THE

# BELL NEWS

## And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 389.—*VOL.* VIII. SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 1889. TWO PENCE.

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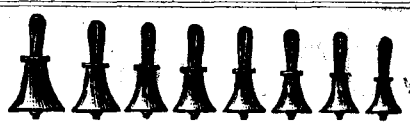

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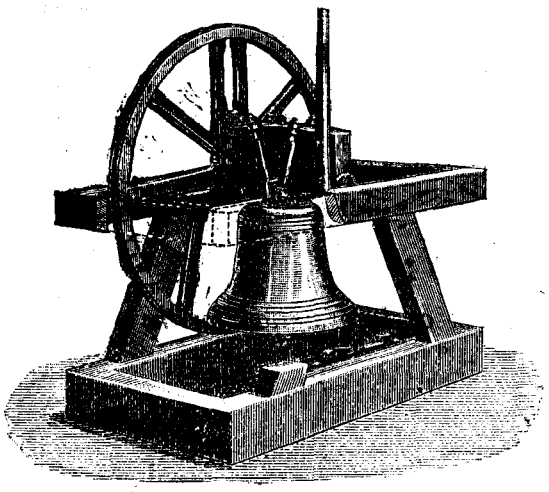

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## MR. JOSEPH HENRY HARDCASTLE, OF BRADFORD.

[*Vide Portrait.*]

The subject of our portrait this week was born at Halifax, on March 28th, 1842. His father and grandfather (particularly the latter) being well-known and energetic ringers, his earliest associations were in connection with the bells of the ancient parish church. Very early in life he developed a strong desire to ring a bell, and become acquainted with the mysteries of change-ringing. There was at that time in connection with the parish church at Halifax a good company of ringers, second to very few, in fact, in the whole county, for good striking; but, like most of the ringers of that day, they shewed little or no disposition to help on a young recruit.

Young Joseph Henry, however, was not to be daunted by a difficulty of this kind, so getting together a few of his schoolmates and companions, they met on an evening, tied the clappers, and thus, though slowly, learnt how to manage a bell. Then they obtained permission to raise the bells on the company's practice nights, and have a brief spell with the clappers clear, till the regular ringers arrived. When ringing was over they eventually were allowed to take part in lowering the bells in peal, and occasionally when the practice touch came to grief, and the ringers did not feel inclined to commence afresh, were favoured by being permitted to have a ring round with the seniors. In view of this possibility ofttimes did young Hardcastle, as he sat in the belfry window, mentally pray for a "smash up," so that he might get the chance of a pull.

This went on until 1860, when his patience and perseverance were rewarded by his being elected a member of the company, a vacancy having occurred. He then found scope for the exercise of his abilities, and on February 19th, 1861, rang his first peal—one of Kent Treble Bob Major. The following year he rang the tenor in his second peal, his grandfather ringing the treble. On December 5th, 1863, he rang the 6th in a 10,000 of Kent Treble Bob Royal at Bradford parish church, composed by Henry Johnson. He conducted his first peal (5120 Kent Treble Bob Major) on April 23rd, 1867, at Halifax parish church, which peal was also composed by him.

His total number of peals is close upon 100, comprising Grandsire Triples and Caters, Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob Major, Royal, and Maximus. He also took part in an attempt to accomplish Thomas Day's peal of 17,000 Kent Treble Bob Major at Earlsheaton, which failed after over 10,000 changes had been rung.

During this period change-ringing contests were much in vogue throughout Yorkshire and Lancashire. Like many others he entered enthusiastically into these "trials of skill," as they were termed; taking part in fourteen, in only one of which he failed to come away without winning a prize, and in most of which he officiated as conductor. The company with which he rang were also successful in winning the second prize at the only change-ringing contest on handbells ever held at Belle Vue Gardens, Manchester.

In 1872, he removed to Bradford, when he joined the Old Society. Some time after, on the retirement from the post of his old friend, Mr. Joseph Cheetham, he was unanimously elected conductor of the Society, an office which he still holds.

In the Yorkshire Association he has been a member of the committee for some years back, and joins heartily in its work and all projects tending to increase its strength and usefulness. He acted as Hon. Treasurer of the fund for the presentation to the late Jasper W. Snowdon, which was made at Sheffield on October 3rd, 1885.

As a ringer, Mr. Hardcastle's abilities are well-known and recognised. He is a remarkably safe conductor, particularly in his favourite Treble Bob. But his chief aim and anxiety in all his ringing is to have good striking, and many times, in conducting peals and touches he has called stand when the ringing has not been to his mind sufficiently creditable. "Even if we have less ringing," he would say, "let us have it fit to be heard."

In bringing this brief sketch to a close, we would add that Mr. Hardcastle's ringing career has been characterised by an earnest desire for the welfare of the Exercise and the promotion of good scientific change-ringing. Although not endowed with a strong robust constitution, and been a "toiler" from his very boyhood, he has yet neglected no opportunities for doing what laid in his power in that direction. We have therefore much pleasure in furnishing our readers with the "semblance of his features" (as our friend "Free Lance" would say). Of late, unfortunately, Mr. Hardcastle's health has been far from what his friends would like it to be; but we trust it may soon be fully restored, and that he will ere long be in harness again with his company at the Bradford parish church.

### A Reminiscence.

In connection with our portrait and sketch this week, the following extract from the *Halifax Guardian* of February 25th, 1865, respecting Mr. Hardcastle's grandfather, will not be uninteresting:—

"Death of an Old Ringer.—We have this week to record the death, at a ripe old age, of a ringer who, for nearly sixty years has been connected with the fine peal of bells in our parish church. We refer to Mr. William Hardcastle, who died on Tuesday noon, aged seventy-five years, after a short illness. When still young, he turned his attention to bell-ringing; and rang his first peal (of 5000 changes) at Keighley in 1807. On the 25th of March, 1811, he performed the arduous task of ringing the tenor bell in a complete peal of Bob Major, which occupied 3 hrs. 15 mins. This he did with so much ease, though the bell weighed 26 cwt., that his fellow-ringers weighed him as soon as the peal was over, and found that he only weighed 7 stone 1 lb.! On May 29th, 1815, he took the 4th bell in the first peal of Treble Bob Royal rung on the bells at Halifax, after the addition of the two bells that year. On the 24th of June the same year, he rang the tenor in a peal of Grandsire Caters, which occupied 3 hrs. and 13 mins.; and it was when this peal was just completed that news was brought of the glorious victory of Waterloo. Since that time he has never ceased to be connected with the parish church, and has rung in several celebrated peals varying from 5000 to 6000. The last he rang (the treble bell) and also conducted, in 1862, with his own grandson at the tenor, which was an event peculiarly gratifying to the old ringer. In his day he saw the bells increased from eight to ten, and subsequently to twelve, or rather thirteen, which, by an arrangement not known to exist anywhere else in England, affords seven Major peals, viz:—one of 12, one of 10, two of 8, and three of 6, besides a Minor peal of 8. For nearly twenty years he kept the "Ring of Bells" inn, and was for six years a Town Councillor, retiring only last November. He was a staunch Conservative, and his uniform excellence of character made him respected by all with whom he came in contact."

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The Second Quarterly Meeting of the year will be held at Melbourne, on Saturday, September 21st, and the bells of the parish church (eight bells), will be open for ringing from 2 p.m. Committee Meeting in the National School-room at 5 o'clock. Tea (one shilling each) at 5.30. General Meeting immediately afterwards. Visiting Members who give notice of their intention to be present to the Local Secretary of their district, will only be charged sixpence each. Through the kindness of W. D. Fane, Esq., the Melbourne Hall Gardens will be open to visitors during the afternoon. Joseph Griffin, *Hon. Sec.*

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

To the Deaf.—A Person cured of Deafness and noises in the head of 23 years standing by a simple remedy, will send a description of it free to any person who applies to Nicholson, 21, Bedford Square, London, W.C.



INK-PHOTO, SPRAGUE & Co LONDON.

Mr. Joseph Henry Hardcastle.
( of Bradford, Yorks)

## ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH TOWER, COVENTRY.

[FROM "THE BUILDING WORLD."]

We are given to understand that the result of the consideration of the report of the sub-Committee of the Architects of the Incorporated Church Building Society by the Committee for the restoration was to the effect that the proposal to fill up the windows and add buttresses was not entertained for a moment, but that the opinion expressed unanimously therein, that the tower as it stands now is not fit to take the bells, was accepted by all, and a resolution was passed ordering the completion of the stone groining, which was understood to be quite incompatible with putting the bells in the tower so that they could be rung.

So far, so good: and this negatives the contention raised by Mr. Christian, with the authority of Mr. Pearson, and endorses the judgment of the majority of the sub-Committee of the Architects of the Incorporated Church Building Society, consisting of Messrs. Brooks, Carpenter, White, and Seddon. Meanwhile Mr. Webster, the clerk of works employed on the work, has started a fresh hare (? March), embodied in a letter addressed by him to Lord Leigh, which, in our opinion, is in every way unadvised, considering his position as assistant to the architect in charge, Mr. John O. Scott, but more so from the nature of the scheme he has propounded in it.

In fairness to him, however, and having due regard to the importance of the patient to whom he would apply his quack remedy, we will give his letter in full.

"New Bablake Schools,
Coventry, August 16th, 1889.

To the Right Honourable the Lord Leigh, etc.

My Lord,—As the Committee of Architects have decided that the steeple of St. Michael's church, as now restored, is not strong enough to allow the bells to be rung up in full peal, I beg to be allowed to propose a scheme by which an inconceivable amount of strength may be imparted to it without any disfigurement.

Build wrought-iron plates into the horizontal joints of the interior faces of the walls, in such number, and at such distances apart, as may be found desirable; well bedded and pointed up in pure Portland cement.

It is a well-known fact that iron built into walls will never rust or corrode, because the atmosphere cannot get at it. On this principle, iron hoop bond is always built into thin brick walls—it adds great strength to them, and certainly never rusts. Where iron is built and bedded in with pure Portland cement the strength obtained is immense, because Portland cement has an affinity for iron, as it has for stone. It is, practically speaking, as hard as iron, and goes right into the stone. (If iron is objected to, use copper).

This fact—which cannot be questioned—being admitted, that a plate of iron used in this way *must* strengthen the wall to such an extent that it is impossible to estimate or to calculate it, the only problem to be solved is one of simple multiplication; put as many of these bands into the walls as will make the steeple strong enough to allow the bells to be *rung up in full peal in the octagon.*

Let the ringers' floor be just above the groined ceiling, and keep the lovely interior intact.

This question, being eminently of a *practical* character in building construction, and not being a question of *architecture*, as we usually understand that word, I would suggest to your Lordship that you should invite all the builders and clerks of works of Coventry to meet you at a public meeting to discuss it, and if my proposal is approved, to decide as to the best means of carrying it out.

Your Lordship will clearly understand that, if my proposal is approved, there will be no possibility of the walls ever cracking again, because, before they can crack, the iron must break, and the tensile strength of wrought iron is so great that such an event is utterly impossible.

But I assure your Lordship that the bells had nothing whatever to do with the cracks—they were caused by the bad foundation, and nothing else—and this I shall prove to the satisfaction of your Lordship and the public. I do not think it would be necessary to insert any bands on the outside—except perhaps in the lowest stage—as the Runcorn stone with which it is restored is so extremely hard and thoroughly well bonded that it requires no further support.

