

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 322.—VOL. VII.

SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1888.

ONE PENNY.

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ST. GEORGE, SOUTHWARK.

This church possesses a peal of eight bells, tenor 16 cwt., all cast by Abraham Rudhall, of Gloucester, in 1718, and inscribed "A.R., 1718." In addition the second has "Peace and good neighbourhood," the third, "Prosperity to all our benefactors," the fourth, "God preserve the Church," the fifth, "Prosperity to this place," the sixth, "Mr. William Bridger, Churchwarden," the seventh, "Abr: Rudhall, of Glovcester, Bellfounder," and the tenor, "The living I to church do call, and to the grave do summon all." There is also a call-bell, inscribed "The Revd. J. Cooksey, Rector, Wm. Hill, Ch: Warden, April 1738. Richard Phelps, T. Lester, fecit. My Voice at Proper Times I'll Raise, and Sound to my Subscriber's Praise." There are tablets in the belfry recording the following peals:—

"Westminster Youths, 5040 Grandsire Triples, in 3 hours, September 8th, 1805." "College Youths, 5040 Stedman Triples, in 2 hours 52 mins., February 5th, 1859." "On Saturday, June 29th, 1861, the Southwark Youths rang a muffled peal in memory of the late Mr. James Braidwood, Superintendent of the London Fire Brigade. Though it is now more than five-and-twenty years ago, most of us will remember the great fire in Tooley Street, on June 22nd, 1861, where Mr. Braidwood lost his life through the unexpected falling of a wall. Although it has no connection with the bells, it may be of interest to notice that in the 16th century two individuals left by will, the one £5 per annum, and the other £10 8s. per annum to the poor of this parish. The magnitude (?) of their beneficence is thus recorded on three tablets in the church:—

(1).—"Here under lyeth buried James Savadge, that late was the yeoman of the mule saddles unto our good Queen's grace. Two wyves he hath marryed while God did lend him lyfe. The first was called Elizabeth, Ann was his latter wyfe. Of whom fyve children he begat, two Sonnes and Daughters three. Who with hym and hys former wyfe, from hence decessed bee. He did depart this mortal lyfe, the eight and twentie daye of March last past wee hope to God with him to rest for aye." He died in 1588.

On tablet 2 is "Behold James Savadge graciously hath done a godly dede.

Five pounds a year for evermore, by Will he hath bequeathed, Which must out of the Angel Rents quarterly be received, By the Churchwardens of this church whom he hath put in trust, As fathers in the poors behalfe, to be upright and Just.

Which men I doubt not but our God, who sees all things shall find,

True in dispensing of the same, according to his mind, Ye poor thank Christ for Savadge still, extol God's name with praise,

That he to follow his good art in time may others raise."

On tablet No. 3 is—

"Lo! Master William Evance, he whose body lyeth here, Bequeathed hath by his Will for ever by the year, Ten pounds eight shillings to the Poore, which is a blessed paye, And must be given them in bread on every Sabbath daye, On halfe to Okedern's poore, his native soile so dear, The other moyety to the poore of this our parish here.

See now all ye that love the Poore how God did guide his wayes, Ten score and eight are served with bread, in two and fifty days, More than many would have done to have yielded any share, Praise God, ye poore, who gave to him so provident a care."

Wm. Evance died July 29th, 1590. Whether the "poore" still receive their "blessed paye" or not, I cannot say. Perhaps the Charity Commissioners have stepped in and diverted the course of this charity.

J. R. JERRAM.

CHILDE OKEFORD, DORSET.

A new peal of six bells has been cast and hung in the tower by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, in place of the old peal of three. They were dedicated on Friday, the 11th inst., by the Bishop of Salisbury, and were rung for the first time on that day by the Rev. R. S. K. Blucke and his company of Fontmell Magna. The new bells are inscribed with the names of Rev. J. G. Brymer, Rector, and Messrs. Bower and Rossiter, Churchwardens, 1888, also "To the glory of God." The cost was £530 with cost of the old bells added. This included new frame and fittings, and main bearing beams.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
OPENING OF A NEW PEAL AT NEWBURN-ON-TYNE, NORTHUMBERLAND.

On Wednesday, May 16th, by the invitation of the Vicar (the Rev. J. Bucknell), and churchwardens of St. Michael and All Angels, the above new peal of six were successfully opened by the above Association. In the afternoon a 720 of Kent Treble Bob was rung by the following: S. Nott, 1; W. G. Routledge, 2; W. Reed, 3; F. Barron, 4; R. Wignell, 5; R. S. Story (conductor), 6. At 5 o'clock the members were entertained to dinner at the Newburn Steel Works by the kind invitation of Mr. Spencer, the donor of the bells, and at 7.30 a special service was held, which was well attended, an eloquent sermon being preached by the Ven. Hans Hamilton, Archdeacon of Northumberland. Previous to the service a 720 of Bob Minor was rung by the following: J. Laidler, 1; W. C. Bennett, 2; F. Lees, 3; G. Atkinson, 4; Z. Scott, 5; W. Story (conductor), 6. And after the service a 360 of Oxford Bob. S. Nott, 1; W. C. Bennett, 2; G. Atkinson, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4; F. Lees, 5; W. Story (conductor), 6. The bells are a fine peal, by Messrs. Taylor, tenor 16 cwt., and we hope soon a branch of the above Association may be formed. The members of the Association received a most hearty welcome from all connected with the church, for which they beg to return sincere thanks.

THE RECORD PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS AT
CHELTENHAM.

It may not be without interest to the Exercise to know that the first attempt to beat the record in Stedman was made at Cheltenham, on Whit-Monday in last year, with a peal of 12,345 changes. This unfortunately came to grief after some five-and-a-quarter hours' ringing, 8500 changes having been done. The next essay was on Boxing Day, and on that occasion some 5000 or 6000 only was rung. Since that date the Oxford Guild succeeded in ringing a peal of 12,041, on March 5th in this year, generously keeping the number below the Cheltenham peal to allow of the latter being rung to supersede theirs. It was, however decided to extend this peal into another thousand, and Mr. Henry Johnson kindly composed one of 13,054, which, as will be seen in the proper place, was rung on Monday last, at Cheltenham, at the first attempt, it being also the first peal of Caters the conductor has called. The striking throughout was good, and was listened to (besides those mentioned) by many brother ringers from the Midlands.

CRADLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

On Whit-Monday, May 21st, eight members of the Cradley company had their annual excursion, Malvern Link being the place selected this year. Before starting they assembled at their own church, and rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes), in 45 mins. After several delays, owing to the pressure on the railway traffic, they arrived at their destination rather late. After refreshing themselves, they proceeded up the hills, and were agreeably surprised to hear the bells of the Priory Church being raised in peal. Proceeding to the church they easily gained admission to the tower, and found the local band assembled, by whom they were heartily received. Several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung, including a 504, by the following: G. Dukes, 1; F. Jelf, 2; H. Woodhall, 3; C. Daniel, 4; E. Sprague, 5; R. G. Knowles, 6; C. Beasley, 7; J. A. Meredith, 8. Afterwards they adjourned to the "Beauchamp Arms," and partook of a friendly glass together, where all thoroughly enjoyed themselves. After a ramble about the town they gained the station, arriving home at 11 p.m.

THE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY, TIVERTON, DEVON.

On Wednesday, May 16th, in honour of the christening of the infant daughter of the Rev. T. U. Cross, an attempt was made for Holt's ten-part peal, but the sixth part-end coming up false, brought it to grief, in 1 hr. 51 mins. John Grater, jun., 1; R. Grater, jun. (conductor), 2; W. Grater, 3; E. Munday, 4; Jas. Grater, 5; John Grater, 6. James Babbage, 7; S. Hoare, 8. Several shorter touches were also rung.

BEWDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

(Continued from page 112).

"In 1425 Richard Duke of York inherited the manor, and under his beneficent rule Bewdley made great progress. In 1441 he granted the office of Chief Ranger of his forest of *Were* (Wyre) in the county of Salop to Leonard Hastings. In 1446 he obtained a licence for a market every week upon the Wednesday at his manor of *Beaudley*, and for a fair yearly upon the festival of St. Agatha the Virgin (Feb. 5th). Thus in 1446 Bewdley rose from the condition of a village to the dignity of a market town, and in past times the holding of fairs and markets was regarded as a most valuable privilege. The want of a bridge over the Severn seems to have been then immediately felt, and next year (March 20th, 1447), we find the Bishop of Worcester (John Carpenter), in his castle of Hartilbury granting forty days' indulgence to all contributing to the building of the bridge lately founded (*noviter fundati*), between the ville of Wrebenall in his diocese, and stretching across the Severn to the ville of Bewdley in the diocese of Hereford.

"Tradition relates that the original town of Bewdley was situated on the Wyre Hill at some little distance from the Severn; and an ancient inn—formerly the "Shoulder of Mutton," now the "Old Town Hall,"—had, until recent times, a projecting story with pillars, under which was a covered market. Edward I. granted to Henry de Ribbesford a market on every Wednesday, and a fair on St. Margaret's Day, and this may have been the site on which it was held. It is now quite disused for this purpose, but the houses near it are very old, and the high road went past it till 1753. Such a splendid position on a fine river, and near a forest abounding in oaks, was not overlooked by the inhabitants of Bewdley, and they make use of their opportunities by applying themselves to boat building and navigation.

"In 1412 (13 Henry IV.), in a Parliament held at Westminster, the citizens of Bristowe (Bristol) and Gloucester prayed that they might pass Bewdley without hindrance. 'Certain persons of Bewdley having great boats called *troves*, had confederated themselves together for their singular profit, and would let no one pass through the said parts with their goods and chattels, except they would hire the said boats for the carriage of the said goods; and that on the eve of St. Michael last past, lying in wait near Bewdley with great force and arms, they had seized upon a great drag or flote going to Glos'ter (such as complainants had used to make in their parts to carry timber and fuel), and made the masters of it cut in pieces the said flote in the said river, or otherwise they would cut off their heads. They therefore pray free passage, &c.' The men of Bewdley do not appear here in a very favourable light; but they seem to have been anxious to protect their own interests, and the place must have been already of some importance.

"Under the Tudors the prosperity of Bewdley was in full tide. Henry VII. enlarged Ticknell House and made it into a Palace for Arthur, Prince of Wales, who there resided and held his Court. There, too, he was married to Catherine of Arragon. Henry VIII. granted three charters to the town, and sent his daughters the Princesses Mary and Elizabeth to reside in it. The many distinguished persons who were constantly coming to the town, attended by large retinues, would give increased employment to the inhabitants.

