

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 365.—VOL. VII.

SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 1889.

ONE PENNY.

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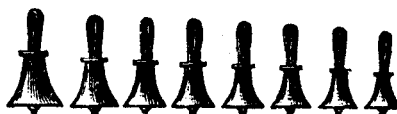
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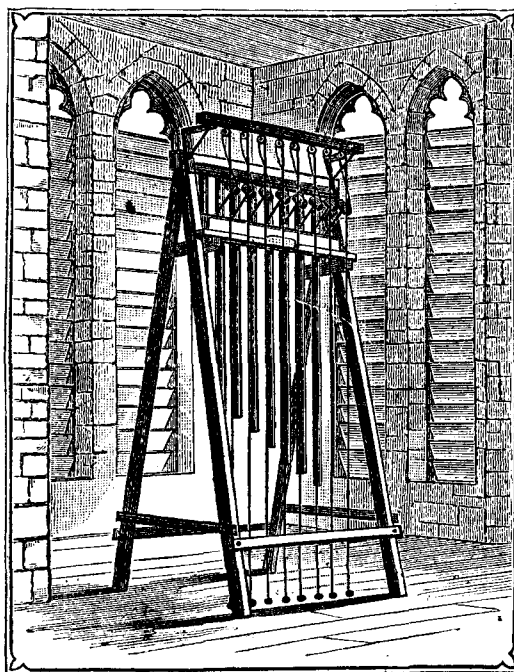
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DEDICATION OF BELLS AT HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, BURNLEY, LANCASHIRE.

The placing of a peal of bells in the tower of Holy Trinity church, Habergham-Eaves, is now *un fait accompli*, and the Vicar of the parish, the church officials, the congregation, and indeed the town generally can congratulate themselves on possessing a peal of most excellent construction which will, we hope, for long years to come call the worshippers to the sacred edifice. It is not very long, certainly not a year, since the project of erecting a peal of bells in the tower was broached by Mr. Robert Munn, the present vicar's warden, and it was taken up with alacrity by some of the leading members of the congregation. Of course the sinews of war formed the first point to be considered, and in this respect Mr. Munn set a capital example, inasmuch as he promised a donation of £100 towards the bell fund. Other subscriptions came in apace, and the gentlemen having the matter in hand placed themselves in communication with Gillett and Johnston, of Croydon, an eminent firm of bell founders and clock manufacturers. An examination of the church tower was made by a representative of the firm, and eventually the task was entrusted to Messrs. Gillett and Johnston of providing a peal of eight bells for the church, and this task has been most satisfactorily performed. The tower has had to be somewhat strengthened to contain the bells, and the peal, in the opinion of those well qualified to judge, is a most excellent one. The bells in all weigh together 57cwt. 1qr. 17lbs., and without doubt do great credit to the founders. The following is a list of the bells showing the diameter at mouth, weight, and note of each:—Diameter at mouth (1) 27in.; weight, 4cwt. 3qr.; note, F sharp. (2) 28in.; 5cwt. 0qr. 22lb.; F. (3) 29in.; 5cwt.; D sharp. (4) 31in.; 5cwt. 3qr. 6lb.; C sharp. (5) 33in.; 7cwt. 1qr. 18lb.; B. (6) 35in.; 8cwt. 1qr.; A sharp. (7) 38in.; 9cwt. 1qr. 20lb.; G sharp. (8) 41in.; 11cwt. 2qr. 7lb.; F sharp. The whole have been hung in a massive frame made of the best well-seasoned English oak, and are furnished with all the necessary fittings for ringing, including elm stocks, wheels, ropes, pulleys, gun metal bearings, &c. An apparatus known as the Ellacombe chimes has also been provided, by means of which changes or tunes may be played on the bells by one person. It is the patent of the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, a clergyman who died at the advanced age of 96 years, and was an enthusiastic campanologist, and its efficacy was demonstrated on Thursday evening. Commencing with Mr. Munn's donation, a sum of £400 has been raised towards the cost of the bells and the fixing in the tower, this being estimated at £600. The balance owing, we are glad to note, was considerably reduced at the dedication service, and will doubtless soon be cleared off. The sermon at the dedication service was announced to be delivered by the Rev. Dr. Bardsley, Bishop of Sodor and Man, and this announcement drew together a very large congregation, the church being crowded. Prior to the service selections were given on the bells in a capital manner by the Skipton parish church bell ringers, who expressed themselves highly satisfied with them. Also Mr. Johnston, of the firm of founders, played by means of the Ellacombe apparatus, the sacred tunes "Abide with me," "Rockingham," "Holy, Holy, Holy," "Lead, kindly Light," and "O Rest in the Lord," as also the secular pieces "The Last Rose of Summer," "Blue Bells of Scotland," "Believe me if all those endearing young charms," "Home, sweet Home," "The Minstrel Boy," and "See the Conquering Hero comes," which were highly appreciated by the large company that assembled outside the church.

The dedication service commenced at half-past seven, and the church was crowded, many local and district clergy being in the congregation. The Bishop of Sodor and man was accompanied in the chancel by the Rev. J. M. D. Owen, Vicar of Holy Trinity, and the Rev. W. S. Norris, curate. Mr. R. Watson presided at the organ. A special form of service was conducted by the Revs. W. S. Norris and J. M. D. Owen, after which his Lordship ascended the pulpit. He took his text from the 39th chapter of the Book of Exodus—"And they made bells of pure gold." He said:—

The parishes were few indeed which possessed a peal of bells so numerous and of tone so mellow as those whose silvery tones had that evening for the first time been heard in the service of their sanctuary. Suitably to inaugurate such a peal, and solemnly to dedicate such a

gift, nothing could be more fitting than the service of song in which they had just joined, and no place more fitting than the House of God in the tower of which the bells were now enshrined. Whilst, however, such thoughts filled all their hearts and minds, it was his privilege that night to sound the praises of a peal of bells still more numerous, for the bells of which he would speak were seventy-two in number, and of metal more precious, for they were of pure gold and of sounds even more sweet, for in the ears of God they were symbols of the righteousness of His own dear Son. The preacher described how the bells to which his text referred were hung from the robe of the High Priest, and proceeded to explain the significance from a scriptural point of view, also alluding to the fact that the robe of the High Priest was always of blue, and woven throughout. In eloquent terms His Lordship expounded the bearing of his text on the lives and actions of his hearers, and afterwards said that the brethren would have increased responsibility when each Sunday or Saints' day these bells called them to the House of God and to the means of grace. He urged that there should be no estrangement, as was sometimes the case, between the ringers and the singers, and said that a very salutary motto for them to follow was that which was inscribed in a bell-chamber in the south of England—"If any should our parson disrespect or wardens' orders any time neglect, let him be always held in foul disgrace, and ever after banished from this place." Appealing to the liberality of the congregation to aid in defraying the cost of the bells and of their erection, Dr. Bardsley said that would not require many words from him for its enforcement. In order to acquire the bells, eight in number, the tower had had to be placed in a satisfactory state of repair and sufficiently strengthened. It was supposed that to pay for the bells, and to discharge the debt in connection with the erection of the tower the amount required would be not much less than £600. Towards that amount a sum of £400 had already been most cheerfully and generously subscribed by a few donors, and it was now for that vast congregation to make a liberal response to his appeal in order that the debt of £200 might be entirely defrayed. Sweet as the bells might sound in their tower; their notes would not be so sweet whilst the debt remained undischarged, but on the day when the debt was discharged, he was sure that the ringers would ring out a right joyous peal. And it was in order that that peal might be soon rung that he appealed to their liberality that night. He stood there that night greatly tempted to fling aside his manuscript and call up the memories of days long gone by. Although that was the first time he had stood in that church, more than forty years ago it was a frequent object as he passed on the road on a Saturday's holiday in search of recreation and delight. And often he wondered that that was a silent tower on the Sunday morning except for the tone of a single bell. They knew well how the bells of St. Peter's old parish church had rung out in the ears of their fathers in generations long gone by, and he had only to close his eyes to let his memory go back forty years to hear their silvery sound on the Sunday morning as they called himself and his brothers to the old parish church of Burnley. And many a time when his dear father, now gone to his rest, and possibly known to some of them, went to preach a charity sermon in one of the churches in the district he would take his boys with him, and his (the speaker's) heart and ears were full of the sweet chimes of those bells at Whalley—as they descended the hill side—calling the people to service on the Sabbath evening. He was sure that there was in all of them a love for the church bells, and the crowded congregation that evening shewed him that they rejoiced that the church had been enriched by the peal of bells which had sounded forth that night in the tower which had so long pleaded for the sound of their silvery notes. In now way could they more fitly recognise their obligations to the church than by discharging the debt to which he had referred. He asked for their liberality and also for their prayers that the donors might, if it pleased God, long be spared to hear their gift summon them to the earthly sanctuary they had just enriched, until at last they were called to worship in that sanctuary not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. And whenever the passing bell might sound, might they by the eye of faith see Jesus, through the shadows of the dark valley, and by the ear of faith hear the chimes of the golden bells welcoming them as they passed through the cold stream to His presence where there was fulness of joy, and at whose right hand there were treasures for evermore.

At the conclusion of the Bishop's address the ringers rang a short touch, after which the hymn "When over hills and dells" was sung. Then the tenor bell was sounded alone, following with the hymn commencing "When the bell in Lenten tone" was rendered. Succeeding this came the ringing of another touch and the singing of "Ring out, the Lord is King," to a setting by Mr. R. Watson. An offertory in aid of the bell fund realised £63 11s. 6d., and included 1090 coins, a sum of £3 15s. 6d. being placed on the plate from the workpeople of Mr. H. Bracewell and their friends. The Benediction, pronounced by the Bishop, concluded the service.—*Local Paper.*

"THE BELLS."—FROM VICTOR HUGO'S
"NOTRE DAME."

"Since the morning of his being pilloried, the inhabitants in the neighbourhood of Notre Dame thought they perceived that Quasimodo's bell-ringing ardour had remarkably abated. Before that time the bells were going on all occasions; long matin chimes which lasted from Prime to Compline; peals of the great bell for high mass; rich gamuts running up and down the small bells for a wedding or a christening, and mingling in the air like a rich embroidery of all sorts of delightful sounds. The old church all vibrating and sonorous, was in a perpetual joyous whirl of bells. Some spirit of noise and whim appeared to be sending forth a never-ending carol through those brazen lips. Now, that spirit seemed to have departed. The cathedral seemed to have grown wilfully sullen and silent. The holidays and interments had their simple accompaniment, bare and unadorned—just what the ritual demanded, and nothing more; of the double sound proceeding from a church, that of the organ within, and the bells without, the organ only was heard. It seemed as if there was no longer any musician in the steeples. Nevertheless, Quasimodo was still there;—what had come to him then?—was it that the shame and desperation of the pillory scene still lingered about his heart, that the lashes of the torturer were ever present to his mind, and that his grief at such treatment had extinguished all feeling in him, even to his passion for the bells? Or was it rather that Marie had a rival in the heart of the ringer of Notre Dame, and that the great bell and her fourteen sisters were neglected for something more beautiful and pleasing?"

