

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 193. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. IV. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1885.

[ONE PENNY.]

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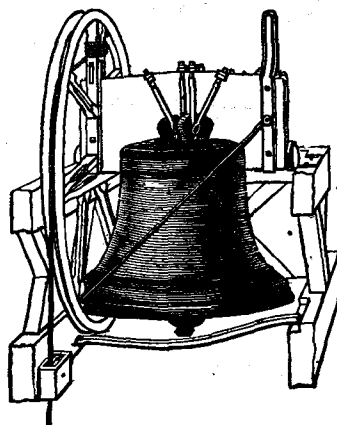
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A History of the Progress in Composing and Ringing Peals of TREBLE BOB, with an account of the different long lengths rung on each number of bells;

An Essay on the In and Out-of-Course of the Changes; The mode of pricking touches and peals; the qualities and mode of transposing peals; elaborate instructions on the Proof and Composition of peals; and a chapter on conducting and calling round.

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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 the dates of death, age, etc.

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BY JASPER W. SNOWDON. THIRD EDITION.

London: Wells Gardner, Darton, & Co.

CONTENTS.—On the Management of a Bell; on Ringing Rounds; on Pricking Changes; on Ringing Changes on Three, Four, Five, Six, Seven, and Eight Bells; on Pricking Touches and Peals by the lead-ends and course-ends; on Conducting and Calling Round; on Raising and Falling in Peal, Chiming, Covering, etc.

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JUST PUBLISHED.

Nos. 159 to 164, contains Chorus from "Martha," for various peals, from two to ten ringers.

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[The above six Nos. are all for six ringers, with two octaves in G. and may be rung without table.]

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William Gordon, 64, Lower Hillgate, Stockport.

Post Free, One Shilling, in stamps.

Double Norwich Court Bob.

By JASPER W. SNOWDON.

Rules and instructions for pricking and ringing the method, with lineal diagram of the plain course.
A collection of compositions and instructions for proving the same.

A history of all peals known to have been rung in the method, with full particulars of the same.

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£20.—TO TOBACCONISTS. — An Illustrated Guide (110 pages), How to Open Respectably from 20s. to 2000s. Three stamps.—H. MYERS & Co., Cigar and Tobacco Merchants, Euston Road, London. Wholesale only. Telephone No. 7541.

FOUR DAYS HOLIDAY, AND HOW WE SPENT IT.

On Saturday, Oct. 31st, we, A. Porter and A. Pye, of Little Heath, Essex, started on a visit to Long Melford, where it was arranged with S. Slater to start for a peal of Bob Major. Arriving at Sudbury at 10 a.m., we were met by Mr. C. Sillitoe, of the Sudbury company, and Mr. G. Hammond, of the Long Melford company, and conducted to the towers in the town, viz., St. Peter's, St. Gregory's, and All Saints', each tower containing a peal of eight. In the vestry of St. Gregory's in a hole in the wall is the skeleton of a man's head, with the following inscription on the door of the aperture. "The head of Simon Theobald: who was born in Sudbury, and thence called 'Simon of Sudbury.' He was sent when but a youth into foreign parts to study the civil law, whereof he was made doctor. He visited most of the universities of France, and was made chaplain to Pope Innocent, and Auditor or Roto or Judge of the Roman Court. By the interest of the Pope, he was made Chancellor of Salisbury. In the year 1361, he was consecrated Bishop of London, and in the year 1375 was translated to the see of Canterbury, and made Chancellor of England. While he was Bishop of London, he built the upper part of St. Gregory's, Sudbury; and where his father's house stood, he erected a college of secular priests, and endowed it with the yearly revenue of £122 18s., and was at length barbarously beheaded at Tower Hill in London, by that rabble in Wat Tyler's rebellion in the reign of Richard the Second, 1382." From there we started off to Long Melford, and after refreshing the inner man, we went up into the belfry to get ready for the peal, when the churchwardens came up and informed us that the bells were not to be rung that evening. So the evening was spent in handbell ringing at the company's meeting-house, and touches in the following methods were rung: Bob Major, Grandsire and Bob Triples, Double Norwich Court Bob Major, by the following. Messrs. G. Hammond, J. Bird, P. C. S. Scott, S. Slater, F. Wells, O. Garwood, A. Porter, A. Pye. On the next morning, permission having been given on the Saturday, we started for a peal of Bob Major, 5040 changes, but after ringing 1 hr. 20 mins., it came to grief, particulars of which appeared in the usual column. In the afternoon we started for Belchamp Walter, stopping on the way at Foxearth to have a pull there, but we arrived too late, as it was time for service. We then proceeded on our way to Belchamp, and were joined by Mr. Nelson Hawkins. A start was soon made for a peal of 5040 Bob Major, which was finely brought round in 2 hrs. 58 mins. Descending the tower we were soon *en route* for Long Melford. On Monday morning we went to Glemsford, and rang a touch of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. This finished our visit to that locality, but before going on with my subject, I should like to call the attention of my brother ringers to the kindness and liberality which we received at the hands of the Long Melford company, not because I had the slightest hint from them, but because I feel it is my duty to remove the slur that was cast upon them in "THE BELL NEWS" of a few weeks back, and which was stated in the editorial comment, that Long Melford did not seem a very promising place for any one intending to pay a visit. I will just give a short sketch of how they treated us, both of us being complete strangers to all of them. On the Saturday night, S. Slater, F. Wells, and O. Garwood, walked three miles in the pouring rain to stand in the peal at Melford, but not able to ring, they arranged to be at Melford tower at six o'clock next morning, which promise they fulfilled, showing everything of interest to us. On the Monday morning, they stayed away from work, so that we should have a pull at their tower, and I am quite sure that if any ringer or ringers wish to pay Melford a visit, they will find a set of men who will do all in their power to make their visit a successful one. After ringing at Glemsford, we started for Saffron Walden, where it was arranged to ring Mr. N. J. Pitstow's peal of 5056 Kent Treble Bob Major. We arrived at 3 p.m., and having a touch on the handbells, we ascended the tower, and about 6.30, a start was made, and the peal rung in 3 hrs. 11 mins. Stopping there that night, we had a parting touch next morning on the handbells. We then started for Waltham Abbey, where Mr. Alps had kindly got a band. A start was there made for a peal of Stedman Triples, particulars of which appeared in the usual column. After which a 504 of Stedman Triples was rung on the handbells. T. Powell, 1-2; W. A. Alps (conductor), 3-4; D. Tarling, 5-6; H. Baker, 7-8. This finished our ringing, and we wish through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," to thank all the ringers for meeting us, and the clergy for giving us permission to ring. We, after having made a good many new friends, which we hope to meet again some day, started for home, and arrived there about twelve o'clock on the Tuesday night, after having thoroughly enjoyed our holiday.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

A COMMITTEE MEETING will be held in the Church room, Stoke, on Saturday, December 19th, at 3 o'clock.

E. D. POLLOCK, } Hon. Secs.
E. GLOVER, }

THE ST. MARGARET'S SOCIETY, WESTMINSTER.

The first Annual Dinner of this society took place on Friday, the 4th instant, at "The Black Horse," York Street, Westminster, when about twenty-two members and friends sat down to a first-class spread, provided by Mr. Harris. Among the visitors was Mr. W. Baron, Master of the Waterloo Society; while Mr. M. G. Luck, late Captain of the St. Mary Abbot (Kensington) Society, who was expected to attend, owing to press of business and indisposition, was unfortunately obliged to deprive the assembly of the pleasure of his company. The evening was a complete success in every way, and the Committee congratulate themselves upon so gratifying a conclusion to an extraordinarily successful session.

After due justice had been rendered to the viands, the long programme of toasts and music was commenced, the first toast, of course, being "The Queen and Royal Family," proposed by the chairman, Mr. J. J. Scowen, and loyally honoured. In proposing the next toast, "The Health of the Rector, Clergy, and Churchwardens of St. Margaret's," Mr. S. Smith, the vice-chairman, spoke warmly in praise of each individual, and wished the Rector, Dr. Farrar, a safe journey home from America. "The St. Margaret's Society" followed; to which, and the various other toasts which came after, suitable replies were given.

The Chairman said he was glad to have an opportunity of publicly thanking Mr. Baron for all his efforts on his behalf in connection with half-pull ringing, it being mainly due to that distinguished ringer that he had been successful in ringing two peals in the Grandsire method.

In responding, Mr. Baron gave some of his early experiences while learning the art, and urged upon the members the necessity of "sticking to it," at the same time expressing his desire to assist them as much as possible.

