

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 777.—VOL. XV.]

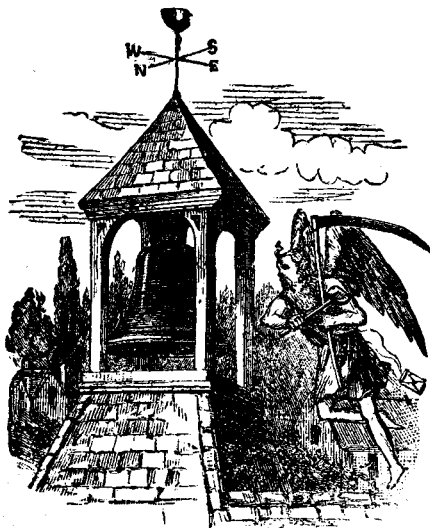
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1897.

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Sherborne Abbey.	Corbridge-on-Tyne, do.
Sydney Town Hall,	Pontypool (Trevethin
N.S.W.	Church.)
Hammersmith Parish	Windermere Church.
Church.	Eiffel Tower, Paris.
Gateshead Clock Twr.	Dunstold Parish Ch.
Duke of Albany Memo-	Aylesford do.
rial, Cannes.	St. Mark's Church, St.
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Shanghai Custom	Royal Normal College,
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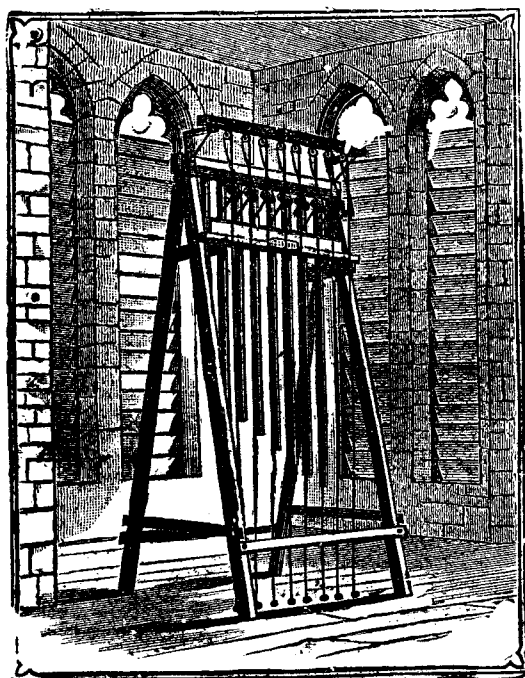
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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1897.

[Vol. XV.]

THE LONG PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR AT DRAYTON.

In accordance with previous announcements, a photograph of the company who rang this peal is given with this issue of "THE BELL NEWS." Following will be found short pen-and-ink sketches of each performer:—

CHARLES HOUNSLOW.—1.

Born in Oxford on February 10th, 1832. Is a writer and decorator by trade. He first commenced ringing about 1852, and together with the late H. Boswell rang Grandsire Doubles at the church of St. Thomas-ye-Martyr, in the city of Oxford. He rang his first peal, Grandsire Triples, at Appleton, on March 4th, 1854, with the old Appleton company. Many a time he has walked to Appleton after his hard day's work, a distance of six miles each way, for a single hour's ringing; and only Grandsire or Treble Bob was rung in those days. Through his assiduity to the cause of change-ringing in Oxford for so many years, the present generation give him the honourable name of "Father" Hounslow, and he is much loved by his dutiful ringing sons. Mr. Hounslow is an excellent ringer, good at all methods, and a very fine striker. Until the publication of "THE BELL NEWS" he kept no record of his performances; but since the year 1883 he has rang 171 peals, some of which are record peals, viz.: 15,041 of Stedman Caters, 10,000 of Grandsire Caters, 13,000 of Grandsire Caters, and peals of London, Cambridge and Superlative Surprise Major, Stedman Triples, Caters and Cinques, Treble Bob Major, Royal and Maximus.

FREDERICK C. EXON.—2.

Born October 20th, 1875, at Bristol, and is a baker by trade. He commenced ringing at St. Giles, Oxford, in March, 1891, with a new company formed about that time to do Sunday ringing in that parish, under the instruction of Mr. A. Fox, and after mastering the first stages of 6-bell ringing there attended the practices of the St. Peter's company, when he made rapid progress. He rang his first peal—Bob Major—at St. Peter's in 1894. Since then he has rung sixteen peals in Stedman, Treble Bob and Surprise. He is a very careful ringer and striker.

CHARLES H. FOWLER.—3.

Born May 21st, 1875, at Oxford. Is a bookbinder by trade. He first commenced ringing by joining the All Saints' company in 1890, but he made no progress there. About that time two trebles were added to the existing ring of six in St. Peter's tower, and he joined that company under the tuition of his friend J. W. Washbrook. He rang his first peal—Grandsire Triples—at New College, on August 1st, 1891. Since that time he has rang fifty-seven peals in the following methods: Grandsire Triples, 4; Caters, 1; Stedman Triples, 18; Caters, 8; Bob Major, 1; Treble Bob Major, 2; Royal, 4; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 4; Superlative Surprise Major, 5; Cambridge Surprise Major, 1; London Surprise Major, 9. He is an excellent ringer and striker.

CHARLES H. EXON.—4.

Born March 7th, 1877, at Bristol; baker by trade. Started ringing with his brother at St. Giles's, Oxford, in 1891. He has rung nineteen peals, consisting of 6 London Surprise; 7 Stedman Triples; 3 Stedman Caters; 1 Treble Bob Royal; 1 Double Norwich; 1 Bob Major. He, together with his brother, had to start work as early as 1 o'clock in the morning of September 17th, 1896, so as to accomplish their delivery of the staff of life before leaving for Drayton to ring the 11,000; and it will be remembered that he had the misfortune to miss his train and had

to walk the whole of the distance home—nine miles—arriving there twenty-four hours after starting work on the morning of the 18th.

EDWIN HIMS.—5.

Born at Long Crendon, Bucks, June 27th, 1876. Occupation, grocers' assistant. He first commenced ringing in August, 1894, and made such rapid progress that he rang his first peal—one of Stedman Caters—December 13 of the same year. He is badly situated in business for ringing peals, so that his peals are few, only ten in number. He is nevertheless a good ringer and striker, and is always glad to give what little spare time he possesses to ringing, being at every practice, whether on 6, 8 or 10 bells, that occurs after his business hours.

THOMAS PAYNE.—6.

Born in Oxford, and is thirty-two years of age. He holds a responsible post for the Corporation of Merton College, Oxford, as keeper of their ancient library, and also as verger. He began ringing in the year 1881 at Holywell, Oxford. He has not kept a record of his peals, but has rung upwards of eighty in the various standard and Surprise methods. He is a good sound ringer, and makes few mistakes, and is the Hon. Sec. of the Oxford Society, a post to which he gives the most prompt attention.

THE REV. F. E. ROBINSON.—7.

It is quite unnecessary to make any lengthy reference to the above-named gentleman, as his personality is so well known.

His first peal was Grandsire, in October, 1859; his first of Stedman was in February, 1861. He has rung 493 peals altogether; 117 of these he has conducted. He conducted the first University peal in February, 1882; and the first Clerical peal October, 1884. His record peals when rung were 10,080 Double Norwich, January, 1888; 12,096 ditto, December, 1892; 13,247 Grandsire Caters, April, 1888; 12,041 Stedman Caters, March, 1888; 15,041 ditto (still longest length), December, 1881; 11,328 London Surprise, September, 1896 (still longest length). He has paid 116 visits to church towers, to give advice as to re-hanging bells, etc.; has attended sixty-five bell opening ceremonies, and preached thirty-seven sermons on these occasions and at Guild festivals. He has been Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild since its formation in 1881. He is a member of the College Youths, and has represented the Oxford Guild on the Central Council since its formation. It is hardly necessary to add that the rev. gentleman is a most ardent supporter of "THE BELL NEWS."

JAMES WILLIAM WASHBROOK.—8.

Born July 27th, 1864, at St. Thomas's, Oxford. He is in business as a dairyman in the parish of St. Clement, Oxford. He first commenced ringing when quite a small boy at the parish church of St. Thomas-ye-Martyr, where he used frequently to "play the wag" from school to pay a visit to the belfry, where with his old friend J. Jagger, now of Burton-on-Trent, would tie the clappers of the bells and pull away for hours at a time. It did not matter what was required to be done in the shape of bellringing, whether tolling for deaths or chiming three bells for daily service, he was the boy to do it regularly and punctually, and the old ringers used to fetch him from school to piece them out for ringing at weddings. However, it was not till the year 1880 that he had any idea of scientific ringing. About the latter end of that year a few young men formed themselves into a band with the idea of learning "half-pull," and right quickly did J. W. W. join them. They did not get along fast enough for him though, so he sought out an old band that could ring Grandsire Doubles, at St. Giles's, and with them rang his first 120, which was for afternoon service on a Sunday. The following Sunday he visited the same tower again with the in-

F. EXON, 2.

C. H. FOWLER, 3.

C. H. EXON, 4.

E. HIMS, 5.

T. PAYNE, 6.



C. HOUNSLOW, 1.

J. W. WASHBROOK, 8.
(Composer and Conductor.)

REV. F. E. ROBINSON, 7.
(Vicar of Drayton.)

The Company who rang the Long Peal of LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR (11,328 Changes), at the Church of St. Peter, Drayton, Berks., on Thursday, September 17th, 1896.

tention of conducting a 120. After permission from the old conductor he started to call a 120 from the 3rd. He called a bob the first lead, but he may as well have said nothing, for the 2nd came down in the hunt just the same, and he was promptly informed that he did not know how to call it, and that he must study it a little longer. That was taking the wind out of his sails, and he tried all sorts of dodges to be equal with them, but had, however, always to be satisfied with one 120, as they rang by figures and not by method. By this time the young band at St. Thomas's had made good progress, and were able to ring Grandsire Minor. This brought about visits from some of the old ringers of the Oxford Society. Hence rapid progress. Now the Oxford Guild was founded, and he rang his first peal, the first rang by the Guild, at Kirtlington, Oxon, which was conducted by his dear old friend Charles Hounslow. Since then he has rung 522 peals, and conducted 439, all of which have been published in "THE BELL NEWS." He is a member of nearly all the county Associations and Guilds. In the year 1889 he rang 121 peals, the last peal of the year being on the last day, December 31st, a 15,041 of Stedman Caters, which was the fourth record peal that he composed and conducted during that year, the others being 12,041 of Stedman Caters, 13,265 of Grandsire Caters, and 10,080 of Double Norwich.

UNVEILING OF A PEAL TABLET AT LONGTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Monday, February 5th, a peal-board, recording the first peal of Stedman Triples ever rung in that part of England known as "The Potteries," was unveiled by the Rev. G. Oliver (Rector of St. John's) in the ringing-chamber. The Rector, in his opening remarks said it gave him great pleasure to be there on such an occasion, and complimented the Stoke-upon-Trent ringers on having achieved such a performance, it not only being the first peal in this method rung in this district, but also the first peal of Stedman rung by the Stoke Archidiaconal Association. He took great interest in bellringing, and anything he could do towards promoting the art of change-ringing he would gladly do. Mr. Page, on behalf of the members, thanked the Rector for coming amongst them that evening to unveil the tablet, and also for his kind remarks. Perhaps it was only natural that they (the Stoke ringers) should feel elated over this performance, as six members of the company had never rung a peal of Stedman before, and as it was got at the second attempt, it was very creditable to them. The first attempt was made on the previous Monday, when after ringing 1 hr. 40 mins. they unfortunately broke down. He trusted that whenever ringers came up in that belfry and read the board, it would be an inducement to them to go and do the same, or even something better. Mr. Twigg, the lay secretary of the Association, having made a few remarks, Mr. Woods (leader of the Longton ringers) said that he heard the whole of the peal, and the striking was good throughout, and there was no fault to find with it whatever. After a few more remarks from the Rector the meeting closed, and the ringers all spent a very pleasant evening together. The following is the inscription on the tablet:—

"STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE-RINGERS.—ST. JOHN'S, LONGTON. On Monday, November 2nd, Thurstans' peal of Stedman Triples, consisting of 5040 changes in 2 hrs. 58 mins. Performers: T. Austin, treble; S. Churton, 2; A. Brindley, 3; A. Clewes, 4; T. Mountford, 5; E. Davis, 6; H. Page, 7; J. Titterton, tenor. Conducted by H. Page. This is the first peal of Stedman Triples rung in the Potteries; also the first peal in this method rung by the above Association. Rev. G. OLIVER, Rector.

