

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 132. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. III. SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1884.

[ONE PENNY.]

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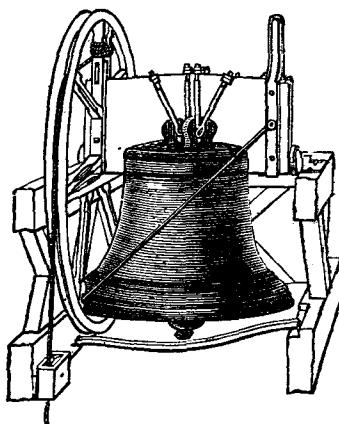
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THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE above Association held their second Quarterly Meeting for the year on Saturday last, October 4th, at Nottingham, and may be congratulated upon having had on this occasion a really capital gathering. Much praise is due to the local committee for their admirable arrangements, and also thanks for a hearty welcome to their visiting brethren.

The towers of St. Peter's, eight bells; All Saints', eight bells; Beeston, eight bells, and Lenton, six bells, were open for ringing during the day. The proceedings began with an attempt to ring a peal of Stedman Triples at All Saints, by the Nottingham contingent, but after some excellent striking it unfortunately came to an untimely end. About noon, members of the Association began to arrive from Leicester, Derby, Long Eaton, Loughborough, Lichfield, Burton-on-Trent, and other places in the four counties, together with visitors from Sheffield, Rotherham, and elsewhere, and they at once proceeded to the committee-room, where they were welcomed by the local committee, and bands were formed for ringing.

Some first-rate touches of Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, and Treble Bob Major were rung. Owing to the large number of members present, the touches were necessarily short, but the striking generally was far above the average at bye meetings, and from this we augur that the Association is doing good work for the advancement of change-ringing in the Midlands.

At 5 o'clock, members to the number of about sixty assembled for tea in the Arboretum Refreshment Rooms. The President, the Rev. J. H. Fish, Vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, took the chair, and was supported by the Rev. R. W. Pitt, Hon. Sec.; the Rev. W. W. C. Baker, Curate of St. Mary's, Nottingham; Messrs. J. W. Taylor, and E. D. Taylor, of Loughborough; Dr. Sellon, Castle Donington; Mr. W. Wakley, Hon. Treasurer, Burton-on-Trent. The vice-chair was occupied by the Rev. G. Edgecombe, Vicar of St. Peter's, Nottingham.

The Committee held their usual meeting at 4 o'clock in All Saints' Schools, and the General Meeting of members took place immediately after the tea.

The President, in his report, congratulated the Association upon having rang seven peals during the quarter, viz.: four of Grandsire Triples, one of Stedman Triples, and one of Kent Treble Bob, making a total of seventeen for the half-year. After a few remarks from the Rev. G. Edgecombe, bearing testimony from personal observation to the good which the Association had effected, and wishing it success in the future, the general meeting concluded with votes of thanks to the Clergy and Churchwardens of the various churches above mentioned, and also to the President for his report.

During the remainder of the evening ringing was kept up with spirit, and it was generally admitted that the meeting had been one of the most successful and instructive held since the commencement of the Association.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE first Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held, as announced, at Gainsboro', on Saturday last, October the 4th. Ringers from the Cathedral, St. Peter-at-Gowts, and St. Botolph's churches, Lincoln, Market Rasen, Horncastle, and Lea, were present. Two 720's were rung at Lea, in the morning, by the Lincoln and Market Rasen men. At two p.m. the parish church bells were raised. Touches of Grandsire Triples and Bob Minor were rung. Grandsire Triples was rung double-handed by the Market Rasen men. At 3.45 the members sat down to an excellent meat tea at the Coffee Tavern, and after doing justice to which, the business meeting was held at the same place. Mr. F. A. Dorrington, of Nettleton Lodge, Caistor, presided; Mr. Gadd, of Market Rasen, acted as Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, Mr. F. B. Cousans being detained by business engagements. The rules were read and amended; honorary and ringing members were elected, and Market Rasen chosen for the next meeting in January. The Annual General Meeting will be held at Lincoln in April. The Vicar of Gainsboro' was unavoidably absent, but was well represented by the Revs. A. W. M. Drew and W. O. Parish. A vote of thanks was passed to the Gainsboro' authorities for the welcome accorded, and the parish church was again visited, and Grandsire Triples and Bob Minor again rung. The meeting closed about eight, and may be, as a first meeting, called a decided success. We hope, as soon as the Association emerges from its childhood, to be able to chronicle peals of several methods rung by its members.

DEATH OF AN OLD RINGER.—On Saturday last, George Kent, who for many years was the chief ringer at Leigh, near Stoke-upon-Trent, died very unexpectedly. His well-mannered tact and geniality will be greatly missed, and much more widely than in the bell-ringing brotherhood; but it is worthy of record in this paper that for more than fifty-five years he had taken part in the solemnity—the summons to worship, or gladness or sorrow,—of the church bells.

THE BELLS OF STAPLEHURST, KENT.

A meeting has lately been held at the board schools, for the purpose of considering the propriety of recasting some of the church bells, and improving the appearance of the churchyard. The Rev. Dr. Reyner presided. The chairman, in opening the meeting, read a report of the condition of the bells, which stated that they were five in number. No. 5, the largest bell, weighing 19 cwt., had been cracked for a number of years; it was the tenor bell. No. 4, weighed 15 cwt., and was in good condition, as were also No. 3, G, and No. 2. A. No. 1, the treble bell, was cracked. The five bells weighed about 60 cwt. The whole peal had never been in tune, as No. 5 had always been half a note out. Nos. 4, 3, and 2 were in tune. The heads were all off the bells. It was considered that the most desirable course would be to recast the cracked treble bell, and add two smaller bells in the place of the present No. 5 bell. The cost, including carriage and repairs to the frame, would be £135. A discussion took place as to the means whereby the money could be raised. Several present were of opinion that very persons would pay a voluntary rate. The chairman stated that he was willing to give the £60 that was collected towards refunding him the expenses of the lighting and heating apparatus. The announcement was received with approbation. The Chairman read the names of several gentlemen who had promised subscriptions towards the bells, and he expressed the wish that the villagers should show their interest by giving according to their ability. Mr. Mannerling proposed, and it was carried, "That it was desirable that the bells should be put in order in accordance with Messrs. Mears and Stainbank's specification." It was also decided that Mr. Nunn and Mr. W. Hoare be requested to collect subscriptions, and that they invite Mr. Brooks to help them in their labours.

THE WORCESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday last, October 4th, eight members of the above Association paid a visit to Trinity Church, Old Hill, for the purpose of having a touch upon the bells, and they are pleased to say that they are in a far better condition for ringing than they were at their last visit. The bells, which are by Messrs. Taylor and Sons, Loughborough, is one of the finest peals of eight in the Midlands. Several attempts have been made by different companies for a peal of 5040, but owing to the bad condition of the bells this (each time) has been a failure, and it is thought if the wheels were not so small this splendid ring of bells would be pealable. There is a good number of young hands here, who are anxious to learn to ring, but the hard work disheartens them, and so very little progress is made. A start was made for a 720 of Grandsire Minor, but after ringing over 400 changes the third rope broke. The rope being spliced, another start was made, this time successful one. B. Townsend, 1; W. Micklewright, 2; J. Townsend, 3; J. Robinson, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; F. Hotchkiss, 6; J. Smith (conductor), 7; R. Round, 8. The changes were rung on the first five bells, the 7th covering with 6-8. Time 31½ minutes. Tenor 23½ cwt.

INAUGURATION OF A PEAL-BOARD.

IN December last, a company of the Waterloo Society rang Mr. Cox's peal of Grandsire Caters, 5003 changes, on the bells of St. Margaret's church, Westminster, in three hours and twenty-four minutes. As this was the first peal of Caters by five of the band, and two of them (Mr. Malim and Mr. Scowen) having never previously rung a bob bell in any peal, a wish was expressed by the members that a board should be erected to record the performance. Through the generosity of Mr. Malim and Mr. Smith, a neatly-written board has been provided, which was placed in the porch of the church on Friday last, October 3rd, by the side of the Holt Tablet, and to commemorate the event, ten members of the Waterloo Society attempted to ring twenty courses of Grandsire Caters, but after ringing about thirteen, the touch unfortunately came to an untimely end through the breaking of a rope. S. Smith, 1; W. Baron (conductor), 2; C. E. Malim, 3; W. Coppage, 4; J. Mansfield, 5; W. Jones, 6; H. Hopkins, 6; G. Pell, 8; T. Taylor, 9; J. Scowen, 10. This band was, with two exceptions, the same as that which rung the peal, Mr. H. Hopkins taking the place of his brother Charles, and the presence of Mr. Mansfield in the place of Mr. E. E. Robins, forcibly reminded the members of the early and sudden death of the latter gentleman, who was a promising young member of the Society.

