

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 208. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. IV.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 1886.

[ONE PENNY.]

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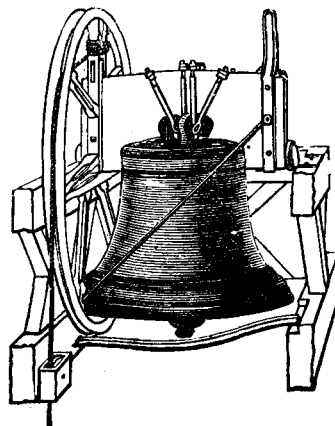
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THE TWO BIG BENS.

No other bell ever underwent such a career of misfortune as that which was intended for use in the new Houses of Parliament. From the time when that immense structure was commenced, it was resolved that both the clock and the hour bell should be the largest ever seen in this country; but it was not till 1844 that the late Sir Charles Barry solicited tenders for their construction. Through a course of wrangling, which it would be of little use to elucidate, fifteen years elapsed before the clock was finished and actually at work in its place; this was in 1859, and the clock is not only the largest, but one of the most accurate we possess. The ponderous weights hang down a shaft 160 feet deep, and require winding up only once a week. The pendulum, 15 feet long, weighs 680 lbs., and so delicate is its action, that a small weight of only one ounce placed on a particular part of the apparatus will alter the rate of the clock one second per week. On the four sides of the clock tower are dial rooms, each a large apartment, traversed by mechanism which communicates motion from the clock to the hands. Each of the four clock dials is 22½ feet in diameter, and the mere cast-iron frame work of each dial weighs no less than 4 tons. The hour figures are 2 feet high and 6 feet apart, and the minute marks are 14 inches apart. The outer point of the minute hand makes a sudden leap of 7 inches every half minute. The hands weigh more than 2 cwt. the pair; the minute hand being 16 feet long, and the hour hand 9 feet. In order to render the dials visible at night, each dial face is glazed with enamelled or opalised glass, with sixty gas jets behind it. Such is the magnificent clock, for which suitable bells were sought to be made. The original scheme was for a clock that would strike the hours on a bell of eight or ten tons, and chime the quarters upon eight smaller bells. It was afterwards decided that there should be only four bells for the chimes in addition to the great hour bell. In the four corners of the bell room these bells are placed; the first with a weight of 4½ tons, and yielding the musical note of B; the second weighs 2 tons, note E sharp; the third weighs 1½ tons, note F sharp; and the fourth, weighs 1¼ tons, in G sharp. By varying the order in which these are struck, they produce four chimes or partial melodies, at the four divisions of each hour, and at the full or complete hour, the whole sixteen sounds form a simple and beautiful melody in the key of E major. These four bells were made and hung nearly in the manner first designed; but the fifth—the king of the belfry—that was to hang in the vacant place between them, has not been so fortunate. It was to have been about 9 feet in diameter, 9 inches thick at the sound-bow, and to weigh 14 tons—nearly three times the weight of the great bell of St. Paul's Cathedral; it was to be struck by a hammer of a ton weight, and was then to yield the note E, one octave lower than the E of the chimes, and forming a musical chord with the whole of them. The bell was designed by Mr. E. B. Denison, who, as an amateur, has displayed considerable skill in the theory of clock and bell-work. After much disputing between commissioners, architects, and others, it was cast in August 1856, at Stockton-on-Tees, in Yorkshire. The mould was six weeks in preparation, and the metal was melted in two furnaces, each containing ten tons. Eighteen out of the twenty tons of metal were poured into the mould, producing a bell about 8 feet high and 9½ in diameter at the mouth. When turned, trimmed, and finished, it weighed about 15 tons, a little more than had at first been intended. The ponderous mass was then carefully conveyed to London, and placed for a time at the foot of the clock tower where it was visited by multitudes of people. Every Saturday it was struck a certain number of blows, that the quality and loudness of the sound might be tested. On one occasion, the E was found to be a dull and uncertain sound; and this leading to a close scrutiny, it was found

that owing to a flaw in the metal, the bell was practically useless, and would ultimately be broken by the blows of the hammer. It was deemed a fortunate circumstance that the discovery was made before the bell had been raised to the tower. Officially, the bell was to have been named "St. Stephen," but a random sobriquet used in *The Times*, "Big Ben," caught the taste of the public; and in October 1857, it was known all over the country that Big Ben was cracked. There then ensued another series of disputations, accusations, and counter accusations. Another bell was cast by another bell founder, it was somewhat less in weight than the former, but was made to yield the same tone. In October 1858, it was raised into its place, a task requiring very perfect appliances; for the weight, raised to a height of nearly 200 feet, was not less than 25 tons, or 56,000 lbs., including bell, cradle, chains, and tackle. Thus was Big Ben, the second, cast on April 10th, taken out of the mould on the 24th, sent to Westminster on May 31st, tried as to tone by Dr. Turler on June 18th, and finally raised to its destined place in October. During November Big Ben underwent a long series of blows with hammers weighing from four to seven cwt. each. The clock was put up in its place, and for some time the inhabitants of the metropolis heard the chime bells every quarter of an hour, and Big Ben every hour. But another misfortune arose; Ben the second cracked like Ben the first. Then ensued an accusation, a bitter controversy, and a lawsuit, and then fragments of Big Ben was analysed by Professor Tyndall and Dr. Percy, while Professor Airey tried to ascertain whether the bell might still be used, though cracked. The subject of Big Ben became almost ludicrous: not only was the deep E of the bell not to be heard, but the other four ones was silenced also, and the clock was stopped; insomuch that Earl Derby, in June, 1860, said in the House of Lords: "We all know the circumstances under which we have been deprived of the doubtful advantages of hearing the tones of the great bell, but when a clock ceases to address itself to the sense of hearing, that is no reason it should decline to present itself to the sense of sight. One of the hands had disappeared altogether, and the other stands at twelve, so that it has the merit of being right at least once in the twelve hours." The Earl spoke of the doubtful advantage of hearing the bell. It appears that the tone when very slowly repeated had a melancholy and depressing effect on many persons, and was not much liked by those who were attending Parliament, or the courts in Westminster Hall.

Earl Grey, speaking after the Earl of Derby, rejoiced that the great bell had been cracked, and trusted no attempt would be made to make the clock speak to their ears again in the old tones. The two Big Bens cost the country nearly £4,000, all expenses included. One was broken and re-melted; the other was condemned on account of faults and fissures, and the lowest or deepest of the four chime or quarter-bells, was thenceforward used as the hour bell.—*The Book of Days*.

TUE BROOK, NEAR LIVERPOOL.

