

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 160. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. IV.

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1885.

[ONE PENNY.]

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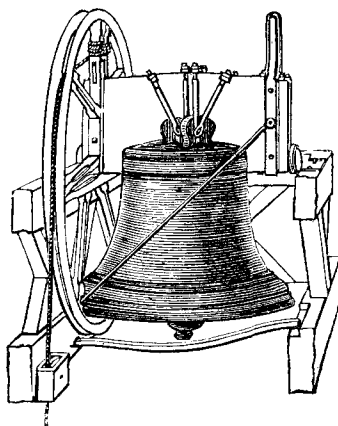
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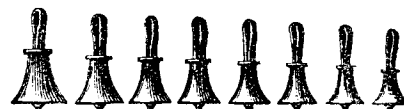
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THE HISTORY OF STEDMAN'S PRINCIPLE.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

On January 11th, 1832, the Sussex Society rang one of Shipway's peals, 362 calls, at St. George's, Camberwell; and in the following year peals by Tebbs, Shipway, and Powell, probably from Shipway's sheet, were rung at St. Peter's, Walworth; St. James's, Clerkenwell; and St. John's, Manchester. About this time several clever men, especially in the Birmingham district, were hard at work, and the names of two of the ringers of the above-mentioned town—John Lates and Thomas Thurstans—began to be connected with the long-sought improvements in this system. W. Hudson, of Sheffield, who it is said had previously composed a peal in the method, also very considerably reduced the number of calls in his peal, as about this period he obtained one with 240 bobs and 22 Holt's singles. The peal by Hudson, which I gave in my collection, is the only one by that composer of which I have ever been able to find the composition. From this peal of Hudson's, Lates composed the one with 120 bobs, 120 singles in 3-4, and 22 doubles—(this peal I gave in my collection): and for a few years the only improved peals were those obtained by a reduction of the calls in Hudson's composition. The most decided of these improvements was a peal rung, for the first time, at Aston, on August 8th, 1842, by the Birmingham St. Martin's Society. This was the first peal ever rung with two Holt's singles only; besides these two calls, it also contained only 240 bobs. There was a good deal of controversy at this time as to whom the credit of this great improvement of Hudson's peal was due, as the removal of twenty out of the twenty-two singles made it incomparably superior to any of the previous compositions. This question was not satisfactorily settled even at that time, as the peal was entered in the record-book of the St. Martin's Society as the "joint composition" of Lates and Thurstans. The controversy came to such a pitch that eventually a circular, of which the following is a copy, was printed by the party who rang the peal. The calling of the peal is given in my collection:—

Copy of circular:— "On Monday, August 8th, 1842, eight members of St. Martin's Society, Birmingham, ascended the tower of Saints Peter and Paul, Aston, and rung in a masterly style a true and complete peal of Stedman's Triples, comprising 5040 changes, in three hours and ten minutes. Tenor 23 cwt. The band as stationed:—
 Mr. James Jarvis, *treble*. | Mr. Joseph Deer, *fourth*. | Mr. Tho. Thurstans, *sixth*.
 Mr. John Hopkins, *second*. | Mr. Thomas Gay, *fifth*. | Mr. Thomas Day, *seventh*.
 Mr. John James, *third*. | | Mr. Jesse Cutler, *tenor*.

The peal was ably conducted by Mr. Thomas Day.

The above peal consists of 240 bobs and 2 singles only, which gives it a decided superiority over any peal yet produced, and is an improvement upon Mr. Hudson's peal, of Sheffield; having twenty singles taken away, which has been done by Mr. Thomas Thurstans, to whom great credit is due.

On February 9th, 1843, a company rang this same peal at Aston church, and Lates was credited with having composed the peal. In the same year some correspondence on this subject appeared in the *Era* (a paper which was then the authority on ringing performances, &c.), and as Hudson and Lates speak for themselves, I quote the different letters and paragraphs.

In "Answers to Correspondents" in the *Era* of December 10th, 1843, the following paragraph occurs:—

"A FRIEND. The progress of the improvements in triple changes on Stedman's principle is as follows.—The first peal in regular parts was the production of the late ingenious Mr. Joseph Tebbs, of Leeds, comprising the 5040 changes with 620 calls, and this was not accomplished until the year 1814. About fourteen years afterwards Mr. Thomas Day, of Birmingham, composed his celebrated peal, 112 calls only, with two bells never dodging together more than eighteen changes behind, at one time, throughout the 5040. This clever composition was succeeded by the peal of J. P. Powell, Esq., with 382 calls, and also by the peal of Mr. Shipway of London, with 362 calls. Mr. William Hudson, of Sheffield further reduced the calls to 262, but a great improvement was afterwards made by Mr. John Lates, of Birmingham, who succeeded in reducing the dodging behind to 12 changes only, and this peal was rung in the style by the Christleton change-ringers in 1840. The last great improvement was also by Mr. John Lates, and is produced by 240 bobs and only 2 singles, which has since been rung five times. Another generation may excel this, but the present will, in all probability, leave it as the *ne plus ultra* of composition in this much admired but intricate system."

A fortnight after, that is on December 24th, 1843, the following letter appeared in the *Era*:—

"CHANGE-RINGING.—Sir: In your answers to correspondents, on the 10th inst., headed 'A Friend,' respecting compositions of triple changes on Stedman's

principle, you are incorrect with respect to the first ten-part peal. 'Twas I who made the discovery in 1814, though I did not give the peal to Mr. Tebbs till the year 1818. Had it been the production of that gentleman, it would have appeared in Mr. Shipway's work on the Art of Bell Ringing. Your informant strangely allows me to be the first who reduced the peal to 262 calls, while he states that there have been compositions since superior to mine. Now of all the new peals none has appeared which has not been compiled from the course-ends of my originals. Mr. T. Thurstans, of Lates of Birmingham, first reduced the peal to 242 call calls. These composers merely call their work an improvement on my peal. This, however, I will leave to the judicious professors of the Art. I am, sir, yours, William Hudson."

An editor's foot-note is added to this letter which runs thus:—

"We have also received a letter from Mr. Henry Cooper, of Birmingham, on this subject, which, in a great measure corroborates the foregoing." In the next issue of the *Era* (December 31st, 1843), the following letter appeared:—

"CHANGE-RINGING.—Sir, In justice to the memory of the late Mr. Joseph Tebbs, I hope you will insert the following. The peal of Stedman's Triples now claimed by your Sheffield correspondent was published in Mr. Tebbs's name by J. P. Powell, Esq. in his work on that system, and presented, gratis, by that gentleman to the *Exercise generally*; and with respect to the last peal, with 242 calls, I beg to say, that when I obtained it, I communicated the same to T. Thurstans, in the presence of witnesses, who heard him declare that the attainment of this most desirable object was quite impossible. I am, Sir, very respectfully yours, John Lates, Birmingham."

In the note-book of the late John Hopkins, of Birmingham, who rang in the first of the performances of this peal, which is claimed by both Thurstans and Lates, I find a note concerning the second of these peals, which runs thus:—

"Mr. John Lates, the author robber. This same peal (Stedman's Triples) was rung for the first time by the St. Martin's Company, Birmingham, at St. Peter's, Ashton, Aug 8th, 1842. It was an improvement upon Mr. Hudson's peal, of Sheffield, having 16 singles taken away, which has been done by Mr. Thomas Thurstans, to whom great credit is due, and four only by Mr. John Lates, both of Birmingham, and is the first ever rung with two singles."

With all these different statements before me, my readers will admit that it was hardly possible for me to form any opinion as to whom the credit for this improved peal was due. When I had the matter in hand (in 1875), I therefore wrote to my friend, Mr. Henry Johnson, of Birmingham, to whose kind assistance, both in the production of this account and collection of peals, I am greatly indebted, asking him if he could give me any definite and trustworthy information on this point. Under date September 24th, 1875, Mr. Johnson wrote that on the previous Tuesday evening he had seen Mr. Thomas Day, who had conducted the peal, who positively assured him that Lates was the real author of the peal; as, although about this time Thurstans made some improvement on Hudson's peal, by cutting some of the singles out, it was Lates who first reduced the number to two singles.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held at Hitchin, on Monday, April 20th. About thirty ringers were present from Baldock, Bennington, Bishops Stortford, Hertford, Sawbridgeworth, and St. Albans. The tower of St. Mary's (eight bells, tenor 28 cwt.), was placed at the disposal of the Association, and ringing commenced about 10 a.m. with touches of Grandsire Triples by Messrs. Hills, Godman, Buckingham, and Cartmel, of St. Albans, and Messrs. W. Allen, W. A. Tyler, J. Hare, and A. Squires, of the local company. L. Proctor, Esq. arrived about noon, with several of his Bennington band; also the Rev. W. Wigram and H. Baker, from Hertford, H. J. Tucker from Bishops Stortford, and G. Rochester from Sawbridgeworth. Touches of Stedman Triples and Double Norwich were then attempted, the latter however was not brought round. At 2 p.m. the company started for Baldock, and some good ringing ensued; 420 Stedman Triples, conducted by H. Baker, 575 Kent Treble Bob Major, conducted by H. J. Tucker, 336 Double Norwich Court conducted by S. Page, and 280 Grandsire Triples, conducted by N. N. Hills, were all brought round in fine style. The company having been joined by Messrs. Phillips, Rosslyn, and several others of the Baldock band, again returned to Hitchin, where a business meeting was held in the schoolroom at 5.30.

