

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 313. —VOL. VII.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1888.

ONE PENNY.

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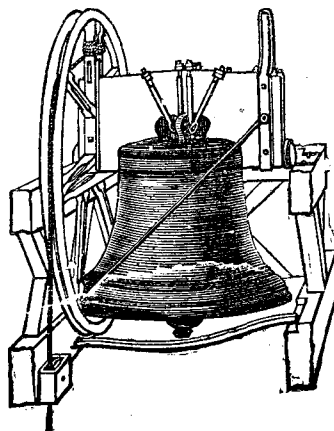
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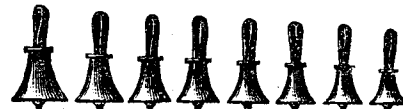
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together; and a Selection of Musical Compositions with
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variations under a simple classification, with remarks
upon the different qualities in each class; with particu-
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The last chapter is devoted to a list of the names of
Composers of the different peals, with various particu-
lars, and in the cases of deceased Composers with the
dates of death, age, etc.

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THE ST. SIDWELL'S SOCIETY, EXETER.

On Saturday, March 10th, a social gathering of the above Society was held at "The Poltimore Inn," for the purpose of presenting Mr. W. Mundy with a handsome framed photograph group of the members, he being about to leave this city for Birmingham.

Mr. FERRIS SHEPHERD occupied the chair, and on making the presentation on behalf of the members, alluded to the kind and genial disposition of Mr. Mundy, and the great loss the Society would sustain by his departure. This, he said, was the second member of no mean ability who had received their tuition at St. Sidwell's, and gone to Birmingham. What was their loss was Birmingham's gain. At the cutlers' town they had certainly a lot more scope for their ringing abilities, and so perhaps on the whole it was best, so as it could be a benefit to the Exercise. They could ill afford the loss of such men from the West of England, where good change-ringers were scarce; they must however make the best of such matters, and wish the recipient every success.

Mr. W. MUNDY, on receiving the present, said that he was very sorry to leave them all, but it was a matter of business, and so it could not be avoided. With regard to the present, he must say that he should be very proud of it and value it very much, and he hoped that he should have the pleasure of ringing a good many more peals with them. Although he was going from among them he should never forget the pleasant time he had spent with the St. Sidwell's Society. He thanked them all for their kindness, and hoped that he should be spared to come down and see and ring with them again. He should endeavour to do his best with regard to ringing in Birmingham if he could get in with a Society. He hoped that the St. Sidwell's Society would prosper and go ahead, which he had no doubt they would if they stuck together.

Mr. T. J. LAKE then made a few remarks. In speaking of the Society he said that it could boast of sending to other towers men who need not to be afraid to stand in with any band in the Exercise as regards striking their bells. Although Mr. Mundy was going from them no doubt he would do justice to the Society in which he first learnt to ring.

Mr. J. MOSS then proposed the health of Mr. W. Mundy. In doing so he observed that while Mr. Mundy had been among them he had gained the respect of all connected with it. He was he knew speaking the sentiments of all when he said that he was very sorry that he was going to leave them, but he knew that though distant he would never be forgotten, and as a change-ringer no doubt he would make a good headway in the town he was about to go. In conclusion he wished Mr. Mundy a most successful career in Birmingham, and also good health to enjoy it.

The toast was drunk with musical honours, the company standing and singing "Auld Lang Syne." The rest of the evening was spent in singing, etc., Mr. E. Shepherd presiding at the piano, and a very present evening was spent. Before the above took place the following rang the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire (Triples (2520 changes), at St. Sidwell's church, in 1 hr. 30 mins. F. Davey, 1; E. Shepherd, 2; A. Shepherd, 3; S. Binfield, 4; W. Munday, 5; J. Moss, 6; F. Shepherd (conductor), 7; B. Mundy, 8.

RINGERS' OUTING.

On Tuesday, March 13th, the Ryde (I.W.) Band visited Newport, where they were met by the Newport band, and rang the plain course and a few short touches of Grandsire Triples. S. Salisbury, 1; O. Combes, 2; H. Jennings, 3; W. Jennings, 4; G. Derrick (conductor), 5; J. Norris, 6; A. Carley, H. Hatcher, W. Baker, 7; A. Ward, 8. Also three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles on the back six. *W. Jennings, 1; *O. Combes, 2; *H. Jennings, 3; W. Baker, 4; *G. Derrick (conductor), 5; *A. Ward, 6. *First attempt at Doubles. After a slight refreshment the handbells were brought into use, and the plain course and some touches of Grandsire Triples were rung. R. Ward, 1-2; W. Ward, 3-4; G. Derrick (conductor), 5-6; H. Jennings, 7-8. The Newport band very cleverly played some favourite ballads on their splendid peal of twenty-seven bells. The ringers beg to thank Mr. Moody, foreman of the Newport band for having everything in readiness.

STRATTON, STRAWLESS, NORFOLK.—RESTORATION OF THE BELLS.

The fine ring of six bells in St. Margaret's church in this parish had for a long time been in a most unsatisfactory condition, as they were neither tunable nor ringable. Some months ago, Miss Helen Matchett, daughter of the rector, made an appeal for funds to put the bells into a fitting and proper condition. Too much credit cannot be given to this young lady for the energy she has displayed. All lovers of bells and all practical ringers, as well as the parishioners, must tender her their hearty thanks. Thursday, March 15th, was the day appointed for the opening ceremony. At 11 a.m. a short and simple service was conducted in the church by the rector (the Rev. H. H. Matchett, M.A., R.N.). Special Psalms and Collects were used, and the well-known hymn,

"Now at length our bells are mounted,
To their holy place on high,

was very heartily sung by the choir and the ringers and the congregation present. Immediately after service ringing commenced. A well-struck 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung by the following band. F. Day (Eye), 1; G. Day (Eye), 2; Rev. N. Bolingbroke (Secretary of the Norwich Association), 3; G. Moy (Aylsham), 4; P. Sadler (St. Peter Mancroft), 5; Captain A. P. Moore (Redenhall), 6. The Aylsham band next took the ropes and did some excellent ringing, as also the St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, band at a later hour. The ringing was continued by the local men and others from Coltishall, Hevingham, Marsham, and Worstead. The work of restoring the bells has been carried out by Messrs. G. and F. Day, of Eye, Suffolk. The old frame has been strengthened, and the bells have been re-hung with new stocks, wheels, and all other gear. The bells have been fitted with reversible crown staples, so that at any time the clappers may be made to strike upon a fresh point. They have also been tuned, so now give forth a sound musically correct. A chiming apparatus on the Ella-combe system has been constructed, and is the gift of the rector and his family in memory of Queen Victoria's Jubilee. The visitors were hospitably entertained during the day at the rectory. The handbell ringing and tune-playing of Mr. Knights and his company added to the life of the gathering. In the evening the local ringers and other friends were invited to supper at the parish schoolroom.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A Committee Meeting of this Guild was held on Saturday last, March 17th, in the Chapter House of the Cathedral, with the Archdeacon of Chester in the chair. The following local branches were reported: 1, Wirral with 11 churches and 69 ringing members, 14 probationers, and 5 honorary members; 2, Macclesfield with 7 churches and 30 ringing members, 2 probationers, and 4 honorary members; 3, Grappenhall with 4 churches and 27 ringing members, 4 honorary members; 4, Run-corn with 1 church and 7 ringing members.

A certificate of membership, and also a notice of union, and a form of prayer for the belfries, were agreed upon. The Annual Meeting was fixed for Bank Holiday, August 6th, at Chester. The Committee hope that before that time all the belfries in the Diocese will have joined the Guild.

THOMAS GREENALL, *Hon. Sec.*

Grappenhall Rectory, Warrington, March 20, 1888.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Wimbledon, by the kind permission of the Rev. Canon Haygarth, on Easter Monday, April 2nd. The tower will be open for ringing from 4 o'clock in the afternoon. The tea at 6 p.m. at the Welcome Coffee Tavern, will be free to all those ringing members whose subscriptions are paid, and who send notice to the Manager by Thursday, March 29th (at the latest) of their intention to be present. All others will be charged 1s. 6d. a head. The business meeting will follow the tea.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

WANTED.—Situation in any capacity where practical carpentering would be essential. Good scholar. Change-ringer. Excellent references.—ED. LEE, Bridge Cottage, Bagshot, Surrey.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

ON Friday evening, March 16th, a supper took place at the St. Paul's Meeting-House, "The Goose and Gridiron," St. Paul's Churchyard, to celebrate the non-conducted peals (Holt's Original, and Holt's ten-part), rang on handbells by Messrs. Mitchell, Buckingham, Winny, and McLaughlin, and also the peal of Stedman Triples likewise rang on handbells, and conducted by Challis F. Winny. Eighteen sat down to supper, namely, Messrs. Winny, Haworth, Rowbotham, J. M. Hayes, H. R. Newton, Dawe, Horrex, G. Mash, McLaughlin, Judd, and R. T. Woodley (Hon. Sec.), and Messrs. W. H. L. Buckingham, Mitchell, Cartmel, and Debenham (St. Albans), and Messrs. W. Baron, J. Barry, and G. Wild, of the Royal Cumberland Youths. Amongst others invited but could not attend were Messrs. M. A. Wood, Cooter, French, Gibbs, and Gover, and T. Waller, H. Lewis, N. N. Hills, and W. Battle (St. Albans). The room was tastefully arranged, the tables being lighted with fairy lamps, and Mr. Making had successfully attended to the foraging department.

Mr. WOODLEY having taken the chair, and Mr. W. BARON the vice-chair, supper was successfully negotiated in four courses. After the cloth was removed,

The CHAIRMAN gave the toast which always stands first at any festive assembly, namely, "The Queen and Royal Family."

The next toast was "The Ancient Society of College Youths, and the London and Provincial Associations."

Mr. G. MASH replied on behalf of his own Society, and Mr. BARON for the remainder. The latter alluded to the non-conducted peals, stated that he considered it an honour to be umpire to them, and also the Stedman Triples, and wound up by adding that he hoped it would not be long before he was asked to be umpire at an attempt for a silent peal of Stedman.

The next toast was that of "The Non-Conducted peal band," (Messrs. Winny, Mitchell, Buckingham, and McLaughlin), was well received, the Chairman praising the patience and perseverance shown by them, and which ultimately led to success, and enabled them to accomplish their performances.

