

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 192. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. IV. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1885.

[ONE PENNY.]

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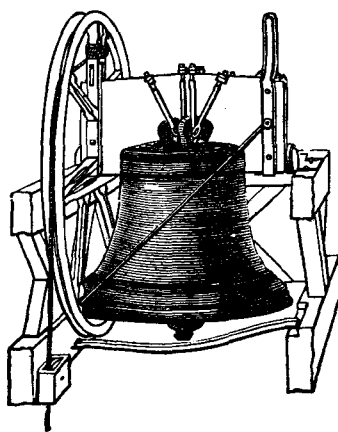
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The last chapter is devoted to a list of the names of Composers of the different peals, with various particulars, and in the cases of deceased Composers with the dates of death, age, etc.

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BY JASPER W. SNOWDON. THIRD EDITION.

London: Wells Gardner, Darton, & Co.

CONTENTS.—On the Management of a Bell; on Ringing Rounds; on Pricking Changes; on Ringing Changes on Three, Four, Five, Six, Seven, and Eight Bells; on Pricking Touches and Peals by the lead-ends and course-ends; on Conducting and Calling Round; on Raising and Falling in Peal, Chiming, Covering, etc.

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Nos. 159 to 164, contains Chorus from "Martha," for various peals, from two to ten ringers.

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[The above six Nos. are all for six ringers, with two octaves in G. and may be rung without table.]

No. 171.—Contains four hymn tunes: "New Lydia," "Arabia," "Duke Street," and "Dunkirk." Same bells and ringers as above, with C♯ extra. Price 2s.

William Gordon, 64, Lower Hillgate, Stockport.

FIVE PEALS IN FIVE DAYS IN HERTFORDSHIRE.

ON Monday, November 16th, by the kind invitation of the Rev. Woolmore Wigram, Rector of St. Andrew's, and Rural Dean of Hertford, well known in change-ringing circles as the author of "Change-Ringing Disentangled," there journeyed to Hertford for a few days' ringing, three of his clerical brother ringers, viz., Rev. F. E. Robinson (Drayton, Berks., Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild), Rev. C. D. P. Davies (Redmarley, Gloucester; Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Association), and Rev. G. F. Coleridge (Caversham, Oxon). These, with the assistance of Messrs. H. Baker and H. J. Tucker (of Hertford), and other members of the Hertfordshire Association, managed to score five good peals in as many days, records of which have appeared in this paper. Proceedings began at Waltham Abbey, where a 6016 of Treble Bob was rung in one minute under four hours. For three-and-a-quarter hours all went well, when suddenly a dull thud was heard overhead. "Never mind, it's only a stone," sang out the well-known local ringer, Mr. Alps; it proved, however, to be the clapper of the 3rd; but nothing daunted, we rang on, and brought our peal to a successful termination. On Tuesday, a visit was paid to St. Albans and the magnificent cathedral, and the building was inspected under the guidance of the Rev. W. Wigram, who is well versed in archæological lore. The ringing-chamber was of course inspected, and the sight of that weird apartment, with its enormous beams, hiding one rope from another, was enough to give one "the creeps," especially as it has been said to be "haunted" by the "spirited" author of "seventeen days and a bit." In the evening a peal of Stedman Triples (which by the way it is said "any fool can ring") was accomplished at St. Andrew's, Hertford. Having had one clapper too few on the previous day, we were quite prepared to have one too many now; and so it turned out, for just previous to the half-way single, the dumb-practice apparatus somehow got detached, and the gong sounded at every back-stroke blow of the tenor; the only effect however, was, if possible, to improve the striking, there being such a nice clean blow to lead off from. Wednesday a visit was paid to "the Squire," at Benington, where with three of the local band a 5040 of Double Norwich Court Bob was essayed and brought round after three hours, being the first peal in the method by six of the band. The rest of the evening was spent in enjoying "the Squire's" hospitality, and in touches of Cambridge and Superlative Surprise, also three courses of Double Norwich Court, in which the Rev. Woolmore rang the fourth. On Thursday a peal of Grandsire Caters was accomplished at Bishops Stortford, resulting in a race against daylight, as "the shades of night were falling fast." It was doubtful whether we should get the peal; at the end of three hours it grew so dark that only a dim outline of the men near the three windows was visible; luckily all the men in the dark corners had got an extra good supply of clean linen about the arms, so that by dint of much straining of the eyesight, and careful picking of our way, we succeeded in bringing to a successful termination the first peal of Caters on the bells since 1820. On Friday, having determined not to part without paying a last tribute of respect to our dear friend Jasper Snowdon, the bells of All Saints', Hertford, were muffled, and on the arrival of J. Martin Routh, Master of the College Youths, and C. F. Winny, from London, we rang a capital peal of Stedman Caters in 3 hrs. 35 mins. On Saturday, it was contemplated to finish the week with a peal at Fulham, but owing to the funeral of Viscount Ranelagh, the idea had to be abandoned, so after a visit to the Whitechapel Foundry, where the peal of ten bells for Abingdon were examined, as well as a new set of eight hemispherical bells for the Lyceum Theatre, tenor about 15 cwt., the sonorous tones of which were much admired, the party broke up, and we separated to our various destinations, all the better for our holiday, and in good form for our Sunday duties, well pleased with our performance of five peals in five days, brought about by the energetic exertions of our host, the Rev. Woolmore Wigram. G. F.

BINFIELD, BERKS.

The original five bells of All Saints' Church have recently been rehung by Mr. Rogers, of Maidenhead, and the ring of six was reopened on Saturday, November 21st. A 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung in 26 mins. T. Woolford, 1; F. Bissley, 2; H. Rogers, 3; R. Smith, 4; W. A. Garraway, 5; J. W. Wilkins, 6. Also another 720 with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq., in 27 mins. H. Rogers, 1; F. Bissley, 2; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 3; J. W. Wilkins, 4; R. Smith, 5; E. Rogers, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. Several 120's of Doubles were also rung in which Messrs. Horn and Bolton, local ringers, took part. And by kind invitation of the Rev. Canon Savory, the ringers, in company with the Rev. A. H. Drummond, Vicar of Boyne Hill, took tea at the rectory, and having rang a few touches on the hand-bells, the company returned homeward well pleased with their afternoon's outing.

DEDICATION OF A NEW RING OF EIGHT BELLS.

ON Saturday, November 28th, the new ring of eight bells, which has been hung in the tower of St. John the Baptist, Hagley, Stourbridge, as a memorial to the late Rector, the Rev. Canon Lyttleton, were dedicated to the service of God. The bells have been cast and hung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of the Whitechapel Foundry, they are sweetly-toned, though very light, the tenor weighing about nine cwt. All being in readiness, evensong was said at three p.m. by the rev. W. C. Gibbs, the present rector. After the anthem, the clergy and choir proceeded to the tower, where an office of dedication was sung. While the procession was returning, a course of Grandsire Triples was rung by eight members of the St. Martin's society, Birmingham. An appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon Tinling, of Gloucester Cathedral. As the congregation were dispersing, two courses of Stedman Triples sounded forth from the tower, and then the peal which appears in its proper place in our columns was rung on the bells. The ringers were very well satisfied with the working of the bells, but they would suggest that something should be done to deaden their sound, as they are in close proximity to the ringing-room. They take this opportunity of tendering their best thanks to the rector for his kind hospitality on the occasion.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

Balance Sheet for year ending November 10th, 1885.

Dr.		
Nov. 1884—	To balance in Treasurer's hands from 1883-4 account...	4 3 1½
Nov. 10, 1885—	Total amount of income from November 18, 1884, to November 10, 1885, per account No. 1.	26 3 9½
	Total—	£ 30 6 11
Cr.		
Nov. 10, 1884-5—	By total amount of expenditure from November 18, 1884, to November 10, 1885, per account No. 2.	8 10 6
" "	" Balance in Treasurer's hands	21 16 5
	Total—	£ 30 6 11

FINANCIAL POSITION OF SOCIETY.

Nov. 10, 1884-5—	To investment by Trustees in Post Office Savings Bank	31 19 3
" "	" Interest on same for 1884	15 6
	" Balance of above account for 1884-5 in Treasurer's hands... ..	32 14 9
	" Treasurer's hands... ..	21 16 5
	Total value of Society's Funds—	£54 11 2

Nov. 24, 1885—We hereby certify that we have examined the Society's Books and Accounts, and find above to be correct—
 RICHARD T. WOODLEY, } Auditors.
 WILLIAM D. SMITH, }

SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.

