

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 190. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. IV. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1885.

[ONE PENNY.]

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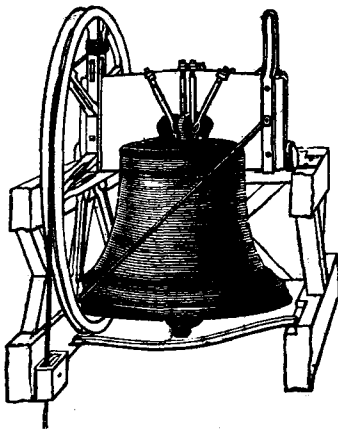
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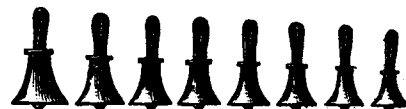
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JASPER WHITFIELD SNOWDON.

BORN 1844: DIED 1885.

THIS distinguished author of ringing literature, whose somewhat premature decease last Monday it is our melancholy duty to announce, was the second son of the Rev. JOHN SNOWDON, M.A., the late Vicar of Ilkley, near Leeds, Yorkshire. He was born at Ilkley Vicarage, on June 18th, 1844, and thus at his death was in his forty-second year.

It seems almost a superfluous work to attempt in this paper even the briefest memoir of one who was so remarkably well-known to all its readers. His pen was so constantly employed in the furtherance of the art of change-ringing, and in efforts to instruct and at the same interest his brother ringers wherever they could be found, that he had come to be looked upon as an indispensable adjunct to the Exercise. The ringing world without him would have been regarded as the play without the principal actor. Any prominent movement—any well-advised step from the old beaten track—any improvement—if it did not originate with him, required his skilful

pilotage to carry it to a successful issue. And now we have the bitterness of knowing that he has, while in the prime and vigour of manhood, been called away from us; called to his rest before the lamp of life had even begun to flicker. "His sun went down while it was yet noon."

Mr. SNOWDON turned his attention to ringing in the year 1871; and with his brother, Mr. William Snowdon, and Mr. Tuke, of Bradford, we believe, and other enthusiasts, he formed the Ilkley Society. His progress was rapid, as the course of events amply show. Not satisfied with being a silent ringer, he soon devoted his attention to the various intricacies which till his time shrouded the most interesting portions of the ringing art in mystery. His *Treatise on Treble Bob* and his *Standard Methods* are certainly the most useful text-books on ringing in existence, and all his other efforts in the same direction showed the energies of a very powerful mind. And yet amid all this, and the practice of his profession, he found time to ring upwards of one hundred

peals, most of which he conducted. These performances consisted, for the most part, of peals of Treble Bob, and he was invariably to be found at the heavy end. He took part in the longest peal of Double Norwich on record, rung at Beeston, Nottinghamshire, by the St. Paul's society, of Burton-on-Trent. His rooth peal, was, we believe, a peal of Bob Triples at his native home.

When the question of "THE BELL NEWS" came to be considered by a small body who under the circumstances of the time thought that a journal entirely devoted to the Exercise was needed, it was determined to take Mr. Snowdon's opinion upon the question, and either to carry it into effect or abandon it according to his approval or otherwise. His well-known subsequent connection with this paper renders it needless to say that he entered into the project warmly, and adhered to its fortunes till the last. Proofs of an article on "London Surprise" now in type, were forwarded to him just before his latest attack. The return of these proofs were not in accordance with his usual punctuality, to explain which he wrote on a post-card as well as he could the intelligence that he was ill in bed—but that he would return them directly he was better. This post-card was duly received, and it probably was the last thing he wrote.

Of the original founders of this paper, Mr. SNOWDON and the Editor were the only ones left. He adhered constantly to its fortunes, and spared no trouble in promoting its interests and furthering its usefulness in every possible way. In common with our readers we shall feel a terrible loss, for we conscientiously believe that of the very few among the Exercise who are able to deal trenchantly with such interesting objects as Mr. Snowdon delighted to revel in, there are none who will give them the time and attention which he devoted to them.

The subject of our memoir was a member of the principal County and Diocesan Associations and Guilds of the country. He also belonged to the Ancient Society of College Youths, and the St. James's and Waterloo Societies of London; the St. Martin's Society (Birmingham), the St. Paul's (Burton-on-Trent), and others. We shall not be far wrong in saying that the premier ringing federation of the country—the Yorksire Association—owes its existence and continued prosperity to his efforts. He was its first president, and while fulfilling this office his work is well known, not only by his ringing brethren of that county, but by all who have watched ringing proceedings week by week. It is only a short time ago that the Yorkshire Association recorded their appreciation of his sterling worth, by presenting him with a testimonial and suitable address. The members of that body will greatly feel the loss of their President, and we apprehend that it will be a matter of some difficulty to fill the vacant chair.

Mr. SNOWDON was not married. The loving kindred he has left behind, overwhelmed with grief as they are, and afflicted by the loss of a dear brother, merit our most profound and heartfelt sympathy. The consolations which the Christian religion gives to those afflicted or distressed in mind, body, or estate, will, we doubt not, be given to them in abundance, so that they will be enabled with meek resignation to submit to the Divine will. Their loss is our departed brother's gain. Their bereavement is of the LORD, and lo! "HE doeth all things well."

REOPENING OF THE BELLS OF THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, CUMNOR, BERKS.

These bells had been silent for some years. They had become dangerous, and have all had to be rehung, and the frame has had to be substantially repaired. The work has been satisfactorily done by Mr. F. White of Appleton, Berks. The tower was also found to be slightly cracked, and a heavy iron bar has been put in to effectually strengthen it. The tower arch has been thrown open, which was formerly filled in with brickwork, and the interior of the tower pointed, and the stonework repaired. A new west door of old oak, worked up out of the odd pieces taken out of the tower, has been erected, and a portion of the church has been re-seated. Some beautifully-carved old black oak stall ends, which were out of sight in one of the side chapels, have been utilized for making up the requisite stalls in the chancel. These are the chief items of a work which has restored the grand old church to somewhat of its ancient appearance. On Sunday last, November 15th, evening service was begun at 6.30 p.m., at which there was a crowded congregation. The Rev. F. E. Robinson, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, was the special preacher. He selected as his text, 2 Chronicles, xxiv., verse 13; "So the workmen wrought, and

the house was perfected by them, and they set the house of God in his state and strengthened it." In the course of a very eloquent sermon, he pointed out how thankful we should be for all the temples of God which we have inherited from our fathers, on which they had spared no cost, but had rather built them much larger and more beautiful than they in their turn could ever have required; and thus our only privilege was to keep them in repair. For the law of decay applied to God's temple as well as to all nature, and thus our privilege becomes, like all privileges, a responsibility. We should then give our utmost, not grudgingly, but gladly, to set the house of God and its instruments of worship in their "state." But there were other temples of God which we must do our utmost to repair and perfect, which were even more important, and they are our own individual selves. The means are open to all in the Sacrament ordained by the Church, but they were too often neglected. Afterwards a special offertory prayer was said by the Vicar, the Rev. S. Y. N. Griffith, and the benediction was given. Then the six bells were raised, and most of the congregation remaining within the church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung by the following members of the Guild. F. White, 1; C. W. H. Griffith, C.C.C., 2; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 3; G. Holfield, 4; A. F. M. Custance, B.N.C., 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in F. Afterwards a 720 of Grandsire Minor. Job Howse, 1; W. C. Baston, 2; W. Bennett, 3; J. Avery, 4; C. Hounslow (conductor), 5; C. W. H. Griffith, C.C.C., 6. The ropes all being new, made the pull more difficult than it would have been, but also considering the very long draught, the bells went fairly well.

