

THE BELL NEWS

AND RINGERS' RECORD:

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

No. 15.—VOL. I.

APRIL, 1882.

[ONE PENNY.]

HANDBELL RINGING.

GREAT as has been the progress of the Art of Ringing during the last decade, it cannot be contradicted that one particular feature of its exercise, and that not by any means the least important, has, if not altogether ignored, to a certain extent not received that amount of consideration to which its merits entitle it. We allude to double-handed ringing upon handbells. The assertion may confidently be declared, without fear of refutation, that there are many companies of good ringers who periodically meet for practice in the steeple, who never think of touching a handbell, unless it may be to jar the ear by some discordant sounds utterly at variance with the canons of harmony. Tune-ringing is to be commended if it is done well, and the performances of a good band in this particular are at all times pleasing to the sense, but the student in pursuit of the science of Change-Ringing should make this, not a primary consideration, but as an introduction to the steeple, where a complete knowledge of ringing is essential before claiming the prerogatives of a sound half-pull ringer.

The value of handbells as an adjunct to the steeple is unfortunately not sufficiently estimated. How often have we met for practice on the appointed hour, sometimes events shadowing forth a pleasant evening in the trial, perhaps, of some particular or favourite method, and then, from some cause or other, not able even to touch a rope? Certainly on such occasions as these—and in many places they are of frequent occurrence—the advantages of the use of a good peal of handbells go a long way to smooth over such disappointments. And then their possession enables a company—it may be a family circle—to prosecute, around the fireside of home, or at the domicile of a brother ringer, the Art of Ringing, when from causes almost innumerable, practise on the ropes is not easy of attainment.

We would have this part of the Exercise carried to a much greater extent than obtains at present. There is no reason why with care and attention ringers of ordinary average should not be able to record double-handed peals of 5000 much oftener than now. When we read that a generation ago peals of Stedman Triples and Caters were so executed *ad libitum*, and in one noted instance, if not more, a peal of Triples in this method was rung double-handed without a call being made, it certainly appears strange that with all the talent we now possess, some essays should not be successful in the same direction. It is a debated point whether the abilities of the expert composer or those of the clever bob-caller deserve the highest meed of praise, but while endeavouring to establish either position, it must be conceded that the *real* double-handed ringer is, to use the words of a prominent member of the London Exercise—Mr. JOHN NELMS—"at the top of the tree."

But the reputation of a good double-handed performer will not be gained by merely taking a pair of bells through a

course of this or that method, or an indifferently-struck touch of one of the most simple known, but the *real* work of either pair of bells, through any touch that may be called, and neatly and skilfully accomplished. We have been present when a company of four ringers have picked up eight bells haphazard, and in this position, or we may say in no position, tapped off Stedman veritably "like clockwork." But to attain such proficiency requires practice and a considerable amount of perseverance. Whoever aspires to become an efficient in double-handed work will find that he must enter into it with a will, and a certain amount of cohesion and unity must also animate the whole of his companions.

It would be gratifying to hear that these few remarks upon this subject have not been altogether useless. Handbells are easy to be procured now-a-days, but if the finances of a society desiring them should be in straitened circumstances, it is we feel sure, not out of order to seek help from some influential parishioner; indeed the idea ought to recommend itself to any liberal or philanthropic-minded person if only for the reason that such an innocent pursuit as handbell-ringing, within proper bounds, and under wholesome regulations, imparts a social and moral benefit in creating a means of recreation vastly superior to others which are unfortunately at the present day too easily within reach.

THE MONTH.

THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of the above association will be held at Spalding, on Easter Monday, April 10th. The bells at St. Mary and St. Nicholas and at St. Paul's Churches will be at the disposal of the members from 9 a.m. There will be divine service, with a special sermon, at the Parish Church, at 11 a.m. A meeting for transacting the usual business of the society will be held in the National School-room at 12 noon. The dinner will be held in the same place at 1 p.m., after which the bells will be at the disposal of the members until 8 p.m.—The charge for dinner will be 2s. per head to members sending in their names to the secretary, on or before Wednesday, April 5th. If not sent in by that date 2s. 3d. will be charged. Any member sending in his name and not attending will be fined 1s. Members will be allowed to bring friends, but they must send notice thereof, beforehand, to the secretary by April 5th, as to the number they intend bringing. It is requested that all steeplekeepers and captains of companies of ringers in the district will put up a copy of this notice in the belfries to which they belong.

J. R. JERRAM, C.Y., *Secretary*.
R. CREASEY, C.Y., *Assistant Secretary*.

BELL FOUNDING OPERATIONS, ETC.

MESSRS. TAYLOR & Co.—Horton (near Leek, Staffordshire).—Hanging the peal of six with new fittings and framework. Cheadle, Cheshire. Two trebles to complete the peal of eight, the gift of Isaac Broome, Esq. Tenor about 15 cwt. Meppershall (near Shefford, Bedfordshire).—Recasting second, new fittings and framework for the peal of five. Tenor about 12 cwt. Mountsorrel, Leicestershire.—New fittings and framework for a peal of four. Camborne, Cornwall.—Adding treble and tenor to complete a peal of eight, recasting old fourth, entirely new fittings and east-iron framework for the whole peal. Shap, Westmoreland.—New treble to complete peal of six. Hambledon, Hampshire.—Recasting treble of six.

ANNUAL REPORT OF
THE DURHAM DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

This is a small unpretending record of the proceedings of the above association. The paucity of its pages creates a tinge of disappointment at first sight, but taking everything into consideration, its mere proportions must not be held to be a strict criterion of the valuable work this, the most northern of our Diocesan Associations, has effected since its establishment. The efforts of its officers and members have not altogether been laid in pleasant places; their praiseworthy aims for the extension of the art of ringing and in the renovation of bells has been, in one notable instance at least, checked by an ignorant opposition; or by indifference in a quarter which we hope will, in a short time, be roused into activity. If the bells of the cathedral (the mother church of the diocese), are in the condition the report tells us they are, is it impertinent to ask the reason why they are in such an unringable condition? Is "not one to be found there" among the capitular body who will endeavour to bring about a better state of things in the cathedral? A thorough reformation must be attempted; should any fossil-like interest stand in the way it must be removed, and not with a gentle hand by any means. Let the Dean and Chapter depute one of their body to take this matter in hand, and give him *carte blanche* to do it thoroughly. He will not have to look far for his model. It is not so many years ago since a hideous peal in another cathedral was deposed from their position they had unworthily occupied for many years, and in their place a new peal with modern appliances was erected! And this amelioration was done solely by the industry and perseverance of a rev. gentleman who was then a minor canon of that cathedral. We hope one can be found among the Durham Chapter to "go and do likewise;" and we should indeed be glad to hear of Canon Tristram interesting himself in such an undertaking. A successful termination of such a movement would bring with it its own reward.

