THE

BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 461.—*VOL.* IX. SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 1891. PRICE ONE PENNY.

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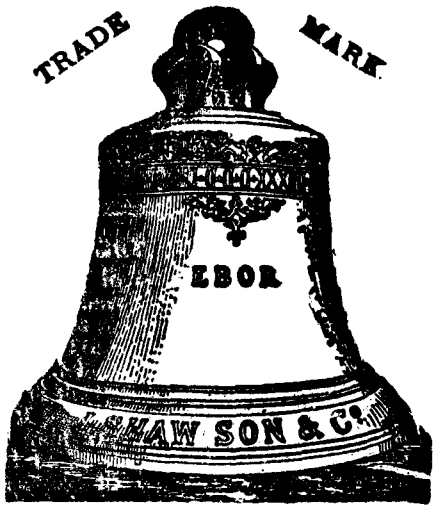

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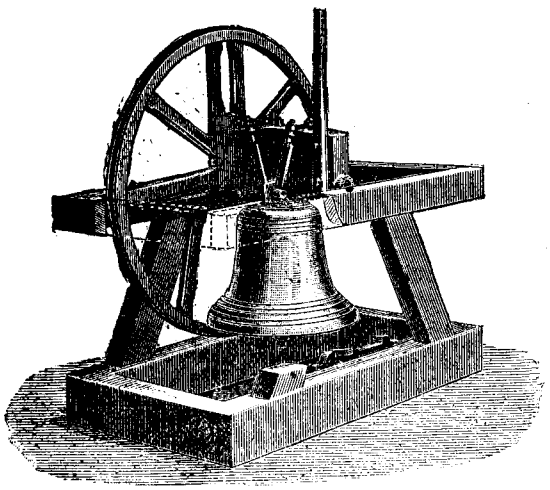

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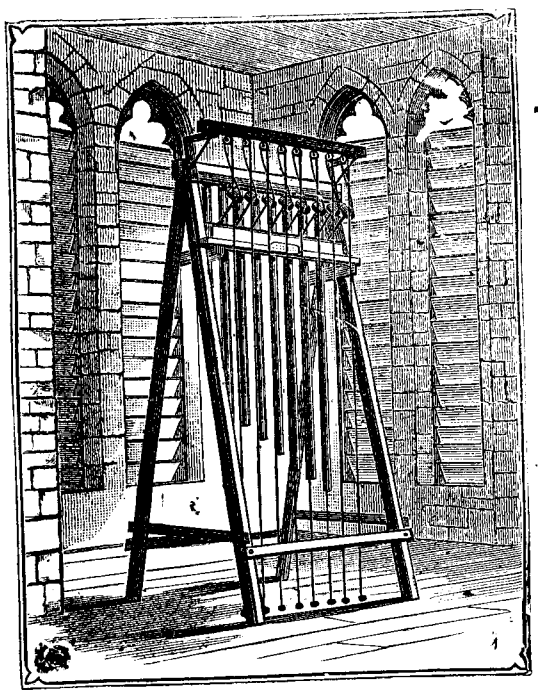

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31st March, 1880

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The third quarterly meeting of the year took place at Nuneaton on Saturday, January 17th, and the bells of the parish church were placed at the disposal of the members during the afternoon.

A committee meeting was held in the schoolroom, and the tea and general meeting followed, at which the president (A. Percival Heywood, Esq.) took the chair; there were also present the Rev. Canon Bellairs (Vicar of Nuneaton), Mr. John W. Taylor, jun. (Loughborough), Mr. James George (Rugby), Mr. W. Wakley (Hon. Treasurer), Mr. Joseph Griffin (Hon. Secretary), and upwards of thirty members from various districts.

The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed; one life member and eight ringing members being unanimously elected. The President also announced that the Chesterfield band wished to join the Association, and it was left in the hands of the Hon. Secretary to write Mr. Arthur Knights for the names, and publish them in the annual report, together with those elected that day, which included five from Tamworth, another tower being thus added to the Association.

The president, in his address, stated that the Association had rung 51 peals during the year, and the methods accomplished would compare favorably with previous years. He was very glad that the Leicester branch had woke up and rung three peals during the past quarter, and trusted they would continue in the good work, and that it would cause the other two large towns belonging to the Association, viz.: Derby and Nottingham, to bestir themselves, and help on the objects of the Association.

Mr. Stephen Cooper (Leicester) and Mr. E. D. Taylor (Loughborough) were duly appointed to audit the accounts of the Association.

The towns of Leicester, Burton-on-Trent, and Derby were duly proposed and seconded for the Annual Meeting, and the feeling was decidedly in favour of the former town, but the President, before putting the resolutions, appealed to the members (on account of the annual meeting having been held at Derby since the formation of the Association) to allow it to take place at the latter town, he promising that the question should be dealt with (by resolution, of which notice will be given) at the next annual meeting. The first two propositions were withdrawn, and therefore the meeting takes place as usual at Derby on Easter Monday.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, which was duly acknowledged by that gentleman, who wished the Association success, and said he should be pleased to welcome the members again at Nuneaton whenever it pleased them to select that town for their meeting, and the usual vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding, brought a very successful meeting to a close.

EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

FRIESTON BRANCH.—On Saturday, November 29th, E. Mason, E. Woodthorpe, G. Clark, and W. F. Harwood, journeyed to Frieston, and with the local company rang several 6-scores in different methods at St. James' church. At four o'clock the Rev. S. Staffurth, vicar, entered the belfry to unveil a peal-board recording the two peals of 5040 changes rang last March, one in eleven different methods, and the other in twelve. After a short address by the vicar, an adjournment was made to the Oddfellows' Club Room, when twenty ringers sat down to a first class knife and fork tea provided by Mrs. Leggott. After tea the Rev. S. Staffurth proposed "The East Lincolnshire Association," coupling with it Mr. E. Mason, who responded. A song was then sung by G. Clark, after which Mr. T. Bringeman, churchwarden, proposed the local company. Mr. Barber (conductor) responded, and said he hoped the vicar and churchwardens would be able to add another bell very shortly to make six. On January 2nd, the Rev. S. Staffurth entertained the local company to an excellent supper, when a very pleasant evening was spent in songs, etc., and handbell ringing. A 120 of Grandsire and 120 of Plain Bob was rung by Master S. F. Staffurth, 1: W. Leggott, 2; E. Clayton, 3; A. C. Barber (conductor), J. Sharp, 5-6.

HANDBELLS.—Four Octave Chromatic Peal, nearly new. Cost over £20, with music, etc., £12 10s. A. Law, Buckley Terrace, Rochdale.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last, January 24th, a Committee and Quarterly Meeting of the above was held in St. Mary's schoolroom, Cradley, the Rev. A. B. Timbrell, Vicar, presiding. The rev. gentleman in his opening remarks said he was very pleased to see the members of the Association at his centre, and hoped it would not be the last time he should have the privilege of meeting them there. He could not help noticing the good work these Associations were doing, for he could well remember the time when church belfries were looked upon as not being a portion of the church, and ringers were allowed to come and go when they thought proper, and do as they liked when there; but brighter days had dawned on the ringers, who were now looked upon as officers of the Church, and the towers were now recognised by the clergy as a part of the consecrated building, which was due in a great measure to the good work of these Associations.

During the ordinary business eleven ringing members were elected, and the auditors of the past year re-elected. It was decided to hold the next Committee meeting on February 21st, at Kidderminster. The usual vote of thanks to the rev. gentleman for presiding, for his well-chosen remarks, the use of the tower and bells, was proposed by Mr. Spittle, seconded by Mr. Smith, and carried with acclamation.

The rev. gentleman, in responding, thanked the members most heartily for the vote of thanks that had been passed, and hoped that those present would not think lightly of the office they held, but hoped that what they did in their various belfries would be done to GOD'S glory; and after calling others to church would stay themselves. He was proud to say that when he looked at his ringers' pew on a Sunday he found them there morning and evening.

The Master, Mr. Spittle, quite endorsed the Chairman's remarks, and said it was the duty of all ringers, that having called others to service should attend the same themselves.

It is very gratifying to know that since the rev. gentleman was appointed Vicar of this parish in 1889, a great change has taken place, both as regards the ringers and also the belfry. The old band of ringers when asked to join the Association and become acquainted with the noble art of change-ringing, preferred pulling the tower down and dressing the bricks before learning this new-fangled stuff of ringing. But through the energy of the present Vicar these have had to make way for a band who has mastered the art of change-ringing, and with the co-operation of their respected Vicar, churchwardens, and other laity of the church, the belfry walls are now wainscoted with stained and varnished deal, to the height of 7 ft., and the floor covered with linoleum cloth, and a mat for each ringer. A code of belfry rules (signed by the Vicar and churchwardens) printed and framed, now adorn the belfry walls. Would that all societies in connection with the Association would take the example and do likewise.

During the afternoon and evening touches of Stedman, Grandsire and Plain Bob Triples, Treble Bob, Grandsire, and Plain Bob Major were rung upon the tower bells, and courses of Grandsire Caters, Major, and Triples upon the Association's handbells.

STOKE DEVONPORT, DEVON.

Thursday, the 15th inst., found R. T. Hibbert, of Reading, in the tower of the above parish church, where there is a ring of six bells hung in two tiers, three upon each. After raising the bells, a plain course of Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung, the first on tower bells by all the local men. Thursday, January 22nd, found the same band in the tower, intending to ring rather more than a plain course if possible. On starting so raise the bells in peal, "something went wrong with the works," which upon examination proved to be the chiming hammer of the third fallen from its place across the tenor stock, and by some means, swinging the bell had broken the slider, so the verdict was—no ringing to-night. A volunteer was, however soon found for the disabled tenor, and "go" was called for "sweet Treble Bob," and after one failure, "go" was again called, the result being a good 720 of Kent in 25 mins., the first (so the Stoke men affirm) in the method in the county. T. Hibbert takes this opportunity of thanking the Plymouth men for their courtesy in meeting at the various towers in and around Plymouth.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND, KENT.

The SS. Peter and Paul (Milton) society held their annual supper at the Prince of Wales' hotel, Milton, on Tuesday evening, January 20th, when all the members with one exception, together with some friends, numbering twenty in all, sat down to an excellent repast provided by host Felton, the provision of which did him great credit. The rector (the Rev. R. S. Jukes) presided, the vice-chair being taken by Mr. Dorey, head-master of the Milton Board Schools. The following toasts were subsequently proposed and heartily responded to:—"The Queen," "The Prince and Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family," "Church and State," coupled with the name of the Rector and President (who, after having responded in a suitable manner and expressed his pleasure at being present, vacated the chair, which was afterwards filled by Mr. Dorey), "The Subscribers," "The Leader" (Mr. Hayes), "The Secretary and Treasurer" (Mr. Royston), "The Society and Members," "Members of Societies both present and absent," "The Kent County Association," and "The Host." The remainder of the evening was spent convivially, when songs were sung by the following: Messrs. Avis, Hayes, Louth, Martin, G. Smith, J. Smith, Rose (who also contributed a banjo solo), W. Smith, Henry Corey, Felton, and Royston. The members of the Frindsbury society attended with their handbells and rang a course of Caters and three selections, viz.: Irish melody, Ridges Marlow, and Men of Harlech, in which Messrs. D. Windsor, C. Tulloly, W. Tulloly, C. Windsor, and J. Tulloly took part. Several friends from the societies of Swanscombe and Gravesend were also present. Mr. Smith ably accompanied the vocalists. After a vote of thanks to the chairman, the company dispersed at eleven o'clock, after the National Anthem had been sung, and a very enjoyable evening had been spent.