"It happened that in the year of Our Lord 1482, the Annunciation fell on Tuesday, March 25th. On that day the air was so pure and light, that Quasimodo felt a little returning affection for his bells. He accordingly ascended the northern tower, whilst the beadle below threw wide the large doors of the church, which were formed, at that time, of enormous panels of strong wood, covered with leather, bordered with iron nails gilt, and encased with sculpture very skillfully wrought."

"Arrived in the high cage of the bells, Quasimodo fixed his eye for some time, with a sorrowful shake of the head, on his six songstresses, as if he sighed to think that something strange had intruded into his heart between himself and them. But when he had set them going—when he felt the whole cluster of bells moving under his hand—when he saw, for he did not hear it, the palpitating octave ascending and descending in the sonorous diapason like a bird hopping from branch to branch—when the demon of music, that demon who shakes a sparkling bundle of strettis, trills, and arpeggios, had taken possession of the poor deaf creature—then he became happy again—he forgot everything, and the dilation of his heart expanded as his countenance."

"He went to and fro, clapping his hands; he ran from one rope to another, animating the six songsters by his voice and his gestures, like a leader of the band spurring on scientific musicians."

"Come, come, Gabrielle," said he, "pour forth all your sound into the square—it's a holiday. Thibaud, none of your idleness—What! you are lagging! Get on with you. Are you grown rusty, lazy-bones? That's it! quick! quick!—don't let the clapper be seen. Make them all as deaf as I am. Bravo! Thibaud. Go it, Guillaume! Guillaume, you are the biggest, and Pasquier's the least, and Pasquier goes best. I'll lay anything that those who can hear hear him better than you. Well done, Gabrielle,—harder! harder! Hey! you are there, the sparrows, what are you both about! I don't see you make the least noise; What's the meaning of those brazen beaks of yours, that seem to be gaping when they ought to be singing? Come, work away! it's the Annunciation. There's a fine sunshine, and we'll have a merry peal. Poor Guillaume—what! what! are you out of breath, my old fellow?"

"He was fully occupied in goading on his bells, which were all six leaping one against another as in rivalry, and shaking their shining backs, like a noisy team of Spanish mules urged forward by the apostrophisings of the driver."

"All at once, happening to cast his eyes between the large slate scales which cover, at a certain height, the perpendicular wall of the steeple, he saw in the square a young girl fantastically dressed, who had stopped, and was laying down a carpet on which a little goat came and placed itself, and around whom a

group of spectators were gathering. This view suddenly changed the course of his ideas, and cooled his musical enthusiasm. He stopped, turned his back to the bells, and squatted behind the slate eaves, fixing on the dancer, that thoughtful, tender, and softened look, which had already once astonished the Archdeacon. Meanwhile the forgotten bells all at once became utterly silent, to the great disappointment of the amateurs of ringing, who were listening to the peal in good earnest from off the Pont-au-change, and who went away as confounded as a dog that has a bone offered to him and a stone given him instead."

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ROCHDALE BRANCH.—There will be a meeting of the above branch at St. Mary's parish church, Oldham, on Saturday, April 6th; bells ready at 3 p.m.; meeting at 5 p.m. in the school-room. It is hoped the members in the surrounding districts will turn up to make a good meeting.

F. BIRTWISTLE, Branch Sec.

ROSSENDALE BRANCH.—The next ringing meeting of the above branch will take place on Saturday, April 6th, 1889, at St. Paul's church, Ramsbottom. Bells ready at 3.30, meeting in the school at 6.30.

J. T. STOTT, Local Sec.

AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY.

Being a reader of "THE BELL NEWS," I beg to send for publication a brief account of my life and recollections in connection with bells and bell-ringing.

I was born at Aldbourne in the county of Wilts in 1814. There was in the village at that time the bellfoundry of Robert Wells, and I remember several peals of church bells being cast there, some of which went to Salisbury and other places in Wiltshire, Berkshire, Gloucestershire, etc. In 1824 the firm of Wells gave up business, the plant was purchased by Mears and Co., and removed to London. Two of the men employed by Wells were taken on by Mears, namely Bridgeman and Kimber. There was a good peal of eight at Aldbourne and peal boards in the tower of peals of Grandsire Triples rang there in 1791 and 1804. In 1836 there was a party of Change-ringers there, and on the 27th of March 1837, I rang the tenor there in a peal of Grandsire Triples in three hours and sixteen minutes.

In 1838 I went to London and enlisted in the Grenadier Guards. I was sent to Winchester, and rang in all towers round, and in that city. On my return to London, I joined the St. James' Society, also became a member of the College Youths, and am well-known to many of the older members of both societies. I rang my first peal in London at St. Barnabas, Pimlico, conducted by John Cox, this was Grandsire Triples. I also rung peals at the following places: two peals of Grandsire Triples at Lambeth, and a peal of Grandsire Caters at St. Clements in the Strand, each of these were conducted by Mr. G. Stockham. Two peals of Stedman Caters with the College Youths, one in St. James', Bermondsey, the other at Poplar, and a peal of Stedman Triples at Bethnal Green, each conducted by the late Mr. Haley. Two peals of Grandsire Triples at Lewisham, Kent, and a peal of Grandsire Triples at Greenwich, each conducted by Richard Smith. Two peals of Grandsire Triples at Woolwich, Kent, conducted by Mr. Banister. I have rung the tenor in thirty eight towers in and about London.

I may here observe that of the eight who rung the peal of Grandsire Triples at Aldbourne, on the 27th of March, 1837, four of them are still living.

I am now living at Bishopstone, Wilts, six miles from my birthplace. I am not now able to ring, but still delighted to hear the sound of the bells. I was recently much pleased to hear at this place a peal of Stedman Triples by members of the Oxford Guild.

JOHN BEEZLEY.

THE DUCKLINGTON BELL FUND.

	£.	s.	d.
Amount advertised	14	10	9
Miss Brown (card)	0	14	0
Mr. Fich	0	0	6
Mr. H. Dains, London.	0	1	0
Total	15	6	3

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

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Be thou faithful unto death."

I imagine the general verdict on the merit of our latest addition to the portrait gallery will be one of unqualified approval. And if it is satisfactory generally all round, much more so will it be in the household of him who is thus portrayed. So I need say nothing further about it. Mr warmest wish towards Mr. Washbrook is that he may be blessed with health and strength to fulfil the prophesy so confidently made last Saturday; that he may be a tower of strength to those around him for good; and that his good wife may enjoy equal blessings, so they may live to be a comfort to each other in their old age.

* * * * *

While on this topic, I cannot help remarking that Friday, the 15th must have been something like a busy day with our friend Mr. Washbrook. After ringing in and conducting Brook's peal of Stedman Triples at Maidenhead, he trots of to Marlow, and there takes a pair, and conducts Holt's ten-part on handbells. This finished, he entertains the company at Mr. Truss' house with some masterly performances in various methods on the piano. If he goes on at this racket, we shall be dubbing him "Evergreen Washbrook." I should very much like to entice him into my own particular district just for a little while, so as to let us natives see how it is done.

* * * * *

Mr. Strange writes with much cogency on the treatment by the Birmingham meeting of that much-vexed question the National Ringers' Association. There certainly does appear, at first sight, as he seems to think, some inconsistency in first condemning the National Association and then pronouncing in favour of a substitute for it. But this is only at first sight, for it disappears on further consideration. For instance, if I remember rightly, the scheme for a National Association proposed the inclusion of every individual member of each county Association or Guild, with a settled subscription for each or a prescribed percentage of each Association's income through subscriptions. The Birmingham proposal, as I understand it, is simply the appointment of delegates to represent each Association on a joint committee (or council—which I think would be a better term). There is thus a considerable difference between the two. I have always been of opinion, rightly or wrongly, that one great—if not, indeed, the principal—cause of the proposal for a National Association coming to grief was the high rate of subscription, and the immediate prospect of getting so little in return for it. On the other hand, should the proposed National Committee—or Council—become a substantial fact, that objection would not exist, as it would not necessitate anything more than a mere nominal subscription from each Association for working expenses, and an annual or half-yearly meeting of these delegates in some convenient centre would be well within the bounds of practicability.

* * * * *

But be that as it may; whether the scheme for a National Association on the lines of the original proposal, be still persevered in, or this Birmingham suggestion take its place; one thing is morally certain—we cannot go on in perplexity as we are now. We must have more unity. We have, to a very large extent, gathered together the units; it is therefore becoming imperatively necessary that by some mode or other each section of these units should be put in touch with one another for the common good. If our art and work is to progress as it ought,

we shall have to remember the fable of the old man and the bundle of sticks, and endeavour to follow his advice. Whatever be the form of string which is to bind us all together, I maintain that we are loyally bound to take this matter into our serious consideration, and that without loss of time. I hope Mr. Strange's letter will receive that careful thought which it deserves, and that it may cause the re-opening of a question which will not be allowed to lapse until a definite and satisfactory mode of action is decided upon.

* * * * *

"Scrutator" is rather hot on the Salisbury Guild's annual report. Unfortunately he appears to have only too good grounds for his incisive language. But surgical operations, however painful they may be at the time, usually tend to the restoration of health, thus the patient ultimately is benefitted. Let us hope such will be so in this case, and that next year's report will show "an improvement all round," an event which will be hailed with satisfaction by us all—including, I am sure, the officials of that Guild.

* * * * *

The particulars to hand respecting the deplorable death of Mr. Robert Tuke will, I feel sure, have been read with "mournful interest." Whether we had the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with the deceased gentleman or not, we cannot help experiencing a feeling of profound sorrow at his untimely death. Just in the prime of life, thousands of miles away from his own home and those who were nearest and dearest, in his anxiety to gain a footing for the Exercise in the transatlantic city of Philadelphia, prolonging his stay so as to establish at least one company of change-ringers there; having gathered round him an earnest band, anxious to profit by his teaching; and by his evidently inherent qualities gained the respect—nay, even the love—of those around him, when everything seemed progressing favourably towards that end to which he had set his endeavours, it does, humanly speaking, seem hard that he should thus have been so suddenly and painfully taken away. Like his bosom friend Jasper Snowdon, too, his end was "not long in coming," and the news of his death was thus all the more sad by reason of its suddenness. The Yorkshire Association has thus lost two of its principal founders, two men who, I have reason to believe, were held by the whole of the members throughout that great county in the very highest esteem. Their loss will therefore be all the more acute; but they may be assured of the heartfelt sympathies of their brethren in this their last great bereavement. Robert Tuke rests from his labours, but truly his work, and the fond remembrance of his many virtues will never fade.

FREE LANCE.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

NOTICE TO LOCAL COMMITTEE MEN.—A committee meeting will be held at my house on Wednesday, April 10th, at 3.30 p.m., to consider the following propositions to be brought forward at the annual meeting:—(1) admission of life-ringing members, being change-ringers, residing out of the diocese; (2) encouragement of change-ringing; (3) the advisability, funds permitting, of granting donations to towers in union with the Guild for belfry restoration or improvement. J. R. JERRAM, Gen. Sec.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

The Annual Supper takes place at the "Green Man," 54 St. Martin's Lane, W.C., on Friday, the 5th proximo, upon and for which occasion a good programme is being prepared, and a goodly muster is expected. H. DAINS, Hon. Sec.