The Rev. W. Wigram, Hon. Sec., reported that since the last quarterly meeting two peals of Grandsire Triples had been rung, one at Hertford, being the first since the formation of the Association; the other at Harlow, Essex, which was the first on the bells. A very handsome peal-book had been purchased, which was exhibited at the meeting. Five new ringing members were elected, which now brings the total up to ninety. A vote of thanks to the Rev. Canon Hensley, and the Rev. Canon Kewley for the use of the bells, and also to the Rev. W. Wigram, for his valuable services as Secretary, brought the proceedings to a close. The next quarterly meeting will be held on Monday, July 13th, at Sawbridgeworth.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

SOME of the enlightened inhabitants of the town of Romford, (a town containing a population of 10,000, situate just twelve miles from the metropolis), were evidently of a speculative turn on Saturday last, as to the cause of the arrival of various unique physical-looking visitors and the sudden outburst of St. Edward's bells, followed by the frequent ringing of the same. Generally speaking, the inhabitants are deemed to be possessed of a reasonable amount of loyalty, and probably such may be the fact, but evidently some of them are so interested in the history of the Royal Family that they have actually forgotten the day on which the birth of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria was first announced to the world, for there were individuals who had sufficient credulity to declare that the ringing was in honour of the Queen's birthday. Others who had been believers that the horrors of war were looming in the future, declared at last that Mr. Gladstone had led us through the Afghan dispute safely, and that notwithstanding that our brave soldiers' swords had been sharpened, they would be returned to their sheaths unstained with human blood, and because we had thus escaped from the claws of the Russian bear the bells were ringing. Others desirous of showing their political views, declared it was "primrose day," and that the bells were ringing in order to remind all those within their sound of the death of one of England's noble statesmen. Such were among the absurd explanations that members of the Exercise actually listened to in Romford on Saturday last. Such theories, however, like the old traditional superstition that the parish church of Romford was once swallowed up by an earthquake, and that at midnight the bells can be heard ringing at "old church," found but few believers, as there were among the inhabitants individuals who hailed with pleasure the visit paid by the Essex Association, and who appreciated the ringing which took place during the day. Members of the Association put in an appearance from Walthamstow, West Ham, Barking, Bentley, Dedham, Ipswich, Little Heath, Rayleigh, Galleywood, Brentwood, etc., making altogether about forty present. Ringing was commenced shortly after one o'clock, at St. Edward's, where there is a ring of eight, tenor of the estimated weight of 17 cwt., and of which there are various opinions as to the quality of the metal and the go of the bells, some declaring them to be a fair ring, but require *ringing*, while others say they are unmusical and *noisy*. Whichever is right, some very creditable touches of Grandsire Triples were brought home—in fact such was the result of each attempt in the method during the afternoon. With the exception of a 434, conducted by A. Pye, and a touch conducted by the Editor of this journal, the touches were conducted by A. J. Perkins, the most successful of which were 448, 350, and 223, and also a 448 of Bob Major. In the evening, a course each of Stedman and a course of Kent Treble Bob Major were also rung. By the kind permission of the Vicar of Hornchurch, the tower of the church in connection with the Association was open to members, and a 720 of Bob Minor was rung by the Boreham company. An excellent knife and fork tea was provided in the National Schoolroom, and followed by the usual business meeting. Canon Hitchcock, Vicar of Romford, presided, supported by the Rev. H. A. Cockey, hon. sec. to the Association. Mr. Hennal, of Springfield, was elected an honorary member; Mr. T. Mott, Ipswich, a distinguished ringing member; Messrs. T. Piper and H. Shuttleworth (Widford), W. Pye (Little Heath), and E. F. Cole (Streatham), ringing members. Mr. B. Keeble (Romford), gave notice of moving at the Annual Meeting, that steps be taken for providing members' certificates, and that the question of the design be left in the hands of the hon. sec. Mr. Cockey having alluded to the loss sustained by the Association through the deaths of the late Archdeacon Carey, and the late Rev. J. Francis, of Waltham Abbey, since the last meeting, who had always given the Association such a hearty welcome, and showing such great hospitality to the members, Mr. Randall (West Ham), proposed that a vote of condolence be sent to the relatives of each of the lamented gentlemen, and such was unanimously agreed to. Mr. Perkins (Romford), asked if the hon. sec. knew anything as to the tenor bell at Chelmsford at the present time, as he considered it a farce to hold a meeting where there was a bell that went so bad as that one did at the time of the last Annual Meeting. Mr. Keeble asked if the hon. sec. could give any information as to the progress of the re-hanging of the two trebles in the same tower. Mr. Cockey replied that he was given to understand that the tenor bell was now in a fair condition he had not tried it himself, but understood that it could now be rung to a peal. As to the re-hanging of the two trebles, he could only say that the authorities secured a subscription from him, and he anticipated that they would make an application to the Association to contribute towards such; in fact he expected the application to have been made there that day, but no doubt it would be brought forward at the Annual Meeting. Mr. Randall did not consider the church authorities of Chelmsford had any right to expect the Association to contribute, but that the Chelmsford people ought to see the work carried out at their own expense. Mr. Davies (Barking) suggested that the hon. sec. should put himself in

communication with the authorities at Chelmsford, and request that the work might be completed. The Rev. H. A. Cockey pointed out that Chelmsford was not only the most central position of the county, but was well surrounded with towers, and was therefore the best place to hold a large gathering. He should be most happy to carry out any desire of the members present that would tend to make progress with the work. Mr. B. Keeble supported the suggestion made by Mr. Davies, and referred to the fact that it was through the energy of the late hon. sec. to the Association that the authorities at last moved and had improvements made in Chelmsford belfry, and pointed out that the two trebles were taken back through the happy thought and energy of the present hon. sec. He believed it only required a little gentle pressure, a little influence, and he considered the Association would be lacking in its duty if it did not come forward and support Mr. Cockey in securing these bells back to their former positions. He would propose that the hon. sec. apply for permission to hold the Annual Meeting at Chelmsford on Whit-Monday, and to express a hope that the two trebles would be rehung by that date. This was seconded by Mr. Davies, and unanimously agreed to. In acknowledging a vote of thanks, the chairman said he regarded ringers as churchworkers, just as much as Sunday School teachers or district visitors. They ought to be recognised as such, for they performed an important duty in calling the people to the House of God. When they had done their duty, they ought to remember that it was their place to attend the service, and if they were earnest in their work, they would be communicants. The fact that one of the objects of their Association was belfry reform made it worthy of support. In some places, even in the present day, the belfry was made a smoking and drinking place; where such existed, was owing to the fault of the clergy. In the diocese of Durham, where he resided before he came to Romford, he had no need to take an interest in ringing, for there were only two bells at the church, but he remembered that when instituted to the living, he had to toll one of them. All that he did was to make a little faint noise, and when he came out of the church, a parishioner standing outside, made the remark, "I hope he wont do the rest of his work as he has commenced." He observed the other day, that among those who took the oath of allegiance to the new Bishop of London were the cathedral ringers, showing at once that they were recognised as church workers. Since he had been at Romford, his labours had not permitted him to take a very great interest in ringers, but their meeting that day had been a success, and would no doubt lead him to take a still further interest with them. He wished the Association every success, and trusted they might on another occasion visit Romford, when they would receive a hearty welcome. A vote of thanks to the hon. sec. concluded the meeting. The East London Handbell Ringers were present during the afternoon, and in the evening gave a choice selection of music at the "Swan Hotel," upon their fine toned ring of seventy bells. One single touch of Grandsire Triples, was performed upon handbells by: H. Reeves, 1-2; B. Keeble, 3-4; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 5-6; A. Pye, 7-8.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.—BURTON-ON-TRENT DISTRICT.

A General Meeting of the members of the Burton-on-Trent branch of the above Association was held in St. Paul's Institute, Burton-on-Trent, on Monday, April 20th, 1885, at 8 p.m. Present: The Rev. James H. Fish, Vicar of St. Paul's, and President of the Association; Mr. Wm. Wakley, Hon. Treasurer of the Association; Mr. J. Griffin, Hon. Secretary of the Association, and a fair muster of members from the District. The President took the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were read, and on the motion of Mr. W. Wakley, seconded by Mr. G. Robinson, were unanimously declared correct. The Chairman having explained that the chief object of the meeting was to elect district officers for the ensuing year, the following gentlemen were unanimously chosen: Local Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. Jaggard, 145, Shobnall Street, Burton-on-Trent; Members of Committee, Messrs. A. Wakley and G. Robinson. A letter was read from Mr. H. Dains, congratulating the district on its performances as contained in the Report for the past year, and a vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings. One ringing member was admitted.

Obituary.

WE regret to announce the death of the Rev. C. L. Bode, an active member of The Salisbury Diocesan Guild, and captain of the St. Edmund's company. Mr. Bode preached at the evening service on Easter Day, and took part in the ringing afterwards. On the Thursday following he was taken seriously ill with pleurisy and congestion of the lungs, and died about noon on Saturday, the 18th inst. He was an active parochial worker, and will be very much missed and lamented in St. Edmund's parish.

