

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 750.—VOL. XV.]

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 1896.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

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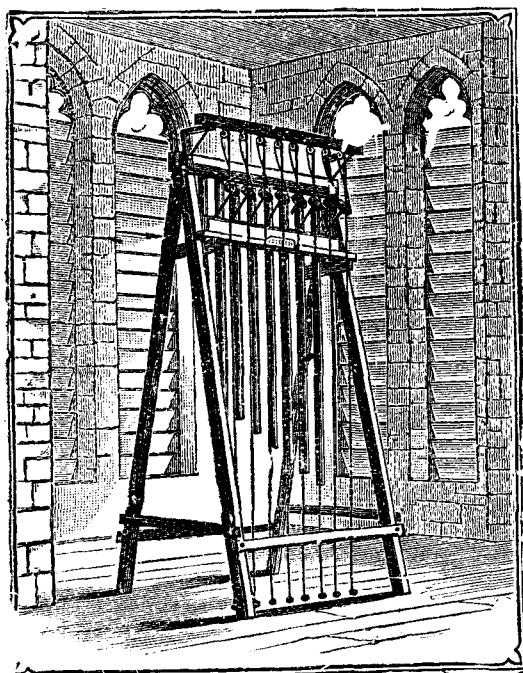
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SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 1896.

[Vol. XV.]

MR. EDMUND CHANDLER, OF FRESSINGFIELD, SUFFOLK.

[Vide Portrait.]

The record of Mr. Edmund Chandler, of Fressingfield, Suffolk, a hale and hearty old ringer, whose portrait is given with this number, is a remarkable one, as will be seen from the accompanying extract from *The East Anglian Daily Times* of Monday, the 3rd inst :—

"A PRESENT FROM THE QUEEN."

The annual treat which was given to the National School children at Fressingfield, on Friday, was marked by an unusual circumstance. After tea in the vicarage grounds, Canon Raven brought out a beautiful portrait of Queen Victoria, at the foot of which was the following inscription: 'Presented to Edmund Chandler by Queen Victoria in recognition of his having assisted to ring the bells of Fressingfield church on every anniversary of the birth of Her Majesty since the accession. June, 1896.' The cheery and hale recipient of this gracious and kindly present was a little overcome by feeling himself the object of so much attention, but soon recovered his usual spirits. In presenting the Queen's portrait to Edmund Chandler, Canon Raven said that he had communicated the remarkable fact recorded in the inscription to one of his fellow canons, the Rev. F. A. J. Hervey, rector of Sandringham, and Chaplain to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and that through the kindness of Sir Dighton Probyn and Sir Arthur Bigge, the facts had been brought under Her Majesty's notice. The assemblage was greatly touched by Her Majesty's condescension, and three ringing cheers were promptly given for the Queen. Two children, three grandchildren, and one great grandchild of the old ringer were present. As he was born on February 29th, 1812, he claims to have only just come of age, having celebrated only twenty-one birthdays."

It has not fallen to Mr. Chandler to share in any glory of 5000 odd changes, the peals in which he rung by some mischance failing of their due end. But he is well-known amongst his fellows as a steady striker, and his presence is always heartily welcome. His father, also named Edmund, was a ringer, and a grandson of the same name has the same taste.

Fressingfield has a musical ring of eight bells, grown out of four in the return of 1553. The present tenor, a mediæval bell from the Norwich foundry, seems to have been the third of these four, the frame being constructed for a bell larger than the present tenor, about which a letter remains in the Tanner MSS. in the Bodleian Library. The Rural deanery of Hoxne, in which Fressingfield lies, though without a market-town or a yard of railway, contains in its twenty-five towers three rings of eight, six rings of six, and as many of five bells.

Mr. Chandler's many friends are naturally much

gratified by the gracious recognition accorded by Her Majesty to his humble services. His cottage on Mill Green has received numerous visitors to see the Royal Portrait, and the portrait of himself here given is unanimously pronounced excellent.

A VISIT TO OLNEY AND NEWPORT PAGNELL, BUCKS.

On Thursday, August 6th, the ringers of the parish church, Wellingborough, accepted a long-standing invitation to visit Newport Pagnell. The drive of sixteen miles through a pretty country was thoroughly enjoyed. The party first stopped at Olney (eleven miles from Wellingborough), where, by the kindness of the vicar, the Rev. J. P. Langley, they had the privilege of ringing some 6-scores of Doubles on the bells of "the town of Cowper." They are a ring of six of the following dates:—1682, 1699, 1631, 1733, and 1682. The second bell is not dated. The tenor, a bell of considerable dignity of tone, is now said to weigh 24 cwt. That is certainly nearer its actual weight than 36 cwt. as formerly stated. Olney bells are a pleasant sounding peal. The church stands close to the river, and this adds mellowness and beauty to their music. A new church clock with quarter-chimes was put in the tower in the year 1888 at a cost of £280. The present vicar has been connected with Olney since 1834. A few years ago he published a most interesting little book entitled "Annals of Olney," being a chronicle of events of local interest from A.D. 879 up to the present day.

The Rev. C. M. Otley, vicar of Newport Pagnell, met the visitors on their arrival in that old town at one o'clock, and the churchwardens and Mr. Mitchell (steeplekeeper), likewise did their best to make them welcome. The bells, a ring of eight from the Whitechapel Foundry, London, 1749, tenor 22 cwt.), were found to go somewhat unpleasantly, and the unusually long stretch of loose rope from pavement to ceiling (without guides), prevented anything like good striking. To celebrate the Jubilee of Queen Victoria, musical chimes, playing fourteen tunes (including "God save the Queen"), were placed in the lofty tower and opened in June, 1887, being the kind gift of F. Taylor, Esq., a prominent resident. An extra bell was at the same time put up in connection with the chimes. The bells of Newport Pagnell are a good octave, but need overhauling by a competent bell-hanger. Though failing in their wish to get a satisfactory touch of Triples at the church, the visitors afterwards delighted some of the townsfolk with change-ringing and tunes on their handbells. A 548 of Grandsire Triples was particularly appreciated, being, apparently, novel music at Newport. The church of SS. Peter and Paul, with its pinnacled tower, stands, like the church at Olney, close by running water, being near where the river Ouse is joined by the Lovat.

THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY, LONDON.

The following are the officers of this Society for the ensuing year, elected at a meeting held on the 27th ult. :—Master, Mr. E. P. O'Meara (re-elected); Senior Steward, Mr. C. F. Winney (re-elected); Junior Steward, Mr. W. Truss; Treasurer, Mr. W. Weatherstone; Secretary, Mr. R. A. Daniell, 20, Bucklersbury, E.C., to whom all communications respecting the Society should be addressed. The next meeting will be held at St. Clement Danes on the 24th instant.

NORTH'S ENGLISH BELLS AND BELL LORE.
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MR. EDMUND CHANDLER.

(Of Fressingfield, Suffolk.)

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

The Ninth Annual Festival of this Guild was held at Stockport, on Monday, August 3rd. The proceedings opened with service in the parish church at 11 a.m., a large number of the clergy and members of the Guild being present. The preacher was the Rev. F. E. Robinson, Vicar of Drayton (Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild), who delivered an excellently arranged instructive, earnest, and appropriate sermon, from Col. iii., 23—"Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men." Amongst other good words he said: We must first be good Christians, then good ringers. To be good Christians we must give our whole hearts to God, seek Him with our whole heart, call on Him with our whole heart, and praise Him with our whole heart. To do this we must keep our hearts with all diligence from their own evil products, and from the attacks of Satan; our prayers must be earnest, our Communion reverent, and our endeavours unremitting. If our hearts be thus right with God we shall find in our ringing an excellent moral and Christian training in patience, brotherly love and humility. He spoke to them not only as a priest of the Church of God, but as a brother bell-ringer, and he trusted their gathering that day would stimulate them to brotherly affection, and that it would result in a firmer bond of union between them, and to efforts of improvement in the Art they all held so dear. They as bellringers had a special gift, which other men had not, and that alone should form a bond of union between them. Concentrated efforts were required to produce correct peals of changes; each one depended upon the others, and mental and muscular qualities of very high order were absolute requirements in the Art. In conclusion he urged them to bear with one another when things did not go as well as they might do, to insist on good behaviour in the belfries. The rev. gentleman interspersed his remarks from time to time with technical terms and phrases known to ringers only.

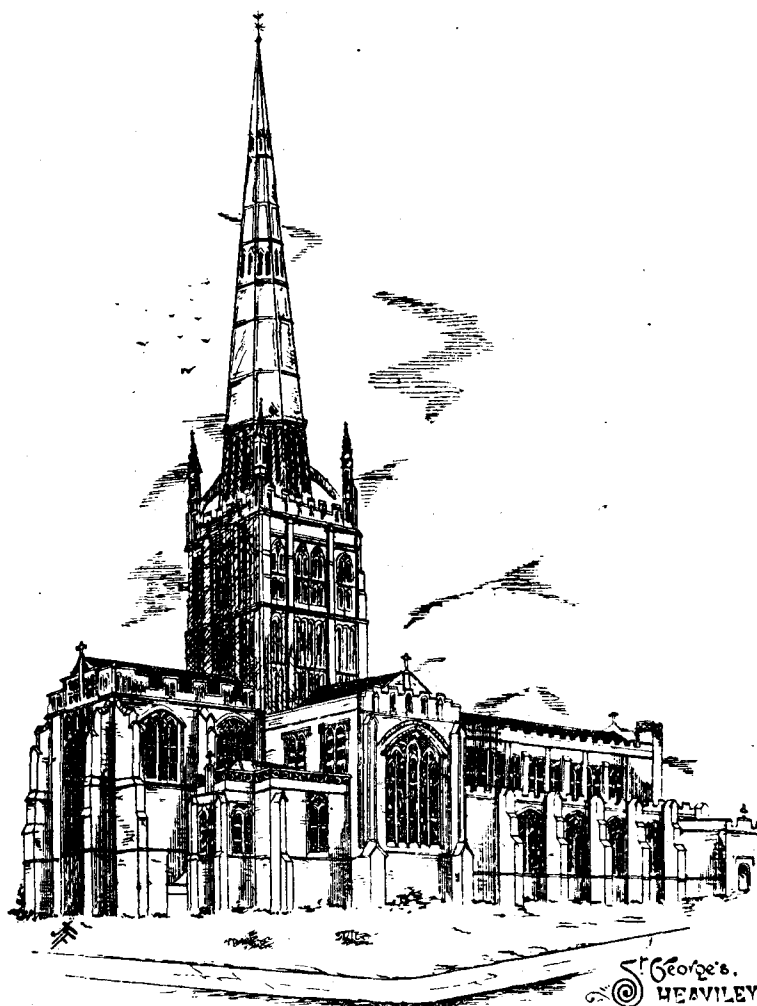
After the service the Annual Meeting was held in the Albert Hall. The Master of the Guild being absent the chair was taken by Archdeacon Gore, and amongst the company we noticed the Revs. Canon Holme, Canon Miller, Canon Symonds, Rev. H. Leigh Mallory, Rev. S. A. Boyd, Rev. G. J. Howson, Rev. H. H. Wright, Rev. — Arnold. The minutes of the last meeting were read and passed. The Treasurer's statement of accounts, shewing a balance of £62 7s. 2d. in hand, was taken as read and passed.

The Venerable Archdeacon Barber was re-elected unanimously Master of the Guild; the Rev. R. Greenall was unanimously re-elected Hon. Secretary and Treasurer; the six hon. members were re-elected unanimously on the general committee: the Rev. G. J. Howson, Rev. Canon Holme, Rev. S. A. Boyd, Rev. H. Leigh Mallory, Rev. Canon Blencoe and H.

Hatt Cook, Esq. The six ringing members were unanimously re-elected: Messrs. Bethel, R. Holding, W. Walmsley, F. Spence, J. Dillon and W. Forster. Messrs. W. Walmsley and J. Dillon were elected representatives on the Central Council. The Rev. F. E. Robinson was unanimously elected a non-resident member of the Guild.

Votes of thanks were passed with acclamation to the Rev. F. E. Robinson for his sermon; to the chairman for his services; to the rector of Stockport for the use of his church; and to the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer. The meeting then closed, and the company went off to dinner, which was waiting for them. About 190 sat down, and after the accustomed toast of "Church and Queen," the members dispersed to the church towers, which had been placed at their disposal by the kindness of the clergy. Some touches were rung on the bells of the parish church; the great attraction however was a new peal of ten

bells by Mears and Stainbank, in the noble tower of the beautiful church of St. George. These bells were tried by various companies of ringers, the most noteworthy being a 305 Grand-sire Caters, in which the Rev. F. E. Robinson rang the 7th; conducted by W. Walmsley, of Macclesfield. These bells were much approved of; they are true and rich in tone, and reflect great credit on their founders. A happy and successful day was spent by all. The new church of St. George's (a sketch of which is annexed), is exactly one mile south from St. Mary's parish church, Stockport. The latter is in the centre of the town, on one side of the market, surrounded by the most ancient buildings of the neighbourhood. At one time Heaviley was a hamlet near to Stockport. It is now absorbed within the county borough of Stockport, and part and parcel of it. There is a Heaviley Ward, and representatives from it are part of the Town Council. Heaviley may be regarded as the part of Stockport where most of the aristocracy of the borough do dwell; where, in fact, they have their villa residences. The surroundings are also patronised by merchants from Manchester, six miles away. A very valuable



and handy publication—"The 'Express' Guide to Stockport," gives us the following information about the new church of St. George:—

"The corner-stone of St. George's church, Heaviley, was laid with masonic honours on June 17th, 1893, by Lord Egerton of Tatton, and it was calculated that the building operations would extend over two years. The church will be one of the finest in the North of England, and the entire scheme of which it forms a part has been said to represent an expenditure of some £40,000. The actual donor, or donors, are not known by any public declaration, but it is generally supposed that the Christy family are to be credited with the munificence it involves. Mr. Wakefield Christie-Miller, J.P. (better known in Stockport as Mr. Wakefield Christy), presented the site, which is between

two projected new roads opening on to the Buxton road. The church presents a cathedral appearance. It was designed by Messrs. Paley, Austin, and Paley, of Lancaster, in the transition form, decorated and perpendicular style of architecture; the masonry being executed by Messrs. Thornton, of Liverpool, who built the famous Walker Art Gallery, in that city. St. George's will seat 1040 persons, its dimensions being 180 feet long, and the width across the aisles 75 feet; the nave will be 51 feet high to the wall-plate, and the aisles 31 feet. From the ground to the top of the spire is 230 feet, a distance exceeded by only a few other churches in the North of England, and is 65 feet higher than the highest church spire in Stockport. At St. Mary's parish church the distance of the tower from the ground is 125 feet; to the top of the spire of Christ Church, Heaton Norris, is 162 ft. 3 ins.; whilst at St. Paul's, Portwood, and St. Matthews, Edgeley, the distance is 165 feet from the ground to the top of the crosses. St. George's church will include a Rectory, and it is proposed to include several schools. One of these, for infants, was opened in December, 1893. It is built in the Tudor style on the western side of the church, and abuts on Bramall lane; the building accommodates 300 children. The parish allotted to St. George's contains 6,700 persons, and is two miles long by two-and-a-half wide. The church is of course endowed."