I may, if your Lordship thinks well, read a paper on this subject at the next general meeting of the Clerks of Works' Association in London, and ask them to appoint a committee of five members to examine the steeple, and report to you as to whether my proposal, if carried out, would or would not give the additional strength to the steeple required for the ringing up the bells in the octagon.

I leave the matter to be decided by the knowledge and experience of your Lordship, of the builders and clerks of works of Coventry, and of the members of the Clerks of Works' Assoeiation.

I have the honour to be, my Lord;
Your Lordship's most obedient, humble servant,
G. R. WEBSTER."

Mr. Webster seems to be under some apprehension that his proposal of iron to be the material of the plates he would embed in the walls may be objected to, and fortifies himself in such case by the suggestion that copper might be substituted. Let us set his mind at rest on this score at once. Iron has been largely used by no less an architect than Sir Christopher Wren, and with what disastrous results numerous of his buildings testify at the present moment, massive stones in them being absolutely dislocated by the rust. It may be, and is, true that Portland cement is a temporary preservative from this, and that when iron is completely covered by it it will take much longer for damp to penetrate to the metal; yet assuredly in time it will do so. We have ourselves seen iron bedded in cement in walls built twenty years ago, which, when those walls have been pulled down, did not seem to have been affected by rust; yet, on the other hand, we have seen, within the last few days, figures composed of Portland cement with the heads split open by the expansion of iron bars enclosed in them, and in another case with an arm broken off by the same agency. But granting for a moment that for iron copper might be substituted (at what cost ?), what Mr. Webster proposes is to strengthen the tower by the insertion of a succession of bands on the inside of the tower. We have pointed out that, admirably as the work of restoration has been done, the exterior has been recased with a thickness of some eighteen inches, which can be only more or less incorporated with the core of the wall, and a similar treatment of the interior facings would simply have the same result, and the walls of the tower would be then of three vertical divisions, not wholly, but only more or less connected together; and however strong the inner casing might be so made, its very strength, as being dissociated from the rest of the walling, would prove a scource of weakness to the tower.

The representative of the *Coventry Times*, who interviewed this enterprising clerk of works, seems quite to have appreciated the humour of the occasion, and to have considerably drawn him out on the subject; and with regard to his concluding remark, in which he stated his hopes that his project will be most thoroughly and completely thrashed out at a public meeting (which, we regret to see, Lord Leigh has given notice of convening for the purpose), he says, "This was so very emphatic that I closed my note-book, and bade Mr. Webster a cordial 'Good-day.'"

Lord Leigh is reported to have expressed strong opposition to the erection of a new bell-tower, but for what reason we are at a loss to conceive; for, presuming the funds obtainable (and one gentleman has offered to defray half its cost), Coventry, already the poorer by the loss of the three steeples of its destroyed Cathedral, would be architecturally the gainer; and the bell-ringers of Coventry might then ring their fine peal of bells to their hearts' content without fear of damaging their tower, which, banded internally with iron (or copper) or not, would, according to the consensus of opinion of the experts consulted, remain ever in peril.

## STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION

A General Meeting will be held in Christ Church schoolroom, Tunstall, on Saturday, September 21st, to see what steps can be taken to float this Association. Ringing at 4.30; Meeting at 5 o'clock. E. GLOVER, *Hon. Sec.*

THE RINGERS' GUIDE TO THE CHURCH BELLS OF DEVON. By C. PEARSON, M.A Price One Shilling, or bound in cloth, 1s. 6d. Postage Threepence.

HOW TO LEARN CHANGE-RINGING WITHOUT AN INSTRUCTOR.—By the same Author. Price Threepence: by post Fourpence, or six copies for 1s. 3d.—WILLIAM POLLARD AND CO., Printers, Exeter.

## REOPENING OF STOKENHAM CHURCH BELLS, DEVON.

THE peal of six bells at Stokenham Church, South Devon, says the *Exeter Daily Gazette*, were reopened on the 6th instant by members of the Devonshire Guild of Ringers, drawn from the St. David's Society, Exeter. Originally there were five bells in the tower, cast by Pennington, Cornwall, and bearing date 1776. A tenor, weighing 15 cwt. was added in 1833, Hambling being the maker. For many years, however, these bells hadn ot been rung, owing to the fact that the treble, fifth, and tenor had become cracked. When the present Vicar (the Rev. Conrad Finzel) entered into occupation ot the living he determined to get the peal perfected and rehung, for the cage had also fallen into a state of dilapidation. He opened a fund and received the generous assistance of the parishioners, among whom Mr. and Mrs. Holdsworth must be particularly mentioned. Messrs. Taylor and Son, the well-known bell-founders, of Loughborough, were entrusted with the work. They have recast the treble, fifth, and tenor, and matched them to a nicety with the other bells. In addition they have fitted the peal in one of their new iron cages, and supplied all new fittings. For compactness and neatness the work could hardly be surpassed; and the iron cage which is the first constructed in any tower in Devonshire, will probably be generally adopted in the future. The present tenor is 15½ cwt., and is in F sharp. The total cost of the work has been about £300, and nearly the whole of the money has been subscribed. The opening band comprised Messrs. F. Shepherd, J. Moss, A. W. Searle, T. Roberts, T. Mudge, J. Ball, and F. Davey, and the other members of the Society accompanying the band were Messrs. C. W. Bartlett and H. Harris. On reaching Stokenham the opening band and companies of round ringers from Sherford, Chivelstone, West Alvington, Kingsbridge, and the local campanologists, numbering about sixty, sat down in the reading-room to an excellent luncheon, supplied by Mr. and Mrs. Luscombe. The chair was taken by the Vicar, and the vice-chair by Mr. Coaker (Churchwarden). There were also present the Rev. F. Dickinson, Messrs. R. C. Balkwill, T. Walters, P. Cole, W. S. Barons, &c. After the repast, the loyal toasts were given from the chair and duly honoured. The Chairman, in the course of a few remarks, said the restoration of the bells had been his great wish ever since he entered the parish. Their thanks were due in a great measure to Mrs. Holdsworth, for it was her energy and encouragement which induced them to a large extent to carry out the work. He trusted that among the parishioners they would be able to form a strong band who would eventually ring the bells in good style. On the proposition of the Vicar, the health of Mr. Taylor, senior member of the firm who did the work, and himself a Devonshire man, was heartily drunk. Mr. Taylor briefly replied, expressing a hope that it was not the last time he should attend a similar event in Devon. An adjournment was then made to the belfry. The bells were risen in peal by the Guild band, after which some six-scores of Grandsire Doubles were performed in excellent style, and to the delight of all. The round ringers next handled the bells, after which the Guild men again took them in hand. General satisfaction was expressed with the "go" of the bells and the pretty peal they formed. Shortly before 5 o'clock the ringers were provided with tea, which they thoroughly enjoyed. A start was made for home just after 5 o'clock. A stoppage was made at Stoke Fleming, where the fine peal of six were rung on scientific principles in first-rate style. It may be mentioned that this was the first time half-pull ringing was performed on the Stokenham and Stoke Fleming bells.

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At Baron St. David's Church, Somerset, as also in a neighbouring church, there is a hagioscope in the belfry which enables the ringer to see when to toll the tenor bell at the elevation of the Host, "that the outer world might learn when the wondrous story of a man's redemption was again called to remembrance." As but few Mediæval churches had special sancte-bell turrets, this arrangement was a good one for the purpose.—*The Architect.*

Mr. Corbett, M.P. for the Droitwich Division of Worcestershire, has decided to restore Dodderhill Church at a cost of £1,000. The parishioners have passed a resolution heartily thanking the hon. member, who is the patron of the living.

## THE S. NICHOLAS' SOCIETY, GREAT YARMOUTH.

On Tuesday, August 27th, twelve members of the above society, with Mr. H. Hopkins, of the Royal Cumberland Youths, London, and Mr. Geo. Smith, of St. Peter's Mancroft, Norwich, paid a visit to Cambridge for the purpose of ringing and sight-seeing. Having safely arrived at Cambridge about 10.30, the Rev. Phipps (formerly a student at Clare College, but now curate at Great Yarmouth), kindly acted as guide to the company, and in a very short time had conducted them through many of the principal places, which was real enjoyment. The Rev. J. F. Hastings (guide No. 2) then lead the party to St. Mary's, where everything was in readiness. Mr. Long (Master of the Yarmouth company) soon set the back ten going to a musical touch of Grandsire Caters. The company then had one or two touches of knife and fork surprise, which was well struck, and conducted by Mr. Webb, of Cambridge. Guide No. 1 was now ready to again conduct the party round the different places of interest, then another pull at St. Mary's, of Caters and Grandsire Cinques. A move was then made to St. Andrew's, where there is a handy peal of eight. One or two touches of Grandsire Triples was tapped off, in which some of our Cambridge friends took part, also in the Caters at St. Mary's. Time was up to be getting to the station, and at 6.10 the company were gliding along the railway metals for home, every one having thoroughly enjoyed their outing. The Revs. Phipps and Hastings deserve the greatest praise for the able manner in which they superintended the outing, and their kindness to all.

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## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting will be held at Pudsey on the *second* Saturday in October and not on the *first*. Full particulars in the circulars which will be issued as usual in September.

W. WHITAKER, *Hon. Sec.*

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## THE "GILES MANSFIELD" MEMORIAL FUND.

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Amount already advertised ... ... ... ... | 5 | 9 | 3 |
| Mr. W. H. Fussell (Slough) ... ... ... ... | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Mr. Howell (Thornbury) ... ... ... ... | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| Rev. R. P. Davies (Hatherop) ... ... ... | 0 | 5 | 0 |

Further subscriptions will be thankfully received and acknowledged by me. I wish to thank all subscribers, and sincerely trust that all friends who can send ever so small an amount will do so as soon as possible, so that we can close the appeal by the end of September. £8 would cover expenses in making and fixing the stone.

WILLIAM HALE (Sexton),
*Painswick, Gloucestershire.*

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## THE BELFRY BELL.

(From "The Belfry Bell; Thoughts for Every Hour." By Emily C. Orr.)

HARK, ye neighbours! and hear me tell:
*One* now strikes on the belfry bell.
One God above, one Lord indeed,
Who hears us in our time of need.

Hark, ye neighbours! and hear me tell:
*Two* now strikes on the belfry bell.
Two ways before mankind are free;
Neighbour, choose the best for thee.

Hark, hark! the belfry bell strikes *Three:*
Think on the blessed Trinity.
The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost
Warn thee; be watchful at thy post.

Hark, hark! the belfry bell strikes *Four:*
Those sounds instruct in Gospel lore.
St. Matthew, Mark, and Luke, and John
Bring tidings of salvation.

Hark, hark! the belfry bell strikes *Five:*
Arouse these, keep thy lamp alive.
Five foolish virgins oil forgot,
The bridegroom came, they saw Him not.

Hark! now the belfry bell strikes *Six:*
It doth the days of labour fix.
Creation's works Almighty God
Created in that period.

Hark, hark! the belfry bell strikes *Seven:*
It is the sabbath sound from heaven.
The Lord did on the seventh day rest,
That day He hallowed and blessed.

Hark, hark! the belfry bell strikes *Eight:*
Repent thee, e'er it be too late.
In Noah's days but eight of all
Mankind escaped the general fall.

Hark! now again the bell strikes *Nine:*
Let not the lepers' sin be thine.
One only turned back to pray,
The other nine,—ah! where are they?

Hark, ye neighbours! and hear me tell:
*Ten* now strikes on the belfry bell.
Ten are the holy Commandments given
To man below, from God in heaven.

