

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record :

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

No. 778.—VOL. XV.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1897.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

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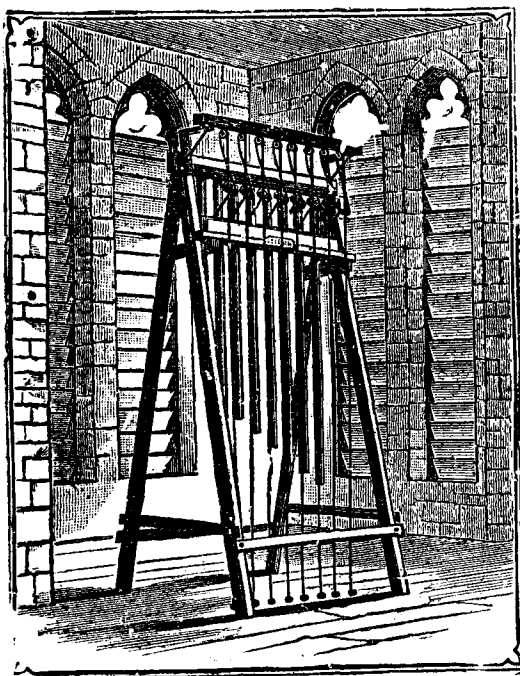
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SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1897.

[Vol. XV.]

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD ANNUAL "HENRY JOHNSON" COMMEMORATION DINNER.

As years roll on this annual gathering of ringers in the Midland District, of which the City of Birmingham is a centre, seems to increase in popularity, and judging by appearances, the meeting on Saturday last exceeded the anticipations of those who were responsible for the arrangements. At the hour advertised, 6 p.m., the dining-room at The Market hotel, in Station Street, presented a very busy—not to say crowded appearance.

Supporting the Chairman, A. Percival Heywood, Esq., we noticed such well-known faces as those of Messrs. J. S. Pritchett, M.A., John Day, Henry Bastable, J. Carter, W. Kent, the Rev. C. E. Earle Bulwer, &c., while round the room might be seen representative ringers from Wolverhampton, Walsall, West Bromwich, Tipton, Warwick, Cheltenham, Rugby, &c.

Letters of apology for non-attendance were received by the Secretary from W. Jones, Esq. (churchwarden of St. Martin's), H. A. Walker, Esq. (churchwarden of Aston), Mr. J. J. W. Carr, of the Smethwick Bell Foundry, and others.

At the close of the dinner, the Chairman, in proposing the toast of "Queen, Church, and State," referred to the fact that since the last time he addressed an audience in that room on a similar occasion in 1895, circumstances as regarded both Church and State had materially altered for the better. The Church, having repelled the attack made upon her in the Welsh Disestablishment Bill, was in a fairly prosperous condition, while the Government was of such a character in strength that it might safely be allowed to take care of itself. He therefore confined his remarks to the Queen, whose Diamond Jubilee they were about to celebrate in the present year. With an eloquent description of her many virtues, exhibited during her long and prosperous reign of sixty years, and instancing her ready sympathy with all classes of her subjects, whether in times of joy or of sorrow, his call was enthusiastically met by the meeting, the reception of the toast being greatly emphasised by the National Anthem, given as a solo by Mr. Matthison with the whole company joining in chorus.

After a short interval, the Chairman gave the toast of "The late Henry Johnson, may his memory be ever with us." The memory of the late Henry Johnson, he said, was deserving of every recognition at their hands, chiefly because he was of an upright character and integrity too seldom found, and because of his services to the Exercise, rendered not only through the excellence of his own compositions, but by the impetus his counsel and assistance gave to the work of his contemporary group of brilliant composers. Referring to the peal of Stedman Triples usually known as Thurstans' Original, that is the first peal obtained with common bobs and two *only* common singles, and which was conducted for the first time by the late Henry Johnson at St. Martin's on May the 18th, 1846, the Chairman explained the curious fact that it had only been recently discovered that this peal was probably mis-named as Thurstans' Original. (Before Thurstans' time peals of Stedman Triples had only been obtained with a variety of calls outside the method.) In a letter dated November the 24th, 1845, the late Henry Hubbard replies to a correspondent who had asked him for the figures of Hudson's peal of Stedman Triples, by giving him as a more convenient peal to call a composition, wherein the complete peal had been obtained by Mr. Thurstans, of Birmingham, with common bobs and common singles only. This shewed that what is generally known as the Original, and which is the finest obtainable composition, had been preceded by other compositions containing only common bobs and singles, while this one would be more correctly named as Thurstans' masterpiece. He

believed he was correct in stating that not only was Mr. Johnson the first to conduct the peal, but that he was the first to verify the composition, and it was probably owing to his encouragement and advice that Thurstans was induced to persevere until he had obtained it.

The audience having suitably honoured this toast, Mr. Day gave "The Rector and Churchwardens of St. Martin's." He mentioned the cordial relations which had always existed between the rector and the ringers at St. Martin's, and in referring to the rector's projected retirement after a faithful service of over thirty years, said it would probably be news to most of those present to hear that the Rev. Doctor had in his hearing stated that on newly coming to Birmingham, and taking his first service at St. Martin's, probably beset with the difficulties of his new position—for the Birmingham of that day was very different to the Birmingham of to-day—how much he had been comforted by the sound of the bells while the morning touch was in progress. Looking back on all those many years of his service in Birmingham, one could best gauge its value by noting the kindly feeling evinced towards the rector by members of all denominations. Mr. Day also went on to refer to the manner in which the ringers at St. Martin's were always met in their various requirements by the churchwardens, and especially regretted the absence of Mr. Jones, who was generally present on such occasions, and who had by his many kind actions in the past justly acquired the title of the Ringers' Warden. The reception of this toast was followed by a pianoforte selection by Mrs. Painter, and Mr. F. Smith then gave the toast of "Continued Success and Prosperity to the St. Martin's Guild of Change-Ringers." This speaker, prefacing his remarks with the observation that he had known nearly all that was best of the St. Martin's ringers for the past thirty-five years, went on to speak of the high aims of the members in the past. Noting that they had always been celebrated for the truth and accuracy of their performances, he urged the members of the present day to see that the traditions of the past were faithfully borne in mind and acted up to in the future. It was frequently the fashion to decry modern performances in favour of ancient ones, but speaking from his own sense of hearing, he was able to say that as accurate ringing could still be heard at St. Martin's as was ever heard there. As regards the truly fine ring of ten at Aston, he was sorry to say that he did not now hear them as frequently and to such advantage as formerly, and trusted that the Guild's Executive would take the matter up, and see that the claims of Aston's noted ring were not neglected. Coupling with this toast the name of the Presiding Ringing Master, Mr. John Day, the speaker caused some amusement by a confusion between Mr. Day and his uncle the late Mr. Thomas Day, the Treble Bob composer, from which he extricated himself with some adroitness by a graceful allusion to the family fame being centred so much in the name of Thomas Day. He also referred to the services of the other Ringing Masters, Messrs. H. Bastable and W. Kent, and went on to speak of the service now being rendered by his friend Mr. Russam, in training youthful ringers at Aston.

After a short interval, during which Mr. Manton gave a pleasant rendering of the sentry song from "Iolanthe," Mr. Day responded to the previous toast, mentioning the pleasure he always derived from his association with the St. Martin's Guild, and the Exercise generally, his ringing career dating back fifty-two years from last November, when he rang his first peal.

During a somewhat longer interval, Mr. Wills gave a very amusing drawing-room sketch, at the conclusion of which Mr. J. S. Pritchett, Vice-President of the Guild, gave the toast of "Success to the work of the Central Council," coupled with the health of its Founder, Mr. A. Percival Heywood. After giving a description of the functions of the Central Council, he went

on to express the opinion, founded on his own actual experience, that up to the present its work had been more of a theoretical than of a practical character. As an instance, he referred to the fact that a motion of his own, dealing with the relief of decayed or indigent ringers a motion, he considered as of a practical character and peculiarly suited for their consideration, had been shelved by that body. He then proceeded to describe in terms of unstinted admiration, the services rendered to the Exercise by Mr. Heywood, not only as the author of the existence of the Central Council and its able President, but in the untiring vigilance he displayed in the interests of ringers, travelling throughout the length and breadth of the country whenever he considered it advisable to explain and enforce particular views bearing on the exigencies of the times. This toast was vociferously applauded; and after a song by Mr. Matthison, and a plain course of Duffield Royal on the piano by Mrs. Painter, capably rendered, although the pianiste had only seen the music a few hours previously, Mr. Heywood rose to reply.

In a speech brimful of interest from start to finish, and which was enlivened by a fund of most entertaining anecdote, the speaker kept his audience wrapt in profound attention, while he dealt with various topics shewing most unmistakably how thoughtful and watchful he must be over the needs and requirements of the Exercise. Starting with a history of the formation of the Central Council from the grand meeting held in Birmingham, 1889, at the celebration of Mr. Johnson's 80th birthday, when about 150 of the leading ringers assembled together from all parts of England (but omitting any mention of the assiduous care, pains, and expense, incurred by himself in the organisation of that meeting, and which are probably only realised by the writer and a few others who saw its inner working at the time), he went to explain its constitution, and reminded the audience, by a parallel comparison with the Government of this country, that if the action of the representatives was at any time unsatisfactory to the general body of the ringers, it only became necessary to return members who more correctly represented their views, instead of revolutionising or breaking up the constitution of the Council itself. Referring to the remarks made by the previous speaker as to the formation of a benevolent fund, he mentioned that this was one of the particular points raised at the meeting in 1889, to which he had previously referred, and that it then, as at the more recent meeting, did not commend itself, because it was felt that the ground was already covered by the many and excellent Friendly Societies already in existence. Passing on to the fact that the status of ringers in England had been improved by their own exertions, almost unassisted by the clergy, in the formation of the various Societies and Guilds now existing, he went on to complain somewhat strenuously of the attitude generally exhibited by the clergy towards the ringers, as compared with other bodies of church-workers. Acknowledging the fact there were exceptions, some of the clergy not only doing justice to their ringers, but actually taking part in the ringing itself, he still held that the number of such was infinitesimal when compared with those who took no interest whatever. Many of his remarks were pointed with short anecdotes, and as a particularly racy example, we may instance one of his illustrations. Describing the trial of a prisoner for purloining bank notes, and who had observed a person in the immediate vicinity of the dock engaged in writing very assiduously, he stated that the prisoner, leaning over the dock, asked the writer what he was doing—"Oh! I am taking notes"—"Ah!" said the prisoner, "that's exactly what I am here for!" So in the case of church-workers, according to general usage, the prisoner might be taken as representing the ringer, and the reporter as a member of the choir. "Why in the name of goodness should this distinction be made?" And "if they heard of choir festivals, should there not also be ringing festivals, in which the clergy took an equal interest?"

As a further instance of the apathy with which the condition of bells was treated, he mentioned that he had only recently written a letter to the *Times* calling attention to the state of the bells at St. Saviour's, Southwark, where the church had recently been restored, and was only lately re-opened as a Cathedral for South London. While an enormous sum of money had been expended on the fabric, it was a fact that nothing had been done towards placing in good ringing order the grand ring of 12 bells, in many respects a most interesting and historical ring. Some-

what to his surprise this letter duly appeared, but did not elicit an equally public reply, the Bishop, to whom he gave much credit for astuteness, writing him privately and thus removing the subject from the publicity it would have obtained in the columns of a daily newspaper. Since then he had seen a list of objects connected with the Cathedral for which further amounts were required but in which the bells were not included. In his opinion it was very advisable that a return should be made of all notable rings of bells with their condition. Dealing with the complaints one saw from time to time in the newspapers as to the nuisance of bell ringing, he stated that it would be found that such complaints generally came from head workers as distinguished from hand workers. An overwhelming majority in this country were handworkers, who loved and appreciated bell-ringing; was it reasonable, therefore, that it should be interfered with by the complaints of a few overstrained head workers? With no desire to in any way fall foul of Church authorities, and instancing the ridicule and contempt with which his application to a Committee of the Church Congress was met, he could not help feeling most strongly that as a body of Church workers, the thirty or forty thousand bell-ringers in this country had been most sadly neglected.

At the conclusion of this speech, which in general interest for ringers as bearing on their needs of to-day, was the speech of the evening, Mr. Proctor's quartette were heard to great advantage in a glee, and the chairman then called upon Mr. W. R. Small for the next toast.

In proposing "Success to the Ringing Papers," Mr. Small thanked the chairman most heartily for his attitude in the cause of the ringers, and then dealing with his toast, mentioned the following papers in the order of their establishment. Starting with *Church Bells*, founded some twenty-seven years ago, he referred to the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, a ringer himself, as the first to recognise the requirements of ringers in a newspaper, and to devote a portion of its columns to meet them. As regards "*THE BELL NEWS*," which had been started about seventeen years ago as a special organ for ringers, he attributed many of the improvements which had taken place both in men and methods to its efforts, and alluding to another publication, called upon his audience to wish each of them success.

This concluded the speech making, and the chairman having a long railway journey before him, shortly after vacated the chair, which was taken for the remainder of the evening by Mr. J. Day.

A good course of Stedman Cinques in hand was given by Messrs. Russam, Keut, Miller, Bastable, Witchell, and Short, and other vocal music was efficiently rendered by Messrs. Shinton, Maylott, and others, Mrs. Painter officiating at the piano throughout the evening in her usual effective style.

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.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH (Northants).—On Monday, February 23rd, for practice, 672 Superlative Surprise Major. W. Newman, 1; J. Houghton, jun., 2; W. Pettitt, 3; A. Perkins, 4; J. Garratt, 5; A. Martin, 6; A. Tyler, 7; J. Martin (conductor), 8. This is believed to be the first touch ever rung in the county.

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

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of this Association was held at Houghton-le-Spring, on Saturday last. The weather being very fine, there was a good attendance of members, the following towers being represented: Whitley, Hexham, Stockton, St. John's Newcastle, St. Matthew's Newcastle, North Shields, Newburn, Jarrow, Bishopwearmouth, Sunderland and Chester-le-Street. The local ringers were also present to welcome the members.

As soon as a sufficient number arrived, a 720 of Woodbine was rung on the bells of the parish church, by the following: H. Dawson (Bishopwearmouth), 1; J. Anderson (Chester-le-Street), 2; Thomas Hudson (Bishopwearmouth), 3; Thomas Hudson, junr., 4; C. L. Routledge (Newcastle), 5; G. A. Ward (Chester-le-Street, conductor), 6. At 4.45 a meat tea was provided at The White Lion hotel, to which thirty-four sat down. After tea, the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Thomas Hudson, was voted to the chair, being supported by the Rev. W. Madden and Mr. G. J. Clarkson.

The Chairman referred to the long and happy reign of Queen Victoria, the whole company expressing their loyalty by rising from their seats.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector of the parish for so kindly granting the use of the bells, and to the Rev. W. Madden, for his presence. Mr. Madden in reply assured the members that the Rector and himself gladly welcomed the members to Houghton, and he could also say the same for the local ringers.

The question of how many representatives should be sent to the next meeting of the Central Council, was brought forward.

The Chairman explained that the association had three representatives on the Council, and that when the agenda for the next meeting was published, it could then be considered whether advantage should be taken of full voting power. It was unanimously resolved to leave the subject in the hands of the sub-committee.

Mr. Clarkson spoke of the very unsatisfactory condition of the bells of Westminster Abbey. He proposed that the Central Council be asked to call the attention of the Authorities to the neglected state of the bells and belfry of the Abbey Church, with the object of having them put into decent order. This suggestion was heartily approved of.

