

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 416.—VOL. VIII.

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 1890.

ONE PENNY.

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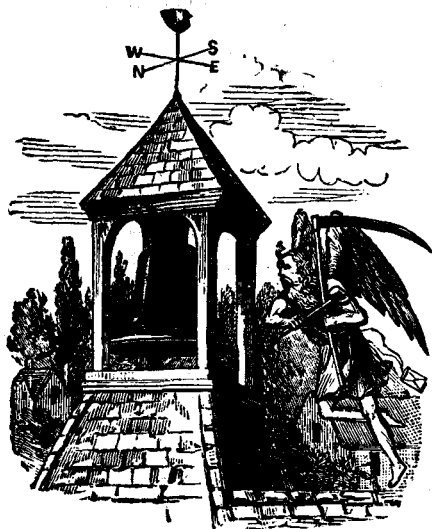
Fowey (Cornwall), Cyst St. George (Devon), Childs Otford (Dorset), Kuishton (Somerset), Crudwell (Wilts), Oaksey (Gloucestershire), Conover (Salop), Tittleshall (Norfolk), Kelvedon (Essex), Leafeld (Oxon), Knowl Hill (Berks), Ufton (Warwick), Clent (Worcestershire), Uttoxeter (Stafford), Ashover (Derbyshire), Tickhill (Yorks), Nawchurch (Lancashire), Woodford (Cheshire), Tainby (Lincolnshire), Syston (Leicester), Gedling (Notts), Dry Drayton (Cambs).

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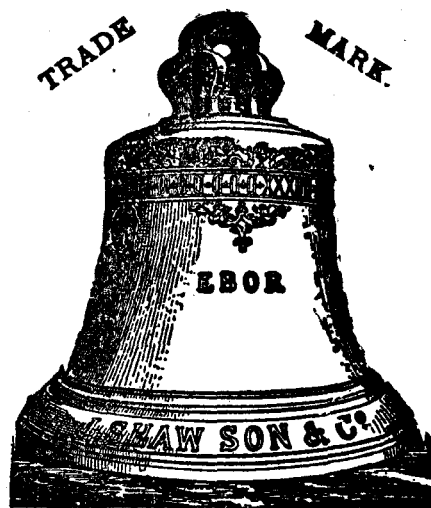
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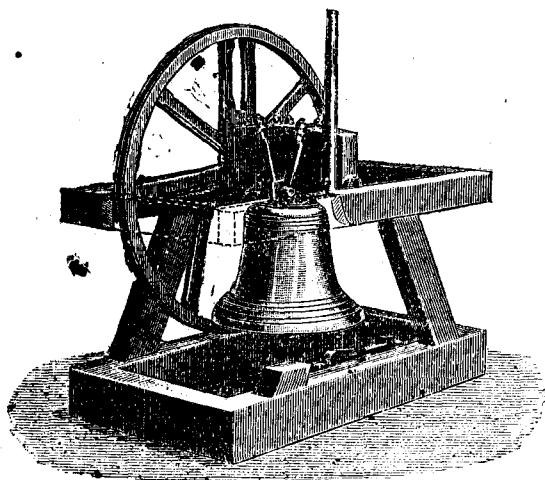
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" 168.—Pray Goody (old English Melody) ..	..	..	..	..	"	1	6
" 169.—The Deil among the Tailors and Scotch Reel ..	..	..	..	..	"	1	6
" 170.—My Lodgings, &c., and Farewell, but whenever ..	..	..	..	..	"	1	6
" 230.—The Mermaid's Song from Weber's Opera, "Oberon" ..	..	..	..	..	"	1	6
" 231.—Thé Merry Month of May, and Massa's in the cold, cold ground ..	..	..	..	..	"	1	6

Other pieces in preparation.

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31st March, 1880

MORE ABOUT MR. HAWEIS.

The blunders concerning ringing, committed by the Rev. H. R. Haweis in his article on "Bells and Belfries," in the February number of the *English Illustrated Magazine*, have already been pointed out in these columns. Of course a man cannot be expected to get up a subject which he so thoroughly hates and abhors; but if we look at his article—not from the Ringers' point of view, but from that of the Campanologist, to which title Mr. Haweis would no doubt acknowledge pretensions, we shall find, as it appears to me, that his knowledge of campanology is about on a par with his acquaintance with ringing technicalities.

May I call attention to a few of the more remarkable statements made by Mr. Haweis in this article.

"I found," says Mr. Haweis, "a curious relic, a sanctus bell at Scarning." Not much of a "find" surely, considering it is mentioned by the late John L'Estrange, in *Church Bells of Norfolk*, which was published in 1874. He proceeds—"It dates from before the Reformation certainly more than 400 years old." And then "This bell . . . must have been put up new in Mary's reign during the Catholic reaction." It is hardly necessary to remark that Mary's date being 1553-58, the bell would in that case be 330 odd years old; not over 400, and not pre-reformation.

The curfew bell (which is by the way, properly the evening 'Ave,') still survives, Mr. Haweis informs us, in the fen districts about Ely and Cambridge.

It would perhaps be news to him that it survives here and there in probably every county in England.

Now for Mr. Haweis' most astonishing assertions:—

"I have no doubt" he says, "that the best English bells were inspired by the Belgian bell founders in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries One has only to set down a few dates side by side and the thing is *next to proved*." (The italics are mine). "I drew out this argument to demonstration in my lecture on bells, 1879, before the Royal Institution." Not having seen a copy of that lecture, I cannot say how Mr. Haweis there "drew out this argument;" but this is how he does it in this article:—

He says "Peter van den Gheyn, of Louvain, 1560, is contemporary with the Braziers and Brends of Norwich." As the first of the Brends began bell-founding about 1564, Mr. Haweis is so far correct in saying he was a contemporary of P. van den Gheyn; but he is slightly "out of it" with regard to the Braziers, the first of whom was established at the Norwich bell foundry (which had already been at work for some years) by 1386, and perhaps a few years earlier; and the last of the Braziers died in 1513. (See *Church Bells of Norfolk*, p. 27, etc.).

"Hemony, of Amsterdam," 1658 (is contemporary with) Myles Gray, 1625-59, of Colchester." What does this prove? (Miles Graye by the way, died 1666, seven years later than the limit given by Mr. Haweis).

"Between 1679 and 1755 flourished Richard Chandler, of Buckingham, Ruddle of Gloucester . . . and the same period is marked by 'so and so' in Belgium."

There was more than one Richard Chandler, besides others of that family, bellfounders in Buckinghamshire, but not in Buckingham. The first of the dates given is that of the death of Anthony Chandler; and the latter date is that of the death of Edward Hall who followed the Chandlers in their business. "Ruddle" should of course be Rudhall; or if the earliest known spelling be preferred, it would be Ridhall (see *Church Bells of Gloucestershire*, p. 78, etc.). The dates of this family as bell-founders are 1684—1829; Thomas Mears the younger bought the business then, and a Rudhall's name appears (as manager of that branch of the great Whitechapel business) until 1835.

What earthly connection does Mr. Haweis show to have existed between these Belgian and English founders? As well might he argue that because I now write these lines, and because some one in Belgium has written something on campanology within the last half century or so; or, because some one in Belgium (who does not see "THE BELL NEWS") shall, before say, the close of this century, write something on the subject; that therefore there must have been some connection between this Belgian and myself!

Does Mr. Haweis consider that the four above-mentioned exhaust the list of first-rate English foundries? Has he never heard of, or does he affect to look down upon, the productions (not to make a long story of it), of all the London founders of the last half-dozen centuries or so; and of all the excellent local founders of days gone by (such for instance as the foundries at Leicester in the 16th and 17th centuries, of the Newcombe and Watts families; and the Wokingham—Reading foundries, which continued for over three centuries before finally merging into the Whitechapel foundry)?

Mr. Haweis continues: "Now the true bell model comes no doubt from Belgium." This simply rests on his unsupported dictum, and until he produces some sort of proof, we need not trouble to add this to the articles of our creed. The three Belgian carillons which Mr. Haweis boasts of having been instrumental in introducing to this country, do not seem, even by his own showing, to be an unqualified success. This is what he says of them: "The Duke of Westminster has a fine carillon . . . but great pressure having been brought to bear upon the illustrious founder to supply the bells to time, it proved beyond his powers to tune them accurately."

"The suite cast for Cattistock Rectory . . . are in this respect much more satisfactory. The bells at Beeding are fairly correct and in quality of course exquisite."

One would like to know, when Mr. Haweis crept under the bell *Carolus* at Antwerp and swung himself upon the clapper until the bell spoke, in what way "the experiment was perilous"?

He continues: "There are very few bells extant earlier than 1400 A.D., but the *Horrida* or *Tocsin* in Strasburg Cathedral dates from 1316." Fourteenth century bells are not as common as one would like, but it is not necessary to go all the way to Strasburg to find one. There are a dozen in this home county of Bucks., and every county whose campanological history has been investigated still possesses some.

I quite agree with Mr. Haweis as to the beauty of the Belgian carillons, and should be very glad to see some introduced into some of our larger steeples; they need not in the least interfere with the use of eight to twelve of the larger bells for ringing; but fear it will need all Mr. Haweis' eloquence to draw out the money to provide an extra 100 or so bells to form a complete "suite," even if they run down at the treble end to no bigger than the tenor of a set of handbells. I also quite agree with Mr. Haweis' condemnation of the short squat bells cast now-a-days in England for facility of ringing; but even bellringers, though according to Mr. Haweis we do not "care twopence for the sound or the tune," are rather apt to speak disdainfully of such as "tanks." I would go a step further than Mr. Haweis (who is perhaps unaware of the fact), and raise my feeble protest against the modern practice of mutilating bells by knocking off their canons, and hanging them by boring holes through the crown's to shorten their axis. Depend upon it a future generation will condemn us as barbarians.

A. H. COCKS.
Great Marlow, Bucks.

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LIST OF PEALS RUNG BY THE LATE MR. HENRY JOHNSON, SEN., OF BIRMINGHAM.

