

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 361.—VOL. VII.

SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 1889.

ONE PENNY.

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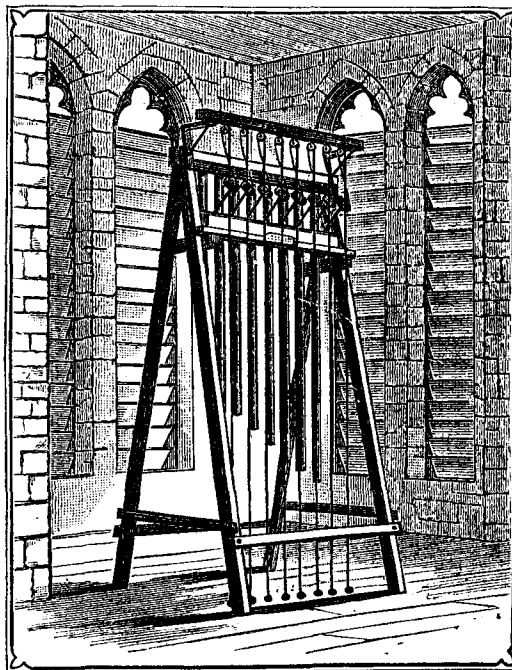
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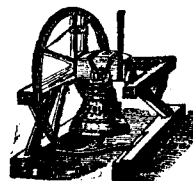
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ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY, FULHAM.

The annual general meeting of the above Society took place on Saturday, February 16th. Members and friends began to assemble soon after 3 p.m., and a touch of Grandsire Triples on the steeple bells opened the proceedings of the day. Gradually the number of ringers, changes and methods increased. After various touches, conducted by J. W. Kelley, J. W. Driver, C. F. Winny, and J. M. Hayes respectively were, successfully accomplished, the whole party assembled in the noble church of All Saints, where a most interesting address was delivered by the Rev. F. H. Fisher, Vicar of Fulham and president of the Society. The following is a summary of the Vicar's address:

"Brother ringers: Your presence here this afternoon goes to prove that a great change has taken place in the position of a ringer, viz.: from "contempt" to "respect." A ringer should be respected quite as much as a singer or choirman, for the bells are God's consecrated vessels quite as much as the organ. There are four simple yet valuable lessons to be learnt from bellringing; self-control, charity, obedience, and punctuality. From these lessons many spiritual benefits may be derived. A text for ringers may be found in Isaiah. 'Be ye clean ye that bear the vessels of the Lord.' Alter *be* into *ring* and it becomes very appropriate."

After service an adjournment was made to the Church Room, where a substantial tea was in readiness, and ample justice done to the same. The visitors then repaired to the belfry, while the All Saints' company transacted necessary business. Handbell ringing and songs brought a very successful and enjoyable day to a close. Many prominent members of the metropolis were present, including Messrs. Winny, Hayes, Newton, Cockerill, Wright, Duff, McLaughlin, etc.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.

On Monday, February 4th, the Steyning branch of the above Association had their annual outing. Crawley was the place selected, and permission was obtained for the use of the musical peal of eight bells in the tower of the parish church. Ringing was commenced at 10 o'clock and kept up until 1, when an adjournment was made to the "Railway Hotel," where host Bowden had prepared an excellent repast. The chair was taken by the Vicar of Steyning, the Rev. A. Pridgeon. Ample justice having been done to the good things set before them, another visit was made to the church, when several touches were rung, including a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob. J. Matthews, 1; F. Morris, 2; W. N. Holt, 3; C. Chambers, 4; G. Smart, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6. And 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Matthews, 1; T. Searle, 2; C. Chambers, 3; G. Gatland, 4; F. Morris, 5; G. Smart, 6; J. Woolgar, 7; C. Tyler (conductor), 8. After tea had been partaken of, and a few more touches on the bells, the members started on the journey home, having spent a very enjoyable day. They wish through the medium of this paper to thank the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells.

MIDDLETON, LANCASHIRE.

On Saturday, February 23rd, the ringers of St. Leonard's church, along with their wives and a few friends, met together at the "Lamb" inn to celebrate the 70th birthday of Mr. Thomas Arrowsmith, sen., one of the old ringers, and sat down to an excellent tea. After tea, Mr. T. Holt was voted to the chair, and was supported by Mr. J. Arrowsmith, jun. Previous to the tea a date touch of 1889 changes was rung, in 1 hr. 9 mins. W. Taylor, 1; J. Scholey, 2; F. Morris, 3; T. Holt, 4; W. Schofield, 5; J. Arrowsmith, jun., 6. Tenor 12 cwt. During the evening songs were sung by T. Holt, J. Scholey, J. Arrowsmith, and others. Several courses on the handbells were also rung. The best thanks of the meeting were given to the host and hostess for the manner in which they provided the tea, and a vote of thanks to the chairman brought the meeting to a close.

FOR SALE.—A Peal of twelve Handbells in G. 18 size. Nearly new. Capital tone. Cast by W. Dunn, predecessor of Symondson. Apply W. H. Freeman, Essex County Cricket Ground, Leyton.

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 BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION AND THE BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Saturday, February 9th, the members of these Societies held their annual meeting at the "White Swan" hotel, Edmund Street, when there was a good attendance of members from Bromsgrove, West Bromwich, Harborne, and Darlaston. After the meeting had been duly opened by the vice-president, Mr. C. Carmell, the balance-sheets were read and found very satisfactory. The next business of the meeting was to combine the two societies together, to be called "The Birmingham and District Amalgamated Society," as it was considered the business would be carried on with more unity than before, and with four meetings instead of eight annually. The new rules, which were formed at a meeting a short time ago, were read and approved of by the members present. The election of officers was then proceeded with, as follows: Rev. Canon Bowlby, President; Mr. C. Carmell, Vice-president; Mr. W. Brook, Secretary; Mr. J. Carter, Treasurer; Mr. J. Carter, Ringing Master; and J. T. Perry, deputy. The late Secretary of the District Association tendered his resignation in favour of the Amalgamated Secretary, as one would be able to manage the business of the two Societies. He was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his able services during the past year. Several new members were elected. It was decided that the annual meetings should be held in July of each year instead of February. The progress of the Society during the past year has been very satisfactory, but the members are sorry to state that the bells of St. Phillip's church, the headquarters of the Society, are not ringable, but hopes are entertained that they will shortly be rehung. The members were all agreed that the Society was in a more prosperous condition than ever, and are of opinion that if all the ringers in Birmingham would form one body, it would be more beneficial to all parties. A vote of thanks to the officers and tower-keepers for their able services brought the meeting to a close.

MONEWDEN, SUFFOLK.

On Friday evening, February 15th, the Monewden handbell change-ringing Society held their weekly practice at the Rectory, by invitation from the Rev. C. A. Sinclair, who takes a great interest in ringing matters. This Society was started afresh in October last, having been broken up three years ago by members leaving the parish, whose places are now filled up by young beginners who are making rapid progress. There are only three bells at the parish church, so all has to be done on the handbells. They were joined at the rectory by Messrs. Heffer and Flory, of Framlingham. A course of Bob Major was then rung. R. H. Hayward, 1-2; E. W. Brook, 3-4; W. Flory, 5-6; J. Heffer, jun., 7-8. Another course, with D. Hunt ringing 7-8. A well-struck course of Bob Royal, by R. H. Hayward, J. Tarrant, A. Moore, W. Flory, and J. Heffer, much to the amusement of the ladies, who honoured them with their presence during the ringing of this course. Also three leads of Oxford Treble Bob Royal and a course of Grandsire Caters. Refreshments were kindly provided by the Rector, who thanked all present for their attendance there that evening, and spoke in high terms of "THE BELL NEWS," and the good work it was doing.

HANDBELL CONCERT.

On Saturday last the Micklehurst Handbell Ringers held their Annual Tea Party and Concert, in the Co-operative Hall, Mossley. After tea Mr. John Holden, President of the United Counties' Association, presided, about 250 persons being present. A varied programme was successfully gone through, consisting of glees and songs by an efficient quartette party, violin solos, and tunes and selections by the Handbell Ringers, which were greatly appreciated. Much merriment was caused by the very excellent way in which the ringers and friends performed two comical dialogues: "The Barber's Courtship," and "Old Fat Joss." Great interest was taken in the ringing, and in what the chairman said about bells and ringing. He urged them to support and encourage the handbell ringers, and hoped that, with constant and regular practice, Mossley would not only be noted for its football players, but for its ringers, both on the handbells and in the steeple. The usual formalities closed a most enjoyable entertainment.

THE ST. STEPHEN'S SOCIETY, WESTMINSTER.

The annual dinner of this society was held on Saturday, February 23rd, at "The Victoria" restaurant, Victoria-street, Westminster, Mr. W. Burdett-Coutts, M.P. presiding. There were also present the Rev. W. M. Sinclair, B.D. (president of the society), the Rev. A. J. Carlyle and Mr. R. F. Isaacson (vice-presidents), and others.

The Chairman having proposed the customary loyal toasts, which were duly honored,

Mr. J. Pryor proposed "The Chairman, President, and Vice-Presidents." He felt the greatest pleasure in proposing that toast, and he was very glad that the society had such good supporters as the gentlemen referred to, and he was quite confident that the society would never go far wrong whilst it had such gentlemen at its back. The toast was received with three times three.

The Rev. W. M. Sinclair responded. In the course of his remarks he said he was an advocate of thorough military training in schools as tending to the development of muscular power, stability, fibre, and stamina in the young people of the country, and spoke in high terms of the great advantages to be derived from the old English custom of bellringing. A proposition had been made to add two new bells to the present peal in the tower of St. Stephen's in honor of the jubilee of Her Majesty, and hoped that at no very distant date the scheme might be carried into execution. He also spoke very highly of the kindness of the Baroness Burdett-Coutts.

The Chairman then proposed "The St. Stephen's Society." In doing so he said there was nothing he loved better to hear than the sound of church bells; there was something in the sound which recalled beautiful memories and scenes of the past. He then gave a short history of church bells during the progress of Christianity, dovetailing into it some very humorous points. Reverting to the society, he said that great praise was due to the members for the skilful manner in which they handled the bells, and he heartily wished the best success to the society. This toast was received with vociferous cheering.

Mr. H. R. Newton, the Master of the Society, responded in appropriate terms. Four of the company—Messrs. Oxborrow, Newton, Hayes, and Ellis, gave an exhibition of change-ringing upon the handbells, and others enlivened the proceedings by vocal harmony.

The Rev. W. M. Sinclair proposed the toast of "Absent Friends," including in his remarks some very appreciable items anent the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, to which Mr. Burdett-Coutts briefly responded.

A vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding having been given, a very enjoyable evening was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.

BELLS IN ZULULAND.