Satisfaction was expressed at the condition of the bells at the Cathedrals of Durham and Newcastle, the Durham Cathedral bells having been recently re-hung, and are now in good going order.

The election of new members then took place, seven ringing members being elected. The proceedings were interspersed with courses and touches of Grandsire Caters and Kent Treble Bob Royal on the handbells. The tower bells were kept going until nearly nine o'clock, almost every one present having had a pull.

STONE (ISLE OF OXNEY), KENT.

On Saturday, February 20th, the ringers of the neighbouring parish of Wittersham paid a friendly visit to the above church. They were met at the tower by their brother-ringers of Stone, and the bells having been raised in peal by the local ringers, the ropes were handed to the visitors, who made very good use of them in ringing rounds, then the local ringers handled the ropes and a 6-score of Grandsire Doubles was tapped off in fine style by the following: Frank Wenham, 1; W. G. Ford, 2; F. N. Bates, 3; C. Smith, 4; W. Cook, 5; T. Weller, 6; and also 120 of Plain Bob Doubles, C. Tribe ringing the 2nd, the rest as before. An adjournment was then made to the village inn, where harmony prevailed, and the hour passed much too quickly. The local ringers hope to pay a return visit shortly.

DEATH OF AN OLD RINGER.—There has just passed away, at the little village of Ringwould, near Dover, a very old and highly-respected ringer, Thomas J. Laming, who for fifty-five years has helped to ring the old year out and the new year in, never once missing. Laming had no opportunity of learning change-ringing, but he dearly loved hearing the bells going, and rang a week or two before his death.

A. R. B.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

The above Society held a successful quarterly meeting on Saturday, February 20th last, at Petersfield, Hants. Representatives attended from the following bands:—Winchester Cathedral, Havant, Fareham, Gosport, Portsea, Basingstoke, Hursley, Guildford, &c. The meeting was held in the belfry at 4.15, the Rev. C. E. Matthews, Hon. Sec., presiding, in the unavoidable absence of the Rev. R. C. M. Harvey, master. The minutes of the last quarterly meeting were passed, and the election of new members was then proceeded with. The Very Rev. W. R. W. Stephens, B.D., Dean of Winchester, was elected a patron; Revs. F. J. Causton (Petersfield), G. S. Gruggen (Amport), Colonel Hamilton (Hursley), were elected hon. members, while twenty-five performing members and one compounding member were duly proposed and seconded. Two new bands, Odiham and Shere, were affiliated to the Guild. The Hon. Sec. then gave notice of a proposed alteration of rule xii., viz.:—"That every 300 peals rung by the Guild be printed in pamphlet form, and supplied to members at cost price." The proposition met with some discussion, but was referred to the annual general meeting, which alone has power to alter rules. The next Quarterly Meeting was fixed for Saturday, May 8th, at Godalming, Surrey, proposed by Mr. George, seconded by Mr. Tomlins. Touches of Kent Treble Bob Minor, Stedman Doubles, Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples and Kent Treble Bob Major were brought round. The thanks of the meeting were accorded to the Rev. F. J. Causton for the use of the bells, which were found in excellent order.

VISIT TO CAVERSHAM, OXON.

On Saturday last, the 27th ult., the tower of St. Peter's was visited by the ringers of St. Mary's, Staines. The visitors were met and welcomed by Mr. T. Newman, who conducted them to the tower, where they enjoyed themselves for the greater part of the afternoon admiring the tone and go of the bells, and expressing themselves especially pleased with the ringing-chamber which they thought a model (thanks being due to the steeple-keeper). Having satisfied themselves with hand and backstrokes, Mr. Newman again proved himself an efficient conductor, this time piloting us to his residence where by his and Mrs. Newman's kindness a nice little tea was appreciated. By this time one or two more of the truant Caversham men had found the whereabouts of the company, so a move was made to The Moderation, where the Caversham men had kindly got a room for the evening. The handbells were now brought into requisition, and the Caversham tune-ringing party being famed in their neighbourhood, some very fine music was enjoyed, not the least enjoyable being several tunes by some of the visitors. Vocal harmony was not neglected in any way, so time rolled on too fast, and we had to jog off to the station sooner than we wanted to. A vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Newman and Mr. H. Simmonds, and after them the whole company, for helping to make the visit a most enjoyable one.

H.

THE LATE EDWARD MOSES.

REIGATE (Surrey).—On Tuesday, January 26th, at the parish church, as a last token of respect to the late Edward Moses, with the bells deeply muffled, a 378 and 252 Grandsire Triples. P. Knight, 1; F. T. Hoad, sen. (conductor), 2; F. Linter, 3; G. Hoad, 4; T. Brown, 5; W. Argent, 6; F. T. Hoad, jun., 7; H. Reeves, 8. And in the evening a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 48 mins. P. Knight, 1; F. T. Hoad, sen., 2; H. Reeves (conductor), 3; G. Hoad, 4; T. Brown, 5; W. Argent, 6; F. T. Hoad, jun., 7; J. Steadman, 8. The deceased has taken part in 56 peals in the following methods:—On six bells, 2; Grandsire Triples, 17; Stedman Triples, 3; Bob Triples, 1; Oxford Bob Triples, 1; Union Triples, 1; Kent Treble Bob Major, 14; Oxford Treble Bob Major, 1; Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 1; Grandsire Caters, 7; Stedman Caters, 3; Kent Treble Bob Royal, 3; Stedman Cinques, 1; Kent Treble Bob Maximus, 1; Total 56. His first peal was a peal of Grandsire Caters, on August 4th, 1866, at All Saints' church, Worcester (in which the Editor of this journal took part), and his last a peal of Grandsire Triples at Horley, Surrey, on December 26th, 1896. He was also a member of the following Associations:—The Society of Royal Cumberland Youths; The Surrey and Sussex Associations; The Winchester Diocesan Guild; The St James's Society, London, and The Waterloo Society.

Ringers' Festivities.

WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.—The Annual Supper to the choirs of the parish church, St. Barnabas, Elm Street, and the ringers, took place on Tuesday evening, February 23rd. The Vicar, the Rev. R. W. Wynter, presided, and was supported by the churchwardens, Messrs. Willan, Jackson, and J. T. Smith, several of the sidesmen, and the Rev. F. P. Williamson, curate of St. Barnabas. In proposing the toast of "The Parish Church Ringers and Probationers," the Vicar said how much he and the churchwardens and parishioners appreciated the punctuality, care, and consideration that characterized the carrying out of their various belfry duties. The fact of there being a time to chime, a time to ring joyously, a time to ring muffled, and a time to abstain altogether, was, he was pleased to say, well borne in mind. The ringers then gave some examples of change-ringing on two new peals of handbells lately purchased for their use, viz.: a set of twelve from Taylor, of Loughborough, No. 22 size in C; and a set of fourteen, No. 18 size in G, from Warner, of London. In all about eighty attended the supper, clergy, church officers, choirs, and ringers, spending a most pleasant evening together. The ringers much regretted the absence of Mr. T. R. Hensher, who was at Bedford, ringing his first peal of Caters. Mr. Dennes, belfry sidesman, spoke of the assistance Mr. Hensher had rendered them since coming to Wellingborough, and how much his knowledge and ability had helped them onward in the science of change-ringing.

THE ST. FRANCIS SOCIETY OF CHANGE-RINGERS, HOLBECK, LEEDS.—On Tuesday evening, February 16th, the above society held their first anniversary dinner in commemoration of the opening of the new church and peal of eight bells, on February 13th, 1896. Together with a number of the congregation they enjoyed a most sumptuous repast at the house of Mr. J. Paton, The Bellmount hotel. The cloth having been drawn, a most sociable evening was commenced. The president and instructor to the society (Mr. R. Binns) occupied the chair, and briefly explained the object for which they had gathered together. Harmony prevailed for some time, when the chairman rose to propose the toast of the evening, "Success to the St. Francis Society of Change-ringers," coupling the name of their good pastor (the Rev. Father McAuliffe), and in doing so alluded at some length to the duties of ringers, especially amateurs. The past twelve months that he had been amongst them as instructor, he had been the recipient of every kindness and attention. Many obstacles had presented themselves, but by the united patience and perseverance of the whole society, they had, he hoped, been all surmounted. He was also glad to say that the general routine of a belfry had been firmly established; and one most striking feature of the year was, he could safely say without the least hesitation, that out of forty members who had been taught to manage a bell, about ten remain who can ring Bob Major. That with the same attention in the future as in the past, they as regards striking the method they know, will become at no distant date a company of the most formidable competitors to be found in the north of England. They all possess one of the finest rings of eight in existence, of whom all Roman Catholics may be justly proud. He urged upon them that whatever they did was to try and maintain the high standard of excellence at all times when ringing, for their esteemed and beloved priest was a great admirer of the Art, and that he appreciated their endeavours was apparent from time to time, from the great pleasure he saw of their rapid progress. Mr. T. Sullivan, secretary of the society, also supported the remarks of the chairman, and alluded in the most affectionate terms of the rev. Father's anxiety for their success. He also said much credit was due to their instructor for the unwearied exertions he had displayed to bring them to such a state of efficiency. A plain course of Bob Major was next tapped on handbells in perfect style, and loudly applauded. Songs of every description, both comic and sentimental, were ably rendered by the following ladies and gentlemen: Miss Gaughan, Mrs. Gillott, Mrs. Meehan, Mrs. Paton, and Messrs. Niel, Watson, O'Hara, and Meehan, accompanied on the piano by Mr. T. Milnes. Mr. R. Varley next proposed, and Mr. C. Adams seconded the toast of "The host and hostess," Mr. and Mrs. James Paton, which

was drunk with musical honours. Mr. Paton, in responding, thanked all for the hearty manner in which the toast had been received. It was his greatest pleasure to cater in any way for the ringers of St. Francis, and any ringers from the surrounding towers, and would do all he could to help them to become one of the best change-ringing societies in the county. In concluding an interesting and most enjoyable evening, Mr. G. McKale proposed, and Mr. T. O'Hara seconded a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman and the ladies and gentlemen who had come forward and rendered such valuable assistance in making the event such a success.

ANNUAL DINNER OF THE EAST RETFORD SOCIETY.—On Saturday, February 20th, the members of this society held their annual dinner and meeting at The White Hart hotel. Mr. T. H. Denman occupied the chair, and Mr. H. Warburton (Master) the vice-chair. The evening's proceedings commenced with an excellent repast, to which the company did full justice; the bill of fare consisting of roast beef and boiled mutton exercise, and chicken surprise, etc. "Go" was called at 8.15 prompt, and was with the utmost alacrity obeyed, the various course-ends coming up with alarming rapidity, until 9 o'clock, when to the regret of all the conductor called "stand." After the loyal toast of "The Queen" had been duly honoured, Mr. Denman (the donor) rose and briefly addressed the meeting on various matters connected with tower and handbell ringing, and concluded his speech by coupling the name of Mr. Warburton with the toast, to which the latter briefly responded. The evening was interspersed with tunes on the handbells, speeches by various members, and two songs by Mr. Spurr (he being well up in the lung department with Little Tommy Top-Weight), whilst Mr. Denman, by the means of slides thrown on a screen by a powerful lantern, entertained the company with views of the streets of Naples, the ruined cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum, and other wonderful illustrations too numerous to mention. Towards the close of the evening Mr. Warburton proposed, and Mr. Haigh seconded, a vote of thanks to Mr. Denman for his generosity in providing such an excellent dinner, and also for his interesting and instructive entertainment with the lantern and slides. Mr. Denman replied, assuring the members it gave him much pleasure to meet them around the festive board once again, and he hoped to meet the same familiar faces on many other occasions in the future. A very enjoyable evening was brought to a close by the handbell ringers playing "Auld Lang Syne," and all singing "For he's a jolly good fellow." During the afternoon an attempt was made for a peal of Bob Major, but with our usual good luck it collapsed after ringing 1½ hrs., and we'd finished. H. H.

NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, the 27th ult., Mr. G. F. Clarke's selected band of ringers visited East Markham, for the purpose of ringing two 720s of Plain Bob. On arriving about 3.30 they were met by Mr. C. Crawford and his band ringers, who then ascended the belfry. The bells were soon in motion to a well-struck 720 of Bob Minor, the following being at the ropes: J. Hurst, 1; H. Cartwright, 2; M. Phillipson, 3; C. Clarke (conductor), 4; R. Miles, 5; W. Freeman, 6; in the second 720 the following manipulated the ropes: J. Hurst, 1; A. Street (conductor), 2; G. F. Clarke, 3; H. E. Page, 4; R. Miles, 5; C. Crawford, 6. This is Messrs. Cartwright, Page, and Freeman's first 720, to whom great credit is due. The East Markham band have now all rung a 720 of Minor. Messrs. Clarke, Miles, Street, Phillipson and Hurst hail from Retford, the remainder belong to the local company. The visitors were afterwards entertained to tea at the vicarage, by the kindness of the Vicar, the Rev. A. E. Briggs, and they desire sincerely to return through the medium of this paper, their warmest thanks for the use of the bells and his hospitality.

QUIDENHAM (Norfolk).—On Wednesday, February 17th, at St. Andrew's church, 720 Bob Minor (forty-two singles). J. Tite, 1; J. Sage, 2; G. Haylett, 3; R. Haylett, 4; A. Mann, 5; J. Woods (conductor), 6. Messrs. Tite and Mann hail from Banham.

GENTLEMEN'S Curb Alberts. Heavily Plated with Pure Gold. Guaranteed 18 carat, 4s. 6d., 22, 5s. 6d., Double, 7s. 6d. and 8s. 6d. Member of Norwich Diocesan Association.—SKINNER, 3, Mayes Terrace, East Dereham.

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."

"STANDARD" AND "ADVANCED" METHODS.

SIR,—In reference to that portion of Mr. Heywood's letter which refers to the ringing of what is called the advanced methods, I think nothing ought to stand in the way of the practice of Standard Methods on ten or twelve bells in such towns as London, Birmingham, Norwich, etc. I have known my own company come near a collapse more than once, through the ambition of individual members wanting to call eight-bell peals, in which statement my old friend, Mr. John Rogers, can bear me out.

H. SWAIN.

27, Bramerton Street, Chelsea, S.W.

BACK NUMBERS OF "BELL NEWS."

SIR,—I had hoped I should have been able to comply with my friend Mr. Attree's request, out of the large number of duplicate copies in my possession: but, unfortunately, I find those I have to dispose of are all of too early a date. Would you allow me to say that anyone wanting any of the following issues can have them by sending me sufficient to pay postage or carriage?

1884.—May 24th. July 26th. Aug. 2nd. Sept. 6th.—One of each.

1885.—June to December, inclusive, five or six clean copies of every issue throughout.

1886.—January and February, every issue; a large number of Jan. 16th, but only one of Feb. 20th. Three or four of each of other dates. March 6th (one), 20th and 27th (three or four of each). April 10th and 24th (three of each). May 1st (four), and 8th (three).

Stanhoe Rectory, King's Lynn.

H. EARLE BULWER.

A POINT SETTLED.