The toasts were interspersed with songs, handbell ringing, and music, several lady friends volunteering their kind and effective assistance; and the members look forward with pleasurable anticipation to the next occasion when these ladies will grace the society's social gathering with their presence.

The opportunity was seized for the presentation to Mr. S. Smith, by six of the junior members of the society, of a testimonial, in recognition of his exertions on their behalf; and the proceedings closed with "Auld Lang Syne" and "God Save the Queen," accompanied by the handbells.

A VISIT TO LONDON BY J. WOODS, KENNINGHALL.

Leaving Kenninghall on Monday, November 2nd, by the 4.30 a.m. train, I arrived at Liverpool Street Station, when after refreshing the inner man, I called upon my old and esteemed friend Mr. George Newson, who kindly made arrangements to start for a peal at St. Ann's church, Highgate, on Tuesday evening. This peal (particulars of which have appeared in "THE BELL NEWS," was successfully brought round in three hours and six minutes. On Wednesday I was invited to Christ Church, Southgate, to attempt a peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's Original), but after ringing 1400 changes a shift-course occurred and the conductor called stand. S. Clark, 1; G. Hammond (Long Melford), 2; D. W. Griggs, 3; C. W. Porter, 4; T. Titchener, 5; J. Woods, 6; G. Newson, 7; W. Arscott, 8. On Friday I attended the Headquarters of the Royal Cumberlands, but did not ring as someone lay dead near the church. On Saturday I was invited to take part in an attempt at Stedman Triples, at Lambeth, but unfortunately did not get back in time from the Inventions Exhibition to take part in it. On Sunday morning I met at St. Stephen's, Hampstead, and rang a 504 of Grandsire Caters with the local band, and was afterwards invited to the house of Mr. Chapman, where, with the assistance of my daughter, Miss Katie Woods, Messrs. Newson, Chapman, and Comb, we rang upon the handbells several touches of Bob Minor and Grandsire Triples. On Monday, November 9th, after seeing the Lord Mayor's Show, I met at the Chapel-of-Ease, Holloway, for a peal of Treble Bob Major, but after ringing several courses this had to be abandoned, on account of one of the ringers being unwell. This drew my visit to a close, and I take this opportunity of tendering my sincere thanks to Mr. Geo. Newson and several other friends, who took great trouble to make this, my visit to London, a successful one.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

In Respected Memory.

On Friday, December 4th, the bells of St. Martins-in-the-Fields, were rung for practice half-muffled, the usual whole pull and stand being performed with due solemnity, as a mark of great and deep respect to the memory of the late master of ringing, Mr. Jasper W. Snowdon. The deceased was not a member of this society, but was as highly respected and esteemed. Should his name momentarily vanish from memory, it is only to get a refreshing reminder from a beautiful picture by his hand, which adorns the walls of the society's meeting-room.

[The peals and touches following were all rung with the bells muffled as tributes of respect and affection in which the late Mr. Sneddon was held by the performers.]

The Provinces.

STAVELEY, DERBYSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 5, 1885, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S 10-PART. Tenor 18 cwt.

JOHN HARRIS Treble.	HERBERT MADIN 5.
HENRY MOTTERSHALL .. 2.	WALTER WORTHINGTON .. 6.
ARTHUR KNIGHTS 3.	JAMES HUNT 7.
CHAS. HY. HATTERSLEY .. 4.	SAMUEL PALMER Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY.

ECCLES.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 7, 1885, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13½ cwt.

THOMAS G. DOWNS Treble.	EDWARD CASH 5.
JOHN E. POLLITT* 2.	RICHARD ASHCROFT 6.
JAMES BARRATT 3.	A. EDWARD WREAKS 7.
CHARLES CASH 4.	JOHN EACHUS Tenor.

Composed by the late T. DAY, of Birmingham, and Conducted by A. EDWARD WREAKS.

First peal in the method as conductor. * First peal in the method. The above was rung with the bells deeply muffled on both sides. Messrs Downs, Pollitt, Wreaks and Eachus hail from Manchester, the rest belong to the local company. The ringer of the 6th is 72 years of age.

Date Touch.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL.—On Wednesday, November 18th, eight members of the above Association attempted a peal of Bob Major at St. James's Church, but after ringing about an hour it unfortunately came to grief. After which, a date touch of Grandsire Triples was rung in 1 hr. 17 mins. C. Jackson (composer and conductor), 1; S. Slingsby, 2; G. M. Brownrigg, 3; H. Cutter, 4; H. Jenkins, 5; T. Stockdale, 6; J. W. Stickney, 7; R. Haire, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TETTENHALL (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, November 28th, at the parish church, the local company rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. T. Roberts, 1; W. Smith (Darlaston), 2; B. Dalton, 3; E. Nicholl, 4; J. Fowler, 5; J. Jones (composer and conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CAMBRIDGE.—On Monday evening, December 7th, at the church of Great St. Mary, ten members of the society of Cambridge Youths, also members of the above Association rang 1000 of Grandsire Caters. J. Taylor, 1; W. Kempton, 2; G. Taylor (Cumberland Youth), 3; E. Andrews, 4; C. Elsee, Esq., 5; J. Holliday, 6; H. Mansfield, 7; J. Jackson (College Youth), 8; J. Rockett (conductor), 9; W. Mansfield, 10. Tenor 31 cwt.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

GLOUCESTER.—On Wednesday, November 25th, the following members of the above Association started for the Rev. C. D. P. Davies's five-part peal of Grandsire Triples, at the Church of St. Mary-de-Crypt, but after ringing for 2 hrs. and 57 mins., and being within eighteen leads of the finish, it came to grief. H. Gardner, 1; F. E. Ward, Esq. (conductor), 2; H. Mitchell, 3; G. Miles, 4; T. Belcher, 5; J. Baldwin, 6; A. Waite, 7; H. Barnes, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

TWESBURY ABBEY.—On Wednesday evening, November 25th, the following members of the Abbey Society rang a quarter-peal of Union Triples in 46 mins. W. Hampton, 1; R. H. Witherington, 2; F. J. Moore, 3; S. Cleal, 4; Jno. Wathen, 5; Jno. Hale, 6; Josiah Wathen (conductor), 7; W. Haines, 8.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

REDENHALL (Norfolk).—On Monday, November 28th, being their monthly club night, the Redenhall branch of the above Association

rang several touches of Oxford Treble Bob during the evening, and at the finish, set the bells up one by one, and ended by tolling the number of years of Mr. Sneddon's life on the tenor. The following took part in the ringing: Edward Smith, John Bentley, William Sheldrake, Robert Whiting, Charles Candler, Esq., George Prime, Frederick Smith, George Mobbs, and Captain Moore.

WOODBIDGE (Suffolk).—On Thursday, December 3rd, the following members of the Woodbridge branch of the above Association rang at St. Mary's Church, several touches of Grandsire Triples, and 1360 of Bob Major. J. Fosdike, 1; W. Ward, 2; A. Acfield, 3; W. Burch, 4; W. M. Meadows, 5; W. P. Garratt, 6; C. Ward, 7; P. Meadows (conductor), 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Monday evening, November 23rd, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Plain Bob in 26 mins. L. Digweed, 1; F. Ring, 2; F. Hayes, 3; George Hayes, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Saturday evening, December 5th, at St. George's Church, Camberwell, eight members of the above society attempted a peal of 5120 Kent Treble Bob Major, but after ringing 1600 changes in 58 mins., the muffle of the second became loose and caused some confusion, and the ringing came to grief. H. Dains (composer and conductor), 1; J. Gobbett, 2; E. F. Cole, Esq., 3; E. Moses, 4; G. Williams, 5; H. Swain, 6; H. Randall, 7; W. Doran, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday evening, November 29th, six members of the St. Peter's Society rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. Hands, 1; E. Munday, 2; G. Essex, 3; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 4; E. Pottinger, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Plain Bob Minor, H. Smith taking part. Tenor 17 cwt.

STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON.—On Tuesday, November 24th, 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. W. Baddeley, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Moreton, 3; J. Wood, 4; J. W. Brough, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, November 22nd, 720 of Court Bob Minor in 27½ mins. H. Holdcroft, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Moreton, 3; J. Wood, 4; J. W. Brough, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CRAWLEY (Sussex).—The following members of the Crawley branch of the above Association rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. B. King, 1; J. Newnham, 2; J. Smith, Esq., 3; W. Parsons, 4; J. Collison, 5; F. Wickens, 6; A. F. Hillier (conductor), 7; J. Collison, 8.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.