ON Saturday evening, November 21st, the members of the local society met at St. Gregory's church for the purpose of erecting a tablet recording a peal of Grandsire Triples rung on October 24th last. The tablet is the munificent gift of B. Ransom, Esq. an honorary member of the society, who, although he had promised the board, said, before starting for the peal, that he did not think the tree would want cutting down just yet, on which point, we are glad to add, he got disappointed. A touch of Bob Major was rung. F. Tolliday, 1; Charles Sillitoe, 2; W. Howell, 3; W. Bacon, 4; B. Ransom, Esq. 5; A. Scott (conductor), 6; W. Cross, 7; H. Harper, 8. And 864 of Kent Treble Bob Major. F. Tolliday, 1; W. Griggs, 2; W. Howell, 3; W. Bacon, 4; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 5; A. Scott, 6; W. Cross, 7; H. Harper, 8. The ringers afterwards adjourned to "The Compasses" Inn, where a course of Grandsire Cinques was rung by B. Ransom, Esq., 1-2; A. Scott, 3-4; C. Sillitoe, 5-6; F. Tolliday, 7; W. Griggs, 8; W. Howell, 9-10; H. Harper, 11-12. And a course of Treble Bob Royal and a course of Bob Royal.

TUE BROOK, NEAR LIVERPOOL.

ON the 19th, 20th, and 21st of November, a bazaar was held in connection with St. John the Baptist's Church, for the purpose of raising funds for the erection of a mission-room. This was thought a fitting opportunity of inviting those ringers who attempted to ring a peal of Stedman Triples on the 7th inst., to renew their attempt. The band was accordingly got together on Saturday, the 21st inst., and were successful in ringing the peal in excellent style in 2 hrs. 59 mins. (see the record in peal column of our last number). The ringers here take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar and wardens for their kindness in putting the bells at their disposal.

[The peals and touches following were all rung with the bells muffled as tributes of respect and affection in which the late Mr. Snowdon was held by the performers.]

The Provinces.

BISHOPS STORTFORD, HERTS.

THE BISHOPS STORTFORD SOCIETY, AND THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 26, 1885, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 20 cwt.

THOMAS NEWMAN Treble.	*GEORGE BRAND 5.
CHARLES MARTIN 2.	HENRY J. TUCKER 6.
ALFRED TUCKER 3.	HENRY N. DOUGHTY 7.
WILLIAM H. TUCKER 4.	JOSEPH SAMPFORD Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY JAMES TUCKER.

Rung with the bells deeply muffled on both sides. *First peal in the method.

HOLBECK.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, November 27, 1885, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

THOMAS HARRINSON Treble.	HENRY HUBBARD 5.
HARRY TOMLINSON 2.	FRANCIS WOODHEAD 6.
HENRY MOSS 3.	MATTHEW TOMLINSON 7.
STEPHEN BASNETT 4.	DAVID YORK Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by MATTHEW TOMLINSON.

Mr. H. Hubbard hails from Leeds, and this is the 40th peal on the bells.

SHEFFIELD.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. PETER'S AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Friday, November 27, 1885, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARIE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 25 cwt.

JOHN MULLIGAN Treble.	THOMAS HATTERSLEY 5.
EDWARD WOODWARD 2.	JAMES A. DIXON 6.
JOSEPH TAYLOR 3.	ARTHUR BREARLEY 7.
JOHN GOUCHER 4.	WILLIAM MIDGLEY Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS HATTERSLEY.

SADDLEWORTH.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 28, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN HOLDEN Treble.	FRANKLIN BRIERLEY 5.
JOSEPH RADCLIFFE 2.	JOSEPH WOOD 6.
JOHN T. HOLDEN 3.	JOHN T. DICKEN 7.
JAMES H. SHAW 4.	EDWARD WOOD Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP and Conducted by JOHN HOLDEN.

WALTER BELCHAMP, ESSEX.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Sunday, November 29, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES. Tenor 11 cwt.

NATHAN J. PITSTOW Treble.	PERCY SCOTT 5.
SAMUEL SLATER 2.	JAMES BIRD 6.
PAUL ADAMS 3.	OLIVER GARWOOD 7.
ZACHARIAH SLATER 4.	JOHN F. PENNING Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by N. J. PITSTOW.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 1, 1885, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt.

JOHN SIDEBOTHAM Treble.	JAMES S. WILDE 5.
GEORGE LONGDEN 2.	THOMAS WILDE 6.
JAMES SHAW 3.	GEORGE BRADDOCK 7.
WILLIAM MIDDLETON 4.	THOMAS BRADDOCK Tenor.

Composed by the late WILLIAM HARRISON, and Conducted by JOHN SIDEBOTHAM.

Messrs. Braddock Brothers, Sidebotham and Middleton hail from Mottram; Wilde Brothers and Shaw from Hyde; George Longden belongs to the local company.

Miscellaneous.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

LICHFIELD.—On Sunday evening, November 22nd, at St. Michael's Church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. E. Gallimore, 1; Henry Meacham, 2; R. Annis, 3; W. Treadgold, 4; F. J. Cope (conductor), 5; Arthur E. Greenwood, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in A.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

STEBBING (Essex).—On Tuesday evening, November 24th, 2520 changes in seven different methods, viz., three of Stedman Slow Course, three of New Doubles, three of St. Simon, three of Dunstan's, three of Antelope, three of Grandsire, and three of Plain Doubles, in 1 hr. 10 mins. W. Emery, 1; H. Gowers, 2; E. Clayton, (conductor), 3; E. Hynds, 4; J. T. Barker, 5. Tenor 16 cwt. This is the longest length ever rung on these bells.

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday evening, November 22nd, after Divine Service in the evening, the members of the Market Rasen branch of the above Association, rang two 720's (Plain Bob and Oxford Bob), by the following members. H. Gadd, H. Burkitt, T. Gibbons, S. Marshall, W. Lunn, T. Scott, and J. Hackney. The former was conducted by H. Gadd, and the latter by H. Burkitt. The sentiments expressed in "THE BELL NEWS" concerning this prince of the Exercise, found a very warm echo in this tower, the members of which feel they have indeed lost a friend and a brother.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

DERBY.—On Thursday evening, November 19th, at St. Werburgh's Church, a start was made for a peal of Bob Major, but after ringing an hour it unfortunately came to grief. Afterwards 1008 in the same method was rung by the following members of the above Association. F. Whiting, 1; A. B. Ward, 2; A. Taberer, 3; S. Price, 4; A. E. Thompson, 5; R. Bosworth, 6; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 7; R. Redgate, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CUMNOR (Berks).—On Sunday, November 22nd, after the afternoon service, a 720 of Double Stedman Slow Course Minor in 25 mins. Job Howse, 1; W. Baston, 2; F. A. Castle, 3; C. W. H. Griffith, C.C.C., 4; A. F. M. Custance, B.N.C., 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. In the evening, after the usual whole pull and stand, a 360 Cambridge Surprise Minor. C. W. H. Griffith (C.C.C.), 1; W. Woods, 2; F. A. Castle, 3; A. F. M. Custance (B.N.C.), 4; W. Baston, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in F. This is the tenth 720 of Double Stedman Slow Course ever rung.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SHEFFIELD.—On Saturday, November 21st, twelve members of the St. Peter's Amalgamated Society, attempted a peal of Grandsire Cinques at the Parish Church, but after ringing 3 hrs. 10 mins, the 11th began to go very heavy and they were obliged to stop. C. H. Hattersley, 1; Joseph Mulligan, 2; William Lomas, 3; Charles Bower, 4; James Dixon, 5; John Mulligan, 6; Samuel Seed, 7; George Holmes, 8; Edward Woodward, 9; Arthur Brearley, 10; Thomas Hattersley (conductor), 11; William Midgley, 12. Tenor 41 cwt. Also on Monday, November 23rd, at St. Marie's, Norfolk Row,

a half-peal of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 40 mins. John Mulligan, 1; Joseph Mulligan, 2; Thomas Hattersley (conductor), 3; John Goucher, 4; James Dixon, 5; George Holmes, 6; Arthur Brearley, 7; William Midgley, 8. Tenor 25 cwt.

