

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 319.—VOL. VII.

SATURDAY, MAY 5, 1888.

ONE PENNY.

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THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—READING BRANCH.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the Reading branch was held on Monday, April 23rd, at the "Wheatsheaf" Hotel. An excellent supper was provided, to which about thirty members sat down. Grace after meat having been said by the Rev. A. E. Molineux, Vicar of Caversham,

Mr. NEWELL, jun., gave a pleasing selection on the piano.

THE CHAIRMAN (Mr. J. Martin Routh) in giving the toast of "The Queen and the rest of the Royal Family," was perfectly certain that there was no body of men more loyal than the Reading Branch of the Guild. In proposing the "Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces," he regretted that Army men were, as a rule, not distinguished ringers. The same, however, could not be said for the Navy, which numbered many skilled in the art, a band of seamen for handbell playing being frequently found on board ship; as for the volunteers, they could be good soldiers as well as good ringers.

"Captain" JOHNSON, in reply, was very pleased to see so many volunteers present. He himself had served fifteen years, and he was perfectly certain that should occasion arise, he and his comrades in arms would never "be backward in coming forward." A melodious glee followed, by Messrs. Egby, Newell, and Paice—"To all you ladies now on land, we men-of-war indite," composed by Lord Dorset in 1664.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read, the election of officers for the ensuing year was proceeded with, the retiring members being unanimously re-elected, viz.: Mr. Routh, chairman of branch; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, as well as representative on the General Committee. A selection on the handbells by the members of the Caversham belfry followed—"Spanish Chant"—which was received with loud applause.

Mr. EGBY, in proposing "The Guild," more especially the Reading Branch, observed that owing to other engagements, he was obliged to take a back seat among ringers. He referred in grateful terms to the vast efforts for improving ringing in the neighbourhood generally made by his friend Mr. Newell, and then commented on the "attitude of benevolent neutrality" taken by the clergy in the town; they had long been in a chrysalis state, he thought it was quite time they emerged into the butterfly stage; they ought to do far more for the Guild than was their habit.

Mr. ROUTH, in reply, stated that great difficulties had to be contended with in Reading; if we went back fifteen years we should find that astounding strides had been made; a few years since there was a great impetus in ringing in the town, but since then there had been a great deal of indolence and apathy. He wanted to see new methods learnt and peals rung. Let the Reading men copy the example of their forefathers, who, when the College Youths came down in 1730 and rang a peal of Bob Major at St. Mary's, at once started to double its length, and no doubt would have done so, had not a rope broken after 8000 changes, "every man," as the tablet states, "being in perfect strength."

The Rev. G. F. COLERIDGE made a statement as to the condition of the Reading branch. Ten members had left the branch during the past year, but for the most part not being practical ringers their loss would not be greatly felt, and had been more than counterbalanced by the accession of several young hands of great promise. The balance sheet was also satisfactory, showing a balance of about £7 in hand, including two guineas deposited with the rector of St. Mary's for the purchase of handbells for Caversham and St. Mary's belfries.

Mr. EGBY followed with the song "The Speaker's Eye."

Mr. THOMAS, who had come down for the occasion from Birmingham, then proposed "The Church." He stated that ringers were always pleased to welcome the clergy, more especially if they happened to be ringers, as so many were becoming. After Mr. Johnson had rendered the "Village Blacksmith,"

The Rev. A. E. MOLINEUX, Vicar of Caversham, responded to the toast. The fact of his being alone there that evening proved that the Reading clergy did not take much interest in ringing matters. There were, however, two sides to the question. The clergy used many times to have complaints to make of the ringers who often came into the belfry, but rarely

or never into the church; times, however, had improved, and now there was a far better understanding between the two bodies than formerly. He thought every clergyman would have to become a ringer if only he was set upon with such determination as he had been when he first came to Caversham. Mr. Newman, as soon as ever he arrived upon the scene, took the bull by the horns, and gave him no peace till he had entered the belfry and had learnt to ring a single bell. Doubtless he would, by this time, have become a skilful ringer, had not his colleague Mr. Coleridge appeared, and took affairs into his own hands; this was the only ground he had for regretting his arrival. He hoped next year to hear a far better account of the clergy. "The Blue Bells of Scotland" having been given on the handbells,

The CHAIRMAN rose to propose "The health of Mr. Newell, the Nestor, the father of change-ringing in Reading." While Mr. Newell was preparing to make a reply to a toast which was wholly unexpected, Mr. Coleridge gave an amusing recitation in the Devonshire dialect, "Thic ole Rifle Corpse."

Mr. NEWELL, who was received with great enthusiasm, said how glad he was to see so many present. Ringing in Reading was prospering, slowly indeed, but surely. He thought it the duty of every ringer in the diocese to belong to the Guild, and instanced the enormous good such annual meetings as at Abingdon and Wycombe did for the cause, ringers were enabled to meet one another and what was more know one another. Soon he hoped there would scarcely be a village where change-ringing was unknown. Reading ought to set a better example to all the towers in the county. St. Mary's tower, which appears on the guild certificate, was a disgrace, that, the chief tower was in the lowest place as regarded real ringing. The rector and churchwardens ought to be present and hear what was said of it.

Glees and songs occupied the remainder of the evening, among the more noteworthy being Mr. Liddiard's, "The Anchor's weighed;" the glee, "The Red Cross Knight," by Messrs. Newell, Egby, and Paice; "Paddle your own Canoe," by Mr. Newell, jun. (though one person at least maintained it was an ancient French song "Pas d'elle yeux Rhone qua nous.") Mr. Egby, "The Dutch clock;" Mr. Newell, "Rouse, brothers, rouse;" "The Convivial Man," by Mr. Sweetzer; "The War Song of the Druids," by the glee party; while on the handbells were given "Caller Herrin," and the "March of the Men of Harlech," where the tenors apparently had a good field-day. A vote of thanks to the Chairman by Mr. Newman brought to a close one of the most social and pleasant evenings ever spent in Reading.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held on Whit-Monday, May 21st, at Chelmsford. Divine Service at 12.30 in St. Mary's church, with an address by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Vicar of Drayton, Berks, and Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Dinner at 1.30 p.m. in the Charity School (tickets, price 1s. each to members of the Association), and business meeting immediately after dinner. The following towers will be open during the day: Chelmsford, 10 bells (except from 10 to 11 a.m. during a parochial service); Great Baddow, Galleyswood and Writtle, 8 bells; Springfield and Widford, 6 bells. Arrangements are being made to start for peals at Chelmsford at 6 a.m., and at Writtle after 6 p.m. Members who desire to avail themselves of reduced railway fares on the day of meeting, and to be present at the dinner, should notify the same to the Secretary on or before Wednesday, May 16th. A special meeting of the Committee will be held at 10.30 a.m. in the Charity School to consider what resolution shall be submitted to the Annual Meeting respecting a suggestion that the Association should be enlarged to include the present diocese of St. Albans—i.e., Essex and Hertfordshire. If any members of the Association who care to do so will attend this meeting, and express their opinion upon the matter, it will materially assist the committee, and perhaps lessen the necessity for long discussion at the subsequent meeting.

T. L. PAPILLON, Hon. Sec.

Write Vicarage, Chelmsford.

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

ORMSKIRK PARISH CHURCH, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, April 28th, seven ringers from Liverpool visited the above ancient church for the purpose of ringing a peal of Stedman Triples. On arriving everything, including the tenor man, was found in readiness, and accordingly a start was made. After two or three false starts, the final "go" was called at 6.20 p.m., and at 9.21 the welcome words "that is all" announced to the ringers that the first peal of Stedman Triples ever rang on the bells was at last accomplished. A brief summary of the history of these bells may be of interest to our readers, and the following is taken from an old local print.

Change-ringing in Ormskirk seems to have quite a history of its own, which may be interesting to recall. The record stretches back over a hundred years, for we find that in 1777 a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung, and thirty years later in 1807 a half-peal in the same method, the latter by ringers four of whom bore the name of Balshaw. The first complete peal we find a record of was in 1813 when a 5040 Grandsire Triples was rung, conducted by R. Gregory. These ringers styled themselves the "College Youths" of Ormskirk.

From 1813 history is silent as regards change-ringing, and from then until 1874 we seem to have been indebted to ringers from Croston and Liverpool. In the latter year however we have a society of ringers who styled themselves the "Juvenile Youths," who in conjunction with the Liverpool ringers rang several peals of Grandsire Triples (the writer taking part in two of them). These "Juvenile Youths," either from advancing years or advancing ideas, or some other cause resigned in 1883, and the present band was formed, who in 1886 rang a peal (the first since 1813) entirely composed of Ormskirk ringers. This was a peal of Grandsire Triples, composed and conducted by Mr. James Shillcock, and was rang as a birthday peal for Mr. John Prescott, their Superintendent. Though the tenor bell is dated 1497, the old inscription and date is a reproduction, *verbatim et literatim*, for another date on the waist shows that it was recast in 1576 (temp Elizabeth) having probably been severely damaged in the destruction of Burscough Priory at the dissolution. Between the words of the inscription and below them on a neat border are the following armorial badges: branched red and white roses (the Tudor badge), the red dragon (of Wales), the Portcullis (the badge of the House of Lancaster), and the Shamrock (Ireland). The remainder of this peal was cast by Rudhall, of Gloucester, in 1714 and 1774, and the bells bear the following inscriptions:—

Treble—"1774."

Second—"Peace and good neighbourhood, 1774."

Third—"William Grice, Parish Clerk A (device, a bell) R, 1714."

Fourth—"Henry Helsby, A (device, a bell) R, 1714."

Fifth—"Archippus Kippar, Vicar, A (device, a bell) R, 1714."

Sixth—"Benj. Fletcher, Thos. Moorcroft, Thos. Aspinwall, churchwardens, 1714."

Seventh—"Thomas Rudhall, Gloucester, 1774."

Tenor—"I. S. de Barmig et eux me fecerent in honore trinitatis R.B., 1497."

The origin of the inscription on the tenor still remains a puzzle to antiquarians, the most probable solution (yet given) being that the donor of the bell was a James Scarisbrick, who had a wife Elizabeth, and held lands in Burscough and Bretherton. They are proved to have been living from 1494 to 1501. The R.B. standing for the prior of Burscough, the inscription might be translated thus: "James Scarisbrick, of Burscough, Esquire, and Elizabeth his wife, made me in honour of the Trinity, 1497. Robert Burscough." It is rather a singular coincidence that with the exception of the peal in 1813 and another in 1875, and the peal of Bob Major rang on these bells in December last, the name of Prescott appears in each peal rung. And also the ringer of the treble in the Stedman peal on Saturday last is a great grandson of the Thomas Aspinwall, churchwarden, inscribed on the sixth bell. The church at present is undergoing extensive renovation, though due regard is taken to the original designs. A singular feature is the church possesses a tower and spire erected side by side, the spire containing one bell (a ting-tang), and the tower the peal of eight. There is ample room for another peal of eight in the tower, and it is to be hoped before the final completion of the restoration the authorities will endeavour to add four more bells, and thus make the best going peal of twelve in England.

