THE

BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 423.—*VOL.* IX. SATURDAY, MAY 10, 1890. ONE PENNY.

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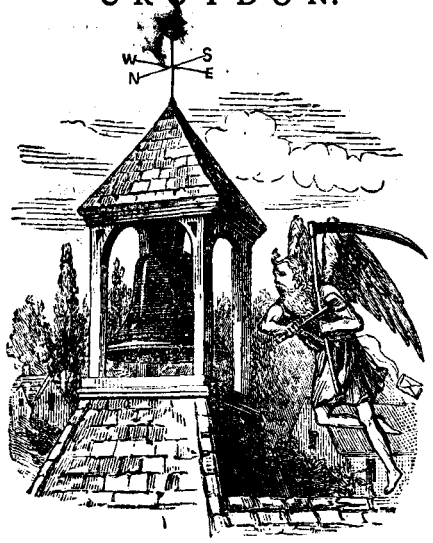

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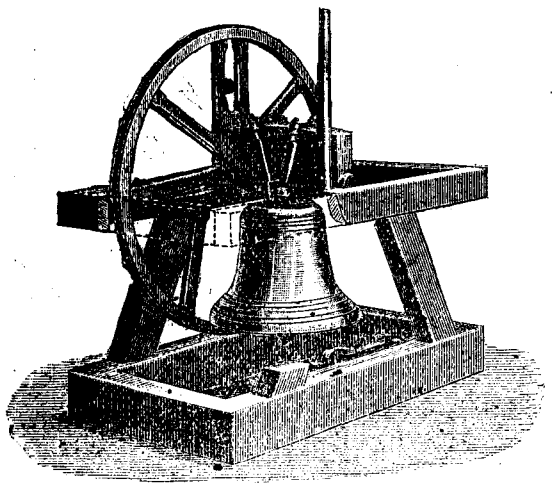

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31st March, 1880

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of this Association was held at Lincoln, in the Odd Fellows' Hall, on Saturday, April 26th. Before the commencement of business the members and friends, to the number of about 100, sat down to a bountiful knife and fork tea provided by Mr. Hatton, of the Arcade Coffee Palace. The room was appropriately decorated with the mottoes, "Ring out the false, ring in the true," "We'll do our best to call God's folk to prayer and praise, to tell their rest, etc." The Lord Bishop of Lincoln, Patron of the Association, honoured the members with his presence, and during the repast delivered an address.

His Lordship, who was very cordially greeted, said he could assure them that it was a real pleasure to him to meet them again. It was a very hopeful thing when they saw so many men giving themselves to a work of that sort—the ringing of church bells. It was a good sign, a high pleasure; it showed a lifting up in a person's mind and heart and aim in life. If they were to go back a bit they would remember that for the first 400 years of Christianity there was no bell-ringing at all. Then when something of the kind did begin it was just a little rapping or hammering on a sort of gong, but no bells, and the first record they had of bell-ringing in England was quite 200 years after that, namely, in the middle of the seventh century, at Whitby. Why were there no church bells ringing in the first 400 years of the Church? Simply because in those early days to be a Christian was nearly as much as one's life was worth. People had not accepted Christianity as, thank God, they had now, and therefore when they heard bells ringing they had great reason for thankfulness. It meant that the country at large was itself Christian, and it ought to mean to them a repetition of the angels' song at Christmas, "Peace on earth and goodwill towards men." They should be thankful that they could ring their bells, and that there in England at least they could ring them because their fellow-countrymen were Christian, and willing to allow them to ring bells in the House of God. As they had got on in the world in that way, and were not afraid of their lives, as it were, so, he was thankful to say, they had got such a Society as theirs, which meant a step up even beyond that. They knew quite well that the churches were very dull some years ago, that they were divided and cut up into those boxes, those pews and doors, which wanted a very elastic mind to suggest a notion of brotherly love and unity, and were not what they would expect if people were to be brothers together, and worship one Father in Heaven. Thank God, churches had been restored, and it was a delight to him in going up and down the diocese to see the work of restoration still going on. People wanted the churches in every separate village to be more like what they should be if they were to be, as they were intended, a House of God. Then when the churches got restored, people began to say "We must take care of the choir," and not have them, as often they were, in the gallery tuning their instruments, and that not altogether as carefully as might be. Let anyone now go into the churches and see how nice the choir looked. They had on their surplices and cassocks, and they looked as though they were doing what one would expect them to be doing, making a contribution towards the praise of God. Then while that was going on, people just thought of the belfry. They said "Ah, the belfry; well, you cannot do much with that; the singers if you please, but you are going too far if you expect the ringers to do likewise." Nobody was so ambitious as to fancy they could get hold of the ringers, but now, thank God, what had they come to? They had come to the plain consideration of the fact that the belfry was just as much a part of the church as any other part. That was what they had come to, and he thanked them (the ringers) for getting so far. When they had got to feel that the belfry was part of the church it followed that those who did the work in the belfry were Church helpers and Church workers, just as much in their way as the choir who were singing in the chancel or the parson who was speaking in the pulpit. That was how they had been drawing on, and were now all working together and taking their part in different places in the church, in working for God's glory. If they called to mind some of the old mottoes that were to be found on the bells, it showed just the same line of thought. One motto he knew in this diocese was "In the Name of God," and another simply the one word "Jesus." It meant at once "holiness," that it was a religious thing they were going to do. Sometimes there were verses and mottoes on the bells with different meanings, and there was one in this diocese which seemed to be addressed to the people at large, "Be not over busy." He thought that was a very good motto to ring out, for he fancied that in the present day there was so much pressure, hurry and rush that people had hardly time to think where they were going while they were running. "Be not over busy." "Get time to think," "Be still, and know that I am God," was what they wanted rung out to them again and again in this hurrying and busy age. There was another motto which was addressed to the Bishop and clergy, "Send persons true in life and word," and that again was a good motto to ring out. They did want to have Bishops and parsons who were true in life and word, so as to lead them on in the right direction. His belief was that if they continued as they were going they would soon be ahead of the Bishops—he would not say anything about the parsons. There was a capacity and power, a determination and strength in them, as in the Lincolnshire and English people at large, that when they once got hold of a thing they would not leave it off until they had accomplished their object. He would like to see the day when they got hold of religion; he did not believe that when they got hold of the bell-rope they would leave it off until they had made it sound. Again, they might often see on the bells the single letter "S,"—the word "Sanctus," which meant holy. It went to show that they were not starting a new kind of idea, but were getting off the rust, and clearing away that which had been growing over, and hiding the real meaning, which they might have seen if they had only eyes to see it. They were getting back to see that the belfry was really a part of the church, that the bells really had to do a religious work in the parishes for God, and therefore it was a work that was worthy of the noblest feelings and the highest ambition of of any real Churchman who wanted to do his part towards bringing the people back again to God. That was a strong reason why bell-ringing was a sound and a real thing. It was to bring them there, nearer and back again to God, and the nearer they got to God the nearer they got to one another. It was a wise and a true thing to have a Society for bell-ringers. One great good of a Society with rules was that it kept a man in his weaker moments up to the better ideas and the highest wishes he had in his best moments. If he belonged to a club, in his right moments he said "Well, I must keep the rules, and must pay this money in at a certain time." In a weak moment he might say "It's a fine day, I should very much like to go for a ride or a drive," but his wife said "Oh, but remember next Monday is club night." The wife just did the very thing that a wife should do; she reminded her husband of those rules of his club, and represented not her own will dominating over his, but his own will and his own judgment when in his best mood when he said "I will belong to this club, because I think it is a good thing for me." Everyone had his weaker moments, and unless there were rules to observe one was apt to keep at a lower level than otherwise. It was therefore a wise and a good thing for

people to join together and have a Society which had rules in it in order that they should not let slip those higher ideas. With regard to such a rule as "No bad language," a man did his work in a right way, and he went back from it as a man should do, with a secret inward satisfaction that he had had self-respect, and had been doing what he could to promote the honour of God. He (the Bishop) solemnly and sincerely thanked them for the work they were doing; because he believed that as Church of England bell-ringers they were doing precisely the same work which he as their Bishop was trying to do, and as their good friend on his left (Canon Warner), and the rest of the clergy were trying to do. It was pleasant to think that while in the first 400 years of Christianity there were no bells rung, there were at the present time, as he found from a book at which he was looking the other day, no less than 2000 bells in Lincolnshire. It was a good sign to have those bells all about, and ringing "Peace on earth and goodwill towards men." Their work, he repeated, was a good one, and would bear thinking about, and the more they thought about it the more they would find satisfaction in it. If they themselves were thoughtful as to what the bells were really saying he believed they were winning souls to God. There was something wonderfully touching and unlike any other sound that he knew of in the church bell. He was very fond of music, and delighted in the singing of the choir, but the choir did not do exactly what the ringers did when in the belfry. Besides only those in the church could hear the singing of the choir. In his parables the Saviour was constantly thinking of the wandering sheep, of those who were away, and he (the Bishop) believed that many a young man and many a young woman who were hovering on the brink of ruin had been stopped in their course and brought back to a better life by hearing the sound of the church bells. And many persons in the sick room and in the cottage, who from sickness or old age were unable to go to church, could on Sunday evenings in the summer open the window and listen to the sound; and who could tell the beauty of the thoughts which would pass over the old Christian's mind when he heard the bells and remembered the time when he had been at church with his family sitting around him? Who could tell the million of beautiful things which passed through his mind, too high indeed for man's tongue to utter? They (the ringers) taught the hearts and minds of the people where the clergy could not get at them. They were doing a really religious work; they were sending out the truth and calling the people back to God. Besides wishing to bring the people back to God, they should have an inward delight in ringing the bells; they should have an enjoyment in the sound, and then they would have a double reason for doing it. They would do it because they felt it was right, and they would do it because they liked it. He (the Bishop) begged their pardon for speaking so long, but he was in earnest. He believed they had a great and a good work in their bell-ringing, a work of bringing the people back again to God, and, as he said before, the nearer they got to God the nearer they got to one another.

On the motion of the Rev. Canon Warner, Vicar of Gainsborough, seconded by Mr. R. Woolley, of Lincoln, a hearty and enthusiastic vote of thanks was passed to the Bishop for his address.

The business of the meeting was then commenced, there being present, S. F. Hood, Esq., of Nettleham Hall (in the chair), supported by Canon Warner and Mr. F. F. Linley, of Gainsborough, and ringing members from Lincoln, Hull, Gainsborough, Market Rasen, Grimsby, Sleaford, Louth, Scothern, Washingborough, Stow Retford, Newark, Metheringham, Caythorpe, etc.