GUISELEY (Yorkshire).—On Friday evening, November 20th, the local company rang short touches of Kent, Oxford, Violet, and New London Treble Bob Minor. On Saturday, November 21st, a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, 5088 changes, was attempted, but after ringing 1 hr. 33 mins. it came to grief. D. E. Rhodes, 1; S. Brown, 2; H. Demaine, 3; W. Clough, 4; W. Demaine, 5; J. Yeadon, 6; L. Cawood (conductor), 7; J. Baldwin, 8. Mr. Cawood expressed his desire to call a peal, as he had conducted the first peal in which Mr. Snowdon took part, a peal of Bob Major at Otley. On Sunday afternoon, November 22nd, with Mr. George Barraclough, of Armley, 832 of Kent Treble Bob Major. On Sunday, November 29th, for Divine Service, short touches of Kent, Oxford, Violet, New and London Treble Bob Minor. Tenor 10½ cwt.

LONDON.—On Tuesday evening, November 24th, at St. Saviour's, Southwark, the usual whole pull and stand. J. Pettitt (conductor), 1; J. W. Rowbotham, 2; G. A. Muskett, 3; G. T. McLaughlin, 4; J. M. Routh, Esq., 5; J. R. Haworth, 6; F. E. Dawe, 7; C. F. Winny, 8; G. Dorrington, 9; W. D. Smith, 10; E. Horrex, 11; J. M. Hayes, 12. Afterwards a course of Kent Treble Bob Maximus, and a course of Stedman Cinques, in which A. Percival Heywood, Esq., of Duffield, took part.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks).—On Sunday, November 22nd, previous to evening service, the last 700 of Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, in 25 mins. O. Fasey, 1; H. Rogers, 2; W. A. Garraway (conductor), 3; F. Bissley, 4; R. Smith, 5; J. W. Wilkins, 6; E. Rogers, 7; T. Woolford, 8. Tenor 17½ cwt.

MATLOCK (Derbyshire).—Recently, the Darley Dale ringers visited the Parish Church, and rang fourteen 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in 56 mins. S. Groom, 1; W. Taylor, 2; C. Whatkin, 3; C. Whymark, 4; E. Hallows (conductor), 5; A. Marsh, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Tuesday, November 24th, the local society rang twelve 6-scores of Bob Doubles. T. Clarke, 1; G. A. Fish, 2; G. C. Tunncliffe, 3; F. W. Cook, 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; J. Bartram, 6. The above was conducted from the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th bells, and was also rung as a mark of respect to the late Thos. Harsley, Esq., of Kingsnewton, near Melbourne, whose remains was interred that day.

NORWICH.—On Saturday evening, November 28th, at St. Michael's church, Coslany, the local company, with the Rev. N. Bolingbroke, Secretary of the Norwich Diocesan Association, and Mr. J. W. Spratt, rang several touches of Bob Major. After the ringing a short address was given by the Rev. N. Bolingbroke, setting forth the valuable services the deceased had rendered to the exercise at large, and also giving some kindly reminiscences of his personal acquaintance with him.

PETERBOROUGH.—On Sunday, November 22nd, at St. John's Church, a 720 of Bob Minor, with 7,8 covering. C. W. Holdich, 1; Rev. W. H. Deane, 2; H. Plowman, 3; J. Hancock, 4; G. Baker, 5; E. F. Read (conductor), 6; J. Binks, 7; T. Allington, 8.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Tuesday evening, November 22nd, at All Saints' church, a touch of Bob Major was rung, and 672 of Grandsire Triples. F. Tolliday, 1; J. Campin, 2; G. Brown, 3; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 4; W. Bacon, 5; H. Harper, 6; A. Scott, 7; H. Brackett, 8.

TERRINGTON (Norfolk).—On Saturday, November 21st, a 720 of Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. Walter Mallett, 1; *Fredk. Easton, 2; Robt. Howling, jun., 3; G. Barrett, 4; Jno. Herring, 5; Jno. Green (conductor), 6. And on Monday, November 23rd, after the usual whole pull and stand, a 720 of the same method in 29 mins. Walter Mallett, 1; Fredk. Easton, 2; †Robt. Howling, jun., 3; Jno. Green, 4; Jno. Herring, 5; Dr. Secombe (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt. *First 720; †first 720 on an inside bell.

WALTHAMSTOW (Essex).—On Sunday evening, November 22nd, after Divine Service at St. Saviour's Church, the St. Saviour's company rang the usual whole pull and stand, and afterwards tolled the age of the deceased upon the tenor.

WANTAGE (Berks).—On Saturday evening, November 21st, at SS. Peter and Paul, for practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 29 mins. G. Gregory, 1; H. Smith, 2; C. Page, 3; A. Bunce, 4; A. Gregory, 5; F. May (conductor), 6. First 720 by all in the above method. And on Sunday, November 22nd, after evening service, an attempt was made to ring a 720 of Grandsire Minor, but after ringing 480 changes it came to grief. G. Gregory, 1; C. Page, 2; F. Money, 3; J. Gardner, 4; H. Smith, 5; F. May (conductor), 6.

WICKHAM MARKET (Suffolk).—On Wednesday evening, November 25th, at All Saints' Church, for practice, six members of the Norwich Diocesan Association, rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob in 28 mins. *J. Reeve, 1; W. Reeve, 2; *F. Reeve, 3; *G. Reeve, 4; E. Todd, 5; J. Howard (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt. in G. Also 240 of Kent Treble Bob standing as before; and 360 of Plain Bob. F. Reeve, 1; J. Reeve, 2; J. Howard (conductor), 3; G. Reeve, 4; †F. Sawyer, 5; W. Reeve, 6. *First 720 in the method; †first 360 of Plain Bob. E. Todd and J. Howard hail from Pettistree, the rest belong to the local company.

* * * Remainder of muffled peals and touches will be continued next week.

NEW RINGING SOCIETY IN EXETER.

A meeting was held in St. David's boys' schoolroom, on Tuesday, November 17th, for the purpose of establishing a society of bellringers in St. David's parish for scientific change-ringing, the tower being well provided with a very fair ring of six bells. The attendance was very good, and a code of rules was drawn up and unanimously agreed to. A committee, with the Vicar as president, and Messrs. W. Barnes and R. B. West, and the wardens as vice-presidents, was elected. Mr. R. Junnun was appointed secretary, and Mr. F. Shepherd, of the Devonshire Guild, was selected as instructor. The society will be called the St. David's Society, and will be in connection with the Devonshire Guild, of which the Hon. and Rev. J. Northcote, rector of Upton Pyne, is the secretary. Recently there has been a movement in favour of belfry reform throughout the kingdom, Devonshire not being behind, and we believe there are good grounds for stating that the Dean and Chapter of Exeter Cathedral are about to take steps to have their bells rehung, when the citizens will have the pleasure of occasionally hearing the finest and most musical set of ten in the kingdom scientifically rung. The first practice of the St. David's Society took place on Saturday last, when two of the Cathedral and four of the St. Sidwell's company kindly attended to shew what could be done, and to render any assistance, a kindness which was much appreciated.—Communicated.

SUBSCRIPTION LIST FOR THE JOHNSON TESTIMONIAL.

	£	s.	d.
Amount already announced
W. Hallsforth, Walsall	14	9	0
Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, Stanhoe Rectory, Kings Lynn	5	0	0
A. E. Wreaks (2nd subscription)	2	0	0
R. Jones, St. Martin's, Birmingham	2	6	0

We, the Committee, thank all ringers and friends who have so kindly and liberally contributed to this "National Testimonial," and we wish to remind any who are thinking of becoming subscribers that it will be necessary to close the list with the present year. We therefore respectfully ask them to communicate at once with A. Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 83, Wheelley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham; or Mr. S. Reeves, Hon. Treasurer, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

BLYTH CHURCH, NOTTINGHAM.

THE fine ring of six bells have been rehung with new frames and fittings by T. Mallaby and Sons, of Masham, Yorkshire. The wood-work of the old frames had been in the tower for three centuries. The bells were recast in 1843 by Taylor and Co. The work of re-hanging has been carried out by the sons Mallaby, since the lamented death of their father in August last. They have given great satisfaction to all concerned. The peal was re-opened on Sunday, November 29th, by the Blyth company, who are to be congratulated on having now an opportunity of real good ringing.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX BELL RINGERS.

THE usual QUARTERLY MEETING will be held at the Parish Church, Leyland, on Saturday, December 12th. The bells will be open for ringing from 2 o'clock; business meeting at 4 o'clock in the schoolroom.

57 Chorley Road, Blackrod.

JAMES HIGSON, Secretary.