REOPENING OF THE BELLS AT CHRISTCHURCH, HANTS.

This fine ring of eight bells has been recently rehung by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, the third bell being recast. On Thursday last, November 12th, a select party of ringers made their way to Christchurch to take part in the ceremony of opening these splendid bells. They arrived early, and were met at the station by some of the local band, and went at once to the tower and inspected the bells and frame, which is very substantial, and finished in good style. The bells were raised, and a few touches struck, and the go of the bells was pronounced to be highly satisfactory, but the ringing-chamber is very noisy, though there is a second floor under the bells, a defect which a good layer of sawdust would soon remedy. The ringers adjourned to the coffee tavern for dinner, and having been joined by their brother-strings from Bournemouth, the belfry was again visited and a few rounds were rung before the dedication service, which took place at 3.15. This service was very fully attended by numbers of people from the neighbourhood, and from Bournemouth. The hymn commencing with "Now again our bells are raised," was sung, and at the conclusion of the service the Countess of Malmesbury formally opened the bells by striking a few blows by means of a string attached to one of the chiming hammers, and reaching to the floor of the church. At 4 o'clock, the band started to ring a bob-and-single peal, but after ringing in good style for twenty minutes, a mischievous boy got meddling with the string mentioned above, and brought the chiming hammer into collision with the tenor bell, causing it to drop, and the conductor was obliged to call stand. After ten minutes delay, the men started again for half a peal, but after ringing 1 hr. 15 mins., the 5th was found to have shifted course, and so the attempt had to be abandoned. However the striking up to this point was very good, and everyone seemed delighted with the working and the musical tone of the bells. It is intended some day to increase the ring to ten, and when this is done, the Christchurch bells will be one of the finest rings in the south of England. G. H. Barnett, 1; C. Privett, 2; J. Hewett, 3; J. Staples, 4; G. Grafham, 5; F. Hill (conductor), 6; J. Whiting, 7; J. Weaver, 8. Tenor 32 cwt.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The District Meeting to be held at Cardington, near Bedford, will commence at 3 p.m. this day (Saturday). There is a fine ring of eight bells, tenor about a ton, the use of which has been very kindly placed at the services of the ringers by the Vicar, the Rev. E. J. Hillier.
CHAS. HERBERT, *Hon. Sec.*

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A District Meeting of this Guild will be held at Dorking on Monday, December 7th. Tea and business meeting at 5 o'clock; ringing from 6 to 9 o'clock. Members intending to be present should communicate with the secretary through the representatives of bands before Tuesday, December 1st.
H. A. SPYERS,
Weybridge, Surrey.

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,—Little did I think when I sent my last letter for publication, that it would create such a violent storm of indignation. Had I and "Little Jim" lived in the reign of Henry VIII., there's no doubt he would have had me hung, drawn, and quartered, for assuming so much. To read "Little Jim" and Mr. Strange's letters, every one would realize the fact, that the society of College Youths, of which they are members, was going to the dogs and in a perfectly rotten state, no money in its exchequer, no practice-nights, and when we do meet we only talk about what we have done. I am rather pleased with "Little Jim" and Mr. Strange's last letters, it will show the ringing public their vindictive and spiteful feeling towards their society. I can say, without the slightest hesitation and without going into details, that their statements are nothing more than a voluminous combination of thumping lies, and they try to rub them in. I think when people systematically make false statements, which is likely to injure the reputation of a society, it is time to cease correspondence on the subject, and allow those gentlemen to have everything their own way, it matters little what I say, I am sure to be contradicted. You generally find those pragmatists people who agitate and advocate such sweeping reforms, are always in hot water with some one, they upset peaceable members of society, they want to alter this and that, they get everything into confusion and disorder, and after they find they cannot have everything their own way, you lose them, and perhaps after a twelvemonth's time, you hear of them in South Africa playing at hop-scotch with the Hottentots. Why dont those gentlemen who have such extraordinary names attached to their letters, sign their proper names, so that we may know who they are. I really don't who I am answering, it might be a night policeman, or the proprietor of a baked-potato can. There is one remark I made in my last letter, to which "Little Jim" seems to object, *i.e.*, about obliging a country friend; he says that entirely depends upon what position that country friend holds, to a certain extent he is right. Some people ring in love, we don't: some people ring in lumps, we don't; some people cannot strike well because they have too much wax in one ear and not enough in the other, that is not the fault of the College Youths; we are not answerable for people's defective organisation. Now, Sir, with your permission, I will tell you how it is that we sometimes have such tame meetings. Some of our old and respected members are short of breath, others have tender feet, and when those with tender feet put in an appearance, those who are short of breath fail or *vice versa*. However allowing for these anomalies we should have a good company for Stedman Cinques or Treble Twelve, providing the young ones mustered in anything like force, but what is the consequence, two or three cannot come one practice night because they have an engagement at the theatre. Two more come once or twice a year, and the rest part of the year they stop away to look after the loaves and fishes, and lastly three or four won't come because they don't like three or four that do come, so pray, Mr. Editor, what are we to buy for these particular choice people? I will tell you Sir, I do not possess an abundance of brains, therefore it is highly improbable, and I may say impossible for me to enter the field and measure swords with many of those gentlemen who contribute so largely to your excellent-paper, but this I will tell them that if they interfere with my brother ringers' rights and privileges, or try to upset our equilibrium, we shall use the same unfair means that they have adopted.

G. MUSKETT.

SIR,—I must ask your readers to permit me to defer the continuation of my remarks on this subject for a short time, as a resolution 'under the tenth rule' will be brought before the College Youths on the 27th inst., and until that is disposed of, I am of course unable to continue any discussion in your columns. At the same time I wish it to be clearly understood that I have absolutely nothing to withdraw from what I have said.

EDWARD F. STRANGE.

A HOPE DISAPPOINTED.

