

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 236. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. V.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1886.

[ONE PENNY.]

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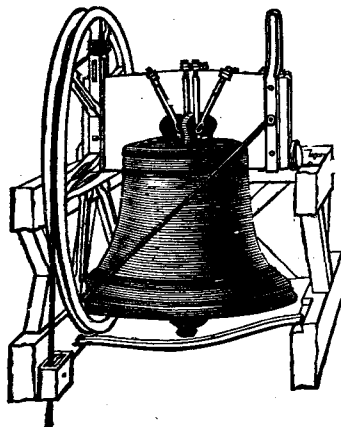
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THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—DISTRICT MEETING AT BRAINTREE.

The above Association held its first District Meeting for the year at Braintree on Saturday, when members put in an appearance from Belchamp Walter, Bocking, Boreham, Chelmsford, Coggeshall, Galleywood, Harwich, Kelvedon, Maldon, Rayne, Romford, Stebbing, Stisted, Widford, Witham, Writtle, &c. The announcement that three other towers would be open in the neighbourhood, combined with the fact that the talent of the local band, as proved to ocular demonstration, would afford an opportunity, to those who do not consider their standard of proficiency too high for six bell performances—to take part in something unique ought to have proved sufficient inducement to have secured a larger attendance than forty, whereas by reference to the above list of towers represented it will be seen that one half the county supplied one solitary representative. Unfortunately, owing to a funeral at Stisted and a case of serious illness near the Church at Bocking, neither of those towers could be open, and the ringing was confined to Braintree tower. Here it was commenced shortly after 11 o'clock by a capital struck 720 Cambridge Surprise by the following: C. Howard, 1; F. Bumpsted, 2; S. Hammond, 3; H. E. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; A. Hucksion, 6. By adopting short touches in Plain, Oxford, and Kent Treble, Double Court, and other popular methods there was an opportunity afforded for all to have a turn. The use of the National Schoolroom was kindly granted for hand-bell ringing; in addition to a charming selection of national airs, the methods rang double-handed, chiefly by the local band, were Grandsire Caters, Triples, and Minor; Kent, and Oxford Treble Bob, and Bob Major, and Bob Triples. A committee meeting was held in the afternoon for the purpose of arranging what amount should be paid to instructors. After some discussion it was decided by a majority of three that instructors should receive 2s. 6d. for each lesson of an hour and a half, with travelling expenses; one half of the whole amount to be paid by the band having the services of the instructor, and the other half from the funds of the Association. At 5 o'clock the members sat down to a capital knife and fork tea, the Vicar presiding, supported on the right by the Hon. Sec. the Rev. T. L. Papillon, and on the left by the Rev. J. B. Seaman, the founder of the Association. At the business meeting which followed the Rev. H. A. Cockey was elected a life member, five new honorary members, eleven ringing members (including two confirmations of provisional elections) and ten probationers were elected. Specimen copies of the new certificate in different tints were exhibited in the room, and after various expressions of opinion upon the choice of such, it was decided to leave the selection in the hands of the Honorary Secretary. Mr. B. Keeble said he had no doubt but what those who kept themselves acquainted with ringing matters by reading the columns of "THE BELL NEWS" would remember that some little time back a paragraph appeared in that journal stating, that under the will of the late Rev. C. Belli, the proposed tower at Brentwood, was to be erected; he was happy to say that the tower was in course of erection, and that when completed a ring of bells was promised for it. Brentwood happened to be not far from London, and when a new ring of bells was put up or one re-opened after augmentation, it was the custom for a band of one of the Metropolitan Societies to come down and open or re-open as the case might be. These were duties which he considered should be entrusted to the Association, for he had not the slightest doubt but what there were those who were members of the Association that were capable of undertaking such. He did not bring forward the resolution he was about to move because he happened to reside near Brentwood, but simply in the interest of the Association. For his own part although invited to join the Metropolitan Societies he was not a member of either, and for reasons best known to himself did not intend to join either, but he had just as much respect for one as he had for the other, but the practice of their coming into the county to open peals after the Association had existed six years and had nearly three hundred members was, he considered, a monopoly that ought to be broken. He therefore would move "That the Honorary Secretary be requested to apply to the authorities at Brentwood, for permission for a band of the Association to open, when ready, the new peal of bells, the selection of the band to be left in the hands of the Honorary Secretary." The Rev. J. B. Seaman having seconded, Mr. S. Hammond, in supporting the same said, although a College Youth himself he considered there were in the county as good ringers for such a purpose as there were in London, and expressed a hope that the authorities at Brentwood, would comply with the desire of the Association. The resolution was unanimously carried. Attention having been called to the charges made, and the style of workmanship adopted in entering peals in the peal book, the Honorary Secretary undertook to ascertain the charges made to other Societies and, if necessary, to call the artists attention to the same. Votes of thanks to the Vicar and Churchwardens, and to those who had kindly assisted in making the meeting a success, were passed.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK.

On Friday, September 24th, the above town was visited by the Sudbury society, for the purpose of having a pull on the fine peal of bells in the Norman tower of St. James' Church, which the authorities had kindly placed at their disposal. Some of the company arrived in the afternoon, where they were kindly met by Mr. A. Osborne, who conducted them to the tower, where not having sufficient for a pull, they had a good look round the tower, and inspected the bells, and had some chiming on Ellacombe's chiming apparatus, some of the company never having seen one before. On the arrival of the rest of the company, who were accompanied by Dr. W. T. Mason, who came on purpose to hear the bells, a move was made to the tower, where after the evening service, a touch of 630 Grandsire Triples was rung on the back eight by A. Osborne, 1; M. Silvester, 2; G. Brown, 3; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 4; W. Howell, 5; H. Harper, 6; A. Scott, 7; J. Moore, 8. Also a touch of Kent Treble Bob Major by A. Osborne, 1; M. Silvester, 2; G. Brown, 3; W. Cross, 4; W. Howell, 5; H. Harper, 6; A. Scott, 7; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 8. And a touch of Grandsire Caters by A. Osborne, 1; C. Sillitoe, 2; A. Scott, 3; M. Silvester, 4; G. Brown, 5; W. Cross, 6; W. Howell, 7; H. Harper, 8; J. Moore, 9; W. Melton, 10. This was the first course of Caters by Messrs. Scott, Silvester, Brown, Cross, and Howell. Tenor 30 cwt. This concluded the ringing, and as time was getting short, a move was made to the station, where all arrived safely, reaching home again at 11.5 p.m., all having enjoyed themselves. The company through the medium of this paper beg to thank Mr. A. Osborne and the rest of the Bury ringers for kindly meeting them and getting permission to ring.

P.S.—The party was accompanied by Mr. Charles Herbert, the Hon. Sec. of the Bedfordshire Association.

VISIT TO WOLLASTON AND STOURBRIDGE.

On Saturday last, September 25th, the members of St. Thomas's, Dudley, and St. Andrew's, Netherton, societies, paid a visit to their ringing brethren at the above places. Arriving at Wollaston where there is a nice peal of six, the bells were raised, and several six-scores of Grandsire were rang, and several touches of Plain Bob, and a 360 of Grandsire Minor. After a stay of about two hours here, a move was made towards Stourbridge, accompanied by their Wollaston brethren, and were met by the company. Ascending the tower, which is a very roomy one, and which of late has been made brighter in its aspect by the walls being painted and coloured. The bells also are in a better ringing condition than they were some three years ago when last visited. Here also is a young band of ringers starting, and who are anxious of learning the art of change-ringing, and we hope that our visit will not be in vain, but that those who are not members of the above Association will become so, that they may receive the necessary instruction which they require. After ringing some touches of Grandsire Triples, and a touch of Grandsire Major, the bells were lowered, and the different societies adjourned to the "Crispin Inn," where the inner man was refreshed, and the evening spent in songs, etc., every one expressing themselves highly pleased with the afternoon and evening's enjoyment. On the Sunday following, a visit was made by some members of the two societies to St. Mary's, Kingswinford, where several touches of Kent Treble Bob, Plain Bob, and a 720 of Grandsire Minor. The ringers in the 720 were; E. Bourne (Kingswinford), 1; J. Smith (Netherton), 2; J. Guest (Brierley Hill), 3; J. Hillman (Kingswinford), 4; W. Micklewright (Dudley), conductor, 5; J. Goodman (Dudley), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. No time taken.

THE CHESTER CATHEDRAL, AND THE WHITCHURCH SOCIETIES.