On the completion of the peal the ringers, with the local company adjourned to the "Ship" inn, and partook of refreshments kindly provided by the hostess, Mrs. Mercer. As the time was rather short, a touch of Grandsire Triples and another of Grandsire Caters, along with a humorous song by the celebrated Welshman (Mr. Davies) brought a pleasant evening to a close, the local ringers accompanying them to the train. The visitors desire to thank (through the medium of this paper) the vicar, the Rev. J. E. Woodrow, for the use of the bells, and for his courtesy shewn to them on each of their visits, and to the above-mentioned Mr. John Prescott, the genial superintendent of the ringers for having everything in order for their comfort.

CHARLTON KINGS, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

At the time of the Jubilee commemorations last year, a number of schemes were promulgated in this parish, with a view to perpetuate the memorable event in the country's history, and amongst others it was decided that in addition to a new clock (which has already been erected by the well-known firm at Derby—Messrs. J. Smith and Sons), if sufficient funds could be raised, the ring of six bells, which had got into a very dilapidated and unsafe condition, should be rehung, and if possible augmented to eight. Owing however to other calls upon the liberality of the parishioners, in the shape of a new parsonage house, and a new club house for the working men's society, it was found impossible to raise the full amount required to do the whole of the bell scheme. The only alternative was to do what they could with the means at their disposal, and this the Committee have done to the best of their ability by commissioning Mr. James Barwell, of Birmingham, to entirely rehang the old peal of six with new fittings, etc., together with a new frame, the latter to be constructed so as to admit of two bells being added at a later date should sufficient funds be forthcoming. The first part of the scheme has been carried out to the letter, and it is gratifying to know that the work is in every way satisfactory, and does great credit to the firm and to those who were entrusted with the carrying out of the plans. Some difficulty was encountered owing to the lowness of the ceiling of the ringing-chamber, and the placing of the new clock in position before the bells were touched, but this has been satisfactorily overcome, and nothing now remains but to add the two bells to complete the octave.

On Wednesday, April 25th, it was decided to reopen the bells, and being St. Mark's Day (the patron saint of the church), made it the more appropriate. No ceremony was observed on the occasion other than the usual festival services which are held in the church, and the bells were set going in the afternoon by the ringers of the parish and friends from Cheltenham and Prestbury. It would be superfluous to say that the improvement upon the old state of affairs gave universal satisfaction. Changes in various methods were indulged in until eight o'clock in the evening, when the ringers and a number of friends—upwards of twenty in all—assembled at the "London Inn" to indulge in a goodly repast, which had been provided by host Dyer. The chair was taken by Mr. F. E. Ward, of Cheltenham, Master of the Diocesan Guild, and the vice-chair by Mr. Walter James, leader of the local band.

The cloth having been removed, the usual loyal and complimentary toasts were drunk, and the remainder of the evening passed all too quickly, with a constant flow of vocal and campanalogical harmony.

Amongst those present were Messrs. Phillott, Ward, and Hodges (Cheltenham), T. Davis, D. Davis, and T. Compton (Prestbury), and Buffery, and the members of the local band. It is only due to Mr. James to say that the completion of the bells even at this date is mainly owing to his efforts, and we hope that they will be still further rewarded by having the additional two bells at no very distant date.

STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

There will be a committee meeting held on Saturday, May 5th, in the church room, Stoke, to elect a clerical Treasurer.
E. GLOVER, Hon. Sec.

THE EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Quarterly Meeting of the above society was held at Hogsthorpe on Saturday, April 21st. Ringers attended from Boston, Skirbeck, Freiston, Friskney, Sibsey, and West Keal. The company drove from Burgh-in-the-Marsh, and made a call at Addlethorpe church, which contains a fine peal of six bells, but not in good repair. A 360 of Bob Minor was rung by A. Barber, 1; Rev. H. J. Cheales, 2; F. Smith, 3; J. Mawer, 4; J. M. Rylatt, 5; H. Daulton (conductor), 6. They then journeyed to Hogsthorpe, and having raised the bells, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) was rung in 28 mins. A. Barber, 1; J. M. Rylatt, 2; F. Smith, 3; J. Mawer, 4; H. Daulton, 5; E. Mason (conductor), 6. At 12.30 a special service was held, the address being given by the Rev. Canon Bond, Rector of Anderby, who in his remarks referred especially to the belfry as part of the House of God, and impressed upon those that rung the bells to remember that they were in a court of God's house. As in the days of old, our blessed Lord cleansed the courts of the temple, so he was sure an Association like this was trying to cleanse and reform the belfries. At 2 p.m., dinner was provided at the Saracen Hotel by Mr. C. Griffith, in a very creditable manner. Rev. H. J. Cheales, president of the society, presided, and was supported by the Rev. Canon Bond, rector of Anderby, Rev. A. Soden, vicar of Hogsthorpe, Rev. J. White, rector of Addlethorpe, and twenty-four ringers and friends.

After dinner, the minutes of the last meeting were read by the secretary, Mr. MASON, and confirmed.

The PRESIDENT proposed a vote of thanks to Canon Bond for his kindness in coming and giving them such an instructive address, and also to the Rev. A. Soden for the use of the bells. He said that although Hogsthorpe was rather an out-of-the-way place to get to, they could not have had a better reception than they had that day. Referring to the Society and the rules it put forth he hoped it was doing a good work in the district. With regard to the ringing they had had a very uphill work, but he was glad that some of the companies were making such good progress. He hoped that Hogsthorpe, after their visit that day, would start in earnest for a peal on their beautiful six bells.

The Rev. A. SODEN, in replying, gave the Society a hearty welcome to Hogsthorpe, and said that he and his company should be glad to become members.

Canon BOND also thanked them for having asked him to come among them that day. He said he had not a peal of bells to ask them to go and ring, but he was very glad to become an honorary member of their Association.

Mr. BRADSHAW, churchwarden, also replied on behalf of the ringers, and hoped they would soon be able to ring a peal.

A 600 of Bob Minor was then rung by E. Mason, Rev. H. J. Cheales, J. A. Hand, G. F. Smith, H. Daulton, J. M. Rylatt. As time would not permit a longer stay, the company drove back to Burgh, well pleased with their visit.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of this Association will be held at Brighton, on Whit-Monday, May 22nd. The programme, which will be published next week, will include a special service at the parish church, cold luncheon and business meeting. The three towers, St. Peter's, St. Nicholas and St. Paul's, each eight bells, will be open for ringing during the day. Notice of motion should be sent at least three days prior to the above date.

GEO. F. ATTREE, *Hon. Sec.*

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The next District Meeting will be held at Epsom, by the kind permission of the Vicar, on Whit-Monday, May 21st. The tower will be open for ringing from 3 till 9 p.m. The Secretary will be happy to furnish copies of the certificate of membership to all those members whose subscriptions for the current year are paid, and who have not yet had their certificates.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

The date of the peal of Bob Major, rung at Leiston, Suffolk, which appeared in our last issue, should be Saturday, April 21st, 1888.

AN AFTERNOON BY THE THAMES.

Close to the south bank of this beautiful river stands the pretty church of Purley, with its embattled tower, about three miles from the busy town of Reading. This woody spot was on Saturday afternoon the meeting place of several members of the St. Lawrence's society, Reading, and others from Purley and Whitchurch. Permission having previously been obtained of the vicar, the ring of six were soon up in peal and a 240 of Grandsire was rung by, B. White, 1; W. Lawrence, 2; W. Holloway, 3; G. Talbot, 4; W. Williams (conductor), 5; C. Chapman, 6. This was the first touch on the bells, which are not in good tune, the fifth has been recast 1787, the others date back 1649, and are encircled with, PRAYES YE LORD. Now a short stroll through the Park brought us to the river side, which crossed, we found ourselves in the little churchyard of Mapledurham, in less than five minutes, near by the grand old mansion of Blounts. Here the Vicar came to the church and exchanged some kindly words of greeting—soon the bells were pealing to the tune of Grandsire, in which A. West, of Purley, took part. The back five are of splendid tone, but the treble probably belongs to some other peal in another part of the country, being at least a tone sharp. In the church are some fine tombs, a curious font, and an old fire-engine bearing the date 1643, a curious specimen of the days gone by. An enjoyable stroll along the road past the Elizabethan Mansion of "Hardwick" with its back ground of trees and hills, and the pretty village of Whitchurch (Oxon) was reached, here a course of "refreshment Minor" was gone through, afterwards a touch of Grandsire Triples on handbells, with a tenor No. 27 in E, part of a peal of 62. Attention was now turned to the contents of the steeple of the pretty church of St. Mary, and several touches of Bob and Grandsire Minor were rung, with some Doubles to finish. The awkward position of the ropes prevent really successful Minor ringing, as the tenor is most inconveniently placed, but these bells go well, having lately been well overhauled, the greatest drawback being rather noisy in the ringing chamber.

L.

SUTTON-ON-THE-HILL, DERBYSHIRE.

ON Saturday, April 28th, the following members of the Midland Counties' Association (Burton branch), viz., J. Austin, L. Bullock, E. I. Stone, W. H. Stone, W. Burton, W. Orme, W. Smith, G. Robinson, and J. Jaggar, paid a visit to the above place, a picturesque little village, with a fine parish church, standing in a commanding position on a hill some distance away. The bells, which have lately been augmented from three to six, by Messrs. Taylor and Sons, are a pretty little peal, tenor about 12 cwt. in G. After raising them in peal, several 120's of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles were rung, followed by a 720 Bob Minor in 27½ mins. W. Orme, 1; J. Jaggar, 2; W. J. Smith, 3; L. Bullock, 4; E. I. Stone, 5; J. Austin (conductor), 6. An adjournment was then made to the Vicarage, where a good substantial spread was placed at the disposal of the visitors, through the kindness of the Vicar, the Rev. R. G. Buckston, to which it is needless to add, ample justice was done. After tea the handbells were brought out, and touches of Grandsire Triples and Stedman Triples were brought round by W. J. Smith, 1-2; J. Jaggar (conductor), 3-4; L. Bullock, 5-6; J. Austin, 7-8. Another move was made towards the tower, and after a few more 120's of Stedman Doubles and a course of Grandsire Minor, the ringing was brought to a close by a good fall. The visitors wish through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS," to tender their hearty thanks to the Vicar, for his most kindly welcome on their first visit to Sutton.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A District Meeting will be held at Leatherhead, on Tuesday, May 15th. The belfry will be open for ringing from 11 to 1, from 3 to 5, and from 7 to 9. Lunch at 1 o'clock; tea at 5.30; Committee meeting at 2, to arrange time and place of annual festival and other business. All ringers are invited to take part in the ringing. Members requiring orders for reduced fares must send notice to the Secretary, stating the station from which they intend to start, before Wednesday, May 9.

Purbrook, Cosham.

H. A. SPYERS, *Hon. Sec.*

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

THE FOURTH GENERAL ANNUAL MEETING of the officers and members of this Association took place at the headquarters—the city of Lincoln—on Saturday, April 28th, under very favourable auspices. Members from Gainsborough, Market Rasen, Louth, Caistor, Scothern, Hull, and the four Lincoln societies were present, the company being augmented by members of the Yorkshire, South Lincolnshire, Midland Counties', and other kindred Associations. Through the kindness of the Cathedral authorities, and the clergy and churchwardens of the city churches, four peals of bells were placed at the disposal of the Association for the day, and it is needless to add that this privilege was taken full advantage of and appreciated by the members.