Date.	Changes.	Method.	Time.	Where Rung.
1. January 12th, 1830	5040	Grandsire Triples	3 6	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
2. June 30th, 1830	5040	"	3 0	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
3. February 29th, 1832	5040 a	"	3 5	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
4. July 14th, 1833	5021 a b	Grandsire Caters	3 17	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
5. August 18th, 1833	5080	Grandsire Royal	3 22	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
6. October 1st, 1833	5040	Grandsire Triples	3 2	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
7. February 9th, 1835	5040 a	"	3 5	St. Thomas, Stourbridge
8. October 6th, 1835	5058 a b	Grandsire Caters	3 36	St. Philip's, Birmingham
9. December 26th, 1837	5040 a	Grandsire Triples	3 5	St. Mary's, Lichfield
10. August 11th, 1839	5040 a	"	2 58	King's Norton
11. December 21st, 1840	5240 b	Grandsire Royal	3 35	St. Philip's, Birmingham
12. April 12th, 1841	5120 b	Kent Treble Bob Royal	3 20	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
13. October 1st, 1841	5184 a b	Stedman Caters	3 21	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
14. February 9th, 1843	5040	Stedman Triples	3 9	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
15. May 24th, 1843	5184 b	Stedman Caters	3 33	St. Philip's, Birmingham
16. June 8th, 1843	5001 a b	"	3 18	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
17. March 31st, 1845	5056	Kent Treble Bob Major	3 0	All Saints, West Bromwich
18. August 24th, 1845	6016	"	3 30	All Saints, West Bromwich
19. April 26th, 1846	5040 a b	Kent Treble Bob Royal	3 18	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
20. May 18th, 1846	5040 a	Stedman Triples	2 53	St. Martin's, Birmingham
21. July 13th, 1846	5094 a b	Grandsire Caters	3 15	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
22. January 31st, 1847	5040 a	Stedman Triples	2 54	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
23. February 14th, 1847	5007 a b	Stedman Caters	2 55	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
24. February 25th, 1847	5056	Kent Treble Bob Major	3 5	St. Martin's, Birmingham
25. April 5th, 1847	5040 a	Stedman Triples	2 57	St. John's, Deritend, Birmingham
26. June 7th, 1847	5040 a	"	2 52	All Saints, West Bromwich
27. January 9th, 1848	5184 b	Stedman Caters	3 7	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
28. January 11th, 1848	5280 a b	Stedman Cinques	3 31	St. Martin's, Birmingham
29. February 13th, 1848	5004 b	Kent Treble Bob Caters	3 7	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
30. March 21st, 1848	5088 a b	Kent Treble Bob Maximus	3 53	St. Martin's, Birmingham
31. June 25th, 1848	5004 a b	Grandsire Caters	3 14	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
32. August 20th, 1848	5400 a b	Stedman Caters	3 20	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
33. September 17th, 1848	5400 a b	"	3 14	St. John's, Bromsgrove
34. November 5th, 1848	5079 a b	"	3 15	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
35. December 12th, 1848	7392 a b	Stedman Cinques	4 55	St. Martin's, Birmingham
36. December 19th, 1848	5016	"	3 32	St. Martin's, Birmingham
37. December 31st, 1848	5187 a b	Stedman Caters	3 15	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
38. April 17th, 1849	6336 a b	Grandsire Cinques	4 25	St. Martin's, Birmingham
39. October 14th, 1850	7020 a b	Stedman Caters	4 18	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
40. August 6th, 1851	5079	"	3 20	St. Clement Danes, Strand, London
41. November 23rd, 1851	5271 a b	"	3 22	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
42. January 11th, 1852	5297 a b	"	3 26	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
43. November 1st, 1852	5184 b	Kent Treble Bob Major	2 54	All Saints, West Bromwich
44. May 10th, 1853	5009 a b	Stedman Caters	3 12	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
45. June 1st, 1853	5079 a b	"	3 15	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
46. July 15th, 1855	5001 a b	"	3 7	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
47. August 5th, 1855	5002 a b	"	3 3	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
48. September 9th, 1855	5000 a b	"	2 55	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
49. February 17th, 1856	5037 a b	Stedman Major	3 7	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
50. December 28th, 1856	5001	Stedman Caters	3 7	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
51. January 1st, 1857	5280 b	Oxford Treble Bob Royal	3 27	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
52. July 26th, 1857	5000 b	"	3 17	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
53. August 9th, 1857	5003 a b	Grandsire Caters	3 6	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
54. September 6th, 1857	5080 b	Kent Treble Bob Royal	3 15	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
55. December 28th, 1857	5000 b	Stedman Caters	3 17	St. Michael's, Coventry
56. February 16th, 1858	5885 b	Grandsire Caters	3 37	St. Thomas' Dudley
57. April 18th, 1858	5079	Stedman Caters	3 10	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
58. September 4th, 1859	5184 b	"	3 8	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
59. October 14th, 1860	5040 b	Kent Treble Bob Royal	3 20	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
60. October 30th, 1860	5000 a b	Stedman Cinques	3 30	St. Martin's, Birmingham
61. January 6th, 1862	5040 a b	Grandsire Triples	3 0	St. John's, Deritend, Birmingham
62. July 20th, 1862	5058 a b	Grandsire Caters	3 16	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
63. November 17th, 1862	5029 a b	Stedman Caters	3 17	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
64. October 20th, 1863	5014 b	Stedman Cinques	3 30	St. Martin's, Birmingham
65. September 12th, 1864	5043 b	Stedman Caters	3 16	St. Matthew's, Walsall
66. May 28th, 1865	5040 a	Grandsire Triples	3 5	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
67. July 25th, 1865	5040 a	"	2 50	Shenstone, near Lichfield
68. September 24th, 1865	5024 a b	Grandsire Major	3 15	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
69. April 16th, 1866	5079 b	Stedman Caters	3 22	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
70. June 10th, 1867	5069 b	"	3 10	Wolverhampton
71. September 23rd, 1867	5081 b	"	3 12	All Saints, Worcester
72. April 12th, 1868	5157 b	"	3 25	St. Philip's, Birmingham
73. November 23rd, 1868	5057 b	"	3 15	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
74. January 9th, 1869	5040	Grandsire Triples	3 9	Perry Barr
75. March 29th, 1869	5120 b	Kent Treble Bob Major	3 20	Perry Barr
76. September 25th, 1869	5021 b	Stedman Caters	3 30	St. Mary's, Warwick
77. October 23rd, 1869	5040	Stedman Triples	3 7	Perry Barr
78. February 12th, 1870	5067 b	Stedman Caters	3 15	St. Bartholomew's, Wednesbury
79. October 15th, 1870	5040	Grandsire Triples	3 6	Bishop Ryder's, Birmingham
80. December 17th, 1870	5040	Stedman Triples	3 4	Bishop Ryder's, Birmingham
81. October 30th, 1871	5062	Stedman Caters	3 20	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham

	Date.	Changes.	Method	Time.	Where rung.
82.	January 15th, 1872	5040	Stedman Triples	3 15	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
83.	March 16th, 1872	5568	Kent Treble Bob Major	3 34	Bishop Ryder's, Birmingham
84.	April 8th, 1872	5278 b	Stedman Caters	3 34	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
85.	November 14th, 1872	5049 b	"	3 23	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
86.	March 1st, 1873	5079 b	"	3 30	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
87.	April 9th, 1873	5040	Stedman Triples	3 9	St. Nicholas', Nuneaton, Warwickshire
88.	May 24th, 1873	5057	Stedman Caters	3 16	St. Matthew's, Walsall
89.	October 11th, 1873	5067 b	"	3 35	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
90.	November 15th, 1873	5056 b	Kent Treble Bob Major	3 11	St. John's, Deritend, Birmingham
91.	November 17th, 1873	5269 b	Stedman Caters	3 46	St. Philip's, Birmingham.
92.	April 18th, 1874	5040	Grandsire Triples	3 2	St. John's, Deritend, Birmingham
93.	May 11th, 1874	5001	Stedman Caters	3 22	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
94.	November 23rd, 1874	5088 b	Kent Treble Bob Major	3 25	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
95.	February 20th, 1875	5079 a b	Stedman Caters	3 17	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
96.	July 3rd, 1875	5040	Grandsire Triples	2 57	Bishop Ryder's Birmingham
97.	September 25th, 1875	5040	"	3 0	Bishop Ryder's, Birmingham
98.	November 20th, 1875	5056 b	Grandsire Major	3 7	Bishop Ryder's, Birmingham
99.	December 20th, 1875	5040	Stedman Triples	2 59	Bishop Ryder's, Birmingham
100.	February 28th, 1876	5079 a b	Stedman Caters	3 18	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
101.	April 3rd, 1876	5005 a b	"	3 18	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
102.	October 21st, 1876	5184 a b	Stedman Royal	3 27	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
103.	November 25th, 1876	5003 b	Grandsire Caters	3 12	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
104.	January 15th, 1877	5050 b	Stedman Caters	3 10	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
105.	November 27th, 1877	5079 b	"	3 20	St. Martin's, Birmingham
106.	February 23rd, 1878	5012	Grandsire Triples	2 57	Bishop Ryder's, Birmingham
107.	May 28th, 1878	5004 a b	Stedman Cinques	3 25	St. Martin's, Birmingham
108.	January 28th, 1879	5015 b	Grandsire Cinques	3 30	St. Martin's, Birmingham
109.	April 21st, 1879	5075 a b	Grandsire Caters	3 12	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
110.	March 29th, 1880	5037	Stedman Caters	3 20	St. John's, Bromsgrove
111.	April 10th, 1880	5053 a b	"	3 21	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
112.	April 27th, 1880	5014 b	Stedman Cinques	3 35	St. Martin's, Birmingham
113.	May 29th, 1880	5040	Grandsire Triples	2 59	St. John's, Perry Barr
114.	June 19th, 1880	5000 b	Stedman Caters	3 12	Christ Church, West Bromwich
115.	July 10th, 1880	5040	Stedman Triples	3 10	St. John's, Perry Barr
116.	August 14th, 1880	5040	"	2 55	Willenhall
117.	October 6th, 1880	5040	"	3 2	St. Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham
118.	October 9th, 1880	5040	Grandsire Triples	2 58	St. Peter's, Harborne
119.	November 16th, 1880	5000 b	Stedman Cinques	3 40	St. Martin's, Birmingham
120.	December 11th, 1880	5088	Kent Treble Bob Major	3 4	St. Peter's, Harborne
121.	February 28th, 1881	9238 b	Stedman Cinques	6 48	St. Martin's, Birmingham
122.	May 7th, 1881	5040	Plain Bob Major	3 2	St. Peter's, Harborne
123.	June 23rd, 1881	5040	Grandsire Triples	3 11	St. John's, Perry Barr
124.	November 5th, 1881	5040	Stedman Triples	2 50	St. Peter's, Harborne
125.	January 7th, 1882	5003 b	Grandsire Caters	3 34	St. Martin's, Birmingham
126.	February 28th, 1882	5014 b	Stedman Cinques	3 45	St. Martin's, Birmingham
127.	March 18th, 1882	5065 a b	Stedman Caters	3 26	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
128.	May 6th, 1882	5021 b	Grandsire Caters	3 20	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
129.	May 23rd, 1882	5019	Stedman Cinques	3 40	St. Martin's, Birmingham
130.	June 6th, 1882	5079 b	Stedman Caters	3 25	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
131.	September 16th, 1882	5007 b	Stedman Cinques	3 31	St. Martin's, Birmingham
132.	November 21st, 1882	5079 b	Stedman Caters	3 30	St. Martin's, Birmingham
133.	January 13th, 1883	6336 b	Kent Treble Bob Major	3 50	St. Peter's, Harborne
134.	May 3rd, 1883	5040	Stedman Triples	3 6	St. John's, Deritend, Birmingham
135.	June 9th, 1883	5063 b	Stedman Caters	3 33	St. Michael's, Coventry
136.	August 11th, 1883	5040	Stedman Triples	3 0	All Saints, West Bromwich
137.	October 1st, 1883	5040	"	2 45	St. Peter's, Drayton, Berks
138.	November 13th, 1883	5040 b	Stedman Caters	3 18	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham
139.	February 23rd, 1884	5093 b	"	3 17	SS. Peter and Paul, Aston, Birmingham

Those marked *a* are the peals conducted by Mr. Johnson; those marked *b* are composed by him; and those marked *a b* are composed and conducted by him.