T. E. WALL,
H. P. EMBREY, } Churchwardens.

WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

IN MEMORIAM.—Thomas Kilborn, for 50 years tenant of the Vicarage Farm, Wellingborough, and Sidesman of the parish church, died on February 13th, aged 77. On Thursday evening, February 18th, after the funeral, the bells, of whose music he was so fond and towards whose repair and improvement he was always a liberal contributor, sent forth in muffled tones a token of the town's respect for his memory. The bells were half-muffled, and a well-struck half-peal of Grandsire Triples, from Holt's Original, was accomplished in one hour and thirty-four minutes. Geo. Turnell, 1; Thos. R. Hensher, 2; William Wood, 3; F. Underwood, 4; Frank Wood, 5; E. West, 6; W. H. Ette, 7; T. Craddock, 8; conducted by Thomas R. Hensher.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A very successful meeting of this Association was held at Hatfield on Saturday, February 20th, and was attended by a thoroughly representative gathering of ringers from all parts of the county, there being present Messrs. H. Lewis, G. W. Cartmel, R. H. Weatherley (St. Albans), W. H. L. Buckingham, G. N. Price, E. Huntley (Bushey), J. Hare, A. Squires (Hitchin), G. Barker (Ware), W. H. Newell (Berkhamsted), T. Webb (Bal-dock), J. Crabb (Hunsdon), C. Bracey, R. Aldridge, J. Gray (Graveley), W. Lawrence (Little Munden), R. Shepherd, J. T. Kentish, J. Kentish, W. J. Rumney, H. Shepherd, H. G. Rowe, A. Shepherd, H. Tharby, J. Hollingsworth, J. Shepherd (Hatfield), E. Ovenden, E. Clarke (Essendon). Ringing commenced early in the afternoon with touches of Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, and a course of Kent Treble Bob Major. At six o'clock tea was provided at The East Indian Chief, in first-rate style. On the removal of the cloth Mr. Henry Lewis was voted to the chair, and he commenced the business meeting by calling upon the assistant-Secretary (Mr. G. W. Cartmel) to read the minutes of the previous meeting. These having been confirmed the following were elected members of the Association: Messrs. W. T. Cockerill, E. P. O'Meara (London), G. N. Price (Bushey); provisional election confirmed), W. H. Newell (Berkhamsted), J. Barker (Ware), A. Squires (Hitchin), C. Bracey (Graveley).

Mr. Lewis proposed the re-election of Mr. E. P. Debenham as the representative of the Association on the Central Council, which was seconded by Mr. W. H. L. Buckingham, and carried. Mr. E. E. Huntley proposed that the annual meeting be held at St. Albans on Easter Monday, in the afternoon, and the arrangements be carried out on similar lines to last year, which proved so very successful. Mr. J. Gray seconded, and it was carried unanimously. The assistant-Secretary brought forward the question of certificates, a specimen of which was exhibited in the room, and the design appeared to meet with the hearty approval of the meeting.

Votes of thanks to the Rector of Hatfield for the use of the bells, and to Mr. J. Shepherd for making the necessary arrangements were carried. Ringing was then recommenced.

Correspondence.

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

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

A FINAL REPLY.

SIR,—I should like to thank the Rev. Helmore for his flattering remarks, and at the same time inform him that I am open to prove each statement in my letter published in "BELL NEWS," of Feb. 13th. I have been in conversation and communication with several of the conductors who are accused of this so-called "scandal," and they are of the same opinion as myself, viz.: that, on principle they will send in no certificate with the account of the peal, till it has been passed by a general or special meeting of the members to do so, even if the peals are never booked. I should like to say that I called the attention of the proposer of that resolution, "re certificate" to a resolution passed at the same meeting, "re alterations of rules," and this was his reply. There is a rule that reports of peals must be sent to the Secretary, but the addition of "accompanied by a certificate" is an amendment, which can only take effect, as now decided, when passed at the annual meeting, and yet the Rev. Helmore says it does not constitute any real addition to the rule. I say it does, and the duty of the Committee was, if they wished to enforce it, to have called a special meeting and got it passed. I suppose we are to have a little more of last year's experience, viz.: alter a rule in June, and make it to work from the 1st January of the same year. I have been connected with several societies, but never knew business done in this manner before. With regard to this so-called "grave scandal," I think it has been made to look as black as possible, and what has been done I do not consider so grave as the dodge-calling referred to by Mr. John Carter, or that which has been done by a ringer residing not many miles from Greenwich Observatory, viz.: when he has seen that the part-end or course has been coming up wrong, to call out the change he wants struck, with the expectation that he will get it, but for which I knew a ringer that set his bell directly. With these remarks, my correspondence on the subject ceases, and I hope every member of the K.C.A. will strain a point to be present at the Annual Meeting in June.

Sevenoaks, 23rd February, 1897.

T. GROOMBRIDGE.

[Several other letters are unavoidably held over till next week.]

BARKING, ESSEX.—THE ANNUAL CHURCH DINNER.

The annual dinner of the clergy, church officers, ringers and choirs of St. Margaret's and St. Paul's churches took place at The Red Lion on Thursday evening, the 11th inst. A substantial repast was excellently served by Mr. and Mrs. Bosworth, to which about 50 sat down.

The Rev. P. M. Wathen, M.A., vicar, presided, and the vice-chair was occupied by Mr. Churchwarden Davies. Among those present were the Rev. S. Kirshbaum, Rev. A. G. Forbes, and Rev. A. E. Cracknell; Churchwardens Knowles and Weller; Messrs. H. Berry, J. Wells, W. Barnett, G. Chapman, D. T. Jackson, H. Spurway, G. Wardell, sidesmen; A. Hume, organist; R. Gastang, I. Wilson, Roland Fenn, J. Faulkner, S. Hayes, A. Deards, E. Lucas, A. Hardy, Roland Fenn, jun., Caleb Fenn, A. Whight, A. Carter, A. Carter, jun., A. Mason, I. Hopkins, hon. sec., &c.

The loyal toasts having been duly honoured, the vice-chairman proposed the Bishops and Clergy of the St. Albans Diocese. He observed that no parish in the Diocese was looked after with greater love and care by the bishops than Barking. As for the Rural Dean, his name would live in the hearts of all those who knew him as vicar, he was sure Mr. Henson would have been gratified if he could have been with them. They all knew what hard work the vicar and the assistant-clergy had to do and how much they had to rely on all loyal churchmen to assist them. The Chairman responded in a humorous speech. The Rev. S. Kirshbaum in acknowledging the toast referred to church officers of Barking as being representative men, and also reminded them of the importance of their work. Mr. H. W. Knowles and Mr. H. Chapman responded.

The Rev. A. G. Forbes proposed "The Church Council," and said it was certainly the oldest in the district. Mr. W. Barnett, in response, said they would do their best to serve the church and to assist the clergy. Mr. H. Berry proposed "The health of the St. Margaret's Society of Change-ringers." He said they were very proud of their ringers, and they had every reason to be, they had made great progress of late. Mr. Davies did not put them in the belfry and neglect them, but he was ever with them giving them help and encouragement. Five members of the society rang in an admirable manner two courses of Grandsire Caters, 216 changes. Caleb Fenn, 1-2; Roland Fenn, 3-4; Thomas Faulkner, 5-6; Albert Hardy, 7-8; Alfred Whight, 9-10, who at the close were warmly applauded.

Mr. Churchwarden Davies, who is also vice-president of the society, said it was formed in 1870, when Bishop Jermyn was vicar of the parish. At that time both tower and bells were in a most dilapidated condition, the tenor and fourth bells were both badly cracked. These were recast at a cost of about £100, and the belfry generally put in order, since that time the treble, second and sixth bells had been recast, and over £800 spent on the tower. He was pleased to see two veterans, Messrs. A. Carter and A. Whight, who joined the society with him, present. The number of members who had joined and given it up since, were too numerous to mention, their name was legion. They had not only wasted their own time but the time of those who instructed them, besides adding bitter disappointment to those who were really anxious to make progress in the art. He strongly advised no one to take up ringing unless they had a real love for it. He was very proud of the society now they had sixteen really good members. They were greatly indebted to Mr. Samuel Hayes and Mr. York Green for the trouble they had taken to instruct them, and also to his young friend, Thomas Faulkner, for the really wonderful way he had mastered the Art, so as to be able to call their peals for them. During the past year they had rang two peals of Stedman Triples, three peals of Kent Treble Bob Major, and two peals of Grandsire Triples on the tower bells, two of which were entirely by the St. Margaret's Society; also one peal of Bob Major (5056 changes) on handbells retained in hand, by T. Faulkner, R. Fenn, C. Fenn, and A. Hardy; conducted by T. Faulkner. Before sitting down he wished to throw out a hint to the gentlemen present, that if they wished to celebrate the long reign of Her Majesty, they could not do so in a more fitting manner than by subscribing for two more bells for the tower of St. Margaret's. It could be done for something less than £100.

Mr. J. Wells proposed "The Choir and Organist," and the toast was responded to by Mr. Middleditch and Mr. Hume.

The remaining toasts were "The Vicar," proposed by the vice-chairman, and "Mr. Davies," proposed by the chairman; "the host," by Mr. Weller; and "The Press." During the evening some capital songs were rendered by Messrs. Hopkins, Hume, Knowles, Mason, Dean, Tonkin, Bosworth, Cook, R. Fenn, and the Rev. A. E. Cracknell; Mr. A. Hume presiding at the piano.

WHITWICK (Leicester).—On Sunday, January 31st, for evening service at the parish church, 504 Grandsire Triples, taken from Holt's Ten-Part. J. Rawson, 1; J. T. Allen, 2; T. W. West, 3; W. West, 4; J. A. Moulton, 5; B. West (conductor), 6; L. Partridge, 7; F. Boam, 8.

PEVENSEY, SUSSEX.

On Tuesday, February 2nd, the village ringers turned out in full force to ring at the marriage of Mr. R. Sutton, oldest son of the Ven. Archdeacon of Lewes, Vicar of the parish, to Mrs. Du Pre. Unfortunately our captain could not leave his employment to participate in the ringing, but had given strict orders that only good ringing was to be indulged in on this occasion, practice was for practice-nights. Consequently nothing more ambitious than Doubles were attempted, and immediately after the ceremony had concluded three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, were rung by the following:—J. Bray, jun., 1; G. Penfold (conductor), 2; E. Beal, 3; T. Beal, 4; H. Colbran, 5; G. Bray, 6. Several more 120s were afterwards rung, and then a halt was called until the bride and bridegroom left the vicarage. A scout was sent out to report their departure. Presently some one shouted, "You're all wanted; come at once." Away went all, scenting refreshment (pardon this, Mr. Editor, we are aware that Walthamstow folk have declared for Wood, and decline refreshment from it), but were met by the captain, who said: "What a nice set of fellows you are, they are just off, and you not ringing." The rush made by the respected J. W. for the train after the long peal of London was nothing to the way everybody made for the tower, and the bells were going as the happy couple passed through the village. In the evening an attempt was made for 720 Grandsire Minor, with G. Cosstick on treble, but owing to a change-course, came to grief after ringing 540 changes. On Thursday, February 4th, the Archdeacon entertained the choir and bellringers to supper. Previous to this another attempt was made for a 720 Minor. But bless you, sir! the thought of that dinner destroyed all idea of good ringing, for when well beyond half way, everybody wanted to lead save one, and he was behind, in fact "nobody was nowhere." Everybody did lead, too, at the supper, except poor treble, who had toothache, and so was "behind." After supper the Archdeacon gave the toast of "Church and Queen," which was received with musical honours. Afterwards in proposing the health of the bellringers, he eulogised the way in which the bells were rung on the wedding day, and said one of his friends, who knew something of the subject he was talking about, remarked how nicely the bells were struck; he coupled with the toast the name of Mr. E. Brant (captain). Now everybody in this district knows him (E. B.) as a very modest man, but (Mr. Editor, I blush to record it) with all the cheek imaginable he got up and saying: "As I could not ring on the wedding day I cannot respond, so will leave that to my colleague who did," and down he sat as cool as the cucumber Mr. Plain Speaker wots of. Mark that word "colleague;" take the last four letters in it, and you know exactly how the colleague felt when pounced on like that.

