THE BELL NEWS
And Ringers' Record:
A Weekly Journal of the Ringing Exercise; and Compendium of Information for the Clergy and Churchwardens.

No. 526.—*VOL.* XI. SATURDAY, MAY 7, 1892. PRICE THREE HALF-PENCE.

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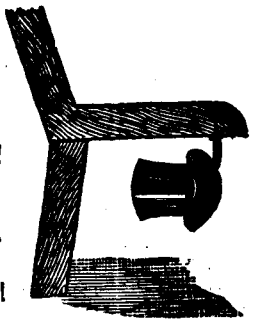

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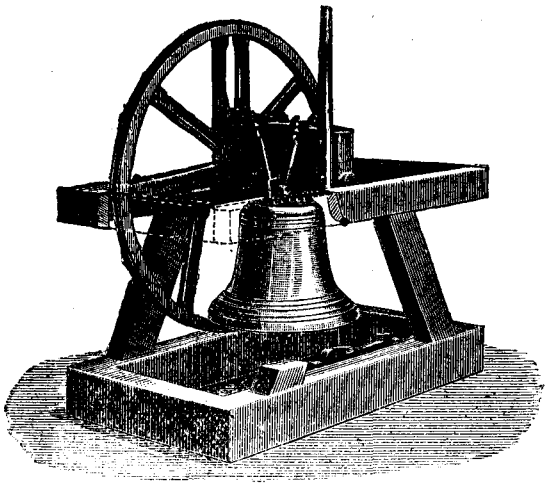

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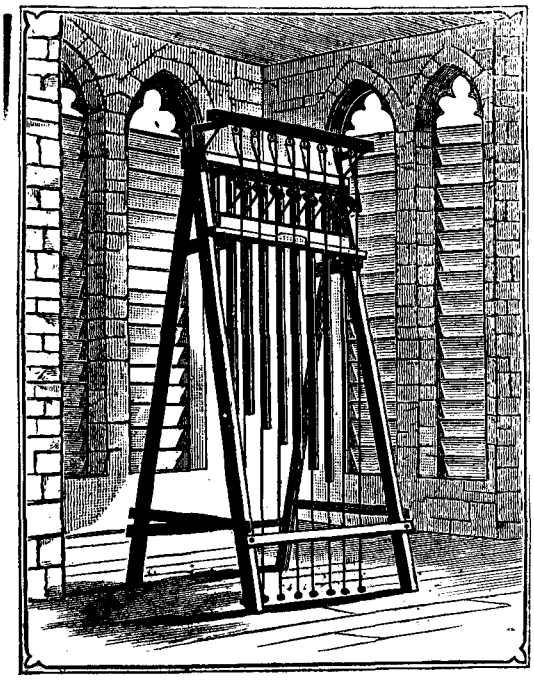

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THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

The Tenth Annual Meeting of this Association was held at Nottingham, on Easter-Monday, April 18th, 1892. Through the kindness of the respective Vicars the following churches were open for ringing from 10.0 a.m., viz.: St. Mary's (ten bells), All Saints' and St. Peter's (eight bells).

A Committee Meeting was held in the vestry of St. Mary's church at 2.0 p.m., the President (A. Percival Heywood, Esq.) in the chair.

At 3 o'clock, there was a special service in the same church, which was attended by upwards of 120 ringers, from all parts of the district, including Ashby, Burton, Beeston, Chesterfield, Cotgrave, Derby, Duffield, Leicester, Long Eaton, Loughboro', Nottingham, Ripley, Sandiacre, Sheffield, and Syston. After prayers had been read by the Vicar (Rev. Canon Richardson), the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Southwell addressed the ringers as follows:—

"My friends, as I may call you, who have invited me to say a few words to you on this holiday and gathering, I shall be glad if you will allow me to speak to you upon two different aspects of it. One, I may call lighter than the other, but in singling it so, I do not want you to think the other invaluable or inappropriate to such a time and such a day and place as this. The Church knew that man wants holidays, and so it devised times at which they should be provided. It is, I think, quite in accordance with that, that you should combine your pleasure and holiday with your own gatherings and bring yourselves before God. So I welcome very much your gathering in this beautiful church on this tenth anniversary of your Association, and I would say of this, which I call the lighter aspect, a few words about what seem to be the characteristics of your particular union. Our old English games have generally been two-fold in their spirit. I have been one who has considered the different pastimes in which the English people take part, and I think we may see in them marked differences, some are those in which the separate individual performance makes the whole skill. Our English games have generally consisted in the study of an antagonist, and with that the study of a company working together, united to bring out their own powers. There has been in these pastimes of ours a continuous and unconscious exercise of those characteristics of our race in which we have been members of a corporate body, working in broad and open rivalry in competion for distinctions. They have in them that spirit of development which makes them to be sources of mutual good understanding, mutual good-will and sympathy. It is a rare thing, is belonging to your craft. It seems that you combine the power of good understanding and combination, and subordinate yourselves to the shifting and elastic calls upon you. It seems to me that your craft has the highest of these principles developed more than any other, so that whether you call your craft a science, art, accomplishment, or recreation, I am not exaggerating when I say it has for its support, first, the aim of perfection, secondly, the spirt of co- operation, and thirdly, the encouragemanliness, and these are very worthy aims. I do not know that the actual strength imparted into it is an essential, and yet I believe it is an inducement which arises from a feeling, that an association of your character must be composed of men and strength. Your art seems to be an art which shows its skill in elaborating difficulties, and then in overcoming them, in making a responsive capacity for everyone in turn, requiring a constant attention, sympathy, and appreciation of each turn and change. In this, the skill has for its motive what I may call perfection, the aim at doing something in itself perfectly, in finding fresh parts, fresh methods and complications, elaborating fresh intricacies, and finding pleasure, not in having finished and got to the end of all that could be done, but in developing more and more difficult methods, to give more and more pleasure in overcoming them. That appears to me a very high power of mental study and attention, for whilst in almost all other competitions, one lapse of forgetfulness would not necessarily be the cause of a disaster, yet, as I understand is the case in your craft, only one mistake may destroy hours of careful and successful work. Then in a very signal degree your craft demands never-failing life and attention in every one who is engaged in it. I know of nothing that at all reaches the degree of sympathy, co-operation, and mutual understanding, that such ringing as yours requires. It is not done by written forms before your eyes, but by that responsiveness, which means every man knowing what to do and when to do it. So I feel it is a high art that you have. I will now pass on to say a few words upon the second aspect, the aspect in which you come as church officers, who are connected with the church by the very instruments you use. In so using those instruments you bring yourselves into the very precincts of the church. We know what varied voices those bells have. In their first early uses they were to call people to escape from danger and violence. We need not perhaps go back to those stages, they are but to us a parable, speaking of dangers to be guarded against. The bells are now continually summoning the spirits to worship, to be united and banded together to fight manfully against the great sins of the world. They also ring out the human sympathy which lasts through life, from the day the infant birth is rung in to the day the soul passes away. Through all changes of joy, sorrow, success and difficulties, the church standing as the great centre, calls to unity, as I trust it will always call. No doubt that the duty of ringers is chiefly to call themselves. I cannot doubt that the spirit of your association will be a spirit in which its members will be loyal and living leaders of churchmanship and thorough church worship, as their calling others to church must suggest to them they should be. My friends it needs no words of mine to tell you that a clergyman's times on Sunday are busy. Those in the belfries speak sometimes as if the clergy do not pay attention to their ringers. I know it is not for attention or compliments that you gather to ring your bells. You don't think it is to compliment the clergy that you go to ring. It is for you to make it clear that the clergy cannot be in their belfries on Sunday. The clergy (I speak as one of them), do value the efforts of their ringers. You and I know quite well that such officers as you should be welcomed as those leading others, and I trust your brethren will catch that spirit and call others, by their personal example, to church. I hope the pleasure in the ringing of those bells, and the mental skill and qualities developed by your work, are but small things compared with the higher thought the bells ring, the thought that, I was glad when they said unto me, we will go into the House of the Lord."

After the service the members and friends, to the number of 130, were entertained to tea by the President (A. Percival Heywood, Esq.), in St. Mary's Girls' School, and amongst those present were the Lord Bishop of Southwell, Rev. Canon Richardson (Vicar of St. Mary's), Rev. H. A. Gem (Vicar of All Saints'), Rev. H. Earle Bulwer (Hon. Secretary of the Norwich Diocesan Association), Rev. F. H. Beaven (Vicar of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent), Rev. C. H. Montford (Duffield), and Rev. C. Witherington (St. Mary's, Nottingham). In consequence of the Bishop having to leave early to fulfil another engagement,

Mr. Heywood rose and said: I am perfectly certain that I express the feelings of everyone present in saying that we have had no such encouragement during the ten years this Association has existed, as we have this day received in the presence among us of the Bishop of the diocese. His lordship has said that it is difficult for the clergy to get to the belfry at the times of ringing for service. All I can say is, if they will come among us at these social gatherings, we shall take it as a great assistance, and the intercourse will help us to be not only good ringers, but also good churchmen. I beg to propose a hearty vote of thanks to his lordship for his excellent and able address, and for his welcome presence amongst us here.

Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun. said: I am sure we all feel it an honor that his lordship has taken the trouble to address us this afternoon, and therefore I have much pleasure in seconding the motion. The motion was carried with acclamation.

His lordship, in returning thanks, said: Gentlemen, I thank you extremely for the very kind manner in which you have given me this vote of thanks. It has been to me a great honour, and sense of friendliness that you should have come in such numbers to hear what I have said to you. If you will only ask other Bishops, you will find they all feel very much the same as I do. They are happy to meet their churchmen in the social way you have been good enough to let me meet you, but I am sure you will find among them those who can speak better than I can. I admire you from the depths of ignorance. I have always shrunk from attempting to ring a bell. I don't think in other places I have a bad head at all, but when I see the rope disappear through the hole, I frankly must say I do feel giddy, and I very quickly retire. I thank you very much. I have now to leave, so I must wish you good-night, and prosperity in this institution of yours, which I hope has felt itself to be growing in power, and in amicable relations to the clergy. I hope there will be always these social and friendly relations which we all desire, and which these meetings do so much to promote. I beg to return my cordial thanks, and wish all prosperity to the Midland Counties' Association of change-ringers.

Mr. Taylor then read the minutes of the last meeting, and Mr. Millis proposed, and Mr. John Wilson seconded, that they be passed and signed.

The Honorary Secretary read a list of new names for membership, duly proposed and seconded, and one life member and nine ringing members were unanimously elected.

The president then spoke as follows: Gentlemen: The oppor-

tunity upon which I now address you is assuredly one which is more than ordinarily deserving of some special mark. It has been marked specially by our having amongst us to-day the Bishop of that part of the Diocese in which we are now met together. There are other matters which make this meeting one of peculiar interest. Our Association has, this year, reached the tenth of its existence, and there are many thoughts which have occured to me in regard to its past and its future. I had intended to bring before you some statistics in reference to the ten years work the Association has done, but it seems to me (having in view the excellent analysis appended to the report this year, drawn up by our assiduous Secretary), rather to be wasting time to lay before you in words what is before you more comprehensively on paper. I would take this opportunity of expressing my sense of the very great labour and usefulness of the appendix which Mr. Griffin has so ably prepared. Taking into consideration that appendix and the report of the General Committee, you will have a very fair idea of what the work of the Association has been during the past ten years. Possibly it may seem to some that this Association is rather anomalous in its position. If we take its principal towns of Burton, Derby, Leicester, and Nottingham, and draw a line from one to another, we have a parallelogram which embraces the district over which the Association extends. It has occured to me that it would have been wiser had the Association originally been formed with boundaries co-terminus with the Diocese. It has not been so, and I for one shall now object to any interference with the area embraced by this Association. I grant you there are no peculiarly valid reasons for its delineation, but in the Midland Counties Association we have had ten years experience of a friendship which I hope will not be dissolved in the future. Therefore I shall most strongly use my influence (and I shall be supported by those present of the members of the Association) in saying that if anything occurs which would tend to disunite us I shall directly oppose it. (Hear, hear). We have for years pulled together, I don't suppose there is a more friendly Association, and to divide us would be to undo a great amount of our work of the past ten years. Our title was originally, "The Derby and District Association," and in the second year this was changed to the "Midland Counties Association." In those days there were three companies, for on reference to the report, I see the St. Paul's Burton-on-Trent Company rang the greater part of the peals, and they were supported by a Derby company and a Nottingham company. These were the only three bands who assisted in that report, and we have had up to the present but twelve companies who have rung peals, a small number it seems to me, in view of the enormous advance of this Association, for, though it be conceited to say so, we are clearly leading the Association, so far as method-ringing is concerned, in England (Hear, hear). I think that is something to be proud of. At the same time I think we have a serious matter to consider, whether we shall be able to keep our reputation up to the high standard it has been brought to. If there ore only twelve companies, it seems to me a very small proportion out of which to expect to create young bands for the future, and I want to see an increase in the number of towers which have bands attached to them. If we are to have in the future such companies as in the past, we must have young blood, and I earnestly beseech each of you to use your influence to try and bring every member in your neighbourhood to see how very important it is, in the interests of the Association, that there should be a large number of good honest peals to add to the record.