ALARMING ACCIDENT TO A RINGING PARTY.

It will be within the recollection of many of our readers, especially those who so eagerly scan the records of peals of 5000 changes and upwards, that a band of the Ancient Society of College Youths secured a peal of Grandsire Triples at St. George's, Camberwell, on Easter Monday last. The usual bare record of the ringing of this peal did not of course point to any other circumstance connected with it; and it is only within the last day or two that it has come to our knowledge that an unfortunate event occurred, which we are afraid is likely to cause a great deal of trouble to one, at least, of the parties concerned.

The day in question being of the holiday season, and the distance from the rendezvous to Camberwell between too great for walking, especially on such a day as Easter Monday, when the roads and streets of London are crowded with holiday-making folk, it was agreed by the party to have a conveyance to go by road, the several metropolitan railways being too greatly patronised on that day to be comfortable to an ordinary passenger. As we understand it, the services of Mr. Henry F. Wood (a member of the College Youths, and brother of Mr. Matthew Wood) were required to supply a vehicle for the purpose of conveying the party to the place of meeting. With his well-known willingness to please, Mr. H. Wood, who possesses a pair of horses for business purposes, provided the necessary equipage, and having a practical acquaintance with the equine race, it was considered best that he should accompany the party in the capacity of charioteer. The company arrived at their destination in safety, rang their peal, and after a very brief stay for a slight refreshment, returned towards home. On proceeding along the road, everything apparently all going well, some unaccountable freak of nature suddenly appeared to take possession of the horses drawing the vehicle, causing them to break away from all control, and seemed, as it were, to rush on destruction. The occupants of the vehicle became alarmed, and some of them, fearful of the coming danger, attempted to leave it, one or two of them succeeding, not before, however, they had received a good shaking. Mr. H. Wood manfully adhered to his post, hoping that the fury of the animals would soon exhaust itself, while those who remained, endeavoured by gesticulations of various kinds to prevent other vehicles crossing the path, and thus leaving the coast clear. Had this been effectually done, no great disaster would have happened. On coming near to the end of a road, a tramcar was seen approaching in the direction to which, if it could not be diverted, a collision was imminent. The driver was appealed to by signal to proceed on at a rapid pace to get clear, but his perception being dense, he did just the opposite, and brought his car to a stand. The result was that the animals of the vehicle containing the remnant of the ringing company dashed into the tramcar, and a dreadful collapse was the consequence, the horses—from underneath one of which Mr. H. Wood was rescued—being injured so dreadfully, that one of them had to be killed, and the damage done to the car and the vehicle combined being considerable. It is a great satisfaction to know that no one either in the tramcar or the other conveyance has received any material injury.

Now after such an unfortunate occurrence as this there comes the question—"who's to pay the piper?" We are sorry to hear that Mr. H. Wood has sustained a damage in the loss of his horse, and various breakages, to the tune of nearly £50. Mr. Wood is a hard-working, respectable man, a good ringer (we rung our first peal of Stedman with him), a brother, as we have stated, of the well-known Matthew Wood, and this great loss is a very serious matter to him, much more serious than any one not fully acquainted with his position can thoroughly understand. It is thought there may be among the readers of this paper some who will contribute, however small, to assist him in his loss arising from this unfortunate accident. We hope there may be a great many able and willing to help an old and worthy brother-string in his difficulty and trouble. The smallest contribution will be received and faithfully acknowledged by Mr. Matthew A. Wood, Church Row, Bethnal Green, London, E., or by Mr. James Monday, 12, Mount Street, Whitechapel, E.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE Quarterly Committee Meeting of the above Association was held on Saturday, April 18th, at the house of Mr. William Middleton, "Black Bull's Head," Mottram, Cheshire. The business of the meeting was of a very ordinary character, and was well attended. Early in the afternoon eight members of the Association met to ring a 5024 of Kent Treble Bob Major, but after ringing a short time, the tenor rope broke, and some of the bells were found to go very bad, so it was decided to abandon the peal altogether. The state of the ropes and bells was explained to the Vicar, who happened to be in the churchyard, and had been listening to the bells. The rev. gentleman expressed himself very sorry and said that as soon as there was sufficient money for the object he would have them rehung. The company thanked the Vicar for the use of the bells, and hoped the necessary funds would soon be forthcoming.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

LEISTON (Suffolk).—On Saturday, April 18th, eight members of the above Association, made the attempt (as published in "THE BELL NEWS" of April 11th), to ring the late Mr. T. Day's long peal of 16,608 changes, but after ringing over 10,800 changes, in 6 hours 25 minutes, it unfortunately came to grief owing to a mis-call. W. Ireland (conductor; Diss), 1; W. Motts, 2; C. Mee, 3; E. Pemberton, 4; J. Motts, 5; R. H. Brundle, 6; E. Collings (Worlingworth), 7; P. Meadows (Melton), 8. Messrs. J. and W. Motts, C. Mee, E. Pemberton, and R. H. Brundle hail from Ipswich. The method rung was in the Oxford Variation. Tenor 20 cwt. 2 qrs. 4 lbs. The ringers wish through this paper to tender their sincere thanks to the Vicar, the Rev. B. J. Raven, for the use of the bells, and his hearty welcome, to the Churchwarden, Mr. Borrett, of Leiston Hall, for his kind liberality in providing a dinner, etc.; and also to Mr. Button, Master of the Leiston company, for providing lodgings, and getting the bells ready. The peal of bells were recently increased to eight by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, and are well worth a visit by any company, the go of them are excellent. Another attempt will be made next month if all is well.

ST. PETER'S, WALWORTH, SURREY.

ON Thursday evening, April 16th, the ringers of the above met and rang a touch on the bells, and then adjourned to the school room belonging to the church, where a supper was provided for them by the Rev. J. H. Hazell, M.A., rector of St. Peter's. Twelve sat down to supper, including the Rev. J. C. E. Kidson, B.A., curate, in the chair. After supper the rector presided. Mr. Felton, churchwarden, Mr. Redley, organist, Mr. Hazell, jun., and other guests were present. Some capital songs were sang, and the rector gave an eloquent speech respecting the ringers and the eloquent music displayed on the bells, and said he was very pleased to be present. Afterwards six of the company rang a touch on the handbells, and concluded the evening with musical honours. Mr. Goodchild, verger, catered for the supper, and it was served up in excellent style. The following are the names in the ringers who were present: Messrs. Warrick, Flower, Drury, French, Coxhead, Langdon, Wilkes, Jones, Groves, Summers, and Windley.

EASTON CHURCH BELLS, WICKHAM MARKET, SUFFOLK.

THE peal of five bells in this parish having undergone extensive repairs, were opened on Saturday last, April 18th, by ringers from the following places: Eye, Brandeston, Pettistree, Wickham Market, etc., etc. The bells have all been entirely rehung upon a new, stout English oak frame, and all new fittings complete. The tenor-bell, weighing 10 cwt., has been recast, and is a clean casting, and fine tone, and bears the following inscription: "This bell was recast, and the peal rehung at the expense of the Duke of Hamilton and Brandon, 1885. The other bells have all been turned on the new stocks, and entirely re-tuned, and are now a very musical peal. Through the liberality of the Duke of Hamilton, the ringers were supplied with refreshments at the "White Horse" inn, where a pleasant evening was spent. The new bell is from the Cripplegate Foundry, London, and the work has been satisfactorily carried out by Messrs. George Day and Son, Church Bellhangers, of Eye, Suffolk.

THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

AN Intermediate Meeting of this Association was held at St. Nicholas, Newchurch, on Saturday, April 11th. There were about fifty members present from the following districts: St. Chad's and St. Alban's, Rochdale; St. James', Milnrow; St. Thomas', New Hey; Unitarian Church, Todmorden; St. Peter's, Walsden; St. Luke's, Heywood, and several independent members. They were joined by the Newchurch, Waterfoot, Bacup, Heptonstall, and other ringers. This meeting was one of the best intermediate meetings the Society has had for some time, and it is hoped it may continue to be so, and that the Newchurch meeting may revive other intermediate meetings of the Association. The ringing commenced about 3.40 on the tower bells (a splendid peal by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank), several touches of various methods being rung by the different companies. The bells having to be silent during a funeral, the Committee held their meeting during the same time, after which the ringing was resumed in the tower, and also on the handbells. The Newchurch company provided a very substantial tea for all members requiring it. The Association take the present opportunity of thanking the Newchurch ringers for their kind reception, for everyone seemed to make himself at home. And they also wish to thank the Rector and Churchwardens of Newchurch for the use of the bells.

The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Luke's, Heywood, on Saturday, May 2nd.

JAMES ADSHEAD, Hon. Sec.

"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.

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

A dozen of cards, with a copy of the record of a peal, as it appears in our pages, sent post free on receipt of twenty-six halfpenny stamps.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1885.