Shortly before twelve o'clock eight of the members, viz., Messrs. Stiles, Woodthorpe, Doughty, Rose, Vickers (conductor), and W. Stewart, of the Cathedral company, C. Wells, of St. Peter-at-Arches, and W. Lunn, of Market Rasen, met at the Cathedral tower for the purpose of attempting a peal of Bob Triples, and all went merrily for two hours and twelve minutes, when a "change-course" occurred, bringing with it collapse. By three o'clock the visitors began to arrive from all sides, and soon made their presence known at the various towers.

The annual tea was arranged to take place in the Guild Court at the foot of the Steep Hill at five o'clock, by which time between fifty sat down to a substantial spread provided by Mr. Hatton. While assembled at tea, the company were honoured with the presence of the Lord Bishop of the Diocese (Dr. King), whose arrival, as also that of the Rev. Precentor Venables, was the signal for an outburst of applause. When the repast had been discussed to general satisfaction, his Lordship addressed the company.

In opening his remarks, the rev. prelate said this was just one of those kind of things which they should have, because in such gatherings as this they had the pleasure of hope and the pleasure of happiness, which was a pleasure that left no regret afterwards. Out of the thousands that had come into the Lincoln fair he was afraid there would be some, there would be one at least, who would go away and look back to the day with feelings of regret instead of happiness. Those present made pleasure by meeting in this sort of way, they enjoyed it at the time, and they enjoyed it when they came to look back upon the day. So it was a pleasure to him to come amongst them, because he knew what they were—they were those who rang the bells in their old church towers. He firmly believed there was more power to come out of the old churches than they had yet got out. Those old church towers had been a wonderful power when the clergy had been asleep; the old towers had been a witness and a sermon to many in days gone by, and they had done a great deal of good in this country. But far better was it when the clergy were wide awake, when the church doors were open, and the services were as they should be. First let the church be as it should be, and all things in harmony; and let those who rang the bells ring them in such a way as if it was indeed for human beings, for immortal beings, who had come there drawn by the love of God and one another, there to worship God in common. That was what the Church ought to be, and thus when the clergy, choir, and the ringers, and everybody about the church were in harmony, when everyone was doing his work, the Church effected the most good. This Association was doing a good work, and were helping to lift the Church up; the members knew and felt that the belfry was not a place in which they could smoke, drink beer, or use bad language; but the ringers themselves used the same language in the belfry as was used in every part of the church. That was a great difference from what things used to be, and it was the same all down the line. Nothing had done so much harm to the Church as careless clergymen, careless bishops, not doing what they ought to do, and thereby doing much harm. When any member of the Church did harm, it did harm all round, and when they saw the Bishops, clergy, ringers and singers all engaged with their hearts in the work, it was a help all round. It was a peculiar power the ringers had; the ringing of the bells was a peculiarly touching thing; he had often thought of it, not merely as a charm of music, but there was something wonderfully fascinating in it; somehow or other there was something

about bell-ringing that was so English, so homely. It led them to think of their own village bells, and as they thought about it, there seemed to be something about it that was not of this world. The bells were raised above the ground—poised up there between the earth and heaven, there was a sort of heavenward feeling about the sound of the bells, and when the ringers were there with their coats off, they were probably unconsciously touching many a heart and drawing the tear from many an eye that no sermon could get at. People wandering about in the evenings in the lanes, or the man of business in his cart, heard the sound of the bells, and the bell-ringers thereby drew a tear from the eye, or moved the heart heavenward where the clergyman could not get at it. He personally thanked them for their work. Who could tell but the Great One, who knew the value of everybody's work, who could tell what England owed to the bell-ringers who rang the Jubilee peals: and in so doing kindled feelings of devotion and loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign and her family. The bell-ringers of the Jubilee peals did good work in moving people's hearts to maintain England as God would have her be. He wished to remind them that their real power depended on there being true harmony, when there was harmony between the ringers, the bells and the church, that harmony and happiness was so much increased when they saw the men who pulled the ropes were also trying by God's help to get heavenwards themselves. When this true harmony existed, it did make such a difference. God was not mocked, and they might depend on it God knew the value of every man's work, and a good and sincere man contributed happiness to himself, and imparted a sweetness and tenderness to the bells he rang by his character. When there was the harmony all round, it did do a wonderful deal of good, and when the life was in harmony with the heavenly sounding bells, it did make their work so much more beautiful. As he believed when they rang the Jubilee peals they were doing God's work, so he believed they were doing God's work when from the church towers they sent forth those heavenward drawing sounds which led people to think of where their future home was to be. He trusted God would bless the ringers in their own hearts, in their meeting and associating together in this way, and that He would multiply their influences for good.

The Rev. Precentor Venables, a warm friend of the Association, moved a vote of thanks to his Lordship for his kindness in sparing the members a few of his precious golden moments to come amongst them and encourage them in their work, which he himself heartily sympathised with.

The business portion of the meeting followed. The report for the past year was of a very pleasing character. It shewed an increase of thirty-one members (ten honorary and twenty-one ringing members), and a balance in hand of over £12. The venerable Bishop kindly accepted the invitation of the Association to become his patron. The Very Rev. the Dean of Lincoln was unanimously re-elected president; the three vice-presidents (S. F. Hood, Esq., for the Lincoln centre; the Rev. S. W. Andrews, for Market Rasen centre; and F. F. Linley, Esq., for Gainsborough centre) were re-elected, as also were the Hon. Treasurer (Mr. H. Gadd) and the Hon. Secretary (Mr. W. Lunn) both of Market Rasen. Two new honorary members (the Rev. Canon Overton, of Epworth, and the Rev. E. Milner Barry, of Scothern), were enrolled, one probationer passed into the efficient rank, and three new efficient and nine probationary members were elected. It was agreed to hold the July quarterly meeting at Great Grimsby. The help of the Lincoln reception committee, the services of the chairman (F. F. Linley, Esq.), and the kindness of the clergy in granting the use of their church bells, were acknowledged with votes of thanks.

During the evening the members visited the various towers in the city and rang short touches in a variety of methods. Thus ended what was undoubtedly one of the most successful meetings held by the Association.

NEWBURN-ON-TYNE.

The date fixed for the inauguration of this new peal of six, is Wednesday, May 16th. Dedication service, 7.30 p.m. Change-ringers who wish to attend the opening are requested to send in their names not later than Saturday, May 12th, to the Vicar, the Rev. S. Bucknell, in order that dinner may be provided for them.

G. J. CLARKSON.

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."

COALBROOKDALE CHURCH.

SIR,—An article in your issue of March 17, referring to Coalbrookdale church, has been brought to my notice within the last few days. Should any band of ringers have been interested by the account, and would wish to attempt a peal on the bells, I shall be glad to make arrangements for them to do so. I should think some band from the Midland Counties might like to pay us a visit at Whitsuntide, and give a little stimulus to the art.

THE VICAR.

ANSWER TO MR. MUSKETT.

SIR,—I see Mr. Musket does not think it possible to ring a peal at Drayton, Berks, in 2 hrs. 27 mins. If he will favour us with a visit we will show him that the performance was *bona fide* by ringing a still quicker one, on the same bells; and we shall be pleased to see him at a rope, and he will find that there is not time to set his bell and have a walk round, as it is in Stedman Cinques, at 19 per minute, or so, but he must follow our rule, which is: "If he makes a mistake in the slow he will be fined 2s. 6d." So keep your weather eye open, Sir.

J. W. WASHBROOK.

SIR,—The peal of Treble Bob Major, 5088, published by Mr. Samuel Marsh, in "THE BELL NEWS" for April 21st, is Mr. Daniel Wood's peal turned, which he will find in the 1845 edition of Hubbard's work, and most modern works as well, and the peal published by Mr. Marsh, on page 87 of Mr. Snowdon's Work (on which page will be found D. Woods' peal) the 8064 is false. I do not know whether it has been notified before or not, but it is as well that it should be known, as the qualities of the peal might tempt some one to ring it. The peal published by Mr. J. W. Washbrook, 13,265 of Grandsire Caters, should be 13,247, if he has given the peal right.

SAMUEL WOOD.

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—In last week's issue there is the account of a peal of Treble Bob Major, rung at Foxearth, Essex, with a footnote to say that it is the first time of its being rung. I wish to inform Mr. Sillitoe that the same peal was rung at Eccles, Lancashire, on Monday, December 2nd, 1884, and published in "THE BELL NEWS" the Saturday following.

A. ED. WREAKS.

SIR,—With reference to [the] touches rung at Nuneaton, Warwickshire, published in your last issue, I wish to say I am the person who rang the 1st and 6th, and not M. George, as there is no such person.

JAMES GEORGE.

THE PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS AT WESTBROMWICH.

SIR,—I saw in "THE BELL NEWS" of the 28th a report of a peal of Grandsire Caters, rung on the 21st inst., at Westbromwich. If that is a fair sample of their ringing they had better not ring many peals, or at any rate not send them for publication, as it is not worth while to dirty the pages of "THE BELL NEWS" with such rubbish, and call it "ringing."

PRO BONO PUBLICO.

AN ENQUIRY.

SIR,—What has become of our Hull ringers? Surely they have not left this "mortal coil," if they have we should be pleased to hear of their resurrection. There was a time when we could be entertained to a merry peal, just to cheer our drooping spirits. But this is a thing of the past. If this should meet the eye of any of our Hull friends, I trust it will be the means of the bell ropes once more being put into operation, and I can assure our Hull ringers that many will welcome once again a series of peals from the old church tower.

Hornsea, April 30th, 1888.

DE LA POER.

PROPOSED NEW BISHOPRICS FOR ESSEX AND SUFFOLK.—The House of Laymen discussed on Tuesday the report of a Committee appointed to consider the question of increasing the Episcopate. The Committee reported that such an increase was desirable, and recommended that as far as possible county boundaries should be adopted as the basis of the boundaries of Dioceses. In the Eastern Counties they recommended the formation of two new Sees—one at Bury St. Edmunds for the county of Suffolk, and the other at Chelmsford for the county of Essex. After a long discussion, the further consideration of the matter was adjourned.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPORT OF THE RINGING FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 30th, 1888.

By the Brighton branch at St. Peter's.—On Sunday, April 29th, at St. Peter's church, a 504 of Stedman Triples, in 18½ mins. H. Weston, 1; A. A. Fuller, 2; G. F. Attree, 3; G. A. King, 4; W. Allfrey, 5; J. Jay, 6; J. Searle (conductor), 7; G. H. Barnett (Farnham), 8. Also on Monday, April 30th, a 504 of Stedman Triples, in 18½ mins. C. Tyler, 1; J. Jay, 2; G. A. King, 3; A. A. Fuller, 4; G. F. Attree, 5; W. Allfrey, 6; H. Weston (conductor), 7; H. Cornwell, 8.

By the Chailey branch at Chailey.—On Saturday, April 28th, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Reynolds, 1; J. Langridge, 2; A. Goringe, 3; H. Cornwell, 4; W. Pelling, 5; O. Gatland (conductor), 6. *First 720. Also on Sunday, April 29th, for afternoon service, a 720 of Bob Minor, in 27 mins. J. Reynolds, 1; A. Brown, 2; A. Goringe, 3; H. Cornwell, 4; W. Pelling, 5; O. Gatland (conductor), 6.