SIR,—In looking over Saturday's issue, I was extremely sorry to read of the serious illness of Mr. Snowdon. I have not the pleasure of knowing that gentleman personally, but have on several occasions had some correspondence with him on ringing matters, and can say that he was always most ready and willing to give any information he possibly could on the subject of bells and bellringing; and I sincerely hope that he may by the help of God, have strength to get over the worst, and soon again be restored to his usual health. I shall be very anxious to receive next Saturday's issue, and hope to read that he has had a change for the better.

P. HAMBLETT.

"RINGING SOCIETIES."

SIR,—As a deep thinker, one who tries to note cause and effect, I have often thought and many times remarked upon the preservation of bell ringing records. All circumstances considered, such as ebb and flow in number of members, the very slender means of support, the self-denial and even sacrifice of time necessary to persons ringing successfully, that the preservation of records seem miraculous. It is well known and now placed beyond doubt, that several very respectable societies have flourished, and become extinct, some whose documents remain, while others become, as it were, lost. And such records as remain are invaluable and of great interest to those who ponder over the doings of men departed hence, whose delight it was once to pose in this fascinating exercise. But Sir, there are supposed to be two very old societies, possessing some very highly documents and records, dating back for some generations, and it may be added very many of these achievements are not to be placed second to the best of modern performances. Yes Sir, and this, I believe, a matter of pride and satisfaction to many members. These societies' members are said to be friendly rivals, but if one may venture an opinion, it would seem by ancient rules and regulations, there existed a deal of the latter if not of the former. But things and circumstances are altered; a man may go and ring with the rival men during the practice of his own society, and without the infliction of a fine, so much for the improvement of society; yes, and we can now go further, we can actually ring peals together, another society having been formed to meet the requirements of those circumstances. Each of the above societies has, as is well known, rang peals from a date very early in the eighteenth century, and which have a pedigree that would well repay one looking into by all its members. I have given the above sketch with a view to show that these societies are too old and interesting to be amalgamated into one united body, as proposed by your correspondent, Mr. E. F. Strange, in your issue of the 31st ult., which I understand to mean amalgamated and united out of existence, or into a grand National Association, so that some of the originators may figure in peal No I., which means the same thing. I am well aware, I think, of the great ringing revival that has taken place all over the country, and the formation of the several influential Associations, and am pleased to see the art become so fashionable. But Sir, I cannot even venture a speculation as to which will be the largest and most influential in 150 years' time. I may just note one fact, however, as an illustration. The Norwich Association even now staggers at the loss of its late lamented leader, and suggest what may be anticipated, when similar circumstances arise with others. On the contrary, the old societies mentioned survives the loss of many great and heroic leaders, and are of so much value that their extinction must be very gravely considered.

H. DAINS.

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C. H. Hattersley, Sheffield	5 0	Alfred York, Bristol	5 0
Albert H. Wreaks, Manchester	3 0	A. Percival Heywood, Esq., D'fid	10 0
J. Lawton, Tipton	2 6	Cheltenham ringers, per J. Belcher	10 0
Josh Johnson, Birmingham	2 6	H. Porch, St. James's, Bristol	2 6
M. A. Wood, Bethnal Green, London	2 6	C. F. Winny, Chelsea	5 0
W. W. Gifford, Salisbury	3 0	John Baxter, Leamington	2 6
J. Barwell, Birmingham	5 0	J. Field, Oxford	2 6
F. H. James, St. John's, Deritend, Birmingham	2 6	C. Hounslow, Oxford	2 6

We, the Committee, feel that there are still many companies and individuals who wish to become subscribers to this "National Testimonial," and we would earnestly remind all such that it will be necessary soon to close the list. We therefore respectfully ask them to communicate at as early a date as convenient with A. Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 83, Wheeley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham; or to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. S. Reeves, 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.

Rev. W. Pearson, of Syston, Leicestershire, would like to know the address of Mr. Wingfield Meadows.
 W. JOHNSON.—G. Brotherhood has a reply to your letter.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1885.

THE hand of death has this week appeared and dealt a blow, the effect of which will be sorrowfully regretted, not only in our ringing isle, but in many parts of both hemispheres. Our readers at home on hearing of the sad intelligence it is our melancholy task to record, will at the first be indisposed to credit its correctness. Our brethren in India, Australia, New Zealand, the United States, South America, and other parts of the earth, will no doubt be transfixed by the news. JASPER SNOWDON is dead! The suddenness of the blow eclipses for the moment its severity. He who so often and so recently interested us by his well-written articles on various topics, is laid low—his voice is hushed—and sharp and poignant though the reflection is, we shall neither see his face or hear him speak any more. Taken from among us so suddenly while in the full bloom of manhood, the loss seems very heavy to bear. Our ringing brethren of Yorkshire will mourn for their beloved JASPER—as they were wont to speak of him—with a very great mourning.

Without the least exaggeration, it may be said that the Exercise have met with their greatest bereavement. We can hardly venture to dissect our own feelings at his loss. He had become so woven in with our concerns, that the present effect of his decease defies description. The meanest employé in our own office regarded him as one entitled to the greatest reverence from them. Nor is his loss felt by us only in the way our readers will feel it. We shall miss him as a faithful counsellor and guide. Our pleasant relationship, severed by the king of terrors, was no ordinary one. Refraining always from assuming the leading position on this paper, which he was so fully able to do—he yet was glad and willing to help in what he was pleased to call "a secondary capacity." A lesson, by the way, to many of our brother-ringers.

But the task we have set ourselves in this column is too much for us. We are overcome while endeavouring to

fix our thoughts for the purpose of giving expression to them. The idea of never again receiving his manuscript, because the hand that wrote it is lifeless, is certainly one likely to affect the most stern-hearted. And how can we gauge the depth of the affliction of his bereaved relatives? Overwhelmed with bitter sorrow at their loss, what consolation can be found for them? One is "the sure and certain hope of his joyful resurrection unto eternal life."

The Metropolis.

ROTHERHITHE, SURREY.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Thursday, November 12, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,
 AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' 5-PART.

HARRY W. GROUT Treble.	FREDERICK W. THORNTON .. 5.
WILLIAM PEAD 2.	THOMAS TAYLOR 6.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE .. 3.	WILLIAM H. FREEMAN .. 7.
ABRAHAM G. FREEMAN .. 4.	WILLIAM FOREMAN Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK W. THORNTON.

This is the first peal the conductor has called. It was originally intended to attempt this peal on the following day, that being the conductor's 22nd birthday but in consequence of Divine Service the idea was abandoned. Messrs. Thornton, Grout, and Foreman belong to St. Alphege, Greenwich; the Brothers Freeman to St. Mary's, Lewisham; the rest to Rotherhithe.

The Provinces.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.

On Monday, November 9, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,
 AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
 IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 1½ cwt.

