

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

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

No. 600.—VOL. XII.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1893.

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No. 265.—"Norah, the pride of Kildare," and the "Hazel Dell," for 12 bells, thus: G A B C D E F G A B C D E, 6 ringers ..	1	6
No. 282A.—"O come all ye faithful," and "Lo! He comes," same as 265 ..	1	6
The following Nos. are for 12 Bells, thus C D E F G A B C D E F G, 6 ringers		
No. 224.—"Hark the Merry Christmas Bells," for voices and bells, or bells alone ..	1	6
No. 243.—"Silver threads among the Gold," and "Where there's Love at Home" ..	1	6
No. 244.—"Chime again, Beautiful Bells" ..	1	6
No. 261.—"The Swiss Toy Girl," "Poor Rose of Lucerne" ..	1	6
No. 264.—"Norah, the pride of Kildare," and the Hazel Dell ..	1	6
No. 282.—"O come all ye faithful," and "Lo! He comes." ..	1	6
No. 268.—"Those Evening Bells" Polka." For lists 6 or 7, 2s., and list 5 ..	2	4

No. 282A may be had for same bells as above, with 4 ringers; the 1st and 2nd ringers retaining 4 bells,
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THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING AT IPSWICH.

The annual meeting of this Association was held on Tuesday, September 26th. Members to the number of considerably over 100 mustered from all parts of the diocese early on Tuesday morning. They came from Aldeburgh, Leiston, Rendham, Framlingham, Stowmarket, Ipswich, Norwich, Diss, Eye, Aylsham, Hasketon, Woodbridge, Monewden, Debenham, Thorndon, Wetheringsett, Helmingham, and Haddiscoe. In one respect this year's meeting was a red-letter day in the annals of the society, in that the veteran ringer, Leonard Proctor, Esq., aged 77, of Benington, Herts., attended. The towers of St. Mary-le-Tower, St. Clement's, St. Margaret's, St. Mary Elms, St. Matthew's, St. Nicholas, and St. Mary Key, had been placed at the disposal of the visitors. The peal at St. Lawrence could not be used, as the tower is under repair, while the St. Mary-le-Tower bells were muffled on account of the serious illness of a respected parishioner. At noon a service was held in this church, a form of service specially arranged for the annual meetings being used. An appropriate address was given by the Rev. J. Holme Pilkington (Framlingham).

After the service a dinner was held in the Co-operative Hall, Mr. W. H. Cook catering. The President, the Rev. Dr. Raven (Fressingfield), presided, supported by the Rev. H. E. Bulwer (Hon. Sec.), Revs. J. Holme Pilkington (Framlingham), C. F. Blyth (Wetheringsett), E. C. Hopper (Starston), W. Morley Smith (Homersfield), and S. Cross, and Leonard Proctor, Esq. (Benington), etc.

After the loyal toasts the Chairman proposed "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese." The late Bishop, who had occupied the see longer than any of his predecessors, had during the last few years been a patron of their association. Their new Bishop came with excellent recommendations, and they wished him power, strength, and wisdom to carry out his onerous duties. He trusted when he heard more of the work of the association he would take the position his predecessor had done. The clergy were the joint custodians of the towers, and it was by their authority that the members of that association were enabled to carry out their performances. He coupled with the toast the name of the Rev. J. Holme Pilkington, who was indeed "bone of their bone and flesh of their flesh," and an unmistakable friend to bell-ringers. If ever the time came, as he trusted it never might, when every stick and stone was taken from them, and the bells cast into cannon (as had been the case in Northern France), he hoped they might remain members of that grand old national Church of England through weal and woe.

The Rev. J. Holme Pilkington acknowledged the toast.

"Success to the Norwich Diocesan Association" was proposed by the Chairman, who alluded to the services of the Rev. H. E. Bulwer, and added that he little thought that he was to meet on the last day of his office so distinguished a veteran ringer as Mr. Leonard Proctor. That name had been familiar to him, and had been honoured by him for the last forty years. He coupled with the toast the names of Mr. Proctor and of their excellent secretary, the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer.

Mr. Proctor, who was cordially received, thanked them for their kind welcome; and

The Rev. H. E. Bulwer, in responding, said from the annual report he would shortly read, they would find he had not a very flattering account to give. Their rate of increase had diminished seriously, but was due not so much to the falling off in the number of recruits as from many old names, from various causes, dropping out of the lists. This dropping out was becoming serious enough to make them begin to think how to prevent it. More especially had the honorary members fallen off during the present year to the extent of eighteen or twenty. This decrease was doubtless due to the hard times, which had been becoming harder and harder for the last ten or twelve years, and there must be many men who found it hard to keep up their little subscriptions to the various societies. Five shillings did not seem a very large sum, but when it was multiplied by six or eight other similar claims, it became a serious matter to the clergyman with a poor living. He could assure them that the working men at the present time could better spare their shilling than the clergyman his five. As to the company members, the reasons for their falling out were various. The great majority

of the companies got on pretty well with the Church authorities, but he knew some instances in which the companies always seemed in hot water, quarrelling with the clergyman, or amongst themselves. One of the most important things for a company to have was a good master—a man of firmness, tact, and kindness of disposition. The question was what were they going to do to prevent further reductions in their ranks. He urged that they ought every one as individuals to do all they could to keep old friends with them and to make new ones. He asked them not to take offence too easily, or be too touchy over little matters. Don't raise grievances, but keep things smooth. Another thing, perhaps, most of all was needed, and that was a strong sense of duty in connection with their office. They were all church workers, and as such were expected to have a strong sense of duty and feel the responsibility of their position. Some bell-ringers were not so loyal to the Church as church-workers ought to be, and by their disloyalty they often alienated the sympathies of people whose sympathy was worth having. A loyal band of ringers would be certain to keep the respect of clergyman, churchwardens, and congregation. Whether they were permitted to ring their beloved bells or not depended entirely upon the goodwill of the clergyman. If the men were disloyal to the Church they could not wonder that the clergyman would occasionally shut his belfry against them. He did not think there were many of the clergy who would act unreasonably, though they were not perfect. Still he was sure that the clergy and church authorities generally, would always sympathise with ringers, and even take an interest in their work, where they found they had in their ringers a loyal and faithful body of men, on whom they could thoroughly rely. He concluded by moving a vote of thanks to the clergy of Ipswich for the use of the bells.

Mr. Cooper, of Aldeburgh, whose remarks were loudly cheered, protested against visiting a town like Ipswich, where, with the exception of St. Mary-le-Tower, there was not a peal of bells fit to be rung. If the clergyman and parishioners would not bestir themselves in this matter, and make their bells ringable, he hoped the Association would henceforth hold its annual meetings at Fressingfield, or some other place where ringing was a pleasure and not a misery.

The Rev. H. Earle Bulwer then read the annual report, in which it was stated that the past year had been comparatively uneventful. There had been a nett increase of forty-six only in the number of subscribers, for although 107 fresh names had been added to the list during the year, that accession of strength was seriously discounted by the numbers that had from all causes fallen out. Many of these latter were probationers, whose perseverance was from the first very doubtful; others had left the diocese, and unpaid subscriptions accounted for the remainder. The number of new honorary members elected during the year was eleven, and the number withdrawn seventeen. The total list of members now stood as follows: honorary members, 124; performing members, 554; probationers, 53; life members, 13; total, 774. Death had deprived the Association of one honorary member, the Rev. W. Ford Thursby, of Berg Apton, and one performing member, Mr. George Wright, of Somerleyton, a loss which was much regretted by all who had known him. The following towers had come into union since the last report: Blofield, Bedfield, Bungay St. Mary, Covehithe, St. Cross, Great Glemham, Wickham Skeith, and Wrentham; and the following companies had withdrawn (for a time only it was hoped)—Holkham, Oakley, Ryburgh, and Winterton. It had been found possible to effect a much-needed sub-division of the three districts of Beccles, Eye, and Woodbridge, by forming separate districts with Halesworth, Framlingham, and Debenham as centres. At one of the quarterly meetings held during the year, that at Fakenham in February, a sum of £2 was voted as a contribution towards the cost of a tablet recording the long peal rung at Debenham on Whit-Monday, 1892 (16,608 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Major, in 10 hrs. 32 mins.) This tablet was unveiled on the anniversary of the feat, and was a fitting monument of a very remarkable performance. After detailed reference to the work of the year, the report concluded: "If we are to maintain our present strength, and much more if we are to increase it, recruiting must go actively forward; our company members must not allow their zeal and devotion to cool; and, above all,

they should avoid everything that would tend to alienate the sympathies of church authorities. The Church expects all who bear office within her pale to be loyal to her, to be alive to their responsibilities, and to give a cheerful recognition to the obligations of churchmanship. We cannot refuse to declare the truth, that more is expected now-a-days of a church bell-ringer than mere proficiency in his art—that while it is well to be a good ringer, it is better to be a good and loyal churchman."

On the motion of Mr. W. Ireland (Diss), seconded by Mr. W. Rouse, this report was adopted. The name of Sir Lawrence Jones was added to the list of vice-presidents.

It was proposed by the Rev. C. F. Blyth, seconded by Mr. Cooper (Aldeburgh), and resolved unanimously, that the president and secretary should be re-elected, and Dr. Raven and the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer returned thanks for such a renewal of confidence in their efforts. The following gentlemen were elected representatives to the Central Council: Mr. W. L. Catchpole, Mr. Brundle, the Honorary Secretary, and the Rev. J. Holme Pilkington. It was resolved that the first three quarterly meetings of next year should be held at Coddensham, Great Yarmouth, and Kelsale respectively; and the meeting concluded with votes of thanks.

