

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 198. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. IV.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1886.

[ONE PENNY.]

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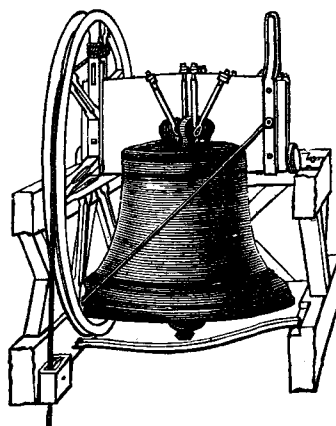
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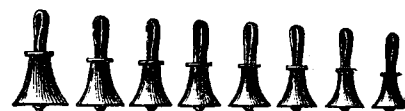
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THE CROYDON SOCIETY.

THE Annual Dinner of this Society was held at the "Crown" Hotel, on Tuesday evening, January 5th. The Vicar of Croydon, (Rev. J. M. Braithwaite), took the chair, and was supported by the Mayor, J. Cooper, Esq., F. T. Edridge, Esq., J. Thrift, Esq., J. Pelton, Esq., Dr. A. B. Carpenter, and over forty others. A liberal spread was provided, and after the cloth had been removed, the Chairman having proposed the usual loyal and patriotic toasts,

Mr. Alderman COOPER proposed "The Clergy."

The VICAR, in reply, thanked the company for the kind way in which they had received the toast concerning the clergy in general, and himself in particular. He gathered from the remarks made that he was regarded as rather a festive kind of individual, as Alderman Cooper spoke of him more in connection with dinners than anything else. He admitted he was always glad to meet his friend the Mayor, and he was glad to meet his friends the bellringers, and such gatherings cheered and helped them, but he claimed for the clergy in general that they did not forget their higher duties also. From the honourable position he held, he had very great responsibilities. It was his endeavour to see that in every department of the parish church there existed harmony, diligence and zeal. Amongst their church workers they had their little band of bellringers, and he was bound to say he felt as much interest in the belfry as he did in any other portion of his church, and as much interest in the bellringers as he did in any other band of their church workers. In former days the belfry was, as a rule, rather left out of mind, and the interests of the bellringers allowed to shift for themselves. This was one of these respects in which the church had been reforming, as it had been in very many other ways during the last fifty years; there had been, he was glad to say, not only great reform in the manner of bellringing, but also a general improvement in the management and tone of belfries and of those who frequented them; greater friendliness, harmony, reverence of demeanour, and greater earnestness and diligence amongst their ringers. He had been induced to make these few remarks because it led him to another duty he had to perform, and that was to propose the toast of the evening, and that was "The Ancient Society of Croydon Church Bellringers." The Society had had its days of difficulties; for one period they were altogether deprived of the opportunity of exercising their science; when their noble old church was gutted by fire, the ringers were for a long time without bells at all. Still, the Society had gone on, and he thought certainly during the last few years it had developed. Some of them might perhaps have a great deal to say upon the way in which the bells were swung. They would not say much about that at the present time; it might upset their digestion—especially those who had anything to do with the tenor, would probably experience a very unfavourable feeling. They had spent no less than £130 during the year in the endeavour to get the bells perfectly hung, but they were not yet quite right, and if they were not successful in their attempt they would have to see if they could not get the entire framework re-arranged some day. He would refer to the very gratifying enthusiasm shown by Dr. A. B. Carpenter, their Hon. Treasurer, with whose name he had hoped to couple the toast, but who had been forced to leave them, and he would therefore give them the toast of "The Ancient Society of Croydon Bellringers," coupled with the name of Mr. Blogg, their Hon. Sec.

Mr. BLOGG said it gave him very great pleasure indeed, to see so many gentlemen present at that gathering. There was a very considerable amount of enthusiasm amongst the members of their Society, both old and young. Their friend Dr. Carpenter was a specially good man. He was glad to say the attendance at their practices had improved, in fact it had been remarkably good, and he had a very small number of fines to record against members. As they were aware they had had difficulties to contend with, as the bells did not hang rightly. The Beddington ringers had paid them several visits, and with their assistance they had been enabled to get through some very long touches, which they could not have done without their assistance. The progress of their society had been slow, it was true, but it certainly had been sure. He thanked them all for the assistance they had given him, and hoped they would always be ready to render that assistance.

Mr. ASH proposed "The Health of the Surrey Association of Change-ringers."

Mr. TRAPPITT responded, remarking that ringing kept young men out of occupation of a perhaps far less innocent kind, inasmuch as a young man who desired to be a change-ringer must not only only spend time in the belfry, but must also pass many hours at home. During the past year the Association had rung thirteen peals, in nine of which their Hon. Sec. took part.

Mr. BENNETT also responded.

Harmony was sustained during the evening by Messrs. Ocle, Johnston, Trappitt, and others, Mr. Thomson kindly acting as accompanist, and the party broke up at midnight.

[We regret we were unable to accept the courteous invitation of the Honorary Secretary to be present on the above occasion.—ED.]

THE BRIGHTON SOCIETY.

On Tuesday evening, January 5th, the annual dinner of the Brighton St. Nicholas Society, took place at the "Morning Star," Church Street, Brighton, and was largely attended. The company sat down at half-past six to a substantial repast. Amongst those present were—the Rev. E. Riley (in the chair), Mr. W. Robinson (vice-chairman), Mr. H. Boniface (secretary), Mr. G. F. Attree (hon. secretary of the Sussex County Association), Mr. Lynn (churchwarden). At the conclusion of the dinner, the secretary read letters of apology from the Vicar of St. Nicholas (the Rev. J. J. Hannah), the senior churchwarden (Mr. Smithers), and said he knew the Vicar greatly regretted his inability to attend. After the usual toasts,

Mr. H. BONIFACE said it gave him great pleasure to propose "The Sussex County Association of Change-Ringers," for it was first spoken of in the room in which they were assembled at one of their annual meetings. They saw that other counties had their Associations, and did not see why Sussex should not have their Association as well. The matter was taken up warmly, and they thought that, at any rate, they might join the three Brighton societies and extend operations as things went on. They did not proceed very fast at first, but Mr. Attree ultimately said if they would leave the matter in his hands, he would form an association as best he could. Well, they left the matter in his hands, and he went to work with a will. The result of his labours was that an association was formed, of which all ringers in the county of Sussex had great reason to be proud. They had the Bishop as President, and the clergy and landed gentlemen had taken it up, and they now had a very good association indeed. A leader in "THE BELL NEWS" recently stated that the Sussex County Association, though the youngest, ranked as the fourth in the Kingdom in strength, and he (the speaker), knew this was greatly due to Mr. Attree.

Mr. G. F. ATTREE, in replying, remarked that during the past twelve months the science of campanology had progressed more in Sussex than it had from 1800 to the formation of the Association. He believed they were the third largest association now, and they could not get much higher. When they considered that some of the associations above them had been in existence for ten or twelve years, it might be thought ambitious when they expressed a hope to rise still further, but if the present unanimity continued and all members supported them as well as they had done in the past, he saw no reason why they should not be the largest association in the kingdom in the course of twelve months. They had plenty of scope in Sussex, for there were 100 peals of bells, and there was no reason why three-fourths of these should not be used in a proper way, and change-ringing exercised upon them. They could not expect change-ringing to proceed upon all at once, but they now had instructors teaching where change-ringing had not been heard for half-a-century, and with profitable results. In conclusion, he said he was glad to tell them that at the end of the first year there was a balance in hand of nearly £50. Many associations failed in consequence of want of funds, and he therefore felt that they were in a good position. The expenses during the past year had been great, but a considerable sum of money had been spent upon printing, which was purely in connection with the formation of the society. Some might think the amount excessive, but he knew that without the expenditure they would not have succeeded as they had.

At this point, Mr. E. TEBBS, who should have taken the chair entered the room, and he was immediately called upon to propose "The Brighton Society of Change-Ringers," which he did in the most appropriate terms, coupled with the names of Mr. H. Boniface and Mr. Searle. Mr. H. BONIFACE first replied, and read records of different peals rung. He acknowledged with thanks the kindness which the Vicar extended to the society.

Mr. SEARLE, captain of the society, also spoke, and said he hoped to bring the society to a considerably higher state of proficiency. Amongst the remaining toasts were "Kindred Societies," "Visitors and the Press," the "Chairman and Vice-Chairman," and the "Host and Hostess." The proceedings throughout were of the most enjoyable character.

ANNIVERSARY OF ST. MARY'S BELLS, DISS, NORFOLK.

