

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 68. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. II.

SATURDAY, JULY 21, 1883.

[ONE PENNY.]



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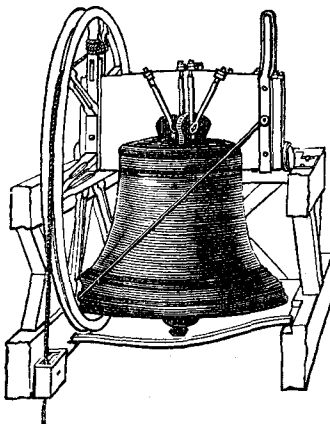
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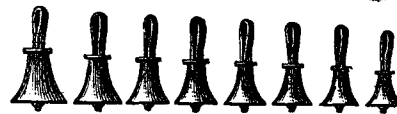
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heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such
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YORK BELL-FOUNDERS.—VIII.

(Continued).

Extracts from the church-wardens' books, belonging to the parish of St. Michael, in Spurriergate, in the city of York.

1520.—Item—paid for a Baldrege to the second belle	s. d.
Item—paid for a belstryng for the lyttill bell	vj
1540.—Item—paid for helpyng of ij bawtrys off the bells ..	vij
1610.—Item—paid for a Gallon of Aile for the Ringers on the 5th of November	vijj
Item—paid for a Pound of Candylls for the ringers ..	v
1641.—Item—for Ringing for joy of the Triennial Parliament. 3	4
Item, for ringing at the King and Prince's coming to York, the 18th March, 1641	3 8
Item, for Ringing at the King's return from Scotland, November, 1641	2 6
1642.—Item, for ringing when the Duke of York come to this City	3 8
Item, for ringing the day the Queen came to York, 7 March, 1642	1 0
1688.—Paid for ringing the day King William and Queen Mary was proclaimed, Feb. 17th	5 0

EDWARD SELLER.

Succeeded William Seller. Served the office of Sheriff in 1703-4. He used a stamp with E. Seller upon his bells. He died in 1724, and was buried at the parish church of St. Sampson.

The bells contains inscriptions similar to those already given.

- (a) "Venite exultemus Domino."
 (b) "Soli Deo gloria, pax hominibus."
 (c) "Gloria in altissimis Deo."
 (d) "Te Deum Laudamus."

1710.—YORK—St. Maurice (a) diameter 1 ft. 7½ ins.

SELBY ABBEY—5 bells recast.

- (b) also "Michael Marshall." diameter 3 ft. 1½ ins
 "Cantate Domino canticum novum."
 "Voco veni precare, Galfrid Rishton, Incumbent,"
 "Ut tyba sic sonitu Domini conduco cohortes,"
 (Passing bell).—"De profundis clamavi, Olim campana sancti Germani Reconsolata."

RUFFORTH.—

- (c) also William Turner Church
 Henry Cartwright Wardens.
 "Exultate Deo, 1710."

1710.—FOXHOLES (c) also "John Church"
 Milne warden

1713.—HILSTON (c).

1714.—PENISTONE, St. John's (d).

On each side of the shoulder are the arms of De Gunthwaite.

1716.—Sutton-on-Forest (c).

1717.—NUNBURNHOLME.

- "Deo Gloria Thos. Harper,
 Warden."

1718.—YORK—St. Mary, Castlegate.

"Olin Campana Beate Mariæ Virginis Refusa A.D. 1718."

YORK—St. Dennis.

- (c) also Joshua Greenbury Church
 Michael Bennington Wardens."

EASTINGTON.—

- "Populum Voco Deum Laudare 1718.
 Robert Church
 Blyth Warden"

1719.—SANCTON (c) also "Tho. Wauldby church
 Wil. Marshal wardens"

CATTON, LOW.

- "Vos Jubilate Deo 1719
 Wil Wilson Church
 Hen Lofthouse Wardens"

1723.—BUGTHORPE.—

- "Populum Voco"

EDWARD SELLER (II.).

Succeeded his father. Served the office of chamberlain in 1727, and that of Sheriff, in 1731-2. Died November, 20th, 1764.

1725.—WALKINGTON 2.—

- (c) & "Vox Jubilate Deo"

1726.—WINTRINGHAM.—

- "You that in holiness abound rejoyce at the ecco of my sound
 Matthew Curate Geo. Marshal Church Mich Clarke."
 Holdsworth Wil. Petch Wardens. Gill
 "Sweetly towleing on men do call to God for food that feed the
 soul 1727 John Lovell Church
 John Marshall Wardens Mich. Gill Clark."

1729.—YORK—St. Martin-le-Grand.

The whole of the eight bells are by this founder. Five of them were cast in 1729, and were generously given to the parish by William Thompson, Esq. Gent says: "The delightful sounds of which, through melodious skill, dilate sweetly over the neighbouring stream."

"Hoc campanarum concentio E dono Gulielmi Thompson hugus parochia
 William Dobson Esquire Lord Mayor John Marsden
 Henry Baynes Esquire Alderman Samuel Waud Commissioners.
 John Mayor Church
 Samuel Waugh Wardens 1729" Diameter 3ft. 2ins.

William Dobson, apothecary, chamberlain in 1709; Sheriff in 1713-4; and Lord Mayor in 1729; died 31st July, 1748 and buried in this church. Henry Baynes, toyman son of Adam Baynes, Esq., M.P. for Leeds—served the office of Sheriff in 1702-3, Lord Mayor in 1717, and 1732, died 31st March, 1735, and buried at this church.

John Marsden was apprenticed to the above-mentioned William Dobson in 1710. Filled the office of chamberlain in 1724. In 1733-4, he superintended the laying out of the New Walk. He died in 1737.

- (c) diamtr 2ft 10½ in (d) diamtr 2 ft 6½ ins
 "Invoco Deum" diamtr 2 ft 4½ ins
 "Vos Jubilate Deo" 2 ft 8½ ins

The largest bell at this period had upon it:—

"All you that hear my mournful sound,
 Repent before you lie in ground."

It was 3 ft. 5½ ins. in diameter, and seems to have been removed shortly after the peal of five were placed in the belfry.

1730.—In this year, these five bells were increased to eight, by three others, two the gift of the York Society of Campanologists.

- "Dono Societatis Campanistarum Ebor 1730"
 "Dono amicor Societatis Campanistarum Ebor 1730"
 "Sonitu respiscite Mœs To Ametis Acetis Humo
 Richard John Mayerson Church
 Warneford Vicar John Rossfield Wardens

YORK—St. Saviour.

"Jacobvs Whitehead 1730"

SHIPTON (c).

HEMINGBROUGH 5.

- (c) (d) "Invoco Deum"
 "Soli Deo Gloria"
 "Cum sonem memento mori Marmad. Teasdale, Vicar. Jno Barrett
 Jos Butler, Na Andrews, John Simpson Church
 Wardens S"

In 1722, the clerk's fee was fixed at fourpence for tolling at death, unless the person deceased be the head of a family, or worth 40 pounds, for which, tolling of the bell should be twelve pence and no more.

HOTHAM (c).

1731.—BARMSTON (c).

1732.—YORK—St. Mary, Castlegate.

"Johannes Bryne, Rector, Jaques Priestley, Ricardos Corney, Guardians."

The Rev. John Bourne, was Rector of this Parish 27 years and 2 months. He died very suddenly on April 14th, 1741. It is recorded that "he was indefatigable in the discharge of his duty, and was generally well esteemed."

Jaques Priestly, draper, served the office of Chamberlain in 1730. Richard Corney, miller, served the office of Chamberlain in 1729.