The Chairman announced that letters had been received from the President (the Very Rev. the Dean of Lincoln), and other honorary members, regretting their inability to be present.

The minutes of the last annual meeting having been read and confirmed, the Secretary (Mr. J. W. Watson, Lincoln), submitted the report and balance-sheet for the past year, which showed the Association to be in a very flourishing state; it numbered 172 members, and concluded the year with a substantial balance in hand.

The officers for the past year were all re-elected to serve during the ensuing year, viz.: President, the Very Rev. the Dean of Lincoln; vice-presidents, Rev. Canon J. P. Young, Grimsby, Rev. Canon Andrews, Claxby, S. F. Hood, Esq., Nettleham Hall, Mr. F. F. Linley, Gainsborough; Treasurer, Mr. H. Gadd, Market Rasen; Secretary, Mr. J. W. Watson, Lincoln; auditors, Messrs. Linley and Parkin.

On the motion of Mr. Linley, seconded by Mr. Watson, a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Norman E. Snow, Sleaford, for representing this Association at the inaugural meeting of the Central Council of Ringers held in London, on April 8, 1890.

It was decided, on the proposition of Mr. Linley, seconded by Mr. W. A. Hodson (Lincoln), that this meeting shall elect its representatives to serve on the Central Council. Messrs. F. F. Linley and N. E. Snow were then elected as such representatives.

The Rev. T. Dudding, of Washingborough, was unanimously accepted as an hon. member of the Association. Twenty-nine ringing members were enrolled and nine probationers were passed as efficients. Market Rasen, Grimsby, and Sleaford were proposed as places at which to hold the next quarterly meeting, and it was decided in favour of Market Rasen, July 5 being the date fixed.

Mr. Gibbons (Market Rasen) proposed that an honorarium be granted to the Secretary, in acknowledgment of the efficient way in which he had discharged his duties. This was seconded by Hackney (Market Rasen), and unanimously carried.

The Secretary suitably thanked the meeting for their appreciation of his services.

Some discussion ensued respecting the procuring of an emblem as a certificate of membership, but it was decided that no steps be taken in the matter for the present. Votes of thanks were accorded to the Dean, and the vicars and churchwardens for the use of the bells; the honorary members for their kind interest and support; to the Lincoln Reception Committee for the day's arrangements; and to the chairman for presiding.

During the afternoon and evening touches were rung by the visitors on the bells of the Cathedral, and St. Peter-at-Arches, St. Peter-at-Gowts, and St. Botolph's churches.

SLEAFORD, LINCOLNSHIRE.

The customary Easter vestry has recently been held in this town, under the presidency of the vicar, "and," says a local print, "with the exception of Dr. Giles's attack upon the bell-ringers, was of a most successful and harmonious character." We give below a full report of the somewhat interesting discussion which followed the attack of Dr. Giles. Probably our readers will be of opinion that the worthy doctor, whose opposition to bells may arise from a humane regard for his patients *in esse* or *in posse*, conspicuously failed in his object of silencing the bells. The local paper referred to heads the report of the discussion thus:—

ARE THE CHURCH BELLS TO BE ABOLISHED?

Mr. Giles remarked that he should like to ask whether anything could be done towards relieving, what was to those residing in the immediate neighbourhood of the church, a great nuisance. He alluded to the constant ringing of the church bells, which had been going on since the church was restored and the bells re-hung. He understood at first that it was done in order that the bell-ringers might get into practice, and he hoped that by this time that object had been attained. He thought that the ringing ought to be dispensed with to a great degree, if not altogether. He did not know with whom the matter rested, whether it was the vicar or churchwardens.

Mr. Kirk pointed out that the matter rested entirely in the hands of the vicar.

Mr. Hervey felt sorry to disagree with Mr. Giles, as living at a distance, the oftener he heard the bellls the more he liked them, for when at the old place, with the wind in the west, they sounded very nice. When the tower was being re-built he expressed a hope that the bells might be hung higher, in order to prevent any annoyance to the residents in the Market-place, but to those who lived at a distance, the bells had a peculiar charm.

Mr. Kirk explained that when the bells were re-hung, the louvres of the belfry windows were left entirely open. But since

then, in order to meet the complaints made by residents in the immediate neighbourhood as to the sound, some of the windows had been boarded up.

Mr. Giles asked if the bell-ringers had not mufflers for the bells.

The Chairman replied that they had, but the objection to muffling the bells was that it took so long a time.

Mr. Kirk observed that in all other countries the bells were hung in the open without any louvres at all.

Mr. Nickolls observed that after all the money that had been spent on these bells, and the compliments they had received from outsiders as to their beautiful tone, he hoped that their own town was not going to object to them. People in the immediate neighbourhood might be affected by the noise, but as individuals we could not expect to have everything that we liked. He should like some things that he had not got, but being unable to obtain them, had to put up with the loss of them. He thought they ought to compliment someone upon the manner in which these bells had been restored to their present state of perfection, and felt that they were a credit to their town.

Mr. Kirk: We like to hear them at a proper distance, and we all like them rung for church service, and on occasions of rejoicing. But what the people who live in the immediate neighbourhood of the church object to is the frequent practices.

Mr. Hervey held that the practices could not be termed frequent, as they were only held once a week.

Mr. Kirk rejoined that when anyone was ill, one practice a week was quite sufficient. Mr. Giles had spoken about the mufflers, and he (Mr. Kirk) would make a practical suggestion. Supposing they found a boy to muffle the bells for practice, would the vicar permit it to be done.

Mr. Hervey: What is the good of having the bells if they are muffled?

Mr. Kirk rejoined that Mr. Giles objected to the ringing for practice, and wished to spare the ears of the people in the neighbourhood by having them muffled.

Mr. Hervey rejoined that he should be very sorry indeed to have the bells muffled, as it was one of the greatest pleasures he had to hear the ringing. He did not say this because he did not live in the immediate neighbourhood, for he had lived ten years in the Market-place, and never once complained about the ringing of the bells. In addition to this, he might point out that the ringing was now much better than it used to be.

Mr. W. Maxey explained that if they had the bells muffled for practice it would greatly interfere with the efficiency of the ringers.

The Chairman stated that the mufflers were given him as a present from Exeter, and were used when the ringers were learning.

Mr. Nickolls remarked that seeing the position they were in, he hoped that Mr. Giles would withdraw his motion, as the ringing was so good and almost everyone appreciated the bells.

Mr. Hervey thought that Mr. Giles might as well urge that they should stop ringing the bells on a Sunday. If no one objected to it on the Sunday, they could not on the Monday.

The Chairman remarked that there seemed to be a great diversity of opinion in that matter, and he was therefore still more sorry to have to acknowledge that the responsibility rested with him. He should very grieved to take any steps that would interfere with the efficiency of the band of bell-ringers, and almost feared that if they made the practices less regular the ringers would not care to take that interest they did at the present. He, however, felt quite sure that after the observations made by Mr. Giles and one or two others, the ringers would reduce the time of practice to the smallest possible limits, which he hoped would meet Mr. Giles' objection.

Mr. Hervey thought that the ringers should not be made to feel that they were a cause of annoyance. He was not a ringer himself, but his brother had told him that one of the most delightful occupations he had was in ringing church bells. He thought it would be a great pity if the ringers were led to suppose that they were causing a great nuisance.

Mr. Nickolls: Hear, hear; that's good.

Mr. Hervey remarked that if it were a mere matter of expense he should be very glad to contribute towards the closing of the lower openings in the tower, so as to send the sound of the bells into the top part. If they could throw the echo to the top part of the tower, all possible nuisance would be done away with.

Dr. Bissill remarked that after the bells had been rehung, Messrs. Taylor said that the sound would be materially modified if the louvres were blocked up with solid masonry.

Mr. Kirk rejoined that that was simply absurd. Messrs. Taylor spoke from the fact that the old church of Loughborough had been bricked up. The north and west windows at Sleaford were boarded and felted.

Mr. Hervey thought that if the tower was open on one side, it would do away with the effect.

Mr. Kirk replied that as the control was entirely in the Vicar's hands, they could do nothing.

The Chairman observed that he had always found the bell-ringers most considerate in being perfectly willing to give up their ringing in case of illness.

Mr. Harrison thought that the bell ringing was a great nuisance.

Mr. Nickolls remarked that he was very disappointed to hear these expressions of opinion about the ringing. He had always been under the impression that one of the beauties of the church was the ringing of the bells.

Mr. Morris: So it is.

Mr. Nickolls considered that the remarks that had been made that evening were a reflection not only upon the bell-ringers, but also upon the gentlemen who had been kind enough to supply the means to have them restored to the present perfection. He therefore hoped that Mr. Giles would retract all he had said on the subject.

Mr. Hervey held that if the sound could be remedied in any way it ought to be done. He thought it advisable to look into the matter to see if any alteration could be made.

Mr. Nickolls remarked that without a moment's hesitation he took upon himself to say that he considered it perfectly ridiculous for Dr. Giles to talk about the bells being an annoyance, as it was one of the greatest pleasures they had to listen to them. They had gone to an enormous expense to have these bells re-hung, and were now told that they were not to ring them.

The Chairman felt assured that the churchwardens would do what they could to minimise the sound.

Dr. Bissill intimated that he did not wish to stop the bells, as he was old-fashioned and liked them, but suggested that the louvres should be blocked up.

Mr. Kirk promised, as one of the churchwardens, to do what he could to minimise the noise.

Dr. Bissill remarked that if Mr. Nickolls lived in his house during the bell practice, he would wish himself at Willoughby. After further discussion, it was resolved to leave the matter in the hands of the vicar and churchwardens, to see what could be done towards blocking up the remaining louvres of the tower.

The Chairman concluded by congratulating the meeting upon leaving the churchwardens with their hands full and their pockets empty.

This absurd opposition seems peculiarly ill-timed. A great deal of money has been willingly contributed towards the restoration and rehanging of the bells, a promising young company is in existence to ring them scientifically, the members of which have always consulted the wishes of the parishiohers, and refrained from practice (for six months in one instance) whenever illness has arisen near the church. This attempt to hinder their work is therefore to be condemned. We counsel them to pursue the even tenour of their way and not allow the freaks of any number of Gileses to deter them from their onward course. They have the Vicar and Wardens with them, and these authorities will no doubt have carried into effect any acoustical remedies that may be considered necessary to remove any real or fancied inconvenience.