ST. WERBURGH'S, BRISTOL.

On Tuesday evening, January 20th, the ringers of the above church sat down to their third annual supper, provided by the rector, the Rev. Henry Dening, who also presided, and Mr. Stroud, one of the wardens, being vice-chairman. Previous to the supper the ringers met at the tower at 6.30, and rang several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles in good style. At 7.30 they adjourned to the Church Mission Rooms, for some courses with knives and forks. Courses 1, 2, 3, and 4 were well carried out, then came the word "stand," with health to the Queen from the chair, which was well responded to by all. During the evening several selections were well given on the handbells. The rector drew a few practical lessons from the occupations of the ringers, reminding them that if they wanted to succeed in life, each man must pull his own rope, and that all in the belfry or in the parish should pull together in harmony. and that as in the belfry though the ringers were not seen, yet the effects of their efforts were known by the sound of the bells without, so also their influence was felt in the family and social circle, and he trusted that it would ever be for good.

The Rev. F. Hudson, Mr. Stroud, and M. L. Baynham, responded to toasts, and an enjoyable evening was spent.

SUSSEX CHURCH BELLS.

A paper was read before the Eastbourne Natural History Society recently by Mr. H. Michell-Whitley, on "Sussex Church Bells and Bell Legends." In the course of a deeply interesting and exhaustive paper Mr. Whitley observed that the church bell was introduced into England about the year 680, and the first peal was put up by Abbot Tinkital in Crowland Abbey about the year 870. The most ancient bell in England would appear to be that at Lanhydrock, Cornwall, with the inscription "The gift of Athelstan, for his soul," although it may have been recast in mediæval times. There is no bell in Sussex with a like inscription, although it possesses one at Duncton dated 1369. In former times bells were cast by ecclesiastics, and afterwards at regular foundries and by itinerant bell founders. Hailsham bells were cast there, and Eastbourne bells were recast at Chiddingly in 1651. After being cast the bells were baptised and exhorted to be efficacious in driving away all hurtful things. At the time of the Reformation many bells were destroyed, but "clocking," careless freaks, and the custom of recasting the bells into peals of lighter weight and larger number, to adapt them to change-ringing, will account for the small number of mediæval bells left in Sussex. Many again were sold to defray various expenses, and one of the Berwick bells hangs in Alfriston steeple, having been disposed of to that parish, the local rhyme running—

The parson was poor, and also the people,
So they sold their bells to repair their steeple.

The earliest legends are short, often only the name of the saint appearing, after whom the bell was called. In later years the invocation, "pray for us," was added, and such legends as the following appear:—

I am called Katherine, and sound the rose of the world;
My living voice drives away all hurtful things.

The Gabriel bell at Lewes is inscribed: "Sent from God, I bear the name of Gabriel." At East Dean is a bell bearing a legend in Latin, meaning—

Surely no bell beneath the sky
Can send forth better sounds than I.

At Alfriston and Folkington are bells inscribed, "The voice of Augustine sounds in the ear of God." These mediæval legends were, as a rule, reverent, but in post-Reformation times a different feeling obtained. Treble bells in Sussex often bore the words—

I mean to make it understood,
That though I'm little, yet I'm good.

While for a tenor, the inscription on that of St. Nicholas, Brighton, is common:—

I to the church the living call,
And to the grave do summon all.

Sometimes a previous failure in casting is recorded. "Joseph Carter made me bettrer" is on a bell at West Hoathly. Bells were put to various uses. In some churches the sanctus bell still hangs in its bell-cote over the chancel arch. This was also used as the chantry bell when there was one in the church. The power of bells to drive away evil spirits and to disperse storms is also an old superstition. In some places the Devil's knell is rung on Christmas Eve, the legend being that he died when Christ was born. The most pleasing of all old bell customs is the ringing of the Curfew bell, which is still kept up at Hailsham, Mayfield, and Hastings, although discontinued at Eastbourne. Many pleasing traditions attach to our church bells. St. Gregory's bell, formerly at Eastbourne, now hangs in a church in sunny Normandy, being carried off one night by French marauders. The bells of Rye were carried away when the French sacked that town in the fifteenth century, but were recovered the next year by the hardy mariners of the port. Under the waters of the moat which formerly encircled Etchingham church lies a great bell, which will never be seen until six yoke of white oxen are employed to bring it to daylight. Another sunken bell lies in the Ouse, near Uckfield, and the lost bells of Bosham still join in the village peal from the depths of bell hole, where they sunk with sacreligious Danish pirates, who were bearing them away centuries ago.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.—NOTICE OF A LONG PEAL.

Eight members of the Sussex County Association will attempt to ring W. Harrison's 10,176 of Treble Bob Major, on Monday, February 2nd., to start about twelve o'clock.

HENRY H. CHANDLER.

Who's Who says that the oldest prelate of the Church of England is the Bishop of Chichester, aged eighty-eight; the youngest, the Bishop of St. Asaph, aged forty-one. The oldest prelate of the Church of Ireland is the Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of all Ireland, aged eighty-three; the youngest, the Bishop of Cork, Cloyne, and Ross, aged fifty-six. The oldest prelate of the Scotch Episcopal Church is the Bishop of St. Andrew's, aged eighty-four; the youngest, the Bishop of Argyll and the Isles, aged forty-nine.

Owing to the rapid growth of population in the parish of St. Mary's, Lewisham, it has been decided to erect a new church at the cost of about £8000. Lord Dartmouth has given a suitable site, and £2000 has already been raised. The parish has a population of 4000, a considerable proportion of which is of the poorer working class.

ST. ALBAN'S CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this society was held at the rectory on Friday evening, January 9th. The president (Ven. Archdeacon Lawrence) occupied the chair, there being also present Messrs. H. L. Waddington, W. Battle, G. W. Cartmel, J. C. Mitchell, E. R. Mitchell, T. Long, J. E. Randall, R, Hammond, and E. Chapman. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the secretary submitted the report for the past year. The treasurer also brought forward his statement of accounts, showing a balance in hand, and this was received. The next business on the agenda was the election of officers. Mr. W. Battle was unanimously re-elected treasurer, and Mr. H. L. Waddington was honored by his re-election as secretary. Messrs. J. C. Michell and T. Long were elected to serve on the committee. Mr. G. W. Cartmel was appointed conductor for the ensuing year by the president. Mr. J. C. Mitchell brought forward a motion for the adoption of a short office, or service, previous to the commencement of ringing, which on being seconded by Mr. Waddington, was agreed to. The Bishop of St. Albans has consented to become patron of the society.

PENZANCE, CORNWALL.

On Tuesday, January 20th, the change-ringing band of St. Mary, Penzance, with the addition of one or two musical though non-ringing friends, were invited by Mr. Symons to supper at the Western Hotel. The company sat down to a very substantial repast, Mr. Symons being in the chair, and the Vicar, the Rev. Prebendary Hedgland, in the vice-chair. After supper, there were some touches on the handbells, interspersed with vocal and instrumental music, till the guests separated at about 11 o'clock, after spending a very pleasant and harmonious evening. It need hardly be said that the change-ringers of St. Mary's are most grateful to Mr. Symons for the unwearied interest which he continues to take in the welfare of the band, nor is it too much to say that its present efficiency is mainly owing to his personal exertions and kindness.

ST. EDMUND'S, SALISBURY.

A report of the first peal rung at this church will be seen in its proper place. The ring originally consisted of six bells, cast by William Purdue and Nathaniel Bolter (celebrated founders of this city in 1656); but the second was recast by Robert Wells, of Aldbourne, in 1744, and the fourth by C. and J. Mears in 1846. In 1884 two trebles were added by Mears, the second being the munificent gift of Mr. E. A. Foster, then a ringer at this church, but who is now living at Corsham, Wilts. The ringing-floor being close to the bells, the noise is very great, thus rendering the accomplishment of a peal by no means an easy matter. The tenor requires a considerable amount of strength, and Mr. Greenleaf performed no mean feat in ringing it through the peal, and at the same time striking the bell excellently.

The Archbishop of Canterbury on Friday week opened the hall which has been erected in memory of the late vicar of Croydon, the Rev. J. M. Braithwaite. The new hall, which is to be used as a lecture room and gymnasium, is in connection with the Croydon Church Institute. The Rev. G. C. Fisher, vicar of Croydon, explained the history of the institute and the movement which had resulted in the erection of the hall, remarking that they had carried out the cherished and strongly-expressed wish of the late Mr. Braithwaite. The Archbishop said that allusion had been made to an event which they all felt was a personal blow. He himself would never forget the grief with which he received the intelligence that one who seemed so full of life, so full of energy, and so full of Christian sweetness was no more. The usefulness of that institute had been enormously increased by what they had added to it, and he hoped that the room would be the scene of a great deal of very sincere and very true Church work. The Mayor of Croydon proposed, and the Rev. O. B. Byers seconded, a vote of thanks to the Primate at the close.

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To the Editor of "The Bell News and Ringers' Record."

SEVEN-BELL PEALS.

Sir,—Mr. Woodley's criticism is not strengthened at all by his letter of last week. He simply says seven-bell peals are no good, but he does not produce anything to prove his assertion. If his opinion is such that cannot be altered, we must have something more than this; I for one can change mine. I think if a gentleman takes the trouble to criticise any performance, he should be in a position to give a satisfactory explanation of the cause, and up to the present nothing by way of explanation ever appeared in any letters or articles yet written in "The Bell News." Mr. Woodley opened fire, and I look to him to give us proof why it is unmusical and also degrading to performers.

Pully Haulie.

Obituary.

JOSEPH BUMBY.

We have to record the death of this well-known ringer and lover of bells and ringing, of Rothwell, near Leeds, Yorks, at the ripe old age of seventy-seven years. The deceased died on Friday, January 16th, and was interred on the Sunday after. The funeral was largely attended, the streets on the way to, and the church being quite full. The procession was headed by the members of the deceased's Friendly Society, of which he was president for thirty-seven years, followed by the brass bands of which he was one of the founders in 1838. The deceased commenced ringing with the coming of the bells fifty-four years since, and rang for the coronation of the Queen, and taking part in the Jubilee of Her Majesty, he rung the treble in some Arnold's Victory, which was his last ringing. The bells were deeply muffled, and a 704 of Treble Bob Major was rung while the procession walked to the church, time not admitting of any more. The bells were rung muffled for evening service, 960 of Oxford Treble Bob being rung. Also on Monday evening, January 19th, a muffled peal of 5040 changes was rung, particulars of which appear in their proper place. The methods rung formed the last 5040 which the deceased rang in thirty-four years since for the twentieth anniversary of the bells. The deceased took part in a peal of over 6000 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major rung at Pontefract some years ago.