Mr. R. W. Battle, of St. Albans, has forwarded to us the following extract of a letter, which he recently received from a friend who is working in the mission field with Bishop Mackenzie at Isandlalwana in Zululand:—

"I have been reminded of you very often by the peal of bells here, twelve in number, in capital condition, but no one to perform on them, I believe the best and only peal of bells in Zululand, so we have something to be proud of, and I wish that before I left old England I had asked you to give me a few lessons on handbell ringing. We have another 'peal' of one bell, which rouses us with its merry clang at 5.30 a.m., it is about three feet across the mouth, and the belfry is thirty yards from the cathedral (a sketch of the belfry is here given), four large beams support a kind of dog kennel, which shields the bell from the inclement weather: the boys are constantly pulling it over, but I suppose it wants a bar across to prevent that. I had a try at the handbells with the others, and they got blisters on their fingers from the leather. Do not pull the rope too much, and if you want roasting come to Africa (temperature 97 degrees in the shade)."

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. John Smith, late of Kingston-on-Thames, has removed to 166, Graham Road, Hackney.

EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

A meeting of the members of the above Guild was held at Pinchbeck and Spalding on Saturday, February 23rd. There was a very good number of ringers present, and touches were rung on the bells at the parish churches at both places. The dinner was held at the "Bull" inn, Pinchbeck, and was well attended, a first-class spread being provided. The chair was taken by the Rev. F. F. Wayet, who submitted the usual toast of "Church and Queen." Dr. Seecombe proposed "The Bishop of Lincoln," and in so doing averted to the present prosecution which was pending. He claimed that in the proceedings which had been instituted against Dr. King, the opening clause of the Magna Charta—that the Church of England should be free—had been entirely ignored, and spoke of the Bishop as a model for the clergy, and one of the grandest clergymen in England. Mr. Mackman proposed "The Health of the Chairman," and alluded to his courtesy and kindness in coming amongst them, and he went on to speak of the progress of change-ringing in the locality.

The Rev. F. F. Wayet responded for himself and his ringers, and the meeting subsequently proceeded to dispose of some matters of business in connection with the Guild. Upon the proposition of the Rev. J. M. Coates (Hon. Secretary), seconded by Dr. Seecombe, it was resolved that Mr. W. G. Crosse, of Lynn, should be elected co-secretary, he taking the Lynn district, and the Rev. J. M. Coates the Spalding district. Some new members were proposed, and it was decided that the next meeting—in four months' time—should be held at Whaplode and Holbeach. The gathering throughout was of a very successful character.

THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS.

The next meeting will be held at St. Alphege, Greenwich, on Thursday, March 7th, instead of the Tuesday previous.
Greenwich, S.E. FREDERICK W. THORNTON, Hon. Sec.

THE ANNIVERSARY AT APPLETON, BERKS.

This Anniversary will be held as usual on Monday, March 4th. There will be a peal of Stedman Caters attempted at 8 a.m., and another at 12, method to be arranged at the time. Dinner at 4 o'clock. People wishing to attend, please communicate with F. White, Appleton, Abingdon.

THE DUCKLINGTON BELL FUND.

	£	s.	d.
Amount Advertised	10	14	9
St. Nicholas Society, per Mr. Boniface	0	5	0
Miss Dunham, Bournemouth	0	1	0
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Mr. Grist	0	1	0
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Proceeds of Entertainment at Ducklington	1	10	0
Miss Macray	0	10	0
Mr. D. Fisher, Oxford	0	2	0
Miss Bavey (card)	1	0	0
Miss Ravenor, Witney	0	5	0
Total	£14	10	9

Further subscriptions will be thankfully received and acknowledged by W. J. Fisher, Great Western Hotel, Paddington.

"CENTURY" PEAL.—The peal rung at Tipton, Staffordshire, recorded in its proper place, is the One Hundredth peal rung by Mr. W. R. Small, the steeplekeeper. These peals are made up as follows:—Stedman Cinques, 7; Stedman Caters, 8; Stedman Triples, 20; Grandsire Cinques, 3; Grandsire Caters, 9; Grandsire Major, 4; Grandsire Triples, 31; Kent Treble Bob Royal, 2; Kent Treble Bob Major, 5; Plain Bob Royal, 3; Plain Bob Major, 6; Plain Bob Triples, 1; Of four methods, 1.

NOTICE.—J. E. Worsell, Assistant Secretary, Sussex Association, would feel glad if all independent members (those not affiliated to any Association tower) would forward their present address as early as possible.

THE BELLS OF SEVILLE, SPAIN.

We have been favoured with the following by a valued contributor to this journal, whose effusions our readers hail with pleasure at Christmastide:—

"Bells are rung at Seville in a peculiar way. There is a very high stock, slightly arched, above the gudgeons, and carrying a counterpoise equal to a third of the weight of the bell. There is no wheel, but the ringer allows the rope to coil round the axle of the stock, and he can also hitch it on to the upper part when he wishes to check the bell. The bell is made to revolve several times very slowly until the rope is used up, and then winds itself up again by its own momentum, striking twice in each revolution. There are very few good bells in the south of Spain. I think the best I have heard are the clock bells at Malaga, bearing the names of Mears and Stainbank. They are of all sizes, shapes, and ages, and bear no relation to each other in respect of harmony. Some of them are very ornamental, and interesting from an antiquarian point of view. Only the smaller bells, up to 15 cwt. or so, are rung in the manner I have described. The large bells are always clocked. There are some bells here with a number of holes, each about three inches square, cut in the shoulder where the inscription runs. This is done, they said, to make the bells more sonorous. There are twenty-four bells in the tower of the cathedral of Seville. In the upper story there is a quadrangular gallery with open windows or arches about fifteen feet high. Most of the bells are hung in these arches, so as to be visible from below. At different stages on the way up there are habitations in which the ringers live and pursue their trades. The head ringer, an old blind man, was very civil, and gave me much information when I told him that I also was a *campanero*. One of his band performed for my benefit a very alarming feat. He allowed himself to be taken up by the rope, jumped upon the stock while the bell was in motion, and swung himself out into space. They told me that this young man had once fallen from the tower into a procession which was passing below, and escaped from having his fall broken by the big drum. In fact he had the appearance of having met with a serious accident, and from the manner in which the story was told I am inclined to believe it. The drop would be about 200 feet."

C. P.

Obituary.

JOHN BERESFORD.

It is with regret that we announce the death of this well-known ringer of the Midland Counties' Association—Derby Branch—which occurred on Wednesday, February 20th, at the age of forty-six years. The bells of St. Andrew's, Litchurch, were rung the next evening half-muffled, as a last token of respect. The deceased was one who took a very great interest in belfry reform, and was well-known and respected by all the members of the Association, with which he was connected for some years.

SAMUEL CLARKE.

It is with regret that we have to announce the death of the above-named ringer, who met with an accident at Mexborough on Saturday, February 9th, whilst following his employment as goods guard on the Midland Railway, and was conveyed to the Sheffield Dispensary, at which institution he succumbed to his injuries on Tuesday, February 19th, in his thirty-seventh year. The deceased was a member of the Midland Counties' Association, and had been since its formation, also the St. Lawrence's society, Long Eaton, at which church he was interred on Saturday, February 23rd, in the presence of a large concourse of people. He was borne to the grave by eight of his brother ringers, Messrs. Barrow, Bradley, Ward, Dicken, Gilson, Hickton, Truman, and Hexter, the remainder of the company following, and as the procession was nearing the church, the bells were rung deeply muffled by friends from Derby and Loughborough. After the interment a course of Grandsire Caters was rung at the grave side by Messrs. Ward, Dicken, Widdowson, Barrow, and Gilson, and in the evening a muffled peal of Treble Bob Major was attempted by seven of the local company, assisted by Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun., of Loughborough, but after ringing one hour it came to grief, owing to a misunderstanding on the part of the sexton. Mr. Clarke had rung seven peals of 5000 and upwards of Grandsire, Treble Bob, and Plain Bob, and his last peal was at Long Eaton, on November 14th, 1887. By his untimely decease his company have lost a valuable member, as he was always to be found at his post when off duty, and his genial face will be missed in the surrounding belfries, as he was well known in the Midland Counties.

A VISIT TO LONDON BY TWO COUNTRY RINGERS.

I, James Woods, of Kenninghall, with my son, left home on December 27th, at 10.30.; booked for London by the 11.50 train, and arrived at Kentish Town Station quite safe at 3.10. We soon made our way to Highgate New Town, and after having tea with our family friends, we went to find our old friend, Mr. Thomas Titchener (who, by the way, lives in the same street as our own friends do), and, finding him at home, we had a chat about ringing matters, and he played a few tunes on the handbells. Then we retired for the night. Next morning we had a walk over to Hampstead, and called and saw our friend Mr. Edward Chapman, who kindly entertained us to lunch with him, for which we return our thanks. Being informed that it was the meeting night of the Cumberlands, at head quarters, we, in company with Mr. Titchener, paid a visit to St. Martin's tower, and there we met many old friends, including Mr. Dains, A. Jacob, H. Hopkins, W. Baron, G. Newson, J. Smith, also the master, Mr. J. Hannington, B. Foskett, the worthy steeple keeper, Mr. Mansfield, and a great many more that I cannot recollect. After ringing was over we made our way to the meeting-house, and my son was made a member of the Cumberland society, and a peal arranged at St. Anne's, Highgate, to be attempted on the next day, Saturday, in which my son was to take part, being his first attempt at a peal. A start was made for a 5040 of Bob Major, which was brought round in 3 hrs. 4 mins., a report of which has been published in "THE BELL NEWS." On the Sunday morning I paid a visit to St. Stephen's, Hampstead, and, with the local company rung a good touch of Grandsire Triples for morning service. On Monday evening we met at St. Anne's, Highgate, and rung a touch of Grandsire Triples, my son taking part in it, and then I had a good touch of Kent Treble Bob with the local band. They then very kindly invited us to join them at their annual supper, which invitation we accepted, and for which we wish to return our best thanks. Then it was arranged for my son to stay at Highgate, to ring the old year out and the new one in, which they did with a good touch of Grandsire Triples. I myself had to bid a hurrying farewell to my old friends, Mr. G. Newson and A. Jacob, and Mr. E. Chapman, as they were short of one for ringing at the Chapel of Ease, Islington. Mr. J. Hannington asked me to go over with him to ring the old year out and the new one in, which we did with a good touch of a Treble Bob, and we met again on Tuesday morning at the same tower, as is the custom there, and rung a good touch of Grandsire Triples. Our visit was now getting to a close, but our friends did not think that we had had enough ringing, and wanted us to stay another day, and try another peal, but our time being up for our holiday, we had to say farewell. Next day we started for home, where we arrived quite safe, and wish to thank all our friends that took part in trying to make this visit a pleasant one.—J. Woods, Kenninghall, Norfolk.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED FOR MR. F. BATE.

	£	s.	d.
Amount already acknowledged	..	..	5 6
Mr. Mathews, Borough	..	..	0 1 0
Mr. Jones, Brierley Hill	..	..	0 2 0
Mr. Webb, Worcester	..	..	0 2 6
Mr. Ferry, London	..	..	0 2 6

Further subscriptions will be thankfully received by Mr. B. Buckmaster, 46, Newington Butts, S.E., or by Mr. Codlin, 18, Cole Street, Borough, S.E.