1733.—THE MINSTER.—

In 1733, the frames of all the bells in the Minster Belfry were renewed, and the bells rehung in a manner much more commodious for ringing than before; towards the expense of which a number of public-spirited citizens, great admirers of this kind of music and exercise, contributed £20. They also, at their own expense, built a new floor, 21 feet higher than the old one, for greater convenience in ringing the bells.

1738.—THORGANBY.—

- (c) also "Franc Ainsley L.D. John Sutton
 New Brown Church Curate
 Edw Smithson Wardens"

1739.—POCKLINGTON.—

- (c) also "Will Chambers Church E
 Thos Linton Wardens Seller
 Ebor"

YORK—St. Lawrence.—

"Deo Gloria"

COTTINGHAM.—

"Soli Deo Gloria Tho Mease Vicar John Heslewood Church
Wil Whitehead Wardens"

1742.—CATTON, LOW.—

"Hopulum voco festa decoro Wil Stor
Curate
Wil Wilson Church
Joh Quarton Wardens"

G. B. (York).

(To be continued.)

REOPENING OF THE BELLS OF ST. MARY, MONMOUTH.

THE peal of eight bells in the parish church having been rehung by Messrs. Day and Son, bellhangers, of Eye, Suffolk, were heard for the first time, after an interval of many months, on Monday, the 2nd instant. The wooden supports were condemned as dangerous some time ago, and with the restoration of the church itself it was but natural that a desire should be enkindled to have the bells put in good working order also. This has now been done, thanks to the energetic efforts of the Vicar, and especially of the Rev. D. G. Davies, through whose kindly interest the local Lodge of Freemasons were induced to subscribe very liberally towards the restoration fund. One of the most pleasing features in connection with this restoration is that by the instigation of the Vicar, a Ringers' Guild has been formed, with, says a local print, Mr. Honeyfield as manager; Mr. T. Jones, secretary; Mr. Barnett, treasurer and instructor; and the Vicar and Churchwardens presidents *pro tem*. We cannot understand the nature of the duties which may be connected with the office of "manager" to a Guild of ringers. There is an unprofessional ring about the word when applied to ringers. In a society of this description it is possible, unfortunately, to have too much management. In a young ringing society, where there is a skilled ringer present, as is the case at the town of Monmouth, it will be generally be found the best plan to leave all the "managing" details to him. This young Guild must be deemed fortunate in having such a promising ringer as Mr. Barnett among them. Had he remained in the metropolis, he would, by this time, have been a valuable member of that society to which he belongs—the Cumberland Youths. We will conclude this digression by expressing a hope that we may shortly hear a favourable report of the progress of the Guild of Ringers belonging to St. Mary's church, Monmouth.

The bells were to have been rung as early as eight o'clock on the morning of the day above mentioned, but out of respect for the sad bereavement which had fallen on General Somerset and family, the ringing was deferred till ten o'clock, when eight members of the Monmouth society essayed their skill upon them. Afterwards, the Ross company, with Mr. George Day and Mr. Barnett, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 minutes. This quarter-peal has the twenty-four 6-7's, all the right way, and is a variation—by Mr. Barnett—of one which appeared in this paper early last year. Other touches were also rung.

At one o'clock, a public luncheon was held at the "White Swan," to which the whole of the ringers were invited. The Vicar presided, being supported on either hand by Captain Noel, R.E., the Revs. D. G. Davies and C. C. Mills, Alderman T. R. Hyam, Mr. G. B. Cullerne and Mr. Wall (Ross). Mr. T. H. Perkins occupied the vice-chair; and amongst others present were several who in former years have officiated in the belfry. The company numbered between thirty and forty. At the conclusion of the repast,

The VICAR said they had better not spend more time than was necessary in sitting round the tables on such a beautiful afternoon; at the same time it would not do to separate without his taking the opportunity of saying a few words respecting the object of their gathering on this auspicious occasion. He would first propose a very old and ancient toast, which as Englishmen they would all loyally receive, and that was, "The Church and Queen." This toast having been well received, the rev. chairman next gave "The Health of the Ross Bell-Ringers," to whom, he said, they were very much indebted. As they probably knew, the society in Monmouth had just been re-formed, and although they were going to be the best ringers in the world, they were not quite so yet, and it was therefore found necessary to look abroad for help. They had hoped to have seen that day some ringers from Cheltenham and Gloucester, but it so happened that they were holding their Diocesan Association meeting that day at Gloucester, and were therefore unable to come. Hence they were doubly grateful to the Ross ringers for the assistance which they had rendered, and could appreciate it even more than they might have done. People coming in from the country had already said how beautiful the bells sounded, and in token of their gratitude for the hard work which the Ross ringers had performed, he would ask them to accord them a very hearty vote of thanks. He would call upon Mr. Wall to respond, who would no doubt be able to tell them that the bells had been rehung with great success, and that they worked as well as they sounded.

Mr. WALL, in acknowledging the toast, said they had spent a very

pleasant day in Monmouth, and were all extremely obliged for the hospitality which had been extended towards them. He was glad if he and his friends had been of any service in introducing the Monmouth ringers to their work a little. They might depend upon it they would not learn all at once; they must buckle themselves to, think well of what they were going to do, keep to the rules which had been drawn up, work well together, and always respect and obey their leader. They had the instruments, and must now strive to learn to play them. Messrs. Day and Son had done their work quite as well as they did in Ross, and he and his friends would be pleased to come at any time to help with the ringing. They had rung a quarter-peal that morning, and soon he hoped to hear of the Monmouth men ringing a peal.

The Rev. D. G. DAVIES proposed "The Health of Mr. Day," the bellhanger. He had been a frequent visitor to the belfry while the work of restoration was in progress, and could bear full testimony to the excellent manner in which it had been carried out. He did not pretend to be a skilled workman, nor would he say upon his own authority that the materials used were all of first-class quality, but having usually taken up some gentleman in whose practical ability he had confidence, he was able to speak with some assurance. Of bell-ringing he also knew practically nothing, but should imagine that in order to control a bell properly, a man must first know how to control himself. Much skill was required to ring the bells as well as to put them in order. Mr. Day had certainly done his part well.

Mr. DAY responded. He was not in the habit of making speeches, being more used to working with his hands than with his tongue. He hoped now that the bells were restored they would establish a good company to ring them. It was necessary above all things that they should work together, and although differences would sometimes arise between men they must try to overlook them all. They knew the old maxim, "A house divided against itself cannot stand." There were some people, he knew, who did not like to hear the bells rung, but he had no opinion of such persons. Who was there while walking by the river side on a beautiful summer's evening that could not feel the charm of the distant bells? and the wanderer returning home after a long absence, or sitting round the fire with the rest of the family on a winter's morning, would be moved by the same influence, and all would feel proud of such a peal of bells. Of late years, happily, ringing had been greatly patronised by the clergy and gentry, and its prospects had become much brighter. He hoped the bells might long stand, and that they would live long to listen to them.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said they could not leave the room without proposing a vote of thanks to the Rev. D. G. Davies for the great interest he had taken in bringing about the rehanging of the bells, and for taking upon himself, in conjunction with the Vicar, the responsibility of defraying the cost of the work.

The Rev. G. D. DAVIES, in replying, said he felt that it was himself who first put his shoulder to the wheel, and although he could not handle the rope he was content to know that he had assisted in pushing the wheels round. The idea, however, emanated not so much from himself, as from a number of gentlemen who were talking over the subject in the Freemasons' Lodge-room, and it was thought the thing might be done. He need not tell them he heartily rejoiced to hear the bells again. When they were the bells of his own parish he liked to hear them, and now that he had got a little distance off he was still more pleased with the sounds they gave forth. Though he knew nothing about bells he always knew what sounds pleased his ears, and St. Mary's bells always filled him with much pleasure. He proposed the health of the Vicar.

