

BELLINGWELL

And Ringers' Record

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

[VOL. XVII.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 1893.

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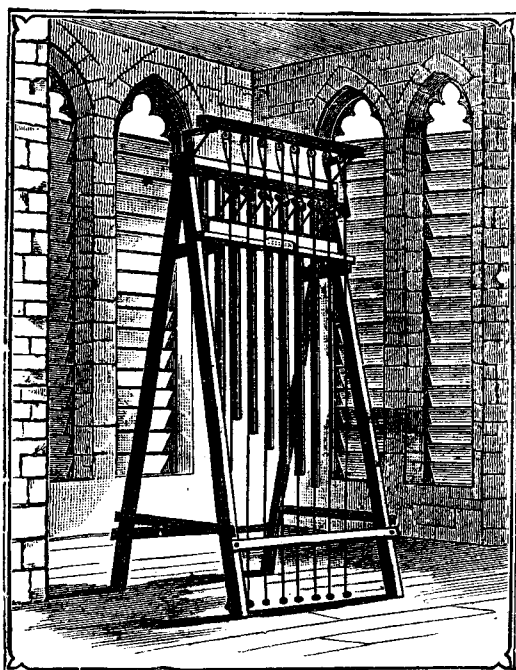
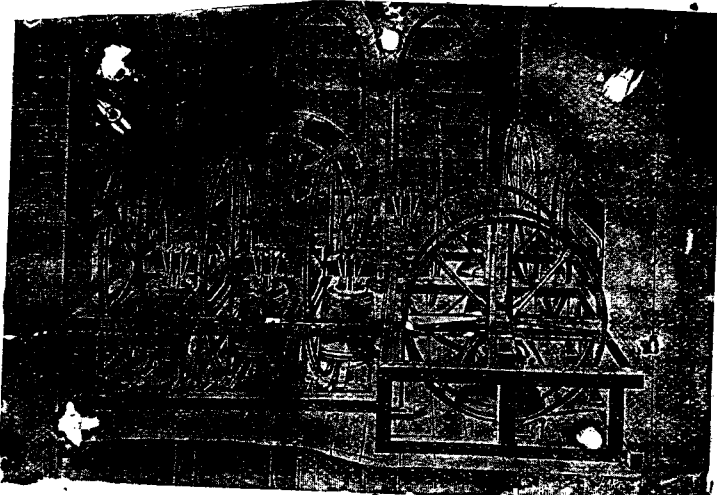
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 844.]

SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 1898.

[Vol. XVII.]

MR. JOHN AUSTIN, OF GLOUCESTER.

[Vide Portrait.]

The subject of this memoir was born at Burton-on-Trent on November 19th, 1863, and is therefore in the thirty-sixth year of his age. He commenced his ringing career at the village church of Winshill, where there is a very pretty ring of six, and there it was he learnt to ring Grandsire Doubles and Minor. Having made the acquaintance of Mr. John Jaggar, he soon scored his first 720. It was in December of the same year (1885) he was successful in ringing his first peal, Mr. Jaggar conducting it, and ever since that time he has taken a very great interest in change-ringing in different parts of the country. As time went on he was asked to belong to the St. Paul's Society, Burton-on-Trent, and such rapid strides did he make in the Art that before he had been a member of that company two years he had rung several Surprise peals, including New Cumberland, Superlative, Cambridge, and London. He was one of the band which rung the record peal of London Surprise which stood as a record from November 8th, 1888, until Mr. Washbrook conducted his record peal in 1896. He was also one of the band who were the first to ring a peal of London Surprise in the metropolis. Having made himself proficient as a ringer, he turned his attention to conducting, and conducted his first peal (Holt's Original) on August 11th, 1888, and since that date there is very few methods, whether plain or Treble Bob, but what he has conducted. After being a member of the St. Paul's Company five or six years, his occupation took him to Gloucester, where he joined the young company known as the St. Michael's Juniors, and where he signalled his advent by conducting Holt's Original, and also assisted them through their first peal of Double Norwich. After living in Gloucester six months he went to live in Lincoln, and there joined the St. Peter-at-Arches Company, and though only there six months he was successful in scoring two peals of Grandsire Triples and one of Bob Major, besides making close friends with such well-known men as G. Lindoff (now removed to Dublin), C. W. P. Clifton, J. W. Watson and several others. His occupation again took him to Gloucester, and has remained there ever since, having helped to place the Juniors at the top of the ladder in the ringing world. Special mention may be made that this company holds the unique distinction of ringing a peal of Double Norwich Caters, which MR. AUSTIN conducted. At the time of writing he can hold his own as a conductor with any man, and as recently as last year he conducted peals of Royal and Maximus in Plain and Treble Bob methods, and the first peal of Gloucester ever rung, the latest achievement being to conduct a peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal. He has also rung and conducted several peals on handbells. MR. AUSTIN is a member of several ringing societies, including the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, of which there is not an eight-bell tower he has not visited and rang peals in. He is still a member of the Midland

Counties Association, North Lincoln Association, and the Oxford Diocesan Guild, besides other minor societies. He is District Secretary for Gloucester, and Hon. Secretary of the St. Michael's Juniors. In the office of District Secretary he is doing good work, giving up all his spare time to assist young ringers to learn the Art he has so successfully mastered. His list of peals will shortly appear.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—ANNUAL MEETING.

The Annual Meeting of the above Association was held, as usual, at Chelmsford on Whit-Monday. The proceedings opened with Divine Service at St. Mary's church, a special form of service being used which has been sanctioned by the Bishop of the Diocese. The prayers were said by the Rev. H. T. W. Eyre, Assistant-Secretary: the Hon. Secretary (Rev. T. L. Papillon), reading the lesson, and an address being delivered by the Rev. J. W. Kenworthy, Vicar of Braintree, one of the leading six-bell centres in the county. Mr. Kenworthy, who is a well-known local antiquarian, dealt mainly with the history of the use of bells in connection with the Church, and urged the advantages of association for this, as for any other good object. The business meeting was held afterwards in the Boys' School adjoining the churchyard, and was well attended—much better, we regret to say, than the service had been—the chair being taken by the Hon. Secretary. The officers of the past year were re-elected; and after the election of new honorary and ringing members, the Assistant-Secretary presented his report and balance-sheet, duly certified by the auditors, Messrs. C. H. Howard and B. Keeble, who as in previous years have given their valuable services gratuitously. The balance in hand was £11 5s. 7d., as against £11 3s. 9d. from the previous year; and the reserve fund in the Post Office Savings Bank now stands at £63 17s. 2d., so that the finances are at present in a satisfactory condition. The report, however, intimated that the recent large increase in the number of members attending district meetings (at which half the cost of tea and some conveyance is usually provided) would, if maintained, entail an increase of expenditure and reduce the favourable balance. The total attendance at the four meetings of the year was 256; forty-six attending at Brentwood, seventy-five at Bocking, and 103 at the Annual Meeting. Thirty-eight peals had been rung as against twenty-seven in the previous year, and the record of repairs and rehangings was satisfactory, including the ring of ten at Chelmsford, lately put into much better going order, though there is a terrible (and apparently unavoidable) noise of the tenor down an opening necessary for the clock chimes. If a peal is to be rung there, the ringers must have strong heads, and the conductor a throat of brass.

The chairman, in submitting the report, congratulated the Association on its prosperity as evidenced in numbers, in finances, and in peal-ringing. It was not to be regretted, he thought, if larger attendance at district meetings increased their expenditure; these meetings being among the most important features of the Association's work in promoting and encouraging change-ringing all over the county. This view of the "missionary" character of the Association was endorsed by a later speaker, who seemed to carry the meeting with him in pleading that the Association should penetrate even more than it does at present to out-of-the-way places, and into towers where not only the Art of change-ringing, but the very existence of the Association is unknown. The Secretaries and Auditors were appointed a Committee to arrange for a re-issue of the Association's certificate.

A vote of thanks was passed to the authorities of the towers



MR. JOHN AUSTIN.
(Of Gloucester.)

[Supplement to "THE BELL NEWS"]

placed at the disposal of the meeting; and the Hon. Secretary's return in improved health was welcomed.

At the dinner, held also at the schools, ninety-five sat down, with the Hon. Secretary in the chair, supported by the Revs. J. W. Kenworthy, H. T. W. Eyre, and H. F. de Lisle. After a vote of thanks to the preacher for his address had been proposed and acknowledged, the company separated to the various towers at their disposal. There are few better ringing centres than Chelmsford, with a ring of ten in the town itself, and four of eight and three of six in the immediate neighbourhood. Some touches of Stedman and Grandsire Caters and Treble Bob Royal were rung at Chelmsford, and all present were glad to see their friend Mr. Bowell, sen., of Ipswich, still able to handle a rope. Two peals of Stedman Triples were rung in connection with the meeting by mixed bands of visitors and local ringers, viz., at Galleywood on the Saturday evening, and at Writtle early on Monday morning, in each case the first in that method on the bells. These are duly recorded in "THE BELL NEWS" of June 4th. The number attending was slightly below that of previous years, but the large proportion of young ringers present is encouraging, and there is every indication that the Association still enjoys a healthy and vigorous life.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

NORTHWICH BRANCH.—The members of this branch held a meeting at The Cocoa House, Northwich, on Saturday, June 4th. Mr. Jos. Ashmole was voted to the chair in the unavoidable absence of the chairman of the branch (Mr. H. Hatt Cook), who wrote regretting his inability to be present. There was an extremely good muster of ringers, all the towers being represented. The appointment of Mr. H. Parker as Secretary in place of Mr. W. Forster, who has resigned, was confirmed. The Secretary reported that two new towers had joined the Association, viz., Middlewich and Hartford St. John's, whilst Lower Peover, Knutsford, and part of the ringers at Witton had resigned. The following were elected to form a Committee: J. Ashmole (Davenham), E. Cragg (Great Budworth), T. A. Ruscoe (Middlewich), and W. Gregory (Hartford St. John's). The meeting decided to hold the next meeting at Hartford on July 16th if possible, otherwise at Great Budworth. A vote of thanks to the chairman brought the meeting to a close.

DEDICATION OF CHURCH BELLS AT NORTHALLERTON.