JOHN FIDDAMENT.

On Friday, January 16th, the above ringer died of consumption, after about fourteen weeks' illness, aged thirty-two years. He had been connected with the St. Peter Mancroft society for upwards of twelve years, and also with the Norwich Diocesan Association from its beginning in 1877. He commenced to learn the art at an early age (about sixteen), with an opposition company practising at St. Mary's and St. Miles, but after a few years with this Bob Minor company, the twelve at St. Peter Mancroft attracted his attention, and he ultimately was chosen one of the twelve ringers for that church in August 1880. He had taken part in nine peals of 5000 changes, the last being a peal of Grandsire Caters on October 13th, at St. Peter Mancroft, being the only one he has conducted, and having rung only once on the bells since. He was a boot and shoe finisher by trade, living in the parish of St. Benedict. He was interred at the Norwich Cemetery. He leaves a wife and three children.

Penarth (Glamorganshire).—On Saturday, January 17th, at the parish church, with the bells half-muffled, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles (each called differently) was rung as a last token of respect to the late Richard Linnington, who was verger for twenty-four years, from the opening of the church until recently, and who died on the previous Tuesday, aged 78 years. J. Vinnicombe (conductor), 1; W. Voisy, 2; J. Jones, 3; D. Thomas, 4; T. Northey, 5; H. Barcombe, 6. The following also took part in the ringing. J. Vinnicombe, 1; D. Thomas, 2; J. Jones, 3; W. Freeman (conductor), 4; F. Bartlett 5; T. Northey, 6.

ANTIQUE CARVED OAK FURNITURE.—Purchasers can buy direct from the villages The advertiser has for disposal for cottagers and others, a large carved oak hall cabinet, £7; carved oak grandfather's hall clock (brass face), £4; carved hall settle, high carved back box seat for rugs, £4 10s.; carved oak writing-table fitted with escritoire, £4; carved oak hall table, £1 10s.; carved oak dower chest, £2; very small ditto, 15s.; carved oak Cromwellian hall chair, £2 10. Hon. Sec., The Poplars Institute, Newport Pagnell.

CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.—RINGERS' DINNER.

On Monday evening, January 19th, the first annual dinner in connection with the present Society of ringers was held at the "Eagle" Inn, West Street. The Venerable Archdeacon Mount presided, being supported right and left by the Mayor (Dr. Paxton), Mr. Alderman Greene, Rev. J. F. Birkett, and Mr. A. S. Bostock. Mr. Walters, the leader of the ringers, was in the vice-chair. The company, which included many visitors, numbered about fifty. After dinner the usual loyal toasts were proposed from the chair and duly honoured. Mr. Alderman Greene proposed "The health of the Bishop and Clergy," to which the Chairman made a graceful response. Mr. A. S. Bostock followed with "The health of the member for the division" (Lord Walter Gordon Lennox, M.P.), and said he trusted it would be a long time before the ringers were called upon to ring upon the occasion of the election of another member.

Mr. G. Tippen, a member of the company of ringers, proposed "The health of the Mayor and Corporation," and expressed gratification at seeing so many members of the Corporation present, with His Worship the Mayor at their head. He hoped that the great work to which the Council had set its hand would be effectually carried out, and said if the city was not effectually drained it was certain that the pockets of the citizens would be.

The Mayor, who was cordially received, said he was glad to notice members of the Council of all ways of thinking supporting the chair. It would be clear that if they could not all be right they certainly could not all be wrong. He was glad to be there in support of a Society who did justice to the bells of the Cathedral, which were an ornament to the city.

Mr. Farley gave "The Visitors," and said it was a compliment to the ringers to see so many present.

The Rev. M. Edwards, of Petersfield, appropriately returned thanks.

Mr. W. Gale, another member of the late Guild, proposed "The health of the present ringers," and while giving hearty wishes for the success of that body, said it was very gratifying to notice the improvement which was constantly observable in the ringing of the Cathedral bells.

Mr. Walters, whose name was coupled with the toast, acknowledged the compliment, and expressed the pleasure it gave him to see so many of the old Guild present, as it showed a good feeling existed between the past and present ringers. He thought the Cathedral ringers should hold their own with those of other churches in the diocese, especially in the art of change-ringing, and announced, amid applause, that the Rev. J. F. Birkett, who was an experienced change-ringer, had joined the Society.

After a touch on the handbells, the Rev. J. F. Birkett proposed "The health of the Chairman," and spoke of the kindness which the Archdeacon had constantly shewn to the ringers.

The toast was warmly welcomed, and the Archdeacon, in returning thanks, remarked that ever since he had been a clergyman he had taken an interest in bells and bell-ringers. At Cuckfield he got together an excellent band of ringers; and anything he had done towards accomplishing the same result in Chichester, he had done with a very willing heart. As had been remarked before that evening, they had a splendid ring of bells, and more than that, they had got what could not be found in any other city in England, namely, a bell tower built apart from the Cathedral. Formerly magnificent campaniles stood in connection with several other cathedrals, but except that at Chichester all had been demolished. They might, therefore, be proud of having the only bell tower of its kind in England, containing one of the finest peals of bells, and he would fain hope one of the finest sets of ringers. It had been very gratifying to him to notice from time to time how very much improved the ringers had become, and thought it spoke well for their industry. He would give them all the encouragement he could; and they had much encouragement that evening in seeing the Mayor and so many of their fellow-citizens present. The Archdeacon shortly afterwards quitted the chair, after a pleasant convivial evening had been spent. The singing of Mr. Walter Turner, Mr. Firth Bailey, and Mr. Cussons, assisted by Mr. Maltby, in the comic department, was much applauded.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—DISTRICT MEETING AT RENDHAM.

The third quarterly meeting of the Saxmundham District was held at Rendham on Saturday, January 24th. There were about twenty-five members present from Aldeburgh, Leiston, Saxmundham, Kelsale, Benhall, Rendham, Swefling, and Great Glemham. The bells of the adjoining parish church of Swefling were most kindly placed at the disposal of the ringers by the rector, the Rev. H. Ruxton, and were kept going at intervals during the afternoon and evening, various touches of Plain Bob, Grandsire Minor, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor being successfully brought round.

The business meeting was held at six o'clock, presided over by Mr. F. Cooper, when two names were enrolled as new members of the Association. Two peals have been rung since the last meeting, both at Leiston. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Saxmunndam on April 4th. It was much regretted that the vicar of Rendham, the Rev. George Ensor, refused permission for the use of the Rendham bells—a peal recently restored and increased to six—and considerable comment arose upon the vicar's subsequent action, in having a few days' prior to the meeting expressed his being willing to allow the bells to be rung, but subject to some very extreme condition, to wit; "that no member of your company visit the Rendham or other public-house in this neighbourhood on the day or evening of your visit; nor that any of my ringers be invited to enter a public-house on that evening." Such conditions were considered most unreasonable and inconvenient, particularly to those who arrived in conveyances, and the result was that the tower was closed. The Chairman announced that the landlady of the Rendham public-house, by whom it has been conducted during the past forty years, had of her own free will, subscribed and collected about £4 towards the restoration of the peal, and feelings of indignation were freely expressed. Some excellent ringing on the handbells, on which various touches of Plain Bob, Oxford Treble Bob Major, Grandsire Triples, Caters, and Cinques, were successfully brought round. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to the Rev. H. Ruxton for his kindness in granting the use of the Swefling bells, which brought to a close a highly successful meeting, marred only by the circumstances before referred to.

BAGBOROUGH, SOMERSETSHIRE.

For some time past the bells of this prettily-situated parish church have been silent while undergoing a partial restoration. The old beams in the tower, upon which the bell-cage rested, were in a most unsafe condition, old age and hard work for generations past having visibly told upon them. It is to be regretted that sufficient funds were not forthcoming to allow of a complete restoration. Still, what has been done will make the bells pealable for many years to come. All the bells have been fitted with strong new oak wheels, new stays and sliders, and new stocks to the 1st, 3rd, 4th, and 5th. The bells are a good ring of six, with a rich-toned tenor weighing about a ton. A curious inscription somewhat is found on the 2nd, which is as follows:—

> "Boeth ould and young did agree full well,
> To pay for casting of this bell,
> Because a true tall it should tell."

Thursday, the 22nd instant, was fixed for the re-opening, and during the afternoon, besides the local ringers, Stogumber, Bishops Lydeard, Dunster, Minehead, and Old Cleeve bands of ringers were represented. The bells were raised in peal by six of the Stogumber and Bagborough ringers, who tapped some very good rounds and then lowered the bells equally well. By this time several of the members of the Dunster and Minehead societies had arrived, and the first 6-score of Grandsire Doubles ever rang on the bells soon became an accomplished fact. Several more 6-scores in the same method soon followed, and two or three courses of Grandsire Minor (the first Minor ever rang upon them) were also brought round. The bells were kept going during the remainder of the evening by fixed bands, a plain course of Stedman Doubles being rung by the Stogumber band. The "go" of the bells is very satisfactory, and a general feeling of pleasure is experienced throughout this quiet little village at once more hearing the sound of the church bells.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

"Ex fumo dare lucem."

I submitted last week's paper to an old friend of mine, who is a photographer of no mean repute, with the request that he would pass his opinion upon the last of our portraits which it contains. On returning it, he said he was unable to decide whether Mr. Motts' portrait or his record of ringing achievements was most to be commended. Both, in his opinion, were really excellent. And, frankly speaking, my own ideas ran pretty much in the same groove; so, all things considered, while friend Motts has come in for gratification at his faithful presentment, the Exercise has reason to be proud of him as a talented and energetic brother-string.

* * * * *

We have been prone to complain (and not without reason) of the scant recognition of our work as ringers by parsons, churchwardens, and other "persons of high degree" in the Church. Fortunately, however, if reports which we read from time to time are any indication, this complaint gets gradually less ground. Not long ago, we were told of both Wardens at Bradfield (if I am not mistaken) who had commenced learning to ring and mastered a 720 of Minor, one of whom I believe has since taken part in a peal of Major. The last week's paper is also not without evidences of an improved state of things in this direction, which are pleasing to note. It is most ardently to be hoped that examples such as that of Mr. Davies, of Barking, as a Church official, and of Mr. Henry Stubbings, at Birmingham, will become more extensively followed. By this means (I scarcely need add) benefit will accrue both to the ringers and to the Church on whose behalf their services are given. Time works wonders, is an old saying, but there is likewise no disputing the fact that Father Time's performances are often accelerated by our own actions and conduct. In this case, I believe that the active co-operation of influential churchmen with us depends in a great measure with ourselves. The line of demarcation which so generally exists has been drawn more from inattention on the one hand, and exclusiveness on the other, than any real opposition; and moreover, both parties have helped to draw that line. So the more we set about obliterating it, the sooner it will disappear; and thus Father Time's wonder-working powers be very materially assisted.