The above peals are made up as follows: Grandsire Triples, 19; Grandsire Major, 2; Grandsire Caters, 11; Grandsire Royal, 2; Grandsire Cinques, 2; Stedman Triples, 17; Stedman Major, 1; Stedman Caters, 53; Stedman Royal, 1; Stedman Cinques, 12; Treble Bob Major, 10; Treble Bob Caters, 1; Treble Bob Royal, 6; Treble Bob Maximus, 1; Bob Major, 1. It will be seen from the above list that Mr. Johnson rang his first peal on January 12th, 1830, and his last on February 23rd, 1884, covering a space of 54 years, thus not averaging three peals a year; but it should be borne in mind that Mr. Johnson lost very little time from business to ring peals. He often said that owing to business he was unable to take part in the 10,047 of Stedman Caters, rung at Aston on March 8th, 1855. Mr. Johnson has set us a pattern in his 121st peal, which I am afraid few of us would be able to follow at the age of 72. So well was he prepared for a long length that had he been conducting the peal on that occasion would have run the bells to a 10,000. It will be noticed that the year 1848 was a good year for ringing, twelve peals being rung by the Society, Mr. Johnson taking part in eleven of them, composing ten and conducting eight, all twelve peals being ten and twelve-bell performances. Mr. Johnson was also the first to call Stedman Cinques from a non-observation bell. He was also the first to call Thurstans' well-known peal of Stedman Triples, which was rung on the front eight of St. Martin's, Birmingham (see No. 20). Mr. Johnson conducted forty-nine peals: thirty-one of Stedman, sixteen of Grandsire, and two of Treble Bob.

Birmingham.

HENRY BASTABLE.

THE PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.—On another page will be found the forty-first Annual Report of this extraordinary Company. This issue of this report is now regarded by many people as one of the important events of the year. Time after time, this yearly document makes known that the natural development of this gigantic institution knows no bounds, and each successive issue has provided the insurance world with a fresh reason for surprise and astonishment at the marvellous progress achieved. Whether the Prudential can continue

to surpass its past performances in rapidity of growth and in the highest successes of administration, must remain a matter of doubt; but none can dispute that, in some important respects, the accounts for 1889 are of greater interest than those which have preceded them. For, whether considered as an Industrial or an Ordinary Life Assurance Company, the Prudential can now, for the first time in its sensational career, claim the proud distinction of being the largest British institution of its kind.

BELFRY LEGENDS.

In all ages and in all climes the music of bells has been blended with the poet's inspired melodies. Back through the corridors of time do the voices of the bells echo; but it is in vain that the antiquary endeavours to fix the date when first their music fell on the enchanted ear.

In the worship of the gods, they shone in the hands of the Priest of Proserpine; they gleamed and tinkled on the vestments of the Jewish High Priest; Greeks, Romans, and Christians used them. Amid the shouts of victory they were heard as the Roman general's triumphant chariot passed majestically along—heard in tones of warning, for they were hung upon the chariot to remind the elated victor that, even in this hour of supremacy, he still was subject to the laws of Rome.

That glittering pageant fades from our sight, and again we hear the sound of bells as they jangle on the necks of a band of Roman criminals going to the place of execution.

Coming nearer to our own times, what memories crowd around the belfry-tower, "like the rooks that round it throng"!—memories blent with joy or fraught with terror, as in thought we hear the clash of joy-bells in the sunny air, proclaiming peace on earth; or, in the stillness of the night, start as the ominous booming of a bell recalls that early August morning when, from the tower of St. Germain l'Auxerrois the signal was given, and the fearful massacre of St. Bartholomew commenced a minute after, and the streets of Paris were strewn with the mangled corpses of defenceless Protestants, lured to their death by the base treachery and the fanatical hate of Catherine de Medicis, whose heartless utterance: "*Aujourd'hui il y a de l'humanité à être cruel, de la cruauté à être humain*," was taken up by a maddened populace as they hurled their victims from the windows on to the stones below, while the King himself stood at a window of the Louvre and fired on those of his miserable subjects who fled from the assassin's knife. From this "tale of terror told in the startled ear of night" we turn shuddering away, while perchance across the shadowland of our own past we hear some dear remembered chime, recalling hours when our "careless childhood strayed a stranger yet to pain." We see once more the grey village tower, nestling amid the trees, or the stately cathedral spires of the sleepy red-brick city that was once the only world we knew.

The great Napoleon was always deeply affected by the sound of bells, and it is recorded that when at Malmaison, while walking in the avenue which leads to Ruel, talking vehemently of ambitious projects of future conquest, the sound of the not distant village bells was suddenly heard. Napoleon stopped in the middle of a sentence, and signed to his listener to keep silence. With evident emotion the French Cæsar drank in those peaceful tones, while a smile lit up his pale face and played around his hard, determined mouth; then, as the last vibration of the bells died away, he turned, and in broken accents said, "That recalls to me my first years at Brienne!"

The first English bellfounder was Roger Ropeforde, of Paignton, Devon, who flourished in 1282. Since that time England has gained the foremost rank in the art of bellfounding, as she is *facile princeps* in the mysteries of change-ringing. But though we are renowned for the workmanship and tone of our bells, Russia and China have produced the largest bells. Indeed our biggest, "Great Paul," is a pigmy beside "Tzar Kolokai," the bell of Moscow, for the former weighs only a little over sixteen tons, while the Russian bell is said to be 250 tons. It is, in fact, the largest bell in the world, and forms the dome of a chapel, for in 1737, during a fire, a piece of the bell, weighing eleven tons, was broken out, and the mighty bell itself came crashing to the ground, and lay for a century imbedded in the earth. In 1837 a chapel was constructed by excavating beneath the fallen bell. Four gigantic bells at Nankin, in China, one of which weighed 50,000 lbs., brought the tower that contained them headlong to the ground by their immense weight. It is not likely that we shall attempt to construct such cumbersome monsters, for the all-sufficient reason that to get a perfect tone from a bell it must be swung, an impossibility with these Russian and Chinese bells, which are always struck while fixed to frames.

It is not matter for wonder that bells, which through the ages have mingled their voices with our daily cries of hope or fear, of sorrow or delight, should have been the subject of many a

poetical myth, the object of many a superstitious belief. Thus, from a multitude of legends, we gather these:—

Clothaire II., King of France, A.D. 615, when at Sens, in Burgundy, heard a bell which from the tower of St. Stephen's church gave forth so exquisite a sound that the King ordered its immediate removal to Paris. Deep was the grief of the good Bishop of Sens, and of the citizens, when the bell was taken down and carted away, for it had made music in the old city time out of mind. But no one dared to raise his voice against the edict of Clothaire. For other ears than theirs those loved tones would sound forth; other daughters than their own would hear with trembling joy that silver music on their wedding-morn, and death would have an added bitterness when that familiar voice no longer joined their own in faithful lamentation for the dead. All was hopeless, helpless, dull despair, when, lo! a breathless messenger came hurrying with the news that the old bell refused in its new home to give forth any sound, and that the King, awestruck and terrified, had ordered its immediate return. So the old bell, still dumb, was carted back to Sens; but when a turning in the road disclosed the ancient city but four leagues away, the bell, though no hand touched it, rang out loud and clear, and all along the dusty road made music as it neared its native town. The Bishop and the people sallied out, prayers and thanksgiving hymns poured forth, while maidens, laughing through their tears, strewed all the way with flowers; louder and sweeter still the bell rang on, filling with a delicious joy the hearts of those who, lately all despairing, thought to hear its voice no more.

Another legend, waited to us from the rock-bound Cornish coast, relates how sweetly from Tintagel's tower the vesper bells rang out, and how the simple folk who dwelt at Farrabury heard the sound with pleased, yet envious ears. They had a tower by the sea, "four square to every wind that blows"; but no bells. At length it was resolved that it should go hard but they would have as sweet a peal of bells as that which echoed from Tintagel's tower. So, far away, the bells were cast and shipped for Farrabury, and with favouring winds the vessel glided swiftly on, till the expectant crowd upon the beach beheld her with her precious freight, awaiting only that the rising tide should float her into the harbour. No breeze ruffled the surface of the summer sea, there was a tender stillness in the evening air when, suddenly, the vesper bells chimed from Tintagel's tower. At the sound the pilot, kneeling by the captain's side, devoutly crossed himself and offered thanks to God for the quick voyage and the safe return. But the captain laughed, "To me alone the praise, I need no aid from God to bring the vessel safely in"—then swore a fearful oath, at which the pious pilot, praying still, shuddered and shrank away. The oath still lingered on the captain's lips when, from the surface of the silent sea, a mighty wave arose, upon its curving crest the ship was lifted up, then, as a wild cry went forth from all the anxious gazers on the shore, she sank, while on the stilly air was heard the muffled sound of bells as when a knell is tolled. One soul alone escaped, the pious pilot safely swam ashore.

Many centuries have passed away since then; but to this day, when storms approach, and only then, deep down below the surface of the troubled waves the bells of Farrabury may be heard ringing a muffled peal, while on the rocky coast the vacant, silent tower still stands, looking out across the angry sea.

W. G. S.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

An election of two representatives for the National Central Council has been taking place in the above Guild during last week. Voting papers were sent out to all Honorary and Ringing members throughout the diocese, about 400 in number, to be returned to the General Secretary by the 15th inst. On receipt the votes were placed in a sealed box, which was opened on Monday last in the presence of Messrs. Rigden, Parsons, and Short (committeemen), and the votes were counted by Mr. A. West. The following result was then found: Rev. A.D. Hill, 155; T. Blackburn, 146; (both elected); J. R. Jerram, 141; C. A. Clements, 61; W. McCaffery, 34. There were only three spoiled and disqualified voting papers.

