

# THE BELL NEWS

## AND RINGERS' RECORD:

A JOURNAL OF THE RINGING EXERCISE; AND COMPENDIUM OF INFORMATION FOR THE CLERGY & CHURCHWARDENS.

No. 3.—VOL. I.

APRIL, 1881.

[ONE PENNY.]

### REPORTS OF MEETINGS, &c.

#### THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING of this Association was held at Witham, on Tuesday, February 22nd, and by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. Canon Snell, the bells of St. Nicholas were placed at the service of the Association. Ringing commenced at two o'clock, and continued till half-past four, when the meeting for business was held. The Vicar was unable to be present, but the Rev. J. W. B. Laurie most efficiently acted as his deputy.

The SECRETARY (the Rev. J. B. Seaman), stated that the Association was making steady progress, both in belfry reform and in change-ringing. He had just added another £10 to their savings' bank account, and hoped to add something more before their annual meeting. The following gentlemen were then elected—Arthur Pryor, Esq. (Hylands Park), life member; Rev. Canon Snell, Rev. J. W. B. Laurie, Rev. F. H. Johnson (Rector of Chelmsford), Rev. A. J. Kershaw, (Master of Chelmsford Grammar School), and Herbert Cockey, Esq., B.A., Oxon, and member of the University Society of Ringers, honorary members; Messrs. W. J. Aldridge (Romford), H. Elliott, W. Elliott, F. Dale, W. Keble, H. Evers (Kelvedon), F. Hawkins, H. Twitchett (Walter Belchamp), A. Pearce (Little Heath), C. Lee, F. Searle (Stratford), ringing members; and E. Barnet, probationer. The subject of the next district meeting was brought forward. It ought really (said the Secretary) to be held at Chelmsford, as being the county town, and the most central and convenient place; but the bells were not in a state that allowed of change-ringing. He believed the new rector would take up the matter—a belief which we trust may be realised. The Rev. C. P. Greene invited the Association to hold their meeting on Whit-Monday at Coggeshall, but it was decided that the Secretary should arrange as he found most desirable. At half-past five the members assembled at the "Albert," on invitation to tea by Mr. W. Bindon Blood. Tea is generally associated with something "water luke," and a weak infusion, dry cake, &c.; not such was Mr. Blood's entertainment: the commission to mine host was evidently to do his best, and provide a substantial meal for his visitors; and though the "cup that cheers and not inebriates"—no weak infusion—was there, John Barleycorn was not forgotten. The activity of thirty-seven pairs of knives and forks and suspended conversation evidenced that recruitment of the inner man was being most satisfactorily proceeded with.

The Rev. J. B. SEAMAN in giving the health of Mr. Blood, said all appreciated words—kind words, words of sympathy, words of encouragement—but they appreciated deeds more. The bounteous feast they had partaken of was witness of his kindness, his sympathy, and his encouragement, to those who were engaged in the work on which they assembled

to-day. Mr. Blood was on their Committee from the first, and he was sure all would render him hearty thanks for his most hospitable treatment, as well as his interest in the work of the Association. This was done with much applause.

Mr. BLOOD, in reply, said, among other remarks, that his duty as churchwarden was to see that the bells, and all connected with them, were in good order, or how could he conscientiously answer the questions which yearly came to him from the Bishop? In that genial manner well-known to his old friends, the Volunteers, he expressed a hope that another visit by the Association would be made to Witham.

"The health of the Secretary" was proposed by Mr. Hammond, and supported by the Rev. J. W. B. Laurie, and the rev. gentleman responded in his usual practical manner.

#### DURHAM DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The February meeting of this Association was held on the 28th of that month at Newton Hall. A good muster turned up from North Shields, Newcastle, Bishop Wearmouth, Stockton and Newton Hall, making up a company of 25 for dinner at Newton Inn, at 2 o'clock, at which the Rev. R. Steavenson, rector of the parish, presided. The toast of "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese" was duly honoured, and responded to by the Rev. Chairman, who expressed a hearty welcome to the Association, which he hoped would visit Newton Hall on some future occasion. The ringing was well kept up throughout the day, the principal performance being a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in excellent style, being the first 720 of Treble Bob on the bells. We are glad to be able to report progress at Newton Hall, where the ringers can now manage a 120 of Grandsire Doubles, but the effect of their ringing is sadly marred by want of open leads. Courses of Grandsire Triples, Caters, and Bob Major were rung on the hand-bells in the school-room. Some new members were elected, but the secretary regretted to announce the break-up of the Morpeth branch, and withdrawal of all their names from the Association. The next meeting will be held at Barnard Castle on Whit-Monday. On the same evening of the Newton Hall meeting, a company composed of the Newcastle, North Shields, and Stockton ringers, met at St. Stephen's, Newcastle, and almost completed a 1680 of Bob Major, which was lost through a miscall. W. Reed, Esq. (conductor, North Shields), 1; E. Wallis (Newcastle), 2; G. Park (North Shields) 3; W. Newton (Stockton), 4; T. Stephenson (Stockton) 5; R. Smith (North Shields), 6; F. Lees (Newcastle), 7; G. J. Clarkson, Esq. (Stockton), 8. Tenor 30 cwt. This is the longest touch on these bells.

#### BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AT TONG, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, February 19th, a party of ringers assembled at Tong to celebrate the 70th birthday of one of their oldest ringers, viz., George Carter, who has been a ringer at Tong for 55 years. One of the number being late, a peal of

Major could not be attempted at Drighlington as arranged, but the six bells at Tong were rung in the afternoon, and a few short touches of eight and six at Drighlington. The party, 27 in number, then adjourned to supper at the Greyhound Inn. The postponed peal was, as will be seen from our records, completed on the following Saturday.

#### LONDON TWELVE-BELL STEEPLES.

A notice has been issued to the effect that the bells of St. Paul's Cathedral will be rung on the following days in the present year:—

|   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| Sunday, April 17. (Easter Day) ...        | 9.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. |
| Tuesday, May 24. (Queen's Birthday) ...   | 9 to 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. |
| Thursday, May 26. (Ascension Day) ...     | 9.30 a.m. and 6 p.m.    |
| Sunday, June 5. (Whit Sunday) ...         | 9.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. |
| Monday, June 20. (Queen's Accession) ...  | 9.30 a.m. and 7 p.m.    |
| Tuesday, Nov. 1. (All Saints' Day) ...    | 9 to 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. |
| Wednesday, Nov. 9. (Lord Mayor's Day) ... | 12 noon and 3 p.m.      |
| Saturday, Dec. 24. (Christmas Eve) ...    | 11.30 to 12.15 p.m.     |
| Sunday, Dec. 25. (Christmas Day) ...      | 9.30 a.m.               |
| Saturday, Dec. 31. (New Year's Eve) ...   | 11.30 to 12.15 p.m.     |

On the following Tuesday evenings the Society of College Youths will meet at 8 p.m. for practice:—March 1 and 29, April 26, June 21, July 19, Aug. 16, Sept. 13, Oct. 11, Nov. 8, and Dec. 8.

*St. Giles, Cripplegate.*—The meetings for practice at this steeple are a fortnight prior and subsequent respectively to St. Paul's.

*St. Saviour's, Southwark.*—The same society meet here for practice on every Tuesday other than the nights arranged for the previous two steeples.

It will thus be seen that every Tuesday in the week twelve-bell practice is going on, St. Saviour's twice within the month, and St. Paul's and Cripplegate one each.

*St. Michael's, Cornhill.*—This meeting is held once a month on a Friday evening, and falls generally in the same week as St. Paul's.

#### THE SOCIETY OF CUMBERLANDS.

*St. Martin-in-the-Fields.*—This company meet for practice at St. Martin's church, which occupies a commanding position on one side of Trafalgar Square, every alternate Friday, the same week as the practice is held at St. Giles', Cripplegate, and St. Paul's.