Mr. WINNY and Mr. BUCKINGHAM having replied, the toast of "The Ringing Periodicals" was given, coupled with the name of Mr. J. R. Haworth, and to which he suitably replied. It having leaked out that the 16th was Mr. Dawe's birthday, the Chairman at once asked the company to drink Mr. Dawe's health, which was accordingly done.

Mr. DAWE replied in an exceedingly humorous manner. Just as Great Paul's brother had struck the last blow of the midnight hour, and which ushered in the festival of St. Patrick, and likewise Mr. Winny's birthday, Mr. Making proposed amid applause the health of Mr. Winny. Musical honours, and a reply from Mr. Winny brought Mr. Baron to the front, who proposed the toast to the Chairman, which Mr. Dawe seconded. This was carried in the usual way. After the Chairman's reply, "Auld Lang Syne" terminated the proceedings.

During the evening a non-conducted touch of Stedman Triples was rung by Messrs. Mitchell, 1-2; C. F. Winny, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; G. McLaughlin, 7-8. Also a course of Grandsire Caters. J. Mitchell, 1-2; C. F. Winny, 3-4; G. Cartmel, 5-6; W. H. L. Buckingham, 7-8; E. P. Debenham, 9-10. Amongst those who added to the harmony with songs were Messrs. Newton, Wild, Judd, Woodley, Rowbotham, Haworth, Barry, and Baron.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting will be held at Romford, on Saturday, April 7th. The belfry of St. Edward's church (eight bells), which has lately been restored and the bells rehung, will be at the disposal of members of the Association during the day. A meat tea (price 6d. to members who give notice to the Secretary before Tuesday, April 3) will be supplied in the National School-room at 5 p.m., and the usual business meeting will be held afterwards. Return tickets at reduced fares will be issued by the Great Eastern Railway to members who inform the Secretary before April 3 from what station they intend to travel, and exhibit at the booking office their receipt for the current year's subscription.

T. L. PAPILLON, *Hon. Sec.*

Writtle Vicarage, Chelmsford.

RE-OPENING OF THE PARISH CHURCH BELLS, LEEDS, YORKS.

ON Easter Monday, April 2nd, the above bells, which have been undergoing a thorough repair by Messrs. T. Mallaby and Sons, Masham, Yorks., will be re-opened by the Leeds company attempting the late J. Tebbs' celebrated peal of Grandsire Caters (5579 changes), containing the sixty course-ends, commencing at 6 o'clock a.m. After the peal the tower and handbells will be at the disposal of visitors during the day. The Leeds company will be glad to see as many brother ringers as can make it convenient to attend, and will also do their best to make up companies.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The Sixth Annual Meeting of this Association will be held at Derby, on Easter Monday, April 2nd, 1888, and the usual towers (except St. Luke's) will be open for ringing between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., and from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Committee meeting in St. Andrew's parish room, at 3 p.m. Tea in the School-room at 4 p.m., tickets 1s. each. General meeting and election of officers immediately after tea, to which all ringers and friends are earnestly invited.

The Easter handbell competition will take place after the general meeting.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, *Hon. Sec.*

5 St. Paul's Street East, Burton-on-Trent.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

THE REPORT for the past year is now ready for distribution, containing times of practice at churches in union; performances; balance sheet; and list of members. It is issued at the reduced price of twopence to members whose subscriptions have been paid, and it is hoped that as many members as possible will take copies, so that the whole edition may be utilised. Members requiring copies will please send word to

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of the above Association will take place on Easter Monday, April 2nd, at Worcester. As no definite arrangements have yet been made, full particulars will appear next week.

J. SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Devizes, on Wednesday, May 30th next. Full particulars will be published shortly before that date. A supplementary meeting will be held at or near Dinton, in August next.

J. R. JERRAM, *Secretary.*

A CO-OPERATIVE FESTIVAL.—The National Co-operative Flower Show, which created so much interest at South Kensington last year, will assume much larger proportions this year, and will be held at the Crystal Palace on Saturday, August 18th. The Prize Schedule shows that upwards of £320 have been subscribed in prizes as against £60 last year, and every kind of Vegetable, Fruit, Flower, and Honey in season, is included in the 200 different classes. If the entries are at all in proportion to what they were at the last show it will be one of the largest collections of *bona fide* cottagers' productions ever held. There is also to be an exhibition of home industries which should be very instructive, and an exhibition of produce from co-operative workshops both English and foreign. Cheap excursions will be arranged in connection with almost every Co-operative Society in the kingdom, so that their members—there are now upwards of a million—will be able to attend the first holiday festival for Co-operators which has been held. The Secretary of the Show, Mr. W. Broomhall, of 1, Norfolk Street, Strand, will send particulars to all interested enquirers.

NOTICE.—The long peal of Grandsire Caters at Appleton will not be attempted on Easter Monday, but on some future day which will be duly announced.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE
MAJOR.

5056.

By N. J. PITSTOW, *Saffron Walden.*

2 3 4 5 6 B M W H

4 2 3 5 6
6 3 2 5 4 - -
2 6 3 5 4 - -
3 2 6 5 4 - -
3 2 5 4 6 - -
5 4 3 2 6 - -
3 5 4 2 6 - -
4 3 5 2 6 - -
6 5 3 2 4 - -
3 6 5 2 4 - -
5 3 6 2 4 - -
6 3 4 2 5 - -
5 2 4 3 6 - - -
4 2 6 3 5 - -
5 6 2 3 4 - -
2 5 6 3 4 - -
6 2 5 3 4 - -
4 5 2 3 6 - -
2 4 5 3 6 - -
5 3 2 4 6 - -
2 5 3 4 6 - -
3 4 2 5 6 - -
2 3 4 5 6 - -

The fourth and sixth their extent in 5-6, and
the and and 3rd never in 6th's place.

A 1/2 PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES

1260.

By EDWARD F. STRANGE, *London.*

2 3 4 5 6 B W H

5 3 2 4 6 - -
4 6 3 2 5 - -
6 2 3 4 5 - -
4 5 2 3 6 - -
4 3 5 2 6 - -
4 2 3 5 6 - -

Twice repeated.

This quarter-peal contains the Queen's, tit-
tums, and twelve 6-7's.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR.

5088.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool.*

2 3 4 5 6

5 3 4 2 6 8th in three.

4 3 6 2 5 M

3 6 4 2 5 H

6 4 3 2 5 H

3 4 5 2 6 M

5 2 4 3 6 8th in two.

4 2 6 3 5 M

2 6 4 3 5 H

6 4 2 3 5 H

2 4 5 3 6 M

5 4 6 3 2 M

4 6 5 3 2 H

6 5 4 3 2 H

4 5 2 3 6 M

The last nine courses twice repeated, with
single instead of bob at the last middle pro-
duces:— 4 3 2 5 6

The whole repeated.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE
MAJOR.

5952.

By H. DAINS, *London.*

2 3 4 5 6 B M W H

4 2 3 5 6
3 5 4 2 6 - -
4 3 5 2 6 - -
5 2 4 3 6 - -

6 4 2 3 5 - -
2 6 4 3 5 - -
4 2 6 3 5 - -

5 6 2 3 4 - -
2 5 6 3 4 - -
6 3 2 5 4 - -

2 6 3 5 4 - -
3 2 6 5 4 - -
6 5 3 2 4 - -

3 6 5 2 4 - -
5 3 6 2 4 - -
6 2 5 3 4 - -

4 5 2 3 6 - -
2 4 5 3 6 - -
5 3 2 4 6 - -

2 5 3 4 6 - -
3 2 5 4 6 - -
5 4 3 2 6 - -

6 3 4 2 5 - -

4 6 3 2 5 - -

3 4 6 2 5 - -

3 4 2 5 6 - -

2 3 4 5 6 - -

This peal has the 4th, 5th and 6th their
extent in 5-6 without the 2nd or 3rd ever being
there.

If the bobs at home in the 5th, 6th, 7th, 23rd,
24th and 25th courses are omitted, the peal is
reduced to 5056 changes; and contains the 4th
and 6th the extent in 5-6, and is the first ever
obtained on this plan.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

5040.

By DANIEL PRENTICE, *Ipswich.*

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

2 3 5 6 4 2 2 1

3 4 5 6 2 1 2

6 5 4 3 2 2 2

5 2 4 3 6 1 2

5 4 3 2 6 1 2

Repeated.

This peal has the 6th its extent at home.

5080.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

5 2 3 6 4 2 2 2

2 5 4 6 3 2 2

5 3 4 6 2 1 2

4 6 5 3 2 1 1

2 4 3 6 5 2 1 2

6 3 4 2 5 2 2

3 5 4 2 6 1 2

2 4 5 3 6 2 2

2 5 3 4 6 1 2

2 3 4 5 6 1 2

This peal has the 6th its extent in 5-6.

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES.

5040.

By JOHN CARTER, *Birmingham.*

2 3 4 5 6 M W H

6 4 3 5 2 - -

3 5 6 4 2 - -

2 6 5 4 3 - -

4 2 5 6 3 - -

5 4 3 2 6 - -

6 3 4 2 5 - -

4 2 6 3 5 - -

5 6 2 3 4 - -

3 5 2 6 4 - -

4 2 3 5 6 - -

Five times repeated.

Single for a bob at the end of the 3rd and
6th parts.

A PEAL OF DUFFIELD ROYAL.

5040.

By A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, *Duffield Bank.*

1 2 3 4 5 1 B O

3 1 2 4 5 - -

5 2 1 4 3 - -

1 5 2 4 3 - -

3 2 5 4 1 - -

5 3 2 4 1 - -

2 5 3 4 1 - -

1 3 5 4 2 - -

5 1 3 4 2 - -

5 3 1 4 2 - -

4 1 3 5 2 - -

Nine times repeated, with bobs for the single
except in the 6th part.

The peal as given above runs to 6000, if,
however, the three B's bracketed are omitted
in eight of the ten parts, the number is reduced
to 5040.

First rung at Duffield, Derbyshire, on Monday, March
19th, 1888. Conducted by its composer.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

5600.

