

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 150. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. III. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1885.

[ONE PENNY.]

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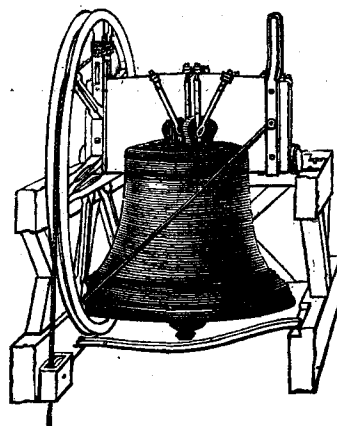
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PEALS OF TRIPLES ON STEDMAN'S PRINCIPLE.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

After Thurstans had produced his peal with 240 bobs and two common singles, the necessity for the use of any singles made in the sixes was done away with, and I do not therefore present to my readers any peals that require such singles with the exception, however, of the following peal. This is presented, not on account of any particular merit, but as an example of such peals. In this peal, which Lates composed about the year 1847, he endeavoured to reduce the calls to a less number than those in Thurstans' peal by making a bob and single in the same six. By this means he produced the following peal, which contains 238 bobs and two singles which are made as follows. Although the number of calls are reduced it cannot be said to be any improvement, as the bob and single are only made at the same time and this at the sacrifice of disturbing the work of the bells in the sixes.

First Single.	Second Single.
6 5 3 2 7 1 4	5 6 3 2 7 1 4
6 5 2 3 7 4 1	5 6 2 3 7 4 1
5 6 2 7 3 1 4	6 5 2 7 3 1 4
5 2 6 3 7 4 1	6 2 5 3 7 4 1
2 5 6 7 3 1 4	2 6 5 7 3 1 4
2 6 5 3 7 4 1	2 5 6 3 7 4 1
6 2 5 7 3 1 4	5 2 6 7 3 1 4

The same series of three courses are used in the first and second quarter-peals and another series in the third and fourth quarters.

First Series.	Second Series.
2314567 2 3 7 8 9 10 11 12	2314657 4 5 9 10 11 12 13 14
3217564 - - - - -	3415672 - - - - -
2175364 - - - - -	4375612 - - - - -
3145267 - - - - -	4523617 - - - - -

The exceptions to be made in the repetition of the two sets of courses are shewn in the calling given below.

It will be seen that the seventh comes home at each third course-end. Each of the quarter-peals given has to be repeated, and the singles given above require to be called at the eleventh six in the last course of the second and fourth quarter-peals.

5040.

First quarter-peal.	Third quarter-peal.
2 3 1 4 5 6 7	2 3 1 4 6 5 7
3 2 1 7 5 6 4	3 4 1 5 6 7 2
2 1 7 5 3 6 4	4 3 7 5 6 1 2
3 1 4 5 2 6 7	4 5 2 3 6 1 7
1 3 4 7 2 6 5	5 3 2 1 6 7 4
3 4 7 2 1 6 5	3 5 7 1 6 2 4
1 4 5 2 3 6 7	3 1 4 5 6 2 7
2 3 5 7 1 6 4 Call 7-8.	1 5 4 2 6 7 3
3 5 7 1 2 6 4	5 1 7 2 6 4 3
2 5 4 1 3 6 7	5 2 3 1 6 4 7
5 2 4 7 3 6 1	2 1 3 4 6 7 5
2 4 7 3 5 6 1	1 2 7 4 6 3 5
5 4 1 3 2 6 7	1 4 5 2 6 3 7
4 5 1 7 2 6 3	4 2 5 3 6 7 1
5 1 7 2 4 6 3	4 2 7 1 6 5 3
4 1 3 2 5 6 7 Single instead of a bob at 11.	4 1 3 2 6 5 7

J. J. B. LATES.

A more satisfactory example of this peal, with two common singles only, is to be found in the earlier editions of Hubbard's *Art of Ringing*. In this peal the same sets of three courses are used in the half-peals, although the peal is there given with the

respective sets of three courses, as follows, used for the two different half-peals, that is, the basis of the calling previously used for the second half-peal is now used for the first half, and *vice versa*.

First Series.	Second Series.
2314567 4 5 9 10 11 12 13 4	2314657 2 3 7 8 9 10 11 12
3416572 - - - - -	3217654 - - - - -
4376512 - - - - -	2176354 - - - - -
4623517 - - - - -	3146257 - - - - -

Each of the different half-peals has to be repeated, but a common single has only to be made at the first six in each half-peal, instead of the bob and single made in the previous peal. This peal therefore contains 240 bobs and 2 common singles.

5040.

First quarter-peal.	Third quarter-peal.
2 3 1 4 5 6 7	2 3 1 4 6 5 7
3 4 1 5 6 7 2 Call s. at 1.	3 2 1 7 5 6 4
4 3 7 5 6 1 2	2 1 7 5 3 6 4
4 5 2 3 6 1 7	3 1 4 5 2 6 7
5 3 2 1 6 7 4	1 3 4 7 2 6 5
3 5 7 1 6 2 4	3 4 7 2 1 6 5
3 1 4 5 6 2 7	1 4 5 2 3 6 7
1 5 4 2 6 7 3	2 3 5 7 1 6 4 Call 7-8.
5 1 7 2 6 4 3	3 5 7 1 2 6 4
5 2 3 1 6 4 7	2 5 4 1 3 6 7
2 1 3 4 6 7 5	5 2 4 7 3 6 1
1 2 7 4 6 3 5	2 4 7 3 5 6 1
1 4 5 2 6 3 7	5 4 1 3 2 6 7
4 2 5 3 6 7 1	4 5 1 7 2 6 3
4 2 7 1 6 5 3 Omit 7-8.	5 1 7 2 4 6 3
4 1 3 2 6 5 7	4 1 3 2 5 6 7

VARIATION BY J. J. B. LATES.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

ON Tuesday, February 10th, the above society held their thirteenth anniversary at Drayton, Berks. Notices and invitations had been previously sent to life members not in residence at the University, but they did not turn up in force, chiefly owing to other engagements. At about 1 p.m. the party assembled at the Vicarage, Drayton, where a luncheon had been hospitably provided by the Rev. F. E. Robinson. On proceeding to the tower, a start was made for Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples. A. F. M. Custance, 1; Rev. C. D. P. Davies (conductor), 2; J. R. Vincent, 3; Rev. F. E. Robinson, 4; Rev. F. A. H. Du Boulay, 5; C. W. H. Griffith, 6; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 7; G. F. Scott, 8; but owing to an unfortunate shift arising from the inaudibility of one of the calls, "stand" was called. General ringing was then commenced, as there was not time to start for another peal. It comprised Stedman Triples, with excellent striking, Treble Bob Major, Plain Bob Major, and several touches of Grandsire Triples for the sake of the less proficient. The bells were then lowered after about three hours' ringing, and the party returned to the Vicarage. As some of the members had to catch a train, they left Drayton at 6 p.m., and the rest proceeded to the "Crown and Thistle," Abingdon, where a substantial dinner had been ordered. Afterwards, handbells were resorted to, until the 9.10 train for Oxford was due to start, when the party broke up. The society take this opportunity of tendering their hearty acknowledgements to the Rev. F. E. Robinson for his kindness and hospitality, on this and many other occasions, and for the practical and beneficial interest which he has always taken in its welfare.

WORCESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE members of the above Association held their Quarterly Meeting at Evesham, under the presidency of the Rev. C. Burton, the vice-chair being occupied by Mr. John Perks, Master of the Association. Representatives attended from Colwall, Malvern, Bromsgrove, Worcester, Evesham, etc. The minutes of the last meeting being read and confirmed, it was resolved to hold the next Quarterly Meeting at Kidderminster in the Easter Week, of which due notice will appear in "THE BELL NEWS." A vote of thanks was passed to the vicar for the use of the schoolroom; also a vote of thanks to the Rev. C. Burton for presiding, and to Mr. S. Harvey, captain of the honorary members of the Evesham society, which brought the meeting to a close.

MARGATE CHURCH BELLS.

A public meeting has recently been held at St. John's Hall, Margate, under the presidency of the Mayor, "to consider the dangerous state of the peal of eight bells connected with the Parish Church, and to receive and discuss a report thereon." There was a fairly large attendance, which comprised the Rev. E. H. Blyth, Churchwardens Malins and Young, Dr. Rowe, Mr. T. H. Boys, Mr. Candler, Mr. Councillor Loe, Mr. E. H. Thorne, Mr. Golder, Mr. Paramor, Sergeant Rumbold, Mr. White, etc.

The Mayor, in opening the proceedings, said it might appear strange to many that he should take the chair on an occasion like that, but he had been asked to occupy the position in order that whatever appeal was decided upon should be made, not to churchpeople only, but to everyone who resided in the town, the peal of bells being the only one that Margate possessed. His Worship concluded by calling upon the Vicar to read a report.

