

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 41. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. I.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1883.

[ONE PENNY.]



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(Signed) "C. T. WILKINSON,
"Vicar of St. Andrew's, Plymouth;
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The last chapter is devoted to a list of the names of Composers of the different peals, with various particulars, and in the cases of deceased Composers with the dates of death, age, etc.

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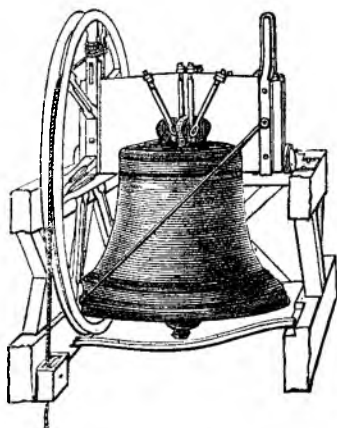
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in Rounds and Changes we have met with."—Church
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the book to place in the hands of persons desirous of
knowing for themselves something of the Art."—York-
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previously advertised kept in stock, to which
additions of new music are constantly being made.

The following pieces are in preparation, and will be
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In the first week of February, 1883: "Haydn's Hymn
to the Emperor," with variations; known also as the
"Imperial Quartett." In the first week of March, 1883,
Selection from Weber's "Der Frieschutz," introducing
the "Peasant's March." Chorus of Huntsmen, Waltz,
"Through the Woodlands," &c. In the first week of
April, 1883, Handel's splendid chorus from the *Messiah*:
"For unto us a Child is born."

Each piece will be arranged for eight or nine ringers,
with large peal of bells, F 26 to C 01, with duplicates, and
will include a conductor's score. Subscription for the
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7th of February, afterwards the pieces will be sold at 6s.
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ROPE-SIGHT; By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

The second edition is now entirely sold out. A third
edition will shortly be put in hand.

FESTIVITIES AT WORCESTER.

ON Wednesday, December 27th, through the liberality of the Rev. W. Carr, the Rector of St. John in Bedwardine, the choir and ringers were treated to a capital repast in the large school-room which was tastefully decorated for the occasion. Over the entrance door was the following: "Ring out the old; Ring in the new" and other suitable mottoes. There were present the Rev. W. Carr (Vicar), Mr. A. Buck and Mr. Birch (Churchwardens), Mr. Bramwell and party, and about one hundred of the principal parishioners, all earnest church-workers. Before the repast the choir sang several pieces and carols, and afterwards the ringers introduced the handbells, when several courses of Grandsire Triples and Caters were rang. Several tunes were played, four in hand, by Messrs. Gwynn, Cleal, and Owen; and Mr. J. Hinton, Sen., a ringer entirely deaf, tapped tunes at intervals on his fifteen bells, also a course of Grandsire Caters. At twelve o'clock the company separated all highly pleased with the ringing and singing, and all wishing to spend another evening together next year.

The church of St. John, in Worcester, is situated on a pleasing eminence overlooking the river Severn. A perambulation of the meadows adjacent to this picturesque church on a Sunday afternoon when the bells are chiming for Divine Service, their notes in the distance falling on the ear, is an enjoyment never to be forgotten. There is no doubt it was originally intended to have eight bells here, as there are pits left for two trebles; perhaps the archives of the Whitechapel Foundry could throw some light on this matter; be this as it may, such an addition at any time would be welcome news. The late John Wheeley Lea, Esq., Alderman of the city, whose name will for ever live in grateful remembrance among the poor folk of the "faithful city," was Churchwarden of St. John's for many years. We are convinced that had he known such an augmentation of the bells to be desirable, the tower would long ago possessed a peal of eight. Perhaps this hint may lead—and we hope it may—to the question of adding two more trebles to the peal being considered by the worthy Rector. In such case, knowing the requirements two new bells ought to possess for this particular peal, we should be pleased to give the Rector or Churchwardens the benefit of our experience.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

ON Tuesday, December 26th, the following members of this Association visited the village of Southgate, Middlesex, and upon the truly magnificent bells of Christ Church (cast by Mears and Stainbank, and said to rival the famed Lavenham peal) they attempted Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing for 33 minutes, the conductor having discovered that two bells had changed course, wisely called "Stand." A second attempt was then made, and ringing was kept up with spirit, with excellent striking, for 3 hrs. 15 mins., but unfortunately, this attempt also came to grief through one of the company neglecting to make third's place. An adjournment was then made to the well-known hostelry, "The Cherry Tree" inn, where the company sat down to dinner. After this repast, they again repaired to the steeple, where they were met by W. Meadows, Esq., and rang a touch of Stedman Triples—500 changes—two courses of Plain Bob, and a course of Kent Treble Bob Major, in which that gentlemen took part. This finished the day's proceedings, and though naturally disappointed at their want of success, so far as regards the peal, the company were very well pleased with their day's outing, and their gratification, in having enjoyed a ring upon so tuneful a peal, was, from the same cause, in no way diminished. The ringers were: C. Martin, 1; J. Harris, 2; J. Trappitt, 3; G. Pell, 4; D. Springhall, 5; J. Fayers, 6; C. Gordon, 7; J. Zealey, 8. The whole of the ringing was conducted by J. Trappitt.

Southgate is one of those places having a good peal of bells, with a well-appointed steeple, without a band of ringers worthy of the name. In this particular instance, however, we believe there is a number of young men in the parish willing to be taught the principles of the art, if a qualified instructor were provided for a short period. The cost of such provision would not be an alarming high figure, provided the services of a really efficient teacher were secured. The establishment of a good band of *bona fide* ringers at Southgate is much to be desired, and we commend the idea to the worthy Vicar.

