THE BELL NEWS
And Ringers' Record:
A Weekly Journal of the Ringing Exercise; and Compendium of Information for the Clergy and Churchwardens.

No. 170. [NEW SERIES.]—*VOL. IV.* SATURDAY, JULY 4, 1885. [ONE PENNY.

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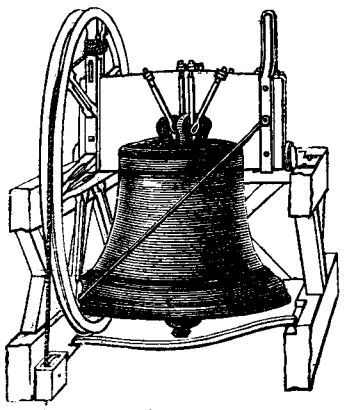

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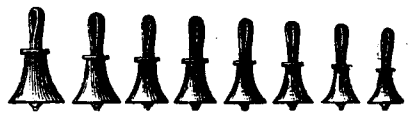

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CINQUES ON STEDMAN'S PRINCIPLE.

By Jasper W. Snowdon.

At Norwich there seems to have been little luck in Stedman ringing until 1844, as in 1822 the Norwich Scholars rang twenty-two courses of Stedman Cinques when the clapper of the 11th broke. In 1831, on the last night of the year, they rang 4884 changes—a course short of a peal, owing to an error on the part of the conductor. In 1843 they attempted to beat the Birmingham length by ringing 6729, but unfortunately jumbled out after ringing 5800 changes. Had this not been the case, it is improbable that the full number would have been completed, as the next time the tenor was rung it fell down after ringing a few changes. The Norwich men were nevertheless undaunted, and thinking the number 6729 too near 7000 to ring without going into the next thousand, Henry Hubbard spliced a piece into the 6334 of G. Gross's, which was rung by the Cumberlands in 1806, and this new length—7126 changes—they accomplished on January 18th, 1844: and thus the only peal of Stedman Cinques ever rung on the Norwich twelve happens to have been, in its time, the longest on record. At the same time it should be mentioned that this peal, of which further particulars are appended, did not strictly conform to the recognised conditions of such performances, as the tenor was rung double-handed.

Tablet in the belfry of St. Peter's, Mancroft, Norwich.—"On Thursday, January 18th, 1844, was rung in this steeple that most intricate and ingenious peal called Stedman's Cinques, in 5 hours and 17 minutes, consisting of 7126 changes, without the misplacing of a bell or the repetition of a single change. The bold and regular striking attracted the notice of the public, and is allowed to exceed any other performance ever attempted in England upon Twelve Bells. The peal was conducted by James Truman and rung by the undermentioned persons. The Minister and Churchwardens, with a portion of the Inhabitants, have contributed to the erection of this tablet, the remainder being subscribed for by the company of Ringers.

Thomas Hurry,	*Treble.*	William Gaul,	5.	James Truman,	9.
Robert Burrell,	2.	John Greenwood,	6.	Joshua Hurry,	10.
Elijah Mason,	3.	William Freeman,	7.	Henry Hubbard,	11.
Charles Middleton,	4.	George Watering,	8.	George Smith & Robert Palgrave,	*Tenor.*

Perhaps there is no place where Stedman ringing has found so much favour as in Birmingham, as peal after peal of Caters is entered in the peal book of the St. Martin's Society. In 1848 the society proves to have been in great "form," as in that year they rang one peal of Kent Treble Bob Caters, one of Royal, and one of Maximus; also a peal of Grandsire Caters. They seem to have had "Stedman on the brain," besides, as they likewise rang five peals of Stedman Caters and three of Cinques in the same year. The dates of the three last peals are interesting:—Dec. 12th, 7392 Stedman Cinques; Dec. 19th, 5016 of Stedman Cinques; and December 31st, 5187 of Stedman Caters. This certainly was a good year's work, especially as by the 7392 they "cut" the Norwich peal of 7126, and thus Birmingham once again succeeded to the honour of holding the palm in Stedman Cinques. Particulars of this 7392 are given below:—

Tablet in the belfry of St. Martin's, Birmingham.—"1848, Dec. 12. was rung in this tower by the St. Martin's Society, a peal of Stedman Cinques comprising 7392 changes, which was completed in 4 hours 55 minutes, viz.:—

John Hopkins,	*Treble.*	John James,	5.	Robt. Yates,	9.
Thos. Powell,	2.	Joseph Mitchell,	6.	John Billingsley,	10
Josh. Spencer,	3.	Hy. Johnson,	7.	Thos. Hobday,	11.
Willm. Haywood,	4.	Willm. Kitson,	8.	Edward Haywood,	*Tenor.*

The above peal was the Longest Length in this method up to this date. Composed and conducted by Hy. Johnson."

The Birmingham length continued the longest on record until 1851, when, on January 6th, the College Youths accomplished 7524 at St. Giles's, Cripplegate. This peal, of which further details are given below, was not allowed to take its place at the head of Stedman's principle without an effort being made to overturn it. On January 21st, in the same year, the Cumberlands attempted 8184 at St. Michael's, Cornhill, but got out after ringing nearly 6000 changes. On May 5th, following they met with no better luck, as after ringing 7746 changes at the same church, in 6 hours and 2 minutes, they were too exhausted to finish their task, and thus the Cripplegate peal proved equal to its situation for some time.

Tablet in the belfry of St. Giles's, Cripplegate.—"College Youths. On Monday, Jany. 6th, 1851, the company achieved a true peal of 7524 Stedman Cinques in 5 hours and 24 minutes, being the greatest number ever rung. Performers:—

Jno. Cox,	*Treble.*	Jas. Mash,	5.	Ed. Lansdell,	9.
Jno. Bradley,	2.	Mattw. A. Wood,	6.	H. Littlechild.	10.
Willm. Cooter,	3.	H. Haworth,	7.	Jas. Dwight,	11.
Wm. Banister,	4.	Geo. E. Ferris,	8.	Jno. Austin,	*Tenor.*

Composed and conducted by Mr. John Cox."

In 1858 the Painswick men—who, if not celebrated for their striking, have at least been well known for the will with which they went at a long length—completed 8448 changes on February 16th, and thus installed the following peal at the head of the list:—

Tablet in the belfry of Painswick church.—"8448 Stedman Cinques.

John Morris,	*Treble.*	Jas. Estcourt,	5.	David Beard,	9.
Henry Morris,	2.	Robert Birt,	6.	Wm. Estcourt,	10.
Jeremh. Birt,	3.	Alfred Keen,	7.	Geo. Wright,	11.
Alfred Walker,	4.	Albert Estcourt,	8.	John Powell.	*Tenor.*

Rung February 16th, 1858, in 5 hours and 52 minutes. Composed and conducted by William Estcourt. Oliver Estcourt, Master."

Although this peal was completed on a ring with a 28 cwt. tenor only, the College Youths actually attempted to beat it at St. Saviour's, Southwark, where the tenor weighs 52 cwt. I have but scanty particulars of this uncompleted performance, which, however, is of much interest, as being the greatest length to which so heavy a bell has been rung single-handed. I believe however, that more than 8000 changes, were rung in about six hours and a half, and that the ringing was brought to an end through confusion caused during the ignition of the lights in the belfry. The peal was, however, subsequently completed at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on April 27th, 1861, by the following company:—

Tablet in the belfry of St. Michael's, Cornhill.—"Ancient Society of College Youths, established A.D. 1637.—On Saturday, April 27th, 1861, twelve members of the above society rang on this noble peal of bells, a true and complete peal of Cinques, on Stedman's Principle, consisting of 8580 changes, in 6 hours and 41 minutes, being the greatest number of changes ever rung in that method on 12 bells. Performers:—

H. W. Haley,	*Treble.*	William Green,	5.	Matthew A. Wood,	9.
Thomas Ray,	2.	George Stockham,	6.	Edward Lansdell,	10.
John Bradley,	3.	Robert Haworth,	7.	George Muskett,	11.
Robert Jameson,	4.	George E. Ferris,	8.	James Dwight,	*Tenor.*

The above is the first peal in that method performed on the bells, and was composed and conducted by H. W. Haley."

A peal like the above takes a good deal of beating, and although from time to time there were rumours that an attempt would be made to beat the same, I do not believe that a *bonâ fide* attempt was made until 1881, when the Birmingham St. Martin's Youths announced their intention of going for a longer peal. This peal, 9238 changes, they accomplished on February 28th, 1881, on the seventy-second birthday of the composer, Mr. Henry Johnson, who himself took part in the peal, and who, after a life devoted to change-ringing may be said to have crowned his efforts by once more bringing back to Birmingham the credit of having surpassed all others in Stedman Cinques. This peal, now, for the third time, places the Birmingham Society at the top of the tree where it still remains, as although an attempt was made at St. Michael's, Cornhill, by the College Youths, on May 7th, 1881, to ring a peal of 10,000, the band got out after ringing little over three hours, and since this time no other attempt has been made to supersede the Birmingham peal, of which a detailed record is given below.