ON Saturday, March 20th, an attempt to ring a peal of Bob Major proved unsuccessful after ringing 880 changes in 35 mins. Rd. Williams, 1; J. R. Pritchard (composer and conductor), 2; W. James, 3; J. Brown, 4; W. Booth, 5; K. Williams, 6; W. Davies, 7; T. Hammond, 8. It being then too late to start again, a touch of 768 changes in 30 mins. Rd. Williams, 1; J. R. Pritchard (conductor), 2; W. James, 3; J. Brown, 4; T. Hammond, 5; W. Booth, 6; W. Davies, 7; K. Williams, 8. Afterwards 1000 of Stedman Triples. T. Hammond, 1; W. James, 2; W. Booth, 3; J. Brown, 4; J. R. Pritchard, 5; W. Davies, 6; R. Williams (conductor), 7; R. Diggle, 8.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

ALL members are requested to attend the meeting on Monday, April 5th, 1886, when the business will commence at half-past nine o'clock precisely, to receive the report of the Committee for the revision of the rules, &c.

J. BARRY, Secretary.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THE undermentioned peals and touches were rung on March 20th, as a mark of respect to the memory of the Right Hon. the Earl of Chichester, Lord Lieut. of Sussex, who died on March 9th, and was buried at Laughton, near Lewes, on Saturday, March 20th.

By the *Arundel branch, at Arundel*.—Several short touches of Grandsire Triples.

By the *Billinghurst branch, at Billinghurst*.—A 720 of Warnham Court Bob Minor. P. Wood, 1; W. Chantler, 2; G. Matthews, 3; W. Chantler, jun., 4; J. Voice, 5; T. Chantler (conductor), 6.

By the *Brighton branch, at St. Peter's church*.—In 2 hrs. and 56 mins., Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples (see peal column for particulars).

At *St. Nicholas's church*.—The usual whole pull and stand, followed by short touches of Grandsire Triples.

By the *Chailey branch, at Chailey*.—Two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Reynolds, 1; A. Brown, 2; W. Pelling, 3; A. Gorrings, 4; O. Gatland (conductor), 5; W. Chatfield, 6. And seven 6-scores in the same method. J. Reynolds, 1; Heneage Cornwell, 2; A. Gorrings, 3; Horace Cornwell, 4; W. Pelling (conductor), 5; W. Chatfield, 6.

By the *Crawley branch, at Crawley*.—A quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. G. Wickens, 1; J. Newnham, 2; T. Smith, 3; W. Collison, 4; B. King, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; A. F. Hillier, 7; J. Collison, 8. By the *Cuckfield branch, at Cuckfield*.—A quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes. *R. Nash, 1; W. Gibson, 2; *W. Fox, 3; R. Walters, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; H. Bowell, 6; F. Hounsell (composer and conductor), 7; H. Cheeseman, 8. *1st quarter-peal.

By the *Ditchling branch, at Ditchling*.—Several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles.

By the *St. Mary's branch, Eastbourne, at St. Mary's church*.—A 1540 of Grandsire Triples, in 57 mins. S. Hart, 1; H. P. Bennett, 2; C. Hartley, 3; L. Huggett (conductor), 4; T. Willoughby, 5; J. Potter, 6; T. Hart, 7; J. Rollison, 8.

By the *All Saints' branch, Eastbourne, at All Saints' church*.—A 350 of Grandsire Triples, 168 in the same method, and two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles.

By the *Christ Church branch, Eastbourne*.—A 720 of Bob Minor and a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 52 mins. H. Goddard, 1; T. Smith, 2; H. Colbran, 3; G. Smith, 4; G. Howse, 5; F. Harding (conductor), 6.

By the *Goring branch, at Goring*.—Six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, by H. Evans, W. Ford, F. Hayler, and three others.

By the *Henfield branch, at Henfield*.—Rounds, &c., were rung.

By the *Hurst branch, at Hurst*.—Six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with three covers, in 28 mins. A. Pierce, 1; T. Mansbridge, 2; H. Reeves (conductor), 3; T. Loney, 4; W. Lander, 5; T. Gander, 6; W. B. Davey, 7; A. Davey, 8.

By the *Itchingfield branch, at Itchingfield*.—Six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. Killick, 1; T. Killick, 2; J. Newman, 3; W. Newman, 4; T. Fairs (conductor), 5. And a 480 of Doubles. H. Killick, 1; J. Newman, 2; F. Burdfield, 3; T. Fairs, 4; W. Newman (conductor), 5.

By the *Southover branch, at Southover, Lewes*.—Rounds and call changes were rung.

By the *Newick branch, at Newick*.—Several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, by Edward Brooks (conductor), Ernest Brooks, Manfred Brooks, John Brooks, James Martin, and J. Roser.

By the *Ringmer branch, at Ringmer*.—Rounds and call changes were rung.

By the *Rye branch, at Rye*.—Rounds were rung.

By the *Slinfold branch, at Slinfold*.—Touches of Oxford Single Bob Minor, &c. were rung.

By the *Steyning branch, at Steyning*.—A 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. F. Morris, 1; T. Searle, 2; G. Gatland, 3; G. Smart, 4; J. Woolgar, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6.

By the *Westham branch, at Westham*.—Rounds and call changes were rung.

A GENEROUS OFFER.—Mr. F. Charsley, of Slough, has intimated through the Rev. P. W. Phipps, that he will bear the expense of adding two new bells to the ring of six in the parish church of St. Mary's, so as to complete the octave. An inspection has been made, and the work entrusted to Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of Whitechapel, who we have no doubt will make a satisfactory finish to the undertaking. This is only one instance of Mr. F. Charsley's munificence, he having in various ways greatly assisted in many charitable works in the town, which are not immediately connected with interesting matter suitable to the general readers of this journal.

ST. ANNE'S, BAGSHOT, SURREY.

ON Thursday evening, March 18th, for practice, six members of the local company rang their first 720 of Doubles, viz.—three 6-scores of Grandsire, and three 6-scores of Plain Bob in 28 mins. H. Stapleton, 1; H. Houlton, 2; E. Spooner, 3; T. Gould, 4; E. Lee (conductor), 5; R. Wicks, 6. Tenor 21 cwt. in F. This is a new Church, built in the Gothic Style, with red facings and Bath stone dressing, and the spire 120 feet high. The foundation stone was laid by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, in April 1883, and the church was opened by the Bishop of Winchester, on April 25th, 1884. The bells are a good ring by Messrs. Warner and Sons, of Cripplegate, and were given by the late Mrs. Eliza Waterer, in memory of her late husband, Michael Waterer, Esq., of Bagshot. The bells at times go very heavy, and the belfry being very small, only ten feet square—and some of the ropes only six inches from the wall makes it very awkward for ringing. The frames are made for two more trebles to be put up at some future time.

The members of this company are highly honoured in having H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught as their President, and who subscribes very liberally to their funds, and through whose instrumentality the church was built. He has lately put in a beautiful stained glass window in memory of his late brother, the Duke of Albany.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.—The Annual Report of the Prudential Assurance Company states that the Assurance funds have increased during the year by £990,345, and that the total assets amount to £5,702,862. During the year, 17,353 new policies were issued, and the total premium income was £303,275, being an increase of £64,407 over the previous year. The expenditure, both in the Ordinary and Industrial branches, has been considerably reduced.