The VICAR in responding, said he was most delighted when he read Mr. Davies's letter generously proposing on behalf of the Freemasons to guarantee a handsome sum towards the rehanging of the bells. His one wish was that the work which they had inaugurated that day might go on and prosper, but he must confess that his great anxiety had been the bell-ringers themselves. From what he had read in a little book by Mr. Ellacombe, he had gathered the fact that bellringers had a very bad name. But those days were long past, and, as he took occasion to say from the pulpit on Sunday, he was very pleased at the hearty and unanimous feeling which had been shown amongst the ringers. They had drawn up a number of rules, not himself, but all of them together, and he was in hopes that many happy hours would be spent by them in the belfry.

The company then adjourned to the church, the Clergy and Churchwardens and two or three other gentlemen being admitted to the bell-chamber, where they watched the movements of the bells as they were rung for a short time.

The vicar has kindly presented the young company of ringers with a peal of handbells.

THE JOHN "HOLT PEAL" TABLET.

WE are requested by the Treasurer to acknowledge the following sum received: Messrs. G. Muskett, G. Dorrington, E. Gibbs, and J. Rowbotham (per Mr. G. Muskett), 2s. 6d.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE Half-yearly Meeting of this Association was held at Chapel-en-le-Frith, Derbyshire, on Saturday, July 7th. Visitors begun to arrive early in the morning, the first to put in an appearance being the Saddleworth company, who were also the first to ascend the steeple, opening the day with a 6-score each of Oxford and Violet, and a 720 of the latter method. Companies from the following places arrived early in the afternoon:—Hayfield, Glossop, Dinting, Aughton, Mottram, Stalybridge, Hyde, and Ashton-under-Lyne. There were also ringers present from Manchester, Disley, Castleton, and other places. An excellent dinner was provided by Mr. Taylor, of "The Royal Oak" inn, to which a company of ringers and friends, numbering over a hundred, sat down. After dinner, it being the town-feast and fair, the company were not able to secure a room sufficiently capacious, and their business meeting was held in the open air. The president, Mr. John Holden, of Saddleworth, took the chair, and there were also present the vice-president, Mr. George Ford, of Chapel-en-le-Frith, and the Secretary, Mr. James S. Wilde, of Hyde. After a few introductory remarks, the president called on the respected parish clerk, Mr. Bramwell, to address the meeting. In doing so Mr. Bramwell pointed out the good that inevitably resulted from joining ringing associations. He drew a comparison between the present state of affairs, as connected with ringing, and the past, and urged upon those present the importance of the office they held in the Church, strongly advising them, when they called others to pray, not to neglect the act of worship themselves.

A code of rules was submitted to the meeting, and approved of. Mr. Swift, photographer, took negatives of the ringers, in group, in the churchyard, but we have no means of knowing with what success.

Votes of thanks having been accorded to Mr. Bramwell for his address, to the Vicar and Churchwardens for the use of the bells, to the host of the "Royal Oak," to the Chapel-en-le-Frith ringers for the excellent arrangements made by them (the tower and bells—a ring of six, tenor 12 cwt.—being in first-class order), to the president for presiding, passing a resolution to hold the next meeting at Aughton, and enrolling new members, closed one of the most important meetings of the Association. Several of the ringers and friends afterwards repaired to the "Royal Oak," where handbell ringing and singing became the order of the evening, Mr. James Wrigley, of Saddleworth, entertaining the company with "The Long Peal at Mottram."

SERIOUS ACCIDENT TO MR. H. W. HALEY.

On the eve of going to press we regret to hear of a serious disaster which happened to this gentleman last Sunday evening. Most of our readers are acquainted with the fact that for several years at least Mr. Haley has suffered from kind of ophthalmia. A year or two ago he became an inmate of one of the principal London hospitals, where he underwent a succession of operations, but as it seems, without any good result, for since then his sight has become more feeble, so much so that he could not without difficulty find his way about unaided after daylight had passed, and artificial light made matters worse. We gather from the information we have received, that when returning home from one of the City churches on Sunday evening, in attempting to cross Bishopsgate Street—at all times a busy thoroughfare—he was run over by a passing cab, and sustained serious injuries, one or more of his ribs being fractured. This is all the information we have received respecting this sad event. The sympathies of every reader of this paper will, we are sure, be given to Mr. Haley on account of this unfortunate occurrence.

THE BELLS OF TENTERDEN AND THEIR RINGERS.

In connection with the above, the following letter has been sent to the *Kentish Express* :—

"SIR,—As a parishioner of Tenterden, I am aggrieved at the 'laughter' (as quoted in your last week's paper) produced at the large meeting of the Kent Bell-ringing Association, at Ashford, under the presidency of Lord Harris, and feel that we ought not to have been subjected to this by our bell-ringers. They have allowed us to expend £50 on re-hanging the bells in order to learn change-ringing, and, having sent in their names to join the Kent Bell-ringing Association for the same purpose, and solicited extra subscriptions to meet the increased expense, they subsequently withdrew on the plea that the bells are too heavy, and now they are rehung are heavier than they were before, to say nothing of the number of new bell-ropes that have had to be bought to meet their complaints. There is an old proverb, 'Bad workmen find fault with their tools.' It is remarkable that the firm which has given satisfaction everywhere else where they have been employed in re-hanging bells should have so signally failed with us. The laughter produced at the bell-ringing meeting at Ashford, by the plea set forth by our ringers, that our bells are too heavy, shows what experienced hands think of it. If our

present bell-ringers cannot learn change-ringing, no doubt others might be found who could. Meanwhile, let us hope, the present ringers will begin to understand that the bells are the property of the parishioners, and to be used for their pleasure, and not that of the ringers; that the people who attend church will no longer be annoyed by meeting the ringers coming out of the church in their work-day clothes, as they are going in; and that the captain to whom we look with perfect confidence will take care that no one becomes a bell-ringer who is not in every way thoroughly respectable, and will observe all the rules of decency and order suitable to such a place and occupation.—I am, Sir, etc., AN AGGRIEVED PARISHIONER."

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—DISTRICT MEETING.

A DISTRICT MEETING of the above Association will be held at Waltham Abbey, by the kind permission of the vicar, on Tuesday, July 24th. Belfry open at 11 a.m. Tea at the "Three Tuns" Inn at 4.30. Business meeting immediately after. Members intending to be present, are particularly requested to inform the Secretary of their intentions at an early date. Tea Tickets, price 1s., may be obtained of the Secretary.

Battles Bridge, S.O. Essex.

July 14th, 1883.

H. A. COCKEY, Hon. Sec.

Obituary.