On a recent Thursday afternoon a special service was held in All Saints' church for the dedication of the bells, six having been retuned and two recast by Messrs. Warner and Sons. While the bells have been away the tower has been re-roofed. There has also been provided eight sets of new bearings and gudgeons and a set of new ropes. The bells were removed on April 23rd, and had been away about a month. The two bells that have been recast are the 3rd and 5th, dated 1656. The first was half a note, and the second a quarter of a note from its proper pitch. One is inscribed "God save His Church," and the other, "All glory bee to God on hee, 1656." The peal consists of eight bells, two of which were added in 1871; the one in F sharp and the other in F natural. Originally there appears to have been four bells, 3rd, 4th, and 5th, dated 1656. In 1802 the Mount Grace bell was recast, and again in 1871 (Rev. T. W. Mercer, M.A., vicar). In 1802 the 7th bell in G sharp was added, made by Thomas Mears, London; and in 1827 the 8th bell was added.

The service on Thursday afternoon was commenced about three o'clock, when the clergy, choir, and churchwardens entered the tower. The service was conducted by the Rev. H. C. Holmes, rector of Birkby, and Rural Dean. The bells were chimed for a few minutes, the clergy, choir, and churchwardens ascended to the roof of the tower and sang the *Te Deum* (Dykes in F), and then the hymn "O God, our help in ages past." The party then slowly descended the tower and entered the church, where there was a good congregation assembled. Here the remainder of the dedicatory prayers were said by the Rev. H. C. Holmes, and the Rev. S. McKinnon Thompson (vicar) offered up the thanksgiving prayer, adding the words "We thank Thee

for the faith and courage which led Thy servants to take in hand the restoration; for the perseverance which has enabled them to continue the work; for the liberality which has led to the success of the present undertaking; and for the preserving care over all who were engaged in the difficult and dangerous work in connection with it." Hymn 215 "The Church's one foundation," and "Lifted safe within the steeple, now our bells are set on high," was sung.

In the evening a sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon Falconer, rector of Sedgfield. Towards the £250 required for tower and bell fund, over £200 has been raised by subscriptions. The collection taken at the service amounted to £6 5s. 6d.

The bells were reopened by members of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association on Thursday, who rang a peal of Stedman Triples, already recorded in the usual place.

A VISIT TO HEREFORD.

Taking advantage of an excursion on Whit-Monday eleven ringers from Wolverhampton paid a visit to the City of Hereford for the express purpose of attempting a peal of Grandsire Caters at the Cathedral. Leaving the metropolis of the black country at 6.0 a.m., Hereford was duly reached at 8.45, the monotony of the journey being relieved by touches and tunes on the handbells. Arriving in the city the first order was breakfast, which had been previously arranged for at The Raven hotel. Here the company were joined by Messrs. T. Miller, R. Hackley, and C. H. Watts (of Birmingham), and W. Greenleaf (of Hereford). After breakfast a stroll round the quaint old city was much enjoyed by all. At 11.30 the ringers entered the enormous and dungeon-like ringing-chamber, the view of which is enough to dishearten the boldest of ringers. The back eight were raised in peal, and to accustom the company to their remarkable surroundings, a plain course of Caters was rung. Afterwards the belfry was cleared of visitors, and a start was made in earnest for Johnson's 5003 of Grandsire Caters. In a few minutes the "came to grief" position was reached, through one of the company trying to dodge with an iron column instead of the ringer who stood behind it. Another fair start was then made; course after course rolling up, determination being written upon every man's face. At the end of one hour and three quarters the 5th had completed her twenty-four courses behind the 9th, when the 6th took her place. Then was the harmony of Grandsire Caters heard to perfection; and the courses rolled on without the slightest trip. The last twelve courses only remained when a great noise was heard overhead! The conductor missing the sound of one bell called "stand;" and it was then found that the 8th clapper had broken in two. Great was the disappointment: forty-one courses had been rung in 2 hrs. 53 mins. The ringers were C. H. Watts, H. Dawkes, H. Knight, B. Dalton, W. G. Hall, R. Pickering, J. Jagger, A. Griffiths, J. E. Groves (conductor), W. Greenleaf. It is intended to make another attempt for this peal at an early date.

The remainder of the day was spent in various ways: boating on the beautiful Wye, handbell ringing, etc. Altogether a most enjoyable day was spent. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking Mr. R. Phillips, foreman of the Cathedral company, for making arrangements and having the bells in readiness.

NEW BELLS AT RAYLEIGH, ESSEX.

Two new bells, completing the octave at Rayleigh Church, were on Thursday evening dedicated by the Archdeacon of Essex. The bells were provided by public subscription in commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee; and the dedication was attended by the Brethren of the Trinity Lodge of Freemasons, the Worshipful Master, Bro. W. H. Judd, superintending the ringing of the bells. The Masons attended in the "clothing," and the Chaplain of the Lodge, the Rev. R. C. M. Rouse, and other clergy, were present.

Touches were rung during the afternoon, including Treble Bob, Grandsire, and Plain Bob, the ringers present coming from Rayleigh, Prittlewell, Hanningfield, and Ipswich. A service was held in the Church at seven o'clock, and Archdeacon Stevens, P.G.C. Eng., read the dedicatory prayers, after which the hymn, "Now at length our bells are mounted," was sung,

and the local ringers rang the bells for a few minutes before the Archdeacon's address, which was of a most interesting character, his text being taken from Psalm lxxii. 18-19.

The brethren representing Trinity Lodge included:—Bros. W. H. Judd, W.M., J. Harvey, J.W. W. Fox, S.D., J. Findlay, J.D., J. White, SEC., and A. Webb, I.G., as well as Bro. C. E. Judd, I.P.M., who acted as organist, and Bro. S. Smith, P.M., the choir-master, and Bro. G. R. Dawson, director of ceremonies. The past and present Provincial Grand Officers present included Bros. C. W. Barnard, F. Golding, E. Sparrow, and W. Wood; there also being present Bros. J. Field, W. Harvey, G. Goodman, F. H. Gill, T. H. V. Alderton, Edmunds, Hockley, Horton, Playle and others.

THE NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Lincoln District was held at Brant Boughton on Saturday last, June 4th, but owing no doubt to the unfavourable weather was thinly attended, nevertheless the few who ventured to brave the elements did not regret it. A shortened evensong was said by the Rev. A. F. Sutton, the choir being present. After a brief inspection of one of the most beautiful churches which adorn the diocese of Lincoln, a visit was made to the belfry, where the sonorous peal of six (tenor about 23 cwt.) were soon swinging in the Minor methods. At 6.0 p.m., the members, together with the local ringers, numbering over 20, sat down to a substantial meat tea, after which a short business meeting was held, presided over by Mr. Norman E. Snow, who notwithstanding the treacherous state of the weather had cycled over from Sleaford to be present, and to show his interest in the work of the Association.

The minutes of the last district meeting were confirmed, and a letter was read from the Rev. J. C. M. Mansel-Pleydell thanking the members for electing him a vice-President.

In selecting a place for the next meeting, the Secretary brought before the members an invitation for a visit to Newark. It was arranged that as Newark was out of the diocese and county it would perhaps be better to consult the Midland Counties Association, and if feasible, to hold an amalgamated meeting at Newark on August bank holiday. Caythorpe was selected for the next meeting, the date being left to the Secretary.

Seven new members were proposed and elected. A request from Harmston for an instructor was left for the Committee. The appointment of a District Secretary was discussed, and it was finally agreed that Mr. R. E. Clarke be elected. In proposing a vote of thanks to the Rev. A. F. Sutton for the use of the bells, and for kindly arranging a service; also to the local ringers for making the necessary arrangements, Mr. Snow remarked that such a beautiful church should possess a full peal of bells, and with the weight of metal, and the necessary funds, there should be no difficulty in completing the octave.

The Chairman, in replying to a vote of thanks for presiding, said he was very pleased to be there and that he had never yet attended any meeting of ringers but what he thoroughly enjoyed himself.

This concluded the business, and another visit was made to the tower where the meeting was brought to a close by the local ringers who, although they had not grasped the science of true change-ringing, gave a good exhibition of the "fox-hunt" which apparently meant the ringing of some sixty changes from memory, finishing with a creditable lowering of the bells in peal.

HOSE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

On Saturday evening, May 29th, the inhabitants of this village were delighted to hear their church bells efficiently manipulated by four ringers from Cotgrave (Notts.) and one from Harby. The ringing consisted of a half-peal of Doubles, 2520 changes, in three methods: thirteen 6-scores of Grandsire, four of Canterbury, and four of Plain Bob, in 1 hr. 30 mins. W. E. White, W. White (conductor), J. J. Jackson, J. H. Kirby, T. Squires. The ringers wish to thank the Vicar (Rev. C. B. Jennings) for granting permission. Ringing over, an adjournment was made, and some of the parishioners were then privileged to hear the ringers perform sweetly on the handbells. Many expressions of thanks were accorded to the ringers for the great treat they had given, with the hope that ere long they would again visit Hose.

RINGERS' WEDDING AT LAVENDON, BUCKS.

A very pretty wedding was celebrated at the parish church on Whit-Monday, May 30th, the contracting parties being Mr. T. Wright, a member of the Olney ringers, and Miss Louisa Osborne, of Lavendon. Both the bride and bridegroom being well-known in the district, consequently great interest was centred in the event. The bride, who was given away by her brother, Mr. Arthur Osborne, was becomingly attired, and was attended by two bridesmaids. The bridegroom was accompanied by Mr. Albert Church as best man, the ceremony being conducted by the Rev. G. P. Soames. As the happy couple left the church, the bells rang out merrily, and at intervals during the day several 6-scores of Doubles were rung. M. Wright, 1; W. Wright, 2; R. Raban, 3; F. Hopper, 4; R. Perkins, 5. Afterwards the ringers and friends were entertained at the house of the brother of the bride. After an excellent supper had been done ample justice to, Mr. R. Raban proposed long life and happiness to the bride and bridegroom, and thanked Mr. and Mrs. Wright for their kind hospitality. Mr. Wright in acknowledging the toast, thanked the members of the Olney branch for their kindness in coming over to ring for them. During the evening songs were given by F. Hopper, R. Perkins, W. Wright, and H. Marshall. Mr. R. Raban ably officiated at the piano, and the company separated in the small hours of the morning having spent a most enjoyable time.

Correspondence.

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

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

A REQUEST.

SIR,—Having been elected to represent the Bury St. Edmunds District of the Ancient Order of Foresters at the High Court to be held at Chester early in August next, I should esteem it a favour to receive the address of some of the local ringers with a view of having a friendly pull or two during my visit there. I should also like to correspond with any Forester ringers, that are delegates to the above meeting. We have seen Odd Fellows' peals; cannot a Foresters' peal be arranged for during the week?

Clare, Suffolk.

DAN GRIDLEY, D.C.R.