LONDON.—On Wednesday, November 25th, at St. John's, Waterloo Road, the usual whole pull and stand was rung. William Baron (conductor), 1; Charles E. Malim, 2; Henry J. Davies, 3; Edward F. Strange, 4; Walter H. L. Buckingham, 5; Ernest E. Vinen, 6; Richard T. Woodley, 7; William Coppage, 8. Also on Friday, November 27th, at St. Margaret's, Westminster, several touches of Grandsire Triples and Caters were rung.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SADDLEWORTH (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, November 29th, at St. Chad's church, the bells were rung deeply muffled, as a token of respect for the esteemed and valued president of the Association, Jasper W. Sneddon, Esq. The ringers of Saddleworth are filled with sorrow at the loss they and the Association have sustained, and mourn for him as for a friend and a brother.

BIRCHINGTON (Kent).—On Saturday, November 21st, eight members of the Quex Park band, and Royal Cumberland Society, met at the Waterloo Tower, Quex Park, for the purpose of ringing a peal of Grandsire Triples, Reeves's Variation, but after ringing 2350 changes, in 1 hr. 27 mins., it unfortunately came to grief. A. Pointer, 1; L. Willshire (conductor), 2; C. Willshire, 3; A. H. Sayer, 4; J. B. Reed, jun., 5; J. J. Bristow, 6; G. Willshire, 7; S. Fulcher, 8. Tenor 15½ cwt.

BLETCHINGLEY (Surrey).—On Thursday, November 26th, the local company rang several touches of Grandsire, Union, Plain Bob, and Oxford Bob Triples, and Bob Major. Also on Saturday, November 28th, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, as a mark of respect to the late Mr. William Lambert, who was formerly a ringer at the parish church, and who died at the age of eighty-three, and was buried on that day. Arthur Waller, 1; J. Bashford (conductor), 2; Frederick Smith, 3; Walter Hawkins, 4; George Potter, 5; Luke Killick, 6; Thomas Boniface, 7; William Mayne, 8.

BURNSALL (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, November 21st, the local company, assisted by Mr. J. S. Wilkinson, of Shipley, rang a 720 of Violet. J. T. Binns, 1; *J. P. Birch, 2; W. Whitaker, 3; S. Whiteley, 4; *J. S. Wilkinson, 5; *C. Inman, 6. *Members of the Yorkshire Association.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Tuesday, November 24th, 1368 changes were rung in the following methods: 360 of College Exercise; 360 of College Pleasure; 360 of Kent Treble Bob; and 288 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 49 mins. T. Stedman, 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. Mills, 3; R. Worsfold, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6.

DARESBUURY (Cheshire).—On Tuesday evening, December 1st, the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor. T. Houghton, 1; P. Johnson, 2; T. Ellison, 3; P. Hamblett, 4; E. de Prez, 5; T. Houghton, jun., 6.

DEERHURST (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, November 29th, the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor in 26 mins. T. Everness, 1; C. Willis, 2; H. Roberts, 3; C. Roles, 4; G. Willis, 5; J. Bartlett (conductor), 6.

DERBY.—On Saturday, November 28th, the St. Andrew's society rang at that church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 54 mins. W. Shardlow, 1; T. Alton, 2; C. Hart, 3; W. Midgley, 4; W. H. Found, 5; G. Mottashaw, 6; A. E. Thompson (conductor), 7; J. W. Thompson, 8. Tenor 20½ cwt. in Eb.

DISS (Norfolk).—On Monday evening, November 30th, the local company attempted at St. Mary's Church, a peal of Bob Major, but after ringing 2 hrs. and 23 mins., a shift occurred, and "stand" was called. E. Francis (conductor), 1; J. Rudd, 2; W. Matthews, 3; E. Hayward, 4; C. Webster, 5; W. Ireland, 6; A. Hart, 7; J. Soutar, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

DUNSTER (Somerset).—On Tuesday, November 24th, at the Parish Church, the usual whole pull and stand; after which a touch of Grandsire Triples was rung. R. Thorne, 1; E. Hole, 2; J. Grabham, 3; J. Tudball, 4; R. Hole, 5; W. Thrush, 6; C. B. Craze (conductor), 7; J. Payne, 8.

GREAT HALLINGBURY (Essex).—On Sunday, November 29th, after the afternoon service, 420 of Grandsire Doubles, containing 42 leads, corresponding to the age of the deceased. A. Prior, 1; R. A. Sworder, 2; R. S. Sworder, 3; H. R. Saunders, 3; F. Sworder (conductor), 5. The age was afterwards tolled.

HAYFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, November 21st, a 720 of New London Pleasure. John Vernon, 1; Joseph Brocklehurst, 2; Thomas Whitehead (conductor), 3; Alfred Rangeley, 4; Abel Hadfield, 5; Thomas Brocklehurst, 6.

IPSWICH (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, November 24th, the following members of the St. Mary-le-Tower society, attempted a peal of Stedman Cinques at the above church, but after ringing about 2000 changes it came to grief. R. H. Brundle, 1; J. Motts, 2; W. Motts, 3; E. Pemberton, 4; I. S. Alexander, 5; T. Steward, 6; A. R. Aldham, 7; F. Tillett, 8; E. Reeve, 9; S. Tillett, 10; W. L. Catchpole (conductor), 11; R. Hawes, 12.

ISLINGTON (Middlesex).—On Tuesday, December 1st, eight members of the Islington Society rang at St. Mary's Church, the usual whole pull and stand in 45 mins. W. Spicer, sen., (conductor), 1; C. Spicer, jun., 2; C. Spicer, sen., 3; F. Bennett, 4; F. Thomas, 5; W. Williams, 6; D. Living, 7; J. Tingey, 8.

LONDON.—On Tuesday, November 24th, at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, the usual whole pull and stand was rung. W. Williams (conductor), 1; F. Bennett, 2; W. Meyhrton, 3; J. Yeomanson, 4; F. Thomas, 5; W. Evans, 6; A. Scott, 7; J. Tingey, 8. Tenor 18 cwt.

ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, November 14th, at the parish church, a half peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 30 mins. John Prescott, 1; Henry Ellis, 2; Charles Sharples, 3; George Prescott, 4; James Sholicar (conductor), 5; William J. Taylor, 6; William Bentham, 7; William Lloyd, 8. Tenor 25½ cwt. Composed by J. R. Pritchard, of Liverpool.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Monday, November 23rd, at St. Peter's church, was rung a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Coles, 1; J. Willmott, 2; H. Stubbs, 3; G. Kirk, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6. And a 360 of London Single (nine bobs). G. Kirk, 1; J. Willmott, 2; R. Pendered, 3; H. Stubbs, 4; W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 5; J. Stubbs, 6.

RINGSTEAD (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday, November 21st, at St. Mary's church, a 360 of Plain Bob (nine bobs). F. H. Chapman, 1; G. Roberts, 2; R. Shipley, 3; E. Mayes, 4; J. Sawford, 5; T. Roberts (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Oxford Bob. G. Roberts, 1; E. Mayes, 2; R. Shipley, 3; J. Braybrook, 4; J. Sawford, 5; T. Roberts (conductor), 6. And a 360 of College Little. F. H. Chapman, 1; E. Mayes, 2; R. Shipley, 3; J. Sawford, 4; T. Roberts, 5; J. Braybrook (conductor), 6.

ROCHESTER (Kent).—On Saturday, December 5th, at St. Margaret's Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. O. Sullivan, 1; J. Tullett, 2; G. Chantler, 3; A. Osborne, 4; Rev. C. Child, 5; W. Baker (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

SAFFRON WALDEN (Essex).—On Monday, November 23rd, two touches of Grandsire Triples. J. Freeman, 1; A. G. Coe, 2; Ernest Pitstow, 3; J. F. Penning, 4; G. Martin, 5; C. Freeman, 6; F. Pitstow, 7; W. Marshall, 8. An attempt was made next day for a peal of Treble Bob Major by the Essex Association, but after ringing for upwards of an hour, the gas was accidentally turned out.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Tuesday, November 24th, at the church of SS. Mary and Nicolas, 350 of Grandsire Triples. J. W. Jarvis, 1; C. Neaverson, 2; R. Mackman, 3; G. Skeef, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; J. S. Wright, 6; J. Brown, 7; R. Jarvis, 8. And on Monday, November 30th, after evening service, 168 of Grandsire Triples. R. Skeef, 1; C. Neaverson, 2; R. Mackman, 3; G. Skeef, 4; G. Richardson, 5; J. S. Wright, 6; J. Brown, 7; Hon. M. Finch-Hatton, 8.