* * * * *

A brother-string, who is so modest that he "particularly desires I will not give publicity to his name," writes me a long and rather humorous letter on the disputed seven-bell peal question. In fact, had I not known the contrary to be fact, I might have been tempted to imagine that it was our versatile friend Joshua who had penned the epistle. He commences by saying that he is a "good bit bothered" on this point, as to where the rule comes in, and where the line is to be drawn about odd-bell ringing. If ringing Triples without the covering tenor is to be regarded as a "worthless performance," he wants to know if the same rule applies to ringing Doubles in the same way. There is a tower somewhere in his neighbourhood with a ring of five, where the local company are in the habit of pulling off six-scores in various methods, and reporting the same in "The Bell News." These performances, he says, have never to his knowledge been condemned by authorities—secretarial or otherwise—and thus if it is so criminal to ring Triples or Caters without cover, does the same apply to Doubles? To be consistent, he thinks it should; and therefore the local band in question ought to be sat upon—pulverised, in fact—for daring to ring Doubles. until they had got another bell, so that they might have the cover behind. Then again, he wants to know (he is evidently an inquisitive sort of individual) if there is any rule in existence which compels the *tenor* to drum behind. Suppose a band meeting for a peal found it convenient, or had a fancy, to ring the back seven in, with the treble in front or behind all through, or even took any other bell for that purpose, would that he asks, bring the peal under the same category and condemnation as those rung without cover at all? The fifteen puzzle he considers is'nt in it with this problem. But being a ringer in a little country place far away from the "great Metropolis," he is ignorant of the ringing morality in that "centre of things good, bad, and indifferent, and depot of the wisdom of the world," so is unable to form an adequate or correct opinion, recent correspondence notwithstanding.

* * * * *

Is there any one amongst us skilled in the art of solving problems or working out conundrums, who will oblige my epistolary friend with some elucidation of the mystery which seems to trouble him so much? Perhaps friend Joshua, in the exuberance of his wisdom, might bring his powerful electric light to bear upon it, and thus lighten my friend's darkness and give ease to his troubled mind.

* * * * *

I am much pleased in being able for another time to refer to the Society of Trinity Youths, and congratulate them on the success which has attended their efforts during the last twelve months. At the same time I hope the Master's address will receive careful attention by others besides those to whom it was primarily addressed. There are some nuts of good sense in it that will bear cracking by many—of whom I might add, the sooner they cracked them the better, both for themselves and others.

* * * * *

I was glad to see in last week's number the report of a 5040 in seven different methods (I had almost written "peal," but our Editor objects to the word, and rightly in such cases) by the Walton-on-the-Hill branch of the Lancashire Association. The attainment of this has been a great object, I know, with the worthy steeple-keeper and conductor of Walton. But the drawbacks he has experienced in its pursuit has been of such a nature, and so often repeated, that I should not have wondered to have heard that he had abandoned it in despair. Those people who can draw upon any number of experienced ringers and ring a peal every day will fail to see, perhaps, much in this particular performance. Of course not. They are not compelled to depend upon the training of a few village lads, who as soon as they have learnt to ring emigrate to some other part of the country. This, with other drawbacks, has repeatedly arisen in the case under consideration for about five years. It is certainly a notable instance of "Try again!" and I commend it to the notice of my readers who are periodically disheartened by those failures which are our common lot. FREE LANCE.

THE LATE HENRY BOOTH.—We are very pleased in being able to announce that photographs of the late Henry Booth may be obtained, price 6d., post-free, of Mr. George Dorrington, 18, Church-row, Bethnal-green, London. Mr. Booth was a few years ago a very prominent London ringer, and took very high rank as a bob-caller in various methods. He rang the 4th in the famed peal of 15,840 of Kent Treble Bob Major, at the church of St. Matthew, Bethnal Green, in 1868. A short obituary notice of him (written by the editor of this paper) appeared in *Church Bells* at the time of his death, about eleven years ago.

JASPER W. SNOWDON'S WORKS.

ROPESIGHT: 1s. 6d. OUT OF PRINT. A FOURTH EDITION NOW IN PREPARATION.

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 a 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 1854 78 pages).

A few copies are still left of "*An Account of the Society of Union Scholars.*" (49 pages). Post free, 3½d.

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.

SHIPWAY'S ART OF CHANGE-RINGING.—A REPRINT. The largest work ever published on ringing. The three parts complete in one Volume, handsomely bound in Cloth. Price 6s. 6d.
E. W. ALLEN, Ave Maria lane, London.

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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, JANUARY 31, 1891.

BELOW will be found information respecting the Central Council, which perhaps has been looked for by those interested. Those bodies who send delegates may now see what is required of them, and we shall not be out of place in advising that the information desired be forwarded without delay. The nominations for the post of Hon. Secretary will we hope only be made after mature consideration. The office will be an important one, and the selection should be guided only by the possession of the necessary qualifications. There are one or two young members of the Council whose ability in discussion at the last meeting was somewhat noticeable, and no doubt either of them would fill the post with credit, and loyally co-operate with the President in increasing the popularity and usefulness of the Council.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The Hon. Secretaries of Ringing Societies who have not yet forwarded the names of their Representatives on the Central Council are requested to communicate the necessary particulars at once to the Hon. Sec. (*pro tem.*), Mr. A. Percival Heywood, Duffield Bank, near Derby, in order that a complete list may be forthwith published. In cases where the requisite information has been forwarded without the fee, it is requested that the necessary amount be promptly remitted. The following is the full return required from each Society:—

1.—Names and addresses of Representatives.
2.—Total number of members on books.
3.—Fee of 2s. 6d. for each Representative.

The Council will meet in London on Easter Tuesday, March 31st, and the first business will be the election of a President and Hon. Secretary. Only those gentlemen who have been previously nominated in accordance with rule VII. will be eligible. Nominations, signed by two Representatives, must be sent into the above address not less than one clear month before the day

of meeting, so as to appear upon the agenda paper which will be published in these columns early in March.

All subjects proposed for discussion must be forwarded in writing, signed by two Representatives, before the end of February. Any subject notified after that date can only be entertained by special resolution of the meeting.

The earnest co-operation of Hon. Secretaries and Representatives will be invaluable in advancing the arrangements for the first meeting of the Council.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Friday, January 20, 1891, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES, CLERKENWELL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' ONE-PART. Tenor 22 cwt.

W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM	*Treble.*	CHALLIS F. WINNY	5.
FRANCIS L. DAVIES	2.	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN	6.
WILLIAM E. GARRARD	3.	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL	7.
EDWARD E. RICHARDS	4.	WILLIAM CROPLEY	*Tenor.*

Conducted by FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

This is the first time this composition has been called from the 6th.

GREENWICH, KENT.—THE SOCIETY OF TRINITY YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, January 27, 1891, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

JOHN JAMES LAMB*	*Treble.*	THOMAS TAYLOR	5.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE	2.	WILLIAM BEDWELL	6.
JOHN ROSE	3.	EDWARD E. RICHARDS	7.
FREDERICK W. THORNTON	4.	WILLIAM GEORGE DAVIS	*Tenor.*

Conducted by JOHN JAMES LAMB.

*First peal as conductor. Rung to celebrate the 60th birthday of W. G. Davis.

The Provinces.

MONEWDEN, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, January 16, 1891, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being 720 each of the following:

Morning Exercise, Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Double Court Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Bob Minor.

Tenor 6 cwt.

STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN.	*Treble.*	WILLIAM G. CRICKMER	4.
ALFRED WIGHTMAN	2.	GEORGE WIGHTMAN	5.
HORACE BEDINGFIELD	3.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, SEN.	*Tenor.*

Conducted by GEORGE WIGHTMAN.

ROTHWELL, NEAR LEEDS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 19, 1891, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

5040 CHANGES IN SEVEN DIFFERENT METHODS UPON SIX BELLS;

Being 720 each of the following;

College Pleasure, New London Pleasure, City Delight, Arnold's Victory, Duke of York, Violet and Oxford. Tenor 14 cwt.

WALTER CHAPMAN	*Treble.*	ALFRED CHAPMAN	4.
J. C. ABBISHAW	2.	WILLIAM ABBISHAW	5.
GEORGE ABBISHAW	3.	J. M. CHADWICK	*Tenor.*

Conducted by J. M. CHADWICK.

The above peal was rung muffled for Mr. Joseph Bumby.

BASINGSTOKE, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD,

On Wednesday, January 21, 1891, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

THOMAS PAGE	*Treble.*	THOMAS CURTIS	5.
JOHN BALLARD	2.	HENRY WHITE	6.
FREDERICK WILSON	3.	JOHN W. WHITING	7.
STEPHEN POWELL	4.	ARTHUR KNIGHT	*Tenor.*

Conducted by HENRY WHITE.

Rung on the occasion of the marriage of Miss Florence May, of Brook House, Basingtoke, and Mr. Noel Steadman Ashby, of Eling, Southampton. J. W. Whiting hails from Fareham.

WEST BROMWICH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Thursday, January 22, 1891, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5076 CHANGES.

Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qrs. 12 lbs.

HENRY HIPKISS	*Treble.*	JAMES GEORGE	6.
WILLIAM R. SMALL	2.	CHARLES PRICE	7.
THOMAS HORTON	3.	REUBEN HALL	8.
HARRY MILLS	4.	SAMUEL REEVES	9.
WILLIAM LONG	5.	JAMES HALL	*Tenor.*

Composed by the late H. JOHNSON of Birmingham, and Conducted by SAMUEL REEVES.

The peal has the fifth and sixth each 24 courses behind the ninth. Mr. George hails from Rugby; W. Long from Perry Barr; and the rest from West Bromwich.

BRIGHTON.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE BRIGHTON PARISH CHURCH BRANCH.)

On Thursday, January 22, 1891, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES. Tenor 10½ cwt.

JOHN JAY, SEN.	*Treble.*	GEORGE A. KING	5.
JOHN R. REILLY	2.	GEORGE WILLIAMS	6.
ARTHUR A. FULLER	3.	HENRY WESTON	7.
EDWARD C. MERRITT	4.	GEORGE F. ATTREE	*Tenor.*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON and Conducted by G. F. ATTREE.

The above is the first peal in the method by all the band; the first in the county, and by eight members of the above Association. It was rung at the second attempt.

TIRLEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

On Friday, January 23, 1891, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

FORTY-TWO 6-SCORES OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, EACH 6-SCORE CALLED DIFFERENTLY.

WILLIAM BALL*	*Treble.*	*ALBERT HARTLAND	4.
LIONEL LONGNEY	2.	*BENJAMIN PRICE	5.
JOHN CHAMBERLAIN*	3.	*EDMUND CHAMBERLAIN	*Tenor.*

Conducted by LIONEL LONGNEY.