"Manufactures of various kinds were started in the time of the Tudors, and flourished. The chief of these were cap-making, which at one time afforded employment to probably 1000 people in Bewdley. In the Ribbesford Registers the term 'capper' appears as the trade in a large proportion of the entries. Fuller (*Worthies*, p. 49), says that this occupation set

no less than fifteen callings to work. Machinery was forbidden, and the trade was protected by law. In 22 Edward IV., a penalty of forty shillings was inflicted upon any one setting up a fulling-mill. A mill would thicken and full more caps in a day than fourscore men, and it was considered inconvenient to turn so many labouring men to idleness. In 3 Henry VIII, it was enacted that no caps or hats ready wrought should be brought from beyond the seas. In 13 Elizabeth, caps were to be worn by all persons (some of Worship and Quality excepted), on Sabbath and Holy Days, under penalty of ten groats. This was repealed in 39 Elizabeth. By an Act of Common Council of London in 1665 all caps were to be brought to Blackwell Hall except *Monmouth* and *Bewdley* caps. The French Protestant Refugees brought into England the use of hats, and the new fashion caused the decline of the Bewdley manufactures. In the time of Charles II., Mr. Yarrington says, 'Cap-making in Bewdley is grown so low, that great part of the ancient cap-makers in that town are wholly decayed, and the rest at this present day are in a very low condition.' One of the most eminent cappers of Bewdley was Walter Palmer, who lived in High Street, in the house now belonging to Mr. Marcy. His daughter Sarah was married at Ribbesford, August 23rd, 1688, to Israel Wilkes, grandfather of the notorious John Wilkes, member for Middlesex, and editor of the *North Briton*. Another daughter married Dr. Jas. Douglas, Physician to Queen Caroline; and his son George married Anne Johnson in 1687, and was grandfather of Mrs. Skey, wife of Jonathan Skey. 'Walter Palmer, Bewdley, capper, 1656,' and 'Thomas Farloe, capper in Bewdley, 1670,' issued tokens which passed current in the town for halfpence. The trade appears to have afterwards revived, and to have lingered on till the beginning of the present century. The Worcestershire Guide for 1797 enumerates amongst the callings exercised here 'Dutch and sailors caps, which are much prized for their excellent napping.' Cap-making is now a thing of the past.

"In the time of Elizabeth there were twelve tan-yards in Bewdley, and tanners have been among its greatest benefactors. The neighbouring forests supply abundance of oak bark, and there is no apparent reason why this industry should have fallen off.

"In 1697 Mr. Christopher Bancks, of Wigan, started a pewter and brass foundry. This proved very successful, and was carried on by successive members of the family until about . . . years ago, when Messrs. William Stokes and John Smith became the proprietors. It still maintains a high reputation for the excellence of its brass work. It is said to be one of the oldest manufactories in England.

"Among the callings exercised in the time of Elizabeth and James I., as we learn from the Registers, were sherman, carver, glover, trowman, parchment-maker, bargemaker, wire-maker, bowyer, fletcher (maker of arrows), cutler, cooper, walker (fuller), farrier, haberdasher, tailor, collier, joiner, dyer, vintner, carpenter, cardmaker, butcher, baker, mason, fishmonger, glass carrier, staymaker, bedder, clothmaker, saddler, lathmaker, capper, tanner, shoemaker, brickmaker, weaver, fisher, aqua vitæ man, and a salt peter man.

"Weavers of sacking and bombazine used to reside on the Wyre Hill. The making of combs, drinking cups, and other articles of horn, has been carried on for more than a century, and now remains as the chief special manufacture of the town.

"The market has dwindled by degrees, and instead of thirty-two butchers holding stalls in the shambles, there are now only two. Formerly the barley market, shambles, and butter cross formed a long range of timber buildings, filling up the middle of Load Street. They were taken down in 1783.

"We have seen that as early as 1412 the men of Bewdley had become bold watermen, and owned large barges or trows. Latterly a great part of the carrying trade both by land and river came into their hands, and they had the best boats and best crews on the river. Merchants from Bristol, then the first seaport in the kingdom, established *depots* for their goods in Bewdley and Wribbenall. Large storehouses were built, and the wares were conveyed by long trains of pack-horses to the inland towns, and returned bringing Manchester, Sheffield, and other goods to be shipped down the Severn to the seaports and West of England. Many old houses here have extensive buildings in the rear almost disused. 'The number of malt houses,' says Nicholls, 'in several parts of the town points out another very extensive object of trade, the chief markets for which were some parts of Shropshire, towards Tenbury and Ludlow; but in later times a turnpike road having been made through those towns to Worcester, the demands from Bewdley were much lessened.' Had the Worcestershire and Staffordshire Canal joined the Severn here, as it was once intended it should, Bewdley would no doubt have become a place of great trade. But unfortunately the inhabitants petitioned against the canal, and thus inflicted a blow on their town from which it has never recovered. In 1797 seventeen regular 'trows' went weekly to and from Bristol and Bewdley, and twenty-eight to and from Bristol and Stourport. Thus the larger portion of the carrying trade and commerce was intercepted by the rising little town at the mouth of the Stour.

"Before 1801 the population can only be calculated roughly. The number of baptisms from January 1864, to January 1871, was 534, and the population 3021. The number corresponding to this for the seven years ending January 1602, was 434, and the proportional population would be 2450. At Kidderminster the baptisms for the seven years ending 1602 amounted to 392, which would betoken a population of 2200. Below is a table of population of Bewdley as given by the census returns:—

1801	...	...	...	3671
1811	...	...	...	3454
1821	...	...	...	3725
1831	...	...	...	3908
1851	...	...	...	3327
1861	...	...	...	2905
1871	...	...	...	3021
1881	...	...	...	3342

The rateable value of the borough is £8155 12s. 6d. Number of municipal electors, 501; parliamentary ditto, 1276. Death rate 15 per thousand."

THE CHAPEL.

"Leland relates that a privilege of sanctuary was formerly given to Bewdley; and this statement is confirmed by the preamble to a bill of forfeiture against Thomas Crofte passed in the Parliament of 7 Henry VII (1491). It sets forth that the said Thomas Crofte had 'commited a detestable murder within the Marches of Wales, and thereupon is fledde, and hath taken the sanctuary of Beadeley.

"The town of Bewdley was extra-parochial, until by a private Act of Parliament made in the reign of Henry VI., it was put within the parish of Ribbesford. Later still by statute 34 and 35 Henry VIII., c. 26—'An Act for certain ordinances in the King's Majesty's dominion and principalltie of Wales'—it was enacted that Bewdley should form part of Worcestershire, and be within the Hundred of Dodingtre.

"As a sanctuary town it would afford a refuge to those escaping from justice, and tradition relates that it was these fugitives who first built the chapel in the town, that they might receive the consolations of religion without going beyond their bounds.

There is also a tradition that the oldest chapel in the town was situated at the foot of the bridge nearly opposite the 'Saracen's Head.' Dr. Prattinton says that a small building in Ross's S.E. view of the bridge was reported to have been the chapel, though in his time it was used as a hearse-house. Mr. Hayley had heard when a boy, that this building was the oldest in the town; and in the Court Rolls of 1748 this locality was called St. Anne's corner. Small chapels were often built near bridges, but Leland's account shows plainly that in his time the chief chapel was situated on its present site at the top of Load Street. 'In the towne,' he says, 'is but a chapel of Ease, and that is of timber, in the heart of the towne.' The chapel of old was dedicated to St. Andrew, and it contained three chantries, each provided with its own chaplain. The chantry of St. Mary was on the south side of the chancel, and of the same length with it. Its gross annual value in 1545 was £8 3s. 4d. On the north side of the chancel were the two other chantries; one of St. Anne, valued at £9 5s. 4d., founded by John Washbourn, and the other of Holy Trinity, valued at £9 3s. 6d. In a conveyance of the manor of Dowles in 1544 one part is called 'Trinity Ground, now or late in the occupation of William Weston, Warden of the Gylde of Holly Trinity in the churche of Bewdeley.' In 1553 the incumbents of two of the chantries, viz., William Weston and Humphrey Mallet, were living, and received pensions of £6 each from Queen Mary.

Between the two chantries on the north side of the chancel, went up a flight of steps from the street into the chancel. A Mrs. Holl told Dr. Prattinton in 1808 that there were houses under the chancel. This explains the curious entry in the accounts for 1596 for expenses incurred in mending the 'hole out of the chancell in Mersour Tavnar.'

The chapel was probably built about the time of Henry VI. It was a plain timber structure, and houses were built close up to it nearly all round. Perhaps this accounts for the fact that though it was standing till 1745, no known illustration of it has come down to us.

In the tower, which requires renovation internally, is a peal of bells, hung on the same level. The treble, seventh, and tenor have no cannons, and are bolted through the crown to the stock. The frame and fittings are generally in fairly good condition, and a little expense would enable the bells to be rung much easier, the frame being heavy, and constructed of solid oak."

W. H. F.

(To be continued.)

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MEMBERS are informed that the report for 1887 (which contains amongst other matters, a full list of peals, with the compositions, rung by the Association since its formation in 1878) is now ready, and may be obtained of the local secretaries of the different Deaneries as under. Free to those whose subscriptions are paid, and to others at a price at 3d.

Deaneries.	Local Secs.
GLOUCESTER	H. Hatherley, Esq., National Provincial Bank, Gloucester.
DURSLEY, HAWKESBURY, & BITTON	Mr. F. K. Howell, Morton, Thornbury.
N'TH AND S'TH FOREST ..	Mr. J. Hern, Newnham.
BISLEY & STONEHOUSE ..	W. C. Long, Esq., Stonehouse.
WINCHCOMBE, CIRENCESTER AND TEWKESBURY ..	F. E. Ward, Esq., 438, High Street, Cheltenham.
FAIRFORD, NORTHLEACH, & STOW	T. W. Taylor, Esq., Northleach.
BRISTOL AND STAPLETON ..	C. E. D. Boutflower, Esq., 30, Broad Street, Bristol.
Magor, Newport, Mon.	REV. PITT EYKYN, Hon. Sec.

THE ROYAL CUMBERLAND SOCIETY.

THE LATE F. A. KNIPE.

On Tuesday evening, the 19th instant, at the usual fortnightly practice of the above society at the church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, the bells were rung half-muffled, the usual whole pull and stand being performed with due solemnity, as a mark of respect to the memory of the late F. A. Knipe, Esq., M.D., whose death took place in Australia on the 21st ultimo.

The deceased gentleman was for several years a highly-respected member of the above-named society, and took an active and lively interest in its doings during a stay in London while qualifying for his profession. He took part in several performances with the company, the most noticeable being an 8000 of Grandsire Caters in 1877, two peals of Treble Bob Major in 1878, and one of Treble Bob Royal the following year. He also rang several peals with the Waterloo Society, and if we mistake not, his last performance in the metropolis was a peal of Stedman Cinques with the St. James's society. In all he rang about twenty peals.

Mr. Knipe belonged to an old Worcester family, who fifty years ago were well known in the "faithful city." His uncle, the late Dr. Knipe, was for some time Churchwarden of St. Helen's, in that city, and dwelt at the rectory-house beneath the shadow of the tower. It is related that he played a conspicuous part in preventing the removal of the bells therein (a notable ring of eight) when their peremptory sale had been decided upon by a majority of hostile parishioners! Arrangements for their removal had, it is said, been made while Dr. Knipe was from home, and but for his unexpected return they would have gone, several, if not all of them, having been taken down and placed in the churchyard ready for that purpose. By his prompt and generous action, exemplified in a manner essentially English, the bells were saved to the church, where they now remain.