Nevertheless, amid what may be termed an unfavourable state of affairs in the cathedral city, the report of the indefatigable hon. secretary is cheering, and there is a determination to make the association respected among Exercise as practical ringers. We subjoin an extract from the report:—

"At the end of four years what do we find to be our position? When I can state that we have as patrons the Bishop of the Diocese, the Dean of the Cathedral, and the three Arch-deacons, upwards of twenty of the cathedral and parochial clergy as honorary members, together with other gentlemen connected with the church as churchwardens or otherwise, and 19 branches of performing members, 11 of which are regularly practising change-ringing, making a total of 188 members, with an income for the past year of upwards of £20, and a healthy balance-sheet, this association may be truly said to be in a flourishing condition. . . . In their present condition the cathedral (Durham) bells are but little adapted for change-ringing, and are a great drawback to the success of the annual meetings. A new ring of eight has been placed in the tower of St. Stephen's Newcastle, through the liberality of W. D. Cruddas, Esq., also a new ring of six in St. Peter's, Jarrow, the opening in each case being, I regret to say, confined to one company. Three new bells have been added to the old five at South Church, to which the change-ringers of the district were invited and entertained by the Committee of restoration, an inauguration, it is to be hoped, of better things in the way of bell openings, the selection of a single company who undertake the job, being a system better suited to districts where change-ringing is entirely unknown, and where openings fall as a matter of course into the hands of mercenary bell haulers. I must refer with regret to the tenor at St. Andrew's, Newcastle, which fine old bell, after a life of one hundred and sixty years, has become another victim to the dangerous practice of clocking bells to be tolled for death by some inexperienced person. The report from North Shields consists of touches of Bob Royal, Grandsire Caters, Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob Major, Grandsire Triples, and several peals of Minor in various methods, the greatest performance of the year being Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples accomplished in the incredible short time of 2 hours and 30 minutes."

This peal caused some little excitement in consequence of the time in which it was performed. The report thus concludes:—

"The improvement in ringing and the increasing interest taken in bells and ringers in this diocese is a matter for great thankfulness on our part, and yet let us remember much remains to be done; several peals are still scarcely ringable, and amongst this list we must include two of the finest peals we have, and in many towers change-ringing is seldom ever heard, and is consequently unknown and therefore unappreciated. I therefore request every branch and every member to contribute as much as possible to the general success of the association during the coming year, as the best means of benefitting both themselves and others. In nothing so much as in bell-ringing are the members forming a particular company so dependent upon each other, consequently there can be but little success to those ringers amongst who is to be found no mutual regard or spirit of self-denial. In commending this feeling to every member of the association, I also trust that every effort will be made to render this and each new year more progressive than its predecessor."

The closing words of this report should be weighed well by every ringer whom it may concern. When a state of bickering and ill-nature is to be

found among the members of any company, no good results can possibly take place. We call the attention of young aspiring societies to the final language spoken by Mr. Clarkson.

THE FIRST RINGING OF "GREAT PAUL."

"Great Paul," says *The Standard*, will be swung in the Clock-tower of St. Paul's. That much is decided; when and how are still open questions. It was originally contemplated to put it in the lanthorn of the north-west tower of the facade of the Cathedral, over the peal of twelve, but it is now settled that it shall take its place in the clock-chamber of the south-west tower, the present clock-bell, some five tons in weight, remaining in the lanthorn above, in which it now is. The tower has ample strength. The staircase being formed within the external walls leaves a square central area of 23ft. 6in. on the sides, within which, by entrance at the base, the bell can be elevated into position. The walls of the facade on the south side of the Cathedral form buttresses to the tower of solidity and support far beyond anything merely needful; and from experiments which have been made, it is now known that the bell can be swung within the limits of the clock chamber.

The separation of "Great Paul" from the peal of bells in the north-west tower is a matter of no musical or other consequence, as the great bell is a Bourdon, or service-bell, which will be rung for five minutes before service time, as is generally done in most churches for a quarter of an hour with the tenor bell of the peal.

Experiments in swinging the bell were recently made at Loughborough in presence of the representatives of the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's, Mr. F. C. Penrose, architect, Dr. Stainer, organist, and the Rev. Canon Cattley of Worcester, accompanied by Lord Alwyne-Compton, Dean of Worcester, Sir Edmund Beckett, and Captain Troyte. The dimensions of the bell being well-known it is unnecessary to recapitulate them. The bell is attached to its own proper headstock, with its gudgeons, just as it will be mounted in the Cathedral tower. The headstock is ten feet nine inches long. The weight of the materials in the headstock is about 70 cwt., of which a little over 42 cwt. is iron. The bell is secured to the headstock by iron straps passing through its canons and bolted above the stock. The jointed clapper weighs 6½ cwt. and is about two feet longer than the mouth of the bell; its upper portion passes through the top of the bell and is nitted to the top of the headstock. The two gudgeons are each 5½ inches in diameter. Across the headstock there are temporarily fastened two long bars of wood projecting on each side to the extent of 11 feet 6 inches, and forming four levers for the ropes attached for ringing the bell. Each of these levers has four ropes, and consequently sixteen men are the detachment required for its working. Pivots and bearings, however nicely turned, never work smoothly at the first start, and as certain parts of the factory had to furnish the labour, three additional hands were available, and the first swings were given by nineteen men. It was found, however, that four men could make the bell speak, and as the three additional men were rather in the way than helping, the proper detachment of sixteen will be ample for the performance of ringing. It was exciting to see the vast bell move to the pull of the men, to see it swing through a vertical height of seven feet, to see the ponderous clapper rise up after the mouth of the bell, to follow on when it became stationary, and tap the inner side of the sound-bow. Then the clapper, falling clear immediately on striking, followed the bell up similarly on the opposite side and struck again. The bell has been heard at a considerable distance. It has made itself audible as far as seven miles, and at Walton village, four miles off, it has been heard. The strength and direction of the wind are, however, important elements in the transmission of sounds. Although, in these experiments, the clapper struck without fail on the "right" side of the bell, it did not always do so on the opposite side, the clapper being slightly out of central adjustment, and the swing of the bell being short by a few inches of what it ought to be, through the ropes being attached to straight levers which could not be pulled low enough. This will be rectified in the permanent swinging of the bell by attaching the ropes to a wheel or half-wheel. On the first trial by the manufacturers a few days since the clapper struck always on this other side, showing the very trifling difference which exists—for the clapper now swings up within an inch of striking—to be easily remediable by adjustment of the clapper in true centre with the bell. On Friday a trial was made by the manufacturer of "tucking up" the bell, that is, the gudgeons were packed farther away downwards from the headstock so as to bring the pivots lower in line with the upper part of the body of the bell; the result was not satisfactory, and the workmen were employed until an early hour on Saturday morning in removing the packing and replacing the bell in its former condition. It was known in doing this that a bolt had slipped, and that the plumb of the clapper was not quite true to the centre of the bell. There was no time, however, to alter it before the arrival of the Cathedral authorities.

BATH AND KEYNSHAM RURIDECANAL CHAPTER.
MEETING AT BATH.

A meeting of this United Chapter, was held on Friday, March 10th, in the room of the Church of England Young Men's Society, 4, Prince's-buildings, at 2 p.m. It was attended by the Rev. Canon Brooke, Rural Dean of Bath, who was in the chair, Prebendary Wood, Rural

Dean of Keynsham, Canon Bernard, and the Rev. W. Stokes Shaw, F. O'Melia, J. M. Dixon, E. T. Stubbs, H. Bothamley, T. P. Rogers, W. S. Browne, E. W. Fenwick, C. Alford, C. M. Watling, F. H. Tarrant, J. Stedman, E. Wemyss-Whittaker, G. Tugwell, W. Berry, C. G. Acworth, W. B. Doveton, and F. A. Morgan.