RE-OPENING OF BELLS AT ROMSEY ABBEY, HANTS.

These bells were re-opened on Saturday, September 30th, after having been rehung under the superintendence of Messrs. Blackburn and Greenleat, of Salisbury. A short service was held at 3.30 p.m., at which a most practical and excellent address was given by the Rev. R. C. M. Harvey, Honorary Secretary of the Diocesan Guild, from Romans xii. 5—"So we being many are one body in Christ." He spoke with special reference to the recognition of ringers as Church workers, and the consequent inducement to them to do their work to the glory of God, without the continual expectation of earthly rewards or wages; and also on the unity and harmony necessary alike for good ringing or christian fellowship. In conclusion he made an appeal for funds to pay off the cost of rehanging the bells, of which about £20 is still required. The offertory was just £3 3s., there being a fairly good congregation, including several well-known ringers. The service was shortened evensong, with Psalms for the day and special lesson, Rev. xiv. 17. Hymns: "When morning gilds the skies," and "Hark! Hark! my soul," with special prayers adapted from the ancient office for the consecration of church bells. After the service many of the congregation repaired to the belfry, where, after the collect "Prevent us," and the Lord's Prayer, the Abbey ringers rung a touch. In the meantime the Diocesan band were being entertained at tea, and after several preliminary touches had been tried, the following members started for a peal of Plain Bob Major, but unfortunately were unable to complete it, owing to one of the ropes being too long and getting entangled after ringing half-way: H. White, 1; J. Staples, 2; G. Grafham, 3; F. Hill, 4; J. W. Whiting, 5; T. Blackburn, 6; W. W. Gifford, 7; W. Wise, 8. The same band propose to attempt the peal again on Saturday, October 8th, and it is hoped they will be successful this time.

THE WORCESTER CATHEDRAL GUILD.

This being the year for the Musical Festival to be held in Worcester, and it having been held recently, it has given the members of the above Guild a rare opportunity for practice. The first three days they could not go on very far at a time, owing to the services being so very close together, and making the intervals so short. Several touches of Grandsire Caters were rung, consisting of a 468, 503, 594, and 701, being conducted by Messrs. L. Longney, W. Page, and W. Powell. On Friday, September 8th, there were only two services, thus allowing a longer space of time between, and of which the members took advantage of by starting for a date touch, composed by E. Bennett, of Beddington, Surrey, which was successfully brought round in 1 hr. 13 mins. B. Hill, 1; G. Hinton, 2; L. Longney (conductor), 3; W. H. Johnson, 4; W. Powell, 5; W. Page, 6; W. Bradford, 7; R. Horton, 8; E. Davies, 9; T. Malin and W. Pudge, 10. This is the first date

touch and longest touch ever rung on the bells owing to their going so badly; but great credit is due to this young society, which has only been formed about eight months.

On Wednesday, September 13th, at St. John's church, 720 Oxford Bob Minor was rung with the bells muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. Finch, who had been clerk of that parish for many years. B. Hill, 1; W. Powell, 2; E. Davies, 3; W. Page, 4; L. Longney (conductor), 5; W. Bradford, 6.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PAINSWICK (Gloucestershire).—On Thursday evening, September 28th, previous to the harvest festival, the local band rung 700 Grandsire Triples, and after service a 350 with 9-8-10 covering. On Sunday, September 24th, being known as Painswick feast, an occasion when year after year ringers from all parts of the county come to have a friendly pull together on the beautiful peal of twelve which the tower of the parish church contains, and view the charming scenery which abounds everywhere on all sides. The day being very fine, about forty ringers were present. The local band rung two short touches for early celebration and again for the morning service a 500 of Grandsire Triples, with 9-8-10 covering, Mr. John Austin, of Gloucester, taking part. During the afternoon and evening various touches of Triples and Caters were rung, including a well-struck 500 and a quarter-peal of Caters, 1259 changes, conducted by Mr. E. B. James, of Gloucester, Mr. Knight, of Walthamstow, taking part. The local band thank him much for visiting them in this out-of-the-way corner, and also their Gloucester friends, who helped them to enjoy so pleasant a day. On Monday evening, October 2nd, after ringing a 350 of Triples, with 9-8-10 covering, all adjourned to the meeting house, where various tunes and courses were rung, and all departed thoroughly delighted.

THE ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY, FULHAM.

At a meeting of this Society on Thursday, September 28th, the Master (Mr. J. W. Driver) claimed the indulgence of those present for a few minutes, when he called upon Mr. How, who handed to Mr. W. E. Garrard a handsome lamp as a wedding present. In doing so Mr. How said it gave him great pleasure to present so useful a gift to a member of the above Society. Mr. W. E. Garrard, in accepting the gift, which had come to him as a great surprise, he having no inkling of it previously, thanked the members for their present. The wedding of Mr. W. E. Garrard with Miss Pheobe Brooker took place on Saturday, September 30th, at All Saints' church, Fulham, the Vicar (as President of this Society) officiating. The ringers assembled at the church to witness the ceremony, after which they rang 521 Grandsire Caters, conducted by C. F. Winny. Also touches of Bob Royal and Grandsire Triples, conducted by Messrs. J. W. Driver and E. H. Adams respectively. The following took part in the ringing: Messrs. Driver, Adams, Green, Winny, Nicholls, How, Ough, Sorrell, Rowland, H. Ellis, Crocker, Thompson, H. Adams, Root and Worthy.

Obituary.

WILLIAM WALKER, OF LEICESTER.

We regret to record the decease of the above-mentioned ringer, in his fifty-third year, which took place on Monday morning under distressing circumstances. The deceased had been a ringer at St. Mark's and St. Margaret's churches for many years, and always rare he tenor. Of late he had felt a fulness in the chest, but nothing serious was thought of it, and on Sunday he walked to Sileby, his native place, being the Feast, and rang there in his usual health. On Monday morning he awoke and called his sons as usual, then went back to lie down, his wife hearing him make a noise called her son into the room, but the deceased ringer immediately fell back dead. Heart disease was the cause of death. The funeral took place on Thursday when six ringers carried him to his last resting place in Leicester cemetery. On Saturday St. Margaret's ringers rang a muffled date touch of 1893 Grandsire Caters in the tittums in 1 hr. 25 mins. J. Jarvis, 1; J. Wilson, 2; S. Cooper, 3; G. Burrows, 4; W. Cooper, 5; G. Cleal, 6; J. Buttery, 7; A. Millis, 8; J. Marlow, 9; C. Biddles, 10. Composed by William Willson, Leicester, and conducted by A. Millis.

[FROM "THE DOCTOR," BY *Southey*.]

Lord, ringing changes all our bells hath marr'd ;
 Jangled they have and jarr'd
 So long, they're out of tune, and out of frame ;
 They seem not now the same.
 Put them in frame anew, and once begin
 To tune them so, that they may chime all in !

HERBERT.

But a performance upon hand-bells when compared to bell-ringing is even less than a review in comparison with a battle. Strength of arm as well as skill is required for managing a bell-rope. Samuel Thurston's peal of Plain Bob Triples was "nobly brought round" in two minutes and three quarters, and his Grandsire Bob Cators were as nobly finished in five minutes and fourteen seconds. The reader shall now see what real bell-ringing is.

Paulo majora canamus. The Society of Cambridge youths that same year rang, in the Church of St. Mary the Great, a true and complete peal of Bob Maximus in five hours and five minutes. This consisted of 6600 changes, and for regularity of striking and harmony throughout the peal was allowed by competent judges to be a very masterly performance. In point of time the striking was to such a nicety that in each thousand changes the time did not vary one sixteenth of a minute, and the compass of the last thousand was exactly equal to the first.

In that same year died Mr. Patrick, the celebrated composer of church-bell music, and senior of the Society of Cumberland Youths,—an Hibernian sort of distinction for one in middle or later life. He is the same person whose name was well known in the scientific world as a maker of barometers; and he it was who composed the whole peal of Stedman's Triples, 5040 changes (which his obituarist says had till then been deemed

James Ogden was interred with honours of the same kind at Ashton-under-Line, in the year of this present writing, 1827. His remains were borne to the grave by the ringers of St. Michael's Tower in that town, with whom he had rung the tenor bell for more than fifty years, and with whom he performed "the unprecedented feat" of ringing five thousand on that bell (which weighed 28 cwt.) in his sixty-seventh year. After the funeral his old companions rang a dead peal for him of 828 changes, that being the number of the months of his life. Such in England are the funeral honours of bell-ringers.

Great then are the mysteries of bell-ringing ! And this may be said in its praise, that of all devices which men have sought out for obtaining distinction by making a noise in the world, it is the most harmless.