By JOE BEANLANDS, *Ilkley.*

2 3 4 5 6 W M H

4 5 2 3 6 - -

2 4 5 3 6 - -

5 2 4 3 6 - -

4 3 5 2 6 - -

5 4 3 2 6 - -

3 5 4 2 6 - -

4 2 3 5 6 - -

3 4 2 5 6 - -

2 5 3 4 6 - -

3 5 6 4 2 - -

Four times repeated.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5184.

By SAMUEL WOOD, *Ashton-under-Lyne.*

2 3 4 5 6 M O W H

5 4 6 3 2 2 - 2

3 5 4 2 6 - 2

3 6 5 2 4 2 1

2 3 6 4 5 2 2 2

3 4 2 5 6 2 2

Twice repeated.

Rung at St. Peter's church, Ashton-under-Lyne, on
March 13th, 1888. Conducted by its composer.

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH, MOSSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

The dedication of the new bells will take place on Saturday, March 31st. On Easter Sunday morning, a company of ringers from St. Chad's, Saddleworth, will attempt a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, and on Easter Monday, April 2nd, the bells will be at liberty all day, when the Committee will welcome all ringers who can make it convenient to attend. A free dinner will be provided at two o'clock for all those ringers who give notice of their intention to be present on or before Wednesday, March 28th, to John Holden, 48 Stamford Road, Mossley, near Manchester.

The new bells arrived on Monday, March 12th, and as they were conveyed up to the church on a lorry about noon, as the mill people were just at liberty, they were scrutinised by many of the residents. We append the weights and names of the donors, as indicated on the bells:—

	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.	Donors.
Treble.—	4	3	5	Young men of Sunday School.
Second.—	5	0	3	Mr. Hugh Kershaw.
Third.—	5	2	22	Rev. A. Hall.
Fourth.—	6	0	9	Mr. Hugh Kershaw.
Fifth.—	7	1	8	Miss Mary Wrigley.
Sixth.—	7	3	25	The Mayor, Mr. John Mayall.
Seventh.—	9	1	4	Mr. John Knott.
Tenor.—	13	2	14	Councillor Beswick.

Weight of tenor clapper, 29½ lbs., and of treble do., 21½ lbs. The total cost of bells and fixing is about £560; Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of Whitechapel, London, are the founders, and the hanging has been proceeded with during the week. The dedicatory service is to be held on Easter Eve, on which day the first formal peal will be rung, Mr. John Holden, of Mossley, an important member of the Bells Committee, and president of the United Counties' Association, is getting together a band of ringers for the purpose. It is understood that the order for the new organ will shortly be placed in hand, if such is not already the case.

STOULTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

Midway from Worcester and Pershore stands the village of Stoulton, with its little parish church and its Norman tower containing five bells. The first four were cast by Rudhall a century ago, the fifth having recently been added by Warner and Sons. On Thursday, March 8th, by the invitation of the Rev. K. Kingsford, four of the Worcester company, assisted by Mr. P. Brown (formerly churchwarden at St. Helen's, Worcester, and an honorary member of the Diocesan Association), rang on the bells several 6-scores of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, conducted by S. Cotton and H. B. Kingsford. After lowering the bells, a move was made to the rectory, where the worthy rector had provided a good repast, which was much appreciated. After the inner man had been supplied, the handbells were brought into requisition, and several good touches of Grandsire Triples, Grandsire Minor and Plain Bob Minor were rung by H. B. Kingsford, S. Cotton, T. Gwynn, W. Pudge, T. Brown, F. Owen, etc. The Captain (Mr. T. Brown), warning the company of midnight, a start was made for the faithful city, which was reached safely, all having thoroughly enjoyed their outing. The Worcester company wish through the medium of this paper to thank the Rev. K. Kingsford for his hospitality.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Annual General Meeting of this Association will be held at Bedford, on Easter Monday next. Change-ringing at St. Paul's and St. Mary's churches during the day. A dinner will be provided at the "Clarence Hotel," at 1.30, to be followed by the transaction of the usual business. At 5.30 p.m. a short special service will take place at St. Paul's church. Members and friends desirous of dining with the Society are requested to send in their names without delay to

CHARLES HERBERT, Hon. Sec.

Woburn, Beds., March 19, 1888.

WANTED, immediately, a Churchman, as BELL-INSTRUCTOR to the Hereford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers.—Apply to the Rev. G. M. CUSTANCE, Secretary, Colwall Rectory, Malvern.

RE-OPENING OF BARNWOOD BELLS, GLOUCESTER-SHIRE.

These bells have lately been rehung in iron carriages and the frame strengthened by the addition of some extra struts, perpendicular bolts, angle plates, &c. The work was entrusted to Mr. W. Morris, bell-hanger, of Painswick, in this county, by the direction of Mr. W. Waller, architect, who resides in the parish and takes a great interest in bell-ringing and also the chief donor towards the alterations. These bells were temporarily opened on Christmas eve, and have been rung at intervals ever since to give them a fair trial, but it was found necessary that some further additional alterations must be done by the proposal of the local band, such as fixing some extra guides for the ropes in the ringing-chamber, for it was a long distance between the floors, which made it rather difficult to ring, especially to strangers, on account of the ropes jumping about. Mr. Waller adhered to the proposal, and engaged Mr. D. Gough, of Gloucester, to fix the guides, which he accomplished in a workmanlike manner. The work being now all done satisfactory, the bells can be rung with pleasure. The final opening took place on Tuesday evening, March 6th, by the local band. A 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung with nine bobs, in 27½ mins., and several short touches in different methods, as follows: 72 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, 60 each of Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob, and 48 of Grandsire Minor. S. E. Romans, 1; J. Yeates, 2; D. J. Aston, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; A. A. Waite (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday morning, March 18th, prior to Divine Service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. (nine bobs), the ringers standing as above.

GREAT LEGHS, ESSEX.

After a long period of dilapidation the peal of five at the parish church of Great Leghs were reopened by the Braintree branch of the Essex Association, on Monday, March 12th, 1888. Eighteen 6-scores were rung during the afternoon by the following: T. Watson, F. Bumstead, F. Rudkin, S. Hammond (conductor), H. E. Hammond, H. and A. Bowell. The ringers were afterwards entertained to tea by the Rev. Dr. Guy. After tea a selection of tunes were played upon the handbells, also touches of Doubles, Minor, Grandsire Triples and Bob Major, double-handed. The bells are a fine maiden peal by Miles Gray, dated 1634, tenor about 12 cwt. They have been thoroughly restored by Mr. H. Bowell, of Ipswich, and the go of the bells is all that can be desired. A young band has been formed here, and it is hoped before long will practice change-ringing.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

There will be a meeting on Easter Monday, at Ely. The tower of St. Mary's will be open to ringers. Dinner and business meeting 2 p.m., charge 2s. As this meeting is most important, the committee earnestly hope for a large attendance. Members and friends intending to be present should signify their intentions without delay to the Hon. Sec. The usual concession has been applied for to the G. E. R.

K. H. SMITH, Hon. Sec.

The Cambridge Road, Ely, March 19.

WALTHAM ABBEY, ESSEX.

The above society of change-ringers beg to announce that it is their intention to hold a ringing day at the above place on Easter Monday, when they will be pleased to welcome as many visitors as may be disposed to attend. A dinner will be provided at the "Green Dragon" inn at two o'clock, tickets 2s. 6d. each. Those visitors who intend dining with the society, will oblige by forwarding their names not later than Saturday, March 24th, to the Secretary, W. C. DYMCK.

"Green Dragon" Inn, Waltham Abbey, Essex.

HOLT SOCIETY, ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

The usual QUARTERLY MEETING will be held at "The Ring of Bells," on Thursday, March 29th, at 7.45 p.m.

W. H. GODDEN, Sec.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"And the years roll on."

Six years of journalistic life. In a nation's history that would be a small matter, but with the individual it may be a period of considerable moment. Particularly so is it in the case of "THE BELL NEWS," and the reminiscences in which you, Mr. Editor, indulge in your leading article of Saturday last, will no doubt "strike a chord" in the hearts of many of your readers. I well remember how that in my earliest days of bell-ringing, it often used to appear to me an anomalous and none the less strange circumstance that reports of peals and other achievements of our brethren should have no place but in a journal devoted to what was termed "sport," much of which was of a very questionable character. I many a time experienced a feeling of shame when I saw these reports mixed up with paragraphs about pugilistic encounters, pigeon-shooting matches, dog races, rat-pit worryings, cock-fightings, and such like. When such was the case, there could be no wonder that respectable citizens held aloof from an art which appeared in close conjunction with such disreputable "pastimes." Thanks to "THE BELL NEWS," the past six years have seen an end to all this; one great blot upon the Exercise has been removed, and we are in the proud position of having an organ of our own; one, which, notwithstanding any slight shortcomings that might have been manifested (which indeed are inseparable from any journalistic enterprise), we have every reason to be more than satisfied with, if that were possible.

I do not write this, Mr. Editor, through any intention to flatter you; but "facts are facts," as the saying goes, and I cannot express my own feelings in the matter otherwise. However, let us hope that the new volume just commencing will, while recording still greater improvement in ringing matters, also be able to report a much more generous support being accorded to this now recognised mouth-piece of the Exercise, which has done such good service to us in the past.

Your proposal with reference to a comprehensive Register of Ringers cannot fail to meet with approval. The advantages of having such a register must be manifest, and as a commencement I would suggest that the secretaries of all our County Associations and Guilds should furnish you with a copy of their annual reports and lists of members. That would be an easy matter for them to do, and by this means you would be able to obtain the names and addresses of a very considerable number of our brethren.

I was glad to see that our old friend, Mr. Henry Johnson's 79th birthday was honoured in proper fashion. When next year he reaches his "four-score," may he be able to see the event celebrated in a right royal manner, and to take part in the festivities thereof.

It is to be regretted that the peal of Stedman Cinques did not "come off," particularly when they had got so well on towards the finish, at the same time, however, it may be some—though scant—consolation to them to know that they were not alone in thus "coming to grief," for I find in last week's issue altogether no less than six such unpleasant events reported. At Loughborough, a mistake occurred after close upon three hours' ringing; at Dudley, a peal of Grandsire Caters, after two hours and

a quarter, was stopped by reason of the bad "go" of the tenor; at Liscard, on the same day, a peal of Bob Major collapsed after nearly all of it had been completed; at Cuckfield, a peal of Triples came to an untimely end after over an hour-and-a-half's ringing; while at Crawley, an attempt for a peal of Union Triples got no further than 1200 changes in 43 minutes. So it will be seen that our friends in their unsuccessful Birmingham peal, failed among a rather numerous company.