Hark, hark! the bell now strikes *Eleven:*
E'en at this hour admission's given.
Go to the vineyard, work, aspire,
Though late to earn full labourer's hire.

Hark, ye neighbours! and hear me tell:
*Twelve* now strikes on the belfry bell,
Twelve Apostles of holy mind
Taught the Gospel to mankind.

## THE MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

A General Meeting of the North Middlesex Association was held at Finchley, on Saturday, September 7th, when it was unanimously resolved to omit the word "North" from the title of the Association, and the rules framed by the Provisional Committee were taken into consideration and adopted with one or two trifling alterations. Twenty-two new performing members were enrolled, ten from Tottenham, six from Barnet, four from Hadley, one from Finchley, and one from Edgware, and officers for the ensuing year were appointed, Mr. T. Card of Finchley being unanimously elected Master, Mr. W. Tubb of Finchley, Treasurer, and F. A. Milne, Esq. of Hadley, Secretary, and the remaining places on the Committee being filled up by the appointment of Messrs. H. Martin, Cornell, Knight, Skinner, G. B. Lucas and Dell. The Annual General Meeting of the Association will in future years be held on the first Saturday in October; Tottenham being the place of *rendezvous* for 1890. The Secretary begs to call particular attention to the following rules, viz., Rule (3) That Honorary Members shall subscribe not less than 5s. annually, or by a donation of not less than £2. 2s. become Life Members. That Performing Members shall pay an annual subscription of 1s., and that all subscriptions shall become due on the 1st January in each year. Rule (4) That no person shall be admitted as a Peforming Member if he belongs to a band till he be certified by the captain of his band to be desirous of learning change-ringing, or if he does not belong to a band till he be recommended by two Performing Members to the Secretary, but that any ringer duly certified or recommended as aforesaid shall be admitted as a Performing Member at the Annual General Meeting or at any Meeting of the Committee. Rule (8) That any person wishing to attempt a peal with the Association may be proposed, seconded, and elected previous to the attempt being made, provided that not less than four Performing Members in the case of a six-bell peal, or six Performing Members in the case of an eight-bell peal take part in the peal, and that the conductor shall at once report the election to the Secretary in order that the same may be ratified at the next meeting of the Committee.

F. A. MILNE, *Hon. Sec.*

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LIVERPOOL BRANCH.—On Saturday, September 7th, a Special Meeting of the above Branch was held at Ormskirk and ringers attended from the following places: Aughton, Bolton, Blackburn, Croston, Hindley, Ormskirk, Liverpool and Southport. The Rev. D. Jones was voted to the chair, and addressing the the ringers present informed them the reason why a special meeting had been called was to consider some new rules, etc., and to appoint a new Secretary in place of Mr. J. R. Pritchard, who had resigned. After a few remarks as regards new rules, expenses, etc., it was decided to postpone anything definite until the annual meeting of the Association, which will be held shortly. The next object was to appoint a new Secretary, and after a few remarks it was decided to have a Secretary and Treasurer. On being put to the vote Mr. W. Bentham (Aughton) was appointed Secretary, and Mr. W. James (Liverpool) Treasurer. There were three new members proposed and seconded, viz., John Taylor, John Hodge and William Lea, from Christ Church, Aughton. Croston was the next place selected for the meeting, which will be held on Saturday, September 21st. Mr. J. Retford then made a few remarks as to the annual meeting, &c., and dwelt at some length on the loss the Association will sustain by the worthy chairman leaving Lancashire and being appointed to a higher position at Lichfield Cathedral. The worthy chairman thanked the ringers for their good wishes, and spoke very feelingly to all the ringers present, and after a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman, and to the Vicar of Ormskirk for the use of the school-room, the meeting was brought to a close. During the afternoon the bells of Ormskirk Parish Church and Christ Church, Aughton, were open for the ringers, and several touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major Kent Treble Bob Major were successfully brought round; and it is very creditable to Mr. J. Prescott (Ormskirk), and Mr. H. Cave (Aughton), to have the bells in such capital going order.

## ST. MARY'S AND ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY, KIDDERMINSTER.

On Saturday, September the 7th, the ringers of the above Society had their annual trip, Great Malvern being the place selected. They left Kidderminster, accompanied by their Vicar, the Rev. Sydney Phillips, at 3 o'clock, and arrived at Malvern Link Station about 4 o'clock. A move was at once made for the Priory Church, which is one of the noblest of the parish churches in England, being almost a cathedral in extent, and the stained glass is truly magnificent. The tower is 124 feet high, and contains a good peal of bells, which most of our readers are aware, were augmented from six to eight in the Jubilee year. Permission had been asked to ring a peal, but only time for a quarter-peal was allowed, which was successfully accomplished by the following band:—J. Bennett, 1; W. Watreman, 2; G. Salter, 3; J. Bennett, jun., 4; R. E. Grove, 5; J. T. Salter (conductor), 6; J. Crane, 7; J. Leach, 8. This quarter-peal was composed by the Editor. After which W. Wilks of Worcester, E. F. Cole of Kensington, and F. Jelf and other Malvern ringers, entered the ringing-chamber and complimented the ringers on their striking. A touch of Stedman with Messrs. Wilkes and Cole standing in was attempted but came to grief in the last course. A 504 of Grandsire was more successful, and was rung by the following—J. T. Salter, 1; W. Watreman, 2; H. A. Knowles, 3; E. F. Cole, 4; H. Wilks, 5; F. Jelf (conductor), 6; R. E. Grove, 7; J. Crane, 8. Not being time for anything else the bells where lowered in peal and a very agreeable meeting was brought to a close. The band were then invited to tea by their Vicar, which was greatly enjoyed by all. The ringers through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS" wish to thank the Vicar of Malvern for his kindness in granting them the use of the bells.

## ACCIDENT TO A RINGER.

On Saturday, October 7th, Messrs. W. Rowland, and R. C. Burrell of Chelmsford; A. Tarbun and C. Boxall, of Widford; W. Lincoln and A. Edwards, of Writtle; and W. Hawkes, of Springfield; journeyed to Coggeshall, sixteen miles from Chelmsford, by brake, for the purpose of attempting a peal of Grandsire Triples on the bells. Leaving Chelmsford at 2.30, a pleasant drive was enjoyed till just before reaching Kelvedon, when a sharp shower came on; Mr. C. Elliott who had gone on from Chelmsford by rail, then joined the party, and rode on to Coggeshall, 2¼ miles further. Arriving there at 5 o'clock, they at once proceeded to the tower, where Mr. J. Nichols, the steeple-keeper, was waiting to receive them. Three or four of the ringers went up to look at the bells and fittings, and feeling satisfied that everything was in good order as concerning ropes and grease, two of the ropes being up, the 5th and tenor, they at once descended to get in readiness for a start. Mr. W. Lincoln pulled the tenor off and A. Edwards the 5th at the same time, but the first stroke of the 5th put a termination to the proceedings. Mr. Edwards thinking the bell set deep at back, stuck to the tail-end of the rope, and went up with terrific force against the girders about 15 feet high, which sent him back again with equal force to the ground. He was instantly picked up and taken outside and carried to an inn close by, and put to bed. A doctor was at once sent for and it was found that no bones were broken, but he was severely shaken. The Vicar, Rev. H. M. Patch, kindly offered to get him home at once, but thinking he might be better, he wished to stop and go home with the others. On going up to see the cause of this disaster it was found that the slider had recently been broken, and a piece of wood screwed on the top of it to splice it; this must have given way as soon as it was touched, the slider itself being cross-grained any sharp tap would break it. After waiting an hour, some Grandsire Triples and Oxford Treble Bob Major were rung with some of the local ringers. Time being up for the return journey, it was found that Mr. Edwards could not be removed home. He was taken to the "Chapel" hotel and put to bed by the ringers, the Vicar kindly undertaking to see he was well-cared for. The visitors returned much disappointed (as this visit had been looked forward to all the summer) at having to leave one behind. His parents visited him on Sunday, and it is probable he must remain at Coggeshall there about a week, as he is almost unable to move.

The bells are of splendid tone and appear to go well.

## NOTES BY THE WAY.

"He who fights and runs away,
Lives to fight another day;
But he who's in the battle slain,
Never lives to fight again."

Everything mortal comes to a termination at some time or other, even triangular duels among friendly disputants. So the last letter from Mr. Dains may be considered as "the beginning of the end" of a controversy which has during its course been both interesting and instructive. Personally, I don't intend to enter into the disputed points at all, because if I had the temerity to do any such thing, I can well imagine what would be the result. I should but share the same fate as the impudent individual who interfered in a family quarrel, and only succeeded in bringing down upon his devoted head the combined forces of all the disputants. So, as I observed the other week, I mean to keep at a safe distance, for the sake of my own peace of mind.

* * * * *

One good lesson is to be learnt by this controversy which I hope our friends will keep in mind. It has shewn us how a point can be agreed upon without that ebullition of illfeeling which has but too often characterised the correspondence columns of "THE BELL NEWS." In debate, whether *per scriptum* or *viva voce*, there is the temptation to sieze upon any opportunity which presents itself of "getting at" an opponent, either through some slip which he inadvertently makes, or from some point on which he is not sufficiently explicit. But the honest seeker after truth will not be drawn aside from his straight path by such inducements. He remembers the old familiar maxim *Magnus est veritas, et prevalebit*, and thus whether he is on the right side or not at the commencement, his desire is to be with that truth which will and must prevail, at the finish. If all our friends who from time to time are tempted to take part in controversy would bear in mind that personalities but re-act against those who indulge in them, and that "strong" language is not always the best, our weekly quota of correspondence would be more interesting, more instructive, and considerably more pleasant to all concerned.

* * * * *

I hope the appeal made by our friend the Rev. E. Carpenter on behalf of the bells of the historic church of Milton will be liberally responded to, particularly by the ringers of Kent. It is but a comparatively small sum that he asks for, and surely there should be no difficulty in raising the amount needed to put such a convenient peal into condition for ringing, and even also adding a treble, to make up a good ring of six.

* * * * *

It was with much regret that I heard of the death of Mr. John Fream, the courteous Hon. Sec. of the Gloucester district of the Oddfellows, M.U., but I am nevertheless glad to know that his funeral was accompanied with such marks of respect as were paid by the St. Michael's junior Society of that city. When I went to Gloucester on the following Monday to take part in the Festival of the Three Choirs, I anticipated the pleasure of many a chat with my brother Oddfellow, and was pained to learn on arrival that he had been laid to rest with his fathers. From what I heard during the week of my stay the St. Michael's Juniors have won golden opinions from the various friendly societies besides my own for the manner in which they honoured the interment of a departed and respected brother.

* * * * *

I am pleased to read that the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association has during the past year "made progress in a steady and satisfactory manner, alike financially, scientifically, and numerically." These are three good points to be aimed at. Another desideratum is the support of the clergy, and that, it is quite evident, our friends of this Association have gained also from the report of their meeting. If they don't aspire to anything in the shape of brilliancy, they certainly go in for good solid work, and what is more, do their best to accomplish what they set out for. That is a good sign; it shews they "mean business," and when we find a body of men animated with this feeling, success is a natural consequence.

* * * * *

Mr. Beechey has not yet been able to tells us of the accomplishment of their first peal at Melbourne; but he does report the bringing round of a date touch, which at least is something by way of instalment. Besides that, the near prospect of the possession of a handy peal of twelve is no small news. So it is quite evident that the Victorian Society of Melbourne will soon have no cause to complain on the score of tuneful instruments wherewith to send forth the belfry music.