SAD DEATH.—Whilst one of the ringers of Bray Church was engaged with others in ringing a wedding peal, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. P. Alleyne with, one of the late Mr. John Haig's daughters, on Thursday, he suddenly fell down in apparently an unconscious condition. Assistance was promptly at hand and restoratives applied, but all to no purpose, as the unfortunate man had breathed his last before the arrival of a medical practitioner. The sad affair caused much gloom throughout the village and district.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the members of the above association, held at Eccles on Saturday afternoon, September 27th, was largely attended by members, almost exclusively ringers, from Manchester, Ashton, Bolton, Burnley, Bury, Eccles, Farnworth, Horwich, Hulme, Heywood, Swinton, Walkden, Worsley, etc. Divine service was held in the Parish Church at four o'clock, on which occasion an excellent and appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. T. M. Nugent Owen, M.A., vicar of Rhodes, Middleton. Having succinctly reviewed the history, uses, and influences of church bells, he said he was glad to notice that of late years a great improvement had taken place in the conduct and behaviour of the ringers. It was the custom in many belfries to open and close their meeting with prayer, and he strongly urged its general adoption. Their association had been organised to promote a reform not only in the belfry, but also in the science of their calling. He was glad to notice that much good had been accomplished, and ringers had now come to look upon the belfry as an integral part of the church. It was well that they should recollect that their calling was an important one—one that formerly devolved upon the parson himself and his assistants. And in pursuance of that calling they should strive to realise the fact that they were performing a strictly religious act, calling men to the worship of God. It was therefore their bounden duty, in their everyday life, to set a good example for sobriety and probity of conduct to their fellowmen. This could be carried out in many ways in word and deed. In their conversation and in attending punctually and regularly the service of the church. What an objectionable sight it was to see ringers, on the completion of their labours in the church tower, walk off instead of attending Divine Service. Not only did they do wrong but sometimes they led others away from the precincts of God's house. Let them remember that the bells were part of the church fabric, and were used for holy purposes, and that the ringer himself was an important worker in connection with the Church. He urged them not to join the association merely to become proficient in the art of bellringing, but through God's grace to become instruments to the glory of God and the salvation of their fellow-men.

The business meeting (at which there were nearly 100 present), took place after tea in the Eccles Parish School, Albert Street, the chair being taken by the Rev. Canon Pitcairn, rural dean, who was supported by the president of the society, the Rev. T. A. Turner, B.A., Bury, Rev. J. Attridge, B.A., curate of Eccles Church, Mr. J. H. Butterworth (churchwarden), and the hon. secs. (Messrs. W. J. Chatterton and Joel Redford). The Association now numbers 39 honorary and 216 performing members.

The CHAIRMAN, in offering the ringers a cordial welcome to the parish of Eccles, said he was pleased to preside over their annual meeting, and hoped they would by means of their association, which was purely mutual, endeavour to realise the importance of their calling. (Applause.) Their duties were important, and by their attendance in such large numbers they showed that they appreciated the very great reform that was taking place in the Church of England. (Hear, hear.) Their calling was one in which he personally took much interest, and was proud to testify to the fact that during the period—23 years—he had been vicar of Eccles, the Eccles ringers had always proved loyal to their vicar and parish. (Applause.) In looking over the rules issued by the association, he was very much struck by their superiority of tone (hear, hear), they had a true ring (laughter), and those members who carefully acted up to their spirit and object need not be ashamed of their dignified calling. (Applause.) The rules contained two very important paragraphs, and in the sentiments of which he fully concurred. He alluded more particularly to paragraphs four and five. The former set forth "that the ringer's office was essentially a branch of the Church's work, and that such services should be placed on a true basis." This was only as it should be and he trusted that in their various parishes ringers would always receive that support, which they were justly entitled to at the hands of the clergy and wardens. (Applause.) The fifth rule was, if anything, perhaps the most important of the code, which set forth "that the association was formed to assist in elevating the moral and religious tone and status of the ringers." By this means they were enabled, as a part of the working organisation in a parish, to do much good, and hope that those present would go forth to their respective parishes actuated with one desire, namely, to assist, by their conduct and good example, to elevate the moral and religious tone of their fellow working-men. (Applause.) They were an important and powerful organisation, and if their motives and actions were actuated with a desire to assist their fellow church workers in purifying the hearts and enlightening the understandings of those with whom they came in daily contact in their every-day life, their mission and work would do much to strengthen the church of which they were loyal members, but they would also realise some satisfaction that they had, in their humble and probably unobtrusive way, done something towards the edification of their brethren.

Mr. W. Jos. Chatterton having sent in his resignation, which he now

supported, Mr. A. E. Holme, B.A. (Manchester Grammar School) was elected to the position of corresponding secretary; Mr. Joel Redford (Bolton), was re-elected ringing secretary; Mr. H. W. Jackson (Bolton), treasurer; Messrs. J. Robinson (Walton-le-DAle) and J. Millett (Heywood) re-elected auditors; and Messrs James Barratt (Eccles), J. Harrison (Heywood), S. Wood (Ashton-under-Lyne), A. Wreaks (Manchester), and R. Pearce (Swinton) were elected a committee for the ensuing year.

The following were elected honorary members of the association:—The Very Rev. the Dean of Manchester, the Rev. Canon Pitcairn, M.A., Rural Dean, Eccles; Rev. T. M. N. Owen, Rhodes; Rev. W. Thursby, M.A., Burnley; W. Dugdale, Esq., Burnley; 24 additional performing members were also elected from the districts of Bury, Radcliffe, Aughton, Manchester, and Walkden.

The Rev. J. ATTRIDGE, B.A., in proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman, called attention to the very excellent sermon they had heard in church, and hoped that the advice given would be cherished in their memories and acted upon.

Mr. J. H. BUTTERWORTH (warden), in seconding the motion, spoke to the interest manifested in the bells and the wants of the ringers by his co-warden, Mr. C. W. Bayley, who he regretted was not able to attend that meeting, but who, no doubt, would become a life member of the association. He was pleased to see such a large gathering, but he was afraid that the ringers in their various parishes had not in the past received that encouragement they deserved. They had, however, banded themselves together and he was proud to think that they were personally endeavouring to infuse in their various parishes fresh life and vigour into everything connected with the Church. As had been justly remarked, they were, if rightly used, a useful body for doing good in their respective districts, and deserved all the encouragement possible from the clergy, wardens, and the sidesmen. He was much pleased with the remarks that had been made, and the general tone of the meeting, and hoped it would conduce to still happier results in connection with the Association.

The CHAIRMAN, in acknowledging the compliment, said he was pleased to be present, because he found that the Association, although founded in 1876, had already grown into a society of no little importance in connection with the Established Church. As had been stated by the previous speaker, the society deserved every support from all who were anxious to promote the welfare of the Church, and the officials could not do much to increase the usefulness of the society, unless their efforts were supported by individual members of the association. Unity was strength, and he would urge all not to relax their efforts to make the society one of the best in the kingdom. Before he sat down, he desired to propose a cordial vote of thanks to Mr. Chatterton, who had resigned the office of secretary. The meeting would not be doing its duty without recording their appreciation of that gentleman's services. Mr. Chatterton had, in the past, done much to raise the status of the society, and he was confident they were losing a most indefatigable worker, and one whose counsel would be missed in the future deliberations of the executive.

Mr. W. ALBINSON (Bredbury), briefly proposed, and Mr. H. W. JACKSON (Bolton), seconded a vote of thanks to Mr. Chatterton, which was passed with much cordiality.

Mr. CHATTERTON, in acknowledging the vote, said it was only fair to Mr. Redford, his colleague, to say that without his help, he could not have done so much for the society. And he had great pleasure in proposing a vote of thanks to those (Mr. Barratt and others), who had kindly provided the tea. During the day, touches of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Grandsire Triples, and Plain Bob Minor were rung.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last, October 4th, a visit was paid to Redditch by the St. Mary's, Selly Oak branch of the above Association. Arriving there in good time, a move was made towards the church, but owing to a funeral taking place at the time, ringing was suspended for a short period. Coming back to the church, and raising the bells, several touches of Grandsire Minor, and some 120s of Grandsire Doubles were rung. A start was then made for a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, which was accomplished in a very efficient manner by E. Bryant, 1; J. Nix, 2; H. Smith, 3; E. Boylin, 4; T. Lewis, 5; A. Cole (conductor), 6. The bells were then ceased, and an adjournment made to the "Brewers' Arms," where an excellent repast was partaken of, after which music was indulged in (vocal and instrumental), tunes on the handbells, etc., until the time arrived for the return journey, which was made in excellent spirits, each one expressing himself fully satisfied with his half-holiday.