The 53rd anniversary of the above bells was held as usual, on Wednesday, January 6th, when ringers from Eye, Oakley, Horne, Wingfield, &c., put in an appearance, and were soon busy at work pulling the ropes. At half-past two o'clock the company sat down to an excellent dinner, provided by Host Reeve, of the "Dolphin" Inn, The Rev. A. A. Wilkinson, the esteemed Curate of Diss, in the chair. Dinner over, the "Health of Her Majesty the Queen" was proposed by the Chairman, and duly honoured. Mr. G. Day, of Eye, then moved a hearty vote of thanks to the rev. Chairman for coming amongst them that day, and also for the interest he took in the bells and ringers. During the day touches of Oxford Treble Bob, Grand-sire, and Bob Major were rung in good style, and several courses on the handbells, interspersed with songs, concluded a most enjoyable day.

ST. JOHN'S, BRADFORD.

On Monday evening last, the company in connection with this church had their first tea together, at the East Parade Dining Rooms. After partaking of a very substantial meat tea, the Rev. A. J. G. Nash, M.A., Vicar of St. John's, presided, who was supported by the Rev. Wm. Leighton (Curate), Mr. Bell (late Churchwarden), Mr. Loft (Sidesman), and Mr. Robert Tuke. The Rev. Chairman read letters of apology from Mr. Wall and Mr. Fletcher (Churchwardens)—the former through indisposition, and the latter through Town Council business—Mr. J. R. Cordingley (the donor of the bells), and Mr. Ibbetson (who had a previous engagement). He then gave an address of a most interesting character, expressing the pleasure he felt at being present at the gathering. He related some of his experiences in Russia and other places on the continent, particularly with reference to bells and bell-ringing. In our own country, he said, the bells were the outward voice of the church, proclaiming in jubilant tones the seasons of joy and gladness, and in times of sadness and bereavement speaking out in their muffled notes of the sorrow which had befallen the people. He heartily wished the ringers success in their work, and assured them of the sympathy and willing help, which would always be accorded to them by himself and the churchwardens.

The Rev. Mr. LEIGHTON congratulated the Company on the progress they had made during the short time they had been formed, and expressed the great pleasure he felt in the fact that all the ringers were members of his Sunday Bible Class.

Mr. BELL and Mr. LOFT spoke of the pleasure they felt at being able to be present, and gave words of sound advice and encouragement to the young Company.

Mr. PELLETT (steeple keeper), in a brief speech, replied on behalf of the Company, and proposed the "Health of the respected Vicar," which was drunk heartily.

The CHAIRMAN, in responding, referred to past experiences of St. John's with regard to ringing, and expressed his satisfaction at the present state of affairs. He was sure that their tutor, Mr. Copley, would spare no pains in teaching them the art, and enable them to ring the bells with credit to themselves and satisfaction to the parishioners; and concluded by proposing his health.

Mr. COPLEY, in thanking the Vicar for his very kind remarks, gave some reminiscences of his experience as a ringer, contrasting the position of ringers of the present day with that of fifteen years ago, when he first became a ringer.

During the evening selections were rung on the handbells, and songs and recitations given; a very enjoyable evening being spent by all.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT FOR THE FORTNIGHT ENDING JANUARY 12TH:—On Friday, January 1st, at Steyning, by the Steyning branch, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob Minor. F. Morris, 1; G. Smart, 2; E. Brackley, 3; T. Searle, 4; G. Gatland, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, by the same band, and conductor G. Gatland. On Saturday, January 9th, at Billingshurst, by the Billingshurst branch, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. P. Wood, 1; W. Chantler, 2; G. Matthews, 3; W. Chantler, jun., 4; J. Voice, 5; T. Chantler (conductor), 6. And by the same band, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob Minor, conducted by T. Chantler. On Sunday, January 10th, by the same band, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob Minor, conducted by T. Chantler. And for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Warnham Court Bob Minor, also conducted by T. Chantler. On Monday, January 11th, at St. Peter's, Brighton, by the Brighton branch, 120 of Stedman Doubles. H. Weston, 1; G. F. Attree, 2; C. Tyler, 3; J. Jay, 4; J. Searle, 5; A. Piper, 6. On Tuesday, January 12th, at St. Nicholas', Brighton, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. Jesse Neves (first 504), 1; J. Searle, 2; G. King, 3; H. Boniface, 4; C. Tyler, 5; G. F. Attree (conductor), 6; H. Weston, 7; James Neves, 8. And 120 of Stedman Doubles, with three covers. J. Searle, 1; G. King, 2; C. Tyler, 3; H. Weston, 4; G. F. Attree, 5; A. Piper, 6; W. Palmer, 7; H. Boniface, 8.

GEO. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

NEW YEAR'S EVE AT ST. ANDREW'S, BATH.—The members of St. Andrew's and Christ Church Company of Ringers met in St. Andrew's tower to ring out the old and ring in the new year. During a short interval previous to commencing ringing the Rev. S. Boyd read Tennyson's "Ring out wild bells," and between each verse the members rang a round upon the hand bells, finishing the last verse with a few changes, after which the Rev. S. Churchill gave an appropriate address to the ringers, pointing out the various lessons and duties to be learned from the bells, and after a short prayer and Benediction, a muffled peal was rung. At 11.15 a special service was held in the church, the hour of 12 being rung on the tenor bell. A hymn was sung and the new year rang in with a merry peal.

BALCOMBE, SUSSEX.

THE following is the ringing done here during the month of December. On Thursday, December 12th, 360 of Plain Bob. A. Stoner, 1; R. Bourn, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; J. Kenward, 4; H. Meads, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. And 720 in the same method. A. Stoner, 1; R. Bourn, 2; H. Meads, 3; J. Gasson, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. On Thursday, January 17th, a 720 of Plain Bob. A. Stoner, 1; R. Bourn, 2; H. Meads, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; J. Gasson, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. And 360 of Oxford Bob. A. Stoner, 1; J. Cheeseman, 2; J. Gasson, 3; R. Bourn, 4; E. Streeter, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. On Boxing-Day, a 720 of Plain Bob. H. Meads, 1; R. Bourn, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; J. Gasson, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Bob. A. Stoner, 1; J. Gasson, 2; F. Streeter, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; G. Illman, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob. J. Kenward, 1; E. Streeter, 2; F. Streeter, 3; H. Meads, 4; T. Leney (first attempt), 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. And 720 of Oxford Bob. R. Bourn, 1; H. Meads, 2; E. Streeter, 3; F. Streeter, 4; T. Leney, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. And a 720 of College Single. A. Stoner, 1; F. Streeter, 2; J. Gasson, 3; H. Meads, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Warnham Court Bob. R. Bourn, 1; F. Streeter, 2; H. Meads, 3; G. Illman, 4; J. Gasson, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Bob. Wm. Meads, 1; B. Paine, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; E. Streeter, 4; H. Meads, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. On Sunday, December 27th, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Plain Bob. A. Stoner, 1; R. Bourn, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; H. Meads, 4; E. Streeter, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. W. Meads hails from Cuckfield; T. Leney from Hurst Green; Rice, Illman, and the Brothers Streeter from Worth. * First attempt in the method.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROTHWELL BRANCH.

THE following is the ringing done by this branch at Holy Trinity church during the month of December: December 5th, 240 of City Delight, 240 of College Pleasure, 360 of New London Pleasure, 360 of Arnold's Victory, 360 of London Scholars' Pleasure; December 13th, 720 of College Pleasure, 360 of Arnold's Victory, 360 of City Delight; December 20th, 720 of London Scholars' Pleasure, 210 of Duke of York, 240 of Violet, 360 of City Delight, 360 of College Pleasure; December 22nd, 720 of Arnold's Victory, 720 of London Scholars' Pleasure; December 25th, 720 of College Pleasure, 360 of Violet, 360 of London Scholars' Pleasure, 360 of New London Pleasure; December 27th, 384 of Oxford Treble Bob, 96 of New London Pleasure, 360 of London Scholars' Pleasure, 360 of City Delight. The old year was rung out and the new one rung in with a 720 of College Pleasure and a 720 of Arnold's Victory. The following are the ringers: J. Verity, J. C. Abbishaw, A. Chapman, Wm. Abbishaw, S. Stacey, J. Chapman, J. M. Chadwick.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

THE Winter Quarterly Meeting of this Society was held on Saturday, January 9th, at Perry Barr, the following bands being represented: Darlaston, Lichfield Cathedral, Lichfield St. Mary, Perry Barr, Sedgley, Tamworth, Tettenhall, West Bromwich (All Saints), West Bromwich (Christ Church). A short service was held in the church at 3 p.m., after which the afternoon was spent in ringing. Tea was served in the Coffee House at 6 p.m., after which some returned to the tower and some remained for handbell ringing. In addressing the members after tea, the Vicar, the Rev. J. R. Keble, spoke of the great loss which the Society had lately sustained by the death of its Treasurer, the Rev. J. J. Serjeantson, Rector of St. Michael's, Lichfield, and the following resolution was unanimously passed at the Committee Meeting: "That the members of this Society desire to record their deep regret at the loss which the Society has sustained by the death of its late respected and esteemed Treasurer, the Rev. J. J. Serjeantson, and to express their sincere sympathy with his widow and family in their bereavement."

