

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 182. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. IV. SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1885.

[ONE PENNY.]

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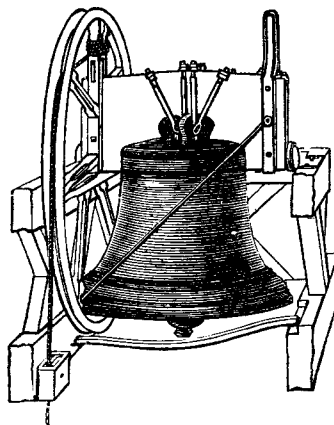
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The last chapter is devoted to a list of the names of Composers of the different peals, with various particulars, and in the cases of deceased Composers with dates of death, age, etc.

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PEALS OF SUPERLATIVE
SURPRISE.

BY JASPER W. SNOWDON.

ONE-PART PEALS.

The first one-part peal obtained in this method was composed by Mr. John Thorp, and is as follows. It contains the fifth the extent in fifth's place, and the sixth the extent in sixth's. The reverse variation which I have annexed, also contains the same properties. As Mr. Thorp was the first to obtain these twelve courses, which have since been obtained by many other composers, I generally speak of them as "Thorp's twelve courses."

5056.						5056.					
2	3	4	5	6	B M W H	2	3	4	5	6	B M W H
5	4	6	3	2	- -	6	4	3	5	2	- -
3	5	6	4	2	-	3	6	4	5	2	-
6	4	3	5	2	- -	4	3	6	5	2	-
3	6	4	5	2	-	2	6	3	5	4	- -
2	4	6	5	3	-	3	2	6	5	4	-
6	2	4	5	3	-	6	3	2	5	4	-
4	6	2	5	3	-	4	2	3	5	6	-
3	2	6	5	4	-	3	4	2	5	6	-
6	3	2	5	4	-	6	2	4	5	3	-
2	6	3	5	4	-	4	6	2	5	3	-
4	3	6	5	2	-	2	4	6	5	3	-
4	3	5	2	6	-	2	4	5	3	6	-
5	4	3	2	6	-	5	3	2	4	6	-
4	2	3	5	6	- -	4	2	3	5	6	-
2	5	3	4	6	-	2	5	3	4	6	-
3	2	5	4	6	-	3	2	5	4	6	-
5	3	2	4	6	-	5	2	4	3	6	-
6	2	4	3	5	-	6	2	4	3	5	-
4	5	2	3	6	-	4	5	2	3	6	-
2	4	5	3	6	-	2	4	5	3	6	-
5	2	4	3	6	-	5	2	4	3	6	-
6	2	3	4	5	-	6	2	3	4	5	-
2	3	4	5	6	- -	2	3	4	5	6	- -

J. THORP.

Mr. Thorp has also composed a variation on this peal, another 5056, which consists in calling the first five 2 3 4 5 6 M W H courses as annexed, after which, the peal is the same as the original. This variation contains the fifth ten course-ends in fifth's place, and the sixth the extent in sixth's place. The reverse may also be pricked so as to contain the same qualities.

Mr. Sottanstill has produced two slight variations in the calling of the first part of the above peal, as is shewn in the annexed first parts. In the first one, the same qualities are to be found as in Mr. Thorp's peal. The second, although a symmetrical peal, as a bob at home is called in each course throughout the peal, does not contain the same qualities as Mr. Thorp's original peal. Mr. Pitstow has also obtained a peal with the same qualities as Mr. Thorp's peal.

Each of the three following peals concludes with Mr. Thorp's twelve courses.

5056.						5056.					
2	3	4	5	6	M W H	2	3	4	5	6	M W H
6	4	3	5	2	-	6	5	4	3	2	- -
3	6	4	5	2	-	4	6	5	3	2	-
2	4	6	5	3	-	5	4	6	3	2	-
6	2	4	5	3	-	2	3	6	4	5	- -
4	6	2	5	3	-	6	2	3	4	5	-
3	2	6	5	4	-	3	6	2	4	5	-
5	3	6	2	4	-	5	2	6	4	3	-
2	5	6	3	4	-	6	5	2	4	3	-
6	3	2	5	4	-	2	4	6	5	3	-
2	6	3	5	4	-	3	6	4	5	2	-
4	3	6	5	2	-	4	3	6	5	2	-

W. SOTTANSTALL.

5056.					
2	3	4	5	6	M W H
6	4	3	5	2	-
3	6	4	5	2	-
2	4	6	5	3	-
5	2	6	4	3	-
4	5	6	2	3	-
6	2	4	5	3	-
4	6	2	5	3	-
3	2	6	5	4	-
5	3	2	5	4	-
2	6	3	5	4	-
4	3	6	5	2	-

N. J. PITSTOW.

In each of the two following peals which are upon Mr. Thorp's plan, the fifth is the extent in fifth's place. In the first peal the sixth is nine times wrong and three time right, while in the second peal, the sixth is nine times right, and three times wrong.

5056.						5056.					
2	3	4	5	6	B M W H	2	3	4	5	6	B M W H
2	3	5	6	4	-	2	3	5	6	4	-
6	2	5	3	4	-	6	2	5	3	4	-
3	6	5	2	4	-	3	6	5	2	4	-
5	2	3	6	4	-	5	2	3	6	4	-
3	5	2	6	4	-	3	5	2	6	4	-
4	2	5	6	3	-	4	2	5	6	3	-
5	4	2	6	3	-	5	4	2	6	3	-
2	5	4	6	3	-	2	5	4	6	3	-
3	4	5	6	2	-	3	4	5	6	2	-
5	3	4	6	2	-	5	3	4	6	2	-
4	5	3	6	2	-	4	5	3	6	2	-
2	6	3	5	4	- -	2	6	3	5	4	-
4	3	6	5	2	-	4	3	6	5	2	-
6	4	3	5	2	-	6	4	3	5	2	-
3	6	4	5	2	-	3	6	4	5	2	-
2	4	6	5	3	-	2	4	6	5	3	-
6	2	4	5	3	-	6	2	4	5	3	-
4	6	2	5	3	-	4	6	2	5	3	-
3	2	6	5	4	-	3	2	6	5	4	-
6	3	2	5	4	-	6	3	2	5	4	-
4	2	3	5	6	-	4	2	3	5	6	-
3	4	2	5	6	-	3	4	2	5	6	-
2	3	4	5	6	-	2	3	4	5	6	-

W. SOTTANSTALL.

In the following peal by Mr. Pitstow, the fifth and sixth are each twelve times in their own places.

In Mr. Dains's peal, the 5th and 6th are each twelve times in 5-6.

5088.						5088.					
2	3	4	5	6	B M W H	2	3	4	5	6	B M W H
6	5	4	3	2	- - -	2	3	5	6	4	-
5	3	6	2	4	-	5	2	3	6	4	-
2	5	6	3	4	-	3	5	2	6	4	-
6	3	2	5	4	-	2	6	3	5	4	-
4	2	3	5	6	-	3	2	6	5	4	-
3	4	2	5	6	-	6	3	2	5	4	-
6	2	4	5	3	-	4	5	2	3	6	-
4	6	2	5	3	-	2	4	5	3	6	-
2	4	6	5	3	-	5	2	4	3	6	-
2	4	5	3	6	-	6	4	2	3	5	-
5	3	2	4	6	-	2	6	4	3	5	-
2	5	3	4	6	-	4	2	6	3	5	-
6	4	3	5	2	- - -	5	6	2	3	4	-
3	6	4	5	2	-	5	6	3	4	2	-
4	3	6	5	2	-	3	5	6	4	2	-
2	6	3	5	4	-	6	4	3	5	2	-
3	2	6	5	4	-	3	6	4	5	2	-
3	2	5	4	6	-	4	3	6	5	2	-
5	4	3	2	6	-	4	3	5	2	6	-
5	4	3	2	6	-	5	4	3	2	6	-
5	2	4	3	6	-	3	5	4	2	6	-
4	5	2	3	6	-	4	2	3	5	6	-
2	3	4	5	6	- -	3	4	2	5	6	-
						2	3	2	5	6	-

N. J. PITSTOW.

H. DAINS.

The following 5056 by Mr. Pitstow is obtained from the first of his peals of 5376; the second part is one of the parts of the original peal and the first and last parts are shortened variations of the same calling. The peal has the fourth the extent in sixths place. The second 5056 by Mr. Pitstow, shows how one of his peals of 6048 changes previously given, may be reduced to this length. In each case the calling of the last nine courses has to be repeated.