The parish church of St. Mary, Stockport, has a ring of eight bells, but in very unringable order. At the dinner-table on the above day Major Leah expressed the hope that when the Guild next visited Stockport the members would find the condition of these bells more worthy of the stately edifice which contained them and also of the town. A local paper, the *Stockport Express*, publishes the following memoranda upon this meeting of the Chester Guild:—

"STOCKPORT BELLS AND CHESHIRE RINGERS.

On Saturday evening, August 1st, by consent of the trustees, and in accordance with the usual routine observed in such matters, the Stockport parish church ringers had the first pull on the new bells at St. George's church, Heaviley. Shortly after six o'clock, the front eight bells were raised in peal, and 518 Grandsire Triples were rung. Afterwards Grandsire Caters were tried; this to the uninitiated means that the whole ten bells were rung for a short time. In conclusion 336 Grandsire Caters were rung, after which the bells were lowered in peal. These proceedings may be termed the preliminary opening of St. George's bells. The ringers were stationed as follows: W. Gordon (conductor), 1; A. Gordon, 2; J. W. Bailey, 3; W. Gordon, jun., 4; A. S. Gordon, 5; J. A. Gordon, 6; A. Sidebottom, 7; J. H. Scholefield, 8.

On Monday, August 3rd, more than 200 ringers were in the town, the majority of them making for the new church; the old parish church bells, owing to their bad reputation, being nearly deserted. At 10.40, however, a company of good ringers, mostly from Northwich, under the conductorship of the Rev. F. E. Robinson, tried to ring a touch on them, but failed, after ringing about 20 mins., the tenor-man being completely exhausted. The local ringers followed by ringing 252 changes, one or two visitors being included in the band.

After dinner the last touch was rung at the parish church, consisting of 504 Stedman Triples. W. Gordon, 1; J. Shaw (Hyde), 2; Jas. Bradley (Hyde), 3; W. Walmsley (Macclesfield), 4; J. Fildes (Hyde), 5; S. Bradley (Hyde), 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson (Drayton, Berks, conductor), 7; J. H. Scholefield, 8.

The Rev. F. E. Robinson has a record of having rung 476 peals in different methods, ranging from 5000 changes and three hours' duration to more than twice those lengths, shewing he must be an enthusiast in the Art.

The bells of St. George's were kept ringing with little or no intermission until 7.30 in the evening, but strange to say with no result as regards successful accomplishments, until about 4.30 p.m., when the first 305 of Grandsire Caters was rung. A. Harding (Crewe), 1; J. R. Pritchard (Liverpool), 2; J. Gratrix (Swinton), 3; W. Walmsley (conductor), 4; W. McKinnell (Macclesfield), 5; R. T. Holding (Crewe), 6; Rev. F. E. Robinson (Drayton, Berks), 7; E. Weatherby (Market Drayton), 8; R. Ridyard (Worsley), 9; J. H. Scholefield and J. A. Gordon (Stockport), 10.

This was immediately followed by what was called by ringers

the prettiest touch of the day, 700 Grandsire Triples on the largest eight bells. Ringers stationed as follows:—W. Gordon (conductor, Stockport), 1; A. Gordon (Stockport), 2; J. W. Bailey (Stockport), 3; W. Gordon, jun. (Stockport), 4; A. Sidebottom (Stockport), 5; J. A. Gordon (Stockport), 6; P. Brickell (Northenden), 7; J. H. Scholefield (Stockport), and A. Lomas (Gawsworth), 8.

Opinions differ in ringing, as in everything else; thus the most pleasing touch of the day to a non-ringer was the last one, between 7 and 7.30, consisting only of the Queen's change, tittums, and rounds, and the firing of the bells. This is contemptuously known by change-ringers as "Stoney," "Church-yard Bob," etc. A mixed band took part; the bells were then lowered and left at rest.

It is satisfactory to observe that Mr. J. H. Scholefield, our local tenor man, has been in all the most-successful touches, the severe training he has had at the parish church having stood him in good stead when endurance has been required."

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A Committee Meeting was held on Saturday, August 15th, at The Crown and Fleece inn, Leeds, Mr. William Snowdon, President, in the chair, when several new members were elected, and an amount of useful business transacted. Amongst this was the appointment of a sub-committee to deal with the forthcoming general meeting at Bradford on Saturday, September 12th. It was also decided to remind members, through "THE BELL NEWS," that the official year terminates on September 30th. All members whose subscriptions are unpaid on that date, forfeit their membership in the Association.

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."

ANSWER TO MR. J. A. TROLLOPE'S LETTER.

SIR,—Kindly allow me to point out that the methods which you referred to in the last week's issue of "THE BELL NEWS" are only intended for good bands of six-bell ringers, which if rung well will sound equal to most of the Treble Minor methods, at the same time allowing the tenors to dodge singly the wrong way behind for six times through a 720. Also if rung in the Yorkshire six-bell style only trained ears can detect which way the tenors turn up, except those at the ropes. In my opinion such a class is required where the tenor ringers are backward at taking up methods, which has come under my notice more than once. I am perfectly well aware all true six-bell methods will go with a tenor hunt, but I fail to see their antiquity. If you have such compositions I shall be glad to see copies of them. More credit would be due to the band who rung a 5040 in seven or more such-like methods than Cambridge, London, and similar methods, which was first intended by yours faithfully,

J. F. MALLABY.

P.S.—To speak fair and honest, Mr. Trollope has overstepped his remarks. I have seen the old style of "Alteration of hunts," but not anything like the methods referred to, which I was aware must dodge six times wrong through a 720. I hope it may lead to something better. If such must be thrown away, a good number of the other kind must go also.—J. F. M.

PARKER'S TWELVE PART.

SIR,—I have been absent from home some time, and on my return looking through "THE BELL NEWS" of August 1st, was much surprised to find there a letter from Mr. J. J. Parker, in which he accuses me of varying his twelve-part peal by shifting the observation-bell from the 6th to the 7th. I can candidly say that the only variation I made of the peal was that which was first called by Mr. G. Lindoff, of Lincoln. (See "THE BELL NEWS," October 6th, 1891, page 235, where appears—"Carter's variation of J. J. Parker's.") This variation is on the 2nd, and has only thirty singles against thirty-eight in the original. It will be clear that I had no intention of claiming the peal, although I consider the variation an improvement. Mr. Parker also remarks that making the 7th the observation spoils the music. This I cannot understand, as a peal of Triples (5040) is to be rung, all the changes, good and bad, must be got, which is not the case in Major or Caters, etc. I have not seen the last Oxford Diocesan report, so am unable to say how it is inserted there.

Forward Villa, Park-road, Aston, Birmingham.

JOHN CARTER.

Ringers' Outings.

THE WALTHAM ABBEY SOCIETY.—An enjoyable day was spent by the members and a few friends of the above society on Saturday, August 8th, when their annual outing took the form of a visit to Sawbridgeworth. The main body left the Market Place shortly after 12, in a wagonette, and proceeded, via Epping. Sawbridgeworth was reached a little before 3 o'clock, and the party were met by Mr. N. Tarling, bell-warden. The tower was at once visited and two touches of Grandsire Triples were rung, conducted by Mr. W. A. Alps and Mr. G. E. Pearce. During the ringing of these touches Mr. James Pettit, E. Wallage and E. Hall arrived from London. At 4 o'clock tea was served at The Bell and Feathers. Mr. T. Pallett, master, occupied the chair, and a good meal was served. After tea, Mr. Pallett briefly tendered the thanks of the Society to the vicar, the Rev. H. A. Lipscombe, for granting the use of the steeple, and to Mr. N. Tarling for completing the arrangements. Mr. Tarling replied, and spoke of the pleasure he had of meeting his Waltham friends. Mr. F. Carter next proposed a vote of thanks to those visitors who had joined the outing, and particularly drew attention to Messrs. Pettit, Wallage and Hall, who always took such keen interest and lent great help to the Society. Mr. Pettit replied, as also did Mr. Wallage. After tea, a course of Grandsire Caters was rung on handbells, at the close of which the company were delighted to find new arrivals on the scene, to wit, Mr. H. J. Tucker and his brother, from Bishops Stortford, and Mr. A. Deards, from Barking. The tower was again sought for, and 504 of Stedman Triples, conducted by Mr. Alps, was rung, followed by a 568 of Kent Treble Bob, conducted by Mr. H. Tucker. The remainder of the evening was then devoted to short touches of Grandsire Triples, conducted by Mr. F. Jelf. During the evening many of the party called upon Mr. George Rochester, and were indeed sorry to find him too unwell to leave his house. Mr. Rochester has always been a true friend to ringers, and so far as he is able continues to take an interest in ringing, although he is now in the autumn of life. All good wishes were tendered to him, and a hope to meet again shortly was expressed by all. A start for home was made at 7.30, and a most enjoyable ride, enlivened by courses of Grandsire Caters and tunes on handbells, terminated about 10.30 when Waltham Abbey was reached, the visitors continuing their journey to London by train.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—On Monday, August 10th, the Norton ringers and choir had their annual outing, the expenses for the day being kindly given by the vicar. The party left the vicarage at 8.40 in a brake, en route for Castleton, better known to many as the Dore and Chinley Valley, but ours was the overland route this time. After a pleasant 2½ hours' ride, having passed the noted Fox House and Frog in the Hedge, and having had a good peep at the grouse on the moors, which are well-stocked with fine birds, we arrived at Hathersage, a snug little village in the valley, once noted for needle-makers, the trade, now like many more local trades, being extinct. We had a look at the grave of Little John, of the Sherwood Forest, and Robin Hood fame. Little John was 9-ft. in height, and thousands of visitors measure his grave until this day, a tree at the head and foot noting the length. Having presented our card to the vicar, we soon had this merry peal of six, tenor about 16 cwt., tapping a 720 of Duke of York, which was safely brought round by G. Cotes, A. Slater, E. James, J. Atkin, W. Biggin, J. Allen (conductor). We found our friends again ready for the road, and after a pleasant ride had a halt at a village called Hope and as our hopes were for the ropes, which in a short space of time we found, the same band going in again rang 720 of Violet, tenor being called a ton, and for the weight, the bells go well. After a short refreshment we set off again for our last calling place, a distance of three miles. Castleton tower contains a peal of eight, but only having seven ringers with our party, and all the local members being at work, we resorted to the back six, a 720 of Oxford being rung, Mr. G. Goacher ringing the third, the rest as above. We then joined the choirmen at Ye Old Naggs Head, where a splendid meat tea was awaiting us, and all being in good form there was no need for a conductor, each called their own bells round. After tea we finished up with a 720 of Kent, E. James ringing the third, the rest as before. All

being pleased with the day's ringing, a start was made for home. It was then the choir's time for some of their talent, and to give them credit, they kept the game alive. We have also some good talent among the ringers, and when I refer to Messrs. Atkin, Allen and Oates, our Sheffield friends will know it was a lively party. We made many calls on the homeward journey, the distance being eighteen miles, our stay at each only being brief, and the church was reached just as the clock was calling *time gentlemen*, 11 o'clock. I hope I shall spend a few more outings with the Norton choir and ringers. Well may they all respect their vicar, I wish that others had one like him.

E.J.

MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL RINGERS AND SUNDAY EVENING VOLUNTARY EVENING CHOIR.—ANNUAL PICNIC TO LINCOLN.—On Saturday, August 8th, about thirty men (including ringers and singers) and twenty boys, assembled at London Road Station at 8.32 a.m., and entered a train which arrived at Lincoln at 11.45. On arrival a visit was at once paid to the church of St. Peter-at-Gowts, also to the Old Norman Building known as John of Gaunt's stables. Retracing our steps we proceeded up hill and various objects of interest were pointed out, including St. Mary-le-Wigford's church, with the interesting fountain. Next was inspected the West Stone Bow, which is an arch spanning the main street, over which is the Guildhall, the Jews' House of course being noticed. At length a halting place was found up the very steep hill at the Church House, which has a great reputation for social entertainment and useful work in connection with the church of the diocese and city. Here arrangements had been made for dinner, to which all did ample justice. After dinner the kindness of Mr. Goodall (the genial sec.) had arranged for us to visit the Old Palace of the Bishops of Lincoln, together with the Domestic Chapel adjoining the house, erected by the present Bishop. From these grounds many lovely views of the Minster are to be obtained. A visit was next paid to the belfry, by permission of the Canon-in-Residence, Archdeacon Kaye, under the guidance of Mr. Hirst, one of the ringers. Meanwhile the boys of the party were enjoying themselves with rowing on the river, where boats had been hired for them. After examining the beautiful west front an ascent was made to the Norman tower. The ringers then raised the bells in peal, and after ringing 540 Grandsire Triples the bells were again lowered in peal, it being nearly time for evensong. After service, Mr. Goodall, the Dean's Verger, conducted the whole party, with his accustomed courtesy, over the Cloisters, Chapter-house, Choir and Chapels. Tea was on at 5.30, to which all did ample justice. It is not possible to speak too highly of the arrangements that had been made for our entertainment and comfort, and the heartiness of the welcome accorded to us by Mr. Goodall and the ladies and gentlemen, and the officials who vied with other in ministering to our wants. I am sure that every care had been taken to make us comfortable, and that no words will be able to express our thanks to one and all who worked so heartily for our comfort, and we take thus opportunity of thanking them all for their services so kindly given. The train left at 6.45; Manchester being reached at 8.10, this bringing the most delightful day to a close, and all this was brought about by the care and thought of the Rev. — Hudson, who had the arrangements of the picnic, and to whom our best thanks are due.

X.

THE ST. THOMAS'S SOCIETY, PENDLETON, LANCs.—On Bank Holiday, August 3rd, this company held their annual picnic, Youghreave, Derbyshire, being the place selected. Starting from Manchester Central Station at 7.30 a.m. Rowsley was reached about 9.30. The first item on the programme being breakfast, during our conversation upon this important subject, we were approached by an old lady offering her services for our requirements, with whom we decided to partake of our first meal, and in a few minutes found ourselves at a pretty little roadside cottage with gardens decorated with beautiful flowers, where we sat down to a substantial feed of ham and eggs, served up in good style by the old lady and her assistants. After losing our appetites, the next thing was—"Where is this Youghreave, and how shall we get there?" Upon being informed it was 4½ miles away, we at once engaged a vehicle, and commenced our journey, and after travelling about forty-five minutes through the beautiful scenery for which Derbyshire is noted, we arrived at our destination, where we were met by the vicar, the Rev. W. P.

Stamper, and the senior ringer, Mr. J. Rowland, who escorted us to the belfry. After raising the bells in order, we were much pleased to find a fine ring of eight, tenor 26 cwt. 3 qrs., cast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank in 1871. The church dates back to 1807, and the tower to about 200 years earlier. The ball was opened with 288 Kent Treble Bob, and then 448 Superlative Surprise, 168 Stedman Triples, 224 Bob Major, 288 Oxford Treble Bob, and a plain course of Grandsire Triples. T. G. Downs, J. Smith, G. E. Turner, J. Winterbottom, S. Greenhalgh, J. Rogers, A. Cross, H. Chapin (conductor). We then adjourned to The George hotel for dinner for which arrangement was made previously. Having refreshed the inner man with the good things provided, we indulged in cigars, and decided upon a stroll, afterwards returning to the tower, when various touches were rung, and another visit made by the vicar who gave us an invitation to look through his gardens, which inspection was much enjoyed. We then partook of tea at The George, and drove off to Bakewell, a distance of about six miles. Arriving there and viewing this pretty little town, we departed for Manchester, arriving at Central Station at 11.45 p.m., all well satisfied with our day's outing. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the vicar for the use of the bells, and the ringers for their company, and having everything in readiness, the go of the bells being all that could be desired.

WAKEFIELD CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.—On Bank Holiday, the annual outing of the above company took place, and proved to be a very pleasant one, the weather being all that could be desired. Our destination was Doncaster, where we arrived about 9 a.m. Mr. Armitage, one of the local company, met us at the station, and we set off for a walk as far as the famous racecourse. On our way we were joined by one or two others of the local company, and after a preliminary canter we made tracks for the fine old church, where we found the bells go very well indeed, they having been overhauled by Mr. Mallaby, of Barnby Don, to whom great credit is due. They were soon going merrily to Grandsire Triples by a mixed band, when in walked our friend from Tadcaster (Mr. J. T. Hollis), he arriving by a later train. Afterwards, touches of Bob Major, and then an adjournment took place for a course or two of Knife and Fork Major, which were brought round just in time to catch the 1.40 p.m. train for the pretty little village of Askern, accompanied by three or four of our Doncaster friends. Here we disembarked, and walked through the fields to Campsall, a distance of 1½ miles. After a slight refresher we ascended the tower where we found a light peal of eight, tenor 14 cwt. Touches of Grandsire Triples and Treble Bob were indulged in, the bells going well, but being such a small belfry, it was rather warm for the time. After the bells had been brought down, we repaired to The Old Bells, where light refreshment was partaken of, whilst a touch of Triples was rung on handbells. J. T. Hollis (conductor), 1-2; A. Scott, 3-4; J. W. Moorhouse, 5-6; J. Moorhouse, 7-8. We then turned our faces to Askern, leaving at 6.30 for Doncaster. Touches of Stedman Triples, Bob Major and Grandsire were again rung by mixed bands, after which, we repaired to The White Lion, where the genial host had tea waiting for us, and to which ample justice having been done, the rest of the evening was spent in a very convivial manner, a vote of thanks being passed to the local company for their kindness before leaving, Wakefield being reached shortly before the witching hour. We should like to take this opportunity of thanking the vicars of Doncaster and Campsall for kindly placing the bells at our disposal. T.M.

THE ST. MARY'S EASTBOURNE SOCIETY.—(Taken from the *Eastbourne St. Mary's Parish Magazine*.)—"Our bell-ringers had a very successful and pleasant outing to Arundel, on July 13th. A party of twenty, accompanied by the vicar, who, however, left them after breakfast, and Mr. Fielding Ottley and the Rev. Gmelin, started from the Eastbourne railway station by the 6.30 train for Brighton. Here they stopped and had breakfast and then went on to Arundel, arriving there when it was still early in the day. After an inspection of the various places of interest in the town, including the castle with its fine old keep, gateway and drawbridge, the park and the gorgeous new Roman Catholic Chapel, built and maintained by the Duke of Norfolk, a visit was paid to the parish church. There in the tower the bells and belfry were the objects of keen and critical inspection. In the belfry was found this description relating to two of them:

'The 7th and 8th bells have the arms of the Duke of Norfolk, and the high potent and Most Noble Prince Henry Charles, Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshall and Hereditary Marshall of England, Earl of Arundel, Surrey and Norfolk, Baron Fitz-Alan, Clun and Oswaldestre and Maltravers, Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter.' Without much delay the bells were raised in peal, after which 420 changes Grandsire Triples were rung. J. Rollinson, 1; T. Willoughby, 2; H. Vernon, 3; C. Lewis, 4; A. E. Midmore, 5; W. Avann, 6; T. Lewis (conductor), 7; S. Lewis, 8. The party were joined at dinner by the Rev. R. Tomkins, a ringer of 40 years' standing. The afternoon was spent very pleasantly by the men on and by the river, boating, etc. A second visit was paid after tea to the belfry of the parish church, and a 504 was rung in the same method. T. Willoughby, 1; G. Balchin (Arundel), 2; H. Vernon, 3; C. Blackman (Arundel), 4; A. E. Midmore, 5; W. Avann (conductor), 6; T. Lewis, 7; S. Lewis, 8. On the conclusion of this peal a start was made for the station, homewards."

THE ST. STEPHEN'S GUILD, BRISTOL.—The annual outing of this Society took place on Monday, August 3rd (Bank holiday), the place chosen being Birmingham, and at 4.30 a.m. a party of about twenty-seven left Temple Meads Station. The journey was enlivened by touches and tunes on the handbells, arriving at New Street, Birmingham, at 8 p.m. The first item on the programme was breakfast, which was partaken of with evident relish by all at Whitehead's dining rooms. After the inner man had been satisfied we adjourned to St. Philip's to have a pull. Here we were met by some of the Birmingham ringers. Ascending the "winding stairs" we found everything in readiness, and the bells were soon going to the tune of Stedman Caters. All having had a pull, we fell the bells in peal and then prepared to move to the next towers. The party split up, some going to St. Chad's, and the remainder to Bishop Ryder's, where touches of Treble Bob, Stedman and Grandsire were indulged in. The next item was dinner, of which several courses were brought round in fine style to the satisfaction of all. After dinner a visit was paid to Aston, to view the Aston Hall and grounds, church, &c. Aston Hall is a grand old place, dated from the year 1618, and is well worth a visit. Tea having been partaken of we returned to the town to visit the Museum, Free Libraries, Art Galleries and Town Hall. Supper and handbell ringing having been indulged in, we made our way to the railway station. Leaving New Street at 11.15 p.m. we arrived at Temple Meads about 3 a.m. on Tuesday morning, everyone having thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The ringers take this opportunity to thank the clergy of the various churches for the use of the bells, and also to the local men for their welcome and having everything in readiness.

THE STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.—A very delightful excursion was made by the bell-ringers of the parish church, Stoke-on-Trent, on Monday, August 3rd. A start was made from Stoke at 8.10 a.m., and Shrewsbury reached just before 10 a.m. Before starting to see the sights of the place, we made our way to St. Mary's, where there is a fine ring of ten. Though having previously obtained permission to ring at St. Chad's, we found we were unable to have a pull there on account of some one being very ill; but having looked up Mr. Price, the genial steeple-keeper of St. Mary's, he readily gave us permission to ring, and the bells were soon going in Grandsire and Stedman Triples on the back eight, Mr. Price taking the treble in a touch of 364 Grandsire Triples. We came down from the tower just before 1 o'clock, and then went to refresh the inner man, after which we made our way to St. Chad's (but not to ring) and were compensated somewhat by the splendid view we had from the top of the tower. Having descended, we made our way to the river, where boating was indulged in till tea time, when we made our way to the station, and had the pleasure of meeting again with Mr. Price, who saw us off by the 8 p.m. train, with the exception of two of our members who stayed till the following day. We spent a very pleasant time, and beg to tender our thanks to Mr. Price for having contributed towards our enjoyment in allowing us to ring on the peal at St. Mary's. H.P.

ANSWERS TO LATE CORRESPONDENTS.—PERICLES: Next week.—ADAM: Thanks; send it on.—MAJOR: Write to the Secy of the Yorks, Assn.—TENOR BELL: Certainly; get his works.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting of this Guild was held at Dorking on Monday, July 13th. A Committee Meeting had been held at Guildford on June 27th to draw up the programme for the day, and everything passed off well. The only "damper" to the proceedings was perhaps the action of the railway companies, who could not be induced to issue cheap railway tickets as they had on previous occasions. The belfry of the parish church (St. Martin), was open from 9.30 to 10 a.m. and from 2.30 to 5.30 p.m. At 10.30 the annual meeting took place in the parish room, the Master, the Rev. R. C. M. Harvey, presiding. Amongst those present were the Revs. G. F. Coleridge, H. A. Spyers, F. Whyley, Canon Utterton, R. A. Sidebottom, C. T. P. Edwards, and A. R. Warburton, while some 140 performing members attended, including the Misses Whyley and Misses White. The minutes of the last annual meeting, and a letter from the President (J. P. Stilwell, Esq.), regretting his inability to attend, were read. The officers of the Guild then retired, in accordance with Rule ii. They were unanimously re-elected to their respective offices, and replied suitably in turn. The Standing Committee was similarly re-elected. The next matter evoked a lengthy discussion, *i.e.*, the appointment of District Hon. Secretaries. A list of towers in seven districts was produced, as well as a rough specification of the duties of District Secretaries. This specification was carefully considered, corrected, and passed. The following were then nominated:—

DISTRICT SECRETARIES:

- No. I. WINCHESTER—REV. C. E. MATTHEWS, *Hursley.*
- " II. CHRISTCHURCH—MR. S. MERRITT, 59, *Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth.*
- " III. PORTSMOUTH—MR. J. W. WHITING, *Fareham, Hants.*
- " IV. PETERSFIELD—REV. C. T. P. EDWARDS, *Petersfield.*
- " V. BASINGSTOKE—MR. H. WHITE, *Rose Cottage, Basingstoke.*
- " VI. GUILDFORD—MR. J. J. JONES, *North Street, Guildford.*
- " VII. DORKING—MR. E. E. DODD, 24, *Church Gardens.*

Several new members having been elected, the following addition to the rules was proposed by the Hon. Secretary, seconded by Mr. H. White (Basingstoke), and carried, "That regular quarterly meetings be held alternately in Surrey and Hants., for general business and united practice. Each meeting shall choose place of next meeting."

The balance sheet for 1894-5 was then passed, and the following were named as representatives of the Guild on the Central Council (four to be balloted for): Revs. R. C. M. Harvey, F. Whyley, C. E. Matthews, and Messrs. J. Hewett, G. Williams, and H. White. The final business was the choice of a place for the next Annual Meeting. On a show of hands being demanded, Romsey received 32 votes, Ryde 29, Winchester 14, Fareham 12, and Petersfield 3. Romsey was therefore selected.

The Annual Service then took place in the parish church at 12.0, and was fully choral. A form of service sanctioned by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese was used for the first time. The prayers were said by the Hon. Sec., Rev. C. E. Matthews; the proper lesson, Ephesians iv. was read by the Master. The hymns used were "Ring forth, Holy Bells," "We meet before Thy Throne," and "The Sacred Bells of England." At the conclusion of the service, the blessing was pronounced by the Rev. E. A. Chichester, Vicar of Dorking and Rural Dean.