*First 5040. First 5040 on the bells. The conductor hails from Croome; the rest are local men.

BROMLEY, KENT.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, January 24, 1891, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' ONE-PART. Tenor 18 cwt.

W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM	*Treble.*	FREDERICK G. NEWMAN	5.
HERBERT P. HARMAN*	2.	WILLIAM E. GARRARD	6.
CHALLIS F. WINNY	3.	FREDERICK J. FRENCH	7.
FRANCIS L. DAVIES	4.	HENRY G. FRUIN	*Tenor.*

Conducted by FREDERICK G. NEWMAN.

*First peal in the method. This is the first peal of Stedman on the bells, and the first time this composition has been called from the 5th.

SALISBURY, WILTS.—THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, January 23, 1891, in Two Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF W. W. GIFFORD, DEVIZES ROAD,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 17 size in A.

ROBERTO W. J. GOLLOP 1-2.	WALTER S. WISE.. .. 5-6.
WILLIAM W. GIFFORD .. 3-4.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. 7-8.

Conducted by WALTER S. WISE.

SAFFRON WALDEN.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, January 23, 1891, in Three Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5248 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. *Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

GEORGE PRIOR* .. .. ..*Treble.*	ERNEST A. PITSTOW .. 5.
WALTER PRIOR .. .. .. 2.	GEORGE TAYLOR .. .. 6.
ARTHUR JAMES .. .. .. 3.	FREDERICK PITSTOW .. 7.
HENRY PRIOR .. .. .. 4.	CAPT. A. P. MOORE ..*Tenor.*

Composed by H. DAINS, and Conducted by FREDK. PITSTOW.

Capt. Moore hails from Redenhall, Norfolk; G. Taylor from Cambridge, and Messrs. Prior from Stanstead Mountfitchet, the rest are local men. The above was rung after an attempt for a peal of Double Norwich Court. *First peal in the method.

UPTON ST. LEONARDS, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 24, 1891, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

HURRY'S FIVE-PART. Tenor 17¾ cwt. in F.

HENRY G. GARDNER.. ..*Treble.*	HENRY MITCHELL .. .. 5.
JAMES E. GROVES* .. .. 2.	†JOHN HOPTON .. .. .. 6.
JOSEPH YEATES†.. .. .. 3.	†THOMAS GROVES .. .. 7.
HENRY BRAWN†.. .. .. 4.	ALFRED A. WAITE .. ..*Tenor.*

Conducted by ALFRED A. WAITE.

†First peal of Major. *First peal of Major with a bob bell.

SALISBURY, WILTS.—THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 24, 1891, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 27 cwt. in C♯.

SIDNEY MACEY .. .. ..*Treble.*	FRANCIS RIGDEN .. .. 5.
HENRY D. ADAMS .. .. 2.	WALTER S. WISE .. .. 6.
WILLIAM J. PRINCE .. .. 3.	WILLIAM W GIFFORD .. 7.
SYDNEY LAWRENCE .. .. 4.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF ..*Tenor.*

Conducted by WALTER S. WISE.

First peal on the bells. A note respecting this peal will be found on another page.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, January 24, 1891, in Three Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5129 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE ..*Treble.*	†WILLIAM P. GARRETT .. 6.
F. OSWALD MOULE* .. .. 2.	†JAMES MOTTS .. .. .. 7.
ISAAC S. ALEXANDER.. .. 3.	†ALBERT E. DURRANT .. 8.
WILLIAM MOTTS† .. .. 4.	†FREDERICK TILLETT .. 9.
ROBERT H. BRUNDLE .. 5.	EDGAR PEMBERTON .. ..*Tenor.*

Composed by H. HUBBARD and Conducted by W. L. CATCHPOLE.

*First peal. †First peal of Grandsire Caters on tower bells.

HOME CURE FOR DEAFNESS.—A book by a noted Aural Surgeon, describing a System of Curing Deafnessand Noises in the Head, by which a self-cure is effected at home. The Rev. D. H. W. Harlock, of the Parsonage, Milton-under-Wychwood, writes: "Try the System by all means: it is first rate, and has been of the *utmost service* to me." Post free 4d. De Vere and Co., Publishers, 22, Warwick Lane, London, E.C.

WOOLTON.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(LIVERPOOL BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 24, 1891, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt.

CHARLES WILLIAMS .. ..*Treble.*	WILLIAM DAVIES .. .. 5.
JOHN BROWN .. .. .. 2.	ROBERT WILLIAMS .. .. 6.
WILLIAM JAMES .. .. .. 3.	THOMAS HAMMOND .. .. 7.
JOHN ASPINWALL .. .. 4.	*JAMES MARTIN .. .. ..*Tenor.*

Composed by ROBERT WILLIAMS and Conducted by THOMAS HAMMOND.

†First peal in the method. Also first in the method on the bells, and rang in honour of the birthdays of Thomas Hammond, William Booth, and churchwarden J. J. Blabey, Esq.

SHEFFIELD, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 24, 1891, in Three Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARIE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt.

THOMAS DIXON .. .. ..*Treble.*	CHARLES A. FOX .. .. 5.
HENRY WARD .. .. .. 2.	WILLIAM BIGGIN .. .. 6.
JOSEPH ATKIN .. .. .. 3.	ROBERT HARRISSON .. .. 7.
GEORGE O. DIXON .. .. 4.	CHARLES JACKSON .. ..*Tenor.*

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY, and Conducted by C. JACKSON, of Hull.

This peal, which is in two parts, contains the sixth its extent in 5-6.

DISS, NORFOLK.—THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 24, 1891, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 24 cwt.

WILLIAM IRELAND .. ..*Treble.*	ELLIS HAYWARD .. .. 5.
CHARLES WEBSTER .. .. 2.	ARTHUR HAMMOND .. .. 6.
GEORGE ARCHER.. .. .. 3.	ABEL HART .. .. .. 7.
WILLIAM SALTER .. .. 4.	JOHN SOUTER .. .. ..*Tenor.*

Composed by W. HARRISON and Conducted by W. IRELAND.

A. Hammond hails from Burston, and this is his first peal.

LIVERSEDGE, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, January 24, 1891, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

J. W. LANG.. .. .. ..*Treble.*	H. BROOKE.. .. .. .. 5.
J. KNOTT .. .. 2.	J. BARRACLOUGH .. .. 6.
L. ILLINGWORTH .. .. 3.	H. KAYE .. .. 7.
S. GOODALL.. .. .. .. 4.	W. COLLINS .. .. ..*Tenor.*

Composed by the late O. LANG, of Liversedge, and Conducted by L. ILLINGWORTH.

Barraclough and Kaye hail from Huddersfield. Kaye's first peal.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 27, 1891, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

MR. A. P. HEYWOOD'S No. 1. (AS A 10-PART). Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qrs. 24 lbs.

GEORGE GATLAND .. ..*Treble.*	WM. N. HOLT .. .. .. 5.
JOHN SMART* .. .. .. 2.	JAMES MATTHEWS .. .. 6.
THOMAS SEARLE* .. .. 3.	CHARLES TYLER .. .. 7.
CHARLES SMART.. .. .. 4.	GEORGE SMART .. .. ..*Tenor.*

Conducted by CHAS. TYLER.

*First peal in the method. This peal is now rung for the first time in Sussex.

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.

Date Touches.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

STANSTED (Essex).—On Wednesday, January 14th, at the parish church of St. Mary the Virgin, a date touch of 1891 changes, in 1 hr. 3 mins. in the following methods: 91 Plain Bob Minor, 360 Woodbine Treble Bob, 720 London Scholars' Pleasure, 720 College Exercise. G. Gray, 1; I. Hammond, 2; T. J. Watts, 3; I. Cavill, 4; J. Luckey, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt. The 91 of Plain Bob was composed by I. Cavill. This makes W. Watts' 400th 720. And on Thursday, January 8th, at the residence of Mr. C. Prior, on handbells, a date touch (1891 changes), consisting of 451 Plain Bob Doubles, 360 Hudibras, 360 St. Dunstan's, 360 Antelope, 360 Grandsire in 50 mins. G. Prior, 1-2; H. Prior (conductor), 3-4; W. Prior, 5-6. Longest on handbells by all.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

UPTON-ON-SEVERN.—On Friday, January 16th, five members of the Hanley Castle Society paid a visit to this place, and with L. Longney, of Croome, rang a date touch of 1891 Grandsire Doubles, each 6-score called differently, in 1 hr. 5 mins. T. Hill, 1; L. Longney (conductor), 2; F. Lane, 3; A. Pitt, 4; W. Tarling, 5; W. Worthington, 6. The above, which was rung on F. Lane's birthday, is the longest touch on the bells, which are a peal of six, and not eight, as stated in "THE BELL NEWS" by a well-known ringer some time ago.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—Recently at St. Paul's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1890 changes), in 1 hr. 10 mins. J. Spencer, 1; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 2; S. Constant, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; I. Hills, 5; M. Warwick, 6; W. G. Biggs, 7; F. Keech, 8. Tenor 27 cwt. Composed by John Carter, of Birmingham, and contains the Queens, Tittums, Whittingtons, and the twenty-four 6-7's. Tenor 27 cwt.

THE LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN GUILD,

SOUTHPORT (Lancashire).—On Thursday, January 15th, at Christ Church, the local company rang a date touch of Bob Major in 1 hr. 15 mins. T. Fielding, 1; Jos. Rimmer, 2; D. E. Rimmer (composer and conductor), 3; B. Tungate, 4; L. Whitmore, 5; L. Tyldesley, 6; Jas. Rimmer, 7; J. W. Rimmer, 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled in token of respect for the late Miss Clarke, daughter of the Ven. Archdeacon Clarke, vicar of the above church.

ORMSKIRK (Lancashire).—On Monday, January 19th, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1891 changes) in 1 hr. 8 mins. J. Prescott, 1; W. J. Taylor, 2; J. Watts, 3; H. J. Ellis, 4; F. A. White, 5; J. Sholicar (composer), 6; G. Prescott (conductor), 7; T. Martland, 8.

EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

FREISTON (Lincolnshire).—On Monday, January 19th, at St. James's church, a date touch (1891 changes), in 1 hr. 13 mins., in fourteen different methods, viz., Hempstead Delight, Canterbury Pleasure, Antelope, Chase, Old Doubles, Bob Doubles, Plain Bob, Dream Dunstan, Lincolnshire Singles, London, Hudibras, Sunshine, and Grandsire. *S. F. Staffurth, 1; A. C. Barber (conductor), 2; E. Clayton, 3; Joseph Sharp, 4; John Sharp, 5. *Longest length. Tenor 20 cwt.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

LAVENHAM (Suffolk).—On Saturday, January 17th, at the church of SS. Peter and Paul, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1891 changes), in 1 hr. 18 mins. W. Boby, 1; H. Parker, 2; H. Smith, 3; A. Symonds, 4; C. Jarvis, 5; W. Snell, 6; T. King (conductor), 7; W. Moore, 8. Composed by John Carter, of Birmingham.