The Rev. E. H. BLYTH said he had a very straightforward story to put before the meeting, and he should not detain them very long. After apologising for the absence of Mr. John Bayly and Mr. Cobb, he stated that two or three years ago the ringers from Canterbury Cathedral asked permission to ring in the belfry, and permission was granted as a matter of courtesy. They rang for a short time, when they came to a sudden stop, and they reported that no ordinary ringers could use the bells, as it required such hard work to ring them. The regular ringers had not made any complaint about them, and he thought it better, therefore, to defer the matter until it was brought forward in some distinct and definite way. At the close of last year he was given to understand that the tower was in a very unsatisfactory state, and he consequently called a meeting of prominent parishioners, the outcome of which was that Messrs. Mears and Stanbank, an old firm in London, should be communicated with. A letter was accordingly written to this firm, who sent a representative to Margate, and he very carefully examined the tower and bells. He subsequently made a report to his employers, from whom a letter was received on the 4th of November, stating that the eight bells came from their foundry a hundred years ago. They reported that the bells were in a sound condition, but that all were worn a little at the parts where the clappers struck. It was added that the oak frame was so much dilapidated by wear and tear, and the fittings required so many renewals, that they had come to the conclusion that nothing less than an entirely new frame and fittings would ensure the satisfactory working of the bells. Messrs. Mears and Stanbank therefore submitted an estimate of the cost of taking down the bells and old framework, and re-hanging the peal in a new frame of best seasoned English oak, with new fittings and reversed staples. After the receipt of that estimate, a public meeting of the parishioners was decided on, it being felt that, as the peal was the only one in the town, if the work recommended was necessary, it would be desirable to have it done. That was how the matter stood up to last week, since which time he had been spoken to by the regular ringers on the subject, and they urged that nothing was really wrong with the tower or bells, otherwise they would have been the first to complain. He felt that there was a great amount of respect due to what the men said, but he could only leave it to the meeting to say what was to be done, with the suggestion that it would be wise to appoint a small committee to consider the whole matter, and submit a report to another meeting.

Remarks were then invited, and speeches against the alterations were made by Councillor Loe and some of the ringers, while members of the Margate Amateur Band urged that something was required to be done, as owing to the heavy pull required, change-ringing could not be executed on the bells. Ultimately a small committee was appointed, consisting of Mr. Bassett, Sergeant-Major Rumbold, Mr. T. H. Boys, Dr. Rowe, the Mayor, Mr. Councillor Loe, Churchwardens Malins and Young, and the Vicar.

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

ALL SAINTS, NEWMARKET.

The energetic Vicar of All Saints, Newmarket (the Rev. E. H. Littlewood) recently intimated his desire for the formation of a company of church bell-ringers in his parish, in affiliation to the Ely Diocesan Association, and invited the ringers of his parish to give in their names for membership, holding out the prospect of an early meeting for the drawing up of rules and election of officers. A gathering for the realization of this preliminary announcement was held at the All Saints' Schoolroom, on Monday, February 2nd, when, at the invitation of the Vicar, the Rev. K. H. Smith, Secretary of the Ely Diocesan Association attended and gave an interesting and humorous explanatory address. Ringers were present in good numbers, with interested parishioners, and the satisfactory issue of the resolution to form a parochial association, the election of officers, and the discussion of rules, was reached, the cordial nature of the proceedings and the general desire manifested for the formation of such a necessary society auguring well for

its practical success. The Vicar presided, and was supported by the Rev. K. Smith (Ely), the deputation; the Rev. C. S. Stubbs (curate), Messrs. H. Martin (churchwarden), J. Button, H. Feist, T. J. Moakson, S. Gardner, A. G. Clarke, T. Ashford, R. Chapman, and W. Taylor, with the following young ringers:—Messrs. A. Sadler, A. Cook, R. Fuller, J. Ashford, J. Gregory, A. Peachey, L. Chapman, W. Mason, A. Bayley, S. Swann, and R. Kent.

The VICAR, in his opening remarks, said he had called the meeting together in order that they might have the bells in their parish church rung. They were fortunate in having a peal of eight bells. He was pleased to see such a good number present. When he came to the parish he was pleased to find such a good peal, and was anxious that they should be rung in the best sense of the term. They had taken some little trouble to get together a band of ringers, and he was desirous that a Association should be formed. To this end he had asked his friend Mr. Smith, the Secretary of the Ely Diocesan Association, to attend that evening and give them instruction in the matter. He was exceedingly pleased to see such a number of the men there that night, and was quite sure that they would form a good Association. The first great point was that they must adhere to the rules. To his mind no music was more delightful than that of the bells, if well rung, although he did not think the near residents to the church appreciated it. He would call upon Mr. Smith, who was well acquainted with the subject, to address them.

The Rev. K. H. SMITH said he had great pleasure in being present to give them a start in forming a society for bell-ringing in Newmarket, and did so in the interest of good ringing. It would be absolutely necessary for them to form a society. After some humorous references to the peculiarly irascible natures of ringers and singers, and the infliction that poor bells were, he said that he was sorry there was so little interest in ringing in the district, and on this ground he, therefore, welcomed the invitation of the Vicar to attend and address them that evening. He would encourage ringing because it required mind and brain. To him it was a bad thing for a place where men were slinking about the streets when there was a good peal of bells in the parish church. The ringers, he found, were generally the best men in the parish. He hailed with pleasure the opportunity of forming a society there. It was an absolute necessity that they should, strictly act up to their rules. They would want as officers—a president, who would always be the Vicar of the parish—a leader, secretary, and treasurer. No man would become a good ringer unless he could stand "slanging," which, as he illustrated from his University boating career, was a trying ordeal of correction. They had got a very nice ring of bells, and he was sure they could form good bands with those ringers present that night. He had sent one of his ringers on the sly to Newmarket, but he could not find a ringer in the parish, and he (the deputation) was, therefore, much gratified to find such a promising number of young men present. In concluding, he said they must remember that the best service of the ringers was in the service of the Church, and that the bells were intended for that service and the glory of God.

A desultory conversation then ensued, and it was eventually resolved that the members of the new society should meet again at eight p.m., when the rules should be discussed, and, when settled, that they should be placed in the belfry and, printed on cards, supplied to each member.

The Rev. K. H. SMITH advised the members to be very firm in the enforcement of the rules in the matter of attendance.

The VICAR then said it was with great pleasure he had noticed such a good company present, and the evident desire that they should become change-ringers. He had no doubt but that there would be no difficulty in floating the Association and obtaining funds.

Mr. BUTTON proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Smith. They should accord Mr. Smith a vote of thanks for instructions, which, if they followed them out, he had no doubt but what they would lead to success. The vote was heartily accorded, and

Mr. SMITH, in replying, said it was one of the most encouraging and hopeful meetings he had attended.

On the motion of Mr. FEIST, a vote of thanks was also given the Vicar for his services in the chair, and, in acknowledging the vote,

Mr. LITTLEWOOD said that it had been a very pleasant evening. He had been anxious since he came into the parish and found that they had the good peal of eight bells, to find the "right stuff" for a Ringers' Association. As they knew, he was not in a hurry in these things, and he thought they had found the "right stuff" there that evening.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

LEEK MEETING.—Members attended from Biddulph, Ellaston and Norton. There was some good ringing, touches of Oxford Treble Bob Major and Bob Triples being rung. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor on the back six. S. Sheldon, 1; E. Glover, 2; F. Walwyn, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; J. Baddeley (conductor), 5; W. Carter, 6. E. Glover, Brough and Baddeley are from Norton, the rest from Leek.

In Memoriam.

JOHN ELLIS.