After prayers the Rev. W. Stokes Shaw read a paper on "The desirability of forming a Bell-ringers Association," concluding with this resolution, "That such an association is desirable, and that a sub-committee be formed to carry it into effect, consisting of the following names, Revs. Preb. Wood, G. Tugwell, E. J. Harford, E. Lascelles, E. W. Fenwick, W. Stokes Shaw, T. P. Rogers, and W. B. Doveton, with power to add to their number.

The paper was as follows:—

My paper is to be a short one. This it must needs be; my time for writing and for reading it being necessarily limited. I cannot do more, therefore, than put a few points before you, which, I venture to hope, will be sufficiently suggestive to lead you to think with me that a Church Bell-ringers Association for the united deaneries of Bath and Keynsham is desirable. I take it that we all agree, and would wish, that the ringers in our bellfries should constantly bear in mind, first, That due regard should be had to the belfry as part of the consecrated house of God, and that the tone and character of the ringers should be in keeping with the place where they assemble. Secondly, that due remembrance should be had to the fact that church bell-ringing is very largely church work, and should be done therefore, as in the sight of, and in its way for the honour of, the great Head of the Church. Work, therefore, which should be done reverently and done well to the very best of the powers of the ringers. Thirdly, it should not be forgotten that church-bell-ringing is, or ought to be, church music. To ring well requires a musical ear, and needs also careful training and practice to bring it, as it is capable of being brought, to a very high pitch of intricacy and perfection. The church bells should, then, be rung most carefully, and regarded as just as truly instruments of church music as the church organs. A Bell-ringers' Association is surely eminently calculated to cause these higher views of church bells and church bell-ringing to become generally felt and appreciated by all ringers, instead of confined to a limited number. If in any way a church officer or a church worker is neglected the natural result is that they fall more or less into discredit. The officer holder loses heart, and becomes careless and indifferent in his work or regards the office at a much lower level than he ought. But, take notice of him and his work, show real interest, aid him in it to your utmost, let him associate with others who are of like craft, seek to raise in his estimation the character of his work, point him to better things, and the whole tone of the man and of the mode in which he discharges his work is altered for the better. Such would be some of the objects, and such I think, would be some of the desirable results of a Church Bell-ringers Association, as far as the bell-ringers themselves are concerned. This Association might be helpful also, I think, to the clergy in regard to many matters connected with bellfries and bell-ringing. Would it not be well, especially in such a city as Bath, if by combined meetings of the clergy, churchwardens, bell-ringers and others which this Association could help to bring about, certain rules could be arranged which might be common to all bellfries, and we would hope, adopted by bellfries connected with the Association? Rules, for instance, as to the ordinary days and hours and duration of practices, rules with regard to fees charged at weddings, and for muffled peals, &c., rules as to the length of time bells should be rung at weddings, and for whom and how long muffled peals should be rung. The clergy of the several parishes, would, of course, be *ex-officio* members of the Association, and would therefore be able, we would hope, to form some general and uniform plan in such matters. Nor is it only the paid bell-ringer and the clergy who would be thus brought into contact and consultation. There would be some, at any rate, who would be glad to join a bell-ringers association, and join in the healthy exercise and interesting art of bell-ringing from the love of the thing in itself, and still more from a desire to give of their powers of body and mind to the furthering of Church work to God's honour. By uniting church bell-ringers and the clergy and laymen of their several parishes together a more healthy tone and feeling would be promoted throughout. The ringers would feel their office raised by the attention and interest given to it, and the clergy would doubtless learn to realize more fully the difficulties the ringers have to contend with, and the skill required to master them. It is intended, too, that if possible, social meetings of the bell-ringers and members of the Association should be held, at which ringers of high authority might come and address them, and that practised and efficient ringers might be engaged, when necessary, to train less fortunate ringers in the higher branches of change-ringing. The proposed Association is no novelty. In the diocese of Oxford, for instance, they have one which, starting from a *rudicanal* meeting, has now become a diocesan institution, with the Bishop as president and the Archdeacons as vice-presidents; similarly in the diocese of Gloucester and Bristol, and in that of Norwich, and probably in others with which I am unacquainted. We would not wish, I am sure, that our own diocese should be behind others in efficiency; and if we start in a small way in our united deaneries, it may be a step towards a future diocesan Association. In fact, I rather think that an association of the kind has already been formed

in one of the rural deaneries in the lower part of the county, and we might work in combined action. The present proposal arose from a desire for something of the kind which had been expressed to me by a lover of bell-ringing in Bath. I mentioned the matter after a Chapter meeting of the Keynsham Deanery last spring, and a committee was appointed to consider the matter. We met and drew up a few rules which follow, selecting them from those of well-established associations, and I was desired to lay these rules before a united Chapter, and to ask the Bath Deanery to unite with Keynsham Deanery in forming such an Association. The committee of the Keynsham Deanery consisted of the Revs. G. Tugwell, E. J. Harford, E. W. Fenwick, E. Lascelles, W. B. Doveton, T. P. Rogers, and W. S. Shaw. They suggest the following rules as suitable for the United Deanery Association:—

1. This Association shall be called the Bath and Keynsham United Deanery Association of Church Bell Ringers.

2. Its objects shall be (1) to recognise the true position of ringers as church officers, (2) to cultivate the art of change-ringing, and (3) to promote belfry reform when needed.

3. The Association shall consist of three classes of members—honorary, ringing, and probationary.

4. Honorary members shall subscribe not less than 5s. annually, or become life members by a donation of not less than two guineas. Ringing and probationary members shall subscribe 1s. annually; these subscriptions to become due on January 1st of each year.

5. The Association shall be governed by a committee consisting of a chairman, a secretary, who shall collect the subscriptions and act as treasurer, the Incumbents of the parishes united to the Association, who shall be *ex-officio* members, and one member from each belonging to the Branch.

6. There shall be one General Meeting of the Association, at which, if possible, a special service shall be held, and three committee meetings in the course of the year. There shall be a ringing meeting held quarterly, if possible, in each tower, in rotation, of which notice shall be given by the secretary.

7. The committee shall fix the time and place of the General Meeting, at which the officers for the year shall be elected.

8. Candidates whose names have been previously submitted to the secretary, accompanied by a recommendation of the Incumbents of their parishes, may be admitted to membership by the committee at any of their meetings.

9. One of the Association's chief objects being the greater reverence for God's House and Worship, any member misconducting himself may be dismissed, and his certificate withdrawn at the discretion of the committee, who shall report the same at the next General Annual Meeting.

10. Any unavoidable damage done at an Association meeting to bells, or gear, by members, shall be made good at the expense of the Association.

11. Funds permitting, the Association shall present to every member a certificate of membership, and may assist any belfry to secure the services of a qualified instructor in change-ringing.

12. The Association shall, if desired, assist the clergy in framing rules for the proper management of ringers and bellfries.

The resolution was seconded by Prebendary Wood, and carried unanimously.

Prebendary Wood then moved that all incumbents of churches in Bath where there are peals of bells should be added to the committee. The churches in which there are peals are eight, viz.: Bath Abbey, St. James's, Walcot, Bathwick, Christ Church, Widcombe, St. Saviour's, and St. Michael's.