JAMES SHAW Treble.	A. EDWARD WREAKS 5.
ROBERT WOOLLEY 2.	SAMUEL BRADLEY 6.
THOMAS BRADLEY 3.	JOHN EACHUS 7.
WALTER SLATER 4.	JAMES S. WILDE Tenor.

Composed by the late OBADIAH LANG, and Conducted by JAMES S. WILDE.

This peal will be found in Snowdon's *Treatise*, Part 2, Page 18. Messrs. Wreaks and Eachus hail from Manchester; the rest belong to Hyde.

ECCLES.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Thursday, November 12, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,
 AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

CHARLES CASH Treble.	JAMES BARRATT 5.
EDWARD CASH 2.	RICHARD ASHCROFT 6.
THOMAS YATES 3.	GEORGE H. JOHNSON .. 7.
SAMUEL WOOD 4.	WILLIAM ASHCROFT Tenor.

(No conductor mentioned).

The above was rung on James Barrett's 30th birthday, he having rung his 30th peal of 5000 and upwards on the above date, his brother ringers wish him many happy returns. S. Wood hails from Ashton, the rest are of the Eccles company.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 14, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,
 AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 Tenor 9½ cwt.

FREDERICK A. CASTLE .. Treble.	† HARRY SHEARD 5.
THOMAS SHORT 2.	* WILLIAM NAPPER 6.
WILLIAM SANDELL* 3.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 7.
HARRY HOLIFIELD 4.	DENNIS NAPPER Tenor.

Composed and conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

* First peal. † First peal with a bob bell. This is a 5-part composition, and has not been previously rung.

ROTHWELL.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Friday, November 13, 1885, in Three Hours,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following:

COLLEGE PLEASURE; ARNOLD'S VICTORY; LONDON SCHOLARS' PLEASURE; DUKE OF YORK; NEW LONDON PLEASURE; VIOLET; AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB.

Tenor 13 cwt.

J. HAIGH, SEN.,	Treble.	*WILLIAM ABBISHAW.. .. .	4.
A. CHAPMAN*	2.	J. CHAPMAN	5.
J. HAIGH, JUN.	3.	*J. M. CHADWICK	Tenor.

Conducted by J. M. CHADWICK.

* First peal. The above was rung in honor of the birthday of W. Abbishaw, he having attained his 38th year on the above date; his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 14, 1885, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT ST. HILDA'S CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS, UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following:

Oxford Treble Bob; Double Court; Kent Treble Bob; College Single; Plain Bob; Oxford Bob; and Canterbury Pleasure.

Tenor 10 cwt.

R. HOPPER	Treble.	COLLIN WAWN	4.
J. R. WHELDON	2.	J. HOPPER	5.
A. SCRAFTON	3.	JOHN MOFFITT	Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN MOFFITT.

This is the first 5040 rung at South Shields, and it is believed the second upon six bells within the district of the Association since its formation. The first was rung at Stockton-on-Tees, by the local band, on September 15th, 1883.

TENTERDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, November 14, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,

AT ST. MILDRED'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 31 cwt. in C#.

REUBEN SIMMONDS	Treble.	SAMUEL SNELLING	5.
GEORGE PAWLEY	2.	HARRY PEARCE	6.
ALCHIN MOORCRAFT	3.	WILLIAM JUDD	7.
ALFRED H. WOOLLEY	4.	GEORGE J. MOORCRAFT	Tenor.

Conducted by HARRY PEARCE.

This is the first peal on the bells since they have been rehung and four of them recast by Messrs. Warner and Sons. The three heavy bells are hung on Goslin's Patent, and gives great satisfaction.

The above peal was rung to commemorate the 23rd birthday of the conductor. His brother ringers wish him many happy returns of the day.

The company wish to tender their sincere thanks to the vicar and churchwardens for kindly allowing them the use of the bells.

CAVERSHAM, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD AND THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, CAVERSHAM.

On Saturday, November 14, 1885, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following:

Grandsire; Double Oxford; Double Court; Yorkshire Court; College Single; Oxford Bob; and Plain Bob.

Tenor 17 cwt.

J. HANDS	Treble.	T. NEWMAN	4.
E. MENDAY	2.	E. POTTINGER	5.
G. ESSEX	3.	REV. G. F. COLERIDGE	Tenor.

Conducted by REV. G. F. COLERIDGE.

This is the first peal of the kind by the above Guild, by any of the above, and believed to be the first in the county.

DERBY.—THE ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.

On Saturday, November 14, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SNOWDON'S VARIATION OF HOLLIS'S 5-PART. Tenor 20½ cwt. in Eb.

W. SHARDLOW*	Treble.	*W. H. FOUND	5.
J. W. THOMPSON†	2.	*G. MOTTASHAW.. .. .	6.
C. HART*	3.	A. E. THOMPSON	7.
W. MIDGLEY*	4.	*T. ALTON	Tenor.

Conducted by A. E. THOMPSON.

* First peal. † First peal with a bob bell. This peal begins with two singles and ends with four parts called alike, see vol. 3 of "THE BELL NEWS," page 15, and this is the first time of its performance in Derby, and is believed the second time on record.

BEDDINGTON.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 14, 1885, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 20½ cwt. in Eb.

HENRY C. HALEY	Treble.	JAMES TRAPPITT	6.
WILLIAM BURKIN*	2.	JOHN PLOWMAN.. .. .	7.
CHARLES E. MALIM	3.	ALFRED BRUCE	8.
GEORGE RUSSELL	4.	†THOMAS VERRALL	9.
ARTHUR B. CARPENTER	5.	*URBAN HOLMAN.. .. .	Tenor.

Composed and conducted by H. C. HALEY.

* First peal of Caters. † First peal of Caters with a bob bell.

BASINGSTOKE, HANTS.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, November 14, 1885, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 16 cwt.

T. W. UDELL*	Treble.	WILLIAM WILDER	5.
A. C. FUSSELL	2.	W. H. FUSSELL	6.
E. F. COLE, ESQ.	3.	GEORGE NEWSON	7.
A. ANDREWS.. .. .	4.	JAMES PERRYMAN	Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

* First peal. This is the first peal on the bells, and the first time Holt's Original has been rung in the county. G. Newson and E. F. Cole, Esq. hail from London; the rest from Slough.

OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, November 14, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH, MOORSIDE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 18½ cwt.

ADAM BUTTERWORTH*	Treble.	JOHN HARRISON	5.
SAMUEL STOTT	2.	†WILLIAM SUTCLIFFE	6.
WILLIAM R. BARRETT	3.	*THOMAS BARRETT	7.
JOSEPH STREET	4.	*LUKE HAMPSON.. .. .	Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL STOTT.

* First peal. † First peal with a bob bell. Messrs. Harrison and W. R. Barrett hail from Heywood; and S. Stott is from Godwick; the rest are of the local company.