WALTHAM ABBEY (Essex).—On Monday, November 23rd, the usual whole pull and stand, followed by a 504 of Stedman Triples, by Messrs. Powell (conductor), Cleverley, Dymock, Tarling, Thurgood, Mitchell, Alps, Barker, Colverd, and Holgate.

WESTHALL (Suffolk).—On Tuesday evening, December 1st, at St. Andrew's Church, the following company rang several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles. F. Lambert, 1; R. Spaldon, 2; J. Howlett, 3; R. Lambert, 4; J. Woolnough (conductor), 5. Tenor 18 cwt.

WITHAM (Essex).—On Thursday, November 26th, at St. Nicholas Church, a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Butler, 1; A. Chalk, 2; A. Fryatt, 3; W. G. Richards, 4; E. Garnett, 5; H. Sayer (conductor), 6.

In Memoriam.

Let comrades muster round the old church tower,
To tell the tidings sad, with 'bated breath;
Then let the bells ring out in muffled power,
Their plaintive requiem for untimely death.
List to the mighty steeples of the North,
Re-echoing their distress from shore to shore,
Mark how each tenor chaunts her sorrow forth,
The master-hand that changed her is no more.
And we shall miss him sadly, one and all,
E'en those who ne'er in friendship grasped his hand,
Have each some kindly action to recall,
Some point obscure he bade them understand.
In search of truth, through unconnected lore,
He traced arrangement with a ready pen,
The veil from seeming mystery he tore,
Bequeathing knowledge to his fellow-men.
Chosen as ringers' leader thro' the land,
Acknowledged arbiter for common weal,
While crowning merit with unsparing hand,
He crushed imposture with an iron heel.
What though the deeds in which he played his part,
Are not inscribed on England's roll of fame:
As long as future ages prize our art,
So long shall reverence be for SNOWDON'S name.

J. M. ROUTH.

Is Snowdon dead? has the free faithful hand
That once with magic power revealed the mysteries
Of his beloved science, ceased to act?
And will no more the ever-flowing pen
Deal with the subjects he has loved so well?
Will the loved friends who met his cheering smile,
And felt the warmth of his dear company,
No more with eager ear and steadfast gaze
Behold him, listening to his welcome voice?
Those distant friends whom letters had endeared,
And lightened off an obscure path to fame,
Will they no more receive the valued lines
Which have been e'er their profit and delight?
No, never more! that hand is lifeless laid,
That heart is stilled; and our own bosoms feel
A deadly void: that face so loved is gone—
"Snowdon is dead!" We hardly realise
That such can be; yet know it far too well.
That robust form, in zenith of its powers,
With faculties above the common gift,
Has vanished from our gaze! so suddenly!
One day was heard—"Our friend is taken ill!"
Another day: and through the world is spread
The melancholy words—"Snowdon is dead!"
Yet though his earthly form does not remain,
His deeds can never die; his name will stand
With highest fame where'er the joyous sound
Of the church bell is heard, and every tongue
Will ever sing his praises, and lament
That he has been so early called to rest.
No enemy had Snowdon: one and all
Did love him; and throughout the land
No man will e'er be found who does not say
With real heartfelt sorrow—"Snowdon is dead!"

Saffron Walden.

THE CHRISTMAS NUMBER

Of this journal will contain, among other interesting features, a sketch,
entitled,

"REMINISCENCES;"

And two stories—

"THE PARSON AND THE RINGERS;"

AND

"THUMPER'S DATE TOUCH."

There will also appear, A PORTRAIT of that distinguished ringer
and composer,

MR. CHAS. HENRY HATTERSLEY,

OF SHEFFIELD; with memoir.

Orders should at once be given to local booksellers.

"THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD" will be forwarded post
free, on the following terms:—

One copy, 12 months	6s. 6d.
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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 pub-
lication, 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.

W. H. T.—There is no peal of Grandsire Triples produced by common bobs only.
Strictly speaking, no actual peal of Triples has yet been composed.

E. MOSES.—For very old and fondly-remembered acquaintance' sake, we should
like to again ring a peal with you.

ADDRESS WANTED.—Mr. Squires, of Hitchin, would be glad to know the address
of Mr. W. A. Tyler.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1885.

THE revived proposals for the establishment of a National
Association of Ringers have come to grief. The attempts
which have been made to resuscitate the scheme have not
been sufficient to float it, and we may therefore consider
that all efforts in this direction are for the present hopeless.
The criticisms which were passed upon the original
committee in their management of this question, by
various correspondents, have certainly not been justified
by the course of events, and therefore, while regretting
that their efforts were not crowned with success, the

members of the Exercise owe their thanks to those gentle-
men who endeavoured to carry into effect a scheme which
we have no hesitation in saying would have been of great
advantage to the ringing community.

We still hesitate to believe that if the ringers of the
country be polled—i.e., could their individual sentiments
be obtained upon this project—their opinions would be
adverse to it. Our experience convinces us that the absence
of response to the invitation recently issued by the
committee was owing principally to that neglect and
apathy which unfortunately is so characteristic of ringers.
In many well-known instances the better the performer
the less interested is he, in any thing concerning the art,
which is going on immediately around him. If a salutary
change is mooted, and he should actually see the benefit
of its adoption, not an ounce of effort does he display in
its execution. If it goes well, then he smiles benignly
when he reaps its advantages; if it succumbs, its pro-
moters experience the force of his sarcasm. And we feel it is
chiefly this kind of spirit, the feeling of apathy and neglect,
mingled with a little selfishness, that has strangled the
hopes of many worthy members of the art in relation to
the question of a National Association.

If there be one thing to be said in favour of this
proposed national confederation, it is the almost total
absence of real opposition, for we can take Mr. MUSKETT'S
language on the subject as being simply jocular, while Mr.
DAINS' objections could be met by the remark that the
organisation of any existing society would remain un-
touched. With all respect and due deference to these
gentlemen, we cannot help saying that they have not fully
grasped the subject. And very likely because the move-
ment appeared to them utopian. Other prominent ringers
consider it impracticable. We are not of that belief.
A conviction that such a movement, if fully established
upon a substantial basis, would do an incalculable amount
of good, clings to us. Perhaps at no distant period we may
hear of the subject being again mooted, to be taken up
and carried to a successful termination. We hope so.
Meanwhile those who are anxious for its realisation should
do their best to "educate" their ringing brethren upon the
subject, so that when the time again arrives for its con-
sideration, it may be dealt with in a manner which will
show that ringers are capable of comprehending the issues
of any question which may be brought forward affecting
themselves.

The Provinces.

LICHFIELD, STAFFORDSHIRE.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Thursday, December 3, 1885, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' 5-PART. Tenor 19½ cwt. in E.

HENRY KING	Treble.	ARTHUR WHITBY	5.
ARTHUR E. GREENWOOD ..	2.	FREDERICK J. COPE	6.
JOSEPH KEY	3.	WILLIAM FEARNEYHOUGH ..	7.
HENRY MEACHAM	4.	EDWIN GALLIMORE	Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK J. COPE.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

Muffled Peal.

On Friday, December 4, 1885, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S 6-PART. Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

AMOS CRESSER Treble.	SAMUEL SMITH 5.
CHARLES SMITH 2.	E. DENISON TAYLOR .. 6.
JOSEPH HARDY 3.	JOHN WILLIAM TAYLOR, JUN. 7.
JOHN WILLIAM TAYLOR, SEN. 4.	EDWARD WIGHTMAN Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN WILLIAM TAYLOR, JUN.

The above was rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late John Cook, who died on the 1st inst., for fifteen years foreman for Messrs. John Taylor and Co., Bellfounders.

BASINGSTOKE, HANTS.

ST. LAURENCE'S SOCIETY, READING.

On Saturday, December 5, 1885, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

ALBERT E. REEVES* .. .Treble.	† WILLIAM H. HOLLOWAY .. 5.
HENRY WHITE* 2.	WILLIAM J. WILLIAMS .. 6.
RICHARD T. HIBBERT* .. 3.	WILLIAM GOSELTINE .. 7.
WILLIAM JOHNSON 4.	* JAMES KIRBY Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM J. WILLIAMS.

* First peal. † First peal in the method with a bob bell. H. White is also a member of the Basingstoke company. The ringer of the 3rd is only sixteen years old.