CENTRAL COUNCIL MEETING AT BRISTOL.

SIR,—I was unavoidably prevented from being present at this meeting owing to absence from home, and on my return am very sorry to find that several of the ringers who came here on the Monday in the hopes of a pull were disappointed, or had great difficulty in obtaining one. I am exceedingly sorry that such should have been the case, and must apologise for not making proper arrangements before leaving home. I hope that any who were thus disappointed will forgive me and believe that it was due to an unfortunate oversight on my part (arising from pressure of business) and not to any intentional discourtesy on my part or that of my brother-ringers at Bristol. We are only too pleased at any time to see any ringers who may visit our city, and I shall be delighted on hearing from any such to make arrangements for peals or otherwise as far as I possibly can.

C. E. D. BOUTFLOWER,

Hon. Sec. for the Associations of the Dioceses of Gloucester and Bristol.
30, Broad Street, Bristol.

A QUESTION.

SIR,—In *The Standard's* account of Mr. Gladstone's funeral occurs the following statement: "At twenty-seven minutes past eleven the tolling of the bell was broken by a jubilant peal from the bells of the Abbey, telling of the glorious hope of the resurrection." Is this a fact, or was it a half-muffled peal that struck the ear of the special correspondent with such jubilant sound? The idea is a delightful one, but such a proceeding would be far from conventional. I am afraid that the performances of the Westminster Abbey Guild are not of such a character as to figure in "BELL NEWS," but perhaps some of your readers may be able to throw light upon the question. INQUIRER.

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THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The Eighth Annual Meeting of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers was held in the Parish Hall of St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol, on Whit Tuesday, May 31st. The representatives present were the Revs. H. C. Courtney (Bath and Wells Diocesan Association), W. W. C. Baker (Bedfordshire Association), Mr. J. Dillon, Mr. W. Walmsley (Chester Diocesan Guild), Mr. W. T. Cockerill (Ancient Society of College Youths), Mr. H. Dains (Royal Cumberland Youths), Rev. Maitland Kelly, Mr. Ferris Shepherd (Devonshire Guild), Mr. R. S. Story (Durham and Newcastle Association), Rev. T. L. Papillon, Mr. N. J. Pitstow (Essex Association), Rev. H. A. Cockey, Rev. E. B. James, Mr. G. H. Phillott (Gloucester and Bristol Association), Mr. F. W. Thornton (Kent County Association), Rev. H. J. Elsee, Mr. R. Ridyard (Lancashire Association), Sir Arthur Percival Heywood, Bart., Mr. W. Wakley, Mr. J. W. Taylor, Mr. J. Griffin (Midland Counties Association), Mr. J. Waghorn, sen. (Middlesex Association), Mr. A. Craven, Mr. G. Chester (North Lincolnshire Association), Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, Mr. J. Motts, Mr. J. A. Trollope (Norwich Diocesan Association), Rev. F. E. Robinson, Rev. G. F. Coleridge (Oxford Diocesan Guild), Mr. E. P. O'Meara (St. James' Society), Mr. S. Reeves (Archdeaconry of Stafford Association), Mr. C. Dean (Surrey Association), Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Mr. G. F. Attree, Mr. S. Saker, Mr. G. Williams (Sussex County Association), Rev. R. C. Harvey, Rev. C. E. Matthews, Mr. H. White, Mr. J. W. Whiting (Winchester Diocesan Guild), Mr. J. S. Pritchett, Mr. R. Grove (Worcestershire Association), Mr. W. Snowdon (Yorkshire Association), and Messrs. J. Carter, F. W. J. Rees, F. E. Ward (Hon. Members).

The President having taken the chair, called upon the Hon. Secretary to read the minutes of the last meeting, which were confirmed.

The Hon. Secretary read letters of apology from the Rev. A. H. Boughey, and Mr. C. D. Boutflower, who were unavoidably prevented from attending the meeting.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

The President announced that three Hon. Members retired this year, viz., Rev. A. H. Boughey, Mr. W. H. Thompson, and Mr. E. F. Strange. They were eligible for re-appointment, and there would still be one vacancy, which perhaps it would be as well not to fill for another year.

On the motion of Mr. Thornton, seconded by Mr. Attree, the three retiring Hon. Members were re-elected.

The Hon. Secretary presented the statement of accounts, which showed a balance in favour of the Council of £59 13s.

The President said the accounts had been examined and passed by the Standing Committee. The Council would no doubt be gratified to find that the funds in hand were gradually increasing, since it was highly desirable that the Council should have sufficient to draw upon whenever the need arose in connection with the work of their Committees. The accounts were accepted without any formal motion.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RAIL FARES.

The Rev. H. A. Cockey said that the Committee had been keeping their eyes on the matter, with the intention of taking such action as might be advisable in order to obtain a favorable answer from the railway companies. Last year it had been suggested that a petition should be sent by each Association to the directors of the company whose lines the Association used. The Committee were about to take steps to ensure the carrying out of this suggestion, when it so happened that he was able personally to consult a railway manager, from whom he learnt that it was useless to proceed unless they first arrived at a better knowledge and understanding of the objection entertained by the Railway Companies to any further concession. This gentleman had promised to try and find out what the view of the Railway Companies really was, that they might have something definite to go upon. Up to the present he had not been able to do this. The Committee, therefore, had nothing definite to lay before the Council. If it was decided that the

various Associations should be asked to send in petitions, it was desirable that such petitions should be all drawn on the same lines as the application already sent in by the Committee. In the event of this course being adopted, the Associations should endeavour to obtain as many signatures as possible to their respective petitions, and send them to the Managers of the lines travelled over by their members. So far the Committee had been working in the dark; for they did not know what the objection of the Railway authorities was to granting a uniform and adequate concession.

Mr. Attree said that as a member of the Committee, he was placed in an awkward position with reference to this matter; for he was most strongly urged by the Association he represented to do all he possibly could in it, because before the Council moved in the matter, the members of his Association had been able to obtain tickets at a fare and a quarter on any occasion. This they could not do now, and his Association did not think the Council was doing all it might to obtain more favourable terms for ringers. He agreed that it was desirable that each Association should send a petition to the Managers of the local lines. If this were done instead of memorialising the Clearing House, he believed some good would ultimately come of it. He therefore proposed that the idea of a petition from each Association should be carried out.

Mr. Story seconded this.

The Rev. H. A. Cockey pointed out that a memorial had been already sent to the Managers and taken by them to the Clearing House; and whatever was done by the various Associations would be taken by the Managers to the Clearing House in the same manner.

The Rev. H. J. Elsee asked if it was intended that the petitions should be signed officially on behalf of the Associations, or by the members themselves.

Mr. Attree said the petitions would have far greater weight if signed by as many members as possible.

The Rev. R. C. Harvey thought it would be best to send the petitions to the Chairmen and Boards of Directors, as they would not then be so likely to be put on one side, which was so often the case when such documents were sent to the paid officials.

Mr. Snowdon suggested that if such members of Associations as had friends who were Railway Directors would personally approach them, much good might result; though it was most important to obtain a large number of signatures to a petition.

Mr. Pritchett advocated a monster petition signed by as many ringers of England as possible.

The President said that the Council could not be otherwise than thankful to the Committee for its endeavours, though they had hitherto proved unsuccessful. Probably there were some who did not understand how much work had been done under adverse circumstances. He thought it would be well for the various Associations to bring all the pressure they could to bear upon the different Managers of the different lines. He did not consider that much good would result from one petition or from petitions signed by one or two individuals, but more would be done by Associations obtaining as many signatures as possible in their own localities, and sending their petitions to the Managers of the lines with which they were immediately concerned. Communications should also be addressed to the Chairmen and Directors; it would thus be recognised that the matter was one for careful consideration, and he had no doubt that Mr. Attree would be able to congratulate his own Association on recovering the same advantages as they had enjoyed before the Council meddled with the matter.

The Rev. H. A. Cockey asked which course it was considered would be best—a form of petition drawn up and sent to each Association Secretary, to be adapted to the circumstances of each district, or a form published in "THE BELL NEWS."

The Rev. M. Kelly considered it best to send a form of petition to each secretary, as all secretaries did not take "THE BELL NEWS." (The Hon. Sec.: "They ought to do so.")

Mr. Attree suggested that the form of petition should be prepared by the Committee and sent to the Association Secretaries.

The President said the Committee were competent to deal with the matter in a proper way, and might be empowered to expend any small sum that might be necessary.

On the motion of Mr. Attree, seconded by Mr. Story, it was

decided that the committee should draw up and circulate a form of petition, and be empowered to incur such expense as might be necessary for the purpose.

THE BIBLIOGRAPHY.

The Hon. Secretary read a letter from Mr. Strange with reference to the continued delay in completing the Bibliography he had undertaken to compile, from which it appeared that other engagements so absorbed the limited amount of spare time at his disposal that he had been unable to do more than continue the collection of titles. If the matter were left in his hands, the work would be completed as he could spare time for it; but if not he would be willing to hand over such materials as he had by him, as he could give no definite guarantee as to the time of completion. The Hon. Secretary said the Standing Committee had considered the matter, and were of opinion that if it were left in Mr. Strange's hands, it might, judging from his letter, drag on for quite an indefinitely long time without any tangible result, and that it would be better to request Mr. Strange to send in such materials as he had, and if the Council so decided, to publish the collection so far as it went, and afterwards add to it from time to time as fresh materials were obtained.

The Rev. F. E. Robinson moved, and Mr. Williams seconded, that Mr. Strange be asked for the portion he had already completed.

The President said he knew that Mr. Strange had the late Mr. Ellacombe's list which comprised most of the titles of books already published. He thought it would be well to have the portion of the work that was completed either to publish in "THE BELL NEWS" or to be issued in pamphlet form, and then add to it from time to time. The motion was carried.

REPORT OF PEAL COLLECTION COMMITTEE.

The Hon. Secretary read the following report of the Peal Collection Committee:—

INTERIM REPORT OF PEAL COLLECTION COMMITTEE.