During the evening the handbells were brought into use, and the company dispersed after giving cheers for the Archdeacon, Mrs. Sutton, and family.

The wedding had one triumph in ringing, for in the evening 120 Stedman Doubles were rung, standing as follows:—E. Brant (conductor), 1; J. Bray, jun., 2; E. Beal, 3; J. Beal, 4; G. Penfold, 5; S. Cosstick, 6. This is the first 120 in the method by all the band, and the first on the bells.

To wind up the week, a 720 of Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins., was rung at Westham Church on February 6th. H. Colbran, 1; G. Penfold, 2; J. Bray, jun., 3; T. Beal, 4; E. Beal, 5; E. Brant (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 known to have been rung on the bells. It may also be interesting to the readers of "THE BELL NEWS" to know that a good many years ago (before the days of our paper), that the ringers of Westham heard of a peal being rung which took three hours to do, and they very much doubted that a man could ring for three hours without stopping, so they decided to put it to the test, and they rung in rounds for three hours. This was told me in the presence of several others by the only one living who took part in it, and he is now an inmate of Eastbourne Union, and is nearly ninety years old.

E. B.

HORNSEY (Middlesex).—On Tuesday, February 2nd, at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor. J. Ward, 1; W. Dixon, 2; J. Miller, 3; G. Griffin, 4; H. Stubbs, 5; A. Jacob (conductor), 6. And a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. A. Hird (first 120), 1; W. Pickworth, 2; A. Jacob (conductor), 3; W. Dixon, 4; J. Miller, 5; S. Wade, 6. On Sunday, February 14th, for morning service, 720 Grandsire Doubles. W. Pickworth, 1; E. King, 2; S. Wade, 3; A. Jacob (conductor), 4; W. Dixon, 5; J. Ward, 6. For evening service, 360 Grandsire Doubles. J. Plum, 1; E. King, 2; G. Griffin, 3; W. Dixon, 4; A. Jacob (conductor), 5; J. Ward, 6. And 240 Grandsire Doubles. J. Plum, 1; S. Wade, 2; G. Griffin, 3; W. Dixon, 4; A. Jacob (conductor), 5; W. Pickworth, 6. After evening service 720 Bob Minor. J. Ward, 1; W. Dixon, 2; G. Griffin, 3; J. Miller, 4; A. Miller, 5; A. Jacob (conductor), 6. And 216 Bob Minor. A. Jacob (conductor), 1; S. Wade, 2; G. Griffin, 3; J. Miller, 4; W. Dixon, 5; A. Miller, 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

REOPENING AT ST. ANDREW'S, PLYMOUTH.

The fine ring of ten bells at the above church again saluted the ears of Plymouthians on Wednesday, the 17th instant, after having been silent for four months. The tenor is a 35 cwt. bell, cast by Mears in 1840, the trebles being added by the same firm in 1874; the rest are by Bilbie, 1749. The old cage, floor, and beams have been cleared out entirely, and a new iron cage, resting on an oak floor supported by steel joists, has been substituted. All the new fittings are of the most approved style and construction: new clappers, and everything of the best, the bellchamber being now a perfect model. All this has been carried out by Messrs. Warner and Sons, of the Cripple Gate foundry. The St. Sidwell's society of Exeter were invited to attend on the occasion on behalf of the Devonshire Guild, and a company arrived in Plymouth at 9.45 on the morning of the above day. As upon the visitors' arrival the bells had just completed a long touch of "stoney," they took advantage of this, and paid a visit the dockyard at Devonport, escorted thereto by Messrs. Ford and Taylor, and spent two hours very agreeably among steam hammers, lathes, and the rest of it, but the most interesting of all was the building of the first-class line of battleship "Ocean," of 13,000 tons, which had been laid down a few days previous.

After dinner, the company made for the tower, and were kindly met by most of their brother-members of the Guild residing in Plymouth, notably among them being Mr. John Bannister. Some touches of Grandsire and Stedman Caters were rung. The bells "went" very well indeed except the tenor, which indicated that stiffness often apparent in new work; this will no doubt soon be put right.

After tea, the visitors rang Bob Major and Stedman Triples at Charles church, where is a ring of eight, tenor 24 cwt. Messrs. Davey, Moss, Richardson, Searl, Martin, Drake, Mudge, Carter, Turner, Akerman, and E. and F. Shepherd, were from St. Sidwell's, Exeter, and they were very kindly assisted by Messrs. Marsh, Taylor, Richards, Myers, Ford, and the Rev. J. M. Clarkson, Chaplain of H.M.S. *Impregnable*.

Leaving Plymouth by the 8.10 mail, the party arrived home at 10.25, "Jimmy" Moss entertaining the company with song and anecdote as usual. Devonshire now has two out of its three rings of ten in good ringing order. It is to be hoped that the Dean and Chapter of Exeter Cathedral (assisted by every loyal Exonian) will now turn their attention to that unrivalled peal (tenor 67 cwt.) hanging in the south-west tower of the Cathedral, and adopt the excellent suggestion contained in our editor's leading article of last week. What could they do better than increase the bells in number to twelve, and rehang them in a new frame, to commemorate Her Majesty's long and eventful reign?

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 6th, the Quarterly Meeting was held at Eckington, and well attended. The business meeting was held at The White Hart inn, Mr. C. Severn presiding. The minutes were read and confirmed. It was resolved that the annual meeting and dinner be held on Easter Monday. Such meeting should, according to rule, be held at South Anston, but the meeting passed a resolution in favour of Norton, the ringers having a desire to hear the new bells there. The hon. secretary on behalf of the Norton company, consented to arrange about the change of meetings. Six young members were elected from Beighton, thus adding one more tower to the Association. Mr. S. Robinson (Eckington) was also elected; Messrs. J. Allen and A. Slater were elected auditors. Votes of thanks to Mr. Severn for presiding, and to the Rector for so kindly granting the use of the bells, were passed. Mr. Severn having replied, the meeting closed. Several 720s were rung during the afternoon, but the topic of the day was the meeting which was being held at the rectory for considering the augmentation of the bells. I also hear that Staveley will not be behind the times, meetings having been held there with the view of making the present eight into a ring of ten.

E. J.

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MEARS ASHBY, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

FUNERAL.—On Thursday, February 4th, were laid to rest the remains of Mr. Alexander Arch, youngest son of Mr. C. Arch, of The Red Lion inn. The deceased, who died on January 30th, at the age of 28 years, was a well-known local bass singer, and a member of the church choir from his youth. His illness was a very short one, less than a week, congestion of the lungs following upon influenza. The coffin, which was of polished oak, with black furniture, and covered with wreaths, was borne to the grave by some of the friends of the deceased. Amongst the mourners were; Mr. C. Arch, sen. (father), Mrs. Coleman (sister), Messrs. C. Arch, A. Arch, and T. Arch (brothers), Miss K. Davis, Mr. Davis, Mrs. Clark, and others. It was evident by the large number of people who attended the impressive service that the deceased was held in high respect among the villagers. The members of the choir with the organist were present, and sang in melancholy tones Helmore's Burial Service, and hymns 230, 499, and 401, A.M. Wreaths and crosses, many of them very beautiful and bearing inscriptions expressive of valued services and deep regret and sympathy, were sent by the following: father, sister, brothers, and Kate; Vicar, organist, chorists, and ringers; Misses Stockdale; Messrs. J. B. and N. T. Whitworth; Officers and Brothers of the Charles Dickens Lodge, R.O.A.B.; Mr. and Mrs. Barker; Mrs. Middleton; Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Simcoe; Mr. and Mrs. Neal, Sywell; Sywell friends; his sorrowing cousin; a friend; and the servants at the Manor House. The musical part of the service was conducted by the organist (Mr. R. F. Gibbs). The Vicar made a feeling allusion to the death and the loss of the valuable services of the deceased as chorister and ringer, and for the church generally, previous to his sermon on Sunday morning.—On Sunday evening the vicar (Rev. J. B. Fawcett) made further allusions to the sad event. The organist very impressively played the Dead March in "Saul," the congregation standing.—On the evening of the funeral a muffled peal was rung by deceased's fellow-ringers, his bell, the tenor, being silent. Alexander Arch was a member of the Central Northamptonshire Association of Bellringers and was respected and liked by all. It was only quite recently that he expressed his intention to purchase a peal of handbells for the use of the Mears Ashby Ringers. He had a great desire to see their bells increased to six.

THE BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.

UNVEILING CEREMONY AT BARROW GURNEY.—On Saturday, Jan. 30th, at the parish church, a handsome peal-tablet was unveiled and dedicated by the Rev. J. A. W. Wadmore, recording the second peal rung on the bells. After the ceremony an attempt was made for Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but it came to grief. G. Clements, 1; A. Waters (conductor), 2; J. Young, 3; C. H. Gordon, 4; C. H. Horton, 5; J. Harvey, 6; J. Winsor, 7; C. E. Boutflower, 8. Messrs. Gordon, Horton and Boutflower hail from St. Stephen's, Bristol; Harvey and Winsor from Wraxall. A quarter-peal was afterwards rung in 42 minutes. The tablet, surmounted by the arms of the Association, is inscribed as follows:—

"BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE-RINGERS.—On Tuesday, June 16th, 1896, was rung in this Tower in 3 hours and 5 minutes, a peal of Grandsire Triples, 5040 changes: Taylor's variation. G. Clements, Treble; R. Devenish, 2; C. Horton, 3; J. Bishop, 4; J. Harvey, 5; A. Waters, 6; J. Winsor, 7; A. Brown, Tenor. Conducted by A. Waters. Rung as a compliment to C. E. D. Boutflower, Esq., on his return from his wedding tour."

VISIT TO MATLOCK, DERBYSHIRE.

On Thursday evening, February 18th, a band of seven ringers from Ashover paid a visit to Matlock, calling upon the Rector, asking for his permission to have a ring on the bells of the Parish Church. He referred them to Mr. Sladen, churchwarden, who very kindly procured the keys and accompanied them to the tower, lit the gas, and stayed with them to the finish, and thanked them for coming to ring their bells so efficiently, and hoped they would pay them another visit before very long, and give the parishioners another such treat. After raising the bells in peal, a 720 Bob Minor (4 bobs and 14 singles), was rung by the following: I. J. Beardow, 1; T. J. Beardow, 2; T. Beardow, 3; W. Buxton, 4; G. Beardow, 5; Hopkinson, 6; composed and conducted by Wm. Buxton. Another touch was rung by the following: I. H. Beardow, 1; T. J. Beardow, 2; T. J. Beardow, 3; W. Buxton (conductor), 4; T. Hopkinson, 5; G. Beardow, 6. Afterwards the bells were lowered in peal. Thanking the Rector and Mr. Sladen for the use of the bells, and after refreshment with mine host of The Red Lion hotel, the party made their way home, with a walk of four miles over the Derbyshire moors, where they landed safely, well pleased with their excursion.

T. J. B.

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Ringers' Festivities.