A LONG LINE OF SEXTONS.—With the death of James Winterbottom there occurs a break in a line of sextons at All Saints' Church, Glossop, which has reached through one family for 200 years. Deceased was seventy-three years old. At one time he was organist, an office he held for twenty years.

EXPLANATIONS.—The 5088 that was rung at Brighouse on Saturday, February 16th, was composed by Wm. Goodall, and conducted by F. Prince. Also the date touch rung by the Leesfield ringers on Thursday, February 7th, and published in last week's "BELL NEWS," was Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), and was composed by Mr. Charles Jackson, of Hull.

TWERTON (Gloucestershire).—On Saturday, February 23rd, for practice at St. Michael's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes). W. Lanham, 1; G. Temple, 2; W. Davies, 3; J. Smith, 4; J. Holman, 5; H. Wotton (conductor), 6; J. Wotton, 7; W. Dicks, 8. And two courses of Stedman Triples and two well-struck courses of Grandsire Major. J. Smith, 1; G. Temple, 2; W. Davis, 3; W. Lanham, 4; H. Wotton, 5; J. Wotton, 6; J. Holman, 7; W. Dicks, 8.

HANDBELLS WANTED.—The Vicar of Leafield, Witney, wishes for eight handbells for the bell-ringers.—second-hand.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting of this Association was held at Hertford, on Saturday, the 23rd ult., at which were present: Messrs. H. Baker, J. Staples, M. Ellsmore, J. G. Crawley, and F. G. Crawley, Hertford; Messrs. H. Lewis, E. R. Debenham, R. A. Fowler, G. W. Cartmel, W. H. L. Buckingham, and H. Brewer, St. Alban's; Messrs. Robt. Jackson, J. Phillips, G. T. Spicer, and Richard Jackson, Baldock; Messrs. H. G. Rowe, A. Shepherd, J. Kentish, and J. Hollingsworth, Hatfield; and Mr. C. Ladley, Hunsdon. During the evening touches of Grandsire Caters and Triples were rung at All Saints', and Bob Major and Grandsire Triples, and some plain courses of Stedman Triples, at St. Andrew's churches. At five o'clock "stand" was called for an adjournment to the coffee tavern for tea, and, when that course had been got through without a mishap, the meeting for business was entered upon, and, in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Proctor, the respected President, Mr. Baker was voted to the chair. After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and confirmed, the provisional elections, as members, of Mr. A. Percival Heywood, the Rev. H. A. Cockey, and Mr. J. W. Taylor, Junr., and those of Messrs. C. F. Winny, G. T. McLaughlin, J. W. Driver, and W. E. Garrard, of London, Mr. A. Godman, senr. (of St. Alban's), Mr. H. Bottrill (of Hertford), and Mr. C. Ladley (of Hunsdon), were duly confirmed; and Messrs. T. Conley, and W. Little (of St. Albans), were also elected as joining members.

On the proposition of Mr. Buckingham, seconded by Mr. Phillips, St. Albans was selected as the place for holding the Annual Meeting on Easter Monday. After the usual votes of thanks had been passed and acknowledged, a move was again made towards All Saints' Church, where the party was joined by the Messrs. Holifield, and other members belonging to the local company, and a couple of touches of Stedman Caters were struck off, followed by the feature of the day, which was a 560 of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, rung under the conductorship of Mr. Baker, in which there were three "firsts in the method." Plain courses of Bob Royal and Grandsire Caters were then rung, and by that time the railway station had to be sought by the visitors, in order to catch the last train, which leaves at the early hour of 8.15. When it is mentioned that the majority of the visitors had never before had the opportunity of ringing Caters or Royal, it may be taken for granted that the outing proved a pleasurable one to them, apart from the universal expression of opinion to the same effect. The Secretary desires to express his thanks to Mr. Baker and Mr. Staples for their kind assistance to him in carrying out the programme, and also to the Hertford company generally for the cordial reception that was given to all.

UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of this Association was held at Stockport, on Saturday, February 16th, 1889. The meeting for the election of officers was held at the house of Mr. Fletcher, "Ardern Arms," Millgate. Members attended from Ashton, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Dinting, Glossop, Garton, Hayfield, Hyde, Leesfield, Mossley, Mottram, Saddleworth, and Whitfield. The President, Mr. John Holden, occupied the chair, and Mr. Geo. Ford the vice-chair, and read the committee's report and balance-sheet, which were unanimously adopted by the meeting. During the year 27 peals have been rung, being eight more than in 1887. The number of members have increased during the year from 164 to 179, and several new members were admitted at the meeting. The balance-sheet shows an adverse balance of £4 8s. 11½d. When all the subscriptions due are collected in this balance will be cleared off. The next business was the election of officers. The President, and Vice-President and Treasurer were re-elected. Mr. Joseph Radcliffe was re-elected Financial Secretary, and Mr. John Sidebottom, Mottram, elected Corresponding Secretary in place of Mr. James S. Wilde, who resigned. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Wilde for his past services, and great regret expressed that his other numerous engagements had rendered it necessary for him to do so. The following were elected on the committee:—Messrs. Geo. Longden, Ashton; G. Hibbert, Chapel-en-le-Frith; John Booth, Dinting; Samuel Stott, Glodwick; J. Maloney, Glossop; John Blakeley, Gorton; J. T.

Dicken, Royal George; Joseph Brocklehurst, Hayfield; Thomas Wilde, Hyde; Fred. Crossland, Leesfield; Moses Bradbury, Mossley; M. Williamson, Mottram; Edgar Buckley, Saddleworth; Hugh Shaw, Stalybridge; J. B. Hibbert, Whitfield; and T. Marshall, Stockport. Messrs. D. Heap (Ashton), and J. Sellars (Glossop), were re-elected Auditors. It was also decided to make Ashton-under-Lyne the head quarters for the next twelve months, at which place all committee meetings are to be held. It was also agreed that the next ringing meeting be held at Glossop, in May, and also one at Friezeland, Saddleworth (six-bell tower), in September; and the annual meeting at Ashton-under-Lyne, in January, 1890; and the May meeting for that year at Mottram. After the business meeting the members sat down to a very excellent repast, prepared by Mr. Fletcher, which gave general satisfaction. Short touches of Treble Bob Major were rung on the bells of the parish church. After dinner the meeting was enlivened by songs, recitations, and courses on the handbells. The meeting terminated about ten o'clock with votes of thanks to the host, the Stockport ringers for their kindness and courtesy towards the visitors, and to the authorities for the use of the bells.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ROCHDALE BRANCH.—On Saturday, February 9th, the above branch held a meeting at St. Luke's Church, Heywood. There were about 30 members present. Ringing was done in the following methods:—Grandsire Triples, Union Triples, and Stedman Triples, the bells being kept in motion till 9 p.m. The usual meeting was held in the vestry, the Vicar (the Rev. R. W. P. Circuit) in the chair, when he gave a lengthy address to the ringers, and gave the Association a hearty welcome to Heywood, and assured them he had the good of the Association at heart, and hoped that they would soon hold another meeting at his church in larger numbers, when he would be most happy to provide them all who sent in with a good meat tea; and, if at any time the church selected could not be got, he should only be too glad to allow them the use of the splendid peal in St. Luke's tower. A hearty vote of thanks was given to the Vicar for his kind invitation, and also for the bells and room for meeting, and so ably presiding over it.

MANCHESTER BRANCH.—On Saturday, February 23rd, the usual monthly meeting was held at Christ Church, Pendlebury. Ringers attended from Whitefield, Manchester, Eccles, Swinton, Worsley, and Bolton, and rang touches in various methods (it was intended to ring at Swinton, but, owing to the committee deciding to hold the quarterly meeting at Swinton, on April 27th, it was abandoned). A meeting was afterwards held in Pendlebury School, presided over by the Rev. E. Harries, Vicar, who, in a very cordial manner, welcomed the ringers, and brought before them their duties as such. Mr. J. Redford, the secretary, also addressed the meeting, and stated that over 100 members had joined since the annual meeting in October, also that Mr. A. Holme, M.A., Vice-President, was appointed to attend the Johnson celebration at Birmingham. Votes of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and presiding, were passed. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Holy Trinity Church, Stratford Road, Manchester, on March 16th. Two ringing members joined the Association, and the Vicar of Pendlebury, as an honorary member.

BLACKBURN BRANCH.—On Saturday, February 23rd, a ringing meeting of the above Association was held at the parish church, Church. There was a moderate attendance of members from Accrington, Blackburn, Church, Colne, Oswaldtwistle, and Whalley. Several peals of Bob Minor was rung, also a touch of Kent Treble Bob. A meeting was held at "The Thorn" inn, which was presided over by Mr. A. E. Porter, of Accrington, who very ably officiated. The meeting closed with the usual votes of thanks to the rector, churchwardens, and chairman.

NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

The next meeting of the above Association will be held at St. Swithin's Church, East Retford, and St. Michael's Church, West Retford, on Saturday, March 2nd, at 4 p.m., by kind permission of the Vicar and Rector thereof.

"FORWARD:"

A New Method for an Even Number of Bells,

BY JOHN CARTER.

II.

I will first give the mode of pricking the Major method, which is divided into divisions of four changes each, and is pricked down as in Duffield by the first change:—

12345678

Plain division 24163857
 Bob " 24163578
 Single " 24163587

A Single will be very seldom required, as every division contains two in-course changes and two out-of-course changes, obliquely. In taking the first division it will be seen that the first 7-8 and the last 8-7 are in-course changes; and the last 7-8 and the first 8-7 are out-of-course changes.

A TABLE OF COURSE-ENDS.

	I	B	O	F	No. of courses	Changes	
325416	-	-	-	-	3	96	6th at home
532416	-	-	-	-	2	64	
452316	-	-	-	-	5	160	
435216	-	-	-	-	5	160	
312456	-	-	-	-	3	96	
432156	-	-	-	-	2	64	6th away
413256	-	-	-	-	3	96	
163254	-	-	-	-	3	96	
463152	-	-	-	-	2	64	
462351	-	-	-	-	5	160	
362154	-	-	-	-	5	160	6th away
465312	-	-	-	-	4	128	
365214	-	-	-	-	3	96	
562314	-	-	-	-	4	128	
462513	-	-	-	-	3	96	
241635	Home	-	-	-	6	24	
536142	Middle with a double.	-	-	-			

It will be seen by the above that the calls run the same as in "Duffield," and repeat the same number of times. "In," "before," "out," and "5ths," do not interfere with the tenors whatever. At "middle with a double" both the tenors make a bob, but the courses of the changes are still kept, though it cuts away the 7-8 behind. "Home" causes the tenors to remain behind, and so produces an out-of-course course-end, the same as if a Single had been called.

In proving the method anyone carefully studying Mr. Percival Heywood's book on "Duffield," will see at a glance how to prove "Forward."

The following are a selection of musical touches.