J. R. JERRAM, General Secretary.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Take not offence at trifles."

On opening my paper last Saturday, I was very pleased to see the initials "G. P. C." attached to the interesting article on the celebrated leaning tower of Pisa and its bells. I have been wondering lately what had become of our naval friend, whether—in fact—he had not gone single-handed in search of the North Pole, or was investigating (Stanley-like) some hitherto unknown region out of the pale of civilization. But I am glad to see that he is still "on the job" (excuse this vulgar phrase). These great travellers are a very peculiar, if not even eccentric, race of individuals. They have a propensity for cropping up in all sorts of unlooked-for and unmentionable places, when we least expect them. Thus the man who had the temerity to disturb the waters of the sea of Azov with the sound of hand-bells is only acting in accordance with the traditions of his race when he so turns up with an account of his experiences in the decayed city of the slanting tower. One of my chronic regrets is that I am unable to join our friend in his extensive and certainly interesting travels. But we all have to live under different circumstances—more or less in accordance with our desires; and so in this case, if we cannot accompany our friend *in propria persona*, we have at least the pleasure of reading the accounts of his travels. I believe we should be glad to know more of them.

* * * *

"In no change-ringing band in England could greater harmony and good fellowship be found than among the members of the change-ringing band of St. Mary's, Penzance." So we are told on page 589. This is pleasant reading. How many bands are there amongst us who might with advantage seriously consider this statement? It denotes cordial good feeling and the absence of all that tends to disturb those fraternal relations which should be always maintained amongst us. How much better is this than the state of things which I have seen unfortunately but too often in bands where everything has been at "sixes and sevens," each one seeming to have a delight in taking advantage of one another, frustrating each others' plans and ideas, and missing no opportunity of "getting at" another member of the company? No bearing and forbearing with each other for the common good; stubborn and relentless in their ideas; those in office abusing their position by overbearing manners and tyrannical conduct, while among the rank and file exists an undercurrent of complaining and dissatisfaction, which vents itself every now and then in uncomplimentary—if not even actually abusive—remarks and actions. I feel, unfortunately, that I am by no means overdrawing the picture. Happily, however, my journeyings have brought me into contact with bands where the lines have evidently fallen in pleasanter places. I have visited towers where officers and members have alike been imbued with one feeling of anxiety for the common good, both scientifically and socially. I have come across bands where unkind words have been as scarce as the Dodo, where the officers have recognised their positions simply as involving duties which they owed to the brotherhood by whom they were elected, and where the members have invariably given to those officers a loyal support in their efforts for the success and welfare of the whole. This is as it should be. To ensure the successful carrying on of any society there must be both that *con amore* and that *esprit du corps* which combined make experiences pleasant and progress certain. By their more extended application, also, the harmony and good-fellowship so happily existing at Penzance would be manifest likewise in numberless other towers throughout the country. May your shadows never grow less, my amicable brethren of Penzance.

As I expected we have not been long in seeing opposition to those proposals of the Editor to which I referred last week. But what are we to think of the meagreness of the case made out in opposition or the positive absurdity of the alternative plan proposed by "W. P." He suggests the rule of inserting no touches under 1260's. Then what about our six-bell ringers, whose 720's would thus come under the prohibition? What about—but, why argue further? The suggestion won't hold water. Surely "W. P." must be a young and inexperienced individual, or he would never have ventured to introduce such a proposal. Had he suggested drawing the line at 720's, except in special cases where shorter touches sent have had some peculiar feature or significance, then we might have considered that he wrote in a reasonable and sensible manner; possibly, even, might have agreed with him; but to talk about drawing the line at quarter-peals, why his wits must have "gone a-wool-gathering."

* * * *

Regarding these short touches sent up for insertion, of which our Editor gets considerably more than he gives publicity to, anyone who has read "THE BELL NEWS" regularly for the last year or two cannot fail to have noticed an alteration and improvement in this matter. I have myself drawn attention to it many times; but at the present time I do think the Editor has managed to get into that happy medium where he reduces legitimate complaints to a minimum. And to tell the truth, these "short" touches, so far as having no interest to any but the actual performers, as "W. P." asserts, are becoming more and more interesting reading, if only through the various items of news which they incidentally convey. For instance last week, the first two paragraphs of this "Miscellaneous" tells us that our friends of the St. Martin's Guild have had two unsuccessful attempts at peals, one as a tribute of respect to the late Wm. Hallsworth, and the other arranged for Mr. James George, of Rugby. Had "W. P.'s" proposal been in force, neither of the touches substituted could have appeared, as they were both under the stipulated 1260. One 720 may be reported as the first on the bells; another is in honour of a brother-string's birthday; others in connection with friendly visits and "meets" of bands; while the "first 720's" and "longest lengths" are almost innumerable. All these items are valuable to a careful observer, if only in the way of straws shewing in which quarter the wind lies. Or, drop the metaphor, they indicate in no small degree the progress and energy manifested by our brethren up and down the country. I hope, therefore, that these reviled "short" touches will always retain their present interesting features; and thus be "good reading" week after week, complainers notwithstanding. We generally find, somehow, that those who growl the loudest have the least room for complaint.

* * * *

If anybody wanted to convince himself that this is the season of Lent, he need look no further than the list of peals. Whatever may be said, pro and con, on the subject of peal-ringing during Lent, there can be no mistake about it that every year shews a diminution of the number reported during that season.

* * * *

Our friend, the Rev. F. E. Murphy, adds another to the long list of methods in possession of the Exercise. I have been as yet unable to give more than a cursory glance at "St. Andrew," thus am not in a position to speak of its merits or otherwise. One thing certainly did strike me on looking at it, that the way in which the tenors travel will prevent its becoming popular among a very large number of brother-strings, who have such a predilection for keeping the tenors together. FREE LANCE.

BLACKBOURN & GREENLEAF,
CHURCH BELL HANGERS, TUNERS, AND
HANDBELL FOUNDERS,
 No. 100, BEDWIN STREET, SALISBURY.

Messrs. Blackburn and Greenleaf are practical Ringers, and having had considerable experience in Church Bell hanging and tuning, with confidence solicit the patronage of the Clergy, Churchwardens and Ringers generally.
 W. Greenleaf was twenty years with Mears and Stainbank, as tuner and bell-hanger. *The Ellacombe Chime Hammers fixed.*

JASPER W. SNOWDON'S WORKS.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 1s. 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.

"THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD" will be forwarded post free, on the following terms:—

One copy, 12 months	8s.
" 6 "	4s.
" 3 "	2s.

All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher E. W. ALLEN, Ave Maria Lane, London.

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 1890.

THE contents of this number precludes the appearance of our usual comment. Next week a portrait with memoir

of Mr. JOHN DAY, of Birmingham, will appear. That of Mr. C. H. HATTERSLEY was announced as coming next, but that gentleman has not yet been able, from circumstances beyond his control, to forward his photograph to us.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, March 17, 1890, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, LAMBETH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 19 cwt.

FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. Treble.	WILLIAM E. GARRARD .. 5.
HENRY R. NEWTON .. 2.	CHALLIS F. WINNY .. 6.
EDWIN HORREX .. 3.	WILLIAM H. GEORGE .. 7.
JOHN M. HAYES .. 4.	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNY.

Rung on the occasion of Challis F. Winny's birthday.

SOUTHGATE, MIDDLESEX—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 13, 1890, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. F. PENNING'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 25 cwt.

ERNEST T. EDRIDGE .. Treble.	WILLIAM H. FREEMAN .. 5.
GEORGE B. LUCAS .. 2.	GEORGE J. SMITH .. 6.
ALFRED FOX .. 3.	JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. .. 7.
FREDERICK G. NEWMAN .. 4.	CHARLES J. DAVIDSON .. Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE B. LUCAS.

The Provinces.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE WARNHAM BRANCH.)

On Friday, March 14, 1890, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY PLEASURE MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES.

JAMES GARMAN .. Treble.	HARRY COOK .. 5.
GEORGE WOODMAN .. 2.	WILLIAM SHORT .. 6.
THOMAS ANDREWS .. 3.	HENRY BURSTOW .. 7.
WALTER CHARMAN .. 4.	HENRY H. CHANDLER .. Tenor.

Composed by A. KNIGHTS of Chesterfield, and Conducted by HENRY H. CHANDLER.

This is the treble man's first attempt at Major, and the first with a bob bell by the 2nd.

BROMSGROVE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 15, 1890, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5094 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIAM LEWIS .. Treble.	WILLIAM JAMES .. 6.
OLIVER JAMES .. 2.	WALTER REA .. 7.
GEORGE HAYWARD .. 3.	ALFRED MOORE .. 8.
THOMAS ALLBUTT .. 4.	GEORGE BOURNE .. 9.
JOHN MASON .. 5.	JAMES PARRY .. Tenor.

Composed by GEORGE HAYWARD, and Conducted by WALTER REA.

The above peal is the first part of the 16,326, which will, if all is well, be attempted in the Easter week. The figures will be found in "THE BELL NEWS" for January 4th, 1890.

WANTED Nos. 314 to 353 of "THE BELL NEWS," and all the Numbers of Vol. VI. in CLEAN CONDITION for binding.—Apply, stating lowest price for the above, to H. Mason, Park Street, Old Hill, Staffordshire.

FOLKESTONE, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, March 14, 1890, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
VICARS' SIX-PART. Tenor 25 cwt.

SYDNEY FINN Treble.	HENRY CROUCHER .. 5.
GEORGE FINN 2.	JOHN H. CHEESEMAN .. 6.
JAMES FISHER 3.	FREDERICK SLINGSBY .. 7.
SAMUEL BARKER 4.	FREDERICK FINN Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESEMAN.

AYLESFORD, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 15, 1890, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 16 cwt.

THOMAS DURBAN Treble.	*ARTHUR C. WEST .. 5.
ALFRED PALMER 2.	THOMAS MANNING .. 6.
GABRIEL LINDOFF 3.	JOHN GRANSBURY .. 7.
REUBEN SIMMONDS 4.	ALCHIN MOORCRAFT Tenor.

Composed by J. CARTER of Birmingham, and Conducted by
ALCHIN MOORCRAFT.

*First peal in the method. This is the first peal of Grandsire Major rang by the Association.

BOLTON, BRADFORD, YORKSHIRE.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 15, 1890, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HUBBARD'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

WILLIAM GILL* Treble.	JAMES MAWSON .. 5.
BERNAL E. HOWE† 2.	BEN. T. COPLEY .. 6.
HENRY RAISTRICK† 3.	†SAM. PALFRAMAN .. 7.
GEO. TITTERINGTON 4.	*JOHN JOYCE Tenor.

Conducted by BEN. T. COPLEY.

All Members of the Society of Copley Scholars. *First peal. †First of Bob Triples with a bob bell. This was rung in commemoration of Wm. Gill's birthday, to whom all his brother "Scholars" wish many happy returns.

HEENE, NEAR WORTHING, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 15, 1890, in Two Hours and Forty-one Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 10½ cwt.