Speaking of unsuccessful attempts also reminds me of a communication which I have received from a brother-string in Yorkshire, to the effect that a "silent" peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was attempted last Saturday on the bells of a parish church in the centre of the "heavy woollen district" of that county. The *communiqué* goes on to say that this attempt was successful until the end of the twelfth course was reached, when "a storm arose," and the sudden stoppage of the bells told the hearers outside that this praiseworthy performance had "come to grief." That result was doubtless disappointing no less to the ringers than to those friends who were outside; but at the same time I consider the performance a creditable one, seeing that they were but three courses from the finish when the "crash" came, and that, too, on the first attempt. Yorkshiremen are certainly not noted for "giving in" because of failure, so I expect before long we shall see the report of this peal having once more been commenced, and this time successfully accomplished.

The Silver Wedding of the Prince and Princess of Wales was celebrated amid very mournful surroundings, and no doubt our friends have been in considerable doubt as to what was the most correct thing to do under the circumstances. But as no official postponement of the celebration was announced, I think they did the best thing by each company acting as they thought fit in the matter. The result has been that both the wedding and the death of "Kaiser Wilhelm" have been respected in a manner creditable to the Exercise.

Mr. Attree's analysis for the first two months of the year, of course, does not furnish any reliable ground for making comparisons, but there is one item in the return which appears to me to deserve notice. I refer to the number of peals (eighteen), rung under the head of "Independent Societies." That causes me to infer that our County Associations have not yet by far succeeded in gathering within their ranks all our brethren who are practical change-ringers. Will not this fact induce our friends to put forth further efforts, so that all who have the true interests of ringing at heart may be induced to come in and help on the work of organization? There is no doubt much of the "old leaven" still existing among us, but as a well-known statesman once said, "time is fighting for us, the tide is with us;" and there can be no doubt that with energy and perseverance on our part, we may eventually, if not in the very near future, see the "independent society" a very scarce thing.

FREE LANCE.

STAMBOURNE, ESSEX.

A large clock has just been fixed in Stambourne church, Essex, by the celebrated firm of John Smith and Sons, of the Midland Clock Works, Derby. It strikes the hours upon a large bell, shews the time upon a four feet dial, and is fitted with all the most recent improvements. The same makers have also just erected a large clock at Sydney Park, Gloucestershire, for Charles Bathurst, Esq.

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

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

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

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

J. ROLLISON.—Your touch appears this week. Every effort is made to report all that is forwarded, but the space required is sometimes not sufficient for that purpose, therefore we are sometimes obliged to postpone a few touches till the following week.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1888.

THE proposal of a Ringers' Directory which was made in our last number has approved itself to a great many of our readers, who have sent in the information for that purpose. The suggestions made in connection with this matter will receive due attention, and if the favourite idea, that of publication, can be carried out with any prospect of success it will be commenced. There has been a great amount of correspondence received this week with reference to our paper, as frequently happens on the commencement of a new volume; and we thank our friends for their kindly wishes and suggestions, though some of the latter we find impossible to carry out. We shall however consider the propriety of slightly raising the price of publication, a step which has been pressed upon us many times from influential quarters. This will be better than putting what will be thought a tax upon the admission of peals or touches which have been rung, though the treatment of the composition page is still under discussion. What is intended in this direction will however be notified in a week or two, and if any of our readers take exception to the proposal of a very small increase in the price of publication, we shall be willing to listen to their objections.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE ST. STEPHEN'S (WESTMINSTER) SOCIETY.

On Saturday, March 18, 1888, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 25 cwt.

G. T. McLAUGHLIN Treble.	*W. CARTER 5.
T. R. BELL 2.	H. T. ELLIS 6.
J. N. OXBORROW 3.	J. M. HAYES 7.
J. WILLSHIRE 4.	H. R. NEWTON Tenor.

Conducted by J. M. HAYES.

*First peal with a bob bell. This peal was rung in honour of the dedication of the peal board for the first peal rang by the St. Stephen's (Westminster) society.

PUTNEY, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, March 20, 1888, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 16½ cwt.

CHALLIS F. WINNY Treble.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 5.
GEORGE WOODISS* 2.	JAMES HARRIS 6.
JOHN C. MITCHELL† 3.	JOHN SMITH 7.
GEORGE W. CARTMEL† 4.	JOHN M. HAYES Tenor.

Composed by W. HARRISON, and Conducted by J. M. HAYES.

*First peal. †First peal of Major. ‡First peal of Oxford. It is the first peal of Oxford by the Surrey Association, rang at the first attempt, and was well-struck throughout. Messrs. Woodiss, Smith, and Harris belong to the Kingston-on-Thames band; Messrs. Hayes and Winny from London; the rest from St. Albans.

The Provinces.

LIVERPOOL.—THE LIVERPOOL YOUTHS' SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, March 13, 1888, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5001 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

RICHARD WILLIAMS Treble.	GEORGE FISHER 6.
JOHN R. PRITCHARD 2.	WILLIAM BOOTH 7.
THOMAS HAMMOND 3.	WILLIAM DAVIES 8.
CHARLES WILLIAMS 4.	ROBERT WILLIAMS 9.
HENRY COLEY 5.	WILLIAM BROOKS Tenor.

Composed by JOHN R. PRITCHARD, and Conducted by WILLIAM BOOTH.

HEYWOOD, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 13, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 22½ cwt.

FRANK BIRTWISTLE Treble.	WILLIAM H. WALMSLEY .. 5.
JAMES PILKINGTON 2.	JOHN HARRISON 6.
JOHN MILLETT 3.	JAMES SCHOLEY 7.
DAVID WILDE* 4.	WILLIAM R. BARRETT .. Tenor.

Conducted by F. BIRTWISTLE.

*First peal. This is the quickest peal on the bells. F. Birtwistle hails from Rochdale; the rest belong to Heywood.

LEICESTER.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. MARGARET'S SOCIETY, LEICESTER.

On Saturday, March 17, 1888, in Three Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 23 cwt.

THOMAS WILSON Treble.	JOHN BUTTERY 5.
WILLIAM P. COOPER 2.	STEPHEN COOPER 6.
JOHN W. WILSON 3.	JOHN COOPER 7.
GEORGE BURROWS 4.	JOHN MARLOW Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by JOHN W. WILSON.

The first peal of this method on the bells.

ORMSKIRK, LANCASHIRE.—THE ORMSKIRK SOCIETY.

Birthday Peal.

On Monday, March 19, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. R. PRITCHARD'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 25½ cwt.

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

Conducted by JAMES SHOLICAR.

Rung in honour of the 21st birthday of Mr. William J. Taylor, his brother strings wishing him many happy returns of the day.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(THE CRAWLEY BRANCH).

Birthday Peal.

On Thursday, March 15, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SHIPWAY'S 10-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

ALBERT ELLIS Treble.	BENJAMIN KING 5.
FREDERICK RICE 2.	ALFRED F. HILLIER 6.
WILLIAM COLLISON 3.	FREDERICK WICKENS 7.
WALTER PARSONS* 4.	EDWARD PEARCE Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK WICKENS.

*First peal with a bob bell. †First peal in the method. The above was rung to commemorate the birthday of the conductor, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns.

PAINSWICK, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY OF PAINSWICK YOUTHS, AND THE
GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 17, 1888, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 28 cwt.

ALFRED TRIGG Treble.	† JEREMIAH WAGER 5.
ARTHUR J. GWINNETT 2.	* JOSEPH EVERATT 6.
WILLIAM RYLAND* 3.	† GEORGE SMITH 7.
WILLIAM HALE 4.	* THOMAS WRIGHT Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM HALE.

*First peal. †First peal with a bob bell. This is the first peal that has been rung by an entire Painswick band for 26 years. All the above band have been taught the art of ringing by William Hale, who also taught himself, and practised himself with the band by the aid of Mr. J. Snowdon's book. The average age of the ringers is 27 years. Mr. David Marmont attested to the good ringing and time of the peal. The same peal was rang here on the occasion of the Queen's accession to the throne.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND THE
WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, March 18, 1888, in Two Hours and Thirty-seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14½ cwt.

GEORGE CHARMAN Treble.	DAVID JORDAN 5.
ALFRED D. MILLS 2.	EDWIN JORDAN 6.
THOMAS M. STEDMAN 3.	GEORGE WILLIAMS 7.
ROBERT JORDAN 4.	W. L. CHAMBERLAIN Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

This is the first one-part peal of Grandsire Triples by the Sussex Association, and the quickest peal on the bells. *First peal of Triples.

HAVANT, HANTS.—THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN
GUILD AND SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Monday, March 19, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. FAITH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 16 cwt.

JOHN STAPLES* Treble.	*GEORGE BAKER 5.
JOHN W. WHITING* 2.	*WILLIAM L. CHAMBERLAIN 6.
JAMES HEWETT* 3.	*GEORGE WILLIAMS 7.
CHARLES PRIVETT* 4.	GEORGE PASSINGHAM Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

This peal was intended to have been rung with the bells half-muffled, in respect to the memory of the late Mr. C. Boxall, of Dorking, Surrey, a highly respected member of the Winchester Diocesan Guild; but on the band arriving, the authorities objected, he not having been an inhabitant of the town. This is the quickest peal on these bells. *Members of the Sussex County Association.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.
(DUFFIELD BRANCH.)

On Monday, March 19, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DUFFIELD ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

GEORGE DAWSON Treble.	HARRY C. WOODWARD 6.
JOHN HOWE 2.	GEORGE HINGLEY 7.
SAMUEL JOHNSON 3.	ALFRED ROBINSON 8.
WILLIAM WAKLEY 4.	BENJAMIN SUGDEN 9.
WILLIAM HICKLING 5.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD Tenor.

Composed and conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq.

This peal, which has the 6th at home throughout, is the first ever rung in the method on ten bells. The calling will be found on another page. In the absence of a member of the Duffield Society (Mr. Evan Moreton), Mr. Wakley kindly came over from Burton to complete the band.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—TENTERDEN, KENT.

On Monday, March 19, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SHIPWAY'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 30 cwt. in Db.