DRIFHLINGTON.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BRADFORD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY BRANCH) AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, November 14, 1885, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

A. MOULSON.. .. .	Treble.	JNO. FISHER	5.
HY. RAISTRICK	2.	TOM POLLITT	6.
ROBERT TUKE	3.	J. B. JENNINGS.. .. .	7.
JOS. BROADLEY	4.	J. H. HARDCASTLE	Tenor.

Composed by the late WM. HARRISON, and Conducted by J. H. HARDCASTLE.

SUTTON COLDFIELD, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON, AND THE ST. MARTIN'S
SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, November 14, 1885, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AL HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt. in Eb.

THOMAS REYNOLDS Treble.	WILLIAM KENT.. .. 5.
ARTHUR J. JONES 2.	JOHN SANDERS.. .. 6.
BERNARD WITCHELL.. .. 3.	HENRY JOHNSON, JUN. .. 7.
HENRY BASTABLE 4.	JOHN BUFFERY Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY BASTABLE.

This is the first peal of Stedman on the bells. A great improvement might be made here by the addition of a deadening floor to moderate the sound of the bells, it being much too noisy for change-ringing.

WALTHAM ABBEY, ESSEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND
THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 16, 1885, in Three Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6016 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 19 cwt.

WILLIAM A. ALPS Treble.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 5.
REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. 2.	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES .. 6.
FREDK. SWORDER 3.	HERBERT BAKER 7.
WILLIAM A. TYLER 4.	HENRY J. TUCKER Tenor.

Composed by THOMAS DAY, and Conducted by
HENRY JAMES TUCKER.

This is the first peal in the method by this Association and the longest peal on the bells.

ROTHERHAM.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 16, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT ST. ANN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5069 CHANGES.

Tenor 32 cwt.

GEO. BRIGGS Treble.	C. BOWER 6.
C. H. HATTERSLEY 2.	† J. HALE 7.
F. COATES 3.	W. COATES 8.
J. ATHEY 4.	A. ROGERS 9.
T. WHITWORTH† 5.	* W. HURST Tenor.

Composed and conducted* by FRED COATES.

The figures of this peal will be found in "THE BELL NEWS" for Saturday, September 2nd, 1882. * First peal. † First peal in the method. C. H. Hattersley and C. Bower hail from Sheffield.

HERTFORD.—THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE
YOUTHS, THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND
THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 17, 1885, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

HENRY J. TUCKER Treble.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 5.
HERBERT BAKER.. .. 2.	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES .. 6.
REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. 3.	WILLIAM A. ALPS 7.
REV. WOOLMORE WIGRAM 4.	FREDERICK GEORGE Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM A. ALPS.

This is the first peal in the method by members of the Hertfordshire Association.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD AND
THE DRAYTON SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, November 17, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 19½ cwt.

F. W. WARRICK Treble.	THOMAS FULKER 5.
GEORGE JONES 2.	H. D. BETTERIDGE, ESQ. 6.
FREDERICK FIELD 3.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 7.
CHARLES TRINDER 4.	FREDERICK CLINCH Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

BENINGTON.—THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, November 18, 1885, in Three Hours,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,

5040 CHANGES. Tenor 14 cwt. in F♯.

REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. Treble.	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES .. 5.
HERBERT BAKER 2.	SAMUEL PAGE 6.
HENRY J. TUCKER 3.	CHARLES SHAMROOK .. 7.
LEONARD CHAPMAN 4.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. Tenor.

Composed by the late H. HUBBARD, and Conducted by the REV. F. E. ROBINSON, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

The above is the first peal in the method by this Association, and first peal in the method by any of the band excepting Rev. F. E. Robinson and H. J. Tucker.

Date Touches.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—On Monday evening, November 9th, at St. Paul's Church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1885 changes), in 1 hr. 10 mins. J. Ashmole, 1; *Samuel Grettton, 2; *Frank Dimpleby, 3; *John Austin, 4; G. Robinson, 5; H. Wakley, 6; John Jagger (conductor), 7; William Orme, 8. This touch was composed by Miss E. C. Sharland, and was rung to commemorate the 30th birthday of Mr. George Robinson. *Longest length in the method.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

STANSTEAD (Suffolk)—On Sunday, November 15th, a date touch, (1885 changes), in 1 hr. 5 mins., in the following methods: 720 Kent Treble Bob, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 445 Bob Minor. Samuel Slater, 1; F. Wells, 2; Oliver Garwood, 3; G. Hammond, 4; James Bird, 5; Percy C. S. Scott (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

WALWORTH (Surrey).—On Saturday, November 7th, at St. Peter's church, eight members of the above Society attempted Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, but it came to grief after ringing 2 hrs. 2 mins. F. G. Newman (conductor), 1; H. J. Davies, 2; A. E. Church, 3; H. Langdon, 4; W. W. Thorne, 5; T. Taylor, 6; W. H. George, 7; T. Coxhead, 8.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Sunday, October 25th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). S. J. Cullip, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; T. Foote, 3; M. Warwick, 4; J. Frossell, 5; I. Hills, 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). M. Warwick, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; T. Foote, 3; I. Hills, 4; J. Frossell, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Also on Friday, October 30th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). F. Keech, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; J. Frossell, 3; W. Hall, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; *M. Warwick (conductor), 6. The above was rung with the bells deeply muffled as a mark of respect to the Bishop of Ely, he being patron of the above Association. And on Monday, November 9th, on the election of the Mayor, Edwin Ranson, Esq., he being one of the committee of the Bedfordshire Association, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles). F. Keech, 1; J. Frossell, 2; T. Foote, 3; W. Hall, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; C. W. Clarke (150th 720; conductor), 6. Also at St. Paul's church, a 503 of Grandsire Triples. F. Keech, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; W. Hall, 3; T. Foote, 4; J. Frossell, 5; I. Hills, 6; C. W. Clarke (composer and conductor), 7; J. Spencer, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. *First 720 in the method as conductor.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DARLINGTON.—On Tuesday evening, November 10th, for practice at St. John's church, 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs, six singles) in 27 mins. W. Lister (first 720), 1; J. Bolton, 2; R. Moncaster, 3; W. Patton, 3; J. H. Whitfield, 5; G. Overton (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WALTHAM ABBEY.—On Tuesday, November 3rd, eight members of this Association attempted a peal of Stedman Triples, but it came to grief after ringing eleven courses. A quarter-peal and four courses in the same method was afterwards rung, making in all 2520 changes. G. Thurgood, 1; W. A. Alps, 2; A. Pye, 3; Rev. Woolmore Wigram, 4; D. Tarling, 5; A. Porter, 6; H. Baker (conductor), 7; Thomas Colverd, 8.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 16th, eight members of the St. Albans branch of the above Association, attempted Holt's ten-part peal at St. Alban's Cathedral, but after ringing about 4600 changes in 2 hrs. 50 mins., the peal came to grief. W. H. L. Buckingham, 1; A. Godman