On Saturday evening, September 25th, at the parish Church, Whitchurch, the undermentioned company attempted a peal of Grandsire Triples, when after ringing in a superlative manner, 4360 changes in 2 hrs. 3 mins., it came to grief owing to the fourth bell casting her rope. W. Hutchinson, 1; J. Griffiths, 2; G. Wright, 3; J. Gibson, 4; T. Bethell, 5; G. H. Woodhall, 6; F. Ball (conductor), 7; T. Barrao, 8. After consultation with the rector, the Rev. W. H. Egerton, M.A., and Rural Dean, it was unanimously decided to again make the attempt on the Sabbath morning, before the early service. The bells commenced to change at 6.50, and were successfully brought home at 9.55, having occupied 3 hrs. and 5 mins. in its performance, an account of which will be found in the usual peal column. This performance is all the more creditable inasmuch as it is the first peal by the Whitchurch ringers, and the first peal ever rang on the bells. The ringers of the first, third, sixth, and eighth, are local ringers, the remainder from Chester Cathedral. The whole of the above ringers desire to express through these columns their sincere gratitude to the Rev. rector and his churchwarden, for their kindness and generosity in allowing them the use of their fine peal of bells.

RINGERS' OUTING.

On Saturday, September 18th, the members of St. Mary's Society, Blackhill, Durham, and a few friends, had their first annual outing, Wylam-on-Tyne having been selected at the invitation of Mr. E. Wallis, who is learning a set of ringers there. The party journeyed by waggonette through a piece of the most picturesque country which this district is noted for. Arriving about 2.30 p.m., a move was made for the beautiful little Church which has just been erected, and is in course of decoration. Standing on a high ground, the stately tower commands attention for miles around. It is adorned by a clock with two dials, and contains a splendid peal of six bells, tenor about 22 cwt., by Messrs. Taylor, fitted in cast iron frames, and are a great credit to the ancient founders; after an inspection of which, the bells were raised, and at this moment the Rev. Mr. James and a friend entered; then came Mr. Wallis and twelve ringers from Newcastle who were all witnesses of the first well struck touch of Grandsire Doubles rang on the bells, ringing being kept up until nearly dusk by mixed bands. A pleasant hour or so was spent in a walk through the grounds of Wylam Hall, the seat of Mr. and Mrs. Clayton, and a visit to the Lawn Tennis Grounds, where some handbell ringing was indulged in by the Newcastle ringers, to the edification of all present, and ended in an invitation to the Hall, where refreshments were kindly provided, and ample justice done to the good things. An adjournment was then made to the "Bird Inn," where votes of thanks were passed to the Rev. Mr. James, and Mr. and Mrs. Clayton for their kindness and hospitality, and responded to by Mr. J. Younger, on behalf of Mr. and Mrs. Clayton, and the Wylam ringers, and to the Chairman, Mr. Simms, of Newcastle. Some left for the train, and others for their conveyance, arriving home the same day, having spent the most enjoyable day ever spent by the company. The Blackhill ringers on behalf of themselves and their Newcastle friends, desire to return their sincere thanks through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," to the Rev. Mr. James, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton, and Mr. E. Wallis, for the interest they took in their enjoyment.

THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Monday, September 27th, several of the Tottenham members of of this society met at the quaint old church of St. Mary, Stoke Newington, for the purpose of attempting to ring a few 720's on the bells. Owing to the peculiar manner in which the bells are hung, and the confined space in the ringing chamber, the ropes hang in a straight line, and hang in the followig order,—1,2,6,5,4,3—some difficulty was expected, but a few minutes' practice accustomed the performers to this unusual arrangement. A 720 of Bob Minor was rung in 26 mins. J. Davidson, 1; J. Waghorn, jun., 2; H. Barnett, 3; T. Grove, 4; W. Pye English, 5; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 6. A start was then made for a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with J. Waghorn, sen. in the place of T. Grove, the others changing places, but this unfortunately came to grief about half-way through, the rope of the second slipping the wheel. Time not permitting another start, the rope was concluded with 240 of Bob Minor. This is believed to be the first 720 on the bells, but will probably not be the last. An adjournment was made to the meeting-house near by, concluded a pleasant evening with touches of Grandsire Cinques, and Stedman Triples, etc., upon the handbells.

PRESTBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

The bells of the above Church having been lately rehung in an entirely new frame by Messrs. Day and Sons, of Eye, Suffolk, are now being augmented to eight. The opening ceremony is fixed for October 13th next. There will be a consecration service, and afterwards a peal will be attempted by a band of eight clergymen, conducted by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. Luncheon will be provided at a moderate charge, tickets for which can be obtained from T. T. Parkinson, Esq., and Mr. T. Davies, Churchwardens, Prestbury, near Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. Application for luncheon tickets must be made on or before October 9th, as it is necessary to know beforehand for how many accommodation will have to be provided. The Prestbury ringers hope that as many brother ringers as possible will be present on the day.

NEW BELLS AT ST. MARTIN'S, SALISBURY.

The peal of six at St. Martin's is now being rehung by Mr. T. Blackburn, with new oak frame and main beams to tower. It was thought advisable some time ago, if possible, to increase the peal to eight. A meeting was held and a subscription set on foot, Mr. W. W. Gifford being appointed secretary and receiver to the fund. The greater part of the sum required has now been raised, and last week the two new bells were ordered from the foundry of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, London.

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Hurstpierpoint	0	5	0
Newick	0	2	6
Rye	0	2	6
Rype	0	2	6
Warnham	0	5	0
Geo. F. Attree, Hon. Sec.	0	10	6—3 12 0
Total	£25	5	6

Contributions will be received by W. WHITAKER, 3, Hillary Street, Leeds, and R. TUKE, Esq., 14, Marlboro' Road, Manningham, Bradford, Hon. Secs., or Mr. WILLIAM MITTON, Hon. Treasurer, Bradford Old Bank, Ilkley.

THE LIVERPOOL YOUTHS' SOCIETY.

On Saturday, September 25th, eight members of the above society, paid a visit to Garston, and started for Thurstan's one-part peal of Stedman Triples on the bells of St. Michael's Church; fifty-three courses were rung in 2 hrs. 30 mins., when "stand" was called, owing to a miss blow. R. Williams, 1; W. James, 2; G. Fisher, 3; W. Booth, 4; H. Coley, 5; W. Davies, 6; T. Hammond (conductor), 7; W. Brooks, 8. Afterwards the ringers, through the kindness of Mr. Samuel Gough, adjourned to the "Queen's Hotel," kept by Mr. Drew, and partook of a sumptuous repast, which no man would deny. Great praise is due to Sergeant Turner, C.B., for the excellent going order of the bells, the evening was brought to a close with a promise to pay another visit shortly.

ST. MARY, STRATFORD-LE-BOW, LONDON.

The Belfry will be open for practice as usual on Monday evening next, October 4th, at 8 p.m. D. J. SUTTON, Steeple-keeper.

TOUCHES OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
FOR YOUNG CONDUCTORS.

COMPILED BY JOHN CARTER, Birmingham.

336.	336.
2 3 4 5 6 7 3 4 6 7	2 3 4 5 6 7 1 3
3 5 7 2 4 6 - - - -	4 2 3 7 5 6 s s
Twice repeated.	3 4 2 7 6 5 - s
Queens & tittums.	2 3 4 5 7 6 s s
	Repeated.
336.	378.
2 3 4 5 6 7 1 3	2 3 4 5 6 7 1 2 3 4
3 2 4 7 5 6 s -	5 7 3 2 4 6 - -
Five times repeated.	3 5 7 2 4 6 - -
	Twice repeated.
	Queens and tittums.
377.	448.
2 3 4 5 6 7 1 2 3	2 3 4 5 6 7 1 3 4
3 4 5 2 6 7 s -	2 4 3 5 7 6 - s s
4 2 5 3 7 6 s -	2 4 3 5 6 7 - - s
2 3 5 4 7 6 - -	Repeated.
3 4 5 2 7 6 - -	
2 4 5 3 7 6 s -	
4 3 5 2 7 6 - -	
3 2 5 4 7 6 - -	
All the 5-6-7's at Hand.	
448.	503.
2 3 4 5 6 7 2 3	2 3 4 5 6 7 1 2 3
4 5 3 2 6 7 - s	3 5 4 2 6 7 - -
5 2 3 4 6 7 - -	4 3 5 2 6 7 - -
Three times repeated.	3 2 5 4 6 7 - -
	2 4 5 3 6 7 - -
	3 4 5 2 6 7 s -
	4 2 5 3 6 7 - -
	2 4 5 3 7 6 - -
	4 3 5 2 7 6 - -
	3 2 5 4 7 6 - -
504.	504.
2 3 4 5 6 7 3 4 6	2 3 4 5 6 7 2 3 5
2 4 3 6 7 5 s s s	2 5 3 4 7 6 s s s
Five times repeated.	Five times repeated.
504.	504.
2 3 4 5 6 7 2 3 4	2 3 4 5 6 7 1 3
3 5 4 2 6 7 - -	4 2 3 7 5 6 s s
5 4 3 2 6 7 - -	2 4 3 6 7 5 s -
4 2 3 5 6 7 - -	4 2 3 5 6 7 s -
Twice repeated.	Twice repeated.
546.	657.
2 3 4 5 6 7 2 3 4	2 3 4 5 6 7 1 2 3
5 7 3 2 4 6 - -	3 4 5 2 6 7 s -
7 2 3 5 4 6 - -	4 2 5 3 6 7 - -
2 3 7 5 4 6 - -	2 3 5 4 6 7 - -
Twice repeated.	3 4 5 2 6 7 s -
Four 4-6's, 7-4's, and	3 2 5 4 6 7 - -
6-7's.	2 4 5 3 6 7 - -
	2 4 5 3 7 6 - -
588.	2 3 5 4 6 7 - -
2 3 4 5 6 7 1 3 4 7	3 4 5 2 7 6 - -
3 4 2 5 7 6 - - s -	2 4 5 3 7 6 s -
Five times repeated.	4 3 5 2 7 6 - -
	3 2 5 4 7 6 - -