It is refreshing to hear an incumbent of an important parish church, while deploring the irregularities which are said to exist in some belfries, confess that "the fault is with the clergy." According to the report of the meeting of the Essex Association, held at Romford last Saturday, and which is printed on another page, this is what the Vicar of Romford, the Rev Canon HITCHCOCK, said when presiding at the meeting. Evidently the rev. canon wished to convey the impression that it was through the want of interest by many of the clergy in their bells and ringers, that the evils he mentioned were allowed to exist. But the root of the evil lies deeper, we think. That the recognition of ringers as Church workers of a somewhat higher degree than the gravedigger is to be commended we all admit, and when the clergy come to place really good ringers upon an equality with the organist or choir, and regard their services quite as indispensable, we are led to think that a good time is coming. But there is one other important matter to be attended to before we can really believe in the lasting sincerity of such friendly declarations. And that is, the endeavour to make the arrangements of the belfry and the machinery of the bells in a condition so that they can be rung with some degree of comfort. A movement of this kind is really the most effective mode of preventing irregularities, and a sure incentive to earnestness among ringers.

We read sometimes of remarkable feats of chiming at Romford, which are certainly very clever, and reflect great credit upon the performers. And under the circumstances in which these gentlemen are placed, we must greatly commend their pluck in persevering with ringing under such unfavourable conditions as surround them. The church of Romford is situated among parishioners who apparently seethe in prosperity and affluence; it stands in a prominent position near the centre of the town, is a most comely-looking edifice, dedicated to St. Edward; such a one in fact as a ringer with the least spark of poetry in his soul would long to ring a peal

at, but, to quote the words of a ringer who took part in a touch there last Saturday—"the place is a slaughter-house." We have rung upon many peals in different parts of England, but our experience of Romford would lead us to regard it as the very last place we should select to ring at if we wished to enjoy the practice.

We would, with the utmost respect, though with emphasis, point out to the vicar of Romford that the most practical way of showing his sympathy with the objects of the Essex Association would be to take steps to have the bells rehung, and the belfry arrangements remodelled. Of course we do not mean to say that he should at once give an order to a bell-founder to do the necessary work, and commit himself to the expense. Such advice would be simply ridiculous. But subscriptions for such a praiseworthy purpose could be solicited, the co-operation of the churchwardens and influential residents secured, and the desired end, we believe, would be soon attained. But the Vicar is the right man to initiate such a movement. And the result, we feel convinced, would bring to him a sense of the most profound satisfaction in having attempted the undertaking, and would also earn for him the lasting gratitude of every ringer in the county.

The Metropolis.

STRATFORD, BOW, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, April 20, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 14 cwt.

SAMUEL JOYCE*†	 Treble.	*ARTHUR BERTRAM WARD	5.
CHARLES BEECH..	 2.	ISAAC G. SHADE	 6.
RICHARD TURNER	 3.	WILLIAM D. SMITH..	 7.
HENRY J. SHADE	 4.	ARTHUR HAYWARD	 Tenor.

Conducted by ISAAC G. SHADE.

Arthur Bertram Ward hails from Derby; Messrs. Shade from Greenwich; the rest are London men. * First peal in the method. † Aged 17 years.

The Provinces.

OXFORD.

On Thursday, April 16, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 41 cwt.

WILLIAM JEFFERY	 Treble.	FREDK. WILLIAMSON	 5.
CHARLES HOUNSLOW..	 2.	THOMAS PAYNE..	 6.
SAMUEL HOUNSLOW	 3.	WILLIAM J. SMITH	 7.
JOB HOWSE	 4.	ANTHONY STRANGE	 Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES HOUNSLOW.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.

THE GLOSSOP JUNIOR SOCIETY.

On Thursday, April 16, 1885, in Three Hours,

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION.

SAMUEL HARROP..	 Treble.	CHARLES BROOKES	 5.
DANIEL JAMES	 2.	*THOMAS JAMES	 6.
WILLIAM HARROP	 3.	SAMUEL KNOTT..	 7.
HENRY COOPER	 4.	JOHN PYE, JUN.	 Tenor.

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

* College Youth.

GARGRAVE, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—GARGRAVE BRANCH.

On Saturday, April 18, 1885, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S THREE-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

WILLIAM CLARKE Treble.	CRISTOPHER LANGSTROTH .. 5.
WILLIAM WRAY 2.	HERBERT MIDDLEBROOK .. 6.
HARRY BIRTWHISTLE .. 3.	JOHN MCKELL 7.
WILLIAM WHITAKER .. 4.	JAMES MCGOUN Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN MCKELL.

The above peal is called without a single.

LEICESTER.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION,
AND THE ST. MARGARET'S SOCIETY.

On Saturday, April 18, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 30 cwt. in D.

JOHN BUTTERY Treble.	*J. W. TAYLOR, JUN., ESQ. .. 6.
JOHN W. WILSON 2.	SAMSON BURTON 7.
STEPHEN COOPER .. 3.	THOMAS WILSON 8.
GEORGE BURROWS .. 4.	JOHN MARLOW 9.
WILLIAM P. COOPER .. 5.	WILLIAM WALKER Tenor.

Composed by ROBERT WILLIAMS, of Liverpool, and
Conducted by JOHN BUTTERY.

*First peal of Caters.

This peal contains the 5th and 6th twenty-four times behind the 9th. This is the first peal of Caters rung by the Midland Counties' Association. Messrs. J. W. Wilson and S. Burton hail from Nottingham; and J. W. Taylor from Loughborough.

HINDLEY, LANCASHIRE.

Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, April 18, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOSEPH PRESCOTT Treble.	EDWARD KAY 5.
EDWARD PRESCOTT .. 2.	THOMAS TICKLE 6.
EDMUND BROWN .. 3.	JOSEPH W. HALL 7.
WILLIAM CHISNALL .. 4.	*GEORGE LANG Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH PRESCOTT.

The above was rung in honour of the 55th birthday of Richard Pennington, Esq., J.P., of Hindley Lodge and Muncaster Hall, Rainford. J. W. Hall hails from Wigan.
*First peal.

HAVANT, HANTS.—THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, April 20, 1885, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT ST. FAITH'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 18 cwt.

W. J. BANTING* Treble.	*C. PRIVETT 5.
J. HEWETT 2.	†F. HILL 6.
G. GRAFHAM 3.	J. W. WHITING 7.
J. STAPLES* 4.	*W. NAYLOR & *W. IRISH .. Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK HILL.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor.

Date Touch.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SPROUGHTON (Suffolk).—On Friday evening, April 17th, at All Saints' church, a date touch containing 1885 changes, in the following methods, viz.:—805 of Plain Doubles; 480 of Old Doubles; 600 of Grandsire Doubles. Charles Smith, 1; Alfred Pryke, 2; William Mee, 3; Thomas Steward, 4; Frederick Mee (conductor), 5. C. Smith and A. Pryke belong to Bramford, W. Mee to Sproughton, the rest belong to the St. Mary-le-Tower society, Ipswich. Tenor 10 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

SAFFRON WALDEN (Essex).—On Saturday evening, April 18th, the local company, also members of the above Society, rang a half-peal of Stedman Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 33 mins. John Freeman, 1; George Martin, 2; Ernest Pitstow, 3; Charles Freeman, 4; N. J. Pitstow, 5; J. F. Penning, 6; Fredk. Pitstow (conductor), 7; A. G. Coe, 8. This is the longest length in the method by the local band, and is the first half of Brook's variation of Thurstan's peal.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Tuesday, April 14th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. Keech, 1; M. Warrick, 2; J. Atkins, 3; I. Hills, 4; S. Cullip, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Tenor 8 cwt. in B.

CARDINGTON (Beds).—On Wednesday, April 15th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, on the back six, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). T. Keep, 1; J. Hurst (first 720 inside), 2; M. Warrick, 3; T. Foote, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; I. Hills (conductor), 6. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On Tuesday, April 14th, at Christ Church, three courses of Stedman Caters. W. Reed, Esq. (conductor), 1; J. Hern, 2; J. Rossiter, 3; H. Ross, 4; W. Story, 5; R. S. Story, 6; R. W. Wignall, 7; J. Gibson, 8; R. Smith, 9; S. Nott, 10. And on Sunday, April 19th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 504 of Stedman Triples. J. Hern, 1; R. W. Wignall, 2; J. Rossiter, 3; R. S. Story, 4; W. Story, 5; H. Ross, 6; R. Smith (conductor), 7; S. Nott, 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Easter Monday, April 5th, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicholas, at 7.0 a.m., four 120's of Grandsire Doubles. J. Brown, 1; J. Wilson, 2; J. S. Wright, 3; R. Mackman, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; J. W. Jarvis, 6. And at 10 a.m., a 360 of Oxford Bob. And after evening service a 720 of Plain Bob. G. Harrison, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; J. Wilson, 5; J. Brown (conductor), 6. Muffled Peal.—And on Thursday, April 9th, a muffled peal was rung as a token of respect to the late Rev. M. Sison, who came to Spalding as curate in the year 1835, and since 1838 has been perpetual curate of Moulton Chapel—a 720 of Plain Bob. C. Neaverson, 1; G. Harrison, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; J. Wilson, 4; R. Mackman, 5; J. S. Wright (conductor), 6. And on Sunday morning, April 12th, for Divine Service in the morning a 360 of Kent Treble Bob. C. Creasey, 1; the rest standing as before. And for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of College Single. C. Neaverson, 1; J. Wilson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; J. S. Wright, 4; R. Mackman, 5; J. Brown (conductor), 6. And after evening service, six 120's of Grandsire Doubles. G. L. Richardson, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; R. Clark (Bourn), 3; R. Mackman, 4; J. Brown, 5; J. W. Jarvis, 6.

