

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record :

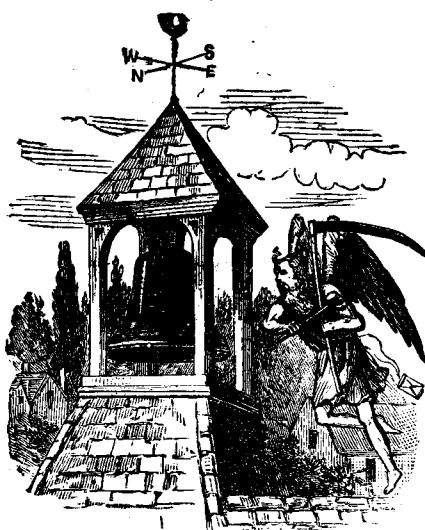
A Weekly Journal of the Ringing Exercise ; and Compendium of Information for the Clergy and Churchwardens.

No. 863.—VOL. XVII.]

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1898.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

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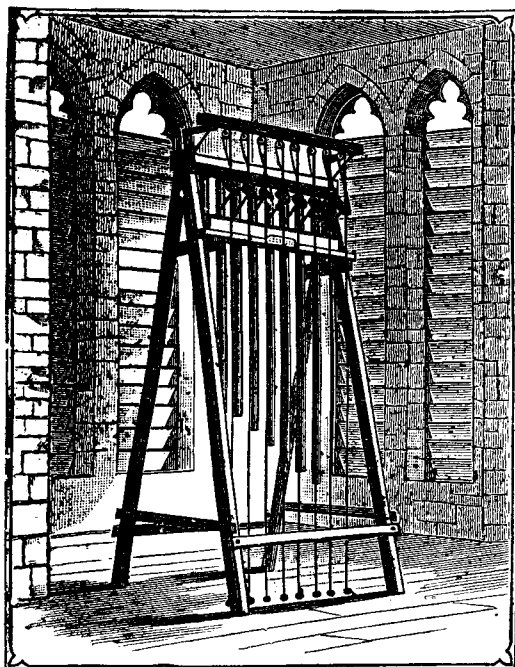
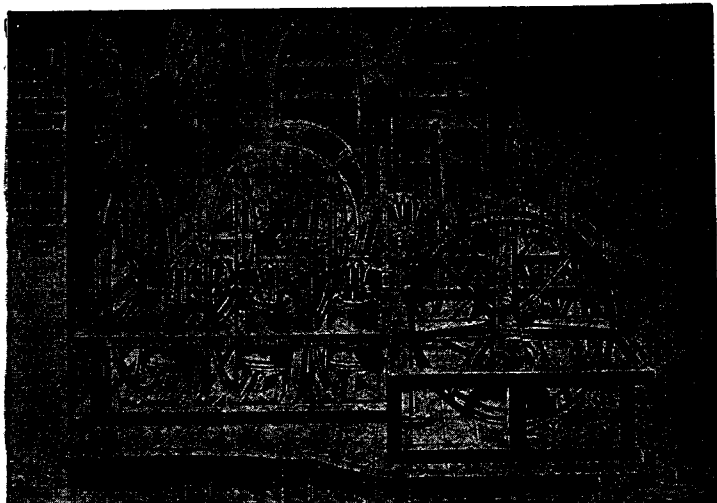
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 863.]

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1898.

[Vol. XVII.]

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting of the North and East District of the above Association was held on Saturday, the 15th instant, at Southgate, when representatives from almost every tower in union were present. We congratulate this Association on the steady progress which it maintains, working as it does side by side with the older London Societies, and obtaining, as it is only right it should, friendly recognition from them, and support from their members. There has been no sort of pressure on the part of the County Association to secure members. All the adhesions to it during the past three years have been quite voluntary, and no member who joins it is expected in the least to abate his loyalty to his own London organization. The growth of the Association in this brief period from 80 to 320 members is striking proof of a healthy tone, and of the feeling of comradeship which membership inspires. There were upwards of 70 members present at this meeting—no less than 62 of whom sat down to tea at The Cherry Tree hotel, and remained to take part in the business proceedings.

The particulars of the District Balance Sheet were read by the Hon. Secretary, showing a balance in hand of £7. 6s., clear of all outstanding liability, and entirely at the disposal of the members. No less than 20 ringing members were elected; and, in addition, the Chairman, the Rev. J. Beardall, Vicar of Southgate, expressed his desire to become an honorary member, his request being promptly seconded and carried with acclamation.

The Hon. Secretary informed the meeting of a gratifying present made to him of a set of 16 handbells, which he had ventured to accept as placing at his disposal the means of encouraging the ringing of handbell peals by the members. He added that the makers, Messrs. J. Shaw, Son, and Co., of Bradford, had with proper pride informed him that the handbells were recently exhibited at the Church Congress Art Exhibition held at Bradford, where they were greatly admired. A touch of Grandsire Caters and other handbell music was performed by some of the St. John-at-Hackney company, assisted by Mr. C. H. Martin, the Master of the district, and the beautiful tone and superior finish of these bells became the subject of universal comment.

In the course of the proceedings, reference was made by the Hon. Secretary to the lack of peal-boards, commemorating peals rung by the Association, and the hope was generally expressed that in due course some steps might be taken by the proper authorities, assisted if need be by the Association, to have more of these interesting memorials of achievements placed in the several belfries, especially where the peals commemorated the efforts and marked the progress of local bands.

The presence of the clergy at these meetings is always welcome, and we note the pleasing fact that the Rev. L. McNeil Shelford, curate of St. John-at-Hackney, was one of the new members elected, and was present at the

meeting. He joins as a ringing member, and under the guidance of the distinguished band at St. John-at-Hackney, his early proficiency is assured. The ringing clergy are none too numerous, and it will be a happier day for the ringers of our parish churches, when there are more of them.

The election of officers resulted in the re-election of Mr. C. H. Martin, of Hendon, as Master; of Mr. F. A. Milne, as Treasurer; and of Mr. Arthur T. King, as Hon. Secretary.

As regards the place of the next Quarterly Meeting, an offer was made by Mr. W. D. Smith to endeavour to arrange that it should be held at the church of St. John-at-Hackney, in January, an offer which met with unanimous approval. The intermediate meetings of six bell ringers were left to the Hon. Secretary to arrange.

A vote of thanks to the Rev. J. Beardall for presiding at the meeting gave that gentleman an opportunity of expressing the pleasure he felt in welcoming the Association to Southgate. In speaking of the position of ringers as Church workers, he sounded a key note of earnest and sympathetic suggestion to the ringers in the performance of their duties. The applause of the members shewed that his sympathetic references were not lost upon them, and it is to be hoped that they will be long remembered. In this way a most interesting and successful meeting was brought to a fitting close. The whole proceedings were characterized by exceptional unanimity and enthusiasm, and it may be added that the ringing, consisting of touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Double Norwich Court Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and Superlative Surprise Major, was quite up to the usual standard of excellence.

MR. GEORGE BOLLAND.

We are pleased to announce that Mr. George Bolland is making good progress towards recovery, having derived much benefit from a fortnight's sojourn at Morecambe. On Sunday last he was able to visit the belfry at Tong Church and take his part in ringing several short touches.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

No comments on the proposed form of petition to the Railway Companies, published in "THE BELL NEWS" of September 26th and October 1st, having reached me up to the present from any of the Secretaries of Associations, with the exception of the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, I should be obliged if others would communicate to me at once their opinion thereon.

Oldland Vicarage, Bristol.

HERBERT A. COCKEY.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD PEAL-BOOK.—A RECORD of Five Hundred and Twenty Peals rung by this Guild. Paper covers, 6d.; cloth do., 9d.—Blackwell, Reading; or the Hon. Sec. of the Guild—the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, Dunsden Vicarage, Reading, Berks.

An Australian Letter.

MELBOURNE, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA,

September 13th, 1898.

DEAR SIR,—I am instructed by my Association to forward you the following peal record, hoping that you will be able to insert it at an early date.

On Saturday evening, September 10th, 1898, a band of the Victorian Association of Change-Ringers met and rang at St. Paul's Anglican Cathedral, a true and complete peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 18 mins. Tenor 31 cwt. 1 qr. in C sharp. *Sylvester J. Hallissy (Victoria), treble; *Matthew M. O'Shea (Victoria), 2; *James P. Nolan (Victoria), 3; *John C. Nolan (Victoria), 4; James L. Murray (Victoria), 5; †Arthur E. Barnes (England), 6; *Joseph Freeman (England), 7; *Walter Woollard (England), and *Isaac Davis (England), tenor. Composed and Conducted by A. Barnes. Referees—Messrs. E. O'Shea and W. Shenton, who ticked off every lead as the peal was rung. *First peal. †First peal as conductor. First peal by the Association.

Perhaps the following remarks may be interesting to your numerous readers: Nearly eight years have passed since a peal was rung in Australia, and this is the first peal that has been checked while being rung and it is also the first time a purely local band have rung a peal on the bells of their own city in this country. The composition is by a local ringer and was published in "THE BELL NEWS" in February, 1896, and rang at Melbourne, Derbyshire, by the Midland Counties Association on March 28th, 1896. We have been two years trying to get this peal, the difficulties of getting a band to practise together has greatly retarded us, and we often had intervals of from two to six months between the attempts. Seventeen attempts in all have been made in which we have rung over 42000 changes. Time for all attempts 27 hours. On three occasions we have had to stand owing to men becoming exhausted on account of the excessive heat of our summer months. We owe our present success to the fact that we have had four good practices in a month. The striking throughout was good, and Mr. Shenton and myself as referees, who watched the coursing order, declare that not one bell was wrong in taking the lead right through the peal. The peal was transposed to make the 3rd the observation. Mr. Woollard took the tenor for the first hour-and-a-quarter, then Mr. Davis relieved him for the next hour-and-a-quarter, when Mr. Woollard again took her till the bells run into rounds. As you will see, Messrs. Barnes, Woollard, Freeman, and Davis are Englishmen, the rest Australians.

EDWARD W. O'SHEA,
Hon. Sec. Victorian Association.