The Committee entrusted with the task of collecting such compositions of peal length in the various methods, as have not appeared in treatises, beg to report that the work has been progressing, but is not yet in a sufficiently forward state to enable them to present a fairly representative assortment of peals for publication. The Committee have had the assistance of several gentlemen as collectors, for whose services they tender grateful thanks; each of these gentlemen, as far as possible, has given his attention to a single method. The work of collecting necessarily takes some time, and the tardiness of composers in sending in their compositions has been a hindrance to more rapid progress. The collection may be said to be fairly complete, up to the present date, in the following methods: Bob Major, Double Norwich Court Bob Major, Royal and Maximus, Double Oxford Major, Stedman Triples, Grandsire Triples, other methods of Triples, Treble Bob Royal and Maximus, and Duffield. The collectors of compositions in Treble Bob Major, Stedman Caters and Superlative Surprise have as yet made no report. The collection of London Surprise peals is still incomplete. It will no doubt be possible before the end of the present year to prepare a representative instalment of the best compositions, selected from those now in hand; and it will be for the Council then to decide whether the expense of printing it shall be incurred. The sale of the "Appendix 1895" has not been such as to encourage the hope of a large demand, about two-thirds of the number of copies printed being still unsold, and the demand for it has practically ceased. If only a limited sale of about 150 copies is all that can be expected, it would be impossible to print a new Appendix without incurring a certain loss.

Mr. Snowdon said Mr. Lockwood had informed him that he had his Treble Bob Major Collection so arranged that he could prepare the whole at a fortnight's notice, but that he did not know exactly when it would be required.

The Rev. C. D. P. Davies said he had heard a rumour that Mr. Lockwood was only including in his collection compositions of the ordinary length. His own impression was that it was intended to include all good peals of any length, and if there were any doubt about it, he would move that it be an instruction to the Committee to include compositions of all lengths above 5000.

Mr. Craven seconded this, and it was carried.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE PREPARATION OF A GLOSSARY OF TECHNICAL TERMS.

The Hon. Secretary read the following report of the Committee engaged on the Glossary of Technical Terms:—

INTERIM REPORT OF THE GLOSSARY COMMITTEE.

The Committee for the preparation of a Glossary of Technical Terms, used in connection with the science and art of Ringing, beg to report that the work they have in hand has made fair progress during the past year. The first draft of the Glossary, embodying between three and four hundred terms, has been completed after careful consideration, and is now ready for final arrangement and revision. The committee, however, are confident that there are several terms in purely local use, of which they have not sufficient knowledge at present to be able to include them in the Glossary. While it is manifestly desirable that this should be done, the collection of such local terms can only be accomplished at the cost of printing and distributing in the proper quarters a list of the terms already dealt with, in order that omissions may be noted and supplied by those to whom the list is sent. The Committee await authority to incur this small expense.

The President said that as a member of the Committee he could bear witness to the immense amount of labour the Hon. Secretary had devoted to this work. It would surprise the Council if they could see the thick pile of foolscap folio manuscript which had been sent round, batch by batch, to the members of the Committee. He had himself spent some hours in the perusal not only of the original manuscript, but also in reading other people's remarks thereon, and adding some of his own. He could therefore testify to the large amount of work that had been done. The Committee should be empowered to incur the necessary expense required to make the work as complete as possible.

Mr. Rees moved, and Mr. Dains seconded a resolution empowering the Committee accordingly.

Mr. Snowdon had no doubt that the Glossary would be of considerable advantage and use to the young ringer, more so, indeed, than anything that had been done before. But if published it should not be left for the ringer to apply for it: it would be well if each Association would order a number of copies and dispose of them to its members. This would be a more successful way of securing an adequate sale than leaving it to individuals to send for it by post.

The President said the advice of Mr. Snowdon would be borne in mind by the Committee. There was still a considerable amount of trouble and labour to be bestowed upon the work, which, when completed, he was sure would be very valuable. The resolution was put to the vote and carried.

THE DEFINITION OF A TRUE PEAL.

The Hon. Secretary explained that a short time ago Dr. Carpenter had written to him to say that there appeared to be a defect in the Council's definition of a true peal, inasmuch that (no doubt unintentionally), it had omitted to specify that all peals should end with "rounds." The definition was "not less than 5000 true changes," and it would seem that after 5000 true changes had been rung the ringing might break down, and it would be open to the band to record it as a peal, although the bells had not been brought round. He (the Hon. Sec.) confessed to having been a good deal startled by this alarming surmise, and had conjured up visions of crack bands all over the country ringing these abortive peals under the protection and guarantee of the Council's definition. He did not really suppose that there was any doubt in any one's mind as to the real intention of the Council in the matter; but to avoid all misapprehension it was as well to make the definition perfectly clear and complete; he would move, therefore, that at the end of the definitions should be added the words "in all cases starting from and ending with rounds." The Rev. G. F. Coleridge seconded, and the motion was carried.

(To be continued.)

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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, JUNE 11, 1898.

An addendum which appears this week to a notice of a quarterly meeting of the Worcestershire Association, to be holden in the ancient borough of Evesham, signifies that the ring of eight at the isolated tower of the old Abbey will be available for ringers who attend the meeting. This intelligence is very satisfactory. Hitherto we think, the Vicar of the churches of All Saints and St. Lawrence, Evesham, has not seen his way clear to identify himself with the Association or to render the Campanile free and open to visiting ringers. We see in this new departure strong cause for hope. We have no reason to doubt that the Vicar has hitherto acted from conscientious motives in keeping the tower closed to visiting ringers. It is to be hoped that the permission now accorded may be continual, not only at such times as the County Association holds its meetings at Evesham, but always. Change-ringing in the historical borough is practically of modern growth ; but the company at St. Mary's Church has shown some industry and spirit, and to them is owing the practice of the Art in Evesham. But St. Mary's Church has only six bells ; and it can easily be understood with what ear-

nestness the local ringers look forward to the period when they are admitted to periodical practice upon the eight in the old Abbey tower. We would urge, with all deference, upon the rev. Vicar of Evesham, the propriety of allowing the Abbey bells to be used in this manner for the future.

Unfortunately the bells are not in the best condition. They need restoring in every way, and unless they are allowed to be under the control and care of practical ringers they are soon likely to go from bad to worse. Is there no one of the inhabitants of the borough, or among the neighbouring landowners, who will initiate such a praiseworthy movement as the restoration of the bells of old Evesham Abbey? Such a work would prove an everlasting monument to those who were instrumental in carrying it out. To adequately restore these bells, and augment their number to ten, would be a work second to none among bell-restoration schemes, and would enable the borough of Evesham to boast of possessing the best ring of ten bells in the county.

On Whit-Tuesday last there was held at a place called "Eckington," in Derbyshire, what is known as a Cup Contest. We do not know whether this was carried out in the usual orthodox manner, with a staff of persons denominated "triers," and so forth. But we know that a ringer said to be qualified was appointed as judge, and that unfortunately this gentleman was unable to satisfy each competitor for the cup that his award was fair and genuine. That was perhaps his misfortune, not his fault.

We have been favored with an account of part of the proceedings at this contest, in which the dissatisfaction of unsuccessful competitors is said to have been expressed with more force than politeness. One correspondent goes so far as to express his honest conviction that from certain causes the judge was incapable of performing his duties in a satisfactory manner. We hardly need point out to our correspondents, one of whom at least we hold in great respect, that to publish their opinions upon this affair would render us liable to proceedings in a court of law. They must therefore be good enough to excuse us if we decline to go in for such a questionable luxury.

This prize-ringing dispute, for it seems to be nothing else, must be settled by the belligerents themselves. They are acquainted with the proverb anent the public ablution of foul linen; and we shall do them a kindness by keeping from our columns any particulars of the squabble.

The Metropolis.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, June 4, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, WALTHAMSTOW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES.

Tenor 19½ cwt. in E.

WILLIAM J. COAKHAM Treble.	WILLIAM PYE 6.
WILLIAM D. SMITH 2.	WILLIAM H. FREEMAN .. 7.
WILLIAM E. GARRARD .. 3.	WILLIAM R. PINSENT .. 8.
WILLIAM B. MANNING .. 4.	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL .. 9.
WILLIAM H. DALLIMORE .. 5.	WILLIAM CROCKFORD .. Tenor.

Composed by WILLIAM T. ELSON and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

This is considered to be the first peal upon bells in which the band all bear the same christian name.

RICHMOND, SURREY.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 4, 1898, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S SIX-PART. Tenor 19½ cwt.

THOMAS BEADLE Treble.	WILLIAM G. CROXFORD .. 5.
EVERED J. WALDSOME* .. 2.	FREDERICK G. GODDARD .. 6.
JOHN BASDEN 3.	GEORGE A. RANSOM .. 7.
HARRY NEWNHAM 4.	WILLIAM STANNEY Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN BASDEN.

Silent Peal.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY, LONDON.

On Saturday, June 4, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, WATERLOO ROAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 20 cwt.

ARTHUR R. DAVIS Treble.	HAROLD N. DAVIS 5.
GEORGE W. WILD 2.	JAMES E. DAVIS 6.
HARRY BARTON 3.	THOMAS LANGDON 7.
GEORGE E. SYMONS 4.	WILLIAM LANGDON Tenor.

Umpire—FREDK. G. PERRIN.

A reference to this peal will be found elsewhere.

The Provinces.

QUEDGELEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, May 28, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

J. G. LUSHER Treble.	H. LOVELL 5.
S. KNIGHT 2.	H. FORD 6.
T. MANSFIELD 3.	C. LYES 7.
C. COX 4.	G. PARSONS Tenor.

Composed by the Rev. C. D. P. DAVIES and

Conducted by H. FORD.

Rung with the bells half muffled as a token of respect to the late W. E. Gladstone. First muffled peal on the bells.

GLOUCESTER.

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

On Saturday, May 28, 1898, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY DE CRYPT,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 14 cwt. in E.

ERNEST E. DAVIS Treble.	ROBERT A. BARRETT .. 5.
FRED. G. MAY 2.	JOHN AUSTIN 6.
ALFRED T. BRUNSDON .. 3.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER .. 7.
WILLIAM T. PEGLER .. 4.	JESSEE GILLET Tenor.

Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

First peal of Stedman on the bells, and rung with the bells half muffled as a mark of respect to the late Right Hon. William Ewart Gladstone.

GLOUCESTER.

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

On Monday, May 30, 1898, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 20 cwt. 48 lbs. in E.

CHARLES R. LILLEY Treble.	WILLIAM T. PEGLER .. 5.
FRED. G. MAY 2.	ERNEST E. DAVIS .. 6.
JOHN AUSTIN 3.	RICHARD RIDYARD .. 7.
WILLIAM SHORT 4.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER .. Tenor.

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK and Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

WALKDEN, LANCs.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. (BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, June 1, 1898, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Superlative Surprise, Double Court, College Single, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Grandsire and Bob. Tenor 13½ cwt. in F#.

JOSEPH BROOKES* Treble.	JOSEPH POTTER 4.
SAMUEL OAKES 2.	JOHN POTTER 5.
JOHN DENNER 3.	ALFRED POTTER Tenor.