Mr. Serjeantson was one of the original members of the Society, and from the first acted as Hon. Treasurer, and took a great interest in all its work and progress. It is proposed to hold the next meeting at Tamworth, on May 1st.

WORTH, SUSSEX.

During the past year, 1885, the Worth Society has rung eighty-nine 720s of Minor, in the five following methods: twenty-seven of Plain Bob, twenty-five of Oxford Single Bob, seventeen of Warnham Court Bob, twelve of College Single, and eight of Canterbury Pleasure. This Society, which now consists of only eight in number, wish to return their most sincere thanks (through the medium of this paper), to their worthy rector, the Rev. G. W. Banks, who is at all times ready to grant them permission to ring.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 30th, 1885, being the wedding day of Mr. W. A. Ward, of Ufford, Suffolk, member of the above Association and the Ancient Society of College Youths, and also the worthy conductor of the local company, the rest of the members, including G. Burch, A. S. Barrell, W. P. Garrett, with G. Bailey, E. R. Todd, and E. Sherwood, attempted a seven-method peal, but after ringing three 720's of the following, it unfortunately came to grief: 720 Yorkshire Court Bob, Oxford Bob, and College Single Bob. But they met on the following Saturday and succeeded in ringing the peal, an account of which appeared in last week's issue. Ringing was continued throughout the day, after which the ringers were entertained at the schoolroom, and spent a most enjoyable evening. Several touches were rung on the handbells, including a course of Bob Major, Bob Royal, Grandsire Caters, and a course of Grandsire Cinques. G. Burch, 1-2; A. E. Acfield, 3-4; A. S. Barrell, 5-6; E. Sherwood, 7-8; W. P. Garrett, 9-10; A. Ward, 11-12.

BISHOPS WALTHAM, HANTS, 1885-6.

Stedman and Grandsire Doubles have been the order of the day and night at the above town this Christmas and New Year. On Christmas morning, at 6.0 and 10.30, good striking was prevalent, and on New Year's Eve this branch of the Winchester Diocesan Guild rang a half-muffled peal, and welcomed the new year afterwards with "firing" and two well-struck Grandsires, the bells being taken in the various peals by E. N. Garnett, sen., 1; E. N. Garnett, jun. (conductor), 2; M. C. Brock, 3 (and tenor in another peal); T. Shorney, 2; — Shorney, 4; W. Cook, — Hale, W. Savage, treble, &c., and — Whiteman, tenor, &c. The ringers partook of the usual one o'clock breakfast in the Rectory kitchen, where cake and coffee were discussed, as well as tobacco, and future handbell quartet fixtures for the current year. Mr. Chapman and G. Reeves, jun., from Upham (5-bell ringer), were the guests.

SUBSCRIPTION LIST FOR THE JOHNSON TESTIMONIAL.

Amount already announced	£	s.	d.
G. Smith, Perry Barr, Birmingham	16	1	0
W. Wakley, St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent		2	6
E. I. Stone,		5	0
A. Wakley,		2	0
H. Wakley,		2	0
J. Jagger,		2	0
S. Grettton,		2	0
J. Griffin,		2	0
J. Holden, Saddleworth		2	6
T. Blackburn, Salisbury		1	0
F. E. Dawe, London		5	0
R. Knill, St. James's Society, Bristol		2	6
M. C. Potter, Esq., Cambridge University		5	0
St. Mary's Society, Battersea, per H. S. Thomas		18	0

As the Committee have been requested to allow this Fund to remain open for a short time, they here beg to inform their friends and brother ringers that they have decided to do so, but that the List must be Closed on Saturday, the 30th inst. A. Thomas, Hon. Secretary, 83, Wheeley's Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham; or Mr. S. Reeves, Hon. Treasurer, 10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The February Meeting of the Yorkshire Association will be held at Rotherham, on Saturday 6th. The Rotherham branch will provide tea for all members who signify their intention of being present at the meeting, to Mr. John Hale, "Three Cranes" Inn, High Street, Rotherham, not later than February 1st. W. WHITAKER, Hon. Sec.

HENLOW, BEDFORDSHIRE.—A rather curious incident happened in the parish church on Christmas Day. The parishioners were assembled in the church for afternoon service, and the Vicar was about halfway through the prayers, when suddenly, much to the astonishment of everybody, one of the large bells in the tower began to ring out quite cheerily. Of course everyone was immediately on the alert, wondering what had happened. The Vicar quietly went on with the service, and one of the ringers went up into the tower to see what was the matter, thinking perhaps that one of his company had fallen asleep, and being left behind, and suddenly awaking, had thought it his duty to ring the bell. But when he came up he found nobody there; the bell was steadily pealing away, and no human hand was near it. If bells could think and reason, perhaps it might have thought it was doing its duty and helping to keep the Christmas festival. The Vicar, at the close of his sermon, told the people there was no one found in the belfry, and that the bell was ringing of itself. The fact was the bell had been left raised, the stay which supported it had given way, and the bell thus liberated had rung out of its own accord.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting of the Association will be held at Heywood, on Saturday, January 30th, 1886. The bells of St. Luke's church (eight), will be at the disposal of the members from 2.30 p.m. The business meeting will take place in the School-room connected with the church, under the presidency of the Rector, at 6 p.m. Friends of members will be welcome. Tea can be obtained at a reasonable rate at the Heywood Coffee Tavern.

A. E. HOLME, } Hon. Secs.
J. REDFORD, }

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THE NEXT DISTRICT MEETING will be held at Chichester, on Saturday, January 23rd. The Campanile will be open for ringing at eleven o'clock; luncheon at two; meeting at three; service in the Cathedral at four. G. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

THE WEST MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

MEETINGS ARRANGED.

ACTON.	ISLEWORTH.
Thursday, Jan. 21, 7.45 p.m.	Saturday, Jan. 23, 7.15 p.m.
" Feb. 4, "	" Feb. 13, "
" " 18, "	" " 20, "
" Mar. 4, "	" Mar. 6, "
" Apl. 29, "	" " 20, "
" May 6, "	" Apl. 3, "
" " 20, "	" " 17, "
" June 3, "	" May 1, "
" " 17, "	" " 15, "
" " 24, "	" " 29, "
	" June 19, "
	" " 26, "

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRANDESTON (Suffolk).—On Sunday, January 3rd, six members of the above Association rang a 720 each of Cambridge Surprise and Woodbine Treble Bob, and 240 of Morning Exercise. S. Meadows, 1; H. Baldry, 2; H. Beddingfield, 3; A. S. Wightman, 5; D. G. Wightman, 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. A. S. Wightman, 1; *George Wightman, 2; Will. Walpole, 3; D. G. Wightman, 4; H. Beddingfield, 5; S. Wightman, sen., 6. *First 720 in the method. During the past year this branch has rang ninety-one complete 720s in eleven different methods, as follows: thirty-five of Oxford Treble Bob, seven of Kent Treble Bob, five of Cambridge Surprise, four of Morning Exercise, three of New London Pleasure, one of Woodbine Treble Bob, twenty-three of Plain Bob, five of Oxford Single Bob, four of College Single, three of Double Court, and one of Court Single.

In Memoriam.

JAMES JORDAN SERJEANTSON, M.A.

WE regret to record the death of the Rev. James Jordan Serjeantson, M.A., rector of St. Michael's, Lichfield, who died on January 1st, 1886, in his 50th year. Mr. Serjeantson matriculated at Trinity College, Cambridge. He was ordained deacon in 1859, and priest in 1860, and was one of the curates of Stoke-upon-Trent from 1859 to 1868, when he was preferred to the living of St. Michael's, Lichfield, where he laboured until his death. During the eighteen years he was rector, he effected many improvements both in the church and churchyard. By his untimely decease, the Association for the Arch-enthusiastic supporter. The rev. gentleman was a good ringer, and deaconry of Stafford, has lost their Treasurer as well as a most was the first to introduce scientific change-ringing into Lichfield, before he took the subject in hand, very little of anything at all was known about method ringing in Lichfield. He set a good example by perfecting himself in five or six methods, and these too none of the easiest, as they included Stedman, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and College Exercise. He also took considerable interest in mechanics and other subjects, and was well versed in astronomy. Mr. Serjeantson was a very able and earnest pastor, and the regret for his decease is both sincere and widespread. He delivered an address to the members of the Stoke Archidiaconal Association, at their second annual meeting, which was printed and published by request, under the title of "Belfry Parables." The bells of the various churches in the city have since his death been rung muffled, as a mark of the respect in which he was held; and on the Tuesday evening after the interment were rung half-muffled.

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

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

All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher E. W. ALLEN, Ave Maria Lane, London.

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

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

B. T. C.—Where was the date touch rung?

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1886.