On Tuesday, February 3rd, Edward Smith, William Sheldrake, Isaac Mobbs, George Prime, John Bentley, George Mobbs, Frederick Smith, and Captain Moore, rang touches of Oxford Treble Bob, at All Saints' Church, Alburgh, with the bells half-muffled; and on Saturday, February 6th, Edward Smith, the Rev. C. F. Blyth (formerly curate of Redenhall, who was on a visit to Archdeacon Perowne), William Sheldrake, Robert Whiting, George Prime, Frederick Smith, John Smith, and Captain Moore, rang touches of Oxford Treble Bob and Grandsire Triples, on the bells of St. Mary's church, Redenhall, in memory of John Ellis, who had been a member of the Redenhall Society for about 70 years, and died on Sunday January 25th, 1885, aged 93 years, and was probably the oldest ringer in the county of Norfolk. Mr. Ellis was born at Hempnal, in Norfolk, about seven miles from Redenhall, and when a young man came to live at Redenhall, and very soon began to learn to ring. He was a member of the Redenhall Society when the first peal recorded on a tablet in the tower was rung, in 1817, and hoped to have been one of the band, but was put out by older hands. He rang the 2nd in the next peal, 6400 Oxford Treble Bob, in 1820, which took 4 hrs. 16 mins. to get through. Again he rang the 2nd in 8000 changes of Oxford Treble Bob, in 1828, which took 5 hrs. 9 mins to accomplish. This peal was discovered to be false, on being sent up to the band of Norwich Scholars, who wished to ring it in one of the towers at Norwich, but not till after the board recording it had been erected in Redenhall tower. It had been sent up to Norwich to be proved before it was rung at Redenhall, and declared to be all right. It was composed by John Ringer, who rang the tenor to it, and should have conducted it, but called the first bob in the wrong place, and was corrected by Edward Whiting (grandfather of the present Robert Whiting), to whom he gave up the conducting of the rest of the peal. In 1849 John Ellis rang the 2nd in 6016 changes of Oxford Treble Bob, which took 3 hrs. 56 mins. to complete. The last peal he took part in was the great peal of 10,080 changes of Oxford Treble Bob, at Redenhall, in 1860, in which he again rang the 2nd, and which occupied the long space of 6 hrs. and 25 mins. to accomplish. At the finish he looked as fresh or fresher than any one of the band, though he then was 68 years of age. During his ringing career, he lived for a time at Alburgh, and rang on those bells a 5000 of Oxford Treble Bob, and 5040 Bob Major, about the year 1831. Soon after his first peal at Redenhall, he rang in a peal of 5000 Treble Bob, at Fressingfield. He also rang in the 5088 Oxford Treble Bob, at Halesworth, about the year 1855 or 1856, and in 5088 of Oxford Treble Bob at Southwold, about the year 1857 or 1858. About thirty-eight or forty years ago he conducted 6000 changes of Bob Major, at Redenhall, and about the same time, and on the same bells, conducted 5024 changes of Oxford Treble Bob, in which Benjamin Smith rang the tenor. He was a fair conductor, in fact at one time, was the usual conductor of the Redenhall band on occasions of practice, etc. He is the second of the 10,000 band who have departed this life, the other six being all alive and fairly well at this present time. Mr. Ellis always expressed a wish to be buried within sound of the bells he loved so well. Archdeacon Perowne had kindly given his consent that he should be buried alongside his wife, who lies close under the tower at Redenhall, but his family, with whom he had lived for some years at Hempnal, buried him at that place before Archdeacon Perowne or the ringers knew of his death. John Ellis and his wife lived together for many years, but had no children. He was a farm labourer, and he and his wife, by industry and frugality, had managed to scrape together a considerable sum of money, between £300 and £400 it is said, but of late years, since his wife's death, by misplaced confidence, had lost the whole of it, and for the last two years had been receiving 2s. per week from the parish.

DAVID MORGAN.

One of the cleverest of Bristol ringers has just passed away from our midst, much to the regret of a large circle of friends and *confreres*. Mr. David Morgan had been a change-ringer for the long period of forty-eight years, and was well known in belfry circles. His funeral was largely attended by friends and members of the ringing confraternity, and as the funeral *cortege* wended its way through the city, the solemn tones of the bells of Christ Church (muffled) pealed forth, as the body passed beneath the shadow of the church where he himself had so often loved to ring. The funeral service at Greenbank cemetery was impressively conducted by the Rev. Pitt Eykyn, vicar of Ashton-gate, and honorary secretary of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, of which the deceased was a valued and respected member. Mr. Morgan was an intelligent man, with whom a conversation was enjoyable, as he was well-informed upon topics of general interest. He rung his first peal at St. Mary-le-port Church in 1845, and had rung a great many peals of Triples, being the conductor of the St. Mary Redcliffe and St. Stephen's ringers for many years. He called

Thurstans' peal of Stedman Triples at Christ Church, a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at All Saints, and took part in the peal of Grandsire Caters at St. Mary Redcliffe, tenor 52 cwt; also one at St. Nicholas. He was highly respected not only by his brother ringers in Bristol, but throughout the country. He was a member of [the College Youths for many years.

JOHN GREENHALGH.

In the course of his sermon on Sunday evening, the Vicar, Rev. Chas. Lowe, M.A., of Bolton, referred to the late John Greenhalgh, Esq., for 15 years Vicar's Warden, and a prominent churchman of the town of Bolton, who had been the previous week interred at Ainsworth church, being carried to his last resting place by six of the ringers, in whom he had always taken the greatest interest, it being mainly through his exertions that the present fine peal of eight bells were placed in the tower, and the ringing-room made one of the most comfortable in the county. He was also a life-member of the Lancashire Association of Change-Ringers, and always attended its annual meetings. Muffled peals were rung each evening from his death to his interment, consisting of 504, 840, and 2,000 changes; and when the funeral sermon was preached, the bells were half-muffled. He had for 61 years been connected with the principal bank in the town, and for 27 years its head manager.

JOHN COX,

Of the Royal Cumberland Society, died January 29th, 1885.

One of the links that bound us to the past
Is snapped; and he who rang so off
O'er ringers' graves, is now himself laid low;
And for him, too, the bells sound sad and soft.
For fifty years his hand was never tired
Making sweet music for his fellow men;
If discord sometimes rose, what wonder then
In fifty years?
But now he's gone; and, solemnly with tears
His end to bless—
Let rivals meet, and o'er the old man's grave
Drink deep the waters of forgetfulness.

SIGMA.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 7th, the February meeting of the above society was held at Wakefield. During the morning ten members rang a 5040 of Kent Treble Bob Royal at the parish church, and during the afternoon various touches were rung at this church, and also on the six bells of Sandal church. The general meeting was held at 5 o'clock when the president, Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq., occupied the chair. Amongst other business transacted was the ratification of a notice which had been given to alter the rules so that the financial and ringing year should close on July 31st, instead of the same day in August. The object of this alteration is to give two months' time for the preparation of the report and accounts of the club, which have to be presented at the general meeting in October. In the absence of any direct invitation it was decided that the appointment of the place for the June meeting be left to the discretion of the committee. Several members spoke on the desirability of making the October meeting a specially notable one, as by that time the society will have completed the tenth year of its existence. The chairman expressed his opinion that the October meeting should be held in some place where a large number of the members might, without much inconvenience, be brought together, and that an endeavour should be made to secure the services of some one of the many clergymen who now take a direct interest in change-ringing to address the members at a special service which he hoped could be arranged on the occasion. Votes of thanks were passed to the vicars and churchwardens of the Wakefield and Sandal churches for the use of the bells during the day, and also to the Wakefield ringers for their invitation to hold the meeting at Wakefield. A vote of thanks to the president for his services in the chair concluded the business of the meeting.

THE COX JUBILEE FUND.

As most of the readers of "THE BELL NEWS" are aware, a jubilee fund was started some time ago for the benefit of Mr. Cox, which has not come to a close. There are two or three outstanding promises yet unfulfilled. Mr. Cox had benefited by this fund, as he had been drawing on the treasurer for some twelve months. The intention was, had he survived, to have made another call upon his friends for additional funds when required. By his rather sudden death, all such speculations are upset, and it may be added that most of the committee of this fund agreed that a funeral befitting the position the deceased held in the ringing world, should be given him. This has therefore been done, a private grave for two persons purchased, and negotiations are pending as to a stone that shall mark the spot; when completed, a statement will be submitted by H. DAINS, Hon. Sec.

THE SHIPWAY REPRINT.

The subscription-list for the re-issue of this work is closed. To the many letters we have received concerning it a reply will appear next week. The many requests made to us relative to a second form of publication will be considered, and decided upon in a day or two.

RECEIVED:—J. M. Cooper, P. Prinold, R. Hutton, C. D. Raper, Isaac Vickers, J. H. Waldron, J. Waghorn, jun.

"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.

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.

E. JORDAN.—The plan of the so-called "new" method was known very many years ago. Though willing to recognise true genius in young aspirants, we must say that most of these "inventions" are not worth committing to paper. Perhaps you may think with us that a further explanation is unnecessary.

S. SLATER.—We will with pleasure look over the ms.

J. OSMER (U.S.).—We must see what you refer to before any decision upon it can be arrived at.

H. BASTABLE.—We be pleased to do so at the earliest opportunity.

FALSE COMPOSITION.—The peal of Bob Major by J. Hopwood, published in our issue of the 7th instant, is false.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1885.

The Metropolis.

DEPTFORD, KENT.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

Muffled Peal.

On Monday, February 9, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT ST. NICHOLAS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 21 cwt.

HARRY W. GROUT Treble	FREDERICK W. THORNTON 5.
WILLIAM PEAD 2.	†THOMAS TAYLOR 6.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE* 3.	†ABRAHAM G. FREEMAN .. 7.
THOMAS G. DEAL† 4.	WILLIAM H. FREEMAN .. Tenor.