THE PORTSEA RINGERS.

In the belfry of Kingston church on Thursday evening week, at the conclusion of the service, an interesting ceremony took place before a company which included several of the curates, Mr. Guyatt (churchwarden), Mr. Corner (sidesman), and others connected with the church. The occasion was the unveiling of a peal-board recording the successful ringing of a peal, the first of its kind ever accomplished by the local company. The Vicar (Rev. C. G. Lang), in performing the ceremony, said he did so with a great deal of pleasure. He spoke of the great goodwill which existed among the ringers, and of their desire to make the bellringing in the parish worthy of the tower from which it came. Nothing could be better than that all work done in the belfry, as in other parts of the church and parish, should be well done, and therefore he looked with the greatest possible pleasure and pride upon the record of the peal which he now had the privilege of revealing.

Mr. Guyatt spoke of the contrast between the magnificent peal of bells which they now possessed and the few bells in the old church.

Mr. Pickard, a visiting ringer, complimented the Portsea ringers, not only for their ringing, but for their intelligence and steadiness. He congratulated the Vicar upon having a band of ringers so intelligent and steady. The state of the ringing-chamber was evidence that the clergy of the parish took an

interest in their ringers. It was not the best ordered ringing-chamber that he had been in, but the second best. Not a great many years ago to be a ringer was, in the eyes of the public, to be everything that was bad. Fortunately, the study of the science of change-ringing had aroused the interest of the clergy and others throughout the land, and ringers were now being recognised as Church workers. In complimenting the ringers upon their recent performance, he hoped they would proceed to other methods, but not to the annoyance of the public, who would not know whether they were ringing a complicated method or Plain Bob, but would know whether the bells were being well struck, which after all was the principal thing to be aimed at.

The proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the Vicar.

The peal-board records the accomplishment of a peal of Stedman Triples on Saturday, August 8th last, the record of which appeared in this paper.

Touces of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles were rung before the service on Thursday, and Stedman Triples afterwards, the ringers being Messrs. F. C. Bayley, E. Newman, J. Symons, J. T. Matthews, A. Stone, W. J. Pickard, J. Dover, and J. Harper. An improvement has lately been made in the bell-chamber, the sides of which have been boarded in so as to soften the tone of the bells, and lessen their vibration.

THE ST, STEPHEN'S GUILD, BRISTOL.

On Saturday, October 1st, eight members of the above Guild took advantage of an excursion to Birmingham for a peal of Stedman. Leaving Temple Mead they reached Gloucester after a very slow journey. Here they met Mr. F. G. May, of the Juniors, who wished them a pleasant journey. Starting again a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 36 mins. between here and Bromsgrove by F. Elles, 1-2: R. J. Wilkins, 3-4; W. J. Hinton (conductor), 5-6; C. H. Tomkins, 7-8. Arriving in New Street Station about an hour behind time (too late to start for a peal), tracks were made for St. Philip's church. From thence they proceeded to St. Chad's (R.C.) Cathedral. Here they met the Kidderminster ringers, and Mr. T. Miller, of Birmingham, who gave them a hearty welcome. While having a friendly glass, Mr. Miller rendered in a very effective manner his song "Bob Major." The inner man being satisfied, touches of Stedman and Double Norwich were rung on the bells at St. Chad's. Permission having been obtained from the Bishop, the bells of St. Philip's were set going to Stedman Caters and Treble Ten, with the assistance of the local ringers. A course of Superlative Surprise Major was rung on the back eight by C. H. Horton, 1; N. Davis, 2; F. Elles, 3; W. Short, 4; A. Roberts, 5; J. Barber, 6; S. Clayton, 7; W. A. Cave, 8. First course in the method by Messrs. Horton, Elles, and Cave. Outside the tower Mr. J. Carter was met, who gave a hearty welcome. After a friendly glass and chat, and wishing all good-bye, they made for New Street. Leaving Birmingham at midnight they arrived at Temple Mead about 3.45, after a pleasant journey, enlivened by songs and handbell ringing. They wish to thank the clergy for their permission to ring, and also the ringers who assisted in making the trip so pleasant. C.

NORTON, DERBYSHIRE.

The remains of Mr. William Cockayne, of Lees House, who died at Bournemouth last Friday, were interred on Wednesday, in Norton Cemetery. The bells were rang muffled at intervals, from eleven until one o'clock. At 2.15 an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, which came to grief after ringing 70 minutes. The same band will attempt again, and we hope succeed, on Saturday, October 29th, to celebrate two of their members' birthdays. E. J.

ALL SAINTS, WEST HAM, ESSEX.

The practice which has been discontinued owing to the recent hot weather, will recommence on Tuesday next, October 25th, at 8 o'clock p.m., and will continue every alternate Tuesday from that date. W. DORAN.

9, Major Road, Stratford, E.

ODD FELLOWSHIP AT UPPERMILL, SADDLEWORTH.

PRESENTATION TO MR. JOHN HOLDEN.

It is well-known that among the ranks of change-ringers are many members of that extraordinary institution, the Manchester Unity of Odd Fellows, the premier friendly society of the world. We have from time to time given interesting particulars concerning several of our ringing brethren who have been promoted to high office in the Unity, and among these no one has been more distinguished than Mr. John Holden. It is with pleasure therefore that we give publicity to the following proceedings.

On a recent Saturday evening, at the meeting of the members of the Friendship Lodge of Odd Fellows, held at the Odd Fellows' Hall, Uppermill, a graceful tribute was paid to Mr. John Holden for his 25 years' services as lodge secretary, Mr. W. S. Buckley, M.G., presided, and in his address dwelt upon their indebtedness to Mr. Holden, who had done so much to build up the lodge.

Mr. James Lawton, P.P.G.M., presented to Mr. Holden a handsomely-framed and beautifully-illustrated address, which was couched in the following terms:

Friendship Lodge, Uppermill, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

To John Holden, Esq.—Dear Brother,—We, the officers and members of the above lodge desire to express our admiration and respect for the valuable services you have rendered to the lodge during the twenty-five years you have held the responsible office of secretary.

During that period you have faithfully and honourably fulfilled all the duties of the office, and have been steadfast in upholding the principles of our order.

To your retirement, though we cannot but express our regret, we trust you may be spared many pleasant years of well-earned rest from the responsibilities of the government of our lodge, yet hope we may long have your aid and counsel in its guidance; and we have pleasure in testifying that you have the hearty goodwill of the members.—Signed on behalf of the lodge: JOHN T. WOOD, P.P.G.M., J. BROADBENT, P.P.G.M., CHAS. A. WOOD, D.G., JOHN A. WINTERBOTTOM, JAMES HINCHLIFFE, JOHN L. SHARPE, G.M., WILFRED S. BUCKLEY, N.G., HENRY MITCHELL, V.G., JOHN KENWORTHY, C.S., members of the Committee: JOSEPH RADCLIFFE, Secretary.

Mr. Lawton said it gave him pleasure to have been selected to present such a testimonial to Bro. Holden. He had known that gentleman from his boyhood, and had always admired his perseverance and assiduity in business matters generally. He had been intimately connected with him in his career as an Odd Fellow, and also during his holding of the office as permanent secretary of that lodge during the 25 years mentioned. He (Mr. Lawton) had been an Odd Fellow for 58 years, and had had to go through the various struggles of the lodge, and he could testify to the ability of Bro. Holden, and to the high esteem in which he was held by the brethren he met at the A.M.C.s; the several surrounding districts, as well as by the members of the district for which he had worked so long, and was still working.

In responding, Mr. Holden said: It is with feelings of gratitude that I rise to thank you on this occasion. Words fail me to express myself as I would like. I am thankful for many reasons, thankful that I have been of some use in my day and generation, thankful I have been spared from a very severe sickness to be present on this occasion and to be the recipient of this handsome testimonial, for which I thank you all. I shall preserve it as long as I live. I was admitted to the lodge on January 2nd, 1862, and have never been out of office. I am thankful that during the 25 years I have discharged the duties of secretary, the lodge has not suffered. When I accepted office the lodge numbered 323 members, at the end of the 25 years we had 448, a gain numerically of 125 members. At the end of 1872 the worth of the lodge was £3,590 8s. 8d., at the end of last year £6,419 9s. 3d., a gain on the 25 years of £2,829 0s. 7d., giving an average gain per year for the 25 years of £113 3s. 2½d., or a gain per week during my term of office of £2 3s. 6½d. G. M. Edmonson stated at Birmingham the other day that the order commenced in a very crude state, and that our ancestors were ignorant of actuarial science, but it was planted in good soil, and by perseverance and reforms it is now the greatest friendly society in the world. Mr. Holden went on to say that his grandfather was one of the founders of the lodge, while his

father was a Grand Master and trustee. He hoped the lodge would continue to progress, and concluded by giving some good advice to the young members of the lodge.

Mr. B. B. Bradshaw referred to his own ten years of service to the lodge, and related that when he wished to retire he looked round the lodge for a successor. He fixed upon Mr. Holden, and nominated him for the office, and he was now pleased with what he did.

Other addresses were delivered by Mr. T. H. Howarth, P.P.G.M., Littleborough; Mr. J. Taylor, P.P.G.M., Littleborough; Mr. J. Law, P.P.G.M., Littleborough; and Mr. Barnett, P.P.G.M., Stalybridge.

Letters of regret at inability to be present, and adding testimony to the character of Mr. Holden, were read from Mr. A. Dempsey, Patricroft, and Mr. W. J. Brown, Blackpool. The Rev. H. Doig wrote as follows:—

I am greatly disappointed I cannot be with you to-night. I should have been more pleased than I can say to get associated with my brother Odd Fellows in recognising the sterling qualities of Brother John Holden. For over fifteen years I have been closely associated with him. I have had dealings with him not only as a brother Odd Fellow, but as churchwarden, school manager, and in other office relations. I should have been delighted to have been with you to bear my testimony to, and my appreciation of, his character and his work. I am sure he is worthy of the goodwill and respect of his brethren, and I am glad to find they recognise the value of the services he has rendered them during the last twenty-five years. I hope his example may embolden others to do likewise. A preaching engagement of three months' standing deprives me of the pleasure of being with you. With all good wishes for the success of our order, and with every blessing upon the brother we delight to honour.