WILLIAM FARTHING.—It is our duty this week to record the death of the above somewhat remarkable member of the Exercise. Farthing, it is stated, was born at Framdsen, in Suffolk, and at a very early age exhibited a great love for bells, and, as he grew up, never lost an opportunity of trying the bells of every church he visited, which was no small number, as he was fond of making country excursions for the purpose. Thus he not only became well known, but an efficient ringer, and has, although we are not able to say where, taken part in several 5000's. He was employed on the G.E.R., and, in his declining years, was put in charge of the railway crossing adjoining the churchyard of St. Mary's, Kelvedon, Essex, a village known to most travellers upon the Colchester line by its fields of exquisite floral beauty upon one side of the line, and the parish church on the other. Soon after, or just about the time of his arrival, it was resolved to restore the church. Farthing, finding the bells, a heavy ring of five, out of order, went to work with a will, and was fortunate in getting the support of one of the churchwardens, who afterwards became a ringer, and, leaving no stone unturned, he ultimately succeeded in having the belfry included with the other restoration; in fact so energetic did he become, that the bells were restored and re-opened some considerable time before the church was re-opened. The tenor proved to be 21 cwt., instead of 28 cwt., as estimated, and Farthing's desire was a ring of six, if not eight, but the parishioners were determined not to part with their melodious tenor, and as funds were not forthcoming to increase the ring, Farthing had to be contented with seeing the five restored. These proved the most harmonious five we ever had the pleasure of listening to, and, at the reopening, when there were from fifty to sixty ringers present, it was universally acknowledged to be the finest and richest-toned five in the county. Farthing soon got some young hands together, and, proving peculiarly adapted for teaching, he soon had as good a five-bell band as any in the Eastern Counties. He afterwards removed to Ipswich, but, returning into Essex, he became an inmate of the Braintree Union, where he breathed his last on the 14th inst., at the age of 66. Our duty is to speak of him as a ringer, and no further; but it is a pity he had to seek such shelter, for he has delighted thousands at public entertainments, by his clever and unique handbell performances, some of which were most marvellous. Possessed of a capital set, he was in the habit of placing one on each arm, one on each elbow, two in each hand, seated in a chair, with one on each foot, would play numerous national airs, and ring touches of Plain Bob Royal, and, with an assistant, has executed a course of Bob Maximus. His dying request was that he might be laid to rest under the sound of the bells he so dearly loved; this was granted, the funeral taking place at Kelvedon on the afternoon of the 6th, when the orthodox muffled peal was rung, consisting of ten six-scores, viz., nine of Grandsire, and one of Oxford. These were rung: three as the procession approached the church, with the four front bells fully-muffled, and the tenor half-muffled, three when the corpse was lowered in the grave, all muffled, two half-muffled, and two open after the funeral. The ringers were R. Elliott, 1; H. Evers, 2; D. Elliott, 3; J. Elliott, 4; H. Elliott (conductor), 5.

JOHN SMITH.—With feelings of deep regret the ringers of St. Michael's, Bishop Wearmouth, have to record the death of the above-named, on May 31st last. He was well-known as one of the oldest change-ringers in this district, it being over thirty years since he entered Bishops Wearmouth. Deceased being buried on Sunday, June 3rd, the bells were only half-muffled during morning service. He was a member of the Durham and Newcastle Association,

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

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

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

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.

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.

J. S. S.—Not inscriptions; only a list of bells founded, and that is incomplete. We thank you for your kind letter.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JULY 21, 1883.

IN the process of what is known as Church Restoration, it is frequently found that that part of the church called the tower has its interior mutilated and cut about to a most alarming extent, to gratify the taste, if not the caprice, of the architect. In most of these instances the bells and their belongings are positively ignored, and the idea of accommodation being left for ringers is absolutely scouted. Even in cases where a "restoration" can be well effected without impinging upon the ringing-room or bell-chamber, a disposition to "tinker" with something connected with these parts of the edifice appears to be a not unimportant feature in the plans and specifications submitted to the respective authorities.

It is not wrong to suppose that when any professional man has *carte blanche* in the way of Church Restoration allowed him, nothing but what appears to him as the fittest shall be allowed to survive.

Many readers of this journal are aware that during the so-called restoration of churches, if the tower should happen to come in for a share of attention that peal-tablets are frequently missing after all is over. Instances could be quoted, not only of the removal of these tablets to places quite out of sight, and their permanent disfigurement and total demolition. Who has not heard of the 12,000 Treble Bob Royal rang at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch in the last century? Yet how many would readily believe the fact that the tablet recording this performance, one of the most handsome we have ever seen, written upon a large sheet of copper, with an elaborate wood carving around it, was lying for some years in a coal-hole, and was rescued from there by a ringer who had the presence of mind to detect what it was. Now it is again upon the walls of the steeple, but much of this valuable record is obliterated through the shameful usage it

has met with. We have also seen a peal-board recording a 5040 of Grandsire Triples, we think, in a parlour of a house in Stepney, carried hither to escape these iconoclasts who delight to break-up or put out of sight everything not within their ken. A tower of a parish church in our native city, possessing a beautiful peal of eight bells, had, when we used to meet there for practice, a ringing-chamber not badly appointed. But on a visit there some three years ago, a change for the worse had evidently been effected. The east wall had been taken away under the pretence of giving more light to the interior of the church, and a rail placed across the opening thus made, which compelled the tenor man to stand in an angular fashion to ring, instead of his being able to take in the rest of the company at one glance while standing in a proper position. And another act of Vandalism was the removing the whole of the tablets, recording some famous peals of Treble Bob—amongst them REEVES'S 8448—to a height upon the walls of the room which rendered it impossible for any one to decipher them from below. Such instances as these, we are afraid, are too common, and in cases where, unfortunately, a perverse churchwarden is the ruler of affairs, or the indifference of the incumbent is the evil, we cannot see any real practical remedy. Once a tablet is erected in the steeple, no matter at what cost, it becomes the property of the Church, and is at the mercy of her custodians for the time being. But it would be well if our Archdeacons and others in authority over us would take care that the Churchwardens, when they have their hybrid schemes of restoration afloat, should experience a check upon that mania for wholesale destruction which frequently accompanies such projects. Peal-tablets, simple in appearance though they may be, are seldom more hideous to look upon than other things we could mention.

SOME of our friends, when sending touches or letters to appear in this paper, are in the habit of enclosing two stamps, and requesting us to send them a copy of our next issue. We have always endeavoured to meet with the wishes of our correspondents in this particular, though we are afraid in some instances they may have been overlooked. Without discussing whether it is the province of an Editor to become a kind of news-agent, it would oblige us very much if our brethren would order what copies of our paper they require through their local bookseller. There is no difficulty whatever in obtaining copies through this source, if they are ordered from a local news-agent a day or two in advance of publication. In requesting our readers to adopt such a system, we hope to be clearly understood. Though our paper is not of vast size, we find plenty of employment connected with it, which, to do effectually we must be relieved from posting copies. The conduct of this paper entails a mass of correspondence between many of our readers and ourselves that is hardly conceivable. Besides this, the compositions sent for our approval or otherwise take up a deal of time. Therefore we hope not to be mistaken when we request that we may not be called upon to send copies. If it is considered

advisable to have "THE BELL NEWS" sent through the post, our publisher will be happy to comply with all demands. While we are upon this subject, we would again impress upon our readers the necessity of sending all communications intended for publication to us. If they come through the publisher delay is inevitable. And as will be seen by the notice at the commencement of the previous page, all letters intended for publication in the current number must reach us a day sooner than any other matter. It will no doubt be gratifying to our supporters to hear that the circulation of this paper is steadily increasing. We solicit the continued co-operation of our friends in still further extending it by every means within their power. No one who reads these lines is more anxious than we are that the programme marked out for "THE BELL NEWS" shall meet with an early fulfilment.

The Provinces.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Friday, July 13, 1883, in Three Hours and Thirty-four- $\frac{1}{2}$ Minutes,

At St. Paul's Church,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 26 cwt. in F.

WILLIAM WAKLEY Treble.	JOHN JAGGAR 5.
HARRY WAKLEY 2.	FREDERICK W. APPLEBY.. 6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY 3.	THOMAS HOLMES 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4.	FRANCIS E. DAWE Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SENR., and conducted by
FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

The conductor hails from London, and this is the first peal he has called in the above method.

Date Touches.

CHESTERFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, July 14th, six members of the Chesterfield society, with four from Staveley, rang a date touch of 1883 Grandsire Caters in 1 hr. 12 mins. A. Knights (composer), 1; H. Madin (Staveley), 2; H. Nuttall, sen., 3; W. Ellis, 4; G. Topliss, 5; J. Hunt (Staveley), 6; W. Worthington (Staveley), 7; J. Broadhead (Staveley), 8; H. Nuttall, jun. (conductor), 9; T. Mee, 10. Tenor 24 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt.