The parish church of Misson, in the diocese of Southwell, has recently been struck by lightning, and a great portion completely destroyed, the disaster being attended with circumstances of peculiar sadness in connection with the home-coming of the Vicar, after an illness caused by lightning. Misson is situated on the boundary of the county of Nottingham, about three and a half miles from Bawtry. The church, which dates back to the twelfth century, was restored in 1886 at a cost of about £400. At about 11.40 a.m., during a storm which broke over the village, it was struck by lightning. Two of the four pinnacles on the massive square tower were hurled down, and fell through the belfry. The church was fired in four different places. The village people were quickly on the spot, and till more material help arrived did what they could with buckets. The Bawtry and Tickhill fire-engines arrived, and the efforts of the firemen were principally directed to saving the large chancel, in which they were to a great extent successful, so that the flames were subdued by about six o'clock in the evening, but the damage done is very extensive. The tower was completely gutted, and the four bells were broken into fragments. The torn and twisted machinery of the clock lies in a heap of ruins in the churchyard. The oaken roof of the nave is burnt off, only a few naked rafters remaining here and there, and a portion of the south transept roof is also destroyed. The firemen were not able to save the chancel screen (put up at considerable care and cost during the recent restoration in the time of the Rev. J. R. Baldwin). Fortunately the parish clerk (Mr. Robert Pinder) thought of the registers and the insurance policies in an iron chest in the vestry, and saved them. The oak pulpit and the stone font were not much injured, nor were the new benches, although a few of the latter were broken and otherwise damaged. The lead on the belfry was simply melted by the heat, that on the roof was removed by the workmen so as to give them access to the flames. The church was insured in the Ecclesiastical Buildings Office for £1500., but it is quite impossible that this should cover the extent of the damage. Only eleven weeks ago the present vicar, the Rev. F. W. Keene, was so seriously injured by lightning that for a long time his life was despaired of, the occurrence happening while he was in the schoolroom near. He went away a short time ago for the re-establishment of his health, and returned on Saturday, hoping he would be able, in a sitting posture, to take the service on Sunday. The parishioners, by whom he is much esteemed, had arranged to ring the bells in honour of his home-coming, and he arrived at seven o'clock only to find the church an utter wreck.

CURRENT TOPICS.

The pages of our paper are getting heavier By that I mean that more ringing is being done in all directions. We may now say that the summer has departed—and I am thinking that we shall have a short autumn, but a long winter. This is not a cheering prospect by any means, especially with coal at two shillings per cwt., that now being the price of this article in London. We have nothing to fear as Englishmen any climatic conditions affecting the British Islands, if all the inhabitants therein can have plenty of food to eat, and good clothing and shelter. But when these last-named are lacking, much suffering and privation has to be borne, which in such a land ought not to be.

* * * * *

But to return. The cooler weather has had its effect on ringing, and very soon we shall see about forty peals per week recorded. A mention of this leads me to another subject. What has become of the "Analysis" of Mr. Attree? Are we to have it yearly instead of monthly, as before? I hope this gentleman has not abandoned this labour, not "resigned" it along with the secretaryship of the Sussex Association. He may be content that his analysis was much appreciated, and that from its regular appearance, and that alone, his name would become immortalized. We all hope to see him at work at this again.

* * * * *

The Irthlingborough folk have reason for rejoicing. Their parish church tower is re-built at last; it contains an augmented ring of bells. That "everything comes to those who know how to wait," has been proved at Irthlingborough. If the worthy incumbent had not seen the value of waiting, the parishioners would have had to look upon a tower of "debased" proportions, and only six bells. He had patience, and the result is a tower which the Bishop of the Diocese said was "unique above all the church towers he had ever seen; unique, admirable, and conspicuous." People who live in large cities, and pass by twice a day churches of every kind of architecture, cannot appreciate in the least the feelings of the inhabitants of such a place as Irthlingborough upon the restoration of their church tower to its pristine condition. The account of the proceedings at the re-dedication of this tower and bells shows that devotion to our grand old Church is far from being extinct in the county of Northampton.

* * * * *

The following letter has appeared in a Coventry newspaper:
ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH BELLS.

SIR,—When, at the restoration of the church, the bells were removed from the tower, the treble was fixed temporarily in a small campanile in the north-west corner. There it has remained ever since. It is time the attention of the Vicar and churchwardens was directed to the fact that the bell is being slowly but most effectually ruined through exposure to the weather and by the process of hammering on one side now adopted. Not only that, but with the deviation in tone of the first bell, the whole peal—one of the finest "ring" of ten in the country—would stand in danger of being completely spoiled. May I suggest the desirability of using a smaller bell, and of placing the treble in what at present is considered its proper place—the floor of the church.

CAMPANO.

To this letter is supplemented the following one to the same paper from a ringer whose name frequently appears in "THE BELL NEWS."

SIR,—With reference to a letter in your issue of the 23rd inst. signed "Campano," I may say that as a change-ringer I am in-

terested in this beautiful peal of ten bells, having taken part in ringing them when they were last heard. I have been very anxious about the treble bell for a long time, and am glad that the question as to the desirability of preserving it is being approached. I do hope that the authorities will take "Campano's" letter into serious consideration at once, by preserving the treble from ruination, or the fine peal of ten will be completely spoiled. The bells at Trinity church chime for services, and it appears to me that as St. Michael's church is so close, the bells at Trinity ought to be sufficient for both churches for the present.

JAMES GEORGE.

We feel something more than a bald liking for all our celebrated rings of bells. And here is the treble of one of the best of them really going to the bad. Those people whom we call by the name of "church authorities" don't know the damage which is being perpetrated, of course. The spoiling of a treble bell isn't a matter of stocks and shares, nor has it anything to do with "business," so there need not be much concern about it. That is what some people think. What are the admirers of everything that had to do with St. Michael's, Coventry, thinking about? Shade of George Woodcock! I invoke ye to stir up your former townsmen.

* * * * *

I hope the various references made to the bells of St. Peter's church, Northampton, will be of service in drawing the attention of the clergy once more to the fact that Church bells must only be worked upon by competent people, or, as the Editor calls them—"specialists." Mr. George, as well as that unknown (to me) correspondent who sent the first letter upon the subject, have done yeoman's service in the matter. I advise all to speak out whenever bells go badly after renovation, real or imaginary. If ringers make their voices heard with no uncertain sound when bell-hanging is inefficiently performed, we shall soon see the last of such work. If I were asked to name any one to be employed upon bells, I should point out to the advertising firms in our paper to select from. These are people who in the words of the above authority, "have the confidence of the Exercise."

* * * * *

A new ring of eight has just been put up by the Messrs. Taylor at a place called Saunthorpe, in Lincolnshire. A somewhat curious thing it is that there are no ringers in the district, and until some have been made, the bells will not be rung. I suppose the County Association concerned will have an eye to this, and will endeavour to manufacture some ringers as soon as possible. The Vicar appears to be a ringers' clergyman, and he will doubtless strain every nerve to get a good band from among his parishioners. Meanwhile I wish success to the band of the North Lincolnshire Association who are to attempt a peal on these bells on the 16th instant—and gentlemen, mind the striking.

PLAIN SPEAKER.

ST. LUKE'S CHURCH, CHELSEA.

The peal of ten bells at the above church, which has been closed since June 28th last for ringing on account of the decayed state of the frame, was opened on Sunday, October 1st. The work was put into the hands of Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, who have put in a new H iron frame, quarter-turned the bells, new clappers, and all new fittings, in fact everything is new but the bells. The "go" of the bells now is all that can be desired. Practice at the church every Wednesday at 7.30 p.m., and ringing every Sunday at 10.30 a.m. and 6 p.m.

T. E. BARBER, Hon. Sec.

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

Notices.

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

The Lancashire Association.—The Annual Meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Rochdale, to-day, Saturday, October 7th. Members are requested to send new compositions of peals rung during the past year to A. E. Wreaks, 40, Gibbon Street, Bolton. Nominations for the Committee will be made at the next meeting of the Manchester, Liverpool, and Rochdale Branches. Nominations for the office of Vice-President, and Ringing Secretary, may be sent by any member of the Association. Subscriptions, and all matter for the Annual Report should be sent at once to the Secretary, at 26, Old Road, Tonge, Bolton.

J. REDFORD, } Hon. Secs.
A. E. WREAKS, }

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.—The Quarterly Meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Wolverhampton, to-day, Saturday, October 7th. Ringing at 2 p.m. Tea rs. per head. All subscriptions should be paid at this meeting. Annual Reports will be ready for distribution.

S. REEVES, Hon. Sec.

10, Bull Street, West Bromwich.

The Bedfordshire Association.—The Quarterly Meeting will be held at Potton, to-day, Saturday, October 7th.

The Midland Counties' Association.—Nuneaton District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Barwell, to-day, Saturday, October 7th. Tower open 3.30 p.m.

H. ARGYLE, Local Hon. Sec.

The Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next monthly meeting of this Association will be held at Norton, to-day, Saturday, October 7th. Members intending to be present are requested to give notice to Mr. E. Glover, Dog Croft, Smallthorne.

REV. J. W. ALSTON, } Hon. Sec.
W. TWIGG, }

The Yorkshire Association.—The eighteenth annual meeting will be held at Sheffield, to-day, Saturday, October 7th. Service in the Parish Church at four o'clock, with sermon by the Rev. F. G. Sandford, M.A., Vicar of St. Andrew's, Sharrow, a ringing member of the Association. Tea in the Church Institute at five o'clock; business meeting afterwards in the same place. The local Hon. Sec. is Mr. C. H. Hattersley, Snider Works, Napier Street, Sheffield. The annual report will be issued at the meeting, as usual.

BEN T. COPLEY, Hon. Sec.

3, St. Jude's Square, Bradford.