With regard to the future, I ask you to consider what can be done to raise the number of bands who are in the habit of ringing amongst us. It would be so much better for all concerned if distinct companies could be so formed for each church.

Observe how the absence of defined companies affects ringers in London for instance, where there are an ample number of very excellent and friendly ringers, but a large number of these are not attached to any individual tower, and thus hardly become imbued with the church feeling developed in those whose interest is centred in the wellbeing of one church. Where there are several churches try to form distinct companies for each, and do not suppose that there may not, at the same time, be the same good fellowship as before between their respective members. There is another point. It seems to me the advance of change-ringing in this Association has not been of late what it should be. There is something like a nervous dread of change-ringing, apparently, among those who are not change-ringers. If you gentlemen who are proficient in the art would do your best to encourage these shy ones by your advice and practical assistance, you might do much good. There is really nothing to be afraid of. It is the first steps which are most difficult, but after a little, when the man begins to know something about it, the nervousness will wear off in the pleasure of the advance. I am reminded of an incident which occured in Manchester I am told a few months ago. A covered van arrived at one of the goods stations without the name of the consignee. A porter opening the door was terrified to see a full-sized lion within, and hastily closed the opening and barred it. For two days bits of meat were pushed through a ventilator in the roof, and at the end of that time the expectant owner arrived to enquire for his property. On approaching the van with the intention of opening it, he was dragged back by the surrounding officials. "Mind what you're about," they said, "its not safe." "Why, bless you, 'tis but a stuffed one," the owner replied. (Laughter). Well, gentlemen, change-ringing is very much like the stuffed lion, not much to be afraid of when you know all about it. In conclusion I thank you very heartily for the kind help that you have always given me in my presidency of this Association since the resignation of the late Mr. Fish, to whom so much of its success is owing. I thank you very heartily for making so pleasant for me this position of president, which I have had the honour to hold for so many years. I only trust the success of the association may continue in increasing friendliness amongst us; and I feel sure that if those members who are experienced will join hands with those who are coming on, we shall be able to carry forward this great work for years to come with unabated success. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. John W. Taylor, jun., then proposed the adoption of the Treasurer's accounts as printed in the Report. This was seconded by Mr. Stephen Cooper, and carried.

Only one nomination had been sent in for the three principal officers of the Association, viz.: A. Percival Heywood, Esq., President: Mr. William Wakley, Hon. Treasurer; Mr. Joseph Griffin, Honorary Secretary, which had been received from the Burton-on-Trent District; thereupon Mr. John Jaggar proposed and Mr. Alfred Archer seconded, that the gentlemen nominated be elected, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. Wakley returned thanks for the re-election, and said: I think you will agree with me that, in our opinion, in our President and Secretary we have officers who have done a great deal to get our Association into the position it now occupies. I thank the members for the confidence they have reposed in me as their Treasurer.

The President then said: I have one other duty to perform. I want to ask you to return your best thanks to the clergy who have allowed us to use their bells to-day, and in particular to Canon Richardson, who has allowed us the vestry for our committee meeting, arranged for our service, and given us the use of the schools for our tea.

Mr. Griffin, rising, said: the more the clergy come among us the better we like them, and I have great pleasure in seconding the resolution.

The Rev. H. A. Gem responded on behalf of the Clergy of Nottingham, in the absence of Canon Richardson and the Rev. G. Edgecombe, and said: I beg to return thanks for the manner in which you have received this resolution. It has been a pleasure to put our belfries at the disposal of the Midland Counties' Association. I regret that the practice of the bell-ringers in this neighbourhood has been so often stopped by cases of sickness.

The President then said: One clergyman here, the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, has come from Norfolk, and on my left is the Rev. F. H. Beaven, from St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent. I am not going to say one word in praise of them. Mr. Bulwer you know by reputation, and Mr. Beaven by personal intercourse. I will only ask you to record your sense of satisfaction in their presence by according them a hearty vote of thanks.

The Rev. H. Earle Bulwer said I am proud of my connection with an Association which I regard as the premier one of its

kind in England, and I thank you for the kind way in which you have welcomed me.

The Rev. F. H. Beaven: I think it is necessary that the clergy should give their hearty support to the bellringers. I, like Mr. Gem, have received complaints about the bells. Whenever my ringers ask permission to ring I always give it, but I put on my coat and hat and go a walk for about three-and-a-half hours, and thus escape from the noise of the bells and also from all complaints. (Laughter). I am of the opinion that sympathy should be felt for all sick people living near any tower. Thank you for the hearty manner in which you have received the mention of my name.

The next business was to select a place where the Annual Meeting for 1893 should be held, and Mr. John Hickman proposed, and Mr. William Hickling seconded, that it be held at Leicester, and no other town being proposed, the proposition was unanimously carried. For the next quarterly meeting Mr. W. E. White proposed, and Mr. Samuel Johnson seconded, that it should be held at Derby.

The Honorary Secretary proposed Chesterfield, and said if change-ringing was to be encouraged, the Association must not neglect the outside towns.

Mr. John Howe seconded, and Mr. White having withdrawn his proposition, Chesterfield was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. J. W. Taylor, jun., then rose and said: This will be a red-letter day in the annals of our Association, and it is more strongly impressed upon us by another act of kindness on the part of our President. I wish I were able to express more forcibly what I am sure we all feel in this matter. We cannot single out of the whole country anyone who can fill the position as our President does. Every time we meet, we all see some new proof of work he has done for the art of change-ringing. To-day we have enjoyed a splendid repast, provided by him to mark this tenth anniversary of the Association. I beg to propose a hearty vote of thanks to him for the hospitality he shows to all members of the Midland Counties' Association.

The Honorary Secretary, in seconding the motion, said: Not only are we indebted to our President for the tea, but he has this day promised to present the Association with a new peal-book.

The proposition having been put to the meeting, was carried in the heartiest possible manner.

Mr. Heywood, in replying, said I am much obliged for the manner in which you speak of me. I hope you will all think of the welfare of the Association and do your best to try and work out by various means, its further prosperity. I may say for myself I will do all that lies in my power, but I would like to add this: It has been an increasing anxiety with me lest ringers in improving their art should not along with it improve their churchmanship. I have never been cheered in that matter as I am to-day. First, because the Bishop of the Diocese thinks it worth while to devote the greater part of an afternoon to us, and I may mention that the Vicar of St. Peter's would have been here but for illness; and on the other hand I am cheered by the hearty way in which yon have responded to the invitation to hear the Bishop. If you want to do that which will earn my fullest gratitude, do all you can to encourage good churchmanship, along with good ringing. (Applause.)

The meeting then closed.

PRESENTATION AT NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

A valued member of the St. John's Guild of Ringers of this town (Mr. Henry Ferguson) has recently decided to migrate to Scarborough, to pursue his profession in that town. Therefore on last Thursday week, the members of the Guild met together to have a farewell evening with him. As Mr. Ferguson's health would not warrant his attempting a 5000, a quarter-peal of Treble Bob, 1280 changes, was rung as a farewell touch by the following: H. Ferguson, 1; F. Lees, 2; H. H. Lindsey, 3; W. Holmes (conductor), 4; R. S. Story, 5; C. L. Routledge, 6; W. Story, 7; F. Harrison, 8. A goodly company afterwards assembled at the Victoria Hotel, where Mr. W. G. Routledge took the chair, and Mr. F. Lees the vice-chair. The chairman having made the opening remarks suitable to the occasion, called on Mr. R. S. Story, president of the Durham and Newcastle Association, to make the presentation. This the latter gentleman did in his usual happy style. He said he had known Mr. Ferguson from the latter's boyhood, and had always known him as quiet and gentlemanly, and warm-hearted. He held him up as an example both to himself and others, especially on such occasions as the break-down of a peal, when everyone is apt to lose their temper; at such times Mr. Ferguson always kept cool and collected. He referred feelingly to the heavy loss his departure from St. John's would be: it would take Mr. Lees a long time to train a man up to ring Stedman and Treble Bob in so masterly a style, as to be able to take Mr. Ferguson's place. With these words he handed him, as a token of esteem from the Guild, a handsome English lever watch, on which was engraved a suitable inscription.

Messrs. F. Lees, W. Story, Routledge, Harrison, Rev. I. W. Milner (Vicar), etc., spoke in support of Mr. Story's speech.

The recipient's health was then drunk with musical honours.

In replying, Mr. Ferguson said he could not find language to express his thanks for their kind words and their handsome present. He had not expected it, and trusted they would not think it ingratitude on his part if his speech was short. He hoped to meet the Guild in Scarborough some day, and would come north as often as possible to ring a peal.

The rest of the evening was spent in harmony, songs being sung by Messrs. W. Story, W. and H. Holmes, Clapperton, Harrison, Watson, and W. G. and C. L. Routledge. Mr. R. S. Story made a lengthy speech on the good work of the Central Council at Birmingham, a most interesting topic to all present. The old song, "Auld Lang Syne," finished up a most pleasant evening, and Mr. Ferguson shook hands with all present, as he was leaving next day for his new scene of labour.

BISHOPSTONE CHURCH, WILTSHIRE.

On Easter Tuesday, the Countess of Craven formally started a new clock and chimes at Bishopstone, Wiltshire. It shows time on one large dial, strikes the hours on a ton bell, and chimes the Cambridge quarters on four others. It is a very fine specimen of workmanship, and is enclosed in an oak glass-fronted case on the ground floor of the tower. All the latest improvements have been incorporated in the mechanism; the escapement is Lord Grimthorpe's double three-legged gravity, with compensated pendulum. Messrs. John Smith and Sons, of the Midland Steam Clock Works, Derby, have carried out the work to the complete satisfaction of all concerned. The same well-known firm have also just completed a large chime clock at Callaby Castle, Northumberland.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

By the kind permission of the Vicar, a quarterly meeting of this Association was held at East Molesey on Easter Monday, April 18th. Upwards of fifty members sat down to tea at the New Inn, where they were joined by Mr. Robertson, a gentleman who takes a great interest in the church, and especially in the ringing. At the subsequent meeting at which Mr. Robertson took the chair, four new members were elected, and it was decided by a large majority to held the next (the Annual) meeting at Croydon.

During the day the bells of East Molesey were kept going in the methods of Grandsire, Stedman, and Treble Bob.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BLACKBURN BRANCH.—On Saturday week a meeting of this branch was held at the parish church. Representatives were present from Blackburn (parish and Holy Trinity churches), Church, Oswaldtwistle, and Padiham. Ringing was commenced at 3.30, and kept up till 9.30. At six o'clock the Rector (Rev. J. G. Denison) invited all the ringers to a substantial tea, which was provided in the schoolroom, and to which they all did ample justice. The Rector presided at the meeting, which was held in the schoolroom, where it was decided to hold the next meeting at Clitherhoe, on Saturday, May 21st. Votes of thanks to the Rector, churchwardens, and visiting ringers brought the business of the meeting to a close.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

In conformity with their usual custom the members of this Association spent the Easter bank holiday by having a dinner at the town hall, St. Albans, followed by a business meeting, and subsequently ringing performances on the bells of the Abbey and St. Peter's. In the morning a special service was held at the last-named church, at which the Ven. Archdeacon Lawrance delivered an excellent address from Psalm cxxxiv. 2: "Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and bless the Lord." In the course of his sermon the Archdeacon referred to the observance in the Jewish ritual of the lifting up of the hands. He said:—

"There were clear meanings attached to this gesture as part of the ancient ritual of GOD's church. It had passed altogether out of our ritual, and yet there was a part of the church in which that same gesture was practised—in which, still in the Sanctuary of GOD, hands were lifted up, and were lifted up in order that the LORD might be blessed. They knew what he meant; they knew how it was part of the absolute necessity of ringing that the hands should be lifted up, and the very meaning of the bells in the church was that they were set there to sound forth GOD's praises, so that he thought they might take those words, without any unfair straining of their meaning, as having a reference to themselves, that when they took part in ringing in GOD's holy house, they were lifting up their hands in the Sanctuary that they might praise the LORD; that that very gesture which was absolutely necessary for the due performance of that duty which they had taken upon themselves was the reproduction in these modern times of that beautiful and touching gesture of devotion which they found in the Jewish ritual. And although they were doing it as a necessity of their art, yet they might associate with it a meaning of true devotion, that as they lifted up their hands in the church they were praising GOD, they were making themselves the vehicle of GOD's praises as the bells sounded forth their tuneful message over the town or village where their church was situate. The lifting up of the hands should suggest in its turn a lifting up of the heart to GOD, and if it were true that the lifting up of their hearts should coincide with the lifting up of their hands to GOD in praise and blessing, never at any time in the year more than then, should the truth come home to them. They were at the greatest of all the seasons in the Christian year; they had just been celebrating Easter Day; the Easter season was still with them, with all its profound, and beautiful, and triumphant lessons. They had endeavoured to give vent to their praises and thanksgivings to ALMIGHTY GOD for all his mercy, their thanksgiving to GOD for that which He done, their praise to Him for that which He is, and they combined their thanksgiving and praise most heartily, most naturally at that time when they remembered that by the glorious resurrection of His Son our LORD JESUS CHRIST, they had learned the truth that death was overcome, and that unto them the gate of everlasting life had been opened. And therefore, when they had met that day at their annual festival, to dedicate themselves afresh to that service which they had more especially undertaken, these words of the text might speak to them not only of the office they discharged in the belfry, but also of that which should belong to them throughout their lives—the lifting up of hands, the lifting up of voices, the lifting up of hearts to GOD Who was so good to them, Who had preserved them hitherto for His service, and Who had promised, when their service was over, His exceeding great reward."