TERRINGTON (Norfolk).—On Saturday, April 18th, on the occasion of the funeral of James Walker, Esq., a great benefactor of the poor of the neighbourhood, 360 of Bob Minor was rung with the bells muffled, during the funeral procession, and the evening echo changes were rung; and afterwards, with the bells unmuffled, 720 Bob Minor in 29 mins. F. Easton, 1; R. Howling, 2; Jno. Green, 3; G. Barrett, 4; Jno. Herring, 5; Dr. Secombe (conductor), 6.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Monday, April 13th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, this branch of the above Association rang 728 and 224 of Grandsire Triples. J. Randall, 1; J. Hare, 2; H. Buckingham, 3; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 4; A. Squires, 5; S. Hare, 6; W. Allen, 7; J. Foster, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MERSHAM (Kent).—On Saturday, April 11th, the following members of the above Association rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. E. Ruck (conductor), 1; G. Finn, sen., 2; G. Finn, jun., 3; G. Paine, 4; F. Finn, 5; E. Finn, 6. Also on Saturday, April 18th, 1008 of Bob Major. E. Ruck, sen. (conductor), 1; G. Paine, 2; W. Jay, 3; D. Paine, 4; E. Ruck, jun., 5; P. Hodgkin, 6; F. Finn, 7; E. Finn, 8.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HAUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Saturday, April 11th, at St. Anne's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 28 mins. Wm. Wilde, jun., 1; John Bardsley, 2; Wm. Wilde, sen., 3; James A. Thomas, 4; John Howard, 5; Peter Smith (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, April 11th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. James A. Thomas, 1;

John Bardsley, 2; Wm. Wilde, sen., 3; John S. Leach, 4; John Howard (conductor), 5; Peter Smith, 6. And on Tuesday evening, April 14th, for practice, another 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 28 mins., standing as before, conducted by Wm. Wilde, sen., his first 720 as a conductor. And a 360 of Plain Bob Minor, in 14 mins. Wm. Wilde, jun., 1; James A. Thomas, 2; John Howard, 3; John Bardsley, 4; Wm. Wilde, sen., 5; Peter Smith, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

ST. PETER MANCROFT SOCIETY OF NORWICH SCHOLARS.

On Thursday, April 9th, at St. Lawrence's Church, a 720 of Double Court Bob Minor was rung with some young members of the above Society. Benjamin Tungate, 1; William Bales, 2; John Fiddament, 3; John Smith, 4; Fredk. Knights, 5; George Smith (conductor), 6. And upon the handbells at the meeting-house, three courses of Double Norwich Court Bob Major. Benjamin Tungate, 1; Wm. Bales, 2; Geo. Smith, 3-4; John Smith, 5; John Fiddament, 6; Fredk. Knights, 7-8. And on Thursday, April 16th, at St. Lawrence's Church, a 720 of Bob Minor. Master Fredk. H. Knights, 1; Edward Ward, 2; John Fiddament, 3; Wm. Bales, 4; Fredk. Knights (conductor), 5; John Smith, 6. Tenor 18 cwt. in E. Master F. H. Knights first 720, aged 15 the day before, and commenced his ringing in last December.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, April 18th, the local company rang for practice, a 360 of Bob Minor. J. Wood, 1; G. A. Fish, 2; G. C. Tunnickliff, 3; F. W. Cook, 4; J. Vicars, 5; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 6. And a 180 of Bob Minor. J. Wood, 1; G. A. Fish, 2; H. C. Woodward, 3; F. W. Cook, 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; G. C. Tunnickliff (conductor), 6. And another 9-score in the same method, with J. Vicars, 2; F. W. Cook, 4. This is the first touch of Bob Minor by all the above except H. C. Woodward. Tenor 16 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Tuesday, April 14th, a 720 of Oxford Bob, in 28 mins. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Butler, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, April 19th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Double Oxford Bob. J. Hands, 1; J. Butler, 2; G. Essex, 3; T. Newman, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. And after evening service, 720 of College Single. H. Smith, 1; J. Butler, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 16½ cwt.

OXFORD.—On Sunday, April 19th, at St. Mary Magdalen's church, for Divine Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles, in 22 mins. C. S. Rowland, Esq. (St. John's), 1; W. Baston, 2; Job Howse, 3; C. Hester, 4; J. W. Washbrook, 5; *A. F. M. Custance, Esq. (B.N.C., conductor), 6. *First 720 as conductor.

FOY (Near Ross, Herefordshire).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Saturday, April 18th, at the rectory, on handbells, retained in hand, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and other shorter touches in the same method. Miss M. M. Wilton, 1; A. F. M. Custance, Esq. (conductor), 2; H. Hardy, Esq., 3; Miss Mary Wilton, 4; Miss F. Wilton, 5; Miss Christine Wilton, 6.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

BURSLEM.—On Saturday, April 18th, on the occasion of the fortnightly meeting, which was held at that place, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Wood, 1; J. Morton, 2; C. Hollier, 3; E. Glover, 4; Rev. A. H. Hitchcock, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6. Messrs. Glover, Baddeley, Morton, and Wood are from Norton; Rev. A. H. Hitchcock from Golden Hill; and Hollier from Lawton.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Saturday, April 18th, at the church of St. John-the-Baptist, 2520 of Grandsire Triples, being the first half of Holt's ten-part peal, in 1 hr. 45 mins. J. Plowman, 1; A. B. Carpenter (conductor), 2; G. Russell, 3; J. Trappitt, 4; *W. States, 5; A. Bruce, 6; U. Holman, 7; T. Verrall and S. Fisk, 8. Tenor 32 cwt. in Eb. *First half-peal. The above was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a last token of respect to the late Lord Mayor. It was intended to ring the complete peal, but the attempt had to be abandoned, and the bells brought round at the half-way on account of the bad going of the 7th.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On Tuesday, April 7th, at St. Mary's, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. G. Hyde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, April 8th, in honour of the marriage of Julius Berkeley Rolle, Esq. to Miss Edith Thornton, of Wimbledon, a 720 of Bob Minor. G. Hyde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A.

Garratt, 5; J. Fayers (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor and a 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. G. Hyde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, April 12th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. G. Hyde, 1; C. Hyde, 2; J. Parker, 3; R. Moss, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6.

THE WANSTEAD AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

WANSTEAD (Essex).—On Sunday, April 12th, before evening service, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. A. H. Gardom (conductor), 1; W. B. Manning, 2; G. Akers, 3; J. Nunn, 4; J. Wincey (first 720), 5; G. Cornell, 6. Also after service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. H. Nunn, 1; W. B. Manning, 2; G. Akers, 3; J. Nunn, 4; A. H. Gardom, 5; H. Scarlett (conductor), 6.

APPLETON (Berks).—On Monday, April 20th, 660 of Superlative Surprise Major. J. Avery, 1; C. Hounslow, 2; B. Barrett, 3; J. W. Washbrook, 4; W. Bennett, 5; G. Holfield, 6; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 8.

BEDDINGTON (Surrey).—On Sunday, April 12th, seven members of the local company, with Mr. Fussell, of London, rang a 640 of Kent Treble Bob Major, also short touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, for Divine Service. J. Harris, 1; E. Bennett, 2; J. Plowman, 3; W. H. Fussell, 4; J. Trappitt, 5; C. Bance, 6; J. Cawley, 7; C. Gordon (conductor), 8. Tenor 20½ in Eb.

BILDESTONE (Suffolk).—On Monday, April 13th, at the Parish Church, a 720 of Treble Bob. R. Keeble (conductor), 1; A. Keeble, 2; A. Long, 3; C. Parker, 4; W. Green, 5; R. Nudds, 6. Also a 216 of Plain Bob (six singles and nine bobs). R. Nudds, 1; J. Scowen, 2; R. Bedingfield, 3; J. Briggs, 4; W. Green (conductor), 5; J. Taylor, 6. Also a touch of Court Bob. A. Keeble, 1; T. Sewell, 2; A. Long, 3; C. Parker, 4; W. Green, 5; R. Nudds, 6. At the close of the evening the company rang on the handbells some Grandsire Triples, and Bob Major. It is now twenty years since a 720 of Treble Bob was rung in this tower, but on January 30th, 1844, was rung in the same place seven different 720's in the following methods, viz.:—Single Bob Minor, Treble Bob, New Treble Bob, Court Bob, New London Pleasure, Morning Exercise, and Cambridge Surprise, making a total of 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 17 mins. G. Whittle, 1; J. Edwards, 2; W. Snell, 3; Ambrose Pilgrim, 4; J. Howe, 5; H. Hobart (conductor), 6. Tenor 18 cwt. R. and A. Keeble, C. Parker, W. Green and J. Briggs, hail from Monks Eleigh; J. Scowen from Hadleigh; T. Sewell from Hitcham; R. Nudds from Banham; the rest are local men.