*St. Bride, Fleet Street.*—Meetings are held here on the same evening as St. Saviour's, Southwark.

*St. Leonard's, Shoreditch.*—No periodical practice is held at this church. A few years ago the tenor was recast, the old bell having been fractured by some one inexperienced in the management of bells, but the steeple has not again become, from various causes, a favourite rendezvous for half-pull ringers. St. Leonard's will, however, always possess some interest to the ringing brotherhood, from the performances which, in days gone by, have taken place therein.

#### THE WYLDBORE CENTENARY AT PETERBOROUGH.

In the year 1771 a worthy citizen of Peterborough left by will a benefaction of £5 to the ringers of the Parish Church, on condition of a peal being rung by them every succeeding anniversary of his death. The 15th of March last being the one hundredth occasion of this annual custom being observed, the Vicar of Peterborough, the Rev. Henry S. Syers, resolved to make the occasion as noteworthy as possible. For this purpose he issued an invitation to any of the ringing fraternity to visit the interesting city of Peterborough to take part in the festivities of the day, promising a hearty welcome and hospitality to all who attended.

From an account of the day's proceedings which has been graphically reported in *The Peterborough Standard*, a copy of which excellent

journal has been sent to us by a friend, it would appear that the rev. vicar must feel gratified with the success of this centennial anniversary. We should be glad to reproduce, verbatim, the report from the paper to which we allude, but when it is known that the account occupies two-and-a-half columns, we must be content with only a brief *resumé*. The half-pull bands who attended were from Sawbridgeworth (Herts), and Raunds (Lincolnshire). Many of the local clergy, among whom were some experts, were to be found among the company, and Mr. L. Proctor, of Bennington, was also present. A dinner was held at the "Falcon" Inn, at which fifty guests sat down, the vicar being in the chair.

The Rev. D. W. Barrett, of Massington, in proposing "Success to Bell-Ringing," made a jocular speech. He said it might be thought remissness on his part arriving so late, but he had also been engaged in "belle-ringing," as he had been marrying a very nice young lady. He pointed out the importance of great care being taken of the ringing-chamber, and not allow it to become a store-house for coal, candle-ends, pieces of rope, and other rubbish. As he passed through the streets that morning he heard some kind friend say he wished the old bells would fall. Of course he did not wish that the gentleman who made that remark should be under a bell if it happened to come down. He would be glad to see all ringers try and improve themselves in the art as much as possible.

The Vicar of St. John, in replying to the toast of his health, said he should like it to go forth on this occasion that they were anxious that a number of young men should be at once initiated into the mysteries of the science. Change-ringing was worthy all the devotion that could be bestowed upon it, as evidenced by the proficiency shown by their friends from Sawbridgeworth. An interesting fact in connection with the bells of the Parish Church was that the metal was a portion of the great bell of Leicester Abbey, which was brought to Peterborough in the reign of Henry VIII.

The annual service in connection with this festival was held at 4.30. The sermon was preached by the Rev. H. A. Lipscomb, of Sawbridgeworth, who delivered a most telling address, which we regret our space does not allow us to give. In concluding his discourse he besought his hearers, not only when in the exercise of the calling as officers of the Church, to do it with their might, but "To do all to the glory of God." Looking to the end, said the preacher, this will be one item of many, I trust, which will call forth those words when God shall welcome you into the company of those that shall praise Him in the heavenly temple—"Well done, thou good and faithful servant, thou hast been faithful over a few things; I will make thee ruler over many things; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

The ringers afterwards partook of tea at the "Falcon," and the remainder of the evening was spent in hand-bell ringing and touches upon the church bells.

#### NOTES FROM THE NORTH.

Although many peals may be rung in a tower, such performances are not always a test of the capabilities of the local ringers, as a great many peals are performed by "mixed" companies. In our February number we were pleased to publish a peal from Guiseley, to which a note was added to the effect that it was the first peal rung on the bells by a Guiseley company.

The Guiseley bells were opened on February 22nd, 1847, by the Otley ringers, with 5056 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major.

A short time ago the York Society, with Mr. T. Hattersley, Sheffield, and Mr. J. W. Snowdon, Leeds, attempted a peal of Treble Bob Maximus at the Minster, Mr. G. Breed, tenor (53 cwt.). After ringing 1 hour 10 mins., the conductor called stand at the second course-end, a shift having taken place. We understand that the same company will shortly make another attempt, when we hope they may be successful, as a peal of Maximus has not yet been rung on the twelve bells.

On Saturday the 12th ult. the Yorkshire Association missed a peal at Pudsey, as, after going 2½ hours, the clapper flew out of the sixth.

The next quarterly meeting of the Yorkshire Association will be held at Bingley on Saturday, April 23rd. There is a ring of eight bells at Bingley (tenor 18 cwt.), and eight of the officers propose to resuscitate the annual "officers peal" which was always rung during the first few years of the Society's existence. They will start at nine o'clock. After their attempt the bells will be at the disposal of the members during the day. Tea will be provided at the "Ring of Bells" Inn at five o'clock, where the general meeting will be held.

Mr. Longden, of Ashton-under-Lyne, has we understand, been appointed instructor to the Amateur Change-Ringers society which

has been formed at Bray, Ireland. An account of the opening of the bells was given in our last number.

It is rumoured that the members of the Norwich Association will endeavour to surpass the number of peals rung by the Yorkshire Association in their "big" year, 1876-7, when they chronicled seventy-five peals. The record of the Yorkshiremen will take some beating, but as yet, relatively, the Norwich men are running them close. Commencing in October the north-country men in that season had only rung twenty-five peals by the end of March, and the Eastern Counties men have now almost exactly the same number recorded for this season.

**BELL-FOUNDING OPERATIONS.**

**MESSRS. MEARS & STAINBANK.**—This firm has placed in the tower of St. Matthew's Church, Sydenham, a set of eight hemispherical bells. Five bells for Bishop Rawle, of Trinidad, to add to three he had previously, thus making a ring of eight. Two trebles are in progress, also, for Heckington in Lincolnshire, from the above foundry, for the augmentation of a ring of six to eight.

**MESSRS. TAYLOR & SONS.**—St. Peter's Church, Leicester, new treble, 20 cwt. 0 qrs. 23 lbs., note E., intended for the tenor of eight. Eastham, near Birkenhead, new treble, third and tenor of a peal of six, tenor 11 cwt. 3 qrs. 14 lbs.; entirely new framework and fittings for the peal. Two new trebles to make eight for Wedmoor, Somersetshire, tenor about 35 cwt.

**YAXLEY (Lincolnshire).**—The bells of Yaxley, a ring of five, of which two are fractured, are about to be restored. A former influential parishioner, J. Nickolls, Esq., has offered to replace the broken bells; to add a new treble to make a ring of six, and to put the bell-chamber into proper order. We need scarcely add that this liberal benefaction has been accepted by the vicar and churchwardens.

**Peals of Treble Bob Major.**

COMPILED BY JASPER W. SNOWDON.

In accordance with my intentions expressed in the first number of THE BELL NEWS, I herewith append the first series of Treble Bob Peals which have come into my possession since the publication of my collection of peals in Part II. of my *Treatise on Treble Bob*. In that collection I gave, with very few exceptions, all the peals of which I had particulars. In this case I propose to establish a higher standard, and only to give peals that are likely to be of use to conductors. For instance, as very few companies are likely to select a peal of 5280 changes, when so many suitable ones of 5120 have been composed, I do not extend this selection to peals of the former length. With regard to five-part peals of 5280 changes, I may remark that many peals of this length are merely peals of 5120 changes which have already been composed, with the alternative calling used in one of the courses in each part, whereby the peal is thus slightly varied, but it cannot be said to be improved.