The Rev. Canon Utterton, Vicar of Leatherhead, preached from Psalm xcvi. verses 8 and 9. In the course of his very interesting sermon, he said God had always willed to be worshipped in special places, and particular forms and ways from the very first. In Eden there had been a set time and place for worship, which Cain and Abel observed, when the Sabbath had been instituted. Moses, the servant of God, and leader of the Israelites, received minute instructions concerning the furniture and fittings, as well as the services of the Tabernacle. Later on, Solomon was supplied with most carefully defined directions, with regard to the building of the Temple at Jerusalem. Every single detail, every vestment, every jewel pointed onwards, and these things were types of what was to come. The Son of God frequented this Temple at Jerusalem, and on more than one occasion He rebuked those who profaned its holy courts and degraded it—"My House shall be called the House of Prayer." Passing away from Oriental scenes, we could look more closely at home. We had found many traces of ancient edifices in this country: within the precincts of Dover Castle stood the church of St. Mary le Castra. This had been

built in the fourth century, designed by some Roman Architect. Then we had our noble Cathedral at Winchester, with its historical associations, going back probably to A.D. 700. From early times places for meetings seemed to have possessed some kind of instruments for calling people together. The Mohammedan hours of prayer were sounded from the minarets of the mosques, while the Burmese and others used gongs. In A.D. 500, bells appeared to have been first used in Italy; they were part of the equipment of the Celtic Church. In A.D. 750 King Egbert commanded every priest to ring a bell when he said his office, while bells were first cast in peals early in the tenth century. Later on scientific change-ringing became an Art in this country; and many generations had loved to dwell upon the sweet sympathies, and childhood's scenes which their music had awakened, or recalled. Who could not recount glad memories of Sundays, or feelings of joy, sorrow, hope and fear as they listened to the messages of the iron tongues? They had however a message for those who sounded them. It was a high privilege to be called to take part in this work for Christ our Master, and to thus remind the careless of the uncertainty of life here. Let such as these never forget that they could not worship God by proxy. Rather let them be true to the Church of their fathers; let them fight the good fight of faith, do their best as an offering to God, seek to be perfect, and so work for Christ now that they might be known by their work and their devotion to service, in the great hereafter.

The Annual Dinner—held in the Public Hall—was well attended, and it is believed all present were satisfied with the quality as well as the quantity of the fare provided. In accordance with the usual custom no toasts were permitted, but votes of thanks were unanimously accorded to the Rev. Canon Utterton for his sermon, and to the Rev. E. A. Chichester for his kind and courteous reception of the Guild at Dorking.

The repast having been successfully "brought round," the members of the various bands dispersed to neighbouring towers for combined practice as follows: Farnham and Yateley companies to Leatherhead; Alton, Capel, Portsea, and Petersfield to Ashted; Bournemouth, Christchurch, Gosport, Leatherhead, and Romsey to Guildford (St. Nicholas); Hambledon, Twyford, and Wickham to Capel; Basingstoke, Chiddingfold, Fareham, and Havant to Shere; while members from Bagshot, Ewhurst, Privett, and Ryde remained at Dorking. The weather was in every way favorable for such a gathering, and though a trifle too warm for ringing, some good striking was heard during the course of the afternoon.

STAVELEY, DERBYSHIRE.—THE YORKSHIRE AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Saturday, August 15th, the thirtieth anniversary dinner in connection with the restoration of the Staveley parish church, took place at The Elm Tree inn, where a capital repast was served. After the cloth was removed, Mr. Crofts was voted to the chair, and supported by Mr. Madin as vice. The usual loyal and complimentary toasts were proposed, not forgetting "THE BELL NEWS." The chairman was very pleased in having the honour of presiding amongst the Staveley ringers at their annual dinner, and hoped it would not be the last for a many years to come, as he should do his best to give the greatest satisfaction to the society. He had a great pride in them by winning the Old East Derbyshire Association Cup two years in succession, and hoped they would be able to secure it a third time by good performance work in the noble Art.

On behalf of the Staveley society Mr. Madin said they were very pleased to hear such good remarks from the chairman, and that he had dined with them that evening, and also that his remarks would prove true in trying to secure it for a third time, and if spared they would try for the same in 1897.

Songs and tune-playing on the handbells, and several courses of Grandsire Triples by the local society, brought a very happy evening to a close just before eleven o'clock.

Situation Vacant.

I should be pleased to hear from any good Minor method ringer who is accustomed to any kind of colliery work, above or below ground, and who is willing to give his services as ringer, in return for help in obtaining employment.—WM. J. NICHOLSON, Woodlands, Treton, Rotherham.

CURRENT TOPICS.

The first thing which met my vision on my entrance to the office this week was a note from an old and dear friend to the Editor, in which he said—"I am sorry to see Mr. 'Plain Speaker' out this week." Little does my old friend know who the "P. S." is. Nor is it wise to let him into the secret, because the probabilities are that the enjoyment which he at present feels in reading this page would be impaired—the murder would be out; and his exclamations of surprise at finding out the writer would surely be a prelude to the expression of an opinion that as a literary man I had deteriorated sadly. So you see the advantages of anonymity.

The absence of "Topics" last week was on account of my taking a holiday. Most of you will agree that after writing so many pages as I have during the past few weeks I was entitled to a period of relaxation. Therefore, a favorable opportunity having presented itself for the acceptance of a kind invitation tendered to me by one of my readers, I left the Metropolis on the morning of last Saturday week by G.N.R., for my destination. And though I enjoyed myself to the full, I returned home not particularly pleased, because I wished to have another week, and couldn't. Under these circumstances I'll say no more about this holiday. I am afraid I have returned a sadder and not much wiser man.

I received my copy of our paper by post last week, and mentally took stock of its contents. The number seemed to be well put together and very nicely printed. And while speaking of this, I should like to give a hint to readers, especially those who have the paper bound into yearly volumes. When you get your copies never open them hurriedly just to see how many 5040s there are among the ringing records, and don't show too great an anxiety to read this page. Place the paper down flat on a table, smooth it out flat if at all creased, then take a sharp knife and cut the edges neatly, and read it by turning over the leaves one by one in the same way you would read a book. By this means you will keep your number bright and fresh, and the volume, when bound, will look all the better for such treatment. I hope you will feel thankful to me for this valuable hint. But I don't desire a testimonial.

The Bath and Wells Diocesan Association appears to be making headway very comfortably. There was an unfortunate period of depression some time ago, but that has been satisfactorily got over, and the Association is now on the high road to success. The Executive body are to be congratulated upon their improved position, which appears to be in a great measure due to the industry and talents of the Hon. Sec., Mr. Tomkins. The members know this, I find. In these days a Secretary's duties is no sinecure, and the somewhat unwieldy shape of the Diocese I am alluding to does not tend to lighten the work.

Then there is the Ely Association—whether District or Diocesan, I can hardly understand yet. You are all well aware how this body has been repeatedly encouraged—I might say woke up—by "THE BELL NEWS." Again and again has the leader-writer either cheered, praised, or castigated the members. We thus see the good result of speaking plainly. Evidently there was latent vigour

and ability in the ringers of this diocese, and the constant hammering they have had has brought them into shape. Now they thank "THE BELL NEWS" for the interest which has been shown in their welfare and improvement. And very likely they will show their gratitude and approval by supporting "THE BELL NEWS" to the utmost of their power. Before closing this paragraph I make an appeal to my old friend at Sudbury—mentioned by name in my last. I ask him to send his photo. to me. I will use whatever influence I may have to get it published. It shall be printed in the best copper-plate with gold letters.

Everything appears for the present quite rosy in the ringing world. The warfare between the Treble Bob composers appears to be approaching its end. That indefatigable composer, Joseph Parker, is ready and willing to pilot a-head a collection of six-bell methods. Mr. Dains points out what he says are the shortcomings of a method called "Double Steyning Major," a bantling of my dear friend C. Smart. The outings and pleasurable meetings are numerous, in short, the affairs of the ringing community seem "as merry as a marriage-bell."

Here for this week I must end. The paper will be a full one, I am told. As I have hardly recovered the effects of my holiday, I am not averse to curtailing my remarks this week. "Brevity is the soul of wit." The unfortunate drawback to an holiday is that you feel worse when it is over than when you commenced it. Now and then I have some doubt whether I have had a holiday at all. I conclude by asking the gentleman who wrote to me about the Ripon paragraph to kindly send me his name and address—not for publication. PLAIN SPEAKER.

ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL SOCIETY, EDINBURGH.

On Monday, August 3rd, a meeting of this society was held for the purpose of presenting Mr. C. L. Routledge, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, with a handsome dressing-case, in recognition of his valuable services to the society. When Mr. Routledge first came to St. Mary's Cathedral, change-ringing was practically unknown, but through his untiring efforts the ringers have received a good foundation in the art, the successes of the company having been recorded in the columns of this paper from time to time. During his comparatively short residence in Edinburgh, he has led his pupils through Doubles to Triples on tower bells, and to Caters on handbells, whilst the recent date touch at Alloa speaks of the manner in which they have been instructed in the various Minor methods. In returning to Newcastle Mr. Routledge carries with him the best wishes of all with whom he has come in contact, and the members of the Cathedral society feel that they are losing not only an able instructor but a personal friend.

ST. ANNE'S CHURCH, HIGHGATE.

On Friday, August 7th, the usual whole pull and stand, followed by a touch of Kent Treble Bob, was rung with the bells muffled, as a token of respect for the late Mr. George Harvey, of the Royal Cumberland Youths and a member of the Highgate local band. The ringers were J. Hannington, B. Foskett, R. Bevan, J. Young, T. Titchener, N. Alderman, R. Nudds, and H. Watson.

THE PEAL "APPENDIX, 1895," PRINTED BY the Central Council Committee, may be obtained post free, with the Report on Calls, on application to the Hon. Secretary, Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn, enclosing 7½d. in stamps.

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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).

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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).

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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. Gratis on application to A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, DUFFIELD BANE, near Derby.

THE REV. DR. RAVEN'S WORK.

NOW READY.

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

One copy, 12 months	8s.
" 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, AUGUST 22, 1896.

It is very satisfactory to find that what may without invidiousness be termed the junior Ringing Associations are rapidly getting out of their chrysalis state, and taking high rank among their elder brethren. We have only to refer to the recent accounts of the meetings of several of these bodies to substantiate the assertion. The Ely Association, which we alluded to last week; the Bath and Wells, which has not only surmounted its initial difficulties, but is making very rapid progress indeed; and the Chester Diocesan Guild, an account of whose proceedings at Stockport we print in this number, afford grounds for the highest gratification to those who eagerly hope and anxiously await the extension and popularity of the Art of Change-Ringing. The meeting of the Winchester Guild also, a report of which may be seen elsewhere, indicates, with no uncertain sound, progress and extension. The reasons for such revivals may be owing to various causes, but it will hardly be questioned that improved and more effective administration and management has something to do with it. The majority of

Church Bell Ringers are now found out to be men somewhat above that low ideal, intellectually speaking, they were formerly supposed to be. Collectively, they are found *not* possessed of those low grovelling instincts which in some period of the dark ages they were so regarded. Men of refinement and culture have found out this fact: they have not hesitated therefore to address themselves to the ringing community with the idea of co-operating with ringers in their work, of sharing their responsibilities as prominent and valuable Church officials, and employing their talents for their benefit and advantage. There was a time though, when a change-ringer who belonged to a comparatively higher social grade than that of a working operative, was looked upon as a prodigy—as a phenomenon worthy of taking a long journey to behold. Now the case is altered. Our present leaders would certainly feel uncomfortable under such circumstances. They would strongly object to hero-worship in any shape or form. The intelligent and well-mannered ringer knows how to behave to his social superior, whether in the belfry or out of it.

The gradual change, then, in ringing concerns, is on the side of improvement, as vast as it is secure. What assistance "THE BELL NEWS" has effected towards this amelioration of the ringers' position and prospects may safely be left to the decision of its readers and supporters during the period of nearly two decades. We believe the thinking portion of the Exercise is of opinion that our journal has been an important factor in the cause of Ringing and its concomitants. It is said that several ringing organisations owe their existence to its advocacy; that "THE BELL NEWS" has been the chief agency in many movements looked upon by ringers as highly commendable; that no worthy object sought to be attained has been without our cordial help; that we have been instrumental in inducing many augmentations of bells which have been effected within the period of our existence. If all this is true, our readers will not deny us the feelings of honest pride and satisfaction at the retrospect. Our path in the future is clear. And that is to proceed on the same lines as heretofore, with a decided inclination towards any improvement which can become permanent. Our fellow ringers—no matter in what position in life they are—will always receive the utmost attention at our hands to any request they may prefer.

"THE BELL NEWS" of this day (August 22nd) consists of twenty pages, accompanied by a portrait of a very old and worthy member of the Exercise. The Rev. Canon RAVEN, D.D., President of the Norwich Association, has generously supplied us with this portrait and the account of the old gentleman also. Canon RAVEN kindly promises other interesting memoranda for this paper. We should like to announce to provincial ringers visiting London who wish to have some ringing during their stay, that if we receive timely notice we will make satisfactory arrangements for them for that purpose. But there is no difficulty

in obtaining plenty of ringing in the Metropolis. The officers of the four great ringing societies are renowned, and always have been, for their courtesy to country ringers, and applications made to any of them would certainly be satisfactory. The same may be said of all the principal members of these societies, and also of the various steeple-keepers in London and its suburbs. No monopoly whatever is possessed by any ringer or ringers in procuring the means of ringing for visitors to London.

THE NEWSON MEMORIAL.

NOTICE.—Intending subscribers will please forward at once, as but one other list will be issued. Any gentlemen having subscribed to this fund, and their subscription having not been acknowledged, will please communicate with the Honorary Secretary, and the matter will have prompt attention. The Chairman is at present on tour, and when he returns (we hope thoroughly reinvigorated by the change), another committee meeting will be held, probably about the 28th instant, when a balance-sheet will be drawn for publication, and matters brought to a close.