Conducted by ABRAHAM GEORGE FREEMAN.

The above was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Mr. John Cox. The Brothers Freeman hail from Lewisham; Messrs Thornton and GROUT from Greenwich; Messrs. Weatherstone, Taylor and Pead from Rotherhithe; and T. Deal from Lee.

*College Youth. †Cumberland Youths.

STRATFORD-LE-BOW, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, February 10, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

SAMUEL E. JOYCE* Treble	CHARLES BEECH 5.
JAMES PETTIT 2.	HENRY SPRINGHALL 6.
LEWIS GREEN† 3.	EDWARD TURNER 7.
ARTHUR CUTMORE 4.	ARTHUR HAYWARD Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

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

The Provinces.

CARSHALTON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Wednesday, February 4, 1885, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 1-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G#.

CHARLES MARTIN* Treble	JAMES TRAPPITT 5.
JOHN BRANCH 2.	*JOSEPH FAYERS 6.
EDGAR BENNETT 3.	*GEORGE PELL 7.
JAMES HARRIS* 4.	JAMES CAWLEY Tenor.

Conducted by EDGAR BENNETT.

*First peal of Bob Triples. This is the second time this peal has been rang, having been rung the first time by a Beddington band with the same conductor, on February 4th, 1882, at their own church. Pell hails from Streatham, Fayers from Mitcham, and the rest belong to Beddington.

LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, February 7, 1885, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

JOHN SLATER Treble	FREDERICK PITSTOW .. 5.
ZACHARIAH SLATER 2.	*PERCY CHAS. S. SCOTT .. 6.
OLIVER THOS. GARWOOD .. 3.	*W. J. NEVARD 7.
SAMUEL SLATER 4.	ERNEST A. PITSTOW .. Tenor.

Composed by SAMUEL SLATER, and Conducted by

FREDERICK PITSTOW.

The above was rung to celebrate the birthday of W. J. Nevard. This peal is a variation on the old plan, and contains 123 bobs. The Messrs. J. Slater, Z. Slater, S. Slater, and Oliver Garwood, hail from Glemsford; F. and E. Pitstow from Saffron Walden; P. C. S. Scott from Long Melford; W. J. Nevard from Great Bentley. *First Peal.

WAKEFIELD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 7, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 31 cwt.

TOM PRINCE Treble	JOSEPH H. HARDCASTLE .. 6.
JAMES FIRTH 2.	WILLIAM FIRTH 7.
RICHARD WRIGLEY 3.	JOHN T. HOLLIS 8.
THOMAS POLLITT 4.	THOMAS HATTERSLEY .. 9.
JOSEPH CHEETHAM 5.	ROBERT BINNS Tenor.

Composed by the late JOHN REEVES, and Conducted by RICHARD WRIGLEY.

This peal is in ten courses. Messrs. Pollitt, Cheetham, and Hardcastle hail from Bradford; Hattersley from Sheffield; Binns from Leeds; the others belong to the Wakefield company.

NEWCASTLE.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF NEWCASTLE AND GATESHEAD YOUTHS, AND THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 7, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' 5-PART. Tenor 30 cwt.

JAMES WEDDLE Treble	ERNEST W. SCOTT 5.
ROBERT H. RICHARDSON .. 2.	EDWARD WALLIS 6.
THOMAS DENTON 3.	SENGENT POWER 7.
JOHN SIMM 4.	GEORGE STOBART Tenor.

Conducted by EDWARD WALLIS.

First peal on the bells. Messrs. Weddle and Power belong to St. Andrew's; Scott to St. John's; Denton and Simm the Cathedral; the others belong to St. Stephen's.

SPARE COPIES OF "THE BELL NEWS."—Mr. Albert Wreaks, of 11 Dover Street, Higher Crumpsall, Manchester, has the following numbers to spare if any one is short of them, viz., 61, 62, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 109, 110, 112, *113, *114, *115, 117, 131, 132, 133, 135, 136, 139, 140, 141. *Two each. Any person can have them if they will send him their name and address.

DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 7, 1885, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 9½ cwt.

FREDERICK A. CASTLE .. Treble.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 5.
JOB HOWES* 2.	C. W. H. GRIFFITHS, ESQ. .. 6.
J. R. VINCENT, ESQ. .. 3.	A. F. M. CUSTANCE, ESQ. .. 7.
REV. F. A. H. DU BOULAY 4.	WILLIAM COX Tenor.

Composed by J. J. B. LATES, and Conducted by
JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

*First peal in the method.

STAVELEY, DERBYSHIRE.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Sunday, February 8, 1885, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 19 cwt.

WILLIAM HARRIS Treble.	ARTHUR KNIGHTS 5.
HENRY MOTTERSHALL .. 2.	WALTER WORTHINGTON .. 6.
JOHN MULLIGAN 3.	JAMES HUNT 7.
JOHN HARRIS 4.	HERBERT MADIN Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and Conducted by
JAMES HUNT.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, was rung to celebrate the 29th birthday of Mr. Mulligan, of Sheffield. It contains the 4th, 5th, and 6th the extent in 6th's place, and was taken from "THE BELL NEWS" of August 9th, 1884.

ASHTON.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 9, 1885, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

HENRY FATHER HEAP* .. Treble.	*CHARLES WILLOCKS .. 5.
JAMES WOOD 2.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 6.
WILLIAM JAKEMAN* .. 3.	GEORGE LONGDEN .. 7.
THOMAS MOSS 4.	SAMUEL WOOD Tenor.

Composed by JAMES WOOD, sen., and Conducted by
SAMUEL WOOD.

*First peal.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE MOTTRAM SOCIETY.

On Monday, February 9, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

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

Composed by JOHN THORP and Conducted by ROBERT WRIGHT.

Thomas Wilde hails from Hyde.

HAYFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February, 9, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS ON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 of each of the following:—

Duke of York; Yorkshire Delight; Merchants' Return; Kent Treble Bob; Violet; New London Pleasure; Oxford.

JOHN VERNON Treble.	ALFRED RANGELEY .. 4.
JOSEPH BROCKLEHURST .. 2.	ABEL HADFIELD .. 5.
THOMAS WHITEHEAD .. 3.	THOMAS BROCKLEHURST .. Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS WHITEHEAD.

This is the first 5040 ever rung by Hayfield ringers.

PRESTBURY, CHESHIRE.

On Tuesday, February 10, 1885, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

JAMES HOLT Treble.	*WALTER INGHAM .. 5.
EDWARD MATTHEWS .. 2.	†J. M. DAVENPORT .. 6.
CHARLES BAMFORD .. 3.	*WILLIAM WALMSLEY .. 7.
WILLIAM MCKENNY .. 4.	†THOMAS MOTTERSHEAD .. Tenor.

Composed from a 9600 of Mr. HENRY JOHNSON, sen., Birmingham, and Conducted by WILLIAM WALMSLEY.

†First peal. *First attempt at Major in the method.

This is the first peal the conductor has called, and the first peal of Major for W. McKenny. Messrs. Holt, Matthews, Bamford, and McKenny hail from Macclesfield, the rest from Higher Sutton, near Macclesfield.

Date Touches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

STAVELEY (Derbyshire).—On Wednesday, February 4th, at St. John's Church, the local company rang a date touch of 1885 changes in the three following Treble Bob methods: 445 Duke of York, 720 of Arnold's Victory, and 720 of College Pleasure, in 1 hr. 9 mins. W. Harris, 1; H. Mottershall, 2; J. Harris, 3; H. Madin (composer and conductor), 4; W. Worthington, 5; J. Hunt, 6; S. Palmer, 7. Tenor 19 cwt.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

NOTTINGHAM.—On Monday evening, February 9th, at All Saints' Church, the following members of the above rang a date touch (1885 changes) of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 21 mins. A. Archer, 1; S. G. Henson, 2; J. Wilson (composer and conductor), 3; J. Wibberly, 4; Rev. W. W. Baker, 5; J. Hickman, 6; H. W. Abbott, 7; G. Middleton, 8. Tenor 17 cwt. This is the longest length of Treble Bob Major rang in Nottingham since December 1826, when a 5040 was rung, and the present company intend very shortly ringing another one.

BURNSALL (Yorkshire).—Muffled Peal.—On Tuesday, February 3rd, the local company rang a date touch consisting of 1885 changes, in the following methods: 109 of Plain Bob; 96 of New London Pleasure; and 240 each of Craven Delight, Oxford Delight, Violet, Duke of York, Woodbine, Oxford, and Kent Treble Bob, in 1 hr. and 9 mins. J. T. Binns, 1; J. P. Birch, 2; Wm. Thompson, 3; S. Whiteley, 4; J. S. Wilkinson, 5; C. Inman (conductor), 6. The above was rung with the bells deeply muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Mrs. Holmes, of the Rectory, who was that day interred at St. Wilfrid's Church, aged 93 years. Tenor 13 cwt.