LEGAL.—In the *Times* of May 3rd, appears the name of Norman E. Snow, among the list of successful candidates at the Solicitors' examination held in April. Mr. Snow is on the Central Council of Ringers for a division of Lincolnshire.

LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 26th, the first annual meeting of this Guild was held at Southport, when upwards of seventy ringers attended from the various towers, viz.: Aughton, Crossens, Croston, Halsall, Hindley, Ormskirk, Sefton, Southport, Wigan, etc.

Ringing commenced on the bells at Christ Church at 1.45 p.m. and was kept up by various mixed companies till 3.30 p.m., when service was held, the Rev. G. F. Williams reading the prayers, and the Rev. F. W. Bulpit the lessons for the day. The Ven. Archdeacon Clarke (in the unavoidable absence through indisposition of Canon Fergie) gave a short address, which was listened to with rapt attention. Special hymns were sung during the service. The offertory was devoted to the benevolent fund for the ringers belonging to the Guild.

At 5.0 p.m. the company sat down to a capital knife and fork tea, which was served in splendid style by Alderman Fisher. Grace having been said, the ringers attacked the good things provided, course after course, till rounds came up in good style. The Rev. W. T. Bulpit then moved a hearty vote of thanks to Alderman Unwin, J.P., for his liberality in entertaining the ringers to tea, which was carried with acclamation.

At 6.0 p.m. the meeting was held in the infant school, at which the Rev. C. M. Clarke was voted to the chair, who expressed the pleasure it gave him at meeting the ringers of the diocese, and trusted that the Guild would receive the encouragement it merited from those for whose benefit it was established. He then called upon the Corresponding Secretary (Rev. W. T. Bulpit) for the report, and that gentleman in replying said that as the Guild had only been in existence a short time, it was gratifying to know that it could boast of over eighty members, which spoke well for its working. But at the same time they must not expect an elaborate report, as this was their first annual meeting, still he was pleased to say they had a small surplus in hand.

On the motion of Mr. J. Martin (Sefton), seconded by Mr. J. Ashcroft (Croston), it was resolved that the following become officers of the Guild: patron: the Lord Bishop of Liverpool; president: Ven. Archdeacon Clarke; vice-presidents (clergy): Revs. Canon Bridgeman, Canon Blundell, W. Spooner, W. Madden, O. Masters, E. Horley, C. M. Clarke, G. F. Williams, C. F. Holt, J. E. Woodrowe, W. T. Bulpit, C. M. Markham; (laity) W. L. Hutton, J. Morton, T. Gilbert, J. Hatch, J. J. Cockshott, Alderman Fisher, Alderman Unwin, Dr. Barron, and Mr. Aspinall (recorder of Liverpool).

It was proposed by Mr. J. W. Rimmer, seconded by Mr. W. Bentham, and carried with acclamation, that the Rev. W. T. Bulpit be Corresponding Secretary to the Guild.

It was proposed by Mr. J. Eastham, seconded by Mr. J. Hale, and agreed to, that the following members form the committee: Messrs. J. Prescott, G. Prescott, J. Ashcroft, N. Spencer, J. W. Rimmer, and R. Holmes; and that Mr. D. E. Rimmer be appointed Treasurer and Mr. W. Bentham Ringing Secretary. It was also decided that the members of the Guild present from the Wigan branch choose their own committee-man.

It was proposed by Mr. W. Bentham, and seconded by Mr. J. Sholicar, and carried, that Mr. Martin be appointed Treasurer of the Benevolent Fund; and it was also agreed, on the motion of Mr. Spencer, seconded by Mr. Ashcroft, that Mr. J. Eastham and Mr. Sholicar be appointed Auditors to the Guild.

Mr. Hutton remarked that what he had said before at Ormskirk he repeated there—that he thought the authorities in the Church, whether clergy or churchwardens, did not take the same interest in the belfry and the ringers as they did in the choir, or any other organisation connected with the Church. He thought it was the duty of the vicar, curate, and churchwardens not only to look up to the ringers, but to encourage them in their work. The society under whose auspices they were met was formed not only to reform the belfry, but the ringers themselves. They were all prone to degenerate if there was an absence of those means which tended to raise them in the social scale, and therefore a Guild such as theirs, the object of which was improvement, must commend itself to everybody.

The Rev. W. T. Bulpit, in speaking of the work of the ringer, said nothing could give greater pleasure on a sabbath morning than a pleasant peal of bells; no one could say they were a nuisance. The nuisance was that one bell which never varied the cling-clang over and over again. He hoped that before long they would be able to reform one or two steeples in the diocese, and get the one original bell changed into a peal. That was one of the objects of the Guild, which they must ever keep before them. Contrary to many people, he believed that bell-ringing was not an art acquired without considerable ability. Apart from its being a grand piece of exercise, the performer needed good reasoning and calculating powers before he could take rank as a first-rate ringer. Change-ringing was essentially connected with the English Church, and he did not know that it was successfully practised anywhere else. They certainly did not get it on the continent, but he was pleased to read it was attaining to some degree of perfection in Australia. He was of opinion that the ringer should have his official standing in the church, just as much as the singers had theirs. The objects of the Guild was to make change-ringing highly esteemed through England, and he asked all the members to co-operate in extending its usefulness.

The Rev. G. F. Williams suggested as a motto for the Guild Tennyson's line, "Ring out the false; ring in the true." He felt with Mr. Hutton that bell-ringers were a very important part of Church organisation, and that they deserved every consideration and encouragement from the clergy and all interested in Church work. He did not know that there was anything more beautiful than to hear a peal of bells nicely rung from some country tower on a Sunday morning, and he knew of nothing more likely to win people to the House of GOD than the sound of such bells. He was sure a band of bell-ringers was one of the strongest and most loyal supporters a Church could have, and he wished the Guild every success.

A large number of honorary and performing members were elected, and after a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding, and to the ven. Archdeacon for the use of the bells and schoolroom, a highly successful meeting was brought to a close.

During the afternoon and evening several excellent and well-struck touches of Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, and Kent Treble Bob were rung. The local company are to be thanked for their kindness and courtesy in having all in readiness, and giving each ringer a hearty welcome.

Obituary.

THOMAS DAVIS.

All ringers who knew the late Mr. T. Davis, of Prestbury, near Cheltenham, will hear with sorrow of his death, after a very short but severe illness. He was interred at Prestbury on Saturday, May 3rd. A very beautiful wreath in the form of a bell was sent by his brother-ringers in the neighbourhood, and muffled peals were rung both at Prestbury and Cheltenham. Mr. Davis's loss will be keenly felt by all who were acquainted with him, and a good man, a good ringer, and a true friend has passed away, comparatively a young man, and one whose place can never be filled.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Welcome as the flowers in May."

Our Editor informs me that he has at length disposed of a great deal of the Eastertide avalanche of copy which annually rolls in upon him through his letter box, accompanying this piece of information with a gentle reminder that it is now time I again took up my pen. Further than this, he says he has been the recipient of many enquiries as to the cause of my silence during the past few weeks; several of the letters being couched in terms of warm approval of my past efforts to use my weapon fair and straight for the good of the Exercise. To those brethren who have thus written, I express my deep obligations. It is very satisfactory to learn that one's humble endeavours for good are appreciated. We all of us have read the fable of the old man and his ass, and must agree with its moral—the utter impossibility of pleasing everybody by our actions. However good our intentions may be—however sincere and honest our motives—the world outside the sanctum of our own heart is but too prone to misconstrue those actions, and form a wrong estimate of the motives which impel them. Thus words of commendation and approval come as helps on the way, they shine like stars in the firmament on a dark night, and make the outlook all the more pleasant. I thus recommence my weekly chat with more confidence, believing that as time rolls we shall not only understand each other better, but also exhibit a wider application of that spirit which freely gives and takes, crediting one another with the best intentions, and avoiding everything which may seem to partake of a jealous or unfraternal character.

* * * * *

Another pleasant feature of my resumption of duty is the opportunity afforded me of expressing my gratification at the latest addition to the "gallery." There can be no doubt about it that the great Yorkshire Association is peculiarly blessed in the inclusion within its ranks of so many genuine, indefatigable and otherwise excellent scions of the Exercise. Scarcely a town or district in that county seems to be lacking its prime moving spirit. In whatever direction we look we find some "leader among his fellows" whose hearty and even enthusiastic spirit keeps the ball rolling and helps to maintain that *esprit du corps* which is so characteristic of this Association. The old seaport town of Hull is no exception to this rule; it is fortunate in the possession of its "Charlie" Jackson, who I fondly hope will for a long, long time to come be blessed with health and strength to continue his labours for the benefit of that science to which he has so ably devoted himself, and also that he may ever be rewarded by the esteem of the brethren, particularly in his own native town.

* * * * *

It is a matter of satisfaction to read that the Gloucester and Bristol Association has so fittingly commemorated the memory of its departed veteran, Giles Mansfield. Although the ceremony in Stroud Cemetery on the 21st ult. was, through inclement weather, not so numerously attended as might have been desired, yet the mere fact of the existence of that headstone over the place where the old man of 96 rests peacefully is creditable to the Association which placed it there. Four-score years of active life as a ringer is no light record; nay, rather, on the other hand, it may be regarded as unique. But more than this, "good old Giles" through all that long time was a practical exposition of the secret of making friends; thus the framers of his epitaph were enabled to record the "affectionate remembrance" of one who for eighty years was a much-respected and valuable member of the Stroud and Painswick Societies; that he departed this life "beloved by all." Is not this record one worth striving for? If we were all imbued with a laudable ambition to leave a good name behind us, and nothing but pleasant remembrances of our actions on the part of those who remain after us, should we not soon see an end of all strife and bickerings—and in their place a hearty desire to "spend and be spent" for the common good? My friends, when we are tempted to do anything which is calculated to mar the happiness of others—to cause a break in the continuity of fraternal relationships—or to give pain to anyone, let us remember old Giles Mansfield, who for four-score years as a ringer lived respected, and at the last went to his well-earned rest, "beloved by all."

* * * * *

And while speaking of a memorial, I cannot resist expressing the hope that our friends of the St. Martin's Guild are finding funds coming in for the Johnson monument fully equal to their wishes and anticipations. The outside limit of individual subscription is small enough in all certainty; there can be no cause of complaint on that score, unless indeed it be from those who would prefer giving a larger donation. To tell the truth, I was rather surprised at this limit; but trust the step thus taken will prove to be sufficient for the purpose. Surely our Birmingham friends do not intend contenting themselves with a simple headstone wherewith to record the Exercise's appreciation of the services of a chieftain like Henry Johnson. The memento, to my mind, should rather be a monument, one worthy the memory of him to whom it is erected, and creditable to those who thus honour his worth. I say this with all reserve, and without desiring for one moment to offer any criticism on the mode in which the St. Martin's Guild propose to perpetuate Mr. Johnson's memory; but—even if this should cause any slight delay or alteration of their plans—for goodness sake do not let us have anything of the "cheap and nasty" sort. Let the memorial be one worthy of him and equally worthy of ourselves, then we shall all of us be satisfied.