48.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	H I B O F
4 6 2 5 1 3	2
5 3 6 1 4 2	- - - -
1 2 3 4 5 6	2
48.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	
2 4 1 6 3 5	I
6 5 4 3 2 1	- - - -
1 2 3 4 5 6	3

64.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	H M
1 2 3 4 5 6	2 2
64.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	M H
1 2 3 4 5 6	2 2
72.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	H I B O F
4 6 2 5 1 3	- - - -
5 3 6 1 4 2	- - - -
1 2 3 4 5 6	2
72.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	
4 6 2 5 1 3	2
5 3 6 1 4 2	- - - -
1 2 3 4 5 6	- - - -
128.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	I B O
3 1 2 4 5 6	-
4 2 5 1 3 6	-
Repeated.	
128.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	
4 3 5 2 1 6	- -
5 4 3 2 1 6	-
Repeated.	
160.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	B O
4 1 3 2 5 6	-
2 4 3 1 5 6	-
3 2 4 1 5 6	-
4 3 2 1 5 6	-
1 2 3 4 5 6	-
160.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	
3 1 2 4 5 6	-
2 3 1 4 5 6	-
4 1 3 2 5 6	-
2 4 3 1 5 6	-
1 2 3 4 5 6	-
192.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	B O
4 1 3 2 5 6	-
2 3 1 4 5 6	-
Twice repeated.	
192.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	
4 3 2 1 5 6	-
1 4 2 3 5 6	-
Twice repeated.	
200.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	H I B O F
4 6 2 5 1 3	2
5 3 1 2 4 6	- - - -
2 1 4 3 5 6	- - - -
4 2 1 3 5 6	- - - -
3 1 2 4 5 6	- - - -
2 3 1 4 5 6	- - - -
1 2 3 4 5 6	-

200.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	H I B O F
2 4 1 6 3 5	I
6 5 3 1 2 4	- - - -
1 3 2 5 6 4	- - - -
2 1 3 5 6 4	- - - -
5 3 1 2 6 4	- - - -
2 5 1 3 6 4	- - - -
3 1 5 2 6 4	- - - -
1 2 3 4 5 6	I
288.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	B O
4 3 2 1 5 6	- -
2 4 3 1 5 6	- -
3 2 4 1 5 6	I
Twice repeated.	
288.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	
4 3 2 1 5 6	- -
1 4 2 3 5 6	- -
3 1 2 4 5 6	-
Twice repeated.	
320.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	B O
4 3 2 1 5 6	- -
2 4 3 1 5 6	- -
1 3 4 2 5 6	- -
4 1 3 2 5 6	-
3 4 1 2 5 6	-
Repeated.	
320.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	
4 3 2 1 5 6	- -
1 4 2 3 5 6	-
3 2 4 1 5 6	- -
1 3 4 2 5 6	-
2 1 4 3 5 6	-
Repeated.	
384.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	I B O
4 5 2 3 1 6	- - -
3 2 1 5 4 6	- -
5 1 4 2 3 6	- -
2 3 1 4 5 6	- - -
Twice repeated.	
384.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	
4 3 5 2 1 6	- -
2 1 3 5 4 6	- - -
5 3 4 1 2 6	- -
1 4 2 3 5 6	- -
Twice repeated.	
480.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	J B O
4 3 5 2 1 6	- -
2 5 1 3 4 6	- -
3 1 4 5 2 6	- -
5 4 2 1 3 6	- -
1 3 4 2 5 6	- - -
Twice repeated.	
480.	
1 2 3 4 5 6	
4 5 2 3 1 6	- - -
3 1 5 2 4 6	- - -
2 4 1 5 3 6	- - -
5 3 4 1 2 6	- - -
1 4 2 3 5 6	- -
Twice repeated.	

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

WITH NEXT WEEK'S NUMBER WILL BE PUBLISHED,
A PORTRAIT
OF
MR. HENRY JOHNSON, SEN.,
OF BIRMINGHAM.

The proceedings at the celebration of Mr. Johnson's Eightieth birthday will be fully reported in the same number, and it is at the request of many of our readers that we issue a portrait of the distinguished veteran.

The Portrait will appear on a separate page, and will be executed by the same process as the last one issued. The price of the number with portrait will be TWOPENCE.

Orders for copies should at once be given to News Agents.

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, MARCH 2, 1889.

THE Vicar of All Saints, Fulham, Middlesex, has publicly stated in his church that "a ringer should be respected quite as much as a singer or choirman." Such a statement as this is what we should naturally expect from such a gentleman as the Rev. F. H. FISHER, though it will have the effect of alarm and dismay upon the feelings of many a "choirman." For it is well-known that many of these gentlemen—we mean the "singers or choirmen"—imagine themselves the chief people in the services of the Church, and aspire in many instances to dictate to the incumbent himself as to what form or order the service shall take. This is a fact, and many who read these lines will testify to it. The choirman performs his duties in sight of the whole congregation, frequently with all the unction peculiar to him; the ringer is generally out of sight, and as a natural consequence, out of mind. The latter cannot while performing his duties take the advantage of feigning a pious humility before the congregation; this is denied him, the natural result is that he must be considered as a meaner subject altogether than the fortunate choirman. We say "fortunate," for is not the singer, though he may not be able to tell one letter of the alphabet, or know which is the right side up of a piece of music, petted and caressed if he happens to be blessed with a good voice and ear?

It will not be disputed that even among well-intentioned people a contrast between the ringers and the

singers would, in most instances, be in favour of the latter. We admit this will occur only in cases where the ringer's work is not thoroughly understood, for no one can imagine the existence of an actual ringing clergyman who would, among the staff of church workers, relegate the ringers to the second place in his estimation. But ringing clergymen, though increasing, are yet few and far between, and the position ringers enjoy under such circumstances is therefore by no means universal. Whenever the incumbent is a ringer the phrase above quoted may admit of being reversed, for the ringers, not the choirmen, will, with him at any rate, have the first place in his affections. And in this instance certainly a ringer would be respected *more* than a singer or choirman.

The fact that ringers are not held in such respect as the choirmen is a very humiliating one. Especially is this felt when it is remembered that to attain perfection as a ringer requires as much—to say the least—perseverance and brain-power as a knowledge of music. This a competent authority once thought, and in the pulpit gave expression to his opinions. We must strive to gain the respect now enjoyed by the choirman—not his respect merely, because in many instances we shall never get it, and it may not be worth having. But the respect of those who are appointed to rule over us in the Church—the clergy. With Mr. Fisher's assertion we cordially agree; a skilled intelligent ringer should certainly be respected quite as much as a singer or choirman. If intelligence is to be a criterion, we think the ringer is entitled to more.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 23, 1889, in Three Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BRIDE, FLEET STREET,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt. in Db.

FRANCIS E. DAWE Treble.	GEORGE DORRINGTON .. 7.
MATTHEW A. WOOD 2.	SAMUEL E. JOYCE 8.
JAMES PETTIT 3.	CHARLES A. CLEMENTS .. 9.
WILLIAM COOTER 4.	WILLIAM D. SMITH .. 10.
CHALLIS F. WINNY 5.	EDWIN HORREX 11.
GEORGE T. McLAUGHLIN 6.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by FRANCIS EDWARD DAWE.

Mr. C. A. Clements hails from from Salisbury. He returns home much pleased at having succeeded in the performance which had been specially arranged in honour of his birthday, he having attained the age of 21 years on the above day. This is the first peal Mr. F. E. Dawe has ever called in the City of London. He has now rung every bell round in a ring of twelve for a peal of Stedman Cinques, Mr. M. A. Wood being the only other ringer who has ever done so.

OLD BATTERSEA, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 26, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 16 cwt.

ARTHUR SWETMAN Treble.	WILLIAM W. THORNE .. 5.
EDGAR BENNETT 2.	HENRY S. THOMAS .. 6.
WILLIAM BARON, SEN. .. 3.	JOHN M. HAYES 7.
SANTLEY BAKER 4.	HENRY A. HOPKINS .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM BARON, SEN.

The above was rung to celebrate the 38th birthday of Mr. H. S. Thomas, and the 48th of Mr. J. M. Hayes, their brother-strings wishing them many happy returns. Messrs. Swetman and Baker were elected members before starting.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 19, 1889, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qrs. 23 lbs. in Ep.

WILLIAM LIGGINGS Treble.	WILLIAM OWEN 5.
HERBERT CANNER 2.	JOHN JAGGAR 6.
JOHN H. DUNMORE 3.	THOMAS JACQUES 7.
JAMES HOPKINS 4.	WALTER CANNER Tenor.

Composed by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq., and Conducted by JOHN JAGGAR.

The calling of this peal will be found on page 27 of Midland Counties' Association 1887 report, and is the first in the method by all the band, also the first peal of Major by all except the conductor.

SADDLEWORTH, YORKSHIRE,
THE YORKSHIRE AND UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATIONS.

On Tuesday, February 19, 1889, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12 cwt.

FRANK BRIERLEY Treble.	JOSEPH L. BUCKLEY 5.
JOSEPH RADCLIFFE 2.	EDGAR BUCKLEY 6.
JOHN HOLDEN 3.	EDWARD WOOD 7.
JAMES H. SHAW 4.	JOHN T. DICKEN Tenor.

Composed by F. J. BRIERLEY and Conducted by FRANK BRIERLEY.

The peal was rung with the bells muffled as a token of respect to the memory of the late Mr. Robert Tuke.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 21, 1889, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 26 cwt.

EDWARD I. STONE Treble.	THOMAS HOLMES 5.
JOHN AUSTIN 2.	GEORGE ROBINSON 6.
WILLIAM WAKLEY 3.	WALTER CANNER 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN 4.	ARTHUR WAKLEY Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH GRIFFIN.

Mr. Canner is from Ashby-de-la-Zouch, and this is his first peal in the method. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the memory of Samuel Clarke, of Long Eaton, Derbyshire, one of the earliest members of the Midland Counties' Association and a prominent member of the Long Eaton Company.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.
SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Thursday, February 21, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' TWO-PART. Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN CARTER Treble.	WILLIAM SMITH 5.
THOMAS HORTON 2.	JOHN ASTBURY 6.
WILLIAM R. SMALL 3.	SAMUEL REEVES 7.
THOMAS REYNOLDS 4.	SAMUEL JESSON Tenor.

Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

This is the first peal in the method on the bells, and is also Mr. W. R. Small's. One Hundredth peal.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ROSSENDALE BRANCH.—The next ringing meeting of this branch will take place at Christ Church, Bacup, on Saturday, March 9th. Bells ready at 2-30; meeting in the school at 6.30.
J. T. STOTT, Local Sec.

ROCHDALE BRANCH.—The next meeting of this branch will be held at St. James's church, Milnrow, on Saturday, March 9th. Bells ready at 3 p.m., meeting at 5 p.m. in the schools.
FRANK BIRTWISTLE, Branch Sec.

LIVERPOOL.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN BRANCH.)

On Thursday, February 21, 1889, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

RICHARD S. MANN Treble.	JOHN R. PRITCHARD 5.
PETER BARTON 2.	WILLIAM JAMES 6.
WILLIAM G. MANN 3.	THOMAS HAMMOND 7.
FREDERICK W. MOORE* 4.	JOHN ASPINWALL Tenor.

Composed by JOHN R. PRITCHARD, and Conducted by RICHARD S. MANN.