After the service the dinner and business meeting took place. Mr. Leonard Proctor, one of the oldest ringers in the county, presided, and was supported by the Revs. J. Cruikshank, Sandridge; W. C. Morgan, St. Peter's; T. T. Blockley, St. Alban's Cathedral; and Messrs. H. J. Toulmin, F. W. Silvester, St. Alban's; Jackson, Cambridge; A. Oliver, London, and there were also present:—Messrs. H. J. Wright, W. Hewitt, Aldenham; W. Oakley, W. Atkins, G. Hunt, E. E. Huntley, Bushey; J. Dennis, Knebworth; W. Smith, H. Warner, P. Warner, N. Warner, J. Page, J. Kitchener, Joseph Kitchener, C. Shambrook, L. Chapman, Bennington; G. Munns, Graveley; H. Lewis, T. Waller, W. J. Everton, W. Battle, H. Brewer, E. Hull, W. T. Waller, H. Biggs, E. P. Debenham (secretary), G. W. Cartmel (assistant secretary), St. Alban's; J. R. Haworth, London; W. R. Dennis, J. Hare, Hitchin. A very substantial spread was put on the table by Mr. C. Addington, to which the assembled bell-ringers, who evidently knew the ropes, did full justice. Evidently anxious to handle the bells the business was quickly despatched. Mr. Debenham announced that letters had been received from the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, Archdeacon Lawrence, the Rev. F. Wilcox, Rev. C. V. Bicknell, and the Rev. G. H. P. Glossop, regretting inability to attend, but expressing hopes for a pleasant meeting, and then, on the motion of Mr. Debenham, seconded by Mr. Waller, Mr. Toulmin, Mr. Oliver and the Revs. J. A. Cruikshank and Morgan were elected hon. members, and Messrs. Maynard, Hussey, and C. Burrell were elected ringing members.

The annual report presented by the Society recorded genuine success. It stated that the financial balance in favour of the Association at the beginning of the year was £5 4s. 0d., but an increase of £1 14s. 1d. on that amount was now registered. The membership was composed of the ringing members, eighty-three resident and twenty-eight non-resident and a fair number of hon. members, and the Secretary hoped that in the latter department a further increase would be recorded. Change-ringing had progressed in the county, twenty peals having been rung—eighteen on tower bells and two on handbells. Of the tower peals eight were rung at Aldenham, four at Bushey, three at Hatfield, two at Oxhey, and one at St. Albans, and comprised one of Grandsire Caters, one of Bob Major, and sixteen Triples. The best performance for the year was the handbell peal rung by Messrs. Mitchell, and they claim the credit of having scored the first peal in seven Minor methods rung on handbells. The report regretted that the Association had not the support it deserved from change-ringers in the Eastern division, and the Secretary was inclined to adopt the suggestion of Canon Wigram—an ex-secretary of the association—to form districts in the county. In conclusion the Secretary thanked Mr. Cartmel for the assistance given by him during the year.

Mr. Toulmin, as a young member, was anxious to prove of some usefulness, and so proposed the adoption of the report, and in doing so complimented Mr. Debenham on its excellent composition. Mr. Haworth seconded, and it was unanimously adopted. Mr. Debenham acknowledged the compliment, and proposed the re-election of the President, Mr. Proctor, and also a vote of thanks to him for his past services. Mr. Toulmin seconded, and said the association could reckon itself very fortunate in having the services of a such a universally esteemed veteran, and expressed the hope that he might be long spared to occupy the chair on similar occasions. Mr. Lewis desired to heartily support the motion. Mr. Proctor had rendered invaluable services to the Association in the past. The vote was cordially passed, and the Chairman, in replying, said he should always do what he could on behalf of the Association. The election of the Secretary was the next item of business, and Mr. Lewis proposed the re-election of Mr. Debenham, who had managed the affairs of the Association with credit to himself and value to the members. (Applause.) Mr. Toulmin cordially seconded the resolution, and it was unanimously adopted, Mr. Debenham facetiously remarking that he should be pleased to continue in the office at the same salary as heretofore. (Laughter.) On the proposition of Mr. Cartmel, Mr. E. E. Huntley, of Bushey, was elected auditor, and on the motion of Mr. Brewer, seconded by Mr. Hull, a cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Cartmel for the able assistance he had rendered the Secretary, and re-appointing him Assistant-Secretary. The next district meeting was fixed for the summer months at Aldenham, and a vote of thanks was passed to the Archdeacon for his address at the morning service, and to the clergy of St. Peter's for assisting at the service. Mr. Morgan replied, and the Chairman having been thanked for his attendance and kindness in presiding, the company adjourned to the Abbey and St. Peter's towers, where for several hours they were engaged in change-ringing.

It is to be regretted that the service was not well attended by the ringers, especially coming at a time when the clergy are strained through extra services at Easter. The preacher alluded to this in his sermon. There were plenty of ringers even in the churchyard, and yet moral persuasion could not induce them to enter GOD's House for such a short time.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. Albert E. Parsons, of 42, Corngreaves Road, Cradley Heath, has removed to 17, Bank Street, Old Hill, Staffordshire.

WANTED, by a Good Workman, Situation as Bell-frame Maker and Hanger. Twelve years' experience. Can have good reference.—F. BARBER, 255, Whitehorse Road, Croydon, Surrey.

DEDICATION OF BELLS AT BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

On Easter-Eve, Saturday, April 16th, an event took place at St. Nicholas', formerly the old parish church of Brighton, of special interest, not only to the ringers of that town, but to the whole of the members of the Sussex County Association. A peal of ten bells has been unknown in the county of Sussex since 1826, when the two old trebles were removed from the tower of St. Nicholas' to St. Peter's in the same town, thereby reducing the old peal of ten to the octave. A short time since Mr. Shelley, one of the ex-churchwardens, died, leaving a sum to be expended as a memorial, in the old church, to himself and his wife, and Mr. Geo. F. Attree being appointed one of the trustees to his will, suggested the expenditure of the money in providing two new treble bells to take the place of those lost to the church nearly seventy years ago. The Vicar and churchwardens would only consent to the proposal on Mr. Attree guaranteeing to collect the sum of £200 necessary to rehang, quarter-turn and provide all complete new fittings for the old bells, and recast the old third bell, which for years has been badly cracked. This has now been satisfactorily carried out by Messrs. Blackbourn and Greenleaf, bellhangers, of Salisbury, while the three new bells are from the foundry of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. The whole work seems to give great satisfaction, and the splice of the new bells is all that can be desired.

At the Dedication Service the Vicar of St. Nicholas (the Rev. C. W. Bond) officiated, assisted by the Rev. E. Riley (Vicar of St. John's), the Rev. Fairfax Scott, the Rev. E. J. Morgan, and the Rev. E. H. Rogers, and the sermon was preached by the Rev. Prebendary Hannah, Vicar of Brighton. The service commenced with the hymn, "We love the place, O GOD," which was followed by Psalms 122 and 150. The Rev. E. Riley read the lesson from Numbers x., verses 1–10. Special hymns—"In Sinai's dreary waste," and "Now at length our bells are mounted," were sung as the clergy and choir proceeded to the belfry for the dedication of the bells, and as they returned. The Rev. Prebendary Hannah preached the sermon from Psalm lxxxi. 1. "Sing we merrily unto God our strength, and make a cheerful noise unto the God of Jacob."

The hymn commencing "O God, our help in ages past," was then sung, and the service was closed with the Benediction. A few rounds were rung on the bells immediately after the dedication, and at the conclusion two touches each consisting of three courses of Stedman Caters were rung by the following members of the Sussex County Association: First touch. G. F. Attree (conductor), 1; A. A. Fuller, 2; K. Hart, 3; F. Morris, 4; J. Searle, 5; A. Goddard, 6; W. Palmer, 7; J. George, 8; G. Williams, 9; J. Jay, 10. Second touch. G. F. Attree, 1; G. Williams, 2: J. R. Reilly, 3; G. A. King, 4; S. Lawrance, 5; J. George, 6; W. Palmer, 7; J. Searle, 8; A. Goddard, 9; J. Jay, 10.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

FYLDE BRANCH.—The members of this branch of the above Association held their quarterly meeting at Kirkham, on Saturday, April 23rd, there being present about twenty members from Lytham, Kirkham, Blackpool and Manchester, including the President of the Association (the Rev. H. J. Elsee), Mr. J. Redford (Hon. See.), and Mr. Jackson (Hon. Treasurer). Canon Mason, Vicar of Kirkham, occupied the chair, the proceedings throughout being of a most interesting nature. Speeches were made by the rev. chairman, the Rev. H. J. Elsee, Mr. Jno. Fell (the branch Secretary), Mr. Redford, Mr. Wray and Mr. Butler. During the meeting votes of sympathy were passed to the widow of the late Mr. Blacoe, also to Mr. Clitheroe of Blackpool, and to Mr. Townend, of St. Anne's, who have both lost their wives during the quarter. Great sympathy was also expressed with Canon Hawkins, of Lytham, and the rev. chairman, at the request of the meeting, undertook to convey the same to Canon Hawkins. The Rev. Canon Mason was elected an honorary member of the Association, together with Messrs. G. Brown and R. Redman, of Kirkham, as ordinary members. During the afternoon a series of touches of Grandsire Triples, Doubles and Bob Minor were rung, all the members present, including the President, taking part. The proceedings were very enjoyable, and the gathering was considered the most successful yet held in the district.

MICKLETON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

As announced in our peal columns last week a band of the Diocesan Association succeeded in ringing a peal, the first, on the bells of the parish church, which have been recently augmented to eight by the addition of two trebles, by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough. At the kind invitation of the Vicar, the Rev. W. V. Perry, the Master of the Association got together a first-rate band, but having secured eight good men besides himself, as one non-arrival on the day would have meant no peal, in a district where change-ringers are so scarce, he had to content himself with spending the morning in overhauling the bells—the trebles only having been newly hung—and the afternoon in listening to as well-struck a peal and as noble a ring of bells at the weight as could be wished for. The church and village are most beautifully situated close under the hills, and in the midst of a rich country. With the lovely scenery bathed in sunlight, and the music of the bells mellowed by distance, the listener on the hillside was to be envied rather than pitied.

The old bells are by Rudhall, with the exception of one by Mears, and are most beautiful in tone; but even in such company the trebles have no cause to be ashamed of themselves, and the Loughborough firm is to be congratulated on having made so excellent a splice. The new bells were presented by an old inhabitant of the village, Mr. Slatter. Long may he live to enjoy their music, and many another good peal may he hear and enjoy as much as he did the first ever rung in Mickleton. All thanks, too, are due to the Vicar for his kind hospitality to the visitors; a sumptuous luncheon on their arrival, and welcome refreshment after the peal greatly enhanced their enjoyment. We hope that the local ringers may be stirred with the spirit of emulation, and that astonishment at the fact 'that ringers—parsons too—could come all that way and ring three hours *for nothing*, will give place to conviction that change-ringing is interesting in itself, and has attractions which fully reward those who have patiently groped their way through its first rudiments.

CARDIFF, SOUTH WALES.

On Easter Monday, an attempt was made at Llandaff Cathedral to ring Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, which unfortunately was lost, a change-course occurring at the latter end of the third part, after one hour's ringing. Another start would have been made, but the tenor had to be lowered and overhauled as she was "going" very badly. While this was being done the ringers adjourned for refreshment; and on returning to the tower a well-struck touch of 1,554 Grandsire Triples was rung in 1 hr. 7 mins. J. Clutterbuck, 1; C. Smith (conductor), 2; W. Jones, 3; W. Biss, 4; R. Yeo, 5; C. Lloyd, 6; W. Coombes, 7; H. G. White, 8. The 2nd and 5th men hail from Swansea; the 3rd from Morriston; the rest are local men. The above band intend going for the peal again on Whit-Monday, all being well. They wish to thank the Very Rev. the Dean of Landaff and Canon Downing for the use of the bells, and their Swansea and Morriston friends for their kind assistance.

NORTON, DERBYSHIRE.

ON Wednesday evening, April 20th, the choir and ringers of the parish church assembled at the Bagshawe Arms to partake of their annual dinner, kindly given by Mr. E. M. E. Welby, Norton House. A splendid spread was provided by host Fielding, to which ample justice was done. After dinner Mr. J. Atkin (choirmaster) occupied the chair, and Mr. J. Allen (representing the ringers) the vice-chair. Along with the usual toasts a capital musical programme was gone through, consisting of songs, glees, and handbell ringing. The Chairman, in very appropriate terms, alluded to the extreme liberality of Mr. and Mrs. Welby towards the promotion of all branches of church work in the parish. This was ably supported by Messrs. Allen and Hunstone, and followed by musical honours. The evening was a most enjoyable one.

*** The appearance of several reports of meetings and touches avoidably held over until next week.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

Official Minutes of the Annual Meeting.