THE ST. LEONARD'S SOCIETY, ALDRINGTON, SUSSEX.

The members of this Society enjoyed an excursion on Saturday, September 24th, starting from Portslade at 7.15, arriving at Billingshurst 8.45. After some light refreshments the tower was visited when several good touches of Grandsire Triples were rung. A start was made for Wisboro Green, where the Rector of Aldrington had kindly ordered dinner, which, as usual, was thoroughly enjoyed. After the repast and a rest, the tower and church were visited, but the bells being in such bad order, it was impossible to ring them. An inspection was made of the bells by the request of the Rector. A start was then made for Pulborough, and journeying across fields and dusty roads, the party reached this place after a walk of six miles. Tea appeared at 6 o'clock, and at 6.30 the company were met at the tower by the captain and several of the local band. After ringing touches of Grandsire Triples, the bells being in excellent order, a start was made for home, leaving Pulborough Station at 9.5, arriving at Portslade at 11.10, all having thoroughly enjoyed the day. They wish to thank the rectors and ringers for the use of their bells.

On Saturday evening, October 8th, the above ringers and friends met again, when their captain, Mr. F. Tindall, presented the Secretary of the band, Mr. E. J. Godley, with a splendid overmantel for a wedding present, as a token of their appreciation of his services as a ringer, and an expression of their hearty good wishes on the occasion of his marriage.

TERRINGTON ST. CLEMENTS (Norfolk).—On Sunday, October 16th, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor in 25 mins. F. Howling, 1; J. Edwards, 2; F. Easton, 3; H. Butters, 4; J. Wright, 6; A. Markwell (conductor), 6. First 720 by the ringers of the treble, 2nd, and 4th men. On Sunday, October 16th, 720 Bob Minor in 24½ mins. F. Howling, 1; J. Edwards, 2; F. Easton, 3; H. Butters, 4; J. Wright, 5; A. Markwell (conductor), 6. Also a few short touches of College Single, with A. Markwell, 3; F. Easton, 6; the rest as before. First touches of College Single by all except A. Markwell, and is believed to be the first ever rung on the bells. Great credit is also due to Howling, Edwards and Butters, who only commenced change-ringing since last June, having thoroughly mastered Plain Bob, and soon hope to be able to ring all the most musical methods on their ring of six.

FOR SALE.—A PEAL OF 61 HANDBELLS, C 29 to C (or Chromatic Scale, in good condition. By Mears and Stainbank. Further particulars, apply, John Millett, Egerton Street, Heywood, Lancashire.

CURRENT TOPICS.

When reading the account of the Annual Meeting of the Norwich Diocesan Association last week, and I came to the end of the last paragraph but one, I was slightly staggered by the announcement that the Hon. Secretary of the Association had resigned office. I am old enough to remember in the early forties, the resignation of a prominent member of the Government, and the remark being made—"However will the country get on without him?" Something of the same kind occurred to me when reading the intelligence in question, but I was, like many of the Eastern Counties gentlemen, comfortably assured on reading the following paragraph intimating that the resignation was only formal, and according to rule.

This reference to resignation compels me to notice the unwelcome fact that Mr. Thomas Hudson, sen., the much-respected Hon. Secretary of the "Durham and Newcastle," is about to retire from that position. If Mr. Hudson cannot be prevailed upon to continue in office, the Association will I feel sure lose one of the most efficient Secretaries in the country, and one of the grandest specimens of a courteous English gentleman.

The re-opening of the bells at Stone, in the Isle of Oxley, points another moral, or I may say an old moral over again. This account was read with satisfaction until the following was reached:—

"The bells are a nice musical ring of six by Mears and Stainbank, tenor 12 cwt., and have been hanging silent for nearly two years. The Vicar finding he could not get any assistance from his parish or outside, took the job in hand himself, assisted by workmen from Jones and Co., The Foundry, Rye, and a real good job has been made of it so far as stability and soundness of the frame, etc., goes, but as is usual with most all local attempts to hang bells, the most important part is wanting, and that is their easy running, the back four requiring about three times the pulling that should be necessary for bells of their weight."

I sympathise greatly with the reverend Vicar, and admire his pluck and enterprise. I have no doubt the workmen who did the job did their level best, their conscientious best, if I may be allowed the use of such a phrase. But hanging of Church bells requires a special knowledge and training for the work. Without fear of any results, legal or penal, I unhesitatingly assert that there are very few really good and excellent Church bell-hangers in existence. There are lots of people, I am fully aware, who *think* they are bellhangers, and they have thought so for such a number of years, that they really have at last come to believe that they actually can execute such work. We know differently; and unfortunately have painful experiences of it, many of us.

The writer of the report of the meeting of the North Notts. Association is an observant gentleman, evidently, and a wag to boot. Notice the following remarks:—

"A gloriously fine autumnal afternoon, without a cloud in the blue sky, and the picturesque villages of North and South Anston, crowning with their red roofs the steep hills on either side of the valley through which runs the stream forming the head waters of the Ryton, presented a very pleasing view to those members who stood in the churchyard listening to the bells which were swinging merrily in well struck touches of Treble Bob Minor, under the guidance of their mates in the tower. There was a fair attendance of members, and those who were

unable, or too lazy to come, missed a very pleasant walk from the station to the village, and an equally pleasant social gathering."

The fore part of the above is, as I have said, from the pen of one who observes carefully what is going on about him; the latter part proves him to be one not insensible to a joke.

Are we to take it as a fact that there are ringers to be found who, when a meeting of their own Society is announced, are too apathetic or too lazy to come, even when a pleasant walk amid beautiful scenery is to be enjoyed? I am sadly afraid there are too many. To such I would ask that they carefully read the closing sentence of last week's leader.

The members of the St. Chad's Cathedral Society of Birmingham have had an excursion to somewhere Wolverhampton way. They were disappointed in not meeting their friend Mr. Jaggar, en route, and the report says: "we found the veteran too ill to attend." On behalf of my friend John Jaggar, late of Burton, and formerly of Oxford, I object to the term "veteran." You certainly do not, John, consider you are "on the shelf," or in that condition known as the "sere and yellow." O dear no. Young men who put pen to paper, let me beg of you to be more careful in the words you employ. "Veteran" sounds a great deal like "old man," and very few of us like to be told we are old. You young men will be old some day, providing you live long enough.

Two marriages of ringers: What ho! Let me administer to those who have had the temerity to enter into wedlock, the usual caution. Don't give up bell-ringing. Some ladies see no use or ornament in ringing-practice, and would fain prevent their lords from following the Art. Now I am thankful to say that Mrs. Plain Speaker is what is known as "a good ringer's wife:" one who takes great though unobtrusive interest in ringing, and is tolerably well posted in ringing affairs. The very best wives are those who interest themselves in their husband's recreations as well as in their professions. *Verb. sap.*

The ringing tour in Hampshire was got through very well, and the narrator of the account is evidently an expert in that sort of thing. Six peals out of eight trials was a very good show, which made the company willing to rest and be thankful. One of my correspondents wishes to know from what source the funds come for these annual peregrinations. Such inquisitiveness as this cannot be satisfied. If I were to tell him that the Chancellor of the Exchequer ordered a grant from the revenue perhaps he wouldn't believe me. Such a question will not be answered by me; and I can't help thinking that the asking of it showed an amount of front.

The One Hundredth Anniversary of the bells of St. Martin's Church, Tipton ("Tip'n," I think, in the local vernacular), has been well kept, and our old friend Rock Small must have enjoyed himself immensely over it. It was worth a trifle, I'll be bound, to see him about that day, with his usual beaming smile and pronounced *bonhomie*. I heartily congratulate you, William, on the success of the festival. You had a rare influential company to do honour to the occasion. There was a grand

"high tea," for the demolition of which it is pleasant to learn that the bashful needed no encouragement, or the delicate any coaxing of the appetite. In fact, as this well-written report says—"every one did his duty like a man." Something to think of, W. R. S., and to smoke a pipe over in days to come.

Twenty-two peals recorded last week. Six of these belonged to the Hampshire tourists, but independent of these the number is going up. Mr. Card (of Tonbridge), like a true patriot, scores a peal for his Metropolitan Society, if no one else does, and the Caversham men let us see they are alive. Taken altogether, the number of peals is not a bad show for the commencement of the season.

I had something to say last week about the signature of a contributor to this journal—"Ex-Q.C." The most recent person I know who could be so designated was the late Dr. Kenealy, who made such a hash of the defence of the Claimant. The doctor was a good lawyer, but an indifferent advocate, and his own folly I am afraid, brought the prefix "ex." upon him. He was once defending three very young ruffians at the Assizes, who were accused of injuring a middle-aged man, and robbing him. The prosecutor was rather a poor weak-minded fellow, and did not make out his story very clearly. This colloquy took place:—

Dr. Kenealy (to the plaintiff): Do you say these young men knocked you down and robbed you of all your money? Be careful, Sir.—Yes.

Where did you keep your money?—In my pocket.

Which pocket?—The right-hand pocket.

Oh; the right-hand pocket. Did you keep all your money in in your right-hand pocket?—No.

Where did you keep the rest, then?—In my boot.

What! In your boot—which boot?—The left-hand boot!

This answer caused some laughter, even the Lord Judge and his Chaplain by his side had their risible faculties aroused.

There was another Q.C. who unfortunately for himself was compelled to have the "ex." added. And what do you think his name was. It is a strange coincidence, as you will agree with me when you know what it was. It was "Edwin James." Rather singular, don't you think? But more next week. PLAIN SPEAKER.

OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE NOTES.

BELFRY RELICS.