By the Crawley branch at Charlwood.—On Thursday, April 19th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. *A. Ellis, 1; *G. Wickens, 2; W. Collison, 3; A. F. Hillier, 4; M. Heffer, 5; F. Wickens (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. And on Tuesday, April 17th, a 720 of Oxford Single Bob, in 24 mins. G. Pace, 1; *W. Parsons, 2; J. Newnham, 3; W. Collison, 4; A. F. Hillier, 5; F. Price (conductor), 6. Also on Wednesday, April 25th, a 5088 of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 3 hrs. For particulars see peal column.

By the Cuckfield branch at Cuckfield.—On Sunday, April 29th, a 882 of Grandsire Triples, in 33 mins. L. Gibb, 1; W. Gibson, 2; W. Fox, 3; H. Mitchell, 4; H. Bowell, 5; D. Denman, 6; F. Hounsell (conductor), 7; F. Smith, 8.

By the Eastbourne branch at Eastbourne.—On Saturday, April 28th, at St. Mary's church, a 5040 of Grandsire Triples, in 2 hrs. 50 mins. For particulars see peal column. Also on Sunday, April 8th, at Christ Church, a 720 of College Single. R. Howse, 1; P. Peters, 2; H. Colbran, 3; F. Dyer, 4; F. Harding, 5; T. Smith (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, April 15th, a 360 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. F. Dyer, 1; G. Howse, 2; P. Peters, 3; H. Colbran, 4; L. Smith, 5; F. Harding (conductor), 6. Also a 360 of Oxford Single Bob. W. Clements, 1; H. Colbran, 2; F. Harding, 3; P. Peters, 4; R. Howse, 5; G. Howse (conductor), 6. And on Monday, April 16th, a 720 of College Single. W. Clements, 1; F. Harding (conductor), 2; G. Howse, 3; L. Smith, 4; P. Peters, 5; H. Knight, 6. And on Sunday, April 22nd, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. F. Dyer, 1; G. Howse, 2; H. Colbran, 3; J. Sharp, 4; P. Peters, 5; F. Harding (conductor), 6. Also on Monday, April 23rd, a 360 of Warnham Court. W. Clements, 1; F. Harding (conductor), 2; P. Peters, 3; H. Colbran, 4; J. Sharp, 5; H. Knight, 6.

By the Ringmer branch at Ringmer.—On Sunday, April 15th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. *A. Slarks, 1; *H. Jones, 2; J. T. Rickman, Esq., 3; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 4; *G. Washer, 5; *C. Painter, 6; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 7; T. Miller, 8. *First quarter-peal. Composed by H. Reeves. On Wednesday, April 18th, an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples, proved unsuccessful after ringing 2 hrs. A. Slarks, 1; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 2; A. E. Paris, 3; H. Weston, 4; J. Jay, 5; J. T. Rickman, Esq., 6; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 7; T. Miller, 8. And on Wednesday, April 18th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, containing the twelve 6-7's, in 43 mins. A. Slarks, 1; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 2; C. Painter, 3; H. Jones, 4; A. Paris, 5; G. Washer, 6; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 7; T. Miller, 8. This is the first quarter-peal by the local company unassisted. And for practice, on Thursday, April 26th, 672 of Grandsire Triples, containing the twelve 6-7's. 1; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 2; C. Painter, 3; H. Jones, 4; A. E. Paris, 5; G. Washer, 6; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 7; T. Miller, 8. Also two plain courses of Union Triples. A. Slarks, 1; G. Washer, 2; C. Painter, 3; H. Jones, 4; A. E. Paris, 5; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 6; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 7; T. Miller, 8. These are the first courses of Union Triples by the whole band, excepting the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, and were rung at the first attempt. And on handbells retained in hand, a course of Stedman Triples. T. Miller, 1; A. Slarks, 2; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 3-4; C. Painter, 5; H. Jones, 6; G. C. Hammond, 7-8.

G. F. ATTREE, Hon. Sec.

A meeting in aid of the Bishop of London's Fund was held on Monday at Willis's rooms, but was not very largely attended. Bishop Temple, who presided, said there was every reason why they should appeal to the public more earnestly than ever on behalf of the fund, for the increase of the population of London continued with a growing rather than a diminishing ratio. The difficulty of providing the newcomers with the means of grace was thus greater than ever, and there was no prospect that the pressure upon the fund would be lessened for a long time to come. Unfortunately, there had been a very serious falling off in the resources at the command of the Church.

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.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MAY 5, 1888.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, April 28, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW, BETHNAL GREEN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

HENRY J. SHADE Treble.	MATTHEW A. WOOD .. 5.
WILLIAM CECIL 2.	ISAAC G. SHADE 6.
JOSEPH WEST 3.	WALTER PRIME 7.
JOHN BONNEY 4.	GEORGE DORRINGTON .. Tenor.

Conducted by ISAAC G. SHADE.

This peal was rung on the anniversary of the birthday of the conductor, his brother-strings wishing him many happy returns of the day.

The Provinces.

MELBOURNE, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. MICHAEL'S SOCIETY.

On Sunday, April 22, 1888, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLTS' TEN-PART.

Tenor 16½ cwt. in Ft.

JOHN R. WOOD Treble.	GEORGE C. TUNNICLIFF .. 5.
HARRY HOLLINGWORTH .. 2.	HARRY CHAS. WOODWARD .. 6.
JOSEPH WARREN 3.	JOHN VICKERS 7.
GEORGE A. FISH 4.	FRED. W. COOK Tenor.

Conducted by H. C. WOODWARD.

The above peal was rung with the bells deeply muffled as a mark of respect to the late Rev. Jos. Deans, vicar, who died on April 20th.

BUCKLAND, SURREY.

On Saturday, April 28, 1888, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES OF GRANDSIRE AND BOB DOUBLES.

Tenor 10 cwt.

JAMES ROBINSON Treble.	JESSE POPLETT 3.
RALPH ARNOLD 2.	FRANK SANDERS 4.
WALTER SADLER Tenor.	

Conducted by WALTER SADLER.

First 5040 by all except the conductor. First 5040 on the bells. R. Arnold hails from Beichworth.

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

On Tuesday, April 24, 1888, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

L. W. GRIFFITHS Treble.	DAVID GARBETT 5.
THOMAS ALLDEN 2.	ALFRED BEDDALL 6.
WILLIAM F. HARTSHORNE .. 3.	HARRY HARTSHORNE .. 7.
ALFRED WHATMORE 4.	RICHARD PERKINS Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER, of Birmingham, and Conducted by WILLIAM FREDERICK HARTSHORNE.

First peal by all except the conductor, and is his first peal as conductor; first peal in any method on the bells.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE CRAWLEY AND BALCOMBE BRANCHES.)

On Wednesday, April 25, 1888, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLIAM COLLISON Treble.	FREDERICK RICE 5.
HENRY MEADS* 2.	ALFRED F. HILLIER .. 6.
EDWARD STREETER* 3.	MARCUS HEFFER 7.
JOHN CHEESEMAN* 4.	FREDERICK WICKENS .. Tenor.

Composed by H. W. HALEY, and Conducted by F. WICKENS.

*Hail from Balcombe, and their first peal of Major.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(BURTON BRANCH.)

On Friday, April 27, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MODWEN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

RICHARD LOGIE Treble.	†LEONARD BULLOCK 5.
JAMES HICKLIN 2.	JOHN WALKER 6.
WILLIAM J. SMITH 3.	JOHN JAGGAR 7.
F. J. GAMLIN 4.	JOHN CARVELL Tenor.

Conducted by LEONARD BULLOCK.

†First peal as conductor. F. J. Gamlin hails from Rhyll.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

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

ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.

Handbell Ringing.

On Saturday, April 28, 1888, in Two Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE MEETING HOUSE, THE HALBERD INN, NORTHGATE STREET,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 15 size in C.

THOMAS STEWARD 1-2.	ALBERT E. DURRANT .. 5-6.
CHARLES MEE 3-4.	WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE .. 7-8.

Conducted by THOMAS STEWARD.

Umpires, Messrs. D. Prentice and S. Tillett. This is the first peal on handbells by W. L. Catchpole, and the first as conductor by T. Steward.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A GENERAL MEETING will be held on Whit-Monday at Stockton and Middlesbrough. The peal of 6, tenor 11 cwt., at Stockton parish church, and the peal of eight, tenor 12 cwt., at St. Hilda's, Middlesbrough, will be at the disposal of the ringers: Dinner at two o'clock at the "Half Moon," Stockton.

G. J. CLARKSON, Hon. Sec.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE
ASHBY PARISH CHURCH SOCIETY.

On Monday, April 30, 1888, in Three Hours and Four and a-half Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 18 cwt. in Eb.
WILLIAM LIGGINS Treble. | JOHN H. DUNMORE 5.
HERBERT CANNER 2. | JOHN JAGGAR 6.
THOMAS JACQUES 3. | WALTER CANNER 7.
JAMES HOPKINS 4. | JOSEPH CURTIS Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN JAGGAR.

First peal by all excepting the conductor, also first peal in the method on the bells.

BRANDESTON, SUFFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(THE CRETINGHAM BRANCH.)

On Saturday, April 28, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

5040 CHANGES, IN SEVEN DIFFERENT TREBLE
BOB METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following:—

LONDON SURPRISE, SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE, COVENTRY SURPRISE, CAMBRIDGE
SURPRISE, MORNING EXERCISE, KENT AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB.
{Tenor 9½ cwt.

STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. .. Treble. | GEORGE WIGHTMAN 4.
WILLIAM G. CRICKMER 2. | DAVID G. WIGHTMAN 5.
ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN 3. | STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, SEN. Tenor.

Conducted by DAVID G. WIGHTMAN.

First 5040 upon six bells by the treble, second and fourth men; also the seventh
5040 rang upon the bells; the first being rung in 1749.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, THE
UNITED COUNTIES' AND LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.
Handbell Peal.

On Saturday, April 28, 1888, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
AT THE MEETING HOUSE, THE CROWN INN,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION.

JOHN THORP 1-2. | SAMUEL WOOD 5-6.
GEORGE LONGDEN 3-4. | JAMES S. WILDE 7-8.
THOMAS WILDE 9-10.

Composed and Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

Umpires, William Jakeman and Henry Heap. The peal was listened to by
members of the Ashton and Hyde companies.

ROWLEY REGIS, STAFFORDSHIRE.
BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY, AND THE
BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Monday, April 30, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. in F.

JOHN CARTER Treble. | REUBEN HALL 5.
JAMES JONES 2. | JOHN T. PERRY 6.
THOMAS HORTON 3. | ALBERT HACKLEY 7.
WILLIAM BROOK 4. | JOHN HOLLIER Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

{First peal. {First peal in the method. The ringers take the opportunity of
thanking the Vicar for his kindness in granting them the use of the bells, and also
Mr. Bennett (steeplekeeper), for the able manner in which he looked after them.
Rung in honour of the conductor's birthday.

ORMSKIRK, LANCASHIRE.—THE ORMSKIRK SOCIETY.

On Monday, April 30, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

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

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

Conducted by JAMES SHOLICAR.

Rung as a farewell peal to Mr. George Prescott, jun., who sails on Saturday next
for St. Paul's, Manitoba, to join his father, a former ringer at Ormskirk.

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

On Monday, April 30, 1888, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR,
5104 CHANGES. Tenor 26 cwt.