Conducted by JOSEPH POTTER.

*First peal of Minor.

WORTLEY, SHEFFIELD.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, June 2, 1898, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 12½ cwt.

GEORGE PARKIN Treble.	THOMAS MCKEGG 5.
LEONARD JACKSON* 2.	WILLIAM DRONFIELD 6.
EDWARD ROBBINS 3.	THOMAS ROBBINS 7.
ARTHUR SAXBY 4.	DAVID BREARLEY Tenor.

Composed by J. PLATT and Conducted by DAVID BREARLEY.

*First peal.

DEANE, BOLTON.—THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. (MANCHESTER AND BOLTON BRANCHES.)

On Thursday, June 2, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

FREDERICK DERBYSHIRE .. Treble.	JOSEPH GREEN 5.
JOSEPH IRELAND 2.	JOHN BAGULEY 6.
PERCY H. DERBYSHIRE .. 3.	JAMES H. RIDYARD 7.
JOHN WELSBY 4.	*TITUS BARLOW Tenor.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and Conducted by JAMES H. RIDYARD.

*First peal in the method. First on the bells; first in the Bolton District.

Muffled Peal.

WOLVERHAMPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE. THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, June 4, 1898, in Three Hours and Forty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5597 CHANGES.

Tenor 23 cwt.

WILLIAM G. HALL Treble.	LEONARD BULLOCK 6.
HENRY DAWKES 2.	*HERBERT P. HARMAN .. 7.
BENJAMIN DALTON 3.	HERBERT KNIGHT 8.
HUGH J. BALCOMBE 4.	JAMES E. GROVES 9.
JOHN JAGGAR 5.	AARON GRIFFITHS Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Venerable Mellville H. Scott, M.A., Archdeacon of Stafford and president of this Society. This peal has the 6th twenty-four courses before the 9th and thirteen courses behind the 7th in the inverted tittums, and twenty-four courses behind the 8th in hand stroke home position. *First peal of Caters.

PULHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 4, 1898, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

IN THE OXFORD VARIATION. Tenor 15 cwt.

JAMES TANN Treble.	ROBERT WHITING 5.
HERBERT MATTHEWS 2.	*HENRY ADCOCK 6.
JAMES BOUGHTON 3.	CHARLES TANN 7.
CHARLES BAKER 4.	FREDERICK BORRETT Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS and Conducted by JAMES TANN.

*First peal. This composition has the 5th and 6th their extent in 5.6.

WILLINGTON, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 4, 1898, in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Double Court, Oxford Bob, and Plain Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

EDGAR H. G. TINGEY .. Treble.	CHARLES CHASTY 4.
CHARLES WM CLARKE .. 2.	WILLIAM J. BARKER .. 5.
WILLIAM GAZELEY* .. 3.	SAMUEL CONSTANT Tenor.

Conducted by C. W. CLARKE.

*First peal on six bells. First peal on the bells since being put in thorough repair and a new treble added by Mears and Stainbank.

CARDIFF, SOUTH WALES.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, June 7, 1898, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES.

Tenor 27 cwt. in D.

WILLIAM LLOYD Treble.	ALLEN ROWLEY 6.
CHARLES LLOYD 2.	FRANCIS E. WARD 7.
R. C. BALCOMBE 3.	JOHN CLUTTERBUCK 8.
WILLIAM B. BISS 4.	WILLIAM COOMBS 9.
JOHN HARRIS 5.	BENJAMIN TILLEY Tenor.

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON and Conducted by FRANCIS E. WARD.

This is the first peal of Caters rung by the Association, and first by all except the ringers of the 3rd and 7th, and was rung at the first attempt.

ST. LEONARD'S-ON-SEA.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, June 8, 1898, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS' IRREGULAR 5-PART. Tenor 20 cwt.

ALBERT NOVIS* Treble.	NEWTON CRUTTENDEN .. 5.
CLEMENT HILL* 2.	*GEORGE WATSON 6.
HENRY C. HARVEY* .. 3.	THOMAS J. ADES 7.
FRANCIS A. KENNETT .. 4.	*HARRY DENMAN Tenor.

Conducted by G. WATSON.

*First peal. This is the first peal on the bells and in the Borough of Hastings.

PEAL ADDITION.—The peal rung at Wortley on May 18th should have been published as a Yorkshire Association peal.

Date Touches.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MENDLESHAM (Suffolk).—On Monday, May 30th, a date touch, 1898 changes, in 1 hr. 12 mins, in the following methods: St. Simon's, Morning Star, Plain Bob, The Dream, Fortune, Grandsire, St. Dunstan's, and April Day. E. Youngs, 1; C. Nunn, 2; E. Buckingham, 3; J. Buckingham, 4; A. Symonds (conductor), 5. First date touch since the bells have been rehung.

Miscellaneous.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HILLINGDON (Middlesex).—On Sunday evening May 1st, at St. John's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 42 mins. J. Peddle, 1; A. Finch, 2; W. Odell, 3; W. Gosling, 4; H. S. Reeves, 5; H. Wilkinson, 6; J. J. Pratt (conductor), 7; W. Honor (first quarter-peal), 8.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

RINGMER (Sussex).—On Sunday afternoon, May 1st, 672 Bob Major. A. Seal, 1; A. Rooke, 2; F. Banks, 3; R. J. Dawe, 4; H.

Jones, 5; J. S. Goldsmith (conductor), 6; C. Painter, 7; A. J. Turner, 8. Also 168 Grandsire Triples, conducted by C. Painter.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ST. CROSS (Suffolk).—On Sunday, May 29th, 720 St. Simon's Doubles. H. W. Hadingham, 1; E. Poppy, 2; W. R. Newham, 3; J. Betts (conductor), 4; J. Botwright, 6.

REDENHALL (Norfolk).—On Sunday, May 29th, for Divine Service, 336 Bob Major. E. Smith (conductor), 1; J. Betts, 2; C. Clarke, 3; F. Smith, 4; F. Munnings, 5; J. Botwright, 6; S. Smith, 7; J. Souther, 8. Also 288 Oxford Treble Bob with E. Poppy, 5. S. Smith hails from Norwich.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

OXFORD.—On Monday, May 30th, at the church of St. Mary Magdalen, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor in 22 mins. J. Howes, 1; W. E. Yates, 2; H. White, 3; T. Payne, 4; W. Jeffrey, 5; W. Smith (conductor), 6.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM (Surrey).—On April 21st, the Alton band paid a visit to Farnham, where they rang the first half of Holt's peal of Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 36 mins. Rev. F. A. Whyley, 1; Miss F. Whyley, 2; Miss W. Whyley, 3; H. Garfath (conductor), 4; A. W. Evans, 5; G. Gasson, 6; F. Healey, 7; F. Noakes, 8. This is the longest touch by all except the conductor and the Rev. F. Whyley.

THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

HERTFORD.—On Thursday, April 14th, on the occasion of the wedding of Miss M. McMullen and Mr. B. H. R. Daltry, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. G. Parcell, 1; W. Wheeler, 2; J. Staples, 3; J. Pomfret, 4; J. F. Harvey (conductor), 5; G. Barker, 6; S. Knight, 7; J. Ladley, 8. Composed by G. Nunn.

THE EAST LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

FRIESTON (Lincolnshire).—On Sunday, April 10th, for Divine Service at St. Botolph's church, 168 Grandsire Triples. M. Rylatt (conductor), 1; F. Devoto, 2; A. O. Barber, 3; F. Davey, 4; J. Goodwin, 5; C. R. Lilley, 6; T. Boyer, 7; L. Goodwin, 8. A 504, standing as before with the exception that a Kent gentleman rang the 5th. On Sunday, April 17th, 168 Grandsire Triples. M. Rylatt (conductor), 1; F. Devoto, 2; A. O. Barber, 3; F. Davey, 4; J. Goodwin, 5; C. R. Lilley, 6; T. Boyce, 7; L. Goodwin, 8. For evening service, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Whalley, 1; M. Rylatt (conductor), 2; F. Devoto, 3; F. Davey, 4; J. Goodwin, 5; C. R. Lilley, 6; T. Boyer, 7; L. Goodwin, 8.

THE ST. PATRICK'S SOCIETY, DUBLIN.

DUBLIN.—On Sunday, May 8th, for Divine Service at St. Patrick's Cathedral, 336 Grandsire Triples. G. Lindoff, 1; J. W. Taylor, jun. (Loughborough), 2; H. Greene, 3; R. Greene, 4; C. Murray, 5; R. Greene, 6; R. R. Cherry (conductor), 7; E. Lister, 8. Tenor 45 cwt.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

KIDDERMINSTER.—On Wednesday, April 20th, at the parish church, 1920 London Surprise Major, in 1 hr. 18 mins. This was an attempt for a peal, but the bells were brought round. T. Wakeman, 1; J. O. Bennett, 2; N. Davis, 3; W. H. Smith, 4; E. C. Hunt, 5; T. J. Salter (conductor), 6; J. Crane, 7; J. Pagett, 8. And 448 Superlative. J. O. Bennett, 1; T. Wakeman, 2; N. Davis, 3; J. Pagett, 4; T. J. Salter (conductor), 5; J. Barber, 6; E. C. Hunt, 7; W. H. Smith, 8.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

LITTLE MUNDEN (Herts).—On Wednesday, April 6th, 216 Grandsire Minor. H. Carter, 1; A. Wright, 2; A. Lawrence, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith (conductor), 5; W. H. Lawrence, 6. On Saturday, April 9th, 360 Bob Minor standing as before. Longest length in the method by A. Wright. On Wednesday, April 13th, 360 Bob Minor standing as before. Also two 6-scores each of Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles. A. Wright, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; F. Whitmore, 6. On Wednesday, April 20th, an attempt for a 720 Bob Minor was made, but came to grief at forty-eight changes from home. H. Carter, 1; A. Wright, 2; A. Lawrence, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles. W. H. Lawrence, 1; A. Wright, 2; A. Lawrence, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith (conductor), 5; A. Livings (first 120), 6. On Sunday morning, April 24th, for Divine Service, 108 Grandsire Minor. H. Carter, 1;

A. Wright, 2; A. Lawrence, 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 6. For afternoon service two 6-scores of Grandsire called differently, and 120 Bob Doubles. W. Livings, 1; A. Lawrence, 2; W. H. Lawrence (conductor), 3; A. Phillips, 4; A. Smith, 5; F. Whitmore, 6.

THE WATERLOO SOCIETY.