When the old bells and bell frame were removed from the belfry of Norton church, a little village near Sheffield, I am told such of the material as was not absolutely worthless, or used up again by the bell founders, was eagerly sought for in the shape of mementoes by those who had been long associated with the church. Much of the old oak of the framework has been carved into various designs, and presented to parishioners, past and present, as souvenirs of the church. Among these two have been presented to the church, viz., a beautiful Prayer-desk—which has been placed within the Communion rails, and the panelled corner cupboard in the belfry for the use of the ringers. Another relic, the clapper of the old tenor bell, has been polished up and transformed into an elegant

doorstand for holding open the porch door before and after service. A suitable inscription in gold letters has been engraved on the springs of this old clapper, and it is likely to prove a serviceable addition to the furniture of the church. The following are the words:—

Clapper of old tenor bell,
Re-cast 1811,
Removed from the belfry 1896.

I rang for the living,
I tolled for the dead;
I gave the first greeting,
To those who were wed.
And still in God's House,
I now stand at the door;
To open its portals,
To rich and to poor.

It may truly be said concerning the contents of this old belfry, that they have gathered up the fragments that remained, that nothing be lost. Ex-Q.C.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE ECCLES COMPANY.

On Monday evening, the Hon. and Rev. Canon Lyttelton, Vicar of Eccles Church, paid a visit to the tower for the purpose of unveiling a new peal-board, put up by the ringers, recording a peal rung by a full Eccles Company some time ago. The Vicar, on removing the cover, read the inscription:—"The Lancashire Association: on Monday, July 4th, 1898, T. Yates's peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by the following members of this tower: Arthur Barrett, treble; Philip Jackson, 2; Thomas Gratton, 3; John Jackson, 4; James Barratt, 5; Ernest Jackson, 6; Richard Ridyard, 7; Amos Trippier, tenor. Richard Ridyard, conductor." The Vicar then addressed the ringers in a few kindly encouraging words. It gave him pleasure to be with them on such an occasion, and reminded them that they were the first to call the worshippers to the house of God—a very high calling indeed. The board he had just brought to view was a credit to the Eccles company. He hoped they would still go on and sustain the efficiency of the Association at Eccles, which had been shown by the 10,000 which was rung in 1897 for the Queen's Jubilee, as recorded on a board in the tower. Henry Corner, Esq., Churchwarden, having said a few appropriate words, and the ringers having expressed their thanks to the Vicar for his encouraging remarks, rang touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples.

WHELDRAKE CHURCH, NEAR YORK.

A new eight-day turret clock, showing the time upon one external copper dial 4 feet in diameter, well painted and gilt, with copper hands painted and gilt and balanced within, has just been erected as a memorial at Wheldrake Church. The clock is constructed on the solid horizontal cast-iron bed frame, cast all in one piece from the solid, and planed perfectly flat on the top and bottom surfaces. The clock frame is supported by strong iron brackets, firmly bolted to the wall of the tower, thus forming a good foundation for the clock to rest upon. All the wheels are of gun-metal, cut and polished on the engine from the solid. All pinions of the best cast steel, hardened and tempered, and cut and polished on the engine from the solid. The escapement is the double 3-legged gravity by Lord Grimthorpe, with a $1\frac{1}{2}$ seconds compensated pendulum attached, composed of iron and zinc tubes, with a steel rod through the centre, and a cylindrical-shaped bob of solid cast iron. There is an index dial inside the clock chamber to set the outside hands by. The barrels are of iron, the cords best steel. All the bushes or bearings are of gun-metal, screwed into the frame, and the clock was made and fixed by Messrs. W. Potts and Sons, Clock Manufacturers, of Leeds and Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

A PEAL OF 362,880 GRANDSIRE CATERS, 6d.
Contains the full extent of changes on nine bells. Forwarded Post Free, on receipt of 7d. By James Hewett, 16 Chapel Row, Gosport.

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ROPE-SIGHT: 1s. 6d. FOURTH EDITION.
Commences by explaining how to manage a bell; deals with Change-Ringing on three, four, five, six, seven and eight bells in the PLAIN BOB METHOD, giving touches and peals in each case; and closes with instructions for conducting, etc., etc. (143 pages).

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NOW READY. Contains full explanations and rules for ringing all the best methods, from five to eight bells, with plain-course diagrams of each printed in full, with coloured lines. 40 pages of diagrams and 87 of descriptive letterpress.

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TREBLE BOB. PART I. out of print and under revision.
Part I. contains instructions for pricking, transposing, proving, composing, and conducting peals; an essay on the *In and Out-of-course* of the changes; and a history of the various compositions and performances. Part II. contains classified peals of Minor, Major, Royal, and Maximus, with their reverse variations; remarks on the different qualities; particulars of first performances, composers' names, &c., &c. (196 closely printed pages. Part II. (196 closely printed pages) may be had separately, 2s. 1/4d.

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Contains rules and instructions for pricking and ringing the method; a linear diagram of the plain course; a collection of touches and peals; instructions for proving, and a history of the earlier performances with a list of peals down to 1884 (78 pages).

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Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication arriving later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.

All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of "THE BELL NEWS," Walthamstow, London.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1898.

THOUGH on several occasions of late attention has been directed to the progress made by the Middlesex County Association, the position it has attained, and its prospects for the future, afford matter for gratification to all who are anxious for the spread of change-ringing and an increase in the number of its followers, and therein merits further notice by the organ of change-ringers in the press.

If the interesting report of the proceedings of this Association at its meeting last Saturday is read by our friends they will doubtless be of opinion that no ringing organization in the immediate neighbourhood of the metropolis has made such rapid progress. In some quarters an opinion has been mooted that the well-known conservatism of the London Societies has prevented any sort of enlargement. This may be the case. The principal London Societies, whatever may be thought or said, have a kind of vitality which will not easily be destroyed, or in fact endangered. The Middlesex Association has, however, tapped virgin soil, as it were; it has, especially since its recent weld, become popular and

aggressive, so to speak, and it bids for liberal support, encouragement, and co-operation in a manner which the traditions of other and older bodies almost forbid.

We think it our duty to say any words of encouragement to such a vigorous and flourishing organization. We rejoice to read that no impressment is brought into use to increase its membership. Let it keep to this heroic standpoint while using every worthy effort to extend its influence, and we may venture to prognosticate that the day will arrive when the Association will stand as high as any, if not higher.

We take the liberty of calling the attention of Secretaries and others concerned to the notification of the Rev. H. A. Cockey, to be found on another page. It would appear that the innuendo of our popular contributor with respect to the apathy of those concerned upon the important question of railway fares had some point about it. We appeal to all concerned to respond at once to Mr. Cockey's appeal, or else suffer themselves to become objects of merriment, if not scorn.

The Metropolis.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(LEWISHAM DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, October 15, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, LEWISHAM,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 22½ cwt.

WILLIAM BERRY Treble.	ISAAC GEORGE SHADE .. 5.
HARRY WARNETT 2.	THOMAS TAYLOR 6.
JOHN JAMES LAMB 3.	HARRY BARRETT 7.
WILLIAM FOREMAN 4.	FREDERICK W. THORNTON Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK WILLIAM THORNTON.

First peal of Oxford Treble Bob by all except Messrs. Shade and Thornton. Rang as a compliment to Mr. T. Taylor, on the thirty-eighth anniversary of his marriage.

The Provinces.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(LOUGHBOROUGH BRANCH.)

On Friday, October 7, 1898, in Three Hours and Thirty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

RICHARD LANE Treble.	*EDWARD ROBINSON 6.
ROBERT CHRISTIAN* 2.	*JOHN HICKMAN 7.
WILLIAM H. INGLESANT .. 3.	*HORACE W. ABBOTT 8.
ERNEST W. CARTWRIGHT .. 4.	WILLIAM T. BILLINGHURST 9.
T. SMITH 5.	JOHN W. TAYLOR, JUN. .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS and Conducted by J. W. TAYLOR, JUN.

*First peal of Treble Bob Royal.

WOODBURY, DEVON.—THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Monday, October 10, 1898, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SWITHUN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 25 cwt.

REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. Treble.	REV. H. C. COURTNEY .. 5.
REV. W. S. WILLETT .. 2.	FERRIS SHEPHERD 6.
REV. M. KELLY 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
J. W. TAYLOR 4.	JAMES MOSS Tenor.

Conducted by the Rev. F. E. ROBINSON.

First peal on the bells.

WERRINGTON.—THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Tuesday, October 11, 1898, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARTIN AND GILES,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. Treble.	J. W. TAYLOR, JUN. .. 5.
REV. W. S. WILLETT .. 2.	FRANK DAVEY 6.
REV. M. KELLY 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
REV. H. C. COURTNEY .. 4.	ARTHUR E. PIKE Tenor.

Conducted by the Rev. F. E. ROBINSON.

First peal on the bells.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, KIDDERMINSTER.

On Wednesday, October 11, 1898, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS'. Tenor 30 cwt.

WILLIAM H. SMITH .. Treble.	ADOLPHUS ROBERTS .. 5.
RICHARD E. GROVE .. 2.	THOMAS J. SALTER .. 6.
NOAH DAVIS 3.	JOHN CRANE 7.
ALBERT E. PARSONS .. 4.	JAMES PAGETT Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD E. GROVE.

Rung on the birthday of A. E. Parsons.

LIVERPOOL.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(LIVERPOOL BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, October 11, 1898, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

RICHARD S. MANN .. Treble.	GEORGE WOODHALL .. 5.
JOHN ASPINWALL .. 2.	WILLIAM DAVIES .. 6.
EDWIN BREEZE 3.	THOMAS HAMMOND .. 7.
JAMES DILLON 4.	JAMES MARTIN Tenor.

Composed by T. HURRY, and Conducted by RICHARD S. MANN.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Thos. Bate, who has held office as churchwarden for the last sixteen years.

PULHAM ST. MARY, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, October 11, 1898, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 15 cwt.

JAMES TANN Treble	ERNEST F. POPPY .. 5.
JAMES BETTS 2.	*ERNEST PYE 6.
ROBERT WHITING 3.	FREDERICK SMITH .. 7.
FREDERICK R. BORRETT .. 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY and Conducted by JAMES TANN.

*First peal in the method. The composition will be found in the Central Council Appendix for 1895, being the first peal on page 113.

REDENHALL, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, October 12, 1898, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 24 cwt.