The St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—The usual quarterly meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 10th, at the Tamworth Arms, Moor Street, when all members who can make it convenient are requested to attend. Chair to be taken at 8.30 p.m.

W. H. GODDEN, Hon. Sec.

61, Roland Road, Handsworth.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—Bristol.—The next meeting for practice will be held at St. Stephen's church on Tuesday, September 10th, at 7.30 p.m.

C. H. GORDON, Local Sec.

Llandaff, South Wales.—I am requested to give notice that a meeting will be held in the Prebendal House, Llandaff Cathedral, on Friday, October 13th, for the purpose of forming an Association of change-ringers in this Diocese. All ringers desirous of becoming members are earnestly invited to attend. Chair to be taken at 7.0 p.m. by the Bishop of Llandaff. Busses leave the top of High Street every 20 minutes for Llandaff. H. G. WHITE, 72, Tudor Road, Cardiff.

The Sussex County Association.—Eastern Division.—A district meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Eastbourne, on Saturday, October 14th. Ringing from 2 p.m. Service 5.30, followed by Tea and Meeting.

T. HERVEY BEAMS, Hon. Div. Sec.
5, Clinton Place, Seaford.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Shaw, near Oldham, on Saturday, October 4th, when Kent Treble Bob is requested to be practised. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m. Business of importance.

EDMUND SCHOFIELD, Branch Sec.
Clark Street, Halifax Road, Rochdale.

The Heavy Woollen District Association, Yorkshire.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Batley, on Saturday, October 21st, at 5 p.m. Committee meeting at 4 p.m. Meeting house, Fleece Inn, near the Church. Rules are now ready, and can be had of the Secretary (rd. each) by post 2d.

GEORGE H. SIMON, Hon. Sec.

19, Albert Street, Batley Carr.

The Essex Association.—A District Meeting of the above will be held at Stanfords-Hope, on Saturday, October 21st. Further particulars will be sent next week.

HENRY T. W. EYRE, Asst. Sec.

The Oxford Diocesan Guild.—The first quarterly meeting will be held at Woodstock, on Saturday, October 21st. Service at 3 p.m. Tea, 6d. per head, at 6 o'clock. Methods to be rung, Grandsire, Stedman and Bob Major. Numbers for tea to be sent in not later than October 17th to REV. T. E. E. CHATAWAY, Bladon Parsonage, Woodstock.

Midland Counties' Association.—The second quarterly meeting of the year will be held at Loughborough on Saturday, October 21st, full particulars of which will appear in next week's issue. At this meeting a testimonial will be presented to Mr. Griffin, late Hon. Secretary. Also four representatives to the Central Council will be elected, nominations for which, signed by two members, must reach me not later than Friday, October 20th. By the kindness of the Loughborough society a free tea will be given to all ringing members who have paid their subscriptions for the current year, and send their names to Mr. Reader, Leake Lodge, Stanford Hall, Loughborough, not later than Wednesday, October 18th. Parties of eight or more can obtain fare and a quarter tickets at any station by giving three days' notice.

J. O. LANCASHIRE, Hon. Sec.

22, St. Peter's Road, Leicester.

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Diocesan Branch.—On account of the Annual Meeting taking place at Rochdale to-day, the St. Helen's Meeting will not be held until Saturday, November 4th.

C. E. WILSON, } Branch Secs.
T. R. SOMERVILLE, }

The Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Durham, on Monday, October 30th. Committee Meeting at 12 (in vestry); Service at 1 p.m., both at St. Nicholas' church. The Vicar, the Rev. H. E. Fox, will preach the sermon. Dinner at the Three Tuns inn at 2 p.m. The belfries of the Cathedral, St. Nicholas, and St. Oswald will be open at intervals during the day. C. BUSTON, Hon. Sec. Embleton, Christon Bank, Northumberland.

NOTES TO PEALS.

THE PEAL AT NEWCASTLE.—This was Mr. Hattersley's well-known one-part peal with the 4th and 6th their extent in 5-6. It also records Mr. E. Bewick's fiftieth peal, and his first in the method. His half-century has been rung in the following methods: Plain Bob Triples and Major; Grandsire Triples and Caters; Stedman Triples and Caters; Treble Bob Royal and Major, Double Norwich, and Superlative Surprise Major; in seven methods on six bells, and five methods on five bells. These have all been rung with the Gloucester and Bristol Association and the Durham and Newcastle Association. Mr. Bewick is only a little over twenty-two years of age. This was also the first peal of Superlative Mr. Holmes has called.

THE MARLOW PEAL.—Owing to the sudden death of a lady in the parish it was feared this peal would have to be abandoned; but as it was then too late to stop three of the band who came from a distance, it was arranged, with the approval of Mr. Y. J. Lovell, churchwarden, to ring with the bells fully muffled. W. H. Fussell hails from Slough, and it is nearly two years since he took part in a peal previous to this one. H. N. Davis hails from London, and was elected a member previous to starting for the peal; F. and R. Biggs from Huggenden; the rest belong to the local band.

THE ASTON PEAL.—This peal was rung to commemorate the rooth anniversary of the long peal of 15,360 Bob Major rang at Aston on October 1st, 1793, in 9 hrs. 31 mins. Mr. John Day, of the St. Martin's Guild, well remembers being at Aston and hearing the late Mr. William Hassall (one of the ringers in the above peal, and who died in 1853, aged eighty years), say what a well-struck peal it was. I have no doubt that our brother-members of the St. Martin's Guild all over the country will join with us in being pleased that we have been successful in commemorating such an excellent performance. T. R.

In Preparation. To be Published by Subscription.

THE CHURCH BELLS OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE. By ALFRED HENEAGE COCKS, M.A., Ch. Ch., Oxford; F.Z.S., F.R.G.S., Great Marlow, Bucks. With many illustrations.

MESSRS. JARROLD & SONS have pleasure in announcing the early publication by subscription of this most interesting and important work. It will contain an account of all the Church Bells in Buckinghamshire, with everything relating to their history that can be discovered. Full accounts of all the Founders whose bells hang in the various towers will be given, special reference being made to the Bell-founders whose works were located in the County, including the Wokingham and Reading Foundries, where so large a number of Church bells in Buckinghamshire were cast. The work was undertaken at the instigation of the late J. C. L. Stahlischmidt, Esq., author of "Surrey Bells and London Bell-founders," "The Church Bells of Kent," "Herts," etc.; and the fact that the author had the benefit of the kind assistance and advice of this well-known campanologist may be mentioned as some guarantee of the scope and nature of the present work. Mr. Stahlischmidt wrote the author, that in his opinion "Bucks will make a particularly interesting county," and he repeated this opinion in a subsequent letter. The "Church Bells of Buckinghamshire" will consist of about 600 pages, & be handsomely illustrated with 24 full-page plates of mediæval letterings, founders' marks, etc., found on Bells still existing in the County and numerous figures—some of them being peculiar to Bucks—will be inserted in the text. The 5vo. Edition is limited to 500 copies, and will be offered to subscribers before the day of publication at 25s. nett. The Larger Edition, Royal 4to, is limited to 80 copies, and will be subscribed at 45s. The prices will be raised on the day of issue should any copies remain unsold.

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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.)

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

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THE REV. DR. RAVEN'S WORK.

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THE CHURCH BELLS OF SUFFOLK.—By JOHN JAMES RAVEN, D.D., of Emmanuel College, Cambridge; Vicar of Fressingfield-with-Withersdale; Honorary Canon of Norwich Cathedral; and President of the Norwich Diocesan Association.—WITH ABOUT NINETY ILLUSTRATIONS.—This most interesting work contains an account of all the Church Bells in the County of Suffolk—their makers and history—so far as they can be discovered. Incidental notices are introduced of the ancient uses of Bells—the individuals mentioned on them—and many historical events connected therewith. Introductory remarks on the general history of the Bells are prefixed to local portion of the work. The book is fully illustrated with engravings of ornaments, letterings, founders' marks, shields, etc., of which some will be found hitherto unknown. The latter portion of the work contains a complete list of Churches in the County, with the inscriptions on the Bells now belonging to them, as well as on many which have been re-cast. The Demy 8vo. Edition is limited to 500 copies, and is now offered at 20s. nett; or Bound in Half-morocco, Roxburgh style, 27s. 6d. nett. Copies by post 1s. 6d. extra. The Large Paper Edition was subscribed for within a few days of the issue of the Prospectuses, and is now unobtainable.

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" 6 "	4s.
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All Subscriptions and Orders for papers must be sent direct to the Publisher E. W. ALLEN, Ave Maria Lane, London.

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7 1893.

An announcement on the notice-page signifies that an attempt is to be made to form a ringers' Association for Llandaff. Some months ago we strongly advised the formation of a Guild in this Diocese, and we are pleased to find that our suggestions have borne fruit. The Lord Bishop is to take the chair at the preliminary meeting, which is to be held in the Prebendal house of the Cathedral, so that the initial proceedings look promising. Signs of life have appeared recently among the ringers of the Diocese, and this may be an earnest of what is to follow the proceedings of Friday next. We should be glad to hear that a great number of the clergy had determined to be present, and support their Bishop's efforts in this welcome movement.