672.	672.
2 3 4 5 6 7 1 3 4	2 3 4 5 6 7 1 2 3
3 2 4 7 5 6 s -	3 5 4 2 6 7 - -
2 4 3 7 5 6 - -	4 3 5 2 6 7 - -
Five times repeated.	5 4 3 2 6 7 - -
	4 2 3 5 6 7 - -
	Twice repeated.
672.	672.
2 3 4 5 6 7 1 2 3	2 3 4 5 6 7 1 2 3
5 3 4 2 6 7 s -	3 5 4 2 6 7 - -
4 2 3 5 6 7 - s	5 2 4 3 6 7 - -
Five times repeated.	4 5 2 3 6 7 - -
Bob instead of a	5 3 2 4 6 7 - -
Single	2 5 3 4 6 7 - -
Half-way and Finish.	5 4 3 2 6 7 - -
	4 2 3 5 6 7 - -
	2 4 3 5 7 6 - -
	3 2 4 5 7 6 - -
	4 3 2 5 7 6 - -
	3 4 2 5 7 6 - -
	2 3 4 5 6 7 - -
727.	727.
2 3 4 5 6 7 1 2 3 4	2 3 4 5 6 7 1 2 3 4
4 2 3 5 7 6 - s	4 2 3 5 7 6 - s
2 3 4 5 7 6 - -	3 4 2 5 7 6 - -
4 3 2 5 7 6 - -	2 3 4 5 7 6 - -
3 2 4 5 7 6 - -	3 2 4 5 6 7 - -
2 4 3 5 7 6 - -	2 4 3 5 6 7 - -
3 4 2 5 7 6 s -	4 3 2 5 6 7 - -
2 5 4 3 7 6 - s	3 5 2 4 6 7 - -
4 2 5 3 7 6 - -	2 3 5 4 6 7 - -
2 3 5 4 7 6 - -	3 4 5 2 6 7 - -
3 4 5 2 7 6 - -	4 2 5 3 6 7 - -
2 4 5 3 7 6 s -	2 4 5 3 7 6 - -
4 3 5 2 7 6 - -	4 3 5 2 7 6 - -
3 2 5 4 7 6 - -	3 2 5 4 7 6 - -
All the 5-6-7's back-	All the 5-6-7's and
stroke, and the 5-6-7's	5-7-6's hand and
at hand.	back-stroke.
783.	896.
2 3 4 5 6 7 1 2 3 4	2 3 4 5 6 7 1 2 3
4 2 3 5 7 6 - s	3 5 4 2 6 7 - -
2 3 4 5 7 6 - -	4 3 5 2 6 7 - -
3 4 2 5 7 6 - -	3 2 5 4 6 7 - -
4 3 2 5 6 7 - -	2 4 5 3 6 7 - -
3 2 4 5 6 7 - -	5 2 4 3 6 7 - -
2 4 3 5 6 7 - -	3 2 4 5 6 7 s -
4 5 3 2 6 7 - -	4 3 2 5 6 7 - -
5 2 3 4 6 7 - -	2 4 3 5 6 7 - -
2 3 5 4 6 7 - -	All the 5-6-7's
3 4 5 2 6 7 - -	and 5-7-6's.
4 2 5 3 6 7 - -	
2 4 5 3 7 6 - -	
4 3 5 2 7 6 - -	
3 2 5 4 7 6 - -	
5-6-7's and 5-7-6's	
hand and back-	
stroke.	
924.	944.
2 3 4 5 6 7 1 2 3 4	2 3 4 5 6 7 1 2 3
5 7 3 2 4 6 - -	3 4 5 2 6 7 s -
3 5 7 2 4 6 - -	5 2 4 3 6 7 - s
3 2 5 4 6 7 - -	4 3 2 5 6 7 - s
5 3 2 4 6 7 - -	Five times repeated.
3 4 2 5 6 7 - -	Single at 1 instead of
Twice repeated.	a bob and single on 2,
Queens, tittums, and	3, of the 3rd course of
nine 6-7's.	the 2nd, 4th, and 6th
	parts.

756.	769.
2 3 4 5 6 7 1 2 3 4	2 3 4 5 6 7 1 2 3 4
3 4 5 2 6 7 s -	3 4 5 2 6 7 s -
4 2 5 3 6 7 - -	4 2 5 3 6 7 - -
2 3 5 4 6 7 - -	2 3 5 4 6 7 - -
5 2 3 4 6 7 - -	5 2 3 4 6 7 - -
2 4 3 5 6 7 - -	2 4 3 5 6 7 - -
4 3 2 5 6 7 - -	4 3 2 5 6 7 - -
3 2 4 5 6 7 - -	3 2 4 5 6 7 - -
All the 5-7-6's at hand	2 3 4 5 7 6 - -
and the 5-6-7's	4 2 3 5 7 6 - -
back-stroke.	3 4 2 5 7 6 - -
	4 5 2 3 7 6 - -
	2 4 5 3 7 6 - -
	4 3 5 2 7 6 - -
	3 2 5 4 7 6 - -
	All the 5-6-7's and
	5-7-6's hand and
	back-stroke.
1008.	1008.
2 3 4 5 6 7 1 3	2 3 4 5 6 7 1 2 3
4 3 5 2 6 7 s s	3 2 4 7 5 6 s
3 5 2 4 6 7 s -	4 3 2 7 5 6 - -
5 2 4 3 6 7 s -	2 4 3 7 5 6 - -
4 2 3 5 6 7 s s	Five times repeated.
Five times repeated.	
Bob instead of a single	
half-way and end.	
672.	1092.
2 3 4 5 6 7 1 2 3	2 3 4 5 6 7 1 2 3 4
5 3 4 2 6 7 s	5 7 3 2 4 6 - -
4 2 3 5 7 6 s s	3 5 7 2 4 6 - -
Five times repeated.	
	4 2 5 3 7 6 - -
	5 4 2 3 7 6 - -
	4 5 2 3 6 7 - -
	5 2 4 3 6 7 - -
	Twice repeated.
	Queen's Whitting-
	ton. Nine 4-6's and
	twelve 6-7's.
1176.	1260.
2 3 4 5 6 7 1 3 4 7	2 3 4 5 6 7 1 2 3 4
3 4 2 5 7 6 - - s -	4 3 5 2 6 7 s s
Eleven times repeated	3 5 4 2 6 7 - -
Single instead of a	5 4 3 2 6 7 - -
bob, half-way and	4 2 3 5 6 7 - -
finish.	Five times repeated.
	Bob instead of a single.
	first course of the 3rd and
	parts. Twenty-four 6-7's.
	H. REEVES.
1260.	1260
2 3 4 5 6 7 1 2 3 4	2 3 4 5 6 7 1 2 3 4
3 4 5 2 6 7 s -	3 4 5 2 6 7 s -
4 5 3 2 6 7 - -	4 5 3 2 6 7 - -
5 2 3 4 6 7 - -	5 4 3 2 7 6 - -
3 4 2 5 6 7 - s	4 2 3 5 7 6 - -
Five times repeated.	Five times repeated.
Bob instead of a	Contains the twenty-
single at half-way	four 6-7's.
and end. Has	J. CARTER.
the twenty-four	
6-7's.	
H. REEVES.	