SADDLEWORTH CHURCH SCHOOL.—A concert was held in the schoolroom, Lee Street, Uppermill, on Saturday evening, November 21st, The chair was taken at seven o'clock by the Rev. Hugh Doig, Vicar. The following vocalists were present: Mrs. Walker, Mrs. Morrell, Mr. Sims Dyson, Mr. C. Dyson; Pianist, Mr. Albert Hudson. The Saddleworth handbell ringers also rendered selections of music. The proceeds, which amounted to £5, were devoted to repairs and improvements of the school.

THE CHRISTMAS NUMBER

Of this journal will contain, among other interesting features, a sketch, entitled,

"REMINISCENCES;"

And a story—

"THUMPER'S DATE TOUCH."

There will also appear, A PORTRAIT of that distinguished ringer and composer,

MR. CHAS. HENRY HATTERSLEY,

OF SHEFFIELD; with memoir.

Orders should at once be given to local booksellers.

"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.

A CORRECTION—Mr. T. Newman, of Caversham, writes:—"I see by 'THE BELL NEWS' that Holt's Original was rung at Basingstoke, Hants, on November 14th, 1885, by the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, to which is added, 'the first time Holt's Original has been rung in the county.' I wish to inform your correspondent that Holt's Original was rung at Romsey, Hants, in 1872, by the Society of College Youths, conducted by James Pettit."

C. SILLITOE.—The cards were sent from here; our people imagined they had been ordered.

PERCY SCOTT.—Tell us the date of publication of the peal; it shall be attended to without delay.

W. HUGHES.—Mr. George A. Muskett, Church Row, Bethnal Green, London.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1885.

The Metropolis.

SOUTHWARK.—THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Friday, November 27, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE-THE-MARTYR,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

BENJAMIN E. BATTRUM Treble.	EDWARD F. STRANGE .. 5.
RICHARD FRENCH 2.	JOSEPH BARRY 6.
WILLIAM JONES 3.	WILLIAM H. GEORGE .. 7.
HENRY LANGDON 4.	GEORGE WOODAGE Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

This is the 167th year these bells have been open for ringing.

The Provinces.

SAFFRON WALDEN.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Tuesday, November 24, 1885, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt.

SAMUEL SLATER Treble.	HERBERT BAKER 5.
GEORGE MARTIN 2.	ERNEST PITSTOW 6.
FREDERICK SWORDER 3.	FREDERICK PITSTOW 7.
JOHN F. PENNING 4.	GEORGE TAYLOR Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by F. PITSTOW.

This peal contains the 6th the extent in all positions, and was published in "THE BELL NEWS" of June 3rd, 1882. Rung to commemorate the birthday of the composer.

LIVERPOOL.

On Tuesday, November 24, 1885, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

JOHN R. PRITCHARD Treble.	JOHN BROWN 5.
RICHARD S. MANN* 2.	*GEORGE FISHER 6.
WILLIAM JAMES 3.	WILLIAM DAVIES 7.
JOHN ASPINWALL 4.	THOMAS HAMMOND Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN R. PRITCHARD.

The peal, which is now rung for the first time, is the first on the bells for fifteen years.

*First peal in the method.

WHITFIELD, GLOSSOP.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, GLOSSOP.

On Friday, November 27, 1885, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

E. HAGUE Treble.	S. WILKINSON 5.
J. HARROP 2.	S. W. LEVER 6.
W. MARSDEN 3.	J. BRADBURY 7.
E. ROSTRON 4.	S. STAFFORD Tenor.

Composed by S. KNOTT, JUN., of Glossop (no conductor mentioned).

This is the first peal that has been rung by the St. James's Society.

STONHAM ASPAL, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 28, 1885, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEMBERT,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 24 cwt. in E.

ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN Treble.	WALTER WHITING 5.
WILLIAM DYE 2.	HAWKINS ENGLISH 6.
JOHN KNIGHTS 3.	GEORGE PERRY 7.
GEORGE THURLOW 4.	HARRY PEPPER* Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM DYE.

*First peal. This is the first peal in the method on the bells. Messrs. Thurlow, and Perry hail from Framsdon; Whiting and Pepper from Otley; Wightman from Cretingham; Dye from Ash Bocking; Knights from Helmingham; H. English from Coddendam.

HAGLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, November 28, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FIVE-PART. Tenor 9 cwt.

J. BUFFERY Treble.	W. R. SMALL 5.
S. REEVES 2.	A. THOMAS 6.
H. BASTABLE 3.	H. JOHNSON, JUN. 7.
T. KEYNOLDS 4.	F. H. JAMES Tenor.

Conducted by S. REEVES,

W. R. Small's 50th peal.

DERBY.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

DERBY BRANCH.

On Monday, November 30, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WERBURGH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 17 cwt. in E.

FREDERICK WHITING* .. Treble.	WILLIAM HICKLING.. .. 5.
JOHN HOWE.. .. 2.	REUBEN BOSWORTH.. .. 6.
AUSTIN TABERER* 3.	HARRY CHAS. WOODWARD 7.
ARTHUR BERTRAM WARD.. 4.	*RICHARD REDGATE Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY HUBBARD and Conducted by HARRY CHARLES WOODWARD.

*First peal in the method.

WEST MALLING.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Tuesday, December 1, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

REUBEN SIMMONDS Treble.	ALCHIN MOORCRAFT.. .. 5.
HARRY PEARCE 2.	DAVID HALL 6.
EDWARD BALDOCK 3.	CALEB BASSETT.. .. 7.
WILLIAM HARDEN 4.	JAMES W. LEONARD.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. LEONARD.

This peal was rung to commemorate the 32nd birthday of the conductor, and his brother-ringers join in wishing him many happy returns of the day. Messrs. Simmonds, Pearce, and Moorcraft hail from Maidstone; the rest belong to the local company.

RINGMER, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 1, 1885, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

W. PALMER* Treble.	G. KING 5.
G. F. ATTREE 2.	C. TYLER 6.
J. SEARLE 3.	J. JAY, SEN. 7.
C. GOLDS 4.	E. BUTLER Tenor.

Conducted by J. JAY, SEN.

*First peal. All except the treble man are members of the Royal Cumberland Youths. The above is the first peal on the bells, and was rung at the opening ceremony.

Date Touches.

CHESTERFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday evening, November 22nd, for Divine Service at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Caters, 1885 changes, by the local company, in 1 hr. 17 mins. J. Goodwin, 1; D. Farthing, 2; I. Goodwin, 3; H. Nuttall sen., 4; G. Toplis, 5; W. Ellis, 6; J. Ellis, 7; H. Nuttall jun., 8; A. Knights (composer and conductor), 9; T. Mee, 10. This touch was rung to commemorate the birthday of Mr. Henry Nuttall, sen. Tenor 24½ cwt.

LECKHAMPTON (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday evening, November 29th, five members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association with Mr. G. Price, visited this place, and rang a date touch of 1885 of Grandsire Doubles, in 1 hr. 1 min. G. Price, 1; F. Hannis, 2; E. Smart, 3; H. Downham, 4; W. Gregory (conductor), 5; W. Roberts, 5. And two 6-scores of Plain Bob Doubles, called differently. Tenor about 10 cwt.

MONMOUTH.—On Tuesday, November 10th, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1885 changes, in 1 hr. 10 mins. W. Preece, 1; J. Ward, 2; W. Walters, 3; W. Honeyfield, 4; J. Priest, 5; T. H. Jones, 6; E. Barnett (conductor), 7; H. Brown, 8. The above touch contains the twenty-four 6,7's, and was composed by Mr. Henry Johnson. Tenor 20 cwt.

WEST BROMWICH (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday, November 12th, the following rang at Christ Church, a date touch of Grandsire

Triples, 1885 changes, in 1 hr. 7 mins. H. Hill, 1; T. Horton, 2; S. Reeves (conductor), 3; J. Hall, 4; R. Hall, 5; C. Price, 6; W. R. Small, 7; C. Timms, 8. Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs. in Eb. This touch, which has 6-7 together for more than 1600 changes, was composed by Mr. H. Johnson, sen.