Reading in last week's number of an attempt to ring a peal of 5040, at Sittingbourne, on Saturday the 20th ultimo, by four members of the College Youths with Mr. Simmonds, of Maidstone and three of the local company. I beg to state that I did not ring in the attempt, neither was I at Sittingbourne on that day. R. SIMMONDS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE Annual Meeting of this Association was held at Shipley on Saturday last, October 4th. Members attended from York, Birstall, Tong, Bolton, Bradford, Leeds, Pudsey, Bingley, Denholme, Saddleworth, Ossett, Ripon, Drighlington, Guiseley, Huddersfield, Lindley, Calverley, Hunslet, Holbeck, Sharow, Keighley, Wakefield, Cleckheaton, and Earlsheaton. The ring of eight at St. Paul's church, and the ring of six at Saltaire Congregational church, were rung during the day by the visitors. At four o'clock, the business meeting was held in St. Paul's schoolroom, Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq., President of the Association, in the chair. The report and balance-sheet having been passed, the President gave notice of a proposal to alter the close of the Association's year from August 31st to July 31st, in order to give more time for getting out the report and balance-sheet. This proposal will, according to Rule 8, be decided at the next General Meeting. The returning officers—Messrs. Copley and Angus—having completed their examination of the voting papers, the result of the election was as follows: For head quarters—Bradford, 119 votes; Leeds, 25. For the three vacancies on the Committee, J. H. Hardcastle (Bradford) received 114 votes; C. H. Hattersley (Sheffield) 99; A. Spurr (Ossett), 84; R. Binns (Leeds), 52; W. Walker (Leeds), 33. Bradford was therefore appointed head quarters for the ensuing three years, and Messrs. Hardcastle, Hattersley, and Spurr, re-elected on the Committee. On the motion of Mr. Hollis, it was unanimously agreed to hold the next general meeting at Wakefield on the 7th of February next. Mr. Howard proposed, and Mr. T. Birch seconded, a vote of thanks to the Vicar and Churchwardens of Shipley, and the authorities of Saltaire, for the use of the bells, which was carried with applause. Mr. J. Cheetham moved, and Mr. Hollis seconded, a cordial vote of thanks to the Shipley company for the generous preparations which they had made for the convenience of the members, which was carried in a very hearty manner; and a vote of thanks to the President concluded the proceedings.

The members afterwards sat down to a very substantial meat tea at the Oddfellows' Hall, there being also present the Rev. W. Pearson (the new Vicar of Shipley), Mr. J. Wilkinson (Churchwarden), Mr. J. Holden (Churchwarden of Saddleworth), and others. At the conclusion of the tea,

JASPER W. SNOWDON, Esq. (President) proposed, and Mr. Howard (Vice-President) seconded, a vote of thanks to the Vicar of Shipley for his presence that evening, which was carried amid rounds of applause.

The Rev. W. PEARSON, who on rising to respond met with a hearty reception, expressed the pleasure he felt at being present among such a large and important body of Church workers, but he confessed that although his experience of ringers was very limited, he did not feel any inclination to extend his knowledge of bell-ringing, and in a very humorous [speech he gave the reason why. There had, he said, been three occasions in his lifetime when, as the saying is, "his heart was in his mouth." The first was when at college he was before his examiners; the second was when he put a very important question to a certain young lady in whom he was more than ordinarily interested, when he was in fear whether the answer would be "yes" or "no;" and the third was one wet evening not long ago, when he came to Shipley, and was locked up in church by himself, leaving outside Dr. Bardsley and a great number of people, while he ascended the tower steps to ring the bell. He then, amid great laughter, related his attempts to make the bell ring: how he tugged away at the bell-rope, but in vain, to bring forth a sound from the bell, till at last, making a desperate struggle, he succeeded, and, chilled with a sort of fear, he descended to admit the people outside who were chilled with the cold rain which was falling. He then spoke of the duty of ringers to obey the call which they gave to others—to attend the service of the Church, and expressed the pleasure he felt that his congregation numbered some of the ringers.

Mr. ODDY, of Cleckheaton, in a brief but well-put speech, contrasted the ringers of to-day with those of days gone by, showing how ringers had improved both in their social position and in the exercise of their duties.

Mr. HOWARD, of York, spoke of the great advantage it would be if belfries were provided with conveniences for washing, etc.

The table having been cleared, the handbells were brought into requisition, and the tower bells kept going until nine o'clock.

THE EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE first Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held at St. Nicholas, Skirbeck, on Saturday, October 4th. Five members of the above rang at 6.30 a.m., a 5040 of Grandsire Doubles, Plain Bob, Hudibras and Lincolnshire Singles, in 2 hrs. 52 mins. A special service was held at 12.30, at which about thirty members attended. A short form of morning prayer was used, with two hymns. The Rev. H. J. Cheales, vicar of Friskney and President of the Association, read the lessons, the Rev. W. H. Jones, of the Hamlet of Skirbeck,

one of the Vice Presidents, delivered an impressive address, taken from Psalm xix, 3rd verse, being the Psalm for the morning service. There is, said the preacher, a language which thrills our tenderest chords, which seems to articulate sounds when we stand to gaze at the picture of some beloved object, though there be no sounds yet it speaks and moves our inner soul. In no case is this more felt than when we hear the echoes of Heaven we call music, which speaks, and speaks irresistibly, to the spirit of man. See the hardened heart melt and break as it listens to some well known hymn of childhood, telling of innocence long since gone. We too have felt it as we have stood and listened to the glorious music of the bells as they ring out and fill the whole air with their glorious music; felt them speak to us as they cried from out of the old belfry like voices from the past, speaking in tones of entreaty and praise. I remember one day being among the busy throng of those that bought and sold, and lo! far above our heads they broke out into a sweet hymn of praise, sounding like a choir of angels once more singing to the busy world of Peace and goodwill to men. This is the grand use of the noble peal that sweet hands have placed into the houses of our God; calling men to raise their souls above the moil and worry of every-day life, beseeching us to come and listen to the glad news that is proclaimed within the sacred temple at their feet, that he whom we call Saviour is God of Gods and Lord of Lords; there they hang, weird and vast, amid the mighty beams that make their homes pregnant with power, and only waiting the touch of the loving hand to make their voices fill the land. Now in voices of festal joy, and now in muffled sadness to move our souls to mourn with those who mourn, the power is there; they do but wait to be used aright, and who shall do it? Trained men, those whose souls are in the work; patient men, who will not flinch nor give way, but who will stick to their post and bring the peal to a triumphant finish as it has been done this day in our belfry; prompt men, whose souls are supposed to be the object at issue, and also give all their mind to the work; steady, prompt, patient; but, brother-ringers, let us take heed—as it is too oft the case by too often seeing a thing we forget is value—never forget that bell-ringing is not a mere pulling of ropes, or a set of musical sounds. 'Tis an act of worship to the Maker of all, calling men to that place where as Pascal beautifully tells us the whole of man is the Church. Ringers, never forget God has placed bells in your own lives, glorious bells, full of power and sweetness, and only waiting the using that the air may be filled with sweetness. Bells of sympathy, love, purity, solemnity, bells that fill the home with the psalm of praise, and tell forth to others that true manhood is might. Bells of true manliness, that thunder forth far above the war of sin and bitterness, the glorious tidings of what man can do in Christ Jesus. Brothers, let not that the belfry be neglected, the bells ill hung, covered by the filth brought in by the birds of sin, that ever roost where idleness and negligence reign. Pray to Jesus for patience, promptness, and steadiness, and ring glad peals on the bells of your own soul, and so shall you ring the grand old bells up yonder in our tower as they ought to be rung. Lord help us each one to—

Ring in the valiant man and free,
The larger heart, the kinder hand,
Ring out the darkness of the land,
Ring in the Christ that is to be.

At two o'clock, dinner was provided in the national schoolroom, presided over by the president, Rev. H. J. Cheales. After dinner the minutes of the last meeting was read and confirmed, twelve honorary members, nine skilled members, and twelve probationers were elected members of the Association. Through the kindness of the Rev. R. E. Roy, rector, the Rectory grounds were thrown open, and a tea provided in the Rectory to all members. After tea the tower of St. Botolph's was again visited and several touches of Grandsire Triples was rung by the Boston company.

THE WANSTEAD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

THE following are the performances of the above Society during the month of September:—

WANSTEAD.—On Tuesday, September 2nd, a 720 of Bob Minor, at Christ Church, with sixteen bobs and two singles. A. Tennant (Willesden; first 720), 1; W. Smith, 2; J. Nunn, 3; W. Manning, 4; J. Marks, 5; H. Scarlett (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday, September 7th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, with fifteen bobs. H. Nunn, 1; J. Priest, 2; G. Akers, 3; J. Nunn, 4; A. H. Gardom (conductor), 5; J. Marks, 6. Also after evening service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Priest, 1; J. Nunn, 2; G. Akers, 3; W. Manning, 4; A. H. Gardom, 5; H. Scarlett (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in this method by the Society. And Wednesday, September 24th, a 720 of Bob Minor. J. King, 1; A. H. Gardom (conductor), 2; G. Akers, 3; W. Smith, 4; S. Jarman, 5; G. Cornell, 6.