THE movement which had for its object the presentation of a testimonial to one of the most prominent members of the Exercise the present century has produced, has, apparently, not met with that amount of encouragement and support which the Testimonial Committee may reasonably have expected. The first intimation of the propriety of showing in some manner the estimation in which the abilities of Mr. HENRY JOHNSON was held by the Exercise, was made in a short article in this journal, which led to the idea being adopted by his local ringing brethren and townsmen, but we must confess to feeling some disappointment at the result of their appeal. Of course it would be quite improper for us to express an opinion how far a movement of this description should be supported, because those who are concerned are the best judges as to what extent they should assist or how far refrain from taking part in honoring worth among their fellows. Cynically-disposed people are to be found who carp and sneer at these things, but their jaundiced satire will never hinder such courtesies taking place. Surely when successful competitors in pursuits that are not to be named with ringing can receive the substantial gratifications of their colleagues, a similar recognition of the work of a life greatly spent in the elucidation of our science should not be considered by any means a novelty.

The announcement made in another column by the secretary to the Johnson Testimonial Fund has led us to call the attention of our readers to the question. It is well known that Mr. JOHNSON would refuse to accept any testimonial which took a pecuniary shape, so that it has been held that the most consistent mode of honoring the veteran is by means of a portrait, and we may be allowed to say that this manner of perpetuating his name and works is in full accord with our own ideas and has been so from the commencement.

A number of touches, correspondence, and other matter, is through want of space unavoidably left over til

our next issue. The compositions that have lately been sent for insertion will appear as soon as possible. We can only insert them when we have room for an entire page. To select one here and there would appear invidious, and by so doing we should provoke the wrath of many of our readers. We have again to complain that letters are continually being sent to our publisher. Our friends will see their reports much earlier if they send direct to our office. All correspondence should be written on one side of paper only. If these simple regulations are not attended to, then we must not be held to blame for any miscarriage.

PORTRAITS OF THE LATE MR. SNOWDON.

We are desired to state that a good number of these portraits are now ready, and may be had from Mr. R. Tuke, Manningham, Bradford; or Mr. W. Whitaker, Hilary Street, Leeds.

The Metropolis.

BETHNAL GREEN.—THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Saturday, January 9, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14 cwt.

M. A. WOOD Treble.	J. BARRY 5.
I. G. SHADE 2.	A. HAYWARD 6.
J. GOBBETT 3.	W. H. DORAN 7.
R. FRENCH 4.	J. H. MONDAY Tenor.

Conducted by R. FRENCH.

The Provinces.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.
 (DUFFIELD BRANCH).

Wedding Peal.

On Thursday, January 7, 1886, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
 IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 17 cwt.

GEORGE DAWSON Treble.	GEORGE HINGLEY 5.
SAMUEL JOHNSON 2.	WILLIAM HICKLING 6.
JOHN HOWE 3.	ROBERT JOHNSON 7.
HARRY C. WOODWARD .. 4.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS, and Conducted by
 A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, ESQ.

This peal has this 6th the extent and nine course-ends home, and was rung on the occasion of the marriage of H. G. Heathfield, Esq., with Miss H. Carr.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

Handbell Ringing.

On Friday, January 8, 1886, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE HOUSE OF MR JOHN CARTER, BRACEBRIDGE STREET,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;
 Tenor 14 size, in Eb.

GEORGE W. TOWNSEND* 1-2.	†BERNARD WITCHELL .. 5-6.
JOHN CARTER 3-4.	*JAMES PLANT 7-8.
*MARTIN MURPHY 9-10.	

Composed and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

Referees: Messrs. T. Russam and C. Stanbridge, who marked every call and course-end off as they were rung. Witnesses: W. Kent and J. Callaghan. This peal has the 6th twenty-four times each way in 5-6—twelve times alternately wrong and right—being the full extent in that position. * First peal on handbells. † First peal of Caters on handbells.

LEATHERHEAD, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, January 8, 1886, in Four Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 6048 CHANGES.

WILLIAM MESSAM* Treble.	JOSEPH HEWETT 6.
GEORGE SAYER* 2.	WILLIAM MARKS 7.
HENRY WOOD* 3.	*EDWARD HULL 8.
CHARLES WANT* 4.	STEPHEN BROOKER 9.
HENRY NEWMAN 5.	JOSEPH LISNEY Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by STEPHEN BROOKER.

This peal comprises the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th each twelve courses behind the 9th consecutively. Mr. Sayer hails from Ashted; the rest are members of the Leatherhead Society. * First peal of Caters.

MOORSIDE.

On Saturday, January 9, 1886, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

A. BUTTERWORTH Treble.	J. T. KERSHAW 5.
S. STOTT 2.	WM. SUTCLIFFE 6.
J. STREET 3.	T. BARRATT 7.
WM. MALLODEW 4.	L. HAMPSON Tenor.

Composed by JOHN ASPINWALL, of Liverpool, and Conducted by SAMUEL STOTT.

Messrs Kershaw and Stott hail from Glodwick; the rest are of the local company.

TYLEHURST, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD (READING BRANCH).

On Monday, January 11, 1886, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 19 cwt. in E.

MARTIN ROUTH, ESQ. .. Treble.	HENRY EGBY 5.
GEORGE GIBBARD 2.	REV. G. F. COLERIDGE .. 6.
WILLIAM J. WILLIAMS .. 3.	WILLIAM NEWELL 7.
THOMAS NEWMAN 4.	THOMAS HARVEY Tenor.

Conducted by MARTIN ROUTH, ESQ.

This is the first peal on the bells, to which two trebles were added in 1885.

OXFORD.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, January 12, 1886, in Three Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 42 cwt. in C.

HERBERT. J. CASTLE .. Treble.	WILLIAM FINCH 5.
FREDERICK A. CASTLE .. 2.	*THOMAS PAYNE 6.
SAMUEL HOUNSLOW 3.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 7.
CHARLES HOUNSLOW 4.	JOHN BAKER Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

J. Baker hails from Kidlington.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Tuesday, January 12, 1886, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH CATHEDRAL OF ST. ALBAN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 30 cwt. in Eb.

THOMAS GRANT* Treble.	GEORGE W. CARTMEL .. 3.
HENRY LEWIS 2.	ARTHUR GODMAN, SEN. .. 6.
ARTHUR GODMAN, JUN.† .. 3.	NEWMAN N. HILLS 7.
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 4.	WALTER BATTLE Tenor.

Conducted by NEWMAN NORWOOD HILLS.

The above was rung to celebrate the birthday of the conductor, it being the first peal he has called. All the above are residents of St. Albans, and there is no record of a peal having been rung in the town by a local band since March 4th, 1810, a period of nearly 76 years. * First peal. † First peal with a bob bell.

Date Touches.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

DUFFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, January 3rd, for Divine Service in the evening, the following members of the Duffield Society rang a date touch of Bob Major, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 7 mins. G. Dawson, 1; S. Johnson, 2; J. Howe, 3; A. Robinson, 4; G. Hagley, 5; W. Hickling, 6; R. Johnson, 7; A. Percival Heywood (composer and conductor), 8. This touch has 6, 8 together throughout, and the 4th and 7th respectively ten and seven times in 7th place. The number is got by the bells missing their dodge at the first lead end, the treble making seconds and going behind without leading, thus cutting out two changes.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRANDESTON (Suffolk).—On Saturday, January 9th, six members of the above Association, rang a date touch, 1886 changes, in the following methods: 720 each of Cambridge Surprise and Morning Exercise, 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, 36 of Plain Bob, and 50 of Grandsire Doubles, in 1 hr. 8 mins. William Walpole, 1; Henry Baldry, 2; Horace Bedingfield, 3; Alfred S. Wightman, 4; David G. Wightman, (conductor), 5; Stephen Wightman, 6. Tenor 9½ cwt.

CRETINGHAM (Suffolk).—On New Year's Eve, five members of this Association rang the old year out and the new year in with a date touch of 1886 changes of Plain and Old Doubles, in 1 hr. and 7 mins. S. Wightman, jun., 1; John Self, 2; G. Wightman, 3; D. G. Wightman (conductor), 4; S. Wightman, sen., 5. Tenor 11 cwt.

DEWSBURY (Yorkshire).—On Sunday evening, January 3rd, for Divine Service at All Saints' Church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 7 mins. T. Pickles, 1; J. Garforth, 2; J. Idle, 3; H. Robinson, 4; N. Hepworth, 5; G. H. Hardy (composer and conductor), 6; G. Taylor, 7; J. Buckley, 8. Tenor 14 cwt.

EASTBOURNE (Sussex).—On Friday, January 1st, at St. Mary's Church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 4 mins. F. Harding, 1; C. Harfeay, 2; H. P. Bennett (conductor), 3; L. Huggett, 4; T. Willoughby, 5; J. Potter, 6; T. Hart, 7; J. Rolison, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qrs.