GEORGE WILLIAMS Treble.	HENRY JONES .. 5.
PHILLIP ALLFREY* 2.	*GEORGE BAKER .. 6.
WILLIAM ALLFREY 3.	CHARLES PAINTER .. 7.
EDWARD C. MERRETT 4.	*HERBERT HODGE Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

*First peal of Stedman. Mr. Hodge is of the local band; Jones and Painter from Ringmer; Baker from Arundel; the rest from Brighton.

GLOSSOP, DERBYSHIRE.
THE UNITED COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 15, 1890, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

JOHN J. BRIERLEY Treble.	JAMES SELLARS .. 5.
JOSEPH RADCLIFFE 2.	JOSEPH MALONEY .. 6.
JOHN HOLDEN 3.	THOMAS B. DICKEN .. 7.
JOSEPH WOOD 4.	JOHN PYE, SEN. Tenor.

Composed by the late JAMES PLATT of Saddleworth, and
Conducted by JOHN HOLDEN.

Rung to commemorate the birthdays of Messrs. Pye, sen., Sellars, and Holden.

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.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 15, 1890, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt. in Db.

CHARLES SILLITOE Treble.	*HARRY SMITH 5.
AMOS AMBROSE* 2.	†THOMAS KING 6.
FRED WELLS 3.	*ARTHUR SYMONDS 7.
HENRY DUCE 4.	JOHN LEE Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP, and Conducted by CHARLES SILLITOE.

*First peal in this method. †First peal. This is the first peal in this method on the bells since the tenor has been rehung. Messrs. Ambrose and Duce hail from Melford; Wells from Glemsford; Lee from Foxearth; Sillitoe from Sudbury; the rest are local ringers. King was elected a member of the Association previous to starting for the peal.

Date Touches.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Sunday, March 16th, for evening service at All Saints' church, a date touch (1890 changes) of Union Triples, in 1 hr. 9 mins. E. Brazier, 1; W. Lincoln, 2; A. Tarbun, 3; W. Hawkes (longest touch in the method), 4; A. Edwards, 5; F. Radley (longest touch in the method), 6; W. J. Piper (composer and conductor), 7; W. E. Emery, 8. Messrs. Edwards, Piper, and Tarbun are from Widford; Hawkes from Springfield; the rest belong to the local company.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Sunday evening, March 2nd, after evening service at St. Mary's, Stoke Newington, a date touch of 1890 Grandsire Doubles, in 1 hr. 6 mins. E. Edridge, 1; W. Waterman, 2; H. Stubbs, 3; H. Scarlett (conductor), 4; F. Nunn, 5; H. Spencer, 6. Longest length by all except the conductor; first date touch by the local band and on the bells.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

RADCLIFFE (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, March 11th, at the parish church, a date touch of 1890 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 5 mins. J. Handley, 1; J. Morris, 2; F. E. Rudman, 3; A. Barrett (conductor), 4; A. Hardman, 5; J. Hardman, 6; W. Fielding, 7; W. Turner, 8. Composed by J. Aspinwall, of Liverpool.

LAVENHAM (Suffolk).—On Monday evening, March 10th, at SS. Peter and Paul's church, a date touch of 1890 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 15 mins. W. Boby, 1; H. Parker, 2; H. Smith, 3; A. Symonds 4; C. Jarvis, 5; W. Snell, 6; T. King, 7; W. Moore, 8.

Miscellaneous.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BARNWOOD (Gloucestershire).—Recently by the local band at the parish church, 720 Plain Bob Minor (twenty-five bobs and ten singles), in 27 mins., conducted by H. Mitchell. Also 720 Plain Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs) in 27 mins., conducted by H. Mitchell. And 720 Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles) in 26½ mins., conducted by A. A. Waite. Also 720 Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 27 mins., conducted by A. A. Waite. And 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor (eight bobs and six singles) in 26½ mins., conducted by A. A. Waite. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs), in 26½ mins., conducted by H. Mitchell. And 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs) in 27 mins., conducted by A. A. Waite. Also 720 Oxford Single Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles) in 27 mins., conducted by A. A. Waite. These 720's were rung at various practice nights during the last two months by the following members: H. Mitchell, A. A. Waite, J. Yeates, G. Miles, D. J. Aston, H. J. Barnes, H. G. Gardener, and F. Gillett.

THE UNEMPLOYED IN EAST LONDON.—At a time when much thought is being given to this matter, a practical suggestion may be of service. Last year more than £300,000 worth of foreign matches were purchased by inconsiderate consumers in this country, to the great injury of our own working people, so true is it that "evil is wrought by want of thought, as well as want of heart." If all consumers would purchase Bryant and May's matches, that firm would be enabled to pay £1000 a week more in wages.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—On Sunday, March 9th, for Divine Service at St. Peter's church, 720 Grandsire Minor. J. Howes, 1; J. W. Washbrook, 2; C. Matthews, 3; C. Hounslow, 4; W. Long, 5; H. Judge (conductor), 6.

BATH AND KEYNSHAM ASSOCIATION.

BATH.—On Monday, March 10th, at the monthly meeting held at St. Saviour's church, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. Dicks, 1; W. Wells, 2; W. Earnes, 3; G. Hill, 4; J. Holman (conductor), 5; — Gully, 6. Two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. H. Wyburn, 1; Rev. F. E. Murphy, 2; T. Gray, 3; G. Hill (conductor), 4; J. Holman, 5; J. Fussell, 6. A touch of 336 Grandsire Triples. G. Temple, 1; E. Dainton, 2; G. Hill (conductor), 3; T. Gray, 4; W. Dicks, 5; J. Fussell, 6; J. Holman, 7; — Gully, 8. And 447 in the same method. H. Wyburn, 1; W. Dicks, 2; J. S. Flower, 3; G. Temple, 4; G. Hill, 5; J. Holman, 6; H. Brown (conductor), 7; G. Crisp, 8. And a 6-score of Bob Doubles. J. S. Flower, 1; H. Brown, 2; J. Fussell, 3; C. Bell, 4; H. Mills (conductor), 5; G. Hill, 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WOOLWICH.—On Sunday, March 9th, for Divine Service in the evening at St. Mary's church, the local company rang a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 42 mins. H. Hill, 1; W. Attridge, 2; B. J. Sheldon, 3; J. C. Harvey (conductor), 4; E. E. Richards, 5; R. G. Carter, 6; H. Harvey, 7; H. Harman, 8.

LYMINGE (Kent).—On Saturday, March 15th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (four bobs and fourteen singles), in 29 mins. E. Bush, 1; R. Andrews, 2; A. Beer, 3; F. Bush, 4; J. Andrews, 5; A. Tanton (conductor), 6. Messrs. E. and F. Bush hail from Elham; the rest are local men.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BISHOPWEARMOUTH.—On Monday, March 17th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles). T. Hudson, sen., 1; L. Newton (Durham), 2; R. S. Story (Whitley), 3; H. G. Dawson, 4; J. Field, 5; Thos. Hudson, jun. (first 720 as conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

NUNEATON (Warwickshire).—On Sunday evening, March 16th, for Divine Service at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, composed by John Carter, of Birmingham. W. Adler, 1; H. Argyle, 2; W. Hickling, 3; G. Winter, 4; T. W. Chapman (conductor), 5; J. Clarke, 6; H. Horwood, 7; T. Bates, 8.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—On Saturday, March 15th, ten members of this Society met at St. Peter's church for a muffled peal of Grandsire Caters (5003 changes), in memory of W. Walker, Esq., ex-churchwarden. After ringing a short time one of the buffs turned round, and not having time to start again a quarter-peal was rung (1367 changes), in 55 mins. E. Nichols, 1; T. Horton, 2; J. Carter (conductor), 3; B. Dalton, 4; S. Atkins, 5; J. Hall, 6; G. Walker, 7; J. Jones, 8; W. Smith, 9; J. Webb, 10. Tenor 22 cwt.

BENHILTON (Surrey).—On Wednesday, March 5th, for practice at All Saints' church, 720 Bob Minor (thirty-two bobs and two singles), in 27 mins. E. Trendell, 1; Jas. Trendell, 2; Jno. Trendell (first 720 as conductor), 3; F. Holder, 4; F. Trendell, 5; C. Trendell, 6. Tenor 19½ cwt. in E.

BRISTOL.—On Wednesday, February 26th, at the house of Mr. Price, Harford Street, Redcliff, 575 Grandsire Caters. G. Daltry, 1-2; T. Hibbert, 3-4; J. Hinton (conductor), 5-6; F. Price, 7-8; F. Elles, 9-10. Also at St. Thomas' church, 1259 Grandsire Triples (taken from Holt's ten-part), in 48 mins. W. Tiley, 1; C. Gordon, 2; C. Trevett, 3; R. Knill, 4; J. Hinton, 5; J. Gould, 6; T. Hibbert, 7; J. Davis, 8.

BOOTLE (Lancashire).—On Thursday, March 6th, for practice at Christ Church, 720 Woodbine (nine bobs), in 26 mins. E. Yates, 1; *T. E. Barton, 2; W. J. Short, 3; W. Rushton, 4; R. H. Barton, 5; J. Bradshaw (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt. *First 720 in the method.

HALIFAX (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, March 16th, for morning service at All Souls' church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 27 mins. H. Reynolds, 1; T. Parker, 2; C. E. Stewart, 3; F. Salmons, 4; S. W. Stewart (conductor), 5; J. Hampson (first 720), 6.

HULL (Yorks).—On Monday, March 17th, at Holy Trinity church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 46 mins. T. Stockdale, 1; D. Brown, 2; J. Dixey, 3; C. Jackson (conductor), 4; W. Southwick, 5; J. Lawton (Walsall), 6; F. Drabble, 7; J. W. Dale, 8. Tenor 25 cwt.

Rung with the bells muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Christopher Loryman, an honorary member of the Yorkshire Association.

NORWICH.—On Friday, February 28th, at the residence of Mr. F. Knights, on handbells, retained in hand, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, and 720 Kent Treble Bob. A. G. Warnes, 1-2; F. Knights (conductor), 3-4; F. H. Knights, jun., 5-6. On Monday, March 3rd, at St. Peter's church, on the occasion of a visit from Dr. Seccombe, of Terrington, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. G. Howchin, 1; Dr. Seccombe, 2; A. G. Warnes, 3; F. H. Knights, jun., 4; F. Howchin, 5; F. Knights (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, March 4th, at St. Giles' church, 720 Kent Treble Bob. G. Howchin, 1; Dr. Seccombe, 2; F. Knights (conductor), 3; F. Howchin, 4; J. Skinner, 5; F. H. Knights, jun., 6.