GEORGE ROBINSON .. Treble. | EDWARD ISAAC STONE .. 5.
JOHN AUSTIN 2. | ARTHUR WAKLEY 6.
CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY .. 3. | HARRY WAKLEY 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4. | WILLIAM WAKLEY Tenor.

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY, and Conducted by
WILLIAM WAKLEY.

Rung with the bells half-muffled to the memory of the late Mr. M. T. Bass,
founder of St. Paul's church, the fourth anniversary of whose death fell the day
previous to the peal being rung, viz.: Sunday, April 29th.

BIRMINGHAM.—THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY.
On Tuesday, May 1, 1888, in Three Hours and Thirty-nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5014 CHANGES.
Tenor 36 cwt.

HENRY BASTABLE .. Treble. | JOHN W. CARTWRIGHT .. 7.
WILLIAM R. SMALL 2. | CHARLES STANBRIDGE .. 8.
BERNARD WITCHELL 3. | ALFRED THOMAS 9.
WILLIAM KENT 4. | THOMAS REYNOLDS 10.
SAMUEL REEVES 5. | HENRY JOHNSON, JUN. .. 11.
CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY .. 6. | JOHN BUFFERY Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., and Conducted by
CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY.

The figures of this composition were published in "THE BELL NEWS," April, 1882.

MIDDLESBROUGH, YORKSHIRE.
DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, May 1, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HILDA,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

JOHN NICHOLSON .. Treble. | EDWARD EDWARDS .. 5.
JOHN H. BLAKISTON 2. | G. J. CLARKSON 6.
ROBERT BORROWS 3. | HENRY MCADAMS 7.
JAMES MCADAMS 4. | SAMUEL WALKER, SEN. .. Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN H. BLAKISTON.

First 5040 by all except G. J. Clarkson, who hails from Stockton-on-Tees.

HIGHAM, KENT.
(No date mentioned), in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,
5040 CHANGES, BEING FORTY-TWO SIX-SCORES OF
GRANDSIRE DOUBLES;

P. DOUST Treble. | C. WATERMAN 3.
A. JEFFREY 2. | H. HUMFREY 4.
G. DOUST Tenor.

Conducted by G. DOUST.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(THE ST. MARY'S EASTBOURNE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, April 28, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 16½ cwt.

J. ROLLISON Treble.	T. LEWIS 5.
E. WILLOUGHBY 2.	T. WILLOUGHBY 6.
C. HARFFEY 3.	T. HART 7.
L. HUGGETT 4.	J. LEWIS Tenor.

Composed by J. J. PARKER, of Slough, and Conducted by T. HART.
The above peal will be found in "THE BELL NEWS," of February 4th, 1888.

SLOUGH, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, April 28th, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 9½ cwt.

WILLIAM LEADER Treble.	WILLIAM WILDER 5.
ARTHUR JACOB 2.	REUBEN FLAXMAN 6.
ALFRED C. FUSSELL 3.	GEORGE NEWSON 7.
THOMAS W. UDELL 4.	FRANK SINKINS Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

Rung in honour of the Princess Christian's visit to the Slough Institution. First peal by F. Sinkins, who was elected a member of the Royal Cumberland Society in the tower previous to starting for the peal. Messrs. Newson and Jacob hail from London; the rest are local men.

ORMSKIRK, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, April 28, 1888, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 25 cwt. 2 qrs. 25 lbs.

JOHN ASPINWALL Treble.	HENRY COLEY 5.
WILLIAM JAMES 2.	WILLIAM DAVIES 6.
WILLIAM BOOTH 3.	THOMAS HAMMOND 7.
JOHN R. PRITCHARD 4.	GEORGE PRESCOTT Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS HAMMOND.

First peal in the method. This is the first peal in the method on the bells. Mr. G. Prescott belongs to the local company; the remainder to Liverpool.

MELBOURNE, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE
ST. MICHAEL'S SOCIETY.

On Saturday, April 28, 1888, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 16½ cwt. in F#.

JOHN R. WOOD Treble.	HARRY CHAS WOODWARD 5.
JOSEPH WARREN 2.	FRED W. COOK 6.
HENRY HOLLINGWORTH 3.	GEORGE A. FISH 7.
JOHN VICKERS 4.	GEORGE C. TUNNICLIFFE Tenor.

Composed by A. P. HEYWOOD, Esq., and Conducted by
H. C. WOODWARD.

This peal contains all the combinations of 4, 5, and 6, in 5-6, with the 2nd and 3rd never in 6th's place. It was rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the late Rev. Jos. Deans, vicar of Melbourne; also in memory of Francis A. P. Knipe, Esq., who died on Saturday, April 21st, in Australia.

Date Touches.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SHEFFIELD (Yorks).—On Monday, April 30th, at St. Marie's (R.C.) church, a date touch (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 11 mins. W. Midgley, 1; T. Sarel, 1; Jno. Mulligan (conductor), 3; Jos. Mulligan, 4; E. Woodward, 5; W. Biggin, 6; J. A. Dixon, 7; T. Dixon, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. The above touch is the composition of the late H. Hubbard, Leeds, and it is to be found in the fourth edition of Hubbard's work, 1876.

HULL.—On Monday, April 30th, at Holy Trinity church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1888 changes), in 1 hr. 7 mins. C. Jackson (composer and conductor), 1; T. Stockdale, 2; J. W. Stickney, 3; H. Jenkins, 4; R. Chaffer, 5; G. A. Taylor (Birmingham), 6; C. Bennett, 7; F. Merrison, 8. It was intended to go for a peal to celebrate the return of Mr. G. A. Taylor from China after an absence of eight years, but owing to the absence of one of the company through illness a late meeting was the result. Tenor 25 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Sunday, April 29th, at St. Mary's church, for Divine service in the afternoon, 360 and 120 of Oxford Treble Bob. C. H. Howard, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; S. Sargent, 4; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 5; E. Radley, 6. And after service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. S. Sargent, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; C. Bearman, 4; H. E. Hammond (conductor), 5; E. Radley, 6. First 720 in the method. Time 28 mins. Messrs Hammond and Howard hail from Braintree; Radley from Stisted; the rest belong to the local company. All the above are members of the Essex Association. Tenor 19 cwt.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Thursday, April 17th, at St. Mary's church, for practice, a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). H. Toll, 1; C. W. Clarke, 2; I. Hills, 3; H. Chapman, 4; S. J. Cullip, 5; C. Howard (first 720 as conductor), 6. Handbell Ringing.—On Thursday, April 13th, at St. Paul's belfry, a 518 of Grandsire Triples. F. Hull, 1; H. Chapman, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3-4; W. G. Biggs, 5-6; I. Hills, 7-8. Also on Sunday, April 22nd, a 720 of Bob Minor (four bobs and fourteen singles). W. Hall, 1-2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3-4; W. G. Biggs, 5-6. And on Tuesday, April 24th, the first part of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples. C. W. Clarke (conductor), 1-2; W. Hall, 3-4; W. G. Biggs, 5-6; I. Hills, 7-8. Also on Thursday, April 26th, on the occasion of a wedding, a 672 of Grandsire Triples, containing all the 5-7-6's and 5-6-7's. F. Hull, 1; H. Chapman, 2; W. Hall, 3; F. Keech, 4; C. W. Clarke (composer and conductor), 5; C. Pass, 6; J. N. Frossell, 7; W. Bettles, 8. Also a 588, standing as before. Also a 503, containing all the 7-5-6's. F. Hull, 1; C. Pass, 2; W. Hall, 3; C. W. Clarke, 4; F. Keech, 5; H. Chapman, 6; J. W. Frossell (conductor), 7; W. Bettles, 8. And a quarter-peal (1260 changes, taken from Holt's Original), in 50 mins. F. Hull (first quarter-peal), 1; W. Hall, 2; C. R. Howard (first quarter-peal), 3; J. N. Frossell, 4; H. Chapman, 5; C. Pass, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; W. Bettles (first quarter-peal), 8. Also a 224, conducted by W. Hall. Tenor 27 cwt. in D.

CARDINGTON (Beds).—On Saturday, April 28th, eight members of the above association attempted at St. Mary's church, J. Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, but it came to grief when 3,276 changes had been rung in 2 hrs. 8 mins. C. R. Howard, 1; I. Hills, 2; C. Pass, 3; W. G. Biggs (conductor), 4; F. Keech, 5; C. W. Clarke, 6; H. Chapman, 7; F. Hull, 8. This was the first attempt for a peal by the treble and tenor men.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

TIVERTON.—On Wednesday, April 25th, at St. Peter's church, for practice, the second half of Brooks' peal of Stedman Triples, in 1 hr. 34 mins. E. Munday, 1; J. Grater, jun., 2; W. Grater, 3; J. Grater, 4; R. Grater, jun., 5; T. Harvey, 6; J. Babbage (conductor), 7; S. Hoare, 8. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—On Sunday evening, April 29th, for service, 1008 of Grandsire Triples, in 36 mins. R. Burrows, 1; J. H. Blakiston (conductor), 2; S. Walker, 3; J. McAdams, 4; E. Edmondson, 5; C. Wilkinson, 6; H. McAdams, 7; S. Walker, sen., 8. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

WALPOLE (Norfolk).—Recently by the voluntary band, at St. Peter's church, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Brett, 1; W. Day, 2; H. Hill (conductor), 3; H. Allen, 4; Dr. Seccombe, 5; W. Wright, 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Hendry, 1; W. Day (conductor), 2; H. Hill, 3; Dr. Seccombe, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; R. Grimes, 6. Also a 720 of College Single. J. Hendry, 1; W. Day (conductor), 2; H. Hill, 3; J. Brett, 4; H. Allen, 5; R. Grimes, 6. Also a 720 of London Single. J. Hendry, 1; W. Day, 2; H. Allen, 3; Dr. Seccombe, 4; H. Merrishaw, 5; R. Grimes (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Grandsire Minor. J. Hendry, 1; W. Day, 2; H. Allen, 3; J. Brett, 4; H. Hill (conductor), 5; R. Grimes, 6.

TERRINGTON (Norfolk).—Recently at St. John's church, by kind permission of the rector, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. J. Hendry, 1; H. Allen, 2; H. Hill (conductor), 3; J. Brett, 4; R. Grimes, 5; W. Wright, 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday, April 29th, for Divine service, at St. Michael's church, in the morning, 600 of Kent Treble Bob, in 20 mins. T. Watson, 1; F. L. Bumstead, 2; C. H. Howard, 3; S. Hammond (conductor), 4; F. Rudkin, 5; A. Huckson, 6. Also for evening service, a 720 of Double Court Bob, in 25 mins. T. Watson, 1; F. L. Bumstead, 2; C. H. Howard, 3; S. Hammond (conductor), 4; F. Rudkin, 5; H. E. Hammond, 6. Also on Tuesday, May 1st, on the occasion of the Bishop of Colchester holding a confirmation, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, in 25 mins. W. Hammond, 1; F. L. Bumstead, 2; C. H. Howard, 3; S. Hammond, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; H. E. Hammond, 6. Also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in 24 mins. W. Hammond, 1; F. L. Bumstead, 2; S. Hammond, 3; C. H. Howard, 4; F. Rudkin (conductor), 5; H. E. Hammond, 6. And after the service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, standing as before.