JOHN BARTLETT Treble.	JAMES SHARP 5.
GEORGE CRAMP 2.	HENRY G. RUMMERY 6.
ALBERT EDGAR NUNN 3.	GEORGE NEVE 7.
ROBERT EDWARDS 4.	HENRY HOLDSTOCK Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE NEVE.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(THE CRAWLEY BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, March 20, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SHIPWAY'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

ALBERT ELLIS Treble.	FREDERICK WICKENS 5.
BENJAMIN KING 2.	ALFRED F. HILLIER 6.
GEORGE WICKENS 3.	WILLIAM COLLISON 7.
WALTER PARSONS* 4.	EDWARD PEARCE Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK WICKENS.

*First peal in the method.

APPLETON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, March 20, 1888, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5376 CHANGES. Tenor 14½ cwt.

WILLIAM FINCH Treble.	JESSE AVERY 5.
EDMUND HOLIFIELD 2.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 6.
THOMAS PAYNE 3.	GEORGE HOLIFIELD 7.
WILLIAM BENNETT 4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(THE BRIGHTON BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, March 21, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PENNING'S FIVE-PART.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

GEORGE THWAITES Treble.	ARTHUR A. FULLER 5.
HARRY WESTON 2.	GEORGE F. ATTREE 6.
GEORGE A. KING 3.	*HORACE CORNWALL 7.
JOHN JAY, SEN. 4.	EDWARD BUTLER Tenor.

Conducted by HARRY WESTON.

*First peal with a bob bell. The above is the first time this peal has been rung in Sussex.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.—THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 17, 1888, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

EDWARD HULL* Treble.	GEORGE W. CARTMEL .. 5.
E. PERCY DEBENHAM .. 2.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 6.
JOHN C. MITCHELL 3.	THOMAS WALLER 7.
HENRY LEWIS 4.	ARTHUR HULL Tenor.

Conducted by EDWARD PERCY DEBENHAM.

*First peal. This, the first peal of the St. Peter's Society, was rung as a compliment to the Vicar, the Rev. H. N. Dudding and his family on the occasion of the baptism of Horatio Nelson Nugent Dudding, the Vicar's infant grandson. Mr. E. Hull was elected a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Essex Association previous to starting for the peal.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE, CHESHIRE.

THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 17, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN J. BRIERLEY Treble.	THOMAS WILDE 5.
JOHN HOLDEN 2.	JAMES RADCLIFFE 6.
FRANKLIN BRIERLEY 3.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF 7.
WILLIAM MIDDLETON .. 4.	JOHN PYE, SEN. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP and Conducted by FRANKLIN BRIERLEY.

The brothers Brierley, Messrs. Holden and Radcliffe hail from Saddleworth; T. Wilde from Hyde; W. Greenleaf from London; J. Pye, sen. from Glossop; Middleton belongs to Mottram.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.

On Tuesday, March 13, 1888, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

JOSEPH ETCELLS Treble.	BENJAMIN BROADBENT .. 5.
JOHN LEIGH 2.	JOHN THORP 6.
SAMUEL WOOD 3.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. 7.
THOMAS WILDE 4.	GEORGE LONGDEN Tenor.

Composed and conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

Date Touches.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LYMINGE (Kent).—On Monday evening, March 5th, a date touch in the following methods, in 1 hr. 14 mins.: two 720s and a 408 of Bob Minor, and 40 of Bob Doubles. J. Preble, 1; H. Cheeseman, 2; A. Beer, 3; J. Andrews, 4; C. Laker, 5; A. Tanton (conductor), 6.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

OSSETT (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, March 18th, for Divine Service at the church of Holy Trinity, a date touch of Kent Treble Major (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 15 mins. A. Spurr, 1; M. Garforth, 2; G. Crawshaw, 3; W. Schofield, 4; J. A. Idle, 5; J. Chappel, 6; D. Stephenson (conductor), 7; W. Dixon, 8. Composed by G. H. Hardy. Tenor 26½ cwt.

EASTBOURNE (Sussex).—On Friday, March 9th, at St. Saviour's church, by the St. Mary's society, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 14 mins. J. Rollison, 1; H. P. Bennett, 2; T. Hart (conductor), 3; L. Huggett, 4; E. Willoughby, 5; T. Lewis, 6; G. Willoughby, 7; J. Lewis, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. This the longest touch upon the bells.

Miscellaneous.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

BIRKENHEAD (Cheshire).—On Saturday, February 11th, the ringers of St. Mary's church, Eastham rang at St. Mary's church 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. J. Haspray, 1; C. Baxter, 2; W. Smith, 3; J. Parr, 4; J. Hughes, 5; J. Rowlands (conductor), 6.

EASTHAM (Cheshire).—On Saturday, March 10th, being the Prince of Wales' silver wedding day, 720 Oxford Single Bob. J. Haspray, 1; C. Baxter, 2; W. Smith, 2; J. Parr, 4; J. Hughes (conductor), 5; J. Rowlands, 6. Also two 360s of Plain Bob Minor, standing as before, conducted by W. Smith. For Sunday morning service, March 11th, 360 Oxford Single Bob, and 192 Plain Bob, standing as before. For evening service, 720 College Single. J. Haspray, 1; C. Baxter, 2; W. Smith, 3; J. Parr, 4; J. Rowlands, 5; J. Hughes (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

CHESTER.—On Saturday evening, an attempt was made to ring a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major on the fine ring of bells of St. Mary's-without-the-Walls, to commemorate the silver wedding of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales. After ringing three hours and fifteen minutes it came to grief, owing to a shift-course. Walter Cross, 1; Charles Price, 2; Arthur Jones, 3; Alfred Cross 4; —Morgan, 5; Thomas Bethell, 6; Joseph Griffith, 7; Freeman Ball (conductor), 8. Tenor 21 cwt. Composed by C. Price of Eccleston. And on Monday evening, March 19th, at the Cathedral, 720 Treble Bob Minor, in 30 mins. E. Mealing, 1; A. White, 2; W. Cross, 3; R. Holden (Whitchurch), 4; J. Griffiths, 5; A. Cross, 6; F. Ball (conductor), 7; R. Pearce, 8. The above was rung on the inside six bells, and was rung to oblige R. Holden, who was on a visit to Chester.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD (Essex).—Handbell Ringing.—On Saturday evening, March 10th, in the tower a course of Grandsire Caters. B. J. F. Keeble, 1-2; B. Keeble, 3-4; A. J. Perkins, 5-6; A. Porter, 7; W. Aldridge, 8; W. Aldridge, 9-10. A course of Treble Bob Major. W. Nash, 1; A. Porter, 2; A. J. Perkins, 3-4; J. Scowen, 5; W. Aldridge, 6; B. Keeble, 7-8. A course of Stedman Triples. B. Keeble, 1-2; A. Porter, 3; W. Aldridge, 4; A. J. Perkins, 5-6; W. Nash, 7-8. 168 Grandsire Triples. B. Keeble, 1-2; W. Nash, 3-4; A. J. Perkins, 5-6; W. Mighill, 7-8. Also 336 Grandsire Triples. —Pegrum, 1; B. J. F. Keeble, 2; B. Keeble, 3-4; W. Aldridge, 5; J. Scowen, 6; A. Porter, 7-8.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Tuesday, March 13th, for practice, 1056 of Bob Major. J. Everard, 1; H. F. de Lisle, Esq., 2; R. Wood, 3; F. Radley, 4; A. Edwards, 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; W. J. Piper, 7; W. Lincoln (conductor), 8. Also 336 Grandsire Triples, with W. G. Dickens, Esq., and 210 with A. Bonnington at the treble. On Sunday, March 18th, for Divine Service in the evening, the second part of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples. R. C. Burrell, 1; J. Everard, 2; H. F. de Lisle, Esq., 3; F. Radley, 4; A. Edwards, 5; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; C. J. Dennison, 8.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Friday, March 16th, 720 College Exercise. W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains (conductor), 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; W. Hawkes, 4; A. Edwards, 5; W. Lincoln, 6.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Saturday, March 10th, at 7 a.m., in honour of the silver wedding of the Prince and Princess of Wales, a 1036 Grandsire Triples, at SS. Mary and Nicholas church. In the evening, a quarter-peal in the same method, in 47 mins. The following took part in the ringing:—J. S. Wright, G. L. Richardson, R. Mackman, G. Skeef, C. Neaverson, J. W. Jarvis, R. Jarvis, E. Jarvis, J. R. Mackman, R. Skeef.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LYMINGE (Kent).—On Saturday evening, March 3rd, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles). J. Preble, 1; H. Cheeseman, 2; T. Beer, 3; J. Andrews, 4; C. Laker, 5; A. Tanton (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, March 4th, before service, 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). J. Preble, 1; R. Andrews, 2; A. Beer, 3; C. Laker, 4; J. Andrews, 5; A. Tanton (conductor), 6. Before the afternoon service, 720 Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles). J. Preble, 1; R. Andrews, 2; H. Cheeseman, 3; J. Andrews, 4; C. Laker, 5; A. Tanton (conductor), 6.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Sunday, March 11th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. W. Jackson, 1; A. Cornford, 2; W. Martin, 3; J. Broom, 4; G. Hayes, 5; G. Martin (conductor), 6. And on Sunday evening, March 18th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. W. Jackson, 1; A. Cornford, 2; W. Martin, 3; J. Broom, 4; G. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

NEWCHURCH (Lancashire).—On Saturday, March 10th, at the parish church, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in honour of the Silver Wedding of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales. T. Harrison, 1; A. E. Wrecks, 2; H. H. Nutter (conductor), 3; J. Ashworth, 4; J. B. Taylor, 5; G. Lord, 6; J. T. Stott, 7; W. Whittaker, 8. Time 1 hr. 33 mins.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Monday evening, March 14th, a 720 Bob Minor, in 24½ mins. A. Potter, 1; Jos. Potter, 2; S. Oakes, 3; Jas. Potter, 4; J. Williamson, 5; W. Denner, 6. On Tuesday afternoon, March 13th, 720 Bob Minor was rung in 24 mins., to celebrate the 21st birthday of Miss Martin, eldest daughter of W. Y. Martin, Esq., M.D., of Walkden. J. Brooks (conductor), 1; J. Worthington, 2; S. Oakes, 3; J. Williamson, 4; A. Potter, 5; J. Potter, 6.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

DERBY.—On Sunday evening, March 11th, for Divine Service, 1008 Grandsire Triples, in 40 mins. W. Shardlow, 1; J. W. Thompson, 2; T. Alton, 3; W. Midgley, 4; A. E. Thompson, 5; H. C. Woodward, 6; C. Hart (conductor), 7; T. Albutt, 8. Tenor 20½ cwt. in Eb.

NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

RETTFORD (Notts).—On Sunday, March 11th, for Divine Service at St. Michael's church, six members of the above Association rang 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles), in 26 mins. J. Briggs, 1; W. Skelton, 2; W. Drake, 3; N. G. Hunt, 4; H. Haigh, 5; R. Potter (conductor), 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

READING (Berks).—On Saturday, March 17th, at St. Giles' church, with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the late R. Bracker, Esq., the late superintendent of the Boys' Sunday School, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. H. Smart, 1; H. Bonney, 2; A. H. Evans, 3; F. Sweetzer, 4; A. E. Reeves, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, March 18th, with the bells half-muffled, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. H. Blisset, 1; F. Sweetzer, 2; A. H. Evans, 3; A. E. Reeves, 4; R. T. Hibbert, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

CRADLEY (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday evening, March 13th, at the parish church, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor, in 25 mins., with the tenor behind. *G. Dukes, 1; *H. Woodhall, 2; *C. Daniel, 3; C. Beasley, 4; *R. Beasley, 5; H. Mason (conductor), 6; J. A. Meredith, 7. *First 720 in the method. H. Mason hails from Old Hill; the rest are of the local company.

BLACKHILL (Durham).—On Saturday evening, March 17th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's (R.C.) church, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and thirty-two singles), in 32 mins. †J. Moore, jun., 1; *J. McPhillips, 2; J. T. Dobson, 3; B. King, 4; A. Nichols, 5; E. Wallis (conductor), 6. Also after service 720 in the same method, called differently, by the same band, in 32 mins. †First 720; *first 720 on a bob bell. Tenor 22 cwt.

BUNWELL (Norfolk).—On Sunday, February 26th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). R. Hutton, 1; G. Smith, jun., 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, sen., 5; J. Hinchley (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, February 27th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor (forty-two singles), composed by E. Francis, of Norwich, and conducted by R. Hutton, standing as before. And on Saturday, March 10th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. G. Smith, jun., 1; J. Hinchley, 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method for Messrs. G. Smith, jun., Hilling, Dunnett, and G. Smith, sen. Also on Sunday, March 11th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. R. Hutton (conductor), 1; G. Smith, jun., 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, sen., 5; J. Hinchley, 6. And after service on handbells, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, and 120 Kent Treble Bob. G. Smith, jun., 1; J. Hinchley, 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; R. Hutton (conductor), 5-6. Also on Monday, March 12th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. G. Smith, sen., 1; J. Hinchley, 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, March 15th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Hinchley, 1; G. Smith, sen. (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; J. Hilling, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6. Also on Friday, March 16th, 720 in the same method. G. Smith, sen., 1; J. Hinchley, 2; J. Hillings, 3; A. Dunnett, 4; G. Smith, jun., 5; R. Hutton (conductor), 6. And 360 in the Kent method, G. Smith, 1; J. Hinchley, 2; the rest as before. First touch in the method on the tower bells by Messrs. G. Smith, sen., Hilling, Dunnett, and G. Smith, jun.

DARLINGTON.—On Sunday evening, March 11th, prior to Divine Service at St. Cuthbert's church, the members of the local company rang 1260 Bob Triples in 46 mins. R. P. Russell, 1; W. Stephenson, 2; J. K. Whitfield, 3; A. Ridley, 4; J. Coverdale, 5; A. Hodgson, 6; G. A. Overton (conductor), 7; W. Auld, 8. Tenor 16 cwt.

GREENWICH (Kent).—Muffled peals.—On Sunday, March 11th, also on Tuesday, March 13th, at St. Alphage church, the usual muffled peals were rung as marks of respect to his late majesty the Emperor of Germany, and the late T. R. Huntley, Esq., a former churchwarden

of Greenwich. Frederick W. Thornton, 1; John J. Lamb, 2; John Foreman, 3; Harry W. Grout, 4; Robert Shade, 5; William Foreman, 6; William G. Davis, 7; George Thatcher, 8.

HACKNEY (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, March 18th, at the parish church of St. John, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 48 mins. J. Carmichael, 1; F. Rumens, 2; G. J. Smith (longest length inside), 3; T. Page (conductor), 4; A. Cutmore, 5; W. B. Manning, 6; A. S. Barrell, 7; Phil Gaymer, 8.

HAUGHTON (Lancashire).—On Saturday, March 10th, at the parish church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. J. Wood (Saddleworth), 1; J. Radcliffe (Saddleworth), 2; O. Wood (Saddleworth), 3; A. Rainily (Hayfield), 4; T. Brocklehurst (Hayfield), 5; G. Hibbert (Chapel-en-le-Frith), 6.

HEMPSTEAD (Gloucestershire).—On Monday, March 12th, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and two singles), in 24 mins. W. Pegler, 1; S. Romans, 2; W. Brunsdon, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; H. Mitchell, 5; W. J. Sevier (conductor), 6. Tenor 14 cwt.

HIGHAM FERRERS (Northants).—On Saturday, March 10th, the local company met at the residence of Mr. Thomas Parker, an old veteran ringer, who attained his 90th birthday on that day, and in honour of the old gentleman the company rang on handbells, 360 London Single (eighteen bobs and twelve singles), and 120 Plain Bob. The following took part in the ringing: W. Pettit, G. Heath, A. E. Chapman, J. B. Martin, W. A. Hall, W. Parker, and A. H. Martin. The company wish him many happy returns of the day.

NUNEATON (Warwickshire).—On Saturday, March 10th, being the silver wedding day of the Prince and Princess of Wales, the local company rang a date touch of Grandsire Doubles (called differently), in 1 hr. 8 mins., on the back six. G. Winter, 1; J. Clarke, 2; W. Adler, 3; H. Horwood (conductor), 4; T. Chapman, 5; T. Bates, 6. This is the longest touch by the local company, and the first date touch on the bells.

LONDON.—On Monday, March 12th, at St. Sepulchre's church, the local company assisted by Messrs. Coppage, of the Waterloo Society, and E. Elburn, of Amersham, Bucks, rang muffled touches on the occasion of the funeral of the late Mrs. Bedford, wife of the vestry clerk of this parish.

LIVERPOOL.—On Thursday, March 8th, at St. Peter's pro Cathedral an attempt for a peal of Stedman Caters was unfortunately lost (one of the ringers being unable to ring any further) after ringing 2510 changes, in 1 hr. 45 mins. Richard Williams, 1; Robert Williams, 2; Thomas Hammond, 3; Charles Williams, 4; Henry Coley, 5; John R. Pritchard (composer), 6; William Booth (conductor), 7; William Davies, 8; George Fisher, 9; William Brooks, 10. And on Sunday, March 18th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Francis Xavier, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Donnelly (conductor), 1; W. Bond, 2; T. Moran, 3; T. Donnelly, 4; R. Diggle, 5; W. Kennedy, 6; J. Clarke, 7; S. Hession, 8.

MARLOW (Bucks).—Handbell Ringing.—On Wednesday evening, March 14th, at the residence of Mr. J. C. Truss, St. Peter's Street, 504 Grandsire Triples, being the first part of Holt's ten-part peal. J. C. Truss, jun., 1-2; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 3-4; H. Buckingham, 5-6; J. C. Truss, sen., 7-8.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Thursday evening, March 15th, for practice at St. Andrew's church, 720 Canterbury Pleasure in 27 mins. B. Townsend, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; W. Micklewright (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. This is the first 720 in the method by all except J. Smith, and the first on the bells.

OLD HILL (Staffordshire).—On Wednesday, March 14th, at Holy Trinity Church, 720 Canterbury Pleasure in 28½ mins. W. Bird, 1; R. Bird, 2; A. E. Parsons, 3; C. W. Bassano, 5; *J. Smith (Nether-ton), 5; A. H. Bassano (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. And on Saturday, March 17th, 720 Oxford Single Bob Minor, in 26 mins. C. Daniel (Cradley), 1; A. E. Parsons, 2; C. W. Bassano, 3; C. Beasley (Cradley), 4; H. Mason, 5; A. H. Bassano (conductor), 6. This is A. H. Bassano's fiftieth 720, and C. Beasley's first 720 in the method. Also on Sunday, March 18th, 500 Duffield Major. W. Bird, 1; W. Green, 2; C. W. Bassano, 3; J. Palmer, 4; H. Mason, 5; H. Cartwright, 6; A. E. Parsons, 7; A. H. Bassano (conductor), 8.

OXFORD.—On Thursday, February 9th, at St. Peter's-in-the-East, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. J. West, 1; C. Tolley, 2; P. A. Hind, 3; C. Hounslow, 4; A. E. Hind, 5; W. Baston (conductor), 6. Also on Thursday, February 16th, 720 Grandsire Minor. J. Hind, 1; C. Tolley, 2; J. West, 3; P. A. Hind, 4; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 5; A. E. Hind, 6. And on Sunday, March 4th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. J. West, 1; C. Tolley, 2; P. A. Hind, 3; J. W. Washbrook, 4; W. Jeffery, 5; A. E. Hind (conductor), 6. Also on Thursday, March 8th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. West, 1; C.

Tolley, 2; P. A. Hind, 3; W. Baston (conductor), 4; A. E. Hind, 5; A. Browning, 6. And on Sunday, March 11th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. T. Blackburn (Salisbury), 1; A. Browning, 2; C. Tolley, 3; W. Fineb, 4; W. Jeffery, 5; J. W. Washbrook (conductor), 6.

PRESTON (Suffolk).—On Saturday evening, March 10th, a mixed band met and rung at St. Mary's church 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 25 mins. H. Symonds, 1; W. Hollocks, 2; J. Scowen, 3; J. Moore, 4; H. Smith, 5; A. Symonds (conductor), 6. This was rung to celebrate the silver wedding of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales.