READING (Berks).—On Sunday, February 8th, at St. Lawrence's, for Divine Service in the morning, a date touch of 1885 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 13 mins. W. H. Holloway, 1; W. Johnson, 2; J. E. Willshire, 3; W. Goseltine, 4; E. Bishop, 5; W. J. Williams (conductor), 6; W. Newell, 7; W. R. Pocock, 8. Composed by J. Carter, Birmingham. This touch appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" of January 10th.

ROTHWELL, NEAR LEEDS (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, February 8th, at Holy Trinity church, for Divine Service, the local company rang a date touch of 1885 changes, in 1 hr. 14 mins., in the following methods:—85 of Oxford Treble Bob; 360 of New London Pleasure; 720 of Duke of York; and 720 of Violet. J. Verity, 1; Alf. Chapman, 2; J. Harrison, 3; Wm. Abbshaw (conductor), 4; J. Chapman, 5; J. M. Chadwick, 6. Tenor 13 cwt. Composed by J. Haigh, sen.

SAWBRIDGEWORTH (Herts).—On Tuesday, February 3rd, at Great St. Mary's church, a date touch of 1885 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 15 mins. T. Newman, 1; R. S. Sworder, 2; A. Brown, 3; F. Sworder, 4; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 5; H. Saban, 6; N. W. Tarling, 7; P. Springham, 8. Composed by John Carter, Birmingham. Tenor 25 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

TWICKENHAM (London).—Muffled Peal.—On Saturday, February 7th, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, eight members of this Society attempted Thurstan's peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells deeply muffled as a last mark of respect to the late Mr. John Cox, but

unfortunately came to grief after ringing 47 courses, in 2 hrs. 20 mins. F. E. Dawe (conductor), 1; G. T. McLaughlin, 2; E. Rogers, 3; E. F. Strange, 4; C. F. Winney, 5; J. M. Routh, Esq., 6; W. D. Smith, 7; D. Newton, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. in Eb.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WOBURN (Beds).—On Friday evening, February 6th, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. Edmund Keech (first 720), 1; Chas. Herbert, 2; A. Morrison, 3; Mark Lane (first 720 as conductor), 4; Walter Chibnall, 5; W. E. Turney, 6.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

LONDON.—*Muffled Peal*.—On Thursday, February 5th, eight members of this society rang at St. Sepulchre's church, a muffled peal as a last token of respect to the late Mr. John Cox, a most distinguished member of this society, who departed this life January 29th, aged 71 years, after three years' suffering from asthma, to the great regret of his brother ringers and numerous friends. J. Nelms (conductor), 1; J. Bayley, 2; H. J. Davies, 3; A. E. Church, 4; J. W. Mansfield, 5; J. Barry, 6; W. D. Matthews, 7; H. Dains, 8; J. Rumsey, 9; D. Lovett, 10. And on Sunday, February 8th, the following members met at St. James's church, Clerkenwell, and rang a peal with the bells muffled to his memory, he having called many peals at this church. G. Newson (conductor), 1; C. Hopkins, 2; T. Titchener, 3; S. Hayhurst, 4; J. Barry, 5; J. Lewis, 6; S. Jarman, 7; H. Hopkins, 8.

LAMBETH (Surrey).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Monday, February 9th, at St. Mary's church, an attempt was made for Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples with the bells muffled, in memory of Mr. John Cox, but it unfortunately came to grief after ringing 2772 changes, in 1 hr. 42 mins., through the rope of the 4th bell stranding. H. J. Davies, 1; W. Baron (conductor), 2; W. Coppage, 3; J. Barry, 4; J. W. Mansfield, 5; G. R. Banks, 6; H. Dains, 7; D. Stackwood, 8. Tenor 18 cwt. It is intended to start for this peal again on Monday, February 23rd.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

JARROW.—On Monday evening, February 9th, at St. Peter's church, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eight bobs and six singles, in 25 mins. Rev. F. N. Thicknesse (first 720), 1; A. English, 2; W. Holmes, 3; J. Chapman, 4; J. Campbell, 5; F. Harrison (conductor), 6. Tenor 8½ cwt.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Wednesday, February 4th, at St. Mary and Nicolas, Spalding, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob and 240 of Kent Treble Bob. J. S. Wright, 1; R. Mackman, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; Dr. Seccombe (Torrington; first 720 in the method), 4; E. Brown, 5; J. Brown, 6. And on Sunday, February 8th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 360 of Plain Bob. C. Neaverson (first 360), 1. And for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. S. Wright, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; E. Brown, 5; J. Brown (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, February, 10th, a 720 of Plain Bob, with twenty-six singles. C. Neaverson (first 720), 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; E. Brown, 5; J. Brown (conductor), 6.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TEWKESBURY ABBEY (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, February 8th, for Divine Service in the evening, the Abbey society rang the first two parts of Reeves's variation of Holts' 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, with three leads for the bells to come home, 1050 changes, in 36 mins. W. Hampton, 1; R. Witherington, 2; S. Cleal, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Wathen, 5; T. Devereux, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; W. Haines, 8.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BISHOPS STORTFORD (Herts).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Monday evening, February 9th, at St. Michael's church, this branch of the above Association rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, having twelve 7-4's, twelve 4-6's, and twelve 6-7's, with Queen's and Tittums, in 47 mins. T. Newman, 1; G. Brand, 2; W. H. Tucker, 3; G. Martin, 4; H. Champness, 5; H. J. Tucker (composer and conductor), 6; H. N. Doughty, 7; J. Sampford, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. This was rung with the bells deeply muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. John Cox.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

Muffled Peal.—On Monday, February 9th, at the church of St. Clement Danes, Strand, the usual funeral peal was rung in memory of the late John Cox, for many years a member of this Society. R. French (conductor), 1; G. T. McLaughlin, 2; E. F. Strange, 3; J. Waghorn, jun., 4; W. Ham, 5; J. Waghorn, sen., 6; R. K. Knights, 7; E. Vinen, 8; J. M. Routh, 9; D. Newton, 10. Tenor 24 cwt. This was followed by several touches with the bells half-muffled, in which other members took part.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Wednesday, January 7th, at St. Paul's church, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung to celebrate the wedding-day of the Rev. Charles Heath, M.A., vicar of this place. Edward Cash (conductor), 1; John Worthington, 2; Samuel Oakes, 3; John Williamson, 4; Joseph Brookes, 5; William Denner, 6. And another 720 of Bob Minor. Edward Cash (conductor), 1; John Worthington, 2; Samuel Oakes, 3; John Welsby, 4; Joseph Brookes, 5; Alfred Potter, 6. And in the evening another 720 of Bob Minor. John Welsby, 1; Edward Cash, 2; John Worthington, 3; John Williamson, 4; Alfred Potter, 5; William Denner (conductor), 6. All rung in 27 mins. And on Sunday, February 8th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor, with twenty-six bobs and two singles, in 26½ mins. John Welsby (conductor), 1; William Denner, 2; John Worthington, 3; James Barratt, 4; Joseph Brookes, 5; Alfred Potter, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt. Messrs. Barratt and Cash hail from Eccles.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

HORWICH (Lancashire).—As the bells of Blackrod parish church has been stopped for ten months, through the tower being considered unsafe, five of the Blackrod company paid a visit to this place on Saturday, January 31st, and with Mr. Joshua Harper, rang a 720 of Bob Minor, with four bobs and fourteen singles, in 26 mins. Also a 720 in the same method, with thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 26½ mins. Richard Watmough (conductor), 1; John Rawlingson, 2; William Croston, 3; George Higson, 4; James Higson, 5; Joshua Harper (Horwich), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

STANDISH (Lancashire).—On Sunday, February 8th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. Denice Booth (conductor), 1; Ralph Rainford, 2; John Grounds, 3; William Croston, 4; Thomas Walker, 5; James Higson, 6. Tenor 11 cwt.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY AND THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—On Monday, February 9th, at New College, on Seage's apparatus, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, Thurstans' composition. H. Castle, 1; J. W. Washbrook, 2; W. Barton, 3; J. R. Vincent, Esq. (St. John's), 4; C. W. H. Griffith, Esq., C.C.C., 5; Rev. C. D. P. Davies (conductor; Pembroke), 6; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., B.N.C., 7; F. Castle, 8.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, February 5th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. E. Glover, 1; J. Morton, 2; F. Walwyn, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; H. Armitt, 5; G. Walker (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. G. Walker, 1; E. Glover, 2; F. Walwyn, 3; J. W. Brough, 4; H. Armitt, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6. Armitt and Walwyn are from Leek.