LIVERSEDGE (Yorkshire).—On Monday, July 9th, the Liversedge company met to celebrate the 83rd birthday of Mr. William Sottanstell, of Sowerby, by ringing 1883 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, but owing to a mishap by a rope casting the wheel they had to stand, but they met again on Tuesday night, and rung it in 1 hr. 10 mins. T. Whitworth, 1; J. Illingworth, 2; W. Firth, 3; T. North (conductor), 4; L. Illingworth, 5; T. Goodall, 6; A. Briggs, 7; M. Ramsden, 8. Composed by Mr. William Sottanstell.

PONTEFRAC (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, July 15th, six members of local company, rang for evening service a date touch of 1883 Bob Minor, in 1 hr. 7 mins. W. Wilcock, 1; J. Brook, 2; W. Parson (conductor), 3; J. Hickingbottom, 4; R. Brook, 5; J. Carter, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in F.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, July 12th, at St. Paul's church, the local company rang various touches of Grandsire Triples on the occasion of the unveiling of the Harpur Memorial Window, which has been put up by public subscription in the east end of the church, and was

unveiled by S. Whitbread, Esq., in the presence of the Mayor and Corporation, and a large congregation of people, at 3.30 p.m. For the evening service, the same company rang a 672 of Grandsire Triples, this being the longest length the company has rung in this method. W. Allen, 1; S. Cullip, 2; C. Clark, 3; W. Hall, 4; W. Biggs, 5; J. Atkins, 6; J. Frossell (conductor), 7; T. Hills, 8. And on Sunday morning, for Divine Service, a 504 in the same method. T. Foot, 1; W. Allen, 2; S. Cullip, 3; W. Hall, 4; C. Clark, 5; J. Atkins, 6; T. Hills, 7; J. Spencer, 8. Tenor 28 cwt.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday evening, June 12th, at St. John's church, for Divine Service, a 720 of Merchants' Return, being the first in the method by all the band except F. Lees. W. Eggleston, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; W. G. Routledge (conductor), 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6. Also on Sunday, July 15th, for evening service, a 720 of Bob Minor (three bobs and eighteen singles), in 26 minutes. A. C. High, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; F. Lees, 3; Geo. Herdman, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, July 17th, for practice, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. Geo. Campbell, 1; F. Lees, 2; *E. W. Scott (St. Stephen's), 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. Tenor 14 cwt.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Sunday, July 8th, for Divine Service at Christ Church, morning and evening, two 720's of Treble Bob Minor (Kent and Oxford), in 27 mins. each. S. Nott, 1; A. Sawyer, 2; R. Smith, 3; R. Willins, 4; H. Ross (conductor), 5; J. Hern, 6. On Tuesday, July 10th, six members of this branch, with Messrs. Jas. and John Moffett, of South Shields, rang a touch of 576 changes of Treble Bob Major in 19 mins. S. Nott, 1; John Moffett, 2; H. Ross, 3; Jas. Moffett, 4; R. Willins, 5; W. Reed, Esq., 6; R. Smith (conductor), 7; J. Hern, 8. And on Sunday, for Divine Service at the same church, a touch of Stedman Triples, 504 changes, in 18 mins. A. Sawyer, 1; J. Hern, 2; J. Rossiter, 3; H. Ross, 4; W. Waugh, 5; R. Willins, 6; R. Smith (conductor), 7; S. Nott, 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—On Monday, July 2nd, four members of this branch, assisted by H. Ross and R. Smith of North Shields, rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. R. Hopper, 1; R. Smith, 2; John Moffett, 3; Jas. Moffett, 4; J. Hopper, 5; H. Ross (conductor; first 720), 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

LEYTONSTONE (Essex).—On Sunday evening, July 15th, at the church of St. John-the-Baptist, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung in 27 mins. H. Flanders (first 720), 1; W. Smith, 2; G. Akers, 3; A. Pye (conductor), 4; J. Priest, 5; J. Marks, 6. Called with twenty-nine bobs and twelve singles. Also after service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ mins. H. Nunn, sen., 1; A. Pye, 2; G. Akers (conductor), 3; J. Nunn, 4; J. Priest, 5; S. Hayes, 6.

STITTED (Essex).—On Saturday, July 14th, six members of the above Association rang 720 of Cambridge Surprise. F. Calthorpe, 1; W. H. Dyson, 2; S. Hammond, 3; H. E. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; A. Hucksion, 6. Also 720 Bob Minor, in 20 mins. *A. Chapman (first 720), 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; S. Hammond, 3; W. Radley, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; W. H. Dyson, 6. Tenor 10 cwt. All belong to Braintree.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

WOLSTANTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday evening, July 15th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. S. Walker, 1; L. Miller (conductor), 2; W. Priestman, 3; S. Spencer, 4; A. Walker, 5; W. Miller, 6.

HORWICH (Lancashire).—On Sunday, July 15th, several 720's were rung by members from Leyland, Horwich, and Padram, on the occasion of the annual Sunday school sermon being preached, the collection in aid reaching £116 4s. 6d. Oliver Worden (conductor), 1; George Hickson, 2; W. Caudwell, 3; H. Gregson, 4; Thos. Baron, 5; Jos. Harper, 6. Tenor 11 cwt.

HIGHER SUTTON, MACCLESFIELD (Cheshire).—On Sunday, July 15th, for Divine Service at St. James's church, the local society rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 29 mins. William Walmsley, 1; William H. Ingham (conductor), 2; Walter Ingham, 3; John M. Davenport, 4; William H. Hardman, 5; Thomas Mottershead, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

HULL (Yorkshire).—On Wednesday evening, July 11th, at St. St. James's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. T. Stockdale, 1; A. Taylor (conductor), 2; S. Slingsby, 3; C. Bennett, 4; R. Chaffer, 5; J. W. Stickney, 6. Messrs. Taylor and Bennett belong to the Holy Trinity Society, the rest to St. James's. Tenor 15 cwt.

LONDON.—On Saturday afternoon, July 14th, at St. Sepulchre's, a touch of 500 Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled, as a last mark of respect to the memory of the Rev. J. Abbiss, for many years the rector of St. Bartholomew's, Smithfield. H. Dains (conductor), 1; J. Rumsey, 2; J. Mansfield, 3; W. Hoverd, 4; W. Matthews, 5; W. Jones, 6; W. Meadows, Esq., 7; W. Wheeler, 8. Tenor 33 cwt. Also at St. Bartholomew-the-Great, four members of the City of London Society assisted by Mr. F. Bate, rang various touches of Grandsire with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late rector, the Rev. J. Abbiss. J. Rumsey, 1; D. Lovett, 2; F. Bate, 3; W. Matthews, 4; W. Meadows, Esq., 5. Tenor about 6 cwt.