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—On Sunday, November 15th, for evening service, an attempt for a 720 of Bob Minor failed after ringing 660 changes. On Monday evening, November 16th, for practice, another attempt was made by the same company, which was successfully brought round in 30 mins., with 6-8 covering. *H. C. Mayne, 1; †J. G. Pratt, 2; J. Pallister, 3; F. W. Castrie, 4; F. Charlton, 5; J. W. Cleminson, 6; E. J. Titt (conductor), 7; A. J. B. Waldron, 8. *First 720. †First 720 with a bob bell. This is the first 720, unaided, by the company, who began to practice change-ringing about twelve months ago. And a plain course of Grandsire Minor and a course of of Grandsire Triples. H. C. Mayne, 1; J. G. Pratt, 2; J. Pallister, 3; A. J. B. Waldron, 4; E. J. Titt, 5; F. Charlton, 6; J. Cleminson, 7; F. W. Castrie, 8. Tenor 11½ cwt.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WOODBIDGE (Suffolk).—On Thursday, November 19th, for practice, 630 of Grandsire Triples in 23 mins. W. Ward (conductor), 1; A. Acfield, jun., 2; P. Meadows, 3; J. Fosdike, 4; H. Burch, 5; W. P. Garrett, 6; C. Ward, 7; G. Burch, 8. Tenor 28 cwt.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ST. ALBAN'S.—On Sunday, November 22nd, for Divine Service at the Cathedral, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. T. Grant, 1; W. H. Buckingham (first 504), 2; R. T. Kent, 3; H. Lewis, 4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5; G. W. Cartmel, 6; N. N. Hills (conductor), 7; E. Hulks, 8. And on Monday, November 23rd, at St. Peter's church, on the front six, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. W. Battle, 1; E. P. Debenham, 2; H. Lewis, 3; G. W. Cartmel, 4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5; N. N. Hills (conductor), 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent).—On Sunday, November 22nd, for Divine Service at St. Peter's, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. by the following members of the Tunbridge Wells branch of this Association. J. Muggeridge, 1; R. Sharville, 2; J. Colthup, 3; H. Barefield (conductor), 4; W. Latter, 5; G. Kember, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qrs. in F.

WEST MALLING (Kent).—On Sunday, November 29th, for Divine Service, a 560 of Bob Major. J. Worsley, 1; H. Pearce, 2; E. Baldock, 3; W. Harden, 4; C. Bassett, 5; A. Moorcraft, 6; E. Bonner, 7; J. W. Leonard (conductor), 8. Also after service a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Worsley, 1; E. Baldock, 2; D. Hall, 3; C. Bassett, 4; *H. Kinney, 5; J. W. Leonard (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Monday evening, November 16th, at St. Laurence's Church, on the back six, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor in 28 mins. *W. Hexter, 1; S. Clark, 2; A. Widdowson, 3; W. Gilson, 4; J. C. Dicken, 5; J. Barrow (conductor), 6. Tenor 11 cwt. *First 720.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, November 28th, the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. R. Wood, 1; G. A. Fish, 2; J. Pickers, 3; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; G. C. Tunnicliff, 6. This is the first 720 by all the above except Mr. Woodward, of Derby, who has until the last few months been instructor to this band, and it was rung at the first attempt. Also on Sunday, November 29th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 360 of Bob Minor in 13 mins. J. R. Wood, 1; G. A. Fish, 2; J. Vickers, 3; F. W. Cooke, 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; G. C. Tunnicliff (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in F#.

WYMESWOLD (Leicestershire).—On Monday, November 16th, six members of the Loughborough company visited Wymeswold, and rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. C. Smith, 1; A. Cresser, 2; E. D. Taylor, Esq., 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., Esq., 4; S. Smith, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun., Esq. (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, Mr. Marshall Brown, of Wymeswold, ringing the 5th in the place of S. Smith. Afterwards a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, standing as in the Oxford.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

DRAYTON (Berks).—On Sunday, November 8th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor for Divine Service in the evening. F. W. Warwick, 1; G. Jones, 2; F. Field, 3; C. Trinder, 4; T. Fulker, 5; H. D. Betteridge, Esq., (conductor), 6.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

CUMNOR (Berks).—On Sunday, November 29th, at the parish church of St. Michael and all Angels, at the invitation of the Rev. S. Y. N. Griffith, Vicar, for Divine Service in the evening a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 27½ mins. *C. W. Bassano (Balliol), 1; C. S. Rowland (St. John's), 2; G. C. Joyce (B.N.C.), 3; †C. W. Bennett (Worcester), 4; A. F. M. Custance (B.N.C.), 5; C. W. H. Griffith, C.C.C., (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in F. This is the first 720 attained by the society for upwards of two years. * First 720. † First 720 with a bob bell.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Friday, November 27th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. W. Baddeley, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Moreton, 3; J. Wood, 4; J. W. Brough, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6.

CHEDDLETON (Staffordshire).—On Friday, November 27th, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 28 mins. H. James, 1; H. Birch, 2; J. Gilbert, 3; H. Rogers, 4; E. Spooner, 5; J. Ollershaw (conductor), 6. On Sunday, November 29th, 720 Bob Minor, (nine bobs and six singles), in 27 mins. H. James, 1; E. Spooner, 2; J. Gilbert, 3; H. Rogers, 4; F. Clowes (conductor), 5; J. Ollershaw, 6.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On Tuesday, December 1st, at the parish church, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise Minor, in 26 mins. G. Bye, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Bye, 3; J. Parker, 4; E. F. Strange, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by the Association, the first by all the above, and the first on the bells. Tenor 10 cwt.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BRIGHTON.—On Sunday, November 15th, at St. Peter's church, by the Brighton branch, for afternoon service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46½ mins. E. Marshall, 1; J. Jay, 2; C. E. Golds, 3; H. Weston, 4; G. King, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; W. F. Vernon, 8. And on Monday, November 16th, at the same church, for practice, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 17 mins. F. Marshall, 1; W. Palmer, 2; J. Searle, 4; H. Boniface, 4; G. King, 5; J. Jay, 6; H. Weston (conductor), 7; W. F. Vernon, 8.

LEWES.—Muffled Peal.—On Tuesday, November 17th, at the parish church of Southover, by the Brighton branch, as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Mr. Alderman Thorne, the first mayor of the Borough, whose term of office expired only on November 9th, with the bells half-muffled, an attempt was made to ring Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, which failed after ringing 55 mins. A 1036 was then rung in the same method, in 38 mins. W. Palmer, 1; G. F. Attree (conductor), 2; J. Jay, 3; H. Boniface, 4; G. King, 5; H. Weston, 6; J. Searle, 7; W. F. Vernon, 8.

ABINGDON (Berks).—Haudbell Ringing.—On Monday evening, November 16th, at St. Nicholas Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. *H. Bright, 1; J. Jiner, 2; T. Short, 3; H. Fruin, 4; H. Sheard (conductor), 5; W. Sandell, 6. *First 720.

ANSTON, ROTHERHAM (Yorks). On Sunday, November 22nd, for Divine Service in the afternoon, the local company rang 2880 changes, in the following methods; 720 of Violet Treble Bob Minor, 730 Duke of York, 720 Kent, and 720 of Oxford. G. Lidster, 1; R. S. Fox, 2; J. Bland, 3; C. F. Fowler, 4; S. Smith, 5; T. Silvester (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. This touch was rang for the last service in church before the restoration, which is to be started with at once at a cost of £1500.

BENGELO (Herts).—On Friday, November 27, at Holy Trinity Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. T. Barker, 1; J. Pomfret, 2; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 3; J. Channer, 4; W. Odell, 5; H. Phillips, 6. The above was rung to commemorate the birthday of J. Channer; his brother-ringers wish him many happy returns of the day. And on Sunday, November 29th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. T. Barker, 1; W. A. Tyler, 2; W. Bennett, 3; J. Pomfret, 4; J. Channer, 5; H. Phillips (conductor), 6.

BRAMFORD (Suffolk).—On Sunday, November 22nd, after morning service, two 720's of Plain Bob Minor. First: C. Ablitt, 1; J. Scowen, 2; G. C. Scowen, 3; A. R. Aldham, 4; W. Smith (conductor), 5; F. Tillett, 6. Second: C. Ablitt, 1; G. C. Scowen, 2; J. Scowen, 3; W. Smith, 4; C. Smith, 5; A. R. Aldham (conductor), 6. And after afternoon service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. Smith, 1; *J. Scowen, 2; *G. C. Scowen, 3; F. Tillett, 4; C. Mee, 5; A. R. Aldham (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in G. *First 720 in the method. G. C. and J. Scowen hail from Hadleigh; W. Smith and C. Ablitt from Higham; C. Mee, F. Tillett, A. R. Aldham from St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich.