OSSETT (Yorkshire).—On Sunday evening, January 3rd, for Divine Service, the members of the Holy Trinity Society rang a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1886 changes, in 1 hr. 14 mins. F. Schofield, 1; M. Garforth, 2; A. Spurr, 3; G. Crawshaw, 4; J. A. Idle, 5; W. Dixon, 6; W. Byram, 7; D. Stephenson (conductor), 8. Tenor 26½ cwt. Composed by John Thorp.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, January 5th, the members of the local company met at All Saints' church, and rang a date touch of 1886 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 18 mins. W. Cross, 1; M. Silvester, 2; G. Brown, 3; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 4; W. Bacon, 5; W. Howell, 6; A. Scott, 7; H. Harper, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, December 29th, at St. Mary's Parish Church, a date touch, 1885 changes, in the following methods, viz., 720 of Grandsire Minor, 720 of College Single Minor, and 445 of Plain Bob Minor, in 1 hr. 8 mins. J. Nightingale, 1; R. H. Barton, 2; W. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; K. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (composer and conductor), 6. This is the longest length that Messrs. Nightingale, Rushton, and Short have rung. Messrs. Barton, Short and Rushton, belong to Christ Church, Bootle, the rest to Walton. Tenor 9 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On Saturday, January 2nd, eight members of the above Society attempted a peal of Bob Major, which unfortunately came to grief after ringing 2 hrs. 30 mins. W. Allen, 1; J. R. Haworth, 2; N. N. Hills, 3; F. Furr, 4; H. Baker, 5; J. Pettit, 6; J. Hare, 7; F. G. Newman (conductor), 8. Previous to starting for the peal Messrs. Haworth, Pettit, and Newman were elected members of the Hertfordshire Association. Tenor 28 in D.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

LONDON.—On Sunday, January 10th, at the church of St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 44 mins. C. Beech, 1; J. Barry, 2; M. A. Wood (composer and conductor), 3; H. Langdon, 4; T. Dupen, 5; A. Hayward, 6; J. West, 7; J. Dupen, 8. Tenor 14 cwt.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Christmas Day, at St. Mary's Church, a 720 of Bob

Minor, eighteen bobs and two singles. F. Keech, 1; J. N. Frossell, 2; T. Foote, 3; W. Allan, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; I. Hills (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday, December 22nd, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with nine bobs. F. Keech, 1; I. Hills, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; J. Atkins, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; J. N. Frossell, 6. And on Thursday December 31st, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. Allan, 1; J. Atkins, 2; T. Foote, 3; I. Hills, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor, eighteen bobs and two singles. F. Keech, 1; T. Foote (conductor), 2; I. Hills, 3; J. Atkins, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; W. Allan, 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, nine bobs, 3rd the observation. W. Allan, 1; I. Hills, 2; T. Foote, 3; J. Atkins, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. *First 720 as conductor.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

HEXHAM ABBEY (Northumberland).—On Saturday, January 2nd, several ringers paid a visit to this now favourite resort, and attempted a three-part peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, but a miscall necessitated a stand, after two of the parts had been rung, in a little over two hours. R. Smith, 1; W. Reed, 2; J. Rossiter, 3; H. Ross, 4; R. S. Story, 5; R. W. Wignell, 6; J. Hern, 7; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 8. Tenor 21 cwt.

NORTH SHIELDS.—On New Year's Day, ten members of the above Association attempted a 5040 of Treble Bob Royal, at Christ Church, but owing to a change-course it came round at 1600, after ringing 1 hr. 6 mins. F. Lees, 1; G. J. Clarkson, 2; C. L. Routledge, 3; R. W. Wignell, 4; R. S. Story, 5; W. Story, 6; W. Reed (conductor), 7; H. Ross, 8; R. Smith, 9; J. Hern, 10. After partaking of a substantial tea at the house of Mr. Reed, they met to attempt the same again, but turned up one short, and the idea was abandoned for a peal of Major, an account of which will be found in its proper place. And on Sunday evening, January 2nd, a touch of 1024 Treble Bob Major, at the same church, in 41 mins. S. Knott, 1; Joel Hern, 2; J. Rossiter, 3; G. J. Clarkson, 4; R. W. Wignell, 5; H. Ross, 6; R. S. Story (conductor), 7; R. Smith, 8. Tenor 19 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

RAYLEIGH.—On Saturday evening, the Rayleigh branch of the above Association rang a 720 of College Single, in 27½ mins., being the first in this method known to have been rung upon the bells, and the first by any of the band, and was rung to celebrate the birthday of the conductor. A. Wallace, 1; F. Haslam, 2; J. Johnson, 3; H. Deal, 4; W. Judd, 5; Rev. H. A. Cockey (conductor), 6. Tenor 14½ cwt.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

HERTFORD.—On New Year's Eve, at All Saints' church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins. J. Jauncey, 1; W. A. Tyler (conductor), 2; J. Staples, 3; M. Ellsmore, 4; J. Cull, 5; S. Knight, 6; J. G. Crawley, 7; F. George, 8. Tenor 22 cwt. This quarter-peal was taken from the *Clavis*, and it will also be found in "Troyte."

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HITCHIN (Herts).—On New Years Eve, 224 and 336 Gradsire Triples. J. Randall, 1; H. Buckingham, 2; J. Hare, 3; F. Furr, 4; A. Squires, 5; S. Hare, 6; W. Allen (conductor), 7; J. Foster, 8. Also with the bells half-muffled, for the departure of the old year, 350 in the same method. J. Randall, 1; H. Buckingham, 2; F. Furr, 3; A. Squires, 4; J. Hare (conductor), 5; S. Hare, 6; W. Allen, 7; J. Foster, 8. And for the incoming year, with the bells open, several short touches, firing, and rounds, with W. Kitchener, 8, the rest as before. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ALDINGTON (Kent).—On Thursday, December 3rd, at St. Martin's Church, with the bells muffled at handstroke, as a mark of respect to Jasper W. Snowdon, Esq., a 720 of Bob Minor, with thirty singles. W. Post, jun., 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; F. Wanstall, 3; E. Hyder, 4; W. Hyder (conductor), 5; P. Hodgkin, 6. Also 720 of Oxford Treble Bob in 28½ mins., with twelve bobs. W. Post, jun., 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; F. Wanstall, 3; P. Hodgkin, 4; W. Hyder, 5; W. Post, sen., 6. And on Tuesday, December 15th, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with twelve bobs. W. Post, jun., 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; E. Hyder, 3; P. Hodgkin, 4; W. Hyder, 5; W. Post, sen., 6. And on Thursday, December 17th, 720 of Kent Treble Bob, with twelve bobs. W. Post, jun., 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; F. Wanstall, 3; P. Hodgkin, 4; W. Hyde, 5; W. Post, sen., 6.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND.—On Tuesday, December 22nd, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins. B. Spinner, 1; H. D. Davies, 2; F. Hayes, 3; J. W. Aitkin, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

THEALE (Berks).—On Saturday, January 9th, six members of the above Guild rung a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25 mins. T. Sweetzer (first 720), 1; H. White, 2; A. E. Reeves, 3; Arthur J. Wright, 4; T.

Hilbert, 5; G. Gibbard (conductor), 6. H. White, who is a member of the Winchester Diocesan Guild, hails from Basingstoke, the rest from Reading.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON.—On Thursday, December 31st, at 11.30, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins. W. Baddeley, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; G. Walker, 4; J. W. Brough, 5; J. Baddeley (conductor), 6. Also on Friday, January 1st, at 12.30, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins., standing as before with J. Wood at the fourth.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—On Friday, January 8th, at Christ Church, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. G. Welling, 1; E. Burtenshaw, 2; D. Burtenshaw, 3; R. Reynolds, 4; J. Fayers (conductor), 5; H. J. Schneider, 6. And 648 of Grandsire Minor. J. Fayers, 1; C. Burtenshaw, 2; D. Burtenshaw, 3; R. Reynolds, 4; H. J. Schneider, 5; G. Welling, 6. And a plain course of Grandsire Triples on the handbells. D. Burtenshaw, 1-2; H. J. Schneider, 3; G. Welling, 4; R. Reynolds, 5; E. Burtenshaw, 6; J. Fayers, 7-8. And on Sunday, January 10th, for Divine Service in the morning, 600 of Grandsire Minor. W. Gallagher, 1; E. Burtenshaw, 2; D. Burtenshaw, 3; R. Reynolds, 4; H. J. Schneider, 5; A. Nicholson (conductor), 6. And for Divine Service in the evening, two 120's of Bob Doubles. W. Gallagher, 1; E. Burtenshaw, 2; D. Burtenshaw, 3; R. Reynolds, 4; F. J. Schneider (conductor), 5; C. Schneider, 6. And a 600 of Grandsire Minor. W. Gallagher, 1; E. Burtenshaw, 2; D. Burtenshaw, 3; R. Reynolds, 4; H. J. Schneider, 5; A. Nicholson (conductor), 6. Messrs. J. Fayers and G. Welling belong to SS. Peter and Paul, Mitcham; the rest are members of the Christ Church society. This is the first 720 of Bob Minor by all except J. Fayers and G. Welling.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CRAWLEY (Sussex).—On Tuesday, January 5th, for practice, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. *W. Parsons, 1; J. Newnham, 2; W. Collison, 3; *B. King, 4; A. F. Hillier, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. *First 720.