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The compilation of the Index to the fourth volume of "THE BELL NEWS," is now nearly finished, and when complete, a double number will be published, containing

A PORTRAIT

Of that distinguished composer, and ringer,

MR. HENRY DAINS,

Accompanied by a suitable memoir.

THE "CLAVIS CAMPANALOGIA"

Is now being issued in penny numbers, and may be obtained through any bookseller, or from the publisher of "THE BELL NEWS," E. W. Allen, Ave Maria Lane, London.

"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.

G. J.—These appointments differ according to local circumstances.

W. H. J.—Your very interesting letter had escaped us. The matter is of immense interest. We shall be glad to hear at once that you have noticed this acknowledgment.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1886.

A correspondent, whose letter will be found beneath its proper heading, has taken us to task somewhat in giving currency to a paragraph announcing that a prize-ringing contest would take place on a certain date. Though our friend's incisive remarks cannot reasonably be objected to from his point of view, perhaps it is a duty to ourselves to afford such explanations upon the subject as will establish our consistency with regard to such tournaments. Our antipathies towards ringing upon church bells for prizes are firmly rooted, and as strong as ever, and no matter who are the promoters, or aiders and abettors of such contests, no matter how high they may stand in the ringing world, or social scale, the practice is one we shall never be able to countenance or approve. We have so often condemned prize-ringing, that it is held un-

necessary to refer to it again and again. But though this is so, we feel compelled to admit the announcements into our paper when requested to do so, without incurring the least responsibility. Nevertheless, we cannot help saying there is a tremendous difference between a contest among skilled ringers, and those who know nothing of the art. The former certainly tends to improvement in striking, if it does nothing else; but what good can there accrue to ringing by struggles for supremacy among men who can only perform "rounds and rounds, and ups and downs?" Let us not be misunderstood. We are advancing no plea on behalf of prize-ringing in any shape or form. We condemn it *in toto*, so far as Church bells are concerned. But in cases where it tends to promote the excellence of ringing, it must be allowed to have some redeeming feature.

In our opinion, where church bells, being instruments set apart for sacred uses, are allowed to be used for prize-ringing, a sad and deplorable desecration takes place. We have constantly given utterance to this opinion. Then what shall be said of those in authority who give permission for these acts of profanity? If instead of penning his severe criticisms upon our behaviour in regard to this question, our correspondent had sent his strictures to the incumbent of the Church who had given permission for the contest, he would have been more in order. We regret the occurrence of these meetings as much as any one, but frequent references and animadversions upon them become nauseous. When we think proper to refer to them, our correspondent may rest satisfied that the position and status of the combatants will never in the slightest degree act as a buffer to our reproof.

The Provinces.

BURTON-ON TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Wednesday, September 22, 1886, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; BROOKS' VARIATION. Tenor 26 cwt. in F.

JOHN AUSTIN	.. Treble.	HARRY WAKLEY	5.
JOHN JAGGAR	2.	WILLIAM WAKLEY	6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY	3.	THOMAS HOLMES	7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN	4.	GEORGE ROBINSON	.. Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

Rung in honour of the marriage of Mr. E. I. Stone, a prominent member of the St. Paul's Society, with Miss Charlotte E. Grimmet, of Burton-on-Trent.

WHITCHURCH, SALOP.

THE CHESTER CATHEDRAL AND WHITCHURCH SOCIETIES.

On Sunday, September 26, 1886, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

(FOR EARLY SERVICE) AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 21 cwt. in Bb.

JOSEPH GRIFFITHS	.. Treble.	THOMAS BETHELL	5.
JOHN GIBSON	2.	*GEORGE H. WOODHALL	6.
GEORGE WRIGHT	3.	FREEMAN BALL	7.
ALFRED CROSS	4.	*THOMAS BARRAN	.. Tenor

Conducted by FREEMAN BALL.

First peal on the bells. *First peal, and members of the Whitchurch society; the rest are of the Chester Cathedral society.

WALTER BELCHAMP, ESSEX.

On Sunday, September 26, 1886, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 11 cwt.

CHARLES SILLITOR Treble.	OLIVER GARWOOD 5.
WILLIAM HOWELL 2.	HARRY HARPER 6.
WALTER GRIDLEY* 3.	SAMUEL SLATER 7.
JAMES BIRD* 4.	GEORGE HAMMOND Tenor.

Composed by the late T. DAY, and Conducted by
GEORGE HAMMOND.

The above peal, which is in three parts, has the sixth its extent in 5-6, and has never been previously performed. This is Mr. S. Slater's 40th peal, and he has rung a peal on every bell round, on every day of the week, and every week of the month, and every month of the year. Messrs. Bird and Hammond hail from Long Melford, Garwood and Slater from Glemsford, Gridley from Foxearth, Howell, Harper and Sillitor from Sudbury. *First peal in the method.

MANCHESTER.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Muffled Peal.

On Tuesday, September 28, 1886, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb.

JOHN EACHUS Treble.	WILLIAM J. SEVIER 6.
THOMAS THORPE 2.	SAMUEL WEST 7.
THOMAS G. DOWNS 3.	JAMES THORPE 8.
JOHN E. POLLITT 4.	A. EDWARD WREAKS 9.
GEORGE E. TURNER 5.	JAMES PARKINSON Tenor.

Composed by A. KNIGHTS, of Chesterfield, and Conducted by
A. EDWARD WREAKS.

This peal was rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the late John Withers, steeple-keeper at the Cathedral, who was interred at Phillip's Park Cemetery, Manchester, on the previous Saturday. All the above are of the cathedral company.

Date Touch.

MOULTON (Northants).—On Saturday, September 18th, a mixed band paid a visit to the church of S.S. Peter and Paul, and rang a date touch of 1886 changes, in 1 hr. and 10 mins. in the following methods: 446 of Plain Bob, 720 of London Single, and 720 of Oxford Bob. W. J. Gilbert (conductor), 1; E. Mayes, 2; R. Shipley, 3; A. Groom, 4; J. Braybrook, 5; T. Roberts, 6. The ringers wish to tender their thanks to the Rev. R. Walker for granting them the use of the bells on that day. This is supposed to be the longest length rung on the bells. J. Gilbert hails from Raunds; A. Groom from Denton; the rest belong to the Ringstead Society.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, September 23rd, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Yorkshire Court Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). F. Keech, 1; M. Warwick, 2; T. Foote, 3; H. Chapman, 4; S. Cullip (first 720 in the method), 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of College Single Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). M. Warwick, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; F. M. Smith, 3; J. Hills, 4; J. Frossell, 5; H. Chapman (first 720 in the method), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). H. Chapman, 1; M. Warwick, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; J. Hills, 4; J. Frossell, 5; F. M. Smith, 6.

RENTOLD (Beds).—On Saturday, September 25th, by kind permission of the vicar (the Rev. Horace Kudkin), five members of the above Association visited Rentold and rang upon the (five) bells (tenor cracked, much to the disappointment of the visitors), Bob Singles and a six-score each of Grandsire and Bob Doubles. F. Keech, 1; T. Foote, 2; H. Chapman, 3; J. Hills, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, the 19th inst, for morning service, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, with the tenor behind, in 29 mins.—A. J. B. Waldron, 1; J. G. Pratt, 3; J. Pallister, 4; Thomas Wick, 5; F. Charlton, 6; J. W. Cleminson (conductor), 7; E. Titt, 8. On the same day, for evening service, 500 of Bob Major:—H. C. Mayne, 1; J. G. Pratt, 2; J. Pallister, 3; A. J. B. Waldron, 4; J. W. Cleminson, 5; F. Castree, 6; F. Charlton, 7; E. Titt (conductor), 8. Tenor 11½ cwt.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—On Friday evening, for practice at St. Hilda's parish church, 720 of Plain Bob Minor. J. McAdams, 1; *R. Borrows, 2; H. McAdams, 3; R. Alcock, 4; J. Nicholson, 5; J. H. Blakiston (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday evening, for Divine service, 720 of Plain Bob Minor, with 7, 8, covering. J. McAdams, 1; R. Borrows, 2; T. Walker, 3; S. Walker, jun., 4; C. Wilkinson, 5; J. H. Blakiston (conductor), 6; J. Nicholson, 7; S. Walker, 8. Tenor 12 cwt. in G. *First peal.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES (Durham).—On Sunday, September 12th, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise. J. Clarkson, 1; G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 2; W. Stephenson, 3. T. W. Waller, 4; T. Stephenson, 5; W. Newton, 6. Also on Wednesday, September 15th, for the first time, and on Sunday, September 19th, a 720 of London Surprise. G. J. Clarkson (conductor), 1; T. Burdon, 2; W. Stephenson, 3; T. W. Waller, 4; T. Stephenson, 5; W. Newton, 6. And on Wednesday, September 22nd, were favoured with a visit by Mr. J. Bristow (of Birchington, Kent), and Mr. R. Mackman (of Spalding), accompanied by Mr. J. H. Blakiston (of Middlesbrough), and for practice a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in which Mr. Mackman rang the third. And a 720 of Grandsire Minor was attempted, with Mr. Bristow ringing the 5th, but came to grief after ringing 500 changes, by which time it was too late for a second attempt.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HERTFORD.—On Sunday, September 26th, being the Harvest Festival at St. Andrew's Church, the members of the above Association rang touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples for the morning service; and in the evening, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins. M. Ellmore, 1; J. Jauncey, 2; J. Staples, 3; W. Goodchild, 4; H. Baker, 5; S. Knight, 6; J. G. Crawley (conductor), 7; F. George, 8. Composed by Henry J. Tucker, of Bishops Stortford, and contains twelve 7, 4's, twelve 6, 7's, and twelve 4, 6's Queens and Tittums. Tenor 16 cwt in F.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

