

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 267. [NEW SERIES.]—VOL. VI.

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 1887.

[ONE PENNY.]

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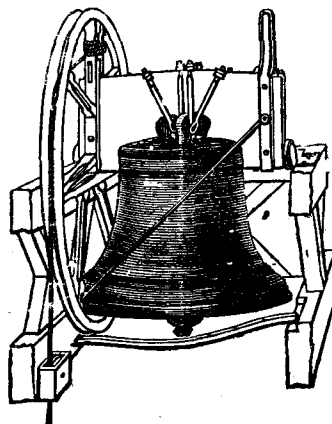
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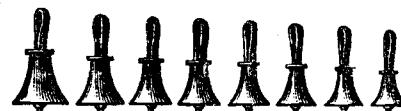
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A MUSICAL METHOD FOR EIGHT, TEN, AND TWELVE BELLS.

By A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

V.—PROVING THE METHOD.

In order that these papers may deal exhaustively with the subject under consideration, it will be desirable, before proceeding to examples of composition, that a description should be given of the proof by which such productions must be tested. The proof of Duffield Major, like that of all methods which contain false internal changes, is of a two-fold character. It is not sufficient to establish the truth of the first change of each six, but enquiry must also be made with a view of detecting whether repeating rows come within the sixes from dissimilar first changes. These are two entirely independent processes, each of which must be carefully attended to in order to ensure correctness.

In explaining the proof of the first changes of the sixes, I shall use the term "six" as denoting this row alone. It is needless to remark that if, in every course, the sixes at which the tenors are in position for a call are pricked, and these are true with one another, all the sixes will be true. They are, as usual, set down in columns, there being a separate one for each calling place, so that each column consists of rows with the tenors in the same position, and no row has to be compared with any but those in its own column. If in a given composition there are calls at In, Before, Out, and Fourths, four columns will be required. If, however, there are no calls at Fourths, three columns will suffice. Now as no call—except an M which will be seldom used, and which I will therefore for the present neglect—can be made after Fourths until the course-end has come up, it will save trouble if, instead of pricking the six produced by Fourths, the effect on the bells is noted at the course-end. In the same way, if there are no calls at Fourths in the composition, the effect of the order at the Out may be equally well shewn at the course-end without pricking the six which the Out produces. The following tables are arranged on this plan, the first being adapted for compositions that contain calls at Fourths, the second for those that do not.

	C.E. to In.	In to B.	B. to Out.	Out to C.E. with a
Plain Six	652413	124635	314625	463152 Plain 4ths.
Bob Six	652134	124356	314256	423165 Bob 4ths.

	C.E. to In.	In to B.	B to C.E. with a
Plain Six	652413	124635	654321 Plain Out.
Bob Six	652134	124356	264351 Bob Out.

A bob at H takes effect at the six following the course-end, and as it produces a fresh course-end, the course preceding which consists of one six only, such a call must be pricked by the scale 251364 from the course-end after which it occurs, and the resulting six set down under the other course-ends, as in the ordinary pricking of the method already explained. An example will make these matters clear:—

(348).

C.E. to In.	In to B.	B. to Out.	123456	H. In. B. Out. Fourths.
465213	462351	243165	251364	—
654132	651432	164532	143256	—
632541	635241	562134	524136	—
			142536	—
			431265	—
563412	564231	452163	152436	—
635412	634512	465312	325416	—
612435	614235	462513	532416	—
613452	614352	463132	123456	—

If the tenor is called M, it must be "with a double," that is, as has been already stated, there must be a bob at the next six also to keep 7, 8 together; the course-end is thus cut out, and it remains to show how such courses are to be proved.

The best way is to proceed on the plan adopted in pricking Ms, which was set forth in the last paper, namely, to prick the natural course-end that would come up if no M was called, using

one or other of the above tables, according as the composition contains, or not, bobs at Fourths. From this natural course-end transposing by the scale 436512 will give the course-end from which the order following an M (2) called in the previous course would naturally come. Thus there are two natural course-ends, both of which must be set down under the other course-ends, and which may be marked m^1 and m^2 respectively. The proof can then be continued by pricking forward from course-end M^2 by the table previously selected. An example is again given:—

(144).

C.E. to In.	In to B.	123456	H. In. B. Out.
346521	345162	251364	—
		562143	—
		261543	(m^1) —
		513426	(m^2) —
621453	624153	231456	—
653421	654321	123456	—

The call M (2) is made before the natural course-end 261543; it is here placed opposite the natural course-end 513426 because the latter contains the order produced by these calls. The calling will be better understood from the following, which is the proper mode of expressing the touch:—

1 2 3 4 5 6	H. In.	B. Out.
2 5 1 3 6 4	—	—
5 6 2 1 4 3	—	—
2 3 1 4 5 6	—	—
1 2 3 4 5 6	—	—

As in the above touch there are no repeating rows in any one column, all the sixes are true. The M sixes are true because the course-ends m^1 and m^2 shew the order both before and after the M (2) calls. The position at the six between the first and second of these bobs is one into which the tenors can never fall in any ordinary course, therefore this six can only repeat with a similar six occurring at another M (2), but in such a case the repetition would be shewn both by the m^1 and m^2 course-ends; therefore the proof is complete so far as the first changes of the sixes are concerned. Although, however, the fact that the course-ends m^1 and m^2 do not appear again among the other course-ends is proof of the truth of the M sixes, it does not follow that if one or both of them did so appear the composition would be false. To explain this it is necessary to examine carefully what part of the courses which these natural course-ends represent actually occurs. The bob at In initiates the order which is shewn at the natural course-end m^1 , but the first of the M (2) calls breaks off the course one six before the course-end, therefore all that really appears of the course 261543 is that part of it which lies between the In and the M, so that if 261543 came at another part of the touch by a bob H, it might continue to the In following without being false. Similarly all that actually occurs of the course 513426, which is the natural m^2 course-end, is that part which lies between the third six, at which point the second of the M (2) calls breaks in, and the following B; so that if the same order came at another part of the touch not earlier than at a B, and was allowed to run no farther than the following H, where a bob would have to be called, no repetition would take place. An extension of the last touch will make this clear.

(152).

C.E. to In.	In to B.	123456	H. In. B. Out.
346521	345162	251364	—
		562143	—
		261543	(m^1) —
		513426	(m^2) —
621453	624153	231456	—
653421	654321	513426	—
		125364	—

Round in two changes.

Here is carried into effect the latter of the above two suppositions. The course-end 513426 appears first as a natural m^2 course-end, and again as a fixed course-end followed by a bob H, under which conditions there are no false sixes. It may be well to explain, for the benefit of those to whom they are not

familiar, that the term "fixed" course-end implies a course-end actually occurring in a composition, while a "natural" course-end is one to which or from which, a certain "fixed" part of the course would naturally run if it were not for certain bobs which disturb it; thus a natural course-end is purely imaginary, and is merely obtained as a convenient way of working out some kinds of proof.

From what has been shewn, it may be thought that the proof of the truth of the sixes in this method is somewhat complicated, yet, with the exception of bobs at M, such is not really the case. It was necessary, for the sake of completeness, to go fully into the effect of the latter calls, but composers will not in all probability make much use of them. With regard to the general proof of the sixes, I have given the elementary basis on which to proceed. With this before them, experienced composers will readily see how far the full proof can be abbreviated, and to what extent, as may often be the case in the simpler peals, an examination of only the course-ends will suffice. Saving bobs at M, the proof of Duffield Major by sixes is identical in principle with the proof of other even bell methods by lead-ends.

In proving compositions that contain calls at In, B, and Out only, the 6th need not be pricked, and the following table may be used:—

	C.E. to In.	In to B.	B. to C.E.	with a
Plain Six	52413	13524	54321	Plain Out.
Bob Six	52134	13245	15324	Bob Out.

The remaining part of the proof, that of the internal changes of the sixes, will be considered in the next paper.

Erratum:—In the last number, page 61, second column, near the end of the third paragraph, for "bobs at In, B, and Out," read "calls at In, B, and Out."

LOCAL USES OF CHURCH BELLS.

The following particulars, drawn from the interesting works by the late Mr. Thomas North, and Mr. J. C. L. Stahlschmidt, of the various uses to which church bells are locally put in Hertfordshire, succeed naturally to our previous notice of that part of the book dealing chronologically with the bells and their founders. We may take this opportunity of adding to our former remarks, that the work of Messrs. North and Stahlschmidt bears evidence of being as complete and accurate as any record of the kind can possibly be, and that alike to campanists and to those who are interested in the church history of the county the volume will be indispensable.

At the present day it would seem from the Prayer Book that one bell is all that is required; the sole rubric dealing with the matter orders the curate that ministereth to "cause a bell to be tolled a convenient time before he begin . . . that the people may come to hear God's Word and to pray with him." The Canons however contemplate the use of more than one bell, speaking of "one short peal" in connection with ringing for the dead; and the government of the belfry is placed in the hands of the priest and the churchwardens. Local uses, says Mr. North, may be divided into two classes: ancient and modern—comprising among the former those which at the present day are continued, although their meaning has been lost or perverted, such as early week-day or Sunday ringing, and the "curfew" and "pancake" bells; while among the latter are classed those which, although as ancient in origin, are adapted to the requirements of the present day, as well as those which are distinctively modern in their inception. Of early Sunday ringing, that at seven o'clock only obtains now at four churches in the county: at Much Hadham, where the tenor is rung and called the "sermon" bell; at Tring (treble); and at Watford and at St. Peter's, St. Albans, at both of which the first and second bells are chimed. Rickmansworth retained the custom until six years ago; and at Hitchin the treble was rung at that hour. At Ashwell a bell known as the "horse-keepers' bell" was rung, doubtless from the habit of those in charge of horses to rise by it to attend to their duties—a perversion to the original meaning of the ringing, which was to call the faithful to Matins. Ringing at eight o'clock, the usual time for Matins, is very much more common, thirty-three churches still continuing the custom. At some places this bell is called the "sermon" bell, as at Hexton, the origin of which at this and other hours is somewhat obscure. It would seem likely to have begun early in Elizabeth's reign, when for a time many churches were served by "readers," who were strictly forbidden to preach; and an early peal at some hour on Sunday seems to have been intended to announce a sermon by a priest licensed for such

work by the bishop. The nine o'clock, or Mass bell, is of rare occurrence in the county; it is stated to have been rung at Pirton from time immemorial, and Great Gaddesden, Hinxworth, and Little Berkhamstead also preserve the custom. At Ashwell the second bell is then rung, and is called the "Sunday School" bell, this being a very doubtful case of survival. It is said that the treble used formerly to be rung at Albury at ten o'clock on Sundays, as to which Mr. North thinks tradition has shifted the hour from nine to ten, unless it was a "sermon" bell, which is still rung at the latter hour at Westmill. Two examples of the evening Angelus, or "Curfew," bell still remain. At Baldock the third bell is used for this as for the early morning peal, from March to October, at eight o'clock, the day of the month being tolled; at Hitchin the tenor is rung at this time from September 29th to March 25th. Tradition has preserved instances of this custom at Ashwell, Harpenden, Bishop Stortford, and other places. The "pancake" bell—really the Shroving bell, rung on Shrove Tuesday to call men and women to confession—is still rung at Ashwell at noon; it was also formerly rung at Baldock, Hitchin, and Hoddesdon. Of ringing on the great Church festivals there are of course many instances. Good Friday is specially marked in one parish alone—Ayot St. Peter, where the cemetery bell is tolled thirty-three times at three o'clock in the afternoon—the "ninth hour."

Coming to modern uses, Sunday mid-day ringing obtains in several places. It is difficult to say whether this should not be regarded as a survival of the mid-day Angelus bell. At Bennington and Hitchin the treble is rung at the conclusion of morning service "to show that service is over." At Rickmansworth the treble is rung at one o'clock, this seeming the most likely case of survival. At Walkern the tenor was once rung after morning service if evensong was to follow; at Watford the fourth bell was rung after morning service "to give notice to gentlemen's servants to get their masters' carriages ready." There are instances of the use of the "sermon" bell at other times than eight o'clock, generally either before or after the ringing (or chiming) for service, as at Barkway and Rushden, and formerly at Walkern and Baldock. As the use of church bells in connexion with weddings has almost universally sunk into a question of pounds, shillings and pence with the "happy pair," there are few instances of past and present usage of a different character to be noted with regard to this. "Banns peals" used to be rung at Hinxworth on the first Sunday of publication, a custom which has apparently died out. Wedding peals are rung at Essendon after the ceremony, and also in the evening. At Stanstead Abbots there is a short peal, for which payment is optional; at Wyddial a peal is rung when the newly-married people return from their honeymoon. The "Passing" bell, properly so called—that is, a bell rung while the dying man or woman is actually passing away—is not, so far as is known, ever rung now. In a few instances, however, there is a near approach to this old custom, as to Hexton, Little Munden, Sandon, and Royston, where the death-knell is tolled as soon as notice is given to the parish clerk or sexton. At other places it is rung on the day following, or at twelve or twenty-four hours subsequent to death. The number of years of the deceased is tolled at Chorley Wood, Ickleford, St. Ippolyts, and Willian; while at Walkern the age is approximately denoted by the use of different bells for different ages. The frequent postponement of the death-knell may, says Mr. North, have originated in the Protestant prejudice against praying for the dead. The custom is almost invariably to mark the sex of the departed by what are technically known as "tellers," the normal use being three times two strokes for a female, and three times three strokes for a male—in which, says the author, is seen the explanation of the proverb, "Nine tailors make a man," that is, "Nine tellers make a man." At Widdford there is no distinction of sex. Dedication peals are rung only at Ardeley, on August 10, the church being dedicated to St. Lawrence; this is said to be a revival, rather than a survival, due to reverence for old customs on the part of the late Rev. W. Malet, the vicar.