BRISTOL.—*Muffled Peal*.—On Sunday, January 3rd, at St. Thomas's church, a touch of Grandsire Triples. H. Schusler, 1; C. Waters, 2; J. Davis, 3; — Parish, 4; R. Knill, 5; T. Salter, 6; J. Hinton (conductor), 7; T. Colston, 8. And at Christ Church, a touch of Grandsire Caters. A. York, 1; E. Duckham, 2; J. York, 3; A. Anderson (conductor), 4; J. Hinton (conductor), 5; H. Porch, 6; W. Parson, 7; E. Beake, 8; W. Emery, 9; G. Daltry, 10. The above was rung on the third anniversary of the death of the late W. Dowling. And on Tuesday, January 5th, at Christ Church, a touch of Grandsire Triples. G. Daltry, 1; E. Duckham, 2; J. Hinton (conductor), 3; H. Porch, 4; F. Price, 5; E. Beake, 6; W. Emery, 7; J. Palser, 8. This was rung as a tribute of respect to the late G. Hunt, who was interred that day. The bells of Temple parish church were also rung upon that day, the deceased being for many years steeple-keeper.

BLVTH (Notts).—On Saturday, January 2nd, ringers from Tickhill, Worksop, and Anston, visited this place, and rang 720 of Primrose, and 720 of Oxford, also several touches of Violet and London Pleasure. The ringers who took part were F. Jenkinson, J. S. Jenkinson, C. Ainley, G. Gleadall, and T. Manerfield, who hail from Tickhill; F. Mackie and H. Watkinson, from Worksop; T. Silvester and G. Lidster, from Anston. The bells have recently been rehung and these are the first 720's.

COLN ST. ALDWYNS (Gloucestershire).—On Friday, January 1st, the local company started for a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1885 changes, but after ringing 1554 changes in 55 mins, it came to grief. W. Fowls, 1; E. Webb, 2; J. Williams, 3; R. Jefferies, 4; A. Tennent, 5; R. Backer, 6; J. Kitchener (conductor), 7; W. Kibble, 8. And on Monday evening, January 4th, the same company excepting A. Tennent, rang 954 of Grandsire Triples, C. Bate ringing the fifth, and conducted by J. Kitchener.

DARLEY DALE (Derbyshire).—Recently, at the parish church, by the local company, 1885 changes of Grandsire Doubles, in 1 hr. and 2 mins. S. Groom, 1; W. Taylor, 2; C. Whymark, 3; J. Derbyshire, 4; E. Hallows (conductor), 5; T. Gill, 6. Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

EARLS BARTON (Northamptonshire).—On Monday, December 28th, five of the St. Peter's local company, Raunds, with J. Houghton, of Irthlingborough, paid a visit to the above place, and after obtaining permission of the Rev. R. Cobbold, and the churchwardens, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), was rung, in 26½ mins. G. Kirk, 1; J. Houghton, 2; F. Gilbert, 3; W. Hall, 4; J. Stubbs, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. Tenor about 12 cwt. This is believed to be the first 720 on the bells, which have lately been rehung by Messrs. J. W. Taylor and Co. of Loughborough.

EASTHAM (Lancashire).—On Christmas Eve, at the parish church, two 720s of Grandsire Minor, one with thirty-four bobs and two singles, the other with thirty bobs and thirtysingles, in 52 mins. J. Hughes (conductor), 1; C. Baxter, 2; W. Smith, 3; J. Parr, 4; J. Woodward, 5; J. Rowlands, 6. And on New Year's Eve, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles. J. Haspray (blind) conductor, 1; C. Baxter, 2; W. Smith, 3; J. Parr, 4; J. Rowlands, 5; J. Hughes, 6. Also a 360 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Haspray (conductor), 1; C. Baxter, 2; W. Smith, 3; J. Hughes, 4; J. Woodward, 5; J. Rowlands, 6.

EVERTON (Notts).—On Saturday evening, January 2nd, six members of the local company rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. James Holgate, 1; Charles Linley, 2; George Pearson, 3; John Swindin, 4; Frd. Durdy, 5; Geo. Brown (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by the above company. And another 720 in the same method was rung for Divine Service, on Sunday, January 10th. T. S. Philips, 1; C. Linley, 2; J. Holgate, 3; J. Swindin, 4; G. Stevenson, 5; G. Brown (conductor), 6.

GRAVESEND (Kent).—On Sunday, January 3rd, at St. George's, a 1316 of Grandsire Triples. W. Royston, 1; J. W. Aitkin, 2; H. D. Davis, 3; G. Hayes, 4; B. Spinner, 5; J. Martin, 6; W. Harper (conductor), 7; G. West, 8.

HIGHER WALTON (Lancashire).—*Muffled Peals.*—On Friday and Saturday evenings, December 19th and 20th, at All Saints' church, muffled touches were rung in memory of Ed. Rodgett, Esq., of Darner Bank, who died on Friday, December 19th, the donor of the bells of All Saints' church. And on Sunday, December 21st, for morning service, 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. For afternoon service a 720 of College Single, in 28 mins. On Monday, December 22nd, a 720 of Oxford Bob, in 28 mins. And on Tuesday, December 23rd, a 720 of College Single, in 28 mins. On Wednesday morning, December 24th, during the funeral, the usual whole pull and stand was performed with due solemnity, and immediately after the burial, 360 of Plain Bob Minor, with the bells half-muffled. And on Saturday, December 27th, with the bells half muffled, a touch of 1920 changes, in 1 hr. 15½ mins., being a 480 of Plain Bob, 720 of College Single, and 720 of Bob Minor, in memory of his burial, it being the 23rd day of the 12th month of the year 1885. Geo. Thornley (conductor), 1; James Harwood, 2; Hy. Hunt, 3; Hy. Brewer, 4; John Eccles, 5; Jos. Mather, 6. Tenor 16 cwt, 3 qrs. 26 lbs. The above touch was attempted on Wednesday evening (the day of the burial) but the 5th rope broke after ringing 500 changes.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, January 10th, at St. Mary's Church, a 720 of Treble Bob Minor in 25 mins. J. Waghorn, jun., 1; J. Waghorn, sen., 2; *G. B. Lucas (conductor), 3; G. Griffin, 4; H. A. Barnett, 5; A. Jacob, 6. *First 720 as conductor. Also a touch of Bob Minor. J. Ward, 1; G. Thurow, 2; J. Waghorn, sen., 3; J. Waghorn, jun., 4; H. A. Barnett, 5; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 6. And a 120 of Stedman Doubles. G. B. Lucas, 1; J. Waghorn, sen., 2; G. Griffin, 3; J. Waghorn, jun., 4; A. Jacob (conductor), 5; E. King, 6. And another 120 of Stedman, G. Griffin taking the treble, and H. A. Barnett the fifth; conducted by J. Waghorn, jun.

HULME.—On Monday, January 4th, at St. Philip's Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. E. Ettock, 1; J. O'Brien, 2; J. F. Woods, 3; *J. Heald, 4; H. Wood, 5; T. Heald (conductor), 6. *First 720 with a bob bell.

LEEDS (Yorkshire).—On Sunday evening, January 3rd, for Divine Service, at St. Peter's church, 396 of Stedman Cinques. Henry Hubbard, 1; Tom Lockwood (conductor), 2; James Lockwood, 3; W. Pawson, 4; Harry Lockwood, 5; Peter Snowden, 6; William Walker, 7; Joshua Woodhead, 8; Joseph Hutchinson, 9; Thomas West, 10; Robert Binns, 11; George Fothergill, 12. Tenor 36 cwt. in C.

LEISTON (Norfolk).—On Saturday, January 9th, at St. Margaret's Church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. *J. Flegg, 1; *H. Button, 2; T. Staulkey, 3; *R. Stannard, 4; †W. Button (conductor), 5; *J. Button, 6. Tenor 20 cwt. *First 720; †first 720 as conductor.

RAUNDS (Northamptonshire).—On Friday, December 25th, at St. Peter's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). A. Coles, 1; H. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendered, 3; F. Gilbert, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. And on Tuesday, December 29th, a 720 of Double Court Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Willmott, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; W. J. Gilbert, 3; H. Stubbs, 4; J. Houghton, 5; J. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). A. Coles, 1; J. Stubbs, 2; R. Pendered, 3; F. Gilbert, 4; C. W. Clarke, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). H. Stubbs, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; W. Hall, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; J. Stubbs, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, December 31st, the old year was rung out in the usual way with the bells muffled, when a 360 of Plain Bob Minor was rung (nine bobs). A. Coles, 1; J. Willmott, 2; R. Pendered, 3; G. Kirk, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. The new year was rung in with a 720 of Court Single (eighteen bobs

and two singles). A. Coles, 1; W. Hall, 2; R. Pendered, 3; J. Willmott, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. And on Saturday, January 2nd, a 720 of Double Court Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Coles, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; H. Stubbs, 4; W. Hall, 5; F. Gilbert (conductor), 6. J. Houghton hails from Irthlingborough; C. W. Clarke from Bedford.