From the peal-book of the St. Martin's Society.—"St. Martin's Society of Change-Ringers, Birmingham. Established A.D. 1755. St. Martin's church. On Monday, February 28th, 1881 (being the 72nd birthday of the composer) the company achieved a true peal of Stedman Cinques, containing 9238 changes, in 6 hours and 48 minutes, being the longest peal ever rung in the above method. Weight of tenor 36 cwt. in C. Performers:—

Amos Cresser,	*Treble.*	Samuel Reeves,	5.	John James,	9.
Job Joynes,	2.	H. Johnson, sen.	6.	Francis H. James,	10.
H. Johnson, jun.	3.	John Dunn,	7.	W. Hallsworth,	11.
C. H. Hattersley,	4.	John Buffery,	8.	T. Reynolds	*Tenor.*

Composed by H. Johnson, sen. Conducted by W. Hallsworth. Rev. W Wilkinson, D.D., Rector. Mr. Walter Kendrick, Mr. George Hemming, Churchwardens."

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting of this Association will be held at Clifton, near Biggleswade, Beds., on Saturday afternoon, July 11th. The Rev. H. H. Miles has kindly granted permission to ring the eight bells at Clifton church. The meeting to commence at 2 o'clock.

Charles Herbert, *Hon. Sec.*

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE Annual Meeting of this Association was held at Gloucester, on Monday, June 22nd, and was preceded by the attendance of the members at the Cathedral, where morning service had been delayed for half an hour for their accommodation. The number present was over seventy. The service was Smart in F. The anthem was Purcell's "Rejoice in the Lord always," commonly known as the bell anthem, from the prelude. Canon St. John preached the sermon. He took his text from 14th St. Luke, and part of 23rd verse—"Compel them to come in that My house may be filled." The rev. Canon delivered an impressive discourse, which was listened to with great interest by the congregation. In concluding his sermon he said that the time was when the ringers, as soon as Divine Service commenced, quitted the belfry and left the church behind them, forsaking the worship of their God, and proceeding elsewhere. But those days were now gone by and only in a very benighted parish would such things be seen. People would now no more tolerate an ungodly ringer than they would an ungodly organist or chorister. At least they ought not. And gatherings like the present tended to promote that feeling, and to raise the office of the ringer. There was a time in Church History when we were told none but ordained ministers were allowed to handle the ropes of church bells. And then afterwards the office of a bell-ringer fell to low repute for a season. But now men were reminded once more that theirs was a religious office, and belonging to Divine Service of the Church. How careful, then, ought they to be in the discharge of their duties, and how watchful in their daily life. When they returned from that happy meeting in that grand old Cathedral to their country village, he prayed that they would carry with them this word of friendly advice. Let them go to their several homes with a resolve from henceforth to lend a helping hand to the good work of their pastor at home. Let them help to build up the Church of Christ in their neighbourhood, and might God grant them this blessing for Jesus Christ's sake—that while by their skill in handling bells they gladdened men's hearts, and invited them to the House of the Lord, by their good Christian example, and their words of loving persuasion they might "compel them to come in that My house may be filled."

The annual meeting was afterwards held in the Chapter House. Canon St. John occupied the chair, and there were also present Rev. Dr. Smithe, Rev. F. E. Broome Witts, Rev. Pitt Eykyn, Rev. C. D. Davies, Rev. T. Holbrow, Rev. J. P. A. Bowers, Rev. A. W. Ellis-Viner, Rev. A. Nash, Rev. R. Horton, and a large number of performing members. The proceedings were opened by the reading of a Collect. The CHAIRMAN said a letter had been received from Mr. John Drinkwater, of Sandhurst, stating that he felt quite unable to continue to discharge the duties of Master of the Association. He was in hopes as the warm weather came on that he might gain strength, but all such hopes must be abandoned, his progress towards recovery being so slow as to be imperceptible. He therefore urged the members to elect some one in his stead. He thanked them for the courtesy and kindness they had shown him in endeavouring to carry out the objects for which the Association was established, namely, belfry reform and the improvement of change-ringing. For improvement in the art he had not the slightest fear, but the reform of some of the belfries, or rather the men who frequented them, was not so easy a matter. Whoever might be his successor anything he could do to assist him he should feel proud in doing. The SECRETARY announced that Mr. Ackers, M.P., had consented to become a vice-president. The re-election of officers was then proceeded with, and the president and vice-presidents were re-elected. Mr. H. KARN proposed, and Mr. WANKLIN seconded, that Rev. C. D. P. Davies, curate of Redmarley, be elected Master. Rev. Mr. DAVIES said if Mr. Drinkwater's resignation was accepted, and if he were elected, he would do his best to discharge the duties of the office. The resignation was accepted and Mr. Davies was unanimously elected. Rev. F. E. BROOME WITTS proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Drinkwater for his long services as Master, with an expression of regret that his failing health prevented him from continuing the office. Mr. BELCHER seconded the motion. Rev. T. HOLBROW bore testimony to the devotion with which Mr. Drinkwater had discharged the duties of the office and to the interest he took in the objects of the Association. The motion was cordially adopted. Mr. PHILLOTT urged the desirability of the Master not retaining office longer than two years; nd on the suggestion of the new Master it was agreed that this should be an understanding in future. The treasurer (Rev. F. E. Broome Witts) was re-appointed, and read his report, which showed a balance in hand of £28 4s. 11½d. It was agreed that the financial year should terminate at Midsummer, and that the annual meeting should be held soon afterwards. It was proposed that the next quarterly meeting should be held at Coln St. Aldwyns. Mr. WINTLE suggested Dymock, and said that place could be easily reached after the new railway was opened on the 6th of July, the date which was announced for that event to take place. It was, however, agreed that the meeting should be held at Coln St. Aldwyns. The Secretary said the Rev. Mowbray Trotter had written stating that he was sorry that he could not attend their meeting, but he placed the belfry of St. Mary de Crypt at the disposal of the Association, and also the use of the schoolroom, where tea would be provided between five and seven o'clock. He hoped the new bell ropes would work well, and that the work of the members would be generally approved.

The annual dinner took place at the "Spread Eagle Hotel," where between seventy and eighty sat down. Canon ST. JOHN presided, and after the usual loyal toasts had been drunk, he gave "Prosperity to the Association," and connected the toast with the name of the new Master. The Rev. C. D. P. DAVIES, in responding, said ringing in the diocese seemed to be progressing very favourably. He was pleased the Association had decided on breaking new ground by going to Coln St. Aldwyns, as he doubted not good effects would result. He esteemed it a great honour to be elected Master, and would do his best to discharge the duties of the office during the period he should hold it. He proposed "The health of the Chairman." The Cathedral, of which he was the representative, was the fountain and centre of Church work in the diocese. Canon St. John had preached them an excellent sermon, and that and his presence at their dinner showed that the Cathedral, as the mother church of the diocese, was taking a part in the good work which was going on within the Bishop's jurisdiction.

The CHAIRMAN acknowledged the compliment paid him, and said he doubted not the Association would be always welcomed in the Cathedral Church of the Diocese. At their next meeting he hoped to give them a country welcome in another capacity. He hoped God's blessing would rest upon their work. Mr. HERN proposed the health of the honorary secretary. The Rev. PITT EYKYN acknowledged the toast, and said those who had not certificates of membership could obtain them that afternoon at the Crypt School of Dr. Smithe, who would insert their names in Old English characters. The health of the host, Mr. Grogan, brought the proceedings to a close.

During the afternoon and evening, the members gave several performances on the church bells of the city. At St. Mary-le-Crypt, where the bells have been furnished with new ropes, and the belfry improved, they rang several touches of Treble Bob, and Grandsire and Stedman Triples. At St. Michael's they rang 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, and there was a similar performance at St. Nicholas. At the Cathedral also there was some ringing. Tea was generously provided by the Rev. Mowbray Trotter, at the Old Crypt School Room, during the afternoon and evening.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

THE THIRD ANNUAL MEETING of this society was held at Lichfield, on Saturday, June 27th, and was in every respect a success; it was a a beautiful day, and there were a large number of members present than ever before. Ringing in the various steeples began about 3 p.m. and at 5 p.m. a Special Service was held for the ringers in the Lady Chapel of the Cathedral, at which prayer was read by the Ven. Archdeacon Ives, President of the above Society, and a short address given by the Rev. J. R. Keble. The service ended, some time was spent in going round the cathedral, and the Archdeacon kindly took a party over the library. All then assembled for a substantial tea in the Coffee House, at which more than sixty sat down, the Archdeacon occupying the chair. The business meeting was held immediately afterwards, and the report and treasurer's statement were read and approved. The Rev. J. J. Serjeantson, Rector of St. Michael's, Lichfield, was re-elected Hon. Treasurer, and the Rev. J. R. Keble, and Mr. S. Reeves of West Bromwich, were elected Hon. Secretaries for the ensuing year. It was determined that the Committee should recommend instructors in bell ringing, at a fixed charge, to any band anxious to improve themselves in the Art, and that a sub-Committee should be appointed of members qualified to report on bell-hanging, and the condition of church towers. The Secretary announced that five new Hon. Members, and twenty-two ringing members had just been elected by the Committee, and it was decided that the next Quarterly Meeting should be held at Harborne, on Saturday, September 26. The report for 1884-5 will be published in a few days.