As I shall take it for granted that my readers are acquainted with the various remarks made on the different classes of peals in my published collection, I shall not reproduce them here. I must, however, remind them that any remarks appended to any of the following peals, except when specially noted, apply to the original—that is, the first given of the two variations.

**FIVE-PART PEALS.**

| 5120      |   |   |   |   |  |
|-----------|---|---|---|---|--|
| 2 3 4 5 6 | M | B | W | H |  |
| 3 2 6 5 4 | 2 |   | 2 |   |  |
| 3 6 5 2 4 | 1 | - | 2 | 2 |  |
| 5 6 2 3 4 | 1 | - | 1 |   |  |

N. J. PRISTOW.

First rung on June 14th, 1880, by the Norwich Association, at St. Mary's, Kenningham. Conducted by J. Mordey.

The following is the above peal with the alternative calling used in the first and last courses. It will be seen that the reverse variation of the following peal is then the same as the previous peal with the alternative calling used in one course only.

| 5120      |   |   |   |   |  |
|-----------|---|---|---|---|--|
| 2 3 4 5 6 | M | B | W | H |  |
| 3 2 6 5 4 |   | - | 1 | 2 |  |
| 3 6 5 2 4 | 1 | - | 2 | 2 |  |
| 5 6 2 3 4 |   | 2 | 1 |   |  |

N. J. PRISTOW.

| 5120      |   |   |   |   |  |
|-----------|---|---|---|---|--|
| 2 3 4 5 6 | M | B | W | H |  |
| 3 2 6 5 4 |   | - | 1 | 2 |  |
| 5 3 2 4 6 | 2 |   | 2 | 2 |  |
| 6 2 3 4 5 | 1 |   | 1 |   |  |

N. J. PRISTOW.

| 5120      |   |   |   |   |  |
|-----------|---|---|---|---|--|
| 2 3 4 5 6 | M | B | W | H |  |
| 5 6 3 4 2 | 1 |   | 2 | 2 |  |
| 4 2 6 3 5 | 2 | - | 2 |   |  |
| 5 6 2 3 4 | 1 |   | 1 |   |  |

N. J. PRISTOW.

| 5120      |   |   |   |  |  |
|-----------|---|---|---|--|--|
| 2 3 4 5 6 | M | W | H |  |  |
| 5 6 3 4 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 |  |  |
| 3 4 5 6 2 |   | 1 | 1 |  |  |
| 3 6 2 4 5 | 2 | 1 | 1 |  |  |

D. DAVIES (Shrewsbury).

| 5120      |   |   |   |   |  |
|-----------|---|---|---|---|--|
| 2 3 4 5 6 | M | B | W | H |  |
| 4 3 5 2 6 | 1 | - | 1 |   |  |
| 6 4 2 3 5 |   | - | 2 | 2 |  |
| 6 2 3 4 5 | 1 | - | 2 | 2 |  |

D. PRENTICE (Ipswich).

| 5120      |   |   |   |  |  |
|-----------|---|---|---|--|--|
| 2 3 4 5 6 | M | W | H |  |  |
| 3 5 2 6 4 | 2 | 2 |   |  |  |
| 5 6 3 4 2 | 2 | 2 |   |  |  |
| 6 2 3 4 5 | 1 | 2 |   |  |  |

S. THURSTON.

Rung on January 6th, 1834, at St. Mary's, Diss (the first peal ever rung on the bells), conducted by S. Thurston.

| 6240      |   |   |   |   |  |
|-----------|---|---|---|---|--|
| 2 3 4 5 6 | M | B | W | H |  |
| 3 2 6 5 4 |   | - | 1 | 2 |  |
| 4 6 2 5 3 | 2 | - | 1 | 1 |  |
| 2 5 4 6 3 | 1 | - | 2 | 1 |  |
| 5 6 2 3 4 |   | - |   |   |  |

D. PRENTICE.

Call the last course of the fourth part 2 M., 1 B., 1 W., 1 H., and the peal will be reduced to 5120.

| 6400      |   |   |   |   |  |
|-----------|---|---|---|---|--|
| 2 3 4 5 6 | M | B | W | H |  |
| 6 3 5 4 2 | 2 | - | 1 |   |  |
| 2 5 3 4 6 | 2 | - | 1 | 1 |  |
| 2 6 5 4 3 |   | - | 1 | 1 |  |
| 6 2 3 4 5 |   | - | 1 | 2 |  |

D. PRENTICE.

Call the first course 1 M., 1 B., 2 W., and the first course-end of the second part will be brought up and the peal reduced to 5120.

**PEALS WITH THE TENORS PARTED.**

11200

| 2 3 4 5 6   | M          | B | 4 | 5 | W | H   |
|-------------|------------|---|---|---|---|-----|
| 4 3 5 2 6   | 1          | - |   |   |   | 1   |
| 2 4 5 3 6   | 1          | - |   |   |   | 2   |
| 4 6 5 3 2   | 2          | - |   |   |   | 1 2 |
| 5 6 7 2 4 3 | 1          | - | 1 |   |   | 2   |
| 3 5 7 2 4 6 |            |   |   |   | 2 | 1   |
| 2 6 5 4 3   | in and out |   |   |   |   |     |
| 4 2 6 3 5   |            |   |   |   |   | 2   |

J. LOCKWOOD.

The foregoing peal contains 8000 changes in which the tenors are together.

NOTICES.

All communications to be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 9a, Curtain-road, London, E.C.

We shall be happy to answer any enquiries, or to afford information in our power, relative to any portion of the science. If a direct reply is wished a stamped addressed envelope must be sent.

Nos. 1 and 2.—These numbers have been reprinted, and copies may now be had from the publisher, W. Poole, 12a, Paternoster-row.

ADDRESS WANTED.—Mr. S. Hammond, of the Essex Association. J. JINKINSON (Bradford).—Thanks; The lines you have sent will appear in a future number.

H. C. WOODWARD.—Shall be glad to receive what you refer to as early as possible.

The Bell News.

APRIL, 1881.

It is matter for regret that several interesting particulars in connection with the early days of the science appear to be involved in doubt and obscurity, and this is the more surprising when, upon examining even the very few historical records of the past, it is discovered that, associated with the exercise in those days, were persons who, from their social position, may not unreasonably have been expected to possess some educational attainments. Though JOHN HOLT may not have been such a man of letters as he undoubtedly was of figures, it is not presumption to suppose that many who identified themselves in his day with ringing—even in the age when School Boards were not—were able, had they been so disposed, to have commenced for the benefit of posterity, a pedigree—so to speak—of all compositions and records of events coming under their observation, which would, by the labours of successive chroniclers, have become in the present age testimony of a valuable and reliable character.

The researches of several gentlemen in this and the past generation have, however, brought to light facts upon many subjects which, from a superficial glance may appear doubtful, but to thinking minds are safely held to be conclusive.

Within the past few weeks there has been a discussion in certain quarters respecting the authorship of what is known as the "Original Bob-and-Single" peal of Grandsire Triples, which SHIPWAY in his work states is "by an unknown author," and it has been asserted, with more confidence we think than is warranted by any available evidence, that this peal is by HOLT. We will not pause to enquire why the opening up of such questions as these arise—matters, like others we could name, adjudicated upon long ago. The authors of the *Clavis* have taken pains to point out—having seemingly a great admiration for JOHN HOLT—all the compositions they publish emanating from him by affixing his name to them, and not only does this apply to the method under consideration, but also to Bob Triples, Union Triples, and Double Grandsire; but, as regards this Bob-and-Single production, if it is HOLT's, it is the only one of his productions throughout the book to which his name is not attached. What can be assigned for this omission? Truly that the peal is not his. Anxious as they were that

HOLT should obtain all honour that was his due, would they not have specified that he was also master of another plan by which the 5040 could be produced? And their silence on this point must be taken, as it has hitherto been, to be conclusive that this composition is therefore not his property. The remark that HOLT's systems are capable of any variety, refers to the variations which the authors of the *Clavis* have themselves produced on the ten-part plan.