The memory of the deceased gentleman will for a long time be held in respect by the above-named society.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held at Devizes on Wednesday, May 30th. Divine Service, with sermon by the Rev. Dr. Burges, at St. John's, at 11 a.m. (collection for the Guild). Meeting for election of officers and other business immediately after service. Dinner at 1 p.m. at "The Bear" Hotel, price two shillings each to ringing members holding tickets, 2s. 3d. to others. The towers of St. John and St. Mary, Devizes, Bishops Cannings, and Potterne, will be open for ringing during the afternoon. Names of those intending to be present must be sent to the Secretary not later than Whit-Monday, May 21st, otherwise the allowance of three shillings per head for travelling expenses will not be granted.

The next District Meeting for Dorsetshire will be held at Bridport on Thursday, June 7th. Dinner will be served at the "Greyhound" Hotel at 1 p.m., at 2s. 6d. per head, which amount will be considerably reduced by local subscriptions. Several newly restored belfries will be open to the ringers. For all particulars apply to the Rev. Montagu Hankey, Maiden Newton, Dorset.
J. R. JERRAM, *Hon. Sec.*

PRESTBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

A friendly meeting of ringers took place here on Whit Tuesday, where there is a pretty little ring of eight, tenor 14 cwt. A peal was arranged for, but as one well-known individual was unavoidably late, time could not be spared for a peal, so they had to content themselves with 504 Stedman Triples, which was most satisfactorily accomplished mainly through the exertions of Mr. Hattersley, who in his well-known and able manner called the bobs from beginning to end. The following gentlemen composed the band. G. H. Phillott (Cheltenham), 1; H. Karn (Cheltenham), 2; C. H. Hattersley (Sheffield), 3; J. Buffery (Birmingham), 4; J. E. Hern (Newnham), 5; W. T. Pates (Cheltenham), 6; A. Brearley (Sheffield), 7; C. Fluck (Birmingham), 8.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE DISTRICT MEETING at Leatherhead was fairly well attended, ringers being present from Croydon, Epsom, Capel, Weybridge, Guildford, Farnham, Dorking, Basingstoke, Bournemouth, and Fareham. At the Committee Meeting at 2 p.m., between fifty and sixty new members were elected, including three new bands—Brading, Hambledon, and Shalford. It was decided to hold the Annual Festival this year at Leatherhead on Thursday, July 19th. During the day the following touches were brought round. A 395 Grandsire Caters. G. H. Barnett, 1; H. White, 2; G. Russell, 3; F. W. J. Rees, Esq., 4; J. Hawkins, 5; T. Miles, 6; F. Wickens, 7; E. Hull, 8; S. Brooker (conductor), 9; J. Lisney, 10. And 305 Grandsire Caters. H. Brown, 1; H. Wood, 2; J. Hawkins, 3; G. Russell, 4; H. Newnham, 5; H. White, 6; W. Marks (conductor), 7; E. Hull, 8; T. Miles, 9; J. Lisney, 10. Also 518 Grandsire Triples. A. Grist, 1; S. Brooker (conductor), 2; G. Russell, 3; F. W. Rees, Esq., 4; D. Jordan, 5; F. Wickens, 6; H. White, 7; J. Lisney, 8. And 349 Grandsire Triples. E. Dodd, 1; W. Marks (conductor), 2; H. Garforth, 3; J. Hawkins, 4; D. Jordan, 5; F. Wickens, 6; G. H. Barnett, 7; J. Lisney, 8. Also 350 Grandsire Triples. H. White, 1; G. Russell, 2; H. Garforth, 3; F. W. J. Rees, Esq., 4; Rev. H. A. Spyers (conductor), 5; D. Jordan, 6; G. H. Barnett, 7; J. Lisney, 8.

RINGMER, SUSSEX.

An interesting presentation took place on Thursday, May 17th, at the residence of the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, where all the ringers met together and partook of tea. After tea the Rev. C. D. P. Davies presented Mr. G. C. Hammond, the late captain and secretary to the band of ringers, and who is now leaving the village, with a copy of the handsome book "Shipway's Art of Ringing," on behalf of the ringers, who had subscribed together towards purchasing it. The Rev. C. D. P. Davies also presented him with the late Mr. Snowdon's latest book, "Grandsire." Mr. Hammond has taken great interest in the belfry, and by the pains he has taken the ringers have improved wonderfully during the last few months. The testimonial was presented to him to show how great his labours had been appreciated, and the regret existing at his departure. Mr. G. C. Hammond very suitably responded. After the presentation, two or three courses of Grandsire and Union Triples were rung on the handbells, double-handed. A. E. Paris, 1-2; G. C. Hammond, 3-4; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 5-6; H. Jones, 7-8. Also a few touches of Stedman Triples.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

The next Quarterly Meeting of this Association will be held in St. John-the-Baptist Schoolroom, Bromsgrove, at 5 o'clock, on Saturday, June 2nd, 1888. The Rev. A. E. Seymour, Vicar, will preside. The annual report, balance-sheet, etc. will be ready for distribution, when the Hon. Sec. hopes to see a representative from each company to receive copies of same.

N.B.—Those members who have not yet paid their contributions should do so without delay. JOHN SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*
37, Simms Lane, Netherton, Dudley.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of this Association will be held at St. Andrew's, Leyland, on Whit-Saturday, May 26th. The bells will be open for ringing from one o'clock. At 5 o'clock there will be a tea provided at the "Eagle and Child" inn, close to the church, the general meeting to take place shortly after in the Grammar School. JAMES HIGSON, *Sec.*

57, Chorley Road, Blackrod.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

By kind permission of the Vicar and Wardens, arrangements are being made for holding the next General Meeting at Pontefract on Saturday, June 2nd.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5199.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool*.

2 3 4 5 6					
*4 1 2 5 6 3	{	3, 6, 18, 19,			
		21, 22			
4 1 3 2 6 5		16			
4 1 5 3 6 2		16			
5 1 4 2 6 3	5	16			
5 1 3 4 6 2		16			
3 1 5 2 6 4	5	16			
3 1 4 5 6 2		16			
3 1 2 4 6 5		16			
2 1 3 5 6 4	5	16			
2 1 4 3 6 5		16			
2 1 5 4 6 3		16			
5 1 2 3 6 4	5	16			
5 1 2 4 6 3	s5	16			
5 1 3 2 6 4		16			
5 1 4 3 6 2		16			
4 1 5 2 6 3	5	16			
4 1 3 5 6 2		16			
3 1 4 2 6 5	5	16			
3 1 5 4 6 2		16			
3 1 2 5 6 4		16			
2 1 3 4 6 5	5	16			
2 1 5 3 6 4		16			
2 1 4 5 6 3		16			
†4 1 2 3 6 5	5	16			

Repeated—except 1st course * instead call 1, 9, 13, 14, 16, and instead of last course † call 1, 7, 8, 15, 18 produces 2 1 4 3 6 5 8 7 9, round in one change.

6th behind the 9th throughout.

This peal is in the 9-8-7's in first half, and 9-7-8's in last half.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

5040.

By A. SYKES, *Huddersfield*.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H					
2 4 5 3 6		I	2		
5 6 3 4 2	I	I	2		
3 2 4 6 5	I	I	2		
2 3 5 6 4	2		2		
3 6 4 5 2	I	2			
6 2 4 5 3	I		2		
4 3 5 2 6	I	I	2		
3 2 5 4 6		2			
2 3 6 4 5	2		2		
2 3 4 5 6	2	2	I		

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

5472.

By BEN SHAW, *Lindley*.

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

5021.

By THOS. POLLITT, *Bradford*.

2 3 4 5 6					
2 3 4 5 6*					
6 5 3 2 4	8th	in 2.			
4 2 5 6 3	8th	in 2.			
3 6 2 4 5	8th	in 2.			
5 4 6 3 2	8th	in 2.			
6 5 4 3 2	9th	in 3.			
4 6 5 3 2	9th	in 3.			
2 3 6 4 5	8th	in 2.			
5 4 3 2 6	8th	in 2.			
6 2 4 5 3	8th	in 2.			
3 5 2 6 4	8th	in 2.			
2 3 5 6 4	9th	in 3.			
5 2 3 6 4	9th	in 3.			
4 6 2 5 3	8th	in 2.			
3 5 6 4 2	8th	in 2.			
2 4 5 3 6	8th	in 2.			
6 3 4 2 5	8th	in 2.			
4 6 3 2 5	9th	in 3.			
3 4 6 2 5	9th	in 3.			
5 2 4 3 6	8th	in 2.			
6 3 2 5 4	8th	in 2.			
4 5 3 6 2	8th	in 2.			
2 6 5 4 3	8th	in 2.			
5 2 6 4 3	9th	in 3.			
6 5 2 4 3	9th	in 3.			
3 4 5 6 2	8th	in 2.			
2 6 4 3 5	8th	in 2.			
5 3 6 2 4	8th	in 2.			
6 2 3 5 4	8th	in 2.	s at 8-9.		
3 6 2 5 4	9th	in 3.			
2 3 6 5 4	9th	in 3.			
4 5 3 2 6	8th	in 2.			
6 2 5 4 3	8th	in 2.			
3 4 2 6 5	8th	in 2.			
5 6 4 3 2	8th	in 2.			
4 5 6 3 2	9th	in 3.			
6 4 5 3 2	9th	in 3.			
2 3 4 6 5	8th	in 2.			
5 6 3 2 4	8th	in 2.			
4 2 6 5 3	8th	in 2.			
3 5 2 4 6	8th	in 2.			
2 3 5 4 6	9th	in 3.			
5 2 3 4 6	9th	in 3.			
6 4 2 5 3	8th	in 2.			
3 5 4 6 2	8th	in 2.			
6 5 2 3 4	8th	in 2.	7-8		
4 3 5 6 2	8th	in 2.			
2 4 3 6 5	9th	in 3.	s		
4 2 3 6 5	8 7 9†				
3 5 7 2 9 4	8 6	8th	in 3.		

Round at hand.

*7th in and out at 3. 7-8

†9th in and out at 2. 9-8.

First rung at Bradford, April 21st, 1888, by the Yorkshire Association.

TWO PEALS OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

5000.

By ROBERT WILLIAMS, *Liverpool*.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H					
5 2 3 6 4	2	2	2		
5 3 6 2 4		I	2		
5 6 2 3 4		I	2		
2 4 3 6 5	I	I	2		
2 3 6 4 5		I	2		
6 3 4 2 5		2	I		
3 5 4 2 6	I		2		
2 4 5 3 6		2	2		
2 5 3 4 6		I	2		
2 3 4 5 6		I	2		

5000.