THE TEWKESBURY ABBEY SOCIETY.—By the kindness of the Mayor (Mr. Councillor T. W. Moore), the bellringers and officials connected with the Corporation and the Abbey Church, including the senior members of the choir, were entertained at the Hop-Pole Royal Hotel, on Thursday week, when there were upwards of 70 guests present. The company included the Mayor (in the chair), Rev. Vernon Holt, Alderman Baker, Councillors T. Collins, G. Banaster, C. C. Moore, and W. J. Gardner, and Messrs. Fredk. Moore, C. H. S. Moore, G. R. Barlow, W. H. Gray, C. Harris, H. C. Baillie, W. Darbyshire, R. Chandler, F. W. Moore, C. H. Midgley, H. W. Brown, N. G. Moore, S. Hosgood, W. Pearce, and J. Osborne. After the usual loyal and complimentary toasts, Mr. Frederick Moore proposed "The Churchwardens and Officials of the Abbey." He expressed regret at the unavoidable absence of his friend, Mr. F. J. Brown, who carried out the duties of churchwarden with much faithfulness and interest, and who in that capacity was deserving of the thanks of the community. Many thanks were also owing to the bellringers, and more particularly to their leader, Mr. Wathen, whose ambition it was to have two bells added to the peal—an ambition that the speaker hoped would be gratified. Mr. Charles Harris then proposed the health of the Bellringers. In doing so he made a pleasing allusion to the nature of their duties, and expressed his opinion that Tewkesbury now possessed one of the best set of bellringers it ever had. He coupled with the toast the names of Messrs. Josiah and John Wathen, J. Hall, and W. Haines. Messrs. John Wathen and J. Hall responded in suitable terms, both being of the opinion that the bells required re-hanging. Mr. Alderman Baker, as Treasurer of the Chimes Fund, stated that he had reason to believe that before the close of the present year, Mr. Wathen's ambition, spoken of by Mr. E. Moore, would be realised, and that two new bells would be provided and the old ones re-hung. Mr. James Osborne said a few words upon the chimes, as did Mr. Fouracre, who offered £1 rs. od. to the fund. The toasts were interspersed with some good songs by Messrs. G. E. Hayward, G. R. Barlow, F. W. Moore, G. P. Chinneck, F. H. Healing, W. Haines, jun., and S. C. Mayall, and the bellringers gave an excellent exposition of handbell ringing on eight bells.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.—On Saturday, Feb. 20th, the above society held its 29th anniversary dinner at the York Hotel, Waterloo Road, and was supported by about 40 members and friends. Previous to the dinner the tower of St. John's, Waterloo Road, was thrown open for the use of the members and friends. After several touches the company adjourned to the York Hotel, where a most sumptuous repast was provided by and to the credit of the Manageress. After full justice was done to the good things provided the harmony commenced, Mr. Perrin, the late master, in the chair, and Mr. H. S. Thomas in the vice-chair. The Chairman proposed "The Health of the Royal Family," commenting on Her Majesty's long and glorious reign in most suitable words, and which was most enthusiastically received. Mr. Baron, in a most eloquent manner gave "The Waterloo Society," giving a short but most interesting account of the Society at its commencement, saying how it pleased him to hear the bells so ably rang, and to see the work he had started being carried on in such a successful manner. The Chairman responding gave a short account of the work done by the Society during the past year. Mr. W. C. Hasted, gave "The Clergy and Church Officials," mentioning the good work done by the Clergy, Churchwardens and Steeple-keepers, at the society's towers, and other towers where they had the pleasure to ring. This was responded to by Mr. H. S. Thomas, who said the clergy liked to hear the bells rang, and it was a pleasure combined with a duty for steeplekeepers to make everything comfortable for those who rang the bells. Other toasts: "The Visitors" &c., followed. The occasion was again honoured by the presence of a few Great Marlow friends, viz.: Messrs. Truss, Evans, Goodchild, and Boreham. During the evening songs were contributed by Messrs. West, F. Davis, J. Davis, A. R. Davis, R. Davis, H. N. Davis, Truss (W.), Meads, Symonds, Hopkins, Charge, and others. Mr. H. P. Dinelli kindly gave two very fine selections on the mandoline, and the company were also indebted to Mr. Wier, who kept them roaring with laughter at his drollery, and with one or two selections on handbells a most enjoyable evening was spent, one of the most successful gatherings of the society being brought to a close with "Auld Lang Syne. The company then separated and went home quite satisfied that they had thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

THE ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIORS SOCIETY, GLOUCESTER.—The ringers of the above society met for their annual dinner, on Thursday, Feb. 11th, at the Albion Hotel, and with a few friends, numbering nearly a score, sat down to an excellent spread served in splendid style by Hostess Ingram. At the head of the table, the Vicar of St. Michael's Church (Rev. George James, M.A.) presided, and Mr. Joseph Ward (churchwarden), occupied the vice-chair. Supper being over the toast of

"The Queen" was submitted from the chair by the vicar, who made suitable reference to Her Majesty's sixty years' reign. The toast having been heartily drunk, the remainder of the evening was spent in a very social manner. Several touches of Triples and Caters was successfully brought round under the leadership of the Rev. E. B. James. The following members took part—J. Austin, Rev. E. James, F. E. Hart, F. E. Ward, W. T. Pegler, and A. E. Pegler. Songs were sung by—Jackson, F. E. Ward, Fred. G. May, J. Stephens, J. Gillett, W. T. Pegler, Rev. E. B. James, and E. Hayward, the latter also gave a stump speech in his usual style.

THE RAINHAM SOCIETY, KENT.—On Saturday evening, Feb. 13th, the annual dinner of this society and friends, numbering 30, took place at "The Cricket Inn," where a good substantial repast was served. Mr. E. Jelly was in the chair, Mr. W. Hyland being vice. The company agreeably discussed a course of Roast Beef and Mutton Delight, Stake and Kidney Minor, Plum Pudding Surprise, then Fruit Pie, Jelly, and Blanc Mange Pleasure, were got through, all the course ends turned up well. After the cloth was cleared, pipes and tobacco were in sway for about 3 hours. The Chairman gave "The Queen," and afterwards the bellringers, coupling with the name of the leader of the band (Mr. E. Dunster). It was a pleasure to him to be amongst the bellringers. He knew a little of bellringing but not much of change-ringing. He should like to see something done to the bells to commemorate the Diamond Year of our Queen's long Reign.—Mr. E. Dunster said it gave him pleasure to see so many there. When he and some of his brother ringers started they used to ring by figures on boards until they were persuaded to join the Kent County Association, by that energetic instructor (Mr. Gabriel Lindoff), who had a hard task to drive change-ringing into them, but he succeeded at last. His name will never be forgotten by them. Mr. G. Lindoff's name was loudly applauded. Mr. J. H. Champion, in responding to the toast of "The Ringers" said he was one of Mr. G. Lindoff's pupils. Other toasts followed, and songs were rendered by Messrs. E. Dunster, F. Ockwell, G. Hadlow, A. Sampson, E. Gooding, C. Alexander, W. Champion, and others. Alas! 11 o'clock came too soon. A hearty vote of thanks to the chairman and vice-chairman was carried with acclamation. The National Anthem brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

Obituary.

REUBEN WHITTAKER.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of the above, one of the oldest ringers at St. Thomas's, Newhey, in his sixty-first year. He was one of the first ringers when the church was opened, but he retired from that position to join the choir. Until five or six weeks before his death, when he retired owing to failing health, he was sexton and caretaker of the church and schools. His health however continued to get worse, and despite medical care and attention, he died on Friday evening, February 12th. The funeral took place on Wednesday, February 17th, at St. Thomas's church, amid many tokens of sympathy and respect. Representatives were present from the local Conservative Club, and the Middleton Conservative Union, with which societies deceased been an ardent and enthusiastic worker. The coffin was borne by the present ringers, who, immediately after the funeral retired to the belfry and rang a muffled touch of Grand-sire Triples, 854 changes, out of respect for the deceased.

JOHN SLATER.

The death of the above ringer took place on Sunday, February 7th, at his residence, Hunt's Hill, Glemsford, Suffolk, after an illness of only four hours' duration. Deceased was in his eighty-second year. He had been a ringer at the parish church, Glemsford, nearly all his life, being conductor to the company a good many years. He had taken part in ten peals, seven of Treble Bob Major, one of Bob Major, and one of Bob Triples, all at Melford, and one in seven Minor methods at Glemsford, in which he rang the tenor. He also used to be a good double-handed ringer. The funeral took place on Saturday afternoon, February 13th, at Glemsford, when muffled touches of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob were rung before and after the ceremony by the following ringers of the neighbourhood as a last mark of respect to the deceased: Messrs. Papworth, Clark, and Gowers (Stanstead); Sillitoe and Howell (Sudbury); Maxim and Thompson (Cavendish); Connell (Melford); Wells, Garwood, Adams, Honeybell, and Bradman (Glemsford). Deceased leaves two sons who are well-known ringers, viz., Samuel and Zachariah.

RECEIVED—AND WILL APPEAR NEXT WEEK, contributions from the following: J. J. Parker, J. F. Errington, Worcester Cathedral Guild, C. L. Routledge, H., A.C., and others.—C. H. Simon (did not come to hand); A. G. (we shall comply); Norfolkian (the next illustration); Fair Play (we know not, and don't want to know, we have heard the same report); Excellent (can't you see that they appreciate the B. N.?). Willing (very).

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

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Everything for insertion in this Journal to be addressed "The Editor of THE BELL NEWS, Walthamstow, London." Letters forwarded for publication, and performances under 3000 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, FEBRUARY 27, 1897.

THE tenour of the observations in our last number with regard to the Queen's reign has been received with much approval in many quarters. We have received a great quantity of letters expressing much satisfaction at the comment which appeared. At present we are not able to dwell upon the topic which one of our correspondents has termed "a most important question." It is very pleasing to be at one with so many of our friends, and they may depend upon us not losing sight of the many suggestions they have made. We shall in all probability again refer to the subject in our next issue.

THE HANDBELL GIFT.—In carrying out another of these schemes, we propose to issue two coupons; one for bands of ringers, the other for private members. Secretaries of each ringing company will be requested to collect coupons from the members of his company only. There will be two sets of handbells given. We shall enlarge upon this next week. In the meantime we merely direct attention to the proposal.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The Hon. Secretary would be greatly obliged if Honorary Secretaries of Societies would be kind enough to pay the contributions of their Societies for the current year as soon as possible: at the same time forwarding the names and addresses of their representatives, and the *numerical strength* of the Society represented. The subscriptions of the following Societies have been received and acknowledged up to date: Norwich Diocesan Guild, Durham and Newcastle, Essex, Oxford Diocesan, Devonshire, Bedfordshire, Hereford Diocesan, College Youths, South Lincolnshire, North Lincolnshire, Kent County, St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham. H. EARLE BULWER, *Hon. Sec. C.C.*
20th February, 1897.

The Metropolis.

THE MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 16, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, FINCHLEY

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 of College Single Minor, and two each of Oxford Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, and Plain Bob.

Tenor 9 cwt.

WILLIAM J. MULLEY* .. Treble.	FRANK L. SPARKS 4.
WILLIAM WEBB 2.	*GEORGE J. MILES 5.
ERNEST H. TUBB* 3.	FRANCIS CARROWAY Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS CARROWAY.

*First peal. The above was rung to celebrate the twenty-first birthday of G. Miles, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day.

THE SOUTH AND WEST MIDDLESEX GUILD.

On Wednesday, February 17, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, EALING,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOKS' VARIATION. Tenor 19½ cwt.

WILLIAM FOSTER Treble.	ALLEN H. TABER 5.
EVERED J. WALSON 2.	GEORGE RANSOM 6.
JOHN J. PRATT 3.	JOHN BASDEN 7.
EDWARD HARRIS* 4.	HENRY BROWNING Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN BASDEN.