In our humble opinion, and in default of anything more trustworthy, we agree with the remark by SHIPWAY that the author of the peal is unknown. This is the opinion held by nine-tenths of the exercise at the present day, who believe that SHIPWAY possessed at the time he lived better opportunity of establishing the accuracy of such a statement than we in the latter end of the nineteenth century have of refuting it.

If space permits, we shall have something to say in our next number concerning a peal in this method without a single.

THE RECENT LONG PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES AT BIRMINGHAM.

This performance, information of which we received at the moment of going to press with our last number, was, we hear, most satisfactorily and creditably executed. Several who have sent us notices for the current number of our journal have alluded to it in terms of unequivocal commendation, and we take this opportunity of complimenting the whole band upon their success. Whatever we might say as regards the abilities of Mr. H. Johnson, could not add one iota to his great reputation among his compeers in the art. As a talented ringer expressed himself the other night in our hearing, "He is indeed a wonder," and we echo the observation. The taking part in a peal of 9000 Stedman Cinques on one's 72nd birthday, is an event indeed to be proud of, and in the spirit we shake hands with the hardy veteran, and wish him in all sincerity, "Many happy returns of the day." We give below a copy of the composition:—

|             |            |             |      |
|-------------|------------|-------------|------|
| 2 3 1 4 5 6 | 1 5 6 7 19 |             | 6 19 |
| 3 1 2 6 5 4 | - - s - -  | 3 1 2 4 6 5 | - -  |
| 3 1 4 2 5 6 | - - - -    | 2 1 3 5 6 4 | - -  |
| 4 1 6 5 3 2 | - - - -    | 2 1 4 3 6 5 | - -  |
| 4 1 2 6 3 5 | - - - -    | 2 1 5 4 6 3 | - -  |
| 2 1 4 5 3 6 | - - - -    | 5 1 2 3 6 4 | - -  |
| 2 1 6 4 3 5 | - - - -    | 5 1 2 4 6 3 | s -  |
| 2 1 5 6 3 4 | - - - -    | 5 1 3 2 6 4 | - -  |
| 5 1 2 4 3 6 | - - - -    | 5 1 4 3 6 2 | - -  |
| 5 1 6 2 3 4 | - - - -    | 4 1 5 2 6 3 | - -  |
| 6 1 5 4 3 2 | - - - -    | 4 1 3 5 6 2 | - -  |
| 6 1 2 5 3 4 | - - - -    | 3 1 4 2 6 5 | - -  |
| 6 1 4 2 3 5 | - - - -    | 3 1 5 4 6 2 | - -  |
| 4 1 5 3 6 2 | - - - -    | 3 1 2 5 6 4 | - -  |
| 5 1 4 2 6 3 | - - - -    | 2 1 3 4 6 5 | - -  |
| 5 1 3 4 6 2 | - - - -    | 2 1 5 3 6 4 | - -  |
| 3 1 5 2 6 4 | - - - -    | 2 1 4 5 6 3 | - -  |
| 3 1 4 5 6 2 | - - - -    | 4 1 2 3 6 5 | - -  |

This repeated; omitting the bobs at 1, 5, 7, produce 312456; two bobs on 9, 10, 11, complete the peal.

The composition of this peal allows of no less than seven landing-places before the actual number, 9238, is reached. Thus, had any untoward occurrence arisen, a true peal could have been secured at the following numbers:—5410; 6730; 6862; 7982; 8454; 8844; and 9106. It thus embraces a five, six, seven, eight, or nine thousand peal.

Birmingham can now claim, up to the present time, the honour of the longest peal of Stedman Cinques, as well as the longest length of Stedman Caters ever yet performed. This latter peal, which comprised 10,047 changes, was rung at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham, on March 8th, 1859, occupying six hrs. and 16 mins. It was composed by Mr. Johnson, and called by Mr. John Perks, our friend Amos being also in the band at the 2nd, and the old general, "the baker," being conspicuous at the 7th.

From what we hear, the idea seems to gain ground that a 10,000 of Cinques in the same method will be attempted at St. Michael's, Cornhill, at Easter.

## The Ringers' Record.

[Our friends will greatly assist us by forwarding their reports as early in the month as possible. The month should always be specified, not "ult." or "inst."]

### THE METROPOLIS.

#### ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

ST. DUNSTAN (Stepney).—On Saturday, March 5th, the following members of this Society rang at the above church a true and complete peal of Stedman Caters, consisting of 5007 changes, in 3 hrs. 15 mins. H. Haley, sen., 1; W. Tanner, 2; W. Cecil, 3; E. Horrex, 4; T. Benney, 5; R. Jameson, 6; R. French, 7; F. E. Dawe, 8; J. M. Hayes, 9; W. Crockford, 10. Tenor 31 cwt., in D.

The foregoing was composed and conducted by H. W. Haley, and has the 6th in 5th's place throughout. It was first rung at the above church (by College Youths) in 1859, and was also then conducted by its composer.

EALING (Middlesex).—On Saturday, March 12th, by the kind permission of the vicar, the Rev. J. S. Hilliard, the following members of the above Society rang at Christ Church, Holt's Ten-Part Peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 3 mins. C. F. Winny, 1; H. G. Gardner, 2; H. Cutter, 3; F. T. Gover, 4; R. French, 5; J. M. Hayes (conductor), 6; S. Hayes, 7; D. Newton, 8 (his first peal in the Society). Tenor 14 cwt.

#### THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

ST. MARGARET'S (Westminster).—On Saturday, March 19th, the following members of this Society rang at the above church a true peal of Grandsire Caters, comprising 5039 changes, in 3 hrs. 25 mins.—B. J. James, 1; R. French, 2; F. E. Dawe, 3; C. F. Winny, 4; F. T. Gover, 5; E. Gibbs, 6; E. Moses, 7; G. Flavel, 8; J. M. Hayes, 9; B. J. Mason, 10. Tenor 28 cwt., in D.

The above peal contains the whole of the 8-9's and 9-7-8's with the 5th and 6th behind the 9th. It was composed by H. Hubbard, sen., and conducted on the above occasion by J. M. Hayes.

### THE PROVINCES.

#### THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

DRIFHLINGTON.—On Saturday, Feb. 26th, at St. Paul's, 5280 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 15 mins. G. Carter, 1; H. Oddy, 2; B. Parkinson, 3; W. Bolland, 4; J. Crabtree, 5; G. Bolland, 6; B. A. Dodson, 7; J. Haley, 8. The peal was composed by Mr. H. Johnson, sen., of Birmingham, and conducted by G. Carter. (Snowdon, Part II., p. 13.) Tenor 16 cwt.

KANMOOR (Sheffield).—On Saturday, March 19th, eight young members of the above Association rang at St. John's, Kanmoor, a variation of the Original Bob-and-Single peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 5 mins. \*J. Mulligan, 1; W. Burgar, 2; W. Ball (conductor), 3; J. W. Rowbotham, 4; G. Holmes, 5; W. Mulligan, 6; J. Dixon, 7; \*W. Midgley, 8. [\*First peals.] The above is the first peal on the bells. Tenor 15 cwt.

BARNSLEY.—On Saturday, Feb. 26th, at St. Mary's, 5088 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 5 mins. H. Hubbard, 1; T. Lockwood, 2; T. West, 3; J. Hutchinson, 3; J. Woodhead, 5; H. Sparks, 6; G. S. Tyas, 7; R. Binns, 8. The peal, which had the sixth the extent each way in 5-6, was composed and conducted by Tom Lockwood. Tenor 15 cwt.

#### NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DISS (Norfolk).—On Monday, Feb. 23th, eight members of the above association rang at St. Mary's a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, containing 5024 changes, in 3 hrs. 15 mins. Tenor 24 cwt., in D. The peal contains the 6th its extent in 5-6, and also six consecutive course-ends in each of these positions; was composed by Mr. N. J. Pitstow, and now rung for the first time. J. Rudd (Diss), 1; H. Eagling (Kenninghall), 2; R. Hutton (Kenninghall), 3; C. Everett (Kenninghall), 4; J. Cunningham (Kenninghall), 5; J. Woods (Kenninghall), 6; R. Stackwood (Kenninghall), 7; J. Mordey (Kenninghall, conductor), 8.

KENNINGHALL (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, March 1st, eight members of this branch of the above Association rang at St. Mary's a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, containing 5056 changes, in 3 hrs. 2 mins. The peal contains the 6th its extent in 5-6, four course ends wrong, and eight at home; was composed by Mr. N. J. Pitstow, and now rung for the first time. J. Wade, 1; R. Stackwood, 2; H. Eagling, 3; C. Everett, 4; J. Cunningham, 5; J. Woods, 6; R. Hutton, 7; J. Mordey (conductor), 8. Tenor 16½ cwt.

IPSWICH.—On Tuesday, March 1st, the following members of the Ipswich branch of the above Association rang at St. Mary-le-Tower a true and complete peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus, 5088 changes,

in 3 hrs. 47 mins. This is the first peal of Maximus ever accomplished on these bells, and the only one of Maximus rang in the east of England. D. Prentice (composer and conductor), 1; H. E. Bevan, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; T. Sadler, 4; J. Fosdike, 5; W. Meadows, 6; R. H. Brundle, 7; H. Bowell, 8; W. L. Catchpole, 9; R. Hawes, 10; E. Pemberton, 11; E. Reeve, 12. Tenor 32 cwt.

HELMINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Saturday, March 19th, the following members of the above Association rang at St. Mary's a true and complete peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, 5024 changes, in 3 hrs. 8 mins. D. Prentice (Ipswich), 1; J. Knights (Helmingsham), 2; I. S. Alexander (Ipswich), 3; T. Sadler (Witnesham), 4; R. King (Framsden), 5; W. Dye (Helmingsham), 6; G. Sharman (Framsden), 7; E. Pemberton (Ipswich), 8. Tenor 19½ cwt. [Who called?—Ed.]

ASHTON - UNDER - LYNE.—(Farewell Peal).—On Monday evening, March 21st, the ringers of St. Peter's Church met to ring a farewell peal with Mr. G. Longden, who is leaving for Bray, Co. Wicklow, Ireland. The peal selected was one of Holt's peal of Bob Triples, containing 5040 changes, and was conducted by Mr. G. Longden. Time, 3 hrs. 4 mins. This is the first peal of Plain Bob Triples on the bells. T. Taylor, 1; J. Hopwood, 2; T. Marshall, 3; J. Adams, 4; J. Andrew, 5; J. Mellor, 6; G. Longden, 7; T. Mottram, 8.

APPLETON (Berks).—On March 4th, the following members of the Appleton Society of Change-Ringers celebrated their 64th Anniversary by ringing on the bells of the parish church, in 3 hrs. 21 mins., a true and complete peal of Stedman Caters, comprising 5245 changes. F. S. White, 1; E. Holifield, 2; F. White, 3; W. Bennett, 4; B. Barrett, 5; G. Holifield, 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; J. Avery, 8; H. Woodwards, 9; T. Bennett, 10. Conducted by the Rev. F. E. Robinson.

DERBY.—On Saturday, Feb. 26th, at All Saints Church, seven of the Derby Society (with J. W. Taylor Esq., of Loughborough) rang on the back eight bells the Original Bob-and-Single peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples, with 190 bobs and 150 singles, in 3 hrs. 8 mins., being the greatest extent of changes rung on these bells for upwards of fifty years. G. Lee, 1; J. W. Taylor, Esq., 2; H. C. Woodward, 3; J. Newbold, 4; R. Redgate, 5; R. Bosworth, 6; J. Howe (conductor), 7; G. Beeson, 8. Tenor about 30 cwt.

LAVENHAM (Suffolk).—On Monday, March 28th, the following rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, 5088 changes, in 3 hrs. 30 mins. The peal contains the 4th and 6th their extent in 5-6, the 5th also eighteen times at home, and is the first peal rung upon the bells in this method. It is upwards of twenty-eight years since a peal has been rung upon these fine bells, and the performers were complimented by the inhabitants for the good striking, and its successful accomplishment. S. Slater (Glensford), 1; H. Thompson (Cavendish), 2; C. Adams (Glensford), 3; N. J. Pitstow (Saffron Walden), 4; G. Martin (Saffron Walden), 5; H. Harper (Sudbury), 6; G. Taylor (Cambridge), 7; F. Pitstow (Saffron Walden, composer and conductor), 8. Tenor 24 cwt., key D.

LEICESTER.—On Saturday, March 5th, eight members of the St. Margaret's Society rang at St. Mary's 5184 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 21 mins. G. Burrows, 1; T. Wilson, 2; W. Cooper, 3; \*A. H. Wilson, 4; J. W. Wilson (conductor), 5; S. Cooper, 6; J. Cooper, 7; J. Buttery, 8. Tenor 17½ cwt., in F. Composed by Mr. Henry Johnson, sen., of Birmingham. [\*His first peal.]

LIVERPOOL.—On Tuesday, Feb. 15th, eight members of St. Peter's and St. Nicholas Societies rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, at St. Nicholas, containing 5088 changes, in 3 hrs. 13 mins. R. Williams, sen., 1; G. Helsby, 2; H. Meadows, 3; W. Woodhead, 4; T. Hammond, 5; R. Williams, jun., 6; W. Littler, 7; J. Egerton (conductor), 8. Tenor 15½ cwt.—Also on Saturday, March 5th, at the same steeple, ten members of St. Peter's and St. Nicholas Societies rang a peal of Grandsire Caters, containing 5219 changes, in 3 hrs. 20 mins. G. Helsby, 1; J. Egerton, 2; W. Woodhead, 3; R. Williams, sen., 4; W. Littler, 5; H. Beck, 6; \*E. Vose, 7; R. Williams, jun. (conductor), 8; \*J. Welch, 9; \*E. Foster, 10. Tenor 20 cwt. [\*First peal.]

LYTHAM (Lancashire).—On Saturday, Feb. 26th, the Parish Church Ringers rang Mr. Thurstans' peal of Stedman Triples, containing 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 50 mins. J. Miller, 1; W. Atkinson, 2; J. Allanson, 3; W. Gregson, 4; J. Fisher, 5; H. Gregson (conductor), 6; J. Miller (captain), 7; R. Allanson, 8. This peal was rung in honour of the Lord Bishop of Manchester visiting Lytham, on the occasion of the opening of a new organ in the parish church, and is the first peal of Stedman Triples ever rang in Lytham.

SAWBRIDGEWORTH (Herts).—On Wednesday, March 23rd, eight members of the Sawbridgeworth Society, rang at Great St. Mary's, a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples (Taylor's well-known variation) in 3 hrs. 16 mins. This was the first peal on these bells. \*J. Tarling, sen., 1; \*G. Camp, 2; \*A. Brown, 3; \*T. Saban, 4; J. Tarling, jun., 5; G. Rochester (conductor), 6; N. Tarling, 7; \*H. Saban, 8. Tenor 25 cwt., in D. [\*Their first peal.]

## DATE TOUCHES.

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 1st, eight members of the Cirencester branch of the above Association rang on the Cirencester Church bells 1881 changes in the Grandsire method, in 1 hr. 15 mins. W. Parry, 1; J. Earl, 2; W. Hinton, 3; G. Mason, 4; H. Freeth, 5; H. Hughes, 6; G. Davis, 7; H. Clutterbuck, 8; composed and conducted by W. Hinton. Tenor 28 cwt., in D.