*5056.						5056.					
2	3	4	5	6	B M W H	2	3	4	5	6	B M W H
2	3	5	6	4	-	5	2	4	3	6	-
5	2	3	6	4	-	6	4	2	3	5	-
3	5	2	6	4	-	2	6	4	3	5	-
2	6	3	5	4	-	4	2	6	3	5	-
3	2	6	5	4	-	4	2	3	5	6	-
6	3	2	5	4	-	5	4	3	2	6	-
4	2	3	5	6	-	6	3	4	2	5	-
3	5	4	2	6	-	4	6	3	2	5	-
6	4	5	2	3	-	4	6	2	5	3	-
5	6	4	2	3	-	5	6	4	2	3	-
4	5	6	2	3	-	4	5	6	2	3	-
3	6	5	2	4	-	3	6	5	2	4	-
5	3	6	2	4	-	5	3	6	2	4	-
6	5	3	2	4	-	6	5	3	2	4	-
4	3	5	2	6	-	4	3	5	2	6	-
5	2	4	3	6	-	5	2	4	3	6	-
6	3	4	2	5	- - -	6	3	4	2	5	-
4	2	6	3	5	-	3	6	2	4	5	-
5	6	2	3	4	-	2	3	6	4	5	-
4	2	6	3	5	-	5	6	3	4	2	-
2	5	6	3	4	-	3	5	6	4	2	-
6	2	5	3	4	-	6	2	5	3	4	-
4	5	2	3	6	-	4	5	2	3	6	-
2	3	4	5	6	- -	2	3	4	5	6	-

N. J. PITSTOW.

*First rung on February 12th, 1885, at St. Andrew's, Litchurch, Derby, by the St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent Society. Conducted by William Wakley.

THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, BATTERSEA, SURREY.

ON Saturday, September 12th, the members and friends of the above Society journeyed to Richmond, to enjoy their annual autumn excursion, and were met at the station by Messrs. Williams, who had made every arrangement for their comfort, by affording them a good round of amusement during their brief stay. Arriving on Richmond Green punctually at 2.30, wickets were at once pitched, and a scratch match was commenced, which afforded a good deal of amusement to the numerous onlookers, amongst whom might have been recognised several prominent ringers of the day, who by their several personal efforts, both in applauding a good hit, and encouraging the weak side, made it very pleasing for all concerned, and further, it showed that ringers could be as nimble on their legs as they could be dexterous with their arms.

Cricket being over, a start was at once made to the ringing-chamber, where several touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples were struck off, the members at the same time expressing their pleasure at the easy manner in which the bells "went." The arrangement of the programme not admitting of a longer stay among the ropes, the ringers proceeded to dinner, consisting of three courses, which was admirably served by the host of the "Greyhound Hotel," and done ample justice to by the famished band. The courses having been successfully and manfully got through, the intervals being enlivened by pleasing anecdotes by Mr. J. Mansfield, "stand" was called by the chairman, Mr. H. S. Thomas, and grace having been spoken by the vice-chairman, Mr. S. Spice, the cloth was cleared and harmony was resorted to. The first item performed was a course of well-struck Grandsire Cinques, by Messrs. Baron, Dains, J. Rogers, H. Hopkins, H. Swain, &c. which was loudly applauded, as was also a pianoforte solo by Mr. H. W. Dorten. The songs and other amusing incidents were then enlivened by some excellent tune-playing by Messrs. W. J. Williams, H. Hopkins, and H. Randall, greatly appreciated and encored by the company, only eclipsed later on by excellent tapping of the bells to various tunes by Messrs. Williams.

Silence having been enjoined by the vice-chairman, Mr. S. Spice, the senior member of the company present then proposed "The health of Mr. H. S. Thomas," the Hon. Sec., to whose exertions he said the Society owed its present prosperous condition, and one whom he hoped would lead it for many years to come.

Mr. THOMAS, in responding, ventured to say that he thought, for its size, St. Mary's Society was in as flourishing a condition as any Society he knew of, and that it would be through no fault of his if it did not continue so, but of course members must contribute their share to help him to carry his views into effect. Mr. Thomas then went into the merits of ringing, expressing a hope that he should become personally acquainted with more methods before long, and after thanking all present for their expressions of goodwill, concluded by proposing "The health of Mr. Baron," their instructor, in the usual way, which, being well received, was briefly responded to by that gentleman, whose long connection with the society has gained for him the respect and good wishes of all the members.

"The health of Mr. Dorte," the accompanist, having been proposed with musical honors, and the thanks of the company being tendered to him for his arduous task, and his reply well received, Mr. John Rogers gave a rendering, in his usual good style, of an old English ditty, which all heartily enjoyed. "The Visitors" were then toasted, and replied in suitable terms, and the hearty thanks of the members were then given to Messrs. Williams, who had by their thoughtfulness, so materially contributed to the happiness and success of the outing, which was so thoroughly enjoyed by everybody.

CHEPSTOW, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

ON Tuesday, September 22nd, six of the St. Mary's company, Chepstow, paid a friendly visit to St. Thuidric, Mathern, near Chepstow, and rang several 6-scores of Bob Doubles, the first on the bells. James Morley (conductor), 2; George Watkins, 2; William Green, 3; William Woods, 4; Tom Rosser, 5; Richard Morley, 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G. The "go" of the bells are all that can be wished, but there was some difficulty at first, as they hang the opposite way. These bells were cast by William Evans, of Chepstow, in 1765, and rehung three years ago by Lewellins and James, of Bristol. The ringers then made their way to the "Miller's Arms," and having refreshed the inner man, returned home well pleased with their evening's outing.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

As the Meeting of the Church of England Temperance Society will be held in Durham, on Monday, October 26th, the Annual Meeting will be fixed for another date, probably Monday, November 2nd, by request of the Vicar of St. Oswald's. The arrangements will be made known by circulars and in "THE BELL NEWS."

Stockton-on-Tees, Sept. 21st.

G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

A Committee Meeting of this Association was held in All Saints' schoolroom, Worcester, on Saturday last, under the presidency of the Master, Mr. S. Spittle. There were deputations from Worcester, Bromsgrove, Dudley, Netherton, Kidderminster, Brierly Hill, Leigh, etc. Before the transaction of any business, the Master spoke in very feeling terms of the loss of the late much-respected Treasurer—Mr. W. Duffill—and moved that the following address of condolence be sent to the widow and family of the deceased:—

That this Committee, representing the Worcestershire and adjoining districts Change-Ringing Association, desire, on behalf of the members, to express their deep regret at the loss sustained by the death of our late Treasurer, Mr. William Duffill. We feel the Association has lost a persevering member, a trustworthy officer, and a warm-hearted friend. We venture to suggest that the best tribute the Association can offer to the memory of our late brother is that each society endeavour to carry out to the fullest extent the wish of our late Treasurer, viz.: "In building-up and perfecting the Association in such a manner that it stand second to none in the kingdom." In presenting our condolence to the widow and children of our late brother, we trust it will in some measure assist in assuaging their grief for the loss they have sustained, knowing that sympathising friends feel for them in their affliction. We trust that the great ruler of our destinies will give them grace so to bear their loss that they may be able to say, with a full hope and confiding love—"Thy will be done."

The minutes of the last meeting, held at Bromsgrove, were read by the Secretary, and confirmed. The question of providing a peal-book was left in the hands of the Worcester ringers, as they were of opinion one might be presented, if the requisite steps to that end were taken. The question of the formation of rules for good conduct in the belfry, was left in the hands of the Rev. W. R. Carr (St. John's, Worcester).

The Rev. B. Arthure (All Saints, Worcester), the Rev. W. W. Douglas (Salwarpe), and Messrs. W. Roberts and Jos. Shipton were elected honorary members of the Association; and Mr. E. Crump, of Bromsgrove, was appointed Treasurer till the time of the Annual Meeting. It was then arranged to hold the next Quarterly Meeting at Bewdley. Votes of thanks having been passed to the Master for presiding, to the Rector of All Saints for the use of the schoolroom, and to the Secretaries for their services, the meeting terminated.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

ON Friday, September 12th, at the Society's meeting house, 54, St. Martin's Lane, W.C., the election of officers for the ensuing year took place, the result being that the Master, Treasurer and Secretary are retained in their respective offices; Mr. Harry Randall becoming senior steward; and Mr. Henry W. Davies being elected as junior steward.

The same evening, the ringing for practice consisted of a half-muffled peal. The usual whole pull and stand was accomplished with due solemnity, in memory of the late Mr. Robert Naunton, an old member of this society, who died in San Francisco, California, after expressing a wish for his old ringing friends to remember him. This desire of the deceased came through Mr. Sewell, the obliging steeple-keeper of Barking. It may be noticed the deceased rang the 4th in a peal of Treble Bob Major at St. John, Hackney, January 21st, 1842. "John Naunton rang the 6th bell."

Mr. Geo. Williams of Reigate, Surrey, was present upon this occasion. The above peal shows also the members' respect to the memory of the late Rev. Henry T. Ellacombe, so well known for his interest in ringing generally.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF CAMBRIDGE YOUTHS.