Miscellaneous Touches.

THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

WOMBOURN (Staffordshire).—On Wednesday, March 17th, the St. Benedict Society, rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (with eighteen bobs and ten singles). G. Deans, 1; A. Little, 2; H. Deans, 3; J. E. Claridge, 4; W. Devey, 5; R. Cartwright (composer and conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, March 21st (St. Benedict's day), a 720 of Doubles being two 120's of St. Simons, two of Plain Bob, and two of Grandsire in 26 mins. G. Deans, 1; H. Deans, 2; A. Little, 3; W. Devey, 4; R. Cartwright (conductor), 5; G. Little, 6. This was rung as a wedding peal on the occasion of Mr. J. E. Claridge's (who is a member of the Society) marriage.

KINGSWINFORD (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, March 14th, a 720 of Bob Minor in 27 mins. T. Hillman, 1; W. Jones, 2; W. Lawrence, 3; J. Hillman, 4; E. Bourne, 5; Rev. C. F. Collom (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, March 8th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with W. Sackfield at the treble and J. Guest at the third. And on Saturday, March 13th, a 360 of Bob Minor, with T. Darby, 1; E. Hesselbee, 3; and W. Lawrence, 5. And on Monday, March 15th, three quarters of a peal by the same band. And on Monday, March 22nd, a 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), in 27½ mins. T. Vaughn (first 720), 1; W. Jones, 2; W. Sackfield (first 720), 3; Joseph Hillman, 4; W. Lawrence, 5; Rev. C. F. Collom (conductor), 6.

TAMWORTH (Staffordshire).—On Monday evening, March 8th, at the parish church, nine six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, with 4,6,8, behind, in 40 mins. J. Windridge, 1; J. Wainwright, 2; H. Slaney, 3; W. Jennings, 4; F. Chapman, 5; J. Timms, 6; G. Woods (conductor), 7; J. H. Chatterton, 8. This is the first nine 6-scores the above company have rung called differently, and was rung on the occasion of the opening of the public Baths and Institute, presented to the town by the Vicar, the Rev. — Macgregor, at a cost of £3,000.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Friday evening, March 12th, Messrs. W. Hawkes (Springfield), W. Rowland, and J. Parmenter (Chelmsford), and E. Scotcher (Galleywood), paid a visit to St. Mary's Church, and rang 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 24½ mins. W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains (conductor), 2; J. W. Rowland, 3; W. Hawkes, 4; A. Turban, 5; E. Scotcher, 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob in 25 mins. E. Dains, 1; W. Harvey, 2; E. Scotcher, 3; J. Parmenter, 4; T. Drake (conductor), 5; W. Piper, 6.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On Sunday, March 14th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). B. Battrum, 1; E. F. Cole, Esq., 2; C. Byde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6.

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES.

5040.

By JOHN CARTER, Birmingham.

2	3	4	5	6	M	W	H
4 3 6 5 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 3 2 5 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 6 2 3 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 3 5 6 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 5 2 3 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 5 6 3 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 5 4 3 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 6 4 5 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 5 3 6 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 4 2 5 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Five times repeated. Single instead of a bob at the end of the 3rd and 6th part.

A DATE TOUCH OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

1886.

By A. SYKES, Huddersfield.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 4 1 6 3 8 5 7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 5 6 3 4	I	2	I	-	-	-	-
2 6 3 5 4	I	2	-	-	-	-	-
3 6 5 2 4	2	I	-	-	-	-	-
3 5 2 6 4	I	2	-	-	-	-	-
4 3 6 5 2	I	2	2	-	-	-	-
2 3 4 5 6	I	I	-	-	-	-	-

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5184.

By YORK GREEN, Stratford.

2	3	4	5	6	M	B	W	H
3 2 6 5 4	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
5 6 2 3 4	I	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
5 2 3 6 4	-	-	-	-	-	I	2	-
3 4 6 2 5	2	-	-	-	-	2	2	-
3 6 2 4 5	-	-	-	-	-	I	2	-
4 2 6 3 5	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-
2 4 5 3 6	2	-	-	-	-	2	2	-
3 5 4 2 6	I	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
4 6 2 5 3	I	-	-	-	-	I	2	-
4 5 3 6 2	-	-	-	-	-	2	I	-
5 4 2 6 3	2	-	-	-	-	2	2	-
4 3 2 6 5	2	-	-	-	-	I	2	-
5 3 6 2 4	I	-	-	-	-	2	I	-
2 5 3 4 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
2 3 4 5 6	I	-	-	-	-	2	2	-

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

6048.

By J. R. PRITCHARD, Liverpool.

2	3	4	5	6	I	4	6
5 3 6 2 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 6 5 2 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 5 3 2 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 6 4 2 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 4 5 2 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 6 3 2 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 3 4 2 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 4 6 2 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 3 5 2 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Five times repeated. Single instead of a bob at 6 in the last course of the 3rd and 6th parts.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

6591.

By CHALES HENRY HATTERSLEY, Sheffield.

2	3	1	4	5	6	4	5	16
6 1 5 4 2 3*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 1 6 3 2 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 1 4 6 2 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 1 3 4 2 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 1 5 6 2 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 1 4 5 2 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 1 4 6 3 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 1 5 4 3 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 1 2 6 3 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 1 4 2 3 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 1 4 6 5 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 1 2 4 5 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 1 6 2 5 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 1 3 4 5 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 1 2 3 5 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 1 4 2 5 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 1 6 3 5 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 1 2 6 5 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 1 3 2 5 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 1 3 6 4 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 1 2 3 4 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 1 6 4 5 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 1 3 6 5 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 1 4 3 5 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 1 6 5 2 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 1 3 6 2 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 1 5 3 2 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 1 6 2 4 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 1 5 3 4 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 1 2 5 4 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 1 3 2 4 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 1 6 5 4 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 1 2 6 4 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 1 5 2 4 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 1 6 4 3 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 1 5 2 3 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 1 4 5 3 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 1 6 2 3 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 1 5 6 3 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 1 2 5 3 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 1 6 3 4 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 1 5 6 4 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 1 3 5 4 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 1 6 4 2 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 1 3 5 2 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 1 4 2 6 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 1 5 4 6 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 1 2 5 6 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 1 2 4 3 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 1 6 5 3 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 1 4 3 2 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 1 4 5 6 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 1 3 4 6 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 1 5 3 6 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 1 2 4 6 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 1 3 2 6 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 1 4 3 6 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 1 5 2 6 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 1 3 5 6 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 1 2 3 6 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Brought round by bobs at 2, 5, 9, 10, 16, 17 sixes, and contains the sixty course-ends.

* Produced by bobs at 1, 3, 7, 10, 11, 13, 17, 18.

A PEAL OF ALBION TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5088.

By JOHN J. BRIERLEY, Saddleworth.