**BARNESLEY** (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, Feb. 27th, the following members of the Leeds Association rang a Date Touch, 1881 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 10 mins. J. West, 1; T. Lockwood, 2; R. Sparks, 3; J. Hutchinson, 4; J. Woodhead, 5; R. Binns, 6; G. Tyas, 7; R. H. Pease, 8.

**BROMSGROVE** (Worcestershire).—On March 6th, at St. John's Church, 1881 Grandsire Caters in 1 hr. 15 mins. W. Rea, 1; G. Bourne, 2; F. Halbut, 3; G. Hayward, 4; O. James, 5; E. Crump (composer and conductor), 6; G. Morris, 7; H. Lawton, 8; R. Broomfield, 9; J. Parry, 10. Tenor 20 cwt.

**LYTHAM** (Lancashire).—On New Year's Eve the local society rang a short touch of Grandsire Triples at St. Cuthbert's Parish Church, and afterwards tolled out the old year by striking twelve blows on the tenor; they then welcomed in the new year by ringing 1881 changes of Stedman Triples, in 1 hr. 9 mins. Tenor 14½ cwt., in F sharp. J. Miller, 1; W. Atkinson, 2; J. Allanson, 3; W. Gregson, 4; J. Fisher, 5; H. Gregson, 6; James Miller (captain and conductor), 7; Wm. Miller, 8.

**OTLEY** (Yorkshire).—On Thursday, March 17th, the Otley Company rang on the bells of All Saints' Church, a Date Touch of 1881 changes of Bob Major, in 1 hr. 9 mins. E. Cawood, 1; C. Ralph, 2; L. Cawood, 3; J. Barraclough, 4; J. Horner, 5; C. E. Craven, 6; F. Maston, 7; W. McGoun, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. Composed and conducted by L. Cawood. [We will publish this composition in our next issue.]

**OXFORD**.—On Monday, March 7th, nine members of the Oxford Society of Change Ringers rang at Merton College, Oxford, a Date Touch of Stedman Triples, consisting of 1881 changes, in 1 hr 15 mins. W. Smith, 1; S. Hounslow, 2; J. Field (composer and conductor), 3; H. French, 4; C. Hounslow, 5; E. Harrison, 6; F. Coleridge, Esq., 7; A. Strange and J. Beley, 8. Tenor 36 cwt.

**WEDNESBURY** (Staffordshire).—On the morning of the 23rd Feb., a mixed band of ringers met at the Parish Church, Wednesbury, and rang a Touch of Stedman Triples, containing 1881 changes (the date of the present year), in 1 hr. 8 mins. W. Johnson (Darlaston), 1; W. Smith (Darlaston), 2; A. Malbon (Wednesbury), 3; J. Astbury, senr. (Walsall), 4; J. Lloyd (Wednesbury), 5; J. Astbury, junr. (Walsall, conductor), 6; T. Foster (Wednesbury), 7; J. Malbon (Wednesbury), 8; composed by W. Hallsworth. Also in the evening, at the same church, was rung a Date Touch of Stedman Caters, 1881 changes, in 1 hr. and 10 mins. W. Walker (Walsall), 1; J. Lloyd (Wednesbury), 2; J. Astbury, senr. (Walsall), 3; A. Malbon (Wednesbury), 4; W. Johnson (Darlaston), 5; J. Astbury, junr. (Walsall), 6; J. Bate (Wednesbury), 7; T. Foster (Wednesbury), 8; W. Hallsworth (Walsall), 9; E. Taylor (Walsall), 10. Tenor 24 cwt. Composed and conducted by Wm. Hallsworth.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

(Comprising performances under 5000 changes.)

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

**QUEDGELY**.—On Feb. 18th, five of this Society, assisted by Mr. G. Wanklin, of Gloucester, rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor. \*A. Harris, 1; \*W. Brown, 2; \*J. Mansfield, 3; \*C. Lyes, 4; J. Brown, 5; G. Wanklin (conductor), 6; time 25 mins. Tenor 10 cwt. [Those marked thus \* their first 720.]

**TEWKESBURY**.—On Monday evening, March 14th, eight members of the above Association rang at Tewkesbury Abbey, 1638 changes of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. The same ringers at the above place, on Thursday, March 17th, rang the last half of the late Mr. John Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 30 mins. The ringers were placed as follows:—E. Devereux, 1; T. Devereux, 2; F. J. Moore, 3; Wm. Freeman, 4; Jno. Wathen, 5; J. Hale, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; W. Haines, 8. Tenor 23½ cwt.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

**DONCASTER**.—On Saturday, Feb. 26th, at St. George's Parish Church, was rung, with two young members from Campsall, being their first attempt, a Quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 50 mins. Tenor 31 cwt. C. Armitage, 1; H. G. Wilson, 2; J. Senior (Campsall), 3; H. Marwood (conductor), 4; W. Pearson (Campsall), 5; W. Gardiner, 6; W. Laurence, 7; W. Burkenshaw, 8.

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

**ROMFORD** (Essex).—On Sunday evening, Feb. 27th, at St. Edward's, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 29 mins. \*G. Roughton, 1; \*A. Porter, 2; \*A. Pye, 3; \*A. J. Perkins, 4; J. W. Aldridge, 5; G. Newson (conductor), 6. [\* Denotes their first in the method.] Tenor 17 cwt., key F.

**BRAINTREE** (Essex).—*Handbell Performance*.—On Monday, March 14th, three of the Baintree members of the above Association rang on Handbells a 720 of Bob Minor, in 20 mins. \*W. H. Dyson, 1-2; S. Hammond (conductor), 3-4; \*F. Rudkin, 5-6. [\*First 720 two in hand.]

**BARNESLEY** (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, Feb. 27th, the following members of the Leeds Association rang, for morning service, touches of Stedman Triples and Grandsire Triples. T. West, 1; T. Lockwood, 2; R. Binns, 3; J. Hutchinson, 4; J. Woodhead, 5; R. H. Pease, 6; G. Tyas, 7; R. Sparks, 8.

**BAWTRY** (Yorkshire).—On Thursday evening, Feb. 24th, the members of the St. Nicholas Society accomplished a 720 of Bob Minor, containing 32 bobs and 2 singles, the largest number that can be called, in 27 mins. Also for evening service, on the following Sunday, another 720 of Bob Minor was rung, in 26 mins., having 14 bobs and 2 singles. On both occasions the ringers were placed as follows:—W. Smith, 1; T. Robinson, 2; F. J. Oram (conductor), 3; J. W. Taylor, 4; F. H. Cartwright, Esq., 5; H. Wilson, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. The latter peal was a farewell one on the part of W. Smith, who has since left the town, the society having to train another youth to fill the vacancy.

**BISHOPS STORTFORD** (Herts).—On Tuesday, March 15th, was rung at St. Michael's, by eight members of the above parish, a Quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 1260 changes, with the twelve 7-4's and 7-6's; and nine 6-7's, in 47 mins. W. Rickett, 1; C. Martin (conductor), 2; W. H. Tucker, 3; H. J. Tucker (composer), 4; J. Newman, 5; F. W. Elbourn, 6; H. Champness, 7; T. Newman, 8. Tenor 20 cwt., in E.