Rung as a compliment to the Rev. T. J. Madden, on his appointment as Vicar. This is the first peal in the method on the bells for upwards of forty years, it is also J. R. Pritchard's 50th peal, of which number he has composed and conducted 14. *First peal of Major.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, February 22, 1889, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

HARRY STRATFORD Treble.	RALPH BIGGS 5.
FREDERICK GEORGE BIGGS 2.	JOHN EVANS 6.
JAMES W. WASHBROOK 3.	GEORGE BUNCE 7.
FREDERICK LIBERTY FREE 4.	BENJAMIN PAGE Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

The above is the first peal by all except Mr. Washbrook, who hails from Oxford; the rest belong to the local company.

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

On Saturday, February 23, 1889, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5002 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt.

A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD Treble.	WILLIAM J. SEVIER 6.
GEORGE DAWSON 2.	GEORGE HINGLEY 7.
SAMUEL JOHNSON 3.	HENRY MIDGLEY 8.
JOHN HOWE 4.	BENJAMIN SUGDEN 9.
EVAN MORETON 5.	WILLIAM HICKLING Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq.

This peal, which is now rung for the first time, was to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the dedication of the bells. In it either the 5th or 6th are always behind the 9th.

FRAMSDEN, SUFFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 26, 1889, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

DAVID G. WIGHTMAN Treble.	*WALTER WHITING 5.
G. WIGHTMAN 2.	*HARRY PEPPER 6.
GEORGE PERRY 3.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, SEN. .. 7.
GEORGE THURLOW 4.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN Tenor.

Composed by JOHN COX and Conducted by DAVID G. WIGHTMAN.

*First peal of Oxford. This peal (in one main course) contains the 6th its extent wrong and right, the 4th its extent in 6th place, and the 5th its extent at home; and has a bob at home throughout.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

The Sixth Annual Report, with performances, balance-sheet, and list of members, is now ready for distribution, at the price of 2d. each to ringing members whose subscriptions are paid up. As this is not more than half cost price, it is hoped that a large number will be sold. Members requiring copies will please communicate with their local secretaries. Single copies sent by post for 2½d., on application to

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, Hon. Sec.
Wykeham House, Bedford Park, Croydon.

WALLINGFORD, BERKS.

THE ST. LAWRENCE'S SOCIETY, READING.

On Saturday, February 23, 1889, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' TEN-PART (No. 2). Tenor 21½ cwt.

BENJAMIN WHITE Treble.	JAMES POTTER 5.
WILLIAM J. WILLIAMS .. 2.	TOM HIBBERT 6.
WILLIAM H. HOLLOWAY .. 3.	WILLIAM NEWELL 7.
ALBERT E. REEVES 4.	CHARLES CHAPMAN Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM J. WILLIAMS.

This is the first peal ever rung on the bells.

LEEDS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 23, 1889, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

HENRY HUBBARD Treble.	JOHN WHITAKER 5.
TOM LOCKWOOD 2.	ROBERT BINNS 6.
SIMEON LONGSTAFF 3.	HERBERT W. NEEDHAM .. 7.
JOSEPH HUTCHINSON 4.	WILLIAM SNOWDON Tenor.

Composed by To LOCKWOOD and Conducted by HERBERT W. NEEDHAM.

This peal which is in three parts, contains the 4th, 5th, and 6th nine times each way in 5-6, and was rung on the front eight. This peal was rung in honour of the elevation of Dr. Jayne, Vicar of Leeds, to the Bishopric of Chester.

MARLOW, BUCKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 23, 1889, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 16 cwt.

ALFRED COCKS, ESQ.* .. Treble.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. 5.
HENRY COLLINS 2.	†JOHN C. TRUSS, SEN. .. 6.
SYDNEY GOODCHILD 3.	CHARLES SMITH 7.
RALPH BIGGS 4.	*ARTHUR W. TRUSS Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

*First peal. †First inside. The ringers of the 3rd and 4th belong to Hughenden; the rest to Marlow.

RINGMER, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE RINGMER BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 23, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES,

A VARIATION OF HOLT'S SIX-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt.

THOMAS MILLER† Treble.	HENRY JONES 5.
ALFRED WASHER* 2.	GEORGE WASHER 6.
ALBERT SLARKS! 3.	REV. C. D. P. DAVIES .. 7.
CHARLES PAINTER 4.	FREDERICK BANKS* Tenor.

Arranged and Conducted by THE REV. C. D. P. DAVIES.

First peal by the local company. *First peal. †First peal with hunting bell. ‡First peal with a bob bell. The figures of this hitherto unpublished variation will be given in "THE BELL NEWS."

BOLNEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE CUCKFIELD BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 23, 1889, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

L. GIBB* Treble.	G. WALDER 5.
R. NASH† 2.	†H. BOWELL 6.
W. GIBSON* 3.	F. HOUNSELL 7.
H. MITCHELL* 4.	*F. SMITH Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK HOUNSELL.

The above is the first peal by the Cuckfield Branch. *First peal. †First peal on a bob bell. Also the first peal conducted by Mr. Hounsell. Mr. Walder belongs to Bolney; the rest hail from Cuckfield.

CHARLWOOD, SURREY.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE CRAWLEY BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 23, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN MINOR METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 each of the following;

Woodbine, Violet, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, Plain Bob and College Single.

Tenor 16 cwt.

ALBERT ELLIS Treble.	FREDERICK W. RICE .. 4.
WILLIAM COLLISON 2.	ALFRED F. HILLIER .. 5.
BENJAMIN KING 3.	FREDERICK WICKENS .. Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK WICKENS.

DISS, NORFOLK.—THE NORWICH ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 25, 1889, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. J. SOUTER,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION.

ELLIS HAYWARD 1.	JOHN SOUTER 5-6.
GEORGE ARCHER 2.	EDWARD BATRUM 7-8.
ELIJAH BROOME 3-4.	WILLIAM IRELAND 9-10.

Composed by J. REEVES and Conducted by JOHN SOUTER.

Umpire—Mr. James Rudd. First peal on handbells by all. First peal of Royal by the first five, and first peal by 2nd and 3rd men.

ROWLEY REGIS, STAFFORDSHIRE.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Monday, February 25, 1889, in Six Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 10,272 CHANGES.

Tenor 13 cwt. in F.

JOHN CARTER Treble.	CHARLES CARMELL 5.
JAMES JONES* 2.	*FRANK H. JAMES 6.
THOMAS HORTON* 3.	ALBERT HACKLEY 7.
WILLIAM BROOKS 4.	JOHN T. PERRY Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

The peal is in six parts, and contains the 120 course-ends with the tenors together throughout, and is the longest peal ever rung in the method. This is the first peal rung by the members since the Birmingham Amalgamated Society and the Birmingham and District Association have been joined together. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar and Churchwardens for their kindness in granting them the use of the bells and also to Mr. Bennett, Steeple-keeper, for getting everything in apple-pie order. *First peal in the method.

CRADLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 26, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY PLEASURE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

A SIX-PART PEAL. Tenor 12 cwt.

GEORGE DUKES Treble.	HARRY MASON 5.
HARRY WOODHALL 2.	CALEB BEASLEY 6.
ROBERT BEASLEY 3.	JOSEPH MERIDETH 7.
CHARLES DANIEL 4.	WILLIAM WOODHALL .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY BURSTOW and Conducted by HARRY MASON.

First peal in the method by all, and first in the method on these bells. This peal was rung at the first attempt, and is the first peal rung in this method by this Association. Harry Mason hails from Old Hill; the rest are of the local band.

Date Touches.

BRIGHOUSE (Yorks).—On Tuesday, February 12th, at the parish church, a date touch of Kent Treble Major (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 7 mins. H. Wilson, 1; F. Crossley, 2; J. F. Pearson, 3; G. Lawton, 4; W. Wood, 5; S. Stocks, 6; C. Neild (composer and conductor), 7; F. Prince, 8.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—On Saturday, February 23rd, at the parish

church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 8 mins. A. Haig, 1; W. Preston, 2; A. Ring, 3; W. Cooke, 4; G. Lindoff (conductor), 5; J. Tulett, 6; W. Haigh, 7; W. Evans, 8. A. Ring and J. Tulett hail from Rochester. Composed by John Carter of Birmingham.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—On Saturday, February 23rd, at St. Peter's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 15 mins. J. Harper, 1; B. Dalton, 2; J. Astbury, sen., 3; E. Nicholls, 4; R. Scofield, 5; D. Chapman, 6; J. Fowler, 7; J. Pardoe and C. F. Vickers, 8. Composed by E. Nicholls, and conducted by J. Fowler. Messrs. Astbury and Chapman hail from Walsall; Dalton from Tettenhall; Scofield from Sedgley; the rest are of the local company. Tenor 29½ cwt.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

SLOUGH (Bucks).—On Tuesday, February 12th, on the birthday of F. Charsley, Esq., the donor of the new bells, a start was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but owing to the breaking of a bolt in the bearings of the seventh, the bells were called home at the half-way, in 1 hr. 29 mins. W. Leader, 1; F. Sinkins, 2; A. Andrews, 3; A. Fussell, 4; W. Wilder, 5; A. Garraway (conductor), 6; R. Flaxman, 7; T. Leader, 8.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

KIDDERMINSTER.—On Sunday, February 17th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 6 mins. J. Bennett, 1; G. Salter, 2; H. Williams, 3; J. Bennett, jun., 4; W. H. Smith, 5; J. T. Salter (conductor), 6; J. Crane, 7; S. Walters, 8. Composed by J. Carter, of Birmingham.

Miscellaneous.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CHURCH KIRK.—On Wednesday evening, February 13th, for practice, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 28½ mins. J. Horrocks (conductor), 1; H. Hayes, 2; J. Bentley, 3; G. Lord (Newchurch), 4; W. Pattinson, 5; T. Horrocks, 6.

HUYTON (Lancashire).—On Saturday, February 16th, at St. Michael's church, 720 Grandsire Minor in 30 mins. R. Hill, 1; J. R. Pritchard (conductor), 2; E. Coley, 3; P. Barton, 4; J. Broughley, 5; J. Aspinwall, 6. R. Hill belongs to Southport; J. Broughley to Sefton; the remainder belong to Liverpool.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BROCKWORTH.—On Sunday, February 17th, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 26 mins. G. Price, 1; E. Sonart, 2; F. Hannis (conductor), 3; H. Waite, 4; W. Gregory, 5; H. Downham, 6.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

BISHOPS STORTFORD (Herts).—On Thursday, February 14th, a start was made for a peal of Plain Bob Triples, which came to grief owing to a mis-call. H. T. Prior, 1; W. Prior, 2; F. W. Chapman, 3; H. Prior, 4; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 5; G. Prior, 6; P. Springham, 7; T. Newman, 8. T. Newman was elected a member of the above Association previous to starting for the peal. This is the longest touch of Bob Triples by all, and was rung on the occasion of the marriage of L. D. Wigan, Esq.