SIR,—I find that I was in error over the peal at issue. When I looked Mr. Thorp's peal record over, it was a 5088 with the 6th its extent at nine different course-ends, and was rung at Leefield, February 22nd, 1868, and so he (Mr. Dains) is entitled to it; and in regard to me handing the peal over to Mr. Thorp, it came about this way: we went to Glossop and rang a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major; I gave the conductor (Mr. F. G. Newman) a peal to call, which is the one at issue, with my name to it; and after we had finished, Mr. Thorp said it was his, and that he had it above twenty years, which I would not believe till he showed me his peal-book with it in, and it appeared, from being one of the first to be put down, to corroborate his statement, so I gave it up to him. I entered it in my peal book as composed by Mr. J. Thorp, and he put it down in his as being composed by S. Wood. These are the true facts of the case (I may state further that I composed it in 1874), and I therefore relinquish all claim to the peal on behalf of myself and my late friend Mr. Thorp. Trusting this will satisfy Mr. Dains and settle the matter.

SAMUEL WOOD.

166, Margaret Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

SEASONABLE COUNSEL.

SIR,—As no doubt during this "Diamond Jubilee" year much will be done in the way of putting up new peals of bells and augmenting existing ones, will you allow me to offer a little advice on the subject through the medium of "THE BELL NEWS"? What I should like to impress upon the minds of those who may be contemplating any work of this kind is to be content with fewer and heavier bells, rather than put up large numbers of small bells. I may perhaps say that, as a general rule, no peal of eight should have a tenor higher than E flat (say from 19 to 23 cwt.); no peal of six should have a tenor above F, and no peal of five above G. There is a great rage in these days of change-ringing to increase the number of bells in the peal without increasing the weight. There have been plenty of peals of eight erected within the last thirty years with tenors of 10 cwt. and less: but for my part I would rather have a peal of five with a tenor of at least 15 cwt. than one of these. I know of some heavy peals of five with tenors over a ton, and to hear Doubles slowly struck on them is far grander than Double Norwich or Superlative on such light peals as I have described. No doubt from a change-ringer's point of view, the more the merrier, regardless of weight; but it should be borne in mind that bells have other uses beyond scientific amusement.

J. R. JERRAM.

GRANDSIRE CATERS.

SIR,—In asking you to insert a peal of Grandsire Caters—which I enclose—permit me to say a word respecting the peal which appeared in "THE BELL NEWS" of last week under the name of William Will-

son. In his footnote Mr. Willson says "the author believes this peal to be the first in the method ever composed on this plan." Considering that I have called touches on this plan with Mr. Willson, and that only lately arrangements to attempt my peal only just failed, it is difficult to understand Mr. Willson's ignorance of the existence of my peal, which I have had for three or four years at least, a fact which I can prove to Mr. Willson's satisfaction if necessary. Why have I not published the peal before? To this very likely question I would say that, knowing how much has been said and written against a multiplicity of singles, I could never make up my mind to run the risk, thinking to ring the peal first. Perhaps Mr. Willson will explain.

Leicester.

GEORGE CLEAL.

BRUSQUENESS.

SIR,—It being my Sunday off at St. Peter-at-Arches last Sunday week I wended my way down to Washington, a small village within three miles of Lincoln, to have a pull on the nice little ring that that village possesses. Being there in good time I waited about in the churchyard till half-past ten, when the ringers began to turn up. I was bid good morning by most of the company, I went up with them and took a seat in the belfry till they raised the bells, they then began to place themselves for Bob Triples. I was asked by one of the company if I should like to have a pull, to which I replied I should, when to my surprise the worthy master, Mr. Clarke, stepped forward with the words: *If he rings I shan't!* This took me by surprise, and of course I apologised for intrusion into the belfry. The affair caused a little controversy among the ringers, and then the master said they would get on with some ringing. I stayed till they came down, and was accompanied half-a-mile homeward by Mr. Ash, the conductor, and he told me who was the cause of the misunderstanding. It is all jealousy throughout. I wonder what Jingle's opinion will be when he reads of it.

J. B. FENTON.

THE HANDBELL GIFT.

Before issuing the coupons for this affair, we want to make the scheme clear to our readers. There will be two coupons, each will be numbered in consecutive order week by week; one for a ringing company, the other for private members who from various causes may not be actual members of any ringing society. In the case of the company's coupon, the secretary or leader or foreman of the band may collect the coupons of his society only; each owner of the coupon to place his name and address upon them before handing them over. When these are returned to our office, the name of the company must be written distinctly outside the parcel. No collection of any kind will be allowed beyond the members of the company. This gift will consist of fifteen handbells, and the successful company may choose the bell-founder. The gift for a private member will consist of twelve bells; no collection of coupons will be allowed, and they must each be accompanied by the name and address of the holder thereon. Any breach of these regulations will jeopardise all chances of securing either gift. We hope our friends will try to make this such a success as will induce us to offer more presents, and of various kinds. Before we issue the coupons, we are willing to consider any further suggestions which our readers may like to make. By means of this scheme, a company or individual member can easily obtain a peal of handbells without cost. We ask the co-operation of our friends in this.

SNAITH (Yorks).—On Sunday, February 21st, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor (thirty bobs and twelve singles). R. Pocklington, 1; S. Pickup, 2; E. Pick, 3; G. Holmes, 4; R. Holmes, 5; J. D. Bullock (conductor), 6. For evening service, 720 Bob Minor (twenty-four bobs and eighteen singles). R. Pocklington, 1; S. Pickup, 2; J. Norton, 3; Tom Bullock, 4; R. Holmes, 5; G. Holmes (conductor), 6.

WICKEN (Northants).—On Sunday, February 14th, at the church of St. John the Evangelist, 720 Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. G. Valentine, sen., 1; J. Read, 2; R. W. Valentine, 3; R. Nichols, 4; G. Valentine, jun. (conductor), 5. Tenor 18 cwt. This is supposed to be the first 720 on the bells; also the longest touch by the ringers of the 4th.

WORTH (Sussex).—On Thursday, February 18th, at the parish church, with the bells deeply muffled as a last token of respect to Isaac Tullett, a 720 Plain Bob. W. Owden, 1; J. Rice, 2; G. Paice, 3; G. Illman, 4; B. Payne, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 21st, with the bells half-muffled, 240 Oxford Treble Bob. B. Payne, 1; J. Rice, 2; J. Sbarman, 3; G. Illman, 4; F. Dench, 5; F. Rice (conductor), 6. Also 360 Plain Bob. J. Sbarman, 1; F. Rice, 2; G. Attfield, 3; G. Illman, 4; J. Rice, 5; F. Dench (conductor), 6. Deceased who had been a ringer for the past fifty years at Worth, was seventy years of age, and was carried to the grave by four of the local ringers.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ROTHWELL.—At a Quarterly Meeting of the above Association, held at Rothwell on Saturday, ringers from Desborough, Kettering, Rothwell, Warkton, Wellingborough, Ecton, Earls Barton, Wollaston, and Rushden attended and took turns at the bells of the church of The Holy Trinity, a ring of six, tenor 22 cwt. They found them to go somewhat unpleasantly. The scheme for the restoration of this, one of the most interesting churches in Northamptonshire, now being carried out by stages, includes the "opening out" of the west arch, the re-hanging of the bells, and various other belfry improvements. The beautiful groined ceiling of the tower is now obscured by the ringing-room floor. The vicar of Rothwell, the Rev. W. S. Parker, most kindly provided the visitors with a meat tea, and lent a room in the newly erected Church House for their meeting, but indisposition unfortunately prevented him being with them. About forty partook of tea, including the Rev. C. M. Wetherall, Rector of Rushton, Rev. E. C. Channer, Vicar of Ravensthorpe, Mr. Toms, lay reader, and Mr. R. C. Lane, one of the four churchwardens of Rothwell. Mr. Lane, in responding to a vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for their kindness and hospitality, spoke of the pleasure it gave him to meet the members of the Association, and of the benefit he felt sure such gatherings were to them all. With regard to their bells, he stated that they meant in due time to put them in good order, "second to none," and possibly add two trebles. At the usual business meeting, Mr. Lane presided, and he and the Rector of Rushton consented to become honorary members. Mr. H. Toll, of Bedford, and Mr. W. C. Hunt, of North Shields, were elected "out of county" ringing members. The Secretary, Mr. E. J. Dennes, spoke of the loss the Association had sustained in the death of Mr. Alexander Arch, of Mears Ashby, and felt sure they would all regret to hear of the serious illness of Mr. G. Lewis, one of the senior ringers at Kettering. Gratification was expressed at the news that Finedon bells were to be increased to eight by adding two trebles, one in celebration of the Jubilee of the Vicar, the Rev. G. W. Paul, and the other of the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria. Rothwell bells are very similar to those at Finedon, the tenor being of a deep rich tone, well calculated to make a good "cover" for a ring of eight. Peal-boards hanging in the ringing-room record a 5000 rung in 1749, and another in 1847. A peal of handbells brought over by the Wellingborough company were well used during the evening.

THE SOUTH AND WEST MIDDLESEX GUILD.

A meeting of this Guild was held by kind permission of the Rev. B. O. Sharpe, at St. Leonard's, Heston, on Saturday, February 6th. The following towers were represented: Ealing (Christ Church and St. Mary's); Isleworth, Hillingdon (St. Andrew's and St. John's); Staines, Slough, and Burnham. Numerous touches of Stedman and Grandsire Doubles, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Minor, Plain Bob and Grandsire Minor were rung by mixed bands. At 7 o'clock an adjournment was made to the Church House for the purpose of dealing with the question of amalgamation with the Middlesex Association. It is now some months since a committee was specially appointed for the purpose of negotiating with a similar committee from the other side. A meeting of the joint committees took place in the City on Saturday, January 23rd, and the question was then unanimously and thoroughly discussed. It was recommended that the two Associations should unite, and that the amalgamation date from Whit-Monday next. The remaining details concerning the officers and management of the "County Association" were also discussed at some length. It was now incumbent upon the committee to refer back to the general body of members, the recommendations set down; for this purpose it was resolved to make use of the coming meeting on February 6th, a special notice in the meantime being sent round to the various towers concerned. The Rev. H. G. Bird occupied the chair, about twenty-eight members being present, and a lively discussion took place. A proposition in favour of the amalgamation being put to the meeting, was carried by a majority of ten. The recommendations drawn up by the committees, with reference to the officers and management, were also put to the meeting and carried *nem. con.* The first annual meeting will therefore take place at Ealing on Whit-Monday.

PEAL BOOK, Price 2s. 6d. A book specially ruled for entering peals, date touches, etc. Handbell music arranged for any number of bells. Send for catalogue. W. H. GIGGLE, Queen Street, Horbury, near Wakefield.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CENTRAL DIVISION.

One of the most successful district meetings ever held by this Association took place on Saturday, February 27th, at South-over, Lewes. The tower was open for ringing from 3 p.m.; but before that time quite a number of members had assembled from various places, so that punctually at the hour appointed the bells were set going, first to Grandsire Triples and then to Stedman. Other touches in these methods, with Bob Major, occupied the time until five o'clock, when a service was held. A shortened form of evening prayer was used and the hymn "O praise ye the Lord" was sung, followed by an appropriate address delivered by the Rector (Rev. W. E. Richardson), from the words "In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses, Holiness unto the Lord"—Zech. xiv. 20. After the service an adjournment was made to the Mission Room, where, by the munificence of the Rector, who presided, a first-class meat tea had been prepared and to which full justice was done. Over forty sat down, including Mr. G. F. Attree (Master of the Association), Mr. G. Williams (Hon. Central Divisional Secretary), Mr. S. Saker (Hon. Eastern Divisional Secretary), Mr. J. Hambrook (churchwarden) and representatives from the following towers: Christ Church, Blacklands; Christ Church, Eastbourne; Ringmer; St. Nicholas, Brighton; St. Peter's, Brighton; Balcombe; Cuckfield; Lindfield; Crawley; Pevensey and Lewes. At the conclusion of the repeat the business was proceeded with. After passing the minutes of the meeting held at Crawley, four new members were elected; viz.: one non-resident, one from St. Nicholas, Brighton branch, and two from the local company. A letter was read from Mr. J. Parker, London, resigning his position as one of the representatives of the Association on the Central Council, owing to having been elected to represent the Royal Cumberland Youths on that body. On the motion of Mr. C. Hounsell, seconded by Mr. W. Tugwell, the resignation was accepted, the vacancy to be filled at the Annual Meeting. Mr. J. Gasson asked if anything had been done with regard to the matter of cheap railway fares. The Master said the committee of the Central Council were constantly in communication with the Clearing House, but no definite answer could be got from them. The London and Brighton, the South Eastern and the London and Chatham Railways were willing to grant cheap tickets, but until the other companies were agreed, it was impossible for the three first named to do so.

The Master then moved a most hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. W. E. Richardson for his kindness in providing such a bountiful meal, for the service, and for the use of the bells. He said it was one of the best district meetings ever held in Sussex, and it testified to the members' appreciation of the Rector's kindness by the numbers who had put in an appearance.

The Rev. W. E. Richardson briefly replied, and the members then returned to the tower, and touches of Grandsire Triples, Plain Bob, Treble Bob and Duffield Major, Superlative, New Cumberland and London Surprise Major were rung until 9 p.m., when the tower was closed. Some of the party then adjourned to The King's Head, where touches of Grandsire Triples and Caters and Stedman Triples on handbells passed away a pleasant hour.

MOSSLEY HILL CHURCH, LIVERPOOL.

On Monday evening, February 15th, a very large Cambridge quarter-chime clock was set going at the above church by Miss Robinson, the donor, who presented the same in memory of her brothers. The Ven. Archdeacon Diggle officiated at the opening services, assisted by an experienced choir. The clock is constructed on the solid horizontal cast-iron bed frame, planed on the top and bottom surfaces, and supported by strong iron brackets firmly bolted to the wall of the tower. The escapement and maintaining power are by Lord Grimthorpe. The pendulum is a $1\frac{1}{2}$ seconds, compensated with a bob of 500 lbs. weight. The bells are of the respective weights as follows: hour bell, 40 cwt.; large quarter bell, 26 cwt.; second quarter-bell, 15 cwt.; third, $12\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.; fourth, $10\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. The specification was drawn up by R. Bushell, Esq., of Liverpool, who has also superintended the erection; and the work was carried out by Messrs. William Potts and Sons, Clock Manufacturers, of Leeds and Newcastle-on-Tyne.

ANNUAL SUPPER OF NEWCASTLE AND DISTRICT RINGERS.

PRESENTATION TO MR. HOLMES.

This event commenced at seven o'clock on Wednesday, the 15th ultimo, the chair being taken after the first course by R. S. Story, Esq., President of the Durham and Newcastle Association. He was supported by Messrs. T. Hudson, Holmes, Harrison, etc., while Mr. F. Lees, occupying the vice-chair, had Messrs. W. Story, Routledge (2), Ferry, etc., as supporters. Those present represented Middlesbrough, Tanfield, Whickham, North Shields, Jarrow, Hexham, and four of the Newcastle towers. The supper—judging by the contented countenances round the table—was a complete physiological success, and was enlivened by the usual amount of good-humoured "chaff" flying around. It is at these times the stentorian tones of the Jarrow representative, and the piping treble of the little Mirfield hero, are most appreciated, except perhaps when they call "this is all" to a five thousand.

The Chairman in brief and pithy terms proposed "Church and Queen," and followed this with the toast of "Newcastle and District Ringers," coupled with Mr. Lees's name, which was drunk with musical honours, these latter being for Mr. Lees of course, and not for "our worthy selves."

Mr. Story again rising to his feet called on Mr. Harrison to bring to a happy consummation the event of his winning the great "Bell News Handbell Coupon Stakes." He said Mr. Harrison had made this the occasion of a most worthy and graceful act towards one of their number who was most highly esteemed and appreciated.