This was seconded by the Rev. E. W. Fenwick, and carried.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

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

SIR,—In reply to Mr. Perkins, concerning the 720 rung at Farnham Royal with ten bobs and two singles, it should have been sixteen bobs and two singles. He evidently got mixed up with the other peals, for nothing is said about it being in two-parts or that it was composed by me.

Farnham Royal, Bucks, Feb. 25th, 1882.

J. PARKER.

THE BELLS AT SHALFORD, SURREY.—These bells (a ring of six), tenor about 19 cwt., have just been re-hung by Mr. Harry Stokes (late of the firm of Hooper and Stokes), of Woodbury, Exeter. It was found necessary to put new stocks, stays, sliders, wheels, gudgeons, bearings, and iron-work, as none of these had been renewed since the bells were given to the church in the year 1789. The framework was found to be in very good condition. The chiming apparatus, invented by the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, has also been fixed. The bells were rung last Sunday, February 5th, and the ringers expressed themselves perfectly satisfied with the way in which the work has been executed, so easily did the bells swing. Mr. Stokes has recently fixed the Ellacombe Chiming Apparatus to the six bells at Rochester Cathedral, and is about adding the same to the ring of twelve in York Minster.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.

On the 8th of APRIL, 1882,

THE BELL NEWS & RINGERS' RECORD

Will be printed in new type, on a superior paper, and

WILL BE THE FIRST NUMBER OF A

WEEKLY ISSUE.

The present will therefore be the last monthly number. (See remarks below).

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS.

THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD will be forwarded post free, on the following terms:—

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| One copy, 12 months | 6s. 6d. |
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All Subscriptions and orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher, W. POOLE, 12a, Paternoster Row, London. Subscribers who have sent stamps for monthly copies, will have weekly copies forwarded corresponding to the amount sent.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

APRIL, 1882.

WITH the present number of "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD" we come to the end of a stage,—which may be termed the introductory one—of its existence. On Saturday, the 8th of April, as above indicated, this paper will appear as a weekly journal. The desires and hopes of many of our friends expressed month after month, will therefore become realised. In the prospectus which was sent to all the prominent Ringing Centres previous to the appearance of this paper, it was stated "that as the support was awarded to it so would its usefulness become manifest;" and that whenever events warranted its merging into a weekly, such a course would be immediately resorted to. The time has therefore now arrived when, from the success achieved, the conductors of "THE BELL NEWS" can with confidence give effect to what has been for some few weeks in course of preparation.

In this, the last issue of this journal as a monthly, we shall point out to our readers how they may assist us in the future production, week by week, of our paper. Even in a journal of limited proportions, such as this, there is a deal of work of one kind or other to be done, it is obvious therefore if all this work comes upon those who are chiefly concerned at one particular moment, of necessity causes a lengthening of the hours of labour at that period. The plan which will be adopted with reference to the reception of communications from correspondents will be that all letters intended for insertion must be received not later than the Wednesday morning, and all records of performances must arrive not later than Thursday morning of each week. But we hope our friends will assist us by sending what they wish to appear as early as possible. We should be greatly inconvenienced if the record of every peal or touch could be posted to our office immediately after ringing. The object we have in view is that all communications may not come together in an overwhelming batch every Thursday morning, which will put us to great inconvenience indeed, and extra expense. With confidence this appeal is made to our ringing brethren to thus assist us in the work we are about

to enter upon. It must also be noted that in the first week of the weekly publication occurs Good Friday; communications intended for insertion in that number must in consequence be forwarded one day earlier than above specified.

As a new arrangement will be carried out with respect to the records of 5000 and upwards, we request that in accounts of performances reaching this number the Christian and surnames in full of the performers may be sent.

We take this opportunity of thanking all our friends who have contributed to make "THE BELL NEWS" so far a success. We are conscious of many short-comings and failures, but perfection is not by any means an attribute of frail humanity. To our advertisers also, who have assisted us greatly, thanks are due. We trust and believe that their announcements in our columns have, besides keeping their respective firms constantly before those who are most interested in the several industries for which the advertising columns of "THE BELL NEWS" is a speciality, also led to an increase in their business.

THE METROPOLIS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

ST. MARY STRATFORD-LE-BOW.—On Tuesday, February 28th, a peal of Stedman Triples (Brook's Variation), consisting of 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 51 mins. J. Pettit (conductor), 1; F. E. Dawe, 2; C. F. Winny, 3; H. Page, 4; C. H. Jessop, 5; W. Smith, 6; R. Turner, 7; E. Marriott, 8.

STRAND.—*Birthday Peal*.—On Thursday, March 16th, at St. Clement Danes, London, the following members rang a true and complete peal of Grandsire Caters, 5003 changes, in 3 hrs. 25 mins. J. Pettit, 1; E. Horrex, 2; R. Jameson, 3; F. T. Gover, 4; G. Mash, 5; C. F. Winny, 6; J. M. Hayes, 7; R. French, 8; F. E. Dawe, 9; W. Greenleaf, 10. Tenor 24 cwt. in E flat. The above peal, which has the 4th, 3rd, 5th and 6th behind the 9th, was composed by Mr. John Cox and conducted by Mr. Francis E. Dawe, who completed his twentieth year on the above day.

THE PROVINCES.

THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Tuesday, February 28th, at St. Martin's, the following members of the above society rang a true peal of Stedman Cinques, 5014 changes, in 3 hrs. 45 mins. W. Haywood, 1; J. Joynes, 2; C. H. Hattersley (Sheffield), 3; W. Small, 4; S. Reeves, 5; H. Johnson, sen., 6; H. Johnson, jun., 7; J. Buffery, 8; J. James, 9; T. Hattersley (Sheffield), 10; W. Hallsworth, 11; T. Reynolds, 12. Tenor 36 cwt. in C. The peal was composed by Mr. H. Johnson, sen., and conducted by Mr. C. H. Hattersley. It was rung on the composer's seventy-third birthday, and also on the anniversary of the longest peal of Stedman Cinques ever rung, of which remarkable performance we gave a full account in our number for April, 1881. In the evening, upwards of twenty-five members of the society, with their friends, sat down to an excellent repast, capitolly served by Host Marlow of the Dog and Partridge, when sufficient proof was shewn of the utility a 5000 has in promoting the appetite. The evening was spent in a manner appropriate to the occasion, and various sentiments were expressed by different members of the company suitable to the occasion of meeting. We do not like to close this notice without wishing our old friend Mr. H. Johnson, sen., "many happy returns of the day," accompanied with hopes, in which all our readers will share, that the above performance is the precursor of many that he will compose and take part in at the "Old Church," on each recurring birthday. The peal is appended.

| | | | | | |
|-------------|----------|------|-------------|---|----|
| 2 3 1 4 5 6 | | 5014 | 2 1 4 6 5 3 | 6 | 19 |
| | S | | 2 1 3 4 5 6 | | 19 |
| 3 1 2 6 5 4 | *1 6 *16 | 19 | 2 1 6 3 5 4 | | 19 |
| 3 1 4 2 5 6 | | 19 | 6 1 2 4 5 3 | 6 | 19 |
| 3 1 6 4 5 2 | | 19 | 2 1 3 5 6 4 | 5 | 19 |
| 6 1 3 2 5 4 | 6 | 19 | 2 1 4 3 6 5 | | 19 |
| 6 1 4 3 5 2 | | 19 | 4 1 2 5 6 3 | 6 | 19 |
| 4 1 6 2 5 3 | 6 | 19 | 4 1 3 2 6 5 | | 19 |
| 4 1 3 6 5 2 | | 19 | 3 1 4 5 6 2 | 6 | 19 |
| 4 1 2 3 5 6 | | 19 | 3 1 2 4 6 5 | | 19 |

These eighteen courses repeated, omitting the calls marked * and substituting a single for the bob at the sixth six in the 19th course, produce 3 1 2 4 5 6; then two more courses, each with a bob on 9, 10, 11, complete the peal.