2 3 4 5 6 M W H					
5 2 3 6 4	2	2	2		
3 2 6 5 4		2	I		
3 6 5 2 4		I	2		
2 3 6 4 5	2	2	2		
6 3 4 2 5		2	I		
6 4 2 3 5		I	2		
4 5 2 3 6	I		2		
3 2 5 4 6		2	2		
3 5 4 2 6		I	2		
2 3 4 5 6		I			

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

5261.

By JOHN R. PRITCHARD, *Liverpool*.

2 3 4 5 6					
*2 1 4 3 6 5	4, 9, 11, 13, 14				
2 1 5 4 6 3		16			
2 1 3 5 6 4		16			
3 1 2 4 6 5	5	16			
3 1 5 2 6 4		16			
5 1 3 4 6 2	5	16			
5 1 2 3 6 4		16			
5 1 4 2 6 3		16			
4 1 5 3 6 2	5	16			
4 1 2 5 6 3		16			
4 1 3 2 6 5		16			
3 1 4 5 6 2	5	16			
3 1 4 2 6 5	s5	16			
3 1 5 4 6 2		16			
3 1 2 5 6 4		16			
2 1 3 4 6 5	5	16			
2 1 5 3 6 4		16			
5 1 2 4 6 3	5	16			
5 1 3 2 6 4		16			
5 1 4 3 6 2		16			
4 1 5 2 6 3	5	16			
4 1 3 5 6 2		16			
4 1 2 3 6 5		16			
2 1 4 5 6 3	5	16			

Repeated—except * (1st course) instead call 1, 9, 13, 14, 16 produces 5 1 4 3 6 2, when the following bobs produce rounds: 1, 6, 7, 8, 18.

6th behind the 9th throughout.

By calling from the 46th course-end as follows: 2, 5, 9, 10, 16, 17, the peal is reduced to 5040. 1st half in 9-8-7 position; last half in 9-7-8 position.

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 26, 1888.

THE events of last Monday, though not so great as the preparations would indicate, were nevertheless very far from being unimportant. As the readers of this journal are aware, several attempts were to have been made for extraordinary lengths, but only one of them proved successful—that of the Gloucester and Bristol Association at Cheltenham, where was performed a peal of Stedman Caters, comprising 13,054 changes, with a tenor of 23 cwt. This performance eclipses the peal recently obtained by the Oxford Guild—surpasses it in fact, in the number of changes rung, the time occupied, and the weight of metal. It must certainly be looked upon as a most extraordinary achievement, and we heartily congratulate the members of the band, more especially the conductor, upon its successful accomplishment.

Cheltenham has never until recent years shone particularly as a change-ringing town. The talent of the county was long seated at Painswick and Stroud, especially the former place, in the days when the ESTCOURT family flourished. Everybody has, or ought to have heard of the beauty of the town of Cheltenham, with its walks, spas, and hotels, its noble High Street, and its once celebrated Vicar, Dr. CLOSE. Now it has gained an additional celebrity, one that will commend itself to a portion of the community which is, we are glad to say, increasing daily. The old parish church of St. Mary, Cheltenham, will henceforward be looked upon with feelings akin to reverence by ringers, many of whom will not fail to undertake a journey to see the edifice in the steeple of which such a grand performance as 13,000 of Stedman Caters has been rung. And a visit to such a place as Cheltenham is always enjoyable.

FOR SALE.—A beautiful-toned set of Handbells, 24, in G.; nearly new; warranted perfect. Price £10. Company broken up cause of sale.—Apply to J. STRUTT, Richmond Road, Kingston-on-Thames.

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

The Provinces.

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

On Saturday, May 12, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-eight Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
 A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
 IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 17 cwt.

GEORGE DAWSON Treble.	HARRY C. WOODWARD .. 6.
JOHN C. DICKEN 2.	GEORGE HINGLEY 7.
SAMUEL JOHNSON 3.	JOHN WARD 8.
JOHN HOWE 4.	BENJAMIN SUGDEN 9.
JOHN W. TAYLOR 5.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. Tenor.

Composed by J. REEVES, and Conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

This peal is to replace a similar one rung by the same band on December 3rd, 1887, of which the composition was lately discovered to be false. The present performance must, therefore, not be included in any analysis of the achievements for 1888. Ringers who have the M. C. A. report for 1887 are requested to write the word "false" across the calling of the peal on page 56.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE. SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD, AND THE WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, May 22, 1888, in Three Hours,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES
 Tenor 12 cwt. 25 lbs.

HARRY MILLS Treble.	WM. MICKLEWRIGHT, JUN. 5.
WILLIAM ROCK SMALL .. 2.	SAMUEL JESSON 6.
ADAM H. HILL 3.	GEORGE HUGHES 7.
EDWARD GOODREDS 4.	BENJAMIN STARKEY .. Tenor.

Composed by the late CHARLES RAVENSCROFT of Bromsgrove, and Conducted by GEORGE HUGHES.

This is the first peal in the above method rung by members of the Stafford Association; also the first on the bells, and rung at the first attempt. Mr. W. Micklewright, jun. hails from Dudley; the rest belong to the local company.

GALLEYWOOD, ESSEX. THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, May 19, 1888, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,
 AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14½ cwt.

W. BRAZIER† Treble.	†W. J. PIPER 5.
W. LINCOLN 2.	G. W. CARTMEL 6.
J. C. MITCHELL 3.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 7.
A. EDWARDS† 4.	E. SCOTCHER Tenor.

Conducted by G. W. CARTMEL.

†First peal.

Messrs. Brazier and Scotcher hail from Galleywood; Lincoln and Edwards from Writtle; Piper from Widford; and Mitchell, Cartmel and Buckingham from St. Albans.

ROCHDALE, LANCASHIRE. THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

Birthday Peal.

On Saturday, May 19, 1888, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
 HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 17 cwt.

JOHN HARRISON Treble.	ERNEST BISHOP 5.
WILLIAM BRIERLEY 2.	A. EDWARD WREAKS 6.
GEORGE HOYLE 3.	JAMES SCHOLEY 7.
REV. C. S. ROWLAND .. 4.	FRANK BIRTWISTLE .. Tenor.

Conducted by FRANK BIRTWISTLE.

Messrs. Harrison and Scholey hail from Heywood; Wreaks from Manchester; Bishop from Bury; the rest belong to Rochdale. Mr. Birtwistle has now called this peal off every bell. Previous to starting Mr. Brierley was unanimously elected a member of the above Association. This peal was rung in honour of the birthday of Mr. Hoyle, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DUFFIELD SOCIETY WITH THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, May 19, 1888, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DUFFIELD ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt.

HENRY BASTABLE Treble.	EVAN MORETON 6.
THOMAS RUSSAM 2.	JOHN HOWE 7.
SAMUEL JOHNSON 3.	ALFRED THOMAS 8.
WILLIAM KENT 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY 9.
WILLIAM HICKLING 5.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. Tenor.

Composed and conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

This peal, the third of Royal in the method, has the 6th and the bells above it at home throughout, and is now rung for the first time.

CRAWLEY.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, May 16, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HUBBARD'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

EDWARD DEWEY Treble.	MARCUS HEFFER 5.
JOSEPH NEWNHAM 2.	ALFRED F. HILLIER 6.
GEORGE WICKENS 3.	FREDERICK WICKENS 7.
WILLIAM COLLISON 4.	EDWARD PIERCE Tenor.

Conducted by F. WICKENS.

Rung on the occasion of Mr. G. Wickens' 23rd birthday, his brother ringers wishing him many happy returns.

TREVENGETH, PONTYPOOL, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Whit-Monday, May 21, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 10½ cwt. in F#.

HENRY GARDNER Treble.	HENRY MITCHELL 5.
JOSEPH YEATES 2.	SYDNEY E. ROMANS 6.
RICHARD BRUNSDON 3.	ALFRED A. WAITE 7.
RAYMOND J. WILKINS 4.	WILLIAM SEVIER Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY GARDNER.

This peal was rung on the occasion of the opening of the bells. All the above belong to the Upton St. Leonard's Society except R. Brunson, who belongs to St. Mary-de-Crypt, Gloucester, and is organist of that church.

TWERTON, BATH.

THE BATH AND KEYNSHAM DEANERIES ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, May 20, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

G. TEMPLE Treble.	J. HINTON 5.
J. SMITH 2.	J. WOTTON 6.
W. DAVIS 3.	J. B. BLACKMORE 7.
H. WOTTON 4.	C. BENDALL Tenor.

Conducted by J. HINTON.

Rung for early celebration at 8 a.m. First peal by all except the conductor. First peal on the bells, and first by the Association. It is 37 years since a peal was rung in Bath.

WEST BROMWICH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Monday, May 21, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

THOMAS DANKS Treble.	EDWIN CASHMORE 5.
WILLIAM ALFRED COOPER* 2.	SIDNEY SMITH 6.
JOHN SIDDONS 3.	SIMEON SLATER 7.
EDWARD WOODHALL 4.	CHARLES COTTERIL Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM ALFRED COOPER.

*First peal as conductor. This is the first peal rung by a band of All Saints ringers for more than twenty-three years.

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Whit-Monday, May 21, 1888, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 21 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lbs. in Eb.

WILLIAM LEADER Treble.	ALFD. W. GARRAWAY .. 5.
ALFD. C. FUSSELL 2.	REUBEN FLAXMAN 6.
THOMAS W. UDELL 3.	JAMES W. WILKINS 7.
WILLIAM WILDER 4.	FRANK SINKINS Tenor.
	JAMES PERRYMAN Tenor.

Conducted by ALFD. C. FUSSELL.

MANCHESTER, LANCASHIRE.

On Whit-Monday, May 21, 1888, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt. in Eb.

J. TURNER Treble.	J. BARRETT 6.
G. E. TURNER 2.	J. ROGERS 7.
A. BISHOP 3.	A. E. WREAKS 8.
T. DOWNES 4.	G. LONGDEN 9.
F. BIRTWISTLE 5.	J. MOULTON Tenor.

Composed by CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY, of Sheffield, and Conducted by J. MOULTON.

HARWICH, ESSEX.—THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION, THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH.

On Monday, May 21, 1888, in Three Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 6160 CHANGES. Tenor 14½ cwt.

CHARLES MEE Treble.	WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE 5.
FREDERICK MEE 2.	HARRY BOWELL 6.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER 3.	EDWARD REEVES 7.
ARTHUR R. ALDHAM 4.	THOMAS STEWARD Tenor.

Composed by W. HARRISON and Conducted by CHARLES MEE.

This peal is the first fifty-five courses of Mr. Harrison's 13,440, and was the attempt for the 13,440, but the bells were brought round at the above number, owing to the bad go of the tenor. This is the first peal in the method by T. Steward and F. Mee.

ABINGDON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, May 21, 1888, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIAM ADKINS* Treble.	THOMAS SHORT 5.
WILLIAM C. BASTON† .. 2.	HARRY FRUIN 6.
FRANK WILLIAMSON 3.	JOHN BROWN 7.
WILLIAM JEFFERY 4.	WILLIAM SPIERS Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM C. BASTON.