147, Barnsbury Road, N. HENRY DAINS, Hon. Sec.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—AIREDALE BRANCH.

The second meeting of this newly-formed society was held at Skipton on Saturday, August 15th. Shortly after two o'clock ringing commenced at the parish church, and subsequent trains brought contingents of members from various places. During an interval in ringing, a short business meeting was held, when meetings for the year were arranged as follows: Kildwick, September 26th; Keighley, October 24th; Saltaire, November 14th; Shipley, December 12th. It was also unanimously resolved to forward to the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS" an expression of their appreciation of his efforts on behalf of change-ringing, and of their desire to extend the circulation of his valuable paper.

Ringing was then resumed, which continued till about nine o'clock, bringing a pleasant gathering to a close.

The Provinces.

BUSHEY, HERTS.—THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. (BUSHEY SOCIETY.)

On Wednesday, August 12, 1896, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 13 cwt. in F#.

WILLIAM THORN* Treble.	WILLIAM I. OAKLEY .. 5.
WILLIAM E. OAKLEY .. 2.	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM .. 6.
EDWARD P. DEBENHAM .. 3.	ERNEST E. HUNTLEY .. 7.
FREDERICK EDWARDS .. 4.	*FRANK SMITH Tenor.

Conducted by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM.

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

HIGHAM FERRERS, NORTHANTS. THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 15, 1896, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 22 cwt. 3 qrs. 17 lbs.

ALFRED H. MARTIN Treble.	WILLIAM PETTITT .. 5.
CHARLES CHASTY .. 2.	JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. .. 6.
CHARLES WM. CLARKE .. 3.	JOHN B. MARTIN .. 7.
JAMES GARRATT .. 4.	JAMES GEORGE Tenor.

Conducted by J. S. WILDE and Conducted by C. W. CLARKE.

This peal has the 4th, 5th, and 6th their extent in 6ths place a five course-ends.

HARBORNE, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.
(BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY BRANCH.)

On Saturday, August 15, 1896, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

THOMAS COLLINSON Treble.	MORRIS J. MORRIS 5.
CHARLES SPARKES 2.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER 6.
GEORGE HITCHMAN 3.	JOHN CARTER 7.
JOHN JENNINGS 4.	HENRY GROSVENOR Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

This is the first peal in the method by M. J. Morris, who hails from Bangor, North Wales; A. E. Pegler hails from Gloucester. This is the conductor's 200th peal. A reference to this latter fact will be found on another page.

HENFIELD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, August 18, 1896, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' ORIGINAL.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

CHARLES TYLER Treble.	LAZARUS PAYNE 5.
WILLIAM HILLMAN 2.	WILLIAM JOHN ALLISS 6.
HENRY STRINGER 3.	ALFRED W. GROVES 7.
GEORGE PAYNE 4.	ARTHUR HODGES Tenor.

Conducted by ALFRED W. GROVES.

OXFORD.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(THE OXFORD SOCIETY.)

On Tuesday, August 18, 1896, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER-IN-THE-EAST,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR,

5184 CHANGES.

Tenor 9 cwt.

CHARLES HOUNSLOW Treble.	REV. F. E. ROBINSON 5.
CHARLES EXON 2.	PERCY A. HIND 6.
CHARLES FOWLER 3.	WILLIAM SMITH 7.
FREDERICK EXON 4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.

This peal is now rung for the first time, and is upon an entirely new plan. It contains the 6th twelve course-ends at home. It is part of 11,328, which is the extent in this method.

OXFORD.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(THE OXFORD SOCIETY.)

On Wednesday, August 19, 1896, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5021 CHANGES.

CHARLES H. FOWLER Treble.	CHARLES H. EXON 6.
ARTHUR HAWES 2.	WILLIAM J. SMITH 7.
CHARLES HOUNSLOW 3.	THOMAS PAYNE 8.
FREDERICK C. EXON 4.	JAMES W. WASHBROOK 9.
ALFRED FOX 5.	JAMES MOGRIDGE Tenor.

Conducted by JAMES W. WASHBROOK.

The band was arranged to meet Mr. Trollope, of Norwich, who unfortunately could not come.

DERBY.—THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(DERBY BRANCH.)

In Two Hours and Thirty-three Minutes, no date mentioned,

AT THE HOUSE OF MR. A. E. THOMPSON, 52, SILVER HILL ROAD,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

VICARS' SIX-PART.

GEORGE THOMPSON 1-2.	FRANK BRADLEY 5-6.
WALTER WALLACE 3-4.	JOHN A. THOMPSON 7-8.

Conducted by FRANK BRADLEY.

Referees—Messrs. A. E. and J. W. Thompson. First peal by George and John Thompson, who were proposed members previous to starting.

Date Touches.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Saturday evening, July 18th, at the church of St. Mary, a date touch, 1896 changes, in the following methods: 720 Oxford Single (eighteen bobs two singles), 720 Canterbury Pleasure (eighteen bobs two singles), and 456 Plain Bob (eight bobs eight singles), composed by C. E. Wilson, in 1 hr. 5 mins. H. Percival, 1; J. W. Bell, 2; C. E. Wilson (conductor), 3; A. Savage, 4; H. H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. This is the first date touch and longest length by all the above except the conductor. Tenor 9 cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SAXMUNDHAM (Suffolk).—On Sunday, August 16th, for morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor (fifteen bobs). W. Watling, 1; W. Drew, 2; G. Hardy, 3; F. Watling (conductor), 4; W. Eastaugh, 5; G. Thompson, 6.

KELSEA (Suffolk).—On Sunday, August 16th, for evening service, 360 Plain Bob Minor. A. Kerridge, 1; F. Page, 2; W. Eastaugh, 3; G. Hardy, 4; F. Watling (conductor), 5; W. Drew, 6. W. Eastaugh hails from Wenhamston, Suffolk.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—On Thursday, July 30th, for practice at St. Peter's Church, 336 Grandsire Triples. E. Mankelow, jun., 1; W. Latter (conductor), 2; A. Spice, 3; S. Perkins, 4; C. Chapman, 5; W. Pollard, 6; G. Head, 7; G. Smithers, 8. Also 288 Treble Bob Major. T. Sisley, 1; G. Head, 2; S. Perkins, 3; H. Porter, 4; G. Smithers, 5; E. Mankelow, sen., 6; C. Chapman, 7; W. Latter (conductor), 8. This is G. Head's first touch in the method. On Sunday, August 2nd, 504 Stedman Triples. A. Welsh, 1; G. Smithers, 2; S. Perkins, 3; W. Pollard, 4; W. Latter, 5; H. Porter, 6; W. Porter (conductor), 7; J. Muggridge, 8. On Thursday, August 6th, 504 Stedman Triples. G. Smithers, 1; E. Mankelow, 2; W. Pollard, 3; W. Porter, 4; S. Perkins, 5; S. Saker, 6; W. Latter (conductor), 7; G. Head, 8. And 336 Stedman Triples. W. Latter, 1; H. Porter, 2; W. Pollard, 3; S. Perkins, 4; G. Smithers, 5; W. Porter, 6; H. Card (conductor), 7; G. Muggridge, 8. W. Porter hails from Dartington and S. Saker from Hastings. On Thursday, August 13th, for practice at St. Peter's Church, 336 Grandsire Triples. E. Mankelow, jun., 1; A. Welsh, 2; A. Spice, 3; W. Porter (conductor), 4; S. Perkins, 5; G. Head, 6; W. Pollard, 7; H. Wood, 8. Also 168 Stedman Triples. G. Smithers, 1; E. Mankelow, sen., 2; W. Pollard, 3; G. Head, 4; H. Porter, 5; W. Latter (conductor), 6; W. Porter, 7; J. Muggridge, 8. And 210 Oxford Bob Triples. E. Mankelow, jun., 1; W. Latter, 2; S. Perkins, 3; G. Head, 4; J. Muggridge, 5; H. Porter, 6; W. Porter (conductor), 7; H. Wood, 8. This is G. Head's first touch of Stedman and Oxford Bob Triples. On Sunday, August 16th, 336 Stedman Triples. S. Perkins, 1; A. Welsh, 2; W. Pollard, 3; E. Mankelow, sen., 4; H. Card, 5; G. Smithers, 6; W. Latter (conductor), 7; J. Muggridge, 8. Also 224 Oxford Bob Triples. W. Pollard, 1; H. Card, 2; G. Head, 3; S. Perkins (conductor), 4; J. Muggridge, 5; G. Smithers, 6; W. Latter, 7; F. Sharp, 8. And 288 Treble Bob Major. A. Welsh, 1; S. Perkins, 2; G. Smithers, 3; E. Allen, 4; E. Mankelow, sen., 5; G. Head, 6; H. Card, 7; W. Latter (conductor), 8. F. Sharp hails from Marden and E. Allen from Borden, Kent.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

REIGATE (Surrey).—On Monday, July 25th, for practice at the parish church, 252 Stedman Triples. F. Hoad, sen. (conductor), 1; P. Knight, 2; F. Hoad, jun., 3; G. Hoad, 4; H. Reeves, 5; E. Kenward, 6; W. Argent, 7; F. Linter, 8. And 288 Kent Treble Bob Major. G. Thompson, 1; F. Hoad, sen., 2; F. Linter, 3; G. Croucher, 4; G. Hoad, 5; E. Kenward, 6; F. Hoad, jun., 7; H. Reeves (conductor), 8. On Sunday evening, August 9th, for Divine Service, 240 Stedman Triples. P. Knight, 1; F. Hoad, sen., 2; G. Thompson, 3; G. Hoad, 4; C. Perrin, 5; W. Argent, 6; F. Hoad, jun., 7; J. Howard, 8. And 378 Grandsire Triples. E. Moses, 1; F. Hoad, sen. (conductor), 2; P. Knight, 3; G. Hoad, 4; T. Brown, 5; W. Argent, 6; F. Hoad, jun., 7; J. Howard, 8. On Monday, August 10th, 504 Stedman Triples. P. Knight, 1; F. Hoad, sen. (conductor), 2; F. Linter, 3; G. Huggett, 4; G. Hoad, 5; W. Argent, 6; F. Hoad, jun., 7; J. Stedman, 8. Tenor 20 cwt.

ERSOM (Surrey).—On Tuesday, July 28th, at Christ Church, on the occasion of the marriage of Miss Alice Homfray Bonnin, of Epsom, to Mr. Percy Melmoth Walters, of Ewell, was rung a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 42 mins. A. Easton, 1; T. Goff, 2; A. Man, 3;

W. Sutton, 4; J. Crawford, 5; T. Tutt, 6; A. Gower (conductor), 7; J. Martin, 8.

BETCHWORTH (Surrey).—On Tuesday, August 11th, at the parish church, 720 London Surprise Minor in 24 mins. R. Botting, 1; *W. Burkin, 2; W. H. Judd, 3; J. Ansell, 4; R. Arnold, 5; G. Huggett (conductor), 6. *First 720.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

HARLOW (Essex).—On Saturday, August 1st, at St. Mary's Church, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal, a quarter-peal of Bob Major. A. Whight, 1; A. Deards, 2; *F. Perrin, 3; A. Hardy, 4; *C. French, 5; T. Faulkner (composer and conductor), 6; E. Lucas, 7; *H. Perrin, 8. *Longest length. And 742 Grandsire Triples. F. Perrin, 1; A. Deards, 2; T. Faulkner, 3; H. J. Tucker (conductor), 4; C. French, 5; T. Ellis, 6; A. Whight, 7; H. Perrin, 8.

LOUGHTON (Essex).—On Tuesday evening, August 11th, at St. John's church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 44 mins. W. Doran, 1; G. Pearl, 2; F. Carter, 3; E. A. Bacon, 4; J. Rann, 5; G. Carter, 6; W. Lebbon (conductor), 7; G. Clark, 8. Messrs. Doran and Pearl hail from West Ham; F. Carter from Waltham Abbey.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BISHOPS HILL (Somerset).—On August 3rd 720 Bob Minor, in 24 mins. J. Grabham, 1; W. W. Thorne, 2; Rev. H. C. Courtney, 3; F. Millard, 4; J. Maddock (conductor), 5; G. Yendall, 6.

NORTON FITZWARRREN (Somerset).—On August 3rd, 720 Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins. J. Maddock (conductor), 1; J. Grabham, 2; F. Millard, 3; G. Yendall, 4; Rev. H. C. Courtney, 5; W. W. Thorne, 6.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday evening, July 5th, eight members of the St. Lawrence's society rang a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 44 mins. J. Harrison, 1; W. R. Hexter, 2; J. R. Ward, 3; W. Hexter, 4; J. Poxon, 5; F. Wicks, 6; J. Bailey (conductor), 7; J. Hexter, 8. First quarter-peal in the method by F. Hicks.

LEICESTER.—On Tuesday, July 28th, at St. Margaret's church, on the front six, 720 Oxford Bob, supposed to be the first on the bells. J. Morris, 1; J. Buttery, 2; F. Cooke, 3; E. E. Smith, 4; J. W. Veasey, 5; W. Willson (conductor), 6. First in the method by all except the ringer of the 2nd and the conductor.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—FYLDE BRANCH.

LYTHAM.—On a recent Sunday evening, before service, 720 College Single Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 27 mins. W. Bamber, 1; T. H. Mark, 2; A. E. Wilson, 3; John Fell, 4; C. H. Kerr, 5; E. Ipping (conductor), 6.