ROMFORD (Essex).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Saturday evening, April 28th, 532 Grandsire Triples. W. Pegrum, 1; R. Mighill, 2; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 3-4; B. Keeble, 5-6; W. Nash, 7-8. This touch contains the whole of the 7-5-6's.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Easter Sunday, April 1st, for Divine Service, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. W. Brazier, 1; J. Dains (conductor), 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; W. Harvey, 4; A. Tarbun, 5; W. J. Piper, 6. Also on Sunday, April 8th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. W. Harvey, 1; W. J. Piper, 2; J. Dains, 3; W. Rowland, 4; E. Scotcher, 5; A. Tarbun (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, April 15th, for Divine service, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; W. J. Piper, 4; E. Scotcher, 5; A. Tarbun (conductor), 6. And on Friday, April 20th, a 720 of College Exercise. W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains (conductor), 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; A. Edwards, 4; A. Tarbun, 5; W. J. Piper, 6. And on Friday, April 27th, for practice, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. W. Harvey, 1; J. Dains, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; E. Scotcher, 4; W. Brazier, 5; W. J. Piper (conductor), 6. Also a 720 of New London Pleasure (twenty-one bobs). *E. Scotcher, 1; J. Dains, 2; A. Shuttleworth, 3; W. Harvey, 4; A. Tarbun, 5; W. J. Piper (composer and conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. †First 720 with a bob bell.

WHITTLE (Essex).—Recently, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor (forty-two singles), on the back six. W. Emery, 1; F. Radley, 2; A. Edwards, 3; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 4; W. J. Piper, 5; W. Lincoln (conductor), 6.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—BRADFELD DEANERY BRANCH.

BEENHAM (Berks).—On Sunday, April 8th, for morning service, at the parish church, a 360 of Single Oxford Bob. And for evening service, a 720 of Court Bob, and after evening service, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. Also on Sunday, April 15th, for evening service, a 360 of College Single, and after evening service, a 360 of Canterbury Pleasure. Also on Monday, April 16th, for practice, a 360 of Double Oxford Bob. Also on Sunday, April 22nd, for morning service, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. Also on Monday, April 23rd, for practice, a 180 of Plain Bob and 120 of Single Oxford Bob, and a 120 Double Oxford Bob. Also on Sunday, April 29th, for morning service, a 360 of Double Oxford Bob Minor. And for evening service, a 720 of Double Oxford Bob, in 23 mins. (quickest 720 on the bells). And after evening service, a 360 of Grandsire Minor. The following ringers took part in the above: G. Webb, J. Hissey, T. Greetham, H. Hatto, T. Bidmead, A. Richardson, J. Hatto, and J. Richardson. Conducted by J. Richardson. Tenor 10 cwt.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Tuesday evening, April 24th, for practice, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor. F. Simmonds, 1; T. Newman, 2; J. Hands, 3; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, 4; E. Menday, 5; H. Simmonds (first in the method as conductor), 6. Also a 720 of Double Oxford Bob Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; T. Newman, 4; G. Essex, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday evening, April 29th, for Divine service, a 360 of College Single. C. Parfitt, 1; F. Simmonds, 2; H. Simmonds, 3; G. Essex, 4; E. Menday, 5; T. Newman (conductor). Tenor 17 cwt.

ST. PETER MANCROFT SOCIETY, NORWICH.

NORWICH.—On Thursday evening, April 26th, six members of the above society, met at St. John's church, Madder Market, and rung a 720 of Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. A. G. Warnes, 1; W. Blyth, 2; F. H. Knights, jun., 3; W. Bales, 4; E. Francis (composer and conductor), 5; J. Skinner, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Wednesday, April 25th, an attempt was made to

ring Carter's bob-and-single variation of 5040 Grandsire Triples. After ringing 2500 changes it came to grief. G. Hitchman, 1; J. Jones, 2; W. Brook, 3; C. Carmell, 4; C. Barnacle, 5; J. T. Perry (conductor), 6; A. Hackley, 7; C. Sparkes, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

AYLESFORD (Kent).—On Monday, April 30th, at St. Peter's church, a 252 and 504 of Bob Triples, were rung on the occasion of a wedding. R. Cossam, 1; T. Homewood, 2; T. Durban, 3; W. Wilson, 4; J. Mitchell, 5; E. Perrim, 6; E. Price (conductor), 7; W. Harris, 8. Also a 420 and 252 in the same method. R. Cossam, 1; T. Homewood, 2; E. Paice (conductor), 3; W. Wilson, 4; J. Mitchell, 5; E. Perrim, 6; T. Durban, 7; W. Harris, 8. And a 252, T. Durban (conductor).

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Sunday, April 22nd, for Divine Service, in the evening, a 720 of Plain Bob. G. Ellcombe, 1; L. Digweed, 2; 2; W. Martin, 3; J. Broom, 4; G. Hayes, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, April 29th, for Divine Service in the morning, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. G. Martin, 1; C. Waterman, 2; G. Hayes, 3; B. Spinner, 5; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. And for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Plain Bob. W. Jackson, 1; C. Waterman, 2; A. Cornford, 3; J. Broom, 4; W. Harper, 5; G. Hayes (conductor), 6. Also for Divine Service in the evening, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. L. Digweed, 1; G. Hayes, 2; F. Hayes, 3; C. Waterman, 4; G. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. C. Waterman hails from Shore, and this is his first 720 of Oxford Treble Bob.

WROTHAM (Kent).—On Sunday, April 29th, after evening service, a 504 of Bob Triples. W. Hosmer, 1; F. Taylor, 2; F. Shoobridge, 3; W. Taylor, 4; G. Osborne, 5; R. Edge, 6; C. Taylor (conductor), 7; J. Rogers.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

CLENT (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, April 28th, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. M. Shillock, 1; H. Morris, 2; J. Smith, 3; W. Short, 4; J. Barber, 5; H. Martin (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Thursday, April 19th, for practice, at St. Andrew's church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. R. Round, 1; F. Hartshorne, 2; J. Townsend, 3; W. H. Hartshorne, 4; J. Micklewright (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. Also on Thursday, April 26th, a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, in 26½ mins. *R. Perkins, 1; H. Mason, 2; J. Townsend, 3; A. E. Parsons, 4; *W. H. Hartshorne, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, April 29th, for morning service, a 720 of Plain Bob, in 25½ mins. B. Townsend, 1; C. Beasley, 2; H. Woodall, 3; J. Meredith, 4; R. Round, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. *First peal in each of the above methods. Messrs. F. and W. H. Hartshorne and R. Perkins hail from Brierley Hill; H. Mason and A. E. Parsons, from Old Hill; C. Beasley, H. Woodall, and J. Meredith from Cradley. All are members of the Association except A. E. Parsons.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SHIPLEY.—On Tuesday evening, April 24th, at the Parish church, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. T. Lilley, 1; S. H. London, 2; R. Atkinson (first 720), 3; J. S. Clark, 4; J. Lilley, 5; F. London (conductor), 6.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WOODBIDGE (Suffolk).—On Thursday, April 26th, an attempt was made for a peal of Kent Treble Bob (5024 changes), but after ringing 1376 changes, in 50 mins., a change-course occurred, and "stand" was called. W. Arnott, 1; P. Meadows, 2; A. E. Acfield, 3; W. Burch, 4; H. Burch, 5; A. Ward, 6; C. Ward, 7; W. Ward (conductor), 8.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH (Leicestershire).—On Sunday, April 29th, for evening service, 504 Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled, as token of respect to the late Mr. Emery, who for the last eight years was sidesman at this parish church, and was greatly respected as a townsman. Rev. P. H. Jackson, 1; H. Canner, 2; T. Jacques, 3; J. Hopkins, 4; W. Owen, 5; J. Dunmore, 6; W. Canner (conductor), 7; J. Curtis, 8. The Rev. P. H. Jackson belongs to Beaminster, Dorset.

COTGRAVE (Notts).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Saturday, April 28th, a plain course each of the following: Grandsire and Bob Doubles. W. White, 1-2; W. E. White, 3-4; J. C. White, 5-6. Bob Minor. H. White, 1; J. C. White, 2; W. E. White, 3-4; W. White, 5-6. Grandsire Minor. H. White, 1-2; W. White, 3-4; W. E. White, 5-6. Grandsire Triples. H. White, 1-2; W. White, 3-4; W. E. White, 5-6; J. C. White, 7-8.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Sunday Morning, April 29th, for Divine Service, 500 Grandsire Triples. H. Dudley, sen., 1; H. Haley, 2;

Dr. A. B. Carpenter (conductor), 3; S. Fisk, 4; W. States, 5; A. Bruce, 6; R. T. Woodley, 7; T. Verrall, 8. Mr. Woodley hails from London.

DUFFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, April 30th, for Divine Service, in the evening, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1270 changes). G. Dawson, 1; G. H. Phillott, 2; S. Johnson, 3; J. Howe, 4; A. P. Heywood (conductor), 5; E. Moreton, 6; G. Hingley, 7; W. Hickling, 8; B. Sugden, 9; H. Midgley, 10. Time 50 mins.

HARBORNE (Staffordshire).—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Saturday, April 21st, in the parish church belfry, 120 Grandsire Doubles. A. H. Parker (age 8), 1-2; E. Parker, 3-4; A. E. H. Parker (age 12, conductor), 5-6. It was well struck in the presence of several members of the Association.

LONDON.—On Saturday, April 21st, at St. Stephen's, Rochester Row, Westminster, a quarter-peal of 1260 Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins. T. J. Reed, 1; H. R. Newton, 2; J. Pryor, 3; T. R. Bell, 4; E. Duff, 5; H. S. Ellis, 6; J. N. Oxborrow, 7; W. Carter, 8. Conducted by H. R. Newton.

RUSHDEN (Northants).—On Monday, April 30th, at the parish church, 720 London Single. A. Clayton, 1; A. H. Martin, 2; G. Burton, 3; A. E. Chapman, 4; F. Clayton, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. And 360 Oxford Bob. J. Bailey, 1; W. Hall (conductor), 2; W. Lewis, 3; A. H. Martin, 4; F. Clayton, 5; A. E. Chapman, 6. The above was rung with the bells half-muffled, out of respect to the late Alfred Groom, of Denford, Northants, who met with a dreadful accident while at work, on the 24th of April, and which proved fatal in a few hours. The deceased was a member of the Raunds and Wellingborough Association. On Wednesday, April 25th, on handbells, at the residence of Mr. A. Clayton, 504 Bob Triples. A. Clayton, 1; W. Pettit, 2; G. Burton, 3; A. E. Chapman, 4; J. B. Martin, 5; W. Hall, 6; A. H. Martin (conductor), 7; J. Bailey, 8. Also 336 in the same method, with W. Lewis, 1; and W. Hall (conductor). Also 360 Plain Bob. J. Bailey, 1; J. B. Martin, 2; W. Pettitt, 3; W. Lewis, 4; A. H. Martin (conductor), 5; A. Clayton, 6.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Tuesday, April 23rd, at the Cathedral for practice, a 350 of Grandsire Triples. J. C. Mitchell, 1; E. Mitchell, 2; R. A. Fowler, 3; G. Cartmel, 4; R. M. Pratt, 5; W. Battle (conductor), 6; E. Hulks, 7; N. N. Hills, 8. Also a plain course of Grandsire Doubles, with 6, 7, 8 behind. *C. Walklate, 1; E. Mitchell, 2; J. Mitchell, 3; G. Cartmel, 4; W. Battle, 5; R. M. Pratt, 6; R. A. Fowler, 7; H. L. Waddington, 8. Also two more plain courses. Also a plain course, with *C. W. Crouch on the treble; also two more plain courses; also a plain course with *T. Long on the treble and E. Hulks on the tenor; also two more plain courses. *First course. The above was by the local company. Also a 168 of Stedman Triples. E. Mitchell, 1; R. A. Fowler, 2; J. Mitchell, 3; R. M. Pratt, 4; W. Battle, 5; G. Cartmel, 6; N. N. Hills (conductor), 7; H. L. Waddington, 8.