* * * * *

Just a word with our friend Mr. C. Tyler on the accomplishment of his fiftieth Sussex Association peal, which came off on the 29th ult. I am very pleased in being able to congratulate him on the event; and shall be even more so if I read that it has been properly honoured by those for and among whom he has done his best.

FREE LANCE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—HULL BRANCH.

On Wednesday, April 2nd, at a meeting held by the members of the Yorkshire Association in Hull, it was decided to form themselves into a branch of the above Association. Rules having been submitted to the meeting and accepted for the proper working of the branch, it was decided that practices should be held once a month at Holy Trinity and St. James's churches, and that an attempt be made for a peal on the first Monday in each month, commencing May 5th.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing twelve months: J. Dixey, president; J. W. Stickney, secretary; and C. Jackson, treasurer.

Any ringers visiting the town will be heartily welcomed. If intending visitors will communicate with the secretary, Mr. J. W. Stickney, 60½, Campbell-street, Kessle Road, Hull, arrangements for them to have a pull will be made.

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.

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.

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 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.

BLACKBOURN & GREENLEAF,

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Messrs. Blackbourn 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.*

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

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MAY 10, 1890.

WHILE the Oxford University Society of Change-Ringers appears to be hastening towards total extinction, that of the sister University is making headway. Both of them are numerically weak, but the Cambridge Society is just now exhibiting a vivacity which may seem a palliation for its want of numbers. The efforts of the Messrs. JAMES to give a fillip to the art upon the banks of the Cam have resulted in the execution of a peal in hand, and we hope that this is but a preface to other if not greater performances. We think the Oxford Society is now represented by only three members; the prowess of the Cambridge brethren in the art will it is to be hoped lead those gentlemen to think whether they cannot rescusitate their Society, and by and bye enter into an energetic competition which shall redound to the credit of both of them.

Owing to inattention on the part of a compositor, many impressions of our last week's issue appeared with two pages transpossd. To those who take pains in having the yearly volumes bound, this circumstance may prove embarrassing. With this number, therefore, we have issued a separate sheet of four pages to take the place of those printed out of order last week. If our readers will cut their last week's copies, remove the pages that are defective, and insert the sheet issued this week, the matter will be remedied. We apologise for the occurrence, but we have taken the best means for its rectification.

The Metropolis.

THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY, LONDON, AND THE ALL SAINTS, FULHAM ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 3, 1890, *in Three Hours,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, FULHAM,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 21 cwt.

ANDREW S. OUGH	..*Treble.*	JAMES W. DRIVER	5.
JOHN G. GREEN*	2.	JAMES NICHOLLS	6.
NORMAN E. SNOW	3.	HARRY KENTEN	7.
FREDERICK G. NEWMAN	4.	SAMUEL HOW	..*Tenor.*

Conducted by FREDERICK G, NEWMAN.

*First peal with a bob bell. The above was rang as a farewell peal to Mr. Norman E. Snow, who is leaving London.

HIGHGATE, MIDDLESEX.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, May 6, 1890, *in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANNE, BROOKFIELD,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES. Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

BENJAMIN FOSKETT	..*Treble.*	THOMAS TITCHENER	5.
GEORGE NEWSON	2.	JOHN BARBER	6.
JAMES HANNINGTON	3.	GEORGE GRIFFIN	7.
ALBERT PITTAM	4.	EDWARD CHAPMAN	..*Tenor.*

Composed by H. DAINS and conducted by JAMES HANNINGTON.

This peal has the 6th the extent home at the last twelve course-ends of each part 2nd and 3rd never in 6ths place at course-ends, and was rung to celebrate the birthday of the conductor.

The Provinces.

STANSTEAD, SUFFOLK.

On Monday, April 28, 1890, *in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

5040 CHANGES IN TWO DIFFERENT METHODS ON SIX BELLS;

Being a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, and six of Plain Bob.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

ALBERT J. CLARKE	..*Treble.*	ROBERT BRETT	4.
RICHARD THEOBALD	2.	GEORGE SMITH	5.
ARTHUR PAPWORTH	3.	ROBERT GOWERS	..*Tenor.*

A. J. CLARKE conducted three 720's, R. THEOBALD 1, R. BRETT 1, R. GOWERS 2.

This is the first 5040 rung by a local company. Rung in honour of the 19th birthday of R. Theobald.

REDENHALL, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, May 2, 1890, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt. in E♭.

EDWARD SMITH	*Treble.*	GEORGE MOBBS	5.
WILLIAM SHELDRAKE	2.	FREDERICK SMITH	6.
EDWIN CALVER	3.	JAMES SOUTER	7.
GEORGE PRIME	4.	CAPTAIN MOORE	*Tenor.*

Composed by HENRY DAINS and Conducted by EDWARD SMITH.

The age of the second ringer is seventy-eight years.

BOLTON-LE-MOORS, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE WORSLEY SOCIETY.

On Saturday, May 3, 1890, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES. Tenor 15¼ cwt.

JAMES H. RIDYARD	*Treble.*	JOHN WELSBY	5.
HARRY CHAPMAN	2.	THOMAS DERBYSHIRE	6.
JOSEPH RIDRARD	3.	JOHN BAGULEY	7.
FREDERICK DERBYSHIRE	4.	RICHARD RIDYARD	*Tenor.*

Composed by JAMES S. WILDE and Conducted by RICHARD RIDYARD.

First peal in the method in Bolton, and the third in Lancashire, the two previous being one at Worsley and the other at Eccles by the above Society.

GOOLE, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, May 3, 1890, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

J. HIGHFIELD	*Treble.*	J. CARTER	5.
G. SPURR	2.	F. HARGREAVES	6.
J. POLLARD	3.	C. WATTS	7.
S. BROOK	4.	W. PEARSON	*Tenor.*

Composed by the late WILLIAM SOTTANSTALL and Conducted by CHAS. WATTS.

This is the first peal on the bells.

LIVERSEDGE, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, May 3, 1890, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF CHRIST,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

WILLIAM HOLMES	*Treble.*	RALPH ELLIS	5.
HERR VON COLLINSON	2.	WALTER PEACOCK	6.
SAM. PEACOCK	3.	BENJAMIN SUGDEN	7.
WALTER BARROWCLOUGH	4.	JOAH PEACOCK	*Tenor.*

Composed by BENJAMIN SHAW, of Lindley, and Conducted by WILLIAM HOLMES.

GILLINGHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 3, 1890, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

WILLIAM COOKE	*Treble.*	ARTHUR C. WEST	5.
ALFRED PALMER	2.	ALCHIN MOORCRAFT	6.
REV. E. W. CARPENTER	3.	SAMUEL SNELLING	7.
GABRIEL LINDOFF	4.	WILLIAM HAIGH	*Tenor.*

Composed by HENRY DAINS and Conducted by G. LINDOFF.

Messrs Moorcraft, Palmer, and West hail from Maidstone; Snelling and the Rev. E. W. Carpenter from Sittingbourne. This is the first peal in the method rung by entirely resident members of the Association, also the first peal of Treble Bob by all except the conductor. The above peal contains the 6th its extent home at ten course-ends. For calling see Snowdon's Treatise on Treble Bob, part 2, page 81.

HARRIETSHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, May 4, 1890, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL Tenor 13½ cwt, in G♯.

ALFRED PALMER	*Treble.*	ALFRED H. WOOLLEY	5.
CALEB PAYNE	2.	ARTHUR C. WEST	6.
EDWARD BALDOCK	3.	ALCHIN MOORCRAFT	7.
THOMAS MANNERING	4.	*WILLIAM HADLOW	*Tenor.*

Conducted by ALCHIN MOORCRAFT.

*First peal.

HULL.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 5, 1890, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 25 cwt.

GEORGE T. MILLER*	*Treble.*	TOM STOCKDALE	5.
CHARLES JACKSON	2.	JOHN WM. STICKNEY	6.
WALTER T. VERITY*	3.	JAMES DIXEY	7.
D. W. BROWN	4.	JOHN DALE	*Tenor.*

Conducted by CHARLES JACKSON.

*First peal.

Date Touches.

HULL (Yorks).—On Monday, April 28th, at Holy Trinity church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1890 changes) in 1 hr. 10 mins. C. Jackson (composer), 1; W. Verity, 2; J. Highfield, 3; D. W. Brown, 4; J. Pollard, 5; J. Dixey (conductor), 6; F. Drabble, 7; J. W. Dale, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. This touch which is in five parts, has only thirty bobs, and contains the ten 6-7's, ten 5-7's, ten 4-7's, and ten 4-6's.

LINDLEY (Huddersfield).—On Saturday, May 3rd, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1890 changes, with all 6-place bobs, and all made with the treble, in five parts, in 1 hr. and 8 mins. A. Sykes, 1; A. Crosland, 2; G. Denleigh, 3; J. A. Royston, 4; G. W. Schofield, 5; C. Craven, 6; B. Shaw, 7; F. Schofield (conductor), 8. Composed by A. Sykes.

WALTHAMSTOW.—On Sunday evening, May 4th, at St. Mary's church, after Divine Service, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1890 changes, in 1 hr. and 7 mins. W. Coakham, 1; W. B. Manning, 2; H. Nunn, 3; J. Nunn, 4; M. Tomlinson, 5; R. E. Pearson, 6; T. Maynard (conductor), 7; T. Watson, 8. Composed by D. Seamer, of Grimsby. Mr. Tomlinson hails from Leeds, Yorkshire.