*First peal. †First peal as conductor.

LONGNEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, May 22, 1888, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

5040 CHANGES OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES,

BEING THIRTY-TWO 6-SCORES WITH EXTREMES AND TEN WITH PLAIN LEADS. EACH CALLED DIFFERENTLY.

TIMOTHY HARMER Treble.	*WILLIAM WARD 4.
ROBERT ELLIS* 2.	HENRY MERRITT 5.
LIONEL LONGNEY 3.	EDWIN TAYLOR Tenor.

Conducted by LIONEL LONGNEY.

*First 5040. Messrs Harmer and Merritt hail from Elmore; L. Longney from Croome.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Whit-Monday, May 21, 1888, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 20½ cwt. in Eb.

ARTHUR J. FLOWMAN† .. Treble.	ARTHUR B. CARPENTER .. 6.
JOHN BRANCH 2.	CHARLES BANCE 7.
CHARLES GORDON 3.	GEORGE WELLING 8.
WILLIAM BURKIN 4.	JOSEPH FAYERS.. .. 9.
JAMES TRAPPITT 5.	*JOHN HARDING Tenor.

Composed by H. HUBBARD, and Conducted by Dr. A. B. CARPENTER.

*First peal. †First peal of Caters.

CHELTHENHAM, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Whit-Monday, May 21, 1888, in Eight Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 13,054 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs. 17 lbs.

FREDK. MUSTY Treble.	CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY 6.
GEORGE H. PHILLOTT 2.	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES .. 7.
HENRY KARN 3.	WILLIAM T. PATES 8.
HENRY ROBERTS 4.	REV. GEORGE F. COLERIDGE 9.
FRANCIS E. WARD 5.	ALBERT W. HUMPHRIS .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., and Conducted by WILLIAM T. PATES.

This peal is the longest yet rung in the method, and was accomplished at the first attempt. It is the first peal of Caters conducted by Mr. Pates. Messrs. J. Belcher (Cheltenham), and Chas. Hounslow (Oxford), were referees, and ticked off the courses as they were rung. Mr. Hattersley was nominated for membership before starting. The composition will appear next week.

SALISBURY, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Whit-Monday, May 21, 1888, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS'S FIVE-PART.

Tenor 30 cwt. in D.

WILLIAM E. TYDEMAN .. Treble.	THOMAS BLACKBOURN .. 5.
ALFRED P. GODDARD 2.	JAMES R. JERRAM 6.
HENRY D. ADAMS 3.	WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. 7.
CHARLES A. CLEMENTS .. 4.	CHARLES GAISFORD Tenor.

Conducted by THOMAS BLACKBOURN.

This is the first peal on the bells, which were hung in 1771, by R. Wells, of Aldbourne.

CHELMSFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Whit-Monday, May 21, 1888, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 22 cwt.

A. J. PERKINS† Treble.	*W. BATTLE 6.
R. T. WOODLEY 2.	*W. LINCOLN 7.
N. J. PITSTOW 3.	*REV. T. L. PAPILLON .. 8.
F. PITSTOW 4.	G. NEWSON 9.
W. ROWLAND* 5.	A. JACOB Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

*First peal of Caters. †First peal of Grandsire Caters. Messrs. Woodley, Newson, and Jacob are from London; Mr. Battle from St. Albans; the remainder are residents in Essex, viz.: Rev. T. L. Papillon and W. Lincoln from Writtle; A. J. Perkins from Romford; W. Rowland from Chelmsford; the Messrs. Pitstow from Saffron Walden.

This is the first peal of Grandsire Caters on tower bells by the Essex Association.

Miscellaneous.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

CHELMSFORD.—On Whit-Sunday, for evening service, at St. Mary's Church, a 683 of Grandsire Caters. A. J. Perkins, 1; G. W. Cartmel,

2; J. C. Mitchell, 3; W. H. L. Buckingham, 4; R. T. Woodley, 5; W. Battle, 6; W. Lincoln, 7; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 8; G. Newson (conductor), 9; A. Jacob, 10. And after service, a 593 in the same method. N. Pitstow, 1; A. Jacobs, 2; A. J. Perkins, 3; W. H. L. Buckingham, 4; W. Rowland, 5; W. Battle, 6; W. Lincoln, 7; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 8; G. Newson (conductor), 9; R. T. Woodley, 10.

WRITTE.—On Whit-Monday evening, a half-peal of Stedman Triples, in 1 hr. 21 mins. It was intended to ring the peal, but the ringer of the tenor found that he could not keep her going at the quick pace, so the conductor let the bells run round at the half-peal. The striking was excellent.

ST. PETER MANCROFT SOCIETY, NORWICH.

NORWICH.—Handbell Ringing.—On Tuesday, May 15th, three members of the above society, met at the house of Mr. F. Knights, and rang a 720 of Bob Minor (forty-two singles), and another 720 (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. G. Warnes, 1-2; F. Knights (conductor), 3-4; F. H. Knights, jun., 5-6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WOOLWICH.—On Sunday, May 20th, after evening service at St. Mary's church for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 42 mins. H. Hill (first quarter-peal), 1; G. Hogg, 2; B. J. Sheldon, 3; J. C. Harvey, 4; H. Bright, 5; H. Harman, 6; E. E. Richards, 7; R. G. Carter, 8.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

RINGMER (Sussex).—On Saturday, April 28th, at the parish church, the following members of the above Association, Messrs. Attree, Searle, and King, from Brighton; Smith, Howes, and Harding, from Eastbourne; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, and G. C. Hammond, from Ringmer, rang a plain course of each of the following methods: Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major, and Duffield Major. These were rung after an attempt for a peal of Treble Bob Major. And on Sunday, April 29th, 504 Grandsire Triples. A. Slarks, 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 on Wednesday, May 2nd, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but came to grief after ringing 1078 changes. A. Slarks, 1; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 2; C. Painter, 3; H. Jones, 4; A. E. Paris, 5; G. Washer, 6; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 7; T. Miller, 8. And the same evening on handbells, several courses of Grandsire and Union Triples. A. E. Paris, 1-2; G. C. Hammond, 3-4; Rev. C. D. Davies, 5-6; H. Jones, 7-8. Also on Wednesday, May 9th, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples, the last two 504's of one of the Rev. C. D. P. Davies's peals, 1106 changes. A. Slarks, 1; G. C. Hammond (conductor), 2; C. Painter, 3; H. Jones, 4; A. E. Paris, 5; G. Washer, 6; Rev. C. D. P. Davies, 7; T. Miller, 8.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

BURTON-ON-TRENT (Staffordshire).—Handbell Ringing.—On Tuesday, May 15th, at the house of Mr. Austin, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, 504 Stedman Triples, and a plain course of Duffield Major. W. J. Smith, 1-2; J. Jaggar (conductor), 3-4; L. Bullock, 5-6; J. Austin, 7-8. Also a plain course of Stedman Triples. W. J. Smith, 1-2; J. Jaggar, 3-4; L. Bullock, 5-6; Miss G. Lawrence, 7-8. And a plain course of Grandsire Caters, Miss Lawrence ringing 1-2.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Monday evening, May 14th, eight members of the above Association attempted a peal of 5024 Kent Treble Bob Major, but it unfortunately came to grief by the breaking of the 2nd rope, after ringing 3168 changes, in 1 hr. 48 mins. T. Cope, 1; R. Hickton, 2; G. Bradley, 3; S. Clarke, 4; J. Ward, 5; W. Gilson, 6; J. C. Dicken, 7; J. Barrow (conductor), 8. Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

LICHFIELD.—On Whit-Monday, at St. Mary's church, the local company assisted by A. Taberer, of Derby, rang 504 Grandsire Triples. And on the same day at St. Michael's church, 720 Grandsire Minor in 28 mins. F. Sedgwick, 1; A. Taberer, 2; F. J. Cope (conductor), 3; H. Meacham, 4; W. Fearneyhough, 5; A. E. Greenwood, 6. Tenor 11 cwt. in A.

THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY, BRISTOL.

On Thursday, May 10th, at St. James' church, after evening service, a touch of 464 Bob Major. F. Gooding, 1; F. Porch, 2; G. Pearce, 3; G. Pymm, 4; W. W. Porch, 5; W. Paddock, 6; A. Howell, 7; H. Porch (conductor), 8. Also on Whit-Sunday, after evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans), in 50 mins. G. Pearce, 1; H. Porch (conductor), 2; H. Langdon, 3; A. Howell, 4; G. Pymm, 5; J. Hinton, 6; W. W. Porch, 7; W. Short, 8. H. Langdon hails from London.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Tuesday evening, May 15th, for practice, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. H. Simmonds, 1; H. Smith, 2; G. Essex, 3; E. Menday, 4; J. Hands, 5; Rev. G. F. Coleridge (conductor), 6. Also on Whit-Sunday, May 20th, at 6.10 a.m., a 720 of Plain Bob Minor. F. Simmonds, 1; H. Smith, 2; G. Essex, 3; H. Simmonds, 4; J. Hands, 5; E. Menday (conductor), 6. Also 120 of Stedman Doubles. F. Simmonds, 1; E. Menday, 2; H. Smith, 3; J. Hands, 4; T. Newman, 5; H. Simmonds, 6. Also at 10.15 a.m., a 360 of Canterbury Pleasure. H. Simmonds, 1; E. Menday, 2; H. Smith, 3; G. Essex, 4; J. Hands, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Also 120 of Stedman Doubles. J. Hands, 1; E. Menday, 2; H. Smith, 3; G. Essex, 4; T. Newman, 5; H. Simmonds, 6. Tenor 17 cwt.

EAST ILSLEY (Berks).—On Monday, May 21st, a 6-score of Bob Doubles was rung on the five bells in this tower, being the first 120 ever attempted on them. W. Hibbert, 1; J. F. Tarrant (Reading), 2; A. E. Reeves (Reading), 3; T. Hibbert, sen., 4; R. T. Hibbert (conductor), 5. Also a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles, and five 6-scores of Bob Doubles, called differently. W. Hibbert, 1; T. Hibbert, sen., 2; J. F. Tarrant, 3; A. E. Reeves, 4; R. T. Hibbert (conductor), 5. Tenor 10 cwt. In the afternoon (the Reading men wishing to have a pull at Compton, Berks), permission was obtained, and two 6-scores of Bob Doubles and one of Grandsire was rung. W. Hibbert, 1; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 2; J. F. Tarrant, 3; T. Hibbert, sen., 4; R. T. Hibbert, 5; H. Fisher, 6. Tenor 9 cwt. The Hibberts, father and sons, belong to East Ilsley.