Mr. Harrison (carrying a weighty box, a handbell, and a green baize cloth) came on the scene, and explained to the company in his most humorous terms that which everyone knew before, but which at that happy moment was a necessary preliminary to what was to follow. In collecting the coupons for the competition, he said he had drawn his supply from as far north as Edinburgh, and southwards as far as Ipswich, while eastern and western and western limits were hard to define. He had explained at the outset of his little plan what his ultimate object was, and it spoke well indeed for Mr. Holmes to think of the amount of support he had received over such a wide area of the ringing world. The handbells were a most tuneful peal—15 size in C—by Shaw of Bradford, and he had had a box made in which to carry them, whilst the tenor was now suitably inscribed by an engraver. With these words he handed to Mr. Wm. Holmes the box and contents amidst a storm of real old English applause, and "Billy's" health was drunk with tip-top musical honours.

Here there was a bit of a "jumble in the striking," another toast (that of the Durham and Newcastle Association, coupled with Mr. Hudson's name) being proposed, but as it gave "little Billie" time to pull himself together and think of what he would say, he didn't grumble. Hence Mr. Hudson responded first to *his* toast, and then,

Mr. Holmes thanked Messrs. Harrison and Story for their kindly remarks, and expressed his delight at being the proud possessor of so fine a peal of handbells. He did not know when he was making his efforts for "Freddie" to gain the handbells that they were ultimately to come to himself. He heartily thanked Mr. Harrison and all subscribers for their handsome present, and asked that these expressions might be conveyed personally through Mr. Harrison or through the columns of "THE BELL NEWS."

Mr. Thomas Hudson, proposing "The Health of Mr. Harrison, of Jarrow," spoke of the amount of work the competition entailed, and how cheerfully and thoroughly it had been carried out—the prize was indeed well-deserved. The toast was enthusiastically received, and Mr. Harrison briefly responded.

These toasts and pleasant speeches were interlarded with several courses of Caters on the new handbells, and solos on them by Mr. Harrison. Songs were also sung by Messrs. W. G. Routledge, J. Passman, W. Story, W. Holmes, C. L. Routledge, etc. Mr. William Routledge proved an excellent and efficient pianist.

Mr. W. G. Routledge in a few words proposed "The Health of the Chairman," to which Mr. Story responded with similar brevity. The proceedings closed at eleven o'clock with "Auld Lang Syne."

PRACTICAL HINTS TO YOUNG CONDUCTORS AND COMPOSERS.

CHAPTER XVII.

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES—continued.

The ability to call bells round is what the young conductor should strive his best to lay hold of. The knowledge is not only very useful on many occasions, but it gives those who know it an importance in the estimation of their fellows—a feature by no means despicable. A squabble during a touch or peal; a successful struggle to prevent a total collapse, almost invariably ruptures the calling lesson, whatever it may be, and the conductor is reduced to the necessity of calling "stand," or bringing the bells round. Surely the latter is the best, and the scientific mode. To this end the following hints are written. The benefit of the knowledge already gained of calling by observations of the bells before will now become apparent.

To bring round from any position in this method, on any number of bells, the back or heavy bells are the first to be dealt with. In Grandsire Triples the first object is to get 5 6 7 at home; there is very little else left to do. To get these bells into position the 7th should be called into the hunt, then call her out when the 6th is before, this short process will bring these two bells together. The next object being to get the 5th after the 7th, call her into the hunt and out when the 7th is before, with a double. These three bells will then be at home; and by continually calling bobs the lead after the 6th has made third's place the object is attained. I hope this is clear so far, to my young readers.

If, when 5 6 7 are got home, the 2nd should be found in the hunt, notice at once the relative positions of the 3rd and 4th. If the 4th should be after the 3rd, the bells will be in plain course, and will run round without any further calls being made. But if, when the 2nd is in the hunt, the 3rd is behind the 4th, the bells will be "out of course," and will require a single to get them round.

It is a very good plan for the young beginner, when he has brought the back bells home, to direct his attention to the 4th, and get that bell into the hunt as soon as possible; that being done, only one more call is necessary. I have already intimated that when 5 6 7 are brought together, a bob every succeeding four leads finishes the job. By this I mean that bobs should be called the lead after the 6th has made thirds. If the 4th is found in the hunt while this is going on, carefully watch the position of the 2nd and 3rd when the next bob, with the 6th in the position already named, is about to be called; if the 2nd is after the 3rd, the bells are wrong, and a single must be made instead of the bob, causing the 2nd to lie two blows in 2nds instead of making thirds; and the 3rd of course making that place, the bells thus running home.

To many this may appear a rigmarole, but it must not be forgotten that these papers are written for juniors, and when they thoroughly understand the foregoing, observation and practice will enable them to attain their object by quicker measures, perhaps. A practised bob-caller would, of course, first see in what position the bells were before he began his operations. The two back bells he may find already at home, he would then bring the 5th there at once, not interfering with 6 7 at all. And if the 5th was after the 7th he would not interfere with these, but would operate on the 6th. These three bells must be got together in the quickest way, and if they are all apart the plan above shown is the standard one.

The truth of the changes in calling round need not be thought of. Some conductors do not keep in their minds the formation of touches, and when requested to call, say a few bobs, and then call round.

ALEPH.

(To be continued.)

ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH, EPSOM.

Owing to the dilapidated state of the frame, and a broken clapper, the bells of St. Martin's, Epsom (the Parish Church), will not be rung until further notice.

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Part I. contains instructions for pricking, transposing, proving, composing, and conducting peals; an essay on the *In and Out-of-course* of the changes; and a history of the various compositions and performances. Part II. contains classified peals of Minor, Major, Royal, and Maximus, with their reverse variations; remarks on the different qualities; particulars of first performances, composers names, &c., &c. (236 closely printed pages. *Part II.* (136 closely printed pages) may be had separately, at 1s. 6d.).

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

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

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

The Bell News & Ringers' Record.

SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1897.

At a meeting of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association on Saturday last, Mr. J. G. CLARKSON made a proposition which commended itself unanimously to those assembled. This was to the effect that the Central Council be asked to call the attention of the authorities of Westminster Abbey to the neglected condition of the bells and belfry of that church, with the object of having both put into decent order. Every ringer throughout the world, every antiquary, every fellow or member of the learned societies, every archæologist or ecclesiologist, every good churchman, in fact every Englishman worthy of the name, will agree to the very letter with the action of Mr. CLARKSON. The Abbey of St. Peter, Westminster, has a hold upon the mind stronger perhaps than that enjoyed by any other Christian temple. Its historical renown and associations give it a place in the hearts of most Englishmen beyond every other Abbey or Cathedral. Many of the most important and stirring events in British history are somehow or other associated with the sacred fabric; it is the scene of enthronization of our monarchs; and the most honored place of sepulture for our illustrious

dead. If it is possible to render any Christian church perfect in all its details, especially one connected with our national religion, surely the Abbey of Westminster is the very one. To this end a most important feature is wanted. The bells—those instruments which more than anything else make plain to what Christian community the Abbey belongs—are in a dreadful condition. The belfry which contains these bells has been grossly neglected for years, and unless some process of sanitation has been adopted lately, it is positively indecent. We wish with the utmost deference, nay, reverence, towards the Capitular body, to impress upon them the great necessity which exists for the entire removal of such a deplorable state of things. What would the Dean or Canons of the Abbey think if, when visiting any of the continental cathedrals, they were to find the bells in a miserable state of repair, and the approaches to them obnoxious from dirt and filth?

The attention of the Abbey authorities has more than once been drawn to this reproach, and appeals to them have been made, not only to have the bells put in order, and the belfry purified, but to provide a ring of bells worthy of the sacred edifice. That the Dean and Chapter had no separate fund available for such a purpose, we are ready to believe, especially the provision of a new ring of bells. But the assertion that it was their bounden duty, as custodians of the edifice, to keep it free from impurity, cannot easily be traversed. Now, however, is their grand opportunity. They can easily obtain sufficient funds, if they will exert themselves *now*. We take the liberty of suggesting to them that they should at once make an appeal to Churchmen at large for a sum sufficient to provide an entire new ring of ten or twelve bells, and the cleansing of the interior of the tower from top to bottom. Such a project carried to success would prove a most appropriate memento of the Queen's long reign. No one doubts for a moment the success of such an effort, if they will move in the matter. We believe that, under present circumstances, the sum required could be obtained ten times over. A scheme for a ring of ten or twelve bells of approved weight and key would be attractive through its novelty and appropriateness, and we have no hesitation in asserting that funds for such a praiseworthy national object would flow in with rapidity. We beg the Capitular body to try—the experiment will certainly be successful; by such a work they will, unwittingly perhaps, be handing their names down to posterity in a manner endurable and lasting.

RYE, SUSSEX.

An association has lately been formed in this town, called The Rye Handbell Ringers' Association, for the purposes of change-ringing and tune playing. About a dozen members have joined to make a start, and very good progress is being made. The following members rang three separate 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles at the last practice, viz.: A. Price, 1; J. Henley, 2; L. A. Vidler, 3; G. Henley, 4; C. Tribe (conductor), 5; S. Reed, 6; and G. Amon rang the treble to one 120. The above are the first 6-scores by Price, Vidler and Reed. Tune playing is also progressing very favourably considering the short time the association has been started.

The Metropolis.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, March 2, 1897, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHGATE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 25 cwt.

ARTHUR MILLER Treble.	JOHN MILLER 5.
ARTHUR L. PRICE 2.	HERBERT W. NEWBY .. 6.
WILLIAM WARD 3.	JAMES PARKER 7.
WILLIAM J. DELL* 4.	JOHN HOWARD* Tenor.

Composed by J. CARTER and Conducted by WILLIAM WARD.

*First peal on eight bells. First peal as Conductor. W. J. Dell was elected a member of the Society previous to starting for the peal.

The Provinces.

GREAT BENTLEY, ESSEX.—THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 6, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of the following:

Cambridge Surprise, Kent, Oxford, Double Court, College Single, Oxford Single, and Plain Bob.

HARRY BOWERS Treble.	CHARLES CLARKE 4.
WILLIAM J. NEVARD 2.	GEORGE M. RASHBROOK .. 5.
GEORGE ANDREWS 3.	*WILBY J. HAZELL Tenor.

Conducted by WILBY J. HAZELL.

*First peal as conductor. Messrs. Andrews and Clarke hail from Thorington; Hazell from Little Bentley; Rashbrook from Colchester; Nevard and Bowers are local men.

SHOREHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

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

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

FREDERICK DEARING* .. Treble.	EDWARD C. MERRITT .. 5.
GEORGE BAKER 2.	WILLIAM PALMER 6.
GEORGE A. KING 3.	JAMES N. FROSSELL .. 7.
ARTHUR A. FULLER 4.	KEITH HART Tenor.

Composed by FRANK BENNETT and Conducted by KEITH HART.

*First peal and first attempt. This is the first peal on the bells. [This report has been sent by two correspondents.—Ed.]

PLYMOUTH.—THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

(PLYMOUTH AND DEVONPORT BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, February 24, 1897, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT CHARLES CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 23½ cwt. in D.

C. LEGG Treble.	H. MYERS 5.
E. TAYLOR† 2.	W. H. MARSH 6.
REV. J. M. CLARKSON .. 3.	W. FORD 7.
E. HENDY 4.	*C. J. LEAT Tenor.

Conducted by E. TAYLOR.

†First peal of Grandsire as Conductor. *First peal. The above was rung as a compliment to the Rev. Canon Trefusis, on the occasion of his consecration as Suffragan Bishop of Crediton, Devon. The Rev. J. M. Clarkson is Chaplain to H.M.S. *Impregnable*.

CHISLEHURST, KENT.—KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 25, 1897, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 17½ cwt.

WILLIAM WEATHERSTONE* Treble.	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY .. 5.
EDWIN BARNETT 2.	WILLIAM BEDWELL 6.
GEORGE CONYARD 3.	HARRY WARNETT 7.
ARTHUR J. NEALE 4.	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by EDWIN BARNETT.

*First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

ASTON-JUXTA-BIRMINGHAM.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

(BIRMINGHAM AMALGAMATED SOCIETY BRANCH.)

On Thursday, February 25, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5111 CHANGES.

Tenor 23 cwt.

ALFRED FLOWERS Treble.	THOMAS COLLINSON 6.
JOHN JENNINGS 2.	JAMES JONES 7.
ALFRED T. HYLAND 3.	THOMAS W. CHAPMAN 8.
CHARLES SPARKES 4.	JOHN CARTER 9.
HARRY ARGYLE 5.	WILLIAM A. HANCOX .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

This peal has the 6th fourteen times wrong, seventeen times right, and twenty-four times behind the 8th, with all the 5 6s and 6 5s in the Titmums and handstroke home position. Argyle and Chapman hail from Nuneaton.

NORTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AND THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Saturday, February 27, 1897, in Three Hours and Two Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 16 cwt.

THOMAS DIXON Treble.	*ARTHUR SLATER 5.
JOSEPH ATKIN 2.	THOMAS SAREL 6.
EDWIN JAMES† 3.	*JOHN ALLEN 7.
OLIVER DIXON 4.	WILLIAM BIGGIN Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, Chesterfield, and Conducted by WILLIAM BIGGIN.

*First peal. †First peal of Major, also first peal on the bells. Messrs. T. Sarel, T. Dixon and J. O. Dixon belong to the St. Mary's Society, Sheffield, the rest being local men.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 27, 1897, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 30 cwt.

NOAH DAVIS Treble.	ERNEST C. HUNT 5.
RICHARD E. GROVE 2.	ALBERT E. PARSONS 6.
JOHN O. BENNETT 3.	ADOLPHUS ROBERTS 7.
THOMAS J. SALTER 4.	WILLIAM H. SMITH Tenor.

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW and Conducted by R. E. GROVE.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 27, 1897, in Three Hours and Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt.

ALFRED W. GRIMES* .. Treble.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. 5.
GEORGE WIGHTMAN 2.	†WILLIAM RUMSEY 6.
WILLIAM GRIMES 3.	ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN .. 7.
GEORGE THURLOW 4.	ARTHUR WOODS Tenor.

Conducted by GEORGE WIGHTMAN.

*First peal on eight bells, and first attempt. †First peal in the method.

ROCHDALE.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(THE ROCHDALE, ROSSENDALE, AND MANCHESTER BRANCHES.)

On Saturday, February 27, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S BOB-AND-SINGLE.

Tenor 17½ cwt.

JAMES TAYLOR Treble.	EDMUND SCHOFIELD 5.
SAMUEL LORD 2.	WALTER TAYLOR 6.
JOHN HARRISON 3.	JAMES B. TAYLOR 7.
ROBERT WHITTLES* 4.	†GEORGE WALKER Tenor.

Conducted by WALTER TAYLOR.

*First peal. †First peal in the method. The ringers of 1, 2, and 6 hail from Newchurch; 7 from Waterfoot; 8 from Radcliffe; 5 from Rochdale, and 3 from Heywood.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 27, 1897, in Three Hours and Four Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

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

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lbs.

WALTER PERKINS Treble.	ALPHEUS PERKINS 5.
WILLIAM VERNON NEWMAN* 2.	WILLIAM PETTITT 6.
ANDERSON YORK TYLER .. 3.	JAMES HOUGHTON, SEN. .. 7.
JOHN B. MARTIN 4.	JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN. .. Tenor.

Composed by the REV. H. EARLE BULWER and Conducted by JAMES HOUGHTON, JUN.

*First peal in the method with a bob bell, and first attempt. The composition will be found in the Central Council peal Appendix for 1895, being the first peal on page 80.

RUSHTON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 27, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES.

Being seven 720s each called differently.

Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qrs. 26 lbs.