PAINSWICK (Gloucestershire).—Handbell Ringing.—On Friday, March 7th, at the residence of Mr. William Hale, two courses of Grandsire Triples on handbells retained in hand. Also on the table 120 Grandsire Doubles, and a course each of Grandsire and Bob Minor, and 120 Bob Minor, with E. King (conductor). And a course each of Grandsire Triples and Caters. Mrs. W. Hale, 1-2; W. Hale, 3-4; E. King, 5-6; C. West, 7-8; W. Smith (aged 14), 9-10. Also on Saturday, March 8th, 360 Grandsire Doubles, conducted by E. West. And 168 of Triples. Mrs. W. Hale, 1-2; W. Hale (conductor), 3-4; C. West, 5-6; W. Smith, 7-8. Also on Monday, March 10th, two 6-scores of St. Dunstan's Doubles, conducted by E. King, and a course of Caters, same as above. And 350 Grandsire Triples. Mrs. W. Hale, 1-2; W. Hale (conductor), 3-4; C. West, 5-6; W. Smith, 7-8. This was rung in 24 mins.

SUTTON-ON-HULL (Yorks).—On Thursday, March 13th, the following company from Hull rang 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, at St. James's church, in 25 mins. C. Jackson (conductor), 1; D. W. Brown, 2; T. Stockdale, 3; W. Southwick, 4; J. Dixey, 5; F. Drabble, 6. This is the first 720 on the bells, which were a musical ring of five by Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, and a tenor has recently been added by the same firm with decided success.

WANSTEAD (Essex).—On Sunday morning, March 9th, for Divine Service at Christ Church, 720 Bob Minor, in 23 mins. E. Edridge, 1; W. Smith, 2; J. Marks, 3; G. Cornell, 4; H. Scarlett (conductor), 5; J. Priest, 6. And a 6-score and 60 of Grandsire Doubles, with H. Spencer at the treble.

* * Several touches are unavoidably held over until next week.

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 RECENT PEAL AT EALING.

SIR,—Kindly allow me to reply to the serious charge which Mr. Hopkins seems anxious to lay at my door, but first let me draw attention to that little account in your issue for February 8th—"A day with the Royal Cumberlands," in which it is stated that the bells at Ealing want a lot of ringing, etc. Thus it will be seen that Mr. Hopkins and his friends knew that we could not have rung a first-class peal if we had tried our utmost, which we did; but I cannot think what on earth could possess Mr. Ilsley to invent such a falsehood as to say that the rate of ringing varied from thirty changes a minute to twenty-two, and that the second was in the hunt for the last quarter of an hour, which is most outrageous. Let me just describe what really took place inside the belfry. We struck off into changes at six o'clock by my watch, and we soon found that although the striking was not bad, what with the bells striking very false and dropping, more especially the seventh and tenor, it seemed impossible to keep the beat for any length of time. One of the band did on one occasion hang fire while in the hunt, and another twice at 3rd's place, but they were soon pounced upon, and nothing else occurred but what a friendly nod was sufficient. I can truthfully say that every bob was called correct, which could not have been made cleaner, and I feel that I cannot congratulate myself too much on being able to say that the peal was good, considering the go of the bells, and that the band sufficiently quiet and collected to be able to say on my behalf that I did not on any one occasion attempt to force a part-end, or lead-end, or even a single bell. I looked at my watch at the half-way single, and it pointed to 7.26, and I did not look again until the bells came round at 8.55. With regard to the challenge mentioned, I beg to say that when Mr. Ilsley looked in to have the customary glass with us, that he did not venture to say a word until I asked him what sort of stuff it was outside (those are my words), and the reply was that some of it was pretty good and some bad, which I did not admit or deny; but you may be sure, my dear sir, that Mr. Ilsley did not hint anything about the second in our presence.

J. J. PARKER.

SIR,—I was very much surprised at the remarks made concerning this peal in your last issue. As I was ringing in it, I consider the letter an insult to myself as also to the rest of the band, and I must say it is an entirely unjust and untrue statement. To say the 2nd was in the hunt for a quarter of an hour is perfectly absurd, as any ringer of Grandsire Triples knows that is utterly impossible, especially as the calling was true throughout the peal. Then as regards the time; the changes per minute in the first half were 29.647, and in the second 28. (vastly different from 30 to 32 per minute as your correspondent states), and any one who has rang any length of time at Ealing old church will not wonder at the slight variation of the time in the first and second half. Also the striking was well up to the average, and I really cannot understand such a "good ringer" as Mr. Ilsley making such statements.

EDWARD WILLIS.

SIR,—I beg to inform Mr. H. Hopkins that I have seen Mr. G. Ilsley since his letter in last week's "BELL NEWS." Perhaps a little of our conversation will interest him. After our greeting Mr. Ilsley said, "Well, what did you think of Hopkins' letter." I said "not much; and if it did not trouble any one more than myself, it would not matter in the least." He said "but Harry has stretched it a good deal from what I told him, and if I had known he would rush into print about it, I would have said nothing of the peal." "Well," I said "you must have made statements that you know you cannot prove." "Well," says he, "if that was Holt's ten-part I have never rang it." I said probably not. He said "Well I have rang it on three occasions," and I said "where?" He said "once at Waterloo and twice at Acton." It may be so. "Well," I says, "that don't alter our peal." "Now as regards your challenging Mr. Parker about the truth or otherwise of the peal that is false, for this is what you said when you first came to us: Mr. Parker asked you how it sounded outside, and you said "some of it was very good and some very rough," and it was afterwards to me that you said you thought "it was a funny come round, and I said it was Holt's ten-part, and that do sound curious to any one that is used to the bells coming round the usual way," and no more was said about the matter. Now sir, Mr. Ilsley admits to me what any one that is acquainted with him knows, that he is not qualified to know whether the second is in the hunt or the seventh. I don't know what motive he has got in making up this story, but I believe it is jealousy, for all he takes his stand on is the time, and this how he argued that point with me. Now he says we had a watch lying on the bar, so that we could all see it, and I could ask so and so and so on if his tale was not correct. Of course no one he mentioned was a ringer; not only that, he said look at the last peal rang with a better band than yours, took 3 hrs. and 4 mins. Well as regards being a better band that is not for me to know, but in passing I will just mention that four of the band rang their first peal in it, but one thing I do know, and that is the six bells went a great deal worse than they do now, and they don't go any too well now. Mr. Ilsley has started a good many times for a peal there, but never with success, and I have heard him say that whoever rang a peal there it would be a credit to them. I will ask Mr. Hopkins if he remembers the last attempt Mr. Ilsley made at Ealing when himself, Mr. Thomas, Mr. C. Porter, and myself were treated to some fearful striking for about an hour, when Mr. Porter said that he considered that any conductor ought to be ashamed of himself to keep the bells going so long without stopping. But eventually they stopped, and Mr. A. H. Taber went up and took Mr. Ilsley's place, and they then rang a decent 1300. I am mentioning this just to let your readers know that they are asked to believe that eight men would lower themselves to record a peal that is not a peal at all, on the evidence of a man who has been dragged through a peal or two, and then thinks he knows everything. I would just remind Messrs. Hopkins and Ilsley that four of the band belong to the same society as themselves; surely they cannot think that they would be guilty of such conduct, especially as one of them has called the same peal on several occasions, and without a nurse too. In conclusion may I ask Mr. Hopkins if he will oblige by looking through the peal books of the Royal Cumberlands and Waterloo Societies, and inform the Ealing ringers how many peals Mr. Ilsley has rang, for he has boasted on several occasions in Ealing tower that he has rung eleven, but some people seem to doubt it. I am afraid I have already trespassed too much on your valuable space, but I am as bad at letter writing as ringing.

J. BASDEN.

SIR,—Last week's issue of "BELL NEWS" has certainly opened my eyes as regards certain persons, when I saw the outrageous statements made by H. A. Hopkins on the peal at Ealing; in fact I could not believe my eyes, I had to read it several times before I could make it out at all. If jealousy is the cause, then I can understand, but to say the second bell was in the hunt for a quarter of an hour (as ringer of that bell) I say it is a downright falsehood. If Mr. Ilsley was not satisfied, why did he not write himself. Mr. Hopkins says out of no disrespect to the band does he write; I take it as a great insult; any-

body calling himself a ringer would not allow his bell to be in the hunt five minutes, let quarter of an hour alone. Let him ask any Cumberland that knows me whether I am capable of ringing Grandsire Triples or not. My opinion is that the peal was called as true as it was possible to call one, and the striking quite up to the average. As regards time the second half certainly was a few minutes longer than the first half.

G. STANBROOK.

AN OLD TREATISE ON RINGING.—REPLY TO THE REV. J. F. HASTINGS, GREAT YARMOUTH.

SIR,—In "THE BELL NEWS" of last week, the above gentleman is inquiring about an old treatise on ringing. I beg to inform him that I have seen the very same book, and that it contained all the amusements mentioned by Mr. Hastings. It was printed in London in the year 1701, and entitled "The School of Recreation." I cannot say who was the author now, as I do not have the book by me now; it was lent to me by my esteemed friend and brother-ringer, Mr. F. Pitstow, of Saffron Walden, in 1885. It was a complete copy then, not a page missing, and was then in an excellent state of preservation. Perhaps if Mr. Pitstow has got it now he can give further information on it. During the time that I saw the book, I copied word for word the whole chapter on ringing, and sent the paper to the respected Editor of "THE BELL NEWS," which he gave in that paper vol. iii, pages 583, 595, 610, 620; vol. iv, pages 7 and 8. If the Rev. Mr. Hastings has the files of "THE BELL NEWS," he will find what I say to be right. I did not copy anything else, not being interested in the other subjects.

SAMUEL SLATER.

SIR,—I beg to inform Mr. Hastings that the little book which he asks about is entitled "The School of Recreation, or a Guide to the most ingenious Exercises of, etc." by R. H. It was printed for H. Rhodes at "The Star," corner of Bride Lane, Fleet Street, London, 1701, the initials R. H. being the initials of Mr. Rhodes, reversed, and most probably he was the compiler. I have a complete copy in good preservation. I lent it some years ago to my friend Mr. S. Slater, who sent the part devoted to ringing to "THE BELL NEWS," and which was published. It appears by the preface to the reader that the writer got the best talent of the day to write the different subjects. He begins—"Reader, in this small book you will find such variety of recreations, that nothing of the nature ever appeared so like accomplish'd in any one volume, of what Largeness soever. For besides my own experience in these acceptable and delightful particulars, reduced under proper heads, easy to be understood and put in practice, I have taken the opinions of those whose ingenuity hath led them to these Exercises in Particular or General, and are approved for the Performance of them in the exactest manner whose judicious Approbation the more embolden'd me to a publication of them," etc., etc. He finishes by "commending them to the Gentry of England and his Countrymen," but Mr. Hastings will find it all in the back numbers of "THE BELL NEWS."

FREDERICK PITSTOW.

Saffron Walden.