*First peal in the method, and first in the method on the bells. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor. Pratt hails from Hillingdon; Ransom from Isleworth; the rest belong to the local company.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 20, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW, CLAPTON,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

WILLIAM D. SMITH Treble.	WILLIAM E. GARRARD .. 5.
JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. .. 2.	CHARLES T. P. BRICE .. 6.
CHALLIS F. WINNEY 3.	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL .. 7.
FREDERICK S. BAYLEY .. 4.	WILLIAM BURKIN Tenor.

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH and Conducted by W. BURKIN.

First peal in the method on the bells.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 22, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE, WOOLWICH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt. in G.

HENRY HARMAN Treble.	WILLIAM JOHN JEFFRIES .. 5.
WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE .. 2.	*HARRY FLANDERS 6.
HENRY GEORGE HILL 3.	FREDERICK W. THORNTON .. 7.
WILLIAM BERRY 4.	WILLIAM FOREMAN Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK WILLIAM THORNTON.

*First peal.

The Provinces.

CHARLTON KINGS, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

(CHELTENHAM AND DISTRICT GUILD.)

On Tuesday, February 16, 1897, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 20 cwt.

CHARLES SPREAG* Treble.	WILLIAM T. PATES 5.
THOMAS R. HOOPER 2.	FREDK. W. TOWNSEND .. 6.
HENRY ROBERTS 3.	WILLIAM DYER 7.
WILLIAM BRINKWORTH .. 4.	WILLIAM BUSH Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY ROBERTS.

Rung as a last token of respect to Mr. Folley, he having been head-master of the parish schools for thirty-nine years. *First peal and first attempt.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 17, 1897, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. W. WATSON, ST. ANDREW'S ROAD,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION.

GEORGE R. PYE 1-2.	ERNEST PYE 5-6.
WILLIAM PYE 3-4.	WESLEY WATSON 7-8.

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

Umpires—J. Dale and E. Wightman, who each had a copy of the peal and marked every six as it was rung. First peal in the method on handbells by all, and first ever rung in the method in the eastern counties.

PRITTLEWELL, ESSEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 18, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 17 cwt.

WILLIAM HUNT Treble.	CHARLES ANDERSON 5.
WILLIAM BEDWELL 2.	JOSEPH SMITH 6.
WILLIAM DOWSETT 3.	JOHN PERRY 7.
WILLIAM DUDLEY 4.	WILLIAM H. JUDD Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP and Conducted by WILLIAM H. JUDD.

First peal of Treble Bob on the bells. Stedman and Double Norwich to follow.

DRIGHLINGTON, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20th, 1897, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 16 cwt.

E. KEIGHTLEY Treble.	W. HOLLINGS 5.
C. PRATT 2.	F. W. HARGREAVE 6.
R. CREASEY 3.	G. BOLLAND 7.
W. BOLLAND 4.	F. BIRKS Tenor.

Composed by the late W. SOTTANSTALL, and

Conducted by G. BOLLAND.

R. Creasey, for whom this peal was arranged, hails from Fulney, Lincolnshire; Keighley, Pratt and Hollings from Calverley; W. and G. Bolland and Hargreave from Tong; and Birks from Pudsey.

KILLAMARSH, DERBYSHIRE.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AND THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Saturday, February 20, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of the following;

Morning Exercise, Tulip Primrose, College Treble, London Scholars' Pleasure, City Delight, and Violet. Tenor 11 cwt.

HARRY GREAVES Treble.	GEORGE BURNHAM 4.
THOMAS BETTISON 2.	CHARLES SEVERN 5.
WILLIAM LAMBERT 3.	WM. HY. TURTON Tenor.

Conducted by T. BETTISON.

W. Lambert hails from Treeton.

HORSHAM, SUSSEX.

On Saturday, February 20, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY PLEASURE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 24 cwt. 3 qrs.

WALTER CHARMAN Treble.	JAMES GARMAN 5.
ARTHUR CHARMAN 2.	JOHN COOK 6.
WILLIAM HOOKER 3.	HENRY H. CHANDLER .. 7.
HENRY BURSTOW 4.	WILLIAM STANFORD .. Tenor.

Composed by W. CHARMAN and Conducted by HENRY H. CHANDLER.

First peal in the method by Messrs. A. Charman, W. Hooker, J. Garman, and J. Cook.

BLACKBURN.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(THE BLACKBURN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 20, 1897, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt.

JAMES SMITH, SEN., .. Treble.	JOHN WILLIAM STIRK .. 5.
FREDERICK TOWNS 2.	RICHARD ASHWORTH .. 6.
HENRY HAYES 3.	*JOHN BROWN 7.
JOHN ROWE WERRING .. 4.	TOM REDMAN Tenor.

Composed by JOHN ROWE WERRING and Conducted by TOM REDMAN.

*First peal in the method. Jas. Smith, sen., and J. Brown belong to the Blackburn company; H. Hayes hails from Church; the rest from Burnley.

STEYNING, SUSSEX.—THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1897, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

JAMES MATTHEWS .. Treble.	HARRY WESTON 5.
GEORGE GATLAND 2.	GEORGE WILLIAMS 6.
JOHN SMART 3.	CHARLES SMART 7.
FRANK BENNETT 4.	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH .. Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

This composition, in two equal parts, is now rung for the first time. Messrs. Williams, Bennett and Weston hail from St. Peter's, Brighton; J. S. Goldsmith from Southover, Lewes; the rest are of the local band.

ROCHESTER, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1897, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt.

W. ASHBEE Treble.	O. SULLIVAN 5.
E. RAYNER 2.	A. OSBORNE 6.
A. RING 3.	*W. BAKER 7.
J. P. KIDD 4.	J. RAYNER Tenor.

Conducted by W. BAKER.

This is the first peal on the bells, which have been augmented from six to eight by Messrs. Taylor and Co., and was rung at the second attempt. *First peal as conductor. First peal by the ringers of the treble, 2nd, 4th, 5th, 6th and tenor.

GRAPPENHALL, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
(THE GRAPPENHALL YOUTHS.)

On Saturday, February 20, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of the following:

London Treble, Braintree, Bocking, College Exercise, London Scholars' Pleasure, College Pleasure, and City Delight.

Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qrs.

HARRY MOSTON .. Treble.	SAMUEL HORSFALL .. 4.
FREDK. THOS. SPENCE .. 2.	CHAS. REG. GREENALL .. 5.
THOMAS BURROWS .. 3.	ROBT. GEO. LEWIS .. Tenor.

Conducted by FREDK. THOS. SPENCE.

Rung to celebrate the twenty-first birthday of R. G. Lewis, his brother-ringers wishing him many happy returns of the day.

ROTHWELL, NEAR LEEDS, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.
(ROTHWELL BRANCH).

On Saturday, February 20, 1897, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt.

THOMAS NICHOLS .. Treble.	WALTER CHAPMAN .. 5.
ALFRED CHAPMAN .. 2.	WILLIAM ABBISHAW .. 6.
JOSEPH C. ABBISHAW .. 3.	STEPHEN STACEY .. 7.
GEORGE W. STEEL .. 4.	JOHN M. CHADWICK .. Tenor.

Composed by YORK GREEN and Conducted by ALFRED CHAPMAN.

This is a one-part peal taken from the Central Council Appendix for 1895, page 93, fourteenth peal.

SPELDHURST, KENT.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 20, 1897, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

ARTHUR GODLEY .. Treble.	THOMAS CARD 5.
ALFRED LAURENCE .. 2.	JAMES MAYNARD 6.
RICHARD PELLING .. 3.	GEORGE HEAD 7.
WILLIAM H. CARD .. 4.	GEORGE A. CARD .. Tenor.

Composed by THOMAS CARD and Conducted by GEORGE A. CARD.

First attempt at Major by A. Laurence, who hails from Tonbridge.

QUEDGELEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIORS, GLOUCESTER.)

On Saturday, February 20, 1897, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 9½ cwt.

FRED. G. MAY† .. Treble.	ERNEST E. DAVIES .. 5.
WILLIAM C. JONES .. 2.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER .. 6.
WILLIAM T. PEGLER .. 3.	*HENRY MITCHELL .. 7.
JOHN AUSTIN 4.	REV. H. LAW JAMES .. Tenor.

Composed by J. S. WILDE and Conducted by REV. H. LAW JAMES.

This composition will be found in the Peal Appendix for 1895, page 87. †First peal of Treble Bob. *Fiftieth peal with the Association.

BEDFORD.—THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 23, 1897, in Three Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES.

Tenor 28 cwt. 3 qrs. 6 lbs. in D.

SAMUEL J. CULLIP .. Treble.	HERBERT SHARP 6.
CHARLES CHASTY 2.	ISAAC HILLS 7.
REV. W. W. C. BAKER* .. 3.	†FRANK HULL 8.
FRANK SMITH 4.	CHARLES W. CLARKE .. 9.
THOMAS R. HENSHER† .. 5.	WALTER C. HUNT .. Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS and Conducted by C. W. CLARKE.

*First peal in the method. †First peal on ten bells. ‡First peal on ten bells away from tenor. This peal contains the 6th the extent wrong in the Tittums, and the inverted home position, and is now rang for the first time. This is the first peal on the new bells 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.

ECCLES.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(THE MANCHESTER BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, February 23, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' COMPOSITION. Tenor 13½ cwt.

SAMUEL GREENHALGH .. Treble.	FREDK. DERBYSHIRE .. 5.
WALTER BROWN 2.	ALFRED CROSS 6.
FRANK SMITH 3.	RICHARD RIDYARD .. 7.
GEORGE E. TURNER .. 4.	HARRY CHAPMAN .. Tenor.

Conducted by RICHARD RIDYARD.

Messrs. Derbyshire and Ridyard belong to Worsley; Brown to St. John's, Manchester; the remainder to Pendleton.

REIGATE, SURREY.—THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

(THE REIGATE SOCIETY.)

On Monday, February 22, 1897, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION.

Tenor 20 cwt.

FRANK LINTER Treble.	HENRY REEVES 5.
FRANCIS T. HOAD, SEN. .. 2.	FRANCIS T. HOAD, JUN. .. 6.
GEORGE THOMPSON 3.	WILLIAM ARGENT 7.
GEORGE F. HOAD 4.	A. MOSELEY Tenor.

Conducted by FRANCIS T. HOAD, SEN.

An attempt was made for this peal on Thursday, February 8th, but after ringing 4800 changes, the sixth rope broke and put an end to it that night, but we resolved to start again on the following Monday night, and after three hours and ten minutes excellent striking the welcome words "that's all" were heard. This is the first peal in this method by the Reigate Society.

The following five peals have been rung in consecutive order by visiting members and others of THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD:

WELSHPOOL, MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

On Tuesday, February 16, 1897, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 13 cwt. in F#.

WILLIAM GREENLEAF ..Treble.	WILLIAM JONES 5.
THOMAS J. BRATTON .. 2.	JAMES E. GROVES 6.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 3.	*JOHN LLOYD 7.
THOMAS BARNES 4.	FRED. S. JONES Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN LLOYD.

*First peal as conductor. Rung in honour of the marriage at Moreton Say, of F. Cholmondely, Esq. to the sister of the Earl Powis, who is president of the Welshpool society of ringers; the happy pair spending their honeymoon at Powis Castle. Mr. Bratton's only daughter was also christened the same day at the same church. Mr. A. Little, formerly of Messrs. Joyce, of Whitchurch, was to have been one of the band as a welcome to him.

FORDEN, NEAR WELSHPOOL, MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

On Wednesday, February 17, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES:

Being Three 720s of Grandsire, and Four 720s of Plain Bob, each called differently. Tenor 10 cwt.

WILLIAM JONES... ..Treble.	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 4.
THOMAS BARNES 2.	THOMAS J. BRATTON .. 5.
WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. 3.	J. E. GROVES Tenor.

Conducted by J. E. GROVES.

Supposed to be the first peal of Minor ever rang in Wales and is also the first peal of Minor by all the band.

LEIGHTON, NEAR WELSHPOOL, MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

On Friday, February 19, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES:

Being a 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, one of College Single, three of Plain Bob and Two of Grandsire Minor, each called differently, Tenor 12 cwt.