ON Saturday, September 11th, the Cambridge Youths paid a visit to Newmarket, and rang touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples and Treble Bob Major on the bells of All Saints', and Stedman and Grandsire Doubles on the five bells at St. Mary's. The bells of All Saints', a nice ring of eight, go well, but ringing is rendered next to impossible from the circumstance that there is only a thin floor between the ringing chamber and the bells, so that the noise overpowers everything, even the conductor's voice. It is to be hoped that this defect will soon be altered, and that Newmarket may be as well known for its ringers as its jockeys. The Cambridge Youths desire to thank the vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and Mr. Feist for his hospitable entertainment.

AN OLD RECORD.—The following is taken from a Stroud newspaper, which the sender thinks may interest a few of the readers of "THE BELL NEWS."—"June 21, 1784. On the 29th of May, a peal of eight bells, cast by Messrs. Rudhall's, of Gloucester, was opened at Chaddesley Corbett, in Worcestershire, by the chapel youths of Stourbridge, with Holt's peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, which (by the bells remarkably good, and hung in a complete manner) they accomplished in three hours and two minutes. This is almost the first instance of so long a peal having been rung when bells were first tried."

ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH.

ON Thursday, September 17th, nine members of the above society availed themselves of the opportunity given by the Great Eastern Railway company to visit the city of Norwich, the head-quarters of the Norwich Diocesan Association, for the purpose of attempting a peal upon the splendid bells of St. Peter Mancroft, which, with the assistance of Messrs. Knights, Sadler, and G. Smith, of the society of Norwich Scholars, was successfully accomplished in 3 hrs. 56 mins., the usual record of which will be found in its proper place. The Ipswich party left home amid a steady downfall of rain, enough to damp the ardour of any excursionists upon mere pleasure bent, but the object of the journey was sufficient to extinguish all speculations respecting weather, or in fact, anything else that intruded upon the imagination. Arriving at Norwich at 11.15, the visitors were met by several of their brother-strings, and after fortifying the inner man with the roast beef of old England, and the customary adjuncts, a move was made to the tower, where everything was in readiness for the attempt. The bells were called into changes at six minutes to one, and the conductor cried "This is all" at ten minutes to five, the band being convinced that they had rang a good peal, an opinion afterwards ratified by a competent authority. This peal is the first in the Kent variation, and the only one of Treble Bob Maximus on the bells for over 100 years, and raises the number of peals of Maximus rang upon them to five, which have all been in different methods, viz.: Grand-sire Cinques, Stedman Cinques, Norwich Court, Oxford Treble Bob, and the peal just accomplished. A course of Stedman Cinques was afterwards rung with Mr. J. Young, and the bells being ceased, the Ipswich visitors, after taking affectionate farewells of their Norwich friends, returned home, the journey thither being greatly enlivened by the vocal qualifications of a well-known member of the company. The visitors wish to thank their Norwich brethren for the hearty welcome and courteous reception accorded them, and they hope it will not be the last visit they will be able to pay there.

The Society of St. Mary-le-Tower have received a communication from the Hon. Secretary of the Association—the Rev. N. Bolingbroke—in which he congratulates them upon their achievement, the striking of which he speaks in terms of great praise.

RINGERS' VISIT TO HERTFORD.

ON Sunday, September 20th, Messrs. H. Barnett, G. B. Lucas, J. Waghorn, sen, and J. Waghorn, jun., of the Tottenham society, paid a visit to Hertford, and made their way to All Saints' church, for the purpose of ringing on that fine peal of ten bells. On their arrival they were met by M. Ellsmore and W. Goodchild, when they were introduced to the members, and the Harvest Thanksgiving Services being held on that day, there was plenty of ringing going on. For morning service a 1151 of Grandsire Caters, and after service a 503 in this same method, both being conducted by H. J. Tucker. The visitors were then shewn round the town, when, after viewing the principal institutions, and the old-fashioned and quaint dwelling-houses, one of the party suddenly felt the sharp sting of hunger, in another moment the rest had caught the infection, so duly proceeded to find a remedy, which was soon found in the shape of a good dinner. After dinner, another look round the town, then time was up for afternoon service. A 560 of Bob Major was rung, conducted by Mr. H. Baker, and 224 of Bob Major, conducted by H. Tucker. Thence to the picturesque village of Bengoe, hoping to have a pull after service, but were disappointed to find that there had been no service held. Back to Hertford for tea, which was very refreshing after the walk. The tower was again visited for ringing at Evensong, and 521 of Grandsire Caters, and 209 of Grandsire Triples was rung, conducted by H. J. Tucker, making a total of 3168 changes during the day, which were rung by the following ringers: *H. Barnett, †G. B. Lucas, *H. Baker, *W. A. Tyler, J. Waghorn, sen., *J. Waghorn, jun., †M. Ellsmore, S. Knight, *H. J. Tucker, F. George, and J. Jauncey. After the bells were lowered the visitors prepared for home, the glorious weather that prevailed during the day, and the genial reception given by the Hertford College Youths, added greatly to the pleasure of the visitors, for which they wish to thank them. *College Youths. †Cumberland Youths.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE Tenth Annual meeting will be held at Sheffield, on Saturday next, October 3rd. A special service will be held in the Parish church at 4.30, the preacher being the Rev. J. H. Fish, vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, late of Sheffield, President of the Midland Counties' Association. The Ven. Archdeacon Blakeney and the Rev. F. G. Sandford, members of the above Association, will also take part in the service. After service a tea will be provided by the Sheffield members in the Church Institute, at the conclusion of which the general meeting will be held. An excursion train will be run by the Midland Railway from Bradford, Keighley, Leeds, and other places, and a good meeting is anticipated. Friends from other county Associations will receive a hearty welcome.

THE ST. MARY'S SOCIETY, EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

THE Annual outing of the members of the above Society took place on Monday, September 14th. The party, numbering about twenty, including one or two friends, accompanied by the Rev. H. P. Leaky, curate of St. Mary's, left Eastbourne by the 7.15 a.m. train, arriving at London Bridge at 9.25, where they were met by five of the members who left Eastbourne on Saturday, and Mr. W. H. Fussell, of the Royal Cumberland Youths, who kindly volunteered to act as guide. On leaving the station the party at once made their way to Mears and Stainbank's Bell Foundry, Whitechapel Road. Passing St. Saviour's, Southwark, Bow church, and St. Michael's, Cornhill, the foundry was reached at 11 o'clock, and the party were most courteously received by Mr. Hughes, the manager, who after supplying the whole of them with refreshments, kindly took them through the works, shewing and explaining everything connected with casting, tuning, etc., not the least interesting feature being a peal of eight bells from Abingdon, Berks, in progress of repair. Three of the bells had been recast, and two new ones were to be added to make a fine peal of ten, tenor weighing 21 cwt. The workmen sounded them by hand during the visit, and also a peal of handbells by tapping. Mr. Hughes had so arranged that a large bell, which had been recently cast, should be taken from the mould to enable the visitors to see and understand the process of casting. Heartily thanking that gentleman for his kindness, a move was made to St. Mary's tower, Whitechapel, and two touches of Grandsire Triples were rung, after which a visit was made to St. Paul's, where, through the exertions of the guide, an order was obtained enabling the visitors to see the bells. On reaching the ringing-chamber they found a commodious room, the twelve ropes hanging in a good circle. Again ascending, the pleasure of seeing the fine peal of bells was afforded, tenor 62 cwt. A visit to the clock-tower, to see Great Paul, and then a move by underground railway from Blackfriars to the Inventions Exhibition, arriving about 2.15, where an excellent dinner awaited them, for which the Rev. H. P. Leaky, who parted with the rest at London Bridge, had made all arrangements. Ample justice having been done to the good things provided, about four hours being agreeably passed in the Exhibition. The whole party met at Victoria Station at 7.30 p.m., where again taking train, they arrived at Eastbourne about 10.15, having spent a most enjoyable day. The ringers take this opportunity of tendering their hearty thanks to those who so kindly contributed towards their outing, also to the Rev. H. P. Leaky, for organising the same; to the firm of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank in allowing them to look over the foundry, to the steeplekeepers of the various churches visited, and to Mr. W. H. Fussell for acting as guide.

A MEETING OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AT CHESTER.

ON Sunday, September 20th, at the house of Mr. James Moulton, a start was made for a 5024 of Treble Bob Major, on handbells, retained in hand, but after ringing about 1 hr. 32 mins., a change-course occurred, which brought the peal to a stand. This peal is in thirteen courses, and has the 6th its extent in 5-6, with all the 8-6-7's, and eleven of the 8-6's, and was published in "THE BELL NEWS" of August 15th. The mishap occurred between the bobs at m. in the eighth course, which brings the number to 2720. John Gipson, 1-2; Arthur Jones, 3-4; James Moulton (conductor), 5-6; Charles Price, 7-8. Witnessed by William Walton, member of the Cathedral Society. Afterwards, Mr. Moulton tapped on a musical box a course of Treble Bob Maximus, in 24 mins. Another attempt will be made on October 4th. Anyone wishing to witness it can do so with pleasure, at one o'clock, at Mr. John Gipson's, 32, Piplow Street, Bishop's Fields, Chester.