Of secular uses, the most common is the ringing of peals on Royal anniversaries, as on the Queen's birthday; the birthdays of the Prince and Princess of Wales are similarly marked at Great Berkhamstead. On Restoration-day, May 29, peals are rung at Kingswolden, King's Langley, and Watton. The custom also obtained formerly at Essendon, Hitchin, and Little Hadham, but is now discontinued. November 5, Guy Fawkes's-day, is noticed by ringing at Cottered, Furneaux Pelham, Flamstead, Watton, Great Gaddesden, Much Hadham, Hemel, Hempstead, King's Langley, North Mimms, Redbourn, Westmill, and Wyddial, and the custom has been discontinued at other places. The "Vestry" bell—the modern representation, and doubtless in some cases the survival, of the ancient "Moot"; or assembly bell of the people—is rung in many places. At Ashwell both for vestry and town meetings the tenor is tolled. Another purely secular use of the bells was to mark the time in harvest when gleaning was to begin and end; and in some parishes where the "gleaning" bell was a useful institution from the absence of watches and clocks it has survived to the present day. At Ashwell, Barley, Buckland, Bennington, Cottered,

Kelshall, Rushden, Sandon, Alberry, Redbourn, Clothall, Much Hadham, Little Munden, and Standon it is rung at eight in the morning and five in the afternoon; at Watton and Thorley the hours are eight and six, at Ickleford seven and six, at Hertingfordbury eight and seven, at Ardeley nine and four, and at Stocking Pelham nine and five. The custom has been recently discontinued, among other places, at Aston, Datchworth, Essendon, Walkern, Anstey, Baldock, Barkway, Hinxworth, and Furneaux Pelham. The use of one or other of the church bells as a "fire-bell" seems to have died out. The second bell at Tring is still called the fire-bell; the fifth is rung at Ashwell, and this seems to be the only example in the county of a church bell so used. A curious instance of bell usage is given by Salmon as existing in 1728 in Hinxworth parish. He says:—"The cow commons were given to keep the Church in repair. A tax for that purpose hath been ever since laid upon inhabitants, who keep 84 cows upon the common, and pay to the repairs according to the number of cows they keep, except the Rector, who keeps three and pays nothing to it. This is kept in memory by the tolling a bell on Whitsun Eve. There is a tradition that this was given by two maiden sisters: but it is generally thought that John Ward, the Lord Mayor, was the benefactor." *Hertfordshire Express*.

In Memoriam.

JOSEPH STOKES.

We regret to record the death of the above named gentleman, who died at Folkestone, March 15th, 1887, aged 71 years. The deceased was a member of the Kent County Association from its commencement, and had been a ringer 41 years. Although not able to take part in any performance for the last few years of his life, he had accomplished some remarkable performances in his younger days at Aldington, where he was a native and learnt change-ringing. He had assisted in ringing a great many 720's of Bob Minor, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Double Court Bob, he also rang in several peals of 5000 changes and upwards. Also at a change-ringing contest at St. Stephens, Hackington, near Canterbury, in 1845, when two trebles were added to make a peal of eight, four bands entered the contest, viz., Ashford, Faversham, Wye, and Hythe, the last named in which four of the Aldington band assisted in ringing the required number of changes, viz., 1008 in any method, this one being Bob Major, which was pronounced by the judges to be the best performance, each one of this band receiving a pair of white kid gloves as a Prize. He also rang the 4th bell through a 6720 of Bob Major at Hythe in the same year (1845), and the same peal at Folkestone in the same year, and on May 4th, 1846, he rang the 4th bell through the 13,440 of Bob Major, at St. Leonard's, Hythe, Kent, in 7 hrs. and 55 mins., it being the longest length rung in the county by one set of men. Two only now survive him, James Harrison having died at Folkestone, on Easter Monday, April 11th, aged 79 years. Edward Hyder and Thomas Post, who rung the 7th and tenor respectively, are the only two living of the band, both belonging to Aldington. The deceased was buried at Aldington, on Monday March 21st, and the local company rang in the evening, at St. Martin's church, a 720 of Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles), with the bells deeply muffled. Charles Slingsby, 1; Thomas Hodgkin, 2; William Post, sen., 3; Edward Hyder, 4; William Hyder (conductor), 5; Phillip Hodgkin, 6. And on Saturday evening, April 23rd, the Aldington company rang a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), with the bells deeply muffled, as a last mark of respect to James Harrison, of Folkestone. W. Post, sen., 1; D. Hodgkin, 2; F. Wanstall, 3; E. Hyder, 4; W. Hyder, 5; P. Hodgkin (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt. in G.

HANDBELL CONTEST.

A change-ringing contest on handbells will take place at the house of Mr. Jos. Walton, Royal Hotel, Hayfield, Derbyshire, on Saturday, May 21st, 1887, when £6 will be given in prizes by the proprietor, in the following order: for Grandsire Triples and Grandsire Major, first prize, £2 10s.; second, £1 10s.; third, 17s. 6d.; fourth, 7s. 6d. There will also be an extra two prizes for the two best courses of Caters. First prize, 10s.; second, 5s. To take place at 5 p.m. Every company to ring one set of bells, which will be provided, and 18 size in the key of G. Competent judges will be provided. All enquiries to be made to Thomas Brocklehurst, Jumble Farm, Hayfield.

We are requested to say that the statement which appeared in the issue of "THE BELL NEWS" of February 12th, 1887, to the effect that the bad condition of the 11th bell of St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol, was due to the inferior workmanship of a local bell-hanger, had nothing whatever to do with the firm of Llewellyn and James, of the above city.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 2ND, 1887.

By the Augmering Branch at Augmering.—On Saturday, April 23rd, a 120 of Bob Minor. Barnett, 1; Evans, 2; T. Parsons, 3; C. Hills, 4; F. Finch, 5; C. Blackman (conductor), 6. On Saturday, April 30th, a 180 of Bob Minor. Barnett, 1; T. Parsons, 2; F. Luxford, 3; C. Hills, 4; F. Finch, 5; C. Blackman (conductor), 6.

By the Balcombe Branch at Balcombe.—On Thursday, April 7th, a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. R. Bourne, 1; A. Stoner, 2; E. Streeter, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; J. Gasson, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 10th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. A. Stoner, 1; R. Bourne, 2; H. Meads, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; J. Gasson, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. On Thursday, April 14th, a 720 of College Single. R. Streeter, 1; A. Stoner, 2; H. Meads, 3; T. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. R. Bourne, 1; A. Stoner, 2; E. Streeter, 3; H. Meads, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. And a 360 of College Single. R. Bourne, 1; R. Streeter, 2; J. Gasson, 3; T. Streeter, 4; E. Streeter, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 24th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. A. Stoner, 1; R. Bourne, 2; H. Meads, 3; E. Streeter, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. And a 360 of Oxford Single Bob. R. Streeter, 1; A. Stoner, 2; E. Streeter, 3; J. Gasson, 4; J. Cheeseman, 5; H. Meads (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob. R. Streeter, 1; R. Bourne, 2; E. Streeter, 3; T. Streeter, 4; J. Gasson, 5; J. Cheeseman (conductor), 6. On Thursday, April 28th, 720 changes in seven different methods, being 120 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, 120 each of Plain Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, and Oxford Single Bob, and a plain course each of College Single and Warnham Court Bob Minor. A. Stoner, 1; R. Bourne, 2; H. Meads, 3; J. Cheeseman, 4; J. Gasson, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6.

By the Brighton branch at St. Peter's, Brighton.—On Sunday, May 1st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. A. A. Fuller, 1; J. Salmon, 2; H. Weston (conductor), 3; G. King, 4; J. Reilly, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; A. E. Nunn (Staplehurst), 7; D. Ross, 8. Also on Monday, May 2nd, a 784 of Bob Major, in 31 mins. A. A. Fuller, 1; G. F. Attree, 2; J. Reilly, 3; G. Thwaites, 4; J. Jay, 5; G. Kirg, 6; W. Palmer, 7; H. Weston (conductor), 8.

By the Crawley branch at Crawley.—The 5040 reported last week as Grandsire Triples, should have been Kent Treble Bob Major.

By the Christ Church, Eastbourne branch, at Christ Church.—On Sunday, May 1st, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure Minor, in 27 mins. R. Howse, 1; T. Smith, 2; G. Smith, 3; H. Colbran, 4; J. Sharp, 5; G. Howse (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Single Bob, in 26 mins. H. Knight, 1; J. Sharp, 2; G. Howse, 3; G. Smith, 4; H. Colbran, 5; F. Harding (conductor), 6. Also with the bells deeply muffled, as a token of respect to the late Mr. Thomas Harfley, by six of his grandsons, on Monday, May 2nd, a six 6-score of Grandsire Doubles, in 24 mins. R. Howse, 1; H. Goddard, 2; G. Smith, 3; C. Harfley, 4; T. Smith (conductor), 5; G. Howse, 6. And a 360 of College Single, in 12 mins. C. Harfley, 1; G. Smith, 2; H. Colbran, 3; J. Sharp, 4; G. Howse, 5; T. Smith (conductor), 6.

By the St. Albans' branch, at St. Albans.—A 5040 of Grandsire Triples on handbells retained in hand (Holt's Original) in 2 hrs. and 35 mins. The first peal on handbells by four members of the Association.

By the Steyning branch at Steyning.—On Sunday, May 1st, a 720 of Yorkshire Court. J. Matthews, 1; G. Gatland, 2; C. Chambers, 3; E. Brackley, 4; G. Smart, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. And 360 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Woolgar, 1; E. Brackley, 2; C. Tyler, 3; C. Chambers, 4; J. Searle, 5; G. Smart (conductor), 6.

By the Warnham branch at Warnham.—On Thursday, April 28th, a 576 of Oxford Treble Bob Major. G. Charman, 1; W. Short, 2; W. Wadey, 3; T. Andrews, 4; H. Wood, 5; F. Knight, 6; H. Burstow, 7; H. Chandle (conductor), 8. First touch in the method by all the band.

By the Worth branch at Worth.—On Sunday, May 1st, a 720 of Warnham Court, in 24 mins. W. Owden, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Streeter, 3; E. Streeter, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 23 mins. E. Streeter, 1; F. Streeter, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; J. Gasson, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Plain Bob, in 23½ mins. W. Meads, 1; W. Denman, 2; J. Cheeseman, 3; J. Gasson, 4; G. Illman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. And 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 23 mins. B. Payne, 1; W. Denman, 2; F. Streeter, 3; F. Rice, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6.

GEO. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

The annual meeting will be held at Poole, on Tuesday, May 10th, Divine service at St. James', Poole, at 11 a.m. Business meeting at the "Crown" Inn at 12.30. Dinner at the "Crown" Inn at 1.15 p.m. Towers open for ringing, Poole, Canford, Wareham, Corfe Castle, and Bournemouth, St. Peter. A meeting will also be held at Trowbridge on Thursday, May 12th. Dinner at 1.30 p.m. Towers open, Trowbridge, Bradford, North Bradley, Westbury and Steeple Ashton.

DEDICATION OF A NEW PEAL OF BELLS AT POYNTON, NEAR STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.