WILLIAM JONES.. ..Treble.	THOMAS J. BRATTON.. .. 4.
THOMAS BARNES 2.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. 5.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 3.	JAMES E. GROVES Tenor.

Conducted by J. E. GROVES.

First peal on the bells.

WELSHPOOL, MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

On Saturday, February 20th, 1897, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 13 cwt.

THOMAS BARNES Treble.	ALBERT LITTLE.. .. .5.
WILLIAM MADDOX 2.	JAMES E. GROVES 6.
WILLIAM GREENLEAF .. 3.	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 7.
JOHN LLOYD 4.	THOMAS J. BRATTON ..Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by J. E. GROVES.

WELSHPOOL, MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

On Sunday, February 21, 1897, in Three Hours and Thirty-three Minutes,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

AT "THE EAGLES," THE RESIDENCE OF MR. T. J. BRATTON,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

THOMAS J. BRATTON* .. 1-2.	*JAMES E. GROVES .. 5-6.
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL .. 3-4.	WILLIAM GREENLEAF.. 7-8.

Conducted by J. E. GROVES.

*First peal on handbells. The first peal on handbells ever rang in Wales. Umpire—Mr. John Lloyd, of Welshpool. Witness—Mr. John Tristram, of Hereford.

PEAL ADDITION.—The peal of Grandsire Caters rang at Dudley on February 16th for the late Mr. William Micklewright, was rung with the bells half-muffled. The note to the peal did not mention this fact.

Date Touches.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND (Kent).—On Saturday, February 20th, a date touch, 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 10 mins., being 457 Plain Bob, 720 Kent, and 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Avis, 1; F. King, 2; R. Munn, 3; B. Spinner, 4; F. Hayes, 5; L. Silver (conductor), 6.

OXTON (Cheshire).—On Thursday, February 11th, for practice at St. Saviour's church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 17 mins. C. Owens, 1; H. Brocklebank, 2; J. Owens, 3; G. Newton, 4; J. Grant, 5; J. Evans, 6; J. Hughes (conductor), 7; W. Grimmant, 8. First date touch by the local band. Tenor 20½ cwt.

Miscellaneous.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

HEPTONSTALL (Yorks).—On Sunday morning, January 10th, for Divine Service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure. J. Robertshaw, 1; W. Ingham, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; R. Nowell, 5; F. Powell (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 College Single. T. Robertshaw (conductor), 1; J. Robertshaw, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; R. Nowell, 5; F. Powell, 6. On Sunday morning, January 17th, for Divine Service, 600 Bob Minor. A. Burn (conductor), 1; T. Robertshaw, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; W. Ingham, 5; R. Nowell, 6. For afternoon service 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. F. Robertshaw (conductor), 1; W. Ingham, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; J. Robertshaw, 5; R. Nowell, 6. On Wednesday, January 20th, for practice, 240 Bob Minor. J. Haigh, 1; J. Armstrong, 2; J. Foster, 3; F. Robertshaw (conductor), 4; W. Ingham, 5; R. Nowell, 6. And 360 Oxford Treble Bob. T. Robertshaw (conductor), 1; J. Armstrong, 2; J. Foster, 3; W. Ingham, 4; F. Robertshaw, 5; R. Nowell, 6. On Sunday morning, January 24th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Bob. A. Burn (conductor), 1; T. Robertshaw, 2; W. Ingham, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; J. Robertshaw, 5; R. Nowell, 6. For afternoon service 360 Oxford Treble Bob. T. Robertshaw (conductor), 1; W. Ingham, 2; J. Foster, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; J. Robertshaw, 5; R. Nowell, 6. Also 240 Bob Minor standing as before, with the exception of J. Haigh, 1; F. Robertshaw (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, January 31st, for Divine Service, 360 Canterbury Pleasure. A. Burn (conductor), 1; W. Ingham, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; R. Nowell, 5; J. Nowell, 6. For afternoon service 720 Woodbine Treble Bob standing the same as in the morning with the exception of T. Robertshaw (conductor), 1. On Sunday morning, February 7th, for Divine Service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. A. Burn (conductor), 1; T. Robertshaw, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; W. Ingham, 4; R. Nowell, 5; J. Nowell, 6. For afternoon service 720 College Single. T. Robertshaw (conductor), 1; W. Ingham, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw, 4; J. Robertshaw, 5; A. Nowell, 6. On Wednesday, February 10th, 720 Bob Minor. J. Haigh, 1; T. Robertshaw, 2; J. Armstrong, 3; F. Robertshaw (conductor), 4; R. Nowell, 5; J. Nowell, 6. First 720 by J. Haigh.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

RINGMER (Sussex).—On Sunday, February 7th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, composed by J. S. Goldsmith, in 41 mins. S. W. Shoesmith (Lewes), 1; F. Banks, 2; T. Miller, 3; H. Jones, 4; C. Painter, 5; A. J. Turner (Lewes, conductor), 6; J. S. Goldsmith (Lewes), 7; W. Helmsley, 8.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

LEAFIELD (Oxon).—On Tuesday, February 9th, 720 Grandsire Minor. E. Collett, 1; E. Large, 2; A. Franklin, 3; J. Monk, 4; C. Hadland, 5; W. Large (conductor), 6. Also 360 in the same method. E. Collett, 1; A. Holloway, 2; E. Large, 3; P. Pratley, 4; W. Large (conductor), 5; J. Monk, 6. The Messrs. Large hail from Burford; Monk from Witney. The Leafield men are to be congratulated on the above, having only had six lessons from W. Large.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

COGGESHALL (Essex).—On Saturday, February 13th, an attempt was made for 6336 Oxford Treble Bob Major, but was lost after ringing 3 hrs. 52 mins. R. Potter, 1; C. Norfolk, 2; W. Dyer, 3; W. Elliott, 4; J. Sadler, 5; D. Elliott, 6; E. W. Beckwith (conductor), 7; J. Newman, 8. On Saturday, February 20th, at the church of St. Peter ad Vincula, 560 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. J. Nicholls, 1; W. Keeble, 2; W. Dyer, 3; D. Elliott (conductor), 4; J. Sadler, 5; C. Norfolk, 6; E. Beckwith, 7; J. Newman, 8. And 288 Kent Treble Bob. R. Potter, 1; the rest as before.

WRITTLE (Essex).—On Sunday evening, February 14th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 47 mins. H. Lincoln, 1; W. Emery, 2; E. Davis, 3; A. Head, 4; W. Lincoln (conductor), 5; A. Whight (Barking), 6; T. Lincoln, 7; C. Scillitoe (first quarter-peal), 8. Composed by J. George, of Rugby.

STANSTED (Essex).—On Sunday morning, January 24th, for Divine Service at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, 720 Oxford Treble Bob (fifteen bobs) in 24 mins. G. Jordan, 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. Watts, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. For afternoon service 720 Double Court (eighteen bobs and two singles). H. Little (first 720 in the method), 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; J. Luckey, 5; T. Watts (conductor), 6. On Thursday, January 28th, for practice, 720 Arnold's Victory (nine bobs) in 24 mins. G. Jordan, 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. Watts, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. First 720 in the method by all the band, and first in the method on the bells. Also 720 Worcester Surprise (nine bobs). J. Cavill, 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; T. Watts, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. This makes W. Watts' 1,350th 720. And 720 Chichester Surprise (nine bobs). J. Cavill, 1; J. Luckey, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; I. Hammond, 5; T. Watts (conductor), 6. On Sunday morning, January 31st, for Divine Service, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob (nine bobs), 2nd the observation. G. Jordan, 1; I. Hammond, 2; T. Watts, 3; G. Gray, 4; J. Luckey, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. For afternoon service 720 Canterbury Pleasure (eighteen bobs and two singles). H. Little, 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; J. Luckey, 5; T. Watts (conductor), 6. On Thursday, February 4th, for practice, 720 Sandal Exercise (nine bobs) in 24 mins. J. Cavill, 1; I. Hammond, 2; J. Luckey, 3; G. Gray, 4; T. Watts, 5; W. Watts (conductor), 6. This is the first 720 in the method by all the band, and first 720 in the method on the bells. Also 720 Stansted Court (eighteen bobs and two singles). H. Little (first 720 in the method), 1; I. Hammond, 2; G. Gray, 3; W. Watts, 4; T. Watts, 5; J. Luckey (conductor), 6. Tenor 13 cwt.

KELVEDON (Essex).—On Wednesday, January 6th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Cambridge Surprise. H. Elliott, 1; E. Beckwith, 2; D. Elliott, 3; W. Keeble, 4; H. Evers, 5; W. Elliott (conductor), 6. First 720 of Surprise by all except the conductor. On Wednesday, February 10th, 720 Duke of York by the same band. First in the method by all and on the bells. On Sunday, January 17th, for evening service, 720 Double Court. H. Gazzard, 1; H. Elliott, 2; J. Elliott, 3; W. Keeble, 4; H. Evers, 5; W. Elliott (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, January 27th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. D. Elliott, 1; H. Evers, 3; W. Hunwick, 5; the rest as before. On Saturday, January 31st, 720 Bob Minor. C. Mills, 1; H. Elliott, 2; W. Dyer, 3; W. Keeble, 4; H. Evers, 5; W. Elliott (conductor), 6. Also 720 Double Court by the same band, conducted by W. Keeble. These touches were rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. J. Elliott, a member of the local company.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—MACCLESFIELD BRANCH.

MACCLESFIELD (Cheshire).—On Sunday evening, February 14th, for Divine Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, containing all the twenty-four 5-6s the right way, in 46 mins. A. Mottershead, 1; F. Stoneley, 2; W. Walmsley (composer and conductor), 3; W. Matthews, 4; J. Armstrong, 5; W. Steel, 6; J. Norbury, 7; F. Goodchild, 8. Tenor 20 cwt. in E. This is the first quarter-peal composed containing these qualities.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PORTISHEAD (Somerset).—On Sunday evening, February 14th, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins. H. West, 1; R. Cottle,

2; A. Gale, 3; L. Moore, 4; J. Nisbett, 5; W. Gillingham (conductor), 6. First 720 of Bob Minor by all, and first 720 of Bob Minor ever rung upon the bells.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRISTOL.—On Thursday, February 4th, at All Saints' church, 672 Stedman Triples. C. Horton, 1; G. Pearce, 2; W. Cave, 3; W. Hinton, 4; T. Radford, 5; H. Porch (conductor), 6; G. Daltry, 7; J. Viney, 8. T. Radford hails from Taunton. On Thursday, February 12th, at St. Peter's church, 504 Stedman Triples. G. Daltry, 1; C. Horton, 2; W. Hinton, 3; F. Gooding, 4; T. Radford, 4; W. Cave, 6; H. Porch (conductor), 7; P. Came, 8. By a curious coincidence this touch was rung on the eightieth anniversary of a peal rung on these bells by the society of Bristol Youths in the year 1817. On Saturday, February 13th, at All Saints' church, 564 Stedman Triples. C. Horton, 1; C. Tomkins, 2; W. Knight, 3; C. Gordon, 4; F. Elles, 5; F. Price, 6; W. Cave (conductor), 7; J. Bawn, 8.