BRIGHTON (Sussex).—On Sunday evening, November 15th, for Divine Service at St. Paul's church, the local company rang a 168 of Grandsire Triples. Herbert Eves, 1; W. Alfry, 2; J. Salmon, 3; G. Biggerstaff, 4; R. Hill, 5; —. Riley, 6; A. Bennett (conductor), 7; J. Markett, 8. This is the first 168 by the above band, which was rung at the first attempt with the bells open, and it is very creditable to themselves and their instructor. It is also the first 168 on the bells by this band.

BRISTOL.—Muffled Peal.—On Sunday, November 8th, at Christ Church, 719 of Grandsire Caters. G. Stadon, 1; E. Duckham, 2; J. York, 3; W. W. Gifford (Salisbury), 4; A. York, 5; H. Porch, 6; W. Parsons, 7; E. Beake, 8; J. Hinton (conductor), 9; R. Watkins, 10. The above was rung with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to the late W. Stadon, of Bristol.

DEDHAM (Essex).—On Tuesday, November 11th, a 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). C. Ablitt, 1; W. Smith, 2; J. Levitt, 3; J. Taylor, 4; W. J. Nevard, 5; J. W. Smith (conductor), 6. And on handbells, 336 of Bob Major. J. Taylor, 1; J. Levitt, 2; W. Nevard, 3-4; W. Smith, 5-6; J. W. Smith, 7-8. And several touches of Treble Bob Minor, W. Smith, 1-2; W. J. Nevard, 3-4; J. W. Smith, 5-6.

DENFORD (Northants).—On Wednesday, November 11th, for practice at Holy Trinity Church, 720 of College Little, with eighteen bobs and two singles, and 360 of Bob Minor, with nine bobs. Also on Thursday, November 12th, 720 each of Bob Minor and College Little, each with eighteen bobs and two singles, and two 360's of London Single, and 360 of Oxford Bob, each with nine bobs, and 360 of Bob Minor, with twelve singles. F. Starmore, 1; J. Groom, 2; A. Arnold, 3; H. Groom, 4; F. Arnold, 5; A. Groom (conductor), 6.

DUFFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, November 15th, for evening service, 1280 Treble Bob Major. And on Sunday, November 22nd, a 1344 in the same method. And for the morning services on the above days several short touches of Stedman Triples. G. Dawson, 1; S. Johnson, 2; J. Howe, 3; A. Robinson, 4; J. Hingley, 5; W. Hickling, 9; R. Johnson, 7; A. Percival Heywood (conductor), 8.

EXETER.—On Sunday, November 22nd, at St. Sidwell's Church, 1050 of Grandsire Triples, taken from Hollis's five-part peal. T. Townsend, 1; E. Shepherd (conductor), 2; E. Pitts, 3; W. Richardson, 4; A. Shepherd, 5; J. Moss, 6; F. Shepherd, 7; W. Mundy, 8.

FULHAM (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, November 22nd, for Divine Service at All Saints' church, the local society, with the assistance of Mr. C. F. Winny, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. F. Kelley, 1; J. Green, 2; B. Battram, 3; W. Weare, 4; J. W. Kelley (conductor), 5; J. W. Driver, 6; C. F. Winny, 7; W. How, 8. Also on Thursday evening, November 26th, for practice, the local company rang 1008 of Grandsire Triples. W. Bidwell, 1; J. Green, 2; B. E. Battram, 3; W. Weare, 4; J. Kelly, 5; W. J. Driver, 6; C. F. Winny, 7; S. How, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

GARSTON (Lancashire).—On Monday, November 30th, at St. Michael's church, a 600 of Grandsire Triples. Samuel Gough, 1; Frank Turner, 2; John Allen, 3; Charles Newton, 4; James Alexander, 5; William Davies, 6; W. Hughes (conductor), 7; William Woods, 8. Tenor 12½ cwt. W. Davies hails from Liverpool; W. Woods from Hale.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Sunday, November 22nd, after Divine Service in the afternoon at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 30 mins. S. Slater (conductor), 1; O. Garwood, 2; W. Grigley, 3; H. Smith, 4; A. Symonds, 5; Jno. Lee, 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 30 mins. S. Slater (conductor), 1; C. Adams, 2; *A. Symonds, 3; O. Garwood, 4; W. Gridley, 5; Jno. Lee, 6. *First 720 in the method. Messrs. Gridley and Lee hail from Foxearth, Essex; Symonds and Smith from Lavenham, Suffolk; the rest are local men.

GRAVESEND (Kent).—On Monday, November 9th, at St. George's Church, 1260 of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins. G. Hayes, 1; F.

French, 2; H. D. Davies, 3; W. Martin, 4; F. Hayes, 5; J. W. Aitkin, 6; W. Harper (conductor), 7; B. Spinner, 8. Also on Saturday, November 21st, 720 of Bob Minor with 6,8 behind. — Royston, 1; B. Spinner, 2; W. Baker, 3; H. C. Davies, 4; E. Andrew (R.E. Band), 5; G. Martin, 6; J. W. Aitkin (conductor), 7; W. Louth, 8. And a 504 of Grandsire Triples. — Royston, 1; W. Harper (conductor), 2; B. Spinner, 3; W. Baker, 4; H. D. Davies, 5; E. Andrew, 6; J. Aitkin, 7; G. Martin, 8. W. Baker hails from Rochester, and G. Martin from Swanscombe. All the above except Royston and Martin are members of the Kent County Association.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday morning, November 22nd, at St. Martin's church, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 23 mins. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; G. Thurlow, 2; T. Gleed, 3; G. Griffin, 4; T. Titchener, 5; J. Nixon, 6. Also for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 24 mins. T. Titchener, 1; G. Griffin, 2; G. Harvey, 3; J. Leach, 4; J. Nixon, 5; J. Hannington (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, November 29th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; T. Gleed, 2; J. Nixon, 3; J. Leach, 4; T. Titchener, 5; G. Griffin, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HIGHAM (Suffolk).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Monday evening, November 23rd, a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Levitt, 1-2; J. W. Smith, 3-4; W. Smith (conductor), 5-6. This is the first 720 double-handed by all the above.

HIGHAM FERRERS (Northants).—On Monday, November 16th, for practice, a 360 of Oxford Bob. S. Parker, 1; J. Nutt, 2; A. Martin, 3; R. Dunkley, 4; W. Parker, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of London Single. S. Parker, 1; W. Hall, 2; T. Parker, 3; R. Dunkley, 4; A. Martin, 5; W. Parker (conductor), 6. And a 360 of College Little. S. Parker, 1; J. Nutt, 2; R. Dunkley, 3; G. Thompson, 4; A. Martin, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. W. Hall hails from Raunds; R. Dunkley from Bythorn.

KINGSWINFORD (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, November 15th, at St. Mary's church, by the kind permission of the Rev. C. F. Collom, a mixed company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor. W. Lawrence (Wordsley), 1; W. Jones (Kingswinford; first 720), 2; Geo. Howell (Wollaston; conductor), 3; W. Johnson (Darlaston), 4; R. Schofield (Sedgeley), 5; E. S. Chapman (Wordsley), 6. Afterwards five of the local company, with W. Johnson, rang 120 of Stedman's Principle. Rev. C. F. Collom, 1; W. Jones, 2; T. Hillman, 3; J. Hillman, 4; W. Johnson, 5; E. Bourne, 6. Several touches of Plain Bob Minor were also rung.

LEISTON (Suffolk).—On Saturday, November 21st, for practice, a 720 of Bob Major by the local company. *J. Flegg, 1; *F. Cooper, 2; T. E. Shearing, 3; C. Smith, 4; W. Button, 5; *R. Stannard, 6; G. Baxter (conductor), 7; J. Button, 8. Tenor 20½ cwt. And on handbells, retained in hand, the company rang their first course of Oxford Treble Bob Major. And on Friday, on handbells retained in hand, three members of the company met to instruct two probationers, and rang 1056 Bob Minor in different touches with them. T. Staulkey, 1-2; C. Shearing, 3; A. Rodwell, 4; G. Baxter (conductor), 5-6. Also on Wednesday, November 18th, on handbells retained in hand, a 360 and three 180s of Bob Minor, a course of Grandsire Minor, 120 each of Grandsire, Plain and Old Doubles. T. Staulkey, 1-2; T. E. Shearing (conductor), 3-4; G. Baxter, 5-6. *First 720 in the method.

LINCOLN.—On Tuesday evening, December 1st, at St. Peter's-at-Gowts, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. T. Walker (first 720), 1; F. Cotton (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; H. Palmer (first 720 with a bob bell), 3; J. Cox, 4; P. Herrick, 5; W. Knowles (conductor), 6. Tenor 9 cwt.