The second Annual Meeting of the Council was held at the Colonnade Hotel, Birmingham, on Tuesday, April 19th, 1892. Of the whole number of eighty-four members, forty-five were present, representing twenty-four out of thirty-three societies. The President (A. Percival Heywood, Esq.,) took the chair. The minutes of the meeting of 1891 were read and confirmed. Letters of regret for unavoidable absence from several members were read. It was announced that one society, the Eastern Counties' Guild, had withdrawn its representative from the Council, and that a new society, the St. Peter's Guild, Wolverhampton, had joined.

A letter was read from Mr. F. E. Dawe resigning the hon. secretaryship. The resignation was accepted with regret. On nomination by Messrs. Dains, Newson, and others, it was proposed and carried unanimously that the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer be elected hon. secretary.

It was moved and carried unanimously that the following be elected honorary members of the Council:—Captain Acland-Troyte, Rev. A. H. Boughey, W. H. Thompson.

The accounts for the past year were submitted and passed, having been previously audited by the Standing Committee. The receipts were £9 5s., and the expenditure £1 1s., leaving a balance in the bank of £8 4s. The subscriptions for the present year amounting to £9 2s. 6d. bring the total balance up to £17 6s. 6d.

The following resolutions were then passed:—

It was moved by the President, seconded by Mr. Attree, and carried, that the part of rule x. relating to the number of members required to form a quorum be amended as follows:—that "twenty" be substituted for "one third the whole number of members."

On a motion by Rev. H. A. Cockey that the rules be printed an amendment was moved by the President, seconded by Mr. Howard, and carried, "that the Standing Committee be requested to take into consideration how the rules may best be brought under the notice of the members."

The Committee appointed to obtain adequate recognition of the Exercise from the Church Congress, reported that after deciding that it was desirable to try to obtain a hearing at the Folkestone Congress this year, they had addressed a letter to the Subjects Committee, and had received in reply a form on which they placed the names of several gentlemen whom they thought would speak or read a paper before the Congress. Since returning the paper no further communication had been received.

On consideration of the report presented by the Committee appointed to draw up a body of advice, &c., to Church Authorities on bells and ringers, the Rev. T. L. Papillon moved, Mr. Barnett seconded, and it was carried, "That the draft report be accepted as a whole, subject to the reconsideration by the committee of special details upon which suggestions may be offered, the said suggestions to be sent to the Honorary Secretary in writing on or before April 30th." Mr. Attree moved, Mr. Williams seconded, and it was carried, "that the section of the report dealing with prices of bells and fittings be submitted to two or three bell-founders for verification.

The Rev. F. E. Robinson moved, Mr. Griffin seconded, and it was carried, "That the various associations be asked to take a number of copies in proportion to their numbers and their areas." The Rev. T. L. Papillon moved, Mr. Barnett seconded, and it was carried, that the Standing Committee be empowered to pay the expenses of the report, adding thereto an index."

The Rev. T. L. Papillon moved, the Rev. C. D. P. Davies seconded, and it was carried with but few dissentients, that the following conditions are essential to the validity of the peal:—

On five bells, without the addition of a covering bell, not less than 5040 changes, rung without interval in true six-scores, and in not less than three methods.

On six bells, not less than 5040 changes rung without interval in true 720s, of which no two in the same method shall be called alike.

On seven bells, with or without the addition of a covering bell, 5040 true changes rung without interval in any one method.

On eight, ten, and twelve bells, not less than 5000 true changes, rung without interval in any one method.

On nine and eleven bells, in each case with the addition of a covering bell, not less than 5000 true changes rung without interval in any one method.

The Rev. H. E. Bulwer gave notice that he would move at the next meeting an addition to the definition of a peal on seven bells, with a view of discountenancing such peals without a covering bell.

Mr. Snowdon moved, Mr. Lucas seconded, and it was carried, "That it was expedient to publish a catalogue of books relating to bells and ringing, and that the matter be referred to the Standing Committee with an instruction that, in basing their list upon that of the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, they should insert an acknowledgement of the labour bestowed by him upon the subject.

The Rev. H. A. Cockey moved, "That a committee be appointed to receive and classify all compositions of 5,000 changes and upwards, and to issue an annual report in which all peals composed in the previous twelve months shall be published.

Mr. Copley moved and Mr. Howard seconded, and it was carried "That the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Mr. C. H. Hattersley, and Mr. Washbrook be appointed a committee to consider the matter."

The Rev. C. D. P. Davies moved, and Mr. Catchpole seconded, and it was carried "That the question of deciding as to the proper call or calls in each method be referred to the same Committee."

Mr. Attree moved, and Mr. Washbrook seconded, and it was carried "That the Hon. Secretary be instructed to write to the Editors of ringing papers asking them only to publish such peals as are rung in conformity with the definitions put forth by the Council."

On the President expressing a hope that Mr. Attree would see his way, in compiling his valuable analysis of peals, to insert none under the name of more than one society; Mr. Attree consented to give notice in "The Bell News" to that effect. He also said that, at the next meeting he should call attention to the unsatisfactory way in which members were elected to Associations previous to starting for a peal, and would move one or more resolutions thereon.

Mr. Phillott moved, and Mr. Taylor seconded, "That Oxford be the place of meeting for next year."

Mr. Snowdon moved, and Mr. Hattersley seconded, "Leeds for the same meeting." Oxford was decided on by 27 votes to 13.

On the motion of the President it was seconded and carried unanimously "That, to obviate any objection that might be taken under rule XI. to the results of the voting on the various resolutions and amendments, the Council do now confirm the whole of these as passed."

The Rev. T. L. Papillon moved, and the Rev. F. E. Robinson seconded, "A vote of thanks to the President for presiding."

This was carried unanimously.

ATTENDANCE OF MEMBERS AT THE MEETING.

Society.	Present.	Absent.
Ancient Society of College Youths.	W. D. Smith.	F. E. Dawe. J. R. Haworth. R. T. Woodley.
Royal Cumberland Society.	G. Newson.	J. Rogers. W Baron. H. Dains.
St. James' Society.	(unrepresented).	H. R. Newton. G. T. McLaughlin.
North Lincolnshire Association.	F. F. Linley. N. E. Snow.	
Essex Association.	Rev. T. L. Papillon.	N. J. Pitstow. F. G. Newman. W. G. Richards.
Salisbury Diocesan Guild.	T. Blackbourn.	Rev. A. D. Hill.
Society of Trinity Youths.	(unrepresented).	F. W. Thornton.
Winchester Diocesan Guild.	F. W. Rees. G. Williams. H. White. G. H. Barnett.	

ATTENDANCE OF MEMBERS—*Continued.*

Society.	Present.	Absent.
Hertford County Association.	(unrepresented).	L. Procter.
Surrey Association.	(unrepresented).	A. B. Carpenter. E. F. Strange.
Norwich Diocesan Association.	Rev. H. E. Bulwer. W. L. Catchpole.	F. Knights. F. O. Moule.
Kent County Association.	Rev. T. S. Curteis. E. E. Richards.	Rev. E. W. Carpenter E. A. Nunn.
Birmingham and Dis-Amalgamated Association.	G. Walker.	
Midland Counties' Association.	A. P. Heywood. J. W. Taylor, jun. J. Griffin.	
Devonshire Guild.	(unrepresented).	Rev. W. S. Willett. Col. Troyte.
Durham and Newcastle Association.	R. S. Story. L. Newton.	
United Counties' Association.	(unrepresented).	J. Holden.
Bedfordshire Association.	Rev. W. W. Baker.	
South Lincolnshire Association.	(unrepresented).	J. W. Creasey.
Worcester and Adjoining Districts' Association.	(unrepresented).	H. Reeves.
Yorkshire Association.	W. Snowdon. W. H. Howard. B. T. Copley. C. H. Hattersley.	
Oxford Diocesan Guild.	Rev. F. E. Robinson. Rev. G. F. Coleridge. A. H. Cocks. J. W. Washbrook.	
Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.	Rev. J. U. Todd.	Rev. C. W. Griffiths.
Hereford Diocesan Guild.	T. J. Bratton.	J. G. Wall. J. G. Buchanan.
Lancashire Association.	Rev. J. H. Elsee.	G. Longden.
Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.	S. Reeves.	
St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.	H. Bastable.	
Chester Diocesan Guild.	H. A. Heywood.	F. Ball.
Sussex County Assotion.	Rev. C. D. P. Davies. G. F. Attree. H. Chandler. C. Tyler.	
Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Assotion.	Rev. H. A. Cockey. G. H. Phillott.	F. E. Ward.
Waterloo Society.	(unrepresented).	C. E. Malim.
Middlesex Association.	G. B. Lucas.	
St. Peter's Guild, Wolverhampton.	R. Cartwright.	
Hon. Members.	W. Wakley. W. T. Pates.	Rev. Canon Raven. Rev. Canon Wigram. Rev. Pitt Eykin. J. C. Mitchell. J. Pettit. H. S. Thomas. C. Hounslow.

Societies represented	24	Representatives absent ..	32
,, unrepresented ..	9	Hon. Members present ..	2
Representatives present ..	43	,, ,, absent ..	7

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

FOR SALE, A Splendid peal of Handbells, 52 in number. in good order. By Blews of Birmingham. Chromatic Scale, from G 25 to G 0 4; Cushions, Stand, and Music complete. The cost when new was about £30. Good reason for selling. No reasonable offer refused.—WALTER REA, Stourbridge Road, Bromsgrove.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

The Annual Meeting of the above Association was held at Kidderminster on Easter Monday, when Messrs. Newson and Jacob (London), Bastable (Birmingham), and members from Areley Kings, Birmingham, Clent, Dudley, Evesham, Kidderminster, Netherton, Old Hill, Pershore, Stourbridge, Wollaston, and Worcester were present. The bells of St. Mary's parish church were set going in the morning by a mixed band ringing Double Norwich Court Bob Major. The same party afterwards made an attempt for a peal in the same method at Chaddesley Corbett, which came to grief. Meanwhile St. Mary's bells were kept going with Treble Bob Major, Stedman and Grandsire Triples, until four o'clock, when service was held in the beautiful old church. The prayers wers intoned by the curate of St. Mary's, the lessons read by the Rev. W. C. Gibbs, rector of Hagley, and a short impressive sermon delivered by the Rev. S. Phillips, vicar of Kidderminster, from Psalm xxvi. v. 8: "Lord, I have loved the habitation of Thy house, and the place where Thine honour dwelleth." The Rev. H. Kingsford, vicar of Stoulton, was also present.

At the business meeting, which was held in the vestry, presided over by the Rev. S. Phillips, and supported by the above-mentioned clergy, letters of apology were read from the Very Rev. the Dean of Worcester, Canon Gregory Smith (Great Malvern), Canon W. W. Douglas, rector of Salwarpe, and Mr. W. Pearce (Pershore), regretting their inability to attend. On the motion of the Master (Mr. S. Spittle), the following alterations were made in rules 6, 9, and 10. Rule 6 after the word year in line three add "ninepence being allowed out of the funds for each member who have previously given notice to attend tea at such meeting." Rule 19 after the words Local Sec. in fifth line add "shall give six days' notice to the Hon. Secretary of the number from his company wishing to attend tea at the Annual Meeting." Rule 9—"The Association shall at any quarterly meeting appoint an Instructor to any local company desiring one, the company to pay such share of the expense as the Committee may decide."

The Very Rev. the Dean of Worcester was elected President of the Association, the Clerical Vice-Presidents, Lay Vice-Presidents, Master, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, and a Committee of Management were re-elected. It was then unanimously decided to hold the next meeting at Malvern on Saturday, June 18th.

On the motion of the Rev. H. Kingsford the best thanks of the meeting were accorded to the rev. chairman for presiding, for the service in the church, and for the use of the tower and bells.

The rev. gentleman in reply said it had given him very great pleasure to meet the members of the Association at their Annual Meeting, and he should be pleased at any future time to render all the assistance in his power for the furtherance of the objects the society had in view.

At the conclusion of the business the company adjourned to the schoolroom, where, through the efforts of Mr. J. Crane, one of the local company, a substantial tea had been provided, the rev. gentleman mentioned above being present. Ample justice having been done to the good things provided, the members wended their way back to the tower, where ringing in various methods was kept up by mixed companies. Touches and courses were rang in the schoolroom before and after tea on the Association handbells, and altogether a successful and pleasant meeting was brought to a close.

Obituary.

WILLIAM SMITH.

We regret to announce the demise of Mr. William Smith, of Sheffield, which took place on Saturday evening, the 16th ultimo. The deceased ringer was for many years a member of the St. Marie's (R.C.) society, but from the result of an accident, had not taken part in ringing matters lately. He was a member of the Yorkshire Association and the Society of College Youths. The interment took place on the following Wednesday, at Burngreave cemetery, and was attended by ringers from the different towers. A course of Grandsire Triples was rung over the grave, and in the evening muffled touches were run at St. Marie's, as a last token of respect.

JASPER W. SNOWDON'S WORKS.

ROPE-SIGHT: 1s. 6d. FOURTH 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, etc., etc. (143 pages).

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

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

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

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

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

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

MR. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD'S WORK.