And to those of our brethren in this diocese who are anxious for the establishment of a Guild, we would recommend a close perusal of those excellent observations uttered by the Honorary Secretary of the Norwich

Association at the Annual Meeting of that body held the other day at Ipswich. The rev. gentleman's remarks on this occasion may be read with profit by anyone, but especially by those who have the formation of a new Association in view. Mr. BULWER's advice and counsel we should not only read, but mark, learn, and inwardly digest. It is spoken at a peculiarly happy moment for of our brethren of the principality. May they be benefitted by it. An account of their proceedings next Friday will be looked for with some interest, and by us with some anxiety.

PORTRAIT NUMBER.—Next week the Portrait of Mr. JOHN SMITH, Hon. Secretary of the Worcestershire Association, will be published.

We are asked to print the following appeal, and have great pleasure in so doing:—"Would any brother-string kindly help advertiser into situation of some sort. Fair scholar; can be well recommended; good change-ringer. Address with full particulars to D. N. c/o Editor." We hope some of our brethren will see if they can help in this case.

The Provinces.

BISHOPS STORTFORD, HERTS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, September 27, 1893, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt.

WALTER W. TUCKER .. Treble.	WALTER PRIOR 5.
ALFRED TUCKER 2.	*CORNELIUS CHARGE 6.
GEORGE PRIOR 3.	HENRY PRIOR 7.
HENRY JAMES TUCKER .. 4.	THOMAS NEWMAN .. Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY JOHNSON and Conducted by HENRY JAMES TUCKER.

*First peal in the method.

DARLINGTON, DURHAM.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, September 28, 1893, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 10 cwt.

ARTHUR E. MONCASTER* Treble.	JOHN H. JONES 5.
ROBERT BORROWS 2.	JAMES BAXTER 6.
JOHN W. PASSMAN 3.	ALEX MCFARLANE 7.
WILLIAM BELL 4.	JOHN H. BLAKISTON.. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY HUBBARD and Conducted by J. H. BLAKISTON.

*First peal. This is the first peal on the bells, and was rung on the occasion of the visit of the members of the Iron and Steel Institute to Darlington. Messrs. Baxter and Moncaster belong to the local band; the rest hail from Middlesbrough.

ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.—THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

On Saturday, September 30, 1893, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES.

Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

ARTHUR J. JONES Treble.	BENARD WITCHELL 5.
JOHN BUFFERY 2.	THOMAS RUSSAM 6.
HENRY BASTABLE 3.	WILLIAM KENT 7.
CHARLES DICKENS 4.	THOMAS REYNOLDS .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by THOMAS RUSSAM.

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

GREAT MARLOW, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, September 30, 1893, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES; HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

WILLIAM H. FUSSELL† .. Treble.	†EDWARD JONES 5.
FREDERICK G. BIGGS 2.	RALPH BIGGS 6.
HAROLD N. DAVIS† 3.	†WALTER ERNEST YATES .. 7.
WALTER JAMES TAPLIN* .. 4.	†JOHN C. TRUSS, JUN... Tenor.

Conducted by HAROLD N. DAVIS.

*First peal. †Cumberland Youths. A note to this peal is on another page.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, October 2, 1893, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt.

FREDERICK LING Treble.	FREDERICK CLAYTON 5.
WILLIAM GRIMES 2.	WILLIAM FLORY 6.
WILLIAM RUFFELS 3.	WILLIAM G. CRICKMER .. 7.
GEORGE ROWE, JUN... .. 4.	WILLIAM MILLER .. Tenor.

Composed by G. A. RANSOM and Conducted by W. G. CRICKMER.

First peal on eight bells by F. Ling, and first attempt. Flory hails from Cretingham; Ling from Bedford; Clayton from Worlingworth; Crickmer from Earl Soham; the rest belong to Debenham.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, October 2, 1893, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

CHARLES L. ROUTLEDGE.. Treble.	ROBERT S. STORY 5.
FRANCIS LEES 2.	ALFRED F. HILLIER 6.
WILLIAM HOLMES 3.	WILLIAM STORY.. .. 7.
ERNEST E. BEWICK 4.	FREDK. J. HARRISON... Tenor.

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY and Conducted by WILLIAM HOLMES
A note to this peal will be found on another page.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, October 2, 1893, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

JOHN C. TRUSS, JUN. .. Treble.	HAROLD N. DAVIS 5.
FRANK BIGGS 2.	SIDNEY GOODCHILD 6.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 3.	RALPH BIGGS 7.
FREDERICK BIGGS 4.	WALTER ERNEST YATES.. Tenor.

Composed by G. LINDOFF and Conducted by J. C. TRUSS, JUN.

Truss and Yates hail from Marlow; Fussell from Slough; Davis from London; the rest belong to Hughenden.

DUDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

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

On Monday, October 2, 1893, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES; IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 22 cwt.

ARTHUR SPITTLE Treble.	JOHN S. PRITCHETT 6.
JAMES PAGETT 2.	SAMUEL SPITTLE 7.
WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT.. 3.	JOHN SMITH 8.
JOHN CARTER 4.	ALBERT E. PARSONS... .. 9.
WILLIAM R. SMALL 5.	JOHN GOODMAN Tenor.

Composed by H. JOHNSON and Conducted by J. CARTER.

The above is a two-part peal, and was rung at the first attempt, and is the first peal of Royal in this method by both Associations, also the first by all the above ringers except J. Carter and W. R. Small. J. Carter hails from Birmingham; Small, Tipton; Pritchett, King's Norton; Smith, Netherton; Parsons, Old Hill; the rest are local men.

Date Touch.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BOLTON.—On Thursday, September 21st, at The Saviour's church, a date touch of 1893 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 13 mins. J. Heathcote, 1; J. Calderbank, 2; R. Fiddies, 3; W. Hulme, 4; J. Partridge, 5; J. Calderbank, 6; A. E. Wreaks (conductor), 7; H. Lord, 8. Tenor 20½ cwt. Composed by E. E. Vinen, of London. This touch was rung as a compliment to Mr. W. Grundy, one of the local ringers, who was married on the same day.

Miscellaneous.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BROMLEY (Kent).—On Thursday, September 21st, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor, with the tenor covering, on the occasion of the wedding of Miss Annie Harris, niece of Mr. Martin J. Dickens, of Bromley, Kent, and Mr. F. W. D. Harris, of Wootton, Northamptonshire. G. Simpson, 1; E. Dunn, 3; W. Fright, 4; G. Durling, 5; F. Sanders, 6; T. Harford (first 720 in the method as conductor), 7; W. James, 8. On Sunday, September 24th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 45 mins. E. Dunn, 1; J. Emery (first quarter-peal in the method), 2; T. Groombridge, 3; G. Daynes, 4; G. Durling (conductor), 5; H. Warnett, 6; W. Bedwell (composer), 7; W. James, 8. On Tuesday, September 26th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. G. Simpson, 1; W. Fright, 2; E. Dunn, 3; W. Smith, 4; G. Durling, 5; F. Sanders, 6; T. Harford (composer and conductor), 7; W. James, 8. Bedwell, Warnett, and Daynes hail from Lewisham; Groombridge from Chislehurst; Emery from St. Mary Cray; Smith from Penge; the rest belong to the local band.

OSPRINGE (Kent).—On Thursday, September 21st, for practice, 742 Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Original. S. Croucher, 1; H. Burling, 2; E. Bridges, 3; E. E. Foreman, 4; E. Holladay, 5; F. Hunt, 6; G. A. Ransom (conductor), 7; W. Lucas, 8. And 252 Grandsire Triples. S. Croucher, 1; W. Willis (first touch of Triples), 2; E. Bridges, 3; E. E. Foreman, 5; H. Burling, 5; F. Hunt, 6; G. A. Ransom (conductor), 7; J. Austin, 8.

HAYES (Kent).—On Sunday, September 17th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor. W. Bedwell (conductor), 1; G. Harwood, 2; G. H. Daynes, 3; H. Reader, 4; E. Stone, 5; H. Warnett, 6. And 120 Grandsire Doubles. G. Harwood, 1; W. Bedwell, 2; G. H. Daynes, 3; H. Warnett, 4; E. Stone (conductor), 5; H. Reader, 6. Messrs. Bedwell, Warnett, and Daynes hail from Lewisham.

TOWN MALLING (Kent).—On Sunday evening, September 24th, for Divine Service on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 630 Grandsire Triples. J. Capon, 1; D. Hall, 2; E. Newman, 3; J. Worsley, 4; W. Harden, 5; J. W. Leonard, 6; W. Bell, 7; W. Buss, 8. And 504 in the same method. W. Smith, 1; J. Worsley, 2; E. Newman, 3; Rev. A. L. Brine, 4; W. Harden, 5; J. W. Leonard, 6; W. Bell, 7; D. Hall, 8. Both conducted by J. W. Leonard.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

HEADINGLEY (Yorks).—On Tuesday, September 19th, for practice at St. Michael's church, 1008 Bob Major. H. C. Buckley, 1; W. Wood, 2; A. Naylor, 3; J. Logan, 4; J. Alderson, 5; J. C. Walker, 6; J. Whitaker, 7; A. Haste, 8. *Longest touch by J. Alderson. On Sunday, September 24th, 720 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. H. C. Buckley, 1; W. Wood, 2; T. Flint, 3; A. Naylor, 4; J. Logan, 5; A. Craven, 6; J. Whitaker (conductor), 7; A. Haste, 8. Longest touch in the method by all.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

BUCKNALL (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, September 14th, for practice, 720 London Scholars' Pleasure. C. Preston, 1; W. Wheildon, 2; R. W. Twigg, 3; J. E. Wheildon, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all, and rung at the first attempt. On Sunday, September 17th, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Bob Minor. C. Preston, 1; D. Preston (first 720 with a bob bell), 2; J. E. Wheildon, 3; W. Wheildon, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. For Divine Service in the evening, 720 Duke of York. D. Preston, 1; C. Preston, 2; the rest as before. On Tuesday, September 19th, for practice, 720 City Delight. D. Preston, 1; W. Wheildon, 2; R. W. Twigg, 3; J. E. Wheildon, 4; G. Hobbs, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all. On Thursday evening, September 21st, 720 London Scholars' Pleasure. C. Preston, 1; the rest as before.