MILTON NEXT GRAVESEND (Kent).—On Monday, November 9th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Bob Minor in 25 mins. F. French, 1; W. Martin, 2; B. Spinner, 3; G. Hayes, 4; G. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Bob Minor in 25 mins. F. French, 1; W. Martin, 2; B. Spinner, 3; G. Hayes, 4; G. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

OXFORD.—On Tuesday, November 10th, at St. Thomas-ye-Martyr, a 360 of Cambridge Surprise Minor. O. Thomas, 1; W. Wood, 2; F. A. Castle, 3; H. J. Castle, 4; W. C. Baston, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, November 12th, 720 Double Court Bob Minor. F. Kirby, 1; W. Wood, 2; F. Castle, 3; Job Howes, 4; W. Baston, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. Also 120 Cambridge Surprise. Job Howes, 1; W. Wood, 2; F. Castle, 3; H. Castle, 4; W. Baston, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. And on Friday, November 20th, a muffled peal consisting of various touches of Cambridge and Double Court was rang. And on Sunday, November 22nd, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor, and 240 of Stedman's Slow Course, being the first 720 of Cambridge rung in

Oxford, and the first by the Guild. Job Howes, 1; W. Wood, 2; F. A. Castle, 3; H. J. Castle, 4; W. C. Baston, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6. Also at St. Thomas-ye-Martyr club room, on handbells, retained in hand, on Friday evening, November 27th, 1008 of Stedman Triples. J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 1-2; H. J. Castle, 3-4; W. Baston, 5-6; W. Wood, 7-8.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, November 14th, at St. Peter's church, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). *A. Bush, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; *R. Dunkley, 3; G. Kirk, 4; W. Hall, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. And two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. Stubbs, 1; R. Dunkley, 2; A. Bush, 3; B. W. Allen, 4; F. Gilbert (conductor), 5; S. Bailey, 6. And two 6-scores of Bob Doubles. A. Coles, 1; A. Bush (first 120's in the method), 2; R. Pendered, 3; W. Hall (conductor), 4; R. Dunkley, 5; F. Slede, 6. *First 720. A. Bush hails from Northampton, and R. Dunkley from Bythorn, Hants.

RINGSTEAD (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, November 14th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Oxford Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. Chapman (first 720; aged 14), 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Shipley, 3; E. Mayes, 4; J. Stubbs, 5; T. Roberts (conductor), 6. And a 720 of College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). E. Mayes, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Shipley, 3; J. Sawford, 4; J. Braybrook, 5; J. Stubbs (conductor), 6.

SLINFOLD (Sussex).—On Tuesday evening, November 10th, a mixed band met at the Parish Church and rung a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. *F. Rice, 1; †W. Lanaway, 2; T. Andrews, 3; H. Wood, 4; J. Cooper, 5; H. Chantler (conductor), 6. Also three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Garton, 1; J. Cooper, 2; F. Rice, 3; W. Lanaway, 4; H. Burstow (conductor), 5; T. Reed, 6. *First 720 in the method; †first 720 with a bob bell. Messrs. Lanaway, Cooper and Garton, hail from Slinfold; Andrews, Wood, and Chantler, from Warnham; Rice from Worth; and Burstow from Horsham.

STRATFORD (Suffolk).—On Wednesday evening, November 18th, 720 of Bob Minor. G. Winny, 1; J. Levitt, 2; W. Ransom, 3; W. Smith, 4; J. W. Smith (conductor), 5; C. yblitt, 6.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, November 10th, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicholas, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. On Wednesday, November 11th, four 168's of Grandsire Triples On November 15th, for afternoon service, three 120's of Grandsire Doubles. And for Divine Service in the evening, 360 of Plain Bob. 7th and eighth behind. After Service, five 168's of Grandsire Triples, The following took part in the ringing: The Hon. M. E. G. Finch-Hatton, J. S. Wright, G. L. Richardson, J. Brown, J. W. Jarvis, C. Neverson, G. Skeef, R. Skeef, J. Prudence, R. Jarvis.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Saturday, November 28th, at St. Gregory's church, an attempt was made to ring a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, 5088 changes, composed by John Thorp, but after ringing about 4800 changes, in 3 hrs., 5 mins., the bells got into hopeless confusion, and stand was called. J. Campin, 1; W. Griggs, 2; G. Brown, 3; W. Bacon, 4; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 5; A. Scott, 6; W. Howell, 7; H. Harper, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Sunday, November 22nd, for Divine Service in the evening, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. Joseph Davidson, 1; Joseph Waghorn, jun., 2; Joseph Waghorn, 3; James Langran, 4; John Crane (Kidderminster), 5; W. Pye-English, 6; Henry Barnett (conductor), 7; Charles Davidson, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLENHALL (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, November 22nd, 2520 of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 39 mins., with the bells muffled, as a mark of respect to the late William Pugh, of Stourbridge, who died in his fifty-fifth year. C. Trubshaw, 1; W. Lawrance, 2; S. Dace, 3; G. Howells, 4; H. Dakin, 5; W. Johnson (conductor), 6; E. S. Chapman, 7; J. Adams, 8. Messrs. Trubshaw, Dace, and Adams, hail from Willenhall, Lawrance and Chapman from Wordsley, Howells and Dakin from Wollaston, and W. Johnson, from Darlaston.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On Sunday morning, November 8th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. G. Bye, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Bye, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. And on Sunday morning, November 16th, for Divine Service, a 360 of Cambridge Surprise, standing as before. And on Tuesday, November 17th, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. A. Nicholson, 5; the rest as before.

WOLVERLEY (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, November 24th, at the parish church, for practice, the local company rang six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles in 28 mins., each called differently. Frederick Geens, 1; Thomas Salter, 2; Harry Williams (conductor), 3; Thomas Pitt, 4; Frederick Lee, 5; Henry Smith, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

* * Several touches, reports, etc., are unavoidably left over till our next issue.

Correspondence.

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

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

THE LATE MR. SNOWDON.

SIR,—On behalf of the officers and members of "The Yorkshire Association," may I tender our sincere thanks for the many expressions of deep sympathy which have been shewn to us in the great loss which we have sustained. The death of our beloved President has dealt us all a heavy blow, following as it has done so closely on the happy and successful 10th Annual Meeting of the Society, held at Sheffield on October 3rd, when he appeared to be in the height of manly vigour. His short illness and sudden death are deeply crushing, especially to us who have been so closely connected with him in his work. We shall sorely miss one who during the ten years our society has been in existence, has steered it so successfully, and so much to the satisfaction of its more than 400 members. Mr. Snowdon's great kindness of manner had a wonderful effect on all those with whom he came in contact, he always made the poorest and most illiterate—if they had only the taste and love for ringing—to be thoroughly at ease when in his company. His forgetfulness of self in furthering the interests of the ringing exercise was marvellous, no stone was left unturned from which information could be gathered, or which might in the slightest degree benefit or interest his fellow-ringers. It was my good fortune to have the pleasure of ringing with Mr. Snowdon for many years previous to the formation of "The Yorkshire Association," and since then I have been closely associated with him as Secretary during the last three years of which—my health having failed—he found time—in spite of his busy life—to render me most substantial assistance rather than accept my resignation, which I had felt obliged to send in. Time will not permit me, neither can I find words to express, with full justice, the character of him whom we all so deeply mourn, but may we not all try to carry out in our daily lives the many virtues—the manly straightforwardness—with which he was adorned, and endeavour to realize more and more that "he being dead yet speaketh?"

W. WHITAKER, *Hon. Sec.*

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE MR. SNOWDON.