(jun.), 2; E. P. Debenham, 3; H. Lewis, 4; G. W. Cartmel, 5; A. Godman (sen.), 6; N. N. Hills (conductor), 7; W. Battle, 8. Tenor 30 cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ALDINGTON (Kent).—On Monday, November 2nd, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs). Frank Wanstall, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; W. Post, jun., 3; F. Wanstall, 4; P. Hodgkin (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. And another 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen singles and nine bobs). C. Slingsby, 1; Thomas Hodgkin, 2; Fred Wanstall, 3; Edward Hyder, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; P. Hodgkin, 6. And on Thursday, November 5th, a 720 of Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles). C. Slingsby, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; W. Post, jun., 3; F. Wanstall, 4; P. Hodgkin (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. And on Thursday, November 12th, another 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-two singles). C. Slingsby, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; W. Post, jun., 3; E. Hyder, 4; P. Hodgkin (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

ASHFORD (Kent).—On Monday, November 2nd, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-two singles and eight bobs), on the back six. W. Post, jun., 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; F. Wanstall, 3; P. Hodgkin, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. Tenor 24½ cwt. in Eb.

CHARING (Kent).—On Monday, November 2nd, the Aldington branch of this Association visited this place and rang at SS. Peter and Paul's church by kind permission of the vicar, the Rev. Augustine Starey, a 720 of Bob Minor (fifteen bobs and six singles), in 28½ mins. Frank Wanstall, 1; David Hodgkin, 2; Fred Wanstall, 3; Edward Hyder, 4; William Hyder (conductor), 5; William Post, sen., 6. And another 720 of Bob Minor, in 27½ mins. (eight bobs and ten singles). Charles Slingsby, 1; Thomas Hodgkin, 2; William Post, jun., 3; Thomas Hooker, 4; William Hyder (conductor), 5; Philip Hodgkin, 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 27½ mins. C. Slingsby, 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; F. Wanstall, 3; P. Hodgkin, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; W. Post, sen., 6. Tenor 13 cwt. in G. This is the first 720 of Treble Bob ever rung on the bells.

FAVERSHAM.—On Monday, November 9th, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, (2520 changes), in 1 hr. 35 mins. A. Biggs, 1; J. G. Elliott, 2; G. Barnard, 3; C. Couchman, 4; J. Bottle, 5; W. Wood (conductor), 6; S. Snelling, 7; H. Sutton, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

WYE (Kent).—On Monday, November 2nd, at SS. Gregory and Martin's church, by the Aldington band, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. Charles Slingsby, 1; David Hodgkin, 2; Thomas Post, 3; Thomas Hooker, 4; William Hyder (conductor), 5; Philip Hodgkin, 6. Tenor 24 cwt. in Eb.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WICKHAM MARKET (Suffolk).—On Tuesday evening, November 10th, for practice, six members of the above Association. rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, with nine bobs, in 27 mins. *J. Reeve, 1; E. Todd, 2; *F. Reeve, 3; *G. Reeve, 4; *W. Reeve, 5; J. Howard (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt. in G. *First 720 in the method; E. Todd and J. Howard hail from Pettistree, the rest are of the local company.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

EAST HAGBOURNE (Berks).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Sunday, November 8th, the following rang on handbells, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 40 mins. F. Napper, 1; E. Napper, 2; F. Castle, 3; D. Napper, 4; J. Napper, 5; W. Napper, 6; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 7-8. Messrs. Washbrook and Castle hail from Oxford, the rest are local men. And on Tuesday, November 10th, on handbells, a 216 of Grandsire Minor. J. Pether, 1; C. Allen, 2; J. Napper, 3; D. Napper, 4; E. Napper, 5; W. Napper (conductor), 6.

READING (Berks).—On Sunday evening, November 15th, at St. Mary's church, a 784 Bob Major, in 33 mins. T. Hibbert, 1; A. Fussell, 2; T. Newman, 3; G. Gibbard, 4; E. Willshire, 5; W. H. Fussell, 6; H. Egby, 7; George Newson (conductor), 8. Also 504 of Grandsire Triples. G. Newson, 1; A. Fussell, 2; R. Swain, 3; H. Egby, 4; J. Potter, 5; W. Fussell, 6; W. Newell, 7; T. Newman, 8.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Sunday, November 1st, eight members of the above Society attempted a peal of Bob Major, but came to grief after ringing 1 hr. 20 mins. S. Slater, 1; P. C. S. Scott, 2; J. Bird, 3; F. Wells, 4; A. Pye, 5; A. Porter, 6; G. Hammond (conductor), 7; O. Garwood, 8. On Saturday evening, November 14th, the following members of the above society attempted a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, but after ringing 1568 changes in one hour, it came to grief. John Slater, 1; Samuel Slater, 2; Fred. Wells, 3; Zachariah Slater, 4; G. Hammond, 5; Percy C. S. Scott, 6; Oliver Garwood, 7; Fredk. Paul Adams (conductor), 8. This is the longest length and first attempt at a peal in the method by all the above.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

BRIERLEY HILL (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday, November 3rd, 720 of Bob Minor in 27½ mins. And on Sunday evening, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor in 25 mins. W. Beddall, 1; J. Guest, (conductor), 2; J. Garbett, 3; R. Perkins, 4; T. Alden, 5; A. Whatmore, 6. Also on Wednesday, November 11th, a 720 of Bob Minor in 27 mins. H. Lloyd, 1; A. Beddall, 2; D. Garbett, 3; R. Perkins, 4; T. Alden, 5; A. Whatmore (conductor), 6. The above was taken from Snowdon's *Rope Sight*, and contains eighteen bobs and two singles.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Tuesday, November 3rd, the Capel Society rang 720 of Oxford Treble Bob in 24½ mins. R. Jordan, 1; A. Tidy, 2; T. Stedman, 3; E. Jordan, 4; D. Jordan, 5; A. Mills (conductor), 6. Also on Friday, November 6th, 720 of Stedman's Slow Course. T. Stedman, 1; A. Tidy, 2; R. Jordan, 3; E. Jordan, 4; A. Mills, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, November 10th, 720 College Pleasure. T. Stedman, 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. Mills, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also on Friday, November 13th, 720 of Superlative Surprise. *M. Jenkins, 1; R. Jordan, 2; *A. Mills, 3; *G. Williams, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method.