WANTAGE (Berks).—On Sunday, May 13th, for morning service, 720 Grandsire Minor. O. Gregory, 1; J. Gardner, 2; F. Money, 3; G. Gregory, 4; C. Page, 5; F. May, 6. And for evening service, 240 Grandsire Minor, standing as before. And on Sunday, May 20th, for morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. G. Gregory, 1; A. Gregory, 2; J. Gardner, 3; C. Page, 4; A. Bunce, 5; F. May, 6. On Monday, May 21st, on the occasion of the marriage of Miss Jackson, of this town, to Mr. Clark, of Winchester, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, and 360 of Grandsire Minor. G. Gregory, 1; A. Gregory, 2; F. Money, 3; C. Page, 4; A. Bunce, 5; F. May (conductor), 6.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

WOMBOURN.—On Wednesday, May 16th, 720 Court Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. G. Deans, 1; H. Deans, 2; A. Little, 3; W. Devey, 4; J. E. Claridge, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. First 720 in the method by all, and the first on the bells. On Sunday, May 20th, at 6.30 a.m., a 720 of Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. G. Little, 1; G. Deans, 2; H. Deans, 3; R. Cartwright (conductor), 4; W. Devey, 5; A. Little, 6. And at the 11 o'clock service, 720 Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), in 26 mins. G. Little, 1; A. Little, 2; G. Deans, 3; H. Deans, 4; W. Devey, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

CRADLEY (Worcestershire).—On Monday, May 21st, at the parish church, ten and a half six-scores Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes), in 49 mins. G. Dukes, 1; H. Woodhall, 2; J. A. Meredith, 3; C. Beasley, 4; C. Worton, 5; W. Woodhall, 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Saturday, May 19th, being the annual field-day for the Sunday Scholars, 720 Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), was rung at the parish church in the evening in 24 mins. W. Denner, 1; Jos. Potter, 2; J. Williamson, 3; J. Worthington (conductor), 4; J. Potter, 5; A. Potter, 6. Also 360 Bob Minor. A. Potter, 1; J. Potter, 2; J. Williamson, 3; J. Worthington, 4; W. Denner, 5; J. Ridyard (Worsley), 6. And on Whit Sunday, the bells were rung at 6 a.m. Also in the evening, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 24 mins. W. Denner, 1; Jos. Potter, 2; J. Williamson, 3; J. Worthington, 4; J. Potter (conductor), 5; J. Brookes, 6. Tenor 13½ cwt.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Monday, May 14th, before Confirmation Service at St. Martin's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans'), in 49 mins. W. Haywood, 1; H. Bastable, 2; T. Reynolds, 3; S. Reeves, 4; J. James, 5; J. Buffery, 6; A. Thomas (conductor), 7; R. Jones, 8. Tenor 36 cwt.

BISHOPS STORTFORD (Herts).—On Thursday evening, May 17th, for practice at the parish church, 1064, 134, and 671 of Grandsire Triples, taken from Snowdon's "Grandsire." W. Rickett, 1; C. Martin, 2; A. Tucker, 3; G. Martin, 4; F. W. Chapman, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6; H. Champneys, 7; J. Samford, 8. Also on Sunday, May

20th, for early service, 1050 Grandsire Triples. W. Rickett, 1; W. W. Tucker, 2; G. Martin, 3; H. J. Tucker, 4; A. Tucker (conductor), 5; F. W. Chapman, 6; H. Champneys, 7; J. Samford, 8. And for morning service 546 Grandsire Triples. T. Newman, 1; W. W. Tucker, 2; A. Tucker (conductor), 3; G. Martin, 4; H. J. Tucker, 5; F. W. Chapman, 6; H. Champneys, 7; F. Roast, 8. Also on Monday, May 21st, 826 Grandsire Triples. T. Newman, 1; A. Tucker, 2; C. Martin, 3; G. Martin, 4; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 5; F. W. Chapman, 6; H. Champneys, 7; J. Samford, 8.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Whit Sunday, May 20th, at St. Mary's church, at 7 a.m., 720 Bob Minor in 28 mins. A. Spurge, 1; W. Moore, 2; W. Bearman, 3; S. Sargent, 4; J. Hayes, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6. And for morning service, 360 Court Single, standing as before.

BRADFORD (Yorks).—On Friday, May 18th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. S. Hodgson (first 720), 1; J. Cotterill, 2; S. Clark, 3; J. W. Cundall, 4; B. T. Copley, 5; F. London (conductor), 6.

CRADLEY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday morning, May 20th, at the parish church at 7 a.m., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 49 mins. G. Dukes, 1; H. Woodhall, 2; A. E. Parsons, 3; C. Beasley, 4; C. Daniel, 5; R. Beasley, 6; H. Mason (conductor), 7; J. A. Meredith, 8. All are members of the Worcester and Adjoining Districts Association with the exception A. E. Parsons. The above was taken from Snowdon's "Grandsire," by H. Reeves. Messrs. Parsons and Mason hail from Old Hill.

DARESBUURY (Cheshire).—On Wednesday, April 11th, on the occasion of a Confirmation by the Bishop of the Diocese, held at the parish church, six members of the local company rang a 720 of Bob Minor, before, and 720 College Single after service, each in about 26 mins. On Whit-Sunday, May 20th, for morning service, 720 College Single, in 25 mins. A. de Prez, 1; P. Johnson, 2; C. Hartley, 3; P. Hamblett, 4; E. de Prez, 5; T. Houghton, jun. (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

HARTLEBURY (Worcestershire).—On Whit Sunday morning, before early service at the parish church, three six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with extremes, each called differently. J. Thomason, 1; T. Griffiths, 2; H. Ouldnalls, 3; C. Beaman (conductor), 4; W. Pardoe, 5; R. Cook, 6. And three six-scores of Bob Doubles. J. Thomason, 1; T. Griffiths, 2; J. Reyaalls, 3; W. Pardoe, 4; C. Beaman (conductor), 5; R. Cook, 6. Also for evening service, ten and a half six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with extremes, each called differently, in 41 mins. J. Thomason, 1; W. Pardoe, 2; H. Ouldnalls, 3; C. Beaman, 4; J. Tyler (conductor), 5; R. Cook, 6. Tenor about 21 cwt. in E. The local company wish to kindly thank Messrs. W. and J. Pardoe for their assistance on this occasion. W. Pardoe hails from Tipton, and J. Pardoe from Wolverhampton.

HORNSEY.—On Thursday, May 10th, at St. Mary's church, a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 27 mins. W. Dixon, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; A. Fox, 3; A. Howell (first 720), 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; G. Griffin, 6. On Sunday, May 13th, a 360 of Plain Bob Minor. E. King, 1; J. Ward, 2; J. Hannington, 3; A. Howell, 4; G. Griffin, 5; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 6. And a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. W. Dixon, 1; J. Hannington (conductor), 2; A. Fox, 3; A. Howell, 4; G. B. Lucas, 5; G. Griffin, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

HORSHAM (Sussex).—On Sunday, May 20th, at the parish church, 840 Plain Bob Triples. G. Woodman, 1; C. Blackman, 2; H. Burston, 3; T. Brown, 4; W. Short (conductor), 5; F. Knight, 6; H. Chandler, 7; G. Hogsflesh, 8.

PANGBOURNE (Berks).—On Friday, May 18th, at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire. *W. Parsons, 1; *Geo. Ashley, 2; W. Lawrence (conductor), 3; E. Bushnell, 4; A. C. West, 5; J. Nicolls, 6. *First 720. The tenor of this peal is in Ab, and bears date 1720.

READING.—On Friday, May 18th, at St. Giles' church, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob in 25 mins. H. Blissit, 1; F. Sweetzer, 2; A. Evans, 3; A. E. Reeves, 4; J. Hands, 5; H. Egby (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, May 20th, on the occasion of the wedding of one of the local company, several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles by the following. H. Smart, H. Bonney, F. Sweetzer, A. Evans, J. Tarrant, and H. Egby. J. Hands hails from Caversham.

RHYL (North Wales).—On Tuesday, May 22nd, at St. Thomas's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27½ mins. F. Hordley, 1; J. Wallis, 2; W. D. Asher, 3; J. P. Powell, 4; F. Wallis, 5; F. J. Gamlin (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all except the conductor.

ROCHESTER (Kent).—On Sunday evening, May 20th, for Divine Service at St. Margaret's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob in 25 m ns.

E. Raynor, 1; J. Tulett, 2; G. Chantler, 3; W. Baker, 4; A. Osborne, 5; M. Warwick (R.E., conductor), 6.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—On Whit-Sunday, May 20th, at St. Martin's church, for Divine Service in the morning, 1260 Stedman Triples, in 45 mins. W. S. Wise, 1; W. E. Tydeman, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; A. W. Barkus, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn, 7; S. Lawrence, 8. And for evening service, another 1260 of Stedman Triples, in 41 mins. W. S. Wise, 1; S. Lawrence, 2; W. E. Tydeman, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; A. W. Barkus, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; C. A. Clements, 8. On Whit-Monday, May 21st, in the morning, a 2520 of Stedman Triples was attempted, but was unfortunately lost through a shift-course near the end. W. N. Wise, 1; W. E. Tydeman, 2; A. P. Goddard, 3; C. A. Clements, 4; A. W. Barkus, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; H. C. Flower, 8.

SUCKLEY (Worcestershire).—On Whit Sunday morning, for Divine Service at the parish church, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. T. Tyler, 1; W. Ranford, 2; J. Howells (conductor), 3; T. Huband, 4; E. Watkins, 5; W. Watkins, 6.

WARNHAM (Sussex).—On Sunday, May 20th, seven members of the Warnham branch of the Sussex County Association, with Mr. Charles Blackman, of Arundel, attempted a peal of Canterbury Pleasure Triples, but unfortunately it was lost after ringing 2580 changes in 1 hr. and 24 mins. through the treble rope breaking. This was commenced at 4.30 in the morning, for early service. Also a quarter-peal in the same method. G. Woodman, 1; Charles Blackman, 2; G. Charman, 3; T. Andrews, 4; W. Short, 5; H. Chandler, 6; W. Charman (conductor), 7; T. Hogsflesh, 8.

WEST HAM.—On Sunday evening, May 13th, at Holy Trinity church, Barking road, for Divine Service, a 720 of Grandsire Doubles, being six 6-scores, each called differently, in 24½ mins. W. Brown, 1; A. Wright, 2; Alf White (conductor), 3; W. H. Dallimore, 4; J. R. Lowe, 5; W. Baldwin, 6. Tenor 7½ cwt.

WHITCHURCH (Oxon).—On Whit-Sunday, May 20th, 540 Grandsire Minor. *Tom Bushnell, 1; W. Pocock, 2; Tom Pocock, 3; W. Lawrence, 4; A. C. West (conductor), 5; H. Bushnell, 6. *First attempt in the method. †Longest touch. On Whit-Monday morning, on handbells, various touches of Minor. Mrs. W. Lawrence, 1; W. Pocock, 2; Tom Pocock, 3; W. Lawrence (conductor), 4; A. C. West, 5; E. Bushnell, 6. And several 120s of Doubles, conducted by T. Pocock.

WIDFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, May 20th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. C. Mitchell, 1; W. H. L. Buckingham (conductor), 2; W. Battle, 3; W. Howard, 4; G. W. Cartmel, 5; A. Tarbun, 6. Also on Monday, May 21st, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. H. L. Buckingham, 1; J. C. Mitchell (conductor), 2; W. J. Piper, 3; G. W. Cartmel, 4; E. Scotcher, 5; A. Tarbun, 6.

WOODFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, May 6th, at St. Mary's church 720 Bob Minor, in 26½ mins. F. A. Nunn, 1; T. Wood, 2; H. Nunn, sen., 3; J. Nunn, 4; G. Cornell, 5; H. Scarlett (conductor), 6. On Sunday, May 20th, 720 Bob Minor, in 26 mins. F. A. Nunn, 1; T. Wood, 2; H. Nunn, 3; J. Nunn, 4; H. Scarlett, 5; J. Priest, 6.

WRITTLE.—On Monday, May 21st, an attempt was made to ring Holt's Original, but after ringing 4700 changes, in 2 hrs. 30 mins., it unfortunately came to an end through the 3rd slipping wheel. A. Edwards, 1; G. W. Cartmel, 2; J. C. Mitchell, 3; H. F. DeLisle, 4; A. Tarbun, 5; W. H. L. Buckingham, 6; E. Scotcher, 7; W. J. Piper, 8. *Handbell Ringing.*—Also on handbells, a 504 of Stedman Triples. J. C. Mitchell, 1-2; J. W. Washbrook, 3-4; W. H. L. Buckingham, 5-6; G. W. Cartmel, 7-8.

A GIGANTIC CUTTLE-FISH.—On April 26th, 1875, a very large calamary was met with on the north-west of Boffin Island, Connemara. The crew of a "curragh" (a boat made like a "coracle," with wooden ribs covered with tarred canvas) observed to seaward a large floating mass surrounded by gulls. They pulled out to it, believing it to be a wreck, but to their astonishment found that it was an enormous cuttlefish, lying perfectly still, as if basking on the surface of the water. Paddling up with caution, they lopped off one of its arms. The animal immediately set out to sea, rushing through the water at a tremendous pace. The men gave chase, and, after a hard pull in their frail canvas craft, came up with it, five miles out in the open Atlantic, and severed another of its arms and the head. These portions, labelled *Architeuthis dux*, can now be seen in the Dublin Museum. The shorter arms measured each eight feet in length and fifteen inches round the base. The tentacular arms are said to have been thirty feet long.—From "Casell's Natural History" for May.

EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

The fourth annual meeting of the above named guild was held at Walpole St. Peter on Whit Monday, and the day being exceedingly fine, attracted ringers from Lynn, Spalding, Terrington, Pinchbeck, Tyd St. Giles and Lutton, Redenhall and Ely. The day's proceedings commenced with a half peal of Treble Bob Minor, and a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 30 mins. J. W. Sedgely, 1; W. Day, 2; H. Hill (conductor), 3; J. Green, 4; W. G. Cross, 5; F. Easton, 6. Divine Service was held at 12.15 in St. Peter's church, the prayers being read by the Rev. H. Whalley, curate; and the sermon preached by the Rev. P. S. Bagge, rector, from Exodus xxvii., part of 33 v.: "And thou shalt make bells of gold." The sermon, a very impressive one, was listened to with marked attention throughout by the ringers, who sat in the chancel.

The rev. gentleman in the course of his remarks gave the "origin" of the bell in this ringing isle. He took them back to the 7th century, and told them that bells were applied to church purposes to call the faithful to prayer. Ingulphus, he said, mentioned that Turketulus, abbot of Croyland, now called Crowland, gave a great bell to the church of that abbey, which he named Guthlac, and afterwards six others. This was about the 9th century, and there was not such a ring of bells in all England. Passing on from the "origin" to the "use" of the bell, he said there were first the marriage bells or joy bells, rejoicing over marriages and other festivals, rejoicing for the recovery of illustrious persons from sickness to health; and secondly, the passing bell, or death bell as it was called, telling us that some soul had gone to rest in paradise, and also bidding us to prepare for the Great High Priest with His golden bells. The "Old Hundredth" having been sung, the ringers adjourned to the "Plough" inn, Walpole St. Andrew, where an excellent dinner awaited them.

The Rev. P. S. BAGGE occupied the chair, and there were also present the Rev. G. Woodgate, rector of Tyd St. Giles, Rev. R. F. Corey, vicar of St. John's, Rev. J. H. Spokes, vicar of Lutton, Revs. W. Merrin and H. Whalley, curates of Walpole St. Peter's, and the guild secretary the Rev. J. H. Coates, of Spalding, Capt. Moore (Redenhall), R. Mackman (Spalding), G. Holland (Lynn), J. Pilgrim (Ely) and others, in all about 50.

After dinner the usual loyal toasts were drunk and speeches made. Then followed the business meeting, at which Dr. Secombe proposed an alteration in the last clause of rule 10, but finding no seconder, it fell through. The following officers were elected for the year 1888-9. Patron, the Lord Bishop of Lincoln; President, Rev. Canon Moore, vicar of Spalding; Vice-presidents, Mr. Ex-Sheriff Clarke, Dr. Secombe, Rev. J. H. Spokes, and Mr. H. Watkinson; Treasurer, Mr. T. H. Nicholls, Spalding; Secretary, Rev. J. M. Coates; Committee, Rev. P. S. Bagge; Messrs. J. W. Swain, R. Mackman, W. Cunningham, and the captain of each company in the guild. The report and balance sheet were read by the secretary, from which it appeared that there was a balance in hand, after paying the necessary expenses, of £18 1s. 5d., and also that the number of members were increasing. Several new members were enrolled.

DR. SECCOMBE, then proposed the health of Capt. Moore, a veteran ringer, which was well received.

CAPT. MOORE, in responding, gave some usual hints on perseverance to the young members, more especially as to the attempts at peal ringing. He also stated that he had taken part in ringing over fifty peals of 5040 changes in various methods since he first learned the art at Walpole.

A hearty vote of thanks to the rectors of Walpole St. Peter and Walpole St. Andrew for the use of the bells, and to the indefatigable secretary for the very able manner in which he arranges these gatherings, terminated the business. Visits were again made to the towers, and Grandsire, Bob Doubles, Oxford Treble Bob and College Singles were rung. The Lynn and Terrington men rang on the handbells some well-struck touches of Bob Major and Oxford Treble Bob Major during the afternoon, whilst others were shewn over the gardens of the rectory and greenhouses, &c.

Mr. H. Thew, organist of St. Nicholas', Lynn, played a selection of music on the organ, which was much appreciated. After inspecting the towers of both churches and other interesting features in them, the ringers returned to their homes, having spent a thoroughly enjoyable day.

Church News.

The Bishop of North Queensland has arrived in England. His address is Bank House, Monmouth-road, Bayswater.

The Bishop of Japan (Dr. E. Bickersteth) has arrived. His address during this summer will be the Palace, Exeter.

The report that Bishop Bromby had accepted the rectory of Edmond, is incorrect.

Mr. James Brooks has been appointed hon. architect to the Canterbury Diocesan Board of Education.

The Bishop of Grahamstown is taking work for the Bishop of Truro from May 21st to June 5th. His Lordship's address during that period will be Lis Escop, Truro.

On Holy Thursday, the Bishop of Newcastle reconsecrated the parish church of St. Oswald-in-Lee, which had been almost rebuilt upon its ancient historic site. The Sermon was preached by Archdeacon Hamilton.

Archdeacon Iles having been prevented by illness from holding his usual visitation his place has been taken by the Bishop of the diocese, the Dean of Lichfield, and the Bishop of Shewsbury, who have delivered addresses.

The Bishop of Southwell is suffering from an attack of pleurisy the result of a severe cold caught during his Visitations in Derbyshire. The Bishop of Nottingham has kindly undertaken to hold his Trinity ordination for him at St. Mary's, Nottingham, and Canon Were will act as his commissary for ordinary business for the present.

The great Feast of Pentecost was devoutly observed in most of the London churches, though it is perhaps the festival which suffers most from absentees. At Manchester Monday was kept as usual by a procession of Church Sunday-schools from Albert-square to the cathedral, the number of children taking part in it being nearly 22,000.

On Whitsunday the Bishop of Japan held a confirmation at All Saints', Belvedere, Kent, for the Archbishop of Canterbury. The Bishop, who had only reached England two days before, was the guest of his brother, the Rev. Samuel Bickersteth, vicar of the parish. On Saturday evening at a large "At Home," held in the Public Hall, he gave an interesting account of the latest phases of the Mission in Japan, and on Sunday preached morning and evening to crowded congregations, besides confirming in the afternoon seventy-two candidates. In the course of his addresses he showed that the Japanese were everywhere prepared to receive and welcome missionaries.

As a memorial of the late Dean Edwards, Mrs. Symes is erecting at Bangor a church and parsonage and endowing the living, to which the Rev. Lewis Jones, at one time vice-principal of Carnarvon Training College, has been preferred. The total cost will be not much short of £20,000. Mrs. Symes has also placed a stained window in Bangor Cathedral as a memorial of the late Dean, and has presented a reredos in memory of her only brother, Colonel Holt, of Gorphwysfa.

On Wednesday, May 15th, the Bishop of Rochester opened a Mission church, dedicated to St. Anselm, in the parish of St. Mary, Princes-road, Lambeth. The building consists of two stories, and the upper is to be used exclusively as a church. It will accommodate about 300 worshippers. The lower story makes an excellent Sunday-school room, and is well adapted for Mission purposes generally. The Bishop gave an earnest address, and basing his remarks on the Epistle for the week encouraged all to make the most of the gift intrusted to them. A church raised by the hard work of so poor a parish gave evidence of the progress of religion in south London.

On Saturday, May 19th, the Corporation of the Sons of Clergy held a court at its house in Bloomsbury Place, the Earl of Powis, vice president, in the chair, and made a further distribution of the fund raised at the instance of the Archbishop of Canterbury for the relief of the present distress among the glebe and tithe owning clergy. Among the eighty applications as

many as twenty-six dioceses represented, Peterborough and St. David's heading the list with eight each. Seventeen out of the eighty came from the principality. Twenty-one of the applications were for a renewal of the help given last year, at least a twelvemonth having passed since the former grant, in accordance with the rules laid down by the governors for the administration of the fund. The grants amounted to £2833, making a total since March of £5613. The vacancies upon the list of clergyman's widows and daughters receiving annual pensions from the ordinary funds of the corporation were filled up by the election of eighteen widows and twenty daughters, and grants were made to the unsuccessful candidates and for the education of clergyman's children, amounting to £1660. Owing to the want of funds, the governors were unable to grant more than £10 a year to the newly elected pensioners, instead of £20 as in former years.