2	3	4	5	6	W	B	M	H
5 3 4 6 2	I	-	-	I	-	-	-	-
2 4 5 3 6	I	-	-	I	I	-	-	-
3 4 5 6 2	I	-	-	I	-	-	-	-
5 3 2 4 6	I	-	-	I	-	-	-	-
4 3 2 6 5	I	-	-	I	-	-	-	-
6 4 2 3 5	I	-	-	I	-	-	-	-
3 4 2 5 6	I	-	-	I	-	-	-	-

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

5184.

By H. DAINS, Royal Cumberland Youths.

2	3	4	5	6	I	5	6
4 2 6 3 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 6 4 3 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 4 3 2 5	-	-	-	-	8	-	-
2 3 4 6 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 4 2 6 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 2 3 6 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 3 2 4 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 2 6 4 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Five times repeated, with a single at 6 of second half-peal.

If a bob at 4 is called in first course of any part, the peal is reduced to 5072 changes, with 4th, 5th, and 6th in 6th place at every course-end.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB CATERS.

5184.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, Liverpool.

2	3	4	5	6	M	W	H
4 6 5 3 2	I	I	2	-	-	-	-
4 3 2 6 5	2	I	I	-	-	-	-
6 2 3 4 5	2	2	-	-	-	-	-
3 5 4 2 6	I	I	2	-	-	-	-

Twice repeated.

Rung at St. Peter's church, Liverpool, on January 28th, 1886. Conducted by its composer.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

6144.

By N. J. PITSTOW, Saffron Walden.

2	3	4	5	6	M	B	W	H
3 5 2 6 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 6 3 4 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 3 2 6 5	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
6 5 3 2 4	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
3 2 6 5 4	I	-	-	-	2	I	-	-
5 3 2 4 6	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
3 4 2 5 6	I	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

This peal has the 6th placed twice each way in each part in 5-6.

We request our friends to refrain, for a while, sending any more compositions, unless they possess some very peculiar feature. We have a great number now on hand awaiting insertion, which we should like to clear off before we receive any more.

A CORRECTION.—In our composition column of March 6th, the 5040 of Treble Bob by Robert Williams, is Royal, not Major.

"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.

S. WOOTERTON.—Kindly send us another circular.

ADDRESSES WANTED.—Mr. George Breed; Messrs. R. S. & W. Story.

PEAL CARDS.—Cards on order will be sent to their respective destinations during the week. It is found impossible to execute these with the despatch wished.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 1886.

WITH the present number of "THE BELL NEWS" the fourth volume is brought to a close, and the following number will, of course, be the first of volume v. Another stage of our journal's existence has thus been ended, and in accordance with our usual custom, we take advantage of a short comment on its position and prospects, accompanied by a brief retrospect of its history. Looking through the pages of previous volumes, from the first monthly number even, we are fain to believe, that, though conscious of many shortcomings, our publication is one worthy of credit, and this conviction, inspired by the knowledge of its present favorable position, begets a certain amount of pardonable pride. The first appearance of "THE BELL NEWS" was, contrary to the opinions of many who were competent to express an opinion, received with open arms, so to speak, by the Exercise, and though we may, and do desire a larger measure of support from the ringing public, we are glad to be able to say that our first reception at its hands has received no check. While many other projects of a similar description appear, heralded by flaming announcements, backed by wealthy supporters, vanish all at once from our vision and memory, we think the continuation of our modest little paper, just entering, as it is, upon another course, is a feature not only creditable to ourselves, but to those of our brother-ringers who have consistently awarded it their support. Let us hope that this support may continue to increase, and that the usefulness of "THE BELL NEWS" may become extended thereby.

In the first numbers of this paper, it was stated that suggestions from any of its readers as to its management should receive due consideration, and thus several schemes were propounded, which from various causes, it was impossible to carry into effect. There is one little matter which we think, however, worthy of attempting, and that is, to give notices each week of any important

events about to happen in connection with the Exercise during the week ensuing. If this meets the views of our readers, and they will notify such events to us, we will gladly devote a space to the purpose. Some gentlemen, young practitioners, are complaining that "THE BELL NEWS" is only useful to ringers who are proficient, those who are just being initiated into the elements of the science not being interested in the doings of others who have far advanced in the Art. And with reference to this complaint, we are asked to devote a little space to amateurs, a few kindly hints, in fact, to assist them on their way. We feel that a little space taken up in this manner will not be begrudged by our more talented friends, and we will therefore attempt a series of short papers for those whom we will denominate "amateurs," the first of which shall appear in an early number.

We are obliged to be brief even in our comments. We should have liked, at the end of a volume, to have said more on other matters affecting our paper. Perhaps we shall be able to point out other proposed changes by-and-by. The fourth part of our performance will no doubt be found to be equal to the previous ones, and as the end of it is just appearing we find that our band is still in good ringing condition, though we have to deplore the absence of him who was the "safest" of the company.

The Metropolis.

BETHNAL GREEN.—THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 20, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

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

JOHN BONNY Treble.	SAMUEL G. BOWER	5.
HENRY A. BARNETT	2.	MATTHEW A. WOOD	6.
WILLIAM CECIL	3.	JOSEPH WEST	7.
JOHN BARRS	4.	ARTHUR HAYWARD	Tenor.

Conducted by H. A. BARNETT.

Messrs. Barnett, Bower, and Barrs hail from Tottenham, the rest belong to London.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.—THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

On Saturday, March 20, 1886, in Three Hours and One Minute, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S TEN-PART (REVERSED). Tenor 19 cwt.

WILLIAM NASH Treble.	ROBERT MAYNARD	5.
ARTHUR J. KEIT	2.	ACKLAND J. PERKINS	6.
GEORGE B. LUCAS	3.	SAMUEL HAYES	7.
JOHN NUNN	4.	WILLIAM CROCKFORD	Tenor.

Conducted by ACKLAND J. PERKINS.

G. B. Lucas, Tottenham; S. Hayes, Stratford; W. Nash and A. J. Perkins, Romford; the rest are local men.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, March 22, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES, CRIPPLEGATE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5014 CHANGES.

JAMES PETTIT Treble.	*GEO. T. MACLAUGHLIN ..	7.
SAMUEL E. JOYCE*	2.	*WILLIAM D. SMITH	8.
JOHN M. HAYES	3.	*A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD ..	2.
CHALLIS F. WINNY	4.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN ..	10.
WILLIAM TANNER	5.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF	11.
JOHN MARTIN ROUTH	6.	EDWIN HORREX	Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY W. HALEY, and Conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

* First peal of Cinques. Samuel E. Joyce attained his 18th birthday the day previous. His brother ringers wish him many happy returns, and heartily congratulate him on his rapid advance in the art of change-ringing. A. P. Heywood, Esq., hails from Duffield, Derbyshire.

The Provinces.

BIRMINGHAM.—BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

Handbell Ringing.

On Tuesday, March 16, 1886, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE HOUSE OF MR. J. CARTER, BRACEBRIDGE STREET,
(ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND),

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 6064 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 size in Eb.