KIDDERMINSTER.—A short time since the fine ring of eight bells (tenor 29 cwt.) at St. Mary's church in this town was rehung, and three new bells being added and a set of Carillon chimes. This was thought a good opportunity for the formation of an amateur association of ringers, there being no half-pull ringers in the town. No sooner however was the society started, than the churchwardens "killed" it for some reason or another. Fortunately it is seldom that this kind of thing is met with, and for the sake of ringing generally we hope that a similar case may never again occur.

CAVENDISH, SUFFOLK.—THE CAVENDISH SOCIETY'S ANNIVERSARY.

The parish church of St. Mary, Cavendish, which is a very fine building in the perpendicular style, possesses a massive tower with a ring of six bells.

The original peal was cast by Mears in 1779, and before the tenor was cracked whilst being raised in 1868, was regarded with admiration by the parish and neighbourhood, on account of the pure, melodious tone of the bells. Through the munificence of the late Mr. Ambrose Smith, of Nether Hall, Cavendish, the cracked tenor was re-placed by Messrs. Warner in 1869, with a fine-toned bell of 12 cwt., since which time a crack in the crown has gradually extended and spoilt the tone of the 4th bell. It is to be hoped that, sooner or later, the parishioners (who have always manifested great interest in change-ringing) will remedy the existing defects in the peal, and by the addition of two trebles augment it to eight.

In 1870, there existed here an excellent company, who rang a 5040 in 7 different methods. Only two of this company are now in the parish, three having left the place, and one, the heart and soul of Cavendish ringing up to the time of his death, having gone over to join the great majority. Since the death of this ardent ringer in 1877, the Cavendish bells have seldom been rung, until through the instrumentality of Mr. F. J. Thompson, the present society was formed in January, 1882. The progress of the young members of this society, whose names frequently figure in this journal, has been very rapid. Their first peal was rung on April 26, since which time they have also mastered the following methods:—Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, New London Pleasure, Duke of York, Double Oxford, and Double Court, in which methods they have rung 40 complete 720's, and also a 2160 in three methods.

Through the exertions of the society, the St. Mary's belfry has undergone a complete transformation. The Gothic lights have been filled in with cathedral-tinted and stained glass, and the interior nicely decorated, giving the belfry a more cheerful and sacred aspect, contrasting in a marked manner with its state a few months since.

The first anniversary of the society's formation was held January 1st, when the members, together with the Curate of Cavendish, and Churchwarden, and several of the leading tradesmen of the place, sat down to an excellent dinner at the "White Horse" Hotel in the evening. The chair was taken by Mr. Alexander Hurst, of Cavendish Grammar School, the master of the Society, who was supported by Mr. Hugh Clark, Churchwarden; the Vice-chair being occupied by the Rev. Herbert S. Clark, Curate.

After the cloth was removed the usual loyal toasts were given from the chair, the remainder of the evening being spent in singing and hand-bell ringing. In reply to the toast of his health, the master (Mr. A. Hurst) said it gave him unbounded pleasure to be sitting there that evening, as master of the Cavendish society of change-ringers. He little thought last year when they first ascended the tower and rang a few rounds, as a welcome to the then New Year, that ere 1882 closed upon them, they would have mastered 7 different methods in the grand art of change-ringing. He thought he could safely say that the rapidity with which they had got on was remarkable, and was a well-merited reward for the dogged perseverance every man had shewn in mastering the various methods with which they were now conversant. He was pleased to see so many supporters of the society there that evening; it was a clear proof of the earnestness of the parishioners to support them. He would publicly thank the inhabitants of Cavendish, for the handsome manner in which they had subscribed to purchase the beautiful peal of hand-bells they had been ringing that evening. The company had now, what in his opinion should be dearest to a true-hearted ringer, a comfortable and cheerful belfry, which was a great improvement on the cold and bleak place they first rang in. One of the objects of the society, as set forth in their rules, was the promotion of belfry reform, in which direction he would strongly exhort all to aim. He was glad to recognize the efforts of the society in this respect, and trusted the sacredness of the belfry would be revered. In conclusion, he hoped that in the forthcoming year the society would make great progress; that on the great festivals of the church their bells would again peal out in strains of praise, and that every endeavour would be made to initiate other young men in their grand recreative art, so that now another impetus had been given to Cavendish change-ringing, it might be carried on for years to come.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE next District Meeting of the above Association will be held at Bungay, on Monday, January 29th. Members wishing to attend are requested to communicate with the Secretary on or before Tuesday, January 23rd.

Tunstead Vicarage, Norwich.

G. H. HARRIS,
Hon. Sec.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THIS Association held its annual meeting at Ashton-under-Lyne, on Saturday last, when there was a fair attendance of members; ringers being present from Mottram, Glossop, Hyde, Ashton, Stalybridge, Saddleworth, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Hayfield, etc. There was very little ringing done during the day owing to the bells being muffled on account of the death of Lord Stamford. Dinner was held at the house of G. Braddock, "King William IV.," Stamford Street, and which spoke well for Mr. Braddock as a caterer. After dinner the usual business was gone through, and the following gentlemen elected officers for the next twelve months:—*President*, Mr. John Holden; *Vice-President*, Mr. George Lord; *Treasurer*, Mr. John Pye; *Secretary*, Mr. Jas. S. Wilde; *Committee*, Messrs Joseph Wood, Thomas Price, Thomas Brocklehurst, Henry Rostron, John Bailey, Samuel Wood, and Hugh Shaw. After business was got through, the evening was enlivened by course-ringing, tune-ringing, and singing. The next meeting will be held at Chapel-en-le-Frith next July, of which due notice will be given in this paper.

AYLSHAM, NORFOLK.