THE ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

THE above Association held their Intermediate Meeting at Rochdale parish church, on Saturday, September 12th, about thirty members being present. The ringing was chiefly Grandsire Triples, and Major. The committee held their Meeting at the Gank School. At this meeting it was proposed and seconded that the committee have authority to pass resolutions which will be brought up at the Manchester Meeting. I am happy to say the hint from these pages has pierced the members in respect of attendance, and I hope it may continue so that we may overcome all difficulties, and be able to gather the roses that bloom without any fear of the thorns. I wish to remind the local secretaries, also independent ringers, to do their utmost that all subscriptions may be brought or sent to the next Quarterly Meeting at Manchester. J. ADSHEAD, Sec.

Members of the Norwich Association will not fail to observe that the Annual Meeting takes place next Monday, a notice of which will be found on another page.

SPARE COPIES OF "THE BELL NEWS"—Mr. John McKell, of Gargrave, Yorkshire, has the following numbers for disposal to anyone to whom they may be of use. Nos. 3 and 27, vol. 1; Nos. 72 and 90, vol. 2; Nos. 122 and 143, vol. 3.

"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 numbered, the earlier ones will have the preference.

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

T. ROBERTS.—How would your friend like to be without his "BELL NEWS" now? It is at this period no breach of confidence to state the following fact:—When our late publisher failed, the promoters of this journal had to suffer some loss; and on that becoming known, fears were entertained among the then members of the Oxford University Society—in consequence of the paper arriving a day late in one week—that "THE BELL NEWS" had succumbed. One of these gentlemen at once communicated with us, stating that he and others of the society would make up the loss sustained, for they could not do without "THE BELL NEWS" now. This munificent offer, though gratefully declined, was very cheering. Perhaps your friend would similarly feel the loss of his copy.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1885.

WE are compelled, through pressure on our space, to postpone the publication of several reports and touches, which arrived at the last moment, till next week. From the same cause we are unable to have our usual editorial comment.

The Metropolis.

SHADWELL, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, September 21, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 BROOK'S VARIATION.

FRANCIS E. DAWE Treble.	HERBERT BAKER 5.
NEWMAN N. HILLS 2.	*HENRY GORDON FAIRBRASS 6.
EDWARD E. CLARKE 3.	JAMES PETTIT 7.
LEWIS GREEN* 4.	GEORGE TANNER Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES PETTIT.

H. G. Fairbrass hails from Canterbury; N. N. Hills from St. Albans; H. Baker from Hertford; the rest are of London.

*First peal in the method.

The Provinces.

TAMWORTH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE

ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Wednesday, September 16, 1885, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 22 cwt.

HARRY WAKLEY Treble.	JOHN JAGGAR 5.
EDWARD ISAAC STONE 2.	NATHAN J. PITSTOW 6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY 3.	WILLIAM WAKLEY 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4.	THOMAS HOLMES Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

The above is N. J. Pittstow's first peal in the method, also the first peal of Stedman rung on the bells.

WHITFIELD, GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.

On Thursday, September 17, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT ST. JAMES'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN LAWTON Treble.	JAMES SELLARS 5.
JOHN HARROP 2.	R. S. STORY 6.
WILLIAM HARROP 3.	THOMAS JAMES 7.
WILLIAM STORY 4.	JOHN PYE, SEN. Tenor.

Composed by the late JAMES PLATT, and Conducted by JOHN LAWTON.

The Brothers Story hail from Newcastle-on-Tyne.

NORWICH, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, September 17, 1885, in Three Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER MANCROFT,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 41 cwt.

WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE .. Treble.	*PHILIP SADLER 7.
WILLIAM MOTTS 2.	*FREDERICK TILLET 8.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER 3.	*FREDERICK KNIGHTS 9.
ARTHUR R. ALDHAM 4.	ROBT. HAWES 10.
JAMES MOTTS 5.	EDWD. REEVE 11.
EDGAR PEMBERTON 6.	*GEO. SMITH Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., and Conducted by WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE.

This is the first peal in the Kent variation on the bells. Messrs. Sadler, Knights, and Smith belong to the St. Peter Mancroft Society, and the rest to St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich.

*First peal of Maximus.

SADDLEWORTH.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Friday, September 18, 1885, in Three Hours and a Half-Minute,

AT ST. CHAD'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

JOHN J. BRIERLEY Treble.	EDGAR BUCKLEY 5.
JOHN HOLDEN 2.	R. S. STORY 6.
WM. STORY 3.	JOSEPH WOOD 7.
JAMES WRIGLEY 4.	EDWARD WOOD Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by JOHN HOLDEN.

The Brothers Story hail from Newcastle-on-Tyne, and this day was the 27th birthday of R. S. Story.

SHENSTONE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, September 19, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt. in G.

JOHN BUFFERY Treble.	HENRY BASTABLE 5.
SAMUEL REEVES 2.	HENRY JOHNSON, JUN. 6.
JOHN SANDERS 3.	THOMAS REYNOLDS 7.
WILLIAM ROCK SMALL 4.	CHARLES STANBRIDGE .. Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY BASTABLE.

This is the first peal of Stedman on the bells.

LEES, NEAR OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, September 19, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION. Tenor 14 cwt.

GEO. HY. BEEVER Treble.	JAMES BAILEY 5.
FRED CROSLAND 2.	WILLIAM HOLDEN 6.
JAS. W. HOLME* 3.	JOHN HILTON 7.
JOHN GREENWOOD 4.	JOSHUA PLATT Tenor.

Conducted by FRED CROSLAND.

*First peal with a bob bell.

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

On Saturday, September 19, 1885, in Three Hours.

At ST. CHAD'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF SURPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5088 CHANGES. Tenor 14½ cwt.

HARRY WAKLEY Treble.	JOHN JAGGAR 5.
EDWARD ISAAC STONE .. 2.	NATHAN J. PITSTOW .. 6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY 3.	THOMAS HOLMES 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW and Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

In the above peal, which is a three-part peal, and is now rung for the first time, neither the 2nd or 3rd bell is ever in 6th's place. Is published in Snowdon's Surprise methods in "THE BELL NEWS," vol. iv., p. 177, and is the seventh peal rung in the method by the St. Paul's Society, and the fourteenth peal on record.

BEESTON, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 19, 1885, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At ST. JOHN'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 19 cwt.

AMOS CRESSER Treble.	*E. DENISON TAYLOR, Esq. 5.
CHARLES SMITH* 2.	WILLIAM BILLINGHURST .. 6.
GEORGE BRADLEY 3.	J. W. TAYLOR, JUN., Esq. 7.
WILLIAM GILSON 4.	†JOHN WARD Trnor.

Composed by W. HUDSON, and Conducted by JOHN WARD.

*First peal in the method. †First peal as conductor.

Messrs. Ward, Bradley, and Gilson are of the St. Lawrence's society, Long Eaton; the rest hail from Loughborough.

CARSHALTON, SURREY.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, September 21, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

At ALL SAINTS' CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G#.

JAMES HARRIS Treble.	JOHN PLOWMAN 5.
DR. A. B. CARPENTER .. 2.	WILLIAM BURKIN 6.
EDGAR BENNETT 3.	*URBAN HOLMAN 7.
WILLIAM STATES* 4.	THOMAS VERRALL Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN PLOWMAN.

*First peal.

Date Touches.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Monday, September 21st, at St. Phillip's church, ten members of the above Association, also members of the Birmingham Amalgamated Society, rang a date touch of Grandsire Caters, 1885 changes, in 1 hr. 14 mins. John Payne, 1; John Carter (composer and conductor), 2; John Callaghan, 3; Thomas Russam, 4; Charles Barnacle, 5; Charles Carmell, 6; John Wright, 7; John Perry, 8; Albert Hackley, 9; James King, 10. This touch contains the 6th nine times right and nine times behind the 9th. Tenor 29 cwt.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

TEWKESBURY ABBEY (Gloucestershire).—On Thursday evening, September 17th, eight members of the above society rang a date touch 1885 changes of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. and 10 mins. C. W. Dyson, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; F. J. Moore, 3; S. Cleal, 4; J. Wathen, 5; J. Devereux, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; W. Haines, 8. The above is the longest touch by C. W. Dyson.