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

PALISSY IN PRISON, AND OTHER POEMS.
BY EDWARD F. STRANGE.
A limited edition (each copy numbered) will be issued, to subscribers only, early in May. Post Free, 2s. 1½d., from the Author, 10, Galveston Road, Upper Richmond Road, Putney.

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MAY 7, 1892.

ON another page will be found the official minutes of the Birmingham meeting of the Central Council. These consist of a concise epitome of the resolutions there adopted, of which an extended report was presented last week. A list is added shewing the extent to which each society was represented. This arrangement, kindly sent us from headquarters, will enable our readers more readily to grasp the precise nature of the decisions arrived at, and to follow us in the remarks we offer upon them. Last week we took a general survey of the meeting of the Council. We now propose to consider the motions more in detail.

We are glad, in the first place, to see that our suggestion with regard to the appointment of a Clerical Secretary, and of the REV. H. EARLE BULWER in particular, found unanimous favour with those present. Although many will regret the resignation of our friend Mr. DAWE, and the more that as Hon. Secretary he represented the London section of the Exercise, a representative to which this important body of ringers are fairly entitled, yet, upon consideration, it will be seen that the selection of the REV. H. EARLE BULWER not only provides the Council with a most valuable officer, but also results in the two highest official positions in that body being held, the one by a member of the Ancient Society

of College Youths, the other by a member of the Royal Cumberland Society, a fit recognition of the high position of these time-honoured Societies, than whom none have in the past done more to keep alive the science and practice of change-ringing.

In this year's selection of Honorary Members, the Council will without doubt have the full concurrence of the Exercise, for the three names added to the roll are those of gentlemen who have already done valuable work in the interests of ringers.

With regard to the accounts, we are glad to note that the Council have upwards of £17 in hand, although, with the many demands that are apparently to be made on its funds, a very careful administration will be required if this amount is to prove in any degree adequate.

The result of the application for the interests of ringers to be considered by the Church Congress will be awaited with some anxiety, as a test of the extent to which the rapid spread of change-ringing has been appreciated by the authorities of the Church.

The publication of the report upon bells and their surroundings, with a view to familiarize clergy and churchwardens with the requirements of their ringers, will be looked forward to with no little expectation as a work that may be found of infinite service. As yet we are not in a position to consider it in detail, and we therefore reserve our review until a future occasion.

Of more immediate interest to the Exercise are the carefully drawn definitions of the essentials of valid peals on the various numbers of bells. These will doubtless be subjected, in parts, to severe criticism, but, upon the whole, we should be disposed to agree with the decisions arrived at. If we are to take exception to any of the clauses it would be in regard to those referring to peals of Doubles and Minor; for while fully agreeing with the President of the Yorkshire Association in deeming it right that the Council should set up a high standard of excellence we are, as it would appear he is himself, doubtful whether the desirable level here specified is not a little too high for some of our less advanced brethren. Again, was it taken into consideration that peals of Minor consisting of 360's in fourteen different methods have been accepted as notable performances? For ourselves we recognise the rectitude of the principle, and shall be glad to see that these definitions are adhered to; but we are not without a fellow-feeling for those who have shared in the past, or may wish to share in the future, in performances hitherto regarded as legitimate, but now, by an authority with an unquestionable right to our deference, declared to be of doubtful propriety.

Space precludes us from completing this week our notice of the remaining resolutions of the Council; the consideration of these we therefore postpone until our next issue.

DURHAM.—On Sunday, April 24th, at St. Oswald's church, 720 Plain Bob Minor. *W. Johnson, 1; *G. Craggs, 2; †G. Sorby, 3; J. E. Avery, 4; W. G. Newton, 5; L. Newton (conductor), 6. *First 720. †First 720 with a bob bell.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, April 30, 1892, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 25 cwt.

EDWIN GIBBS	*Treble.*	JAMES WILLSHIRE	5.
HENRY SPRINGALL	2.	HENRY S. ELLIS	6.
JOHN N. OXBORROW	3.	JOHN M. HAYES	7.
HENRY R. NEWTON	4.	WILLIAM CROPLEY ..	*Tenor.*

Conducted by J. M. HAYES.

A note to this peal will be found on another page.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION AND THE LONDON ST. JAMES' SOCIETY.

On Saturday, April 30, 1892, in Three Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5002 CHANGES.

Tenor 34 cwt. in D.

FREDK. G NEWMAN ..	*Treble.*	FRANCIS L. DAVIES	7.
CHALLIS F. WINNY	2.	HENRY DAINS	8.
RICHARD FRENCH	3.	ERNEST PITSTOW	9.
GEORGE NEWSON	4.	FREDK. PITSTOW	10.
ARTHUR JACOB	5.	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL ..	11.
GEORGE T. MCLAUGHLIN	6.	HUGH T. SCARLETT ..	*Tenor.*

Composed by GEORGE NEWSON and Conducted by F. G. NEWMAN.

First peal on twelve bells by the Essex Association. Messrs. French, Davies, and Dains were elected members before starting.

The Provinces.

READING, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, April 18, 1892, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

JOHN H. MASKELL* ..	*Treble.*	ALFRED WATMORE	5.
FRANK HOPGOOD	2.	†JOHN SWAIN	6.
CHARLES GILES*	3.	RICHARD SWAIN	7.
HARRY BLISSETT†	4.	*LEWIS ROLFE	*Tenor.*
		*AMBROSE OSBORNE ..	

Conducted by FRANK HOPGOOD.

*First peal. †First peal with a bob bell. This is the quickest peal on the bells.

SALISBURY, WILTS.—THE ST. MARTIN'S SOCIETY.

On Thursday, April 21, 1892, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

WILLIAM C. DAWE	*Treble.*	ARTHUR W. SEARLE ..	5.
SIDNEY MACEY	2.	CHARLES H. WATTS ..	6.
WILLIAM W. GIFFORD ..	3.	ROBERTO W. J. GOLLOP	7.
CHARLES A. CLEMENTS ..	4.	SIDNEY AMES	*Tenor.*

Conducted by CHARLES A. CLEMENTS.

LINCOLN.—THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, April 27, 1892, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER-AT-ARCHES,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HUBBARD'S TEN-PART. Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIAM R. STILES ..	*Treble.*	*HENRY WOODTHORPE ..	5.
FREDK. W. WALKER	2.	JOHN W. WATSON	6.
GEORGE CHESTER	3.	COOK WELLS	7.
WILLIAM A. HODSON ..	4.	*RICHARD DAWSON ..	*Tenor.*

Conducted by C. WELLS.

*First peal.

BATH.—THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, April 28, 1892, *in Three Hours,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HUBBARD'S TEN-PART. Tenor 19 cwt.

RUPERT LEWIS .. .. ..*Treble.*	HENRY MILLS .. .. .. 5.
CHARLES GOODENOUGH .. 2.	JAMES FUSSELL.. .. .. 6.
ALBERT WILLCOX .. .. 5.	CHARLES BELL.. .. .. 7.
H. W. BROWN .. .. .. 4.	W. A. GULLY .. .. ..*Tenor.*

Conducted by CHARLES BELL.

First peal in the method by the Association. First peal in the method in Bath. First peal in the method by all. First peal in any method by all except Messrs. Brown, Fussell, and Bell. Rung in honour of the birthday of C. Bell, and was the first peal conducted by him.

READING, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, April 28, 1892, *in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HUBBARD'S TEN-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

JOHN MASKELL .. .. ..*Treble.*	FRANK HOPGOOD .. .. 5.
ALFRED W. REEVES .. .. 2.	HENRY WHITE .. .. .. 6.
ARTHUR H. EVANS .. .. 3.	ALBERT E. REEVES.. .. 7.
FREDERICK SWEETZER .. 4.	CHARLES HINE .. .. ..*Tenor.*

Conducted by ALBERT E. REEVES.

This is the first peal of Bob Triples ever rung in Reading; also the first by all the band except H. White (who hails from Basingstoke). It was rung to commemorate the 22nd birthday of John Maskell, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(LEICESTER BRANCH.)

On Thursday, April 28, 1892, *in Three Hours and Six Minntes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES'S TEN-PART (No. 2.) Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

ALFRED MILLIS .. .. ..*Treble.*	*WILLIAM H. LOWE .. .. 5.
WILLIAM WILLSON .. .. 2.	JOHN BUTTERY .. .. .. 6.
JOHN O. LANCASHIRE.. .. 3.	WILLIAM T. MILLER .. 7.
GEORGE CLEAL .. .. .. 4.	ALFRED MARTIN .. ..*Tenor.*

Conducted by GEORGE CLEAL.

*First peal. This is the first Midland Counties' Association peal in which Mr. Miller has rung.

EPSOM, SURREY.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, April 30, 1892, *in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,*

AT CHRIST CHURCH, EPSOM COMMON,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

WILLIAM BUMPSTEAD ..*Treble.*	EDWARD H. ADAMS.. .. 5.
JAMES NICHOLLS .. .. 2.	JOSEPH FAYERS.. .. .. 6.
WILLIAM E. GARRARD .. 3.	HARRY KENTEN .. .. 7.
WILLIAM R. SMITH .. .. 4.	ROBERT H. BURGESS ..*Tenor.*

Conducted by W. E. GARRARD.

J. Fayers hails from Mitcham; the rest from London.

KEIGHLEY, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 30, 1892, *in Three Hours,*

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

JNO. W. THOMPSON* .. ..*Treble.*	THOS. BANCROFT .. .. 5.
THOS. B. KENDALL .. .. 2.	ASA SMITH.. .. .. .. 6.
H. E. ANDERSON .. .. 3.	WILLIAM BASTOW .. .. 7.
WILSON BARTLE.. .. .. 4.	WILLIAM GILL .. .. ..*Tenor.*

Composed by T. HAIGH and Conducted by WILLIAM GILL.

H. E. Anderson hails from Bingley; T. B. Kendall from Shipley; the rest belong to the local company. *First peal.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

On Friday, April 29, 1892, *in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE BURTON VARIATION. Tenor 26 cwt.

HENRY PARKS .. .. ..*Treble.*	GEORGE ROBINSON .. .. 5.
EDWARD I. STONE .. .. 2.	HARRY WAKLEY .. .. 6.
ARTHUR WAKLEY .. .. 3.	THOMAS HOLMES .. .. 7.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN .. .. .. 4.	WILLIAM WAKLEY .. ..*Tenor.*

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW and Conducted by WILLIAM WAKLEY.

Rung with the bells half-muffled on the eighth anniversary of the death of M. T. Bass, Esq., founder of St. Paul's Church and Parish.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 30, 1892, *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 20 cwt. in E.

WILLIAM G. CRICKMER ..*Treble.*	ERNEST CLAYTON .. .. 5.
WILLIAM RUFFELS .. .. 2.	GEORGE ROWE, JUN. .. 6.
EDWARD GOODING .. .. 3.	EDGAR COLLINS .. .. 7.
FREDK. CLAYTON .. .. 4.	WILLIAM GRIMES .. ..*Tenor.*

Composed by the late J. Cox and Conducted by W. G. CRICKMER.

This is a one-part peal, and will be found in Snowdon's *Treatise on Treble Bob* Part ii., page 85. First peal of Treble Bob by E. Gooding.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(THE DUFFIELD SOCIETY.)

On Monday, May 2, 1892, *in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES. Tenor 17 cwt.

GEORGE WINTER .. ..*Treble.*	SAMUEL JOHNSON .. .. 5.
GEORGE DAWSON .. .. 2.	WILLIAM CLARKE .. .. 6.
JOHN HOWE .. .. 3.	JOHN FLOWER .. .. .. 7.
BENJAMIN SUGDEN .. .. 4.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD ..*Tenor.*

Composed and Conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

This peal was rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Sir James Allport, a resident in the parish, and formerly General Manager of the Midland Railway.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, May 4, 1892, *in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

MORRIS' SIX-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

WILLIAM HOLMES .. ..*Treble.*	CHARLES L. ROUTLEDGE 5.
WILLIAM T. ROBSON* .. 2.	*THOMAS HUDSON, JUN. .. 6.
HENRY H. LINDSEY .. .. 3.	FREDK. J. HARRISON .. 7.
ALFRED F. HILLIER .. .. 4.	HAROLD PEARSON .. ..*Tenor.*

Conducted by WILLIAM HOLMES.

*First peal, and hails from Sunderland.

CHRISTCHURCH, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, May 2, 1892, *in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,*

AT THE PRIORY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 32 cwt.

HARRY BAGSHOT.. .. ..*Treble.*	STEPHEN BEST .. .. .. 5.
EDWIN HINTON .. .. .. 2.	GEORGE VEY .. .. .. 6.
FREDERICK KING .. .. 3.	†GEORGE PRESTON .. .. 7.
TOM F. BEST .. .. .. 4.	TOM BELBIN .. .. ..*Tenor.*

Conducted by GEORGE PRESTON.

This is the first peal by all except the seventh and tenor ringers. †First peal as conductor. This is the first peal ever rung on the bells by a local band. Rang to celebrate the wedding of Mr. H. Preston (the conductor's brother), who is also one of the local band.

AYLESFORD, KENT.—KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Silent Peal.

On Saturday, April 30, 1892, *in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLTS' ORIGINAL. Tenor 16 cwt.