HARLOW (Essex).—On Saturday, February 16th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure, in 28 mins. T. Newman, 1; G. Prior, 2; F. W. Chapman, 3; H. Prior, 4; P. Springham, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. Also 720 College Single, in 28 mins. T. Newman, 1; F. W. Chapman, 2; H. Prior, 3; G. Prior, 4; P. Springham, 5; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 6. This is the first attempt in the method by Messrs. T. Newman, F. W. Chapman, and P. Springham. Also 224 Bob Major. — Perrin, 1; G. Prior, 2; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 3; W. Morris, 4; C. French, 5; H. Prior, 6; T. Ellis, 7; F. W. Chapman, 8. Messrs. G. Prior and H. Prior hail from Stanstead; W. Morris and P. Springham from Sawbridgeworth; H. J. Tucker and F. W. Chapman from Bishops Stortford; the rest belong to the local company.

RAYLEIGH (Essex).—On Sunday, February 3rd, for evening service at the parish church, 720 Woodbine. H. Smith, 1; G. Smith, 2; J. Johnson, 3; F. Haslam, 4; F. Brewer, 5; H. Deal (conductor), 6. First in any Treble Bob method by H. Smith, and first in the method by F. Brewer. On Sunday, February 10th, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor. H. Deal (conductor), 1; F. Haslam, 2; J. Johnson, 3; J. Collins, 4; G. Smith, 5; F. Strugnell, 6.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DARLINGTON.—On Tuesday, February 12th, at St. John's church, 720 Double Oxford Bob Minor in 27 mins. W. Patton, 1; J. Little, 2; H. S. Taylor, 3; R. Moncaster, 4; W. D. Lister, 5; J. H. Whitfield (conductor), 6. Also on Sunday, February 17th, 720 Grandsire Minor. J. Bolton, 1; J. Little, 2; W. Patton, 3; R. Moncaster, 4; H. S. Taylor, 5; J. H. Whitfield (conductor), 6. And for evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, in 26 mins., with F. A. Teasdale, 1; the rest standing as above.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—On Sunday, February 3rd, at St. Hilda's church, 720 Plain Bob Minor. R. Hopper, 1; J. Moffitt, 2; R. Scafton, 3; J. Crawford, 4; J. Hopper, 5; *Jos. Hopper, jun., 6. *First 720 in any method. And on Sunday, February 10th, 720 College Single, standing as before. First 720 in this method by J. Crawford and J. Hopper, jun. Also on Sunday, February 24th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure, standing as before. First 720 in this method by J. Hopper, jun.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

WOMBOURN.—On Wednesday, February 6th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 26 mins. G. Deans, 1; H. Deans, 2; A. Little, 3; W. Devey, 4; J. E. Claridge, 5; R. Cartwright (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt. This is the first 720 in the method by all, and the first upon the bells.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MIDHURST.—On Thursday, February 7th, for practice, 720 College Single. T. Ellis, 1; G. Williams (conductor), 2; W. H. George, 3; W. Court, 4; C. Tribe, 5; W. Selby, 6. First in the method and on the bells by all except the conductor. Also 120 Stedman Doubles by the same band.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Tuesday evening, January 22nd, for practice, 720 Double Oxford. On Sunday evening, January 27th, after Divine Service, 720 Double Court. On Tuesday evening, January 29th, for practice, 720 Yorkshire Court. On Sunday evening, February 3rd, after Divine Service, 720 Plain Bob. The following ringers took part in the above. Rev. G. F. Coleridge, T. Newman, H. Smith, J. Hands, G. Essex, E. Munday, H. Simmonds. Conducted by T. Newman, G. Essex, and E. Munday. Tenor 17 cwt.

MAIDENHEAD (Berks).—On Thursday, February 14th, for practice at All Saints' church, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. O. Fasey, 1; F. Bissley, 2; A. Hoskins, 3; W. Ayres (first 720), 4; J. W. Wilkins (conductor), 5; S. Quintin, 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MALLING (Kent).—On Sunday, February 17th, at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Gransbury, 1; E. Baldock, 2; G. Bell, 3; A. H. Woolley, 4; G. Newman, 5; J. W. Leonard (conductor), 6. And another 720, with E. Baldock, 1; J. Gransbury, 2; G. Bell (conductor), 3; the rest as above. Messrs. G. Bell and G. Newman hail from Mereworth; A. H. Woolley from Maidstone; Gransbury from Staplehurst; E. Baldock and J. Leonard belong to the local company.

STAPLEHURST.—At All Saints' church, on Monday, February 11th, 672 Grandsire Triples, 312 Stedman, 252 Bob Triples, and 224 Bob Major. J. Woolgar, W. Walters, W. Collison, W. Pope, W. C. Pope, H. G. Pope, A. Palmer, E. Pope (conductor), W. Legge.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Monday, February 25th, at the parish church, 720 Plain Bob Minor. S. Nicholls (first 720), 1; W. Cooke, 2; G. Hayes, 3; J. R. Rayner, 4; A. Cornford, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. S. Nicholls hails from Bobbing; W. Cooke from Gillingham; the rest belong to Swanscombe.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

FAREHAM (Hants).—On Wednesday, February 13th, at St. Peter's church, 559 Grandsire Triples. G. Hackett, 1; G. Grafham, 2; F. Hill, 3; C. Privett, 4; D. J. Jeffery, 5; G. Passingham, 6; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 7; C. Greenstock, 8. And 504 Grandsire Triples. G. Passingham, 1; C. Privett, 2; J. W. Whiting, 3; D. J. Jeffery, 4; G. Hackett, 5; F. Hill (conductor), 6; G. Grafham, 7; C. Greenstock, 8. Also another 504. C. Privett (conductor), 1; G. Grafham, 2; F. Hills, 3; D. J. Jeffery, 4; G. Hackett, 5; G. Passingham, 6; J. Whiting, 7; C. Greenstock, 8. And on Monday, February 18th, 518 Grandsire Triples. W. Linter, 1; D. J. Jeffery, 2; G. Hackett, 3; F. Hill (conductor), 4; C. Privett, 5; G. Passingham, 6; A. Millard, 8.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—On Sunday morning, February 24th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 50 mins. C. W. Miller, 1; *T. H. Colburn (conductor), 2; *J.

Heathorn, 3; F. W. J. Rees, 4; J. J. Jones, 5; F. Bennett (conductor), 6; W. Groves, 7; *E. Stone, 8. Tenor 22½ cwt. This is the first quarter-peal rung in Guildford by a local company for very many years. *First quarter-peal.

THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS.

WOOLWICH (Kent).—On Saturday, February 16th, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes). H. W. Grout, 1; E. Barnett, 2; W. Bedwell, 3; J. Crowder, 4; W. Watchorn, 5; G. Cornell, 6; F. J. French, 7; D. Barnes, 8. Composed by H. J. Tucker and conducted by E. Barnett.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

TUTBURY (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, February 23rd, Messrs. R. Logie, L. Bullock, W. J. Smith, J. Austin, and J. Jaggar paid a visit to this ancient town, and with the kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. J. T. Chippendall, rang on the bells (5) of the parish church several 6-scores of Grandsire and Bob Doubles, afterwards listening to the Tutbury handbell ringers, who played several selections on their fine handbells, in capital style. Then a touch of Grandsire Triples by W. J. Smith, 1-2; J. Jaggar (conductor), 3-4; L. Bullock, 5-6; J. Austin, 7-8, brought a very pleasant afternoon's outing to a close. This is the first time 120 changes has been rung on the bells of this church.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.—On Wednesday, 13th, at All Saints' church, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Caters, but it came to grief after ringing 1800 changes. A quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was then rung in 47½ mins. *J. W. Driver, 1; *Rev. H. Shears, 2; *W. E. Garrard, 3; G. Woodiss, 4; G. Gray, 5; J. Strutt, 6; J. Wright (conductor), 7; G. Naish, 8. *First quarter-peal of Stedman Triples.

CROYDON (Surrey).—On Thursday, February 21st, for practice at St. Peter's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. R. E. Pearson, 1; W. C. Palmer, 2; H. Brooker (conductor), 3; W. J. Chambers, 4; G. Burt, 5; C. Kitching, 6; F. G. Hermon, 7; A. Collins, 8. Also 518 Oxford Bob Triples. G. Burt, 1; W. J. Chambers, 2; R. E. Pearson, 3; H. Brooker, 4; A. Bruce, 5; W. States (composer and conductor), 6; T. Verrall, 7; F. G. Hermon, 8.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SHARNBROOK (Beds).—On Wednesday, February 20th, at St. Peter's church, 720 College Little in 24 mins. J. Dickinson, 1; C. Allen, 2; E. Coleman, 3; L. Bell, 4; A. J. Barcock, 5; W. Page (conductor), 6. Also three 6-scores Stedman Doubles. A. J. Barcock, 1; C. Allen, 2; L. Bell, 3; W. Page (conductor), 4; E. Coleman, 5; J. Dickinson, 6. And a 6-score Grandsire Doubles, with T. Bransom, 1. Also on Saturday, February 23rd, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). J. Dickinson, 1; W. Page, 2; L. Bell, 3; E. Coleman, 4; A. J. Barcock, 5; W. G. Biggs (conductor), 6. And 720 Oxford Treble Bob. W. Page, 1; C. Allen, 2; E. Coleman, 3; L. Bell, 4; A. J. Barcock, 5; W. G. Biggs (conductor), 6. Also 6-score Stedman Doubles. A. J. Barcock, 1; C. Allen, 2; W. G. Biggs, 3; W. Page (conductor), 4; E. Coleman, 5; J. Dickinson, 6.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LEEDS.—On Sunday, February 24th, after evening service at the parish church, a touch of Stedman Caters (1035 changes), in the titium position, in 45 mins. T. Lockwood (conductor), 1; J. Hutchinson, 2; H. Lockwood, 3; P. Snowden, 4; W. Walker, 5; H. Hubbard, 6; H. W. Needham, 7; W. Snowdon, 8; R. Binns, 9; G. Fothergill, 10. Rung on the occasion of the consecration of Dr. Jayne, Vicar of Leeds, as Bishop of Chester, at the Minster, York.

BISHOPS STORTFORD (Herts).—On Thursday, February 14th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure, with 7-8 covering. W. T. Prior, 1; F. W. Chapman, 2; H. J. Tucker, 3; G. Prior, 4; W. Prior, 5; H. Prior (conductor), 6; T. Newman, 7; F. Harris (first 720), 8.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Sunday evening, February 24th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 London Surprise Minor, and 240 Cambridge Surprise. T. Watson, 1; F. Calthorpe, 2; S. Hammond, 3; *F. Bumpstead, 4; F. Rudkin, 5; H. E. Hammond, 6. *First 720.

BYTHORN (Hunts).—Handbell Ringing.—On Monday, February 18th, at the Reading Room, 120 each of Plain Bob and Canterbury Doubles. A. Howell, 1; E. B. Howell, 2; C. Dunkley, 3-4; W. Richards (conductor), 5-6. Also two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. E. B. Howell, 1-2; C. Dunkley, 3-4; W. Richards, 5-6.