Tuesday last will form a red-letter day in the history of the parish church of Poynton, as being the day on which the bells were dedicated to the service of Almighty God, and which had been looked forward to with feelings of pleasurable anticipation by all concerned. The dedication ceremony had been fixed to take place at six o'clock, and before the confirmation ceremony, and previous to the service, a right merry peal was rung out by a set of ringers from Macclesfield, and the bells were clearly and distinctly heard as far as Hazel Grove, and there is no mistake as to their sweetness. At the time of commencement, the church was crowded in every part, the greatest interest being manifested in the proceedings. Amongst those present was the Dowager Lady Vernon and other members of the Vernon family, the other leading families of the neighbourhood being also well represented. Exactly at six o'clock, the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Chester (Dr. Stubbs), entered the sacred edifice, attended by the Rev. Canon Brown, rural dean, the Rev. Canon Symonds, rector of Stockport, the Rev. Marshall Wild, a former vicar of Poynton, the Rev. G. N. Wilmer, vicar of Hazel Grove, the Rev. Mr. Freer, vicar of Sudbury, the Rev. T. Bridge, vicar of Poynton, &c. The form of service was the usual evening service to the end of the third collect, with a special lesson and special psalms, the latter being the cxxii and the cl. the service opening with a hymn, which was heartily sung. The lesson was read by the Rev. Marshall Wild. Then followed prayers having special reference to the occasion which had brought them together, and in which the blessing of Almighty God was invoked "that all they who with their outward ears shall hear the sound of these bells, may be moved inwardly in their spirits, and draw nigh unto Thee, the God of their salvation, through Jesus Christ our Lord." A blessing was also asked upon those who shall ring the bells, that they "may be filled with all reverence and godly fear, and may ever be mindful of the sacredness of Thy House, putting away all idle thoughts and light behaviour, and continuing in holiness of life." At the conclusion of these prayers, there was a pause in the service, during which there was a short touch upon the bells, and the scene was most impressive as the large congregation sat in silence listening to the bells, with which everybody seemed to be highly pleased. This was followed by the "general thanksgiving" and the prayer of St. Chrysostom, after which a hymn was sung. The Bishop then advanced to the pulpit and delivered a short sermon, basing his observations upon the tenth verse of the eighteenth chapter of Proverbs, "The name of the Lord is a strong tower." He said there were other thoughts besides those of congratulation, which might be taken for granted on an occasion like that, when then were met for the dedication of their new bells. They had recently completed their new tower and otherwise improved the Church, and it might be asked what was the meaning of all this, and of what use was it all? It was right that these questions should be answered, and he would endeavour to supply a few answers that might be given. His lordship then went on to show why churches were built, which was to promote the continuity of our spiritual worship, and to preserve our treasures of faith and prayer. They built their houses of prayer strong and beautiful, and different from our ordinary dwelling houses, so that people could break away from the secular and harassing cares of daily life, and get to the place where there were purer and more elevating suggestions; and they furnished the House of God in such a manner that all classes might find a place in it. The preacher then referred to the uses of towers and bells in the past, a most historical reference. Sometimes towers were used as beacons and lights to guide the way-faring traveller. Bells were heard as warnings in the days of civil war, and were often rung in honour of triumph, and the church tower was a place of refuge where people could hide their little treasures. After some further reference in this connection, the Bishop said that the bells in the tower of that Church would call the people to assemble in the House of their Heavenly Father, the place where they would be enabled to reach forward in faith to the Lamb that was slain. They could come to meet God in His sanctuary, where He had promised to give to them His blessing. He hoped the bells, the first hallowed peal of which they had just heard, would fulfil the spiritual ends to which they had been dedicated. They would be rung under different circumstances—at the solemn hour when they had to bury their beloved friends, at the time when loving hearts would be united in holy matrimony, and at times of general rejoicing; but they would also be rung for people to come to church, and he trusted that the parishioners would always recognise the call. Another hymn was sung, and the service was then concluded, and was followed by the confirmation. The bells rang out several touches in various methods

after the service, and the ringers were highly complimented for the skilful manner in which they handled the bells, and the beautiful harmony brought out. Though the above was the formal dedication of the bells, they were rung for Divine Service on Easter Sunday by ringers from Hayfield, Derbyshire. The bells were cast by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough.

THE NORTH NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The first Committee Meeting of the recently formed Association for North Nottinghamshire was held at Worksop, on Saturday, April 16th. The objects of the Association are: (1) To recognise the true position of ringers as church workers. (2) To cultivate the art of change-ringing. (3) To promote order, good feeling and friendship amongst ringers. (4) Belfry reform. A set of rules for the guidance of members has been adopted, and it is hoped that the Association may be the means of greatly benefiting ringers in the district. It is intended that the Association shall consist of honorary and performing members. Honorary members to subscribe not less than 5s. annually, or become life members by a donation of not less than £2 2s., and performing members to subscribe 1s. annually payable at Easter at each year. The Association will amongst other things provide Instructors for societies who have not mastered change-ringing, the societies benefited paying half the cost of providing such instructors and the Association the other half.

Ringings meetings will be held monthly in the towers of the Association by permission of the Incumbents and Churchwardens, and the first of such meetings will be held at Retford on Saturday, May 28th, when and where the peal of eight bells at the East Retford parish church, and the peal of six bells at West Retford parish church will be put at the disposal of visitors.

The Patrons of the Association are, His Grace the Duke of Newcastle; His Grace the Duke of Portland. The Officers are: President, the Bishop of Southwell; Vice Presidents, the Rev. A. F. Ebsworth, Rev. G. Osborne Browne, Rev. Marshall Wild, Rev. Watkin Homfray, Rev. Canon Gray, Rev. H. T. Slodden; Treasurer, George R. Lucas, Esq., Worksop; Hon. Secretary, Mr. Fred. Mackie, the Square, Retford.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

BICKLEIGH (near Plymouth).—A band in connection with the above Guild has been formed at Bickleigh, near Plymouth, under the instruction of Mr. Taylor of Plymouth. There are at present seven members of the band, who stand as follows: Messrs. John P. King, 1; John Willcocks, 2; John Ham, 3; James King, 4; William J. Halls, 5; Harrington P. Cole, 6; and Mr. William Giles, an old ringer, also rings the tenor. On Wednesday, April 27th, Mr. Batchelor of Plymouth, accompanied Mr. Taylor to Bickleigh, to certify that the band are capable of ringing Grandsire, so as to be eligible for membership of the Guild. Several six-scores of Doubles were rung by the band, standing as aforesaid, in a most creditable manner, conducted by Messrs. Halls, and J. P. King alternately; Messrs. Taylor and Batchelor remaining outside the tower. Afterwards several six-scores were rung with Messrs. Taylor and Batchelor taking part, conducted by Mr. Taylor. The go of the bells, tenor about 13 cwt., is very good, and the belfry is commodious and well-arranged. The practice night is Wednesday, and the band rings for the Sunday services.

PLYMOUTH (St. Andrew).—The band here ring for Sunday morning service, and on Thursday evenings. The woodwork of the bells being warped by the long-continuance of dry weather, causes the hinder bells (tenor 35 cwt.) to go rather badly, so the band has not for some time done any longer length than 168 of Triples, but a representation on the subject has been made to the churchwardens, and no doubt the matter will be attended to. Good progress is being made here; but with the bells in their present condition it would be "cruelty to animals" to attempt a long touch.

DEVONPORT (Dockyard Chapel).—Practice here is regularly kept up on Saturday evenings, and several long touches of Grandsire Triples have recently been rung, extending to 800 or thereabouts, conducted by Mr. Banister.

THE HERTS. COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Members are requested to take notice that the next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Braughing, on the 10th of May, and that the following resolutions will then be proposed: 1; That the Association be divided into four districts, after the model of the Oxford Guild, viz.: the northern, the western, the central, and the Eastern. 2; That this resolution be considered at the annual general meeting at St. Albans, next October. Each band to make its own arrangements as to the 10th of May.

W. WIGRAM, General Secretary.

THE SNOWDON MEMORIAL FUND.

LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS.

	£	s.	d.
Amount already advertised ...	33	8	0
St. Peter's Society, Sheffield:—			
Charles Bower ...	£0	2	6
Wm. Burgan ...	0	2	6
John Sandforth ...	0	2	6
St. Mary's Society, Sheffield:—			
J. Dixon ...	0	2	6
J. Mulligan ...	0	1	0
Mr. Abbshaw, Rothwell ...	0	2	6
The Birmingham Amalgamated Society ...	0	10	6
The Surrey Association ...	1	1	0
A. B. Carpenter, Esq. ...	0	10	0
The Royal Cumberland Youths ...	2	2	0
The St. Peter's Parish Church Company, Leeds ...	1	6	0
he Liverpool Youths ...	0	14	6
Mr. T. Powell, Waltham Abbey, Essex ...	0	2	6
St. Luke's Society, Liverpool, per Mr. R. S. Mann ...	0	8	0
A. Percival Heywood, Esq., Duffield ...	1	1	0
Charles E. Malim, London ...	0	5	0
Wm. Jones, Royal Cumberlands ...	0	2	6
St Peter's Society, Huddersfield, per Tom Haigh ...	0	10	0
Collected from members present at Meeting of Norwich Diocesan Association, at Ipswich, October, 1886 ...	0	15	0
E. A. Foster, Corsham, Wilts. ...	0	5	0
The Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, Kings Lynn ...	1	1	0
The Doncaster Society ...	0	5	0
The Rev. F. E. Robinson, Drayton, Berks. ...	0	5	0
Mr. John Day, Birmingham ...	0	2	0
Mr. Urban Holman, Croydon, per A. B. Carpenter, Esq. ...	0	2	0
The St. James' Society, Bolton, near Bradford ...	0	6	0
Swanscombe (Kent) Society, per F. J. King ...	0	5	0
Mr. John Carter, St. Giles' Company, Pontefract ...	0	5	0
" William Pearson " ...	0	2	9
" W. J. Nevard, Great Bentley, Essex ...	0	2	0
The Willesden Branch of College Youths ...	0	5	0
" St. John's Society, Bromsgrove ...	0	5	0
" Woodbridge Society, Suffolk, from fund ...	0	5	6
Mr. John Fosdike, Woodbridge ...	0	2	0
" W. M. Meadows " ...	0	1	6
" W. Ward " ...	0	1	0
" C. Ward " ...	0	1	0
" E. F. Cole, London ...	0	5	0
The Bedfordshire Association, Bedford company, per M. Warwick ...	0	8	0
The St. Giles' Society Houghton-in-the-Dale, Per E. F. Elwin, Walsingham, ...	0	5	0
The Proprietors of "THE BELL NEWS" ...	1	1	0
" Employees in "THE BELL NEWS" Office ...	0	12	0
The S. Michael's Society, Sittingbourne ...	0	5	0
T. Clark, Esq., Keldale Villa, near Ripon ...	1	0	0
The Masham Ringers, in mem. November 16th, 1885, per Rev. G. M. Gorham, Vicar ...	0	12	6
Mr. Blezard, Pulford, Chester ...	0	2	6
Edward E. Lawson, Esq., Leeds ...	1	1	0
Mr. Henry Hayes, Church, Lancashire ...	0	2	6
St. Paul's Church Guild of Change Ringers, Brighton ...	0	10	6
Mr. Alfred J. J. Giddings, Frome, Somerset ...	0	2	6
" George Murray, S. Paul's Guild, Brighton ...	0	2	6
The Long Melford Company, viz.: Fred R. Steed, rs.; Samuel Slater, rs.; Percy Scott, rs.; Jas. Bird, rs.; G. Hammond, rs.; Zachariah Slater, 6d.; N. J. Pitstow, Esq., Saffron Walden, ss. ...	0	10	0
Edward Webster, Tong ...	0	2	6
From a few ringers' of Lincoln:—			
Per Mr. Isaac Vickers ...	0	5	0
Mr. John Strodder, Ripon ...	0	2	0
The Hertford College Youths, per Mr. James Staples ...	0	15	0
Mr. John Penning, Saffron Walden ...	0	2	0
" Joseph Cheetham, Bradford ...	0	2	6
R. K. Knight, Esq., Walthamstow ...	0	2	6
Mr. Wm. Lomas, Sheffield ...	0	2	6
The Holt Society, Aston-juxta-Birmingham, per Mr. T. J. Hemming ...	1	1	0
Mr. R. Pearson, Campsall ...	0	2	0
A. B. Pearson, " ...	0	1	0
" Jno. Haley, Tong ...	0	3	0
" Wm. Smith, Sheffield ...	0	1	0
" Jos. Taylor, ditto ...	0	2	6
The Wakefield Company ...	0	6	0
Wm. Whitaker, Esq., Ilkley ...	0	10	0
Mr. T. Blackburn, Salisbury ...	10	0	0
The Parish Church Company, Keighley ...	0	0	0
Mr. A. Hayward, College Youths, London ...	6	0	0
The St. Chad's Society, Headingley, Leeds ...	0	0	0