RAUNDS, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

On Saturday, December 5, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

5040 CHANGES: IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS
UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 of each of the following:

Kent and Oxford Treble Bob; Double Court; Oxford Bob; London Single;
College Little; Plain Bob.

Tenor 20 cwt.

G. KIRK Treble.	* J. STUBBS 4.
W. J. GILBERT 2.	F. GILBERT 5.
H. STUBBS 3.	W. HALL Tenor.

Conducted by W. HALL.

*First 5040.

TWICKENHAM, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 5, 1885, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 21 cwt.

GEORGE NAISH* Treble.	GEORGE WELLING 5.
CHARLES E. MALIM 2.	JAMES STRUTT 6.
ARTHUR B. CARPENTER .. 3.	GEORGE GRAY 7.
EDWARD F. STRANGE 4.	JOHN WRIGHT Tenor.

Conducted by EDWARD F. STRANGE.

* First peal.

WEST MALLING.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 8, 1885, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HARRY PEARCE Treble.	ALCHIN MOORCRAFT 5.
EDWARD BALDOCK 2.	JAMES W. LEONARD .. 6.
ALFRED H. WOOLLEY 3.	GEORGE PAWLEY 7.
REUBEN SIMMONDS 4.	GEORGE J. MOORCRAFT ..Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE PAWLEY.

Messrs. Baldock and Leonard hail from Malling; the rest from Maidstone.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

BURTON BRANCH,

On Saturday, December 5, 1885, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 26 cwt.

JOSEPH ASHMOLE Treble.	GEORGE ROBINSON 5.
SAMUEL GRETTON† 2.	HARRY WAKLEY 6.
FRANK DIMBLEBY* 3.	JOHN JAGGAR 7.
JOHN AUSTIN* 4.	WILLIAM ORME Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN JAGGAR.

* First peal. † First peal in the method.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 5, 1885, in Three Hours and Thirty-nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES,
Tenor 32 cwt. in C♯.

WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE Treble.	WILLIAM MOTTS 7.
JAMES MOTTS 2.	ROBERT H. BRUNDLE .. 8.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER 3.	FREDERICK TILLET .. 9.
ARTHUR R. ALDHAM 4.	SAMUEL TILLET 10.
EDGAR PEMBERTON 5.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. 11.
CHARLES MEE 6.	EDWARD REEVE Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE.

F. G. Newman hails from London. The above is E. Pemberton's 50th peal.

PERRY BARR, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, December 5, 1885, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt. in F♯.

HENRY BASTABLE Treble.	CHARLES STANBRIDGE .. 5.
THOMAS REYNOLDS 2.	* JAMES PLANT 6.
JOHN CARTER 3.	† MARTIN MURPHY 7.
WILLIAM KENT 4.	ARTHUR J. JONES Tenor.

Composed by T. Brook, and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

* 1st peal in the method. † 1st peal in the method away from the tenor.

MANCHESTER.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 5, 1885, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb.

THOMAS THORPE Treble.	JAMES THORPE 6.
THOMAS G. DOWNS 2.	CHARLES CASH 7.
JOHN E. POLLITT 3.	THOMAS HEALD 8.
GEORGE E. TURNER 4.	EDWARD CASH 9.
JAMES BARRATT 5.	A. EDWARD WREAKS ..Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY HUBBARD, and Conducted by
ALBERT EDWARD WREAKS.

First peal in the method by all the above, and by the Association. The Brothers Cash and J. Barratt hail from Eccles; T. Heald is of the St. Philip's (Culme) company; the rest are of the Cathedral company.

Miscellaneous.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

HIGHGATE (Middlesex).—On Tuesday, December 1st, the following members rang for practice at St. Anne's church, 1024 of Cambridge Surprise Major. J. Page, 1; B. Foskett, 2; G. Newson (conductor), 3; J. Hannington, 4; T. Titchener, 5; A. Jacob, 6; E. Chapman, 7; J. Barrett, 8. And on Saturday, December 5th, the same band met at St. Giles's-in-the-Fields, to attempt a peal in this method, but it was unfortunately lost after ringing fifteen courses in 2 hrs. 8 mins.

THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday, December 5th, at St. Chad's cathedral, for Divine Service in the evening, 1260 changes of Bob Triples, in 44 mins. W. Saniger, 1; J. Callaghan, 2; J. Carter (conductor), 3; T. Russam, 4; R. Hackley, 5; T. Miller, 6; A. Hackley, 7; A. Druce, 8. Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

RAYLEIGH.—On Sunday, December 6th, for Divine Service in the evening, the following members of the local company, also members of the above Association, rang a 720 of Bob Minor (fifteen bobs and six singles), composed by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, in 27 mins. A. Wallace, 1; F. Haslam, 2; J. Johnson, 3; H. Deal, 4; Rev. H. A. Cockey, 5; W. Judd, 6. Conducted by W. Judd, who was home for a few days from Sittingbourne. Tenor 14½ cwt.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, December 1st, at St. Lawrence's church, the local company rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. H. Barnes, 1; J. Yeates, 2; G. Miles, 3; Wm. Sevier, 4; H. Mitchel, 5; A. A. Waite (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

QUEDGLEY (Gloucestershire).—On Wednesday, November 18th, six members of the above Association rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 35 mins. A. Harris, 1; Wm. Brown, 2; T. Mansfield, 3; C. Lise, 4; Wm. Sevier, 5; T. Brown (conductor), 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND.—On Tuesday, December 1st, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Bob Minor. W. Royston, 1; W. Harper, 2; F. Hayes (conductor), 3; G. Hayes, 4; H. D. Davis, 5; B. Spinner, 6.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Thursday evening, December 3rd, for practice at S.S. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. B. Spinner, 1; F. J. Ring, 2; F. Hayes (conductor), 3; H. Davis, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper, 6. Also on Sunday, December 6th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. L. Digweed, 1; J. Broom, 2; W. Harper (conductor), 3; F. J. Ring, 4; W. Martin, 5; G. Hayes, 6.

WEST MALLING (Kent).—On Sunday, December 6th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. D. Hall, 1; E. Baldock, 2; A. Moorcraft, 3; H. Pearce, 4; C. Paine, 5; J. W. Leonard (conductor), 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

BURFORD (Oxon).—On Sunday, December 6th, for Divine Service in the evening, at the parish church, the local company, also members of the above Guild, rang 446 of Grandsire Triples. *W. Hall, 1; D. Francis, 2; T. Brown, 3; J. Smith, 4; H. Bond, jun., 5; W. Large, 6; T. E. Glanville (conductor), 7; *W. Shayler, 8. *Longest touch.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

OXFORD.—On Thursday, December 3rd, at the church of St. Thomas-ye-Martyr, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27½ mins. C. W. Bennett (Worcester), 1; C. S. Rowlands (St. John's), 2; G. C. Joyce (B.N.C.), 3; J. R. Vincent (St. John's), 4; A. F. M. Custance (B.N.C.), 5; C. W. H. Griffith (C.C.C.; conductor), 6.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Sunday, December 6th, at the parish church, a 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and eighteen singles), in 28 mins. A. Spurge, 1; *†W. Moore, 2; *†W. Bearman, 3; *S. Sargent, 4; *†S. Hammond (composer and conductor), 5; *†C. Bearman, 6. *College Youths. †Essex Association. Tenor 19 cwt.

BENGEO (Herts).—Recently, at Holy Trinity church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (forty-two singles). T. Barker, 1; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 2; H. Phillips, 3; W. Odell, 4; W. Bennett, 5; J. Pomfret, 6. And on Sunday, December 6th, for evening service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (with eighteen singles and three bobs). W. Childs, 1; W. A. Tyler, 2; H. J. Tucker (composer and conductor), 3; J. Pomfret, 4; J. Channer, 5; H. Phillips, 6.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Friday, November 20th, the local company rang for practice, 720 of Superlative Surprise, in 24 mins. M. Jenkins, 1; G. Williams, 2; E. Jordan, 3; R. Jordan, 4; A. Mills, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, November 22nd, for Divine Service in the afternoon, 288 of Oxford Treble Bob. R. Worsfold, 1; J. Newnham, 2; A. Mills, 3; R. Jordan, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And after service, a 720 of Superlative

Surprise. F. Wickings (first 720 in the method), 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. Mills, 3; G. Williams, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. D. Jordan, 1; J. Newnham, 2; B. King (first 720 in the method), 3; R. Jordan, 4; A. Mills, 5; H. Chantler (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of College Exercise. J. Whiting, 1; R. Jordan, 2; A. Mills, 3; G. Williams, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Whiting, 1; A. Mills, 2; R. Worsfold, 3; G. Williams, 4; F. Wickens, 5; E. Jordan (conductor), 6. J. Newnham hails from Crawley; J. Whiting from Fareham, Hants; G. Williams from Reigate; H. Chantler from Warnham; Wickens and King from Charlwood; the rest are local men.