WOODFORD.—On Sunday, September 7th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Bob Minor. H. Nunn, 1; G. Akers, 2; J. Nunn, 3; G. Cornell, 4; J. Marks, 5; H. Scarlett (conductor), 6.

"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.

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

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.

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

Mr. HERBERT BAKER, of Hertford, writes:—"I have discovered four bells by Anthony Chandler, in 1673, can you inform me of his history? If not, will you kindly ask the question in 'THE BELL NEWS' next week."

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1884.

WE have been favoured with a copy of the Report of the Yorkshire Association, the Annual Meeting of which was held at Shipley, on Saturday last, and which we report on another page. This Report is in every respect a very satisfactory one, and we can only hope that the progress of the Association will continue to be as marked in future years as it has been in the past. It commenced the year with 425 members, and its number at the end of the year is 474, an increase of forty-nine. During the year the Association has rung fifty-two peals, the largest number rung in any year, with one exception (1882-3, when fifty-five peals were recorded), the methods rung being as follows: One peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal; one of Stedman Caters; two of Grandsire Caters; twenty-five of Kent Treble Bob Major; one of Grandsire Major; seven of Bob Major; two of Stedman Triples; eleven of Grandsire Triples; and two peals in seven methods each on six bells.

During the year the Committee has invested £100 in the Leeds Corporation Stock, and in future the Association is expected to be so far self-supporting that members will have concluded payment after ten years' membership. The general finances of the Association are in a very sound condition, and there is no lack of enthusiasm on the part of the members to ensure the Association a brilliant future.

It is very pleasant to have to record these facts. It shows in such an unmistakable manner that the intelligence of the ringing fraternity in Yorkshire is to the front; and the example of the premier county should be an incentive to kindred Associations who, may be, are not so fortunate, to persevere and show results equal, at least in a proportionate manner, to our friends in Yorkshire.

We notice, too, with pleasure, the several additions which have been made to its list of honorary members.

It should be the aim of every County Association to enlist the sympathies and the influence of those in authority, for their work, and when the Yorkshire Association can shew such names as those of the Dean of York, the Rev. DR. BLAKENEY, Vicar of Sheffield, and Canon McCORMICK, of Hull, in their Report, the members should feel that their Association has established itself on firm ground, and they should not in the least relax their endeavours until they have still further increased their list of honorary members by the addition of the names of many influential gentlemen in their county, whose sympathies are with them and their work, and who need but the asking to place themselves on the Society's list of members.

The Report is, as we observed at the outset, altogether a very satisfactory one, and there is no reason why, as years roll by, that each succeeding Report should be at least, as good as the one before it, and that "good men and true" will always be found to the front, guiding and helping it, as well as kindred Associations, to maintain the path of progress, and making them not only useful institutions, but a honour to the Church of our country.

THE FIRST CLERICAL PEAL.

THE recent Trinity Ordinations having brought a clerical peal within the limits of the possible, an attempt was made to ring one at Drayton, Berks., on July 31st last. It was, however, soon pretty clear that the study of other ologies had very much interfered with that of Campanology, and that some of the band had forgotten their Stedman Triples. Two or three starts were made for Thurstans' peal, and at length the middle single was reached. At that point, the striking having been bad, and the men not being in good form, hardly any one was sorry that a general collapse took place. It was resolved to try again, and to select the band entirely from *alumni* of the Isis, members of the Oxford University Society. Accordingly the evening of Wednesday, October 1st, found seven of the selected men in their places in the belfry at Drayton. A member of the Oxford City Society having kindly come over to make up a band, the first quarter of Thurstans' peal was tapped off without a hitch or mishap, the striking being fairly good. This augured well for the morrow's performance which began at 11.4 a.m., when the word "go" was spoken. Very little beside the necessary calls had then to be said by any one until 1.55 p.m., when the welcome words "that's all," from the conductor, announced the completion of a peal of Stedman Triples, perfectly true, and generally well-struck; particulars will be found on another page. After luncheon a start was made for Holt's Original, the Rev. C. D. P. Davies conducting. All went well for about half-an-hour, and another peal seemed to be a moral certainty, when the treble rope broke. Trains having to be met by several of the band, another start was impossible, so that a clerical Original is yet in the future.

The Metropolis.

FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS,

On Monday, October 6, 1884, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5160 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 21 cwt in F.

JAMES PETTIT Treble.	EDWIN HORREX 6.
GEORGE MASH 2.	†REV. C. D. P. DAVIES .. 7.
EDWARD F. STRANGE* .. 3.	*WILLIAM D. SMITH .. 8.
EDWIN GIBBS 4.	JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM .. 9.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 5.	*FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by the late WILLIAM HARRISON, of Mottram, and Conducted by the REV. C. D. P. DAVIES.

The day on which this peal was rung was the birthday of the vicar of Fulham, the Rev. F. H. FISHER, himself a ringer, and the company venture to take this opportunity of wishing him "many happy returns of the day." *First peal in the the method, †First peal of Royal.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.—LONDON.

On Tuesday, October 7, 1884, in Three Hours and Thirty-six Minutes,

AT ST. CLEMENT DANES, STRAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5130 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

JAMES PETTIT Treble.	FREDK. G. NEWMAN.. .. 6.
EDWIN HORREX 2.	JAMES R. HAWORTH.. .. 7.
JOHN W. ROWBOTHAM .. 3.	FREDK. MARGETSON.. .. 8.
RICHARD FRENCH.. .. 4.	GEORGE BANKS 9.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE.. 5.	EDWARD ALBONE Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY BOOTH, and Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

The peal was rung in honour of the birthday of the vicar, the Rev. J. Lindsay.

The Provinces.

DRAYTON, BERKS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

On Thursday, October 2, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 9½ cwt.

REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. Treble.	REV. C. C. CHILD 5.
REV. F. A. H. DU BOULAY .. 2.	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES .. 6.
REV. A. D. HILL.. .. 3.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. 7.
REV. W. S. WILLETT.. .. 4.	REV. J. H. FISH.. .. Tenor.

Conducted by the Rev. F. E. ROBINSON, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

This is the first 5040 rang by a company wholly composed of clergymen.

WOKINGHAM, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 4, 1884, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 18 cwt.

REUBEN HOPGOOD* .. Treble.	ERNEST BISHOP.. .. 5.
GEORGE GIBBARD* 2.	HENRY EGBY 6.
WILLIAM HOULTON* 3.	REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. 7.
WILLIAM POCKOCK.. .. 4.	*THOMAS HOULTEN Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY EGBY.

*First peal. Messrs. Houlton hail from Wokingham; Rev. G. F. Coleridge from Caversham, the rest from Reading.

LANCASTER.—THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY.

On Saturday, October 4, 1884, in Three Hours,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 25 cwt.

PATRICK MULLIGAN† .. Treble.	JAMES HARTLEY 5.
CHARLES CARNEY* 2.	JOHN LENNON 6.
WILLIAM CROOK.. .. 3.	WILLIAM WEARING.. .. 7.
HENRY SMITH* 4.	*PATRICK FINN Tenor.

Conducted by PATRICK MULLIGAN.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor.

BROMLEY, KENT.

On Saturday, October 4, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. CHAS. D. P. DAVIES' 5-PART. Tenor 19¾ cwt.

JAMES GOLDS Treble.	FREDK. W. THORNTON .. 5.
CHARLES ENGLISH 2.	GEORGE SHEPHERD 6.
GEORGE FRENCH* 3.	ABRAHAM G. FREEMAN .. 7.
THOMAS DURLING 4.	WILLIAM H. FREEMAN .. Tenor.

Conducted by ABRAHAM GEORGE FREEMAN.

*First peal with a bob bell. Messrs. English, French, Durling and Shepherd, hail from Chislehurst, the brothers Freeman from Lewisham, F. W. Thornton from Greenwich, and J. Golds from Bromley. The peal will be found on page 490 of "THE BELL NEWS."

THE EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SKIRBECK, LINCOLNSHIRE.

On Saturday, October 4, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

5040 CHANGES: UPON FIVE BELLS;

Being 20 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles; 10 of Plain Bob; 10 of Hudibras, and 2 of Lincolnshire Singles.

Tenor 18 cwt.

TIMOTHY ROGERS Treble.	*EDWARD MASON† 3.
(aged 64 years.)	*WILLIAM F. HARWOOD .. 4.
GEORGE CLARK 2.	*JAMES M. RYLATT 5.

Conducted by EDWARD MASON.

*Members of the South Lincolnshire Association. †College Youth and Yorkshire Association.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.