CALEB PAYNE	*Treble.*	FREDERICK FRENCH.. ..	5.
GABRIEL LINDOFF	2.	GEORGE PAWLEY	6.
WALTER POPE	3.	ALFRED PALMER	7.
THOMAS MANNERING	4.	ARTHUR C. WEST ..	*Tenor.*

This is strictly a non-conducted peal, without calls, signs, or signals of any description being used. Mr. J. W. Leonard and Mr. W. Haigh kindly acted as umpires, marking off every lead as it was rung. Mr. Waterman and Mr. Tawney were also present the whole time. At the finish they all expressed their entire satisfaction on all points. This is the first non-conducted peal by all, and by the Association; also the first in the county. It was rung at the first attempt.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 30, 1892, *in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

JOHN SIMM	*Treble.*	WILLIAM HOLMES	5.
R. CHALLIS HUDSON.. ..	2.	CHARLES L. ROUTLEDGE	6.
JOSEPH PATTISON	3.	WILLIAM STORY	7.
HUGH DALL*	4.	ROBERT S. STORY ..	*Tenor.*

Composed by YORK GREEN and Conducted by WILLIAM HOLMES.

*First peal of Major. This is a one-part peal in sixteen courses, with the 6th her extent at home in six courses, and the 5th and 6th their extent wrong, and the 4th her extent in 6ths place. Pattison belongs to Winlaton; Dall to North Shields: Hudson to Bishopwearmouth; the rest to Newcastle.

BUNWELL, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 30, 1892, *in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

SEVEN 720s OF MINOR;

Being Three 720s of Oxford Treble Bob, Three of Kent Treble Bob and One of Bob.

Tenor 9 cwt.

ROBERT HUTTON	*Treble.*	ALFRED DUNNETT	4.
GEORGE SMITH, SEN... ..	2.	GEORGE SMITH, JUN. ..	5.
JOHN HILLING	3.	JACOB HINCHLEY	*Tenor.*

Conducted by R. HUTTON.

This is the first 5040 by all except the ringer of the treble. It is R. Hutton's 55th 5040; and is the first on the bells. This is the first company ever known to reside in the parish.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND ADJOINING DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION, AND THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, April 30, 1892, *in Two Hours and Forty-four Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HALEY'S VARIATION. Tenor 12¼ cwt.

JAMES THOMAS SALTER ..	*Treble.*	*JAMES E. GROVES	5.
WILLIAM HENRY SMITH ..	2.	JAMES GEORGE	6.
WILLIAM ROCK SMALL ..	3.	JOHN CRANE	7.
RICHARD E. GROVE	4.	*AARON GRIFFITHS	*Tenor.*

Conducted by RICHARD E. GROVE.

*First peal of Stedman. Messrs. Salter, Smith, Grove, and Crane hail from Kidderminster; Groves and Griffiths from Wolverhampton. The above is the quickest peal rung on the bells.

Date Touches.

THE LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN GUILD.

CROSTON (Lancashire).—On Monday evening, April 25th, for practice at the parish church, a date touch of 1892 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 8 mins. J. Pye, 1; J. Hale, 2; T. Banister, 3; W. Sumner (conductor), 4; R. Hough, 5; J. Ascroft, 6; W. Walton, 7; T. Dalton, 8.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION—LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN BRANCH.

PRESCOT (Lancashire).—On Wednesday, April 20th, at the parish church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 4 mins. J. Chesworth, 1; S. Warne, 2; J. Finney, 3; W. Moston, 4; W. Meredith 5; W. Byron, 6; T. Byron, 7; J. Moston, 8. Composed by J. B. Fenton, Lincoln, and conducted by T. Byron. It was rung to celebrate the wedding of Dr. H. Briggs, of Liverpool, to Miss A. R. Hall, eldest daughter of Dr. Hall, of Prescot.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WALDRON (Sussex).—On Sunday, April 24th, for Divine Service in the morning at the parish church, a date touch of 1892 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 3 mins. A. Dawes, 1; T. Ades, 2; J. Burgess, 3; H. Rann (conductor), 4; A. Reed, 5; G. Ades, 6; B. Hobbs, 7; E. Unsted, 8. Composed by John Carter.

CHARLWOOD (Surrey).—On Sunday, April 21th, for Divine Service in the evening, a date touch of 1892 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 6 mins. A. Longhurst, 1; G. Kenward, 2; J. Kenward, 3; W. Edwards, 4; J. Taylor, 5; T. Sparks, 6; P. Etheridge, 7; A. Sparks, 8. Composed by J. Wrightson, of York and conducted by S. Kenward.,

Miscellaneous.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DARLINGTON.—On Sunday, April 3rd, at St. John's church for evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. F. A. Teasdale, 1; W. Bell, 2; R. Moncaster, 3; *J. Baxter, 4; W. D. Lister, 5; H. S. Taylor (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, April 5th, for practice, 720 Yorkshire Court. F. A. Teasdale, 1; W. Bell, 2; H. S. Taylor, 3; R. Moncaster, 4; W. D. Lister, 5; J. Baxter (conductor), 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. R. Moncaster, 1; W. Bell, 2; H. S. Taylor, 3; W. D. Lister, 4; F. A. Teasdale, 5; J. Baxter (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 10th, for morning service, 720 Oxford Plain Bob. J. Bolton, 1; F. A. Teasdale, 2; J. Whitfield, 3; W. D. Lister, 4; W. Patton, 5; J. Baxter (conductor), 6. Also for evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. J. Baxter, 1; F. A. Teasdale, 2; R. Moncaster, 3; W. D. Lister, 4; W. Patton, 5; H. S. Taylor (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 17th, for evening service, 720 College Single. R. Moncaster, 1; W. Bell, 2; H. S. Taylor, 3; F. A. Teasdale, 4; W. Patton, 5; J. Baxter (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 24th, for morning service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. J. Bolton, 1; W. Bell, 2; J. Baxter, 3; W. D. Lister, 4; F. A. Teasdale, 5; H. S. Taylor (conductor), 6. Also for evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. R. Moncaster, 1; W. Bell, 2; H. S. Taylor, 3; W. D. Lister, 4; F. A. Teasdale, 5 J. Baxter (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, April 26th, for practice, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. W. Patton, 1; W. Bell (first in the method), 2; R. Moncaster, 3; W. D. Lister, 4; J. Baxter, 5; H. S. Taylor (conductor), 6. *College Youth. Tenor 10 cwt.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CRAYFORD (Kent).—On Sunday, April 24th, for Divine Service in the morning at St. Paulinus' church, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 43 mins. *F. Davis, 1; C. Wilkins, 2; H. Gibbs, 3; *F. Rumens, 4; *J. E. Davis, 5; R. Wilkins, 6; E. Barnett (conductor), 7; *A. Davis, 8. *First quarter-peal in the method. The Messrs. Davis and Rumens hail from Lewisham.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On Sunday, April 3rd, for Divine Service in the evening, 720 Plain Bob. H. Catton, 1; W. Clifford, 2; F. Ring, 3; M. Digby, 4; G. Hayes, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. On Monday, April 11th, for practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob. M. Digby, 1; W. Clifford, 2; W. Martin, 3; F. Ring, 4; F. Broom, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. On Easter-Day, for 8 o'clock Celebration, 720 Cambridge Surprise. W. Clifford, 1; G. Hayes, 2; F. Ring, 3; M. Digby, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. And 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Harper, 1; W. Clifford, 2; M. Digby (conductor), 3; F. Ring, 4; W. Martin, 5; G. Hayes, 6. For morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. W. Clifford, 1; L. Digweed, 2; G. Hayes, 3; M. Digby, 4; J. Broom, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. For evening service, 720 Superlative Surprise. J. Broom, 1; G. Hayes, 2; F. Ring, 3; M. Digby, 4; W. Martin, 5; W. Harper (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 24th, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Superlative

Surprise. L. Digweed, 1; G. Hayes, 2; F. Ring, 3; M. Digby, 4; W. Martin (conductor), 5; W. Harper, 6.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL (Yorks.)—On Easter Sunday, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. G. T. Miller, 1; T. Neill, 3; F. Osgerby, 3; T. Stockdale, 4; D. W. Brown, 5; C. Jackson (conductor), 6; J. Dixie, 7; J. Dale, 8. On Easter Monday, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in celebration of the election of the wardens. F. Marshall, 1; W. T. Verity, 2; G. T. Miller, 3; J. Dixie, 4; D. W. Brown, 5; T. Stockdale, 6; C. Jackson (conductor), 7; J. Dale, 8.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LEICESTER.—On Sunday morning, April 17th, for practice at St. Saviour's church, 504 Stedman Triples. H. Argyle (Nuneaton), 1; G. Cleal (conductor), 2; J. O. Lancashire, 3; W. Willson, 4; G. Burrows, 5; S. Cotton, 6; T. W. Chapman (Nuneaton), 7; G. Needham, 8. Before evening service at St. Mark's church, 756 Stedman Triples. G. Cleal (conductor), 1; A. Millis, 2; T. W. Chapman, 3; W. Willson, 4; J. O. Lancashire, 5; S. Cotton, 6; H. Argyle, 7; —. 8. On Easter Tuesday, at St. Mary's church, the Rev. C. D. P. Davies' ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples was attempted, but owing to one of the band feeling ill the bells were allowed to run home at half-way, in 1 hr. 30 mins. S. Cotton, 1; W. Willson, 2; J. O. Lancashire, 3; G. Cleal (conductor), 4; W. Lowe (longest length in any method), 5; J. Buttery, 6; W. Miller, 7; C. Biddles, 8.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

CLENT (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, April 17th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins. J. Barber, 1; G. Newson, 2; W. Short, 3; C. Boughton, 4; W. Huxley, 5; A. Jacob (conductor), 6. Also 720 Canterbury Pleasure, in 26 mins. F. Molineux, 1; A. Jacob, 2; C. Boughton, 3; G. Newson, 4; W. Short, 5; J. Barber (composer and conductor), 6. Tenor 16¾ cwt.

STOURBRIDGE (Worcestershire). — On Sunday, April 17th, at the parish church, three courses of Stedman Triples and two courses of Kent Treble Bob Major. G. Newson (conductor), 1; W. Short, 2; J. Pagett, 3; W. F. Hartshorne, 4; G. Pagett, 5; J. Barber, 6; A. Jacob 7; H. Harris, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

LYE (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, April 17th, 720 Bob Minor, in 21½ mins. W. Short, 1; J. Barber, 2; J. Pagett, 3; W. F. Hartshorne, 4; A. Jacob, 5; G. Newson (conductor), 6. And 144 Kent Treble Bob Minor, standing as above, conducted by W. Short. And a plain course of Grandsire Triples. F. Davis, 1; W. Taylor, 2; W. Short, 3; J. Barber, 4; J. Pagett, 5; W. F. Hartshorne, 6; A. Jacob, 7; G. Newson, 8. This is supposed to be the lightest ringing peal of eight in the kingdom, the tenor only being 3½ cwt.

HAGLEY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, April 17th, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 21 mins. F. Wright, 1; T. Lees, 2; W. Short (conductor), 3; J. Barber, 4; G. Newson, 4; A. Jacob, 6. Tenor 9¾ cwts.

STONE (Worcestershire).—On Monday, April 18th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 22 mins. A. E. Parsons, 1; G. Newson, 2; W. Wakeman, 3; W. Short, 4: A. Jacob, 5; J. Barber (conductor), 6. Tenor about 8 cwt. Messrs. Newson and Jacob hail from London.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ALDRINGTON ((Sussex).—On Monday, April 18th, 1892, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. A. Gasson, 1; R. Bourn, 2; C. Holman, 3; E. Streeter, jun., 4; E. Streeter, sen., 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 ever rung on these bells. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. C. Holman, 1; E. Streeter, sen., 2; C. Hills, 3; E. Streeter, jun., 4; H. Meads, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. C. Hills hails from Angmering. The ringers wish, through the medium of this paper, to thank the Rev. F. A. DuBoulay for the use of the bells, also Mr. Stredwick for having them ready.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GRASSENDALE.—On Easter Sunday evening, for Divine Service at the parish church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles), in 25 mine. J. Schofield, 1; J. Turner, 2; J. F. D. Alexander, 3; F. C. Newton, 4; J. Allen, 5; W. H. Weaver, 6. Tenor 12 cwt. Composed by N. Spindlow, of Ducklington, and conducted by J. Schofield.

CHURCH (Lancashire).—On Saturday, April 23rd, at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor. T. Duxbury, 1; J. Hargreaves, 2; M. Kearney, 3; R. Proctor, 4; J. Smith, sen., 5; J. Walker (conductor), 6. And 720 Bob Minor. R. Proctor (first 720), 1; J. Horrocks, 2; W. Slater, 3; J. Smith, sen. (conductor), 4; J. Walker, 5; T. Horrocks, 6.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CREWE.—On Sunday evening, April 24th, for Divine Service at the parish church, 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 30 mins. A. Harding, 1; R. Langford, 2; J. Wright, 3; A. Jarvis, 4; G. Harding, 5; N. T. Holding, 6; J. Emery, 7. This is the first 720 by the ringer of the treble, he having just passed his fifteenth birthday; also the first 720 with a bob bell by the ringer of the 3rd.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM (Surrey).—On Tuesday, April 26th, for practice at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. A. Le Clercq, 1; *A. Smith, 2; F. Barnett, 3; H. Garfath (conductor), 4; A. White 5; C. Fry, 6; E. Clapshaw, 7; G. H. Barnett, 8. *First quarter-peal with a bob bell.