**BRADFORD**.—On Tuesday, March 15th, at St. James's Church, Bolton, six members of St. James's Company rang their first 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. R. S. Ambler, 1; J. T. Chadwick, 2; B. Sugden, 3; J. Broadley, 4; B. T. Copley (conductor), 5; W. Barraclough, 6. Also on Saturday, March 19th, six members of this company rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. B. Lamb, jun. (15 years of age, his first 720), 1; J. T. Chadwick, 2; B. Sugden, 3; J. Broadley, 4; B. T. Copley (conductor), 5; W. Barraclough, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

**CHISWICK** (Middlesex).—On Monday, Feb. 21st, the following rang, at the Parish Church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26½ mins:—J. James, 1; J. M. Hayes, 2; F. Weare, 3; J. Basden, 4; H. Cutter, 5; S. Hayes (conductor), 6. This is supposed to be the first 720 ever rung upon these bells. Tenor about 14 cwt.

**DERBY**.—On Sunday, March 20th, at St. Werburgh's Church, was rung a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 46 mins. the bells being half muffled as a token of respect to the memory of the late Mr. William Holt, of Derby, a ringer for upwards of forty years. G. Neale, 1; R. Bosworth, 2; A. Taberer, 3; J. Newbold, 4; R. Redgate, 5; H. C. Woodward, 6; J. Howe (conductor), 7; G. Slack, 8. Tenor 17 cwt., in E.

**DARLINGTON** (Durham).—On Tuesday evening, March 22nd, at St. John's, for the usual weekly practice, the ringers of the above belfry rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. Jos. Blakiston, (first 720), 1; J. H. Blakiston, 2; W. Patton, 3; R. Moncaster, 4; Jno. Whitfield, 5; Geo. Overton (conductor), 6.

**HORSHAM** (Sussex).—On Tuesday, March 8th, the local society rang a Half-peal, 2520 changes, of Oxford Bob Triples, in 1 hr. 36 mins., conducted by H. Burstow. G. Jenkins, 1; E. Knight, 2; G. Vaughan, 3; G. Ropley, 4; J. Browne, 5; F. Knight, 6; H. Burstow, 7; G. Woolgar, 8. Tenor 24 cwt., in E.

**HATHEROP** (Gloucestershire).—On Feb. 27th, a mixed company of the Coln and Hatherop Change-Ringers rang on the bells of the above parish 720 changes of Plain Bob Minor. B. Smith (first 720), 1; T. Hawkins, 2; C. Bate, 3; R. Packer, 4; G. Smith, 5; J. Kitchener, 6. —It was again rung on March 13th by R. Packer, 1; T. Hawkins, 2; C. Bate, 3; J. Williams, 4; G. Smith, 5. J. Kitchener, 6. Conducted on each occasion by J. Kitchener.

**HAVERSTOCK-HILL** (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, March 2nd, at St. Martin's, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. Barrett, 1; J. Page, 2; G. Newson, 3; T. Titchener, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; \*T. Monks, 6; [\* His first 720 in this Method.] Also 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. T. Phillips, 1; J. Page, 2; J. Barrett, 3; T. Titchener, 4; J. Hannington, 5; G. Newson (conductor), 6. [This last contains 42 singles, and is the composition of Mr. J. F. Penning, of Saffron Walden.] Also on Sunday, the 6th inst., Divine Service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. Barrett, 1; T. Gleed, 2; T. Titchener, 3; N. Alderman, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; E. Chapman, 6.

OXFORD.—On Saturday, Feb. 12th, at St. Martin's Church, Oxford, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 30 mins. H. French, 1; G. Lapworth, 2; S. Hounslow, 3; J. Eeley, 4; E. Harrison, 5; C. Hounslow (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

LOUGHBOROUGH (Leicestershire).—On Saturday, March 19th, at All Saints' Church, a band from Derby, visiting the above, and by kind permission rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 47 mins. R. Bosworth, 1; J. Newbold, 2; A. Taberer, 3; H. C. Woodward, 4; R. Redgate, 5; J. Howe, 6; G. Lee (conductor), 7; G. Slack, 8. Tenor 24 cwt., in D.

SPALDING (Lincs).—On Ash-Wednesday, at SS. Mary and Nicolas, for morning service, 360 Bob Minor, 12 singles; for evening service, 360 London Single, 9 bobs, with the bells half muffled.—Also on March 6th, 720 Bob Minor, 30 singles, 6 bobs, in 28 mins. G. Harrison, 1; J. Woodward, 2; A. Ridlington, 3; J. Wright, 4; G. Richardson, 5; R. Mackman (conductor), 6.—Also on March 10th 720 Bob Minor, 18 bobs, 2 singles, in 29 mins. Also 720 London Single, 18 bobs and 2 singles, in 28 mins. J. Johnson, 1; J. Woodward, 2; R. Mackman, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; J. Wright, 5; G. Richardson (conductor), 6. Tenor 18 cwt.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Sunday, Feb. 27th, for the afternoon service, the following rang, at St. Mary's, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25½ mins. Tenor 13 cwt. It was composed by Mr. J. F. Penning, and contains 32 bobs and 2 singles, the greatest number of bobs yet obtained in the method. N. J. Pitstow, 1; J. F. Penning, 2; H. Prior, 3; C. Prior, 4; H. J. Tucker, 5; F. Pitstow (conductor), 6. This is a companion 720 to one by Benjamin Annable, given in *Rope-Sight*, 2nd edition, page 71; and is given below:—

|         |         |         |          |
|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| 23456   |         |         |          |
| - 23564 | - 36245 | - 64352 | - 65432  |
| - 23645 | - 36452 | - 64523 | 53624    |
| 34256   | 65324   | 42635   | - 53246  |
| 45362   | 52643   | - 42356 | 34562    |
| - 45623 | - 52436 | - 42563 | - 34625  |
| - 45236 | - 52364 | 26435   | s 43256  |
| 53462   | 26543   | - 26354 |          |
| 36524   | 64235   | 65243   | repeated |

Also after the afternoon service, three members of the above parish, assisted by H. J. Tucker, of Bishops Stortford, F. Sworder, and R. S. Sworder, of Great Hallingbury, rang a 720 of Bob Minor, with 8 bobs and 6 singles, in 27 mins. J. Cavill, 1; R. S. Sworder (aged 13 years, first 720), 2; H. Prior, 3; C. Prior, 4; F. Sworder, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt. Great credit is due to the ringer of the second bell, he having only practised the method five times.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Thursday evening, March 24th, at St. Mary's, four members of the local society, assisted by H. J. Tucker, of Bishops Stortford, Herts, and F. Sworder, of Great Hallingbury Hall, Essex, rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Cavill, 1; C. Prior, 2; J. Luckey, 3; F. Sworder (first 720 in the above method), 4; H. Prior, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.—Also at St. Michael's, Bishops Stortford, Herts, on Friday evening, March 25th, eight members of the local society rung 2520 changes, the first half of Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. and 33 mins. W. Rickett, 1; G. Brand, 2; W. H. Tucker, 3; G. Martin, 4; J. Newman, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6; H. Champness, 7; J. Sampford, 8. Tenor 20 cwt., in E.

In Memoriam.

GEORGE FERRIS.

DIED IN THE TRANSVAAL, FEBRUARY 20TH, 1881.

The student who has the good fortune to possess a copy of the 1854 edition of Hubbard's *Elements of Campanalugia* (published by Fletcher, of Norwich), must, upon a first perusal of some of the feats recorded in that work, have been struck with amazement. It has been laid down by an eminent authority that double-handed ringing, especially with such a method as Stedman, proves the efficient performer therein to be a ringer of great ability indeed; and such as are able to live through a 5000 with a pair of bells *in hand* may, without affectation, be said to be gifted with a degree of genius not very common. The above edition of the work in question gives accounts of the performance of peals of Triples and Caters on Stedman's principle rung double-handed by those bearing the following names, to take them in alphabetical order:—Britten, Cooter, Cox, Dwight, Ferris, Haley, Powell, and Wood. Till a short time ago all these were with us, but, under somewhat sad circumstances, he whose name is at the head of this notice has been called to rest, having succumbed to the king of terrors in a far-off land. Mr. Ferris, who was a skilful artificer in wood, had received a somewhat lucrative offer to proceed to South

Africa for the purpose of erecting a telegraph station, necessary for the use of the population out there. The building was fitted together by him and his *confères* in this country, and had, therefore, on arrival at its destination, merely to be fixed on the spot selected for it, so that no lengthy absence from England was premeditated, indeed he was hoping shortly to return, but disease, in the shape of virulent fever, overtook him, and he breathed his last among comparative strangers.