THE GLOSSOP JUNIOR SOCIETY.

On Saturday, October 4, 1884, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

SAMUEL HARROP.. .. Treble.	JOSEPH MALONEY 5.
DANIEL JAMES 2.	ROBERT WINTERBOTTOM.. 6.
JOHN BOOTH.. .. 3.	SAMUEL KNOTT.. .. 7.
HENRY COOPER 4.	JOHN PYE, JUN. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN J. BRIERLEY, of Saddleworth, and Conducted by SAMUEL KNOTT.

J. Booth hails from Dinting, and this is the first peal by him and D. James.

LOWMOOR, NEAR BRADFORD, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, October 4, 1884, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

THOMAS PICKARD .. Treble.	WADDINGTON TORDOFF .. 5.
JOE WARSNOP 2.	JOE BRIGGS.. .. 6.
ABSOLAM WILKINSON.. 3.	JAMES W. EMMETT 7.
HARRY JONES 4.	CHARLIE DRACUP Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL, and Conducted by CHARLES DRACUP.

October 4th, was the 44th anniversary of these bells being hung, and this is the first attempt made by a Low Moor company to ring a peal.

After ringing, the members adjourned to the Chapel House Inn, and partook of a substantial supper provided by the landlord, the rest of the evening being spent in harmony, also change and tune-ringing, by friends of the Liversedge prize handbell company.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.

THE MOTTRAM SOCIETY.

On Monday, October 6, 1884, in Two Hours and Forty-nine and ½ Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN SIDEBOTHAM .. Treble.	GEORGE BRADDOCK 5.
JOHN HARROP 2.	GEORGE D. HADFIELD .. 6.
ROBERT WRIGHT 3.	THOMAS WILDE 7.
WILLIAM MIDDLETON .. 4.	THOMAS BRADDOCK Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP, of Ashton-under-Lyne, and Conducted by JOHN SIDEBOTHAM.

Thomas Wilde hails from Hyde.

Date Touches.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TEWKESBURY ABBEY (Gloucestershire).—On Wednesday, October 1st, the Abbey society rang for practice, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 9 mins. W. Hampton, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; F. J. Moore, 3; T. Devereux, 4; J. Wathen, 5; J. Hale, 6; Jos. Wathen (composer and conductor), 7; W. Haines, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—On Friday, September 25th, at Christ Church Cathedral, a date touch of 1884 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 12 mins.

J. Howse, 1; W. Castle, 2; T. Oliver, 3; J. Field (conductor), 4; W. Baston, 5; J. Eeley, 6; W. Finch, 7; C. Hounslow, 8. Composed by Miss Sharland, of Tiverton, Devon. Tenor 42 cwt in C.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

SALISBURY.—On Thursday, October 2nd, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. E. A. Foster, 1; W. W. Gifford, 2; A. S. Dowling (Basingstoke), 3; C. A. Clements, 4; T. Blackburn, 5; J. R. Jerram (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

WINSALL.—On Saturday, September 27th, on the occasion of the Quarterly Meeting of the above Association, held at Burton-on-Trent, the Tottenhall branch paid a visit to this place, and by kind permission of the vicar and ringers rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. T. Roberts, 1; B. Dalton, 2; J. Jones, 3; E. Nicholls, 4; J. Fowler, 5; J. Rogers (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday, October 5th, for evening service at St. Chad's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, 1260 changes, in 44 mins. T. Miller, 1; B. Stevens, 2; J. Carter (conductor), 3; J. Callaghan, 4; J. Benn, 5; R. Hackley, 6; J. Plant, 7; A. Hackley, 8. Tenor 15 cwt. in F. Messrs. Benn and Plant hail from Erdington.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On Thursday, September 11th, at the church of St. John-the-Baptist, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. Bowes, 1; W. Story, 2; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 3; F. Lees, 4; S. Power, 5; J. Simm, 6. Also on Thursday, October 2nd, a 644 of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's original. C. L. Routledge (conductor), 1; W. Eggleston, 2; R. S. Story, 3; W. Bowes, 4; W. G. Routledge, 5; F. Lees, 6; W. Story, 7; R. J. Robson, 8. Also on Monday, October 6th, a 720 of Bob Minor. H. Fergusson (first 720), 1; W. Bowes, 2; C. L. Routledge (conductor), 3; R. S. Story, 4; F. Lees, 5; W. Story, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

STOCKTON.—On Wednesday, October 1st, the members of this branch rang at the first attempt a 720 of Violet Treble Bob. G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 1; T. Burdon, 2; H. E. T. Glover, B.A., 3; W. Stephenson, 4; T. Stephenson, 5; W. Newton, 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

GREAT BADDOW (Essex).—On Saturday, October 4th, a visit was paid to this little country village by six members of the above Association from Widford and Galleywood, and Messrs. Gardom and Scarlett from Wanstead. Hollis's 5-part peal was attempted, and after ringing over 2000 changes, a youth named Lieutenant Green made an appearance in the belfry and soon upset the peal, his excuse being that he wanted to see how the ropes went through the holes. The enraged band left him to find out. This ring has lately been re-hung by Messrs. Warner and Sons, London, and the "go" of the bells is perfect. W. Harvey, 1; T. Dains, 2; W. Rowland, 3; A. H. Gardom (conductor), 4; W. Hawkes, 5; E. Scotcher, 6; H. Scarlett, 7; W. Battle, 8. Tenor 13 cwt.

RETTENDON (Essex).—On Monday evening, September 29th, after service, four of the Rettendon, with two of the Rayleigh members of the above Association, rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 22½ mins. S. Pavitt, 1; G. Jones, 2; W. Jay, 3; H. Deal, 4; E. Moat, 5; Rev. H. A. Cockey, 6. Tenor 8 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lbs.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Sunday morning, October 5th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, with fifteen bobs, in 24 mins. W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains, 2; W. Rowland, 3; H. Scarlett, 4; T. Drake, 5; A. H. Gardom (conductor), 6. Our correspondent says this is the best going peal of six ever rung upon.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS (Norfolk).—On Thursday evening, October 2nd, being the Harvest Festival at St. James's, eight members of the local company attempted the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 2200 changes in 1 hr. 35 mins. the electric bell rang to cease ringing, and stand was called by the conductor, which brought to a conclusion an attempt which would very probably have been successful. A. Osborne (conductor), 1; E. Buckle, 2; R. Wilding, 3; A. Alderton, 4; G. Farrants, 5; G. Debenham, 6; R. Moore, 7; S. Speck, 8. The same band again met to ring for Divine Service in the evening the following Sunday, but shortly after starting, amidst some excellent striking, the tongue of the tenor bell broke and fell upon the floor, causing the ringers

to look round to see what was the matter, finding the tenor dumb they were obliged to give up ringing. Her tongue is now made whole and she is quite ready for another turn.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CHURCH KIRK (Lancashire).—On Sunday, October 5th, 1884, the local company rang for morning service, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 28½ mins. Also for evening service, a 720 of College Single, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 27½ mins. James Horrocks (conductor), 1; Thomas Doran, 2; Henry Hayes, 3; James Pickles, 4; William Pattinson, 5; Thomas Horrocks, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

CASTLE DONINGTON (Leicestershire).—On Saturday, September 27th, some members of the above Association visited this place, and rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Wibberley, 1; Dr. Sellon, 2; C. A. Fox, 3; Rev. W. W. T. Baker, 4; —. Hickman, 5; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. E. D. Taylor, 1; J. Wibberley, 2; H. C. Woodward, 3; Rev. W. W. T. Baker, 4; —. Hickman, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 6. After which another 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Wibberley, 1; Dr. Sellon, 2; J. W. Taylor, jun., 3; Rev. W. W. T. Baker, 4; —. Hickman, 5; C. A. Fox (conductor), 6. Tenor 17½ cwt. The thanks of the visitors are due to the Rev. A. S. Mammatt, for the use of the bells. The vicar is a member of the Association, and also a ringer in his own tower. Several courses of Grandsire Triples and Caters were rung on the handbells during the afternoon.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BANHAM (Norfolk).—On Thursday, September 25th, for the Harvest Thanksgiving Service, a 420 of Bob Minor. W. Nudds, jun., 1; J. Saunders, 2; R. Patrick, 3; R. Hutton, sen., 4; R. Nudds, 5; W. Nudds, sen., 6. After service a 720 of Bob Minor. W. Nudds, jun., 1; J. Saunders, 2; R. Patrick, 3; W. Nudds, sen., 4; R. Nudds, 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6. And in the evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; J. Saunders, 2; R. Patrick, 3; E. Everett, 4; R. Nudds, 5; J. Cunningham, 6. J. Cunningham was on a visit from West Ham, Essex.