BRADFORD (Yorks).—On Monday, April 20th, at St. James's, Bolton, the local company rang a 1496 of Bob Triples, in 55 mins. B. F. Lamb, 1; B. Sugden, 2; H. Raistrick, 3; G. Titterton, 4; J. Broadley, 5; B. T. Copley (conductor), 6; S. Palframan, 7; J. Mawson, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

BLACKHILL (Durham).—On Easter Sunday, April 5th, at St. Mary's church, the local company rang their first 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. J. Kempson, 1; J. T. Dobson, 2; J. Moore, 3; E. J. Sloane, 4; A. Nichol (conductor), 5; R. Moore, 6. Tenor 22 cwt. Great credit is due to the above ringers, it being only six months since they commenced change-ringing.

BOOTLE (Lancashire).—On Thursday evening, April 16th, at Christ Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. E. Yates, 1; R. H. Barton, 2; W. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; T. E. Woodward, 5; J. Bradshaw (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. This is the first 720 in the above method by all the band.

BRISTOL.—On Tuesday, April 14th, eight members of the amalgamated societies of St. James's and St. Andrew's rang at Clifton parish church, a 1500 of Grandsire Triples. John Brain, 1; C. Waters, 2; C. Thomas, 3; R. Knill, 4; T. Salter (conductor), 5; A. Parrish, 6; T. Staddon, 7; E. P. O'Meara, 8. Other touches were also rung by Messrs. Bartrum, W. Thomas, C. Paradoe, A. Morgan, J. Bessell, A. Bendall.

CHESTER.—On Thursday, April 16th, six members of the local company rang eight 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles (in all 960 changes) at St. Mary's church, in 38 mins. E. Davies, 1; R. Mills, 2; G. Calwell, 3; J. Jonison, 4; T. J. Bethell, 5; S. Barton, 6. Tenor 23 cwt. The above was rung in honour of the 21st birthday of Richard Mills, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day. The above was conducted by T. J. Bethell, and each 6-score was called differently.

CRAWLEY (Sussex).—On Sunday, April 19th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 504 of Grandsire Triples (nine bobs), in 20 mins. P. Tullett, 1; J. Newnham, 2; W. Parsons, 3; W. Wady (Billingshurst), 4; W. Collison, 5; A. F. Hilier, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; J.

Collison, 8. And on Sunday afternoon, the first part of Shipway's 6-part peal of Oxford Bob Triples, 2520 changes (fifty-seven bobs), in 32 mins. W. Parsons, 1; J. Newnham, 2; F. Wickings, 3; W. Wadey, 4; G. Holloway, 5; A. F. Hillier, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; W. Collison, 8. And for Divine Service in the evening, 504 of Grandsire Triples (nine bobs), in 18 mins. W. Wadey, 1; F. Wickings, 2; M. Smith, 3; Lennard Huggett (Eastbourne), 4; W. Collison, 5; A. F. Hillier, 6; H. Burstow (conductor), 7; J. Rollison (Eastbourne), 8.

DUDLEY (Worcestershire).—On Monday evening, April 20th, at St. Thomas's Church, Dudley, a mixed band rang 896 changes of Grandsire Triples. J. Fellows, jun., 1; J. Mills, 2; G. Hughes, 3; A. Jones, 4; W. Pardoe, 5; W. Micklewright (conductor), 6; J. Goodman, 7; J. Timmins, 8. Also the same evening, 447 changes of Grandsire Triples. J. Mills, 1; W. Micklewright, 2; G. Hughes, 3; A. Jones, 4; W. Pardoe, 5; J. Goodman, 6; S. Spittle (conductor), 7; J. Bayliss, 8. G. Hughes hails from Ocker Hill. A. Jones from Aston, W. Pardoe from Tipton, the rest belong to the local band.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Wednesday, March 8th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, the local company rang for practice, a 720 of Craven Delight, in 27 mins., the first 720 in the method by all. And 120 of Huddersfield Bob. And on Sunday, March 12th, for evening service, 720 each of Duke of York and Kent Treble Bob, in 35 mins. George Smith, 1; William Price, 2; Edwin James, 3; George Norman, 4; George Marsden (conductor), 5; Thomas Lunn, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. 14 lbs.

ELTHAM (Kent).—On Sunday, April 5th at the church of St. John the Baptist, for Divine Service, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), and a 720 in the same method (thirty-four bobs and fourteen singles). R. Johnson, 1; J. King, 2; W. Gosling, 3; C. Mussett, 4; G. Sheppard (conductor), 5; F. Fraser, 6.

FOXEARH (Essex).—On Sunday, April 12th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. W. P. Gridley, 1; F. Wells, 2; J. Lee, 3; R. Mingay, 4; D. Ward, 5; O. Garwood (conductor), 6. And after service a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. S. Slater, 1; F. Wells, 2; O. Garwood, 3; P. C. S. Scott, 4; R. Ellams, 5; G. Hammond (conductor), 6. This was Shipway's 3-part bob and single 720, with nine bobs and six singles. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob (fifteen bobs). S. Slater, 1; W. P. Gridley, 2; F. Wells, 3; P. C. S. Scott, 4; G. Hammond, 5; O. Garwood (conductor), 6. Composed by John Marvin, of Copdock, in 1784. Those who rang in the last two touches, with the exception of R. Ellams, are members of the society of Royal Cumberland Youths.

GRAVESEND (Kent).—On Saturday, April 11th, at St. George's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 47 mins. H. Weeks, 1; G. Conyard, 2; W. Harper, 3; F. Hayes, 4; B. Spinner, 5; H. Davis, 6; F. French (conductor), 7; G. Hayes, 8. Tenor 18 cwt.

GREAT WALDINGFIELD (Essex).—On Sunday, April 19th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. G. Death, 1; H. Bowers, 2; J. Bird, 3; G. Maxim, 4; W. P. Gridley (conductor), 5; T. Death, 6. J. Bird hails from Long Melford, W. P. Gridley and G. Maxim from Foxearth, the rest are local men.

HACKNEY (Middlesex).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Good Friday, April 3rd, at St. John's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, 1260 changes, with the bells half-muffled, in 53 mins. S. E. Joyce, 1; W. D. Smith, 2; A. Cutmore, 3; J. Pettit (conductor), 4; S. Burton (Nottingham), 5; W. B. Manning, 6; R. J. Turner, 7; J. Balaam, 8.

HARROGATE (Yorkshire).—On Thursday, April 16th, six of the local company rang at St. Mary's church, a 360 of Bob Minor, in 14 mins. W. Jackson, 1; A. Atkinson, 2; W. Stott, 3; J. Vicars, 4; J. Robnett, 5; W. Brown, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. This is the first 360 by Messrs. Jackson, Atkinson, Stott, and Brown, it being seventeen years since a 360 has been rung by Harrogate men.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday, March 28th, two 720's of Bob Minor. J. Ambrose, 1; S. Slater, 2; G. Hammond (conductor), 3; J. Bird, 4; P. Scott, 5; O. Garwood, 6. J. Ambrose, 1; P. Scott, 3; J. Bird, 3; G. Hammond, 4; O. Garwood, 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6. And on Easter Sunday, April 5th, for the two morning services, the local company rang a 441 of Bob Major, and two 336's of Bob Major. J. Ambrose, 1; Z. Slater, 2; G. Hammond, 3; S. Slater (conductor), 4; Owen Reed, 5; J. Bird, 6; J. Slater, 7; O. Garwood, 8. And after the afternoon service, 1008 of Bob Major. J. Slater, 1; Z. Slater, 2; G. Hammond, 3; S. Slater (conductor), 4; O. Reed, 5; Nelson Hawkins, 6; J. Bird, 7; O. Garwood, 8. Nelson Hawkins hails from Walter Belchamp. And for Divine Service in the evening, 336 of Bob Major. J. Ambrose, 1; Z. Slater, 2; G. Hammond (conductor), 3; S. Slater, 4; O. Reed, 5; J. Bird, 6; J. Slater, 7; O. Garwood, 8. And on Saturday, April 11th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. S. Slater, 1; O. Garwood, 2; P. C. S. Scott,

3; O. Reed, 4; G. Hammond (conductor), 5; J. Bird, 6. And on Wednesday, April 15th, the following band attempted a peal of Bob Major, consisting of 5040 changes, but after ringing 1 hr. 15 mins., it came to grief. F. Steed, 1; O. Garwood, 2; G. Hammond, 3; P. C. S. Scott, 4; O. Reed, 5; Nelson Hawkins, 6; J. Bird, 7; S. Slater (conductor), 8.

LOW MOOR (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, April 19th, at Holy Trinity Church, for Divine Service in the evening, the local company rang 2528 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 29 mins. Thos. Pickard, 1; J. Worsnop, 2; A. Wilkinson, 3; Hy. Jones, 4; W. Tordoff, 5; J. Briggs, 6; J. W. Emmett, 7; C. Dracup (conductor), 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—On Saturday, April 11th, the Wimbledon society rang at Christ church a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. J. Schneider, 1; C. Hyde, 2; R. Moss, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Nicholson, 5; J. Fayers (conductor), 6. *First 720. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. G. Hyde, 1; R. Moss, 2; C. Hyde, 3; J. Fayers, 4; A. Garrett, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. Tenor 7½ cwt. This is the first 720 in the method on the bells. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the vicar for permission to ring.