This peal had the 5th and 6th only between the 9th, and was without two sixes being called in succession.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ROTHERHAM.—On Monday, March 13th, the Rotherham branch of the above society rang Thurstans' peal of Stedman Triples (see Hubbard's 1854 work, p. 65), in 3 hrs. 17 mins. C. H. Hattersley, 1; J. Athey, 2; G. Briggs, 3; W. Coates, 4; F. Coates, 5; G. Flint, 6; A. Rodgers, 7; T. Lee, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. Conducted by C. H. Hattersley.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ALBURGH (Norfolk).—On Monday, February 13th, the following members of the above association rang 5024 changes of Oxford Treble Bob in 2 hrs. 58 mins. E. Smith, 1; W. Sheldrake, 2; G. Prince, 3; R. Whiting, 4; Rev. G. H. Harris, 5; G. Mobbs, 6; J. Smith, 7; Captain Moore, 8. Tenor 12 cwt. The peal was composed by Mr. H. Dains (*Snowdon's Treble Bob*, part 2, p. 73), and conducted by E. Smith.

REDENHALL (Norfolk).—On Saturday, February 11th, the following members of the Redenhall branch of the above association, being also members of the Royal Cumberland Society, rang 5088 changes of Oxford Treble Bob in 3 hrs. 25 mins. J. Smith, 1; G. Prince, 2; W. Sheldrake, 3; R. Whiting, 4; E. Smith, 5; F. Smith, 6; G. Mobbs, 7; Captain Moore, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. The peal was composed by Mr. H. Dains (*Snowdon's Treatise on Treble Bob*, part ii, p. 19), and conducted by J. Smith, his first peal as conductor.

APPLETON (Berkshire).—On Monday, March 6th, the following rang a peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 59 mins. *—Hodges, 1; F. White, 2; E. Holfield, 3; *H. Karn, 4; W. Bennett, 5; G. Holfield (conductor), 6; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 7; H. Holfield, 8. The ringers of the first, fourth and seventh were friends from Cheltenham.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Saturday, February 18th, the following members of the amalgamated society of change-ringers, Birmingham, rang at St. Chad's, a complete peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 58 mins. J. Callaghan, 1; J. Carter, 2; T. Horton, 3; T. Russam, 4; B. Stevens, 5; F. H. James, 6; W. Saniger, 7; G. Hall, 8. Also, on Monday, March 6th, at St. John's, Deritend, in the same town, the following members of the same society rang a muffled peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 8 mins., in memory of the late Mr. J. Newbold (who died suddenly). He had been steeple-keeper at the place for more than thirty years. The peal is in ten parts, with 158 singles and 92 bobs. J. Callaghan, 1; W. Bryant, 2; J. Carter, 3; B. Stevens, 4; T. Miller, 5; F. H. James, 6; W. Saniger, 7; R. Jones, 8. Each of the above peals were composed and conducted by J. Carter.

HERTFORD.—On Monday, February 20th, the following members of the Hertford Society rang the Original Bob and Single peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 4 mins. F. G. Crawley, 1; *J. G. Crawley, 2; *A. Baker, 3; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 4; *H. Baker, 5; *J. Godfrey, 6; *T. Gathard, 7; *F. George, 8. Tenor 22 cwt. This is the first peal by a Hertford society for sixty years; also the first since the bells were rehung in 1879, by Mr. Gray, of Little Munden, Herts. * First peal.

DATE TOUCH.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HOLBECK (Yorkshire).—On Tuesday, March 7th, the following seven members of Holbeck St. Matthew's Society, assisted by Mr. J. Woodhead of Leeds, rang a date touch of Bob Major, 1882 changes, in 1 hr. 7 mins. M. Tomlinson, 1; S. Basnet, 2; J. J. Jackson, 3; W. Scott, 4; J. Woodhead, 5; H. Moss, 6; W. Kitchin, 7; D. York, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. composed by M. Tomlinson, conducted by H. Moss.

MISCELLANEOUS.

(Comprising performances under 5000 changes.)

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

LEYTONSTONE (Essex).—On Wednesday, March 15th, at St. John the Baptist, the following members of the above association rang a 720 of Bob Minor, fourteen bobs and two singles, in 24 mins. J. Priest, 1; E. Barnett, 2; C. Holden, 3; J. Gobbett, 4; S. Jarman, 5; H. Randall (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Thursday, March 2nd, at St. Paul's, Fulney, the following members rang a quarter-peal or 1260 of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins. E. Quinton, 1; A. Hayes, 2; J. S. Wright, 3; J. R. Jerram, 4; J. Mawby (Long Sutton), 5; J. Croxford, 6; R. Creasey (conductor), 7; J. R. Creasey, 8. This is the first quarter-peal rang on these bells, and the striking was a credit to the performers. Also, on Sunday, March 5th, on the back six bells, a 720 Bob Minor. G. Keal, 3; A. Walker, 4; J. Croxford, 5; E. Quinton, 6; J. W. Creasey, 7; R. Creasey, 8.

BLACK NOTLEY (Essex).—On Sunday, March 5th, the Stebbing Company of Change-Ringers rang for afternoon and after the afternoon service, nine six-scores, in the following methods: Bob Doubles, Grandsire, Antelope, and Stedman's Slow Course. H. Gowers, E. Hynds, W. Stock, J. T. Barker, W. Ruffel, E. Claydon, S. Hammond (Braintree), conductor.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Wednesday, February 15th, at St. Mary's, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. S. Hammond (conductor), 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Dyson, 3; C. Bearman, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; A. Huckson, 6. Tenor 19½ cwt. All the above are members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and Essex Association.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, February 5th, at St. Michael's and All Angel's, a 720 of Court Single was rung. T. Watson, 1; *F. Colthorpe, 2; S. Hammond, 3; W. Dyson, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; A. Huckson, 6. Also, on Saturday, February 18th, a 720 New London Treble Bob. T. Watson, 1; F. Colthorpe, 2; W. Dyson, 3; S. Hammond (conductor), 4; F. Rudkin, 5; A. Huckson, 6. This is the first 720 in this method by any of the above. Also, on Sunday, March 5th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. T. Watson, 1; †J. T. Barker, 2; W. Dyson, 3; †E. Claydon, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; S. Hammond, 6. Also, on Sunday, March 19th, a 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. T. Watson, 1; F. Colthorpe, 2; W. Dyson, 3; S. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; A. Huckson, 6. All the above are members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and Essex Association. * First peal. † First 720 of Treble Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt.