CHEADLE (Staffordshire).—On Tuesday, September 12th, at St. Giles' church, 720 Bob Minor. *A. Shenton, 1; J. Burton, 2; S. West, 3; J. Shenton, 4; R. Bullock, 5; H. Booth (conductor), 6. *First 720. Rung in honour of the marriage of Miss Matilda Godwin to Dr. Williams.

TUNSTALL (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, August 10th, at Christ Church, 720 Bob Minor (twenty bobs and ten singles). H. C. Gibson, 1; G. A. Smith, 2; R. C. Gibson, 3; E. Horne, 4; W. Rigby, 5; J. Johnson (conductor), 6. On Friday, September 8th, 720 Bob Minor (eight bobs and four singles). J. Whitmore, 1; G. A. Smith, 2; W. Rigby, 3; E. Horne, 4; *W. Harratt (conductor), 5; J. Johnson, 6. Messrs. Gibson hail from Swansea. *First as conductor.

NORTON-LE-MOORS (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, August 27th, at St. Bartholomew's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob and 720 Oxford Bob. J. Whitmore, 1; G. A. Smith, 2; W. Rigby, 3; W. Harratt, 4; E. Glover, 5; J. Johnson, 6. Both conducted by J. Johnson. All except the 5th man hail from Tunstall.

BURSLEM (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, September 14th, at the church of St. John the Baptist, 720 Kent Treble Bob and 720 Bob Minor. J. Foden, 1; G. A. Smith, 2; W. Rigby, 3; W. Harratt, 4; E. Horne, 5; J. Johnson (conductor), 6. Rigby and Horne exchanged places for the Bob Minor. On Sunday, September 17th, 720 Oxford Bob. J. Whitmore, 1; G. A. Smith, 2; W. Rigby, 3; W. Harratt, 4; E. Horne, 5; J. Johnson (conductor), 6.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

WELSHPOOL.—On Tuesday, September 19th, for practice at the parish church, 700 Grandsire Triples. F. Hughes, 1; W. Maddox, 2; E. Turner (Ross), 3; Rev. T. Hughes, 4; W. Jones, 5; T. Barnes, 6; T. J. Bratton (conductor), 7; L. Gittins, 8.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM (Surrey).—On Sunday afternoon, September 10th, being the annual Church Parade of the Friendly Societies, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, containing the twenty-four 6-7s. A. J. Leclercq, 1; A. E. Headey, 2; A. White, 3; A. Smith, 4; G. H. Barnett, 5; H. L. Garfath (conductor), 6; E. Clapshaw, 7; H. Wright, 8. Tenor 21 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

EAST HAGBOURNE (Berks).—On Sunday morning, August 27th, for Divine Service, 504 Grandsire Triples. E. Windus, 1; H. Mills, 2; E. Richardson, 3; D. Napper, 4; A. Woodley, 5; T. East (conductor), 6; J. Sawyer, 7; J. Hitchman, 8. On Sunday morning, September 3rd, 462 Grandsire Triples. E. Windus, 1; H. Mills, 2; E. Butler, 3; A. Bosley, 4; D. Napper, 5; T. East (conductor), 6; J. Sawyer, 7; J. Hitchman, 8. On Sunday, September 10th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. E. Richardson, 1; H. Mills, 2; T. East, 3; J. Savage, 4; D. Napper, 5; C. H. Martin (Hendon), 6; J. Sawyer (conductor), 7; J. Hitchman, 8. On Sunday, September 24th, for morning service, the first 504 of Holt's ten-part peal. J. Slade (longest touch), 1; E. Butler, 2; E. Richardson, 3; H. Mills, 4; A. Woodley, 5; D. Napper, 6; J. Sawyer (conductor), 7; E. Windus, 8.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

STREATHAM (Surrey).—On Tuesday, September 19th, for practice at St. Leonard's church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 24 mins. J. A. Lambert, 1; R. Blanchard, 2; R. Sewell, 3; W. S. Smith, 4; J. Fayers, 5; G. Welling (conductor), 6. Tenor 12 cwt.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—ROCHDALE BRANCH.

ROCHDALE.—On Sunday morning, September 3rd, for Divine Service at All Saints, Hamer, 720 College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 26 mins. R. E. Hoyle, 1; E. Shepherd, 2; J. Crossley, 3; R. Whittles, 4; E. Schofield, 5; J. W. Crossley, 6. On Sunday evening, September 3rd, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (forty-two singles), standing as above. On Sunday morning, September 10th, for Divine Service, a 720 of Bob Minor (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles). J. Lingard, 1; R. E. Hoyle, 2; J. Crossley, 3; R. Whittles, 4; E. Schofield, 5; J. W. Crossley, 6. On Sunday evening, September 10th, for Divine Service, a 720 College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. W. Crossley, 1; J. Lingard, 2; J. Crossley, 3; R. Whittles, 4; E. Schofield, 5; R. E. Hoyle, 6. On Sunday morning, September 17th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles). J. Lingard, 1; E. Shepherd, 2; J. Crossley, 3; R. Whittles, 4; E. Schofield, 5; R. E. Hoyle, 6. On Monday, September 18th, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles) in 26 mins. J. Lingard (first 720 in the method), 1; E. Shepherd, 2; J. Crossley (first 720 in the method as conductor), 3; R. Whittles, 4; E. Schofield (first

720 in the method), 5; J. W. Crossley (first 720 in the method), 6. On Sunday morning, September 24th, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), 5th the observation. J. Lingard, 1; E. Shepherd, 2; R. E. Hoyle, 3; G. Hoyle, 4; J. Crossley, 5; J. W. Crossley, 6. On Monday, September 25th, for practice, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles) in 26 mins. J. Lingard, 1; E. Shepherd, 2; J. Crossley, 3; R. Whittles, 4; E. Schofield, 5; J. W. Crossley, 6. All conducted by J. Crossley.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

STANFORD-LE-HOPE (Essex).—On Saturday, September 23rd, 720 Bob Minor. J. Waits, 1; A. Deards, 2; H. Randall, 3; A. J. Perkins, 4; E. Pye, 5; W. Dale, 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. H. Randall, 1; A. Deards, 2; A. J. Perkins, 3; E. Pye, 4; W. H. Doran, 5; W. Dale, 6. And 720 Double Court Bob Minor. A. Deards, 1; A. J. Perkins, 2; H. Randall, 3; E. Pye, 4; W. H. Doran, 5; W. Dale, 6. All conducted by A. J. Perkins. Messrs. Waits, Deards, Randall and Doran hail from West Ham; Perkins and Pye from Romford; Dale from Hornchurch. First 720 of Double Court Bob on the bells.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

STOCKTON.—On Sunday, August 27th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor. (nine bobs). J. Clarkson, 1; T. Burden, 2; G. J. Clarkson, 3; D. Shipp (Staindrop), 4; T. Stephenson (conductor), 5; W. Newton, 6.

STAINDROP.—On Tuesday, September 29th, 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles). Also 120 Oxford Bob Minor. On Sunday, September 3rd, 360 Grandsire Minor, for morning service. For evening service, 360 in the same method. W. McLean, 1; R. Leonard, 2; W. Johnson, 3; T. Leonard, 4; C. Walker, 5; D. Shipp (conductor), 6. On Sunday, September 17th, 360 in the same method. J. W. Shipp (conductor), the rest as before. On Monday, September 18th, for the Harvest Festival, two 720s of Grandsire Minor, standing as before. On Sunday, September 24th, for morning service, 360 Grandsire Minor. For evening service, 360 in the same method.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BALCOMBE (Sussex).—On Thursday, September 14th, the following was rung for practice: 360 Plain Bob. R. Bourn, 1; E. Stoner (first 360 with a bob bell), 2; E. Streeter, 3; J. Wedge, 4; C. Holman, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6. And 720 College Exercise. A. Gasson, 1; R. Bourn, 2; C. Holman, 3; J. Gasson, 4; J. Wedge (first 720 in the method with a bob bell), 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. On Sunday, September 17th, for the Harvest Festival, 720 College Single. E. Stoner, 1; R. Bourn, 2; C. Holman, 3; J. Gasson, 4; J. Wedge, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. For evening service, 720 Oxford Bob. E. Stoner, 1; A. Gasson, 2; C. Holman, 3; J. Gasson, 4; J. Wedge, 5; E. Streeter (conductor), 6. After service 360 Plain Bob. E. Stoner, 1; A. Gasson, 2; F. Streeter, 3; J. Wedge, 4; C. Holman, 5; J. Gasson (conductor), 6.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

KILLAMARSH (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, September 3rd, at the parish church, 720 Violet and 720 of College Pleasure. W. Lambert, 1; G. Utley, 2; G. Norman (conductor), 3; S. Thomas, 4; G. Marsden, 5; A. Brierley, 6. And 720 Duke of York. J. Emsen, 1; G. Utley, 2; C. Severns, 3; S. Thomas, 4; G. Marsden, 5; A. Brierley (conductor), 6. Messrs. Brierley and Utley hail from Bradfield; Lambert from Treeton; Thomas from Sheffield; Norman and Marsden from Eckington.