TWERTON-ON-AVON.—On Saturday, February 6th, several members of the St. Stephen's Guild journeyed to this place for a peal of Treble Eight on St. Michael's bells, but unfortunately met short with the aid of the local men. Touches of Treble Bob and Stedman Triples were rung. A 672 Stedman Triples was rung by J. Smith Flower, 1; C. Tomkins, 2; C. Gordon, 3; C. Horton, 4; A. Bawn, 5; F. Price, 6; W. Cave (conductor), 7; C. Goodenough, 8. And 640 Kent Treble Bob Major. H. Brown, 1; C. Tomkins, 2; C. Gordon, 3; C. Horton, 4; A. Bawn, 5; F. Price, 6; W. Cave, 7; W. Hinton, 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to Mr. Lindsay, of Bath, who was buried that day. The ringers wish to thank the steeple-keeper for having all in readiness.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

ALTON (Hants).—On Thursday, February 18th, at the parish church, on handbells, retained in hand, 504 Grandsire Triples. A. Mussell, 1; A. Burgess, 2; A. W. Evans, 3; F. Stealey, 4; G. Gasson, 5; W. J. Brambley (conductor), 6; R. Applegath, 7; F. Noakes, 8. On Sunday, February 21st, for Divine Service in the evening, 350 Grandsire Triples. A. Mussell, 1; Miss F. Whyley, 2; A. W. Evans, 3; G. Gasson, 4; Rev. F. Whyley (conductor), 5; W. J. Brambley, 6; R. Applegath, 7; F. Noakes, 8.

CHIDDINGFOLD (Surrey).—On Saturday, February 6th, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. H. Mullard, 1; A. Ashdown, 2; J. Russell, 3; T. Attwell, 4; A. Bartlett, 5; C. Eades, 6; F. Blondell (conductor), 7; W. Mitchell, 8. Rung on the occasion of the marriage of T. W. Burdock, of the local band, his brother-ringers wishing him every happiness.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

LONDON.—On Wednesday, February 10th, eight members of the above Society rang with the bells half-muffled the usual whole pull and stand, as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Edward Moses, of Reigate, who was a member of this Society for several years. W. C. Hasted, 1; W. Webber, 2; V. W. West, 3; W. Truss, 4; H. Mulley, 5; W. Meads, 6; W. H. Passman, 7; F. J. Pitts, 8.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

WHITLEY.—The following touches have been rung recently at St. Paul's church. Two 720s of Bob Minor. W. Frazer, 1; W. Charlton, 2; T. Teasdale (conductor), 3; H. Ross, 4; J. Hern, 5; W. Thompson, 6. Two 720s of Double Oxford Bob. W. Charlton, 1; H. Ross, 2; T. Gofton (conductor), 3; T. Teasdale, 4; J. Hern, 5; W. Thompson, 6. Another two 720s in the same method. W. Frazer, 1; T. Gofton, 2; R. S. Story, 3; T. Teasdale, 4; J. Hern, 5; W. Thompson, 6. Two 720s of Oxford Treble Bob. W. Frazer, 1; T. Gofton, 2; T. Teasdale, 3; H. Ross, 4; J. Hern, 5; W. Charlton, 6. Two 720s of College Single, two 720s of Kent Treble Bob, and 720 Oxford Bob. W. Charlton, 1; T. Gofton, 2; T. Teasdale, 3; R. S. Story, 4; J. Hern, 5; H. Ross, 6.

NEWBURN.—On Wednesday, February 17th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, and 720 Kent Treble Bob. W. Frazer, 1; T. Gofton, 2; T. Teasdale, 3; H. Ross, 4; J. Hern, 5; W. Thompson, 6. And two 120s of Bob Doubles. T. Teasdale, 1; T. Gofton, 2; J. Richardson (first 120), 3; W. Frazer, 4; R. Lisherson (first 120), 5; W. Thompson, 6.

STOKE-ON-TRENT ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT.—On Saturday, February 13th, at St. Peter's church, an attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Triples, but after ringing 2 hrs. 45 mins it unfortunately broke down. S. Chnrtton, 1; J. Allen, 2; A. Brindley, 3; A. Clewes, 4; T. Austin, 5; H. Page, 6; E. Davis, 7; T. Rose, 8. Conducted by H. Page.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

HINGHAM (Norfolk).—On Thursday, February 11th, for practice at

St. Andrew's church, a 1008 Bob Major, in 43 mins. W. Muffett, 1; G. Whitehand, 2; T. Cudbird, 3; W. Tuttle, 4; Rev. D. Hamer, 5; J. Ladd, 6; E. Eagling (conductor), 7; J. Skipper, 8. On Monday, February 15th, 720 Bob Major, in 29 mins., standing as before. Rung in honour of the marriage of Mr. W. Taylor.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

LONDON.—On Saturday, February 20th, at St. John's, Wilton Road, Pimlico, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 42 mins. J. Pettit, 1; G. Peace, 2; F. E. Dawe, 3; E. Horrex, 4; F. Jelf, 5; F. Carter, 6; W. A. Alps (conductor), 7; J. Read, 8. Messrs. Peace, Alps, Jelf, and Carter hail from Waltham Abbey.

THE MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

HENDON (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening, January 10th, for Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 360 Oxford Bob. J. Barrett, 1; C. Crampton, 2; F. Pratt, 3; H. Martin, 4; E. Pratchett, 5; C. H. Martin, 6. Also 560 Kent Treble Bob. F. Jones, 1; H. Martin, 2; E. Pratchett, 3; F. Pratt, 4; C. H. Martin, 5; C. Crampton, 6. On Wednesday, February 10th, in honour of the forty-second birthday of C. Crampton, who had been a ringer at the above church for upwards of twenty years, and also tower-keeper for the last sixteen years, 720 Kent Treble Bob (fifteen bobs). G. Miles (first 720 in the method), 1; C. H. Martin (conductor), 2; H. Martin, 3; F. Pratt, 4; E. Pratchett, 5; C. Crampton, 6. Also 360 Plain Bob. F. Scovey, 1; G. Miles, 2; E. Tubb, 3; J. Barrett, 4; C. H. Martin, 5; E. Pratchett, 6. And 240 Canterbury Pleasure. B. Pratchett, 1; E. Tubb, 2; F. Pratt, 3; C. H. Martin, 4; E. Pratchett, 5; C. Crampton, 6.

THE YORK MINSTER SOCIETY.

YORK.—On Saturday, February 20th, the following members of the above Society attempted a peal of Grandsire Cinques, but after ringing 1 hr. 50 mins. it came to grief. T. Haigh (conductor), 1; J. W. Cundall, 2; T. Neill, 3; J. Thompson, 4; T. F. Earnshaw, 5; G. Worth, 6; A. C. Fearney, 7; A. Haigh, 8; W. Morrell, 9; T. Hodgson, 10; G. Breed, 11; W. H. Howard and H. Brown, 12.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

EXETER.—On Sunday, February 14th, for Divine Service at St. Sidwell's church, a 546 of Stedman Caters. E. Shepherd (conductor), 1; A. W. Searl, 2; F. Shepherd, 3; C. Carter, 4; W. Drake, 5; F. Davey, 6; W. Richardson, 7; T. Mudge, 8; J. Moss, 9; W. Akerman, 10.

PLYMOUTH (Devonshire).—On Wednesday, February at St. Andrew's church, a 563 of Grandsire Caters. G. V. Richards, 1; E. Taylor, 2; F. Shepherd, 3; W. H. Marsh, 4; W. Drake, 5; A. J. Richards, 6; F. Davey, 7; T. Mudge (conductor), 8; J. Moss, 9; J. Martin and H. Myers, 10. Tenor 35 cwt.

BLETCHINGLEY (Surrey).—On Saturday, 13th, 1260 Grandsire Triples. J. Tidey, 1; W. Wilson, 2; F. Balcombe, 3; C. Maynard, 4; W. Mayne, 5; W. Hawkins, 6; W. Burkin (conductor), 7; G. Brown, 8.

CHELSEA.—On Wednesday evening, February 10th, for practice, 504 Stedman Triples. W. Moss, 1; H. R. Newton (conductor), 2; J. Steddy, 3; C. Hindes, 4; G. Farden, 5; J. Barber, 6; T. Barber, 7; G. Chesterman, 8. J. Steddy hails from Edenbridge.

COALLEY (Gloucestershire).—On Tuesday, February 16th, for practice at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 30 mins. W. Dean, 1; R. Prout, 2; F. Prout, 3; C. East, 4; T. Savage, 5; G. Condict (conductor), 6. First 720 of Minor by all except G. Condict, and first 720 of Minor on the bells. And two 6-scores of Stedman. R. Prout, 1; C. East, 2; G. Condict, 4; W. Dean, 6. The company wish through the medium of this paper to thank Mr. Condict (who is leaving the neighbourhood) for his voluntary help and instruction to the local band. This 720 was rang at the last practice with the band, the good wishes of whom will go with him on his departure.

EVESHAM (Worcestershire).—On Sunday evening, February 14th, for Divine Service at the parish church, Bengeworth, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor. G. Williams, 1; F. Cook (conductor), 2; H. Middleton, 3; W. Arkell, 4; F. Johnson, 5; A. Attwood, 6. This is the conductor's 100th 720. A. Attwood hails from Kemerton.

GRAVELEY (Herts).—On Thursday, February 11th, for practice at St. Mary's church, three 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles. L. Angel, 1; J. Aldridge, 2; P. Stratton (conductor), 3; R. Aldridge, 4; W. Elling (first 120), 5; C. Bracey, 6. On Sunday morning, February 14th, for Divine Service, five 6-scores, each called differently. L. Angel, 1; J. Gray, 2; G. Munns, 3; R. Aldridge, 4; P. Stratton (conductor), 5; C. Bracey, 6. For evening service two 6-scores. C. Bowen, 1; J. Gray, 2; P. Stratton (conductor), 3; J. Wright, 4; B. Aldridge, 5; C. Bracey, 6.

LEYLAND (Lancashire).—On Thursday, February 11th, for practice

at the parish church, 720 Lancashire Delight. J. Breatherton, 1; T. Bowling, 2; S. Watkinson, 3; R. Bowling, 4; W. Nelson, 5; J. Banister, 6. On Monday, February 8th, at St. James' church, 720 Lancashire Delight. J. Breatherton (conductor), 1; J. Miller, 2; S. Watkinson, 3; R. Bowling, 4; J. Miller, 5; W. Gore, 6.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

TONBRIDGE DISTRICT.—The Annual Meeting of this district was held at Edenbridge, on Saturday, Jan. 30th, when in spite of the wet weather a good number of members attended from Chiddingstone, Chislehurst, Hever, Horsmonden, Penshurst, Seal Chart, Sevenoaks, Staplehurst, Tunbridge Wells, Tonbridge, Westerham, Willesborough, and the local ringers. Ringing commenced about three o'clock, and the bells were kept going in various methods during the remainder of the day. The committee meeting was held at 4.30, at which 28 new practising members and probationers were elected, including two new bands, viz.: Hever and Sundridge, and three new hon. members from the latter place. The tea was provided in the Oddfellows' Hall, to which 68 members sat down. The Rev. J. E. Germon, curate of Edenbridge, and an hon. member of the association, had promised to take the chair, but he sent a note saying that as the Rector was ill and he had to take the full services next day, and he was suffering from a cold, he felt it would not be wise to come on such a wet night, but he hoped the members would have a successful meeting. The business meeting was held after the tea. Mr. W. Steed, of Tonbridge, presided. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The District Secretary then read his Annual Report, in which he said that the year 1896 might be said to have been a very successful one for the district. Three new bands joined, viz.: Chiddingstone, Penshurst and Marden. Bellhanging operations had been carried on in the district during the year, at Edenbridge, by the addition of two trebles, and the ringers of that place were to be congratulated on obtaining the funds for them in the face of great difficulties, and also for having rung the first peal on the bells. The bells at Penshurst have also been re-hung with all new fittings, and two bells added by Mr. T. Blackburn, of Salisbury, and were re-opened on Oct. 22nd, by a band selected from the district, with Mr. Blackburn, and an attempt for a peal of Stedman Triples made, which, however, was unsuccessful after about 1½ hours' good ringing. A peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung there on Jan. 9th of this year, by members of several bands in the district. The experiment of holding extra district meetings had proved fairly successful considering the action of the railway company in withdrawing the privilege of cheap fares. The meeting at Goudhurst was attended by 21 members, and the one at Chiddingstone, by 18 members. In conclusion he reminded the members that by increasing the number of practising members the expenses also increased, and he asked the members to try and obtain some more hon. members. He desired to thank those members who had assisted him during the year by arranging for meetings, &c., thus saving him a good deal of correspondence. Mr. W. Latter, of Tunbridge Wells, was unanimously re-elected District Secretary, on the proposition of Mr. Groombridge, of Sevenoaks, who remarked that he did not think anyone envied him the office, and he did not think they could find a better. Mr. Dunk, of Westerham, seconded. Mr. Latter briefly returned thanks, saying that it was very gratifying to him to know that his efforts met with their approval, this being the third year of his being elected to that office. He was very glad that such a good feeling existed amongst the members of the district, and he promised to continue to do his best for the district and for the association. Mr. W. Steed, of Tonbridge, and Mr. T. Groombridge, of Sevenoaks, were both nominated for the office of Representative on the Central Committee, and on being put to the vote Mr. Groombridge was elected. Mr. Groombridge briefly replied, and promised to do his best for the district. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Tonbridge, in May. Votes of thanks to the Rector and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and to Mr. J. Steddy, and the rest of the Edenbridge ringers for making the arrangements concluded the meeting. Three of the visitors, viz.: Messrs. Latter, Steed and Groombridge were invited by the local ringers to remain for the night and to attempt a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, on Sunday morning. 'Go' was called at 5.50 a.m., and in spite of such interruptions during the latter part of the peal as the organist practising on the organ, the ringing of a school bell close by, and someone rattling the door, an excellent peal was brought round at 10.51, being the first peal in the method on the bells, particulars of which have appeared in this paper. The brothers Wallis are to be commended for making the bells pealable, which sadly need re-hanging with a new frame, but which is impossible to do at present owing to want of funds.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD PEAL-BOOK.—A RECORD of Five Hundred and Twenty Peals rung by this Guild. Paper covers, 1s. 2d.; cloth do., 1s. 8d.—Blackwell, Reading; or the Hon. Sec. of the Guild—the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, Dunsden Vicarage, Reading, Berks.