THE WANSTEAD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

WOODFORD (Essex).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Thursday, February 5th, at St. Mary church, a muffled peal was rung with the usual whole pull and stand, with the bells half-muffled. Also two 360's of Bob Minor. A. Miles, 1; W. Smith, 2; R. A. Swarder, 3; G. Akers, 4; G. Cornell, 5; H. T. Scarlett (conductor), 6. Also several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in which H. Nunn, sen., S. J. Winney, and C. Wallace took part. The above were rung as a last token of respect to the late John Cox, of London. Tenor 12½ cwt.

WORCESTER DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WORCESTER.—On Monday, January 26th, ten members of the above Association rung at All Saints', for practice, a 1098 of Grandsire Caters. J. Clements, 1; N. Wale, 2; H. Pheasant, 3; J. Hinton, 4; F. Owen, 5; W. Blandford, 6; H. Wilks (conductor), 7; W. Page, 8; G. Hobbs, 9; T. Malin, 10. *Muffled Peal*.—And on Saturday, February 7th, at St. Helen's, eight members of the above Association rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Mr. John Cox. Before the quarter-peal the age of the deceased was rung in the usual manner, viz.: whole, pull and stand, and tenor whole pull. J. Clements, 1; J. Hinton, 2; J. T. Horton, 3; G. Hobbs, 4; H. Wilks, 5; J. Perks, 6; T. Gwynne, 7; T. Malin, 8.

ANSTON (Yorkshire).—On Friday evening, February 6th, the local company made their first attempt at a date touch, but it came to grief after ringing 1160 changes in the methods of Duke of York and Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 40 mins., through the treble rope breaking. G. Lidster, 1; R. S. Fox, 2; J. Bland, 3; C. F. Fowler, 4; S. Smith, 5; Thos. Silvester (conductor), 6. And on Sunday afternoon, February 8th, a 720 of Oxford and a 360 and 120 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. *Frederick Machie, 1; J. Marshall, 2; W. Hargreaves, 3; C. Fowler, 4; S. Smith, 5; T. Silvester, 6. Messrs. Mackie and Marshall hail from Worsop, and W. Hargreaves from Shireoaks. *First 720.

BALDOCK (Herts).—On Thursday, February 5th, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, two 233's of Grandsire Triples. T. Webb, 1; J. Phillips, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 4; Robert Jackson, 5; Richard Jackson, 6; J. W. Roslyn, 7; G. Gentle, 8. Also 350 of Grandsire Triples. T. Webb, 1; J. Phillips (conductor), 2; Jno. Cawdell, 3; J. Smith, 4; Robert Jackson, 5; J. W. Roslyn, 6; W. A. Tyler, 7; G. Gentle, 8. And 97 of Grandsire Triples. T. Webb, 1; Jno. Phillips, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Smith, 4; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 5; Richard Jackson, 6; J. W. Roslyn, 7; G. Gentle, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

BASINGSTOKE (Hants).—On Saturday, February 7th, a 720 of London Single Bob, with 7 8 covering, in 30 mins. H. O. Dowling, 1; E. A. Foster, 2; C. A. Clements, 3; T. Blackburn, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; J. R. Jerram (conductor), 6; T. Grey, 7; T. Powers, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. It was intended to ring Grandsire Triples, but unfortunately there were not enough change-ringers present.

BISHOPSGATE (London).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Saturday, January 7th, at St. Botolph's church, the members of the St. Botolph, Aldgate, and Portoken Ward Society rang, as a last tribute of respect to Mr. John Cox, the usual peal with the bells deeply muffled, according with the age of the deceased. E. Wallage, 1; J. Sinclair, 2; Wm. Scholes, 3; H. Brand, 4; W. Williamson, 5; W. Gray, 6; W. Clow (conductor), 7; Jas. Scholes, 8.

BRISTOL.—*Muffled Peal.*—On Monday, February 9th, the St. James's society rang at St. Matthew's church, Kingsdown, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. David Morgan, who was formerly a member of the same. G. Hunt, 1; C. Walters, 2; J. Davis, 3; T. Salter (conductor), 4; R. Knill, 5; A. Parrish, 6; J. Brain, 7; H. Bray, 8.

CHELTONHAM (Gloucestershire).—On Monday, February 9th, nine members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, assisted by Mr. W. T. Billingham, of the Midland Counties' Association, rung for practice a touch of Kent Treble Bob Koyal, consisting of 1350 changes, in 59 mins. J. Belcher (conductor), 1; W. Morris, 2; H. Hodges, 3; W. J. Billingham, 4; H. Karn, 5; F. E. Ward, Esq., 6; F. Musty, 7; W. T. Pates, 8; G. Acocks, 9; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 10.

DERBY.—*Muffled Peal.*—On Thursday, February 5th, at St. Andrew's church, a 360 of Grandsire Minor, in 16½ mins., with 7-8 behind. W. Shardlow (sexton), 1; C. Hart, 2; G. Mattashaw, 3; W. H. Found, 4; J. W. Thompson, 5; A. E. Thompson, 6; C. Sidley, 7; T. Alton, 8. The above was rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the Rev. Canon Hey, vicar of Belper, aged 68, and father to the Rev. Robert Hey, M.A., vicar of the above church, who expired suddenly on Sunday evening, February 1st, after performing the duties of the day. Tenor 20½ cwt. in Eb.

DEWSBURY (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, February 8th, for morning service, a 720 of London Scholars' Pleasure, in 26 mins. Squire Mitchell, 1; *John W. Simon, 2; *Wilson H. Stead, 3; John Blackburn, 4; Geo. H. Simon (conductor), 5; *H. Senior, 6. *First 720. Also for evening service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, with ten bobs, in 27 mins. Squire Mitchell (conductor), 1; Tom Hinchliffe, 2; Wilson H. Stead, 3; John Blackburn, 4; Geo. H. Simon, 5; H. Senior, 6.

GLOUCESTER.—On Wednesday evening, January 28th, at the church of St. Nicholas, the local company rang eighteen 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in honour of the new Dean of Gloucester. D. Dix, 1; P. Daniels, 2; T. Belcher, 3; A. Smart, 4; William Sevier (conductor), 5; H. Merchant, 6. The ringing was arranged by the Rev. J. J. Leice. T. Belcher and W. Sevier are members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, and the Vicar is an honorary member of the local society.

HACKNEY (Middlesex).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Sunday, January 8th, after Divine Service in the evening at the parish church of St. John, the following members of the St. John at Hackney Society rung a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 54 mins. Harvey Reeves, 1; Harry Randall, 2; William D. Smith, 3; James Pettit (conductor), 4; George Marriott, 5; William B. Manning, 6; Alfred Estall, 7; Edward Marriott, 8. The above was rung with the bells muffled, as a last mark of respect for the late Mr. John Cox.

HORSHAM (Sussex).—On Tuesday, February 10th, several members from Crawley and Warnham paid a visit to this place, and with the local company rang a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 46 mins. Richard Dale, 1; William Short, 2; Joseph Newnham, 3; Henry Wood, 4; Harry Cook, 5; William Collinson, 6; Henry Burstow (conductor), 7; Henry Chandler, 8. And 420 in the same method. Also a 504 of Grandsire Triples. William Short, 1; Jacob Brown, 2; Walter Parsons, 3; Henry Wood, 4; William Collinson, 5; Henry Chandler, 6; Henry Burstow (conductor), 7; John Voice, 8.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Monday, February 9th, at St. Mary's, for practice, a 336 and 350 of Grandsire Triples. J. Randall, 1; J. Hare, 2; W. French, 3; A. Squires, 4; W. A. Tyler, 5; S. Hare, 6; W. Allen (conductor), 7; J. Foster, 8. Also a 6-score of Grandsire

Doubles. J. Randall, 1; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 2; *C. Buckingham, 3; A. Squires, 4; W. Allen, 5; W. French, 6; J. Foster, 7; G. Halsey, 8. 6, 7, 8 covering. *First 6-score with a bob bell. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

HIGHER SUTTON (Cheshire).—On Sunday, February 8th, at St. James's church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. Alfred Lawton, 1; W. Ingham, 2; W. Henshall (Gawsworth), 3; J. M. Davenport, 4; W. Walmsley (conductor), 5; Thos. Mottershead, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

LAVENHAM (Suffolk).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Monday, February 9th, at the parish church, touches of Bob Major were rung with the bells muffled, as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Mr. J. Cox. T. Bruce, 1; C. Fisk, 2; Rev. E. Symonds, 3; A. Symonds, 4; H. Smith, 5; W. Snell, 6; J. Boby (conductor), 7; W. Moore, 8. Also W. Boby and Alfred Turner took the 3rd and 4th, and A. Symonds the 7th during part of the evening.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, February 7th, for practice, the local company, with Mr. H. C. Woodward, of Derby (their indefatigable instructor), rang two 6-scores of Bob Doubles. John Wood, 1; Geo. A. Fish, 2; Geo. C. Tunnicliff, 3; Fred. W. Cook, 4; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 5; John Vicars, 6. And a 6-score with J. Vicars at 4th, and F. W. Cook at the 6th. This is the first 6-score of Bob Doubles by all except the conductor. Tenor 16 cwt. in F#.