NORTH WINGFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, September 17th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and eighteen singles). W. Butler, 1; T. Day, 2; F. Knowles, 3; J. Butler, 4; W. Hopkinson, 5; J. Tarlton (conductor), 6. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect for the late Mr. Thomas Holdsworth. On Sunday evening, September 24th, for Divine Service on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 720 College Single (twelve bobs and ten singles), composed by J. Fisher, of Ducklington, and published in "THE BELL NEWS" of September 23rd. G. Burton, 1; W. Butler, 2; F. Knowles, 3; J. Butler, 4; W. Hopkinson, 5; J. Tarlton (conductor), 6. Tenor 18½ cwt. in E.

NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

ORDSALL (Notts).—On Tuesday, September 19th, for practice, 720 Plain Bob Minor in 28 mins. H. Merrills, 1; W. Preston, 2; J. C. Whetstone, 3; C. Crawford, 4; H. Haigh (conductor), 5; J. White, 6. And 120 Grandsire Doubles. H. Blagg, 1; W. Preston, 2; J. C. Whetstone, 3; C. Crawford, 4; H. Haigh (conductor), 5; J. White, 6. Another in the same method. H. Blagg, 1; W. Preston, 2; J. C.

Whetstone, 3; C. Crawford, 4; H. Haigh (conductor), 5; T. Newbert, 6. C. Crawford hails from East Markham; T. Newbert from East Drayton. On Sunday, September 24th, it being the Harvest Festival, for early morning service, 120 Grandsire Doubles. J. C. Whetstone, 1; J. Haigh, 2; S. J. Hemsworth, 3; H. Blagg, 4; H. Haigh (conductor), 5; C. Crawford, 6. For Divine Service 360 Plain Bob Minor. H. Merrills, 1; W. Preston (first touch as conductor in the method), 2; S. J. Hemsworth, 3; H. Blagg, 4; J. C. Whetstone, 5; J. White, 6. And for evening service 360 in the same method standing as in the morning with the exception of J. B. Joynes, 5.

THE EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

CLAY CROSS (Derbyshire).—On Sunday, September 17th, two 720s of Bob Minor, one with eighteen singles and three bobs, the other with fourteen singles and four bobs, with the bells deeply muffled as a last tribute of respect to Thomas Holdsworth, Esq., for many years churchwarden of the parish church, who died on Thursday, September 14th, aged 82 years. On Sunday evening, September 24th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (fourteen singles and sixteen bobs) in 23 mins. J. Green, 1; J. Maycock, 2; J. J. Cook, 3; T. Millington, 4; F. Marshall, 5; T. Clough, 6. In one of the first 720s T. Pipeday rang the treble. The first two 720s were composed by T. Millington, of Clay Cross, and all were conducted by him. Tenor 9½ cwt.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—MANCHESTER BRANCH.

PENDLEBURY (Lancashire).—On Sunday evening, September 24th, for Divine Service, on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, the first four parts of Holt's ten-part of Grandsire Triples in 1 hr. 10 mins. J. Booth, 1; T. Lingard (conductor), 2; J. Hindley, 3; W. Pyle, 4; J. Makin, 5; J. Chapman, 6; J. Briscoe, 7; T. Rushton, 8. *First with a bob bell. †First attempt. Tenor 15 cwt.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

RAMSBOTTOM.—On Monday evening, September 18th, for practice, at St. Paul's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. *J. S. Taylor, 1; J. H. Haydock, 2; J. Wolstenholme, 3; *R. Leach, 4; A. Clegg, 5; *J. Smith, 6; G. Appleby (conductor), 7; J. Booth, 8. *First quart er-peal.

GRIMLEY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday morning, September 24th, for Divine Service on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 1260 Grandsire Doubles, in 42 mins., being ten-and-a-half 6-scores, each called differently. E. Wainwright, 1; H. Matthews, 2; M. Matthews, 3; A. Callow, 4; T. Bullock (conductor), 5; A. Watkins, 6. This is the longest length by all except the conductor, and the longest on the bells. Tenor about 15 cwt.

LONDON.—On Saturday, September 20th, for practice at the church of St. Olave, Hart Street, a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. A. Read, W. Langdon, 2; W. Truss, 3; T. O'Meara (conductor), 4; E. Thorne, 5; C. Potheary, 6.

MONNEWEN (Suffolk).—On Wednesday, September 20th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. R. H. Hayward (conductor), 1; E. Hall, 2; H. Moss, 3; H. Baldry (Brandeston), 4; W. G. Archer, 5; J. Tarrant, 6. Tenor 6 cwt. E. Hall is a member of the College Youths, and hails from Stepney, London.

MORRISTON (Glamorganshire).—On Sunday evening, September 24th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor in 26½ mins. W. Harris, 1; W. Jones, 2; R. C. Gibson, 3; D. J. Clark, 4; L. J. Nasmith, 5; W. Green (conductor), 6. Tenor 10 cwt. The above contains fourteen singles and four bobs.

OSPRINGE (Kent).—On Monday, September 25th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-one bobs and twelve singles) with 6-8 covering, in 26 mins. S. Croucher, 1; H. Burling, 2; C. Couchman, 3; C. H. Drake, 4; F. Hunt, 5; J. Austen, 6; G. A. Ransom (conductor), 7; H. Baker (first 720), 8.

PENARTH (South Wales).—On Tuesday, August 15th, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 26 mins. J. Vinnicombe, 1; W. Biss, 2; J. Jones, 3; F. Bartlett, 4; T. Northey (first in the method), 5; D. Thomas (conductor), 6. On Sunday, August 27th, for Divine Service, 720 Grandsire Minor in 26 mins. J. Vinnicombe, 1; W. Biss, 2; C. Lloyd, 3; F. Bartlett, 4; T. Northey, 5; C. Smith (conductor), 6. And 720 Bob Minor in 25½ mins. J. Vinnicombe, 1; W. Biss, 2; C. Lloyd, 3; D. Thomas, 4; T. Northey, 5; C. Smith (conductor), 6.

ROSS (Herefordshire).—On Wednesday, September 20th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung with the bells deeply-muffled, in respect to the memory of the Rev. R. H. Cobbold (Rector of Ross), who was interred that day. H. Bird, 1; C. H. Gordon (Bristol), 2; J. Atkins, 3; J. G. Wall (conductor), 4; A. Bird, 5; Rev. H. C. Courtney, 6; J. Clark, 7; J. Symes, 8.

SHREWSBURY.—On Monday, September 18th, for practice at St. Alkmund's church, three plain courses of Grandsire Triples. G. Taylor (aged 14), 1; W. Owen, 2; T. Burd, 3; W. Taylor, 4; A. Espley, 5; F. Taylor, 6; G. Byolin, 7; J. Shotton, 8. And 350 Grandsire Triples. W. Owen, 1; T. Burd, 2; G. Burrows, 3; W. Taylor, 4; E. Turner (Ross), 5; F. Taylor, 6; G. Byolin (conductor), 7; J. Shotton, 8. First attempt by all except Messrs. Burd, Turner, and Byolin. J. Shotton hails from Lilleshall.

SKIRBECK (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday morning, September 24th, for Divine Service at St. Nicolas' church, a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles and two 6-scores of April Day. J. Colman, 1; C. R. Lilley, 2; J. E. Clark, 3; H. Palmer (conductor), 4; T. Woods, 5. For evening service a 6-score of Primrose and a 6-score of Old Doubles. J. Colman, 1; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 2; J. E. Clark, 3; H. Palmer, 4; T. Woods, 5. And a 6-score of Plain Bob by the same company, H. Palmer (conductor), 4.

STANSTEAD (Suffolk).—On Sunday, September 17th, for the Harvest Thanksgiving services, 720 Oxford Treble Bob (fifteen bobs). R. Gowers, 1; A. Clarke, 2; A. Papworth, 3; G. Smith, 4; R. Theobald, 5; R. Brett (conductor), 6. For morning service 720 Court Bob (eighteen bobs and two singles). A. Clarke (conductor), 1; R. Theobald, 2; G. Smith, 3; S. Slater (Glemsford), 4; R. Brett, 5; R. Gowers, 6. And 720 Kent Treble Bob. R. Gowers, 1; G. Smith, 2; A. Papworth, 3; A. Clarke, 4; R. Theobald, 5; R. Brett (conductor), 6. Also 240 Bob Minor (six bobs and two singles). A. Clarke (conductor), 1; R. Brett, 2; A. Papworth, 3; G. Smith, 4; R. Theobald, 5; R. Gowers, 6. After service a touch of Bob Minor with W. Smith, 2; the rest as before.