THE WANSTEAD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

WOODFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, October 5th, for Harvest Festival, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. H. Nunn, sen., 1; G. Akers, 2; J. Nunn, 2; G. Cornell, 4; J. Marks, 5; H. Scarlett (conductor), 6.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

SOBERTON (Hants).—On Sunday, September 28th, at St. Peter's church, for Divine Service in the morning, a 336 of Grandsire Triples, with Queens and Tittums. R. Linter, 1; F. Linter, 2; G. H. Child, 3; G. H. Barnett, 4; J. Hewett, 5; Hy. Mason, 6; Geo. Williams (conductor), 7; H. Matthews, 8. Also 518 of Grandsire Triples, first part of Holt's ten-part peal, in 22 mins. R. Linter, 1; F. Linter, 2; F. Hill, 3; J. Hewett (conductor), 4; Geo. Williams, 5; G. H. Child, 6; G. H. Barnett, 7; J. Whiting, 8. And in the afternoon, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 47 mins. G. H. Barnett, 1; J. Hewett, 2; F. Hill, 3; G. H. Child, 4; C. Privett, 5; Hy. Mason, 6; Geo. Williams (conductor), 7; Jno. Whiting, 8. Tenor 14½ cwt. in G. This quarter-peal contains the twenty-four 6-7s. Some Stedman Doubles and a course of Grandsire Caters were rung on the handbells. C. Privett, 1-2; Geo. Williams, 3-4; J. Hewett, 5-6; F. Hill, 7; G. H. Barnett, 8; J. Whiting, 9-10.

BALDOCK (Herts).—On Tuesday morning, September 30th, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. T. Webb (conductor), 1; J. Phillips, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Smith, 4; R. Jackson, 5; W. Bidnell, 6; J. W. Roslyn, 7; G. Gentle, 8. Also in the evening, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, standing as before, conducted by J. Phillips. These were all rung with 4-6-8 covering.

BENGEO (Herts).—On Thursday, October 2nd, at Holy Trinity church, six of the Hertford College Youths rang a 720 of Oxford Bob, in 26 mins. Stephen Knight, 1; Thomas Gathard, 2; James Staples, 3; Henry Phillips, 4; Jasper G. Crawley, 5; Herbert Baker (conductor), 6. Tenor 7 cwt. This is the first 720 of Oxford Bob by all the band, and was rung at the first attempt. First in the method on the bells, and is believed to be the first rung in the county. Also on Sunday, October 5th, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. Edward Cains, 1; Thomas Gathard, 2; Henry Phillips, 3; Matthew Ellsmore, 4; Stephen Knight, 5; Herbert Baker (conductor), 6.

BOLLINGTON (Cheshire).—On Sunday evening, October 5th, at St. John's church, a 840 of Grandsire Triples, in 32 mins. J. Parker, 1; Wm. Walmsley (conductor), 2; Wm. Ingham, 3; Wm. Carter, 4; J. M. Davenport, 5; Thos. Mottershead, 6; W. H. Hardman, 7; Thos.

Furness, 8. Wm. Carter hails from Biddulph; W. H. Hardman from Widnes; Thos. Furness belongs to Bollington; the rest hail from Higher Sutton. Tenor 18 cwt.

DEERHURST (Gloucestershire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Saturday, October 4th, the local company rang with the bells muffled, ten 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, as a last mark of respect to the late Mr. Henry Margrett, who was for some years a ringer at this place. G. Willis, 1; C. Willis, 2; H. Roberts, 3; C. Roles, 4; J. Bartlett (conductor), 5; W. Matty, 6.

DERBY.—On Sunday, October 5th, being the Harvest Festival at St. Werburgh's church, a mixed band rang after Divine Service in the evening, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 46 mins. G. Neal, 1; T. Bancroft, 2; A. E. Thompson, 3; J. Newbold, 4; R. Redgate, 5; R. Bosworth (conductor), 6; L. Lomas, 7; G. Slack, 8. Tenor 17 cwt. in E.

GRAVESEND.—On Sunday, September 21st, for evening service at St. George's church, it being the Harvest Festival, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by the Gravesend company, assisted by Mr. S. Hayes, who was a member of this company for many years, but now lives at Forest Gate, Essex. G. Hayes (first quarter-peal), 1; J. Aitkens, 2; M. Lambert, 3; W. King, 4; B. Spunner, 5; W. Harper, 6; S. Hayes (conductor), 7; J. Chapman, 8.

HALIFAX (Yorkshire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Friday morning, October 6th, a funeral peal, consisting of 2520 changes of Bob Triples, in 1 hr. 40 mins., was rung by the All Souls ringers in memory of the late Mrs. Akroyd, the wife of Col. Akroyd, founder of the above church. She was well known and highly respected in the district. H. Reynolds, 1; T. Parker, 2; G. D. E. Mercer, 3; J. S. Ambler, 4; A. Parker, 5; A. F. Nicholl, 6; S. W. Stewart (conductor), 7; G. Standeven, 8. Tenor 26 cwt.

HARLOW (Essex).—On Saturday, October 4th, a visit was paid by Messrs. W. H. Tucker, H. Champness, H. J. Tucker, J. Sampford, G. Martin, T. Newman and H. Doughty, of Bishops Stortford, where they were met by N. W. Tarling, J. Tarling, jun., and A. Brown, of Sawbridgeworth, Herts, and the home party, when the following rang a 1399 of Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original, in 55 mins. T. Newman, 1; A. Brown, 2; J. Tarling, jun. 3; G. Martin, 4; N. W. Tarling, 5; H. Champness, 6; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 7; J. Sampford, 8. Tenor 22 cwt. Also some other short touches of Grandsire and Plain Bob with some of the local company. The visitors take this opportunity of thanking their Harlow friends for the kind manner in which they made them welcome.

HAMPSTEAD (Middlesex).—On Sunday, September 7th, for Divine Service in the morning at St. Stephen's church, eight members of the local company rang 447 Grandsire Triples. S. Clarke, 1; B. Payne, 2; H. Tyler, 3; C. Deal, 4; W. Pryor, 5; N. Alderman, 6; B. Foskett (conductor), 7; W. Arscott, 8. And for Divine Service in the evening, 216 Grandsire Caters. S. Clarke, 1; C. Deal, 2; B. Foskett (conductor), 3; J. Comb, 4; H. Tyler, 5; E. F. Cole, Esq., 6; W. Pryor, 7; N. Alderman, 8; E. Chapman, 9; W. Arscott, 10. Also on Sunday, September 14th, for Divine Service in the evening, 559 Grandsire Triples, conducted by Wm. Pryor. And on Tuesday, September 16th, for practice, the same touch was again rung, the local company being assisted by Mr. Thomas Stewart, of Ipswich, who rang the 3rd, and W. Hutt, who rang the 6th. Also 434 Grandsire Triples, conducted by B. Foskett. T. Stewart in this touch rang the 2nd, W. Hutt the 3rd, and James Nixon, 4.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Wednesday, October 24th, for practice, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles, in 26 mins. J. Parker, 1; Wm. Kenny, 2; W. Ingham, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Wm. Walmsley (conductor), 5; Thos. Mottershead, 6. Also on Wednesday, October 1st, a 720 of the same with forty-four bobs and four singles, in 26 mins., standing as before, with the 3rd and 6th reversed. Also on Sunday, October 5th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. Wm. Walmsley (conductor), 1; Wm. Carter, 2; W. Ingham, 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; Wm. H. Hardman, 5; Thos. Mottershead, 6. And for afternoon service, a 720 of the same, in 27 mins., with Wm. Hulme on the 2nd. Tenor 12 cwt. in G. Wm. Hulme hails from Macclesfield; Wm. Carter from Biddulph; J. Parker, late of Cheddleton but now residing in Sutton; and W. H. Hardman, of Widnes, Lancashire, formerly of Higher Sutton.

HYDE (Cheshire).—On Saturday, October 4th, seven members of the St. George's society, with Mr. Thomas Dixon of Sheffield, attempted a peal of Stedman Triples, Brooke's variation, but after ringing for 3 hrs. and 1 min., the peal suddenly came to grief, having only twenty changes to ring. James Shaw, 1; Ralph Pritchard, 2; Thomas Dixon (conductor), 3; Robert Woolley, 4; James S. Wilde, 5; George Longden, 6; Thomas Wilde, 7; David Leigh, 8.

LYMINGE (Kent).—On Wednesday evening, October 1st, at the parish church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 30 mins. A. Beer, 1; R.

Andrews, 2; T. Beer, 3; J. Andrews, 4; W. Fordred, jun., 5; A. Tanton (conductor), 6. And on Saturday evening, October 4th, six 6-scores of Bob Doubles, each called differently, in 29 mins. A. Beer, 1; R. Andrews, 2; T. Beer, 3; A. Tanton, 4; J. Andrews (conductor), 4; J. Prebble, 6. Tenor 18½ cwt.