Rev. C. D. P. Davies ...	0	5	0
Robt. Smith, Maidenhead ...	0	2	6
St. John's Society, Stavely:—Herbert Maden, rs.; Walter Worthington, rs.; John Harris, rs.; Henry Mottershall, rs. ...	0	4	0
Ely Society, per John Evans Ellis ...	0	6	0
Mr. John Lomas, St. Peter's Society, Sheffield ...	0	2	6
Mr. Charles Price, Ecclestone ...	0	2	6
North Lincolnshire Association, per W. Lunn ...	0	10	6
Mr. Rowland Hill, Kirkburton ...	0	2	6
W. Gill, Hull (late of Keighley) ...	0	2	0
Mr. R. Lane, Loughborough ...	0	1	6
" W. Billinghamurst ...	0	1	6
" J. Smith ...	0	1	0
" G. Draycott ...	0	1	0
" W. Broomfield, Santridge ...	0	2	0
Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association:—Hurworth, 15s.; South Shields, 14s. 6d.; Stockton, 14s.; Shotley Bridge, 10s.; Consett, 10s.; Thirsk, 10s.; Newton Hall, 7s.; Bishop Wearmouth, 6s.; Barnard Castle, 5s.; Chester-le-Street, 5s.; St. John's, Darlington, 5s.; Ripon, 3s. ...	5	4	6
The following members of the South Lincolnshire Association, per Mr. Rd. Creasey:—The Morton Company, 2s. 6d.; St. Paul's Company, Spalding, 7s.; Gosberton Company, 3s. 9d. ...	0	13	3
Mr. D. Hayward, Great Yarmouth ...	0	2	6

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

Report of ringing done by the Bishop Auckland Branch at the parish church during the month of April.—On the 3rd.—A 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, on the seven back bells. A. J. B. Waldron, 1; J. G. Pratt, 2; J. Pallister, 3; F. Castree, 4; F. Charlton, 5; J. W. Cleminson (conductor), 6; H. C. Mayne, 7. Also a 336 of Grandsire Triples. H. C. Mayne, 1; J. G. Pratt, 2; A. J. B. Waldron, 3; J. Pallister, 4; E. Titt, 5; F. Charlton, 6; J. W. Cleminson (conductor), 7; F. Castree, 8.—On the 10th.—A 720 of Kent. A. J. B. Waldron, 1; E. Titt, 2; J. Pallister, 3; F. Castree, 4; F. Charlton, 5; J. W. Cleminson (conductor), 6. In 26 mins. Also a 168 of Grandsire Triples. H. C. Mayne, 1; J. G. Pratt, 2; A. J. B. Waldron, 3; J. Pallister, 4; F. Castree, 5; F. Charlton, 6; E. Titt (conductor), 7; J. W. Cleminson, 8. Also a 504 of Grandsire Triples. A. J. B. Waldron, 1; J. G. Pratt, 2; J. W. Cleminson, 3; J. Pallister, 4; F. Castree, 5; F. Charlton, 6; E. Titt (conductor), 7; H. C. Mayne, 8. Also a 168 of Grandsire Triples. A. J. B. Waldron, 1; J. G. Pratt, 2; A. J. B. Waldron, 3; J. Pallister, 4; F. Castree, 5; F. Charlton, 6; E. Titt (conductor), 7; H. C. Mayne, 8. This was an attempt for a quarter-peal, but a wrong call brought it to grief after ringing half an hour.—On the 17th.—A 168 of Grandsire Triples. J. Pallister, 1; J. G. Pratt, 2; A. J. B. Waldron, 3; F. Cleminson, 4; F. Castree, 5; F. Charlton, 6; E. Titt (conductor), 7; H. C. Mayne, 8. Also a 462 of Grandsire Triples. H. C. Mayne, 1; J. G. Pratt, 2; A. J. B. Waldron, 3; J. Pallister, 4; F. W. Cleminson, 5; F. Charlton, 6; E. Titt (conductor), 7; F. Castree, 8.—On the 24th.—A 504 of Grandsire Triples. H. C. Mayne, 1; A. J. B. Waldron, 2; J. G. Pratt, 3; J. Pallister, 4; F. Castree, 5; F. Charlton, 6; J. W. Cleminson (conductor), 7; E. Titt, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

The following is the ringing done by the Burford company during the month of April.—On Sunday, April 3rd, a 336 of Bob Major. E. Smith, 1; W. Hall, 2; T. Brown, 3; W. Smith, 4; T. E. Glanville, 5; D. Frances, 6; H. Bond, 7; W. Large (conductor), 8. On Sunday, April 10th, a 360 of Grandsire Minor. E. Smith, 1; H. Bond, 2; W. Smith, 3; D. Frances, 4; T. E. Glanville, 5; W. Large (conductor), 6. On Monday, April 11th, a 360 of Bob Minor. E. Smith, 1; W. Hall, 2; D. Frances, 3; W. Smith, 4; W. Large (conductor), 5; H. Bond, 6. And 336 of Grandsire Triples. J. Clinch, 1; H. Bond, 2; E. Smith, 3; W. Smith, 4; D. Frances, 5; W. Hall, 6; W. Large (conductor), 7; H. Shaylor, 8. And 168 of Grandsire Triples. J. Clinch, 1; H. Bond, 2; E. Smith, 3; W. Smith, 4; W. Hall, 5; W. Large (conductor), 6; H. Shaylor, 7; D. Frances, 8. On Thursday, April 17th, a 720 of Bob Minor. J. Clinch, 1; H. Smith, 2; H. Bond, 3; T. E. Glanville, 4; D. Frances, 5; W. Large (conductor), 6; H. Shaylor, 7. On Sunday, April 24th, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. T. Brown, 1; W. Hall, 2; D. Frances, 3; W. Smith, 4; T. E. Glanville, 5; W. Large (conductor), 6; H. Bond, 7; W. Launchbury, 8. And 168 of Grandsire Triples. T. E. Glanville, 1; W. Hall, 2; H. Smith, 3; W. Smith, 4; D. Frances, 5; H. Bond, 6; W. Large (conductor), 7; H. Shaylor, 8. On Wednesday, April 27th, a 360 of Bob Minor. J. Clinch, 1; W. Hall, 2; W. Smith, 3; T. E. Glanville, 4; W. Large (conductor), 5; H. Bond, 6; D. Frances, 7.

"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.

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Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 5000 changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication arriving 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.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 1887.

OUR correspondence columns have of late been taken advantage of greatly for the purpose for which they are open to our readers, viz.: the ventilation of their opinions and grievances, in their own phraseology. We often feel desirous of entering the lists against much that is written in this way, but we know that to do so under the form of correspondence would for us scarcely be honest.

There are occasions when remarks possessing the influence of editorial comment should be made. A subject last week suggested our observations, and this week we cannot refrain from alluding to a very important matter which is brought before the notice of the Exercise by Mr. GEORGE MUSKETT, the respected Secretary to the Ancient Society of College Youths. The publication of the assertions contained in the letter from that gentleman had doubtless been well considered before its author determined upon its appearance. Whether these are true or not—and in our opinion they are highly colored, to say the least—is a matter for the Exercise, after hearing, as they no doubt will, both sides of the case, to determine. If there is any ground for them, it seems a most unfortunate thing that they were not made public at an earlier date, indeed directly after the peal had been rung. Honesty of purpose would have strengthened the intention—if it ever existed—to challenge the truth of the performance immediately, and not wait the lapse of years before making a statement condemnatory of it.

It must be conceded that the step taken by Mr. MUSKETT in making such an assertion public is no more than what could be expected of one who took part in the peal which the Birmingham performance was intended to supersede. The condemnation he gives to the author of the rumour, if incorrect, and to the performance, if untrue, will find an echo in the minds of all. What we condemn is the delay in bringing such statements forward, a delay unpardonable. The matter will have to be thoroughly and impartially sifted to the bottom, as it greatly affects those whom all have looked to as the fountain of honour and truth. We hope the answer of those immediately concerned will be one not made under

feelings of panic or anger, but we believe the accusations will be proved to be without a shadow of foundation. Such incidents as are related in connection with this performance seems extremely hyperbolic. May be they are begat from a feeling of pique or disappointment on the part of some one who imagines he will, by such a report, be revenged for a supposed injury.

The Metropolis.

CAMBERWELL, SURREY.—THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

On Thursday, April 28, 1887, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 14 cwt.

GEORGE WILD Treble.	MATTHEW A. WOOD .. 5.
HENRY LANGDON 2.	RICHARD FRENCH .. 6.
WILLIAM JONES 3.	ARTHUR HAYWARD .. 7.
WILLIAM W. THORNE .. 4.	*JOHN FREEMAN Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

*First peal.

Messrs. Wild and Freeman were proposed members of the above society previous to starting for the peal.

NEWINGTON, SURREY.—THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.

On Friday, April 29, 1887, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL (REVERSED). Tenor 20½ cwt.

WILLIAM COPPAGE Treble.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN 5.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. .. 2.	HENRY A. BARNETT .. 6.
JOSEPH BARRY 3.	GEORGE B. LUCAS .. 7.
WILLIAM W. THORNE .. 4.	WILLIAM G. WILDE Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

Messrs. Waghorn, Lucas, and Barnett hail from Tottenham, and were elected members of the above Society previous to starting for the peal.

THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY, LONDON.

Jubilee Peal.

On Saturday, April 30, 1887, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE, JEWRY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 36 cwt. in C #.

JAMES ROBERT HAWORTH .. Treble.	JOSEPH BARRY 5.
ROBERT JAMESON 2.	GEORGE RICHARD BANKS 6.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE 3.	RICHARD FRENCH 7.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, SEN. .. 4.	EDWARD ALBONE Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD FRENCH.

The above peal was rung by order of the Churchwardens, and is the first Jubilee peal rung in the city of London, to commemorate the fiftieth year of Queen Victoria's reign, and it is also 125 years since a peal was rang on these bells, and that was Court Bob Major.

The Provinces.

ORMSKIRK, LANCASHIRE.—THE ORMSKIRK SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, April 26, 1887, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REEVES'S VARIATION OF HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 25½ cwt.

HENRY ELLIS Treble.	WILLIAM ELLIS 5.
JAMES SHOLICAR 2.	JOHN ASPINWALL 6.
WILLIAM B. LLOYD 3.	GEORGE PRESCOTT 7.
WILLIAM BENTHAM 4.	PETER H. HARVEY Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM BENTHAM.

John Aspinwall hails from Liverpool.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, AND THE ST. ALBANS' CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.

Handbell Ringing.

On Wednesday, April 27, in Two Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,

AT THE SPICER STREET SCHOOLROOM,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

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

JOHN C. MITCHELL..	1-2.	GEORGE W. CARTMEL..	5-6.
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM..	3-4.	WALTER BATTLE..	7-8.

Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

Mr. A. Selby acted as umpire and had every change written out before him. The above are also members of the Sussex, Essex, and Hertford County Associations. This is the first handbell peal by the Sussex Association.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

Muffled Peal.

On Friday, April 29, 1887, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 26 cwt.

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

Conducted by JOHN JAGGAR.

Rung with the bells half-muffled on the third anniversary of the death of Mr. M. T. Baas, founder of St. Paul's Church.

ASHFORD, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, April 29, 1887, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 24 cwt. in Eb.

WILLIAM POST, SEN. ..	Treble.	GEORGE PAINE ..	5.
DAVID HODGKIN ..	2.	FRED WANSTALL ..	6.
FRANK WANSTALL ..	3.	WILLIAM HYDER ..	7.
EDMUND POTTER ..	4.	PHILIP HODGKIN ..	Tenor.

Composed by BENJAMIN ANABLE, and Conducted by WILLIAM HYDER.

This is the first peal of Major by the ringers of the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 6th, and 8th Seventeen years have elapsed since a peal in this method was rung on these bell Potter hails from Dover; Paine from Mersham; and the rest from Aldington.

ABINGDON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, April 29, 1887, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' REVERSED. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

FREDERICK FIELD ..	Treble.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON ..	5.
JOHN H. VINER* ..	2.	H. D. BETTERIDGE, Esq. 6.	
THOMAS SHORT* ..	3.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK ..	7.
WILLIAM SANDELL* ..	4.	JOHN BROWN ..	Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

*First peal of Stedman. This is the first peal in the method on the bells.

Messrs. CASSELL AND COMPANY will publish during May "The Queen's Pictures, illustrating the chief events of Her Majesty's life" (reproduced by the gracious permission of the Queen), as a special Jubilee Number of "The Magazine of Art." The text will be written by Richard R. Holmes, Esq., F.S.A., Librarian at Windsor Castle, and the work will contain engravings of pictures which have been executed from time to time by the Royal commands to illustrate the chief events of Her Majesty's life, and of portraits of the Queen painted at various periods by celebrated painters. Many of these pictures have never before been engraved, and are now published for the first time by the special permission of Her Majesty.

FOXEARH, ESSEX.

On Saturday, April 30, 1887, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 8½ cwt.

CHARLES SILLITOE* ..	Treble.	*JAMES MOTTS ..	5.
WILLIAM HOWELL ..	2.	*HENRY BOWELL ..	6.
SAMUEL SLATER† ..	3.	†ARTHUR SCOTT ..	7.
JOHN LEE† ..	4.	†HARRY HARPER ..	Tenor.

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and Conducted by CHARLES SILLITOE.

The above peal is in three parts and contains the sixth at home at two course ends in each part, and is now rung for the first time. Messrs. Sillitoe, Howell and Harper hail from Sudbury; Slater from Glemsford; Motts and Bowell from Ipswich; and Lee is a local man. Mr. Bowell is at work at Sudbury re-hanging the peal of eight at St. Peter's Church. †First peal in this method. †Cumberland Youths. *College Youths.