CHEAP EXCURSIONS TO THE WEST OF ENGLAND.—The holiday season being now at its height, we propose to direct attention to the facilities afforded to the public for cheap travelling by the various railway and steamboat companies. This week we notice the South Western Railway Company's excursion arrangements, which are of a most complete kind. Cheap fast trains will run from London to all stations on their extensive system, every Saturday throughout the season, the tickets being available for return either on the following Monday week or Monday fortnight. There are also excursions at remarkably low fares to Portsmouth, Southampton, Salisbury, etc., leaving London at mid-day on Saturday, and returning on Tuesday night. These trains are sure to be well patronised by the public, as they are in every way suited to the convenience of holiday-makers, both for short or long periods.

THE NORTH GOSCOTE (LEICESTERSHIRE) SOCIETY.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING of the above society was held at Wymeswold, on Monday, June 22nd, when ringers from the following parishes were present: Asfordby, Great Dalby, Syston, Thrussington, and Wymeswold. In all there were thirty-three ringers present, including Mr. J. W. Taylor, the well-known bellfounder of Loughborough, and his two sons. The following clergy were also present; Rev. Canon Cartmell (Asfordby); Rev. W. M. Croome (Syston); Rev. R. C. Green (Wymeswold); Rev. W. H. Marriot (Thrussington); Rev. C. S. Millard (Costock); Rev. W. Pearson (Syston); Rev. R. Copeman (St. George's, Leicester); Rev. R. H. Woodcock (Great Dalby). The Wymeswold company commenced at 9.15 by ringing some short touches of Bob Minor. These were followed by the Asfordby company, and then the Thrussington company, who each rang some six-scores of Grandsire Doubles. The Syston senior company with the assistance of Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun., then rang a 720 of Bob Minor in 25 mins. These were in their turn succeeded by the Great Dalby company, who rang some Grandsire Doubles, and were followed by the Syston junior company, who rang some Bob Minor. We would like once more to urge those of our companies who have only five bells in their towers, not to be satisfied with only ringing the Grandsire method; and we would remind all, that as the parish church where this society propose to meet next year contains only five bells, it is very desirable that each company should be thoroughly well up in two methods at least, if only to relieve the monotony of listening to a constant repetition of Grandsire changes.

At one o'clock, an excellent dinner was served in the village schoolroom, by the landlord of the "Three Crowns," to which ample justice was done. Dinner over, a business meeting was held. After a few kindly words of encouragement from the Rural Dean and Vice-President of the society (Canon Cartmell), the secretary (Rev. W. M. Croome), proceeded to read his report and statement of accounts, the latter having the satisfactory balance of £7. 8s. 4d. A vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar and Churchwardens for their efforts to make the day a successful one, and also to the preacher. It was unanimously agreed to hold the next Annual Meeting at Thrussington, and also to invite the ringers of the other Goscote Deanery to join the society. The Vicarage garden was kindly thrown open by the Vicar, and quoits and bowls were provided for those who chose to use them.

At three p.m, there was a service in the church, when proper Psalms and Lessons were chosen, and a very appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. C. S. Millard, from Psalm 84, verse 10. Ringing again commenced at 4.5, and continued until 5.45, when the various companies adjourned to tea. Meanwhile a mixed company rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, and the bells were kept going until a late hour, the home team concluding by ringing their visitors out of the parish with a 720 of Bob Minor. The following is the account of the ringing performed. A 720 of Bob Minor, by the Syston senior company: J. Freeman, 1; J. North, 2; J. W. Taylor, jun., 3; J. Hall, 4; J. Pickard, 5; Rev. W. Pearson (conductor), 6. A 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, by a mixed company. Rev. R. Copeman, 1; E. D. Taylor, 2; Rev. W. Pearson, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., 4; J. North, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun., (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Bob Minor, by the Wymeswold company. E. D. Taylor, 1; J. Brooks, 2; Marshall Brown, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., 4; R. W. Charles, 5; J. W. Taylor, jun., (conductor), 6.

OPENING OF A PEAL OF BELLS AT ST. MARY'S, TAUNTON, SOMERSET, BY THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

ON Thursday, June 25th, ten members of this Guild visited Taunton for the express purpose of ringing a peal on this magnificent peal of ten, which has been made by the addition of two trebles by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, who have made a thorough good splice, and is now undoubtedly the grandest peal of bells in Somerset. In the morning a dedication service was held in the church, at which the Bishop of Bath and Wells was present, and several influential gentlemen of the Diocese. Before service ten members of the Guild rose the bells in peal, and rang nine courses of Stedman Caters in splendid style. J. Field, 1; W. Finch, 2; L. Proctor, Esq., 3; A. F. M. Custance, Esq., 4; S. Hounslow, 5; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 6: Rev. F. E. Robinson, 7; C. Hounslow, 8; J. W. Washbrook, 9, W. Wakelin, 10. There is affixed to the bells a carrillon which plays twenty-one tunes, and which was set going after the dedication service by two ladies of Taunton, amidst great enthusiasm. A luncheon was afterwards held in the City Buildings, which was well attended, and thanks were acknowledged by many gentlemen for their bounteous support in the matter. After luncheon ten members of the Guild rang a peal of 5079 Stedman Caters, in 3 hrs. 22 mins., an account of which appears on another page.

ST. THOMAS'S, SALISBURY.—The tenor bell which broke down on June 20th, as recorded in our last issue, is being rehung by Mr. T. Blackbourn, of Salisbury.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING JUNE 30TH, 1885.—On Friday, June 19th, at St. Mary's, Eastbourne, by the Eastbourne branch, a 532 of Grandsire Triples· T. West, 1; H. P. Bennett (conductor), 2; C. Harffey, 3; H. Colbran, 4; T. Willoughby, 5; T. Hart, 6; T. Lewis, 7; J. Lewis, 8. And a 560 in the same method. C. Harffey, 1; H. P. Bennett, 2; W. Bone (Reigate), 3; T. Willoughby, 4; W. Avan, 5; L. Huggett (conductor), 6; T. Hart, 7; T. Lewis, 8. On Monday, June 22nd, at All Saints', Eastbourne, by the Eastbourne branch, with Mr. F. Stacey, of London, a 532 of Grandsire Triples. F. Stacey, 1; H. P. Bennett, 2; J. West, 3; W. Siggs, 4; T. Willoughby, 5; F. Harding (conductor), 6; T. Lewis, 7; S. Lewis, 8. And 168 of Grandsire Triples by six of the above band, and Messrs. C. Harffey and H. Colbran. On Thursday, June 25th, at St. Mary's, Eastbourne, by the Eastbourne branch, Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 4 mins. (see peal column), conducted by H. P. Bennett. On Saturday, June 27th, at Southover, Lewes, by the Fletching branch, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, by the following members: G. Stevens, F. Newnham, N. Andrews, W. Chatfield, jun., H. Chatfield, sen., E. Burley and J. Burley. It is worthy of remark that six months ago, when this band of ringers joined the Sussex County Association, Mr. H. Chatfield was the only one of the above mentioned seven members who had the least knowledge of the art of change-ringing. On Sunday, June 28th, at Fletching, by the Fletching branch, for morning and evening service, four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. Chatfield, jun., 1; F. Newnham, 2; W. Andrews, 3; E. Burleigh, 4; G. Stevens (conductor), 5; J. Burley, 6. On Monday, June 29th (St. Peter's day), at St. Peter's church, Brighton, by the Brighton branch, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. E. Marshall, 1; J. Jay, sen., 2; C. Golds, 3; A. Marshall, 4; G. F. Attree, 5; H. Weston (conductor), 6; J. Jay, jun., 7; W. Vernon, 8. And on Monday evening, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, with the bells half muffled as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Walter Searle, a member of the St. Nicholas', Brighton, Society, who was buried on that day at the Brighton Cemetery. E. Marshall, 1; J. Jay, sen., 2; H. Weston, 3; A. Marshall, 4; J. Jay, jun., 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; G. King, 7; W. Vernon, 8. Also a 168, in which Mr. Parkhouse took part. The bells of St. Nicholas' church were also rung half-muffled.