News from Abroad.

THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY, MELBOURNE.

Mr. J. BEECHEY, Hon. Secretary of the Victorian society of ringers, practising at St. James's Cathedral, Melbourne, Australia, sends us the following account of

A COLONIAL RINGING TOUR.

The members of the above-named society, hearing that a number of rings of bells were at the different churches in Sydney, New South Wales, and being desirous that a company should represent Victoria during the Christmas holidays, it was proposed at a general meeting and unanimously carried—"That a company be picked to represent the Victorian society in Sydney." Such was the formal resolution, but as I do not purpose continuing this narrative in formal phraseology, I will proceed to relate events in my own peculiar way. Our troubles began at the commencement, for we experienced great difficulty in obtaining the promise from those members willing to form a band who were capable of ringing changes; then the necessary holiday had to be arranged by the men, but fortunately everything was finally settled, and the day of departure fixed for the 21st December, 1888. The names of members of the band, with their birthplaces, were as follow: Messrs. J. Guest, Stafford (Captain); W. Albinson, Stockport, Cheshire (C.Y.); W. Shenton, Hillingdon, Middlesex; J. Beechey, Leamington, Warwick; J. Clark, Manchester; F. B. Hall (C.Y.), London; J. Russell (C.Y.), London; J. Murray, Melbourne, Victoria. The captain and myself went per express overland, the remaining six preferring a trip by steamer. The overland route of 600 miles is extremely monotonous, there being no change of scenery to speak of, but a continuous similarity of bush country, and although an Australian bush scene is one of the sights of the world, it is not sufficiently satisfying to last twenty hours without "a variation." However, we endured it to the end, and eventually arrived in Sydney at midday on the Saturday. We at once proceeded to Mr. Morton, conductor at the church of St. Philip, with whom we had corresponded, introduced ourselves, and were cordially welcomed. We were most agreeably surprised to learn there were so many rings of bells in and around Sydney, there being no less than eight within easy distance of that city. After ascertaining the ringing arrangements made for us, we turned our attention to the obtaining of residential accommodation and the necessary creature comforts, then a look round the city to occupy the time until the arrival of steamer with balance of contingent. I will not dwell upon the beauties of the harbour, the delights of Hyde Park, or the repose of the Botanical Gardens, but leave it to abler hands, which no doubt ere this have transmitted full particulars to the old country.

We did not expect our men until Monday morning, but whilst waiting on Sunday evening for the St. Philip's ringers to turn up to ring for Divine Service, to our great satisfaction they came up leisurely to the tower, having just landed. They certainly did not appear in good ringing form, through experiencing a bad forty-eight hours on the water, and not being the best of sailors, some of them were consequently laid low, but nevertheless we essayed a pull and got through 504 of Grandsire Triples. The bells are a very musical ring of eight by Mears and Stainbank, tenor 20 cwt. They go very well, the only inconvenience being the sharp ropes, and too long from the tuft; in fact we found a similar fault in the majority of the towers, but which we easily remedied. The St. Philip's society have just added another bell to their peal, making nine in all, to enable a light ring of six to be used. Our next pull was at the same church on Christmas-eve for service, when we rang 1008, viz.: two parts of Holt's 10-part peal, conducted by our captain. The next item on our programme was a visit to Christ Church, City, for Christmas morning service, at 9.30. Here we were heartily welcomed by the Rev. C. F. Garnsey and the ringers. The bells, six in number, tenor 14 cwt., are by Taylor. They are very nice in tone, but the go of them might be better, also the ropes. We rang several 6-scores, but did not attempt any Minor. The Rev. C. F. Garnsey personally brought us refreshments in the shape of wine, biscuits, and cake, and when I tell my brother-ringers at

home that the glass stood at about 101 in the shade, they will understand that we appreciated the same in more ways than one. We then went to St. Mary's (R.C.) Cathedral, to make arrangements for a ring on their peal of eight, but were received with a certain amount of coolness, owing as it transpired, to an imaginary slight, but on explaining that we were entire strangers to Sydney, and quite ignorant upon questions appertaining to local societies and bells, matters improved, and two of us were invited to have a pull with them. Having satisfied Mr. Lawn, the captain, that we were ringers, there was a further improvement in the state of things, and we were invited to ring after Mass was over, which we readily accepted, for we found a beautiful ring in the key of D. tenor 28 cwt., by Mears and Stainbank. The go of these bells leave nothing to be desired, and every member of our band were delighted, and could not but admit in their opinion that they were the best peal in the Colonies. The go of these bells actually left nothing to be desired; every credit is due to Mr. Lawn for the manner in which he keeps them. They are, comparatively speaking, a new peal, having only been hung about three years, and I am told were chosen by Mr. Lawn himself, who stood out for a new peal in place of an old ring which has gone back to England. Mr. Lawn is very proud of the bells, and with good reason; we all envied him. Time being limited after Mass, he rang the tenor over seven of our men in a plain course, and 168 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by W. Albinson, and proved himself no mean performer, considering he has no opportunity of mixing with change-ringers. We made arrangements for a ring on the Thursday night, feeling the tour would be incomplete if we did not have a proper opportunity of thoroughly testing the bells.

We rang for evening service again at Christ Church. On Boxing Day we journeyed out to Randwick, four miles distance, to St. Jude's, where we found a peal of eight steel bells, tenor 16 cwt. We were cordially welcomed by the Rev. W. G. Hough, and the ringers, of whom Mr. Kimberley is captain. After splicing ropes we were enabled to test them, and rang a touch of 350, conducted by Jas. Murray, but found it not altogether pleasant ringing. There seemed to be a rather harsh discordant sound in the belfry, and 7-8 were a trifle stiff, though from the outside the tone seemed better, but undoubtedly we were all not much impressed with steel bells. Our engagement at St. Mark's, Darling Point, necessitated a move at mid-day, so we transferred ourselves thence. We were welcomed by the Rev. Canon Kemmis, and substantially so by the St. Mark's ringers, of whom more anon. A pretty church, in a pretty place, with a pretty peal of six, tenor 9 cwt., by Mears and Stainbank. What more would anyone require for an enjoyable afternoon's ring? Beautiful tone, ropes and go good; six-scores were rattled off at a rapid rate. We are pleased to chronicle the fact that here we found men who could ring Doubles, but unfortunately it was the only place where we did so, a matter upon which I will treat later on. After being photographed by Mr. Joyner, and spending a pleasant afternoon, we adjourned to the schoolroom, and found we were to be entertained in rare style. We sat down to quite a spread, the company mustering fifty. After refreshing the inner man, and drinking the healths of local and visiting ringers, a most enjoyable evening was spent. The St. Mark's society not only presented us with abundance of viands, production of a set of sixty-four handbells, but introduced us to their wives and sweethearts, who did the honours of the evening and looked after our well-being; certainly if they were not ringers they were *belles*, and to their interest in ringers the success of the evening was in no small measure due. The following members of St. Mark's—Messrs. Abrahams, W. Galbraith, T. Ridley, T. Martin, C. McLean, A. B. Joyner, and T. Furse, gave several selections on the handbells, and although they have not the skill of the Lynch family, their performance was highly creditable, and most agreeably surprised us. Songs by some of the ladies and members, and a course of Triples and Major, two in hand, by Messrs. J. Guest, W. Albinson, J. Murray, J. Clark, W. Shenton, and J. Russell, were given during the evening. A pleasing speech by Mr. Joyner, expressive of kindly feelings and fellowship among ringers, and a suitable reply by Mr. Guest, thanking them for their liberal and friendly entertainment and reception, brought a very happy evening to a close with the National Anthem.

On Thursday morning, our destination being Parramatta, we

took train for that place, and although it is only fourteen miles out, it occupies fifty-seven minutes for the journey, there being seventeen stations to stop at. We found at All Saints' church a very nice peal of six, by Mears and Stainbank, tenor 12 cwt., and everything in good order. We were cordially welcomed by the local ringers, of whom Mr. Davis is captain. We enjoyed a pleasant afternoon's ringing, 6-scores and two attempts at 720 of Minor, the latter falling through in consequence of two bells changing course at the last lead but one. This was the extent of our performance here. At 5 p.m. we were invited by the Rev. J. Done to partake of tea at the Vicarage, and spent a pleasant hour, in the course of which the rev. gentleman took occasion to welcome and thank us for our visit, trusting that the relations inaugurated would be continued, and tend to infuse more energy into church bells and change-ringing. He complimented his own men on their regularity of attendance at practice, and for service ringing, and expressed a hope that when we next paid them a visit, we should find our present tour had not been unproductive. Mr. W. Albinson acknowledged the welcome in a pleasing speech, interspersed with anecdotes—a weakness of his.

We took train back to Sydney, and made our way to St. Mary's, all being anxious to keep our appointment. On arrival we found we had to wait till service was over, and thus only leaving a limited time for ringing, dispelled our intention of going for the first half of Holt's peal, so having to make the best of it, we stood in as follows: W. Shenton, 1; Jno. Beechey, 2; J. Murray, 3; J. Clark, 4; J. Guest (conductor), 5; W. Albinson, 6; T. B. Hall, 7; J. Russell, 8. We also started for a quarter-peal, but after ringing 504, something went amiss with the sixth, so the bells were brought round. On examination a bolt was found to have come loose, so after screwing up, third and sixth men changed places, and another start was made, a touch of 1036 being recorded, the bells coming into rounds in 43 mins. It was a matter of general regret that time would not allow us to continue ringing, for one and all thoroughly enjoyed the pull, not for the performance of so small a touch, but for the pleasure derived in hearing such deep and harmonious tones pealing forth. The striking all through was good, and not wishing to infer there was no room for improvement, it was the best rung touch I have heard in the Colonies, and it was generally admitted by those present that it was the only occasion the bells had had justice done to them. Great interest was taken by the outside public and numbers assembled in Hyde Park during the evening to hear the ringing.

Friday morning we again visited St. Mark's, Darling Point, for the purpose of ringing a 720 of Grandsire Minor, and after several attempts we were successful. J. Clark, 1; W. Shenton, 2; J. Guest, 3; W. Albinson, 4; J. Murray (conductor), 5; T. B. Hall, 6. Time 31 mins. After wishing our brother-ringers farewell, we turned our steps towards St. Philip's, being due there at 5 p.m., to ring our farewell touch, and to be entertained by the St. Philip's society. On arrival at the belfry, a 504 was rung, the tenor being taken by Mr. Bray, who acquitted himself very creditably, and I am only sorry that we did not find more men as capable. An adjournment to the schoolroom adjoining was made, and about fifty ladies and gentlemen sat down to a repast, presided over by the Rev. J. D. Langley, who in a few cordial remarks, welcomed the visitors, and expressed his gratification at seeing them present as the guests of their Sydney brethren. Messrs. Guest and Albinson responded in appropriate terms. A programme of musical numbers was then given in admirable style. At the conclusion the band ascended the tower and rang a 504 of Grandsire as a farewell touch, the tenor being rung by Mr. Lawn, and conducted by J. Clark, concluding about midnight a thorough evening's enjoyment. Our men left per steamer at mid-day on Saturday for home, numbers of the Sydney ringers attending to wish us all *bon voyage* and a speedy return, and after a pleasant trip of 600 miles down the coast, arrived safe in Melbourne in time on Monday evening, December 31st, 1888, to take part in the usual New Year's Eve Festival and midnight peal.