GLOSSOP (Derbyshire).—On Thursday, September 17th, at All Saints' church, a date touch of Oxford Treble Bob Major. Samuel Harrop, 1; Daniel James, 2; W. Story, 3; Samuel Knott, jun. (composer and conductor), 4; Joseph Maloney, 5; R. S. Story, 6; Henry Cooper, 7; John Pye, jun., 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

LEICESTER.—On Saturday, September 19th, at St. Mary's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, containing 1885 changes, in 1 hr. 13 mins. J. J. Lakin, 1; W. A. Clation, 2; G. Burrows (conductor), 3; J. Jarvis, 4; W. Low, 5; A. Wilson, 6; J. Buttery, 7; C. Biddles, 8. Composed by Mr. Jackson, of Hull.

Miscellaneous.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

BATTERSEA (Surrey).—On Saturday, September 19th, four members of this society from Brighton, with four London members, attempted Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples at St. Mary's church, but after ringing 4500 changes in 2 hrs. 35 mins., the peal came to grief. W. Ambrose, 1; A. E. Church, 2; C. E. Golds (Brighton), 3; H. J. Davies, 4; W. W. Thorne, 5; H. Weston (Brighton), 6; J. Jay (Brighton), 7; E. Butler (Brighton), 8. The visitors desire to express their hearty thanks to Mr. H. S. Thomas, for his kindly welcome, and the Vicar for granting permission to ring, and to Mr. H. Hopkins, for making the necessary arrangements.

LONG MELFORD (Suffolk).—On Saturday, September 19th, at Holy Trinity church, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples, in 50 mins. Samuel Slater, 1; Oliver Garwood, 2; Fred. Wells, 3; Zach. Slater, 4; James Bird, 5; Frederick Paul Adams, 6; Percy Chas. S. Scott (conductor), 7; G. Hammond, 8. First 1000 of Bob Triples, by all the above. And a 560 of Double Norwich Court Bob Major. James Bird, 1; Zach. Slater, 2; *G. Hammond 3; *Percy Scott, 4; S. Slater, 5; Fred Wells, 6; O. Garwood, 7; F. P. Adams (conductor), 8. *First touch of Double Norwich. Also on Sunday, September 20th, on the occasion of the annual Harvest Thanksgiving, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples, in 45 mins. John Slater, 1; F. P. Adams, 2; Fred. Wells, 3; Zach. Slater, 4; Saml. Slater, 5; O. Garwood, 6; Percy Chas. S. Scott (conductor), 7; G. Hammond, 8. And a 560 of Kent Treble Bob Major. F. P. Adams (conductor), 1; Zach. Slater, 2; G. Hammond, 3; Percy Scott, 4; Saml. Slater, 5; Fred Wells, 6; O. Garwood, 7; Harry Harper, 8.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

BATTERSEA (Surrey).—On Thursday, September 10th, the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, of Canterbury, Kent, visited St. Mary's tower, Old Battersea, and started with the following band for Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 2 hrs. and 20 mins., it unfortunately came to grief. W. Baron (conductor), 1; J. W. Mansfield, 2; Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, 3; H. J. Davis, 4; H. S. Thomas, 5; J. Rogers, 6; T. Taylor, 7; G. Chesterman, 8.

WINDSOR (Berks).—On Sunday, September 20th, at St. John's parish church, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. F. King, 1; Rev. W. S. Willett, 2; A. C. Fussell (conductor), 3; A. Andrews, 4; William Wilder, 5; Reuben Flaxman, 6; Wm. H. Fussell, 7; James Perryman, 8. Tenor 22 cwt. This touch was rung previous to Divine Service being held in this church, for the neighbouring friendly Societies to attend in full procession.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, September 17th, for practice at St. Mary's church, a 720 of College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. M. Smith, 1; S. J. Cullip (first 720 in the method), 2; T. Foote (first 720 in the method), 3; M. Warwick, 4; C. H. Clarke (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. M. Smith, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; T. Foote, 3; M. Warwick, 4; Ch. Clarke (conductor), 5; I. Hills, 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). I. Hills, 1; Ch. Clarke (conductor), 2; T. Foote, 3; M. Warwick, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; F. M. Smith, 6. And on Sunday, September 20th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and ten singles). F. Keech, 1; J. Frossell, 2; T. Foote, 3; M. Warwick, 4; I. Hills, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Oxford Bob Minor (four bobs and two singles). I. Hills, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; T. Foote, 3; M. Warwick, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; W. Hall, 6.

ASPLEY GUISE (Bedfordshire).—On Thursday evening, September 17th, at the Parish Church, a 720 of Bob Minor (thirty-two bobs and two singles), in 22 mins. G. Usher, 1; E. Lewin, 2; W. Mynard, 3; J. Carwell Cooke, 4; M. Lane, 5; W. Chibnall (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

BIRMINGHAM.—Muffled Peal.—On Saturday, September 12th, at Bishop Ryder's church, eight members of the above Association attempted Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled for the late R. Ellwell, and W. Duffill, of Bromsgrove, who were members of the above Association, but after ringing 1400 changes in

58 mins., a mishap occurred. J. Payne, 1; C. Carmell (conductor), 2; J. Callaghan, 3; F. H. James, 4; C. Barnacle, 5; J. Wright, 6; A. Hackley, 7; W. Saniger, 8. Tenor 13 cwt. And on Monday, September 14th, at St. Phillip's church, on the front six, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. G. Hickman, 1; C. Barnacle, 2; J. Wright, 3; J. T. Perry, 4; A. Hackley, 5; C. Carmell (conductor), 6.

HARBORNE.—On Saturday, September 19th, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 24 mins. G. Farmer, 1; C. Barnacle, 2; J. Wright, 3; J. Carter, 4; A. Hackley, 5; J. T. Perry (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

SEELY OAK (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, September 19th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of New Grandsire Minor, in 24 mins. E. Boylin, 1; C. Barnacle, 2; J. Wright, 3; J. Carter (conductor), 4; E. Bryant, 5; J. T. Perry, 6. Tenor 11 cwt.

WEST BROMWICH.—On Saturday, September 12th, at All Saints' church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. E. J. Cashmore, 1; W. Elesmore, 2; J. Tinsley, 3; J. Carter (conductor), 4; W. Smith, 5; J. T. Perry, 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—On Thursday, September 10th, being the wedding of H. Faber, Esq., to Miss Giles, at Southampton, a 720 each of Kent Treble Bob and Evening Exercise. On Friday, September 11th, being the public institution of the Rev. H. Martin as Vicar of Stockton, before service a 720 of York Surprise was rung, and after service a 720 of Woodbine. On Sunday morning, September 13th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. And on Saturday, September 19th, Messrs. Diboll and Wallis visited Stockton, when a 720 of Kent Treble Bob was rung. T. Burdon, 1; J. Clarkson, 2; E. Wallis, 3; T. W. Waller, 4; T. Stephenson, 5; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 6.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, September 16th, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicolas, a 720 of Bob Minor, and a 720 of College Single. J. W. Jarvis, 1; C. Neaverson, 2; G. L. Richardson, 3; R. Mackman, 4; J. S. Wright, 5; J. Brown, 6. This was an attempt for 2520, as a commemorative touch upon the six bells being augmented to eight, but it came to grief in the third 720.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD.—On Thursday evening, September 17th, a 720 of Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles). G. Roughton, 1; A. J. Perkins, 2; W. Nash, 3; B. Keeble, 4; J. Pye, 5; A. Pye (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday evening, a 720 of Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles). W. Keeble, 1; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 2; W. Nash, 3; B. Keeble, 4; G. Roughton, 5; A. Pye, 6.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Tuesday, September 15th, the local company rang a 360 of Bob Minor. J. R. Wood, 1; G. A. Fish, 2; J. Vickers, 3; F. W. Cook, 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; G. C. Tunnicliff (conductor), 6. The above was rung to celebrate the 20th birthday of F. W. Cook, the respected local Hon. Sec., his brother ringers take this opportunity of wishing him many happy returns of the day. And on Sunday, September 20th, on the occasion of the Harvest Thanksgiving, for Divine Service in the morning, 180 of Bob Minor, the band standing as above. And for Divine Service in the evening, a 360 of Bob Minor was attempted, but resulted in a failure after about 320 changes. After service, two 6-scores of Bob Doubles. J. R. Wood, 1; G. A. Fish, 2; J. Vickers, 3; F. W. Cook, 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; T. Clarke, 6. And 180 of Bob Minor, with G. C. Tunnicliff, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. in F#.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

ABINGDON (Berks).—On Sunday, September 20th, 1885, at St. Nicholas' church, a 720 of Bob Minor. in 23 mins. James Higgs, 1; William Sandall, 2; Thomas Short, 3; John Brown, 4; Henry Sheard, 5; Harry Holifield (conductor), 6.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday, August 30th, the St. Peter's Society rang at St. Peter's church, a 720 of College Single; September 6th, a 720 of Double Oxford Bob, and a 360 of Plain Bob Minor; September 8th, 720 of College Single; September 13th, 720 of Double Court, and 720 of Yorkshire Court. Conducted by Messrs. Coleridge, Newman, Pottinger, and Essex. And on Tuesday, September 15th, 2520 changes, being a 360 of each of the following Minor methods: Grandsire, Double Oxford Bob, Double Court, Yorkshire Court, College Single, Oxford Bob, and Plain Bob, in 1 hr. 37 mins. J. Hands, 1; E. Menday, 2; G. Essex, 3; T. Newman, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. This is the longest touch by the St. Peter's Society.

STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, September 19th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. W. Baddeley, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Woods, 3; J. Baddeley (conductor), 4; W. H. Armitt (Leek), 5; Rev. A. H. Hitchcock (Golden Hill), 6.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE (Lancashire).—On Monday evening, September 14th, at St. Peter's church, the local company met to attempt a peal with Mr. R. H. Brundle, of St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich, who was on a visit to Manchester, but time not permitting that length previous to starting of the train, the following touches were rung. 896 of Kent Treble Bob Major. Thomas Heald, 1; Thomas Moss, 2; Samuel Wood, 3; George Longden, 4; Albert E. Wreaks, 5; J. Eachus, 6; J. Thorp, 7; R. H. Brundle, 8. 504 changes of Stedman Triples. Thos. Moss, 1; W. Smith, 2; J. Wood, 3; S. Wood, 4; A. E. Wreaks, 5; J. Thorp, 6; R. H. Brundle, 7; George Longden, 8. And a course of Oxford Treble Bob. Joseph Bowcock, 1; Thos. Heald, 2; R. H. Brundle, 3; James Wood, 4; Benjamin Broadbent, 5; A. E. Wreaks, 6; J. Thorp, 7; S. Wood, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. Mr. R. Brundle wishes to return his sincere thanks to Mr. A. E. Wreaks, and J. Eachus, of the Manchester Cathedral society, and to the Ashton-under-Lyne Society, for their courtesy, and the pleasure of ringing with six of the long peal band.

CHESTER.—On Thursday, September 7th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 24 mins. William Joinson, 1; Edwin Davis, 2; George Caldwell, 3; John Johnson, 4; Sydney Barton, 5; Thomas J. Bithell (conductor), 6. First 720 by all in the method except the conductor.

EASTBOURNE (Sussex).—On Tuesday, September 8th, at St. Mary's church, an attempt was made to ring Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 3900 changes, in 2 hrs. 16 mins., "stand" had to be called owing to the conductor finding he had gone a lead too far before making a call. E. Harris, 1; H. P. Bennett, 2; S. Harffey, 3; L. Huggett, 4; F. Harding (conductor), 5; Thos. Willoughby, 6; Thos. Hart, 7; Jno. Rollinson, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qrs. Mr. Harding being a young conductor, the rest of the band congratulate him on the able manner in which he performed his part in this difficult peal up to the time of the collapse, and hope the next attempt will be successful.

ELY (Cambridgeshire).—On Thursday, September 17th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 29 mins. J. E. Ellis, 1; J. Southerill, 2; W. King, 3; J. R. Vincent, 4; A. Pilgrim (conductor), 5; J. Daines, 6; J. Vail, 7.

EWHRST (Surrey).—On Monday, September 13th, at the parish church, for practice, the local company rang a 720 of Oxford Single Bob, in 30 mins. W. Haynes, sen., 1; Fred Francis, 2; F. Francis, 3; W. Tydy, 4; A. Baker, 5; W. Haynes, jun. (conductor), 6.

FARNHAM ROYAL (Bucks).—On Saturday, September 19th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 24 mins. G. Basden, 1; R. Flaxman, 1; J. Basden, 3; W. Wilder, 4; J. Parker, 5; C. Clarke, 6. Also a 360 of Grandsire Minor, in which H. Macro took part. And a 360 of Oxford Bob. And on Sunday morning, September 20th, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. E. Batten, 1; J. Parker (conductor), 2; G. Basden, 3; J. Basden, 4; C. Clarke, 5; R. Flaxman, 6.

FARNHAM (Essex).—On Sunday afternoon, September 20th, six of the Stanstead ringers paid a visit to the above place, and rang for Service a 300 of Plain Bob Minor, and after service a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), in 26 mins. G. Prior, 1; W. Prior, 2; H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. This is the second 720 ever rung on the bells. Tenor 11 cwt.

GREAT BROMLEY (Essex).—On Sunday, September 13th, for the Harvest Festival, before service in the afternoon, a 360 of Bob Minor, also after service a 720 of Bob Minor, and a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. *G. Howell, 1; W. Smith, 2; H. Howell, 3; J. Starling, 4; J. Taylor (conductor), 5; W. Nevard, 6. *First 720 in the method. W. Smith hails from Higham; W. Nevard from Great Bentley; H. Howell from Ipswich, the rest are of the local company.

GREENWICH (Kent).—On Sunday morning, September 20th, after Harvest Thanksgiving Service, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. Harry W. Grout (Greenwich), 1; William Pead (Deptford), 2; William G. Shade (Greenwich), 3; William Weatherstone (Rotherhithe), 4; Frederick W. Thornton (Greenwich), 5; William H. Freeman (Lewisham), 6; Abraham G. Freeman (Lewisham), 7; William Foreman (Greenwich), 8. Composed by the late John Cox, and conducted by F. W. Thornton. And on Monday, September 21st, 701 of Grandsire Caters, in 30 mins. John James Lamb, 1; William Weatherstone (conductor), 2; Abraham George Freeman, 3; William George Shade, 4; Joseph Waghorn, jun., 5; Thomas Taylor, 6; Frederick William Thornton, 7; Joseph Laws, 8; William Henry Freeman, 9; Harry William Grout, 10. Tenor 25½ cwt.

HINDLEY (Lancashire).—Muffled Peal.—On Monday, September 14th, at St. Peter's church, six members of the local company, with two from the parish church, Wigan, rang with the bells half muffled, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 28 mins., as a mark of respect to the late Mrs. Unsworth, of the Balmoral brewery. Richard Calland, 1; Joseph Prescott (conductor), 2; Edmund Brown, 3; George Turner (Wigan), 4; George B. Walker (Wigan), 5; Thomas Tickle, 6; Giles Higson, 7; George Lang, 8. And on Saturday, September 19th, the first half of Reeves's variation of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Noah Gregory, one of the members of the local society, in 1 hr. 26 mins. Joseph Prescott (conductor), 1; Richard Calland, 2; Edmund Brown, 3; George Turner (Wigan), 4; Giles Higson, 5; Thomas Tickle, 6; Jonathan Hall (Wigan), 7; George Lang, 8. Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Monday, September 1st, at St. Mary's church, for practice, a 336 of Grandsire Triples. J. Randall, 1; H. Buckingham, 2; J. Hare, 3; A. Squires, 4; J. Foster, 5; S. Hare, 6; W. Allen (conductor), 7; G. Halsey, 8. Also a 360 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Randall, 1; H. Buckingham, 2; J. Hare (conductor), 3; A. Squires, 4; S. Hare, 5; W. Allen, 6; J. Foster, 7; A. Arnold, 8. The above was rung with 7-8 covering. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

KINVER (Staffordshire).—At the parish church, September 20th, four 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, and one of Bob Doubles. Abel Bennett (conductor), 1; John Brown, 2; Robt. Pursall, 3; John Richards, 4; Benjamin Smith, 5; John Hubball, 6. Rung on the occasion of the Harvest Festival.

LEICESTER.—On Monday, September 14th, at St. Mary's church, a 672 of Grandsire Triples. J. Wilson, 1; W. A. Clation, 2; J. Jarvis, 3; G. Burrows (conductor), 4; W. Low, 5; J. Walton, 6; J. Marlow, 7; C. Biddles, 8. J. Wilson hails from Spalding, Lincs.

RIPON.—On Sunday, September 20th, the Cathedral Society (whose services are not required in the morning) rang in the afternoon at the Cathedral, a 640 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 24 mins. A. H. Clark, 1; Joseph Baines, 2; Jno. Strodder, jun., 3; T. Metcalf, 4; Anthony Ingleby, 5; George Ingleby, 6; T. Clark (conductor), 7; Heby Rumbold, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

SHAROW (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, September 20th by the kind permission of the vicar, the members of the Ripon Cathedral society rang 1120 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 40 mins. A. H. Clark, 1; Joseph Baines, 2; Jno. Strodder, jun., 3; T. Metcalf, 4; Anthony Ingleby, 5; George Ingleby, 6; T. Clark (conductor), 7; Henry Rumbold, 8. Tenor 13 cwt. in G.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Monday, September 14th, at All Saints' church, the following members of the local company, with Mr. C. Herbert, the Hon. Sec. of the Bedfordshire Association, who was on a visit to his native town, rang 672 of Grandsire Triples. W. Cross, 1; C. Herbert (College Youth), 2; M. Silvester, 3; C. Sillitoe (conductor; College Youth), 4; W. Bacon, 5; W. Griggs, 6; H. Harper (Cumberland Youth), 7; H. Brackett, 8. And on Wednesday, September 16th, at St. Gregory's, a 704 of Kent Treble Bob Major. F. Tolladay, 1; W. Griggs, 2; C. Herbert, 3; M. Silvester, 4; C. Sillitoe, 5; A. Scott (conductor), 6; W. Cross, 7; H. Harper, 8. Also on handbells, a course of Bob Royal. A. Scott, 1-2; C. Herbert, 3-4; C. Sillitoe, 5-6; W. Howell, 7-8; W. Cross, 9-10.