G. F. ATTREE, *Hon. Sec.*

THE ST. NICHOLAS SOCIETY, BRIGHTON.

ON Monday, June 29th, the remains of Mr. Walter Searle, a member of the above society, was laid in their last resting place. Deceased, who had belonged to the society for six years, was previous to his coming to Brighton a member of the Steyning band, and rang the treble in the first 720 recorded by them. He also took part in several 720's of Oxford Bob Minor. At Brighton he was one of the band that made the first attempt at St. Peter's for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but failed after ringing 4790 changes. Shortly after that, his health began to give way, and for the last two years he has been gradually getting worse, until death put an end to his sufferings. He was followed to the grave by as many of his fellow members as could get away from business; and in the evening, the society met at St. Nicholas Church, and rang with the bells half-muffled, the usual whole pull and stand, according to the number of years of his age, 35, finishing with 240 of Grandsire Doubles, with 7,6,8, behind. Deceased, who was much respected by his fellow members, leaves a widow and two children to mourn his loss.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday evening, June 27th, it being their club night, the Redenhall branch of the above Association met and rang a muffled peal in honour of the late Rev. Augustus Sutton, who had been a very good friend to them, as well as other ringers, and most kindly received and entertained them at his house, when they went to ring at his church some four years ago. They could not do much on Saturday, on account of the lateness of the hour at which they assembled, and having to muffle the bells, and being rather short-handed, some of the company being engaged in the hay harvest, and unable to be present in consequence.

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.

A very large clock and chimes has been erected on the church here. The dial has been specially designed and is very bold and effective. It is nine feet in diameter; the clock plays the Cambridge chimes, strikes the hours upon a 21 cwt. bell, and is fitted with all the latest improvements. It has a pendulum of two cwt. The entire work has been carried out by John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby, in their usual effective manner.

THE SHIPWAY REPRINT.

THE first number of the weekly issue of this work will appear

ON SATURDAY NEXT, JULY 11th,

The numbers can be obtained of all news agents in town and country. A good plan will be to order them with copies of "THE BELL NEWS," the same bookseller supplying both.

Orders should at once be given to local booksellers to prevent disappointment. As in this shape the number of copies printed will only be just enough to cover the demand, it is obvious that those who neglect to obtain the numbers at once will not afterwards have the opportunity.

Each number will contain sixteen pages, size of page being the same as the original work, and having about the same quantity of matter per page. Mr. Snowdon will probably add a valuable contribution to the work in the shape of an appendix.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

PUBLISHED BY E. W. ALLEN, AVE MARIA LANE, LONDON.

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

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

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

A SUFFOLK MAN must not shield his identity by withholding his name.
W. LOMAS.—Five shillings.
H. BAREFIELD.—Too late. You had better have it in penny numbers.
R. CARTWRIGHT.—Dale's clapper stay. See *Troyte's Guide to the Steeples of England.*
J. W. WASHBROOK.—We will send your communication on to Mr. Snowdon.
JAMES HEDDING.—In *Troyte's Guide to the Steeples of England* you will get the information you require,

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JULY 4, 1885.

The Provinces.

HOLBECK, LEEDS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—HOLBECK BRANCH.

On Tuesday, June 23, 1885, *in Three Hours and Two Minutes,*

AT ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

THOMAS HARRINSON ..	..*Trrble.*	JOSHUA WOODHEAD	5.
HARRY TOMLINSON	2.	FRANCIS WOODHEAD.. ..	6.
HENRY MOSS	3.	DAVID YORK	7.
STEPHEN BASNETT	4.	MATTHEW TOMLINSON	..*Tenor.*

Composed by WILLIAM WALKER, of Leeds, and Conducted by MATTHEW TOMLINSON.

The above peal, which has never been previously performed, makes the fiftieth peal on these bells by the above Association, out of which there has been thirty peals of Kent Treble Bob; eleven of Bob Major; five of Oxford Treble Bob; two of Grandsire Triples; one of Bob Triples; and one of Yorkshire Court Bob. The bells, which are a fine ring of eight, was presented by J. E. Woodhouse, Esq., of Holbeck, in 1371, and cast by J. Warner and Sons, London.

LIVERPOOL, LANCASHIRE.

On Tuesday, June 23, 1885, *in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,*

AT ST. LUKE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

RICHARD S. MANN ..	..*Treble.*	GEORGE FISHER..	5.
JOHN R. PRITCHARD	2.	WILLIAM DAVIES	6.
JOHN BROWN	3.	THOMAS HAMMOND	7.
WILLIAM JAMES	4.	WILLIAM BROOKS ..	..*Tenor.*

Conducted by THOMAS HAMMOND.

This is the first peal in the method by all the above band.

MAIDSTONE, KENT.

On Wednesday, June 24, 1885, *in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,*

AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 19 cwt.

JESSE CONSTABLE* ..	..*Treble.*	JABEZ HORTON	5.
WILLIAM ELLIOTT	2.	HARRY PEARCE..	6.
ALCHIN MOORCRAFT	3.	GEORGE PAWLEY	7.
REUBEN SIMMONDS	4.	JAMES FERGUSSON ..	..*Tenor.*

Conducted by GEORGE PAWLEY.

*First Peal.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION, AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Thursday, June 25, 1885, *in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,*

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES. Tenor 26 cwt.

REV. JAMES H. FISH..	..*Treble.*	HARRY WAKLEY	5.
ARTHUR BERTRAM WARD..	2.	HARRY CHAS. WOODWARD	6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY	3.	A. P. HEYWOOD, ESQ. ..	7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN	4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY ..	..*Tenor.*

Composed by HENRY DAINS and Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, is a two-part peal, and contains the 6th twenty-four times wrong and right. See Snowdon's "Double Norwich," page 31, being the first of the peals there given.

False, see B.N. x. pp. 520, 529

TAUNTON, SOMERSETSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, June 25, 1885, *in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

JOSEPH FIELD	..*Treble.*	CHARLES HOUNSLOW ..	6.
THOMAS PAYNE	2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON ..	7.
A. F. M. CUSTANCE, ESQ..	3.	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES ..	8.
WILLIAM FINCH	4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK ..	9.
SAMUEL HOUNSLOW	5.	WILLIAM WAKELIN ..	..*Tenor.*

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., and Conducted by REV. F. E. ROBINSON.

This is the first Peal of Caters rang in Somerset.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, June 25, 1885, *in Three Hours and Four Minutes,*

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qrs.

G. HARRIS	..*Treble.*	T. WILLOUGHBY	5.
H. P. BENNETT	2.	J. POTTER	6.
F. HARDING..	3.	T. HART	7.
L. HUGGETT	4.	J. LEWIS	..*Tenor.*

Conducted by H. P. BENNETT.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, June 27, 1885, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

GEORGE R. HEYWOOD	*Treble.*	SAMUEL HILL	5.
THOMAS MOSS	2.	JOHN THORP	6.
BENJAMIN BROADBENT	3.	SAMUEL WOOD	7.
EDMUND SCHOFIELD	4.	GEORGE LONGDEN	*Tenor.*

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

For the composition of this peal see "THE BELL NEWS," May 23rd, 1885.

STALYBRIDGE, CHESHIRE.

On Tuesday, June 30, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

JOHN LAWTON	*Treble.*	BENJAMIN BROADBENT	5.
EDMUND SCHOFIELD	2.	GEORGE LONGDEN	6.
JAMES WOOD	3.	GEORGE R. HEYWOOD	7.
SAMUEL WOOD	4.	JOHN THORP	*Tenor.*

Composed by Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

This is the 100th peal by Samuel Wood and George Longden.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.

On Monday, June 30, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lbs.

JAMES SHAW	*Treble.*	ALBERT E. WREAKS	5.
WALTER SLATER	2.	JOHN EACHUS	6.
ROBERT WOOLLEY	3.	SAMUEL BENNETT	7.
SAMUEL WEST	4.	JAMES S. WILDE	*Tenor.*

Composed by TOM LOCKWOOD, of Leeds, and Conducted by JAMES S. WILDE.

The peal, which is in two parts, will be found in Snowdon's *Treatise*, part ii, page 41. Messrs. West, Wreaks and Eachus belong to the Manchester Cathedral company; the rest belong to the local society.

Date Touches.

DENFORD (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday evening, June 27th, a date touch of 1885 changes in the following methods, viz.:—445 of Bob Minor, 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, 720 of College Little, in 1 hr. and 10 mins, F. Starmore, 1; A. Arnold, 2; Jas. Groome, 3; H. Groom, 4; F. Arnold, 5; A. Groom (conductor), 6. This is the longest touch by all the above.

