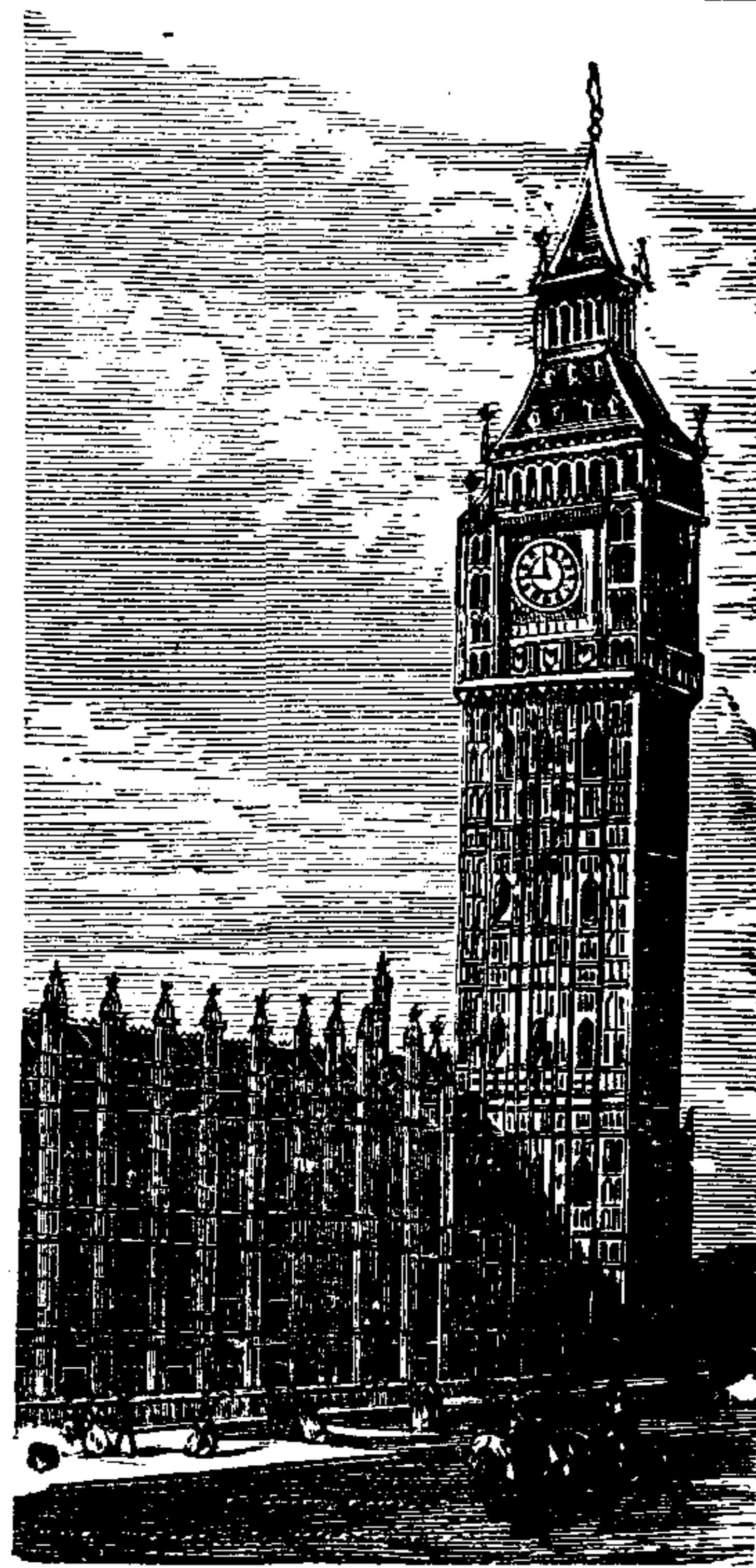
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