STEYNING (Sussex).—On Sunday, September 10th, for morning service, 504 Stedman Triples. J. Smart, 1; C. Smart, 2; J. Matthews, 3; G. Smart (conductor), 4; C. Chambers, 5; G. Gatland, 6; W. Collison, 7; E. Turrell, 8. Mr. G. Smart is now residing at Berkhamstead, Hertfordshire. On Sunday, September 17th, for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples. G. Gatland, 1; W. Woolgar, 2; J. Woolgar, 3; W. Collison, 4; C. Chambers, 5; C. Smart (conductor), 6; J. Smart, 7; E. Turrell, 8. For evening service 420 in the same method. C. Smart, 1; H. Meetens, 2; W. Woolgar, 3; J. Smart, 4; C. Chambers, 5; J. Woolgar, 6; W. Collison (conductor), 7; E. Turrell, 8. On Sunday, September 24th, for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Woolgar, 1; H. Meetens, 2; J. Woolgar, 3; J. Matthews, 4; J. Smart, 5; C. Chambers, 6; C. Smart (conductor), 7; E. Turrell, 8. For evening service, 504 in the same method. A. Gatland, 1; J. Matthews, 2; H. Meetens, 3; C. Smart (conductor), 4; J. Smart, 5; C. Chambers, 6; C. Tyler (Henfield), 7; L. Payne (Henfield), 8.

TOWN MALLING (Kent).—On Sunday morning, September 24th, for Divine Service on the occasion of the Harvest Festival, 720 Bob Minor, with 6-8 covering. W. Smith, 1; J. Capon, 2; E. Bonner, 3; Rev. A. L. Brine, 4; J. Worsley, 5; J. Hilder, 6; J. W. Leonard (conductor), 7; W. Buss, 8. All the above except J. Hilder are members of the Kent County Association.

WILBURTON, NEAR ELY (Cambs).—On Monday, September 25th, for practice, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob, in 25 mins. J. Markwell, 1; H. Markwell, 2; A. Markwell, 3; A. Hayes, 4; H. Sharp, 5; H. Markwell, 6. This is the first 720 in the method by all the band, and rung at the third attempt.

Correspondence.

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

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

A GOOD RECEPTION.

SIR,—On reading my "BELL NEWS" of Saturday last, I saw the account of the ringing at Bournemouth, Hants. My name should read "F. K. Howell," not "F. T. S. Howell." And as regards the invitation that all ringers will meet with a hearty welcome at St. Peter's, this I can thoroughly endorse, from staying a few days at that favourite watering-place. On the Sunday morning I found my way into the ringing-chamber and made the acquaintance of the ringers, and was invited to take part in the ringing for morning service, also for evening service, and as stated they arranged to meet on the Tuesday evening for me. I beg heartily to thank each and all for the way they assisted to make my visit to Bournemouth a success, and I trust on some future date to pay them another visit and again ring in their beautifully furnished ringing-chamber. Any ringer that may intend to visit Bournemouth will do well to communicate with Mr. Grist. I should also like to thank the ringers of the Priory, Christchurch, for the touches I helped to ring on their beautiful-toned peal.

Thornbury, Gloucestershire.

F. K. HOWELL.

A SURPRISE PEAL.

SIR,—The peal of 5056 Superlative Surprise Major which appears in your last issue, is practically the same composition as one which I worked out in June, 1890, and which I handed, something over twelve months ago, to Mr. William Hickling, the Master of the Duffield ringers' society, with a view to his calling it. Owing, however, to the loss of several of our members, the peal has not yet been rung.

The composition as I framed it, is as follows:—

2	3	4	5	6	B	H
4	2	3	5	6	-	-
3	4	2	5	6	-	-
3	4	5	6	2	-	-
3	4	6	2	5	-	-
6	3	4	2	5	-	-
4	6	3	2	5	-	-
4	6	2	5	3	-	-
2	4	6	5	3	-	-
2	4	5	3	6	-	-

These nine courses, twice repeated, produce a touch of 4896 changes in twenty-seven courses. If now, in any one of the three parts, instead of the calling of the seventh and eighth courses, four courses are substituted, called respectively:—B—BH—BH—B, two of the three remaining course-ends will be introduced, and the peal will consist of 5056 changes, containing twenty-nine of the whole thirty course-ends. The largest number of short courses hitherto comprised in a peal is eight as against fifteen in the above composition, which runs also in Cambridge Surprise, Burton Variation.

I question whether the increased number of course-ends gained by this treatment can be considered as musically an improvement. The W lead is so great a feature of this method when a good bell is in sixth's place that its loss is scarcely atoned for by the extra number of 7-8s.

The difference between the two compositions is merely that in the one you have already published the calling starts with what in mine is the third course, and that in this course in each of the three parts the bob H is omitted.

About the only problem remaining for solution in the Surprise methods is, I believe a 5056 two-part peal of Cambridge (Burton Variation). I have succeeded in getting one of 5248, but Mr. Dains achieved a two-part 5056 of Superlative, and there seems no good reason why this should not be possible of Cambridge.

Of course these two-part peals of necessity contain one or more pairs of course-ends with the bells in 5-6 reversed, and it is such compositions alone that cannot be used for both Superlative and Cambridge (Burton Variation).

A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

Duffield Bank, Derby, October 1st.

CHANGE-RINGING OF THE PRESENT DAY.

SIR,—On Sunday, September 24th, a Sheffield ringer visited a certain church at one of our most fashionable seaside resorts in Lancashire, and wishing to have a pull with his brother-stringers he ascended the tower and found them ringing Churchyard Bob with a vengeance. After a brief interval they resumed their tedious and monotonous task of ringing rounds. In the meantime the man who was ringing the third told the two trebles that they must stop at a given signal, as they could not cease all at one time, never asking the visitor if he was a ringer or where he came from. Surely courtesy was lacking amongst this band.

FRIENDSHIP.

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—The peal of Bob Major rung at St. Peter's, Tunbridge Wells, on Tuesday, September 19th, and published under the Kent County Association and the Royal Cumberlands, and entered in your issue of September 23rd, must be entered as an independent peal, as I find the ringers do not all belong to either society.

W. LATTER.

67, Goods Station Road, Tunbridge Wells.

*** We do not hold ourselves responsible for the admission of the reports of anything but peals in the current number. Correspondents who send early in the week have the best chance of their contributions appearing.

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WE have much pleasure in presenting to you our Report of the business and progress of the Company for the past year. Our hopes and expectations, as expressed in our last Report in relation to the Influenza, have been realised, and although our Premium Income was hard on £18,000 more, our Claims were nearly £18,000 less.

NEW BUSINESS.—The number of Policies issued in the Industrial Department was 209,885, at an annual premium of £110,962 11s. 6d. The number of Policies issued in the Ordinary Department was 1,966, assuring the sum of £150,890, at an annual premium of £7,832 11s. 1d. This makes a total for the two departments of 211,851 Policies at an annual premium of £118,795 2s. 7d.

INCOME.—The Total Income of the Company was £317,294 14s. 7d., and the Total Expenditure was £294,596 2s. 9½d., leaving a balance on the year's transactions of £22,698 11s. 9½d., which made the Total Funds at the end of the year, £160,356 12s. 11½d., notwithstanding that there was an extra expense of £2,359 19s. 9d., for valuation of the Company's business, and about £1,000 special bonus paid on the original share capital.

CLAIMS.—The Total Amount Paid in Claims for the year was £151,720 15s. 0½d., including £5,950 12s. 11d. Surrender Claims. The Total Sum Paid to April 30th, 1893, was £1,134,814 7s. 10½d.

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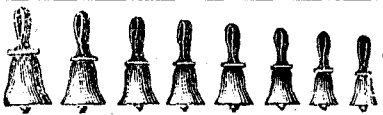
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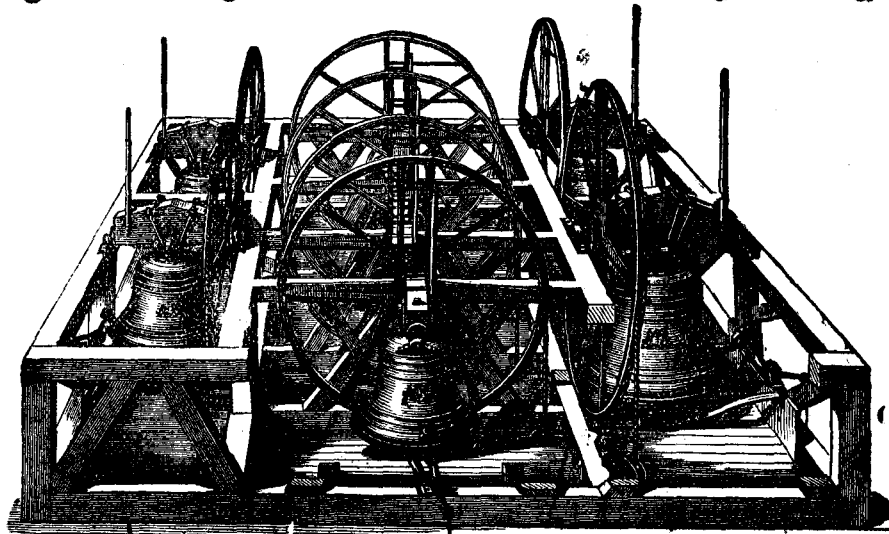
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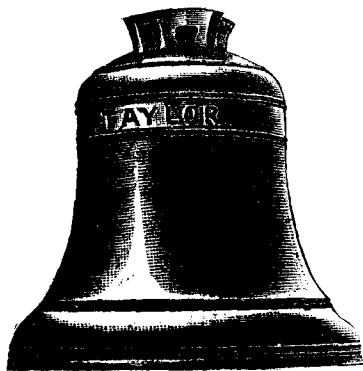
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