EYE (Suffolk).—On Monday evening, June 29th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, the local company rang a date touch of 1885 changes of Plain Bob Major, in 1 hr. 12 mins. C. Hawes, 1; F. Day (conductor), 2; W. Goodenham, 3; R. Carfir, 4; R. E. Gibbs, 5; G. Ford, 6; J. Bumpstead, 7; H. Torble, 8. Composed by E. Francis, of Diss.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

SOUTH HACKNEY (Middlesex).—On Wednesday evening, June 24th, at the church of St. John of Jerusalem, eight members of the above society rang before Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 46 mins. J. Sumpter, 1, R. Turner (conductor), 2; H. J. Shade, 3; L. Green, 4; G. Marriott, 5; S. Joyce, 6; York Green, 7; E. Turner, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. This is a five-part composition by H. J. Shade, and was rung on the occasion of the induction of the new rector, the Rev. Canon Lester.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

LICHFIELD.—On Saturday, June 27th, six members of the above Association rang at St. Michael's church, Greenhill, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. B. Dalton, 1; J. Fullwood, 2; W. Devey, 3; J. Jones, 4; J. E. Claridge, 5; R. Cartwright, 6. Tenor about 12 cwt. J. Fullwood hails from West Bromwich; Messrs. Dalton and Jones from Tettenhall; the rest from Wombourne.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

JARROW.—On Tuesday, June 23rd, at St. Peter's church, in honour of the marriage of the Rev. F. N. Thicknesse, Lecturer at the parish church, Bolton, and formerly a curate of this church, four 720's of Minor, viz: Grandsire, Plain Bob, Oxford Bob, and College Single. W. Baxter, 1; A. English, 2; R. Oliver, 3; W. Holmes, 4; J. Campbell, 5; F. Harrison (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method of Grandsire by all except W. Baxter, who rung the 2nd in this method. Tenor 8½ cwt. And at Christ church, a 720 of Oxford Bob and 480 of College Single, the men standing the same as before. Tenor 17 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD.—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Saturday evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. A. Pye, 1-2; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 3-4; B. Keeble, 5-6. This 720 contains fifteen bobs with the tenors right throughout, and was rung in the tower at 9.30 by moonlight.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LANGLEYBURY (Herts).—On Monday, June 22nd, at St. Paul's church, the following members of the St. Alban's branch of the above Association rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. W. Battle, 1; H. Lewis, 2; A. Godman, jun., 3; G. W. Cartmel, 4; A. Godman, sen., 5; N. N. Hills (conductor), 6. Tenor 9 cwt. This is the first 720 on the bells.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Monday, June 29th, at St. Michael's Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles), in 27 mins. W. Battle, 1; W. H. L. Buckingham, 2; A. Godman, jun., 3; G. W. Cartmel, 4; A. Godman, sen., 5; N. N. Hills (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt. This is the first 720 known to have been rung on the bells. All the above are College Youths except A. Godman, jun.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, June 16th, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicolas, a 720 and a 216 of Plain Bob. J. W. Jarvis, 1; C. Neaverson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; J. Wright, 4; R. Mackman, 5; G. Skeef (conductor), 6. And on June 21st, for morning service, 360 of London Single. And for evening service, 480 of Plain Bob. On Tuesday, June 23rd, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. G. Skeef, 1; J. S. Wright, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; Dr. Seccombe (Terrington), 4; R. Mackman, 5; J. Brown, 6. Also on Sunday, June 28th, being Coronation Day, four 120s of Bob Doubles was rung at 7 a.m.; a 720 of Plain Bob (30 bobs and 2 singles) at 10 a.m.; and at 6.0 p.m., 720 of Plain Bob. After service a 720 of London Single. The following ringers took part: J. S. Wright, G. Richardson, R. Mackman, J. Brown, C. Neaverson, J. W. Jarvis, G. Skeef.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

GLOUCESTER.—On Monday, June 22nd, in addition to performances recorded in last week's issue at the Cathedral and St. Michael's, a mixed company rang at St. Nicholas, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 23 mins. W. Witherington (Tewkesbury), 1; W. Sevier (Barnwood), 2; F. E. Ward, Esq. (Cheltenham), 3; H. Karn (conductor; Cheltenham), 4; J. Wathen (Tewkesbury), 5; G. Phillott, Esq. (Cheltenham), 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

FAVERSHAM (Kent).—On Sunday, June 28th, for morning service, by the local company, 720 of Plain Bob, with the treble leading and tenor covering, in 29 mins. J. Smith, 1; T. Gillett (first 720), 2; A. Biggs, 3; J. Barnard, 4; C. L. Graham, 5; W. Wood (conductor), 6; W. Arnold, 7; H. Hughes. 8.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HAUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Thursday, June 25th, at St. Anne's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung in 28 mins. James A. Thomas, 1; John Bardsley, 2; Wm. Wilde, sen., 3; John S. Leech, 4; John Howard, 5; Peter Smith, 6. And on Tuesday, June 30th, another 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27½ mins., standing as before, both conducted by Wm. Wilde, sen. And a 360 of Plain Bob Minor, in 14 mins. Wm. Wilde, jun., 1; John Howard, 2; James A. Thomas, 3; Wm. Wilde, sen., 4; John S. Leech, 5; Peter Smith (conductor), 6, Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

PRESTWICH (Lancashire).—On Saturday, June 27th, eight members of the Manchester Cathedral branch of the above Association visited the above place and rang a 360 of Bob Minor, in 14 mins. Thomas G. Downs, 1; Samuel West, 2; Joseph Grimshaw, 3; James Thorpe, 4; Albert E. Wreaks, 5; John Withers, 6. Also a 720 in the same method (fourteen bobs and two singles), in 29 mins. standing as before. Also a 360 in the same method in 15 mins. Thomas Thorpe, 1; Thomas G. Downs, 2; James Thorpe, 3; Samuel West, 4; Joseph Grimshaw, 5; Albert E. Wreaks, 6. Tenor 15¾ cwt in E. All the above were conducted by Albert E. Wreaks.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Monday, June 22nd, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen singles and eighteen bobs), for practice, in 25½ mins. J. Welsby (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Brookes, 4; A. Potter, 5; W. Denner, 6. And on Sunday, June 28th, the bells were half-muffled during the day, in respect of the many deceased men and boys that were so suddenly called away in the sad explosion at Clifton Hall Colliery, near Manchester. And for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. Welsby (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Williamson, 4; J. Brookes, 5; W. Denner, 6. Tenor 13¾ cwt.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, June 28th, the following members of St. Laurence Society, rang for Divine Service in the evening, 576 of Kent Treble Bob Major. William Grice, 1; Richard Hickton, 2; George Bradley, 3; Samuel Clarke, 4; John C. Dickens, 5; William Gilson, 6; John Ward, 7; Joseph Barrow (conductor), 8. After which the band walked to Sandiacre, a distance of 1½ miles, and succeeded in ringing a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with the bells muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Joseph Stevens, Esq., the donor of the bells. George Bradley, 1; Richard Hickton, 2; Samuel Clarke, 3; John C. Dickens, 4; William Grice, 5; John Ward (conductor), 6. Also 360 Plain Bob Minor. G. Bradley, 1; R. Hickton, 2; S. Clarke, 3; W. Gilson, 4; J. C. Dickens, 5; Joseph Barrow (conductor), 6. This handy ring of six bells are by Messrs. Taylor and Sons, of Loughborough. Tenor 17 cwt. in F. Had the above gentleman been spared a little longer, he would have added two trebles, which he would have done before now if the local company had been able to ring a 720.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GAINSBOROUGH (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, June 30th, at All Saints' church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. T. Pattinson, 1; F. W. Atkinson, 2; J. C. Tinker, 4; W. Pattinson, 5; C. Brewin, 6; W. D. Tinker (conductor), 7; W. W. Bust (tenor covering), 8. Tenor 20 cwt. This is the first 720 in the method by any of the above. The reason of the 3rd not being rung was owing to the rope being broken while ringing Triples.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Tuesday evening, May 23rd, at St. Mary Magdalen church, a 336 of Grandsire Triples. W. Wood, 1; W. Burgess, 2; W. Baston, 3-4; W. Washbrook (conductor), 5-6; H. J. Castle, 7-8. Also two courses of Grandsire Major. W. Wood, 1-2; H. J. Castle, 3-4; J. W. Washbrook, 5-6; W. Baston, 7-8.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday, June 23rd, a 720 of Stedman's Slow Course Minor, in 27 mins. H. Holdcroft, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. Wood, 4; G. Walker, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6.

BASINGSTOKE (Kent).—On Tuesday, June 30th, at St. Michael's church, on the occasion of the marriage of H. Stocker, one of the local ringers, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, were rung with 7 6 8 covering. W. Sugg, 1; H. Southgate, 2; F. Bicknell, 3; G. Capron, 4; W. Tiller, 5; J. Higgens, 6; T. Higgens, 7; T. Wheeler, 8. Conducted by F. Bicknell and W. Tiller.