A very pleasant evening was spent by the ringers of the above parish on Friday, the 29th ult., at the "Black Boys" Inn. Messrs. R. J. W. Purdy and H. G. Wright, the Churchwardens, had most kindly invited them to a supper, and such a one as ringers do not come across every day; there was no pretence about it, the table was bountifully supplied with all that could be wished for. After supper, speeches, toasts, among them "Success to the Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers," the Rev. G. H. Harris, the Secretary, and other friends being among the guests, songs and handbell music filled up the time until the hour of departure, when the party broke up amidst hearty thanks to the generous donors of the feast, and many good wishes for the coming year. It may be added that there is no need of any chiming apparatus here; every Sunday Mr. Wright, one of the above named gentlemen, is always to be seen in the tower surrounded by his brother-chimers, and with rope in hand, delighting in the music of the bells.

BELLS FOR SPAIN.

Messrs. Warner and Sons send us the following account:—On Christmas-Eve, three of our bellhangers, with their foreman, returned from Madrid, having been out there about 26 days, during which time they had the task to set up in new teak wood frame, 19 bells in the Cathedral, and Royal Church of San Francisco. Eleven of the bells, with 45-inch tenor, note F, about 15 cwt, were hung dead, to chime with a chiming apparatus in one tower; and a ring of 8, tenor 36½ inch, Ab, weight about 8½ cwt., were set up in the other towers, with wheels, slides and other fittings for ringing in true English style. From the reports given, it appears that the Ministers of State, as well as the Cardinal and priests, were more than pleased, and have certified to their satisfaction of the work executed, as well as to the tone of the bells. Never before, perhaps, has such a chime of bells, or such a ring of bells, been heard in Spain: and never before has a ring of eight been pulled to hand or backstroke in English style in Madrid. Before the bells were lifted a number of English residents, and a clergyman of the Anglican Church from Toronto, came to inspect them. When the eleven bells were set up, and ready for chiming, numbers of the citizens congregated in the streets to listen to the "Home Sweet, Home," and "God save the Queen" chimed by the Englishmen, which was listened to in the palace; but when the ringing eight were set going in rounds, and an attempt at changes made, the concourse of people in the streets to listen was immense. And to further satisfy their curiosity and pleasure, the bandmaster of one of the regiments, with the organist of the Cathedral, chimed several of the national airs much to their delight. Our men during the time took several hands into tuition, so that a start has been fairly made among the Spaniards to go in for hand-ringing with rope and salley, and bells set instead of the old method of men turning somersaults and round and round with the bells. The new bells are all inscribed with a chaste Jerusalem cross, and the words "Inglesia Sanfrisco."

Correspondence.

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

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

THE BELLS OF SUFFOLK.

SIR,—In "THE BELL NEWS" of last week, under the above heading, appeared an article, with regard to which I should like to point out a few slight mistakes. The writer says,—". . . thus making (Otley) this fine old peal of five into one of the prettiest rings of six to be found for miles around." There are three peals of six

within as many miles, better, and nine ringers out of every ten will say so, namely, Grundisburgh, Clopton, and Woodbridge. Then he says:—" . . . which secure for Coddennham the neatest and best-ordered belfry in the Eastern Counties." Well, sir, I do not know what my friend Mr. Catchpole, the steeple-keeper of St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, will say to this, for I do not think there is any one spends more time and trouble on their bells than he does, and always to time. Then your contributor says that a 10,000 of Bob Major was rung at Debenham about the year 1790; it was rang March 16th, 1767. I should like to know where are the two hundred ringers that Mr. Sadler has taught. Well, I suppose I am one; but I rang my first 5000 at Diss, in 1867, about four years before Mr. Sadler became a ringer. Mr. Sadler, as a paid instructor, has taught the Grundisburgh, Helmingham, Coddennham, and Otley companies. If you go to one or two places the people will tell you that Mr. Sadler taught all the Ipswich ringers what they know! There is just 200 ringers that live in Suffolk belonging to the Association, does he claim to have taught the whole lot of us, as several of us were good ringers before he was born? DANIEL PRENTICE. Ipswich.

BOB MINOR.

SIR,—Allow me to tell my friend Mr. Penning, after reading his sarcastic remarks, and who it appears is in high dudgeon about the affair, that I have as many original 720's of Bob Minor with 43, 44, 45, and 46 calls as would fill the best part of a "BELL NEWS." Now, sir, why I did not send some of them to you for insertion was because they did not then contain the amount of simplicity I wished, and again, I could not help feeling that I should be taking up too much of your valuable space, and that we have already had a good dose of the subject. J. J. PARKER.

BELL-HANGING.

SIR,—An advertisement of a most wonderful character has been brought before me, as full of puff and nonsense as ever Barnum, the American showman, could have concocted, upon the above topic, in which the great triumph—extraordinary discovery and improvement in the form of cast-steel gudgeons—is held forth as an inducement to try the discovery, with the assurance that such productions wear a thousand times longer, and go fifty per cent. lighter (than—it is not said what) for the ringers. Now, as cast-steel is very liable to have flaws, and break off short; as all large bell-gudgeons are generally case-hardened by men who understand their business properly, and as ordinary gudgeons will wear well for ten to twenty years without being turned afresh in a lathe, I fail to see how any one can assert, in truth, either from his own knowledge or reliable information, that steel gudgeons will last in wear from 10 to 20,000 years; and further, I fail to comprehend how that such a one-handed performance in Devon, as a 22 cwt. tenor, being rung on steel gudgeons, can compare with the St. Saviour's pull on ordinary gudgeons, where the tenor was and is 52 cwt., and one man rung it for a stretch of 6½ hours. The advertisement appeared, I think, in the *Western Times* of December 21st last, and if any of your readers are desirous to see a good long puff, they will be satisfied with a perusal, but my humble advice to parties concerned in rehanging or hanging church bells decidedly must be, "Beware of steel gudgeons." I have heard of them breaking short off. S. B. GOSLIN.