FRINDSBURY (Near Rochester).—On Sunday, September 26th, at the parish church, after Divine service in the evening, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 28 mins. D. Winsor, 1; A. Ring, 2; J. Tullett, 3; G. Hutchings, 4; W. Hunt (conductor), 5. Tenor 18 cwt. This was rung on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, also the 24th birthday of Mr. W. Hunt, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Tuesday, September 21st, the local company rang at St. Michael's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), in 27 mins. J. R. Wood, 1; F. W. Cook, 2; J. Warren, 3; G. A. Fish, 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; G. C. Tunnickliff (conductor), 6.

KEGWORTH (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, the Melbourne society visited this place and rang a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. J. R. Wood, 1; F. W. Cook, 2; J. Warren, 3; J. Vickers, 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; G. C. Tunnickliff (conductor), 6. The society wish through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," to thank the clergy for the use of the bells, and also the local ringers for the kindness and welcome given them on this occasion.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, September 23rd, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, at St. Martin's church, by members of the above Association, a 700 of Grandsire Triples. H. Hipkiss, 1; S. Reeves, 2; W. Cooper, 3; W. R. Small, 4; C. Price, 5; W. Pardoe, 6; C. Timms, 7; T. Atkiss, 8. Also a 210 of Grandsire Triples. T. Bennett, 1; S. Reeves, 2; G. Hughes, 3; W. Cooper, 4; W. R. Small, 5; S. Jesson, 6; C. Timms, 7; T. Atkiss, 8. Conducted by S. Reeves. Tenor 12 cwt.

WOMBOURN (Staffordshire).—On Wednesday evening, September 22nd, the St. Benedicts society rang a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. G. Little, 1; G. Deans, 2; H. Deans, 3; W. Devey, 4; A. Little, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G. This was rung as a mark of esteem to Mr. E. J. Stone, of the St. Paul's society, Burton, who was married on that day at St. Paul's church.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ARUNDEL.—On Monday, September 20th, at the parish church, a 560 of Grandsire Triples.—O. Evershed, 1; H. Haggitt, 2; G. Baker, 3; W. L. Chamberlain, 4; W. Wadey (Billingshurst), 5; G. Balchin, 6; C. Blackman (conductor), 7; F. Luxford, 8.

BRIGHTON.—On Sunday, September 26th, at St. Peter's, a 504 of Grandsire Triples in 17 mins.—A. Fuller, 1; A. Marshall, 2; H. Weston (conductor), 3; Twaits, 4; C. E. Golds, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; J. Jay, senior, 7; P. Hodges, 8.

CRAWLEY (Sussex).—On Tuesday, September 21st, 410 of Court Bob Triples. J. Collison, 1; J. Newnham, 2; E. Streeter (Balcombe), 3; B. King, 4; W. Collison, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; A. F. Piller, 7; E. Pierce, 8. Also a quarter peal (1260) changes of Court Bob Triples in 49 mins. W. Parsons, 1; J. Newnham, 2; E. Streeter, 3; B. King, 4; W. Collison, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; M. Heffer, 7; J. Collison, 8. This is the first in the method by all the band, and first of Court Bob Triples rung on the bells.

HORSHAM (Sussex).—On Sunday, September 26th, for evening service at the parish church, a quarter peal of Oxford Bob Triples (1260 changes), in 49 mins. W. Short, 1; J. Browne, 2; F. Garman, 3; H. Wood, 4; T. Andrews, 5; F. Wickings (conductor), 6; G. Rowland, 7; F. Knight, 8. Also 504 Grandsire Triples. F. Garman, 1; W. Short, 2; H. Wood, 3; F. Wickings, 4; T. Andrews, 5; F. Knight, 6; H. Burstow, (conductor), 7; C. Vaughan, 8. Tenor 24 cwt.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday evening, September 14th, five members of the St. Lawrence's Company, assisted by Master J. Wilkins, of Gloucester, rung for practice, 720 of Plain Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles), in 27½ minutes. J. Wilkins, 1; G. Miles, 2; A. A. Waite, 3; J. Yeates, 4; H. Mitchell (conductor), 5; and R. A. Barrett, 6. Tenor 14 cwt., in G. This is Master J. Wilkins' first attempt of any kind of Minor ringing, for he is quite a young beginner. This 720 was taken from the Clavis reprint.

UPTON (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday morning, prior to Divine Service, six members of the above association, assisted by Mr. J. Mills, rung 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), with the seventh bell as cover, in 30 minutes. J. Middlecote, 1; A. A. Waite, 2; J. Yeates, 3; H. Mitchell (conductor), 4; H. G. Gardener, 5; R. A. Barrett, 6; and J. Mills, 7. Tenor 17½ cwt., in F.

STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

NORTON.—On Sunday, September 26th, 720 Court Bob, in 26 mins' W. Baddeley, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. Baddeley (conductor), 4; J. W. Brough, 5; J. Wood, 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

HAYLEIGH.—On Sunday evening, September 12th, for Divine service, at Holy Trinity Church, a 720 Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. G. Smith, 1; F. Strugnell, 2; J. Johnson, 3; J. Collins (first 720 in the above method), 4; F. H. Brewer, 5; H. Deal (conductor), 6. Sept. 13th, for practice, 360 of Bob Minor. A. Wallis, 1; F. Strugnell, 2; J. Johnson, 3; F. H. Brewer, 4; F. W. Haslam, 5; H. Deal (conductor), 6. Also on Monday evening, September 27th, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles). G. Smith, 1; F. Strugnell, 2; J. Johnson, 3; H. Deal (conductor), 4; F. H. Brewer, 5; F. W. Haslam, 6.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAPEL.—On Tuesday evening, September 21st, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 25 mins. R. Jordan, 1; C. Weeden, aged 16, first 720 inside, 2; T. Stedman, 3; A. Mills, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also, on Friday, the 24th, for the Harvest Festival service, 360 Oxford Treble Bob. C. Weeden, 1; R. Jordan, 2; T. Stedman, 3; M. Jenkins, 4; A. Mills, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. After service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. C. Weeden, 1; R. Jordan, 2; T. Stedman, 3; A. Mills, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6; and for afternoon service, 720 College Exercise. C. Weeden, 1; R. Jordan, 2; T. Stedman, 3; A. Mills, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6; and after service, 723 Kent Treble Bob. C. Weeden, 1; A. Tidy, 2; T. Stedman, 3; M. Jenkins, 4; R. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6; also 720 College Pleasure. C. Weeden, 1; A. Tidy, 2; E. Jordan, 3; M. Jenkins, 4; R. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6; and 360 Oxford Treble Bob. W. Bishop, 1; R. Jordan, 2; E. Jordan, 3; M. Jenkins, 4; D. Jordan (conductor), 5; T. Stedman, 6.