SHADWELL (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, April 25th, at St. Paul's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins. *G. Hartnup, 1; C. Relton, 2; W. Cecil, 3; *E. Hall, 4; G. Tanner, 5; H. Springhall (conductor), 6; R. Turner, 7; *S. Parmenter, 1. Composed by J. H. Barrett, of Stepney, and contains the twelve 4-6's, twelve 7-4's, twelve 6-7's. *Longest touch in the method.

STRATTON STRAWLESS.—On Sunday, April 22nd, E. Francis and P. Sadler of Norwich, paid a visit to the above place, and rang at St. Margaret's church, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 of Bob Minor (with eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. G. Bean, 1; H. Smithson, 2; P. Sadler (conductor), 3; H. Kidd, 4; J. Bircham, 5; E. Francis, 6. Also after service, a 720 of Bob Minor (with fourteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. H. Kidd, 1; J. Bircham, 2; G. Moy, 3; P. Sadler, 4; B. Stackwood, 5; E. Francis (composer and conductor), 6. Also another 720 in the same method (with eighteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. P. Sadler (conductor), 1; G. Earle, 2; A. J. Neal, 3; G. Moy, 4; E. Francis, 5; R. Stackwood, 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

TIPTON (Staffordshire).—On Monday, April 30th, for practice, at St. Martin's church, 518 Grandsire Triples. B. Starkey, 1; E. Goodreds, 2; W. Cheshire, 3; W. Hartshorne, 4; B. Gough, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; T. Hibert, 8. Also 640 of Plain Bob Major. H. Mills, 1; E. Goodreds, 2; W. Pardoe, 3; W. Hartshorne, 4; T. Hibert, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; W. Small, 8. Also 408 of Stedman Triples. W. Small, 1; T. Hibert, 2; W. Pardoe, 3; W. Hartshorne, 4; A. Hill, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; H. Mills, 8. And 216 Stedman Triples. H. Mills, 1; W. Small, 2; W. Pardoe, 3; E. Goodreds, 4; A. Hill, 5; S. Jesson, 6; G. Hughes (conductor), 7; B. Starkey, 8. Hartshorne hails from Brierley Hill; T. Hibert from Reading; W. Cheshire and B. Gough from Coseley; the rest are of the local company.

WHITSTONE (near Exeter).—On Sunday, April 29th, after evening service, ten 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, in 40 mins. S. Pester (first ten 6-score), 1; H. Baxter, 2; W. Pester, 3; W. Sercombe, 4; G. Baxter, 5; M. Skinner (first ten 6-score), 6.

WHITCHURCH (Oxon).—On Thursday evening, April 26th, at St. Mary, a 720 of Grandsire Doubles, in 26 mins., each 6-score called differently. W. Pocock, 1; Chas. Pocock, 2; W. Lawrence (conductor), 3; E. Bushnell, 4; A. C. West, 5; H. Bushnell, 6. First 720 by the local band who have but recently given their attention to change-ringing.

CANON TRISTRAM.

It must be very disappointing for Canon Tristram, after having represented the archdeaconry of Durham in York Convocation for many years, and having received a majority of votes at the last election, to be deprived of his position of Proctor on the ground that he has not been a benefice, but a canonry only. But the principle is insisted upon by the Archbishop of York that a Proctor must be beneficed within the archdeaconry which he represents; and this requirement the Queen's Bench has at length decided that it has no jurisdiction to set aside. Whether the Archbishop was right in requiring this qualification for a Proctor, and whether he had authority to decide the point at all are questions left to be determined in some way by the Convocation itself. In such matters at least the Queen's Bench will not interfere. Lord Coleridge's judgement certainly does not detract from the dignity of the Convocations. The Queen's Bench, he says, refuses to "interfere in the internal affairs of an ancient body, as old as Parliament and as independent." In thus dwelling on the ancient rights, and above all the "absolute independence" of the Convocations, the court is laying down broad principles, which in the dim, if not distant future may have a very important effect.—*Guardian*.

A REAL GHOST STORY.—The inhabitants of a sea-side parish in East Kent, not a hundred miles from Reculver, have recently had a ghostly experience, which caused no small sensation. There was not long since a change of vicar, and the new incumbent being zealous for Lenten observances, arranged such a programme of services during Holy Week that the church bell was scarcely silent from morning till night. People began to say that the bell would get so used to tolling that it would soon ring of itself. One night when, after service was over, the sexton had locked up the church, he and the vicar were on their way home. Suddenly they were startled by hearing the church bell tolling again. At first they could scarcely believe their ears, but the bell went on tolling in a somewhat irregular way. Then the Vicar decided that some person must have been left in the church and was giving the alarm in order to get released. The sexton was instructed to return and set the belated bell-ringer free. The night being dark, and his nerves being a little unstrung, the sexton secured the services of the constable, and thus reinforced, returned to the church. A light was procured, the door opened, and a search made for the ringer. There was no ringer! The belfry rope moved to and fro, the bell in the turret kept tolling, but not a soul—or at least not a body—was to be seen. The sexton and the constable feeling the situation grow gruesome, and cold shivers creeping down the small of their backs, beat a hasty retreat to the outside of the church. By this time people, aroused by the continual tolling of the bell, began to assemble, wondering what it all meant, and ere long quite a crowd of the inhabitants were eagerly discussing the mystery—the sexton and the policeman having both solemnly declared the ghostly character of the alarm. The Vicar and churchwardens also appeared on the scene, and people began to suggest that the exorcising powers of the reverend gentleman should be called into requisition. At times the ringing would cease for a few minutes and then re-commence with spasmodic energy, as if the ghosts of a dozen sextons were struggling at the bell rope. An hour passed by. Another search was made in the church by a few bold and adventurous parishioners, but still there was no ringer to be seen. Another hour passed, and another. The excited people returned to their homes to discuss the extraordinary event; the sexton went away in despair, and only a couple of policemen were left in charge of the church and the ghost. At last midnight sounded, and then with a burst of extra-wild ringing the bell ceased to toll. In the early morning light the secret was revealed. Some wicked wag, who had probably availed himself of workmen's ladders, which had during the day been in use against the church, had gained access to the bell turret and had fastened to the clapper a long cord, which was carried to an obscure corner of an adjoining field, from which place of concealment the oracle was worked.

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Obituary.

WILLIAM HULME.

Another link in the chain which binds the present with the past generation of ringers, has been shortened by the death of the above-named gentlemen, who was taken to the majority on Wednesday, April 18th, in the 73rd year of his age. His end was calm and peaceful in the extreme; and to use his own expressions a short time before his death, he passed away

"Fearing, Nothing;
Hoping, Trusting All."

He had been connected with the old church, Macclesfield, for sixty years in various capacities, over fifty of which he had been a ringer, being elected and received his first quarter's pay at Midsummer, 1837, the date of Her Majesty's accession to the Throne. Always spare and delicate, his health failed him some five years ago, when he was superannuated by his brother-ringers. The last occasion when he rang in peal was at the Queen's Jubilee, at which time his own Jubilee as a ringer was celebrated. He was appointed apparitor in 1860, and two years later deputy clerk, succeeding to the office of clerk about 1866, and sexton in 1870, both of which he held at the time of his death. His decease causes the first break in the band which rang the first peal of 5040 ever rang in the Potteries, which took place at Longton old church, on March 31st, 1864. He conducted his first peal in 1841, and his last (which he composed), of over 6000 changes, in 1877. His greatest delight was to talk about ringing and ringers of his day, and always made enquiries about those who were left of his acquaintance in other towns. His retiring habits and extreme modesty almost amounted in him to a fault, yet to know him was to love him. Patient and persevering in all things, truthful and upright in all his dealings, strictly faithful in the discharge of his various duties, it may truly apply to him to quote our immortal bard, that,

"The purest treasure mortal times afford
Is spotless reputation."

The funeral took place at the Macclesfield cemetery on Monday, April 23rd. At the request of the Vicar (the Rev. Canon Turner), the first portion of the service took place in the old church. The body borne by four of the youngest ringers, supported as pall bearers by four of the oldest ringers, was met at the west porch by the Rev. Canon, the wardens, and the choir. The service, which was choral, was very impressive, and was devoutly followed by a large congregation. At the cemetery there was a numerous assemblage, the vicar again officiating. After the service a course on the handbells was rung as a last token of respect by his brother-ringers. The bells were muffled and rung each evening, and prior to the interment and afterwards, a 750 Stedman Triples with the bells half-muffled. M.

REV. JOSEPH DEANS,

VICAR OF MELBOURNE, DERBYSHIRE.

We regret to announce the death of the above gentleman which sad event took place very suddenly, on Friday, April 20th, at the advanced age of 84 years. Mr. Deans was ordained deacon in 1827, by Bishop Kaye, and took priests' orders in 1829. He was preferred to the vicarage of Melbourne in 1831, which benefice he held till his death. The deceased gentleman, though not a practical ringer, took a very great interest in bell-ringing. It was chiefly through his instrumentality that a Society of Ringers was formed in Melbourne, of which Society he was the honoured president. He always maintained that it was his dearest wish to see a peal of eight bells in the tower of Melbourne church, which wish he lived to see accomplished, he himself entering heartily into the project for increasing the peal of six to eight, in 1887. On Sunday, April 29th, a peal of Grand-sire Triples was rung to his memory. The remains were interred on Thursday, April 26th, the ceremony commencing with a short service in church. The oak coffin, which was borne on a bier by the ringers, was surmounted by a large brass cross, bearing the inscription, "Joseph Deans, Priest, born December 5th, 1803, died April 20th, 1888, R.I.P." On Saturday, April 28th, a half-muffled peal was rung as a last token of respect. The vacant living is in the gift of the Bishop of Southwell.

F. A. P. KNIPE, M.D.

The above gentleman and ringer died on Saturday, April 21st, in Australia, where he had been practising for the last twelve months or so. Mr. Knipe was a first-class eight-bell ringer. Although we have not his list of peals to hand, he had rung several in different Standard Methods. At one time he practised with his brother, at Melbourne, Derbyshire, and was well known and highly respected by the Melbourne ringers, and also the ringers of the Metropolis, with whom he always liked to have a friendly "pull" while amongst them.

MR. W. H. TUCKER.