BRIXTON (Surrey).—On Thursday, June 2nd, at St. John's church, Vassall Road, the whole pull and stand was rung for the late Mr. John Nelms. Afterwards the first 658 Holt's Original (non-conducted). W. H. Webber, 1; H. Barton, 2; F. G. Perrin, 3; V. W. West, 4; G. E. Symonds, 5; J. Davis, 6; G. Wild, 7; F. Gentry, 8. Umpire—W. Weatherstone. Rung with the bells half-muffled.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WALTHAMSTOW (Essex).—On Monday, May 23rd, at St. Saviour's church, a quarter-peal of Bob Major in 54 mins. F. Nunn, 1; H. Gowers, 2; *E. D. Lillywhite, 3; J. Mardell, 4; W. Miller, 5; *R. Elliott, 6; F. Perrin, 7; T. H. Beams (conductor), 8. *First quarter-peal in the method. Also for practice three courses of Bob Major. A. Abrahams, 1; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 2; F. Perrin, 3; T. H. Beams, 4; J. Mardell, 5; F. Butler, 6; F. Nunn, 7; E. T. Edridge, 8. Also two courses of Stedman Triples. R. Elliott, 1; F. Perrin, 2; G. B. Lucas (conductor), 3; F. Nunn, 4; E. D. Lillywhite, 5; F. Butler, 6; T. H. Beams, 7; E. T. Edridge, 8. Also a course of Grandsire Triples. A. Butler, 1; A. Abrahams, 2; R. Elliott, 3; J. Mardell, 4; E. T. Edridge, 5; F. Butler, 6; W. Abrahams, 7; F. Perrin, 8. And a course with G. B. Lucas, jun. on the treble.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

BRAWNTON (Devon).—On Monday, May 30th, at the church of St. Brennock, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. *H. Channon, 1; W. Godfrey, 2; L. Wilson, 3; Rev. M. Kelly, 4; J. Godfrey, 5; J. Baker, 6; A. Pike (conductor), 7; J. Lovering, 8. *First quarter-peal.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

BRIDGEND.—On Wednesday, March 30th, 720 College Single. G. Morris (first 720 in any method), 1; J. South, 2; R. Evans, 3; R. Bunstone, 4; W. Hardwick, 5; J. Cox (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 3rd, 720 College Single. D. J. Hurford (first in the method), 1; W. Hardwick, 2; J. South, 3; R. Bunstone, 4; R. Evans, 5; J. Cox (conductor), 6. On Sunday, April 10th, 720 Bob Minor. W. Hummel, 1; J. Evans, 2; R. Evans, 3; W. Hardwick, 4; D. J. Hurford, 5; J. Cox (conductor), 6.

PENARTH.—On Monday, May 30th, at the parish church, 720 Bob Minor. W. Hummel, 1; J. Evans, 2; J. Cox, 3; D. J. Hurford, 4; W. Hardwick, 5; R. Evans (conductor), 6. And 360 College Single. A. Spracklen, 1; D. Thomas, 2; R. Evans, 3; W. Hardwick, 4; D. J. Hurford, 5; J. Cox (conductor), 6. On Sunday, June 5th, 720 College Single. W. Hummel, 1; A. Spracklen (first in the method), 2; J. Cox, 3; R. Bunstone, 4; J. South, 5; R. Evans (conductor), 6.

BANGOR (North Wales).—Recently at St. David's church, 360 Bob Minor, 240 Grandsire Minor, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, 252, 168 and 432 Stedman Triples, 504 and 672 Grandsire Triples. The ringers were the Rev. T. Lewis Jones, Messrs. Gayton, Jakeman, Taylor, Davies, Crane, Scutt, Hobbs and Morris. Also a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, composed by J. George. S. Taylor, 1; Rev. T. Lewis Jones, 2; J. Gayton, 3; J. H. Midwinter, 4; G. Salter, 5; P. W. Davies, 6; M. J. Morris (conductor), 7; W. Crane, 8.

BRISTOL.—On Sunday, May 24th, at the parish church, Clifton, 504 Grandsire Triples. W. Gist, 1; S. Thomas, 2; R. Clark, 3; R. J. Wilkins, 4; A. Harvey, 5; J. Jones, 6; C. Thomas, 7; W. Holder, 8.

PULHAM (Norfolk).—On Wednesday, April 1898, for practice at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, 1056 Double Norwich Court Bob Major. J. Tann (conductor), 1; H. Matthews, 2; J. Boughton, 3; R. Whiting, 4; F. Surridge, 5; C. Baker, 6; C. Tann, 7; F. Borrett, 8.

WOBURN (Beds).—On Saturday, April 16th, on handbells at 20, Bedford Street, 1080 Treble Bob Royal. Chas. Herbert, 1-2; D. Harris, 3-4; E. Herbert, 5-6; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 7-8; S. Avis, 9-10. On Monday, April 18th, at the tower, 480 Bob Major. W. Jones, 1; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 2; Chas. Herbert, 3; M. Matthews, 4; E. Herbert, 5; D. Harris, 6; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 7; M. Lane, 8. On Monday, April 25th, 464 Bob Major. W. Jones, 1; M. Matthews, 2; Chas. Herbert, 3; E. Herbert, 4; S. Avis, 5; D. Harris, 6; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 7; M. Lane, 8. Also 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. Chas. Herbert (conductor), 1; E. Herbert, 2; Cyril Herbert, 3; M. Matthews, 4; S. Avis, 5; D. Harris, 6; Rev.

W. W. C. Baker, 7; M. Lane, 8. On Monday, May 2nd, 688 Bob Major. W. Janes, 1; Cyril Herbert, 2; M. Lane, 3; M. Matthews, 4; S. Avis, 5; D. Harris, 6; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 7; E. Herbert, 8. Also 504 Grandsire Triples. D. Harris, 1; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 2; M. Matthews, 3; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 4; S. Avis, 5; E. Herbert, 6; M. Lane, 7; R. Marshall, 8. On Monday, May 16th, 336 Bob Major. W. Janes, 1; Cyril Herbert (conductor), 2; Chas. Herbert, 3; M. Matthews, 4; C. Chasty (Bedford), 5; S. Avis, 6; E. Herbert, 7; M. Lane, 8. Also 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. Cyril Herbert (conductor), 1; E. Herbert, 2; C. Herbert, 3; M. Matthews, 4; C. Chasty, 5; D. Harris, 6; Rev. W. W. C. Baker, 7; M. Lane, 8.

YAXLEY (Suffolk).—On Sunday morning, May 22nd, for Divine Service, 720 Bob Minor (eighteen bobs and two singles) in 27 mins. E. Youngs, 1; G. Moss, 2; E. Buckingham, 3; J. Buckingham, 4; C. Nunn, 5; A. Symonds (conductor), 6.

YORK TOWN (Surrey).—On Wednesday, May 25th, 216 Grandsire Minor. F. Mustow, 1; A. Cousins, 2; C. Peirce, 3; G. Hawkins, 4; C. Smart, 5; B. Hawkins, 6. Also 108 in the same method with G. Prime, 1; C. Emery, 3; M. Steer, 5. Also 518 Grandsire Triples. W. Boyles, 1; G. Hawkins (conductor), 2; B. Hawkins, 3; C. Smart, 4; A. Cousins, 5; M. Steer, 6; C. E. D. Boutflower, 7; F. Mustow, 8. Also a touch of Kent Treble Bob Minor and Bob Major with E. Collins, 8. Mr. Boutflower hails from Bristol.

MUFFLED TOUCHES IN MEMORY OF MR. GLADSTONE.

The following touches have been rung with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to the late RIGHT HON. W. E. GLADSTONE:—

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

LONGTON (Staffordshire).—On Saturday, May 28th, at St. John's church, six 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles, each called differently, with 4-6-8 covering. C. Harp, 1; W. Wade, 2; H. Pimlott, 3; G. Ray, 4; J. Rayson, 5; F. Boden, 6; G. Woods (conductor), 7; T. Harrison, 8. Also the usual whole pull and stand. The above was rung before the memorial service, which was held in the Town Hall. After service, 168 Grandsire Triples. T. Harrison, 1; W. Harrison, 2; W. Wade, 3; H. Pimlott, 4; C. Harp, 5; W. Rayson, 6; G. Woods (conductor), 7; F. Boden, 8. This is the first touch of Triples worthy of record by a local band.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CRAWLEY (Sussex).—On Saturday, May 28th, 168 Grandsire Triples. S. Ellis, 1; J. Newnham, 2; J. Rice, 3; P. Tyler, 4; F. W. Rice, 5; R. Jordan, 6; G. Paice, 7; F. Merritt, 8. Also 504 in the same method by the same band, except F. Wickens, who rang the 4th. A 336 by the same band, and 168 with G. Ward (first touch of Triples), 1; J. Rice, 2; F. W. Rice, 3; J. Newnham, 4; G. Paice, 5; F. Wickens, 6; R. Jordan, 7; F. Merritt, 8. All the above were conducted by J. Rice.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

EDENBRIDGE (Kent).—On Thursday, May 19th, 532 Grandsire Triples. J. Waylan, 1; J. Edwards, 2; J. Steddy (conductor), 3; J. Heasman, 4; J. Preston, 5; T. Wallis, 6; R. Jenner, 7; P. Smith, 8. On Sunday, May 29th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 42 mins. J. Preston, 1; J. Edwards, 2; J. Steddy, 3; J. Heasman, 4; J. Wallis, 5; T. Wallis, 6; E. Dunk (conductor), 7; J. Waylan, 8. For evening service 720 Grandsire Minor (tenor covering). J. Waylan, 1; J. Wallis, 3; J. Preston (conductor), 4; T. Watts, 5; J. Heasman, 6; J. Edwards, 7; P. Smith, 8.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

STOURBRIDGE (Worcestershire).—On Thursday evening, May 19th, at St. Thomas's church, 720 Plain Bob Minor. W. A. Pugh, 1; L. Pritchard, 2; A. J. Skelding, 3; W. Fryer, 4; A. Roberts (conductor), 5; G. H. Pagett, 6. Also 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor. J. Pagett, 2; the rest as before. On Thursday, May 24th, 784 Bob Major. G. Underwood, 1; L. Pritchard, 2; H. Skelding, 3; F. Brace, 4; W. A. Pugh, 5; W. Fryer, 6; A. J. Skelding, 7; G. H. Pagett (conductor), 8. Also 576 Kent Treble Bob Major. L. Pritchard, 1; W. A. Pugh, 2; A. J. Skelding, 3; F. Brace, 4; W. Fryer, 5; G. H. Pagett, 6; J. Pagett, 7; A. Roberts (conductor), 8.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

OTTERY ST. MARY (Devon).—On Saturday, May 28th, on the day of the funeral of the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, 336 and 168 Grandsire Triples with the bells half-muffled. H. Channon, 1; W. Godfrey, 2; *Rev. F. Knight, 3; Rev. M. Kelly, 4; J. Godfrey, 5; J. Baker, 6; A. Pike, 7; J. Lovering, 8. *First touch with a bob bell.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CAPEL (Surrey).—On Sunday, May 29th, for Divine Service in the

morning, 720 Oxford Treble Bob. D. Jordan, 1; J. Akehurst, 2; E. Holloway, 3; C. Taylor, 4; T. M. Stedman, 5; E. Jordan (conductor), 6. For evening service two 360s of Oxford Bob. A. Wales, 1; J. Akehurst, 2; E. Jordan, 3; C. Taylor, 4; T. Stedman, 5; D. Jordan, 6.