NORTHFIELD (Worcestershire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday, September 28th, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 28 mins., with the bells muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Joseph Dutton, steeple-keeper of the above church, who was respected by all who knew him. Amos Cresser, 1; C. Barnacle, 2; Thomas Lewis, 3; Edward Boylin, 4; Edward Bryant, 5; John T. Perry (conductor), 6.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Wednesday, October 1st, at St. Peter's church, for service, 240 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, and 120 of Oxford Bob Minor. A. Coles, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendered, 3; F. Gilbert, 4; J. Wilmott, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, October 5th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 360 of Oxford Bob Minor, with nine bobs. H. Stubbs (conductor), 1; W. Hall, 2; R. Pendered, 3; G. Kirk, 4; F. Gilbert, 5; T. Roberts, 6. And 120 of Plain Bob Minor, J. Wilmott taking T. Roberts' place. T. Roberts hails from Ringstead.

READING (Berks).—On September 28th, at St. Lawrence's church, being the Harvest Festival, for early service, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, (from Troyte), in 20 mins. F. W. Round, 1; H. M. Bawden, 2; W. Holloway, 3; G. Talbot, 4; W. J. Williams (conductor), 5; W. Goselint, 6; W. Newell, 7; T. Hayward, 8. Also several touches were rung during the day, and a 701 of Grandsire Caters (from the *Clavis*), after evening service, in 30 mins. F. W. Round, 1; H. M. Bawden, 2; J. E. Willshire, 3; W. R. Pocock, 4; W. Holloway, 5; W. Goselint, 6; J. Potter, 7; W. J. Williams (conductor), 8; W. Newell, 9; T. Hayward, 12. Also on Tuesday, September 30th, for practice, another 701 of Grandsire Caters, in 30 mins. F. W. Round, 1; W. R. Pocock, 2; W. Johnson, 3; J. E. Willshire, 4; W. Holloway, 5; G. Talbot, 6; E. Bishop, 7; W. J. Williams (conductor), 8; W. Newell, 9; T. Hayward, 10. On the occasion of the Harvest Festival, the belfry was tastefully decorated with corn, flowers, and fruit by Mr. T. Hayward.

STANDISH (Lancashire).—On Saturday, October 4th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. Denis Booth (conductor), 1; Ralph Rainford, 2; John Grounds, 3; Walter Hayes (first 720), 4; Thomas Walker, 5; James Higson, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. Higson hails from Blackrod, the rest belong to Standish.

WALTON (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, September 28th, at St. Mary's parish church, for Divine Service, a 216 of Grandsire Minor. J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; T. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 5; A. S. Barrell, 6. Also on Thursday evening, October 2nd, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. E. Yates, 1; C. E. Wilson, 2; W. Short, 3; W. Rushton (conductor), 4; T. Woodward, 5; R. Barton, 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

WORTH (Sussex).—On Sunday, October 5th, the local company, with two of the Warnham ringers rang for Divine Service in the morning, a 360 of Oxford Bob Minor. B. Payne, 1; — Cole, 2; W. Short, 3; G. Illman, 4; F. Price, 5; H. Chantler (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with fifteen bobs and six singles. B. Payne, 1; E. Streeter, 2; W. Short, 3; G. Illman, 4; H. Chantler, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. Also after morning service, a 720 of Plain Bob, with forty-two singles. B. Payne, 1; E. Streeter, 2; W. Short, 3; G. Illman, 4; F. Rice, 5; H. Chantler (conductor), 6. Also after service in the afternoon, a 720 of Warnham Court Bob, with twenty-four singles. B. Payne, 1; F. Streeter, 2; W. Short, 3; E. Streeter, 4; F. Rice, 5; H. Chantler (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of College Single, with eighteen bobs and two singles. E. Streeter, 1; F. Streeter, 2; W. Short, 3; B. Payne, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Oxford Bob, with twelve singles. T. Illman, 1; F. Rice, 2; B. Payne, 3; H. Chantler, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. Tenor 8½ cwt.

FATAL ACCIDENT TO A RINGER.—We regret to announce the death of Richard Elwell, who died on the 13th ult., aged thirty-eight years, and which happened under very painful circumstances, deceased having fell from a scaffold, a distance of 40 ft. on the 4th of the same month. Although a young practitioner in the art of ringing, he was well respected by all who knew him, and very attentive at ringing meetings, and therefore his loss is much felt. On Monday, September 29th, a 593 of Grandsire Caters was rung at St. Philip's church, Birmingham, with the bells muffled as a token of respect to the above. Amos Cresser, 1; J. Callaghan, 2; Rev. W. S. Willett (Windsor parish church), 3; William Brook, 4; Bennett Stevens, 5; Charles Carmell, 6; Charles Barnicle, 7; Richard Hackley, 8; Thomas Miller (conductor), 9; Albert Hackley, 10. Tenor 29 cwt. in D.

A PEAL OF BELLS FOR BROUGHTON CHURCH, LANCASHIRE.

For many years past, there has been a strong desire among the parishioners of Broughton, that there should be placed in the venerable tower of the parish church, a peal of bells, whose chorus should echo along the picturesque slopes of the parish, calling the worshippers to Divine Service, and the ambition of the parishioners has at last been realised. A movement, led by the worthy Vicar, the Rev. Wm. Bretherton, was started a short time ago, and subscriptions flowed in. The remainder of the sum required was readily contributed by D. Arkwright, Esq., J.P., who is a native of the parish, and many of whose relatives lie in the burial ground of the old church. The Vicar put himself in communication with Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of Whitechapel Road, London, E.C., and it was arranged that they should take out the three old bells and recast them. One of these bells was probably the most ancient in the north of England; one of the others was put in by the wardens well nigh 200 years ago, and the other was subsequently added. The tower in which these old bells were hung, is the only portion of the old church which was retained in the rebuilding operations of 1826. There is on the top of the southern side of the rugged, weather-beaten tower, the figures 1533, and it is believed that this refers to the date of its erection. The three old bells were taken out a few months ago, and after being sketched for the Vicar, were recast, and sent along with three lighter bells. These have been fixed in the tower, and form a very good peal. The cost of the additions, over £300, has been completely defrayed before the opening day, September 25th, and it was decided that at the special service on Thursday, there should be no collection. The service was held in the afternoon, and there was a very large congregation, the weather being exceedingly fine. Many persons came from Preston, and there was a fair sprinkling from other parishes. A large Union Jack floated from the flag-staff on the tower, which was given by the late Alderman Rawcliffe in 1856, and for some time before the commencement of the service, peals of various changes were rung by the ringers from Goosnargh Church, who had come to assist on the occasion. The choir had been strengthened by friends from the parish and from the district, and the musical portion of the service was exceedingly well given. The hymns were selected from the book *Ancient and Modern*, and ended with a well-known processional hymn, which was sung by the whole congregation with great heartiness. The opening portion of the service and the first lesson were read by the Vicar, and the second lesson and the concluding part of the service were read by the Rev. J. D. Harrison, Vicar of St. Lawrence's, Barton. Among those in the congregation were the Vicar of Goosnargh, the curate of Churchtown, Garstang, and other clergymen.

The Ven. Archdeacon HORNBY, preaching from Ezra iii, 4, said this was a day of rejoicing. A work in which they had all been interested, had been successfully completed, and the bells had sent forth their merry sounds, announcing that fact to the whole parish. Again and again those bells of theirs would speak to them in like manner. There might be days of public rejoicing when the bells would be heard far and wide in token of their joy; and there certainly would be days of private rejoicing amongst themselves when those whom they delighted to honour were plighting their troth each to the other in the holy state of matrimony, and then the merry peals would ring out to signalise the event and their joy. But the sun did not always shine in this world. While travelling along, we must look for days of darkness—times of sorrow and affliction—and when such times came, their bells would speak again, but not with those joyful sounds. There might be the muffled bell, or there might be the minute bell, or the passing bell, which told them that one of their fellow-travellers had finished his course here on earth, and had been removed into the everlasting world; and would not this remind them, if they needed reminding, that the bell might next toll for them? But there was one day which was separated from other days—a day which God had seen fit especially to mark out for Himself. That day was called in the book of Revelation the Lord's Day, because it was the day on which they commemorated the resurrection of their blessed Lord from the dead, and because it was the day which God claimed especially for himself. The duty of that day required them to cease from all worldly labours, to set their hearts more and more on heavenly things, to consider how their case stood with God, and resolve to serve him better. It was a day on which they were called to meet in this his house, there to give praises to God, to humble themselves before him, and to ask him to give them grace that they might be enabled to love and to serve him better every day. But it was not all in this Christian country of ours, notwithstanding its great privileges, who observed this day rightly. There were those who would devote the Sabbath certainly not to any works connected with religion. St. Paul in his epistle to the Hebrews, said, "Not forsaking the assembling of yourselves together after the manner of some." In those early days there were those who neglected to assemble in God's house, but could it not with truth be said in these days "after the manner of many," and if there were any such in

this parish those bells which they had opened that day would send forth a word of warning. One of their poets had spoken of the bell as a church-going bell, because the bells on the Sunday reminded them that God had called upon them to keep that day holy. Men might neglect their religious duties, but if they did there was, at all events, the sounding bell reminding them of their neglect. There might be those who, instead of coming to this house of God on a Sunday, and hearing the sermon which their Vicar preached, stayed in their own homes or turned their thoughts to places that they loved better than God's house; but if it be so, the bells would every Sunday preach a sermon which men could not fail to hear, whether they choose to heed it or not. He had spoken of different days having different duties connected with them, but there was one duty which belonged to every day alike, and that duty was to work out their own salvation. They must go out into the vineyard, and try to the utmost of their power to spread Christ's kingdom. Let each one try to make this world happier and better, remembering that life was as a vapour, and that it behoved them to make the best use of their time. They had put in that tower a clock. A great poet had said—

We take no note of time
But from its loss. To give it then a tongue
Is wise in man.