BILDESTON (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, June 20th, several short touches of Plain Bob Minor was rung at the parish church. The company then adjourned to the house of Mr. A. Long, one of the local ringers, where some handbell ringing, and tune playing by Mr. J. Bradley, of West Ham. And on Monday, June 29th, at St. Mary's, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 30 mins. A. Long, 1; J. Scowen, 2; G. Scowen, 3; R. Bedingfield, 4; W. Nevard (conductor), 5; T. Mann, 6. And a short touch of Oxford Treble Bob. T. Mann, 1; J. Scowen, 2; G. Scowen, 3; R. Bedingfield, 4; W. Nevard, 5; J. Taylor, 6. Tenor 18 cwt. Messrs. J. and G. Scowen and T. Mann hail from Hadleigh; W. Nevard from Great Bentley, the rest are local men.

BRAMFORD (Suffolk).—On Sunday morning, June 2nd, at the parish church, the local company rang two 6-scores of Plain Doubles. Charles Osborne, 1; Walter Brown, 2; William Read, 3; Alfred Pryke, 4; Charles Smith (conductor), 5. Tenor 16 cwt. in G. This is the first change-ringing done by a local company in Bramford for thirty years, C. Osborne and W. Brown having learnt since Christmas. C. Smith, A. Pryke and W. Read belong to the Norwich Diocesan Association.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Monday evening, June 22nd, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. F. J. Thompson, 1; H. Thompson, 2; F. Wells, 3; A. Ives, 4; Philip Sadler (Norwich; conductor), 5; G. Maxim, 6. And a 720 of Double Court Bob. F. J. Thompson, 1; J. S. Page, 2; F. Wells, 3; O. Garwood, 4; P. Sadler, 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6.

CHESTER.—On Saturday, June 20th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 24 mins. *William Joinson, 1; †Edwin Davis, 2; George Caldwell, 3; Ralph Curry, 4; Sydney Barton, 5; Thomas J. Bithell (conductor), 6. Tenor 23 cwt. *First 720. † First 720 with a bob bell.

FOXEARTH (Essex).—On Sunday, June 28th, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a touch of Bob Minor was rung in which Mr. Sadler (of Norwich) took part.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, June 28th, at the parish church, for early morning service, the local company rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. F. Ancock, 1; G. Norman, 2; E. James, 3; J. Shaw, 4; W. Price, 5; G. Marsden (conductor), 6. And for Divine Service in the evening, the Staveley company, with J. Atkin, of Norton, rang a 720 of Violet Minor. W. Harris, 1; H. Mottershall, 2; J. Atkin, 3; W. Worthington, 4; J. Hunt. 5; H. Madin (conductor), 6. Also 360 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. G. Smith, 1; H. Mottershall (conductor), 2; W. Biggin (Norton), 3; J. Atkin, 4; W. Worthington, 5; G. Marsden, 6.

GREAT WALDINGFIELD (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, June 23rd, a 720 of Bob Minor. F. R. Steed (Long Melford), 1; G. Hammond (Long Melford), 2; P. Sadler, 3; J. Bird, 4; P. C. S. Scott, 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6.

GLEMSFORD (Suffolk).—On Friday, June 26th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. Z. Slater, 1; C. Honeybell, 2; F. Wells, 3; S. Slater, 4; Philip Sadler, 5; O. Garwood (conductor), 6.

HARTEST (Suffolk).—On Thursday, June 25th, two 6-scores of Bob Doubles. Z. Slater, 1; O. Garwood, 2; F. Wells, 3; P. Sadler, 4; S. Slater (conductor), 5. 2nd 120; S. Slater, 1; C. Honeybell, 2; Z. Slater, 3; O. Garwood, 4; P. Sadler (conductor), 5. Tenor 11 cwt.

HITCHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday, June 21st, a 720 of Plain Bob and a 360 of Treble Bob was rung—720 Plain Bob: J. Bradley (West Ham), 1; R. Bedingfield (Bildeston), 2; J. Steed (Hitcham), 3; J. Taylor (Bildeston), 4: A. Long (Bildeston), 5; W. Green (Monkseleigh), 6. 360 of Treble Bob: J. Bradley, 1; R. Bedingfield, 2; A. Keeble (Monkseleigh), 3; J. Taylor, 4; A. Long, 5; W. Green (conductor), 6.

HUNDON (Suffolk).—On Thursday, June 25th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 28 mins. C. Honeybell, 1; Z. Slater, 2; F. Wells, 3; O. Garwood, 4; P. Sadler, 5; S. Slater (conductor), 6. Tenor 19 cwt.

LITTLE WALDINGFIELD (Suffolk).—On Tuesday evening, June 23rd, two 6-scores of Bob Doubles. P. C. S. Scott (first 120), 1; P. Sadler, 2; S. Slater, 3; J. Bird, 4; J. Newman (Edwardstone; conductor), 5. 2nd 6-score: G. Death, 1; S. Slater, 1, G. Hammond, 3; J. Bird, 4; J. Newman (conductor), 5.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday, June 20th, on the occasion of the visit of Mr. Philip Sadler, of Norwich, an attempt was made to ring the late Thomas Hurry's peal of Treble Bob Major, 5344 changes, when after ringing within fourteen treble leads of the finish of the peal, in 3 hrs. and 5 mins., it was brought to an unexpected end by an unforeseen accident. Philip Sadler (conductor), 1; Chas. Honeybell, 2; Geo. Hammond, 3; Zach. Slater, 4; Thos. O. Garwood, 5; Fredk. Wells, 6; Geo. Maxim, 7; Ernest Pitstow, 8.

NORTH WINGFIELD (Derbyshire).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Saturday afternoon, June 27th, at St. Lawrence's church, as a last token of respect for an old ringer, Samuel Ordish, immediately after funeral service six 6-scores of Bob Doubles was rung, each called differently, with the bells half muffled, in 30 mins. A. Bannister, 1; G. Beresford, 2; G. Tarlton, 3; T. Allibone, 4; T. Day, 5; W. Hopkinson, 6. Tenor 18¾ cwt. in F.

NOTTINGHAM.—On Saturday, June 13th, at St. Mary's church, 1061 Grandsire Caters. J. Wilson, 1; T. Cooper, 2; H. W. Abbott, 3; W. Billinghurst, 4; J. Howe, 5; G. Ashworth, 6; J. W. Taylor, jun., Esq., 7; H. C. Woodward (conductor), 8; A. P. Heywood, Esq., 9; S. Wilkinson, 10. Followed by some short touches of Grandsire Caters, in which J. W. Taylor, sen., Esq., E. D. Taylor, Esq., Messrs. A. Cresser, T. Holmes, and Rev. W. W. C. Baker took part. Also some Stedman Caters (believed to be the first in Nottingham), concluding with a touch of Grandsire Caters. J. W. Wilson, 1; A. Cresser, 2; H. W. Abbott, 3; J. Howe, 4; T. Holmes, 5; A. P. Heywood, Esq., (conductor), 6; J. W. Taylor, sen., Esq., 7; H. C. Woodward, 8; J. W. Taylor, jun., Esq., 9; E. Wightman, 10. Tenor 34½ cwt. Mr. Heywood hails from Duffield; Messrs. Taylor, Cresser, Billinghurst, Cooper, and Wightman from Loughbourough; Messrs. Howe and Woodward from Derby; Mr. T. Holmes from Burton-on-Trent; the rest are local men.

PASLINGFORD (Suffolk).—On Thursday morning, June 25th, 120 of Bob Doubles. Z. Slater, 1; C. Honeybell, 2; F. Wells, 3; P. Sadler (conductor), 4; S. Slater, 5. Tenor 11 cwt.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—*Muffled Peal.*—On Wednesday, June 24th, in memory of the late Uriah Woodman, of Trowbridge, whose death was recorded last week, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Short, 1; E. A. Foster, 2; C. A. Clements, 3; T. Blackbourn, 4; W. W. Gifford, 5; J. R. Jerram, 6.