BIRCHINGTON, KENT.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS, AND THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, April 28, 1887, in Three Hours,

AT THE WATERLOO TOWER, QUEX PARK,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
REV. C. D. P. DAVIES'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 15½ cwt.

CHARLES WILLSHIRE ..	Treble.	THOMAS B. REED ..	5.
LEON WILLSHIRE ..	2.	SAMUEL JARMAN ..	6.
GEORGE WILLSHIRE ..	3.	JOHN J. BRISTOW ..	7.
THOMAS B. REED JUN ..	4.	FRANK CARROWAY ..	Tenor.

Conducted by LEON WILLSHIRE.

This was a wedding peal, rung as a mark of respect to Mr. Albert Heury Sayer, a member of the Quex Park Band, who was married the same day at Birchington parish church. Also as a farewell peal to Mr. P. A. Reed, a member of the band, who is about to try his fortune in the far west, and sails next week for New York.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

Wedding Peal.

On Thursday, April 28, 1887, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 21 cwt. in Eb.

JOSEPH FAYERS ..	Treble.	DR. A. B. CARPENTER ..	5.
REV. E. W. CARPENTER* ..	2.	JAMES W. TRAPPITT ..	6.
JOHN BRANCH ..	3.	*GEORGE WELLEN ..	7.
EDGAR BENNETT ..	4.	ALFRED BRUCE ..	Tenor.

Composed by T. MORRIS, and Conducted by J. W. TRAPPITT.

*First peal of Bob Triples. The above peal was rung to celebrate the marriage between Miss Caroline Lydia Hodgson, niece of the Rev. Canon Bridges, Rector of Beddington, and Mr. Howard J. Trollop, son of Mr. J. Trollop, of Queenswood, Beddington.

CRETINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 30, 1887, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

5040 CHANGES, IN TWENTY-ONE DIFFERENT METHODS, ON FIVE BELLS;

Being a 240 of each of the following:—

Stedman Doubles, College Doubles, March Delight, St. Simon's Doubles, Twilight, The Dream, Dreamer, Fortune, Morning Star, Morning Doubles, Evening Doubles, Evening Star, St. Dunstan's Doubles, Hudibras, April Day, Little Bob, Old Doubles, Plain Doubles, London Doubles, Grandsire, and London Dream.

ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN ..	Treble.	DAVID G. WIGHTMAN ..	3.
STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. 2.		GEORGE WIGHTMAN ..	4.
STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, SEN. ..			Tenor.

Conducted by ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN.

The above was rung by father and four sons.

SAMUEL WEBSTER, a native of Tong, but who has resided in Pudsey many years, died suddenly on Thursday, April 28th, aged 78 years. He was formerly (for some years) one of the company of ringers upon the old peal of five bells at Tong. A treble was cast in August, 1841, making them six, when he took the interest to learn a few methods. He was also a very popular and well-known vocalist, and for many years carried on a very active life in that capacity. His remains were brought to his relatives at Tong, on Saturday, April 30th, and respectfully interred at Tong church, on Sunday, May 1st, at 1 p.m. He was carried to his last resting-place by the Tong company, who after the interment rang several touches, with the bells deeply muffled, as a last token of respect to the old veteran.

HULL.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Muffled Peal.

On Thursday, April 28, 1887, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

CHAS. BENNETT Treble.	JNO. WM. STICKNEY 5.
HARRY CUTTER 2.	TOM STOCKDALE 6.
WM. SOUTHWICK 3.	ROBT. CHAFFER 7.
JNO. POLLARD 4.	CHAS. JACKSON Tenor.

Composed by the late W. HARRISON, of Mottram, and conducted by C. JACKSON.

This peal was rung as a tribute of respect, with the bells muffled, on the occasion of the funeral of the late Joseph Kent Mumby, honorary member of the Association.

FAREHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

Muffled Peal.

On Monday, May 2, 1887, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14 cwt. in Fg.

JAMES HEWETT* Treble.	CHARLES RIVETT 5.
JOHN W. WHITING* 2.	GEORGE GRAHAM* 6.
FREDERICK HILL* 3.	GEORGE WILLIAMS* 7.
JOHN STAPLES* 4.	GEORGE PASSINGHAM .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

*Cumberland Youths. Rang with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to Mr. W. J. Banting, late of Fareham.

Date Touches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SHIPLEY.—On Saturday, April 30th, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major. W. Wilks, 1; B. T. Copley, 2; M. Moor, 3; S. Langstaff, 4; J. S. Clark, 5; W. E. London, 6; J. Lilley, 7; F. London, 8. Composed and conducted by F. London. Tenor 15 cwt. Copley hails from Bolton, Moor from Keighley, Langstaff from Pudsey, and the rest are members of the local company. It was intended to ring a peal of Oxford, but owing to the unexpected appearance of a telegram, instead of two brother strings from Keighley, the above was rung with the kind assistance of Messrs. Lilley and Clark, who were in the tower when the message came.

WHITEFIELD (Lancashire).—On Sunday morning, May 1st, at All Saints' Church (Stand) a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1887 changes), it being the anniversary of the opening of the bells, in 1 hr. 8 mins. W. Haughton, 1; A. Barrett (conductor), 2; E. Bradshaw, 3; W. Warburton, 4; A. Hardman, 5; J. Rothwell, 6; W. Hilton, 7; J. Bradshaw, 8. Tenor 21½ cwt. Messrs. Barrett and to Radcliffe.

Miscellaneous.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, April 28th, at St. Mary's Church, a 720 of Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. Mayes, 1; W. Biggs, 2; I. Hills, 3; H. Chapman, 4; W. Hall (conductor), 5; J. Spencer, 6.

BIDDENHAM (Beds).—On Sunday, May 1st, for Divine Service, a 720 of Plain Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). C. Howard (first 720), 1; C. West, 2; W. Biggs, 3; W. King, 4; H. King, 5; M. Warwick (conductor), 6.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

EXETER.—On Saturday, April 30th, eight members of the above Guild met at the Church of S. Sidwell, and rang eight courses of Stedman Triples (1512 changes), taken from Thurstan's peal. W. Mundy, 1; E. Shepherd, 2; A. Shepherd, 3; W. Richardson, 4; W. Goss, 5; J. Moss, 6; F. Shepherd (conductor), 7; E. Truman, 8. This was rung to celebrate the 29th birthday of Mr. F. Shepherd, the conductor, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day. Also on Sunday, May 1st, for Divine Service in the morning,

168 of Grandsire Triples. C. Carter, 1; A. Shepherd, 2; E. Shepherd (conductor), 3; S. Binfield, 4; W. Mundy, 5; J. Moss, 6; F. Shepherd, 7; B. Mundy, 8. Also 210 in the same method. W. Devey, 1; A. Shepherd, 2; F. Shepherd, 3; S. Binfield, 4; W. Mundy (conductor, first time), 5; E. Shepherd, 6; J. Moss, 7; C. Carter, 8. Also 252 of Stedman Triples. E. Pitt (conductor), 1; A. Shepherd, 2; F. Shepherd, 3; W. Richardson, 4; W. Goss, 5; J. Moss, 6; E. Shepherd, 7; B. Mundy, 8.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DARLINGTON.—On Tuesday, April 26th, at the church of St. John, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 27 mins. J. Bolton, 1; J. Little (first 720), 2; W. Patton, 3; J. H. Whitfield, 4; W. Lester, 5; R. Moncaster (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt. in C.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Saturday, April 30th, a 720 of Double Court Bob, in 25 mins. T. Watson, 1; *W. Moore, 2; S. Hammond, 3; F. L. Bumstead, 4; H. E. Hammond, 5; A. Hucksion, 6; H. E. Hammond (conductor). *First 720 in the method.

WALTHAMSTOW.—On Sunday, May 1st, at St. Mary's Church, after evening service, a 720 of Bob Major, in 28 mins. W. Coakham, 1; F. G. Newman (conductor), 2; Geo. Grimwade, 3; A. S. Barrell, 4; R. Maynard, 5; G. Cornell, 6; T. Maynard, 7; H. Scarlett, 8. Tenor 19½ cwt.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Monday, May 2nd, for practice, at St. Mary's Church, a 720 of New London Pleasure. E. Dains, 1; J. Dains, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; W. Harvey, 4; A. Tarbun, 5; W. J. Piper (conductor), 6. Also on Handbells, a 360 of Double Court, and 120 of Cambridge Surprise, standing as before.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BALDOCK (Herts).—On Sunday, May 1st, for Divine Service in the morning, at the church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, a 364 of Grandsire Triples. T. Webb (conductor), 1; G. Spicer, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; A. Squires, 4; Robert Jackson, 5; Richard Jackson, 6; J. Roslyn, 7; G. Gentle, 8. Also a 112, with J. Phillips, 2; J. Smith, 4; A. Squires, 5; the rest as before. And for Divine Service in the evening, a 564 of Grandsire Triples. T. Webb, 1; G. Spicer, 2; J. Cawdell, 3; J. Smith, 4; J. Phillips (conductor), 5; A. Squires, 6; Richard Jackson, 7; J. Roslyn, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D. A. Squires hails from Hitchin.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WALKDEN, (Lancashire).—On Wednesday evening, the 27th ult., a 720 of Bob Minor (four bobs and fourteen singles), in 24½ mins. J. Brookes, 1; J. Potter, 2; J. Worthington (conductor), 3; J. Williamson, 4. S. Oakes, 5; A. Potter, 6. On Sunday, the 1st instant, being the occasion of the anniversary sermons, a 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles), in 24 mins. J. Brooks (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; J. Potter, 3; J. Williamson, 4; J. Welsby (Worsley), 5; W. Denner, 6. Also a 720 of Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles) was rung in 24½ mins. W. Denner, 1; J. Welsby, 2; J. Worthington (conductor), 3; J. Potter, 4; A. Potter, 5; J. Brookes, 6. On Monday evening, the 2nd inst., a 720 of Bob Minor (forty singles) was rung for practice, in 25 mins. W. Denner, 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Potter (conductor), 4; J. Williamson, 5; A. Potter, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt.

MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

MELBOURNE, (Derby).—On Monday evening, April 25th, for practice, the local society rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-six bobs and twenty-four singles), in 27 mins. H. Hollingworth, 1; F. W. Cook, 2; G. A. Fish, 3; Jos. Warren, 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; G. C. Tunnicliff (conductor), 6. Also on the Wednesday following, being the fifth anniversary of the opening of the bells, the same 720 was rang in 26 mins. J. R. Wood, 1; F. W. Cook, 2; J. Warren, 3; G. A. Fish, 4; T. Hollingworth, 5; G. C. Tunnicliff, 6. This was J. R. Wood's first 720 in the method.

THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY.

PUTNEY (Surrey).—On Saturday, April 23rd, at St. Mary's Church (after an attempt for a peal of Caters at Fulham), eight members of the above Society rang a touch of 576 of Oxford Treble Bob Major, in 20 mins. A. E. Church, 1; J. Priest, 2; W. Driver, 3; G. B. Lucas, 4; J. Waghorn, jun., 5; E. Barnett, 6; H. A. Barnett, 7; F. G. Newman (conductor), 8. Tenor 17 cwt.

ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

ROCHDALE (Lancashire).—On Sunday, May 1st, 1887, at the parish church, for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles), in 28 mins. J. Hartley, 1; R. Whittles, 2; J. Crossley, 3; A. Bamford, 4; *T. Stott, 5; A. Crossley (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

BAGSHOT.—On Monday, April 25th, at St. Anne's Church, two 120's of Grandsire Doubles. F. Francis, 1; R. Houlton, 2; T. Gould, 3; E. Spooner, 4; W. Houlton (conductor), 5; R. Weeks, 6. And a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and two singles), in 28 mins. H. Stapleton, 1; R. Houlton, 2; F. Francis, 3; T. Gould, 4; E. Spooner (first 720 of Grandsire Minor), 5; W. Houlton (conductor), 6. Tenor 21 cwt. On Thursday, April 28th, a 240 of Bob Minor. H. Stapleton, 1; H. Houlton, 2; F. Francis, 3; T. Gould, 4; W. Houlton, 5; E. Spooner (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, May 1st, two 120's of Grandsire Doubles. H. Stapleton, 1; H. Houlton, 2; F. Francis (conductor), 3; T. Gould, 4; E. Lee, 5; R. Weeks, 6. And for service in the evening, two 120's of Grandsire Doubles, standing as before, and two 120's of Bob Doubles. H. Stapleton, 1; E. Angel, 2; T. Gould, 3; F. Francis, 4; E. Spooner (conductor), 5; R. Weeks, 6. And after service, four 120's of Grandsire Doubles. E. Angel, 1; E. Spooner, 2; F. Francis (conductor), 3; T. Gould, 4; E. Lee, 5; W. Harding, 6. Tenor 21 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

ABINGDON (Berks).—On Sunday, May 1st, being the first anniversary of the re-opening of the bells, the local band rang, after Divine Service in the evening, a 504 of Grandsire Triples. A. J. Kimbrey, 1; H. Humfrey, 2; W. Sandall, 3; E. Webb, 4; T. Short, 5; J. H. Vyner (conductor), 6; J. Brown, 7; A. Burgess, 8.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Saturday, April 30th, at the Church of St. John-the-Baptist, for practice, eight members of the above rang a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples (1260 changes), in 55 mins. H. Dudley, 1; G. Russell, 2; H. C. Haley, 3; A. B. Carpenter, M.B. (conductor), 4; U. Holman, 5; W. States, 6; T. Verrall, 7; S. Fisk and W. Todd, 8. Composed by H. Johnson. Tenor 32 cwt. in Eb.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING.—At SS. Mary and Nicolas Parish Church, on Sunday, May 1st, for morning service, 518 of Grandsire Triples, Robert Jarvis, 1; George Skeef, 2; J. W. Jarvis, 3; C. Neaverson, 4th; G. L. Richardson, 5; Richard Mackman, 6; J. S. Wright, 7; G. Ladd (of Pinchbeck), 8; G. Skeef (conductor). Also after evening service 1036 Grandsire Triples (being the first two parts of Holt's ten part peal). Time 45 mins. J. R. Mackman (aged 11 years), 1; *G. Skeef, 2; R. Jarvis, 3; C. Neaverson, 4; *G. L. Richardson, 5; *R. Mackman, 6; †J. S. Wright, 7; J. W. Jarvis, 8; G. Skeef (conductor). *College Youths, †Cumberland Society. Tenor 18 cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

FRINDSBURY (Kent).—On Friday, April 29th, at All Saints' Church, five 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles in 22 mins. D. Winsor, 1; A. Ring, 2; G. Hutchings, 3; W. Hunt, 4; G. Lindoff, R. E. (conductor), 5. Also 120 of Old Doubles, being the first in the method by all except G. Lindoff. And on Sunday, May 1st, after Divine Service in the evening, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, in 26 mins. D. Winsor, 1; E. Collard, 2; G. Lindoff, R.E., 3; A. Ring, 4; W. Hunt (conductor), 5. Tenor 18 cwt. G. Lindoff hails from Gillingham.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ARMLEY, NEAR LEEDS.—On Saturday, April 30th, the Rothwell branch of the above Association, visited the above place, and attempted to ring 5040 changes in seven different methods on six bells, but after ringing 720 each of the following methods, viz., Violet, London, Scholars, Arnold's Victory, City Delight, and the first part of Duke of York, the treble also broke, and thus the peal came to grief. J. G. Verity, 1; J. C. Abbishaw, 2; A. Chapman, 3; W. Abbishaw, 4; Jno. Chapman, 5; J. M. Chadwick (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY, BRISTOL.

On Saturday, April 30th (the Vigil of St. Philip and St. James), at St. James' church, six members of the above Society rang a 720 of Grandsire Minor. W. W. Porch, 1; H. Porch (conductor), 2; A. Howell, 3; G. Pearse, 4; W. Paddock, 5; H. Tucker, 6. This is the first 720 in the method by the society.

ANSTON (Yorkshire).—On Friday, April 29th, for practice, a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. W. Pashley, 1; R. Smith (aged 17), 2; R. S. Fox, 3; C. F. Fowler, 4; S. Smith, 5; T. Silvester, 6. Also on Sunday, May 1st, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 in the same method. W. Pashley (first 720, aged 15), 1; R. S. Fox, 2; J. Bland, 3; C. F. Fowler, 4; S. Smith, 5; T. Silvester (conductor), 6.

BANHAM (Norfolk).—On Wednesday, April 13, at St. Mary's Church, a 720 of Bob Minor. H. Barker, 1; R. Hutton (conductor), 2; W. Nudds, jun., 3; C. Tite, 4; R. Chapman, 5; W. Nudds, sen., 6.

BARLOW MOOR (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, May 1st, for Divine Service, at Christ Church, a 336 of Grandsire Triples. Also on Monday, May 2nd, for practice, a 350 of Grandsire Triples. J. Shaw, 1; W. Holbrook, 2; G. J. Pearson, 3; W. Mellor, 4; J. Wilde, 5; T. Brickell, 6; J. Derbyshaw, 7; J. Cole, 8.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Friday evening, April 1st, at the parish church, a 720 of Court Single; and on Easter Sunday morning, a 720 in the same method. A. Spurge, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; S. Sargeant, 4; F. Warren, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 24th, for Divine service in the afternoon, a 360 of Court Single, and 120 of Oxford Treble Bob. C. H. Howard, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; S. Sargeant, 4; H. E. Hammond, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday evening, April 26th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, and a 240 of Kent Treble Bob. A. Spurge, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; S. Sargeant, 4; F. Warren, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6.

BUCKLAND (Surrey).—On Sunday, March 6th, at the parish church, 720 of Grandsire Doubles. F. Sanders, 1; R. Arnold, 2; F. Arnold, 3; F. Sanders, 4; W. Sadler (conductor), 5. And on Thursday, March 10th, 720 of Bob Doubles in 24 mins. W. Bowyer, 1; Fred. Sanders, 2; J. Poplett, 3; F. Sanders, 4; W. Sadler (conductor), 5. And on Thursday, March 31st, two 120's of Grandsire Doubles. W. Bowyer, 1; F. Arnold, 2; R. Arnold, 3; F. Sanders, 4; W. Sadler (conductor), 5. Also two 120's of Bob Doubles. *J. Robinson, 1; Fred Sanders, 2; J. Poplett, 3; F. Sanders, 4; W. Sadler (conductor), 5. *First 120. Tenor 10 cwt.

BUNWELL (Norfolk).—On Sunday, April 17th, after Divine service, at the Parish Church, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung. R. Hutton, 1; R. Kemp, 2; W. Mapes, 3; J. Cullum, 4; G. Manser, jun., 5; J. Hinsley (conductor), 6. Also 720 in the same method. J. Fox, 1; R. Kemp, 2; W. Mapes, 3; J. Cullum, 4; R. Atkins, 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6. And another 216. J. Fox, 1; R. Kemp, 2; W. Mapes, 3; G. Manser, 4; R. Hutton (conductor), 5; E. Coleman, 6.

CHILHAM (Kent).—On Sunday, May 1st, a mixed band attempted a 6000 of Bob Major, but after ringing three hours, a mishap occurred and stand was called. *R. Simmonds, 1; *J. Cooper, 2; *P. Simms, 3; *H. G. Fairbrass, 4; A. H. Woolley, 5; *A. Moorcraft, 6; *S. Snelling, 7; *H. Pearce (conductor), 8. Tenor 19 cwt. The bells have lately been rehung by S. Snelling, and give the greatest satisfaction. *College Youths.

CRADLEY (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, April 30th, six members of the Lye Society paid a visit to Cradley, and rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. W. Taylor, 1; J. Brooks (conductor), 2; H. Woodridge, 3; A. Folkes, 4; G. A. Hatton, 5; F. Davis, 6.

DARESBURY (Cheshire).—On Easter Day, April 10th, at the parish church, the local society rang for early service at 7.15, a 720 of Bob Minor in 27 mins. At 10 a.m. for Morning Service, 360 of Bob Minor; and for Evening Service, 360 of Bob Minor, and after service, a 720 of Bob Minor in 26 mins. P. Hamblett (conductor), 1; P. Johnson, 2; A. De Prez, 3; C. Hartley, 4; E. De Prez, 5; T. Houghton, jun., 6.

HAVERSTOCK HILL (Middlesex).—On Sunday morning, May 1st, at Martin's Church, for Divine Service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 26 mins. Tennant, 1; Pittam, 2; J. Leach, 3; T. Gleed, 4; J. Nixon, 5; J. Hannington (conductor), 6. Also for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 25 mins. J. Hannington (conductor), 1; T. Titchener, 2; Pittam, 3; J. Leach, 4; Tennant, 5; J. Nixon, 6. And after service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 25 mins. N. Alderman, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; J. Nixon, 3; J. Leach, 4; Pittam, 5; Tennant, 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

LINCOLN.—On Saturday, April 30th, several ringers from Spalding went to Lincoln fair; it also being the annual meeting of the North Lincolnshire Association, they had the pleasure of ringing several touches of Grandsire Triples with some of the members at the Cathedral and St. Peter at Arches. R. Creasey, R. Mackman, G. Skeef, J. W. Jarvis, R. Jarvis, and J. R. Mackman, from Spalding; G. Ladd, from Pinchbeck.

LIVERSEDGE (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, April 30th, at Christ Church, the local company rang a 2528 of Kent Treble Bob, in 1 hr. 31 mins., to celebrate the restarting of their church clock, which has been undergoing a thorough repair at the works of Messrs. Potts, or Leeds, and which was restarted that day. T. W. Lang, 1; J. Knott, 2; L. Illingworth (conductor), 3; S. Goodall, 4; H. Brooke, 5; M. Ramsden, 6; A. Briggs, 7; W. Collins, 8. Composed by C. H. Hattersley, of Sheffield. Tenor 15 cwt.

OVERTON, FRODSHAM (Cheshire).—On Saturday, April 23rd, eight members of the Daresbury society visited the above place, and rang a 720 of Bob Minor in 27 mins. T. Houghton, jun., (conductor), 1; P. Johnson, 2; A. De Prez, 3; C. Hartley, 4; E. De Prez, 5; T. Houghton, jun., 6. Also a 360 in the same method. T. Houghton, sen., 1; D. Melbourne, 2; P. Johnson, 3; P. Hamblett, 4; E. De Prez, 5; T. Houghton, jun., 6. Tenor about 19 cwt. These fine tenor bells have recently been rehung, the "go" of which is all that can be desired, and reflects great credit on the bell-hanger,

PULFORD (Cheshire).—On Saturday, April 30th, the members of the local society, assisted by Mr. C. Price (College Youth), rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. G. Jones, sen., 1; J. Mercer, 2; J. Saladine, 3; W. Thomas, 4; C. Price, 5; J. Morgan (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. G. Jones, sen., 1; J. Mercer, 2; J. Saladine, 3; C. Price (conductor), 4; J. Morgan, 5; W. Thomas, 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob. C. Price, 1; J. Mercer, 2; M. Blezard, 3; W. Thomas, 4; G. Jones, jun., 5; J. Morgan (conductor), 6. And a 720 of College Single. J. Mercer, 1; G. Jones, jun., 2; M. Blezard, 3; W. Thomas, 4; J. Morgan (conductor), 5; C. Price, 6. Average time nearly 26 mins. Tenor 10 cwt. in Ab.

SALTAIRE, (Yorks).—On Tuesday evening a date touch was rung, comprised of the following:—87 Bob Doubles, 360 Grandsire Minor, 720 each of Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob. B. T. Copley (conductor), 1; J. Baxter, 2; B. Emmett, 3; F. London, 4; A. Bulmer, 5; Alf. Riley, 6. Time 1 hr. 4 mins. Tenor 9½ cwt.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Saturday, April 20th, at St. Mary's the Virgin, six of the local company rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (forty-two singles), in 25½ mins., composed by E. Francis, of Diss. W. T. Prior, 1; W. Prior, 2; Isaac Hammond, 3; G. Gray, 4; G. Prior, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6. And 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. W. Prior, 1; W. Watts, 2; Isaac Cavill, 3; H. Prior, 4; Isaac Hammond, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. And 720 of Canterbury Pleasure Minor, in 24½ mins. J. Luckey, 1; *W. Prior, 2; G. Prior, 3; *G. Gray, 4; Isaac Cavill, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6. *First 720 in this method. On Sunday, May 1st, for morning service, a 720 of Double Oxford Bob Minor (forty-two singles), in 24½ mins. G. Prior, 1; W. Prior, 2; Isaac Cavill, 3; J. Luckey, 4; H. Prior, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. And 360 of Grandsire Minor. W. Prior, 1; W. Watts, 2; G. Prior, 3; J. Luckey, 4; H. Prior, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. And for the afternoon service, 180 of Plain Bob Minor. W. T. Prior, 1; W. Watts, 2; W. Prior, 3; G. Gray, 4; Isaac Hammond, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. And 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 24 mins. C. Prior, 1; W. Prior, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; H. Prior, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. And after service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins. W. Prior, 1; J. Luckey, 2; C. Prior, 3; H. Prior, 4; C. Prior, jun., 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. And 360 of College Single. H. Prior, 1; W. Watts, 2; W. Prior, 3; J. Luckey, 4; G. Prior, 5; C. Prior (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt. Mr. Tucker hails from Bishop Stortford.