MANUDEN (Essex).—On Tuesday evening, January 20th, at St. Mary's church, a date touch of 1891 changes, in 1 hr. 11 mins. in the following methods: 211 Bob Doubles, 120 Dream, 120 Canterbury, 240 Hudibras, 240 Chase, 240 London Single, 240 St. Dunstans, 240 Antelope, 240 Grandsire. F. W. Tharby, 1; J. Harvey, 2; A. M. Key, 3; G. Prior, 4; H. Prior (conductor), 5. Tenor 11 cwt.

MOSSLEY (Lancashire).—On Friday, January 16th, at St. George's church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 8 mins. R. Taylor, 1; G. W. Shaw, 2; J. Greaves, 3; S. Cowper, 4; J. Holden, 5; W. Bentley, 6; S. Wrigley, 7; T. B. Dicken (conductor), 8. Composed by A. Sykes, of Lindley.

Miscellaneous.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Wednesday, January 14th, for the wedding of Mr. Jull and Miss M. J. Styles, 720 Kent Treble Bob. L. Digweed, 1: G. Hayes, 2; F. Ring, 3; J. Broom, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. And 2520 changes in four different methods, being 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 720 Kent Treble Bob, 720 Plain Bob, and 360 Canterbury Pleasure, in 1 hr. 30 mins. standing as before. Longest length by Messrs. Broom, Ring, and Digweed.

THE MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

FINCHLEY (Middlesex).—On Saturday, December 20th, for practice at St. Mary's church, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor (nine bobs and six singles). W. Russell, 1; F. Sparks, 2; C. H. Martin, 3; C. Tucker, 4; W. Tubb, 5; F. Carroway (conductor), 6. Also another 720 in the same method (eighteen bobs and two singles), standing as before. And 720 Plain Bob Minor. W. H. Tubb, 1; F. Sparks, 2; W. Russell (first 720 with a bob bell), 3; C. Martin, 4; C. Tucker (conductor), 5; F. Carroway, 6. On Sunday, December 28th, after evening service, 720 Plain Bob Minor (fourteen singles and four bobs). W. Russell, 1; C. Tucker, 2; F. Sparks, 3; W. Webb, 4; W. Tubb, 5; F. Carroway (conductor), 6. Also 720 Plain Bob (fourteen bobs and two singles). W. Russell, 1; W. Tubb, 2: F. Carroway, 3; F. Sparks, 4; C. Tucker, 5; C. Martin (conductor), 6. And on Saturday, January 10th, two 720s of Canterbury Pleasure Minor. W. Russell, 1; F. Sparks, 2; C. H. Martin, 3; C. Tucker, 4; W. H. Tubb, 5; F. Carroway (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, January 15th, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. W. Russell, 1; F. Sparks, W. Webb, 3; W. Tubb, 4; W. Mulley, 5; W. Burrows, 6.

HENDON (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, December 7th, after Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob (fifteen bobs). C. Crampton, 1; B. C. Pratchett, 2; C. Tucker, 3; F. Pratt, 4; F. Carroway, 5; C. H. Martin (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, December 11th, 720 Grandsire Minor, standing as above. Also on Christmas Eve, 720 Grandsire Doubles. And on New Year's Eve 1260 Grandsire Doubles. C. Crampton, 1; F. Pratt, 2; C. Tucker, 3; J. Barrett, 4; C. H. Martin (conductor), 5; J. Edmonds, 6. Also on Sunday, January 4th, 720 Plain Bob Minor (eight bobs and six singles). J. Cawley, 1; C. Tucker, 2; G. Smith, 3; W. B. Burrows, 4; F. Carroway, 5; C. H. Martin (conductor), 6. And 720 Plain Bob Minor (nine bobs and six singles). J. Cawley, 1; C. Tucker, 2; W. B. Burrows, 3; G. Smith, 4; C. H. Martin (conductor), 5; C. Crampton, 6. Also on Monday, January 12th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, standing as in the first 720.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BISHOPWEARMOUTH.—On Wednesday, January 14th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor (twenty-six bobs and ten singles) in 26½ mins. R. Langton, 1; R. C. Hudson (conductor), 2; G. Lowden, 3; H. G. Dawson, 4; J. Field, 5; T. Hudson, jun., 6. This 720 was composed by H. W. Wilde, of Sandiacre, and published in "THE BELL NEWS" of January 10th, 1891. Also on Sunday evening, January 18th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (ten bobs and fourteen singles). R. Langton, 1; T. Hudson, sen., 2; G. Lowden, 3; H. G. Dawson, 4; W. Story (Newcastle), 5; T. Hudson, jun. (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—On New Year's Day, at St. George's, Jesmond, a 720 of Bob Minor in 31 mins. F. Lees (conductor), 1; H. Dall, 2; W. Story, 3; ————, 4; C. L. Routledge, 5; F. Harrison, 6. Tenor 15 cwt. And on Monday, January 12th, at St. John's church, a peal of Stedman Triples was attempted, but a mistake brought it to grief after ringing 2900 changes in 1 hr. 40 mins. F. Lees, 1; C. L. Routledge, 2; W. Eggleston, 3; E. Wallis, 4; S. Power, 5; J. Simm, 6; T. Denton (conductor), 7; G. Dixon, 8. Also on Thursday, January 15th, 720 Bob Minor in 27 mins. G. Campbell, 1; J. Clapperton, 2; H. H. Lindsay, 3; H. Ferguson, 4; F. Lees, 5; W. Eggleston (conductor), 6. Tenor 12½ cwt.

NEWBURN-ON-TYNE.—On Saturday, January 17th, at the parish church, five members of the Whitley branch of the above Association after paying a visit to Wylam and ringing some Doubles there, called at the above church and rang two 720's of Bob Minor with the assistance of Mr. C. L. Routledge, of Newcastle. The first was called with ten bobs and fourteen singles). G. Aynsley, 1; R. S. Story, 2; J. Barber, 3; C. L. Routledge, 4: T. J. Gofton (conductor), 5; W. Thompson, 6. The second was called with nine bobs and six singles, by the same conductor, standing as before, with the exception of the 2nd and 4th ringers changing bells. Tenor 15 cwt.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, January 18th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Plain Bob Minor (twenty-two singles and two bobs), in 25 mins. M. Caddy, 1: T. Townson, 2; J. Spencer, 3; T. Suart, 4: T. R. Jackson (conductor), 5; J. Burrows, 6.

CHURCH (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, January 18th, for

Divine Service at the parish church, 720 Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles) in 27½ mins. F. Calvert, 1; G. Lord, 2; J. Bentley, 3; H. Hayes (conductor), 4; W. Pattinson, 5; T. Horrocks, 6. Tenor 15 cwt.

BLACKBURN (Lancashire).—On Saturday, January 17th, at the parish church, an attempt was made for Mr. J. Sholicar's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but owing to the intense cold the conductor brought the bells round at the half-way, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 30 mins. Jas. Smith, jun., 1; Jas. Walker, 2; T. Hindle, 3; Jas. Smith, sen., 4; W. E. Wilson, 5; J. Watson, 6; J. Walker (conductor), 7; M. Adams, 8. Tenor about 17 cwt.

THE SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.

STEYNING (Sussex).—On Tuesday, December 16th, for practice, at the parish church, a 756 of Stedman Triples. J. Matthews, 1; J. Woolgar, 2; J. Smart, 3; Rev. F. A. H. de Boulay, 4; I. Searle, 5; G. Gatland, 6; G. Smart (conductor), 7; C. Smart, 8. And on Sunday, December 21st, for evening service, a 418 of Grandsire Triples. G. Gatland, 1; J. Smart, 2; E. Brackley, 3; I. Searle, 4; C. Tyler (conductor), 5; J. Matthews, 6; C. Smart, 7; W. N. Holt, 8. And on Tuesday, December 23rd, for practice, a 504 of Stedman Triples. G. Gatland, 1; C. Smart, 2; J. Smart, 3; I. Searle, 4; J. Matthews, 5; W. B. Hills, 6; W. N. Holt (conductor), 7; Rev. A. Pridgeon, 8. An attempt to ring Holt's Original on Friday, December 26th, came to grief through a change-course shortly before the first single was reached. Also on Sunday, December 28th, for morning service, a 756 of Stedman Triples. C. Tyler, 1; E. Brackley, 2; J. Smart, 3; W. B. Hills, 4; I. Searle, 5; G. Gatland, 6; G. Smart (conductor), 7; W. N. Holt, 8. For the midnight service on December 31st, a 518 of Grandsire Triples. J. Matthews, 1; J. Woolgar, 2; C. Tyler (conductor), 3; C. Smart, 4; J. Smart, 5; I. Searle, 6; G. Gatland, 7; W. B. Hills, 8. And the Old Year having been tolled out by a few strokes on the tenor, the New Year was welcomed by a 336 of Grandsire Triples. J. Matthews, 1; I. Searle, 2; J. Smart, 3; W. N. Holt, 4; C. Tyler (conductor), 5; W. B. Hills, 6; G. Gatland, 7; C. Smart, 8. And on Sunday, January 4th, for morning service, a 504 Stedman Triples. J. Smart, 1; W. N. Holt, 2; J. Woolgar, 3; J. Matthews, 4; W. B. Hills, 5; C. Smart, 6; C. Tyler (conductor), 7; G. Smart, 8. And on Thursday, January 8th, being the anniversary of the dedication of the bells, Holt's Original was lost when about 3900 changes had been rung. The dinner and the musical evening which followed at the Railway Hotel was however a great success. And on Sunday, January 11th, for morning service, a 504 Stedman Triples. G. Gatland, 1; I. Searle, 2; J. Matthews, 3; J. Woolgar, 4; W. B. Hills, 5; J. Smart, 6; C. Tyler (conductor), 7; Rev. A. Pridgeon, 8. Also on Tuesday, January 13th, for practice, a 504 of Stedman Triples. J. Smart, 1; G. Smart, 2; W. N. Holt, 3; W. B. Hills, 4; C. Smart, 5; G. Gatland, 6; J. Matthews, 7; Rev. A. Pridgeon, 8. Also a 546 of Grandsire Triples. C. Smart, 1; W. B. Hills, 2; G. Smart, 3; J. Smart, 4; I. Searle, 5; E. Brackley, 6; J. Woolgar, 7; G. Gatland, 8. And on Thursday, January 15th, for practice, a 504 Stedman Triples. G. Gatland, 1; C. Smart, 2; J. Matthews, 3; W. N. Holt, 4; I. Searle, 5; E. Brackley, 6; G. Smart (conductor), 7; J. Smart, 8; followed by a quarter-peal in the same method. G. Smart (conductor), 1; E. Brackley, 2; J. Smart, 3; I. Searle, 4; C. Smart, 5; J. Matthews, 6; W. N. Holt, 7; G. Gatland, 8. Also for evening service on Sunday, January 18th, a 588 of Stedman Triples. J. Woolgar, 1; J. Smart, 2; C. Smart, 3; I. Searle, 4; W. N. Holt, 5; E. Brackley, 6; C. Tyler (conductor), 7; J. Matthews, 8.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL (Yorks).—On Saturday, January 17th, at Holy Trinity church, the following met to celebrate the wedding of Mr. D. W. Brown, a member of the Hull branch, to Miss Firman, by ringing a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, but after ringing 1 hr. 20 mins., they had to stop in consequence of one of the members being ill and not able to go on with it. F. Merrison, 1; W. Verity, 2; J. Highfield, 3; T. Stockdale, 4; R. Chaffer, 5; J. W. Stickney, 6; J. Dixey, 7; C. Jackson, 8. Tenor 25 cwt. Afterwards the ringers adjourned to the home of the bride, where the rest of the evening was spent with songs and handbell ringing.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