SHIMPLING (Suffolk).—On Thursday, June 25th, a 6-score of Bob Doubles. Z. Slater, 1; C. Honeybell, 2; O. Garwood, 3; F. Wells, 4; P. Sadler (conductor), 5. Tenor 9 cwt.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Saturday, June 6th, at St. Mary the Virgin, the local company rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 25½ mins. J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, June 7th, for morning service, a 360 of Plain Bob Minor. G. Prior, 1; W. Prior, 2; G. Gray, 3; H. Prior, jun., 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. And on Saturday, June 13th, a 720 Plain Bob Minor (forty-two singles). in 26 mins. W. Prior, 1; Isaac Cavill, 2; G. Gray, 3; H. Prior, jun., 4; J. Luckey, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, June 21st, for evening service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and eighteen singles), in 27 mins. G. Prior, 1; J. Luckey, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, June 28th, for evening service, a 720 of College Single Minor, in 25 mins. W. Prior, 1; J. Luckey, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 5; Isaac Cavill, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by all, also the first 720 in the method on these bells. Also on Sunday morning, June 28th, a touch of Kent Treble Bob was rung. P. Sadler, 1; G. Hammond, 2; Jas. Bird, 3; P. C. S. Scott, 4; E. Pitstow, 5; N. J. Pitstow (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

STRADISHALL (Suffolk).—On Thursday, June 25th, a 6-score of Bob Doubles, the first on the bells for many years. Z. Slater, 1; O. Garwood, 2; F. Wells, 3; P. Sadler (conductor), 4; S. Slater, 5. Tenor 10 cwt.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Thursday, June 25th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Bob Minor. A. Conford (first 720), 1; F. Ring, 2; F. Hayes (conductor), 3; W. Martin, 4; W. Harper, 5; G. Martin, 6. And on Sunday, June 28th, for morning service a 720 of Grandsire Minor. J. Harding, 1; F. Ring, 2; W. Martin, 3; G. Martin, 4; G. Hayes, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. And for evening service, a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Broom, 1; F. Ring, 2; W. Martin, 3; G. Hayes, 4; G. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

TYLDESLEY (Lancashire).—On Sunday, June 28th, being the occasion of the Sunday School Anniversary sermons at St. George's church, five of the Walkden company paid a visit in the afternoon, and with the assistance of Mr. James Aldred, one of the local company, a 720 of Bob Minor was rang in 24½ mins. J. Welsby (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Oakes, 3; James Aldred, 4; A. Potter, 5; W. Denner, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

*** *Several touches are unavoidably left over till our next issue.*

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday evening, June 23rd, the Folkestone company were treated to an outing to Staplehurst, by the churchwardens, Messrs. Chapman and Dunk, and were accompanied by Mr. E. Potter from Dover, Mr. F. Finn from Mersham, and were met on arrival by Mr. T. Potter from Frittenden, and Mr. Kemp from Maidstone. The ringing consisted of various touches of Grandsire Triples, in which the several parties mentioned took part. The bells are a nice musical peal, in fairly good going order, far beyond the expectation of the visitors, who had in remembrance the report given by some of the visiting ringers at the recent opening, and what added to their gratification, they were complimented on having rung some well struck changes. The ringing was kept up till near ten o'clock, leaving but bare time to get some necessary refreshments, and catch the train to convey the party to their respective homes.

They beg, through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," to return their sincere thanks to Messrs. Chapman and Dunk for the outing, and to the Rev. G. F. Reyner, D.D., for the use of the bells, also to the churchwardens and local company for the welcome accorded them.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—CAVERSHAM BRANCH.

The following is the ringing done by the above branch during the month of June:—May 26th, 720 of Bob Minor; May 31st, 720 of Grandsire; June 6th, 720 of Grandsire and 720 of Double Oxford Bob; June 14th, 720 of Oxford Bob; June 21st, two 720s of Bob Minor; June 29th, 720 of Bob Minor. Seven 6-scores of Stedman have also been rung, in one of which E. Bishop of Reading scored his maiden peal in the method. H. Egby and J. Willshire also of Reading took part in the last 720. The Caversham band who rang in the others were H. Smith, E. Pottinger, G. Essex, E. Menday, H. Simmonds, J. Hands, T. Newman, and Rev. G. F. Coleridge; the conducting being shared between the two latter.

A RINGERS' RAMBLE.

BEING on a visit to Cheshire, and having seen Mr. W. Gordon, of Stockport, it was arranged through his kindness, that we should have a ramble on the following day, June 27th. After half-an-hour's run on the London and North Western Railway, and passing through the beautiful scenery of the Vale Royal of Cheshire, Macclesfield was reached at 8.50, and to make sure of a ring we went in search of a brother-string, whom we found in the person of Mr. W. Kenny. 10 a.m. found us in the belfry, which contains a peal of ten bells (tenor about 20 cwt.), and many old tablets containing peals cut in the stone, and some old rules after the style of "Ye Gentlemen that ringers are." Being short-handed for Caters, which was to be remedied the following evening by two clever young ringers from Sutton being made members, the back eight were raised in peal, and a 392 of Grandsire Triples rung by the following persons: John Farrish, 1; Joseph Burgess, 2; Charles Bamford, 3; William Kenny, 4; William Gordon (conductor), 5; Edward Matthews, 6; Frank Birtwhistle, 7; James Morlidge, 8. The next move was to the house of Mr. W. Hulme, to see the jugs belonging to the Macclesfield Society, the largest of which holds seventeen quarts, the next nine quarts, and the smallest one half-a-gallon, all of which have been presented to them, the last for ringing the first and only peal yet rung in the Potteries. No ringer visiting Macclesfield should return without seeing them.

12.45 found us on our way to Bollington, by the Midland Railway, and a walk of about 2½ miles brought us to the church. The vicar's kind permission having been given, the bells were raised in peal, and a 1470 of Grandsire Triples was rung in good style in 1 hr. by the following: John Farrish, 1; James Holt, 2; Joseph Burgess, 3; W. Kenny, 4; W. Gordon (conductor), 5; Ed. Matthews, 6; Frank Birtwhistle, 7; James Morlidge, 8. Tenor 18 cwt.

Prestbury was the next place to be visited, and the contention was that another wonder would be added if we were successful in getting a pull, but apart from that we must see Prestbury church, where there is another older structure still standing in the same yard. In the south porch there are stone seats and trough for Holy Water. There is also a stone coffin, and outside in a glass case a portion of an old stone cross supposed to have been put up the first time Christianity was preached there. Permission not being obtained to ring this melodious peal, we bade our Macclesfield friends good bye, and we take this opportunity of thanking them for their kindness in accompanying us on such a pleasant outing. F. BIRTWHISTLE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE HALF-YEARLY MEETING of this Association will take place to-day, Saturday, July 4th, at Northenden, Cheshire. Dinner will be provided at the "Spread Eagle" Tavern, at half-past four p.m., tickets 1s. 6d. each, drinks extra. The following towers will be open for ringing during the day; Northenden, six bells; Didsbury, six bells; Barlow Moor, eight bells. J. S. WILDE, *Hon. Sec.*

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

ESTABLISHED 1637.

The Two Hundred and Forty-Eighth Anniversary of this Society will be held at the "Cherry Tree," Southgate, Middlesex, to-day, Saturday, July 4th. Dinner on the table at 3.0 sharp,

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The next ANNUAL MEETING of the above Association will be held at Bromsgrove, on Monday, July 13th. The peal of ten bells will be open for ringing during the day. The business meeting will be held at 2 o'clock, in St. John the Baptist School Room, (close to the church), at which Lord Alwyne Compton, D.D., has promised (if able) to preside. Members, Hon. and performing, are requested to note that all contributions not yet paid, should be paid at this meeting.

JNO. SMITH,
F. OWEN, } *Hon. Secs.*

THE HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THE next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Sawbridgeworth, on Monday, July 13th. Members who intend to be present are requested to send their names to the local secretaries of their bands, who will be informed as soon as possible of the arrangements for dinner and railway fares. The following towers will be open for ringing, viz.; Sawbridgeworth, 8 bells; Bishops Stortford, 10; Harlow, 8.

W. WIGRAM, *General Secretary.*

A CORRECTION.—In the report of the peal rang at Pinner last Bank Holiday, John Lewis rang the tenor, not James, as our correspondent stated in error.

Correspondence.

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

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

THE JOHNSON TESTIMONIAL.

SIR,—In reference to Mr. Hattersley's letter of last week, I can only say that I, for one, shall be glad to assist in the best way I can to promote the object in view. I do not suppose that any of my ringing friends can imagine how much I am indebted to Mr. Johnson for assistance when I have been for information connected with the history or science of change-ringing. I trust that some of our Birmingham friends will form themselves into a committee to carry this matter out. Should they find that the idea of a presentation portrait was approved, I do not think that the testimonial could take a more interesting form. If a portrait is decided on, let it however be a good one. I think that a really good and artistic enlarged permanent photograph would probably be the most satisfactory. In such a case ordinary small-sized reproductions of the same might be presented to all subscribers of a certain sum to the testimonial, and would form interesting mementoes of the occasion. I would also suggest that a handsome illuminated and framed address, setting forth the object of the testimonial, should at the same time be presented to Mr. Johnson.

Wortley, Leeds. JASPER W. SNOWDON.

A FALSE TOUCH.

SIR,—In reading the account of the outing of the St. Lawrence's Society, Reading, I notice a 559 of Grandsire Triples, at Drayton, conducted by W. Newell, taken from Troyte's book. Perhaps it would be as well that ringers were acquainted with the fact that this touch is false, as are also other touches given in the same work, namely, a 377 and a 420. There are plenty of good touches to be had which are true, containing all the 7-5-6's, and some in a less number of changes than this 559. A. J. PERKINS.