STRETTON (Cheshire).—On Monday, April 11th, six members of the Daresbury society paid a visit to the above place, and rang at the parish church a 720 of Bob Minor in 26 mins. T. Houghton, sen. (conductor), 1; P. Johnson, 2; A. De Prez, 3; C. Hartley, 4; E. De Prez, 5; T. Houghton, jun., 6. Tenor 9 cwt.

ST. ALBANS.—Handbell Ringing.—On Saturday, April 30th, 827 of Grandsire Caters. H. Lewis, 1-2; G. W. Cartmel, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 5-6; J. C. Mitchell, 7-8; W. Battle, 9-10. Also some Treble Bob Major was rung.

SUDBURY (Suffolk).—On Sunday, May 1st, for morning service at All Saints' Church, a touch of Grandsire Triples, by six members of the local company, with Mr. J. Motts and Mr. Bowell, of Ipswich. C. Sillitoe, 1; M. Silvester, 2; W. Howell, 3; J. Motts (conductor), 4; W. Bacon, 5; H. Bowell, 6; H. Harper, 7; H. Bracket, 8. *Handbell ringing.*—On Thursday, April 28th, at the meeting house, Gregory-street, on handbells, retained in hand, a course of Grandsire Cinques. M. Silvester, 1-2; A. Scott, 3-4; C. Sillitoe, 5-6; H. Bowell, 7-8; W. Howell, 9-10; W. B. Ransom, 11-12.

SYSTON (Leicester).—On Tuesday, April 26th, at the parish church, after confirmation, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 18 mins. A. Swann, 1; G. Freeman, 2; W. Bail, 3; J. Pickard, 4; G. Walton (conductor), 5; J. Hall, 6; J. North, 7; J. Freeman, 8.

WALTER BELCHAMP (Essex).—On Sunday, May 1st, the following mixed band attempted a peal of Grandsire Triples, at St. Mary's Church, but after ringing 3800 changes in 2 hrs. 15 mins., a mistake occurred which brought it to grief:—J. Lee (Foxearth), 1; H. Harper (Sudbury), 2; G. Brown (Sudbury), 3; W. Howell (Sudbury), 4; H. Bowell (Ipswich), 5; S. Slater (Glensford), 6; C. Sillitoe (conductor, Sudbury), 7; G. Maxim (Foxearth), 8. Tenor 11 cwt.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The third annual meeting of the members and friends of this Association, took place at Lincoln on Saturday last, and was attended with great success. Through the kindness of the clergy and churchwardens, all the towers containing peals of bells in the fine old city, were open for ringing purposes, and there being a good muster of members, this privilege was taken full advantage of. The Association was favoured with the presence of representatives of several kindred societies, including St. Peter's Amalgamated Society, Sheffield, the Eastern Counties' Guild, East and South Lincolnshire Associations, and the Newark Society. The branches of the North Lincolnshire Association represented were Lincoln (four societies), Gainsborough, Market Rasen, Nocton, and Grimsby. At four o'clock, tea was provided in the Odd-fellows' Hall, to which a company numbering close upon fifty sat down, and after tea the meeting was held. In the absence of the President (the Very Rev. the Dean of Lincoln, Dr. Butler), the Rev. S. W. Andrews (rector of Claxby, and vice-president for the Market Rasen local centre) presided, being supported by the Rev. Canon Venables (Precentor of Lincoln Cathedral), F. F. Linley, Esq. (Vice-president for the Gainsboro' centre), and others.

In opening the meeting, the CHAIRMAN said he was very sorry indeed that their president, the Dean, so able and so true a friend of the Association, was unable to be present in the place which he (Mr. Andrews) so unworthily filled. He had a letter from the Dean which told them he was obliged to be at Ely, a place without bells, at least so far as the Cathedral was concerned; they at Ely were therefore behind the Cathedral at Lincoln, and Lincolnshire in this matter, as indeed in other matters, took the lead. He (the Chairman), thought when Lincolnshire men took anything up, they took it up with a will and determination to be if possible at the top of the tree, and he had no doubt that in a short time there would be no bell-ringers Association that would excel their own. At the same time he was quite sure he did not wish to depreciate the work of other Associations, some of the members of which they were glad to welcome amongst them in North Lincoln, and hoped they would come again. He had a very pleasing duty to perform, and that was in the name of the Dean to present to the Association, what he ventured to think all would consider a very handsome present, and one which their President said he trusted would be of great use to the Association, and record many triumphs of Lincolnshire ringers—it was a peal book. He thought the members would only be too glad that he should in their name tender to the Dean very hearty thanks for his kind, handsome, and useful present. He could not help on an occasion like this, feeling what a very happy and very beneficial thing it was for them from time to time to have an opportunity of coming together and joining in social intercourse, to compare notes as it were, and to be of one heart and one mind. It surely was one of the bright features of the times that different associations were springing up and being formed, that one association could work with another association, that the clergy and the laity and all other associations could strive together to carry forward the great work set before them. He was sure by so doing, they would in their respective spheres do a great deal to elevate the tone of the people amongst whom they lived, and surely that was a great and desirable thing. At the same time, they would themselves be deriving a great benefit from thus uniting together in the furtherance of the several good works for which associations of this kind were formed. He did not think there was anything hardly more needed than a bell-ringers' association, and they had only to look a few years back to find what improvement such institutions as this had effected in the character of their ringers, and the order in the belfry. It was no doubt a very great privilege to have any gift, and did they not think it was a wonderful gift and a privilege to be able to brighten up and throw an extra bit of sunshine into the Lord's Day? The ringing of the church bells always seemed to him to lift one up, and make one think more of heaven. And when one heard, as they did in Lincoln, two or three peals of bells clanging together, sounding the praises of God, and showing forth his glory, it did seem to elevate him, and seemed to throw extra sunshine and brightness into God's Day. Surely that was a great privilege, and the bells also provided a grand opportunity for men after the day's work—all of them nowadays, parsons as well, were workers—to take up the art of bell-ringing, exercising their strength as well as their skill. It was very nice when they could take to bell ringing. He hoped this Association would continue to carry on its good work, and that they would have many such happy gatherings as the present one; he had no idea they had such a large Association, and was heartily glad to find its objects were so thoroughly appreciated.

The business of the meeting was then proceeded with. The hon. secretary read the report for the past year; the accounts shewed a

balance in the treasurer's hands of nearly £10, and the numerical statement was also very satisfactory. The report of ringing work done was highly encouraging, showing that since the last annual meeting there had been accomplished one complete peal of 5040 changes (the first recorded by the Association, and rang by the Gainsboro' branch), two half-peals of 2520 changes one of Grandsire Triples at Grimsby, and the other of Bob Triples at Lincoln Cathedral, a date touch (1886 changes), in three methods, by the Market Rasen branch; 720's of Kent Treble Bob Minor at Lincoln, Market Rasen, Nocton, and Lea; a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob at Nocton; a 720 of Grandsire Minor at Lea; peals of Oxford Bob at Market Rasen; several 720's of Plain Bob Minor; and a 720 in six different methods at Skellingthorpe. The Very Rev. the Dean was unanimously re-elected the president for the ensuing year. S. F. Hood, Esq., of Nettleham Hall, having kindly acceded to the request of the city of Lincoln local centre, was elected vice-president for that centre, *vice* the Rev. A. G. Musson, who resigned through leaving the district; F. F. Linley, Esq., was re-elected vice-president for the Gainsboro' centre, and the Rev. S. W. Andrews, vice-president for the Market Rasen centre. Mr. H. Gadd, of Market Rasen, was re-appointed hon. treasurer, and Mr. W. Lunn, of the same place, hon. secretary. Mr. F. F. Linley, of Gainsboro', and Mr. J. W. Watson, of Lincoln, were selected for auditors. The question of what peals were to be inserted in the new peal book was considered, and it was resolved to insert the first 720 rung upon five bells in two or more methods; the first 720 in each method on six bells, and also date touches in not less than three methods; on seven and eight bells, also half-peals, or whole peals of 5040. It was proposed that the annual subscription remain the same as last year, and that the headquarters of the Association remain at Lincoln. Two efficient members were enrolled, also four probationers. It was decided to hold the next general quarterly meeting at Grimsby, in July, the exact date to be left in the hands of Mr. Seamer, conductor of the Grimsby company, and the hon. secretary. A vote of thanks to the Dean for the gift of the peal book, was enthusiastically carried. The proposal of having a jubilee ringers meeting (an amalgamation of the three Lincolnshire associations) in June, having been introduced, Mr. J. C. Tinker, of Gainsboro', Mr. E. Mason, of Boston (secretary of East Lincolnshire), and Mr. R. Creasey, of Spalding (secretary of South Lincolnshire), gave their opinions on the subject, after which it was decided that the secretary of North Lincoln be authorised to attend a committee meeting of the three Associations to be held at Boston shortly. A vote of thanks to the clergy and churchwardens for kindly granting the use of their church bells to the members of the Association on that day, was carried unanimously.

The Rev. PRECENTOR VENABLES acknowledged the compliment in a nice speech, in the course of which he welcomed the members and friends to Lincoln, and said he should be glad to become an honorary member of the Association, the aims and objects of which he fully sympathised with.

Mr. D. SEAMER, of Grimsby, conveyed to the meeting the regret of the Vicar of Grimsby (the Rev. J. P. Young), that he was unable to attend, and hoped to see and welcome the members of the Association at Grimsby.

Mr. R. MACKMAN, of the Eastern Counties' Guild, proposed that the best thanks of the visitors be given to the North Lincolnshire Association for the hospitable manner in which they had been entertained; this was seconded by Mr. Creasey, and carried. A vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. S. W. Andrews for presiding, the chairman briefly responding.

The ringers then repaired to the various towers, where they exercised their skill in Grandsire, and Plain Bob Triples, Kent Treble Bob, and Plain Bob Minor, Grandsire and Bob Doubles, and other methods.

BRAMSHAW BELLS, NEW FOREST.

In the New Forest is the church of Bramshaw, the wooden belfry of which contains two bells, neither have any inscription or date. The smallest is rather a curiosity, and apparently was cast in the fifteenth century. The crown is perfectly round, forming a complete hemisphere, and the height of the bell from the lip to the cannons is the same as the diameter at the mouth, viz., 19½ inches. This gives it a very long and narrow appearance. The other bell is more modern, and measures 21 inches at the mouth. The wheels are of a very peculiar and clumsy construction. Both bells would well repay an archeologist for a visit.

WILL any lover of Church Bells kindly HELP a Country Vicar in his scheme for RESTORING (and if possible, adding to) the BELLS (Five) of his parish Church, which are in an unringable and dangerous condition; estimated cost, £320; the name of any donor of £25 or upwards will be memorialised on new bells.—Address: The Vicar, Wangford, Suffolk.

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."

PEALS OF "DUFFIELD."

SIR,—I have received numerous communications on the subject of the new method now under notice in your columns, most of them containing peals. May I courteously request any who require information on the subject to wait a few weeks, until the whole of the details are before them, after which, if there remains any point yet requiring elucidation, I shall be most happy to give it by private letter. Nearly all the peals forwarded to me are false, simply because their authors are unacquainted with the necessary methods of proof. To give them in writing to each one of my correspondents is entirely beyond my power. Will they kindly accept this apology and exercise a little patience.

A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

Duffield Bank, May 1st, 1887.

THE ANTIQUITY OF LARGE BELLS.

SIR,—Can any of your readers give me any information with respect to the origin and antiquity of larger bells? We know that Aaron wore golden bells round the hem of the high priest's ephod, "that his sound might be heard when he went in unto the holy place, and when he came out" (Exodus xxviii. 34). We know also from specimens and ancient drawings preserved in museums, that small bells and gongs of every form existed before the Christian Era, but I am not aware of anything like a tower-bell in those early times.

The old dictionaries stated that church bells were invented at Nole, in Campania, in the fifth century, but the Encyclopædia Britannica affirms, without reference, that large bells were known in China and India long before. There is a large bell at Pekin said to weigh fifty tons, and Mareo Polo speaks of a bell in the same city which was used as a curfew in the 13th century. The great bell-tower of Nankin was built about 1420 A.D. I do not think it likely that India can claim the invention of large bells, but for several reasons it seems to me probable that they came to us from Eastern Asia.

C.P.

THE AUTHOR OF "DUFFIELD" AND HIS REMARKS.

SIR,—Every ringer will, I think, give Mr. Heywood credit for his new method, but his remarks respecting peals of Grandsire Triples and Treble Bob will not go down with all. He says "Holt's ten-part is not a peal of Grandsire Triples." Well, this is something new to get from such a man as Mr. Heywood. He objects, I presume, at the singles. If he had said the Original was not a peal I could have understood him better. I take it that you cannot get a peal of Grandsire Triples without two singles. The ten-part has these two singles pure and simple; they are single changes, whereas in the Original they are really doubles, and, I believe, this was the term originally given to them. Again we are told that "Lockwood's 9120 of Treble Bob is a peal in this method. I say it is not a properly recognised peal. The origination of Treble Bob never meant—and there is no authority for saying anything to the contrary—that singles (call it anything else you like) should be used to suit a certain purpose in this method. The longest legitimate length with tenors together is Harrison's 8896, rung at Highgate, April 27th, 1876; and considering (according to *Snowdon*) that it is possible to get a greater number than this, I do not think that such means for bringing bells round should be countenanced.