FAREHAM (Hants.).—On Tuesday evening, September 21st, 1886, eight members of the above guild started for Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 1 hr. 23 mins., a change course occurred. J. Staples, 1; G. Williams (conductor), 2; H. White, 3; F. Hill, 4; C. Privett, 5; G. Grafham, 6; J. W. Whiting, 7; H. Carter, 8. Afterwards a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, on the back six (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 25 mins. G. Grafham, 1; G. Williams (conductor), 2; J. W. Whiting, 3; C. Privett, 4; F. Hill, 5; H. White, 6. Tenor 14 cwt in F#. The band then adjourned to the house of Mr. Whiting, where a first-rate supper was provided, it being his 35th birthday, his brother ringers wish him many happy returns of the day. The handbells were then brought into use, and a course of Grandsire Caters brought round double handed. Also a 120 of Stedman Doubles. G. Williams, 1-2; J. Hewett, 3-4; J. Whiting, 5-6. And a course of Stedman Triples. J. Hewett, 1-2; C. Privett,

3; F. Hill, 4; G. Williams, 5; G. Grafham, 6; J. Whiting, 7; G. Hackett, 8. This is the first course of Stedman Triples by all except Williams and Hewett. Thanking Mr. Whiting for his kindness, the company separated, having spent a very enjoyable evening.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

APPLETON.—On Friday, Sept. 24th, eight courses (1696 changes), of Cambridge Surprise Major. F. White, 1; E. Holfield, 2; B. Barrett, 3; J. Field, 4; W. Bennett, 5; C. Hounslow, 6; G. Holfield, 7; Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), 8.

BARLOW-MOOR (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, September 28th, at Christ church, the local company with the assistance of their instructor, rang for practice a 336 of Grandsire Triples. J. Shaw, 1; W. Holbrook, 2; G. Pearson, 3; W. Mellor, 4; S. Pearson, 5; T. Brickell, 6; J. Wilde, 7; J. Cole, 8. Tenor 18 cwt.

BURLEY (Near Leeds). On Thursday evening, for practice, at St. Matthias' church, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. R. F. Lunn, 1; J. Bennett, 2; J. W. Atkinson, 3; G. H. Hoyle (first 720 in the method), 4; W. E. Kershaw (first 720 in the method), 5; H. Lindsay (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 the company (who were only formed last February) have rung unassisted.

CAMBRIDGE.—On Wednesday, September 22nd, the following seven members of the Cambridge Youths, assisted by Mr. Samuel Hayes, rang on the back eight bells at Great St. Mary's, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 48½ mins. E. Andrews, 1; J. Rockett, 2; J. Taylor, 3; J. Holliday, 4; G. Taylor, 5; J. Jackson, 6; S. Hayes (conductor), 7; W. Kempton, 8. Composed by H. J. Tucker, of Bishops Stortford. Tenor 31 cwt. in C#.

CHEPSTOW (Monmouth).—On Sunday, September 12th, six of the St. Mary's company, Caldicott, paid a friendly visit to Magor, and rang several plain courses of Bob Doubles. T. Withers, 1; J. Arthur, 2; G. Reeve, 3; W. Knapp, 4; W. Bynon, 5; J. Rutter, 6. Tenor about 15 cwt. Also on Sunday, September 26th, for Divine service in the evening, at St. Mary's, Caldicott, several plain courses of Bob Doubles. T. Withers, 1; J. Arthur, 2; G. Reece, 3; W. Knapp, 4; W. Bynon, 5; J. Morley, 6.

DARESBUY (Cheshire).—On Tuesday evening, September 14th, for practice, six members of the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor in 27½ mins. T. Houghton, sen. (conductor), 1; P. Johnson, 2; A. de Prez (first 720) 3; P. Hamblett, 4; E. de Prez, 5; T. Houghton, jun., 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

DARLEY DALE (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, September 25th, at St. Helen's Church, the local company with their instructor, Mr. R. Bosworth, of Derby, rang for practice, 720 of Grandsire Minor in 24 mins. S. Groom, 1; J. Derbyshire, 2; W. Taylor, 3; R. Bosworth, 4; C. Gwatkin, 5; E. Hallows (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday evening, September 26th, for Divine service, 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 22 mins. S. Groom, 1; J. Derbyshire, 2; R. Bosworth, 3; C. Whymark, 4; C. Gwatkin, 5; E. Hallows (conductor), 6. Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Wednesday, September 22nd, at the church of St. Peter and Paul the local company rang for practice 240 changes each of Arnold's Victory, College Pleasure, Duke of York, New London Pleasure, Kent, Violet, and Oxford. F. Hancock, 1; W. Price, 2; E. James, 3; G. Norman, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; T. Lunn, 6. Time 1 hr. 5 mins. Tenor 16 cwt 14 lbs.

EPSOM (Surrey).—On Monday, September 27th, at St. Martin's Church, for practice, the local company rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 1,260 changes, in 42 mins. —*A. Bassett, 1; J. Hawkins, 2; J. Easton, 3; *H. Pederick, 4; *H. Kenten, 5; R. Harden, 6; †T. Miles (conductor), 7; *G. Pederick, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. in E. *First quarter peal. †First quarter peal as conductor. All but Harden are members of the Surrey Association.

EXETER (Devon).—On Sunday, September 26th, for Divine service in the evening, 1092 of Grandsire Triples in 37 mins. T. Townsend, 1; A. Shepherd, 2; F. Shepherd, 3; E. Pitt (composer and conductor), 4; W. Mundy, 5; W. Richardson, 6; J. Moss, 7; T. J. Lake, 8.

FARNWORTH (Lancashire).—On Thursday, September 16th, being the Farnworth Agricultural Show, a mixed band rang at the parish church a 720 of Bob Minor in 26 mins. C. Newton, 1; P. Johnson, 2; W. H. Hardman, 3; P. Hamblett, 4; E. de Prez, 5; F. Turner (conductor), 6. Tenor about 11½ cwt. Messrs. Hamblett, Johnson and de Prez hail from Daresbury; C. Newton from Garston; F. Turner from Grassendale; W. H. Hardman is of the local company.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday morning, August 15th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 25 mins. G. Thurlow, 1; T. Glead, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; J. Leach, 4;

J. Nixon, 5; G. B. Lucas, 6. Also on Sunday evening, 22nd August, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 24 mins. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; T. Gleed, 2; J. Nixon, 3; G. Harvey, 4; G. Griffin, 5; T. Titchener, 6. Also on Sunday evening, 5th September, after Divine service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. T. Titchener, 1; T. Gleed, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; J. Nixon, 4; G. Harvey, 5; E. Chapman, 6. Also on Sunday evening, 26th September, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 22 mins. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; T. Gleed, 2; G. Harvey, 3; J. Leach, 4; J. Nixon, 5; G. Griffin, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

KILLMARSH (Derbyshire).—The bells of the above village are now re-opened for ringing, after a rest of about eight years, the tower at that time not being considered safe, and a closing peal was rung by the Eckington company, who also had the pleasure on Sunday last (September 26th), of ringing for Divine service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 26 mins. F. Hancock, 1; E. James, 2; G. Norman, 3; J. Shaw, 4; W. Price, 5; G. Marsden (conductor), 6. Friends wishing to pay a visit to this district will find three peals of six bells within 40 minutes' walk from Eckington station.

OLD HILL (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, September 25th, 1,269 of Bob Triples in 44 mins.; R. Bird, 1; C. W. Bassano, 2; H. Mason, 3; W. Bird, 4; A. E. Parsons, 5; H. Cartwright, 6; A. H. Bassano, 7; W. Green, 8. Conductor by A. H. Bassano. First quarter-peal by all the above, and first on the bells. Tenor 23½ cwt.

NORTHENDEN (Cheshire).—Recently, at St. Wilfred's church, two 720's of Bob Minor (first with eighteen bobs and two singles, second with twenty-eight bobs and eighteen singles), in 54 mins. P. Brickell (conductor), 1; T. Brickell (Barlow-moor), 2; J. Leigh, 3; J. Wilde (Barlow-moor), 4; T. Price, 5; S. Brickell, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

BURFORD.—On Sunday evening for Divine service, the following rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor, with the tenor behind, in 25 mins. D. Francis, 1; T. Brown, 2; W. Large, 3; T. E. Glanville (conductor), 4; J. Smith, 5; H. Bond, jun., 6; W. Launchbury, 7.

EMBERTON (Bucks).—On Sunday evening, the 19th inst., being the Thanksgiving for the ingathering of the Harvest, three 6-scores of Bob Doubles were rung for Divine service, and after service 720 of Bob Doubles, in four observations. G. Wilson, 1; W. Wright, 2; H. Booth (conductor), 3; W. Minard, 4; C. Live, 5. Tenor 9 cwt. This is the first 720 Bob Doubles on the bells, and the first in North Bucks.

RAUNDS (Northants).—On Saturday, September 18th, at St. Peter's church, for practice, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Coles, 1; F. Kirk (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; R. Pendered, 3; F. Gilbert, 4; J. Willmott, 5; H. Stubbs (conductor), 6. Also a 120 of Bob Doubles. A. Coles, 1; F. Gilbert, 2; R. Pendered, 3; H. Stubbs (conductor), 4; J. Willmott, 5; S. Bailey, 6.