* * * * *

The question of prize-ringing is cropping up again among the correspondence. I had really begun to think that this subject had become forgotten, and relegated to that "great majority" of things past and done for. But somehow it seems to stick fast to some individuals, who at remote intervals, poke its face up just above the surface, and then draw it quickly back again, like a Jack-in-the-Box, or else as if the light of day (the present day, that is) were too strong for it. Why don't we get this subject fought out thoroughly, instead of this interminable beating-about-the-bush sort of business? If the advocates of prize-ringing can shew that such contests are right, productive of good, and advisable, then let us be convinced; and go in for this plan with a will. On the other hand, if the opponents of them demonstrate the contrary, why then let us act accordingly. In any case let us so settle it that we have not inflicted upon us any more that note of bewailing which comes upon us irregularly, unexpectedly, in season and out of season, neither convincing nor being convinced, and serving no earthly purpose but to disgust us with its sound. FREE LANCE.

## OUTING OF THE TEWKESBURY ABBEY SOCIETY.

ON Monday, September 9th, the above society, ten in number, visited Stratford-on-Avon, where permission to ring upon the peal of eight bells had previously been obtained from the Rev. G. Arbuthnot, vicar of Stratford. On the arrival of the E. and W. train about 11.45, the visitors were met by Mr. Freeman, who accompanied them through the town, and pointed out several places of interest. After which a move was made to the tower where some Grandsire Triples were rung, and after dinner they returned to the tower and rang 504 Stedman Triples and a touch of Union Triples. C. W. Dyson, 1: R. H. Witherington, 2; S. Cleal, 3; J. Hale, 4; J. Wathen, 5; T. Devereux, 6; Jos. Wathen (conductor), 7; W. Hampton, 8. F. J. Moore and W. Haines took part in the ringing during the day. The ringers wish through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS" to tender their best thanks to the vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and also to Mr. Freeman for his kind assistance during the day.

## THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

NOTICE.—On Friday evening, September 20th, the election of officers will take place at the "Green Man," St. Martin's Lane, W.C., and the balance-sheet for the past year will be presented. All members are cordially invited to attend upon this occasion, when papers giving a list of subscribers, and balance-sheet, with an illustration of the Snowdon Memorial window, will be distributed to those requiring a copy. H. DAINS, *Hon. Sec.*

## JASPER W. SNOWDON'S WORKS.

ROPE-SIGHT: 1*s.* 6*d.* 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: 2*s.* 6*d.* 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; 2*s.* 0*d.* 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. 3*s.* 2½*d.* 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*, 2*s.* 1½*d.*

DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR. 1*s.* 0*d.* 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.

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## MR. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD'S WORK.

"DUFFIELD:" A MUSICAL METHOD FOR 8, 10, AND 12 BELLS, containing full directions for ringing, pricking, and proving the method; together with a collection of Peals of Major, Royal, and Maximus. also an Explanatory Appendix. By ARTHUR PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, M.A. Post free on receipt of 1*s.*, from BEMROSE & SONS, 23, OLD BAILEY, LONDON, AND IRONGATE, DERBY. Also, gratis on application, from A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, DUFFIELD BANK, near Derby, a Broadsheet, containing diagrams and directions for ringing the method.

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*Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of* THE BELL NEWS, *Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under* 5000 *changes must reach us not later than Wednesday morning; and the insertion of any communication arriving later than the first Postal delivery on Thursday morning cannot be guaranteed in that week's number. When it is found impossible from want of space to insert all touches forwarded, the earlier ones will have the preference.*

*All communications respecting advertisements must be addressed to the office of* "THE BELL NEWS," *Walthamstow, London.*

# The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

**SATURDAY,** SEPTEMBER 14, 1889.


IT is announced that on Saturday next, the 21st instant, a meeting is to be held at the Schoolroom of Tunstall, Staffordshire, "to see what steps can be taken to float" the Stoke-upon-Trent Archidiaconal Association. It may be gathered from such an announcement that this body, which has been in existence some years, is rapidly sinking, and—to pursue the metaphor—will soon be at the bottom, unless a life-buoy is at once thrown out to rescue it. This is a serious position of affairs for what was at one time a flourishing Association. It is not known where to impute blame, but blame is due somewhere: whether to defective management or apathy of the members we cannot tell, though the latter seems the most likely. But whatever may be the causes which have led to this disastrous position, now is the time for the ringers of the Archdeaconry to arouse themselves, and rescue their Association from total oblivion.

Performances of great length, or peals in complex methods, has never been the rule of the Stoke Association; but it has shown to the Exercise in times gone by that though only a small body, it enjoyed some amount of unity, and its meetings were frequent and to all appearance harmonious. Ringing meetings for the greater part were arranged for at six-bell towers, and these at one time appeared to be well-attended. Some curiosity has at times been exhibited relative to the paucity of ringing reports from the eight-bell steeples of the Archdeaconry, and an intimation has been thrown out that the apathy of the ringing companies at these more favoured churches has something to do with the decreased popularity of the Association. However that may be, we may point out that one eight-bell company—that of Wolstanton—has not realised those expectations which its earlier steps promised. That we maintain in spite of any contradiction.

The time has now arrived, however, when the leaders of the Exercise in the Archdeaconry must bestir themselves, and support the efforts of Mr. GLOVER in rescusitating and placing upon a firmer basis than ever the Stoke-upon-Trent Archidiaconal Association. Those ringers who in the hour of danger refrain from assisting to prevent the total extinction of a body which has in an unobtrusive manner done some real good, are guilty of the worst form of moral cowardice.

## THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Wednesday, September 4th, Messrs. Baron, Hopkins, A. G. Thomas, and E. F. Cole of the Royal Cumberland Society, arrived in Worcester on a short visit to their old friend, Mr. J. Perks. After visiting the chief objects of interest in the faithful city an adjournment was made to the Church of All Saints, where some capital touches of Caters were rung by T. Clements, 1; N. Wale, 2; W. Pudge, 3; H. Pheasant, 4; A. G. Thomas, 5; J. Perks, 6; F. E. Cole, 7; H. Hopkins, 8; W. Baron, 9; T. Malin, 10.

AT a meeting of the Steyning Guardians a letter was read from the vicar of New Shoreham, who had received notice to bury a pauper on Saturday next. He stated that he did so under protest, as he understood that the guardians refused the payment of fees. The fees, he wrote, were justly due to himself and the sexton, and he felt bound to make the claim. The clerk read an opinion given in 1850, to the effect that the vicar was not entitled to a fee for burying paupers who were parishioners.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MANCHESTER BRANCH.—The usual monthly meeting of this branch was held at the parish church, Prestwich, on Saturday, September 7th. Members attended from Radcliffe, Whitefield, Eccles, Manchester, and Walkden. The bells (a peal of six) were set going at the appointed hour, and touches and 720s of Bob Minor and Treble Bob were rung during the evening. A meeting was held after the ringing, presided over by the Rev. H. J. Elsee, of Manchester. It was decided to hold no meeting in October on account of the Annual Meeting being held at Bacup, but to hold the next meeting at St. John's church, Deansgate, Manchester, on November 2nd. The usual votes of thanks were afterwards passed.

## WEST KIRBY, CHESHIRE.

The parishioners of the above place intend to perpetuate the memory of the late Canon Eaton, who for thirty years was rector of the parish, by placing a brass tablet in the church, filling in the west window with coloured glass, and rehanging the five bells, and providing three new ones. Mrs. Eaton and family will bear the expense of putting in the coloured glass, and the parishioners will be responsible for the remainder. The total cost of the memorial will be from £700 to £800.

# The Provinces.

## SALISBURY, WILTS.
## THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Wednesday, September 4, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,
**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**
HOLT'S TEN-PART.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| WILLIAM M. LUSH .. | ..*Treble.* | ALFRED J. CALLAWAY .. | 5. |
| HENRY D. ADAMS .. .. | 2. | WALTER S. WISE .. .. | 6. |
| REV. F. J. O. HELMORE .. | 3. | WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. | 7. |
| CHARLES A. CLEMENTS .. | 4. | GEORGE A. UPHILL.. | ..*Tenor.* |

Conducted by WALTER S. WISE.

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

*On Saturday, September 7, 1889, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,*
AT THE HOUSE OF MR. WILLIAM CARTMEL,
ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,
**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**
HOLT'S TEN-PART.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| GEORGE W. CARTMEL .. | 1-2. | W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM | 5-6. |
| E. P. DEBENHAM† .. .. | 3-4. | *JESSE W. BREWER .. | 7-8. |

Conducted by EDWARD PERCY DEBENHAM.

Umpire—David Gibbons. Rung in honour of the birthday of Mr. J. W. Brewer, †First peal on handbells as conductor. *First peal on handbells, it being also his first attempt. The above are members of the St. Peter's Society.

## STRATFORD-ON-AVON, WARWICKSHIRE.
## THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

*On Saturday, September 7, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**
BROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor about 16 cwt. in F.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| HENRY BASTABLE .. | ..*Treble.* | WILLIAM E. SMITH.. .. | 5. |
| MARTIN MURPHY .. .. | 2. | THOMAS REYNOLDS .. .. | 6. |
| CHARLES DICKENS .. .. | 3. | HENRY JOHNSON, JUN. .. | 7. |
| CHARLES WILLIAMS .. .. | 4. | JOHN W. CARTWRIGHT | ..*Tenor.* |

Conducted by HY. BASTABLE.

These bells were augmented to eight in the jubilee year, and this is the first peal of any description upon them.

## DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Thursday, September 5, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**
A VARIATION OF THURSTANS'.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| KERRY PAYNE* .. .. | ..*Treble.* | JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. | 5. |
| WILLIAM C. BASTON.. .. | 2. | REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. | 6. |
| WILLIAM ADKINS .. .. | 3. | THOMAS SHORT .. .. .. | 7. |
| CHARLES TOLLEY .. .. | 4. | ARTHUR BURGESS .. | ..*Tenor.* |

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

*First peal.

## BACUP, LANCASHIRE—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, September 7, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR,
**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 10 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| T. BRADLEY* .. .. | ..*Treble.* | F. BIRTWISTLE .. .. | 5. |
| J. STANDRING* .. .. | 2. | *W. HAWORTH .. .. | 6. |
| J. B. TAYLOR .. .. | 3. | A. E. WREAKS .. .. | 7. |
| J. SHEPHERD .. .. | 4. | *WM. BRADLEY .. .. | ..*Tenor.* |

Conducted by JOHN SHEPHERD.

*First peal.

## SALISBURY, WILTS,
## THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Saturday, September 7th, 1889, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,
**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**
HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| JAMES R. JERRAM .. | ..*Treble.* | ALFRED J. CALLAWAY .. | 5. |
| WALTER S. WISE .. .. | 2. | HENRY D. ADAMS .. .. | 6. |
| REV. F. J. O. HELMORE .. | 3. | WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. | 7. |
| CHARLES A. CLEMENTS .. | 4. | WILLIAM JAS. HALLETT.. | *Tenor.* |

Conducted by the REV. FRED. J. O. HELMORE.

This is the first time Holt's Original has been rung in the county.