COLCHESTER.—Handbell Ringing.—On Tuesday evening, December 8th, at St. Peter's church, on handbells, retained in hand, a 720 Bob Minor (twelve singles and six bobs). W. Scott, 1; George Dent, 2; *J. Kettle, 3-4; A. Pye, 5-6. Also 168 of Grandsire Triples, and 160 of Bob Major. First 720 rung on handbells in the tower for over 40 years. *Totally blind.

DUFFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday evening, December 6th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins. G. Dawson, 1; S. Johnson, 2; W. Hickling, 3; A. Robinson, 4; G. Hingley, 5; R. Bosworth (conductor), 6; R. Johnson, 7; J. Johnson, 8.

GRAVESEND (Kent).—On Tuesday, November 24th, at St. George's Church, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 30 mins. W. J. Reeves (Bexley), 1; W. Harper (conductor), 2; H. D. Davis, 3; W. Martin, 4; F. Hayes, 5; B. Spinner, 6; J. W. Aitken, 7; G. Hayes, 8. All the above are members of the Kent County Association, except Mr. Reeves.

HADDENHAM (Cambs).—On Monday, December 8th, two 720s of Bob Minor, in 27 and 28 mins. respectively. J. Ellis, 1; W. King, 2; J. R. Vincent, 3; J. Dains, 4; A. Pilgrim (conductor), 5; J. Vail, 6. Tenor 18 cwt. The above all belong to St. Mary's, Ely.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex). On Sunday morning, December 6th, for Divine Service at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (twenty bobs and ten singles), in 25 mins. T. Titchener, 1; G. Thurlow, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; T. Glead, 4; J. Nixon, 5; G. Griffin, 6. For evening service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs) in 24 mins. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; T. Glead, 2; T. Titchener, 3; J. Leach, 4; J. Nixon, 5; G. Griffin, 6. And after service a 720 of Cambridge Surprise Minor, in 23 mins. *G. Griffin, 1; *B. Foksett, 2; J. Hannington, 3; †E. Chapman, 4; T. Titchener, 5; G. Newson (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. *First 720 in the method. †First 720 in the method with a bob bell.

HELMINGHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday evening, December 6th, seven members of the St. Mary-le-Tower (Ipswich) society, with F. G. Newman, of London, attempted a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, but after ringing 1 hr. 42 mins., it unfortunately came to grief. J. Motts, 1; W. Motts, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; H. Bowell, 4; E. Pemberton, 5; F. G. Newman, 6; S. Tillett, 7; R. H. Brundle, 8. Tenor 19½ cwt.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Monday, December 7th, for practice, at St. Mary's church, the first part of Reeves's variation of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 518 changes. J. Randall, 1; H. Buckingham, 2; J. Hare (conductor), 3; A. Squires, 4; G. F. Scott, 5; F. Furr, 6; W. Allen, 7; S. Hare, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. All the above are members of the Hertfordshire Association with the exception of G. F. Scott, who hails from Sutton.

IPSWICH (Suffolk).—On Sunday, December 6th, for Divine Service in the morning at the church of St. Mary-le-Tower, a course of Double Norwich Court Bob Royal. W. L. Catchpole, 1; E. Pemberton, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; A. R. Aldham, 4; C. Saul, 5; H. Bowell, 6; W. Motts, 7; F. Tillett, 8; J. Motts, 9; F. G. Newman, 10. And three courses of Stedman Caters. J. Motts, 1; E. Pemberton, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; F. G. Newman, 4; C. Saul, 5; H. Bowell, 6; W. Motts, 7; W. L. Catchpole, 8; A. R. Aldham, 9; J. Miller, 10.

LIVERPOOL.—On Saturday, December 5th, at St. Francis Xavier's Church, an attempt was made to ring Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 3980 changes in 2 hrs. 16 mins., it unfortunately came to grief when nearing the end of the eighth part. James Donnelly (conductor), 1; William Kennedy, 2; Andrew J. Flynn, 3; Thomas Donnelly, 4; John Donnelly, 5; John Aspinwall, 6; Isaac Clarke, 7; William Kelly, 8.

LONDON.—Muffled Peal.—On Sunday, November 29th, at St. Giles, Church, Camberwell, the usual whole pull and stand, as a mark of respect to the late Miss Ives, of Camberwell Grove, she being a member of the St. Giles' society. H. E. Gummer (conductor), 1; W. Bull, 2; E. Drury, 3; T. Windly, 4; R. Smith, 5; H. Flower, 6; R. Jones, 7; T. Langdon, 8; J. Summer, 9; T. Coxhead, 10.

LOUGHBOROUGH (Leicestershire).—On Tuesday, December 8th, the local company, assisted by the Rev. W. Pearson, of Syston, rang for practice a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. A. Cresser, 1; E. D. Taylor, 2; C. Smith, 3; J. W. Taylor, sen., 4; S. Smith, 5; Rev. W. Pearson, 6; J. W. Taylor, jun. (conductor), 7; E. Wightman, 8. Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

PINNER (Middlesex).—*Muffled Peals*.—On Sunday, December 5th, at the church of St. John the Baptist, Grandsire Doubles, with 4, 6, 8, covering, were rung for the services, the bells being deeply muffled in memory of the late Vicar, Rev. Dr. Pinnock, LL.D., who was buried the day previous, aged 72 years. W. H. Manning, 1; A. Newman, 2; H. Lobb, 3; G. Dickens, 4; F. Johnson, 5; R. Greenfield, 6; W. H. George, 7; F. Bentley, 8. Tenor 19 cwt. Conducted by Messrs. Manning and George. J. Barry, of London, also assisted in the ringing.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Tuesday, November 24th, at the church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, six of the local company rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. And on Tuesday, December 1st, a 720 of Double Oxford Bob Minor (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles), in 26 mins. *W. Prior, 1; J. Luckey, 2; *H. Prior, jun., 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; *C. Prior (conductor), 6. *Members of the Essex Association. Tenor 13 cwt.

STISTED (Essex).—On Sunday afternoon, December 6th, a 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). C. Corder, 1; A. Chaplin, 2; E. Chaplin, 3; F. Saunders, 4; E. Radley, 5; Wm. Radley, conductor, 6.

WALSALL (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, December 6th, for Divine Service at St. Matthew's church, the local company, with several of the Birmingham St. Martin's Company, rang 863 changes of Stedman Caters. F. Hallsworth, 1; D. Westley, 2; H. Bastable, 3; W. Walker, 4; W. Cartwright, 5; W. Small, 6; J. Buffery (conductor), 7; J. Astbury, 8; W. Hallsworth, 9; C. Fluck, 10. And 1040 of Kent Treble Bob Royal. F. Hallsworth, 1; W. Walker, 2; J. Astbury, sen., 3; H. Bastable, 4; W. Cartwright, 5; J. Buffery, 6; J. Astbury, 7; W. Small, 8; D. Westley, 9; W. Hallsworth, 10. Tenor 24 cwt. in Eb. The treble, 3rd, and tenor have been recently rehung by Barwell, of Birmingham.

THE ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY, DERBY.

On Friday evening, December 4th, 1885, this Society held their first peal supper at the "Locomotive" Inn, which was provided by the worthy sexton, Mr. W. Shardlow, along with two or three other kind friends, who for some time past have expressed their desire to assist in the celebrating of the first peal rung by the Society, in which they take such great interest. Everything being in readiness, the word "go" was called, at which the company commenced to do ample justice to the good things provided, which was done in fine style. They were at length brought round at the end of some four or five courses. That being all, the word "stand" was called, and readily and willingly obeyed by all present. The cloth being removed the company indulged in handbell ringing, which consisted of a few courses of Bob Major, etc., and afterwards a few songs. The first, given by Mr. Sidley, was a very laughable one, and several others, by Mr. Found, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Mottashaw, Mr. Gilbert, and several others were well rendered.

Mr. Shardlow, in a few closing remarks, said it had been his intention to make each one of the ringers a suitable present in remembrance of their first peal, but as he had been prevented on this occasion, not through any want on his own part, he hoped before long to have an opportunity of doing so.