Notices.

St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.—Johnson Commemoration and the Guild's annual dinner will be held to-day, Saturday, February 27th, at The Market hotel, Station Street, Birmingham. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m. sharp. Tickets, free to full ringing members, to others 3s. each, may be obtained from the undersigned. The ring of twelve bells at St. Martin's, in the Bull Ring, will be open at 3.30 p.m. A. Percival Heywood, Esq., Chairman of the Central Council, has kindly consented to preside. W. H. GODDEN, *Hon. Sec.*
61, Roland Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

The Kent County Association, Maidstone District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Aylesford, to-day, Saturday, Feb. 27th, by kind permission of the Vicar. Tower open at 4 p.m. Short service at 5.30. Committee meeting at The Chequers at 6. Tea at 6.15. A. L. BRINE (REV.), *Hon. Dis. Sec.*
Bearsd.

The Sussex County Association.—(Central Division.)—A quarterly meeting will be held at Southover, Lewes, to-day, Saturday, Feb. 27th. Tower open from 3 p.m. A short service at 5 p.m. Tea at 5.30 (free).
GEO. WILLIAMS, *Hon. Div. Sec.*
2, Grove Street, Brighton.

The Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—A meeting will be held at Houghton-le-Spring, to-day, Saturday, Feb. 27th. (Fencehouses is the nearest railway station.) The Committee will meet at 4 o'clock, at The White Lion hotel. Meat tea will be provided at The White Lion at 4.45 p.m. at 1s. each. The bells of the parish church will be at the disposal of members during the day. Subscriptions for 1896-7 are now due.
THOMAS HUDSON, *Hon. Sec.*
314, High Street, West Sunderland.

Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—The next meeting of this Guild will be held at Christ Church, Bootle, to-day, Saturday, Feb. 27th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Hot Pot supper at 5.30 p.m. Business meeting at 6 p.m.
REV. W. T. BULPITT, } *Hon. Secs.*
W. BENTHAM,

The Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—The next monthly ringing meeting of this society will be held at St. Michael's church, Headingley (eight bells, tenor 20 cwt.), to-day, Saturday, Feb. 27th. Ringing from 3 to 5, and 5.30 to 9 p.m. Business meeting at The Shkrack inn. Nominations for the various officers to serve during the ensuing year will be received. Contributions are now due. Members will please note change of Secretary's address.
R. BINNS, *Hon. Sec.*
18, Trivin Street, Higgs Field, Holbeck

Society for the Archdeaconry of Salop.—The next monthly meeting will be held at High Ercall on Saturday, March 6th. Ringing at 3 p.m. Business meeting at 4 p.m.
J. MACKAY, *Hon. Sec.*
Leaton Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Bucknall on Saturday, March 6th. Members intending to be present are requested to give notice to Mr. W. Twigg, 97, High Street, Bucknall, not later than Wednesday, March 3rd. A new peal-board will be unveiled at this meeting.
REV. J. W. ALSTON, } *Hon. Secs.*
W. TWIGG,

St. Margaret's Society, Westminster.—There will be no practice at St. Margaret's church on Monday evening next, but will be resumed the following week as usual.

A. HARDY, *Hon. Sec.*
51, Kay Road, Stockwell.

South and West Middlesex Guild.—The next monthly meeting will be held (by kind permission of the Rev. R. Digby Ram), at Hampton on Saturday, March 6th. Ringing at 5.30.
HY. F. G. LUCK, *Hon. Sec.*
7, Warwick Place, Ealing.

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Thomas' church, St. Helens, on Saturday, March 6th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m.
HENRY COLEY, *Branch Sec.*
3, Rumsford Place, Liverpool.

Ely Diocesan Association.—Sudbury Archidiaconal Branch.—Members of the above are kindly requested to forward their yearly subscriptions (now due), to the Rev. W. W. Crump, Haddenham Rectory, Ely, at their earliest convenience.
C. SILLITOE,
Secretary to the above Branch.

The Heavy Woollen District Association, Yorkshire.—All members wishing to take part in the contest to be held this year, should pay their subscriptions on or before the 1st of March, or will not be eligible to ring.
19, Albert Street, GEO. H. SIMON,
Batley Carr. *Hon. Sec.*

NOTE TO THE PEAL AT BRISTOL.—The peal of Stedman Caters rung at Bristol and recorded in the peal column last week, is the first peal of Stedman rung in this city for a period of thirty-seven years, the last peal being rung at Christ Church (City) by the Redcliffe Society on January 30th, 1860, conducted by David Morgan. This is the first peal of Stedman by all the band except the conductor; also his first as conductor; also the first in the method by the St. Stephen's Guild and also on the bells, and is the quickest peal of Caters yet rung on these bells.

Situations Vacant.

WANTED Compositor (news). One who can assist in proof reading preferred. Must be a change-ringer. Apply W. K. Morton, Printer, Horncastle.

WANTED a steady, respectable man as Carter for Coal Trade, and fill up time in garden work. Must be used to horses. Permanent. Apply H. Lovett & Son, Coal Merchants, Sibley, Loughborough.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

WANTED a situation as first-class Finisher in the Bookbinding Trade; age 22. Change-ringer in Surprise methods.—Charles H. Fowler, 4, Pembroke Street, St. Aldates, Oxford.

WANTED situation as Gardener, or any other capacity; use to horses, and willing to be generally useful. Total abstainer; good change-ringing Instructor.—Address X Y Z. care of Editor.

COULD anyone help me to get a situation; am willing to do anything. By trade a six-quarter Tapestry Weaver. Can ring Double Norwich, Stedman, Superlative, Cambridge, and London Surprise. Can conduct in method I can ring. I am willing to give my services as a ringer for getting employment. Married; 29 years of age; 15 years' character.—W. H. Smith, Lark Hill, Kidderminster.

SITUATION Wanted as under Gardener, or single-handed, am not particular as to any other sort of work. Age 21. Five years good character. Change ringer. Member of St. Mary's Society, Beddington.—A. Clayton.

Compositions.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By WILLIAM WILLSON, Leicester.

5075.

With alternate round and tittum course-ends.

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

*This course produced by 8th in three, all bobs.

From the last course-end given call—

6 2 4 5 3 8th in two.
3 5 2 6 4 8th in two.
2 3 5 6 4 9th in three.
4 2 3 6 5 9th in three s.
5 4 2 6 3 9th in three s.
2 5 4 6 3 9th in three.
4 2 5 6 3 9th in three.

Round as usual.

The block of forty-eight courses with the 6th and 7th their extent before each other, is called 8th in three throughout. By always calling her out with a single it reverses 6 7 each course. The author believes this peal to be the first in the method ever composed on this plan.

Handbells for Sale.

TO Handbell Ringers.—What offers, cash or exchange. Seventy-five Bells. 2½ to 11½ inches in diameter. Complete on wooden frame.—W. Mumby, Newark, Notts.

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 25 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.

WANTED Situation as Sexton (understands duties), or any place of trust. Good change-ringer in all Standard Methods. Married; age 32; good testimonials. Member of Kent County Association and College Youths. Address, B.Y., care of Editor.

SITUATION Wanted as Foreman or Manager in Rubber Works. Thoroughly understands the business. Twenty-three years' experience in England and America. Can ring Standard methods.—John Wright, King's Norton, Birmingham.

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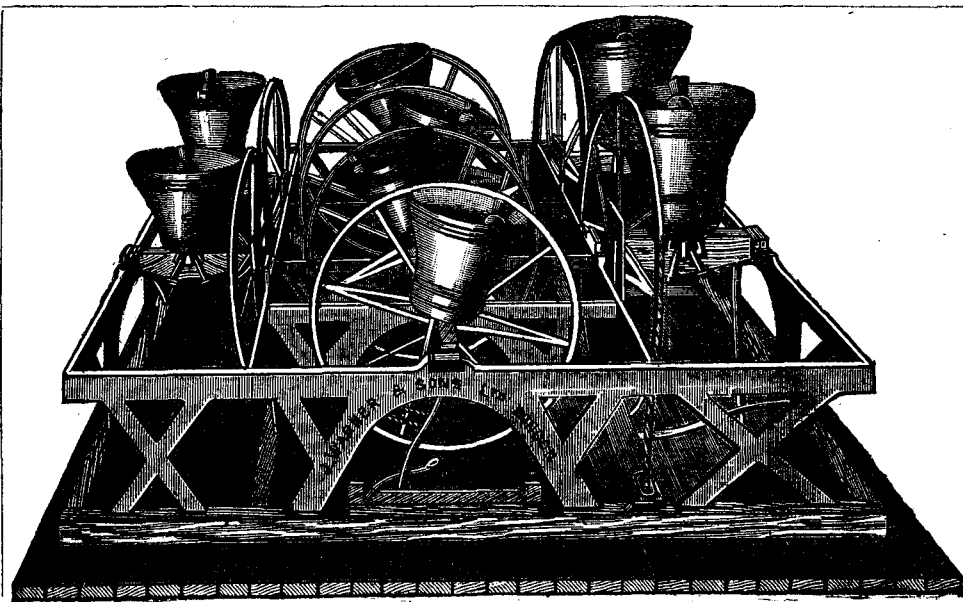
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Bridport, Irton,
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Pewsey, York Town,
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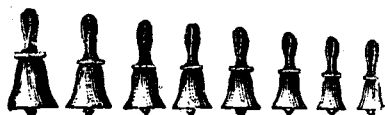
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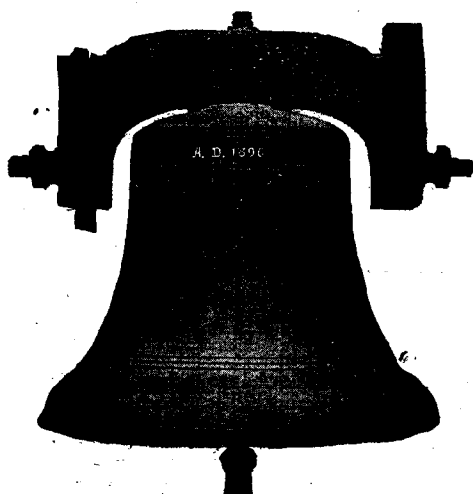
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