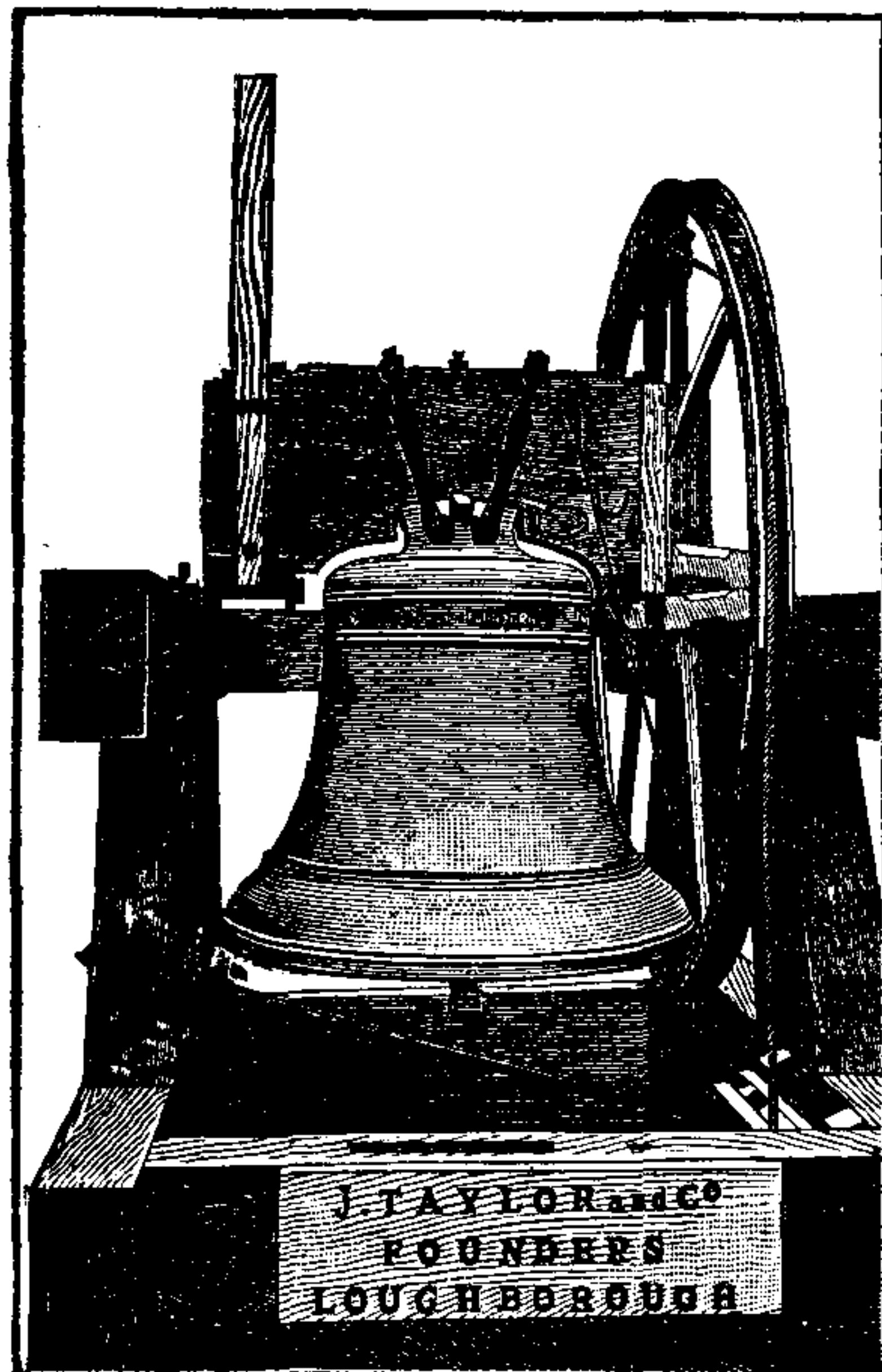


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