BOB MAJOR.

PEAL-RINGING ON SUNDAY.

SIR,—Allow me, as a clerical ringer of about twenty years' experience to offer some thoughts upon this subject. First, a protest against arguing backwards. If we once begin to reason "This is not wrong, therefore that is right," we can justify anything. Let us lay down sound principles, and then go on fearlessly wherever they may lead us. I start with these principles. The Lord's day commemorates three events; the Creation, the Resurrection of Our Lord, and the descent of the Holy Spirit. It points forward to a fourth, the rest of Heaven. Now a day, the one day in seven, given to man, with these associations is to be observed as a day of religion and of rest. And religion is to come first. We have no right to accept the gift, and to shut out the giver, from His own day. Apply these thoughts to peal-ringing. A peal requires, one thing with another, four hours; exclusive of any timespent upon the road. That is to say: If a band agree to meet at ten in the morning, you must not order dinner before two o'clock. And to answer for myself, a peal leaves me comfortably tired, and more than comfortably hungry. Now there is a good deal of work for everyone upon a Sunday, which must be done. If to it we add four hours in the belfry, and all the travelling, how much will be left for religion? I think that practically religion will be crowded out. Then

there are our neighbours to think about. In every parish are many who connect with the Sunday, all the traditions inherited from the Jews and from the puritans. They are mistaken. But still, their convictions are not to be trodden down harshly. Further, we know that most trades leave work at four o'clock on the Saturday, and that a Monday half-holiday is not uncommon. Hence I fail to see the difficulty of getting a band together on one or other of those days, provided that men will make arrangements beforehand, and that they will keep the engagements which they have undertaken. Such, in my judgment, is the case against Sunday peal-ringing.

Hertford.

W. WIGRAM.

SIR,—Will you allow me in your next issue to protest against the practice of peal-ringing on Sunday. While no one can love bells and ringing more than I do, yet I think that while our ringing on a Sunday should be our very best, both as to striking and music, so that our service, which ought to be considered by all of us as part of the Divine Services of the church, it might be as acceptable as possible, and also be in harmony with the other parts of the service. I would like to ask the advocates of peal-ringing on Sunday, how many men could be found whose minds would be in a fit state to join in the worship of Him whom we are told "must be worshipped in spirit and in truth," after having successfully completed a peal, and being filled with the elation and excitement which always follows. Or on the other hand, having for some reason or other failed in the attempt, and consequently filled with disappointment and vexation, which we know is always the case. I think peal-ringing on Sunday would rather tend to bring back the old state of things and lead ringers to the public house rather than into church, and would consequently be a decided step in the wrong direction and undo what our Associations are trying to bring about. Let us remember that Sunday is the Lord's day specially hallowed to himself, and let our ringing be for His praise and glory, and not be seeking our own pleasure and unfitting ourselves for His service during the remainder of His Holy Day. There are many other reasons which might be urged against the practice, which perhaps some one more able than myself will take up, as I know plenty of ringers who are opposed to it.

W.D.C.R.A.

A POINTED QUESTION.

SIR,—I see Mr. Barefield, of Tunbridge Wells, is an excellent correspondent, and perhaps he can give the members of the Kent County Association some information as to how the ringers are getting on at Tonbridge. Also who is instructing them, and how much cash will be extracted from the funds before the men are competent to ring 120 changes?

A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE.

ANSWER TO MR. SCOTT.

SIR,—All I have to say about the Jubilee Peal I have sent out is that I have worked it on the almanack principle that there are 52 weeks in a year, and have taken seven days from the leap years to make one week, and as to what you have stated about those changes that appear in the first lead being in Mr. Sottanstell's book, if so I do not know, as I have not had his book for some nine years, nor yet have I any other, as what I sent out is simply out of my own head. I trust that Mr. Scott will take this reply in the same friendly spirit in which it is made.

A. SYKES.

Huddersfield.

THE LONG PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES AT BIRMINGHAM.

SIR,—As one who took part in the long peal of Stedman Cinques at St. Michael's, Cornhill, I beg respectfully to ask a question, through the medium of your valuable paper, as to the accuracy of a verbal statement gratuitously made last Easter Monday, respecting the long peal of Stedman Cinques rang six years back at Birmingham. The statement is as follows: (by Mr. Joseph Cattle, late of Birmingham, who heard the peal from beginning to the finish). "The last course was nothing but firing, and when the bells came into rounds the second bell was down, so that only eleven bells came into rounds, and the one who rang the second was first out of the tower, and said it was no peal. If this statement is false, I must say it is a cruel and unjustifiable assertion to make. If on the other hand this statement turns out to be accurate, I for one would say it is an unpardonable fraud on the ringing public. Will some one set the ringing community right on the matter?"

GEORGE MUSKETT.

INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR,—I should be glad if you would recommend any ringing association in the neighbourhood of the London Hospital, to which I might belong. As yet I have only mastered Grandsire Doubles, and I should like to extend my knowledge of the art.

E. WYCHE.

The London Hospital, May 3rd, 1887.

REPLY TO A MEMBER OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—A correspondent who signed himself as above appeared to be very decisive as regards "A Doubtful Quotation" he dealt with in your last issue of "BELL NEWS." At the same time this lofty-minded gentleman gave your readers an index to the vocabulary of worn-out adages in which he seems to have such a complete mastery over. Surely the apparition in which I appeared to him "to be one who delights to make a mountain out of a mole-hill," and "Much ado about Nothing," ought to have contained a final character, viz., "Abuse was no argument," but perhaps that would have been too reproachful for your correspondent's feelings. This worthy member of the Sussex County Association wondered that I had "not discovered and made comment upon" a similar error in the *Brighton Herald* of about seven weeks previous, on the occasion of a peal being accomplished at St. Peter's Church, Brighton. Allow me to state that I had noticed it and thought it might have been an editorial error, but when it was again indulged in concerning the ringing on Easter Monday at Lower Beeding and Bolney, I determined to challenge its authenticity through the medium of "BELL NEWS," as being the chief organ of the ringing community. Again, your correspondent had "good reason to believe that the paragraph did not emanate from Mr. Attree," which was published in the local paper! Did it appear to him possible that any ringer would for a moment entertain such an insane idea as to imagine that that gentleman would be a party to such a mean action? I hope not. It is pleasing to find that the above correspondent "owns it is an error into which no society should fall," to claim a peal when rang by a mixed band as rang by eight members of their own, although it might have been obtained under the auspices of that society. In conclusion, sir, allow me to ask your correspondent which of the two ringers who rang the 7th and tenor bells at Bolney through the peal, was the one he describes as *unconnected*.

TINTINABULA.

Brighton, May 3rd, 1887.

THE RECENT HALF PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, RANG AT TONBRIDGE, KENT.

SIR,—I should like to ask the conductor of the above why he allowed the same to be published as a half peal when it is well known that they started for a whole peal and a shift course occurred before the half way and forced into rounds when they got to that place.

HARRY PEARCE.

BEDFORD RINGERS AT LEICESTER.

ON Saturday, April 30th, seven members of the St. Paul's company arranged to visit Leicester by an excursion train that was run by the Midland Railway Company. On arriving there, the visitors were met by several of the Leicester company at their meeting house, and from there to the church of St. Margaret's, which tower contains a noble ring of ten. After raising the bells in peal, the visitors, with the assistance of one of the Leicester company, rang 378 of Grandsire Triples. F. Keech, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; ———, (Leicester), 3; W. Allan, 4; W. Biggs, 5; H. Chapman, 6; I. Hills, 7; J. Spencer, 8. Afterwards seven of the Leicester company with three of the Bedford company, rang 285 of Stedman Caters. J. Wilson, 1; T. Wilson, 2; S. Cooper, 3; G. Burrows, 4; W. P. Cooper, 5; C. W. Clarke, 6; W. Biggs, 7; A. Millis, 8; J. Buttery (conductor), 9; H. Chapman, 10. This was the first touch of any sort on ten bells by Messrs. Biggs, Clarke, and Chapman, and rang at the first attempt. Afterwards a touch of Grandsire Caters, by a mixed company, conducted by C. W. Clarke. After lowering the bells in peal, a move was made to the meeting-house, when after doing justice to the inner man, the handbells were made use of, when touches of Bob Minor, Treble Bob Major, Grandsire Triples, Caters, the last being a plain course of Grandsire Cinques. S. Cooper, 1-2; C. W. Clarke (first attempt at Cinques), 3-4; A. Millis, 5-6; J. Buttery, 7-8; T. Wilson, 9-10; W. P. Cooper, 11-12; which ended a very enjoyable evening. The Bedford company take this opportunity of heartily thanking their Leicester friends for the very kind and courteous manner with which they were received, and they hope at some future occasion to have the pleasure of returning the compliment in Bedford.

RINGERS' OUTING.

ON Saturday, April 23rd, a party of ringers from Frindsbury, St. Margaret's, Rochester, and Gillingham, journeyed to Aylesford, near Maidstone, for the purpose of having a pull on the fine peal of eight, tenor about 14 cwt. Several touches of Grandsire Triples, Plain Bob Minor, and Grandsire Doubles, with 4,6,8, behind, were rung. The "go" of the bells is splendid, and great credit is also due to the ringers of Aylesford for their clean belfry. A meat tea was provided at the "George Inn," and in all a very pleasant evening was spent. They wish through the medium of this paper, to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells, and also the ringers for having everything ready.

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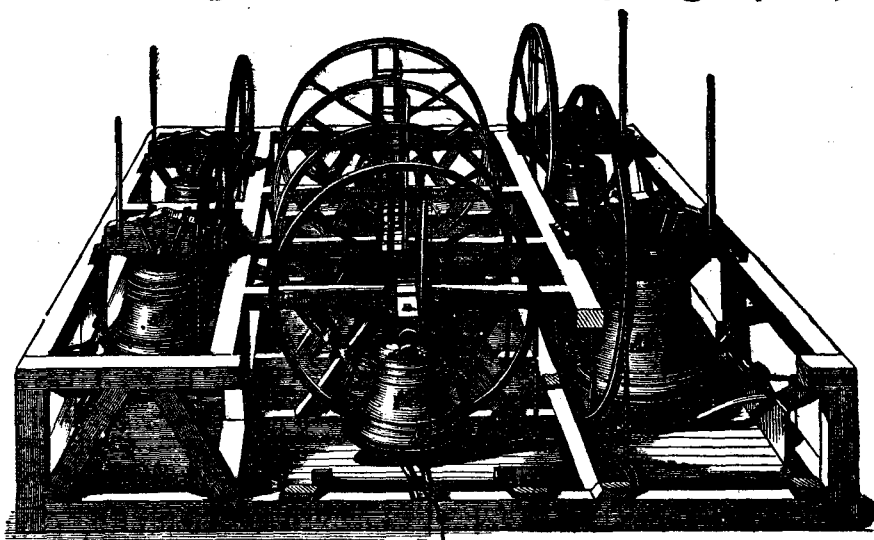


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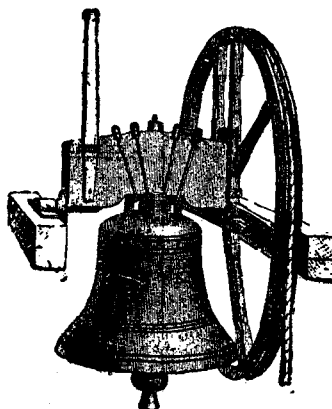
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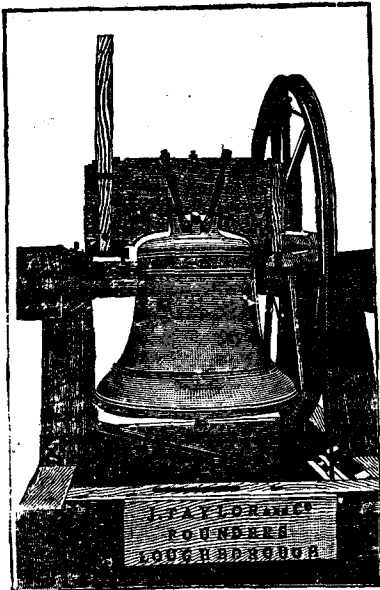
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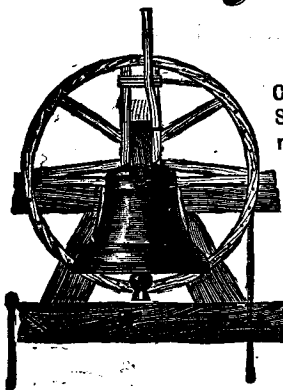
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