COLCHESTER (Essex).—On Monday, March 13th, at St. Peter's, for practice, seven members of the Colchester and St. Peter's Association of Change-Ringers, with J. Prentice of Ipswich, rang 1008 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 34 mins. J. Prentice (conductor), 1; D. W. Scott, 2; J. Smith, 3; G. Elliott, 4; J. Ryder, 5; S. Oxborrow, 6; J. Starling, 7; T. Bunting, 8. Tenor 23 cwt. in E. This is the longest piece on record which has ever been rung on these bells by Colchester ringers in this method. Several other touches in the same method were also rung.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Sunday, March 19th, for afternoon service, a 720 Grandsire Minor, in three parts, containing forty-two singles and eighteen bobs, in 26 mins. F. Fells, 1; A. Fussell, 2; J. Parker (composer and conductor), 3; W. Wilder, 4; W. Fussell, 5; R. Flaxman, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday, March 11th, at St. Mary's, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung in 30 mins. J. Slater, 1; *A. Hurst, 2; C. Adams, 3; O. Garwood, 4; J. Slater, 5; F. P. Adams (conductor), 6. Also, on Saturday, March 18th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 30 mins. J. Slater, 1; †A. Hurst, 2; F. P. Adams, 3; O. Garwood, 4; J. Slater, 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6. * First 720 on an inside bell. † First 720 in this method. After ringing the former Mr. Hurst obtained a copy of Mr. Snowdon's *Standard Methods*, and then went in for Treble Bob.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday, March 5th, at St. Martin's, after evening service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, containing twelve bobs, was rung in 22 mins. E. Chapman, 1; T. Gleed, 2; J. Hannington, 3; T. Titchener, 4; N. Alderman, 5; G. Newson (conductor), 6. Also, on Sunday, March 19th, for morning service, Mr. J. F. Penning's 720 Plain Bob Minor, containing twenty-eight bobs and eighteen singles in 24½ mins. G. Griffin, 1; J. Nixon, 2; J. Leach, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; A. Jacob, 5; T. Titchener, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HERTFORD.—On Sunday, March 5th, for morning service, at St. Andrew's, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, with the twelve 7-4s, twelve 4-6s and twelve 6-7s, queens and tittums, in 43 mins. J. Cull, 1; F. G. Crawley, 2; A. Baker, 3; H. J. Tucker (composer and conductor), 4; H. Baker, 5; J. Godfrey, 6; T. Gathard, 7; F. George, 8.

IPSWICH (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, March 14th, at St. Mary-le-Tower, the following rang a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters, 1295 changes, in 55 mins. W. L. Catchpole (conductor), 1; R. Brundle, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; W. Meadows, 4; C. Saul, 5; E. Pemberton, 6; R. Hawes, 7; S. Tillet, 8; E. Reeve, 9; S. Pollard, 10. Tenor 32 cwt.

LIGHTCLIFFE (Yorkshire).—On Friday, March 17th, at the Congregational Church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung. F. Crossley (Brighouse), 1; J. F. Pearson (Rastrick), 2; J. Robinett (Brighouse), 3; C. Goodhall (Liversedge), conductor, 4; J. Cockroft (Brighouse), 5; F. Prince (Brighouse), 6.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Monday, February 27th, at St. John's, the following members of the St. John's Guild rang a 720 of Bob Minor, eighteen bobs and two singles, in 25½ mins. G. Herdman, 1; G. Campbell, 2; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 3; T. J. Des Forges, 4; R. S. Story, 5; F. Lees, 6. Also, on Sunday, March 12th, it being the occasion of the annual attendance of the mayor and corporation at St. John's Church, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung in 25½ mins. F. Lees (conductor), 1; G. Campbell, 2; W. G. Routledge, 3; T. J. Des Forges, 4; *G. Herdman (aged 17 years), 5; R. S. Story, 6. Tenor 14½ cwt. This 720 contained the least possible number of calls, viz.: eight bobs and six singles. * First 720 inside.

STEBBING (Essex).—On Monday, March 6th, at St. Mary's, six six-scores Bob Doubles and Grandsire (three of each). E. Hynds, 1; E. Claydon (conductor), 2; H. Gowers, 3; W. Stock, 4; J. T. Barker, 5. Also, the same evening three six-scores of Stedman's Slow Course, W. Ruffel, 1; E. Hynds, 2; W. Stock, 3; J. T. Barker, 4; E. Claydon (conductor), 5. Also, on Monday, March 13th, one six-score of Stedman's Principle, three of Slow Course, and two of Calendar. H. Gowers, 1; E. Claydon (conductor), 2; J. T. Barker, 3; E. Hynds, 4; C. Ruffel, 5. Tenor about 16 cwt.

TWO 720'S OF BOB MINOR.

| | | | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 35264 | 36542 | -35426 | -45362 | -24635 | S46253 |
| 56342 | -30425 | 52364 | -45623 | 43256 | -46532 |
| -56423 | 62354 | -52643 | 52436 | -43562 | 63425 |
| -56234 | -62543 | -52436 | 23564 | -43625 | -63254 |
| S65342 | -62435 | S25364 | -23645 | S34256 | -63542 |
| -65423 | S26354 | -25643 | S32456 | -34562 | 34625 |
| -65234 | -26543 | 54236 | -32564 | 46325 | 42356 |
| 53642 | -26435 | -54362 | -32645 | S64253 | -42563 |
| -53426 | 63254 | -54623 | 24356 | -64532 | -42635 |
| -53264 | 35642 | S45236 | -24563 | -64325 | 23456 |

P. HAMBLETT, Daresbury, Cheshire.

| | | | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| -23564 | -32645 | -62354 | S46523 | S53264 | -54362 |
| -23645 | 24356 | 25043 | -46235 | 36542 | S45623 |
| 34256 | -24563 | -25436 | -46352 | -36425 | -45236 |
| -34562 | -24635 | -25364 | 65423 | S63254 | -45362 |
| -34625 | S42356 | S52643 | -65234 | -63542 | 56423 |
| S43256 | -42563 | -52436 | 53642 | -63425 | -56234 |
| -43562 | 26435 | -52364 | -53426 | S36254 | -56342 |
| -43625 | -26354 | 26543 | S35264 | 65342 | 64523 |
| 32456 | S62543 | 64235 | -35642 | 54623 | 42635 |
| -32564 | -62435 | -64352 | -35426 | -54236 | 23456 |

J. F. PENNING, Saffron Walden.

IRELAND.

An application has recently been made to the Master of the Rolls at Dublin for an injunction to restrain the vicar of St. Bartholomew's Church from ringing, chiming, or otherwise using the bells, and also from allowing the clock to strike; all of which were said to be "nuisances, disturbances, and annoyances." The plaintiff set forth in his affidavit that he held property in the district adjoining the church to the value of £7000; that when he returned home last autumn he found his wife's sister-in-law and his servants driven almost to distraction in consequence of the constant noise and vibration throughout his house, caused by the frequent ringing of the bells, and the striking and tune-playing of the clock. His wife had suffered from nervous excitement brought on by the want of sleep caused by the striking and chiming of the clock at night. He would be obliged to shut up his house and return to Bray if the nuisance were not abated. An affidavit has also been made by Mr. Parry, C.E., to the effect that owing to the lowness of the tower, it was unsuitable for a ring of bells or for a chiming or striking clock. The bells are a peal of eight. There is also a carrillon which plays several tunes.