JOHN CARTER	1-2.	THOMAS RUSSAM	5-6.
GEORGE W. TOWNSEND* ..	3-4.	*RICHARD HACKLEY	7-8.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

Referees: Messrs. J. W. Cattle, J. Callaghan, and H. Gorman. *First peal of Grandsire Major on handbells. All the above are members of the Birmingham and District Association.

BIRMINGHAM.—BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

Handbell Ringing.

On Wednesday, March 17, 1886, in Two Hours and Forty-four Minutes,

AT THE HOUSE OF MR. J. CARTER, BRACEBRIDGE STREET,
(ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND),

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 size, in Eb.

THOMAS RUSSAM	1-2.	THOMAS MILLER	5-6.
JOHN CARTER	3-4.	JOSEPH W. CATTLE	7-8.
		RICHARD HACKLEY	9-10.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by THOMAS MILLER.

Referees: Messrs. J. Callaghan and H. Gorman, who marked off every course as they were rung. This is Thomas Miller's 50th peal, and the first peal he has conducted upon handbells. All the above are members of the Birmingham and District Association.

WHITFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 20, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

EDWARD HAIGH	Treble.	SAMUEL WILKINSON	5.
JOHN HARROP	2.	WILLIAM HARROP	6.
WILLIAM MARSDEN	3.	JOHN BRADBURY	7.
EDWARD ROSTRON	4.	SAMUEL STAFFORD	Tenor.

Composed by the late WILLIAM HARRISON, of Mottram, and Conducted by EDWARD HAIGH.

BEDDINGTON.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 20, 1886, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 20½ cwt. in Eb.

JOHN BRANCH	Treble.	WILLIAM BURKIN	5.
ARTHUR B. CARPENTER .. .	2.	JAMES CAWLEY	6.
EDGAR BENNETT	3.	CHARLES GORDON	7.
JAMES HARRIS	4.	JAMES TRAPPITT	Tenor.

Conducted by A. B. CARPENTER.

LIVERSEDGE, YORKSHIRE.

On Monday, March 22, 1886, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

GEORGE THORNTON	Treble.	HARRY BROOK	5.
JAMES NOTT	2.	TOM GOODALL	6.
JOHN WILSON LANG	3.	LUKE ILLINGWORTH	7.
SIDNEY GOODALL	4.	MOSSLEY RAMSDEN	Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM GOODALL, and Conducted by SIDNEY GOODALL.

This peal is rung for the first time. George Thornton hails from Birstall; the rest belong to the Liversedge Society.

MANCHESTER.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, March 20, 1886, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb.

THOMAS THORPE	Treble.	THOMAS HEALD	5.
THOMAS G. DOWNS	2.	JAMES THORPE	6.
GEORGE E. TURNER	3.	A. EDWARD WREAKS	7.
JOHN E. POLLITT	4.	JOHN EACHUS	Tenor.

Composed by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY, and Conducted by A. ED. WREAKS.

This peal was rung to celebrate Mr. Downs attaining his 26th year, and is his first peal in the method with a bob bell. Thomas Heald belongs to St. Philip's church, (Hulme) Manchester, the rest are of the Cathedral company. This is the first peal of Treble Bob Major rung in the present tower. The figures of the peal will be found in "THE BELL NEWS" for Feb. 27th last.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.—SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Muffled Peal.

On Saturday, March 20, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 10½ cwt. in G.

ALFRED MARSHALL*	Treble.	CHARLES E. GOLDS	5.
GEORGE F. ATTREE*	2.	GEORGE KING	6.
JAMES SEARLE	3.	JOHN JAY	7.
ALFRED W. L. PARKHOUSE* ..	4.	WILLIAM PALMER	Tenor.

Conducted by GEO. F. ATTREE.

The above was rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the memory of the third Earl of Chichester, the Lord Lieut. of the County, who was buried at Laughton on that day. *First peal.

DEWSBURY.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 20, 1886, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

BENJAMIN A. DODSON	Treble.	JAMES A. IDLE	5.
GARFORTH TAYLOR	2.	GEORGE H. HARDY	6.
W. STAINTHORPE	3.	GEORGE BOLLAND	7.
WILLIAM BOLLAND	4.	JOHN HALEY	Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by GEO. H. HARDY.

Messrs. Bolland and Haley hail from Tong; Dodson and Stainthorpe from Birstall; the rest are of the local company.

Date Touches.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HAUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Saturday, March 20th, at St. Anne's church, a date touch of 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 15 mins., in the three following methods: 446 of Plain Bob, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, and a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. Wm. Wild, jun., 1; John Bardsley, 2; Wm. Wilde, sen., 3; James A. Thomas, 4; John Howard, 5; Peter Smith (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

BADGWORTH (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, March 14th, by the kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. — Viner, a mixed band rang at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 15 mins. A. Humphries, 1; W. Dyer, 2; T. Hooper, 3; J. Midwinter (conductor), 4; W. James, 5; F. Musty, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar for the use of the bells.

EXETER (Devon).—On Sunday evening, March 7th, at St. Sidwell's church, for Divine service, the St. Sidwell's society rang Mr. J. Carter's date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 6 mins. T. Townsend, 1; E. Pitt, 2; W. G. Goss, 3; W. Richardson, 3; J. Moss, 5; E. Shepherd (conductor), 6; A. Shepherd, 7; W. Mundy, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

GRASSENDALE (near Liverpool).—Recently, at St. Mary's church, a date touch of 1886 changes, in three different methods, being a 720 of Grandsire Minor, 720 of Plain Bob Minor, 446 of Oxford Bob, in 1 hr. 10 mins. T. Morris, 1; J. Alexander, 2; C. Newton, 3; W. Weaver,

4; J. Allen, 5; F. Turner (composer and conductor), 6. Tenor 11½ cwt. This is the first date touch ever known to have been rung on these bells, also the first date touch by all the above on six bells.

LEEDS (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, March 14th, at St. Peter's church, for Divine Service in the evening, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Royal, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 22 mins. W. Pawson, 1; T. West (conductor), 2; H. Lockwood, 3; M. Tomlinson, 4; W. Walker, 5; H. Hubbard, 6; R. Binns, 7; Tom Lockwood (composer), 8; J. Hutchinson, 9; G. Fothergill, 10. Tenor 36 cwt.

RADCLIFFE (Lancashire).—On Sunday, March 21st, at the parish church, for afternoon service, a date touch of 1886 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 5 mins. Fred Rudman, 1; J. Hardman, sen., 2; A. Barrett (conductor), 3; J. Morris, 4; A. Hardman, 5; J. Hardman, jun., 6; F. Morris, 7; W. Fielding, 8. Tenor 12 cwt. in Ft.

WHITFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, March 14th, at St. James's church, the All Saints' society, with Messrs. Ingham and Walmsley, of Macclesfield, rang a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1886 changes. J. Maloney, 1; Daniel James, 2; William Harrop, 3; Walter Ingham, 4; S. Wilkenson, 5; William Walmsley, 6; H. Cooper (conductor), 7; J. Pye, jun., 8. Composed by S. Knott.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Saturday, March 20th, at St. Michael's, Cornhill, 1318 changes taken from an original peal of the late Mr. John Cox, in 1 hr. 4 mins. James Pettit (conductor), 1; *Samuel E. Joyce, 2; George Mash, 3; Challis F. Winny, 4; Edwin Horrex, 5; John M. Routh, 6; *George T. McLaughlin, 7; *William D. Smith, 8; *A. Percival Heywood, Esq., 9; John M. Hayes, 10; William Greenleaf, 11; Walter Prime, 12. *Longest length of Cinques.

ST. JAMES SOCIETY.

LONDON.—On Saturday, March 20th, at St. Olave's Church, Hart Street, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 28 mins. J. Barry, 1; J. Waghorn, jun., (conductor), 2; H. J. Davies, 3; E. F. Cole, Esq., 4; W. H. George, 5; A. E. Church, 6. Also a 360 in the same method. E. F. Cole, Esq., 1; A. E. Church, 2; H. J. Davies, 3; J. Waghorn, jun., (conductor), 4; W. H. George, 5; J. Barry, 6. And several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in two of which, the steeplekeeper, Mr. A. Read, rung the treble and tenor respectively. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—On Monday, March 22nd, an attempt was made for a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, given in "THE BELL NEWS" of January 2nd, composed by F. Marsh, on reaching the fourth course-end it was found that the scale of bobs as given is not correct, a bob before is evidently wanted in the fourth and last courses. J. H. Blakiston, 1; 1; R. Alcock, 2; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 3; W. Stephenson, 4; T. Burdon, 5; T. W. Waller, 6; T. Stephenson, 7; W. Newton, 8.

EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

WALPOLE (Norfolk).—On Sunday evening, March 19th, for practice at St. Peter's Church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 28 mins. J. Hendry, 1; R. Grimes (conductor), 2; H. Hill, 3; H. Allen, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; W. Wright, 6. Also a 240 in the same method by the same company, with H. Hill, conductor. And on Sunday evening, March 21st, another 720 in the same method standing as before.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BISHOPS STORTFORD.—On Thursday, March 18th, eight members of the Bishops Stortford branch of the above Association rang at St. Michael's Church, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, 1260 changes, in 43 mins. T. Newman, 1; G. Brand, 2; A. Tucker, 3; W. H. Tucker, 4; H. Prior, jun., 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6; H. N. Doughty, 7; J. Sampford, 8. Composed by Mr. Henry Johnson, sen. This is the first quarter-peal in this method ever rang in the county of Hertfordshire. Also the same evening, a 448 of Grandsire Major. T. Newman, 1; G. Brand, 2; C. Martin, 3; A. Tucker, 4; H. Prior, jun., 5; W. H. Tucker, 6; H. N. Doughty, 7; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 8. Tenor 20 cwt. The above was rung to celebrate the erection of a peal board which is to record a peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's Original), which was rung at this church, with the bells deeply muffled, on November 26th, 1885, in memory of the late Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ASH (Kent).—On Monday, March 8th, six members of the Wingham branch paid a visit to the above place, and rang two 720's

of Bob Minor, each containing eighteen bobs and two singles. F. Taylor, 1; F. Shoebridge, 2; W. Taylor, 3; G. A. Osborne, 4; R. Edge, 5; C. Taylor (conductor), 6.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TETTENHALL.—On Saturday, March 6th, some members of the above society with two friends from Darlaston, rang at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 27 mins. T. Roberts, 1; W. Smith, 2; B. Dalton, 3; J. Tinsley, 4; J. Fowler, 5; J. Jones (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, March 13th, at the parish church, a 1440 Bob Doubles by the local company. T. Clark, 1; G. A. Fish, 2; G. C. Tunnicliff, 3; F. W. Cook, 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; J. R. Wood, 6. The above was called from the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th, respectfully. Also in the evening with the assistance of Mr. H. C. Woodward, of Derby, a 720 of Bob Minor. J. R. Wood, 1; G. A. Fish, 2; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 3; F. W. Cook, 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; G. C. Tunnicliff, 6. And 180 of Bob Minor. T. Clark, 1; G. A. Fish, 2; J. R. Wood, 3; F. W. Cook, 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 6. And several short touches. The bells were rung half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Sir John Harper Crewe, Bart., whose remains were that day interred in the family vault at Calke Church.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.—On Friday, March 14th, at the parish church, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. F. Dimpleby, 8; J. Wickling, 2; T. Leach, 3; J. Austin, 4; G. Robinson, 5; H. Wakley (conductor), 6; J. Jaggard, 7; W. Orme, 8.

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GAINSBORO'.—On Sunday evening, March 16th, eight members of this branch of the above Association rang for practice at the parish church, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 36 mins. T. Pattison, 1; F. W. Atkinson, 2; W. W. Bust, 3; J. C. Tinker, 4; W. Pattison, 5; C. Brewin, 6; W. D. Tinker (conductor), 7; W. H. Wilson (aged 17), 8. Tenor 20 cwt. This is the first half-peal by any of the above.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

KENNINGHALL (Norfolk).—On Sunday, March 14th, at the church of St. Mary, the young band rang some rounds with the Queens and titmums changes, for morning and afternoon service, and after service the afternoon, a 360 of Bob Minor was rung. W. Leader (first 360), 1; R. Hutton (conductor), 2; H. Eagling, 3; W. Nudds, sen., 4; J. Woods, 5; J. Morley, 6. And a 360 in the same method. H. Eagling, 1; R. Hutton, 2; J. Woods, 3; C. Everett, 4; W. Nudds, jun. (first 360 with a bob bell), 5. And a 240 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. H. Eagling, 1; R. Hutton, 2; C. Everett, 3; W. Nudds, sen., 4; J. Woods, 5; J. Morley (conductor), 6. And 240 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, by the same band. The above touches were rung on the anniversary of a peal of 10,176 of Oxford Treble Bob Major, rung in the year 1871, in 5 hrs. 20 mins., by the following: W. Oxer, 1; T. Oxer, 2; J. Murton, 3; J. Woods, 4; J. Rudd (Diss), 5; R. Hutton, 6; Geo. Edwards, 7; J. Morley (conductor), 8. This is still the longest peal in the method in the county of Norfolk.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FULMER (Bucks).—On Saturday, February 27th, at the parish church, 720 of Bob Minor, in 24 mins. W. Leader, 1; R. Flaxman, 2; T. Udell, 3; Rev. W. S. Willett, 4; W. Wilder, 5; A. C. Fussell, 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor. *E. Brown, 1; R. Flaxman, 2; *T. Udell, 3; Rev. W. S. Willett, 4; *W. Wilder, 5; *A. C. Fussell (conductor), 6. *Cumberland Youths; first 720, having only recently began change-ringing.