A vote of thanks was afterwards accorded to Mr. Shardlow for his kindness and also to those friends who had taken so able an interest in the surroundings. The evening being now brought to a close, they dispersed, each one to their homes, with a hope that this would not be the last time they would meet together on a like occasion.

THE ST. BOTOLPH (BISHOPSGATE) SOCIETY.

On Friday, December 4th, the Rev. W. Rogers, M.A., rector, entertained the ringers to their annual supper (in memory of his birthday), at the "One Swan Hotel," Bishopsgate. Justice having been done to the excellent supper provided, and the cloth being removed, the toast of the evening, "The Rector's Health and Long Life," was proposed by Mr. W. S. Williamson, who expressed himself, in the name of his colleagues, heartily gratified with his kindness and liberality. "The Health of the Churchwardens" having been proposed by S. Scholes, and drank, the rest of the evening was spent in songs, etc., until the hour of departure drew nigh, when the company dispersed, having spent an enjoyable evening.

RINGMER, SUSSEX.

On Tuesday, December 1st, an event occurred that occasioned considerable interest to the residents of Ringmer and the surrounding district. Through the munificence of W. L. Christie, Esq., a gentleman well known in Sussex, the bells were heard from the parish church tower, for the first time for between two and three hundred years, during which period the sacred edifice has remained without a tower, the old one being destroyed by lightning about the year 1600. Early in the present year Mr. Christie instructed Mr. W. F. Martin, builder, of Ringmer, to erect a suitable tower, and the work has been exceedingly well executed. A peal of eight fine-toned bells, cast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and exhibited by that firm at the last International Exhibition, was then secured, the weight of the tenor being 14 cwt., in the key of F, six being given by the donor of the tower, and the remaining two were contributed, one by the parishioners by subscription, and the other given by J. W. Mudge, Esq., December 1st, being Miss Christie's birthday, was selected for the opening ceremony. The Brighton branch of the Sussex County Association was invited to send a band of eight ringers to attempt a peal. On their arrival they were met by the Rev. F. H. Fisher and the Ringmer ringers, and by way of trial they rang a 504 of Grandsire Triples. An adjournment was then made to Mr. Fisher's residence, where about thirty ringers and others interested in bells sat down to dinner under the presidency of Mr. Christie. At five minutes to three a start was made for the peal, the ringers standing as follows: W. Palmer, 1; G. F. Attree, 2; J. Searle, 3; C. E. Golds, 4; G. King, 5; C. Tyler, 6; J. Jay (conductor), 7; E. Butler, 8; and at four minutes past six the peal was successfully accomplished, the time occupied being 3 hrs. and 9 mins. The bells were kept in motion by the local ringers until half-past seven. Before parting, the Rev. Mr. Fisher expressed a wish that those assembled should show their appreciation of the generous gift by drinking the health of Mr. and Miss Christie.

BALCOMBE, SUSSEX.

The following is the ringing done by the local company during the month of November:—November 12th, 720 of Oxford Bob. R. Bourne, 1; W. Comber, 2; E. Streeter, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; J. Gasson, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Plain Bob. W. Comber, 1; R. Bourne, 2; E. Streeter, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; H. Meads, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. Thursday, November 26th, a 360 of Plain Bob. A. Stoner, 1; R. Bourne, 2; E. Streeter, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; H. Meads, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. Sunday, November 29th, 720 of Oxford Bob. A. Stoner, 1; R. Bourne, 2; J. Kenward, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; H. Meads, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. And 720 of Plain Bob. A. Stoner, 1; C. Gasson, 2; E. Streeter, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; H. Meads, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Plain Bob. A. Stoner, 1; R. Bourne, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; H. Meads, 4; J. Gasson, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. With Mr. E. Streeter, of Worth, the local band have made an attempt at Oxford Treble Bob, and on one occasion rang two 120's. R. Bourne, 1; C. Gasson, 2; J. Gasson, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; H. Meads, 5; E. Streeter, 6.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

A MEETING of special and more than general interest to all members of this society, will take place at the "Green Man," St. Martin's Lane, W.C., on Friday, December 19th. The usual ringing practice will take place at eight o'clock, at St. Martin's Church, previous to the business meeting. Members' attendance urgently requested.

H. DAINS, Hon. Sec.

SUBSCRIPTION LIST FOR THE JOHNSON TESTIMONIAL.

Amount already announced	£	s.	d.
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Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, Stanhoe Rectory, Kings Lynn		2	6
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R. Jones, St. Martin's, Birmingham		2	0
Hull Society of change-ringers (per R. B. Reed)		2	6
E. Cashmore, All Saints', West Bromwich		5	0
James Pettit, Hackney		2	6
Edwin Gibbs, London		2	6

We, the Committee, thank all ringers and friends who have so kindly and liberally contributed to this "National Testimonial," and we wish to remind any who are thinking of becoming subscribers that it will be necessary to close the list with the present year. We therefore respectfully ask them to communicate at once with A. Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 83, Wheeley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham; or Mr. 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."

LONDON SOCIETIES.

SIR,—In answer to Mr. Jerram, I challenge him or any other member of the College Youths, who questions the truth of my letters, to argue the point at the headquarters, the "King's Head," Winchester Street, Borough, before the Master, Martin Routh, Esq., who I am sure will pass an impartial judgement between us, providing that such member will let me know through "THE BELL NEWS," what night he will meet me.

J. W. TRAPPITT, alias "LITTLE JIM."

A COMPLAINT.

SIR,—When the question of forming a County Association for Sussex came before the ringers of the county, it was taken up with energy by them, and a good start was made, as we thought, upon a good foundation, namely, for the furtherance of belfry reform, etc. Well, Sir, I take it, that to obtain that object, a unity of feeling should exist through the whole of the Association, and it should be the duty of the executive, as far as lies in their power, to encourage and foster that spirit of unity; should there be any favours to dispose of, they should be distributed through the whole, and not relegated to the few. Since the Sussex Association has been formed there have been two peals to be opened, namely, one at Buxted, and one at Ringmer, and in both cases the bands were selected from Brighton; so far as I know, no other member of the Association received an invitation to make one of either band. I think this a most narrow and selfish way of doing business, and I, as a member of the Association, strongly protest against it. There are ringers in other parts of the county quite as well up in change-ringing as those who reside in Brighton, who would, had they had the opportunity, gladly have assisted in the opening of either peal, and it is in justice to my brother-strings that I have taken the liberty to trouble you on this matter.

A MEMBER OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BEDDINGTON BELLS, SURREY.

SIR,—In answer to Mr. Jerram's letter, "Access to Belfry Refused," no doubt your readers are anxious to know who refused Mr. Stahlschmidt permission to the tower. I am at liberty to say had the Rev. Canon Bridges been asked he would at once have granted permission. I was surprised at seeing such a report in "THE BELL NEWS." I have been steeplekeeper for eight years, and had Mr. Stahlschmidt applied to me for permission I should have been pleased to have given it him, as I should be most happy to see our ring of ten published in his works, instead of being in the position they are. Who is he who refused permission? The churchwardens, nor the sexton, have not been asked to allow permission. It must have been some non-official that Mr. Stahlschmidt applied to for admission to the tower.

JOHN PLOWMAN, *Steeplekeeper*.

SIR,—In answer to Mr. Jerram, I can only tell him that had Mr. J. C. L. Stahlschmidt applied to the proper authority he would have obtained the required permission.

J. W. TRAPPITT.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—The annual meeting of the above Association was held at St. Albans, on Monday, October 26th, and I have been looking for the report of the same, ever since that date, and it has never been published. I was unable to go there myself, so I know nothing what was passed there, and I think for the benefit of those who could not attend, a report of the same would be very convenient to be published in your valuable paper, and would be very eagerly sought for. I cannot make it out at all; the report of the quarterly meetings were published, but the annual one, the most important of all, is left out, and nothing said about it, which seems very strange to me.

A MEMBER OF THE ABOVE ASSOCIATION.

THE RECENT PEAL AT ECCLES.