THE LONG PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES AT ST. MICHAEL'S, CORNHILL.

SIR,—In your issue of "BELL NEWS" on June 4th, 1887, there appeared an account of an attempt for the above peal, stating that it came to grief in the last course after ringing 7 hrs. 35 mins. There has been a deal of tralking about this unfortunate affair lately, and I hear the conductor has tried to settle the blame on my shoulders. I wish to state how it was the bells fired out. In the first place the 5th made a trip and no one put him right, then the 2nd tried to go slow instead of quick. This was put right, and I went slow with the 10th; the conductor did not leave the slow work properly, the 11th came slow instead of quick. I may say by this time the bells were clashing each other, the 8th followed suit by coming quick instead of slow, but he was kept to the front, and the 9th came slow instead of quick and would not leave the front. How the conductor can blame me for this I don't know; I may say I did all in my power to save the peal.

FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

REPLY TO W. P.

SIR,—I think your correspondent W. P. is too avaricious with your paper. Let him remember that short touches are often rung under great difficulties. "Churchyard Bob" and round ringing in many instances die a very hard death. Perhaps W. P. has not experienced this. I speak from experience. Should you as W. P. suggests make a rule to insert nothing less than a quarter-peal, I fail to see how your paper will interest bands with a small number of bells. Of what use would columns of compositions of Triples, Major, etc.; be to a band with five or six bells. I venture to give my opinion that any lover of change-ringing will be pleased to see the names of any new band in "THE BELL NEWS" even if it is a modest 720 of Minor.

Wormley, Godalming.

THOMAS HENRY BLAKE.

Notices.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is One Penny per line (seven words may be reckoned to a line). Repetitions at half that rate. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The next monthly ringing meeting will be held at Bramley, on Saturday, March 20th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Business meeting for the election of officers at 6 p.m., at the Cardigan Arms, Town Street.

H. W. NEEDHAM, *Hon. Sec.*

The Ashton-under-Lyne Society.—The Ashton-under-Lyne parish church bells will be opened on Easter Monday. All ringers who purpose attending will kindly send in their names to the undersigned not later than April 2nd, so that dinner (free) may be provided for them. Bells (12) open from 9 a.m.; dinner at 2 p.m.

JOHN HOPWOOD,

25, Egerton Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

The Midland Counties' Association.—Leicester District.—The first monthly meeting will be held at St. Margaret's church on Saturday, April 12th. The belfry will be open for ringing at 4 o'clock.

W. A. CLAYTON, *Local Hon. Sec.*

The Surrey Association.—The Annual Report is now ready for distribution. It will be supplied at the price of twopence each copy to members of the Association whose current subscriptions are paid. The Hon. Sec. will be glad to receive orders for the same.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

Rawmarsh, Yorkshire.—A meeting of Ringers will take place at Rawmarsh, on Easter Monday, April 7th, to celebrate the unveiling of a Peal Tablet. The bells of the parish church will be open for ringing from 9.0 a.m. to 6 p.m., also the bells of the parish church of Rotherham. Dinner will be provided at 2s. per member at 2 p.m. All ringing friends wishing to attend must let me know not later than Wednesday, April 2nd.

THOMAS WHITWORTH,

4, Pottery Street, Rawmarsh, Yorkshire.

Hertfordshire Association.—Annual Meeting at Hertford on Easter Monday. Further particulars next week.

Surrey Association.—A Quarterly Meeting of this Association will be held at Streatham on Easter Monday. Permission has been given to ring at the parish church and at Immanuel church. Tea at the schoolroom (Mitcham-road) at 6 p.m., followed by meeting, at which the Rev. G. M. Drought will preside.

ARTHUR B. CARPENTER, *Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Diocesan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the parish church, Prescott (eight bell tower), on Saturday, March 22nd. Bells ready at 3.30. There will be an excellent tea provided at 1s. each, at the Cocoa Rooms at 5.30. Meeting in the same rooms at 6.15 p.m.

RICHARD HILL, *Branch Sec.*

78 Cemetery Road, Southport.

East Derbyshire Association.—The Annual Meeting of this Association will be held in the Church School, Clay Cross, on Easter Monday, April 7th. Service in church at 2.30 p.m. Tea on tables at 4.30. Meeting after tea. Bells open for ringing from 9.30 a.m.

JNO. JAS. COOK, *Hon. Sec.*

Sussex County Association.—A District Meeting will be held at Chichester on Easter Monday, details of arrangements will be published next week. Notices of business to be brought forward and names of members for proposal should be sent to the Hon. Sec. four days prior to the meeting.

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

JAS. E. WORSSELL, *Asst. Hon. Sec.*

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E. B. S., no name or address; H. W. N., id. stamps preferred; W. N. H. (Steyning), thanks.

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING THE PRESENT YEAR AND PUBLISHED IN THIS PAPER.

	Jan.	Feb.	Total.	Treble Bob Methods.	Grandsire	On 6 bells.	Plain Methods.	Double Methods.	Surprise Methods.	Stedman	Total	Position in 1889.
1. Ancient Society of College Youths	7	11	18	1	8	—	1	2	—	6	18	2nd.
2. Oxford Diocesan Guild	7	7	14	—	2	1	—	2	1	8	14	3rd.
3. Midland Counties' Association	8	6	14	—	3	1	1	4	4	1	14	4th.
4. Sussex County Association	5	4	9	1	4	—	—	1	2	1	9	1st.
5. Kent County Association	4	4	8	—	5	2	—	—	—	1	8	13th.
6. Yorkshire Association	3	4	7	4	—	—	2	—	—	1	7	7th.
7. Essex Association	1	5	6	2	3	—	—	1	—	—	6	5th.
8. Norwich Diocesan Guild	3	2	5	1	1	1	2	—	—	—	5	6th.
9. Royal Cumberland Youths	2	3	5	3	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	15th.
10. United Counties' Association	1	4	5	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	5	16th.
11. Worcesters. & District Assocn.	2	2	4	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	8th.
12. Soc. for Archdeaconry of Stafford	3	1	4	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	12th.
13. Lancashire Association	2	1	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	9th.
14. Hertford Association	1	2	3	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	3	10th.
15. Gloucester & Bristol Association	3	—	3	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	3	11th.
16. Salisbury Diocesan Guild	1	1	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	14th.
17. Winchester Diocesan Guild	1	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	17th.
18. Surrey Association	1	1	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	18th.
19. St. Martin's Society, Birmingham	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	20th.
20. Trinity Youths	—	2	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	21st.
21. Middlesex Association	2	—	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	30th.
22. All Hallows' Society, Tottenham	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	23rd.
23. Birmingham Amalgamated Soc.	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	24th.
24. Waterloo Society, London	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	25th.
25. Bedfordshire Association	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	28th.
26. Eastern Counties' Guild	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	29th.
27. Hereford Diocesan Guild	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	32nd.
Independent Societies	6	6	12	1	5	2	3	—	—	1	12	
	71	67	138	17	55	9	15	10	8	24	138	
Less peals entered under two Assocons	7	6	13	2	6	—	2	1	1	1	13	
	64	61	125	15	49	9	13	9	7	23	125	

The above peals were rung as follows:—Surprise methods: Superlative Surprise Major, 5; in seven Surprise Minor methods, 2. Double methods: Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 7. Double Oxford Bob Major, 1. Forward Royal, 1. Stedman's principle: Cinques, 2; Caters, 5; Triples, 16. Treble Bob methods: Royal, 2; Major, 9; in seven Minor methods, 4. Grandsire: Cinques, 1; Caters, 6; Major, 1; Triples, 40; Doubles (5040), 1. Plain methods: Bob Major, 8; Bob Triples, 3; Union Triples, 1. Ten Plain methods on five bells, 1. On six bells: in fourteen Minor methods, 2; in seven ditto, 1; in five ditto, 1; in four ditto, 1; in three ditto, 2; in two ditto, 1; in one ditto, 1; total, 125.

The twelve peals by independent societies were rung in the following counties: Cheshire, 2; Monmouthshire, 2; Yorkshire, 2; Berkshire, 1; Kent, 1; Lancashire, 1; Lincolnshire, 1; Middlesex, 1; Shropshire, 1.

1888, January—52.

1889, January—83.

1890, January—64.

February—72.

February—96.

February—61.

Brighton.

Decrease on the two corresponding months of last year, 54.

GEORGE F. ATTREE.

Compositions.

All compositions sent for insertion must be accompanied by a fee of Sixpence. If proof of a touch or peal is desired, One Shilling must accompany such request.

**A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT
BOB MAJOR.**

By DR. A. B. CARPENTER, *Croydon.*

5184.

2 3 4 5 6 1 5 6

4 2 6 3 5 -
2 6 4 3 5 -
6 4 2 3 5 -
3 2 4 6 5 -
2 4 3 6 5 -
4 3 2 6 5 -
6 2 3 4 5 -
2 3 6 4 5 -

Five times repeated. Call a single at 4 in the 2nd course of the 1st and 4th parts. Rung at Carshalton, on Monday, December 30th, 1889.

A DATE TOUCH OF UNION TRIPLES.

By H. W. WILDE, *Sandiacre, Derbyshire.*

1893.

2 3 4 5 6 7
7 5 2 6 3 4 1
6 5 7 2 3 4 5
7 4 6 5 2 3 2
3 5 7 2 4 6 1
2 5 3 7 4 6 5
7 5 2 3 4 6 5
6 3 7 4 5 2 1
3 5 6 2 7 4 4
2 5 3 6 7 4 5
3 4 2 5 6 7 2
6 2 3 5 7 4 3
4 5 6 7 2 3 1
7 5 4 6 2 3 5
3 6 7 2 5 4 1
7 4 3 6 2 5 2
5 6 7 2 4 3 1
5 2 4 3 6 7

Plain lead

Twice repeated, contains queens, tittums, the twelve 6-7's, the twelve 7-4's, and nine 4-6's.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES.

By C. H. HATTERSLEY, *of Sheffield.*

5019.

2 3 4 5 6 Bob on 9, 10, 11.
5 6 7 19

3 1 6 4 2 5 - - -
2 1 6 5 3 4 - - -
2 1 4 6 3 5 - - -
4 1 2 5 3 6 - - -
3 1 2 6 4 5 - - -
3 1 5 2 4 6 - - -
3 1 6 5 4 2 - - -
6 1 3 2 4 5 - - -
6 1 5 3 4 2 - - -
6 1 2 5 4 3 - - -
2 1 6 3 4 5 - - -
2 1 5 6 4 3 - - -
5 1 2 3 4 6 - - -
5 1 6 2 4 3 - - -
5 1 3 6 4 2 - - -

The last 11 courses twice repeated produce 215364. Bobs at 2, 5, 6, 13, 14, and a single at 15, bring the bells round. Rung at St. Giles', Cripplegate, by the College Youths, on 15th February, 1890. Conducted by F. E. Dawe.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED,
HOLBORN BARS, LONDON.