The Master of the Rolls said:—I am not sure that you are not going to too great an extent about these chimes in the day-time. Of course there is a very great difference between persons at business all day and going out for fresh air and hearing these chimes, and persons who reside in the locality and who may be unnerved by illness; but I should say the chimes strike me as being very moderate. You will give up the chiming at night, and the practice on Saturday, which is a very serious business, and give up playing the tunes every three hours—not giving it up entirely, but until the case is decided. Let this case stand until Tuesday, the 18th April, for the purpose of enabling the defendants to file such affidavits as they may consider necessary to oppose the injunction motion of the plaintiffs, such affidavits to be made and filed on or before Wednesday, the 12th April, and copies of them delivered before that day to the solicitor for the plaintiffs; Canon Smith and the other defendants undertaking that, meanwhile, the bells in the church of St. Bartholomew, nor any of them, shall be used, save for the purpose of calling to public worship and for striking the hours, between sunrise and sunset in each day. The undertaking will be that the bells will not be used save for the purpose of calling to public worship. Of course it is only for the purpose of letting the case stand until the matter is finally decided.

When it is known that Canon Smith had, whenever any objection had been made on the plea of illness by anyone near, at once directed the bells to be stopped, the application on the part of the plaintiff may seem "frivolous and vexatious;" and some of our readers may not unreasonably think that as the plaintiff "held property near the church worth £7000," he certainly did not suffer from lack of means to move his household farther from town, outside the din and noise of Dublin city. We make no further comment on this matter, but publish an interesting letter which has appeared in the *Dublin Daily Express*, from the Rev. Dr. Neligan:—

"Sir,—Lest an unfair impression should be drawn from the St. Bartholomew case, reported in yesterday's paper, I cannot forbear stating that on two of the occasions when dangerous sickness invaded my late home in Elgin Road, Canon Smith carefully inquired whether "the ringing of even the one bell was annoying to the patient, and that, if it were, he would at once stop it." I felt, and do feel, thankful to him for the gentle kindness and thoughtful sympathy which are so characteristic of him. Every one must regret that, through a want somewhere of that "sweet reasonableness" so essential to healthy religious life, we should have this discordant and discreditable jangle ringing through our law courts.

Yours faithfully, MAURICE NELIGAN, D.D.,

'Christ Church, Leeson Park.'

We take the following from the *Ottawa (U.S.) Daily Citizen*:—

"A PEAL OF BELLS.

"To the Editor of the *Citizen*.

"Dear Sir,—I was glad to see that the hint I threw out at our entertainment in your city has evoked some interest in the subject of bells for your beautiful parliament buildings. I have no 'axe to grind,' or interest in the matter, beyond a love for bells and their music, and the keen desire I feel—a desire which has increased since I left your capital—that a peal of bells should form part of the public possessions and attractions of Ottawa. You are exceptionally favoured in having a tower all ready for the peal, the usual consideration—will it stand the strain?—being beside the mark in this case, for they would doubtless not be 'rung' swinging, but hang down quietly and their clappers be made to strike the bells. Thus merely the dead weight of the bells would have to be considered. I should say \$5,000 would purchase a fine peal—an addition of a few extra thousands a finer—and as your correspondent says, their ringing on state and other occasions should be a matter of 'Con Amore' with some patriotic and musical citizens. A military band adds *clat* to a pageant, but its music is confined to an area of a few hundred yards, more or less, whereas a peal of bells flings its music all over a city and miles around. I know of no more appropriate finish to your buildings, or a more legitimate object to which to devote a sum from your surplus funds. I should recommend, speaking technically, a peal of eight, with a flat second and a bell above the octaves, making ten, or C D E F G A B \flat B C D, while, if space in the tower or funds permitted, an eleventh, and even a twelfth, might be with advantage added, and thus widen the range of pieces which would 'go' upon them perfectly. I have the pleasure of knowing that through my instrumentality a set of bells has just been completed in the city church of Perth, Scotland. May I whisper, that much as I admire many American productions I have not heard a peal of bells manufactured this side of the Pond which for sweetness and tone can compare with those from the home foundries, while even there there are foundries and—foundries. I have used the key of C in the foregoing to simplify the matter, but in selecting a key for the bells themselves I should say E flat, making the notes E flat, F, G, G sharp, B flat, C, C sharp, D, E flat, and F. I wish I knew how to further the matter. I would not stick at a considerable amount of trouble to bring it to pass. Perhaps some further ventilation of the subject may conduce to the realization of the scheme.

"I am, Dear Sir, yours faithfully,

"DUNCAN S. MILLER,

"Conductor of the Royal Handbell Ringers of London, England."

"ST. MARY'S, ELY.—The peal of eight bells in the tower of this church having for just a century sent forth their well-known tones of gladness and joy, are now in the hands of the Bell-hangers, Messrs. G. Day and Son, of Eyc, Suffolk, and under their practical treatment and efficient restoration will, about Easter-tide, again resume their functions. No wonder if after so long a time they demand, as they deserve, a little consideration. Their service has been long and faithful, and we trust that an appreciative public will gladly contribute towards the cost of necessary repairs. All lovers of campanology are invited to contribute towards the fund now being raised for the purpose. The vicar and churchwardens will be glad to receive contributions towards this object. Messrs. Gurneys are the treasurers, and the Rev. K. H. Smith secretary to the fund. Of the eight bells forming this well-known musical peal we may on some future occasion give a short history."—*Cambridge Chronicle*.

AN ARCHITECTURAL NOVELTY.—*The Architect* says: "For some time past the attention of American and other travellers arriving at Liverpool by sea, has been attracted by an extensive range of buildings erected at the mouth of the river Mersey, on the Lancashire side, now nearly completed. These erections, known as Seafield House, are being prepared for a hotel and hydropathic establishment on a grand scale, to resemble Coney Island, New York, a want at Liverpool long felt by Transatlantic travellers. The architects are Messrs. W. H. Weightman and Son, of Liverpool, and the contractors Messrs. John Collin and Son, of Warrington. Some idea of the extent of the establishment may be formed when it is stated that, facing the sea, the buildings occupy a frontage of over 600 feet, that there are no fewer than 438 windows on the westward side, and that the space enclosed by the surrounding walls measures upwards of 40,000 square yards, the whole costing about 800,000 dollars. The roofs of the buildings are flat and present a level surface. This has been accomplished by means of iron frames laid from wall to wall, embedded in concrete and cement the last course being Val de Travers asphalt. An asclenda, or elevated promenade, has thus been obtained, with a superficial area of 30,500 feet. Moreover, the promenade can be flooded at pleasure, and in winter, during frost, made to form one sheet of ice. Lastly, what to many will perhaps be regarded as the greatest recommendation of all, complete immunity against personal danger from fire has been obtained, for the access to the roof being by staircases of stone, immediate and safe means of retreat will always be at hand.

The Rev. A. Gathercole, of Fulmodeston, East Dereham, Norfolk, referring to a new bell he has just had placed in the tower of his church, says: "The bell arrived safely from Harleston, and within an hour after its arrival it was seen swinging in its turret, giving tongue in a most unmistakable manner. We were surprised that so much sound could be got out of any bell of its size and weight. It certainly is a marvel, and when properly rung its clear and musical tones may be heard all over the parish. We are all very pleased with it, and think ourselves lucky in having been supplied by the Redenhall Foundry."