PORTSEA (Hants).—On May 23rd, for a special service in the morning, 420 Grandsire. Hannam, 1; Reynolds, 2; Harris, 3; J. Symons, 4; J. T. Matthews, 5; C. Groves, 6; Newman, 7; J. R. Webb, 8. And 420 Stedman. J. Harris, 1; J. Harper, 2; C. Groves, 3; Symons, 4; Newman, 5; Reynolds, 6; Gould, 7; C. Ingram, 8. For evening service 252 Stedman. Hannam, 1; Pye, 2; Harris, 3; Matthews, 4; Gould, 5; Whiting, 6; Newman (conductor), 7; Ingram, 8. And 420 Stedman. Harper, 1; Groves, 2; Symons, 3; E. Reynolds, 4; H. Reynolds, 5; Whiting, 6; Pye (conductor), 7; Gould, 8.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

BRIDGEND.—On Sunday, May 22nd, with the bells half-muffled, 720 Bob Minor. A. Spracklen, 1; J. Evans, 2; J. Cox, 3; R. Bunstone, 4; J. South, 5; R. Evans (conductor), 6. For evening service 720 Grandsire Minor. A. Spracklen, 1; J. Evans, 2; R. Bunstone, 3; R. Evans, 4; J. South, 5; J. Cox (conductor), 6. On Saturday, May 28th, with the bells half-muffled, 720 Grandsire Minor. A. Spracklen, 1; J. Evans, 2; R. Evans, 3; R. Bunstone, 4; D. J. Hurford, 5; J. Cox (conductor), 6.

THE OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ECKINGTON (Derbyshire).—On May 28th, 320 Kent Treble Bob Major. F. Hancock, 1; W. Price, 2; W. Worthington, 3; J. Worthington, 4; J. Morton, 5; S. Robinson, 6; G. Marsden, 7; A. Worthington, 8.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—WIRRAL BRANCH.

OXTON (Cheshire).—On Thursday, May 19th, this being the third anniversary of the dedication of the bells, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins. J. Owens, 1; J. Grant, 2; G. Newton, 4; W. Hughes, 4; J. Hughes (conductor), 5; J. Evans, 6; J. Dillon, 7; C. Owens, 8.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—On Saturday, May 28th, with the bells half-muffled, an attempt for a peal of Grandsire Caterr came to grief after ringing 2 hrs. 55 mins. J. Spiers, 1; H. Dawkes, 2; R. Pickering, 3; B. Dalton, 4; J. Jagger, 5; W. G. Hall, 6; H. Knight, 7; A. Griffiths, 8; J. E. Groves (conductor), 9; G. Burrows, 10.

COLSTON BASSETT (Notts).—On Saturday, May 28th, by request of the Rector, (the Rev. A. J. Bennoch), 720 Canterbury Doubles. W. E. White, 1; J. H. Kirby, 2; J. J. Jackson, 3; W. White, 4; T. Squires, 5.

RAINHAM (Kent).—On Thursday, May 19th, 720 Plain Bob Minor. F. Ockwell, 1; A. Champion, 2; G. Dennis, 3; G. H. Champion, 4; H. Lampkin, 5; E. Dunster (conductor), 6. Also 96 Grandsire Minor. A. Champion, 1; F. Ockwell, 2; W. T. Hyland (conductor), 3; E. Dunster, 4; G. Dennis, 5; J. H. Champion, 6.

WESTERHAM (Kent).—On Saturday, May 28th, an attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Triples, with the bells half-muffled, but it came to grief after ringing about 1600 changes, in 62 mins. H. J. Selby, 1; H. J. Ford, 2; G. Steer, 3; M. Whatley, 4; J. Heath, 5; D. Wright (conductor), 6; T. Groombridge, 7; R. Stone, 8. On Whit-Sunday, 504 and 168 Stedman. H. J. Selby, 1; G. B. Selby, 2; A. V. Selby, 3; M. Whatley, 4; G. Steer, 5; D. Wright (conductor), 6; R. Stone, 7; J. Heath, 8. For evening service, 336 and 224 Grandsire Triples. D. Wright (conductor), 1; G. B. Selby, 2; R. Stone, 3; S. A. Wright, 4; A. V. Selby, 5; M. Whatley, 6; J. Heath, 7; G. Steer, 8.

PRESENTATION TO MR. HENRY S. THOMAS, OF OLD BATTERSEA, SURREY.

A gathering of considerable interest to the bell-ringing fraternity took place on Thursday, June 2nd, at the Green Lane schoolroom. Mr. Henry S. Thomas, who has been connected with the belfry of St. Mary's for 26 years, recently removed from the neighbourhood, and though, by desire of the Vicar and all concerned, he still retains the Mastership of the tower, it was felt that advantage should be taken of the occasion to tender a token of appreciation. Accordingly about fifty ringers and friends assembled under the presidency of the Rev. D. Tudor Craig.

Canon Erskine Clarke, the Vicar, wrote from Yorkshire, regretting

his inability to be present, and expressing gratitude to Mr. Thomas for his work in the parish; and Canon Toone, who was associated with the belfry over twenty years ago, wrote to say that though he had a preaching engagement elsewhere, he should endeavour to come in during a portion of the proceedings, as the occasion excited his warmest interest. Letters of regret were also received from Rev. J. Miles, Rev. H. Sheppard, and others.

The first part of the proceedings was devoted to harmony, good bitter ale, churchwarden pipes, and a plentiful supply of tobacco enhancing the pleasure of the listeners. It was discovered during the evening that several ringers who had known each other in days of yore now met for the first time in 25 years. Songs were sung by Mr. Orchard, Rev. C. T. Waring, and Messrs. Revell and Swetman. Mr. Henton then gave a violin solo, admirably executed and much applauded. Appropriately enough, the handbells were then requisitioned, and Messrs. Baron, Hopkins, Brighton, and Rogers rang a touch of Grandsire Triples in fine style.

The Chairman then spoke of Mr. Thomas's long connection with the belfry, comparing him to an old oak tree standing fast in spite of changes. Mr. Thomas, he said, was like that Grand Old Man they were all mourning, who had seen several generations go out, yet held on his way. But Mr. Thomas, fortunately, still retained his youth and geniality, and in the words of the address about to be presented, he trusted that he might enjoy the blessings of long life and good health. In the name of the Vicar, Clergy, Churchwardens, and Sidesmen, past and present, the bellringers of St. Mary's, Battersea, members of the institute, and other friends, he presented Mr. Thomas with an illuminated address, a handsome silver quadruple candelabra, and two reversible silver entree dishes. The address ran as follows:—"Presented to Mr. Henry S. Thomas in commemoration of his services to the cause of bellringing during the past 25 years, both at the Church of St. Mary, Battersea, and elsewhere, by the Vicar, Clergy, Churchwardens, and officers of St. Mary, Battersea, and a few of his bellringing friends. With their best wishes that he may long enjoy the blessings of health and prosperity. Whitsuntide, 1898."

The company having assured the hero of the evening with much gusto that he was a jolly good fellow, and songs having been sung by Mr. Perry and Mr. Redfern, Mr. Thomas replied. His connection with the Parish Church, he said, commenced in 1872, and he had done his best ever since to maintain the reputation of St. Mary's, and to keep the bells in good ringing order. He had a keen recollection of a similar occasion in 1884, when he was presented with an address and a clock and ornaments, which he prized very highly indeed. Why they should give him another testimonial he could not understand, but he thanked all who had subscribed for their kindness, which he should never forget.

Mr. Wells made a good point by referring to the improved status of bellringers as compared with 30 years ago, when it was said that ringers were the most discreditable persons in the parish, as, while they were constantly ringing others to church, they never went themselves. Now the bellringer was respected everywhere, and he thought that they should acknowledge the work of *Church Bells* in this matter, and the efforts of such men as Canon Clarke and Mr. Thomas. Speeches by Mr. H. Gitsham, Rev. C. T. Waring, and others having followed, the musical proceedings were resumed, songs being sung by Messrs. Crust, Gitsham, Miller, Baron, Hopkins, Riddick, and the Chairman. Altogether a very enjoyable evening was spent.

PRESENTATION TO MR. HAROLD N. DAVIS.

The tower of St. John's, Waterloo Road, was the scene of an interesting ceremony on Wednesday, May 25th, when the above-named member of the Exercise was presented with a handsome marble clock, in commemoration of his marriage, by members of the Waterloo Society and other friends.

It came somewhat as a surprise to the general ringing community to hear that Mr. Davis had renounced celibacy and consequently only a few of his immediate friends were present at St. Giles', Camberwell, on April 9th, when the interesting event took place, but this was fully compensated for by the way in which his brother-strings responded to the calls made upon their generosity, and by their full attendance on the occasion in question.

Mr. W. Baron, sen., acted as spokesman and dwelt in a most interesting way upon the progress in the art which his young friend had made since the time when he called his first peal in 1891. He remarked that Mr. Davis had, through his own exertions, made a name for himself as a ringer and conductor, and in the sphere of composition he had few equals, having produced record peals in various methods. He concluded by wishing Mr. Davis and his partner in life every happiness and prosperity, and hoped he would be spared to continue the good work he had already done.

Mr. Davis, in a suitable response, thanked Mr. Baron on behalf of

the subscribers to the testimonial, and said when he looked upon their beautiful present, he should remember the many happy hours he had spent in their company, and concluded by echoing Mr. Baron's wish that if he were spared he should place whatever talents he possessed at the disposal of the Waterloo Society.

WALTON-ON-THE-WOLDS, LEICESTERSHIRE.