FREDERICK R. BORRETT .. Treble.	ERNEST F. POPPY .. 5.
JAMES BETTS 2.	ERNEST PYE 6.
ROBERT WHITING 3.	FREDERICK SMITH .. 7.
JAMES TANN 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

SOUTHOVER, LEWES, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, October 12, 1898, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

KEITH HART Treble.	HENRY JONES 5.
FRANK BENNETT 2.	ALFRED J. TURNER 6.
GEORGE A. KING 3.	ROBERT J. DAWE 7.
GEORGE WILLIAMS 4.	JOHN STEADMAN Tenor.

Conducted by KEITH HART.

Rung to commemorate the 28th birthday of A. J. Turner, the band wishing him the usual congratulations.

WORTLEY, SHEFFIELD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, October 13, 1898, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

GEORGE PARKIN Treble.	JOHN DRONFIELD 5.
LEONARD JACKSON 2.	THOMAS ROBBINS 6.
THOS. MCKEGG 3.	GEORGE WM. DRONFIELD .. 7.
ARTHUR SAXBY 4.	DAVID BREARLEY Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by DAVID BREARLEY.

FRAMSDEN, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, October 14, 1898, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES. Tenor 16 cwt.

WILLIAM WIGHTMAN .. Treble.	HENRY W. BALDRY 5.
ERNEST PYE 2.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. 6.
DAVID G. WIGHTMAN .. 3.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. 7.
GEORGE WIGHTMAN 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

In this peal the 2nd is never in 5-6, and the 3rd never in 6ths place at a course-end. Messrs. Pye, for whom this and previous peals were arranged, hail from Chadwell Heath, Essex. The above is E. Pye's fiftieth peal, an account of which will be found elsewhere.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 15, 1898, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN W. SMITH Treble.	THOMAS WAKEMAN 5.
THOMAS J. SALTER 2.	RICHARD E. GROVE 6.
NOAH DAVIS 3.	JOHN CRANE 7.
JOHN O. BENNETT 4.	WILLIAM H. SMITH Tenor.

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW and

Conducted by WILLIAM H. SMITH.

RAUNDS, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 15, 1898, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 22 cwt. 0 qrs 8 lbs.

GEORGE KIRK* Treble.	FRED. STUBBS 5.
FRANK KIRK 2.	WILLIAM J. GILBERT .. 6.
RICHARD PENDERED .. 3.	WALTER GILBERT 7.
FRED. GILBERT 4.	HENRY W. STUBBS Tenor.

Composed by SIR ARTHUR PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, and

Conducted by FRED. GILBERT.

*First peal of Major. This is the first peal of Major on the bells.

BRISTOL.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(THE ST. STEPHEN'S GUILD.)

On Saturday, October 15, 1898, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 21 cwt.

RICHARD CLARK Treble.	CHARLES H. TOMKINS .. 5.
FREDERICK W. ELLES .. 2.	JOHN D. MATTHEWS .. 6.
CHARLES H. HORTON .. 3.	THOMAS W. RADFORD .. 7.
WILLIAM KNIGHT 4.	WILLIAM A. CAVE Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by WILLIAM A. CAVE.

A note to this peal appears in another column.

SHIFNAL, SHROPSHIRE.

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

On Saturday, October 15, 1898, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES. Tenor 20 cwt.

JOHN BENSTEAD Treble.	EDWARD I. STONE 5.
ROWLAND CARTWRIGHT .. 2.	ARTHUR WAKLEY 6.
HARRY WAKLEY 3.	JOSEPH GRIFFIN 7.
GEORGE ROBINSON 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW and Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

REDHILL, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 15, 1898, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

GEORGE THOMPSON .. Treble.	EDWARD DEWEY 5.
HENRY REEVES 2.	FREDERICK WICKENS .. 6.
PELLAM E. J. KNIGHT .. 3.	THOMAS SPARKS 7.
ALBERT SONGHURST .. 4.	ARTHUR MOSELEY Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK WICKENS.

A note to this peal will be found on another page.

HARROW-ON-THE-HILL, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, October 15, 1898, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' ONE-PART. Tenor 23 cwt.

EDWIN HORREX Treble.	CHALLIS F. WINNEY .. 5.
WILLIAM E. JUDD* 2.	WILLIAM E. GARRARD .. 6.
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER .. 3.	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL .. 7.
GEORGE N. PRICE 4.	JAMES GEORGE Tenor.

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNEY.

*First peal in the method. First peal on the bells.

CARDIFF, GLAMORGANSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIORS, GLOUCESTER.

On Saturday, October 15, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 27 cwt.

JESSE GILLET Treble.	PHILIP W. DAVIES 6.
JOHN AUSTIN 2.	FREDERICK MUSTY 7.
WILLIAM B. BISS 3.	ROBERT A. BARRETT .. 8.
FRED. G. MAY 4.	WILLIAM T. PEGLER .. 9.
ERNEST BISHOP 5.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

Rung as a birthday compliment to F. Musty.

MINEHEAD, SOMERSET.
BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, October 18, 1898, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' FIVE-PART. Tenor 21 cwt.

GEORGE STACEY* Treble.	JOHN PUGSLEY 5.
GEORGE ATKINS 2.	THOMAS DOBLE 6.
SIDNEY MASON 3.	HENRY MOORE 7.
REV. H. C. COURTNEY .. 4.	JAMES REED Tenor.

Conducted by J. PUGSLEY.

Rung on the occasion of the marriage of Miss Margaret Luttrell, granddaughter of the Vicar, to Mr. Yates. *First peal.

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

On Tuesday, October 18, 1898, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 26 cwt.

WILLIAM C. WAKLEY .. Treble.	EDWARD I. STONE 5.
JOHN BENSTEAD 2.	ARTHUR WAKLEY 6.
HARRY WAKLEY 3.	JOSEPH GRIFFIN 7.
GEORGE ROBINSON 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

Rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of the Marquis of Anglesey, who was buried on that day.

Date Touches.

REDDISH (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, October 4th, at the church of St. Elisabeth, a date touch of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 14 mins. B. Swan, 1; A. Barnes, 2; T. Jackson, 3; H. Meakin, 4; T. Smithson, 5; T. Marshall, 6; J. W. Bayley (conductor), 7; A. Markwell, 8. Composed by G. R. Newton, of Oxtou, Cheshire. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to Mr. Bates, a late churchwarden, and an earnest churchworker for many years. Messrs. Jackson, Markin, Marshall, and Bayley belong to St. George's, Stockport; the rest belong to the local company.

Miscellaneous.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

KELVEDON (Essex).—On Sunday, October 2nd, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 660 Bob Minor. W. Brinkley, 1; C. Mills, 2; J. Elliott, 3; H. Elliott, 3; H. Elliott, 4; W. Keeble (conductor), 5; W. Elliott, 6. For Divine Service at 11 o'clock, 504 Oxford Treble Bob. G. Hum, 1; H. Elliott, 2; D. Elliott, 3; W. Keeble (conductor), 4; W. Hunwick, jun., 5; W. Elliott, 6. For afternoon service, 720 Cambridge Surprise. H. Elliott, 1; E. W. Beckwith, 2; D. Elliott, 3; W. Keeble, 4; H. Evers, 5; W. Elliott (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 New London Pleasure. C. Mills, 1; H. Elliott, 2; C. Norfolk, 3; W. Keeble (conductor), 4; H. Evers, 5; W. Elliott, 6. And 360 Oxford Treble Bob. W. Keeble (conductor), 1; H. Evers, 4; J. Newman, 5. Also a touch of Bob Minor and Kent Treble Bob.

COGGESHALL (Essex).—On Saturday, October 8th, at the church of St. Peter-ad-Vincula, 720 Double Norwich. D. Elliott (conductor), 1; W. Keeble, 2; W. Dyer, 3; W. Elliott, 4; J. Sadler, 5; C. Norfolk, 6; E. W. Beckwith, 7; J. Newman, 8. This was rung after an attempt for a peal in the above method.

LEYTONSTONE (Essex).—On Wednesday, August 31st, 720 Cambridge Surprise. J. Moule, 1; W. Miller, 2; W. Doran, 3; E. Wightman (conductor), 4; J. Mardell, 5; T. H. Beams, 6. On Thursday, September 22nd, 720 Kent Treble Bob (fifteen bobs), and a course of Cambridge Surprise. H. Gowers, 1; W. Miller, 2; W. Doran, 3; J. Mardell, 4; J. Moule, 5; T. H. Beams (conductor), 6. On Sunday, October 9th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. T. H. Beams, 1; H. Gowers, 2; J. T. Barker (Stebbing), 3; W. Miller, 4; J. Moule, 5; E. Wightman (conductor), 6.

CANNING TOWN (Essex).—On Thursday, October 6th, at Holy

Trinity church, 720 each of Cambridge Surprise and Woodbine Treble Bob. J. Moule, 1; E. Wightman (conductor), 2; W. Doran, 3; W. Miller, 4; J. Mardell, 5; T. H. Beams, 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WESTERHAM (Kent).—On Sunday, October 9th, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, taken from Thurstans' in 48 mins. H. J. Selby, 1; G. B. Selby, 2; W. G. Granger, 3; M. Whatley, 4; G. Steer, 5; D. Wright (conductor), 6; R. Stone, 7; J. Charman (first quarter-peal), 8.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent).—On Thursday, October 6th, at St. Peter's church, 168 Grandsire Triples. S. Perkins, jun., 1; W. Latter (conductor), 2; A. Godley, 3; S. Perkins, sen., 4; F. Harrington, 5; G. Smithers, 6; G. Kember, 7; E. Turner, 8. On Sunday, October 9th, 504 Grandsire Triples. E. Mankelow, 1; W. Pollard, 2; A. Welsh, 3; S. Perkins, 4; J. Muggridge, 5; A. Ford, 6; G. Smithers (conductor), 7; W. Smith, 8.