Miscellaneous.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

STEYNING (Sussex).—On Tuesday, April 15th, at the parish church, for practice, 504 Stedman Triples. G. Gatland, 1; Rev. F. A. H. Du Boulay, 2; J. Smart, 3; G. Smart, 4; C. Chambers, 5, C. Tyler (conductor), 6; W. N. Holt, 7; C. Smart, 8. And 336 Grandsire Triples, being the first attempt in the method on the bells by members of the Steyning society. J. Matthews, 1; Rev. F. A. H. Du Boulay, 2; *W. N. Holt, 3; G. Gatland, 4; C. Tyler (conductor), 5; E. Brackley, 6; G. Smart, 7; J. Smart, 8. *First touch in the method. Also on Sunday morning, April 20th, for Divine Service, 504 Stedman Triples. G. Gatland, 1; C. Smart, 2; J. Matthews, 3; C. Tyler, 4; C. Chambers, 5; W. N. Holt, 6; G. Smart (conductor), 7; J. Smart, 8. And in the evening, 504 Stedman Triples. J. Smart, 1; E. Brackley, 2; W. B. Hills, 3; W. N. Holt, 4; C. Smart, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6; J. Woolgar, 7; J. Mattdews, 8. Also on Tuesday, April 22nd, the following standing in the order named, made an attempt to ring Thurstans' peal of Stedman Triples, but just after reaching four figures one of the band tried to go in slow instead of quick, and the usual result followed. C. Smart, 1; E. Brackley, 2; J. Matthews, 3; G. Gatland, 4; W. N. Holt, 5; C. Tyler (conductor), 6; J. Woolgar, 7; J. Smart, 8. And on Sunday evening, April 27th, for Divine Service, 1260 Stedman Triples. G. Gatland, 1; C. Smart, 2; J. Matthews (first quarter-peal in the method), 3; C. Tyler, 4; C. Chambers, 5; W. N. Holt, 6; *G. Smart (conductor), 7, J. Smart, 8. *First quarter-peal in the method as conductor.

LYMINSTER.—On Sunday, May 4th, for afternoon service, 720 Bob

Minor. G. Balchin, 1; G. Baker, 2; T. Lindfield, 3; F. Luxford, 4: W. Twigg, 5; C. Hills (conductor), 6.

ARUNDEL.—On Sunday evening, May 4th, 1260 Grandsire Triples. A. Mills, 1; G. Baker, 2; T. Lindfield, 3; C. Hills, 4; G. Balchin, 5; F. Luxford (conductor), 6; W. Twigg, 7; J. Balchin, 8. Hills and Lindfield hail from Angmering, the rest from Arundel.

BRIGHTON.—On Sunday, April 12th, at St. Peter's church, for morning service, 504 Stedman Triples. H. Weston, 1; G. Williams, 2; G. A. King, 3; J. Jay, 4; E. C. Merritt, 5; A. Fuller, 6; G. F. Attree (conductor), 7; D. Ross, 8. Also for afternoon service, 560 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. G. Thwaites, 1; J. Reilly, 2; E. C. Merritt, 3; G. A. King, 4; G. Willfams, 5; A. A. Fuller, 6; H. Weston, 7; G. F. Attree (conductor), 8. And for evening service, 657 Grandsire Triples. D. Ross, 1; G. F. Attree, 2; J. Jay, 3; G. Thwaites, 4; G. Williams (conductor), 5; G. A. King, 6; A. A. Fuller, 7; H. Tugwell, 8. And on Sunday, April 20th, for afternoon service, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major (1312 changes), in 46 mins. J. Jay, 1; J. Reilly, 2; E. C. Merritt, 3; G. A. King, 4; H. Weston, 5; G. F. Attree, 6; A. A. Fuller, 7; G. Williams (conductor), 8.

EASTBOURNE.—On Monday, April 14th, 504 Stedman Triples, in 17 mins. G. H. Howse, 1; T. M. Smith, 2; J. E. Smith, 3; A. Baker, J. Sharp, 5; F. Harding (conductor), 6; A. Piper, 7; T. Hookham, 8. First 504 of Stedman by the band. And on Sunday, March 2nd, a quarter-peal of Union Triples, for morning service, in 43 mins. R. Howse, 1; J. Sharp, 2; T. M. Smith, 3; A. Baker, 4; A. Piper, 5; G. H. Howse, 6; F. Harding (conductor), 7; N. Billings, 8.

HORLEY.—On Sunday, March 16th, 672 Grandsire Triples, in 23 mins. A. Songhurst, 1; J. Kenward, 2; F. Linter, 3; S. Kenward, 4; G. Apps, 5; P. Etheridge, 6; J. Taylor (conductor), 7; W. Wallis, 8. Also on Thursday, March 27th, 1008 Grandsire Triples, in 34 mins. E. Taylor, sen., 1; T. Whitmore, 2; S. Kenward 3; T. Sparks, 4; G. Apps, 5; J. Taylor (conductor), 6; P. Etheridge, 7; J. Hitchcock, 8.

SEAFORD.—On Saturday, April 12th, nine 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. T. Ashdown (conductor), 1; H. Rann, 2; W. Cross, 3; C. Morley, 4; T. H. Beams, 5; W. Coleman, 6.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WALKDEN (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, April 22nd, Mr. George Astbury, of Flixton, paid a visit to St. Paul's church, and with five of the local company succeeded in ringing his first 720 of Bob Minor in 26 mins. G. Astbury, 1; J. Worthington, 2; J. Potter, 3; J. Williamson (conductor), 4; A. Potter, 5; J. Brookes, 6. The Flixton company are under the able tuition of Mr. Eachus, of Manchester, and it is to be hoped that they will shortly be able to record the first 5040, as they are progressing favourably.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On Monday, April 21st, for practice at the parish church, 360 Oxford Treble Bob. F. Hancock, 1; W. Price, 2; †Rev. H. E. Ferry, 3; G. Norman, 4; G. Marsden, 5; T. Lunn, 6. †First 360. Also on Wednesday, April 23rd, 720 each of Primrose, Tulip, and Violet, in 1 hr. 23 mins. F. Hancock, 1; W. Price, 2; E. James, 3; G. Norman, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; T. Lunn, 6. Tenor 16 cwt. 14 lbs.

STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

BUCKNALL.—On Sunday morning, March 23rd, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Oxford Bob (twenty-six singles). And for evening service, 1440 changes, being 720 each of Oxford and Plain Bob in 51 mins. This is the longest touch ever rung on the bells and also by all the ringers. Also on Sunday evening, March 30th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Bob (*fourteen bobs and sixteen singles*), with the bells muffled in memory of Mr. J. Timmis, one of the sidesmen of the church for several years. And on Easter Sunday, April 6th, for Divine Service, 1440 changes, being a 720 each of Oxford and Plain Bob in 50 mins. C. Rushton, 1; E. J. Wheeldon, 2; J. Warren, 3; J. Eyre, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

WEST KIRBY.—On Saturday, April 26th, at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor (*forty-four bobs and four singles*), with the *sixth* and eighth covering. J. Pickering (Bebington), 1; H. Bird (Bebington), 2; G. Voas (Wallasey), 3; J. Cliffe (Bebington), 4; G. Rogers (Wallasey), 5; T. Hough (Bebington), 6; J. Dillon (Bromborough, conductor), 7; J. Millington (Bebington), 8. Tenor 12 cwt.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—On Sunday morning, April 6th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 830 Grandsire Triples. Also on Monday, April 7th, 504 in the same method and three courses of Treble Bob Major. W. Charlton, 1; T. Bozyard, 2; T. Castree, 3; J. Shipp, 4; A. Haigh (late of Gillingham, Kent), 5; E. Titt (conductor), 6; F. Charlton, 7; H. C. Mayne, 8. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. T. Bozyard, 1; W. Charlton, 2; J. Shipp, 3; E. Titt (conductor), 4; F. Charlton, 5; A. Haigh, 6.

BISHOPWEARMOUTH.—On Monday, April 28th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles) in 27 mins. Thos. Hudson, sen., 1; Thos. Hudson, jun., 2; G. Lowden, 3; H. G. Dawscn, 4; J. Harrison (conductor, Jarrow), 5; J. Naisby (non-member), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

SHAROW.—On Tuesday, April 8th, Mr. T. Clark paid a visit to this place, and 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor and 360 Oxford Bob Minor was rung. E. Bozyard, 1; W. Charlton, 2; T. Bozyard, 3; T. Clark (conductor), 4; F. Charlton, 5; E. Titt, 6. Also 504 Grandsire Triples and 288 Kent Treble Bob Major. T. Bozyard, 1; E. Titt, 2; W. Charlton, 3; J. Pallister, 4; H. C. Mayne, 5; T. Clark (conductor), 6; F. Charlton, 7; J. Cleminson, 8.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

WATERFOOT (Lancashire).—On Thursday, April 24th, at St. James's church, 720 College Single in 26 mins. R. Halstead (conductor), 1; J. Bolton, 2; J. Shepherd, 3; J. E. Whitaker, 4; J. Whitaker, 5; W. Whitaker, 6.

BACUP (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, April 29th, at St. Saviour's church, 720 Grandsire Minor in 24½ mins. *T. Bradley, 1; *J. Pickup, 2; *J. Standring, 3; *T. Kay, 4; *J. Shepherd, 5; J. Watts (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. The above has a call at every lead.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

STOKE POGES (Bucks).—On Thursday, April 17th, at the parish church, 720 Oxford Bob Minor in 26 mins. J. J. Parker (conductor), 1; R. Flaxman, 2; S. Quinton, 3; G. Stanbrook, 4; E. Willis, 5; C. Clarke, 6. Also two 120's Stedman Doubles, J. Lovell (steeple-keeper) ringing the tenor. And seven 120's of Grandsire Doubles in which the following took part: J. Parker, R. Collings, G. Basden, J. Bovingdon, E. Elderfield, and J. Lovell.

CAVERSHAM (Oxon).—On Sunday evening, April 20th, after Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. H. Simmonds, 1; A. P. Goddard, 2; J. Hands, 3; H. Smith, 4; G. Essex, 5; T. Newman conductor), 6. And on Sunday evening, April 27th, before Divine Service, 720 Cambridge Surprise. E. Menday, 1; A. W. Pike, 2; J. Hands, 3; G. Essex, 4; H. Smith, 5; T. Newman (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all.

PANGBOURNE (Berks).—Recently at the church of St. James the following members of the above Guild rang for evening service several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. And after service, by kind permission of the rector, the Rev. Robert Finch, Annable's two-part 720 of Bob Minor in 26 mins. A. P. Goddard (Salisbury), 1; J. Bower (Goring), 2; W. Lawrence (conductor), 3; C. Pocock, 4; E. Bushnell, 5; T. Blackbourn (Salisbury), 6. The band also rang for evening service at St. Mary's, Whitchurch, Oxon, half an hour prior to that at Pangbourne; although in different counties, the churches are within a very short distance of each other.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

UPHAM (Hants).—On Friday, April 25th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). A. Millard, 1; R. Linter, 2; J. Millard, 3; H. Griffin, 4; J. E. Warren (conductor), 5; C. Apps, 6. This is believed to be the first 720 of Minor on the bells. All the above hail from Swanmore.