NEWTON HALL (Durham).—On Thursday, February 5th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 6 parts, in 30 mins. W. Lisle (conductor), 1; J. Charlton, 2; A. Pigg, 3; J. Symm, 4; R. Scott, 5; W. Wear, 6. First in the method by all. Tenor 12 cwt.

NORTHFLEET (Kent).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Thursday, February 5th, four members of the Swanscombe company, with two of the Gravesend company visited this place, and rang at St. Botolph's church, a muffled peal with the usual whole pull and stand, followed by a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins., as a token of respect to the late vicar, Rev. F. Southgate, age 61 years, who was buried at 11.30 that morning. G. Hayes, 1; *W. Harper, 2; W. Martin, 3; F. Hayes, 4; *J. Aitkin (conductor; Gravesend), 5; *B. Spinner (Gravesend), 6. *College Youths.

NORTON (Derbyshire).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Saturday, January 31st, at St. James's church, the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor in 29 mins. J. Goacher, 1; H. Ward, 2; W. Biggin, 3; J. Atkin (conductor), 4; J. Biggin, 5; J. Allen, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. The above was rung with the bells deeply muffled on one side, as a token of respect to the memory of the late Mr. Thomas Lee, who died January 28th, aged 74 years, and was clerk and ringer at this church for fifty years.

PRESTBURY (Gloucestershire).—On Saturday, January 31st, five members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, with Mr. Billingham, of the Midland Counties' Association, rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. F. E. Ward, Esq., 1; Wm. T. Billingham, 2; H. Hodges, 3; H. Karn, 4; G. H. Phillott, Esq., 5; W. T. Pates (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

PUTNEY (Middlesex).—On Monday, February 9th, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, 1330 of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins. F. Weare, 1; J. W. Driver, 2; A. Pittam, 3; C. F. Winny (conductor), 4; A. Tennant, 5; M. Murphy, 6; B. J. James, 7; S. How, 8. Great credit is due to Messrs. Driver, Pittam, Tennant and How, as they have only been three months under the able tuition of Mr. F. Weare, of Willesden.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Wednesday, January 21st, 720 Bob Minor, on handbells, retained in hand, with 22 singles. W. Printz, 1; A. Anderson, 2; W. W. Gifford, 3; E. A. Foster, 4; C. A. Clements, 5; T. Blackburn, 6. And on Saturday, January 24th, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of London Single Bob, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. *J. Short, 1; *E. A. Foster, 2; T. Blackburn, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; *W. W. Gifford, 5; J. R. Jerram (conductor), 6. And, recently, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with Hy. Flower, 1, being his first half-pull ringing.

SHOREDITCH (London).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Sunday evening, February 8th, eight friends met at St. Leonard's church and rang with the bells muffled with the usual whole pull and stand. Afterwards a short touch was rung in 1 hr., as a last token of respect to the late John Cox, who departed this life January 29th, aged 71 years. C. Linstead, 1; J. Charters, 2; W. Sinclair, 3; F. Waites, 4; W. Gray, 5; J. Scholes, 6; R. P. Billing, 7; H. Banham (conductor), 8.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Friday evening, January 30th, 1008 changes of Bob Major, in 31 mins. C. Sillitoe, 1-2; *W. B. Ransom, Esq., 3; *M. Silvester, 4; W. Howell (conductor), 5-6; A. Scott, 7-8. First touch with a bob bell. On Sunday evening, February 8th, at All Saints', a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Campin, 1; Z. Slater, 2; E. Pitstow, 3; F. Wells, 4; O. Garwood, 5; W. Howell, 6; S. Slater, 7; F. Pitstow (conductor), 8. And a short touch of Grandsire Triples. J. Campin, 1; Z. Slater, 2; C. Sillitoe, 3; M. Silvester, 4; W. Bacon, 5; W. Howell, 6; F. Pitstow (conductor), 7;

S. Slater, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. Messrs. Z. and S. Slater and O. Garwood hail from Glemsford; the Brothers Pitstow from Saffron Walden; and J. Campin from Sudbury. A wish was then expressed that at some future date they might obtain permission and be successful in getting a peal of Treble Bob Major on these beautiful bells.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Sunday, February 8th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, for Divine Service in the morning, the local company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 22 mins. G. Hayes, 1; F. Ring, 2; W. Martin, 3; F. Hayes, 4; G. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method on these bells by a local company for thirty years, and the first in the method by all except the conductor.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, February 1st, at All Hallows' church, after Divine Service, a quarter-peal (1280 changes) of Grandsire Major, in 49 mins. J. Davidson, 1; E. F. Strange (conductor), 2; G. Bower, 3; J. Waghorn, jun., 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; J. Waghorn, sen., 6; H. A. Barnett, 7; W. Pye-English, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

WEST HAM (Essex).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Thursday, February 5th, at All Saints' church, the local company rang 1344 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins., with the bells half-muffled as a last mark of respect to the late Mr. John Cox, who in his time rang several peals at this church. G. Pearl, 1; J. P. Bradley, 2; H. Randall (conductor), 3; J. Gobbett, 4; W. Doran, 5; J. Cunningham, 6; S. Jarman, 7; F. Searle, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday, February 8th, at the church of St. Mary Magdalen, after Divine Service in the evening, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Mr. John Cox, in 44 mins. Henry Bright, 1; Henry Jarman, 2; Benjamin Fakenham, 3; James Charles Harvey (conductor), 4; William Watchorn, 5; Edward Richards, 6; Henry Harvey, 7; George Carter (first quarter-peal), 8.

WORDSLEY (Staffordshire).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Monday, February 2nd, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with the bells muffled as a token of respect to Mrs. Westwood, of the Green, mother of one of the company, who was interred on that date. T. Darby, (Wordsley), 1; W. Smith (Darlaston), 2; J. Tinsley (Darlaston), 3; J. Loyd (Wednesbury), 4; W. Lawrence (conductor; Wordsley), 5; R. Beadmead (Stourbridge), 6.

WORTH (Sussex).—On Saturday evening, January 31st, for practice, a 720 of Warnham Court Bob. T. Illman, 1; B. Payne, 2; W. Denman, 3; F. Streeter, 4; F. Rice, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob. T. Illman, 1; W. Denman, 2; J. Tullett, 3; G. Illman, 4; E. Streeter, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. And a 240 of Oxford Bob. W. Denman, 1; T. Illman, 2; J. Tullett, 3; B. Payne, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, February 1st, for morning service a 720 of Plain Bob. W. Owden, 1; B. Payne, 2; J. Tullett, 3; W. Denman, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. And for afternoon service, a 720 of College Single. W. Owden, 1; E. Streeter, 2; W. Denman, 3; F. Streeter, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. And a 240 of Canterbury Pleasure, with T. Illman, 1; the others as before. And after afternoon service, a 600 of Oxford Bob. B. Payne, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Rice, 3; F. Streeter, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Warnham Court Bob. T. Illman, 1; B. Payne, 2; W. Denman, 3; F. Streeter, 4; F. Rice, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. And a 480 of Canterbury Pleasure. T. Illman, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Streeter, 3; E. Streeter, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6.

FRIENDLY MEETING OF RINGERS AT LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK.

On Saturday, February 7th, a friendly meeting of ringers took place in this village to commemorate the birthday of Mr. W. J. Nevard, of Great Bentley, Essex, who, when at the meeting of the Essex Association held at Saffron Walden in January last, made known to the Pitstow Bros. that his birthday would take place that day month, so it was then and there decided that the day should, if possible, be celebrated by ringing a peal, which will be found in another column. Long Melford was the spot selected for the peal, so Mr. F. R. Steed, the respected parish clerk, was at once communicated with, who obtained permission, and the company was arranged by Mr. Saml. Slater, who made every arrangement for the peal, which was accomplished in 3 hours and 18 mins. The rector, who is a Royal Cumberland, as usual was very pleased with the ringing, and gave the company his hospitality, for which they, one and all, wish to return their grateful thanks. The ringers then repaired to the meeting-room at the "Black Lion" hotel, where they were met by others of the Melford company and a pleasant evening was spent in friendly conversation on ringing matters. During the evening a 336 of Double Norwich Court Bob Major was rung on handbells, retained in hand by the following persons. Zach. Slater, 1-2; F. P. Adams, 3-4; F. Pitstow, 5-6; S. Slater (conductor), 7-8.

THE FUNERAL OF THE LATE JOHN COX.