THE NOBLE ART, DESPISED BY THE IGNORANT.—The above line appears at the foot of a page in an old peal-book, and was written nearly 100 years ago. The following will show that the time has not yet arrived for it to be erased. After repeated application for nearly three years, a band from Little Heath were permitted on Sunday morning to visit St. Mary's, Great Ilford, Essex, and ring 120 of Grandsire Doubles. The tower contains a magnificent light ring of six, tenor 8 cwt., with all the appliances necessary for the due performance of the art in capital order. There is a local band styling themselves "St. Mary's Society of Ringers" (?) which boasts of having 13 members. Notwithstanding that they have a weekly practice with the above advantages, there is not a single member that has the slightest knowledge of the art even in its simplicity, after having been occupants of the belfry for years. Some of the band consider themselves skilled ringers (?) and when the opportunity offers itself do not fail to attempt to palm off their performances of "churchyard bobs" to the uninitiated parishioners as peals. If this was all, no doubt the Exercise at large would be somewhat amused, but *ringers* will regret to hear that there is a majority of the band, supported by some of the officials, who offer every opposition in their power to allow any band to visit the tower for peal ringing. Our correspondent says the Essex Association has for one of its objects "belfry reform," surely there is room for it here, as such a standing disgrace to the ringing community by a set of bell-haulers ought to be removed.

OBITUARY.—We regret to have to record the death (at the age of 78) of Mr. Stephen Marsh, who died very suddenly whilst chiming the bells for evening service at the church of All Saints, Weston, near Bath, on Sunday evening—New-Year's eve. The deceased, who was highly respected by all who knew him, had filled the office of sexton at the above church for many years past. On Sunday afternoon last, his mortal remains were interred in their last resting place. The coffin (which was covered with very choice flowers sent by friends) was borne to the grave by the Weston ringers, and representatives from St. James's and St. Michael's churches, Bath. He was buried at the new cemetery, the service being conducted by the Revs. Murray Dixon and Stedman. At the conclusion of the afternoon service the bells of Weston church, deeply muffled, were rung as a last mark of respect to his memory, by the following: W. Simmonds, 1; J. Cox, 2; J. Smith, 3; J. Weeks, 4; J. Wyatt, 5; W. Pethers, 6, who rang the date of his age in months, viz., 936 changes in the Grandsire method.

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

One copy, 12 months	6s. 6d.
" 6 "	3s. 3d.
" 3 "	1s. 8d.

All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher, W. E. ALLEN, Ave Maria Lane, London.

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

Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed, "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; the insertion of Performances coming later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning, cannot be guaranteed in that week's number.

Contributions are invited from any of our friends. We shall always be glad to give any information asked for, relative to the subjects this paper deals with.

The Editor would be glad to receive the names of gentlemen who would be willing to act for their respective districts, in the capacity of reporter or correspondent. We shall feel obliged by Association and other Secretaries sending intelligence of events occurring within their jurisdiction.

CHARGES FOR ADVERTISEMENTS.

The charge for Advertisements is 4s. per inch single column, or 8s. per inch double column. Special arrangements for a series of more than four insertions. Displayed advertisements by special contract. All advertisements must reach the Publisher's by 12 o'clock at noon on Thursday.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1883.

WE have received many complaints recently concerning the difficulty experienced by some of our readers in procuring copies of this paper. In all such cases in future, the publisher will be glad to know from the subscribers themselves, who the London agent of their local bookseller may be, so that enquiries may be made with a view to remove the cause of offence. The printed copies are delivered to the publisher early on each Friday morning, therefore there is no reason why they should not be all over the country in company with other serials.

As we have been interrogated about our number for the Christmas-week, we may say that sufficient notice was given beforehand of our intention not to reprint, and those who are without copies of that number must account to themselves. But we know there are a few returned to the publisher from the various local agents in London, and advantage should at once be taken of this by those who require them. The number for that week, certainly was as a correspondent writes, "without parallel in the annals of ringing." If the present increase in our circulation continues, we shall give another illustration before long, and we hope our friends will show by their support that it will be politic to permanently enlarge this paper at the same time.

We desire to impress upon our correspondents the necessity for greater care in the preparation of reports of performances, several important particulars, recently, having been omitted. In the peal reports, the names of ringers should be given in full, if convenient.

The Metropolis.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
CAMBERWELL, SURREY.

On Tuesday, December 26, 1882, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,
AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
MR. PENNING'S ORIGINAL 1-PART PEAL. Tenor 14 cwt.

A. H. GARDOM	Treble.	E. MOSES	5.
F. BATE	2.	J. BARRY	6.
N. J. PITSTOW	3.	H. HOPKINS	7.
C. HOPKINS	4.	W. D. MATTHEWS	Tenor.

Conducted by A. H. GARDOM.

The Provinces.

THE LIVERPOOL YOUTHS' SOCIETY.

Muffled Peal.

On Wednesday, January 3, 1883, in Three Hours and Thirty-two Minutes.

AT THE PRO-CATHEDRAL OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;
Tenor 25 cwt.

GEORGE HELSBY	Treble.	JOHN MOORE	6.
JAMES EGERTON	2.	THOMAS HAMMOND	7.
WILLIAM WOODHEAD	3.	ROBERT WILLIAMS	8.
RICHARD WILLIAMS	4.	EDWARD VOSE	9.
JOHN BROWN	5.	WILLIAM BROOKS	Tenor.

Composed and conducted by ROBERT WILLIAMS.