GUILDFORD (Surrey).—On Sunday, January 18th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Nicolas, 1120 Kent Treble Bob Major in 41 mins. M. Brown, 1; G. H. Croucher, 2; E. W. J. Rees, 3; T. H. Colburn, 4; J. J. Jones, 5; E. Heathorn, 6; F. Bennett (conductor), 7; W. Grove, 8. Tenor 23 cwt.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

DARESBURY (Cheshire).—On Monday, January 12th, at the parish church, the local company rang for practice, 2160 changes, being a 720 each of London Single (P. Hamblett, conductor), Plain Bob and College Single (T. Houghton, conductor), in 1 hr. 18 mins. A. de Prez, 1; P. Johnson, 2; C. Hartley, 3; P. Hamblett, 4; E. de Prez, 5; T. Houghton, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. in G. This is the longest touch by the ringers of the 1st, 3rd, and 5th bells. Our correspondent adds that this will close the practice of change-ringing here for some time to come, owing to Mr. P. Johnson leaving the parish, and having no one ready to take his place.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On Sunday, January 11th, at St. Paul's church, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Jones (St. Neots), 1; F. Keech, 2; S. Constant, 3; S. J. Cullip, 4; I. Hills, 5; M. Warwick, 6; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 7; W. Baldwin, 8. Also 288 and 112 Bob Major. And on Monday, January 12th, on handbells, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 16 mins. M. Warwick, 1-2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3-4; H. Sharp, 5-6. Also on Thursday, January 15th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor (nine bobs). M. Warwick, 1-2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3-4; W. G. Biggs, 5-6.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

CAMBRIDGE.—*Handbell Ringing.*—On Wednesday, January 21st, in Ridley Hall, 720 Bob Minor in 14 mins., 120 Oxford Bob Minor, and a course of College Single Minor. C. A. Clements (Non-Coll.), 1-2; E. B. James (Caius), 3-4; H. L. James (conductor, Caius), 5-6. Tenor 11 size in G.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

STANSTED (Essex).—On Sunday, January 4th, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, for Divine Service in the afternoon, a 720 Cambridge Surprise, in 23½ mins., 5th the observation. *J. Cavill, 1; I. Hammond, 2; T. J. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; W. Watts, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. And on Wednesday, January 7th, on the occasion of a wedding at the above church, a 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Cavill, 1; I. Hammond, 2; T. J. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Cavill, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. Also a 720 College Exercise. J. Cavill, 1; W. Watts, 2; G. Gray, 3; I. Hammond, 4; T. J. Watts, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. Also a 720 London Scholars' Pleasure, 5th the observation. G. Gray, 1; I. Hammond, 2; T. J. Watts, 3; I. Cavill, 4; J. Luckey, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. And a 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. W. Cavill, 1; I. Cavill, 2; G. Gray, 3; T. J. Watts, 4; W. Watts, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, January 11th, for morning service, a 720 Cambridge Surprise, in 24 mins. 5th the observation. J. Cavill, 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; J. Luckey, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. Also for afternoon service, a 720 College Exercise. W. Cavill, 1; I. Hammond, 2; T. J. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; W. Watts, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. And on Sunday, January 18th, for morning service, two 360's of of Double Oxford Bob. T. J. Watts, 1; J. Luckey, 2; W. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; I. Hammond, 5; I. Cavill (conductor), 6. *First 720 in the method. Tenor 13 cwt.

BOCKING (Essex).—On Friday, January 9th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. F. Radley, 1; W. Moore, 2; F. Davey, 3; W. Bearman, 4; S. Sargent, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6. Also on Tuesday, January 13th, 720 Court Single. F. Radley, 1; W. Moore, 2; F. Davey (first 720 in the method), 3; W. Bearman, 4; S. Sargent, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6. Mr. Davey hails from Halstead.

BROMSGROVE (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, December 29th, on the occasion of a visit from W. J. Sevier, of Gloucester, an attempt was made to ring a peal of Grandsire Caters, but after ringing about 2 hrs. and 8 mins. the 7th rope broke. F. Rose, 1; O. James, 2; G. Hayward, 3; T. Albutt, 4; W. Rea, 5; G. Bourne, 6; G. Morris, 7; A. Moore, 8; W. J. Sevier (conductor), 9; T. Farmer, 10. Composed by A. Knights of Chesterfield.

CAVENDISH (Suffolk).—On Saturday, January 17th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor and 360 Kent Treble Bob. W. Lee, 1; S. Evans, 2; G. Green, 3; R. Inch, 4; G. Maxim, 5; G. Maxim (Foxearth, conductor), 6.

FOXEARTH (Essex).—On Monday, January 12th, at the parish church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. W. Gridley, 1; W. Lee, 2; G. Green, 3; R. Inch, 4; S. Evans, 5; G. Maxim (conductor), 6. And on Thursday, January 15th, 720 Bob Minor (thirty-two bobs and two singles). G. Maxim (conductor), 1; S. Evans, 2; W. Gridley, 3; W. Lee, 4; R. Inch, 5; G. Green, 6. Also on Monday, January 19th, 720 Kent Treble Bob and 720 Bob Minor. W. Gridley, 1; W. Lee, 2; G. Green, 3; R. Inch, 4; S. Evans, 5; G. Maxim (conductor), 6

HORSMONDEN (Kent).—On Thursday, January 22nd, at St. Margaret's church, 720 Bob Minor in 29 mins. T. Lambert, 1; J. Beech, 2; F. Butchers, 3; G. Hodge, 4; W. Lambert, 5; F. Lambert (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 by Messrs. Beech, Butchers, and Hodge; also the first by a local company. And on Sunday, January 25th, for Divine Service, 360 and 720 in the same method, standing as before.

Notices.

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

Norwich Diocesan Association. — Quarterly General Meeting at East Dereham on Monday, February 2nd. Dinner at 1.30. Short business meeting after. H. EARLE BULWER, *Stanhoe, Lynn.* *Hon. Sec.*

Yorkshire Association.—The next General Meeting will be held at the head quarters, Bradford, on Saturday, February 7th.
B. T. COPLEY, *Hon. Sec.*

Kent County Association.—The Annual Meeting of the Maidstone District will be held to-day, Saturday, Jan. 31st, at Wrotham. The belfries open will be noticed next week; Wrotham all through the day. It is particularly hoped that all who can come will try and do so, so as to ensure a good meeting. The Committee meeting will be held in the Working Men's Club, Wrotham, at 3.0 p.m. The towers of Town Malling and Ightham will be open for members. The usual allowance will be given for attendance of members. Besides local Secretaries each band could elect one *practising* member to serve on Committee.
THOS. LINDSAY STACK, *Branch Sec.*

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—A General Meeting will be held at Lanchester on Wednesday, February 4th. Ringing at St. Mary's, six bells, tenor 9 cwt. Dinner at "King's Head" hotel at 1.30 p.m.
L. NEWTON, *Hon. Sec.*

Fulham Association.—The Annual General Meeting will be held to-day, Saturday, Jan. 31st. Tower open at 3.0 p.m. Tea in church room at 5.30 p.m., at 9d. per head; business meeting immediately afterwards. Members and friends intending to be present at tea are requested to send in their names to J. W. Driver, 4, Ranelagh-villas, King's-road, Fulham (S.W.).

Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—The Quarterly Meeting of the Guild will be held at Ormskirk to-day, Saturday, Jan. 31st. Bells open 3 p.m.; meeting 6.0. Rev. W. T. BULPIT, W. BENTHAM, } *Hon. Secs.*

Lancashire Association. — The Quarterly Meeting will be held at Blackburn, to-day, Saturday, January 31st. The tower of the parish church (ten bells), and that of Holy Trinity (eight bells) will be open for ringing from 2.0 p.m. Meeting of the Committee at 3.0 p.m. General Meeting in the parish church school at 6.0 p.m. The Right. Rev. Bishop Cramer-Roberts, Vicar of Blackburn, will preside. J. REDFORD, A. E. WREAKS, } *Hon. Secs.*

Hertfordshire Association.—District Meeting at Bushey on Saturday, February 7th. By kind permission the towers of Bushey and Oxhey churches will be open for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Tea at the parish hall, Bushey, at 5.30; price to members, 6d. each; business meeting afterwards. Members intending to be present will kindly so inform me not later than Wednesday next. I shall be glad to receive the subscriptions from those members who are still in arrear.
E. P. DEBENHAM, *Hon. Sec.*
St. Albans, January 28, 1891.

Stoke Archidiaconal Association. — The next meeting of the above Association will be held on Saturday next, February 7th, at Bucknall. Members intending to be present are requested to give notice to the Secretary, 55, High Street, Bucknall, not later than Wednesday, 4th inst. Bells at 4.0 p.m. Tea at 6.30.
REV. R. B. TONGE, W. TWIGG, } *Hon. Secs.*

Lancashire Association (Liverpool Diocesan Branch).—The next meeting will be held at Grassendale on Saturday, February 7th. Ringing from 4 o'clock. The peal of eight at Garston will also be available at the same time. Meeting in Mission-room at 6.0 p.m. The Vicar will preside. RICHD. HILL, *Branch Sec.*

The Society of Trinity Youths. — The next meeting of the above Society will be held at Greenwich, on Tuesday, February 3rd. Meeting time 7.30. E. E. RICHARDS, 12, *Glenalvon Street, Woolwich.* *Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association (Manchester Branch).—The next ringing meeting will take place at the Cathedral, Manchester, on Saturday, February 7th. Ringing from 4.30 p.m. Meeting 7.30 p.m. W. BROWN, *Branch 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 additional must accompany such request.

A DATE TOUCH OF STEDMAN CASERS.

By W. KENT, *Birmingham.*

1891.