COLN ST. ALDWYNS (Gloucestershire).—On Monday evening, February 11th, at St. John the Baptist church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. R. Jefferies, 1; H. Griffin, 2; C. Bate, 3; J. Kitchener (conductor), 4;

T. Wittchell, 5; T. Smith, 6. On Monday, February 18th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. R. Jefferies, 1; T. Wittchell, 2; C. Bate, 3; J. Kitchener (conductor), 4; G. Smith, 5; T. Smith, 6.

DISS (Norfolk).—On Sunday, February 17th, on handbells, a date touch of 1889 Bob Major, in 1 hr. 1 min. J. Rudd, 1; G. Archer, 2; E. Broome, 3-4; J. Souter (conductor), 5-6; E. Hayward, 7-8. Composed by B. Francis, Bressingham. And 1000 Bob Royal. A. Jolly (Oakley), 1-2; G. Archer, 3; J. Souter (conductor), 4; E. Broome, 5-6; E. Batrum, 7-8; E. Hayward, 9-10. Also 396 Grandsire Cinques. E. Hayward, 1-2; E. Broome, 3-4; J. Souter (conductor), 5-6; J. Rudd, 7-8; E. Batrum, 9-10; G. Archer, 11-12.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—On Sunday, February 24th, for Divine Service in the evening, 672 Grandsire Triples. A. Harris, 1; W. Preston, 2; A. Haigh (conductor), 3; W. Cooke, 4; W. Evans, 5; J. Baker, 6; W. Haigh, 7; A. Hore, 8. On Saturday, February 23rd, for practice, several courses and a 112 of Forward Minor. W. Cooke, 1; A. Ring, 2; G. Lindoff (conductor), 3; A. Haigh, 4; W. Haigh, 5; J. Tulett, 6.

HARROGATE (Yorks).—On Sunday, February 10th, for Divine Service in the evening at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor, in 27 mins. H. Robinson, 1; H. Brown, 2; J. Vickers, 3; J. Ireland, 4; A. Atkinson, 5; W. Turner (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 17th, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 in the same method (nine bobs and six singles). H. Brown, 1; W. D. Lister (Darlington), 2; J. Vickers, 3; J. Ireland, 4; A. Atkinson, 5; W. Turner (conductor), 6. For evening service, 360 in the same method (nine bobs). H. Robinson, 1; the rest as before.

HINDLEY (Lancashire).—On Sunday morning, February 17th, at St. Peter's church, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples (2520 changes), in 1 hr. 25 mins. R. Calland, 1; E. Brown, 2; J. Brown, 3; E. Prescott, 4; P. Baxter (Leigh), 5; T. Tickle, 6; J. Prescott (conductor), 7; G. Lang, 8. Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. The above was rung on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the opening of the bells.

KETTLEBURGH (Suffolk).—Handbell Ringing.—On Sunday evening, February 17th, at the house of Mr. A. Moore, 1080 Bob Royal in 41 mins. R. H. Hayward (conductor), 1-2; J. Tarrant, 3-4; A. Moore, 3-6; Wm. Flory, 7-8; Jas. Heffer, jun., 9-10. Tenor 15 size in F.

NEWTON ST. LO (near Bath).—On Sunday afternoon, February 24th, six of the Twerton company paid a visit to this place, and rang five 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. W. Lanham, 1; G. Temple, 2; J. Wotton, 3; J. Holman, 4; H. Wotton (conductor), 5; S. James, 6. And two 6-scores of Stedman Doubles, and a 720 of Grandsire Minor, supposed to be the first 720 on the bells. *W. Dicks, 1; *W. Lanham, 2; G. Temple, 3; J. Holman, 4; H. Wotton, 5; J. Wotton (conductor), 6. *First 720.

RAUNDS (Northants).—On Sunday, February 17th, at the house of Mr. Slade, on handbells, retained in hand, Shipway's quarter-peal of Bob Triples, taken from "Rope-Sight," in 38 mins. F. Slade, 1-2; A. E. Chapman, 3-4; A. H. Martin, 5-6; J. B. Martin (conductor), 7-8. Also 840 Bob Triples, by the above, and 336 Bob Major, in which T. Stubbs took part.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—Handbell Ringing.—On Thursday, February 21st, 1061 Grandsire Caters. A. P. Goddard, 1-2; W. W. Gifford, 3-4; T. Blackburn (conductor), 5-6; W. S. Wise, 7-8; H. D. Adams, 9-10. And on Sunday evening, February 24th, for Divine Service at St. Martin's church, 1260 Stedman Triples. A. W. Barkus, 1; H. D. Adams, 2; W. S. Wise, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; S. Lawrence, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; T. Blackburn (conductor), 7; J. Hallett, 8.

SEDGLEY (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, February 17th, at the parish church, 672 Grandsire Triples. J. Goodman, 1; R. Scofield, 2; J. Pardoe, 3; E. Nicholls, 4; D. Bruce, 5; S. Bunn, 6; W. Mills, 7; C. F. Vickers, 8. Also 364 in the same method, with C. F. Vickers, 1; B. Fullwood, 8. And on Tuesday evening, February 19th, for practice, 672 Grandsire Triples. J. Goodman, 1; W. Mills, 2; R. Scofield, 3; *C. F. Vickers, 4; E. Screen, 5; S. Bunn, 6; D. Bruce, 7; B. Fullwood, 8. Messrs. Pardoe, Nicholls, and Vickers hail from Wolverhampton; the rest belong to the local company. *Longest touch with a bob bell in any method.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Sunday, February 17th, for Divine Service in the evening, 704 Kent Treble Bob Major. J. Waghorn, jun., 1; H. A. Barnett, 2; T. C. Grove, 3; J. Waghorn, 4; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 5; J. Barber, 6; W. Pye-English, 7; W. Greenleaf, 8. On Tuesday, February 19th, for practice, 704 in the same method. J. Waghorn, jun., 1; G. Griffin, 2; T. C. Grove, 3; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 4; H. A. Barnett, 5; J. Barber, 6; J. Waghorn, 7; W. Pye-English, 8. The sixth bell, to which an accident happened recently, has been rehung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

FOR SALE.—A Good Musical Box, cost £24 new. Plays six well-known sacred tunes, with an organ accompaniment. Just been thoroughly done up. Price £8. R. Elliott, Springfield Road, Walthamstow.

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."

THE PROGRESS OF THE SCIENCE..

SIR,—In your last issue you say scarcely a week passes without enquiry as to what the Art is. I have hopes that one of the results of the forthcoming "Johnsonian Conference" will be to stir up the whole of the ringing community to united action to make the Art still more widely appreciated. Ringers who have never had an opportunity of hearing bells well struck in changes, have no idea of the desirability of learning it; and on the other hand I am led to believe that the majority of change-ringers have no notion of the difficulties of learning without the aid of one who has had practical experience. Perhaps I may be excused for mentioning my own case as an example, believing as I do that there are hundreds of parallels ones. For many years the extent of my knowledge was "Churchyard Bob," and although I endeavoured to rise higher, did not succeed. Troyte's was the only book that I was acquainted with, and that I read, re-read, until I was "confusion worse confounded," in fact the author states therein that little can be learnt from it without personal assistance, which I could not get. Removing to another part of the county, I fell in with a band of "professing" change-ringers who taught me to ring the plain course of Grandsire Doubles (the extent of their knowledge) by learning by heart which bell to follow; here I stuck until I was disgusted with the "science." At last some neighbours came to the tower, and discovering we had not learnt *Rope-Sight*, they kindly put us on the road, which soon led to victory. Now, Sir, I venture to think that if the experiment were tried of sending out a few circulars to the "un-enlightened" districts, explaining to the clergy and ringers what *change-ringing* is, and ascertaining from them whether or not they would like to learn the Art, some good might be done through the post by informing them how to proceed, and advising them from time to time, as difficulties arise, how to get over them. "Tenor Ringer" very truly said change-ringing flourishes where "THE BELL NEWS" is regularly taken in, but alas! there are too many ringers who have as yet never heard of this valuable paper. I frequently forward mine to my friends, and would that others would do likewise. Might not the public too be educated as to the merits of the Art through the medium of the Press; a few such powerful articles as that by the Rev. T. L. Papillon, which appeared in the *Guardian*, would, I am convinced, gain for us a little more credit for our energies than we at present get. Merely advocating the Art in these columns will not I am afraid be of much use in dispelling the "darkness" which exist outside our midst. I have written the above without any expectation that the suggestions will be warmly taken up, but with a hope that they will be the means of drawing forth others more worthy of consideration.

W. J. P.

February 19th, 1889.

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—I read in last week's "BELL NEWS" the interesting account of the five days' ringing done by the Midland Counties' Association, and as one reads through it, you will see the following sentence: "It is the first 5024 of Superlative ever rung." Now we have the same conductor on this occasion as on January 26th, 1888, at St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, when a peal was rung in the same method and the same number of changes, was published in "THE BELL NEWS" of February 4th, 1888, and a footnote thus:—"This peal, which is the first 5024 ever rung in this method, has the 5th and 6th their extent home, and is the first peal composed with these qualities in this number of changes. Composed by N. J. Pitstow." I hope you will excuse me correcting this slight mistake.

C. W. CLARKE.

11 St. Leonard Street, Bedford.

STREATHAM PARISH CHURCH BELLS.

SIR,—It may be interesting to some of the readers of "THE BELL NEWS" to know that at the beginning of this year we formed an Association for the purpose of once again ringing the bells of our ancient church. For eleven years past they have been silent, or at any rate, have only been chimed, and when hearing the bells of Emmanuel Church, Streatham Common, on New Year's Eve, we could not help lamenting the fact of the parish church being so far behind. On January 15th, after obtaining the consent of the rector, and the necessary financial support of the churchwardens, we essayed on our first practice with the bells lashed; and under the tuition of Mr. S. Greenwood (a very able ringer), we have been able in four weeks from

that date, to invite Dr. Carpenter, of Croydon, and five others, to come and open our bells. I would not infer of course, that we (who are all amateurs), can do much more than round ringing, although since Tuesday, February 12th, we have successfully accomplished the simple hunt course, but we hope with constant practice, and attention to what we are taught, to be able to ring in a Sunday or two. We have a set of eight handbells, supplied by Messrs. Warner and Co., which assist us very much, and help to make it more interesting. Any society that may be in this neighbourhood, and desirous of trying our bells, should apply to

F. A. BELLAMY, Hon. Sec., S.B.A.

MR. CARTER'S METHOD, "FORWARD."

SIR,—Mr. Carter cannot have any claim for producing the above method. On examining his Minor method, I find that the *plain course* is simply a *plain lead* of Association Exercise, split into fours, and brought into rounds. I published this method in *Church Bells* of January 30th, 1885, and it has since been rung at Capel (Surrey); Barnwood (Gloucestershire); and at Brathay (Cumberland). Mr. Carter says any band ought to be able to ring it. In that respect I thoroughly endorse his opinion, as I gave the rule to ring it by, which, for the plain course is simply this:—when at the front, snap, whole pull and snap, 3rds and 4ths and up. When behind, snap, whole pull and snap, 4th and 3rds and down. Bobs to be made in 4ths place, thereby causing extra place-making in 3-4; and extra dodging in 5-6. Mr. Carter has altered the method by his mode of making the bob. I made it with the treble in front. Some time after I extended the method to eight bells, and published it in the paper above-named. It is the same as Mr. Carter's, with the exception of the work of the treble in 5-6. I made the treble to *make* 5th and 6ths, whereas Mr. Carter makes it to *dodge* there. I trust that Mr. Carter will take these remarks as written in a friendly manner.