Having related the events as they occurred, I will briefly express a few of my impressions resulting from the tour.

It is a remarkable fact that in so large a place as Sydney and suburbs, with no less than eight rings, we only found one society (St. Mark's), who were capable of ringing changes. The fault I think is simply with the men themselves. There appears to be

a great want of harmony amongst the several societies, and I am certain, judging from the reception they one and all gave our band, it only requires a beginning to enable them to combine together and ultimately prove a strong ringers' society. They are far more favoured than we in Melbourne, where we have only two peals, and far from good ones. A little energy on the part of those most intimately concerned is all that is needed, and I trust before they see this in print they will have taken some steps in the matter. There will be more than one great advantage derived by ringers in both colonies from our visit. We have now become acquainted and enabled to correspond with different societies, which will infuse more go into the art of ringing, and it is to be hoped you will have greater deeds to chronicle in the future than you have in the past from the Colonies.

My brother-ringers at home must not look upon our small performance during this tour as our best on record; ignorance of members existence and number of peals prevented us making any definite arrangements until arrival in Sydney, then so many services and holidays intervening compelled us to submit to circumstances, and necessitated a short ring. And taking into consideration that Christmas is mid-summer in the Colonies, and the extreme heat is far from enticing for long touches, we had not the best of opportunities to obtain something worthy of notice. In Melbourne we have done better, but unfortunately have not obtained the 5040 yet, the nearest approach being a break-down twice in the ninth part of Holt's peal. Nothing disheartened, we hope to be able to forward the record before many more moons rise, for we fully intend accomplishing the feat and get the credit of it for Victoria. It is only natural to expect our visit to Sydney will have the double effect of engendering greater aspirations on our part, and establishing an annual ringing tour.

Before closing this narrative, I have much pleasure in taking this opportunity of expressing through your columns, on behalf of my brother-ringers, our sincere thanks to our Sydney brothers for their kind reception, and we trust it will not be the last occasion we shall have the honour of being entertained by them. Every credit is due to Mr. Morton (St. Philip's), for his exertions to make our visit a success, and to Mr. Bray (St. Mary's), for his kindness in devoting his time and escorting us to different places during our stay.

I hope I have not trespassed too much upon your space in thinking a detailed account of a Colonial Ringing Tour would be of some little interest to your many readers and brother-ringers at home, and I thank you in anticipation for its insertion.

A SILVER BELL.

The incident at Borki, where the Czar had such a hair-breadth escape (says the *Independance Belge*) has given rise to a great many manifestations in Russia. The most remarkable of these is certainly the great silver bell which has just been cast at Kharkew, and which is destined to recall to the minds of the inhabitants of the sacred town the recollection of the catastrophe of October 17th. This bell, which is to bear the name of "Czar's Bell," will be adorned with the arms of their Majesties, and of all the princes who were in the train at the time of the accident. The bell will be hung outside the tower, on the west side—that is, in the direction of the Koursk-Kharkow-Azow railway. It will bear the inscription: "This silver bell has been cast by the clergy of the diocese of Kharkow, in commemoration of the miraculous event of the preservation from mortal danger, in the railway accident of October 17th, 1888, near Kharkow, of his Majesty the Emperor Alexander III., her Majesty the Empress Marie Feodorovna, and their august children, the Grand Duke Cesarevitch Nicholas Alexandrovitch, the Grand Dukes George Alexandrovitch and Michael Alexandrovitch, and the Grand Duchesses Xenie Alexandrovna and Olga Alexandrovna." Every day, at the exact hour at which the accident of October 17th occurred, the bell will ring for five minutes. No other use than this is to be made of it.

* STEYNING BELLS.—The bells of this church will be closed for ringing until further notice.

JASPER W. SNOWDON'S WORKS.

ROPE-SIGHT: 1s. 6d. THIRD EDITION. Commences by explaining how to manage a bell; deals with Change-Ringing on three, four, five, six, seven, and eight Bells in the PLAIN BOB METHOD, giving touches and peals in each case; and closes with instructions for Conducting, &c., &c. (143 pages).

STANDARD METHODS: 2s. 6d. SECOND EDITION. Contains full explanations and rules for ringing all the best methods, from five to eight bells, with plain-course diagrams of each printed in full, with coloured lines. (40 pages of diagrams and 87 of descriptive letterpress).

GRANDSIRE; 2s. 0d. THE METHOD, ITS PEALS, AND HISTORY. WITH PORTRAIT AND MEMOIR. EDITED BY HIS BROTHER, WM. SNOWDON. COMPLETE WITH AN APPENDIX BY THE REV. CHARLES D. P. DAVIES, M.A., OXON. Commences with ringing on five, six, and seven bells, for the benefit of a learner; gives instructions on composing, proving, varying, and reversing conducting and calling round; and ends with a general survey of the practical and scientific aspect of the composition of triples—thus forming a complete reference book for all Grandsire ringers. (210 pages).

TREBLE BOB. 3s. 2½d. PARTS I. AND II. COMPLETE. Part I. contains instructions for pricking, transposing, proving, composing, and conducting peals; an essay on the *In and Out-of-course* of the changes; and a history of the various compositions and performances. Part II. contains classified peals of Minor, Major, Royal, and Maximus, with their reverse variations; remarks on the different qualities; particulars of first performances, composers' names, &c., &c. (236 closely printed pages). Part II. (136 closely printed pages) may be had separately, 2s. 1½d.

DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR. 1s. 0d. Contains rules and instructions for pricking and ringing the method; a linear diagram of the plain course; a collection of touches and peals; instructions for proving; and a history of the earlier performances, with a list of peals down to 1884. (78 pages).

A few copies are still left of "An Account of the Society of Union Scholars." (49 pages). Post free, 8½d.

Forwarded, Post Free, on receipt of remittance, by WM. SNOWDON, Old Bank Chambers, Leeds.

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.

H. HAMILTON PALAIRET.—See what Shipway says on the matter. London ringers have always been sceptical on the point.

HENRY ROWE (Hertford).—Your quarter-peal is false. Changes which are had at backstroke in the 1st part, come up at hand in the last.

R. T. WOODLEY.—Your letter arrived too late for this week. See notices above. The last paragraph must be modified somewhat, it cannot appear in its present form.

ALBERT E. PARSONS.—We think your proposal worthy of acceptance.

NOTICE.—The indexes now due will be published almost directly. The compiler has, from causes beyond his control, been unable to fulfil his duty in this respect at the time desired, but this delay will in future be avoided, and the inconvenience caused be prevented. We hope to publish indexes due up to date within a month.

OUR PORTRAIT GALLERY.—We have been solicited by several influential readers to publish one portrait every month. We are very pleased to find that these portraits meet with such general approval. We shall do our best to issue one every fourth week, and their appearance will always be announced a week beforehand.

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 1889.

WITH the present number of this paper another volume is completed, and a seven years' publication of "THE BELL NEWS" is thus an established fact. This term of duration is very satisfactory to ourselves, and no doubt

doubly gratifying to many old friends who when its publication was first suggested, feared that the support which would be accorded to it by the Exercise would not be sufficient to keep it going. Such a fear is not, we are happy to say, probable of realisation. Our paper is not we believe, unknown to any change-ringer in the three kingdoms. We are painfully aware that in many places one copy of "THE BELL NEWS" is made to serve the purposes of a whole company, and it is also well known that very many of our readers are enabled by the kindness of their friends to gain a knowledge of the contents of every number without being mulcted in the magnificent sum which is the price of publication. These unpleasant facts we of course regret: but they must be made the best of, and we must depend upon the energy of our warmest supporters for the extension of our circulation. If every one of our kind friends would lay the task upon themselves of securing but one additional regular subscriber, what an extension of our usefulness would result. We invite them at the end of our seven years' existence to join in such an effort. Several correspondents have honestly averred that where each issue of "THE BELL NEWS" is eagerly sought for, the art is flourishing, and will—in all probability—continue to do so. On the contrary, where there is a lukewarmness with regard to our journal, a similar indifference is manifested towards change-ringing.

Those who remember the period when this paper first made its appearance, and who will take a concise retrospect of such subjects as "Church Bells and Ringing" during the past seven years, will form the conclusion that a wonderful revolution has taken place so far as they are concerned. Diocesan and other Ringing Associations have been brought into existence, which still pursue their objects under improving conditions, and rings of bells have been cast and erected in districts where from time immemorial the sound of more than one "ting-tang" was never heard. Shall we be far out of our reckoning when we say there has been more bells cast by English bellfounders during the past seven years than in any other previous period of double that length? We think not. And is not "THE BELL NEWS" to have some little credit for this popularity, which is growing day by day, for Church Bells and Ringing? "Without a doubt," many of our friends will say.

The period of seven years has not been uneventful for the fortunes of our journal. Perhaps it is not wise to take a retrospect, for if it is pleasant to survey the progress made, it nevertheless brings sadness in its train. Out of the original promoters of "THE BELL NEWS" the majority are at rest, after fighting the good fight upon earth; and a recollection of happy connections now severed by the king of terrors does not tend to hilarity. Still there is no lack of kind friends to fill the places of those gone, who ungrudgingly give us their kind support and countenance. And so we go on; losing one good friend perhaps, but gaining two, while our contributors' list is increasing week by week. We have then just come to the seventh part-end of our peal, the eighth is commen-

cing, the striking being better than any which has preceded it. The bells are in the most musical positions, the performers are all in good condition for their work, and the bob-caller is confident, that barring untoward accident, the next part-end will be brought up equal to the last one, or as much better as possible, and if those anxious for the success of the peal do their share, success is inevitable.

The Metropolis.

THE ALL HALLOWS' SOCIETY, TOTTENHAM, AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 23, 1889, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

ALFRED FOX* Treble.	*JAMES BARBER 5.
GEORGE GRIFFIN 2.	†GEORGE B. LUCAS 6.
JOSEPH WAGHORN* 3.	†HENRY A. BARNETT 7.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN.* .. 4.	*WM. PYE-ENGLISH Tenor.

Composed by J. REEVES and Conducted by GEORGE B. LUCAS.

*First peal in the method. †First peal in the method with a bob bell. †First peal in the method as conductor. It is also the first peal in the method by the All Hallows' Society. The ringers desire to thank the Rector and Churchwardens for the use of the bells.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.

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

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 20 cwt.

ALBERT E. CHURCH* .. Treble.	*FRANCIS L. DAVIES 5.
WILLIAM BARON, SEN. .. 2.	*WILLIAM T. COCKERILL .. 6.
WALTER PARTINGTON* .. 3.	*GEORGE WILD 7.
HENRY SWAIN 4.	GEORGE NEWSON Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE NEWSON.

This is the first peal of Treble Bob on the bells since 1874. *First peal in the method. The ringers wish to thank Mr. W. Coppage for having everything in readiness, also Mr. George Newson for kindly calling the peal at a minute's notice.