1 2 3 4 5 6		
	5	16
2 6 3 4 5 1*		
2 6 1 3 5 4		–
2 6 4 1 5 3		–
4 6 2 3 5 1	–	–
4 6 1 2 5 3		–
4 6 3 1 5 2		–
3 6 4 2 5 1	–	–
3 6 1 4 5 2		–
3 6 2 1 5 4		–
3 6 2 4 5 1	s	–
3 6 1 2 5 4		–
3 6 4 1 5 2		–
4 6 3 2 5 1	–	–
4 6 1 3 5 2		–
1 6 4 2 5 3	–	–
1 6 3 4 5 2		–
1 6 2 3 5 4		–
1 2 3 4 5 6†		

*Produced by bobs at 1, 2, 6, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16

†Produced by bobs at 2, 4, 5, and single at 8.

The above touch has the 6th a second bell and the 5th behind the 9th throughout.

BARGAIN.—Splendid full size Violin for Sale. Beautiful clear ringing tone; perfect preservation. Also fully baize-lined case, excellent silver-mounted bow, and about twenty shillings' worth of good unsoiled music. Immediate purchaser shall have whole lot for 15s. 6d. Violin alone worth double. Write at once. Mrs. Graham, College Buildings, Ipswich.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By J. J. PARKER, *Farnham Royal.*

5040.

2 3 4 5 6 7	
7 5 2 6 3 4	1
3 4 7 2 6 5	2
2 4 3 5 7 6	5
6 5 2 7 4 3	1
s3 4 6 2 7 5	2
7 5 3 6 2 4	2
s6 4 7 2 5 3	1
*5 3 6 7 2 4	2
7 3 5 4 6 2	5
5 6 7 3 2 4	3
3 6 5 4 7 2	5
4 6 3 2 5 7	5
*5 7 4 3 2 6	2
3 7 5 6 4 2	5
5 4 3 7 2 6	3
2 6 5 3 7 4	2
6 5 2 3 7 4	4
7 4 6 2 3 5	2
6 3 7 4 5 2	3
7 5 6 3 2 4	3
4 3 7 2 5 6	1
2 3 4 6 7 5	5
6 3 2 5 4 7	5
2 4 6 3 7 5	3

Four times repeated.

The peal may be rung as a ten-part with five shunting bobs. *These are shunting courses.

A DATE TOUCH OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By ELLIS NUTTALL, *Rawtenstall.*

1891.

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

By repeating the above four times, substituting a single for the last bob, gives the following, 1324567. The cramp change is got by all the bells remaining still, allowing 3-2 to change places, which brings them round at hand.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED FOR MR. R. STACKWOOD.—The Aylsham Company, 10s.; F. Houchen (Norwich), 1s.; G. Houchen (Norwich), 1s.; Rev. G. F. Coleridge, (Caversham), 5s.; Three Friends, 10s.; St. Peter's Mancroft Society (Norwich), per Mr. F. Knights, 10s. 6d. Total, £1 17s. 6d. Mr. R. Stackwood wishes to thank the above-named gentlemen for the donations he has received from them. He is now better and able to do a little work, and wishes to have this list closed. —A. J. NEALE, *Aylsham.*

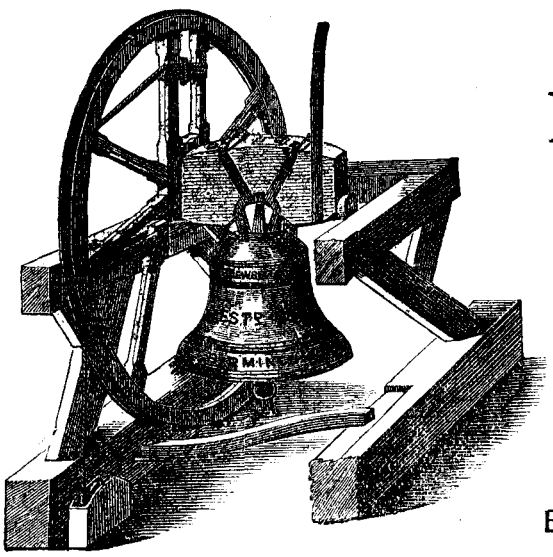
THE JESSE AVERY FUND. — Acknowledged, £1 11s. 6d., J. C. Richards, Esq. (Appleton), 2s., F. Bennett (Appleton), 1s., A. Pithers (Kingstone), 1s., Rev. J. S. Stewart, Vicar of Winterbourne (Stoke, Wilts), 5s., W. Newell (Reading), 10s., J. Richardson (Beenham), 1s., Rev. F. E. Robinson (Drayton), 5s. — G. HOLIFIELD, *Appleton.*

THE BELLS OF ST. PHILIP'S, BIRMINGHAM.

A correspondent, who signs himself a "Five Years' Subscriber," writes:—

Through the medium of your widely-circulated and popular journal, I wish, with your approval, to call attention to a matter of great importance, viz., St. Philip's bells, the second church of importance in the city of Birmingham. For the past twelve months at this church, where there hangs a peal of ten bells (all tolerably ringable), the use of the bells on Sundays for Divine Service has been the subject of much speculation as to who is to blame for the horrid state of things there existing. Now, Mr. Editor, I think that you will agree with me that for a church to possess a peal of ten bells and to only use the first three of them for Sunday chiming is simply a scandalous state of affairs; and yet this is exactly what is done at St. Philip's on Sunday mornings and evenings throughout the entire twelve months, and at the time of writing the prospects of any satisfactory alteration of the at present slip-shod arrangements seems as far off as can be imagined. It is a well-known fact that some ten of the city ringers, most Sundays at all events, go to the above church, and for their pleasure ring from 9 a.m. till 10.15 a.m., at which latter hour the ringers adjourn *en masse* from the belfry, and the sole persons on whom the duty of ringing or even chiming the faithful to worship, devolves, is an old man alone, and as I have before stated, all that he can do at most is to make a discordant jangle of the first three bells. Now sir, we citizens of Birmingham have been highly flattered by an American visitor to our city, and in his statement that he was fully convinced that "Birmingham is the best governed city in the world," there is ample room for discussion of opinion as applying to the belfries and churches of the city. Even at St. Martin's church, the Sunday's performance consists of one man chiming by means of an apparatus the whole of the twelve bells, with the effect that they are only heard for 200 yards at the very most, and are not half so pleasant to the ear as six chimed in the orthodox manner. Bishop Ryder's (peal of eight) and St. John's, Deritend (eight) are exceptions pleasant to relate. Of course ringers whose eye this letter catches, will at once say that they are in no way bound to stay to ring or chime for the service, but could it not be arranged that once a month at least, church-goers might have the pleasure even of hearing their parish church bells chimed methodically, and failing this, could not a band of willing young men be got together to at least chime the whole ten or even eight for service. I for one would willingly surrender half an hour morning and night each Sunday for so urgent an object. At St. Philip's the old saying "no pay no attendance" is lord of all. Leicester, my native place, is far ahead of Birmingham in respect of the Sunday ringing and chiming, in which town much importance is attached to the proper number of bells (say eight out of ten) being chimed for service. That falling short of that number, there is an immediate enquiry into the cause. Not so here; however we are content to jog in the old rut. I hope by your kindness to obtain publicity to this disgraceful state of ecclesiastical lethargy and its ultimate removal."

GRIMLEY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, January 18th, at the parish church, 1000 Grandsire Doubles in 35 mins., being eight 6-scores, each called differently, and forty odd changes. E. Wainwright, 1; G. Taylor, 2; M. Matthews, 3; A. Callow, 4; T. Bullock (conductor), 5; F. Lee, 6. This is the longest length by all except the conductor, also the longest on the bells.



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

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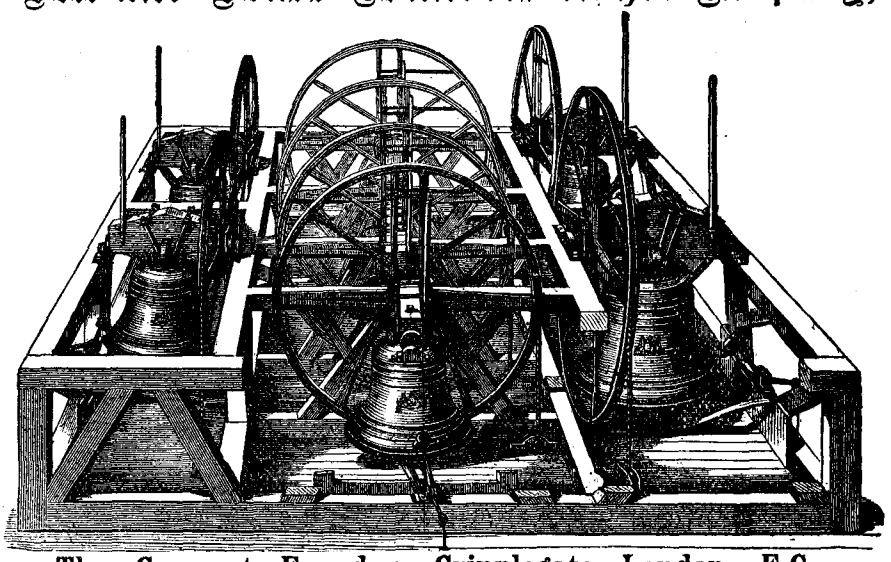

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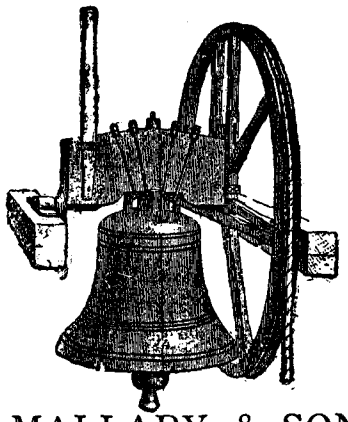

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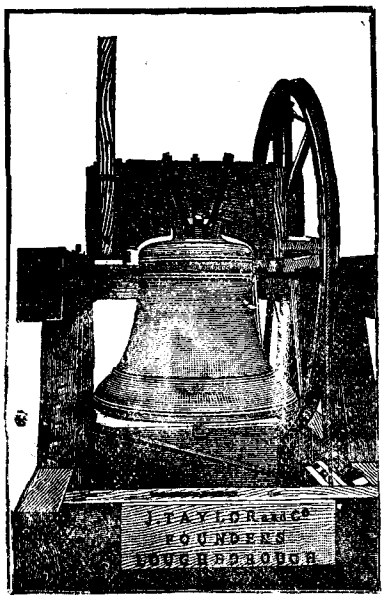

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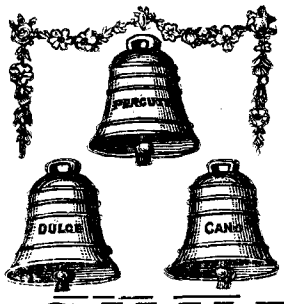

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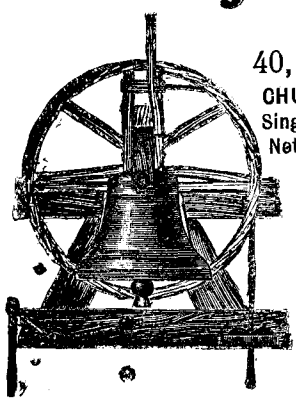

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