ARTHUR ROBINSON Treble.	THOMAS R. HENSHER 4.
CLIFTON NEWMAN 2.	ERNEST UNDERWOOD .. 5.
HERBERT J. JULIAN 3.	WILLIAM R. HENSHEZ .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM R. HENSHER.

This is the first peal on the bells, and the first six-bell peal by all.

SKIPTON, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(AIREDALE BRANCH.)

On Sunday, February 28, 1897, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

W. BAILEY Treble.	*T. BURSLEM 5.
S. DOUGHTY 2.	H. HORNER 6.
E. B. METCALFE 3.	W. BILLOWS 7.
FRED. METCALFE 4.	W. D. HILLARY Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS and Conducted by W. BILLOWS.

*First peal. This peal has the 5th and 6th the extent in 5-6, with the 6th five times at home.

FRAMLINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 1, 1897, in Three Hours and Six Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES.

Tenor 19 cwt.

WILLIAM WIGHTMAN .. Treble.	HORACE HOWLETT 5.
JAMES HEFFER, JUN. .. 2.	GEORGE WIGHTMAN 6.
WILLIAM FLORY 3.	ALBERT E. READ 7.
JOHN SELF 4.	STEPHEN WIGHTMAN, JUN. Tenor.

Composed by J. BARKER and Conducted by GEORGE WIGHTMAN.

This peal has the 6th twenty-two times wrong and right. For calling see Sottanstill, page 202.

BEBINGTON.—THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(WIRRAL BRANCH.)

On Monday, March 1, 1897, in Two Hours and Thirty-eight Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES:

Being two 720s of Plain Bob, two of Oxford Bob, one of College Single, one of Canterbury Pleasure, and one of Grandsire.

FRANK JONES Treble.	JOSEPH CLIFFE 4.
HERBERT E. HOUGH 2.	JAMES DILLON 5.
JOSEPH WOOD 3.	EDWIN BREEZE Tenor.

Conducted by EDWIN BREEZE.

First 5040 in five methods by all the band, on the bells, and by the Guild. Messrs. Dillon, Jones, and Wood hail from Bromborough, the rest are local men. Rung as a birthday compliment to the Conductor.

HORSMONDEN, KENT.—KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 1, 1897, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES:

Being Two 720s of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob, each called differently, and One of Grandsire.

EDWIN LAMBERT* Treble.	WILLIAM H. LAMBERT .. 4.
GEORGE HODGE 2.	FREDERICK BUTCHERS .. 5.
FREDERICK J. LAMBERT .. 3.	JIM BEACH Tenor.

Conducted by FREDERICK J. LAMBERT.

*First peal. This peal was rung as a birthday compliment to G. Hodge.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.**THE MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.**
(THE DUFFIELD SOCIETY.)

On Monday, March 1, 1897, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 17 cwt.

JOHN HOWE Treble.	ALBERT E. THOMPSON .. 5.
GEORGE DAWSON 2.	BENJAMIN SUGDEN .. 6.
WILLIAM HICKLING .. 3.	A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD .. 7.
JOHN PATCHETT 4.	THOMAS DRAPER .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD, Esq.

This peal is on the two-part plan, and is believed to be the first of the class yet rung. The figures called given on another page. It is the conductor's 150th peal.

BIRMINGHAM—THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

On Tuesday, March 2, 1897, in Three Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5137 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt. in C.

HENRY BASTABLE Treble.	WILLIAM MUNDY 7.
WILLIAM A. HANCOX .. 2.	WILLIAM SHORT 8.
WILLIAM H. BARBER .. 3.	THOMAS MILLER 9.
WILLIAM ROCK SMALL .. 4.	FREDERICK CLAYTON .. 10.
BERNARD WITCHELL .. 5.	THOMAS REYNOLDS .. 11.
SAMUEL REEVES 6.	JOHN BUFFERY Tenor.

Composed by the late HENRY JOHNSON and
Conducted by HENRY BASTABLE.

This peal has the first fifteen courses in the usual Titum position, and the last twenty-four with the large bells home at hand-stroke, and has not been rung before. It is the 200th peal rung by the conductor (see list elsewhere).

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.—ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(SUDBURY ARCHIDIACONAL BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, March 2, 1897, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION.

Tenor 24 cwt.

CHARLES SILLITOE Treble.	WILLIAM J. NEVARD .. 5.
FRED. WELLS 2.	WILBY HAZEL 6.
ERNEST AMBROSE .. 3.	ARTHUR H. OSBORNE .. 7.
SAMUEL SLATER 4.	ARTHUR SYMONDS .. Tenor.

Composed by JOHN THORP and Conducted by CHAS. SILLITOE.

Mr. C. Sillitoe hails from Sudbury; Wells and Slater from Glemsford; Osborne from Bury St. Edmunds; Ambrose from Melford; Nevard and Hazel from Bentley; Symonds belongs to Lavenham.

**CAMBRIDGE.—CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD AND
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.**

On Tuesday, March 2, 1897, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

IN MR. WOODHOUSE'S ROOMS, CAIUS COLLEGE,

ON HANDBELLS, RETAINED IN HAND,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES.

REGINALD H. WHITFORD 1-2.	GEORGE F. WOODHOUSE 5-6.
REV. A. H. F. BOUGHEY 3-4.	JAMES RICKMAN .. 7-8.
FRANK LL. EDWARDS .. 9-10.	

Composed by H. J. TUCKER and
Conducted by GEORGE F. WOODHOUSE.

Umpire—C. Elsee. This is the first peal of Royal by the Guild and by all the band, and was rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

GRAPPENHALL, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
(THE GRAPPENHALL YOUTHS.)

On Tuesday, March 2, 1897, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of the following:

Braintree, College Exercise, London Scholars' Pleasure, Woodbine, Duke of York, New London Pleasure, and Oxford.

Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qrs.

JAS. MAINWARING Treble.	ROBT. GEO. LEWIS .. 4.
HARRY MOSTON 2.	FREDK. T. SPENCE .. 5.
SAMUEL HORSFALL .. 3.	CHAS. REG. GREENALL .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHAS. REG. GREENALL.

The above was rung to celebrate the birthdays of the Rev. Richard Greenall and W. Smith, the band wishing them many happy returns of the day.

Date Touches.

CALVERLEY (Yorkshire).—On Tuesday, February 16th, at St. Wilfrid's church, a date touch of 1897 London Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 7 mins. F. Grimshaw, 1; W. Child, 2; E. Keighley, 3; C. Pratt, 4; J. Page, 5; W. Hollings, 6; J. Benson, 7; W. Davison, 8. Composed by J. Cordingley and conducted by W. Davison. Tenor 10½ cwt. This touch was rung as a mark of esteem to Mr. John Cordingley on his attaining his 70th birthday.

DARLASTON (Staffordshire).—On Sunday evening, February 7th, at the parish church, for evening service, a date touch of 1897 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 8 mins. T. Lowe, 1; S. Pitt, 2; S. Atkins (composer and conductor), 3; J. Adams, 4; J. Foster, 5; W. Smith, 6; E. Unitt, 7; T. Small, 8. Tenor 19 cwt. in E. Messrs. Atkins, Pitt and Adams hail from Willenhall; the rest belong to Darlaston.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—On Tuesday, February 16th, at the church of St. Nicholas, a date touch of Grandsire Triples, 1897 changes, in 1 hr. 14 mins. H. Wright, jun., 1; W. Blyth, 2; R. Christian, 3; T. Tooley, 4; D. Hayward (conductor), 5; G. Orford, 6; J. Matthews, 7; H. Wright, sen., 8. First date touch by the Messrs. Wright.

SKIPTON (Yorkshire).—On Saturday, February 27th, at Holy Trinity church, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, 1897 changes, in 1 hr. and 8 mins. E. Greenwood, 1; J. Soothill, 2; A. Smith, 3; F. Metcalfe, 4; S. Doughty, 5; R. W. Jennison, 6; W. Billows, 7; W. D. Hillary, 8. Composed by J. Soothill and Conducted by E. Greenwood. Messrs. Greenwood, Soothill, Smith and Jennison, hail from Keighley, the rest belong to Skipton.

STAND (Derbyshire).—On Thursday evening, February 18th, for practice at All Saints' church, a date touch of 1897 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 9 mins. W. Houghton, 1; F. Bradshaw, 2; A. Barrett (conductor), 3; W. Warburton, 4; J. Barlow, 5; S. Morris, 6; W. Hilton, 7; J. Bradshaw, 8. Composed by John Howes, Kingston-on-Thames. A. Barrett belongs to Radcliffe.

Miscellaneous.**THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**

BOCKING (Essex).—On Sunday, January 3rd, at the parish church, 720 Bocking Treble Bob. G. Melbourne, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Grimwade, 3; F. Warren, 4; S. Sargent (conductor), 5; C. Howard, 6. On Tuesday, January 5th, 720 College Exercise. G. Melbourne, 1; W. Moore, 2; F. Warren, 3; C. Bearman, 4; W. Grimwade, 5; C. Howard (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, January 12th, 720 College Exercise. G. Melbourne, 1; F. Radley (first 720 in the method), 2; W. Moore, 3; W. Grimwade, 4; S. Sargent, 5; C. Howard (conductor), 6. On Thursday, January 14th, 720 Bob Minor. G. Melbourne, 1; W. Moore (conductor), 2; F. Radley, 3; F. Warren, 4; S. Sargent, 5; H. Butcher, 6. On Sunday, January 17th, 720 Bob Minor. G. Whybrow, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; F. Warren, 4; S. Sargent, 5; C. Bearman (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 31st, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor. G. Melbourne, 1; F. Radley, 2; W. Moore, 3; F. Warren, 4; S. Sargent (conductor), 5; W. Grimwade, 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob standing as before. On Tuesday, February 2nd, 720 New London Pleasure. G. Melbourne, 1; C. Howard (conductor), 2; W. Moore, 3; F. Warren, 4; F. Radley, 5; W. Grimwade, 6. On Tuesday, February 16th, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. G. Melbourne, 1; W. Moore, 2; F. Warren, 3; C. Bearman, 4; S. Sargent (conductor), 5; W. Grimwade, 6. H. Butcher hails from London.

RAYNE (Essex).—On Tuesday evening, February 16th, members of

the St Michael's Guild, Braintree, visited the parish church of All Saints, and rang 1260 of Grandsire Doubles, in 40 mins., each 6-score called differently. C. H. Howard (conductor), 1; F. Slade, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Webb, 4; E. Watcher, 5. Tenor 10 cwt. This is the longest length by the 3rd, 4th and 5th ringers, who have learned to ring during the last few months, and great credit is due to them for the rapid progress they have made in the art. This is supposed to be the longest length ever rung upon the bells by a change-ringing band.

BRAINTREE (Essex).—On Wednesday, February 10th, for practice at St. Michael's church, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. W. Farrow, 1; P. Holmes, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Webb, 4; H. Coote, 5; E. Watcher, 6. Also another 6-score. A. Pilcher, 1; H. Collins, 2; H. Pilcher (conductor), 3; W. Farrow, 4; W. Hammond, 5; H. Coote, 6. And on handbells 6-score of Grandsire Doubles. A. Pilcher, 1; H. Collins, 2; C. Howard (conductor), 3-4; H. Coote, 5; H. Pilcher, 6. Also 180 Bob Minor. W. Hammond, 1; H. Collins, 2; P. Holmes, 3; C. Howard (conductor), 4-5; H. Coote, 6. And 360 Bob Minor. W. Hammond, 1; H. Collins, 2; C. Howard (conductor), 3-4; W. Webb, 5; E. Watcher, 6. For Divine Service on Sunday morning, February 14th, several 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles and 300 Bob Minor. H. Collins, 1; E. Watcher, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Webb, 4; C. Howard (conductor), 5; F. Slade, 6. On Monday, February 15th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor. P. Holmes (first 720 and first attempt), 1; E. Watcher, 2; H. Pilcher, 3; W. Webb, 4; C. Howard (conductor), 5; F. Slade, 6. Also another 720 Bob Minor called differently. H. Collins, 1; the rest as before. Conducted by C. Howard. On Wednesday, February 17th, for practice, seven 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently. H. Collins, 1; H. Pilcher, 2; W. Webb, 3; E. Watcher, 4; C. Howard (conductor), 5. Also two more 6-scores. C. Howard, 1; H. Collins, 2; W. Webb (conductor), 3; H. Pilcher, 4; E. Watcher, 5. For Divine Service on Sunday, February 21st, several more 6-scores. The bells at this church are rung for morning and evening service on Sundays regularly, and for practice on Monday and Wednesday evenings. All brother-ringers will be welcomed.

BARKING (Essex).—On Sunday, February 28th, for Divine Service in the evening, a quarter-peal of Bob Major, 1264 changes (arranged from one of York Green's peals), in 46 mins. A. D. Mason (first quarter-peal of Major), 1; A. Deards, 2; T. Faulkner (conductor), 3; C. Fenn, 4; R. Fenn, 5; E. Lucas, 6; A. Whight, 7; A. C. Hardy, 8. On Monday, March 1st, on handbells retained in hand, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes (taken from Holt's Original) in 35 mins. C. Fenn, 1-2; R. Fenn, 3-4; T. Faulkner (conductor), 5-6; A. Whight, 7-8.

ST. OSYTH (Essex).—On Sunday, February 21st, before morning service at the parish church, a 720 of Cambridge Surprise Minor. H. Bowers, 1; W. J. Nevard, 2; G. Andrews, 3; C. Clarke, 4; G. M. Rashbrook, 5; W. J. Hazell (conductor), 6. And after service a 720 Oxford Treble Bob standing as before, conducted by W. J. Nevard.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

HORLEY (Surrey).—On Sunday, February 14th, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but after ringing 3850 changes in 2 hrs. 17 mins., the conductor called "stand" owing to a change-course. G. Thompson, 1; S. Kenward, 2; H. S. Reeves (conductor), 3; A. Songhurst, 4; G. Hoad, 5; F. Hoad, jun., 6; T. Sparks, 7; A. Moseley, 8. Messrs. Songhurst, Sparks, and Kenward belong to Horley; the rest to Reigate.

REIGATE (Surrey).—On Sunday, February 14th, at the parish church, for evening service, a 588 of Stedman Triples. H. Reeves, 1; F. Hoad, sen. (conductor), 2; G. Thompson, 3; F. Linter, 4; G. Hoad, 5; E. Kenward, 6; W. Argent, 7; J. Steadman, 8. And after service a 504 of Stedman Triples. F. Linter, 1; F. Hoad, sen. (conductor), 2; G. Thompson, 3; E. Kenward, 4; F. Hoad, jun., 5; G. Hoad, 6; W. Argent, 7; J. Steadman, 8. And 350 Grandsire Triples. G. Thompson, 1; F. Hoad, jun., 2; F. Hoad, sen., 3; T. Brown, 4; F. Linter (conductor), 5; E. Kenward, 6; G. Hoad, 7; J. Steadman, 8. And on Monday, February 15th, for practice, a 224 Kent Treble Bob Major. G. Thompson, 1; F. Hoad, sen., 2; F. Linter, 3; G. Hoad, 4; F. Hoad, jun., 5; E. Kenward, 6; W. Argent, 7; H. Reeves, 8. And a 406 of Grandsire Triples. P. Knight, 1; F. Linter, 2; G. Thompson, 3; E. Kenward, 4; T. Brown, 5; F. Hoad, jun., 6; H. Reeves (conductor), 7; J. Steadman, 8. And 240 Stedman Triples. P. Knight, 1; G. Hoad, 2; F. Linter, 3; E. Kenward, 4; H. Reeves (conductor), 5; F. Hoad, jun., 6; W. Argent, 7; J. Steadman, 8. And on Thursday, February 18th, an attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Triples, but after ringing 4794 changes, in 2 hrs. and 55 mins. the 6th rope broke. F. Linter, 1; F. T. Hoad, sen. (conductor), 2; G. Thompson, 3; G. Hoad, 4; H. Reeves, 5; F. Hoad, jun., 6; W. Argent, 7; A. Moseley, 8.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WEST MALLING (Kent).—On Sunday evening, February 14th, for

Divine Service at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 24 mins. R. Cruttenden, 1; W. Harden, 2; J. Capon, 3; J. Cox, 4; G. Burr, 5; J. Leonard (conductor), 6; P. Masters, 7; S. Leonard, 8. Messrs. Burr and Cox hail from Seal Chart; the rest belong to the local band.