There was a special service at the Parish Church, Walton-on-the-Wolds, on a recent Sunday evening, when the opening and dedication of the new clock took place. The clock has been given by Miss Mary Ann Mason, of Ealing, the only surviving daughter of Nicholas Mason, the last-born Mason of the family long resident at Walton. It is presented as a memorial to her family. Quarters are struck on the first and third bells, and hours on the tenor (which was put in by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, two years ago). The clock has faces on the north and south sides of the tower, that on the south being given by Michael Mason, of Colwick, Notts. There is an inscription in bronze, by Messrs. Tubbs and Farcy, of London, and this is placed in the tower porch. It reads as follows: "By the Mercy of God. This memorial clock of the Mason family was given by Mary Ann, of Ealing, Midx., only surviving daughter of Nicholas, the last-born Mason of many generations, at the Manor House, Walton-le-Wolds, Feb. 11th, 1792. He became a merchant of Wood-street, Cheapside, London. His nephew, Michael, of Colwick, Notts. adds the south face on the tower, 14th Decr., 1897." A similar inscription is on the clock frame. The Rev. T. Pitts, Rector of Loughborough and Rural Dean, performed the ceremony of dedication and preached. There was a very large congregation. After the sermon the preacher, the Rector (the Rev. Montague B. Bird), and the churchwarden (Mr. Wm. Duff) accompanied Miss Mason down the church, and the gift was made by her in the following words: "To the glory of God, and for the benefit of His Church and people, I give this clock to the Parish Church of Walton-on-the-Wolds in memory of my father and the Mason family." After two prayers the Rector handed to Miss Mason a string, and the clock was started by that lady to strike the hour of eight. In setting it going she used these words: "To the glory of God and for the use and the benefit of His people I faithfully and prayerfully start this clock." The service was then concluded. Besides Miss Mason, the following members of the Mason family were present:—Miss Zeta, W. Mason, Miss Gladys, W. Mason, Mr. Kenyon, W. Mason, and Mr. Carlton W. Mason.

Ringers' Obsequies.

JOHN NELMS.—The remains of the late John Nelms were laid to rest on Saturday, June 4th, at Finchley Cemetery, amid manifestations of deep sorrow, some thirty or more ringers being present. Handbells were taken down, but owing to the number of interments, and being so close, it was deemed advisable not to touch them. Afterwards a move was made towards St. Sepulchre's, where the usual whole pull and stand was rung with bells half-muffled (the tenor wholly muffled) followed by touches of Grandsire Caters, by Messrs. Rogers, Doran, Mansfield, Barry, Taffender, Lovett, Wheeler, Matthews, Lewis, Jacob, Dains, Cattle, Turl and Sons, Moore and others.

JAMES GREEN.—On Friday, June 3rd, the remains of James Green, who for twenty-five years was a ringer at Clay Cross parish church (Derbyshire), were taken to their last resting place in Clay Cross cemetery. Deceased was sixty years of age, and respected by all who knew him. He had the misfortune to fall downstairs on Tuesday, May 31st, breaking the spine of his neck, thereby causing death. A service was held in the parish church by the Vicar, the Rev. H. S. Oldham, to which place the remains were borne by four of his brother ringers from his home, and thence by them to the hearse after the service. Four companions carried his remains from the hearse to the grave, and at deceased's wish the Doxology (which used to be sung after the business of his lodge was done), was sung. The burial service was read by the Vicar, after which Mr. Chas. Tratchly, of the Hand and Heart Lodge (of which deceased was a member) read the last rites of the Lodge. A number of wreaths were sent by friends of the deceased. The ringers of Clay Cross church, as a last tribute to their fellow-ringer, placed a wreath on his grave. After the funeral a muffled 700 of Canterbury Pleasure was rung by J. Maycock, 1; T. Millington (conductor), 2; J. W. Goodge, 3; F. Maycock, 4; F. Marshall, 5; J. Cook, 6. On Sunday morning, with the bells still muffled, several touches were rung, and at the surrounding churches belonging to the Association. Muffled peals were also rung as a last tribute to their late departed "Uncle" Green, a name he was known by for many years. "In the midst of life we are in death."

Notices.

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

The Chester Diocesan Guild.—Wirral Branch.—The next monthly meeting and tea will be held at Rock Ferry to-day, Saturday, June 11th, at 6 p.m. Leaders of towers are requested to let the Hon. Sec. know how many will attend. **HENRY WOOLCOTT, Hon. Sec.**

The Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—The annual meeting will be held at Wells to-day, Saturday, June 11th. Dinner in the Gymnasium, in High Street, at 12.30 p.m. at 2s. each (1s. only to members). Business meeting to follow when the annual report will be presented and the election of officers take place. The Right Rev. the Bishop of Bath and Wells, president of the association, has kindly promised to attend the dinner and business meeting. At 2.15 p.m. the Bishop will give a special address to the members in the Cathedral, after which they will attend the afternoon service there. The Cathedral bells (10) will be available after morning service and again after the afternoon service until 7 p.m.; St. Cuthbert's bells (8) also during the day (except at 11.30, when there is a service in the church), and St. John's, Glastonbury (8).

HENRY W. TOMKINS, Hon. Sec. and Treas.

Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at St. James's church, Birch-in-Rusholme, to-day, Saturday, June 11th. Bells ready at 4.0 p.m. Business meeting at 7.0 p.m.

W. BROWN, Branch Sec.

The Middlesex County Association.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Staines to-day, Saturday, June 11th. Ringing to commence at 5 o'clock.

C. EDWARDS, Hon. Dist. Sec.

The Lancashire Association.—Liverpool Diocesan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Huyton (six bells) to-day, Saturday, June 11th. Bells ready at 4 o'clock. Meeting at 6 p.m.

HENRY COLEY, Branch Sec.

Stoke Archidiaconal Association.—A meeting of this Association will be held at Cheddleton, on Saturday, June 18th. Members who intend to be present are requested to give notice to Mr. J. Gilbert, Cheddleton.

**REV. W. D. BRAGINTON, } Hon. Secs.
W. TWIGG, }**

Worcestershire and Districts Association.—The next committee and quarterly meeting of this Association will take place (not at Pershore as arranged on Easter Monday at the Annual Meeting), but by the kind permission of the vicar, the Rev. W. Stanley, at Bengeworth, Evesham, on Saturday, June 18th. A short service will be held in the church at 5.30. Business meeting to follow in the schoolroom. The tower and bells are at the disposal of members. The bells of the Evesham Campanile will also be at the disposal of members. **JOHN SMITH, Hon. Sec.**

The Old East Derbyshire Association.—The Quarterly Meeting will be held at The Green Dragon inn, Dronfield on Saturday, June 25th, at 5 p.m. prompt. Agenda—Resignation of Hon. Secretary and other routine business. Peal of six bells; Midland Railway; church close to station.

E. JAMES, Hon. Sec.

The Hertfordshire Association.—District Meeting at Aldenham on Saturday, June 25th. Further particulars next week.

E. P. DEBENHAM, Hon. Sec.

Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.—The annual meeting will be held at Lichfield on Saturday, June 25th. Ringing on the Cathedral bells from two to four o'clock, after which the committee meeting will be held in the belfry. Short service at 5 p.m. at St. Mary's church. Tea at 5.30 at the Coffee House, to be followed by General Meeting. Tickets for tea sixpence each to those only who have paid their subscriptions, to others one shilling each. Numbers to be sent in not later than the 21st instant to

S. RERVES, Hon. Sec.

10, Bull Street, Westbromwich.

The Waterloo Society, London.—There will be no practice at St. John's, Waterloo Road, during June in consequence of services.

HARRY BARTON, Master.

YORK MINSTER.

There will be an opportunity for ringing visitors to York Gala on the 15th, 16th, and 17th of June at York Minster, when the bells will be rung at noon and at 5.30 after Evening Prayer, when they will be made welcome.

W. H. HOWARD.

NOTE TO PEAL.

THE PEAL AT ST. JOHN'S, WATERLOO ROAD.—This peal was rung strictly non-conducted, not a word being spoken or a sign given from start to finish. The average age of the band is 25, on whom it reflects credit, as the majority has only called the peal once or twice before. It was also Mr. Barton's first attempt for the above composition. Mr. F. Perrin kindly acted as umpire, and ticked off each bob lead as it came up. It was rang at the first attempt.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

MR. GODDEN'S TESTIMONIAL FUND.

	£	s.	d.
Amount previously acknowledged	12	16	0
W. Snowdon	0	5	0

Compositions.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB ROYAL.

By **JAMES PAGETT, Kidderminster.**

5040.					
2	3	4	5	6	1 3 8
4	5	2	3	6	- -
2	3	5	6	4	- - -
3	5	2	6	4	-
5	2	3	6	4	-
3	6	5	2	4	- -
6	5	3	2	4	-
3	2	5	4	6	- - -
5	4	3	2	6	- -
3	2	4	6	5	- - -
2	4	3	6	5	-
4	3	2	6	5	-
2	6	4	3	5	- -
6	4	2	3	5	-
3	2	4	5	6	- - -

Repeated; 4, 5, 6 only in 6ths place at a course-end.

A PEAL OF OXFORD SURPRISE MAJOR

By **F. BENNETT, Brighton.**

5248.

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

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

Members of the above please note that the new address of A. W. Pike, assistant Hon. Secretary, is "Lanhydrock," St. Bartholomew's Road, Reading, to which place all communications respecting vouchers and certificates should be sent.

Ringers Wanting Situations.

WANTED Situation as Gardener. Thoroughly experienced. Married, age 31. Change-ringer Address J. C., care of Editor.

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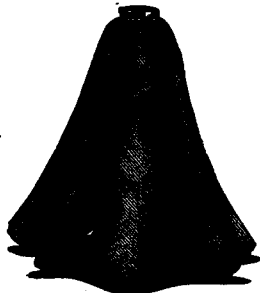
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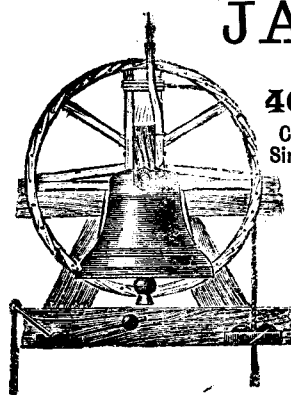
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| N.B.—The above three pieces are suitable for six ringers, with twelve bells, thus: C D E F G A B C D E F G. | | |

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| No. 300. | Duet for two ringers "Farewell, but whenever" and "My lodging is on the cold ground" | 0 6 |

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