READING.—On Sunday, March 7th, at St. Giles's, a 720 of Bob Minor. H. Smart, 1; *F. Sweetzer, 2; G. Gibbard, 3; A. H. Evans, 4; A. J. Wright, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. *First 720 with a bob bell. Also on Sunday evening, March 21st, for Divine Service, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 25½ mins. H. Smart, 1; A. Evans, 2; G. Gibbard, 3; A. E. Reeves, 4; A. Wright, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6.

SLOUGH.—On Wednesday, March 3rd, at St. Mary's Church, 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. E. Brown, 1; W. Wilder, 2; T. Udell, 3; A. C. Fussell, 4; J. Pursey, 5; R. Flaxman (conductor), 6.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

BEDDINGTON.—On Saturday, March 20th, it was intended to make the third attempt for a peal of Treble Bob Royal, and as the two first attempts had put together a total of 8500 changes rung, it was with good hopes of success that the ringers met. They were doomed, however, to disappointment, as one of the number had a pressing

engagement which prevented his stopping for the peal; but it was agreed that a peal should not stop for him, so places were taken for Holt's Original, which was finished in 3 hrs. 8 mins.

THE ANCIENT ST. JAMES' SOCIETY, BRISTOL.

BEDMINSTER.—On Tuesday, March 16th, at St. Luke's Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. R. Knill, 1; C. Waller, 2; J. Davis, 3; T. Salter (conductor), 4; T. Staden, 5; *C. Boutflower, Esq. 6. *First 720.

THE REIGATE SOCIETY.

KINGSWOOD (Surrey).—On Saturday evening, March 20th, several members of the above society paid a friendly visit to the parish church and rang upon the splendid toned peal of six (by Mears and Stainbank) a 720 of Kent Treble Bob in 26½ mins. W. Bone, 1; J. Burkin, 2; W. Webb, 3; E. Moses, 4; G. Williams, 5; W. Hawkins (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. Wood, 1; F. Hoad, 2; W. Argent, 3; W. Sadler, 4; E. Kenward, 5; G. Williams (conductor), 6. Also a course of Oxford Treble Bob, and 120 Grandsire Doubles. This is supposed to be the first 720 of Kent Treble Bob rang on the bells. Tenor 17 cwt. 2 qrs. 18 lbs. in Eq. W. Wood belongs to the local company, and W. Hawkins hails from Nutfield, Sadler from Betchworth, the rest are all members of the above society, and they hope on their next visit that more of the local band will be able to take part, as they have just formed a new band of young ringers, and will undoubtedly, if they wish to learn the art, make good progress under their instructor, Mr. W. Webb.

ALDEBURG-ON-SEA (Suffolk).—On Sunday, March 14th, at the parish church, 2520 of Bob Minor (three 720's and a 360), in 1 hr. 38 mins. T. E. Shearing (conductor), 1; G. Baxter, 2; T. Staulkey, 3; F. Booper, 4; Eben. Cooper, 5; C. Smith, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. It was intended to have gone for a peal, but on account of shortness of time the idea had to be abandoned.

BATTERSEA (Surrey).—On Sunday morning, March 21st, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 40 mins. *S. Baker, 1; W. Baron (conductor), 2; H. A. Hopkins, 3; A. G. Thomas, 4; W. W. Thorne, 5; H. S. Thomas, 6; C. W. Ludwig, 7; W. Ambrosé, 8. *First quarter-peal.

BIRCHINGTON (Kent).—On Friday, March 19th, eight members of Quex Park band attempted at the Waterloo Tower Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, W. Day's (of Ashford) Variation, but after ringing 3000 changes, in 1 hr. 43 mins., it came to grief. P. A. Reed (conductor), 1; A. H. Sayer, 2; C. Willshire, 3; L. Willshire, 4; T. B. Reed, 5; J. J. Bristrow, 6; G. Willshire, 7; E. Golder, 8. The above attempt was rung to commemorate the 50th birthday of T. B. Reed, sen.

CHORLEY (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, March 7th, for Divine Service, at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor, nine bobs and six singles, in 26½ mins. J. H. Gartside (conductor), 1; W. Heaps, 2; J. Marsden, 3; A. Whalley, 4; G. Gartside, 5; J. Worthington, 6. Tenor 11 cwt.

DINTING (Derbyshire).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Sunday, March 21st, for Divine Service, with the bells deeply muffled as a tribute of respect the memory of the late Mrs. Sheppard, wife of Mr. W. Sheppard, Churchwarden, 960 changes in four different methods, being a 240 of each of the following: Violet, Merchants' Return, New London Pleasure, and Oxford Delight, in 35 mins. A. Jones, 1; F. Hyde, 2; T. Beswick (conductor), 3; S. Shaw, 4; J. Brierley, 5; J. E. Brierley, 6. And for evening service, a 720 in three different methods, being a 240 of each of the following: Oxford, Violet, and Kent Treble Bob, in 27 mins. J. W. Booth, 4; S. Shaw, 5; the others as before. Tenor 12½ cwt.

EPSOM (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, March 21st, for Divine Service at the parish church, six members of the local company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. *A. Bassett, 1; *H. Pedrick, 2; *H. Kenten, 3; J. Easton, 4; J. Hawkins, 5; †T. Miles (conductor), 6. *First 720; †first 720 as conductor as conductor.

EXETER.—On Sunday, February 28th, for Divine Service at St. Sidwell's Church, 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. Mundy, 1; A. Shepherd, 2; F. Shepherd, 3; W. Richardson, 4; E. Pitt (conductor), 5; J. Moss, 6; E. Shepherd, 7; J. Luscombe, 8. Also on Tuesday evening, March 2nd, for practice, 518 of Grandsire Triples. W. Mundy, 1; T. Townsend, 2; F. Shepherd (conductor), 3; A. Shepherd, 4; E. Pitt, 5; J. Moss, 6; E. Shepherd, 7; J. Luscombe, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

FOXBARTH (Essex).—On Saturday evening, March 13th, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob, in 25 mins. C. Lee, 1; J. Lee, 2; G. Maxim, 3; R. Mingay, 4; W. Gridley (conductor), 5; D. Ward, 6. This is the first 720 by the Foxearth band.

IPSWICH.—Muffled Peal.—On Saturday evening, March 13th, the following members of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society rang 480 of Kent Treble Bob Royal, as a last mark of respect to the late Mr. J. Miller, for many years a member of the society, and much respected by all. J. Motts (conductor), 1; E. Pemberton, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; A. R. Aldham, 4; W. Motts, 5; H. Bowell, 6; E. Reeve, 7; W. L. Catchpole, 8; R. Hawes, 9; S. Tillett, 10. Also 216 of Stedman Caters, standing as before, with the exception of S. Tillett at the 8th, and F. Tillett at the 10th. After which the usual whole pull and stand was rung.