The above peal was rung with the bells muffled in memory of the late R. C. Gardner, Esq. Mayor of Liverpool.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

On Saturday, January 6, 1883, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes.

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 19½ cwt.

JOHN LAST*	Treble.	HAWKINS ENGLISH	5.
GEORGE PERRY†	2.	EDWARD WELLS	6.
JOHN KNIGHTS	3.	GEORGE SHERMAN	7.
GEORGE THURLOW	4.	*CALEB MOUSER	Tenor.

Conducted by EDWARD WELLS.

* First peal. † First peal with a bob bell.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—MAIDSTONE.

On Thursday, January 4, 1882, in Three Hours,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor about 19 cwt.

REUBEN SIMMONS	Treble.	ALFRED H. WOOLLEY	5.
EDWARD BALDOCK	2.	GEORGE PAWLEY	6.
EDWARD ELLIOTT*	3.	CALEB PAYNE	7.
FRED. G. NEWMAN	4.	GEORGE MOORCRAFT	Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE PAWLEY.

* First peal with a bob bell. First peal called by W. Pawley.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—DRAYTON, BERKS.

On Thursday, January 4, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.
Tenor 9½ cwt.

REV. F. E. ROBINSON	Treble.	W. BENNETT	5.
J. AVERY	2.	G. HOLIFIELD	6.
B. BARRETT	3.	F. WHITE	7.
E. HOLIFIELD	4.	T. BENNETT	Tenor.

Composed and conducted by G. HOLIFIELD.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ECCLES.

On Saturday, January 6, 1883 (the time of performance not being given),
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 13½ cwt.

EDWARD CASH Treble.	CHARLES CASH 5.
JAMES BARRATT 2.	JOSEPH SCOTT 6.
RICHARD PEARCE 3.	JOHN EDGE 7.
JAMES RIDYARD 4.	EDWARD REDDISH Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH SCOTT.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BOLTON.

On Saturday, January 6, 1883, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,
AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

HENRY W. JACKSON Treble.	JOHN WALSH 5.
JACOB LISTER 2.	WALTER MARSDEN 6.
JOEL REDFORD 3.	WILLIAM HAMER 7.
JOHN CURTIS 4.	JAMES H. JACKSON Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY W. JACKSON.

TEWKESBURY ABBEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

On Monday, January 8, 1883, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 23½ cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb.

RICH'D. H. WITHERINGTON* Treble.	JOHN WATHEN 5.
SAMUEL CLEAL* 2.	*CHARLES HALFORD 6.
FRANCIS J. MOORE* 3.	JOSIAH WATHEN 7.
JOHN HALE* 4.	WILLIAM HAINES Tenor.

Conducted by JOSIAH WATHEN.

(* First peal of Triples.)

Date Touch.

PONTEFRACHT.—On Friday evening, January 5th, seven of the Pontefract ringers, with W. Pearson, of Campsall, rang a date touch of 1883 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 12 mins. J. Smithies, 1; C. Watts, 2; H. Spurr, 3; S. Brook, 4; W. Stones, 5; R. Savile, 6; W. Pearson (conductor), 7; E. Waterton, 8. Tenor 16½ cwt in E.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

WILLESDEN (Middlesex).—On Thursday, January 4th, 1883, at St. Mary's, the local ringers, with Messrs. Parker and Basden, of Farnham Royal, Bucks, rang a 720 of Bob Minor, having thirty-four bobs and ten singles, in 24 mins., all being members of the above society. Joseph Jackman, 1; Frederick Weare, 2; Harry Cutter, 3; John Basden, 4; Joseph J. Parker (composer and conductor), 5; Richard Kilby, 6. Tenor 10 cwt. Also a 6-score of Stedman Doubles. Harry Cutter, 1; Frederick Weare, 2; Joseph J. Parker (conductor), 3; John Basden, 4; Richard Kilby, 5; Albert Kirby, 6.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—At St. John's church, for evening service, on the occasion of a sermon by the Lord Bishop of Newcastle, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. George Campbell, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6. Tenor 14½ cwt. [What date?—ED.]

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CODDENHAM (Suffolk).—On Thursday evening, January 4th, six members of the Coddenham society, assisted by the Rev. W. C. Pearson, of Syston, Leicestershire, and Mr. T. Sadler, of Winesham, rang the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 35 mins. O. Waspe, 1; T. Sadler, 2; E. Wells (conductor), 3; G. Lummis, 4; J. Offord, 5; Rev. W. C. Pearson, 6; H. English, 7; S. English, 8. Tenor 16½ cwt. in F#.

THE WEST MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

SLOUGH (Bucks).—On Wednesday, December 27th, 1882, the following members of this society rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. W. Leader, 1; W. H. Fussell, 2; A. Fussell, 3; W. Wilder, 4; J. Pursey, 5; R. Flaxman (conductor), 6. The bells were deeply muffled as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Mr. John Steel, who rang the first 720 of Minor in 1880, and the last in 1882, upon the bells. This 720 makes the 40th rang by W. H. Fussell during 1882.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

TONG (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, January 7th, the Tong branch of this Association rung for afternoon service 240 changes of Primrose, 240 of Tulip, 240 of Cambridge Surprise, and 240 of Symphony; also on Tuesday evening, January 9th, 240 each of the following methods:—College Exercise, Morning Pleasure, Morning Exercise, Evening Exercise, Royal Bob, Morning Delight, College Trebles, Evening Pleasure, and London Scholars' Pleasure. Geo. Carter, 1; Henry Oddy, 2; Edward Webster, 3; William Bolland, 4; Geo. Bolland (conductor), 5; John Haley, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

The above company intend to attempt a 6000, in twenty-five different methods, on Saturday, February 17th, being the 72nd birthday of George Carter, who has been a ringer at the above place more than fifty years.

AUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, January 9th, at Christ Church, six members of the local company rang for practice a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 27 mins. G. Larkey, 1; J. Gardner, 2; J. Orme, 3; C. Sharples (conductor), 4; W. Bentham, 5; W. Fairclough, 6. Also the same evening another 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. G. Larkey, 1; W. Bentham, 2; J. Gardner, 3; J. Orme, 4; W. Fairclough (conductor), 5; C. Sharples, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

BLACK NOTLEY.—(Muffled peal).—A half-muffled peal was rung on Monday afternoon, January 8th, when the remains of the late Mr. William Dodd was interred in this quiet and sequestered churchyard. The interment took place at three o'clock, witnessed by many relations and friends of the deceased. The deceased was found drowned in the mill-pond, which is considered a very dangerous place, being by the roadside. He was one of the first who tried to learn ringing when these bells were hung by Mears and Stainbank, in August, 1879, he had filled the office of church clerk for the past twenty-six years, and died in the 59th year of his age, greatly respected by all who knew him. Six 6-scores of Bob Doubles was rung by the following members of the Braintree company as a mark of respect. *S. Hammond (conductor), 1; *F. Rudkin, 2; H. E. Hammond, 3; F. Calthorpe, 4; *A. Hucksion, 5. Tenor 7 cwt. The above are all members of the Essex Association those marked * are College Youths,

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Monday, January 8th, at St. Mary's, by the Cavendish Society, 4320 changes, being a 720 in each of the following Minor methods:—Double Oxford, Double Court, New London Pleasure, Duke of York, Kent Treble Bob, and Oxford Treble Bob. Time 2 hrs. 42 mins. Fred. J. Thompson, 1; Joe. S. Page, 2; Chas. W. Hurst, 3; Albert Ives, 4; Harry Thompson, 5; Alexander Hurst (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

DONCASTER.—The Doncaster Society, rang at St. George's church, on Christmas Day, at 6 a.m. and brought round in an excellent style, five parts of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 44 mins. H. Fevre (conductor), 1; W. Newsome, 2; W. White, 3; G. Marwood, 4; T. Fevre, jun., 5; J. White, 6; H. Wilson, 7; W. Howard, 8. Tenor 30½ cwt. in Eb.

ERDINGTON (Near Birmingham).—On Saturday last, eight members of the Holt society, Aston, were invited to give the bells (of SS. Thomas and Edmund, Erdington) a trial, they having recently been re-hung by Blews and Son, of Birmingham. The bells going pretty well, it was resolved to start for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but owing to a change course just previous to half way, it was found necessary to call the bells home. Time occupied in ringing, 1 hr. 33 mins. In the mean-time the ringers belonging to the above church had kindly arranged for refreshments at the "Swan Hotel," and after ample justice had been done, the band again repaired to the tower, and succeeded in ringing the date of the present year, viz., 1883 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 8 mins. J. Quarterman, 1; A. Jones, 2; T. Hemming, 3; W. Cartwright, 4; W. Ansell, 5; W. Kent (composer and conductor), 6; Jas. Stanbridge, 7; J. Terry, 8.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, January 7th, at St. Martin's Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 24 mins. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; J. Leach, 2; A. Jacob, 3; T. Titchener, 4; J. Nixon, 5; T. Monks, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HORNCHURCH.—After service at St. Andrew's, on Sunday evening, 720 Bob Minor, with eighteen singles and three bobs, in 30 mins. W. Halls, 1; B. Keeble (conductor), 2; A. Pye, 3; A. J. Perkins, 4; G. Deer, 5; J. Deer, 6. Tenor 20 cwt.

NORTHWINGFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, January 7th, 1883, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung by the local company, with 32 bobs and 2 singles, in 30 mins. G. Clough, 1; T. Allibone, 2; J. J. Cook, 3; T. Millington (conductor), 4; J. Atkin, 5; T. Clough, 6. [Will Mr. Millington kindly oblige by sending direct to our office, not to the publisher?—ED.]

ROMFORD.—At St. Edward's, for Divine Service, on Sunday afternoon, 720 Bob Minor, with twenty-five bobs and ten singles, in 27 mins. W. Wood, 1; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 2; B. Keeble, 3; G. Galley, 4; G. Roughton, 5; A. Pye, 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE January meeting of this society was held at Leeds, on Saturday, January 6th, when the bells of the parish church and those of the district churches of Holbeck and Hunslet, were placed at the disposal of the society. The general meeting was held at the "Nag's Head," Kirkgate, at four in the afternoon. As there was not any direct invitation to hold the next meeting (on Saturday, April 7th) at any particular place, a resolution was passed instructing the committee to make arrangements to hold the meeting at some convenient place where the use of the bells could be obtained for the day. Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicars, Churchwardens, and ringers of the different churches where permission had been granted for ringing during the day, and a vote of thanks to the chairman (Jasper W. Snowden, Esq.), concluded the business of the meeting.

THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY OF CHANGE-RINGERS, TIVERTON.

THE peal of bells in St. Peter's Church, Tiverton, is one of the finest in the West of England: the tenor bell weighing nearly 29 cwt. For a great many years this peal was neglected, and both ringers and ringing in Tiverton fell into disrepute. In the year 1868, Mr. Troyte founded the St. Peter's Society "for the promotion of change-ringing and belfry reform." In the year 1869, owing to the generosity of that gentleman, the seventh bell was recast and the peal rehung at a cost of 250l. Free instruction is given by the society in the various systems of change-ringing; classes to which all young men are welcomed are held every week, and the services of a skilled instructor are secured every year. Seage's Dumb Bell apparatus has been affixed to six of the bells, enabling practices to be conducted without disturbing neighbouring residents. As the expenses connected with this Society are considerable, and the subscriptions of the ringers are necessarily small, the committee have decided to give a concert on the 1st February 1883, for the benefit of their funds.