RINGSTEAD (Northants).—On Monday, December 28th, 720 of Yorkshire Court Bob Minor, eighteen bobs and two singles. G. Roberts, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; E. Mayes, 3; J. Sawford, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; T. Roberts, 6. Also a 720 of London Single, with eighteen bobs and two singles. F. Chapman, 1; T. Roberts, 2; F. Arnold, 3; E. Mayes, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; *C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method as conductor. C. W. Clarke hails from Bedford, W. J. Gilbert from Raunds, F. Arnold from Denford, the rest belong to Ringstead.

RIPON (Yorkshire).—On New Year's Eve, the local company of the cathedral of this city rang a muffled touch of 480 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major, with twelve sixth's place bobs and three ordinary ones, in 21 mins., between 11.30 p.m. and midnight; when the clock struck twelve, the same touch was repeated with the bells open, which ushered in the New Year with joyful effect. A. H. Clark, 1; J. Baines, 2; J. Strodder, jun., 3; J. Strodder, sen., 4; A. Ingleby, 5; T. Metcalf, 6; T. Clark (conductor), 7; H. Rumbold, 8. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

SADDLEWORTH (Lancashire).—On Sunday, January 3rd, for afternoon service at St. Chad's Church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins., to oblige one of the senior ringers who had not been in the tower for over two years. J. Holden (conductor), 1; J. Radcliffe, 2; J. Wrigley, 3; Jas. Radcliffe, 4; J. H. Shaw, 5; J. Buckley, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

SYSTON (Leicestershire).—On Tuesday, December 15th, the following members of the parish company rang a 720 of Bob Minor, eighteen bobs and two singles. J. Freeman, 1; G. Freeman, 2; G. Walton, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. North, 5; Rev. W. Pearson (conductor), 6. And on Friday, January 1st, the same company rang in the new year with a 720 of Bob Minor, nine bobs and six singles. Also on Saturday, January 2nd, 720 of Bob Minor, twenty-one bobs and twelve singles, in 26½ mins. J. Freeman, 1; J. North, 2; G. Walton, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Pickard, 5; Rev. W. Pearson (conductor), 6. Tenor 15½ cwt. in F. This is the last peal on the bells as a ring of six, as two trebles are about to be added to complete the octave. The work is being carried out by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, and the opening day is fixed for the 21st of January.

WALPOLE (Norfolk).—On Christmas Eve, for practice, at St. Peter's church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. R. Giddens, 1; H. Allen, 2; H. Hill (conductor), 3; R. Grimes, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; W. Wright, 6. Tenor 14½ cwt.

WALSOKEN (Norfolk).—On Thursday, December 17th, the Walpole company visited this place and rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 30 mins. J. Hendry, 1; R. Grimes, 2; H. Hill (conductor), 3; H. Allen, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; W. Wright, 6. Tenor 19½ cwt.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Christmas Day afternoon at St. Mary's parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor in 26½ mins. J. Nightingale, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; W. Short, 3; R. H. Barton, 4; R. Stockley, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. And on Saturday, December 26th, 1440 changes, in two methods, viz., 720 of Grandsire Minor, and 720 of College Single Minor, in 50 mins. J. Nightingale, 1; C. J. Rodgers, 2; W. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; R. H. Barton, 5; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday morning, December 27th, for Divine Service, a 120 of Grandsire Doubles. J. Nightingale, 1; T. R. Somerville, 2; C. J. Rodgers, 3; R. Stockley, 4; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 5. And on Sunday morning, January 3rd, for Divine Service, 240 of Plain Bob, and 240 of Grandsire Minor. J. Nightingale, 1; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 2; T. R. Somerville, 3; T. Rushton, 4; C. J. Rodgers, 5; R. Stockley, 6. Tenor 9 cwt. Messrs. Short, Barton, and W. Rushton, hail from Bootle.

WEST HAM (Essex).—*Chiming.*—On Sunday morning, January 10th, for Divine Service, 223 of Grandsire Triples. G. Pearl, 1-2; A. J. Perkins, 3-4-5-6; H. Randall, 7-8. Also in the afternoon, four members of the Cumberland Youths attempted a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples double-handed, when after ringing 1000 changes, the clapper flew out of the second bell. G. Pearl, 1-2; J. Gobbett, 3-4; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 5-6; W. Doran, 7-8.

WIMBLEDON (Surrey).—On Sunday morning, December 20th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. C. Hyde, 1; R. Moss, 2; G. Hyde, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garratt, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. Also on Christmas morning for Divine Service a 720 of Cambridge Surprise in 26½ mins. And on Sunday morning, January 3rd, for Divine Service, a 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob in 26 mins., standing as before.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. W. D. Smith has removed to 44, Spurstowe Road, Amhurst Road, Hackney.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting of members of the above Association was held in Nottingham, on Saturday, 9th inst., the occasion being signalled by the opening of the belfry of the Parish Church to the members of the Association. The bells of All Saints' and St. Peter's churches have always been very generously placed at the disposal of the Committee whenever a meeting of the Association has been held at Nottingham; but the privilege of handling the fine peal of ten bells at the mother church has been reserved hitherto, owing to old standing difficulties of a local character. On this occasion, however, mainly through the exertions of the Rev. W. W. C. Baker, and the kindness of Mr. Lee, the bells of the parish church were open between the hours of three and five o'clock, and Touches of Grandsire Caters and Treble Bob Royal were brought round in capital style, recalling the traditions of nearly 100 years ago, when the ringers of Nottingham, under the leadership of Mr. W. Doubleday Crofts, made their names and their town famous.

A meeting of the Committee, at which the Rev. James H. Fish, Vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, presided, was held at four o'clock in the Parish Room belonging to All Saints' Church, the President being supported by Messrs. Griffin and W. Wakley, of Burton-on-Trent, the Hon. Treasurer and Secretary respectively, and the following representatives from the four districts forming the Association, viz.: Derby and District, Messrs. Heywood, Woodward, and Ward; Nottingham and District, Messrs. Archer, Hanson, and Hickman; Leicester and District, Messrs. J. W. Taylor, jun., and W. P. Cooper; and Burton-on-Trent and District, Messrs. Jaggard and A. Wakley.

The General Meeting was held in the Arboretum Refreshment Room, at six o'clock, whither the members had adjourned an hour previously for a meat tea, the arrangements for which had been admirably made under the direction of the Hon. Sec. for the Nottingham District. The President, in his opening address, made feeling allusion to the great loss the Association, as well as the Exercise at large, had sustained through the death of Mr. Jasper W. Snowdon, which had taken place since their last meeting, Mr. Snowdon having been one of the original members of the Association, and one of its chief and best supporters. In reviewing the performances of the past quarter, he stated that 24 peals had been rung in 8 different methods, and Mr. A. Percival Heywood subsequently alluded in complimentary terms to a remarkable series of performances appearing in that day's "BELL NEWS," which were destined to take a high place in the history of the Superlative Surprise method, viz.: the achievement of three peals in this method, in three consecutive days, by members of the Burton-on-Trent branch.

Two honorary and sixteen regular members were admitted, and, on the motion of Mr. A. B. Ward, seconded by Mr. H. C. Woodward, Messrs. Dawson and Mackery, of Derby, were appointed to audit the Hon. Treasurer's accounts. The Annual Meeting was fixed to be held in Derby, on Easter Monday, April 26th, an amendment, proposed by Mr. Griffin, and seconded by Mr. Ward, to the effect that the meeting should be held at Burton-on-Trent, being lost by a large majority.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicars and Churchwardens of the Nottingham Churches, for the use of their bells, was proposed by Mr. Heywood, and acknowledged by the Rev. G. Edgecombe, Rector of St. Peter's, who spoke in eulogistic terms of the good influence exerted by the Association upon the ringers of his own church.

The President (the Rev. James Fish) gave notice of his intention to resign his position as President of the Association, at Easter next, a post which he would then have held for a term of three years; and reminded the meeting of the Rule that nominations for any of the offices of the Association, as well as notices of alteration or additions to the rules, must be given in writing to the Hon. Secretary one month previous to the Annual meeting.

The ringing during the afternoon and evening, at All Saints' and St. Peter's churches, was mainly made up of touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples and Kent Treble Bob Major. At All Saints', where the bells are a particularly musical peal, and pleasantly heard in the ringing chamber, a touch of Superlative Surprise Major was brought round, with Mr. W. Wakley as conductor.

MR. DAIN'S PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE.—The reporter of my three-part peal of Superlative Surprise Major, in your issue of the 2nd inst. was not probably aware of its capable variations, and in order to properly illustrate this, I give the peal in a varied form, and would point out that the bob at wrong in sixth course may be omitted.