## DRAYTON, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Monday, September 9, 1889, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**
A VARIATION OF THURSTANS'.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CHARLES HOUNSLOW .. | ..*Treble.* | REV. F. E. ROBINSON .. | 5. |
| THOMAS SHORT .. .. .. | 2. | JAMES W. WASHBROOK .. | 6. |
| REV. F. J. O. HELMORE .. | 3. | HAROLD HUMFREY .. .. | 7. |
| EDWIN HUMFREY .. .. | 4. | ARTHUR BURGESS .. | ..*Tenor.* |

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

## ECCLES, LANCASHIRE.
## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

*On Monday, September 9, 1889, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,*
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
**A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt., 3 qrs.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| C. CASH .. .. .. | ..*Treble.* | *J. GRIMSHAW .. .. .. | 5. |
| H. CHAPMAN.. .. .. | 2. | T. DERBYSHIRE.. .. .. | 6. |
| JOS. RIDYARD .. .. | 3. | F. DERBYSHIRE.. .. .. | 7. |
| W. INGHAM .. .. .. | 4. | R. RIDYARD .. .. | ..*Tenor.* |

Composed by the late W. HARRISON and Conducted by R. RIDYARD.

*First peal in this method. Messrs. Ridyard Brothers and T. and F. Derbyshire belong to Worsley; the rest to Eccles.

# Date Touches.

## WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

BASINGSTOKE (Hants).—On Wednesday, September 11th, for practice, a date touch (1889 changes) of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 5 mins. F.

Wilson, 1; W. Bulpitt, 2; J. R. Higgens, 3; H. Jacob, 4; T. Curtis, 5; H. White (conductor), 6; G. Gasson, 7; J. Ballard, 8. Composed by Mr. James Murray, of Melbourne, Australia.

### THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BOLTON, BRADFORD (Yorks).—On Sunday evening, September 8th, at St. James' church, being the choir anniversary, the Bradford Old Society rang for Divine Service a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (1889 changes), in 1 hr. 6 mins. Joe Hardcastle, 1; S. Clarke, 2; J. Broadley, 3; T. Pollitt, 4; J. Cotterell, 5; J. W. Cundall, 6; J. H. Hardcastle (composer and conductor), 7; J. Angus, 8. This is the longest touch rung since the tenor was fitted with Shaw's Patent Roller Bearings, the result being (in the words of the ringer), that she "runs like a fiddle."

## Miscellaneous.

### THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

WHITCHURCH (Oxon).—On Sunday evening, September 1st, for Divine Service at the parish church, 180 Bob Minor and 120 Grandsire Doubles. And on Tuesday, September 3rd, on the occasion of a marriage, 360 each of Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles. The following took part in the ringing: G. Ashley, W. Parsons, J. Nicholls, Wm., C. and T. Pocock (conductor), E. Bushnell, W. Lawrence (conductor).

PANGBOURNE.—On Sunday evening, September 1st, for Divine Service at the parish church, 180 Bob Minor and 120 Grandsire Doubles. And on Monday, September 2nd, 360 Bob Minor, being the first Minor touches on the bells since they have been rehung.

READING (Berks).—On Sunday, September 8th, at St. Giles's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins. J. T. Tarrant, 1; G. Paine, 2; A. H. Evans, 3; F. Sweetzer, 4; H. Egby, 5; R. T. Hibbert (conductor), 6. G. Paine hails from Mersham, Kent.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday evening, September 8th, after Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 23 mins. H. Simmonds, 1; J. Hands, 2; E. Menday, 3; G. Essex, 4; G. Paine, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. Tenor 17 cwt. G. Paine hails from Mersham, Kent.

TILEHURST (Berks).—On Wednesday, September 4th, for practice at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes). B. White, 1; H. Goodger, 2; J. Swain, 3; F. Hopgood (composer and conductor), 4; J. Day, 5; C. Chapman, 6; J. M. Routh, Esq., 7; H. Smith, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

### THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

POYNTON (Cheshire).—On Tuesday, September 3rd, for practice at St. George's church, two 360's of Bob Minor. E. Taylor, 1; J. R. Potts, 2; R. Astle, 3; W. Broadhurst, 4; *W. Walmsley (conductor), 5; R. Clayton, 6. Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qrs. 17 lbs. in F♯. All the above are members of the Macclesfield branch. *Hails from Macclesfield.

### THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

DIBDEN (Hants).—On Thursday, September 5th, being the Harvest Festival at the parish church, before Divine Service, 308 and 559 Grandsire Triples. After service 420 and a quarter-peal (1260 changes), in 42 mins., in the same method. C. Apps, 1; C. Privett, 2; E. Warren, 3; R. Linter, 4; T. Newnham, 5; W. Linter, 6; J. W. Whiting (conductor), 7; A. Millard, 8. The above Triples are the first on the bells. J. Osman rang the treble in the second touch. Messrs. Whiting and Privett hail from Fareham; Newnham from Southampton; the rest from Swanmore. Tenor 10½ cwt. The ringers wish through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS" to thank the rector, the Rev. E. Carlyon, for his kindness, and hope to ring a peal on some future occasion, the go of the bells being all that can be desired.

### THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

RADCLIFFE (Lancashire).—On Thursday, September 5th, the following members of the Radcliffe Society rang with the bells deeply muffled, a 720 Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs). F. Rudman, 1; A. Barrett, 2; A. Hardman, 3; J. Hardman, 4; F. Morris (conductor), 5; W. Fielding, 6; in 25 mins. Also 350 Grandsire Triples. W. T. Hutton, 1; J. Hardman, 2; A Barrett (conductor), 3; F. Rudman, 4; A. Hardman, 5; J. Hardman, 6; W. Fielding, 7; W. Turner, 8. And a 504 of Grandsire Triples. W. T. Hutton, 1; J. Hardman, 2; A. Barrett (conductor), 3; F. Morris, 4; A. Hardman, 5; J. Hardman, 6; W. Fielding, 7; W. Turner, 8. These touches were rung out of respect to Mrs. Morris, the wife of John Morris, a member of the above society. The above ringers carried her to her last resting place after a short but happy married life of only four years. There were hundreds of people watching the mournful procession as it entered the Parish Churchyard, the coffin being covered with beautiful wreaths from her husband and friends.

### THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

RINGMER.—On Monday, August 19th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. A. Slarks, 1; *A. Washer, 2; H. Jones, 3; G. Washer, 4; Rev. C. D. P, Davies (conductor), 5; *C. Painter, 6. *First 720 with a bob bell. Also on Monday, August 26th, 504 Stedman Triples. T. Miller, 1; A. Paris, 2; A. Slarks, 3; J. T. Rickman, Esq., 4; H. Jones, 5; Rev. C. D. P. Davies (conductor), 6; C. Painter, 7; A. Washer, 8.

ARUNDEL (Sussex).—On Sunday morning, September 1st, for Divine Service at the parish church, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 910 Oxford Bob Triples. G. Treagus, 1; W. Twigg, 2; F. Luxford, 3; T. Hogsflesh, 4; W. Short, 5; H. Chandler (conductor), 6; C. Blackman, 7; J. Balchin, 8. And for afternoon service a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples. W. Twigg, 1; T. Hogsflesh, 2; F. Luxford, 3; W. Short, 4; G. Balchin, 5; C. Blackman (conductor), 6; H. Chandler, 7; J. Balchin, 8. Also in the evening 420 Bob Triples. G. Treagus, 1; C. Blackman, 2; W. Twigg, 3; W. Short, 4; H. Chandler, 5; G. Balchin, 6; F. Luxford, 7; T. Hogsflesh, 8.

ANGMERING (Sussex).—On Thursday, September 5th, at the parish church, on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. T. Parsons, one of the local ringers, a start was made for a 5040 in seven methods, but after ringing 2,400 changes in 1 hr. 20 mins., it came to grief. The methods rung were a 720 each of Oxford Single Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and 240 College Single; but at the second part-end in College Single, the bells being out of course, the conductor called "stand." F. Finch, 1; J. Hills, 2; T. Lindfield, 3; G. Baker, 4; C. Clear, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6. Later in the evening a 720 College Single by the same and standing as before. Mr. G. Baker hails from Arundel; the rest are of the local band.

### THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

STANSTEAD (Essex).—On Sunday, August 25th, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, for morning service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (thirty-eight singles twenty-two bobs). J. Cavill, 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; W. Watts, 4; G. Gray, 5; I. Cavill (composer and conductor), 6. This is believed to be the second 720 ever rung in the method with a call every lead. Also on Sunday, September 1st, for morning service, 600 Plain Bob Minor. W. Cavill, 1; T. J. Watts, 2; I. Hammond, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, September 8th, for morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. T. J. Watts (first 720 in the method), 1; J. Luckey, 2: I. Hammond, 3; W. Watts, 4; G. Gray, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. Also for afternoon service, 720 Plain Bob Minor (twenty-two singles), taken from the *Clavis*. W. Cavill, 1; I. Hammond, 2: J. Luckey 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Cavill, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

ROMFORD.—On Sunday morning, September 8th, at the parish church, 352 Bob Major, tittum position. L. W. Copsey, 1; W. Pegrum, 2; B. Keeble, 3; W. Pye, 4; G. Roughton, 5; M. L. Myhill, 6; W. Nash, 7; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 8. Also in the evening, 910 Grandsire Triples, taken from the Original. L. W. Copsey, 1; B. Keeble, 2; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 3; W. Pegrum, 4; G. Roughton, 5; W. Nash, 6; M. L. Myhill, 7; G. Mundy, 8. *Handbell Ringing.*—On Monday, September 9th, a touch of Grandsire Triples. B. Keeble (conductor), 1-2; A. J. Perkins, 3-4; M. L. Myhill, 5-6; W. Pegrum, 7-8. Sunday, September 22nd, has been fixed for the Ordination Service at St. Edward's. The bells will be rung as follows: 10 a.m. 2 p.m., and 5.30 p.m. and the same at the Harvest Festival on October 20th. The local company will be pleased to see any friends who can make it convenient to attend.

### WORCESTER AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

NETHERTON.—On Sunday, August 25th, at St. Andrew's church, 720 Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. *F. Hill, 1; E. Hampton, 2; J. Townsend, 3; W. Prestidge, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, August 29th, 720 Plain Bob in 27 mins. *F. Hill, 1; W. Micklewright, 2; J. Smith (conductor), 3; W. Prestidge, 4; J. Prestidge, 5; R. Round, 6. Also on Sunday, September 1st, 720 Canterbury Pleasure in 27 mins. *F. Hill, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; W. Prestidge, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. *First 720 in any method. And on Thursday, September 5th, 720 Oxford Single Bob in 26½ mins. E. Hampton, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. Townsend, 4; R. Round, 4; W. Micklewright (conductor), 5; J. Smith, 6. First 720 of Oxford Single Bob on the bells, and the first in the method by all. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob in 27 mins. J. Lewis, 1; W. Fryer, 2; J. Townsend, 3; R. Round, 4; W. Micklewright, 5; J. Smith, 6. Messrs. Lewis and Fryer hails from Wollaston.