LOUGHBOROUGH.—On Wednesday, July 23rd, at all Saints' church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 57 mins. W. Billingham, 1; J. Wibberly, 2; T. Rose, 3; J. Hardy, 4; S. Smith, 5; J. W. Taylor, Esq. (conductor), 6; J. W. Taylor, Esq., jun., 7; E. Wightman, 8. Tenor 24 cwt in D.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Tuesday, July 17th, for evening practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 25 mins. William Grice, 1; George Bradley, 2; Samuel Clarke, 3; William Gilson, 4; John Ward, 5; Joseph Barrow (conductor), 6. Also two 6-scores of Plain Bob Doubles. William Grice, 1; George Bradley, 2; John Ward (conductor), 3; William Gibson, 4; Dr. Sellon (Castle Donnington), 5; Rev. W. T. Longman (Curate of Long Eaton), 6. Also two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. Dr. Sellon, 1; G. Bradley, 2; John Ward (conductor), 3; S. Clarke, 4; J. Barrow, 5; Rev. W. T. Longman, 6.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday, July 15th, at St. Paul's, Fulney, for Divine Service in the morning, a 700 of Grandsire Triples, was rung in 26 minutes. R. Skeef, 1; R. Creasey (conductor), 2; J. Wilson, 3; E. Quinton, 4; A. Walker, 5; J. Croxford, 6; J. W. Creasey, 7; C. Creasey, 8. And on Monday evening, July 16th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. R. Skeef, 1; second left out; J. S. Wright, 3; E. Quinton, 4; A. Walker, 5; J. Wilson, 6; R. Creasey (conductor), 7; J. Croxford, 8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—WIDFORD COMPANY.

On Sunday, July 15th, Mr. H. Howell, of Ipswich, who has just finished hanging the single bell at Moulsham church, met the Widford company at their church, and rang with them for morning service 18-score of Double Court, and the same of Oxford Treble Bob. In the first touch the band stood as follows: W. Harvey, 1; W. Rowland, 2; T. Drake, (conductor), 3; W. Hawkes, 4; H. Howell, 5; M. Rolfe, 6. And in the other J. Dains took the place of T. Drake, the others standing as before, and M. Rolfe conducting. Tenor 12 cwt. In the evening the same band, with the exception of T. Drake, walked to Sandon church, and being joined by Mr. A. Rowland, of Great Baddow, rang for evening service on the nice peal of five at that church, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. A. Rowland, 1; W. Rowland, 2; W. Hawkes, 3; H. Howell, 4; M. Rolfe, 5. Tenor 11 cwt. Returning by the way of Great Baddow, they asked permission to ring a touch on the eight bells in the parish church (tenor 12 cwt.), but found that ringing after service was not allowed.

On Monday evening, a meeting took place at Galleywood, where a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung. W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains, 2; W. Rowland, 3; H. F. de Lisle, 4; W. Hawkes, 5; E. Scotcher, 6; H. Howell (conductor), 7; J. Broomfield, 8. Time 42 mins. Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qrs. 16 lbs. On Tuesday Mr. Howell paid another visit to Rettendon before returning home, and rang with the local band of beginners several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and two touches of Grandsire Minor, on the church bells, and three courses of Stedman Doubles on handbells. The band stood as follows: Doubles: H. Jones, 1; W. Jay, 2; Mr. W. Pavitt, 3; H. Howell, 4; Mr. E. Moat (conductor), 5; F. Cardy, 6. Minor: H. Jones, 1; W. Jay, 2; A. Jarvis, 3; H. Howell, 4; Mr. E. Moat, 5; Rev. H. A. Cockey (conductor), 6. Stedman: Mr. W. Pavitt, 1; Mr. E. Moat, 2; H. Howell, 3; W. Jay, 4; Rev. H. A. Cockey, 5-6.

THE BRIGHTON SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, July 10th, the members of this society held their annual festival at Hastings. They were accompanied on this occasion by Mr. Henry Hopkins, of the Royal Cumberland Youths, London, who was visiting Brighton at the time. The weather on the above day being all that could be desired, the members and friends spent a very pleasant day. Arriving at their destination, and permission being kindly granted by the respective incumbents, the towers of All Saints' and St. Clement's churches were visited. The latter church has a peal of eight steel bells, but not in good ringing order. No touch of length could be rung on these bells, it being impossible to keep the tenor going for any time. At the church of All Saints there is a ring of five, in good going order. With an additional three bells,

these would make a pretty peal of eight, which augmentation we should be glad to hear the good people of Hastings had taken in hand, and brought to a successful issue. Some Grandsire Doubles were rung upon these bells.

The visitors then repaired to the "Anchor Inn," where they sat down to an excellent dinner. After this repast, the loyal and complimentary toasts having been observed, they set out upon a trip to Battle Abbey, and an examination of this historical ruin afforded them much interest, and in addition they were kindly permitted by the dean to ring on a peal of eight at a church close by. The only thing required here is a deadening floor between the ringing-chamber and the bells, it being impossible to hear the conductor. Time being very short, nothing of any importance was done, and the party had to hasten homeward, arriving at Brighton at a late hour, well satisfied with their day's enjoyment.

WALTHAM ABBEY, ESSEX.

On Saturday, June 14th, Mr. John Carter, of Birmingham, having paid a friendly visit to this ancient town, with three members of the local company rang at Mr. Powell's house (the "Three Tuns" inn), upon handbells, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 41 mins. J. Carter, 1-2; W. A. Alps (conductor), 3-4; G. Thurgood, 5-6; David Tarling, 7-8. On the following Sunday morning, for Divine Service at the Abbey, a touch of Grandsire Triples was rung. After dinner, a journey was made to Loughton parish church, but not hearing the bells, returned to Waltham after a survey of the church had been made. For Divine Service in the evening at the Abbey, some Stedman and Grandsire Triples were chimed. On Monday evening, an unsuccessful attempt was made to ring a peal of Stedman Triples in hand, but after ringing twenty-three courses, it was abandoned. A touch of 592 Grandsire Major, composed and conducted by J. Carter, was then rung. Mr. Carter then rung 1-2-3-4 in a touch of Grandsire Triples, two of the Waltham Abbey company ringing the remaining four bells; conducted by W. A. Alps.

SOCIETY OF CHANGE-RINGERS FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

THE society of change-ringers recently formed for this Archdeaconry, held their first general meeting on Saturday week, in the Cathedral belfry, the Rev. J. J. Serjeantson, Vicar of St. Michael's, presiding. The business consisted of confirming and amending the rules, of which a draft had been drawn up at the previous meeting on June 2nd. The Rev. J. J. Serjeantson was elected treasurer, and the Rev. J. R. Keble and Mr. W. A. Wood, secretaries for the year. About fifty ringers joined the Society, representing Lichfield, Wombourne, West Bromwich (All Saints' and Christ Church), Wolverhampton (St. Peter's), Tettenhall, Wednesbury, Tamworth, and Burton-on-Trent. The following gentlemen joined the society as Hon. Members: Rev. W. J. Heale, Vicar of Wombourne; Rev. R. Hodgson, Vicar of Walsall; Rev. W. McGregor, vicar of Tamworth; Rev. H. E. Butler, curate, St. Peter's, Wolverhampton; Colonel Bagot Lane, King's Bromley; and Colonel Bagnall, Shenstone, Moss. The evening was spent in ringing several touches at St. Mary's and St. Michael's towers, tea being served in the Coffee House.

BRISTOL RINGERS IN LONDON.

On Monday, July 9th, some of the members of the St. Stephen's society of Bristol, with Mr. R. Knill, of the St. James's society in the same city, having selected London as the scene of their outing, arrived in the metropolis at 10 o'clock a.m. The visitors were met in the evening by Mr. E. Moses—who is a member of the St. Stephen's society—and they were escorted by him to St. Bride's, Fleet Street, where Mr. John Cox, with his usual affability, had arranged so that they could ring in that steeple, where they accomplished a touch of Grandsire Triples, conducted by Mr. James Hinton. Some of the Bristol gentlemen being obliged to return home the same evening, those who remained paid a visit to St. Mary's, Lambeth, and with the members of the Waterloo society rang touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and a course of Treble Bob Major. The visitors on parting expressed their gratification at the result of their first ringing visit to London.

DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE-RINGERS FOR THE DIOCESE OF ELY.

It is proposed to hold a meeting at Cambridge, on August 16th, Bank Holiday. Further arrangements, as far as possible, will be announced.