BROMSGROVE (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, November 10th, the senior and junior companies of St. John the Baptist church, met for practice, and rang the following touches: 420 of Grandsire Triples; *William Broomfield, 1; Joseph Crawford, 2; *Elijah Crump, 3; *G. Bourne, 4; *G. Hayward, 5; *O. James, 6; *R. Broomfield, 7; *James Parry, 8. And 392 of Grandsire Triples. Robert Bedford, 1; George Morris, 2; William Broomfield, 3; the others as before. And 636 of Grandsire Caters. Joseph Richard Crawford, 1; Elijah Crump, 2; William Broomfield, 3; *Thomas Albutt, 4; Oliver James 5; George Hayward, 6; George Morris, 7; George Bourne, 8; Reuben Broomfield, 9; James Parry, 10. Also 392 of Grandsire Triples Albert Hobday, 1; George Hayward, 2; William James, 3; Oliver James, 4; George Morris, 5; George Bourne, 6; Reuben Broomfield, 7; James Parry, 8. This is the first attempt at a bob bell in Grandsire Caters by W. Broomfield, aged 15. All the above were conducted by Reuben Broomfield. *Members of the Worcester and Adjoining Districts Association.

BIDDENHAM (Beds).—On Wednesday evening, November 11th, for practice, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. Horpin, 1; J. West, 2; W. West, 3; J. West, 4; C. West (conductor), 5; J. Trueman, 6. Also another 6-score, with W. Frossell at the treble, the rest as before.

The pressure on our space this week being so great, we are again compelled to hold over several touches, correspondence, and other matters.

DANBURY, ESSEX.

On Friday evening, November 13th, the fine ring of five bells (tenor 13½ cwt.), at the parish church, were re-opened by a band of the Essex Association, selected by Mr. Bowell, of Ipswich, who had the contract for the repairs. The bells had not been rung for several years past, in consequence of the bad state into which the fittings had fallen. An inspection made some weeks ago by the Rev. H. A. Cockey, Secretary of the Association, shewed that the bearings and gudgeons of all the bells were much out of repair, and that some years ago the third and tenor bells had been fitted with clappers, the balls of which instead of being round, had sharp edges, which had dug pits half way through the sound-bow. The tone of these two bells has been seriously affected, and it is wonderful that they were not cracked. They have now been quarter-turned, and the whole ring fitted with new bearings, the gudgeons have been turned up, the wheels repaired, and new ropes supplied. The Rev. E. F. Hay, who was the prime mover in the work of restoration, hospitably entertained the following ringers at supper after the ringing: the Rev. H. A. Cockey, J. Johnson, and A. Wallace, (Rayleigh). Mr. E. Moat, and W. Jay (Rettendon), and Mr. H. Bowell. A large audience assembled in the belfry at 7 p.m. and a collect having been said by Mr. Hay, the bells were set going. After two six-scores of Grandsire Doubles had been rung, Mr. Hay gave an account of the work which had been done, and a short history of the bells, and invited all who wished to learn to ring to give in their names to him, in order that a company might be formed in conjunction with those of the old ringers who still remained in Danbury. He concluded with a vote of thanks to Mr. Cockey and the ringers whom he had brought with him. Mr. Cockey, in responding, alluded to the pleasure which all thorough ringers must feel at meeting on the occasion of the re-opening of a fine old peal of bells, and proceeded to give an account of the formation of the Essex Association, and of the good work which it had been the means of carrying out in the county, hoping that before long he might have the pleasure of enrolling the Danbury company. Ringing was then resumed, and carried on till nine o'clock; several six-scores of Grandsire and Bob Doubles being brought round.

DEATH OF MR. JASPER SNOWDON.

THE melancholy forebodings which we gave utterance to in our issue of last week respecting Mr. Snowdon have been realized, and it is our very painful duty—which we enter upon with feelings of the most poignant grief and sorrow—to announce that his death took place on the morning of Monday last, the 16th instant. There had, from the time when the most dangerous form of the malady developed itself, been grave doubts in the minds of those about him whether he would rally from the attack. As early as Thursday, the 12th instant, we received a telegram that the worst results were feared by the physicians in consultation, though we did not go to this extent in announcing his condition. We were buoyed up by a hope that a favourable change might set in at any moment, and though we received—from one of Mr. Snowdon's dearest friends—repeated bulletins, indicating with cruel exactness that the disease was getting the upper hand, we did not relinquish all hope till, on the morning of Tuesday last, the telegram arrived with the words "Jasper died yesterday" written too plainly. And then, and even now in fact while we write, the terrible blow seems hardly capable of realization.

The funeral took place in the Ilkley parish churchyard—the spot so well known to him through life—on Wednesday last. The mournful cortege arrived at Ilkley (by road from Leeds), punctually at 3 o'clock, and was met by all the principal residents of the village, and by numerous friends who had come by train. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. Wm. Danks, and the clergymen present were: Rev. E. V. Williams (late of Ilkley), vicar of St. Stephen's, Burmantofts; Rev. T. H. Taylor, curate of parish church, Ilkley; Rev. J. Prime, curate of St. Margaret's, Ilkley; Rev. J. H. Fish, vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent. The service was fully choral, the choir of St. Margaret's, Ilkley, being in attendance. The following hymns were sung in church: "When our heads are bowed with woe;" and, "O God our help in ages past." The bearers were men in the employ of the Farnley Iron works, and in the procession were members of the Wortley Conservative Club (of which Mr. Snowdon was president) and many members of the Yorkshire Association (of which he was also president), including both vice-presidents (Messrs. W. H. Howard of York, and Geo. Bolland, of Tong), the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Wm. Whitaker, of Leeds, the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Robert Tuke, of Bradford, and representatives from Leeds, York, Gargrave, Guiseley, Bradford, Ottery, Bingley, &c.

The church was crowded, and was attended by all the leading magistrates and gentry of the neighbourhood, all classes in the district shewing their affection for himself and his family. Before the service the Ilkley branch of the Yorkshire Association rang a touch of Bob Triples with the bells deeply muffled (excepting the tenor) at backstroke. This has a very solemn effect, and was often adopted by the society when ringing for other funerals.

After the funeral the bells were half-muffled, and six courses of Bob Triples were rung in whole pull changes by the Ilkley branch of the above Association, assisted by Mr. Robt. Tuke of Bradford. Afterwards, touches of Kent Treble Bob were rung by members of the Association from distant parts.

Whilst the cortege was passing through the streets all the blinds were drawn and the shops were closed, and every mark of respect was shewn to one who had lived in Ilkley so long.

On Tuesday evening, November 17th, at the meeting of the College Youths at St. Giles's, Cripplegate, London, just as the bells were about to be raised, Mr. F. E. Dawe arrived with a letter he had received from Mr. Whitaker, of Leeds, conveying the sad intelligence of Mr. Snowdon's death. All idea of ringing was immediately abandoned, and at a meeting held shortly afterwards, it was unanimously agreed, that as Mr. Dawe was a personal friend of the deceased, he should be empowered to write a letter of condolence to the relatives on behalf of the company, conveying their heartfelt sympathy at the loss which they and the ringing world had sustained. We understand that independent of the usual funeral peal, a muffled 5000 will be rung by this society as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased.