READING (Berks).—On Saturday, March 10th, at St. Lawrence's church, in honour of the silver wedding of the Prince and Princess of Wales, a 755 of Grandsire Caters, in 33 mins. J. F. Tarrant, 1; H. M. Bawden, 2; A. E. Reeves, 3; W. Goseltine, 4; W. H. Holloway, 5; G. Talbot, 6; J. E. Willshire, 7; W. J. Williams (conductor), 8; W. Newell, 9; W. Robins, 10. Also a 575 in the same method, in 24 mins. J. F. Tarrant, 1; H. M. Bawden, 2; J. E. Willshire, 3; A. E. Reeves, 4; W. H. Holloway, 5; G. Talbot, 6; W. Goseltine, 7; W. J. Williams (conductor), 8; W. Newell, 9; W. R. Pocock, 10.

SALISBURY.—On Sunday, March 11th, for Divine Service at St. Martin's church, 700 Grandsire Triples. W. Wise, 1; S. Lawrence, 2; C. A. Clements (conductor), 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; A. W. Barkus, 5; W. E. Tydeman, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; W. M. Lush, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

SELBY OAK (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, March 6th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 896 Grandsire Triples. G. Hale, 1; A. Cole, 2; E. Parker, 3; H. Smith, 4; E. Boylin, 5; E. Bryant (conductor), 6; T. Lewis, 7; J. Dowler, 8.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—Chiming.—On Sunday, March 11th, for Divine Service in the afternoon at St. Peter's church, a plain course of Stedman Triples by the local company. H. Lewis, 1-2; E. P. Debenham, 3-4; G. W. Cartmel, 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8. And for evening service six courses of Grandsire Triples, and a plain course of Grandsire Major. A. Barnes, 1-2; H. Lewis, 3-4; E. P. Debenham, 5-6; T. Waller, 7-8.

STISTED (Essex).—On Tuesday, March 13th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-two singles), in 24 mins. And a 216 (twelve bobs and two singles), and a 72 (six singles). C. Duncomb, 1; A. Chaplin, 2; F. Saunders, 3; E. Chaplin, 4; E. Radley, 5; W. Radley (conductor), 6.

STOURBRIDGE (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, March 17th, for practice at St. Thomas' Church, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. *J. Barber, 1; T. Barber, 2; W. Harris (conductor), 3; G. H. Pagett, 4; H. Deakin, 5; W. A. Pugh, 6. *First 720. Messrs. J. and T. Barber hails from Clent; H. Deakin from Woolaston, the rest are local men. Also on Monday, March 19th, a 720 of Bob Minor, with the tenor behind, in 30 mins. J. Pagett, 1; J. Guest, 2; C. Barrett, 3; H. Harris, 4; G. H. Pagett, 5; W. A. Pugh, 6; J. Crump, 7. Mr. Guest hails from Brierley Hill, the rest are local men.

TAUNTON (Somersetshire).—On Saturday last, March 10th, in honour of the Royal Silver Wedding, several plain courses of Grandsire Triples was rung. F. J. Burge, 1; C. E. May, 2; G. E. Harborne, 3; T. Radford, 4; J. Burge, 5; J. Maddock, 6; T. Doble, 7; E. Wyatt, 8. And on the following evening, for service, some more courses were rung all standing as before except W. Pearce, who rang the tenor. This is the first touch of Triples by all but the 7th man.

WESTMINSTER.—On Saturday, March 10th, at St. Stephen's church, Rochester-row, in honour of the Prince and Princess of Wales' Silver Wedding, a 742 of Grandsire Triples, in 29 mins. J. T. Reed, 1; J. N. Oxborrow, 2; G. T. McLaughlin, 3; H. S. Ellis, 4; E. Duff, 5; H. R. Newton (conductor), 6; J. Willshire, 7; W. Cropley, 8. Handbell Ringing.—On Wednesday, March 14th, at the residence of Mr. H. R. Newton, the following members of the St. Stephen's (Westminster) society, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) in 37 mins., on handbells retained in hand. H. R. Newton (conductor), 1-2; G. T. McLaughlin, 3-4; J. M. Hayes, 5-6; H. T. Ellis, 7-8.

JASPER SNOWDON'S LAST BOOK.

"GRANDSIRE," THE METHOD, ITS PEALS, AND HISTORY.—We are glad to see this book, the last of Mr. Snowdon's works, out, and we hope to review it in due course.

NEW COMET.—A new comet was discovered by Sawerthal and observed at the Cape Observatory at 2h 33m. a.m. on the 19th ult., when its position was R.A. 19h. 11m. 32.5s. (increasing 7m. daily); N.P.D. 146deg. 3min. 44sec. (diminishing 1deg. 15min. daily). It is thus described—"Seventh magnitude, nucleus well defined; tail 2deg. long; visible to the naked eye."

Correspondence.

[While allowing the utmost freedom for the expression of opinion, it must never be considered that we are in any way bound to statements made by correspondents.]

To the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD."

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—In a recent issue appears a date touch of Minor, rung at St. John's church, Darlington, on the evening of March the 6th, recorded as the first date touch rung by the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association this year. I beg to refer the author of that paragraph to a date touch of Stedman Triples, published in your esteemed paper on January 21st last, and rung on the 16th previous to that date at Sharow, near Ripon, by members of the above Association, consequently the former date touch rang at St. John's church will be the latter, and the last mentioned become the first. T. C.

REPLY TO MR. BROWN.

SIR,—In reply to W. Brown's bogie letter, had he published my letter to him in full respecting the 2520 of Court Bob Triples rung at Spalding, I should not have troubled you again with this tirade. I don't wish to split hairs with W. Brown. In the first place he calls it "Mackman's half-peal." If he will refer to "THE BELL NEWS" of January 28th he will find no half peal mentioned. If he thinks it means something more than 2520, then we will conclude he is a veritable G. O. M. W. Brown has made his second suppose. I proved his first suppose to be wrong, viz.: the first and second half jumbled together by the figures I sent him, that he don't choose to acknowledge. As for his second suppose, whether it be my own invention or not, I am quite ready to stand by anything I have rung and published. As for W. Brown's ordinary bob and single crotchet, perhaps he is not aware that there is a peal of Grandsire Triples that don't come round with bobs and singles, which has been rung and published in "THE BELL NEWS" several times. My empty excuse for not answering W. Brown's first letters I don't pretend to notice any letters of that kind, while the writer hides behind initials, as an innocent party is often accused. Now I know its only W. Brown. B.—Bedford, Beds., as he addresses himself. I will give him an invitation if he gives me twenty-four hours' notice, to come and ring a peal with us in the method of any of my inventions I have published. He shall be satisfied. R. MACKMAN.

Halmer Cottage, Spalding.

A WITHDRAWAL.

SIR,—I wish to thank Mr. Heywood for pointing out the Stedman Triples; I did not notice that I was treading so close on our old friend, so I withdraw all claim thereto. Now, Sir, as to the composition page we seem in a fix; some have got no taste and some no proof; I suppose that is it. I have been careless enough to be among the latter on one or two occasions, but I can promise that I resign the non-proof gang. It is not want of ability that causes these mistakes always, but simply this: A man puts aside a peal to prove, and picks it up at some other time in a hurry, and thinks it proved and sends it for publication, perhaps among others; but the former there is no excuse for at all. Now who would think of ringing a peal of Major with the 2nd tingling behind the tenor at backstroke, if they could possibly help it? We have had the pleasure of trying the experiments of musical properties, and find that peals of Major where the 2nd or 3rd bells dodge with the tenor on the wrong are not near so good as the 4th, 5th, and 6th alone. It is very easy to sit down and compose an haphazard peal as one would call it, but it is another thing to work out a plan for a certain number and certain properties. I feel convinced that composers of the latter type could be counted on one hand almost; but on the other hand how is a young composer to get on if he is not allowed to make a mistake and be corrected? That is exactly what makes him scientific and careful in the matter; he keeps saying "I have a lot to learn yet," and consequently by degrees makes a good man. Is there one of our best composers who have never made a mistake, or who could not be criticised in his productions? No, certainly not, we have all our failings, one's ability is better than another's perhaps, but that ability is often spoilt for want of generosity or even politeness to our fellow-beings. Many a good man has been spoilt through want of mutual sensibility for another, one perhaps not being able to offer any remunerative return. Public criticism gives all this, providing a man can humble himself to it, but when some people are once sat on they are cowed, and perhaps for ever; while others use a fresh spirit and make good men; and except for the chance of a free passage for their productions, they too, might for ever remain in obscurity. J. W. WASHBROOK.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By Charles Pearson, M.A. Price Threepence, by post Fourpence.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND Co., Printers, Exeter.

Obituary.

CHARLES BOXALL.

WITH deep regret we have to announce the death of the above-named gentleman, at the age of 67, which took place at his residence, Arundel Lodge, Howard Road, Dorking, on Monday, February 23rd, after a short illness. The mortal remains were interred on the following Saturday in the Dorking Cemetery, amid universal sorrow and sympathy, a large number of deceased's friends following the sad cortege, amongst whom were about thirty ringers from Dorking, Leatherhead, Ashstead, Reigate, Betchworth, Buckland, etc. Deceased was a member of the College Youths, the Winchester Diocesan Guild, and had been a member of the local company for over fifty years, he having rang his first peal at the age of seventeen; he was also captain and treasurer of the local society. Deeply muffled touches of Grand-sire and Union were rang before and after the funeral service, and in the evening an attempt was made for a peal, which unfortunately came to grief after ringing 1 hr. 50 mins. Muffled touches were also rung on the Monday evening following.

THE EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A formal meeting was held in the Church Schoolroom, Clay Cross, early in October, 1887, which was adjourned till October 27th, when the following belfries were represented: Ashover (five bells); Old Brampton (five bells); Crich (five bells); Clay Cross (six bells); North Wingfield (six bells); South Normanton and Morton (five bells). The Rev. —. Shipton (of Brampton), was elected to the chair, when the following gentlemen were unanimously elected as officers. President—Rev. Canon Massey, South Normanton; Vice-President—Rev. J. B. Nodder, Ashover; Hon. Treasurer—Rev. Jos. Oldham, Clay Cross; Hon. Secretary—Mr. J. Green, Clay Cross. The objects of the Association are similar to those adopted by the Midland Counties' Association. The first Annual Meeting will be held at Clay Cross on Easter Monday, when a sermon will be preached in St. Bartholomew's church by the President. The bells will be open at 10 a.m., when all ringing friends will receive a hearty welcome.