BOURNEMOUTH.—On Sunday evening, April 27th, at St. Peter's Church for Divine Service, 504 of Grandsire Triples, in 20 mins. A. Grist, 1; H. T. Vivash, 2; H. Garrett, 3; J. Bennett, 4; T. Green (conductor), 5; S. Merritt, 6; J. J. Bristow, 7; T. Belben, 8. The above are the Bournemouth branch of the above Guild.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Sunday evening, May 4th, for Divine Service at All Saints' church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, A. Tarbun, 1; W. Green, 2; E. Brazier, 3; Rev. T. L. Papillon, 4; W. J. Piper, 5; F. Radley, 6; W. Lincoln (conductor), 7; A. Head, 8. First quarter-peal by A. Head, and first with a bob bell by E. Brazier.

TOTTENHAM (Middlesex).—On Monday, April 28th, at St. Anne's church, the following members of the above Association rang 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 24 mins. E. T. Edridge, 1; A. S. Barrell, 2; G. Lucas, 3; A. Fox, 4; H. Grove, 5; H. T. Scarlett (conductor), 6. This is supposed to be the first 720 in the method on the bells.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

CAMBRIDGE.—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Saturday, April 19th, 840 Bob Triples. Rev. A. H. F. Boughey (Trinity), 1-2; E. B. James (Caius), 3-4; H. L. James (conductor, Caius), 5-6; C. F. Wedemeyer (Trinity), 7-8. Also by the same band a course of Canterbury Pleasure Major. Also a course of Stedman Triples. Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, 1-2; E. B. James, 3-4; H. L. James, 5-6; S. F. J. Pile-Sydney, 7-8. And a course of Grandsire Major. H. C. Frith (Trinity), 1-2; Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, 3-4; E. B. James, 5-6; H. L. James, 7-8. And on Tuesday, April 22nd, an attempt for Holt's Six-part Bob Triples, was lost after 2940 changes had been rung in 1 hr. 37 mins. Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, 1-2; E. B. James, 3-4; H. L. James, 5-6; C. F. Wedemeyer, 7-8. Also on Wednesday, April 23rd, 180 Yorkshire Court Minor. E. B. James, 1-2; H. L. James (conductor), 3-4; C. F. Wedemeyer, 5-6. And on Friday, April 25th, a course of Grandsire Caters. H. C. Frith, 1-2; Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, 3-4; E. B. James, 5-6; H. L. James, 7-8; C. F. Wedemeyer, 9-10.

THE CUMBERLAND COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CARLISLE.—On Sunday, April 27th, at St. Stephen's church, an attempt was made to ring a peal of Grandsire Triples, but it came to grief after ringing 1680 changes in 1 hr. 10 mins. W. Gregson (conductor), G. Little, D. Harding, F. Gibson, J. Jefferson, J. Turner, L. W. Jennings, and G. Telford. This was rung in honour of the Rev. Dr. Hodges, son of the vicar, who was consecrated Bishop of Travancore and Cochin on Friday, April 25th.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LEEDS (Kent).—On Wednesday, April 30th, at the parish church, the local company rang 720 Bob Minor, with 7-8 covering, and the bells deeply muffled as a token of respect to the late Wm. Sloman. T. Hearle (conductor), 1; A. Knight, 2; A. Hollands, 3; F. Hollands, 4; W. Cheseman, 5; T. Rissell, 6; F. Gubbons, 7; F. Fermer, 8.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

DUDLEY (Worcestershire).—On Friday, April 25th, at the church of St. Thomas, 630 Grandsire Triples. W. Micklewright (conductor), 1; F. Fellows, 2; E. Fellows, jun., 3; J. Goodman, 4; J. Mills, 5; J. Fellows, sen., 6; S. Spittle, 7; J. Baylis, 8. The above touch was rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Mr. John Jordan, of Dudley, Town Councillor, and formerly churchwarden at the above church.

NETHERTON (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, April 27th, at St. Andrew's church, on the occasion of the choir sermons, 720 College Single in 26 mins. E. Hampton, 1; J. Prestidge, 2; J. Townsend, 3; *W. Prestidge, 4; R. Round, 5; J. Smith (conductor), 6. *First 720 with a bob bell in the method. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob in 25 mins., the band standing as above, with J. Smith (conductor), 5; R. Round, 6.

THE EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

NORTH WINGFIELD.—On Tuesday, April 22nd, for practice at St. Lawrence's church, 720 Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles), in 29 mins. W. Butler, 1; F. Knowles. 2; W. Hopkinson, 3; T. Millington (composer and conductor), 4; T. Allibone, 5; J. Tarlton, 6. Tenor 18¾ cwt. in F.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Sunday, April 27th, for afternoon service, 288 of Oxford and 240 of Kent Treble Bob. A. Mills, 1; C. Weeden, 2; E. Jordan, 3; J. Akehurst, 4; W. Wadey, 5; D. Jordan, 6. And after service, 720 Superlative Surprise. W. Charman, 1; C. Weeden, 2; E. Jordan, 3; A. Mills, 4; *W. Wadey, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also another 720 of Superlative. J. Akehurst, 1; *W. Charman, 2; C. Weeden, 3; A. Mills, 4; D. Jordan, 5; E. Jordan (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. W. Charman hails from Warnham, Wadey from Billingshurst, the rest are local men.

GAYTON (Northants).—On Saturday, April 26th, at the parish church, seven 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, with the tenor covering. E. Haxley, 1; T. Ealey, 2; F. Harris, 3; J. Mackey, 4; A. Stewart (conductor), 5; G. Eads, 6.

HANBURY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, April 20th, at the parish church with the bells half-muffled, an attempt was made to ring a peal of Grandsire Triples as a token of respect to the late William Moore, who was for forty years sexton and ringer at the above place, but after ringing 2520 changes it came to grief owing to a change-course. H. Buckingham, 1; J. Mason, 2; W. Lewis, 3; G. Hayward, 4; W. Rea (conductor), 5; A. Moore, 6; G. Bourne, 7; J. Parry, 8. And on Monday, April 21st, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. J. Cottrell, 1; H. Buckingham, 2; A. Moore, 3; T. Farmer, 4; G. Moore (conductor), 5; J. Jones, 6. Rung as a farewell touch to G. Moore who is leaving Hanbury.

KEMERTON (Gloucestershire).—On Sunday, April 27th, at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor in 25 mins. E. Devereux, 1; A. Devereux, 2; A. Wallis, 3; W. Perks, 4; H. Payne (conductor), 5; A. Attwood, 6.

LANE END (Bucks).—On Sunday, April 20th, seven members of the voluntary society, High Wycombe, visited the parish church and rang several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles and Plain Bob Doubles for morning service. The following were the ringers: A. W. Tubb, F. Harie, E. Thompson, W. Smith, W. Whiffin, A. Kirby, and A. Headey. They take this opportunity of thanking the vicar for allowing them the use of the bells, and the ringers who kindly stood out to let them ring.

ROMFORD (Essex).—On Sunday, April 20th, for morning service, 588 Grandsire Triples. S. James, 1; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 2; E. Lucas, 3; W. H. Dallimore 4; G. Roughton, 5; W. Nash, 6; A. Porter, 7; L. Copsey, 8. Afterwards 336 Bob Major. L. Copsey, 1; W. Pye, 2; E. Lucas, 3; W. H. Dallimore, 4; G. Roughton, 5; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 6; W. Nash, 7; A. Porter, 8. And on Thursday April 24th, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. S. James, 1; G. Pye, 2; E. Lucas, 3; A. Porter, 4; W. H. Dallimore, 5; W. Nash, 6; W. Pye, 7; L. Copsey, 8. Composed by A. J. Perkins, and conducted by W. Pye.

SALISBURY.—On Sunday, April 27th, for Divine Service at St. Martin's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) in 45 mins. S. Macey, 1; W. Greenleaf, 2; A. J. Callaway, 3; S. Lawrence, 4; R. W. Gollop, 5; W. W. Gifford, 6; C. A. Clements (conductor), 7; C. Gaisford, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

SPELDHURST (Kent).—On Sunday evening, May 27th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins. R. Pilling, 1; F. Still, 2; J. Baker, 3; F. Still, 4; —. Willshire, 5; J. Maynard, 6; T. Card (conductor), 7; G. Card, 8.

SAWBRIDGEWORTH (Herts).—On Tuesday, April 22nd, for practice, 504 Stedman Triples, G. Rochester (conductor), 1; A. Brown, 2; H. J. Tucker, 3; N. W. Tarling, 4; J. Tarling, 5; F. W. Tarling, 6; W. Morris, 7; C. Matthews, 8. Also 504 Grandsire Triples. G. Rochester (conductor), 1; A. Brown, 2; N. W. Tarling, 3; F. W. Tarling, 4; F. Harris, 5; H. J. Tucker, 6; P. Springham, 7; W. Morris. Also 282 Kent Treble Bob. G. Rochester (conductor), 1; A. Brown, 2; T. Saban, 3; N. W. Tarling, 4; J. Tarling, 5; W. Morris, 6; H. J. Tucker, 7; P. Springham, 8. Messrs. Tucker and Harris hail from Bishops Stortford.

TAMWORTH (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, April 21st, at the parish church, an attempt was made to ring the Rev. C. D. P. Davies's five-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing four parts the conductor called "stand" owing to a mishap to one of the bells. A. Everitt, 1; T. Meredith (conductor), 2; F. Sedgwick, 3; R. P. Brindley, 4; G. Timms, 5; H. Meacham, 6; W. Fearneyhough, 7; H. Gallimore, 8. Afterwards 377 in the same method was rung by J. Timms, 1; T. Meredith, 2; F. Sedgwick, 3; H. Meacham, 4; A. Everitt, 5; R. P. Brindley, 6; W. Fearneyhough, 7; G. Wright, 8. Messrs. Meacham, Fearneyhough, Gallimore and Wright hail from Lichfield; Meredith from Alrewas. They wish to thank the Tamworth ringers for the way they received them, and hope to complete the peal at a future date.