## THE HORNSEY GUILD.

**Hornsey.**—On Thursday, August 29th, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. E. King, 1; G. Griffin, 2; W. Dixon, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; T. Titchener, 5; J. Barber, 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 26½ mins. W. Dixon, 1; G. Griffin, 2; A. Howell, 3; J. Barber, 4; J. Hannington (conductor), 5; T. Titchener, 6. And on Sunday morning, September 8th, for Divine Service, 720 Plain Bob Minor (twenty bobs ten singles), in 25 mins. J. Ward, 1; G. Griffin, 2; A. Howell, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; T. Titchener, 5; J. Barber, 6. And for evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 26 mins. A. Fox, 1; A. Howell, 2; G. B. Lucas, 3; J. Hannington (conductor), 4; J. Nixon, 5; T. Titchener, 6. And after service 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 26 mins. E. Edridge, 1; J. Edridge, 2; J. Hannington (conductor), 3; H. Scarlett, 4; J. Barber, 5; G. B. Lucas, 6. And 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs), in 26 mins. E. Edridge, 1; J. Nixon, 2; A. Howell, 3; G. Griffin, 4; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 5; J. Barber, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

**Willesborough** (Kent).—On Monday, September 9th, for practice at the church of St. Mary, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-two singles), in 27 mins. R. Cook, 1; A. Stace, 2; W. Hills, 3; C. Young, 4; E. Dixon (conductor), 5; W. Clapson, 6.

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Britford (Wilts).—On Thursday, September 5th. the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, with Messrs. H. D. Adams, C. A. Clements, J. R. Jerram, W. W. Gifford, and W. S. Wise paid a visit to St. Mary's church which contains five bells, and rang several 6-scores of Bob Doubles, St. Simon's Doubles, Grandsire and Stedman Doubles.

Bennington (Herts).—On Friday evening, September 6th, for practice at St. Peter's church, 896 Superlative Surprise Major. N. Warner, 1; M. Ellsmore, 2; J. Kitchener, 3; L. Chapman, 4; W. Hobbs, 5; J. Warner, 6; C. Shambrook, 7; S. Page, 8. M. Ellsmore who is at present working at Bennington, hails from Hertford.

Darlaston (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, September 7th, by altering the last call but one the first quarter of Mr. J. Carter's twelve-part peal of Grandsire Triples, in 42 mins. J. Harper, 1; B. Dalton. 2: S. Atkins (conductor), 3; *S. Hammond, 4; E. Nicholls, 5; J. Gough, 6; W. Smith, 7; C. F. Vickers, 8. *College Youth and Essex Association. Also on handbells 504 in the same method. J. Tinsley, 1-2; J. Gough, 3-4; W. Smith, 5-6; S. Atkins, 7-8. Also a touch of Grandsire Royal. J. Fowler, 1-2; J. Gough, 3-4; J. Tinsley, 5-6; †S. Hammond, 7-8; S. Atkins, 9-10. †First touch of Royal.

Dartford (Kent).—On Sunday, September 8th, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins. E. Everson, 1; F. French, 2; G. Morris, 3; E. Snowden, 4; J. Blackman, 5; H. J. Castle (conductor), 6; E. Everson, 7; H. Draper, 8. Composed by M. Hopgood, of Reading.

Farnham Royal (Bucks).—On Saturday, August 31st, 720 Bob of Bob Minor, in 23 mins. C. Clarke, 1; G. Stanbrook, 2; J. J. Parker, 3; S. Quinton, 4; H. Reeves (conductor), 5; R. Flaxman, 6. Also 240 Oxford Bob, and 360 Canterbury Pleasure, with G. Stanbrook 2. And on Saturday, September 7th, 720 of Oxford Bob Minor, in 24 mins. E. Willis, 1; J. Basden, 2; W. Wilder, 3; J. J. Parker, 4; R. Flaxman, 5; C. Clarke, 6. Also 720 of Bob Minor, in 26 mins. J. Parker, 1; J. J. Parker (conductor), 2; R. Flaxman, 3; S. Quinton, 4; G. Stanbrook, 5; J. Basden, 6.

Halesowen (Worcestershire).—On Monday, September 9th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor in 26 mins., with the tenor covering. A. Lea (first 720), 1; H. Lea, 2; J. P. Heckingbottom, 3; G. Cockin, 4; E. Hackett, 5; H. Raybould (conductor), 6; M. Hackett, 7. First 720 in the method by all except the conductor.

Hanley Castle (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, September 8th, at the parish church, 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26½ mins. A. Pitt, (first 720), 1; W. Tarling, 2; L. Longney (Croome, conductor), 3; H. T. Knowles (Malvern), 4; R. G. Knowles, 5; W. Page (Worcester), 6. Also several six-scores of Grandsire and Bob Doubles, W. Worthington ringing the tenor.

Hughenden (Bucks).—On Saturday, August 31st, at the parish church, an attempt was made for Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but came to grief after ringing about 1 hr. H. Markhum, 1; F. L. Free, 2; H. Collins, 3; H. Stratford, 4; S. T. Goodchild, 5; J. Evans (conductor), 6; R. Biggs, 7; F. Biggs, 8. Also 720 Bob Minor. H. Collins, 1; J. Evans, 2; H. Stratford, 3; R. Biggs, 4; S. T. Goodchild, 5; Fred Biggs (conductor), 6. First 720 by all. And in the evening for practice, 336 Grandsire Triples. W. Wiffin, 1; W. Goodchild, 2; Frank Biggs, 3; Fred Biggs, 4; H. Stratford, 5; A. W. Tubb, 6; S. T. Goodchild (conductor), 7; J. Collins, 8. Also on Sunday, September 1st, for evening service, 336 in the same method. Frank Biggs, 1; W. Goodchild, 2; H. Stratford, 3; Fred Biggs, 4; J. Evans (conductor), 5; R. Biggs, 6; S. T. Goodchild, 7; B. Page, 8.

Huntley (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, September 8th, for Divine Service in the morning, 1260 Grandsire Doubles, each 120 called differently, in 41 mins. †E. Ryland, 1; †W. Williams, 2; C. Turner, 3; †F. Marshall, 4; J. H. Brawn (conductor), 5; †T. Buck, 6. †Longest touch.

Martley (Worcestershire).—On Saturday, September 7th, the Areley Kings band paid a visit to the above place and rung a 720 of Bob Minor, in 25½ mins. F. Hinton, 1; T. Griffiths, 2; T. Fowles, 3; J. Reynolds, 4; W. Martin, 5; C. Beaman (conductor), 6.

Milverton (Somerset).—On Tuesday, September 3rd, at St. Michael's church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs two singles), in 28 mins. T. Andrews, 1; W. Andrews, 2; R. Scott. 3; I. Richards, 4; R. Andrews, 5; W. Chapman (conductor), 6. Also 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs two singles), in 28 mins., conducted by T. Andrews, all standing as before. Tenor 20 cwt. Rung in honour ot the marriage of Cecil F. De Salis, Esq., barrister (brother of the vicar of this parish), with Miss R. E. F. Waller.

Peckleton (Leicestershire).—On Saturday, August 31st, at the parish church, two 360's of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. J. Clarke, 1; J. Swinfield, 2; A. R. Aldham (conductor), 3; C. Lane, 4; T. W. Chapman, 5; H. Briggs, 6. Tenor 9 cwt. Also 240 of Plain Bob, with E. Lane on Treble. Messrs. Clarke and Chapman hail from Nuneaton; Briggs and Lane from Stanton; Swinfield and Aldham from Barwell.

Rowley Regis (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, August 31st, at the parish church, 97 Grandsire Triples. J. W. Sayers, 1; H. Bennett, 2; S. Mills, 3; B. Lowe, 4; R. Baker, 5; A. E. Parsons, 6; C. Beasley, 7; D. Woodhouse, 8. Also 503 Grandsire Triples. J. W. Sayers, 1; H. Bennett, 2; G. B. Raybould, 3; R. Baker, 4; B. Lowe, 5; A. E. Parsons (composer and conductor), 6; C. Beasley, 7; D. Woodhouse, 8. Messrs. Parsons and Raybould hail from Old Hill; Sayers from Oldbury; Beasley from Cradley. And on Saturday, September 7th, 720 Grandsire Minor. D. Woodhouse, 1; B. Lowe, 2; H. Bennett, 3; H. Mills, 4; W. H. Bate, 5; S. Mills (conductor), 6. There is practice on Saturday evenings at 7.15; any ringing friends will be made welcome.

Rochdale (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, September 8th, for Divine Service at All Saints' church, Hamer, 720 College Single, in 28 mins. J. Hartley, 1; R. Whittles, 2; E. Shapard, 3; R. Holden, 4; J. Crossley, 5; A. Crossley (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method on the bells, and first 720 by all in the method.

South Newton (Wilts).—On Friday, September 6th, 720 Bob Minor. W. M. Lush, 1; H. D. Adams, 2; Rev. J. F. O. Helmore, 3; J. R. Jerram, 4; C. A. Clements, 5; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 6. Also 720 Oxford Treble Bob. W. S. Wise, 1; H. D. Adams, 2; Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, 3; J. R. Jerram, 4; C. A. Clements, 5; W. W. Gifford (conductor), 6. And 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. S. Wise (conductor), 1; H. D. Adams, 2; Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, 3; J. R. Jerram, 4; C. A. Clements, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6.

Stepney (Middlesex).—On Sunday, September 8th, for evening service at the church of St. Dunstan, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 53 mins. E. Clark, 1; W. Cecil, 2; Y. Green, 3; *E. Hall, 4; S. Hayes, 5; H. Springall (conductor), 6; H. Tucker, 7; *G. Barrell, 8. Tenor 31 cwt. *First quarter-peal in the method. H. Tucker hails from Bishops Stortford.

Southport.—On Sunday, September 8th, for evening service at Christ Church, 448 Plain Bob Major. R. Hill, 1; Joseph Rimmer, 2; J. Large, 3; T. Fielding, 4; Jas. Rimmer, 5; B. Tungate, 6; D. E. Rimmer (conductor), 7; J. W. Rimmer, 8. J. Large belongs to Halewood, near Liverpool.

Stoke Prior (Worcestershire).—On Thursday, September 5th, at the church of St. Michael, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. *E. Busk, 1; G. Lucas, 2; J. Thompson, 3; J. Mason (conductor), 4; W. Lewis, 5; A. Moore, 6. *First 720. Also on Sunday, September 8th, for evening service, 720 Grandsire Doubles, in 25 mins. E. Busk, 1; F. Lucas, 2; J. Thompson, 3; J. Mason, 4; W. Lewis, 5; J. Clissett, 6.

Wanstead.—On Sunday, September 8th, at Christ Church, after Divine Service, 720 Plain Bob Minor (fourteen bobs and two singles). J. King (conductor), 1; W. Smith, 2; A. H. Gardom, Esq., 3; G. Cornell, 4; J. Marks, 5; J. Priest, jun., 6.

Westbury-on-Severn.—On Sunday, September 8th, for Divine Service in the evening at the parish church, a 360 and 180 Bob Minor. F. Allen, 1; J. Gleed, 2; J. H. Brawn, 3; H. Grindon, 4; W. Gleed, 5; T. Hart (conductor), 6.

## THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF ST. JAMES,' BRISTOL.

On Monday, the 9th inst, twelve members of the above society (also members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association) had their annual outing, the places selected to visit being Chepstow, Caldicott, and Magor (Mon). They started from Bristol by the 9.32 a.m., arriving at Chepstow about 11 a.m. They found awaiting their arrival Mr. Morley, the courteous steeplekeeper of St. Mary's, to which edifice they directly made their way. After having a look at the fine old church they were shown their way to the belfry, which they found in excellent order. Before raising the bells several of the company went aloft and had a look at them, which are a good peal of eight; tenor 21 cwt. Great praise is due to Messrs. Warner, of London, for their work here not long since in rehanging, &c., the "go" of the bells being all that one could wish. After several touches of Grandsire Triples they then indulged in some Minor on the back six, conducted by Mr. Davies, and, having a pretty busy programme to fulfil, it being now twelve o'clock, the bells were lowered, and a move made to the "Plough" inn for refreshments, after which the handbells were made use of. At 1.15 they were comfortably seated in two waggonettes on the road to Caldicott—a very pretty drive of about five miles, which was greatly enjoyed. Arriving at Caldicott they were met by the esteemed Hon. Sec. of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, the Rev. Pitt Eykyn. They now wended their way to the parish church (which is also named St. Mary's) where they found everything in the same capital order as at Chepstow (a peal of eight; tenor 19 cwt.) The bells were raised and several touches of Grandsire Triples (conducted by Mr. Davies) were rung, bringing the time to four o'clock. The bells were now lowered, as the Vicar, the Rev. E. Vernon Collings, had arranged for them to partake of tea at the Vicarage. The Vicarage grounds here were much admired. Tea over, a course of Triples on the handbells was rung. They now had to catch the train at Severn Tunnel Junction for Magor, a work of about twenty minutes. On arriving at Magor the Rev. Pitt Eykyn piloted them to his church, which is also named St. Mary's (all three of the churches visited bearing the same name), where they found a pretty peal of six (tenor about 9 cwt.) in good going condition. Some Doubles and Minor were rung here, after which they partook of a repast, kindly supplied by the Rev. Pitt Eykyn, at a neighbouring inn. Afterwards the handbells were brought into use on the green. They left Magor for home by the 8.10 train, arriving at Bristol soon after nine o'clock. This brought to a close a very pleasant day's outing, and they wish to thank, through "The Bell News," the Vicars at the different churches for the kind hospitality displayed to them; also Mr. Morley, at Chepstow, for having the bells in readiness, and to friends at Caldicott and Magor.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Ashford District.—A meeting of this district was held at Ashford on the 7th inst, when fifty members attended. Mr. A. E. Nunn, of Tenderden, was elected Secretary, and Mr. F. Finn, of Folkestone, representative of the district. The bells of the parish church were kept going during the afternoon and evening, and various touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung. Among them there was a 240 Stedman: S. Snelling, 1; A. H. Woolley, 2; R. Edwards, 3; Rev. E. W. Carpenter, 4; A. E. Nunn (conductor), 5; S. Barker, 6; G. Neve, 7; H. Holdstock, 8. Also a 420 Grandsire. S. Finn, 1; E. Ruck, senr., 2; J. Bartlett, 5; F. Finn, 4; G. Finn, 5; G. Neeve, 6; A. E. Nunn (conductor), 7; H. Holdstock, 8. It was decided to hold monthly meetings, for ringing only, at the various towers in the district, and the annual meeting at Mersham in March, subject to approval of the central committee.

The Rev. H. Littlehales, writing to the *Guardian* on Friday says:—"When applying this morning at a vicarage for the loan of the key of the parish church, a fee of sixpence was demanded, and I was told that such a sum was invariably expected and received. May I ask if I should have been justified had I refused to pay, this being but an ordinary parish church?"

## AMERSHAM, BUCKS.

The tower of this handsome old parish church is at present undergoing thorough repair. The unsightly patched plastering which hid the stone dressings and flint walls of the exterior is being removed, and the defective parts made good. The angled staircase is to be surmounted with a spirelet, and new stone mullioned windows are inserted in the upper part on each side, and the battlements will be raised. In fact the general appearance when completed, will resemble Beaconsfield tower on a taller scale. Local subscriptions are promised, and by other means it is hoped to complete the remainder of the church in the coming spring.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, August 6th and 7th, a bazaar was held in the grounds of Shardeloes Park, and the Hall thrown open for visitors, by the kindness of Captain Drake. This resulted in the sum of £330 being added to the building fund. The peal of six tower bells were rung at intervals on each day by local ringers, assisted by friends from Hughenden, and several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung, conducted by W. Hussey and W. H. Fussell, in which the following took part; E. Elburn (captain and sexton), A. Martin (first 6-score), L. Edwards, W. Peddell, E. Meads, H. Grunsdell, W. Peddell, and J. Dover.

A new clock is to be erected and attention given to the bells, which are in a defective state, and should the gentry and parishioners support the movement sufficiently, two new bells will be added to the present peal.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION OF SIX-BELL RINGERS.

On Saturday, September 7th, the Quarterly Meeting of the above Association was held at Standish by kind permission of the Rector, at which ringers from Blackrod, Chorley, St. Andrew's, Leyland, St. James, Leyland, and Standish attended, and took part in several 720's of Bob Minor which were rung during the afternoon and evening. At the meeting which was held at 5 o'clock, and presided over by Mr. G. Higson, it was resolved to hold the next Quarterly Meeting at Eccleston. A vote of thanks to rector for the use of the bells and school brought the meeting to a close.

## THE DUCKLINGTON BELL FUND.

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Amount advertised .. .. .. .. .. .. | 36 | 6 | 0 |
| Miss Macray (extra). .. .. .. .. .. | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Mr. H. Druce .. .. .. .. .. .. | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| R. Bond .. .. .. .. .. .. .. | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| A Friend .. .. .. .. .. .. .. | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Total | £37 | 10 | 6 |

Further subscriptions will be thankfully received and acknowledged by W. J. Fisher, *Cavendish Hotel, Eastbourne.*

It is announced that the Rev. C. E. Newcomb, one of the curates of St. George's, Kidderminster, has offered to build for that parish a Mission church, capable of holding 500 persons.

A London stockbroker is restoring the church of Woldingham, near Caterham. Excepting that in the Isle of Wight, it is probably the smallest church in England, being only 30 feet by 20 feet.

The Duke of Bedford has given a second donation of £200 towards the restoration of Peterborough Cathedral. His Grace had previously subscribed £500. The underpinning of the entire nave and the repair of the west front are amongst the work yet to be taken in hand. A ladies' committee has been formed to raise a fund for the internal decoration, and the Duchess of Rutland has been asked to accept the presidency.

The following appeared in the *Morning Post* of Friday week:—"The H. R. Haweis met with a bad accident last week, dislocating his left arm by a fall from his tricycle while proceeding at a rapid rate down hill. Mr. Haweis is at present staying at the Bishop of Gloucester's palace, and had so far recovered as to be able to attend the Gloucester Festival.

## Correspondence.

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

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

### THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SIR,—The individual who writes you on the above subject (using the *nom de plume* adopted by me the previous week) must surely be suffering from a severe attack of jaundice. His charge against the "management" of the Yorkshire Association that they have used their influence against prize-ringing is as foolish as it is untrue. This body has not to my recollection interfered with the promotion of prize-ringing in any shape whatever. Such a subject does not come within the scope of their deliberations. Indeed (and I mention this merely to shew how ridiculous is your correspondent's assertion) several old prize-ringers and strong supporters of these contests have for years back, and are at present, prominent officers and members of this Association. His arguments in this connection, also, are foreign to the subject, and thus have no real bearing upon the point in question. So far as I am concerned, he is quite welcome to have his hair made to stand upon end for the remainder of his natural life, if prize-ringing will do it, and it affords him any pleasure. His sneering remarks about "5000's with not a true change in them," and his comparison between prize-ringing and Association meetings are just what one is in the habit of hearing from persons who do not go in for peal-ringing themselves, and with whom the "green-eyed monster" is a constant companion. His concluding sentence, also, is a fitting *finale* to such a rhodomontade. Why he should have introduced it at all is a puzzle, seeing that it has not the remotest connection with the point at issue. Such peals (seven differently called 720's in one Minor method, and *not* one 720 rung seven times over, as he erroneously puts its) are common enough, as the pages of "THE BELL NEWS" will shew. His statement that such performances are considered a disgrace in Yorkshire is arrant nonsense. I have mixed amongst the ringers of my native county probably as long and as extensively as your correspondent, and my experience bears out no such thing. It has evidently been raked up by him out of the depths of his own bilious imagination, just to have a venomous fling at some one or other who took part in the peal. The next time he ventures to write, let him use more argument and less venom.

(The original) ANOTHER LIFE MEMBER.

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SIR,—Will you kindly allow me a few more words on the subject of which my brother-string refers to in his letter of September 7th. I fully agree with him in all his remarks touching on our meetings and prize-ringing. I think, Sir, if we as members could only get such men into office there would be a revolution at our meetings; and I think also if the prize-ringing members would only try and become a united body, and get into office a prize-ringing committee, I have no doubt there would be better ringing, better meetings, and a better Society altogether.

A LIFE MEMBER.

### A FALSE 720.

SIR,—Mr. J. Cavill's 720 of Canterbury Pleasure is very false if he will prick out all the full treble leads hand and back with the tenor dodging in 5-6. His 720 of Oxford Bob has also been rung years ago with that number of calls by our company.

F. GILBERT.

*Raunds.*

### SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR.

SIR,—I have to thank my friend Dains for his criticisms with reference to my remarks upon this subject. He will not admit 2-3's or 5-3's if he can obtain 2-5's and 3-5's. May I ask why? I consider that the plain course of this superb method cannot be improved upon (in a musical sense) by shifting the working bells out of their plain coursing order; therefore 5-3's are better than 3-5's, because the fifth is in its own place. Thackrah's peal he considers a touch of 4704 changes. To this fact I agree if the bobs "home" are omitted in the last part, as in the case of the first and second parts when the 6th is brought home; but then the 6048 still remains after all this partial annihilation. The statement that Cox had Thackrah's work, and in it appended in pencil a note that it was a short peal, seems to me clear that by the easy process of putting in the bobs home where omitted in Thackrah's 5152 the 6048 was obtained, and if so, will my friend defend this proceeding? Although Mr. Dains has taken the trouble to give the late Jeremiah Miller's variation of the 6048 (instead of giving it in its original form) and put beside a peal of mine, I cannot see how the latter can be related to it. As to whether Mr. Snowdon knew its qualities or not, I think Mr. Snowdon's reputation should not be called into question upon such a matter; certainly it was not his business to transpose and vary in a hundred ways every peal sent him to find its best form for publication. In conclusion, I only hope "the redoubtable trio" are still as good friends as ever, although perhaps each in turn had their feelings a little bit hurt in the fray.

*Saffron Walden.* N. J. PITSTOW.

### RINGING AT ST. PAUL'S, WEDNESBURY.

SIR,—Being one of a band of ringers who wished to attempt a peal at St. Paul's, Wood Green, I wrote to the Vicar requesting the use of the bells for Saturday afternoon, August 31st. I received a reply to the effect that they were engaged for that day, but if we could fix another date he should be glad to have us. We accordingly fixed for September 7th, and sent a post card which he answered per return saying his tower keeper would write me in a day or so. Not hearing anything up till Friday night, September 6th, we agreed to meet there. To my surprise when I returned home on Saturday, at 2.30, there was a post card awaiting me, from the captain of the local band, saying the bells of Wood Green are engaged every Saturday. Now, this was too late for me to stop our men, even if it had come first post. So, meeting at the church and enquiring why the bells were engaged every Saturday, we were informed it was their usual weekly practice at six o'clock. Our peal would have been over by that time, and if not, what band of ringers would have minded waiting half-an-hour or so? Sir, I ask how was it that the practice did not stop the bells the week before? or, was it because we are all members of the Stafford Archdeaconry Association (to which we are told the worthy captain does not belong)? If not, what is the reason we were deprived of the use of the bells for so short a time?

SOUND BOW.