SWANSCOMBE (Kent).—On February 21st, 720 London Surprise. A. Cornford, 1; G. Hayes, 2; F. J. Ring, 3; M. Digby, 4; W. Martin (conductor), 5; W. Harper, 6.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Kent).—On Sunday evening, February 21st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins. J. Acott, 1; J. Muggridge, 2; G. Henley, 3; J. Harris, 4; G. Smithers, 5; S. Perkins, 6; W. Latter (conductor), 7; H. Wood, 8. Messrs. Acott, Henley, and Harris hail from Brenchley, and this is their first quarter-peal.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD.—On January 5th, at St. Paul's church, a course of Kent Treble Bob Royal. F. Keech, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; C. Chasty, 3; W. Lightfoot, 4; F. Hull, 5; C. W. Clarke, 6; I. Hills, 7; H. Tysoe, 8; F. Smith, 9; J. N. Frossell, 10. Also 224 Superlative Surprise Major. S. J. Cullip, 1; C. Chasty, 2; J. N. Frossell, 3; F. Hull, 4; I. Hills, 5; H. Tysoe, 6; F. Smith, 7; C. W. Clarke, 8. On January 12th, 540 Grandsire Caters. F. Ball, 1; S. J. Cullip, 2; F. Hull, 3; H. Sharp (conductor), 4; C. Chasty, 5; W. Hall, 6; I. Hills, 7; H. Tysoe, 8; C. W. Clarke, 9; F. Keech, 10. Rung with the bells deeply-muffled as a token of respect to the late T. G. E. Elger, Esq., late Hon. Treasurer of this Association.

LITTLE STAUGHTON (Beds).—On January 13th, at the Reading Room, on handbells, 120 Grandsire Doubles. G. Saunders, 1; J. Saunders, 2; E. Wildman, 3; A. Wildman, 4; T. Foote (conductor), 5-6. This is the first change-ringing ever done in Little Staughton.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

MATHON (Worcestershire).—On Tuesday, January 5th, at the parish church, 720 Grandsire Minor. E. Smith, 1; J. Hopkison, 2; G. Jordan, 3; C. Layton, 4; C. Watkins, 5; A. Layton (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, January 12th, 720 Plain Bob. E. Smith, 1; C. Thomas, 2; G. Jordan, 3; F. Smith, 4; J. Thomas, 5; C. Watkins (conductor), 6. On Thursday, January 28th, 720 Plain Bob. G. Jordan, 1; C. Hall, 2; C. Thomas, 3; C. Layton, 4; J. Thomas, 5; A. Layton (conductor), 6. On Saturday, February 6th, 720 Plain Bob. G. Jordan, 1; F. Smith, 2; C. Layton, 3; C. Watkins, 4; J. Thomas, 5; A. Layton (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 7th, 720 Kent Treble Bob. C. Thomas, 1; J. Thomas, 2; F. Smith, 3; A. Layton, 4; C. Watkins, 5; C. Layton (conductor), 6. On Wednesday, February 17th, 720 Plain Bob. A. Layton, 1; C. Thomas, 2; F. Smith, 3; C. Watkins, 4; J. Thomas, 5; C. Layton (conductor), 6. This 720 was rung with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to William Jordan, who died on the 13th ult., aged 19, and was interred that day at Mathon, and was a promising young ringer.

BRIDGNORTH (Salop.).—On Saturday, February 27th, at St. Leonard's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. T. Overton, 1; J. E. Overton (conductor), 2; John Overton, 3; W. Maund, 4; H. Hammond, 5; W. Richards, 6; H. W. Overton, 7; H. Jones, 8. This is J. E. Overton's longest touch as conductor.

CRADLEY (Herefordshire).—On Sunday, February 7th, 720 Plain Bob. E. Smith, 1; E. S. Kings, 2; C. Layton, 3; A. Layton, 4; C. Watkins, 5; F. Smith (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 21st, 720 of Canterbury Pleasure. C. Layton, 1; C. Thomas, 2; F. Smith, 3; A. Layton, 4; J. Thomas, 5; C. Watkins (conductor), 6.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HEENE (Sussex).—On Wednesday, February 17th, at St. Botolph's church, 672 Grandsire Triples. W. Lindup, 1; J. Paice, 2; H. Evans, 3; H. Meetens, 4; E. Lindup, 5; G. Norriss, 6; B. Bassett (conductor), 7; F. Lindup, 8. Longest length by F. and W. Lindup and Norriss. On Sunday, February 28th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 43 mins. T. Greenyer, 1; H. Meetens, 2; J. Paice, 3; G. Norriss, 4; H. Evans, 5; E. Lindup, 6; B. Bassett (conductor), 7; A. Arnell, 8. First quarter-peal by Messrs. Greenyer, Norriss, Lindup, and Arnell. This is also the first quarter-peal by the Heene band.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

RUSHDEN (Northants).—On Monday, February 15th, for practice at the parish church, 720 College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Bailey, 1; J. Baker (first in the method), 2; W. A. Hall, 3; H. Clayton, 4; C. West (conductor), 5; F. Clayton, 6. And 360 Oxford Bob. J. Bailey, 1; J. Baker, 2; C. West, 3; H. Clayton, 4; F. Clayton, 5; W. A. Hall (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 21st, before evening service, 360 Oxford Treble Bob. H. Clayton, 1; G. Heath, 2;

C. Green, 3; J. Houghton, jun., 4; A. Y. Tyler, 5; W. Hall (conductor), 6. And after service, 720 Kent Treble Bob. L. Chapman, 1; G. Heath, 2; C. Green, 3; W. Hall, 4; J. Houghton, jun., 5; A. Y. Tyler (conductor), 6. Also 360 Bob Minor. J. Houghton, jun. (conductor), 1; J. Baker, 2; C. Green, 3; A. Y. Tyler, 4; W. A. Hall, 5; L. Chapman, 6. J. Houghton, jun., and A. Y. Tyler belong to Irthlingborough, Northants.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

LONG EATON (Derbyshire).—On Sunday morning, February 14th, at the parish church, eight members of the St. Lawrence's society rang a 504 Stedman Triples. J. Harrison, 1; W. R. Hexter, 2; W. Hexter, 3; J. R. Ward, 4; J. Poxon, 5; F. C. Wicks, 6; J. Bailey (conductor), 7; A. Makins, 8. And in the evening 840 Stedman Triples. J. Harrison, 1; A. Ricketts, 2; W. R. Hexter, 3; J. R. Ward, 4; J. Poxon, 5; F. C. Wicks, 6; W. Hexter (conductor), 7; A. C. Makins, 8. On Sunday evening, February 21st, 200 and 576 Duffield Major. J. Harrison, 1; W. Hexter, 2; J. R. Ward, 3; A. Ricketts, 4; J. Bailey, 5; F. C. Wicks, 6; J. E. Hexter, 7; J. Poxon (conductor), 8. And on Sunday, February 28th, a 910 of Grandsire Triples. J. Bailey, 1; J. E. Hexter, 2; J. Harrison, 3; W. Hexter, 4; J. Poxon, 5; F. C. Wicks, 6; J. R. Ward (conductor), 7; A. C. Makins, 8.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—FYLDE BRANCH.

KIRKHAM (Lancashire).—On Thursday, February 18th, at St. Michael's church, 1512 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. R. Cookson, 1; W. Billington (conductor), 2; W. Kirby, 3; R. Redman, 4; H. Kirby, 5; T. Cookson, 6; N. Stanhope, 7; J. Kirby, 8. On Saturday afternoon, February 20th, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 20 mins., the ringers standing as above. This is the longest touch by all except W. Kirby and R. Redman.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PENARTH (South Wales).—On Sunday, January 3rd, for morning service, 720 Kent (nine bobs). J. Jones, 1; F. Bartlett, 2; D. Thomas (conductor), 3; W. B. Biss, 4; T. Northey, 5; J. Cox, 6. This is W. Biss's 300th 720. Also for evening service, 720 Plain Bob. T. Northey, 1; F. Bartlett, 2; H. V. Wilkins (Birmingham), 3; W. B. Biss, 4; G. Watkins (Barry), 5; J. Cox (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, January 5th, for practice, 720 College Single (eighteen bobs and two singles). J. Vinnicombe, 1; F. Bartlett, 2; D. Thomas (conductor), 3; W. B. Biss, 4; T. Northey, 5; J. Cox, 6. This makes T. Northey's 300th 720. And 720 Grandsire Minor (thirty-eight bobs and twenty-two singles). T. Northey, 1; F. Bartlett, 2; D. Thomas (conductor), 3; W. B. Biss, 4; J. Cox, 5; J. Vinnicombe, 6. First in the method with a bob bell by J. Cox. On Sunday, January 10th, for morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Jones, 1; F. Bartlett, 2; D. Thomas (conductor), 3; J. Vinnicombe, 4; T. Northey, 5; J. Cox, 6. This makes J. Cox's 57th 720, fifty of which have been rung with the Penarth band. And for evening service, 720 Kent. J. Vinnicombe, 1; F. Bartlett, 2; D. Thomas (conductor), 3; T. Northey, 4; J. Cox, 5; H. V. Wilkins, 6. On Sunday, January 17th, for morning service, 720 Kent. J. Vinnicombe, 1; D. Thomas (conductor), 2; W. B. Biss, 3; F. Bartlett, 4; T. Northey, 5; J. Cox, 6. This makes D. Thomas's 350th 720. And for evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Vinnicombe, 1; W. B. Biss (conductor), 2; D. Thomas, 3; F. Bartlett, 4; T. Northey, 5; J. Cox, 6. On Tuesday, January 19th, for practice, 720 College Single (eighteen singles and three bobs), composed by J. Crossley. J. Vinnicombe, 1; W. B. Biss, 2; D. Thomas (conductor), 3; F. Bartlett, 4; T. Northey, 5; J. Cox, 6. Also 720 Violet (nine bobs). T. Northey, 1; F. Bartlett, 2; D. Thomas (conductor), 3; W. Biss, 4; J. Cox (first with a bob bell), 5; J. Vinnicombe, 6. On Sunday, January 24th, for morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. J. Jones, 1; W. B. Biss, 2; D. Thomas (conductor), 3; J. Cox, 4; T. Northey, 5; J. Vinnicombe, 6. And for evening service, 720 Kent. D. Thomas (conductor), 1; F. Bartlett, 2; T. Northey, 3; A. Rowley, 4; H. V. Wilkins, 5; J. Cox, 6.

THE STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

BUCKNALL (Staffordshire).—On Thursday, February 4th, at the parish church, a silent 720 of London Surprise. G. Clarkson, 1; W. Wheeldon, 2; J. E. Wheeldon, 3; C. Preston, 4; D. Preston, 2; W. Twigg, 6. And a 720 of Grandsire Minor. J. Preston, 1; C. Preston, 2; G. Clarkson, 3; D. Preston, 4; W. Wheeldon, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 14th, a silent 720 of Chester Surprise. G. Clarkson, 1; W. Wheeldon, 2; J. E. Wheeldon, 3; C. Preston, 4; D. Preston, 5; W. Twigg, 6. On Thursday, February 18th, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob. J. Preston (first 720 in the method), 1; D. Preston, 2; G. Clarkson, 3; J. E. Wheeldon, 4; C. Preston, 5; W. Twigg (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 21st, a silent 720 of York Surprise. G. Clarkson, 1; W. Wheeldon, 2; J. E. Wheeldon, 3; C. Preston, 4; D. Preston, 5; W. Twigg, 6. The last three 720s

were rung with the bells muffled in memory of Mr. Joseph Twigg, father of Mr. W. Twigg, and grandfather of Mr. G. Clarkson, who died on Tuesday, February 9th, aged 86 years. Deceased was sexton of Bucknall for nearly forty years, and was a great lover of the bells.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

GRIMSBY (Lincolnshire).—On Saturday, February 20th, 672 Grandsire Triples. G. Weldon, 1; J. Chapman, 2; W. Hayhoe, 3; J. Baker, 4; A. O. Barber, 5; T. O. Nixon (conductor), 6; A. B. Shepherd, 7; E. Clayton, 8. Messrs. Barber and Clayton hail from Freston, for whom this touch was arranged by T. Dixon, and they wish to kindly thank him and the local ringers for turning up to time.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LITTLE MUNDEN (Herts).—On Wednesday, February 9th, 216 Grandsire Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Laurence, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. Laurence (conductor), 6. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles, conducted by A. Smith. On Sunday afternoon, February 14th, for Divine Service, 120 each of Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles. J. Heady, 1; A. Laurence, 2; A. Smith, 3; A. Phillips (conductor), 4; W. Laurence, 5; G. Phillips, 6. On Monday, February 15th, for practice, 360 Bob Minor and 108 Grandsire Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Laurence, 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. Laurence (conductor), 6. And some Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles. On Tuesday, February 16th, the above walked over to Ardley, a distance of five miles, and rang 108 Grandsire Minor, and an attempt was made for a 720 in the same method, but was brought round owing to a mis-call the third lead from home. H. Carter, 1; A. Laurence (aged 13), 2; J. Heady, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. Laurence (conductor), 6. These bells are a very pretty little ring tenor 10 cwt.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

ROMSEY (Hants).—On Saturday, February 6th, for practice, six courses of Grandsire Doubles. Rev. R. A. Sidebottom, 1; J. Elcombe, 2; G. Newman, 3; A. Newman, 4; T. Cole, 5; F. Sidebottom, 6. On Tuesday, February 9th, 168 Grandsire Triples. B. Paskins, 1; J. Elcombe, 2; G. Newman, 3; C. Cole, 4; H. Dunn, 5; A. Newman, 6; T. Cole, 7; G. Saint, 8. Also 518 in the same method. H. Dunn, 1; J. Elcombe, 2; G. Newman, 3; C. Cole, 4; R. White, 5; A. Newman, 6; F. Russen, 7; T. Cole, 8. Longest touch by C. Cole. And 168. W. Gifford, 1; F. Russen, 2; G. Newman, 3; C. Cole, 4; H. Dunn, 5; A. Newman, 6; T. Cole (conductor), 7; R. White, 8.

LEATHERHEAD (Surrey).—On Tuesday, February 16th, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Caters, but unfortunately came to grief after ringing 3000 changes in 2 hrs. through the tenor rope slipping wheel. W. Messam, 1; E. Dunk, 2; W. G. Crockford, 3; H. Wood, 4; H. Wilkinson, 5; J. Wyatt, 6; W. Marks (conductor), 7; A. Dean, 8; E. Hull, 9; F. Hudson, 10.