This concert, of which we have a programme forwarded us, is under distinguished patronage. In addition to the usual vocal and instrumental attractions, a plain course of Grandsire Triples will be rung by Messrs. R. Grater, J. Grater, Hippisley, Wood, R. Grater, sen., J. Grater, sen., Clements, Fewings. A plain course of Stedman Triples by Miss Sharland, Messrs. Troyte, Mackenzie, J. Grater, Munday, Clements. A course of Caters by Miss Sharland, Messrs. Ellacott, Hill, Troyte, Mackenzie, Munday, Clarke, Grater, Clements.

We cordially wish this society success, and doubt not the receipts of such an entertainment will materially help them in their good work.

THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, STRATFORD-LE-BOW, MIDDLESEX.

On Wednesday evening, January 3rd, between twenty and thirty members and friends of the St. Mary-at-Bow society of ringers assembled at the "Three Cups" Tavern, Bow Road, and partook of an excellent dinner provided by the host, J. Bolton. Amongst those present at the table were several well-known members of the Ancient Society of College Youths. Ample justice having been done to the good fare, the toast "The Queen and Royal Family," proposed by Mr. D. Sutton, was duly honoured, followed by that of the "Bow Society of Ringers," coupled with "the friends and visitors," proposed by Mr. George Finch, was enthusiastically received. After which the thanks of the company was expressed to the host and hostess for the admirable provision made for the comfort of the party, and their health was drunk with musical honours. Several well selected songs were sung during the evening by Messrs. Harvey, D. Sutton, R. J. Turner, E. Powell, W. D. Smith, Walter Jones, and others; and some Grandsire Triples and Cinques were given on the handbells by members of the Bow Society, assisted by Messrs. W. D. Smith and Walter Jones of the College Youths, after which the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" and "God save the Queen" by the whole company, brought a very enjoyable evening to a close.

YORK BELL FOUNDERS.

"G. B. (York)" may like to know that at Sproxtton, Leicestershire, there is a bell (the 2nd) inscribed round the upper part, in small Gothic capitals:—

+ JHONANNES DE YORKE ME FECIT
IN HONORE BEATA MARIE

and again, in larger capitals round the lower part of the bell:—

+ IHESVS NAZARENTS REX IVDEORVM

Besides this there are other bells in Leicestershire which can be traced to the same founder by the use of the same letters, initial cross and intervening stops, but this is the only bell in that county upon which the name of the founder is given. The other bells are Billesdon 4th, Birstall 3rd, Brentingly 1st, Cotesbach 2nd, Hungarton 3rd, Long Clawson 4th, Sproxtton 1st, and Witherby 5th. At Waulip, in the same county, is a bell (the 2nd) bearing the same initial cross, with the figure of an angel, but the inscription is cut in the usual gothic capitals used by John of York, but in small "black letter." Waulip church was built, according to a memorial brass now existing therein, a few years before the year 1393, that would probably be the date when John of York cast the ancient bell hanging there. The number of his bells still remaining in Leicestershire, considering their antiquity, leads to the inference that John of York supplied many more in the county, which have, since his time, from various causes, been recast. If this be so he was, probably, established at least for a time in Leicester, or its neighbourhood.

Northamptonshire has one of his bells still hanging at Great Billing: it is the tenor, and bears his name.

THOMAS NORTH.

BATH AND KEYNSHAM UNITED DEANERIES ASSOCIATION.

THE Third Meeting of this Association was (by the kind permission of the Rev. Canon Bernard, Rector of Walcot) held at the church of St. Andrew, Julian Road, Bath, on Monday evening last. There was a good attendance of members, more than forty being present. Ringing commenced shortly after half-past six, and was continued at intervals till nine o'clock, during which time, the several different companies present had a good opportunity of having a pull at the fine ring of eight bells which the tower contains. At the conclusion of ringing for the evening, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. Stokes Shaw, Honorary Secretary to the Association, for his kindness in attending the meeting and arranging matters, which so greatly promoted its success.

A RETROSPECT.

Now we have started on a new lease, it is interesting to look back at the last year, and see what has been done. "THE BELL NEWS" has certainly made great progress in the amount and nature of its contents, and on looking through the performances in 1882, I was pleased to see that the peals reported in its columns are very numerous, and many of them excellent performances. I think it would be advisable to have an "Index" to the numbers issued in each year, if our worthy Editor would contrive to present us with it, and it would be very convenient and would give us a good idea of the increase of peal-ringing by comparing the numbers achieved in the several methods annually. The following information I have collected for the interest of the readers of "our paper," I cannot say it is quite correct, as it requires a good deal of care and patience to examine and go through "THE BELL NEWS" for a twelvemonth, and a considerable amount of time. Were I to go into the subject statistically, I cannot say when I should have done. How many hours were all the peals rung during 1882 performed in?—how many days and years? How many bobs and singles were called? and how many ringers were there in the whole of the peals? I should like to see the figures that would represent the number of changes rung.

First.—*Handbell Performances.*—There has been six peals of over 5000 changes, bells retained in hand;—2 of Grandsire Triples; 1 of Grandsire Major; 2 of Plain Bob Triples; 1 of Grandsire Caters.

Of the Six-Bell Performances there have been nine peals of 5040, consisting of 720's in numerous methods, and one peal of 5040 changes on 5 bells, being 42 6-scores of Doubles. The total number of peals rung on seven bells and upwards is 248; of this total there are no less than 86 peals of Grandsire Triples—25 of this number are Holt's Original, and 36 Holt's 10-part peals, the others being miscellaneous productions.