MONKS ELEIGH (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, April 14th, at the Parish Church, a 360 of Court Bob. R. Keeble, 1; W. Green, 2; A. Keeble, 3; T. Briggs, 4; C. Parker, 5; A. Long, 6. Also a 540 of Treble Bob. R. Keeble, 1; A. Keeble, 2; A. Long, 3; J. Taylor, 4; C. Parker, 5; R. Nudds, 6. And a 360 of Court Bob. R. Keeble, 1; W. Green, 2; A. Keeble, 3; J. Taylor, 4; C. Parker, 5; R. Nudds, 6.

ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, April 14th, at the parish church, the first half of Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 29 mins. John Aspinwall, 1; William Ellis, 2; William J. Taylor, 3; James Sholicar, 4; William Bentham (conductor), 5; Charles Sharples, 6; George Prescott, 7; William Lloyd, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. 2 qrs. 25 lbs. The above was rung in honour of Princess Beatrice's 28th birthday; the 27th birthday of the conductor; and the 48th birthday of the treble ringer.

PENZANCE (Cornwall).—On Thursday, April 16th, at St. Mary's, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 47 mins. M. Hicks, 1; J. H. Hickens, 2; J. Boase, 3; C. Boase (conductor), 4; J. Symons, 5; T. Hicks, 6; J. Richards, 7; M. Bassett, 8. And on Sunday, April 19th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 48 mins. M. Hicks, 1; J. Symons, 2; T. Hicks, 3; J. Hodder (conductor), 4; C. Boase, 5; G. Sellers, 6; J. Richards, 7; M. Bassett, 8. These touches are very creditable to their conductors, in that it is the first 1260 with either, and was accomplished on the first attempt by C. Boase, a like success by J. Hodder being alone thwarted on a former attempt by the stranding of the 7th rope late in the touch. And on Sunday, for Divine Service in the evening, 182 of Grandsire Triples. J. Symons, 1; J. Hodder, 2; J. Boase, 3; J. Hickens, 4; C. Boase, 5; T. Hicks, 6; J. Richards, 7; Rev. A. B. Berry, 8.

READING (Berks).—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday, April 19th, the bells of St. Lawrence's were rung half-muffled for morning and evening service, out of respect to Dr. Wells, the late churchwarden, who died at Ventnor, Isle of Wight, on Monday, April 13th, after a short illness, at the age of 72 years. And after evensong, a muffled peal was rung, on the whole pull and stand system, in the following order:—

1. The age of the deceased in whole pulls.
2. " " " tolled out on tenor.
3. " " " two blows on tenor, and one whole pull on other bells, alternately, until the number be completed.
4. " " " fired.
5. " " " in whole pulls, to conclude with.

The following were the ringers: W. J. Williams (conductor), 1; F. W. Round, 2; H. M. Bawden, 3; E. Bishop, 4; W. Johnson, 5; G. Talbot, 6; W. H. Holloway, 7; W. Goseltine, 8; W. Newell, 9; J. E. Willshire, 10. This is the first time that a muffled peal of this description has ever known to have been rung in Reading, and it created quite an impression on the ringers and the public generally by its solemnity. The time occupied was 38 minutes.

SHARROW (Yorkshire).—On Monday evening, April 20th, three members of the local company (Messrs. Bains, Flower, and Wm. Strodder), with Messrs. Rumbold, T. Metcalf, and T. Clarke and sons, rung at St. John's church, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. A. H. Clarke, 1; (second bell omitted), T. Metcalf, 3; T. Clarke (conductor), 4; Wm. Strodder, 5; Josh. Baines, 6; Jno. Flower, 7; W. S. Clarke, 8. This is the first 720 by Flower and Strodder. And a 336 of Bob Major in 13 mins. Wm. S. Clarke, 1; Wm. Strodder, 2; A. H. Clarke, 3; Jno. Flower, 4; T. Metcalf, 5; Josh. Baines, 6; T. Clarke (conductor), 7; — Rumbold, 8. Our correspondent adds:—The Sharrow society only consists of the captain and other five members, which is thought by a great many of the parishioners as a great discredit to the inhabitants, when they possess such a musical peal of eight bells, but I hear that the fault does not belong to the parishioners, but with the captain, whose abilities are not sufficient for the due performance of his office."

SEELY OAK (Worcestershire).—Muffled Peal.—On Thursday, April 16th, six of the local company rang at St. Mary's church a 360 of Grandsire Minor, and two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with the bells half muffled, as a mark of respect to Mr. Daniel Smith, who died on the 10th of April, aged 52 years. George Hale (conductor), 1; John Nix, 2; Edward Boylin, 3; Thomas Lewis, 4; Alfred Cole, 5; Edward Bryant, 6. The deceased gentleman was father of one of the members of the above, and was much respected by all who knew him.

WALTHAMSTOW (Essex).—Handbell Ringing.—On Monday, April 20th, the following persons, comprising a portion of the staff of "THE BELL NEWS," rang at the office, during the dinner-hour interval, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles (different callings) and a course of Grandsire Minor. H. Martyn Reeves, 1; Herbert C. Wood, 2; Joseph Milner, 3; Harvey Reeves, 4-5; Charles H. Reeves, 6.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, April 14th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. C. J. Rodgers, 1; W. Booth, 2; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; G. E. Fisher, 6. And on Sunday morning, for Divine service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (twenty-six singles), in 27 mins.; and in the evening a 360 of Grandsire Minor (eighteen bobs), in 13 mins. J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

WORKSOP (Nottingham).—On Wednesday evening, April 15th, the local society met and rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, with the tenor covering, in 32 mins. F. Mackie, 1; S. Harwood, 2; W. Colton, 3; H. Watkinson, 4; J. Marshall, 5; T. Thorpe, 6; R. Beeston, 7. Tenor 12½ cwt. This is the first successful 720 by the Worksop ringers on their new ring of eight bells.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOUTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 18th, the annual meeting of the above Association was held at St. Paul's, Fulney, Spalding. At 8.30, ringing friends began to arrive, and ringing commenced at once, and was kept up with enthusiasm. During the day some capital touches in the five and six bell methods were rung, also several touches of Grandsire Triples, W. J. Taylor, of Bourn, aged 79, taking part therein. At 12.30 the business of the Association was transacted in the vestry of the church, the president, the Rev. R. G. Ash, presiding. The minutes of the preceding meeting being confirmed, the re-election of officers and the initiation of new members, a vote of thanks was passed to the vicar, the Rev. R. G. Ash, for the use of the bells, also for the use of the vestry. At 2 p.m. a sumptuous dinner was served by host Cottam, of the "Anchor" inn, the president presiding, supported by Mr. Hodges and Mr. Taylor. The Hon. Sec., Mr. R. Creasey, was in the vice chair, supported by Mr. Warnes and Mr. Mason. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Grantham, when it is expected a large gathering of ringers will be there.

MERTON, DEVON.

William Dicker, of this parish, who met with a sad accident some weeks ago, has been presented with a small sum contributed at a friendly meeting held at Waterloo, London, on Saturday evening, April 11th, amongst the ringers and friends of the newly-established handbell society. The chair was occupied by Mr. W. B. Trickey (formerly a resident at Merton), who was supported on the left by John Day, Esq., of Devonport, and the vice-chair was occupied by Mr. George Padwick, secretary of the Association. The evening's amusement consisted of songs, handbell ringing, and ventriloquism. The new bells, supplied by Messrs. Warner, at a cost of over £11., were rung by G. Padwick, 1-2; W. B. Trickey, 3-4; W. Cure (Wareham, Dorset), 5-6; R. Evans, 7-8. Towards the close of the evening, the chairman described the nature of the accident, and appealed to all present to give what lay in their power towards such a charitable and deserving case. He also wished to thank them all for their attendance, and especially Mr. Day, who was always heart and soul in any good work which led to benefit his fellow creatures. Mr. Day's health was then proposed and drunk with musical honours, after which a most pleasant evening was brought to a close. The collection amounted to £2 6s.—*Local paper.*

VOLUME OF "THE BELL NEWS" FOR SALE.—Mr. Marwood, of Doncaster, writes: "Having met with a severe accident, I find I shall not be able to follow the science, so I have my 'BELL NEWS' from the first that was printed to dispose of, one volume bound, the highest offer accepted."—H. Marwood, No. 1, Earnshaws Yard, Sepulchre Gate, Doncaster.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

THE following is the sixth annual report of the ringing done by the Braintree branch of the above Association, from Easter 1884 to Easter 1885:—

During the year 158 720s have been rung in twenty-one methods as follows: Double Bob Minor, 4; Grandsire Minor, 3; New London Pleasure, 10; Bob Minor, 20; Woodbine Treble Bob, 10; Kent Treble Bob, 8; Oxford Treble Bob, 13; Oxford Delight, 8; College Exercise, 15; London Scholars' Pleasure, 11; Imperial, 4; Violet Treble Bob, 6; Cambridge Surprise, 13; London Surprise, 9; Double Court Bob, 7; Superlative, 3; Morning Exercise, 3; Durham Surprise, 5; York Surprise, 2; Bristol Surprise, 1. The following are the various touches rung, and they are well represented in the above methods—one 600, two 504s, one 456, eleven 360s, twelve 240's, one 216, three 180's, nine 144's, thirty-three 120's, two 108s, two 96s, eleven 72s, four 60s, three 48s, one 24. Also thirteen 120s of Bob Doubles, and five 120s of Grandsire Doubles. Making a total of 132,444 changes that have been rung upon the tower bells during the year.