H. DAIN'S.

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

Twice repeated.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting was held at Mitcham, on Monday, January 11th, the tower of the parish church of SS. Peter and Paul being open for ringing, and also that of Christ Church. The meeting was well attended, ringers being present from Ashted, Beddington, Croydon, Epsom, Kingston, Leatherhead, London, Mitcham (two churches), Streatham, Sutton, Thames Ditton, and Wimbledon. During the afternoon, at the parish church, besides shorter touches, a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by G. Naish, 1; C. Slade, 2; J. Parslow, 3; A. Brockwell, 4; G. Gray, 5; A. Bruce, 6; J. Wright (conductor), 7; E. Milton, 8. While at Christ Church 360 of Plain Bob Minor, and 360 of Grandsire Minor were performed, and also a 720 of Treble Bob Minor, by the following: J. Hawkins, 1; T. Miles, 2; J. Strutt, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garrott, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6. Tea was served at six o'clock, at the "Bull" Inn, where Mr. Tribe gave us an excellent spread. He deserves great praise for the manner in which he provided for all; seeing that although only 40 names were sent in, there were exactly 50 who sat down to tea. After tea the usual business meeting took place, E. F. Cole, Esq., in the chair. At this meeting 12 new ringing members were elected, and three new honorary members.

After the meeting was over, another visit was paid to the bells. At the parish church a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, and some Grandsire Triples were rung; and at Christ Church 360 of Cambridge Surprise Minor, by the following: G. Bide, 1; J. Strutt, 2; C. Bide, 3; J. Parker, 4; A. Garrott, 5; S. Frost (conductor), 6.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.

TICHMARSH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

ON Saturday, December 26th, 1885, a band of ringers from Raunds and Ringstead, in company with C. W. Clark, of Bedford, and J. Houghton, of Irthlingborough, paid a visit to the church of St. Mary, at this village. Seven of the Raunds company, with the assistance of C. W. Clarke, made an attempt at a peal of Plain Bob Triples, but after ringing 2772 changes, in 1 hr. 58 mins. it was brought to grief by the stupidity of the conductor in making a miscall. G. Kirk, 1; W. J. Gilbert, 2; J. Stubbs, 3; W. Hall, 4; H. Stubbs, 5; C. W. Clarke, 6; F. Gilbert (composer and conductor), 7; F. Slade, 8. After this, all the ringers were invited to a substantial dinner provided by Mr. G. Eaton, Bell Hanger, of Tichmarsh, at the "Dog and Partridge Inn." After doing justice to this excellent meal, a band set off to the tower again, and succeeded in ringing a quarter-peal of Plain Bob Triples, in 48 mins. J. Houghton, 1; W. Hall, 2; R. Pendered, 3; H. Stubbs, 4; W. J. Gilbert, 5; J. Stubbs, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; F. Gilbert, 8. This was composed by the late H. Hubbard, and contains eighteen 4-6's, six 7-4's, six 6-7's, and was the first quarter-peal in this method by all the above. A 336 of Bob Major was then rung. G. Kirk, 1; W. Hall, 2; R. Pendered, 3; W. J. Gilbert, 4; J. Stubbs, 5; C. W. Clarke, 6; F. Gilbert, 7; H. Stubbs (conductor), 8. Then followed a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, on the back six, with thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles. G. Jeffs, 1; R. Pendered, 2; W. Hall, 3; J. Sawford, 4; E. Mayes, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. The ringers wish to express their best thanks to the rector, the Rev. F. M. Stopford, for the use of the bells on that day, and to Mr. G. Eaton for his hospitality on the occasion. Two treble bells, the first 6 cwt. and the second 7 cwt., have just been added to the peal of six in this tower by the Rev. F. M. Stopford, the rector, in memory of the late Mrs. Florence Augusta Stopford. The bells were cast by the well-known firm of Taylor and Son, Loughborough, and the hanging has been very ably done. The memorial includes a clock for the tower, and Westminster chimes, which are to be fixed during the present month, by Messrs. Smith, of Derby.

SUDBURY, SUFFOLK.

ON New Year's Eve the members of the local company were invited to a supper at the "Anchor Hotel," given by a lady friend of Mr. B. Ransom, an hon. member of the company. A capital spread was put on the table by Host Nicholls, to which ample justice was done. The cloth being removed the handbells were brought into use, and a course of Treble Bob Major was rung by J. Campin, 1-2; C. Sillitoe, 3-4; W. Howell, 5-6; A. Scott, 7-8. Also a course of Grandsire Cinques. B. Ransom, Esq., 1-2; A. Scott, 3-4; C. Sillitoe, 5-6; F. Tolliday, 7; W. Griggs, 8; W. Howell, 9-10; J. Campin, 11-12. And a course of Stedman Triples, and a touch of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major. The company were visited during the evening by Dr. W. J. Mason, and G. L. Andrews, Esq. Songs were sung by Messrs. H. Harper and F. Tolliday, and a very pleasant evening was spent by all, the company breaking up about 11.30, when an adjournment was made to St. Gregory's church, where the old year was rung out and the new one in, with a 504 of Grandsire Triples. F. Tolliday, 1; W. Griggs, 2; J. Campin, 3; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 4; H. Harper, 5; A. Scott, 6; W. Howell, 7; H. Brackett, 8.

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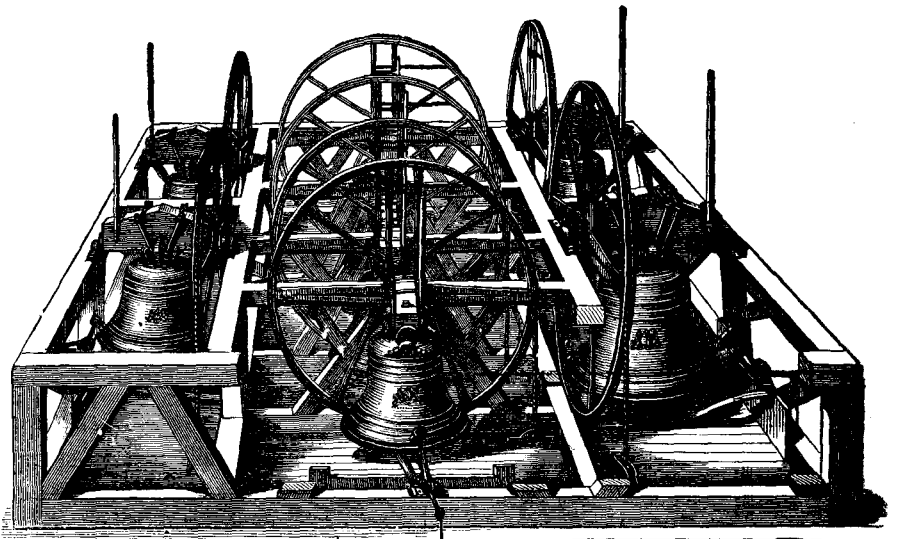
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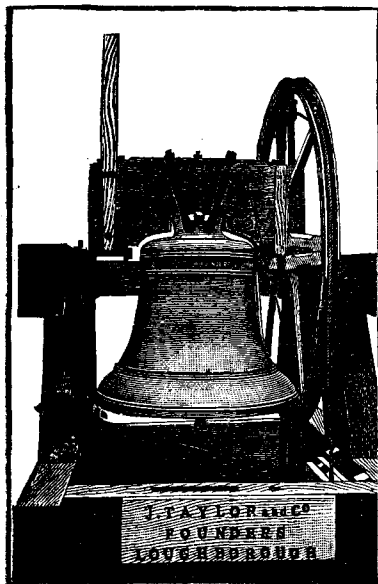
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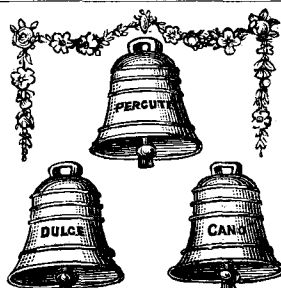
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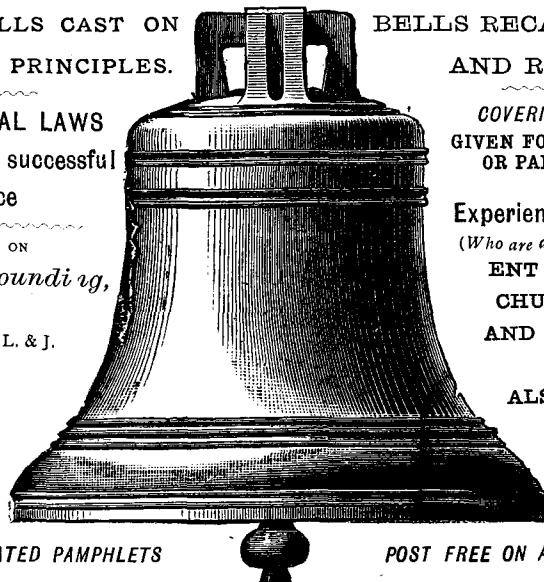
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