Whenever that fine clock in the tower struck, it would tell them that time was passing; that the hours were flying away. Let them work the work of him who sent them while it was day.

After the service, a few friends, the choir, and the ringers were entertained at a capital tea, gracefully dispensed in the schoolroom by Mrs. Waddington, Mrs. Hoole, and several assistant young ladies.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly meeting of this Association will be held at Dorking (by the kind permission of the Vicar), on Monday, October 13th. The tower will be open for ringing in the afternoon and evening. There will be a tea in the Church Room close to the Church, at 5.30, and business meeting immediately afterwards. It is requested that all who intend to be present at the tea, will send in their names to the hon. secretary by Thursday evening, October 9th, at the latest, as it is necessary to know how many to provide for. The tea will be free to all ringing members who send in their names; all others 1s. 6d. Any ringers will be welcome.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.
34, Dingwall Road, Croydon, September 30th, 1884.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly District Meeting of the above Association will be held at Tetbury, on Monday, October 20th. Divine Service will be held at the parish church at 11 a.m.: Dinner at the "White Hart" at 1 p.m. A conveyance will meet the 9.12 train at Nailsworth, which will convey members to and from Tetbury at 1s. per head each way. The Upton St Leonard's-cum-Barnwood band will represent the Association on this occasion.

PITT EYKYN, Hon. Sec.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING will be held on Monday, the 27th inst., at Folkestone. Leave has been obtained to ring at Folkestone (eight bells), Cheriton (six bells), St. James, Dover (six bells), Saltwood (five bells), Newington (five bells). A committee meeting will be held in the Town Hall, Folkestone, at 1 p.m., for admission of members, and to fix the date of the next district meeting.

R. B. KNATCHBULL-HUGESSEN, Hon. Sec.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of this Association will be held on Monday, October 27th, at Newcastle. Dinner at the "Crown and Mitre" at 3 o'clock. Service in the Cathedral at 2 o'clock. Particulars of the arrangements will be forwarded by circular to the various branches.

G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE Annual Meeting of this Association will be held at Ipswich on Monday, October 27th. Full particulars next week.

A shocking accident occurred on Monday at the Chapel of Logboy, near Ballyhaunis, Ireland. While a bell suspended from a tree was ringing for mass, it fell on the head of a young man named Owens, 16 years of age, inflicting shocking injury. The last sacraments were administered, and Owens died in a few minutes afterwards.

* * Correspondence, touches received late, and other items, will appear in our next number.

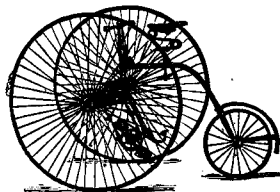
THE MANAGEMENT OF BELLS:

A Few Hints to the Clergy, Churchwardens, Ringers, and others.

E. W. ALLEN, Ave Maria Lane, London.

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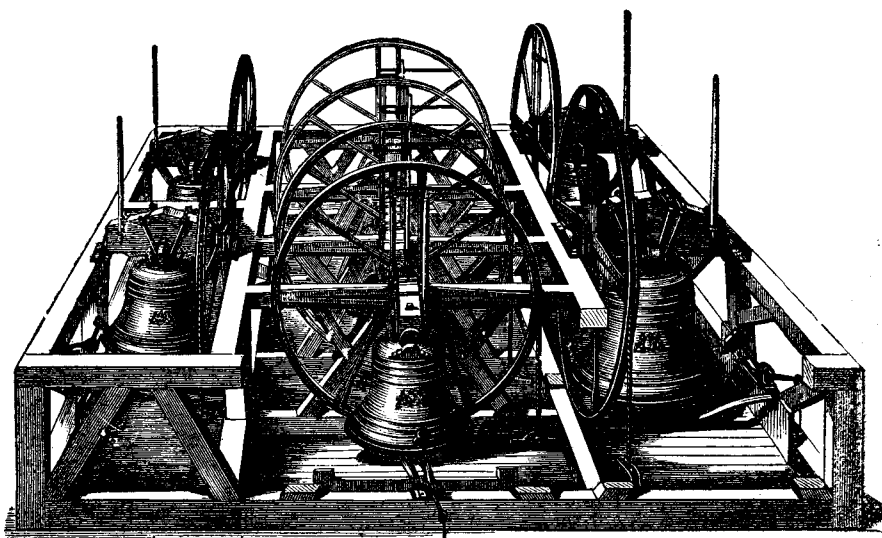
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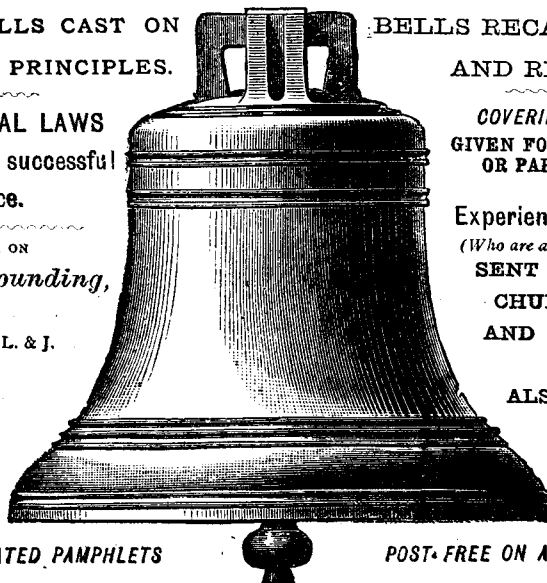
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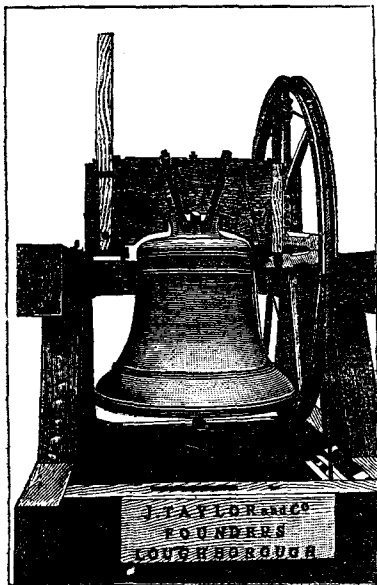
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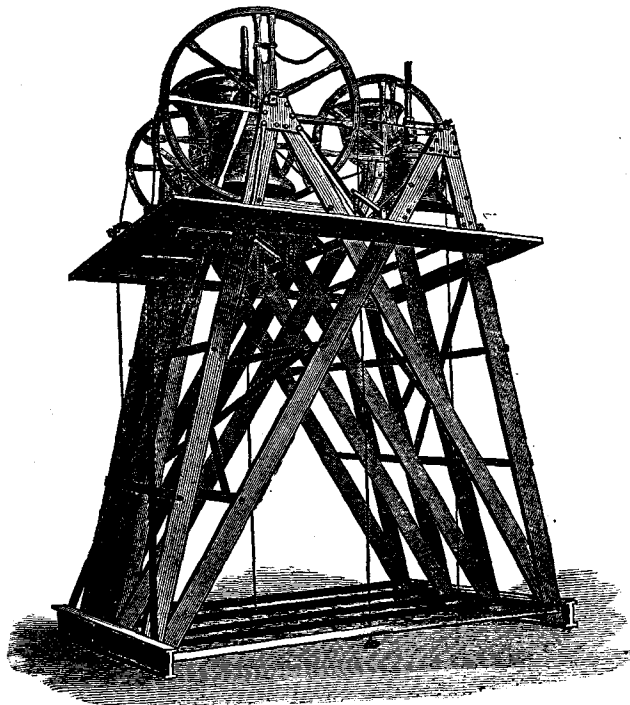
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