PRESTWICH (Lancashire).—On Tuesday evening, August 11th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor in 27 mins. J. Gratrix, 1; A. Percival, 2; J. Brooks, 3; W. Stevens (conductor), 4; H. Percival, 5; J. Heywood, 6. Tenor 16 cwt.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

OLDSWINFORD (Worcestershire).—On Wednesday, August 12th, on handbells, 720 Oxford Bob. F. Brace, 1; A. Roberts, 2; T. Heathcock, 3; J. Orford, 4; W. Whitehouse, 5; A. E. Parsons (conductor), 6.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CREWE (Cheshire).—On Sunday morning, August 9th, for Divine Service, 336 Grandsire Triples. L. E. Fearn, 1; R. Langford, 2; A. Harding, 3; J. Davies, 4; W. F. Hartshorn, 5; R. W. Valentine, 6; R. T. Holding, 7; J. Dentbith, 8. And for evening service, 700 Grandsire Triples. L. E. Fearn, 1; A. Harding, 2; R. Langford, 3; J. Davies, 4; W. F. Hartshorn, 5; G. Chatfield, 6; R. T. Holding (conductor), 7; J. Dentbith, 8. On Tuesday evening, August 11th, for practice, 720 Plain Bob Minor, on the middle six, with tenor covering. J. Dentbith, 2; A. Harding, 3; J. Davies, 4; W. F. Hartshorn, 5; R. Langford, 6; R. T. Holding (conductor), 7; G. Chatfield, 8. And 252 Plain Bob Triples. G. Chatfield, 1; R. Langford, 2; A. Harding, 3; J. Davies, 4; W. F. Hartshorn, 5; R. W. Valentine, 6; R. T. Holding, 7; J. Dentbith, 8. R. W. Valentine hails from Stoney Stratford, and is on a visit to Crewe, and this is his first attempt at Triples.

THE EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

NORTH WINGFIELD (Derbyshire).—On Thursday, August 6th, at St. Laurence's Church, with the bells deeply muffled as a last token of respect for the Rev. J. Oldham, Rector, who was interred this day,

720 Canterbury Pleasure (thirty-four bobs and twenty-six singles). T. Allibone, 1; W. Butler (conductor), 2; F. Knowles, 3; J. Butler, 4; W. Hopkinson, 5; J. Tarlton, 6. On Tuesday, August 11th, with bells half muffled, 720 Bob Minor. H. Tarlton, 1; rest as above. On Saturday, August 15th, 360 Bob Minor. F. Maycock (Clay Cross), 1; T. Millington (Clay Cross), 2; W. Butler, 3; F. Marshall (Clay Cross), 4; T. Allibone, 5; J. Tarlton (conductor), 6. Rung after a cricket match between Clay Cross and North Wingfield, Clay Cross scoring 42 runs and North Wingfield 35 runs.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DARLINGTON.—On Tuesday, June 2nd, at St. John's church, 336 Plain Bob Major. T. Scollick, 1; R. Moncaster, 2; W. Patton, 3; W. Bell, 4; J. Baxter (conductor), 5; W. Lister, 6; W. Porter, 7; H. Taylor, 8. Also 504 Stedman Triples. C. Moncaster, 1; W. Bell, 2; W. Lister, 3; H. Taylor, 4; J. Baxter, 5; R. Moncaster, 6; W. Porter (conductor), 7; T. Scollick, 8. Longest touch in the method by all except R. Moncaster and W. Porter. On Sunday, June 6th, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Baxter (conductor), 1; W. D. Lister, 2; W. Patton, 3; C. Moncaster, 4; H. Taylor, 5; G. Tait, 6; W. Porter, 7; A. Moncaster, 8. On Tuesday, June 9th, 546 Grandsire Triples. A. Pilkington, 1; R. Moncaster, 2; J. Baxter (conductor), 3; W. Porter, 4; H. Taylor, 5; C. Moncaster, 6; W. Lister, 7; T. Scollick, 8. On Sunday, June 14th, 336 Grandsire Triples. J. Bolton, 1; W. Lister, 2; W. Patton, 3; W. Porter (conductor), 4; H. Taylor, 5; G. Tait, 6; C. Moncaster, 7; T. Scollick, 8. On Sunday, June 21st, 504 Grandsire Triples. J. Bolton, 1; R. Moncaster, (conductor), 2; W. Patton, 3; J. Baxter, 4; H. Taylor, 5; W. Lister, 6; W. Porter, 7; T. Scollick, 8. For evening service 640 Kent Treble Bob Major. R. Moncaster, 1; J. Baxter (conductor), 2; W. Patton, 3; W. Bell, 4; H. Taylor, 5; W. Lister, 6; J. Lungley, 7; W. Porter, 8. On Tuesday, June 23rd, 336 Grandsire Triples. T. Scollick, 1; R. Moncaster, 2; W. Patton, 3; C. Moncaster, 4; H. Taylor, 5; W. Lister (conductor), 6; W. Porter, 7; A. Pilkington, 8. And 504 Grandsire Triples. A. Pilkington, 1; C. Moncaster, 2; W. Patton, 3; W. Lister, 4; H. Taylor, 5; J. Baxter (conductor), 6; W. Porter, 7; J. Bolton, 8. For evening service 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. C. Moncaster, 1; J. Baxter, 2; W. Patton, 3; W. Bell, 4; H. Taylor, 5; R. Moncaster, 6; W. Lister, 7; W. Porter (conductor), 8. On Tuesday, June 30th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. R. Moncaster, 1; C. Moncaster, 2; J. Baxter, 3; W. Lister, 4; W. Patton, 5; H. S. Taylor (conductor), 6.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HULL.—On Thursday, August 13th, at St. James' Church, for practice, a quarter peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes) in 41 mins. J. Dixey, 1; T. Stockdale, 2; J. Highfield, 3; G. Marshall, 4; W. Southwick, 5; H. W. Needham (conductor), 6; D. W. Brown, 7; W. Marshall, 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

HEPTONSTALL (Yorks).—On Sunday, July 20th, 720 College Single. A. Burn (conductor), 1; T. Robertshaw, 2; W. Ingham, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; R. Nowell, 5; F. P. Powell, 6. On Sunday, August 2nd, 720 Grandsire Minor. A. Burn (conductor), 1; F. P. Powell, 2; T. Robertshaw, 3; W. Ingham, 4; J. Robertshaw, 5; J. Nowell, 6. On Sunday, August 9th, for morning service, 720 Oxford Bob. A. Burn (conductor), 1; T. Robertshaw, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; R. Nowell, 5; F. P. Powell, 6. Also for afternoon service, 720 New London Pleasure. T. Robertshaw (conductor), 1; F. P. Powell, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; W. Ingham, 4; J. Robertshaw, 5; J. Nowell, 6. On Wednesday, August 12th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. J. W. Foster, 1; T. Robertshaw, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; R. Nowell, 5; F. P. Powell (conductor), 6. First 720 by J. W. Foster.

THE STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

KINGSLEY (Staffordshire).—On Sunday, August 16th, for Divine Service in the morning, 720 Duke of York. Also for Divine Service in the evening, 720 Violet Treble Bob. E. Bradshaw, 1; T. Moreton, 2; J. Beresford, 3; J. Moreton, 4; J. E. Wheeldon, 5; H. Cornwell (conductor), 6. And 240 Oxford Treble Bob. A. Edwards, 4. J. E. Wheeldon hails from Bucknall, the others are local men.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LINCOLN.—On Sunday evening, August 16th, at St. Peter-at-Arches Church, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor in 29½ mins., on the back six bells. J. H. Chapman, 1; J. Wells, 2; A. Craven, 3; G. W. Bemrose, 4; C. Wells (conductor), 5; J. W. Watson, 6. Tenor 20 cwt. Mr. J. H. Chapman hails from Wragby, and Mr. C. Wells belongs to the Cathedral (Lincoln) Society.

GRIMSBY.—On Friday, August 14th, at the parish church, a quarter peal in 47 mins. *F. Leigh, 1; A. Bramall, 2; J. W. Chapman, 3;

J. Baker, 4; W. Hollingsworth, 5; W. H. Heyhoe (conductor), 6; G. Weldon, 7; F. Howden, 8. *First quarter.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On June 21st, at the Church of St. Peter, 720 Kent Treble Bob. A. Robinson, 1; F. Lowe, 2; W. Davinson, 3; S. Lowe, 4; C. Chasty, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. On June 25th, 720 Bob Minor. F. Parrott, 1; H. Toll, 2; F. Lowe, 3; F. Hull, 4; S. Lowe, 5; S. Constant (conductor), 6. On June 28th, 720 Bob Minor. F. Parrott, 1; F. Hull, 2; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 3; F. Lowe, 4; H. Tysoe, 5; F. Keech, 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob. F. Keech, 1; F. Lowe, 2; S. Lowe, 3; H. Tysoe, 4; F. Hull, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. On July 2nd, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. A. Robinson, 1; F. Lowe, 2; J. Hills, 3; S. Lowe, 4; H. Toll, 5; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 6. Also 720 Double Court. F. Parrott, 1; H. Toll, 2; S. Lowe, 3; C. Chasty, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; H. Tysoe, 6. On July 5th, 720 Oxford Bob. F. Parrott, 1; F. Hull, 2; H. Toll, 3; C. Chasty, 4; H. Tysoe, 5; S. Constant (conductor), 6. On July 12th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. F. Smith, 1; A. Robinson, 2; H. Sharp, 3; F. Hull, 4; H. Toll, 5; S. Constant (conductor), 6. Also 720 Bob Minor. F. Parrott, 1; A. Robinson, 2; H. Tysoe, 3; F. Hull, 4; H. Toll, 5; S. Constant (conductor), 6. On July 16th, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. A. Robinson, 1; J. Hills, 2; C. W. Clarke, 3; C. Chasty, 4; H. Toll, 5; S. Constant (conductor), 6. And 720 Kent Treble Bob. C. Chasty, 1; A. Robinson, 2; F. Lowe, 3; S. Lowe, 4; C. W. Clarke (conductor), 5; H. Tysoe, 6.

THE PETERBOROUGH GUILD.

CASTOR (Northamptonshire).—On Saturday evening, August 8th, at the church of St. Kyneburgha's, a 6-score of Plain Bob Doubles, April Day, and Grandsire. R. Rowell, 1; G. J. Martin, 2; E. G. Baker, 3; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 4; R. Squires, 5; G. Peasgood, 6. Also 360 Grandsire Doubles. R. Squires, 4; C. R. Lilley, 5; the rest as before. And another 6-score. C. R. Lilley (conductor), 1; G. J. Martin, 2; E. G. Baker, 3; R. Squires, 4; R. Rowell, 5; G. Peasgood, 6. Tenor 18 cwt. The ringers wish, through the medium of this paper, to thank the Rector and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and Mr. Hales (the sexton), for his kindness.

BUTTERWICK (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday morning, August 2nd, at the church of St. Andrew, for Divine Service, two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, called differently. J. Phillips, 1; R. Rawlinson, 2; H. Staffurth, 3; H. Palmer, 4; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 5. Tenor 18 cwt. Palmer hails from Skirbeck, Lilley from Peterborough, the rest from Butterwick.

SKIRBECK (Lincolnshire).—On Monday, August 3rd, at the church of St. Nicholas, a 6-score each of Grandsire and April Day. J. Coleman, 1; E. Clayton, 2; H. Staffurth, 3; H. Palmer, 4; C. R. Lilley (conductor), 5. Tenor 18 cwt. in F. Messrs. Clayton and Staffurth hail from Frieston, Lilley from Peterborough, the rest belong to Skirbeck.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ST. ALBANS (Herts).—On Sunday, August 2nd, at St. Peter's church after the evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins. W. Little, 1; E. Hull, 2; E. P. Debenham, 3; J. W. Brewer, 4; W. Lightfoot, 5; W. H. L. Buckingham, 6; W. H. Buckingham, 7; J. Porter, 8. Composed by A. J. Perkins. The above was rung as a farewell compliment to W. Lightfoot, who is leaving St. Albans for a situation at Wilmslow, Cheshire, his brother-ringers wishing him every success.

THE HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

MYTHOLMROYD (Yorkshire).—On Sunday, August 16th, for evening service, 360 Oxford Treble Bob Minor and 120 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Wilcock, 1; C. Sutcliffe, 2; F. Uttley, 3; W. Carter, 4; R. Nowell, 5; F. P. Powell (conductor), 6.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

NORTON.—On Sunday, August 2nd, being the Feast Sunday, several ringers from neighbouring towers paid a visit, and 720 of Oxford was rung. H. Jervis, 1; T. Dixon, 2; J. Alkin, 3; J. Allen, 4; W. Biggin, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. And 720 Violet. H. Jervis, 1; A. Slater, 2; E. James, 3; E. Allen, 4; J. Alkin, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6. On Sunday, August 9th, for evening service, 360 each of Duke of York, Violet, and Kent Treble Bob. G. Oates, 1; A. Slater, 2; E. James, 3; J. Alkin, 4; W. Biggin, 5; J. Allen (conductor), 6.

BROADWAY (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, August 9th, the Benge-

worth ringers visited this place, with the intention of pulling off a 720, but owing to the bad "go" of the tenor, 23 cwt., only a 6-score of Minor could be rung, although the bells were rehung some two years ago. On the return back a halt was made at Childswickham, Gloucestershire, where a well-struck 720 of Bob Minor was rung in 25 mins. G. Williams, 1; H. Middleton, 2; H. Salisbury, 3; W. Arkell, 4; F. Johnson, 5; F. Cook (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 of Minor on the bells, which were rehung by Messrs. Taylor and Sons a short time back. Tenor about 12 cwt. It is difficult to ring here owing to the intense noise of the bells, as there is only a thin deal boarding underneath them, but the "go" is all that can be desired.

EASTBOURNE.—On July 27th, at the parish church, 503 Grandsire Triples. A. Gower, 1; T. J. Salter (conductor), 2; T. Willoughby, 3; A. E. Midmore, 4; H. Vernon, 5; W. Avann, 6; J. Bennett, 7; A. Hudson, 8. Messrs. Salter and Bennett hail from Kidderminster.