LIST OF RINGS IN THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLK.

SIR,—Seeing Mr. Clarkson's list of rings in Suffolk, and that he would be glad of any correction, I have taken the liberty to make a few remarks, namely: First he states that Thornham has only five bells, but if he refers to number 88 of "THE BELL NEWS," he will see a report of a 720 rung on the bells at that place, and supposed to be the first ever rung there. The Bardwell tenor should be 14 cwt. I visited Great Barton in 1869, and found only five bells then, and have not heard of any being added since. The tenor at Hinderclay is 12¾ cwt. I also visited St. Mary-at-Elms, Ipswich, in 1878, and only found five bells there. I quite agree with Mr. Clarkson as to Gislingham being a fine peal, but Mr. J. Garnham, who was a noted ringer there for many years, always said that South Lopham bells was the best peal of six he ever heard. W. DORAN.

West Ham.

SIR,—Mr. Clarkson has made some mistakes in his letter to you on the above subject, as there are only five bells at Great Barton, with a tenor 11 cwt.; and only five bells, with a tenor 10 cwt. at St. Mary-at-Elms, Ipswich. As I know, having rang there myself there are five bells at Dennington, tenor 21 cwt. Gazeley has only five bells with a tenor 10 cwt. No doubt there are several others. I had marked out a list like Mr. Clarkson's from "White's Gazetter," but had found it to be very incomplete, so I never published it, only as far as rings of eight. I should be pleased to see a complete list got up.

Glemsford, Suffolk. SAMUEL SLATER.

THE PEAL OF BOB MAJOR AT WEST MALLING, KENT.

SIR,—I was not surprised to see F. G. Newman's letter in "THE BELL NEWS," as he said on the Monday evening before the peal was rung that he intended to contradict it, and he also told us the same thing at our meeting-house after the peal was rung, only then he stated publicly that he had taken the course-ends off, and that the composition was false, but I suppose finding he could not properly carry out that charge, he shifted his ground. With regard to the striking, of which he speaks so strongly, I beg to state most emphatically that it was nothing like what anyone would infer from Mr. Newman's letter, nor do I think anyone would bear him out in it, if they spoke without prejudice or ill-will. I am quite ready to admit that the striking was not all it might be, but it may be some little excuse for us when we say that it was the first peal the 6th man had rung on an inside bell, while the treble man had never rung more than a few hundreds of Major on any bell at any time, and I further wish to say that the part-ends came up true from beginning to end, and without any calls being omitted or extra ones made, or the bells being forced into position. I know of several peals in which the striking was far worse than in the one in question, which were published by Mr. Newman, only in those he was the conductor, which fact, with those who know him, make all the difference. Now sir, Mr. Newman was in far too many public houses (vowing vengeance, in his characteristic manner) during the time the peal was being rung, to have heard but little of it, so that his statement of having heard the whole of it must be false. JAMES W. LEONARD.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me space in your paper concerning the recent peal of Bob Major rung at West Malling, Kent. I, like Mr. F. G. Newman, had the pleasure of hearing the above, and can fully endorse the remarks made by him in your last issue. I should also like to ask the conductor for the composition of the peal, through your medium, as I asked for it the same night it was rung, and it was refused me, but was told that it was a 5040 taken from the *Clavis* with 560 tacked on to it. HARRY PEARCE.

A FALSE PEAL.

SIR,—I am sorry to say that the peal of 5184 of Treble Bob Major, published in your last issue, by A. Sykes, Hudderfield, is false. The 6th lead in the 1st course, 7 6 4 8 5 2 3 repeats when the treble is dodging behind with the 2nd lead in 16th course, viz.: 2 4 6 5 8 3 7. It is also false in many other places. TOM LOCKWOOD.

THE BELLS OF CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

SIR,—In your issue of last week I note you give the rings of Cambridgeshire. Sawston appears in this list as having six bells, two trebles have just been added by Messrs. Lewis, of Brixton, making an octave. A chiming apparatus has also been put in by the same firm. I think it is quite true that Cambridgeshire is badly of for rings of six and upwards, and much behind the neighbouring counties in change-ringing. If the bells are rung at all it is for the most part by round ringers with call changes. They have been allowed to do as they pleased, and almost ignored instead of being treated as just as much a part of the church staff as the choir and organist. Not much can be done with these old ringers, but in most places there are plenty of young men who would be quite willing to learn to ring for the sake of doing something in church work; but who is to teach them? JAMES HEDDING.

SIR,—I have with much interest, read for the past week or so the several lists of rings in the different counties, supplied by your correspondent, Mr. Rees. I should not for a moment think of attempting to dabble in Mr. Rees' good work, but I should like to ask one question, and that is, "Why the rings of five bells are not included in these lists." On looking at Kelly and Co's. Post Office Directory of Cambridgeshire for 1879, I find as many as forty rings of five mentioned in there. I have the pleasure of living in one the villages containing one of such rings, the particlars of which (as far as I am able), I give as follows: Doddington, 5 bells, tenor 8 cwt. in A. Back four (1736), treble (1737), cast by Tho. Gardener, Sudbury, Suffolk. My opinion is that the county containing so few rings of six and eight. is one great reason for its being so backward in the art change-ringing.

Doddington, Cambridgeshire. R. WADE.

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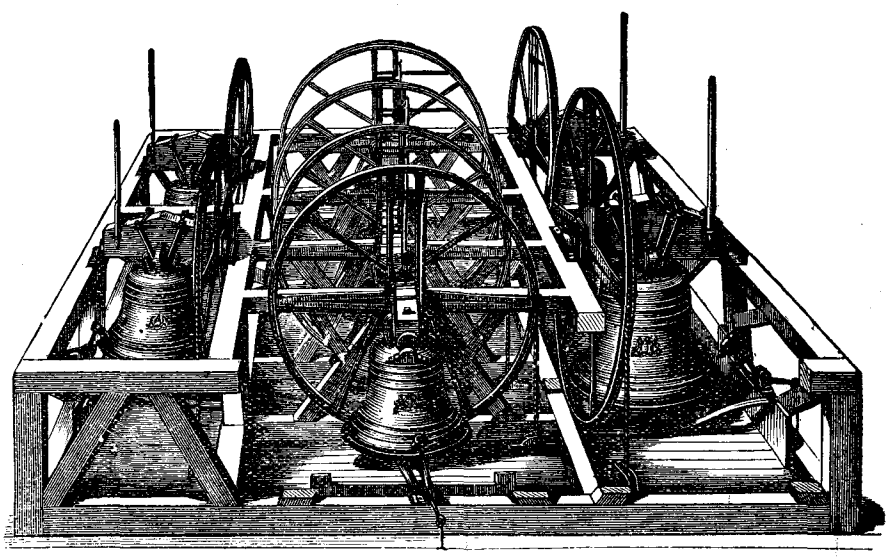

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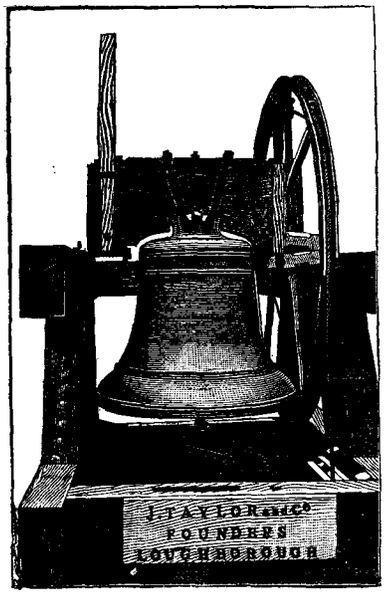

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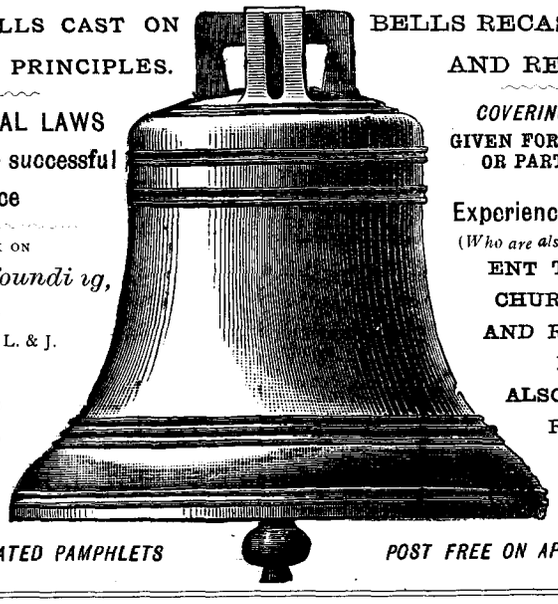

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Printed for the Proprietors at "THE BELL NEWS" Office, Walthamstow; and Published by E. W ALLEN Ave Maria Lane, London. *July* 4, 1885.