WINCHESTER.—On Wednesday, February 17th, for practice at the Cathedral, 532 Grandsire Triples. J. Elkins, 1; W. Lampard, 2; C. Choet, 3; R. Hasted, 4; J. Harris, 5; W. J. Sevier, 6; W. H. George (conductor), 7; C. Russell, 8. On Saturday, February 27th, for special practice of Stedman Triples, an attempt was made for a quarter-peal, composed by James Pagett, of Kidderminster, and published in "THE BELL NEWS" of February 20th, but after ringing 500 changes a trip occurred. Afterwards touches of 504, 420, and 168 were rung. W. J. Sevier, 1; G. Smith, 2; C. Choet, 3; R. Hasted, 4; W. Lampard, 5; Rev. R. C. M. Harvey, 6; W. H. George (conductor), 7; D. Froome, 8. Tenor 32 cwt.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—BLACKBURN BRANCH.

BURNLEY (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, January 19th, at Holy Trinity church, a 720 Kent. R. Hartley, 1; D. Campbell, 2; F. Towns, 3; J. R. Werring, 4; T. Mouncey, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6. On Sunday, January 24th, for morning service, a 720 Kent. R. Hartley, 1; D. Campbell, 2; T. Redman (conductor), 3; R. Ashworth, 4; T. Mouncey, 5; J. R. Werring, 6. On Tuesday, January 26th, a 576 of Kent. R. Hartley, 1; D. Campbell, 2; F. Towns, 3; J. R. Werring, 4; N. Townend, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. On Sunday, January 31st, for morning service, a 576 Kent. R. Hartley, 1; F. Towns, 2; D. Campbell, 3; J. R. Werring, 4; N. Townend, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. And for evening service, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. T. Mouncey, 1; F. Towns, 2; J. R. Werring, 3; W. Ashworth, 4; N. Townend, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 7th, for morning service, 720 of Kent. R. Hartley, 1; J. R. Werring, 2; R. Ashworth, 3; T. Redman (conductor), 4; F. Towns, 5; T. Mouncey, 6. And for evening service, 640 of Kent Treble Bob Major. R. Hartley, 1; F. Towns, 2; N. Townend, 3; D. Campbell, 4; J. R. Werring, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; T. Redman (conduc-

tor), 8. On Saturday, February 13th, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor. J. Smith, sen. (Blackburn), 1; J. Mather (Higher Walton), 2; R. Parkinson (Oswaldtwistle), 3; T. Redman (conductor), 4; J. Eccles (Higher Walton), 5; J. Scholey (Blackburn), 6. On Sunday, February 12th, for evening service, a 576 Kent. R. Hartley, 1; J. R. Werring, 2; T. Mouncey, 3; D. Campbell, 4; N. Townend, 5; R. Ashworth, 6; T. Duxbury (Padiham), 7; T. Redman (conductor), 8. On Tuesday, February 16th, a 720 Bob Minor (twenty-six singles). R. Hartley, 1; F. Towns, 2; J. R. Werring, 3; D. Campbell, 4; N. Townend, 5; T. Redman, 6; T. Mouncey, 7; R. Ashworth (conductor), 8. And for evening service, a 704 in the same method. R. Hartley, 1; N. Townend, 2; F. Towns, 3; B. Campbell, 4; J. R. Werring, 5; T. Redman (conductor), 6; T. Mouncey, 7; R. Ashworth, 8.

BANHAM (Norfolk).—On Tuesday, February 9th, at St. Mary's church, 720 Bob Minor. J. Woods, 1; J. Barham (first 720), 2; R. Patrick, 3; J. Tite, 4; A. Mann, 5; J. Saunders (conductor), 6. On Tuesday, February 16th, another 720 in the same method. J. Woods, 1; J. Barham, 2; J. Tite, 3; W. Nudds, 4; A. Mann, 5; J. Saunders (conductor), 6.

CRETINGHAM (Suffolk).—On February 13th, four 6-scores of Bob Doubles. J. Creasey, 1; E. Hicks, 2; W. Wightman, 3; S. Wightman (conductor), 4; W. A. Bullock, 5. Also three 6-scores of Grandsire. J. Creasey, 1; A. S. Wightman, 2; W. Wightman, 3; G. Wightman (conductor), 4; S. Wightman, 5. Also on Thursday, February 18th, for practice, two 6-scores of Bob Doubles. J. Creasey, 1; E. Hicks, 2; W. Wightman, 3; S. Wightman (conductor), 4; W. A. Bullock, 5.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS (Lancashire).—On Sunday, December 20th, 1896, at the parish church, for evening service, 720 Plain Bob Minor (thirty-two bobs and twelve singles), in 24 mins. T. Watson (conductor), 1; T. Townson, 2; W. Dennison, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. On Thursday, December 24th, 720 Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 23½ mins. T. Watson (conductor), 1; W. Dennison, 2; C. J. A. Cushing, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. On Friday, December 25th, for morning service, 720 Plain Bob Minor (sixteen bobs and two singles), T. Watson (conductor), 1; J. Huddleston, 2; W. Dennison, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. On Sunday, January 17th, for evening service, 720 Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and eighteen singles), in 24 mins. J. Huddleston, 1; T. Townson, 2; W. Dennison, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. R. Jackson, 5; J. Burrows (conductor), 6. On Sunday, February 7th, for evening service, 720 Plain Bob Minor (thirty-four bobs and ten singles), in 25 mins. T. Watson (conductor), 1; J. Huddleston, 2; W. Dennison, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. Townson, 5; J. Burrows, 6. On Sunday, February 14th, for evening service, 720 Plain Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 25 mins. T. Watson, 1; J. Huddleston, 2; W. Dennison, 3; T. Suart, 4; T. R. Jackson (conductor), 5; J. Burrows, 6.

FRAMSDEN (Suffolk).—On Tuesday, February 9th, for practice, 720 Bob Minor, on the back six. G. Vevvy, 1; W. Wightman, 2; G. Thurlow, 3; S. Wightman, 4; W. A. Bullock (first 720 on tower bells), 5; A. S. Wightman (conductor), 6. Also 360 Bob Minor. J. Creasey, 1; J. Ballam, 2; G. Perry, 3; S. Wightman, 4; A. S. Wightman (conductor), 5; A. Woods, 6. On Thursday, February 11th, 504 Bob Triples. A. Woods, 1; W. Wightman, 2; A. S. Wightman, 3; S. Wightman, 4; G. Wightman (conductor), 5; H. Last, 6; G. Vevvy, 7; J. Ballam, 8. This is the longest length by the treble and tenor in this method. On Tuesday, February 16th, 720 Bob Minor. W. Wightman, 1; J. Ballam (first 720 on tower bells), 2; S. Wightman, 3; G. Thurlow, 4; G. Vevvy, 5; A. S. Wightman (conductor), 6. Also 720 Bob Minor. J. Creasey (first 720), 1; W. Wightman, 2; A. S. Wightman, 3; G. Vevvy, 4; W. A. Bullock, 5; S. Wightman (conductor), 6. Also two courses of Bob Triples. A. Woods, 1; W. Wightman, 2; A. S. Wightman, 3; G. Vevvy, 4; S. Wightman, 5; G. Thurlow, 6; W. A. Bullock, 7; J. Ballam, 8. The brothers Whitman belong to Crettingham; the rest are local men.

HADDENHAM.—On Thursday, February 18th, owing to the kindness of the Rev. W. R. Crookham, Vicar of Holy Trinity Church, Haddenham, giving the members of the St. Peter's Society, Wilburton, the use of the parish church, the following methods were rung: Two 720s College Singles. R. M. Croft, 1; J. Markwell, 2; H. Markwell, 3; A. Hazel, 4; H. Sharp, 5; A. Markwell (conductor), 6. And 720 Kent Treble Bob. Albert Markwell, 1; J. Markwell, 2; H. Markwell, 3; A. Hazel, 4; Arthur Markwell (conductor), 5; H. Sharp, 6. Also 720 Woodbine. James Markwell, 1; Joseph Markwell, 2; A. Markwell (conductor), 3; H. Markwell, 4; A. Hazel, 5; H. Sharp, 6. And 720 Bob Minor. Albert Markwell, 1; A. Hazel, 2; H. Sharp, 3; H. Markwell, 4; Arthur Markwell (conductor), 5; Jas. Markwell, 6.

KIPPERMINSTER (Worcestershire).—On Sunday, February 7th, 672

London Surprise Major. J. Pagett, 1; N. Davis, 2; J. Bennett, 3; W. Smith, 4; E. Hunt, 5; T. Salter (conductor), 6; J. Crane, 7; W. Barber, 8. On Saturday, February 13th, an attempt was made for a peal of Superlative Surprise, which came to grief after ringing 2 hrs. 15 mins. J. Barber, 1; A. Parsons, 2; J. Bennett, 3; T. Salter, 4; W. Smith, 5; R. E. Grove, 6; F. Clayton, 7; W. Barber (conductor), 8. On Sunday, February 14th, 224 Cambridge Surprise Major. J. Pagett, 1; N. Davis, 2; J. Bennett, 3; G. Salter, 4; E. Hunt, 5; W. Smith, 6; F. Clayton, 7; W. Barber, 8. Tenor 30 cwt. On handbells at the house of Mr. J. Pagett, 720 Grandsire Minor. J. Pagett (conductor), 1-2; W. Barber, 3-4; F. Clayton, 5-6. At the residence of Mr. Salter, on handbells, courses of Stedman Triples, and Grandsire Caters were rung by Messrs. Pagett, Salter (2), Smith, Barber, and Clayton.

KETTERING (Northants).—Recently, at the parish church, 672 Grandsire Triples. G. Toseland, 1; A. Robinson, 2; C. Newman, 3; J. Julian, 4; G. Lewis, 5; E. Underwood, 6; W. R. Hensher, 7; J. Spence (conductor), 8. And 1008 Grandsire Triples. C. Newman, 1; A. Robinson, 2; G. Lewis, 3; T. R. Hensher, 4; J. Julian, 5; J. D. Matthews, 6; T. R. Hensher, 7; J. Spence (conductor), 8. Also 608 Bob Major. G. Toseland, 1; E. Underwood, 2; A. Robinson, 3; J. D. Matthews, 4; G. Lewis, 5; C. Newman, 6; J. Julian, 7; W. R. Hensher, 8. And 768 Bob Major. G. Toseland, 1; C. Newman, 2; A. Robinson, 3; G. Lewis, 4; E. Underwood, 5; W. R. Hensher, 6; J. Julian, 7; J. D. Matthews (conductor), 8. Also a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples from Holt's Original. G. Toseland, 1; W. R. Hensher, 2; A. Robinson, 3; E. Underwood, 4; J. Julian, 5; T. R. Hensher (conductor), 6; J. D. Matthews, 7; J. Spence, 8. And 1008 Grandsire Triples. G. Toseland, 1; E. Underwood, 2; A. Robinson, 3; T. R. Hensher (conductor), 4; J. Julian, 5; J. D. Matthews, 6; W. R. Hensher, 7; J. Spence, 8. Also 700 Grandsire Triples. G. Toseland, 1; C. Newman, 2; A. Robinson, 3; E. Underwood, 4; G. Lewis, 5; J. Julian, 6; W. R. Hensher (conductor), 7; J. Spence, 8. And 336 Bob Triples. G. Toseland, 1; C. Newman, 2; A. Robinson, 3; E. Underwood, 4; G. Lewis, 5; J. Julian, 6; W. R. Hensher, 7; J. Spence (conductor), 8. Also 1050 Grandsire Triples. W. R. Hensher, 1; C. Newman, 2; A. Robinson, 3; J. Julian, 4; G. Lewis, 5; E. Underwood, 6; J. D. Matthews (conductor), 7; J. Spence, 8. **Handbell Ringing.**—A 672 Bob Major. E. Wonfor, 1; E. Underwood, 2; C. Newman, 3; A. Robinson, 4; J. D. Matthews, 5-6; W. R. Hensher (conductor), 7-8. Also 224 Bob Major. E. Wonfor, 1; A. Robinson, 2; J. D. Matthews (conductor), 3-4; W. R. Hensher, 5-6; C. Newman, 7-8. And 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. E. Wonfor, 1; A. Robinson, 2; J. Julian, 3; W. R. Hensher, 4; C. Newman, 5; E. Underwood, 6; J. D. Matthews (conductor), 7-8. Also a course of Bob Royal. E. Wonfor, 1; A. Robinson, 2; E. Underwood, 3; C. Newman, 4; J. Julian, 5; T. R. Hensher, 6; J. D. Matthews, 7-8; W. R. Hensher, 9-10. And a course of Grandsire Caters and two courses of Bob Royal. E. Wonfor, 1; G. Lewis, 2; C. Newman, 3; E. Underwood, 4; J. Julian, 5; A. Robinson, 6; J. D. Matthews, 7-8; W. R. Hensher, 9-10.

LONDON.—On Tuesday, February 16th, at St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, 700 Grandsire Triples. G. Brush, 1; H. Cotton, 2; A. V. Selby, 3; W. Judd, 4; Rev. L. G. Percival (longest length), 5; W. Fox, 6; W. E. Garrard (conductor), 7; H. Wilson, 8. On Feb. 24th, on the occasion of the consecration of the Hon. and Rev. E. Carr Glyn as Bishop of Peterborough, 700 Grandsire Triples with 9-8-10 behind. G. Brush, 1; W. E. Garrard (conductor), 2; G. Langford, 3; W. Judd, 4; A. Bradley, 5; W. Fox, 6; W. Elson, 7; F. Edwards, 8; A. Bulgin, 9; G. Judd, 10. On Thursday, February 25th, at the church of St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, for practice, the last 742 of Holt's Original peal of Grandsire Triples, in 26 mins. C. H. Deer, 1; H. Green, 2; W. Truss, 3; T. H. Taffender (conductor), 4; W. Humberstone, 5; F. Clements, 6; W. Langdon, 7; W. H. Smith, 8. Longest touch by C. H. Deer.

SELBY (Yorks).—On a recent Sunday morning, for Divine Service at the Abbey Church, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 29 mins. H. Cressey, 1; T. Collinson, 2; F. Cobbhirst (first 720 with a bob bell), 3; H. Fairlam, 4; F. Webburn, 5; F. Cryer (conductor), 6; A. Dobson, 7; T. Strudwick, 8. Rung on the front six. On February 14th, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles), in 29 mins. H. Cressey, 1; T. Collinson, 2; F. Cobbhirst, 3; F. Webburn, 4; S. James, 5; F. Cryer (conductor), 6; A. Dobson, 7; H. Fairlam, 8. In the evening 672 Grandsire Triples, being the longest touch in the method by the band. T. Collinson, 1; F. Cobbhirst, 2; H. Fairlam, 3; F. Webburn, 4; S. James (conductor), 5; F. Cryer, 6; A. Dobson, 7; T. Strudwick, 8. On Sunday evening, February 21st, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor. H. Cressey, 1; T. Collinson, 2; F. Webburn, 3; H. Fairlam, 4; F. Cryer (conductor), 5; A. Dobson, 6; T. Strudwick (cover), 7. First 720 of Treble Bob by H. Cressey on the treble; first 720 with a bob bell by T. Collinson. For morning service 360 Bob Minor: ringers as above.

Compositions.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES.

By A. PERCIVAL HEYWOOD.

5040.