At the Consistory Court of Canterbury on Wednesday, May 16th, a petition was heard for a faculty with respect to a gallery in Sandgate church. The Earl of Chichester and Mr. Reginald Cust, as trustees for the Countess of Chichester, claimed to be entitled to the exclusive right of entry and use of a gallery with a private entrance. In 1854 the chapel at Sandgate was, by an order in Council, formed into a consolidated chapelry, with a district assigned to it, the freehold of the western gallery belonging to Sir John Bligh, the Countess's father. The church was rebuilt, and it seemed that an exchange was made of the northern gallery for the western gallery. The petition was opposed by the Rev. Matthew Woodward, vicar of Folkestone, who had been one of the trustees in respect of the church, and who pointed out that the portion of the church which was sought to be set apart comprised seventy-two seats. There was no endowment, and the incumbent had to depend on the pew rents. He contended that there was no power to reserve the right of entry to the gallery, and submitted that it would be an encroachment on the rights of the incumbent, who was entitled to have the key. He trusted the Court would refuse to grant the faculty reserving a portion of the Church for one particular family. Counsel for the applicants, in reply, contended that the trustees had a perfect right to exchange the galleries, it being the duties of trustees to do their best for the trust estate. At the conclusion of the argument, Dr. Tristram reserved judgment.

On Tuesday, May 15th, at a Society for the Propagation of the Gospel meeting held at Southsea, the chairman (Archdeacon Sumner), drew attention to the fact, that the archdeaconry (which comprised Hampshire, less the isle of Wight), last year contributed more to the general funds of the society than any diocese in England except London and Oxford. An argument frequently urged in too frequent neglect of Missions was that all the money was wanted for local objects. They knew that a great deal of this was so, but his experience was that parishes supporting missionary societies with liberality, gave freely to other objects connected with the church. Missionary contributions might indeed be taken as the thermometer of a Church's work, and he trusted that this would be practically recognised in the diocese. Among the speakers was Colonel Twyman, Assistant Adjutant-General, who made some remarks upon the questions raised by Canon Isaac Taylor. He said that so far as India and Ceylon were concerned, many military officers said that Christianity was a failure because they were under the impression that missionaries and missionary societies only existed that those who went to India might be supplied with good servants, and so many servants were a failure. The reason that Mahomedan made better servants was that both among Hindoos and Mahomedans total abstinence was an article of faith. They came to the conclusion that the Englishman's religion was a very easy one, for they saw that he did not bother about how much time he set apart for worship, but ate and drank what he liked, and they decided that that religion would suit them. Then they threw up all the requirements of their own faith, and took all the bad points of the English. Then perhaps a missionary was seen at a health resort, and the conclusion was arrived at that he was having an easy time, but the fact of his having worked hard among the natives at some out station for the previous ten months, was not taken into consideration. The *Madras Mail* had recently published some statistics which showed that among the Hindoos, average of crime was one in 47.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Let us take heart, and go forward."

The last great festival of the Church's year is now over, and by the time these lines reach your readers, the Exercise will know the result of the several attempts to accomplish long peals, of which notice was given last Saturday. "'Tis not in mortals to command success" is a well-known saying, and therefore should failure have fallen to the lot of some of our friends who were thus desirous of distinguishing themselves, let them remember that "such is life," and be all the more eager to try again.

* * * * *

The 13,440 of Bob Major that was announced to be attempted at Kelsale on Whit Monday, has, we are told, been postponed on account of services. This is not the first time by far that postponements have been made for this reason. Why don't our friends take more care in making their ringing arrangements? The services of the Church are, as a rule, regular the year through; and this leaving them out of the reckoning looks suspiciously in favour of the idea that those who err in this direction are seldom seen in any other part of the Church but the belfry.

* * * * *

I must confess, Mr. Editor, that I was surprised to see last Saturday that you had given a great portion of a page of your valuable space to the reproduction of such arrant nonsense as that perpetuated by the individual who calls himself "Musicus." The farrago is too absurd even to be amusing, and the only relieving feature about it is the evidence it affords of the depths of absurdity to which some people will sink in attempting to write about or criticise something of which they are woefully ignorant. But when, like "Musicus," they also attempt to be funny, they make their case pitiable in the extreme. They become, in fact, objects "more of pity than anger."

* * * * *

"F.S." writes in condemnation of the plan adopted in some places of leaving bells "set" from one ringing time to another. That habit is one for which I have never been able to assign a good reason. Is it done (as he suggests), through motives of laziness? If so, then to my mind any accident arising therefrom should be laid to the door of those who have thus been the actual cause. On the other hand, if there be valid reasons in favour of this plan, I for one should be very glad to know them.

* * * * *

News "from beyond the seas" is ever welcome; the more so, of course, when it is good news. The report of the annual dinner in Australia, is very pleasant reading, if only from the intelligence it gives us that change-ringing is in a fair way of getting well established in that far distant colony. Those of us who have never left our native shore, will, I doubt not, be unable to fully conceive the feelings which will be aroused in an Englishman's breast on hearing the sound of a peal of bells in his far-away home. There is without question, nothing more thoroughly English, or more calculated to remind our countrymen of home than the sound of bells. Let us therefore wish our brethren of Melbourne every possible success in their endeavours to promote change-ringing, and by that means, if even in a small way, of helping to cement the tie which binds the Colonies to the old country.

By this time I suppose Mr. John Newbon, of Bolton, will be well on his way to the "Great Republic." Thus another of our good men is for a time lost to us; and he will have I fear, few opportunities of exercising his talent as a change-ringer. It has often appeared strange to me that bells and ringing should never yet have obtained good hold in America. I do not think it is from lack of funds; neither can it be want of ringers, seeing the large number of our brethren who have "crossed the duck pond." What, then, can be the reason? FREE LANCE.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING was held at Chelmsford on Monday, May 21st, when about 130 members were present. In addition to the peals rang as shown in the peal column, various touches in the usual standard methods were rung in the different towers. An appropriate address was given by the Rev. F. E. Robinson at the service. The usual dinner was held, and at the meeting the Hon. Secretary read a very satisfactory report. The Committee recommended that it was undesirable to extend into a Diocesan Association, and the meeting adopted the same. Out of five peals attempted by members of the Association on Monday and Tuesday, only one was successful. At Writtle, a peal of Grandsire Triples was lost on Monday morning after 2 hrs. by the 3rd rope slipping wheel (an old fault which it had been hoped was cured); and in the evening a peal of Stedman Triples was allowed to come to an end half-way because the tenor-man could not keep the bell going at the quick pace (1 hr. 22 mins. for the half-peal). The band was a good one, and the striking excellent. On Tuesday morning a peal of Stedman Caters was started for at Chelmsford by the Revs. F. E. Robinson and H. A. Cockey, Messrs. Washbrook, Newson, N. J. and F. Pitstow, Jacob, Buckingham, and Cartmel, with W. Lincoln at the tenor. All went admirably for two hours, when there appeared in the belfry a person announcing himself as Churchwarden, and remarking that his permission ought to have been asked. After some parley, during which the ringing went on as well as ever, Mr. Robinson at last gave the order to "stand," and what promised to be a beautifully-rung peal came to an untimely end. The sexton had duly locked the door, but was obliged to give up the key to a church official: a warning to ringers in future that, when they have obtained the clergyman's permission to ring, they should lock themselves in to keep out those whose consent is not necessary. A move was then made to Galleywood, where misfortune No. 4 occurred in the breaking of the tenor rope. It is a somewhat novel experience to the Rev. F. E. Robinson and Mr. Washbrook to lose three peals in two days, and all members of the Association will deeply regret that such ill-luck should befall them on their first visit to Essex.

A fuller report of the annual meeting of this Association will be given next week.

THE FIRST PEAL AT ST. THOMAS', SALISBURY.

ON Whit-Monday a local company achieved the first peal ever rang on this heavy peal of eight. For many years the bells had been well nigh unringable until they were rehung about a year ago by Mr. T. Blackburn. After rehanging, the bells went well, but a great difficulty had to be overcome in getting a peal on them, as the tower is situated in the very centre of the town, and great complaints are made if the bells are rung for any length of time together, or on any other than the usual ringing days. The company however took advantage of the Bank Holiday, when most of the places of business are closed, and having obtained permission of the Vicar and Churchwardens, they started for the peal about half-past twelve, which was successfully brought round shortly before four. (See peal column).

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

The next ringing meeting of the above branch will take place on Saturday, June 2nd, at Christ Church, Bacup. Bells ready at two o'clock; meeting in the schoolroom at 6.30.

J. STOTT, Local Sec.

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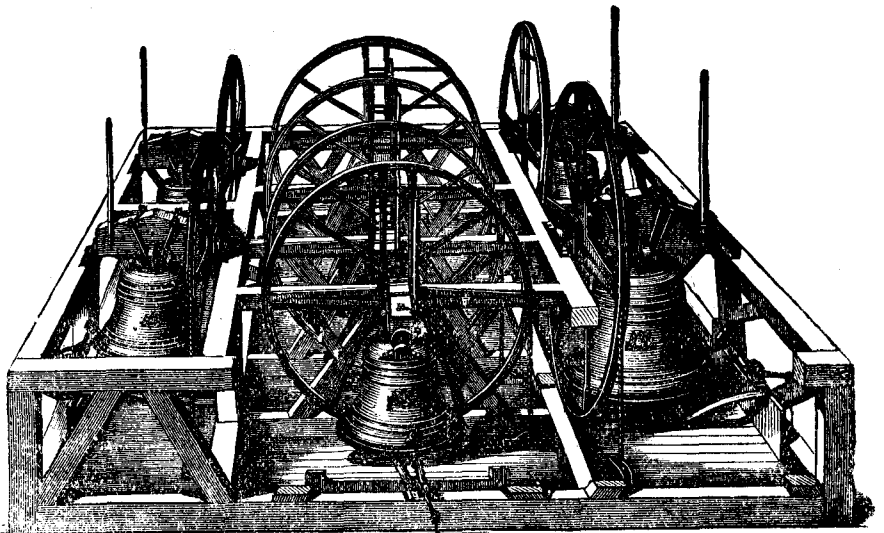
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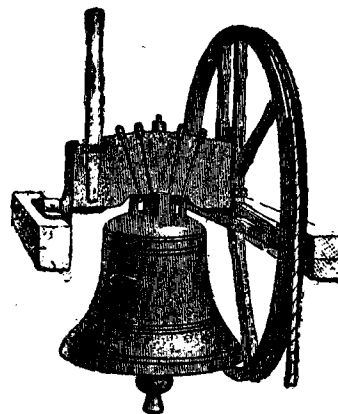
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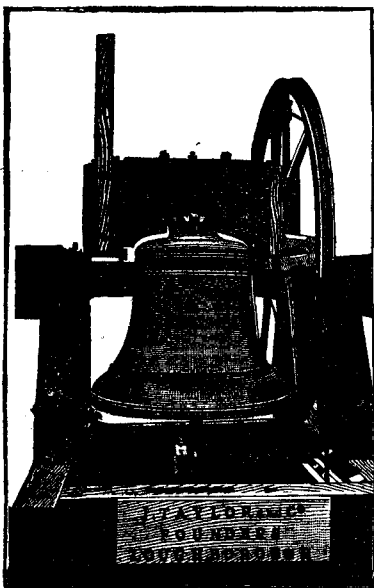
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