THE ST. STEPHEN'S SOCIETY, WESTMINSTER.

On Saturday, March 18th, a very handsome board was unveiled in the tower of the church of St. Stephen's, Rochester Row, by the Vicar (Rev. W. M. Sinclair), in commemoration of the first peal rung by the above Society. After a few appropriate words of encouragement to the members, the same band rang a peal of Grandsire Triples (see peal column) in honour of the occasion.

NOTICE.—Good Friday occurring next week, this paper will be published a day earlier than usual. Peals intended for publication must come to hand not later than Wednesday morning; everything else on Tuesday morning.

A dog belonging to a change-ringer used to accompany his master to the belfry of St. Martin's church in Leicester, and upon the commencement of a touch he would lay himself quietly down, nor attempt to stir, till the bells came round, which intimated the finishing of the peal, and which he always noticed. He would then get up, shake himself, and prepare to be off from an amusement for which he had considerable less relish than his master. Tradition states that the late George Stockham, so many years steeple-keeper at St. Clement Danes, possessed a quadruped of the same species, who was accustomed to bark when "that's all" was uttered by the bob-caller.

THE PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.—An interesting extract from the thirty-ninth Annual Report of this company will be found in our advertisement pages. It substantiates the assertion that the "Prudential" is doing good in both the "Ordinary and "Industrial" branches of its operations. When it is known that over seven million and a half policies of this company are in force, there can be no question at all as to the position and status of the "Prudential" among assurance societies.

The chapel erected by Mrs. Fraser at the cathedral in memory of her late husband, the Bishop of Manchester, has been completed by the erection of what the *Manchester Guardian* describes as an exceedingly beautiful screen, with folding doors. The cornice, which is of an elaborately carved vine pattern, is surmounted by a carved cresting. Between the muntins and above the doors, and on each side of the doors, is a variety of exquisite tracery, with battlemented pinnacles. The tracery of the panels below the lock rails is similar in treatment, but worked on the solid of the panels. The lock rails and the door head are also elaborately carved; while the principal stiles of the screen consist of very finely carved buttresses, with pinnacle terminations.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION,

REPORT FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 19TH.

By the Arundel branch at Arundel.—On Sunday, March 11th, for Divine service, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 25 mins., by a mixed band. W. Short, 1; E. Brackley, 2; *W. L. Chamberlain, 3; G. Balchin, 4; C. Blackman (conductor), 5; G. Smart, 6. W. Short from Warnham; Smart and Brackley hail from Steyning. *First 720.

By the Billingshurst branch at Billingshurst.—Recently a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. C. Wood, 1; W. Chantler, 2; G. Matthews, 3; W. Chantler, jun., 4; W. Wadey, 5; J. T. Chantler (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Warnham Court Bob. C. Wood, 1; W. Chantler, 2; G. Matthews, 3; W. Chantler, jun., 4; W. Wadey, 5; J. T. Chantler (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Oxford Bob. C. Wood, 1; W. Chantler, 2; G. Matthews, 3; W. Chantler, jun., 4; J. T. Chantler, 5; W. Wadey (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of College Single. G. Wood, 1; W. Chantler, 2; G. Matthews, 3; W. Chantler, jun., 4; W. Wadey, 5; J. T. Chantler (conductor), 6.

By the Brighton branch at St. Peter's, Brighton.—On Thursday, March 15th, a 518 of Grandsire Triples, in 19 mins. G. A. King, 1; A. A. Fuller, 2; W. C. Marshall, 3; G. Thwaites, 4; F. Fisher, 5; J. E. Worsell, 6; H. Weston (conductor), 7; J. Mockett, 8. And on Sunday, March 18th, a quarter-peal (1260 changes) of Grandsire, in 44½ mins. H. Weston, 1; A. A. Fuller, 2; J. E. Worsell, 3; *G. Thwaites (conductor), 4; G. C. Hammond, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; H. Cornwall, 7; J. Mockett, 8. *First quarter-peal as conductor. Also on Monday, March 19th, a 504 of Stedman Triples, in 18 mins. G. Thwaites, 1; A. A. Fuller, 2; J. Searle, 3; J. Jay, 4; G. A. King, 5; J. Reilly, 6; H. Weston (conductor), 7; H. Cornwall, 8.

By the Chailley branch at Chailley.—On Saturday, March 17th, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins. J. Reynolds, 1; A. Brown, 2; A. Gorrington, 3; Henry Cornwall, 4; W. Pelling, 5; O. Gatland (conductor), 6; This is the first 720 by a Chailley band for more than twelve years.

By the Crawley and Balcombe branches at Crawley.—On Sunday, March 18th, a 910 of Court Bob Triples, in 29 mins. *F. Streeter, 1; F. Rice, 2; *E. Streeter, 3; *J. Cheeseman, 4; *H. Meads, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6; *J. Gasson, 7; E. Pearce, 8. *Hail from Balcombe.

By the Crawley branch at Crawley.—On Thursday, March 12th, a 5040 of Grandsire Triples, in 2 hr. 57 mins. For particulars see peal column. G. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

EASTER HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS.

THE MIDLAND RAILWAY.—The printed Easter Holiday announcements of this company state that the booking offices at St. Pancras and Moorgate Street Stations will be open for the issue of tickets throughout the day on Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, March 28th, 29th, and 31st, so that passengers desirous of obtaining tickets beforehand may do so at any time prior to the starting of the trains. Tickets will be dated to suit the convenience of passengers. There is an accelerated service of express and mail trains leaving London (St. Pancras) week days only, to Carlisle, Scotland, Belfast, Leicester, Derby, Manchester, Southport, Liverpool, Nottingham, Sheffield, Leeds, and Bradford. Corresponding trains are run in the opposite direction. On Good Friday, March 30th, the trains will run as appointed for Sundays, except the newspaper express leaving St. Pancras at 5.15 a.m., which will run to Bedford, Leicester, Nottingham, Derby, Sheffield and Manchester, same as on ordinary week-days. The 8.55 a.m. local train Sheffield to Leeds, &c. will wait the arrival of the newspaper express at Sheffield. Third class passengers are conveyed by all trains. The same company will run cheap excursion trains from London to Leicester, Nottingham, Newark, Lincoln, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Burton, Derby, Liverpool, Manchester, the Furness District, Morecambe, Leeds, Bradford, Carlisle, Scarborough, Bridlington, Whitby, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Thursday, March 29th. Tickets for starting from St. Pancras station by any of these excursions can be obtained on the two previous days to the running of the trains at the Midland booking office, St. Pancras station; at the Tourist office in front of St. Pancras station; at the Midland offices, 445, West Strand (opposite Charing Cross station and hotel); 10a, New Bond Street; 5, Charing Cross (corner of Northumberland Avenue); 33, Canon Street; 13, Aldersgate Street; 272, Regent Circus, Oxford Street; and Gloucester office, 495, Oxford Street; at the London, Brighton and South Coast Company's offices, 8, Grand Hotel Buildings, Trafalgar Square, and 28, Regent Circus, Piccadilly; at Cook's Tourist offices, Ludgate Circus, Fleet Street; 35, Piccadilly; 99, Gracechurch street; and 82, Oxford Street; and on the day of the running of the trains at the stations only.

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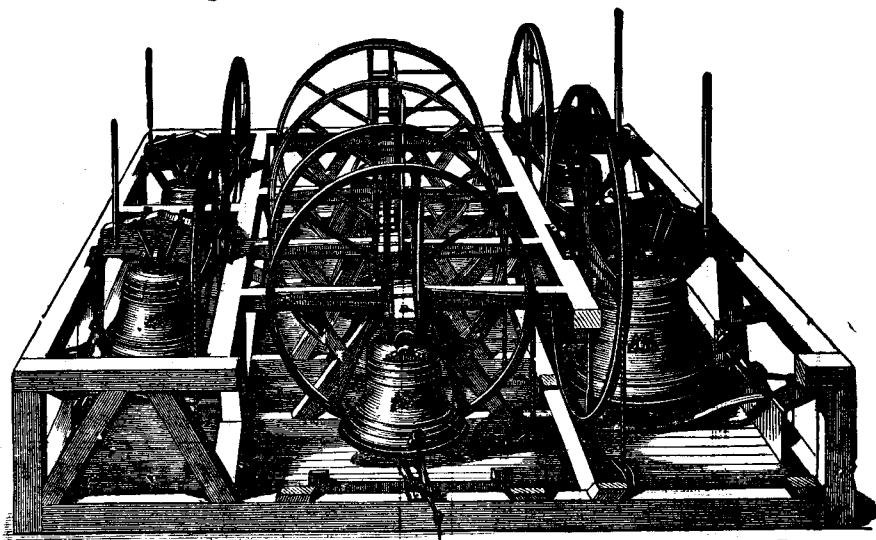


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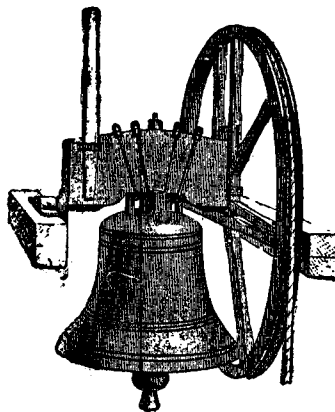
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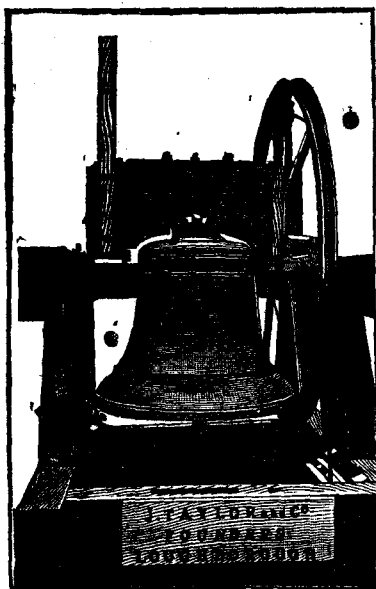
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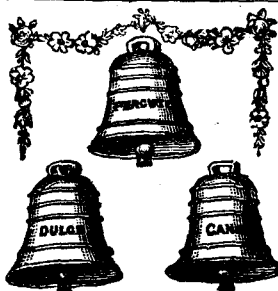
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