2 3 1 4 5 6	S	H	L	Q
3 4 6 1 2 5 s2				
2 1 6 4 3 5	-			
(2 3 1 4 5 6)		-		S 14
3 5 6 4 1 2	-	-		
1 4 6 5 3 2	-		-	
3 4 2 5 1 6	-			
1 5 2 4 3 6	-		-	
5 4 1 3 2 6	-	-	-	
4 2 6 3 1 5	-	-		
2 1 5 3 6 4	-	-		
6 1 4 3 2 5	-			
1 2 5 3 4 6	-	-		
2 4 6 3 5 1	-	-		
4 5 1 3 6 2	-	-		
5 6 2 3 1 4	-	-		
1 3 2 6 5 4	-		-	
5 3 4 6 1 2	-			
3 6 5 1 4 2	-	-	-	
6 1 3 4 5 2	-	-		
5 4 3 1 6 2	-		-	
4 6 2 1 3 5	-	-		
3 1 2 6 4 5	-		-	
4 1 5 6 3 2	-			
1 6 4 3 5 2	-	-	-	
6 3 1 5 4 2	-	-		
4 3 2 5 6 1	-			
3 6 1 5 2 4	-	-		
6 5 3 2 1 4	-	-	-	
5 2 6 1 3 4	-	-		
2 3 4 1 6 5	-	-		
6 3 5 1 2 4	-			
3 2 4 1 5 6	-	-		

Repeat from s 14.

This composition, constructed from a two-part table, and published in 1890, is not known to have been previously rung, in which case it is the first peal of this class.

First rung at Duffield, on Monday, March 1st, 1897, Conducted by its Composer.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By WILLIAM WALMSLEY, Macclesfield.

6048.

2 3 4 5 6	I	4	6
3 4 2 5 6	-		
5 2 4 3 6	-		
2 5 6 3 4	-		
5 6 2 3 4	-		
3 2 6 5 4	-		
2 6 3 5 4	-		
6 3 2 5 4	-		
5 2 3 6 4	-		
2 3 5 6 4	-		

Five times repeated, with s for B at 4 in the 3rd and 6th parts.

In this peal the 3rd is never in 6ths place, and the 2nd never in 5-6 at a course-end, nor is the 2nd ever before the 8th or after the 7th throughout the whole peal; also all the combinations of 4, 5, 6 in 5-6. The author does not claim any merit from the calling of the peal, only the adaptation, which produces the above mentioned qualities.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By WILLIAM WILLSON, Leicester.

5003.

2 3 4 5 6 9 7 8	I	2	3	4	5
6 5 3 2	-	-			
5 2 3 6	s	-	-		
3 6 2 5	s	-	s		
2 5 6 3	s	-	s		
5 3 6 2	s	-	-		
3 2 6 5	s	-	-		
6 5 2 3	s	-	s		
2 3 5 6	s	-	s		
3 6 5 2	s	-	-		
5 2 6 3	s	-	s		
6 3 2 5	s	-	s		
2 5 3 6	s	-	s		
5 6 3 2	s	-	-		
6 2 3 5	s	-	-		
3 5 2 6	s	-	s		
2 6 5 3	-		s		
6 3 5 2	s	-	-		
3 2 5 6	s	-	-		
5 6 2 3	s	-	s		
2 3 6 5	s	-	s		
3 5 6 2	s	-	-		
6 2 5 3	s	-	s		
5 3 2 6	s	-	s		
2 6 3 5 4 8 7 9	s	-	s		

Repeating these twenty-four courses, calling 9th in three all bobs in lieu of first course produces—

2 6 3 5 4 9 7 8	s	I	and 8 9
3 6 4 2 5	s	I	and 8 9
4 3 6 2 5	s	I	and 8 9
5 2 3 4 6	s	I	and 8 9
6 4 2 5 3	s	I	and 8 9
2 5 4 6 3	s	I	and 8 9
4 2 5 6 3	s	I	and 8 9

9th in and out at two as usual.

This peal contains the extent of alternate 8 7 9 and 9 7 8 course-ends with a fixed bell in 6ths; also the 5th and 6th behind the eighth and ninth on the plan.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By JAMES TANN, Pulham, Norfolk.

5040.

2 3 4 5 6	I	4	6
5 3 6 2 4	-	-	-
3 6 5 2 4	-	-	-
6 5 3 2 4	-	-	-
2 3 5 6 4	-	-	-
3 2 4 6 5	-	-	-
2 4 3 6 5	-	-	-
4 3 2 6 5	-	-	-
3 4 5 6 2	-	-	-
4 5 3 6 2	-	-	-
5 3 4 6 2	-	-	-
3 5 2 6 4	-	-	-
5 2 3 6 4	-	-	-
6 3 2 5 4	-	-	-
3 2 6 5 4	-	-	-
2 6 3 5 4	-	-	-

Twice repeated.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By G. CLEAL, Leicester.

5021.

2 3 4 5 6	7th in and out at three s
6 2 3 5 4	8th in three.
2 5 3 6 4	8th in three.
5 6 3 2 4	8 9.
3 6 4 2 5	9th in three.
4 3 6 2 5	8th in two.
5 2 3 4 6	
2 4 3 5 7*	4 2 5 3 7
4 5 3 2 6	2 3 5 4 6
5 2 3 4 7	3 4 5 2 7
2 4 3 5 6	4 2 5 3 6
3 5 4 2 7 s	5 3 2 4 7 s
5 2 4 3 6	3 4 2 5 6
2 3 4 5 7	4 5 2 3 7
3 5 4 2 6	5 3 2 4 6
5 2 4 3 7	3 4 2 5 7
4 3 2 5 6 s	2 5 4 3 6 s
2 5 3 4 7 s	4 3 5 2 7 s
3 4 5 2 6 s	3 2 5 4 6

Repeat the last twenty-four courses omitting last call gives—

6 2 5 4 3 9 7 8
3 2 5 4 7 6 9 8 9th in with s and out.

* These twenty-four courses are produced by 8th in three, the middle call being a single; those courses marked s, the 3rd call is a single also.

A PEAL OF BOB MAXIMUS.

By JOHN CARTER, Birmingham.

5016.

2 3 4 5 6	W	H
5 3 4 2	s	
4 2 5 3	-	-
3 4 5 2	-	-
2 3 5 4	-	-
5 4 2 3	-	-
2 5 4 3	-	-
4 3 2 5	-	-
2 4 3 5	-	-
3 2 4 5	-	-
4 5 2 3	s	-
2 4 5 3	-	-
5 3 2 4	-	-
2 5 3 4	-	-
3 2 5 4	-	-
5 4 3 2	-	-
3 5 4 2	-	-
4 2 3 5	-	-
3 4 2 5	-	-
2 3 4 5	-	-

The extent of the 5th right with the 6th undisturbed.

TWO QUARTER-PEALS OF STEDMAN TRIPLES.

By GEORGE ASTBURY, Flixton.

231456	4 8 12	231456	5 6 7 8 12 13
236451 s		345261	- - - -
631452		426315	- - - -
452316	- - s	125346	- - - -

Each four times repeated.

The first quarter-peal is the longest length yet composed in the method with such a small number of calls.

Notices.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Salop.—The next monthly meeting will be held at High Ercall, to-day, 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, to-day, Saturday, March 6th. A new peal-board will be unveiled at this meeting.
REV. J. W. ALSTON, } *Hon. Secs.*
W. TWIGG, }

South and West Middlesex Guild.—The next monthly meeting will be held (by kind permission of the Rev. R. Digby Ram), at Hampton, to-day, 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, to-day, Saturday, March 6th. Bells ready at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m.
HENRY COLEY, *Branch Sec.*
3 Rumsford Place, Liverpool.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.—The next meeting will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on Tuesday, March 9th, at 8 p.m. Business meeting afterwards at head-quarters.
W. T. COCKERILL, *Hon. Sec.*
37, Tradescent Road, South Lambeth, S.W.

Midland Counties' Association.—Notice.—Will all members whose present addresses are incorrect in the 1895 report, kindly notify me or their local secretaries at once.
J. O. LANCASHIRE, *Hon. Sec.*
22, St. Peter's Road, Leicester.

The Midland Counties' Association.—Nottingham District.—The annual meeting for the election of officers will be held in the belfry of All Saints' church on Saturday, March 13th, at 6.30 prompt. Ringing after business.
W. E. WHITE, *Local Hon. Sec.*
Cotgrave, Notts.

The Lancashire Association.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Alban's Church, Rochdale, on Saturday, March 13th. Bells ready at 4.30 p.m., meeting, 6 p.m., all ringers especially invited.
E. B. SHAW, *Branch Sec.*
14, Thomas Street, Lees.

The Lancashire Association.—Rossendale Branch.—A meeting of this branch will be held on March 20th, at St. Paul's Church, Ramsbottom. The bells will be ready for ringers any time during the afternoon. The Rev. J. J. Lewis has kindly offered to provide tea to those ringers sending their names to J. Wolstenholme, 33, Crow Lane, Ramsbottom, not later than the 16th. Business meeting to follow tea.
J. H. BANKS, *Branch Sec.*
Helmshore.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MAIDSTONE DISTRICT.—The annual district meeting was held at Aylesford on Saturday, February 27th. The belfry was opened at 3 o'clock, and soon afterwards the bells were set going in various Standard methods, except during service time and tea time, till past nine o'clock. Ringers attended from Aylesford, Bearsted, Boxley, Harrietsham, Maidstone, and Malling, in the district; and from Borden, Charing, Gillingham, Milton-next-

Gravesend, Rochester, and Swanscombe outside the district. A short service was held at 5.30, at which hymns 270 and 280 A&M were sung by the ringers. This was followed by a District Committee meeting, at which Mr. Palmer was re-elected district representative, and the Rev. A. L. Brine was re-elected District Secretary, and two new full, and five new probationary members were elected. The senior curate presided at the capital knife and fork tea at The Chequers, at which over sixty members sat down. Much regret was felt at the absence, through severe illness, of the vicar, who had so kindly placed his church and bells at the disposal of the Association. After tea, before an adjournment was made in the direction of the tower, the following resolution (on the proposition of Mr. Palmer, seconded by Mr. Leonard) was carried unanimously: "In the opinion of the Maidstone District, Whit-Monday is the day most convenient to ringing members for the annual general meeting of the Association."

S. PETER'S CHURCH, JARROW. UNVEILING OF MEMORIALS.

On Wednesday evening, a special service was held in S. Peter's Church, Chaytor Street, the object being the unveiling of memorials to the late Bishop Burn, who was the first Vicar, and to the late Mr. Joseph Andison, a chorister and bellringer, who was one of the victims of the terrible shooting tragedy which took place at Jarrow, in January of last year. The memorial to the late Mr. Andison is a beautiful inlaid tablet placed on one of the sides of the church, bearing the following inscription: "To the Glory of God, and in memory of Joseph Andison, four years a chorister and six years a bellringer in the church. Born, April 17th, 1874; died, January 19th, 1896. The tablet cost £15; £4 5s. 5d. of this was given by ringers, members of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association."

MR. BASTABLE'S TWO HUNDRED PEALS.

Among this week's records will be found one of a peal of Stedman Cinques rung at Birmingham, being the 200th peal rung by the above-named gentleman. They are: Grand-sire Triples 32, conducted 21; Major 2, conducted 1; Caters 13, conducted 3; Cinques 3, conducted 1. Stedman Triples 50, conducted 31; Caters 40, conducted 11; Royal 1; Cinques 22, conducted 11. Kent Treble Bob Major 8, conducted 4; Royal 8, conducted 5; Maximus 2, conducted 2. Bob Major 5, conducted 1. Bob Royal 2. Double Norwich Court Bob Major 7, conducted 1. Duffield Royal 2. Duffield Maximus 1. Superlative Surprise Major 1. In four methods 1, conducted 1. Total, 200; conducted 93.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

F. BENNETT.—We are sorry we cannot help you; try the publisher.

LEX.—We have had enquiries of a similar nature from you before. Napoleon I. was the incarnation of self, and figuratively speaking had a heart no larger than a nutmeg. Get his life by Sir Walter Scott.

R. S.—Yes; rang with both; the late W. Royle at Bethnal Green, and Mr. J. Barrow at Long Eaton.

PROTESTANT.—Theological questions we cannot advise upon.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

WANTED by young man a situation as in-door servant, or would not object to other work; age 25; 10 years' experience as footman; 3½ years in present situation. Can ring Minor methods, and Grandsire and Plain Bob on eight. Member of Oxford Diocesan Guild. Address W. H., care of Editor.

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.

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.

Situations Vacant.

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

TO HAIRDRESSERS.—Wanted a thorough good gents' hand. One that can ring standard methods preferred; also a boy to lather. State terms to E. J. Heathorn, Woolston, Southampton.

WANTED.—Young man about 18, to work circular saw—cutting small handles (not difficult work) and fill up time in timber yard. Constant work if change-ringer (peal of eight). Apply E. James, Hardy Patent Pick Co., Heeley, Sheffield.

Handbells Wanted.

WANTED.—A peal of eight handbells, second-hand, in good condition, cheap, for change-ringing. G. Stacey, Dulverton, Somerset.

WANTED.—A peal of eight, in good condition. Particulars to G. Pound, Boxley, Maidstone, Kent.

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. Masfield, Albert Street, Newcastle, Staffs.

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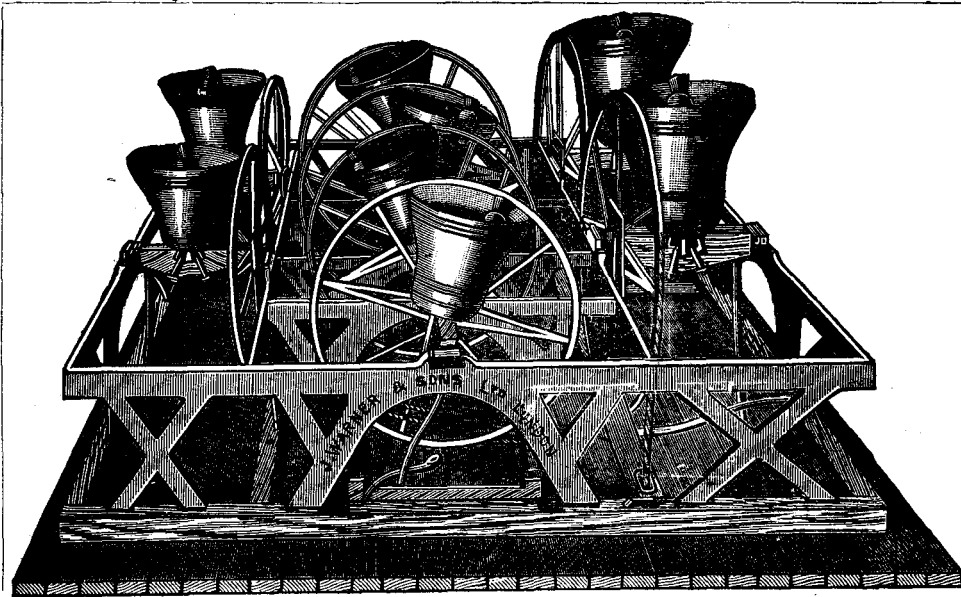
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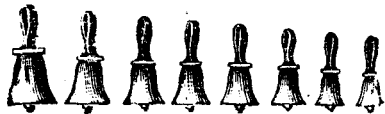
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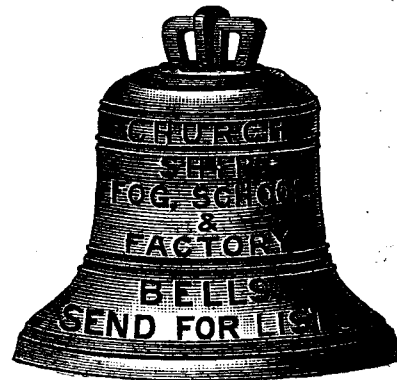
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