WEST GRINSTEAD (Sussex).—On Sunday, April 20th, the Worth and Balcombe ringers paid a visit to the above place, and by kind permission of the rector rang for morning service at the parish church 720 Oxford Bob. R. Summersall, 1; B. Payne, 2; I. Tullett, 3; G. Illman, 4; W. Denman, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. And for afternoon service 240 of Violet. J. Gasson, 1; W. Denman, 2; J. Cheesman, 3; T. Streeter, 4; E. Streeter, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. Also after service 720 Plain Bob. J. Cheesman, 1; R. Summersall, 2; I. Tullett, 3; W. Denman, 4; G. Illman, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. And 240 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Gasson, 1; W. Denman, 2; J. Cheesman, 3; G. Illman, 4; F. Rice, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. The visitors wish to return their thanks to the rector, the Rev. Knatchbull-Hugessen, for allowing them the use of the bells; also to Mr. Sherlock of the "Burrells Arms" for the liberal manner in which he supplied their wants. Messrs. Summersall and Denman belong to the local company.

WORCESTER.—On Sunday morning, April 27th, at All Saints' church, the following members of the Worcester Cathedral and All Saints' change-ringing society rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in honour of the marriage of Mr. H. M. Reeves, second son of the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS." J. Clements, 1; N. Wale, 2; H. Pheasant, 3; T. Bullock, 4; J. Reynolds, 5; H. Wilkes (conductor), 6; W. Pudge, 7; T. Malin, 8.

RE-OPENING AT AYLSHAM, NORFOLK.

The re-opening, after repairs, of the peal of ten at Aylsham, Norfolk, took place on Wednesday, April 23rd. The day was quite a gala day for the parishioners, as from an early hour in the morning, and at intervals throughout the afternoon and evening, good touches of Treble Bob Royal and Grandsire Caters were rung by the different companies.

At 1 o'clock a dinner was provided in honor of the occasion at the "Black Boys" hotel, which was well attended by the parishioners and ringers from Norwich, Yarmouth, Eye, Diss, and Kenninghall, together with many members of the local companies. The chair was taken by C. R. Dewhirst, one of the churchwardens, who was supported by the Vicar (Rev. J. G. Hoare), Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, Rev. Dr. Raven, Rev. J. H. Hastings, Rev. R. W. Pitt, Mr. R. J. W. Purdy, Mr. F. Little, Mr. H. G. Wright, etc.

The toast—"The Queen and Royal Family" was given by the Chairman, and heartily responded to.

Mr. Purdy proposed "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese," who he said had always taken great interest in the belfries of their parishes.

The Vicar in responding expressed the hope that the clergy and laity might for ever pull together, and ring out a peal to the glory of God by working hand in hand. He felt this undertaking was principally due to the laymen who first started the work and carried it through. He proposed "The Norwich Diocesan Associaiion of Change-Ringers," coupling with the toast the names of the president (Dr. Raven) and Hon. Secretary (Rev. H. Earle Bulwer).

The Rev. Dr. Raven expressed the cordiality which he felt towards the Association, and was well pleased with the grand work which had been done in making the new frame, and the rehanging of the bells in such a satisfactory manner.

The Rev. H. Earle Bulwer expressed his appreciation of the work that had been done. He was glad to inform them that the Norwich Diocesan was recovering much of its lost ground, and was now ready to march with re-organised forces in the path of progress, and in jealous prosecution of the objects for which it was first instituted.

Mr. H. G. Wright proposed "The Health of the Chairman and that of his fellow-churchwarden, Mr. F. Little." He spoke in warm terms of the assistance rendered by the former gentleman towards the renovation of the church tower, the church clock, and the organ, and said they had both pluckily come forward to tackle the great work which had just been completed.

The Chairman in responding remarked how pleasantly he had been received as a beggar for funds on behalf of the committee.

Mr. F. Little having also replied, proposed "The Visiting Company of Ringers," coupling with the toast the names of Captain Moore, F. Knights, Rev. J. H. Hastings, and C. Clements. These having briefly responded the company adjourned.

A service was held in the church at 3.30, at which the Rev. Dr. Raven officiated, a large congregation attending who were greatly edified by the sermon. A collection at the close of the service was made towards the restoration fund, which amounted to £32 os. 5d.

Ockley (Surrey).—On Sunday morning, April 27th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob in 24 mins. J. Parsons, 1; J. Akehurst, 2; W. Wadey, 3; A. Mills, 4; E. Jordan, 5; D. Jordan (conductor), 6. Also 720 Kent. C. Weeden, 1; W. Wadey, 2; J. Akehurst, 3; A. Mills, 4; D. Jordan, 5; E. Jordan (conductor), 6. And after service 360 Oxford Bob, with J. Parsons, 1; the rest as before. Wadey hails from Billingshurst; Parsons is a local man; the rest are from Capel.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

Macclesfield Branch.—The eighth quarterly meeting of this branch was held at Gawsworth, on Saturday last, May 3rd, when twenty-three members attended from Macclesfield, Bollington, Poynton, Gawsworth, and Wilmslow. During the afternoon and evening touches of Plain Bob and Grandsire Minor were rung on the beautiful peal of six, tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 17 lbs. in G. These bells have all been recast (excepting the old fourth) by the firm of Mears and Stainbank, and are now in perfect harmony and go very well—a credit to the firm. They have been put in a new frame with pits left for two trebles. The old tenor was badly cracked, and the treble too sharp. At five o'clock all adjourned to an excellent tea, after which the business meeting was held, the chair being taken by Mr. Walter Henshall, of Gawsworth, who gave all a hearty welcome, and said that any ringer would be made welcome at any time.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and Alderly was selected as the next place of meeting on October 11th. Great regret was expressed at the absence of Mr. Matthews, who was conductor of the old church ringers at Macclesfield, but has had to give up ringing owing to ill health. Mr. Matthews is a little better now, but is not able to do anything at all. The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the chairman, and the Rector for the use of the bells. The tower was again visited, and touches of Plain Bob and Grandsire were rung, and altogether a pleasant meeting was brought to a close.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Maidstone District.—The Annual Meeting of the members of this district took place on Thursday, April 24th, at Town Malling. Besides the home ringers other members of the Association came in from Maidstone, Linton, and Seal Chart. The Hon. Sec. of the Association also attended. Touches of Kent Treble Bob, Bob Major, Grandsire Triples, and Bob Triples. The day seemed a little doubtful, and perhaps this may account for the very small attendance. However the bells were kept pretty busy, as may be seen from the above changes, owing to the energy of the ringers present. It is to be hoped that next year the meeting will be much larger. No new names were proposed. Thos. Lindsay Stack, *Local Sec.*

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."

"Honour to whom Honour."

Sir,—In last week's issue there is an account of a date touch rang at Bootle, with the name of Mr. W. Short as being the composer of 210 of Grandsire Minor. Now sir, this 210 is none other than part of 216 taken from Troyte, with the first ten changes omitted, and four added; and how on earth Mr. Short can lay claim to being the composer is beyond the comprehension of yours, C. E. Wilson.

12, *York Street, Walton, Liverpool.*

Minor Variations of Treble Bob.

Sir,—Having been collecting methods for several years, I am pleased to state that the methods "Snowdrop" and "Anston Pleasure" which appeared in "The Bell News" last week, are quite new to me. I might add that I have now got 100 Treble Bob and 40 plain hunt methods on six bells, and have also got 50 upon five bells.

Clare, Suffolk. D. Gridley.

Northampton.—On Thursday, April 24th, for practice at St. Edmund's church, three courses of Bob Minor. T. Payne, 1; T. Ealey, 2; F. Harris, 3; J. Mackey, 4; A. Stewart. 5; G. Eads, 6. Also a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, being the first three parts of S. Biddlestone's twelve-part peal, in 45 mins. T. Payne, 1; F. Harrris, 2; T. Ealey (conductor), 3; A. Stewart, 4; E. Haxley, 5; J. Mackey, 6; G. Eads, 7; H. Smith, 8. And two courses of Bob Major. First in the method by all. H. Smith, 1; T. Ealey, 2; F. Harris, 3; T. Payne, 4; E. Haxley, 5; J. Mackey, 6; A. Stewart, 7; G. Eads, 8.

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.

North Notts. Association.—The Annual General Meeting will be held at Worksop, on Whit-Monday, May 26th, 1890. A short service will be held at the Priory church at noon, and the meeting will be held at the Girls' Schoolroom at 5 p.m. Leaders of towers in the Association are requested to inform the Secretary by May 18th, of the approximate number of their members who will attend.

HENRY T. SLODDEN, *Secretary.*
Vicarage, Worksop.

Lancashire Association. — Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held to-day, Saturday, May 10th, at St. James's church, Birch, Rusholme. Bells ready at 4 o'clock, Meeting in school at 7.

JOHN EACHUS, *Branch Sec.*
3, *Hayden St., Queen's Road, Manchester.*

Midland Counties' Association.—Nottingham District.—The next monthly meeting will be held to-day, Saturday, May 10th, at St. Mary's church, Nottingham, 10 bells, belfry open at 3 o'clock.

A. LAMBERT, *Local Secretary,*
4, *Traffic Street, Nottingham.*

Lancashire Association. — Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Hoddlesden, near Darwen, to-day, Saturday, May 10th. Belfry open at 2, Tea at 5 at the Duke of York Hotel, 1s. 3d. each.

J. HORROCKS, *Branch Sec.*

Lancashire Association. — Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at St. Mary's Parish church, Oldham, to-day, Saturday, May 10th. Meeting in the Schoolroom at 6 o'clock. Bells ready at 2.30.

FRANK BIRTWISTLE, *Branch Sec.*

Waterloo Society.—This Society will hold an outing at Isleworth, on Saturday, May 17th, 1890. Members and friends cordially invited. Meat Tea at the "London Apprentice" at 6.30, at 2s. per head. The tower will be open for ringing during the afternoon. Any one intending to be present will oblige by sending their names to the Secretary.

W. W. THORNE, *Hon. Sec.*

Essex Association.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Chelmsford, on Whit-Monday, May 26th. Divine Service at 11.30 a.m. Business meeting at 12.30. Dinner at 1 45. Towers open for ringing: St. Mary's Chelmsford (10 bells), Galleywood (8), Great Baddow (8), Widford (8), Writtle (8), Springfield (6). Members wishing for reduced fares and dinner tickets (1s. each); should inform me on or before Wednesday, May 21st.

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

Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Diocesan Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Childwall, near Liverpool, on Saturday, May 17th (6 bells). Bells ready at at 3.30 p.m. Business meeting at 6 p.m.

RICHARD HILL, *Branch Sec.*
78, *Cemetery Road, Southport.*

Midland Counties' Association.—Nuneaton District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Nuneaton, on Saturday, May 17th, when members and friends will be cordially welcomed. Tower open at 4 p.m.