DEAL (Kent).—On Saturday, October 8th, at St. Leonard's church, 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles) in 24 mins. J. Axon, 1; A. Denne, 2; S. Mockett, 3; H. Denne, 4; T. Hooker (conductor), 5; H. Castle, 6. And 730 Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles) in 25 mins. A. Denne, 1; H. Castle, 2; T. Hooker, 3; G. Denne, 4; S. Mockett, 5; H. Denne, 6. Tenor 9½ cwt. in G. T. Hooker hails from Hastingleigh, near Ashford.

DEPTFORD (Kent).—On Sunday, October 9th, at St. John's church, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples. J. Law, 1; J. Rose, 2; T. G. Deal, 3; E. H. Nixon, 4; W. J. Jeffries, 5; G. H. Daynes, 6; W. Bedwell (conductor), 7; F. Palmer, 8. Composed by G. H. Daynes. After evening service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. W. Jeffries, 1; J. Rose, 2; T. G. Deal, 3; E. H. Nixon, 4; W. J. Jeffries (conductor), 5; J. Law, 6; G. H. Daynes, 7; W. Bedwell, 8.

UPCHURCH (Kent).—On Sunday, October 2nd, for Harvest Festival service at St. Mary's church, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four singles and twenty-six bobs). E. J. Hyland, 1; H. Shipp, 2; A. Day, 3; W. H. Wilkins, 4; W. J. Walker, 5; W. T. Hyland (conductor), 6. Also 720 Bob Minor (nineteen singles and eleven bobs). E. J. Hyland, 1; W. J. Walker, 2; W. T. Hyland, 3; A. Day, 4; H. Shipp, 5; W. H. Wilkins (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, October 9th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). E. J. Hyland, 1; H. Shipp, 2; W. T. Hyland, 3; W. J. Walker, 4; G. Dennis, 5; W. Seamer (conductor), 6.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—On Wednesday, October 5th, being the Harvest Festival, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Marshall, 1; W. Easter, 2; E. Mexter, 3; P. Taffs, 4; W. Hollier, 5; W. Haigh (conductor), 6. On Sunday, October 9th, 700 Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original. G. Marshall, 1; W. Haigh (conductor), 2; P. Taffs, 3; W. Hollier, 4; W. Hunt, 5; W. Easter, 6; W. Bate, 7; E. Phillips, 8. Also four courses of Stedman Triples, standing as before. On Wednesday, October 12th, with the bells half-muffled, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Marshall, 1; W. Hollier, 2; E. Mexter, 3; W. Easter, 4; W. Bate, 5; W. Haigh (conductor), 6. The above was rung as a mark of respect to the late Mr. Stanley Cheffins, who was buried in the afternoon, he being very popular and highly respected in this parish. He died very suddenly in London at the early age of twenty-eight years.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

NEWCHURCH (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, October 9th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Nicholas, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 41 mins. R. Leach, 1; S. Lord, 2; J. B. Taylor, 3; J. H. Haydock, 4; W. Taylor (conductor), 5; W. Cass (first quarter-peal), 6; J. Wright, 7; O. Eastwood, 8. Composed by T. Wade, of Windsor. Messrs. Leach and Haydock hail from Ramsbottom; Cass from Bury; J. B. Taylor from Waterfoot; the rest are of the local band.

RAMSBOTTOM (Lancashire).—On Saturday, October 8th, at St. Paul's church, an attempt to ring Vicars' six-part of Grandsire Triples came to grief after ringing 315 changes in 1 hr. 32 mins., owing to loud and continued knocking at the belfry door. After the conductor had called out "stand," the band found that it was the Vicar (Rev. J. J. Lewis), come on behalf of a sick man who lived close besides the church, who was delirious with brain fever, and requested them to stop. R. Leach, 1; J. S. Taylor, 2; J. Wolstenholme, 3; O. Eastwood, 4; J. H. Haydock, 5; W. Taylor (conductor), 6; J. B. Taylor, 7; J. Booth, 8. Messrs. Eastwood and W. Taylor hail from Newchurch; J. B. Taylor from Waterfoot; the rest are local ringers.

CHORLEY (Lancashire).—On Saturday, October 1st, at the parish church, an attempt for a peal of Bob Major was abandoned through one of the band being unwell, after ringing 2 hrs. 50 mins. G. Good-

win, 1; I. Whalley, 2; H. Hays, 3; E. Timbrell, 4; R. Sanderson, 5; W. Timbrell, 6; J. Smith, 7; J. Brown (conductor), 8. Composed by A. Craven.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ISLEWORTH (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, October 5th, for the Harvest Festival service at All Saints' church, 360 Grandsire Doubles with 4-6-8 covering. E. V. Beadle, 1; G. A. Ransom, 2; H. Chandler, 3; A. Saunders, 4; T. Beadle, 5; A. Curtis, 6; F. Goddard, 7; W. Jackman, 8. Conducted by G. A. Ransom. After service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 43 mins., composed by A. J. Perkins, of Romford. F. Goddard, 1; G. A. Ransom, 2; E. V. Beadle, 3; H. Chandler, 4; T. Beadle, 5; H. Browning, 6; J. Basden (conductor), 7; A. Saunders, 8.

FINCHLEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, September 11th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 360 Kent Treble Bob. E. H. Tubb, 1; T. Card, 2; W. Burrows, 3; C. H. Martin (conductor), 4; —. Mankelaw, 5; F. Carroway (conductor), 6. Also 360 in the same method. W. H. Tubb, 1; W. Webb, 2; J. Cornell, 3; F. Carroway, 4; W. Burrows, 5; T. Card (conductor), 6. T. Card hails from Speldhurst; Mankelaw from Tunbridge Wells; Burrows from St. John's Wood; Martin from Hendon. On Sunday evening, September 18th, for Divine Service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. H. Tubb, 1; W. Webb, 2; E. H. Tubb, 3; J. Cornell, 4; F. L. Sparkes, 5; F. Carroway (conductor), 6. After service a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob (eight bobs and six singles). F. Turvey, 1; W. H. Tubb, 2; E. H. Tubb, 3; F. Pratt, 4; C. H. Martin, 5; F. Carroway (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, September 25th, for Divine Service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. W. Mulley, 1; E. H. Tubb, 2; W. H. Tubb, 3; W. Webb, 4; J. Cornell, 5; F. Carroway (conductor), 6. On Thursday, October 13th, for the Harvest Festival, 360 Oxford Bob. W. Mulley, 1; W. Tubb, 2; W. Webb, 3; F. Carroway, 4; G. J. Miles, 5; F. L. Sparkes, (conductor), 6. On Sunday evening, October 16th, for Divine Service, 720 College Single. W. Russell, 1; W. H. Tubb, 2; E. Tubb, 3; J. Cornell, 4; G. J. Miles, 5; F. Carroway (conductor), 6. After service 720 Oxford Bob. W. Mulley, 1; W. H. Tubb, 2; W. Webb, 3; J. Cornell, 4; G. J. Miles, 5; F. Carroway (conductor), 6.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—On Saturday, October 8th, at St. Peter's church, 2520 Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 24 mins. J. Purser, 1; W. G. Hall (conductor), 3; B. Dalton, 3; E. S. Hodges, 4; J. H. Brown, 5; W. Smith, 6; A. Griffiths, 7; R. Pickering, 8.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BATH.—On Thursday, June 16th, at St. Saviour's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 47 mins. F. McCaffrey, 1; J. Whale, 2; C. Goodenough, 3; H. W. Brown, 4; J. Fussell, 5; C. W. Bell (conductor), 6; J. Taylor, 7; J. Sage, 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to F. McCaffrey, who came from Trowbridge for the occasion. On Sunday evening, October 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins. E. Holder, 1; C. Densley, 2; J. Fussell, 3; C. Goodenough, 4; H. E. Mills, 5; C. W. Bell (conductor), 6; J. Taylor, 7; C. Cambridge, 8. Rung on the occasion of the Harvest Festival.

TWERTON-ON-AVON.—On Monday, September 12th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins. H. W. Brown, 1; G. W. Stokes, 2; W. Davis, 3; W. Lanham, 4; A. Melhuish, 5; J. Fussell (conductor), 6; C. Densley, 7; G. Temple, 8. First quarter-peal by Messrs. Stokes and Densley, and was rung at the first attempt. G. Stokes hails from Chippenham.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

NORTHWICH (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, September 27th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. S. Johnson, 1; S. Forster, 2; G. Johnson, 3; A. Johnson, 4; J. Bell, 5; W. Fofster (conductor), 6.

MIDDLEWICH (Cheshire).—On Thursday, September 29th, 720 Bob Minor in 27 mins. S. Johnson, 1; S. Forster, 2; G. Johnson, 3; R. Chantler, 4; J. Bell, 5; W. Forster, 6. Also 360 Bob Minor with 7-8 behind. S. Johnson, 1; S. Forster, 2; G. Johnson, 3; A. Johnson, 4; R. Chantler, 5; W. Forster, 6; J. Bell, 7; A. Bailey, 8. Rung on the back six, and is the first on the bells, and was rung on the eve of the anniversary of the dedication of the bells. A. Bailey belongs to the local band; the rest hail from Northwich.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH (Northants).—On Saturday, October 18th, an attempt was made for Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, which was specially arranged for F. Tomkins, one of the Wellingborough Juniors, who was leaving the town, but it came to grief after ringing 4000 changes. J. J. Mawby, 1; A. Tyler, 2; J. B. Martin,

3; G. Wood, 4; W. Wood, 5; F. Tomkins, 6; T. Hensher (conductor), 7; H. Wood, 8. Messrs. Mawby and Tyler belong to Irlthlingborough; Martin from Higham Ferrers; Wood (3), Hensher, and Tomkins from Wellingborough. Great credit is due to F. Tomkins for ringing his bell so well.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Tuesday, October 11th, for practice at St. George's-in-the-East, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins. W. Truss, 1; T. H. Taffender, 2; F. C. Newman, 3; E. Wallage, 4; S. Parmenter, 5; J. Scholes, 6; E. Hall, 7; W. Clow, 8. Contains twelve 4-6s, twelve 6-7s, and twelve 7-4s. Composed by J. P. Bradley, and conducted by T. H. Taffender.

DARLSTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, September 25th, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Mark, 1; G. Morgan, 2; W. Smith, 3; T. Lowe, 4; J. Foster, 5; E. Unitt, 6; J. A. Brown (conductor), 7; J. Jones, 8. On Thursday, October 6th, 1260 Grandsire Triples, containing the twenty-four 6-7s, in 45 mins. J. Mark, 1; G. Morgan, 2; T. Lowe, 3; J. Adams, 4; E. Unitt, 5; W. Smith, 6; J. A. Brown (conductor), 7; J. Jones, 8. Composed by J. Wright, of Leicester.

DISLEY (Lancashire).—On Wednesday, October 5th, at the parish church, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. John Robinson to Miss Jane Atkinson, daughter of T. Atkinson, one of the local band, and also as a birthday compliment to Mr. J. Gratrix on his sixtieth birthday, a 360 Bob Minor was rung in 12½ mins. J. Johnson, 1; T. Johnson, 2; A. Lomas, 3; J. Gratrix, 4; T. Atkinson, 5; J. Curtis, 6. Afterwards the bells were rung in Queens, and then lowered in peal, when the ringers went to The White Horse hotel and drank to the health of the newly-married pair, wishing them long life and happiness, and also wishing Mr. J. Gratrix many happy returns of his birthday. Train time come, and a hearty shaking of hearts brought to a close a very enjoyable evening.

HECKINGTON (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday morning, April 24th, for morning service, 720 Grandsire Minor. J. Green, 1; R. Masters, 2; C. Ward, 3; T. Humberstone, 4; T. B. Wood, 5; T. Taylor (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 of Grandsire Minor rung by the local band. On October 11th, 720 Bob Minor. J. Green, 1; M. Masters, 2; C. Ward, 3; T. Humberstone, 4; T. B. Woods, 5; T. T. Taylor (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 of Bob Minor rung by the local band.

HAWLEY (Hants).—On Thursday, July 28th, for practice, 720 Oxford Bob Minor. On Saturday, September 4th, 720 College Single. F. Mustow, 1; G. Hawkins (conductor), 2; C. Smart, 3; A. E. Cousins, 4; M. Steer, 5; B. Hawkins, 6. On Wednesday, September 14th, 720 Grandsire Minor. W. Boyles, 1; G. Hawkins (conductor), 2; C. Paice, 3; C. Smart, 4; A. E. Cousins, 5; B. Hawkins, 6. First 720 by C. Paice. On Sunday, October 2nd, for afternoon service, 360 Grandsire Minor. S. Davis, 1; F. Mustow, 2; A. E. Cousins, 3; C. Smart, 4; M. Steer, 5; B. Hawkins (conductor), 6; M. Miller, 7; D. Leary, 8.

LEATHERHEAD (Surrey).—On Sunday evening, October 2nd, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 503 Grandsire Caters. After service another 503 in the same method, the following members taking part: H. Newnham, J. Wyatt, A. Dean, E. Hull, W. Marks, W. Messam, H. Cropley, H. Over, C. Otway, and W. Newnham. Conducted by W. Marks and J. Wyatt. On Sunday evening, October 9th, for Divine Service, 575 Grandsire Caters. T. Newnham, 1; W. Messam, 2; W. Crockford, 3; H. Wood, 4; H. Newnham, jun., 5; H. Newnham, 6; W. Marks (conductor), 7; E. Hull, 8; A. Dean, 9; H. Over, 10.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday morning, October 2nd, for Divine Service at the church of St. Lawrence, 336 Grandsire Triples. A. Spencer, 1; W. Hexter (conductor), 2; J. Harrison, 3; W. R. Hexter, 4; C. P. Smith, 5; J. Bailey, 6; J. E. Hexter, 7; B. Clark, 8. For evening service 630 Grandsire Triples. A. Spencer, 1; J. Harrison, 2; W. Hexter, 3; J. E. Hexter, 4; C. P. Smith, 5; W. R. Hexter, 6; J. Bailey (conductor), 7; B. Clark, 8. On Saturday, October 8th, for practice, 448 Grandsire Triples. A. Spencer, 1; J. E. Hexter, 2; J. Bailey, 3; J. Harrison, 4; C. P. Smith, 5; H. Jones, 6; W. R. Hexter (conductor), 7; B. Clark, 8. H. Jones hails from Wootton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire.

MILVERTON (Somersetshire).—On Tuesday, October 11th, for practice at St. Michael's church, 2520 Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 29 mins. F. Collins, 1; W. Andrews, 2; R. Scott (conductor), 3; P. Norman, 4; J. Richards, 5; A. J. Andrews, 6; W. Chapman, 7; C. Pulsford, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. First half-peal with a bob bell by Messrs. Collins and Norman.

PULBOROUGH (Sussex).—On Saturday, October 8th, at the parish church, 216 Grandsire Minor. E. Seller, 1; S. Stone, 2; E. Holden,

3; A. Greenfield, 4; P. Doick, 5; H. W. Herrington, 6; H. Doick, 7; T. Leney, 8. This is the first touch of Minor ever rung at this place.

RUGBY (Warwickshire).—On Monday, September 10th, at St. Andrew's church, 266 Grandsire Triples. J. Watson, 1; R. Watson, 2; C. Cooke, 3; S. Hall, 4; S. Saker (Hastings, conductor), 5; J. George, 6; H. King, 7; J. W. Shotton, 8.

ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA.—On Monday, October 10th, for practice at Christ Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. A. Novis, 1; C. Hill, 2; S. Watson, 3; H. Harvey (conductor), 4; F. Medhurst, 5; G. Watson, 6; F. Kennett, 7; H. Denman, 8. First quarter-peal as conductor.

WILLENHALL (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday, September 27th, 504 Grandsire Triples. H. Harper, 1; S. Pitt, 2; S. Dace, 3; J. Harper, 4; N. Kibble, 5; J. Adams, 6; J. A. Brown (conductor), 7; W. Eyre, 8. Messrs. Harper, Brown, and Eyre belong to Bilston.

WILLESDEN (Middlesex).—On Tuesday, October 10th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles). F. Side, 1; R. Kilby, 2; H. Kilby, 3; A. Tennant, 4; I. Attwater, 5; A. Pittam (conductor), 6. Rung in honour of the birthday of A. Pittam, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

Obituary.

CHARLES ENGLISH.

It is with sincere regret that the Chislehurst Society have to record the death of one of their old and respected ringers in the person of Charles English, who died on September 14th at the ripe old age of eighty-two. He had been a ringer at Chislehurst for nearly forty years. Previous to his coming there he was a member of the Lavenham society, which village was his birthplace. He was also a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths. On Monday, September 19, the day of his funeral, the ringers attempted a half-muffled peal of Grandsire Triples, which unhappily came to grief after ringing 840 changes. Time not permitting another start a touch of about 800 was rung, after which his age was tolled and the bells lowered in peal. J. Miles, 1; T. Durling (conductor), 2; R. Hims, 3; J. Emery, 4; G. French, 5; W. Ingham, 6; G. Durling, 7; G. Dickens, 8.

NOTES TO PEALS.

THE PEAL AT REDHILL.—This is the first peal on the bells, and was rung on the sixth anniversary wedding day of the steeplekeeper, Mr. Edward Dewey, and the ringers wish, through the medium of this paper, to thank the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, which are a musical ring from the Whitechapel Foundry. The "go" of them is not quite satisfactory, as the large bells go very heavy, and require a deal of ringing. There is no protection to the sound holes, so the bells are exposed to all weathers, which no doubt makes the wheels and ropes get stiff, and go worse than they would do if they were protected.

THE PEAL AT BRISTOL.—This was the first peal of Double Norwich in the city by a local society unassisted by honorary members, all the band being active performing members of the St. Stephen's Guild. First in the method by all except J. D. Matthews, and first touch of Major as conductor. This peal contains the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right.

MR. E. PYE'S FIFTY PEALS.—On tower bells: In seven methods on six bells, 1; Grandsire Triples, 5; Stedman Triples, 6; Bob Major, 3; Kent Treble Bob Major, 8; Oxford Treble Bob Major, 1; Double Norwich, 8; Superlative Surprise Major, 2; Grandsire Caters, 2; Treble Bob Royal, 1. On handbells: Grandsire Triples, 1; Stedman Triples, 5; Kent Treble Bob Major, 5; Double Norwich Major, 2; total—50.

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TWO JOINERS; Bench Hands. Good Wages to competent men. Constant employment. Must be Change-Ringers. For particulars, apply with reference to W. H. BARBER, 25, Belmont Street, Euston Road, Bangor, North Wales.

THE HISTORY OF BELLS.

There are few subjects (says A. C. Bickley in the *Church Gazette*), on which more has been written than on bells. From the earliest ages bells seem to have been especially devoted to religious uses. In China a kind of ring of bells made of flat stones is said to have been invented a couple of thousand years before Christ. Bells are mentioned in Exodus as part of the high priest's dress, and we learn that in the time of Zechariah they were worn by horses. Bells were used alike by the ancient Egyptians and Peruvians. In unchanging Borneo, bells, or rather gongs, have long been parts of the Zulu or Dyak rituals, and, as everybody knows, the Bhuddistic temples of the Chinese abound in bells. How far bells were used by the Greeks we have no evidence, though Greek writers mention them. The Romans used bells to denote times of bathing, but not, so far as we can see, for religious purposes. It is from this use, however, that Whittaker considers the use of bells by the Christian Church to have originated. In Britain, bells have been used in churches from towards the end of the seventh century. It is said that in mediæval times England was spoken of as the land of bells; to-day that title is probably more applicable to Russia. The French appear to have used chiefly bells of iron—we have an abomination called a bell, made of steel still with us—but the English preferred brass, and as early as the ninth century were able to make them of deep tone and considerable size. Mr. Tyack says that the earliest bells were probably made of metal plates rivetted together. One associated with St. Patrick, now preserved at Belfast, would, if this legend be true, be over 1,400 years old. It is a small iron bell, something like the bell at St. Gall, in Switzerland, which is believed to have seen more than twelve centuries. There is some reason to suppose that in early times the greater number of bells were imported from the Continent, but England had its founders. Thus in 1299 there lived at Lynn, in Norfolk, one "Master John the founder." At Gloucester, early in the 14th century, a man named Alexander or Sandre, which is uncertain, who was at once a bell-founder and a potter. In order to encourage English founders, in 1483, the importation of foreign bells was made illegal, but bells continued to be brought into the kingdom, as is proved by many remaining examples. It was, as everybody knows, customary to baptise bells, notwithstanding that the capitulars of Charlemagne, issued in 789, expressly forbade it. This was got over by reading it to mean any bells other than Church bells, so the picturesque ceremony was continued and augmented. In the Gregorian Sacramentary there is a form for the benediction of bells. One of the most curious usages connected with the baptism of a bell, was the inquiry, by the bishop, whether the founder had been paid for his work, and the cost of the metal. Satisfied on this, he demanded of the sponsors whether they believed all the Catholic Apostolic Roman Church believes, concerning the holiness and virtues of bells. If they replied in the affirmative the ceremony proceeded.