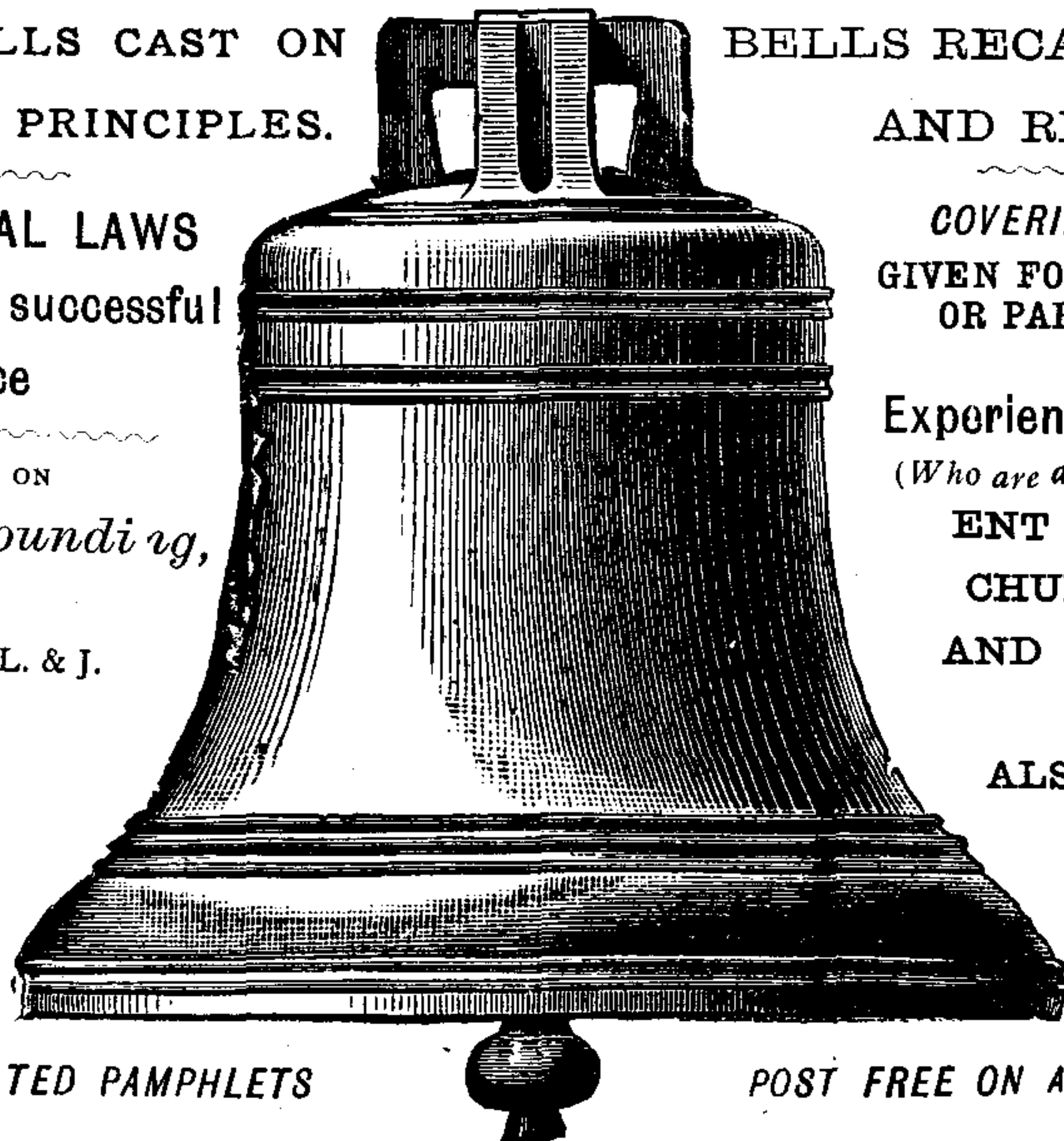
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