[The half-peal of Grandsire Triples rung at this place, reported in our last week's issue, was conducted by C. Sillitoe.]

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, September 15th, at St. Mary's parish church, a 720 of Yorkshire Court Bob Minor, (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25½ mins., and a 360 of London Single Bob, 120 College Single, a 120 of Oxford Single Bob, and 120 Plain Bob, in 26½ mins., and a 120 of Grandsire Minor. And on Sunday, September 20th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 240 of Yorkshire Court Bob, a 240 of Oxford Single Bob, and a 240 of Grandsire, in 25 mins. And for Divine Service in the evening, a 240 of Plain Bob. J. Hurst, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6.

WOMBOURN (Staffordshire).—On Wednesday evening, September 9th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with sixteen bobs and two singles, in 26 mins. G. Deans, 1; A. Little, 2; J. E. Claridge, 3; W. Devey, 4; R. Cartwright (conductor), 5; H. Deans, 6. Also two 6-scores of Bob Doubles. J. Little (first 6-score), 1; J. E. Claridge, 2; H. Deans, 3; W. Devey, 4; R. Cartwright (conductor), 5; A. Little, 6. And on Wednesday evening, September 16th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with eighteen bobs and two singles, in 27 mins. H. Deans, 1; J. E. Claridge, 2; A. Little, 3; W. Devey, 4; Rev. Charles F. Collom, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6. Mr. Collom hails from Kingswinford, and this is his first 720. Tenor about 12 cwt.

WANSTEAD (Essex).—On Sunday, September 20th, at Christ Church, after evening service, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. C. Pilcher, 1; W. Smith, 2; J. Gobbett, 3; W. Lebbon, 4; J. Marks, 5; G. Akers (conductor), 6.

RE-OPENING AT THORINGTON, ESSEX.

An excellent ring of five bells, lately rehung and put in working order, in the parish church, were re-opened on Sunday, September 13th. The bell-frame, which had not been in a fit condition for upwards of thirty years, has been recently renewed, and the proper hanging of the bells taken in hand by Mr. H. Bowell, of Ipswich, who has carried out the work in a thoroughly efficient and satisfactory manner. Three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, were rung before morning service by the following members of The Essex Association, from Great Bentley, Great Bromley, Higham, and Ipswich: J. Taylor, 1; G. Starling, 2; W. Smith, 3; H. Bowell, 4; W. J. Nevard (conductor), 5. Tenor 16 cwt. Three more 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung after service, H. Bowell and W. Smith conducting. A special sermon was preached by the Rev. John Kemp, from the words, "Blessed be the Name of the Lord," which are inscribed in Latin on the 4th bell. After speaking of the antiquity and history of church bells, the preacher dwelt upon the various messages they ring out, as they call church people together to worship, or are heard on special occasions of joy or sorrow, pointing out how appropriate the inscription on the bell was for all such times and seasons. In some of the larger churches, he said, the bells used once to be rung by the clergy, and lay ringers were required to be able to read, that they might say the responses in service-time. Ringers should consider themselves privileged to be church helpers, as choirmen are, and therefore bound to practise quietness, sobriety, and reverence in the belfry. On Tuesday, September 15th, after the Harvest Thanksgiving Services, the following six-scores were rung in 30 mins.: two Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, one Old Doubles, one Plain Doubles, and two of Nightingale. These are a maiden peal, and bear the following inscriptions:—

1 2 5.—Thos. Gardiner, Sudbury, Fecit., 1732.

3.—John Warner and Sons, London, 1860.

4.—Sit Nomen Domini Benedictum. Cast by J. Warner and Sons. No. 3 was recast in the year stated.

BOOTLE, LANCASHIRE.

On Wednesday, September 16th, the ringers of Christ Church, accompanied by the Vicar, the Rev. A. T. Scott, held their fourth annual picnic at Eccleston, near Chester. On arriving at Chester, they wended their way down to the river Dee, and rowed to Eccleston. Here a splendid dinner awaited them, which was keenly relished, after the hard pulling against the stream. After dinner they proceeded as far as Eccleston parish church, and through the kindness of the Vicar (the Rev. E. Robins), the belfry was placed at their disposal for the day. A 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung in 25 mins., and several touches in various methods, viz.: Oxford Treble Bob, Grandsire, Plain Bob, and College Single. E. Yates, 1; T. E. Woodward, 2; W. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; R. H. Barton, 5; J. Bradshaw (conductor), 6. The Rev. A. T. Scott also took part in a few touches. Tenor 13½ cwt. After a good substantial tea the journey homewards was commenced, which was reached about 10.45, after having spent a most enjoyable day. The ringers wish, through the medium of this paper, to thank the Vicar of Eccleston, and also the ringers, for kindly allowing them the use of the bells.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL GATHERING of the members of this Association will take place at Norwich, on Monday next, September 28th. The service will be held at the church of St. Peter Mancroft, at 12.45; preacher, the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, Rector of Stanhoe, Norfolk. Dinner at 1.30 in St. Andrew's Hall; the Mayor of Norwich in the chair. After dinner there will be the usual Business Meeting. The secretary would be glad to receive the names of those intending to be present, and the G.E.R. station from which they start, on or before Tuesday, September 22nd.

N. BOLINGBROKE, Hon. Sec.

Bracondale Terrace, Norwich.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

THE SECOND QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association will be held at Leicester, on Saturday, October 10th. Full particulars of which will appear in our next issue.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec.

377, Roslinton Road, Burton-on-Trent.

DEATH OF A RINGER.—Mr. Thomas Ives died at his residence, Gateland House, Shipley, on Friday, September 18th. The deceased, who was in his 67th year, had been a ringer at St. Paul's nearly half a century, was a life member of the Yorkshire Association, and took a warm interest in its welfare. His remains were interred in St. Paul's churchyard on Monday, September 21st, the funeral being attended by a large number of ringers and friends from various parts, and muffled peals were rung during the day.

EXCURSION TO GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

ON Saturday, September 12th, Messrs. S. Reeves, W. R. Small, T. Horton, H. Hipkiss, C. Price, J. Hall, R. Hall, and C. Timms, members of the Christ Church society, West Bromwich, with Mr. A. Thomas, of Birmingham, went on an excursion to Cheltenham. Arriving there about 4.30 p.m., they at once made their way to St. Mary's church, where previous arrangements had been made for a peal of Grandsire Triples in connection with the Association for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, but after ringing upwards of 1 hr. 20 mins. the bells were found to have changed course, and the conductor called out stand. In a very few minutes the party were invited by the local band to "The Eight Bells" Inn, where a first rate supper was provided, and after refreshing themselves the tables were cleared, and the remainder of the evening was spent in a very enjoyable manner, when some plain courses on the handbells and a few songs were indulged in. Time being called, Captain F. Musty gave the order to follow him, and a departure was made to the "Sidney Arms" hotel, where the visitors were to stay for the night. In the morning, as soon as breakfast was over, Mr. Pates, of the Cheltenham Society, was in waiting, and the party were soon on the way to Charlton Kings, where an attempt was made for a 720 of Grandsire Minor, but owing to the bad go of the bells this had to be abandoned, and some touches only were rung. A stroll back through the country, and an explanation of the different scenery by local friends as the visitors went along, brought them back to their hotel in time for dinner. In the afternoon G. H. Phillott, Esq., accompanied them to Prestbury, a beautiful village about two miles out, where a mixed band rang some touches of Grandsire, Stedman, and Kent Treble Bob Minor on the bells of the parish church before evening service, after which the party returned to Cheltenham, which was reached at an early hour. Monday morning proved to be a wet one, for the rain fell in torrents till about nine o'clock, and this appeared to put a damper on the enjoyment of the day, but breakfast being over, away they went to St. Mary's church, where a wedding was to take place at 10.0 a.m., after which the bells were raised in peal, and a 503 of Grandsire Caters was rung, conducted by S. Reeves. This being over it was decided to visit Painswick in the afternoon, so a break and pair was chartered, and the visitors were soon on their way thither; although the weather was rather dull and misty, the rain kept off, and the scenery along the road was something beautiful. On arriving at Painswick the bells were raised in peal, and a mixed band rang a 1151 of Grandsire Caters, and 504 of Stedman Triples, both being conducted by Mr. John Belcher, of Cheltenham. After refreshing the inner man, the horses were ordered to be put too, and the return journey commenced by a fresh route, so that a different view of the country to the one they had going was obtained, Cheltenham being reached about 7.15. On entering the "Eight Bells" Inn, and supper being quite ready, after the most beautiful drive, ample justice was done to the good things provided. The cloth being drawn, the chairman, Mr. J. Belcher, proposed "The health of the donors of the feast," which was drank with musical honors. A plain course of Grandsire Cinques was rung on the handbells, and some tunes were played by Mr. Pates, which gave very great pleasure to all, as they were so well-struck to time. The visitors wish to thank Mr. J. Belcher, and G. H. Phillott, Esq., and also the whole of the Cheltenham friends, for the very kind and hospitable manner in which they received them, assuring them that it will be a long time ere their visit to Gloucestershire will be forgotten.