READING.—On Friday, September 24th, it being the anniversary of the re-opening of St. Giles Church as well as the Harvest Festival, six members of the above society rang for evening service, 720 Oxford Bob Minor, in 26 mins.:—H. Smart, 1; F. Sweetzer, 2; T. Hibbert, 3; A. Evans, 4; H. Blissett, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. Sunday being utilised for a continuation of the Harvest Thanksgiving, the members of the society met and rang in various methods for morning service, and for evening service, 720 Plain Bob. H. Smart, 1; F. Sweetzer, 2; A. Evans, 3; H. Wright, 4; H. Blissett, 5; George Gibbard (conductor), 6; also, after service, 720 College Single. H. Smart, 1; F. Sweetzer, 2; G. Gibbard, 3; A. Evans, 4; H. Blissett, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6.

RETFORD (Notts).—On Tuesday, September 21st, at St. Michael's Church for practice, three 720's of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. each. F. Mackie, 1; S. Joynes (conductor), 2; W. Drake, 3; N. Hunt, 4; J. Joynes, 5; R. Potter, 6. Time 26 mins. Also on Sunday, September 26th, being the Harvest Festival, for Divine service, 720 of Grandsire Minor. H. Haigh, 1; S. Joynes, 2; W. Drake, 3; N. Hunt, 4; J. Joynes, 5; R. Potter, 6. Tenor 9 cwt. 9 lb. Conducted respectively by W. Drake, S. Joynes, and J. Joynes.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Saturday, September 18th, for practice, at St. Gregory's church, a 756 of Stedman Triples. C. Sillitoe (conductor), 1; W. Griggs, 2; W. Howell, 3; J. Campin, 4; W. Bacon, 5; H. Harper, 6; A. Scott, 7; H. Brackett, 8. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Monday, September 6th, a peal of Kent Treble Bob, in 26 mins. G. Hayes, 1; T. M. Stedman, 2; W. Davis, 3; B. Spinner, 4; W. Harper, 5; W. Martin (conductor), 6. Mr. Stedman hails from Capel, Surrey. Mr. Martin's first peal as conductor in the method. On Sunday, 26th inst., a peal of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. J. Harding, 1; L. Digweed, 2; W. Harper, 3; F. J. Ring, 4; W. Martin, 5; G. Hayes (conductor), 6.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Sunday, September 26th, for evening service, a quarter peal of Bob Triples, in 44 mins., by R. Elliott, 1; G. B. Lucas, 2; J. Waghorn, junr., 3; J. Langran, 4; W. Pye English, 5; J. Waghorn, 6; H. Barnett (conductor), 7; C. Davidson, 8.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Sunday, September 26th, for afternoon service at the parish church, a plain course, and 336 of Grandsire Triples. H. Pamplin, 1; B. Keeble, 2; H. F. de Lisle, Esq., 3; F. Radley 4; A. Tarbun, 5; W. Harvey, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; C. Dennison, 8. After service, 350 Grandsire Triples, with J. Everard, 2; and B. Keeble, 5; and 84 with the Vicar, the Rev. T. L. Papillon, at the 5th. Also for morning service, several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles on the back six, and two six-scores with 7,1,8, behind. A. Edwards, 1; H. Pamplin, 2; J. Everard, 3; F. Radley, 4; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 5; W. Lincoln (conductor), 6; R. Wood, 7; C. Dennison, 8. Mr. Keeble is from Romford, Mr. de Lisle from Galleywood, and Messrs. Harvey and Tarbun from Widford.

STAPLEHURST, KENT.

THE members of the local company had an outing on Tuesday, September 14th, through the liberality of Dr. and Mrs. Reyner. Travelling by early train, they arrived at Margate about 10 o'clock. Having visited St. John's Church, a rest was made till after morning service, when the bells were raised, and some touches of Major, Minor, and Grandsire Triples were attempted. The bells, however, going far from well, this was abandoned in favour of dinner which went much better. A start was then made for Quex Park, Birchington, where the ringers were delighted with everything, especially the go of the bells, which they consider unequalled. Returning from Margate, they reached home about 9 o'clock, having thoroughly enjoyed their day's outing. They wish to thank their friends at Margate and Birchington, through this medium, for their cordial reception, and hope soon to meet them again.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION OF RINGERS.

THE ANNUAL GATHERING of the Members of the Association will take place at Ipswich, on Monday, October 4th. All ringing to cease at 12.30. At 12.45 there will be Divine service at the church of St. Mary-le-Tower. At 1.30 dinner will be provided at the Old Museum Rooms, Museum-street. After dinner usual business meeting. Ringing recommence at 3.45. The hon. secretary must know on or before Tuesday, September 28th, who will be present. Also from what station members desire to start. His private card will be the authority for obtaining the fare and quarter tickets. Cards will be forwarded on application. The Old Museum Rooms will be Head Quarters for the day. Dinner Tickets obtained and arrangements for ringing made there. N. BOLINGBROKE.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The adjourned Quarterly Meeting of the above Association will be held at Market Rasen on Saturday next, October 2nd. Several gentlemen interested in change-ringing are expected to be present, and it is hoped there will be a good attendance of members. The church bells of Market Rasen (six), and Claxby (five), have kindly been placed at the disposal of the Association for the whole of that day. Arrangements will be made for ringers to visit the picturesque village of Claxby. Tea will be provided at Market Rasen at five o'clock, and the meeting will follow immediately after. The Committee will be glad to see any brethren from the East and South Lincolnshire Associations. Societies, unattached members, or brethren of kindred Associations, intending to be present will please communicate at once with the hon. secretary, Market Rasen. W. LUNN.

THE ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

NOTICE.

SIR,—I am requested to ask members attendance at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, at 6 p.m. to ring for Divine Service next Sunday, October 3rd. They are further requested to meet the Master in the same belfry on Friday evening, the 8th inst., at 7.30 p.m. for a special practice. H. DAINS, Hon. Sec.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The Second Quarterly Meeting will be held at Loughborough, on Saturday, October 9th, 1886, full particulars of which will appear in our next issue. JOSEPH GRIFFIN, Hon. Sec.
5, St. Paul's Street East, Burton-on-Trent.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the above Association is proposed to be held in Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Monday, October 25th. Particulars of the arrangements for the day will be communicated to members by circular. G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.

In Memoriam.

JOHN WITHERS.

ON Monday, September 20th, the above named ringer departed this life, and on the Saturday following, his mortal remains were carried to their last resting place, by his brother ringers, at Phillip's Park Cemetery, Manchester, and was followed by his family, relatives, fellow-workmen, and several of his friends, numbering in all about 100 persons. The Reverend —. Pettitt, M.A., one of the cathedral clergy, read the burial service, at the conclusion of which five members of the cathedral company rang over the grave on the handbells, a course of Grandsire Caters. John Eachus, 1-2; James Thorpe, 3-4; A. Ed. Wrecks, 5-6; Thomas Thorpe, 7-8; Samuel West, 9-10. The deceased was born at Worksop, Nottinghamshire, in the year 1824, and was consequently in his 63rd year. He has had a very numerous family, twenty children in all, nine of whom are living, six of them being married, and have children of their own. He commenced his ringing career at the Abbey Church, Worksop, when in his teens. He came to Manchester at the age of twenty, and was not long in finding out the ringers in that town, first joining the Holy Trinity, Hulme, (six bells), society, afterwards the St. John's (eight bells), society, Deansgate, and finally in 1866 he joined the Cathedral company, and in the year following was appointed steeplekeeper there, which position he faithfully kept until his death. The total number of his performances is not known, as he kept no record of them, but from information he gave prior to his death, they would amount to sixty or seventy peals of 5000 changes and upwards in Kent and Oxford, Grandsire and Plain Bob methods, and 720's on six bells in about thirty different methods, a great many of which he conducted. His last peal was one of Grandsire Caters, 5057 changes, rang at St. Giles', Wrexham, on May 28th, 1885, in which he rang the 9th. His last touch of any note was a date touch (1886 changes), rung at Manchester Cathedral on New Year's morning of the present year. Although a smith by trade, he thoroughly understood bells and their various fittings, and would make a bell go when called in to repair her if there was any go in her. On ringing matters he was ever ready and willing to give any information that lay in his power, especially to young hands, but woe unto the unlucky one when attempting a touch, who disregarded the instructions given him. The Manchester ringers deeply feel the loss they have undergone in their valued and oldest member, and are sure that all ringers to whom the deceased was personally known, will join them in expressing sympathy with his widow and family in their bereavement.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