The Royal Handbell Ringers are expected home from their American tour early in May.

We print the following letter merely as a sample of what we receive nearly every month since "THE BELL NEWS" was first published. Our correspondent's queries were answered in the place set apart for that purpose.

Bawtry,

February 22nd, 1882.

Sir,—My curiosity leads me to ask you who has scored the highest number of 5000s and upwards, up to the present date. I suppose the highest scorer is to be found among the present generation of ringers and amongst the London College Youths. By so doing through your excellent journal I shall deem it a favour. I hope the time is not far distant when it will become a weekly one. I think it is a paper that has long been wanted, hoping the demand has gone far beyond your expectations. I have subscribed from the beginning. I obtain it through my bookseller.

F. J. ORAM.

P.S.—Will you kindly send me an advertising sheet to hang in the belfry.

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

| 1260 | 1260 | 1260 |
|--|--|--|
| 4 6 2 3 7 5 ³ | 4 6 2 3 7 5 ³ | 7 5 2 6 3 4 ¹ |
| 5 3 4 7 6 2 ¹ | 5 3 4 7 6 2 ¹ | 2 3 7 5 4 6 ³ |
| 4 6 5 3 2 7 ¹ | 7 3 5 2 4 6 ⁵ | 7 4 2 3 6 5 ³ |
| 7 3 4 2 6 5 ¹ | 3 5 7 2 4 6 ⁴ | 5 3 7 6 4 2 ¹ |
| 2 3 7 5 4 6 ³ | 7 4 3 5 6 2 ³ | 7 4 5 3 2 6 ³ |
| 6 5 2 4 3 7 ¹ | 2 5 7 6 4 3 ¹ | 6 3 7 2 4 5 ¹ |
| 2 3 6 5 7 4 ³ | 7 4 2 5 3 6 ³ | 2 3 6 5 7 4 ⁵ |
| 6 7 2 3 4 5 ³ | 6 5 7 3 4 2 ¹ | 6 7 2 3 4 5 ³ |
| 5 3 6 4 7 2 ¹ | 3 5 6 2 7 4 ³ | 5 3 6 4 7 2 ¹ |
| 4 3 5 2 6 7 ³ | 4 2 3 7 5 6 ¹ | 4 3 5 2 6 7 ⁵ |
| 3 5 4 6 2 7 ⁴ | 3 5 4 2 6 7 ³ | 3 5 4 2 6 7 ⁴ |
| The twelve 4-6's and twelve 6-7's. | The twelve 4-6's and twelve 7-4's. | The twelve 7-4's and twelve 6-7's. |

These three-quarter peals were composed some years since. No originality is claimed for them. Previous to their production, however, we only knew of the publication of one-quarter peal, which contained similar properties to the centre one.

HANDBELL MUSIC

Arranged for Peals of Bells from Two Octaves upwards.

CATALOGUE, &c., ONE STAMP.

JUST OUT.

"THE VILLAGE CHIMES."

A Selection of Tunes and Changes.

CONTAINING

- Rounds and Queens.
- "The Last Rose of Summer."
- Rounds and Queens.
- "O come, come away."
- Rounds and Queens
- Handel's "Harmonious Blacksmith."
- Rounds and Queens.
- "Shall we gather at the river."

For 15 natural notes, G 18 to G 4, with the F sharps and C sharps.

TWO SHILLINGS.

Wm. GORDON,
20, CROWTHER STREET,
STOCKPORT.

ENGINE DRIVER wants a Situation. Thoroughly experienced; can do repairs and make himself generally useful. Address: G. F., care of Mr. A. Phelps, 12a, Paternoster Row, London.

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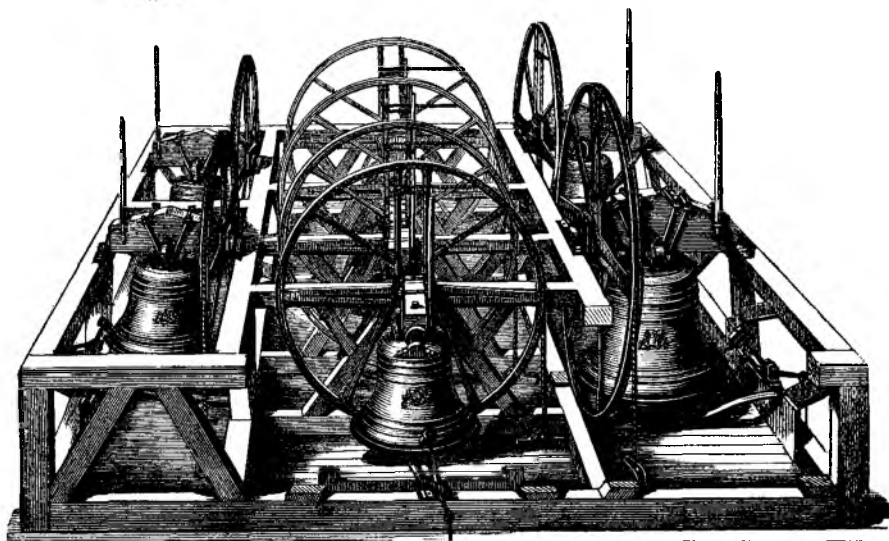
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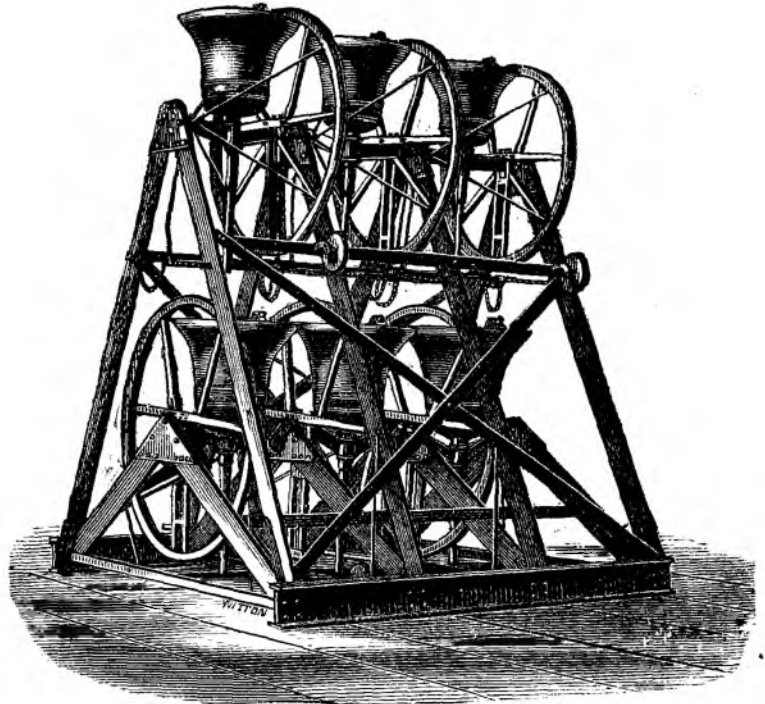
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