The following are the names of the company that have taken part in the above ringing:—Messrs. A. Huckson, S. Hammond, F. Rudkin, F. Calthorpe, F. Bumpstead, H. E. Hammond, W. H. Dyson.

Since the formation of this company in May, 1879, there has been rung 725 complete 720s, three of the original company still remaining.

DEATH OF AN OLD RINGER.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—Muffled Peal.—On Thursday, April 9th, at St. Mary's church, a muffled peal was rung as a last mark of respect to Wm. Snell, late of Preston, but for many years a resident of Glemsford, who died on Good Friday, April 3rd, in his 75th year, and was interred at Glemsford churchyard on the above date. Deceased was in his day a very good ringer, and a cheerful companion, and was well known as having taken part in the following noted performances: January 30th, 1841, 5040 in seven different methods, in 3 hrs. 17 mins., at Bildeston, when he rung the 3rd bell, and is the last of the band; December 11th, 1847, Marvin's 6000 of Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 53 mins., at Hadleigh. Snell ringing the 7th bell, tenor 28 cwt; and on December 12th, 1853, 5600 of Oxford Treble Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 45 mins., at Lavenham. Snell again ringing the 7th, this being his last peal. Shortly after ringing this peal Snell removed to Glemsford, and rang occasionally with the local company, but through ill health was obliged almost to give up ringing. The muffled peal on Thursday consisted of 720 (deeply muffled), 240 (half-muffled), and 240 (open) of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. S. Slater, 1; C. Honeybell, 2; C. Adams, 3; F. Wells, 4; E. W. Downs, 5; O. Garwood (conductor), 6. John Slater rang in one of the touches of 240 instead of E. W. Downs.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE LORD MAYOR OF LONDON.

The funeral of Mr. Alderman Nottage, late Lord Mayor of London, took place at St. Paul's Cathedral, on Saturday last. The whole of Cheapside was closed for traffic, and the tradesmen on either side had placed black shutters in front of their windows. Every now and again the muffled bells of St. Mary-le-Bow and the Cathedral were rung. The former church is situate in the centre of the ward the late Lord Mayor represented in the court of Aldermen. It is estimated that nearly 100,000 persons assembled between the official residence of the Lord Mayor and the Cathedral to witness the procession. The members of the College Youths who rang upon this melancholy occasion at St. Paul's Cathedral were Messrs. Pettit, Haley, jun., Cooter, Haworth, Jameson, Mash, Dorrington, Tanner, Wood, Muskett, Hayes, Jones, Dwight, Horrex. At St. Mary-le-Bow we found the following also engaged taking their part in the obsequies: Messrs. Haley sen., Haley jun., Jameson, Cooter, Pettit, Mash, Dorrington, Dwight, Wood, Muskett, Horrex, Hayes.

CHRIST CHURCH, FRIEZLAND, SADDLEWORTH, YORKSHIRE.

The ringers of this church wish to inform their ringing friends that they will re-open their bells on Saturday, May 2nd, when there will be a dinner provided at the "Farriers' Arms," Shaw Hall. All ringing friends are invited to attend. The church is about five minutes' walk from Greenfield Station, on the London and North Western Railway. Anyone wishing to attend, will please write to John Thomas Dicken, Boarhurst, Uppermill, near Oldham. Tickets for the dinner 1s. 6d. each.

A CORRECTION.—The touch under the heading of Stoke-upon-Trent which appeared in our last week's issue, should have been under Norton. Our correspondent, who writes from Stoke, did not mention the name of any place.

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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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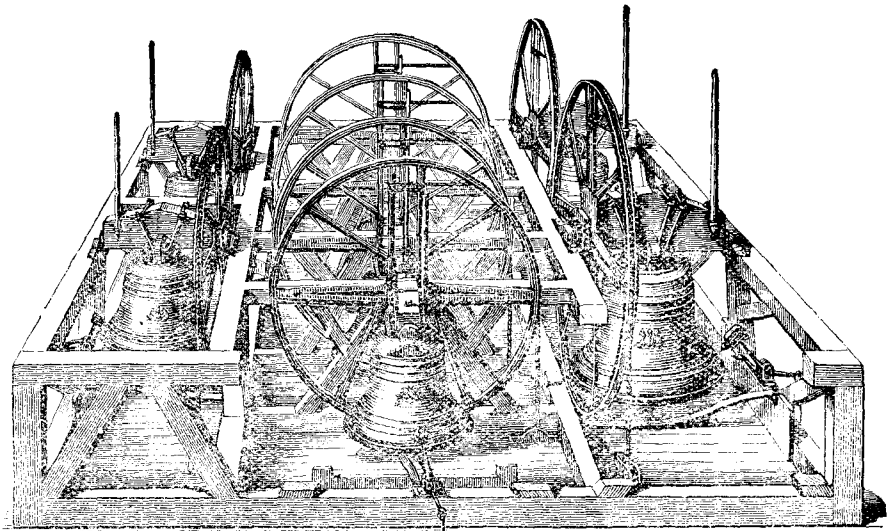
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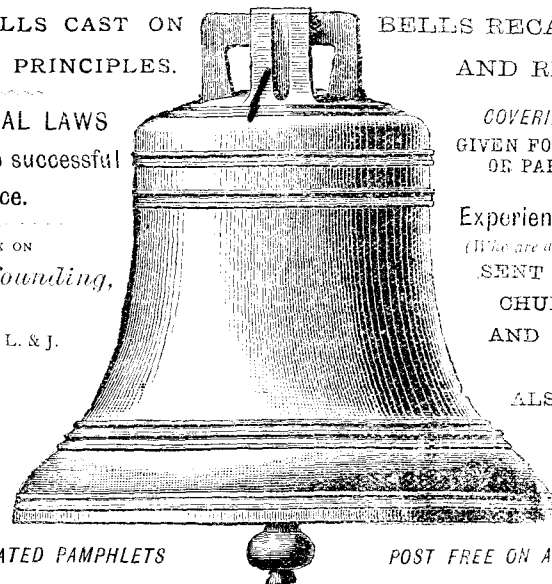
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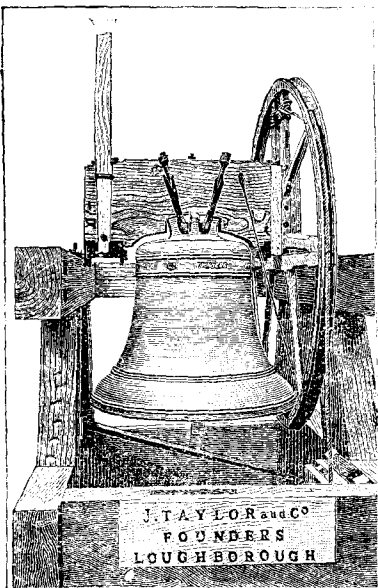
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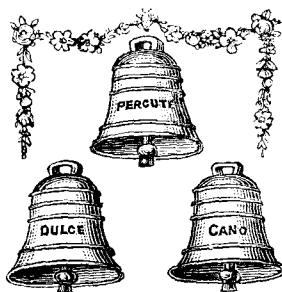
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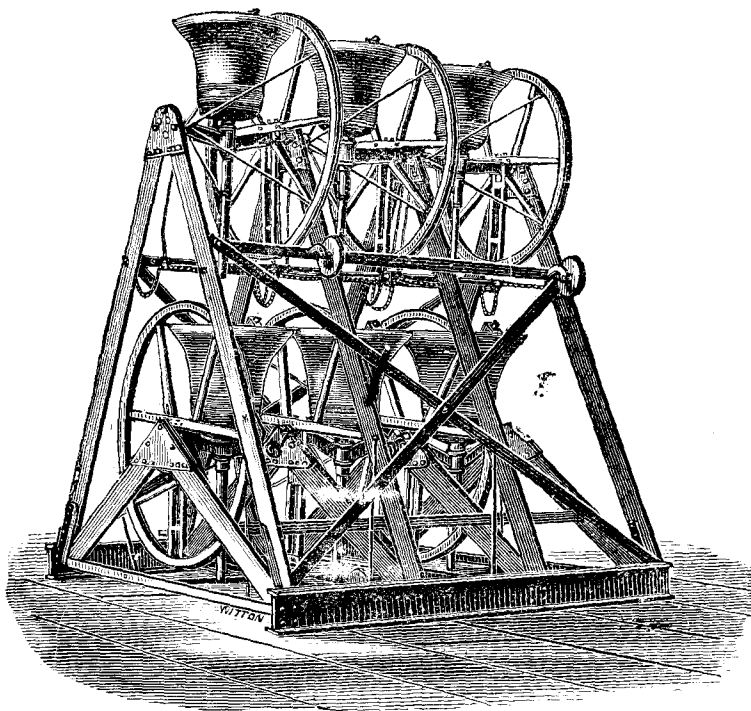
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