IN accordance with the notice that appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" of last week, the remains of the once celebrated ringer and composer, John Cox, were laid at rest at Nunhead Cemetery last Saturday, the 7th inst., where at least 200 ringers and friends assembled to pay a last respect to their departed friend. As most of our readers know, Mr. Cox was for many years steeplekeeper at St. Bride's, Fleet Street, where his long and faithful services were duly respected, and the Vicar, the Rev. E. C. Hawkings, kindly placed his service, the church and choristers, at the disposal of the steeplekeeper's friends, that the body should be taken into the church, where the first part of the burial service should be read by the rev. gentleman himself. This was done; the body enclosed in a coffin of oak, with black mountings, was drawn upon an open car, followed by three mourning coaches containing the wife, son and daughters, and sister of deceased. Messrs. Baron, Buffin, Rogers and Dains, officiated as bearers. At the entrance to the church, the coffin had a basket with some other choice flowers, through the kindness of Mr. H. S. Thomas. Mr. Churchwarden Pattison was present, and also many parishioners during the service. Mr. H. W. Haley was also present, and followed the body of his old friend to its last resting place, travelling in a brake provided by Mrs. Alfred A. Buffin, for conveying the bearers and ringers to and from the funeral. Many were the heartfelt sorrowful remarks uttered by the numerous friends passing round the grave for a last look at the inscription upon the coffin.

"John Cox, Died 29th of January, 1885, Aged 71 years."

After the officiating minister had pronounced the words, "Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, &c.," the following members rung on the Society's large handbells, a plain course of Grandsire Cinques: John Nelsms, Charles Hopkins, Henry Hopkins, John Rogers, George Newson, William Baron. The coffin here received another token of respect in the shape of a wreath of evergreens, decorated with white flowers, but the donor's name did not transpire. Mr. Cox was a great friend of many of the College Youths, and we noticed the presence of several of these gentlemen upon the ground, Mr. M. A. Wood, Mr. G. Mash, Mr. J. M. Hayes, Mr. Hayward. Most of the company of Royal Cumberlands returned after the funeral to St. Bride's Church, and rang the usual muffled peal, consisting of the whole pull and stand, concluding with a touch of Stedman Cinques, conducted by Mr. H. W. Haley, of the College Youths.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

THE Hon. Secretary requests that all peals rung since June 2nd, 1884, by members of the Association, should be forwarded to him before the end of this month for insertion in the peal-book.

Rayleigh, S.O., Essex, February 10th.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

THE usual Quarterly Meeting will be held at Standish, on Saturday, February 21st. The bells will be open for ringing from two o'clock. Business Meeting at five o'clock in the schoolroom.

Blackrod Brow, Blackrod.

JAMES HIGSON, Sec.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A DISTRICT MEETING of this Association (for ringing only), will be held, by the kind permission of the Vicar, at Croydon, on Saturday, February 21st. The tower will be open for ringing from 3.30 to 5 p.m., and after 5.30.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Association will be held at Erdington, on Saturday, February 14th, when brother strings, whether members of this or any other Association or Society, will meet with a cordial reception. Tower will be open during the afternoon. Business 6.30. Members are requested to pay all dues on or before this date.

King's Norton, Worcestershire.

JOHN WRIGHT, Hon. Sec.

PRELIMINARY NOTICES.—A change-ringing contest will be held at the house of Mr. W. Bevan, "Ring of Bells," Ashton-under-Lyne, on Saturday, February 28th, when suitable prizes will be given.—A handbell contest will take place on Easter-Monday, at the house of Jacob Maud, "Black Bull Inn," Birstall, Yorkshire, when three money prizes will be given for the best course of Kent Treble Bob Major.

WANTED.—Six or eight handbells in good order, cheap, for cash.—C. W. VALENTINE, 5, Princes St., Mansion House.

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FINANCIAL INFORMATION, 1ST JUNE, 1884:—

Total Funds... .. £3,148,166

Total Annual Income... .. 343,271

Amount of Profits divided at the

last Quinquennial Bonus... .. 437,347

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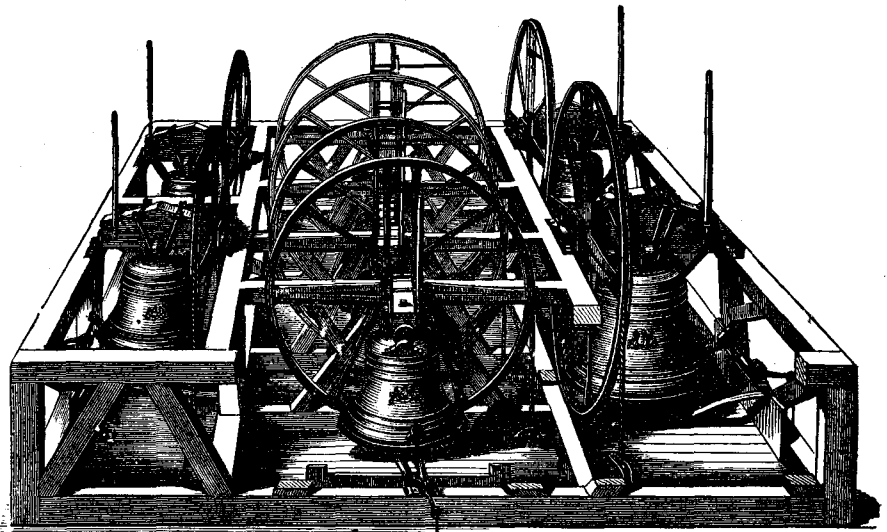
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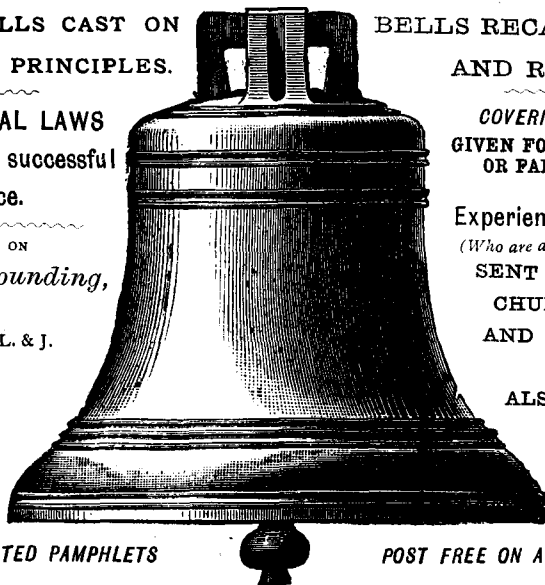
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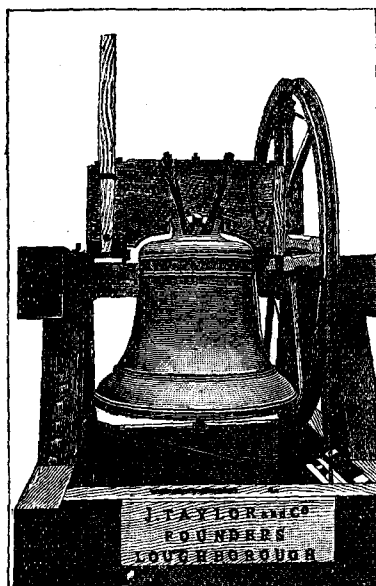
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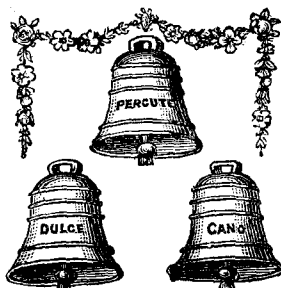
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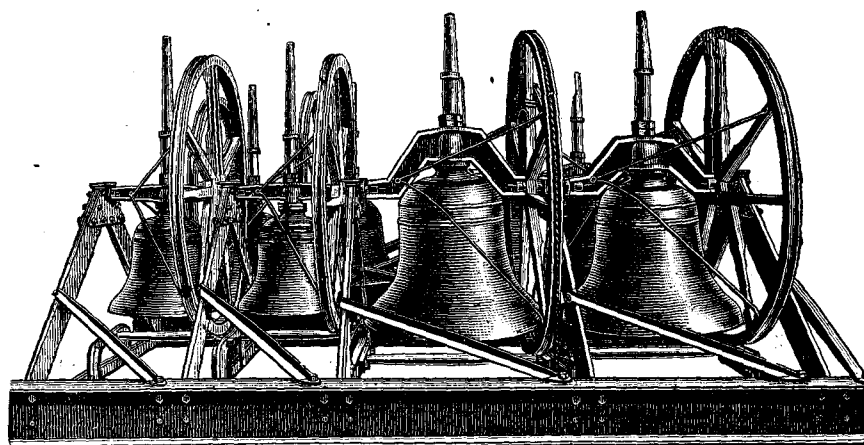
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