BRAMFIELD (Suffolk).—On Suuday, April 24th, 720 Grandsire. F. Watling (conductor), 1; A. Miles, 2; C. Chatten, 3; G. Eastaugh, 4; J. Punchard, 5.

EVESHAM (Worcestershire).—The St. Peter's Bengeworth Society rang at St. Peter's Church a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles. C. Cook, 1; H. Middleton, 2; A. H. Sharp, 3; T. Cook, 4; W. Fox (conductor), 5.—*Handbell Ringing.*—At the house of Mr. W. G. Arkell, on handbells retained in hand, two courses of Grandsire Triples. H. Middleton, 1-2; F. Cook, 3-4; W. Fox, 5-6; W. G. Arkell, 7-8. Two courses of Grandsire Major. W. G. Arkell, 1-2; H. Middleton, 3-4; W. Fox, 5-6; F. Cook, 7-8. Two courses of Grandsire Caters. F. Lewis, 1-2; H. Middleton, 3-4; W. Fox, 5-6; F. Cook, 7-8; W. G. Arkell, 9-10. The above was rung during March. On Sunday, April 10th, for Divine Service, 216 Grandsire Minor. F. Lewis, 1; H. Middleton, 2; A. H. Sharp, 3; W. G. Arkell, 4; F. Cook, 5; W. Fox (conductor), 6. Two 6-scores of Bob Doubles. C. Knight, 1; H. Middleton, 2; A. H. Sharp, 3; F. Cook, 4; W. Fox (conductor), 5; W. G. Arkell, 6. On Easter Sunday an attempt was made for a 720 Grandsire Minor, but after ringing three parts it came to grief. F. Lewis, 1; H. Middleton, 2; A. H. Sharp, 3; W. G. Arkell, 4; F. Cook, 5; W. Fox (conductor), 6. On the same date, four members of the above Society visited the Abbey Tower, and with the assistance of the local band, which has been under the able instruction of Mr. Fox for only a few weeks, rang six courses of Grandsire Triples, and also attempted a touch, which came to grief. A. H. Sharp, 1; T. Robbins, 2; F. Cook, 3; W. Fox (conductor), 4; F. Jinks, 5; J. Collins, 6; H. Middleton, 7; A. Robins, 8. On Wednesday, April 20th, at St. Peter's Church, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 26 mins. W. G. Arkell, 1; H. Middleton, 2; A. H. Sharp, 3; F. Cook, 4; W. H. Brunsdon, 5; W. Fox (conductor), 6. A 720 Bob Minor. W. G. Arkell, 1; H. Middleton, 2; J. Austin, 3; F. Cook, 4; W. H. Brunsdon, 5; W. Fox (conductor), 8. On Thursday, at the Abbey Tower, 672 of Grandsire Triples. A. H. Sharp, 1; H. Middleton, 2; J. Austin, 3; W. G. Arkell, 4; F. Cook, 5; W. Fox (conductor), 6; W. H. Brunsdon, 7; A. Robins and F. Jinks, 8. Tenor 32 cwt. Messrs. J. Austin and W. H. Brunsdon hail from Gloucester.

EXETER.—On Sunday morning, April 24th inst., at St. Sidwell's church, a touch of 336 Grandsire Caters. W. Carnell, 1; W. Drake, 2; E. Shepherd, 3; C. Carter, 4; F. Davey, 5; F. Shepherd (conductor), 6; B. Mundy, 7; T. Mudge, 8; J. Moss, 9; W. Rew, 10. For Divine Service in the evening, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, 1259 changes, in 50 mins. the band standing as in the morning, conducted by F. Shepherd.

HAYFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Easter Sunday, at the parish church, a 720 of Oxford Bob Minor (nine bobs). A. Rangeley, 7; J. Brocklehurst, 2; T. Whitehead (conductor), 3; J. Wheatcroft, 4; G. Stafford, 5; T. Brocklehurst, 6. For Divine Service a 240 and a 720 were rung with J. Gratrix, 1; and A. Rangeley, 5; the others standing as before. In the afternoon a 360 of Violet was rung followed by a 720 in the same method. In the evening, by the same company, a 120 Oxford, 120 Violet, and 120 of New London Pleasure, followed by a 720 of Oxford (fifteen bobs). Mr. James Gratrix hails from Manchester.

LONDON.—On Monday, April 25th, at St. Olave's Church, Hart Street, City, Penning's 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-eight bobs and eighteen singles). W. F. Meads, 1; *H. N. Davis, 2; A. J. Perkins (conductor), 3; A. S. Barrell, 4; E. T. Edridge, 5; H. Stubbs, 6. *First 720 Bob Minor.

SUDBURY (Suffolk.)—On Sunday, April 17th, touches of Grandsire Triples and Plain Bob Major were rung for the Divine Service at St

Peter's and St. Gregory's churches during the day, by Messrs. Sillitoe, Campin, Howell sen., Howell, jun., Silvester, Brackett, Harper, and W. B. Ransom, Esq. *Handbell Ringing.*—On Sunday, April 3rd, at the residence of Mr. W. Howell, Cross St., a 720 of Bob Minor, on handbells retained in hand. W. Howell, jun., 1-2; C. Sillitoe (conductor), 3-4; W. Howell, sen., 5-6. This is supposed to be the first 720 rung double-handed by Sudbury ringers. On Sunday evening, April 10th, at the residence of Mr. C Sillitoe, on handbells retained in hand, a 720 of Bob Minor. W. Howell, junr., 1-2; C. Sillitoe, 3-4; *W. Howell, sen. (conductor), 5-6. *First 720 as conductor.

WENHASTON (Suffolk).—On Sunday evening, for Divine Service, 720 Plain Bob Minor. C. List, 1; A. Miles, 2; C. Chatten, 3; J. Larter (conductor), 4; F. Watling, 5; J. Punchard, 6. Time 23 mins. F. Watling hails from Saxmundham; Chatten and Punchard from Bramfield.

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE HEARTS OF OAK.—The question may be asked, "What can a ringing society have to do with a benefit society?" and it may seem strange to see the names of these large and important societies coupled together. The fact is, the benefit society numbers among its members many ringers; and as this is the year of years with the "Hearts of Oak"—the Jubilee—eight London members of the two societies resolved to celebrate the event by attempting a peal in its honour. Permission was obtained for the use of the beautiful peal of eight at St. Stephen's, Westminster, which were in fine order, thanks to Mr. Lamb, on Saturday, April 30th. "Go" was called by the old veteran, John M. Hayes, the senior Hearts of Oak member of the band, and Thurstans' peal of Stedman Triples was completed in 3 hrs. 8 mins. The striking throughout was of the best, every man being on his mettle, and on leaving the tower they were congratulated by several other members of the "Hearts of Oak" who had gathered round to listen. The peal will be found recorded in its proper place.

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

				Treble Bob Methods.			Grandsire.	On 6 bells.			Plain Methods.		Double Methods.				Surprise Methods.			Stedman.			
	Jan. and Feb.	March.	Total.	Royal.	Major.	In 7 Treble Bob Minor methods.	Caters.	Triples.	Doubles.	In 1, 2, or 3 methods.	In 4, 5, 6 or 7 methods.	Major.	Triples.	On 5 bells.	Duffield Major.	Dble. Norwich C.B.M.	London Surprise.	Cambridge S. Major.	Superlative Surprise.	Cinques.	Caters.	Triples.	Value in points see*	Position in 1891.
1 Kent County Association	15	11	26	—	6	—	1	5	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	6	458	2
2 Yorkshire Association	15	10	25	2	13	4	1	1	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	426	5
3 Midland Counties' Assn.	15	4	19	—	1	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	4	360	6
4 Sussex County Association	9	6	15	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	272	1
5 Norwich Diocesan Assn.	8	4	12	—	5	—	—	1	—	2	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	161	9
6 Royal Cumberland Youths	7	5	12	1	1	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	2	254	7
7 Society for Archdcny. Staffd.	6	4	10	—	1	—	2	4	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	92	13
8 Anc. Soc. of College Youths	5	4	9	1	1	1	1	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	138	3
9 Oxford Diocesan Guild	7	1	8	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	176	4
10 Durham & New'cle Dio. Asn.	5	3	8	—	4	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	144	19
11 Essex Association	5	2	7	—	—	2	—	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	92	8
12 Worcester and Districts Assn.	6	—	6	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	102	20
13 Middlesex Association	5	1	6	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	58	17
14 United Counties' Association	3	3	6	—	2	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	64	22
15 Lancashire Association	2	4	6	1	3	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	86	10
16 Gloucester and Bristol Asscn.	4	1	5	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	69	11
17 Surrey Association	3	2	5	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	72	16
18 Trinity Youths	4	—	4	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	64	18
19 Hertford Association	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	15
20 Winchester Diocesan Guild	2	1	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	40	12
21 St. Martin's Soc. Birmingham	2	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	100	21
22 Old East Derbyshire Asso.	2	1	3	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	40	32
23 Bath and Wells Association	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	23
24 Chester Diocesan Guild	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	37
25 Birmingham Amal. Asso.	2	—	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18	39
26 All Hallows' Soc. Tottenham	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	24
27 Hereford Association	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	29
28 East Lincolnshire Assn.	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	33
29 Bedfordshire Association	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	25
30 Salisbury Diocesan Guild	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	14
Independent Societies	12	4	16	—	5	—	2	6	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	170	—
	154	74	228	6	47	7	10	72	3	4	6	14	11	2	1	10	1	1	2	1	—	30	3557	
Less peals entd. under two Assns.	12	2	14	—	6	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	200	
Total	142	72	214	6	41	6	10	68	3	4	6	14	9	2	1	10	1	1	2	1	—	29	3357	

The 23 peals of Triples and Major in plain methods comprised: Canterbury Pleasure Major 3, Bob Major 11, Bob Triples 4, Darlaston Bob Triples 2, Oxford Bob Triples 2, and Court Bob Triples 1. The sixteen peals by Independent Societies were rung in the following Counties.—Staffordshire, 4; Gloucestershire, 3; Cheshire, 2; Yorkshire, 2; Lancashire, 1; Middlesex, 1; Somersetshire, 1; Wiltshire, 1; and Worcestershire, 1.

1891.			1892.		
January	.. ..	80	January	.. ..	79
February	.. ..	81	February	.. ..	63
March	.. ..	64	March	.. ..	72
		225			214

Decrease on the corresponding three months of 1891.—11.

*Schedule of points per ringer for ascertaining the respective value of peals in various methods as given in the next to the last column of the above analysis: Triples in all plain methods, 1 point, Major in all plain methods, 1½ points, Treble Bob Major (Oxford, Kent) and Forward Major, 2 points. Double methods twice the number of points as single in same methods, and Duffield Major, 3 points, Stedman Triples, 4 points, Superlative or New Cumberland Surprise Major, 5 points, Cambridge Surprise Major, 6 points, London Surprise Major, 8 points, On six bells; in one, two or three plain methods, 1 point in four, five or six plain methods, 1½ points, in seven plain methods, 2 points, in seven Treble Bob or seven Double Minor methods, 4 points, in seven Surprise methods, 6 points.

8, *Hanover Crescent, Brighton.* GEORGE F. ATTREE.

RAWMARSH, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of members of this Association took place at Rawmarsh on Easter Monday, when representatives were present from York, Sheffield, Rotherham, Bradfield, and Rawmarsh. The proceedings began with a peal of Grandsire Triples being attempted by the local ringers, which came to grief after ringing 3432 changes, in 2 hrs., owing to the 4th rope slipping wheel. An adjournment was then made to the "Earl Grey" inn, where a substantial dinner was served. After dinner Mr. Jos. Farmery proposed, and it was carried, that Mr. Thomas Hattersley, of Sheffield (steward of the Association), preside. The Chairman called upon Mr. W. H. Howard, of York (vice-president of the Association), to address the meeting.

Mr. Howard spoke of the pleasure it gave him to be present, and proceeded to give an interesting account of the ancient peal of twelve in York Minster. One of the bells was cracked, and each bell had a history of its own. Five of the old peal of twelve were cast in the year 1400 by a man named Innocent. The tongue of one of these bells could now be seen in a window of the Punch Bowl inn, York. He then gave a description of one of the windows in York Minster, which commemorates the ancient bells. The upper part of the window gives an account of the origin and date of the bells, and the lower part illustrates an incident connected with the inauguration of them, in which St. William, Archbishop of York, was being followed by a crowd of people over the bridge, and which, owing to the great crush, broke it down. He was writing a history of the bells of York Minster, and in a short time the pamphlet would be ready for sale. He (the speaker) commenced to ring in York Minster in 1839, and had rung many peals of Grandsire, and always enjoyed the work. Alluding to the Yorkshire Association, he pressed its claims upon the attention of the ringers of Yorkshire, and would like to see its influence extended.