NUNEATON (Warwickshire).—On Sunday, August 9th, for morning service, 408 Stedman Triples. H. Paulson, 1; W. Stone, 2; H. Argyle, 3; T. W. Chapman, 4; W. Devey, 5; G. Woods (Longton), 6; H. Horwood, 7; J. Warren, 8. And 560 Bob Major, on handbells. H. Paulson, 1-2; T. W. Chapman, 3-4; H. Argyle, 5-6; W. Stone, 7-8. For evening service five courses of Bob Major. J. Warren, 1; W. H. Horwood, 2; H. Paulson, 3; T. W. Chapman, 4; W. Devey, 5; W. Johnson, 6; J. Clarke, 7; H. Argyle, 8.

PENGE (Surrey).—On Sunday, July 5th, for Children's Service at the church of St. John the Evangelist, 720 Bob Minor. G. Conn, 1; G. Wickens, 2; J. Richards, 3; H. Edwards, 4; W. Battson, 5; G. Durling (conductor), 6. On Thursday, August 6th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. G. Conn, 1; H. Edwards, 2; J. Town, 3; J. Marshall, 4; T. Richards, 5; W. Battson (conductor), 6. This 720 was rung in commemoration of the 48th birthday of J. Marshall, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns.

PRITTLEWELL (Essex).—On Sunday, August 9th, 447 Grandsire Triples. W. Bedwell, 1; W. Dowsett, 2; E. Lillywhite, 3; W. Dudley, 4; C. Anderson, 5; J. Smith, 6; W. Judd (conductor), 7; J. Prior, 8. E. Lillywhite hails from Walthamstow.

WALTON-ON-THE-HILL (Lancashire).—On Sunday afternoon, July 5th, at St. Mary's Parish Church, 720 Plain Bob (forty-two singles), composed by E. Francis, Norwich. H. Rodger, 1; J. Bell, 2; C. E. Wilson, 3; A. Savage, 4; H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. On Tuesday evening, July 7th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (forty-two singles), composed by N. J. Pitstow. H. Harrison, 1; H. Barker, 2; A. Jakeman, 3; C. E. Wilson, 4; J. Bell, 5; H. Rodger, 6. On Sunday evening, July 12th, 720 Oxford Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). H. Percival, 1; J. Bell, 2; H. Barker, 3; C. E. Wilson, 4; H. Harrison, 5; J. Martin, 6. On Sunday morning, July 19th, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (ten divisions, forty-two singles), composed by J. J. Parker. C. E. Wilson, 1; J. Bell, 2; H. Rodger, 3; H. Percival, 4; H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. And in the evening, 720 Plain Bob (ten divisions, forty-two singles), composed by J. J. Parker. H. Percival, 1; J. Bell, 2; C. E. Wilson, 3; A. Savage, 4; H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. On Sunday evening, July 26th, 720 Plain Bob (forty-two singles), composed by C. E. Wilson. H. Percival, 1; J. Bell, 2; C. E. Wilson, 3; A. Savage, 4; H. Harrison, 5; J. Martin, 6. On Saturday evening, August 1st, 720 Plain Bob (six bobs and two singles). C. E. Wilson, 1; J. Bell, 2; H. Rodger (first 720 in the method with a bob bell), 3; A. Savage, 4; H. Barker, 5; H. Harrison, 6. Also the same evening, 720 Plain Bob (four bobs and fourteen singles). C. E. Wilson, 1; H. Barker, 2; J. Bell, 3; H. Percival (first 720 in the method with a bob bell), 4; A. Savage, 5; H. Harrison, 6. On Sunday morning, August 2nd, 720 Canterbury Pleasure (eighteen bobs and fourteen singles), composed by C. E. Wilson. H. Percival, 1; J. Bell, 2; H. Harrison, 3; C. E. Wilson, 4; H. Barker, 5; J. Kelly, 6. All the above were conducted by C. E. Wilson. Tenor 9 cwt.

SANDHURST (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, August 11th, Johnson's 1008 of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells retained in hand in 32 mins. A. Roberts, 1-2; T. Miller, 3-4; W. Pugh (conductor), 5-6; T. Newman, 7-8. Tenor 18 size in G. This is the longest by all on handbells, except the conductor, who hails from Birmingham. On August 10th, a course of each of Grandsire Caters, Royal and Cinques. H. Savage, W. Savage, S. Newman, T. Newman, W. Pugh, A. Roberts, T. Miller.

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A DIAGRAM OF A SYSTEM OF PEALS OF UNION TRIPLES: In imitation of Shipway's peal, with the bobbing of three hundred peals of the system, and directions for getting from the diagram the bobbing of fifteen hundred more peals of the system.—By W. H. THOMPSON, Member of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

CAMBRIDGE: Macmillan and Bowes.

MR. JOHN CARTER'S TWO HUNDRED PEALS.

The schedule below shows the number of peals in each method in which Mr. J. Carter has taken part, including twenty-nine handbell peals from Triples to Cinques; and also two peals of Stedman Triples at Burton, one of which was rung in perfect silence and without sign or motion on the part of the ringers; and the other was an all-conducted peal, each ringer calling three courses in his turn. Mr. Carter has also had the misfortune to ring in four peals which compositions have afterwards turned out to be false, and are therefore not included in the list below.

	Rung.	Conducted.
Grandsire Triples	37	24
" Major	13	13
" Caters	36	29
" Royal	2	2
" Cinques	2	2
New Grandsire Triples	5	1
" Caters	1	0
Union Triples	3	2
College Single Triples	1	1
Darlaston Bob Triples	12	12
" " Caters	1	1
Oxford Bob Triples	1	1
Plain Bob Triples	3	2
" " Major	16	14
" " Caters	1	1
" " Royal	2	2
Canterbury Major	1	1
Treble Bob Major	5	3
" " Royal	5	3
" " Maximus	2	1
Stedman Triples	23	15
" Caters	10	6
" Cinques	4	0
Forward Major	3	3
" Royal	3	2
Duffield Royal	1	0
Double Oxford Bob Major	2	1
" Norwich C. Bob Major	2	2
Superlative Surprise	1	0
Cambridge	1	0
London	1	0
	200	145

A VISIT TO GUISBOROUGH, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, August 1st, Messrs. Blakiston, Passman, Rudd, McFarlane, Hall, and Carter, of Middlesbrough, and Mr. Newton, of Stockton, paid a visit to Guisborough, where they rang 720 each of Kent and Plain Bob Minor; Messrs. Haswell and Cotterill (local men), taking a rope in the Bob Minor, this being the first 720 by Mr. Cotterill, and the first as conductor by Mr. Haswell. During the afternoon, the visitors were kindly entertained to tea by the local men, who, by the way, are to be congratulated on the improvement made in the Art since our last visit two years ago. After ringing another 120 of Minor, with Messrs. J. Metcalfe and W. G. Haswell, the bells were let down in peal, and a visit paid to the rectory, where each ringer was welcomed by a hearty handshake by the Vicar; here the handbells were brought into requisition, and courses of Triples, Plain Bob, and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung. After which the visitors and local men who had accompanied us were served with refreshments. A start was then made for home, thus ending a pleasant afternoon's outing. The visitors wish to thank (through "THE BELL NEWS") the Rev. J. H. Morgan and the Guisborough ringers for doing so much towards making our visit a success.

B.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ROSSENDALE BRANCH.—A meeting of this branch was held at Haslingden on Saturday, August 8th, and was attended by members from Bacup, Bury, Helmshore, Padiham, Ramsbottom, Rawtenstall, Waterfoot, and the local company. The meeting was held in the belfry, Mr. J. Smith in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting being passed, it was decided to hold the next meeting at Waterfoot. After a little discussion, Mr. J. H. Banks (Helmshore), was elected Branch Secretary, and

Messrs. Z. Lord (Bacup), and J. B. Taylor (Waterfoot), were nominated Committee-men for two years, and seven more members were enrolled, five from Haslingden, and two from Rawtenstall. Votes of thanks were given to the retiring officers, and also to the vicar for the use of the bells and belfry; to the ringers for having all in readiness, and to the chairman for presiding. Touches of Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob Minor, College Single, and Bob Minor were rung, and the bells were kept going till about 9.30, bringing a pleasant evening to a close.

THE EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A Quarterly Meeting of this Association was held at Friskney on Saturday, July 25th, when members from Boston, Skirbeck, Friskney, and Butterworth, with the local ringers, comprising twenty-five, sat down to a meat tea. A short service was held in St. James' church, conducted by the Rev. J. P. Cheales, in the absence of the Rev. S. Staffurth, vicar, who was away on his holidays. After tea the business meeting was held, presided over by the Rev. J. P. Cheales, the vice-chair being occupied by Master H. Staffurth. The next place of meeting was left to the Committee. Several 6-scores of Plain Bob and Grandsire were rung by mixed companies at the parish church. Tenor about 20 cwt. Several of the members journeyed on bicycles to Benington, and rang several touches of Bob Minor on the pretty little ring of six, in which the Rev. J. P. Cheales and Master H. Staffurth took part.

THE LATE GEORGE EDWARD HARVEY.

On Friday evening, August 14th, at the usual practice, some members of the Royal Cumberlands rang the usual whole pull and stand as a mark of respect to the above-named ringer. The performers were Messrs. Baron, Foskett, Pitts, Dains, Swain, Meads, Griggs, Bevan, Dench, Stubbs, Parker, Jacob. Conducted by W. Baron. Messrs. Dench and Parker formerly belonged to Crawley, Sussex. Poor Harvey had been a good and constant member for something like thirty years; a regular attendant for many years of the time, and always ready to oblige a friend when called upon. His name will be found in records of Cinques on Stedman's Principle, being a good ringer and striker in the three methods upon any number of bells. He was a native of Newton Abbot, Devonshire, and was born in the year 1838, and was therefore in his fifty-eighth year at the time of his decease. This took place on Saturday, August 1st, and the remains were interred on the following Wednesday in Finchley cemetery, London, N. The last time we met him was at the society's meeting-house, and he was then in the pink of health. The cause of death, I am told, was a slight sunstroke while at his work as a builder's foreman. This was followed by typhoid fever. By trade or profession our mutual friend was a carpenter. Aye, Sir, an expert carpenter in the highest branch of the craft, being second to none in the science of handrailing. He would pride himself in preparing a rail for a continued stairs, containing not the ordinary flyer and half space landing class only, but, Sir, those technically known as jib landings, quarter space landings, either oblique or acute angled, and so nicely worked out that not a heading joint would require easing upon the works, and more, he would get the wreaths out of stuff, wells, of half-an-inch thicker than the ordinary, used for the straight portions of the work, providing he had the setting out, and allowed to put in the easings to the plan of the stairs under treatment.

The late and lamented G. Newson and our friend under notice worked together for several years in the latter part of the sixties and the early part of the seventies. Many ringing friends would have attended the funeral, but it was not generally known in the Exercise. A good friend and true man has gone to rest.

H. D.

* * It is impossible to guarantee the appearance of touches in the current number. They will be taken in order of date as far as possible, and in the future efforts will be especially made to prevent their undue postponement. If they come to our office early there is greater chance of their appearance.

MEN AND MANNERS.

Hi Hi! Ho Ho!! and likewise Ha Ha!!!—Room for the new scribe. The old Firm! The old Firm!! After sixteen years of uphill struggles for the recognition of ringing, we are very much alive, notwithstanding the masks and faces of those pseudo friends who vainly imagine it is easy to put salt on our tails! So beat the drum, boy, and sing Hi! Hi!! and likewise Ho! Ho!! what time "THE BELL NEWS" wagon wends its way over the stones of ingratitude. A few stars, Mr. Printer—thanks—the new scribe is introduced. JINGLE salutes you.

* * * *

Is it the hot weather that is handicapping the peals, or is it idleness *alias* apathy? I know it pulls one about to turn big tenors in to the tune of Major, Royal or Maximus, but surely it is not too hot to ring them behind. Some extraordinary peals have been accomplished during the summer months, and we have only to hark back and we shall feel slightly ashamed to back out of a 5000 when we think of men who, having more pluck than strength, have stood from six to ten hours on the hottest days of summer, and we frequently get warmer weather in May, June and July than we do in August. It was in May, 1777, when the College Youths and the Cumberlands were racing neck and neck for the premier position of long peal ringers. The last-named Society got ahead on May 10th with 10,200 Treble Ten, but the College Youths—ever like the weasel—nine days later smashed their opponents' record with 11,080 in the same method, although seven years later the Cumberlands gave the College boys a knock from which they have never recovered, by ringing 12,000. It was also in May that the two long peals of Grandsire Caters, 12,096 and 12,312 were rung; and in June that the famous Debenham peal of 16,608 was brought to a successful issue. More recently we have Sam Wood's long peal of Cinques: and by the way, Samuel, why not secure the Treble Twelve record also. *Verb. sap.*

* * * *

What a hurry and bustle there has been in the Houses of Parliament lately. From the scarlet-robed superior individuals who sleep on the benches of the Upper House (when it sits long enough) to the cheeky parvenu in the Lower, treading on everyone's corns in his anxiety for fame and the desire to let off his little squib, one goal has been in view—the recess. Holidays are all right, particularly when they are paid for, and we men of the people cannot help calling to mind some of the successful candidates' "pledges." For myself I always took the "old age pensions" bait with an extra large pinch of salt, but it is not humorous to see grey-haired men seeking the refuge of a workhouse, to die like a rabbit in a hole, and that is the average look-out for working men of to-day. Among ringers some there are who get into hospitals, and some there are who don't. The don'ts are in the majority, and it takes a lot of *influence* to get in then—in some hospitals. I have in my mind's eye one or two ringers who have been candidates for these charities, but some favoured individual with more "influence" has invariably got in. I think it is time that a scheme for "Ringers' and Church Officials' Almshouses" could be discussed beneficially at the Church Congress, but while so much red tape is in evidence, we ringers must sit down as *small pertaters*.