TOTTENHAM, MIDDLESEX.—THE ALL HALLOWS' SOCIETY, TOTTENHAM, AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

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

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

ALFRED FOX Treble.	WM. PYE-ENGLISH 5.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, SEN. .. 2.	JAMES BARBER 6.
GEORGE GRIFFIN 3.	†HENRY A. BARNETT 7.
THOS. C. GROVE* 4.	GEORGE B. LUCAS Tenor.

Composed by J. REEVES and Conducted by HENRY A. BARNETT.

*First peal in the method. †First peal in the method as conductor. Rung on the occasion of a Confirmation service by the Bishop of Bedford.

The Provinces.

MIDDLETON STONEY.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, March 20, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES IN TWO MINOR METHODS, EACH CALLED DIFFERENTLY.

J. GIBBARD* Treble.	*J. TUFFRY 4.
J. R. GIBBARD* 2.	T. WAKENELL 5.
G. BECKINSALE* 3.	J. W. WASHBROOK Tenor.

Conducted by J. W. WASHBROOK.

*First peal. This is the first peal ever rung on the bells, being the 44th birthday of the Earl of Jersey, the ringers wishing him many happy returns. It was also rung as a farewell peal to J. Gibbard and G. Beckinsale prior to starting for Queensland.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 23, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four and ½ Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION.

Tenor 16 cwt.

HENRY W. JACKSON Treble.	JOHN W. CRITCHLEY 5.
HENRY BENTLEY 2.	THOMAS E. TURNER 6.
JOEL REDFORD 3.	DAVID E. RIMMER 7.
RICHARD HILL 4.	RICHARD LINDLEY Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY W. JACKSON.

Messrs. Hill and Rimmer hail from Southport.

WRITTLE, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION,

On Saturday, March 23, 1889, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

WILLIAM E. EMERY* .. Treble.	*ROBERT WOOD 5.
JOSEPH J. EVERARD 2.	ARTHUR EDWARDS 6.
HIRZEL F. DE LISLE, ESQ. 3.	ALFRED TARBUN 7.
FREDERICK G. RADLEY .. 4.	WILLIAM LINCOLN Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, of Chesterfield, and Conducted by WILLIAM LINCOLN.

*First peal of Major. This peal has the 6th twenty-four times wrong and nineteen times right, and is now rung for the first time, upon placing a peal-board in the tower to commemorate the first peal rung by the present Writtle company (and is the first by a band all resident in the parish since 1821) on December 26th, 1888. Mr. De Lisle hails from Galleywood; A. Tarbun from Widford; the rest are local men.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE EASTBOURNE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 23, 1889, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST,

A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 8 cwt.

R. HOWSE Treble.	G. H. HOWSE 5.
F. HARDING 2.	E. WILLOUGHBY 6.
A. PIPER 3.	T. M. SMITH 7.
J. SHARP 4.	A. CHILDS Tenor.

Conducted by T. M. SMITH.

First peal in the method by all. E. Willoughby is a member of the St. Mary's Society, Eastbourne.

CHESTER.—THE ST. MICHAEL'S SOCIETY.

On Sunday, March 24, 1889, in Two Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. POVEY, 1, CECIL STREET,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART (REVERSED).

WALTER CROSS 1-2.	ALFRED CROSS 5-6.
JAMES MOULTON 3-4.	WILLIAM POVEY 7-8.

Conducted by JAMES MOULTON,

Umpires—Messrs. H. Gibson and H. Povey.

BURNLEY, LANCASHIRE.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(THE SKIPTON BRANCH.)

On Sunday, March 24, 1889, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF HOLY TRINITY, HABERGHAM EAVES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 11½ cwt.

FRANK ANDERSON .. Treble.	WILLIAM MASON 5.
JOHN BOOTHMAN 2.	HENRY HORNER 6.
JOHN W. STIRK 3.	WILLIAM BILLOWS 7.
WILLIAM WELLOCK 4.	WILLIAM D. HILLARY .. Tenor.

Composed by J. BARKER, of Liversedge, and Conducted by W. BILLOWS.

This peal is in three parts.

HIGHAM FERRERS, NORTH HANTS. RAUNDS AND WELLINGBOROUGH DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, March 24, 1889, in Two Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,
AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. JOHN KILSBY,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HUBBARD'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 15 size in C.

FRED H. SLADE 1-2.	ALFRED H. MARTIN .. 5-6.
ALFRED E. CHAPMAN .. 3-4.	JOHN B. MARTIN .. 7-8.

Conducted by J. B. MARTIN.

The above is the first double-handed peal by all, and also the first by the above Association. It is also supposed to be the first 5040 on handbells of any description in Northamptonshire. Umpire—Mr. George Brown.

Date Touches.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

CARSHALTON.—On Tuesday, March 19th, at All Saints' church, a date touch of 1889 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 5 mins. F. Holder, 1; J. Harding, 2; T. Matthews, 3; J. Hartley, 4; C. E. Buckingham, 5; E. Hollands, 6; J. Plowman, 7; H. Brooks, 8. Composed by John Carter, of Birmingham, and conducted by J. Plowman. Tenor 12½ cwt in G. sharp.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

TAMWORTH.—On Tuesday, March 19th, for practice at the parish church, Carter's date touch of Grandsire Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 7 mins. J. Windridge, 1; R. P. Brindley, 2; A. Everitt, 3; J. W. Timms, 4; J. Wainwright, 5; G. Woods (conductor), 6; C. Chapman, 7; G. Tomlinson (first date touch), 8.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CHESTERFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday evening, March 24th, for Divine Service at the parish church, G. Hayward's date touch of Grandsire Caters, in 1 hr. 10 mins. H. Rippon, 1; J. Hunt, 2; J. Goodwin, 3; I. Goodwin, 4; G. Topliss (conductor), 5; S. Price (Staveley), 6; D. Farthing, 7; W. G. Cook, 8; A. Knights, 9; G. Swift (Staveley), 10. Tenor 24½ cwt.

EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

FRIESTON.—On Thursday, March 21st, at the parish church, in honour of the marriage of Miss Sharp, the local company rang a date touch (1889 changes), of Grandsire, Bob Doubles, and Hudibras, in 1 hr. 10 mins., each 6-score called different. G. Harison, 1; A. Barber, 2; E. Clayton, 3; Jos. Sharp, 4; J. Sharp (conductor), 5. Tenor 21 cwt. Longest length by first and third men. E. Clayton only commenced change-ringing this winter.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

STRATFORD-LE-BOW (Middlesex).—On Wednesday, March 21st, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1889 changes, in 1 hr. and 6 mins. H. Springall (conductor), 1; R. Turner, 2; W. Greenleaf, 3; S. Hayes, 4; Y. Green (composer), 5; R. Woodley, 6; H. Torble, 7; S. Joyce, 8. The above was rung to commemorate the 21st birthday of Mr. S. Joyce, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day.

BARWELL (Leicestershire).—On Saturday, March 23rd, at the parish church, a date touch, being 89 of Grandsire Doubles and 1800 of Plain Bob Minor, in 1 hr. and 13 mins. H. Horwood,* 1; J. Swinfield, 2; T. W. Chapman,* 3; A. Needham, 4; J. Clarke,* 5; A. R. Aldham (conductor), 6. Tenor 16 cwt. *First 720. The longest touch in the method by all except the conductor. Messrs. Horwood, Chapman and Clarke hail from Nuneaton, the rest from Barwell.

Low Moor (Lancashire).—On Saturday, March 23rd, for the confirmation service at Holy Trinity church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1889 changes, in 1 hr. and 8 mins. T. Pickard, 1; J. Knott, 2; T. Simpson, 3; J. Briggs, 4; J. Wilson, 5; M. Ramsden, 6; J. W. Emmett, 7; C. Dracup (conductor), 8. Tenor 15 cwt. Composed by Wm. Goodall, of Liversedge. Knott, Wilson, and Ramsden hail from Liversedge.

SAFFRON WALDEN (Essex).—On Tuesday evening, March 19th, the following members of the local company rang Mr. A. P. Heywood's date touch of Stedman Triples, in 1 hr. 8 mins. J. Freeman, 1; N. J. Pitstow, 2; C. Freeman, 3; J. F. Penning, 4; G. Martin, 5; E. Pitstow, 6; F. Pitstow (conductor), 7; W. Marshall, 8.

CAMBRIDGE.—On Monday, March 18th, at the University Church, a date touch of Stedman Triples (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 17 mins. E. Andrews, jun., 1; S. Brown, 2; J. Taylor, 3; E. Taylor, 4; H. Mansfield, 5; E. Andrews, sen. (conductor), 6; W. Kempton, 7; W. Eusden, 8. Tenor 31 cwt. Composed by A. Percival Heywood, Esq. This is the first date touch in the method on the bells.

Miscellaneous.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Sunday evening, March 24th, for Divine Service at St. Stephen's church, Westminster, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 48 mins. A. S. Ellis, 1; A. Ingerfield, 2; J. Reed, 3; J. Pryer, 4; R. H. Newton (conductor), 5; W. H. George, H. Ellis, 7; W. Cropley, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

COOKHAM (Berks).—On Tuesday, March 19th, at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 32 mins. J. C. Truss, jun., 1; F. Dentry, 2; C. Smith, 3; J. C. Truss, sen., 4; J. Wilkins (conductor), 5; W. Ayres, 6. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. J. C. Truss, jun., 1; C. Smith, 2; F. Dentry, 3; J. W. Wilkins, 4; J. C. Truss, sen., 5; E. Keeley, 6.

WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

CLENT.—On Monday, March 18th, 720 Bob Minor. M. Shilvock, 1; F. Molineux, 2; W. Boughton, 3; H. Morris, 4; J. Smith, 5; C. Boughton (conductor), 6. First 720 on a bob bell by F. Molineux.

THE EASTERN COUNTIES' GUILD.

SPALDING (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday, March 17th, after evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. J. R. Mackman, 1; R. Lane (conductor), 2; W. A. Tyler, 3; J. S. Wright, 4; G. L. Richardson, 5; R. Mackman, 6; J. Brown, 7; G. Skeef, 8. Messrs. Lane and Tyler hail from Loughborough.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DARLINGTON.—On Tuesday evening, March 12th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. W. Patton, 1; J. Little, 2; W. D. Lister, 3; R. Moncaster, 4; J. Temple, 5; H. S. Taylor (conductor), 6. J. Temple hails from Hurworth-on-Tees. First 720 by 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th and 6th men.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

HAVANT (Hants).—On Monday, March 11th, at the church of St. Faith, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 43 mins. J. Hewett, 1; J. W. Whiting, 2; G. Grafham, 3; C. Privett, 4; F. Hill, 5; J. Staples, 6; G. Williams (conductor), 7; G. Instrel, 8. And 559 Grandsire Triples. W. Naylor, 1; H. Shirley (longest touch with a bob bell), 2; J. Staples, 3; C. Privett, 4; G. Instrel, 5; F. Hill, 6; J. W. Whiting, 7; G. Grafham, 8. Also 434 Grandsire Triples. J. Hewett, 1; C. Privett, 2; G. Grafham, 3; F. Hill (conductor), 4; G. Instrel, 5; J. Staples, 6; J. Whiting, 7; W. Irish, 8.