M. EILSMORE.

Hertford.

SIR,—The new method called "Forward" that appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" last week, is a peal which I have called Association Minor, which was left at Hayfield on Good Friday, 1886, by William Walsley, of Macclesfield. The same can be rung in the order as Oxford or Kent, with the treble in front. Perhaps my friend will tell you more about it.

THOS. WHITEHEAD.

INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR,—Can you explain how it is that in Lancashire, Yorkshire, Cheshire, and Derbyshire, all peals rung on six bells are rung without *leads*, where in the south of England they are rung with *leads*. I was ringing in a touch of Oxford Treble Bob the other night, when some were giving and some were not. It was not very musical to the ear, or pleasant to the ringer. Perhaps some of my brother-strings in the counties above-named (and there are many good and true), will have something to say on the subject.

TOWER.

A QUESTION.

SIR,—Seeing the great strides that change-ringing is taking in these latter days both in quantity and quality, and will rise to a much higher pitch of perfection, your paper some few years since gave a statement of 40,000 church bells hung all ready for ringing, and since that time many more have been added to the number. This leads me, and by your permission, I will put two questions before the Exercise. 1st.—Why have bells from three to twelve been placed in our English and National church towers? 2nd.—Why are the sons of Britain so fond of scientific change-ringing, while the sons of other nations enter not into the Exercise, and know nothing of its joys?

BOB.

NOTICE OF LONG PEAL.—All being well, eight members of the Essex Association hope to attempt T. Day's long peal of Treble Bob Major on the bells of the parish church, Foxearth, Essex, to-day, Saturday, March 2nd. Meet at the church at 8 a.m.

G. MAXIM, Steeplekeeper.

Several touches are unavoidably left over until next week. We hope to clear off all arrears in the next number. We beg to call particular attention to the issue of Mr. Johnson's portrait, as it will be impossible to obtain copies after next week. Orders should be given without delay to local booksellers and newsagents.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.—"SIX BELLS" has not sent his name or address. A touch from Westminster without name or address; and others.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

All, all is still, and o'er the hill
 The moon is shining soft and bright,
 And from the tower tolls forth the hour
 Upon the startled ear of night.
 Down in the vale, the nightingale,
 Alarmed and startled at the sound,
 Suspends his song, that all night long
 Had charmed the list'ning country round.
 Hark! from yon turret high,
 Close to the starry sky,
 Hark! what a concord of melody swells:
 Hark! to the clanging rhymes,
 Made by the silv'ry chimes
 Made by the chimes of the beautiful bells.
 The sun is high, and, from the sky,
 Looks on the market's busy life,
 Whilst from the crowd comes harsh and loud
 The din of their discordant strife,
 Calm and serene above the scene,
 The chimes ring sweetly as before;
 So will their sound still echo round
 When time with us shall be no more.
 Hark! from yon turret high,
 Close to the sunny sky,
 Hark! what a concord of melody swells:
 Hark! to the clanging rhymes,
 Made by the silv'ry chimes
 Made by the chimes of the beautiful bells.

WM. CARTWRIGHT NEWSAM.

Once more there has been a break in the continuity of my weekly jottings, and no doubt the question has been asked—What is the cause of my sudden disappearance? Well, this time my explanation is one which—while being peculiarly satisfactory to me, is ample justification in itself. The fact is, our Editor has for the last two weeks been literally at his wit's end—such heaps of "copy" rolling in day by day. So I have been summarily "elbowed out," to make room for more important matter. For the sake of ourselves, as well as our paper, I should be glad if this was the case every week. There can be no doubt about it, that from the very commencement of this year, interesting news has been largely on the increase. May it keep long in the same path!

Whoever wrote that report of the week's ringing in the Midland Counties is to be complimented on the plain terse manner in which he has told us the story. The event was deserving of a well-written record, and which it has not gone without. I rather imagine I could name some worthy individuals (turning the scale at from twenty stone upwards—I mean downwards) who would sleep soundly on Saturday evening, the 9th of this month.

We live most assuredly in an age of surprises. Every week end as I open my "BELL NEWS" I instinctively begin to wonder what is to be the next great fact recorded in its pages? So now that last year's unique Hertfordshire week has lost its characteristic, the question once more arises—What next?

I am right pleased in being able to congratulate my brother Oddfellows of St. Albans not only on the achievement of their "coming of age" peal, but also on the great success which has attended the Lord Bacon lodge since its formation. This account comes to us very aptly just now when the question of a Ringers' Benefit Society is on the tapis; it shews also what can be achieved by a friendly society when good men are at the helm, loyal brethren in the ranks, and as a natural consequence, the business is thoroughly and efficiently conducted.

It was with much curiosity that I awaited the promised appearance of Mr. Carter's new method. His system is, beyond all question, simplicity in the extreme, so far as ordinary ringing is concerned, and that also without forfeiting good musical

qualities. But I hope Mr. Carter will not take offence if I confess that my predilections are more in favour of the "Duffield" method, on which lines it is built. Then, with all due deference to my esteemed friend, I venture to suggest would it not have been as well if he had—like Mr. Heywood—left out the Minor of it altogether?—seeing that the bob-making is so very different to that of the larger numbers. But apart from this *minor* consideration (excuse the pun), I believe Mr. Carter's system will commend itself to many, and that ere long we shall read of touches—if not peals—having been successfully brought round in it. I mean to have a "handful" in it myself on the first opportunity.

The sympathies of the Exercise will go with our friends of the Yorkshire Association in the loss which it has recently sustained in the sad and painful death of its late Treasurer, Mr. Robert Tuke. Two of the principal founders of that Association,—Jasper Snowdon and his bosom friend Robert Tuke—have thus gone to their rest, but the work which they inaugurated still lives and prospers, and will ever remain a monument to their energy and zeal for the good of our cause.

Last Saturday's issue furnishes us with the concluding portion of Mr. Heywood's ably written and interesting paper on the hitherto dubious question concerning the peal of Norwich Court. I say "hitherto dubious," because after Mr. Heywood's arguments and facts I cannot conceive how any doubt can exist on the matter. He was certainly very severe on the Single Court system, and not altogether without reason. We may, however, now consign that disputed point to the company of the many others of the past which have been first doubted, then cleared up. In this case, it has been solved by a master hand; we are thus under another of the many debts of obligation which we owe to the worthy President of the Midland Counties' Association.

Before I write again, the Johnson celebration will have become a thing of the past. My most earnest hope is that it will be so successful in every way as to exceed the most sanguine anticipations of the respected host and chief in the affair. I also trust those who are privileged to take part in it will not separate without having discussed the many points of interest which are at the present before the Exercise; and that this gathering will be memorable in our own history both as fittingly honouring a worthy brother, and proving of lasting good to us as a body, is the warmest desire of your humble servant,

FREE LANCE.

COLCHESTER, ESSEX.

On Saturday, February 9th, eight members of the Norwich Diocesan Association met at St. Peter's church, Colchester, and to celebrate the birthday of Mr. Nevard, of Great Bentley, they attempted to ring Holt's 10-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but owing to the heavy go of the tenor only half the peal was rung, in 1 hr. 8 mins. J. Motts (conductor), 1; W. Motts, 2; I. S. Alexander, 3; W. Garrett, 4; W. Nevard, 5; H. Bowell, 6; W. Catchpole, 7; R. H. Brundle, 8. Tenor 21 cwt.

Afterwards the company adjourned to the "Sea Horse" inn, where they rang upon Mr. Nevard's handbells courses of Kent Treble Bob Royal, Grandsire Cinques, Grandsire Caters, Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob Major, and a touch of Grandsire Triples; and a course of Bob Major with Mr. Jno. Kettle. This gentleman, who rang 3-4 in very good style, without striking a false blow throughout, is totally blind. Altogether a most enjoyable evening was spent.

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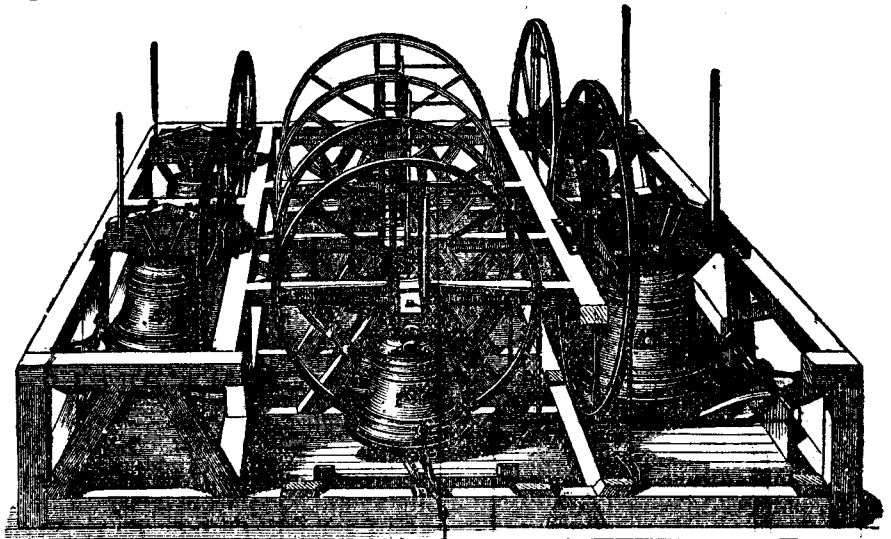
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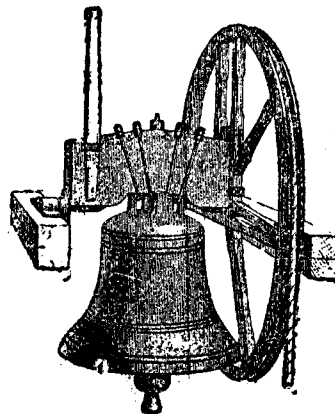
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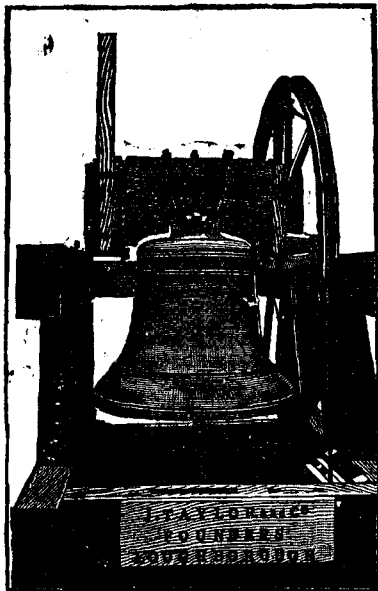
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