Extracts from the FORTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT. For the year ending 31st December, 1889.

ORDINARY BRANCH.—The number of Policies issued during the year was 43,792, assuring the sum of £4,433,834, and producing a New Annual Premium Income of £253,483.

The Premiums received during the year were £904,915, being an increase of £186,067 over the year 1888.

The Claims of the year amounted to £213,262. The number of Policies in force was 177,208.

INDUSTRIAL BRANCH.—The Premiums received during the year were £3,336,742.

The Claims of the year amounted to £1,285,409. The number of Deaths was 150,557.

The number of Policies in force was 8,518,619: the average duration continues to increase and now exceeds six and a quarter years.

The total Assets of the Company have been raised during the year from £9,302,007 to £10,946,156, being an increase of £1,644,149.

The large and rapidly increasing amount of the Funds of the Company has led the Directors to the determination that in future the Balance Sheet shall be subjected to an independent professional audit. For this purpose they engaged the services of Messrs. DELOITTE, DEVER, GRIFFITHS & Co., whose certificate is appended to the Accounts.

GENERAL BALANCE SHEET OF THE PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED, ON THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1889.

LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Shareholders' Capital	200,000	0	0	British Government Securities (Consols)	1,237,327	18	9
Ordinary Branch Funds	3,581,386	19	0	Railway and other Debentures	1,662,395	8	6
Industrial Branch Fund	7,149,206	16	9	Loans on Municipal and other Rates	2,148,330	4	4
Claims under Life Policies admitted	15,562	8	0	Freehold Ground Rents and Scotch Feu Duties	1,896,125	4	2
				Mortgages	1,163,138	14	6
				Metropolitan Board of Works Stock and City of London Bonds	160,568	10	0
				Bank of England Stock	143,726	12	1
				Freehold and Leasehold Property	753,255	9	0
				Indian, Colonial, and Foreign Government Securities	669,292	18	0
				Reversions	127,446	5	4
				Railway and other Shares	166,022	10	9
				Loans on the Company's Policies	85,324	15	8
				Furniture and Fittings	16,500	0	0
				Loans upon Personal Securities	702	10	0
				Outstanding Premiums	293,279	15	5
				Cash in hands of Superintendents and Agents' Balances	50,178	6	10
				Outstanding Interest and Rents	83,433	8	9
				Cash—On deposit, on current accounts, and in hand	289,107	11	8
	£10,946,156	3	9		£10,946,156	3	9

THOS. C. DEWEY,
WILLIAM HUGHES, } *Managers.*
W. J. LANCASTER, *Secretary.*

EDGAR HORNE, *Chairman.*
H. A. HARBEN,
ROBERT BARNES, } *Directors.*

We have examined the Cash transactions, Receipts and Payments, affecting the accounts of the Assets and Investments for the year ended December 31st, 1889, and we find the same in good order and properly vouched. We have also examined the Deeds and Securities, Certificates, etc., representing the Assets and Investments set out in the above account, and we certify that they were in possession and safe custody as on December 31st, 1889.

19th February, 1890.

DELOITTE, DEVER, GRIFFITHS & CO.

Obituary.

WILLIAM WHITE.

On Saturday, March 8th, the above-named gentleman died at Heston, Middlesex, in his fifty-first year, and was interred on Thursday afternoon, March 13th. Deceased was a member of one of the oldest families in the above village. The interment took place in the parish churchyard, and was witnessed by a very large concourse of people, including a numerous contingent of the local lodge of the Oddfellows society, to which the deceased belonged at the time of his death. He had been for a great many years one of the ringers at the parish church (St. Leonard's), and on Thursday, March 13th, many of his old comrades of the belfry under the direction of Mr. Carter, leader of the St. Paul's society, Hounslow Heath, rang a muffled peal as a mark of respect to the memory of their late colleague. The rare occasion, and the sad solemnity imparted to it by the weird muffled tones of the bells, created a deep impression among the villagers, by whom the deceased ringer was generally respected.

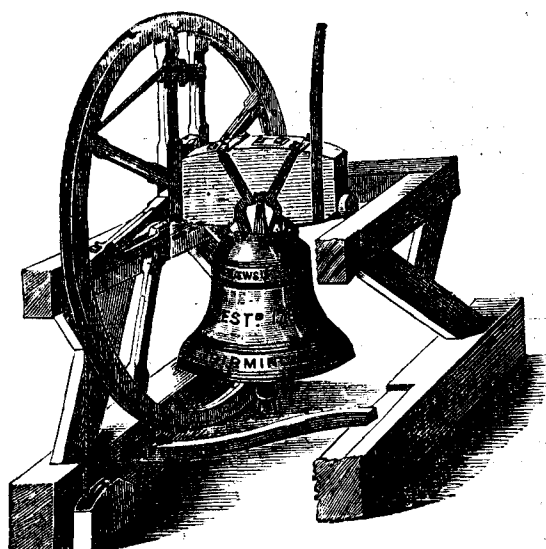
JAMES RUDD.

We regret to announce the death of the above-named ringer, which took place on Sunday, March 9th. Mr. Rudd was born at Thelveton, Norfolk, in 1832, and from his earliest childhood took a fancy to the sound of bells, and during his apprenticeship used to walk many a mile for the chance of raising and ceasing the bells when ringing was over. After learning how to ring Grandsire and Old Doubles, he began to teach some young lads,

and after a great many ups and downs succeeded in ringing 120 Grandsire, at Dickleburgh, on November 14th, 1851. On January 10th, 1858, he rang his first peal of Plain Bob at St. Mary's, Redenhall, and his last on Monday, January 10th, 1881, at Diss. He took part in ringing about 30 peals, which included one of 10,000 of Bob Major and two of 10,000 of Oxford Treble Bob. He was very fond of ringing on fresh bells as his list, contains the names of 245 towers he had visited. Deceased was a member of the College Youths, and the Norwich Association since its commencement, and was always ready to teach young ringers and get them on as quickly as possible; he was also very willing to meet any brother-string who happened to pay a visit to Diss, but for the last four or five years he has not rang more than three or four plain courses owing to his bad health. On Saturday, his mortal remains were carried to their last resting-place in Diss Cemetery by four of his brethren, the funeral service being impressively read by the Rev. C. R. Manning, Rector of Diss, a course of Grandsire Caters being rung over his grave by five of his brother ringers. In the evening a muffled touch of 864 of Oxford Treble Bob Major, and a touch of Grandsire Triples, was rung at the parish church by the Diss company, as a last tribute of respect to their old comrade.

ST. PETER'S GUILD, WOLVERHAMPTON.

On Saturday last, this society held its monthly meeting at Tattenhall Parish Church. Several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung, after which followed the usual business meeting. A few new members were elected. Mr. R. Cartwright was chosen to represent the Guild on the committee of the Proposed Central Council. The next meeting is to be held at Stafford, on Easter Monday, in connection with the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.



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OLD BELLS RECAST.

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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 Her Majesty the Queen.
To GEO. H. JONES, Esq., D.D.S.

SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT.—LABORATORY OF EXPERIMENTAL SCIENCE.

This is to certify:—That I have analysed the Prize Medal Teeth submitted to me, and find them to be composed only of minerals of extreme purity. I have also examined and tested your patented painless system of adjustment, it is quite perfect, and is the most successful application of scientific laws for securing actual wear and comfort yet introduced. Both physically and anatomically, they are a beautiful resemblance to the natural teeth.

(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.

WILLIAM PAWSON,
Handbell Founder,

PLAID ROW, SHANNON STREET, Leeds, Yorkshire.

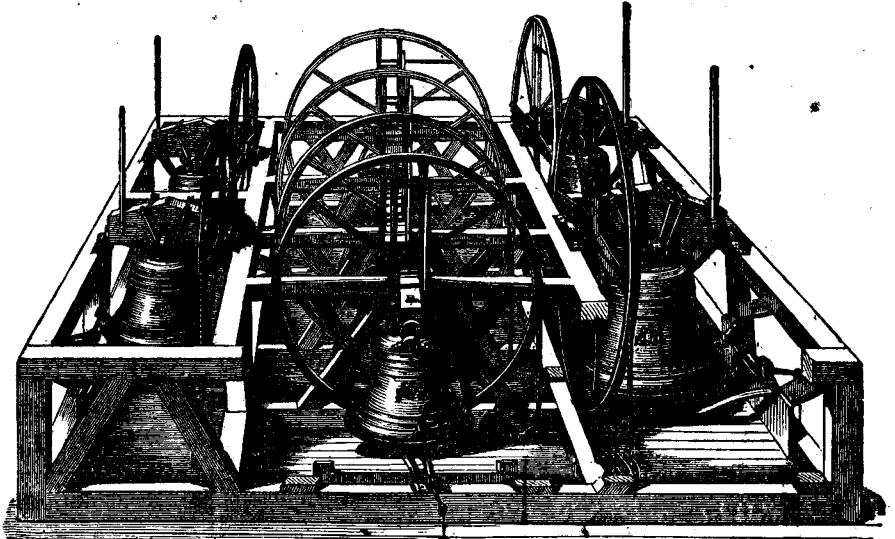
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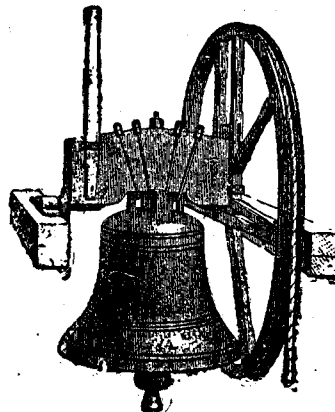
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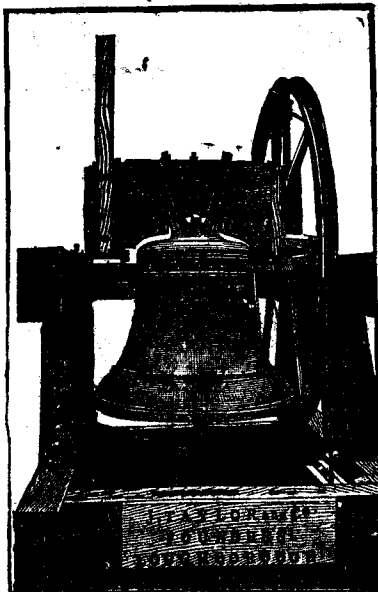
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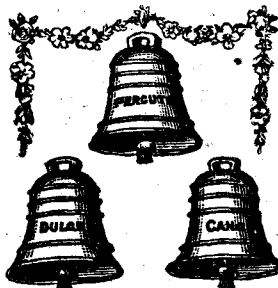
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Number and diameter of Dials.

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If to chime the Quarters state on how many Bells.

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