THE HEREFORDSHIRE DIOCESAN GUILD.

COBBINGTON.—On Tuesday, February 26th, at All Saints' church, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. R. Thomas (first 720 as conductor), 1; C. Hall, 2; C. Greening, 3; J. Thomas, 4; A. Layton, 5; C. Layton, 6. On Sunday, March 17th, 360 Bob Minor. H. Jeans, 1; J. Thomas, 1; C. Greening, 3; A. Layton, 4; D. Greening, 5; C. Layton (conductor), 6. This is the first touch of Bob Minor by all, and the first on the bells.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HORSHAM (Sussex).—On Sunday, March 24th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 48 mins. W. Twigg, 1; H. Burstow, 2; W. Wadey, 3; G. Rapley, 4; T. Andrews, 5; W. Short, 6; H. H. Chandler (conductor), 7; T. Hogsflesh, 8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

ROMFORD.—Handbell Ringing.—On Monday, March 25th, at the house of Mr. A. J. Perkins, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 36 mins. M. L. Myhill, 1-2; W. Nash, 3-4; A. J. Perkins (composer and conductor), 5-6; W. Pegrum, 7-8. Also 720 Bob Minor (twenty-two singles), in 18 mins. M. L. Myhill, 1-2; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 3-4; W. Nash, 5-6.

RAYLEIGH (Essex).—On Friday, March 22nd, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. C. Strugnell, 1; H. Deal, 2; J. Johnson, 3; F. Strugnell, 4; H. Brewer, 5; F. Haslam (conductor), 6. And on Sunday evening, March 24th, for Divine Service, 720 Grandsire Minor. C. Strugnell, 1; H. Deal, 2; J. Johnson, 3; F. Haslam, 4; F. Brewer, 5; F. Strugnell (conductor), 6.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

WINSHILL.—On Saturday, March 23rd, at St. Mark's church, 720 Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. Rice, 1; J. Woodward, 2; L. Bullock, 3; F. Shepherd, 4; W. Smith (conductor), 5; C. Golder, 6. Also 720 Grandsire Minor, with W. Wyld, 2; R. W. Logie, 6; the rest standing as above.

SANDIACRE (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, March 16th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). R. Hexter, 1; J. Hall, 2; W. Hexter, 3; J. Bonsall, 4; R. T. Parkins, 5; H. W. Wilde (conductor), 6. R. and W. Hexter hail from Long Eaton, and it is their first 720 of Minor. Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CHURCHAM (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, March 26th, at the parish church, 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles), in 27 mins. F. Marshall, 1; A. Webb, 2; J. Stephens, 3; J. H. Brawn (conductor), 4; R. Gardner, 5; J. Ashmead, 6. Tenor about 15 cwt. This is the first 720 by all except the conductor. F. Marshall and J. H. Brawn hail from Huntley.

EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

FRIESTON.—On Tuesday, March 19th, for practice at St. James's church, and also in honour of the birthday of A. Barber, a quarter-peal (1260 changes), of Grandsire, Bob Doubles, and Hudibras. G. Harison, 1; A. Barber, 2; E. Clayton, 3; Jos. Sharp, 4; J. Sharp (conductor), 5. Tenor 21 cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

GILLINGHAM (Kent).—On Sunday evening, March 24th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins. P. Taffs, 1; W. Preston, 2; *W. Haigh (conductor), 3; G. Lindoff, 4; W. Cooke, 5; J. Baker, 6; W. Evans, 7; A. Hore, 8. *First quarter-peal as conductor.

BEIGHTON (Derbyshire).—On Saturday, March 16th, the Norton company paid a visit to this place and rang a 720 of Bob Minor, in 28 mins. G. Oates, 1; G. Butcher, 2; J. Gaucher, 3; J. Atkin (conductor), 4; W. Biggin, 5; J. Allen, 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. G. Butcher, 1; H. Banks (Beighton), 2; J. Gaucher, 3; J. Atkin, 4; W. Biggin, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6.

BENINGTON (Herts).—On Tuesday, March 26th, for practice, 672 of London Surprise, and 448 of Cambridge Surprise. W. Hobbs, 1; John Kitchener, 2; Joseph Kitchener, 3; L. Chapman, 4; H. Baker, J. Warner, 6; C. Shambrook, 7; S. Page (conductor), 8.

COLCHESTER (Essex).—On Tuesday evening, March 12th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). W. Scott, 1; J. Kettle, 2; J. Ascott, 3; D. W. Scott, 4; G. Dent, 5; J. W. Truth (conductor), 6. First 720 on tower bells by Nos. 2, 3, and 5. Tenor 20½ cwt.

CHESTER.—On Sunday evening, March 24th, for Divine Service at the parish church, three 6-scores of Stedman Doubles. Wm. Povey, 1; Hy. Gibson, 2; W. Cross, 3; A. Cross, 4; J. Moulton (conductor), 5; R. Leasham, 6.

DARLINGTON.—On Friday, March 22nd, at St. Cuthbert's church, the St. John's ringers rang 2688 changes of Bob Major, in 1 hr. and 40 mins. W. Allen, 1; G. Park, 2; J. Little, 3; W. Lister, 4; J. K. Whitfield, 5; J. H. Whitfield, 6; R. Moncaster, 7; G. A. Overton (conductor), 8.

DARTFORD (Kent).—On Sunday evening, March 24th, for confirmation service at Holy Trinity church, 559 of Grandsire Triples. E. Everson, 1; J. Upton, 2; E. W. Snowden, 3; F. J. French (conductor), 4; H. J. Castle, 5; J. Blackman, 6; E. Everson, 7; W. Draper, 8. *Handbell Ringing*.—Several courses and touches of Grandsire Triples. J. Upton, 1-2; J. Blackman, 3-4; H. J. Castle, 5-6; F. French, 7-8.

FOLKESTONE (Kent).—On Friday, March 15th, at the parish church with the bells deeply muffled, 1003 Grandsire Triples, on the occasion of the funeral of the late Earl of Radnor. J. Croucher, 1; F. Finn, 2; J. Fisher, 3; E. Tucker, 4; H. Croucher, 5; S. Barker (conductor), 6; F. Slingsby, 7; E. Hadlow, 8. And several short touches, with the bells half-muffled.

GRIMSBY (Lincolnshire).—On Monday, March 18th, at the church of St. James, 720 Grandsire Minor in 29½ mins., with 7-8 covering. H. Fuller, 1; A. Bramall, 2; H. Wood, 3; W. H. Heyhoe, 4; G. Weldon, 5; D. Seamer (conductor), 6; J. Lamb, 7; C. Chapman, 8. The above was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the late C. Bennett, of Hull, who was a life member of the North Lincolnshire Association. First 720 with a bob bell by H. Wood.

HADLEIGH (Suffolk).—*Chiming*.—On Sunday afternoon, March 24th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). H. Everett (conductor), 1-2; W. Betts (first 720), 3; G. Bateman, 4; E. Willis (first 720), 5; J. Scowen, 6.

HINDLEY (Lancashire).—On Wednesday evening, March 20th, at St. Peter's church, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples (2520 changes), with the bells muffled at handstroke as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Mr. Unsworth, of the Balmoral Brewery, Hindley, in 1 hr. 31 mins. J. Prescott, 1; E. Brown, 2; J. Brown, 3; T. Tickle, 4; E. Prescott, 5; S. Hall (Wigan), 6; E. Bentham (Wigan), 7; George Long, 8. Conducted by Joseph Prescott. Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr.

HISTON (Cambs).—On Saturday, March 9th, at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). J. Taylor, 1; S. Brown, 2; E. Andrews, jun., 3; E. Andrews, sen., 4; H. Mansfield, 5; G. Taylor (conductor), 6. Also a 6-score each of Grandsire, Stedman, and New Doubles.

HATFIELD (Herts).—On Sunday, March 17th, for evening service 392 of Grandsire Triples. F. Stocks, 1; W. J. Rumney, 2; J. Hollingsworth, 3; J. Shepherd, 4; *H. G. Rowe (conductor), 5; J. Kentish, 6; T. Gathard, 7; G. Smith, 8. Also 111 with W. Powers, 3; the rest as before. And on Monday, March 18th, at the house of Mr. J. Kentish, on handbells retained in hand, 120 and 180 of Bob Minor. G. Smith, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; J. Hollingsworth, 3; W. Powers, 4; *H. G. Rowe (conductor), 5-6. Also on Thursday, March 21st, 720 of Bob Minor. J. Rumney, 1; J. Shepherd, 2; W. Powers, 3; J. Hollingsworth, 4; *H. G. Rowe (conductor), 5-6. First 720 by the local company. *First 720 as conductor.

LLANGOLLEN (North Wales).—On Monday, March 18th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 25 mins. J. Evans, 1; T. Williams, 2; D. E. Evans, 3; J. Davies, 4; J. W. Davies, 5; R. D. Horsepool, 6; T. Davies (conductor), 7; R. Maxwell, 8. The above was rung in honour of T. Davies' 20th birthday, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day. It is also his first attempt at calling.

LONDON.—On Sunday morning, March 17th, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins. T. Barmardin, 1; E. Wallage (conductor), 2; J. Carmichael, 3; J. Barry, 4; S. Parmenter (longest touch in the method), 5; E. Hall, 6; S. E. Joyce, 7; P. Gaymer, 8. Composed by H. Johnson, of Birmingham.

MITCHAM (Surrey).—On Saturday, March 2nd, at Christ Church, by the Wimbledon band, 720 Superlative Surprise, and 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. G. Hyde, 1; *R. Moss, 2; C. Hyde, 3; W. Cooley, 4; *A. Garrott, 5; *S. Frost (conductor), 6. Also 240 Grandsire Minor, one of the local men ringing the 2nd, the rest as before. This is the first 720 of Superlative on the bells. *Members of the Surrey Association.

MELBOURNE (Derbyshire).—On Tuesday, March 26th, at the parish church, the St. Michael's Society rang a 720 of Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 28 mins., with 7-8 covering. J. R. Wood, 1; Hy. Hollingworth, 2; J. W. Warren, 3; G. A. Fish, 4; J. Hollingworth, 5; G. C. Tunncliffe (conductor), 6; M. E. Fryer, 7; J. Bartram, 8. The above was rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. F. W. Cook, a member of the above society, to Miss E. Jenkins, which took place at St. Mary's, Cardiff on that date. All are members of the Midland Counties' Association except J. Bartram who rang the tenor.

MOSSLEY (Lancashire).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Wednesday, March 20th, the local amateur society rang at their meeting-house, Stamford Street, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor in 23 mins. J. Greaves, 1; F. Rhodes, 2; J. Holden, 3; *H. Mayall (conductor), 4; T. B. Dicken, 5; †H. Manns, 6. *First 720 as conductor. †First 720.

NORTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday morning, March 24th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Duke of York Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. G. Wood, 1; E. Glover, 2; J. Morton, 3; J. Wood (conductor), 4; J. W. Brough, 5; W. Baddeley, 6.