* * * *

Those who take upon themselves the office of giving advice on social questions should at least try and understand something about the subject in hand, whether they occupy an eminent

social position or not. "The Bishop of Manchester in presenting the prizes at Rossall College told the boys that he heard working men clamouring for an eight-hour day, and a pension from work at sixty-five years of age. He was more than sixty-five, but he did not get a pension or exemption from work. His hours were not eight a day, but nearer fourteen. When an old man like him had to work like that he asked them not to expect a *lazy time*."

* * * *

One scarcely knows how to begin to answer the charge. His Lordship views the situation from his own elevated seat. If a man has worked from youth to sixty-five years of age (and not many reach that figure), it is time, in my opinion, for him to retire and give someone else a chance. There is a vast difference between working through life with a hand-to-mouth existence and of one of comparative affluence. If his Lordship's income had been about £11 per week instead of what it is, it is highly probable that he would have weighed his words well before using that word *lazy*. To men advancing age brings no honour, but the contrary; to him the Bishop's *lazy time* has no attraction; it is thrust on him as soon as he shews a gray hair. But enough; I have no doubt that by this time the Bishop will have discovered that being like other mortals, he has for once spoken thoughtlessly.

* * * *

On reading the foregoing, don't let any one imagine that I am a Radical, or opponent of Church and State, or anything else that is bad. I am a Churchman to the spinal marrow; a bell-ringer—(one of yourselves), and a sidesman at my parish church, which is a noted edifice in an important Midland town, having a ring of ten bells, with an historical interest second to none in the kingdom.

* * * *

Once more the ice-bell story comes to hand. I have heard it (the story, not the bell) about once a year for a long while. The newspapers fill in with this after the sea-serpent and big gooseberry jokes have fallen through. This time it is at Shopi, in Japan, a queer *shopi should imagine*. Ah! would you? No pun meant. Well, at this shop or shopi there is a wonderful cavern containing immense quantities of ice which never melt away. In one place huge icicles depending from the roof, have formed upon the floor beneath—through the slow dripping of water—about a score of great hollow cylinders, some of which are five feet in height, looking exactly like inverted bells. When struck they give forth tones from a gong-like bass to shrill treble. I won't guarantee the above, though it is quite possible, but had we a similar freak of nature in England the eagle-eyed company promoter would have marked it for his own, and boomed it for all it was worth in less time than it takes to tell the tale.

JINGLE.

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL CLOCK.—When the new clock at St. Paul's Cathedral was erected about three years ago, the dials had their central parts filled with white glass for illumination at night. This white glass has been found to make the dials less distinct by day, and also not to be in architectural harmony with the Cathedral. Instructions have therefore been given to the makers, Messrs. John Smith and Sons, of Derby, to fit in new dark central parts to the dials. It may be mentioned that the total diameter of the dials is about 17 feet, and the central parts are 10 feet in diameter. When this work is done, the dials will have the same appearance they had before the new clock was fixed.

HANDBELLS.—For Sale a Chromatic set of 19 Bells from C, size 15 to F sharp, size 5, in perfect order, 10 of the set (including the 5 largest bells) quite new. £4 15s. net cash. W. A. CLARK, The Goldthorns, Trafalgar-road, Moseley Birmingham.

Notices.

Kent County Association.—Rochester District.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at SS. Peter and Paul, Borden, to-day, Saturday, August 22nd. Tower open at 3 p.m. Tea will be provided at The Maypole, at 5.30. Committee meeting after tea. Railway fares will be paid up to 2s. Members are requested where eight can come from one station to do so and get cheap fares, as the order for bands of eight is still in force.

A. OSBORNE, *Hon. District Sec.*

65, Clive Road, Rochester.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—A ringing meeting will be held at Churcham to-day, Saturday, August 22nd, when it is hoped all members in the district will try and attend.

JOHN AUSTIN, *Local Sec.*

The North Notts. Association.—The next quarterly meeting of this association will be held at Bawtry to-day, Saturday, August 22nd. Tea 1s. per head at 5 p.m.

B. DARLEY, *Hon. Sec.*

Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next ringing meeting will be held at Christ Church, Barlow Moor road, Wittington, to-day, Saturday, August 22nd. Bells ready at 4 p.m., business meeting at 7 p.m.

WALTER BROWN, *Branch Sec.*

54, Wenlock Street, Hulme, Manchester.

The Llandaff Diocesan Association.—The annual meeting will be held at the Prebendal House, Llandaff, at 3 p.m., on Saturday, August 29th. The tower of the Cathedral will be open for a peal. Members who have not paid their subscriptions for the current year are kindly requested to do so at this meeting. Rev. D. H. GRIFFITHS, *Hon. Sec.*

Salisbury Road, Cardiff.

Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Waterfoot on Saturday, August 29th. Bells ready at 4 p.m., meeting at 6.30.

J. B. TAYLOR, *Branch Sec.*

18, Townsend Street, Waterfoot.

Central Northamptonshire Association.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Wootton (about two miles from Bridge street station, Northampton), on Saturday, August 29th. Ringing from 2 to 8 p.m. Tea and business meeting at 5 o'clock.

Wellingborough. E. J. DENNES, *Hon. Sec.*

Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The usual monthly ringing meeting of this society will be held at Drighlington on Saturday, August 29th (8 bells). Ringing from 3 p.m. Meeting house, The Spotted Cow inn. Handbells provided. R. BINNS, *Hon. Sec.*

3, Dame Street, Hogg's Field, Holbeck.

East Derbyshire Association.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Wingerworth on Saturday, September 5th. Meeting in the schoolroom at 5.30 p.m.

T. ALLIBONE, *Hon. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Luke's church, Farnworth, near Widnes, on Saturday, September 5th. Bells ready at 4 p.m., meeting at 6 p.m.

HENRY COLEY, *Branch Sec.*

3, Rumford Place, Liverpool.

The Norwich Diocesan Association.—The twenty-sixth quarterly meeting of the Saxmundham District will be held at Aldeburgh on Saturday, September 5th. The bells of

the parish church will be open for ringing from 3 until 9 p.m. Business meeting in the upper parish room at 5.30, when the Rector will preside. All members and friends cordially welcome. H. J. BUTTON, *Hon. District Sec.*

Valley Road, Leiston.

Compositions.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

By HENRY DAINS, *Royal Cumberland Youths.*

5056.

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

Repeated. This peal is obtained without reversing the bells in 5-6.

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY PLEASURE TRIPLES.

By WILLIAM WALMSLEY, *Macclesfield.*

5040.

2	3	4	5	6	W	M	R
4	6	2	5	3	-	-	-
2	4	6	5	3	-	-	-
6	2	4	5	3	-	-	-
5	4	2	6	3	-	-	-
2	3	5	6	4	-	-	-
5	2	3	6	4	-	-	-
3	5	2	6	4	-	-	-
6	2	5	3	4	-	-	-
5	4	6	3	2	-	-	-
6	5	4	3	2	-	-	-
4	6	5	3	2	-	-	-
3	5	6	4	2	-	-	-
6	2	3	4	5	-	-	-
3	6	2	4	5	-	-	-
2	3	6	4	5	-	-	-
4	6	3	2	5	-	-	-
3	5	4	2	6	-	-	-
4	3	5	2	6	-	-	-
5	4	3	2	6	-	-	-
3	4	2	5	6	-	-	-
5	6	2	3	4	-	-	-
2	5	6	3	4	-	-	-
3	4	6	2	5	-	-	-
6	3	4	2	5	-	-	-
2	5	4	6	3	-	-	-
4	2	5	6	3	-	-	-
6	3	5	4	2	-	-	-
5	6	3	4	2	-	-	-
4	2	3	5	6	-	-	-
4	3	2	5	6	-	-	-

Repeated.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ORR-EWING.—Many years ago.

NOTE TO THE PEAL AT BUSHEY.—This peal was rung in honour of the coming of age of Miss Burchell-Herne, the only child of the Rev. H. F. H. and Mrs. Burchell-Herne, of the Grange, Bushey, the donor of the fourth bell of this ring, which bears her name. The ringers, together with a large number of the inhabitants of the village, were entertained to dinner on Tuesday evening in the parish room. This is the first peal on the bells since they have been rehung in an iron frame and in the new ringing room. It is also Mr. Huntley's 50th peal.

Handbells for Sale.

FOR SALE.—Two tenor handbells, one E 20, and one F 19; new; Cash 20s. or offers.—Evans, Ivy house, Haverhill.

FOR SALE.—Complete set of Handbells in good condition, fully up to pitch, the property of the Birkby Baptist Chapel.—For particulars, apply to J. Wood and Sons, New Street, Huddersfield.

HANDBELLS.—A peal of Fifty-six for sale—F 26 to C 01—in excellent condition; also Portable Padded Table, 14ft. long, and hangings trimmed with gold braid and fringe. A bargain.—F. Masefield, Albert Street Newcastle, Staffs.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

CHANGE-RINGER seeks situation as Bricklayer's labourer, or would be glad of anything. Can ring Grandsire and Plain Bob. Member of the Salop Archidiaconal Guild; age 22.—Apply, George Burrows, 2, Old Court, Butcher Row, Shrewsbury.

SITUATION Wanted as Under Gardener. I am not particular as to any other sort of work. A ringer at Frindsbury church.—Address—C. Winsor, 37, Quarry cottages, Frindsbury Hill, Stroud, Kent.

WANTED, by good change-ringer, employment in a painting and decorating business. Member of Norwich Diocesan Association. Experienced, with good references.—Apply, G.A., care of the Editor.

WANTED by married man, age 30, situation as Bread Baker, First hand or Good Second; Change-ringer in three Standard methods; Excellent references Apply, H. Blake, Farnham St. Martin, Bury St. Edmund's, Suffolk.

SITUATION Wanted.—Gardener (under), 18 years of age. Can ring the Standard methods.—Apply, W., care of Editor.

CHANGE-RINGER (used to gardening), would be glad to hear of a situation. Well recommended. Disengaged.—H. S. Reeves, Hillingdon Heath, near Uxbridge.

GARDENER (under), seeks situation; seven years' good character from last place; age 21, single; can ring the Standard methods.—Apply, R. Fuge, care of Mr. Brown, Cosham, Hants.

WANTED, Situation as clock jobber, or any other light employment; good change-ringer; age 28, married.—Address, Jarvis, 25 Baring street, New North road, Islington, N.

WANTED.—Situation as Oil Sheet Maker and Tent Repairer; age 25; married; change-ringer in Grandsire and Plain Bob; member of the Salop Guild; would be glad to hear of something. Good reference if required. Apply—F. W. Taylor, 17, St. Alkmund's square, Shrewsbury.

WANTED by young man, age 19, situation in bake-house. Good bread baker, used to smalls. Seven years experience. Good character; change-ringer; and member of the Sussex County Association.—I. J. Attwater, Church street, Cuckfield, Sussex.

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The figures of most of the Peals are given in an Appendix, which also includes measurements and approximate weights of tenors of 8 and 10 bell peals, the whole forming an interesting contribution to the literature of bells.

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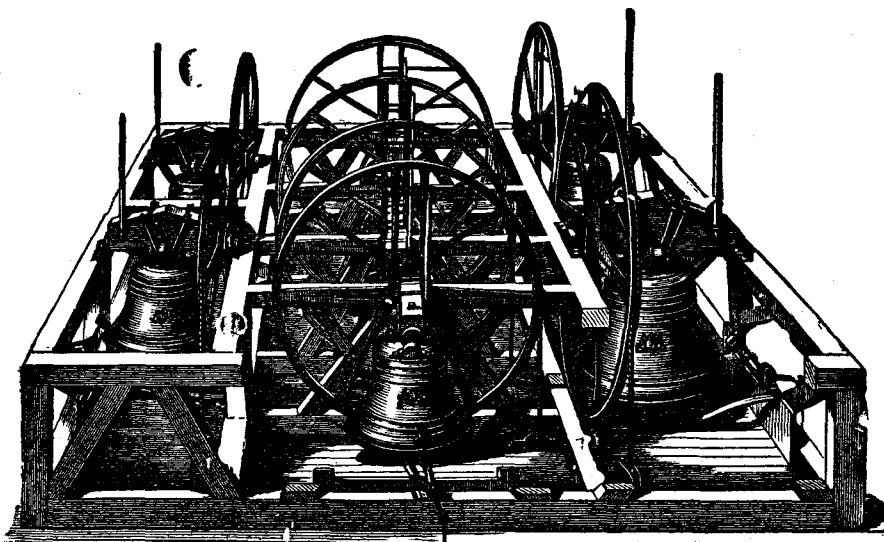
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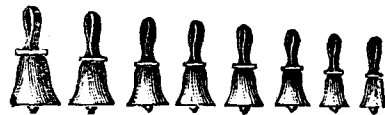
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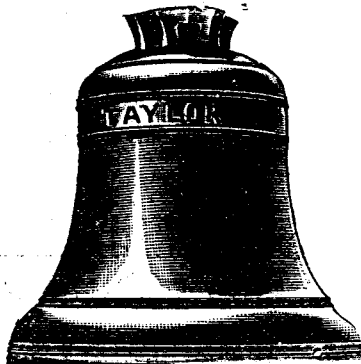
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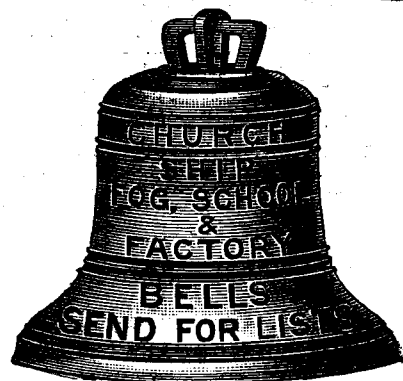
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