SIR,—Perhaps it is bold to rush into print against such a leviathan of bell knowledge as our friend J. S. evidently wishes us to think he is. But I cannot forbear making a few remarks on his letter, which appeared in a recent number. First, I may say that J. S. should learn to write letters without implying doubts as to the veracity of others. He will find it is considered better form in this country to do so. Mr. Wreaks, whom I have the honour to know, would not make an assertion without being able to vouch for its correctness. I can only say that he did call a few bobs. J. S. also says—"I should think there were a good deal of bobs called wrong." Why he should think so I know not, and should be very glad if he would give me a reason, unless he conducted the so-called peal, then I will allow his thoughts to rest unchallenged. Further, I must again verify Mr. Wreaks'

statement as to time. Two hours forty-nine and a half minutes is quite correct. The number of changes also is correct (4896). And it is not "a mystery how he could tell," as Mr. Wreaks is a conductor and a practical ringer. I assume, from J. S.'s rash assertions, that he is neither. Certainly for inuendoes J. S. has been unsurpassed in my experience. He evidently places great value on his own opinion, without taking into consideration that he may be asked for a reason. With regard to J. S.'s statement that the bells sounded as if they were intended for the 24th of May, I really confess myself at a loss for a reply to such unparalleled impudence, and, perhaps, comment is needless, for all who know will easily place the proper value on his statement. I am sure J. S. would be a valuable addition to any body of ringers, and I should recommend all young beginners to take his advice before going to the tower to ring a peal, and, above all, to see that he is not in the neighbourhood, if they are given to "blundering and bad striking." J. S.'s concluding remarks "knowingly publish false time, etc." are quite characteristic of the tone of his letter throughout, and utterly beneath my notice.

VICERSIMUS.

THE ST. LAURENCE'S SOCIETY (READING) AT BASINGSTOKE.

On Saturday, December 5th, several members of the above Society visited Basingstoke, for the express purpose of ringing a peal of Grand-sire Triples. They left Reading by the 1.45 train, reaching their destination by 2.20. Here they were met by the worthy steeplekeeper, Mr. G. Capron, Mr. White, and another of the local company, who escorted them to the church. Everything was found in readiness, and after going through the usual preliminaries, the metal was set swinging by 3 o'clock, and which continued until seven minutes past six, the report of which will be found in the peal column. After the peal Mr. White kindly invited the ringers to tea, which was very acceptable after a three hours' ring, considering that four of the band had never rung a peal before. Thanking Mr. White for his hospitality, a move was made through the pouring rain to the station, from whence they soon started for Reading, which was reached by 9.15, each one having thoroughly enjoyed his trip, more particularly on account of their success. They wish to thank the vicar, the Rev. Canon Millard, for so readily granting them the use of the bells. This is the second peal rung on the bells, the first having been rung by the Cumberlands, on November 14th, conducted by Mr. George Newson.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING DECEMBER 6TH, 1885.—On Sunday, November 22nd, for Divine Service in the evening at the parish church, Steyning, by the Steyning branch, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob Minor, in 28 mins. G. Breach, 1; T. Searle, 2; G. Smart (first 720), 3; C. Tyler, 4; J. Woolger, 5; G. Gatland (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, November 24th, at Christ Church, Eastbourne, by the Eastbourne Branch, with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the memory of the late Jasper Snowdon, Esq., a 720 of Grandsire Minor. J. Lewis, 1; F. Harding (conductor), 2; H. Colbran, 3; G. Smith, 4; G. Howse, 5; T. Smith, 6. On Sunday, November 29th, at Steyning, by the Steyning branch, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 26 mins. E. Brackey, 1; T. Searle, 2; J. Woolger, 3; C. Chambers, 4; J. Searle, 5; G. Gatland (conductor), 6. And a 720 in the same method, by the same band, in 26½ mins. On Tuesday, December 1st, on the occasion of the opening of the new ring of eight bells by the Brighton branch, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18½ mins. W. Palmer, 1; G. F. Attree, 2; J. Searle, 3; C. Golds, 4; C. Tyler, 5; G. King, 6; J. Jay, sen., 7; J. Neves, 8. Conducted by J. Searle. And Holt's 10 part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 3 hrs. 9 mins.; conducted by J. Jay, sen., and rung by the above band excepting the 8th, which was rang by E. Butler. G. F. ATTREE, *Hon. Sec.*

Obituary.

We regret to have to announce the death of Mr. John Cooke, of Loughborough, which took place on Tuesday, the 1st inst. The deceased had been for fifteen years foreman for Messrs. John Taylor and Co., Bellfounders, and had superintended, amongst other large works, the fixing of the peal of twelve bells at St. Paul's Cathedral, London, being consequently well-known amongst ringers. The remains were interred at the cemetery on Friday, and as a mark of respect all the men who were at home followed the corpse to the grave. The funeral service was impressively read by the rector of All Saints, Loughborough, the Rev. Thos. Pitts, by whose kind permission after the ceremony, a peal of Grandsire Triples, which is duly recorded in its proper place amongst this week's performances, was rung in three hours and twenty-five minutes, with the bells half-muffled. All the ringers with the exception of Joseph Hardy are fellow workmen of the deceased. It is perhaps worthy of notice that this is the first peal rung by Loughborough ringers exclusively for forty-four years, when Mr. Taylor, sen., rang the 3rd.

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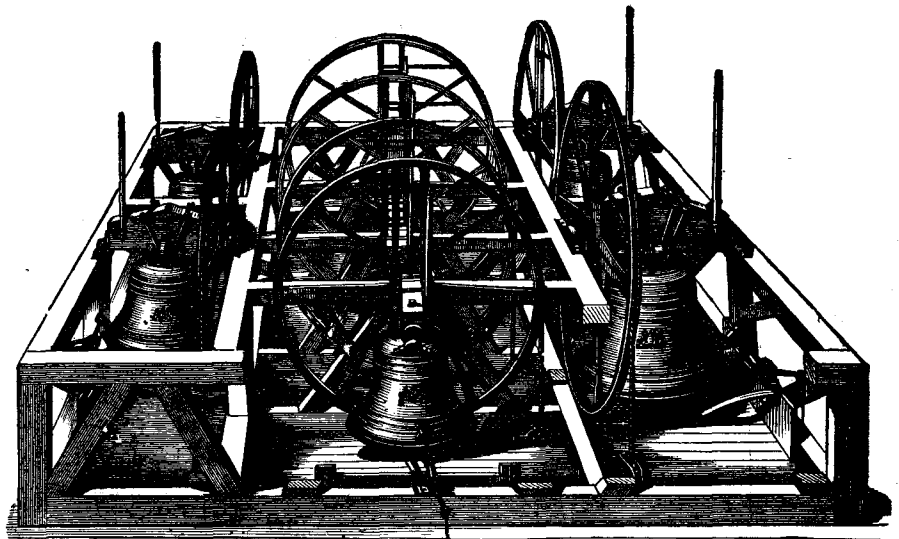
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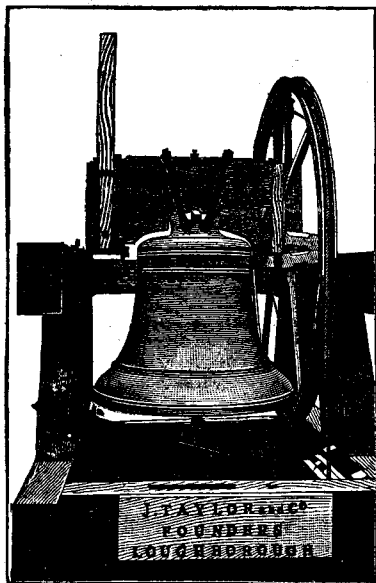
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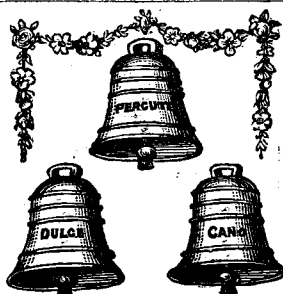
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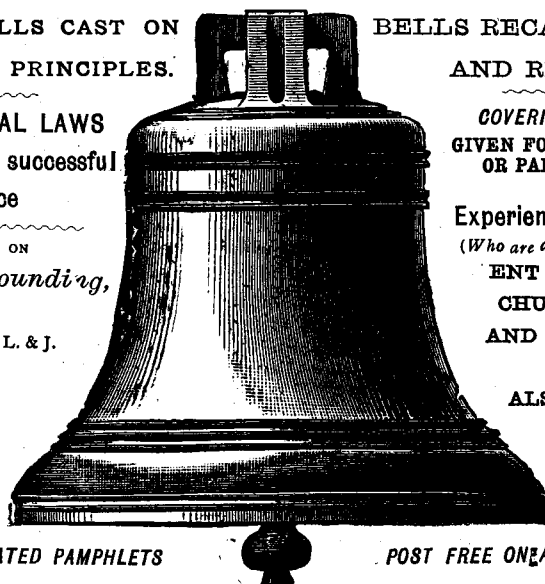
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