OLD HILL (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, March 14th, at Holy Trinity church, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. W. Green, 1; G. B. Raybould, 2; H. Cartwright, 3; C. Beasley, 4; R. Bird, 5; H. Mason (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, March 21st, 720 of Oxford Single Bob in 30 mins. G. B. Raybould, 1; J. Palmer, 2; H. Cartwright, 3; H. Mason, 4; R. Bird, 5; A. E. Parsons (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. C. Beasley hails from Cradley.

SALISBURY (Wilts).—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Friday, March 22nd, 1260 of Grandsire Triples. W. S. Wise (conductor), 1-2; W. W. Gifford, 3-4; A. W. Barkus, 5-6; A. J. Callaway, 7-8. Also on Sunday, March 24th, for Divine Service at St. Martin's church, 1260 in the same method. W. M. Lush, 1; C. A. Clements, 2; W. S. Wise, 3; A. P. Goddard, 4; S. Lawrence, 5; A. W. Barkus (conductor), 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; J. Hallett, 8.

STAPLETON (near Bristol).—On Sunday, March 11th, after evening service, 720 Treble Bob Minor. S. Phillips, 1; J. Bawn, 2; G. Colston, 3; A. Bawn, 4; G. Guy, 5; J. Hinton (conductor), 6. Also another 720 in the same method. J. Hinton, 1; A. Pike, 2; C. Trevett, 3; F. Elles, 4; W. Emery, 5; C. Burden (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, March 17th, 720 Grandsire Minor. C. Burden, 1; A. Bawn, 2; C. Gordon, 3; W. Tiler, 4; J. Bawn, 5; C. Trevett (first 720 as conductor), 6. Messrs. Phillips, Hinton, Elles, Burden, Emery, Colston and Trevett hail from Bristol; the rest belong to the local company.

TAUNTON (Somersetshire).—On Saturday, March 23rd, in St. Mary's belfry, on handbells, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins. W. Dart, 1; C. E. May, 2; G. E. Harbour, 3; J. Summerhayes, 4; J. Burge, 5; J. Maddock, 6; T. Doble (conductor), 7-8. Also 350 in the same method. G. E. Harbour, 1; C. E. May, 2; T. Doble, 3; J. Maddock, 4; J. Burge, 5; J. Summerhayes, 6; T. Radford (conductor), 7-8.

TILEHURST (Berks).—On Sunday, February 9th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples' 1260 changes. B. White, 1; W. Holloway, 2; F. Tarrant, 3; J. M. Routh, Esq., 4; C. Chapman, 5; J. Hibbert, 6; W. J. Williams (conductor) 7; W. Goseltine, 8. Also on Monday, February 10th, 504 of Grandsire Triples. F. Hopgood, 1; J. Swain, 2; F. Tarrant, 3; J. Day, 4; H. Goodger, 5; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 6; C. Chapman, 7; H. Smith, 8. And on Friday, February 14th, 504 of Grandsire Triples. C. Smith, 1; J. Hands, 2; J. Swain, 3; C. Chapman, 4; F. Hopgood, 5; A. E. Reeves (conductor), 6; J. M. Routh, Esq., 7; H. Pounds, 8.

WARWICK.—*Handbell Ringing*.—On Monday, March 25th, 144 of Bob Minor. B. Jealous, 1-2; J. Hardy, 3-4-5-6. And 240 of Grandsire Doubles. B. Jealous (conductor), 1-2; J. Hardy, 3-4; E. Brassington, 5-6. Also 120 of Stedman by the same.

Review.

[By SCRUTATOR.]

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE-RINGERS: SIXTH REPORT. — ("THE BELL NEWS" Office). This is a neatly printed and creditably arranged production of twenty-four pages. In it we are told that "since the last report was issued, a very satisfactory number of new members has been elected, bringing the roll of the Association up to the good total of 204." Financially:—"The funds of the Association are in a flourishing condition." Scientifically:—"Twenty-seven peals have been rung during the year; and this number, showing an increase of no less than thirteen, includes two additional methods. The six-bell ringers have also added another peal in seven Minor methods to the Association's record. In addition, it is worth notice, that the peals rung were generally of a higher average of merit than those reported in previous years." So that, taking these things altogether, the Committee have good cause for congratulating the members "on a successful year's work." The list of officers, I am glad to observe, is both influential and representative. But how is it they have neither Vice-President nor Chairman? The Archbishop is certainly President, but as a matter of necessity, his position must be more of a honorary than an active nature. This list, therefore, appears to me incomplete through not containing an active working officer, one whose duty it is to exercise a constant supervision over the affairs of the Association, and to preside over all meetings except on those happy occasions when the Archbishop is amongst them. Then in the arrangement of the pages, why do they place the list of officers at the commencement and the members' names at the end? If the positions of the pages containing these and that on which is a statement of the "Times of practice at Churches in Union" (a very useful page by the way) were reversed, I think the appearance of the report would be improved. Turning to the Rules, I have been pleased of late to observe the more general adoption amongst us of their first one, which states clearly what are the objects of our Associations. In earlier days some of us were too prone to forget this prefatory but highly-important portion of our rules. The remainder of these rules are framed, of course, to suit the peculiar circumstances of their own district, but how is it that no qualification is specified before a man can be elected a ringing member? It seems to me much of an anomaly for an "Association of Change-Ringers" to include members within its ranks before they have proved their claim to the title of change-ringers. But, passing over these little points, the report is, taking it altogether, a good one; it should be the means of adding fresh energy to both officers and members, and inspiring them with encouragement and hopes for the future.

I must not forget to notice the uniform manner in which the peals are arranged in this report, and the general excellence of the printing throughout.

OVERTON, FRODSHAM.

A month ago the first 6-score ever rung on the Frodsam parish church bells by a local band of ringers was accomplished. The bells are a fine ring of six, and were rehung by Messrs. Warner & Sons, of London, on the occasion of the restoration of the tower about two years ago, and provision was then made for two more bells. On the formation of the Chester Diocesan Guild of change ringers, members of the existing band, and other amateur hands who knew not how to handle a bell at all, were induced to join the Guild. Things went on very unsatisfactorily, owing to the objections of some of the Old Churchyard Bob ringers—or worse than that, *Bob Singles from cards*—who considered we were encroaching on their privileges, until September of last year, when we formed ourselves into a local society, of which I was appointed Master, but without any practical knowledge of change-ringing. Well, on December of last year we commenced handbell practising, I having in the meantime arranged with the instructor of a neighbouring parish church (Runcorn) to give us our first lesson, which he very kindly did gratis—an act which we are not likely to forget, since that time we have been left entirely to ourselves, resulting as before stated. Mr. Hoxworth some little time ago invited us to his tower, of which kind offer we availed ourselves on Saturday last, when we accomplished in very fair style three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, but on trying to proceed further met with disaster. This long yarn no doubt is very amusing to you to record three 6-scores, but I must confess that both myself and band are very highly pleased, and consider it a very great feat—the first band that ever accomplished a peal in a tower 500 years old.

If you will kindly publish (in your own condensed way) this in your next issue you will greatly oblige. We wish to take this opportunity, through your valuable paper, of thanking the Vicar of Runcorn for kindly placing his bells at our disposal.

GEO. RIGBY.

P.S.—Mr. Hoxworth is the master at Runcorn parish church, where our ringing was done on Saturday last. The following is the order:—G. Rigby (conductor), 1; G. Aston, 2; W. Forster, 3; R. Forster, 4; S. Faulkner, 5; J. Faulkner, 6.

CHADDESLEY CORBETT, WORCESTERSHIRE.

BURIAL OF THE PARISH CLERK.—A large number of villagers gathered in the churchyard on Monday afternoon week to witness the burial of Mr. William Marriott Broad, who had been for nearly forty years the parish clerk in succession to his father, who held the office for over fifty years. Mr. Broad was the head of a family much respected in the neighbourhood, and had only given up his post when compelled by declining health a couple or three years ago. On Tuesday night the previous week, when crossing his sitting-room to partake of supper, he suddenly fell, and expired from inaction of the heart, according to medical testimony. He had been long one of the ringers and a member of the choir, and muffled peals were rung at intervals during the week by members of the local society. The coffin, adorned by wreaths, was borne into the church by Mr. Horne, Mr. Law, Mr. Perrins, Mr. Pratt, and other old friends, and followed by his daughter and five sons. The procession was met by the surpliced choir and the curate-in-charge, the Rev. J. Kirby; the group entering the church singing he hymn, "Jesus lives; no longer now," with organ accompaniment, passing out to the grave while giving another hymn, "The Saints of God their conflict past." The last hymn was that beginning "Christ will gather in his own," and was sung at the graveside, accompanied on the harmonium by the organist. Muffled peals were rung after the service. Mr. Broad was in his 77th year.

THE ST. JAMES'S SOCIETY, LONDON.

Members are requested to attend the meeting on April 1st, 1889, when important business will be before the meeting.

G. T. McLAUGHLAN, Hon. Sec.

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

"FORWARD;"

A New Method for an Even Number of Bells.

By JOHN CARTER.

In last week's issue I see that Mr. H. W. Wilde, Sandiacre, has sent two peals of Forward Minor, which however, are both false. I must inform the Exercise that very great care must be taken in proving Minor, especially when the tenor is making places, and the Major peals that I have received are also false. I will now give a few of the most musical compositions I have.

The following peal is a one-part composition, the 2nd and 3rd being never in 6ths place at a course-end.

5000.

Continued— H I B O F

123456	H I B O F	345621	--
241635	-	534621	-
124635	-	413526	-
642135	-	341526	-
264135	-	134526	-
426135	-	543126	-
162435	-	354126	-
216435	-	145326	-
461235	-	514326	-
146235	-		
		241356	-
364215	-	314256	-
436215	-	431256	-
263415	-	213456	-
326415	-	321456	-
632415	-	132456	-
423615	-	423156	-
342615	-	342156	-
624315	-	234156	-
462315	-	143256	-

Last 9 Courses twice repeated produce: 2nd 9 courses three times repeated produce:

231465	H I B O F	251436	H I B O F
613425	-	165234	-
361425	-	256134	-
416325	-	625134	-
641325	-	562134	-
164325	-	126534	-
346125	-	612534	-
634125	-	521634	-
453621	-	152634	-

2nd 9 Courses twice repeated produce: 2nd 9 courses four times repeated produce:

362451	526431	652431	425631	542631	254631	123456
-	-	-	-	-	-	-

A foolish writer in a Leeds newspaper observes "a truly terrible announcement to the effect that a new set of chimes consisting of thirteen bells has been presented by some enthusiastic idiots to the parish church of that town, and that they were formerly 'opened' last Saturday by Canon Jayne. I suppose this means that the instruments of torture were declared to be in working order. These dreadful bells have been arranged to play seven tunes, and according to my contemporary, these melodies will be played consecutively four times a day at six, nine, twelve, and three o'clock!"

The following two peals are in five equal parts, and never in 6ths place at a course-end.