The Chairman proposed "Success to the Rawmarsh bell-ringers," which was well received. The Rawmarsh handbell ringers gave several selections in good style, viz., "Jenny Jones," "Going home to-morrow," "The skiff on the shore," and the "Macron waltz." A performance on the bells was given by a company from York, Sheffield, and Rotherham, consisting of a course of Grandsire Caters. Songs were given by Messrs. T. Hattersley, G. Vernon, and G. Knapton. A touch of Stedman Triples was then rung on the church bells by a company of Rotherham ringers; and another by contingents from Sheffield, Rawmarsh, and Bradfield. The Rotherham ringers were Messrs. W. Coates, F. Coates, T. Lee, A. Rogers, J. Hall, and W. Warburton. The Rawmarsh company were: H. Bonds, 1; S. Walker, 2; U. Hawkins, 3; J. Ensor, 4; J. Farmery, 5; T. Whitworth (conductor), 6; W. Hawkins, 7; T. J. Wild, 8. Tenor 10 cwt. Tne old veteran, Mr. S. Whitworth, also took part in the handbell ringing. A most successful and enjoyable festival was concluded with thanks to the rector and churchwardens for privileges granted.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Easter Monday, April 18th, this Association held its second annual meeting at Killamarsh. Divine service was held in the church for the reopening of the bells at 11.0 a.m. After a short service in the tower, the Rev. H. E. Molineux, Rector of Staveley, preached a most appropriate sermon. During the service the bells were raised in peal by the local company, and a short touch of Oxford was rung. After service the church brass band ascended the tower, and played two tunes on the square, much to the delight of the large crowd of people collected together in the streets and churchyard.

The business of the day commenced by the ringing, in good style, of two 720s, by the Norton and Eckington men, when a move was made to the Crown Inn, where thirty members sat down to an excellent dinner. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, also dined with the society.

After dinner, the Rev. H. E. Ferry, President of the Association, took the chair. The minutes having been confirmed, the Secretary's report was next read, which was very encouraging. It shewed an increase in members during the past year, and the financial position of the Association to be very satisfactory. The number of peals had also increased from one in the last report to six in the present.

On the motion of Mr. H. Madin, the report was passed, the printing of the same to be left in the Secretary's hands.

The following officers were elected: Rev. H. E. Ferry, president; H. Madm and S. Allen, vice-presidents; H. Allen, hon. treasurer; and E. James, hon. secretary. A committee of 14 were also appointed. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Norton, on Saturday, June 25th.

After the usual votes of thanks were passed the meeting was brought to a close, and the tower was again visited by mixed bands, and the following 720s were rang: 720 of Oxford. G. Butcher, 1; J. Atkins, 2; E. James, 3; C. Fowler, 4; T. Lunn, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. A 720 of Violet. F. Hancock, 1; W. Price, 2; E. James, 3; W. Worthington, 4; G. Marsden (conductor), 5; T. Lunn, 6. And another 720 in the last-named method by Messrs. Butcher, Atkins, James, Norman, Marsden, and Allen. The Staveley, Harthill, and Dronfield members also rung a few short touches, but having to leave by an early train their time for ringing was limited.

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Notices.

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The Society of Trinity Youths.—The Meetings for May are as follows:—Lee, S. Margaret's: Wednesday, 11th, practice 7.45 to 9 p.m. Woolwich, S. Mary's: Tuesday, 17th, practice 8 to 10 p.m. Lewisham: St. Mary's, Monday, 23rd, practice 9 to 9.30 p.m. Bermondsey, S. James': Thursday, 26th, practice 8 to 9.30 p.m. A Quarterly Meeting will be held at Crayford, S. Paulinus, on Saturday, 21st. Tower open from 4 p.m. Members and Ringers are invited.

F. RUMENS, *Hon. Sec.*
40, *Nutcroft Road, Peckham.*

Lancashire Association. — Rochdale Branch.—Meeting at Newhey, to-day, Saturday, May 7th. Bells ready at 3 p.m., meeting in the Schools at 6 p.m.

F. BIRTWISTLE, *Branch Sec.*

Lancashire Association. — Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Christ Church, Pendlebury, to-day, Saturday, May 7th. Ringing from 4.0 p.m. Business meeting 7.0 p.m.

W. BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

Lancashire Association. — Liverpool Branch.—The usual monthly meeting of this branch will be held to-day, Saturday, May 7th, 1892, at Woolton church (eight bells.) Tower will be open at 3 p.m. Meeting in the Schoolroom at 6 p.m.

CHAS. R. STANLEY, *Local Branch Sec.*
26, *Roscoe Street, Liverpool.*

The Lancashire Association—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Helmshore, to-day, Saturday, May 7th, 1892. Bells ready at 3.30 p.m. Meeting at 6.

J. ROLLERSON, *Branch Secretary.*

Salisbury Diocesan Guild.—The annual meeting will be held at Poole, on Monday, May 16th next. Divine Service in St. James' church at 11.30 a.m. Meeting for election of officers and other business in the vestry after service. Dinner at the "Antelope Hotel" at 1.30 p.m., 2s. 6d. a head.

J. R. JERRAM, *Gen. Sec.*

Kent County Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Greenwich, on Monday, May 30th. Service at S. Alphege (address by Rev. Brooke Lambert, Vicar), at 12.30. Dinner at the "Good Duke Humphrey" coffee tavern. The general business meeting will be held after the dinner. The following towers will be open to members before the service and after the business meeting:—S. Alphege, Greenwich (ten), St. Mary, Lewisham (eight), S. John, Deptford (eight), S. Mary, Woolwich (eight). Members intending to be present, are requested to apply for dinner tickets and Railway vouchers (if required) to

FREDK. J. O. HELMORE, *Hon. Sec.*

The Norwich Diocesan Association.—A Quarterly General Meeting will be held at Thetford, on Tuesday, May 17th. The usual arrangements will be made for dinner, reduced fares, &c. The Hon. Sec. requests that notice be sent to him of the numbers likely to attend before Thursday, May 12th.

H. EARLE BULWER, *Hon. Sec.*
Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn.

Bath and Wells Association.—The next district meeting will be held at Yatton, on Saturday, 21st May. Further particulars later.

RUPERT LEWIS, *Hon. Sec.*

The St. James's Society, London.—The annual supper of this society will take place at the "Essex Head," Essex Street, Strand, on the evening of May 14th next.—Tickets 3s. each. The St. Clement's tower will be open for ringing at 5 p.m. Dinner at 7 p.m. sharp.

G. WILD, *Hon. Sec.*

Winchester Diocesan Guild.—A district meeting will be held at Petersfield, on Wednesday, May 18th. Committee meeting at coffee tavern at 2 o'clock. Bells open any time after 11.30. Market tickets from some stations by morning trains. Members desiring tea provided are requested to communicate with the Secretary, REV. R. C. M. HARVEY.

The Vicarage, Portsea.

NOTE TO THE HILLINGDON PEAL PUBLISHED THE WEEK BEFORE LAST. — After ringing the peal the ringers were hospitably entertained by the vicar, to whom the thanks of the ringers are due. An attempt for another peal at St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, came to grief after ringing two hours. A 720 of Bob Minor was rung upon the bells of St. Margaret, Uxbridge, in the course of the day. There is a tablet in the belfry of St. John the Baptist recording the last peal, which was rung on Sunday, May 14th, 1826, by the Watford UNION YOUTHS; this was also Holt's ten-part, and strange to say, it also occupied 3 hours 12½ mins. According to the rare yarns told by Charles Tomkins, who's father called the peal in 1826, these Watford Youths were a famous band. The bells run backwards. The following is a copy of an old plaister tablet in the gallery below:—"The whole peal of Grandsire Triples of 5040 changes was thrice performed by those persons hereafter mentioned in ye year 1733 Richard Ashley, James Munday, Richard Inett, John West, Richard Brown, John Christmas, Richard Perries, William Mitchill, Richard Cox, Richard Ashley, Jun. February 6th, 1737, was rung a complete peal of 5120 changes of Oxford Tripples Bobs, in three hours 26 mins., by the following men:—Charles Dodwell, 1; William Munday, 2; Richard Inett, Jun., 3; Charles Taylor (conductor), 4; Thomas Christmas, 5; Richard Inett, Sen., 6; Matt Ashley, 7; John Vuadamer, 8." It is very probable that these peals were rung by local ringers, for by referring to the MS. of the Union Scholars, we find that these Hillingdon men joined that society about the year 1751, one of these rang in the peal of 1737. We further find, that on the 9th April, 1751, that Union Scholars rang 5800 Double Bob Major, and 5040 Bob Major, in seven and a half hours, which was conducted by John Holt. Two other celebrated personages—James Albion and James Vicars, also took part, as they did in another peal of Double Bob Major in the same year. Vicars called another peal of Bob Major at Hillingdon in 1754, which appears to have been the last peal but one rung by the Union Scholars.

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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.

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5040.

	1	4	6
54326	–		–
62453	–	–	
25463	–		
64523	–		–
32465	–	–	
26435	–		
34625	–		–
42635	–		
36245	–		–
64235	–		
43265	–		
62345	–		–
24365	–		
63425	–		–
23564	–	–	–

Rung at Saffron Walden, 26th November, 1891. Conducted by F. Pitstow.

	1	4	6
34256			–
42356			–
24653		–	–
46253			–
52643	–		–
25346		–	–
53246			–
32546			–
45236	–		–
52436			–
24536			–
34625	–	–	–
46325			–
63425			–
23564	–	–	–

Rung at Saffron Walden, on Easter Monday, 18th April, 1892. Conducted by F. Pitstow.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

T. MARSHALL. — There is a peal at the Cathedral, and a band of half-pull ringers. Address a letter to Mr. Cope, George Street, and you will obtain full information.

SCEPTIC.—The suggestion, like many others referring to peals, is made on incompetent authority. The person you mention has not the faintest knowledge of the subject. If you want any further information upon this subject send a stamped addressed envelope.

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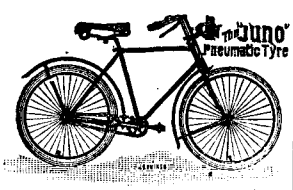

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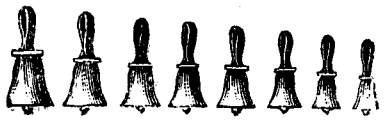

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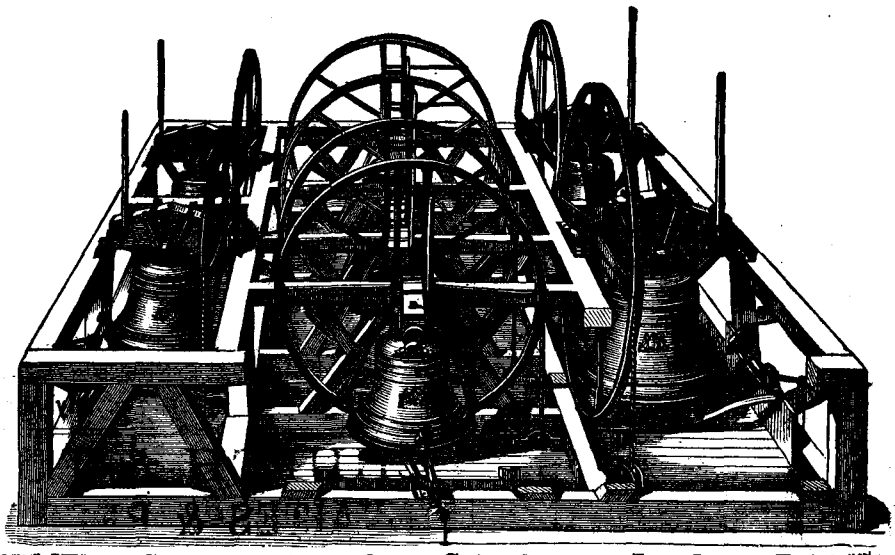

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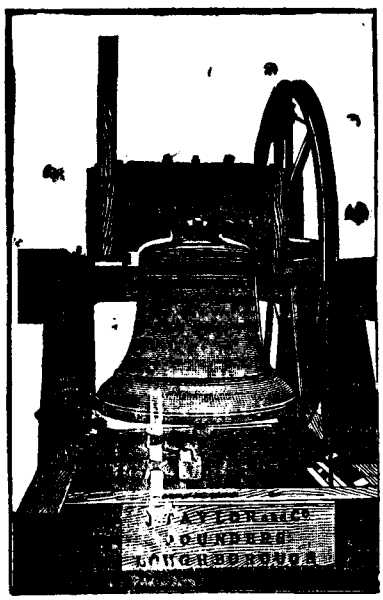

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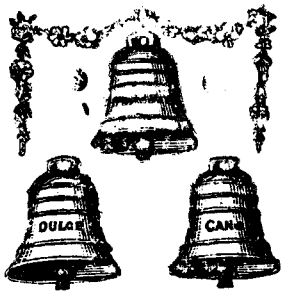

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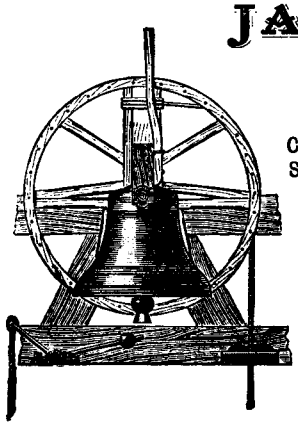

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