The sad intelligence has become known in several places, and the muffled peals already rung as a tribute of respect to his memory we have thought fit to place by themselves on the opposite column. In connection with the peal rung at Rotherham, one of the company writes to say they were not aware of the melancholy event, or the bells would have been buffed. And we have no doubt that the numerous performances we record this week would all have been rung muffled, had the news become known to the various ringers.

ASTON, BIRMINGHAM.—THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY.

Muffled Peal.

On Tuesday, November 17, 1885, in Three Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5320 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 23 cwt.

JOHN BUFFERY	Treble.	THOMAS REYNOLDS	6.
HENRY BASTABLE	2.	ALFRED THOMAS	7.
WILLIAM R. SMALL	3.	WILLIAM KENT	8.
SAMUEL REEVES	4.	CHARLES STANBRIDGE	9.
CHAS. HY. HATTERSLEY	5.	HENRY JOHNSON, JUN.	Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY.

This peal has the 5th and 6th their extent in 6th place at five consecutive course-ends each, and was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the late Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq. who died the day previous. The St. Martin's company take this opportunity of sympathising with the friends of the deceased gentleman under their sad bereavement.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE. THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.—(DERBY BRANCH.)

Muffled Peal.

On Wednesday, November 18, 1885, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.
Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

GEORGE DAWSON	Treble.	GEORGE HINGLEY	5.
SAMUEL JOHNSON	2.	WILLIAM HICKLING	6.
JOHN HOWE	3.	ROBERT JOHNSON	7.
HARRY C. WOODWARD	4.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD	Tenor.

Composed by TOM LOCKWOOD, and conducted by
A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, ESQ.

This peal was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq. This peal contains the 6th twenty-two times right and twenty-four times wrong.

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

On Wednesday, November 18, 1885, in Three Hours and Forty-two Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5408 CHANGES. Tenor 26 cwt.

SAMUEL GRETTON*	Treble.	JOHN JAGGAR	5.
EDWARD ISAAC STONE	2.	HARRY WAKLEY	6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY	3.	THOMAS HOLMES	7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN	4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY	Tenor.

Composed by JOHN JAGGAR, and Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

The peal, which is now rung for the first time, has the 4th twenty-two times and the 6th twenty-four times in 6th's place. Rung on the occasion of the funeral of the late Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq., President of the Yorkshire Association, and a member of the above Society, who was buried at Ilkley, near Leeds, on that day. The bells were half-muffled, and their solemn tones gave expression to the sad hearts of the performers, who, one and all, mourn for him as for a friend and a brother.
* First peal.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL (Yorkshire).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Tuesday, November 17th, at Holy Trinity church, the following members of this Association rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with the bells half muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq., the much esteemed president of the Association. C. Bennett, 1; H. Jenkins, 2; W. Southwick, 3; H. Cutter, 4; F. Drabble, 5; C. Jackson (conductor), 6.

HEMPSTED, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

In our issue of a fortnight ago we gave an account of the re-opening of the ring of bells at this place. We ought to have mentioned that the new treble was the gift of the worthy Rector, the Rev. B. S. Dawson, and that the cost of tuning and rehanging the old five bells was defrayed by the Miss Crawleys of Hempsted. The bells have also been fitted with the Ellacombe chiming apparatus. The church is now under restoration, and will (D.V.) be re-opened on December 17th. By that time the local company hope to be in fair shape for the performance of scientific ringing.

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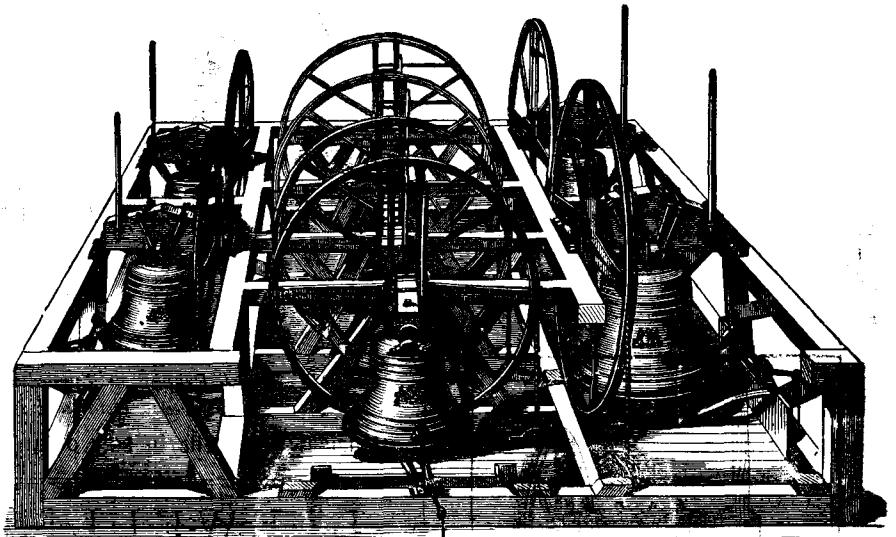
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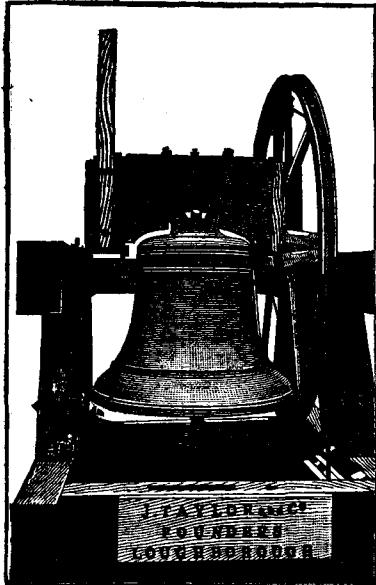
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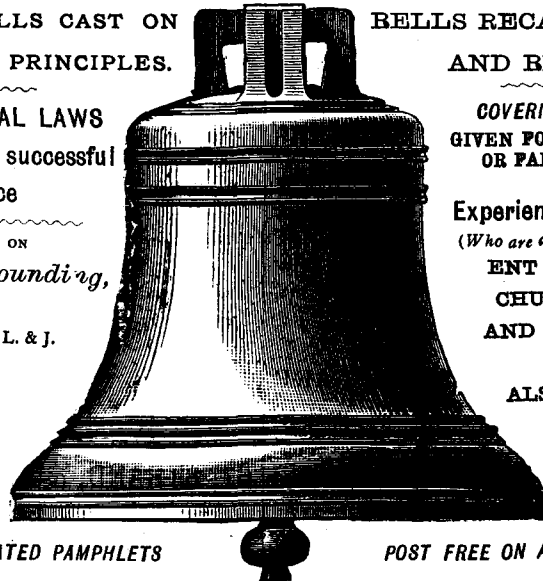
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