5000.	5000.
123456	123456
241635	462513
124635	246513
412635	-
621435	164523
162435	546123
216435	654123
461235	465123
146235	156423
264135	615423
426135	561423
642135	-
	216453
324165	621453
432165	412653
123465	241653
312465	124653
421365	642153
142365	264153
214365	146253
	614253

Last 7 courses twice repeated produce: Repeating the last 9 courses produce:

Whole four times repeated.	142563	H I B O
	564213	-
	456213	-
	645213	-
	254613	-
	425613	-

Whole four times repeated. The following peal is in three parts, and contains only the 4th, 5th, and 6th in 6ths place at a course-end, and never has two calls together throughout:

5088.	5088.
123456	123456
365214	523614
251634	631254
613524	215364
532164	356124
126354	162534
	263514
625314	531624
521364	612354
316254	325164
265134	156234
153624	-
	653214
352614	351264
621534	216534
513264	563124
236154	132654
165324	-
	235614
562314	651324
321654	152324
615234	-
253164	256314
136524	361524
	512634
632514	623154
231564	135264
516324	-
362154	536214
125634	261354
	315624
	652134
	123564

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

By HENRY J. TUCKER, Bishops Stortford.

5056.	W B H
2 3 4 5 6	
5 2 3 6 4	I I I
3 5 2 6 4	I
2 3 5 6 4	I
5 6 2 3 4	I I
2 5 6 3 4	I
6 3 2 5 4	I I
2 6 3 5 4	I
3 2 6 5 4	I
5 3 2 4 6	I I I
2 5 3 4 6	I
3 2 5 4 6	I

Three times repeated, with a single at the end of 2nd and 4th part ends. It contains the 4th and 5th each twelve times wrong, and sixteen times right, and the 6th twelve times wrong, and twelve times right. First rung by the Essex Association, at St. Michael's church, Bishops Stortford, Herts, on December 31st, 1888. Conducted by its composer.

A DATE TOUCH OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By JNO. T. HOLLIS, Wakefield.

1889.

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

3 4 2 5 6 7 8 9	6
4 2 3 5 6 7 8 9	6
7 5 4 9 2 8 3 6	1
3 6 7 2 8 4 9 5	3
4 2 3 5 6 9 7 8	1
2 3 4 5 6 9 7 8	6
8 9 2 7 5 6 3 4	2
6 7 8 4 9 3 2 5	1
8 9 6 7 2 4 5 3	5
4 7 8 3 9 5 6 2	1
5 3 4 2 7 6 8 9	1
3 4 5 2 7 6 8 9	6
2 4 3 6 5 9 7 8	7
4 3 2 6 5 9 7 8	6
2 5 4 3 7 6 8 9	5
5 4 2 3 7 6 8 9	6
3 4 5 6 2 9 7 8	7
4 5 3 6 2 9 7 8	6
3 2 4 5 7 6 1 9	5
2 4 3 5 7 6 8 9	6
5 4 2 6 3 9 7 8	7
3 2 5 6 3 9 7 8	6
9 6 4 8 2 7 5 3	1
3 7 9 5 8 2 6 4	2
Round at	2

In this touch the 6th is the extent behind the 9th.

A DATE TOUCH OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By A. SYKES, Huddersfield.

1889.

2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 Odd change.

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

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."

FESTIVALS AND PEAL-RINGING DURING LENT.

SIR,—“Looker-on” in his short but to the point epistle has revived a question which to those whom it concerns will prove a knotty one to answer. I remember that in my first tower it was the rule in accordance with the instructions of the vicar—now ex-dean of Winchester—to abstain from practice upon the tower bells during Lent. By the inquisitive inhabitants the vicar was regarded as favouring the High Church party of that day, but which in the present would be considered “broad.” Since that time there has been a gradual revival of the services in the church and the clergy; nine out of every ten are now striving their utmost to bring back the masses into the pale of the church, where they are taught in accordance with the principles of the Prayer-book to observe Lent as a fast. It is not a question of Low, Broad, or High Church views, it is all but universal, there only remaining a few benighted villages where true Church life has not revived; these happily are year by year gradually decreasing. Ringing Associations have sprung into existence under the plea that there is a need of belfry reform, looking at it from a true Church point of view, the cry is a false one with those who indulge in ringing festivals or peal-ringing during the season of Lent, for their belfry reform is but skin deep. Peals are rung either for pleasure, or as a proof of skill in the science of change-ringing. The Church has anciently observed the season of Lent as a solemn one in which she teaches her children to abstain from the pleasures of the world, and

above all to fast from sins of fashion. Thus observed it has proved a means of comfort to multitudes of souls “gone before,” and many still with us. Ringers as a body claim to be church workers, how can they expect to be recognised as such while they themselves ignore the teaching of the Church, and indulge in the discreditable practice of peal-ringing during its most holy season?

A MEMBER OF THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

“SCRUTATOR” AND THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD REPORT.

SIR,—In his review of the above report “Scrutator” says that out of the number of peals rung last year “fourteen were Grandsire Triples.” This is wrong, as one was Stedman Triples. With regard to what he says about the “displayed titles” and “elaborate borderings” to the peals in the report, I beg to say that I (not the printer) am responsible for these. I made a special request that the more important peals should be surrounded by a border, and that the titles of all should be displayed. I am sorry also to say that what he says about the small number of change-ringers among our 286 ringing members is quite true. In fact, many of our members are, and have no intention of ever being anything else, but round-ringers.

J. R. JERRAM, Gen. Sec. S.D.R.G.

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—In your peal column of the 23rd March you erroneously state that a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at “the parish church,” Staunton Harold, Leicestershire. I purposely omitted any mention of a church because I should have been in error had I done so. The bells, as I stated last week, are hung in the private chapel of the Right Hon. Earl Ferrers.

WALTER CANNER.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HOLBORN BARS, LONDON.

Extracts from the FORTIETH ANNUAL REPORT. Year ending 31st December, 1888.

ORDINARY BRANCH. The number of Policies issued during the year was 42,475, assuring the sum of £4,399,769, and producing a New Annual Premium Income of £235,487.

The Premiums received during the year were £718,848, being an increase of £183,717 over the year 1887.

The Claims of the year amounted to £210,056. The number of Policies in force was 146,966.

INDUSTRIAL BRANCH.—The Premiums received during the year were £3,256,346, being an increase of £197,845.

The claims of the year amounted to £1,231,186. The number of Deaths was 142,751.

The expenses are one-and-a-quarter per cent. lower than those of the previous year.

It is a source of much satisfaction to the Directors to be able to state that their efforts to promote the stability of Industrial Policies continue to be most successful, for, notwithstanding the enormous increase in this Branch during the past two years, the average duration of the 8,063,293 policies in force on 31st December last is now no less than six years.

Upwards of 40,000 Free Policies have been granted during the year to those Policy-holders of five years' standing who have desired to discontinue their payments.

The total assets of the Company have been raised during the year from £7,867,103 to £9,302,007, being an increase of £1,434,904.

GENERAL BALANCE SHEET OF THE PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED, ON THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1888.

LIABILITIES.

	£	s.	d.
Shareholders' Capital	200,000	0	0
Ordinary Branch Funds	2,819,098	3	6
Industrial Branch Fund	6,272,560	7	5
Claims under Life Policies admitted	10,348	5	11

£9,302,006 16 10

ASSETS.

	£	s.	d.
British Government Securities (Consols)	1,188,063	15	5
Railway and other Debentures	1,573,354	19	7
Loans on Municipal and other Rates	1,705,279	1	6
Freehold Ground Rents and Scotch Feu Duties	1,757,087	14	9
Metropolitan Board of Works Stock and City of London Bonds	160,568	10	0
Bank of England Stock	44,301	16	10
Freehold and Leasehold Property	704,436	15	11
Indian, Colonial, and Foreign Government Securities	625,089	0	6
Reversions	125,316	7	4
Railway and other Shares	17,794	4	1
Mortgages	853,796	19	3
Loans on the Company's Policies	72,244	14	0
Furniture and Fittings	17,500	0	0
Loans upon Personal Security	705	0	0
Outstanding Premiums	263,819	2	2
Cash in hands of Superintendents and Agents' Balances	37,623	16	10
Outstanding Interest and Rents	74,158	0	3
Cash—On deposit, on current accounts, and in hand	80,861	18	5

£9,302,006 16 10

THOS. C. DEWEY,
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W. J. LANCASTER, Secretary.

EDGAR HORNE, Chairman.
HENRY HARBEN,
PATRICK FRASER, } Directors.

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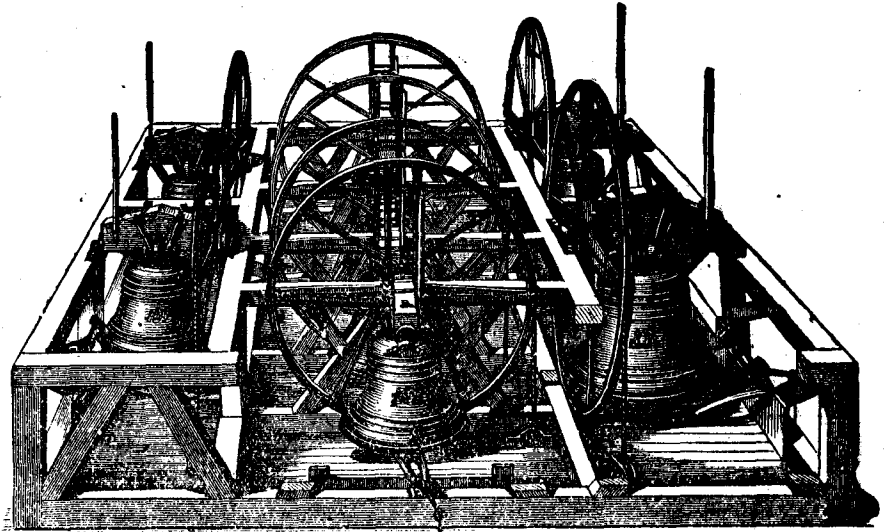
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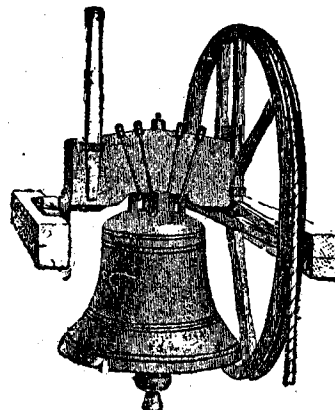
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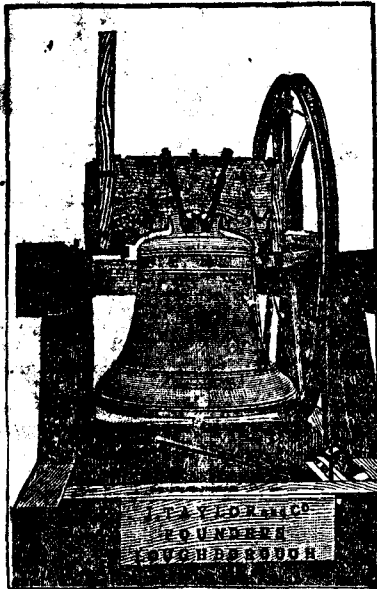
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