SIR,—It was pleasing to read the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer's tribute to the worth of our lamented chief in last Saturday's "BELL NEWS." It is particularly pleasing to us Yorkshiremen to see that the abilities, the unflagging perseverance, and the many good qualities of our late leader and brother are recognised and acknowledged throughout the country in such a heartfelt manner as is expressed by Mr. Bulwer. My immediate object, however, in writing to you, is with reference to his remarks about "the raising up of some fitting memorial of one whom we can see and hear no more." As to this object, there can be but one opinion. It would be a lasting disgrace to the Exercise if some fitting and permanent memorial were not raised to perpetuate the memory of Mr. Snowdon. Being so thoroughly in unison with Mr. Bulwer on this point, I feel compelled—though very reluctant—to join issue with him as to the form in which he proposes the memorial to take. And my reason for this is simple. A proposal for the establishment of a fund something similar to the one Mr. Bulwer suggests was made at a meeting of the Yorkshire Association about four years ago. This was strongly opposed by Mr. Snowdon on several grounds. One reason of his opposition was that ringers should confine themselves strictly to the work of ringing, both socially and scientifically; and another was the fact that most of our brothers were members of properly-constituted friendly societies established for that object, and he always maintained that by establishing any such fund, we should be going outside our own limits, and stepping on the ground of societies formed for that special purpose. Whatever may be the merits of Mr. Bulwer's suggestion—whatever may be advanced in its favour—the mere fact that our late chief was opposed to such a scheme impels me to speak against it. I trust Mr. Bulwer will not think for one moment that I would raise the shadow of a shade of opposition to a memorial of some kind to Mr. Snowdon. My simple objection to his proposal is the fact that Mr. Snowdon himself was opposed to it, and it would appear to me somewhat inconsistent in raising a testimonial to our late chief in a shape which would be strongly objected to by him if alive.

En passant, I also would make a suggestion, which I submit to the Exercise, namely, that a marble tablet should be placed in Ilkley church, recording Mr. Snowdon's worth, and the estimation in which he was held by his brethren. This suggestion I make without comment.

There is another matter, Mr. Editor, on which I feel constrained to write. We all of us know—no one, probably, better than yourself—

the great interest Mr. Snowdon took in the welfare of "THE BELL NEWS" from its commencement. We have looked week after week for the productions of his pen, as they have appeared in its pages. Those of us who had the pleasure of his more intimate acquaintance, know well how anxious he ever was for the success of the paper, and how that his great desire was to see it really and thoroughly the organ of the Exercise. I therefore beg to suggest to our brethren, as one memorial to Mr. Snowdon, that we—all of us—should make a special effort to spread and increase the circulation of "THE BELL NEWS" in every ringing company. I consider, sir—with all due deference to yourself—that "THE BELL NEWS" is in itself a great memorial to Mr. Snowdon, and I feel sure that by getting our paper well circulated we shall not only be benefitting the work of ringing, but we shall also be perpetuating one of the many good works which Mr. Snowdon laboured to promote. Mr. Bulwer says truly "a double share of sadness at his loss must needs be the lot of those who knew him well; but even with those, who, like myself, had corresponded with him, but never grasped his hand, the sense of sorrow and regret at his decease is extreme." We who have had the great pleasure to "know him well" and often to grasp his hand do indeed feel his loss; it is impossible quite to feel the full extent of our bereavement; and I trust Mr. Bulwer will not think my opposition to his suggestion comes from any objection to it in principle, but that I, in common with all of us who "knew him well," earnestly desire to continue the work as we know he would have us to do. I sincerely trust that no time will be lost in raising some memorial to Mr. Snowdon, which will shew to future generations that great and good work he accomplished in connection with our craft, and the esteem in which he was held by his brethren.

B. T. COPLEY.

Bradford, Yorkshire.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—It would appear that the feeling of the Exercise on the subject of the proposed National Association has been slightly exaggerated by those who have addressed you on the subject. It is only necessary to state that the number of names sent us in reply to our letter in your issue of the 14th, amounts to the astonishing total of fifteen to shew that the Exercise does not feel that a National Association is so greatly needed as some of your correspondents would make out. It is needless to add that we think that after such a response to our appeal the scheme may be allowed to die a natural death, at least for the present.

F. E. ROBINSON. R. B. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN.
J. E. ACLAND-TROYTE. GERVAIS HOLMES.
DOLBEN PAUL. CYRIL C. CHILD.

BEDDINGTON BELLS, SURREY.

SIR,—In the "Church Bells of Surrey," by Mr. J. C. L. Stahlschmidt, published last year, under the heading "Beddington" I find this note "A peal of ten bells by Mears, stated to be dated 1868.—Access to belfry refused." The inscriptions are not given consequently. How was this? Who refused admission? Was it the Vicar, the churchwardens, the steeplekeeper, or who? Why should admission have been refused here and nowhere else? I have by me nearly all the county bell histories that have ever been published, but have never seen such a note before.

J. R. JERRAM.

GRATITUDE.

SIR,—Some time ago there appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" an appeal to the benevolent in my behalf. That appeal has been very liberally responded to both by members of the College Youths and the Royal Cumberlands, and many other ringing friends in the country not belonging to either of these Societies, and for which I now beg to return to all of them my sincere and heartfelt thanks. I feel that I owe a deep debt of gratitude to my ringing friends for their kind sympathy in my misfortune, the more so because it is unusual for an appeal to be made for such a purpose in these columns, and if the humble services that I have been able to render to the Exercise have produced so much kindness, all I can say is that I am very thankful for such an appreciation, and I trust to be able, at no very distant date, to meet my brother-strings again, as I am glad to say that I am so far recovered as to be able to resume my employment.

SAMUEL HAYES.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

A COMMITTEE MEETING will be held in the Church room, Stoke, on Saturday, December 19th, at 3 o'clock.

E. D. POLLOCK, } *Hon. Secs.*
E. GLOVER, }

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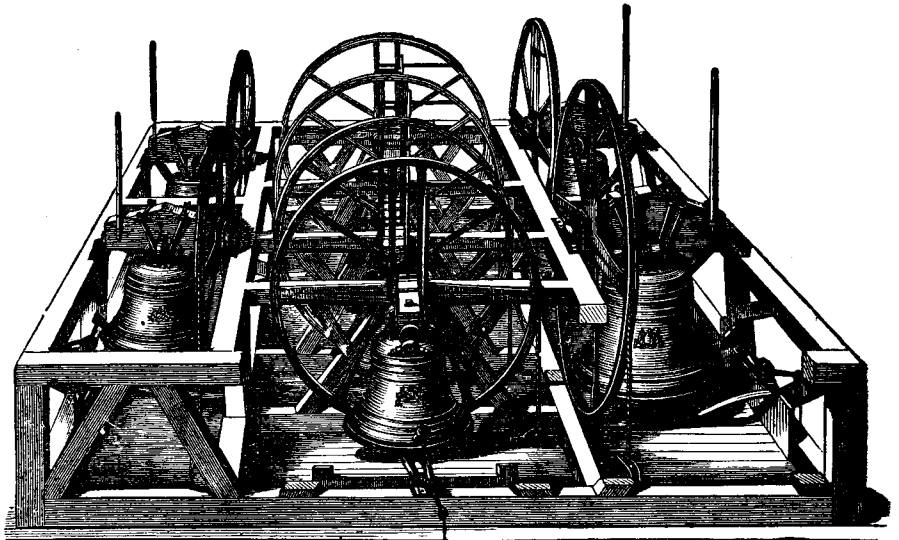
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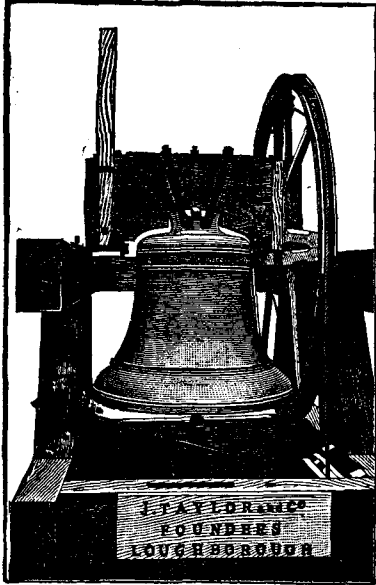
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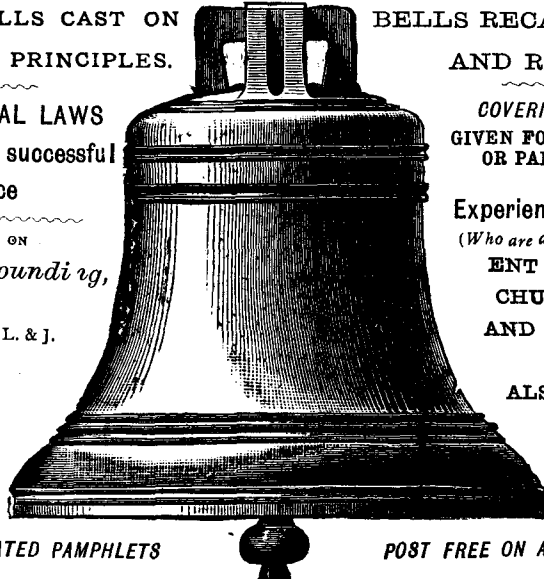
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