LEISTON (Suffolk).—On Saturday, March 7th, at the parish church, for practice, 518 of Grandsire Triples. W. Watling, 1; T. E. Shearing (conductor), 2; T. Staulkey, 3; R. Wells, 4; W. Fisher, 5; G. Baxter, 6; W. Button, 7; J. Edmunds, 8. And 1120 of Bob Major. W. Watling, 1; T. E. Shearing (conductor), 2; T. Staulkey, 3; R. Wells, 4; W. Fisher, 5; G. Baxter, 6; J. Button, 7; J. Edmunds, 8. And a 420 of Bob Triples. W. Watling, 1; G. Baxter (conductor), 2; W. Fisher, 3; R. Wells, 4; F. Staulkey, 5; J. Button, 6; J. Edmunds, 7; J. Flegg, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. Messrs. Fisher, Wells, Edmunds, and Watling hail from Kelsale.

RINGSTEAD (Northants).—On Sunday, March 7th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's Church, 720 of Plain Bob, with eighteen bobs and two singles. J. Sawford, 1; G. H. Roberts, 2; R. Shipley, 3; J. Braybrook, 4; E. Mayes, 5; T. Roberts (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, March 9th, for practice, a 360 of Yorkshire Court, with nine bobs. F. H. Chapman, 1; E. Mayes, 2; J. Sawford, 3; J. Braybrook, 4; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 5; T. Roberts, 6. And a 324 of London Single, with twelve bobs, standing as before, and conducted by W. J. Gilbert. Also on Saturday, March 20th, for practice, a 720 of Plain Bob, with twenty-four bobs and two singles. F. H. Chapman, 1; J. Braybrook, 2; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 3; J. Sawford, 4; E. Mayes, 5; T. Roberts, 6.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Sunday afternoon, March 20th, being the Bishop of St. Albans' Ordination, a 720 of Bob Minor, sixteen bobs and two singles. G. Garnett, 1; A. J. Perkins, 2; W. Nash, 3; E. Keeble (conductor), 4; G. Roughton, 5; I. Dear, 6.

Other miscellaneous touches will be found on page 414.

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 TREBLE BOB CATERS PEAL AT LIVERPOOL.

SIR,—An impression has gone abroad that the peal of 5184 Treble Bob Caters rang at St. Peter's pro-Cathedral was false. I wish through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," to inform the Exercise at large that this is not the case. The peal noted as false in the issue of February 27th, was 5076, the figures of which appeared on January 2nd. This peal the composer found was false, and he wrote to the Editor on January 13th, drawing his attention to the fact. The peal actually rung was 5184, the figures of which are already in the hands of the Editor for publication, who will no doubt publish the same when space permits. The peal from the same composer published March 6th, as Treble Bob Major, should read Treble Bob Royal.

JOHN R. PRITCHARD.

THE PEAL AT SOUTHPORT.

SIR,—E. W. states that the time 2 hrs. 32 mins., was too good to be true. For my own part, I am certain the same company could ring a peal in 2½ hours. He also asks if there were any ringers outside listening; there was a critic outside who timed the peal, and whose only complaint was that the speed was too great. There is no doubt it was a true peal, and the other ringers would agree with me in my statement. I don't care to answer people who write under a *nom de plume*. If E. W. will write in his own name through "THE BELL NEWS," I shall have much pleasure in replying more fully.

W. M. VARLEY.

[A peal of Grandsire Triples has been rung in 2 hrs. 30 mins.—Ed.]

THE JASPER SNOWDON MEMORIAL FUND.

SIR,—I have pleasure in informing you, and through you the Exercise generally, that the preliminary arrangements have been made towards the erection of a suitable stained glass window in Ilkley Parish Church, to the memory of the late Mr. Snowdon, and I have received a letter from the vicar of the church this morning, offering to afford every

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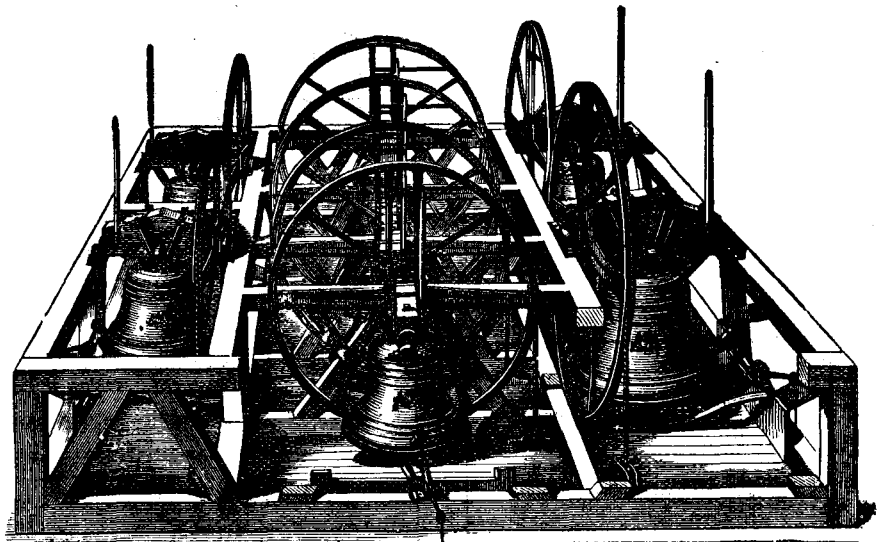
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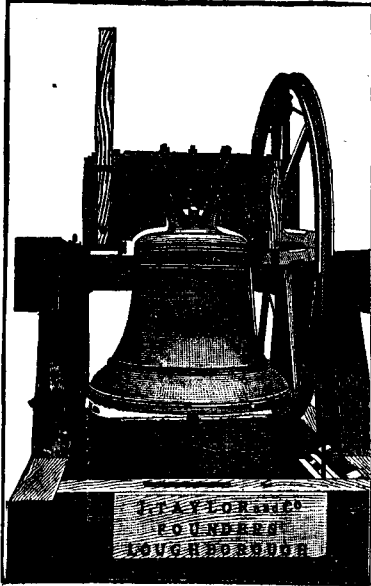
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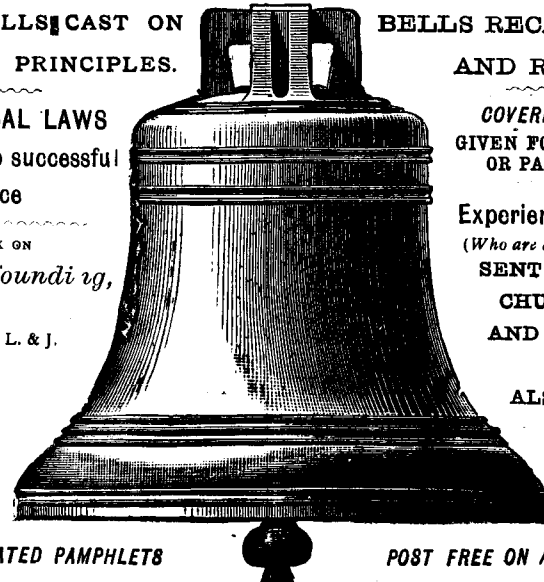
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