*Wolverhampton.*

### SUNDAY PEAL-RINGING.

SIR,—I have no doubt Mr. Washbrook is fully capable of taking care of himself. Without stating which side of the question I am prepared to take, there is one I should like to address to "Free Lance." When a record appeared of two peals having been rung by a band upon the tower bells on Sunday, he gave the band a pat on the back. When a peal is rang upon the handbells on Sunday, he holds up his whip with a gentle hint it's wrong. Why does he make the difference?

LOOKER-ON.

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### GREAT BENTLEY (ESSEX) BELL FUND.

| | £ | s. | d |
|---|---|---|---|
| Jubilee Offertory | 1 | 10 | 0 |
| Rev. D. H. Francis, Great Bentley | 2 | 2 | |
| Mr. W. J. Nevard | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| ,, G. Humm, Great Bentley Company | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| ,, A. J. King ,, ,, | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| ,, A. Taylor ,, ,, | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| ,, A. Kidby ,, ,, | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| ,, M. More ,, ,, | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| Mr. W. Wringe | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| A Friend | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Mr. W. Oxborrow | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| ,, W. Delf | 0 | 10 | 6 |
| ,, J. White | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| ,, C. Chisnall | 0 | 10 | 6 |
| ,, Atthill | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| ,, F. Manning | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| ,, H Lord | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Proceeds of Entertainment, per Mrs. Atthill | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Proceeds Great Bentley Company, Xmas boxes, 1888 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Messrs. J. Howard, W. Jennings, G. Salmons, G. Deacons, J. Long, T. Bacon, members of the Thorington Company, 1s. each | 0 | 6 | 0 |
| Messrs. J. Starling, J. Taylor, G. Bowell, members of the Great Bromley Company, 1s. each | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Mr. W. Watson, Dedham | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| ,, S. Wyncoll, Higham | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| ,, J. Fenn, Dedham | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Rev. G. M. Drought | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| Mr. H. Lait (Tendring) | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| ,, W. Smith (Higham) | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| ,, J. W. Smith (Higham) | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| ,, C. Ablitt ,, | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| ,, W. Ransom (Stratford St. Mary) | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| ,, W. Hazell (Great Bentley) | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| ,, F. Atthill (Great Bentley) | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| ,, G. Dent (Colchester) | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| ,, H. Bowell (Ipswich) | 0 | 2 | 6 |

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. Henry Springall has removed from 52, Tower Hamlets Road, to 45, Tower Hamlets Road, Forest Gate, Essex.

## THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The Association's silver cup and four other prizes (given by the Burbage ringers and friends), will be competed for at Christ Church, Burbage, Buxton, on Saturday, September 21st (according to the rules) First prize—the Association's silver cup and six drinking cups (Buxton stone): Second prize—six felt hats; Third prize—six silk handkerchiefs; Fourth prize; six scarf pins with a bell in centre (Buxton stone). The draw for priority of ringing will take place at the house of Mr. George Holme, "Red Lion" inn, at 12 o'clock. This competition is for members only. All companies intending to compete must send the name of their company, and the name of each ringer to the secretary, Mr. Joseph Radcliffe, Intack, Uppermill, near Oldham, on or before Saturday, September 14th, or they will not be allowed to compete. No practice allowed after that date. The officers and committee will sit at the above house to enrol new members and receive subscriptions.

JOSEPH RADCLIFFE,
JOHN SIDEBOTHAM, } *Hon. Secs.*

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS.—The Annual Report, with a list of members for the current year, an account of peals rung in 1888-9, and a table of rings of five bells and upwards in the county of Essex, is now published. Any member of the Association who has not received a copy is requested to apply to the leader or secretary of his company; *not to myself*, except in the case of non-resident members whose names do not stand under the heading of any company. Subscriptions for the current year are now due, and should be paid as early as possible.

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

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ROCHDALE BRANCH.—There will be a meeting of the above branch at St. Alban's church, Rochdale, to-day, Saturday, September 14th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting in the schoolroom, Latin Street, at 5 p.m. F. BIRTWISTLE, *Branch Sec.*

ROSSENDALE BRANCH.—The next ringing meeting of the above branch will take place on Saturday, September 21st, at the parish church, Newchurch. Bells ready at 2.30. Meeting in the school at 6.30. J. T. STOTT, *Branch Sec.*

LIVERPOOL BRANCH.—The monthly meeting will be held at Croston Parish Church (eight bells), on Saturday, September 21st. Bells will be open for ringing at 3 p.m; Meeting in the schoolroom at 5.30 p.m. W. BENTHAM, *Branch Sec.*
*Black Moss Lane, Aughton, Ormskirk.*

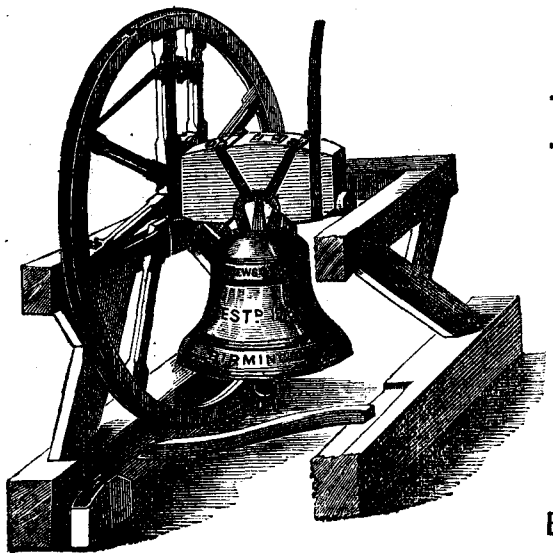
## ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR BIRMINGHAM, ASTON, AND THE SURROUNDING DISTRICT.

The usual quarterly meeting will be held at St. Martin's Mission Rooms, Barwick Street, Birmingham, on Thursday evening, September 26th. Chair to be taken at 8 o'clock.

W. H. GODDEN, *Hon. Sec.*

## THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A District Meeting of this Association will be held at Midhurst (six-bell tower, West Sussex), to-day, Saturday, September 14th. GEO. F. ATTREE, *Hon. Sec.*
JAS. E. WORSELL, *Asst. Hon. Sec.*

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**Ripponden**
**Tass, N. S. W.**
**Middlesmoor**
**Bishop Ryder's Church, Birmingham**
**Llangefni, N. W.**
**Woodbury**
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**Llanfrechfa**
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A new Pamphlet, by Dr. GEO. H. JONES, F.R.S.L., F.R.M.S., etc., Surgeon-Dentist, 57, Great Russell Street, facing British Museum entrance, London, containing a list of Diplomas, Gold and Silver Medals, and other Awards, obtained at the great International Exhibitions, forwarded gratis and post free.

Her Majesty's Surgeon-Dentist says :—

MY DEAR DOCTOR,—Allow me to express my thanks for the skill and attention displayed in the construction of my Artificial Teeth, which render my mastication and articulation excellent. I am glad to hear that you have obtained Her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent to protect what I consider the perfection of Painless Dentistry. In recognition of your valuable services you are at liberty to use my name.

S. G. HUTCHINS. By appointment Surgeon-Dentist to HerMajesty the Queen.

To GEO. H. JONES, ESQ., D.D.S.

SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT.—LABORATORY OF EXPERIMENTAL SCIENCE.

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*(Signed)* EDW. V. GARDNER, F.H.S., M.S.A.
Professor of Chemistry, and of Berners College, W.

To GEO. H. JONES, ESQ., Surgeon-Dentist, 57, Great Russell Street, Bloomsbury Square, London.

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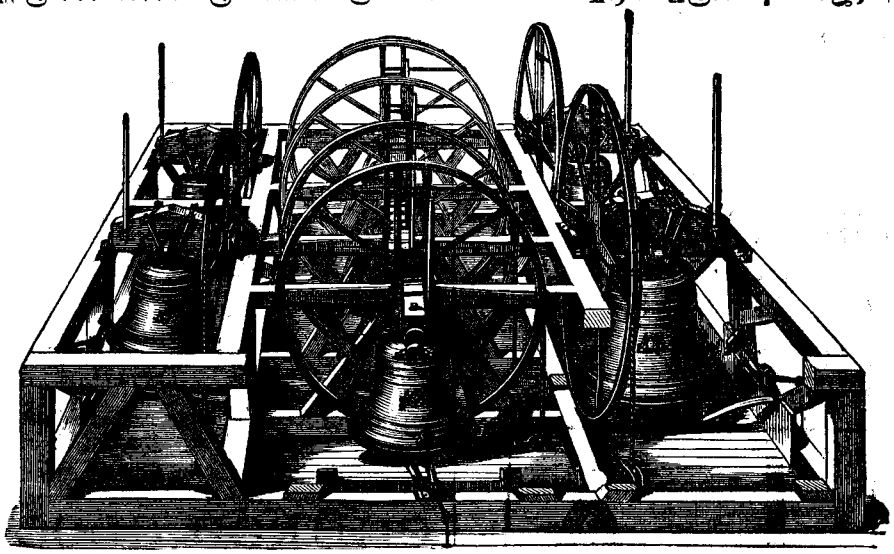

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**Prize Medals awarded in London, 1851, 1862, 1884, Vienna, 1873, &c., for Bells, Chiming Machinery, Metal Work, &c.**

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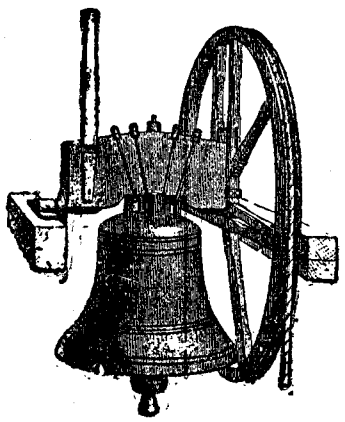

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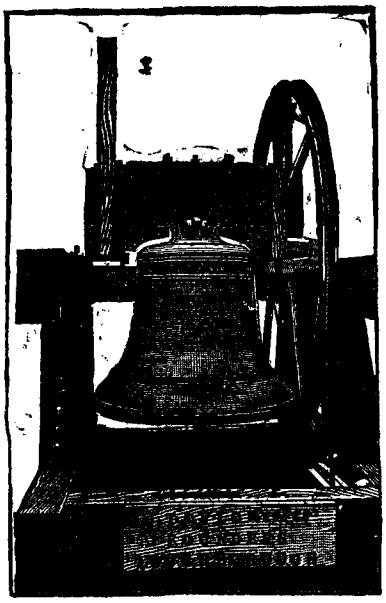
*"This is unquestionably the grandest ringing peal in England, and therefore in the world."*—SIR EDMUND BECKETT, Bart, Q.C. *Times*, Nov. 20th, 1878.



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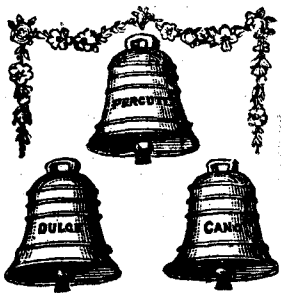


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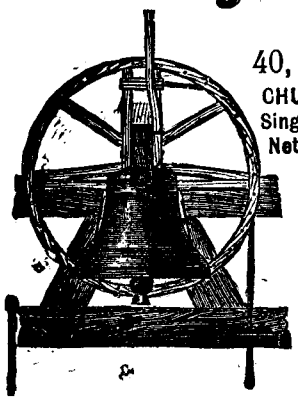

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