It is with feelings of deep regret we have to announce the death of Mr. W. H. Tucker, of Bishops Stortford, who died at his residence on Friday, April 20th, after a short illness of only two days duration. Mr. Tucker was in his 58th year and had held the position of cemetery superintendent from its opening in 1885, he was also sexton for the parish church of St. Michael. For upwards of 250 years the Tucker family have been connected with this town, and for generations they have filled the post of sexton for the parish church. Mr. Tucker was a member of the Bishops Stortford society of change-ringers for about 40 years, during which time he had rung several peals. His genial face will be much missed in the ringing-chamber, for he was one that could always be found there on practice evenings, doing his utmost to help forward a young beginner in the art, of which he was so fond. The respect in which he was held, was shown at his funeral, which took place in the cemetery, on Tuesday, April 24th, in the presence of about 300 of his friends, ringers, and foresters, of which latter community he was a member and trustee. During the evening, several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung, with the bells deeply muffled, by T. Newman, W. Ricketts, G. Brand, C. Martin, G. Martin, F. W. Chapman, H. Champness, J. Samford, and F. Roast, assisted by friends from Stanstead, Essex.

CALNE, WILTS.

On Tuesday evening, May 1st, eight members of the local company were present at the annual meeting of the Church of England Temperance Society, and rang several melodies on handbells, in capital style, and were loudly applauded, and which afforded a pleasant change in the programme, which consisted of songs, &c. The ringers have all been trained by Mr. W. Seager (an old ringer), who takes a great interest in it.

FEATS OF EATING.—Tournaments of gluttons were not uncommon up to fifty or sixty years ago. Twenty pounds of cherries are said to have been eaten at one sitting by a competitor at one of these encounters. She was a young girl, and gained the day; but she did not long survive her victory. At Portsmouth a soldier of the Dutch Artillery tried for a trifling wager to eat a pound and a half of beef while standing on his head. He had disposed of a considerable portion, when all at once his comrades observed him making strange faces, and on turning him up he gasped and died. At Fareham, a small town a few miles from Portsmouth, a labourer ate for a wager a bullock's head, weighing ten pounds, with a gallon of potatoes, half a gallon of turnips, and the whole of the soup of the boiling. But perhaps the greatest achievement in these uncleanly competitions was that of a certain Jerry Eke, a Norfolk man, whose powers at harvest suppers were the boast and wonder and envy of the villages round. At a farmers' market dinner a wager was laid for five pounds that he would eat a calf at a sitting. "The calf"—let us hope only a baby calf—was killed. The bones were cut out, the flesh was cut up into minute particles, and apportioned into seventeen enormous pasties, whose outer crust was a thin film of batter made lovely and tempting to every sense, but carefully kept from any ingredients that could cloy the palates. Jerry was called in, he having agreed to the wager with evident delight, and was told that he might fall to. He did so, and steadily gorged. He had made no difficulty of the first nine pasties, but when a tenth was brought in he seemed to flag. To the horror of his backers he sighed and looked perplexed. It was but for a moment, he only desired to expostulate. 'I say, Mas'r, I ain't got nothing to say agin them boys—I loik 'em amazin'; but I'm a-thinkin' et's abaywt time as I should begin upon that ther calf.—From "Casell's Saturday Journal" for May.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"I love you, bells of motherland,
With all this soul of mine,
And bless the Lord that I am sprung
Of good old English line;
And like a son, I sing the lay
That England's glory tells,
For she is lovely to the Lord,
And you—ye Christian bells."

ARTHUR CLEVELAND COX.

A few weeks ago I made enquiry respecting the celebrated Yorkshire ringer and composer, Mr. William Sottanstill, and as my enquiry elicited no response from our friends in that quarter, I was exceedingly glad to read the account of his "Jubilee Celebration" on Saturday last. It was very pleasant reading, not only on account of the interesting story it gave of the veteran's life, but also from the gratifying evidence it afforded that his Yorkshire friends in general and the clergy, wardens, and parishioners of Sowerby in particular had combined to so fittingly celebrate the event. Had publicity been given to it through "THE BELL NEWS" previously, I have no doubt that a still larger number of his admirers would have travelled long distances in order to be present at Sowerby on that day. As it is, we who were thus unfortunately and unavoidably absent must content ourselves with the pleasure of reading the account of the proceedings which you give. We can, however, most heartily join in the wish expressed by the worthy Vicar of Sowerby, that "their old friend would be spared to them for some time yet, and that when he had finished his course here, he might attain to a better life hereafter."

The story of Mr. Sottanstill's life and work is well worth the careful consideration of us all, and particularly of those amongst us whom we are apt to style "the rising generation." It has been a life of constant and unremitting work in connection with the Church which had brought him up from childhood, and towards which in his writings is ever breathed a spirit of sacred love and veneration, which shows him to be a faithful son "not in name only, but in very deed." For over four-score years the events of his life have been bound up with the Church which he loves. From a scholar in the Sunday School he became a teacher, and so continued for forty-six years; for twenty years he was a member of the choir; for half a century he has faithfully performed the duties of parish clerk; and sixty-six years ago the sound of his sweet church bells caused him to enter upon the work of ringing, to which work he has devoted such marked perseverance and ability as to merit the title bestowed upon him by the late Jasper Snowdon, of "prince among Yorkshire ringers." And amid all these manifold duties, we are told that for forty years he devoted his leisure hours to the compilation of a volume which must ever rank as one of the most important possessions of the Exercise. His "Elements of Campanologia" has been for many years my most-valued ringing work, and I can well imagine the immense amount of time, patience, and indomitable perseverance of which it has been the outcome.

Here is a life story worth writing in letters of gold. Here is a worthy example to follow of a long life spent in the performance of faithful unflagging work. We shall not all of us be given Mr. Sottanstill's long length of years: but if we cannot imitate him in this respect, we may at any rate endeavour during the brief space of time allotted to us, to emulate his zeal, patience, perseverance, and industry, and to leave the Exercise better than we found it.

I notice that the 9th of July next will be Mr. Sottanstill's

88th birthday, and do not doubt that the mere mention of this fact will be sufficient to cause that anniversary to be heartily observed by his many friends, particularly in his native county, by jubilant peals.

Mr. Muskett writes very hotly about the quick peal of Stedman Triples at Drayton. Although no doubt sharing his astonishment at the time stated, I cannot agree with his remarks, insinuating as they do such a breach of good faith on the part of the ringers of the peal, more especially so when I look at the names of some of those who took part in it. I have several times had occasion to refer to the surprisingly quick time in which peals are reported to have been rung, but I should be extremely loth to imagine that any such deceit had been practised as that mentioned by Mr. Muskett. No doubt his letter will be replied to from the proper quarter.

At the same time I cannot help noticing the great difference in the time of this peal with one of Double Norwich rung on the same bells on April 21st; the first one being at the rate of 344 changes per minute, and the latter 284, or six changes per minute slower than the first-named. There is certainly a considerable "variation" between the two in that respect.

And now, my friends of Stockton, just a word with you. While I am always glad to see my remarks criticised, and am no less willing to admit the fact if proved to be in the wrong, I certainly do think the concluding sentence of your report uncourteous, to say the least of it. Were I vindictive, I could easily repay that sentence with considerable interest; but I hope vindictiveness forms no trait in my character. If my remarks anent your so-called "Surprise peals" were unfair, or in any way controvertible, why did you not tackle them in the same columns in which they appeared, instead of contenting yourselves with "blackballing" me to your hearts' content in your own private conclave? If met in a proper controversial manner, I am fully prepared to maintain my ground. As it is, however, for the present, I will content myself by asking you in common fairness to substantiate the two statements you make; first, that my strictures emanate "from a quarter incompetent to judge upon what constitutes a legitimate distinction between one method and another," and second, that "another society in the south" has endorsed your opinion. I await your answer.

FREE LANCE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE is hereby given that the next Quarterly Meeting will be held at St. Alban's church, Rochdale, on Saturday, May 5th. There will be a short service in the church at 5 p.m., at which members and friends are asked to attend. The business meeting will be held in St. Alban's schoolroom, Drake Street, immediately after service, and over which the vicar, the Rev. W. Cooper, M.A., has kindly consented to preside. The bells (8), tenor 17 cwt., will be at the disposal of members from 2.30 p.m. up to the commencement of the service, and again at the close of the meeting. Members on arrival to meet in the schoolroom, where companies can be formed for ringing. The committee will be very pleased to see as many as possible at both the service and the meeting.

JOEL REDFORD, } Hon. Secs.
A. E. WREAKS, }

ROCHDALE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The above Association will hold a quarterly meeting at Walsden parish church, on Saturday, May 5th, at 5 o'clock, in the schoolroom. The bells will be at the disposal of members and friends at two. Subscriptions are now due.

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Ditto with white or yellow letters . . . 1 10 0
Small tablets, 14 ins. by 11 ins. . . . 0 5 6
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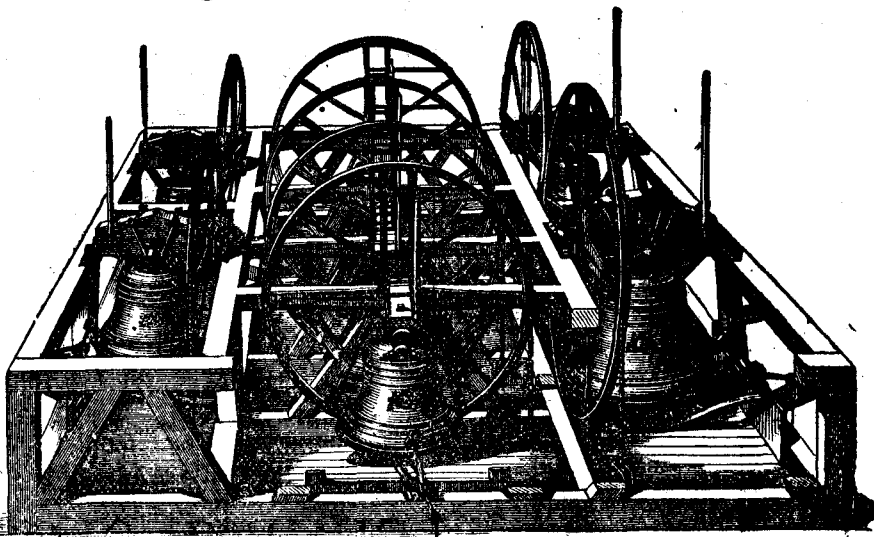
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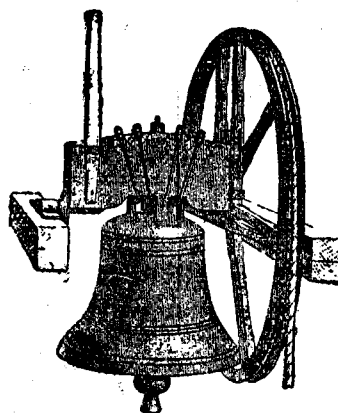
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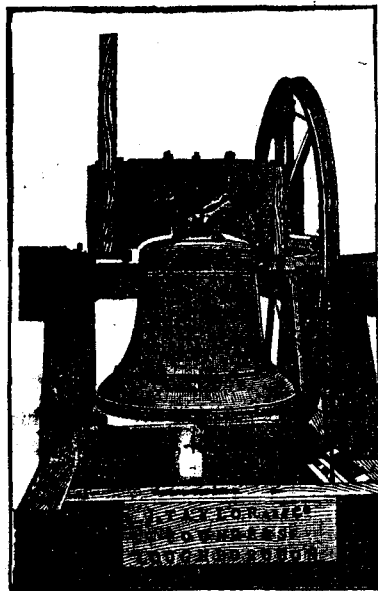
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