SUBSCRIPTION LIST FOR THE JOHNSON TESTIMONIAL.

Subscribed by the following members of the St. Martin's Company, Birmingham—	£ s. d.	J. W. Snowdon, Esq.	£ s. d.
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		John Day, Edgbaston, B'gham	5 0
		C. Fluck, Perry Barr, B'gham...	2 6

The committee earnestly request that donations from ringers and friends interested in this "National Testimonial" be forwarded at an early date to one of the undersigned: A. Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 83, Wheeley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham; S. Reeves, Hon. Treasurer, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

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."

A NECESSARY EXPLANATION.

SIR,—I noticed in your issue of the 15th ultimo, a report of the Bedfordshire Association's visit to St. Edmund's, Northampton, for the purpose of attempting a peal of Bob Triples, but were unable to accomplish it through the bad "go" of the bells. Well, Sir, as a member of the S. E. V. B. R. Association, I think the fault did not lay with the bells, but rather with the persons who manipulated them, else how comes it that they could ring successfully a 720 of Bob Minor, and yet could get no farther than 252 changes in Triples? Probably the failure to accomplish the peal of Bob Triples was the want of practice for the Raunds section of the company, they being virtually six-bell ringers, and when we take into consideration that this was only the third opportunity that two of the Raunds section had on a ring of eight, the fact alone, I think, will explain the cause of failure. I trust, sir, in justice to Messrs. Taylor and Sons, of Loughborough, who founded and fitted up the peal at St. Edmund's, you will insert this in your next issue, as the bells of which the Bedfordshire Association complain, are pronounced by all ringers (young and old), to be the best they have handled in the County. JABEZ SMITH.

"NATIONAL ASSOCIATION."

SIR,—If the formation of a National Association is attempted next month at the Portsmouth Church Congress, no doubt a new committee will be appointed to undertake the task, and perhaps they may be more fortunate than the Reading committee of 1883. Whoever may be selected, it will probably help them and the ringing public, if they have something definite before them from where to make a start. Could you then find space before the 6th of October, to print over again the despised scheme of the Reading Committee? K. O. R.

September 21st, 1885.

[We will endeavour to do so in our next number.—ED.]

REPLY TO C. P.

SIR,—I was glad to see your note at the foot of C. P.'s letter in your issue of the 12th inst. It is hard knocking, but not too hard in my opinion, I think, though "hostile critic" is being made a donkey of to carry other people's burden. Why do not C. P. say that it is his opinion as well as that of "hostile critic?" but perhaps he has not the courage to express his opinion in "BELL NEWS," after the reply that F.S.R. gave him in the *Devon and Exeter Gazette*; he says there has been a lively correspondence in that local paper, but he does not say that he was a valuable contributor himself; there he signed his name, "C. Pearson." Perhaps if I were to suggest that he is Vicar of Whitestone, a village near Exeter, it would open some ringers' eyes. A clergyman who has expressed an opinion that half-pull ringing is above the capacity of average village ringers, surely cannot read "BELL NEWS," and still assert this. He need not go many miles from his church to hear a band of village half-pull ringers, Kenn to wit, and all working men. These strike their half-pull changes with as much precision as round ringers do call changes. I am not a village ringer myself, but I consider them the backbone of the Exercise, and an opinion of this kind seems an insult to them. I hope that the next time C. P. addresses the exercise through the medium of your paper, that he will have the courage to express his own opinion and not that of another. F. S. R.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ON Saturday, September 19th, Mr. R. Haworth, of this Association, visited Swanscombe for the purpose of inspecting the bells and belfry previous to the Swanscombe Society joining the Association, and with five of the local company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor. A. Cornfoot, 1; R. Haworth, 2; W. Harper, 3; G. Hayes, 4; G. Martin, 5; W. Martin (conductor), 6. Mr. Haworth expressed himself well pleased with the go of the bells, and the condition of the belfry, also with the striking. He partook of tea at the house of Mr. Harper, and then, with the Swanscombe ringers, proceeded to Milton-next-Gravesend, and having inspected the bells and tower, a 720 of Grandsire Minor was rung by—A. Cornfoot, 1; R. Haworth, 2; H. D. Davis, 3; B. Spinner, 4; F. Hayes, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. St. George's church was then visited, and after Mr. Haworth had inspected the bells, a touch of Grandsire Triples was attempted, but owing to a change-course, did not come round.

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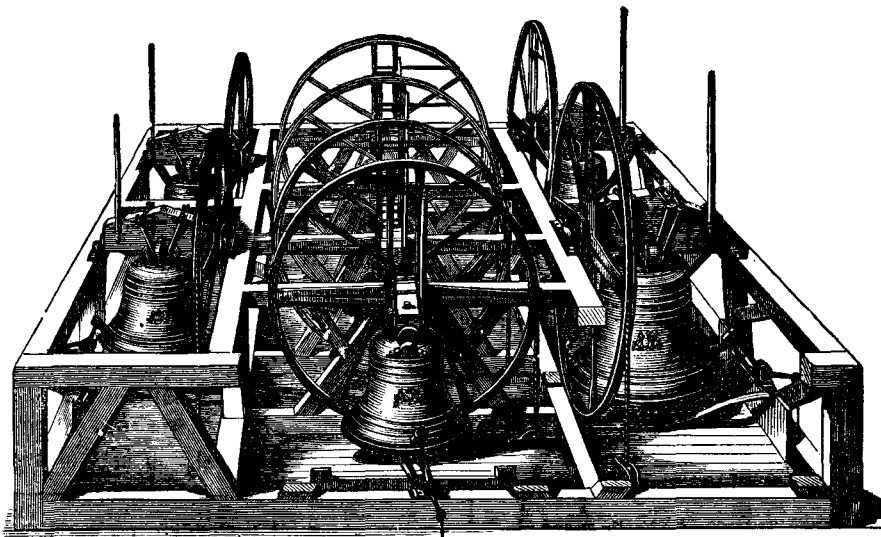
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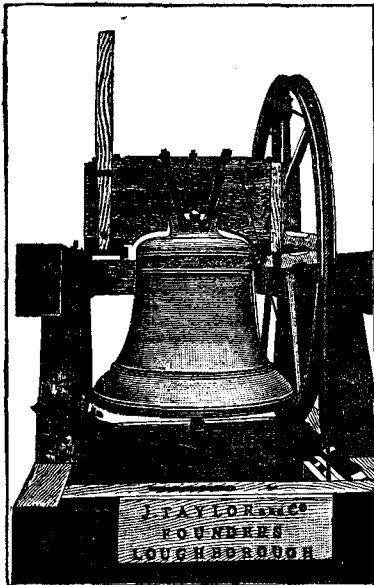
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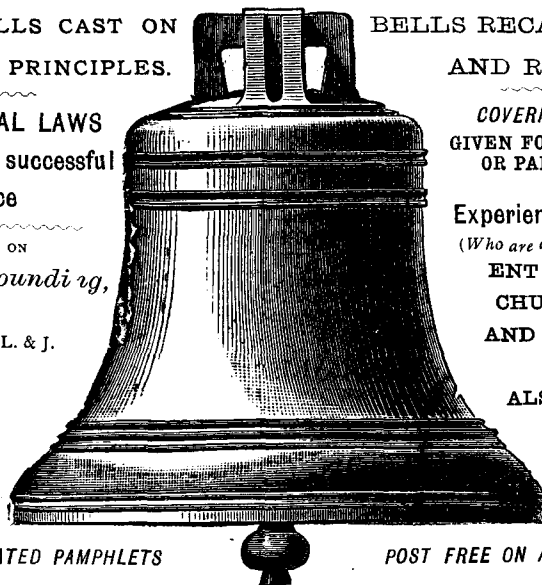
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