ON Wednesday, September 22nd, six members of the Plymouth company visited Bickleigh by invitation of the Vicar, it being the Harvest Festival. On arriving there at 6.30, the local ringers were concluding a touch of call changes, in which method the bells had been kept going all the afternoon, but the ropes having been handed over to the visitors, several well struck six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, conducted by Mr. Taylor, were brought home. After a short adjournment for refreshments, a touch of "stone" with some of the local ringers, was followed by some Grandsire Doubles, conducted by Mr. Marsh, after which the bells were lowered in peal. Much satisfaction was expressed at the go of the bells and the excellent order of all the belfry fittings. On Thursday a splendid set of new ropes, supplied by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, was used for the first time at St. Andrew's, Plymouth. The ropes not having been stretched, nothing could be done at first but rounds on the ten bells, but at the end of the evening the ropes had got sufficiently steady to allow a touch of Grandsire Doubles being rung with 7, 6, 8, behind. The St. Andrew's society can now ring Triples without assistance from outside, and no doubt great progress will be made during the winter evenings. The party who went to Bickleigh was Messrs. Taylor, Marsh, Gover, Tozer, Peard, and Batchelor.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

A QUARTERLY MEETING of this Association will be held on Saturday, October 9th, at 4.30 p.m. in St. John the Baptist schoolroom, Bromsgrove. All members who possibly can attend are requested to do so. And all members who have not paid their yearly subscriptions are requested to do so as soon as possible, so that the list of members' names in the yearly report may be correct. JOHN SMITH, Hon. Sec.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that the next District Meeting of the above Association (for business purposes and ringing), will be held at Arundel, on Saturday, October 9th. A notice in detail will be forwarded to the local secretaries. Each member should have a copy. GEO. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

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."

PRIZE-RINGING CONTESTS.

SIR,—I am pleased to see in last week's "BELL NEWS," a letter on the above subject. Methinks, Mr. Editor, that for once, you have been caught napping, or the announcement of the St. Peter's society would never have appeared in print. In your impression of May 22nd you express extreme delight at being able to publish, for the special edification and benefit of our readers, a report of another of these "scientific tournaments" which has been held at the village of Lanreath, in Cornwall. The desire of the Vicar of Lanreath to win over ringers to the Church, is, of course, laudable, but he has begun at the wrong end. We would advise him that his ringers should strive, not in contests of this description, but to emulate their fellows in many neighbouring parishes, where real ringing is efficiently done without the inducement of a prize but only that of honour and fame. We would advise him to put himself in connection with the Hon. Sec. of the Devonshire Guild, who will we doubt not, be most happy to show him the best way to manage his ringers, both for their own and the Church's benefit. Now, Sir, why, instead of publishing the announcement of the St. Peter's Society, did you not advise them to put themselves in connection with the Devonshire Guild, it would be useless to suggest the Yorkshire Association, because members of the St. Peter's society are amongst its leading lights. Now, Mr. Editor, confess, have you really been caught napping, or do you willingly insert gratuitous advertisements of ringing matches, provided such advertisements are forwarded by men who have made for themselves a name in the ringing world. If the latter is the case, we may expect to see in your columns Yorkshire Association v. College Youths for £50 a side, or Grand Change Ringing Handicap for £500, entrance £1 per member, Rev. So-and-So, stakeholder and referee. It may be urged by some, especially those who are interested in the financial part of the contest, that it is not a contest upon steeple bells but upon hand bells; well, that is a distinction without a difference, because the men that ring one ring the other. I remember seeing on a bell in a Yorkshire Church, the following inscription:—

"To the praise and glory of the Triune God, and in grateful and humble acknowledgment of his numberless blessings and infinite mercy. This peal of bells was given by (then followed the names of the givers)." Will the bells of St. Peter's be used to the praise and glory of God? I trow not. It may again be urged that they are only handbells, but handbells are in most cases Church property. There is an old saying that one man may steal a horse, whilst another is not allowed to look over the hedge. I think that saying might be applied to this case, for had this contest been proposed by a body of ringers unknown to fame, our leading lights, those in Leeds not excepted, would have held up their hands, aye, and their voices, in holy horror. The Editor of "THE BELL NEWS," would "again have felt it his duty to comment upon those contemptible matches for filthy lucre," but, oh ye God's and little fishes, what cannot our great men do. W. HALL.

Manchester.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the above Association will take place on Saturday, October 2nd, at Holy Trinity Church, Bolton. There will be a service at 3.30 p.m. at which the sermon will be preached by the Rev. Canon Davenport Kelly, M.A., rector of St. Matthew's, Manchester. Tea will be provided in the schoolroom at 5 p.m., tickets 1s. each. The business meeting will be at 6 p.m., when the officers for the ensuing year will be elected. All those who intend to be present at the tea are requested to send in their names to Mr. J. Redford, 9, Portugal-street, Bolton (from whom tickets may be obtained), not later than September 25th. Ringers, not being members, who care to attend will be cordially welcomed. The towers of the parish church of St. Peter, as well as those of Holy Trinity, All Saints', and St. George's will be open for ringing after the meeting. Members who have not yet paid their subscription for the past year, are requested to send it as soon as possible to Mr. Redford, in order that the list of members may be complete for insertion in the report.

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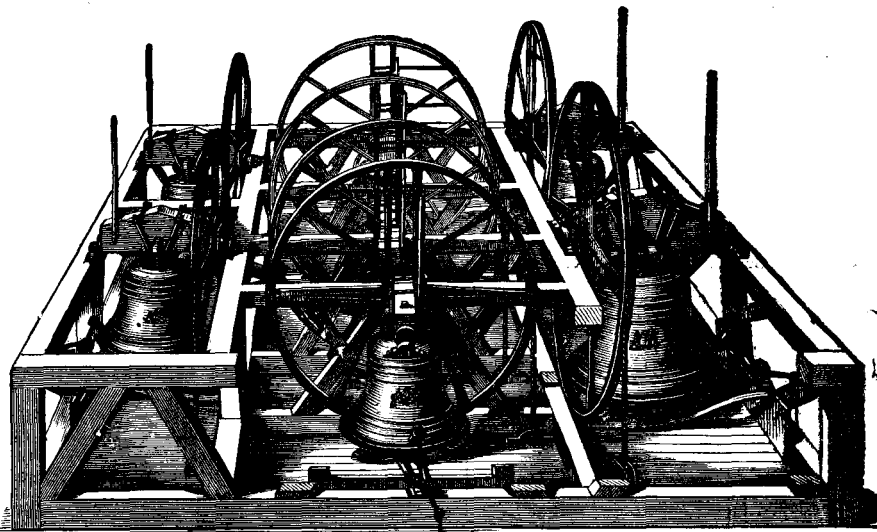
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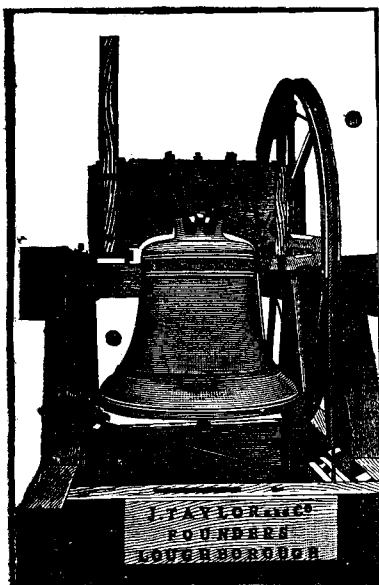
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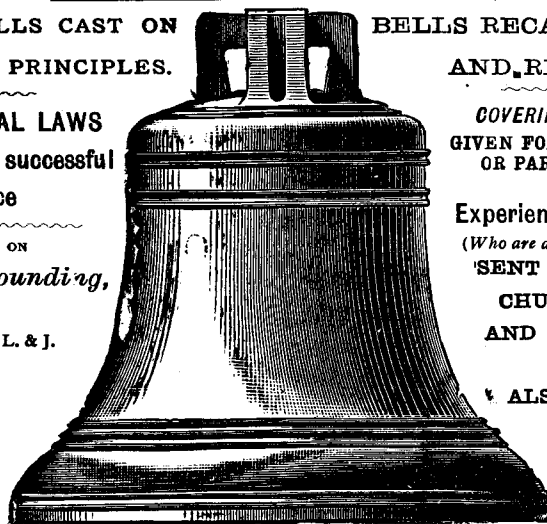
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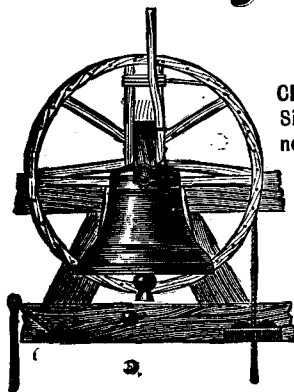
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