A VISIT TO DUBLIN.

Friday evening, September 23rd, found Messrs. Argyle and Chapman, of Nuneaton, en route for the above City, where they arrived early on Saturday morning. In the afternoon they were met by Mr. G. Lindoff, who conducted them through St. Patrick's Cathedral, and arranged for a touch at St. George's in the evening. On Sunday touches of Grandsire were rung for morning and afternoon services at St. Patrick's, and a few rounds on the ring of ten at Christ Church Cathedral. In the evening arrangements were made for a ring at Bray, which is a pleasant little spot, twelve miles from Dublin, with a fine ring of eight. On Monday, through the kindness of Mr. G. Lindoff, permission was obtained to visit Guinness' Brewery. Tuesday morning found the visitors on board the steamer for Holyhead. They wish to thank Mr. Lindoff and the Dublin ringers for their kindness, which made their visit so much more enjoyable.

OWSLEBURY, NEAR WINCHESTER.

A large clock has just been erected in the parish church here by John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby. It is fitted with all the latest improvements, and is guaranteed to keep time with great accuracy.

Notices.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is one Penny per line (five words may be reckoned to a line). Repetitions at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

The Surrey Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Kingston-on-Thames, to-day, Sat., October 22nd. Ringing at All Saints (ten bells) from 2 p.m., by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. A. S. W. Young. Tea at Mission Room (nearly opposite the church) Wood Street, at 6 p.m., and business meeting to follow. Arrangements for tea are in the hands of Mr. James Strutt, 13, London Road, Kingston-on-Thames. Members who have not paid subscriptions for 1898 should do so at this meeting.

CHAS. DEAN, JUN., *Hon. Sec.*

5, Manor Parade, Sutton, Surrey.

The Waltham Abbey Society.—The members of this Society, together with several well-known ringing friends from London, will meet to-day, Saturday, October 22nd, at the Abbey church for ringing purposes. The bells will be available for ringing from 2.30 p.m., and all ringing friends will be cordially welcomed. A hot supper will be provided in the evening at The Green Dragon inn, price 2s. 6d. per head.

FRANK CARTER, *Hon. Sec.*

Waltham Abbey, Essex.

The Sussex County Association.—Central Division.—Next quarterly meeting will be held at Hurstpierpoint, to-day, Saturday, October 22nd. Tower open from 3 p.m. Service at 5.30. Tea at the Chinese Gardens at 6 p.m.

GEO. WILLIAMS, *Hon. Sec.*

The Winchester Diocesan Guild.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Ringwood, Hants, to-day, Saturday, October 22nd.

CHARLES E. MATTHEWS, *Hon. Sec.*

Hursley, Winchester.

The Kent County Association.—Lewisham District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held at the church of St. Mary Magdalene, Woolwich, to-day, Saturday, October 22nd. The tower will be open for ringing from 3 p.m. Business meeting will follow

tea. A short service and address by the Rev. James Hughes, Vicar of Plumstead, at 7.30. W. J. JEFFRIES, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—The Autumn Guild Meeting will be held at Henley on Saturday, October 29th. Tea, 9d. per head, at 5 p.m. Evensong with sermon by the Master at 6. For tickets apply to

REV. R. H. HART-DAVIS.

Dunsden Vicarage, Reading.

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—A special meeting of this society will be held at Armley (six bells), on Saturday, October 29th. Ringing from 3 p.m. A business meeting will be held at The White Horse inn, Town Street, at 7 p.m. A good attendance of members is earnestly requested, as business of the utmost importance will be brought forward. JNO. W. T. HOLGATE, *President.*

5, Ashcroft Street, Bramley, Leeds.

The Midland Counties Association.—The second quarterly meeting of the year will be held at Duffield, on Saturday, October 29th. The peal of ten at the parish church will be available for ringing from 2 p.m. By kind permission of the President the grounds of Duffield Bank will be open to visitors from 2 to 4.30 p.m. Committee meeting at 4 p.m., tea at 4.30 p.m., both at the parish room, King Street. Members who intend being present at tea, for which 1s. will be charged, are requested to notify Mr. B. Sugden, Eaton Bank, Duffield, not later than Wednesday, October 26th. Parties of eight or more can obtain fare and a quarter tickets at any station. J. O. LANCASHIRE, *Hon. Sec.*

22, St. Peter's Road, Leicester.

Central Northamptonshire Association.—Quarterly Meeting at Rushton, near Kettering, on Saturday, October 29th. Ringing from 2.30 to 7.30 p.m. The bells are a ring of six, recently rehung, tenor 9 cwt. Usual arrangements. The Secretary hopes that members in the Kettering district will support this meeting as much as possible. E. J. DENNES, *Hon. Sec.*

Wellingborough.

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—The twenty-first annual meeting will be held at Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Mon-

day, October 31st, 1898. Committee meeting in the upper vestry of the Cathedral at 12 noon. Divine Service in the Lady Chapel of the Cathedral, with sermon by the Rev. Edgar Boddington, at 1 p.m. Dinner at The Crown hotel, Clayton Street, at 2 p.m., members 1s. 6d., non-members 2s. 6d. The bells of the following churches will be available: the Cathedral, St. John's, All Saints, St. George's (from 10.30 to 12.30), St. Matthew's (from 3 to 5 p.m.). Those intending to dine must notify the same not later than Friday, 28th October, to THOMAS HUDSON, *Hon. Sec.*

314, High Street West, Sunderland.

N.B.—As the present Secretary will not seek re-election, members are requested to send in names, before the day of meeting, of any suitable to fill this important office.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—The 261st Anniversary Dinner will be held at The Champion hotel, 15, Aldersgate Street, on Saturday, November 5th, at 6.30 p.m. Tickets, 3s. 6d. each, may be bought of Messrs. W. H. L. Buckingham, Albert Coles, E. A. Davies, Garrard, Horrex, Hoskins, T. Mash, McLaughlin, J. C. Mitchell, Newton, O'Meara, Pettit, Prime, W. D. Smith, Springall, Taffender, Winney and

WILLIAM T. COCKERILL, *Hon. Sec.*

37, Tradescant Road, South Lambeth, S.W.

A Meeting will be held at St. Magnus, Lower Thames Street, on Thursday, October 27th.

The North Lincolnshire Association.—The half-yearly general meeting will be held at Gainsborough on Saturday, November 5th. Further particulars in due course.

GEO. CHESTER, *Hon. Sec.*

142, Portland Street, Lincoln.

The Kent County Association.—Canterbury District.—A meeting of this District will be held (for ringing only) at St. Leonard's, Upper Deal, on Saturday, November 5th. Tower open at 2.30 p.m.

E. E. FOREMAN, *Hon. Dist. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Diocesan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Thomas's church, St. Helen's, on Saturday, November 5th. Bells ready at 4. Meeting at 6. HENRY COLEY, *Branch Sec.*

10,000

Christmas Presents amounting at ordinary Retail Price to **£625**
Also **£100** in Free Money Prizes will be **Given Away,**

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| 3rd Prize £15. | To Competitor solving two of the Puzzle words below correctly, or if more than one, then equally among them. |
| 4th Prize £10. | To the Competitor solving only one of the Puzzle words below correctly, or if more than one, then equally among them. |

Having purchased the entire stock of a large Christmas Card Firm at considerably less than half the original cost of production, as well as several other important lots at ridiculously low prices for cash, we have decided this year, FOR THE FIRST TIME, to deal direct with the Public instead of through the shopkeepers, and are making up monster packets (sold in the ordinary way for at least 3s. 6d.) containing one dozen choice assorted Christmas Cards, for 2s. per packet, post free to any address in the United Kingdom (Foreign Postage 1s. extra). With each of these packets, by way of advertisement, we shall present gratis to every purchaser a most interesting, instructive, and amusing Christmas present. This article is sold retail at 1s. 3d., and is in great demand for winter evenings.

In addition to this, the above £100 Free Cash Prizes will be given away amongst the competitors who can make out the correct names of one or more of the six stone fruits, which the following mixed letters will spell, viz.:

RRHYEC, EEEGGGANR, CHEAP, LUMP, TAPIOCR, TARNICENE.

The only Conditions Competitors have to comply with to qualify them to receive one of the above Christmas presents, and to compete for the Free Cash Prizes, are as follows:—Send in your solutions, and enclose Postal Order for 2s. for our Monster Packet of Christmas Cards, together with stamped addressed envelope for sending your prize money at the close of the Competition. The packet of Cards, and the Christmas present, will be sent upon receipt of your order, but the Prize Money will not be forwarded until a few days after the close of the Competition, which will positively be on Thursday, 22nd December, 1898. Competitors are advised to send in their orders without delay:—Address:—FINE ART COY., 92A, Isledon Road, Holloway, London.

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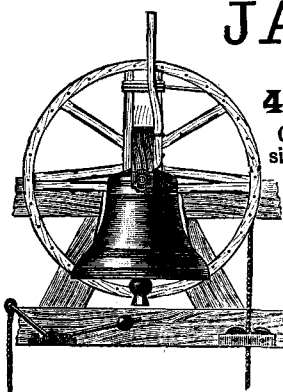
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