HARRY ARGYLE, *Local Hon. Sec.*

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 DATE TOUCH OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

BY A. W. TUBB, *Wycombe.*

1890.

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

Twice repeated, produces

5 2 3 4 6 7

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

Contains the twenty-four 6-7s.

A DATE TOUCH OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

BY JOHN SHEPHERD, *Bacup.*

1890.

2 3 4 5 6 7

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

Four times repeated.

Contains ten 4-6s, six 6-7s, seven 7-4s, and ten 6-5s.

FOR SALE.—A peal of Handbells, 50 in number, in Key of F, 26 size, 46 Chromatic scale, Second-hand and in perfect condition. Also with the above a duplicate peal of 17, in Key of G. Makers, Messrs. WARNER AND CO., London. Apply, 8, Robson Street, Burmantofts, Leeds.

A PEAL OF UNION TRIPLES.

BY J. CARTER, *Birmingham.*

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 7

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

7 2 3 6 5 4 3
3 5 7 6 4 2 3s
4 7 3 6 2 5 3
2 3 4 6 5 7 3
4 5 2 6 7 3 3s

7 2 4 6 3 5 3
4 3 7 6 5 2 3s
5 7 4 6 2 3 3
4 2 5 6 3 7 3s
5 3 4 6 7 2 3s

7 4 5 6 2 3 3
5 2 7 6 3 4 3s
3 7 5 6 4 2 3
5 4 3 6 2 7 3s
2 3 5 6 7 4 3

7 5 2 6 4 3 3
2 4 7 6 3 5 3s
3 7 2 6 5 4 3
2 5 3 6 4 7 3s
4 3 2 6 7 5 3

7 2 4 6 5 3 3
4 5 7 6 3 2 3s
3 7 4 6 2 5 3
2 4 3 6 5 7 3
5 3 2 6 7 4 3

7 2 5 6 4 3 3
5 4 7 6 3 2 3s
3 7 5 6 2 4 3
5 2 3 6 4 7 3s
4 3 5 6 7 2 3

7 5 4 6 2 3 3
4 2 7 6 3 5 3s
3 7 4 6 5 2 3
4 5 3 6 2 7 3s
2 3 4 6 7 5 3

7 4 2 6 5 3 3
2 5 7 6 3 4 3s
3 7 2 6 4 5 3
4 2 3 6 5 7 3
3 5 4 6 7 2 3s

7 4 3 6 2 5 3
2 3 7 6 5 4 3
5 7 2 6 4 3 3
2 4 5 6 3 7 3s
3 5 2 6 7 4 3

7 2 3 6 4 5 3
3 4 7 6 5 2 3s
5 7 3 6 2 4 3
2 3 5 6 7 4 3
5 4 2 6 7 3 3s

7 2 5 6 3 4 3
5 3 7 6 4 2 3s
4 7 5 6 2 3 3
5 2 4 6 3 7 3s
3 4 5 6 7 2 3
3 6 7 2 4 5 P. L.
3 2 4 5 6 7 P. L.

Repeated.

This peal is in two parts, and is on the 3-lead plan, with only one call in each course,

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

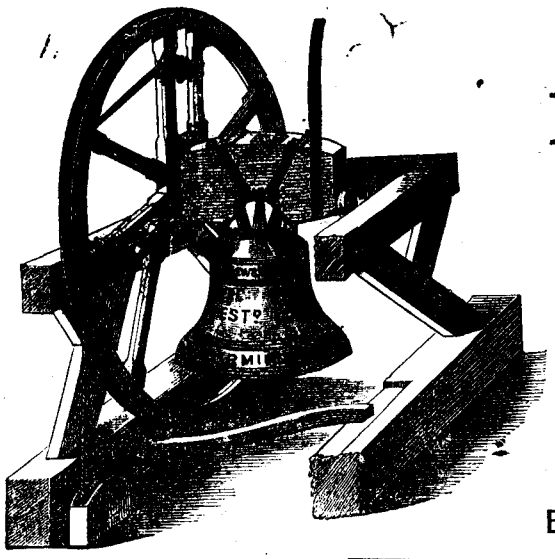
A Quarterly Meeting was held at Pulham, on Tuesday, May 6th, which was well attended by ringers from various parishes in Norfolk and Suffolk, forty-seven sitting down to dinner at the "King's Head," Pulham St. Mary, at 1.30, under the presidency of the Hon. Secretary, who was supported by the Rev. W. H. Cleaver, Rector of Pulham St. Mary, Captain Moore, District Secretary, Rev. H. J. Coleman, Rev. W. Chas. Eppstein, and Cyril C. Tuck, Esq. A vote of thanks having been passed to the Rectors of the two parishes for the use of the bells, the Hon. Secretary made a brief report on the present position of the Association. He stated that the Association after a somewhat critical period was in a fair way now to recover its former prosperity and strength, that the tower ringers in union with it were increasing steadily in numbers, that the scheme for the re-organisation of the Society had taken effect, and that districts had been formed and local secretaries appointed, who were now at work in the following centres: Aylsham, Beccles, Eye, East Harling, Hingham, Redenhall, Saxmundham, Stowmarket, Woodbridge, Great Yarmouth; and these would probably be added to before the end of the year. He then gave notice, on behalf of the Committee, that a Revised Draft of the rules would be submitted to the members for adoption at the next annual meeting. This draft would comprise such alterations and additions to the rules as the experience of thirteen years had shewn to be necessary; printed copies would be circulated before the annual meeting for the information of members on the points in which alteration was proposed. Eight honorary members, thirty-one performing, and five probationers, were admitted, and after a vote of thanks had been passed to the Secretary, the members dispersed to the various towers which were open in the neighbourhood, at some of which some very good ringing was done during the day; besides which the Pulhams, Tibenham, Starston, Alburgh and Redenhall were visited. The train arrangements unfortunately prevented many being present who would otherwise have been there, and compelled several to leave early.

THE ST. PETER'S GUILD, WOLVERHAMPTON.

On Saturday last, May 3rd, this Guild held its monthly meeting at Sedgley, when members attended from Tettenhall. Penn, Coseley, Tipton, Wombourn, Bilston, and Wolverhampton. Several touches of Grandsire Triples and Major were successfully brought round, and twelve new members elected. It was proposed to hold the next meeting at Tipton, on Saturday, June 7th.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ROSSENDALE BRANCH.—On Saturday, May 3rd, a meeting of this branch was held at St. James's church, Waterfoot. Ringing commenced at 2.30, and the bells were kept well going till six o'clock in Bob Minor and College methods. At six o'clock a meeting was held in the schoolroom, which was of a business character. It was resolved that the next meeting be held at St. Thomas's, Helmshore, on Saturday, June 7th. There were twenty members present from Bacup (Christ Church), and St. Saviour's Waterfoot, Newchurch, Rawtenstall, Helmshore, and Ramsbottom. After the meeting touches of Bob Minor, College Single, and Kent Treble Bob Minor were rung until nine o'clock, when the company dispersed, after having spent a very enjoyable evening.



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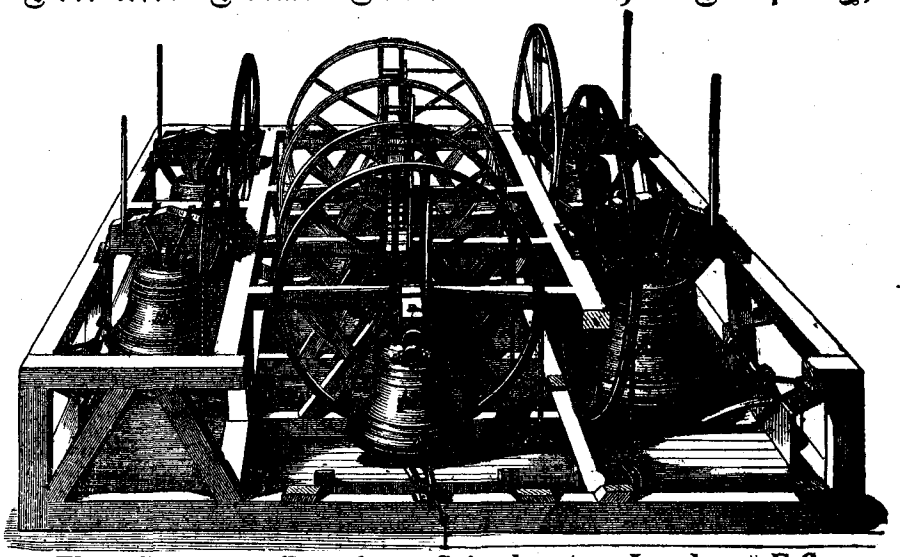

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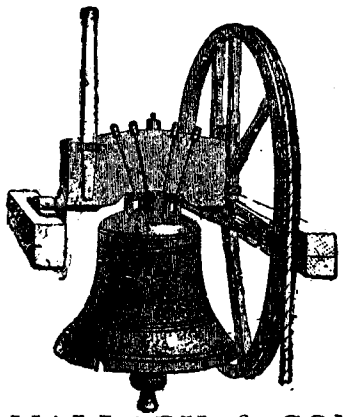

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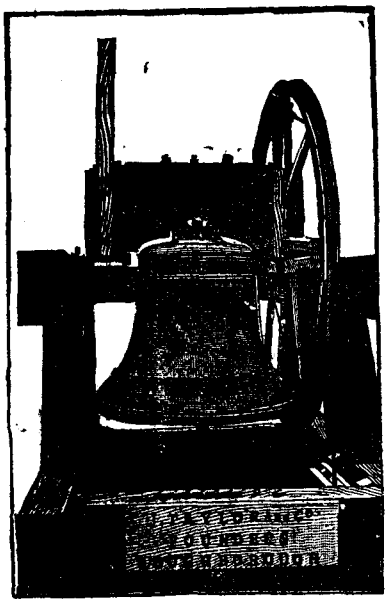

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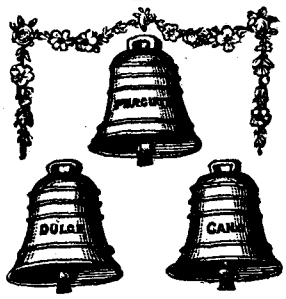

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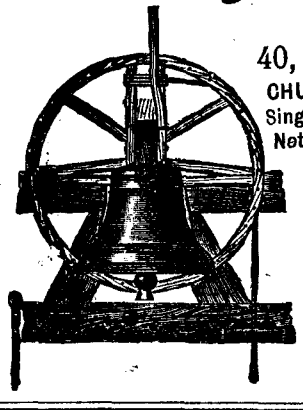

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