It is a curious fact that there has been just the same number of "Holt's Original" rung as there has been miscellaneous peals. Again, there has been the same number of peals on seven bells (Triples), as there have been peals of Major recorded in these columns, viz.: 103, although the peals of Major represent an extra method. W. H. F.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES.

5082.

By DANIEL PRENTICE, Ipswich.

2 3 4 5 6

3 5 4 2 6*

6 2 5 3 4 11th in three.

2 3 5 6 4 11th in four.

5 2 3 6 4 7th in four.

6 5 2 6 4 7th in four.

5 6 2 3 4 11th in four.

6 3 2 5 4 11th in four.

2 6 3 5 4 7th in four.

3 2 6 5 4 7th in four.

2 5 6 3 4 11th in four.

5 3 6 2 4 11th in four.

6 5 3 2 4 7th in four.

3 6 5 2 4 7th in four.

* 9th in and out at three, with a double.

Twice repeated.

Omitting the calling of the second course in last part, produce the course-end 2 3 4 5 6; bobs at 1, 1, 2, 1, 1, 2, 2, 1, 1, complete the peal.

FOUR 720's OF BOB MINOR.

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

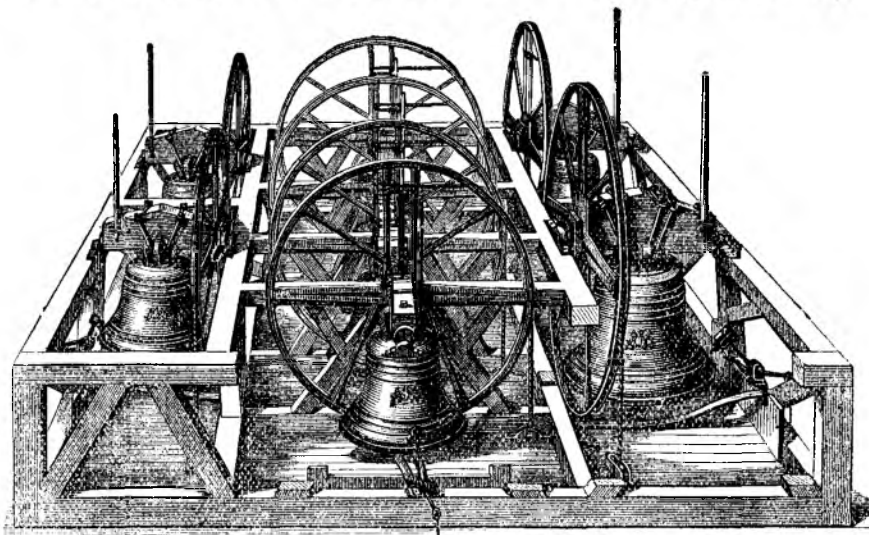
Each to be repeated.

J. F. PENNING, Saffron Walden.

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

Repeated.

J. J. PARKER, Farnham Royal, Bucks.

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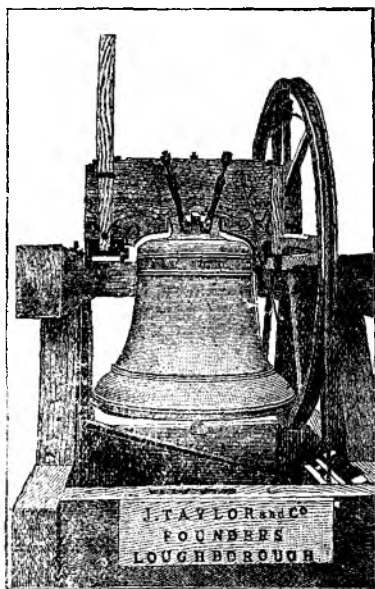
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*Makes for many years past of the Ropes for St. Michael's,
Coventry, one of the best Rings of Ten extant.*

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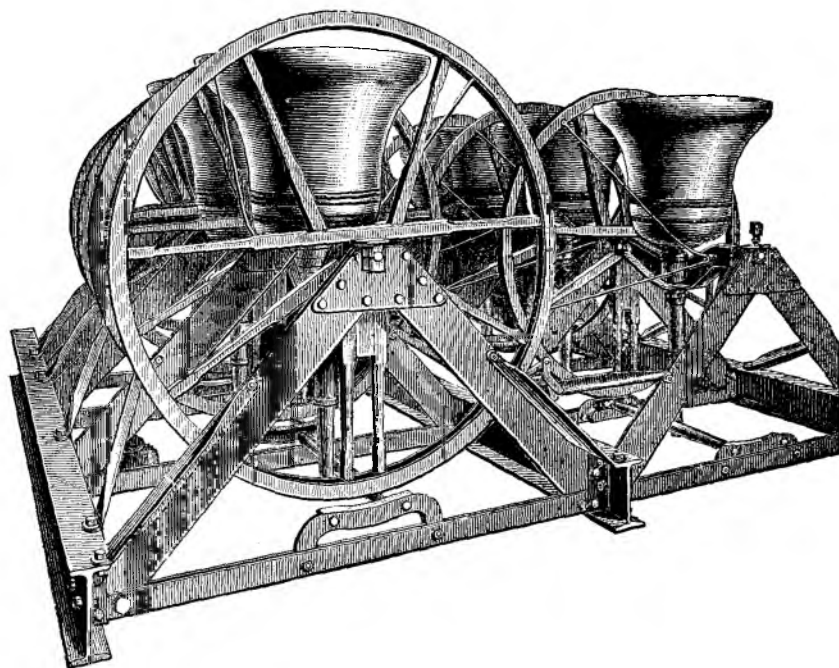
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