The subject of our memoir, who was in his 53rd year, was a prominent member of the College Youths and St. James's Societies. He rang the 8th in the long peal of Stedman cinquies at St. Michael's, Cornhill, which peal has just been superseded. He was a sound ringer, one always to be depended upon, and his decease is deeply regretted by the ringing community of the metropolis. Of a quiet, unassuming disposition, as a double-handed ringer not to be surpassed, the void caused in the ranks of the above societies by his death will not easily be filled up. He leaves behind him a widow and a numerous array of children to mourn their loss.

LITERARY NOTICE.

CHANGE-RINGING DISENTANGLED: WITH HINTS ON THE DIRECTION OF BELFRIES, ON THE MANAGEMENT OF BELLS, ETC. By the Rev. Woolmore Wigram, M.A., Rector of St. Andrew's, Hertford, and Rural Dean; Member of the Ancient Society of College Youths. (*London: George Bell and Sons.*)—This compact little epitome, a second edition of which has just been published, commends itself to the notice of those who are anxious to become acquainted with the elements of the art, and as far as it goes, merits a place side-by-side with other text-books on the science. It possesses some additional interest by being the only work on change-ringing (so far as instruction is concerned), coming from the pen of a clergyman. Apart from its scientific teaching, the sound wisdom it contains in connection with many matters relating to Bells, Belfries, and Ringers, will be found useful to those of the clergy who are not, nor who ever expect to become, ringers. The interior appurtenances which every steeple should be furnished with, and the routine which should be inaugurated, are concisely but efficiently dealt with in all their respective details. Upon the fallacy of leaving to local tradesman the repair of bell fittings, Mr. Wigram says:—

"Every one should wish to employ the people of the place; but no man of any trades should be allowed to do work in the belfry unless he has been specially trained and taught. Bells are pendulums swung through the entire circle. A builder, carpenter, or smith, does not know how to hang a pendulum. The work requires absolute accuracy in very heavy materials. It is done in a belfry, generally cramped, dark, and difficult of access. Unless a man have in stock the proper wood, thoroughly seasoned, and unless he understand the business very thoroughly, he will waste a great deal of time, and he will satisfy neither himself nor his employer, and the ringers least of all. They will be sure to notice if a bell clappers false, rings heavily, or strikes unlevel. I could point to towers which verify these words but too completely. . . . It is the same with bell-ropes; they are manufactured specially; an ordinary rope-maker cannot supply them. I have been entreated to give an order for a set, although the specimens shown would have been such that positively I would not have accepted them as a gift, subject to the condition that I must ring with them myself."

Churchwardens and others in search of some one to effect repairs will gather from the above that the services of the local artisan must as a rule, be declined, and recourse had to the skilled bell-hanger. The following seasonable advice to young ringers it is to be hoped will be carefully remembered:—

Also although all ringers have been learners themselves, and should therefore be willing to teach, yet teaching is very dull and irksome, and the whole band is kept back to the level of the learner, therefore the beginner should feel bound for the sake of all concerned to spare no pains or trouble which may quicken his progress. He must lean upon others, but he should tax their patience as little as possible."

We agree in the main with the above observations. While offering no apology for those who are churlish enough to refuse assistance to infantile exertions, yet in some cases it has been found that the efforts of those who have striven to perfect young beginners in the art, have been repaid with treatment bordering on ingratitude. Where it can be done, it is safer to engage a competent instructor for a few weeks; and in connection with this it may be said that it is not always found that the best of ringers prove the wisest teachers. Before employing anyone in such a capacity it will be advisable to require credentials of some sort—such as a testimonial of his capabilities as a teacher from some society whom he has previously educated, so that there may be no disappointment.

We recommend all young ringers to add Mr. Wigram's book to their stock of bell-literature. It will be found a not unworthy associate for the works of Troyte, Snowdon, Banister, and Hubbard.

**CORRESPONDENCE.**

*\*\* The writers alone are responsible for the opinions they enunciate.*

SIR,—Your correspondent, Mr. Earle Bulwer, will no doubt have the thanks of many young Stedman ringers; any means whereby the difficulties of the slow work and of knowing surely how to go into the sixes may be overcome, is valuable to the learner. The rule laid down by Shipway—viz., observing how your course-bell goes in is very good, provided your course-bell makes no mistake, and the same may be said of what Mr. Bulwer calls the "A B trick," or, in fact, of any other method; if the bell you have to follow goes wrong you are very likely to go wrong too. There is another way that I consider very simple and very sure: when you are working your way down, and have finished your dodging in 7-6, you hunt two blows in 5-4, and while you are striking these two blows, just cast your eyes and ears forward and observe how the bell before is leading. If she is leading a whole pull right, you will have to go in slow, but if she is snapping you will be a quick bell. By observing this rule the learner will make but few mistakes in going into the sixes. J. DRINKWATER.

Sandhurst, March 16th.

SIR,—Having seen in your last issue two peals of Bob Minor stated to have been rung at Saffron Walden, Essex, and containing 42 singles, composed by Mr. Penning, and never previously performed, I beg to say the one rung upon Sunday the 20th of Feb., was composed by me two years since, and was rung by the Hingham Company of Ringers, and also members of the Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers, and I have enclosed two more peals of Bob Minor, composed by me, containing 42 singles, which I have no doubt have been previously composed by others before me, although I have not seen them.

Hingham, Attleboro. MATTHEW JARVIS.

[As giving in full the 720's sent by our correspondent would occupy too much space, the following observations will answer the same purpose: One of them is in three equal parts, singles being called at every lead, except the 2nd, 6th, 10th, 15th, 18th, and 19th, in each part. The other seems to be in one part, the omits being at the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 6th, 12th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 26th, 32nd, 33rd, 39th, 40th, 46th, 47th, 53rd, 54th, and 60th leads.—Ed.]

DEAR SIR,—I shall feel obliged to conductors and secretaries of Handbell Ringing Societies, if they will kindly furnish me (those who have not already done so) with the number and scale of their bells, as I am forming a reference table, with a view to future arrangements of Handbell Music. WM. GORDON.  
20, Crowthor-street, Stockport.

ACCIDENT.—We are sorry to inform our readers that Mr. G. A. Muskett, the hon. sec. of the College Youths, has met with an accident. He was hurrying to the Bank of England, when he slipped down and severely fractured his knee-cap. It is, however, a satisfaction to hear that he is progressing favourably.

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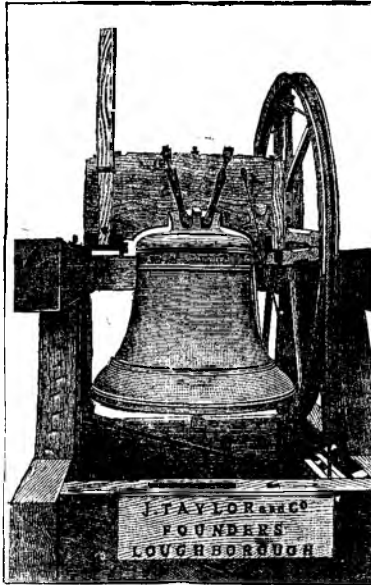
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Printed for the Proprietors, by Poland, Robertson & Co., at the Office, 9a, Curtain Road; and Published by W. Poole, 12a, Paternoster Row, London.  
APRIL 1st, 1881.