Address: Rev. K. H. SMITH, Cambridge Road, Ely.

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."

HEIGHINGTON BELLS.

SIR,—The correspondence which has taken place on the above subject has not, I think, been in any way calculated to improve the brotherly love and good feeling which should at all times exist amongst church bell-ringers.

The Durham and Newcastle Association has been blamed for dictating to clergymen and others as to who should open the bells when placed in the church towers. Now I feel that to allow such an impression to go without contradiction would be prejudicial to the Association in the eyes of those in authority over us in ringing matters. I am therefore obliged to deny that any such feeling has ever existed. The Association has never been consulted about the Heighington bells, and if Mr. Clarkson thought proper to write as he did about them I do not think it is fair of Mr. Thompson to accuse the Association of the acts of one member.

WILLIAM REED,

President of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.

SIR,—Mr. Thompson has explained the discrepancy referred to in my last letter, and I think in a way that adds nothing to his reputation as the writer of a letter asserting to give a true statement of the case. He now says, "It having come to the knowledge of the respected Vicar of Heighington that we (the Hurworth ringers) had expressed a wish to open the bells, he at once very generously wrote asking us if we would kindly undertake to open them." Why not have said straight out that a member of the Hurworth belfry conveyed this wish on behalf of the company, who in this way thrust themselves forward to the exclusion of other bands of ringers? Mr. Thompson contends that the Northumberland and Durham Association has in this case greatly exceeded its duty. Myself and other change-ringers who happen to be members of this Association most certainly regard the conduct of the Hurworth men with a feeling something akin to contempt, but I am not aware that the Association, as such, has attempted to deal with the matter in any shape or form. Mr. Thompson refers to a pertinent remark in a local paper; I ask Mr. Editor to insert this letter in full, with its vulgar signature, and append to it a paragraph which appeared in the same local paper of the same date, as a test of its veracity. If the opinion implied by this signature is also the opinion of the Heighington parishioners about ringers in general, I can only say that in this opening a golden opportunity for removing such an opinion has been thrown away, all through the Hurworth ringers expressing a wish in such a way, that somehow or other it came to the knowledge of the Vicar of Heighington. "A Change-Ringer" writes to "THE BELL NEWS" objecting to change-ringers being freely invited to bell-openings on the ground that bells are not put up merely for pleasure-peals. Would he keep them away because if they came, they would be sure to enjoy themselves? I am perfectly well aware that some change-ringers are not all that could be desired, but my experience is that there are very few that are not susceptible to good influences, and the largest congregation of ringers I ever had the privilege to witness was at the service held on the occasion of the opening of the new peal at Weybread. If some local ringers had expressed a wish to open the bells of St. Mary's, Ely (of course without the slightest intention of excluding other bands, if such a thing is believed to be possible there), the Vicar would have been acting within his undoubted rights in "very generously" inviting them to undertake the opening. Had those bells been opened in that miserable style, the columns of our paper would not now be revealing the fact that that opening has borne fruit in the forthcoming Association for the Diocese of Ely, an association which will be second to none when it gets fairly to work.

G. J. CLARKSON.

The following is the letter and paragraph alluded to by Mr. Clarkson:—

"SIR,—In your issue of this morning I see a letter, written by Mr. G. J. Clarkson on 'Campanology,' in which he reflects upon the manner in which the new bells at Heighington were opened. I know nothing about the usual opening ceremonies, but I do think it very cool of Mr. Clarkson to propose that all change-ringers within distance (which, I suppose, would include ringers from Newcastle, Shields, Jarrow, Gateshead, Durham, Bishop Auckland, Stockton, &c.), should be invited to attend, and be feasted at the expense of the parishioners. I myself, as a parishioner, am decidedly against any such needless expense, and am of the opinion that, instead of any discredit being attached to the responsible parties at Heighington, they are worthy of great praise for having the moral courage to 'cut their coat according to their cloth.'"

I am afraid Mr. Clarkson had not the interests of bell-ringing at heart when he wrote his letter, or he would not have aspired to the position of the Goddess of Discord at the marriage of Peleus and Thetis.—Yours, &c., ANTI-GUZZLE.—Heighington, June 22nd, 1883."

"The Luncheon Committee in connection with the dedication of the Heighington Church bells having been left with a surplus of viands, &c., resolved to give the aged people and children of the parish a treat. This took place on Thursday night, when 60 of the former and 70 of the latter sat down to a substantial supper in the schoolroom."

A QUESTION.

SIR,—In last week's "BELL NEWS" I see a 720 of Grandsire Minor at Waltham St. Lawrence, Berks, when it was found that the "go" of the bells was about equal to double their weight. Perhaps some of those gentlemen could inform me if that peal was rehung a few months back by a firm at Appleton.

J. E.

Reading.

"THE LIGHTEST PEAL OF EIGHT IN ENGLAND."

SIR,—In your last number, Mr. Jerram speaks of the peal of eight at Marsham as the lightest peal of eight in England, since that at St. Ebbe's, Oxford, was reduced to six. I have no wish to engage in a controversy with Mr. Jerram, who of course, has much more experience than myself, but I should like to mention that I have rung a good many times on the six at St. Ebbe's, and always understood, as I should have thought from her pull, though I never measured her, that the tenor was a 9 cwt. bell.

In July, 1880, I visited the village of Ullenhall, in Warwickshire. The church was built in 1875, and the tower contains a peal of eight bells, tenor certainly under 4 cwt. They are all properly hung for ringing, fitted with iron stays, as there is not room for wooden ones to work. The bells were cast by Warner, and are fitted with Ellacombe hammers. The tower is so small, that two bells almost swing through each of the four windows, which are quite unprotected. I believe no change-ringing has ever been done here, the bells are too light to go well, and the parish ringers can only chime them. The ropes were good, though of local manufacture, but the ringing-chamber is very small.

A. PERCEVAL.

SIR,—Allow me to correct my friend, Mr. Jerram. There is a peal or ring of eight bells hung to ring with a tenor 25 inches diameter, note Eb., weight 3 cwt. 0 qrs. 25 lbs., in England. S. B. GOSLIN.

Crescent Foundry, Cripplegate, E.C.

BELL-OPENINGS.

SIR,—I think Mr. Banks is rather out of place in his opinion of bell-openings. If he has sometimes lost money at that kind of work, he has only done the same as tradesmen do in other businesses. He should base his calculations so as to allow for ringers' expenses, in order that the bells may be tested by a competent company who are accustomed to ring together, not by mixed bands who are—one good at one method, and one good at another, and in the end make poor striking, and satisfy no one.

I do not agree with Mr. Banks's idea of not paying ringers, no more than I should of not paying bell-hangers. There is an old saying which is applicable in this case: "When you pay the piper, you can choose your tune." Qualified ringers will not neglect business, &c., without some remuneration.

W. SOUTHWICK.

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—As a member of the Cheltenham Society of ringers, allow me to correct a statement in "THE BELL NEWS" to the effect that our society rang a course of *Stedman Cinques* on handbells, at Gloucester, on the occasion of the Annual Meeting of the Diocesan change-ringing Association. The error is no doubt due to a mistake on the part of a reporter. It should have been *Grandsire Cinques*. A very good course of the latter was rung, I only wish we could ring as good a one of *Stedman Cinques*.

I may mention that we are having our bells here all rehung, and two out of the peal (which is ten), tenor 23 cwt., recast.

Notice of reopening will be published in this paper, and any ringing friends will meet with a hearty welcome who may honour us with a visit on that occasion.

G. H. PHILLOTT.

WEIGHTS OF TENORS.

SIR,—Allow me to observe that it appears to me that "Veritas" may be in error as to the weight of a bell 39 inches in diameter, note G. Such a bell would weigh from 10 to 10½ cwt., not 9 cwt. or 15, as quoted under the above heading. Again, a 44 inch bell, note F, would weigh from 14½ to 15 cwt.

S. B. GOSLIN.

Crescent Foundry, Cripplegate, E.C.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

By JOHN THORP, *Ashton-under-Lyne.*

5200.

2	3	4	5	6	M	W	H
5	4	3	2	6	2	2	
5	3	2	4	6	1	2	
4	5	3	6	2	2	2	
5	4	2	6	3	2	2	
4	3	2	6	5	1	2	

Repeated.

5280.

2	3	4	5	6	M	W	H
3	6	4	5	2	1	2	
2	3	5	6	4	2	1	2
6	2	3	4	5	2	2	2
6	3	4	2	5	1	2	
2	4	3	6	5	2	2	

Repeated.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool.*

5003.

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

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

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

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

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

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

3	4	2	5	7	6	9	8
3	4	2	5	7	6	9	8
4	5	2	3	7	6	9	8
5	2	4	3	7	6	9	8
2	4	5	3	7	6	9	8
4	3	5	2	7	6	9	8
3	2	5	4	7	6	9	8

*7th in and out at three with a double.
†8th in two. †8th in three.

The course in the first column produced by 8th in three; in the second column by 9th in three.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5076.

By J. R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

2 3 1 4 5 6 Bob on 7, 8, 9.

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

The above courses three times repeated produce:-

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By JNO. T. HOLLIS, *Wakefield.*

5220.

With eighty-eight singles only.

2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
7	9	2	8	5	6	3	4
6	4	7	3	8	5	9	2
3	5	6	2	4	9	7	8

4	6	3	5	7	2	8	9
4	6	3	5	7	2	8	9
5	2	4	9	6	8	3	7
3	6	5	4	7	2	8	9
4	2	3	9	6	8	5	7
6	3	4	2	5	9	7	8
5	4	6	3	7	2	8	9
3	2	5	9	4	8	6	7
6	4	3	5	7	2	8	9
5	2	6	9	4	8	3	7
4	6	5	2	3	9	7	8
3	5	4	6	7	2	8	9
6	2	3	9	5	8	4	7
4	5	6	3	7	2	8	9
3	2	4	9	5	8	6	7
5	4	3	2	6	9	7	8
6	3	5	4	7	2	8	9
4	2	6	9	3	8	5	7
5	3	4	6	7	2	8	9
3	6	5	2	4	9	7	8

The last part twice repeated produces:-

2 5 3 6 4 9 7 8
from which the following singles bring the bells round:-

7	4	2	3	8	5	9	6
6	9	7	8	5	2	3	4
2	4	6	3	8	5	9	7

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES.

5060.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

2 3 4 5 6

*6	5	3	2	4	9th in and out at 3.
5	2	3	6	4	11th in with 4.
2	6	3	5	4	11th in with 4.
3	2	6	5	4	7th in with 4.
2	5	6	3	4	11th in with 4.
6	2	5	3	4	7th in with 4.
2	3	5	6	4	11th in with 4.
3	6	5	2	4	11th in with 4.

The above courses repeated three times, except * instead of which call 11th in with 3, produce:-

5 2 6 4 3

2	4	6	5	3	†
4	5	6	2	3	10th in with 4.
5	2	6	4	3	10th in with 4.

3 4 2 5 6 10th in and out at 3.
2 3 4 5 6 7th in with 4.
†11th in and out at three, with a double.

A HALF-PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

2520.

2 3 4 5 6

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

Four times repeated.

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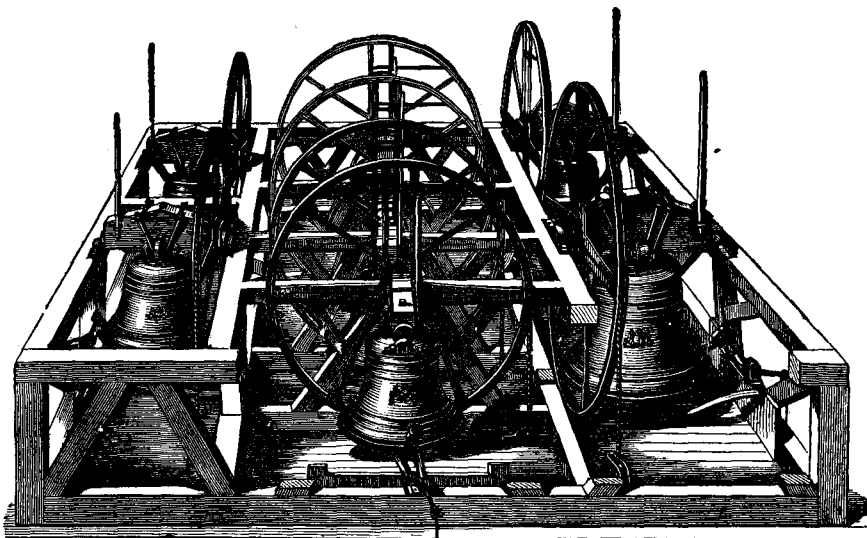
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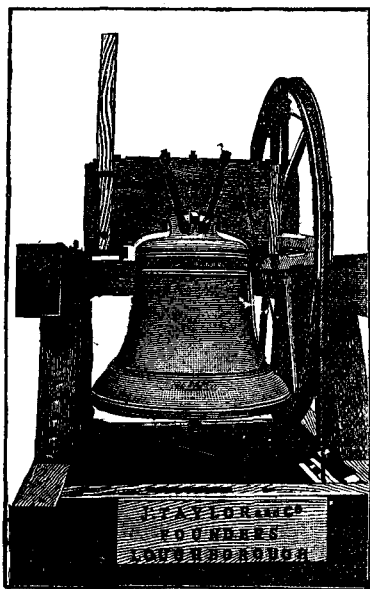
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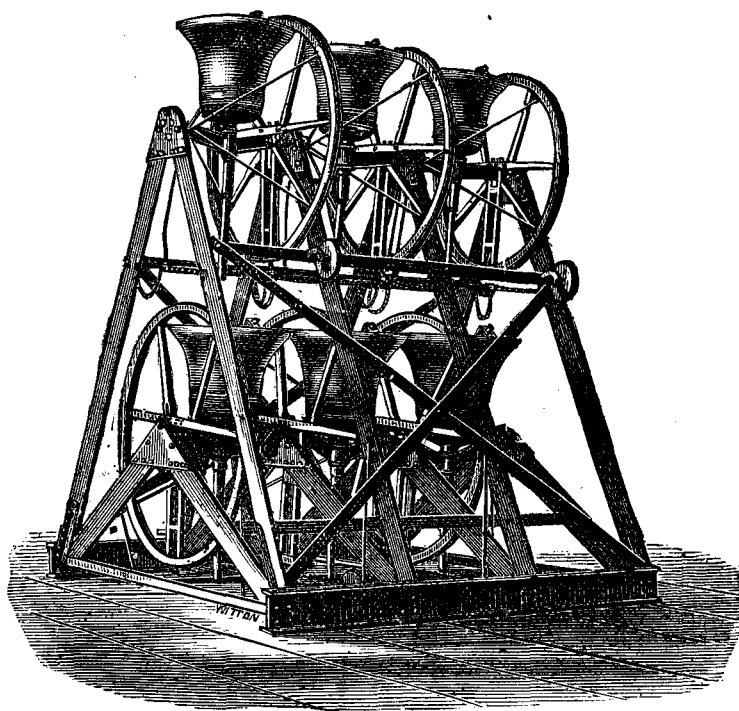
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